

Kim Stanley Robinson



A packed audience enjoyed a fascinating talk by Guest of Honour Kim Stanley Robinson.

He included many reminiscences of previous visits to Britain, including drinking and driving with Iain M Banks (though not at the same time obviously!) and answered audience questions about his work.

Feline Groovy

Scientists have come up with the purrfect way to write songs for cats.

The US researchers say their method will help moggies in feline the music. And in tests they found the cats preferred the species-appropriate music without a paws for thought.

This tail from the universities of Wisconsin and Maryland analysed the frequencies cats use to communicate and composed songs with them.

They even had a claws in their research to study how music affected other animals including dogs and gorillas; moloch gibbons apparently

have no interest in music.

Pet owners can litter their playlists with tunes to keep their whiskers twitching for all nine lives.

Top Ten for Cats

1. Cool for Cats – Squeeze
2. What's New Pussycat – Tom Jones
3. Cat Scratch Fever – Motorhead
4. Anything by Pussy Riot
5. Honky Cat – Elton John
6. Love Cats – The Cure
7. Anything by Yusuf
8. Everybody Wants to be a Cat – Aristocats
9. Stray Cats Strut – Stray Cats
10. China Cat Sunflower – Grateful Dead

BSFA Award Winners

Best Novel

The Rift by Nina Allan (Titan Books)



Best Short Fiction



The Enclave by Anne Charnock (NewCon Press)

Best Artwork (joint winners)

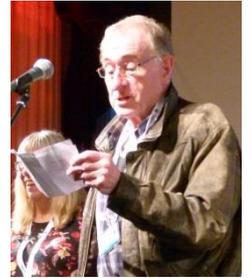
Cover for 'The Ion Raider' by Jim Burns (NewCon Press)



Illustration for 'Waiting on a Bright Moon' by Victo Ngai (Tor.com)

Best Non-Fiction

Iain M. Banks by Paul Kincaid



Congratulations All!!

Eastercon 2020

There is no bid (yet!) for Eastercon 2020. However, a team are planning to bid at Ytterbium under the name *Concentric*. They are taking pre-supporting memberships at £20, which will count as £25 towards your membership. They are also looking for additional committee members. So run away now!!

On the Road to Recovery

As some of you may be aware, one of our members took ill last night and had to be taken to hospital by ambulance. He was kept in overnight for observation, but is fine and comfortable. The Con sends good wishes for a full and speedy recovery. Thanks to the hotel for dealing with the situation speedily and sympathetically.

Doc Weir Award

Don't forget to vote. Ballot Box at Info Desk.

Art Show

The Silent Auction closes at 4 pm today. Don't miss out! Plus there is still much more to buy and take away.

Product Recall

Thornton's have recalled all their posh chocolate Easter Eggs. If you have any, please bring them to Newsletter for appropriate disposal.

Suffragist gathering

There will be a TWP (The Women's Periodical) gathering for women to chat, make friends and exchange experiences, in room 226 at 2 pm on Sunday. Everyone who identifies as female or uses she/her pronouns is welcome.

Flasher spotted

Some of the hotel chandeliers have a single intermittently flashing light. These spell hidden messages in Morse Code. If you decode all the messages, send them to Avril Poisson, who has a seasonal prize for you.

Ytterbium: Eastercon 19

The Ytterbium committee would like to encourage everyone who would like to attend next year's Eastercon (19 - 22 April at the Park Inn at Heathrow) to register either online on their own devices at <https://registration.ytterbium.org.uk/> or to visit them in the Dealers Room. They accept cards, cash, groats, cheques and gold bullion (subject to validation).

Murder Mystery Clue 4

The weapon in room 3 was either Caroline's or the lanyard.

The Daily Drabble: Application for Additional Funding?

Domestic Verification of EM-Drive Principles

Summary:

This experiment was attempting to utilise a domestic Microwave to assess propulsion potential of EM-Drive-style resonate cavity – with partial success.

Methodology:

Removing partial protective cladding from domestic Microwave to enhance propulsion surface, whilst measuring rate-of-transfer along kitchen work surface, resulting from meal preparation.

Result:

An average movement of 2.3 inches per meal resulted in the Microwave approaching the counter edge over 9 days.

Negative Side-Effects:

1. Consumption of large quantities of microwave meals.
2. Final measurements indeterminate as the Microwave was propelled over the counter edge

Consequences:

Additional funding needed to replace Microwave

Brian Ameringen

Contributions to:

newsletter@follycon.org.uk
Drop-off box at Info Desk



Sandworm Folly Dance

At the Dance Studio, some Follycon members have been plotting a science-fiction themed dance, deciding that the theorised lifecycle of a Dune Sandworm (and Spice) deserved some TLC.

From solo dancers aerating the dancefloor-come-desert representing Sand Plankton, to pairs of dancers representing Sandtrout finding and then encapsulating water, plenty of stamping (spice blow), and the eventual musical development of one behemoth Sand Worm (and its embodied destruction), the "Sandworm's Folly" dance was born.

Full moves will be shared and called, but come along and practice on Sunday afternoon (1 pm), and possibly help write another dance or join in with the full Science Ceilidh band on the Sunday evening (9 pm).

www.scienceceilidh.com/sciencefiction

Newsletter 4 by Satellite 6 and friends. Artwork Ila Khan.