

# WELCOME

Well here we go again. Another year, another Con. But Chessmancon isn't going to be just another Con, we don't want you to sit down and wait to be entertained, we want you to take part, join in, have fun and most of all forget the worries and strife of the world outside.

Although in the paragraph above I have told you not to sit back and wait to be entertained, we have assembled a good and varied programme for your enjoyment. Charles Partington began this job early in 1971 and after much hard work and soft talk has come up with a first rate selection of personalities. My job was made a lot easier by having on call the experience of both Norman Shorrock and Harry Nadler; I won't say that we didn't have any insurmountable problems and that we won't have some more before the Con is over. but when you look back on them they seem to dwindle into insignificance. The points you really remember are the things that made you laugh, like the letter | got from one fan, part of which read, "I will not require a private bath because | will bathe immediately before the con dates, and again after." I hope this isn't to wash away the taint of fandom!

If this is your first convention, or you have some problem....like the bar is shut, it's 4]30am and you need a real drink....just look for the men with an S/F symbol on their tie or blazer, these are the Knights of Saint Fantony and they will be only too pleased to assist you in your problem.

When we came to decide upon an Art Consultant it was a close thing between Eddie Jones and the amazing artistic talents of J.Ramsey Campbell - but by the superb cover of this Programme Booklet you can see why we chose Eddie Jones.

Thanks are also due to Dave Britton who has organised the Art Show.

Bill Burns our official treasurer flew over the Atlantic early in 1971, taking with him £354,768.29p or was it 28p?....seriously though he went to America to get married and had to leave the job of treasurer in my hands....will they never learn!

Well, that's it, now just go and enjoy yourself, have fun and don't forget to buy me a drink, I need it!

Cheers,

Tony.

#### YOUR CONVENTION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	TONY EDWARDS
VICE-CHAIRMAN	HARRY NADLER
TREASURER	BILL BURNS
PROGRAMME	CHUCK PARTINGTON
HOTEL LIAISON	NORMAN SHORROCK
ARTSHOW	DAVE BRITTON
ART CONSULTANT	EDDIE JONES

A special note of thanks to the wives who brewed the coffee and froze the ice cubes for the Committee meetings' refreshments. Thanks to Ina, Marie, Marge, Lynda and Mary for bringing back the treasurer! 1 Ye Olde King's Head

2 ueen's Head

3 Dene

4 Riverside 5 Brookside 6 Green Bough





# LARRY NIVEN

Seven or eight years ago, when I was editing IF, I had this crazy policy of publishing one story in each issue which was written by a total unknown---i.e., somebody who had never published a story before, most of them people who had never even published a want ad or a letter to the editor before. Along came a story by somebody with the improbable name of "Larry Niven" (who would call himself that? Some kid impressed by the urbane David?) and, while it wasn't the best story that had crossed my desk that year, it wasn't the worst either. And it had one thing that appealed to me very much. It was called THE COLDEST PLACE, and it had to do with the known scientific fact that the hottest planet, Mercury, due to its locked-in relationship to the sun, kept one side always turned to space and thus was, in fact, on that side, the coldest place in the solar system.

That was some time ago. Since that time Larry has turned into the fellow who is very close to being my favorite science-fiction writer alive. He has written things like NEUTRON STAR, and RINGWORLD, and any number of other stories which I not only have been delighted to publish when I had the chance, but have been almost equally delighted to read for fun, when I didn't have the pleasune of being the editor who bought them. He's a great fellow, this Larry Niven. He has a pretty wife named Fuzzy Pink, a fine large house without which (or without the financial advantages of participation in the gambling hell he runs there) the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society would be far poorer monetarily and and awful lot less fun, nad most of all he has a talent for combining what is really going on at the observational and theoretical limits of science with good writing, inventive characters and delightful stories. There's not all that much science fiction being writen these days. Most of what we see is "sf", in the inclusivist sense, but science walks through on stilts if it is present at all. Without Larry we might have to change the name of the whole field, and that would be a pity.

So welcome, all, Larry Niven, the fellow who puts the science back in science fiction!

Oh, by the way. Turned out between the time I bought the story and the time it got into print that Mercury, after all, did rotate, and so the scientific principle that made it interesting was in fact all wrong. No matter! It was a great story anyway, and if what Niven said about Mercury differs from what is in fact there, let the facts change and Larry Niven stay what he is!

## **Fred Pohl**

# New English Library Masters of Science Fiction

	BRIAN ALDISS THE AIRS OF EARTH THE DARK LIGHT YEARS THE CANOPY OF TIME SPACE, TIME AND NATHANIEL ISAAC ASIMOV THROUGH A GLASS CLEARLY RAY BRADBURY THE SMALL ASSASSIN	30p 30p 30p 25p	METHUSELAH'S CHILDREN REVOLT IN 2100	30p 30p 30p 25p 30p 30p 40p 30p
	THE SMALL ASSASSIN THE OCTOBER COUNTRY EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS LOST ON VENUS SWORDS OF MARS CARSON OF VENUS A FIGHTING MAN OF MARS	30p	FRANK HERBERT THE HEAVEN MAKERS DUNE THE WORLDS OF FRANK HERBERT SANTAROGA BARRIER DRAGON IN THE SEA	30p
L M P,	LANA OF GATHOL A. JOHN HARRISON PASTEL CITY ROBERT HEINLEIN	30p	WHIPPING STAR CHRISTOPHER PRIEST INDOCTRINAIRE BOB SHAW	40p 30p
	PODKAYNE OF MARS THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS	30p 40p <sup>6</sup> 30p	SHADOW OF HEAVEN ROBERT SHECKLEY CITIZEN IN SPACE NORMAN SPINRAD	25p 30p
	BETWEEN PLANETS SPACE FAMILY STONE	30p 30p 60p	AGENT OF CHAOS A. E. VAN VOGT WEAPON SHOPS OF ISHER *	30p 25p 25p
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ROBERT HEINLEIN The Day After Tomorrow 30p MAY I WILL FEAR NO EVIL 75p JULY

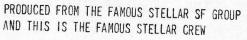
BRIAN ALDIS Earthworks 25p NEW EDITIONS IN JUNE The Interpreter 25p



FRANK HERBERT\* Dune Messiah 40p The long awaited sequel to Dune, September.



All these books are available at bookshops throughout the U.K. Or direct by post (add 5p post/packing in U.K., 6p overseas) from: NEL, P.O. Box 11, Falmouth, Cornwall.



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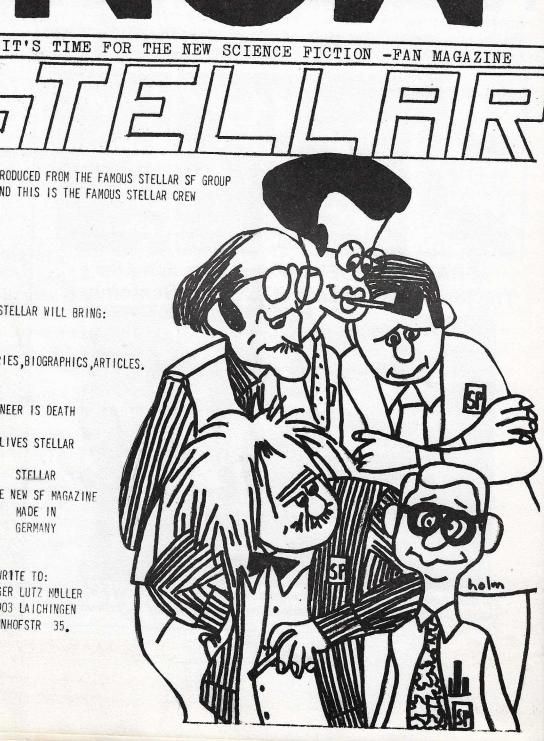
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and the same same should be

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ISEULT - 1 (a fanzine with a difference) FANTASY, FOETHY, HUMOUR... all in the first issue of ISEULT. Edited by: lise conese; 54 Manley Road, Whalley Range, Manchester ML6 8HP, United Kingdom. 10p or letter of comment, contribution, trade.

A A BONE
EUROPA SF AWARDS -
- VOTE FOR BAREFOOT!
ALDISS FOR THE CUP-
P FRIENDS, I SOLICIT YOUR VOTE TO HELP
ME REPRESENT BRITAIN IN THE EUROCON AWARDS
(TRIESTE IN JULY). MY SUGGESTION FOR VOT-
ING IN THE NOVEL CATEGORY IS BAREFOOT
IN THE HEAD: A European Fantasia, (Faber
\$1.50 and Corgi 30 p.) - A MODERN-STYLE NOVEL
ABOUT THE ACID-HEAD WAR WHICH COVERS THE
CONTINENT, FROM BELQIUM RIGHT DOWN TO
SOUTHERN ITALY AND JUGOSLAVIA.

My name's known in Italy. My books are translated there, and I've been both Guest of Honour and Judge at the Trieste Film Festival. Please vote for BAREFOOT - or Aldiss novel of your choice!

Brian W. Altim

- VOTE FOR BAREFOOT!

EUROPA SF AWARDS -



## 'DOC'

The "Doc" Weir Award, named in memory of the late Dr Arthur Weir, is presented every year at the annual British SF Convention.

Doc's name was Arthur Rose Weir, D.Sc., of Prague University and he was by profession a schoolteacher, with a strong literary interest both in "hard" science fiction and in general fantasy. As a professional sideline he used to translate scientific things from Czech into English, and his wife (who survived him) was Czechoslovakian by birth.

He was in his sixties when he discovered fandom — via the Cheltenham SF Circle, which was in full flower at the time — and he thoroughly enjoyed the resulting social and epistolatory contacts which this brought him.

He was secretary of the BSFA at one time but had to resign owing to chronic ill-health. The Award was started in his memory, after a scheme to purchase his collection for the BSFA Library had fallen through.

The annual winner does not get the Award for any particular activity, but WEIR

simply for being the person thought by the electorate at the time to be most deserving of the distinction. Past winners have been:—

1963 Peter Mabey 1964 Archie Mercer 1965 Terry Jeeves 1966 Ken Slater 1967 Doreen Parker 1968 Mary Reed 1969 Beryl Mercer 1970 Michael Rosenblum 1971 Phil Rogers

Nomination and voting forms will be distributed at the convention, and by post to BSFA members.

Vote counting will take place towards the end of the convention and the Award presented at the Banquet. It is not too late for you to nominate a candidate of your choice if you have not already done so.

Archie Mercer

## KEN MCINTYRE

WHO WAS KEN MCINIYRE ?....Ken McIntyre was an artist whose work appeared during the 1950's in NEW WORLDS, NEBULA, and SCIENCE FANTASY. Ken was a keen SF fan, a regular attendee of the annual SF convention, and a Knight of St Fantony. He was always willing to do work for amateur magazines completely free of charge and his work can be seen in many fanzines of the last twenty years. Ken died from a heart attack in 1968.

WHY AN AWARD?.....Three people suggested independently that some form of memorial was needed, and after discussion the KEN MCINTYRE MEMORIAL AWARD was formulated. Although there are awards presented in the SF field, there is no award for artwork presented in Britain. It was felt that an award for art would help give encouragement to young artists in the field as well as give some form of reward to established artists.

The award will be presented at the banquet on Sunday evening.

## In Memoriam

## **TED CARNELL**

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of E.J. (Ted) Carnell just as we were going to press.

Ted was editor of NEW WORLDS from its inception until its change into the 'new' NEW WORLDS, and as editor, anthologist, literary agent, and fan, he probably did more to guide British science fiction in its formative years than anyone else in the field. Most recently, his anthologies NEW WRITINGS IN SF have provided the major British outlet for those authors whose work did not fit into the so-called New Wave, and have given an I opportunity to many new authors to have their work published in this country.

The loss of Ted Carnell will be deeply felt by many in the science fiction field, both as a professional in the fullest sense of the word, and as a close friend.



The convention committee would like to thank Mr. John Bush of

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for their kind donation to convention funds



# PROGRAMME

11.00am

REGISTRATION DESK OPENS

3.00pm	FILM PROGRAMME IN THE CONVENTION HALL
	Vincent Price in 110 0 0 11 1 11
	Donald Rawlings present "TRAVELLING THROUGH TIME" (Col/15mins)
	Diana Rigg, Patrick McNee and Peter Cushing in "R_ETURN OF THE CYBERNAUTS" (co1/50 mins)
	An exciting example of the TV series THE AVENGERS during the good days of the show.
8.30pm	THE OFFICIAL OPENING-OF-THE-CONVENTION SHOW !!! Anthony F. Edwards your chairman, introduces the Chessmancon Committee and Dave Kyle invites you to MEET THE CELEBRITIES!
9.15pm	THE FRIDAY MOVIEPhilip Strick and Ramsey Campbell introduce, show and afterwards offer a critical analysis from opposing viewpoints of
	"F A H R E N H E I T 4 5 1" (Colour/112 minutes) with Julie Christie, Oskar Werner, Cyril Cusack
	Saturday
I	The REGISTRATION DESK will be open from 10am for those not yet registered, or for enquiries in general.
10.00am	Wake up with Harry Harrison as he discusses some "SYMBOLS IN SCIENCE FICTION"
10.45am	"FIFTY YEARS OF SCIENCE FICTION" An illustrated lecture by Pete Weston.
11 <b>.</b> 45am	"VIOLENCE IN SCIENCE FICTION" Philip Strick on a controversial aspect of SF, old and new
	HOTEL EATING TIMES

BREAKFAST 7.30 to 10.00am

LUNCH 12.30 to 2.30pm

DINNER 6.30 to 9.15pm





LARRY NIVEN, our Guest of Honour.

followed by

"THE JESTER'S TALE" (Sub-titles/85 mins) Directed by Karel Zeman

Karel Zeman's highly specialised line in artistic trick films places him in an outstanding position in world cinematography. In his creative approach he uses different techniques, tricks, puppets, animation and live actors.

5.00pm approx.

#### "THE SHAPE OF SCIENCE FICTION TO COME" Fred Pohl

8.30pm

"THE FANCY DRESS PARADE" Prizes will be awared for the best costumes in the following catagories:-

> BEST SF COSTUME BEST FANTASY COSTUME BEST B.E.M. MOST STUNNING FEMALE COSTUME MOST INGENIOUS COSTUME

9.30pm

#### "THE CHESSMANCON AMATEUR FILM COMPETITION"

Presenting the finalists in our amateur film competition in which we invite you to judge the following films by indicating on the forms to be issued the film you found to be most entertaining. Please hand in your completed form before leaving the convention hall. One vote only.

The Films:-

"AND ON THE EIGHTH DAY..." 8mm colour. Sound on Stripe. Produced by Altrincham Cine Club. Directed by Arthur Smith. "THE HORLA" 8mm colour. Sound on Stripe. Produced by Selby Cine Club Directed by Bill Davison. "THE VISITORS" 8mm B&W. Sound on Tape. Directed by Peter Phillips. "CAPTAIN CELLULOID v THE FILM PIRATES" chapter 2 "Nitrate Fury" 8mm B&W Silent. Directed by Louis McMahon. "PURCHASE OF THE NORTH POLE" 16mm. Silent. Directed by Keith Hodgkinson.

11.30pm approx.

Head to the bar, fill up your glasses and get back in the Con Hall for THE MIDNIGHT MOVIES.....

"FINE FINNEY FIENDS" sod: Une Adam West, Burt Ward in a TV Batman show. (Colour/50 minutes)

"BARBARELLA" (col/scope/100 mins)

## Sunday

10 <b>.</b> 30am	A choice of entertainment or discussion is offered. You may attend:- 1: THE BRITISH WIERD FANTASY SOCIETY in the Art Show Room (Open to All)
	2: THE TOLKIEN SOCIETY in the television Lounge (Open to All)
	3: THE BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION LTD. (A.G.M. for Members Only)
	4: In the Convention Hallthe amazing "G O D Z I L L A versus T H E T H I N G " (col/scope/90 mins) Directed by a Japanese guy. Repeated tomorrow just to prove that you <u>can</u> have too much of a good Thing!
2.30pm	"TOURIST CLASS UTOPIAS" An ideal 'after-lunch' talk by Brian Aldiss.
	Followed by THE AUCTION
5.00pm approx.	"D I S B E L I E F B E H A N G E D ! ! ! ! " A Pro-panel chaired by John Brunner with Fred Pohl, Ken Bulmer and Bob Shaw.
7.00pm	"T H E C H E S S M A N C O N B A N Q U E T" admission to which is by ticket only. After the banquet it will be time for various speeches and the presentation of prizes and awards. This part of the festivities will be open to those not taking the banquet itself. Among the presentations are THE KEN MCINTYRE MEMORIAL AWARD, THE DELTA FILM GROUP AWARD, and the AUGUST DERLETH AWARD. After the prize giving it will be time for 1973 EASTER CONVENTION BIDDING. Representives of Fan groups wishing to organise next year's event may "sell" their site to the audience.
10.00 approx.	SUNDAY NIGHT MOVIES: Ramsey Campbell introduces a film you'll be talking about for months "THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT" (Sub-titles/B&W/124 mins)
	Poland 1965. Directed By Wojciech J. Has. Cinemascope.
	"words cannot describe this strange compelling film. A Spanish "Arabian Nights", tales are told within tales, within tales, within talesof ghosts, duels, magic, demons and devils. Described as "the most bizarre gothic ever made".
	and after, should demand warrant it, another chance to see the Avengers episode "RETURN OF THE CYBERNAUTS for those who arrived after Friday after- noon's showing.

Monday

#### 9.45am

#### THE ALL ACTION - ALL FIGHTING - ALL DANCING .... "GODZILLA V THE THING"(X) in Colour, Cinemascope, Dubbed English, Not Sub-titled,

starring Akira Takarada, Yuriko Hoshi, Hiroshi Koisumi, and Taswi Kamasuri. (See..vou thought we weren't genned up!) and a cast of thousands and thousands and thousands.

followed by

THE RAMSEY CAMPBELL PROGRAMME (X)

TEA AND BISCUITS on Saturday and Sunday near the Convention Hall.

#### FANCY DRESS

Contestants are asked to contact the registration desk before 12 noon on Saturday for an entry form. This must be returned to the desk when completed before 3pm. Contestants will be issued with an entry number and must enter the Con Hall in numerical order...(or you'll get announced as someone else!)



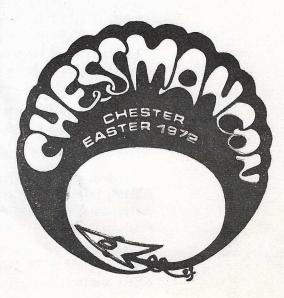
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#### ARTSHOW AND BOOKROOM

The Hotel's BROXTON ROOM ANNEXE houses the Artshow, and will be open during the Con at times posted on the bulletin board outside the Con Hall. The Bookroom is the BROXTON ROOM. and the MALPAS ROOM is available as a lounge. All these rooms are located on

the ground floor of the Hotel and connect with each other.



#### Convention

#### Members

GoH: Larry Niven Marilvn Niven 1 Norman Shorrock 2 Ina Shorrock 3 Gary Kluepfel 4 Dave Kyle 5 Ruth Kyle 6 Andrew Stephenson 7 Mario Bosnyak 8 Thea Molly Auler 9 Darroll Pardoe 10 Rosemary Pardoe 11 Pat Meara 12 Jean Cheslin 13 Ken Cheslin 14 M.J. Meara 15 Uschi Stamminger 16 Lars Olav Strandberg 17 Jeffrey D. Hacker 18 John Coombe 19 Vernon Brown 20 Phil Rogers 21 Doreen Parker 22 Terry Jeeves 23 Val Jeeves 24 Tom Hogan 25 Pauline E. Dungate 26 Horst Evermann 27 R.N. South 28 David Sellars 29 A.J. Craven 30 Sam J. Lundwall 31 Roy Mortimore 32 Bill Spencer 33 Sam Long 34 Eric Bentcliffe 35 Ramsey Campbell 36 Jenny Campbell 37 Keith Freeman 38 Wendy Freeman 39 Pete Barrow 40 Diane Barrow

41 John Piggott 42 Dave Rowe 43 Gerald Taylor 44 David Kingston Wiles 45 F.J.Steward 46 Archie Mercer 47 H.M.Boxer 48 Cpl David W. Ashton 49 Joanne Burger 50 Edmund R. Meskys 51 Brian Robinson 52 G.W.H. Mills 53 D.B.L.Mills 54 Peter Roberts 55 Chris Bursey 56 Miss M. Hodgson 57 Jim Linwood 58 Roy Gray 59 D.A. Symes 60 Charles Winston 61 Peter R. Weston 62 Eileen Weston 63 Gerald Bishop 64 Norman Weedall 65 Bob Rickard 66 Lisa Conesa 67 Pete Presford 68 Peter Colley 69 E.R. James 70 Mike Horrell 71 Mike Adlard 72 Ken Hynes 73 David M. Fisher 74 Derek Pickles 75 Mike Lockwood 76 Dave Sutton 77 Sandra Sutton 78 Alexandre De D. Bettencourt Jr. 79 H.Loose 80 Howard Rosenblum 81 Peter L. Dowson

82 Rog Peyton 83 John Spinks 84 Duncan Steel 85 Ted Ball 86 Jim Marshall 87 Brenda Piper 88 Joan Newman 89 John Newman 90 Graham Poole 91 Peter H. Nabey 92 A.G.Cruttenden 93 Eddie Jones 94 Pete Wilde 95 Graham Andrews 96 Gerry Webb 97 A.G.Rogers 98 Greg Pickersgill 99 Fred Hemminas 100 lan Maule 101 Avril Barnes 102 Prof. Doron 103 Ken Eadie 104 James White 105 Peggy White 106 Bob Shaw 107 Sadie Shaw 108 Don Malcolm 109 Dave Gibson 110 Pete Darling 111 S.A. Elina 112 Ken Bulmer 113 Pam Bulmer 1114 Brian J. Hampton 115 John Farrimond 116 Ethel Lindsay 117 Ella Parker 118 Irene Boothroyd 119 B.R.Edwards 120 Tom Schluck 121 Eva-Maria Reisch 122 John Glynn 123 Philip Payne

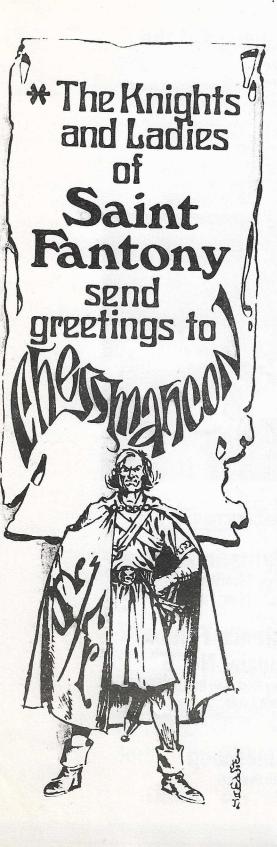
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124 Harry Harrison 125 Prof Leon E. Stover 126 Danny Plachta 127 Helen Elina 128 Tony Underwood 129 Paul Hartwitz 130 Elaine Wash 131 Hartlev Paterson 132 Gian Cossato 133 Luigi Missiaja 134 Don Wollheim 135 B.T. Hatton 136 Ken Mardle 137 John Millard 138 Hazel Reynolds 139 David Riley 140 Jacques Guiod Jr. 141 Chantal Plancon 142 Jean-Luc Fromental 143 Liliane Stains 144 Marsha Elkin 145 Tony Sudbery 146 Mr. Garland 147 Mrs. Garland 148 Robert Hepworth 149 Mervyn Barrett 150 Jim Cawthorn 151 Jill Adams 152 Tony Edwards 153 Marjorie Edwards 154 Charles Partington 155 Linda Partington 156 Harry Nadler 157 Marie Nadler 158 Bill Burns 159 Mary Burns 160 Dave Britton

161 Kjell Borgstrom 162 David A. Grubb 163 John Brunner 164 Mariorie Brunner 165 Linda Shorrock 166 Roy Shorrock 167 Arline Peyton 168 Daphne Sewell 169 Pat Parker 170 Diane Ellingsworth 171 David Garnett 172 Will Haven 173 R.M.Smith 174 Mrs R.M. Smith 175 Robert Holdstock 176 Stella Chappell 177 Roger Waddington 178 Linda Hatton 179 A.G. Moran 180 James Lavery 181 Ann Lavery 182 Richard Brandshaft 183 Frank Arnold 184 Russell Belshaw 185 Vic Hallett 186 Keith A. Walker 187 Peter Nicholls 188 Leigh Brackett 189 Edmund Hamilton 190 Muriel Lawrence 191 Judy Blish 192 James Blish 193 George Hay 194 Steve Moore 195 P.J.Larner 196 Rita Malcolm 197 Anne McCaffrey

198 Todd Johnson 199 Gigi Johnson 200 Derek Waters 201 Alistair Waters 202 Raymond Waters 203 Brendon McHugh 204 Mrs McHuah 205 John E. Davis Jr. 206 Philip Cooper 207 Richard A. Hall 208 Eric Briags 209 Bram Stokes 210 Diane Stokes 211 Nick Reynolds 212 Waldemar Kumming 213 Mike Fox 214 John Eggling 215 Michel Feron 216 Fred Pohl 217 Carol Pohl 218 Philip Strick 219 Brian Aldiss 220 James Campbell 221 Alexander Brown 222 Sven Swahn 223 Geof Doherty 224 John Roles 225 Al Lewis 226 Linda Lewis 227 Mitchell Lewis 228 Alan Burns 229 Pete Emery 230 Les Johnson 231 R.D.Khan 232 Helen Brown 233 Anne Behrndt

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Published April 10 6" x 51" £2.10

PETER DAVIES



**JANUARY TO JUNE 1972** 

#### ASTRONOMY

# Challenge of the Stars

Patrick Moore and David Hardy Introduction by Arthur C. Clarke

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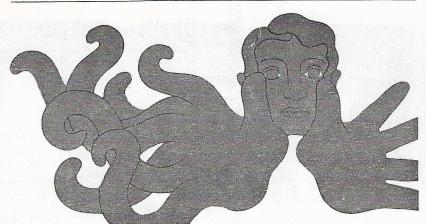
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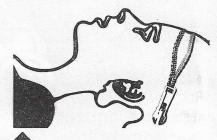


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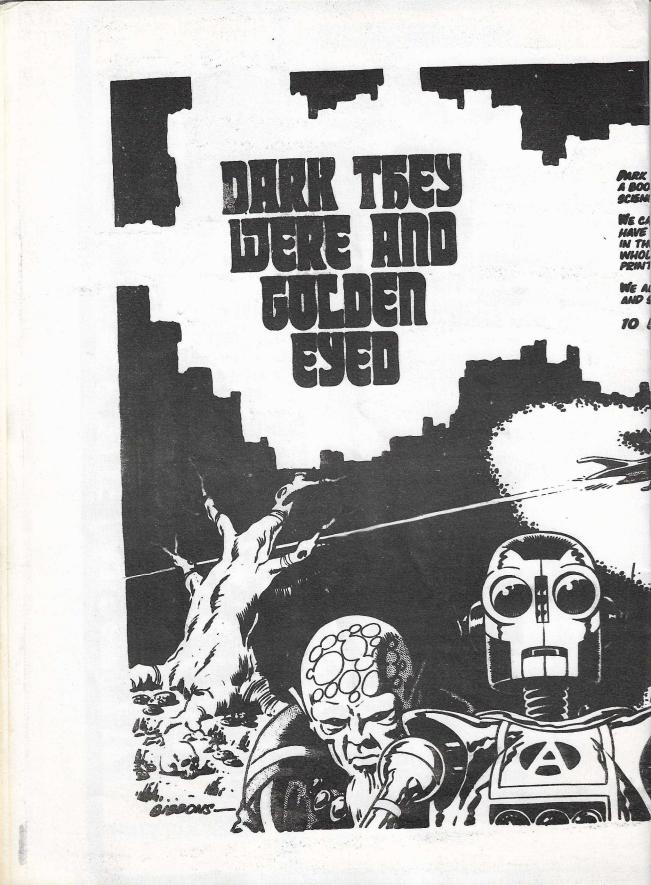
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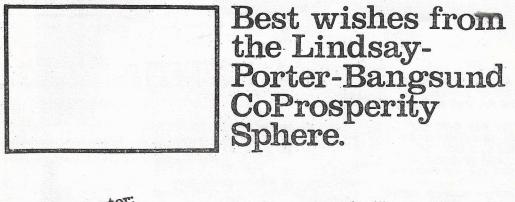
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ALGOL is a printed fanzine currently being published on a biyearly basis. The current issue features "The Influence Of Fandom" by ROBERT A & LOWNDES; "Lefty Feep & I" by ROBERT BLOCH; "John & Campbell & The Meat Market" by JOHN BANGSUND; plus regular columns by RICHARD LUPOFF and GREG BENFORD; letters, and artwork.

Next-issue, out this May, will feature ALFRED BESTER writing about "The Demolished Man"; columns by TED WHITE, GREG BENFORD and RICHARD LUPOFF; plus the possibility of articles by RICHARD WILSON and THOMAS BURNETT SWANN, and the usual letters, etc.

ALGOL costs only One Pound for 4 issues (that's less than we're charging in the U.S., for those cost-conscious U.K. fans). You can give subscription monies to Ethel Lindsay, ALGOL'S U.K. agent, here at the convention, or send them to her after your pocketbooks recover, at 6, Langley Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 6QL.

While I have this large page to fill, let me remind you that ALGOL is only one fanzine in the globe spanning net of the Lindsay-Porter-Bangsund CoProsperity Sphere. Our other publications include Ethel's own SCOTTISHE, a general interest fanzine with more than 60 (!) issues to its credit. Price for SCOTTISHE is 15p. per copy, \$3.00 for 10 issues (ask Ethel what that translates out to in your money). Ethel also publishes HAVERINGS, a fanzine of comments on fanzines received. It's invaluable if you're new to the world of fanzines and want to learn which ones are worth buying; or perhaps Old and Tired and want to look on the world of fanpublishing from the comfort of your armchair... Price for HAVERINGS is 40p. for 15 issues.

Lastly, John Bangsund's SCYTHROP, successor to the late lamented AUSTRALIAN SF REVIEW, features informed commentary on science fiction by John (he's liable to throw a new light on Stephen Leacock while he's at it), Stanislaw Lem, A. Bertram Chandler, Ursula K. Leguin, James Blish, and others. 25p. per issue. Subscription monies for SCYTHROP can also go to Ethel.

If you're worried that ALGOL is another fanzine doomed to a few brief issues before disappearing back into the primordial ooze (a good fanzine, that), rest assured. The current issue is #17, and ALGOL has been published to these past 8 years. A pretty good record for any fanzine...

ANDREW PORTER, POST OFFICE BOX 4175, NEW YORK N.Y. 10017, U.S.A LIHEL LINDSAY, COURAGE HOUSE, 6 LANGLEY AVENUE, SURBITON, SURREY KT6 6QL, ENGLAND JOIN BANGSUND, G.P.O BOX 4946, MELBOURNE 3001, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

## THE ORDER OF ST FANTONY

## KEITH FREEMAN

In 1957 the Cheltenham Science Fiction Circle realised that science fiction fandom lacked something. Throughout fandom many people were working hard and receiving no recognition for their efforts. The Trans-Atlantic Fund and similar awards were not discounted but these could only be awarded to a very small percentage of the people who deserved them.

Just how the idea of a mock semimedieval type of order came about I'm not sure – and I was there at its inception! The Cheltenham fans gathered, drank, talked, drank and talked some more . . . and the idea appeared! Kettering and the 1957 Worldcon in London saw initiation ceremonies which were happily received as colourful and entertaining highlights of a convention and, more important, as ceremonies which bestowed honour upon the recipients.

Since those early initiations the Order has evolved – partly through deliberate guidance by its members and partly by force of events. During the years that have passed the Order has grown in number and although these years have been mainly happy ones for the Order, they have not been without sad moments. Four members; two founders (Bob Richardson and Eric Jones) and two other members (Ron Ellik and Ken McIntyre) have tragically died.

Those elevated to the Order are chosen for two reasons -- one being

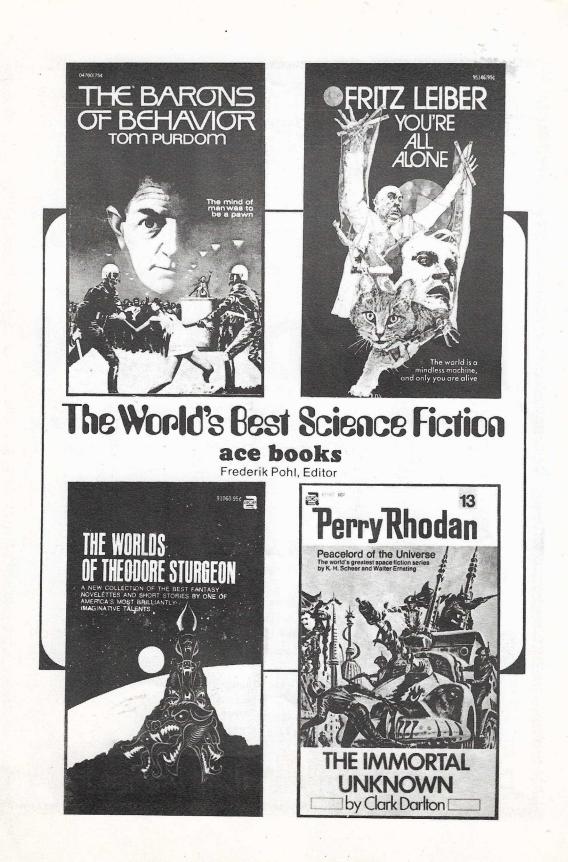
the amount of work they have done for fandom, and secondly their conviviality and sociability. Luckily the two aspects appear to go hand-in-hand in the fannish world.

One criticism that has been levelled at the Order is that it takes itself too seriously, but I can assure you that nothing is further from the truth. The ceremonies are carried out in a serious manner as we feel that to treat them any other way would distract from the effect we try for. The parties afterwards (to which all are invited) are for sheer enjoyment.

There is one point which we are serious about. Everyone in the Order, almost by definition, loves fandom and we all remember attending our first convention. Because of this we offer our services freely — if this is the first convention you are attending and you would like help. find one of our members (look for the SF badge of the Order) and he, or she, will do their best to help you, answer your questions and/or introduce you to anyone else you wish to meet.

Keith Freeman

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