Hi, folks.

Well, it's newsletter time again and it only seems like yesterday that we did the last one. Six weeks between newsletters isn't good for us. I don't think it's too good for James T. either as I'm afraid he isn't too well at the moment. He's been sounding a bit rough for a while and has now started blowing fuses. We got a chap up to see him and he said the main bearings in the motor have gone and we need a new one. We're expecting another man to come soon with a new motor and perform the surgery on James, so keep your fingers crossed that he makes a full recovery. In the meantime we have this newsletter to print and I'm hoping we don't run out of fuses. If we do we'll have to finish by hand and with 800 copies, that's no joke.

Thanks to all of you who wrote it to tell us they enjoyed the last newsletter. We couldn't put cut one that length very often but we will when we can. Everyone who has written commenting on our increasing dues has been in favour of it so we have increased them with this newsletter. The PO have now threatened us with increased postal rates. We are hoping we can carry them O.K. for our British members although zines will probably have to go up but we're worried about our foreign members as the PO are quoting 19% increase in airmail rates. That's nasty. What we will do is wait till the rates go up and post one newsletter out at those rates and just see what the increased cost is.

Thanks to those of you who have offered to help with the STAG table at SEACON '79. Valerie is now going down with Janet as well (making Sheila green - and she's not even a Vulcan - there's no way she can get off work, she just goes back after six weeks off on August 13th, and can't get off again quite so soon - August Bank Holiday isn't a holiday in Scotland) so things shouldn't be too bad. We will be grateful for help on the table but we can't arrange anything ahead of time as we've never been to a SF con before and just don't know how busy the table will be, etc. We'd like all STAG members going to SEACON to look us up at the STAG table in the book room and we'll let you know if we need a hand.

We'll be very glad to see you as I think we may feel rather lost among 3500 SF fans. It should be worth your going to SEACON '79 if you can as we hear there will be at least two firms selling quite a lot of ST merchandise.

We may also need some help at the table at PATHCON as we have 15 films to show plus a couple of shorts. I think you'll enjoy the films as we now have three new ones and more might arrive between now and then.

Thank you, those of you who anticipated the increase announced in the last newsletter and sent the new rates when you renewed.
With this newsletter we have used Leonard, our addressing machine, for the first time. We decided to call him Leonard as we didn’t have any suggestions we like better and I don’t think he would like to be called TPrint. Please check the address on your wrapper if you haven’t thrown it out by now. If you have received it, it should be O.K., but this is the master address we are using for you and with typing out 700 Janet could have made a few mistakes. Leonard certainly earned his keep as the wrappers were printed in a couple of hours and having the addresses on cards makes it easy to keep them in alphabetical order, which helps when we come to withdraw renewals, etc. Janet is certainly finding life easier.

Some of you may have noticed Sheila’s address on the wrapper last time instead of Janet’s, and the same could happen this time. This is because we each have an address stamper and we did the wrappers between us. It doesn’t really matter which return address is on the wrapper as long as the ones that aren’t delivered come back to one of us. We seem to have lost at least two newsletters last time, one to Australia and one to Turkey. We’re just hoping that is all that went astray. Do remember which months the newsletter is due out, i.e. June, August, October, December, February and April. If you don’t get your newsletter during that month let Janet know. (If we expect the N/L to be late for any reason, we say so in the one before.) Also be sure and let Janet know if you change your address. Sending your new address to another member of the committee causes delays. Come to that, if you change your address, please remember to let us know! Many of you have thanked us for the newsletters; we feel it is past time we gave our thanks to all of you members who send us in submissions, information, cuttings etc. A lot of the items in the newsletters just wouldn’t be there if it wasn’t for these members as it is impossible for us to keep track of everything by ourselves. We apologise if we’ve missed giving any of you credit. Sometimes you mention things in a letter and we mean to put the letter in the N/L file but forget, and cuttings sometimes get separated from letters as well although we try to avoid this happening. We do thank you for the info and hope you’ll forgive us.

We’d also like to thank those of you who sent cuttings, etc, on the shuttle or on other things you think may be of interest to ST fans. We’d like to print these but to be honest we have so much on STAR TREK that we just don’t have the room. We don’t want to cut back on ST items to put these other items in as we are a ST club and we know that some of you feel quite strongly that we should concentrate on ST. We agree with you and will only fit in other items if we have room.

Those who ordered the first lot of Deathdance should have it by now – the copies sent direct to Sheila began arriving on April 21st with a two-day spread of deliveries. The second order went off a couple of weeks ago, and should arrive quite soon. We won’t be putting in a second order on any zine again – with this being the start of our bulk ordering, we underestimated the amount of interest there would be, and some of you delayed quite a while before saying you were wanting it. In future, we’ll order one or two more copies, but once the draft is off, that’s it, and later orders can’t be accepted. This is because of the cost of getting a bank draft and also we do have to watch a bit on how many orders we send out – even as a club we will have a certain limit on how much foreign currency we can send out of the country. Nexus 3 has not yet arrived, as the draft for that went off about three weeks ago – which is barely time enough for the zines to get through, but I shouldn’t think it will be long now. One point, when you send the cash for one of our bulk orders, please make it payable to STAG – I know we did say ‘Cheques should be made payable to Carol Frisbie’ on the Deathdance ad, but that was referring to orders sent direct to her, not copies ordered through STAG. We can’t send sterling cheques out of the country (it’s doubtful if they’d be cashed anyway, but if they were, you’d be in trouble with the Bank of England for sending a sterling cheque out of the country), and we can’t pay in to our account a cheque made payable to someone who isn’t on the STAG committee.

Inside Star Trek 29 was sent out some weeks ago. Only one of you queried us on this, but none of the copies had any pictures on pages 9 or 24. These two pages ‘back on’ to each other for printing, and it’s pretty obvious that either that plate was accidentally missed in the print run or else wasn’t processed in time and they decided to go ahead without it in order to get the issue out.

We’ve had a mention in Photoplay, June 1979. They now have a section listing fan clubs, and have given our address for Star Trek. We’ve already had several new members because of this.
Thanks to all of you who sent us used stamps - Christine Rowe, Linda McGrath, Elaine Thomson, Ann Flegg, Rhonda Hanley, Pamela Dale, Lynn Collinson, Susan Meek, Steven Groen and in particular Chris Smithson. These stamps are sent away for cancer research, and our contact recently sent away several thousand stamps most of which had come from STAG. Even if you only have one or two, if you're writing to us, please enclose them - they're all of value.

There will be a slight delay on the new zines for June, partly because of the shortness of time since last N/L and partly because of the difficulty we're having with James T. The stencils are out and only need to be printed and collated. (Only?) They should be ready by the end of June, and we're taking orders for them now. Sheila will be at Janet's during July and for the first two weeks of August - any important mail should be sent to her c/o Janet between July 1st and August 8th - that should allow time for it to arrive before she goes home again on the 11th. Orders sent during that period might be delayed - she can take some zines through, but not many, and when they run out any orders will have to be held until she can get home. She will be going home to pick up the photo order; hopefully this will be ready by July 17th. If not it will probably be about ten more days before she goes through again.

Once you reach the end of the N/L, you'll see that we've decided to copyright the N/L from now on. We are getting an increasing number of requests by people running other groups for permission to reprint items from our newsletters - including the fiction section. As far as we know, no-one has yet reprinted anything without asking permission first, but we decided that, in order to better safeguard the interests of our various contributors, we would better to copyright the contents of the newsletter. This includes anyone who contributes original material, even if it is only a one-line comment. Well - I think we've kept you for long enough - our letters seem to keep on getting longer!

LI&P
Janet & Sheila

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Hello, everyone.
Janet maintains it's time I wrote you a letter, so here head be it!
I am officially described as 'Assistant Editor' - which means that I proofread zines mainly at 3 o'clock in the morning - and assist in the collection of said zines and the newsletter. This can be a daunting experience, only those who have faced piles of newly-printed pages waiting to be assembled in sequence can picture the enormity of the task. I will not easily forget the sight of Janet, sitting on her bedroom floor, buried waist-deep in newsletters and unable to stand up until Sheila and I cleared them from her legs. So, to those of you who have asked recently why the newsletter can't be published every month - come and collate it, then you'll know.

Until I began giving a hand at this end, I simply did not appreciate the amount of shoddy hard work that goes into running this club - most of it falling on the shoulders of Janet and Sheila. The utter complexity of, for example, the photograph orders, has to be seen to be believed - and sending out ordered zines is a mammoth task in itself.

Since they'll shrug off any attempt to express appreciation, I'll do it here - without Janet and Sheila there would be no STAG and we'd all be the poorer.

Apparently I'm now supposed to say something about myself. I'm 30 years old, a librarian, and a fondness amounting to mania for Star Trek is my one eccentricity. The household - consisting of 7 persons, 4 dogs, 1 cat, 2 gerbils, and a variable number of goldfish, regard my odd habits with great tolerance, particularly when the typewriter is pounding into the early hours. The postman, however, regards me with some disfavour, owing to the amount of mail he's had to deliver of late years, and my bank manager is convinced I'm being blackmailed - Star Trek is not a cheap hobby.

My only other vice, as some of you may know, is that I write, my first effort being a competition entry mailed with fear and trembling. Which reminds me - we do not devour contributors alive! Please send us your stories, poems, comments and criticisms; if we can use them, we'll be grateful, and if we can't we'll still be pleased to hear from you - and no, we don't send back rejected manuscripts chopped up into little pieces, a rumour spread by JB of London, who is old enough to know better.

So, having done my duty and kept you long enough, I retire gracefully into decent obscurity. Enjoy the newsletter - for us, that makes it worthwhile.

Peace,
Valerie.

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STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE

It is now confirmed that Robert Abel & Associates have been dropped from the film but don't worry - Douglas Trumbull, best known for the effects he did in 2001, SILENT RUNNING and CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND, has been brought in to supervise the effects.

(Thanks to Philip Skinner and Perry Ioss for giving us info on the above.)

The following items of info came from STAR TREK WELCOME TO THE FUTURE'S A PIECE OF THE ACTION #3.

The "Rec icon" on the Enterprise is three stories tall with large windows and lots of room. It is here that the crew gathers to be briefed on the crises and witness, as part of the briefing - via Star Fleet transmissions, the destruction of the top Klingon battle cruisers.

The new Enterprise will also be equipped to go warp 14 and the new engineering section is large and detailed.

The uniforms have been redesigned with more pastel colours, they now come in several different styles such as a one piece jumpsuit, a short sleeve top and several other varieties. They also come in light tan and orange in addition to the grey-blue.

The communicator is now worn on the wrist and the tricorder is smaller than it was originally.

At certain cinemas in the States there have been previews of forthcoming movies. Paramount had a package of about 6 of their BIG movies that will debut sometime in 1979. The very last movie they previewed in this 5 or 10 minute sequence was their big Christmas release: STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE! The first thing that came on the screen was a beautiful star field and then the title STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE was flashed on the screen. The narration went something like this: 'And for Christmas the movie you've all been waiting for: STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE! Reuniting the entire original cast of the legendary television series for a fantastic new adventure - Starring William Shatner as Capt. Kirk, Leonard Nimoy as Mr. Spock and DeForest Kelley as Dr. McCoy.' (Plus all the other original cast members names were flashed on the screen, too) The lettering for the names is digital or computer looking. The new Enterprise also glided across the screen. (info Handy Duncan - STW's APOTHE #3)

On the back of MICRONAUTS #8, a Marvel Comic, there is a poster for the movie. It has a picture of the new Enterprise flying out of the poster towards you. At the top of the poster it says A 23RD CENTURY ODYSSEY NOW STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE. Each part is under the one before, STAR TREK is in large letters, THE MOTION PICTURE in small letters fitting under STAR TREK. At the bottom of the poster is a row of small pictures of all the cast with the exception of Majel Barrett. The wording below the pictures is: Paramount Pictures Presents...Robert Wise Film...Gene Roddenberry Production STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE Starring William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy DeForest Kelley Also Starring Persis Khambatta Co-Starring James Doohan George Takei Majel Barrett Walter Koenig Nichelle Nichols and Stephen Collins as Decker Screenplay by Gene Roddenberry and Harold Livingston Produced by Gene Roddenberry Directed by Robert Wise

A Paramount Picture Under the poster it says COMING THIS CHRISTMAS TO A THEATER NEAR YOU!

(Thanks to Philip Skinner and Jean Donkin for copies of the poster.)

STARDAY 22 Report by Susan Sackett

On Friday, January 26, 1979 - 124 days after it all began on the previous August 7 - STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE finally wrapped principal photography. Applause, laughter and clapping on the set greeted this final take for Bill Shatner, Leonard Nimoy and DeForest Kelley - the "Three Musketeers", as director Robert Wise has affectionately nicknamed them - when the three leads said their final lines at 4:50 that afternoon. However, cameras continued to roll well past 10 o'clock that evening as Wise completed scenes with Stephen Collins (Becker) and Persis Khambatta (Ilia).

The final day for most of the crew was a mixture of relief now that the overly long shooting schedule was complete, plus wistful regret by many crew members leaving for other movie assignments. Several staff and crew members utilized these last moments of production to collect autographed 8 x 10 glossies of the actors. Not surprisingly, many of the grips, technicians, artists and even secretaries have become fans of STAR TREK.
and now want these souvenirs of their involvement over the past five and a half months.

The immediate plans of most of the production personnel called for "shore leave". Robert Wise and his wife Willicent winged to Vancouver for a week's vacation... After his return, Wise immediately focused his attention toward the work to be done during post production.

Gene Roddenberry headed to La Costa, a California spa-resort, for a bit of R&R. No stranger to long hours and weekends himself, he plans to take off some weight, play a few rounds of golf and spend some time working on the novelization of the STAR TREK script.

Bill Shatner and his wife Mary (who, incidentally, appears in ST-MP as a relief navigator) will have more time to be together now that filming is complete. Meanwhile, Bill is preparing a live touring show called "Star Traveler", which will be seen around the country beginning in September.

Leonard Nimoy will spend the next few months on the road, playing to audiences around the country. (With 'Vincent')

The cast, crew and everyone involved in STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE did get together one final time, at least, for a giant "wrap party" on February 10. Some 400 people attended the bash as we took over Iku's Chinese Restaurant and Chez Moi Disco on world-famous Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills. Another exciting first for STAR TREK, since most wrap parties are usually held on soundstage sets.

Speaking of sets, things are looking good for at least one sequel movie, since all of the valuable sets have been stored on Stage 9. Some sets were dismantled and stacked in available spaces, while the Enterprise bridge itself remains where it has been through-out shooting. It sits alone in the silent darkness, its panels and consoles covered with clean, soft cloth, a little lonesome for its crew but ready and instantly available for whatever future adventures await it.

Meanwhile, all filming on ST-MP is not completed yet, with several scenes to be done (sans regular cast) in post-production. Construction continues on Stage 12, where we will be shooting scenes of a 23rd century San Francisco train station. Also, we still have filming of the Klingon sequences and one other scene which takes place on a starbase. All during this post-production time, the sequences involving models and miniatures will be shot, matte paintings are being completed and optical work is well under way. Other post-production work will include sound editing, such as sound effects, looping of dialogue where needed and original music scoring by Jerry Goldsmith.

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STAXLOG 22 Log Entries - 'Star Trek's Only Exterior Set'

As STAXLOG reported in issue #19, some of Earth's unusual geological settings have served as locations for a number of science-fiction films. The STAR TREK movie's use of hot, bubbling springs and rhyolite formations at Minerva's Terrace in Yellowstone National Park was described in #19. The famous tourist attraction at the park was used as a background for a shot of Spock on his home planet, Vulcan.

Additional shots have been filmed for the sequence since then, but not on location - an exterior set was constructed at Paramount Studios duplicating the Minerva's Terrace locale.

... Two rigid camera platforms were erected for the 65mm cameras, which was chained and sandbagged to the platform to eliminate any slight movement of the camera. Two platforms were built to give the director, Robert Wise, two angles to work from for long shots. Additional close-ups of Spock on the Vulcan set were made with a 35mm camera, since no matte paintings are necessary for the close-ups.

Live steam was piped through the set to recreate the intense geothermal activity that gives Minerva's Terrace its "other worldly" look.

Of course, the area above the set where the named arc lights are visible on their platforms will be completely eliminated by one of another Yurichich's fine matte paintings.

This entire sequence on the Vulcan home planet was designed by STAR TREK production illustrator Mike Minor.

... don't have anything for you direct from the STAR TREK office this time but it is of course just 6 weeks since the last newsletter came out. Gene was away from the office when I phoned on May 25th, working on the novelization of the script, which is due for release in December in conjunction with the film. Susan was very busy working on her book, THE MAKING OF STAR - THE MOTION PICTURE. This is due for release in February but it is due at the publishers in June. Susan Sends her best to you all. Don't work too hard, Susan & Gene.

...
If you are wondering why we print certain articles under this section and some under STAR TREK IN THE NEWS it is because to our best knowledge all the facts and articles we print under this section are accurate. We can't be sure about newspaper articles and articles in some magazines so we put them under the other section.

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Paramount

April, 1978

MICHELLE NICHOLS

BIOGRAPHY

Of all those affected by the "Star Trek" phenomenon, it is unlikely any one individual has had life and career so dramatically influenced as has Michelle Nichols.

The attractive actress plays Uhura, Communications Officer aboard the Enterprise in Paramount's "Star Trek - The Motion Picture," the same role she created in the far-reaching television series. The new movie, a Gene Roddenberry Production - A Robert Wise Film, directed by Wise and produced by Roddenberry, stars William Shatner as Capt. James Kirk and Leonard Nimoy as Mr. Spock. Reunited with them are co-star DeForest Kelley and the entire original cast of the series.

Michelle began her career as a night club singer and dancer, then progressed to the stage and motion pictures. With "Star Trek," she also became a dedicated student of space and the world around us, an involvement that led her into playing an important part in the U.S. space program and into various pursuits on behalf of minorities and women.

As her interest in space expanded beyond that of an actress in a science fiction show, her awareness came to the attention of NASA. The government agency employed her to spearhead its campaign to recruit women and minorities as future astronauts.

The six women and four minorities recently selected as trainees for the space training program were recruited by her.

As owner and president of Women In Motion, a consultant firm, she also currently is in partnership with the University of California on a project to develop an Aerospace Education curriculum for use in 100 junior high schools in California. Its purpose is to motivate young people from low-income families in the fields of math and science, and to prepare them for college entry.

Michelle was born in Robbins, Illinois, where her father served at one time as mayor. She began entertaining in night clubs and, at the age of 16, toured with Duke Ellington in a ballet she created for one of his musical suites. Later, she sang with his band.

Moving to the stage, she performed in such plays as "The Roar of the Greasepaint," "No Strings," Jean Genet's "The Blacks" and "Kicks and Company." For the latter two, she was nominated for the prize Sarah Siddons Award for Best Actress of the Year.

She also won critical acclaim in the West Coast production of James Baldwin's "Blues for Mr. Charlie" and in the Chicago production of "Carmen Jones." In motion pictures, she appeared in "Doctor, You've Got to be Kidding," "Mr. Buddwing," "Three for the Wedding" and "Truck Turner" among other films.

Then came "Star Trek" and the phenomenon that grew with it over a dozen years, beginning during its original network, three-year run on NBC, then increasing in momentum as the series was repeated over and over in syndication. Michelle found herself in constant demand for appearances at "Star Trek" conventions across the country.

At one, a Chicago convention attracting 40,000 people and featuring, for the first time, a presentation on the long range space program by a representative from NASA, she found herself overwhelmed, her imagination captured. Subsequently, she toured space centers across the country.

At the Ames Space Center near San Jose, California, she was invited by the scientists to fly an eight-hour mission aboard the Kuiper C-141 Astronomy Observatory on an interferometric study of the atmosphere on Saturn and Mars. She was among honored NASA guests during the Viking soft landing on Mars and at the roll-out of the Space Shuttle, "Enterprise," named after her TV show's Starship.

Appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Space Institute, she addressed the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Subsequently, NASA asked her to play her vital role in its recruitment program.

She also is on the Advisory Committee for the Technology Commercialization Center in Washington, D.C., and serves on the Board of Trustees of Lawrence University at Santa Barbara, California.

With all her activities, she somehow has found time to record her third song album and to write her first novel, "The Uhura Connection," to be published by Benton.

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GENE RODDENBERRY received the National Space Club's FREEDOM THROUGH KNOWLEDGE AWARD on March 30th. This is a high honour. Past recipients have been Hugh O'Brian, Bob Hope and Walter Cronkite (a famous American newscaster). There was a large Goddard Memorial Dinner, with many astronauts, senators and NASA VIPs attending. (info Susan Sackett) — Congratulations, Gene.

WILLIAM SHATNER and Gary Kutz received the Gold Award from the Academy of Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Films. (info ST:RLOG 22 - David Gerrold)

WILLIAM SHATNER stars in the comedy, OTHERWISE ENGAGED by Simon Gray. The play previewed on April 17th at the Solaris Theater, Beverly Hills, with opening night on April 24th. (The following is an extract from ST:RLOG by Sylvie Drake, Los Angeles Times ApR 26th. It was sent to us by K.K. Brown.)

"The outward promise of 'Otherwise Engaged' is simple enough. Publisher Simon Hench (William Shatner) who planned to spend a peaceful summer morning with a new recording of Wagner's 'Parsifal', finds himself repeatedly interrupted by unexpected visitors. First his tenant upstairs needs to borrow money; then his brother comes by, stowing over the acquisition of a new post as assistant headmaster at the school where he teaches. He's followed by a drunken post friend, the poet's liberated girl friend (Karcia Lafferty), a deserted school chum with a bone to pick, and finally Simon's own wife. The inner promise is much less obvious. Who is this man Simon, caught in the attempt at dropping out while everyone around him is dropping in? His interest in the interruptions is as peripheral as his concern for the interrupters, all of whom seem to be going through some major crisis or other. Simon's detachment is complete and casual. Second nature, it would seem. One might say he has trouble relating. The polite appurtenances of case - nice job, nice apartment, nice stereo, nice wife, conceal the blanks his life keeps drawing until, at the very end, he's jolted back into the scheme of things by a startling revelation. Is detachment any more possible, after all, than attachment has been up to now?

LEONARD NIMOY is currently making a new film. He was on tour with VINCENT for several months and went right into doing the movie. (info Louise Stange). We hope to find out more about this for the next newsletter.

WILLIAM SHATNER was a guest on the NBC-TV show 'The Tonight Show' on April 27th. The guest host was Rick Little, a fellow Canadian. They talked about early days in New York and about the 'Celebrity Sweepstakes' program. Rick was on the team that Bill captained.

Bill is doing a stage play 'Otherwise Engaged' in Los Angeles, which will run until June. He said he is doing what he likes best, appearing on stage at night and free to do movies during the day. He looked very good, tanned and dressed like an elegant 1920 gangster.

A light suit, dark shirt, light tie and white shoes. Really elegant. (info Jerri Frans)

LEONARD NIMOY appeared on the Washington D.C. show 'Panorama' on Metro Media TV in March. He talked of the show he was doing at the Hartke Theater of Catholic University. The theater was sold out.

He will do a TV movie in May called 'Saizo' about a neuro-surgeon and his relationship with a girl patient. (We suspect this is the film Louise Stange told us about — Ed.) He was suffering from the effects of a lingering bad cold and touch of flu. He said he planned to go home and enjoy his garden, pool and do some flying. (info Jerri Frans)

LEONARD NIMOY Further to the report on 'Vincent' in the last newsletter. The play, written by Leonard Nimoy, is based largely on some 600 letters that were written by Vincent Van Gogh to his brother Theo. It also examines some of the bizarre myths and theories that have grown up around the life of the passionate and astoundingly prolific painter.

Nancy said he immersed himself in the documents and books about the Van Goghs, to the point of being overwhelmed by the material. 'I find it's dangerous for me now to read any more about the brothers because I'll run across another story that I want to tell of another point of view on a story I'm telling,' he said. (St. Paul Pioneer Press, 28th Feb) Info Kay Brown, Ann Neilson, Doreen Brill.
STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

There don't seem to have been so many articles on STAR TREK just lately but it is of course only 6 weeks since we put the last H/L out.

An article called SPACE SHIP ENTERPRISE LANDS IN HOLLYWOOD appeared in the Sudbury Star, Jan 20th. It was a general article with quotes from the actors and Robert Wise.

An article called STAR TREK TO CLASSROOM appeared in the Atlanta Journal Feb 5th. The article was mainly about the computer revolution in the classroom; some schools in the States were going to make use of computers to train students in computer technology. The article refers to the computers used in STAR TREK.

Ruth Breisinger has been sending me some cartoon strips. The cartoon is called FUNKY and is about a group of high school students and their activities. They have a computer at the school who's a STAR TREK fan and one week he had his STAR TREK Convention. In a recent letter Ruth says, "This particular series has been going through a period where the high school is trying to arrange for a permanent, trustworthy hall monitor. The computer has finally been assigned the job. However, in addition to patrolling the student body, he's also guarding against Klingons."

The strip is by Tom Betulik and Ruth says she wishes he would put out a collected edition of his work as he often does a lot of ST series. We agree with you, Ruth, can anyone think of a way to persuade him?

In April there was an article in a paper in the Ilford area about a local ST group in Ilford. Members of the group are Jean Barron, Jean Donkin, Susan & Heather Hillesden, Linda Hughes. They meet regularly in Jean Barron's flat and watch videos, chat, etc. The article was a good one and STAR got a mention since the group are all members. Linda Hughes had her poem BORN TO LEAD (which we printed in the last H/L) printed in the paper.

THE GUARDIAN May 19th had an article called ADVENTURES IN DEEPEST HYPER SPACE. It was about the SF films being made at the moment and STAR TREK got a mention. They did acknowledge that the ST movie was going to be made before STAR WARS was released but of course it was cancelled and it was the success of STAR WARS that persuaded Paramount to go ahead again with the movie at a much greater budget.

THE OBSERVER May 20th had a small piece about Persis Khambatta being at Cannes. It mentioned she had her hair shaven off for the STAR TREK movie.

OMNI MAGAZINE March '79 - The following is an extract from an article called 'Planet Antarctica - Earth' by Kenneth Brower.

'The Starship Enterprise and countless other fictional spacecraft are manned by multi-national crews that get along cheerfully - the racial jokes about the Vulcans ears are more or less friendly - and they always come to strange worlds in peace.'

There was an interesting statement in an article by Ben Bova, called 'Last Word' which appeared in OMNI MAGAZINE April '79.

"Most Americans think science-fiction writers look like Mr. Spock - except for Isaac Asimov who they think looks like Robbie the Robot."

Nikki White sent us the following two items:

YOU AND YOURS April 1978 (Aust. family magazine) - colour photos of crew and the article itself, by Wayne Warga, was reprinted from the Los Angeles Times. There was also an interview with Leonard Nimoy at his home.

TV TIMES 24/3/79 (Australia) had a short item on the movie, saying the sequel was being written now and quoted Shatner as saying "The studio has six months after the picture opens (December) in which to pick up our option for a sequel, and a year following that in which the sequel could start production."

The SATURDAY EVENING POST (U.S.A.) May/June '79 had a lengthy article on the movie. It mainly covered what we already know.

Thanks to Ruth Breisinger, Marlynn Brown, Sally Syrjala, Philip Skinner, Alan White, Susan Walt, Theresa Hewitt, Carl Hiles, May Jones, Maggie Kochust, Kay Brown, Nikki White for sending articles, and anyone else we've forgotten. Please keep them coming - Janet. I must add Dennis Taylor to the list, sorry, Dennis, I didn't mean to forget you
The 'Star Trek' fan world is shocked and saddened by the untimely death of 25-year-old Mike McMaster. McMaster died in an accident in his home on Sept. 6, 1978. He is best remembered by Trek fans for his replica of the Enterprise, the Romulan Bird of Prey ship and the Klingon Cruiser. His final efforts were employed on a new project for Bantam Books, to be released sometime in 1979, and his revised edition of the bridge blueprints were just released. Mike McMaster will surely be missed by all who appreciated his eye for research and accuracy, his lectures, humor and unique skills.

We thought you would be interested in the extracts from the following articles. We don't guarantee that all the facts are correct.

THE STAR April 17th, 1979 - 'Real Life Battle to Rescue Star Trek Movie'
A DRAMATIC real-life rescue operation is underway in Hollywood to keep the film-version of Star Trek on course for its spectacular Christmas launching.
A bitter fight threatened to scuttle the enormously expensive project that millions of Trekkies have waited years to see.
Trouble flared on the set of the sci-fi extravaganza in the special effects department, where the magical outer space sequences are made.
Paramount set aside $4 million for special effects to a firm run by electronics expert Robert Abel. But THE STAR has learned that the budget soon rocketed.
The crunch came when Abel told Paramount he would need a whopping $16 million to give extra firepower to the exploits of Captain Kirk and the crew of the USS Enterprise.
So the company executive Lindsey Parsons was called in to quickly put together a special strike force to get Star Trek back on warp factor nine.
And Abel and his crew of 100 were quickly blasted off the set.
Then Parsons beamed up Douglas Trumbull, who supervised special effects on 2001, Close Encounters and Silent Running, to take the helm.
Angry Paramount chiefs have now said that only one of Abel's sequences will be used in the movie, which is costing an estimated $30 million.
But they are still insisting that the film will meet the December deadline, and cash in on the bumper Christmas business.
Work on the film is going on under extremely tight security, and only those directly involved are allowed on the set.
Despite all the problems, THE STAR has discovered that fans can look forward to a newly-outfitted Enterprise on a mission pitting the crew against a mysterious alien.
Fans will be caught gasping as Kirk, now an Admiral, almost gets the spaceship trapped in a black hole.
And fiction approaches fact when an alien turns out to be the wreckage of NASA's Voyager VI. Space buffs, of course, know that NASA is still plodding along in real-life with Voyager II.
In the movie, Voyager VI has been turned into an intelligent life form and it is on its way to earth to capture K-a-sha, which it considers God. The interior of the strange being is designed to provide some of the most dramatic special effects ever put on film.
This underlines the concern about the delays and cost crisis - especially when Paramount president Michael Eisner is already thinking in terms of a sequel.
NEW AND FORTHCOMING MERCHANDISE

In December 1979, the longest-running science fiction series in network television history will become a feature film: STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE will be released by Paramount Pictures in theatres across the United States and Canada.

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE is produced by Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry and is based on all new material by Roddenberry and Harold Livingston. It reunites the original television stars, including Leonard Nimoy and William Shatner. The director is four-time Academy Award winner Robert Wise.

Beginning in August, Pocket Books will launch its Star Trek publishing program, one of the most elaborate and unusual ever. Although the list is still being developed, there are now sixteen separate Star Trek projects in the works under Pocket Books, Wallaby and Wanderer imprints. The titles cover the whole Star Trek galaxy - everything from calendars to blueprints to novels to technical manuals to juvenile books.

Booksellers should know that these are not mere 'movie tie-ins'. Star Trek has already proven its powerful continued salability in the bookselling market - indeed, these books would be strong sellers to a pre-sold market even without the motion picture.

With STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE, the sky's the limit. Paramount (the studio that broke world-wide industry box-office records in 1978) is now formulating its marketing strategies for this film, and Pocket Books is a significant part of it, working closely with Paramount at every stage.

You'll be seeing and hearing much more about this adventurous Star Trek program in the months to come and about your many profit opportunities.

SEPTEMBER
The 1980 Star Trek Calendar (Wallaby) 79098-6 $5.95.
The Official U.S.S. Enterprise Officer's Date Book for 1980 (Wallaby) 79099-4 $6.95
The Star Trek Make-Your-Own-Costume Book by Lynn Edelman Schnurnberger, with a special introduction by the designer of the costumes and jewelry for STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE, Robert Fletcher (Wallaby) 79101-X $5.95

OCTOBER
Star Trek Speaks by Susan Sackett and Fred & Stan Goldstein (Wallaby) 79091-9 $2.95
Star Trek Spaceflight Chronology by Fred & Stan Goldstein (Wallaby) 79089-7 $8.95
The Star Trek Peel-off Graphics Book by Lee Cole (Wallaby) 79104-4 $4.95
The Star Trek Iron-on Transfer Book (Wallaby) 79105-2 $4.95

NOVEMBER
The Star Trek Make-a-Game Book by Bruce Nash (Wanderer) 95552-7 $4.95

DECEMBER
Star Trek - The Motion Picture: a novelisation by Gene Roddenberry (Pocket) 83088-0 $2.50
The U.S.S. Enterprise Bridge Punch-out Book designed by Tor Lokvig and illustrated by Chuck Murphy (Wanderer) 79106-6 $3.95

JANUARY
The Official Blueprints from Star Trek - The Motion Picture (Wallaby) 79106-0 $6.95
The Great Star Trek Trivia Book by Rafe Needleman (Pocket) 83090-2 $1.95
Star Trek - The Motion Picture: A Photonovel (Pocket) 83089-9 $2.75

FEBRUARY
The Making of Star Trek - The Motion Picture by Gene Roddenberry and Susan Sackett (Wallaby) 79109-5 $7.95
The Star Trek Pop-up Book designed by Tor Lokvig and illustrated by Chuck Murphy (Wanderer) 95536-5 $3.95
U.S.S. Enterprise Punch-out Book designed by Tor Lokvig and illustrated by Chuck Murphy. (Wanderer) 95560-8 $3.95

The above is a promotional ad. printed in the Publishers Weekly for April 30th (USA)
Info supplied by Kay Brown.
Dearest Fotonovel Fans:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding Star Trek Fotonovels. We have every intention of resuming their publication. However, as a result of the upcoming STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE, Paramount Pictures has decided to suspend production of Fotonovels 13 through 79. Following the release of the film, we hope to be back in production on your favorite episodes. Until that time, please be patient and bear with us.

Live Long & Prosper

The list of forthcoming Fotonovels includes INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS.

(info Karen Lovett, Sally Marsh & David Roylance)

FATE OF THE PHOENIX

Marshak/Culbreath, Bantam, $1.95. (sequel to Price of the Phoenix)

I haven't actually read this yet - I had an hour last night glancing through Janet's copy and didn't have time to get more than two-thirds of the way through it. My first impression is that the style is even more wordy and confusing than it was in Price of the Phoenix. It does not encourage the reader to 'read on'. It starts with Omna re-born and continues with two Kirks, two Spocks, two Omnas - and just to confuse matters further one of the Spocks and one of the Omnas are the same person... The Romulan Commander has acquired a name at last. Intrigue and counterplot are rife, with a great deal of the action concerning the Commander and James...as far as I can tell. Once again the ending is very open, making yet another sequel very probable. I feel this book would have benefited from some ruthless editing - if I want to read something that requires a great deal of thought, I prefer non-fiction. Sheila.

Nothing-to-it-letters Thin Publishing Ltd, Churchill Road, Cheltenham, Glos.

Miss you letter. This is an already printed letter with 'multiple choice' variations. It begins -

Dear............ How I miss you! I miss you more than... life itself. ...Home made biscuits. ...Star Trek.

We haven't heard of this being available outside the Cheltenham area yet, but wittily ticked off it could be quite amusing. Info Sue Stockley, Peter Buckett.

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TRIVIA

On New Years Day, the Rose Bowl game halftime featured a salute to STAR TREK and BATTLESTAR GALACTICA, with the Michigan University band playing the theme songs and forming an outline of the ships.

A seed catalogue has a flower named STAR TREK, a petunia mixed in colours red, crimson, blue, purple striped with white.

(above items from Jerri Franz)

On the book sleeve of the Blondie Album, 'Parallel Lines' one of the band is wearing STAR TREK socks. (Info Sue Hillsdon - thanks also to the rest of you who gave us this info.)

Have you noticed how often STAR TREK is appearing in other programmes. For instance, a couple of weeks ago Terry Wogan, of all people, spoke the words 'Beam me up, Scotty' into his microphone (Mum's a great fan of Blankety Blank, you see), Don McLean on 'The Smallest Show on the Telly' sang two lines of a song about joining the Star Trek crew and Spock's 'fanny ears' (not appreciated by me!) and even the Reader's Digest magazine entered into the spirit of things by asking how long the Enterprise's mission was to have taken. - Fiona Skyes.

STAR TREK repeated STAR TREK on Saturday May 12th. It's rather fun. (info Teresa Hewitt & Jean Denkin) ((See report on it later in the S/L))

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IMPORTANT

Anne Page is having a party at her house on July 7th. Everyone is welcome, so you would like to stay the night you can take a sleeping bag. Let Anne know if you are going. Anne Page, 11 Manor Farm Road, Tyseley, Birmingham.

Tel. No. 021-707-3027. If you send Anne a SAE I'm sure she will let you have directions.
SMALL ADS

Charge 5p per line (approx 12 words) Send to Janet. British stamps are acceptable.

WANTED: Video tape recordings of ST:R TREK episodes - "Plato's Stepchildren" and "Whom Gods Destroy" on a Phillips of VHS video tape. Contact G. Cuthbertson, 93 Hillsborough Rd, Co. Antrim, No. Ireland, BT28 1JN.

WANTED: If anybody has any, information, pictures or tapes on SHERLOCK HOLMES, especially when played by Basil Rathbone. Please contact me, Elizabeth Newton, 'Delilah', Halton Station Road, Sutton Weaver, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 3BZ.

APPEAL: Let's hear it for all SPACE 1999 fans in Britain. We need a letter campaign to ITC Entertainment Ltd to give the show the status it deserves - a family show, not children's viewing and we want it in the evening or even later on in the afternoon on Sunday (STV) and the same for Grendy and the Borders. I would like to hear from you also so write to STV and to Gerry Anderson Marketing: ITC/ITV, 17 Great Cumberland Place, London. We want to show them that the show has a following here and needs status as an adult programme. David L. Roylance, 42 Bonaly Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh, EH 13 0BT.

WANTED: Part two and three of RAIDON PARTIES by Helen McCarthy and Barbara Kitson. These are U.P.O. zines. Contact: Sara Dickenson, 24 Westlocot Road, Swindon, Wiltshire. Tel. No. (0793) 21001.

WANTED: Giant Poster Book Voyage 15 (features Sulu), LOG ENTRIES 3. Mrs. Jean Donkin, 48 Welleys Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 4JZ.


WANTED: Can anyone tell me where I can buy a model kit of the U.S.S. Enterprise? I'd be grateful for your help. Van Tozes, F.O. Box 4, Holargos, Athens, Greece.

WANTED: To buy or exchange, William Shatner photos and reports (no ST:R TREK of Kirk material!!) Can anyone tell me the ENGLISH FAN CLUB of the U.S. singer Johnny Mathis, the address of the Johnny Mathis Appreciation Society, releases of any address of a fan of Johnny Mathis, to help a good friend of mine! Please write to: Gabrielo Feber, Auguste-Bebel- Str. 36, 6806 Viersheim, Germany.

APPEAL: Would any incensed objecters to the cancellation of the TV series THE RIFLE CHASE write to the following address and beg for its renewal:

CBS/TV
51 West 52nd Street
New York City
New York 10019
USA

This super terrific series like RIFLE CHASE and STAR TREK, despite quality of the highest kind, meet an untimely demise when confronted with the iron will of Neilson. Thanks! Rosemary Yacono, Ridgefield, NJ, USA.

FOR SALE: Video tapes 2½ hours for Philips 1700. For details write of phone Marian Carter, 29 Castle Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hants. Tel. Portsmouth 29589.

WANTED: Green Hornet Black Beauty car made by Dinky Toys some years back, new if possible. It's no longer made as far as I can see, but perhaps there is one left in a toy shop around you somewhere. Alan White, c/o Janet Quarton, 15 Lottor Daill, Czrnsaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll, Scotland.

WANTED: A certain copy of PLAYBOY, or photocopy of the article in it. If you have it you'll know which one I mean. Your President.

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THOMPSON TO ADDRESS THE HIGH TREAS
when we are arranging a letter campaign we ask you not to mention you are a member of a club since if you did they would know it was an organised campaign and pay less attention. As it is I think they suspect but they can't be sure. Letters from the general public probably do have more weight than letters the BBC know come from members of a fan club. In the same way individual letters have much more weight than a petition. The BBC do know the ST clubs exist; in fact they have given STAG's address to people enquiring about fan clubs and we've gained quite a few members through the BBC in this way. If you are writing to the Bbc off your own bat, i.e. not as part of a specific letter campaign, it does no harm to mention being a member of STAG or any other club. In fact we'd be pleased if you told the BBC if you are satisfied with STAG. That way they may give our address to even more fans.

IS STAG LOOKING TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP, IF SO WOULD ONE BE ALLOWED TO DISPLAY A NOTICE ABOUT STAG IN, SAY, PUBLIC LIBRARIES?

We are not specifically looking to increase membership of STAG but at the same time we welcome all STAR TREK fans into the club and we do feel for all those ST fans out there who still don't know about ST fandom. You'd be surprised how many there are, we get enquiries from some of them every week. Some have found us through STW in the States, some have received our address from the BBC or maybe heard about the club from a friend, all have been ST fans for years but just didn't know there were any clubs, etc, in Britain. In the hope of contacting more of these lonely ST fans by all means do advertise STAG in any way you can. Give Janet's address and tell people to send a SAE for info on the club and a free sample newsletter.

IS LEONARD NIMOY GOING TO BECOME AN HONORARY MEMBER OF STAG OR Has HE REFUSED?

We are trying to get Leonard Nimoy as an Honorary Member of STAG but the difficulty is getting a letter to him. We've asked Louise Stange, his club President, if she can help. So keep your fingers crossed.

A reminder to Leonard Nimoy's fans: the address of his The Leonard Nimoy Association of Fans is Louise Stange, LNAF President, 4612 Denver Court, Englewood, Ohio 45322, USA. The LNAF issues bulletins and a large yearbook containing photographs, reviews etc. Dues are $5.00 per year surface, $9.00 per year airmail bulletins and newsletter, $14.00 per year airmail everything including the yearbook.

WOULD IT HELP YOU IF, AT THE TIME OF RENEWING MEMBERSHIP, WE WERE TO COMPLETE 6 STICKY LABELS WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SO THAT YOU COULD STICK ONE ON THE NEWSLETTER RATHER THAN HAVING TO ADDRESS THEM EACH TIME.

This would have helped in the past but now we have the addressing machine it is quicker and easier just to use it. As long as the cards for it are kept in order the wrappers are printed in order and we don't need labels. Don't forget to send sticky labels when you are ordering zines etc. from Sheila as Janet has the addressing machine and we're mainly using it for the newsletters.

I THINK YOU SHOULD COMPILE THE INFO SHEET WITH ALL SALES LISTS SEPARATE FROM THE NEWSLETTER

This would undermine the idea behind the info sheet. You are supposed to keep the info sheets for reference and we update it with every newsletter. The idea behind the info sheets was to take the repetitive info and adverts out of the N/L. What we are now left with in the N/L are small ads, friendship ads and zine ads which only apply to that N/L. There is no point in our advertising US zines in the info sheet unless they are going to be available for some months and especially in the case of the better zines, this is often not the case. Most US zines go out of print very quickly and some only accept pre-orders, printing only enough to cover those orders. We prefer to keep the FRIENDSHIP CORNER in the N/L as it tends to be mainly current. We encourage you all to make full use of it - there is no charge.
WHAT WERE THE 'BANNED EPISODES' AND WHY WERE THEY BANNED?

We're answering this question for all our new members who haven't heard the saga. Back in 1970 the BBC advertised the episode EMPATH in the Radio Times but then showed PARADISE SYNDROME instead. I doubt any of us thought anything about it at the time - they had already substituted DOOMSDAY MACHINE for COUNT MORTAL which they then showed rather later, at the start of the second series instead of during the first. However, the screening of the third series ended and EMPATH still hadn't been shown. On checking we found that PLATO'S STEPCHILDREN and WHOM GODS DESTROY hadn't been shown either. We wrote to the BBC enquiring when they were going to show those episodes and we were informed that they weren't going to show them as they didn't feel they were suitable for the younger viewers who watch STAR TREK. As to why, they said they were too violent, and showed aspects of 'the unpleasant subjects' of sadism and insanity, etc. We tried to change their minds but failed. STAR TREK was repeated in the next couple of years and MIRI was left out; we found that the BBC had banned this one as well. MIRI is the only one we can see any point in their banning as seeing those children better Kirk to the ground while that one child watches unmoved is rather horrific. During the years then we have tried and tried to persuade the BBC to show those episodes but so far we have failed. They won't even agree to show them late at night as they say young children would stay up and watch it, although surely that becomes purely the parents' responsibility. TTA have shown certain episodes of series late at night if they thought them unsuitable for children.

You should all know what the episodes are about as you will find them in Blish's adaptations. Empath and Plato's Stepchildren are very accurate to the aired episodes, MIRI isn't too bad, it follows the general course of events pretty closely, but Whom Gods Destroy has certain differences from the aired version - Blish was working from first draft scripts a lot of the time, and many of these underwent considerable changes between first draft and final shooting.

WHY DON'T YOU PUBLISH ONE OR TWO OF THE ITEMS OF ARTWORK SENT TO YOU FOR COMPETITIONS, REGARDLESS OF STANDARD. YOU SHOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE FANS TO SEND YOU TECHNICAL DRAWINGS OF HARDWARE AND SHIPS USED IN THE SERIES (EXCLUDING THOSE, OR VARIATIONS OF THOSE, SHOWN IN ANY OF THE MANUALS OR BLUEPRINTS) AS WELL AS DESIGNS OR COSTUMES.

First of all, we are not prepared to print anything that we feel is of poor standard. The good artwork sent in is used eventually in our zines unless the medium is such that printing it is a virtual impossibility; pencil, for example, has to be printed half-tone and costs us roughly 5p per page. At that sort of price it has to be really good and full page. Technical drawings (which after all have been covered pretty fully in the various manuals) and costumes are of very limited interest to most fans - even American zines, some of which have in the past concentrated on articles and all of which stress artwork very highly, seldom print either of those, and the handful that have, have done so only once to our knowledge, so presumably the response has been adverse. We have your two drawings, and intend to get one onto electro-stencil for the next N/L, although we are slightly doubtful as to how well it will cut - the ink could have done a little blacker - and we'll be interested to receive comments from members about it.

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VULCAN

Extract taken from 'THE A - Z OF ASTRONOMY' by PATRICK MOORE

Vulcan. During the 19th century it was believed that there must be a planet moving round the Sun at a mean distance much less than that of Mercury. The French astronomer, Le Verrier, whose mathematical calculations had led to the discovery of Neptune in 1846, was convinced of its reality, and it was even given a name - Vulcan. However, its existence was never confirmed, and it is now safe to assume that there is no planet within the orbit of Mercury.

Sent in by Andrew Donkin  

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CONVENTIONS

FAIROON '79 - Glasgow's Science Fiction Convention July 20th - 22nd. Ingram Hotel
Registration Full - £4.50 Supporting - £1.50
Guest of Honour - Bob Shaw Program includes films, ST episodes (all 15 released on 8cm), talks, quizzes, panel discussions, auction and possibly video.
Hotel rates: Single - £12.00 per night Twin room - £20.00 per night.
Prices include VAT, service charge, full English breakfast (or Continental in your room)
All rooms have colour TV, tea-making facilities.
For details of how to join FAIROON send an SAE to Gerry Gillan, 9 Dunottar Street, Dunbarie, Glasgow. Or phone Bob Shaw on (041) 334 6874 after 6pm.
SF (STAG will be represented and have a table. We'll also be showing films)

Metropolis Hotel, Brighton.
Registration Jan 1st - August 1979 - £11.00 (120.00) attending, £5.50 (10.00) supporting
Registrations at the door will be £13.00 for full attending membership of £5.00 per day.
Info from Season '89, 14 Henrietta St., London WC2B 0QJ.
SF (Janet, Beth and Valerie will be attending and STAG will have a table).

MEDICON The LITG presents a one day mini-con for all SF fans.
Date: 15th September 1979 Place: Richmond Community Centre,
Time: 12 noon 'til 11.00/11.30pm Richmond, Surrey.
Dealers tables/Sport costume prizes/Surprise events/Quizzes/Video/Free evening disco/
Fancy dress comp at the disco and much, much more.
Registration: £1.00 by post to Sept 1st. Dealers tables: £1.00 + 5% of takings
£1.25 thereafter on the door (booking closes Sept 1st.)
For Registration forms or more info, please write to: Barbara Kitson
86, Thornton Ave
Turnham Green
London W4 3QQ

Please enclose a SAE and make all cheques/P.O.'s payable to B.K. Kitson.
All Medicon profits will go towards purchasing a home breathing machine for a disabled
LITG member.

TERRAON '79 October 13/14th Dragonara Hotel, Leeds.
Registration £3. For further details send SAE to Dot Owens, 30 Ovenden Way, Lee Mount, 
Halifax, West Yorks.
ST.

STUK '79 - Meet the Americans Party microcon. 15th August.
Anyone who is interested in this contact Beth Hallam, Flat 3, 36 Clapham Rd, Bedford, 
England, enclosing SAE.
Hotel accommodation can be arranged at £8 - £9 per night; if you can't afford this, 
arangements can be made, but you would need to supply your own bedding (eg sleeping bag).
You will be required also to supply food for yourself plus one American.
Guest of Honour - Jacqueling Lichtenberg,
Number limit - 30 - 50 Americans, 50 - 70 British.

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STAR TREK AND THE BBC

Sorry we let you down last time with saying that STAR TREK should be back within 5 weeks.
I guess the BBC changed their minds again - they do tend to be as changeable as the weather.
Philip Farris tells us that he has heard that STAR TREK will be back on TV in July. We
don't know his source but we're keeping our fingers crossed.
Dot Owens tells us that Pat Mitchell had a letter from the BBC saying they have now 
purchased all three season . Again we're keeping our fingers crossed.
We're still not having much luck with the banned episodes. We thought the following
letter, sent to us by Theoren Howitt, might be of interest to you.

Dear Mrs Howitt,

Thank you for your letter of 12th April regarding the series "STAR TREK". We do have repeat rights on this series which means that they will be shown again - indeed some were transmitted last Autumn. At the moment, however, I have no information as to when the remainder will be placed in our schedule.

We will not be able to show all 79 episodes as we no longer have any rights on certain of the programmes which were rejected as being unsuitable for transmission to an audience which would include a large number of children. The BBC no longer has prints of these episodes but since you apparently saw them recently for yourself at your "STAR TREK" convention, I am sure their omission will not grieve dedicated "STAR TREK" fans too much.

Yours sincerely,
Caroline Mackersey,
Assistant (Series)
Programme Acquisition, Television.

We find that second paragraph interesting as if you look at the wording carefully it does tend to indicate that the BBC have prints of all the episodes bar the four banned ones and would seem to confirm what Pat Mitchell told Dot.

Thanks to those of you who sent copies of the BBC's standard reply. It's nice to know they have to send printed replies.

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FANZINES

COP-KILLER: A Starsky & Hutch zine from Tori White, 3280 Lamosara, Shaker Hts, OH 44122, USA. $7.50 inc postage in USA, $7.50 to Britain. A novella by Tori; a madman with an imagined grudge against Hutch decides to be revenged on him through Starsky. This is a fast-moving, well-written story which we do recommend very highly.

Naked Times 2 due 1st June. An age statement is required as this zine contains material which might be offensive to some. Della Van Hise, 10865 Parkdale Ave, San Diego, CA 92126 USA. $12.50 airmail. Make cheques payable to Pan Farr Press.

Rigel 4 - Carol Lee, 900 Leverton Rd, Rockville, MD 20852 USA. They are sending out flyers, and we have written to ask about bulk orders but so far have had no reply. The zine will cost at least $10.00 (£5) plus postage.

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FANZINE AUCTION

Out of print and now zines (GRUP, CONTACT, Rigel etc) for auction. Send S.E and 2 stamps or 2 IRCs to Carol Lee, 900 Leverton Rd, Rockville, MD 20852 USA.

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WHAT'S IN A NAME? - KIRK arrived with Danes.

One of the reasons why the Scandinavian Vikings invaded England in the 10th century was the over-population in Scandinavia. In spite of the rapacious destruction caused by these Norsmen, or Danes as they were called by the English, they did have a word for 'church'. This word was 'kirkja' and by the end of the 12th century the generally accepted word for a church in England and Scotland was 'kirk'.

It was from this that the Kirk surname developed having been given to a person who either lived near a church or was a church warden. The first record of Kirk as a surname can be found on an ancient record dated 1209 in the county of Surrey, England, but in spite of its English beginning it eventually became chiefly Scottish.

Until the murder of King James 1 in Perth, Scotland in the year 1437 this was the capital city of Scotland. At one time of this event Patrick Kirk was a young student in a training college for clerics. Patrick was a highly intelligent student and by the year 1456 he was not only the chaplain of Saint Mary's Church in Perth but he was also knighted and granted coats of arms, his title being Sir Patrick Kirk.
During the 15th and 16th centuries there were three enabled families of Kirk, two of these (which includes Sir Patrick) owned estates in Scotland and the other in England. The Coat of Arms shows a red shield on which is a golden crozier crossing a silver award, at the top of the shield is a golden horizontal band on which is a green thistle. During the 1500s an English adventurer and merchant named Sir David Kirk(e) sailed to Canada and attacked the French in Nova Scotia. After this he forced the surrender of Quebec and became the governor of Newfoundland. The irony of all this was the fact that Sir David was born in France.

Newspaper cutting by Charles Guarino & Albert Seddon.

We're sorry we don't know which paper this came out of, nor can we remember who sent it in - this was one case where the cutting was separated from the accompanying letter. Can anyone find a name source for McCoy or indeed any of the main characters? 'Chapel' could come from the same origins, but what about the others? And is there anyone with the energy and imagination to produce one for Spock? If so, we'd be delighted to see it for inclusion in a future newsletter.

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A VISION FOR STAR TREK

A two page article about the 23rd Century, by Jesco Von Puttkamer, appeared in FUTURE LIFE 10. It starts by saying:

"About three years ago, STAR TREK's creator Gene Roddenberry called me up and requested a vision.

At that time, Roddenberry had begun to develop early plans and script ideas for what was to become Paramount's opulent production of STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE. He made it quite clear that the picture was to remain true to STAR TREK's world of an open, glorious future for humanity, and he asked me to serve as Science Advisor or the fascinating project.

Now, he was on the telephone from California, asking me bluntly: 'Yes, what will the world of the 23rd century be like? And how will we get there?""

The article is very interesting and it Jesco paints a picture of a 'joyous, viril world of new horizons in which technology, as our friendly servant, allows us continued growth, both humanistically and materialistically, both spiritually and physically.... Green hills and forests are back, as are clean rivers and crystal-clear skies. Wildlife is abundant, with all formerly endangered species back in business, including great whales, eagles and wolves. Even many species that had formerly been thought extinct have reappeared..... Main income of Earth's sedate population comes from tourist industry, operation of top-quality educational centers, and export of knowledge, skills, gourmet foods and special artifacts of historical and sentimental value to wherever Earth folks live.'

The article also discusses the technology etc. of the 23rd century and mentions that some people will only wear a belt. 'By punching up coded combinations, the power belt wearer dresses by establishing fabrics of force fields around his or her body.... Of course a safety switch protects against accidental exposure (and practical jokes aimed at attractive wearers).

This really is an interesting article although I'm afraid we don't have room to cover more of it here. It'll be interesting to see whether Gene uses any of Jesco's ideas in the movie.

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TRANSPORT OFFICE

Date: Stardate 0312.78
Driver: Dr. Spock
Vehicle No.: U.S.S. Enterprise NCC 1701
Spec'd Reading: 6,000 Light Years

Men Carried Throughout Week 430 men and women.

Vehicle Faults (use form and return at any time). Damaged Warp Drive and Faser Banks inoperative. Please arrange for repair at nearest Star Base.

Elizabeth Baker tells us that the above was handed in at the transport office where she works.

************
LETTER To: Jean Barron.

Dear Jean,

We would like to thank you for bringing us all together. You are so understanding when we groan and sigh each time we watch an episode on your Video.

You take pleasure in baking delicious cakes, making mountains of sandwiches and gallons of coffee to make sure we don’t starve, while we are gazing at your photo album.

We would also like to thank your mother and son, who never mind being thrown out of their home on Sundays, when we come over!

But, most of all, we want to thank you, Jean, for making our lives so much more bearable.

Our love and peace to you,

from

Linda Hughes, Jean Donkin,
Sue and Heather Hillsden.

I would love to correspond with anyone who is interested in STAR TREK and in swapping cassettes, records, stamps, postcards etc with STAR TREK items, ANYTHING, that I so desperately need. Van Totos, P.O. Box 4, Holargos, Athens, Greece.

I am 25 years old and would love to hear from any ST fans, mainly in my own area. I've many hobbies and interests; I love animals and collect poetry. Please write, 'cos I'd love to hear from you. BLAKES 7, INCREDIBLE HULK fans also welcome! Janet Blair, 297 Hasland Road, Hasland, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S41 OHA.

Doreen Twivey would like to let all her friends know that her new address is - Miss Doreen Twivey, Resident, Operating Theatre Staff, Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup, Kent.

***************

KARLSRUHE SCIENCE FICTION SHOW

This was held by an Army Service Club on May 5th and 6th. Ann Looker, Gareth Looker, Jerry (my husband) and I drove to Karlsruhe on Sunday May 6th. Upon our arrival, Ann was swamped with a deluge of fans waiting to see her fanzines. Eurotrek 79 had displays set up by Sci-Fi fans, an art exhibition, guest speakers, some films. The two features guest speakers were Starlog/Future Magazine's Special Projects Editor Tom O'Steen. He showed a slide show called 'Reaching for the Stars'. It was a mixture of art depicting men's desire to fly, photographs from NASA, and several alien landscapes painted by various artists. The other speaker was Steven Scheel from AFT TV in Frankfurt who had been to several conventions in the past. He had brought with him some film clips of the old animated Superman series, a couple of Flash Gordon serials, and film clips from the old movies. They especially captivated the audience. The German Jedis, the Guardians of Forever, and some individuals from all over Germany were costumed (as for ST, two people had the old ST uniforms while two others had the new uniforms on) and displayed numerous articles from their private collections. Most of the Rosc's exhibits were sold in the afternoon, ST pictures, Boris and McCall's prints, and paperback books from a variety of authors - Asimov for one.

It was a fun weekend but a tiring one. Bob Petterson, the brainchild behind Eurotrek 79, has enlisted my help for next year. This one will take place around the same time next year except it will be a regular convention.

Robin Campbell

***************
On Friday 30th March at 2pm, I walked through the doors of the Dragonara Hotel in Leeds wondering what my first con would be like.

Arrangements had been made by Janet Quarton for me to be her personal steward for the weekend, and although we had never met, we had been in frequent touch by telephone and letters.

As the afternoon wore on, Trekkers began to arrive, but no Janet amongst them, so I decided to go with Anne Page, one of the Committee members, to shop for some 'goodies' in preparation for the room parties taking place over the weekend.

Going up in the lift on our return to the hotel, I recognised Janet's Scottish accent, and as we were sharing sleeping quarters for the night, I followed her to the rooms, where I also met Valerie Piacentini and Sheila Clark. One thing I really appreciated at the con was the opportunity to meet the Committee members of STAG and being able to put a face to each of the names I had seen printed on the newsletters.

A message on the notice-board showed a change of time for the stewards' meeting, so I went with the committee members to help set up the tables in the sales room in readiness for the following day. Then, with other helpful Trekkers, Janet and I carried the boxes of registration envelopes to the Reception area, and after making ourselves comfortable in the chairs and on the floor, we proceeded to call out names, for the Trekkers to come and collect their envelopes. When the queue dwindled, I took a friend's registration envelope and went off to find her. We spent a few minutes together having a cup of coffee, then it was time for me to go to the stewards' meeting.

The meeting was arranged to inform the stewards of their various duties, and as I was a 'special duty' steward to Janet, there was no need for me to stay for more than a few minutes, although the only 'special duty' I had from Janet was to go and buy her a drink.

(Now I understand what Gene Roddenberry meant - No, Geno, Janet doesn't drink - much!) Coming from the meeting and finding that Janet had gone out for a meal, I joined other Trekkers at the bar until my friend arrived, then we both went to her room where we settled down to examine some maps she had brought with her. We had been writing to each other for some time, but had never met, and as we are going to spend three weeks together when we go to the States later this year, we had a lot to talk about.

Just before midnight, Janet telephoned to ask me to come to her room as she was going to telephone Gene Roddenberry. Her first attempt was unsuccessful, so along with a few other people in the room I spent the next couple of hours talking, drinking coffee, reading excerpts from magazines and looking through photographs of Star Trek episodes. I was rather intrigued to notice in one photograph that Mr. Spock looked very much the skinny Vulcan and yet in another he looked far more muscular. I queried whether he had perhaps taken a hormone course?

About 3am we decided to turn in as we had an early start the following (?) morning. Shortly after 7am, Janet, Sheila, Valerie and myself were sharing a table in the hotel restaurant. Amongst my breakfast egg and bacon I found a round slice of 'something' and was duly informed that it was 'black pudding', a Yorkshire (and Scottish!) delicacy made from a concoction of cereal and the intestines and blood of an ox. I wasn't going to learn things about Star Trek only at this con!

I had a quick browse round the Sales Room before it officially opened at 9.30am (steward's privilege!) bought a few photographs, a book and an IDIC, then returned to the STAG table. As someone who became involved with Star Trek only in November of last year, most of the ST episodes are new to me, so you can guess how much I enjoyed myself over the weekend! Several memories stand out from the weekend. There was laughter, I remember stopping for a few moments in a corridor just to listen to the laughter coming from various rooms, and what about Roy Payton who was enjoying himself so much as the Auctioneer he fell off the dais, and couldn't get up for laughing!

There was the friendliness and the companionship of being able to talk about Trek without the 'side-long glances' one experiences from people who do not yet understand that ST is more than just a TV series that finished ten years ago.

Then there was Sunday afternoon........

I put an arm look on the STAG president to 'encourage' her to talk part in a photographic session with other committee members, only to discover she is not slow in getting her own back.

There was I sitting quietly in the back row of seats waiting for the fashion show to begin when my name was called by Anne Page. Thinking there were some stewarding duties to be
done, I hurried over to her. A few minutes later with my stomach still doing a flip over, I was sitting next to Anne McCaffrey, stunned to find myself one of the three judges for the Fashion Show.

I found out later who had given my name to Anne Page. (That makes us quits, Janet - for the time being.)

My first con was fun. It was well organised and the one or two problems which arose were quickly dealt with by committee members or stewards. The programme was varied and gave ample opportunity for Trekkers to display their creativity in artwork and modelling as well as the ingenuity shown in designing costumes for the fancy dress parade and the fashion show.

My only regret was having to leave before the awards and closing ceremony to catch a train back to London.

So please Miss Quarton, STG President, Madam, Friend...etc.

Let's hurry up and have another con!

Doreen Twisty.

* * * * *

MY FIRST CONVENTION

I have been a fan of Star Trek ever since it first came to Britain in 1969/70. Like most fans I bought all the books I could lay my hands on and read them in the train, travelling to and from work, with a piece of paper carefully hiding the outside cover so that no-one would see what I was reading. This I did until January 1978 when I finally obtained the address of ST Welcomitee, who put me in touch with Janet Quarton, and so I started to receive news and information that I had craved for the last nine years.

The thought had never entered my head to attend a convention until someone told me that I ought to go to one, saying that I would enjoy the experience. Normally I am a reserved, cautious type of person, but my sense of adventure got the better of me and I phoned Janet to find out more about the Leeds midicon. Janet was very helpful, and, understanding my problem of not knowing anyone, she found me someone to share a room with, and through an ad in the newsletter I found several other fans in my area. My nerves were in evidence as I started the journey to King's Cross Station, to meet my new friends, but by the time we all got on the train, I was beginning to get very excited and looking forward to the weekend. From that moment my nervousness disappeared completely, and I even enjoyed the train journey!

As I sat in the convention hall at the hotel, listening to the opening ceremony and the tape from Susan Sackett, I felt that my initial impression of STG was true - with most clubs, you join, are accepted, then start to make friends, but with STG we are all friends who have not yet met each other - so I found myself chatting to people and feeling that I had known them all my life, but I had never met them before.

The first thing I did was to go to the Sales Room and buy all the badges and photos I could find, and I even entered my tribble (Spock) in the Tribble Contest - a thing I would never have dreamed of doing two months before. In fact I even took my tribble down to breakfast one morning! The fancy dress amazed me, and the fashion show was 'out of this world'! I have never been to an auction of my description before, but I felt completely at home, bidding for photos and signs. Then, of course, there were the episodes. It was a wonderful feeling to know that I could sigh cloud whenever Captain Kirk came on the screen (nobody could have heard me anyway, they were all too busy sighing themselves!)

By the time I arrived home on the Monday, I was so tired that I just fell into bed, and when I woke up I found that the 'Depression' had set in. I had been worried about it, but didn't really believe that one could become so low. The next day at work I felt awful. It was as if the bottom of my world had fallen out. But we got over this feeling eventually, and now I cannot wait for my next con in October, when I know I shall be amongst my kind of people again. Sharing the same feelings with so many others gives one an inner glow that cannot be explained to outsiders. Now I know what true 'Fandom' is all about, a wonderful feeling of friendship, peace and togetherness.

Linda Hughes.

* * * *
With aching limbs and blood-shot eyes, Angela White, Peter Grant and I arrived hot-foot from Perth at the Dragoncon at 8 o'clock in the morning. This was to be Angela's and my first convention, and Peter's second, so we were all impatient to get settled in and start soaking in Star Trek. One hour later we headed for the shops, our STAG/Emptiness badges prominently displayed. The badges brought a few comments, and one friendly waitress wished us a good weekend, much to our delight. Soon after that we rushed back to the hotel just in time for the opening ceremony and Susan Sackett's tape. After the tape came Menagerie 1 & 2 to an accompaniment of cheers and applause. We waited with bated breath, and as Kirk spoke for the first time, the Perth contingent cried, 'Oh, isn't his voice deep!' (Shella’s projector is running 1-2 frames a second slow, but we're trying to get it fixed - editor).

Food was next on the agenda, then back to the hotel to find our rooms and catch the last of Anne McCaffrey's interesting and very amusing talk. After Anne there was another episode. We missed the beginning due to a mix-up with our rooms, but enjoyed what we saw. While the Briganite suite was set out for the fancy dress parade and the disco I hurried up to the sales room and then to my room for a welcome cup of tea. By this time Trouble with Tribbles was due to start, and Angela and I found practically everyone else in the hotel was making for the same place! Fifteen minutes and ten crushed toes later we made it - in time, just!

All too soon it was time and then came the fancy dress parade, which was very good. The costumes were all well-thought-out and made, and every character was greeted with cheers, applause or hissing as the case may be. The winners were announced, but the prizes were kept until the closing ceremony. By the time the disco began to warm up we were all feeling very tired, and I am ashamed to say I had to crawl up to my room early and settle instead for a read of Log Entries 17 before falling asleep.

Next morning I was up bright and early at 8.30 am (force of habit) and after a hasty breakfast of two cups of tea and half-a-packet of Treats, I went along to get Angela. We had originally asked for a twin room, but due to too many people arriving, we'd each got a single instead. Typically, each room was at the end of a long corridor!

By this time we had worked out that to reach the Briganite suite in time we had to leave half an hour beforehand, so we managed to arrive in time for the first episode of the day after a long trip to the top of the hotel and back in the lift! I sometimes think we spent half the weekend in those lifts.

The hall was strangely empty of people at first, but during Miri they gradually appeared and by the time the auction began everyone was down. After the episode I headed for the sales room again, carefully counting my meager pennies. If someone had handed me a wad of notes there and then I would have bought up the whole room, but I had to be satisfied with a bright orange tribble (Mork), another zine and a picture of Spock. I arrived back in time for the last few items of the auction, and then I sat in the lounge reading the zine till it was time for the fashion show. A catwalk had been carefully set up in the hall and we found a ringside seat. The air rang with two choruses of 'Happy Birthday' as first Anne McCaffrey and then Sheila Calrk walked in, and then it was a case of waiting as various hitsches held up the show. Meanwhile the front row rocked with peals of laughter as the now-notorious 'Psychic Power of Pyramids' was passed around and read.

Soon, however, the show began in earnest, and I can honestly say I've never seen such dazzling costumes. Every single costume and script was marvellous and the funniest was undoubtedly the group of Klingons attacked by mumbling tribbles! Chris Chivers made an excellent Travis, and I'm only glad I wasn't a judge; I'd have given first prize to them all!

Unfortunately Tom Baker had not been able to come, so there was an extra episode instead.

By the time that was over I was stiff as a board, but I was not going to miss anything. At 6 o'clock the award ceremony began and all three of us were punch drunk on Star Trek. We applauded our way through the awards in a daze, hardly believing it was all nearly over. There was a short break, and last but not least came a final episode.

We trailed out to the lounge on Cloud 9, unable to think of work on Monday. The con was over and I still couldn't believe the incredible atmosphere of friendship that had lasted throughout the two days. It was an unforgettable experience, and I made up my mind on two points that Sunday. As soon as I got home I would join STAG, and then, October con – here I come!

Lorraine Goodison.

***************
I have heard recently that the producer of Blake's 7 has been receiving a lot of abusive letters from some Star Trek fans, telling him to take Blake's 7 off the air, as (in their opinion) it is rubbish and to put on the old repeats of Star Trek in its place. I've also heard that it is these same fans who put pressure on the BBC to stop making Space 1999 'as it isn't as good as Star Trek'.

It appears (if these rumours are true) that some Star Trek fans seem to regard Star Trek as the be-all and end-all of science fiction and so, therefore, no other science fiction shows should be allowed on TV. Such an attitude is ridiculous and is extremely petty-minded. I always thought Star Trek fans were more mature than that and were above such childish prejudice.

Gene Roddenberry fought long and hard for the freedom to enable him to make Star Trek as he thought and knew it must be made; is that freedom now to exist only for Star Trek and nothing else? If so, then that freedom is not freedom at all, but a repressive tyranny, which comes dangerously close to the attitudes portrayed in the totalitarian Federation in Blake's 7, where no view except the official party view is allowed to be expressed. We must not let such bigoted ideas pollute our 'movement', they will only bring discord and enmity into our ranks and spoil any standing we have with the general public, as well as making it harder to get the BBC to show more of the old Star Trek episodes.

Remember, we don't have the multiplicity of TV channels that the Americans do; if the BBC decide they've had enough of our abusiveness and retaliate by refusing to show Star Trek over again then we don't have any other station to turn to and it will be entirely our own fault if we do.

The IDIC philosophy states that a thing is not necessarily wrong because it is different; there is room for everyone to try to create new science fiction shows and no-one should deny them that right. The British vegetarian society's motto is 'Live and let live', perhaps it should be ours also. Let us welcome new science fiction shows and not try to force them off our screens; other producers and writers have things to say as well and may have something of value to contribute to the genre and to society as a whole.

I think it was Sondra Marshak who said that now Star Trek has finished on television we have to look for those 'little pieces of gold' that Star Trek had so much of, in other TV shows. If we deny ourselves the opportunity of finding such gold, then we could be a lot poorer as a result.

We have something good in Star Trek; in a world like ours, which is constantly being torn apart by prejudice, standards and values such as those shown on Star Trek are almost unique, and if they are to mean anything, then they must be seen to be what they are, namely, universal, and not the exclusive property of one particular series.

We should be striving for harmony, not discord, and avoiding narrow-minded attitudes. The science fiction world is big and with science and technology advancing all the time, new vistas of thought and expression are constantly being opened up. We can all contribute to it in our own way, adding, as Leonard Nimoy puts it, 'to the universal bank of reality.' Let us behave in a civilized way, a democratic way, applauding that which is good, and offering constructive criticism to that which is bad, but abstaining from condemning shows simply because they are not Star Trek.

If we act in this manner, then we will gain more than we will lose, in the way of friendship with other science fiction fans and with assistance, and possibly free publicity, from the BBC. There are enough militant sectional factions in society today without us creating more within our own field. If you don't like a particular programme, then don't watch it, no-one is forcing you to. All I am saying is, give others a chance to be creative; they have just as much right as Gene Roddenberry.

Yours, in the true spirit of Star Trek

Roger Sutton

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This letter was also printed in the newsletter of Starship Excalibur.
SAREK AND PON FARR

I liked Sheila and Valerie's 'Outline of the probable life of Commander Spock'. However, it struck me that the part about Spock's childhood, especially concerning his parents, raised a problem with regard to Sarek.

I know it says in 'The Making of Star Trek' that Amanda has been Sarek's only wife and I can accept that Spock has no siblings, but if Amanda was twenty-two when Spock was born, then Sarek was sixty-six, and the problem is this - if pon Farr occurs every seven years when a Vulcan male is apart from his own people and more often if he is on his home planet, say every five years, and if mid-thirties is the normal age when Vulcans reach puberty, surely Sarek must have experienced about five pon Farrs before meeting Amanda?

By Vulcan tradition Sarek would have been bonded at about seven years old, as his son was. So what happened to his bride-to-be? Okay, I can find two ways to explain that.

First, perhaps the female in question died before a marriage could take place, but then wouldn't Sarek have been bondad again?

Second. Perhaps Sarek's chosen mate rejected him as T'Pring did with Spock. Sarek would then have accepted the Kal-i-fe and fought for possession of his mate, a fight which he must have won, for obvious reasons. Did he then decide to release from her bond a female who dared to challenge? I think in those circumstances that IS what Sarek would have decided to do.

If we accept the second idea, then we know that the mating drive would have been sublimated by the combat following acceptance of the Kal-i-fe, as happened with Spock in Amok Timo. But, in either case, how did Sarek survive the next four or five pon Farrs, which he must have experienced before meeting Amanda?

Death seems (almost) unavoidable if Vulcan males do not mate when in pon Farr so the only explanation appears to be that Sarek was married before. (In spite of what it says in Making of Star Trek.)

In Jacqueline Lichtenberg's 'Kraith' series we have Sarek previously married and having had one daughter, T'Urimme, by his first wife. I don't necessarily accept that Sarek ever had a half sister, but I do think it's more (if you'll excuse the word) logical to assume that Sarek was married and widowed before he met Amanda, and that the notion that Amanda was Sarek's only wife is an erroneous one.

Or do you have an alternative idea on how Sarek survived several mating cycles without a mate? Has this already been explained in some story I haven't read?

Josie Rutherford.

* * * *

Well. The simple, straightforward answer, of course, is that it was in a sense a continuity error. Amok Timo was written and aired before Journey to Babel, so the concept of pon Farr should have been considered by Dorothy Fontana when she wrote Babel. At the time, however, no-one expected that ten years later groups of fans would be discussing pon Farr and its implications, and coming up with a number of inconsistencies. However, we want to come up with an explanation inside the framework of Star Trek.

It is always possible that in fact the mid-thirties was not the usual age for the first pon Farr, and that Spock's Human blood did advance the onset of the condition. We can only assume that T'Pring was fully mature as well - had she not been, it is logical to assume that T'Pou could have done something about it if she had the power to forbid the fight, as Spock claimed.

It has been suggested in fan fiction that in fact an unbonded male would not enter pon Farr; that pon Farr is triggered by the female's readiness to mate, and without a mate it would remain latent. (It has also been suggested that pon Farr can be triggered by any receptive female, which would leave poor Spock in a permanent state of pon Farr on board the Enterprise with her complement of 100 Human females.) If Sarek was unbonded - possibly because his selected mate had died - then he would be free to wait as long as he wanted before finding a wife.

There is also the possibility that, Vulcan being a logical society, it would be perfectly logical to have a red light district exclusively for the purpose of solving that particular problem... Has anyone else got any ideas? Sheila.

***************
BOOK REVIEW

THE MAKING OF STAR TREK by Gene Roddenberry and Stephen Whitfield

The must for all Star Trek fans - the complete story of how the greatest programme was made. All 414 pages of fantastic fun on how to conceive, make and sell a TV programme. The information is complete as its written by Gene Roddenberry, ex-policeman and creator of Star Trek.

It begins quite interestingly with Stephen Whitfield making you - the reader - into a 23rd century student studying the quaint culture of the mid-20th century. It is set in five parts from 'Birth Pangs' to 'Whither Star Trek' and follows the events of Gene Roddenberry's life from 1960 when the germ of an idea was placed in the great man's mind to 1968 when Freddie Freiberger's Star Trek was about to be launched onto the air.

It covers the original conception with Captain April, later Captain Pike, 'The Cog's' rejection for Lost in Space and the resurrection with Captain Kirk. It is interesting to notice that at the bottom of one of the lists of suggested names for crewmembers it says 'Kirk'. It is a must for all those interested in writing Star Trek stories as character run-downs of all eight crewmembers are given with special run-downs on regular 'bad guys' like Klingons and Romulans.

After that it becomes the predictable, but interesting, close look at production - Feinbergers, tribbles and aliens - with some highly amusing anecdotes from the stage. This is a great book, the style of writing is perfect and has been copied, the story is filled with some kind of emotion at some time or another - sometimes amusing, sometimes sad - but it is always a pleasure to read. I can assure all ardent fans that after they've read it they will keep on coming back to the book, because this is where the information is. It says that it only goes up to the beginning of season 3, but I think the colour photo on the front is from Day of the Dove, which was season 3. The book contains lots of super pix which show the show's characters on stage and off.

This book costs 75p and is published by Del Rey/Ballantine. Not much to pay for a work of art!

'...for would-be TV writers, directors and producers, this will be an education in itself, a polished but non-varnished look at how TV really works.' - PUBLISHERS WEEKLY.

David Roylance.

* * * *

World Without End by Joe Haldeman

I have just finished reading World Without End and I found it much superior to either Trek to Madworld or Starless World. I found the plot very interesting and the author did not try to interfere with the regular Star Trek characters. I thought it interesting the way he treated Scott's relationship with Uhura. That a pity it is that Haldeman is not going to write any more Star Trek novels - he is about the best professional writer of new Star Trek stories.

Lynn Collinson.

**********************

SWAP TREK

Swap Shop had a feature (parody) of Star Trek at 9.35 am on Saturday 12th May. They showed a clip of the Star Trek introduction - the Enterprise closing in on a planet. Noel played Captain Lurk, Maggie, Uhura (but Lurk couldn't pronounce it so he called her Doris), Chaggars, Spotty (complete with heavy Scottish accent) and John Craven, Speck (complete with Scottie style hair cut, triangular eyebrows and pointed ears.) As far as I could make out they ran into a lost planet using a large wheel (as used in a gambling casino) to find their course and a ten pence slot machine identified what they saw. To find Mr. Speck, Spotty dialled a number on a phone (after being reminded to dial 01 outside of London) Then we had a break in transmission and when service was resumed I caught the end of Mr. Speck's conversation about Captain Lurk being the stringer-of-the-week and Lurk asking, incorrectly, to beam down.

Philip Farris.

**********************
Because this newsletter is coming out so soon after the last one, we don't have any results for last N/Is competition yet - however, response has been minimal, so if anyone else out there would like to have a go at last month's competition yet, please do - we'll keep it open until the closing date for this one, for both fiction and art. For this newsletter, we'd like a story or poem in which the above dragon appears - we were sent the illo and loved it too much not to use it. The story/poem must be set in the Star Trek universe, ie using the Enterprise characters, not just about the dragon. Closing date for entries, July 13th.

For the artwork competition this time we'd like a picture for interpretation - ie, something that we can set for the writing competition, not next time but the time after. A scene of some sort that is designed to set the imagination working. Again, the closing date is July 13th. Entries should be sent to Sheila. They can be sent this time o/o Janet, as Sheila will be at Janet's during July until August 11th; however she will go home to pick up mail between the 13th and the 20th.

***************

THE MOVIE UNIFORMS

Peter McGuire writes -

I feel I agree to some extent with Pam Baddeley on the subject of the movie uniform. Don't they appear rather clinical. Perhaps they should have redesigned the old ones. One question, why do the crew always wear their uniforms, particularly when going on shore leave? I hope in the movie we will see a great deal more of ordinary life in Starfleet.

* * * *

Nikki White writes -

Agree with Pam Baddeley's description of the new uniforms - as does just about every fan I've spoken to at Sunday gatherings out here.. Still, Susan Sackett does explain the drab colours in Starlog 23. (Love the rumour she squashes, that the ST movie is to have its premiere in Feking!). (We should have STARLOG 23 in time for the next newsletter - Ed.)

* * * *

Sheila's comment - I'll reserve judgement on the colours until I see the movie, since there seems to be a positive reason for the muted shades. However, although I like the new uniform for the women (those miniskirts were hopelessly impractical for landing party duties), I do think the general cut is too feminine in design for the man. However, I also remind myself that the uniforms were designed by Americans, and that to American eyes it might not be an excellent design for a woman's trouser suit.

***************
DEATHSCREAM

Thought-patterns, flowing
In the calm, orderly patterns of logic
Are disrupted by

Small jolts of surprise
That turn irrevocably
Into...

Lightning holds of
Astonishment
As

Minds realise
That the hull is ripping open
And

Beings see for a split-second
The unhidden glory
Of the uncaring stars

Then
Feel the chill caress of black space
And, with freezing blood,
Colder still, the final

Embrace of death.

Humans.....
Death in singular they can comprehend
But

How can they know?

Susan Meek

The above poem was the winner in the STAG/Empathy writing competition, March/April 1979.

* * * * *

I-CHAYA by Liz Newton

He was my father's pet but now he's mine,
So if he lives or dies is up to me.
Now I've chosen the way of Vulcankind,
And so the choice must be made logically.

I have loved I-Chaya all my life,
Although my Vulcan half said I should not.
He's been there through my troubles, pain and strife.
A more loving, loyal friend I have not got.

My cousin Seleek, now he's here with me,
And yet he cannot help me with my choice.
But somehow, now, I feel he is like me,
And there's sorrow for I-Chaya in his voice.

Yet now I've got to make the choice that's best.....
I-Chaya, my true friend, it's time to rest.

* * * * *
Spock dressed quickly and efficiently in the unfamiliar Starfleet Academy cadet uniform. His thoughts were troubled on this, his first day at the Academy. Would they accept him, these Humans, different as he was? Perhaps his father was right, he should have remained on Vulcan. What if...

Spock pulled himself up sharply and concentrated on projecting a cool, impassive front, attempting to control his thoughts. He walked out of his room and down to the lecture-hall, pausing at the door to take a deep breath and calm himself before he entered.

About forty young Humans stopped their conversations and looked up inquisitively; a muffled whisper was heard, then silence reigned as Spock made his way to a seat and sat down, aware that all eyes were on him.

The lecturer, a middle-aged Human male with graying hair, walked up to the rostrum and proceeded to welcome all the young cadets to the Academy. Spock found himself unable to concentrate on the lecture as his thoughts grew bleaker. What chance did he have of making friendly contact with these Humans? He was so obviously an alien, different...

He became aware that people were moving and talking - the lecture was over. Spock got up and walked to the door. No-one spoke or smiled at him, all busy talking among themselves; he proceeded quickly to his room, shut the door behind him, and lay on the bed feeling very depressed.

Suddenly, Spock heard shouting in the corridor. Curious, he rose and looked out. There was a crowd of cadets milling around, and in their midst a youngster of about eighteen was sitting on the floor, looking dazed and vacant.

"What is the matter with him?" Spock asked.

"Hypnotised." One of the cadets looked at the Vulcan helplessly. "It was only a game, but I can't snap him out of it."

"I see." Spock thought for a moment. "I may be able to help," he said at last.

"If you can, please do - it could be dangerous for him."

Every one stepped back as Spock helped the young man to his feet and studied him carefully; it was a light trance, and should be easily broken - a full mind link would not be necessary. Slowly, he reached for the cadet's face.

A few minutes later the young man's eyes lost their vacant expression and became animated; he looked round curiously and some of his friends escorted him back to his room to sleep it off; explaining what had happened.

Spock also found himself surrounded by beaming cadets; he walked slowly back to his room, and found that one of his escort, the cadet responsible for the hypnotism, had lingered. Only now did Spock recognise him as one of the group in the lecture hall earlier. The young man began to speak.

"You know," he said quietly, "this morning when you came into the lecture hall we would have liked to speak to you, but none of us have much experience of dealing with Vulcans - we thought you might not want to be included. Now... Well, you helped Bill, and saved me from getting into serious trouble. You've shown that you want to be treated as one of us... Perhaps we can begin again?"

Spock felt a warm glow he had never experienced before in his life. He would be accepted after all.

Christine Leeson.

* * * * *

KIRK...TO EDITH'S MEMORY by Gladys Oliver

There...in the quiet moments of night and day,
There...in the eternal moments before our tears,
There...we touched our brief forever,
There...in the silence of a million years.

* * * *
HYBRID BIRTH by Gladys Oliver

Out there the world is calling,
Loud and bright and stark.
I wish to ignore it... but still it tugs me
From this warm and comforting dark.

Out there, there are no pliant pulses
To ease my life gently on,
And I know if I leave this place now
My peace will then be gone.

Out there they wait for my appearing life,
As I slowly enter that living tomb.
My soft caressing world is left behind
And I leave my mother's womb.

The world I know is now separated and torn
As, first hybrid of Earth and Vulcan
... I am newly born!

This poem was runner-up in the STG/KA Empathy Midicon writing competition.

* * * * *

THE SHADOW by Sandra Cowden

Where do those trees belong
That gently wave their branches
In the shadows of my mind?
The cooling shade of summer,
Some half-remembered summer,
With leopard spots of sunshine
On the grass.

The pool of memory stirs,
And the footfall of a Shadow
Whispers sweetly to the wind.
A name is breathed to life,
And the echo lingers on.
The misty pool of darkness calls
"Miromenee".

The dappled grass is warm,
And the rippling leaves of summer
Play a melody of forgetfulness
Amid the sighing boughs.
The Shadow steals a kiss
And floats gently out of reach.
Who are you?

My voice comes to my ear
But no answer follows after.
The Shadow has a form
But is nameless as Eternity.
The warmth of summer slips away.
The balmy breeze breathes softly
"Miromenee".

* * * * *

Kirk: Why do you sing the same song over and over again?
Reilly: It haunts me.
Kirk: It should - you've murdered it often enough.

* * * *
Once upon a time, a man called Richard Daystrom sat under an apple tree and thought about Newton. After a while, he changed position and thought about Einstein. After another while, he changed positions again and thought about Richard Daystrom. The glaring difference startled him.

"Huh," he commented.

The trouble was, he was not a Great Man, so he frowned and said "Huh" again, and yelped. He was sitting on something extremely hard...on his pocket calculator, in fact. He surveyed it thoughtfully. Then, suddenly -

"EUREKA!" he exclaimed.

Richard Daystrom rushed into the house and began dismantling everything electronic in sight. Then he dashed into the garden shed.

After a few weeks, the neighbours began to murmur. After a few months, they began to complain. Noises, smells, flashing lights, at all hours of the day (and night). What, oh what, was Dickie Daystrom doing?

Seven months, three weeks, six days, thirteen hours, forty two minutes and thirty four point eight nine five seconds * after dashing into the shed, Richard Daystrom dashed out, and began to pound on next door's front door.

"Wall?" Mrs. X. Trolleymooty asked.
"Lend me two pence, please."
"What for?"
"Please?"

She gave him two pence. That awful Mrs. N. Parker over the road was watching.

Richard Daystrom galloped (yes, galloped. What Great Man has ever merely walked anywhere?) down to the nearest phone booth. It was out of order. He cursed "Vandals, S.P.O., British Rail!" and galloped on to the next phone booth.

"Hello, Operator? Get me the Federation Starship Enterprise...and hurry... Thank you...Hello, Captain Pike? This is Richard Daystrom... You know that 'design a super-computer to replace the second hand one purchased from Littlewoods in 1982 competition? ...Yes, that's right... No, I haven't got quite that far yet... I think you'll be interested... What is it? A device to magnify Vulcan emotions to the point where Humans can recognise them!"

* Information supplied by Commander Spock, U.S.S. Enterprise, on a recent visit to Earth.

***************

And so we come to the end of another newsletter. We desperately need more short stories for the newsletter - maximum length, about 2000 words. It's not easy to tell a full story in so few words, I know - it has to be a scene or a not-very-major event, but unless we get more stories of this length soon, the fiction section will end up containing only poetry. I've got a story for next time still, but in dealing with fiction we have to think several publications ahead.

Peace and prosperity to you all. Janet, Sheila, Beth, Sylvia, Valerie.

***************

N/L 35 (a) STAG, June 1979. 800 copies.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. General information in this N/L may be used in other publications with proper credit. All original material by members, whether articles or fiction, etc, is copyright to the writers and must not be used without their permission.

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Our thanks to Nicola Moore who is coming along to help us collate and wrap this newsletter ready to post.
PHOTOS

These cost 30p for either a 3½" x 5" enprint or a duplicate slide, usually 35mm. Please state clearly whether you want prints or slides. Postage rates are as follows - up to 20 prints or slides, 7p or 9p; 21 - 34, 9½p or 12p; 35 - 48, 12p or 16p. If you include a stiffener you won't get so many for each rate. Foreign - 60c US each plus 23c for each 3 ordered. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope - 4 x 6 or 5 x 7 is ideal. Orders from the last H/L have not yet been sent out as the order only went in on the 16th.

Orders should be sent to Sheila by June 20th. Late orders will be delayed - remember we only get enough printed to cover orders.

Episodes this time are Mirror, Mirror and Dagger of the Mind.

39/4 Kirk, McCoy, looking from command chair towards Spock. 'I'm not sure but I think we've just been insulted'.

39/7 Kirk at transporter console, profile, Marlena behind console.

39/9 Kirk facing McCoy, Scotty, Uhura back to camera discussing where they are.

39/12 Uhura, head/shoulders, Mirror uniform

39/14 Kirk at transporter console, Spock holding phaser on him.

39/16 Kirk H/S, ¾ face, Mirror uniform

39/17 Scotty, McCoy in engineering, Mirror uniform

39/18 Landing party (own uniform) in transporter.

39/24 Kirk H/S in command chair, Spock H/S talking to him.

39/30 Kirk H/S.

39/33 Spock ¾ face holding agoniser to Kyle's shoulder.

39/35 Mirror Spock in quarters, sitting

39/44 General shot of bridge, final scene, Kirk talking to Marlena, long shot.

39/46 Scotty, Kirk, with McCoy and Uhura in b/g, in sickbay.

39/51 Chekov holding on phaser on Kirk held by two men in corridor.

39/53 McCoy holding scanner over Spock on bed, looking at panel.

39/54 Spock melding with McCoy, H/S

39/58 Mirror Kirk in brig looking at 'our' Spock walking away (continuation from 60A)

39/60A Mirror Kirk in brig, rest of his group b/cond, Spock (profile) at door.

39/63 Kirk, Spock at transporter, Marlena facing them across it.

39/64 Kirk and Spock in transporter room, Kyle at transporter, Kirk still trying to understand what has happened.

39/72 Kirk McCoy Scotty Uhura walking off transporter looking at their 'new' uniforms.

39/455 Kirk, smiling, H/S

39/1216 Kirk in transporter (own uniform), Uhura behind.

39/1545 Kirk, waist length, Mirror uniform

39/425 Similar to 72, now staring towards console (out of shot)

39/426 Kirk looking at Marlena, waist length

39/428 McCoy, Scotty, Uhura, 'new' uniform, in transporter room.

39/424 Mirror Spock H/S

39/4768 Mirror Kirk in brig looking back into it (continuation from 58)

39/5007 Landing party with Halkun Council on planet.

Dagger of the Mind

11/2 Spock full length in transporter chamber.

11/10 McCoy leaning on table, Spock sitting at it, talking to Kirk on surface. Van Gelder showing on bed behind.

11/12 Spock, head, bent over Van Gelder, head, melding.

11/19 Kirk, h/s in treatment chair.

11/22 McCoy H/S in front of Spock sitting at station on bridge.

11/90 Kirk and Halkun Noal seen through window of treatment room. Long shot

11/181 Van Gelder waist length on bridge holding phaser.

11/279 Similar to 19, Kirk opening communicator.

11/4660 Kirk profile in treatment chair, Adams and attendant showing through window.

11/4765 Kirk waist length in room on planet, Halken in b/g looking at ornaments.

Prints only

P39/1 Kirk facing Spock in corridor, waist length, 'operatives' behind.

P39/2 McCoy, Scotty, Kirk, Uhura in sickbay on ESS Enterprise, all facing front- ish.

For next time we are offering Plato's Stepchildren.

***************
SALES LIST
June 1979

This supercedes all previous sales lists.

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

Prices include postage and packing. Foreign prices are in US dollars. If you pay by dollar cheque/draft/money order, please add $1.00 to your total order to cover bank charges incurred in processing foreign currency. This charge does not apply if you pay in sterling. Airmail takes between 3 days and 2 weeks; surface takes 2 – 3 months. We confirm receipt of surface orders by air.

Log Entries 4 (reprint – few left) 60p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.
Log Entries 7 (reprint) 8 (very few left) 75p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.
Log Entries 13, 17, 18, 19 (very few left) of these) 80p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.
Log Entries 21, 22, 23 80p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.
Log Entries 24 85p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.


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

Variations on a Theme 1 by Valerio Piacentini & Sheila Clark
65p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

Reprint. An alternate universe story. Kirk goes to a replacement Spock, one whose Spock is a sadistic bully who uses Kirk sexually as a target for his cruelty and sets out to rescue him.

Variations on a Theme 2 by Valerio Piacentini & Sheila Clark
50p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

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

Wine of Calvora by Valerio Piacentini
80p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

Reprinting, will be available again during June. Janet wanted a story in which Kirk gets a bullet in the shoulder. But in this story, this is the least of his worries. A real Kirk-boner in true Janet style.

Enterprise Incidents 2 Stories by Sheila Clark
80p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

Reprint. This zine contain the winning and running up short stories from the Terracoon '77 writing competition.

The Wheel Turns by Valerio Piacentini
55p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

Reprint. Kirk and Spock are stranded on a Prime Directive planet, and Kirk has amnesia.

Tomorrow is Another Day by Lesley Cole
80p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

When Spock is returned to Vulcan suffering from an incurable ailment, the Enterprise goes off on another mission and gets lost.

As Now Wine by Meg Wright
£1 $4.50 (£2.25) air, $3.00 (£1.50) surface.

Spock is ordered to survey a newly discovered vulcanoid planet, and Kirk goes along to be the second member of the team. But he has only commanded the Enterprise for three months – and Spock has been ordered to lead the survey. How will this affect their relationship? Ready July, orders being taken.

Something Hidden by Sheila Clark
80p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

Reprint. An alternate universe story in which Spock goes to the Vulcan Science Academy instead of joining Starfleet. Then one day he finds himself aboard the 'Big E'.

Web of Selagor by Simone Mason
60p $4.00 (£2) air, $2.50 (£1.25) surface.

Reprinting, available during June. Members of an alien race refuse contact until Kirk undergoes a test they set. But as the test progresses, it becomes clear that the aliens intend either Kirk or Spock to die.

Grab bags of slogan stickers; strip of 3 Insignia stickers – 25p each + 7p or 9p stamp.

Foreign, $1.00
To be held at the Dragonara Hotel in Leeds on October 13th/14th, 1979.
Registration fee...... £3 per person. Children under 14 half price.

Please use this form to register and send it with your money to:
Mrs Dot Owens, 30 Ovenden Way, Lee Mount, Halifax, West Yorks.
Please enclose a SAE for your receipt.

I wish to register for Terracon '79 on October 13th/14th 1979.

NAME................................................................. TEL. NO..........................

ADDRESS............................................................................................

NAMES OF ANY OTHER ATTENDEES..........................................................

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ROOM(S)  Single............................

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I would like to share a room............ (tick if applicable)

I am willing to share a room if it would help.............. (tick if applicable)

I ENCLOSE cheque/Postal Order value £.............

Send money for registration only.... Hotel money to be paid to the hotel on departure.

I WOULD LIKE TO BE A STEWARD............. (tick if applicable)

I would like entry forms for the following:- (tick any which are applicable)

FANCY DRESS........................

FASHION SHOW......................

ART COMPETITION..................

FICTION & POETRY COMPETITION.....

AUCTION..........................

The room rates for the con are £11.25 + VAT (3%) per room, per night, exclusive of meals.
Every room has its own bathroom, radio, colour TV, telephone and a kettle.

(Please note: The 3% VAT could be increased if the government increase VAT)