

# OLYMPUS 2012



The 63rd British National  
Science Fiction Convention  
Radisson Edwardian Heathrow  
6 - 9 April 2012

# Read Me



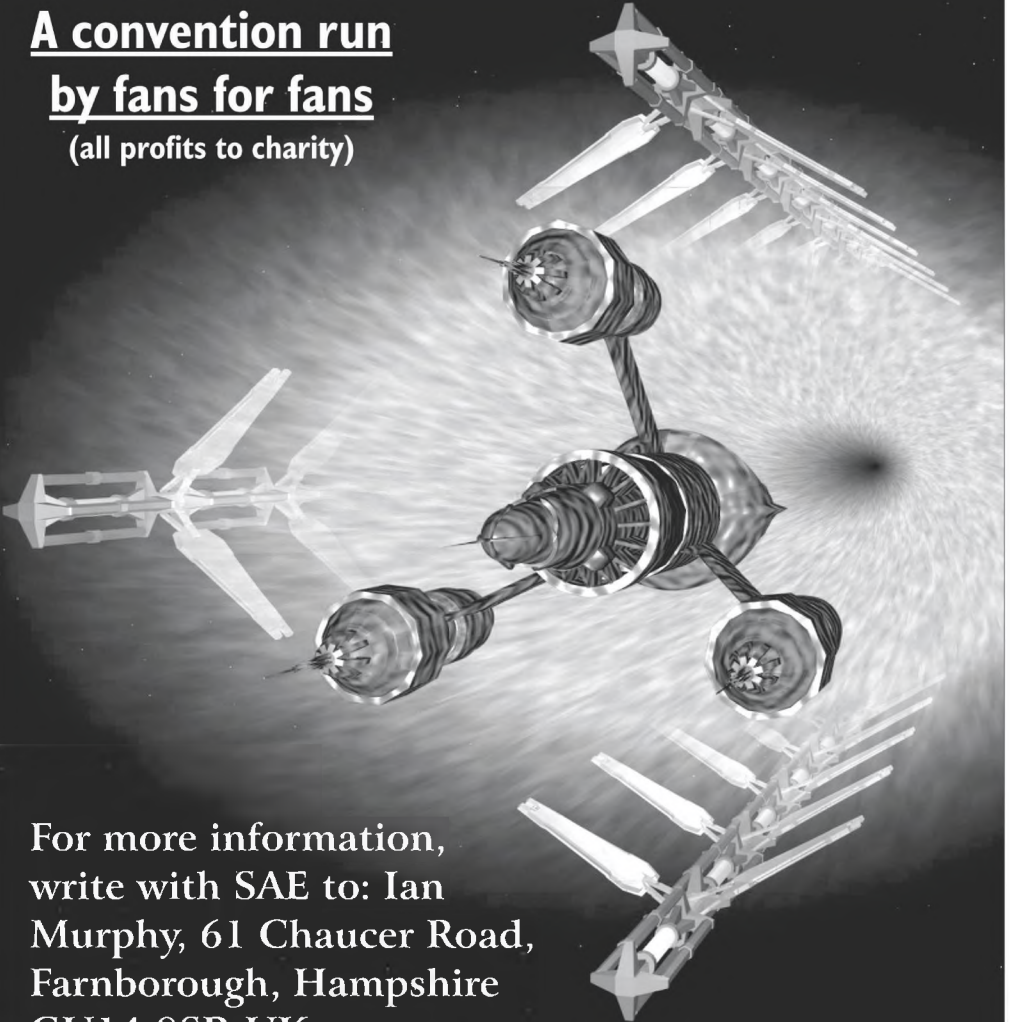
# REDEMPTION '13

22 – 24 February 2013

Britannia Hotel, Coventry, UK

## Multimedia Science Fiction Convention

**A convention run**  
**by fans for fans**  
(all profits to charity)



For more information,  
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## Welcome

Welcome to Olympus 2012 at the Radisson Edwardian Heathrow. We hope you have a brilliant time and are inspired to join the next two Eastercons after the Bid Session at 11am on Sunday. This booklet contains important information about the convention, and descriptions of the hundreds of items on the programme. It is meant to be read in conjunction with the Pocket Programme Guide, which contains the hotel maps and the programme grids that show you what is happening, when, and where. We have also produced a Kids' Programme booklet for our younger members, and an electronic version is available on our web site. In addition, we have a smartphone version of our program guide, there are more details of how to get that below.

We have worked hard to ensure the printed programme is as accurate as possible, however it is likely that there will be some last minute changes both before and at the convention - keep an eye on the Newsletter and notice boards around the con for programme updates, plus updates will be made available to the smartphone app.

## Programme Guide app

In conjunction with [guidebook.com](http://guidebook.com) we have produced a smartphone version of our programme guide. The application runs on Android and Apple phones with a mobile web version for web based smartphones like Blackberry and Windows Mobile.

The application features our full schedule, programme participants list, dealers list, Twitter feed, Facebook link, news stream and photo gallery. The schedule will also be updated periodically during the con.

**Android or iPhone** download the '**Guidebook**' app from the Market/App store (or go to <http://m.guidebook.com/>) and then start the application. Once it is running do the following:

- Click Download Guides.
- Click Redeem Code at the bottom of your screen.
- Enter **olympus**.
- This will download the guide, and then you can open it!

For **Blackberries, Windows Phones**, or other web enabled devices (including your computer):

- Open a browser and navigate to <http://m.guidebook.com/>
- Scroll to the bottom and click Redeem Code
- Enter **olympus**.

## Kids' Programming

In addition to the free crèche, quite a few items on the programme are particularly suitable for kids. Child and Junior members will have been given a copy of the Kids' Programme book when they collected their badge at Registration.



THE 70TH  
WORLD SCIENCE  
FICTION CONVENTION  
AUG. 30-SEPT. 3, 2012  
HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO  
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## GUESTS OF HONOR

**Mike Resnick**

Author GOH

**Jane Frank**

Agent GOH

**Rowena Morrill**

Artist GOH

**Peggy Rae Sapienza**

Fan GOH

**Story Musgrave**

Astronaut GOH

**John Scalzi**

Toastmaster

## SPECIAL GUESTS:

**Sy Liebergot**

NASA Flight Controller, Apollo EECOM

**Peter Sagal**

Host of NPR's *Wait, Wait... Don't Tell Me!*

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP RATES

Attending Membership:	\$ 215	Family Membership (Two Adults & All Children plus \$25 per Young Adult):	\$540
Young Adult (17-21):	\$ 100	Upgrade Supporting to Attending:	\$165
Child (5-16):	\$ 75	Upgrade Supporting to Young Adult:	\$ 50
Supporting Membership:	\$ 50		

All Prices in U.S. Dollars. Rates good as of 04/01/2012.

FOLLOW CHICON 7 ON FACEBOOK (CHICON-7),  
LIVE JOURNAL (CHICON7) AND TWITTER (CHICON\_7)!

"World Science Fiction Society," "WSFS," "World Science Fiction Convention," "Worldcon," "NASFIC," "Hugo Award," and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

# Programme Descriptions

## Friday

**Talk on geoeengineering.** 11am-12pm. *Commonwealth*. Francis Pope.

**Death of the internet (tweets at 11).** 11am-12pm. *Royal A+C*. At the same time as Western governments praise social media's role in the Arab Spring, they are working at shutting down free internet availability to defend intellectual property (SOPA, PIPA, HADOPI etc.) and prevent protests that use just the same tools as the Arab protesters (Twitter, Youtube etc.). Have we reached breaking point for free speech on the net? **Charles Christian**, Simon Bradshaw, Cory Doctorow and Patrick Nielsen Hayden.

**Damn Fine Cons - what is fandom and why should we care?** 11am-12pm. *Room 41*. A chance for anyone for who is at their first convention, or their first Eastercon, to come along and meet a few fans who've been going to cons for a while now. Find out more about fandom and what to expect from Olympus over coffee and doughnuts. Margaret Austin, Liz Batty, Mart in Easterbrook and Christina Lake.

**LARP - Red Planet.** 11am-12pm. *Room 40*. A live-action role playing game called 'Red Planet'. Come along to get involved in a summit on Mars, where various factions including businesses, unions and governments that are trying to work out the future of the Mars colony 100 years from now. David Cheval.

**Tribute to John Christopher.** 11am-1pm. *Room 42*. John Christopher of Death of Grass and Tripods fame died this year. Dave Lally will lead a discussion about his work including a showing of the 1970 film No Blade of Grass, which was based on Death of Grass. **Dave Lally**.

**George RR Martin Reading.** 12pm-1pm. *Commonwealth*. Reading of a chapter (likely from 'The Winds of Winter'). Please note that the recording of this item is not permitted. George R R Martin.

**Chaos Programming.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 12*. Come along and make up your own programme item.

**Design a Dr Who monster (for children).** 12pm-1pm. *Room 41*. Draw a new Dr Who monster and write a short story about it. Tricia Sullivan.

**The art of the movie poster - 100 posters in 50 minutes.** 1pm-2pm. *Commonwealth*. For many moviegoers and film fans, the first glimpse that we see of an upcoming motion picture is the theatrical poster. What goes into the design and layout of these posters? How has poster design changed over the years? How do they attract the eye, inform the viewer & excite a film's future audience? In a special presentation, film fan Grant Watson demonstrates the design and layout of movie posters with 100 examples squeezed into 50 minutes. Warning: may contain the colours orange and teal. Grant Watson.

**Danie Ware reading.** 1pm-1:30pm. *Room 12*. Danie Ware.

**Is Europe winning the space race?** 1pm-2pm. *Royal A+C*. Nasa space science is faltering but ESA is storming ahead. Is this just a temporary set back for the US or a sea change? And what about the emerging power houses of China and India? And does space science matter in the broader scheme of things? **John Bray**, Leah-Nani Alconel, David L Clements and Geoffrey A. Landis.

**Fight Demonstration.** 1pm-3pm. *Room 38*. A two-hour demonstration of stage fighting by professionals. Jo Playford.

**Bringing up fannish children.** 1pm-2pm.  
*Room 41.* Do fannish children have more fun at conventions than their parents? How do you keep children away from inappropriate content? And at what point do fannish children become fans in their own right? Our panellist of parents and their children discuss all this and more. Kylie Ding GUFF, Yvonne Rowse, Sally Rowse and Ian Taylor.

**How to be a panellist at Olympus.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 40.* On a panel for the first time? Not sure what to do or what is expected? Come along and find out. Steve K.

**Doctor Who: "Father's Day"** 1pm-2pm. *Room 42.* From the first series of the new style Doctor Who, an episode written by Guest of Honour Paul Cornell

**Emma Newman reading.** 1:30pm-2pm.  
*Room 12.* A reading from her novel 20 Years Later. Emma Newman.

**Talk on Cassini and Saturn.** 2pm-3pm.  
*Commonwealth.* Could Saturn's moons support life? The sixth planet in our solar system, the gas giant Saturn, has more than 60 moons. Most of them are cratered and rocky like our Moon. However, two of them, Titan and Enceladus, have more in common with the Earth than you might expect. The Cassini spacecraft, which orbits Saturn, has been used to explore the features of these moons. Data from the spacecraft can be used to examine properties that life as we know it might need to survive in these moons' environments. Magnetic fields are everywhere in our solar system, and are vital for protecting life on Earth. Distortions to magnetic fields can be detected at extremely low levels. Observing magnetic fields in space, therefore, can often produce results when other observations don't show significant changes. Significant discoveries at Saturn by Cassini have been made through measurement of the magnetic field. I will talk about this in the context of assessing the habitability of Saturn's Moons. Leah-Nani Alconel.

**Ceilidh Workshop.** 2pm-4pm. *Room 12.* Learn some useful moves for tonight's ceilidh. **Judith Proctor** and Colin Fine.

**Pushing the boundaries of genre.** 2pm-3pm.  
*Royal A+C.* Is genre more than just a marketing label? Why do you decide to write in a genre? What are the reading protocols of the different genres and subgenres? Why is Golden Witchbreed a fantasy masterwork, and I Am Legend SF? How does it change Pern to make it science fiction? **Gillian Redfearn**, Paul Cornell, Jon Courtenay Grimwood, Sophia McDougall and Robert VS Redick.

**Let's get sercon.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 41.* Does science fiction really matter to SF fans these days? Come to that, does science? Are conventions just knit-your-own-bondage-Clanger parties, and is there any real content in fanzines? Our distinguished panel of experts try to get to the bottom of this and other mysteries. Julian Headlong, Dave Hicks, Tony Keen, Yvonne Rowse and David Wake.

**Introduction for convention first timers.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 40.* Gaspodia and The Magician.

**The War Game (1965).** 2pm-4pm. *Room 42.* A look at the 1965 BBC show The War Game with an introduction by Dave Lally and a discussion afterwards. **Dave Lally.**

**Beyond Cyberdrome Workshop.** 2pm-4pm.  
*Room 18.* Build a robo-athlete to take part in the Beyond Cyberdrome Titanics **SMS**, Eira and Alex Holden.

**Tricia Sullivan kaffeeklatsch.** 2pm-3pm.  
*Room 19.* You must have signed up in advance to attend this. Tricia Sullivan.

**Gophers' Briefing.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 31.* Joss.



**Archery in fantasy TV and film.** 3pm-4pm. *Commonwealth*. Mike Shevdon gives a presentation and demonstration of archery which combines illustrations of how archery is used in various TV and films (Lord of the Rings, Blade Trinity, Buffy, and more), with a show and tell with actual bows and explanations of how things really work. Mike Shevdon.

**Our new alien masters: The markets.** 3pm-4pm. *Royal A+C*. Humans no longer rule the world. Our new overlords live in the markets and are the faceless mindless algorithmic trading systems and the psychopaths chosen by corporations to run them. Discuss. **Vincent Docherty**, Mike Copley, Nile and Charles Stross.

**Before Watchmen.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 38*. Before Watchmen DC recently announced their prequels to the classic series of the 1980s, to a mixed fan reaction. Should there be prequels to Watchmen? Are there comic universes which should be left alone, or is there always room to fill in the spaces without detracting from the original work? How much say should the original creator have? **Steve K**, James Bacon, Adam Christopher, Kim Curran and Gaspode.

**How mobile phone technology can enhance the con going experience.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 41*. **Lapswood**, Fran Dowd, Murphy's Lawyer, Doug S and Colin Stewart.

**DestinyQuest - a new type of gamebook for the 21st Century.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 40*. Come along and meet Michael J. Ward, author of the forthcoming DestinyQuest series of gamebooks from Gollancz. Taking the best of Fighting Fantasy and mixing in the character customisation of World of Warcraft, DestinyQuest is a fantastically written series of adventures. Mike will be demonstrating the game, talking about his love of the genre and basically convincing you to lose hours of your life to dice rolling. The first ten people to sign up will get a free copy of Mike's first book, and all participants will receive a complete set of Eastercon-exclusive bookmarks containing special magical items to help you in your quest. Marcus Gippis.

**Cabaret and masquerade sign-up.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 30*. To take part in tomorrow's cabaret or masquerade, you must sign up first. Clare Goodall.

**Opening ceremony.** 4pm-5pm. *Commonwealth*. **Gaspodia**, Margaret Austin, Eddie Cochrane, Paul Cornell, Cory Doctorow, Martin Easterbrook, Gaspode, George R R Martin, Emma Peel, Philippa, Steve Rogerson, Tricia Sullivan, Kat Takenaka and Vindolandia.

**Peter Pan (2003).** 4pm-6pm. *Room 42*. If the kids don't fancy attending the Opening Ceremony, why not let them enjoy nearly two hours in the video room watching Peter Pan. Cert PG.

**Cory Doctorow Interview.** 5pm-6:30pm. *Commonwealth*. Our Guest of Honour interviewed by Patrick Nielsen Hayden. Cory Doctorow and Patrick Nielsen Hayden.

**NewCon Book Launch Party.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 12.* NewCon Press invite you to the launch of their three new titles: *Saving for a Sunny Day* - a new collection of stories from Ian Watson, *The Outcast and the Little One* - a debut SF novel from emerging talent Andy West, and *Dark Currents* - a collection of all original science fiction, fantasy, and horror stories from the likes of Tricia Sullivan, Adrian Tchaikovsky, Aliette de Bodard, Adam Nevill, Nina Allen, Lavie Tidhar, Sophia McDougall, Rod Rees, Una McCormack, and Neil Williamson. Ian Whates.

**Science fiction on stage.** 5pm-6pm. *Royal A+C.* Science fiction and the theatre don't seem to be the most obvious bedfellows, but science fiction has and continues to be presented on the stage. Every medium brings its own benefits and drawbacks. What are the challenges that face playwrights when creating science fiction? What can you achieve with the theatre that you can't achieve in any other media? **Dawn Abigail**, David Wake and Grant Watson.

**There's a hole in my plot.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 38.* It's the worst thing to get three-quarters of the way through a novel and find it doesn't work. So how do you plot, what are the pitfalls, and how can you get yourself out of trouble? Four published authors and a professional editor are on the case. **Jenni Hill**, Joe Abercrombie, James Barclay, Elspeth Cooper and Gavin G. Smith.

**It came from the 1970s.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 41.* Which old TV show would you most like to see revived (as either film or TV) and why? What would have to change if you made it present-day? (For instance - mobile phones wouldn't ruin *Children of the Stones*, as no one would be surprised not to get reception in such a remote area.) **Dave Lally**, Lexin, Espana Sheriff and Alys Sterling.

**Acting workshop.** 6pm-8pm. *Room 12.* If you have never tried any acting before but you'd love to have a go and want to join a friendly group then *Acting for All* is for you! We will do some drama games, improvisations and work with scripts but most of all we hope to get your imagination and creativity going and have some fun! Please wear comfortable clothes that you can move freely around in. **Ruby Sahota.**

**What is I?** 6pm-7pm. *Royal A+C.* We all think we know who and what we are, but the more science delves into the nature of 'I' the more 'I' seems to disappear. Is consciousness just a figment of our brains, and if so, where does that leave us? **John Dallman**, Dr Bob, Aliette de Bodard and Damien Walter.

**Message from the drowning world.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 38.* 2012 is the 50th anniversary of JG Ballard's classic novel of climate catastrophe, *The Drowned World*. In Ballard's novel the warming was a natural catastrophe; we now know the real world is warming as a result of human activity, and that catastrophic consequences are a near-certainty, yet governments are doing next to nothing. How well has sf engaged with the climate crisis, and with ecological issues in general, over the last half-century? **Niall Harrison**, Edward James, Paul McAuley, Dave the Planetbuilder and Jessica Yates.

**Tales from the typographic ocean.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 41.* Our panel review fanzines from five different decades stretching from 1930 to the present day. How has fandom changed since the 1930s? What was the big deal about the 1950s? Was the '70s more prog rock than punk? What will the 90s be remembered for in future? And what would early fans think of the fanzines of today? **Rob Hansen**, **Clarrie Maguire**, **Jim Mowatt** and **Mark Plummer.**



**LARP - Red Planet.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 40.* A live-action role playing game called 'Red Planet'. Come along to get involved in a summit on Mars, where various factions including businesses, unions and governments that are trying to work out the future of the Mars colony 100 years from now. David Cheval.

**Introduction to Anime.** 6pm-9pm. *Room 42.* Becky Duty provides an introduction and leads a discussion on episodic anime including showing episodes from DotHack//Sign, Trigun, Bleach and Full Metal Alchemist. **Blazing Skies.**

**Just a Minute.** 6:30pm-8pm. *Commonwealth.* Our own version of the classic Radio 4 comedy panel game, hosted by Paul Cornell. Our panellists will attempt to talk for sixty seconds, without repetition, hesitation or deviation, on a variety of science fictional and not so science fictional topics. **Paul Cornell**, Donna Scott, Tricia Sullivan and Jo Walton.

**Geoengineering to save the planet.** 7pm-8pm. *Royal A+C.* Given that climate change is happening and nobody seems prepared to make significant cuts in CO<sub>2</sub> emission, is it time to consider Geoengineering projects as a way of ameliorating the problem? Will they work? What are the costs and hazards? **Mike Scott**, Mike Cobby, Jonathan, Francis Pope and Alex von Thorn.

**Sex and fantasy on TV.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 38.* Spartacus, Game of Thrones, Camelot - new fantasy dramas on TV seem to rely on heavy helpings of sex and nudity to attract viewers. Is this necessary? Do the shows work without the sex, or does the sex just make a good show better? **Steve Rogerson**, Neil Beynon, Crist in Carlin, Affordable Graham and David Hodson.

**Fan culture (Buffy, pub your ish!).** 7pm-8pm. *Room 41.* With fannish culture increasingly being represented in the media in series like The Big Bang Theory and films like Paul, the gap between characters and fans is shrinking. The panel looks at how some of our favourite screen characters would get on in fandom. What kinds of fans would the cast of Buffy be, and what would their fanzines be like? What would happen if Sherlock started to investigate fan history? What would Lisbeth Salander make of Swedish fandom today? And is it true that Sookie Stackhouse is a secret fan of slash fiction? **Liam Proven**, Michael Abbott, Mart in Easterbrook, Lilian Edwards and Kate Keen.

**(Doctor) Who likes older women.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 12.* Jackie Tyler, Francine Jones, Sylvia Noble. Romana, the Rani. Harriet Jones, Joan Redfern, Donna Noble, River Song. Sarah Jane Smith. Amy Pond as a fifty-something woman. The Bane's Mother, the Racnoss's Empress, The Adipose's Nanny. Madge Arwell. Doctor Who finds older female characters, gives them interesting things to do, turns them into powerful role models for female fans. Or does it? Do we feel good about what the universe does with its older female characters, or is it yet another example of a franchise trying and not quite getting it? Are there other franchises that do better? Michael Cule, Roz Kaveney, Doug S and Espana Sheriff.

**The SF video game canon.** 8pm-9pm. *Royal A+C.* What are the essential science-fiction video games? What stands up to modern-day scrutiny? What was influential on later generations of games and gamers, and what are the hidden classics we should rediscover? **John Coxon**, Magnus Anderson, Ming and Omega.

**Beyond Red Mars.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 38.* It's twenty years since the publication of *Red Mars*, one of the defining sf novels of the 1990s and a benchmark for rigorous depiction of the other worlds in our solar system. How has our understanding of our cosmological neighbourhood evolved since then, and what opportunities and challenges does our increased knowledge offer for science fiction? **Paul McAuley**, Geoffrey A. Landis, Gareth L Powell, Mary A. Turzillo and Ian Whates.

**Do Swedes have more fun? (International fandom).** 8pm-9pm. *Room 41.* The world is full of fandoms from Japan to Russia and beyond, with their own conventions, BNFs and traditions. Are we too insular in the UK? TAFF and GUFF help us connect to American and Australian fandom, but what about the rest of the world? Are we missing out? Our panellists talk about fandom in other parts of the world and debate who really has the most fun! **Vincent Docherty**, Bellis, Warren Buff, Kylie Ding GUFF and Dave Lally.

**Pub Quiz.** 8:30pm-10pm. *Commonwealth.* Come and test your knowledge of all things science fiction, and have some fun at the same time. Emma Peel.

**Doctor Who: The importance of scheduling.** 9pm-10pm. *Room 12.* Following last year's 'summer holiday' season break, Doctor Who would appear to be being rescheduled to an autumn transmission. Just how important is scheduling to Doctor Who? Nickey Barnard, Piers Beckley, Paul F Cockburn, SMS, Tlanti and Nicholas Whyte.

**Is space opera dead?** 9pm-10pm. *Room 38.* Where's all the space opera (and, for that matter, space ships) on television these days? Was *Battlestar Galactica* too expensive, and are studios afraid to repeat the experiment? After *Star Trek*, *Babylon 5*, and *Battlestar Galactica*, where will televisual space opera go next? Charles Christian, Paul Dormer, Steve K, Lexin and Ming.

**Closed for set-up.** 9pm-9:30pm. *Room 41.*

**The Day the Earth Caught Fire (1961).** 9pm-11pm. *Room 42.* Remastered version of British Film Academy Award winning movie. Cert 15.

**The Last Man in Space.** 9:30pm-11:30pm. *Room 41.* Direct from the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, join notorious fan-turned-filthy-stinking-pro Andrew J. Wilson and a rogues' gallery of unusual suspects for the chat show from hell. "The Larry Sanders Show meets The Twilight Zone, as directed by David Lynch." (May contain nuts.) Ian Sorensen, Stuart Wallace and Andrew J. Wilson.

**Ceilidh with the Liam Robinson Band.** 10pm-1am. *Commonwealth.* Liam Robinson.

**Friday Filking.** 10pm onwards. *Room 12.*

**Where have all the hippies gone?** 10pm-11pm. *Royal A+C.* Silent Running, Dark Star and the like - do we need more people with long hair in space? Gaspode, Dave Lally, Ian Millsted and Gavin G. Smith.

**Wårldcon party.** 10pm-11pm. *Room 38.* Herman Ellingsen.

**Late Night Horror: Jesus Christ Vampire Hunter (18).** 11pm onwards. *Room 42.* Cult film introduced by John Coxon followed by discussion **John Coxon**.

# Saturday

## Saturday morning feedback session.

9:30am-10am. *Room 30. Gaspodia.*

## Cory Doctorow reading. 10am-11am.

*Commonwealth.* Cory Doctorow.

**Saturday Morning Tai Chi Session.** 10am-11am. *Room 12.* Tai Chi breathing exercises for health Maynard.

**Ethics of AI.** 10am-11am. *Royal A+C.* What rights and responsibilities should would artificially created sentient beings have? When a sentient is directly editable, where is the right to life? When an entity can be saved and stored and "live" again in the future, what constitutes a death sentence? **Simon Bradshaw**, Paul Cornell, Louise Dennis and Lilian Edwards.

**Sufficiently advanced magic.** 10am-11am. *Room 38.* Magic is usually restricted to an elite, while technology extends to the masses. What does your magic system say about you? Why do we rarely treat magic as a world-improving ingredient like a technological revolution? What do you get by using technology and not magic? **Marcus Gipps**, Stephen Deas, Juliet E McKenna, Adrian Tchaikovsky, Chris Wooding and Shana Worthen.

**Other fandoms, other lives.** 10am-11am. *Room 41.* Away from the glamour of conventions, fanzines, blogs and fan groups what do SF fans do in their other lives? What else do they collect, watch or follow? Are the behaviours of fandom replicated elsewhere, or are we unique? Margaret Austin, LostCarPark, Ian Millsted and Greg Pickersgill.

**Kids lab: What goes up must come down.** 10am-11am. *Room 40.* Come and make a balancing clown, discover what makes the best parachute, and build the tallest tower you can out of paper. (Younger kids will need a grown-up helper.) Elaine Coates.

**Forbidden Planet (1956).** 10am-12pm. *Room 42.* Showing of the classic SF film with an introduction by Dave Lally and a discussion afterwards. **Dave Lally.**

**Play rehearsal.** 10am-11am. *Room 18.* Play rehearsal - only for those involved in Sunday night's play. Ian Sorensen.

**LARP - Red Planet.** 10am-11am. *Room 30.* A live-action role playing game called 'Red Planet'. Come along to get involved in a summit on Mars, where various factions including businesses, unions and governments that are trying to work out the future of the Mars colony 100 years from now. **David Cheval.**

**LARP - Red Planet.** 10am-11am. *Room 19.* An overflow room for the Red Planet LARP. **David Cheval.**

**How pseudo do you like your medieval?** 11am-12pm. *Commonwealth.* How authentic does your medieval - or other historical-fantasy setting have to be? Does authenticity mean anything in a world with magic and dragons? To what extent is there even an "authentic" version of a period to be adhered to or transgressed? How do you accommodate diverse characters, and what is the value of imposing modern values and language on your invented world? **Anne C Perry**, Jacey Bedford, Anne Lyle, George R R Martin and Juliet E McKenna.

**Tricia Sullivan reading for children.** 11am-12pm. *Room 12.* Adults can only attend if accompanied by a child. Tricia Sullivan.

**How to set up a theatre production company.** 11am-12pm. *Royal A+C.* Red Table Theatre have put on half a dozen productions, all but one of which have made a profit. A workshop for anyone who wants to get started as a writer or director but who hasn't yet found anyone else to put on their work. Piers Beckley.

**Non-Anglophone SF.** 11am-12pm. *Room 38.* What is the SF scene like outside English-speaking countries? Do they have their own thriving scene, or is it dominated by anglophone SF from outside? Why does non-anglophone SF have such a small weight in the UK and US markets - is it down to the difficulty and cost of translations, or is there some other reason for this? Are the problems unique to SF, or present in all genres? And what can we do to change it? **Vincent Docherty**, Alette de Bodard, Myra Caakan, Lavie Tidhar and NirYaniv.

**London Calling.** 11am-12pm. *Room 41.* Although London 2014 may see Worldcon visit the UK's capital for the first time in nearly 50 years, the city has hosted many conventions in that time. Come and hear attendees and committee members' memories of Skycon, Orbital and the Loncons, as well as looking ahead to the Next Bloody British Bloody Worldcon. Bill Burns, Mart in Easterbrook, Rob Hansen, Steve Rogerson and Mike Scott.

**Strange Horizons tea party.** 11am-12:30pm. *Room 40.* Come and celebrate (or find out about) the online, donor-funded and volunteer-run speculative fiction magazine Strange Horizons at its first UK tea party! Drink tea, eat delicious things, mingle with magazine staff and contributors, and find out what's planned for 2012. Hosted by Editor-in-Chief Niall Harrison. Niall Harrison.

**Introduction for convention first timers.** 11am-12pm. *Room 18.* **The Magician** and **Gaspodia**.

**Cabaret and masquerade sign-up.** 11am-12pm. *Room 30.* You must sign up in advance if you want to take part in tonight's masquerade and cabaret. **Clare Goodall**.

**How to knit a dalek, part one.** 11am-12pm. *Room 19.* A workshop event for amateur knitters to share tips on making interesting items. If you've ever knitted fannish projects, please come along and show us the kinds of things that are possible! Jane.

**Gender parity on panels at conventions.** 12pm-1pm. *Commonwealth.* Paul Cornell, Farah, Juliet E McKenna, Emma Peel, Kari Sperring and Kat Takenaka.

**Morris Dancing Workshop (Border).** 12pm-1pm. *Room 12.* Border Morris for beginners. Energetic dancing with lots of stick clashing! A dance style with its roots in the Welsh border counties. So how did we end up with the 'East Acton stick dance'...? Judith Proctor.

**Why are the books of Philip K Dick popular for making movies.** 12pm-1pm. *Royal A+C.* **David Anthony Durham**, Dave Lally and Grant Watson.

**The SF gateway.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 38.* The SF Gateway launched in 2011, to bring out of print books back to readers as ebooks. The brains behind the project talk about how it came to life, and give us an update on what we might expect to see next. **Shana Worthen**, Malcolm Edwards, Darren Nash and Graham Sleight.

**Expense account fandom.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 41.* Will fandom survive the credit crunch? Are conventions pricing new fans out of the market and is there any alternative to holding conventions in expensive hotels? Our panel considers the economic realities of hotel negotiation, the art of attending conventions on a shoestring and some wild ideas from Scandinavia. **Simon Bradshaw**, Kev McVeigh, Yvonne Rowse and Alison Scott.

**The Bat (1959).** 12pm-1:30pm. *Room 42.* Classic horror with Vincent Price. Cert. PG.

**Beyond Cyberdrome Workshop.** 12pm-2pm. *Room 18.* Build a robo-athlete to take part in the Beyond Cyberdrome Titanics **SMS**, Eira and Alex Holden.

**Gophers' Briefing.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 31.* Joss.

**Tricia Sullivan Interview.** 1pm-2:30pm. *Commonwealth.* Our Guest of Honour interviewed by Farah Mendlesohn. Farah and Tricia Sullivan.

**Anne Lyle reading.** 1pm-1:30pm. *Room 12.* Anne Lyle reads from her debut novel, *The Alchemist of Souls.* Anne Lyle.

**Superheroes in the movies.** 1pm-2pm. *Royal A+C.* Do comic superheroes make good films? How could they be improved? John Coxon, David Anthony Durham, Tony Lee, Ian Millsted and Jessica Yates.

**Mainstream published SF&F.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 38.* It seems that more and more sf and fantasy is being published outside the genre. Is this an accurate perception, or has it always been there and we just notice it more today? What is the relationship between mainstream and genre - is mainstream science fiction and fantasy really categorically different to that published by genre imprints? What factors influence whether a title is published as mainstream or genre, and what affects whether a mainstream book is picked up by the genre community? If mainstream-published SF&F are on the increase, what does this mean for our perception of the field? Are more diverse authors published outside the genre imprints? **David Hebblethwaite**, Jo Fletcher, Jo Fletcher Books, Nick Harkaway, Maureen Kincaid Speller and Damien Walter.

**Secret origins.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 41.* Superman may be last survivor of a doomed alien race, Batman may have lost his parents at an impressionable age, but what are the fannish origin stories behind some of our most distinguished fans? Bellis, Alice Lawson, Timothy Maguire and Doug S.

**Art and crafts workshop for children.** 1pm-2:30pm. *Room 40.* For parents attending Tricia Sullivan's GoH talk, you may drop your children off from 15 minutes before this starts and pick them up up to 15 minutes afterwards. Joshua and TraceyJane.

**Stevie Carroll reading.** 1:30pm-2pm. *Room 12.* Stevie Carroll has a short story collection called 'A Series of Ordinary Adventures' (contemporary fantasy/magickal realism) coming out in May 2012. She was longlisted by the Tiptree Awards jury for her 2010 short story, 'The Monitors'. Stevie Carroll.

**Poetry reading.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 12.* Jennifer McGowan reads her poetry. She'll have copies of her own collection and possibly the new feminist speculative poetry anthology she features in. Jennifer A. McGowan/Arianrhod o Gymru.

**How to get published.** 2pm-3pm. *Royal A+C.* The nuts and bolts of how to get your book in front of an agent, a publisher and an audience. **Ian Drury - Agent**, John Jarrold, Bella Pagan, Gillian Redfearn and Gaie Sebold.

**Who likes reboots.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 38.* A panel on reboots, perhaps looking at whether the upcoming Spider-Man reboot makes any sense whatsoever? You could link this into a discussion about DC's New 52. The fact that the Nolan/Bale Batman trilogy is about to come to an end makes for an interesting discussion about whether there should be more Batman films, whether they should build on that, and how long it should be before they appear. Moffat kind of rebooted the Eleventh Doctor as a character with the most recent series of Doctor Who, and isn't Superman about to get a reboot, too? Rebooting is the order of the day. Rebooting has had its successes and failures, and a discussion about rebooted SF could look at what the ingredients are for success (like 2009 Trek) for controversy (BSG), for failure (Bionic Woman). Then invite panellists to argue what should be rebooted (Blake's Seven comes up frequently). Or to discuss how rebooting reflects cultural mores, Starbuck as a woman, or the pressure to use younger actors and whether women are benefitting from reboots Neil Beynon, John Coxon and Alys Sterling.

**A Short History of British Fandom.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 41.* A fast 40-minute presentation on the history of British fandom, comprising a presentation by Caroline Mullan with question session afterwards with Rob Hansen. Rob Hansen and Caroline Mullan.

**Shorts from Sci-Fi London.** 2pm-4pm. *Room 42.* A collection shorts due to be shown at the Sci-Fi London film festival, with an introduction from festival director Louis Savy. [Louis Savy](#).

**Battlestar Galactica RPG.** 2pm-5pm. *Room 30.* The Cylons attacked the Twelve Colonies and you fled the destruction. You encountered other ships, forming a rag-tag fleet, always on the move in case the Cylons caught up with you. Then one day, a military ship turned up - the Battlestar Pegasus. You thought she was a saviour, but her crew murdered your people and stripped your fleet of personnel, resources and FTL engines. What do you do now? Dr Bob.

**BSFA Lecture.** 2:30pm-4pm. *Commonwealth.* Historian and broadcaster Marc Morris will deliver the fourth British Science Fiction Association lecture, entitled 'Regime Change in England, 1066'. [Tony Keen](#) and Marc Morris.

**Creativity workshop (talk followed by exercises).** 3pm-5pm. *Room 12.* A two hour workshop. In the first hour we'll talk about creativity and how to inspire it, while in the second hour we'll put those techniques into practice and create a TV series. Piers Beckley.

**Will Doctor Who become more American?** 3pm-4pm. *Royal A+C.* Will Doctor Who follow Torchwood and become more American? [Lapswood](#), Gary S. Blog, Matthew Kilburn and Nicholas Whyte.

**The Metagame.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 38.* A game show about arguing about video games. Is Starcraft more culturally relevant than Virtua Fighter? Is Guitar Hero more intellectual than Katamari Damacy? Is Civilization sexier than World of Warcraft? Basically two teams have a grid of famous video games, each team picks a game, and then the host draws a card with a comparative claim such as "...is sexier than...", "...has better sound than...", etc. Each team's speaker then has to make the claim for their game in 60 seconds. The audience votes on the winner. [Grant Watson](#), Lucky Kaa, Ming, Blazing Skies and James Swallow.

**Running an award.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 41.* How do you run an award? Who are awards run for - is it the industry, or the readers? How do you engage with your audience? How do older awards stay fresh and relevant to the field, and how do newer awards find a place for themselves? **Vincent Docherty**, Tom Hunter, Deborah J. Miller, Anne C Perry and Donna Scott.

**ProgDB for conrunners.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 40.* Steve K.

**GoH autographs.** 3pm-4pm. *Newbury 1.* Paul Cornell, Cory Doctorow, George R R Martin and Tricia Sullivan.

**The fantastic landscape.** 4pm-5pm. *Royal A+C.* Let's talk about the landscapes of sf and fantasy, from alien planets and future metropolises to elven realms and ancient ruins. What turns a landscape from a background into a character? What makes a landscape fantastic? How does the line between the technological - or magical - and the natural world become blurred? **Niall Harrison**, Nina Allan, Jaine Fenn and Paul McAuley.

**Unsolvable problems in mathematics.** 4pm-5pm. *Room 38.* In this talk, I'll discuss various long-standing mathematical problems which were subsequently proved to be unsolvable, and try to give a brief explanation of why. In particular, I'll be talking about squaring the circle, trisecting angles, doubling cubes, constructible polygons, the solution of the general quintic equation, and Fermat's celebrated Last Theorem. Along the way, I'll talk about the infamous Indiana Pi Bill of 1897, the contributions of enthusiastic amateurs, and the tragically short career but enduring legacy of Evariste Galois. Nicholas Jackson.

**Why fan funds?** 4pm-5pm. *Room 41.* Olympus will be one of those rare British conventions where we have a North American and Australasian fan fund representatives visiting this shore. Come along and meet them, find out what Fan Funds are about and how you too could run for one. John Coxon, Kylie Ding GUFF, LostCarPark and Jacqueline Monahan.

**Lint the Movie.** 4pm-6pm. *Room 42.* Starring Alan Moore, Stewart Lee, Josie Long, Steve Aylett, Robin Ince, Jeff Vandermeer, DH Wilson, Andrew O'Neill, Bill Ectric and others, LINT THE MOVIE documents the life and work of cult SF author and philosopher Jeff Lint, creator of some of the strangest and most inconvenient works of the 20th century. It will be introduced by Steve Aylett. **Steve Aylett.**

**Brewing and sampling beer.** 4:30pm-6pm. *Room 40.* A talk on how beer is brewed followed by a tasting session of some different kinds of beers. Please fill in the sign-up sheet in Ops if you wish to attend, as numbers are limited. **Steve Rogerson**, Anders Holmstrom and Feorag NicBhríde.

**Wild Cards.** 5pm-6pm. *Commonwealth.* Authors from the long-running series talk about how the world was created, the joys and pains of working in such a collaboration, and what is on the horizon for the Wild Cards universe. **George R R Martin**, Paul Cornell, David Anthony Durham, Gail Gerstner-Miller and John Joseph Miller.

**The war on terror (How ten years of conflict has shaped SF).** 5pm-6pm. *Room 12.* How has the ongoing War on Terror affected the past decade of SF? How have different works reacted to both the war itself, and the surrounding anti-terror laws? **Paul Kincaid**, Cory Doctorow, Farah and Lavie Tidhar.



**How not to suppress women's writing.** 5pm-6pm. *Royal A+C*. A how-to guide to what we can all do to improve the gender imbalance in publishing. **Juliet E McKenna**, Penny Hill, Amy McCulloch, Ian Sales and Tricia Sullivan.

**Marion Pitman reading.** 5pm-5:30pm. *Room 38*. Reading her story Overnight Bus from the anthology Where Are We Going? Editor Allen Ashley and out from Eibonvale Press on 2nd March. She says she think it's slipstream, as much as anything. Marion Pitman.

**Music Quiz.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 41*. Christine and Michael.

**Not the Clarke Awards.** 5:30pm-7pm. *Room 38*. Our panel of ex-Clarke Award judges discusses the books on this year's shortlist and what they'd like to see win. Kev McVeigh, Ruth O'Reilly, Andy Sawyer, Graham Sleight and Nicholas Whyte.

**Masquerade and Cabaret rehearsal.** 6pm-7pm. *Commonwealth*. If you have entered the masquerade and cabaret, you must attend this session so the stage team and tech crew can prepare for your entry. Clare Goodall and The Magician.

**Tom Pollock Reading.** 6pm-6:30pm. *Room 12*. Tom Pollock is a shameless prevaricator and monster-inventor who may once have gotten into trouble for blinding a US spy satellite with the glare from his shiny, shiny head. His debut YA Fantasy, *The City's Son*, is coming in June from Jo Fletcher at Quercus. He (fair warning) puns a lot on twitter at @tomhpollock. Tom Pollock.

**Is Doctor Who SF?** 6pm-7pm. *Royal A+C*. Steven Moffat doesn't think so, likening the show to fairy tale. For a time, Russell T Davies self-edited out anything he felt was "too sci-fi" for a mainstream audience. So, is it fair to criticise the show for not being something it isn't? **Simon Bradshaw**, Paul F Cockburn, Gaspode and Una McCormack.

**Online fandom (saving fandom or killing it?).** 6pm-7pm. *Room 41*. E-zines are largely a pull not push medium, based around fast production and few review columns, leading to a proliferation of fanzines which don't necessarily talk to each other, or make up a coherent community. E-lists allow fans to talk to each other, but also to create their own circles which don't necessarily interact with the rest of fandom. Could technological change be leading to a narrowing of UK fanzine fannish circle? Claire Brialey, John Coxon, Lilian Edwards, Rob Jackson and Mike Meara.

**LARP - Red Planet.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 40*. A live-action role playing game called 'Red Planet'. Come along to get involved in a summit on Mars, where various factions including businesses, unions and governments that are trying to work out the future of the Mars colony 100 years from now. David Cheval.

**The Thing (1982).** 6pm-8pm. *Room 42*. A showing of a classic genre film with an introduction by Dave Lally and a discussion afterwards. **Dave Lally**.

**Sunday Service planning meeting.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 18*. Come and help plan tomorrow's Sunday service. Doug S.

**Werewolves for Children.** 6pm-8pm. *Room 30*. There's a werewolf in the village. Can you discover who it is before it kills all the villagers? Gaspodia.

**Aidan Harte Book Launch Party.** 6pm-7pm. *Atrium*. Jo Fletcher Books launch Irenicon by Aidan Harte. **Jo Fletcher**, **Jo Fletcher Books** and Aidan Harte.

**LARP - Red Planet.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 19*. An overflow room for the Red Planet LARP. **David Cheval**.

**A history of feminist SF in Britain.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 12.* The histories of feminist SF are often US-centric, and the history of feminist SF in the UK is less well known. Does it parallel the progression of science fiction in the US? Who were the important authors, and the key works? **Roz Kaveney**, Lesley Hall, Andy Sawyer, Maureen Kincaid Speller and Kari Sperring.

**Worldbuilding (When, how, and how much?).** 7pm-8pm. *Royal A+C.* Whether it's fantasy, horror, SF or urban fantasy, any novel requires a degree of world-building. Some need more than others. So how do you do that, whether it's adding a twist to a contemporary world, or building planetary systems from scratch? Four authors and a professional editor are going to try to figure it out. **Simon Spanton**, Anne Lyle, Suzanne Macleod, Robert VS Redick and Chris Wooding.

**Beyond Cyberdrome: The Titanic Spirit.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 38.* Robo-athletes compete in Sprint, Discus/Javelin Throwing and Hoplite Running contests Eira, Alex Holden and SMS.

**The London Worldcon needs you for 2014.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 41.* It looks like there will be a Worldcon (World Science Fiction Convention) in London in 2014. These are mammoth events, great fun to put on, and really rewarding if done well - but to put on a great Worldcon needs a lot of people and people with talents not normally associated with smaller conventions. Who knows how you might be able help? Well Alice and Steve should, they will be chairing the London Worldcon, and they can tell you all about it. Steve Cooper and Alice Lawson.

**Chocolate Tasting.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 40.* Join me and travel to Mexico, Indonesia, the Philippines and the Dominican Republic as well as Venezuela and a host of other countries across the globe to discover the flavours and textures of chocolate in a special tasting workshop. Judith Lewis.

**Masquerade and Cabaret.** 8pm-10pm. *Commonwealth.* Come and watch the creativity of other fans in tonight's masquerade and cabaret. The Magician.

**Publishing outside the box.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 12.* It's increasingly easy to fund and publish work outside the traditional models of publishing, from print on demand and selling ebooks through Amazon to alternative funding models like Peerbackers and Kickstarter. How can you make your non-traditional publishing models work? What distinguishes a successful Kickstarter campaign from one which never gets off the ground? What are the benefits to readers and authors of these new opportunities, and what are the pitfalls? **Paul Graham Raven**, Rob Haines, Jenny Haines, C. E. Murphy and Emma Newman.

**The women of Westeros.** 8pm-9pm. *Royal A+C.* The world of Westeros is harsh and unpleasant, and never more so than for its female characters. How do the women of *A Song of Ice and Fire* work within and against the system they are living in? How do Brienne and Arya transcend their gender roles, while Cersei and Sansa work within them to wield power of a different sort? How would we like to see them develop in the rest of the series? **David Hodson**, Cristin Carlin, Anne C Perry and Alex von Thorn.

**Private road to space.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 38.* Elon Musk and other private launch ventures are taking over from Nasa, while Virgin Galactic will launch their first space tourism flights this year. Is it time governments moved aside and got out of the launch vehicle business? And if so, what will the effects be? **Dev Agarwal**, **John Bray**, Gerry and Geoffrey A. Landis.

**Writers' Bloc presents FANTasia.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 41.* What happens when fans find themselves in skiffy stories? Members of Edinburgh's leading spoken-word performance collective dish the dirt in their own inimitable style. "Particularly neat" (Locus Online). Hannu Rajaniemi, Charles Stross, Stuart Wallace, Andrew J. Wilson and mark harding.

**Doctor Who - Human Nature and Family of Blood.** 8:30pm-10pm. *Room 42.* Two episodes in the third series of the new style Doctor Who, both written by Guest of Honour Paul Cornell

**What happens at Milford?** 9pm-10pm. *Royal A+C.* Thinking of coming along to the Milford SF Writers workshop? Find out what happens at this week-long retreat for published authors. **Steve K**, Jacey Bedford, Terry Jackman and Kari Sperring.

**Fusion: Easy or hard?** 9pm-10pm. *Room 38.* Fusion power would transform our world for the better: cheap, clean and unlimited energy could take us to new heights. Will it always be 50 years away? Almost certainly not: author and physicist Colin Bruce will explain the many options, and why things are looking up at last. Colin Bruce.

**Autograph session for non-GoH authors.** 9pm-10pm. *Room 41.* MEG.

**Hugo Nominations.** 9pm-11pm. *Newbury 1.* Come along to find out who has been nominated for this year's Hugo Awards. The nominations will be announced live, and will be made simultaneously with at least two other conventions in the USA. The announcement will be followed by nibbles sponsored by the London bid to host the 2014 Worldcon, and by Chicon 7, the 2012 Worldcon. Dave McCarty.

**Disco.** 10pm onwards. *Commonwealth.* The theme for tonight's disco is superheroes. Marwan.

**Saturday Filking.** 10pm onwards. *Room 12.*

**Worst and best TV of the past year.** 10pm-11pm. *Royal A+C.* Carolina, Paul Dormer, Gaspode and Genevieve Valentine.

**GUFF Fundraiser Party.** 10pm-11pm. *Room 38.* Have you ever tasted a lamington? Had a Vegemite sandwich? Tried a chocolate crackle or tucked into some Cheezels or Twisties? If you haven't then you need to come and try them! For a small donation to GUFF you can taste some Australian party staples and home-made goodies prepared by GUFF delegate Kylie Ding. **Kylie Ding GUFF.**

**At least I still have my dignity.** 10pm-11pm. *Room 41.* One minute you're having your first convention beer in the bar the next thing you know it's 4am on Saturday and the trouserpress and your underwear has disappeared out the window. Why and what do fans drink, and is it healthy? Warren Buff, Julian Headlong, Dave Hicks, Rob Jackson and Richard Stephenson.

**Late Night Horror: The Human Centipede (2009).** 10pm-12am. *Room 42.* Controversial Dutch horror film. Cert 18.

**No country for old men.** 11pm-12am. *Room 41.* Is fandom a safe place for women? Is the myth that you can wear what you like and not get into trouble just a myth? Journey Planet 6 ran several accounts of women receiving unwanted attention in fandom, yet the whole idea that fandom may not be as safe as fans like to believe is only just beginning to receive attention. The panellists discuss whether claims of a culture of provocative sexuality in fandom are true, or do these claims reflect social pressure on women to be careful at all times and responsible at all times for male behaviour, and how do we address this? Avedon Carol, Martin Easterbrook, Dave McCarty and Kari Sperring.

**Late Night Horror - A Tale of Two Sisters (15).** 12am onwards. *Room 42.* South Korean horror movie from 2003 written and directed by Kim Ji-Woon and based on the Joseon Dynasty folktale "Janghwa Hongryeon Jeon".

# Sunday

**Sunday Service.** 9:30am-10:30am. *Room 38.* Doug S.

**Sunday morning feedback session.** 9:30am-10am. *Room 30.* Gaspodia.

**Occupy the metaverse.** 10am-11am. *Commonwealth.* In 1999, Lawrence Person argued that the core difference between cyberpunk and post-cyberpunk is that the latter's protagonists were "middle class ... anchored in their society rather than adrift in it." In 2012 his characterisation, if accurate, seems like a damning indictment. Has science fiction drifted away from radicalism and revolution to work within the system, in books like Joan Slonczewski's *The Highest Frontier* - or are we seeing a return of the punk, in the work of authors like Lauren Beukes? **Paul Graham Raven**, Farah, Adam Roberts and Tricia Sullivan.

**Biology of the zombie apocalypse.** 10am-11am. *Room 12.* We all know what zombies are, but how do they work? A panel of world experts in necrological studies tries to work out the science behind shambling undead. **Tom Womack**, Dr Bob, Rob Haines, Tony Lee and Bill Sellers.

**Promoting yourself online.** 10am-11am. *Royal A+C.* Writers have more ways than ever to connect directly with their readership. How do you build up an online following? What are the expectations on authors to promote their work? How do you find a level of self-promotion that you and your audience are comfortable with, and how do you find the time to do it while writing your next novel? **Danie Ware**, Elspeth Cooper, Paul Cornell, Tom Hunter and Simon Spanton.

**Discuss the Hugo nominees.** 10am-11am. *Room 41.* The nominees for this year's Hugo Awards have been announced! Our panel discusses what made it, what didn't, and who might take a rocketship home with them this year. **Liz Batty**, Wendy Bradley, Mark Plummer, Mike Scott and Graham Sleight.

**Sunday morning Tai Chi session.** 10am-11am. *Room 40.* Breathing exercises for health Maynard.

**Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog.** 10am-11am. *Room 42.* We'll have the subtitles on so singalong in your Captain Hammer tightpants or your evil lab coat!

**Beyond Cyberdrome Workshop.** 10am-12pm. *Room 18.* Build a robo-athlete to take part in the Beyond Cyberdrome Titanics Eira, Alex Holden and SMS.

**Closed for play rehearsal.** 11am-12pm. *Commonwealth.* Ian Sorensen.

**Eastercon 2013 and 2014 bid session.** 11am-12pm. *Room 12.* The teams wanting to run the next two Eastercons present their cases, and the audience will vote on who gets the job. **Eddie Cochrane** and **Gaspode**.

**20-odd years of CGI.** 11am-12pm. *Royal A+C.* Depending on how you date it, computer-generated imagery (CGI) has been prevalent in cinema - especially sf & fantasy cinema - for two decades or so. How has it affected what films do (and don't) show? How has CGI from the 90s held up after five or ten years? Dev Agarwal, Raven Dane, Lapswood, Tony Lee, Mart in Easterbrook and Graham Sleight.

**The fantasy of William Shakespeare.** 11am-12pm. *Room 38.* William Shakespeare is one of the most studied and discussion writers of all time - but what about his fantasy works? A special look at the fantasy and supernatural elements of William Shakespeare's plays - A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Tempest, Macbeth and Hamlet - in the context of his works, Elizabethan and Jacobean theatre, and the broader world of the 16th and 17th century that surrounded him. **Grant Watson**, Claire Brialey, Jennifer A. McGowan/Arianrhod o Gymru, Erin Horakova and Anne Lyle.

**Meet the new king (same as the old king).** 11am-12pm. *Room 41.* Why do so many fantasies assume the problem is the monarch, not the monarchy? How do you write against this expectation, and tackle realistic, broad social change in your fantasy setting? Given the scope of epic fantasy, why does it so rarely tackle this issue? **Jared Shurin**, Gail Carriger, David Anthony Durham and Jude Roberts.

**LARP - Red Planet.** 11am-12pm. *Room 40.* A live-action role playing game called 'Red Planet'. Come along to get involved in a summit on Mars, where various factions including businesses, unions and governments that are trying to work out the future of the Mars colony 100 years from now. David Cheval.

**The Golden Age of Science Fiction.** 11am-1pm. *Room 42.* A brand new documentary on John W. Campbell called THE GOLDEN AGE OF SCIENCE FICTION - it features interviews with Asimov, Pohl, Harry Harrison, Brian Aldiss and Philip Jose Farmer to name a few. It also has a wonderful 'lunch with J.W.C' section where he and Harry Harrison start sketching out a new story... Introduced by Louis Savy from Sci Fi London. **Louis Savy**.

**Cory Doctorow kaffeeklatsch.** 11am-12pm. *Room 19.* You must have signed up in advance to attend this. Cory Doctorow.

**George RR Martin Interview.** 12pm-1:30pm. *Commonwealth.* Our Guest of Honour interviewed by Adam Whitehead. George R R Martin and Adam Whitehead.

**Rocket Science launch party.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 12.* Book launch for "Rocket Science", an anthology of hard SF and non-fiction essays, edited by Ian Sales, from open submissions. "Music For Another World", Mutation Press' previous anthology was described by Interzone as "one of the most exciting and original I've read in years". **mark harding**.

**Wench! Fetch yon tankard here...** 12pm-1pm. *Royal A+C.* It's two of the great sins of writing: cliched characters and clunky dialogue. We ask some experts about their mistakes, discoveries and tips - and how the medium you're writing for can change the way you write. **Bella Pagan**, Joe Abercrombie, Jaine Fenn and David Tallerman.

**Comics outside the mainstream.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 38.* What good comics are published outside the big two? What is published on the web and outside mainstream publishing entirely? Are comic creators increasingly moving to the freedom of publishing outside the major distributors? **Grant Watson**, Sarah Green, Michele Howe, C. E. Murphy and Kat Takenaka.

**Sequel-itis.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 41.* Nine of the of the top ten Hollywood films of 2011 were either sequels, and the remaining one was part of Avengers franchise; 2012 isn't likely to be much different, with the return of Batman, Spiderman and James Bond, among others. Is this a bad sign, or simply what Hollywood has always tended to do, especially in financially difficult times? **Martin Andersson**, Paul F Cockburn, Paul McAuley and James Treadwell.

**Beads and origami workshop for children.** 12pm-1:30pm. *Room 40.* **Joshua** and TraceyJane.

**Beebears' Picnic.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 18.* ZZ9 invite any Beeblebear, their soft and/or furry friends, and human acquaintances to meet, relax and chat in a Beeblesafe environment. Beeblebear colouring-in sheets and crayons will also be available for drawing on. **David Haddock.**

**Youth and youthfulness in SF.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 12.* Science fiction, in its dominant form, is an American invention, and stereotypically has the outward-looking optimism of a young country in its DNA. How can contemporary sf reflect the best of that tradition without over-simplifying its worlds? What is the role of writing YA and writing diversity in keeping sf new? **Tom Pollock,** Aliette de Bodard, Janet Edwards, Farah and Tricia Sullivan.

**Writing The Rapture of the Nerds.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 38.* Cory Doctorow and Charlie Stross discuss their new collaborative novel *The Rapture of the Nerds*, and how and why they came to write it. **Charles Stross** and Cory Doctorow.

**Relative dimensions (the limits of Doctor Who).** 1pm-2pm. *Room 41.* Over almost 50 years Doctor Who has demonstrated itself to be one of the most versatile television concepts ever devised. It has changed actors, style, content, tone, target audience and media - how far can the concept stretch? A panel of enthusiasts and experts push Doctor Who in the strangest directions they can think of, to find out where (and, indeed, if) the concept breaks. Neil Beynon, Una McCormack, Doug S and James Swallow.

**Film Short: Justice is Mind: Evidence.** 1pm-1:30pm. *Room 42.* Imagine a future in which MRI technology has advanced to the point where it can read your memory in video form. Imagine having one of these "FVMRI" procedures and it reveals that you have murdered two people. Imagine having to defend yourself against your own memory - one you cannot remember. Short film version of planned feature.

**David Gemmell Legend Awards.** 1:30pm-2pm. *Commonwealth.* Announcement of the shortlist for this year's Gemmell Awards. Deborah J. Miller.

**Scientists and the media.** 2pm-3pm. *Commonwealth.* What kind of media portrayals of science and scientists are most accurate and most positive? And why does it matter? Ranging from Brian Cox to *The Big Bang Theory*, and from *Doctor Who* to the Daily Mail, our panellists discuss the issues. **David L Clements,** Paul Cornell, Jennifer Delaney, Marek Kukula and Caroline Mullan.

**Has Misfits lost the plot?** 2pm-3pm. *Room 12.* Already renewed for a fourth series, did the third series lose the plot? Credulity is stretched to beyond breaking point: they've killed a whole load of people, yet they don't seem to be that concerned about it, and nobody else seems to have noticed all the missing people, let alone bothered to call the police about it! Stevie Carroll, Affordable Graham, Max and James Swallow.

**Art Auction.** 2pm-4pm. *Royal A+C.* John Harold and Robbie.

**Martin Easterbrook and Margaret Austin GoH interview.** 2pm-3:30pm. *Room 38.* Our Guests of Honour interviewed by Claire Brialey. Margaret Austin, Claire Brialey and Martin Easterbrook.

**A fantasy Clarke Award.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 41.* There is no equivalent of the Clarke Award for fantasy novels published in the UK. Our panel of fantasy readers and critics discusses what the Fantasy Clarke Award for 2011 might be. **Niall Harrison**, Nic Clarke, David Hebblethwaite, Erin Horakova, Edward James and Juliet E McKenna.

**How to knit a dalek, part two.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 40.* A workshop event for amateur knitters to share tips on making interesting items. If you've ever knitted fannish projects, please come along and show us the kinds of things that are possible! **Jane.**

**Sci-Fi London Sneak Preview.** 2pm-4pm. *Room 42.* Exclusive to Eastercon, a sneak preview of one of the films due to premiere at the Sci-Fi London Filme Festival this year. Introduced by festival director Louis Savy. **Louis Savy.**

**You got your robot elf sex in my SF.** 3pm-4pm. *Commonwealth.* While SF novels contain romance, they rarely concentrate on their romantic plots. Are there good SF romances published outside the genre, either as mainstream novels or in the romance genre itself? Do romance novels show some knowledge of the SF traditions they are using, or is the SF just a plot device to get to the sex? Should SF fans be reading romances for their SF fix? **Tanya Brown**, Gail Carriger, Francis Knight, Adam Roberts and Justina Robson.

**The science of 'Rocket Science'** 3pm-4pm. *Room 12.* The new anthology *Rocket Science* contains both fact and fiction, and aims at a realistic portrayal of the hazards of space. The editor and some of the contributors discuss how they went about writing for and building such an unusual anthology. **Ian Sales**, Iain Cairns, David L Clements, Martin McGrath and Deborah Walker.

**What Naomi Mitchison got up to.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 41.* Naomi Mitchison's famous novel *Memoirs of a Spacewoman* was published 50 years ago. Our panel discuss the life and work of this important author. **Caroline Mullan**, Nic Clarke, Lesley Hall and Andy Sawyer.

**Easter Egg hunt for children.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 40.* Gaspodia.

**GoH autographs.** 3pm-4pm. *Newbury 1.* Paul Cornell, Cory Doctorow, George R R Martin and Tricia Sullivan.

**Gareth L Powell reading.** 3:30pm-4pm. *Room 38.* Gareth will be reading an excerpt from his most recent novel, the fast-moving space opera, *The Recollection* (Solaris Books). **Gareth L Powell.**

**Cruel deeds and dreadful calamities.** 4pm-5pm. *Commonwealth.* A talk about the sensational Victorian paper the *Illustrated Police News*. **Linda Stratmann.**

**Closed for dismantle.** 4pm-4:30pm. *Royal A+C.*

**The New 52.** 4pm-5pm. *Room 38.* DC relaunched their whole universe in 2011. What did the reboot aim to do, and did it succeed? How has the relaunch worked for readers new and old? Have the controversies over sex and gender issues stopped them reaching a new audience, or was that never their aim to begin with? **Saxon Bullock**, James Bacon, Anna Raftery and Melissa Taylor.

**Subverting the context (alternative universes in fan fiction).** 4pm-5pm. *Room 41.* A look at Alternate Universe fan fiction about Sherlock, and the appeal of shifting characters around universes. **Tanya Brown**, Kate Keen and Kari Sperring.

**Poetry reading.** 4pm-5pm. *Room 40.* A reading of science fiction and poetry from some of our leading poets. **Roz Kaveney**, Geoffrey A. Landis and Mary A. Turzillo.



**Witchfinder General (1968).** 4pm-6pm. *Room 42.* A showing of the classic genre movie with an introduction by Dave Lally and a discussion afterwards. **Dave Lally.**

**Paul Cornell kaffeeklatsch.** 4pm-5pm. *Room 19.* You must have signed up in advance to attend this. Paul Cornell.

**Adam Christopher reading.** 4:30pm-5pm. *Royal A+C.* He'll be reading two short extracts, one from *Empire State*, one from *Seven Wonders*. **EMPIRE STATE** It was the last great science hero fight, but the energy blast ripped a hole in reality, and birthed the *Empire State* - a young, twisted parallel prohibition-era New York. When the rift starts to close, both worlds are threatened, and both must fight for the right to exist. **SEVEN WONDERS** Tony Prosdociami lives in the bustling Metropolis of San Ventura - a city gripped in fear, a city under siege by the hooded supervillain, The Cowl. When Tony develops super-powers and acts to take down The Cowl, however, he finds that the local superhero team *Seven Wonders* aren't as grateful as he assumed they'd be... Adam Christopher.

**The nature of heroism.** 5pm-6pm. *Commonwealth.* What makes a hero? What is the effect of heroes on their world and the people they save? Do they disempower everyone else? **David Anthony Durham**, Joe Abercrombie, George R R Martin, Tricia Sullivan and Genevieve Valentine.

**Roy Gray reading.** 5pm-5:30pm. *Room 12.* Reading from *The Joy of Technology*. Roy Gray.

**The future of ebooks.** 5pm-6pm. *Royal A+C.* Ebooks have hit the mainstream. What comes next? Will publishing and bookselling be entirely changed by the new opportunities? How does it change how we find books to read, and how we buy them? What did paper stop us doing, and what can electronic publishing not recreate? **Francis Knight**, Cory Doctorow, Nick Harkaway and David Wake.

**The search for exoplanets.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 38.* Marek Kukula.

**Podcast workshop.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 41.* Jim Mowatt will create an audio fanzine during the programme item, showing the process from start to finish, including an interview with one of the guests. Martin Easterbrook and Jim Mowatt.

**Calligraphy workshop.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 40.* Jennifer A. McGowan/Arianrhod o Gymru.

**Susan Bartholomew reading.** 5:30pm-6pm. *Room 12.* The reading will be from her medieval fantasy titled "The Lake of Destiny". Susan Bartholomew.

**BSFA Awards.** 6pm-7pm. *Commonwealth.* **Donna Scott** and John Meaney.

**Taking Liberties with the Lady of the Lake.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 12.* A Merlin-versus-Camelot panel; or more generally, a panel about the relationship between tropes of legend and what happens in popular entertainment. **Alex von Thorn**, Nickey Barnard, Fran Dowd and Gwen Raftery.

**Superhero comics, graphics novels and the films they've inspired.** 6pm-7pm. *Royal A+C.* This is an introduction to superhero comics and how they grew up into graphic novels, looking at the rivalry between Marvel and DC and the growth of comic book movies. The audience will be invited to give their opinions on the current glut of these movies and suggest the most worthwhile of the last decade. As a teenager in the 1960s, Jessica Yates experienced the *Marvel Age* firsthand, and as a retired school librarian she will suggest graphic novels for the whole family to read and share. Jessica Yates.

**Beyond Cyberdrome: The Titanic Spirit.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 38.* Robo-athletes compete in High/Long Jump, Chariot Racing and Wrestling contests Eira, Alex Holden and SMS.

**Slash and burn (or How to Win A Fan Award).** 6pm-7pm. *Room 41*. What with the various fan funds, Hugos, Doc Weir, Novas, FAAN awards and T in Ducks there seem at times to be an endless amount of prizes that people can win for just being a fan. Do they mean anything? How do you win one? Does it change your life? The panel discusses what it takes to be an award winning fan writer or fanzine producer, lifts the lid on the dark arts of fanzine editing, and considers the relevance of awards in this day and age. Michael Abbott, James Bacon, Claire Brialey, Alison Scott and Grant Watson.

**LARP - Red Planet.** 6pm-7pm. *Room 40*. A live-action role playing game called 'Red Planet'. Come along to get involved in a summit on Mars, where various factions including businesses, unions and governments that are trying to work out the future of the Mars colony 100 years from now. David Cheval.

**Smilla's Sense of Snow (1997).** 6pm-8pm. *Room 42*. Based on the 1992 book "Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow" by Peter Høeg, Smilla's Sense of Snow was almost totally ignored by the SF genre press when it was released in 1997, which was a pity. The compelling X-Files style story teases about the link between an object from space that crashed into Greenland and a child who falls from a roof in Denmark 100 years later.

**Werewolves for Children.** 6pm-8pm. *Room 30*. There's a werewolf in the village. Can you discover who it is before it kills all the villagers? Gaspodia.

**Morris dancing workshop (Cuckoo's Nest).** 7pm-8pm. *Room 12*. Border Morris - 'Cuckoo's Nest'. A modern, fast moving dance with lots of different sticking styles. A great way to get properly awake. Beginners still welcome. Judith Proctor.

**Fantasy in our time.** 7pm-8pm. *Royal A+C*. How do you get from Tolkein and Howard to Martin and Swainston? What are the waves of epic fantasy and sword and sorcery, and how do they connect? How do commercial factors influence these two popular and successful subgenres? **Graham Sleight**, Edward James, Andy Sawyer and James Treadwell.

**The personal is political.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 38*. What responsibility do you have for what you write? Does a work exist in isolation? How do you account for personal reactions to a work? To what extent does the quality of the writing and authorial intent matter? Who decides what is gratuitous? **Nic Clarke**, Alex Dally MacFarlane, Simon Morden, Jude Roberts and Celeste R West.

**Bookrooms or bust.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 41*. Do we still need book rooms at conventions when everything is online? Are book auctions entertainment or an anachronistic denial of the existence of e-bay? Are there still bargains to be had at a convention, and what does the modern fan with their iPad and Kindle really want from the dealer's room? Phil Bradley, Caroline Mullan, Greg Pickersgill and Anne Wilson.

**What do you want to see at Redemption '13?** 7pm-8pm. *Room 40*. Join in a brainstorming session to provide programme items for next year's Redemption. **Steve Rogerson**.

**Oliver! (With a Twist) - A Dickensian Tale.** 8pm-10pm. *Commonwealth*. To celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Charles Dickens, Ian Sorensen will demonstrate what would happen if an idiot attempted to make one of Dickens' most beloved works a sci-fi musical romp. Will it be Dumbledore & Son? David Battlefield Earth? Little Dorsai? No, it will be Oliver! (With a Twist). Never have your expectations seemed so bleak. With Julia Daly, Douglas Spencer, Yvonne Rowse and sundry others. Julia Daly, Yvonne Rowse, Doug S and Ian Sorensen.

Sunday

**Autograph session for non-GoH authors.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 12*. MEG.

**Tall technical tales.** 8pm-9pm. *Royal A+C*. War stories from the lab trenches. Hear the panel's stories and come with your own. **David L Clements**, Geoffrey A. Landis, Nige and Tom Womack.

**Death of the author.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 38*. When fictional worlds take on a life of their own, how do you manage the relationship between canon and fanon? What weight do author pronouncements outside the original texts have? Can you just ignore the bits of canon you don't like? **Ian Whates**, Tanya Brown, Adam Christopher, Roz Kaveney and Ian Watson.

**Minority representation in fandom.** 8pm-9pm. *Room 41*. Discussion of the practical solutions to improve the current under representation of non white fans, by achieving an understanding of why this is currently the case (through listening to personal experiences and discussion) and by drawing on the experiences of those who have found their way into fandom. Gaspodia, Marwan, Ming and Ruby Sahota.

**Minority Report (2002).** 8:30pm-10:30pm. *Room 42*. If you enjoyed yesterday's panel about Phillip K Dick stories being made into movies, here's a chance to see one of them.

**Multicultural steampunk.** 9pm-10pm. *Royal A+C*. The stereotype of steampunk is the colonialist Victorian adventure full of gears and goggles, but modern steampunk goes beyond this to address issues of race and class. What steampunk works deal with other cultures and other times? How do they address colonialism and other socio-political issues that arise from steampunk works? Can you write the stereotype but subvert it from within? **Jared Shurin**, Gail Carriger, Kim Lakin Smith, Lavie Tidhar and Genevieve Valentine.

**Worldships.** 9pm-10pm. *Room 38*. How to build and run interstellar ships that will take generations to get where they are going. Gerry.

**Fan fund auction.** 9pm-11pm. *Room 41*. John Coxon, Kylie Ding GUFF and LostCarPark.

**Milford Writers' Workshop Alumni.** 9pm-10pm. *Room 40*. **David L Clements**.

**Disco.** 10pm onwards. *Commonwealth*. The theme for tonight's disco is robots. Marwan.

**Sunday filking.** 10pm onwards. *Room 12*.

**Worst and best movies of the past year.** 10pm-11pm. *Royal A+C*. Lillian Edwards, Hayley, Jacqueline Monahan and Genevieve Valentine.

**Spokane 2015.** 10pm-12am. *Newbury 1*. A party for the bid to hold the 2015 Worldcon in Spokane. Marah Searle-Kovacevic.

**Blake's 7 Wobblevision.** 10pm-11pm. *Royal B*. Take part in a Wobblevision production of one of the Blake's 7 radio plays. Steve Rogerson.

**The Happiness of the Katakuris.** 11pm-1am. *Room 42*. Volcanos! Murder at a Japanese guest house! Claymation! Zombies! and it's a MUSICAL!

# Monday

**Monday morning feedback session.** 9:30am-10am. *Room 30.* **Gaspodia.**

**The MER Rover mission to Mars.** 10am-11am. *Commonwealth.* Geoffrey A. Landis.

**Monday morning Tai Chi session.** 10am-11am. *Room 12.* Tai Chi breathing exercises for health. Please can you ensure the next people to enter the room don't do so before 11:00am - it just ruins the ending of the session when people come in and start talking around our quiet breathing. Over 18s only. **Maynard.**

**GoH autographs for fans with disabilities.** 10am-11am. *Royal A+C.* Paul Cornell, Cory Doctorow, George R R Martin and Tricia Sullivan.

**Story arcs.** 10am-11am. *Room 38.* We're seeing in the genre some strong instances of complex character driven stories that are conceived as a package rather than individual episodes. *Lost*, *Fringe*, *Firefly*, and *Game of Thrones* are best understood by understanding their entire series than individual episodes, whereas series in the past have frequently been structured as a collection of discrete episodes. Dev Agarwal, David Hodson, Caroline Hooton and Roz Kaveney.

**Sex and sensawunda.** 10am-11am. *Room 41.* Discussion group **Caroline Mullan.**

**Performance for the petrified: giving a reading.** 10am-11am. *Room 40.* Basic tips on being engaging, entertaining and audible. With Gaie Sebold, author of *Babylon Steel* and occasional performance poet. **Gaie Sebold.**

**Catwoman (2004).** 10am-12pm. *Room 42.* With all the talk this weekend about superheroes in the movies, it seemed appropriate to show this 2004 film starring Halle Berry. Certificate 12.

**Meditation and relaxation session.** 10am-11am. *Connaught A.* Gentle morning meditation with uplifting mantras and deep breathing, followed by a 15 minute relaxation to music. Please wear comfortable, loose clothing and bring a blanket/shawl for the deep relaxation. Please arrive 5 mins early, no late entry. Ruby Sahota.

**T-Party Writers Workshop.** 10am-2pm. *Connaught B.* **Martin Owton** and David Wake.

**Paul Cornell interview.** 11am-12:30pm. *Commonwealth.* Our guest of honour interviewed by Tammy Taylor. Paul Cornell and Tammy Taylor.

**Morris dancing workshop (Yorkshire Longsword).** 11am-12pm. *Room 12.* Yorkshire Longsword dancing - No experience necessary. Less energetic than our other workshops, but a style of traditional dance that many people won't have seen before. We'll be teaching a dance from North Skelton. Judith Proctor.

**When science meets SF.** 11am-12pm. *Royal A+C.* The harder the science fiction the more science gets into the stories, but how do writers go about finding the science they need? Do they use it for inspiration or just to fill in gaps? And what happens when the science and the story conflict? **Caroline Mullan**, Jaine Fenn, Nik and Tricia Sullivan.

**What TV shows would we like to see?** 11am-12pm. *Room 38.* What shows would we like to see made but probably won't be? Aliette de Bodard, Stevie Carroll, Michael Cule and Lexin.

**Bloody provincials! (Local fan groups).** 11am-12pm. *Room 41.* Local fan groups are the life and soul of the fandom between conventions, but in the age of the internet, are they still going strong? Does London fandom differ from that outside the capital? **Fran Dowd**, Malcolm H, Clarrie Maguire and Mike Scott.

**Balloon modelling for children.** 11am-12:30pm. *Room 40*. Try your hand at using balloons to make hats, animals, weapons and more. Balloons, pumps and instruction books provided. Bring your imagination and get twisting! Dan Smithers and Lucy Smithers.

**Improv workshop.** 11am-1pm. *Connaught A*. An introduction to the performance art of going on stage with no script, no props, no idea what's going to come out of your mouth and throwing yourself at the mercy of the audience for ideas (think Paul Merton and *Whose Line is it Anyway*). We will not be doing a performance for public viewing - the aim of the session is to allow complete beginners to get taste for improv, or to run away screaming... Dawn Abigail.

**Can video games tell a good story?** 12pm-1pm. *Royal A+C*. How do you tell stories in videogames? How do you plot a satisfying story where the player is an active participant? How do you give them the freedom to explore your world while telling the story you want to tell? How important is the story to the gaming experience? **Lucky Kaa**, Magnus Anderson, John Ayliff, Blazing Skies and James Swallow.

**At what audience is modern SFTV aimed?** 12pm-1pm. *Room 38*. Too much UK material (terrestrial & satellite) seems aimed at primarily YA/teen (young adult) demographic whereas US content has a more adult feel (e.g. *Battlestar Galactica*). However, programmes such as *Misfits*, *Attack the Block* and *The Fades* seem aimed at the E4/BBC 3 audience. Some shows (particularly *Misfits*) seemed to transcend that, whereas something like *SGU* (which was targeted at young males) didn't. Wendy Bradley, Charles Christian, John Coxon, Fran Dowd and Dave Lally.

**The fan that books built.** 12pm-1pm. *Room 41*. How did what we read as a child shape our future reading habits and our future lives? Are there common reading experiences between the generations, or do we all have our own reading? **Claire Brialey**, Stephanie Burgis, Lal and Jo Walton.

**Daredevil (2003).** 12pm-2pm. *Room 42*. Continuing the superheroes in the movies theme with the film starring Ben Affleck.

**George Hay Lecture: Invisible women? Scientists people don't see.** 12:30pm-2pm. *Commonwealth*. Although women have played a significant part in the sciences for several centuries, the general idea of 'the scientist' remains default male. I will be discussing some neglected, if not completely forgotten or unknown, women of science, and suggesting some reasons for women's relative lack of historical visibility in this area. **Caroline Mullan** and Lesley Hall.

**Dystopian YA.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 12*. Is dystopian fiction for young adults a new trend, or one we've only just noticed? Does YA fiction tend towards dystopia and why? Is it easier to write YA if you get rid of the adults? Do they show a positive worldview, or how the next generation will fix what the previous one has broken? Is the dystopian YA fiction undercut by a need for a hopeful ending? **Caroline Hooton**, Amanda (Strange Chemistry Books), Cory Doctorow, Emma Newman and Tom Pollock.

**Epic Legends of the Hierarchs (Writing a long series).** 1pm-2pm. *Royal A+C*. The dominant commercial form of written fantasy is the series -- and not just trilogies, but works in five, seven or thirteen volumes. In what ways does writing a series differ from writing a novel? How can a writer manage their world and their narrative in a way that respects reader expectations and feedback? And how do you cope with the ending? **Nic Clarke**, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, George R R Martin, Sophia McDougall and Adrian Tchaikovsky.

**Sherlock (How well do the films and TV shows work?).** 1pm-2pm. *Room 38*. Tanya Brown, Steve K, Clarrie Maguire and Kat Takenaka.

**The imaginary gripe session.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 41*. Bore of dull gripe sessions still arguing about the lack of mushrooms at breakfast? Bring along your completely fictitious gripes to a fun, fictional committee of random fans eager to answer them. Warning: serious gripes will be ignored! Michael Abbott, Alice Lawson and Ian Sorensen.

**SF origami workshop.** 1pm-2pm. *Room 40*. SF and Origami? What's the connection? Come and tell us your opinion, whilst we provide you with some hands-on, show&tell&do yourself Origami experience. We won't expect prior Origami knowledge, but it might help if you've folded the odd piece of paper before... Spaces limited due to practicality reasons. **Markus**.

**Tricia Sullivan reading.** 2pm-3pm. *Commonwealth*. Tricia Sullivan.

**The data deluge and the end of science.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 12*. Are our data gathering abilities outstripping our methods for analysing the results? Are our models of causal links inadequate for complex systems? Is scientific advance going to stagnate because of this, or will new tools, such as Bayesian statistics and network theory, allow continued progress? **John Bray**, Liz Batty, Aliette de Bodard, David L Clements, Lesley Hall and Nicholas Jackson.

**Blake's 7: What are Big Finish doing to our show?** 2pm-3pm. *Royal A+C*. Members of the Big Finish team explain what is happening with Blake's 7 and their new audiobooks and novels. **Steve Rogerson**, Peter Anghelides, Nigel Fairs and David Richardson.

**TAFF talk.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 38*. John Coxon talks about his experiences as TAFF delegate John Coxon.

**What do you want to see at Eastercon 2014.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 41*. The winners of the bid to hold Eastercon in two years' time run a brainstorming session to come up with programme ideas.

**Tips for playing Scrabble.** 2pm-3pm. *Room 40*. Whether you play the board version or online, such as through Facebook, here are some tips to get some high scores. **Affordable Graham**.

**Alan Turing and Breaking the Code.** 2pm-4pm. *Room 42*. 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Alan Turing. This item will start with a talk by Dave Lally followed by a showing of the BBC's old play about Alan Turing - "Breaking the Code" - followed by a discussion. **Dave Lally**.

**Stage fighting training session.** 2pm-4pm. *Connaught*. A two-hour training session to teach stage fighting. Jo Playford.

**Paul Cornell reading.** 3pm-4pm. *Commonwealth*. Paul Cornell.

**Star Trek: Is it still life as we know it?** 3pm-4pm. *Royal A+C*. Have we had enough Star Trek? After all the films, TV series, and other related media, should the franchise just be allowed to die. Or is there still hunger for another TV series and more films? Margaret Austin, Rhionnach, Richard Stephenson and James Swallow.

**Training horses for film work.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 38*. Raven Dane.

**Virtual convention.** 3pm-4pm. *Room 41*. What is it like to attend a convention from your own living room? How easy is it to interact with fans over the internet? Is it more fun to attend panels online than in person? Panellists offer views from in and outside "the box". Come along and tweet the experience (or stay in your room and follow it on #melonfarmer) John Coxon, Lilian Edwards, Christina Lake, Jacqueline Monahan and Jim Mowatt.

**Closing ceremony.** 4pm-5pm.

*Commonwealth.* **Gaspodia**, Margaret Austin, Eddie Cochrane, Paul Cornell, Cory Doctorow, Mart in Easterbrook, Gaspode, George R R Martin, Emma Peel, Philippa, Steve Rogerson, Tricia Sullivan, Kat Takenaka and Vindolandia.

**Social media in SF.** 5pm-6pm. *Royal A+C.* Where did it come from, how has it been presented in SF, and where is it going in the future? Piers Beckley, Charles Christian, Lapswood, Mike Vella and Sylvia Wrigley.

**Death, where is thy sting?** 5pm-6pm. *Room 38.* No-one stays dead on TV these days. Is that good or bad? Does it help with the drama? Does it matter? **Steve K**, Nickey Barnard, Roz Kaveney, Ming and Blazing Skies.

**Upcoming SF conventions and events.** 5pm-6pm. *Room 41.* A look at what SF events are coming in the next two or three years. If you are involved in an event, please come along and tell us about it. **Dave Lally** and Steve Rogerson.

**Galaxy Quest (1999).** 5pm-7pm. *Room 42.* Why can't all conventions be like this?

**The physics of TV space flight.** 6pm-7pm. *Royal A+C.* From Wallace & Gromit to Star Trek: The Physics of TV spaceflight. The idea is to explain how, for instance, Wallace's ship works, starting with the assumption that it actually does. David L Clements, Gerry, Nik and Alyx Sterling.

**Whatever happened to the 80s?** 6pm-7pm. *Room 41.* If the 1970s was already fan history by 1990s, why has no-one written about the 1980s? Was this decade the true exemplar of fandom is a way of life or just a sad hangover from the 1970s? Were the big names of the era e.g. D West, Simon Ounsley and Michael Ashley pushing fan writing to the edge, or taking fandom away from its roots in SF? The 80s also saw the rise of conrunning fandom as a separate entity, groups like HitchHiker fans joining fandom, and a proliferation of apas.

The panel discusses how and why the Eighties have proved challenging to record, and what 80s fandom might be remembered for. If the 1970s was already fan history by 1990s, why has no-one written about the 1980s? Was this decade the true exemplar of fandom is a way of life or just a sad hangover from the 1970s? Were the big names of the era e.g. D West, Simon Ounsley and Michael Ashley pushing fan writing to the edge, or taking fandom away from its roots in SF? The 80s also saw the rise of conrunning fandom as a separate entity, groups like HitchHiker fans joining fandom, and a proliferation of apas. The panel discusses how and why the Eighties have proved challenging to record, and what 80s fandom might be remembered for. Mart in Easterbrook, Christina Lake and Mark Plummer.

**Dead Dog Party.** 6pm-10pm. *Atrium.* **Gaspodia.**

**Film nostalgia.** 7pm-8pm. *Royal A+C.* Which SF films can you just not stop loving? Wilf James, Lucky Kaa, Dave Lally and Omega.

**Fan fund quiz.** 7pm-9pm. *Room 41.* To round out an excellent weekend of fan fundraising and related shenanigans, the fan fund administrators and delegates invite you to an evening of answering questions with your friends. Entry costs a £1 per person donation to the fan funds, and prizes will be available for the best and worst teams! John Coxon.

**Buffy: Once More With Feeling.** 7pm-8pm. *Room 42.* The musical episode of Buffy the Vampire Slayer, with subtitles turned on so you can all join in.

**Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975).** 8pm-10pm. *Room 42.* Put on the costumes and get dancing and singing along to the traditional end-of-convention film.



**From fan to pro.** 9pm-10pm. *Room 41.*  
Fandom has always produced its fair share of authors, editors and journalists who have managed to move from the world of room parties and conventions to living the dream of being paid to work in the science fiction. How did they do this? Do they still enjoy attending conventions, and more importantly do they still think of themselves as fans? Paul

Cornell, Kari Sperring and Charles Stross.

**Monday filking.** 10pm onwards. *Room 12.*

**Barbarella (1968).** 10pm-12am. *Room 42.*  
Infamous sexy, SF comedy.

**Deader Dog Party.** 10pm onwards. *Atrium.*  
*Gaspodia.*

**TBC.** 10pm-11pm. *Royal Suite.* Gaspode.

## Photos and Videos

Please be considerate of others. We appreciate that not everybody likes to be photographed or videoed, so we will be offering special brightly-coloured "NO PHOTO" badge ribbons at Registration. Please avoid photographing people who are wearing these ribbons or who otherwise request not to be photographed, and if you later discover that you accidentally captured a picture or video of somebody who was wearing a ribbon, please delete it

All photography is banned:

- In the art show.
- In the crèche.
- During the Masquerade (there will be a photo call afterwards).

Flash photography is limited to the first five minutes of panel items and banned during the Cabaret. Please do not block the aisles/doors/fire exits with tripods and other camera equipment.

Except for the above restrictions and any further restrictions we publicise at the beginning of any programme item, members should be aware that they may be photographed or recorded at any time while in public areas. The term "public areas" covers all parts of the hotel other than bedroom space and washroom facilities.

## Autograph Sessions

We have two signing sessions planned (one on Saturday, one on Sunday).

The limit is two **items** max to be signed per person (per guest - i.e. two for George, two for Tricia, etc.). If you have more items you can rejoin at the back of the queue, and take a chance on getting in again before the end of the signing session.

No Posed photos

No signing of unauthorised materials, or body parts (whether authorised material or not).

Generally speaking George does not do personalisation, other authors may do so.

The signing is in a set time slot - the convention does not guarantee that every attendee will get an autograph and the signing will finish at the advertised time regardless of remaining queue length.

## Green Room

If you are on a programme item, please go to the Green Room (room 33) 15 minutes before the item is due to start, to meet your fellow item participants and order your complimentary drink. The Green Room will close at 10pm so if you are on a late item, go before 10pm if you wish to claim your drink.

## Weapons Policy

No weapon or weapon-like object (whether edged, projectile, bludgeoning etc.) or a facsimile thereof shall be carried within the convention area. The operations manager on duty shall decide what constitutes a weapon and his decision will be final. Any weapon used as part of a costume at the masquerade must be taken to and from the area wrapped. Any weapon sold in the dealers room must remain securely wrapped from the time of purchase and must be taken away from the convention in this manner.

Note that hall costumes are not exempt from the weapons policy. If you are in any doubt as to whether an item counts as a weapon for the purposes of this policy, ask Ops before bringing it into the convention. Please use your common sense. Remember the hotel is next to a major international airport, so local police are likely to take very seriously any reports of people seen carrying anything that looks like a weapon.

## Posters & Flyers

The hotel has a fairly strict policy about what con members can put up on the walls. Posters that don't meet the following rules are liable to be removed and disposed of.

- Posters are not allowed in public areas of the hotel.
- Only use White Tack to stick posters up. No Blu Tack, Sellotape, staples, etc.
- Only stick posters to hard surfaces: stone, glass, varnished wood, etc. Not wallpaper.
- Posters must be in good taste, professional-looking, and not hand-written.
- Posters must not obscure official hotel or convention signs.

## Mobile Phones

Please remember to turn off or silence your mobile phone when you are in a programme item. If you absolutely have to take a call, please avoid banging the door and disturbing other audience members as you leave the room.

## Newsletter

We will be producing regular newsletters throughout the convention to entertain and inform you about interesting programme items, changes to the programme, local restaurant reviews, etc. The newsletter team is based in **room 37**, where your submissions (both written articles and photos) will be happily received. Or you can email items to us at [olympus2012news@gmail.com](mailto:olympus2012news@gmail.com).

## Ops

Ops is the convention headquarters. If you have a problem related to the convention, go to Ops (**room 32** on the third floor) and ask for help. If you have a problem related to the hotel, ask the hotel staff first. If the hotel staff fail to resolve your problem, let Ops know about it and we will do our best to help.

Ops opening times are as follows (may be extended depending on need):

<b>Thursday</b>	9pm to 10pm
<b>Friday</b>	9am to 10pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9am to 10pm
<b>Sunday</b>	9am to 10pm
<b>Monday</b>	9am to 4pm

When Ops is closed, a Duty Committee Member will be available to assist until Ops re-opens. You can identify them by their white fleece gilet and DCM badge. They will normally be somewhere in the social space, but if you have trouble finding them, anyone with a walkie talkie should be able to get hold of them

## Volunteering

A convention the size of Olympus needs lots and lots of volunteers. A great way to help out while making new friends and having fun (and earning Groats – see below) is by becoming a Gopher. To find out more, come along to one of the Volunteers' Meetings (Thursday 10PM in Newbury 2, or Friday 9pm in room 41) or inquire at the Gopher Hole (**room 31**).

## Groats

Groats (Gopher Reward Tokens) are given to convention volunteers as a "thank you," e.g. for completing a gophering shift. The denominations available are £1, £2, and the incredibly rare and collectible £5. Groats can be used to buy food or drink in the convention bars (or kept as a souvenir!) and the Bijou Bar too. Some dealers will accept groats too. You should receive change when you spend them. NB. They can't be exchanged for real money or spent in the hotel shop, and they lose their value after the Dead Dog Party.

## Dealers' Room

The Dealers' Room (the County Suite on the ground floor) is the place to go to buy books, games, merchandise, and lots of other cool stuff. Opening times are as follows:

<b>Friday</b>	2pm to 6pm
<b>Saturday</b>	10am to 6pm
<b>Sunday</b>	10am to 6pm
<b>Monday</b>	10am to 3pm

## Art Show

The art show is in **room 38**. Opening times are as follows:

<b>Friday</b>	1pm to 6pm
<b>Friday eve.</b>	7pm to 8:30pm (for the Meet the Artists session)
<b>Saturday</b>	10am to 6pm
<b>Sunday</b>	10am to 12pm
<b>Monday</b>	CLOSED

The art auction is at 2pm on Sunday in Royal A+C. Note that only items that have at least one pre-auction bid will go to the auction (please ask the art show staff for help if you wish to bid on an item and are not familiar with the system).

## Crèche

There will be a crèche run by a professional childcare company in room 11. Places are limited

and priority will be given to members who booked in advance. The sessions are as follows:

<b>Friday</b>	2pm to 6pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm
<b>Sunday</b>	9am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm
<b>Monday</b>	9am to 1pm

When you leave your child you will be given a "child retrieval token" which you will need to bring with you when you return to collect your child. Do not lose it!

Evening babysitting can be provided for an additional fee, subject to availability (contact Lydia on 07931 449467 to make arrangements).

## Food

<b>Thurs eve.</b>	7pm to 9pm in Newbury 2.
<b>Breakfast</b>	7am to 10:30am in the Brasserie & Newbury 1&2
<b>Lunch</b>	Thursday 12am to 3pm, Fri to Mon, 11:30am to 2pm in Newbury
<b>Dinner</b>	Fri, Sun, Mon 6pm to 8pm, Sat 5:30pm to 7:30 pm in Newbury 1&2
<b>Late night</b>	10pm to 1am in the Atrium

The Brasserie also opens as a restaurant from 7:30pm to 11pm. A selection of bar snacks will be available from the Atrium bar.

### Meal prices

Thursday evening 3 course meal

Adults £17, children under 12 £9, under fives free

Other nights 2 course meal

Adults £10, children under 12 £7, under fives free

## Drink

Real ale will be served in the Atrium. Opening times are:

**Atrium bar** Thu 5pm to 2am,  
Fri to Mon 10am to 2am

**Newbury bar** Open over lunch & dinner

Convention prices for drinks in the Atrium and Newbury bars are as follows:

Carling £2.90

Worthingtons £3.50

Old Rosie cider £4.00

Bombardier ale £4.00

Spitfire ale £4.00

Red/ white wine £3.00 a glass, £15 a bottle

Rose wine £4.00 a glass, £20 a bottle

Soft drinks £1.00 (small), £1.50 (pint)

NB. The Bijou Bar charges full prices for drinks rather than the reduced con rates, but they will accept groats.

## Respect the Furniture!

Once again additional social seating is provided for you in the social room and the Atrium and this furniture will be available for attendees to take away at the end of con, with the remaining being donated to a local charity. If you are interested in a chair/sofa/coffee table please register your interest at Ops – but note you must be available to take it away on the morning of Tuesday 10th April. Please treat the furniture with respect and leave the safety tags attached.

## Parking at the Radisson Edwardian

We have a special convention parking rate of £5 per day over the convention weekend. This rate is available to all convention members. Parking for the weekend can be prepaid at the convention rate at any time, either on check-in, or over the weekend at the concierge desk in the hotel lobby. Normally, if you leave and re-enter the car park, you'd be charged for the period up to the point you leave, and then have to start a new period when you return., but, for the convention, the hotel have agreed to allow people unlimited access if they prepay.

If you haven't prepaid, you must validate your car park ticket at the concierge desk in the hotel lobby before you leave the car park, in order to obtain the convention rate. If you don't do this, and use the ticket machines to pay, you will be charged the normal hotel rate, and it will not be possible to obtain a refund.

Parking for motorcycles is free at the main hotel, but not for three-wheelers, motorcycles with side-cars, or anything else that takes up an actual parking space.

## **BSFA Awards**

The British Science Fiction Association will be presenting its annual awards at 6pm on Sunday in Commonwealth. As a member of the Eastercon you are entitled to vote for the winners, unless you have already cast a vote as a BSFA member. A ballot paper should have been included in your membership pack. Place your completed ballot in the box near Registration or at the BSFA desk in the Dealers' Room. Voting closes at noon on Sunday.

## **Doc Weir Award**

The Doc Weir Award is given at the Eastercon to somebody whom the members consider deserves more recognition for the services they have performed for fandom - a sort of 'unsung hero' award. You should have received a ballot form in your membership pack. Fill it in and bring it to Ops by noon on Monday to place your vote.

## **Hall Costumes**

Saturday is Hall Costume day. You should have received three Hall Costume Tokens in your membership pack. Give them to people you see wearing particularly impressive costumes at the convention on Saturday. The person who collects the most tokens will win a prize. You can even give all three to one person if you wish! Don't be too hasty though; some costumers do not dress up until later on in the day.

## **Adult Programming**

A small number of post-9pm items on the programme are adults-only. These items will have a gopher on the door to ensure that nobody under 18 years of age is allowed to enter the room.

## **Kaffeeklatsches**

Kaffeeklatsches are opportunities for small groups of fans to meet and chat to our Guests of Honour over coffee and biscuits. If you would like to take part in one, add your name to the relevant sign-up sheet at Registration. The list will close 2 ½ hours before the Kaffeeklatsch is due to start.

A small number of people will be randomly chosen from those on the list. Their names will be posted on the Registration desk two hours before the Kaffeeklatsch. If you are one of those chosen, you have an hour to confirm that you still wish to attend, otherwise your place will be given to somebody else (so even if you aren't chosen in the first round, check back later in case somebody has dropped out).

## **Badges**

You must wear your convention badge at all times when you are in the convention areas of the hotel. You will be challenged if your badge is not visible. If you lose your badge, please report the loss to Ops as soon as possible. If you find a lost badge, please hand it in at Ops

## **Internet Access**

There is also free WiFi throughout the hotel. There is a limited amount of bandwidth shared between everyone in the hotel, so please use it considerately.

# Index

Programme Guide app.....	3
Kids' Programming.....	3
Programme Descriptions.....	5
Friday.....	5
Saturday.....	11
Sunday.....	19
Monday.....	26
Photos and Videos.....	30
Autograph Sessions.....	30
Green Room.....	31
Weapons Policy.....	31
Posters & Flyers.....	31
Mobile Phones.....	31
Newsletter.....	31
Ops.....	32
Volunteering & Groats.....	32
Dealers' Room.....	32
Art Show.....	33
Crèche.....	33
Food.....	33
Drink.....	34
Respect the Furniture!.....	34
Parking at the Radisson Edwardian.....	34
BSFA Awards.....	35
Doc Weir Award.....	35
Hall Costumes.....	35
Adult Programming.....	35
Kaffeeklatsches.....	35
Badges.....	35
Internet Access.....	35

**This Read Me belongs to:**

**Name**

**Badge Number**

**If found, please bring it to Ops.**