

Star Trek Action Group



December 1978

NEWSLETTER No. 32

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DUES

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Dear Janet and members of STAG.

Thank you for the honorary membership into your fine club. I think your newsletter is very fine and hope you can continue the beautiful work.

Filming our new motion picture is certainly a joy - everyone is aboard and doing their own 'thing'. Maybe I can beam myself over there when you have your next convention... it's a thought.

I just finished a new TV segment of 'Next Step Beyond'. Will you see it in Scotland? hope so - also doing several commercials so keep your eyes peeled! Why would the BBC ban 'Miri'? I'm just curious, and isn't it difficult to live in such restrictions? I mean, do they also control your reading material? California is ultra liberal so I'm spoiled, I guess. Send me a letter and talk a bit - I'd like to understand you better - all my love - to all the fans -

Grace Lee Whitney
Janice Rand.

Hello, everyone, and seasonal greetings.

By the time you get this it will only be a few weeks to Christmas, heaven help us. We haven't even had time to start thinking about it yet. We want to thank in advance all of you who we know will be sending us cards. We appreciate them very much and return the thoughts, but we hope you'll understand why we can't send cards to all of you. There are over 600 of you and we'd probably still be writing cards into January! Please treat this newsletter as our Christmas card to you and have a very happy time over the holidays. We'd like to extend a great big welcome to Grace Lee Whitney who, as you'll see, has joined us as an honorary member. We are delighted to have her as she's as big a STAR TREK fan as we are.

We haven't heard from the other actors yet but we're still hoping.

We'd also like to extend a big welcome to all you new members, not just those of you who have joined us since the last newsletter but also to those who have joined us during the last year; there are 200 of you. We hope you are enjoying your membership, do send us in your comments for the newsletter (we're short of these these days) and also keep the fiction, poetry and artwork coming. Those of you who have never bought a zine, we would

suggest you might like to get one if you enjoy fiction. Some of our contributors are extremely good writers.

We hope everyone who was at Manchester has recovered by now - we just about have! We always enjoy meeting as many members as possible, even if briefly - and we certainly managed that at Manchester. 3am every morning... Actually, don't get it wrong, we enjoyed your company as much as we hope you enjoyed ours. We tend to consider it a bonus at a con if we actually manage to get to bed. (I still insist that since 3am was really 2am the disco should have finished at 3am - Janet)

On the Friday night we phoned Gene up to thank him for the tape and to let him know the con was under way. Janet was on the main phone in the room, Sheila was on the extension in the loo!!! Sheila must be about the only person who can say she has spoken to Gene Roddenberry in the loo. (Janet always did want to dial Los Angeles direct...)

Gene gave us all his best for the con and this was passed on to everyone by Dot at the opening ceremony. Those of you who left our room just before we phoned Gene didn't know what they had missed. They also missed the session a dozen or so of us had on the Friday night clearing back the tables and chairs in the con room after a function so that we'd be sure of the room being ready for Saturday - the hotel was somewhat understaffed. Oh, well, the fun of a con...

We must say that even though there were problems with the hotel at times, it turned out to be one of the best cons yet. Everyone seemed determined to have a great time, and we think they all did. Let's give a big thank you to Dot.

We would like to express our thanks to Gene, who gave up time in a very busy schedule to record a tape for us to play at the con (transcript inside) - great hearing his voice again (quite apart from the phone call), as well as for sending Janet the pictures and slides of the new uniforms which were shown at the con. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Susan Sackett for all she has done for us. It's only because of Gene and Susan that we are able to give you so much news on the movie. Have a very happy birthday on December 18th, Susan. Our thoughts will be with you.

We have included a couple of photocopies of the photos Gene sent, in the newsletter. We apologise for those of you who have creased copies. The post office is normally very good but this once they let us down. The parcel had burst and they just chucked the photocopies into a plastic bag - they didn't even square them first. Unfortunately we just have to use them as there wasn't time for us to get them done again. Luckily the majority were only curled at the corners or had only one crease in them. We're hoping they are all there and that none of them are missing. We won't know till we collate the newsletter. If you don't get one we apologise. We would like to thank Beryl Turton for arranging to get photocopies for us.

We would also like to thank Elaine Thomson for the used stamps she's been sending us. These go to Cancer Research. If you would like to send us some, send them to Sheila. Photos - the processor/er (it's not in the dictionary!) has been erratic lately on returning processed film. This isn't the shop's fault - they've tried chasing the firm - but apparently film isn't printed in rotation as it arrives - a new delivery can be dumped on top of some that has been there a week thus delaying those ones even more - Sheila's had back 3 lots put in after the last STAG order, which is still not completely filled. We would say in future allow until the next N/L is out before you start worrying - if there's been a delay we'll tell you. This happened last time too but not so badly - we were held up for two clips, one of which came in reverse and had to be returned, but were able to fill a lot of the orders and get them off without waiting for those two. This time we're kept waiting for 10 clips and almost all orders are affected.

One thing - because of the seasonal upsurge in mail we won't be sending out any orders between Dec. 18th and the end of the post office's holiday (Jan 2/3) We think it would probably be better too if you didn't risk sending orders either from Dec 15 until after the holiday.

With this N/L we are enclosing con registration forms for British members. Members overseas can have them if they drop us a line. If you've already registered just pass it to a friend. When sending STAG and - especially - con mail, please - it's quicker if you can remember to send it to the person indicated.

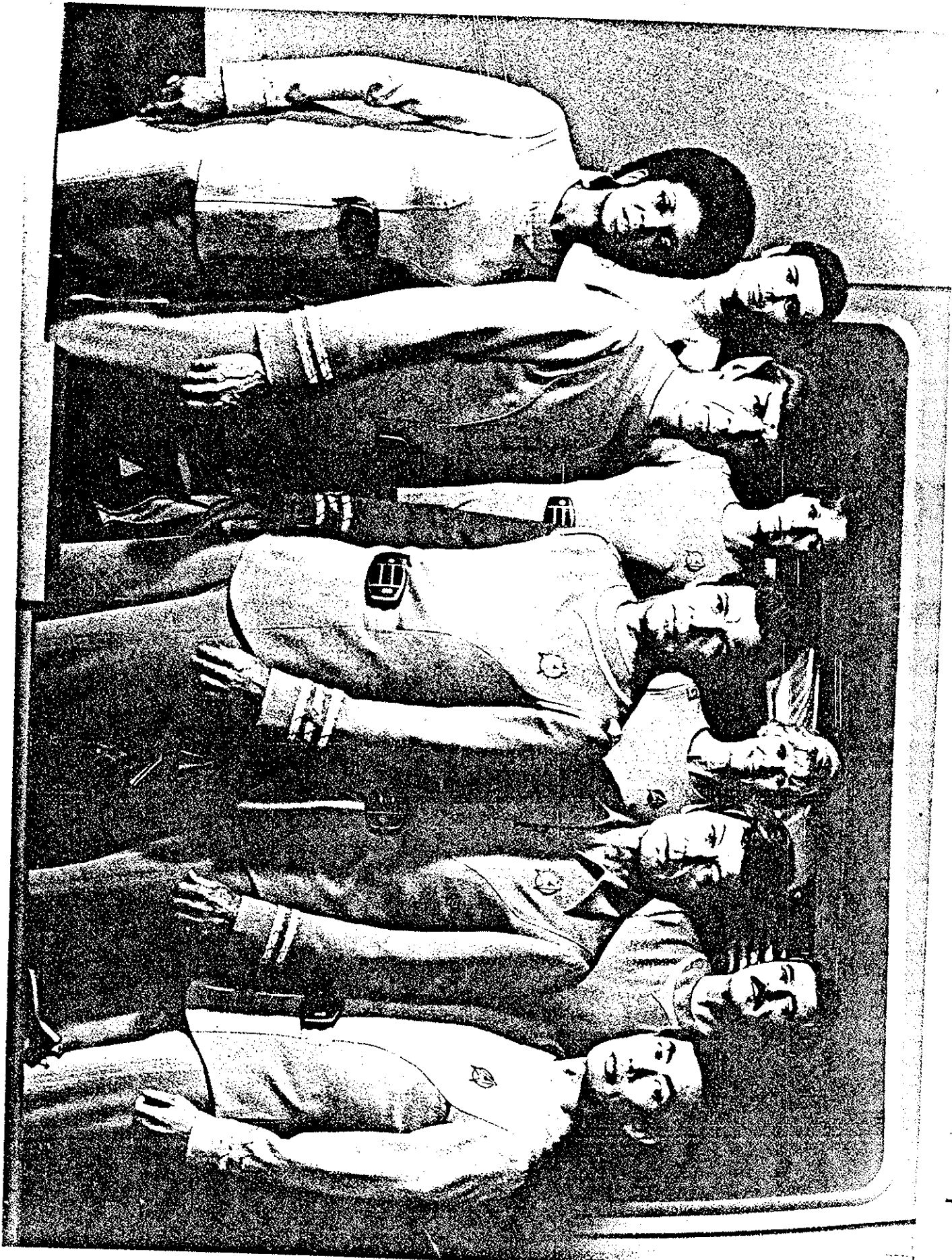
Keep sober over the holidays and don't do anything we wouldn't - no, we're not telling you what we'll be doing; use your imagination! Next N/L will be out early in February, and we're hoping to see you all at the con at the end of March.

LL&P, Janet & Sheila

P.S. If you would like a copy of Gene's tape, send a tape plus return postage to Janet. It's a 15 min tape, it's easier if you send a cassette although reels can be done.



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STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE

Gene Roddenberry kindly sent us a tape to be played at the Manchester convention. We wanted to share it with everyone. He said -

Janet, I wish I were having a pint with you right now instead of dictating messages... oh, that's right, you don't drink. I wish I were having a pint and the pleasure of your company.

Thanks from all of us to you and your group for all the support and friendship we've had from you, and I'll try right here between assignments and crises on the film to bring you briefly up to date on where we are.

We have the film about 45% shot - that is, 45% of our principal photography is finished. The balance of principal photography should take us through December to complete. After that of course we have at the very minimum almost a year of optical effects to put into the film, and of course during that time music, sound and all of the other things we do in post production.

We are a bit behind shooting schedule, but that's to be expected in a science fiction film of this complexity. So far our projected release date for the film is still the same, that is we intend to get it out on the market Christmas vacation 1979.

I think probably the best news of all to you is the fact that the film we shot so far is definitely STAR TREK. We've had that same comment from everyone who's looked at it, that they're happily surprised to see it is indeed the same Captain Kirk, Mr. Spock, Bones and Scotty and all the rest. We're definitely on the Enterprise, and the only difference being really that on the time and budget we have available on the motion picture everything is done with more care; and on course on 65 millimeter film, as much of it is, it looks bigger and it really looks grander.

Also everyone seems to agree that Captain Kirk's entry onto the bridge of the Enterprise after being absent all of these years, when those elevator doors open and he stands there and the camera goes in on his face, it is a real gripping moment. Anyone who's been in love with a vessel and a certain way of life will understand totally what it means to him. And I don't think you have to have captained a vessel to know what it means - it's all there in Kirk's face.

Spock's entry later in the film is just as dramatic, and in totally different character because of what Spock is and what has happened to him to bring him aboard the Enterprise.

And that's about all I can tell you about the story - we've all had to practically sign in blood that there are just certain things we won't reveal; and one of the reasons is that fans are just too damned clever. If we drop a piece here and a piece there it won't take long and they'll have practically put the whole thing together. Also, in defence of Paramount, they are investing a great deal of money in this film - many many millions of dollars - it will be something even over the 18 million dollars that they projected - and I can't blame them for wanting to save all - every - last bit of publicity and promotional impact until the last moment when they actually put it out.

It is really strange for all of us from the old show to be seeing each other on stage here again - as Leonard Nimoy said, it's much more than deja vu, which usually happens in just an instant; we have this same feeling of deja vu that has gone on week after week.

I can report that the actors all seem very happy with what they're doing, and how it's looking. I of course have complaints from almost all of them - including my wife Majel, Nurse Chapel - that her part isn't large enough, and I think the only way I could have probably satisfied everyone is to have had an 100-hour movie. Well, maybe we'll start to approach something like that eventually if the film is successful. It's generally agreed that if the film is successful we will probably go into sequel films, the feeling of the studio being that if the James Bond format was worthy of 8 films so far, certainly the broader STAR TREK space format should lead to all kinds of new adventures in many sequels.

And then of course, a television show isn't dead by any means; however I suspect a return to television will have to wait until the movie sequel cycle - if it runs and

however long it runs - until that's over.

I'll just go on in a stream of consciousness here if you like - and even if you don't like, 'cause you're too far away to stop me.

I should say, making it personal, the principal problem I've had are those related to making the STAR TREK format into a wide-screen major motion picture. Obviously I couldn't say to a fine and experienced director like Robert Wise, "Bob, you can't change anything" and there were many very good reasons why things had to change. The kind of sets we had on television, while they were practical for television, on the wide screen and with the greater definition of motion pictures, why you would have seen all sorts of jarring cracks and shoddy instrumentation, and all sorts of things like that that just would not have looked right. They were fine on the lower definition - visual definition - of television, they just wouldn't have worked on the major screen.

So that in our story we do start with an Enterprise which has been in dry dock for some time, and it's been refitted and rebuilt. It has more powerful engines, and all sorts of new instrumentation - even the corridors are much more exciting; and the reason we can get that excitement is the economics of a motion picture. You have more money to spend, you have more time to design, more time to think about it - and more time to shoot it. Also, in the years since we designed and laid out the first Enterprise, why a lot has happened in science, there were many things we had that are available today to design and put on the bridge that simply weren't known about 13 or 14 years ago.

On the other hand the bridge does look like the Enterprise. Everyone is positioned in approximately the same place, and it's just the contours and the excitement around them that has changed - and I think probably for the better.

Some of the same was true for all sorts of other things. We had great discussions and hesitations over changing the costume but we finally decided to do it for a number of reasons, and one of them being that the areas of acceptability and believability do change slightly from 1964 to 1978. Also again, a fine director like Bob Wise, you don't bring him in and shove costumes down his throat when he has a flair for these things, and for colour and the entire look of a show. You don't take a guy who has won four Academy awards and did things like the Sound of Music, West Side Story and so on, and tie his hands. He has abilities and talents and ways of looking at things for the wide screen that we simply didn't want to lose, simply not make use of. And so on through the film. You will find changes. I think you will find them changes for the better. Of course, here and there we're going to have a purist fan who says, "If you change so much as a splinter on the floor I'm going to hate you"; but we really have to make the show for both the general fan as well as the general audience who are not STAR TREK fans.

Now of course we did keep a great deal; we kept the characters and their jobs and backgrounds. We kept the Starfleet emblem; the phasers are a bit redesigned but still identifiably phasers. We still have the ship's phaser banks, its torpedo system, and certainly more is the same than has been changed; but oh man, they were tough choices.

But again those who have seen the film, and that is just people here at the studio, but it does include some people from other offices who have been STAR TREK fans in the past and perhaps still are, and we really haven't gotten any complaint from them. As a matter of fact it's been mostly compliments.

Now, optical effects. We have had quite a few queries from fans and others saying, "Hey, is this just going to become a big light show, a big optical effects spectacular?" And the answer is, we certainly do hope that the optical effects are spectacular - as a matter of fact I think we have a very good chance of putting some things on film that have just never been seen in the theatre before. But every optical effect is a part of the story, and the optical effects are only important in how they affect our STAR TREK characters; and that's the difference between doing a light show and doing a proper STAR TREK film. So the optical effects will be there, and we think they're going to be very exciting. Also some of our model work promises to be extremely exciting; for example when you first see the Enterprise you're going to see it in such enormous detail with space-suit figures out there with it to show you its real size that you will be seeing the real thing - a gigantic Starship just as big - as big in length and greater in width than the present atomic carrier U.S.S. Enterprise, which is about 1000 feet long.

About five minutes before I started this note to you, why we just finished an optical effects meeting which we have a couple of a week, and each time go over storyboards and talk out some specific optical effects scene in the picture to make sure that both Wise and I agree with the concept so that when we get into the building and making of it it'll be exactly what we want. It's kind of frightening for me to do a film of this size, and do a film where they're talking of optical effects in the four and five million dollar figure - to be frank with you I'm probably not the guy to do it because my mind positively boggles at anything over 40 dollars.

(A personal note to Janet before I forget. Rupert Evans who you remember drove me during the picture I did in London and who also became my dear friend - he came over from London and spent 6 weeks with me here. He warmly remembered you, Janet, and all the gang that came down to the studio. He's left for home now but I know he'll want me to give you his very best.)

Those of you who have seen the book by Leonard Nimoy - 'I am not Spock' is the title of it - don't you believe it for a moment. When he comes on the screen he is Spock and no-one else. As a matter of fact when he's on the bridge in uniform he is Spock - no Nimoy chatter at that time. Putting on the uniform and the ears just creates a whole change in character for him - it's marvellous to watch actors work.

Bill Shatner - I've never seen him do anything quite this good, and he's done some extremely good things; but he has really locked onto Kirk. He is Kirk. And the same for our other actors - but it is in Spock and Kirk, who are so much in the foreground, that it really hits you that they are living characters, and not just actors playing a part.

I've told you what I think about Bob Wise - he's been doing an exceptional job for us and the picture flows and moves rapidly and well with honest emotion, and he and I have every hope that when this picture comes out you're going to be lifetime fans of his.

Susan Sackett, my administrative assistant, is busier than she ever thought she'd ever be when she left Florida some years ago; she's not only running the office, she's also becoming more and more involved in all STAR TREK books, STAR TREK games and that sort of thing to make sure they accurately reflect the show and that the fans don't get ripped off. The studio offered her a job as an executive for Paramount in this area and she turned it down because she didn't want to leave the STAR TREK office. She is extremely helpful in every way, as are the other lovely ladies here working with us; and as a matter of fact we've put on a pretty good crew all the way round, and it makes sometimes excruciatingly tough days, it takes some of the pain away from them to have that kind of people around.

Well, I don't want to be maudlin, but I did want you to know what was in my mind at the time and how things are going. We're a long way from home, but we're working just as hard today to make it a good picture as we were months ago when the cameras began to roll.

I think that's about all for now; I'd better get myself over to the stage and get some work done. I'm sorry this couldn't have been longer and more complete, but at least it tells you that our hearts are with you too.

So this is Gene Roddenberry signing off.

(transcript done by Valerie Piacentini)

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The following's an extract from a magazine article which we thought might be of interest to you.

STARLOG 18, Nov 78 - STAR TREK REPORT by Susan Sackett

Stardate 7808.7 - From the Bridge of the Starship "Enterprise"

It's 3.00 in the afternoon at Paramount Studios in Hollywood. A warning bell signals quiet on the set. The camera begins rolling. The action starts on the next "take" of Scene 64, the first scene to be filmed for STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE.

The 25 or so people who will be in front of the cameras have been rehearsing since morning. For the last hour, director Robert Wise has been patiently attempting to get the actors, extras, technicians, special-effects people and the rest of the crew into perfect synchronization. It's a tricky scene showing the Bridge of the Enterprise

being prepped for departure, involving everything from light panels, opening elevator doors, images on the main viewer, last minute checks at each Bridge station, an extra who must be suspended in midair on "anti-gravs" and a number of other things. It must appear randomly chaotic on screen, although it is directed by Wise with total control and the skill of a symphony conductor. Finally, after "take" 15, he's got the scene down the way he wants, and the entire crew bursts into applause. The first scene ever to be filmed for ST-TMP is finished.

Since last week everyone involved has been working for this day - August 7 - and today the energy level is especially high. In the early morning you could sense the excitement in the air, the tension, the eagerness to begin. The cast was in makeup as early as 7:00, with everyone due on stage at 9:00. With the confusion of last minute checks on technical equipment before cameras could roll, the stage itself mirrored the scene to be shot. Actors were running lines, learning new dialogue which had just been handed to them on blue (revised) pages; camera and lighting checks were being made; people were congratulating each other, last minute adjustments to costumes and makeup were being taken care of. Nearly 100 people involved in getting this scene on film were crammed into the corner of Stage 9, which contains the Bridge set, and since there are only two entrances to the Bridge (the elevator doorways), and one passageway was taken up with camera equipment, gaining admittance to the Bridge was worse than trying to get on the Hollywood Freeway during rush hour.

There were brief, unrehearsed opening ceremonies: Gene Roddenberry presented Bob Wise with one of his personal treasures - a black cap with gold script lettering which reads "Enterprise", given to Gene by the captain of the atomic carrier Enterprise when he toured that ship as a guest. Property master Dick Rubin and I had prepared a special surprise for Gene - a bottle of Champagne. Gene cracked it over the Bridge railing, thus officially christening the starship.

Although the first day's shooting does not involve the entire cast, nearly everyone is on hand for these first few moments. Bill Shatner has brought along his three daughters, Leslie, Melanie and Elizabeth. Leonard Nimoy dropped by to wish everyone luck, although Mr. Spock's first scenes won't be for another week. DeForest Kelley is looking on - he also starts in a few days, as does Persis Khambatta, eagerly showing off her freshly shaved head needed for her role as "Ilia." Stephen Collins, former New York stage actor who played Hugh Sloan in ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN, starred in the TV movie THE RHEINMANN EXCHANGE and stars in the new motion picture THE PROMISE, has just been signed for the starring role of Commander Williard Decker. This handsome young actor is discussing his lines with Gene Roddenberry in a quieter area of the stage.

There are some new faces too. Actors who will be playing crew personnel assigned to the Bridge reflect STAR TREK's philosophy of equality of races and sexes - and there's even a new alien from some far-off planet assigned to the Bridge. These new cast members are: Momo Yashima, Iva Lane, Billy Van Zandt, Ralph Brannen, Franklyn Seales and Ralph Byers. Other roles are still being cast just prior to those scenes being shot, and with a twelve-week shooting schedule, there will be a variety of new faces.....

(This reminds us about the story we heard of this chap who was asked if he would like a part in the ST movie, and was told there was money involved. He replied, Great, how much do I have to pay. - Janet)

(Thanks to Ruth Breisinger for sending the article)

Paramount

April, 1978

De FOREST KELLEY

BIOGRAPHY

In Paramount's spectacular new presentation, "Star Trek - The Motion Picture," De Forest Kelley is again seen in his popular co-starring role as Dr. Leonard "Bones" McCoy, Chief Medical Officer of the Starship, U.S.S. Enterprise. Kelley created the role in the "Star Trek" television series that spawned a show business phenomenon.

In "Star Trek - The Motion Picture," a Gene Roddenberry Production - A Robert Wise Film, directed by Wise and produced by Roddenberry, McCoy is reunited with stars William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy and the entire original cast from the TV series.

Curiously, while he scored his biggest hit as the outspoken, somewhat cynical and eccentric but thoroughly likeable McCoy, Kelley's earlier roles in motion pictures, television and on the stage were mostly as sinister villains.

His films included "Gunfight at the O.K. Corral," "Raintree County," "The Law and Jake Wade," "Warlock," and "Where Love Has Gone." Among his numerous TV appearances were roles on "Playhouse 90," "Schlitz Theatre," "Gunsmoke," "Zane Grey Theatre," "Rawhide" and "Bonanza."

Kelley was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 20. He was 17 when, after graduating from high school, he made his first trip outside the state. He journeyed to Long Beach, Calif., to visit an uncle for two weeks, and remained a year.

In Atlanta, he had sung in the church choir and then on a radio program on station WSB. The latter brought him a singing engagement with Lew Forbes and his orchestra at the Atlanta Paramount Theatre.

While his mother had encouraged his artistic interests, his father, a Baptist minister, was no so approving. Nevertheless, Kelley's visit to Long Beach convinced him that California -- and the entertainment world -- were for him. He returned there to live, joined the Long Beach Theatre Group and changed his entire future.

While earning a living as an elevator operator, he performed with the Theatre Group in radio plays written by a friend, Barney Girard.

During the war, Kelley was spotted in a Navy training film by a Paramount talent scout. The result was a screen test and a contract with Paramount, where he remained for two and one-half years. His first starring film was "Fear in the Night," a low-budget, Pine-Thomas feature that became a box-office "sleeper."

To gain more experience, he moved to New York after that, appearing in stock and television. Returning to Hollywood, he found himself all but forgotten. Through his own determination, with an assist from his friend Girard, then writing for the "You Are There" TV series, he was able to re-establish his career.

His film and TV roles followed steadily, climaxed when he was signed for the regular cast of "Star Trek." With it came his own fan clubs, a voluminous mail and constant demands for personal appearances at "Star Trek" conventions and before various organizations.

Kelley and Carolyn Dowling, whom he met when they were appearing together at the Long Beach Theatre Group, were married September 7, 1945. They reside in Sherman Oaks, Calif., with their "family" -- Fancy, a Lhasa Apso puppy; Maggie, their cat, and Myrtle, the turtle, 75 years old.

Kelley recently was amused to learn that in Europe, where he also has a large fan following from "Star Trek's" world-wide release, "Jones" McCoy is known as "Bill" McCoy. It seems they're not familiar over there with the connotation of "sawbones" on this side of the Atlantic.

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Thanks to Gene Roddenberry and Alan White for copies of this biography.

GRACE LEE WHITNEY

Credits

TV

Tab Hunter Show
Zane Grey Theatre
Aquanauts,
Not For Hire
Mickey Spilane
Overland Trail
Bat Masterson,
77 Sunset Strip
Roaring 20's
Ben Casey
Surfside 6
The Real McCoy
Batman

Ensign O'Trole
Death Valley Days
Hawaiian Eye
New Breed
Gunsmoke
Rifleman
The F.B.I.
STAR TREK
The Untouchables
The Virginian
Temple Houston
Bonanza
The Bold Ones

High Chaparral
Big Valley
Mannix
Cannon
Twilight Zone
The Outer Limits
Controlled Experiment
Mod Squad
The Name Of The Game
Kahn!
Bewitched
Walt Disney

Thanks to the Grace Lee Whitney Fan Club and the Japanese ST club STARBASE for the list. This completes the credit lists. We'll print an update in a future newsletter.

STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

We've had a large influx of articles from you this time, which just goes to show that STAR TREK is very newsworthy these days. We are keeping all the cuttings you don't ask us to return and photo-copying the others so that we can keep a record in a scrap book. There have been a number of articles concerned with the FBI being brought in to investigate security leaks on the ST set. It all seems to have started with the arrest and conviction of John Thomas Askew, apprehended for the theft of blueprints for sets constructed for the movie. The idiot then started selling copies at \$75 per set. Naturally he was reported to Paramount. Articles about security on the set appeared in BOXOFFICE Sept. 18th, RLVILLE Oct. 13th, THE STAR Sept. 5th and SCREEN INTERNATIONAL September edition.

A number of papers have printed articles on the movie containing photos of the characters in their new uniforms. THE SUN Sept. 27th had one of Kirk, Spock & McCoy. The same one we're including in this newsletter. One thing I love about this article is that it starts off talking about the 47 year-old actor, better known as Star Trek's Mr. Spock, and finishes by saying, 'Shatner, 39, says:...' Well I know Shatner is looking great but between you and me there's only three days between the two of them.

THE SUNDAY MIRROR Sept. 14th had a picture of Persis Khambatta, with and without hair. Actually a lot of papers are still concentrating on Persis which is a pity. After all she's only one of the new cast, and certainly not the most important actor in the movie. PHOTOPLAY Dec. also did an article on Persis including photos of her, so did the DAILY EXPRESS Oct. 23rd and EVENING NEWS Aug. 7th.

The Hemel Hempstead & Watford Area evening paper, POST-ECHO Nov 2nd, had a very good article on the movie entitled, 'Star Trek's Crew Back In Space'. The article is very detailed, accurate, shows ST in a good light and is an intelligent report. Full marks to the paper, I wish the national dailies would take the hint. The WESTERN MAIL Oct. 14th also had a nice article on the movie written by Albert Watson, who also wrote the one in the POST-ECHO. He must send reports from Hollywood to a number of local papers. Referring to the article in the WESTERN MAIL Rhian Gibbs says, "I think it's the only article on ST to appear in a Welsh newspaper for years!"

THE MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS has printed at least two articles on the movie, one entitled 'Star Trek Crew Fly Again', the other entitled 'Ears to the Next Time' ooooh...! Both had a picture of Spock, one as we know him and the other in his new uniform.

There seem to have been some rather amusing, if sarcastic bylines to the ST episodes in the GUARDIAN, here's the one for NAKED TIME - "Another fine mess you've got us into, Spock - here we are, taking the USS Enterprise to pick up a scientific team from that dying planet, only to find they're dead, our crew are getting very odd, and as we're pulled closer it's about to blow up."

The DAILY MIRROR Oct. 16th had an interesting article entitled, 'A Beam of Death'. It's about the U.S. Department of Defence spending millions in developing something called 'particle beam weapons' which are to all intent and purposes the same as phasers. The article included a photo of William Shatner.

We've only seen one article on the Manchester Con so far, which appeared in the DAILY MIRROR Oct. 30th. It was sensible and included a photo of Valerie Galliers in uniform. There was an article about Lynn Campion in her local paper on Sept. 27th. It was an interesting, sensible article with a nice picture of Lynn in her room. Funny enough her walls have the same kind of wall-paper as mine. The paper contacted her to do the article after she wrote to them protesting about them calling Spock, 'Dr. Spock'. It just goes to show that it is worthwhile writing to the papers.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER Oct. 14th, had an article about Leonard Nimoy and his poetry and photography. The article was called 'Spock In Love'.

There was an article about the novel rights to the ST movie in the EVENING STANDARD Nov. 18th. It said that bidding for the book had reached a quarter of a million dollars and that Futura was out of the running. Who ever got the rights would have to sell 1,250,000 copies just to break even. Rog Peyton tells us he heard that Sphere (UK) and Ballantine (USA) had got the book rights.

There was an interesting article in ALDERSHOT WARBORO Sept. 22nd about Rupert Evan's trip to Los Angeles to stay with Gene Roddenberry. If you've read the tape transcript you'll know that Rupert is a good friend of Gene's, he was his driver when Gene was over in London making SPLOTTRE. The article tells us quite a bit about Rupert, who has been involved in the film world for more than 30 years. His brother Mark is a television

producer and vice-president of 20th Century Fox. Rupert worked as a stunt man and taught sword fighting techniques to such notable actors as Gregory Peck and Errol Flynn. He is now retired from active stunt work and concentrates on stunt co-ordinating, arranging stunts for films on location.

Thanks to Jeri Franz, Charlotte Davis, Carol Collins, James Pauley, David Coote, Nancy Kippax, Dick Mayfield, Alan White, Dennis Taylor, Sheila Cornall, Carol Davies, Jack Clayton, Doreen Illness, Peter Buckett, Karen Jane Pearce, May Jones, Rhian Gibbs, Ray Smith, Paul Malamed, Lesley Bryan, Margaret Richardson, Lynn Campion, Phil Skinner, Roger Mitchell, Mark French, Dennis Taylor, Robert McCabe and Jane Chinnery for sending the articles. Sorry we couldn't mention them all, we are keen to get them for the scrap book but rather ran out of space to mention them all. I hope I haven't missed anyone, do put your name on the back of any cutting if possible in case it gets separated from your letters. Keep sending me the cuttings. - Janet

NEWS OF THE STARS

WILLIAM SHATNER has done a new TV movie which has been shown in the States, called CRASH. He plays an investigator, investigating plane crashes. He also appears in a programme called 'Centennial'. (info Jerri Franz, May Jones & Crystal Ann Taylor)

I hope most of you saw Bill in NO: THE WEST WAS WON on Oct. 28th. He was only in it for the first 20 minutes but he was fantastic. I always think that playing a blind person shows whether an actor can really act. - Janet.

GRACE LEE WHITNEY has just finished a new TV segment of NEXT STEP BEYOND and also is doing several commercials. (info Grace Lee Whitney.)

(Afraid we're a bit short of news for this column at the moment. All the actors are of course still busy filming the movie but if you do hear of them doing anything else let us know. We do rely on you - Janet)

STAR TREK - CURRENT SHOWING

Janet wrote to the BBC recently and they confirmed the screening order we gave in the last newsletter with the exception of COURT MARTIAL. They are leaving it out and finishing with RENEE WITHIN.

Some of you will now be saying, 'What happened to CHARLIE X,' well Jean Barron wrote to the Beeb and they said they had a faulty print and would be showing it at the end of the run when they should have a new one. This rather ties in with what Anne Page told us at Manchester. It seems that the BBC have got videos of the episodes this time rather than film. We'd suspected this as the colours seem falsely heightened compared with the films. A lot of us know that videos aren't always reliable, (don't we, Sylvia) so it's not surprising the BBC got one a bit wonky.

The BBC also said in their letter, quote, 'The programme slot for the current series permits them to be shown in their entirety but there may be one or two edits of undue violence.' I guess you all saw what they did with the next to last scene in MAN TRAP. We've never considered that scene having any undue violence and the way it was cut completely ruined the emotional impact of the entire scene, especially for Janet who was extremely disappointed that they cut out Kirk's scream; after all, he does it so beautifully.

Do keep your letters going in to the BBC, especially when they do things like cutting any episode. Also, we don't think enough of you are writing to the RADIO TIMES as there haven't been any letters printed yet. If you all get writing and bombard them with letters they are bound to print some.

In a letter to Sheila, Auntie Beeb said that although there were no immediate plans to show the second and third series, it was probable that these would be shown in due course. They also mentioned something similar in a letter to Mark French.

The Beeb still aren't relenting as to the showing of the 'Banned episodes'

Address your letters either to: BBC Television, Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12 7RJ or BBC, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA. It doesn't matter which.

Letters to the Radio Times should be sent to; Letter Editor, Radio Times, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA

FANZINE ADS

SAURIAN BRANDY DIGEST - from Terri Dorosch, 547 E. 8th St., Erie, PA 16503 USA, or Sylvia Stanczyk, 1953 East 18th St., Erie, PA 16510 USA. Issues 3 - 15 available. Some are novellas. Issue 6 is a reprint of The Daneswoman, referred to in STAR TREK LIVES.. Issue 12 is called Second Beginnings - an aged Kirk (and the rest of the crew) are rejuvenated by a freak combination of circumstances and have to solve a . . . to the galaxy. It seems like someone's thoughts from the movie 'outline' as announced ages ago. After the unlikely beginning, however, this story does catch the interest, and I do recommend it - Sheila.

STELLAR GAS - from Della Van Hise, 10885 Parkdale Ave., San Diego, CA 92126 USA. A genzine. The flyer says 'If you are easily offended by ideas and broad generalities, this may not be the zine for you.' \$8.25 airmail, publication date January/February 1979. Della also puts out an adult zine, Naked Time; issue 1 was only printing enough copies to cover orders and the deadling for orders is now past, but issue 2 is planned for the first half of next year - \$10.25 airmail.

ISTARI ANAXAR - from Mary Ann Amerson, Box 12783 Univ. Sta., Gainesville, Florida 32604, USA. In preparation for early summer - write for foreign rates. This is a general SF/SF/Fantasy zine which includes fiction and articles.

FUTURE WINGS - a charming new STAR TREK fanzine with a light-hearted touch. For details send IRC and addressed envelope to Jeanette Bilke, CFB Chatham, Curtis Park, New Brunswick, Canada, EOC 2E0 (info Philip Pearce)

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The following comment was sent to us by Ruth A. Breisinger, who stays in Atlanta. 'I got the newsletter and it is jam packed of all the kind of info I want to read. Thank you! Your info is much more current and detailed than any newsletter I receive here. I noticed that some members of STAG believe that US zine editors don't take them seriously when requesting info on zines. Believe me, it's not because you're so far away. It's just that zines just seem to take much longer to get out here. When I order LOG ENTRIES or ALNITAH for example, they seem to come almost immediately. However, there are some U.S. zines I ordered 6 - 12 months ago and still don't have!'

FRIENDSHIP CORNER

Any other fans living in or about York who are interested in meeting and spending an evening together contact: David Bardy, Rear Entrance, 39A Crichton Avenue, Burton Stone Lane, York, YO3 6EF

I am 19 and interested in corresponding and/or meeting a girl from 17 upwards with interests such as ST, SF, Rock music and Fell walking. If anyone is interested contact me (Anthony Johnston) at 6 The Potteries, Coxhoe, Durham, DH6 4AY or phone Durham 770975 after 4.15.

New Members seeks contact with another member with similar interests/Hobbies. I am a Nurse, aged 38. Hobbies/Interests: STAR TREK, Tapestry, Reading (Biographies), Travelling (Next trip planned for Winter 79 or Spring 80 to California USA) Anyone interested in coming with me? Miss Doreen Twivey, c/o 4 Varley House, County Street, London SE1. Tel. No. 01-407-0724

Any STAR TREK fans living in or around Kidderminster area who are interested in meeting and spending an evening together please contact Mrs C. Farr, 27 Larches Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY11 7AB

20 year old STAR TREK fan would like penfriends from all over the world. Interests include STAR TREK, science fiction, Astronomy and writing. Miss Christine Leeson, 22 Fountain Street, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L42 7JH

Would all ST fans in Essex interested in joining a local group with meetings approximately every month please contact Lynn Campion, 6 Bramble Road, Canvey Island, Essex.

Would any STAG members in Bradford like to contact Catherine Moorhouse se we can get together? I don't know anyone who really likes 'Star Trek' to share my interest with. I'd also like to write to other ST fans. Catherine Moorhouse, 79 Cumberland Road, Lidget Green, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 2JP

CONVENTIONS

AUSTRALIAN STAR TREK CONVENTION 10th/11th March 1979 Menzies Hotel, Sydney
Australia's 1st major ST Con. Guest of honour James (Scotty) Doohan. Enquiries with SASE
to Karen Lewis, P.O. Box 110, Rockdale, NSW 2216, Australia.
STAR TREK

STAG/EMPATHY MIDI-CON 31st March/1st April 1979 Dragonara Hotel, Leeds
registration £3.00 Room rates £11 per night, per person, inclusive of VAT & service
charge, exclusive of meals. Info from Dot Owens or Janet Quarton, Registration must
be sent to Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Daill, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll, Scotland.
STAR TREK

SEACON (37th World Science Fiction Convention) 23 - 27th August, 1979.
Metropole Hotel, Brighton. Contact SEACON, 14 Henrietta St., London WC2E 8QJ

ANDERSON CON (Space 1999, UFO, Joe 90, Captain Scarlet, Thunderbirds, Stingray,
Fireball XL-5 etc.)

A three-day con is being planned for early 1979. If you would like further information
or if you think you could help with exhibits, letter-writing etc, send an SAE to
Pat Thomas & Janet Ellicott, 88A Thornton Avenue, Chiswick, London W4

EMPATHY LATE MIDI-CON November 10th & 11th, 1979. Dragonara Hotel, Leeds.
Details later.

NEW AND FORTHCOMING MERCHANDISE

CHARLIE - WATCHING TV Polydor 2059 069 This single recently released includes a verse
on STAR TREK and a wish to 'travel through the cosmos at warp factor nine'. Quite apart
from this it's a good-going record and we feel is well worth getting. (info Bob Eeles)

STAR TREK ALIENS Palitoy have finally managed to get round to putting out the STAR TREK
alien dolls in this country. Available are the Gorn, Cheron, The Keeper and a
Neptunian (?) These are available in Scotland in branches of Menzies at £1.25. The Gorn
and Cheron are reasonable, although the Cheron is wearing a black/white costume divided
down the middle to match his face, but the keeper looks more like Balok's 'alter ego'
and the Neptunian is like nothing that ever appeared on STAR TREK.

Menzies is also stocking British reprints of the Blue Mountain Arts cards with extracts
from Leonard Nimoy's poetry. Reprinted by Athena International these cost 31p each.
There are five different designs (at least).

THE STARLESS CHILD by Gordon Ecklund, Bantam. This is one of the better of the profession-
ally published novels, being a well told and well developed, fast moving story in the
good old action/adventure tradition, in which the author's own characters, although
playing a reasonably vital role do not intrude on the Enterprise crew to the point of
overwhelming them. Although I prefer more intercharacter relationship in stories, this
one rates quite high - Sheila.

OMNI - new magazine, probably available from most big newsagents. OMNI 1 is out of
print, 2 now available. This seems to be a magazine for people liking science fact
presented in a style suitable for the layman to understand, and also includes some fiction,
and artwork. Although issue 1 did have a couple of lines mentioning the STAR TREK movie,
there is no reason to suppose that further issue will devote any great space to ST.
Price 95p. Thanks to Dorcen Twivey for sending us a copy of OMNI 1 to look at.

We made a mistake in the last newsletter over the title of the ST novel which
by Joe Haldeman's brother is writing. It will be called PERRY'S PLANET. (Thanks to
Starship Exeter for the info.

Rog Peyton tells us there will be a number a new ST books out next year. One is called
TREK TO THE STARS.

FOTONOVEL 12 - Amok Time is now available. There isn't another issue advertised in the
back of this one so we suggest you all write to: Mandala Production, 8831 Sunset Blvd.,
Penthouse West, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Tell them we want them to do all 79 episodes
and that we're waiting for the next one. Also tell them your favorite episodes to give
them an idea which episodes to do first. They asked fans to do this in Fotonovel 11.

SMALL ADS

Charge: 5p per line (approx 12 words). Send ads to Janet - British stamps accepted.

FOR SALE: or trade, STAR TREK book adaptations (from series and animations), poster books, view reels. Write for complete list to Sandra Sprecker, Box 111, Battleford, Sask, Canada, S6M 0E0

WANTED: Anyone willing to sell or lend the following: Alternate Universe 4; Babel 1; Spockanalia 3 and 5; Eridani Triad 3; Impulse 5; Tholian Web 6; Tricorder Readings II and Vol II No. 2; Kraith Collected 1 to 4; Contact; Galactic Discourse; More Trek Tales; Diane Steiner's novel Spock Enslaved; Karen Pearce, 42 Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby, DE2 0BS, Derbyshire, England

FOR SALE: or Swap: 1978 Star Trek Annual 90p including postage; also Star Trek zines, send SAE for details to Karen Pearce, 42 Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby, Derbyshire, DE2 0BS, England.

WANTED: Urgent! Does anybody have a Betamax or Phillips (not VHS) video cassette of any or all of the following Star Trek episodes: Mudd's Women; Tomorrow Is Yesterday; Menagerie 1 and 2; Devil In The Dark. I will pay any necessary hire charges, (provided they are not too steep!) and all postage fees. Please reply as soon as possible to: J. Colin R. Hunter, 7 Craigmillar Park, Newington, Edinburgh, EH16 5PF. I only require these tapes for 1 day so that I may copy them therefore they will be returned almost immediately.

WANTED: STAR TREK Comics (Gold Key) No's 1-14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 27, 30, 32, 34, 38, 41-44, 50, 51, 55, and STAR TREK Annuals years 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975. All must be in good condition.

FOR SALE: ST Fotonovel No.6-All Our Yesterdays, good condition 50p and Movie Monsters No.4 containing an 8 page article on ST 35p. For p&p add 15p to each item. Send details to: Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL8 6HY

FOR SALE: A copy of STAR TREK LOG TWO. New, never been read. £1.10 inc. postage. Kathy Halsell, Westwood, 47 Bath Street, Southport, Lancs

FOR SALE: STAR TREK fanzines including early T-NEGATIVE, SPOCKANALIA etc. SAE for list to: Margaret Austin, 44 Duke Street, Windsor, Berks, SL4 1SA

FOR SALE: Copies of the following plans are now on sale:
 (i) The set of 12 Freighter Blueprints at £1.95
 (ii) The set of 8 Klingon Blueprints (Bigger than the above) at £3.00
 All the above are in Special title envelopes and are sent in reinforced photographic envelopes for maximum postal survivability. Cheques/POs made payable to J. Colin Hunter, 7 Craigmillar Park, Newington, Edinburgh, EH16 5PF

WANTED: Would anyone who took photos of Dave Prowse and Tony Daniels at Slough please contact me, as I had no camera and would dearly love copies of photos of them. Name your price! Please contact; Elaine Thomson, 23 Northbrook Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 3HE

FOR SALE: Log Entries 2-15 40p each plus 15p post; Grope, Son of Grope, Deep Grope, More Grope, 40p each plus 15p post; Captain's Log 1-3, 40p each plus 15p post; Enterprise Incidents 2, 40p plus 15p post; Alnitah 1, 3-7 50p each plus 15p post; The Price of Friendship, 50p plus 15p post; The Wheel Turns, 30p plus 15p post.

WANTED: Anything on BLAKES SEVEN. Carole Fairman, 200 Boundaries Road, Balham, London SW12 8HF

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STAR TREK GALORE

436 E. Orange Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750, U.S.A.

This firm sell a lot of very nice ST items including 8"x10" colour lithos, badges, posters, jewelry and many other things. If you would like details send a SAE to Empathy, Dot Owens, 30 Ovenden Way, Lee Mount, Halifax, West Yorks.

Dot is getting a lot of these items in from ST Galore and you can order through her.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

In Horizon on BBC the other week, a programme discussing hibernation suggested that a bear would be the ideal animal to send to Mars as it could travel whilst in hibernation and would cause less bother all round. They then showed this cartoon of a bear, complete with space suit, on Mars, with voice over 'To boldly go where no bear has gone before' and the ST theme in the background.

In ARE YOU BEING SERVED on Wed. Nov. 20th, the storeman arrived on the floor with a dummy on a 'barrow'. He said that if this was STAR TREK he would put the dummy on the transporter and it would dissolve in sparkling lights and 'reappear up here' on this floor. Since it wasn't ST he just had to bring it up on a barrow. (Afraid this is just an approximation as it's a week since I saw it - Janet.)

DR. WHO is even taking quotes from ST now, in the episode shown on Nov 18th when K9 asked the woman to rebuild the gadget she announded, "I'm an archaeologist, not a mechanic." The writer must have been thinking of McCoy when he/she put that in. (I think the word used was 'mechanic', I really ought to take a note - Janet.)

All British members must have seen the announcement for TOM & JERRY before MAN TRAP - 'Boldly going through the frontiers of the skirting board'. (And all work instantly stopped on the newsletter for a couple of minutes just now when the BBC put on the Deodato recording of the STAR TREK theme...)

Did any of you see PRAY FOR THE WILDCATS which was shown on some ITV stations. It stars William Shatner. In the film he was seen talking to an associate in his office. On the table was a statue of a naked man with his hands on his head, the very same statue that was seen in Anan 7's office in A TASTE OF ARMAGEDDON! That's what I call a coincidence. - Barry Willmott.

"The other night, a Glasgow traffic policeman stopped a motorist for suspected drunk driving.

When the officer leaned in the window the driver - who was one over the eight - realised he was about to be nicked.

He leaned out, plucked the officer's two-way personal radio from his tunic, and said into it, in the tones of STAR TREK's Captain Kirk- "Quick, beam me up, Mr. Spock!" It could only happen in Glasgow!" - The Sunday Post, November 19th 1978.

THE BANNED EPISODES

A friend of mine - not a member of any club but a fan nevertheless - recently wrote to the BBC about the rescreening, and they sent back the usual 'Thank you for your interest' reply together with a list of the episodes to be shown. At the time he wrote he mentioned the banned episodes, but it was not until some days after the first reply that he received a second. In it they stated that their position on the four episodes remained the same. These episodes showed scenes of torture, cruelty, etc, entirely unsuitable for a young audience that would stay up to watch no matter what time they were shown.

Personally, I fail to see how a programme recorded ten years ago, and with the American network censorship such as it was at the time, can be worse than the majority of series churned out today, and which seem to be aimed at the younger market. I feel that the stand they are taking is an attempt to justify the earlier decision. If they were to give in and show the episodes in question, do they feel they would be admitting a mistake, losing face, or made to seem foolish? An answer to this problem eludes me. However, with a certain amount of pre-publicity they could grab themselves a considerable slice of Friday night viewing. Imagine the viewing public discovering that certain episodes are to be shown, never before seen on British TV because of their dubious content. A slightly later screening time. Advance warning that the contents might prove disturbing to young children. ITV would have to counter with something pretty heavy to beat that sort of package. However, I don't see it happening.

Graham Parry.

MANCHESTER REVIEW by Nicola Moore

Those of you who attended the Empathy Midicon at the end of October will not need me to tell you what an enjoyable event it was. I would say that it was easily the best con I have attended and this was largely due to the tremendously friendly atmosphere. For the benefit of those who were unable to go I will try to outline what you missed.

This con was somewhat unusual in that there was an additional attraction on Friday evening. Most people's aim was to get to the Portland Hotel as soon as possible because, as readers in Britain will know, part two of the STAR TREK episode 'The Menagerie' was being shown on BBC 1 at 7.10 pm. Thus throughout the afternoon and early evening the hotel foyer and reception desk were busy with fans arriving, booking in and meeting old friends before locating a room in which to settle in time for the show. By 7.00pm a hush had descended over the hotel and any late arrivals had to quickly find their own rooms or creep in with friends.

On Saturday morning those with tables to set up in the dealers' room busied themselves with that whilst others enjoyed a late breakfast or sat and chatted until the opening ceremony. After a brief speech everything was under way and proceeded as smoothly as cons do. First up was a film and during the two days a total of six was shown; some old favourites and a couple which hadn't been seen for some time. During breaks and at various other times the display and dealers' rooms were open and business at the latter appeared to be quite good.

The guest speaker on Saturday was Philip Strick who brought along a collection of old (some very old) science fiction films and talked about some experiences he'd had in obtaining them. It was interesting to see that film makers had been aware of science fiction for so long. Many of the examples we saw were rather amusing and though they lacked the special effects of modern films they were obviously very imaginative and advanced for their time. Later on Saturday was the disco with fancy dress parade. These are a standard feature of British cons and most fans seem to enjoy them. An additional feature of this disco was a rendition of the bawdy ballad 'Sing of the Star Strip Expertise' and a number of space folk songs.

Most of Sunday morning was taken up by the auction. As usual this was a fairly humorous event and one doesn't have to be bidding to take part in the fun. Amongst the items coming under the hammer were U.S. and British zines; records; posters; and books, mostly to do with STAR TREK or ST characters in other roles. Later there was a colourful, glittering hour of entertainment in the form of an intergalactic fashion show which allowed those creative and imaginative ones amongst us to show their talents.

Sunday's guest speaker was Dave McGee who came to talk about his travel company which specialised in unusual tours. We saw slides taken on previous tours of America, one of which included a trip to watch an Apollo moonshot launch. Not unnaturally there was a great deal of interest in these tours as so many fans have ambitions of visiting the U.S.A. Dave also talked about a forthcoming tour which is planned to coincide with the launch of America's Space Shuttle, U.S.S. Enterprise, and I know quite a few people would love to go on that tour.

Something not advertised in the programme was a surprise tape recorded message from Gene Roddenberry sending his best wishes and telling us all the latest on the film. Short of actually having Gene there in person to speak to us this was the best way of obtaining first hand information - and who better to hear it from? Gene spoke for about fifteen minutes and without giving anything away he spoke about production, the sets, the uniforms, and of course the actors. One thing he did stress was that despite any changes the film definitely is STAR TREK and that was what we wanted to hear. The tape was played first on Saturday and then repeated on Sunday to make sure we hadn't missed anything.

All too soon the closing ceremony came round and people had to leave and thus we came to the end of another enjoyable weekend. Cons really are fun and part of that fun is in meeting old friends and making new ones. I have a very good friend whom I met last year when we were both attending our first con - so if you've never been to one because you don't know anyone, then come along to Leeds in March 1979 - we'll be waiting for you.

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MANCHESTER MIDI-CON by Kathy Halsall

"Write a report on the con for the next newsletter," said Janet.

"Gulp, whimper" said I - or words to that effect.

I won't mention the indecent hour of the morning that I had to get up to be at the con in time, but any resemblance to a zombie was purely coincidental. We arrived in plenty of time for the opening ceremony, after which there was a stampede - sorry, orderly procession, to the sales room, since there was a small delay in the start of the first film. Anybody who had seen what a swarm of locusts can do to a field will have a pretty good idea of what the sales room looked like half an hour later.

Noon, and I'm making the third of many trips to the hotel reception desk, to be told to come back in half an hour. Eventually they decided to confess that they'd made a mistake with the bookings, and I was dispatched to the Midland Hotel, which was about five minutes' walk away (and about twenty minutes by car! Anyone who hasn't been to Manchester cannot fully appreciate their one-way system.) I arrived back at the Portland in time to catch the last half of the talk by Philip Strick. I was sorry to have missed any of it, because what I did hear was very interesting and amusing, though I do wish someone had given him a microphone, he was such a quiet speaker it was very easy to miss what he was saying.

After some more films it was time to take a break to get ready for the fancy dress and disco. After the first couple of entrants in the fancy dress the mind boggled to think what could come next. Actually it was the Incredible Hulk!

Bedtime on Saturday night turned out to be three O'clock Sunday morning (Or would that be two o'clock? - the hour changed) Still we managed to drag ourselves out of bed after four hours' sleep to be down in time for breakfast (and the coffee was actually coffee!) And then made the journey back to the Portland, suitably laden with cases this time. We walked so we were there about ten minutes before the coach bringing the rest of the exiles from the Midland.

Sunday passed far too quickly with the auction and the films and all too soon it was time to head for home. Cons just aren't long enough, but then again after two days the need for sleep is becoming vital.

I had a marvellous time, and so did everyone I spoke to. Many thanks to the organising committee, especially Dot Owens; knowing Dot she did more than her fair share. There's just no stopping her. Thanks too to Gene Roddenberry for sending a tape telling us about the progress of the movie.

Now I'm looking forward to the next con in Leeds on March 31st and 32nd next year. (Sheila has decided to cancel April Fool's Day.)

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THE EMPATHY MIDI-CON, OCTOBER 1978

by Shirley Lambard, Sue Goddard and Lynn Campion

We (Shirley - Captain, Sue - First Officer, Lynn - Chief Medical Officer) left Wickford, Essex, at about 2100 hours on stardate 7810.27. Fog throughout Essex and Hertfordshire made the initial journey hazardous. Soon, though, we were able to sit back and enjoy and open road to Manchester.

Shouts of jubilation were to be heard as Manchester started to appear on motorway signposts, but as we discovered Manchester's one-way system screams of 'Where do we go now?' were uttered in alarm. Suddenly we spotted the higher reaches of the Portland Hotel, but where could we park the car? Where, in fact, was the entrance to the Portland Hotel?

After driving around in circles, remembering it is now 0300 hours on stardate 7810.28, we decided on a road behind the hotel and settled down for a few hours' snooze. Whilst attempting to do so the First Officer suffered an acute attack of giggles as did the Chief Medical Officer who contributed a 'Muttley' type laugh. Finally managing to cure our affliction we drifted towards the land of nod, only to be disturbed by Manchester's young nightlife standing at the corner of the road yelling to a mate some distance away.

At approximately 0830 hours we awoke and made our way over to the Portland Hotel, only to find that they do not have a car park of their own...

Our first step was to have Jackie Clark paged so that we could shanghai her key and deposit our luggage in her room. We freshened up, the Chief Medical Officer donned her uniform and the others changed into more suitable attire.

We collected our name badges, spoke to friends as they arrived and proceeded to the Ullswater Room to watch films.

During the afternoon guest speaker Philip Strick gave a very interesting speech which was followed by the showing of more films. Many Trekkers disappeared during this time to various hotel rooms to view William Shatner in 'How the West was Won'. The Chief Medical Officer and Jackie Clarke ended up with Janet Quarton where they had a most enlightening ninety minutes.

A short break, when people were able to change, was followed by a very good fancy dress parade and a disco that went on till the early hours.

At various points during the day several Trekkers found that the Portland Hotel had double booked some of the rooms. The three of us now found that we were in the Midland Hotel, twenty minutes away. Although inconvenient it must be noted that an apology was made by the management and we found the accomodation was superior in the Midland Hotel anyway.

Next morning we joined John Field for breakfast - have you ever tried to eat a full English breakfast while commenting on life in general; especially Star Trek, but particulzrly where the hotel got their tea from (ie was it Indian or Chinese?) Then we made our way back to the Portland Hotel.

After a film came the auction. After this we went to the dealers' room to purchase whatever we had sufficient currency for. Slightly later we were to be found in the Highland Bar quenching out thirsts with a vinegary cider. Whilst there we had a most interesting conversation with two of the locals. One claimed to be well over sixty years of age.

"Excuse me, Madam, what's going on?"

"It's a Star Trek Convention," answered Shirley.

The other gentleman piped up, "I like that show, I watch that."

The first gentleman continued, "You're tied up with personalities (James Kirk)."

Then came a slight disagreement, to the amusement of onlookers, as to why one follows Star Trek; one saying that it was personalities only, the other admitting that yes, she did like James Kirk, but also was interested in Star Trek for what it was and is. The funniest part was when the gentleman concerned got up to get himself another drink, leaving his friend at the table. This man was quick to admit that he watched Star Trek regularly and would have loved to have joined in the convention himself. Unfortunately as soon as his friend returned he denied all knowledge of the show, although he had been quick to point out who the characters were and which episodes Shirley's photographs came from.

During the afternoon our guest speaker was Dave McGee, a representative of Transolar Travel who talked about the proposed tour of eastern North America next September, which will finish with the launching of the shuttlecraft. We were shown many slides of the sights to be seen, and also included were a few slides of the new Star Trek uniforms which will be seen in the movie to be released late next year. They appear to be very formal but we are assured that there are in fact to be six new uniforms.

The closing ceremony and awards followed, and the evening finished with more films.

Finally, we tried to find our way out of Manchester's incredible one-way sustem. Unfamiliar with the amazing maze of roads we started to advance on a red light. A police van quickly drew up beside us and an occupant said "Oy! You don't know Manchester, do you, chuck?"

Shirley proceeded to wind down the window, saying, "No, where's the M6?"

They told us, then added, "Have you been to this Star Trek thing?"

To which Shirley replied, "Of course." Then they told us they'd been to the con on Saturday but had been on duty since! Shirley told them about the next con in Leeds and they said they would hope to be there.

After that we managed to find the appropriate roads and wended our way home, fighting fatigue all the way. We had thoroughly enjoyed the con but needed almost a week to recover. Our thanks to the organisers and everyone concerned, especially Gene Roddenberry for sending over that interesting tape and letting us hear something about the progress of the movie.

ALAN DEAN FOSTER by Glenn Curtis

I suppose like many fans of STAR TREK I was disappointed with the animated series and it was for this reason that I hesitated over buying any of the novelisations of these episodes. I decided, however, to try STAR TREK Log One written by a new author to me, Alan Dean Fostoeer.

I discovered that these stories were far better read than watched. This first novel was followed by nine others all of which added more to my enjoyment of STAR TREK than the animated programmes themselves. I decided to try more of Mr. Foster's work but alas, only one novel was available in Great Britain at that time - the excellent 'Icerigger'. Last year I was fortunate enough to be in California and managed to obtain several more of his books. Alan Dean Foster has become one of my favourite science fiction writers and I am delighted to be writing this article about him. I would like to thank Mr. Foster for taking the time to answer all my questions.

Alan Dean Foster first became interested in science fiction when he read 'The Spaceship Under the Apple Tree' at the age of eight. While at school he started to draw countless spaceships and then branched out into composing short stories. He wrote love stories, mystery and some fantasy; steering away from science fiction which he regarded as being too complex and challenging. It was at UCLA that his first attempts at science fiction were made while studying in the college's motion picture department. After numerous tries he managed to get a story published in Analog - 'With Friends Like These' which can be found along with his first 'sold' work, 'Notes Concerning a Green Box' in the book 'With Friends Like These' published by Ballantine.

His first published novel was 'The Tar-Aiym Krang' which was the first in a series of books to feature the adventures of Flinx and his minidrag Pip.

He got his job of novelising the animated STAR TREK because of his previous work for Ballantine, including the novelisation of "a perfectly awful movie called 'Luana'," his ability to write fast and a knowledge of motion pictures. Despite the fact that he thought most of the episodes were "terribly written and terribly animated" he succeeded in producing STAR TREK novels of the best kind. The stories he did like were Dorothy Fontana's 'Yesteryear'; David Gerrold's 'More Tribbles, More Troubles' and 'Bem' and Russell Bates and David Wise's 'How Sharper Than the Serpent's Tooth'. His favourite live action episodes were 'The Trouble With Tribbles' written by David Gerrold; 'The Menagerie' written by Gene Roddenberry and 'Arena' written by Gene Coon.

Although the animated scripts have been exhausted and there are no plans for an original STAR TREK novel he has written six short stories for a record company. Alan Dean Foster says that the reason the series succeeded as it did was "because it aspired to be intelligent, because it had some good writing and because the public is starved for any TV science fiction."

A few years ago the TV series SPACE: 1999 was heralded as the British STAR TREK - but does it bear comparison? Mr. Foster says putting it mildly "SPACE: 1999 is the worst written show on television, beneath comment, a technological garbage pit." He has however enjoyed some other TV science fiction such as THE TWILIGHT ZONE, OUTER LIMITS, SCIENCE FICTION THEATER and a few episodes of ONE STEP BEYOND and NIGHT GALLERY but "the rest stinks." He adds that the forthcoming blockbuster from Universal City Studios BATTLESTAR GALACTICA has promise but is sinking fast.

As far as reading other science fiction goes his favourite authors are Eric F. Russell, Murray Leinster and Robert Sheckley. His favourite artists are John Schoenherr and Phillipe Druillet. He is interested in animation and documentaries and when watching TV enjoys THE BUGS BUNNY SHOW, WKRP IN CINCINNATI, BARNEY MILLER, shows on the PBS network, movies, some sports and MASH.

If you are interested in reading more of Alan Dean Foster's work here's a list of what is available now and coming out in the near future. The books I enjoyed most were 'Icerigger' and 'Midworld' both of which are available in Great Britain. Most of the others can be obtained from British importers of American paperbacks.

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STAR TREK

STAR TREK Log 1 thru 10

published by Ballantine

STAR WARS

SPLINTER OF THE MIND'S EYE

Published by Ballantine

This is an original novel inspired
by the characters in the 20th
Century Fox film 'Star Wars'.

FLINX AND PIP ADVENTURES

THE TAR-LIYM KRANG

published by Ballantine

ORPHAN STAR

BLOODHYPE

THE END OF THE MATTER

SNAKE EYES (novelette)

featured in Stellar 4

OTHER NOVELS

published by Ballantine

ICERIGGER

MIDWORLD

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE

A collection of twelve short stories

FORTHCOMING NOVELS

ALIEN

published by Warner Books

The novelisation of the new SF film

MISSION TO MOULOKEN

published by Ballantine

A sequel to Icerigger for publication
in February 1979

CACHALOT

Further adventures of Flinx and Pip

WHAT'S AN AFFIRMATION?

Have you read Kraith? Kraith is the view of Vulcan culture and society postulated by Jacqueline Lichtenberg and her associates. It started off as a few stories and has become a mammoth undertaking comprising many stories written by different authors but all conforming to the Kraith view of Vulcan and the Federation.

One of the early stories in the series was 'Spock's Affirmation'. This states that all Vulcans must attend an Affirmation Ceremony every fifty years and renew their commitment to the Vulcan way of life, thus assuring a continuity of Vulcan thought and philosophy. This idea has so caught on in America that 'Affirmations' are held when enough STAR TREK fans who wish to be 'Affirmed' get together. There has never been an 'Affirmation' in Britain because the Kraith creators have not visited here. However this could change.

At the end of August 1979 Brighton is the venue for the World Science Fiction Convention. Many U.S. STAR TREK fans plan to attend (See the STUK flyer included with this N/L). Among our American guests will be Jacqueline Lichtenberg herself. Jacqueline is keen to meet as many British STAR TREK fans as possible while she is here. She has also offered to hold an 'Affirmation' ceremony for those fans wishing to be 'Affirmed'.

Jacqueline will be staying with me in Bedford from the 16th to the 20th August 1979. According to the numbers wishing to meet her and/or be 'Affirmed' depends what plans are to be made. If the number is less than 20 I shall hold a private, if squashed, party at my flat. If more than 20 I shall plan a small minicon in Bedford. The minicon would consist of video showings of episodes, a sales room, perhaps an auction and the 'Affirmation'.

Jacqueline is not only known for the inspiration she gave to the Kraith universe but also for her science fiction series 'Zeor'. Two novels of this series are already in print, 'The House of Zeor' and 'Unto Zeor Forever'. I believe a third is on the way.

I would be grateful if anyone wanting to meet Jacqueline and/or be 'Affirmed' would write to me -

Ms. Beth Hallam
Flat 3
36 Clapham Rd
Bedford

stating whether you want to take part in the ceremony, whether you would require over-night accomodation. Please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope so that details can be sent to you, as the postage bill might prove rather high.

STAR TREK IN GERMANY

Totally crazy about Spock and company.

The Enterprise flies again. The science fiction date on TV began with the adventures of this Starship, and millions are still caught by this fever.

If, on Sunday at 6.15, the Starship Enterprise once again departs on its voyages through the Galaxy, it is to the 'Guardian of Forever' that we must address our thanks. The fifty science fiction adherents who form the German chapter of the STAR TREK Fan Club have reawakened Captain Kirk, Mr. Spock - the one with the pointed ears - and Lt. Uhura for a new lease of life in TV.

The group 'Guardian of Forever' had literally bombarded the Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen with letters since the 23rd March 1974, the date on which the Enterprise disappeared from the screens at warp drive. At first there were polite inquiries: "When will Mr. Spock return?", later massive demands, "We want to have STAR TREK back!"

The ZDF sometimes answered. This was the case with the junior postal clerk Wolfgang Schroder, 18, in Bochum. He clearly remembers the answer of the ZDF. "The letter said, 'As we are obliged to think that you prefer this primitive kind of entertainment, we will try to rerun the episodes'. I found that style rude, to say the least."

Wolfgang has forgiven the ZDF since hearing that the Enterprise once more warps through star clusters and galactic nebulae. Information from the programmers: "The demands of many viewers and above all the letters of the fan club have decided us to rerun 36 episodes."

When the members of 'Guardian of Forever' took part in the World Convention of Star Trek fans in Slough (33 kilometers to the west of London) they did not know of their good fortune. They exchanged their experiences with other fans from America, Canada and England, and discussed the search for peace, free development of each individual's personality and interracial harmony. "Those are in fact the elements which are of importance to us," says Roswitha Bohme, 21, student of chemistry from St. Augustine, "and in STAR TREK these have been realised."

Uschi Bauer, 22, industrial clerk in Bochum, also a member of 'Guardian of Forever' says, "STAR TREK has a deep meaning for us."

The main attraction is the palace of culture in Slough where the sales stands with posters, books, records, tapes, models, pins and other galactic souvenirs are to be seen. Naturally wax duplicates of Spock's ears were there too.

The Enterprise fans are a bit concerned about the increasing number of STAR WARS fans permeating their ranks. They ran about with costumes and weapons never seen on the Enterprise. The true Trekkists console themselves with the following: "STAR TREK is the source - it all began with STAR TREK."

The above was translated from an article in the German TV magazine HORZU, 43/78, written by Roland Westphal and Alexander Leontowitsch (SAD) by Charlotte Davis.

COMPETITION

We had quite a good response to the last competition - better than the last time we had a similar sort of subject for it! There were entries from Lynn Campion, Jackie Clarke, Paula Greener, May Jones, R.E. Jones, Christine Leeson, Susan Meek, Gladys Oliver, Sally Syrjala and Josie Timmins. Most of these are new writers and it's nice to know that more members are becoming interested in writing.

We left the final decision to Janet, since this was 'her' subject. She felt that the story by Jackie Clarke best fitted the subject, and we are therefore declaring it the winner. We will however also be printing several of the others at some future date - the standard of entry was very high.

For next time, we would like an episode sequel. This can be a straight continuation of an episode adding a scene that might have been there but wasn't (eg in City, a scene set on their return to the ship) or a story that has arisen from some aspect of the episode (eg how Alexander from Plato's Stepchildren adapted to his life aboard the Enterprise before being 'settled' somewhere in the Federation). Come to think of it that second idea also belongs with the first suggestion... Trouble is it's difficult to think off the top of my head of anything that actually involved the Enterprise crew - most of the 'what might have happened's' that spring to mind involve the guest aliens! Anyway, you have till January 13th to think of something.

Entries should be sent to Sheila by January 13th - this is also the deadline for anything to be included next time. Some of you have mentioned that your original draft was, you felt, too long and that you cut it to make it shorter - we tend not to think of a story as being too long until it exceeds 20 pages. Though I hasten to add we still need very short ones too in the 1000 - 2000 word range! Some story ideas, even in the competition, need space to be developed properly; others can be told most effectively if they're kept short.

We also got some very good artwork this time, from Tim Dollin, Mark French, Richard Gardner, Rita Oliver and Sharon Packam. Again we'll be using most of these; the best one, in our opinion, was the one by Richard Gardner and so we are declaring it the winner. For the third time in succession, however, the winning entry is providing us with printing difficulties - or is it the fourth? Not only is the picture very heavily shaded, it's almost twice as large as our normal page. We're looking into getting it printed but will have to fold it inside a zine, much as I hate doing that with a good illo.

The subject for next time is an alien spaceship. This does not have to be either a Klingon or a Romulan; you can draw one of your own design. If we get sufficient good designs we will for once put an art folio of them in a zine. Do keep your design realistic, however! Not too much dark shading, please - I know a black background looks very effective, but it's murder to reproduce! Not larger than A4 size, please - that is, the same size as this page - and allow for a margin all round. We'll only be able to use illustrations for an art folio that can be cut on electrostencil since any other method of printing adds about 5p per page to the cost of the zine. (This also means they have to be in ink, not pencil. Pencil reproduction is very expensive - Barry Willmott's sketch of the Enterprise cost just on £20 for 500 copies, but it was such an excellent one that it would have been criminal not to print it. I'm not saying don't enter this time, Barry, but if you do your picture won't be in the proposed art folio!)

Entries should be sent to Sheila by January 13th. Please try not to fold drawings - an electrostencil can be very loathe to pick up subtleties of shading and yet fantastically ready to cut the mark of a crease.

BORE DA, MR. SPOCK from Cari Murphy

HTV Cymru/Wales have lately been airing Frinkenstein and Shane dubbed into Welsh..

Now admittedly it is the opposite channel, but the two companies do have the habit of duplicating each other's efforts and with the advent of a 4th Welsh channel in Wales some time in the future, the possibilities are mind boggling.....

..... "Bore da, Mr. Spock."

FICTION SECTIONTHE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ON THE ENTERPRISE by Angela Sigley

On the 1st day of Christmas James T. Kirk sent to me
some shore leave on Alpha B3.

On the 2nd day of Christmas Nurse Chapel sent to me
two test tube rack.

On the 3rd day of Christmas Bones has sent to me
three hypo sprays.

On the 4th day of Christmas Scotty sent to me
four warp drive engines.

On the 5th day of Christmas Spock has sent to me
five bowls of plomik soup.

On the 6th day of Christmas Chekov sent to me
six pints of vodka.

On the 7th day of Christmas Sulu sent to me
seven standard phasers.

On the 8th day of Christmas Uhura sent to me
eight hailing panels.

On the 9th day of Christmas Yeoman Rand sent to me
nine forms to sign.

On the 10th day of Christmas the Klingons sent to me
10,000 tribbles.

On the 11th day of Christmas Harry Mudd sent to me
11 real paste diamonds.

On the 12th day of Christmas the whole crew sent to me
12 shuttlecraft
11 real paste diamonds
10,000 tribbles,
9 forms to sign,
8 hailing panels,
7 standard phasers,
6 pints of vodka,
5 bowls of plomik soup,
4 warp drive engines,
3 hypo sprays,
2 test tube racks,
and some shore leave on Alpha B3.

A TALE OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE by Rod Summers

It had been some party. Kirk felt good; maybe a bit too good, he pondered as he felt himself stumble casually through the gap where his cabin door had been seconds earlier. No-one had seen him, fortunately; it would not do for the Captain of the Enterprise to be spotted by his crew the worse for drink. Yes, that had been some Christmas party! Kirk chuckled and smiled broadly at the memory of Scotty demonstrating the Highland Fling to an enthusiastic - if somewhat over-refreshed - audience. Poor old Scotty, he probably wouldn't remember it in the morning. Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Christ; Kirk didn't think of himself as a particularly religious man but the festival had a special message of brotherhood for everyone, no matter the race or species. Kirk smiled again at another thought, laughed out loud, and chuckled to himself as he undressed for bed. After all, he had to stand watch in six hours and relieve Spock - the only one of his senior officers who had volunteered for duty on Christmas Day. Kirk bent down to remove his boots but his head started to throb and he thought better of the idea. Lying down on the bed he smiled again, passed a hand across his forehead, and fell into a deep sleep.

A weight on his shoulder startled him; puzzled, he investigated and found a phaser

rifle...

What?

His mind raced. A dream? From afar, "I'm disappointed in you, Elizabeth. You still have doubts." A too-familiar voice. Kirk felt himself raise the rifle and fire - he couldn't stop himself. The beam reached out and hit the man dead centre. Gary? The figure raised an arm, pointed at Kirk, and the rifle clattered from his grasp.

A dream! A crazy dream! It had to be. But he had the unnerving feeling that everything was all too real. He tried to pull his mind back and focus on what was happening. The man - it was Gary - spoke again.

"I have been meditating," he said. "I have been reflecting upon the death of an old friend. His death and his honourable burial."

Kirk whirled and beheld the freshly-dug burial pit, complete with granite slab inscribed - as before - 'James Kirk C-1277.1 to 1313.7'. The finger raised again.

No! This wasn't the way it had been. NO!

"Gary!" he heard himself say. No, this was wrong!

"Time to pray, Captain." The finger pointed. All wrong - something about Elizabeth... but she stood at Gary's side and did nothing. Kirk screamed soundlessly. The flash came, striking Kirk in the chest and pitching him into the grave. Pain, terrible pain. Time stood still. Is this death then? Yes. Cold... yes. Lonely. Drifting... drifting... darkness...

An eternity of icy nothingness. Just floating.

"Jim!"

What? A voice? Spock? Where?

Again - "Jim!"

Yes, yes, here I am! Can't you see?

So hard to think, drifting in a vast sea of ebony night.

"This way, Jim - over here!"

Dinly, he heard another. "He's coming out of it now, Spock." Bones? So slow, so slow...

"... Ugh!" His voice?

"It's okay now, Jim, we're here." McCoy's voice.

"Uh... Bones... what....?"

"You must have had a bit too much to drink, Jim," McCoy continued. "When you didn't turn up to relieve Spock he came to find out what had happened to you. He found you in coma and called me."

"Spock. I heard him calling to me... somewhere. Where is he?"

"Here, Captain." Kirk raised himself on an elbow and saw Spock sitting weakly in the spare chair. "I had to use a mind link to wake you, Jim."

"I saw Gary again... alive," began Kirk.

"Yes, I know, Captain," said Spock. "I caught the end of it." A pause. "You never really forgave yourself for his death, did you, Jim?"

"He was... my friend. I always wished... "

"... You could have died instead of him?" Spock finished for him. Kirk nodded mutely.

"I'd say you were free of the guilt now, Jim," McCoy said. "The alcohol merely let the problem bubble to the surface."

"Yes," said Kirk quietly.

Time passed. Kirk broke the silence. "Right. Who's for breakfast?"

McCoy groaned.

ENTERPRISE CHRISTMAS PRESENT LIST

compiled by Sheila Clark and Valerie Piacentini

Kirk to Spock - complete set of The Chronicles of Narnia (which Spock admitted to liking as a child).

Spock to Kirk - an IDIC.

Spock to McCoy - set of beads and rattles.

McCoy to Spock - book - Medical Logic Explained.

Scotty to McCoy - bottle of whisky and two glasses.

McCoy to Scotty - set of corks to muffle his bagpipes.

Scotty to Chekov - bottle of whisky and two glasses.

Chekov to Scotty - bottle of vodka... and two glasses.

Spock to Chekov - encyclopedia of scientific fact - non-Russian edition.

Chekov to Spock - encyclopedia of scientific fact - Russian edition.

Kirk to Sulu - rubber sword.

All crew to Uhura - pair of new earrings.

All crew to Yeoman Rand - one gross of hairpins.

Kevin Reilly to all crew - a tape recording of Kathleen.

Kirk to Kevin Reilly - a gag.

Kirk to McCoy - copy of Alice in Wonderland.

Cyrano Jones to Kirk - a tribble (with the plea that he has to get rid of them somewhere.)

Fan writers to all Security Guards - one week's immunity (for the festive season).

McCoy to Kirk - four gross of new Captain's shirts.

Kirk to Spock - pillow for cradling Captain's head against a rather bony shoulder.

Spock to Kirk - a gremlin in the works of Zap 4 (unfortunately the stories have all been written).

Kirk to Spock - a gremlin in the works of all pon Farr stories.

McCoy to Janet Quarton - new drug to keep Kirk flat on his back, in pain.

Spock to Kirk - an antidote to McCoy's drug.

Janet Quarton to Spock - message - 'Your duty is to worry about Jim, not to spoil my fun!'

Kirk to Janet Quarton - the scream the BBC out of Man Trap and a bloodstained shirt.

And next Christmas -

Gene Roddenberry to all fans - the movie. Thank you, Gene!

ON THE WAY TO BABEL by Susan Meek

There were times, thought Jim Kirk, that despite his protests to Bones McCoy, it felt quite good to be in sickbay. Right now, after a day that had included an attempt on his life, an attack by Orion pirates and the operation on Sarek, it felt downright marvellous. The lights in the ward were dimmed, and the mild relaxant and painkiller McCoy had just given him helped to give the place an atmosphere of womb-like security.

The wound in his side was still aching, but the very fact that Spock was lying in the next bed, still alive, filled him with a kind of quiet euphoria that made it seem unimportant. How good it had been, he thought, to see Spock and his father slowly start to act like father and son instead of polite strangers; to see them tease Amanda; to watch these three rather special individuals interacting as a family. Amanda had stayed until Sarek had entered into a light healing trance and had been removed to another ward. But the worries and stress of the day had caught up with her also, and McCoy had ushered

her away to get some rest. The smile and the look she and Spock had exchanged before she left said more than words ever could. McCoy had busied about after that, thoroughly enjoying his mother hen role, but underneath the brusque facade Kirk could sense how pleased he also was at Spock's family reunion. Finally, after giving them both the necessary medication, the Doctor left, leaving them alone.

This was the first chance Kirk and Spock had had to speak privately since before Kirk's injury. When McCoy first left, they exchanged a few comments about the Doctor's 'mothering' instinct, but since then Spock had lain quietly. Kirk knew that the events of this day had given his Vulcan friend much to think about, and was prepared to remain silent until Spock was ready to speak.

Finally, the Vulcan's voice reached him, carrying softly through the darkness. "Captain, you... deceived me."

Kirk had been afraid of this, but said nothing.

Spock kept his voice carefully neutral. "When you came to the bridge to relieve me of duty, you had not, as you stated, been declared fit for duty. You..." the tone became faintly accusatory at this point, "could have been killed."

"Spock, believe me," Kirk said sincerely, "I intended to turn command over to Scotty straight away. I didn't bank on the Orions to turn hostile at just that moment." He was quiet for a moment, knowing what was the real point in issue. "I know, Spock, I lied to you. I'm sorry about that." The regret in his voice was genuine. "I hope I never have to do it again. But don't you see, Spock, it was necessary?"

"It... was necessary that I stay in command..." Spock's voice reflected some of his earlier inner conflict. "I could not simply leave because of personal consideration..."

"Spock," Kirk said reassuringly, "I know you had to stay. It was the only thing you could have done, both as a Starfleet officer and a man of logic. Shall we just say," he added softly, "I... gave logic a bit of a helping hand?"

Spock was silent for a moment, then, an unaccustomed warmth in his voice, "Slightly more than that, Captain. You risked your life so that my father's could be saved."

The tone of the Vulcan's voice had somehow brought a strange lump into Kirk's throat. "Well, think how it would have looked on my record," he quipped, trying to take the seriousness out of the moment, "if I had turned up with less than my full quota of ambassadors?" Even as he said it he was thinking of the real reasons he had done what he did. - Because, - he thought, - I could not bear to think of you torn in two like that. I know what it is to have to put duty before personal loyalty. If your father had died, you would never have openly shown the hurt, but you would have carried it around inside in your heart. And besides, Spock... you are too damn important to me... -

There was silence between them. - He knows, - thought Kirk without being aware of exactly why he knew. - He knows the real reasons why. - They were the reasons why Kirk had risked career and life when Spock was in pon farr; why Spock had kept the ship waiting in the Tholian Web. The reasons they would do the same things again, and more, for each other.

"Your wound - does it bother you?" Kirk detected the concern behind the seemingly polite query.

"Not much now," he answered truthfully. Anyway, he reflected, things had worked out so well he had hardly given it any thought. He could almost feel the old empathy flowing palpably between them. "Your father... things are better now, aren't they?"

"Things are... better. It seems my father and I have much to discuss. Things that should have been discussed many years ago. I believe he now has some insight into the reasons I disobeyed his wishes and entered Starfleet."

"Good. I'm... glad." Kirk smiled in the darkness.

"It was you who made it possible." Spock's voice was becoming sleepy.

Kirk said nothing. Drowsiness was beginning to overcome him also, and he did not resist it as it pulled him into sleep.

Just before he sank into welcome slumber, he thought he heard Spock whispering, "Thank you, Jim."

'One does not thank logic,' Sarek had said. But there was apparently one Vulcan who felt the need to thank the warm concern and caring of a friend.

And so we come to the end of the news/article/fiction section of another newsletter; all that's left is the various sales lists. Peace and prosperity to you all. Janet, Sheila, Beth, Sylvia, Valerie.

BBC PHOTOGRAPHS

The BBC carry a fair number of ST photographs. These can be bought by members of the public - the catch being that on top of the price there is a £3.78 search fee for 20 prints. These mostly look like standard publicity shots rather than actual clips.

Janet sent to them for 20 prints and arranged that we could offer these to our members. They are 6½" x 8½" black and white prints and cost 75p each. (The normal price is 60p each + the search fee per person; the BBC have agreed to waive the search fees but are asking 15p extra per print instead.) Please add to each order 15p to cover postage and packing for up to 10 prints, 20p for 15 prints, and 25p for 20 prints. We'll supply stiffened envelopes. We'd appreciate a self-addressed sticky label with each order.

Orders must be in to Sheila by 13th January. WE CANNOT ACCEPT LATE ORDERS. We've asked the BBC for up to a further 50; if you want info on these please send Sheila a SAE as soon as possible. This info will be sent out early January; orders will then have to be in by 1st February.

- 17 Bele, Kirk head and shoulders, Lokai waist length behind, on bridge. Let That Be...
- 2316 Kirk, slightly smiling, looking at identical girl androids. Half length. I Mudd.
- 2637 Three studies of Spock. 1, melding with Scotty. 2, publicity shot holding a model Enterprise. 3, in Tholian Web spacesuit; all fairly close shots.
- 2638 McCoy, head, intent expression.
- 2639 Uhura, head, slightly smiling.
- 2640 Uhura full length in transporter.
- 2641 Kirk, smiling, and Yeoman Ross (Squire of Gothos) leaning on what looks like a table.
- 2642 Spock melding with Scotty, heads only. Same shot as in 2637. Spectre.
- 2644 Spock head and shoulders, in Tholian Web spacesuit. Same shot as in 2637.
- 2653 Uhura sitting at her station, with stylus and clipboard. A nice shot but we think it is back to front.
- 2654 Kirk waist length standing beside command chair, leaning on arm of it. Looking slightly calculating.
- 2657 Spock head and shoulders. This looks like the one that was printed back to front in the Radio Times years ago - in this print it's right way round.
- 2659 Kirk sitting in command chair, McCoy and Spock standing beside - the same shot that was on the box of one of the jigsaws.
- 2661 McCoy head and shoulders, half smiling.
- 2656 Kirk holding script and Gene Roddenberry, threequarter length, standing beside a door marked 'William Shatner'. Early first season.
- 2906 Kirk half length as Romulan about to lift cloaking device. Enterprise Incident.
- 3305 Entire crew on bridge - Kirk in his chair, McCoy on one side leaning on arm, Spock on other side hands behind his back, Chapel just behind McCoy, and Scotty, Chekov, Uhura and Sulu ranged along behind.
- 3306 Spock standing beside Kirk in command chair, half length.
- 3307 Uhura, turned to look at viewscreen, Kirk in command chair, Chekov and Sulu in foreground at their stations. Back to front.
- 3308 Chekov at station in foreground, Sulu standing behind Spock in holmsman's seat. Nice shot but is back to front. Is There in Truth.

We can ask the BBC to print the ones that are back to front the other way, but we can't guarantee that they will.

PHOTOS

These cost 30p each for either a 3½" x 5" enprint or a duplicate slide. These have been 35mm full frame up to now, but recently the firm has done one or two as half frame - though the price is the same - and I never know which I'll get! Please specify clearly with your order whether you want prints or slides. Postage rates are as follows - up to 20 prints or clips, 7p or 9p; 21 - 34, 9½p or 12½p; 35 - 48, 12p or 16p. If you send a stiffener you won't get quite so many prints for each rate. Please make sure your envelope is strong enough.

Recently the processer has been doing funny things with the order and part of it has been delayed anything up to a fortnight after I get the rest. They don't process in rotation, apparently, and phoned inquiries only get noncommittal noises. I do get the orders away within 24 hours of getting the last of it, but I would say to allow at least a month after the closing date for orders before you start worrying.

Orders this time should be in by January 13th. We would be happier if you didn't send in orders between December 15th and the end of the seasonal holiday, because of the sheer weight of mail passing through the post office during that period. The clips will go in for printing on the 15th. Late orders will be filled but will be delayed.

This month's episodes are from Devil in the Dark

- 26/1 Spock head and shoulders facing Kirk (back to camera) in tunnel.
- 26/15 Kirk, Appel, waist length in office; Kirk full face, Appel threequarter face.
- 26/19 Kirk holding open communicator, waist length; Vanderberg in b/g beside holed reactor.
- 26/20 Spock, h/s, full face, in office.
- 26/24 McCoy h/s, full face in office.
- 26/36 Kirk, threequarter length, in front of view of mining machinery.
- 26/37 Three security guards (backs to camera) facing group of miners in tunnel.
- 26/44 General view of mines, group of miners in background.
- 26/58 Horta. Fairly dark.
- 26/60 Kirk facing McCoy in office, profile, Spock in b/g studying wall chart.
- 26/73 Kirk standing holding phaser, watching Spock crouching melding with horta.
- 26/75 Kirk, waist length, facing Vanderberg and miners, seen from behind horta (back
- 26/81 Kirk standing holding shell watching McCoy (back to camera) 'operating'. showing.)
- 26/82 Kirk kneeling in tunnel surrounded by eggs and broken shells.
- 26/84 Kirk, Spock facing Vanderberg beside holed reactor. Full length.
- 26/91 Kirk, Spock standing full length watching McCoy (back to camera) treating horta. They are the other side of the horta from Kirk's position in 26/81
- 26/94 Spock, Kirk, backs to camera watching McCoy kneeling looking up from horta.
- 26/98 Spock in f/g looking at horta egg on table in office; Vanderberg, McCoy, looking towards Kirk (out of shot) in b/g.
- 26/101 McCoy in tunnel, waist length, looking down at horta just in picture. Fairly dark.
- 26/105 Spock in office holding egg, Vanderberg just behind looking at Kirk and Appel.
- 26/107 Kirk, Spock, crouched in cave holding phasers looking at horta (out of shot).
- 26/109 Kirk as above.
- 26/110 Spock behind horta, hands poised to initiate meld. Very dark.
- 26/112 Kirk, Spock, threequarter length, facing each other in cave.
- 26/113 Kirk, h/s, full face in office.
- 26/114 Spock, profile, melding with horts, h/s.

We had intended to offer Operation Annihilate this time too; however, in the last couple of months we've picked up several new Devil in the Dark clips which has enabled us to expand the selection offered from it.

We will have Operation Annihilate next time along with This Side of Paradise.

SALES LIST

December 1978

This supercedes all previous sales lists.

Orders should be sent to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to STAG. It would help greatly if a self-addressed sticky label were included with every order (on large orders, one label for every three zines). Please remember to print your full name and address on your order as well - it makes it easier to check if anything does go missing in transit.

Prices include postage and packing inside the U.K.

Log Entries 5 (reprint, few left)	6 (reprint)	60p each
Log Entries 7 (reprint)		75p
Log Entries 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20		80p each
Log Entries 21		80p

(stories by Elizabeth Sharp, Tina Pole, Angela Carthy, Rayelle Roe, Valerie Piacentini, Susan Meek, Meg Wright; poems by Crystal Ann Taylor, Sandie Cowden, T.G.Z.C., Gladys Oliver, Gillian Catchpole, Meg Wright.)

Log Entries is a genzine; although we have a bias towards K/S/M relationship stories, we do try to provide an assortment of stories to suit all tastes.

Vice Versa by Simone Mason

90p

An alternate universe story. Here, Humans are barred by law from holding any high position in the Federation; Kirk is a key figure in a Human 'plan' to prove that Humans are as capable as any other race in the Federation.

Variations on a Theme 1 by Valerie Piacentini & Sheila Clark

65p

Reprint. An alternate universe story. A Spock whose Kirk has died searches the other universes for a replacement Kirk. He finds one whose Spock is a sadistic bully who uses Kirk as a target for his cruelty and sets out to rescue him.

Variations on a Theme 2 by Valerie Piacentini & Sheila Clark

90p

The crew of the Enterprise has accepted Spock without question; but what will happen when Spock has to go 'home' to visit 'his' family? What will happen when Sam Kirk comes on board as a crewman?

Variations 1 & 2 will only be available to those who state with their order that they are over 18.

Wine of Calvoro by Valerie Piacentini

80p

Janet wanted a story in which Kirk got a bullet in the shoulder. But in this story, that is the least of his worries! A real 'Kirk-bonker' in true Janet style.

Enterprise Incidents 2 Stories by Sheila Clark

80p

This zine contains the winning and running up short stories and poems from the Terracon '78 writing competition. Currently out of print, it will be reprinted during December and be available from January 1st.

Half tone prints of Barry Willmott's winning drawing of the Enterprise from N/L 30.
30p Foreign \$1.00 (50p) inc. postage.

FOREIGN RATES All zines, \$2.50 (£1.25) surface, \$4.00 (£2) airmail inc postage.

Dollar cheques, money orders - please add \$1.00 per total order to cover bank charges incurred in processing foreign currency. This charge is not applicable if you pay by sterling draft.

STAR TREK U.K. 79

Britain is fine in '79

In August 1979 the World Science Fiction Convention is being held at Brighton, and a number of non-British Star Trek fans will be coming to England to attend it.

So what?

So we, Beth Hallam and Margaret Draper, thought it would be a Good Idea to set up a survival scheme for them!

These fans are not 'rich American tourists' - they're people like us, and just as broke -- not to say apprehensive - as we would be.

Can YOU help?

Provide a 'flop' for a night, maybe, or a quick tour of your town, or a lift to the station? Perhaps you could organise a mini-con in your front room! There are many ways you could help.

Please contact

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36 CLAPHAM ROAD
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OR

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