



## 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.

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

