

# SPELLCASTERS' PERIODICAL ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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ISSUE XXXMMMCLXXII — 8TH SEPTEMBER, YEAR OF THE BACKWARDS-FACING ARTICHOKE

## ACTING ARCHCHANCELLOR'S ADVISORY

*(Across Atlantic Adventures)*

It's official – Discworld fans are wonderful no matter where in the world you find them. I've been to my first ever North American Discworld Convention, held in New Orleans, and the theme was all about Genua, Witches and Fat Lunchtime (Discworld Mardi Gras).

I've had the pleasure of attending quite a few cons in the UK and Ireland but never further afield. From the first moment I felt welcomed and at home, with friendly and enthusiastic committee, gophers, and fellow attendees. The programme was packed full of interesting items, the decorations and room-theming were great. Personal highlights were the Lodge meeting (we had one last time, and we're proud to be hosting this event again at IDWCon 2017), the Night Watch training session, and the Witch Trials. We also must thank our NADWCon hosts for officially imparting to us the new official Megapode for our own use. They've used it for their own Hunting the Megapode – ergo, it's now a \*Tradition\*.

News that has stuck with me from the Con (though there'll be more I'm forgetting) – a Josh Kirby original will be joining the Paul Kidby artwork at the HisWorld exhibition of Terry's life starting 16th September in Salisbury, UK. Filming will be starting imminently on Good Omens. And there'll be another NADWCon in 2019, chaired by The Incredible Amy, who some of you may remember from previous Discworld conventions.

Our own convention is now just one month away, and we're dotting our teas and crossing our eyes and avoiding getting to five exclamation marks' worth of panic!!!! Looking forward seeing our Discworld family again, and if it's your first time, we will welcome you into it.

— *Acting-Archchancellor Shivers*

## MASKERADE MENTION

We've a lot of fun activities planned for IDWCon (some of which can be found on our 'Programme Preview' page), but one of our favourites is when we let you entertain each other. There's still plenty of time to sign up for the Maskerade, where you get to show off your costumes, talents, and comedy chops, and, best of all, you get a chance of winning our amazing Maskerade 'Best In Show' Trophy, made by Amber 'The Artful Nudger' Grundy, our very own Con artist.

There's prizes for "freshers" as well as the more experienced students of the Maskerade, so we invite anyone to sign up by sending an email to [info@idwcon.org](mailto:info@idwcon.org) regardless of experience.

## WHY WE DON'T DO KLATCHES

A Kaffee Klatch is something that often occurs at other Discworld Cons, where attendees enter a raffle to have a mini-meeting with the Guests. It's a lovely idea for large conventions, or when it would otherwise be tricky to meet a Guest. But at IDWCon, we believe in Free Range Guests. Our smaller, more intimate convention allows them to roam free, where you, the attendees, will have plenty of opportunities to chat to them (and most importantly, offer to buy them drinks).

When wandering the halls of the Unseen University Open Weekend, feel free to approach Stephen for a chat, ask Colin about the history of Discworld, or find a cosy corner of the bar to listen to one of Uncle Bernard's grand old stories. Please be respectful, of course – remember that our harassment policies do extend to our Guests. Bear in mind that they may occasionally just want a bit of their own time, or a catch-up with some old friends themselves, so please don't be offended if they ask for some space.

STOP PRESS: Unfortunately, you can only chat to guests that will be attending. Due to health reasons, we regret to announce that the esteemed Dr Jack Cohen won't be joining us at this year's IDWCon. We'll all miss him greatly, and we hope his health improves soon.

## LOTS OF LOTS STILL TO COME

A quick reminder to those of you planning to donate items to our Charity Auction, but haven't yet got around to letting us know: please email [accounts@idwcon.org](mailto:accounts@idwcon.org) with the details – thank you!

## ENCHANTER'S ENIGMA

Rearrange the letters of the following words into a thematically-appropriate word or phrase:

FAKED NEON SAWFISH ON BAD HATS TZAR

Clue: Try singing that after a few drinks.

The previous edition's enigma answer was of course LECTURER IN RECENT RUNES. Check our next edition for the answer to this edition's enigma.

The Irish Discworld Convention 2017 will be held at the Cork International Hotel from the 6th to the 9th of October.

Please email [info@idwcon.org](mailto:info@idwcon.org) if you have any general queries, or [programme@idwcon.org](mailto:programme@idwcon.org) if you have programme ideas.

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