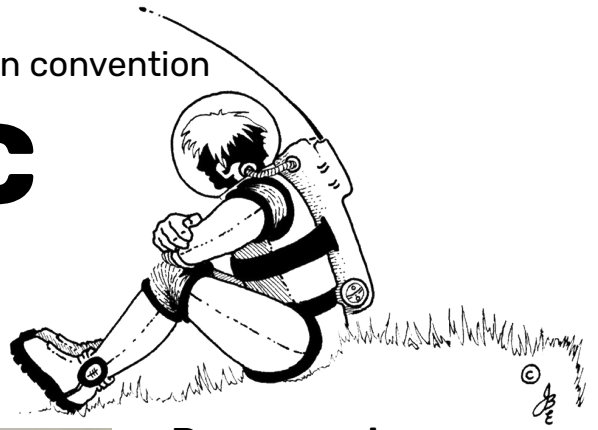


Levitation: The 75<sup>th</sup> British national science fiction convention

# THE GALACTIC OBSERVER

Issue 5 – Monday lunchtime



## The plaid people of fandom

In a surprise departure from the normal timetable, Glasgow 2024 has released this year's Hugo base ready for the first of April. The traditional rocket has been dipped in Landing Zone tartan for a contemporary look, and the base, designed by veteran base designer Vincent Villafranca features armadillos, traffic cones and a flying haggis. You can get your photo taken with this post-apocalyptic Hugo if you're quick.



## Reconnextra

Fellow Irishman Dave Lally will take any fans around after next year's Eastercon, Reconnect, to Belfast's Titanic Centre on Tuesday 22 April 2025. He's letting you know now so that you can plan. It's now the most popular tourist destination in Ireland. *[I went to see this last year and it was smashing -Ed.]*

## Fan fund fanks

Thank you to everyone who has supported the fan funds throughout the convention. Remember you've just got a few more hours to vote in EFF, and another day for TAFF. The auction raised over £750, which is not bad given that we've saved all the best stuff for Glasgow. See you there!

## More feedback

The Monday Feedback Session had a few suggestions for Reconnect in 2025. Unfortunately, it doesn't look as if moving the Telford International Centre to Belfast would fit in the budget.

Attendees had suggestions to improve disability provision, some of which have been taken on board for future years and some (a second lift) passed on to the venue.

There was praise for the virtual convention which has run very smoothly this year. Glasgow 2024 is using a similar system and wants all your feedback.

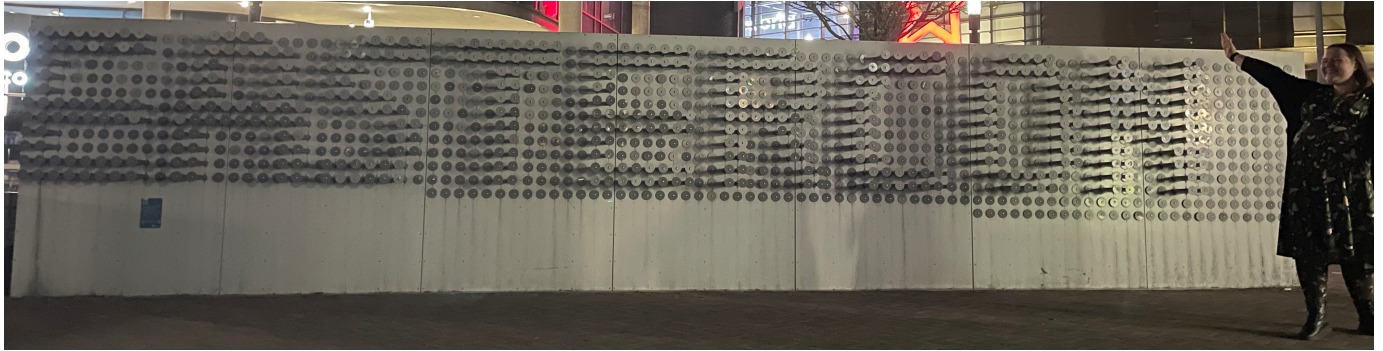
## Newsletter shoutouts

To Tessa Stokes, 12 today, and Roger and Elizabeth Robinson, who tied the knot on April Fool's Day, 1967.



*Toasts to our dearly missed friends abounded last night. Glasgow 2024 raised a glass to Noreascon 4 chair Deb Geisler, and the traditional Vauxhall gathering was this year dedicated to the memory of Dave Tompkins and Smudge.*

Find year-round fannish fun at the #keep-in-touch channel on the con Discord. See you in Belfast!



*Your newsletter team hard at work at 4am Sunday reconfiguring the Telford Interactive Gallery Wall*

## Under the weather?

So far, Levitation has had no reports of Covid. It is extremely important that members of the convention test if they have any symptoms, and let ops know if they test positive. If you test positive within ten days after the convention please let us know via [communications@eastercon2024.co.uk](mailto:communications@eastercon2024.co.uk)

– Farah Mendlesohn

## Poetry corner

Retracing principles  
Axiomatical  
Friends yet unmet  
Follow Leavitt's decrees

Measuring distances  
Intergalactical  
By observation  
From planets like these

– duckbunny

## We get feedback

An anonymous reader thanks us for the innovation of watermarked numbers on the issues. Well done, editor Steve Davies, whose innovation indeed it was. In 1995, for Intersection in Glasgow. We've been doing it ever since.

## Catching up with catch up

Catch up is complete up to Sunday now. Your newsletter editors are looking forward to enjoying the convention all over again next weekend, and this time getting to see some programme. John recommends Stew Hotston's talk on **Strange Worlds, Strange Games**. Stew was engaging on the topic of the whiteness of games and had sharp observations.

## Just rewards

Volunteers! Please use up your groats, hand in your timesheets and collect your t-shirt if you pre-ordered, or give us your size and fit and we'll post you one.



*Do they know something we don't?  
(Thanks to spotter Helen Cross)*

## Get your newsletter while it lasts

The newsletter stand that was on the ground floor outside the newsletter office has been manfully manhandled upstairs by executive editor John Coxon and is now in the bar where the people are.

Let us know if you still find the newsletter useful. Glasgow 2024 will be having electronic news only, and it is possible that Reconnect will be the last Eastercon with a paper newsletter. After that, you'll find us outmoded dinosaurs lumbering through the bar as hordes of nimble social media marsupials swap ten second viral videos.

## Tip jar for venue

You can tip the venue staff in cash at ops or at the closing ceremony, or online at [app.collectionpot.com/pot/3064884](http://app.collectionpot.com/pot/3064884).

## New model armadillo

Farah lets us know that her Seventeenth Century Puritan Name is Kindly Implacable. That's funny, we could sworn it was [Continued in issue 6 - Ed.]

This issue was edited by Alison Scott & Steve Davies with help from Marianne Cain, Steven Cain, and Jan van't Ent. The artwork is "Contemplative Spaceman" by Jackie Burns. Did you know that Galactic Observer is an anagram of Algebraic Vectors? That would have been our spoof title if it had been funny.