

THE FORTNIGHTLY FIX

#SEVEN



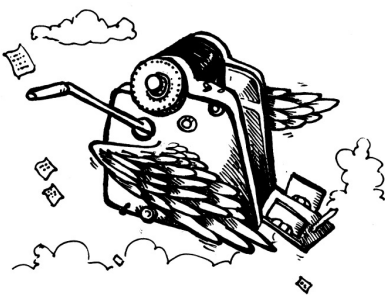
“Oh dear, by the time I’m properly developed I’ll be dead.” [Greg Pickersgill, July 2009]

Hello, I Must Be Going...

Well, it had to happen eventually. As some of you will be aware, I recently volunteered to work on the re-election campaign for my Member of Parliament: running her local diary, setting up photo-ops, getting hands-on with publications and press releases. It’s being quite a gear-change, given I’ve avoided the standard office environment for nearly six years, and one I’ve already found extremely rewarding, but -- and of course, there was always going to be a “but” in this sentence - it’s suddenly sucked up all the time I’ve lately devoted to keeping this very fanzine on a fortnightly schedule. In fact, I’ve barely got enough space in the day for all the really crucial stuff, like catching up with the third volume of *FreakAngels* (Warren Ellis’ and Paul Duffield’s online comic), updating my Facebook profile, watching porn, restoring my Facebook profile and writing letters to newspapers abusing the town’s Tory councillors.

Note to self: must do better. If nothing else, I want to coalesce my thoughts on the casual, almost thoughtless, fannish elitism I’ve observed in certain quarters during the recent TAFF race and the forthcoming DUFF race. Tune in next time, as the continuity announcers say.

And so, in resignation to my own limitations, we move to the letters column...



Down the Loccol

Randy Byers: “The [Hugo] ballot for the long form this year is going to be full of movies that I actually liked a lot. It was a pretty damned good year for SF movies. When *Star Trek* came out, I thought it was a shoo-in to win, but I’m no longer sure about that. Anyway, *Moon* will certainly be on my ballot.”

Spread the word: let’s get *Moon* on the Hugo shortlist!

Lloyd Penney: “I am probably the only person on the planet who hasn’t seen *Avatar* yet. The whole world’s gone nuts about it, and I’m shrugging my shoulders. But then, Steve, you see more movies in a week than I see in a year. Hollywood’s never gonna get rich offa me.”

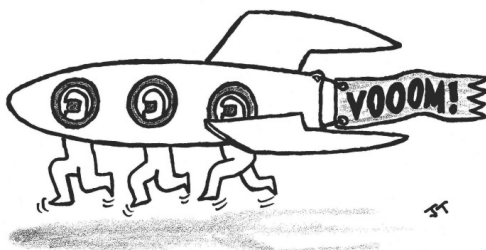
Actually, I haven’t seen *Avatar* yet, either, but plan to remedy that shortly. Thanks to the recent weather, I only managed to catch seven films on ‘the big screen’ during the first nineteen days of 2010, the most impressive of which have been the bleak (but ultimately heartening) *The Road*, the energetic vampire thriller *Daybreakers* and the wry comedy-drama *Up In the Air*. It looks set to be another excellent year for challenging and exciting cinema (good job, too, as Ray Holloway and I have decided to go for a round 100 this time).

Dave Rowley: "Much saddened to read of Rob Holdstock's passing. My memories of quality time spent with him were during a car journey from Stoke railway station to Keele campus as he was a GoH at one of the original UniCons. I think it must have been number 3 in 1982 as I was the only committee member who (a) could drive and (b) owned a car. After that, he was always friendly, make that even more friendly!

"As for the incredible shrinking Brum Group... I almost dragged myself out of lethargy and gafia in 2008 to make the effort to turn up to a meeting. Now that would have been a shock to the system, as my last fandom event was about 16 years ago at a party in Portsmouth."

I remember Unicon 3 with some affection. Ann's first convention, as I recall, and pretty much the first time we "came out" as a couple. We got engaged three months later.

I also heard from: Jeff Boman ("Thanks for the DUFF endorsement. I finally have my five nominees, now have to get my final paperwork for my entry done. By the time you read these words (other readers, anyway), I'll officially be in the race, and hope I win! Australia would be the furthest that I've travelled so far..."); Chris Garcia ("I hear England's temporarily been renamed Hoth. I count myself lucky that I never had to deal with snow save for my stint in Boston."); James Taylor ("The Saturday over which Corflu runs is a Vagarants night, so we are planning on having several computers set up to encourage participation in whatever Peter Sullivan is setting up."); Chris Holmes ("I just had to tell you how much I agreed with you about *Knowing*. It really was a heck of a disappointment... and it seemed to hold so much promise!"); Dave Hardy ("Yes, you're right, we do have a problem with Novacon; I hope you don't mind if I quote you at the [Brum Group] AGM."); Sarah McIntyre ("Great to see Dave [O'Connell]'s work, he's amazing. :) We've just been hashing through a new picture book together, I'm really excited about it."); Jonathan Cowie ("In the Spring edition of *Concat*, we have cited *Moon* as one of the best SF films of 2009."); Joel Lane ("Good to see *The FFix* covering SF territory as well as Steve territory, not that there's anything wrong with the latter."); Dave Hodson ("I've really enjoyed these so far, keep them coming."); John Purcell; Brad Foster; Robert Lichtman; Murray Moore (thanks for the photo); Paul Birch; Alan White.



You are viewing a somewhat shorter than anticipated seventh edition of *THE FORTNIGHTLY FIX*, dated 20 January 2010. 'Tis entirely to be blamed upon Steve Green, who can be contacted via stevegreen@livejournal.com. Artwork contributed by Alan White and Sue Mason (pg.1), and by John Toon (pg.2). My usual thanks to Bill Burns at eFanzines.com for online distribution.

This fanzine backs **Jeff Boman** for **DUFF**.