

TAFFWORLD

 Official Newsletter of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund

Issue number 5 | March 2016

It's Deadline Time

The voting deadline rushes upon us like a beserker commuter who has spotted an empty seat on the train. It is here. It is almost now and you, oh tardy one, have not yet voted and proffered up your donation to the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund. For those who are attending the British National Science Fiction Convention in Manchester it will be fantastically easy to register your voting preferences. I shall be there with a batch of voting forms and will leave them at the Ops table. You can fill out the form there, leave your donation (minimum 2 pounds but more if you can afford it) with the Ops people and I will collect them up throughout the convention.

If you are not going to be at Eastercon then we're back to plan A. Here are the instructions for plan A:

Either send a copy of this form with a cheque, or pay via PayPal. The minimum donation to vote is \$3 (USD) or £2 (GBP) or 3 Euros. Cheques should be made payable to "Curt Phillips" (for checks in USD) or to "TAFF" (for cheques in GBP or Euros). PayPal donations should be made to the email addresses below indicating your contact details and your ranked voting preferences in the comments section. If you do not fill in the comments section, your vote may not be counted!

Send your signed and completed ballot form and donation to:

Europe: Jim Mowatt – cheques payable to TAFF
273 The Rowans, Milton, Cambridge, CB24 6ZA

Paypal using email jim [at] umor.co.uk

23:59 on Tuesday 29th of March 2016

North America: Curt Phillips – Cheques payable to Curt Phillips
19310 Pleasant View Dr. Abingdon, VA 24211

Paypal using email absarka_prime [at] comcast.net

Fan Funds Auction

There will be a fan funds auction at Eastercon and it will truly be a thing of excitement, adventure and really wild things. There will be many fascinating and occasionally, bizarre things for you to bid on.

The fan funds auction will be held on Sunday 27th March, at 1600 in Deansgate, rooms 8 and 9. Your auctioners, runners and general fan fundery helpers will be myself, Jim Mowatt, Carrie Mowatt, Claire Brialey, James Shields, Doug Spencer and Kylie Ding.

Among the goodies for sale will be Tim Tams from Australia. There is also a beautiful reproduction of the original Alice in Wonderland manuscript.

Of particular interest to budding authors will be a couple of items offered by Gollancz:

A half-hour discussion about your book in the bar during the convention with Marcus Gipps (Gollancz commissioning editor).

A half-hour discussion about your book in the bar during the convention with Gillian Redfearn (Gollancz publishing editor)

Gollancz have also offered us:

3 Sets of bound proofs: 13 Minutes, The Medusa Chronicles, Heart of Granite, Stranger of Tempest, The Fireman, The Promise of the Child, Poseidon's Wake.

Boxset of Brandon Sanderson's first Mistborn trilogy

3x 1st Ed HBs: Calamity, The Dark Defiles, Tales from the Kingdom

Set of The Last Chronicles of Thomas Covenant (4xPBs: The Runes of the Earth, Fatal Revenant, Against All Things Ending, The Last Dark)

All the convention guests of honour have offered things for the auction and will also personalise these items if the purchaser wishes.

There will be many other things, both worthy and strange. I do hear that there will be a Benedict Cumberbatch Ottery cross stitch thing. No, I don't know why.

Wolf von Witting



The fewest are given this once-in-a-lifetime chance. Should it happen, that I end up among the select few, then you *will* get a trip report worthy of your confidence (Unless you're already bored with CounterClock). Having had time to ponder, I made my priorities straight. What I would like to do / see in North-America. 1st I would like to meet sf-fans I have had contact with, 2nd sf-fans I have heard about, or read. 3rd sf-fans I should have heard of or read about and sf-fans I haven't met yet, which are all potential friends. Every sf-fan is a VIP. The president? Yeah, I'd be delighted meeting the president of NESFA, LASFS, NWSFS or any other sf society for that matter.

And if chance is given, live and direct from Captain Quirks kitchen: to show 'em how we make coffee in Italy, potato salad in Gerfany and smörgåstårta in Sweden.

Anna Raftery



I can't believe the race is nearly over. Coming to the end of voting I've been thinking about what this trip could be for me. I'm most excited about the chance to meet so many fans from North America that I only know by name or online. Chris O'Halloran has been an amazing nominator and campaigner, and getting a chance to meet her in person would be such a lovely cherry to the trip.

I also can't deny that the opportunity to meet Tamora Pierce would be a highlight of not only the trip, but of my life so far. Her books have had and continue to have a big influence on me, getting to meet and thank her for that would mean a lot. I also love the idea of getting to talk about not only her work, but the last year of amazing (and not so amazing) SF with other fans, both on panels and in the bar. That has always been one of my joys of science fiction conventions.

As for the actual traveling, I've got a week either side of the con booked off and I'm looking forward to take that time to meet fans on both coasts if I can!