

Starbase 24

The official newsletter of

Issue 14: June 2018



THIS ISSUE:

- ***Game reviews***
- ***An Evening with Sir Patrick Stewart***
- ***Star Trek and The Sealed Knot***
- ***Adventures of a Volunteer Photographer***



IN THIS ISSUE ...

In this Issue	1
Greetings from the Starbase 24 Admirals' Office	2
An Evening with Sir Patrick Stewart	7
Indistinguishable from Magic (Star Trek: The Next Generation)	11
Star Trek And The Sealed Knot.....	13
The Adventures of a Volunteer Photographer	15
Organ Donation	19
Personal Log: Stardate 2018.04.14 Harry Potter & the Cursed Child.....	22
Mission Log: Brighton Comicom	23
USS Icen: A big thank you from the Fantastic Fundraisers	25
A Gamer's 'Fix'.....	26
Stranger things.....	27
Star Wars X-Wing	28
Star Trek Bridge Crew DLC Announcement	30
Geekology & Spacedock Birmingham	34
Defence Outpost United News.....	39

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Frontera Times: Issue Dates & Submission Guidelines

The FRONTERA TIMES is released quarterly with submission deadlines as below. Submissions can be made anytime to webmaster@starbase24.co.uk.

Submissions can be whole articles (long and short), pictures, jokes—almost anything. Text can be supplied in almost any format that can be copied and pasted, and photos should be sent as JPGs by eMail as this gives a higher quality image that can be enhanced if needs be. Please, no ZIP files and please not by a Facebook Messenger (as reformatting those are a nightmare!). Works should be original or, where the work is not original, the source quoted so that the appropriate credit can be given.

Please remember that the Editor only edits the magazine so unless you make submissions, the **FRONTERA TIMES** will be very small indeed. All submissions are welcome, but the Editor reserves the right to edit, postpone or not to publish a particular item. Many thanks.

	Issue Date	Deadline for Submissions
 SPRING	March	25th February
SUMMER	June	28th May
AUTUMN	September	27th August
WINTER	December	27th November



GREETINGS FROM THE STARBASE 24 ADMIRALS' OFFICE.

FADM James Mackenzie and Admiral Kehlan

It's been a busy few months for the Starbase 24 Admiralty as planning continues for the 12th Starfleet Klingon Banquet, being held at the Marriott Hotel Peterborough at the end of September. We have lots of very exciting things planned and we look forward to seeing you there.

As always, we continue to work to raise funds for charity and one of our recent fundraising activities was participating in the 5km Inflatable challenge. The Redshirts team, consisting of myself, Stefan Blakemore and Sarah-Mac took part in the run, cheered on by Admiral Mackenzie, Brian and Tony. For their part in helping to raise £520 for Macmillan Cancer Support, both Stefan and Sarah, were awarded the Meritorious Service Award.





The run itself was a lot of fun, although hard going in places. Much hilarity ensued when Stefan gave me a helping hand to get over one obstacle I was struggling with, only to follow up with the comment, “I just pulled the Admiral!”

The hard work over, we retired to the pub for a few celebratory drinks and a meal. A brilliant day with good company and for a good cause. And on behalf of SB24, I'd like to thank all the people who sponsored us and who offered encouragement.

We will be doing it all again in October, with added zombies... so if anyone would like to join the team, either to run (or walk or crawl...) or just to support us, have a laugh and cheer us on, come and join us in Newbury on the 27th October.



Starbase 24 Special Edition Comm. Badge

Starbase 24 has also released a new, special edition comm. badge to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. Costing £15 plus £1 postage, the new limited edition badge will raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.



Special Edition, Canada Tribute Comm. Badge

Our previous special edition, the Canada tribute badge, raised \$300 (Canadian dollars) for Jevi, a Canadian anti suicide charity and is now being sold in aid of Autisme Estrie, a charity which supports the autistic community. Both are fantastic causes and we are proud to have been part of this fundraising effort. If anyone would like a Canadian badge, we do still have a



small amount left. As with the DS9 special, cost is £15 plus £1 postage and all the funds raised will be sent to Bruno Signori, to be passed on to Autism Estrie.

And if that were not enough, we've released a series of department patches. Which leads me to the next item ...

Departments

We would like to put departments in place and appoint heads for the various departments, i.e. science, ops, helm, engineering, medical, security and so on. I will point out now, that while your duties will not be onerous, you WILL be expected to use your initiative to set up and run your department and write occasional reports for the Frontera Times. Other than that, there are no restrictions. So if you think you have what it takes, send in your applications.



Once again, thank you all for your support of the Starbase.

Live Long and Prosper

**Fleet Admiral James Mackenzie and Admiral Kehlan
COMMANDING OFFICERS, STARBASE 24**

STARBASE 24

Build a Wand

Workshop

Friday 28th September 2018

**3pm-4pm @Marriott Peterborough
£5 per adult, £3 per child***

Trained by Olivander himself, Madam Sycorax will help you choose your wand (or let your wand choose you). You can find out about it's own special properties as you add it's core and decorate it to your tastes and magical preferences.

Wands will be ready for collection at the banquet later that night

Take part in our colouring competition!

Best in age group wins a chocolate frog!

*** Maximum 2 children must be accompanied and supervised by a paying adult**

AN EVENING WITH SIR PATRICK STEWART

PO3 Rebecca Jane Lockley, Space Station Centaur

Back in February, my Google Alert for Patrick Stewart went off with an interesting alert: Sir Patrick Stewart would be giving a talk during the *Huddersfield Literature Festival*. Tickets were £15 and I hadn't yet seen it pop up on Twitter, so I blagged front row tickets. Then I waited ... and waited ... and waited for the day ... and oh, was it worth it!

I had a bit of a panic on Thursday when I started to read the weather report for both Yorkshire and Lincolnshire—snow, but not until the wee hours, so we would likely be fine. To be on the safe side, we packed sleeping bags, extra warm clothing (hats, scarves, fleeces), water and snacks into the back of the car just in case the snow turned into a Second Beast and we had to sleep in the car.

Our day started off with a walk through Huddersfield. There was an international food fair going on, so we checked that out and then headed to the Town Hall to make sure we knew where we would need to be. We also scoped out the place where we were meeting up with some friends for dinner before settling down in a local coffee shop (I've forgotten the name!) for a cup of tea. Earl Grey-hot, naturally.

We met up with friends for dinner at the Zephyr. None of us were familiar with the place and the food was ... okay. I had a Cajun



grilled chicken burger and there was no spice at all on my chicken, which was disappointing, but the strawberry gin was good.

We all were scattered around the auditorium, so we parted in the lobby and Tim and I headed to our seats. I still didn't think it was real. I would actually see one of my heroes live on stage! Talking! Telling us about his life and career!

When Nick introduced Sir Pat, he explained that Patrick agreed to photos during the first five minutes (and he even posed for pics), and then asked for phones/cameras to be put away and asked that it wasn't recorded. In fact, we were told if anyone did get caught with their phone held up during the talk, they would be kicked out. I *did* spot one guy on the balcony out of the corner of my eye holding up a phone,



though, so if any footage gets posted online I'll link it.

Patrick Stewart was brilliant. He warned us that he didn't give short answers, so there weren't a whole lot of questions asked, but the stories the man told ... it was worth it. I'd have gladly sat there for another hour ... two ... three ... just listening to his stories. Perhaps one day he'll publish a memoir (and Mr Stewart, if you're reading this, please can I edit it?).

We even got a rare treat! Not one accent, not two, but three accents!

Sir Pat imitated a local accent when he was telling us about his interview to receive a scholarship to attend the *Old Vic* (and apologized for it being bad, though as a non-local I couldn't tell), and then he gave us "space, ze final frontiere" in a French accent. I have to say, I'm quite happy Paramount didn't make him use a French accent! His third accent was a recreation of his role in 1967 on *Coronation Street*, plating a Fireman from Lancashire.

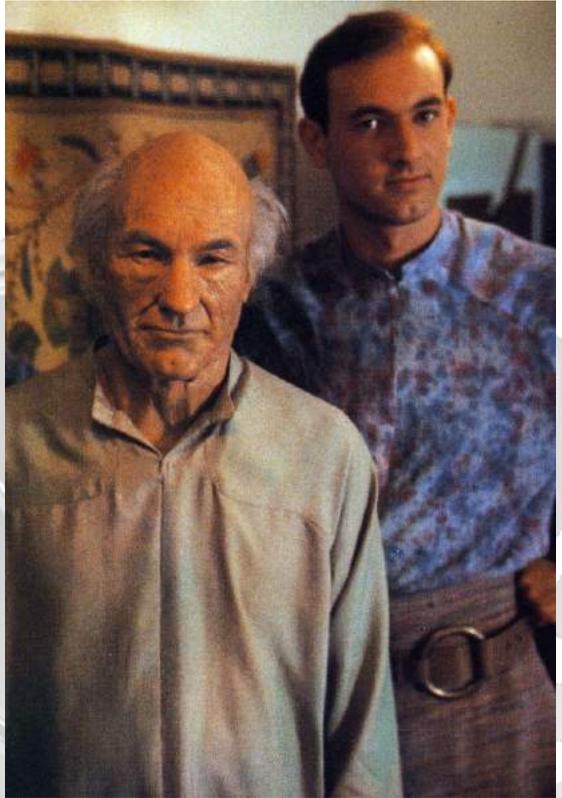
We also learned his favourite episode is *The Inner Light* (though the questioner asked "What's your favourite *Enterprise* episode, so I'm not sure if the questioner was confused over which series Sir Pat was in).

This is honestly no surprise to me as it is an incredible episode and it's made even better by the appearance of Daniel Stewart playing his son!

Sir Patrick told us about his early days in acting, about meeting and becoming *bezzies* with Sir Ian McKellen, and how he felt when he was on the BBC's *Who Do You Think You Are* and discovered more about his father. We also learned that the two charities he is patron for are in memory of his parents: *Refuge* for his mother and *Combat Stress* for his father.

And speaking of his early days in acting – did you know he lied his way into gaining his scholarship? Naughty Patrick! But I think he paid his debt in full back to Yorkshire in the end when he became Chancellor of the Huddersfield University.

I'm still giggling over his (former) hair piece having been flown across the Atlantic specifically for his audition for Captain Picard ... and then it was never used. While he did mention he wore a hair piece in one episode (*Violations*, in a flashback Beverly has), he didn't specify if it was the same one





or styled the same way. Hmm. Something to ask him in the future, perhaps?

Sir Patrick said in an interview on BBC Radio Leeds on Thursday that his favourite childhood book was *Treasure Island*. I really think he should record an audiobook for it, don't you?

All in all, it was an incredible evening. Sadly, I didn't get to ask

him my question. I wanted to ask him to give advice to those of us in the arts (performing, writing, creating) who face criticism and how you can bounce back from it ... but it wasn't meant to be and I'll hopefully get to see him again and ask.

Thanks
Huddersfield Literature Festival for having him, and THANK YOU Sir Patrick Stewart for speaking with us!

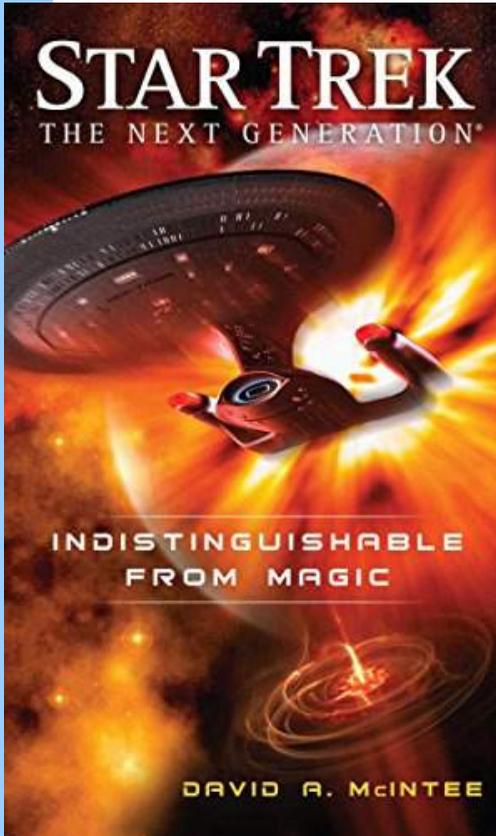


You are, forever, O Captain *my* Captain.

Photo by Neil Armstrong.

<http://www.blog.beccajanestclair.com/2018/03/an-evening-with-sir-patrick-stewart/>

INDISTINGUISHABLE FROM MAGIC (STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION)



This is just one of the books written by [David A McIntee](#) who will be our special guest at this year's banquet. David is also an expert in.... well I'll let him tell you himself about the sword choreography and re-enactment work he does... We are very excited to have him on board.

The most talented Starfleet engineers of two generations unite to solve a two-hundred-year-old technological mystery that turns out to be only the beginning of a wider quest.

With the support of Guinan and Nog, as well as the crew of the U.S.S. Challenger, Geordi La Forge and Montgomery Scott soon find themselves drawn into a larger, deadlier and far more personal adventure. Helped by old friends

and hindered by old enemies, their investigation will come to threaten everything they hold dear. Seeking out the new, and going where no one has gone before, Geordi, Scotty, and Guinan find that their pasts are very much of the present, and must determine whether any sufficiently advanced technology is really indistinguishable from magic.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Indistinguishable-Magic-Star-Trek-Generation-ebook/dp/B004TGZPSS/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1525978942&sr=8-3

STARBASE 24



WE ARE PLEASED TO INFORM
YOU THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AT
THE HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF
WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY



BRING YOUR WANDS TO CAST SPELLS OR
BREW UP A POTION ON THE FRIDAY NIGHT
AT THE TWELFTH BANQUET
WITH OUR THEME OF
HARRY POTTER



WHEN:

28TH - 29TH
SEPTEMBER
2018

LOCATION:

MARRIOTT
HOTEL
PETERBOROUGH

CONDITIONS:

STAR TREK AND THE SEALED KNOT

CMDR Kathy Lursa McMillan Brown, Starbase 24

"The Sealed Knot is the oldest re-enactment society in the UK, a registered educational charity, and the single biggest re-enactment society in Europe. The Sealed Knot brings history to life by staging events throughout the country all year round, offering a chance to experience at first hand the horrors of a nation at war with itself, as well as providing a glimpse of everyday life in those days.

"Our events vary in size: a major battle lasts for two or three days, often (but not always) over Bank Holiday weekends, and can see thousands of combatants taking to the field. At the other end of the scale, in small groups we visit schools at their request to give pupils a more hands-on approach to history by seeing us in costume, being able to ask us questions, and also handle some of the equipment we take with us. Pupils can learn about cookery, clothes, education and politics alongside the weapons and battle strategies in their own schools from people who have studied the period."

<http://www.thesealedknot.org.uk/>

Back in 1979, after the thrill of *Star Wars*, *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* was released, this brought all the closet Trekkies out, and a lot of them were in ***The Sealed Knot***, myself included. The Sealed Knot is an organisation dedicated to telling the truth about the English Civil War through battle re-enactment.

In the months following the movie release, a ditty began to take shape. Slowly, over the months, Lisle's and Sir Marmaduke Rawdon's Regiment of Foote, who were Tertio companies, spent time together carefully constructing the verses.

As the months of 1980 passed by, a rousing chorus began to be heard around the camp fires, and in the Christmas of 1980, a band of Sir Marmaduke Rawdon's soldiers went carol singing at Northampton General Hospital. Of course, most of the songs were carols, but the final song of the evening, we thought, was our piece-de-resistance.

*I am the Star Trek man and I can play
What can you play?
Klingons on the starboard bow
Starboard bow, starboard bow ..."*

We sang the song at every opportunity, and finally, Rory Kehoe decided to get it released.

It was originally sung to the tune of 'The Music Man' but was re-titled 'I Am The Star Trek Man'. Chris Steinhauer performed this version at a folk club one evening in 1986, which is where it was first heard by Grahame Lister, of novelty band [The Firm](#). Lister convinced Steinhauer to record the song onto an audio cassette and took it to his writing partner John O'Connor.

The duo dropped 'The Music Man' melody, and wrote a new chorus.^[1] They at first attempted to set Kehoe's lyrics to the tune of their 1982 hit single, 'Arthur Daley ... E's Alright', creating an alternative version initially entitled 'Captain Kirk ... He's Alright'. Unsatisfied, they sought to create something original, locking themselves away for a week to write 'Star Trekkin', based on an increasing tempo seen previously in Rolf Harris' "The Court of King Caractacus". They sought to have it recorded professionally, but were received unfavourably by potential recording labels.

Instead, they recorded it at O'Connor's and Brian O'Shaughnessy's Bark Studios in Walthamstow, East London. The arrangement was by Bill C. Martin, and the rest of The Firm was made up of Dev Douglas and Peter Sills. O'Shaughnessy later said "One of the greatest highlights of my career was producing 'Star Trekkin'. The record was produced to mock the series and we had no idea it was going to be a big hit."

So, you see, there is a great connection between the English Civil War and the United Federation of Planets, giving them a spread of 800 years!



Credits:

<http://www.thesealedknot.org.uk/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Trekkin%27

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Music_Man_\(song\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Music_Man_(song))

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Firm_\(novelty_band\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Firm_(novelty_band))

THE ADVENTURES OF A VOLUNTEER PHOTOGRAPHER

ADM Charlotte 'Kehlan' Kebbell, Starbase 24

As well as organising the Banquet and running Starbase 24, James Mackenzie and I run **JC Photography** and are both involved in volunteer work as photographers for our local church, St Marys, Pinchbeck. April and May was a particularly busy time for us as we prepared for the Flower Festival. This region has a long history of horticulture and bulb growing and for many years, the annual flower parade was a showcase for this trade. The parade itself is long gone now but each year, volunteers fill the churches with stunning flower arrangements and the festival continues.



With the theme of the St Mary's festival being "Time", a pair of Daleks (Daleks Dave and Dolly) turned up looking for the Timelord and got co-opted into posing for photos with the children and generally helped out with fundraising for the church.



The whole thing was a big learning curve for us. Our role in all this was to run a photographic studio, something we've never done before. I had to do some emergency training on off-camera flash, buy in some extra equipment and learn to make it all work. This is where Stefan Blakemore came in and I owe him a huge thank you for giving up a week of his time and coming over to Spalding to be our tech guy for the flower festival. Stefan was the one who managed to get the camera, the flashes, the computer and the printer to not only talk to each other but keep talking to each other.

We also sponsored a photo competition, which involved various classes from Pinchbeck primary school coming into the church, taking photos of the festival and entering them to win a trophy. We had lots of fun briefing the children and working with them, something we've never done before. It was incredible to see the level of enthusiasm and to our surprise when we eventually saw the photos, the entrants were of a very high standard.

Overall Winner



Key Stage 1 Winner



Key Stage 2 Winner



The children were fascinated by the themed backdrop we were using for the studio and we ended up taking group photos of the children with it. Again, a learning curve for us and some very funny moments where we had one group competing to see who could pull the silliest face for the camera! Honestly, I'm not sure who learned more—the children or me. Probably me!

The backdrop, which started off life as a huge super-king size bedsheet, was painted for us by Kevin Goldsmith and Denise Hopkins. I am sure you will all agree that it looks amazing!



ORGAN DONATION

CAPT Martin, Strang, SS Independent

The CO of the Independent is participating in the **European Transplant and Dialysis Sports Championships** in Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy from the 17th—24th June 2018 as a member of **Team Great Britain (Transplant Sport UK)**.

I attended the first team briefing in Coventry the weekend of the 7/8th April 2018 at the Warwick University

The British team attending is the largest out of the Euro nations taking part with 52 transplant recipients and also at least 20 supporters (family, physiotherapists etc). This year marks the 20th European games and there will



be athletes from UK, Italy, Finland, Hungary, Denmark to name a few. The games are truly inspirational as the only qualifying criteria is that you must have had a **life saving** organ transplant or be on dialysis, and also be training in your chosen sporting events. Everyone who is taking part has been given the gift of life—a second and, sometimes, a third chance at life.

We have the youngest competitor at fifteen years old, who had a kidney at five years old, and another team member who has had a bone marrow transplant at three—he is now eighteen! There are team members

who have had heart and lung transplants, and I was introduced to someone who had a heart, lung, kidney and pancreas transplant, and this person is only twenty-three.

I myself had a kidney and pancreas in July 2012 and was given a second chance at life by a young, seventeen year old donor called Toby, who made the choice of signing the organ donor register in order to allow other people to live after his passing.

I suffered end-stage renal failure and was diagnosed with this in late 2008 and started kidney dialysis in 2009. The renal failure was down to ongoing term Type 1 diabetes that I had for thirty-seven years, and as soon as the kidney and pancreas was plumbed in, I was diabetes free. Unfortunately, the pancreas stopped working on New Year's Eve 2017 and I was Type 1 diabetic again. However, the kidney is working fine.

Seven or eight years ago, I would never have dreamed of representing my country in a major sporting event like the European games, going to a different country and competing. Heck, two years ago I couldn't even pick up a bow. I certainly would never of thought I would, two years on, have a box full of medals and trophies (5 gold medals, 4 silver medals, 4 bronze medals, been awarded a second place *Disability Trophy* for achievements in archery by Falkirk Council, *Best Improved Archer* in my club, *Indoor & Out Door Novice Club Champion* and several other accolades. This is all down to my donor, Toby, whom I honour and give thanks to every single time I raise my bow, draw back and shoot.

Being allowed to shoot for your country, and being one of only two



archers shooting for team Great Britain is truly an amazing feeling. I am both excited and sick at the same time!

Whilst in Coventry this weekend, it was arranged for me to take part in the Sunday shooting session of *Warwick University Archery Club*. It was the first time I had shot outdoors since the outdoor season finished last September and I have also got a new bow so wasn't sure how it would handle.

I needn't have worried. It handled like a dream! I shot a few ends at eighteen metres and got a good group, then decided to shoot at thirty metres. First time with my new bow, again a good group and score! Many thanks to W.U.A.C. for your hospitality!

I'm also taking part in *Petanque* and ten pin bowling so not entirely sure how that one will go!

So the European games are in June and when I come back, I will be participating in the British Transplant games in Birmingham from the 2nd—5th August, again hoping to carry on from my success doing my first ever ones last year and getting a gold! A very busy summer indeed!

For someone who, until my transplant, never had a sporting bone in his body (or is it organ), I can't believe that I am shooting in the Great Britain team!



If you haven't already, please think about joining the organ donor register. There are currently 6,500 people in the UK waiting for a transplant. Nearly 500 people died last year waiting for a lifesaving organ

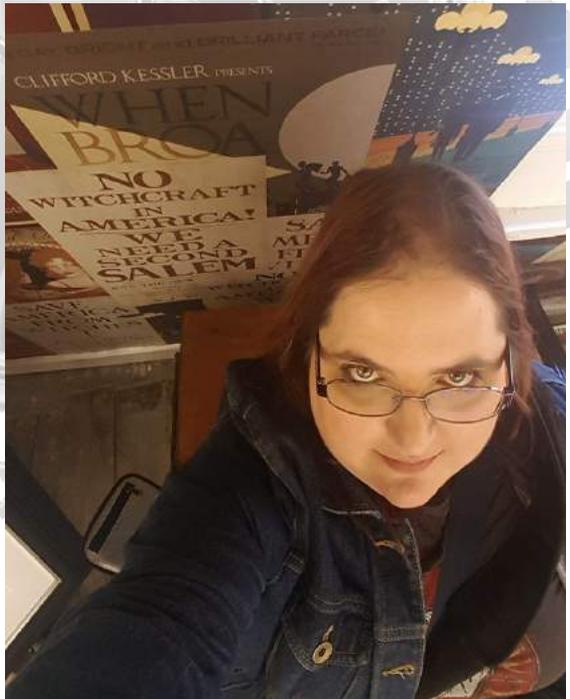
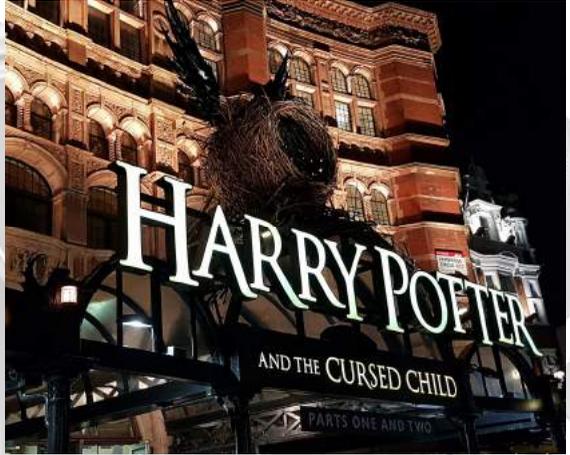
transplant. To join go to: www.nhsbt.nhs.uk. For information on the **European Transplant and Sports Championships** in Cagliari take a look at <http://www.cagliarietdsc2018.it/>. If you also would like to help me fund the trip (all donations greatly appreciated), please take a look at my GoFundMe page: www.gofundme.com/europeantransplantgames2018

PERSONAL LOG: STARDATE 2018.04.14

HARRY POTTER & THE CURSED CHILD

PO3 Rebecca Jane Lockley, Space Station Centaur

I had the wonderful opportunity to visit with a friend on Planet London. She happened to be seeing *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child* and had a spare ticket. Fortunately, my schedule was clear and I was able to arrange last minute transportation. We spent the weekend engrossed in magical London and visited places such as Knockturn Alley and Diagon Alley. I managed to squeeze in a trip to forbidden planet before catching my transporter home, which ran late due to problems with the SS Flying Scotsman.



MISSION LOG: BRIGHTON COMICOM

CAPT David Burton, USS Pharaoh



Some of the crew of the USS Pharaoh attended Brighton ComiCon in April, this time cosplaying as characters from the *Star Wars* universe. We had a great day and met some fantastic new friends, all of whom are now FB friends with the group. It was a pleasure to meet so many new people and we look forward to seeing everyone again very soon.

LEFT: Wayne Ladd enjoying Brighton ComiCon.

STARBASE 24

PERMISSION TO BEAM ABOARD
TO CELEBRATE THE
25th ANNIVERSARY OF

STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

ALL OFFICERS AND GUESTS
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

THE CELEBRATION IN
QUARK'S BAR
ON THE SATURDAY NIGHT
AT THE TWELFTH BANQUET
WITH OUR THEME OF
DEEP SPACE NINE

WHEN:

28TH-29TH
SEPTEMBER
2018

LOCATION:

MARRIOTT
HOTEL
PETERBOROUGH

CONDITIONS:

USS ICENI: A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS

CAPT Lorna Bergin, USS Icení

Watford Comic-Con, Stardate 2018.04.02

Thanks to our CO and Lieutenant Commander Ben L Thomas, at Watford Comic Con in April, £290 was raised for charity along with another £50 that was donated towards Ben and Matthew's ***Crohn's And Colitis Superhero***

Fun Run later in the year. So that's £145 each for both ***Starlight Children's Foundation UK*** and ***Crohn's and Colitis UK***.



I'd like to add a huge thank you, which has to go to all those who took part in our tombola, bought an item or donated something. It all helped get us to where we are today.

Out of the Ashes Reunion, Stardate 2018.04.07

Thanks to the kind generosity of those at the ***Out of the Ashes Reunion*** (with the amount that was spent on raffle tickets, to the extra prizes that were donated) the raffle we ran for ***Crohn's and Colitis UK*** at the event was a huge success, pulling in another £300 for the charity. This now brings the total raised for charity by members of the USS Icení to £12,351. Huge thanks to everyone involved, thank you, every single one of you.

A GAMER'S 'FIX'

FCAPT Anni Potts, *Space Station Centaur*

Once upon a time, many years ago, I used to game. I loved it. I was one of those geeks who could easily game on right through the night and into the next day. I even had a job that involved gaming. I was a very happy little bean in my pixelated world of adventure and treasure hunts. I proudly bore the calluses on my thumbs, and the insomnia worked in my favour, giving me those extra hours to dedicate to the cause (aka quest). And then disaster struck.

Repetitive Strain Injury comes in many forms. Mine strikes in the upper arms and wrists causing muscle spasms and chronic pain—but I'm not here to talk about such tings. Instead, I want to introduce you to the world of gaming apps. Well, come on! An addict's got to get her fix somewhere! And the nice thing about apps is that they require no setting up and can be played in small doses. No, the dedicated Xbox/Playstation/Nintendo/Sega may not find the play satisfying enough, but us invalided players have to get our jollies where we can. Don't be mistaken either, because some of those games can be very addictive as well as, get this, FREE! A price I very much like.

So what do I look for in a game?

I'm easily bored by a game, so forget your *Candy Crushes* and hidden object games. You can only match four lemons or find ten teapots so many times before the entertainment wears off (about 10 minutes if I'm generous). Then there are those games that are free for a teeny-weeny sample and then they want you to pay. Sadly, the authors don't seem to realise that the free bit needs to be incredibly good if it is to win you over enough to make you stick your hands in your pockets, or a good bit longer to get you properly hooked. I can understand that they want to make money, but with so many free offerings about to try, the competition is stiff.

Not that I am averse to paying for a game. Indeed, there have been a number of games that I have paid for to remove the advertising. The game has been that good that I've wanted the uninterrupted play, so have dug my grubby little mits into my pocket for the pleasure of.

Enough banter, and to the matter in hand. I'm going to begin with my current favourite, ***Stranger Things***.

STRANGER THINGS

FCAPT Anni Potts, *Space Station Centaur*



With a slightly retro feel to it, *Stranger Things* takes you on a hunt through a continually expanding landscape looking for your lost buddies. With quests along the way (to find things to add to your collection or return to their owner for a suitable reward), baddies to bash and even a

few boss levels thrown in for good measure, it's compellingly addictive and fun. It also has two levels of play which makes it fun for the littler ones, too.

Download for free from the App Store and give it a bash!
("Scuse the pun!")



STAR WARS X-WING

RADM Dan Adams, Starbase 24 & SS Hawking

As many of you have known, I am a bit of a fan of *Star Trek Attack Wing*. I ran it once or twice at the Banquet, and more recently our very own Stefan Blakemore has stepped up to run it to. But *Attack Wing* actually uses a modified version of the flight path mechanic created by, and leased from, Fantasy Flight games. The most popular use of this mechanic is in their own game *Star Wars X-Wing*.



For various reasons, a better publisher, *Star Wars* being “more cool”, and a slightly easier game to get into from the ground floor, *X-Wing* is a more popular game. From personal experience, it seems that far more gaming stores stock the *Star Wars* version, and as a result there is more Organised Play.

Organised play for *X-Wing* comes in many forms. This past March I took part in two pretty big tournaments. The first was the UK System open in Birmingham. This currently holds the record as the biggest *X-Wing* tournament in the world, bringing in players from across the world. As a participant, there are a few collectibles that aren't offered elsewhere, including special tokens for the game, and collectible cards. The more games that you win, the better the prizes. Ultimately, the winner gets an invitation, transportation and accommodation for the world championships in America.

Despite playing the game at least once, often twice, per week, I am not good enough for the high table. However, accepting this, I was keen to try my skills, and have some fun. I went down with my local club, the Worksop Wookies. There were five of us playing over the weekend, and fun was had by all.

The tournament was held at the Birmingham Hilton Metropole. This venue is a special one for me, as it's where I was able to meet Lis Sladen a few

years before her passing, and Richard Dean Anderson at Stargate and Doctor Who conventions.

Day one was upon us, and sadly I lost three out of my four games in the main tournament. To stand a chance of qualifying for day 2, I would have needed to win at least three games. However, all was not lost. There was a side event, known as a “hangar bay”. In this event,



you break up into small pods of 8 players. You then take part in a mini tournament. I won two of my three games in this event, and I got some more prizes. As well as official event prizes, what I liked about this event is that other players gave away bonus prizes that they had sourced themselves to their opponent. It is a approach I hope to adopt with our team.

At the end of the first day, four of us retired to our accommodation for the night. Unlike a hotel, the five of us split the cost of a rental house for the night. Each room had an ensuite shower, and it worked out at £50 between us. Its certainly a good way to drive down the cost of a big event in the future

While the best players duked it out in the knock out stage of the main tournament, there was a third event – the hyperspace qualifier. For turning up in four games, you get four special cards Its called Hyperspace because people who get knocked out of the main tournament, can jump into the Hyperspace one. Sadly, the wins for me weren't forthcoming this time. Still, it was a great weekend.

The following tournament was the Sheffield regional championship. This time, up for grabs was a first round bye for the European championships in June. This was held at another special venue, the Holiday Inn, where I attended my first Redemption last year. Out of six games, I was only able to claw two wins. But again, there was some good fun and fellowship in the event. Being a one day event certainly made it easier on travel and transport.

There is always a sense of heavy competition in these events, however they can be really quite fun too. I am off to the European championships in June, and I am really looking forward to it.

STAR TREK BRIDGE CREW DLC ANNOUNCEMENT

Stefan Blakemore, Starbase 24

You may remember in a previous issue I talked about the *Star Trek Bridge Crew* game. I tried to get as many details as possible in about the game and what it could do, and I made a point of mentioning that the game allowed you to play on the Original Enterprise.

Well grab your Earl Grey and a copy of Shakespeare, Ubisoft are upping the ante once again!

This May sees the release of the game's first major DLC, *The Next Generation DLC*. As the name implies, it will allow players to traverse the galaxy (or the trench area) from the opulence and comfort of one of Starfleet's most immense starships, the Galaxy Class.

Now players could be forgiven for thinking that the only things that would come with this update would be a shiny new ship, but that is only a drop in



the deuterium tanks of what this update provides! On top of a number of bug fixes and small behind the scenes updates, the DLC provides a number of changes. For one, it introduces a new avatar so players, if they wish, can perform their duties as a Soong type Android.



If that wasn't enough, the game introduces a new mode for the game: Operations.

With the Galaxy class being as big as it is, Operations takes on far more than any other position on the ship. Operations, in the Star Trek universe, coordinates the cargo, supplies and production options of the ship, manages where resources are allocated, tells people where they need to go, is the go to area for sensor scans and is usually where Data's fingers dance and make music.

Now, Bridge crew couldn't put all of those features into the same station, never mind that some of those duties are handled very well by Tactical and Engineering. But what they COULD do was add a new screen to the Engineering station, one that allows the crew to allocate extra virtual crew members below decks to give a boost of some kind.

For example, you could allocate some crew to Phaser control and you will have a chance of providing extra damage output when you fire.

The Operations role ends up being a lot like playing a game called FTL, where you are trying to get your ship from one side of the galaxy to another

and you need to move crew members around to do new tasks, or enable ship functions, or repair damage.

That's not to say that it's a blatant rip off. It seems to be more of a homage to the FTL game. Operations players will have a few bits to re-learn, but they should make sure not to get too comfortable with crew management, the DLC isn't finished there, and there are some updates that are looking to take the Galaxy class warranty, and void it, along with the rest of the ship.

That's right. You guessed it, there are new enemies in the game!

The Romulans have started floating around, causing intrigue and skulking around with their cloaking devices. While at the time of writing this article, I have not seen the ships myself, I do know that there are Romulan scout ships available, and I'm sure the intimidating D'deridex Warbird will turn up to settle old scores.

But even that pales against the most brutal new enemy for the game—the Borg.

To set the stage, there are two new game modes in the DLC. One is Patrol mode, where you can wander around and visit every location the game has, something that a lot of people wanted. It gives players the chance to truly immerse themselves in the role and it leads to some fantastic role-play opportunities.

The second new mode is aptly named “Resistance” where, as I know you have guessed, you encounter the Borg and defeat them with a hearty rendition of where the line must be drawn ... actually, maybe not.

The fact is, even with the legendary Enterprise crew manning their stations, it would be IMPOSSIBLE to defeat the Borg one-on-one. Even if you



could negate the power difference, the Borg are known for their terrifying ability to regenerate the ship back to perfect condition in mere moments.

THIS is the key point of this mode. There are apparently pieces of some prototype weapon that can disable the Borg's ability to regenerate, so you have to go and find them. Sounds easy right? WRONG. You will be hounded at every step by the Borg. They will chase you wherever you go. You will only have a few moments of rest before the cube warps in, forcing you to run once more.



Once you have all of the pieces of this weapon it then becomes a one-on-one battle to the death for your crew and the Borg. Two ships enter the Sector, one ship leaves.

Do you have the nerves of tritanium needed to face off against the Borg? Can you out-wit the sneaky Romulans? Will the new Operations role make your head spin?

Well PS4 players can answer that question right now. The DLC is available on PS4 VR for download, priced at £15, (most articles say \$15, so I believe they will use the same price) and for Windows PC users it will be available on July 21st. No, I don't know the reason for the delay.

What I do know, is that this DLC has a host of features Star Trek Fans have been begging for, and It seems that Ubisoft were listening very carefully.

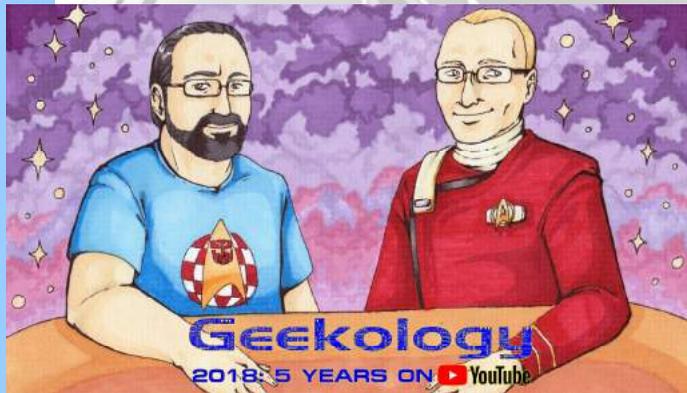
I'm going to get my hands on the DLC as soon as I can, but until then, I hope that my hype here matches what the DLC provides.

GEEKOLOGY & SPACEDOCK

BIRMINGHAM

CMDR Sven Harvey, Spacedock Birmingham & Geekology

Back in 2010 David Zabiela and myself formed *Geekology* with the intention of me leveraging the experience from my many years of fanzine and magazine writing from *The Final Frontier* diskzine (on the Commodore Amiga computer family) through *Infinite Frontier's* paper fanzines (including *The Final Frontier Phase II* and *The Cybertronan Times*) plus work in *Micro Mart*, *Model & Collectors Mart* and others. It seemed logical to do a general sci-fi and fantasy



fanzine, but it didn't engage either of us as much as we perhaps expected it to. It was time to go outside our comfort zone, be brave and try something new.

I'd conceptualised an idea called 4M@ (format) which was

supposed to be a magazine format TV show type video series about video and computer gaming. The idea was to have three presenters with myself as the PlayStation expert, David as the X-Box rep and someone else for Nintendo, while all three would cover computer and retro gaming, as well as some other technology coverage. Think Top Gear for gaming and home cinema tech.

Launching onto YouTube

Since its launch in 2005, YouTube has become home to millions of hours of video content about all sorts of subjects. However, since launch the vast majority of the videos on YouTube have either been short (under five minutes) or an almost endless parade of top 5s and top 10s.

After a rather unsuccessful attempt at putting together a fanzine, and other

ideas combining with my redundancy from *Gamestation* creating a perfect storm, David suggested adapting the 4M@ idea into a sci-fi and fantasy based web show primarily reviewing the geek-culture items we were getting our hands on anyway and had in our collections. The format was adapted and borne out of the extra idea of just filming the conversations we often had anyway, targeting between thirty minutes and an hour per video (a definite break from the YouTube norm, especially then). The first episode of **Geekology** went live on the 25th May 2013, launching the series with, of course, Star Trek.

It's been 5 years since that first review of the Star Trek Kre-o Enterprise, and the Geekology channel now has well over 300 videos. As well as the main Geekology show, 4M@ has come



to fruition along with *Did You Know? Weird Stuff!*, *Unboxings*, *Retro* and more! The back bone of the main show is a combination of *Star Trek* (especially Eaglemoss' Official Starship Collection) and *Transformers* (especially the Masterpiece line) with both franchises spilling over into tour other shows. The shows are more entertaining than anything else (we hope) with a peculiarly British sense of humour, but with a bit of geek-orientated educational content (especially the *Educating Dave Transformers* episodes!) You are of course cordially invited to check out our YouTube channel at the web address below



and encouraged to subscribe (and don't forget to hit the notification bell.) At the very least we will be covering every main issue release of Eaglemoss' Star Trek, The Official Starship Collection



as it continues on.

We really had no clue what we were doing right at the start, but we soon got into the swing of the episode making and even after the slight hiccup that has been the last few months, we are getting back into a more regular schedule again. If you are thinking about getting out there on YouTube, then absolutely give it a go, regardless of what kind of content you want to produce, it's all good experience. Just treat it as a hobby rather than a potential way to make a living, as though that is possible, you need to be rather lucky to do so (though I know people who are giving full-time YouTubing a go!)

Events

As the popularity of the channel grew we started raising money for two local charities, **Dazzling Dreams GB** (a children's charity) and **Age UK Birmingham**, at the events we were attending. Networking with the Star Trek fanbase, especially in the Birmingham area revealed a gap, however. Add to this that we wanted to do lot more and get more money coming in for the charities we thought it was time to offer something back into the fandom, especially in our area. Even though Birmingham traditionally has been a nexus of Star Trek activity since the Sol III fan-run conventions at Birmingham's Grand Hotel (a venue which is due a return in the next year or two) there hasn't been a specific Star Trek club in the city since the late 1990s (we know,

we were there!) This seemed ridiculous so we started throwing around some ideas, which developed into...

Spacedock Birmingham

Finally, having got off the ground in the fourth quarter of 2017, Spacedock Birmingham is primarily a club that supports the Star Trek fan base in the City of Birmingham and the surrounding area. Though we are a “meeting club” we also have correspondence members.

“In universe” the Spacedock is an uprated (Mk III) Ournal Class orbital Spacedock which is capable of accepting ships up to the size of the Odyssey class, internally, in it’s main docking area.

The newly revised design includes a secondary upper docking area and specific rapid-outfit systems for the new James Watt subclass of the Constitution Class starship. Eight James Watt vessels (development name: Constitution X) are assigned to the Spacedock in a variety of roles, which can be altered with modular swap outs in under an hour using the Spacedock’s rapid response protocol (think Thunderbird 2 on steroids, and there being a fleet of ‘em!) The Spacedock has fleet yards about it to construct starships, including the new Connies. Spacedock Birmingham is now one of four Ournal class Spacedocks in an equilateral geo-synchronous orbit of Earth in the year 2398.



Back in the real world, the club meets at least once a month with extra social gatherings under discussion. Other more wide-ranging events are also being planned, along with *Autobase Birmingham* which is a sub-club of Spacedock for fans of *The Transformers*. Just as with *Geekology* the club supports *Dazzling Dreams GB* and *Age UK Birmingham* as its resident charities. We are in the process of building our membership base, to allow more away team missions to raise more money for the charities

Spacedock Birmingham is currently awaiting the arrival of its first piece of



merchandise—20mm lapel pin badges of the current club logo (limited to 100 units), which will be used to raise money for the club as well as the two charities, and will be on sale in the next month or so. Check us out via the web link below to find out more!

One piece of advice – if there is nothing going on in your local area in the form of a Star Trek or indeed, general sci-fi club and you want there to be, then make it happen! At the end of the day getting people together who are of a like mind is great for your own mental health and development and together you can make a difference to those around you. The British Isles is rather blessed with Star Trek and other sci-fi fan organisations and more often than not they will be more than happy to give advice, tips and help you on your journey. If you decide to start something – good luck and may the Great Bird of the Galaxy smile upon you.

Live long and prosper, 'till all are one.

Web links and email:

- Geekology: www.geekology.org.uk
- info@geekology.org.uk
- Spacedock Birmingham: www.spacedock.space

Artwork by Leah Clayton

THE 12TH BANQUET GUESTS



ANNE AND JOHN CARRIGAN

DEFENCE OUTPOST UNITED NEWS

IF Rear Admiral (IKF Ambassador) K'Lith. Qapla

Today marks a historical moment for Trek fandom. The International Federation of Trekkers or IFT better known as the Federation extended a Non-Aggression Pact with the Imperial Klingon Forces.

Normally Klingon fan groups have a 'NO treaty policy'. My assignment, open diplomatic relations with the IFK and hope we can find common ground. I was given the title of Ambassador, and turned my chapter into a Federation/Klingon Taskforce Chapter.

A year and a few months later, on this date June 2, 2018 at 1650 hours standard Federation time. The Imperial Klingon Forces signed the treaty of NON-aggression. This pact simply means to help each other out at con and events; it makes us allies. I think of it as the Khitomer Accords.

Defence Outpost United has two subchapters: the *USS Vindicator* and our UK chapter, The *USS Leonidas*. We welcome members of the IKF on all three of our chapters.

A few weeks ago, when I talked to a few other Klingon fan clubs I was basically shut down and told, "No, you're a Feddie—we don't deal with Worf's." I was truly hurt by the remark—then I sorted out answers why I was received the way I was and simply put, the Klingons were stuck in the past glory days of fandom and then I remembered the words from a DS9 episode.

Ezri Dax was talking to Worf about his problem with Gowron. Worf understands Martok's sentiment and so he will instead try to convince Gowron to stop his reckless attacks. Although his tone indicates that he has really ran out of options because he knows that Gowron, who already has a low opinion of Worf, will never listen to him. He asks Ezri for her opinion (as she has both two lifetime's worth of intimate knowledge of Klingons and the objective view





of an outsider). Ezri states that it is a Klingon matter, but Worf tells her that she has been deemed (as a successor to Jadzia) a member of the House of Martok. She warns him that he won't like what she has to say but Worf insists. Ezri then explains that the problem with Gowron is part of a larger problem: The Klingon Empire is dying, and Ezri thinks it should be allowed to die.

She sees the Empire as a culture that prides itself on honour, yet is willing to accept corruption at the highest level ... Gowron is simply the latest example. Worf argues that Ezri is exaggerating, but Ezri counters by asking Worf who was the last Chancellor he respected (if there have been any) and how many times have the crimes of his leaders been covered up for the sake of the Empire. Ezri finishes by telling Worf she considers him the most honourable man she's ever met, but if he is willing to tolerate such dishonourable leaders, then there is no hope for the Empire. Worf doesn't like it but knows that she is right.

I felt like the Klingon fandom needs to move beyond that old way of fandom or it will surely die, and today one Klingon group moved forward.

Starbase 24

invites you to attend the
12th Starfleet/Klingon Banquet

A two night event starting on Friday evening.

With the fun theme of Harry Potter, Friday will be an informal featuring a hot buffet dinner, quizzes and raffles with ambient music so that attendees can chat and get to know one another.

Saturday will be a tribute to 25 years of Deep Space 9. Featuring the Games Room, arts and crafts, dealers' tables, talks and photoshoots, the day will be packed with fun for all ages. Culminating in a full sit-down three-course dinner for attendees to enjoy, the evening will finish with our disco party.

We welcome people of all ages and from all walks of life. Costume is not compulsory but a great many will attend in character.

*Arrangements may be subject to change.

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PERMISSION TO BEAM ABOARD
TO CELEBRATE THE
25th ANNIVERSARY OF

STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

ALL OFFICERS AND GUESTS
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

THE CELEBRATION IN
QUARK'S BAR
ON THE SATURDAY NIGHT
AT THE TWELFTH BANQUET
WITH OUR THEME OF
DEEP SPACE NINE

WHEN:

28TH - 29TH
SEPTEMBER
2018

LOCATION:

MARRIOTT
HOTEL
PETERBOROUGH

CONDITIONS:

STAR TREK (DEEP SPACE NINE) COPYRIGHT CBS, NO INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT INTENDED

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WE ARE PLEASED TO INFORM
YOU THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AT
THE HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF
WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY



BRING YOUR WANDS TO CAST SPELLS OR
BREW UP A POTION ON THE FRIDAY NIGHT
AT THE TWELFTH BANQUET
WITH OUR THEME OF
HARRY POTTER



WHEN:

28TH - 29TH
SEPTEMBER
2018

LOCATION:

MARRIOTT
HOTEL
PETERBOROUGH

CONDITIONS:

HARRY POTTER COPYRIGHT UNIVERSAL PICTURES, NO INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT INTENDED



12TH BANQUET PRICES

Adult Weekend - £65
Adult Sat Only - £42
Teen Weekend - £50
Teen Sat Only - £30
Child Weekend - £25
Child Sat Only - £15

EARLY BIRD RETURN CREW

If you attended the
11th Banquet, you will
be eligible to purchase
our discounted early
bird tickets.

Adult Weekend - £60
Adult Sat Only - £40



*All tickets include 2 course banquet on Saturday evening.

**Weekend tickets include hot buffet Friday evening.

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