

THE PIGEON POST

Issue 6: Saturday morning

newsletter@loncon3.org

@Loncon3

#PigeonPost

Site Selection

Choose the site of the 2016 Worldcon: vote **before 6pm** today in the Fan Village.

Anubis Gates

The world premiere of Tim Powers' *The Anubis Gates* will be held at 3pm in Second Stage. Tim Powers has donated a signed copy of the script to be auctioned at Loncon 3. Proceeds will be equally split between the theatre company, a charity of Tim's choice, and the convention — details will be announced at the end of the performance.

Friday Night Party Report

It is now Friday night, and for reasons unclear I was dressed just in tight golden shorts, but the Party Reporter's weird cosplaying gear shouldn't keep you from party reports. There was Brotherhood there Without Banners (their space had some hangings emblazoned with clues). I was too late for food, but with charm and good grace they supplied me with glasses of booze. Helsinki were partying too, but the crowd meant tonight I was skipping their den, then I found the Beijing team had now been allowed to pass out some free beer to the fen. Oh Kansas, I visited twice, and of course took another trip though their fine tent to take some more pork with a new choice of sauce to remind me how well the first went. Dysprosium, Eastercon twenty-fifteen, is a con which is run by some mates, so of course I dropped by just to say I had

been. You should join, they have excellent rates. DC, I now realise, had punch on the go. The cider I'd seen on day one was just an ingredient. Good thing to know, because punch is a good deal more fun. In fact, since their punch was so good, I shall state with the cheeriest, happiest grins that their party was quite the best party to date, and I hope that their Worldcon bid wins.

—Doug S

Fan Village Highlights

In the Library, we have book launches from David Wake (noon-1pm), Elsewhen's *The Rhymers* (1:30pm-2:30pm), Rebellion's *World of Fire* (3pm-4pm) and House of Murky Depths' *Dead Girl* (4:30pm-5:30pm). Ebury Publishing and Ticonderoga Publications are in the Fan Village from 6pm-9pm.

For Science!

Elisabeth Lunde, an MA student from the University of Greenwich, is carrying out a project on how social media influences people's decisions to attend conventions. Separately, David Gardner and Dr. Anthony Hubert, researchers from the US, are just starting a project to find out common interests and behaviours amongst fans. Copies of both surveys are available at the Info Desk.

Are You A Cow?

Get your breath tested by Royal Holloway's Climate Change Team at stand 22 in the Exhibits Hall.

Free Chocolate!

There will be a **free** tasting of British and beyond chocolate for 150 lucky people at 1:30pm Sunday in Capital 9. Taste a roasted bean from Paul A Young (London), and chocolate from Willie's Cacao (Devon), Duffy's Red Star Chocolate (Lincolnshire), Pump Street Bakery (Suffolk), Original Beans (Europe) and Askinosie Chocolate (USA). You also get a badge ribbon. Sign up at Info Desk today.

They Are On Holiday Too

There are lots of exciting famous people at the convention, and they love meeting their fans, but they are here to enjoy the convention just as much as you are: please be sensible when asking for autographs, and don't monopolise anyone's time.

Test of Observational Skills

You may have noticed that our advice to stand to the left on escalators was ever-so-slightly inaccurate....

Badge Finds its Way Home

Is this the furthest a lost badge has traveled to be returned to the convention? Uta Braatz's badge traveled from Greenwich back to the con, and can be collected from Registration.

Diana Wynne Jones

Today would have been Diana Wynne Jones' 80th birthday. Today's Google Doodle of a witch instructing a young boy celebrates her works.

Programme Updates

- ♦ *The Province of All Mankind* (1:30pm, Capital 7) has added panellists David D Levine, Karen Furlong, Emma J. King and Mary Turzillo.
- ♦ Unfortunately we won't be screening the Nigel Kneale television play *The Crunch* in Capital Suite 17 at 2:30pm. Instead, we'll screen the 1978 BBC adaptation of Alan Garner's novel *Red Shift*.
- ♦ The 1:30pm signing will now also include G. David Nordley.
- ♦ Jeff Vandermeer will be signing at 1:30pm in the Exhibits Hall.
- ♦ Joe Haldeman's autograph session has been moved to 3pm on Saturday.
- ♦ Linda Stratmann will be signing at 2pm in the Woodlore stand block F (Exhibits Hall).

Art Show

The full-colour, deluxe Artist Showcase publication has been getting rave reviews from artists and members alike. If you pre-ordered a copy, please collect it from the Art Show Control Desk by 6pm (that's **today**, folks!). If you didn't, copies are still available for just £5.

The Art Show started very strongly with nearly £20,000 of

Gillian Polack, GUFF Delegate, speaks:

I was surprised to win GUFF. My first response is that there were truer fans out there, Shay and Alison and Samara, for instance, but this isn't what made me assume no-one would vote for me: I assumed I wasn't a true fan. Voting has proven otherwise, and I'm walking very tall¹. I'm a strange fan, but a very real one.

A few years ago, someone told a friend of mine "You're not a fan, you're a pro." He said it to me, too, but I try to forget². Obviously I'm not the only one who doesn't like to bar writers from the hallowed grounds of fandom, for I am writing this today as the GUFF delegate. I'm a novelist. I'm a historian, I am... I am, in fact, many, many things. And one of those things is a fan.

I've been a fan since I discovered 'Doc' Smith and Sylvia Engdahl and Lord Dunsany and Andre Norton. I've been a fan since Doctor Who started in Australia and I saw the very first episode with the very first Doctor (I'm a middle-aged fan, I'm a female fan). When I went to Melbourne University, the first thing I did was join the science fiction club. When I finished my second PhD, I announced that I was turning into a Timelord³.

None of my multivariate and confused selves are ever very far away from speculative fiction. This makes me very happy.

1. I can almost reach the books on the top shelf
2. Why would I want to remember that the gates to Heaven are supposed to be barred?
3. I am now Dr Dr GP – bad jokes are better than good ones and who doesn't want to be the Three Doctors, anyway?

Ed: It has come to our attention that Gillian was thrown out of a Morris side.

Approach with caution.

art sold on Friday. The instant sale option is still available today, so bid or risk losing out!

Who's Watching Who?

We've had a couple of requests from visiting fans who will be here for the Doctor Who premiere and would like to get together with other fans to watch. If you're arranging an event, please let the newsletter team know.

Helsinki Photo Booth

Helsinki in 2017 is running a photo booth. Get your photo taken — with props — and get a free print while stocks last. Bring a USB stick to take a copy home.

Hi-Vis Handback

You should only have a blue hi-vis jacket if you've been given a specific task. If not, hand it back to Ops ASAP.

Membership Stats

At the end of yesterday, Loncon 3 had 10,535 total registrations and 6,222 warm bodies, made up of:

	Full Memberships				Day Memberships			Exhibits passes		Warm Bodies
	Adult	YA	Child	Infant	Adult	YA	Child	Hall	Dealer	
Thursday	4,206	347	155	43	157	57	10	N/A	275	5,250
Friday	4,689	393	172	52	478	97	31	17	293	6,222

Totals are cumulative. Guest of Honour, Guest and Comp memberships are included in Adult. Some walk-ins from Thursday haven't yet been added, but we did count the telepresence robot.

This issue was produced by Zara Baxter, with help from Jan van 't Ent, Flick and Doug S. Masthead by Jeanne Gomoll. It's International Homeless Animals Day. If you're moved to adopt, please remember that ExCeL doesn't allow non-service animals: you'll have to wait until you get home.