

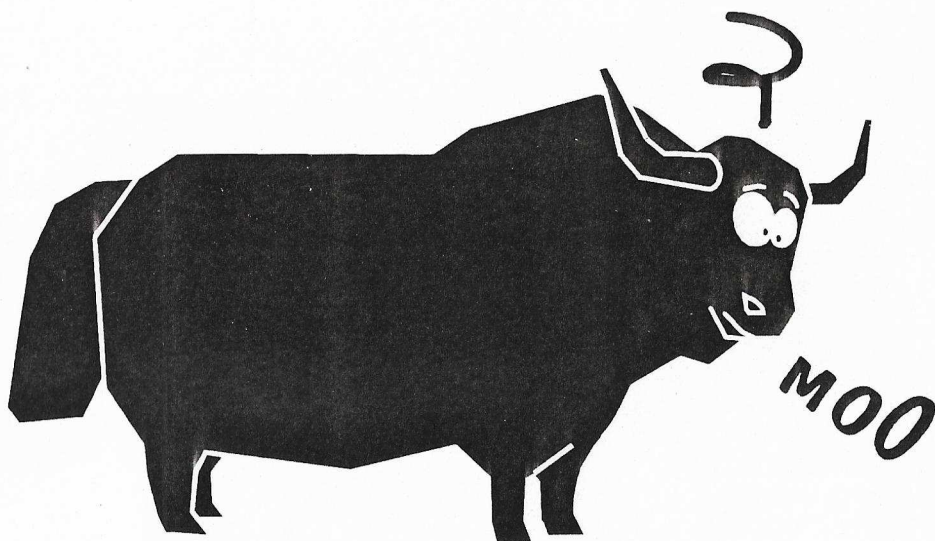


CON-YAK



PROGRESS REPORT #2

Beneluxcon 1993



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Translated by Roelof Goudriaan, Mike Jansen and Lynne Ann Morse

CONYAK welcomes you

It is with great pleasure that I announce in big letters our guests of honor. Being the Beneluxcon we naturally want a Dutch Guest of Honour of great stature. And who have we found? Tonke Dragt is the author of numerous books and stories. A lot of her work is Science Fiction, Fantasy, or otherwise contains elements of the fantastic.

Our Fan Guest of Honor I was able to introduce in the previous Progress Report. Annemarie van Ewijck has been active in the Dutch Fandom for the past twenty-five years, an anniversary that we could not allow to pass by unobserved.

And of course our foreign Guest of Honor. All know Robert Holdstock from his remarkable novels, 'Eye among the Blind', 'Where the Time Wind blows', 'Mythago Wood' and many others. As you can see, we have a select group which offers a lot to the visitors of Con-Yak. The Con-Yak committee will receive you with open arms at the AlteA Hotel in Amsterdam at the end of November.

Mike Jansen

Fan Guest of Honor Beneluxcon 1993

Annemarie van Ewijck

Dutch Guest of Honor Beneluxcon 1993

Tonke Dragt

Foreign Guest of Honor Beneluxcon 1993

**Robert
Holdstock**

HET BESTE WERK UIT DE LAGE LANDEN

BEL NU

voor een abonnement
en ontvang **GRATIS**
de bundel Tegenlicht:

02232 - 1875



ATOR MONDIS

HET SNELST GROEIENDE TIJDSCHRIFT VOOR SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

Ator Mondis verschijnt vier
keer per jaar.
Een jaarabonnement kost
18 gulden.
Een nummer telt 56 blad-
zijden en bevat de beste
verhalen van Nederland-
se en Belgische SF-
& Fantasy-schrijvers.

Tonke Dragt

an interview with the
crown princess of
Dutch Science Fiction and Fantasy

by Thomas Cool

The interviewer distraction device stands in the centre of the room. My eyes flash towards it like lightning. My attention is totally taken up by it. I hand over my gift thoughtlessly, a good white wine, to a nearby somebody, and in fascination I bend over the distraction device. Were I born a woman, I might have called it a doll house. Now I grope for words like virtual reality design.

My focus returns to the somebody. She is a writer and illustrator, winner of the National Award of the Netherlands in the seventies, the author of this year's bestselling *Aan de andere kant van de deur* (*On the Other Side of the Door*, a collection containing an impossible story about Schrödinger's Cat), and for many she is one of the best Dutch female authors of this century. Every once in a while she receives a birth announcement from parents who have christened their child Tiuri, inspired by a protagonist from *De brief voor de koning* (*The Letter for the King*).

Tonke Dragt points out some rooms in the "doll house" which have connections to her books and stories. The Room for Travellers with Marsjan the Martian, the Blue Buccaneer and Mr. Spock, the Green Bathroom, the Library of January's Embassy... With mysterious laughter, she refuses to tell if the impressive structure has a further purpose.

Really, are you writing SF or not?

In truth, I don't write at all. All these stories write themselves. If you ask why I have become a writer, I would have to give the same answer which Picasso has given: would you ask a bird why it sings? A story will grow while I hold it. My books are my children. And they don't like to be locked up. It would be nice if you'd put them on different bookshelves from time to time. Oh, it's such a pity that people rely on labels. Some people won't touch a book if the spine says it is SF. And if the book is *1984* or *Brave New World*, it's suddenly not SF but literature. I believe that books can hardly be put into compartments. Especially not my books. I would even question whether I am writing juvenile books or not.

Of course, in your books there is a theme that strongly appeals to children: freedom. That is of course exciting for children who have to deal with parents and school.

I see **several** dominant themes. The basic theme in my stories must be the search... A search for the solution to a secret, or one's own identity. This has connections with being free, yes. *De brief* (*The Letter*) shows a coming of age. A second theme is the tension

between fantasy and reality. Between your thoughts and your words... And mirrors, mirages, twins, alter egos. *De Zevensprong* (***The Seven-Forked Road***, also the title of an old Dutch folk dance) says in some place that "every sane human being consists of more than one person".

Torens van Februari (***Towers of February***) is said to be a diary which you found somewhere. Does this really mean that you did not write it yourself?

It is a diary, and that means you shouldn't ask that question, especially of me. What would you do if you found an interesting diary?

How do you write? Directly into the first sentence of a bestseller?

Sometimes I do indeed write the first sentence of chapter one directly. But I started ***Torenhoog en mijlenbreed*** (***Sky-High and Miles Wide***) by writing down the last sentence. And when starting, I **never** know precisely where I will end up. That would be boring, too. I first write a longhand draft. The parts with which I am happy I then type onto A4 spiral-bound paper, so that it already starts to resemble a book. My publisher once told me that this makes for very comfortable reading. I still don't have a word processor, even though I write about Einstein and computers. I am really afraid of buying a computer, afraid I will find it far too interesting to have time left to write. I have just started the second volume of ***Zeeën van tijd*** (***Oceans of Time***), and paradoxically enough, that leaves me without time for experiments.

Part of fandom believes that you have escaped from a Tolkien-like world.

I have never been "imprisoned" on a Tolkien world, that is to say I have never been influenced by it. My 'chivalric' books are most probably influenced by myths and sagas, Celtic ones, and by the forests of my youth, by the forgotten juvenile book of Roswitha, and last but not least by the pre-WW II comic strip *Prince Valiant*. The animation films they're showing of him now are horrible.

You never could complain about a lack of success. Would you recommend becoming a writer to young people?

You can't recommend to anybody to become a writer. You are a writer. Even though it often takes a long time before you're certain. And how? By writing, and writing. It's hard work. And should you recommend to somebody a stretch of hard work like that?

A number of my books has never appeared. Thirteen years ago I had a booklet about dinosaurs. What a research that was, to make certain that it fit into biological science. But I got told it would be too difficult for juveniles, and too elitist with difficult names like 'Tyrannosaurus Rex'. It never saw print. Now dinosaurs are a fad. Don't ask me to publish the booklet after all. I have no time left.

Despite the difficult times publishers currently are facing, they are kind to young writers, but they also expect you to promote yourself. In my own beginning years the market had more magazines, in which you could practice. Now everything has to be perfect right away. Books are remaindered within a few years. You cannot say that 'there is no stopping talent'; young plants need some care, too. That aspect could have more attention.

BRAVADO BOOKS

PRESENTEERT OP
CON-YAK:

DE KRONIEK VAN DE DRIE ZUSTERS DER DROMEN

De geschiedenis van het Science Fiction-, Fantasy- en Horrorfandom in het
Nederlands Taalgebied

DEEL I
het begin - 1992

door:
Jaap Boekestein

voor nadere informatie:

**Jaap Boekestein
Meloenaan 12
2691 JS 's Gravenzande
01749-13038**

Con Yak INFO Pages

Memberships

There are several types of memberships for the entire convention:

- supporting** - a supporting membership gives the right to receive publications, such as Progress reports and the Souvenir Book. Converting to an attending membership is possible at all times by paying the difference between the price of a supporting membership and the price of an attending membership at the time of conversion.
- attending** - an attending membership gives all the rights of a supporting membership plus the right to attend the convention.
- child** - a child membership is an attending membership for children not yet 15 years old (on 26 November 1993).
- toy** - a toy membership is meant as a special membership for soft toys, and gives the right to a convention badge (not meant to function in the place of a full attending membership).
- CRC** - this is an attending membership for fans who have the nationality of and are living in one of the following countries: Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Albania, Rumania, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Croatia, Slovenia and other states within the former Yugoslav borders.

If you want to become a member, please send us the enclosed registration form. Please send us payment by International Money Order (made out to Richard Vermaas) or by Eurocheque (made out to NCSF,, Amsterdam), filling in the amount in Dutch guilders. Membership rates are quoted on the registration form. You have become a member when we receive payment. If you have any difficulty sending money abroad (CRC countries), please get in touch with Richard Vermaas. For addresses see page 2.

In case you cannot be present for the entire convention, it is also possible to take an advance day membership. Please indicate this on the form in the "Day" section.

The following prices are in Dutch guilders:

	Attending until 3 October	Attending until 21 November	Supporting	Friday
adult	60.00	75.00	25.00	18.00
pass	-	-	-	-
child	25.00	25.00	-	5.00
CRC	25.00	25.00	-	5.00
toy	10.00	10.00	10.00	5.00

	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
	10:00	14:00	18:00
adult	50.00	25.00	20.00
pass	27.50	15.00	10.00
child	15.00	10.00	5.00
CRC	15.00	10.00	5.00
toy	5.00	5.00	5.00

	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
	10:00	14:00	18:00
adult	35.00	15.00	10.00
pass	-	-	-
kind	15.00	10.00	5.00
CRC	15.00	10.00	5.00
toy	5.00	5.00	5.00

The following passes give a right to the above-mentioned sharply reduced Saturday rates:

- Dutch Cultural Juvenile Passport (CJP)
- Senior Citizens' Pass
- Proof of registration at an institution for full-time education (like a university, a technical or secondary school)
- City passes of Amsterdam, Utrecht, The Hague, etc.

These passes only give a discount on the Saturday day membership rates.

T-shirt

You can also order the magnificent Con-Yak T-shirt using the registration form. The T-shirt is made of black cotton, with the Yak (also reproduced on the cover of this progress report) silkscreened on in white & red. The t-shirt is still available in sizes **Medium, Large, Extra Large** and **Extra Extra Large**. Of course you can also order several! The T-shirts cost Fl 20,- a piece. For Fl 2,80 extra, the T-shirt will be sent home to you, otherwise we will have it waiting for you at the convention.

Video

At the previous two Beneluxcons, we experimented to find the best way to immortalize this event. This year Con-Yak will make an official video of the convention, which will show parts of the Guest of Honour speeches, the masquerade and other highlights and special moments. The video will cost Fl 20,-. You can order your copy now through the registration form, enclosing payment. The video will then be sent to you within a month after the convention (we pay the postage). If you have an interest in helping to shoot the video, please let us know through the registration form, too.

Banquet

Being pleased to follow a Beneluxcon tradition, Con-Yak will have a banquet. This year's banquet will be a four-course menu with a venison and game. Participation is Fl 60 (drinks not included), and maximum capacity is 60 people. There is room on the registration form to indicate whether you want to participate in the banquet.

Buffet tickets

The AlteA Hotel Amsterdam offers the members of Con-Yak the exclusive opportunity of enjoying a reasonably priced dinner buffet.

The diner buffet is served on Saturday and Sunday between 18:00 and 21:30.

The diner buffet consists of:

- a cup of soup (served at the table)

After this you have unlimited choice of the buffet:

- several festive fish dishes (trout, mackerel etc.)
- Waldorf Salad, Russian Salad and Salmon Salad.
- paté de fois gras, pink-fried roastbeef with seasonal fruits
- turkey breast with grilled pineapple
- émincé of poultry in a lemon-ginger sauce
- Flemish fish casserole with crème fraîche
- tomato salad, cucumber salad, celery-radish salad
- French cheese
- home-made bavaois in several flavours

(For the vegetarians among us: the main course can be replaced with the vegetarian menu of the day, which is available beside the buffet))

If you reserve the dinner buffet, you only pay Fl.38.00 per person. On the spot the price of this diner buffet will be Fl.45.00.

Reservations are made using the hotel and registration form and payment is made beforehand to Con-Yak.

Due to preparations you are required to reserve and pay before 1 November 1993. Should fewer than 30 reservations have been made for one of these days (Saturday or Sunday) by the 1st of November, then that day's dinner buffet of that day will be cancelled and you will be reimbursed at the registration desk at the start of the convention.

Besides the aforementioned diner buffet, other menus are also available in the hotel's Brasserie. The price of a three course menu will be the same as the price of the dinner buffet. The dishes can also be ordered à la carte. Also, during the daytime snacks will be available in the Brasserie (Hamburgers Fl 4,50, soup Fl 5,00, Dutch traditional "kroket" roll Fl 3.75)

Filling in the registration and hotel form

Please fill in your name and address in the top right corner of the form, even if you don't want a hotel room. We need this for our own administration.

The registration form consists of three parts.

1. The top left to register as a member and purchase orders
2. The bottom left to indicate your interest to participate in specific programme items.
3. The top right to reserve one or several rooms in the AlteA hotel - fill in your name and address here!

When you have completed both left and right parts, please return the form to **Richard Vermaas, James Wattstraat 13, 1097 DJ Amsterdam, the Netherlands**. We will make certain that your hotel reservation is passed on to the hotel.

The previous pages in this PR contain a lot of information about the top part of the form. For the bottom left part, the following information might be of use:

Masquerade

In case you want to participate in the masquerade, please check the box. You will then be contacted by Annemarie van Ewyck, who is organising the masquerade in addition to being Fan Guest of Honour). She will give you more information, and will also ask you for some in return. For interested people there is an additional Masquerade workshop which will be held at the end of September by Annemarie van Ewyck. Please send in your registration form timely if you want to participate in this workshop, or get in touch with Richard Vermaas, who will help you in a most pleasant manner.

Artshow

When you want to participate in the Artshow, or want to assist this event in any other manner, please indicate so on the registration form.

For artists who want to exhibit their work: there is still free space in the Artshow. Please get in touch with Richard Vermaas (see page 2) for further information.

Gopher

A Gopher is more than a hard-working animal, it's also a contraction of the phrase 'go for' it. This describes the function and value of the gopher well: he or she assists the organisation with all kinds of tasks during the convention. You don't need experience for this; anyone can guard the entrance of an art show, set up chairs in a hall, fetch drinks for the panellists, or lick the chairman's shoes, correct? It is a fun way to experience the convention and to meet other people. Often you're working with other people, or you have to find somebody, etc. A beautiful beginning for anybody who is interested in running conventions. Even the chairman started this way, and see what happened to him!

Crèche

There will be a crèche this year. But we're not certain at this time whether there will be babysitters. This depends on the number of interested people. If there are not enough participants, there will be a room, but we will ask the parents to divide the attention needed for the crèche among themselves. If you think you'll want to make use of the crèche, please

fill in the form, so we can make a good estimate.

At the moment we're thinking about the following solution:

- we offer a room for crèche activities
- parents will divide duties during the day (for instance from 10 until 18 hours)
- in the evening there will be paid help (from 18 until 23 hours)
- parents will bring the toys, video's, puzzles etc needed.

Please keep in mind that the age of the children might vary between a number of months until about 8 years old.

For Con-Yak use only

Only fill in your membership number. The remaining part will be filled in by the Con-Yak administration.

Room types

1. Single This is a room used by one person. There will be 2 single-beds or one double bed in this room.
2. Double This is a room which can be used by two persons. There is one double bed in this room. Under 'sharing' you can indicate with whom you wish to share the room. This might be a member of the convention, but that is not a strict necessity. (Your companion would like to use the opportunity to go shopping in Amsterdam etc.) Should this person be a member of the convention, we kindly request you fill in this person's membership number on the form. There are 18 rooms with double beds.
3. Twin. This is a room used by two persons. There will be two single beds in it. Should you like to share a room with someone (much cheaper!), but you can't find anyone, you can request that the committee select a roommate for you. Preferences and conditions to form matching couples (smoking/non-smoking, male/female) will be taken into account.

The rooms cost:

Single: FI 130.00 per person, per night

Double FI 75.00 per person, per night

Included in the price of the room is an American-style breakfast buffet.

Under 'Other' there is room of indicating special wishes, e.g. allergy to eiderdown pillows etc. It is of course uncertain whether remarks and wishes can be taken into account, but we and the hotel will do the best we can.

Payment:

Rooms should be paid for on arrival. If you pay with a creditcard, a copy will be made when you arrive.

Duration of reservation

Your reservation will be held by the hotel until 18:00, after that only so long as it is not needed. You can indicate on the form that you arrive late, however, this will not give assurance of availability of a room. If you give your creditcard number when paying, your reservation will be held past 18:00 hours.

Finally for the reservation of hotelroom, please fill out the date and place and sign the form. When we receive the form, we will send the right part to the hotel. Hotel AlteA will send you a confirmation of your reservation. Until October we will do this once a month, so confirmation might take a while.

ADDRESS

Hotel AlteA (from mid September 'Hotel Mercure aan de Amstel')

Johan Muyskensweg 10

1096 CH Amsterdam

tel: +31 (20) 6558181

fax: +31 (20) 6948735

(The hotel/registrationform should be sent to the convention address: **Con-Yak, c/o Richard Vermaas, James Wattstraat 13, 1097 DJ AMSTERDAM**)

DEALERROOM

Dealer's Room: tables can be rented for f 80,00 per table. With the rental of two tables together you get one free attending membership.

Fan rates: f 15,00 per table. With these tables there is no free attending membership.

All table reservations must be received before 15 August 1993.

For reservations and further information, contact:

Jaap Boekestein

Meloenlaan 12

2691 JS 's Gravenzande

Nederland

Toen we aan de ontwikkeling van deze advertentie werkten, was het onze bedoeling een accurate beschrijving van het tijdschrift neer te zetten, zodat u precies wist wat van ons te verwachten. Maar dat bleek onmogelijk. Het is zo gevarieerd, dat we de ruimte van onze advertentie ruimschoots zouden overschreden hebben. Vandaar...

De Tijdlijn

Tijdlijn, Tweemaandelijks Literair Tijdschrift. Zes keer vijftig bladzijden per jaar. 500 BEF voor adressen in België en 650 BEF of 37 NEG voor Nederland door storting of overschrijving op rekeningnummer 443-1638291-67 met de vermelding Tijdlijn. Bij de vermelding Tijdlijn 1993 gaat de abonnement in vanaf het eerste nummer van 1993.

Redactie: Peter Motte, Abdijstraat 33, B-9500 Geraardsbergen (België)

Annemarie van Ewijk

Twenty-five years the **top** of fandom.
A Guest of Honour of stature.
An interview.

α-ω

by Tom Scheelings

Her study looks like you might expect from a translator. Hundreds of books, neatly ordered on shelves and in bookcases, each author's oeuvre together, but some also piled up in seemingly random order. These obviously are in current use. Reference works, theory books about the universe, dictionaries, they form the standard stockpile with which a translator is daily up and about. Her sturdy Tandon PC is humming softly, its screen glowing with a page of text. One page out of the thousands she has translated, and one of the hundreds she will have to go through before a next book is finished. My entrance is met by a save command, and the PC is turned off.

Annemarie van Ewyck, who has reached fifty this year, has made her hobby into her work. And has gone beyond. There's a reason why people call her 'Godmother of Dutch fandom' in a tender voice, an honorary title of which she is secretly quite proud. Twice before she was Guest of Honour: fan Guest of Honour at Anncon in Antwerp, and the professional Guest of Honour at the 1985 Leicon in Leiden. Over a Danneman cigar and a cup of coffee brewed by her partner Cees, she is reminiscing.

"Through the years," she says, "I have become a spider in a web. I have gained experience, a lot of contacts. These days people phone me about all manner of science fiction and fantasy subjects. I refer them to other people with specialist knowledge, or I advise them where they might find the information they need. Or I dig up the information for them myself. Yes, that 'Godmother' is a fair description, because I have had quite a few fingers in a number of SF pastries. I still do, actually."

When did it all start?

"Exactly twenty-five years ago. Before that I hovered in the Outer Darkness. before I didn't know that science fiction fandom existed. I like to read science fiction and fantasy novel. I remember my first book well; it was a juvenile adaptation of *Gulliver's Travels*. I was five years old. And it fascinated me. Especially when the book told about floating islands. Of course I knew about planes, but islands that hovered in the air, like that... this couldn't exist.

So I started asking how this was possible. of course I never got an answer. But in the story it was such a normal thing, that you simple had to accept it as a true fact. That funny way of thinking, to make the illogical plausible, I find clever and intriguing. I've always been attracted by adventure. Detectives, adventure and action stories, fairy tales, I always identified with the main character, most often a man. I was sitting on that horse, I was swinging my sword, I beat the pirates, and so on. I hated books aimed at girls. I found them bland and boring. Of course I got some, at birthdays perhaps, but I wasn't pleased to get them.

In the years I was growing up, a time in which I was moving house a lot, I discovered that I was really by myself. Even with my best female friends I could not discuss fantasy and science fiction. They thought it was all a load of crap, technical nonsense, incredible. It would take me a long time to find like-minded people. Elsevier, a Dutch opinion magazine, once featured an article on SF fandom in America. I wrote Elsevier immediately, but I still have to get a reply. It took me until June 1968 to get in touch with the NCSF, the Dutch Contact Centre for SF, through an announcement of a story contest in the paper. I wrote one, but my emergency cry was more important: "Please send me all information you have immediately, I want to join!" And I even won a second prize in that contest! It's a story I've lost my pride in since, as it's punctuated with beginner's mistakes. But alright, I went to the award ceremony in Paradiso in Amsterdam. I was terrified. What kind of people would I meet there? Paradiso itself was a dirty doghole, I didn't feel comfortable at all there. At a certain moment I was somewhere by myself, close to a group of people who were talking in a very animated fashion. That lasted a while, and then one of those people told me, "What you're doing there all by yourself? Come and join us!" That became a revelation. I felt that, for the first time, I was talking with people who took me seriously. Who really listened to me, who flung arguments at me when I was talking nonsense, but who were also willing to be persuaded when I was right. It was really a watershed.

This is still characteristic of fandom to me. It is a bunch of strange people, but science fiction fans don't look at the way you look, your religious beliefs or your political colour, thank heavens. They take you as a human being. Your opinion counts. Your intellect counts. Maybe that's because lovers of fantasy and science fiction don't take everything literally. They dare to look around the bend. They don't take everything for true. You might call it an intellectual game which they engage in among themselves. This might sound a bit elitist, but it appeals to me. The beauty of SF fandom is that it is not a mush of people with the same ideas. Precisely the diversity of people is what I enjoy. Science fiction is merely a binding factor. Science fiction lovers don't have prejudices. Or rather: they are willing to discuss them. Most SF fans are open for their own mistakes. You can be yourself, you can utter criticism and receive it. In that regard, SF fandom might be unique. It is perhaps the only international club with totally different individuals, who still manage to cooperate and coexist. You can see that at conventions.

One thing follows from the other. How did your SF career progress?

"Well... My first real convention was in Oxford. An Eastercon. For one thing, I met people there campaigning to get the Worldcon to Europe, to Heidelberg. In Oxford I really got to know fandom. Good heavens, I've cried with laughter there. There was a fancy dress parade, something I entered with my husband-to be Leo Kindt, covered by bed linen. I still remember the hotel manager stopped us, wanting to know whether these were sheets of the hotel. They weren't, we had brought them with us. But the fun behind that question alone... In any event, I felt this kind of event should migrate to the Netherlands, as well. We didn't know cons

lasting more than a day at the time. Get-togethers usually were general meetings of the NCSF. The year after Oxford a group of us went to Heidelberg, who had won. I arranged the odd thing then, like the train reservations. Gerard Suurmeijer lost his skin on that journey, it was thrown out of the window. Let me clarify this cryptic reference: it was a sausage skin. Oh well, in three words delightful corny fun. By the way, Gerard came up with the first idea to hold a Worldcon in the Netherlands. We even found an English name for it, rhyming as was usual then for Worldcons: "Saint Jacques on the Moore in two thousand four". We never imagined that one day, we would organize a worldcon in reality.

And afterwards?

Things went fast from that moment onwards. The SF world appealed to me. I started doing things for Holland SF, the periodical of the Dutch Contact Centre for SF. I became a translator, really because I was annoyed by a truly bad translation of a book. Leo challenged me and said, "so why don't you do it yourself?" And I did. And other than that, I have always been active for the NCSF. Collating and sending out Holland-SF, being a busybody. Yes, I'm saying "I, I, and I," but that's not true. I should have said "we, we, and we". It always was a group of people working together. Together we organized the first Dutch true SF convention: Hagacon in 1971. A day with speeches, book tables, an auction, drinking and especially a good atmosphere. Kees van Toorn held a talk about the Worldcon that had been held in Los Angeles. I had taken over Holland SF from Hein Janssen already, who had lost the appetite for it. I started as acting chief editor, but in the end I was appointed there in a 'steady' position. I ended up doing the job for nineteen years. In the beginning I had to fill the magazine by myself. I got a lot of help producing the magazine, but writing... that was often up to me. Later, when Johan Flaton managed to get the magazine an editorial statute, making it more independent from the NCSF board, I got some air. The editorial team in those days was a collection of creative nuts. Reviling each other, often, but in a realistic way. I had to act as a brake every now and then, and often we thought up lots of things together, executed nothing at all and ended up with something entirely different. Next to editing Holland SF we did a whole bunch of other things. Belgian fandom had meanwhile come with the idea of holding a Beneluxcon, alternating between the Netherlands and Belgium. By working together we would be able to occasionally attract really big foreign names to a con. I've worked very hard to realize the first Dutch convention lasting longer than a day in 1974, in Amersfoort. It contained all ingredients of a real convention. Exhibitions, games, a creative contest to make aliens out of rubbish, which was won by Eddy Bertin. In any case, we already had the mix of fun and serious events right.

Thanks to this kind of convention, fandom developed further. A second Hagacon was organized. For that one I organized a fondue for one hundred people. Preparing meat and sauces, borrowing fondue sets... all of it. I see it in front me still: a set caught fire. Bert Vos still was sober enough to bring it outside, throw it out over the street and trample out the fire.

I can imagine you have also experienced tensions within fandom.

Of course! Not within the editorial board of Holland SF, I have to say that. There was criticism, fierce criticism sometimes, which could lead to quarrels. But it was never aimed at the person. The criticism regarded the matter where you had erred, trying to prevent similar mistakes in the future. Or to improve matters. On other fronts I have made enemies by reviewing stories... and giving hard criticism when I thought it was needed because the story

was bad. I am not diplomatic in that respect. I write down what's on my mind. In SF circles you don't have to be 'nice' because you all happen to love science fiction. I realize how dismal it is when a writer is slashed. He or she has quite often been sweating blood and tears for that story. But a bad story is a bad story. I hope to give such criticism, even if it might be too harsh on occasion. The problem is that people feel personally attacked in some cases. That's a pity. I can like someone a great deal. But if he or she writes a crappy story, then I can say so, can't I?"

My last question is a logical one: what is the funniest or the most beautiful thing you have experienced?

She runs off immediately, saying, "I want to show you this." I stop her and add, "within science fiction". Confused for a moment, she thinks. "You might think it's 'egoboo', but I just *love* it to see my name between Asimov and Sturgeon. You see, an anthology of an American publisher has accepted my story 'The Lens'. That is delight. And I also was touched by the silver broche I received from Holland SF at ConFiction, the Dutch Worldcon. That is a recognition by fandom that really makes me very happy. But now I want to show you the most beautiful thing I ever got. A birthday present from my friend." This turns out to be a book of wood, designed by a female artist. Symbolically, the pages are half opened. The flaming colours, the capricious natural forms of the wooden pages and cover make me realize that Annemarie's life looks like this. "50 years Annemarie", the cover says. "To be continued" is the back.

Meanwhile the time is half past three and Annemarie wants to return to work. A lot of questions have remained undiscussed. Happily so: because that means you can ask her yourselves. At Con-Yak.

Members as of 11 Juli 1993

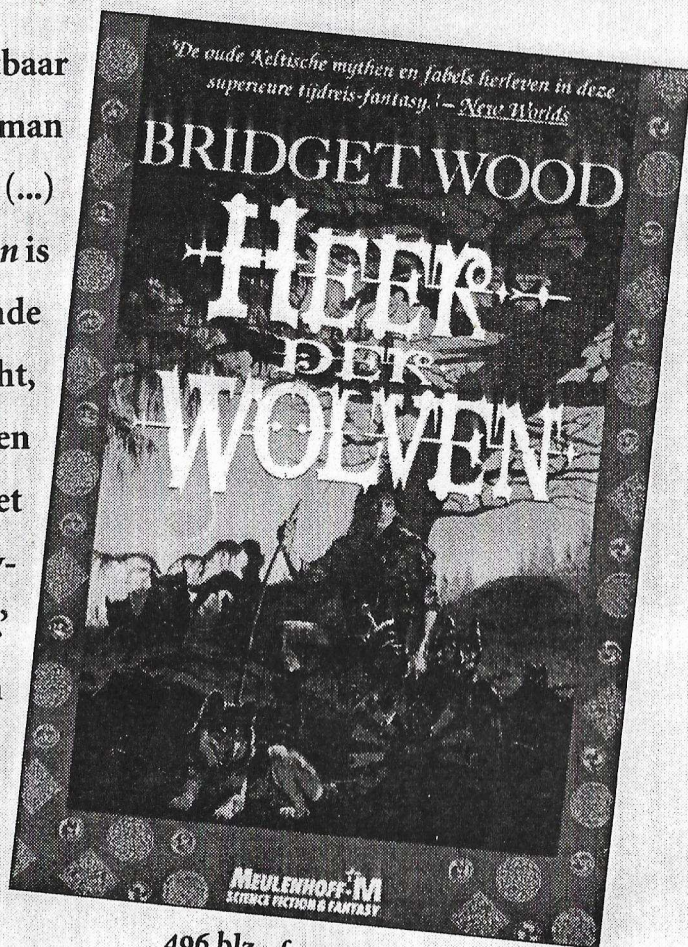
15	AT	NL	Aldham-Breary, Miranda	4	AT	NL	Kruisweg, Ruud van de
60	AT	NL	Arends, Richard	2	AT	NL	Kuismanen, Eya
47	AT	NL	Asseldonk, Bertie van	10	AT	NL	LeGué, Martin
25	AT	NL	Asselt, Sam van	55	AT	NL	Leeuw van Weenen, Paul de
77	AT	GB	Austin, Margaret	89	AT	NL	Leeuwenkamp, Paul van
76	AT	GB	Baker, Amanda	74	ST	GB	Linton, Steve
31	AT	B	Beckers, Frank	23	AT	NL	Man, Gerard de
54	AT	NL	Beers, J. van	78	AT	D	Marzi, Jürgen G.
12	AT	NL	Bijlsma, Django	86	AT	NL	Mastrigt, R. van
32	AT	B	Blanckaert, Jan	38	AT	D	Metanomski, Agnes
7	AT	NL	Boekestein, Jaap	37	AT	NL	Meul, Dave van der
61	AT	NL	Boer, Paul	68	AT	NL	Meys, Paulus
62	AT	NL	Bontes, Dirk	46	AT	NL	Moeman, G.J.
67	AT	NL	Broeder, Guido den	93	AT	NL	Molenbroek, Lex
35	AT	GB	Campbell, Kim	6	AT	NL	Morse, Lynne Ann
66	SU	GB	Cochrane, David "Eddie"	72	AT	NL	Nijenhuis, Jeroen
83	ST	D	Cooper, Terry	56	AT	NL	Noordemeer, Andre
24	AT	B	Cuyper, Frank R.F. de	97	AT	GB	O'Shea, Chris
85	ST	GB	Dawe, Martyn	50	AT	NL	Petersen, Harry
96	AT	GB	Deam, Simon	1	AT	NL	Putte, Larry van der
33	AT	GB	Dormer, Paul	82	AT	D	Recktenwald, Thomas
GOH 2	AT	NL	Dragt, Tonke	80	AT	D	Rice, Stephen
79	AT	GB	Edwards, Sue	43	AT	NL	Rijst, Marcel van der
52	AT	NL	Egberink, Marcel	71	AT	NL	Rooy, dhr. van
92	AT	NL	Elzer, Johan	45	AT	NL	Rossenbergh, René van
8	AT	NL	Ent, Jan van 't	84	ST	D	Routley, Jane
GOH 1	AT	NL	Ewijk, Annemarie van	59	AT	NL	Schaap, Theo
16	AT	NL	Fransen, Wilma	9	AT	NL	Smit, Jannelies
81	AT	D	Gombos, Ilona	27	AT	NL	Sombroek, Dea
5	AT	NL	Goudriaan, Roelof	28	AT	NL	Sombroek-Neelen, Truus
85	ST	USA	Grace, Peter	11	AT	NL	Somers, Els
13	AT	NL	Groenendijk, Peter	94	AT	GB	Streets, Marcus
63	AT	NL	Haalman, Martijn	95	AT	GB	Streets, Rae
44	AT	NL	Hanou, Theo	96	AT	D	Tegen, Nadja
34	AT	GB	Harold, John	48	AT	NL	Teunissen, H.W.A.
88	AT	D	Heininger, Fritz	49	AT	NL	Theelen, André
64	AT	NL	Heitlager, Martijn	36	AT	NL	Veeke, Robert van der
69	TY	NL	Heitlager, Martijn	57	AT	NL	Veldhoen, Jan
70	TY	NL	Heitlager, Martijn	3	AT	NL	Vermaas, Richard
75	AT	NL	Held, Edgar	83	AT	D	Walther, Mirko
GOH 3	AT	GB	Holdstock, Robert	26	AT	B	Weerd, Peter de
30	AT	NL	Horst, Marc ter	42	AC	GB	Westhead, Karen
14	AT	NL	Jansen, Mike	39	AT	GB	Westhead, Kathy
87	AT	NL	Janssen, Henk	40	AT	GB	Westhead, Mike
73	AT	NL	Joukes, Simon	41	AC	GB	Westhead, Peter
53	AT	NL	Klous, Zweitse	29	AT	GB	Wilkinson, Bridget
58	AT	NL	Kreeftmeijer, Marco	65	AT	NL	Zonneveld, J.M. van
51	AT	NL	Kreeftmeijer, Ruud				

BRIDGET WOOD

Heer der wolven

'Onbetwistbaar
de fantasy-roman
van het jaar. (...)

Heer der wolven is
een daad van verfijnde
verbeeldingskracht,
Bridget Wood is een
lichtend baken in het
zompige fantasy-
moeras van nu.'
— Justin Harper in
New Worlds



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