

The Daily Drone

The Newsletter of Ytterbium, the 2019 Eastercon

Issue 5, Sunday Afternoon

Too Late to Bid!

The bid session took place at midday today. As was expected, Concentric were voted in as the 2020 Eastercon and are now accepting memberships both on their desk in the Fan Tables area and online. What was not expected was a second bid from Tech. Although plagued by technical difficulties, including a last-minute change of year, their bid went off well and they were officially selected as the 1992 Eastercon.

Famous People

Concentric announced their guests immediately after the vote. The names we know so far are Rhianna Pratchett, Tade Thompson and Alison Scott [*Hey! She kept that quiet—Ed*]. Concentric's theme is going to be publication in multiple forms of media and we are gearing up to do the newsletter in cuneiform on clay tablets with subtitles in interpretive dance.

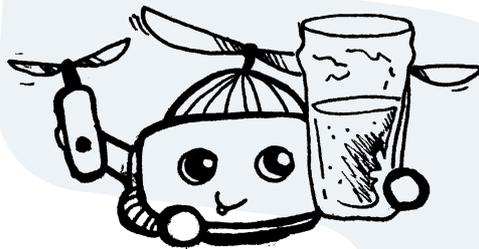
All Fall Down!

It was great to see so many people at the '100 Years since the Spanish Flu' panel. However, it nearly didn't happen. The panel members were almost turned away at the door because the room was already full.

—Christine Davidson

Running Low on Beers

Martin Hoare tells us that we have drunk more than half of the original 39 barrels of Real Ale and are on course to have a small amount left for the Dead Dog Party on Monday evening.



Grovelling Apology

The Newsletter would like to apologise for misspelling John Scalzi's name in the previous issue. In our defence, we were very tired and there is a precedent for John having his name misspelled.

Two for Joy...

Fiona Anderson reports that contrary to earlier rumours, the Three Magpies are still serving their full food menu, though they are indeed running low on some beers.

Chicken Parmigiana isn't Vegan?

There are not always vegan options on the buffet—if you need a vegan meal you should let a member of the hotel staff know and one will be provided.

Anyone who doesn't fancy a buffet can also order from the à la carte menu in RBG; our roving reporter found the food quite good.

Surplus T-shirts

In the unlikely event that there are t-shirts left over, we will be making them generally available on Tuesday *after* the volunteers have collected theirs.

—Helen Smith

Concert Review

Playing Rapunzel were in fine voice with classic material for a short set on Saturday night. Particular highlights were 'Red Fox', enhanced by Deborah Crook's eerie viola, and 'A Face Like Glass', filked from Francis Hardinge's novel by Peter Westhead. They handed over to Mitch Benn via the rousing kazoos of 'Someone on the Internet is Wrong'.

Mitch bounced onto stage with memories of Eastercon 2008 (Orbital) and immediately reprised 'Dr Who Girl' on the way to wanting to be a Dr Who Boy. Name dropping, foul language and energetic looping ensued, with tributes to Neil Gaiman, Tom Lehrer, the Eurovision Song Contest and his late friend Ian Cognito.

Closing with 'Zombie Jesus Chocolate Day' and the claim

that his twin passions were rock and roll and science fiction, Mitch left a happy audience while he went off to the bar to sell memory sticks loaded with his songs and the first 80 pages of his next book.



A deafening shoutout to the tech team for quality of sound and projection.

—Caroline Mullan

Condolences

There is a condolence card for Wendy Smith on the Info Desk, where you can share your sympathies over the death of long-term fan Anthony 'Blind Pew' Smith.

Ancient History

The mystery of the missing half of the hotel at the 1992 Eastercon, Illumination, has now been solved: it was occupied by the time travelling Tech Eastercon Technetium! The 1970s disco discovered by hotel explorers was clearly the result of a mis-targetted first attempt at time travel.



Phil checks out Technetium's enigmatic technology

The committee of Technetium hope that you all enjoyed the convention. There is no truth to the rumour that they have invented mind-wipe.

Seeking Redemption?

Redemption's table may be conspicuous by its absence but the convention is alive and well and actively being planned. The website is being refurbished and the hotel is booked and good to go. The date is 28—31 August 2020 up in Sheffield. Any questions—visit redemptioncon.org.uk.

Another Indian

I can highly recommend Achari Flavour Of India (www.achari.co.uk). It's 15 minutes' walk from the Park Inn at 361/363 Sipson Road, West Drayton UB7 0HU (phone 020 8476 1100).

—Jan van 't Ent

Was There Ever Any Doubt?

Steve Lawson has been acclaimed the greatest tosser of the convention by the Satellite committee. We are all amazed by this result.

To compete against Steve in the Game of Throws, go to the Satellite 7 desk tomorrow and say the magic words.



Gerry Webb presents David Hardy with his Fellowship of the British Interplanetary Society

Tangled

The Untangling DNA and Disney panels tomorrow morning have been moved.

Untangling DNA now Bleriot, 10.15am

Disney & its Creators now Johnson, 10.15am

A Reader Writes

Dear Newsletter

I have written you an article using that lovely old typewriter in Tereshkova

Here it is

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—Steven Cain

This issue was produced by Steve Davies, with help from Flick, Alison, Jan van 't Ent, Caroline and Mike. Masthead by Alison Scott. We have been sent some SF poetry but this colophon is too short to contain it. We're following #eastercon and #eastercon70 on Twitter. Send email to newsletter@ytterbium.org.uk.