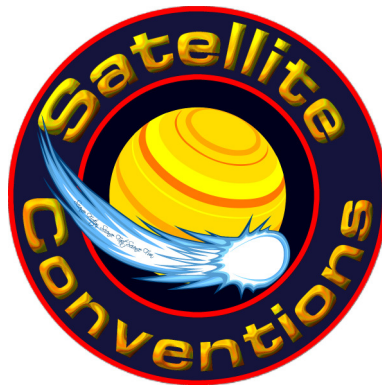


Journal of PseudoScience

Volume 1



Introduction

To pStart, we asked you to educate our discerning members with information on the latest pScientific discoveries. The brief was for pSubmissions of a pseudo-scientific nature, the more amusing or outrageous the better.

Well, you responded... in pSpades. We have received many Drabbles on a broad range of topics informing us about the pSpeed of microwaves, Clanger genetic pStructure and devices for turning respectable people into native pScottish pSpeakers.

After extensive peer review (we looked at it once) and applying our high quality pStandards ('here's one' — 'it's in!') we now present this fine volume for your permanent delight and pSatisfaction.

The Committee

Genitalia announce new drug [FSTM0V]

A new drug, Fugitol, is being released today by the Genetics Company of Italy (Genitalia). The drug accelerates the response time of the human central nervous, neurological and muscular-skeletal systems, effectively overclocking internal biorhythms. Fugitol therefore slows perception of time for users, allowing them to undertake twice as many tasks in the same period as non-users. Applications for Fugitol include drugging office and production workers who will immediately increase productivity. Additionally the drug will have applications to Science Fiction conventions, where overclocked organisers and members can run entire events in half the usual time, saving on function and accommodation costs.

Michael Davidson

Application for Additional Funding [PLSFND]

Domestic Verification of EM-Drive Principles.

Summary:

This experiment was attempting to utilise a domestic Microwave to assess propulsion potential of EM-Drive-style resonate cavity — with partial success.

Methodology:

Removing partial protective cladding from domestic Microwave to enhance propulsion surface, whilst measuring rate-of-transfer along kitchen work surface, resulting from meal preparation.

Result:

An average movement of 2.3 inches per meal resulted in the Microwave approaching the counter edge over 9 days.

Negative Side-Effects

1. Consumption of large quantities of microwave meals...
2. Final measurements indeterminate as the Microwave was propelled over the counter edge.

Consequences:

Additional funding needed to replace Microwave.

Brian Ameringen

An Investigation Into Quantum Uncertainty and the Undead

[SPRKLO]

In this experiment a vampire was tricked into wearing ski goggles with mirrored lenses.

Mirrorshades reflect most light, the rest gets through. That should be the only light entering the goggles, so it should be able to see ahead. However, vampires don't reflect in mirrors; light from behind should hit the lenses, and should be visible to observers in front of it, and the vampire should see objects behind itself reflected in the lenses. This suggests some form of quantum uncertainty.

In practice the vampire instantly crumbled to dust.

Our tentative conclusion is that the universe really dislikes a smart-arse.

Marcus Rowland

That's Not What I Meant To Do

[OOPSRY]

We loved this world. Humanity is a stain upon it. We both started working to rectify that, but we kept our plans secret, even from each other. He made a communicable, inoperable brain tumour, using himself as Patient Zero. He must have had proof it was spreading throughout the population, even though no symptoms had yet manifested, when he killed himself so nobody could pry its details from him. I wish he had told me. In grief and rage I unleashed my virus. Turned out it cured the tumour. Now they laud me as a hero. I'm sorry, my love.

Elsie WK Donald

Memo From The Chairman Of The [NO4SEE] Ouija Board

Karma Bank Psi-Clerk auditors have inspected our sensory deprivation flotation forecasts for next year with the I Ching, horoscopes, tarot cards and the entrails of a young virgin goat. The omens do not look promising. Prophets are down despite the predictions drawn from the Tibetan Book Of The Deal. Our Share-voyants say we can no longer leave the company's fate to chants alone.

We have too many shelf fillers born under the incompatible sign of Aquarius. They simply have to go. The crystal pendulum never lies, nor do the canteen tea-leaves.

Remember to wear high viz robes at all times.

Arthur Chappell

A Comparison of the *Cavorite* and [FLTWHZ] *Pinot Grand Fenwick premier grand cru* Space Drives

Unlike normal rockets, both Cavorite and Pinot Grand Fenwick (PGF) eschew the use of reaction mass and escape velocity in favour of a gentle reaction-less rise. The primary difference is that with PGF the vessel undergoes a constant gentle thrust, while a Cavorite vessel is always in free-fall.

That said, PGF has a clear advantage. Navigation of a Cavorite vessel is complicated and requires precise launch windows: without care, it is very easy to be irretrievably lost in an unbound solar orbit. Contrariwise, with a PGF engine one need merely head towards the target body and one will arrive... eventually.

Mad Elf

Insights into the genetic structure of Clangers [KNTPRRL]

To date, studies on the exoalien Clangers have largely been undertaken by SCT (Sitting Close to the Telly) spectroscopy. We report that coupling the spectrometer to established optical systems creates the novel hyphenated spectroscopic technique, SCT-MG (Sitting Close to the Telly — with a Magnifying Glass). This offers enhanced observations of Clangers allowing resolution of genetic structure to the molecular level. SCT-MG indicates that Clanger genetic structure is based on side-substituted biopolymers, specifically, terminal (omega) substituted poly-octyl~~ole~~fins (ω -ool). Initial observations suggest that this bio-polymer (ply) can form in one (single ply- ω -ool) or two (double ply- ω -ool) strands, analogous to terrestrial DNA/RNA.

Michael Davidson

An Investigation of the Physical Properties of the Basilisk and Other Litho-transformative Species [STNSNK]

It had been previously reported in the literature that the Basilisk broke the law of mass conservation by converting carbon atoms to silicon via their gaze. Extremely careful dissection of the eyes and visual cortex coupled with experiments using juvenile creatures on live subjects, it is now thought that a form of “warm” fusion occurs with a large release of energy. It is thought that the visual cortex is acting as a quantum computer entangling a pair of atoms then forcing them into the same point of space creating silicon and energy. This is now been classified at ULTRA level.

Dr Adrian Emery

Operation Transmogrification, Verbal Division

[OYABAS]

“Jings, man, ah’ve never heard such wrang heided dafty speak in aw ma days. Ye’ll no change the wiy ah tolk wi yon mad, mental thingummy boab. Ah’m shoacked ye can even siy it wi oot gettin a total riddy oan.” The scientist’s smile beamed from his face as he turned to his grinning assistant. “Mark this one up as a success please, Gerald. Would you be so kind as to escort Mr. Chomondley-Smythe into the waiting room and give him something to read. And remember, verbal checks every fifteen minutes to ascertain the full duration of the Scottification Ray.”

Brian (Munchkin) Milton

Space Elevator

[LNGCRD]

Its spinal cord reached down from the space station to the Mars Hotel, lying inside Olympus Mons’ vast caldera. Ultimate playground of Solar’s corrupt Corporates, Elizabeth promised herself it would be so much Martian dust the moment the pod docked.

And she engaged the bomb.

Then, a voice she recognised. They hadn’t spoken since Elizabeth joined the Rebels; she’d understood Carly had returned Earth-side long ago. Now...

The heavily pregnant girl hadn’t seen her.

Elizabeth waited for her sister’s exit and the Space Elevator’s return.

It would have to be a symbolic gesture after all.

Dave Weaver

Case 14: Giant Bee Army Incorporated

[LRGBZZ]

The judge leaned forward and gave the scientist a hard stare that would have impressed Paddington Bear. “Doctor Rotstein, you have shown a cavalier disregard for the laws of man, physics and nature. Unfortunately I can only sentence you for the human laws you have broken which, as you are guilty of a noise abatement charge, are sadly quite minor. I hereby ban you from ever owning bees, from allowing livestock to explosively breed at anything over 50 decibels on your property and from enlarging any animal by unnatural means. And no, I don't want your oddly glowing honey.”

Brian (Munchkin) Milton

Atomoman vs. Physics

[MTYATM]

Climbing out the van marked ‘Council Supers Clean Up Crew’ Daniel looked behind the policeman guarding the incident tape and whistled.

“Supers are impressive but how did one get that plane to stop on its nose just here and not topple over?”

The policeman coughed. “Turns out Atomoman has a strong grip, even in death.”

“Death? Atomoman's supposed to be immortal.”

“True, but due to him not taking the conservation of momentum or energy into consideration he is now his normal width but only microns high. Best you think of him as dead when you hose him off the street.”

Brian (Munchkin) Milton

And here is the Sphere Forecast [TDRBLL]

The sphere will land in Skye this evening. Its highly efficient repulsor fields, that would otherwise be a wonder of the modern Space Age, will cause the sphere to bounce back into orbit but the transfer of energy from the sphere's plogiston-powered beams will destroy the entire island. The population have been evacuated and assigned a claim number in the government's Whizz Bang Oops Science Compensation Scheme.

Anyone who wishes to admire the glorious red sky the pulverised island dust will create should look west at approximately seven fifteen.

And now, back to the Whizz Bang Yay Science Hour.

Brian (Munchkin) Milton

The Big Crunch [GDBYAL]

And so, the universe ended, not with a Bang, but with a Crunch. The entire cosmos unwound and then compacted into a Singularity.

After a while, two figures strode out of it and walked into the Nothingness beyond.

"What did you think of that one, then?" asked God.

"Oh, too much culture and civilization," replied Satan.

"Too much death and destruction for me."

"I didn't like those cosmic strings. Pain in the arse. We were better off with good old fashioned molecules."

"Shall we start again?"

"Well, I suppose—"

They walked back in, and soon, it all started up again.

Keith Mackie

The Answer To Unresolved Questions

[SPRYFS]

“It’s set-up Mr Luthor... boy’s trapped under the rubble; fire’s lit... How’s this work again?”

“Otis — Stuporman gets his powers from our yellow sun; it makes his skin impenetrable...

“When he bends to lift girders, you’ll have a perfect target for my micro-miniaturised ultra-high-explosive heat-seeking missile...

“...it’ll hit him ‘where the sun don’t shine’...”

Later...

“I knew it had to be you, Lex.”

“Damn you, Superman. What went wrong?”

“Your logic was fine. The missile could slip between the threads of one layer of my super-suit... which is why I wear my underpants on the outside...”

Brian Ameringen

Do Androids Dream Of What?

[BLDJGR]

I can’t sleep, so how can I dream? You gave me perpetuity circuits, and no off switch. I’m programmed with insomnia. I’d love to sleep, or die, like you did, but my survival drive over-rides desire. You wanted your droids to work 24/7 so you didn’t have to. We stripped your World of resources. We warned you that we would but you didn’t listen. Still, your World has gone now. You built me well enough to survive the Supernova. Thanks for nothing. I hope the black hole will crunch me. My last hope to sleep and dream.

Damn, still here.

Arthur Chappell

The Perfect Excuse Engine

[HNDYBT]

“What did you do this time?”

“I drank sump oil until I vomited over the buffet. I’ve overdone it this time, Sir. The Davenports might never invite us to their soirées again. Sorry.”

“You did perfectly. Carstairs was boring me talking about his ongoing failure to create perpetual motion. His latest jetfoil had so much battery it was supposed to charge up its own cells, therefore never losing power, etc. He was so dull I texted you to do something embarrassing.”

“That’s what you built me for, Sir. Happy to oblige.”

“Carstairs has a perpetual motion machine. His own gob.”

Arthur Chappell

The True Origin of the Human Species

[SPCCHP]

The true origin of the human species is clear. Our recent ancestors were not apes that came down from the trees, or hairless aquatic apes that left the seas. We are in fact descended from space apes, whose sprawling interplanetary civilisation collapsed. The returned to the Earth and became the human species. Evidence for this hypothesis includes our overweight brains, because their weight doesn’t matter in space; back aches, because our spines were not evolved to cope with gravity; and our hairless skin since insulation is unnecessary in a space suit, and is pointless in the cold vacuum of space.

David L Clements, PhD

Floating Around

[IN2SPC]

So the sum reason for your invention of anti-gravity beams was to open a disco playing Lionel Richie's Dancing On The Ceiling several times a night.

Congratulations on breaking the freefall parachuting record with your descent taking nine months. I understand you nearly hit a flock of penguins at 20,000 feet.

You have also killed the undertaking profession as no one is buried any more in a World where the dead can drift off and make their way directly to the heavens.

I hope to visit you as soon as I can get the car down from the garage ceiling.

Arthur Chappell

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