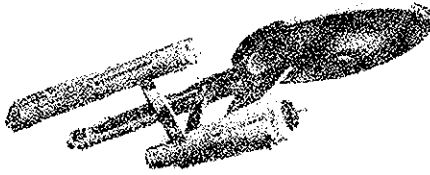


# Star Trek Action Group



February 1981

## NEWSLETTER No. 45

President: Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Daill, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll, Scotland.  
Vice President: Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland.  
Committee: Beth Hallam, Flat 3, 36 Clapham Rd, Bedford, England.  
Sylvia Billings, 49 Southampton Rd, Far Cotton, Northampton, England.  
Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.  
Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, William Shatner, De Forest Kelley,  
James Doohan, George Takei, Susan Sackett, Grace Lee Whitney,  
Rupert Evans, Sonni Cooper, Anne McCaffrey, Anne Page, Bjo Trimble.

## DUES

U.K. & Eire - £2.50 U.K. Currency. Europe - £4.50 airmail, £3.50 surface.  
U.S.A. - \$15.50 or £6.00 airmail, \$9.00 or £2.40 surface  
Australia & Japan - £6.50 airmail, £3.50 surface.  
The U.S. dollar rate includes a one dollar bank clearing charge. Eurocheques must be made out in the currency of the country of origin; add 50p bank charges.  
Surface mail outside Europe can take a minimum of 2 - 3 months.

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Hi, folks,

Welcome to another newsletter - this is the short one of course in case the weather turns nasty and Janet has to get it out on her own. Most of you know the bad news about the postal increases by now. Britain was about what we expected, but we never thought foreign rates to go up by between 40 and 50% Because of this, we have had to increase foreign dues and you will see the new amounts above - you only need pay the extra when you renew. The U.S. dollar rate has gone up most as it is affected by the high exchange rate as well. As we've said later in the N/L, everything is coming along O.K. for the con - but don't expect much in the way of personal mail from any of the committee until after the con in April. Actually, our thanks must go to Sylvia for carrying the major part of the pre-con administrative work as she is looking after registrations, acting as liason with the hotel and also helping Geogre organise the stewards, etc. Add to this a large number of renewals coming in and we are not sure how she is managing to cope.

Thanks to all of you who have been sending in stamps for GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND. We are very grateful to you all. Special mention must go the group in South Africa and the Alder-shot Group who have been sending in large packets of them; also Jo Wilkinson & Yvonne Thompsett who sent in a lot.

Helen McCarthy has asked us to convey her thanks to everyone for the many messages of kindness she received from STAG members while she was in hospital. She says, 'Spock himself couldn't help but be moved by such love - though he certainly never would show it, as I did, by having a good weep!' Helen says that her injuries weren't as bad as was first thought and that although her pelvis was broken, it was broken in the best possible place as regards healing. We were glad to hear that and hope that Helen will soon be 'running' around again. Gordon Cowden tells us that Sgian Dubh ST club members Linda Hannah, Joe Jarvie, Ann Neilson, Peter Crilley, Pam Whitehead and Sandy Cowden had a STAR TREK marathon over the New Year. From 10.30pm on December 31st to January 3rd they watched consecutively 71 episodes of STAR TREK. Gordon and Margaret Edgar witnessed the marathon. We think that they deserve a big hand for their dedication, and probably some pairs of glasses!

Don't forget to send all submissions for STAG zines to Sylvia or Beth. If you have any one or two page stories which you want to submit for the N/L, however, send them to Sheila. A lot of you bulk ordered US zines recently where we couldn't give the exact price because we didn't know the new US postal rates. These zines have now been ordered and are arriving. Everyone who ordered Sun & Shadow is due a refund or credit of £1; those who ordered Galactic Discourse 3 are due 70p. Precessional cost the whole £8.

Although it says on the photo page that last N/L's orders haven't gone out, in fact we got the prints back on the 30th and you should have them by the time this reaches you. The duplicate slides have not yet come back.

Thanks to all of you who sent Christmas cards to the committee. We do appreciate these, and we're just sorry we can't send out cards to all of you.

A Happy New Year to you all.

LL&P, Janet & Sheila.

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STAG COM '81 AUCTION We already have a large number of items for the auction, so I cannot accept anything after March and nothing at the Con. In order to save time, if there is a reserved price on an item, we will begin the bidding at that price. If anyone wishes to remove their reserve would they please let me know as soon as possible, or see me personally at the con.

Beth

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#### THE NEW STAG ZINE

As we will be the editors of the new STAG zine we felt we should tell you just what we intend to do. To begin with we will not be publishing this zine until after the last LOG ENTRIES has been published, and we have been told there are enough stories with STAG for Janet and Sheila to print at least five more of these zines. This of course means the new zine will not be in print before the latter part of this year.

As to the policy of the new zine we both feel that the only policy should be that the stories are good STAR TREK, and well written. If you're not terribly good at spelling don't let that put you off, we can always put that right as the story is typed.

Anyone wishing to submit stories for this (as yet untitled) zine should send them to either Beth or myself, but please put somewhere on your story that it is for STAG.

Needless to say illustrations would also be very welcome. It is surprising how often an illustration can be used to fit stories, which they were possibly never really intended for.

We also intend to occasionally publish complete story zines, so let us have any stories which you feel may be too long for a normal fanzine and which you think we could use.

Remember, without your help we cannot print your zine.

Sylvia & Beth.

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LOG ENTRIES 39 is now out, LE 40 & 41 are due in April, LE 42 is due in June and the final issue, LE 43, is due in August. Janet, Sheila & Valerie

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Sorry we have no further info on the new series yet. BBC seems to think it'll be a TV series.

#### STAR TREK - TV FILM

The DAILY MAIL, Jan 17th printed an article saying that William Shatner has signed to do a TV film of STAR TREK and that several of the other stars, like Leonard Nimoy, are being talked to. The article indicates that there will be a number of episodes running 2 hours each, and that we can expect to see the new ST on British TV next year. Work is to start on the TV film in three months. The article also states that ST-TMP has so far earned 170 million dollars and is still making money for Paramount.

I'm afraid that all we can tell you at the moment is that we have heard that William Shatner has signed to do a TV movie of STAR TREK but that the movie will be released at the cinema outside the States.

Thanks to Robin Campbell, Sally Marsh, Janice Bowers, Paul Lazarus, Sue Ride and Mervyn Leeder for articles and info.

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STARLOG 42 has an interview with Mark Lenard. 4 pages including colour pics from the movie and TV series.

GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS 1981 Edition Page 108, Ch.7 - Cinema - Most Expensive Film  
The costliest film ever completed has been STAR TREK which received its world premiere in Washington D.C. on 6th Dec., 1979. Paramount Studios stated that the cost of this space epic directed by Gene Roddenberry, was \$46 million (then £21 million). (info Susan West)

Susan says that she copied the above from her book - we never knew that Gene directed the movie. Neither, we suspect, did he.

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FRIENDSHIP CORNER

KENT STAR TREK GROUP are having their next meeting on March 22nd. Contact Wendy Downes, 96b Broadway, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 7DE.

Peter Walker would like a boy pen-pal. Peter is 23 and his hobbies include reading, SF, ufology, watching horror films and going to the pictures. He saw ST-TMP 5 times. Peter's address is 39 Low Mead, Hallgarth, Kendal, CA9 5PZ

Elaine McGue would like to write to ST fans in Britain or USA. She is 21 and likes ST, especially Spock, most other SF, reading and listening to music. Her address is 109 Athelstane Road, Glasgow, G13 3QY

Elke Müller is quite a newcomer to ST and is interested in corresponding with ST fans in Germany and anywhere else. She likes Kirk, Spock, the Bridge crew, reading, music and travelling. Elke is 28 and works as a secretary with the local council. Her address is Rilkehof 6, D-3180 Wolfsburg 1, W. Germany

Cathy Melrose would like pen-pals in the UK or USA. She is 27 and her hobbies include ST, especially Kirk, movies and travel. Her address is 127 Medwyn St., Glasgow G14 9QJ.

THE LANCASHIRE STAR TREK & SF GROUP are just getting off the ground - anyone in the area (Preston, Ormskirk, Blackpool, Blackburn etc.) who wants to come along for get-togethers, chats, drinks and video showings of Trek (even 'banned' episodes), and other SF can get in touch with John Croot, 201 Blakewater Hall, Preston Polytechnic, Preston, Lancs or Lesley Crowther, Room 14, Lady Openshaw Hall, Edge Hill College, Ormskirk, Lancs. Also, if enough interest develops a zine may materialise - be warned!!

Carol Carr would like to contact any WISH members planning to attend the William Shatner Weekend. Her address is 47 Wainwright Ave., Wombwell, Barnsley, S. Yorkshire, S73 8LS

Alison Hopkins would like to contact anyone in North/North West London who is interested in getting some sort of group together, to meet once a month perhaps. Her address is 9 Humber Rd, London NW2. She can be reached most office days on 01 638 6969 Ext 114. Alison is 26 and a lecturer.

Lt. Comm Maria Johnson:- Wishes Californian male pen pal, must be Kirk and Spock fan, and has met Leonard Nimoy and William Shatner. Address Planet Survey Team, Omicron Ceti 3, c/o 20 Perth Road, Leyton, London E10 7PB

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MERCHANDISE

ST-TMP slippers are/were available in Barratts shoe shops in Oxford Street, London. They are a very basic, old fashioned style of slipper in red/black or blue/black colourwise and the pic/transfer of the Enterprise on the toe is in silver.

The slippers come in adult and children sizes. The adult sizes cost £3.75.  
(info Sue Rode.)

GLOWSTARS are luminous self-adhesive stars, planets and spaceships that you can stick on the ceiling. They will last indefinitely until you want to peel them off. They just need to be exposed to the light for about 10 seconds and they'll shine in the dark for about 45 minutes. The glowstars are very effective, especially if stuck round a cut-out Enterprise. The stars cost £1.75 for 96, direct from Glowstars Ltd, 22a Thames Street, Lower Sunbury, Middlesex (no charges for p&p) or from Heals, branches of Tridias in London, Richmond and Bath, and from The Walrus and the Carpenter, Glasgow. (info Sue Rode) - Janet

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T&J Elson For all your STAR TREK needs at very reasonable prices. SAE for saleslist to T & J Elson, 11 Woburn Close, Wigston Magna, Leicester, LE8 1XB

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The Evening Times last November has an article about a new disco centre in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. It is called Ultratheque and is situated on the site of the old La Scala cinema. It cost £750,00 to put together. Inside-from Star Trek-type laser beams to plushy upholstery - it is something like a disco palace.

Smokescreens and these crazy £40,000 laser beams make you think you are dancing somewhere in the galaxy where no man has gone before and with each of the disc jockeys dressed like Captain Kirk, all that is needed is a shout of "Beam me up Scotty" at the end of each record.

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(info Cathy Melrose.)

ZINE ADS

STAG - New, Log Entries 39, £1.20 (\$6.00, air, U.S.A.; £2.75 Australia; £1.75 Europe and all countries surface) Stories by Chrissie Farr, Gladys & Rita Oliver, Susan Broughton & Gail Clark, Elizabeth Butler, Judy Miller; poetry by Jayne Turner, Karen Hayden and Barbara Wright, Still available - Log Entries 28 (few), 32 (few), 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 @ £1.15 each (\$6.00) and a few copies of Repeat Missions 1 @ £1.05 (\$6.00). Make cheques, POs payable to STAG. Orders to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland. Please include self-addressed label. Foreign orders - if you pay by dollar cheque, please add \$1.00 to the total order towards bank charges.

Scotpress - New, Enterprise Incidents 3 - stories by Lorraine Goodison, £1.15 (air, USA, \$6.00 (£2.60), Australia, £2.75, Europe and all countries surface, £1.75 (\$4.00). Also new, Full Circle by Pat Mitchell - Spock resigns after Kirk is presumed dead - then Kirk is found, alive. £1.40 (air USA, \$7.00 (£3.00), Australia, £3.25, Europe and all countries surface, £1.75 (\$4.00). Still available - Variations on a Theme 1 - 4, Something Hidden, Enterprise Incidents 1, 2, Wheel of Fate, Wine of Calvoro, As New Wine. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. Orders to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland. Please enclose a self-addressed sticky label with each order. Foreign orders - if you pay by dollar cheque, please add \$1.00 to the total order towards bank charges. SAE (or addressed envelope and 2 IRCs) for flyer. We are looking for submissions, both of long stories and of short ones and poetry for genzines. We plan to have two general zines - one a very general one of similar type to Log Entries, the other, Enterprise - Personal Log, to include some stories that discuss moral issues or include material slightly 'meatier' than went into Log Entries, though it is not our intention to put out a zine that has to be 'age-rated'. (We have removed the age rating from Variations on a Theme now that it is not being put out as a club zine).

T'HY'LA - Miss Pat Wilkinson, 690 Goodwood Road, Daw Park, South Australia 5041, is soliciting submissions for this proposed zine. The theme wanted is basically one of friendship between the characters in the Star Trek universe - minor characters as well as major. Preference will be given to stories in which characterisation is congruent with the live or animated series or ST-TMP. The length should not exceed 30 double-spaced manuscript pages; any artwork included should be on separate pages and in black ink only. Please include an IRC to ensure a swift reply.

ZENITH Fiction and poetry needed for future issues. Usual genzine format. Closing date for submissions for issue 3 is the end of April 1981. Please send your submissions to: Susan Meek, 314 Coach Rd Est, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE3 2AL.

ILLOGICAL TREK II 42 page zine, £2.00 inclusive of p&p. (write for overseas price) Omicorn, Tracy A, Cooke, 67 Eden Grove, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 0PQ

CONSTELLATION issues Gemini and Virgo both available, over 20 listed items of Trek, B7, Star Wars, Gen. SF & Non fiction. All at the bargain price of 80p + p&p from Rita Oliver, 59 Kingshill Ave., Romford, Essex, RM5 2SB.

TYPING FOR SUBMISSION TO ZINES Stories, poetry, articles - top and 1 carbon copy - 3p per foolscap page & return postage - will supply paper. Contact Mrs Ann Smith, 120 Ritchie Rd., Houndstone, Yeovil, Somerset.

ORBIT 304 will be available at the end of January price £1.50 incl. Reprints of ORBIT 301 (£1.25), 302 (£1.25) and 303 (£1.50) are all available. Orbit is a general STAR TREK zine. The SCAPEGOAT (£1.50) is still available. It is a one story ST adult general zine. There are also a number of K/S zines currently available, please remember these zines do include same sex relationships and are explicit. They will not knowingly be sold to anyone under 18. These include: DUET I and II, THE PROTEGE, INEVITABLE LOVE and REPLICA. Flyers as to content and price are available, please send an SAE to Doreen DaBinett, "Green Acres", Howe Road, Watlington, Oxfordshire, OX9 5EW.

NOCTURNE A new K/S zine, available July '81, 200 pages, offset. Fiction and poetry by new and established authors. Artists include Decker, Lewis and Verina, with a cover by Gail Feyrer. The zine includes explicit same-sex relationship material - please do not order if you object to the premise. An age statement is required. SAE (+ 2 IRCs foreign orders) for flyer to: DEFIANT PRESS, Lee Owers, 23 Maiden Road, Stratford, London E15 4EZ, England. Please note: Due to 40 - 50% increases in overseas mail we have had to increase the price of Nocturne by 25p to USA/Canada, and by 50p to Europe & Australia. Will those with flyers please note the changes, and those who have already paid please send IRCs to cover the increase. (USA/Canada 2, Europe & Australia 3). We apologise for the inconvenience.

CAPTAIN'S LOG 13 & 14 The usual mixture of general STAR TREK stories by various authors. Price £1.25 each (\$8.00 USA Airmail). When ordering please make Cheques/POs payable to S. Billings, and order from Mrs S. Billings, 49 Southampton Road, Far-Cotton, Northampton, NN4 9EA.

STARCLUSTER All profits to be donated to the official AUCON '81 charity, the British Diabetic Association. Price £1.30 inc. P&P from either Sylvia Billings (address above) or Jenny Elson, 11 Woburn Close, Wigston Magna, Leicester.

APATHY No.1 - on sale NOW! A new zine by new writers, with Star Trek and Star Wars material. First edition - for your own exclusive copy send to: D.H. Baldwin, 85 Tempest Rd, Leeds 11 or B.J. Ryder, 18 Beech Drive, Dunderum, Dublin 16, Ireland. Only 50p per copy (inc.P&P). DON'T MISS IT!

ALNITAH 12 is due out about the 3rd week of January, price £1.25. Still available are ALNITAH 11 @ £1.25 and ALNITAH OMNIBUS @ £1.25. All other back issues are out of print. All available from Mrs Joyce Cluett, 3 Antona Close, Raunds, Wellinborough, Northants, NN9 6EA

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### NEWS OF THE STARS

#### WILLIAM SHATNER

And before I'm deluged, the correct name of the film is 'Land Beyond Time'. Again most of this information comes from Linda Caporicci & Jackie Fulton in Canada. Montreal T.V. recently premiered the film 'Kidnapping of the President' which means hopefully we are more likely to see it... they also showed at the beginning of December 'The Babysitter', Bill's new film with Patty Duke Austin. Another modern 'spooky' story, it was reported to me as 'quite interesting, but a little disjointed and not enough of Bill in it', but then there never is as those who suffered thru 'Crash' will remember..., it is however good and frightening.

The other main news is that following the completion of 'Fright', the movie he was making in Montreal, and while in New York Bill came down with severe pains which landed him in the local hospital emergency room where a kidney stone was diagnosed. As he told this story on an American chat show we can be assured that he is now fighting fit again.

Did everyone catch the 'Clapperboard' interview this time, previously it had been screened when most people were at work. Having caught it finally myself, I thought it the best interview I've seen Bill give. Apparently it was shortened..... (When originally shown it must have lasted 20 - 25 minutes as it took up most of the program - Janet) and having the film excerpts as well was being on the cake...

May Jones

To everyone who gave towards a gift for Bill and Marcy I thought you would like to know what your money was spent on. A number of you thought a book would be an ideal gift, but having looked around the bookshops and seen the size and weight of most really nice books I decided it would cost almost as much to post as to buy. Another idea which was favoured was a pendant or medalion of some kind, so eventually I decided on Wedgewood cuff-links for Bill and a Wedgewood necklace for Marcy. These were both with a slate-grey background, and the cuff-links had a white horse on them while the necklace had a Grecian figure on it. The calander I bought was one with large pictures of all parts of the British Isles on it, and also enough room each month to make notes of engagements etc., and the card was just a nice normal type Christmas card with Robins and Holly. I'd like to thank you all once again for the response to the idea, I have just received the following letter from Bill:

"What lovely gifts! Marcy and I both thank you. They are very beautiful and we shall derive years of pleasure from them. Sincerely William Shatner"

It may be a bit late as this newsletter goes out in February, but I'll still wish you all a very Happy New Year. Sylvia.

Any WISH members who are definately planning on going to the WILLIAM SHATNER WEEK-END in Los Angeles on 10-12 July, 1981, if they will let me know and would like me to try and find out more for them ie: travel arrangements, or fixing up someone to travel with. I will do my best to help them, but please when writing enclose an SAE for a reply.

If any WISH members would like to renew through me the dues are still \$18.00. If you send me £8.50 plus an SAE I will refund any extra after I get the foreign draft. Sylvia.

On the night of the American Presidential election Granada stayed on the air between 2.00am and 7.30am and showed 5½ hours of strange and outrageous American TV shows. One of these was a purported 'game' show called "The Love Experts". There was a total absence of any kind of game, quiz, competition or prize, so I can only assume that it is christened a game show due to the gameiness of the participants. The premise is as follows. A woman comes on, sits beside the obnoxious host and reveals intimate details of her sex life to a panel of four celebrities, who then take the water out of the hapless female with all sorts of purile double entendre and smutty innuendo. One of the panel was none other than our very own Captain who remained slightly distant and was, I am pleased to say, the only one not to revel in the humiliation of the guests. Incidentally, the woman who revealed all was called Mrs. Loonie. But of course.

James Pauley

SUNDAY EXPRESS Dec 7th had a picture of William Shatner and Marcy. The Caption read, "William Shatner, star of the space television series "Star Trek" has stepped into yet another new world . . . . poetry reading. Backed by a symphony orchestra, he has been delivering readings of poems dealing with pastoral scenes, nature and the love of trees. With him at a Hollywood reception is his wife Marcy.

REVUE Jan 10th had an article about Bill entitled "'Trekkies' Anger Kirk". The article told how girl 'trekkies' annoyed Shatner making it impossible for him to take walks or go shopping with his wife and daughters. Some of the article may be true but I take most of it with a pinch of salt, like the chapter which says the fans are continually climbing over his walls to get into see him and he's always throwing them out. We do know of one case where a fan lied her way in to his house but I don't see many climbing over his walls when he has a couple of dobermans. That would definitely not be healthy. Janet

PHOTOPLAY February had a 2 page article on 'The Kidnapping of the President'.

In Ireland recently they have seen James Doohan in JASON OF STAR COMMAND and William Shatner in an episode of Petrocelli.

A while ago Grampian showed a film called "Pretty Girls All In A Row" in which James Doohan played a policeman.

Thanks to Gordon Cowden, Elizabeth Barrie, Aileen Smith, P. Walker, Louise Boardman, Ann Preece, Carole, David Burton and Susan West for info and articles. Thanks also to Patricia Stratton and Charles Goodall.

#### "JIM KIRK GETS KILLED" (?)

We mentioned in the last newsletter about the article which said that Kirk gets killed off in Vonda N. McIntire's STAR TREK novel which will be released by Pocket Books in June. Here is a letter reprinted from the William Shatner Fan Fellowship Newsletter, The Center Seat Vol 1, No. 5, which sets things straight.

Dear Sonni,

I'm sorry that the misquotation in the AP news story about my Star Trek novel has caused people so much consternation.

What I actually said in the interview was, "I enjoyed writing The Entrophy Effect tremendously. All sorts of things happen in it. Mr. Sulu meets the new head of security, and is very much attracted to her. Mr. Spock has to save the universe. And Captain Kirk gets killed on page 113 of the manuscript. I don't want to mislead you -- this is a series novel, and in a series novel all main characters have to be pretty much the same at the end of the story as they were in the beginning. But in the context of the book, Jim Kirk dies about a third of the way through, and no one is pretending." Or words to that effect. Unfortunately, all that got into print -- maybe all the reporter chose to hear -- was "Jim Kirk gets killed."

As you've probably guessed, I still don't want to give away the plot of the book. But I think -- I hope -- that despite the misunderstanding, people who read it when it comes out in June will feel that I've treated both readers and characters fairly.

Best wishes, Vonda N. McIntire

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ST-TMP Beakers There are two sizes, 11 oz and 6 oz. These made by Deka Plastics, Inc. Elizabeth, NJ 07208. They have the same design as the mugs which Safeway were selling except that McCoy has been left out. For those who haven't seen the mugs, they look rather nice and have photo pictures of Kirk & Spock, Decker & Ilia, with a picture of the Enterprise in the middle. (info Jean Donkin)

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SMALL ADS

Charge 5p per line (approx 12 words). Send to Janet. British stamps are acceptable. Please try and limit your advert to 5 lines. We cannot print adverts for video or audio tapes except for those officially produced.

- FOR SALE:** The following Super 8, colour sound films; STAR TREK blooper 1 £10.50, ST blooper 2 £15.50 and STAR TREK-THE MOTION PICTURE 300ft £20.50. Also William Shatner Live double LP £5.50. All prices are plus postage. Maureen Medhurst, 43 Manor Road, Swanscombe, Kent DA10 0EL.
- ATTENTION:** Is Channel D still open? Any UNCLE fans interested in forming a new club, or with anything to sell, contact Jay Felton, 40 Woodstock Rd. Coventry, CV3 5HQ
- WANTED:** U.S. zine Delta Triad 2. Jay Felton, 40 Woodstock Rd, Coventry, CV3 5HQ
- WANTED:** LOG 8 by Dean Foster; any ST zines; books, annuals, jigsaws, cuttings and virtually anything connected with 'THE AVENGERS' and 'THE NEW AVENGERS'. Name your price! Paul Malamed, 4 Clacton Walk, C-on-M, Manchester 13.
- WANTED:** Any U.S. zines. Will pay a good price plus all postage. Send lists to N.M. Durkin, 101 Ridgemere Rd, Pensby, Wirral, Merseyside, L61 8RR.
- WANTED:** The zine NOEL by Jenny Elson. Will pay good price if in reasonable condition. Elaine McCue, 109 Athelstane Road, Glasgow, G13 3QY.
- WANTED:** The complete set of the OUTER LIMITS bubble gum cards, please state price. Also second hand copies of CLASSICS OF THE HORROR FILM and A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF SCIENCE FICTION FILMS. Please send all offers to: Derek Gray, 1 Smith Crescent, Aberchirder, Banffshire, Scotland.
- WANTED:** STAR TREK zines, LOG ENTRIES 20 - 24. Also wanted COMPUTER PLAYBACK 2. If not prepared to sell, would anyone lend me their copy to photocopy please, I'm willing to pay cost of postage. Jenny Turner, 46 Chinnbrook Rd., Billesley, Birmingham.
- FOR SALE:** Dave Prowse & Roddy McDowall photos & cuttings; 'MORK & MINDY' and PLANET OF THE APES cuttings; STAR TREK & BLAKE'S 7 zines; 'STARSKY & HUTCH' & B.7. & 1999 annuals; STAR WARS laser rifle & Cmdr Koenig doll. Send SAL stating interests to: E. Thomson, 23 Northbrook Rd., Aldershot, Hants, GULL 3HE.
- FOR SALE:** Outer Space/Inner Mind double LP by Leonard Nimoy. Still in sealed wrapper £5 or will swap for good copy of any of the following: Two Sides of Leonard Nimoy, New World of Leonard Nimoy, The Touch of Leonard Nimoy, War of the Worlds narrated by Leonard Nimoy. Ann Smith, 120 Ritchie Road, Houndstone, Yeovil, Somerset.
- WANTED:** STAR TREK hand phaser for use on assassinating Klingons and Empire beings at STAG 81. Thanks. Contact 'Commander' Dotty Scotty, 73B Green Lane, RAF Sealand, Deeside, Clwyd.
- FOR SALE:** Taped ½ hour interview with D.C. FONTANA, recorded in stereo at Terra Con. D.C. talks about her general involvement in STAR TREK and the Conventions. Price £2.75 incl. P&P. David H. Baber, 26 Calder Drive, Worsley, M28 5TH
- WANTED:** Any information about a James Bond and/or Sean Connery fan club in England. Also any books about 007 or Sean Connery, including those by John Pearson or Kingsley Amis or anything else such as photos, magazine articles, whatever. I will exchange for U.S. zines of your choice. Mary A. Smith, 1750 Gisler Ave., No.3, Oxnard, California 93033, U.S.A.
- WANTED:** Someone to lend O/P zines to me, please - being a latecomer to fandom I have missed a lot of good zines which are now out of print. Ann Smith, 120 Ritchie Rd, Houndstone, Yeovil, Somerset.
- FOR SALE:** Photos, negatives, clips, (mostly telepics) from some ST episodes, mostly character shots - Kirk, Spock, quite a few McCoys. Addressed envelope and 2 IRCs for info on prices, etc. Barbara Marczak, 5906 Cecil, Detroit, MI 48210, USA. (We've seen samples and they are of good quality - Sheila)
- OFFERED:** Lift, Norfolk to Leeds, for STAG CON in April. Interested? Ring Cris on Norwich 400400 evenings for details.

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If you have registered for STAG Con and have not yet received a receipt, contact Sylvia.

CONVENTIONS

STAG CON '81 11th/12th April 1981 Dragonara Hotel, Leeds. Registration £8 per person. Guests - Susan Sackett & Rupert Evans You will receive a receipt. Arrangements are still coming along well for the convention. We have nearly 400 registered already and since we can't take more than 500 don't leave it too long if you want to register. There are only double rooms left at the hotel now, and not many of those. Once these go we will need to book people into another hotel. Don't forget to bring along your tribbles, sehlat's and other pets to enter them in the Interstellar Pet Show. Entry forms will be available at the convention and the classes are Tribbles, Sehlat's, 'Dressed Pet', Exotic Pet, Humorous Pet. If you wish to produce a pedigree form for your pet it must show three generations. (Parents, grandparent's & great grandparent's.) There will be a special prize for the best pedigree. The entry fee for the pet show is 20p for a single entry, 50p for three or more. All proceeds will go to GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND. We are of course hoping to have an Art Show at the convention but we need entries. You can get entry forms from Sylvia and the three classes are painting & drawing, models, any other medium. Info & Registrations: Sylvia Billings, 49 Southampton Rd, Far-Cotton, Northampton, NN4 9EA

AUCON '81 28/29/30/31st August, 1981 De Vere Hotel, Coventry  
Confirmed Guests Mark Lenard, Nichelle Nichols, George Takei Grace Lee Whitney.  
 SAE to Janet Hunt, 54 Foxhunter Drive, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5FE.

Other Conventions

FANDERSON CON '81 (Gerry Anderson) 28/29th March, 1981 Dragonara Hotel, Leeds  
 Contact: Pamela Barnes, 88 Thornton Ave., Chiswick, London W4 1QQ

THE TEAL-VANDOR CONVENTION (Blakes 7) May 2nd, 1981 Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1  
 Registration £5, all enquires to Jill McCaul, 34 Greenwood Close, Morden, Surrey.

LEONARD NIMOY CONVENTION May 30-31st, 1981 West London  
 Write Carol Davies, 77 The Ridings, Ealing, London W5 3DP for info and registration form.

BABELCON '81 (Hitch-Hikers) August 7,8,9th, 1981 Grand Hotel, Birmingham  
 Room rates: Single £11.50 + VAT, double £9.50 per person + VAT. To pre-register send £2.50 + SAE to Joy Hibbert, Knouchley, West Bank, Winster, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 2DQ. Details of full registration will be given in your first newsletter.

STARCON 19th/20th Sept. 1981 ST & Media SF Dragonara Hotel, Leeds.  
 Large SAE to Starcon, Mike Wild, 98 Toxteth St., Higher Openshaw, Manchester M11 1EZ

LAUNCH OF SPACE SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA" NASA have announced that, subject to last minute tests, the launch will be on 18 March, 1981. Transolar Travel have put together a new tour to see the event; all those booked for the original tour should have been advised of the new arrangements and discounts available, but if not, a large SAE to Transolar Travel Ltd., 253 Wallasey Village, Wallasey, Merseyside, L45 3LR will bring details by return post. The new tour leaves on March 12th and costs £349. When asking for details or booking, mention that you are a Star Trek fan and wish to be included in a group with other fans. Keith Jackson of EMPATHY is again acting as liason for the fans, even if he can't go himself, so SAE to him when you have booked so that he can tell you the names of the other fans going with you. Keith's address is: 45 Wesley Road, Stanningley, Pudsey, W. Yorkshire, LS28 6EJ

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CLUB UPDATE

THE NEW ENTERPRISE (new ST club) SAE for details to J.A. Clarke, 584 High Road, South Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5RF

OMICORN We are sorry to hear that Omicorn is closing down this month. Tracy has run a good club but just doesn't have the necessary time any longer.

BOOKSHOPS

ANDROMEDA BOOK CO. LTD. 57 Summer Row, Birmingham, B3 1JJ. New STAR TREK catalogue now available. Send a SASE and mark 'Star Trek Catalogue on your envelope. STARFLEET TECHNICAL MANUAL and STAR TREK CONCORDANCE are now out of print.

BOOKSHOP (East Sheen) New address. 131 Sheen Lane, London, SW14 8AE.

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THE NEW ENTERPRISE MODEL

Last N/L we printed the first part of an article by Barry Maxwell on the new model. In this part, Barry talks about painting the model.

For more ambitious modellers, I suggest that the rear-most 'windows' on the Primary Hull are left unlit, the bulbs from these being passed through the holes in the centre of the upper and lower parts of the hull. The Bridge and Sensor array (parts 3 & 5 respectively) should then be coated on the inside with several thin layers of white paint (black tends to show through the plastic) and cemented over the bulbs. When switched on, the lights now shine through the windows and out of the slits provided in parts 3 & 5 across the hull, resulting in a similar lighting effect to that seen in the movie.

Should it be decided not to light the model, it is best to back the 'windows' with plastic-card painted black to add depth to an otherwise hollow model.

The kit is complete with two sets of transfers, one of the self-adhesive variety that provides detailing for the warp nacelles, photon torpedo tubes and impulse drive; of a refractive material, these are most effective when seen under electric light. The second set is of the rub-down type and provides the Starfleet/UFP flashes, ships name and construction number, botanical section windows and docking-port flashes. Combined, these add the finishing touches to an unpainted model and make it a fine display piece.

For those who wish to detail the kit farther, a full, if somewhat dubious, painting guide is provided in the instructions. On reading these and comparing them with the photo on the box and with some photos and posters of the movie Enterprise, I decided to ignore these completely and after some thought came up with two alternate methods of painting the kit, both of which are highly effective.

Firstly, there is some doubt as to the actual colour of the Enterprise. In the film, she appears at various times as sea-blue, pale blue, silver, off-white or white. (I have photos/posters depicting all these colours!) while in the series she appeared off-white. The kit itself is moulded in this latter colour, and I used this as a basis for my first colour scheme.

Leaving the majority of the kit in its original colour, I painted the emergency flush intakes, emergency flush vents, space-energy/matter sinks (at front of nacelles), the semi-oval magnatomic flux construction first stage (sides of nacelles), photon torpedo tube exhaust and flush venting under the impulse drive black, while also painting the tube mounting (part 10) and the back of the impulse drive black, because the decals that are placed on these are not quite large enough to cover them. The hangar deck doors were then painted gloss white. Although simple, this gives a highly displayable model without resorting to complicated colour schemes.

However, for those of a more artistic mein (and who possess an airbrush) the following might be attempted: airbrush all parts of kit silver-fox. When dry, highlight the following in matt black - emergency flush intakes and vents (warp drive pylons), space-energy/matter sinks, magnatomic flux construction first stage, photon tubes and exhaust, impulse drive (back of part 7) and drive flush vent (under impulse mounting, on sides of interconnecting dorsal) and the inside of docking ports. Then drybrush the magnatomic amplification crystals (top of nacelles) and impulse deflection crystals medium blue; the concave face of the navigational deflector (part 15) gloss white; the running lights red (port) and green (starboard). The navigational domes on parts 3 & 5 can then be painted natural silver and the eight small vents in part 5 black. For an additional detail, all formation lights and navigational lights can be painted yellow.

Using the lighting method already described and suitable soft background lighting, this latter scheme is really lifelike and well worth the trouble of reproducing. In both cases, all painting should be done before any construction work is undertaken, and the paint removed from the surfaces to be bonded.

As a final note: the kit's other major failing is the display stand. For some reason, and despite the increase in size of the actual model, AMT have included the stand originally provided for the older kit. Due to the additional size and weight of the new Enterprise, extreme strain is thrown upon the base of the arm of the stand where it joins the base and so it is essential to ensure that these two are well bonded before attempting to mount the Enterprise on the stand. A stiff wire support running vertically from the top of the base to the inside face of the top of part 27 also helps to alleviate the strain. When actually mounting the Enterprise, due to her increased weight, it is necessary to hold, or rather press her into a position on the stand while the cement dries in order to secure a safe and accurate bond. It is best to hold the kit for 20 - 30 minutes in order to ensure a really secure bond. The stand is adequate, adding 'N.C.C. 1701 U.S.S. Enterprise' from a latraset to finish the job. Of course, one could always build one's own... Barry Maxwell.

Ian Pearce - I did not like the suggested colour for the model - white. To me, the film and the posters, Fotonovel, etc, showed the colour as being a medium blue-grey. I set about mixing a suitable imitation, using the Humbrol matt black, matt white and gloss light blue. I can't give you any idea of the proportions as I soon lost track of how much of what I put in the jar! You have to work by ear - or rather, eye.

A coat of paint was applied with a spray gun before assembly. If you have a spray gun, I suggest you use it; it makes it easier to paint such a large surface, and also gives a far superior finish.

At the end of each construction stage, any paintwork damaged during construction was repaired and left to dry thoroughly before starting the next.

After the assembly was completed, the other colours were added. I painted the emergency flush vents on the nacelle pylons Humbrol medium grey, and the vents on leading and trailing edges of the pylons matt black. The 'fins' at the end of the nacelles (not the intercoolers) were painted Airfix slate grey. So too were the other dark areas around the black vents on the pylons and the dark areas on the connecting dorsal. The end cap of the secondary hull also appears to be this colour. The navigation deflector (the front of the end cap) was finally painted a very pale blue, fading to a darker blue near the edges. The dark areas on top of the primary hull (around the bridge windows) were painted slate grey, so were the odd panels on the lower halves of the primary hull. There are two dark lines around the edge of the primary hull, top and bottom of the windows as well as one in between. These were painted one at a time, using a lot of sellotape to mask the surrounding paintwork.

The windows on the secondary hull were painted, some pale yellow, some black. The next step is to add the running and formation lights. These are located at the after end of the nacelles, on top; above the shuttlecraft hangar; under the fantail cove on the moulded bulge; underneath the secondary hull just forward of the stand slot; either side of the impulse engine fairing on top of the primary hull; above the docking port on top of the primary hull; at the leading edge of the primary hull, lower half (bow light); above the moulded navigation lights on the port and starboard sides of the primary hull; lower part of the leading edges of the nacelles. The 'lights' are small, shaped bits of sprue, cemented into place and painted.

If approached with care, the model should be very rewarding, though I wouldn't recommend it for beginners.

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#### ANOTHER DOOR OPENS...

Some months ago I had an operation on my feet for osteoarthritis and due to the curiosity of the surgeon was given an extensive bone scan for further arthritis. The results were pretty bad and apart from being recommended for further surgery involving my spine, hips and knees, was told to seriously consider giving up nursing altother. Apparently an accident that I had when I was 24 set up some sort of chemical reaction in my bones so they have aged faster. Can you imagine how I felt? My nursing profession means a great deal to me, and having enjoyed it for 15 years, I imagined at least another 20 years in it. I started to get depressed; there was nothing else I wanted to do, or could do. Then a friend suggested that my interest in calligraphy might be useful. I was introduced to calligraphy by Bjo Trimble during my visit to the States last year. After a lot of practice in Gothic and Roman lettering. I have been offered the opportunity of illustrating the use of calligraphy for slide shows. The opportunity has been given to me by a commercial photography firm. This is not a full-time job yet as I need more practice and experience, but...it is a beginning into a realm of creativity I had never considered before. Next a nursing colleague told me about a job for computer programming. I knew nothing about computers...now I am learning how a computer works, feeding it information, learning to read the codes etc... Sonni Cooper is also in frequent touch with me and is, in spite of her busy life, very encouraging with her letters. She is trying to find out more about arthritis for me, with regard to diet and exercise. Bill Shatner's wife, Marcy, had arthritis in her knee and managed to get rid of it, so I don't see why I shouldn't try! I suppose what I am trying to say is that I thought my life was over, because my love of nursing goes very deep and I couldn't bear the thought of giving it up, and yet... When one door is shut other people, like Trekkers, Bjo and Sonni, can often help push other doors open, or at least give me enough belief in myself to try. I want to thank everyone for the encouragement I have received to try new things.

Doreen Twivey.

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AN ALTERNATIVE ON THE EDGE OF FOREVER...

This article has been written in an attempt to make a more fair analysis of Harlan Ellison's notorious version of 'City on the Edge of Forever', in particular, in reference to the article by Lee Owers that appeared in N/L 44. A substantial proportion of that article is devoted to berating Ellison for factual inaccuracies and faulty character delineation in relation to aired ST prior to the 'City' episode. Although it is my intention to show Ellison's version to be a bad script, I assert that it is so on the grounds of poor writing and inferior plotting. It is not fair to criticise on the grounds that Lee Owers chooses, because when Ellison was asked to write the script, he could not possibly have known all the facts that he has been castigated for not knowing.

It is clear from Ellison's introduction to his script that he was asked to write it when the show had just been given the go-ahead by the network (1). No episode had as yet been filmed. There is nothing odd about this - the producer of any new show naturally wishes to keep as far ahead of transmission date as possible. When Fred Freiberger took over as third season producer, a substantial proportion of the stories were already commissioned and in various stages of completion (2). There is no reason to believe things were any different for the first season, in fact it would have been more crucial to meet the deadlines for a new series. All a writer asked to write for the show would have received was a 'concept' such as Gene had used to sell the series, or, at the most, the first draft of the writers' guide. Neither would contain all the information alluded to in Lee Owers' article: to take only the most obvious examples, firstly, even the third revision of the guide does not state that Spock's blood is green. To quote directly, it states 'yellowish complexion'. The logical assumption for anyone who had never had the opportunity to see any episodes would be that his blood is yellow. Secondly, Ellison's assumption that Spock is devoid of emotion is hardly surprising; the guide does mention Spock's hidden emotions but the paragraph that deals with the subject begins 'We now realise that Spock is capable of feeling emotion...' (Emphasis mine, third revision). There is no reference to pre-reform Vulcan at all and I doubt if the idea had occurred to Gene at such an early stage. In fact he says, 'I frankly never even thought about Spock's background when I first created the character' (3). After the first pilot, Spock had incorporated the personality of the ice-cool Number One but apart from this, nothing else was clearly defined. A similar situation existed for all the other characters. As episode succeeded episode, the characters were gradually developed in the collaboration between producer, story editor and writer. So Ellison would only have been given basic information about the characters - their names and a few facts about them - plus crucial information about the concept; the Enterprise does not land on planets, etc. This accounts for all the factual errors in Ellison's draft; the number of crewmembers, the presence of enlisted men and all the other errors to which Lee Owers draws attention. These are not serious because it is the script editor's job to correct them. They will not appear in the final shooting script if he/she does the job properly.

That characters were not fully developed is demonstrated by the decision to develop Spock's background more fully in the second season. Episodes such as 'Amok Time' and 'Journey to Babel' were produced in direct response to the requests of fans to know more about the character. Positive feedback was in operation as Gene responded to their enthusiastic letters. So the Kirk-Spock relationship was something that grew up over a period of time. That is not unusual in any new series.

For various reasons, perhaps the ones I intend to set out, Ellison's script as submitted was unacceptable. He himself says it 'was put aside for several months' (1). That may be so, or it may have been gradually revised, but it must have had to take second place to **scripts** that were nearer to a suitable state for filming. The pressures of the TV medium would have ensured that. To transform it into a usable script, drastic rewriting was necessary. Some changes were introduced to reduce production costs, others to tie up loose ends and inconsistencies and still others to bring the Ellison versions of Kirk and Spock into line with the way the characters had been developed.

To turn therefore to the real weaknesses of Ellison's draft: viewed as a whole the impression is one of untidiness and a rambling plotline. It is unnecessarily expensive to produce, with a variety of sets/props that are only used for one scene, and a superfluity of speaking characters who contribute little or nothing to the plot. I will deal with each scene in order.

The Teaser is far too long, consisting of three segments and in terms of story time (as opposed to real time) extending over a period that exceeds two hours. Beckwith taunts LeBeque with the Jewels of Sound before giving him one of the drugs, the scene then segues to the bridge two hours later, and finally, LeBeque's confrontation with, and murder by

Beckwith, followed by Beckwith's flight from the ship. With a little thought, a shorter and more effective sequence could have been derived from this material: for example, LeBeque nearly destroys the ship as before (end Teaser) then, Act 1 - LeBeque is sent to sickbay but goes to confront Beckwith, when his behaviour is explained - instead of being high on drugs as in Ellison's version, he is suffering from withdrawal symptoms. Beckwith greedily demands a higher price which LeBeque cannot pay and when the latter goes to tell Kirk, he is murdered. Or alternatively, he kills the pusher in a frenzy, takes the drugs and beams down in a drug-crazed state. In either case, the drug itself does not have to be the expensive creation that Ellison envisages. Since it is only used in one scene it would be more economical to use jellies or something similar. After all, the Venus drug in 'Mudd's Women' was not spectacular in appearance. The above scenarios do not indicate a personal opinion that drug pushers and addicts could be found on the Enterprise - some physical deterioration in LeBeque's condition would surely be spotted in his routine physical at least - but this is within the criteria of Ellison's script. The decision to use McCoy in the aired version does of course have two advantages, that no extra speaking actors were required, and extra involvement is induced by endangering a character for whom the audience cares.

The second expensive and unnecessary scene is the meeting with the Guardians of Forever. Apart from the background mountains and glittering city, this scene involves the use of extras who are made up to look extremely old and have elaborate hairstyles. Apart from the extra labour and time for the make-up and wardrobe people, the scene is over-long and undramatic. The Guardians contribute nothing material to the plot apart from explaining the function of the time vortex, and their replacement in the aired version by a machine is both more economical and more effective. Apart from another short scene, they do not appear again - a lot of expense just to convey some information. After this, the landing party returns to the ship which is transformed. More costumes are needed here and yet another two speaking actors - the Renegade Captain and one of the Enterprise crewmen who has hitherto not spoken. Speaking actors are paid more than extras so this is more expense. Nothing is achieved in this scene either; Kirk and Spock beam down again leaving Yeoman Rand in charge of the surviving crewmen, their task - to hold the transporter room against the renegades. This situation is not resolved since we do not discover if Rand and the others survive. The only commendation for Ellison here is that in his draft, Yeoman Rand is given more courage and initiative than Uhura in the aired version (especially recalling her memorable line, "Captain, I'm frightened.")

The arrival of Kirk and Spock in the past involves another two speaking characters. The Orator is purely to show the prejudice at that time against Chinese people, something Spock is to be the recipient of, and the Janitor only appears to offer them jobs. The latter's replacement in the aired version by Edith not only eliminates this extra character, it helps to establish the relationship between herself and Kirk.

Another scene showing current attitudes to Chinese is that in the restaurant kitchen. A set has to be created here and another character, the Cook, is introduced. Again, this scene adds nothing material to the plot. Perhaps this type of scene is what Ellison had in mind when he said 'unnamed parties had leached all the humanity from the story'. (1) It is very fine to make such social comments but they should be integrated into scenes that are integral to the plot, not grafted onto it.

I have already explained the reason for the wide gulf between Ellison's versions of Kirk and Spock and their television counterparts. This does not reflect upon his abilities, but there is a serious discrepancy in the behaviour of Beckwith, purely Ellison's own invention. Although Beckwith has been shown to be self-serving, and a person who gloats over the suffering of others, or is at best indifferent to them, he attempts to save Edith. This is completely out of character. If, however, the character to travel back in time had been LeBeque the addict, as suggested in one of the alternative scenarios I have set out, then this action would have been more convincing. Performed by Beckwith, it is not. Here I must also disagree with Lee Owers' view that Spock would stand by and allow Kirk to doom millions by letting another save Edith. Although Spock's loyalty to Kirk is very great, I cannot envisage him sacrificing the lives of millions because of it. Even though Kirk might hate him for it, I think he would rather sacrifice their friendship with all that would cost him, in order that others might live, for the essence of Spock is surely that he is unselfish.

To summarise then it is hardly surprising that Ellison's draft was not accepted, since it indicates a lack of experience of the television medium. Not only does it involve unnecessary expense, but whole scenes are incorporated which add little or nothing to plot or character development. One wonders why the option to rewrite was not offered to Ellison before the ST office took it on - perhaps he was unavailable, or perhaps he objected to changing the

script. Either way, he declines to say. The latter would be a rather unintelligent attitude since when writing for TV, it is necessary to fit the product to what the script editor/producer requires.

In any event, the first draft is not a credible production for a talented writer, but not for the reasons that Lee Owers puts forward. Her review is based on the assumption that Ellison knew all about the series; if that were true, her opinions would be valid. But since Ellison wrote his script when the series was just being developed, they are not.

#### Footnotes

- (1) Six Science Fiction Plays edited by Roger Elwood
- (2) Starlog issue No. 39
- (3) The Making of Star Trek, by Stephen E. Whitfield and Gene Roddenberry.

Pam Baddeley

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In fact, it appears that Harlan Ellison did rewrite the script - several times - before Gene finally produced his version of it. The Trouble With Tribbles by David Gerrold, pages 154 - 155, gives details.

I am disappointed that neither Lee nor Pam has mentioned one scene from the end of Ellison's script which to my mind shows a cruelty that was never a part of Star Trek. In this scene, Beckwith tries to escape once more by jumping back into the Time Vortex - and is seen, caught forever in a recurring nova; he appears, screams in anguish and vanishes, over and over... Sheila.

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#### ROYLANCE vs MELODRAMATIC TITLES, VIETNAM and other tribbials matters!

Hello again. Your official club intellectual has returned to add to his mind-boggling comments on Communism vs. Gene Roddenberry (or even the other way round) and it made several people wish that they were out to breakfast at the BIG BAND BURGER BAR! A regular contributor, Mr. James Pauley, was the only person kind enough to get rid of his psychological hang-ups on religion by hammering my name on a typewriter! Thank you, James, but...Communism is a religion, in that respect you were perfectly correct, but ARCHONS is an attack on that religion in particular and not an attack on religion...that would be a really stupid thing to do in an America full of born-again Ronnie Reagans. I did not say that Gene was attacking the ideal, but is attacking the present police-state communism of the Eastern bloc. I will show you that this is true from Spock's description of what Landru is and how Landru is reacting to what Peace and Tranquillity is.

SPOCK: This is a soulless society, Captain. It has no spirit, no spark. All is indeed peace and tranquillity. The Peace of the factory, the tranquillity of the machine, all parts working in unison.

I think that what Spock says there bears much more significance with the ideas of communism in Russia, and not with religion. If you want to know about STAR TREK and religion then I suggest you look at episodes like RETURN TO TOMORROW. Political messages were frequent in STAR TREK, more frequent than religious ones. (One for trying, James).

It is a well-known fact in dream psychology that the majority of our symbols created are totally unconscious, and it is the job of psychiatrists to sift them out. This is my feeling about the case of OPERATION:ANNIHILATE. I am not convenor and founder member of the GEORGE HERIOTS SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY SOCIETY for nothing, you know! However, I would never think of forcing my beliefs on anyone.

As we were on the subject of communism and political messages, when anyone non-STF tells you that it's a load of typical pro-governmental American garbage with the Klingons as the obvious Russians, tell them they are absolutely wrong. Gene's attitude towards the American government was at times very anti. A prime example of this is THE OMEGA GLORY which is not, as many think, a 'God Bless America!' story but a very unsubtle poke at the government about their intervention in Vietnam. That is what the Prime Directive is about, telling America to mind its own business, not to interfere in the lives of countries who don't want it! The Prime Directive was a direct attack on the Americans in Vietnam. The American people wanted their army out! The Ee'd Plebnista is a symbol of the American government, locked in its own little box, not listening to the people it was meant to represent. It was simply a law for the Chiefs, those in charge mattered in this government. The message told the government to listen to the people, in this famous (infamous?) speech.

KIRK: Look at these three words written larger than the rest, and with a special pride never written before or since - tall words proudly saying, "WE THE PEOPLE"... These words and the words that follow...must apply to everyone or they mean nothing!

As too the Klingons, well, they are not Russians, the ST symbol for the Russians are the Romulans, living behind the Neutral Zone (the Iron Curtain) and the Klingons are the Viet-Cong, in ERRAND OF MERCY, A PRIVATE LITTLE WAR, DAY OF THE DOVE, FRIDAY'S CHILD, all Vietnam allegories. This does not apply to the Klingons in THE TROUBLE WITH TRIEBLES. However, other Vietnam allegories include episodes like A TASTE OF ARMAGEDDON. There is a lot of Vietnam in ST, seasons 1 & 2 (in 3 Fred tended to be very pro-government, and typical pro-American, with stories like THE WAY TO EDEN, etc.).

I hope you don't mind my putting in a personal message here. Hello, COLIN HUNTER! Where are you? I've been trying hard to contact you over the past few months, but I'm not having much success. I'm not trying to get anything - I'd like to see you and chat again some time. I understand how busy you are in Aberdeen, so I'd suggest seeing you during the holidays, if you can pop up to Glasgow during the Easter holidays then I'll see you at Faircon. That's all for this time. If you have any ideas for me, please write to - David Roylance, 42 Bonaly Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh, EH13 0ET.

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#### COMMENTS

Personal views expressed here and in articles in the N/L are those of various members and are not necessarily representative of those of the STAG committee.

Lorraine Hingley - There was plenty for everyone (in the N/L) and I must say you always put forward a very fair point of view. I wholeheartedly support yourself and Janet with your view that you are entitled to put what you want in the newsletter... The front cover was an absolute knockout - what a beautiful, fine drawing of Spock, Kirk and McCoy. The inside photos were marvellous too. Was the one of Scotty, McCoy and Kirk laughing a blooper?

No, in fact it wasn't. That photo was from the end of Wolf in the Fold; Scotty and McCoy are high on tranquilliser and Kirk in high spirits. Sheila.

John Roberts - The front cover of N/L 44 is excellent - could this be a permanent thing? (Maybe a drawing similar but in the old uniforms).

Every now and again we are asked something similar. The difficulty is fitting everything into a N/L and still keeping the postage reasonable. By having a pictorial cover - which we would like - we would lose a page of space for news, comments and opinions; both sides, since all the pictorial pages we have had have been either professionally printed or photocopied. We don't feel we can afford the space to do it regularly - especially since there will probably be another upsurge of news now that it has been announced that a new ST film will be made soon. Sheila.

Janice Ross - I think the N/L has a very good balance of news and views; though personally I would like to see a few less views on the same subject and more fiction.

We try to print as many views as possible on any given subject that arises in order to give as wide a range of opinions as possible. We may not agree with someone's views, but that does not stop us printing those views (unless the letter has been sent anonymously, of course. We'll print something without giving the writer's name if they have a good reason for wishing their name to remain unpublicised, but we must know, for copyright reasons, who wrote it.) Sheila.

Vicki Carleton - I'd like to comment on the 'Tale of Two Cities' article excellently written by Lee Owers. Ellison, had his script been aired as it stood, probably wouldn't have picked up a Hugo or any other award and he should be grateful for the powers that he who had the insight to make revisions to his story. Although I'm not a script writer, I am a professional writer and I bow to the wisdom of editors who have on two occasions asked me to change some things in order for the stories to 'fit' in with their editorial policies. If all writers balked at such necessary rewrites, we'd all remain unpublished and unknown!

Mrs. M. Chowis - I support your editorial policy of 'no death' stories - it is unthinkable to lose any of the characters.

Jack Clayton - ...I do not want any death stories in Star Trek. Imagine if we were all to write those - there would be a very different style of Star Trek, if there were any at all. I know that, in a factory, people eventually leave, either through instant dismissal (unfair) or fair dismissal, illness or in the case of a lady, pregnancy. You may never see any one



person again at the factory and even though you may privately have been very fond of that person - maybe you have even arranged to see them in your own leisure time - that person is simply replaced by another 'carbon-based unit'. No; keep Star Trek the way it is, with happy endings.

Jean Lussman - I love Log Entries the way it is - I find that it and Repeat Missions are among my favourites. I don't want to see my heroes killed off. I've got several zines in which in many of the stories Kirk, Spock or McCoy dies, and are they ever depressing.

Janice Ross - I think that we have to consider the fact that all magazines, fanzines, etc, do have editorial policies, and it is your privilege to do so. Indeed it would be a sorry state of affairs if anything at all could be printed, as then there would be no quality. Having established this, the next question is, 'What is Star Trek?' Now, this is a very personal question as ST is so much to so many people. But basically, what we all enjoyed was the TV show, which was the Enterprise and her crew exploring UFP space. Therefore, any ST zines must follow this lead if they are going to be STAR TREK. Of course the ST universe involves other aliens and starships; but they are not ST without the Enterprise and should, therefore, be included in general zines, NOT specific ST zines. After all, if anyone doesn't agree with your policy, they can always produce their own zines and anyone is at liberty to read them. The same as anyone is at liberty to read Log Entries if that is their preference.

Finally, with regard to the death theme, I would like to point out a fact that none of your correspondents mentioned. Many ST fans are children under the age of 12 years; bearing this in mind I think that any stories produced by a major club like STAG should be general zines for all the family. Therefore stories glorying in death and suffering for its sake only should be put in special zines of this type and not included in general zines. I am happy to know that I could buy Log Entries and give it to my young cousin without having to censor it first. It does not need death to generate suspense, as this can be achieved by situations in which we say, "Now how on earth will they get out of that?" Suspense is, after all, the sense of not knowing and does not only apply to 'life or death' situations.

Lynette Percy - I must agree with your editorial policy re 'no death' stories. For me, Star Trek has always been the essence of the character relationships - remove a character, the relationship dies, and so does the basis of the series. It's like cutting off a leg and still trying to run the four minute mile. By all means kill someone off if you think it is necessary, but once this has been done it's not Star Trek any more; it's general science fiction, and as such should be submitted to a SF zine. I appreciate the comment that there's more than the Enterprise and the small portion of the crew we see out there, but the world of Star Trek that is presented to us is just this microcosm. I've personally only ever read one death story, and didn't enjoy it at all, although it was indeed beautifully written. Death is unavoidable, but why try to hurry it? My grandfather died very recently, so I can say from personal experience that I have not been ennobled by the experience. It's miserable, often sordid, and feels as though a part of yourself has died. Why people should want to 'cash in' on such grief I can't imagine. I know Kirk, Spock, McCoy etc, aren't real, but I wouldn't wish that sort of misery on even a fictional character. How do the writers think it will make those who've really lost loved ones feel?

Perhaps it is because we all know and accept that the characters are fictional that we can accept their surviving impossible situations. I see no point in having a continuing series without one of the foundation stories. These men represent our dream - do we really want to kill that dream and replace it with the harsh and brutal reality that is forced upon us here and now? Death will always be with us, but what's the point in including/<sup>to</sup> force a hurt/comfort situation? I don't want to read for 'pleasure' what it has been my misfortune (and that of many others) to experience in reality.

I will always disagree with those advocating death stories, but will defend their right to their opinion.

We also defend the right of anyone to hold opinions differing from ours, and will print these - which of course is how this whole debate started in the first place... Sheila.

Sue Ride - On the subject of death and explicit stories - as you so rightly say, your club caters for a wide age group and I would go along with the idea of protecting the younger members from the wrong sort of material and pressures. Fans can obtain this material elsewhere if they want to read it and I don't feel there is any sort of censure on your part therefore. By not including this sort of material you are in fact providing a service for those fans who would prefer not to read it, just as the other zines cater for those who do. Perfectly democratic, I would have thought.

Your club's principles/guidelines/aims are well set out in your flyer which you send out to prospective members, and I think it's a bit silly to expect you to print material which you find distasteful.

Mrs. S. J. Buck - What about a one-day Star Trek convention, similar to the one for B7 next year in London, for fans who can't get to Leeds? I would be willing to help with the organising.

There's no reason why anyone in the London area shouldn't organise a one-day con if they want to, although prices are liable to be high. Meantime, what about the Leonard Nimoy con being run by Carol Davies? Although not specifically ST, I imagine there will be a fair proportion of ST included. Sheila.

Ann Preece - After many years of craving news of Star Trek, it is a lovely feeling to know that there are others out there who think as I do and share the same views. That's what fandom is all about, isn't it? - a wonderful sense of belonging, knowing that there are others who understand. There are no strangers in ST fandom - we are all friends, linked to a common cause and that's what comes over so clearly in STAG.

Coral Ward - The membership has opened up a new life style for me; introducing me to new friends and enabling me to speak freely of my inner thoughts on SF and ST, having felt too shy before.

Janet Eastham - I loved ST-TMP and, while not perfect, it was as good as it could possibly be bearing in mind the production difficulties Gene Roddenberry talked about. I have no criticisms really except that I might have preferred a more obvious Kirk/Spock/McCoy relationship. I was saddened to read that Marjorie Hill, Elaine Thomson, Richard Bracewell and J. Thomson felt 'alienated' by the strange and cold appearance and atmosphere of the remodelled Enterprise - of course it was 'unfamiliar' to them, it was unfamiliar to all ST fans, but one must remember that a new approach was being made in ST-TMP and that new fans might be recruited by the updated image of ST.

With reference to the Technical Spot, which is a topic for controversy at the moment, I should like to suggest that Colin Hunter produces a sub-edition to the N/L containing technical info. Colin obviously has great enthusiasm for this aspect of ST and it would be a shame to kill this energy. In view of the difficulties with VAT etc a sub-edition would save the editors of the N/L devoting so much time and space to the complaints/pleas of Colin Hunter, David Coote, and Ray Dowsett, and would also make a Technical Spot available to those mechanically-minded members who desire a regular feature. Of course, this would involve additional postage costs etc but it might resolve the situation we have at the moment. Has anyone thought of having brooches, tiepins or the like made in the shape of the Enterprise? Or very often there are pendants advertised in US magazines - ever thought of arranging a bulk order?

For the number of brooches, etc, that we would want made, the cost would be prohibitive.

Empathy has had Enterprise pendants on sale at most cons in both silver colour and gold colour. I don't know whether they have any available at the moment, but you could always try them. Sheila.

Jay Felton - I was particularly interested to see (in the N/L) that the movie model kits are now appearing. However, it's not very helpful simply telling us that things are turning up in shops 'around the country' or that 'not many shops seem to stock' an item. Which shops do, and where? It would be nice to know whether to take an extra tenner on my next flying visit to London, Birmingham or wherever to pick up a new Enterprise model.

To be honest, we usually don't know which shops and where. We know only that someone tells us that they picked up something somewhere. It's a fair bet that the big towns will have something in one of the big stores - on the other hand, we got our model Enterprises in Saltcoats, a very small town, while the biggest model shop in Glasgow was still saying they wouldn't be available until after Christmas! One shop in Dundee, as far as I have been able to discover, got in one kit each of the Enterprise, Klingon and Shuttle; at least one of the town's model shops is still waiting for it to arrive 'when it arrives'. All we can do is say that some people are finding them (or having difficulty) to warn you to keep your eyes open. Sheila.

Josie Timmins - All due praise and honour to the BBC for continuing the present series, but what a monumental gaffe they made putting 'Requiem for Methuselah' on straight after 'Paradise Syndrome.' Hardly was my hanky dry after Paradise when I was sobbing into it again - this time over the sheer awfulness of Requiem. Even Shatner looked embarrassed at having to pretend he was madly in love with the wooden Reena just five minutes after meeting

her. Can't say I blame him - he'd lost his pregnant wife only a week before!  
The reason he had his head in his hands at the end of the programme was because he wanted to 'forget' the whole silly episode, not his android girlfriend. Let's hope Spock was successful in his mind touch - but who would help the poor Vulcan to forget it all?

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We had one letter disagreeing with our story policy since the last N/L - a letter which seemed to be more a personal attack than a comment on policy. The writer admitted writing the previous anonymous letter; although signed, this one gave no address and a check of our records showed that the name was not that of a member. We therefore suspected that this was another anonymous letter; our suspicions have since been confirmed. We think we know who wrote these letters but have not named her to anyone outside the committee - anyone therefore who thinks she is being accused can look to her own conscience.

If this person sincerely and deeply believes, as she says, in the validity of her views, she should have the courage and honesty to say so openly by signing her own name to her letters - as many of our members have done.

I also ask her to remember that much of our policy was formulated as a result of reader comment and was not forced upon our readers by any of the current editorial group of STAG. Every time we have tried to print something a little different it has been criticised by 50% or more of the people commenting on the zines on the grounds of theme, even when it has been an excellent story, well written and well developed. I am not, in any zine I put out, going to change a policy that the majority have indicated they prefer, to suit the wishes of a minority whose views of ST differ.

After all, these are the voyages of the Starship Enterprise; it is her mission to explore strange new worlds, etc. Sheila.

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#### REVIEWS

ST-TMP VIEWMASTER. £1.75. To my mind it's not very good. There are 21 3D slides, but what they have done in most cases is put more than one shot on each 'slide' so that it ruins some shots. The Enterprise looks lovely in 3D, but they have, on what I believe to be the best slides, included small pictures of, for example, Kirk and McCoy in one corner and Decker in the other with the Enterprise in the middle. There are very few slides that haven't been treated in this way, although there is one of Kirk in his admiral's uniform which is 'untouched'! (I was very disappointed to find there weren't any close ones of him in his white top!)

Anyway, the slides go through the general story although I defy anyone who hasn't seen the film to follow it. There are captions beneath the slides as well as on the slides but these sometimes don't make sense. For instance, there is one slide which shows what is obviously the first probe from V'ger (there is a pillar of white sparks) with entirely separate shots of Scotty in one corner and on the other corner, Kirk and Decker - on the slide, it says 'Crippled starship'... Underneath the slide, it says 'Warp drive fails'...

Obviously it was difficult to fit a whole film into 21 slides. Although I was very disappointed in it, I'm still glad I've got it. Jill Searle.

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CONSTELLATION. This is a general SF zine but with a fair proportion of media stories, particularly Star Trek. As well as stories, there are poems, artwork and interviews with SF writers.

To date there have been two issues: 'Gemini' and 'Virgo'. 'Gemini' contained an interview with Brian Stableford and 'Virgo' with Philip High. Both interviews are very interesting and give an insight into SF writing. In both cases the artwork is excellent and the stories and poems are of a good standard, with some being really excellent. There are also some really funny stories - could you resist the command chair turning into a whoopee cushion? That one is really hilarious.

I can thoroughly recommend both zines and all proceeds go to charity - Action in Distress, a charity which helps children in underdeveloped countries.

These zines are available from Rita Oliver, 59 Kingshill Avenue, Collier Row, Romford, Essex, England. Please send SAE for price - I bought mine at Terracon for 80p each without postage. A final note, Rita is currently preparing the third issue and is 'desperate' for contributions. So all of you who would like to write/read about the Star Trek universe, why not submit your stories to Rita? Janice Ross.

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PHOTOS

These cost 35p each for a 3 x 5½ enprint or 36p for a duplicate slide. Please enclose SAE to the following rates - up to 20 prints or slides, 14p; 21 - 32, 20p; 33 +, 26p. Foreign - Europe, 35p each (or 36p) + postage - up to 14, 31p, 15 - 30, 43p, over 30, 86p. Australia, 35p (or 36p) + postage, 25p for first three and 15p for every three thereafter. USA - \$1.00 each (inc. postage), minimum order 3. Please remember to include addressed envelope. If you pay by dollar cheque, please add \$1.50 to cover bank charges unless you are ordering with a zine on the same cheque. In that case, follow zine ordering instructions. We only get enough photos printed to cover the order, which goes in after the closing date for orders to reach us. Late orders will be filled as copy prints only. Orders should reach Sheila by Feb. 28th. If you sent your order second class, please allow at least two weeks for it to reach us.

The Arena photos were late going in so have not been sent out yet. Next time we'll have Whom Gods Destroy.

Thanks to Mark French who lent us the Enterprise clips listed here. These are all shots of the model Enterprise being filmed and are excellent quality.

- MF1 Enterprise slightly angled on stand, lights, etc, seen around, blue screen behind.
- MF2 Enterprise, 'profile', man lying on floor in f/g.
- MF3 Longer shot of above, angled fractionally towards the rear.
- MF4 Enterprise, slightly angled towards the rear, on stand, blue screen etc around.
- MF5 Closeup of bridge section of saucer, name showing as 'S. ENTERPRIS'.

Bread & Circuses, 'P' numbers are prints only.

- 43/P1 McCoy, Spock, Kirk, threequarter length, just beginning to shimmer on beaming up.
- 43/P2 Kirk waist length lying on bed.
- 43/P3 Spock, McCoy, Kirk, waist length at open door of cell.
- 43/P4 Spock in arena being hustled up to guard by soldiers, TV camera in f/g.
- 43/P5 McCoy, Spock, facing gladiators in arena. Longish shot.
- 43/p7 Spock, McCoy, Kirk, waist length in cell.
- 43/P8 McCoy, Flavius, Spock, Kirk hands up, waist length.
- 43/P9 Kirk, McCoy, uniform, hands up, waist length.
- 43/P10 Spock, Kirk, waist length at Spock's station.
- 43/9 McCoy, Spock crouching at bars of cell. Spock looking slightly away from McCoy.
- 43/15 Merik, Kirk sitting at table, gun pointing at Kirk who is holding a communicator.
- 43/17 McCoy, H/S in arena, holding sword and shield.
- 43/18 McCoy sitting in chair, gun pointing at head. Waist length.
- 43/19 Claudius, Kirk, Merik standing on platform, soldiers behind. (Only one seen clearly)
- 43/20 As above, now sitting, soldiers pointing guns at Kirk.
- 43/22 Spock, hands up, threequarter length, facing Flavius back of head and shoulders seen.
- 43/32 Spock, Kirk, McCoy, hands up, in uniform.
- 43/45 Soldier looking at Spock's ear. Heads.
- 43/48 Kirk facing soldier in arena about to fight with him.
- 43/55 Kirk in command chair, Uhura, Spock, McCoy round him.
- 43/62 Spock, McCoy, held between guards. Threequarter length.
- 43/63 Flavius about to hit McCoy on ground in arena.
- 43/74 Soldier (back view) looking at Spock's ear, McCoy behind Spock. Longer shot than 45.
- 43/75 Kirk, hands up, facing Flavius and other escaped slave.
- 43/76 As 74, Spock still has cap on.
- 43/78 Spock waist length in chair, gun pointing at him.
- 43/83 Spock, Kirk (H/S) supporting McCoy bent over (back only showing).
- 43/87 Rear view of soldier facing McCoy, Spock in arena 'If they refuse to move out...'
- 43/108 Kirk, McCoy in uniform, waist length. On planet.
- 43/113 Spock, Kirk supporting McCoy about to collapse, soldiers in f/g. Longer shot than 83.
- 43/2417 Kirk in command chair, Spock standing beside him, Uhura at station.
- 43/3253 Scotty leaning on arm of command chair, Uhura in background.
- 43/3254 McCoy behind bars, head.
- 43/4951 Kirk standing at command chair, Uhura in background.

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And so we come to the end of another newsletter. Peace and prosperity to you all.

Janet, Sheila, Beth, Sylvia, Valerie,

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