## Conthirteena

Once again, the UK filk convention is heading for the south coast and the Albany hotel in Eastbourne, this time being steered by Zander, Countess Axylides, Miki Dennis and Mike Richards. Three years on from **Decadence**, the Albany remains a friendly hotel, with plenty of space for both planned and impromptu sessions. Our guests of honour this year are two talented duos: from the UK, **Tim and Annie Walker**; from the US, **Barry and Sally Childs-Helton**; and we also have the Obliter8/HarmonIX guest, **Scott Snyder**.

Annie and Tim Walker are many things. Filkfen, songwriters, parents, instrument-acquisitors and permanently late are often among those things. They've been writing and performing in filk circles since the Glasgow '95 WorldCon, but only because they didn't know what filk was up until then... They both blame Lissa Allcock for their swift education. They blame Phil Allcock for everything else, but then again, so does everybody else.

As for Barry and Sally Childs-Helton... To quote Zander:

Take me. Stretch me about fifteen per cent in all directions, including along the axis of weird. Increase my musical talent to the power of infinity minus a dollop, and add a generous (double) handful of Mike Whitaker. That's Barry.

When the initial impact of Barry has somewhat subsided you may become aware that someone you hadn't noticed has been playing brilliant percussion the whole time, while simultaneously running several workshops, looking after the aforementioned Barry and possibly concocting vegetable chowder. That (in a wonderful North Carolina accent) is Sally.

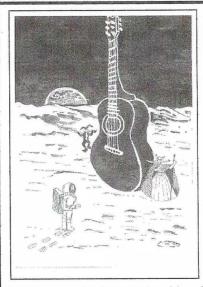
Phil, Lissa, Tim and Annie met Scott at FKO where he was the Interfilk Guest. His concert "totally blew them away", and besides that "he is a wonderful person - very funny and fun to hang out with - an old friend just met, as the line goes." Thanks to the generosity of the Obliter-8 and HarmonIX committees, Scott, his wife Amanda, and Rudy the Trout will be at Conthirteena.

Membership to the convention currently costs £25 for adults and £12 for unwaged with under 5s £1; supporting and day memberships are half this. Hotel accommodation will be £35 per person per night including full English breakfast. Cheques should be made payable to "Conthirteena". More details can be found on the web page or from the convention address:

Conthirteena, c/o Miki Dennis, 15. St Catherine's Cross, Bletchingley, Surrey RH1 4PX http://www.z9m9z.demon.co.uk/con.html email:conthirteena@z9m9z.demon.co.uk

We're hoping to publish a convention songbook at Conthirteena in aid of the Filk Fund. Offers of songs and artwork will be very welcome!

Artwork by Alison Richards; layout, text, and omission of the word "Eastbourne" by Mike Richards



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The 2001 UK Filk convention  $2^{nd} \sim 4^{th}$  February, Eastbourne

2001: A Space Opera

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