

THE SALMON OF KNOWLEDGE

 **DUBLIN 2019**
AN IRISH WORLDCON

Issue 9 – Sunday afternoon

Exhibits for Sale



Wanting to take another little piece of Dublin 2019 home with you? Exhibits celebrating some of the GoHs could be yours!

Stop by the continuing fan fund auction in the Forum (by the big silver P) to make a donation and reserve exhibits including books edited by Ginjer Buchanan, mugs designed by Diane Duane, the Joy Division poster with Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell's pulsar and posters for Ian McDonald's books. Signed!

They can then be collected from GoH exhibits after 2pm on Monday.

Another Apology

We are very sorry for again letting down our Irish-speaking readers who were hoping to finally read our welcome message yesterday. Without further ado:

O'r swyddfa: rwyf yn yr Worldcon rŵan ac ni allaf darllen fy e-bost.

Pe byddai angen rhywbeth arall arnoch yn cyfieithu, bydd yn rhaid i chi fy ngweld yn y confensiwn.

Octocon 2020 GoH

Octocon, the National Irish Science Fiction Convention celebrates its 30th year in 2020, and is delighted to announce Michael Carroll as its Guest of Honour next year. Michael has attended every Octocon, first as an attendee, then as volunteer and committee member, and now as a guest. Michael has written many novels and comics, and is now one of the anchor writers of *Judge Dredd* for *2000AD* comic. Michael's comic history website, *Rusty Staples*, is well worth a visit: bit.ly/30ivoha.

Octocon 2019 will be a one-day event taking place on 13th October.

Peadar's Language Lessons 2:

"Two beers, please. James is paying."

"Dhá phionta, le'd thoil. Íocfaidh James astu."

In Memoriam

J Neil Schulman (b.1953) died on 11th August. Schulman won Prometheus Awards for his novels *Alongside Night* and *The Rainbow Cadenza*. His other two novels, *Escape from Heaven* and *The Fractal Man*, were also nominees for the award. He also wrote non-fiction and "Profile in Silver," an episode of *The Twilight Zone* that aired in 1986.

—Steven Silver

Parties

Wicklow 2, 8pm: Nice2023

Martin's Bar, post-Hugos: DisCon III

Cake!

Fadó fadó in Ceanada, Eugene Heller failed to bring cupcakes to the Newsletter Team at the 2009 Worldcon. They had never forgotten or forgiven this, until now. Thanks to Eugene for baking cake and bringing it to the Newsletter office while still warm.

The Party Reporter's Apprentice

K&A were otherwise engaged tonight, so your Party Reporter Intern swung into action. First up was CoNZeland, who, following long experience with European fans, did not even try to serve alcohol. Their alternative focus on World Famous in New Zealand mocktails and pavlovas ensured a bustling party. Wall-sized projections of New Zealand scenery added to the vibe, and I had my photo taken in a New Zealand forest with a lovely kiwi, who I could have adopted. The newsletter editors will be pleased to hear that I've excised the 2000 word discussion on the relative merits of different meringue recipes and cooking techniques, but don't worry, it will turn up in a blog later.

Next door, Chicago 2022 cleverly avoided running out of drink by serving a truly repulsive cocktail, the Harvey Walltanger, made of vodka, Galliano and Tang. Tang is dehydrated orange squash, and is if anything less tasty than you'd expect from that description. While building a wonky origami rocketship, I learn that the Chicago fans still speak to each other despite having run the 2012 Worldcon, so it's time to do another one. People are passing round the microscopic thimbles that Glasgow 2024 (of which more later) is serving whisky in, and remarking that the Memphis 2023 party was giving out generous quantities of bourbon by comparison.

I leave and enter the next party, only to discover it looks very familiar. Apparently some of these rooms have two doors. Who knew?

Moving on, I reach Memphis 2023. Obviously the generous quantities of bourbon and ginger ale could not last forever, but the spirit of the happily departed party goes is still present in the room. They have a fine Alien Elvis logo too, and emphasise that their conference centre is all under one roof.

Just outside is an enormous queue. Using my powers as a party reporter intern, I investigate the front of it, to discover that Glasgow 2024 (possibly the future InterThingy) is still dishing out malt whisky in homeopathic quantities (careful, it's very strong), two hours after their party started. I start to reach for a Tunnock's teacake, but notice that the whisky servers are looking weak with exhaustion, and join in serving whisky until it really does run out. "Two hours, six hundred fans, eight bottles," says Mark Meenan. "It's a miracle. Like five loaves and two fishes."

I pop my head into the disco, where John Scalzi is doing a stonking job of getting a very large number of people onto the dance floor, and then settle into Martin's for the rest of the night; dozens of us are cheerfully ejected from the CCD just before 3am, including con chair James Bacon. "Are you having a good time?" James asks everyone. Yes. Yes we are.

—Alison Scott

Warhoon 28

Northern Irish fan Walt Willis was a great influence on fandom from the 1950s onward, bringing his own brand of humorous writing to Ireland, the UK and the US. With Bob Shaw he co-wrote the fannish classic *The Enchanted Duplicator*, upon which one of Thursday's theatrical productions was based.

He won the Best Actifan Hugo in 1958, and was nominated for fan Hugos several more times. He co-created the fanzines *Slant* (with James White) and *Hyphen* (with Chuck Harris), and contributed to many more, including his series "The Harp that Once or Twice" for *Quandry*.

His influence went beyond writing, though: efforts to bring him to the 1952 Worldcon in Chicago led to the establishment of the first fan fund, the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund.

His work was celebrated by his peers and other fans. There were special editions of fanzines and collections of his writings, he was the Fan Guest of Honour of Magicon, the 1992 Worldcon, and in 1980 he received the Doc Weir Award for services to UK fandom.

In 1978, Richard Bergeron pulled out all the stops and created a Willis-dedicated issue of his fanzine *Warhoon*. *Warhoon 28* is a work of art in its own right: hardbound and gold-embossed, it's a massive anthology of Willis's writings and art, reflecting the history of the man and his fan writing.

The remaining stock of *Warhoon 28* is available from the Offworld and Hodges Figgis tables in the Exhibition Hall. This is your chance to take home a real piece of fannish history, and share the joy at what a great influence a Northern Irish writer had on the science fiction world. Come and buy your copy today, at half price: €10.

Sidewise Nominees Announced

This year's winners will be announced on-line on 15th October.

Short Form

- Rick Wilber: "The Secret City", *Asimov's*, 9/10, 2018

This newsletter was produced by James Shields, with help from Jan van 't Ent and Flick. Illuminated capital by Sue Mason.

Hazelnuts are also known as filberts, because St Philbert's feast day of 20th August is when hazelnuts are ready to be harvested.

You can email us at newsletter@dublin2019.com, and read the newsletter at www.dublin2019.com/at-con-newsletter.

- Oscar (Xiu) Ramirez and Emmanuel Valtierra, *Codex Valtierra*, 2018

Long Form

- Mary Robinette Kowal, *The Calculating Stars*, Tor, 2018
- Hannu Rajaniemi, *Summerland*, Tor, 2018
- Charles Rosenberg, *The Trial and Execution of the Traitor George Washington*, Hanover Square, 2018
- Lavie Tidhar, *Unholy Land*, Tachyon Publications, 2018

The Sidewise Awards for Alternate History were conceived in late 1995 to honour the best allohistorical genre publications of the year. The first awards were announced in summer 1996 and honoured works from 1995. The award takes its name from Murray Leinster's 1934 short story "Sidewise in Time", in which a strange storm causes portions of Earth to swap places with their analogues from other timelines.

For more information, contact Steven H Silver at shsilver@sfsite.com or go to www.uchronia.net/sidewise.

Queueing Theory #1

Thanks to everyone who completed our survey while waiting in a queue. Here is a block chart of the results:



Teen Lounge Opening Hours

The teen lounge will only be operational tonight (Sunday) from 8pm to 11pm.

WSFS Business Meeting Report

The WSFS Business Meeting was unable to dispose of all proposals for this year and will hold a final meeting at 10am on Monday, in the Stratocaster Room of the Gibson Hotel, where agenda items D9 (prohibits members from transferring

the voting rights associated with a membership, but would still allow the right to attend the convention to be transferred) and D10 (requires that Worldcons must sell Supporting memberships up until the close of site selection voting in order to allow for the delivery of hand-carried site selection ballots with an attached supporting membership) will be discussed.

You can find the details of the items discussed at bit.ly/wsfs-agenda. Items prior to D7 were disposed of at previous meetings.

Item D7, which proposed to reduce the number of finalists in each Hugo Award category from six back down to five, was amended to keep the number of finalist slots at six but also make the change permanent one year earlier than currently projected. A related resolution that would have temporarily set the number of finalists back to five for one year was rejected.

Item D8, which proposed to remove the current end-of-previous-year deadline for being eligible to make nominations for the Hugo Awards, was amended so that, if ratified, the deadline would go back to the end of January of the current year (which is what it was until a few years ago).

Item D11 (proposed changes to the definition of public display in the Best Fan Artist category) passed and is sent on to the 2020 Worldcon in New Zealand for ratification.

Item D13, a proposal to add a new Best Game or Interactive Experience Hugo Award category, was referred to the Hugo Awards Study Committee for additional consideration. The proponents of the proposal were invited to join the committee as part of this consideration.

Even More WSFS

Fifteen minutes after the final adjournment of the Business Meeting, the WSFS Mark Protection Committee will meet in the same location (Stratocaster Room). All members of Dublin 2019 are welcome to attend this meeting, which generally deals with electing the committee's officers and setting goals for the coming year.