



# Progress Report Zero



Easter 2007 · 5-9 April



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### Committee

Convenor · Michael Dawson  
Treasurer · April Rutkay  
Secretary · Paul McLaughlan  
Panel Coordinator · Tom Eitelhuber  
Panel Coordinator · Erica Pearson  
Guest Liasion · David Thatcher  
Venue Liasion · Chris Coman

### General Helpers

Stephanie Cooke · Tina Lorenz

The committee can be reached at  
[swancon32@gmail.com](mailto:swancon32@gmail.com)

## International Guests of Honour

Elizabeth Moon

David Gerrold

## Australian Guest of Honour

Matthew Reilly

## Professional Guest of Honour

Russell B. Farr

## Fan Guest of Honour

Damian Magee



## Prices

Early Bird \$90 · Supporting \$40

A supporting membership enables you to upgrade to a full membership at any time for only \$50

First price rise is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2006  
Full \$110 · Concession \$90

## Upcoming Events

So you can't wait a whole year to see your fannish friends and help contribute to Perth's largest annual SF convention? Fear not! SwanCon 2007: Inconceivable is running a number of events throughout the next year to help keep you occupied...

### Quiz Nights

We've got two quiz nights planned for the coming year. Entry is \$7 per head, with tables strictly limited to eight.

4:30 PM, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2006  
Higgin's Hyde Park Hotel  
331 Bulwer Street, West Perth

### Movie Screenings

We are anticipate having a movie every month between here and the convention. Ice Age 2 and Mission Impossible 3 are planned for the near future, but first we're pleased to bring you V for Vendetta. Here are the details...

V for Vendetta  
7 PM, Friday 31<sup>st</sup> April, 2006  
Reading Cinemas Belmont  
Belmont Ave, Belmont

### SwanCon Games Day

For later on in the year, a Games Day has been planned. This will involve a picnic barbeque and outdoor games. For \$7 a head, you'll get barbeque goodness and a day of fun with friendly fans.

More details closer to the event.

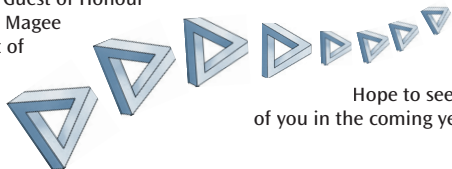
## Convenor's Report

Hi, and welcome to the new SwanCon year. My name is Michael Dawson, and I will be your Convenor for the next 13 months. Nearly a year ago at SwanCon 30, I was sitting in Anna Hepworth's panel about her experiences at SwanCons, and a crazy idea popped in to my head. "Hey, I could run a convention!" Little did I know that my idea was infectious, and a few hours later I found myself with a great group of people to call my committee. After several drunken hours of brainstorming and little sleep we came up with the idea of SwanCon 32: Inconceivable. Much quoting of Inigo Montoya ensued.

The theme for our convention is 'Inconceivable' which, simply put, is about exploring the boundaries of consciousness and imagination, including determining whether those boundaries exist at all. If the science fiction of today is the science fact of tomorrow, then what will the science fiction of that day be, and why haven't we thought of it already? Inconceivable is about the things and ideas that are beyond our wildest dreams, our deepest thoughts and our craziest moments.

Fundraising is a major part of the upcoming year, with chocolates, Entertainment Guides and movie screenings being the predominant forms. We are also planning not one but two quiz nights, hosted by our friends at the Hyde Park Hotel. We would like to encourage everyone to help us out by coming to all of the events, buying as much chocolate as you or your workplaces can handle, and enjoying the benefits of having vouchers to all of your favourite restaurants.

We are blessed to have two fantastic International Guests of Honour in Elizabeth Moon and David Gerrold. We're also glad to have Matthew Reilly as the Australian Guest of Honour, Russell B. Farr as Professional Guest of Honour and Damian Magee as Fan Guest of Honour.



Hope to see all of you in the coming year!

## Elizabeth Moon - Biography

Elizabeth Moon is an American science fiction and fantasy author, living in Florence, Texas. She obtained a Bachelor's degree in History before rising to the rank of 1st Lieutenant in the US Marine Corps. She later obtained a B.A. in Biology, and is also an experienced paramedic.

Elizabeth's first attempt at a book was a biography of the family dog, written at age six. Although a failure, she continued to write interestingly. Her first fiction sales began at age forty, with *Bargains*, to Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Sword & Sorceress III* and *ABC's in Zero G* to *Analog*. These both appeared in the summer of 1986.

In 1987 Elizabeth sold her first novel, *Sheepfarmer's Daughter*. It came out the following year, and in 1989 won the Compton Crook Award. Since then, the total has risen to 18 novels, including two co-authored with Anne McCaffrey in her *Planet Pirate* series, omnibus editions of several series, two short-fiction collections and several dozen works of short fiction.



Elizabeth's most recent releases include *Judgment* in *The Dragon Quintet* and *Gifts*, in *Masters of Fantasy*. In 1997, her novel *Remnant Population* was nominated for a Hugo, and *The Speed of Dark* was a finalist for the Arthur C. Clarke Award, and won the Nebula in 2004.

Her most recent book is *Marque and Reprisal*, the second in the *Vatta's War* series, published September 2004. The next book in that series, engaging the *Enemy*, will appear in the spring of 2006.

## David Gerrold - Biography

David Gerrold started his career as a college student, in 1966, by submitting an unsolicited story outline to *Star Trek*, then in the infancy of it's original series. Invited to submit several premises, one was chosen, and so arguably the most popular episode of all time, *The Trouble with Tribbles*, was born.

As well as being responsible for many of the ideas incorporated into *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and authoring *The World of Star Trek*, a best-selling book about the birth of the phenomenon, David continued writing for many science fiction television series, including *Land of the Lost*, *Babylon 5*, *Sliders*, *Logan's Run*, *Tales From The Darkside* and *The Twilight Zone* - over a dozen shows in total!

David has also published over 40 books, some of the best known being *The Man Who Folded Himself* and *When H.A.R.L.I.E. Was One*, which was nominated for best novel for both the Hugo and Nebula awards. In 1995, he won the Hugo and Nebula for *The Martian Child*, an autobiographical tale of his son's adoption.

David is the author of the *Star Wolf* series of novels, as well as the *War Against the Chtorr* series. With four parts released so far, he is currently writing the fifth.

His most recent novel is *Blood and Fire*, published in 2004.

Currently, David lives in Northridge, California with his son, Sean, four neurotic dogs, and two snotty cats.



## Matthew Reilly - Biography

At 31, Matthew Reilly is the international bestselling author of eight books including *Ice Station*, *Temple*, *Contest*, *Area 7*, *Scarecrow* and the children's book *Hover Car Racer*. His books are published in 20 countries in 18 languages, and he has sold over 2 million books worldwide.

Walt Disney Pictures recently optioned the movie rights to *Hover Car Racer*, while the book was still in manuscript form. 2005 saw the release of not one but two of his books: *Hell Island*, a novella written specifically for the Australian Government's 'Books Alive' initiative, and the epic adventure *Seven Ancient Wonders*, which went on to become the bestselling book by an Australian in 2005.

Reilly owns and drives a Delorean, one of only a few in Australia. He also owns a life-size replica of Han Solo, encased in carbonite.

## Russell B. Farr - Biography

Russell was born in Perth and now lives in Northam, Western Australia. From 1996 to 1999 he ran Ticonderoga Publications, publishing six books by writers including Howard Waldrop, Steven Utley, Stephen Dedman, Sean Williams and Simon Brown.

In 1999 he founded the online journal TiconderogaOnline. Following a six-year hiatus, he resurrected Ticonderoga Publications in late 2005, announcing several new titles and a long-awaited collection, *Troy*, by Simon Brown.

Russell made his first fiction sale to Vision Magazine in 2003. He has authored over 100 stories, articles, reviews and essays, in amateur publications in Australia, the US and Norway. From 2000 to 2004 he edited the fanzine *No Award*. Russell is also an Associate Editor of *Science Fiction: A review of speculative literature*. In 2000 he was a Convenor of the Aurealis Awards, and judged the Katherine Susannah Pritchard SF Short Story Award in 2003.

## Damian Magee, the Fan Who Watched Too Much

BY HEATHER MAGEE

Damian Magee is old. How do I know this? He has seen Evil of the Daleks with Patrick Troughton three times. Not significant, you say? By the time video recorders had been invented and reached Australian homes in the early 1980s, the BBC had already destroyed most of the black & white seasons of Doctor Who. Damian had to see Evil of the Daleks when it was first run and repeated on television.

This leads neatly to my second conclusion. Damian Magee has square eyes. He watched far too much television as a child, so obviously he must have square eyes. Our parents told us that would happen, back in the dim, distant past when computers took up whole rooms and landing men on the moon was still a fantasy. How can he have watched too much TV, you scoff? Damian can give you exact details about what program was on what channel at what time and day from the mid-late 1960s onwards. He can give you vivid descriptions of what he was doing for the several days of telecast of the moon landing. I was only 4, so I have very dim memories. He can probably even tell you about seeing the reports and footage of JFK being shot, at the time it happened.

Still not enough to justify the title of this short biographical piece? Damian Magee was, (and is), an avid film buff. He started going when a Saturday matinee gave you two movies, an 'A' and a 'B', a short and a cartoon, all for 50c. His mum worked at a cinema for a while, and Damian saw lots of movies for free. British comedies, Hollywood musicals, sci-fi, Hammer Horror, drama, westerns, romance, bad American horror (eg. Plan 9 From Outer Space), and, of course, Godzilla and Gamera.

This led to Damian's lifelong love affair with Japanese monster movies, British and especially Hammer horror, westerns, war movies, buddy comedies and musicals, and films in general. More recently, Jackie Chan, partly because he is so reminiscent of Buster Keaton and Harold Lloyd, bringing back memories of classic American movies. One of Damian's other great loves is Anime and Manga. Australia was lucky – we had years of Anime on our screens that the US didn't – Astroboy, Kimba, Gigantor, and many others – which means that generations of Aussies love Jap Anime without even knowing it.

All this input sparked other interests for Damian, turning him into a much more rounded individual than you might expect. He discovered a love for history, biography and autobiography, and also a passion for opera like his dad. Damian has a truly awesome memory for facts, and on one memorable occasion, he went round the Trivial Pursuit board 7 times, (getting all his pie pieces each time), before the rest of us caught up. His major weakness is sport, so a winning quiz night table needs Damian plus a sports nut. Damian is also a closet librarian, which is why all his videos are alphabetised, and his books are arranged according to Dewey.

Damian's saving grace is his love for science fiction. This led to his joining the Perth Doctor Who fan club at its fourth meeting, going to SwanCon since 1987, and meeting the real love of his life, me(!), also at the Doctor Who club. Damian loves H.G. Wells, Jules Verne, Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Isaac Asimov, C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, Lewis Carroll, Kafka and many contemporary writers as well as sci-fi/fantasy/horror on film and TV. He does require good scripts, direction and acting from his sci-fi viewing, though, so most recent American 'blockbusters' are out, such as Independence Day, Titanic, House on Haunted Hill, and Starship Troopers, which was hilarious in spots, but basically bad. Damian is also passionate about classic TV shows, so film remakes have to get it right, such as Starsky and Hutch and Charlie's Angels, but not The Avengers, Wild Wild West, or I Spy.

Damian has been a fan since he was a kid, and his contributions to many SwanCons have been through panels and presentations rich with detail and memories, and often video clips that took hours or days to get right. More recently, he has also been presenting lectures on Japanese Anime & Manga, and on Animation at Bunbury ECU, also with video clips and props. At Confusion, which had Sylvia Anderson as the special guest, Damian appeared as Parker, and at another SwanCon, Damian was the 'dead guest of honour', Jules Verne. He also co-hosted the Perth Doctor Who convention in 1988. He has been an active member of the Sherlock Holmes Society of WA for many years, along with central roles in the Prisoner fan club and the Doctor Who club. Damian has written anime, a play on Conan Doyle, several spy stories, and numerous articles for various fanzines.

Damian is currently learning all the Goons and Monty Python songs backwards, and refusing to buy his wife a dog.



## Short Story Competition

SwanCon 2007: Inconceivable is running a short story competition! There are two categories - Adult and Junior (15 years and under) - and prizes will be awarded for each.

### Rules & Conditions of Entry

- Entrants must be full, day, or supporting members of SwanCon 32: Inconceivable.
- The story should contain elements of speculative fiction, science fiction, fantasy, or horror. Any stories involving R-rated themes must be indicated as such.
- Stories may be submitted by amateurs or professionals, they will be assessed blindly, and on winning a prize or being published, will be marked as either an amateur or professional entry.
- Entries must be original fiction, and not based on existing, copyrighted works.
- Entries must not have been either awarded, or have received a prize in a competition.
- SwanCon 32 reserves the option to first Australian publishing rights, and to publish winners and entries in the SwanCon 32 convention book, if we so decide. Authors retain all other commercial and moral rights.
- R/X-rated stories may be awarded prizes, and may not be published in the convention book, yet SwanCon 32 may publish these winners online.
- The story should be no more than 5000 words.
- Up to three entries may be made by each entrant.
- Stories should be submitted in manuscript format (double-spaced, minimum 12 point script).
- Submissions must be made no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> 2006.
- Judges reserve the right to make a 'No award' judgement.
  
- Stories may be submitted electronically in either Word, Plain or Rich Text or Adobe PDF formats, and emailed to: [swancon32@gmail.com](mailto:swancon32@gmail.com)
- Hardcopy submissions may be mailed to:  
GPO Box G429, Perth WA, 6841

## Fanvid Competition

CALLING ALL VIDDERS!

Swancon 2007: Inconceivable is proud to announce its FanVid Competition. What's a fanvid? A fanvid is what you get when you chop up your favourite show or movie, mix it around in your computer's editing software (or with a pair of scissors if you're old school!), glue it back together to the beat of your favourite song, and show it off to all your friends. Well, we're your friends, and we want to see what you've made!

Haven't shown off a vid before? That's okay. Not only do we have a General Award where your vid can test its mettle against all-comers, we also have several distinct categories so your vids can duke it out in the appropriate class. We have the Rarities, for vids featuring those shows or characters who never get as much attention in fandom as you'd like. We have the Romantics for all you cuddle-bunnies and slashers out there to prove that the subtext is really text! The Experimental category is for those of you who like to stretch your vidding muscles (and maybe mess with our heads at the same time). Storytellers is the category for those who like to make vids showing us something about your favourite character or show. And debuting this year is the Challenge category. These are vids that, in some way meet, define or exemplify the idea of 'Inconceivable!'.

You are allowed to up to five fanvids overall, and fanvids need to be in to us by the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, so you'd best get cracking! Full rules and submission details will soon be available online at our website - <http://www.swancon.com/> - or from your friendly local committee member.

## Art Show

Swancon 2007: Inconceivable is *also* running an art show! Start to get your Inconceivable entires ready. More details soon - keep an eye on the website - <http://www.swancon.com/>

## Fundraising

Fundraising is an extremely important part of running a SwanCon, as it helps us to reduce the membership costs as much as possible. We have a range of chocolates from both Cadbury and Mars for your consuming pleasure. These will be sold at all SwanCon events. If you think you can help out with selling these at your workplace, please email the committee at swancon32@gmail.com

## Entertainment Books

SwanCon 2007 is also raising funds by selling the 2006/2007 Entertainment™ Book. Selling for \$60 each, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the Entertainment™ Books will help fund our convention.

Entertainment™ Books contain hundreds of 25-50% off and two-for-one offers from popular restaurants, cinemas, hotels, the arts, and sporting events. Examples include the Acacia Hotel, Pot Black, Hoyts, Timezone, Adventure World, Chelsea Pizza, Pancakes at Carillon, Nandos, Broadway Pizza, Java Juice, Il Gelato and many, many more.

Order your new Entertainment™ Book now as they are sure to sell out quickly. To reserve your copy of the Entertainment™ Book, fill in the order form inserted in this Progress Report, or contact one of the committee.



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SwanCon 2007 is an official project of the Western Australian Science Fiction Foundation (Inc.) (WASFF) and runs under it's directives.  
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