



The Daily Discourse



Issue 6

newsletter@conversation2023.org.uk

Monday midday

Conversation: the 2023 UK National Science Fiction Convention

From The Chair

Many thanks to all members of the convention and especially to everyone who helped out and made Conversation a success. Travel safely and we hope to see you again next year in Telford.

—*Caroline Mullan*

Programme Highlights

Ursula Vernon's Garden Tour will take place at 1:30pm in Queens.

The Closing Ceremony is at 3pm in Queens.

Plague Flag Needed

Several members of the convention have tested positive for Covid-19, including one of the other newsletter editors. Please wear masks more diligently and avoid crowds. Consider watching items via streaming if you have a cough.

A reminder to attendees who have tested positive and are isolating: you can absolutely phone or text 07761 634655 (+44 7761 634 655) to speak to a member of our listening team, who can help you with getting your items collected or other isolation logistics.

Time To Go

Check out time at this hotel is noon. After you've checked out, you can leave your bags in the hotel's luggage store.

If you've parked at the hotel, don't forget you need to pay before you can get out through the barrier.

Fan Funds

Voting for the European Fan Fund ends today. See issue 5 for more information.

Voting for the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund ends on Tuesday.

More Fan Funds

The Fan Funds Auction on Sunday night sold a number of very impressive items, ranging from Adrian Tchaikovsky

special edition hardbacks at £280 to old ZZ9 T-shirts.

The auction took £1,733 – to be split between GUFF, TAFF and EFF. Thanks again to everyone who donated or bought items, and everyone who helped to make it fun. Thanks so much to tech, especially Keith, JT and Herald, for working tirelessly to deliver a unique setup for us.

The Fan Funds table in the Dealers' Room will be having a yard sale today. Go along to get a bargain to take home.

Abandon Trucks!

The noodle food truck has had to leave the site, but we should still have souvlaki until 6pm today as previously agreed.



However, Resorts World tell us that their contract does not allow their outlets to close for any reason short of total annihilation, so if you want to brave the rain, you should still be able to get food from there.

Plague Dogs

The last surviving members of the convention will be partying this evening in a location to be revealed later.

Levitation 2024

Next year's Eastercon is Levitation, from 29 March to 1 April in the Telford International Centre. Telford is only about 35 miles away from this year's venue, on the other side of Birmingham and close to Ironbridge, Shrewsbury and the Welsh border. Our Guests of Honour are Jackie Burns, Genevieve Cogman, Michelle Sagara (who also writes as Michelle West) and Tade Thompson. You can join at our table in the dealers' room here, or online at registration.eastercon2024.co.uk. We're looking forward to welcoming you all to Telford next year.

Reconnect 2025

2025's Eastercon is Reconnect at the Belfast ICC. Guests in 2025 will be Lauren Beukes, Derek Landy, Jeannette Ng, Rebecca Roanhorse, William Simpson and Ian McDonald (Bar GoH).

registration.easterconbelfast.org.

Because no matter how hard a conversation is, I know that on the other side of that difficult conversation lies peace. Knowledge. An answer delivered. Character is revealed. Truces are formed. Misunderstandings are resolved. Freedom lies across the field of the difficult conversation. And the more difficult the conversation, the greater the freedom.

—Shonda Rhimes

Art Show

Art show says, please go and collect the items you bought; there are still several pieces awaiting their new owners. They would also like to remind you that the virtual art show will be open until the end of April, please come and visit it at virtualartshow.squarespace.com.

Finally, a huge thank you to all artists, buyers and visitors!

Reverse TARDIS effect

Isn't it weird when packing to go home how much your luggage has increased in size? I swear I didn't buy that much stuff in the dealers' room.

SFF Thanks

Thank you all. The SFF book sale raised £205.47 plus 1 Swedish crown and 29 US cents.

Imminent Worldcon!

Less than a year and a half to go until the next UK Worldcon in Glasgow! All membership rates will rise on 1st May: that's only a couple of weeks away, so if you haven't joined yet, you can do so via the website: glasgow2024.org

Tech Stars

In order to provide the Conversation hybrid programme, Tech delivered 6 HD streams with multiple in and out streams, considerably more than any previous hybrid convention.

In particular, the 2022 Worldcon had only four full streams. We're all impressed at the way they've been able to deliver something that would put many professional conferences to shame.

Volunteers

Enormous thanks to everyone who has volunteered this weekend especially the many younger fans who've volunteered for the first time.

Feedback

Post any thoughts about how future Eastercons should be different in the #next-time channel on Discord.

Old News

Electronic copies of all issues of the newsletter are on the Discord and the website at conversation2023.org.uk/newsletter. It'll be on efanzines.com in due course.

This issue was produced by Steve Davies, with help from a few surviving plague zombies including Mike Scott, Alison (Brainzzz!) Scott and Giulia De Cesare. Artwork by Sue Mason. For a spoof issue of the newsletter, go to ChatGPT and enter the prompt "Five Go Mad on Moose, 3 columns, 2 sides, no staples"