



Editor-in-Chief:
John Coxon

John Coxon
Jan van 't Ent
Ilana Grune

Writers:
Fran Dowd
Carrie Gillespie
Nicholas Jackson

EDITORIAL EXCITEMENT!

It's Easter Sunday, the sun might be shining (I haven't been outside), I've got a couple of panels and it's shaping up to be a good day. As I write this we're eagerly anticipating any news of an Eastercon bid for 2011, but we should be able to report on that by the time we go to print.

I'm going to use this to urge people to vote for TAFF (personally I'm voting for Steve Green) – the fan funds, both TAFF and GUFF, are incredibly important and it's vital that we all support them. Details on how voting is being handled are elsewhere this issue.

See you in the bar – John.

CORRECTION CONFUSION!

We said we'd do worse and we did – the Scandinavian party is (as many people came and told us last night) obviously tonight, at 8:30pm in Directors, rather than last night.

THE VOICE

TERRIFIC TAFF!

We reported earlier in the convention that Bug has been broken this weekend. In light of this, Claire Brialey confirmed at today's GUFF panel that she will be happy to collect TAFF votes this weekend. You will be able to find her variously on panels and in the bar.

The TAFF candidates are Steve Green and Tom Womack and the race will take the winner to the 2009 Worldcon, Anticipation in Montreal. Minimum donation with a vote is £2/\$3. Vote early and vote often!

PROGRAMME PRAGMATISM!

There are some changes to scheduled programme items that you should know about:

Idiosyncratic Anime: This is not a 120 minute item but is in fact a 90 minute item.

Baron Munchausen: This item moves from 8pm in Mimosa to 10pm in Sycamore. More detail elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Kunji Revolt: This has been moved from 9pm in Walnut to 10pm in the Boardroom.

The Kunji Revolt Disco: There is a disco in Mimosa after the Rock Band concert.

Brief History of the Universe: This is still at 11pm but moves from the Boardroom to Hawthorn.

TREMENDOUS T-SHIRTS!

Anders Holmström was the first person to win one of the exclusive white-on-black gopher reward T-shirts, with artwork by David Lloyd (the same artwork gracing our front page!) – well done to him, and to the rest of you, why aren't you volunteering?!

ABJECT APOLOGIES!

Co-chair James Bacon would like to apologise for the overrunning of the beer tasting session, which eventually ended at 1:38am, some three and half hours after it was scheduled to finish, but welcomes Jim de Liscard's initiative.

QUOTATION QUORUM!

Fran Dowd was overheard during the communion at the early morning service: "Bugger peace, I've got chocolate!"

This was followed by the ensuing conversation: "There's plenty of room for everyone to watch the sheep!" "Oh, it's that sheep!" "The holy sheep?!"

You had to be there, perhaps... in other news, this was overheard in the bar last night: "Are you going to 'Bad Sex' with Liam?" "No, I've done that already," replied thirty-five women.

"I'm going to see the twits!" "You mean the Twitter panel?" "Yeah, same thing..."

ZZ9 ZONE!

ZZ9 Plural Z Alpha have been giving flyers out with the wrong details on them – don't send an SAE, just e-mail membership@zz9.org or visit zz9.org to join.

CONSTITUTION CALAMITY!

Not planned your summer holidays yet? Why not come to Cambridge for more convention goodness? Constitution runs over the weekend of 31st July – 2nd August with SF/fantasy, gaming and filk streams. Guests of Honour include Steph Swainston and Henry Gee. Membership costs only £20 – much cheaper than Worldcon! Come and find us at our desk just outside the Dealers' Room.

ODYSSEY OPPORTUNITY!

After the bid session, Rita Medany gave a quick update on Odyssey 2010. Single room bookings for the con hotel are closed for now, but there is a waiting list. Bookings in the overflow hotels will open in two weeks. Mitch Benn has confirmed that he will be performing, which has nothing to do with the reminder that there will be a price rise after this convention. *[Excellent, I missed him at Orbital! – Ed]*

CHAPTER FOUR: 1978-1987

Mark Plummer and Claire Brialey

2000 AD, Albacon, Aldiss, Andromeda, *Ansible*, Arthur C Clarke Award, Atkinson, Banks, Barker, Bell, *Blake's 7*, Brazil, Bridges, Burns, Carol, Conspiracy, Cowper, Edwards, *Encyclopaedia of Science Fiction*, Evans, Faircon, Forbidden Planet, Frank's APA, *Golden Witchbreed*, GUFF, Hansen, Hardy, Helliconia, Holdstock, Jarrold, Keele, Kilworth, *Kiteworld*, Langford, Lessing, Lloyd, *Matrix*, Moore, *Riddley Walker*, Rubicon, *Seacon '79*, *Seacon '84*, Shaw, Slater, *Tappen*, *The Flipside of Dominick Hide*, *The Fountains of Paradise*, *The Glamour*, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, *The Ragged Astronauts*, *The Road to Corlay*, *The Unlimited Dream Company*, *Trillion Year Spree*, *Twill-Ddu*, TWP, *V for Vendetta*, *Watchmen*, West, Whiteoak, Yorcon. ZZ9.

EASTERCON EMPTINESS!

Fran reports: The bid session wasn't very well attended, and lasted approximately five minutes, the quickest session your reporter has known. No bids were presented, and a vote was taken to holdover the bid to take place at Odyssey 2010. Rita Medany, *Odyssey's* chair, said that there is a group working on a bid, and they will confirm by Novacon if they are going ahead.

DIGNITY DRINKING!

For those looking for a free drink, and some mighty funny storytelling, both are available at the Baron Munchausen item which is on this evening. Please go and have a grand time!

FANTASY FAREWELL!

This is of course the Fantasy Centre's last Eastercon, after nearly forty years in the business. They have a stall in the Dealers' Room and there are, we are told, mad discounts. Erik Arthur, proprietor, will be happy to cater to your every need.

GALLOPING GERTIE!

Alison Scott tells us, rather hilariously, that she's taken up

running. Well, more sort of waddling, to be fair. At any rate, she can be spotted around the place in training for the British Heart Foundation Hyde Park Jog; a five kilometre walk/jog/run on, er, Wednesday. That was well planned. She'd like everyone to sponsor her at tinyurl.com/cz7aly. Or find her in the bar and press money on her.

**BEEBLEBEAR BRAVADO!**

ZZ9 reports that the Beeblebear Picnic on Saturday Afternoon was attended by 36 bears, where they had hoped for 42. Not quite there, but still really good going! Initially there was a picnic in each of the downstairs bars – confusion ensued, until one bar was picked, after which a happy sleuth of bears piled in together. We think this meeting might set a record of assembled Beeblebears in one place – we'll try to do better next time!

FUTURE FROLICS!

The next newsletter will be published this evening, at around the same time as yesterday (we hope). Content should be e-mailed to news@lx2009.com, given to a newsletter person or put in the Big Newsletter Box in Ops.

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