

Hel iCodex 1

Friday 29 March 2002
Afternoon
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The Newsletter
for Helicon 2

WELCOME TO HELICON 2

We hope you all arrived safely, as luckily Jersey has not been besieged by fog! 228 fans had registered by Thursday evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Programme changes will be circulated on pink sheets, which will also list participants. The Helicon Groats can be redeemed either in the Minstrel Bar, or in the chocolate shop. There is *no smoking* in the con function space, even the Minstrel Bar. You can smoke in the lobby, the Atrium Bar, or outside.

AND NOW FOR THE GALLERY

Helicon 2 is putting together a digital photo album and would like to feature your pictures. We have facilities to download photos from most digital cameras, so please come to the newsletter room and lend us your pixels.

GOPHERS WANTED

The Gopher Hole needs volunteers to help with general con work. It is on floor 0 in the Fliquet room, opposite the lifts, so please go along and sign up. Tamarins and marmosets should report instead to Jersey Zoo.

E.T. HELIER

The Cinecentre Cinema (in the Lido, opposite the de France) has a special treat for fans this weekend and is showing the new version of E.T. daily from Saturday (2.00pm, 5.30pm and 8.00pm). The price for admittance for convention members is £3.50.

UNITED FAN FUND AUCTION

The League of Fan Funds (previously UFF) auction is at 10pm tonight in the Golden Room. Items include an invite to the Arthur C. Clarke Award Ceremony, so if you want to hobnob with the great and good of SFdom, come along and bid. Other services are being solicited, contact Alison Scott or Bridget Bradshaw if you have anything to offer...

SPROKKETTE IDOL

Beyond Cyberdrome are looking for the "most" talented, charismatic singers and/or dancers in SF fandom. This is your **BIG CHANCE** to be part of 'Sprokkette 5', the hot new super-group. Lucky winners will appear on the smash-hit Sunday Lunchtime show 'CBC' in the main auditorium - audition details and venue in the next Newsletter. See www.beyondcyberdrome.org.uk for hot Sprokkette-On-Sprokkette action!

BEYOND CYBERDROME: WORKSHOP

Robot-builders, meet at the Chaos Costume workshop on Saturday and then from 4pm in the Rozel Room.

LORD OF THE TEETHING RINGS

Norwegian fans Bjørn Tore Elvedal and Charlotte Friis gave birth to a baby boy at 10am this morning; he has already been dubbed Elrond Elvedal. Congratulations!

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR KIDS

Children's activities are in room 1000. From **10am to 3:30pm** Friday-Monday it is run by Alison and Steven, suitable for kids aged 0-6 or so. It is a co-operative, with a rota for looking after the kids, there will be some toys and you can hang out with your kids, and leave them for a couple of hours with other parents. Each child will need nappies, wipes etc, and we encourage you to pick your child up at naptime, as there is no quiet area.

From **4pm to 10pm** Friday to Sunday it is run by the de France for kids aged 3-12, and is free to hotel residents. High Tea for your child, if required, costs extra.

There is a gap between the co-operative finishing and the kids club starting because parents are responsible for turning up and taking charge of their kids, and then, if appropriate, putting them into the kids club.

EXHIBITIONIST TENDENCIES?

Show them off in the Masquerade, by indulging your creativity in the Chaos Costume Workshop (Belval Room: Fri 4pm-6pm, Sat 11am-4pm, Sun noon-5pm).

BUZZING WITH NEWS

While fans were waiting in the departure lounge at London City airport to travel to Jersey, a member of staff called out, "Mr James? Would you be so kind as to examine your bag as we wish to know why it is buzzing?" Investigations found it was an electric razor that had switched itself on. Which Mr James could it be? Wilf...

ANTISESQUEPEDALIANISM LEAGUE

The editor would like to request that news items submitted contain words no longer than eight letters, so they fit the floccinaucinihilipilificatory columns better.

ELIZABETHAN TIMES

A bunch of renegade fans, escaping from pre-con gophering, after a hazardous walk over the tidal causeway to Elizabeth Castle, found themselves being press-ganged into the Royal Artillery. Getting drilled in the parade ground and marched over to the battery was great fun ... for the women and children watching. One Virginian (in the words of the chief petty officer: "A bloody American!") was put to labour rolling out the gun carriage. No casualties reported from this bit of Live History.

For those who want to visit, the causeway is open 2 hours either side of low tide (1pm today, 50 min. later each day). Note that Mont Orgueil castle is being renovated, so has a fair bit of scaffolding at present.

TOURISM INC

Scientific fun to be had near the harbour (after a nice downhill walk in Jersey's bright sunshine) in the Maritime Museum. There's hands on experimenting with the elements (well, wind and water mostly) and the usual models of things floating. Also some nice details on recovery of material that was shipwrecked ages ago. Recommended to tour with children too (or those among us of childlike behaviour, like, perhaps, all of us con fans).

RESTAURANTS

We have had huge numbers of restaurant reviews handed in; obviously many of you have turned up early to Jersey and started exploring its delights! Please note that reservations may be advisable.

Jersey Museum (next to the bus station) has a good brasserie, serving 3 courses for £10.

Moorings Restaurant at Gorey Pier serves very good seafood, including huge crabs with their legs tucked into their bodies so they look like mutant spiders. Delicious, good value for £35 per person including wine.

The Admiral in St. James Street serves pub food, at pub prices, but of a superior quality. Large filling portions, properly cooked, and served with a swiftness that suggests manipulation of relative time. Veggie food is available. There is not too much space – we had no problem, but if lots of fans go there they'll fill up pretty quickly. And they stop serving at 8:00.

There's a **fabled Portuguese** restaurant in Waterloo Street that served a fab dish for less than £10 a head; alas the group was found wandering the northern parts of the island afterwards in a state of shock, and couldn't coherently report back. Any help in again locating this vanished venue appreciated.

The Real Ale drinking fraternity may enjoy the **Star and Topsy Toad Brewery** at St Peter. Jimmy's bitter at 75p a pint to CAMRA members!

WEDDING NON-ANNOUNCEMENT

Phil [Nanson] and Kari wish to announce that to the best of their knowledge, they are not married. (If anyone knows otherwise, please inform them.) Her badge has Kari's bra-size wrong, too.

DEEPEST GRATITUDE

Larry van der Putte would like to thank all those who helped stuff membership packs. The newsletter thanks Jan van't Ent, John Bray, Jaine Weddell, "Magnus Greely: Business Manager: *'Beyond Cyberdrome Presentations'* Blackpool. Jersey", Alison Scott, Tony Keen, Kari Nanson, Mike Scott, and lots of people who didn't say who they were. Edited by Bridget Bradshaw.