

THE SENTINEL 9

SundayAfternoon 4 April 2010

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WE MADE A BOO BOO!

The news letter organiser (me, Wilf) apologises for the way the following items appeared in issue 8 of SENTINEL. The items should have appeared as follows:-

THE CLARKE AWARDS... NOT!

As is traditional, the Not The Clarke Awards panel runs from 2:00 to 3:30 in Connaught. Moderated by the wickedly brilliant Claire Brialey, come hear the pointy opinions of Graham "Locus" Sleight, Tony "Too Tough" Cullen, Edward "The Opinionated" James and Ruth "Nickname Pending" O'Reilly as they dissect and discuss the shortlist for the UK's premiere prize for science fiction literature.

HUGO NOMINEES ANNOUNCED LIVE

The nominees for this year's Hugo Awards, to be awarded at WorldCon in Melbourne, Australia this August, will be announced at a ceremony in the Connaught room. Be among the first people in the world to know which novels, stories, artists, writers and others competing for the top prize in the Kingdom of Science Fiction. Nominees may well be on hand to accept the good news!

AN ALIEN PLANT

Some of you may have noticed some very strange vegetation in this hotel. It could have come from an alien source because it does not resemble any known plant on Earth. It could be called the *Quadripedal Bulbous Leather Palm Tree*. Fans with an extensive knowledge of botany or herbology may know what its proper Linnéan name should be.

DREDDED DEATH

John Hicklenton, the well known graphic artist for the *Judge Dredd*, *Nemesis the Warlock* and other 2000AD comics, ended his life at the Dignitas Clinic in Switzerland on March 19. He was 42. John, or Johnny as he was known, had been suffering from multiple sclerosis for many years.

The Sentinel Newsletter team has been asked to repeat this news for those who have been out of circulation for one reason or another during the past month.

FAN FUNDS

Saturday night's League of Fan Funds auction raised a fantastic £730: many thanks to all who came along, helped out, auctioned and, particularly, paid lots of money for all the items that people had donated. Of particular note was a copy of the Corful Cobalt Fanthology, signed by many of the writers, which went for a wonderful £100.

The money raised will be split between GUFF and TAFF. Remember that the GUFF voting closes at midnight tomorrow, and try not to remember the sight of one of the candidates in a velvet corset! *Flick*



An excellent Mediaeval Combat and Rapier

COACH TRIP TO SEE EXCEL SITE

A reminder to all those interested in the coach trip to the proposed site of the London 2014 bid on Monday, to sign up at the London 2014 desk in the Dealers Room by close today (Sunday). If you miss the sign up, then please find Stephen Cooper (possibly in the bar or at the Hugo nominations).



TIME FROZEN?

From Saturday nights |disco.

We understand from Twitter that Time was Warped.

Photo by Chad Dixon

WHISKY AND FEAR

During a well-attended discussion between Ken Macleod and Iain Banks it was revealed that a combination of whisky and fear were the best antidotes to procrastination. Guilt over "not over having a real job" and looming deadlines are also good motivators, preventing our authors from continually rearranging home furniture and surfing the web.

The authors agreed too much research can never be justified being written into the story, and that it's wonderful when holidays in Australia and the Bahamas can be written off against tax.

DEFACE THE MUSIC QUIZ

The results of this morning's quiz are:

<i>Oops, I Did It Again</i>	36
<i>Random</i>	32
<i>Accidentals</i>	31
<i>The Audience</i>	40

Congratulations go to Gaspode and his team.

DEFACE THE MUSIC QUIZ EASTERCON BID SESSION

Illustrious 2011 was chosen as next year's Eastercon unanimously. Chaired by Nik Whitehead, it will be held at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole next to the NEC. The hotel hosted the 2008 Discworld Con. Guests of Honour are David Weber, Peter F. Hamilton, David A. Hardy and Vince Docherty. Head of programming is Dave Mansfield. Themes will be *Military SF* and *SF Through the Ages*. There will be a costume Admiralty Ball and no masquerade. There will be a dance class beforehand.

Membership rates for *Illustrious* (until 1st May) are: £50 adult, £25 young persons and unwaged, £15 junior and £1 for infants and apocryphals. www.illustrious.org.uk

Olympus 2012 will be the following year's Eastercon - here at the Radisson. Several of the 2008 and 2010 Eastercon organisers will be reprising their roles. Two guests have been announced so far: *Paul Cornell* and *George R.R. Martin*.

Steve Rogerson told us that the *Olympus* programme will be like *Orbital's* but even better. There will be strong literary, fan, science and media streams. Hotel room rates are staying the same as they were in 2008 and 2010.

Membership for *Olympus* (if you join at *Odyssey*) are: £40 full adult, £35 unwaged, £20 supporting, £20 junior, £5 child, £1 infant and apocryphal, and £1.42 for Beeblebears. www.olympus2012.org

Both future conventions are running sign-up desks in the hotel lobby.

There will be a programme brainstorming session on Monday at 11am in room 40. Go along to this if you have any ideas for things you'd like to see at future Eastercons.

DINNER TICKETS FOUND!

Will the owners of two dinner tickets for tonight (Sunday) that have been found please queue up at Ops to state where they have lost them. Those who guess the right location will eat well tonight.