

The 26th UK filk convention Grantham Ramada Hotel 7-9 February 2014

Progress report 2 December 2013

#### Chairbeing's note

Look! It's another PR. And there you were, hoping it was another Christmas card. I'm sure you're as delighted as we are that our bid for the "Most PRs in the shortest possible space of time" award is going so well.

With the con only a couple of months away (wait, when did that happen?) things are starting to fall into place. Our guests have started booking their travel, hotel bookings are coming in to Jackie's hot little hands (see opposite for details as the deadline is nearly upon us!), and filkers round the country – and beyond – are polishing up their tunes.

You may have noticed that we are still lacking in visual identity; we have not received any artwork after our plea in the previous PR. The next step in our meticulously planned strategy is to unleash the puppy eyes on the artists within our community. Watch this space to find out who gave in to the pressure.

We'll be in touch again before February with PR3 (honest! And yes, we do mean February 2014...) but in the meantime feel free to contact your local friendly (and only \*slightly\* frazzled) concom with any queries.

Marilisa (whose next task on the list is "Join the convention")

# Hotel bookings: a note from Jackie

Hello all,

Just a quick note on hotel room bookings from your friendly spreadsheet manager. Hotel bookings are beginning to pick up, but we have just over 30 rooms booked so far. This either means a lot of our lovely members intend sleeping on the streets, or have still to put in their room requests! (I know some of you are staying elsewhere, but I'm sure there are more of you who haven't yet sent in your room requests).

It would be ever so helpful to my tiny brain to have all the room requests in and collated before the Christmas break, so I can sort out any errors/issues with plenty of time, so if you could see your way to emailing or snail-mailing the form to me by the last weekend before Christmas, that would be great. You can find the form at the back of this PR, download it from the website, or even just drop me an email with your request on it - I am not proud!

If you think you have booked, but would like confirmation, feel free to email me at hotels@contabile.org.uk, and I will get back to you to confirm whether I have received your booking! You can even call me if you like, on 07432 417789 (sorry, I have no idea what that is outside the UK, but I'm sure you clever people can work it out). I would request however, that you don't leave a voicemail, as my service is rather unreliable - better just to try again later or drop me a text if I don't answer.

Looking forward to seeing you all in February! - Jackie

#### Programming

The programme for the convention is now (provisionally) set, and full of delights and surprises. As well as our fabulous guests, we have sets from well-loved bands, new bands, performers you haven't heard in a while, and performers making their first solo venture onto the stage.

There will be a main concert on Saturday where you can sign up to perform one or two songs (depending on demand and time available) – so come prepared! And of course evening circles will be running for all three nights. We're also looking into making at least one room available for early morning circles/crafts/chatter for the lesser-spotted early-risers (and parents of small children who don't get a say in the matter...)

#### Convention code of conduct

Semibreve's code of conduct will be on the website shortly, and will also be included in your programme book. We know it's traditional to read the programme book \*after\* the convention has finished, but we'd recommend making an exception for this section. If you're unable to access the website and would like the code of conduct in advance in a different format, get in touch with the committee.

#### Filk Fund Auction

As you may have noticed by now, all our money-raising headers start with an F! The Auction, as has now become tradition, will take place between performer sets in the Main Concert under the genial and watchful eye of Roger Robinson. Since we have a prized GOH ensemble this year, bidding high and often will be welcome; and, of course, bringing highly desirable items even \*more\* welcome.

#### Dealers' room

Roger will also be running the dealers' room, where you'll be able to pick up songbooks, CDs and other delights, so come prepared!

## Freecycle table

As in previous years, we're planning to have a table set up in one of the side rooms for the Great Filkish Exchange of Stuph. Feel free to bring along items you no longer need (but that you don't think would work for the auction!) to add to the table. And browse the table at the con to pick up that fondue set/box set of Twilight/comic book series you've been lusting after. The usual rule applies: if at the end of the convention your items have not been taken, please take them home with you so we don't have to.

#### Fundraising news

The G&S fundraising concert in the autumn was well-attended by filkers and non-filkers alike, and raised a wonderful £150 for the Filk Fund.

For our next fundraising trick, we'll be holding a raffle at Semibreve with very special prizes donated by some of our talented members. We'll be tantalising you with more details in the next PR.

## Feldenkrais workshop

Rika will be running a Feldenkrais workshop at the convention. If you're interested in taking part, please bring along a blanket or towel to lie on comfortably. Places are limited due to space, and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

### Membership list

Marilisa (C) Melusine Steffi Jackie (C) Bill Lissa Phil Brenda Hitch (C) Debbie L (C) Alex Mich Deborah (G) Steve Amv Alisa Garcia (G) Sven tiggy Janet Maughan Gerd Luis Garcia (G) Taunya Gren (G) Robert Maughan Bamboo Paul Kwinn (G) Ju Honisch MeToo Roger Robinson Valerie Teddy Mike Richards Fantom Liz Alison Richards **Iessica** Alistair  $\Omega$ mega Abi Dave Anna Rachel Naomi **Emily January** Christo Mad Logician Michael Bernardi Diana Joan (DJ) Bass Andrew January Rika Colin Katy John G Miki Steve

Chavalai The Magician **Aunty Marion** Rafe Culpin

Kate Minnow

Peter Wareham Gwen Funnell Tony Rogers

Rhodri James

Sue Edwards Kathy Songbird

Silke Rick

Peter Tyers Nat

Kathy Westhead Mike Westhead Karen Westhead

Dale Williamson Peter Westhead Katie Draisbach Alex Clarke Matt Beswick

James Noble John Stewart

Barbara Stewart Michael (2 of 5)

Bine (1 of 5) KT

Donnacat Hilary Ann Zander Nyrond

Countess Axylides Lawrence Dean

Fhtagn Thesilee Peredar Volker Kirstin

Martin Easterbrook

Paul B. =:0}

(C): Committee (G): Guest



(The 26th UK Filk Convention)

#### 7-9th February 2014 Grantham Ramada

# Hotel Booking Request Form Please delete fields as appropriate

Name:
Are you sharing/prepared to share a room? Yes/No (please note, single occupancy is £57 per room per night, double occupancy is £72 per room per night)
IF YES Name of sharer:
<b>OR</b> Would you like us to organise a room share for you? Yes/No
Room type preferred:
Single/Double/Twin/Family

#### Nights required:

Thursday 6th February	Yes/No
Friday 7th February	Yes/No
Saturday 8th February	Yes/No
Sunday 9th February	Yes/No
Monday 10th February	Yes/No

Please note: only Friday-Sunday are guaranteed available at the convention price

vant allergies/ wheelchair access/ground floor room etc)	
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If you have any further questions/concerns, please feel free to contact the committee on contabile.semibreve@org.uk