



Editor-in-Chief: John Coxon

Editors: Flick
Susan Booth Carrie Mowatt
Alison Scott Jean Sheward

Staff: Jan van't Ent
newsletter@satellite4.org.uk

BSFA Awards

Best Novel of 2013: tied between *Ancillary Justice* by Ann Leckie (Orbit) and *Ack-Ack Macaque* by Gareth L. Powell (Solaris).

Best Short Fiction of 2013: *Spin* by Nina Allan (TTA Press).

Best Non-Fiction: *Wonderbook* by Jeff Vandermeer (Abrams Image).

Best Artwork of 2013: cover of Tony Ballantyne's *Dream* by Joey Hi-Fi (Solaris).

GOH Items On Monday

Jim Burns at noon and Alice and Steve Lawson at 13:30 both in the Argyll.

All GoHs in the closing ceremony at 17:00 in Argyll.

Dysprosium Guests of Honour

The 66th British National Convention will be held on 3-6 April 2015, at the Park Inn, Heathrow, London. After the threat of Dalek invasion, the decision of the bidding session crowd was unanimously in favour.

The Guests of Honour will be Jim Butcher (Author), Seanan McGuire (Author), Herr Döktor (Artist) and Caroline Mullen (Fan GoH).

They have a table in the dealers' room so join early, join often!

The Ambassadors' Ball – We Have Winners

Judges Nik Whitehead, Chris O'Shea and Andrew Patterson chose:

1st *Sparks and Rickett of the Lifers* by Pete and Kathy Westhead.

2nd *The War Doctor* escorted by Athos of the King's Musketeers by David and Lesley McIntre.

Foodie Corner

Despite the logistics problem of sourcing fresh scones on an Easter Sunday enough were eventually rounded up and The Great SF Scone Tasting took place

this afternoon. The winner, in the absence of any actual home made entries, was mutually agreed to be Sainsbury's Taste The Difference All Butter and Sultana Scones. Thanks to Morag O'Neill and Catriona Beel for scone wrangling.

For those scone fanciers (and others) travelling back to the cold and windy wastes of England after the con, we recommend stopping off at Tebay services (M6 just before Junction 38 between Penrith and Kendal) to sample their award winning farm produce (both in the restaurant and for sale on site), including traditional cream tea with home made scones.

—Jean Sheward

Humans Are Weird

All true. The conclusion of the *Humans are Weird* panel: if you are a human then...

- Your eyesight is amazing;
- Your taste is fabulous;
- You evolved labour relations before you discovered fire;
- Your children are useless;
- You live too long;
- And your sex life is bizarre.

Fan Fundery

The fan-fund auction on Saturday afternoon raised over £390 in about 50 minutes, to be shared equally between TAFF and GUFF.

Thanks to everyone who donated items, money or times to the auctions.

Drink More Beer!

Or rather, we have a special request for you all to drink the Real Ale in the Main Hotel Bar first. There is ale there that has run out in the con bar, if you need any encouragement.

Newshounds shocked at lack of Klingons!

It must be a "slow news" weekend, the sort where they use the traditional Dead Donkey story to infill until something more interesting happens, because we've had a lot of press interest this weekend. I'm not saying we're not newsworthy or interesting but when you get *The Times*, the *Glasgow Herald* and a number of other news agencies tripping over themselves to interview us you know there's not much else going on!

Thank you to everyone who has put up with the journalists and photographers. We've had great press coverage in today's *Herald* and if you have seen us mentioned in other papers or online, please let the committee know. Good coverage means we're not labelled as

weirdos, Trekkies or similar, the usual cliched reporting. Our journalists left yesterday with a very different view of what the Science Fiction community does than they had on arrival – education is good!

We always ask for copies of articles and some photos and if we do get these it will likely be after the con; we will do our best to contact any of you highlighted and share these images. Having seen a few on a laptop yesterday the photos were fabulous.

— *Serena Culfeather*
& *John Wilson*

Stamps

If you have brought any used stamps for Albatross then bring them to the Gopher Hole on the Mezzanine level (through the Green Room).

Most Earthlike Planet Yet

It was announced on Friday that the Kepler Mission has discovered the most Earthlike planet found to date. Kepler 186f is one of five planets orbiting the M-type dwarf star Kepler 186 about 500 light years from Earth. It is about 10% larger than Earth, is thought to be a rocky world and is within its star's habitable zone.

The chances for life on this planet are uncertain. This means that the habitable zone of the system, defined as the region within which liquid water, thought to be essential for life, can exist on

the surface of a planet, is inside the tidal locking radius of the star. One side of the planet will thus always point towards the star, which may make it difficult for it to retain an atmosphere. Also M stars are more active than our own Sun, so the planet will be bombarded by hard radiation and cosmic rays.

— *David L Clements*
Interstellar correspondent

ZZ9

ZZ9 do not have a dealer table this year but members can renew by finding a current committee member. Look for lots of badges with Hitchhikers quotes on them.

Art Auction

Could these people please visit the Art Show as soon as possible to pay for their auction items:

Simon de Wolfe; Marcus Gipps; Martin Hoare; Karen Maddison; Katherine Taylor; Thomas Womack; and Throgg The Despicable.

Overheard

Taxi driver taking three of us home late Friday night: "So...do you all work for EasyJet, then?"

— *MahlerIan*