

GLITTER

Corflu Glitter

(Corflu 29)

Sunset Station Hotel-Casino
Las Vegas, NV
April 20-22, 2012

Email: JoyceWorley1@cox.net

Glitter #54, March 16, 2012, is the fanzine of Corflu, the 29th edition of what has become the World Trufan Reunion.

Edited by Arnie Katz
(crossfire4@cox.net)

Glitter is available by request, but it may arrive unbidden, like a proselytizing zealot who knocks on your door at 7 AM on an otherwise peaceful Saturday morning.

Glitter is also available as a free download at: www.Corflu.org

Logo items are available at www.cafepress.com/CorfluGlitter

FAAn Awards Voting Ends!

Trufandom has voiced its choices for the 2012 Fan Activity Achievement (FAAn) Awards, which salute excellence in writing, drawing, publishing and posting for Fandom in 2011. FAAN Awards Administrator Andy Hooper received 57 ballots.

At the Corflu Glitter banquet, Andy will present framed certificates, created by Brad Foster to the highest point-getter in each category, and the overall points leader, the Number-One Fan Face.

Corflu.org Upgrade Goes Live!

Always a good source of information, the Corflu.org site now has just about all the important details concerning Corflu Glitter. Congratulations to host Bill Burns and webmaster Tom Becker for a job well done.

The URL is www.corflu.org.

Sullivan Does It Again!

Peter Sullivan has produced another issue of his excellent Corflu-related fanzine, *Corflu Memories*. Though Peter thought up the fanzine with the idea of getting British fans more interested in Corflu, it makes good reading for anyone interested in the con. You can get a free download at www.efanzines.com.

Reserve Your Room Now!

The reservations deadlines are upon us! Getting your room through the con is cheaper and gives you a better location, while also helping the con's financial stability.

March 17 is the last day you can reserve rooms by phone.

March 18 is the date on which the hotel will release our bloc of rooms.

March 26 is the last day you can reserve a room at convention rates, including the waiver of the \$15 per day Amenities Fee.

This is the time to reserve your Corflu accommodations so that you get the best location at the best price. The number of rooms reserved using the group code also affects the con's finances.



**The Editor
Explains**

“You always hurt the one you love, the one you shouldn’t hurt at all,” goes the sad old song. It pretty much sums up my feelings of regret when I found out that I inadvertently truncated Claire Brialey’s outstanding contribution to the Glish.

When we discussed it via email, the ever-gracious Ms. Brialey suggested only that I fix the text in *Glitter* #53. That’s a good idea, and I’ll likely do it this weekend, but while that helps the fanzine, it doesn’t do much for an esteemed contributor.

I’m certain that fans would like to read Claire’s essay in its entirety, so here it is, exactly as Claire Brialey wrote it.

Enjoy!



Days of Corflu Past

Claire Brialey: What the Corflu made me do

‘I would like each of you,’ wrote Arnie early in February to a carefully selected group of his fan friends (it says here), ‘to write about one of your past Corflu experiences. ... It’s OK if you’ve written up the incident before. I’ll gladly accept a re-write or even a reprint...’

Right, I thought. No problem, I thought. Loads of time to do that, I thought. After all, we’ll be going to our tenth Corflu this year and I’ve never quite got round to writing in detail about most of them. I wonder why that was, actually? I wonder whether maybe I should write about the nature of Corflus? No, hang on, Arnie asked for one of my past Corflu experiences. So, no problem then. Because I haven’t written about many of them properly before, and there must be a particular Corflu, or even a particular experience at a particular Corflu, that I can write about now. I can do that. I’d like to do that.



Claire Brialey visits the Luxor during Corflu Silver.

I can't, as it turns out, do that. I've either written about it in some way already, raided for something else the sketchy notes which indicated I was having just too much fun at the time, or forgotten it – which would make it something of a struggle to construct something profound at this remove. And if there were a specific incident somehow unrecounted in my Corflu experience which could now form the basis for a brilliant piece of fannish anecdotage: well, we all know we'd prefer Mark to write it.

Instead I re-read what I had written about Corflu, and found the evolution of an experience over the year following the last time we were all in Las Vegas. The nature of Corflus it is, then, as it seemed to me then.

I'm a fanzine fan. I like reading about what other SF fans think and do and being able to engage with them about it. I like being able to read what other SF fans were thinking and doing and arguing with one another about last year or in another country, or ten or thirty or seventy years ago. I like being able to write down what I think about stuff – which, believe it or not, makes it come out far more coherently than when I'm just talking about it – and know that there's a group of other SF fans who might want to read it and argue with me about it and just basically understand why I'm moved to have a conversation in this rather drawn-out, semi-public and possibly archivable way.

But fanzine fandom, for me, is not about living in an ivory tower and communicating only by means of carefully crafted written messages, as those who've received my emails or indeed voicemail messages will partly understand. And so one of the conventions I increasingly appreciate is Corflu, the annual fanzine fans' con, because it's an opportunity to hang out in person with some of the people who understand why I spend some of my time doing this and also to pick up the conversations in a more direct and immediate way. The group doesn't include everyone I want to talk to in fandom, or even every fanzine fan I want to talk to, but it's a condensed experience of a community to which I feel strongly I belong.

It's that sense of community that I also look for in fanzines. I want a lot, you see: not just that fans are still producing fanzines and wanting to receive fanzines and appreciating fanzines for what they are, have been and could be, but that the fanzines incorporate a sense of their role within the community and of the community itself. (May 2008, feeling all enthused and renewed shortly after Corflu Silver in Las Vegas)

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I find that I tend to spend Corflu flipping between two modes of engagement: feeling that I am back amongst my people, and feeling that I'm sitting on the edge of a reunion of the cool kids. We missed the Seattle Corflu in 2000, which many British fanzine fans of the time raved about wildly; I've never been able to work out whether my sense of slight dislocation from the cool kids of fanzine fandom, both in the UK and more generally, is what ultimately prevented me from attending, actually resulted from or was at least reinforced by me not attending, or is an indication of my overall impostor syndrome for which fanzine fandom is simply one arena. This may also be why I really don't feel drawn to the concept of 'core fandom'.

My impression is that the core of Corflu – which might make it the inner core, I suppose – involves a group of people, mainly based in the US, who've been having a conversation with one another on an annual basis for decades, and at Corflu they're just picking it up again, mostly in the smoking con suite. (A purist theory of fanzines would mean, of course, that the overall conversation continues in fanzines in the course of the year until everyone can meet up in person again; but actually I think a lot of the 'conversation' that happens in fanzines, even in more frequent efanzines, is a lot more formalised and public than what we really talk to each other about. We're much more likely to pick up in person a conversation we've been having in private email with the most like-minded of our friends and correspondents, perhaps sparked by a comment in a fanzine or on a mailing list but where we wanted to thrash out the issues quickly with someone who really gets where we're coming from.) Sometimes, as this year, I never quite make it down to the smoking con suite at all; there are always good conversations to be had elsewhere as well. And I haven't been having that central con-

Membership (3/16/12)

Claire Brialey A
Mark Plummer A
Robert Lichtman A
Milt Stevens A
Sandra Bond A
Rich Coad A
Stacy Scott A
Ted White A
Rob Jackson A
Dixie Tracy-Kinney A

Jay Kinney A
Lenny Bailes A
Art Widner A
Mike Meara A
Pat Meara A
Mary Ellen Moore A
Murray Moore A
Pat Virzi A
Geri Sullivan A
James Taylor A

Teresa Cochran Taylor A
Arnie Katz A
Joyce Katz A
Mike Dobson A
Marty Cantor A
June Moffatt A
Earl Kemp A
Jerry Kaufman A
Suzanne Tompkins A
Peter Sullivan A

Robert Webber A
Frank Lunney A
Aileen Forman A
Ken Forman A
Gary Mattingly A
Patricia Peters A
William Wright A
Ross Chamberlain A
Terry Kemp A
Pat Charnock A

(Continued on Page 4)

Membership List (continued)

Graham Charnock A
Dian Crayne S
Bruce Gillespie A
Shelby Vick A
Moshe Feder A
Kim Huett S
Cheryl Goode A
Laurie Kunkel A
Kacey Gow A
Laurraine Tutihasi S

Hope Leibowitz A
Charles Levy A
Jim Caughran A
Linda Bushyager A
Ron Bushyager A
Steve Green A
Spike A
Tom Becker A
Ron Salamon S
Andy Hooper A
Carrie Root A
Eve Harvey A

John Harvey A
James O'Meara A

A = Attending

Late-Breaking News!

Just before completion of this issue, we learned that the reservations process has been malfunctioning.

Chairman Joyce Katz has conferred with the hotel and the problem is being fixed. If you were quoted a higher rate or were turned away, try again.

Con rates are good until March 26.

versation for all that many decades, partly because I've been in another country which does, to some extent, have some different fannish perspectives and frames of reference; but I've also been having other in-person fannish conversations in between these annual Corflu immersions, so my mind is not instantly attuned to that Corflu smoking con suite wavelength. Perhaps it would help on all fronts if I actually smoked.

I'm not saying in any way that I'm alienated from the main Corflu concept. Far from it; we're attending again next year and finally getting to go to Seattle. You don't have to be one of the cool kids to go – after all, I'm pretty certain that I'm not – but you probably do need to be interested in science fiction fanzines and the fans who participate in them.

Andy Hooper, this year's Corflu Guest of Honour, encapsulated the sense of community during the remarks he delivered at the con banquet. I paraphrase, but my memory claims that Andy asserted he would rather be bored by a conversation at Corflu than be talking to someone interesting anywhere else. He's clearly a more tolerant and less grumpy person than I am, but that approach is probably something to aspire to. Although I think we could also aspire to making all our conversations interesting for one another as well.

(August 2008, having had time to reflect)

* * * * *

Once we'd started reading modern fanzines we envisaged a new Fabulous Seattle Fandom centred around Andy Hooper. We were somewhat in awe of Andy Hooper, and of the various cool and edgy characters that seemed to populate Seattle fandom, although that didn't stop us from deciding sometime early in 1996 that the lead contenders in our new 'Croydon's Favourite American' competition were Andy and Jerry Kaufman. From Andy and his co-wranglers of the mighty publishing engines of Seattle, *Apparatchik* issued forth every two or three weeks, for eighty issues in that mid-90s period during which we were working this fanzine business out for ourselves. And thus I joined the ranks of the many fans satirised by Victor Gonzalez, and was I properly grateful? Of course not.

But Andy, as well as being a fine, fluent and, yes, fabulous fan writer, reviewed fanzines and had a knack for understanding what made them tick. Well, mostly. We rather took to heart his 1996 assertion that we displayed an obvious resentment of tradition, since we were being mocked at least weekly by our friends in Croydon fandom for precisely the opposite – itself a tradition that continues to this day, and which it must be admitted we do sometimes resent. And inevitably Andy had a point at the time as well. We value the traditions in fandom that endure because they still speak to fans of our generation and to those who are now younger and more vibrant than us; and if we're honest about it we also value particularly the fans to whom those traditions, and the experiences and ideas we have shared across the generations and the experiences of our fannish forbears which we couldn't share in person, do speak. It's just that if you try to tell me that I'm not a real fan because I find much fannish jargon embarrassing and excluding, and feel equally uncomfortable with claiming to be part of a 'core fandom', we're not entirely going to get on.

I continued to feel a bit left out for years after we missed the 2000 'Corflatch', which saw Corflu and Potlatch held in Seattle on consecutive weekends. It's one of the reasons why another Corflu in Seattle seemed like such a great idea to me. Andy, and Jerry, and all the other Seattle fans who we now know better and like a lot for all that they're still a bit awe-inspiring, were among the other reasons.

But the clinching argument is Randy Byers. After *Apparatchik*, of course, came *Chunga*: also a product of the successful collaboration between Andy Hooper and Carl Juarez, but this time involving Randy as the new co-editor. *Chunga* has been one of my favourite fanzines from its first issue in 2002; and Randy is one of my favourite fan writers. But we knew him as a legend before we knew him as a writer; all the British fans who attended Corflatch came back to us with their own tales of the new Fabulous Seattle Fandom, and no one seemed so fabulous as Randy. When we finally met him at Corflu Valentine in 2002 we saw what they meant; I just wasn't expecting someone who was so

cool that everyone else in British fandom liked him to be so thoroughly personable. The combination of Randy, beer and *Chunga* even seems to have had a mellowing influence on the rest of Croydon fandom. Fabulous Seattle Fandom: reaches the parts of Croydon that other fans can't reach. (February 2009, anticipating Corflu Zed in Seattle and getting enthused again)

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If I were going to try to get away with talking bollocks I could claim that Corflu is more than just a convention.

It's a state of mind, man... But I don't always spend much time in the smoking con suite these days, and in the stunning but slightly quirky Hotel Deca the smoking con suite was the balcony outside the con suite itself – with spectacular views which, depending on local climatic conditions, comprised either panoramic mountains, lots of brooding cloud balanced on tall buildings, or Nic Farey being blown sideways while trying to stop his cigarette from going out in the rain.

It's a community. These days it's not just the community of people at the convention – and Peter Sullivan has explained elsewhere and better than I ever could about how the technological marvels of the interwebs are achieving that, to which I will simply add a plea that fans interacting with Corflu or other conventions over the internet could perhaps try to be, at worst, no more demanding, rude and unreasonable than the fans we're already experiencing live and in person – but arguably it never was. Any convention may make us think of absent friends, whether that's as part of a published tribute, a focused programme item, or just an idle moment in the bar when you realise that that familiar shape you saw out of the corner of your eye can't in fact have been who you always think and hope it is. So maybe it's a bit precious of me to feel that Corflu is special in that respect, but we're a community of fans who bring our history with us. And thus it may prove to be true that if you're a fanzine fan, death will not in fact release you.

It's a balance. And in Seattle it was a fine one, in all senses. I'm a fan who likes good programming at conventions, and yet I also appreciate a good wide-ranging, thought-provoking, sociable fannish conversation as much as the next person – unless the next person is Caroline Mullan who I think is the exemplar of that sort of interaction – and I particularly appreciate the opportunity that Corflu presents to me to catch up with friends who I don't see in other places, and indeed to do so in the company of some people I'm fortunate enough to get to meet up with a bit more often. Andy Hooper had put together a programme that I really enjoyed, and which always lived up to its promise of being worth leaving the bar or the con suite for – and which also gave me the opportunity to test out, and be pleasantly surprised about, whether people including those who are not fan artists are genuinely interested in talking intelligently about fan art. But it allowed plenty of time to hang out in the con suite and the bar, and to go out for several enjoyable meals, and to talk to a lot of people just enough that I knew I'd really, really miss them all again when we got home.

(May 2009, after Corflu Zed)

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And I did, and I do, and I wish that I'd be seeing you all at Corflu Glitter. If not, I hope I will see you somewhere else in person or in print. But, as I said, I want a lot – and so, even though some of you can't stand one another and some of you want different things from fannish interaction and some of you are probably less fond of me than I would like, I'd still really like to get all my favourite people in one place in person for a few days, so that we can carry on the conversation all together once again.

And get some new material for our fan writing, of course. This time I'd probably better make some usable notes.

— Claire Brialey

Top of the World Restaurant

Stratosphere Hotel & Casino
2000 Las Vegas Boulevard South
Serving Lunch & Dinner
Dinner reservations needed
Service: Professional
Price range:\$50 - \$100
Cuisines: Continental, Seafood,
Steakhouse

This is one of the best view restaurants in the Vegas Valley. The restaurant sits more than 800 feet above Las Vegas, atop the Stratosphere Hotel. To ensure the diners see all of the view, the restaurant rotates 360 degrees.

Start with an appetizer of Oysters on the Half Shell, Roasted Pork Belly with Chimichurri or Pan-Seared Foie Gras with Berry Gastrique, (served with roasted pear and demi-glace).

In addition to the normal fare of seafood and juicy steaks, the menu offers Colorado Rack of Lamb and Seared Muscovy Duck Breast with Orange and Lime Hoisin Sauce. Vegetarians will enjoy the Grilled Vegetable Napoleon and Portobello, served with quinoa pilaf and a vegetable medley. Each entrée has recommendations from their award-winning wine list. (BD)

For more info on Las Vegas restaurants, visit www.NoshVegas.com



**Corflu Glitter
Committee**

Joyce Katz
High Priestess of Fandom

James Taylor
Chief of Operations

Teresa Cochran
Host of Sing-a-long

Andy Hooper
2012 FAAwards Administrator

Claire Brialey
UK Agent

Peter Sullivan
UK Liaison

Tom Becker
Webmaster

Don Miller
King of Graphics

Ken Forman
Chief Guide

Brenda Dupont
Editor, Food & Sights Guide

Linda Bushyager
Restaurant Maven

Ross Chamberlain
Tee-Shirt

Lori Forbes
Local Fandom Liaison

JoHn Hardin
Vegas Fan Reunion Director

Jacq Monahan
Vegas Fan Reunion Coordinator

Gary Mattingly
Still Photography

Arnie Katz
The Arnie

**Corflu Glitter
Vital Information**

Membership:

North American membership:

Attending: \$60 (until 4/1/12)

Supporting: \$10.

UK membership: £40 (attending); £10 (supporting),
payable to Claire Brialey

Payment:

Pay via PayPal: JoyceWorley1@cox.net

Pay via Mail: Joyce Katz, 909 EUGENE CERNAN St., Las
Vegas, NV 89145. Make checks payable to "Joyce Katz."

UK Agent: Claire Brialey, claire.fishlifter@gmail.com

Room rates:

\$55/night, Sunday-Thursday

\$85/night, Friday & Saturday

Prices are double occupancy. \$15 per extra person per night.

Reservations:

Toll-free reservations number: 888-786-7389.

Online reservations:

[https://rooms.stationcasinos.com/cgi-bin/LANSAWEB?
procfun+rn+Resnet+sun+funcparms+UP\(A2560\)::SCICORF;?/](https://rooms.stationcasinos.com/cgi-bin/LANSAWEB?procfun+rn+Resnet+sun+funcparms+UP(A2560)::SCICORF;?/)

Group code: SCICORF

Vehicle Rental (Budget Car & Truck Rental)

Phone (702-736-1212) or online (www.Budgetvegas.com)

Code: R468000.

A Few Parting Words...

This issue of *GLITTER* isn't in the usual format this week. That means I don't get the two or three lines needed to fill out the second (and final) page with spontaneous fluff.

So, as long as the format is already broken, I'll break it a little more .

This is, indeed, the last page of this issue. *Glitter* is pretty likely to return next Friday with more news and information about Corflu Glitter.

Meanwhile, keep fanning!

— Arnie