

Hel iCodex 3

Sunday 31 March 2002
Early Afternoon
aphelicon
The Newsletter
for Helicon 2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This newsletter issue is printed on 'Desert', not to be confused with issue 1 which was printed on 'Atoll'. At least it's not pink.

TAFF ballots are now available from Sue Mason or the Cold Tonnage table.

The Chocolate shop is doing its usual roaring trade; 700 champagne truffles were sold by Saturday evening, and they have sold out of Easter Eggs. There are lots of 5kg bars left!

The art show peg-boards are not needed after the convention. If anyone would like them, please talk to Ops or the art show staff. The con cannot transport the boards for you – if they could, they would be keeping them!

Tanya Brown has lost her badge. If you find it, please return it to Registration. Thank you.

A taxi-sharing sign-up sheet will appear at registration, to co-ordinate efficient use of transportation on the island on your way off.

UNICORNS LOVE IN VAIN

Nomination slips for the ever-treasured Phlosque Award are littered over the tables, and available on the Art Show desk. Choose your favourite Faerie/Hobbit/Dragon/whatever picture, and leave the completed form on the art-show desk. Closing time for nominations: 4pm Sunday.

THRONGS OF FANS

Larry van der Putte has a correction for the newsletter: the number of members should have been the number of warm bodies at the con. We now have 525 Helicoenebites. Many of whom seem to have turned into zombies after participating in Martin's time travel workshop.

SHAMELESS PLUGS

There are many con desks in the Dealers' Rooms, and most of them would like to remind you to come and buy memberships or pick up PRs before you leave!

THERE WILL BE ANOTHER EASTER

The Concourse bid beat Concurrence by a large margin. The site chosen was Blackpool, a departure for Eastercons as it will mainly be held in the Winter Gardens Conference Centre, but there will be a convention headquarters hotel. Memberships cost £25. Guests are Mitchell Burnside Clapp, Danny Flynn, Sue Mason, Christopher Priest, and Philip Pullman.

TALKING WHELKS

The GUFF trip report from Eric Lindsay and Jean Weber, and T-shirts from Corflu Valentine, are on sale in the Dealers' Room c/o the Cold Tonnage table. Claire Brialey and Gav have no talking whelks.

SALE ON LUP BOOKS

The Liverpool University Press academic books at the SF Foundation stall should have been on sale at a special price to convention members, 20-50% lower than the cover price. This has been rectified, but anyone who paid the full price can come back (bringing the book) for a refund of the difference, or to donate the difference to the SFF.

"OMNIVORE 37" REPORTS

A great time was had at the Helicon banquet. The food was delicious and beautifully presented, the lamb was cooked to perfection and the "gravy was excellent" (Omnivore 109). "I could have drunk a pint of it" (Omnivore 57). We suspect the committee could not choose which dessert to serve, so pudding was a plate of four chocolate desserts, from dark chocolate millefeuille to white chocolate ice cream in a brandy basket. Wine was drunk, we split a bottle three ways and Omnivore 76 had one to herself. The evening was rounded off by Ian Watson with some inspired insanity which all came together eventually, in a tale of gay Nazi sailors and 7km-long warships. Thanks to all involved for a great evening.

USE ME

If you see a distinctive purple pen lying around the con, with a tag on it that says "Use Me", it is a free gift from Kimota magazine and yours to keep.

REDEEM YOURSELF THRICE

The Redemption '03 committee is hosting a brainstorming session for programming ideas. This will be at 6pm on Sunday. Meet outside Plemont at the end of the Media Fandom panel and we'll search for suitable space, and alcohol to stimulate the creative juices.

TEA, SODOMY (AND THE LASH?)

Slash fans meet Monday at 3pm in the Orangerie for Jersey cream tea and refined discussion of slash fiction. (Cost: £4.25 based on sharing one Jersey cream tea between two.) If you're coming, speak to Jane Carnall (room 633) between now and then, so she has some idea how many.

FAN PHOTO GALLERY

Chaz Boston-Baden is collecting photos of notable fans for a gallery to tour conventions. If you have been contacted by him but haven't submitted your photo yet, Jonjo is collecting and taking digital photos for him.

RECORD BREAKERS

Damian Warman set a new world knurdling record in the Fan Room last night, a clear 3 feet further than the runner-up, and the ashes of British Fandom have returned to ~~Australia~~ Texas. The exact distance was not measured, but if you imagine Mike Scott lying face down on the floor, stretching his arm out as far as possible, that's about it. Then it all got silly (apparently) when Michael Abbott invented Scottish knurdling.

LIDO CINEMA

Remember the Lido Cinema: times and names of films are displayed at Registration. Del Cotter went to see *Monsters Inc.*, and said "I really thought the birds were funny".

NEWS FROM THE REAL WORLD

Oxford won the boat race! "Boo! Hiss!" says Mike Scott.

FAN FEEDING FRENZY

Recommended for all kinds of creamy and savoury pastries, also chocolate hens and bunnies: the Croissant Gourmet across from the Odeon, just around the corner from the DeMarche supermarket. Open Easter Sunday.

For those fans unwilling to lightly walk downhill to dinner, and keep trim by the exercise of trundling back to the hotel afterwards, there's the alternative of choosing between the hotel's Atrium restaurant and The Gallerie – while they both have good seating, the same nice house wine, and even a nice bar area near by, the Atrium offers less classy food, but is easier on your wallet (The Gallerie is worth every penny though).

As so many restaurants are being recommended as excellent, you might just look in the Yellow Pages.

STEELE YOURSELF

Join the handmaidens of James Steele in the Chaos Costuming Workshop and discover the secrets of the Vatican-approved condom. Remember, there can never be too many tentacles.

DESPERATELY SEEKING CYBORG

Pat Reynolds would like to meet up with her fellow cyborg – she is wearing jeans and a pink T-shirt (and, of course, her pump).

FREE ROAD WARRIOR!

Due to ever more thorough airport security, well-loved vintage Beyond Cyberdrome personality, Road Warrior has been impounded under the prevention of Terrorism Act for possession of heavy chains with spikes on. All donations to the 'Free Road Warrior' fund will be gratefully received and we will attempt to buy an equitable replacement.

DEEPEST GRATITUDE

The newsletter thanks Jan van't Ent, "Magnus Greely: Business Manager: *Beyond Cyberdrome Presentations*' Blackpool, Hammersmith", Caroline Mullan, Mike Scott, Jaine Weddell, SMS, Claire Brialey, and lots of people who didn't say who they were. Edited by Bridget Bradshaw.
