

# THE PIGEON POST

Issue 1: Thursday daytime

newsletter@loncon3.org

@Loncon3

#PigeonPost

## Welcome

Hello all, and welcome to the Loncon School for Wizards.

As well as being terribly educational, we hope that it's going to be a great convention, and that you all have a wonderful time. There's a huge amount going on, so please do take the time to check the Read Me / Pocket Programme before you miss too much.



Enjoy the convention, and remember to earn plenty of House Points and avoid getting put in detention!

—The Chairs

## Read Your Read Me!

You can find the information from the Pocket Programme online, at <http://guide.loncon3.org>, and in iOS and Android apps called 'Event Guide', produced by Grenadine Technologies Inc (the identifier is LONCON).

ExCeL has two free wifi networks, *ExCeL free* (at 2.4 Mhz) and *ExCeL free fast* (at 5 MHz). If your internet device can see the faster network, please use it: it has more capacity and is less likely to become overloaded.

Loncon 3 has a Code of Conduct, and we ask that you abide by it at all times. You can find more details in the Pocket Programme, or online, but it boils down to this:

Any action or behaviour that:

- ♦ is illegal, or
  - ♦ causes significant interference with convention operations or excessive discomfort to other attendees, or
  - ♦ adversely affects Loncon 3's relationship with its guests, its venue, or the public
- is strictly forbidden and may result in revocation of membership and/or attendance privileges.

In particular, please remember that you must wear your badge or wrist band visibly at all times. If a badge is lost, there will be a £30 charge for a replacement. If you forget it, you can get a temporary badge from Registration. After Reg closes, see Ops for a temporary badge.

Some people are wearing badges saying *No Photography*: please respect these. If you would like one, please go to Info Desk.

If you have any questions, find or mislay an object or child, feel threatened or need other assistance then please go to Ops: you can find them in their yurt in the Fan Village, or grab a passing person in red high-vis.

Ops can also answer all your questions about when you can and can't carry something that is, or looks like, a weapon: please check with them before doing so.

## Tech Director says:

We're still setting up the programme rooms, and moving large, heavy objects around. Please pay attention, and be forgiving if we block the way.

## Quick, You're Missing It!

The Tolkien Society has organised a stream of programme items today, including a talk at 4:30pm by David Brawn, the man in charge of Tolkien publishing at Harper Collins. There is also some fabulous Tolkien-themed work in the Art Show, and there will be a quiz at 8pm this evening in the Fanac Tent and a party later.

They are also running a contest to write a new riddle, or re-write an old one, in any format of your choosing (under 1000 words and in English). Bring your entry to the party this evening, tweet #LonconTolkienDay or email to [muurankerpat@gmail.com](mailto:muurankerpat@gmail.com) by 2pm on Sunday.

## From Imagination to Reality

Tomorrow, the British Interplanetary Society will be running a stream of programming that promises to cover everything from why we aren't currently holding this convention on Mars to how we could eventually do so before evolving to expand into the rest of the galaxy.

## Cosmonaut? Cosmonaut!

Loncon 3 is delighted to welcome Anatolii Artsebarskii, a cosmonaut who once spent almost five months on the MIR Space Station and now works with the Kazakh space agency. He will be speaking at 5pm on Sunday in the Second Stage among other appearances: check the pink sheets for more details.

## Stroll With The Stars

If you'd like some gentle exercise and good conversation, head out to in front of the Aloft at 9am tomorrow morning, where you can go for a stroll with Jeanne Gomoll, Lauren Beukes, Pat Cadigan, Paul Cornell, Andy Duncan, Ellen Datlow and Mary Anne Mohnaraj, all led by Edward James.

## Swing Dance Change

This afternoon's Swing Dance class will be held in London Suite 3, not the Second Stage, at 1:30pm.

## Tell Us What You Know

You can email information, short articles and scurrilous gossip to [newsletter@loncon3.org](mailto:newsletter@loncon3.org). You can also leave paper contributions in the box in the Ops Yurt.

You can find the current and past newsletter issues, and Pink Sheets giving programme changes, in racks located next to the Info Desk, outside Capital Suite room 14, by the Green in the Fan Village and at the Exhibits Info Desk.

You can also get an email telling you when a new issue is available, with a link to the pdf version that's on [loncon3.org/](http://loncon3.org/)

## All Tonight's Parties

Unless otherwise noted, all of the parties are in the Fan Village. Tonight, we're pleased to welcome the start of partying from **DC in 2017, Helsinki in 2017** (including Scandinavian fandom and Archipelacon), **Nippon in 2017, Beijing in 2016** and **KC in 2016**.

For one night only, you can also head along to the **Tolkien** and **New Zealand in 2020** parties. There will be a **Doctor Who** party in the Fanac tent from 10pm.

## 1939 And All That

This evening, Loncon 3 will be awarding the Retro Hugo Awards for 1939. Retro Hugos are awarded on the 50th, 75th or (one day!) 100th anniversary of a Worldcon where the Hugos weren't awarded. This will be the first of the 75th anniversary Retro Hugos, because 1939 was the first Worldcon.

In 1938, conventions were just starting to happen in the UK and US (naturally, there is debate about which side of the Atlantic got there first). A plan was hatched to hold a *World* convention, to coincide with the World's Fair in New York City.

As with any convention [*Except for Loncon 3—Ed*], there were fallings out among the staff and disagreements about the best way to do things.

In New York, there was once one big, happy SF society, The Greater New York Science Fiction Club. Then things started to go downhill, and it split into what eventually became known as New Fandom, lead by Sam Moskowitz (who chaired the convention with help from James Taurasi and Will Sykora), and the Futurians, whose members included Donald Wollheim and Frederik Pohl. Many short and pointed fanzines were published on each side of this quarrel, which involved a huge number of changes of club names and a lot of political name-calling.

New Fandom ended up in running the Worldcon, and a number of their Futurian rivals were banned during "The Great Exclusion Act." All in all, it's probably a good job that Twitter hadn't been invented in 1939.

*newsletter.php*. To sign up, go to: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/pigeon-post-notification> or [goo.gl/V5e003](http://goo.gl/V5e003).

## Fan Village Information

Remember that the Fan Village is here to support all your fannish hanging out, socialising and partying needs. We have a fantastic range of real ale for sale, and many other fine drinks. In the evening, every Worldcon bid wants to woo you at their parties! In fine London tradition, we'll be calling 'last orders' shortly before 2am, and we expect you all to drink up by 2:30am. The last DLR into London is at 12:42am. Do not expect us to polish the tables.

## WSFS News

There's a lot of WSFS action going on this weekend. In fact, there's so much that we've had to produce a *WSFS Special* supplement in order to do it

justice: you can find copies on the newsletter distribution racks.

If you would like to find out more about WSFS, come along to *Introduction to the WSFS Business Meeting* (3pm in CS5) so that you can learn how it all works to enable the members of WSFS (that's you!) to decide what happens with the Hugo Awards and future Worldcons. The real action starts with the *Mark Protection Meeting* (6:30pm SG 33), where you can join in the discussion of the current state of WSFS's intellectual property rights.

Tomorrow, the *Business Meeting* starts at 10am in CS11. The Business Meeting has a very full agenda this year, and might even still be going on Monday morning. You can read the full agenda at [loncon3.org/wsfs-business.php](http://loncon3.org/wsfs-business.php), and there's a summary in the WSFS Special.

This issue was produced by Flick, with help from Jan van't Ent and some other people. Masthead by Jeanne Gomoll. Illo by Sue Mason. In the US, today is National Creamsicle Day. Is it just me who finds 'creamsicle' to be a very *moist* word?