



# Progress Report 1

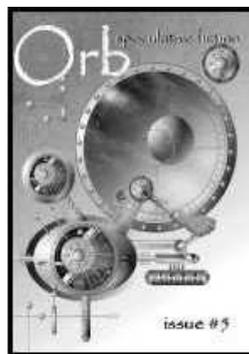
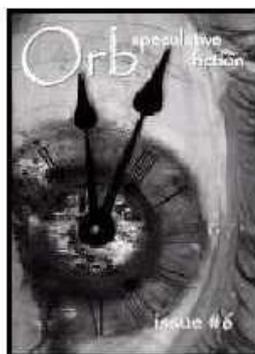
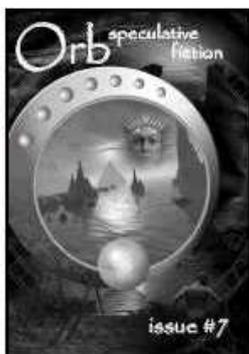
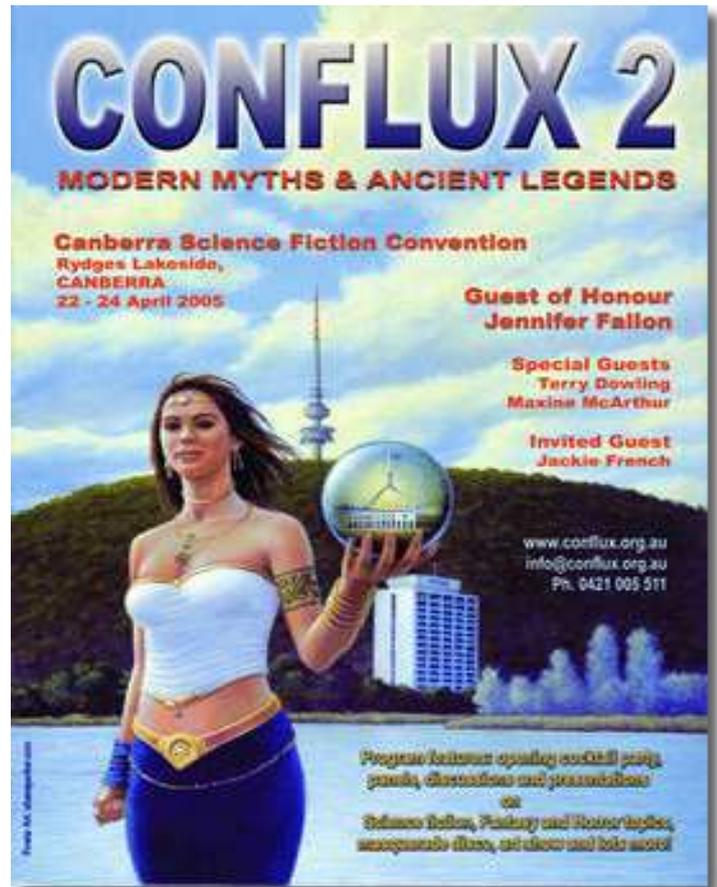
conflux (n) = a confluence  
 confluence (n) = a flowing together of two or more streams / the point of juncture of such streams / the combined stream formed by this juncture / a gathering, flowing, or meeting together at one juncture or point

## *A Message from Conflux 2 Chair Donna Hanson.*

Hello everyone. Welcome back to Conflux 2 for those of you who came to Conflux. A big 'Hi!' to those of you who will be coming to Conflux 2 for the first time. Spring has arrived in Canberra with a lovely wet and cold snap. A nice little dump of snow on the Brindabellas to remind us that winter is not over yet.

Memberships are shaping up nicely. We should have an updated list on the website by the end of the month. We will, of course, be keeping up the tradition of creative spelling. (Kidding!)

Also check out the website. Our webgoddess Deborah Biancotti has whipped up a new creation for Conflux 2. There are a few highlights. Guest bios are up there and the great poster painted specifically for Conflux 2 by Shane Parker and also starring goddess offspring in the freezing cold!



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## **Guests**

### **Our Guest of Honour is Jennifer Fallon.**

Jenny lives in Alice Springs. The latest news from Jenny is that she had a power surge that fried her nice, new, souped-up PC. She managed to get back her latest work minus 10,000 words but lost her email archive for the last 6 years, including some 200 or so unanswered fan mails. This is despite her \$200 plus surge protection. If you hear naughty words emanating from the near the red centre, that will be Jenny a-cursing.

### **Special Guests are Maxine McArthur, Terry Dowling and Jackie French**

Maxine McArthur's latest book comes out in October. *Less Than Human* will only be available in the US of A, so you'll have to ask your specialist book store to order it in for you. Her launch will be at Gaslight in Fyshwick 23 October at 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Best to check her website for details: [www.maxinemcarthur.com](http://www.maxinemcarthur.com). The URL for her book at Warner Aspect is <http://www.twbookmark.com/books/66/0446613428/index.html> You can read the blurb and order direct.

It is a shame that Australian publishers are not publishing SF here!

Terry Dowling says he has had a good year so far. Not only has he had "Flashmen" appear in The Year's Best Science Fiction 21, edited by Gardner Dozois and "One Thing About the Night" in David G. Hartwell & Kathryn Cramer's Year's Best Fantasy 4, but the February 2004 issue of *All Hallows: The Journal of the Ghost Story Society* has called Terry "Australia's premier writer of dark fantasy". The following projects have either happened recently or are in the works.

A major hardcover collection of Terry's best horror and dark fantasy stories will be appearing from Cemetery Dance in the US for an early 2005 release. It will include two new stories: "Clownette" and "Cheat Light" written especially for the collection.

Terry's second computer adventure, *Schizm II: Chameleon*, has been released in Australia by QVS Software. *The Sydney Morning Herald's* Icon section for 4-5 September 2004 gave the game 3 out of 5 and commented on the "compelling storyline" as being one of its strongest features

Terry's latest computer adventure, *Sentinel: Descendants in Time* is due for a November 2004 release in the US from The Adventure Company. The story for *Sentinel* is based on Terry's 1996 tale "The Ichneumon and the Dormeuse" and, as with *Schizm: Mysterious Journey* and *Schizm II: Chameleon*, is being developed in collaboration with the award-winning Polish-based Detalion studio. Terry was responsible for both the story adaptation and producing the script for the game.

## ***Special announcement***

Bob Eggleton has agreed to be our artist guest of honour and our artshow judge, along with Marianne Plumridge-Eggleton. As well as being famous for his Godzilla collection, Bob enjoys dancing to ABBA music! So don't be afraid come and see him boogie. Meanwhile, Bob has clocked up another Hugo for Professional Artwork!

## ***Programming***

Lots of suggestions have been coming forward for panel topics. As well as a panel on medieval weapons with Chris Barnes and Dave Lockett, we've had some horsewomen suggest a panel on things horsey. Karen Herkes will be running a virtual ghost tour. I'm hoping to drag someone in to talk about the history of Australian fanzines.

Keep the ideas coming in as it's best to have a lot to choose from so we can have more variety. If you have an idea or topic that you want covered just email [program@conflux.org.au](mailto:program@conflux.org.au). I can't guarantee that we will run it but we'll try.

Also, one thing to keep note of is that we are running panel sessions Friday evening, Saturday, Sunday and finishing with the Masquerade on Sunday night. On Monday there will be some informal activities in keeping with the relaxacon approach. For those keen to pay tribute to the war dead we will once again run a bus to the dawn ceremony if there is enough interest. Later after the rest of us have slept off our post-masquerade hangovers it's pizza in the park (weather permitting) or just lurch into the bar for a 'dead dog party'.

## ***Media Stream***

At Conflux 2, we are planning to enlarge the media stream, featuring a festival that will run well into the night. As part of that, organiser Michael Kraaz has found a couple of films to be included in the planned 'film festival'. Both are Canberra films, one already completed and one currently in production.

Michael has also contacted the makers of some 'Fan' Star Wars films, which will be screened during the day. An invitation has also gone out to Mark Juddery on giving a talk on Lost Australian SF Television, with some of them on tape to be viewed.

## ***Games***

Bridge Crew is returning to Conflux 2. Yes it's on again. Come and role play on a Star Trek bridge. Other games are of a spontaneous nature or self-combusting

## ***Filking***

There will be filking. Beware the filking! Lock up your children! Hide your musical instruments! And warm up your singing voice...

## ***Conflux2 combined Masquerade & Disco presents...VooDoo HooDoo!***

Join us at Bobby McGee's—deep in the evil heart of Rydges—for a night of intoxicating potions, tribal rhythms, dark rites, and er...intoxicating potions! *FEEL!* The beat, as DJ Chuck McKenzie harnesses the awesome power of disco to raise the dead! (In Canberra, raising the living is a feat in itself). *THRILL!* to the sight of decaying corpses crawling from their graves to strut their funky stuff! (Or is that just Bob Eggleton getting down to ABBA?). *GASP!* at acts of demonic possession, as partygoers writhe, spin, and speak in tongues (or maybe Donna Hanson's just had a few too many. Again).

Where: Bobby McGee's nightclub

When: Sunday 24 April, 7.30 for 8.00pm start!

Occultists, virgins and members of the Undead (that should cover most of you) all welcome! Ceremonial dress requested—prizes awarded for the best sacrificial robes.

We cannot guarantee the safety of your soul—but we *can* guarantee a party to remember for eternity! So be there! And remember...

When there is no more room in hell  
The Dead will Dance

## ***Venue***

The venue is once again Rydges Lakeside. We had such a good time there we had to go back. You can't beat Bobby McGees for the masquerade. Talk about instant atmosphere! This time Rydges are offering the same deal, standard double room with two full buffet breakfasts each morning for \$140.00 per night.

Also there is an alternative for the Bobby McGees restaurant in the evening. Cahoots Bar has bar food available. Simple things like fish and chips, chicken tenders etc for a much reasonable price. The added attraction is there is alcohol there for the thirsty eaters.

To reserve your room ring 1800 026 169 and quote Conflux 2 284750, Canberra Science Fiction Convention. Remember Canberra is busy at that time of year with the Dawn Service so it pays to secure your room early. A credit card number is sufficient to make a reservation.

## ***Special Notice***

Conflux and the start of Passover unfortunately coincide in 2005. This was, alas, unavoidable. If this affects you and you still want to come to Canberra (yes, we want you!), book early and let us know you are Jewish. ([program@conflux.org.au](mailto:program@conflux.org.au))

Someone will be in touch with you to talk about your dietary needs and how we can help meet them, and we will give you details of the Jewish Community's seder. You do need to book well in advance (both for Conflux and for the seder) because Canberra has only a very tiny Jewish community and food that is kosher for Passover has to be imported from Melbourne or Sydney.

## ***Traders Room***

Greg Toohey is once again running the traders room. Most of the traders will be back again for Conflux. So there'll be artwork, pottery, new books, small press, second-hand books and collectibles for sale or browsing. If you are interested in a table please contact us to reserve a table. We will be having a smaller traders room this time around.

Traders' rates for Conflux 2005 are the same as for Conflux 2004, & are as follows:

- \$220 for one professional table; or
- \$330.00 for two pro tables.

This includes one full membership and one assistant membership

Fan rate is \$143.00 and includes one table and one membership only.

## ***Art Show***

After the superb showing at the Conflux show we cannot help but do it all again. Nicole Murphy will be heading up a team of volunteers. Basically the guidelines are the same as last years, except this year we won't be running a 3-D animation category. Query Nicole at [artshow@conflux.org.au](mailto:artshow@conflux.org.au) if you want to help set up, want to submit artwork or just want to say hi there.

Let us know whether you wish to submit to the artshow as early as you can. This helps us plan the exhibition, the judging categories and the prize money. Don't forget we have a celebrity judge, Hugo Award winning artist Bob Eggleton. Marianne Plumridge-Eggleton has agreed to judge the competition as well.

### ***Advertising rates for convention magazine***

We've already sold the inside cover and tentatively sold the back cover. So we have one colour page available for \$300.00 (inside back cover). So get in quick.

Black and white interior advertisements:

- Full page \$100 pro rate, \$50 fan rate
- Half page \$75 pro rate, \$35 fan rate

Book launches = \$150 for pro launches and \$50 small press.

Con bag inserts = \$40.00 professional rate per item and \$10.00 for fan/small press.

Well, that's it for the first progress report. Looking forward to seeing you at Conflux 2.

Regards

Donna Hanson,  
Chair, Conflux 2  
24 September 2004

# **THE WRITERS ARE IN TOWN**

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# **BRISBANE WRITERS FESTIVAL**

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To be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October, the festival features Zoran Zivkovic, Paul Brandon, Karen Brooks, Juliet Marillier, Marianne de Pierres and Kim Wilkins. For more information, log onto [www.brisbanewritersfestival.com.au](http://www.brisbanewritersfestival.com.au)

# CONFLUX 2

## Modern Myths & Ancient Legends Membership Form

*info@conflux.org.au or phone 0421-005-511 or see the website  
www.conflux.org.au*

**Conflux 2, Modern Myths and Ancient Legends, will be held in Canberra over the ANZAC Day long weekend from 22-24 April 2005 at Rydges Lakeside. Room rate is \$140 per night for standard double room, includes full buffet breakfast for two people. Call toll-free on 1800 026 169 and quote Conflux 2, science-fiction convention.**

**Guest of Honour will be Jennifer Fallon, author of the *Demon Child Trilogy* and the *Second Sons Trilogy*. Special guests are Terry Dowling and Maxine McArthur.**

Supporting memberships can be upgraded to an attending membership by paying the difference at any time before or during the convention.

**Membership applications and payments may be mailed to Conflux, PO Box 903, Belconnen ACT 2616 or faxed to 02-6241-3211 (credit card payments only).**

.....  
Name.....

Name on badge.....

Address.....

Suburb.....State/Post Code.....

Phone .....

Full Membership . \$110.00 .

Student/concession Concession \$77.00 .

Supporting \$33.00

(please tick as appropriate)

I want Conflux to contact me by email: Yes . No .

If yes, my email address is.....

I want my name to appear on public member listings: Yes . No .

. I enclose a cheque/money order payable to "Conflux" for \$.....

. Please debit my Visa/Mastercard/Bankcard account \$.....

Card No..... Visa . Bankcard . Mastercard

Name on Card..... Expiry Date.....

Your account will be charged by Victorian Science Fiction Conventions, Incorporated.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept American Express or Diners Club Charge Cards.

I certify the above details are correct.....

(Please sign the form)