



ISSUE 2 – SATURDAY AFTERNOON – THE NEWSLETTER OF ORBITAL, THE 2008 EASTERCON

## Another Day, Another Newsletter

This newsletter is brought to you by MIKA, because I felt like some crappy cheesy pop music. Also it's great fun. And John just brought me a gin and tonic. This gig's not bad, all things considered.

## Mine's a pint

Please buy more beer in the real ale bar – the prices are reasonable and everything. Actually mine's a G&T, but for some reason they're selling plenty of that...

## Teledoux!

Your gracious editoress is abusing her privileges to shamelessly plug her own con. Teledoux is to be the one-day follow-up to Year Of The Teledu, run by me in London. The venue is still to be confirmed but I assure you that it will have all the necessary, plus a suitably silly programme and the return of the MP3 disco in the evening. For more details please have a look at [www.teledoux.org.uk](http://www.teledoux.org.uk)

## Something to do at Heathrow Airport

If you have a few hours to spare at Heathrow, you may consider visiting a small but extremely interesting museum all of you will love: The British Airways Museum, which is very close to Hatton Station. Three of us took the opportunity to go there and had a marvellous time. The museum is small, but has so much wonderful stuff: models, posters, uniforms and especially tales. It's run by a group of enthusiasts with many stories about the history of the different airlines that today form British Airways. You like technology? You like history? You like stories? You like beautiful artwork? (Hey, you like uniforms?) Visit! For more information, check the website: [www.bamuseum.com](http://www.bamuseum.com). One thing though, visits by appointment only. But well worth it.

–Jaap Boekestein

## Friday Panels

The panels began with a well-filled Elizabeth Room to discuss Russell T. Davies; and then the Nuts and Bolts of SF Writing, from traditional advice to using the web. Many of the audience had written short stories, and some had a novel on the go. Warning, if you publish your story on your blog – it's been published!

The room filled up for a panel on Reassessing Heinlein. Chairman Peter Weston spoke of initial enthusiasm cooling as he re-read the books later in life. Such controversial books as *Starship Troopers*, *Farnham's Freehold*, and *Puppet Masters* were discussed, as well as female protagonists, with special mention for *The Door Into Summer*, and little approval for the later novels.

The session concluded with approval for *Citizen of the Galaxy*, a tribute for

## **OVERHEARD: GREEN ROOM**

Anne: Shall we throw away the copies of yesterday's newsletter?

Newsletter Editor: No! I haven't read it yet!

The **TWP PARTY** will be on Sunday afternoon at 16:00, venue TBC.

**If you would like something included in the newsletter**, either bring it to Shakespeare, (follow the room round to the back to find us!), which you will find on your map (it's on the third floor), or email it to **persephonehazard at googlemail dot com**. You can give it to one of us in the bar if you like, but we don't promise not to lose it. Raw text or .txt files preferred.

## **PEOPLE WHO ARE ON THE NEWSLETTER TEAM**

**Persephone Hazard**, Chief Organisatrix, has been taking hundreds of little pieces of paper and trying to edit them into this slightly dodgy template. **Jan van't Ent** is as ever being incredibly helpful, collecting and collating stuff as well as knowing how the printer works. **John Coxon** has been doing exactly what Seph tells him to. **Jess Bennett** has been hanging around the Newsletter Office being fabulous.

There are **no** additional programme changes, but check the previous issue for ones already announced.

Kipling, *Double Star*; the *Prisoner of Zenda* in space, and the advice to go on reading Robert Heinlein; plus authors who respond critically to his views, such as Joe Haldeman and Orson Scott Card. -Jesca Yates

### Calling All Posers!

If you fancy having your photograph taken in your best costumes, meet up on the lit bridge in the Atrium (by the water feature with the really cool glass fish in it) at half five. Bring your glad rags and your camera for the flashmob. - Helen Cross

### Call for photos

If anyone has any photographs of Blind Pew's guide dog Faldo, a regular at cons who has very sadly passed away, could they please email them to blindpewbooks@beeb.net - thanks!

### Forbidden Planet Charity Monqee

Danacea of Forbidden Planet has a giant white plastic Monqee. This is a call out to all authors and artists - please come and sign him. He will be with the FP stall in the Dealers' Room or with Danacea in (probably) the bar. He is to be auctioned for Terry Pratchett and the Alzheimer's Research Trust. Thanks. - Danacea

### Tonight's Filk Programme

The Filk programme will be running in the Tetworth Room from 10pm - midnight tonight, and will feature Gwen Knighton, Tim and Annie Walker and Circle.

### Everything's Going So Well

The number of bodies on site currently stands at about 1300, making this the largest Eastercon since Seacon in Brighton in 1984. I was reliably informed of this fact by a charming Scotsman who I met outside while having a cigarette. See, smirking is good for something!

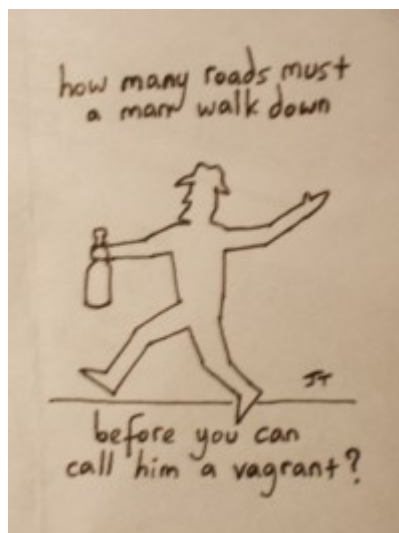
### Restaurant Review

VII Indian Restaurant (it's on the con registration list) is a 5 - 10 minute drive east along Bath Road, on the south side. The food is better than either the interior or the exterior décor would suggest, and the service is good. The poppadom and plain rice are very good. The main courses are about £5 and are decent portions. Cobra or draught are available and on the whole VII comes recommended. - Steve Grover

### Stop Press - Gerald

Exclusively in Elizabeth at 15.30, Neil Gaiman's original doodles for Gerald. With extra Bacon.

- Chris Garcia



### **STOP PRESS!**

- Gaming sign-up sheets are now in the Games Room.

- Paul Allwood has a DENVENTION Worldcon 2008 membership for sale, priced at early purchase rate of £70. Anyone interested please phone 07810 868775.

- Furniture was built for your convenience by early gophers (from Sweden to England with some Dutch helpers even - just the one sofa, so if one collapses, we didn't do that one, really) - don't be mean, come to ops and volunteer some time yourself, please.

- Jaine Fenn would like to find out what it feels like to be hypnotised. This is a genuine request - in the interest of research - and should not be seen as a chance to make her think she's a chicken, or take her clothes off in public. If it works, you get a credit in the next book. Please make contact via the voodoo board.

- Avedon Carol has forgotten the charge lead for her laptop and would greatly appreciate the loan of a power supply. She has a Dell Latitude C640. If you can help, go and leave either the lead or a message with Ops. Thank you!

- A child of one of the con members, who has been using the childcare facilities, has come down with chicken pox. They are keeping to their room for now but parents may wish to keep an eye on their children if they have not already had it.

- Ops has a few things in Lost Property. If you've mislaid anything, please go and ask them about it.

- Elanor needs volunteers to help out with the signing session this afternoon. If you can lend a hand, turn up in Ops at 15:30.