

Zemígreve

The word 'Zemígreve' is written in a large, black, hand-drawn style font. Behind the text is a faint, grey background graphic consisting of a musical staff with several notes and a treble clef, giving it a musical theme.

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

Progress report 1
September 2013

Dear Filkfen of World,

here (at last) is Progress Report 1 for the 26th UK FilkCon! In it, you will find details of the key people involved, plus request forms for sets and the con hotel booking form.

You are receiving this either because you have already registered for the convention (hurrah!) or because you were a member of the last filk convention and we thought you might be interested in coming to this one, too. (This may or may not be code for “Psst! You’ve forgotten to sign up!”) We’d recommend signing up early (and perhaps even often, though that could get confusing at the convention!) as the membership rates go up on November 1st. In fact, this PR is brimming with useful deadlines: October 1st is the cut-off for requesting a set or workshop, and hotel rooms need to be booked by December 27th.

Everything is progressing apace (at the committee’s pace, anyway, which explains why PR1 is finally showing its face in September) and we are getting increasingly excited (read: scoffing increasingly ridiculous amounts of cake at committee meetings). We have nearly 100 members signed up already, and a line-up of fabulous guests. We look forward to seeing you all there!

The Committee: a collection of musical mugs

Marilisa Valtazanou

Chief Whip, Programme, Guest Liaison, Bottle Washer and Anything else not already covered!

Marilisa has managed to avoid running any conventions for over a decade, but has now realised it provides an excellent opportunity to hone her benevolent dictator skills. She has duly assembled a cast of ~~minions~~ highly talented committee members, and is practicing her evil laugh in front of the mirror nightly. Rumours that the rest of the committee are required to respond to every query with “Yeth, Mithtreth” while bowing to the floor are scurrilous and unfounded.

Marilisa will be looking after our wonderful guests, running the programming, and taking care of that crucial element, Any Other Business.

Jackie Mitchell

Hotel Liason and Website

This will be Jackie’s fourth filk convention ever, so what on earth is she doing thinking she can get involved in running the thing? The trouble is, she finds it hard to say no when friends smile sweetly, tell her how great she is and how much they love her, and then ask for a massive favour. Even though she knows it’s all a load of flannel, she can’t help falling for it every time, and so she has somehow got roped into helping the big boss (aka Marilisa) organise this one. However, panic not, prospective filkers, although this is her first time helping to organise a filk convention, she has been involved in organising a variety of other productions over the years, even including on one occasion being a hotel liason, so we’re pretty sure she’ll cope. In fact, it was during

rehearsals for one of these productions that the filk trap was set - some quiet post-rehearsal discussions in the pub between Debbie and Hitch resulted in the fatal question “what is this filk choir of which you speak?” and the rest, as they say is history.

Debbie Levy

Treasurer

Born into a family of software engineers, Debbie boldly defied tradition and rebelled by becoming an accountant. She was blissfully unaware of filk until she made the mistake of admitting, in the presence of filkers, that she had written ‘Star Wars’-themed song parodies; ever since then she has been a member of the nMC and a regular attendee at UK filk conventions. Usually found hiding in a corner and trying to look inconspicuous, she occasionally emerges to write and perform songs, generally with a videogame theme. This year she is in charge of all things money-related (she’s also an auditor, so previous treasurers: be warned...)

Richard (Hitch) Wheatley

Publications

Hitch, (or Richard Wheatley as he is known in the mundane), has been attending UK FilkCons since 1989. In all that time, he has never served on a Convention Committee....until now. Marilisa was finally able to end this unbroken run of irresponsibility, by asking him if he would like to be Publications Manager. At first, Hitch thought she said ‘Pub Manager’ and readily agreed. Later, of course he was disabused of this erroneous understanding; but being a man of his word, he did not retract when confronted with the true nature of the job. Of course, learning on the job will be interesting, but H assures all that he will try and keep Baroque prose and wilful misspelling to a bare minimum.

Guests of Honour

International guest of honour: Puzzlebox

The fabulous Puzzlebox are a band that hails from the US (California, Utah, and Washington at last count). Its members are Paul Kwinn, Taunya Gren, Alisa Garcia, and Luis Garcia. They have a wonderful touch with both serious and silly songs, and combine beautiful harmonies with guitar, piano, drums, flute and percussion. They are also lovely, lovely people, and we think Semibreve will be richer for their company as well as for their music.

UK guest of honour: Deborah Crook

Deborah was dragged in to accompany the nMC's musical extravaganza Trial and Worry at Dixseption, and, to everyone's great delight, has never managed to find the escape route since. Over the years we've seen and heard her conduct the nMC, arrange music, write and perform songs, run the sound desk, accompany others on piano, violin, and viola, recite comical pieces, and wrangle her three equally ludicrously talented children in *their* musical endeavours. We are thrilled to have Deborah as our UK Guest of Honour and are eagerly looking forward to hearing her at Semibreve.

Fundraising News

As the Filk Fund is unflinchingly allowing us to fly in four fabulous folks from the far side of the US, we are putting together some events to raise some funds. The first of these will be a housefilk and house concert at Mich and Steve's house in Gants Hill, East London on Saturday 5th October.

The housefilk will run from 2pm with the concert at 7pm. For the concert, the committee and friends - all regular performers of the works of Messrs Gilbert and Sullivan - will perform a splendid programme of filked versions of Savoy classics. We will pass a hat for donations.

For more details, get in touch with one of the committee. Watch this space for further fundraising activity!

Hotel bookings

The hotel booking form is at the back of this PR, as well as on the website. Please return it to us by Friday 27th September. You can email it to semibreve@contabile.org.uk, or post it to Semibreve 2014, 159 Winns Avenue, Walthamstow, London, E17 5HB.

Set Requests

Interested in performing or holding a workshop at Semibreve?

You can fill in the form in this PR or the website and email or post it to the committee.

Don't worry if you don't know the details of your set yet - just try and update us when you can. You can ask for a 30 or 60 minute slot - we will try to accommodate you if you would like a different length but can't guarantee it! Please bear in mind your slot time will include set-up and teardown. If you're not sure what your technical requirements might be, get in touch and we'll help you work it out.

Please return the form by October 1st. Depending on how many requests we get, we may not be able to fit everyone in, so please don't assume you have a set until you've had confirmation from us.

An artful appeal

As you may have noticed, this PR lacks a distinct visual identity... It is with this in mind, that the Committee, (reflecting on their own lack of collective accomplishment in the Visual Arts), are now appealing to any Fen who might be able to lend a hand?

Our Chairbeing thought that a good general theme of 'The Circle' or 'The Whole' would suit our purposes. Naturally, we would be looking to apply this to later PRs, Badges, Con Booklet and any other relevant stationery. If any one out there felt equal to helping us in this, please e-mail the committee at: semibreve@contabile.org.uk

Zemígreve



(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:.....

OR Would you like us to organise a room share for you? Yes/No

Room type preferred:

Single/Double/Twin/Family

PTO

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

Please detail any special requirements (dietary restrictions/
relevant allergies/ wheelchair access/ground floor room etc)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

If you have any further questions/concerns, please feel free to contact the committee on contabile.semibreve@org.uk

Zemíbreve



Set Request Form

Name of Act/Performer:

Contact Details:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Set Length Desired (short sets are 30min and long sets are 60min, including set up and break down time, other lengths may be possible if required, please state):

Tech Requirements (the more details you can give about number of performers, instruments etc, the better):

Description for Programme Book:

If you have any further requirements/info such as preferred times/days, please state it here:

Membership list

Marilisa (C)	Peter Tyers	Bine (1 of 5)
Jackie (C)	Nat	KT
Hitch (C)	Melusine	Donnacat
Debbie L (C)	Lissa	Hilary Ann
Deborah (G)	Phil	Steffi
Alisa Garcia (G)	Alex	Bill
Luis Garcia (G)	Amy	Brenda
Taunya Gren (G)	tiggy	Mich
Paul Kwinn (G)	Janet Maughan	Steve
Roger Robinson	Robert Maughan	Sven
Mike Richards	Ju Honisch	Gerd
Alison Richards	Valerie	Thomas
Ωmega	Liz	Heike
Anna	Alistair	Aileen
Emily January	Abi	Bamboo
Andrew January	Rachel	MeToo
Rika	Christo	Teddy
John G	Michael Bernardi	Fantom
Chavalai	Colin	Jessica
The Magician	Miki	Dave
Aunty Marion	Kathy Westhead	Naomi
Rafe Culpin	Mike Westhead	Mad Logician
Kate	Karen Westhead	Diana Joan (DJ) Bass
Minnow	Dale Williamson	Katy
Peter Wareham	Peter Westhead	Steve
Gwen Funnell	Katie Draisbach	Zander Nyron
Tony Rogers	Alex Clarke	Countess Axylides
Rhodri James	Matt Beswick	
Sue Edwards	James Noble	
Kathy Songbird	John Stewart	
Silke	Barbara Stewart	(C): Committee
Rick	Michael (2 of 5)	(G): Guest