

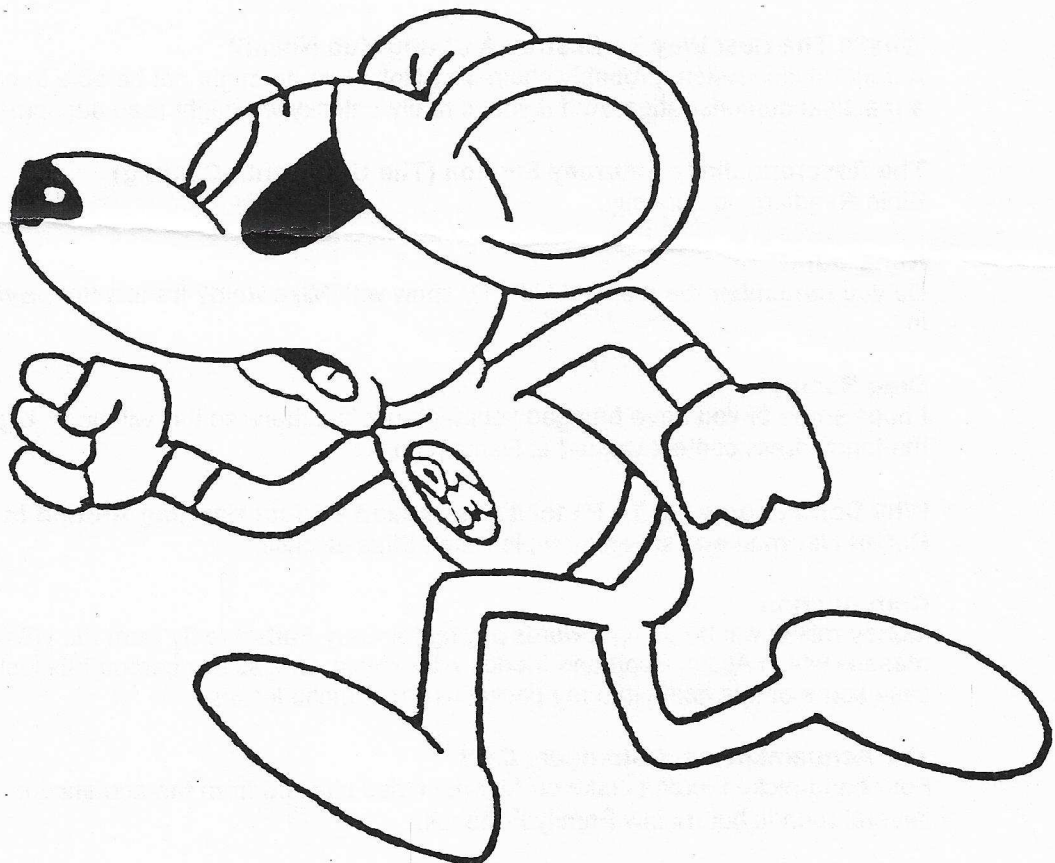
DANGERCON 666

THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST

SATURDAY 31 AUGUST 1996 FROM 11AM TO 11PM

AT RUSKIN HOUSE, 23 COOMBE ROAD, CROYDON, SURREY

PROGRAMME BOOK



WE MAKE EXCITEMENT, KNEEBITER

MAIN PROGRAMME

- 11am **Opening Ceremony**
The Committee will congratulate themselves for being so wonderful, just like at every other Con I've been to in the last couple of years, and introduce people and explain why the programme isn't like it says here at all.
- 11.30 **Guest of Honour Speech**
Simo will give a talk that he has already given to the Brum Group. There may be time for questions and lynching afterwards.
- 12.00 **Live Action Board Gaming**
Exactly what it sounds like.
- 1.00pm **The Terry Vogon Show**
Terry will interview a variety of people who think they have something interesting to tell us, compressing into one hour a number of talks that at any other Con would have been given an hour each.
- 2.00 **Dangermouse is the Antichrist**
The Reverend Jim De Liscard will prove to your satisfaction that this is so. Probably using the Bible or something.
- 2.30 **What's The Best Way To Destroy A Chung Kuo Novel?**
A general discussion, probably chaired by Nolly (but he might not be able to come) followed by a practical demonstration. And if you're really unlucky we might read out some of it first.
- 3.00 **The Reverend Jim's Saturday Sermon (The Umpteenth Coming)**
Bible Reading, no honestly.
- 4.00 **Runaround**
Do you remember the crap old kid's TV show with Mike Reid? It's like that. Everyone can join in.
- 5.00 **Drag Racing**
I hope some of you have brunged your high heels, otherwise this will be as big a non-event as the fancy dress contest we had at Dangercon V.
- 6.00 **Why Don't People Go To Panel Items instead Of Just Hanging Around In The Bar?**
Robert Newman and several people called Silas discuss.
- 7.00 **Crap Auction**
Money raised will be going towards paying for Gary Farber to fly from the US to Britain for reasons which Alison Scott and friends will explain. Unless Dangercon has lost money in which case some of it is going into my pocket to offset those losses.
- 8.00 **The Acquaintances V Strangers Quiz**
Four hand-picked experts take on four nobodies plucked from the audience in a contest of several rounds but mainly Family Fortunes.
- 9.00 **Turkey Readings**
Dangercon committee members will attempt to read large feathery domesticated birds [*note - check that this is correct before printing*]
- 10.00 **Subverting Sex Roles in Dangermouse Fandom**
Well... there's an outside chance that a bunch of Big Name Fans will sit around discussing this, but... at every previous Dangercon we overran and it got cancelled so chances are that at 10.00 we'll still be finishing the quiz.
- 10.30 **Closing Ceremony**
From previous experience this consists of telling everyone to bog off home and then discovering that Jim has disappeared and having to send out search parties.

FOOD AND DRINK

Ruskin House is a licensed Club. The Bar will be open from 12 noon to 11pm. **You may not consume your own drinks, alcoholic or soft, on the premises.** Ruskin will not be doing any food beyond crisps and peanuts today. You may eat your own food or go and eat in one of the many nearby restaurants (Hazel has drawn a map showing where all the nearest ones are, there should be copies at the registration desk). Please note that the bar is also open to Club members and don't do anything to upset them.

VIDEO ROOM

It looks as if the way we are running this is simply to have the TV and Video machine sitting there with a pile of videos and for most of the day people can come in and put on whatever they want. Dangermouse, Duckula, Flashing Blade, Trapdoor etc will all be there along with some stuff that you lot are bringing with you.

SALES ROOM

This has some sales tables in it, have a look at them, go on, go on you know you want to. It will probably close at around 5pm.

GAMING ROOM

The Conspiritors who ran excellent Games Rooms for the last two Dangercons have split up and disappeared so we will have to manage without them. The Games Room is the Mandela Lounge in the main Building (closer to the bar than anywhere else) and there are some games like Snit's Revenge, Awful Green Things From Outer Space, etc sitting in there. Or just use the room as somewhere to sit and chat away from the programme items.

FAN GUEST OF HONOUR

As you are probably aware we are lucky enough (snort, titter) to have Michael J Simpson as our Fan Guest Of Honour. Simo is the features Editor of SFX Magazine, lost this years TAFF contest and knows shitloads about children's TV, Humorous SF and Porno movies, besides this he is still promising to try and get us some Dangermouse freebies from Cosgrove Hall. Simo used to edit Mostly Harmless, ZZ9's newsletter and has recently made a "pop video" that has appeared on The Chart Show, no doubt we will be hearing a lot about this at Dangercon!

Various other interesting people will also be at Dangercon. The Rev Jim is far more interesting than Simo is, and then there are the people behind the Farber table in the Dealers Room, or the committee of ZZ9 Plural Z Alpha for instance.

DANGERCON COMMITTEE

Dangercon 666's Committee are:

Treasurer:	Hazel Newman
Chair and everything else that involves work:	Robert Newman
Convention Silas:	Silas Potts
Other Silas:	Silas III (Stefan)
Gopher and dogsbody:	Alan Sullivan

(DANGERCON IS AN OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF LES'N'ROB'S YEAR OF THE PARTY)

KID'S TV - WHAT'S OUT THERE?

I'm leaving aside all the old stuff, which I will assume you are all familiar with, and will concentrate on newer stuff.

Everyone has heard of *The Simpsons*. It surprises me that there are some people who have not actually seen it. It's going to be on BBC1 soon so you will all get a chance. So popular has *The Simpsons* been (and the fact that it is on Murdoch's Sky TV) that there is something of a backlash against it. Don't let this put you off, at its best *The Simpsons* is brilliant, particularly the Halloween Specials. Even at its worst it is at least as good as any previous American family cartoon (*The Flintstones* and *Wait 'till your Father Gets Home* spring to mind as similar). Somewhat better than *The Simpsons* and constantly advertised as "from the makers of *The Simpsons*" is *The Critic*, a cartoon about a fat, bald, Jewish, Cable TV channel film critic called Jay Sherman (he guests in an episode of *The Simpsons*). The format allows them to do loads of spoofs of current Hollywood blockbusters for him to review, "It Stinks!". Currently showing on the Paramount Channel having previously been on Bravo, by the time it gets onto network TV all the film jokes will be hopelessly out of date.

There is some serious superhero stuff going on at the moment on Saturday mornings, *The X-Men*, *Batman* and *Spiderman* are all better than previous superhero cartoons like *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles*, or er... *Batman* or *Spiderman*. Nice animation and more involved plots, although it should be noted that *The X-Men* is getting rave reviews for top-quality scripts by using ten year old stories from the comic book that were slammed by comic fans for their poor quality, funny that, but not funny ha-ha. There's an *X-Men*-ish show on The Disney Channel called *Gargoyles*, but it aint quite as good.

On the spoof superhero front there are two top class cartoons on Network television: *The Tick* and *Earthworm Jim*. *The Tick* is based on an independent US comic book and is very funny indeed. *Earthworm Jim* is the cartoon of the video game, not usually a recipe for great TV but in this case it is "Ger-oovy"! *Earthworm Jim* gets extra brownie points for introducing the stupidest sidekick in the history of superheroes - Turns-his-eyelids-inside-out Boy (unfortunately he dies within minutes of introduction).

Nickelodeon TV's two big successes are *Ren and Stimpy* and *Rocko's Modern World*. These are both worth checking out if you haven't seen them, *Ren and Stimpy* are the first cartoon animals to have buttocks and *Rocko* is the umpteenth to have a hopelessly unrealistic Australian accent. I've got fed up with them as there are very few episodes of each and the same ones are repeated over and over again. Hanna Barbera have produced a *R & S* rip-off called *Two Stupid Dogs*, it stinks!

There are loads of shows I haven't mentioned, mainly Mutant Turtle rip-offs like *Biker Mice from Mars*, many of these shows are OK but as far as I am aware (and I haven't seen all of them, honest) none of them work at an adult level as do all of the programmes above that I have praised.

If you disagree with any of the above, or know of something I'm missing which you think I should see then talk to me during the Con. Or, if you're reading this three weeks later when you find it folded up in your coat pocket then drop me a line.

Robert J Newman

(who also wrote the rest of this Programme by the way)

ADVANCED REGISTRATIONS.

- 00 Michael J Simpson
- 01 Robert J Newman
- 02 Hazel J Newman
- 03 Paul J Treadaway
- 04 Abigail not Abi Smith
- 05 Paul not Abi Hood
- 06 Mike not Abi Brownsell
- 07 Dop
- 08 Bridget not Pam Hardcastle
- 09 Sam not Pam Bennett
- 10 Alison Scott
- 10½ Pod
- 11 Steven Cain
- 12 Heather Petty
- 13 Carol West
- 14 David not Silas Ulisiak
- 15 The Rev Andrew Wilson
- 16 Sally Shannon
- 17 Paul Stewart
- 18 Corrine Mayhew
- 19 Duncan Ball
- 20 Silas Baroni Potts
- 21 Kevin not Steve Davies
- 22 Mags Browne
- 23 Helen J Newman
- 69 Stefan not Silas Smidgebucket

Heroes, every one of them.

THE CROYDON POST, Wednesday, October 21, 1992

Not for children

CHILDREN are being banned from attending a convention on children's television programmes taking place in Croydon on Saturday.

The fourth Dangermouse Convention, taking place in Ruskin House, Coombe Road, Croydon, is open only to people aged 16 and over.

The day starts at 11am and 12 hours of videos are planned, including re-runs of Noggin the Nog, Bleep and Booster and Captain Pugwash.

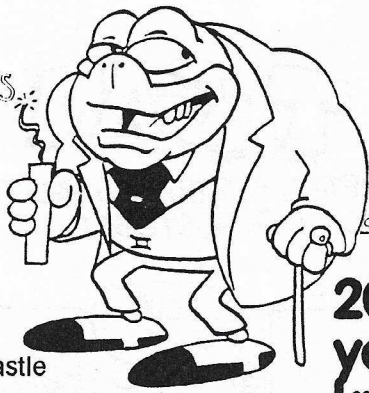
Organizers said the convention is for adults who like kids' TV only, and definitely not for children.

Entry fee is £3.50 payable on the door.

ABOUT DANGERCONS

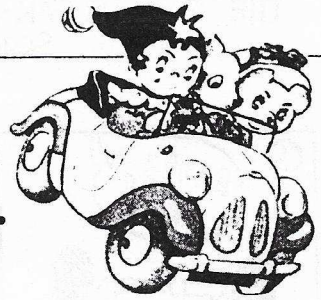
Legend has it that the first Dangercon (in 1988) was the result of Morton Chalom saying that he would like to organise a small Dangerman convention. As usual, the music was far too loud in the Welly and Kay Hancock replied, "I really like Dangermouse". I was Guest of Honour at the first DCon on the grounds that there is a Robert Newman who was an animator on Dangermouse, even though he isn't me. I didn't even go to the second one which was organised by Morton and Jackie Toombs (Roe as she was then) and only took over running them with the third one. Only two people have been to every Dcon so far, Ivan Sinha and Alan Sullivan, neither of whom are advanced registrations for this one. People who have been involved in running DCons have often gone on to greater things, except Morton who went to America and disappeared and myself who, apart from inventing the phrase "Vacuous Tart" has only gone on to do more Dangercons.

****STOP PRESS** SIMO TELLS ME THAT THE ROYAL MAIL ARE BRINGING OUT A 49P STAMP NEXT TUESDAY WITH DANGERMOURSE ON IT!! **STOP PRESS****



continued from page 9

20 things you never knew about Noddy



1 Noddy is nudging 40. In 1949, after seeing some drawings of 'fantastically lively people' by Dutch artist Harmesen Van Der Beek, Enid Blyton wrote the first book, *Noddy Goes to Toyland*.

2 In it we find out how Noddy got his name. A carpenter made a wooden doll and put its head on a spring. He sent it to Toyland, where it was befriended by Big Ears who found some clothes for the doll, including a cap with a bell. Everytime the doll moved, its head went up and down, so Big Ears called it Noddy.

3 The parents of Noddy's creator Enid Blyton were separated and she was divorced from her first husband during World War Two. But she was determined to spread happiness in a children's make-believe world, and the Noddy stories became a way of doing this.

4 Since 1949, Noddy books have sold more than 70 million copies worldwide.

5 There are 24 books in the Noddy Library, which is the series with illustrations by Van Der Beek.

6 Enid Blyton wrote many more Noddy short stories, and there is a special simplified series for children who are just starting to read. There are also books with pages of thick cardboard for toddlers.

7 A series of four educational books gives children a chance to learn to tell the time, count, go shopping and understand animals with step-by-step guidance from Noddy.

8 A large hardback Noddy Treasury has been published, containing a collection of stories. And there is also a Noddy annual.

9 Noddy has his own merchandise. There are Noddy games, puzzles, shopping bags, PVC aprons for children, note pads and pencil sharpeners.

10 The French, regarding Noddy's nodding head as a sign of agreement, know him as 'Monsieur Oui-Oui'. In Spain he's 'Noddy', in Iceland 'Doddli'.

11 Noddy first appeared on British television on Sunday 25 September 1955 in a puppet series called *Adventures of Noddy*. The series was one of the early successes of ABC, the new London television station.

12 It was another 20 years before Noddy appeared on British television. The 1975 ITV series *Noddy* was made by Mark Hall and Brian Cosgrove, who later went on to produce *Dangermouse* and *The Wind in the Willows*.

13 In the 1975 series out went the golliwog — to avoid charges of racism — and out went Noddy's habit of driving his car at Mr Plod the policeman, which was thought to be too close to hooliganism.

14 Actor Richard Briers provided the voices for all the characters, including Noddy, and narrated the series. Briers modelled the voices of some characters on real people. The racing driver, for instance, was an impersonation of Terry-Thomas.

15 The publishers of the Noddy books also wanted to update the little fellow's image. In *Huzzah for Little Noddy*, first published in 1950, the owner of the garage where Noddy applies for a job was originally a golliwog. In later editions Mr Golly was replaced by Bobby Bear.

16 In Australia, Noddy's long eyelashes prompted the belief that he was homosexual.

17 Enid Blyton was a prolific writer and would often turn out 10,000 words a day, completing a full-length book between Monday and Friday. As well as children's books, she wrote stage plays, poetry, novels and pantomimes.

18 Despite her enthusiasm for writing, Enid Blyton's first ambition was to be a musician. Instead, she became a kindergarten teacher.

19 Enid Blyton compensated for not having a musical career by writing children's songs, including *I'm a Little Nodding Man*, for the *Noddy Songbook*, which is still selling.

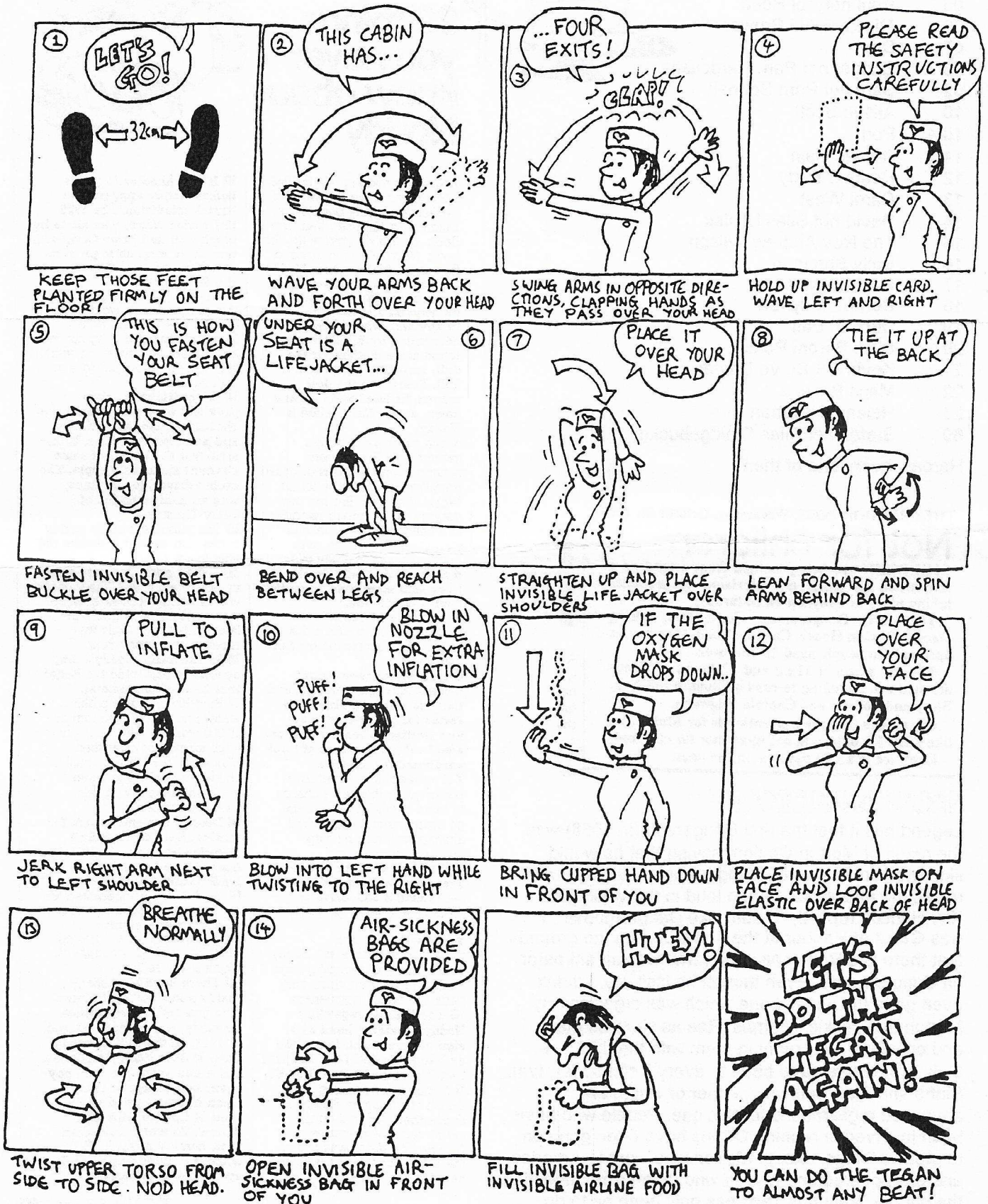
20 There have been many Noddy jokes but Enid Blyton, who guarded her reputation jealously, was seldom amused. In 1952, on the radio comedy *Take It from Here*, Joy Nichols had a line about her little boy never being happier than when he was 'curled up in front of the fire with Enid Blyton'. To which comedian Dick Bentley replied: 'That whacks reading any day.' An apology was demanded.

TVTIMES 2-8 April 1998

LET'S DO THE TEGAN AGAIN!

THE FAMOUS FAN-DANCE NAMED AFTER AUSTRALIA'S BEST-KNOWN SCIENCE-FICTIONAL AIR HOSTESS!

©1981
BY Ian Gunn



We will not be doing The Tegan at Dangercon 666, well I won't be anyway. But it is quite a while since it was last copied around fandom so I thought I'd use it to fill an otherwise blank page. Thanks to Carol West for giving me a copy and Ian Gunn of course for drawing it in the first place. Australians are weird.