

SPELLCASTERS' PERIODICAL ALUMNI MAGAZINE

UNSEEN UNIVERSITY NEWS

ISSUE XXXMMMCLXVII — 20TH JANUARY, YEAR OF THE BACKWARDS-FACING ARTICHOKE

ACTING ARCHCHANCELLOR'S ADVISORY

Greetings and salutations! Well, we've done it, we've made history. The Irish Discworld Convention in 2017 will be the largest we've ever had. *The Turtle Moves*. Some of you may be dismayed to hear that we have in fact sold out of memberships – but please don't be too discouraged, we do have a waiting list, and unfortunately events in Real Life™ may mean some attendees who've already put their names down may not be able to make it. So do head to our website, create an account and put your name down; we'll be in touch if any places become available. For those of you smug lucky ducks who're secure in their memberships – please also make sure you book your hotel room in plenty of time, as they're close to capacity too!

A very Happy Year of the Backwards-Facing Artichoke to you all!

— Acting-Archchancellor Shivers

A 2017 DISCWORLD FANDOM CALENDAR

February/March (possibly, date TBC): *“Back in Black”* to air on BBC – a poignant documentary on the life and legacy of Sir Terry Pratchett

31st March-2nd April: Polish fan gathering in Nawojowa Góra, near Kraków

28th April: *Black Hat Day*, an unofficial marking of Terry's birthday: wear a black hat and raise a glass to the Man in The Hat

28th April-1st May: *“Wincanton Loonies – Oh For Folk Sake!”* (Including a performance of the play *“Witch”* by Circle of Spears)

18th-20th May: The 5th Scheibenwelt Convention, at Burg Ludwigstein, Witzenhausen, Germany

25th May: Inspired by events in *Night Watch*, expect your social media feeds to be overrun with lilac

1st-2nd July: *Cabbagecon (The Dutch Discworld Convention)* at the Carlton President Hotel, Maarssen, Utrecht

4th-6th August: *Nullus Anxietas VI – “The Discworld Grand Tour”* will be held at the Lakes Resort Hotel, Adelaide, South Australia

1st-4th September: *NADWCon – “The Genuan Experience”*, at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans

6th-9th October: *Nope, can't think of anything that could possibly be going on at this time...*

24th-26th November (possibly, date TBC): *Winter Wincanton Loonies gathering (unofficial Hogswatch)*

Links to the larger events can be found [here](#); for details of regular smaller fan meetup groups and performances of plays worldwide, check out *Discworld Monthly*. A man is not dead while his name is still spoken, so we aim to Speak His Name all over the world and the web.

NEW GUEST PROFESSOR ANNOUNCED

The members of the Acting-Faculty are delighted to announce an addition to the list of visiting speakers at the upcoming Unseen University Open Weekend. He has had many academic titles, including assistant, business manager, and guardian of Sir Terry's literary estate, though he generally answers to *ROB WILKINS*.

At the first Irish Discworld Convention, Rob strolled into the gala dinner in full black tie, statue in hand, after collecting Sir Terry's BAFTA and hopping on a plane to Ireland. He has only gotten busier since then, working as Sir Terry's business manager. Between his work as one third of production company Narrativa and his guardianship of the Pratchett legacy, he has somehow found time to attend the U.U. weekend. While Rob is currently involved in several projects to bring Discworld to the big and small screen, he must keep production secrets locked up tighter than the seals on the Dungeon Dimension – though he may be persuaded into releasing a few titbits through careful application of those potions known as beer and whiskey.

Rob Wilkins is not the only addition to the University. As the Open Weekend grows closer, the main faculty have all discovered terribly pressing duties that make it completely impossible for them to contribute to the organisational efforts. As a result, the planning has fallen to the Acting-Faculty and the truly magical team known as the *Irish Discworld Convention Staff*. The staff team will be using their specialised knowledge of dramatics, pointy things and gopher wrangling to make the Open Weekend run as smooth as Nanny's famous scumble.

ENCHANTER'S ENIGMA

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

HUGE LEG TAG

Clue: It's certainly pretty difficult to remove this from one's limbs.

The previous edition's enigma answer was of course ARCHCHANCELLOR. 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 if you have any general queries, or programme@idwcon.org if you have programme ideas.

Website: www.idwcon.org

Facebook: [tinyurl.com/gqpnnby](https://www.facebook.com/tinyurl.com/gqpnnby) Twitter: twitter.com/IDWCon

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