

**MARTOK
MARCHES
TO THE
10TH
BANQUET**



The Official Newsletter of Starbase 24

Also in this issue

- Class – Dr Who Spin Off
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- USS Pharaoh, USS Obready and Starbase United

10th Banquet officially a success

Name: Daniel Adams

Assignment: Starbase 24 Admiralty



10 years ago, a group of friends sat round and said "What about a Klingon Banquet?" Meant as a one off to see if it could be done, this event has gone one to become one of the most respected fan events in the country.

The 2016 event was both a celebration of Star Trek fandom over the past 50 years, and a thank you to

everyone that has supported us. We had an amazing guest list and raised a highly impressive £3744 to be divided between Macmillan Cancer Support, West Yorkshire Animals in Need and Hedgehog Care.

Our personal thanks to J.G Hertzler, Virginia Hey, John and Anne Carrigan, Alan Flyng, Peter Roy, Jo Marriot and Sean George

However our biggest thanks goes to everyone who purchased a ticket, bid in the auction and otherwise made the event the fun event we all try our best to make it. Without you guys would still be the ones sat around the table thinking "what if?"

Thank you



AT YFHTA TALS IS STARSAT

STARBASE 24 PRESENTS



22nd & 23rd September 2017

The Marriott Hotel, Peterborough

Special Guest



FINTAN McKEOWN

Ticket type	Adult	Child aged 13-17/Carer	Child aged 12 and under
Weekend	£75	£45	£25
Saturday all day	£57	£26	£15
Saturday meal & party only	£45	£26	£15
Saturday party only	£10	£10	£10

For more information visit our website
www.starbase24.co.uk/banquet
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INTRODUCTION FROM THE ADMIRALTY

Name: Kehlan

Assignment: Starbase 24 Admiralty

Frontera Times, winter 2016

Welcome to the Winter 2016 relaunch edition of the Frontera Times. There's been a huge amount happening in the Trek community this year, not least of which was the 50th anniversary of Star Trek. Yes, it's 50 years since the first episode aired on TV. I can't help wondering what Gene Roddenberry would have thought if he could have seen the future and known just what his creation, his vision, would grow into over the years? I think he would feel very proud to see five different incarnations of his show, multiple movies, not to mention the novels, the fan films, the conventions, the charity work and the community that has developed as a result.

This year also saw Starbase 24 celebrating its 10th anniversary, ten years of events and charity fundraising. What was meant to be a one-off party has grown and developed and taken on a life of its own. Over those years we have raised well over £30,000 for various charities, somewhere around £23,000 of which has gone to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Starbase 24 is, and always will be, a completely independent group, but in spite of that, or maybe because of that, we have developed strong friendships with other groups and event organisers. We are very proud to consider the SF Ball and FCD Events our friends as well as Region 20 of Starfleet Command, MSF Manchester, the USS Obready in Canada, Outpost United in the US to name just a few. (sorry the list of all the groups we are friendly with is just too long to name you all).

Things have not stood still at SB24. Over the last year, we have revamped and relaunched our website and as we move into the future, we will be launching our new podcast – “Base Cast 24” which I am sure all of you will support. Our command team has grown and developed and over the next few months will continue to evolve as the team members take on new roles and responsibilities.



As the organiser of the banquet, each banquet has special memories for me, but this last one, the 10th, will always stand out as the one that was attended by the Chancellor of the Klingon Empire, Martok himself (aka JG Hertzler). We were also glad to welcome Kargh and Le'ak, aka John and Ann Carrigan who along with JG, were happy to pose in their Klingon Uniforms for photos. This was the first time that JG has ever worn an original

series uniform, albeit a kilted version of it.

The banquet was pleased to welcome back long time supporter Alan Flyng and Virginia Hey also returned for her second banquet. Alan and Virginia were joined by Peter Roy, Joanne Marriott and Sean George, all of whom had some fantastic stories to share.



https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Julie-Isard-Brown

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Start Fundraising

Home Charlotte Menu

120%
£120.00
raised of £100 target
by 7 supporters

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Share on Facebook

Julie's Donate for autographed photos

Giving signed photos for donations for Macmillan Cancer Support because I feel it's a worthwhile cause

Julie Isard-Brown

WE ARE MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Macmillan Cancer Support
We support people affected by cancer to make sure no one faces cancer alone

Shortly after the banquet, several SB24 members – Lursa (Julie) Stefan, Martin and our very own rainbow raptor aka Sue - took part in “The One Show” for a special Star Trek 50th anniversary show with George Takei. Julie claims to be Klingon but we think she just may have some Ferengi blood. When asked by a colleague for a signed pic she promptly said “Yes if you donate to Macmillan.” The result was £120 for Macmillan... so well done Julie.

Two SB24 members, Sarah Mac and Andre Smith, took part in the Birmingham half marathon to raise funds for charity, Sarah running for mental health charity SANE and Andre for Macmillan.

As 2016 draws closer to an end and 2017 approaches, we look to the future and dream of a world that is a better place and we stop and take a moment to reflect on what we can do to make that future happen. 2016 seems to have been a year whose events have driven people apart and caused divisions. Without going into politics, I just want to say one thing on the subject of Brexit and the US Election... I attended a Remembrance Day service in my local village and during the service, the vicar spoke of Brexit. He told us that regardless of what we voted, Leave Europe or Remain... Trump or Clinton... we must remember that we are neighbours because today (Remembrance Sunday) reminds us of just how horrible it is when we forget we are neighbours. The Star Trek philosophy of IDIC... Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations, is a reminder that we should celebrate our differences. We don't have to agree on anything, we just have to be nice to each other.

So moving on into 2017, we have the SF Ball in Southampton to look forward to in February. It's a fantastic, fan run event that raises money for charity, specifically the Teenage Cancer Trust and comes highly recommended by the SB24 team, some of whom will be attending.

April brings us FCD: Out of the Ashes 2, another fan run event which will be fundraising for charity and which also comes highly recommended. We will find out at Christmas who the star guest is... and I am sorry, I have tried very hard to blackmail Wil into telling me but either he just likes pain or he is just very good at resisting torture so you will just have to wait with baited breath to find out.

September of course brings us the 11th banquet. I won't go on about it here because you will see plenty of news about it elsewhere and I will no doubt be nagging you over the next few months to get your ticket.

I have no doubt that after the success of the first one there will be a second Phoenix Ball in Manchester. We will publish information on this as we hear more. Meanwhile though, a massive well done to the MSF team on raising such a huge amount of money for charity.

Film Review: Star Trek Beyond

Name: Dan Adams

Assignment: Starbase 24 Admiralty



Star Trek Beyond is the third chapter in the movie series set in the Kelvin Timeline, the official term used to describe films, games and comics taking place in the branched timeline created by JJ Abrams in *Star Trek (2009)*

The Kelvin films are divisive amongst fans since the first movie in 2009, feeling that they lack the “heart” of original Trek in favour of special effects sequences, sloppy writing, and ignorance of what had been established in previous Star Trek lore. On the other hand, others felt it was a return to classic Trek, free of the shackles of 50 years of continuity, yet maintaining the messages of classic Trek, re-imagined for the modern age.

Full disclosure, I enjoyed the first two films, though I had problems with the science and plotting of the second film. Nevertheless, despite the “Fast and Furious style Trailer” I was looking forward to Star Trek Beyond. How did the film feel? Well I’d say it is certainly the best of the Kelvin timeline, and holds up well to some of the prime universe movies too.

The film is a departure from most Trek films as it is actually a film about boldly going forward,

and isn’t set on Earth. The Enterprise is continuing its five year mission, and after a standard, albeit less than successful, diplomatic mission, the Enterprise reports to Starbase Yorktown on the edge of Federation space for resupply. However, the rest stop proves to be shortlived, as a damaged alien ship approaches the base apparently seeking help.

What follows is an adventure where the Enterprise crew are literally ripped apart and have to rely on classic Trek tropes – bravery, honesty, unity ingenuity and diplomacy as they reassemble and save the day.

The main cast are more comfortable than ever with their roles. Chris Pine in particular seems to have Kirk down where he is a much more rounded character than the cocky youth that went from the naughty step to command of a Starship in “Star Trek”. Zachary Quinto and their Karl Urban are fantastic as Spock and McCoy respectively as they spend half the film together. Their banter shines, yet you detect the genuine warmth between the characters shines.

Simon Pegg's Scotty gets a nice little arc in the film as he is the first to befriend Jaylah, played by Sofia Boutella.



Although JJ Abrams contributions as producer are still visible, the director's chair was passed to Justin Lin, previously best known for his work on "The Fast and Furious" movies. When the news broke that he was directing, many were worried that the film would become a soulless action movie. A concern that wasn't allayed when the motorcycle centric trailer was released. However, Lin revealed in the commentary that the reason why the trailer was cut in that way is

that many of the special effects shots had not been started due to the very tight turnaround of the movie.

Thanks to the director's efforts of Lin, and the writing of Simon Pegg and Doug Jung, there IS a story on display here. A sweeping story that works as a Star Trek tale, and as a good action movie too. Considering the problems the production had – less time than usual for a film of this size being the main one

Particularly poignant is the tributes to Leonard Nimoy's Spock, particularly when Quinto's Spock learns of the in universe death of Ambassador Spock, and when wrestling with his place in Starfleet, he looks upon a photo in his personal effects. A touching tribute to the actor, character, and 50th anniversary of Star Trek.

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed the film. A fantastic tribute to 50 years of Trek and a great look forward to the future of humanity.

U.S.S. Pharaoh – Eastbourne based Star Trek Group

Name: David Burton

Assignment: Commanding Officer, USS Pharaoh

The U.S.S. Pharaoh is an Eastbourne based Star Trek fan club comprised of members from all walks of life who have come together to celebrate Gene Roddenberry's fantastic, positive vision of the future. We hold meetings and gatherings throughout the year, where we partake in all manner of activities to appeal to all types of people and their expectations. There is something for everyone in our group, and you can take part as little or as much as you are comfortable with – we have various levels of membership. Some meetings are held at a local hall, while others are at member's homes. We often go out together as a group, attend conventions, and are always open to new ideas for group activities. You can wear what you like, and come along to spend an evening with other people who love Star Trek – we'll even provide refreshments. Our only criteria is that you are over the age of 16 (for insurance purposes at our hall). Please contact either:

Captain David Burton – captaindavidburton@gmail.com

Commander Martin Ballan – porthos62@gmail.com

Or you can check out our Facebook page – simply enter USS Pharaoh NCC-84315 – to see what we're currently doing.



Defense Outpost UNITED

Name: Carl Baber

Assignment: Commanding Officer, Defence Outpost United



It all started in 2009 just as the new Star Trek movie was out. A group of friends and I wanted to join a Star Trek fan club so I went online and found a few ones I had been a part of before and one that never heard of - the International Federation of Trekkers.

We started out as a ship chapter the USS VICTORY. After a few years of losing and gaining people we decided to go and become a Defense Outpost called UNITED. United is home to the Federation Klingon Joint Task Force. We hold dual chapter ship with IFT (International Federation OF Trekkers) and the IKF (Imperial Klingon Forces).

As a member of the IFT The Role of the IFT is dedicated to enjoying the Star Trek mythos in all its different forms. IFT encourages fans to pursue all or any part of Star Trek that they take pleasure from, as long as this does not harm others. We encourage our members to add exciting new stories, concepts, and ideas to the ever-expanding Star Trek universe.

The point is to have FUN with one another by participating in meetings, attending conventions, and sharing our views and experiences from around the world.

Star Trek may be the theme, but it's the people that make the difference! Our members enjoy a wide range of roles, ranging from "real world" duties as fundraisers, volunteers, recruiters, writers, webmasters, and more in their dedication to IFT as a Star Trek fan organization to Federation officers, Klingon warriors, Romulan spies, Ferengi swindlers, and sundry other incarnations of the Star Trek world as they enjoy themselves as Star Trek fans in costume or on away missions! Each Star Trek fan has his or her own way of enjoying Star Trek, from dressing in costume and quoting from episodes (you know who you are!) to simply enjoying the show and believing in its dream of the future.

Each one of us fulfills a role as important as any other and each method of enjoying Star Trek is merely a facet of the same jewel. Here, in IFT, ALL Star Trek fans are welcome!
<http://trekfederation.com>

What is IKF?

1 part Fandom

1 Part LARP

1 Part Cultural Re-enactment

ALL PARTS FUN, with NO BS!

Since 1994 IKF has been helping members learn what it means to be a Klingon Warrior! Come join us and discover the mysteries behind the legendary rites of the warrior race! Membership is FREE!!! Why should one Pay for a birthright?!

Membership includes:

- Assistance in finding or starting a chapter
- Access to ALL of our on-line resources, Facebook groups, and other social media feeds
- Access to On-line and physical meetups and events
- Access to our LARP, combat forms, and quality certified safety training for our forms and much more!

<http://www.i-k-f.org>

After a while I found my way to Starbase 24 and signed on as a fighter squad commander and I brought the Squadron to United. I like what Starbase 24 had to offer and the charity works . We have a few charities that we have undertaken - Spirit of the Children. Now are currently having a food collection for Thanksgiving, and we support Starbase 24 in their fight with cancer with fundraising for Macmillan group. Over the summer we took up donations but fell short of our 50 US dollar or more goal.

We are currently in production for a video pod cast called Trek UNITED. The video podcast will have information on the Star Trek , TV movies, collectables and clubs and cons.

Last September we attended Missions New York for the 50 Anniversary of Star Trek. Recently we have added two more chapters into the United family The USS Leonidas and the USS Vindicator.

Our Station motto is " We are strong as we are UNITED ,as weak as we are divided." After recent events here in the US I think these words have more meaning. As I was concerned about the fear and the Panic that is spreading rest assured we are all friends here with a common goal, the ideals of Star Trek.

The moment you put that Federation t-shirt or Federation uniform worn and signed up you became a Federation officer and some of you are with the Imperial Klingon forces. We are United in our cause for an ideal planet and ideal Society, we can't let fear and ignorance take that away from us. We didn't do it at 9/ 11 and we are not going to do it now. We even had a few members that had a different view but its not about fighting with them and making them see our point, it's about understanding each other and respecting our differences and come together.

It's up to us to renew a dream and we can do that together, it doesn't matter that he or she has a different view from you as long as we come together for this unification making us stronger. I believe in that and I believe that we have something good here. I'm not going to let fear and intolerance stop that and neither should you we came together for a reason let's see that reason through.

Commodore Carl "K'Lith" Baber.

The Obready Adventure

(Celebrating 50 years of Star Trek)

Name: Robert Kelley

Assignment: Commanding Officer, USS OBready



If one thing can be said about 2016, it will be that the crew of the Starship Obready was smothered in Star Trek special events. The first of which was the Concert that was held in February in Montréal Québec. It is not often that one gets to visit the PLACE DES ARTS. Many great performers held their concerts there. Namely Celine Dion, Paul McCartney, Maria Carey and so forth.

All Star Trek fans love the music. But to see performers rendering it in perfect tempo to

the images on the screen was absolutely amazing. To say that the concert lasted 2 hours would be unbelievable to those of us there, for time just disappeared as we lost ourselves in the magic that was being performed by the music conductor Justin Freer. The recurring comment from the crew was that it was too short. Most of us wanted to live the moments forever.

What else was special about this year? We got our 50 anniversary Canada Stamp and coins this year!!!! Something that we put on display during our annual Canada day parade in Hatley. The poster of the stamps was proudly displayed on the Obready Shuttle-craft as we happily replied to the crowd that saluted and commented to us on the fact that Canada Post had done a great thing this year.

Last but not least was the 3 hour trip to Ottawa, where we got to visit the Aviation Museum. There, we got again to celebrate 50 years of Star Trek as we lived the STARFLEET ACADEMY experience. The interactive exhibit was breathtaking as we got to live in the world of Star Trek through our cadet exams and starfleet exercises.



The many original props and memorabilia may have held our attention, but nothing could compare to our astonishment at actually walking onto the Enterprise D bridge. There we got the chance to do the Kobayashi Maru test, where I was rated as Bold and risk taking command material. Plus, let's face it, this Admiral finally got to sit in Captain Picard's chair. I mean how amazing can that be for a first experience!!!

For the Starship Obready, the 50 anniversary can only be summed up as a chance for all of us to be young and amazed all over again. And on a personal note, it is a feeling that I would gladly go through anytime.

LIVE LONG AND PROSPER STAR TREK.

50 Years at the Royal Observatory

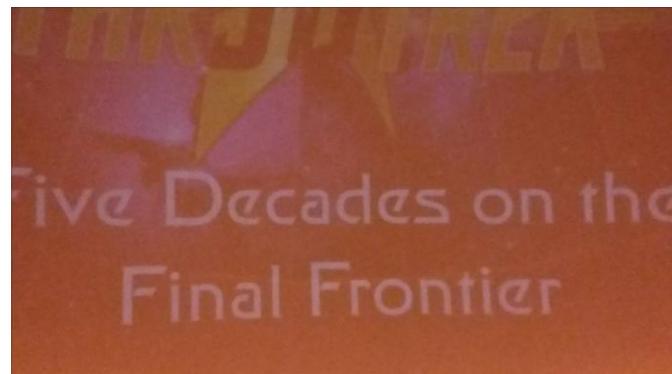
Name: Lursa

Assignment: Starbase 24 Klingon Quarter



29th SEPTEMBER 2016: A trip to the Royal Observatory, Greenwich to celebrate 50 years of Star Trek. It was a lovely day. After some searching we found the entrance at the rear of the actual observatory.

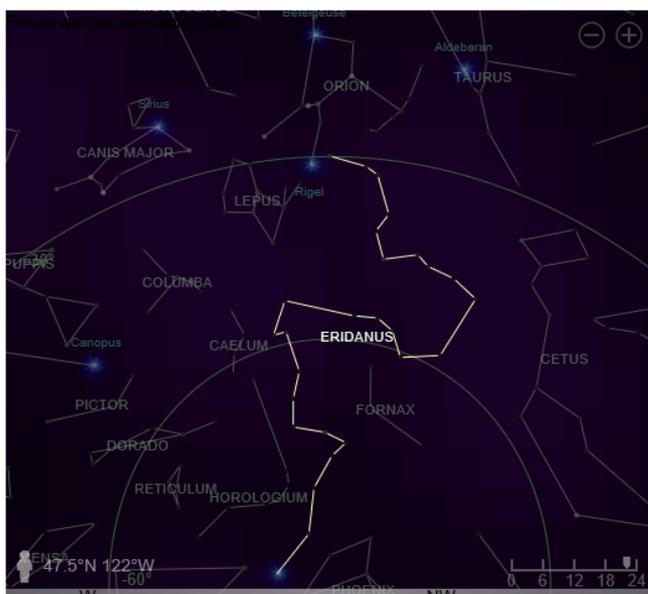
The evening started in the Planetarium room, where the seats were tilted to help you look up. There was a vague representation of the Star Trek logo, but it was difficult to see because the lights were up:



Our Speaker, Brendan start off events with an introduction of the evening's events, and the first lecture. There were a couple of talks, after which we would split up into groups. Our journey began with a representation of the Enterprise on screen.

Brendan said we were going to talk about the planets of Star Trek, some real, some imaginary. We first located Orion's Belt, because this would help us pinpoint the star system of the planet Vulcan.

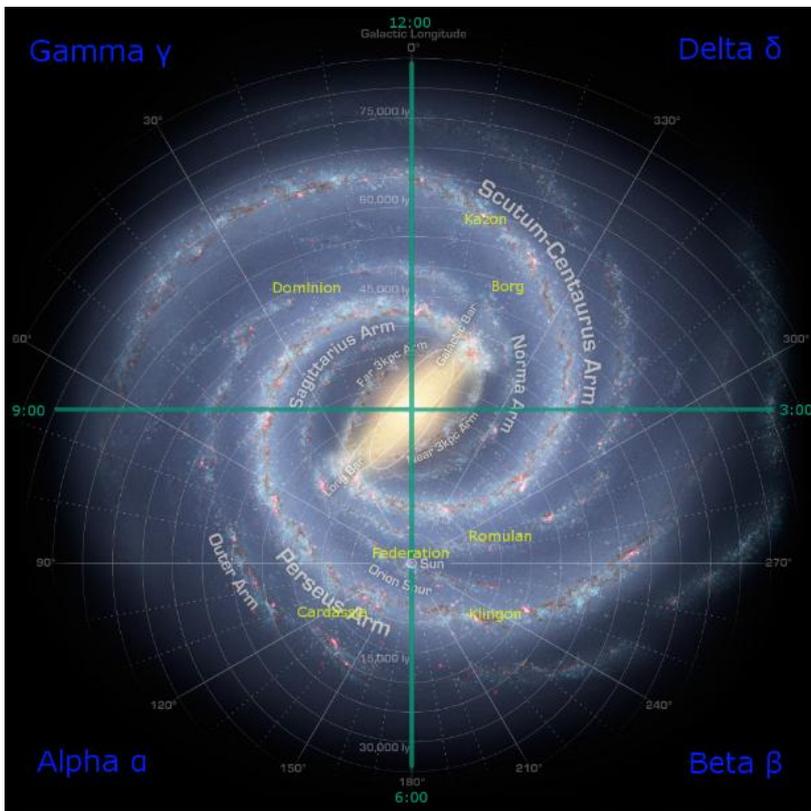
Constellation Eridanus



By fixing the bottom star in Orion, we can look south-eastward in the sky, and this will show where 40 Eridanus is. This is a trinary star system. 40A is the sun around which Vulcan orbits.

We then went on to discuss different types of planet. M-class planets are Minshara planets, which are habitable. Risa is one such similar planet.

Demon-class planets are extremely inhospitable, such as the planet where Garth of Izar was held. Finally, Brendan overlaid a visualisation of the Federation Quadrants, showing where various races came from.



Our next speaker was Rad and she spoke to us about different areas of science influenced by Star Trek. She spoke about the transporter, which is currently a work in progress. Whilst we cannot transport anything on the atomic level, it is possible to do it with a proton. She went into this at length, but I am still not totally sure how she explained it.

Her next scientific fact was with warp drive. Whilst this is still, as yet, not possible, the theory is. It concerns the bending of space. As we know, to travel around the world, rather than going around, it is often quicker to go over, which is the basis for warp drive. Finally she covered wormholes, and how time in the wormhole doesn't change, even though the time it travels

into does. So, if you were in 2016 when you entered the wormhole, you would still be in 2016 when you came out on the other side, even if it was 2026. This is also evidenced by the fact that when the astronauts come back from the space station they are 0.007 seconds younger than everybody else on earth.

This concluded Rad's talk and we were now split into two groups. One group went to do a Star Trek quiz and the other went into the games room to see some new Star Trek games. I have to admit that our host had very little experience in explaining the games to us. The first game he explained was Star Trek Catan.



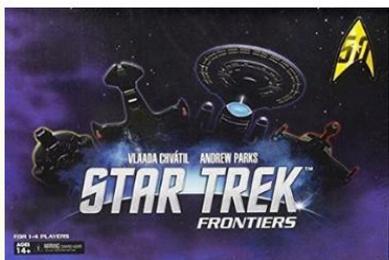
On behalf of the Federation, you explore space with your starships and build outposts and starbases near valuable planets. There you extract important resources such as the coveted dilithium. But the Federation has also sent out other expeditions.

Therefore, you have to be wary of competitors - and of the Klingons, who want to give the players a hard time. With the aid of Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock, however, keeping the adversaries in check and outperforming your competitors should be an easy task. With this in mind: Live long and prosper!

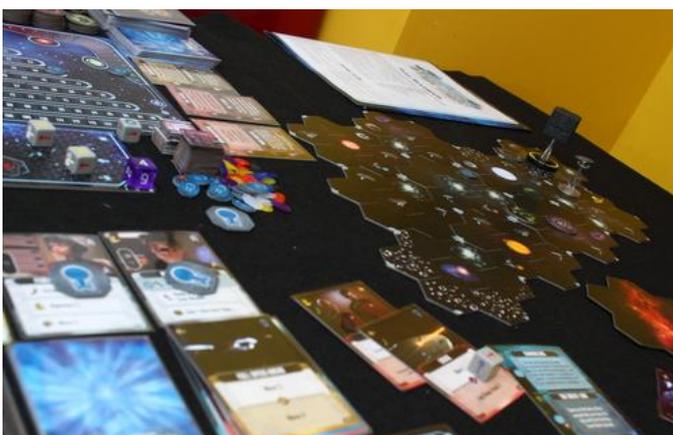


Star Trek Catan is basically a direct adaptation of the Catan base game. But what would Star Trek be without its protagonists Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock? That's why Star Trek Catan also contains the card set "[Helpers of Catan](#)" – the set was adapted to the Star Trek universe, of course. The players thus receive direct support from Kirk, Spock, McCoy, and another 7 famous Star Trek characters.

I sat down at the table with the game Star Trek Frontiers. Along with the other attendees, we were completely baffled by the explanation from the host. He, too, seemed to be as baffled as we were.



A contested region of space accessible through a known wormhole has drawn the attention of powerful forces throughout the galaxy. Both the Federation and the Klingon Empire, who share a delicate alliance at this time, have recently built outposts in the region — but now news of grave troubles brewing in the region has prompted both the Klingons and the Federation to investigate immediately.



Command your ship, recruit new crew members, earn experience points, and use your skills to confront the challenges of the *Star Trek* universe. Explore and face a variety of challenges on a randomly built space map using the venture tile system first introduced in the award-winning game *Mage Knight*.

Star Trek: Frontiers is designed for 1 to 4 players with multiple competitive, cooperative and solo scenarios. Work together to defeat hostile ships or compete to explore and uncover hidden mysteries. Players need to overcome obstacles to expand their knowledge and use their leadership as they adventure in order to be victorious in their exploration!

Finally, we were told it was time to change over, so we went to the room for the quiz. This was hosted by Tom, and was a multipart question quiz, with no one person actually winning. Each question had a possible 4 answers, and at the end we were shown a graph with what was the correct answer and which percentage of people got it correct and which percentage went for the incorrect answers.

This was mostly easy, although there were a couple that I didn't get right.

Eventually, our time was up and we returned to the main planetarium. The question to win a Blu-ray set was: "What was the number of lens flares used in J J Abrams movies?" The person to get within 20 either way would be the winner. The numbers went up and up until they were too high. Then they went down and down until somebody won. The winning number was 710. This was 11 lower than the actual answer. There was a second prize, but this went to someone in costume. A Borg.

Finally, the evening was over and after a brief chat with our host, Brendan, we left to wait for the shuttle bus to take us out of the park and back to the streets of London.

Julie Isard-Brown

Doctor Who spinoff in a "Class" of its own

Name: Tiema Joel

Assignment: Starbase 24 Admiralty

From the BBC Website:



Class is an exciting new drama series, spinning out of the world of Doctor Who and written by acclaimed YA author Patrick Ness. This 8 x 45 minute series for BBC Three centres around Coal Hill School in Shoreditch, which has been a part of the Doctor Who Universe since the very beginning. But this has come at a price...

All the time travelling over the years has caused the very walls of space and time to become thin. There's something pressing in on the other side, something waiting for its chance to kill everyone and everything, to bring us all into Shadow.

Four Coal Hill School sixth formers (played by exciting young new talents Greg Austin, Fady Elsayed, Sophie Hopkins and Vivian Oparah) will face their own worst fears, navigating a life of friends, parents, school work, sex, sorrow – and possibly the end of existence. They will be joined by Katherine Kelly, as she takes the role of a teacher and powerful new presence at Coal Hill School.

Scary, funny, as painful and sharp as youth, and with all the action, heart and adrenaline of the best YA fiction, this is Coal Hill School and Doctor Who like you've never seen them before.

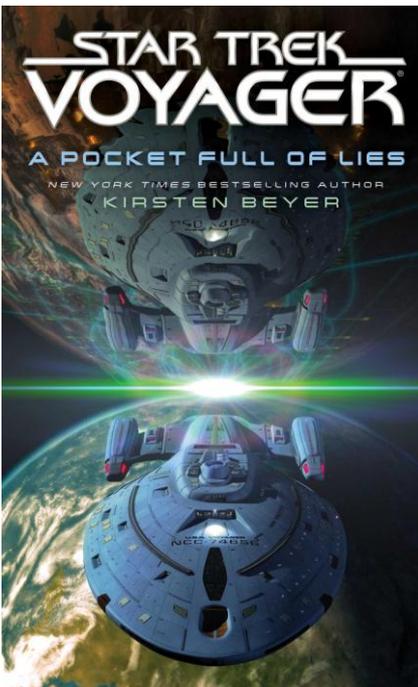
Fear is coming, tragedy is coming, war is coming. Prepare yourselves, Class is coming.

Class is the latest spin off from Doctor Who, and has, in my opinion, hit the ground running. It deals with a lot more adult themes than the parent show and isn't suitable for young children. The stories have been pretty well written so far, balancing the need to tell a story and give us more about the main characters, which is needed if we are to care whether they survive the episode or not. The opening episode not only briefly features Peter Capaldi as the Doctor but also introduces us to the Shadow Kin, who will be a reoccurring 'baddie' throughout the first series at least. At the time of writing five episodes are available on the BBC Iplayer (its currently on BBC3, and will be coming to either BBC1 or BBC2 early in 2017). Well worth a watch if you don't mind more adult themes and gore compared to Doctor Who.

Book Review: Star Trek Voyager – A Pocket Full of Lies

Name: Dan Adams

Assignment: Starbase 24 Admiralty



WARNING – the rest of this review contains spoilers for the Star Trek: Voyager continuation novel series. Read on at your own risk.

One of the biggest eye rolls in “Star Trek”, and indeed, serialized science fiction as a whole is the reset switch. The idea being that terrible things happen to the characters, which could change the entire state of the show. However, true to the name, the events are subsequently reset, so that they didn't happen at all and offer nothing to the continuing narrative.

One such example is *Voyager's* fourth season *Year of Hell*. In this two parter, first hinted at in Season 3, over the course of a year, Voyager takes more and more damage, relationships are strained and Janeway becomes single-minded in her mission to get through Krenim Space. Eventually Janeway is able to destroy the ship that caused so much damage, thus resetting the entire year, with no one possessing a single memory of the episode's events.

Pocket full of Lies unresets some of that. Message buoys launched during the “Year of Hell” are discovered, shielded from changes in the timeline. Additionally, another version of Kathryn Janeway is discovered, this one we met during the events of *Shattered* when Chakotay met a version of Janeway shortly after she set off to find him and his Maquis team. This version of Janeway had a glimpse of her future, but it turns out it was a future she would never experience. Instead after a grueling ordeal meant for “our” Janeway, she becomes the leader of a faction fighting an endless civil war in apparent violation of the Prime Directive. This Janeway is all the more astounding, as it is established by Q that every version of Kathryn Janeway in the multiverse died, her death being a fixed point.

Since Voyager is now part of the Full Circle Fleet, there are multiple ships at play here, each one with a crew of their own, so these books tend to be big. There are three plots at play here, the main narrative, and a B-Plot involving Harry Kim and his paramour Nancy Conlon. Secondly, the

newly minted Starfleet ensign Icheb is assigned to the fleet, and promptly picks fault with all of the engine rooms of the fleet.

It's a nice little runaround overall, it can be a bit tricky keeping track of who's on what ship. There does seem to be a lot of, for want of a better word "weariness" in modern trek novels, and this book isn't an exception to that. Particularly jarring is Tuvok, who is still coping with the death of his son following the massive Borg rampage seen in the Destiny novels.

Despite this, the book feels like a good continuation of the series. There a lot of tales that can be told, and I hope that they can continue.

Cmdr Mackenzie Taylor's First Half Marathon.

Name: Mackenzie Rea Taylor

Assignment: Starbase 24

I was inspired to sign up for Great Birmingham Run 2016 by Andre Smith. I signed up in May 2016. I never thought that five months later I would be doing a half marathon. A few days before I was diagnosed with low haemoglobin which means my oxygen levels are lower than normal. So this inspired me to keep going.

Sunday the 16.10 2016 came. I had been staying in the Hatters Backpacker's Hostel. The place was so beautiful, where the original FA cup and 1908 Olympic medals were made. So I walked the route into the start line while having a cup of tea from Costa Coffee. I walked to the Aston campus at Jenners Road about 10 am. I was starting to feel nervous but I was going the nerves for going the charity I chose was Sane which is a mental Health charity. Sane's goal is to end the stigma of mental of which something I have suffered with.



I got across the start line at 10:59 and the atmosphere was amazing. I ran the first mile. The route took you out of town towards the Warwickshire Cricket ground. A girl I walked with, who was raising money for the same charity, collapsed. So I gave up 5 mins of my time to make sure she was alright. I then carried on to Bournville which is the home of Cadbury's World. I Hit the 10km at 1:49, most of which I was walking.

So I walked 11km. On the route back the two lovely ladies I had left Sophie with told me that she had been taken to hospital. So I continued my walk which took you around the Warwickshire Cricket Ground into Canon Hill Park. Then back through the beautiful areas of Birmingham. People along the route back into town were offering runners sweets to keep them going. Which was nice and it inspired me to keep going.

Then, the infamous mile 11 which was essentially a mile up-hill - at one point my legs almost gave out but once there, there was the Penny Appeal giving free orange segments to runners.

So I walked from mile 12 to 13. I was nearing the end; my legs were struggling and one of the guys who was there doing security, ran towards me and picked me up over his shoulder like a fireman. I was both embarrassed and grateful for his help. I laughed. So I walked on. We got towards the finish line. I met up with others who were walking; one lady got cramp and I helped her get rid of it by walking with her arm in arm which helped get rid of cramp. I saw the finish line and started to pick up speed and ran across the line at :15:01 (3:01pm) nearly taking out the Announcers out which made me smile. I finished the half marathon in 4:02:39.



I got back to Hatters where I was staying; they were so pleased that I finished.

I am so happy that I did this Challenge. Thank you to all of you at Starbase 24 for your support and love you showed me. I never thought I could do

this. In less than five months little or no training. I had recovered by the 20/10/16. I want to thank all of you who sponsored me and supported me through it especially Andre Smith who also ran the Great Birmingham Run.

For me the achievement was getting across the finish line. The fact I did the half marathon in the above time with the health conditions I have was truly special for me.

On 22/10/16 I got a lovely surprise from Sane: I got a certificate for completing and a thank you card from Helen at Sane. They helped me when I needed them, by giving me a safe place to vent and feel safe. So for me it was the right choice.

Commander Mackenzie Rea Taylor

Charlotte was a bit disappointed with the lack of contributions for this issues of the Frontera Times so I set myself a challenge! WRITE SOMETHING! But.... What am I going to write? I dunno!!! And then Charlotte suggests my adventures and accessibility research – oh yeah, that’s right... I do actually do a fair few things....
OK! Here goes! Let’s have some...

Name: Sue Griffiths

Assignment: Starbase 24 Command Staff

Tales of the Roving **Rainbow** Raptor!!!

I got prompted to write about my adventures which prompted the question... what have I been up to lately? Well, there was the Monster’s Ball for starters which was held in a Hilton hotel which is notable as I have never actually stayed in a Hilton before. Crowne Plaza, Holiday Inn, Marriott, loads of other chains but not a Hilton. I was delighted to see that it was not only lovely, the beds were great and the bar was well stocked. Plus this was for David Limburg’s 50th birthday – he’s part of the two awesome dudes heading up FCD Events, with the other being Wil Ross. There were guests! There were dealers! There was Rainbow Sun Francks and John Carrigan! And there was a ton of fun! It was at that event I got myself a new diary – Moleskine style with orange edging as it was clear I would need to get myself organised as I have so much coming up. It was also my first outing as a member of the FCD team – mainly as FCD clearly have great taste! Actually, I think they are amazing and given now brilliant and lovely they have been to me, I a still giving myself a reality check to see if I am part of their team as I really am THAT proud. There were talks during the day, a massive party in the evening and simply excellent company. So glad I went. FCD 2.0 is going to be so brilliant given how much everyone on the team cares about how much it goes and the sheer determination to make this event completely awesome.

So... what else have I been up to? Well, there was an employability workshop at my workplace where myself and other colleagues were paired with young people who need a bit of a boost in terms of interviewing skills. It comes across that some of them don’t know how skilled and awesome they are – the young lad I was fortunate enough to be paired with wants to work for himself and does amazing app type things. I was my usual forthright self and told him just how brilliant he is and I wish him every success – he deserves it! The day after that I was at a conference to celebrate the UN Day of Persons with Disabilities 2016. This involved talks from people holding down full time jobs in a Workplace of Awesome (the Financial Ombudsman Service) and how they live with them day by day. It’s other tagline was bring your authentic self to work and I was very authentic that day as my chronic health conditions were nothing short of debilitating but the hosts were nothing short of welcoming. The focus was on what a person can do and seeing past the challenges they live with. Given the state of my health then, I could not have wished for a more positive and uplifting session. It wasn’t all about everything being amazing – there were genuine tales of working through some real challenges and showing strength, determination and kicking things into gear. Definitely a celebration of abilities!

Hot on the heels of that I was straight over to London Bridge for ZZ9 London drinkies. For those not in the know, I am president of ZZ9, the official HitchHikers Guide to the Galaxy Appreciation Society. We have meetings! We have slouches! We are really amazing! There was also great company, which is what I needed after battling my way on the DLR and then the Tube to get to

London Bridge to get to the venue in question. They were good! And I needed a drink after all the travel traumas (rammed trains, people dawdling around stations like extras from the Walking Dead, the obligatory person who stops in the middle of everywhere to check their phone...)

Then...I was confined to my flat for six whole days! I say whole days – on the last day – a Wednesday – I got so fed up I had my hair done and then grabbed a last minute ticket courtesy of a friend too unwell to go to see the Libertine at the Haymarket theatre. I went with my Pixie who had never been to the theatre on quite that scale and what a delight it was! I found out later it stars that bloke who played Howard Stark in Captain America: The First Avenger and what a delight he is! There are swears, old fashioned English and a good old dollop of smut. It is to be recommended and for some reason, it was deemed just the kind of thing I would like. I seem to have a reputation. I like it!

The next day I was back at work and saw that there was a Celebrating Paralympics event and of course I needed to go! So... having battled to leave work given last minute requests, I was on the train to Embankment playing Hunt the Venue. I don't know the area that well but found it in the end and settled down to what was an interesting and insightful event. The speakers this time were paralympians – and a person who does UN related charity work. I managed to raise a few eyebrows by freely admitting that I have an interest in accessibility at events and how this should be handled. The responses were great – to the effect of just ask what someone needs and ensure you are aware in advance, make use of problem solving skills and work with the person in question. Insights from these events are being compiled so I can look into just how accessible and amazing the next Starbase 24 banquet is going to be!

Trotting on to a few days later.... There I was chairing the ZZ9 AGM. Would I be re-elected president? Would it go to plan? Would my voice hold out? The answers to that are: Yes! Sort of! Barely! The event started at 13:30 but as my health was being a bit of a nightmare I was a few minutes late and stepped straight into the agenda, ably assisted by the committee who prompted me and at one point wondered whether I would, in fact, be able to get through it all. Which I did.... We had an auction of tat after the event where books, pens and other such items were auctioned off for not very much. I insisted on putting in a 42p bid for some pens because 42 is the meaning of life, the universe and everything.

So that leads me to today – here I am making use of my lunch break at work with my health giving me hell and this time, rather than attending an event, I am running one. There should be about a hundred attendees, including external people. It's a training session and no doubt there will be troubleshooting left right and centre, but hopefully it will go well – and it's all good experience for my recently found interest in being involved with sci fi events and conventions!

So, time to close here and in the words of the Tenth Doctor...

Allons-y!

Presenting Base Cast 24

Name: Stefan Blakemore and Laura Fawcett

Assignment: Base Cast 24



Starbase 24 has always, at it's core, been about community, connecting with fellow sci-fi fans and sharing a passion and love of Science fiction with each other. Members of the group span the country far and wide, coming together at conventions all over, and especially at the Annual Banquet. And Now Starbase 24 is taking its first steps into a new Frontier: The world of Podcasts! From January 2017, the new podcast, Base Cast 24, will talk about all sorts of interesting sci-fi topics, the impact a series has had on the world, favourite episodes, friendly debates on who is the best captain, and even interviews with members of the Starbase 24 team, friends of the group, maybe even special guests sometimes. The podcast is being helmed by Stefan Blakemore and Laura Fawcett, who are working hard at the moment with

preparing for recording the first podcast. If you want to get in contact with them, you can find them on the Base Cast 24 page on Facebook.

Give our Podcast a motto!

Visit the Basecast 24 page and look for the patch above, comment with a suitable motto before December 15th and you could win!

Convention Corner

Bits and Pieces from Past and Upcoming events

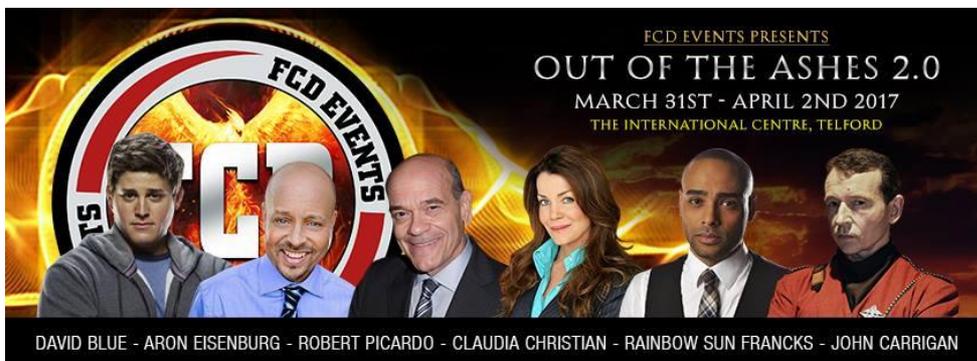


Sometimes things just work out. I've gotten into the habit of packing Jaffa Cakes in my bag when I go to conventions. They are a nice source of energy and fairly light to carry in my bag. So at MCM Expo on November 20th I couldn't pass up the photo opportunity when this chap walked past.

- Dan A



More info see: www.sfbevents.co.uk



More info see: www.fcd2016.com

Disclaimer: While we encourage everyone to support fan events, unless otherwise stated all events featured are independent of Starbase 24