

## Programme Changes

### Friday

24:00 "Is SF a Race and Class Issue?" postponed (hopefully it will still happen Monday).

### Saturday

11:00 Mitchell Burnside Clapp Guest of Honour talk. This is moved from Monday to Saturday! So don't get caught out. He talks about planes, spacecraft, funding and filks (and maybe how to play the muscial hose!)

To make room "God in Space" has moved to later on Saturday.

## There Is A Green Room

Please could programme participants go to the Green Room about 15 minutes before their items, where we will get them a free drink!

Green Room closes after 10pm items start, but will distribute drinks vouchers to participants in later program items who come to collect.

The Green Room is up the left hand stairs to the Spanish Hall suite.

## Banquet

The Banquet started a bit late due to the possibility of some of the participants being turned away by security. The policy of only letting in people attending the banquet also meant a serious shortage of gophers able to unload the late running van with artshow stands and newsletter kit!

Several fans dug out their medieval kit including Sue Mason's now traditional "debauched milk maid" outfit – see the above self-portrait.

Food was ample if a little plain and meat orientated. We were well entertained by a singer and band which degenerated into a knees-up oompah band towards the end.

## Lost

Brown cardboard box containing Printer for Newsletter – it disappeared from the registration area yesterday, and its return would greatly help production of your favourite newsletter.

## Gophers Wanted

At times there is a desperate need for people to help out in making the convention a success. Please volunteer at registration, or ask around at the places you'd like to lend a hand.

Your dependable newsletter office certainly could use some help during the actual printing of the thousands of copies necessary to bring you your favourite reading material.

## Photos?

If you are taking digital photos at the convention then please come round to the newsletter room to drop them on our main PC. If we have time then we will produce a CD souvenir of these. More details later on.



## Video Cameras

Anyone who has brought a video camera with them please get in touch with David Wake to film the play "Tartan: Restrung" on Sunday.

## Games

The games area is by the stage in the Spanish Hall. They are trying to be all inclusive catering for those who want to be evil dictators or destroy millions of people. Personally I'll be happy with a quick game of Fluxx and some Snatch late at night.

Henry Proctor asks that all keen roleplayers contact him to organise a game of Diplomacy, Credo, or something else from his extensive collection.

## Awards

"Eats Shoots & Leaves" by Lynn Truss won the British Book Award this week despite being non-fiction about punctuation.

A collection is going round to buy a copy for the ReadMe editors but we are not sure whether it will do anything for their spelling.

## Free Books

No - not DiverseBooks.com review books. The newsletter editor has a number of books to give away to people who help out with the newsletter. Anyone can submit articles at the newsletter room, or drop them in the box on the registration desk. However we could also do with people willing to help type, print, and distribute it.

## Transport

Colm McMurray and Roger Robinson had an exciting rollercoaster ride on the M6 on the way to Blackpool on Thursday.

First indication was a truck driver pointing at one of Colm's tyres. Thinking that the vibration he was feeling deserved further investigation he started to pull over. The tyre promptly exploded leaving Colm the job of driving the last few yards on just a rim and stopping on chevrons. A tow from the police and assistance from the RAC got them both safely to Blackpool.

More about Pat's Brother Colm later on.

## LiveJournal

Some of you may have noticed a bit of a LiveJournal theme to this newsletter. If you use LiveJournal to keep an online diary or want to find out more then find AlexMc in the newsletter room.

We have some whiteboard markers which can be used to write your LJ user name onto your badges.



## Medical Emergencies

As well as the first aiders in the convention, there is a NHS Drop-in centre in Talbot Road. (There are flyers on the table opposite the Registration desk as well as Blackpool maps!)

If you need medications then the Adelaide Surgery is on Adelaide Street, and a second surgery is reached by turning right onto Kings Street.

This information should not be considered medical advice. You should always consult your GP before doing exercise. You probably drink too much beer.

## Food Review

Please submit restaurant reviews to the newsletter room or the box on the registration desk (legibly written text preferred).

As a starting place, you may want to consider Deep Pan Pizza, just next to the Winter Gardens. It serves a decent pizza and a nice variety of other dishes, and service seemed quietly efficient (this of course may change when it gets busier).

Mamma's on Toppington Street serves reasonably priced Italian food. It may only open at 5:30 this weekend, but also has a half price pizza/pasta deal Sunday to Thursday. Book or be prepared to wait. (01253 622345 / 751285)

Badshah serves "traditional" Indian food. Delicious. Recommended. Corner of Central Drive and Reads Avenue. (01253 628044 / 622637)

Red Pepper, Peking & Cantonese Cuisine, at 51 Central Drive, is "adequate, cheap and cheerful", with good service. (01253 291152)

The Chinese Restaurant on Haverlock Street is "ok". Self Catering? There is a good indoor market just North of the Winter Gardens on Edwards Road.

## WiFi

We are looking for a WiFi access point within a short walk of the Winter Gardens. If you find one please tell us. Loathe as I am to encourage you to go there, we have heard rumours that there is one in <shudder> McDonalds.

## Beer

As usual there aren't enough real ale brews. And we were chucked out of the Spanish Hall Bar at 11pm on Thursday. Boo.

## Late Night Action

Ever get those late night munchies? Well don't forget tonight's Ceilidh. Not only do you get the chance to show off in a reel, but sometime after 10pm this Friday we'll be serving Haggis Tatties & Neeps. All courtesy of Interaction.

## Overheard

I was up till 2am painting huge penises for David Wake. (Bug)

So I'm in charge of vice then. (Marcia Illingworth on the chain of command in Ops)

## Beyond Cyberdrome needs pilots!

If you think you can do your 'Bit' to defend these shores, pop along to the Beyond Cyberdrome 'SCRAP' Workshop (From 10.00am each day) and take a look at the crates you *could* fly if you have the ginger.

You'll be amazed at some of the wizard wheezes that the boffins have come up with in the field of powered flight!

B.C. Air Ministry

## Artshow

The artshow looks like a stunner this year with art by our guest artists Danny Flynn and Sue Mason. There are many more artists represented this year - too many to list here.

The Artshow Team recommends that people bid early and bid often on artwork before the auction on Sunday. The Monday slot for part of the art auction is probably going to be cancelled due to the large number of artists with other commitments. The Artshow itself, however, will re-open at 10am Monday, with material not for sale and whatever has not been sold/collected yet. Art might be purchased then at artists' normal prices which might be more than the price you could have got it at auction.

## British Science Fiction Association Awards

All attending members of Concourse are eligible to vote on the BSFA Awards for best novel, short fiction, artwork and non-fiction writing of 2003.

Ballot forms, ballot boxes, and copies of the nominated artwork can be found at the Cold Tonnage Books table in the dealers' room; forms and another ballot box can be found at the information desk.

The deadline for voting is noon on Sunday, and the awards will be presented at 4pm on Sunday in the Arena suite.

BSFA members may now submit nominations for the 2004 awards (and may continue to do so until January 2005) in three categories: novel, short fiction, and artwork. More information from awards@fishlifter.demon.co.uk and in the BSFA's magazine Matrix or on the website [www.bsfa.co.uk](http://www.bsfa.co.uk) shortly. Or, of course, talk to Claire Brialety at the Cold Tonnage table in the dealers' room, where you can also buy (or renew) your BSFA memberships.

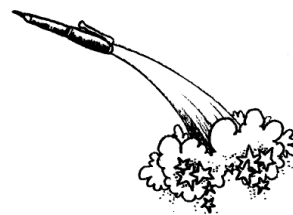
## Any Bids?

If you want to present a bid for Eastercon 2006 at the bid session on Sunday morning, please contact Fran Dowd at the Paragon2 desk in the dealers' room.

## Stop Press

Dr Who exhibition just opened in the "Fun Land" building on the seafront.

"LieJournal" has been brought to you by Alex McLintock with help from Jan van't Ent and folks who dropped by.





## The Newsletter of Concourse, the 55th British National Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon)

If you aren't a member then this isn't going to make much sense.

### Marriages

Vice Chair Jonjo and power behind the throne, Sharon, got married this week. It apparently went without a hitch.

Jonjo & Sharon invite you to the exchange of their wedding vows, tonight at 7pm in the Baronial, officiated by Lionel Fanthorpe. To celebrate, join them in the Arena from 8pm for a DISCO and a slice of wedding cake. There is a buffet too.



### Births

Birthday Greetings go to Julie Rigby, today; Michael Bernadi tomorrow; Dave Ulicsak, yesterday; Jaap Boekestein the day before.

### Book Auction

There is a display in the Art Show of books, entered into the Book Auction 3pm on Sunday in the Baronial. Please see Brian Ameringen on the Porcupine Books table in the dealers' room for further details.

### Review: NHS Walk-In Centre

My cold turned into a chest infection on Friday morning, so I decided to get something done about it. I was told to go to the NHS walk-in centre mentioned yesterday. Once in, I talked to the receptionist, who told me to wait to talk to the triage nurse, who passed me onto the Nurse Practitioner. She then put me through a battery of tests, pronounced me exceptionally fit, apart from a chest infection and a nice collection of gallstones, and then sent me on to the doctor at the emergency centre further into town. The doctor saw me fast, and I picked up my prescription there and then.

The NHS walk-in centre was slow, although thorough, and they then got me an express appointment at the emergency centre. So it is well worth using. Which I hope you don't!

[Bridget Wilkinson]

### Redemption Brainstorming

Steve Royerson tells us there will be a brainstorming session for Redemption 2005 at 1600 on Sunday in the Spanish Hall. Bring brains.

### Real Ale Ramblings

Blackpool isn't just Euro Fizz and John Smith's Smooth – there are number of fine pubs within a few minutes walk of the Winter Gardens. This ramble covers the Talbot Road area. Leave the Winter Gardens and walk towards Blackpool North Station. On the corner opposite Wilkinsons is the Flying Handbag – one of Blackpool's gay pubs which also has real ale. Just down Talbot Road is The Wheatsheaf. A classic unspoilt pub which is frequented by local CAMRA members. Their selection includes beers from the Hart Brewery at the Cartford Hotel in Little Eccleston. There is also a lunch time and early evening menu of good value pub grub. Almost next door is the Ramsden Arms: another classic pub with the house brew 'Ramsden Ale' at only £1.29 a pint. Filled rolls (barms in the local lingo) are available here. A little further down Talbot Road is the New Road Inn where you can find Jennings Cumberland Ale, Cocker Hoop and guest ales. For the less active, The Stanley in Church Street has Taylors Landlord and Black Sheep.

Tomorrow I am going to Fleetwood on the tram for a lunchtime real ale ramble – anybody who is interested please get in touch via the newsletter room. [Martin Hoare]



### Wishing Well

Frequent Eastercon visitor Johannes Berg from Norway alas couldn't make it here this year, due to continued treatment for cancer. During the many years of organizing Norwegian cons to the coordination of the famous Norwegian room parties, he gathered many friends at Eastercons, who undoubtedly would like to wish him all the best. For that purpose Wilf James is going around with a large get well card, so please contact him to add your wishes to our absent Norwegian friend.

### On The Trains

Our nation's great railway network is being upgraded in various exciting ways this weekend: there is track work on the West Coast Main Line, which means there are no direct trains from Manchester to London, and Euston and St Pancras are more or less closed. Rail journeys south will thus be slightly more challenging than usual; the best indirect routes to London are Preston/Manchester – Birmingham – London (Marylebone) or Preston/Manchester – Reading – London (Paddington). In any doubt, call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950.

### Objects Trouvés

If you've lost or found anything, get in touch with the Information Desk (now where you got your badge) in the Empress Suite. Items collected so far include a cap and gloves and a con bag with a book and scarf (both found in the Spanish Hall on Friday night).

More items have been lost so please look after bags.

### Stop Press

Today only there is a collectors' fair / flea market in the Winter Gardens – entrance on the S.E. corner

## Hugo Awards

We have received the Hugo Award nominations a day earlier than expected. We really can't fit it all in here, but please see the posters situated outside the newsletter room, the Spanish Hall bar and everywhere. Pictured is Charlie Stross who is nominated for both Best Novel and Best Novelette. taken one year ago and this weekend: struggling author becomes "rising young star of British SF".



## Food

Your editors have had two separate and positive reports – both written on paper bags – about Huttons of Windermere, a "confectioners of distinction" opposite the post office, three minutes down the road from the Winter Gardens.

Also, there will be a Dalek giving away chocolate eggs at the Bank Hey Streetshop (across from Woolworths) from 1200-1300 on Easter Monday.

Reports on restaurants are also trickling in:

At Terry's Balti House (48 Clifton St) "all the vegan dishes were excellent", with "no surplus grease", and La Piazza (Cedar Sq) has "good seafood and very friendly service".

Also, the directions to Badshah were a bit out: it's on Central Drive, but just past Palatine Rd, on the west side.

## Correction

McDonalds does not have working WiFi facilities.

## Things What I Learned At The Slash Panel

1. Japan is the place to buy porn
  2. When it comes to slash, you can't please all of the people all of the time
  3. Slash is different to gay porn
  4. The difference is that women write slash for women and men write gay porn for men
  5. Some people are not squicked by anything
  6. An extension of Sturgeon's Law applies to Harry Potter slash: 99.99% of it is crap
  7. Teenage girls who can't spell and who don't do grammar properly are extremely annoying (and this is true not merely in relation to slash)
  8. Slash is corrupting and naughty
- The panel closed on Jar-Jar's tongue.

[A Slash Virgin, Aged 22 5/6]

## The Wandering Fan by Colm McMurray

(brother of GUFF delegate Pat McMurray)

For those of you who've wondered where my twin is this weekend, here's the short version.

Pat is en route to New Zealand and Australia on his GUFF trip, but transport is being a challenge. He left three days ago, and I thought he was at ConText in New Zealand by now, until I got this email from him.

"Hey you, having some fun here. Left LHR on Wens, plane got diverted into Napoli with engine troubles – they hired a replacement 320 from somewhere but the captain must have been off his head, we strayed into Libyan airspace and got forced down into Tripoli. Good thing we're allies now, though they arrested the crew on general principle. The airline hired a couple of buses to take us to Cairo. It was nice to see the pyramids and the Nile and what have you, but they didn't offload the luggage in Tripoli – had no idea where my bag had gone.

"Then, another plane – a 737 in what I think are Nigerian colours. I was a bit worried we were going to end up in Nigeria, but I needn't have worried – apparently they thought we were supposed to go to the Maldives. Sounds good doesn't it, a couple of days of sea and sunshine? No such luck, they burst a tire on landing (hear you had something similar?) so we can't take off, but off course the Maldivians (sp) won't let us in the country. This is not so bad, since in the Maldives the airport is an island! There's a halfway decent hotel they've put us up in – but after days without luggage we're all a bit... The good news is that the guy running the fuel farm is someone I know from Mumbai, so I had a really interesting tour of the airport – that's always been an ambition of mine, to tour Male airport.

"And finally, I know where my luggage is – it's arrived at the convention in NZ. They've been using it to substitute for me – it's been in their opening ceremony, and a panel on "International fandom" – I've been emailed that my luggage is gaining quite a reputation for wit and bonhomie, and went to its' first room party last night.

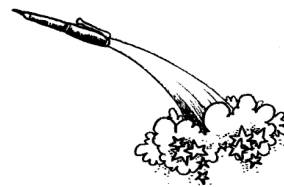
"Anyway, there's a plane going back to Dubai this evening they've managed to get us places on, so hopefully we'll be on our way at last."

And me? I'm really enjoying my first convention – to quote Mark Plummer "Brain the size of a door, and they've got me guarding the planet..."

Colm

*Editor's Note: GUFF is the Going Under Fan Fund which sends a deserving SF fan to Australia for a convention and fannish tour (or vice versa). Pat McMurray won the GUFF award this year but has to fit his plans around a busy BA course. There is also TAFF which sends a fan to the US every two years. Both candidates are at the con.*

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## The Newsletter of Concourse, the 55th British National Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon)

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### Programme Changes

#### Saturday

The Fan Fund Auction has been cancelled

The Filk Late Night will be starting early at 10.30pm

#### Sunday

10:00 Arena Masquerade rehearsal

11:00 Arena What the Victorians did for SF

12:00 Arena Eastercon 2006 bid session

16:00 Arena **Masquerade**

with Awards during the judging break

17:00 Renaissance Filk concert (room change)

#### Monday

12:00 Balcony Designing an alien – drawing

### Masquerade Rehearsal

Entrants please to come to the masquerade rehearsal at 10:00 prompt in Arena.

### Where were you all?

The Diana room, the theatre Green Room behind the stage in the Empress Ball Room, was scene of a host of authors in search of an audience on Friday and Saturday.

On Saturday Jay Caselberg, Tony Ballantyne, Ian Mcleod, Liz Williams, Freda Warrington, Elizabeth Counihan, Gwyneth Jones, Jeff VanderMeer and Jeff Ford were all there to read from their work but no none arrived to listen. So you missed a treatise on the potential uses of frogs in fiction.

Your next chance to hear the author readings is Saturday night in the Baronial from 9pm onwards or Sunday and Monday at 11 am, till 1 pm, in the Diana again. The final late reading will be 10 pm Sunday in the Renaissance.

Don't miss the daytime readings in the Diana (11am-1pm); they aren't in the programme book or read me.

### For Programme Participants Eyes Only

Would all programme participants *please* come to Green Room 15 minutes before their item is due to start. Green Room is up the left hand stairs to the Spanish Hall suite. This way you are sure to get your free drink. Thank you. (*mine's a pint of Guinness – Ed*)

### Fleetwood Pub Crawl

Meet in Registration area – sunday at 12 noon.

First Pub – North Euston Hotel near Fleetwood Tram Terminus. [Martin Hoare]

### 'Smart Girls' wanted for 'Mile High Division'

Head Girl of the Operations Room, 'Bunny' Latham is looking for 'likely girls' to be members of her new 'Sprokkette Air' platoon. Any girls interested in directing entrants of the Beyond Cyberdrome Air Battle are invited. The 'Sprokkette Air' girls are requested to report to the 'SCRAP' (Beyond Cyberdrome) Workshop for 'Scarf making' and 'Silly hat' making workshops. Bunny requests they wear smart black or dark blue skirts and white or light blue blouses. White gloves and barely sensible shoes are an advantage. 'Sprokkette Air' members will be instructed in the complex hand gestures that are so vital to Air Safety during dogfights.

[Wingco 'Whiskers' SMS]



### Art For Art's Sake

Art Show will close for the art auction on Sunday (12 midday in the Pavilion) but will reopen one hour after it ends. Items purchased at the auction may be paid for and picked up at any time even while the auction is still running. Fixed Price items may also be picked up at this time, and fixed price sales will continue until the close of the art show at noon on Monday. All items purchased must be collected by that time. There will *not* be an art auction on Monday (just Sunday!) [Mary Burns]

### BSFA Awards – Don't forget to vote!

The deadline for voting the British Science Fiction Association awards for the best novel, short fiction, non-fiction and artwork of 2003 is noon on Sunday. Ballot boxes and forms can be found at the information desk and in the dealers' room (at the Cold Tonnage Books table). Copies of the nominated artwork are also on display near the ballot box in the dealers' room. (Non BSFA members can vote here!)

### Fan Fundery

Contrary to what it says in the programme, there will be no auction to raise money for TAFF (the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund) and GUFF the Going Under/Get Up & over Fan Fund) at Concourse. Instead there are some items on sale (for appropriate donations to the fan funds) in the dealers' room next to the Cold Tonnage Books table, including books, T-shirts, plastic breasts and an inflatable kangaroo.

And you can vote in the current TAFF race to send Anders Holmström or James Bacon to North America. See one of them or Tobes for more details.

### Conventions

**Beneluxcon 2004**

+

**Blankenberge**

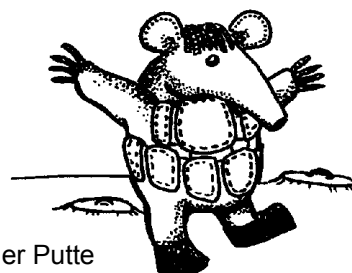
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**Belgium**

**Beer**

contact: Larry van der Putte

**Interaction** is selling off all its UKin05 bid merchandise at bargain rates.



## Eurocon 07 Bid

Irish fan David Stewart is putting together a bid to host the 2007 Eurocon in Ireland. The vote to decide that particular Eurocon takes place at Interaction in August 2005 in Glasgow. Do you think an Irish Eurocon is a good idea? Then find David and give him £1.50 (or 2 Euro in real money) for a pre-supporting membership.

## Keeping Score?

The geographical and temporal proximity of "I'm Sorry, I Haven't An SFing Clue" and the classic childrens' literature panel was, at least for participants in the latter event, annoying in many respects, but it did throw up a few interesting audio-visual combinations. This reporter was particularly moved by the sight of John Clute forcefully intoning his latest piercing insight to the strains of "Also Sprach Zarathustra" (spell that after a few pints!)

## Security Alert Sat 14:20

Squaddi, aka Neil Johnstone, arrived at registration. "Can you make me a badge please. I've lost mine." It might have been embarrassing if our head of security wasn't allowed into his own convention!

## We don't need no stinking badges

Perhaps security should be given photos of convention guests as Francis Spufford (the George Hay Lecturer this year) tried to get in to his own talk without his badge – and was stopped at the door.

## Time is an Illusion

"Filthy Pro" M J Simpson turned up to his first programme item with just ten minutes left before its end. To make up for it he then proceeded to say more in the last ten minutes than the rest of the panel had for the last forty.

## Not the Clarke Awards

This year's "*Not The Clarke Awards*" panel (consisting of four former judges and noted Person Francis Spufford) saw much hedging of bets with respect to what was felt to be an idiosyncratic shortlist. Quoth one panelist: "It is impossible to second guess the jury that picked this shortlist". In the end Tricia Sullivan's "Maul" was appointed the likely and most deserving winner, not least because it was unique on the list as a standalone novel, and a proper science fiction novel, dammit. The panel also listed what they felt were the significant omissions of "Felaheen", "Natural History" and "The Light Ages".

## Complaints

Do make constructive complaints to the organisers of the convention at the time, or later on at a gripe session. Don't bother telling the newsletter unless it is funny! We have received a lengthy report that the Ceilidh was too loudly amplified but also another report that Jonjo's mother (67) enjoyed it greatly. If you have a suggestion please speak up at the time! I fear that there is nothing we can do about the carpet on the stairs, Susan, or the fact that you find it hard

to focus on it with your varifocals. There are lifts! They are just hard to find.

As for the Ceilidh I have reports of lovely ladies Pepper and Sharon dancing together but having difficulty remembering who was supposed to be the boy and who the girl.... and exactly the same problem with Dave and Silas.

## The Future Of Fandom

Dear Old Fogies, You'll never take us alive!

Love and kisses, the third row.

[an anonymous note left in the newsletter room]

## Classic SF Panel

The panel was torn between two definitions of classic. On the one hand we have "classics of the genre" - works which shaped the development of science fiction. On the other hand we have "quality classics" - works which stand up to re-reading and which we would be prepared to recommend to anyone to read.

A lot of the discussion focussed on "Golden Age" SF and the panel tended to agree that, though a lot of the "Golden Age" stories are unreadably crap, at least in the eyes of us modern SF fans, they are "classic" in that they form the foundation of the genre.

## Bondage Workshop

At four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, a little knot of dedicated fannish bondage enthusiasts gathered in a small room on the edge of the convention to study the noble art of tying people up. We started by talking around some important issues surrounding safety and consent, and then we watched as our tutor showed us a simple tie. He called for a volunteer from the audience and from the sea of hands chose one lucky fellow to have his wrists tied, a demonstration which was enthusiastically copied (in pairs, both ways) by the company there present. A very picturesque piece of work with cling-film was followed by the construction of some rope panties, once again with a demonstration followed by audience participation. I found Anders Holmström a model Model.

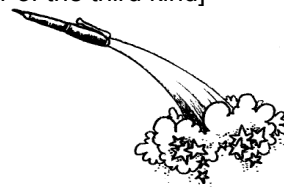
Finest comedy moment of the convention to date occurred just as the clingfilm was about to be deployed. Our model was engaged in the very act of removing her top when James Bacon, renowned lecher, entered the room. The man has a great gift for timing.

## Norwegian room party

Without a convenient hotel room the party is now to be held in a corner of the main bar at 10pm Sunday. There will be a small amount of suitable drink (cleared with the bar staff by the way of corkage).

[Anders Frihagen - organizer of the third kind]

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## The Newsletter of Concourse, the 55th British National Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon)

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### Programme Changes

Sorry to correct a correction published yesterday but:

#### Sunday

16:00 Arena BSFA Awards, followed by the  
**Masquerade**

#### Monday

11:00 Arena Bid session for 2006 Eastercon. This is moved from Sunday.

### Hugo Nomination Summary

Due to popular request (ok ok Paul Treadaway couldn't be bothered to read the Hugo Nomination posters) here is a summary of the nominations for the Hugo awards to be voted on at Noreascon Four, the 62nd World Science Fiction Convention in Boston, MA, Sept. 2-6, 2004.

**Best Novel:** Paladin of Souls - Lois McMaster Bujold, Humans - Robert Sawyer, Ilium - Dan Simmons, Singularity Sky - Charles Stross, Blind Lake - Robert Charles Wilson.

**Best Novelette:** "Empire of Ice Cream" - Jeffrey Ford, "Bernardo's House" - James Patrick Kelly, "Into the Gardens of Sweet Night" - Jay Lake, "Hexagons" - Robert Reed, "Nightfall" - Charles Stross, "Legions in Time" - Michael Swanwick.

**Best Dramatic Presentation - Long Form:** 28 Days Later, Finding Nemo, The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King, Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl, X2: X-Men United.

**Best Dramatic Presentation - Short Form:** "Chosen" - Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "Gollum's Acceptance Speech at the 2003 MTV Movie Awards", "Heart of Gold" - Firefly, "Message" - Firefly, "Rosetta" - Smallville.

**Best Fan Writer:** Jeff Berkwitz, Bob Devney, John L. Flynn, Dave Langford, Cheryl Morgan.

**Best Fan Artist:** Brad Foster, Teddy Harvia, Sue Mason, Steve Stiles, Frank Wu.

**Best Related Book:** Scores: Reviews 1993-2003 - John Clute (Reviewed on DiverseBooks.com (plug!)), Spectrum 10: The Best in Fantastic Contemporary Art - Cathy & Arnie Fenner, The Chesley Awards for SF & Fantasy Art: A Retrospective - John Grant, Elizabeth L. Humphrey, & Pamela D. Scoville, Dreamer of Dune: The Biography of Frank Herbert - Brian Herbert, The Thackery T. Lambshead Guide to Eccentric & Discredited Diseases - Jeff Vandermeer & Mark Roberts, Master Storyteller: An Illustrated Tour of the Fiction of L. Ron Hubbard - William J. Widder

### News from the outside:

Locus ([www.locusmag.com](http://www.locusmag.com)) has reported that Dave Pringle has stepped down as editor of Interzone. The Philip K Dick award has gone to Richard Morgan, author of Altered Carbon and several other hard nosed detective science fiction novels. [info from Vince Docherty]. I'd recommend Richard Morgan myself if that wasn't a bit superfluous.



### Want to be a Beyond Cyberdrome Air Pilot?

If you are of a mechanical bent then turn up to the Scrap BC workshop (next door to the Chaos Costuming next to the main ballroom) and buy a helium ballon airship for £40.00. There are 4 UFO's and 2 Globes. This is a significant saving on the normal price of £50+. Concourse are supplying free helium too. Remember the final event will take place at 12:00 on Monday in the Ballroom (the one with the highest ceiling) *Two are ready for flying today!* [summarised from rants from Magnus Greeley who bears a strange resemblance to SMS]

### Accommodation Wanted:

Emergency accomodation wanted Sunday and Monday night. Please check the Voodoo Board for details of who needs it. In particular look out for Rosario (lady in the green top, badge # 577)

### Correction

The Press Complaints Commission have asked us to correct a story in yesterday's late issue. We apologise for printing Jonjo's mother's age in error. She is of course 21.

### Gossip

We don't have any. That is why we aren't printing any. Please do stuff worth gossiping about.

### What is a corcoveadore?

Is it a creature that makes faces and wiggles, or a matador's groupie, or a sexual athlete?

Come to "Sexual call my bluff" at 11.00pm in the Renaissance on Sunday. There you can find answers to this, and to many other questions you never knew you wanted to ask.

### We don't need no stinking schedules...

...but the next issue will be coming out before the David Wake play this evening. Or not at all.

### To The Third Row:

Resistance is useless. - The Old Farts.

### Stop Press

Dealer Room open 10am to 2pm tomorrow. Hooray.

"LieJournal" has been brought to you by Alex McLintock with help from Jan van't Ent and folks who dropped by. And of course, many thanks to Guest of Honour Sue Mason for the use of all the illustrations!





## The Newsletter of Concourse, the 55th British National Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon)

If you aren't a member then this isn't going to make much sense.

### Apology

Concourse would like to apologise for the membership-list errors in our publications.

### It's A Buyer's Market

The dealers' room will be open longer than originally announced in the ReadMe. Monday opening hours will be 10am-2pm.

Convention T-shirts for sale – see registration or the Danny Flynn stall in the dealers' room. They are the ones with the cute green alien thingy on it.

### Your Beyond Cyberdrome Needs You!

Commissions in the BCAC (Beyond Cyberdrome Air Corps) are available at the Beyond Cyberdrome workshop in the Empress dressing rooms. Dirigible balloon units and ornithopters have been supplied, requiring only customisation by their pilots. The air show takes place 12pm to 2pm on Monday, the hangars are open from 10am to 6pm Sunday and 10am to 12pm Monday.



We have the ships, we need the men (and women, and small furry green creatures from Alpha Centauri). If you feel you have the skill and will to become a BCAC pilot, we want to hear from YOU.

### Food

La Fontana, Clifton St – Swift service, well priced, “caraje” of wine (2 litre) fantastic.

Tower Diner – Promenade (block with tower); very good plain food, cheap (3 courses £7.50) cash only.

Mayflower Cantonese Restaurant – Promenade & The Strand (opposite North Pier); does excellent Chinese, and really likes fans. Go there! but go early, as they get crowded after 7.30pm at weekends.

Momma's Ristorante, Topping St – Italian home cooking – the pizza was so good, our kid did not let us get a taste (When asked “Is it nice?” she replied “You're not getting any!”) – desserts well worth leaving room for.

Hungry? Eating in the Spanish Room? The “salad plate with jacket potato” offers a fair bit of food, and it's tasty too. Nothing fancy (Jacket potato, mixed greens with cucumber and lettuce, tuna mayo, cole slaw, with or without cold cuts - £4.95), but pretty well done. [Pickled Ginger]

### 'Not Trolley Dollies' denial

In answer to queries following her request for spunky girls to enrol as members of 'Sprocket Air', 'Bunny' Latham has felt it necessary to issue this statement. 'These girls are not 'trolley dollies' she said. 'They are highly trained young women with smart uniforms who know their way around a wide variety of in-flight catering apparatus'.

'Sprocket Air' is still recruiting 'young ladies with nice ankles' in the 'SCRAP Workshop' and 'Chaos Costuming. Volunteers, just drop by and ask someone. [Our Air Correspondent]



### Further news from Interzone:

Following the announcement that David Pringle is standing down as editor/publisher of Interzone, Locus tells us that Andy Cox, publisher of TTA Press and The Third Alternative is taking over. An editorial statement from David Pringle will appear in issue 193 of Interzone, out in May.

### Lost Property

1 con bag containing amongst other items, 1 pair of embroidered trousers and lots of felt-tip pens. Finder will have drink/food thrust upon them. [½r]

### Badge Attitude (Bad-jatude)

#### Observations of a Door Person

Displaying your personality? Flaunting your innermost Psyche? Yes, more is revealed about your inner personality than you think by where you wear you're Con Badge! OK, sticking it on your hat or waistcoat probably indicates Extrovert (oh, & the hat & waistband are a bit of a give-away), but what's the meaning of attaching it to your sleeve?

### More “Spot the Hugo Nominees”

**Best Fanzine:** Challenger, ed. Guy H. Lillian III; Emerald City, ed. Cheryl Morgan; File 770, ed. Mike Glyer; Mimosa, ed. Rich and Nicki Lynch; Plokta, ed. Alison Scott, Steve Davies, and Mike Scott.

**Best Semi-Prozine:** Ansible, ed. Dave Langford; Interzone, ed. David Pringle; Locus, ed. Charles N. Brown, Jennifer A. Hall, and Kirsten Gong-Wong; The New York Review of Science Fiction, ed. Kathryn Cramer, David G. Hartwell, and Kevin Maroney; Third Alternative, ed. Andy Cox.

The Retro Hugos are modern day prizes for works created in years Worldcons did not give out Hugos.

**Best Novel of 1953:** The Caves of Steel - Isaac Asimov, Fahrenheit 451 - Ray Bradbury, Childhood's End - Arthur C. Clarke, Mission of Gravity - Hal Clement, More than Human - Theodore Sturgeon.

### TARTAN: restrung

Dave, We're plugging your play at 8pm in the Pavillion. Can you save us some good seats please?

### Overheard

Registration desk girls are corrupted enough to accept bribes for replacement badges.



Do I need to wear my badge when I'm going to sleep? [M Tilly M – aged 5]

Claire to Max: "Sitting next to you in those trousers, I keep getting the urge to reach over and undo random buttons ..."

There are fans in the Dealers' Room. Can we turn them on please? [Colm McMurray]

### Eyre Affair

Next year's Eastercon plans to put on a performance of Richard III the way Jasper Fforde described it in *The Eye Affair*, with the audience being given parts and all. More specifically they would like to put together a group of people to write the play into a manageable length, of course they will need costumes too... The project will be launched at the 3.00pm Monday programme item 'Eyre Affair' in Balcony. You can also contact Alice Lawson or Fran Dowd at the Paragon2 table in the dealers' room.

### Wondering Around

The strange antics of a group of fans on the Spanish Hall stage on Saturday night was because they were re-shooting the Blake's 7 episode 'Hostage'.

The final results will be on the web later this month at: [www.blakes-7.co.uk/wobblevision](http://www.blakes-7.co.uk/wobblevision)

### Real Ale Ramblings – Sunday 11:00

Walking south down the promenade towards the Central Pier (the one with the Ferris Wheel on the end) you come to the Dr Who exhibition. If shelling out £6 to walk around it makes you thirsty then take a break at The Pump and Truncheon. This is not an offshoot of Ann Summers, it is a pub on Bonny Street just one street back from the promenade and behind the Police Station. Just turn up the alley beside the neighbouring building site and turn right at the end. As well as the usual Boddingtons there was Crouch Vale Brewers Gold – last year's prize winning bitter at the GBBF, St Georges from the local Phoenix Brewery and Hampshire Brewery King Alfred. Reasonably priced bar meals are available. [Martin Hoare]

### Iqbal Namir, where are you?

The winner of last year's Phlosque Award, Iqbal Namir (for his mural work in Sadam Hussein's 'Den of Sin'), has still not collected his award. If you see him, please ask him to come to the award ceremony. Arthur Chappell has nominated the ceiling of the Spanish Hall for a Phlosque award

### Film Review: Shaun of the Dead

Now at the Odeon Blackpool, *Shaun of the Dead* is written by and stars Simon Pegg, half of cult TV sitcom *Spaced* (\*). This reviewer greatly enjoys both *Spaced* and the veteran zombie movies that *Shaun of the Dead* fondly parodies, but still found all her expectations were exceeded by this film. *Shaun of the Dead* is clever, witty, ridiculous, and above all FUNNY. We laughed ourselves into a lurching, groaning, blue-faced, zombie-like state over it. *Shaun of the Dead* is the perfect film for a sociable

fannishly-themed weekend. (\* Jessica Stephenson wrote half of *Spaced* – Ed)

### Merchandise On Line

Paragon2 has a wide range of souvenirs available as print on demand items. This means there is a wide range of products and sizes, but you need to order through the souvenirs shop at their website [www.paragon2.org.uk](http://www.paragon2.org.uk) You can view some samples at the Paragon2 table in the Dealers' Room.

### Changeover

Announced at Concourse: Diana Wynne Jones' book *Changeover* is back in a first paperback edition after 30 years. [www.moondustbooks.biz](http://www.moondustbooks.biz)

### Filknobabble

The Technobabble quiz last night was timetabled next door to the filkers, and following a suggestion from one of the panelists the panel was punctuated by brief bouts of insanely enthusiastic applause and whoops of delight. It would normally not have been possible to identify the panelist responsible, but alert filkers might have been able to discern that the manic giggling which followed these carefully stage-managed expressions of enthusiasm could have been identified as coming from a baseball-hatted, bespectacled, filthy-pro biographer known to be in attendance.

### Dr Who Exhibition – just opened in Blackpool

#### Dave Lally reports:

This exhibition contains all the former exhibits from Llangollen and Longleat.

It's in the "Funland" building on the seafront – leave the Winter Gardens by the Victoria Street exit, head down to the seafront and turn left. Pass beside the tower on your left, and the exhibition is just beside the "Sealife" exhibition.

Prices: Adult £6, Child/Concessions £4, Family (2+2) £18. Show your Concourse membership badge at reception and collect a free model alien.

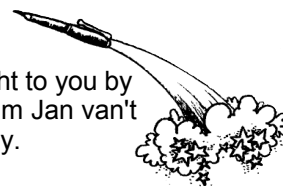
#### Davo reports:

Quite small – only took about half an hour to explore (but with a non-who-fan wife in tow!) lots of buttons to press (with lights, animations and sounds to activate). Sadly lacking in signs and descriptions of exhibits – would have been nice to know which were original props or what some of the more obscure monsters were. For fans it's worth a visit – if only to try to spot how many displays you've seen before.

### Masquerade and Costuming

Whether or not there will be a Masquerade next year depends on comments or queries about it. So get in touch with Alice Lawson or Fran Dowd at the Paragon2 table.

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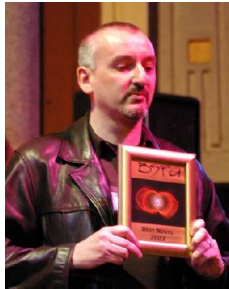
## The Newsletter of Concourse, the 55th British National Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon)

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### 2003 BSFA Award Winners

**Best Novel** - *Felaheen* by Jon Courtenay Grimwood (accepted by Darren Nash, pictured); **Best Short Fiction** - "The Wolves in the Walls" by Neil Gaiman & Dave McKean; **Best Artwork** - Cover of *The True Knowledge of Ken MacLeod* by Colin Odell;

**Best non-fiction** - "Reading Science Fiction" by Farah Mendlesohn (intro to *The Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction*). For more info see [www.bsfa.co.uk](http://www.bsfa.co.uk)



### TARTAN: reviewed

If there is a David Wake play on at a convention near you then you really should skip supper to see it. I laughed so much I cried. Then I cried so much my eyes hurt. To paraphrase Jon Courtenay Grimwood: any good sequel should stand up to reading without experiencing the earlier works. But if you had read the first work then you should get more out of it. This was the case for "TARTAN: restrung" which parodied Blade Runner, The Matrix I, II, and III, Captain Scarlet, and so many other shows you probably would have missed a few of them. It even self-parodied David Wake plays



which have memorable last minute script changes. David's last few years as a professional playwright have toned up his writing making the whole thing a lot tighter than previous productions and was impressively stage managed for something which didn't have a complete run through rehearsal. Costumes included the white rabbit which Eira stripped out of. I can't wait for the video, I mean DVD. [AM]

### More Awards

Danny Flynn won the Phlosque Award this year. "I don't know whether to be proud or offended." Previous winner Lisa Konrad tried to enlighten him: "I only know of one artist who has consistently refused the award."

### Floods

The filk oldie "Never flood the con hotel" got a revival last night. A fan in one of the smaller B&Bs was awoken in the small hours by an indoor rainstorm caused by a fan in the room above going to bed and leaving the sink tap running.



### Overheard

During rehearsal: "I think your cue is when Chris comes back on stage clothed. So if you see Chris naked don't press anything!"

### Baronial Motto

Several people have been asking the meaning of the motto "Sero sed serio" in the Baronial hall. Thanks to the on-line Latin dictionary at Notre Dame University, I can reveal that the answer appears to be "Late into the night, but with gravity".

[Colin Fine]

### Easter Egg Raffle

The winner was Forgetful Dr. S, who can pick up his prize at the BSFA desk in the dealers' room. Thanks to all concerned.

### Food

AJ's Bistro, Topping St – reasonable prices, good service, nice food – not easy to find restaurants with veggie options – and it was a relief to find a restaurant on Sunday evening that wasn't full or had run out of food! (Editor adds: "It was very smokey on Wednesday".)

### The Bid Won!

Concussion has won the bid to be the 2006 Eastercon. Hooray. "It will be a vibrant, generalist convention that reflects the interests of a wide variety of fans and professionals" says Farah Mendlesohn. And in true SMOF style adds: "You will have fun".

### Overheard

It's better now Dave (Wake) has gaffer taped her knickers on. (Dawn)

### Trains

For trains to London and south today: there are engineering works closures on the west coast main line. You're advised to check with National Rail for validity of tickets

on 08457 484950. But why not fly with Sprokette Air and their fine stewardesses...



## Concourse Masquerade

### Children Awards:

Most Real Feline: Princess

Bravest Knight: The Knight of the Golden Dragon

Most Chilled: The Ice Princess of California

Best Roar: The Lion King

Best Medieval Babe: Queen of the Salvaged Velvet

Most Ethereal Dance: The Sea Queen

Best Hobbit Feet: Michelle the Orc Slayer



Archbishop Lionel Fanthorpe was nominated for a Hall Costume award. He was denied access to the bar because they banned "Work Clothes".

### The luggage goes east...

We have had this email, purporting to be from Pat's luggage. Colm describes Pat's luggage as "big, blue and battered, quite similar to Pat really."



### Adult Awards:

Most Dysfunctional Family:

Mother Nature & Family

National Defense Award:

Baron von Otto

Best Presentation: Anders

Best in Show &

Workmanship: White Rabbit



### Out There

Has anyone noticed "The Rovers Return" cafe on Coronation St, proprietors Ron and Joyce Summers? Wondered where she'd got to.

Outside Dr. Who shop near the pleasure beach. Mother: "Look, it's a Dalek\* – You do remember the Dalek's, don't you?" Kid showed no recognition – has the world gone mad? (\* "Dalek" said with a northern accent)



BOOK MAD is less than 5 minutes gentle stroll along Church St – turn right outside Opera House exit – on the right hand side, just past The Syndicate Club – lots of SF/Fantasy etc. [Izzy Hanson]

### Late evening bar quiz

How many slices of bread are required for a single sandwich?

What is the name of the marble one size up from standard? (Ollie, Gobby, Holly, Tenner, Tolley, Other . . . )

Answers on a tacky Blackpool postcard to the usual address.

### Internet Access

Unfortunately this is not relevant until Tuesday, but if you ask nicely at a library, you can get free access via People's Network computers that are in all Blackpool libraries.

### Overheard

I did have an orgasm, but I left it at home.

I'll be in the mood for writing some obscene filk later. Will you be available for me to bounce things off on?



Hey there

In the absence of my lord and master, the GUFF delegate, they're using me to substitute. Count yourself lucky, they've seen the episode of HIGNFY with the lard. Does anybody know where he is, by the way? There was a phone call on a bad line from Tajikistan late yesterday, but we couldn't hear properly.

So, small convention in Rotorua, with some extremely friendly New Zealanders and hardly any sheep. New Zealand is as beautiful as you've heard, and the con is a lot of fun – Pat will be really sorry to have missed this.

So far, I've had a tour of the town, think Buxton in a wedding dress; been introduced in the opening ceremony, but left out the shower allusions; been on an international fandom panel with two Australians; been sold for personal service in an auction, but the bidder donated me back, later, much later; and hung out in the odd party, where I chatted up a cute handbag. When they found out I was happy to work on the con, they put me on badge checking duty on the dealer's room, where I watch the scenery and stuff...

The plan is they're putting me on a plane to Melbourne tomorrow, where I'm going to catch up with Stephen and Bruce, visit that Malaysian restaurant where Pat shocked the waitress in 1999 with the amount of food he ate, go look at the penguins and generally enjoy the wonderful metropolis.

Anyway, no-one's missing you, or him. So give my regards to your luggage and see you when I get back.

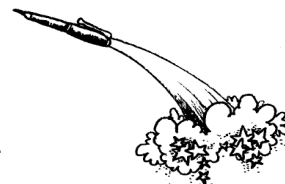
Ciao, baby.

### Confessions of an Eastercon Virgin.

Being a newboy I went to programme items. So I heard the Guests of Honour. I listened to John Clute. I went and asked my friends what the long words meant. I even found someone that read Sabatini and Weyman. I put faces to names of authors, bookdealers and fans. I probably have enough books to last me until Christmas, plus I have an even longer reading list. I chatted to people that I knew and those that I didn't. I had my first exposure to filk. I had a good time. I could have done with some better beer. See you in Hinckley. [Dave H]

(Photo to the left is of Charlie Stross in his pointy haired boss days when working at SCO)

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!

If you weren't there then this isn't going to make much sense.  
Mind you even if you were there this still might not make sense.

" # \$ %

This reporter was surprised to note that one of the lecturers that he had at university, one Andrew A Adams, was on the panel. Having slept through many a Design Methodologies lecture, this reporter had grown to consider Mr Adams as having quite the sedative effect. It thus came as quite the relief for this reporter when the panel proved to be full of interesting discussion and not a wink of sleep was had. [Neil somebody or other]

%& #'

Your editor was expecting ZZ9 to do something really interesting this convention in order to get lots of plugs in the newsletter, but no. Nothing. Nothing except complain about the lack of gossip. We generated some of our own by getting this bondage Beeblebear into the newsletter room and flat out onto our stretcher where we took photos. These photos will be appearing on a secret website soon or possibly available on CD if we get round to it.

#

Not only does British conventions drink bars dry but this time Deep Pan Pizza ran out of cheese!

There have been many people muttering about the price of pints in the Winter Gardens bars. Apparently the central London prices were despite an agreement with the committee to charge sensible amounts. Convention attendees voted with their feet at the Dead Dog party on Tuesday and visited local drinking establishments. The conference centre probably lost several hundred pounds in takings because of their short sidedness.

" ( ) ,

Was there any Plokta.con publicity at all at Eastercon? Is anyone going to be there? I hope I can get a last minute room, membership and pirate suit. <plokta.con> Release 3.0, May 1-3 2004, Newbury  
<http://www.plokta.com/plokta.con/>

\*

You are in a maze of twisty turning passages all alike

+ #, \*

Due to last minute confusion (no one could find the room) the body painting workshop was cancelled. However due to the popularity of this item it is hoped that a future convention will pencil it in.

) - ( # "

Apparently the missing newsletter printer did turn up, in a box, covered by stuff, underneath a table, behind a table cloth, in the Art Show, behind a door marked "Beware of the Leopard".

\* . \$ # / ( #'

Several fans went to Blackpool Pleasure Beach the day after the convention. Noel "Toolman" Collyer and I did the "standing on the ground watching" and very entertaining it was too. Munquie enjoyed all the roller coasters though Liam Proven banged his leg on one of the rides.

0 # 1

( , Jeffrey Ford, Jim Burns, Mark Roberts, John Clute, , Cherryl Morgan, Charles Stross.

The Newsletter Award for "*Best Dressed Convention*

*Runners*" goes to Convivial - the Civilised Convention on the Scientific Romance. Victorian themed science fiction in all its forms, from Jules Verne to the League of Extraordinary Gentlemen.

Quality Central Hotel, Glasgow.

(<http://www.empirewideweb.com/>)

2 0 \* ,

There was an article recently in the Guardian (available online) by GoH Chris Priest about his attempt to claim Pension Credit. It makes amusing reading in a "black comedy / red tape" sort of way.



3 1 )

The winning entry for 2003/4 was "Lost Things Saved in Boxes" by Deirdre Ruane, a London-based writer originally from Dublin. Deirdre's story was chosen from a



field of over 100 entries from all over the world, including Brazil, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

[James Shields – <http://www.lostcarpark.com/>]

(Photo to left: Shock evidence that the James White Award administrator

James Bacon does actually own a suit!)



Messages you don't want to see after arriving home:  
"You have 4857 messages in your inbox to download".

2

A convention goer woke up on Saturday morning to discover she was in the wrong hotel room! All perfectly innocent, of course. She tried to leave without the room's owner discovering her but was unsuccessful. She then discovered that she was also in the wrong hotel!

456 - + 7

One of the items which went missing over the weekend was a pair of embroidered trousers belonging to 1/2r. I couldn't bring myself to announce this in the newsletter at the time but did remind people to look after their bags. 1/2r's trousers were found. They made their way to the art show, then went up to the green room, then probably went to some parties and a ride on the Pepsi Max Big One before heading back and being reunited with a very happy 1/2r. This was announced over the ops radio system which resulted in various staff members falling over laughing in the middle of the final feedback session. [Chris O'Shea and Claire Brialey]

!

The programme item discussing the future of Eastercons was well attended and seems to be something worth talking about. There was further discussion of the trademarking of "Eastercon" for the purposes of conferences and meetings. This was done essentially to stop anyone else from doing it – but Dave Lalley expressed an interest in trademarking "Eastercon" for use with tins of beans. I think he was trying to make a point but I am not sure what it was. Jonjo Lewis-Jones apologised for writing to the Hanover in Hinckley inviting them to tender for future Eastercon bids. This had confused the hotel which is the site for Paragon 2, the 2005 Eastercon, in Hinckley. <http://www.paragon2.org.uk>

" 1 1 +

... might like to learn that Lie Journal has been put together by a Lie Group. [DougS]

, #

There are moves a foot to get "Tartan:restrung" nominated for a Dramatic Presentation Hugo at Interaction (The Glasgow Worldcon in 2005!) Find out more at [www.worldcon.org](http://www.worldcon.org) or read your PR's. Like other David Wake productions there will be a video available – and maybe, for the first time, a DVD. Contact him for more info.

Early in the 21st Century, the world was ravaged by three plagues: an outbreak of Foot and Mouth led to the culling of all the cattle and sheep, an epidemic of Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes destroyed all the cats, dogs and fluffy bunny rabbits. Finally, a plague of Bums and Tums killed all the Aerobic Instructors. Mankind, out of shape and bereft of animal friends, took to carrying cuddly toys.

THE Gepetto and Son CORPORATION advanced android evolution into the NEXUS phase - a being virtually identical to a human - known as a Toy. Their slogans went from "Almost Human", to "More Human than Human" and, finally, "Buy One, Get One Free". NEXUS 4 Toys were a bit hopeless compared to the generic engineers who created them. But they were very, very cute. Toys were used Off-world as slave labour, in the hazardous exploration and colonization of other planets and in the bedrooms of sad individuals who never really grew up.

After a bloody mutiny by an Action Man Combat Team, Toys were declared illegal on earth - under penalty of death. Special police squads - STRING CUTTER UNITS - had orders to shoot to kill, upon detection, any trespassing Toy.

This was not called execution.

It was called gafiation.

[Nicked from the Tartan:restrung script by David Wake]

Last time I helped out with the newsletter at an Eastercon David Wake broke a leg falling off of stilts used in an "Alien" masquerade costume. This year was a lot better. Apart from a few bruises during the freeway crash in Captain Tartan there were no injuries. However we have just gotten a report that David's mum now has one fewer dining chairs than usual as David has just broken his leg with one.

\$ )

Robert "NoJay" Sneddon won the Doc Weir award. A movement to get more women awarded has been started.

+

Dave Langford 10<sup>th</sup> April,  
Dave Hardy 10<sup>th</sup> April.



Oh sorry. I had so many people helping over the weekend that I forgot to write everyone's names down. Especial thanks go to John Dallman, David Haddock, David Stewart, and Steve Lawson for photos, the "Third Row" for turning up and volunteering, DougS for typing, and for Munquie for putting up with the fact that I spent the entire convention in the newsletter room. THANKS.

This special post convention edition of "LieJournal" has been brought to you by Alex McLintock and many contributors.

