

# GE NEWS

Vol 5 Issue 28 2012

WOMEN TALK SCI FI



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Supanova

What is Sean Connery doing in a mankini?

The original good Vampire!

The Web and Sci Fi, what's new.

Did your favourite TV show make the cut?

Australian Women in Science!

# Super Stars from Supanova



**Rainbow Sun Francks and Cliff Simon**



**Edward James Olmos**

Slightly 'jet lagged' from a 4am start that didn't need to be a 4am start as there was a two-hour plane delay and they only told us at 2.00am that there would be the delay... but we digress! With the delay our arrival at Supanova [www.supanova.com](http://www.supanova.com) this year was a lot later than usual.

When we finally did make it to the hotel drop off our bags and head to the Melbourne Showgrounds, thankfully the rest of the day went smoothly. This year V/Rail put on a train service that dropped you at the entrance to Supanova with the train being more comfortable compared to squashed tram rides the year before. The weather was perfect and as always it was a pleasure to meet up with our Con friends that come from far and wide!!

The line-up of guests was impressive. James and Oliver Phelps (Harry Potter), Summer Glau (Firefly, Sarah Connor Chronicles) Morena Baccarin (Firefly, V), Edward James Olmos (Battlestar Galactica) Chandler Riggs (The Walking Dead), Jaimie Alexander (Thor) Peter Facinelli (Twilight) and Will Wheaton (Star Trek, The Big Bang Theory). Not to mention our favourite actors Rainbow Sun Francks (Stargate Atlantis, The Listener) and Cliff Simon (Stargate, Days of Our Lives) who we had the pleasure of getting to know better at the Gifts for the Geeks [www.giftsforthegeek.com.au](http://www.giftsforthegeek.com.au) Aftermath Party on Sunday night.



**Peter Facinelli**



**Chandler Riggs**

One of the highlights for us was interviewing Edward James Olmos who played Commander Adama on Battlestar Galactica (BSG). When we interviewed him you could tell that he is very proud of BSG and what the show achieved in the area of storytelling. He is proud of what the show stood for and understands the impact Science Fiction has on raising awareness of social justice issues. Because of his involvement in the show, Edward, Mary MacDonnell, David Eick and Ron Moore were asked to address the United Nations on human rights and the impact of armed conflict on children.



*Below is an extract from his speech*

..."We're talking about a science fiction show, we're talking about the humanity we live in today. I still find it incredible that we still use word "race" as a cultural determinant... I detest what we've done to ourselves. Out of a need to make ourselves different from one another, we've made the word "race" a way of expressing culture. There's no such thing.... I just heard one of the most prolific statements done by one of the great humanitarians, he's really trying to organize and bring us together, and he used the word "race" as if there is a Latino race, an Asian race, an indigenous race, a Caucasian race. There's no such thing as a Latino race. There never has been. There never will be. There's only *one* race, and that's what the show brought out. That is the human race, period."

We also caught up again with Adam Richard and John Richards, creators of the ABC (that's our Australian ABC) show Outland. This was a six part comedy series about a 'gay Science Fiction fan club and the lives, loves and never ending dramas of its five members.' Adam played the character Fab in the show and you have to buy the DVD just to see Adam Richard dressed in a Dalek dress. It is hilarious!!

A young actor that impressed us was Chandler Riggs who plays Carl in The Walking Dead, post-apocalyptic zombie TV program. You would have thought that he had been part of the convention scene for many years not just a few months. He loved talking to the fans about the show and sharing some of the behind the scenes antics of the cast and yes we did interview him look out for it in an upcoming podcast.

As always the costumes were amazing and of course no convention expo would be complete without the odd Storm trooper or two!!! [www.supanova.com](http://www.supanova.com)



**Adam Richard**



**So which one likes the Vegemite?**

# Sci Fi Hearsay

*Rumour, Gossip, Tittle-Tattle, Scuttlebutt, Idle Talk,  
Unfounded, Unconfirmed, Word of Mouth and more!!*

## New Genre Shows 2012!

Click on show title

[Continuum](#)

[Arrow](#)

[Beauty and the Beast](#)

[666 Park Avenue](#)

[Last Resort](#) ????

[Zero Hour](#)

[Revolution](#)

## Possibly, maybe, could be for 2012!

Click on show title

[The Munsters](#)

[The Selection](#)

[Grave Sight](#)

**Not Much else!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

## Cancelled Sci Fi Shows in 2012

Sanctuary  
Awake  
Chuck  
The Secret Circle  
The River  
A Gifted Man  
Alcatraz

## Returning Genre Shows

Once Upon a Time  
Person of Interest  
The Walking Dead  
Falling Skies  
Supernatural  
The Vampire Diaries  
Dr Who  
Bones  
True Blood  
American Horror Story

Check out this article from  
The Huffington Post  
by Kris LoPresto



**THE HUFFINGTON POST**

## **53 Reasons Why We Need A New *Star Trek* TV Series**

**Below we have just some of his reason!**

**To check out his complete list click on this link [CLICK HERE!](#)**

1. There are zero operas on TV at the moment. How is that even possible?
3. Four years is a long wait between J.J. Abrams movies.
10. Episode 59: The crew encounters a planet where magic is real thanks to their green sun.
24. Tribbles!
34. Episode 18 the USS Enterprise crew encounters vampires. Someone may be infected. All personnel are required to head to sick bay where it turns out the ships doctor is the vampire and he's using blood samples to quench his thirst. TWIST!
35. Geordi wears the Google augmented reality glasses instead of my mom's hair clip on his face
46. A sweet new opening title sequence featuring, "Space, the final frontier..."
53. Because there are a million fan fiction stories to tell on television. No other franchise has a more loyal fan base than *Star Trek*. It's time to reward these fans with their stories on the small screen.

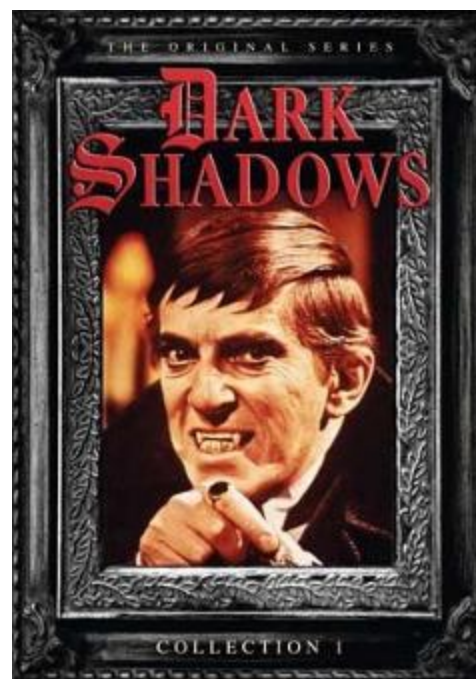
**Follow Kris LoPresto on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/krislopresto](http://www.twitter.com/krislopresto)**

# Vintage Sci Fi

## You must watch!

With Dark Shadows the Movie starring Johnnie Depp as vampire Barnabas Collins and directed by Tim Burton hitting the cinemas some of you may not know that this was based on a long running gothic soap opera of the same name. Debuting in 1966 this gothic TV show did not see the introduction of supernatural elements until it had been on air for six months when it introduced ghostly characters. However, it gained immense popularity when Barnabas Collins the vampire was introduced.

However, vampires were not the only supernatural to turn up in this soap opera there were also witches, warlocks, werewolves and zombies to name a few. Not only did this show do the supernatural but also had Sci Fi elements with time travel and a parallel universe. As with any soap opera the plot is convoluted with melodramatic plot twists. A young woman, Victoria Winters, an orphan (of course) is invited to work at Collinwood (the home of the Collin's family), in Collinsport in the state of Maine, USA. Hoping to find out information about her past she takes the job and encounters many strange members of the family.

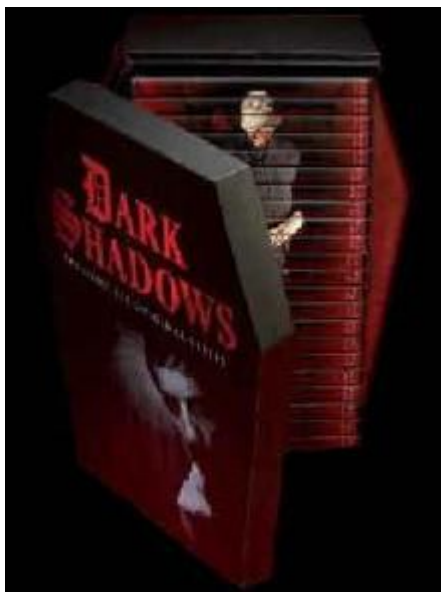






Victoria Winters

Firstly, there is Elizabeth matriarch of the family who may or may not have killed her husband and has not left the house for 18 years, Roger who hired Victoria, and his son David, who sees ghosts, Laura the mother who uses magic, Barnabas the vampire and so on and so on. Check out Wikipedia for a more detailed synopsis of the many story lines. The original series ran from 1966 to 1971 with 1,225 episodes and for all of us who are Doctor Who and Star Trek fans who enjoy the wobbly sets you will get your fair share in this production.



The one thing that can be said about Dark Shadows it influenced many shows, movies, a magazine, books and audio dramas. Some TV shows that could be said to have followed on in the same tradition as Dark Shadows include the soaps Port Charles and Passions and there was a tie over with the TV show Bewitched as Dr Bombay made an appearance in Dark Shadows. It has even been said that Buffy and Angel tread in the shadows of this show which of course was the first to introduce the "good" vampire in the form of Barnaby Collins tortured by being such a creation and looking for a cure (remind you of anyone?).



# Sci Fi Costumes

The Good , the Bad and the Absolutely Ghastly!!



These uniforms look more like sleepwear than space wear

**Star Trek the Movie**



Not sure what is more disturbing, Sting nearly naked or the very uncomfortable piece of costume he is wearing!!

**Dune**



Emma Peel, fashionable as well as lethal!

**The Avengers**



This is just wrong, oh so wrong in so many ways!!!

**Zardoz**

Who would have thought that in the future bandages are an acceptable form of attire.

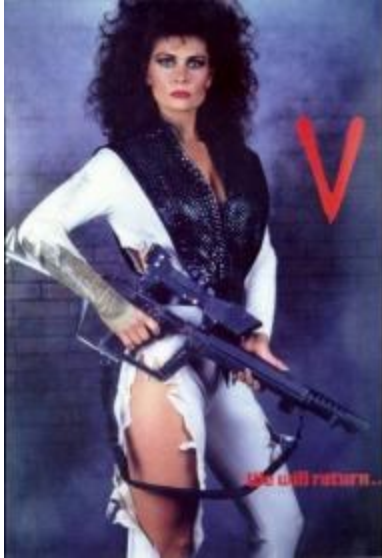
**Fifth Element**





This is one very well dressed, smart, sexy,  
Sci Fi Superhero.

### Barbarella



The 80s hit again.  
Boofy hair and ripped  
clothing!!

V



Not sure if these aliens are  
meant to be Cabin Crew or  
Parking Inspectors? Either way  
it's hard to take them seriously  
in those silver boots.

### Mork and Mindy



It seems that when you are in  
a submarine you must wear a  
fishing net. It can come in  
handy if you want to catch  
some fish for tea.

### U.F.O



This is one Sci Fi costume that  
is guaranteed to give you a  
pounding headache.

### Hyperdrive



Sparklepuff Lazerium : superheroine of the galaxy! (though most question that when she's in action) While she possesses no *actual* super-powers, she bravely battles the alien forces of evil with her bedazzled gamma ray gun. In the vein of Naked Gun and the MacGruber sketches, Sparklepuff spoofs some of the most famous sci fi plots...in 6 inch boots. Defending the galaxy, bitches.

The stand alone episodes feature Sci Fi favourites Tom Lenk ("Buffy The Vampire Slayer", "Angel", Cabin in the Woods, Transformers), Ethan Phillips ("Star Trek: Voyager") and soap star Eric Martsoff ("Days of our Lives", "Smallville").

Website: [www.sparklepuff.com](http://www.sparklepuff.com)

## Sci Fi & Fantasy on the web!

Web series sitcom (although not exactly Sci Fi) is a series that any GEEK can relate to. It centres around a group of online gamers and is about their online and offline lives. It was conceived and is written by Felicia Day and has won numerous awards. The eps last between 3-8 mins and it is very funny. To watch head on over to the official website at

<http://www.watchtheguild.com/>



## COLLIDER

Collider is a web based series about 6 people who are Mysteriously transported to a post-apocalyptic future, and need to find a way to get back to the present and save mankind - and their own lives.

It is a sci-fi multiplatform project that combines TV and Web Series.

<http://www.colliderworld.com/>



**Mortal Kombat: Legacy** is a web series released only on YouTube on April 11, 2011. It is an adaptation of the fictional universe of the Mortal Kombat video game. Mortal Kombat: Legacy is set before the story of the original game and gives background stories to some of the characters. The episodes do not form a continuous story but are about a character from the game. To check it out go to the website and watch the episodes.

<http://www.youtube.com/show?p=VklOQKmEa4I&tracker>



# ADELAIDE 2012

## OZ Comic Con



Adelaide 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012, so why is this day that interesting when Oz Comic Con was on the 31<sup>st</sup> March and the 1<sup>st</sup> April. Well that was the day that we did our interviews with some of the guests. We had our list and had spent the last few days sending e-mails that if had been physical and not digital would have been damp from the drool of our anticipation.

We both have full time jobs and do our Women Talk Sci Fi podcast as our tribute to Sci Fi,

me, Gerri that is, works in the capital city of South Australia, Adelaide where the interviews were to take place and Eugenia works in the outer suburbs some 30kms from Adelaide.

The first was to take place at 4.00pm, now as I work less than a kilometre away from the arranged venue I was able to leave work and be there in plenty of time. Waiting for Eugenia to arrive to do our first interview with Jonathan Frakes and we were both excited to meet him, but to sit down and have a chat was a fan girl fantasy! We were going to meet an icon of Sci Fi the excitement we felt was palpable!

Waiting at the door of the hotel for Eugenia to arrive had me panicking we had a dry run the night before and it had taken her until nearly 5.00pm to get there due to traffic issues! So sweating bullets I stood on the street saying the mantra "hurry up, hurry up, hurry up" over and over and over! The 30<sup>th</sup> was a Friday night and as always the traffic is worse as we all leave work looking forward to the weekend! However, I get a call, she has parked her car and the time is 3.45pm, phew! Whilst doing the interview alone would have been fantastic for me doing it together is what we are all about!

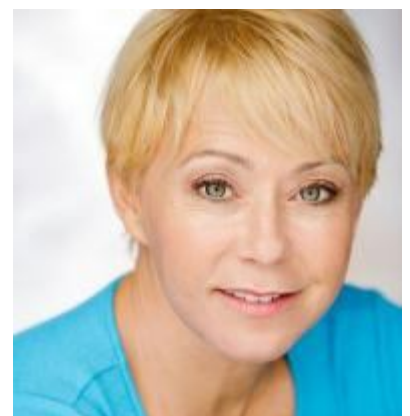
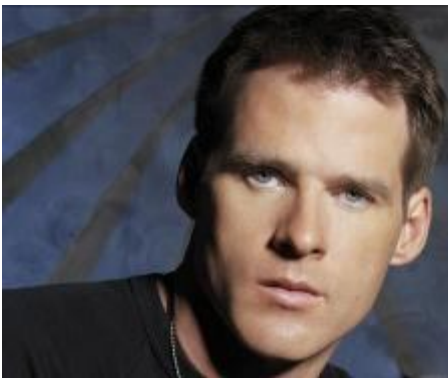


Finally, we are in the hotel and gave the publicist a call to say that we are in the venue and ready to go. As always it takes a little extra time for the interviews to start so we were able to compose ourselves and we just kept looking at each other and saying Jonathan Frakes (even though we had other interviews as well) taking it in turn to continue the new mantra! Unable to stop smiling at each other at all we got the call! We head up to the interview room and ushered in, still smiling manically we make sure that we have recorders and more recorders and more recorder well 4 in all, just to make sure!

Seated and almost afraid to speak he is brought into the room. WOW and so our interview begins. He met all our expectations, fun, interesting and wonderful!!!! You will have to keep checking our podcast to listen to the interview.

The day just kept getting better, next came Jewel Staite (Stargate Atlantis), Norman Reedus (The Walking Dead), Ben Browder (Farscape, Stargate) and then Debi Derryberry (the voice of Jimmy Neutron). During the weekend at Oz Comic Con, Jonathan walked past with another actor and said to him have you been interviewed by these two yet? This actor said no and then arranged to have an interview with us and it was none other than Sean Astin (Sam, Lord of the Rings), so Jonathan became our interview pimp LOL!!

What a great day, weekend and interviews! Thanks to the staff at OZ Comic Con (amazing people) [www.ozcomiccon.com](http://www.ozcomiccon.com) and Blue Planet Public Relations [www.blueplanetpr.com.au](http://www.blueplanetpr.com.au).



# AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN SCIENCE



Ruby Payne-Scott, BSc (Phys), MSc, DipEd (Syd), was born in 1912 in Grafton, NSW. She is one of Australia's most outstanding physicists. She was one of the first in the world to consider the possibility of radio astronomy and can be considered instrumental in the development of what is not a fundamental part of modern science. Ruby was also a mother, teacher, bushwalker and outspoken advocate for women's rights.

RUBY  
PAYNE-SCOTT

She studied physics at a time when few women studied the sciences and was often the only woman in her class. She worked for the Australian Government's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and was along with Joan Freeman (Nuclear Physicist) the first women to be employed by the organisation. Due to the outbreak of World War II many women were provided with new career opportunities as there were labour shortages in many "male" occupations at that time in our history. The research that she undertook was instrumental in the development of radar conducting top-secret work and was the expert on the detection of aircraft.

It is in the field of Radio Astronomy that Ruby made monumental contributions to this new science. Whilst working with celebrated radio physicist and in collaboration with other colleagues Payne-Scott's research led to discoveries in solar radio astronomy. Using WWII radar they were able to demonstrate that solar sunspots emitted strong radio waves with Payne-Scott being credited with the discovery of Type I and III solar bursts. Another discovery that was made along with colleagues Pawsey and McCready was the temperature of the sun, previously thought to be only around 6,000 degrees they were able to determine that the Sun's corona was in fact well over 1,000,000 degrees centigrade.

Ruby a pioneer of women's contribution to this area was cut short because of sexism and we do not know what the world of knowledge lost because of the policy of the Australian Government and its organisations in the 1950s. It was the policy of the time that married women could not work for the government and when her marriage was exposed she was removed from permanent employment status. She claimed that her marriage was only kept secret because of the ridiculous nature of the sexist restriction. Whilst losing her permanent status took away from her pension rights she was still employed as a temporary staff member, until she became pregnant when she was forced to resign. To Ruby's credit she did not take any of these decisions lightly and fought for her rights, not winning but maybe enlightening those she worked with and so science lost one of its incredible minds.

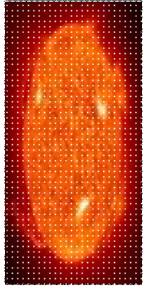
Ruby as was the norm in those days then took time off to raise her two children and then took up teaching after a period of 10 years and did so until 1974. Ruby died in 1991 and sadly she developed early onset Alzheimer's disease. So twice the world was denied a key mind firstly though sexism and secondly through disease!



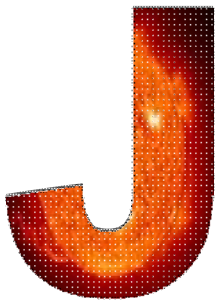
Sources  
[Wikipedia](#),  
[CSIROpedia](#)  
[National Archives of Australia](#)

Google Doodle celebrating  
Ruby Payne-Scott

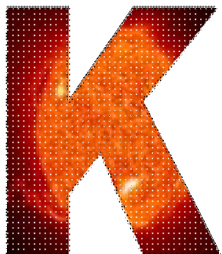
# The Sci Fi Alphabet



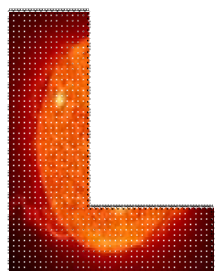
Is for Incredible Hulk



Is for the Jetsons



Is for Knight Rider



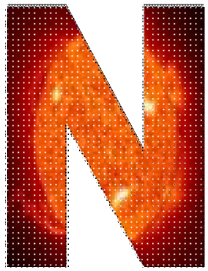
is for Lost in Space



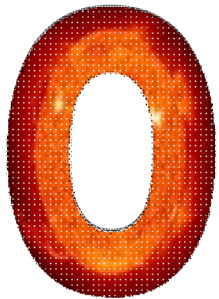




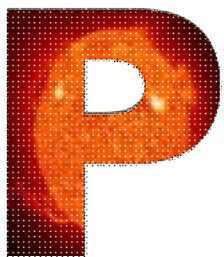
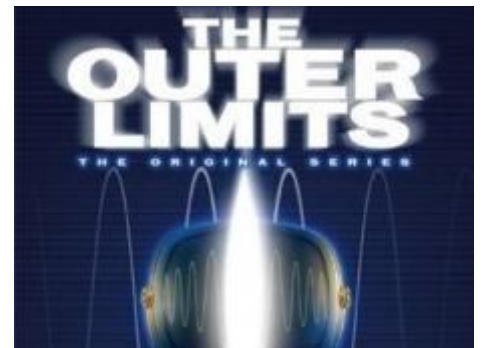
is for Misfits



is for Neon  
Genesis Evangelion



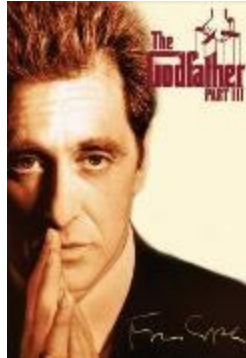
is for Outer Limits



is for Power-Rangers



# Six Degrees of Separation from GE News ~ Women Talk Sci Fi



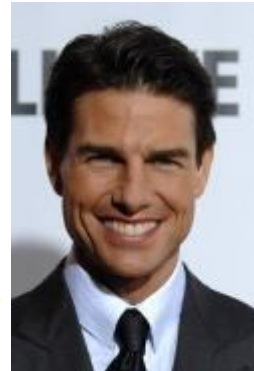
**Al Pacino**  
**The Godfather**



**George Clooney**  
**Oceans 13**



**Brad Pitt**  
**Interview with the Vampire**



**Tom Cruise**  
**Mission Impossible**



**Karl Urban**  
**Interview with GE News**  
**Women Talk Sci Fi**



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is to get to San Diego  
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## Women Talk Sci Fi Podcasts

Interviews with actors from Eureka, I Dream of Jeannie, Stargate SG 1 and  
Goofy and many many more Click on the link above.

Website [www.genews-ezine.com](http://www.genews-ezine.com)

GE News 5th year in publication



GE News and Women Talk Sci Fi ~ Podcast  
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