



# THE NAVEL

THE LIGHTS IN THE SKY ARE FLUFF

## COLOPHON

Saturday lunchtime, and we're still surviving.

We need your photos of the con or Chester for the Colour Supplement. Please email them to [locs@plokta.com](mailto:locs@plokta.com), text or picture message to **XXXXXX XXXXXX** or bring us your memory card or USB key, or, if you're SMS, your external floppy drive, when we're in the bar. All these methods work well for news generally, or you can write things down and give them to us or put them in the box near Ops.

Bad ways to get us news: tell us in the bar when we've been drinking, or at breakfast when we're hung over.

This newsletter supports **Steve Davies for GUFF**. Cos he's one of the editors. And an all round good bloke. None of us are standing for JETS, so you can make up your own minds on that one.

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## THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT NAVELS NUMBER 42

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy game required the player to collect four kinds of fluff including belly button fluff.

## Navel Manoeuvres

The "Glorifying Terrorism" panel has swapped places with the "George Hay spinoff panel. So it is now:

George Hay spinoff—Monday, 13:00, Edward

Glorifying Terrorism—Sunday, 14:00, Charles

There will be further information about participants in these items later on.

Other participant amendments: Battle of the Butlers this evening now includes John Dowd. Vince Docherty is unable to be on the Going Japanese panel.

## Healthy Exercise 1

People who have signed up for Tony Keen's Roman Chester walk should meet at the hotel entrance, LG floor, 1pm Sunday. Tony's walk is now full, but Mike Scott will be doing an overflow session at 11am on Monday, sign up at con registration. Tony and Mike went round the walls on Friday synchronising their anecdotes, so the experience should be equally educational.

## Healthy Exercise 2

Families with children who fancy a walk around the walls in like company assemble on Sunday by Crowne Plaza lower ground lobby for 10:30 departure. Full circuit (2 miles approx) not obligatory and intending to return for bid session at 12 regardless. [*Caroline Mullan*]

## Healthy Exercise 3

We had a lovely swim with some adults and lots of kids this morning, and we're planning to do the same tomorrow Sunday 2pm.

We'll need one parent *in the pool* per family please other than by specific prior arrangement. Note that apart from the baby pool the pool is a consistent 4ft deep, so if your child is less tall than that you will want to supervise closely or provide them with a snorkel.

[*Alison Scott & Steven Cain*]

## Still More Gophers Needed

Ops tells us that they need more gophers. The ones that turned up yesterday were delicious. Burp.

## A teaser from our Roving Reporter Bookshop News

Less than ten miles from Chester is one of the UK's largest bookshops—it boasts "over 100,000 books". Needless to say it's not worth visiting—now. [*Brian Ameringen*]

## Ginger Spice

Jaine Fenn, the fan formerly known as Jaine Weddell, wishes to apologise to Farah for using the 'B' word. Her hair is not blonde, not even strawberry blonde.

Kari would like it to be known that her breasts are a perfectly sensible size whatever Bravissimo think. Fans wishing to check should... [*That's quite enough of that -- Ed.*]

## Ken Slater is Unwell

Ken Slater, well known older fan and beloved dealer of yore, is unwell. Richard and Marion have a card on their table in the dealers' room for well wishers.

*[Barbara]*

## Some of you have been texting us Random Bits of Fluff

The anthology *Glorifying Terrorism* has almost sold out in the Dealers' Room—but there are a few copies left. Pay at the SFF stall and a copy will be with you by Friday, at no extra cost. *[Farah]*

Farah needs to talk with a keen fan of *Mary Poppins* before she send off a review of a book about her. *[Farah]*

Jill Bradley is offering free Reflexology sessions on a first come first served basis. She's fully qualified. Find her at a bar near you. *[Jill Bradley]*

There are severe delays on the Jubilee Line due to a signal failure at Swiss Cottage. *[TFL]*

Corks Out on Watergate Street is only open today, but it lets you taste the malt whiskeys. Yum.

An out-of-wallet experience

## Lessons for Blokes

Do not take your unaccustomed-to-alcohol partner to lunch and have her drink a couple of glasses of beer, then wave her gaily off with the carefree words "Lakeland is having a leather sale".

Hey, we did get their note

## Convention Corner

Recombination's PR2 and accommodation form are out, Members can come and pick up theirs from the Recombination desk in the Dealers' Room.

## Correction

In an effort to make the copy about Harry Potter fit into the available space, we managed to completely bollox up the story. Whoops. Apparently it did all start in a café in Edinburgh. I get it now. Perhaps.

## Fluff from Giulia

Stroll along those beautiful rows and galleries, revel in the lavish wooden carvings, heavy beams, lead light windows. You could be in ancient Lankhmar or Ankh-Morpork. Then dart up a narrow alley to look at the backs of these same evocative buildings. You will find concrete and bricks, plumbing and skips, behold the parallel universe of Chester. Hurry back. Sigh with relief. That end of the alley was just an illusion. But which end? *[Giulia]*

Apparently, there's a programme...

## Con Report 1

The session on "Greek theatre" concentrating on comedy did not seem to have very promising material since, we were told, only one "old comedy" has survived, "we may, or may not, have any middle comedy," and "for a long time we didn't have any new comedy, either". But, in fact, this *was* an entertaining session. I was disappointed that the chorus was denied the chance to sing a bit of a tragedy to the Archers theme tune, but the timing of the interruption by the young child just as the rude picture was shown was perfect.

## Security Warning

If you use your credit card at the hotel bar, the receipt will include the full card number, expiry date and name. Dispose of it carefully.

## Con Report 2

You'll all have been to the opening ceremony, so no need to tell about the introductions by Chris of Steve, Harry, John, Hayley and last but not least Fran. This will be the last smoking Eastercon, but mind you: only in the designated smoking lounge. The gopher mum (tallish bearded person in black) awaits helpers in the corner next to Farndon (actually where the map has the word Gaming – not where the arrow points). Most interesting: the Newsletter won't be where the arrow points either. Try the bar.

After the dull announcements it was time to have some fun (yeah!) This was an unscheduled programme item with the Black Magician battling the White Queen (or was that red – a person might get confused). The black side took the lead in the starting quiz, but the bright whites soon caught up, and after a bad joke (groan) and a slow finish in the balloon race, black seemed to give it away. In the quest round a red sock seemed difficult to find but tall girls abound and a big handspan must help finance. Musical charades were for the black side again, even after distracting points for cheating (hey, the black side must live up to its name!) Surprisingly the gunfight and armwrestling went to the white side as well as the animal slapstick that beat another bad pun. Final rounds of biblical tableaux were mostly even, but for an album cover the huge crowd of lonely heart clubbers won the day for black. (You might want to come to Teledu Challenge on Saturday evening if you like such an interactive event.) *[Jan van't Ent]*