

# THE TROUT OF DOUBT



# LOKTA 2019 AN IRISH SPOOF

Issue Ω – Can We Go Home Now?

## Newsletter Distribution Notes



After a busy few days, our printers are getting knackered. We have therefore arranged to print exactly five copies of this issue on Walt Willis's Enchanted Duplicator. There will be one copy on each floor of the CCD, so you may have to get a wristband to join the queue to read them. The queue to get a wristband will be in The Point.

## Queuing Survey

1. Are you in a queue right now?
2. On a scale of 1 to 5, how likely would you be to recommend this queue to a family member?
3. How many queues have you been in this weekend?
4. What was your Worldcon queuing highlight?

[That's quite enough about queues—Ed.]

## WSFS Business Meeting News

Now that Erskine May (the guide to the conduct of Parliamentary proceedings in the UK) is online, WSFS has decided that all WSFS business will be conducted under Erskine May rather than Robert's Rules of Order whenever the Worldcon is held in a Commonwealth country, starting with New Zealand next year.

A thoroughly accidental toner splodge from the newsletter's printers caused an error in the printed copies of the WSFS Business Meeting Agenda. As a result, the meeting accidentally ratified a new Hugo Award for Best Convention Newsletter About Fish. We look forward to seeing the first list of finalists next year.

## All-England Hurling Championships

...are held every Saturday night outside Wetherspoons in all major town centres.

## Actual News in Spoof Shock!

Our report that the closing ceremony was at 4pm is just plain wrong – it's at 4:30pm. See you then.



## Lost In Translation

We've had one last go at getting our welcome message translated. Fingers crossed that it's right this time:

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[Where did you get those funny looking emoji from, Mum?—Ed's daughter]

## Today's Feedback Session

You complained about getting static electricity shocks from the carpets in the CCD. We have now arranged for CCD staff to sweep up all the stray electrons and dispose of them humanely.

Some people felt that the Pocket Convention Guide was too large to fit in pockets. We have arranged for a tailor to come to the convention and provide free alterations to your clothes.

Some of you felt that by staying off-site you weren't getting the full convention experience. We have arranged for the fire alarms at every hotel in Dublin to go off at 3am tomorrow, when Met Éireann is forecasting high winds and a light, penetrating rain.

## Point to Point Portals

The committee would like to apologise for the late delivery of the orange portal for the CCD and the blue portal for The Point. We hope that inter-site travel will be much faster during move out.

## Construction Delays

You may have seen the building sites scattered around the area near the convention. This was a crash project by Dublin City Council to ensure that there were enough programme rooms available for the convention, but sadly the work has overrun.

## New Programme Items

- Long-term character development in the works of George RR Martin (6pm Wednesday in Boardroom 3).
- Feminist subtext in the works of EE "Doc" Smith (noon Wednesday in Liffey B).
- Critical path analysis in the collected works of JRR Tolkien (11am Wednesday in Odeon Screen 1).

## Party Reports



celebrations were in order as we went along to a few parties last night. First along the corridor was Trantor in 2274, which seemed very well planned but was rather crowded.

More sparsely populated was Arrakis in 3856: who thought that it was a good idea to have a dry party at a European Worldcon?

Sadly, the Alderaan in 3137 bid has been cancelled due to problems with the venue.



## Things We Know Now That We Didn't Know On Thursday Morning

“LUAS” is not an acronym.

Bees don't like the smell of bananas (it's similar to their swarming pheromone).

“Hauntology” is a real word.

The early versions of the scarabs in the 1999 film *The Mummy* levitated rather than swarming over their victims.

The Salmon of Knowledge makes excellent sashimi. Yum.

## Glitterati

Following a successful trial in Martin's Bar last night, future Worldcons will be replacing area ribbons with patterns of facial glitter in many different colours.

Thanks to printer-wallah Jan van Tench, our editors, Steve Dace, Pike Scott, James Shark, 'Alibut Scott and Flickeback, and our special assistant Diarmuid Finning. Sorry, we couldn't think of fish jokes for Dave Haddock or Finn Murphy. Illuminated letters by Sue Mason, raven by Ulrika O'Brien. Passed by the official censor: Vanessa Ray. *The Salmon of Knowledge* was actually the second salmon-based fanzine produced by the *Plokta* Cabal (damn! We also mentioned *Plokta*. Sorry James. Waah, we're carp.)

You can email us at [newsletter@dublin2019.com](mailto:newsletter@dublin2019.com), and read the newsletter at [www.dublin2019.com/at-con-newsletter/](http://www.dublin2019.com/at-con-newsletter/).

## The Duplicator of Enchantment

Fadó Fadó in Prosaic in the land of Mundein lived a man by the name of Jophan. Now the heart of Jophan was filled with melancholy for there was none in the land to whom he could speak of the strange things that filled his mind. He listened to strange tales, he read peculiar books and longed to climb the mighty mountains that surrounded his country.

A day came, while dreaming in a cornfield, Jophan saw a beautiful woman who shone like the midday sun. She spoke to him, calling him to follow her to the land of Fandom that lies over the mountains, and telling him of the greatness of that country. She promised to gift him with a shining shield named Umor that would protect him on his journey to that place.

Jophan sprang up transfixed. He swore a great oath that he would climb the mountains, reach the land of Fandom and publish the perfect fanzine on the enchanted duplicator, becoming a true fan. He awoke from his dream and found that on his arm he held the shield of Umor promised by the maiden, and by this token he knew he must follow her. Saying farewell to his parents and his comrades, he set out.

Many are the tales told of Jophan and his quest for the enchanted duplicator. He avoided the temptations of the letterpress railroad. He was lost in the Circle of Lassitude for many days and avoided the swamp of Hekto before crossing the bridge of moderation. He drank from the egg of Bu and crossed the desert of indifference, but these are tales for another time.

After many years, he came to the land of Trufandom and climbed the white tower at the centre of that land. The top of that tower was of gold, yet on the very tip of the spire was a broken and rusty wreck of a mimeo. Jophan gazed with horror on the ruin, for he desired Fandom with all his heart. Aghast, he put his hand on the machine and to his amazement he felt a great rush and his eyes shone with knowledge. He heard the voice of the maiden saying “your trials have made you a true fan, and now this is indeed The Magic Mimeograph, and it will produce The Perfect Fanzine, for the real magic mimeograph is the one with a true fan at the handle.”

—Steve Davies, with apologies to Walt Willis and Bob Shaw

## Fans Wanted for Hazardous Project

Hilarious team of bright young editors needed by CoNZealand for convention newsletter. Small wages (in groats), bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honour and recognition equally doubtful.

## Extra Volunteer Rewards

5 hours: you now have enough groats for a drink from the bar.

300 hours: you will be automatically entered into the draw to be Chair of the next Irish Worldcon.

500 hours: you win a trip in the DeLorean back to the opening ceremony so you can attend the convention.

1000 hours: you win a trip in the DeLorean back to the point where you volunteered, so that you can change your mind.

## Update to Age Restrictions

Under-50s in the WSFS Business Meeting must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

## What's With All the Salmon Anyway?

Being slapped around the face with a wet fish is a traditional folk remedy for volunteering to run a Worldcon.

## Last Minute Meet-Up

At two minutes before the deadline in Martin's Bar, there will be a meet-up of newsletter editors desperate to find some more material for their spoof issue.

## And Finally...

Phew! We managed to get through the whole convention without once mentioning leprechauns. Oh, bugger.