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Newsletter 38

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, Jonathan del Arco, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Michael Dorn, Siddig El Fadil, Robert Justman, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okuda, Ernie Over, Nichelle Nichols, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt, Bjo Trimble.

Hi. Welcome to another newsletter. We hope you all had a great time over the holidays. Thanks to all of you who sent us Christmas cards. They were much appreciated and we are just sorry we couldn't send you all cards.

This is probably the last newsletter you will receive at the beginning of February as Janet is reneging. 1½ weeks off work for the holidays seems like a great time to do the newsletter, but once you take off Christmas and the New Year plus all the preparation and the visitors, it is definitely *not* a good time and unfortunately this newsletter has ended up being rushed. So from now on the newsletter will probably be out later in February.

We have received nice letters from Bob Justman and Ernie Over - hi, Bob and Ernie. Bob tells us that the book he is writing with Herb Solow is now due to be published in the autumn of 1995 instead early in the year. It had been advertised for April in the UK. Ernie has left Los Angeles and moved to Riverton, Wyoming to enter business with his brother. We wish him every success in

his new venture.

To those of you who don't know Ernie, he used to work for Gene Roddenberry, and after Gene's death, for Majel. Unfortunately Ernie suffers from asthma and the LA climate didn't suit him. While working for Majel Ernie helped David Alexander with his research for his biography on Gene. The book, *Star Trek Creator, the Authorized Biography of Gene Roddenberry* by David Alexander is now available in the UK, published by Boxtree. We can highly recommend it. If you can't afford to buy it then go into your library and request it. You can also request George Takei's and Nichelle Nichols' autobiographies and William Shatner's books.

Member Sue Reynish and her family will be taking part in *Champion Telly Addicts*, which starts on 9/1/95. Sue has the distinction of being the person who was responsible for Telly Addicts changing their rules. When she and her family originally took part in the series Sue answered all the questions - and got them right. The rules were later altered so that each of the

contestants had to answer some of the questions. We wish Sue and her family luck.

On a sad note we heard that Nana Visitor was the unfortunate victim of an attack and robbery in November. On behalf of IDIC members we are sending her some flowers and offering her our support and best wishes. If any of you want to write to her direct you can write to her at Paramount, but we strongly suggest that you just wish her well and don't refer to the incident - it is unlikely that she wants to be continually reminded of it.

EMAIL

Thanks to those of you who have sent Janet your email address. We are not sure if it will be possible to set up an IDIC Mailinglist but we are still looking into it. The problem is that as there are so few of you who could take advantage of it, we can't afford to pay much money for it. In the meantime we are still compiling a list of members with email addresses and a list of those who wish to be put in touch with each other.

If you have an email address then send a message to janet.quarton@almac.co.uk and state whether you want your address kept private or whether you want it added to a list which will be sent to all members with email.

GRAPHICS

Many thanks to those of you who have sent in artwork and cartoons, hopefully we will be able to use some in this newsletter. Please send n/l art to Janet.

STAR TREK GENERATIONS

We have done our best not to give too much away on the film but do read the newsletter with care until you have seen the film.

We welcome your views on the film for the next newsletter, but rather than send reviews as such, of which we could only use a couple, just send in your comments assuming that readers have already seen the film. After all, everyone who wants to see the film should have done so by the time you receive the April newsletter. Please keep your comments on the film separate from postbag submissions and don't include them in the

word-count for the postbag. Send them to Sheila.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The closing date for the next newsletter is March 15th.

PLEASE put your full name on all submissions - if you don't and it gets separated from your letter then we can't print it.

Our order of preference for receiving newsletter submissions is:

Email - send to Janet and she will try to confirm receipt within 2 weeks.

(Email - janet.quarton@almac.co.uk)

(Fidonet. - Janet Quarton @ 2:297/17)

Computer disc - send to Janet. (ASCII text files on MS-DOS, Atari ST, Acorn or Amstrad PCW - SAE to Janet for details)

By letter or fax - send written postbag submissions, articles and reviews to Sheila. Send news, cuttings, adverts and anything else to Janet.

Our thanks to Frances Abernethy, Sandie Cayless, Clement Chung, Stephen Daniels, H.S. Duhre, Barbara Ellams, Kathleen Glancy, George Haggarty, Meg Lahey, Paul Lazarus, Stephen McCall, Fiona McDonald, Harminder Pal, Gloria Rigg, Alan Stephen, Jenny Turner, Joan Verba, Marion Van der Voort, Mary von Heide, Maria Woodward and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

IDIC GUIDE DOG APPEAL

USED STAMPS

Any American/Canadian members who would like to contribute used stamps can send them to Bill Hupe, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554, USA and he will forward them to us along with a list of your names so that we can acknowledge them.

We would like to thank Frances Abernethy, Neil Barrett, Elizabeth Barrie, Jean Barron & SOL III, Eilean Berridge, Ruth Biggs, Dorothy

Bradley, Claudia Baschke & friend, Lynne Buckley, E Butler, Julie Burton, Hallie Chase, Susan Clarke, P Colucci, Sheila Cornell, Pamela Dale, Matthew Deegan, Veronica Duthie, Pat Dyer, Karin Embacher, A-M Flowers, I Forrester, Mark French, Kathleen Glancy, Meg Grossman, Katrina Heintz, Glyn Holland, Irena Hradecka, Bill Hupe, Christine Jones, Peg Kennedy, Ruth Kurz, D Lewis, Jessie Lemmer, Alan & Helen McInnes, Andrew McLean, Janet MacLean, Catherine MacLeod, Anne McKay, Rebecca Morris, Nigel Nixon, Barry O'Doherty, M Payne, Ann Peters, Kayta Phillips, Andrea Rasmussen, Gloria Rigg, Neil Safi, Tracy Saunders, Baerbel Schmidt, Jean Sloan, Alexis Stokes, Dave Styles, Judith Taylor, Helen Thurlow, Jenny Turner, Daniel van de Weile (and the Beverlyophiles), Celia Wenban-Smith, Edward Woo, Estella J Woodhead, Barbara Wright and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for donations of money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. We can use all used stamps, whether British or Foreign. If possible please trim them, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " of envelope around the stamp.

RAFFLE

The winners of last newsletter's raffle are Neil Christie - Board game (Final Frontier); Ann Crozer - autographed photo, Jonathan Del Arco (as Hugh Borg); Lesley Richardson - IDIC membership.

because it's what's on the ticket that tells us who's won and if you've expressed a choice. Also please remember to include the money when you send in your raffle tickets. At least once every newsletter someone sends in the tickets but forgets the money!

Tickets are £1 each. (If you want any extra just send the money and we'll put in a ticket for you.) Please send your ticket/s (and money, of course!) to Sheila or Janet by March 8th. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

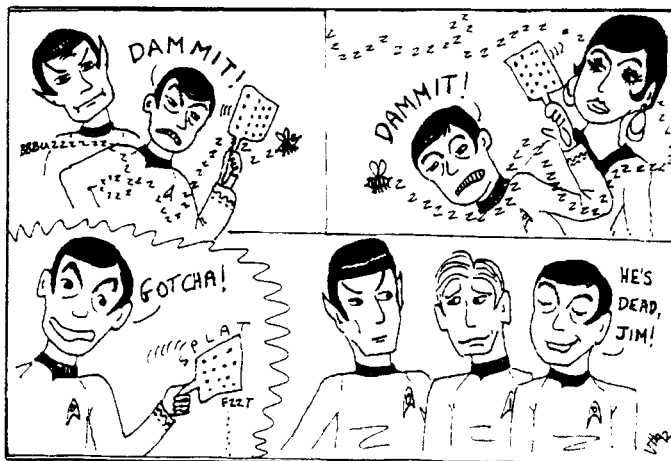
Please do not send £1 coins (some of these have been lost in the post); we will accept stamps (any combination of values from 1p to £2).

Although the nature of the event will make socialising difficult, we hope to see some of you at Horizons at the Albert Hall. Tim Gaskill tells us that all 5000 tickets for each day have now been sold, however if any of you still want to go it might be worth contacting the Albert Hall booking office for cancellations. Let's hope the weather holds so that everyone travelling there from outside London gets there!

We plan to post the next newsletter out around April 5th.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 8/1/95

We are having another raffle in this newsletter. We are offering three prizes: hardback copies of The Lost Years and Dark Mirror and the usual membership. For those who wish to take part - please remember to put your name and address or membership number and your choice of prize (if you have a preference) on the back of each ticket; if you don't, we have to,





LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Qarton



STAR TREK
THE NEXT GENERATION



TV & SATELLITE

BBC2 is now into the 5th season of TNG.

Sky - from 1/1/95 Sky have started showing TNG 7th season episodes twice on a Sunday - at 3pm and 7pm. The season finishes on 29/1/95 so presumably they will resume showing the 2nd season of DS9 on 5/2/95.

From the ratings I have seen TNG is still at the bottom of BBC 2's top ten, below X Files and Red Dwarf, with ratings between 3 - 4 million. On Sky the 7th season Sunday episodes are around 5 - 7 in the top satellite chart with ratings around 0.68 million.

BBC

Star Trek screening dates.

Ep.	Title	Date Shown
196	Half a Life	16/11/94
197	The Host	23/11/94
198	The Mind's Eye	30/11/94
199	In Theory	7/12/94
200	Redemption	14/12/94
5th Season		
201	Redemption II	21/12/94
202	Darmok	28/12/94
	Star Trek III: The Search for Spock	
		1/1/95
203	Ensign Ro	4/1/95
	ST VI: The Undiscovered Country	
		7/1/95
204	Silicon Avatar	11/1/95

- Star Trek Generations is due to open at the Empire, Leicester Square, London on February 10th. We have no word on a premiere yet or whether the films opens nationwide on the same date.

- Generations officially opened in the States on November 18th but a lot of fans had the opportunity to attend previews in some cities on the 17th. The film grossed \$23.1 million the first week (STVI grossed \$18.1 million the first week) when it was no.1 at the Box Office. It dropped to no.2 the following week behind the Santa Clause Movie.

The film had grossed \$70 million by the end of December but as it had already left a lot of cinemas some people are saying that Paramount may be disappointed that it didn't do better.

We have receive quite a lot of reviews of the film and we have printed one, later in the newsletter. Most of the reviews were mixed - not as good as they could have been.

Reaction of the fans on the Internet seem to vary from 'brilliant!' to 'the worst film - hated it'. Even a lot of fans who like the film do point out that the continuity is not consistent with events already established in the TNG episodes.

- On the 9th of December Rick Berman gave a live interactive interview on America On-Line. During the interview he mentioned that the Enterprise D was destroyed so that Enterprise E can appear in the next film. Also that there were more scenes with Dr. Crusher and Troi but they were cut due to length. It is difficult to devote equal screen

time to all seven characters.

Inconsistencies in continuity exist to develop a good story, however, the general rules of Trek are followed.

There will be a Star Trek 8 (initial planning begins 1/95). There is no plot or story yet but watch out for the film some time in '96.

They plan to make a Star Trek film about every 2 years.

- USA Today December 1st, 1994. Patrick Stewart describes something unexpected that happened during the re-shoot of the Kirk/Soren/Picard fight ending.

They had to go Nevada for re-shoots and make the battle with Malcolm McDowell on that buckling bridge more exciting. This comes after Captain Picard persuades Kirk (Shatner) to leave the horse ranch mirage to help out the Universe again.

Stewart saves Shatner at one point, but "the bridge gave another lurch, and I went off the side. We filmed this with... Bill hauling me up. None of that... is seen. I'm hanging onto Bill's hand, and he said, 'I suppose it's too late to get back on the horses.' And I said, 'I'm afraid so!' (We're) extremely dismayed this didn't get into the movie."

The Philadelphia Inquirer and USA Today both stated that one of the biggest reasons to go see Star Trek: Generations was because of William Shatner's superb performance as Captain Kirk.

- ATLANTA (Reuter) - Paramount Pictures Corp. has filed a federal copyright infringement lawsuit against a New York City store and a Connecticut man it says sold unauthorized copies of the script of the hit movie "Star Trek: Generations."

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court last month alleges that the New York store Omega Zone and Joe Kindle, identified only as a Connecticut resident, have sold copies of scripts for the film as well as the premiere episode of the television series "Star Trek: Voyager," which goes on the air in January.

The lawsuit seeks an injunction barring the defendants from reproducing, marketing or offering the scripts for sale and asks that all copies of the scripts be impounded.

Paramount said that in addition to being

copyright material, the scripts allegedly being sold by the defendants are works in progress and do not represent the finished versions.

"By learning of every detail of the works, it is very likely that much of the public will not find it necessary to revisit the story by seeing the feature film or the television show," the lawsuit says.

The movie "Star Trek: Generations" grossed more than \$57.6 million in the 18 days that followed its release and is the No. 2 grossing film in the nation after Disney's "The Santa Clause."

Paramount says in the lawsuit that the defendants are "misleading the public as to the content of the movie and television shows and thus threatening movie sales and television ratings."

The lawsuit says an employee of Paramount's parent company, Viacom Inc., purchased copies of both scripts for \$35 from booths operated by Kindle and Omega Zone a month and a half before the "Star Trek: Generations" movie was released.

Paramount is seeking unspecified damages and attorneys' fees from the two plaintiffs, or \$100,000 for each sale of either of the two scripts.

Reuter/Variety REUTER 8/12/94

STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine.
Season 3 Broadcast Schedule.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Episode List-

Date	Episode & Title
26/11/94	456 Fascination
31/12/94	457 Past Tense, Part I
07/1/95	458 Past Tense, Part II
28/1/95	459 Life Support
04/2/95	460 Heart Of Stone
11/2/95	461 Destiny

EPISODE SPOILERS

456 "Fascination" - Directed by Avery Brooks. Guest Stars: Majel Barrett, Philip Anglim, Rosalind Chao. A Bajoran celebration on the station serves as the backdrop for an epidemic of inexplicable romantic attractions among the crew.
A Kira romance.

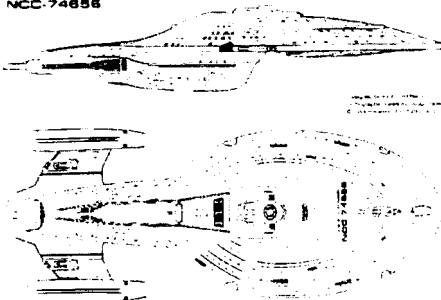
457 "Past Tense, Part I" - Directed by Reza Badiyi; Teleplay by Robert Hewitt Wolfe; Story by Ira Steven Behr & Robert Hewitt Wolfe. Guests stars: Jim Metzler, Frank Military, Dick Miller, Al Rodrigo, Tina Lifford, Bill Smitrovich. A transporter accident sends Sisko, Bashir, and Dax three centuries back in time to a crucial point in Earth's history.

458 "Past Tense, Part II" - Directed by Jonathan Frakes. Guests stars: Jim Metzler, Frank Military, Dick Miller, Deborah Van Valkenburgh, Al Rodrigo, Clint Howard, Richard Lee Jackson, Tina Lifford, Bill Smitrovich. Trapped in Earth's past, Sisko must assume a pivotal role in history and try and restore the future.

459 Life Support - Directed by Reza Badiyi; Teleplay by Ronald D. Moore; Story by Christian Ford & Roger Soffer. Guests: Philip Anglim, Aron Eisenberg, Lark Voorhies, Ann Gillespie, Andrew Prine, Louise Fletcher. Bashir must use questionable methods in order to keep Vedek Bareil alive long enough to help bring about a Bajoran peace treaty with Cardassia.

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

USS VOYAGER
NCC-74656



Voyager will premiere on 16 January 1995 on the United Paramount Network, with the episode Caretaker.

- The Making of Star Trek: Voyager, a one-hour special, was due to be shown in the US in the middle of January.

- The Starship Voyager will be larger than the Defiant, yet smaller than the Enterprise-D (150 crewmen). It will contain bio-neural circuits and have moving nacelles for warp drive. Berman hopes that Voyager will attract as wide an audience as possible. [Info Interview with Rick Berman on AOL]

Star Trek: Voyager. Season 1 Broadcast Schedule.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Episode List-

Date	Title
16/1/95	Caretaker (Two Hour Opener)
23/1/95	Parallax
30/1/95	Time and Again
06/2/95	Phage

Caretaker

In this month's premiere episode of Star Trek: Voyager, the Federation starship and a rebel Maquis ship are suddenly thrown into a distant region of space. Eventually, the two crews discover that they were pulled into this uncharted area by a powerful alien life form that is searching for a successor.

More than a thousand years ago, this alien unwittingly destroyed much of the planet of the peaceful Ocampa. Guilt-ridden, the beneficent being became the "Caretaker" of the planet's survivors. But now the alien must scam and is desperate to find a replacement to service "the debt that can never be repaid." The Voyager, it apparently believes, will take that job.

So the Caretaker soon vanishes, leaving behind its awesome technology. But the Voyager crew, which can use the technology to return home, has competition for this incredible power. A terrifying and ruthless race called the Gazon wants to control the Caretaker's astonishing technical system. In a

desperate effort to protect the Ocampa, who would be defenseless against a more powerful Gazon, Janeway destroys the Caretaker's "Array," thus saving the Ocampa and stranding the Voyager.

"I don't know how the audience is going to react to what Janeway does, because for the first time we're clearly violating the Prime Directive," says "The Caretaker" director Winrich Kolbe, referring to the code that prevents Starfleet from interfering with the natural development of other races. "The interesting thing is that Janeway decides that the Voyager has become inadvertently involved in the conflict, whether they like it or not. And so she sends phasers down in the Array." Now, he says, the Voyager is involved and its crew perhaps bears a responsibility to remain involved. "That is a damn interesting decision that was made by Janeway," he says.

"The show is fascinating because it deals with a real societal phenomenon: the ultimate welfare state. Like the best Star Trek episodes, it has something to say."

Article by Edward Gross Cinescape January 1995.

Parallax - by Brannon Braga (detailing B'Elanna Torres' fight for the Chief Engineer's position)

Phase - by Michael Piller (a "time-travel" episode - Brannon Braga's words)

- According to 'The Official Star Trek Club of Australia' Magazine Brannon mentioned they are creating "some new very scary aliens - we are inventing a race of aliens who are going to be, hopefully, among the most disturbing and terrifying aliens we have encountered. That will come within the first five shows..." (info Ian Poleykett r.a.s.c.)

MISC

- **The Edinburgh Star Trek Exhibition** was announced by the press in December. The Edinburgh Herald had a picture of Councillor Steve Cardownie flanked by two Klingons (John & Grace Bonella)

The exhibition will be on show at Edinburgh's City Art Centre from February 4th until May 7th. On February 17th ST: Generations will

premiere at cinemas all over Europe and it is hoped that one of the major stars will visit the City Arts Centre around that time to officially launch the exhibition.

The exhibition includes:

From the original series:

Large scale model of the starship Enterprise NCC-1701A

Model of Klingon Heavy Cruiser.

Model of shuttle 'Copernicus'.

The bridge of the USS Enterprise.

Assoth alien prosthetic head.

Captain Kirk's costume.

Klingon mannequins, male and female.

Phaser.

From ST:TNG

Transporter room set.

Captain Picard's costume.

Ferengi alien prosthetic head.

Cardassian alien prosthetic head.

Phasers.

Badge communicator.

From The ST feature films

Admiral Kirk's costume.

Spock costume.

Scotty's engineering uniform.

Bird of Prey command chair.

Photon torpedoes.

From DS9 & Voyager

Mural of Deep Space Nine station.

Mural of Voyager starship.

Simulation reactor set.

Morn alien head.

Tosk alien head.

The exhibition is open Monday, Tuesday and Saturday 10.00am - 5.30pm, Wednesday-Friday 10am - 9pm and Sunday 12 noon - 5pm. Tickets are £3.50 adults; £2 children and concessions; £9 family (two adults and two children).

For more information contact the City Art Centre on 529 3993.

The Evening Times 17/12/94 carried a centre page colour spread on Star Trek and the exhibition. It included an article on Gene Roddenberry. The paper obviously believes there should be no up or down in space - they had a picture of 1701-D upside down.

- **Star Trek: A Captain's Log** CBS 30 Nov, 94. Host William Shatner presents a batch of clips from the Original Star Trek's three seasons. Fine if like us you are a Star Trek

devotee, if not it's a baffling jumble. A Captain's Log seems to exist primarily as a commercial for the feature film Star Trek Generations, plus the recent autobiographies of Shatner, Nicholls and Takei. [Alan Stephen]

• **Science Fiction: A Journey into the Unknown.** Fox 13/12/94.

Hosted by Star Trek originals William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy, looked back at four decades of TV science fiction. This presentation from the archives of the museum of television and radio covers the gamut, from low-budget to high tech. Sharing hosting duties were Dean Cain (Superman) and a bored looking Carrie Fisher (Star Wars). [Alan Stephen]

• **"Credit Cards: The Next Generation"** USA Today 9/11/94. US fans can now get a Star Trek MasterCard. The card has a \$20 annual fee after the first year, when it is free. Card holders get a six-month membership in the fan club, a limited-edition trading card and 10% off merchandise bought through the fan club. Viacom will donate a small percentage of revenue from the card to a scholarship fund for science education.

• **Tekno Comix Preview Party.** To help celebrate the launch of its new line, Tekno Comix held a preview party on November 10th at the Griffith Park Observatory in Los Angeles, with guest creators Majel Barrett Roddenberry, Mickey Spillane, and Leonard Nimoy in attendance.

Guests were allowed full run of the observatory. Later Leonard Nimoy took the podium to describe the inspiration behind Primortals, and his collaboration with Isaac Asimov. The two men shopped the project around Hollywood for several years before being approached by Tekno Comix with an offer to make Primortals a four-colour production.

The comic involves the SETI Project and Earth's first contact with alien life.

• On 15/11/94 Brent Spiner added his Starfleet uniform to the memorabilia collection at New York's Planet Hollywood. [Chicago Tribune]

• **"It's Star Trek, Captain, but not as we know it"** Daily Mail 17/11/98.

Article about Star Trek: The Lost Voyage which opened on the 16th at the Churchill Theatre for a 14 night run.

Bradley Lavelle as Kirk and Adrian Neill, a dead-ringer for Spock, capture the characters made famous by William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy on television and film.

The plot too is strangely familiar, with a Klingon plan to destroy the Federation and the crew at the mercy of a strange alien force - in female form.

Special effects are by Derek Meddings, the man who won an Oscar for his work on the Superman movie.

The cast are hoping to find themselves transported from South-East London to stages in the West End and Broadway sometime next year.

• **"Beam up into the Starship Enterprise"** Sunday Times 20/11/94 An article saying that a Star Trek game will be the first to feature a new version of Apple's "quick-time" video films that use thee-dimensional (3D) images.

I think they are actually talking about the TNG Technical Manual, although he mentions going into Kirk's quarters.

Far from being locked into Apple hardware the software will be able to run on virtually any 386 Windows machine with a minimum of five megabytes of operating memory.

• **"Carry on Captain"** Herald 22/11/94.

A new Star Trek club has been set up at Jordanhill School. They had their first meeting on August 19th.

The primary function of the club is to hold weekly meetings to watch Star Trek but they also plan to organise outings and to raise money for charity. The Jordanhill Trek Committee recently ran in the school's charity fun run in costume and raised £70.

The article mentions that fund-raising has always been an integral part of British Star Trek fandom and that Contagion, the Scottish Star Trek Convention, recently gave a total of £18,600 to charity.

The Jordanhill Trek Committee will be delighted to hear from any other school's Trek fan club. If you run one write to:

Jordanhill Trek, c/o Mrs Mary Ritchie, Jordanhill School, 45 Chamberlain Road, Glasgow G13 1SP.

• New 'Trek' Film Already in Works San Francisco Chronicle 30/11/94

Following the success of "Star Trek Generations," Paramount is already developing a new film in the long-running series, with November 1996 targeted as the date of the picture's release.

"'Generations' was planned to be the last appearance of the original crew," said one studio source. "It is intended that the next movie will feature 'The Next Generation' crew. That could change but that's the current plan."

The new film, the eighth in the series, is still in its nascent stages. Rick Berman, the executive producer of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and the producer of "Star Trek Generations," is negotiating with the studio to produce the new film.

"I'm at the very initial stages of developing some potential story lines," Berman said. "I'm starting to develop some ideas, which I will then develop further when we have a writer."

Most of the key principals of "Next Generation" -- including Jonathan Frakes (Commander Riker), Michael Dorn (Lieutenant Worf), Marina Sirtis (Counselor Troi), Gates McFadden (Dr. Beverly Crusher) and LeVar Burton (Geordi LaForge) -- are expected to return for the film.

However, there is some question about the availability of Patrick Stewart (Captain Jean-Luc Picard) and Brent Spiner (Data). Given the success of "Generations" and the pivotal roles Spiner and Stewart play, that could allow the actors enormous leverage in negotiating new contracts.

This time, Paramount plans to go to great lengths to keep the story and subject matter of the film under wraps.

Sources said the studio was hurt by leaked details of the "Generations" story

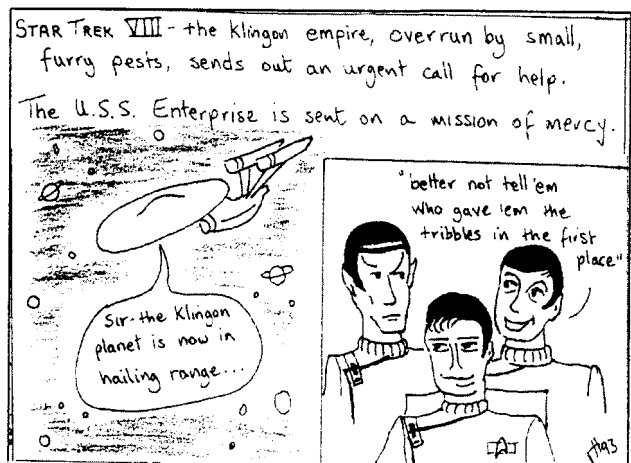
line -- including the fact that Captain Kirk (William Shatner) dies in the film -- and even more so by the wide dispersal of the screenplay through the Internet computer network.

"That happened several months ago, and they weren't very happy about it," said Dan Madsen, president of the "Star Trek" fan club. "They still don't know who got a hold of the script."

• New York Times

"Space Trek," a "musical comedy spoof of the Star Trek phenomenon" playing in a Greenwich Village theatre, will close down Dec. 31 under legal pressure from Paramount. Paramount claims that the play, which features "Captain Quirk" of the "Starship Energize" battling "Harry Crude", goes beyond parody and infringes on Paramount's Trek copyright, damaging the value of the Trek property. After receiving a threatening letter from Paramount's lawyer, the theatre agreed not to stage the play any more after its scheduled close on Dec. 31. However, the playwrights, Marc Lipitz and Rick Crom, complain of unfair treatment, noting that "big institutions" such as MAD magazine and "Saturday Night Live," are able to parody Star Trek with impunity. The news article suggests that the playwrights could win a legal battle with Paramount, but don't have the money to wage such a fight.

[Sources of information include rec.arts.startrek.current/info/fandom & Dateline Starfleet]





Star Trek IN THE NEWS



compiled by Janet Qarton

The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops in the info sheets and you can often get back issues of newspapers if you write to the publisher.

• ST COMMUNICATOR 100 Dec 1994.

Articles in this anniversary issue include: an introduction to the Voyager cast; Bjo Trimble's column; Communicators; Richard Arnold's column; Behind the Scenes at Pocket Books; Mark A Altman chooses his 25 favourite 'Treks'; George Takei; The Captains: William Shatner, Patrick Stewart, Kate Mulgrew, Avery Brooks; Spectrum Holobyter's 'A Final Unity' TNG CD-ROM game; The top 25 ST Collectibles.

• STARLOG 209 December 1994. Includes articles on ST: Generations and Joe Murphy who has been a 'stunt alien' on Star Trek.

• STARLOG 210 January 1995. Includes articles on: David Carson director of ST: Generations; Nichelle Nichols and her biography; Majel Barrett Roddenberry who is charting Gene Roddenberry's Lost Universe for Tekno-Comix, a series based on a character created by Gene Roddenberry. Majel also reflects on her appearances in TNG and DS9.

• STARLOG Platinum Edition #5 January 1995. Includes articles on George Takei, Leonard Nimoy & The Primortals, William Shatner & Generations + short articles on Rich Berman, Walter Koenig.

• STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE Vol.9 (Starlog). Contains articles on: More Ferengi Rules; Andrew Robinson (Garek); Dennis Madalone (stunt coordinator); Gary Holland (writer); Camille Saviola (Kai Opaka), plus episode reports on The Wire, Crossover, The

Collaborator, Tribunal and The Jem' Hadar.

• TV ZONE 61 November 1994. Includes part 1 of an article on writer René Echevarria.

• TV ZONE 62 December 1994. Includes part 2 of an article on writer René Echevarria and an article on Voyager.

• ST:TNG POSTER BOOKS

Issue 80 - Article on Picard and Beverly plus episode guides to Dark Page and Attached.

• STARBURST 195 Nov 1994. Includes articles on Designing Generations and the First Female Ferengi.

• STARBURST 196 Dec 1994. Includes a preview of Star Trek Generations and an article on Worf and Troi.

• CINEFANTASTIQUE February 1995.

Generations Special - usual indepth articles and interviews by the Cinefantastique reporters. Interviews with William Shatner, Patrick Stewart, Robert Justman, Leonard Nimoy on why he turned down the opportunity to appear in and/or direct to movie, Malcom McDowell, Director of Photography the legendary John Alonzo, Nichelle Nichols, Walter Koenig and how he became a captain for this voyage, and a peek at Star Trek Voyager, also an article by Robert Justman on Roddenberry's Legacy. [Alan Stephen]

• TIME Magazine November 28 1994

8-page article on the Star Trek phenomenon notable for the first published colour photograph of the Voyager crew. Unfortunately it's postage stamp size. [info Alan Stephen & Fiona McDonald]

• OMNI - December 1994

Architrek: Designing Generations by Herman Zimmermann and Philip Thomas Edgerly.

Article on the creation of the sets for Generations, TNG and other ST movies. Lovely colour photographs of the stellar cartography set. Also an article by James Doohan (Scotty) on "If I were chief engineer", complete with a beautiful cover of a Klingon warbird called 'On Patrol' by Tsuneo Sanda. [Alan Stephen]

- Entertainment Weekly #250 25 Nov 1994. Has a rather humorous review of Generations and awards it a 'B'. It also awards a 'B' to William Shatner's book, Star Trek Movie Memories.

- "Sci-Fi Flies High" Entertainment Weekly #251 2 Dec 1994.

Sci-Fi invades Hollywood. Large article on the various SF shows on TV and film. Featured is a colour photograph of ST Voyager crew Kate Mulgrew, Tim Russ and Robert Beltran, showing them in the engineering section of the starship Voyager. [Alan Stephen]

- "Captains Are Forever" Sun-Sentinel 22/11/94. A pair of articles about William Shatner and Patrick Stewart.

Shatner says that conventions became a great game - "Finding myself in front of these conventions, the only thing I could do was tell funny stories - you know, stand-up comedy. That's basically what I do. I guess that puts some people off - or they interpret it as being shallow and egotistical."

Now that Trek is over for him, Shatner said he is happy to step out of the limelight. He has nothing but good feelings about the show and it's so hard to contemplate not being Kirk that he finds he can't quite accept the character's demise.

"This is science fiction after all," he says, "so anything can happen."

Stewart says that after seven years the TV series had become a chore but the movie turned into a pleasure. "TV is a prison with no time off. But with a movie, you always have time. The ability to stay with something until it's right."

"I now find myself looking forward to doing more Star Trek movies maybe one every two years or so.

Looking thinner, Stewart explained that he had recently choked on a large

prawn, severely bruising his throat and preventing him from eating solid foods. "I've lost seven pounds in 10 days", he said, beaming, as he dipped a spoon into a carton of nonfat apricot yogurt. "I highly recommend choking as a diet."

- "Trekkers beam down decision: Picard rules" You're stranded on an alien world. You've forgotten your phaser. Your Starfleet uniform is in tatters. Your communicator reads LOW. And an army of giant fuzz-balls aliens have surrounded you with 12-foot spikes! Who do you want organising your rescue, up at the helm of the USS Enterprise. Kirk or Picard?

Picard logged 399 voters and Kirk 311.

- "Trek products an expanding universe" Star Tribune 19/11/94. Article about the amount of Star Trek merchandise available.

- "An alien force is out to make a come-back" Daily Express 16/12/94. An article about the increasing popularity of science fiction and how Hollywood is making more science fiction films. The article also mentions X-Files and Star Trek on TV and says that the Generations Convention at the Albert Hall is almost sold out. Rachel Simpson is condescending about Star Trek conventions and fans dressing up. Tim Gaskill tells her, "Actually it's often the casual fans who are keen to dress up, while the real experts are more low-key."





Cast & Crew NEWS



• Fan Mail - Try actors' clubs first, especially with gifts! Mail sent to Paramount may not reach addressee. When writing to an actor always enclose a self-addressed envelope and an International Reply Coupon (available at main Post Offices).

Send TNG/DS9 mail to Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90038, USA.

Send Classic/Movie Mail to Lincoln Enterprises, POB 691370, West Hollywood, CA 90069, USA.

Exceptions:

Nichelle Nichols, c/o Jim Meechan, AR-WAY Prod., 22647 Ventura Bl, #121, Woodland Hills, CA 91364, USA.

Grace Lee Whitney, POB 69, Coarsegold, CA 93614, USA.

Robert Justman, POB 491008, Los Angeles, CA 90049-9008, USA

• **Rene Auberjonis** will be directing the upcoming DS9 episode "Profit Motive" (featuring the return of the Ferengi Grand Nagus). "Profit Motive" is scheduled to air in February. (PRNewswire & Dateline 54)

• **Walter Koenig International**, fan club for (of course) Walter Koenig, will be ceasing operations as of 1/1/95. (info Dateline 54)

• **John de Lancie** - "Know-it-all Q may make Trek to Voyager" Star Tribune 7/12/94.

Now that TNG has warped into syndication John de Lancie finds fewer opportunities to play Q. He made a guest appearance on DS9 but that old magic wasn't there when Q can't play with the doughty captain of the Enterprise

"My main squeeze has always been Picard," de Lancie said. "That's where the tension, the friction lies. And that's what's good about it. The more philosophical it is, the bigger the question, the better the character works."

De Lancie has already met with the producers of Voyager. "They've come to me to the extent of saying, 'Nobody from any of

the series can make it over to Voyager because the distance is so far. Of course... *you* can!" He adopts a producer's leer and raises a speculative eyebrow.

"I said, 'I have a feeling that if your ratings are not so hot, the distance is going to get really, really short.'"

John de Lancie is the narrator of a special, "National Geographic Explorer: Searching for Extraterrestrials". One of his recent projects was directing Leonard Nimoy in a Halloween night adaptation of "The War of the Worlds" for National Public Radio. Currently, he's directing an all American cast in "Julius Caesar" for the BBC. (Q-like, he's playing the manipulative bad-guy Cassius.)

• **Gates McFadden** will be co-starring with Richard Grieco in "Marker," a Paramount Network series debuting Tuesday, January 17th at 8pm ET. (PRNewswire)

• **Leonard Nimoy** - "Mr Spock Goes West" The Mail on Sunday 13/11/94.

Leonard plays a reformed bandit in a new Bonanza movies, Bonanza: The Ghosts. He plays former outlaw Frank James, brother of Jesse, who wants to spend less time in jail and more time with his family. At last he is free after being acquitted. But on the way home he encounters wicked Charley Siringo (Dennis Farina)

The hardened Pinkerton detective takes the law into his own hands and with a gang of renegade Pinkertons jumps our hero.

Beaten and bushwhacked, James just manages to get to the Ponderosa Ranch to be patched up by the Cartwrights - one played by Michael Landon Junior, son of the actor who played the original Little Joe.

• **Carolyn Seymour** - "Trek star Carolyn beams back" The Mail on Sunday 13/11/94.

It has taken a Star Trek convention to lure actress Carolyn Seymour back to Britain. Carolyn, who played a Romulan Commander in several memorable episodes, was the toast of a Trekker meeting at a Norfolk mansion.

After marrying film director Peter Medak (from whom she is now divorced) she moved to Los Angeles where she brought up her children, Joshua, now 21 and a second camera assistant, and 19-year-old Cornelia.

Caroline is the granddaughter of the legendary Baroness Moura Budberg, whose circle of friends included Gorky, Hemingway, Huxley, Freud and H.G. Wells.

Carolyn says that it's nice being a cult figure for Trekkies but she has been doing a lot of TV in America and the odd movie.

• **Brent Spiner** - "Reliable Data" Satellite Times Nov 1994. A 2-page interview.

Apart for work on *Generations* and a few guest slots on TV, Spiner has largely shied away from work since the series ended, and remains uncertain about his future direction.

TNG proved a smash hit, so why cancel it? "Apparently it was always on the Paramount books that they would do it for seven years, and that it would not be 'cost effective' any longer," said Spiner, 32. "That's basically what happened.

"It was, I think, an economic decision, and being that showbusiness is show business, they decided to pull the plug on the it. It would be more effective to them to concentrate on films and have a new show come on."

Away from work Spiner still immerses himself in showbusiness. His free time is spent watching movies, and reading books about the industry. He would also like to take up comedy script writing. "In order to do that you have to sell one script, and I've yet to do that," he admitted. "I've never actually really peddled one."

With *Star Trek* now in his past, Spiner is unsure what the future holds for him career-wise. If the *Next Generation* film proves a box office smash, then more movies look set to follow. Acting on a West End stage remains an ambition, but his immediate goal is just to be employed. Although typecasting is always a danger for someone who has been in a role as long as Spiner has, he shrugs this off philosophically.

"I'm not particularly worried about typecasting, because there aren't that many android parts out there, and surely whatever I play next will be human!

"You seem to think you know where your career's going to go, and it seems to take itself in its own direction. I certainly would never have dreamed I was going to be on *Star Trek*, certainly not have action figures and comic books and merchandise with my face on it. So I've kind of taken the position of just watching it happen because I'm not sure I have any control over it."

• **William Shatner** - "Beam Him Down" People 28/11/94. A 2-page article about Bill with some nice colour photos, including Bill with Miss O'Hara (one of his horses), Bill with his daughters and Bill and Patrick on horses from *ST: Generations*.

Bill is kept busy with doing voice overs for *Rescue 911*, producing *TekWar* and writing. The second volume of his memoirs *Star Trek Movie Memories*, has just been published in the States.

When asked Bill does comment on some of the remarks made about him. Specifically, Takei and Nichols, backed by Walter Koenig and James Doohan, among others, accuse Shatner of poaching on his supporting players' scenes to give himself more camera time. Bill wanted a certain number of lines in each show," says Herb Solow, who in the '60s ran Desilu Studios, where the TV series was shot. "If the lines came from other actors, so be it."

Shatner calls such criticisms "ludicrous". Any script changes he made, he says, were done simply to "improve" that particular episode or film. He is equally adamant about other charges...

Not all his costars resented Bill; he considers Leonard Nimoy and De Forrest Kelley close friends. So, apparently, is James Darren, who costarred with Shatner on *T.J. Hooker* for 1983-1986. "Bill's a private guy," says Darren. "But the more you get to know him, the more you like him. Once he loosens up, he's a card. He loves to clown."

Even Koenig, who rejoined Shatner for *Generations*, concedes that Shatner was mellow on that set, joking with him and Doohan. "He's not my pal, and there's no love lost between us" says Koenig, "but he's not a monster."

Bill likes to spend as much time as possible with his horses. He divides his time between his L.A. home where he keeps

quarter horses, and Belle Reve, where he raises and trains American saddlebreds.

In fact, it's with his horses that Shatner seems most at peace. "They're bred to be beautiful and to move beautifully," he says, gazing at a 2-year-old saddlebred named Tabitha. As Tabitha rubs her head against her master's out-stretched hand, one senses that she, like Shatner's other equines, is appreciated for more than her championship bloodlines. "At least," says the actor, with a laugh. "I know they *love* me."

William Shatner's TekWar is now going to be a regular weekly television series on the USA cable television network. It premieres on Saturday, January 7, 1995.

William Shatner on "Jay Leno's Tonight Show" 11/29/94. Bill was the first guest on the show and seemed to be in a playful mood. Leno asked about Shatner's new book "Star Trek: Movie Memories" and Shatner related an event that happened during filming of the movie in which he fell from a raised set. Everyone rushed over to him, asking if he was all right. One 'beautiful' young female staff member commented that Shatner took the fall well for "someone your age".

Leno raised the issue of other cast members taking pot shots at Shatner, to which he replied, in mock denial, "They all love me. They all love me." Leno questioned Shatner again and Shatner repeated "They all love me" at which point Leno asked something like "if any of the cast was here they would say they loved you?". Leno paused, raised his voice and turned toward the curtain and repeated his question. Out walked Walter Koenig. Shatner got up from his seat and greeted Koenig at mid-stage, right in front of Leno's desk. They embraced and Koenig kissed Shatner on the lips, Shatner responding in kind. Koenig turned toward the audience and said, "I love him", then gave WS a playful slap on the cheek. He then walked off the stage. Shatner returned to his seat complaining, jokingly, that Koenig's little love tap was really a hard slap.

William Shatner was a guest on Late Show with David Letterman, Sky One 4/1/95. He

was there to promote his new teKWar series. Letterman and Shatner joked with each other during the entire interview. Bill told a couple of anecdotes and Dave accused him of lying throughout - it was all in good fun. Dave also showed a short clip from a SciFi awards ceremony of Bill singing Rocket Man. Bill said he dimly remembered doing it but had never seen the clip before - and wished he hadn't.

• **Patrick Stewart** - "Patrick Stewart: The Next Generation" MovieLine November 1994. 6 page article on Patrick Stewart, including several full-page black & white photos.

Late Night with David Letterman Sky One 27/12/94. Patrick Stewart promoted his one man show A Christmas Carol. He regaled David and the audience with the story of when on the opening night of his show the limo taking him to the theatre broke down. He pushed it for about a block, but when no sign of life appeared from the car, he grabbed his bags and parcels and started to run to the theatre. He had gone so far when he saw a limo dropping off passengers. He tried pulling the big star routine by taking off his hat and saying, "Hi, I'm Patrick Stewart, I have to be at the Richard Rogers Theatre in thirty minutes, can you take me there?" The driver told him to get lost. Fortunately he was finally able to hail a cab and made it to the theatre in time.

Patrick has decided to make New York his home in the U.S.A. [Alan Stephen]

According to the BBC Music Magazine (early December) Patrick Stewart narrates Peter and the Wolf. It is available on CD or Cassette.

• The new animated series "Gargoyles" (featuring the voices of Jonathan Frakes and Marina Sirtis) will be expanding to running four days a week, in the USA, starting with the fall 1995 season. (PRNewswire & Dateline 54)

[Sources of information include rec.arts.startrek.com, current.infofandom.com & Dateline Starfleet]





MERCHANDISE



compiled by Janet Quarton

• BOOK UPDATE

The following information on proposed books is from TV Zone and is subject to change.

Books are published by Simon & Schuster and are paperback unless indicated otherwise.

Jan TNG 33: **Balance of Power** by Dafydd Ab Hugh. £4.50

The Gene Roddenberry Official Biography by David Alexander, Boxtree £15.99

Feb ST: **Sarek** by A.C. Crispin (PB) £4.99

TNG Young Adult 6: **Data 1** by Michael Jan Friedman £2.99

DS9 9: **Proud Helios** by Melissa Scott £4.50

ST Voyager: **Caretaker** by L.A. Graf (PB) and (Audio) £4.50/£7.99

Deep Space 9 - **Requiem** Boxtree £7.99

TNG **Contamination** by John Vornholt (audio) £6.99

Beyond Uhura - Star Trek and Other Memories Nichelle Nicolls Boxtree £16.99

Trek Master Quiz Book by David MacCandless Boxtree £4.99

The Making of the Trek Films by Edward Goss Boxtree. £12.99

The Lost Voyages of Trek and the Next Generation Boxtree £9.99

ST Adventure 10: **Death's Angels** by Kathleen Sky Titan £4.50

Creating the Next Generation Boxtree £9.99

Captain's Log Season 7 Supplemental by Edward Goss & Mark A Altman Boxtree £9.99.

Mar DS9: **Warped** by K W Jester h/bk/audio £9.99/£7.99

ST 73: **Lost Years 4 - Recovery** by J M Dillard. £4.50

TNG 34: **Blaze of Glory** by Simon Hawke £4.50

Deep Space Nine Logbook by Edward

Goss & Mark A Altman Boxtree £9.99.

The Law of Trek by Paul Joseph Boxtree £9.99

Apr DS9 10: **Valhalla** by Nathan Archer £4.99

TNG **All Good Things...** £4.50.

TNG Young Adult 7: **Secret of the Lizard People** by Michael Jan Friedman £2.99

ST **Blindfold** by L A Graf audio £7.99

ST Adventure 11: **Vulcan** by Kathleen Sky Titan £4.50

• VIDEO UPDATE

CIC - DS9 Season Three will start to be released on February 6, 1995.

The Space Miles Promotion is being extended until the end of 1995. All vouchers will remain valid, even if marked with an end-1994 expiry. Note: this is subject to our lawyers confirming this is legal.

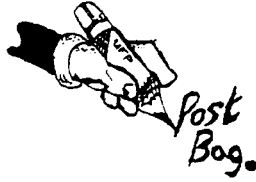
(info Terry Shuttleworth)

CIC plan to start releasing Voyager to the UK video market beginning around the middle of June 1995. (info George Haggarty)

• **Franklin Mint** have re-advertised their Star Trek Spacecraft Pewter Sculpture Collection. This comprises USS Enterprise 1701, USS Enterprise 1701D, Klingon Cruiser, Romulan Bird of Prey (original), Klingon Bird of Prey (TNG), Romulan Warbird (TNG), Ferengi Marauder, set of the original Enterprise, Klingon and Romulan ships. They cost £195.00 each. Franklin Mint Ltd, Bromley Road, London SE6 2XG.

• **Star Trek Monthly #1** due 9th Feb, 1995. Titan £2.95. 68pp This is advertised as the first official UK magazine to cover all aspects of the Star Trek Universe.





We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/l make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 500-550 words. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. As letters may be edited for length, if there is something you would prefer us not to cut please indicate this.

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters. If you make a request which requires members to write to you please give your address.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put 'for postbag'.

• **Miri Rana - London**

A special thank you to all Star Trek fans. You're wonderful!

There I was, the first entrant, all ready to go on as the Empress of the Crystal Galaxy in the fancy dress parade at Midcon 1994, when suddenly I had a slight stroke. John Field (bless him) ran to fetch a friend of his (thank you, Dr Malawi). He took my pulse and asked how this happened; I replied, "It's because I haven't eaten any lunch." John asked why, and I was embarrassed to tell him it was lack of funds: so he promptly went and fetched some sandwiches and a cup of tea, and stood over me while I ate. "Never do that again, Miri," he said. I felt a little better after that and managed to attend the stewards' party, then I was escorted up to bed.

However, I had to get Jenny out of bed

at 6.30 on Sunday morning and she called in the local doctor, who said my blood pressure was very high (200/110) and that I should go to Leicester Royal Infirmary for a check-up, so Jenny very kindly went with me. I felt great when she told the doctor that I was 'A very special lady!' I was told to have bedrest. When we came back to the hotel, all my meals were brought up and I had a stream of visitors - all the guests came up to see me and dear Richard Arnold kept popping in: although he was very busy he was still very concerned about me. Then he and the committee had a whip-round and raised £320 which was to help pay my bills, etc (I'm saving some of it for next year's con, if I am spared). I have definite orders from Richard that I am to appear in the Empress costume for the fancy dress!

The hotel waived all the food bills as well. In fact, the whole staff were concerned for me (I have written to them and the manager of the hotel). I think Star Trek fans, and the management and staff of the Holiday Inn are wonderful.

The guests came to see me off on the Monday. Melissa's father very kindly offered to drive me all the way home to Dagenham (right out of his way, as he lives in Amersham). I didn't know I had so many friends in fandom, and I thank IDIC for giving me this opportunity to say thanks again.

I'm looking forward to Midcon 95 (Jenny told me I have nothing to worry about, it will be arranged for me - thanks, Jenny!). Hope to see as many of you as possible there.

• **Gratienne Vandekerkhove - Belgium**

To Maureen Norton - N/L 36 P 19 - It is practically impossible to recommend zines as there are so many available. I have no

objections though to lending you some of mine providing you pay for postage. You can get my address from IDIC should you be interested.

To Clare Finkel - N/L 36 P 26 - The mind link is one of the regular returning themes in fanzines, especially in K/S. I remember some occurrences in the series where Spock linked minds with Kirk - The Paradise Syndrome; Spectre of the Gun; Requiem for Methuselah; Turnabout Intruder. Did I forget any?

Logic tempered by emotion. Emotion tempered by logic. Both sides of a coin. Both needed. Neither 100% logic nor 100% emotion but a blend of the two. That's what I think about this topic. Perfection would be to have both in perfect balance but that is something else.

To Edward Woo - N/L 36 P 34 - Belgium. On the Flamish networks we get the original version with sub-titles. To my knowledge no foreign programme has even been translated.

To Jennifer Harrington - N/L 36 P 43 - I have been to Paramount in '93 and we weren't allowed on the sets either; disappointing but understandable.

To Annette Bohm - William Shatner can be reached via the following address: W S Connection, 7059 Atoll Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91605, USA.

• **Sarah Rooke - Flat 3, 20 St Davids Rd, Portsmouth PO5 1QN**

Will everyone please note my new address as I've recently moved (no!)

First of all, hale and welcome again! (as we say in Wicca and Druidism). Well, my, my, there I was reading through my latest IDIC zine chuckling to myself at the letters there (especially my own!) and I spot my fellow pagan Steve Wilson there (I thought this was a Star Trek zine, not an occult one) so I thought I'd write in and comment.

I myself am a member of the Fellowship of Isis priesthood and I am an

Archdruid of the Druid clan of Dana, to which Steve belongs. Furthermore, I've known Steve (on and off) for a couple of years. (Yes, loves, pagans ordained women long before the C of E church! Thank Goddess!) I shan't comment on his re-hash of the ST Intro for Riker (how *dare* he do that to my favourite character!) and I wasn't sure first off about his comparisons with the Archtypes of the Tarot, but I do know what he means. Granted, most TV shows have their archtypal images, and I tend to favour those laid down by Carl Jung and those based on Greek mythology, but that doesn't say or mean that what he is getting at is invalid.

As to Clearasil - well, what childishness, and who is this young upstart to mock what Trek stands for to millions of fans worldwide? Doesn't he know what IDIC means? (A very similar goal to Druidism or universalism, if I may say so, though oddly a lot of it today is plagued by nationalism.) Like what Queen and Bowie did for rock music, Gene Roddenberry did for sci-fi.

As for his planetary correspondences - here endeth the lesson in this month's mystery class, next month we will look at...

By the way, I hear that Patrick Stewart is a Pagan, as is Michael Dorn. I also hear Leonard Nimoy is interested in metaphysics, though I don't know how true this is, or to what degree. Does anyone know?

I've also got my Bajoran ear-ring now, and found a local shop able to order ST outfits from the States so (hopefully) I will have my Bajoran 'Kira' outfit by convention time. If not, I'll be walking around in my usual gear - mediaeval style dress (being a Druid) or whatever. So if you see someone of this description at the Horizons convention - you know it's me (and who to avoid!!) No, seriously, though -

Anyway, I must get back to reading my IDIC mag, as I've taken 'time out' (no, not as in the ad, I'm not allowed chocolate or sugar, being allergic to them) to write this letter, so saying that I will sign off.

I hope everyone had a happy

Christmas and New Year - we tend to focus on the winter solstice which is focused at Stonehenge and New Grange, of course (Dec 21).

I joined IDIC to get away from paganism for a while and to have some fun, and look what happens! It's typical, she cries!!!

Once again, wise, merry and blessed be.

• **Jason Wells - Stevenage**

I'm pleased to be renewing my membership for the third year and I hope 1995 will be a good year to us all, especially with Generation and Voyager upon us. Happy New Year to you all.

SPOILER ALERT Yesterday I bought the Special Edition video of All Good Things and I must say Wow! What an episode - the best of them all but also the most confusing; I mean, three different time zones - 25 years after TNG, present time, and 7 years back to Farpoint. I am still trying to make sense of it all. I think it will need to be watched again just to comprehend the whole story, but from what I saw there could be some questions asked, like will Geordi get his sight back? Will Picard marry Beverly? And why can ships travel at warp 13?

At the beginning of the video is a trailer for Generations, and from that it should be, as Bill and Ted would say, excellent! I will be seeing it when it comes here. Also on the video is a behind-the-scenes show called Journey's End, hosted by Jonathan Frakes, and that's brill. Most of the production staff are interviewed and the cast as well. There is also the link that's shown in the two-part edition of All Good Things and there is more - the original movie trailers for all 6 movies, and Generations again. These are at the end of the video so you get the feature length of All Good Things, Journey's End, the trailers and the link; and also a 24-page booklet with the 3-warp nacelled Enterprise on the cover, all for £19.99. In my opinion, well worth the money.

When the episode had finished I was

very sad. I suppose that's how the Original Series fans must have felt. Now all we have are DS9 and Voyager, and DS9 has not been the best of shows so far, but now the crew will have the use of a brand-new starship to explore the other side of the wormhole, etc, the series should be better. If it isn't, and if Voyager is a success, then it will, or could be, cancelled.

I would like to see some of the TNG cast in DS9, eg Worf to replace Odo or work with him, Riker to replace Sisko because Sisko has no leadership qualities whatsoever (in my opinion). Does anyone else have any other suggestions?

Has anyone played (or own a copy of) TNG on the Sega Mega drive? If so, what's the game like, and do you have any game tips, as I will be getting a copy in the New Year.

• **Ken Mitchell - Crawley, W. Sussex**

Generations is looking good and I can't wait to see it. Why do we have to wait three months?

I'm not sure about the second TNG movie, though. There are persistent rumours of it being either a Q or a Borg story. I sincerely hope it's neither, as Q has been done to death and any Borg story is unlikely to improve on Best of Both Worlds or Peter David's Vendetta novel.

Whatever the story, I'd like to see the next movie dressed up with some truly alien backgrounds and some effective non-humanoid aliens. All of this is perfectly feasible with Industrial Light and Magic's growing ability in computer generated graphics. Deserts and glaciers masquerading as foreign worlds are starting to wear a little thin. What would others like to see in TNG II?

Saw an item on MTV recently where some scientists were using an Electron Tunnelling Microscope and various other hardware to manipulate individual atoms of a gas. They had control to the point of being able to draw a matchstick man comprised of a dozen or so individual atoms! This is a first

step on a very long ladder, but suddenly transporter technology does not seem quite so far-fetched.

Six episodes into DS9 season 3 and the same improvement in quality seen in the last 7 or 8 episodes of season II is evident, but still not up to TNG season III standards. I hope they stick with it and it's not sacrificed if Voyager takes off. The thing that irritates me most about DS9 is that if it is of such strategic importance with access to an unexplored quarter of the galaxy, plus the threat of the Dominion, then why isn't DS9 crawling with Starfleet admirals and starships?

Lastly, if anyone from Pocket Books is reading this, can we please have some Captain Sulu adventures in print as well as original audio? Also how about a limited series of other Starfleet crews' adventures, where the authors could have a free reign with the characters they create?

• **Andrew William Merritt - Carlisle**

May I first say hi to all my teenage friends out there. It's good to know I'm not alone.

Did anyone see Broken Angel, starring William Shatner, on the 30th November? I thought he played a really good character but it was weird to see him out of uniform and driving a car instead of a ship!

To Suzanne Vann and anyone else - Star Trekkin' can also be found on a recent CD called Million Sellers - the Eighties 3. I bought it in Asda for £4.99 for just that song.

Finally AMT has brought out the USS Excelsior as a model kit. It has been the most requested kit since it was shown in ST III, and it should be available from Beaties soon.

This year (95) I'm off to Florida again to experience the weather and look round the many shops that sell the merchandise that I want. If anyone else is going to Orlando soon, check out NCC 1701 - it's full of the stuff you've always wished for at really cheap prices!

In Imagination Station, Carlisle (keep

up the good work) I have recently bought the Book and Record Set - Star Trek by Peter Pan Records, which features the stories Crier in Emptiness and Passage to Mouav. They are two great stories on an LP and they will bring a smile to anyone's face. I have no intention of selling it but I would like to know if it is worth anything.

To Stephen Daniels - Are you a fan of Knight Rider? I am and have Michael Knight's (David Hasselhoff) and K.I.T.T.'s autograph, twice.

• **Baerbel Schmidt - Ashford, Kent**

First I would like to congratulate Julie A on the wonderful Lore cartoon. I still have to laugh when I look at it! And when I showed it to my fiance, he laughed as well.

I got an update with some information about the Generations convention. For example, I was informed that taking photographs is allowed but not filming. I also learned that no new episodes will be shown because they think that by that time nearly all fans will know all the TNG and Classic episodes. Fine, but what about DS9? Not everybody is as lucky as me who can get US videos and does not need such a service at conventions. I can imagine that quite a few fans will be disappointed about this.

Having seen seven episodes of the 3rd season now gives me a first impression of the new season. At the moment I am very pleased. So far I haven't seen any episode from this season that I don't find excellent! The main reason is that there is now a strong continuity in the storyline that comes quite close to what we experience with Babylon 5 at the moment. I missed this in TNG. The only continuous story in there is what I call the Klingon chapter, the story with Worf and his family.

SPOILER ALERT. I don't want to give away too much but I would like to say this: I think people who don't like DS9 so much because it is 'darker and has more conflict' will be pleasantly surprised. Sisko now considers the station as his home and Odo feels that he belongs to the 'solids' and has now his own cabin where he wants to hone

his shapechanging abilities. Some beautiful relationships have developed. I especially like the relationship between Kira and Bareil! They are a very interesting couple and I am so glad that we will see more of them! There is also a very nice relationship between Kira and Odo, no love story (that would not be a good idea, I think) but a close, very interesting friendship. And Jake has a girl friend, the dabo girl Marta from *Playing God*. What difference are four years? Not much, and I hope Sisko will realise that one day. At least he is not forbidding Jake to see her, which is good. I also think that this is the best season with Sisko so far. He already had quite a few good scenes. And people who love Garak and his mystery (like me) can look forward to lots more scenes with him and new pieces of the puzzle that will - I hope - one day reveal the truth. Coming back to relationships: I think also the friendship between Garak and Dr Bashir got stronger since the episode *The Wire*. Great!

At the moment I am mainly looking forward to *Defiant*, the episode in which Thomas Riker returns. Unfortunately TNG left lots of loose ends, too many for my taste - for example, I was very disappointed that Thomas Riker never returned in TNG. I hope he will become a semi-regular character in DS9!

• **Communication from the Vulcan Ambassador T'Yomin**

I offer greetings, peace and long life.

It has come to my notice that a certain Human, Jay Stevensen, has stated that there is a lack of Vulcans in this sector (Klingons Rule, OK). She is in error. I am here. At least, the last time I looked, I was.

Perhaps her conclusion was as a result of my people 'keeping their heads well down' in case a miscreant TNG script-writer should see them and take it into his head to secure the end of our race altogether.

I am T'Yomin of the clan Kan-u-Madi. I am ambassador to the OFF-World Society of Vulcans. The society is open to all Vulcans away from the home world. The address is T'Lena, 812 Murray St No. 2E, Elizabeth,

New Jersey 07202, USA.

As to the language of my people - in Anakana, "Wani re Eikana no yakana ro Konusha" means "I understand English and Vulcan". There are many dialects, 75% of Vulcans speak Anakana (1st language), 10% speak Nikana (2nd language), 5% speak Novokana (central), 5% Senura-a-kana (ceremonial), 3% speak my tongue, Taiyakana (old language) and 2% speak other dialects.

PDSA shops? Why would groups of Vulcans wish to 'show off' in such establishments? Spock is not the only Vulcan who struggles to meet Vulcan standards - all of us have emotions, it is just that some control better than others. I myself have great difficulty in this area, as I tend to *lust after Spock*. As a result, I have been ordered to Gol for suppression many times. Even the most perfect Vulcan finds control difficult when faced with long legs, dark chocolate eyes, silky black hair... By the way, what is the stardate? 6 years, 11 months, 29.69 days... Guess it's time to book into Gol again...

Live long and prosper - or in the language that doesn't exist, Mene sakket ur-seveh.

• **Sheila Clark - Dundee**

To Martin Helsdon - Granted it's over forty years since I studied biology (as opposed to reading bits and pieces here and there), so I'm willing to accept that there have been discoveries in those forty years that render inaccurate things I was taught as fact (like an oxygen-low atmosphere many million years ago) and it makes sense to assume that plants were pouring oxygen into the air for millennia, resulting in an oxygen-rich atmosphere, before animals left the water to use it on any sort of regular basis.

Incidentally, your comment to David Raper involved a point I had considered but decided not to include in my article on life on low gravity planets, namely how a reduced gravity would affect colonists moving there.

To David Raper - I found the episodes about the Maquis lacking in credibility, for

two reasons.

The episode that first mentions the new boundary between the Cardassians and the Federation is *Journey's End*. Once the boundary has been drawn, both sides have several colonies on the wrong side of the new border. That doesn't make sense to me. Surely colonies would work outwards from space settled by their own people, planet by planet? The border doesn't *have* to be a straight line, either; a slight wriggle would surely ensure that virtually every colonised planet ended up on its 'own' side. The North American Indians of *Journey's End* had been looking for a specific environment so I could see *them* ending up on the wrong side of the border, but I really can't see both sides accepting a new border which meant several of their colonies were, in effect, handed over to the other side.

But even granted that they did, in one episode the new boundary has just been drawn; virtually overnight the Maquis appears, *well-established*, well-armed, with supporters all over the place (including Starfleet) and the sort of organisation that implies several years of existence. The time scale is all wrong. I don't much care for the theme (I don't think it fits Gene's universe) but I would have been more convinced by it if the Maquis stories had been spread over three or four seasons instead of three or four episodes.

Incidentally, does anyone else think that in the 70 years (or whatever) that it will take Voyager to get home, the Cardassians will have become part of the Federation or, at least, like the Klingons be allied to it?

• **Elizabeth Barrie - Dundee**

To Stephen Daniels - No, I don't like TNG or DS9. In my opinion the characters in TNG are too wooden. There is very little humour and few episodes get out of the confines of the spaceship.

As for DS9, I saw the very first episode and couldn't understand it.

• **Maureen Norton - Canvey Island, Essex**

First of all, a big thank you to everyone

who let me know about *The Quest* (especially Maggy Edwards). At least now I know it wasn't a figment of my imagination! I don't know when the pilot was on TV recently, I wish I hadn't missed it. Perhaps it will be shown again.

To Judith Hopkinson - I wholeheartedly agree with you about Brent Spiner's acting in *Masks*. It was indeed superb. Actually, I would quite like to see Brent play Sherlock Holmes himself, not as Data. Any suggestions for Watson? (Doesn't have to be Trek!)

As one of those fans who can't attend conventions (I'm sure there are many of us) due to costs and also physical health. I admit to being quite envious when I read the con reports, so I am all for one-day events and the 'home-made' con, the latter being great if you know enough fans in your area, but if you're not in touch with a local group, you can't do that either. I've often thought of hosting meetings myself, as I can't get out (especially while the other half is at football, AGGH!) but if you advertise locally, how do you find out if people are genuine, before inviting them to your home. Any ideas?

I feel I'm making some good friends through Trek and IDIC, although we have never met face to face (especially you, Baerbel - thanks again for my surprise package!) I only wish I had written earlier, having been 'out in the cold' for years. Unfortunately everyone I have been in touch with lives far from me. So thanks to everyone for making 1994 a bit more bearable, and I hope it's not too late to wish you all a happy '95.

• **Sue Richardson - 30 Ivanhoe Close, Langley Green, Crawley, W. Sussex**

I'm jet-lagged, have the beginnings of a cold and my twin forgot my birthday... Thankfully I have the latest IDIC N/L to cheer me up.

SPOILER ALERT I have just seen *Generations* and I think it's brilliant! Kirk's death, while very sad, is well handled. And what they do to the *Enterprise*... But no, naughty me - mustn't give the plot away.

This has been an expensive few weeks for us Trekkers, with a glut of new books appearing in the shops. I've bought George Takei's autobiography, Nichelle Nichols' biography, Bill Shatner's Movie Memoirs, the novelisation of Generations and - most expensive of all - the hardback book *Where No Man Has Gone Before*. This tome contains some lovely photos I've never seen before, but at £25 - very pricey. Good job I had some book tokens from last year!

To Sarah Rooke - Gosh, another one of 'us', Blessed Be!

To Jean Perrin - I have a hardback copy of Prime Directive which I don't want. I didn't like this book and couldn't even get rid of it at a car boot sale! If you'd like it for the cost of the postage, and a small donation to the IDIC Guide Dog fund, say, let me know at the above address.

Has anyone else sent off for the autographed photo of Patrick Stewart from Hamilton Collection? I sent off for it and received it two weeks later - must be some kind of record! Looks very magnificent on the bathroom wall too! Now, if Hamilton Collection would only get their fingers out over the Movie Plate Collection, my little pink cloud of contentment would be complete.

• **Lesley Arrowsmith - Hay on Wye**

I came across an article in Africa, the magazine of a Catholic missionary society, which reminded me of Guinan, and I wonder if the script writers/editors had this idea in mind when the character was created.

"In many places in Africa there is a person called 'the listener' whose task it is to take in what everybody says at a meeting and to gather it together at the end and show where a consensus has been reached."

I have been reading the debate about Vulcans with interest, and I share the concerns of some of the writers in IDIC. However, a thought struck me - in The Immunity Syndrome, the Vulcan ship was a Starfleet vessel, albeit engaged in scientific research. As part of Starfleet, the ship must

have been armed, so there must have been Vulcans manning the phaser and photon torpedo banks, mustn't there? (But I still don't like the idea of a Vulcan security guard.)

I was half listening to Ned Sherrin on Radio 4 a few weeks ago when I heard some familiar sound effects in a comedy sketch, I think by The Men Who Know. It was the 'alien planet wind' noise from CT. It continued:

Transporter noise

Kirk: Kirk to Enterprise. I appear to have beamed down with 5 replicas of myself...

Other Kirk voices: So have I

So have I

Me, too

Kirk: We appear to be in some sort of primordial soup.

Bones: Jim, you've got to get out of there! Don't you know too many Kirks spoil the broth?

To Jay Stevensen - 'Filk' songs began as SF folk songs, but there was a misprint in a con programme, and the name 'filk' stuck. This was in the US, I think in the 70s. I have several tapes with songs about Darkover, Pern, and about books by Mercedes Lackey and C J Cherryh. Some are to familiar tunes, some to original music. There are also Trek songs. Scottish Eridani's most famous song, for instance, is The Ten Inch Tribble With the Toothless Grin. There are even cons devoted to filk music, like Bayfilk in the States. Basically, if it's a song about a fantasy or SF subject, it's probably filk (though I'm not too sure about Puff the Magic Dragon!)

• **Katrina Heintz - Bathgate**

To Terry Shuttleworth/CIC - Would CIC reimburse or exchange tapes to those who bought the two-part tape in good faith believing it to be the full version, through CIC's mistake?

To Margaret Rainey - I'm also in my 30s but your rules would exclude me from attending as I only discovered fandom and cons recently.

To Maureen Norton - A pet hate of

mine is unsolicited letters and I agree the person who sent the sales list did have a cheek to do so. If he wished to sell material it would have been a lot cheaper to advertise through IDIC.

To Catherine Carter - I also like the episodes you mentioned - are we in a minority? I live in Scotland and I didn't find Sub Rosa offensive. It is typical of Hollywood and not the real thing. Apart from that it was a good episode.

To Gloria Fry - I agree most of the animation episodes are terrific.

To Dave Styles - I too some time ago tried to start a local group and only received one reply. But I found through word of mouth that most of the fans locally don't know anything about fan clubs. So I've tried to spread the word verbally and by posters (ie Contagion).

• **David Cameron - Dalbeattie**

Re Generations - I've got a nasty feeling that despite my misgivings I'm going to enjoy the movie, but then with respect to Star Trek movies, I'm probably easily pleased (I rate my favourites being, along with The Undiscovered Country, The Motion Picture and The Final Frontier! - which most people would probably disagree with.)

I'm also forced to admit a change of heart about All Good Things. When I first saw it I thought it was technobabble-containing drivel *but* then I rewatched it and it really is good! By the way, does anyone know when The Search will be released on video, because I really would like to see it?

To Keith Morton - Thanks for the agreement about the 7th season TNG - and you're right, Inheritance is quite good, and is somewhat reminiscent of What Are Little Girls Made Of?

Re An Adventures of Captain Sulu series - all is not lost - we maybe might get it after the cash has been milked from Voyager and it's time for yet another spin-off - even then it probably wouldn't be done because it wouldn't be close to what Star Trek series are

these days. But then again, how about Captain Sulu, commander of Babylon 5, gets sucked through a wormhole after discovering that he is related to every being in Federation space and encounters the Cylons and has to get home, only by now he's over 6 feet tall with curly hair, a long scarf and insists on eating jelly babies!

Well, maybe the writers will think it's a brand new original idea which doesn't derive from other SF series in the slightest!

Re ST IV: TVH, I'm probably well behind the times in asking this, but what was the alternative ending which was rejected?

Re ST novels. I guess you've just got to go for the ones you think will be good and ignore the others. Actually, I'm more inclined to buy Star Wars books these days - mostly they're a lot better value for money! (Perhaps the Force is with them?)

• **Di Williams - Wirral**

To Edward Woo - Thanks for the suggestions re ST groups, but I've been a member of a group up in Preston for a number of years now - those nice people who brought you Warp One. I in fact sold you your auction items and commented on now being able to put a face to the 'IDIC Legend' - small world, eh? See you at Warp Two?

To all who may be considering whether to join a local group my advice is, go for it. We meet regularly for chats or for weekends when we catch up on episodes, etc. The best part of it however is that I am lucky enough to have found some of the nicest and nuttiest friends on this particular planet.

To Maureen Norton - No, you did not upset me with your comments re Troi/Worf, etc. I do tend to jump on my soapbox for topics like this - I have this hope though that by the time we reach the 24th century all people will be equal in the eyes of each other and no-one will feel they have to be 'claimed' by anyone.

To Sally Woods - Re B5/DS9 - That 'Bruce Willis' clone is by far one of the best characters on B5. I would also include

Ivanova, Londo and Lennier. B5 has a gritty reality that shows us a great mix of humans and aliens, warts and all. I doubt that DS9 would *ever* bring us those unforgettable scenes 1) in the urinal and 2) the journey to B4 when Garibaldi asks Sinclair if he buttons or zips - excellent stuff - hope the second season is as much fun.

To David Raper re ST VIII - misprint or premonition?

SPOILER ALERT Re ST VII, however, and Kirk's imminent death, I am somewhat saddened with 1) Paramount's gradual removal of Gene's Trek and 2) If Kirk is to die, the only place that this should happen is in the arms of Spock.

To Clare Finkel - Hear, hear! I'm sure that fandom will keep Gene's dreams alive and kicking despite whatever the people at Paramount decide to do in the future.

• **Jay Stevensen - in flat Essex**

I always enjoy the con reports and read with interest the variety of comments in N/L 37. Margaret Rainey's ideas seem to have produced a very positive reaction. With Trek becoming more diverse maybe there is a place for some smaller and more specialised cons with time for socialising and chat?

To Gloria Fry (P37) - The first IDIC N/L I ever read was No 25 with your article Naked Times (proving that Trek fandom could have fun with its much-loved characters) helped persuade me to join (free subscription for Ms Fry, editor?) so you'll appreciate that of course, like you (and all the other intelligent women out there) I've only ever been interested in Spock's intellect. That glossy black hair, that irresistible (all too rare) smile (not to mention the neat rear view) have nothing at all to do with Spock's appeal. I mean, I just don't understand all that soppy romantic stuff people come out with at times... (and how about those elegant hands...?)

To Damian Griffiths (P25) - You mean you saw a record with Kirk's face on it and you didn't sally forth (booting aside old ladies and trampling children) and buy it? Surely

this must have been Mr Shatner's (in)famous Transformed Man? Did he make any other records? Would they have let him? [*Ed - There is also a double album, William Shatner Live.*]

To Catherine Carter (P29/30) - I liked Spock's Brain! Honest! Mainly because of my distinct impression that Leonard Nimoy was quietly sending it up! Regarding fan fiction - a good review can put you on a high (thanks, Jean!) but writers who are upset by "a constructive critique" (as long as it *is*) should trade their word processor for a roll of cotton wool and wrap themselves therein. Also, if you've been reviewed at least you've been read!

To Jean Perrin (P23) - The pon farr cycle made for a marvellous episode but if they'd known we'd still be discussing the logic of it in 1994 would they have come up with something different? Spock does say "I had hoped to be spared this", implying that it might well have been his "first time". Maybe his human genes had previously proved stronger than Vulcan passions? I can't believe a race as scientific as the Vulcans wouldn't have discovered a way to control the inconvenience of pon farr. One could argue that on a Vulcan ship Spock would have had access to medical or mind meld help and once he knew he was vulnerable would plan ahead and be prepared for the "next time around".

To anyone - What's this about a "Star Trek religion" founded in Texas? Has anyone any details? And what is a "shell game" (apart from being the title of a Trek novel)?

• **Nigel Nixon - Reading**

To Sarah Rooke (P19) - The Beings From The Stars inter-breeding with apemen/ women and creating the Human race used to be a staple theme of the Von Daniken school of thought (and probably still is). The basic problem with the idea is where did The Beings From The Stars get *their* intelligence? Unless when their world was young it was visited by an advanced race...

To Sheila Clark (P19) - I have always thought that Doctors in Starfleet would have

to go through at least part of the Academy syllabus. Whilst they would not be directly responsible for the running of the ship, I think that there is a fairly obvious need for all personnel to be able to operate at least essential systems in case of emergency. There is also the need to have survival training, the basics of man management techniques and the basic Starfleet philosophy and operational system, for example, seeing how (and why) the Captain and crew of a starship works. This need take no more than six to eight months, and would really be essential, not just for the Doctor, but for Starfleet as well.

Worf's name Rozhenko is, of course, the surname of his adoptive (Human) parents. So whilst it is not his Klingon name, it is the Human name of a Klingon. By Human custom the male passes on his surname to his children and that is what Worf has done, complying with his adoptive parents' race.

To Marie Park (P47) - I seem to remember reading, some time ago, that the Enterprise-D has a complement of around 4000 people - this was when TNG was first being shown and I may be misremembering. However, the Star Trek Encyclopedia shows that the original Enterprise had a crew of 400 who occupied 3 decks, the Enterprise-D has 11 decks given over to crew quarters and accommodation. If you remember, the Enterprise-D is a very great deal bigger than the original, it seems to mean that an awful lot of cabins are empty.

To Rory Smith (P85) - Humbrol make a range of clear colours which should be widely available, but they need to be painted on a transparent surface otherwise they will remain looking like ordinary opaque paints. The simplest way to get shiny windows is to just apply gloss varnish on the window area that you have painted with ordinary enamels or acrylics. Hannants of Lowestoft (01502-517444, huge catalogue £2.25) stock the Humbrol clear colours if you cannot get them locally.

On a slightly different note, the January issue of Scale Models International

has reviews of the AMT kits of McCoy and the USS Excelsior, both of which they like.

There are a lot of other items in the Postbag that I would like to comment on, but I suppose I had better keep this fairly short. Over all I am very impressed with the quality of your newsletter (I'm a new member) and look forward to many more of them.

• Andy Piercy - Hull

Many thanks to all who replied to my query in N/L 5 regarding the names of the 12 Constitution class ships. I tend to agree with Tim Goodchild who provided the names of 10 ships. When including the Enterprise and the Farragut, I believe all 12 ships to be accounted for. As to the Constitution class ship referred to in Relics, it could be one of Excalibur, Exeter, Lexington, Republic, Yorktown or Farragut. I hope we get to see this ship in the TNG films or DS9, and who would be a better curator of this museum in the 24th century than Montgomery Scott?

Can anyone clear up another point for me. In STVI and TNG, the Klingon planet is referred to as "the Klingon homeworld". Is this the same planet in both the film and the series, or is it the case that after the destruction of the moon Praxis, the planet became uninhabitable, causing the Empire to shift base between STVI and TNG. If this is the case, what are the names of the two planets?

Many thanks for an excellent magazine.

• Martin Helsdon - Chelmsford, Essex

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - the Andean flavour of Masks was interesting, as you point out, though I saw echoes of European sun and moon worship and hints that the sacrifice was a 'year king', the escape of the sacrifice indicating disaster and the end of cycles of time. The tidal locking of the moon that has ceased to chase the sun is, as you point out, a sign of disaster. The slow tidal influence on the 'earth' would gradually bring about an endless day. Life would be almost impossible on the sun-face and even in the 'twilight equator' marginal. The myth of the moon seeking to hunt the sun again

might suggest a titanic effort to prevent the tidal-locking by an advanced society. I'll have to watch the episode again. It was certainly one that suggested vast depths of time.

It's one of my harmless suspicions that many human myths are almost universal for two reasons: people have much the same needs everywhere; and the human species has only really spread out in the last fifty thousand years. For much longer than that people have been recognisable 'people' and shared myths and stories. Tales can be traced to common origins or to common needs. The relationship of sun and moon has been awfully powerful for a long time. The main difference in Masks is, if I'm not mistaken, that the sun was female and the moon, the hunter, male.

To Dejan Ladika - Ro was sent out of Starfleet because the actress had many other commitments and writers wanted to have a clean break. It also highlighted the moral dilemma that many Starfleet personnel seem to be suffering from, maybe indicating a political rift in the Federation itself between the 'comfortable' core worlds and the borders where the realities of life are quite different. Just as the conflict between Bajor and the Cardassians begs the question over the difference between terrorist and freedom fighter, the 'bad treaty' between the Federation and the Cardassians that leaves populations on the wrong sides of the border has parallels with the balkanisation of Eastern Europe and Africa by external powers. Gene Roddenberry might not have approved, but it does illustrate a typical Star Trek moral choice. As for Wesley leaving too; much the same reasons can be applied and it also demonstrated how characters in Star Trek change and develop.

To Sarah Rooke - In England most witches were hanged. One of my home town's claims to 'fame' is one of the last mass hangings, held just outside where Woolworths is now. Curiously there isn't a plaque to commemorate the occasion. Of course, in those days Essex was a swampy rebellious sort of place held in suspicion by the authorities in London.

• Alan Stephen - Aberdeen

To Ali Neill - What do you mean, petty bickering? This is serious stuff! I must admit I enjoy my paper battles - I like being an old curmudgeon, venting your spleen is such great fun. Sorry you couldn't make it to my 40th birthday party, you missed a great bash (ooh err!)

With regard to exercising a major organ:

To Dave Styles - I have said many times that to discuss differences is perfectly all right. I agree with you wholeheartedly regarding IDIC - *diversity is vital*. What has got my y-fronts in a knot throughout our long weary fight is your - and others - insulting description of graphic novel/comic book readers, hence the 'Fly with the crows, shot with the crows' statement. By all means don't enjoy comics and give your reasons - not good enough value for money, not enough to read, illustrations poor - these are some reasons given to me by Janet and Sheila, points of view that we can discuss, but saying that comic book readers are subliterate, have no imagination or are part of a conspiracy to ruin the morals of the nation is just plain insulting and has *no part* in IDIC. One of these days we'll have to meet to duke this out - as the challengee you can pick the weapons and place of conflict. May I suggest phaser rifles at dawn on the planet Vulcan? I await your reply with baited breath. (How do you bait your breath?)

To Jo Healy - I know someone who makes cuddly toys of the ST crew; my children have knitted soft toys of Picard and Geordi. If you'd like an address send me an SAE and I'll put you in contact.

To Raj Hadham - Good for you, but so what? You've still to find someone daft enough to give you \$50.

Recently, I've noticed in the letters page and I've heard from ST fans a dislike for SF - not media SF but the literary stuff. I've even met ST fans who've never willingly read a SF novel, which strikes me as strange. If I have to be honest, if someone offered me a book by - say - Gregory Benford or to read an ST book, I'd rather read the SF title. I prefer

SF to ST any day. There is more variety for a start and often it is far better written. Most ST fans have believed their own publicity, how daring and how visionary Gene Roddenberry was. For TV, no doubt, but for literary SF or even my old warhorse comics, he was old hat.

What ST did achieve was to make aware to a wider audience - ie a non-SF-reading audience - the positive possibilities of the future, which I'll always be grateful for.

• **Irena Hradecka - Premyslovska 33, Praha 3, 130 00, Czech**

To Clare Finkel - I agree with you. I wouldn't say that everything anywhere (not only in the Federation) would turn out all right. Not without someone doing something. I want what you want, and I have faith in fandom too.

• **Clement Chung - Ipswich**

SPOILER ALERT I've just bought All Good Things, Collectors' Box, and it was the first time I actually saw it in English (in German last time). A number of things came up. In the past, Data was a lieutenant (JG) and not a Lt. Commander as in the pilot episode. In the present, Beverly found a way and proved Picard was 'jumping' time - how come Picard didn't go to any of the doctors in the past and future to prove he was moving backwards and forwards in time?

Gamesmaster (C4 13/12). There is a World Wide Web page on ST:Generations featuring clips and bios on crew:
<http://generations.viacom.com>

Hollywood report (ITV 5/12). The author of ST:Generations book says that the book was written about the time of the first draft and will feature Sulu, McCoy, Spock etc.

Why isn't there a 'behind the scenes of TNG' of 'The Making of TNG' like DS9 or a 'cast experiences with TNG' like William Shatner did?

I think that the two sections which had Sito in Picard's office in Lower Decks was excellent. The first time - my ideas of Picard

as a man of wisdom? I thought he was, for the first time, a b*****. The second time, Sito was in his office... What a great man.

Watch Cinema Cinema Cinema on ITV early mornings and see some previews of ST:Generation.

Why hasn't Data taken the Commander's exams? Why doesn't security 'beam' to the trouble spot instead of running and taking lifts, etc, to it?

May 1995 be a good one for IDIC.

• **Kathleen Glancy - Edinburgh**

I continued to be shadowed by Shatner and Nimoy during my US holiday - their faces appeared on mugs, plates, a tie, a hologram in a specialty shop - only on one day did I escape them, and even then there were Kirk and Spock dolls in a shop - however, bearing no resemblance to the actors at all. The culmination was Nimoy in person on TV being interviewed about his new role as Frank James (*the* Frank James, Jesse's brother) in the latest Bonanza revival. The idiot interviewer asked him how the role compared to Spock. "A bit less time in make-up," he replied with commendable calm. The temptation to scream "One is a calm logical alien being in the future and the other is a retired outlaw living in the past, you stupid (expletive deleted)" must have been there. And I got on the Star Tours ride which I missed in Disneyland at last at Disney MGM.

To Jean Perrin - One *possible* reason for there being no little Spock running about; many hybrids are sterile.

I liked Steve Wilson's (via Alan Boag's report of his Archon talk) identification of Kirk with Jupiter - a deity who spent a large portion of his time chasing after women in various disguises. Poor old Kirk - it's really rather unfair. He has never been seen to turn himself into a bull, swan or shower of gold yet. Some of Jupiter's girl friends (except maybe Danne, the shower of gold one - I'd do a lot for a shower of gold myself, though I'd rather it stayed gold than turned into a girl) had exceedingly odd tastes.

Our Forbidden Planet (which no doubt means all of them) has a new range of pop-up cards including a number of Classic and Next Generation ones. They are really good, too, with artwork based on actual episodes (Kirk buried in tribbles, Picard as Locutus, the Guardian of Forever) rather than just the characters waving (figuratively) and saying "Happy Birthday"!

• **Mark Cooksey - Syston, Leicester**

ST:Voyager - I think I have a solution for the producers' problems with Voyager, something which was touched upon by Nicole Comtet in her article about fandom. Why don't they ask Leonard Nimoy to come on to the show as adviser and writer/director? Leonard knows as much, if not more, about Star Trek than anyone else and obviously has the talent to do the job. With the questionable state of the show this would seem like an ideal solution.

The revival of Kirk - Rumours have been circulating that Kirk will live again after Generations. All I can say to Paramount is *don't do it!* I am totally against his death, but if he dies, leave it at that. After the death/rebirth of Spock (and a few others!) Star Trek has been known as the show in which no-one really dies; another resurrection could become very embarrassing and make Star Trek look very farcical.

• **Jean Perrin - Burton-on-Trent**

To Carole Taylor - You are very lucky to be able to buy second hand books. I live in an area where either I'm the only Star Trek fan or, like me, once they buy the books they hang on to them, so second hand ST books are as rare as gold dust.

To Maureen Norton and all the other dissatisfied members of OUKFC, I think it will soon be out of business judging by the number of complaints. I think I am more likely to come face to face with a real live Klingon than a happy member of OUKFC.

To Damian Griffiths, Suzanne Vann, etc - I am not happy about the Starfleet directive that Captains are not to beam down onto unknown planets and I don't believe it would work either. Surely that is what you

would have joined Starfleet for, and no-one would want to be promoted to Captain if it automatically barred them from the most exciting situations. I can't see Kirk sitting quietly in his Captain's chair while Chekov, etc, got to do all the best bits. I think such an order is unrealistic and a non-starter. Admittedly it doesn't seem to bother Picard much but I am afraid that is why I think he is a bit of a wimp.

To anybody out there - who can tell me why everybody hates Wesley Crusher, because I like him? It seems that everyone, both fans and officialdom, hate him. I have seen the official 50-minute video hosted by Jonathan Frakes about the behind-the-scenes of TNG, covering all seven seasons, but Wesley is totally conspicuous by his absence, as if they wanted to forget he had ever existed. Why did Wil Wheaton leave during season four, was he fed up of the agro directed at his character or did he feel it was more personal?

• **Zander Bruce -**

To Craig Lemon - Re your comment on mutiny last N/L/ I have to disagree. As we have seen many times in Star Trek, there are new situations cropping up all the time. No rules can be absolute. Procedures can interfere with the well-being of the crew. Take something like Disaster, for example. Three crew members left on the bridge, none of whom are high-ranking officers. What if Troi had gone bonkers? Ro and/or O'Brien would have had to subdue her by any means necessary. It could be crucial to the survival of the crew. Your argument assumes that the Captain is sane enough not to pull a phaser on everybody and start making Starfleet Soup. Desperate times call for desperate measures.

To Nanaki Kaur - I always thought a Riker/Worf relationship would be much more fun!

To Edward Woo, Dave Styles & Shaun Brannigan - Prowling for fans. Good place to try is actually in the cinema. If you have a smaller cinema nearby, or even a theatre that shows films maybe a month or two after their initial release (as our local does) ask the

management if you could set up a table in the foyer on any given nights when Generations is being shown. This way, they come to you!

To Baerbel Schmidt - In Melora, she herself referred to her assignment as causing the 'Melora Problem'. Those were her words, nobody else's. It was essentially what the episode was about. The problem she created for herself, that being what she was, too proud to admit that she needed help. Before you scream at me, I'm not suggesting that everyone who is disabled needs help. Each and every person on this planet needs help at one time or another, be it physical or emotional. The only physical problem she had was that she was in a hostile environment. A Cardassian station is not built with anybody other than its soldiers in mind. There were people there who wanted to help her, who could, if she would let them. There's a fine line between independence and dangerous pride.

Finally, to anybody looking for a convention to go to this year, I would recommend Starfleet Academy. Last year's one was wonderful. I met up with some old friends and new. It was warm, friendly and the next one is planned for November (I think). It's also the perfect con to fall in love at. Thanks again, Tina!

• **Pam Baddeley - Farnborough**

To Clement Chung - The androids in *I, Mudd* are not independently sentient. When Norman, the controlling android, was overloaded, they all konked out. The only android in *Classic Trek* who was truly sentient like Data was Rayna (*Requiem for Methuselah*).

To Stephen Daniels, Philip Morley, Andrew Carnegie - The problem I have with *Thine Own Self* is, I can't see either Dr Crusher or Troi *by definition* being able to pass that final test. There's a direct conflict in their profession, especially for the doctor. The Hippocratic oath is to *save* lives, not order people to their deaths! From a technical POV, I thought Dr Crusher was already equivalent to a commander, and therefore could take the extra courses to become a bridge officer, but Troi was only a lieutenant

commander and Data must have already passed all these exams and more so I'm mystified too. I agree with Anne Marie Flowers that neither Bev nor Deanna could pass that exam and live up to the title of the episode. Andrew Roper - yes, Bev handled the situation well in *Descent*. However, can you see the doctor on board a Naval vessel taking over the bridge if the senior officers were killed? It's not *credible* drama.

To Suzanne Vann (and Damian Griffiths, N/L 37) - The reason why both Kirk and Spock go down to the planet is due to the TV culture of the time. If you had star players, they had to play the central role. TNG and DS9 are more ensemble setups though there are still some stronger roles of course.

To Martin Stahl - I think Dax has got a bit better in the second season episodes I've seen. They've given her some humour and made her a bit quirky, eg her gambling sessions with the Ferengi.

To Maggie Symon - If you look at *Enterprise Incident* - all the sensual hand holding, etc - I wouldn't say Romulans are psi-null.

Now for N/L 37. To Sarah Rooke - You can get clip-on Bajoran earrings from John Fitton mail order. The tricorders, etc, turned up recently in *Forbidden Planet*, London.

To Jean Perrin - Riker annoys me too but for different reasons. It doesn't seem too outside the navy tradition for the First Officer to give orders like putting up shields or whatever, but his general smugness and condescension are pretty irritating. Re your article on TV v books, the warp drive figures you quote are from *The Making of Star Trek*, which had Gene's approval, so I think must be right for *Classic Trek*, but the story I heard was that by TNG's time they're improved the engines so much they designate the speeds differently, otherwise it would be warp 243 or whatever. Is the new series of books you mentioned the reprints of the 1970s Bantam ones - they were pretty slim books?

To Craig Lemon - The Pegasus showed circumstances where a mutiny was justifiable, though I won't say more in case you haven't seen it yet. Re long play videos - the only problem is that there is more risk of drop outs and picture degradation so the recordings won't keep so well.

To Maggy Edwards - Last time I went to a con, a woman asked Richard Arnold why Vulcans were so disregarded. According to him, they've been 'done' and it would be boring to go over that ground again. On the subject of Vulcans and re Jay Stevensen's article, I think they resonated with the 1960s - the era of being cool - and that's why they and their philosophy became quite a cult with some fans, but maybe in these streetwise days, that has died out?

To Marysia Kolodziej - The B5 character is Ivanov. The theory you mention about the oldest stars being older than the galaxy has apparently been disproved, though I can't remember how they did that. Yes, Khan was a genetically 'improved' human being. Mammals and birds both descended from reptilian ancestors, but different ones in each case.

To Dave Styles - The various experiments you mention haven't started life going, they've just produced various prerequisites for it. That has yet to be done.

To Marie Park - I think Jenna projected onto Data what she wanted. She wasn't really interested in what he was actually like, but in what she wanted him to be. It was impossible for him to live up to that and she couldn't accept the real thing, so he was forced into a false position. I agree that it was very unfair of her.

To Edward Woo - I think you'll find that the Santa Maria was one of Columbus' ships.

• **Clare Finkel, Woking, Surrey**

Helen, 37/27, I think the "grass roots" struggle of OT kept the focus on the characters and Gene's dreams. Fame and Fortune took much of that away. I will miss Spock in ST:VII, but I am proud of Nimoy. I

think he had enough of what the movies (not all bad by far, but..) were doing to Vulcans and his character.

As to Spock being proud to be Vulcan? Pride is an emotion, and Spock was half Human. I think after years of inner strife, Spock accepted himself as he was, hopefully without pride or shame.

Maggie, 37/28, Perhaps it is in-depth understanding of Vulcans that I lack, but I approve of a Vulcan security officer. Hopefully he will find logical, nonviolent methods for dealing with difficulties. Also, it would be illogical for Vulcan not to have a defense force.

Jean, 37/23, Where are the little Spocks? Picard said he had attended Sarek's son's wedding. Maybe they are on Vulcan with their mother.

Riker up your nose? The orders he gives are routine; thus, freeing Picard to think. What puzzles me is Picard's order to "energize." If I am driving, I do not want someone in the back seat telling me when to put my foot on the pedal! (I know, Stewart's line is for dramatic effect, but it still amuses me every time he says it.)

Sue, 37/19, I agree, "Masks," yuk! "Lower Decks" was my favorite, too. I liked the Vulcan, but I think Sito should have been dismissed for what she did in the academy, and I hope they do not bring her back to life. Not for that reason, though. I think bringing people back to life diminishes death.

I liked "Gambit," but not the ending. Though I resist isolationism, in principal, I can sympathize with her position, especially if outworlders are deliberately disrupting the difficultly held, peaceful way of life on Vulcan.

Taruka, 37/46, What is "TFF"? If possible, would you (or someone) please name episodes that imply telepathic link between Kirk and Spock. Please do not confuse it with Spock simply knowing Kirk, as in the episode where Kirk was brought to trial for needlessly causing death of Finney.

For similar reasons Spock gave in Kirk's defense, I could defend my spouse, and we are not telepathically linked.

Craig, 37/23, I think ST:MP (novel) by Gene Roddenberry is very well written, especially considering it is a book based on a movie. (Carol, 37/45) I think it had a great image of Kirk; however, I was very disappointed with the (shallow) image of Spock. Despite my disappointment, I thank Jay, Raj, and Gloria, for mentioning that book for me. I want to know the truth, even if it hurts.

A few remarks about Americans hurt my feelings, even though they were true. Maybe I hurt people with what I say. If so, please know, it is not my intention, and I apologize.

Universal thanks to the IDIC staff! Who knows, maybe if it continues to spread throughout the countries, Gene's vision will come true.

• David Styles - Ashford, Kent

To Terry Shuttleworth and all at CIC: Sorry if I came over a bit heavy in the last NL, but I was right, if for the wrong reason. Tell me, how is it that YOU have seen All Good Things several times before even your company gets the master copy ????

To Russell Witheyman: The end of Star Trek: The Next Generation is surely the end of Chapter 2, (or 3 depending on how you view the first six films), not 1.

To Maureen Norton: In "Clues" it's said that Data was once serving on the USS Trieste.

To Rory Smith: The Enterprise-A is Constitution class vessel: in ST-VI Scotty is seen with the ship's blueprints which are clearly labelled as Constitution class.

To lots of people re Vulcans: How much information did we actually get about Vulcans from Original Trek (episodes)? I think that much of the mythos comes from fan fiction.(ie not really "official") Consider for example Andorians, Deltans and

Tellarites. Reams have been written about them by fans, but how much actual screen time has been devoted to them?

To lots of people about B5: It's very good, but it just isn't Star Trek.

To Ali Neill: While reading NL37 I actually laughed out loud at your comment of "please continue the petty bickering". A week later, I'm still giggling! So, not to disappoint you, here we go again:

To Alan Stephen: Thank you for the kind thoughts in the last NL. For once, Alan, I'll not nitpick. (Truce !?). In your last letter you raised a point which has been worrying me for some time. You said that we'd all like the general public to have a higher opinion of ST fans. Now down here in Kent there is a Star Trek group which organises open days for one reason only: (and I quote the organiser verbatim) "To show the general public that we are not Anoraks".

Personally, I couldn't care what the general public thinks of us Trekkers. For example, when I see Morris dancers I think they look daft; however most of the time I am not even aware of their existence. I think most "non-trekkers" probably feel the same about us: mild indifference. I certainly feel no compulsion to try to change the public's view of us.

Am I wrong?

PS To any Morris Dancers: I'm sure Morris Dancing is a very rewarding, worthwhile and fun pastime. I intend no insult or offence. I picked Morris Dancing as an example. Please don't have a go at me about it!

• John Stubbley - 66 Deldale Road, Boston, Lincs. PE21 7BT
(E-mail: jps3@unix.york.ac.uk)

To Pen Cramphorn (P45-46) - I do agree with your sentiments about Margaret Rainey's Campaign for the Preservation of Real Fandom (n/l 36 P 24). It smacks (perhaps unwittingly so) of ageism. Just because I can't say,

"I was at the Leeds Dragonara", or

"I watched the very first episode when it was shown in the UK", it doesn't mean I am not a 'Real' Fan (whatever that is). Whatever happened to Infinite Combinations? What would the Federation do if the Vulcans left, saying that Humans weren't real life forms, and set up their own Federation of Planets?

Beware all those out there that think all TNG fans are adolescent males who like special effects, and that all TOS fans are older females who prefer the character interplay and Gene's vision. I have a few friends who could waste an entire convention arguing vehemently with you.....!

Spare a thought also for all those people who like ALL Trek. Do we go to TNG conventions, or 'Real' Conventions? Are we 'Real' Fans?

To Maggie Symon (n/l 36 P74-76) - Re: The Changing Face Of Vulcan. It was a nice article, but I don't agree with it at all. Taking just the Classic series, why do Logical Vulcans have Priestesses? Surely some sort of religious/mystic practice is implied here. As Pen Cramphorn so excellently put in n/l 37 (see above reference) Spock sure wouldn't talk about this sort of mystical practice while he was on the Enterprise.

How about TMP? In the book (penned by Gene himself), it refers still further to the mystical side of Vulcans. I think he even introduces the notion that every Vulcan feels as one with the universe (as Spock looks out through the porthole at Warp Space). I think he calls it 'Om' or something (Help...! My memory has just shut shop and gone home!).

Where I do agree with you is about this new Voyager character Tuvok. Although you didn't mention him, it does seem VERY odd to have a pacifist Vulcan in Security. I remember reading somewhere that there were NO Vulcans in Starfleet Security and that the Vulcan ship, USS Surak, had no Security section.

Anyway, I understand that you were talking about your kind of Vulcan in your article. Maybe it's not the same as my kind of

Vulcan, but at least both of our Vulcans were pacifists!

To Sarah Grist (n/l 36 P33) - Hello! I also thought I was the only Trek fan in Boston. Too far away from Lincoln Starfleet? Next time you're passing through Boston you (and everyone else in IDIC) are more than welcome to drop by. That's assuming I'm not at York University!

To Brenda Allan (P50) and Bernardo Silva e Carmo (n/l 36 P43-44) - I too have to thank Jean Lorrain for printing the Welcommitee's address in her novels (more writers should do this!). I read one of her Classic Novels, though I can't remember which one (Arghhh! Memory loss again!). A wonderful lady (whose name I've forgotten!) sent me a reply (via Bangkok courtesy of US mail!) and directed me to their UK rep. - our own Janet Quarton. Janet (another wonderful lady whose name I can remember!) sent me all her latest Fan Club addresses and invited me to join IDIC. So here I am. Thanks to all who have helped me feel at home in these hallowed pages!

To Michael Sadler, Stephen Day, Julie Evans, Keefy(?) and all the other cartoon artists - Keep it up! I really love all those cartoons - especially Michael's TNG joke strips!

To everyone - I hope I haven't got you all scrambling for your n/l 36s. I have sort of time warped past an edition! I wish you all a Prosperous and Peaceful 1995!

• Judith Taylor, fresh from the Klachian Foreign Legion

To all Pratchett fans out there who have read Soul Music, err, umm, sorry I've forgot.

To Sara Jackson, I would love to go to Lightspeed, but if I do I'll probably BE kipping in the video rooms. By the way, Khan Noonien Singh is not a alien, he was born and 'bred' (I use this term selectively since he was in fact manufactured by scientists to be the perfect human being) on Earth, therefore he is in fact a human and so does not class as an Alien. But I do know one

Alien I missed out Roga Danar; hands off he's mine.

I have heard that John 'Q' De Lancie is to be in the film as the insufferable entity; is this true.

To everyone out there who missed the GForce Alton Towers bash, you missed a great laugh, a pity only 100 of us turned up.

To anyone with a problem finishing the 25th anniversary special for the PC, I have the instructions to complete it. Write to, 70 Leadale Road, Leyland, Lancs, PR5 1QR.

To S A M Bedford, I may be going to Sol 3 if I can scrape the moola together (I am but a poor student) write to me, my address is above I would be glad to help you around your first convention, I know when I had mine I was as nervous as hell.

Re, Sub Rosa, does anyone else spot Deanna wandering around lost in the back ground when Picard is talking to the governor? Amazing since she's supposed to be walking with Beverly to her Grandmother's house (perhaps that's why she looks lost). She also has an amazing set of legs, considering in the next scene she's walking through the door of the aforesaid house with the aforesaid person.

To Simon Growcott, How, pray, can two proteins that join together within the Primordial Soup evolve into the breathing walking humans we are today? Plus, did you know we are related way way back to a graptolite? If you look this up in a geological dictionary that you can get from any Library you will know what it is. Perhaps this will explain about Spot.

Oh yes, can any one out there please tell me how a cat, living on its own in a cabin all day can get pregnant and what happens to the kittens? (If it is in Genesis, well, I haven't seen it yet).

Well I must go. I hope you had a very Happy Christmas, everyone, and I hope Santa beamed down what everyone wanted

for Christmas.

• **Lt. K'ehleyr tai Koloth, Area Commander (England) Khemorex Klinzhai**

Greetings to all members of IDIC. In my official capacity I considered it appropriate to communicate with you.

Jay Stevenson - are you a closet Klingon? Upon reading your article I failed to discern where you gained the erroneous impression that Terrans and Klingons are alike in any way. As Korax put it, "Earthers are like Regular blood worms, soft and shapeless". Now where in that is any reference to similarity with the Klingon race?

And to whoever passed the comment re eating gagh live. Yes. There is something uniquely desirable about having to catch your food before you eat it - something most Terrans seem to have forgotten the pleasure of.

• **Paul Taylor, Ankh Morpork, Diskworld**

Well here I am, brain as big as a planet, and I've been threatened to write in. So rather than have to look after my little sister I'M BACK!

To Edward Woo, re Crusher's reaction to Wesley's disappearance, perhaps she's glad to be rid of him?

To John Stublely, re All Good Things, my thoughts exactly.

To Rory Smith, re adults writing in. I myself am 14 so adults aren't everywhere. At school many people laugh at me because I like ST, but they can name many of the characters themselves. Isn't that strange?

To Andrew Roper, re Data and anger, in Descent the only reason Data experienced anger was because Lore was using the emotions chip that he stole from Soong to transmit it to him. Data did not know how the emotion was formed and so could not recreate the experience. Data has more emotion than he himself realises.

To Sacha Cowan, re All Good Things, I hate to say this but it wasn't Beverley's ship

exploding that started the anomaly, but the scanning sweep that Data did in all three time lines. However you are right, how come they can see the anomaly?

To Vicky Roberts, re 2 types of Trill Host, maybe Odan was a genetic throwback of the host side of the Trill and did not want to be known as a host due to his profession as a negotiator?

To Mik Perris, re the galley scene ST:TUC. This may not be the galley but part of the home economics training course. Valeris is demonstrating to Chekov, not the crew, about the alarms, what I would like to know is why Chekov didn't know about the alarms.

[Janet - Paul, I have problems reading Microsoft Word. Could you try saving your file as a text file or transfer it to Word Perfect?]

• **Susan Taylor - a Star Trek Mother**

Dear IDIC

I'm not a member of any Trek organisation but have 2 teenagers who are nuts about it if I get it right. The original Star Trek (the one I saw the first time round), T.N.G, D.S 9, and anything to do with the whole thing.

I have had to make a season 4? TNG uniform out of a season 1 pattern and helped make some very strange garb indeed for fancy dress (sorry, other lifeforms). Then there are the jumpers I made, which when shared between the three of my kids mean that they can be a captain in red one minute then an opps or a medic the next. Even my youngest is in on the act, naming the actors and becoming the youngest officer ever known at 6, running around with a tricorder and a phaser vaporising everything in sight. Ever seen a four foot officer vaporise her tea because she classifies it a new and dangerous life form?

There have been letters from America, Germany and all over the place, penpals who are fans seem to be world wide. The bedrooms are covered with posters and

pictures, I can't walk into my son's room without banging my head on a Borg ship or the Enterprise. The bookshelves collapsing from the books and being knee caped by my 4ft youngest swinging a Bat'leth (I think that's the spelling) around. I have also had to learn a whole new language of abbreviations (I even tried a little Klingon, no, not the youngest).

For all this I can only say this. Thank you so much, Star Trek. You have given my children a harmless interest which motivates them and has kept them out of trouble, given them a wide circle of friends of all ages, broadened their outlook on life and has made them more mature for their ages. I am happy to be a Trek mother, so keep it going. The younger ones are as interested as the 'oldies' and look out, conventions, here they come.

• **Neil J Barrett - 12 Spring Bank, Fishergate Hill, Preston, PR1 8PL - OK, Dejan?**

To: Stephen Daniels Re: Crusher & Ogawa. Surely their working environment is Sickbay and the associated labs. Holodecks, the gym and Ten-Forward will be 'off-duty' areas for the majority of the crew. Just because Bev doesn't wield her authority overtly you can't assume it doesn't play a part. Has anyone thought that it might be Alyssa who doesn't want to be friends with her boss? She's got a family to occupy her as well. As for the examples in IDIC 37, 1) In each case the participants are only one grade apart but Crusher is 3 or 4 above Ogawa. 2) Only with Picard is the senior directly in charge of the junior because he's everyone's superior.

To Vicky Roberts Re: Reviews & Criticisms. If your ego cannot cope with the possibility of an unfavourable review then keep your ideas to yourself. Don't put them on paper, don't put them up for publication and don't put a price tag on them. A lot of IDIC members seem to hold the opinion that fan fiction is better than commercial fiction and in many cases I would agree - the best of fan fiction is superior to the mediocre pro novels we sometimes see. However, if fans want professional pride (sic) then they've got to be prepared to take the rough with the

smooth. If you want someone to pay to read your work then you've got to give them the right to complain. A real writer will not be put off by one comment from one reviewer about one piece.

To: Rory Smith Re: Starship Classes. It's both. Just like today's military, Starfleet has a policy of continually updating the technology so that one basic design may go through several evolutions over a number of decades. The original Constitution class was refitted to become the Constitution II of the movie era and later to become the Constellation class (e.g. Stargazer). It has been traditional for a class to be named after the first vessel of that class so that the Constitution II class is colloquially referred to as the Enterprise class after the refitted NCC1701 in The Motion Picture. Thus NCC1701A is an "Enterprise class" irrespective of whether she was a new ship (originally to be the USS Ti-Ho) or a rebuilt older ship (originally the USS Yorktown). If you want a 'canon' answer then look at the plans Scotty is poring over in STVI:TUC, just before he finds the missing uniforms, which clearly say Constitution class.

To: Scouser Woo Re: Identity Crisis. Yeah, I thought that was a bit dodgy too in light of 'to seek out new life and new civilisations'. Picard should apply a temporary quarantine until proper contact can be established with the Tarchannens and some sort of compromise found.

To: Allan D Sundry Re: Vulcan Security Officers. I've thought about all the arguments for and agin but I can't find any loopholes. My question would be "What happens when duty and logic conflict?" If a captain orders "Fire Phasers!" but a Vulcan tactical officer thinks this is illogical does he/she obey or disobey? The captain may even have extra information or experience which would alter the logical course of action but may not have time to communicate this to everyone.

And finally... To: Glyn Holland Re: Frank'n'Furter. I'm getting fed up of Rocky Horror too; that show is over twenty years

old and I reckon it has now lost cult status and become almost mainstream. If you want to do a musical, anybody for "Return to the Forbidden Planet"? Danger! Do Not Reverse Polarity...

• **Neil Safi - Fresh from the Fruit Farm, Willenhall**

To Mike Sadler - Your theory on the pippiness of Kaferian apples is quite interesting, but sadly lacking in evidence and credibility. During the episode Mirror Mirror, a sliced Kaferian apple can clearly be seen in the background, with pips. As this was a mirror universe, it undoubtedly proves that in our universe the fruit would not contain such seeds. I have a technical diagram of a Kaferian apple, which clearly substantiates this should you need further proof.

To all convention party dancers - Have you heard of the new dance that was born at Wolf 359? When Ghostbusters was playing, Fox and Dana from The X-Files magically appeared and the word "Ghostbusters" was replaced by "Fox Muldur" - very funny! Fits the song perfectly. I hope to see those special agents again at T/D.

• **Robbie Taylor - 83 Kings Road, Beith, Ayrshire, KA15 2BN**

E-Mail: 9402964t@udcf.gla.ac.uk

I've been a member for a year now, so I decided (finally) to take the plunge and write in. Thanks to everyone involved for all the enjoyment the newsletter gives me.

To Sandy - Thanks for paying this year's membership for me. When are you going to write in and involve others in our debates?

To Dejan Ladika - I'd like to write to you, but unfortunately I'm utterly useless at getting round to things like that. I will reply to a letter if you decide to send me one! If you do write, please send details about the artwork.

To Sarah Rooke - I'm intrigued about the mysteries, and the Old Religion that you mentioned. Could you please tell me more?

To Sally Woods - Yes, it would be a

shame to lose DS9 if Voyager is a success, especially as I'm finally starting to enjoy it. Your idea isn't bad (N/L 36 p22), but what about O'Brien and (dare I say it!) Sisko.

I'd love to debate about the Trill, as I like the species; however, I don't have enough space here!

To Jean Perrin - I agree, Kirk and Riker would never work well together. You couldn't fit 2 egos that size on one bridge!

To Stephen Daniels - I understood that the Enterprise-D took 20 years from first concepts to build, rather than to physically build. Am I wrong?

To Marysia Kolodziej - I didn't completely dislike Sub Rosa either, there were some good ideas. However, the stereotype of Scotland slightly irritated me. I wasn't offended, but that many other countries will see a reinforced stereotype of Scotland is annoying. Still, never mind! I'm sure that we're not the only ones to be stereotyped in ST!

To Edward Woo - I don't agree that the 7th season was completely downhill, although there were better seasons, but I do agree that Voyager and Generations should have been left for a couple of years. Time will tell!

I also agree about Dr. Selar. As a Suzi Plakson fan, I wish that we'd seen more of her.

On that note, does anyone have a fan mail address for Suzi Plakson?

To Raj Badhan - I don't know of any PBM Star Trek, but it would be a good idea!

To Glyn Holland - Frank-n-Furter at a Star Trek convention? Some people do have strange ideas! I'm in a shadow cast for Rocky Horror, but I never mix it with Star Trek. The idea of a transvestite Klingon or Cardassian, however, has possibilities...

To Lesley Moyes - A Star Trek musical? I hope not! Again, I love musicals,

but the two just wouldn't mix! I already have misgivings about the upcoming Star Trek play. Don't condemn all musicals, though; Return to the Forbidden Planet does successfully mix music and SF. If you like Rock 'n' Roll, I guarantee that you'll enjoy it.

To Paul Taylor and Vicky Roberts - Leave Wesley alone! He's not that bad, as Vicky pointed out, especially in 3rd and 4th seasons and guest appearances. I should point out that I have defended Wesley to the hilt since my friends decided that I looked like him, and started calling me Wes. 'Shut up, Wesley' is now a favourite comment!

Finally, I'll give some thought to all my favourite/least favourite lists, but for now I'll jump on the bandwagon and suggest favourite recurring characters. Any thoughts?

• Stephen Daniels Braenaloin, Smailholm, Near Kelso, Roxburghshire TD5 7PJ

Well, by the time of the next Newsletter, many of us will have seen Star Trek Generations; let's hope it lives up to our expectations.

Does anybody know if there is any way I can lay my hands on the scripts for ANY Star Trek incarnation (esp. TNG) on computer disk (any format will do but pref. for a PC). If so could you please drop me a line at the above address telling me how. Many thanks.

To Edward Woo (n/l 37 p40) You do trust computers to dictate your actions every time you go when the light turns green! But seriously, look how many times Data has gone wrong; what might he do if he was the captain of a whole starship when one of his fuses blew? Does he have the intuition, the feeling in his bones, to know right from wrong like a biological lifeform might?

To Julie Evans (n/l 37 p65) What an excellent cartoon! More please!!

• Sara Jackson - Leeds, W.Yorks

To Catherine Carter: Though Sub Rosa does seem to have had a slamming, I love it!

This may have something to do with the fact that Duncan Regehr played Ronin - pretty shallow excuse, but hey, that's me! At least I'm being honest.

To Marysia Kolodziej: Okay, hand me a towel to wipe the egg off my face. You're absolutely right, Khan can't be classed as an alien. My apologies to the Temple of Doom, I'll grovel later at Lightspeed. I guess I must have been suffering from HHVVS (Hypnotically Handsome Virile Villian Syndrome). If you are interested in any Time Trax let me know. It's light-years off brain-taxing stuff, but good for a laugh.

To Anne-Marie Flowers: On 'words'(N/L 37 - p40). For Starfleet I like to think of *equality* or *tolerance*. The Cardassians? I have a couple of unprintable ones, but how about *power*, *domination* or *conquest*.

• **Taruka Q - on the run from the rest of the Continuum.**

A certain gentleman of my acquaintance has described Paramount's latest ST offering as being "Voyager to the Bottom of the Barrel." Oh well, it's pleasant to know that Rick Berman has two more ideas up his sleeve if this one doesn't work.

What's this I hear about there being 4 different movie versions of Generations????

To Edward Woo re article on Starship names. Errr. The Apollo 1 astronaut killed in the launch pad fire was VIRGIL Grissom.

The ships at the Battle of Midway also included the aircraft carrier Yorktown, and, on opposing sides, the carriers Yamato and...Enterprise.

To Dejan Ladika - Someone else who understands Masks. Wonderful!!!

Hello to Sarah Rooke. I know a few people in the Craft in this area, so it's nice to hear of one from the opposite end of the country. What I want to know is - why do modern "enlightened" people still shy away from it?

Jay Stevensen you get worse. Be

warned, you are in serious danger of being awarded a tribble.

To anyone re the DS9-B5 debate. Why do you think my cat's called Jadzia Minbari? I find it difficult to decide, but then again I enjoy both series for totally different reasons. And whereas I could write a DS9 story, I'd find Straczynski's masterpiece a hell of a lot harder!

To Ali Neill - I have actually heard people get it right purely by guesswork, but for those gentle souls who don't want to offend me my surname's pronounced "kwa-te-cal" with a slight drop on the end of the first syllable and an almost silent "d" before the last consonant. The stress falls on the first syllable. And to those who do know my name please note that the stress in my first name also falls on the first syllable - as I tell people, "ruku" in Quechua is a VERY rude word!

To Shaun Brannigan - watch out - I'll be back!!!!

To Nanaki Kaur and Marysia Kolodziej - I take it you haven't seen Parallels then.

To Marysia - re unpronounceable names. You and I both have that problem for real, don't we? When I write I tend to lean to the more obscure Earth languages, eg in "Como las Estrellas" I used Hindi names, mainly those of Asian friends, and in "Can we Have a Tow" I used Quechua (Inca) names. Now among those were Killisk'acha, whose name means engineer - he was the Chief Engineer and Maskachaq, which was a mistake because I'd meant to put Machaskaq (drunkard) the barkeep. What's wrong with unpronounceable names anyway? I find some ordinary names unpronounceable!

To Jo Healy - re a Riker rag doll. Get in touch with LCARS - they might make you one. (70 Leadale Rd Leyland Lancs).

Neil Barrett - you've won a tribble for your by-line.

So has Mike Sadler for his excruciatingly bad pun.

• **Rory Smith - 1 Cwmbach Cottages, Cwmbach, Glasbury, Hereford, HR3 5LE**

In the last newsletter I asked for more detail on FIB and STAG. Could you just tell me what they are, roughly, along with the Welcommittee? *[Ed - FIB and STAG are clubs, like IDIC; their newsletters contain much the same sort of spread of info, comments, etc. Welcommittee is a provider of information; if you have a specific question about Star Trek or about fandom, send an SAE and you'll get an answer. If the person you write to doesn't actually know, you'll be told who can provide an answer. Since Janet is Welcommittee referral for Britain, new members joining IDIC get an info sheet containing a lot of the sort of general info they are likely to want.]*

To Sarah Rooke (p 19) - Try Sheffield Space Centre for Trekkie goods.

Re transporter killing Trill. What is the theory behind why a transporter kills them - is it because it would separate the two sentients, and if so, why? The transporter should beam them both up together.

To Marysia Kolodziej (P 31) - If you're interested in the universe theories, read *In Search of Time* by John Gribbon - also his other books.

To Edward Woo (P 39) - Re Identity Crisis. Picard was right to put out warning signals about the nature of Tarchanen III. The warning means that any other ships that stumble on it are aware of the danger, as a less developed ship might never have known why its crewmembers were disappearing. The change was quite painful. Terrans, if they want to be transformed, would know where to go so the warning solves a lot of problems.

To Brenda Allen (P 72) - Riker ate dead Gagh on the Enterprise. When he is fed on the Pagh, he is surprised that they eat live Gagh.

Read the TNG Technical Manual for info on the holodeck.

What would happen if there was a row

of seats - say 100 or so, enough so that they wouldn't fit in the holodeck room. How would the holodeck made it appear that there were 100 seats in a row (each capable of having a crew member in it).

I have heard several people comment on how ST V was a failure, but it was a little before my time. What went wrong?

Can any artists out there draw high detail, pencil shaded drawings of the ships of Star Trek?

I would like to ask again if anyone has information concerning Space Agencies, because I would be interested in knowing what jobs would be available and what exam levels I would need. If you can give me any information at all, please write to me!

• **Catherine Hill - Staffordshire**

To Nanaki Kaur - Re the Worf/Troi relationship; well, I have to say I'm in complete agreement with you. I also have always wanted the Riker/Troi relationship to return. When I first heard about the Worf/Troi relationship, I was completely surprised - I mean Deanna Troi and Worf? I couldn't exactly picture it and even now it still makes me cringe!

To Raymond Spencer - This was a difficult task, but I finally came up with these as my favourite episodes; TNG - 1) Tapestry 2) Dark Page 3) Menage a Troi 4) Reunion 5) The Mind's Eye. That's for this month. By next month (ie after Christmas), fingers crossed, I will have seen All Good Things, which could distort the picture a little.

DS9 - 1) The Homecoming/The Circle/The Siege 2) Duet 3) Past Prologue 4) Crossover.

TOS - I'm ashamed to say I can never remember the titles of this series, but here are a few that stick in my mind (and which I like) 1) The Trouble With Tribbles - ultimately the best Trek episode ever! 2) For The World is Hollow and I Have Touched the Sky 3) And the Children Shall Lead.

To everyone - I can't wait till February

17th 1995! Finally I will see Generations! I have a Trekker friend in the USA and she has seen it (I think). Damn lucky if you ask me!

Is anyone watching BBC2's X-Files? In my opinion it is the best cult sci-fi show on TV (after Star Trek, of course!) The characters in it are great, the storylines original and it is sooo funny! I have a lot of praise for that show, and hope it continues to do well.

Finally I want to make one last point concerning Voyager. There is only one problem I can think of with this new series, and that is this - as far as I know, Voyager will be on Sky some time in '95. I'd bet any money it won't be on BBC. Typical!

• **Matthew Hemsley** -

To Jean Perrin - You wanted to know about the character poll - well, here we go. TOS: Kirk has just 6 votes Spock has a great big 10. Sulu 0 (come on!) Chekov only 4, Scotty just 1, Uhura 1 (and that's mine!), and Dr McCoy just ahead with a big 11.

TNG - Picard just 4, Riker just 2. Data a massive 12 (yes), Worf 3, Troi 5 (come on, guys!), Dr Crusher just 2 (guys?), Geordi 1, and I'm very pleased to say that Wesley had absolutely no votes at all (yes!!) Barclay got 1 and Tasha Yar (even though she's dead) got 0. (guys!)

DS9 - Sisko 0 (he ain't that bad), Dax 3 (do we have any male members?), Kira had a cool 9, Odo 5, Quark a brilliant 10. Jake and Nog, 0 (come on, they're not like Wesley), Bashir 3, O'Brien 1. The Traveller and Pulaski also got 1 vote each.

To Judith Hopkinson - Re Klingon surnames. Which episode was the Klingon X of the house of Y in? I've watched all of the episodes and can't place him. *[Sheila - You're speaking to the wrong person, that was my answer to Judith's question about Klingon surnames. I thought I was the only person that literal-minded in the club! When I first got a computer I spent ages trying to load in 'File X' because that was what the instruction booklet said, before I finally realised that by 'X' the book meant 'whatever*

name you gave a file you have already saved'. I could have said the episodes use 'Worf son of Mogh' or 'Lursa of the House of Duras'. Is that better?]

• **Michael Sadler - Great Sutton, S Wirral**

To Glyn Holland - Re fancy dress entries. I agree with everything you said in N/L 37. I'm all for having fun, but I don't think a Trek con is the proper place for Frank'n Furter to put on a show. I entered the fancy dress at Archon as the Stormtrooper and was quite angry at the way the Rocky Horror entrant treated the special guests. Also there were kids watching. I know many of the other entrants in the competition also disappeared.

To Neil Safi - I have found further evidence on your Kaferian apple pip debate. While watching the episode Journey to Babel I noticed a Tellerite diplomat in the background holding a plate of said fruit. By pausing the video you can clearly see the indentations which have been made by the removal of the pips, thereby proving your theory thoroughly wrong and inconclusive.

Mutual congratulations also deserved on our discovery of the lost Classic Trek episode featuring Nebula 3 and the Wampa Monsters.

• **Raymond Spencer - South Benfleet**

To Russell Witheyman - Another good source of information is Dreamwatch magazine, available at good specialist comic shops!

To Me! - Favourite DS9 episodes should have read 1) Bloodoath 2) The Jem'Hadar 3) Rules of Acquisition 4) Crossover.

To Leslie Moyes - I saw Terry Farrell in Hellraiser 3. I didn't know who she was at the time. I knew her as the babe who also appeared in Back to School (Rodney Dangerfield). Now I know her as the babe from DS9!

To Helen Cakebread/Ann Lindsay Wright - OK, so I'm disappointed that Kirk is dead. But it's better to go out in a blaze of

glory rather than fade away with cameo appearances. Heroes may be immortal, but actors aren't!

• **Waltraud Zucha-Glass - Switzerland**

To Gillian Lennox - Just wait until they kill off your favourite Star Trek character, and then we'll talk!

Talking about people being "petty enough to threaten to boycott Generations" because of Kirk's death is overdoing it quite drastically, don't you agree? Why should I (or anybody else feeling like me) be obliged to watch a film which is bound to upset me and doesn't interest me at all? (Believe it or not, there are people who dare to say that they simply aren't interested in Next Gen!)? Mind you, I am not criticising the film, which would be a ridiculous thing to do since I haven't seen it. But I don't have to see it to know that I am simply not interested, thank you. Star Trek is a fictional universe; while we can't escape death and destruction in real life, we certainly can do so in a wholly fictional realm - by the very simple means of not looking. With my collection of Classic episodes and zines I should survive the supposed death of my favourite ST character until, perhaps, Paramount decides to bring him back. "Boycott"? Ridiculous.

And in case anybody thinks of writing in to say that I am not a "real" fan, here's my answer now - I don't care, it's just my hobby!

To the organisers of the "wrinklies con" - yes, please, by all means go ahead and do it, but drop the age limit!

• **Jessie Lemmer - Altweinerstr 58, D-91320 Ebermannstadt, Germany**

Having just received my third newsletter, I must say I don't regret being a member of the great IDIC fan club.

To Annette Bohm - I share your opinion about those (sometimes) horrible translations of Star Trek episodes (think of that beautiful Irish song The Minstrel Boy in The Wounded, which was translated and sung in an inappropriate way...). I prefer reading and watching Star Trek in the original language too. Unfortunately, Sky

was already coded when we got satellite TV, but I've seen some episodes in English and call myself lucky for that. You can learn so much from Star Trek besides English.

To everybody who is able to watch Star Trek in English, imagine Picard's voice changing three times, and Troi's twice. How would you have liked that? German Trekkers had to accept it. Annette also asked about addresses for autographs - they may be of interest to others. Denise Crosby, c/o Metropolitan Talent Agency, 4526 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90010, USA; Marina Sirtis, c/o Jim Dobson & Sons, 9903 Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, USA. I also have addresses for Leonard Nimoy, Colm Meaney, John de Lancie, Whoopi Goldberg, Avery Brooks and Patrick Stewart; if you want to know them, please write to me. As for Gates McFadden, I wrote to her Paramount address and she answered in less than two months, sending me two autographed pictures; however, I enclosed 52 and a 29c stamp. *[Sheila - the US postal rates went up on 1st January]*

Is there anyone who ever got Brent Spiner's autograph? Please tell me.

To Brenda Allen's article "The Holodeck, Moriarty and Cardassian Blood" - Hey, Brenda! The holodeck was what I wanted to write about, but in a slightly different way. It doesn't matter at all what you did, I couldn't possibly have done it as well as you. I just want to add that in A Matter of Honor, Commander Riker ate *dead* Gagh when he was still aboard the Enterprise, and was surprised when learning that Klingons prefer them fresh and living. Guess that Klingons have a culture medium for serpent worms?

Finally I want to thank the cartoonists for doing such a great job in N/L 37 (I especially loved Lore and Spot), and say Hi! to the penpals I got through IDIC - Dan, Kerry, Michael, Rob, and those who'll probably write after I have posted this letter! Live long and prosper /Jolan Tru.

• **Anne-Marie Flowers - Glasgow**

At an auction recently I bought the

British Board of Film Classification certificates for some DS9 episodes. When I got home I began to wonder what I had actually bought. Are these things originals? Who supplies/donates them for auction? Could it be Terry Shuttleworth?

To Edward Woo - I enjoyed your article on Starship names but I'd like to correct you on one point - Lexington, Concord, Saratoga and Yorktown were battles in the American Revolution, not the Civil War.

On the subject of Pasteur - although we now associate him with milk, his research on fermentation was actually initiated in a bid to save the French wine industry - a neat connection for the two Captains Picard in All Good Things, don't you think?

To Taruka - It was very interesting to read your explanation of Wesley's vision in Journey's End - although it doesn't quite fit his "Why would anyone want to take drugs?" persona as seen in Symbiosis.

To Annette Craufield - How does one find out about American conventions?

To Nanaki Kaur - Geordi is naked (dead, actually) in Parallels and SPOILER ALERT he shows off his chest again in Generations when he is being tortured by Soran.

To Damian Griffiths - Re Q and the time shifting in AGT - It was my impression that whereas the Q Continuum was testing Picard by shifting him back and forth in time and tricking him into causing the anomaly, Q himself was deciding the exact moment when Picard could move from one to the other, which eventually enabled him to correct his mistakes.

To Judith Hopkinson - Re long-awaited moments; did you notice the name of Geordi's wife in AGT - it was Leah!

Just in case no-one else mentions it - the voices of Patrick Stewart and Whoopi Goldberg feature in the new animated film The Pagemaster. Christopher Lloyd and Macaulay Culkin also star.

• Edward Woo - Official, And The Children Shall Lead

To Sarah Rooke - for ST uniforms, try Sheffield Space Centre (N/L 37 P33) or TrekkerForms, 16 Bramwell St, Eastwood, Rotherham, S Yorks S65 1RZ.

To Craig Lemon - I liked DS9 from the beginning, and TNG did improve but it took till the 3rd season. As to those who felt they did not like DS9 but prefer TNG, DS9 is just getting into its stride just like TNG, 3rd season, with the first two seasons to iron out problems and characters. As to Gene's legacy, they can't wipe it out no matter what they try with Voyager if they continue to use the Star Trek logo and all those familiar Star Trek phrases and technobabble. At the moment it's too engrained in American society. If you ask Joe Public who created Star Trek, Gene's name would come up in most cases.

To Jenny Turner, Marysia Kolodziej & Raj Badhan - Re 3-D chess rules, write to Roger Neal. I think he's making a board and has the rules. The Franklin Mint one is too expensive - I have seen one at a con - and there were no real rules in it either - a plastic job. There were 3-D chess boards as part of the art/model competition entries - maybe those who made them will reply.

To Shaun Brannigan - What have I started? I find Dillons and W H Smiths the most useful for putting flyers on the Trek bookstands. I find book readers are more likely to join IDIC than video watchers.

To Keith Morton - If Voyager works, they will be so far away from the Federation, relatives will not be able to visit, hence they will have to explore strange new worlds and seek out new alien life forms, which TNG did not do as much as Classic Trek, though DS9 is doing better.

To Gloria Fry - I do enjoy B5 and I agree that Ambassador Delenn is the star. Her makeup in the pilot film was a little too much. She's better in the first season, and I hear she will look different in the 2nd season.

To Raj Badhan - a local ST club with

meetings and videos is Genesis II in Birmingham - c/o Mo Rowley, 36 Kingscote Close, Church Hill, Redditch, Worcs B98 9LJ.

To David Raper - Tomalak was good, and we shall miss him, but for future films I would like him back with the Romulans the so-called 'bad' guys and not always the Klingons, as in all the films to date.

To Neil Safi - Join the club! I had my kilt the wrong way round at Contagion '93, so you are not the only one. Luckily enough it was pointed out by my Scottish friends, so I could do a quick change round.

To Brenda Allen - I think Troi and Crusher were never taken more seriously because they were never given enough to do in TNG till Jeri Taylor helmed the last two series, giving the female characters more outlets for their talents.

• **Rachel Carradice - Mirfield**

I've been wanting to know for months if it is true that Patrick Stewart comes from my home town of Mirfield. I have heard various rumours about it and wondered if he still came back to visit friends or relatives.

• **Catherine Carter - Harrogate, North Yorkshire** Kate@carterce.demon.co.uk

To all those worried about Data's lack of promotion - what's your hurry? He's going to live to be several hundred years old, if he's not careful he'll have used up all the good jobs in the first couple of centuries and have twiddle his thumbs for the rest of the time.

To anyone thinking of getting the novelisation (what a word!) of Generations - I wouldn't bother, at least not until it comes out in paperback. I had a quick flick through in Waterstones and it looks like one of those large printing, wide margins, not-much-for-the-money books.

Federations on the other hand I thoroughly enjoyed. I disagreed with Sheila's review, I thought the shifting timeframes actually made it quite exciting, like cross-cutting the scenes of an episode. I agree that the technobabble was a pain so I skipped it and never missed it - but apart from that I

thought it a good meaty read (never learn to speed read - I've read my local libraries dry and it's costing me a fortune in books !)

I'm afraid you all let me down last month with my question about Kirk's medal - all except Bernado Silva e Carmo and I'm sorry Bernado but I think you're wrong - but I'm giving you all a chance to redeem yourselves. (Such generosity!) Khan Noonian Singh and Doctor Noonian Soong ??? A coincidence? Or is the good doctor a great great etc grandson of our favourite genetically engineered rotter from the time before the Botany Bay and is that why he was clever enough to build Data?? Is his "a superior intelligence"?

By the way, Bernado - the reason Valeris knew that Kirk had said rude things about the Klingons is because she was lurking outside his cabin while he was entering his log and she made a recording that was later used during his trial. That was how Kirk knew she was the traitor in their midst.

I think I'm going to give up on DS9, I've given it a couple of seasons to sort itself out but I saw a couple of episodes at Leeds Starfleet - Second Skin and Civil Defence and, quite literally, I had difficulty staying awake. I feel like a traitor to the Federation but I'd rather watch Babylon 5 any day - roll on Feb. 7th (return of B5) and Voyager whenever we get it.

• **Kayta Phillips - Cheltenham**

To IDIC - Thank you for the gorgeous Michael Dorn photo. (Raffle prize)

To Neil Barrett - I enjoyed reading your article on the L A Graf books. I found it amusing and interesting. I am a big fan of Chekov so I usually enjoy their books. I am not so keen on Shell Game (for a start I did not understand the title), but The Kobayashi Maru is one of my favourites. Julia Ecklar has Chekov behaving exactly how I imagine he would, and she writes the other characters well too. Have you seen TV Zone No. 60? According to this, L A Graf are going to be writing a Star Trek Voyager book, Caretaker, due to be released in February.

I was surprised that you did not attend Wolf 359. Walter was very entertaining.

To Margaret Rainey - I think a Classic convention is a good idea, but I do not think it is fair to discriminate against anyone who wants to go.

To Catherine Carter and Raymond Spencer - Catherine, I enjoyed Sub Rosa, although it is not one of my top three episodes. Shades of Grey was okay for guessing the episodes. However, Spock's Brain did send me to sleep! To you both, my favourite episodes are - Classic - Day of the Dove, Mirror Mirror and Spectre of the Gun
TNG - The Most Toys, The Quality of Life and Power Play
DS99 - The Wire, Crossover and Captive Pursuit.

I especially enjoyed the films and recently had the pleasure of seeing them again on the big screen at a cinema in Bristol. I had not realised how much was missing once they were reduced to video.

To Matthew Hemsley - My favourite characters are Pavel Chekov, Data (with Worf a close second) and Julian Bashir.

• Marie I J Park - Hull

I'd like to open this letter by adding my comments re Worf's surname. If I understand it correctly, Worf's name would be listed as Worf Rozhenko, basically because he is the adopted son of Sergey and Helena Rozhenko. It would therefore not be unreasonable for Worf to assume the name Rozhenko, possibly to honour the man who rescued him from Khitomer in 2346, even though he will never forget his heritage, that he is Worf son of Mogh. In Alexander's case, as he is the son of Worf, he would also take his father's name, whatever it is.

To Russell Witheyman - As you'll know by now, no, ST: Generations has *not* been shown before Christmas 1994. The last I heard was that the film would be released in the UK on or around 10th February 1995.

I have heard that a certain lady will

definitely be making an appearance in the film, ST: Generations. Who? Answers on a postcard, please! No, seriously, I'm actually referring to that feline femme fatale herself - Spot.

I am going to resist offering any opinions on the film until I've actually *seen* it, although I have heard that said film is doing extremely well in the USA.

To Neil Barrett - In the episode Thine Own Self, Troi took the *Commander's* exam, which entitles her to wear three pips, although she has been known to sit in the centre seat from time to time. She'd chosen to take the exam following her experiences in Disaster in 2368, but also because she wanted to expand her horizons. It is worth remembering that both Beverly Crusher and Kate Pulaski hold the rank of full Commander as well as being the CMO, and presumably took the Commander's exam at one point.

Finally, to Edward Woo - I agree with you, I think there is still prejudice against artificial sentient beings giving orders to humanoids. In Redemption II, when Data was Acting Captain of the USS Sutherland, he ran into trouble in the form of Lt. Commander Hobson who, first, asked for a transfer before Data had even sat in the centre seat, due to his refusal to serve under an android; second showed his disrespectful attitude by giving orders without consulting his commanding officer.

If Worf is supposedly promoted to Lieutenant Commander after 15 years in Starfleet, does Data's 31 years not also warrant promotion?

• Adrienne Brown - 2 Rathmore Ave, Belfast, BT10 0FT

Someone, somewhere (of course I can't find the reference now) asked what filk songs are. They are songs about Star Trek, some humorous, with the name arising, or so I heard, from a typing error. I have a tape full of songs (Filk Songs for Folk who ain't even been yet) about the original crew by Leslie Fish who wrote some good early Trek fiction. The tape is not very good audio quality but

passable if you are not fussy, so if whoever it was who enquired (or anyone else) is still interested I would be happy to do a copy if sent a 90 minute tape and an SAE. Also I would like to get copies of other filk songs about OT, so if anyone has tapes other than those I mentioned I would like to hear from you. Maybe we could swap. On the subject of Leslie Fish, does anyone have a list of what she wrote in Trek fiction - I look out for her work, but don't always get author's names when I send off for second hand zines. Also, does anyone know what name she wrote under when she turned professional? *[Sheila - Unfortunately most of my Trexindexes are buried in the attic, but as I remember Leslie was published mostly in Warped Space, though she had stuff in Pegasus and Alpha Continuum as well. I say 'stuff' because some of her contributions were of artwork and poetry as well as fiction.]*

Although I take a dim view of a Vulcan security officer in Voyager, I suspect my scepticism will last as long as he will. Worf was surely a statistical aberration in the history of Starfleet security personnel when he survived beyond a fortnight.

The message on Internet about the appearance of Leonard Nimoy at Timewarp 2 in Dublin (11-12 March 95) has been confirmed to the extent that he is advertised as their guest, along with Majel Barrett-Roddenberry. Friends of mine who went to the last Time Warp (in 93, I think) had very favourable opinions, so I am looking forward to this enormously and am already thoroughly overexcited at the prospect of seeing Nimoy in person. In case anyone from the UK is thinking of going but feels Dublin is a drag to get to, think again. Flights are not extortionate, particularly from London, Irish hospitality is great, and the Guinness is even better. Irish fandom is still quite young and rather different from that of the UK, and you may find the change interesting.

• **Ann Peters - Kidderminster**

To Marysia Kolodziej - I cannot see water species becoming space travellers. I feel they would have difficulty developing a technology to get them through the dry bit

between their environment and space. And until I see a substantial explanation of telekinesis on Abyss type water forms, I have to leave such phenomena to the realms of science fiction - after all, ye canna change the laws of physics.

This paragraph also to Bernardo Silva e Carmo and Dave Styles - The theory that bolts of lightning in primordial soup creates life is just that - a theory. It is not universally accepted by those working in the field, although it is widely written about as though it is. It is true that in labs electricity passing through a primitive type atmosphere has produced amino acids, but a collection of amino acids is *not* life. That was first done some time ago (in 1952, I think) and they haven't got much farther since then.

My support for a volcanic theory is just a personal preference which I would be happy to change in the light of more evidence to the contrary. I like volcanoes because some thoughts about plate tectonics indicates that in early pre-Cambrian times (4 billion years ago) instead of a few large continents there were lots of microplates which later welded together - possible evidence of the seams can be found in some of the ancient shields contained in today's larger continental places.

Lots of small plates means lots of boundaries and lots of volcanic activity around these boundaries. An unlikely event like the creation of life would statistically require lots and lots of opportunities. I simply see more opportunities in volcanic areas than from bolts of lightning. Incidentally, the heat from volcanoes has been shown to produce amino acids from atmospheric chemicals in the same way as bolts of lightning, so both ideas are equal in that respect.

• **Nick Cook - Top Flat, 14 Union St, Dundee, Tayside DD1 4BH**

To Gaile Wood - Re your science article in N/L 35. I presume you're referring to the technique in Final Reflection, Romulan Way, etc. From reading those books myself (and it was admittedly a while ago) I do not believe the authors were claiming that

language is genetic. We *know* it is not. I believe they were basing their idea on the biochemical theory of learning - eg free-living flatworms can be taught to turn one way, then another, in a simple T-maze. If a previously trained flatworm is ground up and fed to untrained flatworms, they then learn at an accelerated rate. It is suggested that the active principle which induces this change is *nucleic acid tRNA*. There is also evidence that this is the case in mammalian learning, but I don't have room to go into this in detail here. I would also like to point out that differences in species *cannot* be accounted for by a change in a single base, they are far, far more complex than you claim.

I'd like to put a call out to anyone who has been running Star Trek role-playing campaigns and would like to exchange notes. If anyone is interested, please do get in touch.

To Ian Webber - St Albans. I've been trying to get a copy of the module Denial of Destiny for years. Any chance of a loan/photocopy? I'd be happy to cover any expenses.

I've been interested to read of the growing dissatisfaction with Vulcans in TNG/DS9/Voyager. There is certainly a good case for this but I do feel that there have been some good Vulcans in TNG. What about Dr Selar, or Taurek (how *do* you spell that?) from Lower Decks. What about Vulcans having S names? Well, maybe, but there are only so many you can come up with, some of which I wouldn't want to repeat here. Besides that, Mr Roddenberry in his proposal for Star Trek: Phase II lists a Vulcan called Xon. Overall, however, I do think that the Vulcans have been hard done by. Sarek and Spock were wasted on TNG. I am glad there will be a Vulcan on Voyager; I only hope that the writers develop him as a Vulcan and not a Klingon with pointy ears and a high IQ. Personally, I feel Vulcans are a 'fascinating' race and deserve better.

• H S Duhre - Doncaster

It seems to have been quite a while since I last wrote in to the postbag. Since then I nearly got killed by a drunk driver, and I won the National Lottery, 3 million to be

exact - but that's enough about me.

To Matthew Hemsley - Favourite character or favourite actor? Characters are Spock, Data, O'Brien; actors are William Shatner, Patrick Stewart, Colm Meaney. All the rest come in at second place.

On the DS9 V Babylon 5 debate, both shows are as good as each other, DS9 for its special effects, character interaction and humour, B5 for its special effects, character interaction and humour. See what I mean?

I just can't believe there will be no more Star Trek - yes, you read it correctly. Gene Roddenberry's Star Trek, where a ship goes to explore uncharted space and planets in that space, to boldly go where no man has gone before. After knowing what Voyager will be about, I totally disagree about it. Star Trek is about the human mission into space, not about trying to find a planet known as Earth. A couple of other things - a Vulcan security officer? I don't think so; and will the Prime Directive apply to the Voyager?

Generation Con - I will be going, one reason only, to hear the actor talks. If the con is a success I think they'll probably decide to hold another one some time in the autumn - then fan-run cons will really be in trouble. I will still continue to go to fan-run cons as they are the best. (In 1995 I plan to go to The Neutral Zone, Conundrum and Lightspeed 95).

Does anyone know whether any of the money that will be raised at Generations Con will go to charity?

Star Trek Generations is a box office success, taking 24 million in its first weekend, 40 million in its first week.

PS - I really didn't win the Lottery, you can all close your mouths now!

• Rosemary Boycott - Boston

I attended the Leonard Nimoy Convention at Nottingham last month and had a wonderful time. Whilst I was there I purchased a huge pile of zines including Variations on a Theme 1 - 8, which I enjoyed

very much. Was there ever a no 9? *[Sheila - Variations 9 has been plotted for three or four years, and that's as far as it's gone. Every now and then we say we really must get on with it - one day we'll surprise ourselves and actually do it!]*

Being fairly new to zine reading I am continually amazed at the wealth of material and excellent stories, so much better than the published novels. The zine writers really capture the characters so well, one can hear the actors saying the lines as the stories unfold.

• **Michael Hill - Crewe**

I joined on 5/12 and have to say your newsletter far exceeded my expectations. It is very informative and it's great to hear opinions of other Trekkers. I found the forthcoming Generations convention of interest, and will definitely be attending.

I am 22, and have only been a Trekker for a year, but I know I'm here to stay. It started when ST V: The Final Frontier was shown over Christmas 93. It prompted me to purchase the screen voyages boxed set and I've watched them over and over so now I know most of the scripts. I still think ST V:TFF is my favourite. Not because of the plot, but the relationship between the principal characters.

I enjoyed watching DS9 on video. It is an excellent series with great characters (my favourite being Quark). I hope ST:Voyager doesn't mark the end of it as I'm sure DS9 will go from strength to strength.

As for Babylon 5, I didn't like the first few, so I wasn't bothered about missing it. Then as I watched it, towards the end it became very gripping indeed. The last episode was an unbelievable cliffhanger. Now I'm hoping Channel 4 will repeat it so I can watch the ones I missed!

• **Pamela Dale - Keighley, Yorks**

Thank you for another year's interesting newsletters. I don't often feel impelled to comment, everyone else makes a much better job of it, but Edward Woo's article on Starship names makes me reach for

a pen, although I expect Ray Dowsett will beat me to it.

Edward may be very knowledgeable about Starships, but his acquaintance with American history is very shaky. As a member of the 32nd Virginia Regiment of the Army of the Confederacy, I must point put that only the Gettysburg is named after a Civil War battle. Lexington, Concord, Yorktown and Saratoga are places and battles connected to the war of Independence - not the war between the States. Charleston saw action on both wars, but in the latter the nearest thing to a battle was the skirmish at Battery or Fort Wagoner where the Black Federal 54th Massachusetts Regiment gained fame under their Colonel Robert Gould (?) as portrayed in the film Glory. Charleston is also known as the place where the Civil War started when the Confederates fired on the Federal-held Fort Sumter. Nowadays it is famous for its antebellum houses and gardens and is home to the ships and submarines of the US Fleet.

• **Maria Woodward - Emsworth, Hants**

Having just read in N/L 37 about the different convention reports, I just had to say I have been to quite a few over the past few years. Earlier this year I went on a Star Trek cruise (Alaska) which was real fun, on a ship with Majel, Robin, George, Jimmy, Jonathan (Hugh), John (Q) Eric (Traveller), Rene, Max and the 'pratt' Wil!, and nowhere for them to hide apart from their cabins. I even managed to get some wonderful photos with some of them. When Eric was at Midcon I gave him to sign (I got him gob-smacked!) a blown-up photo of him and me on the cruise this year. We even had a quick chat about it!

I too had friends who went to the Mannheim convention and told me it was a disaster (and that's from a friend who runs her own conventions in Germany) but that hasn't put me off going to my friend's one in July! Like everyone else, I too have up and down fan conventions, apart from Warp One and Contagion which were wonderful. One of the best conventions I went to was UFP earlier in 1994, where I knew most of the people who went - I didn't have five minutes to myself where someone didn't come up and

say hello!

Like most people, I too am going to Horizon convention, just to see my many, many penpals who are going!

You may already know I too run a fan club (Quark's Bar) which has now been going for over a year, but that only started because of going to conventions. (If you want more information, see the advert in the last issue of IDIC).

• **Leslie Moyes - Glenrothes, Fife**

I have just purchased the All Good Things boxed set and it was well worth it, especially the documentary Journey's End. Pity it won't get shown on normal TV as it deserves a wider audience in its own right; even casual and non-Trek fans would love it. My only gripe was that it was not that long. I also loved the 2 trailers for Generations and it looks like head nutter Malcolm McDowell is set to make more ham than a delicatessen in the acting stakes in this one. The swirling clouds of the Nexus remind me a little bit of Raiders of the Lost Ark, when the Nazis opened up the Ark.

On a less positive note I am not very keen on the new regulation com badges. I reckon they should have used the Future Imperfect/Parallels badges, as they are much better.

To Mark Cooksey - I agree a series about Sulu and Excelsior would be much better and more interesting than all that Maquis v Cardassian nonsense that is dogging DS9 and Voyager just now. I wonder if Paramount has thought about it?

I would just like to say to everyone I met at Contagion and everyone involved in IDIC, have a 'live long and prosperous' New Year. Best wishes, and see you in '95.

• **Maggie Symon - Fochabers**

To Jean Sloan - If you hear about who did the "Bohemian Rhapsody" music video I would love to get a copy for the exhibition! I was stuck in the dealer's room at Contagion and didn't get to see it myself, but I do remember a hush falling over the room

Sunday morning(?) as all the dealers stopped to listen and wondered what was going on. I have always enjoyed music videos.

To Jean Perrin - Regarding Spock's sex life - I once sat down and figured out in an odd moment (before ST-TFF and ignoring the teenager in SFS) that Sarek was 60-ish when Spock was born, and if that was his first Pon Farr, that made Spock an extremely EARLY starter, for a Vulcan (Human genes no doubt). They do have long life spans and Spock was around 35 (I think) in Amok Time. Which could explain why T'Pol was so put out by his return and challenged - it doesn't explain it if she was pregnant, though! I make his next Pon Farr while he was at Gol; possibly the Masters have a way of negating the fever, which Spock might have been using since? He has never married, that we know of, unless the implied 'Sarek's son's wedding', in TNG was Spock's, or yet another son..... And if it was, she and any little Spocks were either dead or abandoned when he went to Romulus. Of course he could always be sterile.

To Clare Finkel and Maggy Edwards - Thank you for your kind words and I agree with you both. I am losing faith in official Trek too and turning more and more to fan-fiction to get my fix. At least there I can find my kind of Vulcans. And I am a bit perplexed too about the Vulcan Security Officer in Voyager, for a number of reasons. A Vulcan Security Officer seems like a contradiction in terms, even though the Intrepid must have had something like one. But in the terms of Star Trek, these are an alien race - would they necessarily have the diversity of colours that Humans do? We have never seen anything other than the greenish hued Vulcans before, and suddenly we have black Vulcans and Romulans; surely they should be a darker green, if anything? And since skin colour originated as a defence against climatic conditions, shouldn't they all have been black from the start? As hot as Vulcan, they say. You are right, Vulcans are no longer a priority with official Trek, and the people writing it don't know them.

To Pen Cramphorn - Like I said the 'Changing Face of Vulcan' was written

without reference to books, videos or anything - except a little bit of brain picking on those more learned in TNG than me - I will concede that Sybok's mother was a Vulcan Princess (unfortunately the novel said Priestess, which is what I remembered). Do you really think Bones would have taunted Spock about 'Vulcan Mysticism'? All right Vulcan is a very closed society but the knowledge could have got out and Spock can't be made to pay for something which is basically normal for Vulcans. Bones never picked on him for his telepathic powers, or meditation, or healing trance (well only in relief). I doubt Spock would have seen anything wrong or shameful in 'Vulcan Mysticism', which is the reason for hiding something. You don't feel self-conscious about something unless you are taught it is wrong somehow. He was taught he was flawed being half-human, so he over-compensated and became Super-Vulcan. The other Vulcans we did see in the series were more relaxed (Sarek, T'Pol, T'Pol, Stonn, even Sonak in TMP), so you could say they were the true Vulcans. I don't think I made myself clear. In terms of Vulcans I don't consider telepathic powers, meditation, or a healing trance mysticism, I don't, at a push consider Kolinahr, just the sudden appearance of Priests and Priestesses and the presentation of Fal-Tor-Pan, as opposed to the actual accomplishment. As a telepathic species they could probably do such things, but I would have expected it to be done in a hospital ward or something. Weddings in an ancient site I can accept (many of our churches are on the prehistoric sites), but when it comes down to births, deaths or exercising emotion I don't think they will be so tradition-bound, not if the event can be served in a hospital ward just the same. And Romulans started out looking like Vulcans (Mark Lenard aside) because they were originally Vulcans (see The Romulan Commander and Tal in 'Enterprise Incident') so how - in 75 years - could a racial change like the bumps on the forehead suddenly appear? That connection is not denied in TNG, see 'Unification'. The same applies to Klingons, but at least they aren't off-shoots of a known Federation race and could have separate races under that name.

If anyone wants some grass-roots reading I recommend 'The Making of Star Trek'; page 275 (my old Ballantine edition) has the series of memos on silly suggestions for Vulcan names, and states the SP..K five letter names. And even if they didn't stick to their own rules (Stonn) they stuck close enough. While flicking through trying to find that reference I came across a whole lot of other 'rules' which don't seem to work now-a-days.

To anyone - Whatever happened to the Vulcan Vice Squad?

• David Raper - Hull

Hello everyone - and help! I have just been given a copy of Generations for Christmas but I don't want to read it before I see the film, but I do! What a quandary! Do I have the willpower to resist the temptation? I do not know, but it will not be for want of trying. At my request my fiancée has hidden it for me, but still it is tempting. Not that I do not appreciate the thought, in hardback with full colour pictures and a little article on the making of the film at the back as well, but *do I have the strength to resist temptation?*

Anyway, SPOILER ALERT - seriously, having just seen both The Jem'Hadar and The Search, I will say that I enjoyed them both though the Gamma Quadrant now seems a distinctly unfriendly place. The Dominion are not good neighbours and the Jem'Hadar make the Cardassians seem positively friendly by comparison, though I did feel sorry for poor Odo. Which is all I'll say, except that in spots it was quite spectacular as well, and while Starfleet is *not* a military organisation as such, with the likes of the Dominion around a good set of phaser banks does seem like a good idea for any starship.

On the subject of the USS Defiant - possibly named for the ship lost in The Tholian Web - it's about time. For all its supposed flaws, it did not do too badly on its first outing and with O'Brien to knock it into shape, who knows? It may be listed as an 'escort' vessel, but if anything the Defiant reminds me of one of the pocket battleships built by the Germans between the wars, small but fast, well protected and very well

armed. In either case, I hope we see more of them.

To Taruka Q - Re cats. My sister's old puss loves just about anyone who will open the fridge for her, but she is choosy about which chair she sits on and usually bashes next door's tom when he comes calling. Cats, like people, vary from individual to individual; some can be positively sociable and others - Spot - are best approached with a phaser on heavy stun, though she seems to like Reg Barclay (Genesis) - and my sister's cat likes my mother, who has no fondness for animals whatsoever.

To Gloria Fry - Having just heard Transformations read by George Takei, I hope they do more of the same. Paramount missed a real opportunity there for a series with Captain Sulu and the Excelsior. Personally, I always thought that the NCC 2000 was somewhat shabbily treated in her first two movie outings and it was good to see that ship in action in ST:VI as well as the Enterprise. Maybe the 'great experiment' was a bit of a flop, but the ship obviously had some good qualities otherwise they would not have built so many of them and they would not still be in service in Picard's day.

Finally, DS9 v B5 - why bother? The credo of IDIC is toleration and since they are both well made and different, enjoy the differences and so long as C4 shows sense and avoids Wednesday, there should be more than room enough for both. I only hope that B5 lives up to its early promise, and yes, it would be fun to see Garibaldi v Odo, though an encounter between Tomalak and G'kar would also be interesting, since they are both played by the same actor.

Enough of that. Happy New Year to everyone, and I am off to search for Generations (joke) if my willpower does not hold out. The agony of it!

• **Lorna Price - Bristol**

I am a new member and I have thoroughly enjoyed reading my first newsletter (no 37).

The comment by Nanaki Kaur really

touched a chord - yes, I also hate the Troi/Worf relationship. It goes against everything we learned about Klingon relationships in the first few series. Remember when Riker tried to give Worf an ideal Klingon mate in Hide & Q? Can you imagine Troi behaving like that? Or as K'Ehleyr in The Emissary? My mind boggles!

Then in Yesterday's Enterprise Worf tells Guinan that "Human females are too frail". Does that sound as if Troi is the one for Worf? She looks far too fragile!

• **Jenny Turner - Birmingham**

I watched the Late Show on Sky one the other night. I couldn't believe what I was watching! Do the Americans actually watch this? Patrick Stewart wasn't on long; he mentioned he was going to live in New York, talked about his Shakespeare show but not a mention of the new film! I tried to carry on watching after Patrick, but I just couldn't. They obviously have a very different sense of humour over there to here. He looked uncomfortable on the show, or was it my imagination? The interviewer seemed to be a bit demented, and laughed at anything! Give me a British show any day.

• **Chris Coxon - Winchelsea**

Reference the Babylon 5 fan club. I don't think it's worth the £12.50. The n/l's - of which I've had 2 - arrived together after waiting a month for my membership packet, I have never had subsequent newsletters and the promised badge & ID card have not been forthcoming either. IDIC members should be made aware of this deficient service.

• **Liz Caldwell - Taunton**

Comments on Voyager - I may be needlessly pessimistic, but I'm not looking forward to it very much. OK - I didn't think TNG would be any good, but now I love it as much as the original series - it *feels* like Star Trek. I was a bit more optimistic about DS9 as I thought "Well... I wasn't looking forward to TNG but it turned out good, so I'll be optimistic about DS9" - but unfortunately it hasn't turned out to be what I hoped - it doesn't *feel* like Star Trek. Voyager doesn't even sound like Star Trek! If the ships are taken to an area where there's no Federation

or familiar aliens etc, will it feel like Star Trek? I'm doubtful, but I'll give it a chance. Everybody's ideas about what ST should feel like are different, anyway, so this is just my view.

There has been a lot of talk about Vulcans in the n/1 recently, and I'd just like to put in a good word for Tarek (? spelling), the young Vulcan in Lower Decks. He is the most believable Vulcan I've seen for ages. I think the actor has done a lot of "Spock

watching" - a lot of his mannerisms remind me of Spock in the original series.

Can anyone help.

I am looking for agents' addresses of any Trek actor or actress, or where I can get in contact with anyone who has been in Trek, to obtain autographed items for Conundrum's Charity Auction. If you can help, please write to Stephen Rothwell, 20 Baxter Park Terrace, Dundee, Scotland DD4 6NP.



STAR TREK: The Official Fan Club of the UK

by Tim Gaskill

From its inception, STAR TREK: The Official Fan Club of the UK has had a certain amount of hostility aimed in its general direction from many of the more established Star Trek fans. Initially, this anger stemmed from the prospect of a professional interest "taking over" fandom. Although I was not involved with the club from the outset, my interest was raised because, as a fan, I had never had easy access to any fan clubs. I never knew they existed when I was a kid growing up in California. I just knew there was this great show called STAR TREK on every afternoon after school.

When I later worked for CIC Video in the UK, letters and telephone calls would come in from people daily asking of a STAR TREK fan club. For five years I handled the bulk of the STAR TREK queries. Most people were directed towards various established clubs, but there was one thing that became painfully obvious - even the most established clubs had maybe 1 - 2 thousand members. This was directly out of proportion to the number of people watching the show every week. Millions chose to make this at least a weekly habit and around 25 - 35 thousand were buying the videos every month. This was indeed a significant gap. It was obvious that STAR TREK viewers faced the same dilemma I faced many years before - they had no idea that organized fandom existed.

The fan clubs that existed ranged in size and quality, but the main hurdle

involved promoting a non-licensed ("unofficial") or local fan club. This could not be done without incurring the wrath of Paramount's legal department. For many years in the US, and later Canada, there were Official Fan Clubs operating. The US one was very successful and published a very professional looking bi-monthly magazine. It was, and is, full of quality interviews and behind the scenes type articles. It is also a merchandise catalogue for licensed STAR TREK items.

Like many aspects of STAR TREK, (witness the STAR TREK play last year in Bromley) eventually things get licensed. Official Fan Clubs are not exempt from this. Paramount realized there was a demand for a professional, both in content and look, Fan Club magazine. I know words like professional and licenced sound horrible, but at the end of the day, the Fan Club is licensed just like any other STAR TREK product. The only difference being that, as a magazine, we change from issue to issue and hopefully evolve the content and quality. The Fan Club has been accused of cashing in on STAR TREK, but the original intent was to offer the fans something slightly different and devoted *exclusively* to their favourite show.

Most of the consternation with the Fan Club began when the original licensees, Absolute Field Marketing, ran into financial trouble and eventually went into liquidation. They had to surrender the license after

publishing three issues - two of them late. As the Fan Club changed hands, the only remaining constant between AFM and the new company, Wholstone Ltd, is myself. Naturally, some of the frustration with the club has fallen on me.

The criticism towards the service is one issue that I know has been sorted out and the only people who may have not had any joy are the ones who sent applications or orders to the old Oxford address. The database and the service now offered is no longer problematic. A lot of the people caught between the changeover between the two companies are rightly annoyed. I can only say that if they are patient and contact us at the new address, any problem will be sorted. One service we do not offer any more is STAR TREK merchandise. There are numerous retailers offering this service and

they are mentioned in the magazine. We only offer exclusive Fan Club merchandise for the time being.

Any problems with old memberships/outstanding orders from the AFM days should be directed to: Sarah Lucas, KPMG Peat Marwick, Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading, RG1 3BD. Tel. 01734-505555.

The Official Fan Club is now a completely different organization than before. Some of the criticisms aimed at the way AFM handled things are indeed valid. I can only ask that people take a look at the new magazine and our newer, better service before launching the next attack. Please e-mail, fax or write to me with your comments. Tim Gaskill e-mail: tgaskill@delphi.com Fax: 0181-888-8008. Post: PO Box 6463, London, N22 4JU .

The Other Star Trek Exhibition.....

by Maggie Symon

I missed the deadline for the last newsletter but here is the update on what I am doing.

I will be doing an exhibition for Elgin Museum between July and August with an angle on Fan activities and Fan produced items, but only if I get your help! In case you are worried I intend to be in on unpacking and returning everything to appropriate people. And anyone in the position to be selling things can include flyers to be displayed for their goods, in the hopes you get some interest. I hope to have photos of the exhibition with me at Conundrum in Glasgow on the 14th July.

I have displays from CIC and Hamilton Collection and promises of artwork from two professional artists, so that will act as the backbone of the exhibition and all the official merchandise that is needed. I need help to build on that with fan things to show the creative side and fun of fandom.

There are twelve alcoves which can be used to house costumed dummies, so I would

really appreciate borrowing costumes from all series and movies (except WOK Commander Uniform, and Picard's Duty uniform and Dress uniform, which I have access to). I would like every facet of ST to get a fair showing.

I would also appreciate photocopies of fan artists zine art - all series and movies, (they will be returned to you). I have been offered German zines and to build on that idea I would love to include other non-English language zines, to show the international nature of ST fandom - anyone got a Japanese zine out there? If not a zine maybe a short story in your own language?

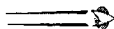
Those of us who remember the days before all the models kits and merchandise and who made their own communicators and tricorders and ship models etc. I would really appreciate a loan of some of those old models, but photographs and the story behind making the model would be great too. Or anything else fan-made - games, toys, cushion covers, tribbles, sehlat's, etc.

I would like to include a selection of newsletters from various clubs (with a pile of membership forms to display) to show the range of clubs. The newsletters don't have to be recent ones as they will be in a display cabinet, just one that typifies the club. Conventions after the beginning of July are welcome to advertise too.

Then there is the area of raising money for Charity - would any Fan, Club or Convention like to tell their story of what charities they raise money for and how much?

Pictures of the end results (i.e. guide dogs or handing over the cheques, etc.) would be appreciated.

And any other suggestions will be gratefully received. I am still looking for ideas. Suggestions and offers to Maggie Symon, Upper Dallachy, Spey Bay, Fochabers, Moray, IV32 7PW as soon as possible - I am sorry about the hurry, but I will have to organise the Museum to start collecting things by the beginning of June.



ATTENTION CLASSIC TREKKERS

A letter from Lynne Banister

It has come to my notice that, over the past couple of years, many long-time Classic Trek fans have been dropping out of fandom. Even those of you who, like me, have an interest in The Next Generation seem to feel that the original series has been pushed aside. This is particularly evident at conventions where round the clock TNG and DS9 videos, large crowds and commercialism can be expected.

Fandom has changed and many of you now feel excluded. But don't despair! If you remember the old days with nostalgia, you'll be delighted to hear that a Classic Trek convention is being planned to take place during the first half of 1996.

I put this idea forward at the recent Leonard Nimoy convention and it received a very enthusiastic response. However, if we are going to invite any actors, we need to be

sure that enough of you are interested in attending.

The location will be central (somewhere between Leicester and Manchester) and we will do our best to keep registration and accommodation prices down. While professional dealers will be welcome, we particularly hope to attract the amateur dealers and clubs to the dealers' room. Our aim is to organise a small, cosy convention based entirely on Classic Trek and the actors, just like cons used to be.

Interested? Please let me know as soon as possible. If you enclose an SAE I'll keep you updated on our plans (although I don't expect to have any definite information available for some months yet). Please write to Lynne Banister, 49 Nudger Green, Dobcross, Oldham OL3 5AW. Many thanks.



DID YOU SEE.... THE KLINGONS AT LATCON

David Styles

I've often gone on about what a gold mine Star Trek merchandising seems to be, so I (and some friends) got hold of some bits and pieces and took them to LATCon. We arrived at the University of London before anyone else (including the organisers!) and started unpacking. Soon all our wares were spread

out. It was obvious I'm no businessman!. Within ten minutes not only had I helped another stallholder up from the car park with his merchandise, but I'd bought stuff from another stall, and persuaded a friend to make a purchase from a third competitor.

I had decided that a Starfleet DS9 uniform just wasn't joining in enough. Our tame Bajoran got out the make-up and converted me into the Klingon Lieutenant Ku'Tee (Cutie, get it ??). I tried snarling fiercely at people, but everyone said I looked like Alexander! I smiled at a little girl who had been secretly waving at me, but got told off for scaring the children.

I soon realised that the stall next to us was run by Dave Prowse (The Green Cross Man - Darth Vader). I was quite seriously awed. I was next to one of science fiction's heroes. Half an hour later I finally plucked up courage to speak to Dave Prowse. It turned out that he regularly "did" the Star Trek circuit selling signed photos, and never made much money at it. I must admit I had begun to suspect that the stall wasn't going to be the gold mine I had been hoping for.

Eventually we sold the first photo of "You and the tame Klingons". Weeks before this had seemed a stroke of genius. Surely the punters would queue for miles to have a polaroid taken with two real live Klingons. However I forgot one small point. Everyone had brought their own cameras with them. I lost count of the people me and my fellow Klingon posed with for no profit. Also for every one that asked for a pose, half a dozen just clicked for "natural" poses. I was photographed with a tin of Diet Coke, picking my nose... I didn't dare go to the loo! We actually sold six photos, one of which featured our good friend from the London Away team, Glen, in his Ferengi gear. To a true Ferengi's utter disgust I told the customer that the Ferengi was free.

(Don't get me wrong, we enjoyed posing, the money wasn't important, it was all good fun! Though it would be nice to be able to see some of those snaps. If you took a photo of me, the Klingon in red DS9 kit, I'd love to see a copy - please send to 117 Beaver Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 7SG)

Leaving friends in charge of the stall, an Away Team set off for the bar. It's tricky eating Samosas and drinking lager with a false mustache! Returning to the stall I found that business had remained constant. In

disgust the two Klingons set off for the "Klingon Scream" competition. Ku'Tee roared and my mate Kalon bellowed and a few others squawked. There was no competition. Kalon won hands down! Returning to the dealer's room the only thing to mar the victory was the continuing popularity of our merchandise. Still, Kalon's success had not gone unnoticed; one punter wanted a photo with the victor. I twisted her arm (literally) and persuaded her to buy some of our other gear too.

Our group entered two teams for the quiz. I lost count of the rounds and questions; In my Klingon gear the quiz room was like a sauna! When the last question was called I headed back to the Dealer's room; my make-up was running! To my surprise the stall had sold something. While my head spun from the new-found riches, the quiz teams returned; one of our teams had come third.

Now, while wanting to see the Dalek race, I was conscious of the fact that I was overdue for a bit of "stall duty", and so intended to cover the stall while others watched the event. For some reason my wife Tina was most keen that I attend the Dalek race with her. Anything for a quiet life. I dutifully went along. It was a set up! We Klingons had been secretly entered for the Dalek race! My fellow Klingon Kalon revealed a clandestine Klingon/Dalek alliance by winning the race, and taking as his prize a signed photo of Jon Pertwee.

It seemed that Channel 4 had been filming the "Klingon Scream" contest and the Dalek race, and wanted to interview the victor. Kalon gave quite an intelligent speech for the camera. I stood next to him and bumbled inanely. Next they filmed a "Doctor Who" fan being pulped by Kalon and Ku'Tee.

We eventually decided to pack up the stall. Having brought up over a thousand pounds worth of stuff from our friend's shop, we had sold eight items. Loading the car was easier than unloading, with far more bodies to assist, but it was strange that more stuff was going home than came up!!

All too soon it was time for the closing

"ceremony". After a little thank-you-for-coming speech the organisers announced the results of the "biggest anorak" competition. First nomination; my fellow Klingon. I cheered and clapped. Second nomination: Me!!!! Surprise, amazement, embarrassment! Fortunately no-one was brave enough to let a Klingon be the best "anorak", and so the award went to some unfortunate covered in badges. I don't honestly know who he was. LATCon was over, but the day was not. Our friend Glen, in full Ferengi gear, was leading the way to Page's bar, a Star Trek theme pub in the West End

Saying goodbye to friends who were taking the car home, thirty or so bodies, most of whom were in Starfleet uniform, set off for Goodge Street tube station. Surprisingly, not many passers-by took much notice of us. I was chatted up on the Northern Line, but told the lady in question to join the queue, I had attracted quite a following in my regalia. (Modest, eh !!) Eventually we arrived at St James' Park tube station. (I don't think we lost too many bodies on the way.) Started what seemed an epic trek across the West End. I was glad that we had followed our friends from the London Away Team; I would have got hopelessly lost! I waved my Bat'leth on passing New Scotland Yard; there's never a copper around when you want one!

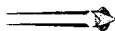
Arrived at Page's. WOW! What a place. The busiest pub I had ever seen. The friendliest pub I had ever been in; you could strike up a conversation with anyone, as over half the clientele were in Starfleet uniform. Also, of special interest to the reprobates, the

most efficient pub I had ever been in. Waiting time at the bar was only a matter of seconds. I thought perhaps that my Klingon persona warranted instant service, but it seemed everyone was being dealt with equally speedily. I got in the beers; but what a surprise: real Romulan Ale! (well, lager with food colouring). I met all manner of people that night and chatted merrily away, while Star Trek vidoes played on a wall-sized screen. Unfortunately all too soon it was time to leave, or we'd never get home. So many people were shouting "Goodbye, Dave"; I can't wait to go back!

On the way home I waved the Bat'leth at the bus driver in an attempt to avoid paying bus fare. It failed. We Klingons were photographed by two American tourists in Trafalgar Square, and, still in costume at Charing Cross railway station, we put the fear of God up the poor girl behind the counter in Burger King.

At 10.30pm the train left for Ashford, but we soon got bored, so we ran up and down the train having a phaser fight. It's strange how British Rail staff don't dare argue with Klingons! Arrived home at midnight. Kalon and Ku'Tee began the not inconsiderable job of becoming Human again. It only took a couple of hours, though I'm still picking liquid latex out of my hair now !!

It was a brilliant day out. I've sung the praises of the one-day Trek event in the past, and I'll do it again now. Congratulations and thanks to the London Away Team for an excellent day.



STAR TREK GENERATIONS PRODUCTION NOTES

Principal photography for "Star Trek Generations" commenced on March 28, 1994.

While many cast members of the television series "Star Trek: The Next Generation" were completing the final episode of the high-rated show, the filmmakers gathered on Stage 5, Paramount's largest soundstage, to shoot a scene where William Shatner as Captain Kirk maneuvers

within a three-storey-tall shaft to risk his life in an effort to prevent the destruction of the Enterprise.

The following day, Shatner was reunited with original series co-stars James Doohan and Walter Koenig for scenes on board the Enterprise B bridge. With Alan Ruck playing the new Enterprise captain, a retired Captain Kirk and his colleagues go for "a quick spin

around the block" on the newest addition to Starfleet.

As "Star Trek: The Next Generation" stars finished their work on the television series and began work the following week on "Star Trek Generations," LeVar Burton as Lt. Cmdr. Geordi La Forge became the first to step before the motion picture cameras for scenes with Malcolm McDowell as Dr. Soran, a physicist of the El Aurian race.

Among the renowned filmmakers contributing their talents to the first motion picture adventure of the new "Star Trek" generation are director of photography John A. Alonzo, A.S.C. ("Steel Magnolias," Academy Award nominee for "Chinatown"), production designer Herman Zimmerman ("Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country," "Star Trek V: The Final Frontier," "Star Trek: The Next Generation"), costume designer Robert Blackman (Emmy winner for "Star Trek: The Next Generation," Emmy nominee for "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine"), film editor Peter E. Berger, A.C.E. ("Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home," Academy Award nominee for "Fatal Attraction"), and composer Dennis McCarthy (Emmy winner for "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine"). "Star Trek Generations" features special visual effects by Industrial Light & Magic, winner of 13 Academy Awards for Best Visual Effects. The film's special make-up effects were designed and supervised by Michael Westmore (three-time Emmy winner for "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine," Academy Award winner for "Mask").

During the second week of April, Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, Brent Spiner, LeVar Burton, Gates McFadden, Marina Sirtis and Michael Dorn donned Regency attire and gathered around the gangplank of the Lady Washington, a replica of a famous 18th Century sailing vessel that was renamed The Enterprise and taken sailing off the coast of Santa Monica, California. In the film, the site is a holodeck creation setting the stage for the promotion of Worf (Michael Dorn) from lieutenant to lieutenant commander. The Lady Washington is the state of Washington's 'tall ship ambassador.' Launched in March,

1989, this historic replica was constructed to commemorate the pioneering voyages of Captains Gray and Kendrick.

Skipper/educator Captain Bill Larson was in command of the Lady Washington throughout the five days of filming on the ship. His crew treated the film company to lively and historic sea shanties during the daily hour-long voyage to the offshore filming location. The crew composed their own shanty in honor of "Star Trek" entitled "When 'Star Trek' Came To The Lady."

Meanwhile, at Paramount Studios, production designer Herman Zimmerman was supervising the refurbishing of television series sets and the construction of two new ones: a solar observatory and stellar cartography.

As soon as production was completed on "Star Trek: The Next Generation," Zimmerman began working with his TV series colleagues art director Sandy Veneziano and set decorator John Dwyer to redress and embellish existing sets for "Star Trek Generations," including the Enterprise bridge, Picard's ready room, engineering, sick bay and Ten Forward.

Another major set designed by Zimmerman was the interior of a renegade Klingon ship. The craft's bridge and crew quarters sections were constructed in shades of rust during the creation of the Klingon Bird of Prey.

Set decorator John M. Dwyer is a "Star Trek" veteran whose career encompasses the original television series. For "Star Trek Generations" Dwyer reintroduced some first season treasures the GNDN tubes ('goes nowhere, does nothing'), expansive corridors similar to the Jeffries Tubes of the Enterprise D.

Scenic art supervisor Michael H. Okuda and scenic artist Denise Okuda, who co-authored The Star Trek Encyclopedia, are responsible for the graphic displays seen in the film, including charts of the Enterprise for the engineering set.

During principal photography, sets for "Star Trek Generations" filled four Paramount soundstages. For a scene in the elaborate new stellar cartography set housed on Stage 7, Captain Picard and Data are surrounded by star charts on a cantilevered computer platform as they scan maps of the galaxies in an effort to determine Dr. Soran's planned destination. Translite panels 20 feet long depicting portions of the universe surrounded the set, backlit by enormous banks of KinoFlo fluorescent lighting instruments.

"Star Trek" history was made as the two famous captains of the Enterprise were brought together for the first time to film a scene in and around a cabin located above the Alabama Hills near the town of Lone Pine in California's Owens Valley. The sequence was completed at the Beery Ranch in a small town known as Hart Flat, an hour's car journey from Bakersfield. Horses figured into this portion of the sequence, with Shatner riding his own prized American Saddlebred.

The splendor of these alpine locations was in vivid contrast to the appearance of the site selected for the film's climactic sequence. The surface of a planet in the Veridian system that becomes the site of Soran's outpost was filmed in Nevada's Valley of Fire, located an hour's drive northeast of Las Vegas. Named because of the fire-red rocks that compose this geological anomaly, the Valley of Fire also seemed an apt description of the area's sweltering summer temperatures which often reached 118 degrees.

Eight days of desert filming concluded the 11 weeks of principal photography. What remained was post-production special effects photography and the completion of more than 100 visual effects shots. The visual effects work was overseen by co-producer Peter Lauritson and divided between visual effects supervisor Ronald B. Moore, who accomplished much of the effects work for "Star Trek: The Next Generation," and Industrial Light & Magic, under the supervision of visual effects supervisor John Knoll.

Moore refined the digital technology developed during his past seven years of work on "Star Trek: The Next Generation," while at ILM Knoll utilized the latest techniques in computer generated effects and miniature work. The largest miniature measured 100' by 40' and implemented a 12' model of the Enterprise.

"The requirements for a 'Star Trek' film were very different than those for 'Star Trek: The Next Generation,'" observes visual effects supervisor Ronald B. Moore.

"We want to satisfy audiences that have never seen the television series as well as the show's fans who are expecting more and another level of drama from the characters in this film," says screenwriter Brannon Braga.

Paramount Pictures is part of the entertainment operations of Viacom Inc.



A Major Star Date In Enterprise History

Star Trek Generations reviewed by Janet Maslin

New York Times Nov. 18, 1994

Thirteen "Star Trek" books are sold every minute, and that's just on the planet Earth. The Trekkie phenomenon is so indefatigable that there's even a volume ("Trek: The Lost Years," by Edward Gross) about a time period when the television show was off the air. In the face of such enthusiasm, a "Star Trek" film needn't do more than exist to generate sighs of contentment among die-hard fans. But a

couple of them ("II" and "IV") have had legitimate crossover potential, bridging the entertainment gap between the Starship Enterprise and the real world.

"Star Trek Generations" is the series's most ambitious film, if only because it mixes the casts of two "Star Trek" television series with the help of "some sort of a temporal flux." For

readers who find it baffling that there even are two television series (actually there are three, with a fourth on the way), the question is obvious. How much interest does this new installment hold for general audiences, for "Trek"-resistant moviegoers who turn elsewhere for their religious experiences and wouldn't know a main deflector dish from a satellite dish or even a dinner plate? What can "Generations" really say to the jargon-impaired?

Answer: just enough. "Generations" is predictably flabby and impenetrable in places, but it has enough pomp, spectacle and high-tech small talk to keep the franchise afloat. And in an age when much fancier futuristic effects can be found elsewhere, even its tackiness is a comfort. It's been more than 25 years since the maiden voyage of the Enterprise, yet the camera still rocks excitably while the actors cower during simulated explosions. And the crew still stands at attention in the control room, gazing worriedly out that big, bogus spaceship window while they wonder what new perils are in store.

In "Generations," the phenomenon causing trouble is an intergalactic ribbon, a celestial band that shoots off bolts of electricity and supposedly threatens peace in the universe, even though the worst it really suggests is serious trouble with a toaster coil. This menace is ultimately important enough to require the joint services of Capt. James T. Kirk (William Shatner, revered stalwart of the series) and Capt. Jean-Luc Picard (Patrick Stewart, his glowering, debonair successor).

If the film intends any contest between these two, or the different "Star Trek" casts they represent, it's no contest. Mr. Shatner can't match Mr. Stewart's thespian manner and Shakespearean intonations. But he's the one with the twinkle in his eye and the pampered, cosseted look of a star beloved by a gazillion fans. Mr. Stewart is admirably commanding, but he and the "Next Generation" cast don't have quite as much personality as the original show's old standbys. Mr. Shatner's appearance only bookends the movie, but he arrives and exits this story as a convivial old friend.

The film's techno-babble is confusing enough to require at least a second visit for absolute clarity; of course, that must be the point. In brief, Captain Kirk returns from retirement to find the Enterprise in the hands of young whippersnappers, and is barely on board before a crisis strikes. Then there are explosions, and Kirk vanishes.

After this, the film catches up with the "Next Generation" crowd 78 years later. They are in the midst of playing naval games on their holodeck, which looks like a frigate but quickly rearranges itself into the Enterprise once an alarm sounds. Nostalgia for old-fashioned sailing ships and homey family scenes is rampant among the space travelers.

Also in "Generations," and making a dandy, taunting villain, is Malcolm McDowell as Soran, a mad scientist who looks like Sting and plans to blow up a star to reach the intergalactic ribbon and attain eternal joy. Or something. The meaning of the ribbon is explained by Whoopi Goldberg, who appears as Guinan, her "Next Generation" character. It's time for Ms. Goldberg to duck roles that require her to be patient, kindly and wise.

"Generations" lumbers along companionably until, after an hour and a half, it reaches a crucial juncture. Soon after the Enterprise crashes in a forest (delivering the film's most impressive special-effects sequence), Picard finds himself beside Kirk, creating a kind of Trekkie Mount Rushmore. The meeting is pleasant, but the screenplay (by Ronald D. Moore and Brannon Braga) doesn't deliver any fireworks here. And Mr. Shatner, amusingly convivial in more casual scenes, doesn't bring much agility to his final tussle with the gleeful, diabolical Mr. McDowell.

As directed by David Carson, "Generations" moves slowly but equitably among the two series' regulars, giving each a bit of fan-pleasing shtick. So Data (Brent Spiner), the blank-faced robotic character who's meant to compensate for the absent Mr. Spock, gets a computer chip that gives him emotions, which yield predictable comic results. As with most of "Generations," this will speak most clearly to the already converted but still seem reasonably diverting

to the neophyte. Even if you came in late for "Star Trek," you can come in here.

"Star Trek Generations" is rated PG (Parental guidance suggested). It includes mild violence and nothing sexual, except a few Klingon women with cleavage.

STAR TREK GENERATIONS Directed by David Carson; written by Ronald D. Moore and Brannon Braga, based on a story by Rick Berman, Mr. Moore and Mr. Braga, and the television series "Star Trek," created by Gene Roddenberry; director of photography, John A. Alonzo; edited by Peter E. Berger; music by Dennis McCarthy; production designer,

Herman Zimmerman; produced by Mr. Berman; released by Paramount Pictures. Running time: 110 minutes. This film is rated PG. WITH: William Shatner (Kirk), Patrick Stewart (Picard), Malcolm McDowell (Soran), Whoopi Goldberg (Guinan), Jonathan Frakes (Riker), Brent Spiner (Data), LeVar Burton (Geordi), Michael Dorn (Worf), Gates McFadden (Beverly), Marina Sirtis (Troi), James Doohan (Scotty) and Walter Koenig (Chekov).

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HOW TO OBTAIN AUTOGRAPHS

by David Pipgras

Greetings. The following information will help you obtain the autographs you want, or at least help you learn the best ways to do it.

IN WRITING The most simple and easiest way to obtain an autograph from a Star Trek cast member (or other) is to write to them in care of the studio for which they last worked. In the case of Star Trek, you would want to write to Paramount Pictures. The correct way to send mail is as follows:

Star Name
Star Trek The Next Generation
c/o Paramount Pictures
5555 Melrose Ave.
Hollywood, CA 90038
U.S.A.CA 90038

Generally, you should allow a six to eight week time frame for a response, but often times, it may take longer, depending on who you write to, and how busy the person is. If they are in the middle of a movie or show, they have even less time to dedicate to fan mail. Also, when sending letters, you should keep several things in mind:

1. You are not the only one. Sounds simple, but what lots of people do not realize, is that each cast member typically receives

thousands of letters each month from people requesting autographs or other specific information. When the studio receives your letter, it will be placed in a box for the actor and delivered when there is enough to warrant sending someone with a mailbag.

2. Time is short. Typically, a Trek actor will put in anywhere from a ten to fifteen hour work day. This leaves little time for fan mail, family concerns and general life. Please understand and give them the time needed to get to your letter. Most will send a response, but not overnight. It takes time.

3. Be brief. A simple one page letter telling them they are your favorite actor, or whatever, plus a request for an autograph will be much more favored over a twenty page dissertation on why Odo cannot really shape shift. Again, actors are under incredible time constraints, and while they would love to read long letters, the time would not allow them to work.

4. Enclose an SASE. Common sense, but many forget. Actors work for a living, just like everyone (almost) else. Yes, some make a lot of money (and others too much), but the fact is, neither they or the studio can afford to mail hundreds of thousands of letters each month, plus costs of photos, etc. If you seek a

response, please be courteous and include an SASE.

5. Don't be disappointed. Again, actors are busy people, so don't be too disappointed to get a 'form letter' in response. Personal letters do happen, but again, time is short.

6. Don't ask personal questions. Sounds simple, but people do not often realize that actors—even Trek actors—are real people too. Most people don't like to share info like their salary, age, etc. Keep in mind what you would feel like if 30,000 people cornered you at the local grocery store and wanted to know your private lives.

7. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, and I cannot stress enough, NEVER write to an actor at their home address or relatives' address. This is a major NO-NO. This is what the studio is for. Again, these actors, and yes, that means Captain Picard too, are REAL people. They love their fans, but also value their privacy. Everyone has friends who are willing to 'share' the address of William Shatner, or whomever, thinking that they have an inside track. Cold fact is, virtually no actor will answer mail that comes to their address. It usually ends up in the 'nut file' or garbage. Friends and such may actually have the correct addresses to these folks, but you should know, and I also ask you to tell them, to PLEASE not use them, or give them out.

If an actor/actress personally gives you their personal and private address, etc., then by all means, use it to your advantage, but keep it to yourself. If they want you to know it, they will give it to you.

CONVENTIONS

Okay, another easy way to get an autograph is at a Trek-related convention. Most have sessions where these can be obtained for free. If not, talk to the host, and let them know you would like to have autograph sessions next time. Generally, these sessions last about an hour, though most will happily continue to sign until everyone has one. When you go to these events, please be courteous of others, and have one or a maximum of two items to be signed per person. Also remember that the

actors will be under pressure to get everyone a signature, and don't often have time to chat with you. They are not being rude, just fair to everyone. Also keep in mind, that these folks can sign up to 1500+ signatures each day. Try writing your name 1500 times and see how it feels when you are done.

Something to keep in mind, which unfortunately, many do not, is that these people are professionals, and while they have often done things in the past to earn food money, they might not like to remember them. One example, is that an actress might have done a brief nude scene in an old '80 slasher film, or something, or perhaps a spread in Playboy or something. They usually will NOT sign photos or copies of this type of item. Many people bring copies of prints made from their cameras or of old magazines, hoping to have them signed, only being disappointed, if not ruining it for everyone else. The moral of the story being, have a brain. Concentrate on their current works.

MEETING THEM ON THE STREET ONE DAY

Often, many convention guests will wander around the convention, such as the dealer room or whatever. When they do so, they are on their own time, and usually want to enjoy what they are doing, and not be harrassed.

If you spot a famous person, is it ok to ask for their autograph? Yes, as long as the setting is appropriate. For example, if they are in the dealer room, try approaching them. If they are at lunch, leave them alone. Also, please be open to the fact that they might not wish to sign, because they would have to do it for everyone. If this is the case, politely say 'thank you' and back off. Often, they might even ask you to wait a while or something. Again, it is all in remembering these folks are REAL people, and like you and me, don't want to be bothered with work business when they are on vacation or whatever.

TREKKIE vs REAL FAN

Much debate has been waged, but when it comes right down to it, the actors will respect the individual, and fandom in

general, if it and they respect them too. Actors have real interests, beyond the camera work. Often, they are as interested in talking about that, as you are about the last episode of Deep Space Nine. However, as I have stated again and again, please pay attention to what the person is saying, or their body language, and back off and give them room if they need it. I have had the chance to meet many actors, authors and others over the years, and have become friends with many. The possibility of it is there. The secret is treating them like real people.

Well, I hope this info helps, even a little bit.



Spock's CV

by Gloria and Gillian Fry

What would our Vulcan's CV be like on his application to Starfleet Academy? Perhaps something like this...

Name	Spock Xtmprsqzntwlf
Address	1701 Ambassador Court by Llangon Mountains Shikahr SH 900IQ Vulcan 40 Eridani
Comm No	40 0101 246 8
Date of Birth	18th day of Tasmeen 8870
Species	Vulcan
Marital Status	Betrothed
Education:	
Vulcan Science Academy 8877 - 8886	Surak grades - Class 1 in Mathematics, Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Biology, History, Geography, Linguistics, Logic, Computing Science, Music, Dance, Nerve Pinch, Anatomy, Mind Melding, Emotional Control, Vocal Ability, Meditation, Self Healing, Pain Management.
	T'Pol grades - Class 1 in Diplomacy, Alien Studies, Ahn Woon, Lirpa, sword, bow and arrow, spear, martial arts, knife throwing, robe making, eyebrow manipulation, speed reading,

massage, woodwork.

Diplomas for top student in each year for every discipline taught in the VSA. Special awards for formulating new theories in Euclidean Quantum Gravity, Interdimensional Anomalies and Unification of the Forces of Nature. Invented the subcutaneous transponder. Taught classes to lecturers on their own subjects.

Gained VSA 7 computer rating aged ten.

Shikahr Infant school
for children of noble
families

8873 - 8877

Prizes for Dancing 8873-8877. Class prizes for top student 8873-8877. Special distinction for Khaswan test. Designed new computer system for school. Plomeek 'n spoon race champion 8873-8877.

Skills and Interests

I play the lyrette, piano, gong, harp, drums, triangle, tambourine, violin. Gained T'Sal grades 1-97 in the lyre. Won 2nd place in the all-Vulcan music competition. Compose my own music. Sing my own compositions. Read and write scientific papers. Play 3D chess. I am currently Junior Chess Grand Master of Vulcan. Built my own home computer. Speak 36 languages, including Vulcanir, English, French, Andorian, Klingon, Mandarin, Berengarian, Russian, Swahili. Understand 20 dead languages including Egyptian hieroglyphics, Fabrini, Pre-reform Vulcanir. Expert knowledge of every computer language in the Federation. I have travelled extensively in the galaxy and have wide knowledge of many Federation cultures. I built my own ray generator and energy neutraliser. Full clean pilot's licence.

Work Experience:
Summer 8879-8886

Vulcan Science Academy

Research into T'Boring's 'Theory of Statistical Mechanics', Sock's 'Thermal Properties of Material for Desert-bred Species', T'Pau's 'Essential Diplomatic Skills for Dealing with non-Vulgans', T'Pot's 'Infusion of Herbal Concoctions', Surak's 'Emotion in a Non-emotional Species', Screem's 'Humans - the Illogical Species'.

Weekends 8879-8886

Flitter driver. Washed dishes at the Shikahr Hilton. Sales assistant in local footwear emporium.(Vulcan-made soles and uppers only)

References:

Professor Silli
Vulcan Science Academy
Street of Knowledge
Shikahr
SH MC2
VULCAN

Mr Sole
The Sandal Emporium
Walk Way
Shikahr
SH F00T
VULCAN

A MOST PECULIAR PARTNERSHIP

by Taruka Quauhtezcatl

Musing a few nights ago about the partnership between Spock and Kirk, it suddenly struck me that this exact pairing is one of the fundamental partnerships in human mythology.

Not being a psychologist I don't know exactly how true this is, but it seems that from childhood the idea of a normal human and someone with powers outside the knowledge of humanity becoming a partnership is instilled - certainly in Europe.

It often finds its release in the phenomenon of the "invisible friend" which many children have. This friend is always bigger, cleverer, and can do things the child can only dream about. In some shamanistic societies this friend is known as a "helper" and can stay all a person's life. I suppose in a way the medium's spirit guide is yet another manifestation of this idea. In the last two instances however, the partner is treated with respect.

Throughout Western mythology this idea persists. What would Aladdin be without his Genie? Or Cinderella without her Fairy Godmother? Others include Siegfried and Odette, the Firebird, and the little girl with her magical nutcracker (OK I'm wandering now but the idea's there).

Even in Hindu belief this appears - the story of Radha and Krishna, or indeed, from the Mahabharat, Ayodhya and Krishna spring to mind.

Modern society is certainly not immune to it. Among the television series of the past few decades I would ask you to consider these;

Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)/My Partner the Ghost - a rough and ready private investigator teamed with a ghost

Quantum Leap - A slightly bewildered quantum physicist teamed with a hologram

Something is Out there - a tough cop and an extraterrestrial (also seen in Alien Nation)

My Favorite Martian - A poor unsuspecting human and a Martian

Mork and Mindy - A college girl and a wacky Orkan

Bewitched - An advertising executive and a witch

I Dream of Jeannie - an astronaut and a genie.

So why is this pairing so popular? A difficult question to answer at first sight. Perhaps, certainly in several of the cases above, it gives us an opportunity to step sideways and look at ourselves from a different perspective, as indeed the pairing of Spock with Kirk does. What was the quote? "To see ourselves as others see us." There are faults, nobody is perfect and just occasionally a prod in a tender spot helps.

Often the outsider's viewpoint shows up incongruities or outright eccentricities in our society. George Francisco in Alien Nation could not understand what humans saw in alcohol, while his partner had the same problem with Newcomers and sour milk. Martin the Martian seemed to be perplexed as to why he had to keep his antennae covered at all times, and Mork just turned human values on their heads - sometimes literally. Even everybody's favourite Vulcan often finds difficulty understanding the human viewpoint;

McCOY: Does everything have to have a practical use for you? They're...nice. They're furry and soft. They make a pleasant sound.

SPOCK: So would an ermine violin, Doctor, but I see no advantage in having one. (The Trouble with Tribbles)

Or is it simply that as adults we still cling, albeit subconsciously, to that childhood ideal, and to see someone who has achieved that ideal, ie having a (to a child) omnipotent friend, only fuels that longing.

Someone suggested to me that it goes even deeper than that; that to a very young child his mother can do everything, she's there if he wants her, she gives him everything nice, and that as we begin to grow up something must fill this space. I suppose in a way that idea never goes away.

To my starting-point. James Tiberius Kirk is about as flawed a human as you'll find; he's impulsive, not a little arrogant and an inveterate skirt-chaser. Pair him with the aloof, somewhat mystical Spock, who,

besides his considerable telepathic and mental abilities, is three times stronger than Kirk - all attributes that no doubt the good captain would like - and you have something resembling the Aladdin-genie relationship of the beginning of my article.

Incidentally, the nearest this gets to a normal human and an omnipotent one teaming up is in Qpid and Q-Less where Q and Vash wander off together. But there is an unbridgeable gulf between these two ends, as most of the tales show; eventually the pairing must break.

And that, perhaps is the most telling part of them. Reality and fantasy can never live together for long.



PEACEFUL VULCANS ARE IN THE MINORITY

by Irena Hradecka

This is a comment on the article 'Klingons Rule, OK?' by Jay Stevensen. That article is really interesting and can be found in N/L 37, P 72.

To guess Trek's most popular aliens would be very difficult. I agree those could be Klingons, but I would add the word 'visible'. My opinion is that Klingons are somewhat more self-assertive, vigorous and aggressive than other races. I mean, there are Vulcans - or should I say people who like Vulcans - but they are rather shy. Maybe they are simply logical. What logic is there in showing off in PDSA shops? Or anywhere?

We could attempt to get a better idea of what alien race is most (or least) popular through the Postbag. If every member who writes to the Postbag sent just one sentence of the type, "My favourite alien race in the ST universe is..." then we could estimate quite precisely what race is the most popular and we would be sure that there are Vulcans fans although they do not 'show off'.

It is probably true that we likely see many more Klingons (or people acting like that) than Vulcans. I also think there are still

people who would not find it annoying that Vulcans are physically and intellectually on a higher level than Humans. Sure, though, there would be some who did.

Thanks to Jay, I now know why I have only a few friends. I don't lie, cheat and kill (however, if there was a reason I think I could kill) - so what could someone do with me? Also I do not count myself in with 'we' in that article; I don't understand Klingons. On the other hand, I don't understand Humans either! I believe I could understand Vulcans one day if they were the 'old and logical' Vulcans - not the 'new generation' ones. What I do not quite understand is why you, Jay, are wondering where are the Vulcans when at least half of your article looks like an advertising leaflet from the Klingon Empire wanting you to join its side. (It's just curiosity - don't get angry, please.)

Back to the matter - maybe if there was some reason for Vulcan fans to associate they would do so. This purpose could be the one that Maggie Symon, Clare Finkel, Maggy Edward and others discussed in the N/L last time - strange changes in Vulcans that not all of us approve, and wanting the 'old' Vulcans

back. I'd also like the unification of Vulcan fans since it seems to me that there are a lot of completely different opinions on Vulcans and their world. I suppose we need compromises rather than merely opposite ideas. It's unnecessary to argue among ourselves when we are of the same kind. It only helps to tear fandom apart and making it cease to exist.

One solution could be a mailing list (about which I read in N/L 37 but can't join, so for people like me it's useless). Maybe something like a Vulcan theme postbag, with the possibility of longer messages, would be a good solution, but who would organise and make it? Without someone to bring Vulcan fans into action and bring them into a 'unity' there will never be a Vulcan equivalent of the Klingon Assault Group.

From my experience, Vulcan fans don't believe they could ever match even below-average Vulcans; they underestimate themselves terribly, and I think articles of the type 'We can be worse but not better. We can be Klingons but never Vulcans' even help their underestimation and make them more shy. We surely can be better with a little bit of effort.

While writing about effort - in that article, it is said that to become a Klingon is easy. I doubt it! For a Vulcan, it would be really hard to become a Klingon. (I can't believe a Vulcan would ever be or want to be a Klingon, anyway.) Effort depends on your

nature. If you are a Vulcan by your nature, then there is little effort needed to become one, because although you deny it *you already are one!* The choice always depends on your nature. If you tend to be violent, chaotic and behave emotionally you would hardly become a Vulcan. If you tend to be peaceful, logical and helpful, you would be no Klingon - or a dead one at best.

Perhaps Vulcans fans just really need someone like Surak to show them the best way to go and the way to reach a mutual agreement. Anyway, I'm glad that discussions on the topic of Vulcans have started; it could be they will cause something important. I'd like to thank you all for your involvement in these discussions.

There could be a lot of fans who find my opinions strange. If so, don't feel reluctant to write about it. It's better to compare our opinions and think about them than let them be; and any suggestions about solving problems concerning Vulcans are more than welcome.

Finally, I have never intended to offend anyone by this article. If I have accidentally offended someone, please accept my apology.

Editor's footnote - Irena asked us to tidy up any mistakes in her English, but in fact it needed almost nothing done to it. We would like to congratulate her on her ability to write an article like this in a language that is foreign to her.



THOUGHTS ON THE PRIME DIRECTIVE

by David Raper

If a planet that would normally be classified Prime Directive is about to be destroyed, or at least rendered uninhabitable, shouldn't Starfleet do something?

In Homeward, Nikolai Rozhenko, Worf's foster brother, had to defy the Prime Directive - and Picard - to save a tiny remnant of a world's people, and sacrificed his career for it.

I agree that 'interference' in the natural development of a culture is *not* a good idea and premature contact could be disastrous, but if a world is going to be destroyed anyway, shouldn't they do something? I must admit that in that case I think the Prime Directive should have gone out of the airlock, like in Pen Pals, where the Enterprise 'interfered' to stop a planet destroying itself, without the inhabitants knowing.

The purpose of the Prime Directive is to prevent the sort of cultural contamination that could result if a primitive people were confronted with an overpoweringly advanced technological society, however benign its intentions. Saving a race from destruction by an external force over which they have no control, ie a rogue stellar fragment (The Masterpiece Society) as

opposed to their destroying themselves, especially if it can be done without their knowledge, as Nickolai sought to do, can hardly be classed as the sort of 'interference' the Prime Directive was meant to prevent, such as on Sigma Iotia II (A Piece of the Action).

Comments, anyone?



VIOLENCE AND MODERN STAR TREK

by Baerbel Schmidt

I was surprised to read that some people don't like the idea about the introduction of the Defiant. No, it doesn't contradict the Star Trek ideals! If you are surrounded by peace and harmony, yes, there is no need for weapons and warships. But also in Star Trek humanity is surrounded by less peaceful races and would be stupid indeed if it is not willing to defend itself if necessary. Here is a quote from Sci Fi Universe: *"Interestingly, Sisko makes an impassioned speech in The Maquis, which could prove defining for the young show. In it, he points out how Earth may be a paradise in the 24th century but the rest of the galaxy is not. Those words position the show in a unique way within the Roddenberry Universe. 'We were able to give a speech about how it's easy to be safe in paradise,' says Ira Behr, who wrote the episode. 'The whole Roddenberry concept was a believable idea when you are living back on Earth. We thought it was a fundamental thing to state. We are not pissing on Star Trek, it's a great view of the future, but we are on the frontier. It's not as simple as everyone behaving themselves. It's a difficult place to be.'"* I think what makes Star Trek special is the way it deals with violence. It doesn't glorify war but shows some of the many reasons why violence exists and how you should deal with it when confronted with it. Also in DS9, Sisko tries all other options before he shoots back and when he has to, he certainly doesn't enjoy it.

There is only one thing I am sure Gene Roddenberry wouldn't have liked, at least not in the form it has been introduced, the concept about the demilitarised zone and the Maquis.

What makes this topic so interesting for me is that there is no black and white here; both sides, Federation and Maquis, are neither completely right nor completely wrong. I think the key is indeed Sisko's speech in The Maquis after Admiral Necheyev's visit. Starfleet's admirals cannot really imagine the brutal reality outside their immediate reach, in the 'Wild West'. This is in a way understandable but is no excuse. I cannot understand how the Federation can decide to evacuate colonists against their will (what I would describe as kidnapping, because it is nothing else.) Or give them the alternative to leave Starfleet! Admiral Necheyev said to Sisko, talk sense into the Maquis, tell them they are still citizens of the Federation, why do they not also get the protection a citizen of the Federation is entitled to? Is it not natural that the Maquis arm themselves because they have no choice? That the Federation not even acknowledges their right to defend themselves is beyond me and another proof how out of touch with reality Starfleet's bureaucrats really are.

But of course that doesn't mean that the Maquis have the right to blow up ships and their crews only because they might have smuggled weapons. We shouldn't forget that Cardassians are also intelligent beings whose lives are no less precious than those of others. Not all Cardassians are members of the military and responsible for crimes. It is difficult to draw a line between a terrorist and a freedom fighter, but to me it seems that the Maquis try too little to use all other options before they use violence. I

understand the situation with the Maquis and sympathise with them in spite of these misgivings, but this makes this movement so dangerous. A few hotheads are sufficient to trigger a terrible war - and I am sure these hotheads also exist among the Cardassians. I understand Sisko's pessimistic view. This situation also looks to me like a bomb that can explode any moment.

But how can this situation be defused? Certainly not the way the Federation is handling it! Denying a situation and condemning all Maquis as terrorists instead

of recognising differences doesn't help and unfortunately I can't see how this is going to change. As I said, this development is interesting to me but it is also dangerous. For me the Federation and Starfleet are no longer the institutions that inspire complete respect and are certainly no longer a flawless ideal. Will Starfleet's beurocrats wake up one day and confront the problem *together* with the Maquis - as it should be? Or will the rift grow until the damage is irreversible? I hope people like Rick Berman and Michael Piller thought very carefully about this.



COMMANDER WILLIAM THOMAS RIKER

A portrait by Sandra Hunger and Gabi Stiene
translated from the German by Baerbel Schmidt

RIKER THE OFFICER

"In an attack against the Enterprise I will die with this crew. But I will not break my oath of loyalty to Starfleet." (Riker in A MATTER OF HONOUR)

"Only a fool would question Commander Riker's dedication to Starfleet and the men and women under his command. He is simply the finest officer with whom I have ever served." (Picard in PEAK PERFORMANCE)

"Riker is only a carbon copy of Kirk", "He will never be a Captain!", "An arrogant careerist and lady-killer!" We have heard these or similar negative comments about Picard's second in command often enough.

But is Riker really merely a careerist officer, nevertheless unable to get his own command, the eternal Second?

"I think you are insubordinate, arrogant, wilful, and I don't think you are a particularly good First Officer!" (Jellico in CHAIN OF COMMAND II)

At first glance you could think that there are parallels with James T. Kirk: Riker's relative youth, his success with women and his sometimes somewhat offensive-innocent

way to deal with problems could make you believe that. But "Number One" has a very independant personality and if you want to compare him with somebody, Riker is much more like Picard than like Kirk!

If you compare the character William Riker of the first episodes with the William Riker of the 4th and 5th season, you can see a difference - and not only because of his full beard.

Riker is introduced as a young, ambitious Starfleet officer. His career aims towards the ultimate goal to get the command of his own ship. This was and in a way still is the leading goal of his life, a goal for which he is prepared to subordinate other things and for which he was prepared to make personal sacrifices - meaning his relationship with Deanna Troi.

"Will, more than anything in the world, anything, you want to be a starship captain. I know you care - within those limits."

Riker is a brilliant strategist as you could see on quite a few occasions, for example in PEAK PERFORMANCE and BEST OF BOTH WORLDS. His tactical style shows a talent for improvisation and "unusual cunning" (Data in PEAK

PERFORMANCE). Riker fights the way he plays poker: unorthodox and full of tricks. He is a natural fighter who doesn't give up easily - also not when faced with overwhelming odds.

Riker loves to be in the middle of action. It is very difficult for him to accept the relative passivity of the command position. Patience is not one of Riker's strongest virtues. The aspect of a soldier is much stronger in him than for example in Picard but nevertheless Starfleet's mission of peace and exploration is Riker's reason for being in Starfleet. Like Picard, he is driven by the main motive of every explorer: curiosity.

He is also no stranger to diplomacy as for example shown in THE HOST, where he was even prepared to risk his life for the conclusion of peace negotiations.

Because he is responsible for crew matters and away teams he must not only be a good leader but also have a good knowledge of human nature. His style of command is very easygoing. He is always prepared to listen - as long as his authority is respected. What Riker can't stand is when an officer doesn't come up to a certain standard he thinks should be kept on the Enterprise. He also applies these strict guidelines to himself.

"This is the Enterprise - we set a different standard here!" (Riker to Barclay in HOLLOW PURSUITS)

You can see his impatience on those occasions when he meets Lieutenant Barclay in HOLLOW PURSUITS, Ensign Ro in the episode with that name or when he met Lieutenant Riker in SECOND CHANCES.

RIKER AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CREW

"You are the best. You trusted me, you encouraged me... and most of all, you made me laugh." (Tasha Yar in SKIN OF EVIL)

"He is a kind of brother" (Beverly Crusher in THE HOST)

"Commander Riker's easygoing manner and sense of humour are fascinating to me. I believe it to be one reason why he is so popular among the crew. It may also be partly responsible for his success in matters of love." (Data in DATA'S DAY)

During his time on the Enterprise Riker made many friends. Because of his position as First Officer which especially includes to be the intermediary between crew and captain, he has a close contact with the personnel on board.

He is openminded, easygoing and has a good sense of humour. In contrast to Picard it is easier for Riker to show emotions. These are the characteristics of Riker that are his most popular feature - it is easier for members of the crew to establish a relationship with Riker than with the captain. And these qualities enable Riker to form a bond between him and the people under his command, to gain their trust and loyalty. This loyalty is also based on their knowledge that Riker is 100 % devoted to the well being of ship and crew.

"When it comes to this ship and this crew, you are damned right that I play it safe." (Riker in BEST OF BOTH WORLDS)

Nearly all senior officers became his friends. Also the strained relationship with Data at the beginning improved in time. In ENCOUNTER AT FARPOINT he mocked him and called him "Pinocchio". He had difficulties to believe that Data achieved his rank on his own accord - but in TIME'S ARROW you could see clearly that Riker was hit very hard because of Data's possible death.

His characteristic to be a fighter and also to be aggressive if necessary combined with personal integrity and sense of honour is also the foundation of his friendship with Worf - a friendship that tells more about Riker than anything else.

Riker is the person Worf trusts - even more than the captain. In THE ICARUS FACTOR Worf asks Riker to be transferred

with him and in *THE OUTCAST* he accompanies him on a visit to a planet Picard didn't sanction. If there were a mutiny aboard the *Enterprise* one day, we would assume that Worf will be on Riker's side.

"I know you to be a brave and honourable man." (Worf in *ETHICS*)

Riker tried to understand the Klingon culture like no other before him. He participates in Worf's holodeck exercises (*WHERE SILENCE HAS LEASE*) and is the first Starfleet officer who volunteers to serve on a Klingon vessel (*A MATTER OF HONOR*). Nobody on board the *Enterprise* understands the Klingon nature better than him. Like Worf, Riker had difficulties at the beginning to understand the defensive tendency the captain has. He is an adventurer, a man who prefers to take the offensive. A reason probably is that Riker spent his childhood in Alaska's rough nature and not in the so-called civilisation. For him the unknown is not necessarily so tempting because he will gain new experiences and knowledge, but because it is a challenge for himself.

"I enjoy a challenge." (Riker in *PEAK PERFORMANCE*)

Very typical in this context is also Riker's confession why he volunteered for his service on the Klingon vessel: "Because nobody has ever done it before." (In *A MATTER OF HONOR*)

Starfleet and his dedication to his work are always his first priority. This let him decide against a permanent relation (Troi) and the possibility of having a family which would have distracted him from his goal.

Another reason for Riker's decision against a permanent relation is certainly his difficult relationship with his father (*THE ICARUS FACTOR*) and his negative experiences with family life in his childhood. The idea of having a family is even a bit frightening for him as he admits in *FUTURE IMPERFECT*: "I often wondered what kind of father I would be. I never felt quite ready.

The idea even scared me a little."

RIKER AND HIS FATHER

"Maybe I am no father and you are no son. And this fight is all we have left." (Kyle Riker in *ICARUS FACTOR*)

"...and then the wall grew up between us. Living there, you and me, the wall got bigger." (Kyle Riker in *ICARUS FACTOR*)

There is only one episode in which we learn something about Riker's family, *THE ICARUS FACTOR*. Riker hates his father. Kyle Riker is the typical example for a man who doesn't see his child in his son but somebody he has to form to become his ideal.

Riker's mother died when he was very young and with her death there no longer was a mediating force between the two men. Kyle Riker was left alone with a son he didn't understand very well. "Funny thing about being a parent. There aren't any tech manuals, no quick read-outs to get you to the next set of variables." And the young William Riker subconsciously blamed his father for the death of his beloved mother. He still carries the hate that grew from that. "...and remembering. You should have been the one to die. Not her." Both men never talked about their feelings and conflicts. They always considered each other to be rivals. As soon as possible Riker left his father and never returned. It is not surprising that their meeting on the *Enterprise* results into a conflict. And in the best tradition of people who have never learned to express their feelings in words they only see a solution in a physical contest. Afterwards they seem to have a better understanding of each other but we wouldn't see the end of *THE ICARUS FACTOR* as making peace, more as agreeing to a truce.

RIKER AND THE WOMEN

"I think you are more empathic than you admit - at least when it comes to women." (Kamala in *THE PERFECT MATE*)

Deanna in *HAVEN*: "I understand. I

should have realized Humans, young Human males particularly, have difficulty separating platonic love and physical love". Riker agrees: "The problem is, Imzadi, I couldn't, not now. Call it an old Earth tradition, habit of the beasts, whatever."

"Our feelings are what make us all human." (Riker in THE ICARUS FACTOR)

Riker seems to be the lady-killer on board of the Enterprise, following the motto "no series without a lady-killer". But we intentionally didn't use the word "is" but "seems". We have heard comments like these very often. But is it true?

No doubt, Riker is popular with women. That is not surprising because he is a handsome man (although this is a matter of taste), he is a gentleman but more important is that Riker has a sense of humour, charm and - what is most important - he has an insight into people's nature.

For us Riker's success with women enlightens the same side of his personality that makes him a passionate jazz musician, an interested cook or playing theatre (A FISTFUL OF DATAS, FRAME OF MIND).

Concerning his relationships with women, only in very few cases Riker took the initiative. Looking at the first 152 episodes we found 11 episodes in which Riker has a relationship with a woman (excluding Deanna Troi). In 6 episodes the woman took the first step and not the other way round (11001001, UP THE LONG LADDER, FIRST CONTACT, CONUNDRUM, THE PERFECT MATE, TRUE Q) and not always he took this chance. That means, he can also say "no".

Riker is certainly not a lady-killer during the relationship with Soren in THE OUTCAST; there is no thought like "I have to get her now" and it is also not a casual love affair. Soren is certainly not a woman who impresses men by her physical attributes. What attracts Riker so much to her is her intelligence, her mind.

He prefers women to be equal to men,

which he especially emphasizes in THE VENGEANCE FACTOR. This is hardly the attitude of a lady-killer. Riker's love for Soren even drives him to act against Picard's implicit order. Even if Picard didn't voice it, there is no doubt that Riker endangered his career in order to help her.

Typical love affairs we know of the cliché being a lady-killer are only the relationships in THE GAME and in ANGEL ONE. The first example shouldn't be taken too seriously: Riker was on vacation - and when even Picard "defrosts" on Risa...

Riker is a man who loves life and having fun. His easygoing character makes him more approachable towards others than most of the other men and of course he likes the sight of a beautiful woman. But is that enough to be a lady-killer?

Riker appreciates women not so much because of their looks as some people could think (considering the relatively attractive ladies he chose), more important is their personality. Riker always likes to make the point that he sees women as equals. He also has no trouble working with female colleagues without doubting their competence or trying to seduce them.

"I like one who is intelligent, sure of herself - one that I can talk with and get something back. And - the most important thing of all - she has to laugh at my jokes." (Riker in THE OUTCAST)

It is interesting that up to now (in the first 6 seasons) Riker had only affairs with people who didn't belong to his crew. It seems Riker is determined not to start a relationship with a female crew member.

RIKER AND DEANNA TROI

"I, too, could never say goodbye, Imzadi." Deanna in ENCOUNTER AT FARPOINT

"I miss you. Please don't stay away too long!" (Riker to Deanna in VIOLATIONS)

"You are a part of my life and I am a part of yours. That much will always be true." (Deanna in THE OUTCAST)

It is not easy to describe their special relationship and this topic could certainly be extensive enough to write a separate article. The relationship of Riker and Troi is very complex and is constantly changing. It evolves further - and sometimes we get the impression that Riker and Troi don't know themselves where their relationship is going.

So much is certain: They met, they fell in love, they separated because Riker felt that his career was more important (SECOND CHANCES) - and two years later they met again - as officers on the same ship.

When Will Riker and Deanna Troi meet on board of the Enterprise it is a shock for both of them. From what Deanna Troi told him with her thoughts (ENCOUNTER AT FARPOINT) we assume that their separation was very hasty. They pushed their relationship aside and never really thought about what happened. On the Enterprise they have no choice than to deal with it now. At first there seems to be no doubt that they won't continue their relationship as it was.

Their feelings for each other lead into a deep, selfless friendship which enables both of them to accept a new partner.

"If you [Devinoni Ral] could bring happiness into Deanna's life - nothing would please me more!" (Riker in THE PRIZE)

Sometimes there are also moments in which we can see that the potential for a more permanent relationship is still there. It seems they want to wait and see, not making a hasty decision again. It seems they think they have all the time they need because they are on the same ship.

For Riker, Deanna is his best friend and closest confidante. Nobody knows him better than her, nobody knows better what he feels - and also, risking the danger of sounding pathetic, she is the mirror of his feelings and his self.

"I am closer to Deanna than I have ever been to anyone." (Riker in MAN OF THE PEOPLE)

Deanna Troi's presence is certainly also an important factor why Riker refused his own command on various occasions [also our sense for romance demands this interpretation]. She is an essential part of the crew. ("I can't imagine you leaving the Enterprise!" in FUTURE IMPERFECT) and we think, he doesn't want to or cannot leave her a second time.

RIKER AND THE DILEMMA WITH HIS OWN COMMAND

"Will, you are ready to take command!" (Picard in BEST OF BOTH WORLDS)

We can only agree that Riker is more than prepared for his own command. There is no doubt about his ability. It is his declared goal, to become a Starfleet captain and in spite of that he refuses one promotion after another. Why?

He explains the refusal of the Drake with his opinion that in the long run it is more beneficial for him to continue serving on the Enterprise (ARSENAL OF FREEDOM). That means Riker doesn't want to make career moves at any cost. Even having his self-esteem Riker knows very well that he can learn more.

The second command offered to him is the Ares (THE ICARUS FACTOR). This time Riker refuses because the Ares is an unimportant ship with a long and uneventful mission. That means he hopes for a better command but we don't think he is waiting until he can command the Enterprise. But Riker has set a certain level for himself and is not prepared to go below it. Modesty is certainly not one of his virtues. He knows that he is good and makes no secret of it.

But why not the Melbourne (BEST OF BOTH WORLDS)? The Melbourne has no dubious mission, she is no unimportant ship and at this time Riker already has served three years as First Officer under Captain

Picard. Why the third refusal?

This action is in strict contrast to Riker's intended goal - why is he still on the Enterprise? Riker asks himself the same question: "What am I still doing here? I pushed myself hard to get this far. I sacrificed a lot. I always said that I wanted my own command and yet, something is holding me back. Is it wrong for me to want to stay?" (BEST OF BOTH WORLDS)

During an interview Jonathan Frakes said it would be "bad writing" to let Riker refuse command a third time. The problem was solved when the ship was destroyed. Perhaps we can agree to that solution.

Although that doesn't change the contradiction it can also be explained through Riker: This hasn't anything to do with the undiminished goal Riker had before. In a discussion with Deanna Troi Riker admits that he isn't sure what he should do. Was Commander Shelby in BEST OF BOTH WORLDS really right when she said: "If you can't make the big decisions, Commander - I suggest you make room for someone who can."

Hardly. In the same episode Riker shows that he is absolutely able to take command and put personal feelings behind when he decided to sacrifice Picard.

To be the eternal Second gives a certain security: The Captain has the main responsibility. But we are quite sure that this is not the reason why Riker is hesitating.

At the end of the third season Riker reaches a point in his life in which he is standing at a crossroads and must decide what way he should go: He must choose between the straight but lonely way to the captain's chair (the way Picard went) and the feeling of belonging to the Enterprise.

When he says "She is not the Enterprise" (BEST OF BOTH WORLDS) he also means the ship itself but much more the crew, the special atmosphere on board the Enterprise.

It is also Riker's good relationship with Picard that allows him to stay. Under Picard Riker as "Number One" has relatively much freedom how he organises his tasks. Picard trusts him absolutely. He is nearly an equal. Their relationship shows their respect, loyalty and friendship for each other. This is best shown in the episode THE OUTCAST in which Riker doesn't even receive a reprimand - everybody else probably would have got an entry into his/her records.

Sometimes their relationship looks like that of father and son. For example in THE ICARUS FACTOR Picard shows the same enthusiasms and nearly fatherly pride as Kyle Riker. Picard and Will Riker respect each other and like each other.

Under a different captain like the more authoritarian Captain Jellico (CHAIN OF COMMAND) Riker would have left the Enterprise long ago.

Riker found something on board the Enterprise that messed up his priorities. The goal to become a captain is still there but is no longer the leading objective of his life.

He found close friends and is part of a society where there is "a casual familiarity among the bridge crew but mostly this comes from a sense of teamwork and a feeling of family." (Commander Remmick in COMING OF AGE). He feels comfortable being on board, he has his place and has found a task that makes him happy and content.

Since he first boarded the Enterprise Riker has changed and evolved. "You are older, more experienced, a little more seasoned..." (Deanna Troi in BEST OF BOTH WORLDS).

He is no longer the impetuous young dare-devil who rushed easily into dangerous and risky situations. With the passing years Riker came much closer to the ideal of the mature, experienced commander. And not only that:

"You are happy here - happier than I have ever known you to be." (Deanna Troi in

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS) - but this seems to make him uncomfortable. It doesn't quite fit the picture of what he sees himself. The conclusion is the same:

"What do you want, Will Riker?"
(Deanna Troi in BEST OF BOTH WORLDS)

REFERENCES

- TNG episodes of the first 6 seasons
- OFC-Magazine Nr. 81 (Jonathan Frakes Interview)

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank Baerbel for doing

such a marvellous job with translating the text. Without her willingness to tackle this task you wouldn't be reading these lines.

Note:

This article was written in late summer of 1993. Due to this fact we haven't been able to include 7th season material which would have produced only minor aberrations, most prominently in the Riker/Troi section. Thus we decided against updating the text, since the basic characteristics of Riker remain unchanged.



MY STAR TREK

by Clare Finkel

I wish I could remember what got me so interested in ST. (20 years is a long time, and it held barren periods. I did not realize the benefits of fandom until recently.) I think Gene Roddenberry took reality, fantasized it, and addressed it in that manner. He (and Nimoy) used the alien Spock to comment on the Human condition. Reality is almost incomprehensible, but I believe there is a "center" to our Human problems. I believed OT was addressing this.

Forgive me, but I think, in ST:TMP (novel), by Gene Roddenberry, Spock is a shallow character, and the Vulcans missed the point. I strongly hope it is I who missed the point and someone can correct me. It was always the views of Roddenberry and Nimoy, that I valued. Now I feel like a turncoat.

First of all, I believe the friendships take entirely too much prominence. In OT, for a logical reason, I think Spock would have walked away from a friendship, without hesitation or regret. (Pain possibly, as any Vulcan would, but the logic would quickly quell the pain.) I agree that friendship is important, but isn't it also one of our Earthly problems? If we cared as much for strangers as we do for friends, would there be wars? ..starvation? ..etc?

That aside, in ST:TMP (novel) it was as though Spock needed a Human to teach him friendship, and that without Kirk's friendship, Spock was nothing. If t'hy'la exists, then Vulcans know friendship, perhaps deeper than Humans. Wasn't it strong, passionate, violent, "overlove" that got the Vulcans in so much trouble before logic?

I was of the understanding that Spock chose Starfleet over the Vulcan Science Academy, because he believed he could learn more as a science officer on a Starship. Now, I always believed there were also unspoken reasons; such as Spock's need to explore his Human heritage. The book suggests that his choice was a result of childhood taunting, and that Spock entered Starfleet to defy Humans to make him less Vulcan than he was. (Was that the shallow, unVulcan attitude my Spock had during the five year mission? We knew Spock had problems, but I think that and what follows is extreme.) Then, apparently this failed and he realized his shameful Human half had to be excised through Kolinar, which, to his disgrace, also failed. I counter this attitude. Recall, during the five year mission, Spock had often said that he did not wish to be a computer or to be ruled by one. Kirk had even used the notion to deliberately and necessarily insult Spock,

when he told the half-Vulcan that Sarek was a computer. Remember the spores? M5? Nomad? Also, Spock acknowledged the place of Kirk's Human intuition as a command prerogative. At times it seemed he quietly counted on it.

In OT, I believed Vulcan arrogance, unfriendliness, aloofness, etc, were all misnomers based on errors, and Spock's comments on Human frailties. Spock had good reasons for his unHuman behavior. He was different. Kirk respected, even valued the differences, possibly more than Spock, himself. There is much to learn from this.

It was my interpretation that Spock had to control his Human emotions because of their effect on his Vulcan emotions. In him, both were intertwined; therefore, they could not be separated. He also had to control the effect upon himself of the emotion he was reluctantly able to sense from others, especially if they touched him. Human emotions were more easily aroused and irrational. (Spock told his mother that Humans smile with little provocation.) On the other hand, Vulcan emotions were more deadly. I never saw Spock show more shame, or behave more irrationally, over his emotions, than he did when his pon farr was coming on him. He seemed to prefer death over having Humans see this Vulcan side of him. Yes, he valued his Vulcan way of life, but did he accept it by choice or necessity? (Both?) His Human friends often tried to get him to accept his Human half, his Human emotions. Though Spock often found Human emotions to be distasteful, I believe it was his Vulcan emotions that shamed him most, and he could not (whether he wanted to or not is irrelevant) accept his Human emotions because of the aforementioned effect they would have on his Vulcan emotions.

You can see, I am getting myself in a tangle. That is because OT Spock was a complex character. He was one whom we can learn from and think about for the rest of our lives.

It was also my OT interpretation that Vulcans valued logic and emotional control

in and of themselves, but primarily as a means to wisdom, survival, and peace, not solely as ends in themselves, as the book seems to imply.

And this seventh sense Vulcans have, that the book invented..? That Gene invented..? (They sense the oneness of everything.) It makes me jealous. On Earth, our different Faiths often give us trouble. (Some of the Faiths do not allow for the IDIC.) Maybe we on Earth have it harder than the Vulcans. My previous inspiration was: If the Vulcans can do it (make peace); then so can we.

(Catherine, 37/29) I do have stories hidden away. Not a soul but me has read a single one. However, I have recently realized, the one I was finally becoming satisfied with, not only goes against Gene R's view as I interpret in his book, it goes against my own. I am having trouble viewing events in their proper perspective. I got myself so hung up on this telepathic link between Kirk and Spock, that an important thread in my story became an argument against it. My ST doesn't argue against things, it argues for them. (Example: "Spock's Brain" argued for the equality of the sexes and cooperation, not against either sex's superiority. In fact, it was difficult to tell which sex was supposed to be superior in that episode; so, maybe it was more an argument for co-operation. Those crazy old episodes still make me think, ..and laugh.)

I never thought of Star Trek as Myth; though that seems to be what they are making it. Though the Vulcans could be unintentionally intimidating, they were never like God looking over my shoulder. Spock was vulnerable; so was Kirk. All of them were. Not to death (except for the guys in the red shirts). We always knew they would survive, but to everything else, they were vulnerable, and that was an aspect OT explored, our vulnerability. It was reality fantasized. Now (in the movies) it is bigger than reality, removed from the Human condition, and so much bigger than life, even bringing people back to life, that I am losing it.

Perhaps I expect too much from ST. They cannot find the "center" to our Human problems. Perhaps I am looking for easy solutions to our incomprehensible Earthly problems. I have changed a lot since I joined IDIC. Perhaps I can learn to view events in their proper perspective, and benefit from what ST has to offer.

Forgive me if I seem (am) preachy, and seem to think I know everything. Perhaps when I'm satisfied my story is as good as I can make it, I should submit it; then you will see that I don't. Like everyone else, I am searching.



WORDSEARCH

by

Taruka Quauhtezcatl

(You have been warned!)

There are over 65 words associated with Classic Trek, TNG or DS9 hidden in the square. Can you find them all?

You will find some letters left over which, when put in order, spell out something else from Trek. What is it?

WORDS

Akaar
Andorian
Babel
Balok
Bandi
The Best of Both Worlds
Borg
Brothers
Calamarain
Cardassian
Dathon
Dax
Deep Space Nine
Duras
Edoan
Elaan
Eminiar
Encounter at Farpoint
Ensign Ro
Enterprise
Future Imperfect
Galileo
Gem
Gorn

Gul Ducat
Haven
Iconia
Identity Crises
Ikabar
Kai Opaka
Korrd
Lal
Ligonian
Lore
Metron
Miri
Noonian Soong
Odan
Odo

Okona
Organia
Orion
Pakled
Praxis
Q
Ral
Rigel
Risa
Rishon
Rite of Ascension
Sarek
Selar
Silicon Avatar
Sisko
Tal

Targ
Time's Arrow
Toral
T'Pring
Troj
Vaal
Vash
Vendikar
Vian
Warbird
Worf
Zorn

Answer on page 93

E N T E R P R I S E B B R O T H E R S
N A A M I R I K A I O P A K A A T D I
C I C I S H S A R E R E L O R E L A L
O S U N H B A B E L G L V N R R I T I
U S D I O T R A K A A R A A O I G H C
N A L A N D O R I A N S S W O G O O O
T D U R A S D U V N I B H A V E N N N
E R G L G X A E I X A T O R A L I E A
R A O S A A N D A W O D O B I Z A N V
A C R I L D T R N B A N D I C O N I A
T H N S I T P R F T R O I R N R G A T
F P A K L E D O B A L O K D O N E R A
A R A O E I T K E N S I G N R O M A R
R R N I O S N E C S A F O E T I R M G
P B D E E P S P A C E N I N E D O A N
O B L B E L E W O R R A S E M I T L I
I D E N I T Y C R I S E S S S E L A R
N H Q G N O O S N A I N O O N E S C P
T C E F R E P M I E R U T U F R O W T

TREKOPHOBIA

by Henry Gallagher

We've all suffered it!

You're talking to a friend, Trek comes into the conversation and you know he's thinking, "Anorak!" When you tell him you're a member of some clubs, his expression doesn't change but now he's thinking, "Spanner!"

Why is people who know the difference between a Vulcan and a Klingon have a strange obsession, yet someone who knows the difference between a Vulcan and a Stealth Bomber simply has a hobby?

The media are the worst culprits. Has there ever been an article or news item that hasn't been headlined "Beam Me Up..." or "It's Life, Jim..." or one of their many variations.

A recent article I read was all about "Star Trek: the New Generation". Why do they get away with it? If the same author wrote of Coronation Avenue or said Eastenders was based in Albert Crescent I'm sure he would be forced into a career move!

There is a darker side to Trekophobia, the side which treats Trekkers not as simple loonies lacking guidance but as somehow inadequate and less worthy of respect than child molesters. A recent Mail on Sunday article (titled "It's Life, Jim" - told you!) described Trekkers as "Those pathetic, sad, lonely people", "warped and twisted fans", "demented Trekkies".

Now let's be honest. There are a few eccentrics among us, as there are in every area of life. However, do we really deserve such derision? The Star Trek vision of the future is one where we not only accept the differences between the sexes and races, but *delight* in them. Our powerful adaptability highlights that these differences are our

strength. So why is it people who choose to live according to the basic rule that we are different but equal are somehow unequal to everyone else?

Star Trek detractors would probably say, "It's just a TV programme," but it's much more than that. Its vision of the future may be very idealised but it's also just as compelling. Do we deserve to be vilified because we believe in peace? Why are we such a threat?

At the end of the Mail on Sunday article there is a whimsical piece saying the author knows Captain Kirk's middle name is Tiberius. Unfortunately for him, the photo and caption describes Scotty as "Scott 'Scotty' Montgomery"! Henry Gallagher knows the chief engineer of the Enterprise is called Montgomery Scott.



ACADEMIC TREK?

by Jay Stevenson

I remember reading in the paper some time ago about a man getting a degree by watching Coronation Street. Sounds unlikely? Maybe the papers got it wrong. But if Coronation Street, why not Star Trek? A BA(Hons) in Star Trek Studies? Doesn't that sound nice?

Impossible? Don't you believe it. Gnash your teeth all ye who have wasted three to four years slaving full time (well, in between visits to the pub and indulging in immorality) at conventional red bricks (or even hallowed and ancient grey bricks) trying to decide whether Shakespeare wrote Shakespeare or what really happened to that wretched cat. If you'd opted for Brantridge University or Knightsbridge University you could have ended up with a BA, an MA or a PhD after doing nothing more strenuous than watching all of your Star Trek videos and attending some Cons.

You've never heard of Knightsbridge or Brantridge? Where have you been, for heaven's sake? Brantridge has its HQ in Hawaii but there's a UK Administration Department in Haywards Heath. Knightsbridge is registered in Denmark and Liberia with a UK administration office in Torquay. They're accredited. You can reach them by telephone or fax. They're for real. They issue degree certificates. Brantridge will even give you one in Latin.

The Knightsbridge prospectus gets straight down to basics: you won't have to do anything as unpleasant as attending lectures or taking exams. You will be assessed on "all elements of (your) life." For example: "skills" (Switching on a video?); "knowledge" (What planet does Spock come from? How many women has Kirk made love to?); "developed abilities" (Speaking Klingon? Getting to the front of an autograph queue even though you've arrived late?). "All fields of study are recognised by Knightsbridge University except medicine". You submit your "CV or life outline" and a few words on the kind of study you want to do. Yes, it's Design Your

Own Degree time, folks.

Would they accept Star Trek? Why not? Accompanied by your cheque for £1,995 I'd be willing to bet that they'll accept anything. Your proposal of "a detailed study of Captain James T Kirk as a Twentieth Century Media Myth" or "an Evaluation of the Changing Shape of Vulcan Ears from the 1960's to the 1990's" will surely earn you a nice "signed and sealed" BA Degree certificate. An extra £300 will give Honours. £2,895 will get you a Doctorate.

Too expensive? If you really must do it on the cheap Brantridge (although they actually run their own courses in a diverse range of fascinating subjects) also realise that "you may well have enough life experience or past study credits to warrant a Degree without further study".

Does this really mean you can use all your Con attendances, Trek cruises, guided tours of Paramount, trips to Brighton to see George Takei, trips to Nottingham to the Leonard Nimoy Convention, Saturday evenings getting paralytic in Pages Bar as degree material? Why not? They're Life Experience, aren't they? Since most of you (all of you?) probably spend a large part of your free time watching/reading/thinking/talking/writing/dreaming Trek why not put it to some practical use? Providing you're willing to pay out £280 for a BA (£448 for a Doctorate) I'm sure Brantridge will send you your degree "and all other Documents required to complete the service". (The flash Latin certificate is £30 extra).

Reaching for your cheque books already? I'm not going to tell you the relevant addresses. You can jolly well find them out for yourselves. It'll be some extra Life Experience for you.

You can use it towards your PhD.



Books Bounce Back

by Neil J Barrett

The first Trek book I ever had was the first of the Blish adaptations of Classic Trek episodes; a second-hand copy of the 1972 Corgi edition. My father brought it home for me in the summer of 1976 with the telling words: "There were a few of these but I only got the one in case you didn't enjoy it..." He was of course rapidly convinced to take me back to get the rest. I still have that battered paperback and it has since been joined by 90-plus more Classic Trek books and a handful of TNG ones.

Like Jean Perrin in IDIC 37 I find that I have enjoyed most of them despite the inconsistencies which sometimes make you want to toss the book out of the nearest window, and the few downright turkeys that get through. I've been reading them for 18 and a bit years, y'see, and I'm beginning to wonder if maybe those fans who appear to despise pro novels are setting their expectations a little high. We have such established ideas of how we think the characters should behave and interact that it can be jarring when a writer doesn't seem to fit with our personal view.

Back in the seventies we didn't have videos to watch the episodes whenever we liked and for the large proportion of fans who didn't even realise that 'zines and cons existed, these novels were the only source of Trek beyond our own imaginations. Yes, there were the rather atrocious annuals but most of us would like to forget those. When looked at with the more sophisticated tastes of the nineties then many of these do creak but at the time they were state of the art.

Take the Star Trek Adventures currently available from Titan Books. You may not even have realised that these are re-issues of 70s novels; the clue is in the absence of the phrase "the new Star Trek novel" from the front cover. Although I do like the new cover art by Alister Pearson I have to agree that they are not really worth today's prices. You don't have to pay that

though. If you are prepared to spend the time rooting through market stalls and second-hand bookshops then you may be able to find previous Corgi or Bantam editions for a pound or so.

There are a couple of traits which usually point to a novel from this era. Firstly, there is the tendency to launch into technobabble, or worse, to start lecturing the reader on basic astronomy. David Gerrold's 'The Galactic Whirlpool' is an example or 'World Without End' by Joe Haldeman. This is rather a symptom of SF as a whole in that era, when many readers were youngish, male, techie types who would appreciate that sort of extra information. Nowadays it seems almost condescending.

Secondly, we have the authors who used Trek as a vehicle for their own ideas. Gordon Ecklund's 'The Starless World' is clearly related to his Nebula-winning 'If the Stars are Gods', and the Haldeman brothers appear to have used their Trek novels as testbeds for later works. This is sort of acceptable when you consider that classic episodes set the precedent - 'Arena' is based on the short story of the same name by Frederic L Brown; 'Wolf in the Fold' is a sequel to Robert Bloch's own 'Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper' and 'Slaver Weapon' is a recycling of Larry Niven's 'The Soft Weapon'.

Jean picks up on the oft-quoted problem of inconsistencies between novels and asks why the writers didn't get together and avoid them. Well, age can be a factor again. The idea of a shared universe where a number of writers collaborate within an established framework didn't really become widespread in the SF world until the middle-eighties and a lot of the Trek novels have beginnings earlier than that. Writers often weren't writing to be part of a series, they were writing for their own reasons. If they didn't know background details they invented them as necessary to complete the story. They didn't know these were going to

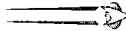
be part of the Trek phenomenon we've seen over the last few years, and unless they started out as fans (Diane Duane, AC Crispin, Howard Weinstein et al) they didn't know that there was a central repository named Richard Arnold.

Hopefully this phenomenon should disappear with more recent novels. There are definite signs that some writers are aware of each other as they borrow supporting characters and ideas to create some sort of continuity. They acknowledge each other and writers and fans occasionally appear in cameo roles - care to guess who Assistant Engineer Quarton is? If your sources are Titan editions then beware - the order of UK publication is not always the same as US publication and both may be different from the order of writing or the chronological order of the stories. This can definitely cause confusion e.g. 'My Enemy, My Ally' comes before 'The Romulan Way' and 'The Vulcan Academy Murders' comes before 'The IDIC Epidemic'.

Just to be anorakish for a moment. If

you haven't found Jean's examples of inconsistency yet then :- 1) Uhura's siblings appear in the Alan Dean Foster adaptations of animated Trek. 2) Bones is Leonard Edward McCoy courtesy of William Rotsler's 'Star Trek Biographies'. 3) The puzzling dates for Sarek and Amanda are in 'Spock's World' by Diane Duane. 4) The Australian Kyle is in 'Strangers from the Sky' by Margaret Wander Bonnanno. There are lots of others to be found but I do have two favourites which some of you might like to consider. 1) What was the fate of the Commander after 'The Enterprise Incident'? I can find 9 references to her with fates ranging from execution to becoming the Praetor! 2) Who was the Enterprise Security Chief on the original 5-year mission? There are 15 or 20 possible answers to this...

To close, I would like to back up Jean's suggestion. Keep trying the novels. Try all the different authors. If you like a particular TNG novel look for the same author in TOS and vice versa. There's an incredibly variety of styles and if you find you don't like any of them - are you sure you really like Trek?



MORE TROUBLES WITH TRILLS

by Liz Caldwell

When I saw the title of James Connarty's article "The Trouble With Trills" in N/L 35, I was delighted. At last! Someone was going to talk about all the problems that I feel are connected with the Trill. I was a little disappointed, however, when I read that James was in the 'love 'em' rather than the 'hate 'em' camp, and I felt that he skipped over what I consider to be some of the biggest 'Trill Troubles' and inconsistencies with their development.

James did point out that Odan's personality was portrayed as dominant over Riker's in The Host, but when I watch the episode I can't help but wonder about the total lack of concern that Odan seems to show for his/her/its host body, saying, "This body is just a host". I think it's the word 'just' that concerns me, giving the impression that the body has no importance or personality of

its own. I also feel that the female replacement host is portrayed as rather blank, although I admit that we don't get much chance to see her before she becomes host to Odan.

This TNG episode seems to differ from the issues discussed in the DS9 episode Dax, I can't help but wonder whether the creators of the character realised they had come up with something that people might not feel comfortable with, and wrote Dax to try and explain it all - but the ideas in Dax seem inconsistent with the way the trill come across in The Host.

I suppose one possibility could be that there are two races of Trill host - the lumpy-forehead variety and the skin-mottling variety. Jadzia, being of the skin-mottling type, is an intelligent young woman who

chooses to join with Dax (although heaven alone knows why - I'll go into that later!) The lumpy-headed hosts could be a totally different case, a blank page ready to be dominated by the symbiont - this, I feel, is the way the Trill were portrayed in *The Host*.

At a convention earlier in the year, I saw the second season DS9 episode where a male Trill comes to the station to steal Jadzia's symbiont. (This may have been shown on Sky by now, but I'm not sure.) After watching it, I felt it reinforced all my original misgivings about the Trill, which the writers of Dax had tried to smooth over. Dax's attitude of "I'm all right, Jack - too bad about Jadzia" was incredible! If I were Jadzia, I wouldn't have wanted that thing back anywhere near me! I wish they could have mentioned something about how Jadzia felt when she had Dax back inside her, knowing that the symbiont would have let her die.

I admit it's a while since I saw that

episode, so it's getting a bit hazy in my mind now, but Odan's words of "This body is *just* a host" keep coming to mind. For me, this recent episode shows that that is how Dax seems to regard Jadzia - "just a host". And also the bloke Dax is transferred into. As long as the symbiont survives, that's all he/she/it cares about. Perhaps the hosts are manipulated and deceived by the symbionts without realising it.

One last point. I do actually find the character of Jadzia Dax very unconvincing (along with most of the characters on DS9, but I won't go into that now!) I'm not sure if this is to do with the portrayal of the character by the actress, but she just does not come across to me as having the experience and depth of several lifetimes.

I'm sure a lot of people will disagree with what I've said, but we're all different - that's what IDIC is all about!



REVIEWS - BOOKS/VIDEOS ETC.



• **BALANCE OF POWER** by Dafydd ab Hugh TNG33 Pocket Books £4.70
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

On the death of Dr Zorka, his son decides to auction off all Zorka's scientific inventions, with all space-faring races invited to bid. One of the inventions is a photon pulse canon capable of punching through a starship's shields. Geordi, who knew Zorka, believes that this - and some other of the inventions - are nothing but 'vaporware', ideas that are impossible of development, but the Federation still decides to bid for it. (There is a certain quite entertaining irony at the auction - with Picard bidding for the Klingons and Worf for the Federation - and Troi for the Betazoids!)

Meanwhile, Wesley Crusher's roommate at the Academy has invented a machine capable of turning chasium into latinum - the equivalent of turning lead into gold - and gives it to a Ferengi to pay a gambling debt.

Wesley, trying to retrieve it, is captured by the Ferengi.

I'm not sure how popular this book will be, because it is basically a Wesley story, following him as he is dragged to the auction by the Ferengi who are determined to buy everything for themselves (with forged latinum), while, handicapped by Ferengi law, he must try to stop them. The other Enterprise characters play a part in the story, but a minor one compared to Wesley.

However, I quite like Wesley (despite myself) and I thoroughly enjoyed the book. For me, it's the best TNG book there has been for a while, I think partly because it's *not* 'The crew of the Enterprise (or even Wesley) saves the galaxy'. The beginning is perhaps a little confused, jumping as it does between one set of characters and another, but it doesn't take long to sort itself out.

It's a completely different kind of story

from Mr Hugh's DS9 story *Fallen Heroes*. Of it, I said, 'I'd like to see him (Mr Hugh) handling a less action-orientated... plot before forming an opinion on whether I actually like him as a writer or not'. Well, this one *is* less action-orientated, and I do like it. 8.5 out of 10.

I do wonder though why the rather nice cover features Geordi and Picard when I would say the story is primarily about Wesley! To con people into buying it?

• **THE BETTER MAN** by Howard Weinstein No 72 Pocket Books
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Eighteen years previously, a treaty allowing an observatory to be set up to observe the planetary system was negotiated between the Federation and the separationist colony planet Empyrea, whose inhabitants have 'specialised' in genetically improving their race. Now the Enterprise is assigned to take Ambassador Mark Rousseau (who as Captain of the Feynman negotiated that treaty) back to Empyrea in an attempt to get it extended; the Empyreans are wanting the Federation out.

Mark Rousseau and McCoy had been friends from childhood and served together on the Feynman, but had quarrelled at that time, McCoy transferred off, and they had not seen each other since.

At Empyrea, McCoy is greeted with the information that eighteen years previously he fathered a daughter, Anna, who is fast approaching the age when her 'defective' genes will be detected - and when they are, both she and her mother could be executed. This theme provides a secondary story.

For once we have a story where Dr McCoy gets a good 'crack of the whip' - however, I did feel the relationship between McCoy and Rousseau was very similar in many respects to that between McCoy and Treadway in *Shadows on the Sun*. The foreword indicates not, but I did find myself wondering at one point if Pocket had given both Messrs Weinstein and Friedman the

same basic story idea and left them to develop it in whatever way they wanted. (I've heard of publishers doing that.)

My main problem with the story was several references to Anna's lack of 'maternal genetic brand', round which the subplot revolved. This kept irritating me. I'm willing to accept that the Empyrean genetic tests would show up that one parent was an offworlder (a no-no by Empyrean standards) even though it was primarily designed to reveal genetic abnormalities, but since it was her *father* who was the offworlder, surely it was the *paternal* genetic brand that was going to be wrong - not missing, just wrong. A minor problem, more of a niggle, was one scene that seemed to be something of a rewrite of a scene in one of the movies; although the resolution of the scene was completely different, I felt that on the whole the incident lacked originality.

I also felt that there were one or two loosish ends that could have done with tying off, but by leaving one end, in particular, hanging loose, Mr Weinstein has left the door open for a sequel.

The characters were well drawn, though I felt once or twice that Mr Weinstein couldn't quite make up his mind about Rousseau. I did wish, too, that we could have seen a little more of the other young Empyreans we met in one chapter; only one of them (other than Anna) plays any further part.

Despite being a Kirk-Spock-McCoy relationship fan, basically I enjoyed this book; there's little in it for a Kirk fan, not much more for a Spock fan, but a great deal for McCoy fans. 8 out of 10.

• **STAR TREK: WHERE NO ONE HAS GONE BEFORE: A HISTORY IN PICTURES** by J M Dillard.

Published by Pocket Books £25

Reviewed by Sheila Clark

I was sent this as a Christmas present (thanks, Bill!).

It is the long-delayed coffee-table book

first proposed for Star Trek's 25th Anniversary, though produced now by a different team.

There is a short introduction by William Shatner; the book is dedicated to Gene Roddenberry and begins with a quotation from Gene -

"What I principally take credit for is, I surrounded myself with a group of very talented, creative individuals, from the art director, to the costume, wardrobe designer, the actors who took my "skeletons" of Spock and Kirk and really put flesh on the skeleton and made 'em work... Television sort of is the exception to the rule that a committee never created anything. The committee in this case does need leadership, but it is a group effort."

This one paragraph, I feel, gives the lie to those who claim that Gene took all the credit for the work of others.

The text is a very condensed history of Star Trek, from the idea pitched to the TV networks, through the original series, the animations, the movies, Next Generation and the first two seasons of Deep Space Nine to a short chapter introducing Voyager. There is little, if anything, in it that is new, except possibly to the very new fan, but let's face it, to cover nearly 30 years in 200 well-illustrated pages in anything other than very abbreviated form is virtually impossible; and a coffee-table book is designed to be attractive and meant to be leafed through when you have a few odd minutes; unless you know nothing about the subject, you don't really expect to learn anything much from it. If you want something to help you answer trivia questions, you would turn to the Encyclopedia, not to a book like this.

There is also a list of episodes, in production order, with their stardates.

The illustrations come in the form of photographs, most of them in colour. A lot are publicity shots and/or are ones that have been seen many times over the years; some have rarely, if ever, been seen. Several can only be described as excellent.

At £25 this book is expensive, but it's

worth it. If you haven't spent your Christmas book tokens yet (or even if you have) - get it! 10 out of 10.

• **GENERATIONS** by JM Dillard Pocket Books £9.99. Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This is the novelisation of the seventh ST movie. Since this is coming out before the movie opens in Britain, for the sake of those who don't want to know anything about the plot (apart from what has been publicised in a form impossible to miss), I won't give any details of this.

It is obvious that Dillard has added several scenes, though whether she borrowed these from the original script is of course impossible to say - for example, there are scenes including Spock, McCoy, Sulu and Uhura, none of whom appear in the movie, plus at least one scene with Kirk that I believe was filmed but ended up on the cutting room floor.

For the story to work, however, you have to forget events established in the series. I had already been told that you needed to ignore the events of Relics and All Good Things; to those I would add certain aspects of Q Who, Time's Arrow and Cause and Effect. I haven't rewatched these episodes to refresh my memory, but as I remember, things were said in them that don't completely mesh with events in Generations. It seems to me that in the interests of providing a dramatic presentation, continuity with the series was virtually ignored. There's even a king-sized breach of the Prime Directive (not that there's much the crew can do about it) with a flying saucer crashed on a pre-industrial planet.

However, considering it on its own (ie not linked to 7 seasons of TNG), the story does hold together well. Much of it is pretty downbeat (why can't they make cheerful movies?); what I can only guess was an attempt to add a little humour only makes Data look ridiculous; and bits of the whole look vaguely like rewrites of Wrath of Khan or Final Frontier. At least in the midst of all the death, loss, mayhem and destruction they rescued Spot. In a way, that is the only bright spot (pun intended) in the story.

The book includes a section of colour photos (Worf does not suit an all-white rig-out) and finishes with a 40-page 'Behind the Scenes' report by Judith & Garfield Reeves-Stevens.

I can't say I actually *enjoyed* the book; there's too much in it I don't like, theme-wise. Objectively, however, I have to say it's well-written and objectively I'd give it about 8 out of 10.

• **ALL GOOD THINGS** by Michael Jan Friedman Reviewed by Jenny Turner

I won this book in the raffle. I was really pleased as I had wanted it for some time, but was waiting for the paperback version. It was an enjoyable read; once started, you could not put it down. Picard is transferred through time in this novel, from past to future and back to the present quite a number of times. He can't understand what is happening and his crew is pretty baffled as well! I was sad to think that Picard was developing Irmodic Syndrome - I assume it is similar to Alzheimer's Disease. The jumping around that Picard did took a bit of getting used to, but I just knew that Q had to have a hand in it somewhere! Tasha Yar comes into it also, also Diana Troi's mother, bemoaning that she is not married yet. Worf starts going out with Diana, and Beverly becomes Picard's wife.

I love the coloured pictures in it - perhaps that is why it was quite expensive (£17). Picard is accused by Q of being inferior, humanity is going to be destroyed, so Picard has to save the day. I won't tell what happens, but the book is well worth the money (if you do have to buy it).

• **TO THE STARS - Autobiography of George Takei**, Star Trek's Mr Sulu Pocket Books 1994, £12.99 406 pages.
Reviewed by Edward Woo

This is the second autobiography coming from the ST crew. It's a fascinating life history and not just from a Trek view.

The early chapters describe the hardship for his parents and their forced move to the US-Japanese camps in middle

America. His father had great wisdom and passed much of this on to George.

George's early life included dogs, being Japanese in a Spanish community and his introduction to acting. He revealed that his parents were most surprising and supportive of his acting career.

George has worked with many famous actors and had many a tale to tell, including Richard Burton and Patrick Stewart at 30000 feet. If he had not been an actor, serving the public would have been his career. His ST fame both hindered and favoured public office, he revealed.

Other chapters deal with his ST career and he was open in his comments about Bill, Paramount and Harve. No doubt there are many stories he could have included, especially the Alton Towers story! I'm sure he could have doubled the size of this book, but it's a good, worthwhile read for anyone, and cheaper than Bill's second book! (George tends to give a comment about Bill quite regularly - you will soon spot it in the text.)

• **STAR TREK MOVIE MEMORIES** by William Shatner with Chris Kreski Harper Collins 1994 Reviewed by Adrienne Brown

Shatner's Movie Memories covers the making of the five classic Trek films following on almost directly from his last book. There is also a bonus, as he touches on his life immediately after the original series finished, and he devotes the last two chapters to his involvement in Generations. I was resolved to resist reading the end until after I had seen the film, but succumbed as soon as I had finished the preceding chapters. However, if you know what happens to Kirk, I don't think you will learn much more about the plot, so no Spoiler Alerts are necessary.

The book is typically Shatner, written rather as he speaks in interview - in other words, lots of ego with some engaging self deprecation and humour thrown in to make it an enjoyable and easy read. As in the first book he acknowledges tension in the Star Trek world, both between himself and some of the other actors, and he also admits to the

problems he faced with directing the Final Frontier. I suspect the Trek world is openly going to break up into pro and anti Roddenberry with more disputes over creative ownership and Roddenberry's real input, and this book suggests that his involvement had been contentious for a long time. Although Roddenberry was dead by the time Shatner wrote this there are no interviews with Majel, and those with Leonard Nimoy et al give a largely one-sided version of his input, although Richard Arnold is occasionally called in to bat for the pro-Roddenberry faction.

In contrast to the book about the TV series there are fewer personal anecdotes about life on the set; Movie Memories largely describes the off-camera politics that got the films on the screen, and there are extensive interviews with Nick Meyer, Harve Bennett and especially Nimoy. The production process for each film seemed to involve major disputes over budgets, scripts, casting, pay and Roddenberry's role and by the end of the book I concluded that to make a successful film one has to have the hide of a Gorn, as Hollywood is definitely not a place for the faint hearted. I also thought that the fans have been very lucky to get five films (albeit of varying quality) out of the massive movie machine when their creation has been so fraught. Credit is clearly due to people like Nimoy who have fought to keep true to, and continue, the Trek canon whilst making it a commercial success.

A major plus about the book is that all the material is original and there are some interesting photographs which are probably not available elsewhere. This should go without saying, but I have seen several interviews recycled through a number of other books, so at £9.99 Movie Memories is a much more valuable addition to a Trek library.

• THE NITPICKER'S GUIDE FOR CLASSIC TREKKERS by Phil Farrand Titan £7.99. Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This is what might be called a 'follow-up' book to the excellent Nitpicker's Guide for Next Generation Trekkers, except of

course it covers the original series (including the movies up to ST:VI), not something that follows TNG.

I expected this book to be as good as its predecessor, and it does have many good points, but I'm afraid this review has to be something of a Nitpicker's Guide to the Nitpicker's Guide. A lot of Mr Farrand's points I felt are quibbles rather than nitpicks; he criticises some things that were the fault of budget restrictions or SFX technology that was state of the art at the time but is now seen to be - dare I say, primitive? In addition, under the heading 'Changed Premises' he falls, in places, into the trap of comparing something in an episode with what came *later* - for example, in the first season Errand of Mercy, he quotes two changed premises; one comparing a scene here with one in TNG's Hide & Q, the other referring to third season Savage Curtain. Sorry, Phil, Errand of Mercy came first - *it* didn't change any premises.

Under continuity and production problems he pinpoints the reuse of shots or props from earlier episodes. Well, of course they reused shots and props - our friend budget restrictions rears its head again, and anyway, the production staff never expected the show to be dissected frame by frame 25+ years later! In other places he misses out points that even I - who do not watch Trek with a view to recording criticism - have spotted. In Enemy Within he has even missed an editing mistake that Janet thinks is the worst goof in all of Trek's nearly 30 years.

He lists syndication cuts (for America), mentioning several episodes that were not cut at all for syndication, and also that some of the supposedly uncut versions he obtained from Paramount did show cuts in scenes that the syndicated version showed more fully!

He has also managed to pick out at least one 'mistake' that isn't - in Shore Leave, he says Angela Martine didn't reappear at the end. In fact, she did, albeit very briefly. Blink and you miss her. I'm left with the feeling that he rushed this book to cash in on the success of the first one.

However, as I said, despite all of the

above, there is a lot that is good in the book. 7 out of 10.

• **THE NITPICKERS GUIDE FOR CLASSIC TREKKERS** by Phil Farrand Titan Books Reviewed by Edward Woo

This is a companion book to the TNG Nitpickers Guide published earlier this year, based on similar lines and format, covering the original 79 episodes, the pilot and 6 films. Scattered throughout the book are articles written by the author, on the Prime Directive, Starfleet militarism, the Captaincy Test, etc, plus the usual Trek trivia quiz for fans to enjoy. The episodes/films are described, including syndication cuts and closing stills.

Well worth £7.99 alongside the NG one. It's a suitable present for any fan.

At least this time I have noticed the Enterprise, Klingon and Romulan ships are travelling upside down on the front cover!

Some of the errors are *really* nitpicking, but delightful, so I will be using my VCR to look for them - and log any new ones!

• **STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION ANNUAL No 5** Publisher DC Comics
Writer: Howard Weinstein; Artist: Rachel Ketchum. Reviewed by Alan Stephen.

I've enjoyed the DC Comics annuals and specials, feeling that they can concentrate on characters and events that the TV show couldn't. Unfortunately this issue reads like a TV episode and a bad one at that. Give it a miss.

• **LEONARD NIMOY'S PRIMORTALS**
Publisher Tekno Comix
Reviewed by Alan Stephen

I'm unsure of Leonard Nimoy's actual involvement with this comic. I think he met the late Isaac Asimov for coffee, and they came out with the idea, which is that in our past, spacefarers came to our planet and left with animal species which they evolved into intelligent creatures. They are now returning to Earth. In execution by Kate Worley and Laurence Watt-Evans working from the

Nimoy/Asimov concept, this comic is just plain daft.

• **ST:TNG Vol. 38: THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS II/FAMILY**
Reviewed by Leslie Moyes

The Best of Both Worlds. As an opening to the 4th season of TNG videos, this episode has everything Star Trek should be about. It has action, humour, mind-blowing special effects, work that could rival any blockbuster movie, a classic villain (Locutus), played with chilling precision by Patrick Stewart - a villain in the Darth Vader mould. You could also compare him to Pinhead in the Hellraiser movies as the costume looks slightly similar. There is a short recap of the story as this is the second half of a two-parter. Answering a distress call from a Starbase, the Enterprise arrives too late, as the Base has been scooped up from the face of the planet; it recruits an expert on the Borg, Commander Shelby, who confirms that it is the work of the Borg. The ship then runs into confrontations with the deadly cyborgs who are now after Captain Picard, and after a cat and mouse chase around a nebula, they finally get Picard and convert him into one of them. Picard (now known as Locutus of Borg) demands they escort the Borg to Earth so that they can convert the entire human race, but the Enterprise decides to open fire on the Borg ship.

This is the continuation of that story. If there are some fans who are unfamiliar with it - on this one you can look out for such great set pieces as the opening nail-biting confrontation with Locutus, the aftermath of Wolf 359, the battle to save Picard from the clutches of the Borg, the destruction of the Borg ship, slightly reminiscent of the destruction of the Death Star in Star Wars, but on a similar scale, and the chilling final scene of an emotionally scarred Picard looking out of the observation window. It is a pity we never met Shelby again as she is one of the best characters in the 7 years' history of the series. 10 out of 10.

Family. This episode follows on from the events of its predecessor. Picard, recovering from his experience with the

Borg, decides to visit his family on Earth to help him recover more fully. Meanwhile the Enterprise is undergoing repairs at the McKinley Space Station so it does seem an opportune moment for the crew to have some much-needed shore leave and reunite with their families. One crew-member who has a problem with this is Worf, who cannot bear the fact that his adoptive parents are coming aboard to see him, and will stop at nothing to avoid meeting them. Michael Dorn gives a more gentle performance than usual and gives us more depth to the character - one of the best stories he has done. Bad news for all Brent Spiner fans - Data has apparently gone AWOL for the entire episode, the only one in the show's history in which he does not appear (but never mind, you get 3 Brents for the price of one in the next episode!)

This is also one of Patrick's finest performances and I defy anyone not to have a tear in his/her eye or a lump in the throat when he tells his brother (played brilliantly by Jeremy Kemp) about his experience. Special mention should also go to Samantha Eggar who put in a very sympathetic performance as Picard's sister-in law.

We also learn more about the Crusher family and meet Jack as a hologram he left to guide Wesley in later life. All in all, a very powerful and emotional episode, definitely one of the finest. 10 out of 10.

• **THE 25 YEAR MISSION LIVE** Nimoy and Shatner videoed live on stage at a convention in the USA. Merlin Home Entertainment, MER1008, 60 minutes £10.99. Reviewed by Roberta Martin

This is a video with Lenard Nimoy and William Shatner both reminiscing mainly about their past, at the time of the making of the original Star Trek series. Firstly, they arrive on stage and introduce each other to a large enthusiastic audience. After the introductions, they decide to talk to the audience alone on stage for five minutes each. The rest of the video, consists of them both on stage together. They talk and joke about their time and work on the original series quite candidly, along with a few stories

and incidents, which occurred both off-set and on-set and how it affected them. Fans will be familiar with a lot of the stories. For example, there is the bicycle story and the snoring stuntman. However this should not put anybody off, for on the whole, it is very amusing and warm and both of them appear to be in tune with each other and the audience. One very amusing bit, is when Lenard Nimoy reads a letter out. He says he buried this letter about Star Trek 25 years ago, and has only just dug up from his garden to read out that day. There is plenty of humorous conversation between themselves throughout, with some nice touches of their friendship. Also there is the novelty of seeing them both on stage together at a convention, even if it is only on a video, for the benefit of those of us who could not be there to share in it. Another nice feature, is the audience participation. Shatner and Nimoy both laugh a lot and appear to be enjoying themselves as much as the audience. The conversation eventually moves on their favourite episodes and there are no prizes for guessing Nimoy's initial answer to Shatner's question! I found this video very watchable and entertaining and I would recommend it. However do remember to shop around for it, if you want to buy it, as one large store I went into was charging £11.99.

• **STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION SPECIAL COLLECTORS EDITION** CIC £17.99 (at Virgin anyway)

Reviewed by Stephen Daniels

This is a rather fine looking cassette, in the same format as the DS9 special edition. The box is a sophisticated matte black, and the TNG title is in metallic copper & silver. On the front is a picture (albeit a somewhat blurred one, as it is a screen capture from the episode) of the refitted-three-engined-gunned-to-the-hilt Enterprise D.

It starts (and ends) with a trailer for Generations, then the UNCUT version of All Good Things..., which in my opinion they made a first class job of. An excellent high note to leave the series on.

After the episode is a 45min behind the

scenes at TNG hosted by Jonathan Frakes. Despite being called Journeys' End, it's a behind the scenes at the shooting of All Good Things... and Generations. It features all the cast talking about their characters; Marina sounds completely different from Troi! Frakes takes us round the sets, and we are shown how some of the props and SFX are done. The producers also chip in, especially Berman and Jeri Taylor. There is one rather nauseating section where Frakes drops in, unannounced, at a con in the US, and strolls round the dealers' room quite the thing! Other things covered are the design of costumes and makeup, and Marina conducting Dennis McCarthy's orchestra!!

The cassette ends with the trailers for All Good Things..., Star Trek: Generations, and the other six films (in fact it was given a PG rating because of these trailers).

Was it worth the £17.99? Oh... I suppose.

• **KLINGON WARS** (Atari ST, Public Domain- available from ASCIILUM PDL, 34 Earleswood Gardens, Clayhall, Ilford, Essex, IG5 0DF for £1.25).

Reviewed by Adrian Thompson.

Considering that this game is almost free, it has a lot going for it - great graphics, good sound effects, and presentation on a par with the late, unlamented 'Firebird' Star Trek game of the mid-eighties. Unfortunately, it is also extremely difficult, and ultimately boring - worth getting, though, for the graphics alone - I don't know what Paramount would think of it though!

• **STAR TREK - 25TH ANNIVERSARY DISK MAG** (for the Atari ST - also public domain, also available from ASCIILUM - £1.25). Reviewed by Adrian Thompson.

Interesting stuff - a mix of interviews taken from various sources and a series of not especially good digitised screen shots. The interview, and the other text are worth reading, if you haven't got the magazines they were originally taken from, and it's well worth the paltry £1.25, if only to play 'spot the source'!

• **NOVA** (Atari ST, from ASCIILUM)

Reviewed by Adrian Thompson.

Another Trek disk mag - better graphics, and some more original text make this a better bet for the rabid trekker than other similar products - still not as good as a decent 'zine, though!

• **'TASHA YAR'** model kit (1:12 scale, available from Comet Miniatures, 48 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5RH - £15+£3 p&p in the U.K)

Reviewed by Adrian Thompson.

Comet have been advertising this Tasha figure, along with an excellent photo of a made-up kit, in various modelling mags recently - it's made of GRP (glass fibre), so isn't for beginners, but it certainly looks like a better likeness than the horrible ERTL 'Classic Trek' figures - not so impressive as the much larger Geometric Nxt Gen. figures, but then you can't get Tasha in that range (yet!) - it's also a lot cheaper!)

• **THE DRAGON WAITING** by John M Ford Reviewed by Lesley Arrowsmith

Trek fans are most familiar with John M Ford's two excellent novels, How much for Just the Planet? and The Final Reflection. He has also written fantasy novels, the highly acclaimed The Dragon Waiting among them.

In it, John M Ford approaches the standard Celtic/alternate history from an unusual angle. This is a universe where Christianity is one among many religions (Westminster Abbey becomes the Pantheon) and the Byzantine Empire still holds sway in the west at the time of Richard II. There is also, of course, magic.

I particularly enjoyed two things - an intriguing twist to the story of the Princes in the Tower (which I will not reveal) and that part of the action which takes place around Llangors, which is near to where I now live. He even gets the legend of the lake there right.

Each of the three main characters have their own introductory story, followed by a

murder mystery in the Swiss Alps which brings them together. After that the action mostly takes place in Britain. It would not be giving too much away to say there are also vampires.

Although fairly gory in places, I thoroughly enjoyed the book, and recommend it to anyone who enjoyed John M Ford's Trek novels, or indeed J M Dillard's Bloodthirst.



ZINE REVIEWS

• TANTALUS 5

reviewed by Anne-Marie Flowers

According to Orion Press, the Tantalus zine series features the darker side of ST with an emphasis on pain, death and grief and some alternate universe fiction. Odd numbered zines are TNG, even numbers are OT.

Both Sides of the Mirror by BEKI is the longest and most complicated story and stars Riker as he crosses over to the parallel universe seen in the CT episode Mirror Mirror. The Commander finds himself surrounded by enemies. Beverly has been systematically poisoning him and although Troi is still his Imzadi she cannot be trusted. Meanwhile, in our universe, Beverly is told how an alternate Picard murdered her husband and arranged for Riker to kill her son, and Ro is shocked by Riker's ability to release her 'procreant hormone' - a scene which would indicate that this story is set before Conundrum.

This story is very well paced and the characterisation is spot on. The Mirror universe bears a striking similarity to that seen in Diane Duane's novel Dark Mirror, which only goes to show that great minds think alike in fandom.

Gifts of Love and Light by Brenda Shaffer is a much shorter story featuring a missing scene from Final Mission. Picard is dying and while Wesley is looking for water, Jack Crusher comes to visit his oldest and dearest friend. Jean-Luc is ready to go with him but Jack convinces him that he must stay alive because there are people who need him. I loved this poignant story, but then I'm a sucker for Jean-Luc.

Prisoners of Protocol by Cyndi Bayless Overstreet is a story of political intrigue and the Prime Directive in which both Riker and Data get the chance to prove they are 'fully functional'. Overstreet has a nice easy style and her genuine affection and respect for Data are well illustrated here.

Bleeding Heart by Ambassador & Showers. Q wants to break Picard and pierce his soul so he disguises himself as a miraculously resurrected Jack Crusher and watches Jean-Luc, Wes and Beverly suffer. Troi has him sussed though.

Power Play by Mindi French is another AU story which is so skilfully written that the reader is not sure whose side to be on - Riker's or Picard's. Contains some 'adult' scenes.

A Time to Heal by D J Nicholson. Jean-Luc is seriously injured and blinded in a shuttle accident. As Beverly struggles to keep him alive he reveals his guilt over the death of his sister.

Playthings of the Mind by Janna Stockinger. This is another long story and I must say it was probably my least favourite. Set in the first season, the Enterprise crew encounters an alien mind which transports most of the bridge crew to a place where thought becomes a very warped reality. Tasha is back on her home planet, Riker and Worf are killed in battle and Troi blames the Captain. Meanwhile Beverly and Jean-Luc stand over Jack's coffin. Data has to figure out a way to get everyone back to reality. This story seemed to draw heavily on themes seen in Where No Man Has Gone Before and I felt the whole thing a bit unsatisfactory.

If you've never read H/C before, Tantalus 5 is a good place to start especially if you're a fan of Picard and Riker. I give it 7 out of 10.

150 A4 pages containing 7 hurt/comfort stories. Orion Press, \$13.75 + P&P.

ZINE ADS

You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. We reserve the right to edit for length. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update. Each advert has the date of the newsletter it was last updated with.

UK Price includes postage. Rest of Europe add £0.50 per zine.

IDIC/ScoTpress (2/95) @ = new title

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THE CRACK IN THE MIRROR by Sheila Clark - Set in the Mirror, Mirror universe, the story follows James Kirk's career from when he joins the Enterprise as First Officer to Captain Pike to a little after his return from 'our' universe. UK £2.50

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ATTUCLAC by David Gomm;
CAPRICCIO ITALIEN by Sue Jones;
CHOSEN BROTHER by Gloria Fry;
KINDRED SPIRIT by Gloria Fry;
LOVELY - A LITTLE PROBLEM by Brenda Kelsey; **ORCADIA** by Joyce Devlin; **RETURN TO THE SOURCE** by Nicole Comtet; **ENTERPRISE-LOG ENTRIES 82, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89; IDIC LOG 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15.**
STAR TREK CREDITS - a listing of the Classic Trek credits by Janet Quarton £1.50; **A CITY WITHOUT WALLS** by Alinda Alain £2; **GZAZARA** by Alinda Alain £2; **ESSAYS OF AQUARIUS** by Marion van der Voort £3.00. This one is not Star Trek but there are many similarities
TNG - MAKE IT SO 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; IDIC LOG 14.

@MAKE IT SO 23 - An old friend of Picard's thinks Jack Crusher is still alive and Wesley just a baby; four new crewmembers turn out to be more than the crew bargained for; an Admiral discovers that Data has routinely been assigned to working 24 hours out of 24 on all his previous ships; a new crew member has dreams; Deanna is kidnapped; two stories featuring Spot. £2.50

MAKE IT SO 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 - A5 format. U.K. £2.50 each inc. p&p. No. 16 sold out.

Order from Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. Visa/Access/Mastercard accepted. Foreign prices: Europe, add 50p per zine for A5 titles, £1 per zine for the others; Australia/Japan write to Sheila for prices, enclosing an SAE + IRC. We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Send submissions of TNG & DS9 material to Sheila Clark, (address above) and Classic Trek material to Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.

BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY (2/95)

For postage, add up the weight of the zines you want then check the postage below.

Postage rates - surface 0 - 2 lbs, \$7; \$2.35 for each additional pound; airmail (except France) 0 - 1lb \$9.50; 1.1lb - 5 lbs \$5.26 per pound; over 5lbs, \$4.25 per pound. Add insurance, up to \$50, \$1.60; \$51 - \$100, \$2.40; \$101 - \$200, \$3.50.

Prices quoted are for UK/European readers; US/Canada readers should SASE Peg and Bill for proper US pricing. We are authorised to reprint the following UK presses for US readers: ScoTpress/IDIC, Deep Dark Press, Gloria Fry, Kay Stagg, Janet Ellicott, Linda Wood, BSFR, PPPress (all of their zines have been turned over solely to us for publishing). We are also US agent for Horizon, the B&B Appreciation Society and Judith Proctor.

CONTACT - authorised reprints of one of the original (and ultimate) Kirk-Spock hurt/comfort fanzines series are now available. Although not slash, many people feel it comes close at times, and some issues did originally require an age statement when they were first published. Most of the contents deal with a strong bond of friendship between Kirk and Spock. No 1 - \$15 + 7oz; 2 - 4 \$20 each + 12oz; 5/6 (incl Home is the Hunter) \$30 + 2 lbs; 7, 8, Christmas2, \$25 each + 1.25 lbs; a few originals of Christmas1 for \$16 each + 8oz, plus some Home is the Hunter without the

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WAY OF THE WARRIOR 1 - 4 \$18 + 1LB; **5, 6** \$20 + 1lb; **7** \$20 + 1lb. An A/U story - a young Jim Kirk is marked for death by his homicidal brother and his father hires the best protection in the business - Spock; and loads more. All K/S fanzines from Firetrine Press.

GENERATION D \$11 + 8oz, 100 pages. Geordi's got a problem that only Noonian Soong can help him with - problem is that Soong's dead... and so is Data; Riker encounters a ghost from his past; Moriarty has kidnapped Picard and it's up to Data as... the game is afoot.

DATA ENTRIES 21 - 25 \$1.50 + 3oz each.

Filled with tidbits on Brent/fiction about Data. Back issues available - 1 - 4, \$1 each, 5 - 12, 15 - 25, \$1.50 each, 13/14 \$3, plus postage. **HEART OF GLORY** \$8 + 8oz, an all-Klingon zine from Soong's Folly Press

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All available from Sue Embury, Lower Bailea, Tregare, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4JL.

ZINES by Kay Stagg (12/94)

Genzines - Kirk/Spock orientated hurt/comfort. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to Kay Stagg and send orders to 33 Barrack Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6RU. Postage and packing included in the price (second class). Please ask for price if ordering from Europe ... include an I.R.C.

NEW ZINE - LIFELINE; GATHERING STORMS; THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE; THE SILENT CRY; A MAJOR CRISIS WITH THE URSUS MAJOR MINERS. 138 pages, U.K. £4.80 inc P & P.

LEGENDS - stories by Waltraud Zuchaglass and Jennifer Cobbing. 93 pages, U.K. £4 inc P & P.

Still available: **SECOND CHANGE/A COLD BY ANY OTHER NAME** (Previously appeared in Stargate and Stargate II) 75 pages £3.50. **TROUBLES REVISITED/THE RIFT/ JUSTICE SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE DONE** (previously appeared in Stargate III and Enterprise Log Entries 61 (ScoTpress)) 95 pages, £3.75. **FREEDOM** - full length story 167 pages £5. **TOO MANY AVENUES** - full length story £5.25. **IN PERSPECTIVE** - full length story 177 pages £5.25.

For other items, ie pens, pencils, notebooks, bookmarks, etc, please send SAE for information. I have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell these zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Merry Men Press (2/95)

FIRST TIME zines contain K/S stories, art and poetry. Age statement required.

FIRST TIME is always on time. All inquiries

and orders are promptly filled, no-one's left to hang on the line. SAE (addressed envelope and 2 IRCs) for more info. Please send for flyers if you want to order older zines as not all of them have the interior art reproduced. **FIRST TIME 1 - 41** available. **WITHIN THE MIRROR 1 - 9** - an all mirror-related K/S zine, series and movie. Full of first time stories, and on time. **BESIDE MYSELF 1 - 3** - well-illustrated K/S zines exclusively written by Robin Hood and her assorted pen names. **SCATTERED STARS 1 - 7** - an alternate universe K/S fanzine where wild imagination and first time plots collide. **PLAYFELLOWS 1 - 7 - MULTIMEDIA 'V'** If you know what slash is, you don't need any more words. New novel, **WHERE ANGELS FEAR** by Pandora Guy); **HEARTS OF FIRE** a K/S novel by Elizabeth Scott - an intriguing mystery, and lots and lots of love. **SHARING THE SUNLIGHT** - K/S novel by Jenna Sinclair. 200 pages Plot, love and Trek. What else can you ask for? **GAMBIT**, a Mirror/'our' universe K/S novel by Kay Wells. **FETISH** - a K/S novel by Jenny Starr. Winner of 1988 Best Novel. **PORTRAITS** - A K/S novel by Charlotte Frost. Prices for all zines are \$20.00 US, \$22.00 Canada, \$26.00 foreign. US currency only please. We are also looking for quality submissions of prose and art. Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Rd, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA.

Gloria Fry (12/94)

New: **SHADOWS OF THE MIRROR** - (A mirror universe crossover novel taking place immediately after the events of 'Mirror Mirror.') Federation - Concern mounts as the region of space around Halka shows signs of instability, and members of the landing party have difficulties in coming to terms with their experiences in the mirror universe. Empire - Kirk, after a purge against all who oppose him, is unable to resist an opportunity for vengeance on his and Spock's counterparts. He embarks on actions which alter the course of the Empire and his relationship with his First Officer forever. A4 format. 124 pages. Price UK. £6.00 (incl P & P). Europe - £7 (or £5 + 5 IRC's). Sterling only. **SLAVEWORLD** - A Novel. On an alien planet where the humanoid population are subjugated by vulcanoids, Kirk is

captured by slave-traders and sold to a brutal owner. Spock disguises himself as a member of the ruling class in an attempt to rescue his captain. **WARNING - ALTHOUGH THIS ZINE IS NOT EXPLICIT, IT CONTAINS ADULT THEMES. ONLY SUITABLE FOR READERS OVER 16.** 2nd printing. A4 Format. Price - U.K £5. Europe £5 + 3 IRC's. Sterling only.

Both 'zines illustrated by Maggie Symon and Raymond Sless. Available from Gloria Fry, 16 Frankfort St. Glasgow G41 3XG Scotland. I have authorised Bill Hupe to sell my zines in the U.S.

VILLAGE PRESS (12/94)

IN THE WILDERNESS 4 - Risk, danger, humour and passion! Why do the alien Susurra people demand a life, and why does Kirk grant it? Why does the arrival of the youth David and his mentor Dr. Moss raise such a storm of feeling? How does Vulcan fidelity cope when faced with Vulcan duty? Plus "There are Always Alternatives", the Ultimate in Multiple Choice; and "Not Passion's Slave", McCoy and Spock are again in the tense world of "Choice and Chance and Change" (Sequel to ITW2). High quality stories by Daniels, Stuart, Carnall, Roe and Sarne. Beautiful art by Graves, Parnes (full colour) and Ann. Price: UK £7.00, USA \$23.00, Canada £10.00, Australia £10.50, Europe £9.00. (inc overseas airmail and p&ep). Please make cheques payable to Rosemary Wild (not Village Press, new bank regs.) Dollar cheques accepted.

IN THE WILDERNESS 3 is temporarily out of print.

IN THE WILDERNESS 2 - Spock falls foul of xenophobic Dr. Quail; Lt. Spock faces Command Training; Strange desert encounters on Vulcan; Sarek loses control! A densely packed read! Quality writing by Rowes, Stuart, Daniels, Carnall and Forrest. Price as ITW4..

IN THE WILDERNESS 1 - Highly original writing from some of fandom's best talents. Stories by Resch, Daniels, Stuart, Stallings and Ferris, Gates, Rowes and others. Prices as ITW4.

THE EXTREMISTS a novel by Eva Stuart. The Klingon Peace has been signed. The Enterprise and Ahraax must prove that they can work together. Follow their crews

through danger, deception, dinosaurs and the conga as they battle to keep the peace. Prices as ITW4.

All zines contain the K/S premise. For new readers; an age statement please plus a note that you understand the premise.

ITW 5 is now looking for stories. No restrictions. I'm looking for:- Risk, danger, humour and passion! Very gentle ed. Please say whether you wish comments or a yes/no decision without comment.

Mrs. Rosemary Wild, 'Cwm Croesor', Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hants.

2/95

GROPE - In the 70s and early 80s the GROPE series was probably the best known adult Trekzine in the UK and also enjoyed a strong following in the USA. The following issues are available.

GROPE FLASHBACK (reprints from GROPE & MORE GROPE) £1.50

DEEP GROPE (1977) £1.50

BEDSIDE GROPE (1981) Free for postage (75p in UK stamps)

GRAVESIDE GROPE (1983) £2.00

Also, a few copies of **SON OF GROPE** (1977) £1.50, **KING GROPE** (1978) £2.

From: Ann Looker, 12 Russell St., Swansea W. Glamorgan SA1 4HR. (Not for under 18s. Age statement please when ordering)

Orion Press (12/94)

Many zines available. Prices given are for Europe. New - Dinner At Ten Forward. TNG novella by Anne Davenport, \$21; Number One II, stories about Riker, \$19.50; Tantalus 7 (TNG short stories) \$19.25; The Inheritor, TNG novella by Cyndi Bayless Overstreet, \$16.75; The Shadow Keeper, TNG novella by Gail Christison \$19.50. Randall Landers, 3211 Saddleleaf Ave, Albany, Georgia 31707-2952, USA.

2/95

FREE ALNITAH - Another golden oldie and winner of "Best UK Trek Fanzine" award on several occasions in the 70s and early 80s. ALNITAH is a general Trek fiction zine with high quality printing and good illustrations. It is available for postage only (75p in UK stamps) from: Joyce Cluett, "Antilath", 40 Lordsfield Gardens, Overton, Basingstoke, Hants RG25 3EW. Availability of any

particular issue cannot be guaranteed as early ALNITAHs are long out of print (NB The house name is not a misprint - just a private joke!) Send SAE to Joyce for full info on availability and prices.

Zinesby Pat Mitchell (2/95)

BROTHER'S KEEPER: A hurt/comfort genzine featuring Kirk and Spock. UK price £4.50.

MOMENTS IN TIME: An adult TNG zine of short stories set around the aired episodes. UK price £5.50.

The following zines are all 'slash' and require an age statement and confirmation that you understand and accept the '/' premise.

GEMINI - THE FLAME AND THE FIRE: The K/S sequel to Brother's Keeper. UK Price £6.00.

A TOUCH OF TISH: An anthology of new and reprinted K/S short stories, all by Tish. UK price £9.00.

PROMISES, PROMISES: A B/D short story zine based on The Professionals. UK price £10.00.

All prices include p&p. Foreign enquiries please send self addressed envelope plus IRC for price. All zines available from Bill Hupe in the USA. Make cheques payable to Pat Mitchell and send orders to: 38 Ashbourne Grove, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 4JU, England.

SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM (12/94)

A bi-monthly Visual Media newsletter edited by Bjo Trimble. It is full of news and well worth having. Subscription Rates for 6 issues: USA \$10 Bulk mail, \$15 First Class. Make cheques/money orders payable to: Bjo Trimble. Bjo Trimble, P.O. Box 6858, Kingswood, TX 77325-6858 USA.

Foreign subscriptions: Contact the Subscription Agent nearest to you for local rates before writing to the U.S. address.

Canada: Star Trek Association of Regina, POB 36007, Regina, Sask, S4S 7HG Canada.

United Kingdom £8/6 issues. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Homerton, London E9 6RN.

Europe: Antje Freudenberger, Scharnebecker Weg 5, 2126 Adendorf, Germany

Australia: Shayne McCormack 49 Orchard Road, Bass Hill, NSW 2197, Australia.

Orient: Masako Noguchi, 1-9-1 1006 Chikko

Minato-ku, Osaka 552, Japan.

Brenda Callagher (12/94)

AIRWAVES: a computer printed multi-media zine, over 34 issues available. Submissions wanted for future issues, no limits to length but no "/" please. Cross-overs and/or spoofs especially welcome. PCW (3" - 180k or 3.5" 720k) users can submit their work on disk to save postage. Compatible with PC's (except Amiga) using MSDOS on 3.5" (720K) but please use ASCII for documents. PC's using 3.5" 1.44Mb drives can use 720k discs, if you don't have one to hand and wish to submit your work on disk, please drop me a line and I will supply a 720k disk. Disks will be sent back by return of post, manuscripts if requested. SAE (2 IRC's) 10 page comprehensive flyer to: Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

2/95

K/S Zines - various. Including Kismet I, an anthology of K/S stories. £16. Also - slash Hooker/Corrigan stories. A Touch of Blue £7, Blue Heat £7. All prices include p/p. Make cheques payable to Mrs Barbara Grainger. SAE for lists. Mrs Babs Grainger, 268A High Street, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1OZ.

Vampyric Press (12/94)

STARGAZERS needs fiction, artwork and articles. TNG, DS9, CT and Babylon 5, but no K/S please. I'm also looking for stories about the adventures of other Starfleet crews. Please note: Stargazers is intended for readers over 18. An SAE (or an IRC) with your submission would be appreciated. Eunice Pearson, 2 New Houses, Pant, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, Wales CF48 2AB.

TrekDistribution (2/95)

A TNG/DS9 Amiga disk-based zine with parodies, serious stories, poems, spec scripts as well as huge amounts of information.

Disks 1 + 2 include fan produced stories, poems and even detailed information on warp capabilities. **Disks 3 + 4** include information on every TNG/DS9 subject from when Odo morphs to season lists. Disks are £1.50 each or £5 for the 4, available from TrekDistribution, 57 Wentworth Avenue,

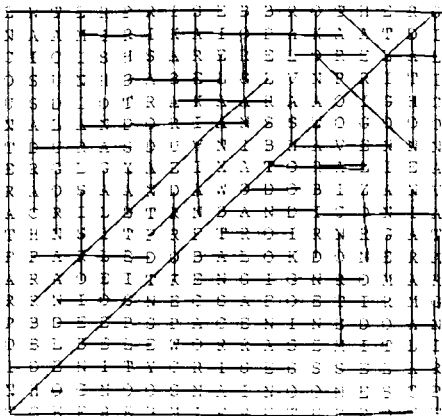
Bournemouth, Dorset BH5 2EH. Please make cheques payable to Matthew Deegan.

Dr Who Zines (2/95)

Children of Darkness 69 pages £1.50 incl. p&p. Write to: Fiona C Fletcher, 48 Nethershot Road, Prestonpans, East Lothian EH32 9AW.

BLUE JAY PRESS (2/95)

ENIGMA - Multi-media genzines. **No 7**, Z Cars, Captain Scarlet, Incredible Hulk; **No 8**, Tales of the Unexpected, Dr Who, Knight Rider, Captain Scarlet, Incredible Hulk, Professionals; **No 9**, Sherlock Holmes, Emergency, The Quest, Star Trek, Battlestar Galactica, Captain Scarlet; **No 11**, Laramie, North and South, Buck Rogers, V, Blakes 7; **No 12**, Secret Army, Robin of Sherwood, Mad Max, V; **No 13**, Ace of Wands, Elfquest, The A Team, Battlestar Galactica, Professionals, Blakes 7, Knight Rider; **No 14**, Simon and Simon, Robin of Sherwood, Sherlock Holmes, Star Trek; **No 15**, Airwolf, Star Trek Next Gen, Moon and Son, Sapphire and Steel, Bladerunner. Nos 7, 8, 9, 11, £2.75 (UK), \$8 (US); 12 £3.25 (UK), \$9 (USA); 13, 14, 15 £3.75 (UK), \$10 (USA). Single series zines: **RED DUST 2** (V) £2.75 (UK), \$8 (USA); **GROWING PAINS** (V) single story £2 (UK), \$7 (USA); **DISINFORMATION** (Sandbaggers) single story £3.75 (UK) \$10 (USA). All prices include postage and packing. Please order from Pamela Dale, Hillcrest, St Mary's Rd, Riddlesden, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 5PA, England. Please make cheques or money orders payable to Pamela Dale.



CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/GROUPS



Conventions



KONMOREX KLINGON Star Trek Convention emphasising Klingons. The Hobbit, Halifax 4-5 March 1995. Guest Klingon specialist from the USA. Also demonstrations, panels, Klingon ceremonies, good food, good music, horror waxwork tour, two video programmes. Places strictly limited so book as soon as possible. SAE for details to Something Else, P.O. Box 16, Consett, Co. Durham DH8 8YZ.

AKFT Convention Angel Hotel, Northampton 3 - 5 March 1995.

There will be no named guests at this convention. The emphasis will be on audience participation, anarchy and some risque items. Registration of £20. SAE for information to Carol Jackson, 16 Connaught Mansions, Cold Harbour Lane, Brixton, London.

THE NEUTRAL ZONE March 10 - 12 1995

Forte Crest Hotel, Newcastle.

Guests include Bjo Trimble (+ John and Kat), Richard Arnold, Ron B. Moore (specialist in the Visual effects of Trek) & Robert Llewellyn. Full Registration £35. Room rates £33.50 single, £27.50 twin/double pppn. SAE for info to The Neutral Zone, 16 Annandale, Darlington, Co. Durham DL1 3QX

TIMEWARP 2 11th & 12th March, 1995.

Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin.

Registration: Adults £30, Junior (under 16) £20, deposits £10. Guests: Majel Barrett Roddenberry & Leonard Nimoy. Timewarp 2, P.O. Box 4183, Dublin 16 or email: davemc@toppsi.gn.apc.org

TREKKERS WEEKEND April 1995

Sponsored by Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

Events include: video rooms, debate sessions, guest talks, dealers' room, Saturday night live entertainment and disco, fancy dress, quizzes, games etc. and half-price tickets on all rides. Registration £10. Send SAE for

details to Tina Lukacs and Simon Hage, Voyager Enterprises, 43 Lodore Road, South Shore, Blackpool FY4 2JL.

SOL III '95 - the 39th British Star Trek Convention. 26-29 May 1995. Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool. Charities: Shelter, Redwings Horse Sanctuary. Registration Fee: £30 Adult; £15 5-14 yrs; under 5's free. For further information and registration forms, write to Sol III, c/o Jean Barron, 39 Dersingham Avenue, Manor Park, London E12 5QF.

CONUNDRUM - The fifth Scottish Star Trek Convention, 15 - 17th July 1995, Hospitality Inn, Glasgow. Guests Majel Barrett-Roddenberry, Richard Arnold, others to be announced. Registration rates, adults £35, children £18. Hotel rates available on request. For registration form send to Conundrum, PO Box 1598, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

D.E.S. O'CONN - A 25th-28th August 1995.

Full registration £19.98. SAE for info from Tina Lukacs and Simon Hage, Voyager Enterprises, 43 Lodore Road, South Shore, Blackpool FY4 2JL.

LIGHTSPEED '95 1st-3rd September 1995.

The Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Charity R.N.L.I. Full Registration £35. SAE for registration form to Lightspeed Conventions, 16 Bramwell Street, Eastwood, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S65 1RZ.

NEA'DRIAR VII A Two-Day Star Trek Convention.

2nd-3rd September, 1995. The Shepperton Moat House Hotel, Felix Lane, Shepperton, Middlesex. For details, please send a SAE to: Joan Foxley, 143 Northumberland Road, North Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7RB.

IRECON 5 16th & 17th September

Conference Centre at University College, Galway. Gene Roddenberry Special Con with Guests including Peter David (writer), Shelley Jarvis and Fionnula Flannagan

(Data's mother, TNG Inheritance) (to be confirmed). SAE/IRC to: Mairéad King, c/o 4 Lisin, Tullyglass, Shanno, Co. Clare, Ireland.

ASSIMILATION 18th-19th November 1995
Friendly Hotel, Milton Keynes. Registration £17.50 until 1/7/95 then £20.00. Send large SAE to Stuart Banks, 77 Holyrood Avenue, South Harrow, Middlesex HA2 8UD.

CAMP KHITOMER '96 24th - 27th May 1996. Southport Pontins Holiday Camp. Camp Khitomer, 14 Norwood Avenue, Southport PR9 8D

OTHER EVENTS

ROBOCON Half Man - Half Machine All Fun! 17th-19th February 1995. The Tollgate Hotel, Watling Street, Gravesend, Kent. A convention based on Robots, Androids and Replicants in media and books. Full registration until 31/8/94 £25, then £30. Other rates available. SAE for info to Robocon, 26 Northampton Road, Croydon.

TREK DWARF III The Third British Star Trek and Red Dwarf Convention. 17th-19th March 1995. The Holiday Inn, Leicester. Guests: Chris Barrie (Rimmer), Max Grodenchik (Rom: DS9), Aron Eisenberg (Nog: DS9) and Richard Arnold. Adult registration Fee £35. For further info send your address and two stamps to Trek Dwarf, 47 Marsham, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5RN.

STAR TREK EXHIBITION City Arts Centre, Edinburgh. February - May 1995. Adults £3.50, children and pensioners £2, family tickets £9.

THE WORLD'S FIRST OFFICIAL STAR TREK FESTIVAL, MALTA '95. 1-8 May 1995, with William Shatner, Jonathan Frakes, Marina Sirtis and Ron D. Moore. Festival places are limited to 500; this number will be split into smaller groups for some events to give greater access to the actors. (ie an audience with William Shatner - 250 guests per audience, Jonathan Frakes - 125 guests per seminar, Marina Sirtis - 125 guests per seminar.) Price £795 or £695 depending on

hotel (includes flights and transfers, b&b, all events etc.) For booking information call 0171 821 7000.

STARSHIP VOYAGES presents a 7 night Star Trek cruise to Venice and the Greek Islands from 3rd -11th June 1995. Guests Colm Meaney, John de Lancie, Jonathan del Arco, George Takei, others TBA. For more information please send a stamped SAE to Starship Voyages (41), 5 Plough Rise, Cranham, Upminster, Essex RM14 1XR, England. (This cruise is organised for fans by fans.)

G-FORCE 95. Saturday 8th July 1995. A one day get-together for Star Trek Fans at Alton Towers. NB: This is NOT a convention. Do not come expecting guest stars or too many organised events. The main attraction is the Alton Towers theme park plus the opportunity to meet fellow fans in a fun environment at a discount to the normal gate price. Tickets are only available in advance at £12.50 Adult, £10 Children from Shaun Brannigan, 7 Talbot Drive, Stapleford, Nottingham NG9 8HG, or send an SAE for details.

INTERSECTION The 53rd World Science Fiction Convention 24-28 Aug 1995. Scottish Exhibition Centre, Glasgow. Guests of Honour Gerry Anderson & Samuel R Delany. Registration £60 until September 1994 when it will increase. Events include 3 video programmes, a 16mm film programme, 6 programme streams featuring everything from serious SF to filk, roleplaying games, comics etc. There will be a media stream and a huge Dealers' Room. Write asking for details to Intersection, Admail 336, Glasgow G2 1BR.

AWAYTEAM '95 Yes, folks, we are doing it again. Next time will be in September 1995. Join us for a terrific Trek and Space Travel theme holiday, taking in a visit to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Star Trek Adventure, Yosemite, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Paramount Studios, to name but a few of the many exciting places we will be visiting. For further details, please contact Sadie Mason & Paul Anson, 63 Woodstock Ave, Bobbers Mill, Nottingham NG7 5QP.

(Once again we want to point out that we have NO CONNECTION with the Glasgow Away Team.)

Hove Travel are organising a tour on 14th March, 1996 to the Star Trek Convention in Pasadena, combined with the Academy Awards. For details write to Hove Travel, 89A Church Road, Hove BN3 2BA. Tel: 01273 730281. Fax: (01273) 205493.

OVERSEAS CONVENTIONS

VIENNA-CON 17th - 19th February 1995. Austrotel in 1150 Vienna, Felbergrasse 4. Guests to be announced. Activities include; videos, dealers' room, guest talks and autograph sessions, games, discussion panels, fancy dress etc. Send an SAE + IRC for details to Galactic Friendship, c/o Maria Nausch, Schmalzhofgasse 20/12, A-1060 Vienna, Austria.

CON-COURSE 4, 12th - 14th May 1995, Rieckhof Hamburg-Harburg. Guests confirmed: **Rene Auberjonois**, Bjo Trimble and Richard Arnold.. Registration 140 - 160 German marks. For more info send SAE plus IRC to CON-COURSE, c/o Antje Freudenberg, Scharnebecker Weg 5, 21365 Adendorf, Germany.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Stella Zear - I'd like to say a big "thank you" to all the members of IDIC who responded to my letter asking for penfriends. I was expecting to get 1 or 2 letters but instead I was overwhelmed by friendly letters from members! I intend to answer everyone who wrote to me but I must ask for your patience (and a little extra time), okay? Thanks again for the warm welcome to IDIC.

I'm 19 years old and looking for new pen-pals. I like Star Trek (of course), Quantum Leap, Alien Nation, X-Files and many more. I'd like pen-pals from anywhere, especially overseas. Write to Vikki Tittley, 9 Cheney Gardens, Middleton Cheney, Banbury, OXON, OX17 2ST, England.

Could Patricia Thompson, who wrote "A Space Mikado", please contact me as soon as

possible. A VIP in the G&S world in the USA wants a copy of your zine and your contact address. Linda C. Wood, 200 Arisaig Drive, Glasgow G52 1PX.



SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts should be a maximum of 10 lines - will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please only offer original items for sale - adverts will be edited if necessary. We will not knowingly print adverts for copied material which breaks copyright.

FOR SALE - ST Poster Mags 52-74 & 77 £1.20 each or £24 the lot. Star Trek 25th Anniversary talking game £20. Also wanted magazine with Prisoner/Dangermouse articles and items (except videos). S Wilkinson, 143 Hutton Drive, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1QN.

FOR SALE - Original genzines and K/S zines (age statement, please). Please enclose SAE for list. H Cakebread, 12 Banks Rd, Coundon, Coventry, W. Midlands CV6 1JT.

FOR SALE - For lovers of nostalgia: all episodes - on genuine sell-through video - of the 60s Star Trek series at £5 each. Please contact Russell Murdoch, 21 Cartvale Road, Langside, Glasgow G42 9TA.

FOR SALE - set of 160 t/c 25th Anni series and 150 t/c series II, 120 t/c TNG Inaugral and 100 t/c DS9. All sets £6 each. TNG Inaugral hologram card No. 02H £4. Single cards available for all sets plus William Shatner's TekWorld 10p each. Send SAE for wants. Postage £1 first set and 50p for each additional set ordered. Single cards send SAE to: Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6HY.

FOR SALE OR SWOP - Star Trek Next Generation Customizable Game Cards 20p each. Send SAE for list of cards available and cards wanting to swap. Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6HY.

FOR SALE - DS9 video (CIC) cover 8 page booklet. £8. Jason Wells, 415 Broadwater Crescent, Stevenage, Herts SG2 8HB or phone (0438) 359059 and ask for Jason.

FOR SALE - Star Trek Annual 1974. Plus 2 'comics', Star Trek No. 26 (Sept 1974) and No. 28 (Jan 1975). Offers to: Jim Fanning, 50 Heighton Crescent, South Heighton, Newhaven, East Sussex, BN9 0QT.

FOR SALE - Trading card singles of the following sets: TNG inuaugral, TNG episode collection, 25th Anniversary series 11+2, DS9, Masterpieces and Masterseries. I also have some complete sets as well as the TNG Panini stickers. Please send SAE to: Alexis Stokes, 26 Becketts, Hertford, Herts SG14 2AN.

FOR SALE - a selection of TNG books, magazines, zines, trading cards at board games, at reasonable prices. For list send SAE to N. Markham-Randall, 11A Highland Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, West Midlands B43 7SH.

WANTED - Eridani 7 and 8. If anyone has these fanzines for sale, please make me an offer. Baerbel Schmidt, 52 Waterside, Willsborough, Ashford, Kent TN24 0AX.

WANTED - I am looking for two zines - T'Za'Du (K/S) and The Bloodstone (genzine). I will pay any reasonable price or swap the following zines, Alexander, Within Reach, First Time/Time Enough novella, Candlelight and Flames. If interested, contact Jenny Turner, 46 Chinnbrook Rd, Billesley, Birmingham B13 0LX or ring 021 443 2995 *after 6 pm, please.*

WANTED - (1969) ST A & BC Gum cards Nos 8, 46; (Red) Panini stickers 36, 162, 193, 207; (1009) German Bubble Gum stickers; (TNG & DS9) Playmates Cards and Spacecaps; (USA) Star Trek video episode

cards; (TNG) 1994 Generation Skymotion exchange card (2); (1976) ST Classic cards (88 cards/22 stickers). I will pay very good prices for any of the cards I need. Contact Stephen Rothwell, 20 Baxter Park Terrace, Dundee, Scotland DD4 6NP.

WANTED - Trek clip art on disk - either ST or PC format (almost any graphics format is OK). If you have any (or pictures from other series - X files, Babylon 5, etc.), write to: Adrian Thompson, 1 Foster Avenue, Silsden, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 9LG, and let me know what you've got, and how much you want for it - thanks!

WANTED - Entertainment Weekly Star Trek Issue, Fall 1994 108 page special. Reasonable price paid plus postage costs. Harry, 18 East Greenlees Cres., Cambuslang, Glasgow G72 8TX.

WANTED - I would like to borrow all episodes of seaQuest DSV on VHS, 1st and 2nd season. Can anyone help. Chris Coxon, Westway, Rectory Lane, Winchelsea, E. Sussex TN36 4EY.

WANTED - Any information or articles concerning Data/Brent Spiner - especially Brent's album (on tape - not CD) - Ol Yellow Eyes... Also, if any Trekkers want a new penfriend, write to Emma Garland, 14 Anderson Drive, Stonehouse, Glos GL10 2QL.

WANTED - Star Trek Customizable Card Game (limited edition - black border) cards. I have many common, uncommon and rare cards to trade/preferably swap. Please contact Martin Helsdon, 1 Meon Close, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 5QG.

WANTED - Has anyone got a photograph of Group, with David Gerrold taken at UFP Convention in May 1984 at Midland hotel, Manchester. If anyone can get me a copy I'll pay any price including, p&p. Paul Heath, 15 Brunswick Place, Northampton NN4 4BG.

BUSINESS SMALL ADS

THE OFFICIAL STAR TREK FAN CLUB OF THE UK, PO Box 355, Bushey, Watford

WD2 2NA. £14.99 for 4 magazines. Tel No. 01923-818495. Fax for membership information is: 01923-225885. People can write to Tim Gaskill direct via e-mail TGASKILL@delphi.com or post: PO BOX 6463, London, N22 4JU or fax 0181-888-8008.

SHUTTLECRAFT BOOKSHOP - Second hand books, Media SF a speciality. For mail order write to Lesley Arrowsmith, The Darren, Llanigon, Nr. Hay-on-Wye, Brycheinog HR3 5QD. Or visit us at The Victorian Bookshop, Beckfold, Hay-on-Wye.

WONDERWORLD for comics, cards, books, outfits and much more, at 803 Christchurch Rd, Boscome, Bournemouth (Mail order). Phone/Fax 0202 422964. 133 St Marys St., Southampton. Phone 0703 634658 125 Albert Rd., Southsea, Portsmouth Phone 0705 833272

MISC

FIRST CONTACT - if you are planning a convention and want to avoid it conflicting with other planned events contact Conventian Diarist, Anne Page, 55 Weston Way, Baldock, Herts SG7 6EZ. For a copy of the Convention Diary write to First Contact, PO Box 45, Oldham, Lancashire OL9 0QH. Enclose an 8"x6" SAE with all correspondence.

UNIFORMS BY POST - TNG style tops £30, DS9 style tops £25 (inc. p&p). Other costumes made to order, send SAE for details to "Make it Sew!", Alison Wilkinson, 8 Woodfield Terrace, Harefield, Middx. UB9 6DJ.



CLUBS & GROUPS



UPDATE

We have available a set of information sheets giving the addresses and brief details of all the British Star Trek clubs and local groups we know about, plus Star Trek

related actor clubs in the UK and abroad. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 25p stamp. (Note: new members receive a copy of this when they join IDIC, although we update it with the following info from each newsletter.)

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

TREXPerts is a 32-page monthly letterzine for fans of all Treks, with fan fiction, news, art etc. Three issues: \$6 Canada, \$5 US, \$7 Overseas. Please make cheques/money orders payable to Valerie Herd. Write to: Valerie Herd, 7459 Nasrullah Crescent, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada L2H 2M4.

Engage/SciFi Zone - The European Star Trek/Science Fiction newsletter. Available through electronic mail.

The object of the newsletter is to keep you up-to-date on all the latest news of Star Trek and any other science fiction show as well as convention reports, episode guides, merchandice updates, interviews with the cast etc. Issues are usually published 1 to 3 times a week depending on the amount of news and submissions.

The newsletter commenced publication in March 1993 and has since gathered over 890 subscribers and has so far published 198 issues.

Subscription is free, email listserv@le.ac.uk with the command info startrek

and you will receive details on how to subscribe. If you have any queries email Mike Broadhurst (mdb@le.ac.uk).

The Tencton Planet: The Alien Nation Appreciation Society - UK £6 for 6 N/Ls, USA \$15 in paper money or £10 sterling cheque or money order. Cheques/POs made payable to The Tencton Planet. For further information send SAE to The Tencton Planet, 110 Richmond St, Coventry, CV2 4HY, England or Tel/fax 0203 459526.

LOCAL GROUPS

Most of these groups have monthly meetings. Please enclose an SAE when

writing to them for details.

Aberdeen - Starbase Apollo Captain Scott McMillan, c/o Starbase Apollo, 73 Thistle Drive, Portlethan.

Ayr Trek - Regular meetings every 2 months in the Elms Court Hotel, Ayr. Latest episodes and dealers' room. Contact Ayr Trek, 75 Caledonia Road, Saltcoats KA21 5AN. for further details.

Ashford - Energize Weekly meetings. Tel. Dave & Tina Styles on 0233 642687 any time.

Bournemouth - USS Excalibur, Anne Lindup, Holtwood, Nr. Wimbourne, Dorset BH21 7DT. Monthly meetings.

Brighton - The Outer Zone: Ms. Sue Parker, The Outer Zone, 42 Victoria Street, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ.

Bury St Edmunds - Dreamweavers (Doctor Who, Star Trek and other cult Sci-fi). Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St. Edmunds, IP32 6HT.

Coventry - Something Else Group Phone Maggy Tel: 0203 503113

East Scotland - The Bridge Crew, Wester Auchinricoch Farm, Banton, Near Kilsyth G65 0QZ.

Glasgow - The Away Team: Contagion (Away Team), PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR. Hospitality Inn 10.00am to 10.00pm, £6, (£4 under 14s). Next meetings 5th February, 12th March, 30th April, 18th June.

Hull Starfleet P.O. Box 1701, Kingston Upon Hull, HU4 7YU.

Ipswich Starfleet Chris Wileman, 15 Parkeston Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 8NF.

Leeds Starfleet: Mike Mullen, 19 Manor Avenue, Headingley, Leeds LS6 1BY or ring (0532) 742977.

Liverpool - FEK'LHR of Liverpool ST club -

regular meetings the first Sunday of each month at Rigby's, Dale Street, Liverpool, 1pm - 6pm. Episodes, videos, quizzes etc. Forthcoming dates, 5th Feb, 5th March.

London Star Trek Group Kim Knight, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

Manchester Starfleet PO Box 35, Levenshulme, Manchester M19 3GZ.

Merseyside - U.S.S. Discovery. Sharon Rowe, 93 Juddfield Street, Haydock, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BD.

Merseyside - Sentinel One SF/ST club. Sheri, 17 Bridge Street, Earlistown, N - LE - W. WA12 9BE.

North Wales Local Group. Martin Hodgkins, 69 Fairways, Llandudno, Gwynedd.

Nottingham - Prime Directive Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham NG8 3LF.

New Haven - 1711 Science Fiction Unlimited, 13 Fairholm Road, Newhaven. East Sussex BN9 0NX. The club meets every 2nd Friday of the month and the 1711 Role Play Club meets every Monday. The club produces its own newsletter.

Plymouth - Drake Science Fiction & Fantasy Association, Tony Durks, 125 Grenville Road, St Judes, Plymouth PL4 9QA. Tel (0752) 666591

Portsmouth - The imaginatively titled Portsmouth Starfleet - Sarah Rooke, Flat 3, 20 St Davids Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants PO5 1QN. Ring 0705 8222351 ext 23892 (office hours) for details of events locally.

West Midlands - Space Central Lee Owers Sansome, 15 Foxglove, Amington, Tamworth, Staffs B77 4HY.

☆☆☆☆☆

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The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions, renewals, all newsletter submissions on disc; all news, cuttings, adverts, merchandise info etc. for the newsletter; used stamps for the Guide Dogs.

Sheila - All Zine orders; postbag, articles & reviews for the newsletter; TNG submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork); used stamps.

Valerie - Classic Trek submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork).

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Dues UK £8.00, USA/Middle East Air \$24.00 (£14.00), Australia £15.00, Europe £10.00.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

This is a statutory notice as prescribed by the above Act. In accordance with the conditions governing the maintenance of machine-readable records by non-incorporated members' clubs, IDIC must advise that the names and addresses of every member are held in a computer-readable format in order to more efficiently prepare and despatch newsletters. The information is used for this purpose only, and will not be disclosed to any other party whatsoever without the specific consent of the Data Subject (i.e. the member concerned). You should also be aware that you have a statutory right for your name to be deleted from the computer record and for your newsletters to be addressed manually.

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