



## Oliver! (With a Twist)

Sunday night's play by Ian Sorensen promises to be a stunning visual feast with witty dialogue and terrific songs. Unfortunately, as with most of Ian's promises, it's a lie. The costumes are from Poundland, the props are from the 99p store, and the jokes were dug out of a skip behind the hotel. What it will have is tremendous vocal performances, because all the songs will be sung by you, the audience! Yes, by the magic of tech, *Oliver!* will be transformed into a killer karaoke experience.

Come along to the singalong Sunday 8pm.

## Titan Moves

In our mission to provide a more inclusive sporting experience, **Beyond Cyberdrome—Titanics™** will be taking over the Main Hall for overflow car parking. For this reason, Titanics™ security care operatives will be assisting people in vacating the site.

Companies wishing to tender for the site after the Titanics™ Events, are advised to submit their bids to Titanics™ Finance before the end of the Convention.

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## As We See Others

Some of us go outside for a bit of fresh air sometimes, and there are reports of a different fandom out there. Just across the road from the Radisson (behind the Heathrow Academy) there's a flock of plane spotters in a fine stand, looking out over the kerosene fumes-filled fields.

## Programme Changes

### 10am Monday:

*Sex & Sensawunda* CANCELLED  
*Meditation 4 Relaxation* moved to Room 41

### 11am Monday:

*Balloon Modelling for Children* moved to Room 30  
*Improv Workshop* moved to Room 40



*GoH George R.R. Martin chatting with John Joseph Miller sitting in the natural Eastercon element*

## Last Man in Space

Andrew Wilson and Stuart Wallace brought their Edinburgh Festival show to Room 41 late on Friday night. It was a tour de force presentation of partially restrained silliness. Stuart's introduction mined new depths of bathos and Andrew's exploding onto stage—ok, coming through a door to stand at a table—set a high energy benchmark which was matched time and again throughout the 90 minutes of madness.

Interviews were done to Tony Keen, Ian Sorensen and Mike Cobley, who responded with unfailing aggression. Tony explained how he melded fandom and academia, by committing fandemia. Ian related his days producing fanzines through exploiting child labour and Mike rewrote the ending of *Battlestar Galactica*. Stuart retaliated by making everyone perform his play wot he wrote "The Sinister Butler of the Daleks" in which Tony (as Wee Davie Thal) displayed subtle eroticism through use of his effeminate hands. Oh yes he did! The evening ended with a rousing chorus of the mildly xenophobic "You Won't Catch Me at a Star Trek Convention." Good times.

*Ian Sorensen*



## Hall Costume Day!



*A look in the kids workshop*

## Pushing the Boundaries of Genre

A packed audience of well over 100 listened to several authors discussing whether it was better to be published in genre or mainstream. The same book could have very different covers in the UK and abroad where it could be marketed for a mainstream audience. Mainstream authors sometimes choose an SF theme, unaware that it's been used by SF authors for years! E-books and self-published books are making sales without genre labelling. In the past children's libraries with fiction arranged A-Z would introduce you to genre fiction without you realizing it. Moreover, libraries which discouraged young teens from moving up to mainstream literary fiction would allow you into the SF section, which was perceived as not fully adult!

By contrast a much smaller group attended a panel on the legacy of Ballard's *The Drowned World*: doom and gloom is relatively unpopular. Global warming and climate change are increasingly common as the main theme or background to adult and YA SF. Add to that the energy crisis and extreme weather conditions, e.g. in New Orleans and Japan, and the future looks very bleak. It was considered far more important for authors to pass on their urgent messages through telling the story of how humans cope, or not, than to get the science absolutely right. JY

## Vote For Phlosque

Nominations for the Phlosque Award are coming in thick and fast at the Artshow. At the time of writing, the favourites are Paul Holroyd, Richard Savage and ... Eira. Vote now (just ask at the desk) to avoid nepotism. Sms



*Budding engineers were limited by the height of the ceiling but managed some impressive paper towers nevertheless. Dads may have helped a bit*

## Silent Auction

This evening, outside the Edwardian, there will be a Silent Auction of items in aid of Oxfam and TAFF (the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund). We have some fantastic lots donated by our Guests of Honour, including a dragon's egg, some Westeros coinage, a signed manuscript, and lots, lots more. It will probably start around 8.30pm—check the #eastercon twitter feed for more details!

## ENJOYING THIS CON?

Then come to another one—soon. So don't forget to look (on the stairway between main Hotel lobby and the Con Bar) at the huge display of future Cons (from around the world). See the notes there re taking copies (re future Con info you are interested in) and re adding to the ever increasing set of Con data displayed there. There is also information on the new, proposed August 2014 series of "SF



Linkcons" (which occur before the London Worldcon, between that and the Dublin European Con the week after, and post-Dublin).

All of this data will be on display at the next big Con: Kontakt/Eurocon 2012/Sferakon 34 (Zagreb, Croatia, late April) and Cons thereafter.

EUROCON 2012 (late April: Zagreb Croatia) BRIEFING

Sunday: Room 18 – 4.15pm-5pm

Dave Lally (ESFS Chair) hosts a briefing for (1) those already booked for this year's Eurocon and (2) those still thinking of coming along. (And beforehand, do look at the detailed data re the Zagreb Eurocon in the Con display—mentioned above.)

SFX WEEKENDER (2013: Prestatyn) MEETING

Sunday: Room 18 – 10.30pm-11pm

Dave Lally hosts/expands on his recent memo re this event (which was sent to (1) fan gps and (2) post-2013 Cons).