



Taffluorescence! sixth issue



Beware of the flowers cos I'm sure they're gonna get you, yeah!
Dark November brings the fog, and I bring you the very latest

Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund bulletin. Who am I, I hear you ask? I am the European TAFF admin:
Sandra Bond, 1B Chestnut House, Mucklestone Rd, Loggerheads, Market Drayton TF9 1DA, UK.

And the NEW! North American admin, returned from her travels and ready to act, is
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For all information on TAFF, free ebook downloads, and many good things: taff.org.uk

Steve Stiles art from *Taff Terror Tales* #3. Photo of Ian Watson by Cristina Macía.



WHICH SHALL IT BE, TAFFWORTHY?

Like all good news media, we put the most important news first, and here it is: TAFF is gearing up for another race, which will send a European fan to the 2025 Worldcon in Seattle.

Nominations will open on **11 November 2024**, giving your EU admin chance to enjoy Novacon before plunging into TAFF business, and will close on **20 December 2024**. We hope to open voting as the chimes ring out to welcome in 2025, but this will be confirmed in due course.

To stand for TAFF 2025, you must obtain the nominations of **three European** and **two North American** fans (to be sent direct to the admins, please) by that 20 Dec deadline. You also need to submit a bond of £10/€12 to me by that same date, and to compose (or have composed for you) a platform, 100 words max, saying why you should be the voters' choice.

Some TAFF candidates decide themselves that they wish to stand, and go round canvassing nominations; others are talked into standing by friends and would-be nominators. Neither of these models is superior to the other, and indeed, as administrator I remain officially ignorant of any behind-the-scenes manoeuvring. All I care about is ensuring that TAFF – one of fandom's oldest and best traditions – continues onward.

I am always happy to deal with questions regarding TAFF, either by email, or at either of the conventions I'll shortly be attending, *Back To Our Futures* (1-3 Nov) or *Novacon* (8-10 Nov).

RESTING ON ORANGE LAURELS

I'd like to thank now-retired North American TAFF admin, Mike Lowrey – the *good* orange guy – for all his work in supporting the fund on his side of the Atlantic, and welcome him to that exclusive club of Former TAFF Winners who get to put their feet up and take it easy except on the rare occasions when their opinion is sought on some vexed or pressing matter. Thankfully, most such potential issues have already been ironed out in TAFF's seventy years.

CONVENTIONAL STUFF

Much support for TAFF (and for other fan funds) is traditionally shown at cons. Here's a non-exclusive list of upcoming conventions where fundraising is expected to be going on:

FANTASTIKA 2024, 1-3 November, Stockholm, Sweden: Former EU TAFF winner, Fia Karlsson, will be there. She will preside over a fundraising table and an auction.

BOSKONE 62, 14-16 February, Boston, MA: Former NA TAFF winner, Geri Sullivan, will be in attendance. She expects to again be running the "Great Fannish Yard Sale" (acquire curiosities! comix! kipple! perhaps even a pair of shoes!) and to ensure that there's a fan fund table at the con where you can find TAFF newsletters and ballot forms.

CORFLU 42, 11-13 April, Newbury, Berks: I'll be attending, taking donations, and drumming up votes toward what we expect will be the closing stages of the race.

RECONNECT (Eastercon 76), 18-21 April, Belfast, NI: Though I long to attend this one too, it currently seems very dubious. If I'm absent, I shall ensure that some reliable fan or fans who are there will be delegated to collect TAFF votes and donations. Note that due to circumstances beyond TAFF's control, namely the existence of the Irish Sea, there will *not* be our usual fundraising table, tombola, etc. at this Eastercon; but we are planning an auction.

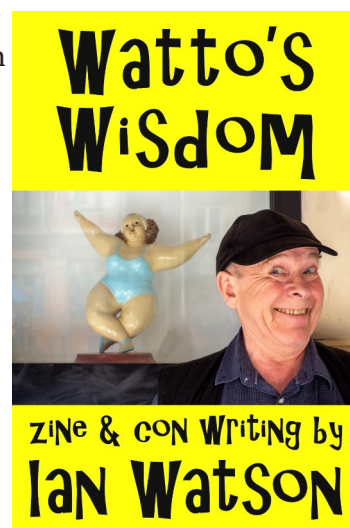
SEATTLE WORLDCON 2025 (83rd World Science Fiction Convention): all being well, this is where you'll be able to meet the new TAFF delegate, whoever they are.

MORE EBOOKS

You probably know by now of the huge library of ebooks which can be found at <https://taff.org.uk/ebooks.php> (donations to TAFF are welcome if you've been enjoying these). All deference as ever to that there Dave Langford – for this is yet another of his innumerable services to TAFF. It now boasts more than 100 titles...

...for freshly added to that page we have no fewer than *nine* trip reports for the benefit of TAFF's sibling fund, GUFF, ranging from John Foyster (1979) through Ian Gunn/KRin Pender-Gunn, Eric Lindsay/Jean Weber, Pat McMurray, James Shields, Gillian Pollack, Donna Maree Hanson, and Marcin Kłak, to Simon Litten (2019). Further, the late Steve Stiles, 1968 TAFF winner, is honoured by having his TAFF report (2007) added. That's Steve's self-portrait at the foot of this page from his 1969 TAFF bulletin.

And still that's not all, for coming soon, we shall have *Watto's Wisdom* – in excess of 80,000 words by that elder statesman of British SF, Ian Watson, collecting the great majority of his writings over the years for fanzines and convention publications. How could anyone resist the man's plaintive look, those limpid eyes, on this cover?



NOT YET ON THAT SITE...



...is my own TAFF report, this being in part because it is not complete yet. But it has taken a giant step toward that state of being with the publication of chapter 1, my adventures in Massachusetts with Geri Sullivan and the hordes of NESFA, in the new issue (#81) of *Banana Wings* from Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer; ask for your copy at fishlifter@gmail.com. Coming soon: chapters in *Inca* and *Boonfark*. Yes, *Boonfark*. Dan Steffan's *Boonfark*. THAT *Boonfark*. The *Boonfark* that saw some eight splendid issues, back in the 1970s and 1980s. He's reviving it. Goshwow. How's *that* for a slice of fried gold?