<table border="0"> <tr> <td valign="top"> Volume 17, No. 2. Feb 2009 ISSN 0314-6677; ABN 64-276-646-616 <h4>Introduction</h4> Editorial (copy below) "Wake Up, You Lot!": John Foyster as SF Critic - Bruce Gillespie
read an excerpt. <h4>John Foyster on J.G. Ballard</h4> Gabriel, Not Ghod Review of The Terminal Beach A Note on J.G. Ballard: Some Recent Short Stories Letters on Foyster's Attitude to Ballard (from James Blish and Michael Moorcock) A Note on J.G. Ballard: Three Novels - The Drowned World, The Burning World, The Crystal World J.G. Ballard Versus the Incredible Shrinking Publication The Fauve Thigs and Finagles of Mr B.: A Review of The Atrocity Exhibition Science Fiction Versus Life <h4>The John Foyster Funeral (Transcript)</h4> <hr /> Editorial &#65533; This issue of Science Fiction has a special focus on the work of Australian sf critic John Foyster (1941-2003). &#65533; I like to think I knew John Foyster, yet as far as I can recall, I never actually met him. I have undoubtedly been in the same room as him (particularly during the 1985 Worldcon in Melbourne), but I don&#65533;t think we ever spoke or shook hands. I knew him because we shared the belief that science fiction was important, and I knew him because he, like me, was reading and engaging with the fiction of J.G. Ballard. For me, Ballard&#65533;s strange world of exoticism and deviant logic was emotionally and intellectually exciting &#65533; but also puzzling, challenging, unsettling. These were the kinds of books that offered a rope-bridge of understanding across vast chasms &#65533; but the understanding only became solid through discussion, questioning, conversation. So I talked about Ballard with my friend Terry Dowling (it&#65533;s fair to say that Ballard and sf founded our friendship) and I engaged with Ballard through the reviews of John Foyster. (It&#65533;s fair to say that my respect for the art and craft of book reviewing owes a very great deal to Foyster [and to long-time Sydney Morning Herald sf reviewer William Noonan].) This issue would never have come into existence without the help of Bruce Gillespie and Yvonne Rousseau, who helped to point me toward materials, photos, and various pieces of information I would have never uncovered alone. My gratitude to them is immense. I hope that for readers this issue will be the same journey of re-discovery and re-acquaintance (there&#65533;s a difference&#65533;) that it has been for me. - Van Ikin </td> <td align="center" valign="top"> Cover design and portrait by Dane Ikin </td> </tr> </table>