

June 2002 for SF Conventions

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June 2002 is Convention Month in Australasia

USA and UK fans, why not consider planning your 2002 vacation around a set of small fannish conventions in a remote part of the world? Just dollars a day saved from today on could cover your travel costs, with the Australian dollar worth around US50c or UK35p (and the NZ\$ even less).

New Zealand National Convention

Con-with-the-Wind will be held in Wellington on the weekend of 1-3 June 2002 (a 3-day holiday weekend in NZ). GoHs Joe Haldeman and Lucy Sussex. Details at

<http://www.con-with-the-wind.sf.org.nz/>

Australian National Convention

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first SF convention in Australia, **ConVergence 2002**, the 41st Australian National Science Fiction Convention, will be held on four days, Friday 7 June through Monday 10 June 2002 (a holiday weekend in most Australian states).

Fan Guest of Honour is Race Matthews, member of the first NatCon, and founder of the Melbourne Science Fiction Group. Overseas Pro GoH is Joe Haldeman, multiple winner of the Hugo, Nebula and numerous other awards, who will be accompanied by Gay Haldeman. Local guest writers include Sean Williams and Lucy Sussex. Jack Dann is Toastmaster.

The site is the Cato Conference Centre, 489 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, near the Victoria markets. More info on the ConVergence website, <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~converge/>

Relaxacon by the Great Barrier Reef

Still ready for conventions? Jean and Eric are organising a relaxacon a week later (14-17 June) at the Whitsunday Terraces Resort, Airlie Beach, in tropical North Queensland. The perfect place for sailing, and gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, Airlie Beach is the same distance from the equator as is Hawaii.

Room rates at the Terraces are very good, around A\$100 (US\$50 or UK£35), with more or less expensive accommodation also available in town.

Check out Eric's web pages about Airlie Beach and the Whitsunday Terraces at

<http://www.ericlindsay.com/airlie/>

Relaxa.con Website

Progress reports and other information about the con, the location, and how to get there are at <http://www.ericlindsay.com/relaxa.con/>

If you would like to have us send you information, or if you have questions, please send us your address details (including email if at all possible). Our address is at the top of this flyer.

You can get a copy of this flyer in PDF format from <http://www.ericlindsay.com/relaxa.con/conlet.pdf>

Why This Flyer

We got to wondering why so few fans travel to Australia and New Zealand for conventions, and especially why so few to NatCons. This is especially the case when many fans have said to us they would like to travel here.

Money is doubtless a big factor for many. However there are now a fair number of fans who can afford some travel, so we thought we would give you some ideas.

Not enough publicity about overseas cons, and not enough time to plan a trip? That we can take care of, by having notices at other cons.

Not enough incentive to attend just one con? That is why we are working to publicise a situation where there is a con every weekend.

Not sure about travel arrangements? Jean Weber has been putting together a travel website and newsletter for overseas travellers wanting to see remote parts of Australia. Check <http://www.avalook.com.au/>