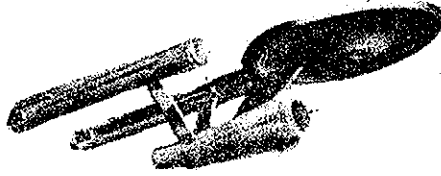


Star Trek Action Group



April 1979

NEWSLETTER No. 34

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James Doohan, George Takei, Susan Sackett, Grace Lee Whitney,
Anne McCaffrey, Anne Page.

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Hi, everyone.

First we would like to offer a big welcome to De Forest Kelley, our newest Honorary Member. We wrote Mr. Kelley on your behalf and in his reply he said, "I shall be pleased to become an honorary member of STAG and I wish you much luck with your STAR TREK con." Thanks, De, and thanks also to Gene and Susan for wishing us luck with the con. The Great Bird of the Galaxy really did bless our planet and we ended up with the only good weekend in a series of bad ones!

You may have noticed that this newsletter is slightly (?) longer than usual; it kind of ran away with us. It didn't help that we'd held a couple of items from the last one as we needed to keep it to 20 pages. We resisted the temptation to hold anything over till the next one just in case; but the next one is due out in only six weeks so it could be a much shorter one; it's impossible to say at this time.

That brings us to something we put to STAG members at the con. We would have liked to ask all STAG members who were there but the way the programme worked out we only managed to put it to those who were there for the late film on Sunday night. The point is that when we come to do the newsletter we just put everything we have on stencil and only then work out how many stencils we have. This has meant that in the last year we've been mainly in the 9¹/₂p postage rate. We can only have a newsletter of 20 pages (including sales list) plus the info sheet if we are going to post it for 7p and that is the size of newsletter we originally calculated membership dues on. For the last 6 newsletters it has worked out like this: 28 - 26 pages, 29 - 23 pages, 30 - 20 pages, 31 - 29 pages, 32 - 27 pages, 33 - 18 pages. As you can see only two newsletters have fallen within the rate. We would much rather keep on as we have been doing and give you all the various info we have, plus the fiction section, but since the newsletter is so often over-weight and since paper has gone up twice in the last four months we feel we have just got to put the membership dues up. We explained this to STAG members at the con and they were in favour, so as from the next newsletter we intend to increase the rates to the following:

U.K. £2.00 per year; Europe £3 airmail, £2.50 surface; U.S.A. \$8.00 (£3.50) airmail; Australia & Japan, £4 airmail. To explain a few things to our foreign members, the dollar rate for the U.S.A. is more expensive than the sterling rate because it costs us 50p to cash dollar cheques. Postage to Australia and Japan is quite a lot more expensive than to the States. We dropped surface to the U.S.A., Australia and Japan because it takes months and we don't see any point in people getting newsletters months late. The surface rate

will be retained for zines, of course - it doesn't matter as much if they take several weeks to arrive. We've kept the two rates to Europe as to some countries there are only two or three days difference in when surface and airmail arrive (in fact to some places surface is quicker!) although to other countries there could be weeks difference. We leave it to our European members to decide which way is best for them.

The new rates will come into force after the next newsletter goes out, so anyone renewing or joining before then will get the old rate. If you've just renewed you are O.K. and will not need to pay any extra either. We're delaying increasing dues till next newsletter to give you a chance to comment if you wish to.

Also due to the increased price of paper, new zines will be going up 5p each. We are also watching the exchange rate and if the dollar continues to drop against the pound we will need to increase some of the dollar prices.

Since we are not having a holiday in England this year we've decided to attend some of the SF cons and have a STAG table. The first one will be FAIRCON in Glasgow, where we will be having a table and also showing films; so come on, you northern Trekkers, afraid we can't arrange a SF con in Scotland but you should find FAIRCON the next best thing. We'll be looking for your support. The next con we have decided to have a table at is SEACON '79, the world SF con which is being held in Brighton. We thought that with so many well known US and other foreign fans going to it it would be a good idea to have a table and get to meet some of them and show them that STAR TREK does have a following in Britain. Janet is going down on her own to man the STAG table as Sheila and Valerie unfortunately can't manage. We don't think Sylvia will be going either. Beth is going and will probably help on the table but since she is a keen SF fan and planned to attend the con anyway before we decided on having a table it would be unfair to ask her to spend too much time on it. We know that quite a few of you are aiming to attend SEACON if only for a day and hope you'll visit the STAG table and maybe give us a hand. Janet may be feeling a bit lonely amongst 3,000 SF fans, although it's nice to know that Beth, Margaret Draper, Ann Looker, Anne Page and Anne McCaffrey will be there.

In the hope of speeding up the process of getting the wrappers addressed for the newsletters we now welcome a new working member to the club - an addressing machine. We haven't named him yet as we don't know how he will behave - but has anyone got any suggestions? James T., our duplicator, runs true to his name. He always does a good job but tends to be rather stubborn and headstrong at times. It's often easier to give him his own way than to argue with him. It will take a few months to transfer the system to the addressing machine as all the addresses have to be typed out onto stencils which then have to be mounted, inked, etc. But when it is all done it should make life a lot easier.

Since the newsletter is coming out so soon after the con we have only the one con report and decided, for once, to give you ours as well. However we would welcome con reports from more of you for the next newsletter; please get them to Sheila by the middle of May. We do have one unpleasant point to bring up.

The Dragonara management told us that they had had some complaints about excessive noise and disturbance on two floors during the Saturday night. While room parties are an accepted part of con weekends - we enjoy these ourselves - it is possible to forget that the parties are breaking up in the 'wee small hours' when other people who are staying at the hotel - and this includes some of the con attendees, too, since some of them like to get to bed by midnight - are in bed and sleeping, and undue noise wakens them. The Dragonara management has been very helpful to us, both this con and in 1976, and it distresses us to receive these complaints. Because of this, a new condition is having to be brought in for future conventions; if the hotel complains to the con committee about excess noise or rowdy behaviour by any group of fans, the people involved will lose all con privileges - which means they will be charged the full rate for their hotel rooms, and risk being banned from future conventions. Knocking on hotel doors at 3 o'clock in the morning is not funny.

Thanks to those of you who have sent used stamps to Sheila - Margaret Richardson in particular. These are passed on for Cancer Research, and any that you care to send on to us will be gratefully received. In answer to a question we've been asked about these, yes, foreign stamps are just as acceptable as British.

We'd both like to apologise for the fact that no mail has been answered since the con - we'll try to get straight next week. Janet would also like to apologise to those awaiting tapes; it may take two or three weeks to catch up with those.

LL&P, Janet & Sheila

P.S. - to Anne Page; we suggest you leave reading this newsletter till lunchtime or you'll be more than half an hour late!

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE

One important thing has happened since we sent the last newsletter out. ROBERT ABEL who was doing the optics for the movie has been dropped and much of his work, according to an article in the SAN FRANCISCO 'EXAMINER' March 26th, has been scrapped. We don't know the story behind this except obviously his work couldn't have been good enough, but we do have confirmation from Susan that Robert Abel had been taken off the movie. She does say however that they are still hoping to release the movie across the English-speaking world on Dec 7th. Let's keep our fingers crossed although personally we wouldn't mind if the release date was delayed till some time next year. We've waited this long and would rather give them time to make the movie to the standard they want rather than have to rush things. Anyway we don't need to worry, we know we can trust Gene to insist on the best.

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We asked Gene Roddenberry to answer us some questions on tape for the convention. We had a very nice letter from him saying he hoped we didn't mind that he had asked Susan Sackett to do the tape. Gene was off with the flu at the end of December and the doctor made him take a month off work to get some rest and get back in good physical shape. Because of this and with deadlines beginning to press on him he is having to concentrate on necessary professional duties.

We want to thank Susan for doing her best to answer the questions we sent. The questions came mainly from members as we weren't sure we would remember to cover everything. Even with asking members one important question was missed, i.e. 'What is happening with the Fotonovels?' We will try to find out the answer to this one. We hope you enjoy the following transcript of Susan's tape, done by Valerie Piacentini.

WILL THERE BE A BRITISH PREMIERE, AND IF SO WILL FANS BE ABLE TO ATTEND?

You're going to be hearing this phrase a lot - Quote, I don't know.

ARE YOU - I GUESS THAT MEANS GENE - OR ANY OF THE CAST LIKELY TO BE OVER HERE WHEN THE FILM IS RELEASED?

I don't know. I know that Gene is planning a possible trip to Britain this year in July, when he has some kind of a symposium or something with the Sperry Rand Corporation to go to.

WHEN WILL THE FILM BE RELEASED IN BRITAIN?

As far as I know it's going to be a simultaneous world-wide release, so I would assume around Christmas of this year hopefully; and they won't delay it like the people on Star Wars did - even though it was filmed in England they released it over here, then it took about six months before it was released over there. I think ours will be at the same time.

HOW DID THE CAST REACT TO BEING REUNITED AFTER SO LONG? WERE THERE ANY DIFFICULTIES IN READJUSTING TO THE CHARACTERS THEY WERE PLAYING?

This is more a question for the cast, of course, and how they all felt. I know that a lot of them have been in touch with each other all along. Their paths have crossed at conventions, and of course they were constantly visiting us here in the office keeping up on what was going on over the past several years while we were in pre-production; so it wasn't quite a total brand-new reunion. And from some of the people that I've spoken to for the behind-the-scenes book that I'm working on, I believe it was George who said that it seemed like they'd never been away at all, like they'd just taken a long weekend; so I think they're all very happy to be back together again, and they've always been on good terms.

Of course the characters that they were playing have evolved - they've gone a few years beyond the five-year mission in this movie, we're now a few years ahead in Star Trek's world, and so the characters of course were changed - or perhaps updated or evolved is a better term. The readjustment I believe would have been quite easy for them, because after all they had spent three years developing these characters - in fact they were probably more prepared to come to this film than say any other motion picture where you cast people for parts - these people at least knew who their characters were, and knew what parts they would be doing, and knew basically how their characters reacted and felt.

WHAT REACTION DO YOU EXPECT TO THE NEW CHARACTERS?

That's a question Gene would have to answer, because it's his personal opinion. As far as I can tell from fans that I've talked with at conventions that I've been to, there is of course a natural curiosity about the two new characters, Lt. Ilea played by Persis Khambatta, and Commander Willard Decker, played by Stephen Collins. There seems to be a natural curiosity and interest in these characters. I would predict that Stephen Collins is going to be a major new actor on the Hollywood scene -- I think he's going to be very successful. He's extremely talented, and he happens to also be a very nice person, which is a rare combination, and I think he's going to go far, and I think the fans will be delighted with what they see with both these new people.

WILL THE ENTERPRISE ON FILM BE THE SAME AS MIKE MINER'S DESIGN PREDICTS?

Yes. I don't know that you would call it 'predict' -- it's an art rendering of what the model of the Enterprise will look like.

CAN WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON THE SPECIAL EFFECTS? ARE THEY USING COMPUTERISED CAMERA SYSTEMS WHICH ALLOW FOR CAMERA MOVEMENT DURING MATTE SHOTS?

I know nothing on this area. I have not had a chance to talk with the people who are designing the special effects, and as I get into more and more research on my book I will find this out, but this is not a question that I can answer. I believe that your question is correct, that they probably are using computerised cameras -- anything that we can purchase that's going to help us, we've got the funding for it, so I'm sure that if it's a vital thing there won't be any question about it, we'll get it.

ONE OR TWO FANS ARE STILL EXPRESSING A FEAR THAT, LIKE STAR WARS, THERE WILL BE TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON SPECIAL EFFECTS. CAN YOU REASSURE THEM?

This is something I can definitely do on behalf of Gene. There will not be a huge emphasis on special effects -- Star Trek never had that, and it will not have it in the movie. The emphasis is on good drama, character, story development and that sort of thing -- that taking precedence over opticals, which of course are a nice way of enhancing any film, and ours will be as good or better than any you've ever seen; but this is not what the movie is about. This is not what Star Trek is about, and this is not in keeping with Star Trek's format, so don't have any fears along that line. It's not as much of a cartoon brought to the screen as Star Wars was, it is still people and their lives, and things that we care about, and what's happening to them -- and that's what Star Trek always has been.

WILL GERRY GOLDSMITH HAVE A WELL KNOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TO RECORD THE SOUNDTRACK MUSIC AS STAR WARS AND SUPERMAN HAD?

I don't know at this point. Any major motion picture soundtrack is usually recorded with a proper symphony, so I'm sure that will happen.

WHY WAS THE CAPTAIN'S CHAIR CHANGED?

The Captain's chair was changed because the entire ship was redesigned -- all the chairs, all the furniture, had to be created from scratch, nothing was saved from the television programme. Since the Enterprise had undergone an overhaul there was no reason why the chair itself could not be redesigned as well, just as if you were having a decorator come into your home and do new things; you wouldn't just want the furniture moved around, you'd probably want new furniture. Let's say, every ten years you'd do this sort of thing, you'd want a new look.

This would happen on a Starship or a naval vessel, or even if you fly on an aircraft -- say if you've flown on a 747 or some modern airplane, DC10 or whatever, you'll find the seats are constantly being revised, redesigned -- you have different buttons on your armrest, you can control your music and your reclining this and that -- well, Captain Kirk's new chair has restraints now so that they do not go bouncing out on the floor whenever there's some mishap in space. They automatically come over the legs to hold the Captain and the other people who are seated in place. He has all of the controls at hand there, and it was just a chance to update the film, make it look more in keeping with things that happen in real life.

DO YOU SHARE THE FANS' FEELING OF SATISFACTION AT ACHIEVING THE FILM AFTER WHAT SEEMED THE UTTER INDIFFERENCE OF THE STUDIO?

I know how Gene feels along this line. I don't believe he has total satisfaction yet, because of course we're waiting until the final cut and release and all that - it's too early to just sit back and say 'well, that's over with'. Knowing him he will be on it every minute of the way until the day it's distributed, making sure that it's as fine a film as he is mentally and physically capable of producing.

The indifference of the studio has shifted slightly because they understand that there is a large fan following out there, and I'm sure he would be gratified to know that the fans do have this feeling of satisfaction at the achievement of the film. I believe he is grateful now, and will probably be more so when he can reflect back upon it - he's still a little bit too close to it at this point to try to just sit back and say 'Well, that's over with, on to the next thing'.

DO YOU CONSIDER THAT FANDOM HAS ACTIVELY HELPED STAR TREK? NOT JUST AS REGARDS THE MOVIE: AND IF SO, HOW?

I'm as close or closer to fandom than Gene himself, and I would say that without fandom we would be nowhere. It was the fans who begged and pleaded and wrote and marched and petitioned, and did everything except produce the movie themselves, they wanted it so badly. And finally someone had to sit up and take notice, and that was the studio of course, realising that the fans are there, and that they want the movie, and there is support for it, and they will go out and buy tickets for it, and that they won't lose their shirts on it by producing this multi-million-dollar film. Definitely fandom has helped Star Trek, and not just, as you say, as regards the movie, but in perpetuating the philosophy of the television programme. I believe that they have done such things as, the Star Trek Welcomittee has a branch involved in education and helping teachers who might need Star Trek in their teaching curriculum. There are a group of people in the D.C. area who have done such things as get the space shuttle name changed. A lot of the people are now involved in the space programme themselves, and have gone on to take the love of Star Trek and try to apply it to their regular life. I think the fact that there are so many fans has helped us to have a lot of new Star Trek items that people can enjoy, such as some of the new books that are coming out, and of course I enjoy these too, because I've got several of them myself.

ACTORS, EVEN DIRECTORS, ARE OFTEN WELL KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC, PRODUCERS TEND NOT TO BE. THIS IS A 'WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE?' QUESTION FOR GENE AGAIN. WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO BE ONE OF THE FEW PRODUCERS WHOSE NAME AND FACE ARE INSTANTLY RECOGNISABLE?

I couldn't tell you. I don't know how he feels about that, but I know that that's very true. I think he kind of enjoys it, from what I've observed sometimes if we go to lunch or something and somebody recognises him, he just sort of beams all over it, and he lights up, and I think he gets a kick out of it.

IS THE RELATIONSHIP THAT DEVELOPED BETWEEN KIRK AND SPOCK IN THE TV SERIES STILL EVIDENT IN THE FILM, OR HAS THE EMPHASIS BEEN PLACED ON OTHER RELATIONSHIPS, i.e. DECKER?

No, there is a definite bond between Kirk and Spock that was evident in the TV series. This is still there, there is good interaction and interplay between these two characters. There is also a sort of relationship between Kirk, who took over the command from Decker, who was about to take the Enterprise out. Kirk is ordered to assume command of the ship, therefore there naturally must be some kind of relationship between these two characters, how do they deal with this, how does Decker handle it, how does Kirk treat him; this is also developed. I think you'll find that there are interesting relationships between all of the characters, which is what is so good about Star Trek.

See, I can say things like this and Gene can't, he can't sit there and brag and say 'This was what was good' but I can because I'm one foot into fandom and one foot into Paramount - and that's the one I use to kick a lot with. Anyway, I think you'll find some interesting relationships.

CAN YOU PLEASE DENY RUMOURS THAT (a) KIRK HAS SOME VERY WEIRD MECHANICAL DEVICES IN HIS QUARTERS?

O.K., I can deny that rumour - I don't know about anything weird in there. He does now have an office in his quarters - like a little area where he can sit at a table, and

there's not all that much, he does have his own viewer in his quarters - it's all a little bigger than he had in the TV series - but there are no weird devices in there.

(b) SPOCK HAS NOT JOINED SOME SORT OF HIPPIE COMMUNE TO FIND HIMSELF. PLEASE SAY THAT SPOCK IS NOT TO BE SEEN INITIALLY WITH SHOULDER LENGTH HAIR.

I don't know that I can say that - I'd have to go back and see the early scenes there. It's not a hippie commune, and I really am not at liberty to discuss that part of the script. Let me just say that the early Spock that we meet - we won't see that part of him for very long.

NOW THAT FILMING IS FINISHED ARE YOU PERSONALLY SATISFIED WITH THE QUALITY OF THE FILMED STORY?

That's a personal question to Gene - I can't tell you how he feels about it, and I have not seen a rough cut yet - that is, a film put together from all the footage that we have shot - but I know from watching the dailies or the rushes while we were in production each day, I found that there are some very very exciting things put together myself, it's going to be sensational.

IN YOUR CONSIDERED OPINION - O.K., IT'S ANOTHER QUESTION FOR GENE - WILL THE ENDING OF THE FILM LEAVE STAR TREK FANS IN A HAPPY FRAME OF MIND?

You can't give the ending away, and just saying yes or no is kind of nebulous. The people in the audience will definitely undergo emotional changes throughout the film - which is what a good film should do. It will involve the audience, you will go through whatever the people in the story are going through, you will definitely have feelings and at the end of the film you will have a fantastic experience and you will be in a good frame of mind.

THE FANS EAGERLY LAY UP ACCOUNTS OF THE JOKING AND THE FANTASTIC ATMOSPHERE ON THE SERIES SET. CAN YOU TELL US ANY SIMILAR STORIES ABOUT THE MOVIE?

I think you're referring to all the wonderful things that happened on the TV show, and the fantastic atmosphere. The atmosphere on this stage was more restrained - at the beginning especially - because of the total awareness of the import of the film, the fact that it is a multi-million-dollar film, that we had this top top director Robert Wise. Things began to relax as the film developed and people got to know the director - I find that they were all to a person enthusiastic about Robert Wise, and I myself, having worked as an extra one day, can understand that; and I would say that everybody that I spoke to towards the end of the production said that it had been like a family. This is everyone from the hairdressers and the makeup people to the guys that carry the wires and cables and the lights and all of that - everybody seemed to work well together. We partied a lot - we had wrap parties every week, as a matter of fact. As far as stories and things like that - that takes quite a bit of sitting and thinking about. I've got a lot of these that I will be reporting in my book 'The Making of Star Trek; the Motion Picture', which will come out at the same time as the movie, hopefully. But I would say that there was less joking around until almost towards the end of the film. I can remember being on stage on the last week - I didn't get to the stage that much, but I would go over during the last week - and if one of the actors missed a line or something...Bill Shatner is the biggest cut up of all - he would be just standing there joking, and if he missed a line he would just crack up; and in between takes when they're resetting the cameras and everything he would tell stories and jokes and have the whole crew - he would have an audience around him, and just tell stories and things. He's quite a ham.

WILL FILM CLIPS, PHOTOS, POSTERS ETC. BE AVAILABLE FROM LINCOLN ENTERPRISES? HAVE YOU ANY IDEA OF WHAT OTHER MERCHANDISE WILL BE AVAILABLE?

I believe Lincoln will be selling those, and they will have a new catalogue that will come out probably at the same time as the film, and hopefully they will have all those things. And as far as other merchandise - most of the props are going to be manufactured by a major American toy manufacturer for sale in the United States, but there are all kinds of merchandise things in the works. And of course there will be books - the novel that Gene is writing, the book that I am doing; there will be artwork books, collections of things that came out of the art from the programme. I can't really get into this

area - it would take days to go into - but I think all of the good points of the film will be well represented in the area of merchandise.

WILL THE FILM HAVE A MESSAGE?

Yes. That's about the only answer I can give you - I can't tell you what it is until you've seen the film. But...yeah, it's not a message film, it's not like 'O.K., guys, here it is, get ready, here's the big message you've been waiting for NOW'. It's more subtle, it is throughout the film there is something going on, something we can't identify something that I think everyone has had experience with, and I think it will become evident when you see the film that there is more than just a story going on, there's a reason for what's happening, and it gives you something to think about.

WILL THERE BE A SEQUEL FILM, AND CAN YOU ALLAY FEARS THAT PARAMOUNT AIMS TO PHASE OUT KIRK, SPOCK & MCCOY AND THE OTHER ORIGINAL CREW, AND TRANSFER EMPHASIS TO THE NEW CHARACTERS?

O.K., you've really got two questions there. Will there be a sequel film - at the moment chances look very good for a sequel film; all of the props and sets are being stored on Stage 9. The bridge is intact and the engine room is there, any parts left over from other stages have all been put into 9. The artwork, all the blueprints, all of the props all of the costumes - and there are hundreds of them - all of these things are being saved, which is a good indication. And also the studio has expressed interest in a sequel film.

As far as phasing out Kirk, McCoy & Spock, I have not heard anything about this. As far as I know that's totally false; and to transfer emphasis onto the new characters... No. That I do not believe would happen.

THE LAST QUESTION YOU'VE ASKED IS, HOW ABOUT SENDING WILLIAM SHATNER, LEONARD NIMOY & DE FOREST KELLEY OVER HERE ON A PUBLICITY TOUR?

That I can't answer for you - I would suggest you write to the publicity department and ask them if they plan to set up promotional tours.

I'll be very happy to come over there if anybody wants to pay my air fare. I stayed with Janet last time in Lochgilhead in Argyll, and I still have pictures from my visit up here on my bulletin board in my office which I'm looking at at the moment. I would give anything to come back there.

So that about answers all of the questions. And Janet and Sheila and Sylvia and Cilla - and anybody I've forgotten to say hello to - Hi. And best of luck on a successful convention, and I hope I didn't come off too badly as second-best to Gene Roddenberry; but he does send you his regards, and I do, and we all wish you great luck. Thank you.

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In Starlog #18 I (Susan Sackett) reported that Hollywood was a union town and that there was virtually no chance for fans to appear as extras since we are bound by contracts between the unions and studio. On October 16th, an exception was made to the rule when we needed to find 300 people who could fit into our wardrobe and appear in the Rec Deck sequence. With Screen Extras Guild unable to supply enough people, Gene Roddenberry seized this opportunity to thank the fans for their support by...inviting them to try out for the remaining numbers needed...

All had to meet specific requirements: between the ages of 20 and 40; men ranging in height from 5'8" and 6'2", sizes 40-42; women had to be between 5'6" and 5'8", wearing sizes 8-10...

All the fans (termed 'waivers' since they were non-union) were brought into the studio and seated on the bleachers on Stage 27. Then small groups of them were lined up ala A Chorus Line and director Robert Wise make his selections. A far cry from the typical cattle call - even those who were not chosen remained to see which of their friends would make it, applauding as each group was completed. At the end of the evening, 125 fans were given their costume-fitting appointments while everyone, regardless of whether or not they were selected, received a personal thank-you letter from Gene...

(Editor's comment - Susan was included among these waivers, and continued with a graphic description of how tired everyone got during that day's filming, finishing -)

...By this time I'm wishing the mysterious foe would blow up Soundstage 8 rather than Klingons. Finally, Bob (Wise) says the sweetest words we've heard all day, "It's a wrap!"

As we stagger down from the balcony, I can't resist one more daydream. I close my eyes - and pretend it's Christmas 1979. Star Trek--The Motion Picture has just premiered. The audience is filing out of the theater, and everyone's talking about it. I overhear some of it: "I still can't get over it. Did you see the girl in the white jumpsuit in the third window on the Rec Deck balcony? Wasn't she something? What a performance! Terrific buzzing and reacting! She'll get an Oscar!" If only I don't end up on the cutting room floor!

Starlog 20 - Report by Susan Sackett

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Star Trek - The Motion Picture is taking almost as much of the company's (Brick Price Movie Miniatures) time as U.F.O. "Originally we talked to Star Trek about doing miniatures. There turned out to be some problems with that, but we may yet supply some." (The principal miniatures are being built by Magicam, a Paramount subsidiary) "Part of the work we have calls for us to build belt buckles, hand props, phasers by the hundreds. We're also making the new tricorders - which have more functions than the TV version - space helmets and special props that require lights and computer circuitry."

A problem has arisen with the belt buckles. They're made of plastic and are hollow (some have operational lights); they're supposed to be medical monitors that constantly register the wearer's state of health. Fine. But as it happens, the railing on the bridge hits most of the Star Trek regulars right at their waists, and during shooting, boxes of crushed belt buckles arrive daily at Price Miniatures for repair.

The new phasers and tricorders are smaller, more miniaturised and sleeker than the old TV versions. They contain complex micro-circuitry that operates tiny bright lights sequentially to give a much more functional look than before. "We wanted to be absolutely sure that none of it looks like it came from Radio Shack," said Daryl Anka. "To my eye, that mission was accomplished. The new hardware all looks unmistakably Star Trek, only more detailed and futuristic than previous designs.

"We were pulled into Star Trek late," Price explains. "We started work only three weeks prior to the first day of shooting. There were times when we'd start to work at seven o'clock in the morning and work through till three the next afternoon. I wouldn't want to do that again, but this is probably the only kind of job where I'd be willing to work these kind of hours."

Starlog 20 - SFX by David Houston

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It was a cold and rainy Sunday in Los Angeles, the kind of day that, according to the Chamber of Commerce, never happens in Southern California. But the weather failed to dampen the spirits of the members of the Star Trek cast and crew who had arrived at Paramount Studio's Cafe Continental for the special pre-football game brunch, co-hosted by William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. Each arriving guest was greeted personally by Bill and Leonard, who handed out souvenir buttons (prepared by prop master Dick Rubin) which read "STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE" while a ribbon attached below proclaimed "Shatner-Nimoy Day, December 17, 1978." Following the catered brunch, two busloads ferried the group to the Los Angeles Coliseum, where we cheered the Los Angeles Rams on to a 31-14 victory over the Green Bay Packers.

With principal photography nearly completed, the coldest December on record for these parts was warmed by the relaxed atmosphere of holiday festivities as the new year approached. Over 350 people enjoyed the Christmas party given by Gene Roddenberry and Robert Wise on Stage 6. Dick Rubin again took time out from his important responsibilities as property master by arranging for the catering, entertainment and special balloons which read "Merry Xmas from Bob and Gene."

All of the Enterprise interior scenes have been completed, and the sets are being salvaged so that they will be readily available for sequels. Our final story sequences are being shot on three separate stages - 6, 8 and 15; during the production we also used four other stages - making a total of seven stages to date, more than any other picture ever done at Paramount.

Apollo IX astronaut Russell Schweickart spent a week on the Star Trek set at Gene Roddenberry's and Robert Wise's invitation, giving us very valuable technical assistance

in some space-walk scenes. Rusty spends most of his time giving advice to California's Governor Jerry Brown, serving as his science advisor at the Sacramento capital. We still have several sequences to shoot, as well as our post-production scenes which will include sequences without the leading cast. Also, during the next several months, we are looking forward to the optical-effect scenes now being prepared. Other scenes still to be filmed include the Klingon sequences, and extensive work is being done to develop a Klingon language which will sound authentically Klingonese. At last, aliens speaking their own language instead of perfect English. Along with the release of the film, there will be many exciting new items of Star Trek merchandise, according to Richard Weston, Paramount's vice president, Merchandising and Licensing Division. Milton Bradley Company has already contracted to reproduce some of the movie's props created by Dick Rubin. Another recent licensee is Pocket Books, Inc, a division of Simon and Schuster. They will be publishing Gene Roddenberry's novelisation of the movie story and the behind-the-scenes book which Gene and I are currently working on - tentatively titled The Remaking of Star Trek. These will be released about the same time as the film. Pocket Books has also scheduled two other Star Trek books for mid-1979. One, as yet untitled, will be a collection of sayings from original dialogue in the 79 Star Trek episodes, compiled by Fred and Stan Goldstein and myself. Another book by the Goldsteins will cover the history of space flight, from the 20th century through Star Trek's latest model of the Enterprise.

Starlog 21 - Report by Susan Sackett.

Paramount

April 1978

GEORGE TAKEI

BIOGRAPHY

Since becoming an international favorite for his portrayal of Sulu, the Helmsman of the U.S.S. Enterprise in the "Star Trek" television series, a role he now repeats in Paramount's "Star Trek - The Motion Picture", George Takei had added an active life in community and civic affairs to busy his acting career.

In "Star Trek - The Motion Picture," a Gene Roddenberry Production - A Robert Wise Film, Takei is reunited with stars William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy, co-star De Forest Kelley and the entire original cast from the TV series, which achieved an unprecedented, long-lasting success.

Following the completion of the series, which then went into re-run after re-run in syndication to set records never approached, Takei became the producer-host of KNBC's public affairs talk show, "Expression: East/West," for three years. He also appeared on the stage at the Inner City Cultural Center in Shakespeare's "Macbeth" and in "The Monkey's Paw," and toured Alaska in the lead role in Edward Albee's "Zoo Story."

In TV again, he was critically lauded for his starring portrayal of the anguished, bitter Chinatown tour guide in the PBS Theatre in America production, "Year of the Dragon," and in guest roles on "Hallmark of Fame," "Blacksheep Squadron," "Hawaii Five-O," "Chico and the Man," "The Six Million Dollar Man," "Ironside," "Marcus Welby, M.D." and "Kung Fu," among other shows.

In 1972, Takei was an official delegate to the Democratic Presidential Convention at Miami Beach. In 1974, he was a delegate to the Mid-Term Conference at Kansas City. In 1976, he was an alternate to the New York Convention and, when Jimmy Carter was elected, he was invited to participate in the inaugural festivities in Washington, D.C.

In 1973, he had been a candidate for the Los Angeles City Council seat vacated by Mayor Tom Bradley. He came in second in the electoral race, just three-percent behind the victor.

Subsequently, he has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District, where he currently serves as Vice President of the Board and chairman of the Personal Committee. He represents the Rapid Transit District on the American Public Transit Association's Minority Affairs Committee.

In his other community and cultural activities, he organized and served as founding chairman of the Friends of Far Eastern Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, as National Cultural Affairs Chairman of the Japanese American Citizens League for three

years, and on the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Blue Ribbon Committee for the Emmy Awards annually since 1975.

Takei was born in the Boyle Heights district of Los Angeles, where he lived until his family was relocated in Arkansas during World War II.

He began his college education as an architect student at the University of California at Berkeley, later to transfer to the Los Angeles campus as a major in Theatre Arts with a minor in Latin American Studies.

While at U.C.L.A., he made his professional debut in a "Playhouse 90" production. Meanwhile, he furthered his training as an actor at the Desilu Workshop.

After a period in New York, living in cold water flats, performing in an occasional off-Broadway play or live TV show and working at odd jobs, he took off on a bicycling, hitch-hiking tour of Europe. A highlight was his attendance at the Shakespeare Institute at Stratford-on-Avon.

Returning to Hollywood, he earned his Master's Degree in Theatre at U.C.L.A. and resumed his pursuit of an acting career. Prior to winning his continuing role in "Star Trek," he appeared on such television shows as "Perry Mason," "Alcoa Premiere," "Mr. Novak," "The Wackiest Ship in the Army," and "I Spy."

With his increasing recognition, he also appeared in a number of theatrical motion pictures, including "Ice Palace," "A Majority of One," "Hell to Eternity," "An American Dream," "Walk, Don't Run" and "The Green Berets."

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

STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

Thank you very much to all of you who sent us cuttings, we now have quite a nice collection and Janet will be putting them all in the scrap book now that the con and the newsletter are out of the way. Please keep sending in the cuttings as we get some interesting info out of some of them and it is also nice to see ST getting plenty of mention.

There was an article about Leonard Nimoy in the March issue of Photoplay. It is an in-depth article and as far as we can see it is accurate. It mentions that his daughter Julie, 23, works for a television company and his son, Adam, 22, is a law student. It also mentions that Nimoy flies his own Piper Arrow. The article is more about Nimoy himself than about his portrayal of Spock but it does say that he is very touchy about any questions concerned with his image as Mr. Spock.

An article about Nimoy similar to the one in Photoplay appeared in US January 23rd, and one more, with coloured pictures, was in Titbits March 18 1979.

General articles about the movie appeared in THE MORNING STAR, a few weeks ago. It had three good photos and the article itself was interesting. Other general articles appeared in THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC TV DIGEST Oct 29th, SUPER STAR HEROES, SAN ANTONIA STAR Nov 19th, DAILY MAIL March 20th, GAZETTE, Montreal Jan 17th, DENVER POST March 11th.

Articles combining info about STAR TREK with info on STAR WARS, CLOSE ENCOUNTERS, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA in various combinations have appeared in the SUNDAY MIRROR Jan 7th, DAILY EXPRESS Dec 22nd, THE SUN March 13th plus another article called 'Will Star Trek Make Movie Magic...?' (I'm not sure which paper). All there were general and had nothing new. THE STAR March 3rd.

Persis' bald head keeps appearing in various short articles including one in COSMOPOLITAN. In an article in the EVENING STANDARD December 27th it said that a recent ST convention in New York, out of 1000 fans attending, 36 ladies had shaved their heads in her honour. We hope this info is wrong as we think that is carrying fandom too far. We'll have fans getting plastic surgery to look like Spock next!

There was a short article about Shatner in the SUN Feb 10th. It was mainly about the movie but was actually printed because of SOLE SURVIVOR being shown. The article gave his age as 41 - that's an improvement on 39 but is still a few years out. The article also mentioned that he was keeping quiet about his role in BIG BAD MAMA where he appeared

nude in a scene with Angie Dickenson. The SUN did a big spread about this a week or so before, including a picture of the two of them. We don't know what all the fuss is about, as Janet saw the film three times and even though Shatner was in the nude, he wasn't, if you know what we mean - Angie Dickenson was between him and the camera. Janet remembers from articles at the time that Shatner was very unhappy about doing this scene.

There was quite a big article in one paper entitled 'How to be a Star Cook'. It was basically a review of the STAR TREK OFFICIAL COOKING MANUAL.

PORTSMOUTH EVENING NEWS Dec 12th, LIVERPOOL ECHO Dec 29th, PETERBOROUGH EVENING TELEGRAPH Dec 12th & EVENING CHRONICLE Dec 14th all contained an article called 'Mr. Spock Puts on his Ears' or variations on that title. The article is a general one about Nimoy as Spock, the movie and fandom.

An article about THE INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS appeared in ROLLING STONE Dec 28th. There is a picture of Nimoy but the article doesn't refer to him.

An interesting article about the movie and Gene Roddenberry appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES Jan 21st, ATLANTA JOURNAL Nov 19th & BAKERFIELD CALIFORNIAN. There was also a very good interview with Nichelle Nichols in the Winter 78 edition of SPACE TREK. We haven't seen that one in Britain. Here are a couple of questions/answers which may interest you.

Space Trek - Was there a romance between Captain Kirk and Uhura?

Nichelle - I don't think that the characters of Uhura or Kirk would have put up with that and allowed it to happen, because this was his command crew. It's one thing if he's seeing someone, even a member of the crew, outside; but this is his command crew, and you can't have that kind of intimacy with your command crew.

Space Trek - In other words, it's the same relationship that Kirk and Spock enjoy, with the added benefit of the sexual angle?

Nichelle - Yes, I believe so. That's a deep (relationship) that goes beyond a casual relationship, that goes beyond admiration and respect, that develops into a long lasting love. When you go through the experiences that the crew of the Starship Enterprise went through; the dangers, the new adventures, the great unknown and many different life forms, understanding life forms in their many and diverse manifestations, falling into the black hole and coming out; you develop an interdependence that transcends the normal kind of love. It goes very, very deep

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We thought you might be interested in the following extracts from articles but we are making no guarantees that they have their facts correct.

TIME Jan 15th 1979

'Since the series ended, Captain (now Admiral) Kirk has been kicked upstairs to dull desk duty, Mr. Spock has settled on his native Vulcan, and "Bones" McCoy has become a bearded country doctor...'

'The most important character to watch, in true STAR TREK tradition, is the villain. STAR TREK creator Eugene Roddenberry, 57, is famous for introducing horrible monsters who are searching for a little understanding to make them un-horrible. While the film script is under tight lock and key, it is safe to speculate, as does Actor Leonard Nimoy, the pointy-eared Mr. Spock, "that we eventually find our antagonist is searching as well." At first the Enterprise will be fighting what looks like a cloud of electrically charged whipped cream (The DAILY MAIL March 20th calls it 'a cloud of destructive alien tapioca') but the monster is hiding its true nature. "It is the same as any mystery story," Director Robert Wise told TIME correspondent James Willerth. "Something's out there in the dark prowling around. You can't see it, but you keep getting horrible reports..."

'...The new movie will have an expensive layering of special effects. Optics wizard Robert Abel has been hired to give that cloud of electric whipped cream a throbbing, ominous personality. "It's so big you can't make a model of it," he

hints vaguely. "It's so awesome, so powerful, and has so many unique identities ..." When the monster first appears, audiences will see a surface Abel has constructed out of filmed layers of high-speed light streaking, chemically milled metal, animation, liquid crystal and half a dozen other gimmicks...'

Trekkies will notice that the Enterprise bridge has an extra door and that the crew wears sleek new uniforms. The computer terminal is so complicated that the actors had to be given instruction manuals. Bones McCoy's clinic is updated, and the ship is constructed of gleaming metal.

SEVENTEEN November 1978

'Captain Kirk, now an Admiral, is asked to assemble his old crew, and he finds them wherever they have been dispersed. Mr. Spock, for example, is coaxed back while meditating in a fishnetlike meditation suit.'

THE STARS & STRIPES Dec 5th '78.

...The bridge is completely computerised, and display screens show special tapes and films from NASA and other scientific agencies.

...They never showed Earth in the 23rd century in the series. The script has a sequence where we pick up Kirk in San Francisco. He's now an Admiral and is on his way to plead for command of a special mission of the Enterprise. Every time they wanted to cut that I screamed. I think it is very important to show Earth (Robert Wise).

Another thing I wanted to show was the Enterprise's immense size. We use an eight-foot model to show it in orbital dry dock, then superimpose tiny figures of Humans.

Interviewed between takes, Shatner was in his new uniform - a white sweater shirt and gray pants that turned into boots at his feet like an elaborate pair of baby sleepers.

...Shatner says Kirk isn't the same as in the series. He says, "I think I'm playing a character who's more driven. There is an edge to him I don't think was in the series. Deliberately so. Also, he makes what could be a disastrous error in the story, so there are things he has to learn. I don't think any TV story ever attacked that."

...The details of the plot are secret. It's still an action adventure story, with strong character development and the series' strong philosophy of tolerance, optimism and hope.

Mr. Spock will be seen on his native planet of Vulcan, there is a spectacular battle with the Klingons, and there will be encounters with aliens.

...(Gene) "We keep our philosophy and stick to having our people as almost old-fashioned heroes with morals and points of view. They're as much concerned with intellectual curiosity as physical curiosity."

FUTURE LIFE 9 March 79

(Gene) "There will be quite a few innovations in the film," he reveals. "Our weaponry will essentially be the same as on the old show; phasers, photon torpedoes etc. But we'll be using the advantage of full-screen optical effects to make their usage more exciting visually. We'll also show a lot of new aspects of the Enterprise and her crew. We'll see Spock's planet, Vulcan. We'll have sets depicting the Enterprise's hangar deck, Kirk's cabin, Spock's quarters and the inside of Klingon cruisers."

Other new wrinkles will involve the portrayal of the refurbished Enterprise's outer hull and her crewmembers' approach to same. "We'll see the Enterprise in dry dock in fantastic detail," Roddenberry states. "For the first time ever we'll get an idea of the true size and complexity of this craft. We'll also have a new type of Federation spacesuit this time out. It won't be radically different from the type of spacesuits being used today, just modernised. It will be more refined, more maneuverable. It will have more capacities, as would be natural for a suit constructed in the 23rd century.

"These are the kinds of suits that the Enterprise crew will be able to venture

outside the craft in space with. We will see our people outside the Enterprise. This is something we could never afford to attempt on TV. And this, of course, will help us give an indication of the immense size of the starship.

...Young firebrand Decker is a film character originally slated as Kirk's successor in the ill-fated STAR TREK syndicated TV series. In the motion picture, however, he finds himself replaced at the Enterprise helm by a returning Captain Kirk. For the rest of the plot, Decker is less than pleased with the situation...
...There are many new details on the bridge. But it is still the circular Enterprise bridge. The stations are still there. They are just better, finer. Each includes complete instrumentation we could never afford before. Our TV computers were made out of wood. Now we actually have real computers. Each station is an entity unto itself and the actor helming his or her station has to learn how to work it.

PHOTOPLAY U.S. (?)

...As we viewed the cast in the globe-shaped giant bridge room, they were looking directly ahead at a blue screen on which later would be added a film showing their simulated departure from earth. This same screen would also show their travels through the world of the 23rd century and some of its strange inhabitants. Yes, there will be some - but none that look like our friends from STAR WARS. Before taking off, Bill has a confrontation with young actor Stephen Collins, who is removed from command of the Enterprise when it is sent out on this hazardous mission.

(Shatner) I've been in training for this role like for a championship fight," the actor offered. "Here," he said as he flexed his arm muscles. He is solid, but we teased, "That's pretty good for a guy your age!"

It's for sure Bill wasn't kidding about being in training. He said he runs six miles every day before going to work which means getting up at the crack of dawn. He has a gym at his house and has been working out by lifting weights.

PARADE December 10th '78

...Trekies will recognise the transporter room, but the Enterprise's engine deck now centres around a dazzling two-storey column of glass and might abutted by a line of large steel rings that slowly decrease in size until they seem to disappear into infinity.

It is a newly outfitted ship - and a newly outfitted crew. No more pajama-like red and blue shirts and black flare pants. The mod galaxy look is beige or gray unisex pantsuit with a life-support system at the waist that resembles a large belt buckle and a small communicator that looks, and is worn like a wristwatch.

...The opening of the movie, therefore, really is a reunion for Kirk, McCoy, Spock and the rest of the '60s crew - McCoy with his expected sarcastic comments, but Spock unusually cold and distant "With a desire for total insulation from human contact." Along with the personal tension that Spock creates is some tension of command as Kirk takes control of the ship from young - and resentful - Capt. Willard Decker. On the way to meeting the alien, there are 8-foot tall, pearl-eyed 'neotreno probing' intruders and a nude automaton woman in Kirk's sonic shower - although Trekies will be disappointed to find their captain is not the romantic lead. Decker does the romancing with navigator Ilea, a totally bald but of course exotically beautiful native from the planet Delta. The confrontation with the alien is designed to be an explosion of optical effects. The Enterprise is "a speck" beside the 78-kilometer-long "flaring white star", which has "elastic energy corridors" and walls of "tens of thousands of crystals" that attack Spock when he attempts a Vulcan mind meld. The Enterprise is slowly drawn in toward a floating hemispheric "primal brain", in the center of which lies the key to the alien's identity - and a clue to the price to be exacted from the Enterprise crew if Earth is to survive. What is the alien? Does Kirk save the earth? At what price?... (Dah di di dah di dah! - editor)

DAILY EXPRESS Oct 23rd - interview with Persis Khambatta

"I play Ilea, a woman from the planet Delta, and all Deltan women are bald. I'm the opposite of Mr. Spock. He is logical. I am spiritual and sensitive - and

very sensual."

"Touch is very important to the people of Delta. And it is very important to me," and she leaned across and touched my hand. "When I talk to people I always touch saying that fingertips have eyes - and they have."

SUNDAY MIRROR Jan 7th

She (Ilea) is a woman navigator who is beautiful, exotic, highly desirable - and completely bald.

All the same, to prevent passions on the USS Enterprise rising too high, the new navigator has to sign an undertaking to remain celibate while on board.

NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS Feb 24th

The STAR TREK feature currently in production with all the old crew aboard will be released in time for Christmas with a Sensurround-type sound system which Paramount have dubbed 'Psych-acoustics'...

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Nancy Kippax tells us that she has heard from a reliable source, but still unconfirmed, that in the desert scenes on Vulcan where Spock is wearing the fishnet-like meditation suit, his hair is to his shoulders.

In CALENDAR, March 4th, there was an article about the plans which were stolen from the ST set by Askew. Askew was convicted on August 4th and received two years probation without formal supervision and was fined \$750.

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Sorry if there appears to be repetition, but different articles had different points of interest mixed with repeat info. Whether the 'facts' are correct or not, we'll just have to wait and see.

Thank you to -

Philip Skinner, Ruth A, Breisinger, Merlynn Brown, Barrie Wright, Jean & Andrew Donkin, Sue Stockley, Doreen Twivey, Margaret Richardson, Susan West, Jenny Elson, Jerri Franz, Lesley Coles, Margaret Austin, David Poulton, Sheila Cornell, Ann Looker, Moggsie Medhurst, Ruth Merrill Bollerud, James G Pauley, Sylvia Billings, Carol Davies, Gerald Caddy, May Jones, Roy Evans, Dennis Taylor, Jean Barron, Jonathan Butterworth, Ellen Kobrin, Mariann Hornlein, Rebecca Hoffman (not a member) Connie Fanton, Kathleen Glancy, Mark Slade, Neil Hammerton, Alan White, Dick Mayfield, Yoshiko Hirahara, David Roylance, Karen J. Pearce, Sally Marsh, Simone Mason - and sorry if we've missed out anyone else who sent in cuttings.

Don't forget we're still looking for cuttings and info on the movie from newspapers and magazines - send these to Janet.

FANZINE ADS

STARBASE MTL - 5550 Trent Apt 307, Cote St Luc Que, Canada H4W 2B9. Issue 6, \$4.10 airmail. Issue 5 is still available. This zine occasionally contains material of an adult nature. IRC for info.

DEATHDANCE a novel by Diana King, \$8.00 airmail, \$7.00 first class, from Pulsar Press, 518 South Abingdon St, Arlington, Virginia 22204. Please make all cheques payable to Carol Frisbie. This is an excellent zine, in which Kirk ~~acquires~~ the ability to foretell coming deaths. All attempts on his parts to negate the predictions fail; and then he foresees Spock's death. We have ordered copies of this - most have already been paid for but we will have one or two extra, \$4.60 first come first served.

NOME 2 - planned for winter 79. This zine will include adult material which might be offensive to some. IRC for info to Victoria Clark, 445 E. 86th Street, New York, NY 10028 USA. An age statement must accompany orders.

#1 may still be available - this is a good zine with interesting stories, and I (Sheila) do recommend it.

- STAR CANTICLE 2 - Dotty Barry, P.O. Box 921, Claremont, CA 91711, USA. \$6.15 airmail, UK. \$5.50 first class US, \$7.00 airmail Australia. Due June. It does not include anything explicit, but all themes may not be acceptable to all persons.
- MATTER/ANTIMATTER 2 is planned for Spring 1979. This may contain subject matter not acceptable to everyone. Sandra Gent, 1908 Rambling Lane, Brandon, Fla 33511, USA. There may still be a limited number available of a reprint of M/A 1, which contains only the three main stories from that issue. These include the first parts of stories to be continued in #2.
- THE OTHER SIDE OF PARADISE 4, scheduled for the Spring, will be a ST/Spock/Vulcan novel by Clare Bell. TOSOP #5 is planned for the autumn. IRCs for details. Amy Falkowitz, 323 Higdon #3, Mountain View, CA 94041 USA.
- THE NINTH QUADRANT #2 - available now, though we don't have a price. Helen Padgett, 2919 Burnside, San Antonio, TX 78209 USA.
- COMPANION 2 planned for the winter/spring. This zine is not a sequel to #1 but rather a collection of stories which interweave with the ones in #1. Submissions are still being requested. Ellen Kobrin, 3 Jetmore Place, Massapequa, New York 11758 USA or Carol Hunterton, 43 Old Bergen Rd, Jersey City, New Jersey 07305 USA.
- SOUTHERN STAR #3 & 4 - two excellent ST/SF zines. The print is reduced, in #3 extremely so, which gives you far more story for your money than an unreduced one does. Rebecca Hoffman, 205 Pine Street, Greer, SC 29651 USA.
- ONLY STARS CAN LAST - a record put out by the Contact group. Songs written by Kathy Burns and Martha Bonds. Martha Bonds, 6812 B Sturbridge Dr. Baltimore, MD 21234 USA. US price, \$7.50 inc postage. They may still have some copies left of their first album, Colours of Love.
- STAR TREK STATIONERY - from Michael Verina, 430 Ann Ave, Niles, Ohio 44446 USA. This is in the form of notelets illustrated with some of the artwork he has done for various zines - one excellent one is the cover from Turbolift Review 2. He also has a portfolio of 10 illos. Also -
- STARBORNE - a new zine planned by Michael Verina, due in August. He requires a \$3.00 deposit plus SASE (or envelope and 2 IRCs). Only available on pre-ordering.
- NEXUS 3 - Mariann Hornlein, 56 Windsor Lane, Willingboro, NJ 08046 USA. \$10.50 airmail, excellent value. We have copies of this one on order - some have already been reserved but not all.
- ALTERNATIVE 2 - due in the Spring/summer, sequel to Alternative 1. Sounds as though it will be good, although the theme may not appeal to everyone. IRC for details to Gerry Downes, 3925 West 79th, Anchorage, Alaska 99502 USA.

Copies of Stardate Unknown 5 have been sent to everyone who ordered it. The draft for Deathdance has been sent off, and the zines should arrive by the end of this month/beginning of next. If you have ordered Deathdance and it still hasn't arrived by Mid-May, please let Sheila know - we've asked Carol to send the copies direct. Nexus should be arriving soon - Mariann didn't say she needed pre-payment. If you want it, send £6 to Sheila as soon as possible. For the moment we have no zines due, but we will be writing away again soon - if you want info on which zines we're bulk ordering, please leave an S&E with Sheila.

NEW AND FORTHCOMING MERCHANDISE

Record - Spirit; Future Games, Phonogram 9100 - 036. This was a 1974 release but can still be ordered. It is a mixture of music/song, with extracts from Star Trek tapes interspersed throughout - slightly 'way-out', but quite good. Info Alison Rooney.

STAR TREK - Good News in Modern Images by Betsy Caprio. Published by Sheed Andrews & McNeel Inc, Kansas City, \$5.95. Ms Caprio's book is fun and thought provoking. It's not an attempt to make a religious statement out of a show that was primarily an entertainment vehicle, but her concern is with the questions raised by the body of ST shows which she identifies as "What are we doing here? Where am I going? How do I get there? What's this all about?" The book is filled with questions and exercises. She brings some keen psychological as well as philosophical and religious insights to it. Probably not a book for everyone but certainly for those who are past just watching it for enjoyment, and wonder why ST is so lasting and appealing. Info Marilyn Moore.

NEWS OF THE STARS

GEORGE TAKEI appeared in 'Vegas' (Feb 9th Midlands ITV) as a doctor who was helping police track down a killer who thought he was Jack the Ripper. (info Karen Pearce)

WILLIAM SHATNER appeared in 'Sole Survivor' (Feb 11th BBC 1). The story concerns five ghost crew members of a World War Two fighter plane which has crashed in a desert, condemned to remain with the wreck until their bodies are found. The wreckage was spotted and William Shatner was the officer in charge of an investigation into why the crash happened and what happened to the crew. Also in the cast was Lou Antonio (Lokai in Let That Be Your Last Battlefield) as one of the ghost crew. (info Karen Pearce)

Elinor Donahue (Assistant Federation Commissioner Nancy Hedford in Metamorphosis) appeared in Petrocelli (Feb 16th BBC 1)

Anthony Caruso (Bela Oxmyx in 'A Piece of the Action') appeared in Tarzan (18th Feb, Midlands ITV) (info Karen Pearce)

GEORGE TAKEI Celebrates his birthday on April 20th. Happy birthday, George!

WILLIAM SHATNER has appeared in two films recently - Columbo - Fade into Murder on STV and 'The Lone Survivor' on BBC 1. His portrayal of the Colonel in 'Lone Survivor' was very similar to the weak, good side of Kirk in Enemy Within. (info Ann Neilson)

LEONARD NIMOY is currently touring the States in his one-man play 'Vincent', about the life of Vincent van Gogh. He plays Van Gogh's brother Theo; the play is largely based on some 600 letters the painter wrote to Theo, with a sequence of van Gogh pictures projected onto large backstage screens, and at one point a song accompaniment by Don McLean. Reviews on the play have been mixed. (info Kay Brown)

STAR TREK AND THE BBC

To our best knowledge STAR TREK will be returning to our screens within 5 weeks. Failing this it should be with us when the Beeb start their summer season. If we get advance notice of the screening dates we will send out the SAEs.

Thanks to all of you who sent us copies of the letters you have received recently from the Beeb. Most replies seem to say that the Beeb have just purchased the 26 episodes of the first series at the moment. Richard Evans, Editor (Series), Programme Aquisition, Television, stated in a letter to Catherine Moorhouse,

"Should we re-acquire further episodes, it is possible that we would take another look at the banned episodes, though I cannot of course guarantee at this stage that we would agree to take them."

That letter was written on March 1st; although in an earlier letter to Gerald Caddy on Feb 19th, Mr. Evans wasn't so sanguine about screening the banned episodes but he said the following -

"At the moment we do not have any definite plans to transmit the whole series, but I think it quite possible that we will try to do so, as the repeat showings have proved very popular." Mr. Evans also stated something similar in a letter to Roy Evans on March 1st.

Most of the other letters you sent in were standard replies from the Programme Correspondence section but it is encouraging to note that they are having to put out a printed letter, presumably to cope with the volume of mail, and that some of your letters are getting further than Ms. Cundy's office.

What we want you to do now is keep plugging at the BBC to try and get them to buy the remaining two series. But please remember this, and it is important. We want STAR TREK to be shown on its own merits, you do not increase the chances of ST being shown by slamming any other series. If you aren't happy with another series by all means send in constructive criticism to the BBC, but if you've nothing constructive to say keep quiet. Slamming other SF series out of hand does nothing to encourage the BBC to co-operate with us, nor does it give them a good impression of STAR TREK fans. Always be polite. It pays much better dividends.

CONVENTIONS

FAIRCON - Glasgow's Science Fiction Convention July 20th -22nd Ingram Hotel
 Registration - Full - £4.50 Supporting - £1.50
 Guest of Honour - Bob Shaw Programme includes films, SF episodes, talks, quizzes,
 panel discussions and auctions.
 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, bathroom and tea-making facilities.
 SF (STAG will be represented and have a table)

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

EMPATHY MIDI-CON October 13/14th (new dates) Dragonara Hotel, Leeds.
 Registration £3 For further details send SAE to Dot Owens, 30 Ovenden Way, Lee Mount,
 Halifax, West Yorks.

SMALL ADS

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

We would like to hear from any person who feels that if we want a good future for Planet Earth we must start doing something about it now. Please send an SAE for a copy of our newsletter 'Earthrise'. Send to: Jackie and Allan Edwards, 17 Henley Rd, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 3NL. (Jackie being ex Jackie Dunham of STCC and Trekkie Bear!?!)

- WANTED: Gold Key Comics: STAR TREK USA. Original material only! Please state what you have. Stephen Bailey, Sonley, Town End Lane, Swinscoe, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 2HS.
- OUT NOW: 'Fansheet'. The collection of 2 - 3 sheets to let you know about the Fantasy-Sci-Fi media. 'Trek' too! Send 10p coin for current copy. Stephen Bailey, Sonley, Town End Lane, Swinscoe, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, DE6 2HS. Thank you!
- WANTED: Certain copies of IPC's comic 2000 AD. Let me know what editions you have; and how much you want. Stephen Bailey, address as above. But hurry, please!
- WANTED: Anything on BLAKES SEVEN; photos and articles. Also 1977 XMAS edition of Radio Times, good condition. Contact Alan Early, Farnley Wood, Farnley Tyas, Huddersfield, Yorks, HD4 6SJ.
- WANTED: Any pictures or info on American series LOST IN SPACE to add to collection of sci-fi material. Vanessa Lamb, 'Vindobona', Chalk Lane, Hyde Heath, Nr. Amersham, Bucks, HP6 5SA.
- WANTED: Books, CALLING THUNDERBIRDS by John Theydon or the Theydon STINGRAY books, any LAND OF THE GIANTS title other than SLINGSHOT FOR A DAVID and THE PERSUADERS Bks 1 & 2. David A. Roylance, 42 Bonaly Ave, Colinton, Edinburgh EH13 0ET.
- WANTED: Video cassettes of any or all of the following STAR TREK episodes: PLATO'S STEPCHILDREN; THE WAY TO EDEN; CLOUD MINDERS; TURNABOUT INTRUDER; MUDD'S WOMEN and PATTERNS OF FORCE. I have a Phillips VCR N1700 Video Cassette recorder. Tape speed 6.56 cm/sec. Tape to head speed 8.1 m/sec. Please reply as soon as possible to: Karin Dennywill, Goethestr. 4, 7143 Vaihingen/Enz, Germany. Video tapes from older machines are not playable on my recorder.
- WANTED: Any photographs or information on Paul Darrow (Avon in BLAKES SEVEN). Any price paid. Christine Leeson, 22 Fountain St, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L42 7JH.
- FOR SALE: 2hr video tape with 'Devil in the Dark' and 'Space Seed'; 2 hr video tape with 'Shore Leave' and 'Man Trap' each tape £16.50 plus 50p P&P (U.K.) or nearest offer; 2 1/2 hr video tape with 'Corbomite Maneuver', 'Balance of Terror' and 'What Are Little Girls Made Of?' £18.00 plus 50p P&P (UK) o.n.o. Suitable for a Phillips N-1700 video cassette recorder. cont/

1978 Star Trek Annual 75p plus 20p P&P; Log Entries 6,9,10 & 13 each 40p plus 15p P&P; Alnitah 6 & 9 each 50p plus 15p P&P; Captain's Log 3 & 4 each 40p plus 15p P&P; Zap 1,2 & 3 each 40p plus 15p P&P, also other Star Trek zines. Send SAE for details to: Karen Pearce, 42 Bracknell Dr. Alvaston, Derby DE20BS. Tel Derby 72906.

WANTED: 'Grope' and 'More Grope' to buy or borrow, please. Karen Pearce, 42 Bracknell Drive, Alvaston, Derby DE2 OBS, Derbyshire. Tel. Derby 72906.

FRIENDSHIP CORNER

STAR TREK fan would like to contact other fans in the East Lothian area. Particularly interested in collecting fanzines and writing ST stories. Margaret Sibbald, 8 Nethershot Road, Prestonpans, East Lothian, EH32 9AW.

David Bowie fan - 20 years old - would like to hear from other Bowie fans - write to - Miss Lynn Cornell, 5 Warwick Crescent, Hayes, Middx UB4 8RE.

Anybody in the Merseyside and surrounding area interested in forming a small group for informal, non-regular get-togethers, talks, drinks and general TREK TALK. My interests are STAR TREK, motoring, photography, heavy music, science fantasy (M. Moorcock), so anybody interested in either writing or meeting a slightly zany teacher in his late 20s please contact - Roy Evans, 77 Selby Rd, Orrell Park, Liverpool, L9 8EB.

I am 29 years old and would love to write to other STAR TREK fans anywhere. I'm a secretary, single, enjoy writing, stamp collecting and traveling. Mary A. Smith, 1750 Gisler Avenue #3, Oxnard, CA 93030 USA.

Is anyone interested in corresponding with an adult ST-SF fan in the States? I am seriously searching for other fans with similar interests. Linda Knights, 50 Berkley St Apt E-276, Satellite Beach, FL 32937 U.S.A.

Apathy rules the Universe! or so it would seem in S. Wales. Come on you Trekkers; if you want your own local ST group in S. Wales please contact Tony Donovan, 73 Column Rd, Cardiff, CF1 3EF. Tel Cardiff 394 655. Hope to hear from you all soon!

I would like to contact Anne, whom I met at Faircon '78 - I can't remember her second name. She had her photo taken with me along with a bug-eyed monster and I'd like to pass it on to her. Michelle Drayton, 31 Graham Terrace, Bishopriggs, Glasgow, G64 1NJ.

HAILING FREQUENCIES OPEN TO AMERICAN TREKKERS

Linda Hughes and I are British Trekkers who will be flying to Los Angeles on Sunday 25th November. This is our first trip to the States and we expect to be in California for approximately three weeks.

Our main desire for this visit is to meet other STAR TREK fans, and if there are any cons we can come to, that will be even better.

We have no particular plans apart from a brief visit to Las Vegas, leaving our time free to be with other Trekkers.

We do not know how to contact you, so Linda and I are depending on your friendliness to contact us at either of the following addresses:

Miss Linda Hughes
63 Harrow Crescent
Gidea Park
Romford
Essex RM3 7BJ
England

Miss Doreen Twivey
c/o 4 Varley House
County Street
London SE1 6AL
England

Every letter will be answered.

SCOTTISH GROUP

Scottish Local Group meetings will be resuming at the end of April. For information about these, SAE to Nicola Moore, 14 Coxburn Brae, Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire.

STAR DATES

We are giving you this list of Stardates, in order, by special request. All Stardates are taken from the episode except where we specify script. In these cases the Stardate is not mentioned on the tapes we have of the episodes but is in the script. 5 episodes have no Stardate. We have left off the points as these vary during the course of the episode. We have also ignored the animations.

1312 - Where No Man Has Gone Before	3619 - Obsession
1329 - Mudd's Women	3715 - The Apple
1512 - The Corbomite Maneuver	3842 - Journey to Babel
1513 - The Man Trap	4040 - Bread and Circuses
1533 - Charlie X	4202 - The Doomsday Machine
1672 - Enemy Within	4211 - A Private Little War
1704 - Naked Time	4307 - Immunity Syndrome
1709 - Balance of Terror	4372 - Elaan of Troyius
2124 - The Squire of Gothos	4385 - Spectre of the Gun
2534 - Patterns of Force (Script)	4513 - I Mudd
2712 - What Are Little Girls Made Of?	4523 - The Trouble With Tribbles
2713 - Miri	4598 - A Piece of the Action (Script)
2715 - Dagger of the Mind	4657 - By Any Other Name
2817 - Conscience of the King	4768 - Return to Tomorrow
2821 - The Galileo Seven	4729 - Ultimate Computer
2947 - Court Martial	4842 - Paradise Syndrome
3012 - Menagerie	5027 - Enterprise Incident
3018 - Catspaw	5029 - And The Children Shall Lead
3025 - Shore Leave	5121 - Empath
3045 - Arena	5423 - Mark of Gideon
3087 - The Alternative Factor	5431 - Spock's Brain
3113 - Tomorrow is Yesterday	5476 - For the World is Hollow and I Have Touched the Sky
3134 - City on the Edge of Forever (Script)	5630 - Is There in Truth no Beauty
3141 - Space Seed	5693 - Tholian Web
3156 - Return of the Archons	5710 - Wink of an Eye
3192 - A Taste of Armageddon	5718 - Whom Gods Destroy
3196 - Devil in the Dark	5725 - Lights of Zetar
3198 - Errand of Mercy	5730 - Let That be your Last Battlefield
3211 - The Gamesters of Triskelion	5784 - Plato's Stepchildren
3219 - Metamorphosis	5818 - Cloud Minders
3287 - Operation Annihilate	5832 - Way to Eden
3372 - Amok Time	5843 - Requiem for Methuselah
3417 - This Side of Paradise	5906 - Savage Curtain
3468 - Who Mourns for Adonais	5928 - Turnabout Intruder
3478 - The Deadly Years	5943 - All Our Yesterdays
3497 - Friday's Child	Omega Glory
3541 - Changeling	Assignment Earth
3614 - Wolf in the Fold	Day of the Dove
	Mirror Mirror
	That Which Survives

QUESTIONS

IN WHERE NO MAN HAS GONE BEFORE WHY DID IT HAVE ON KIRK'S TOMBSTONE JAMES R. KIRK INSTEAD OF JAMES T. KIRK?

Where No Man Has Gone Before was the original pilot and we think that at that point they hadn't decided to call him James T. Kirk. When the T was decided on they'd obviously forgotten about the tombstone. It is what you would probably call an error in continuity.

HOW ABOUT SENDING THE BBC A PETITION OF SIGNATURES DEMANDING THE BANNED EPISODES?

Separate letters have much more effect than a petition and we have been asking you all to keep sending letters in asking for the banned episodes. We do not demand - we ask politely, giving our reasons.

WHEN WILL THE NEW FOTONOVEL BE OUT?

I'm afraid we don't know the answer to this. Like most of you we are impatiently waiting for more Fotonovels. We'll try and find out what is happening about these books.

DO YOU THINK THERE WILL BE A FOTONOVEL OF THE MOVIE?

We hope so.

COULD YOU INCLUDE MORE ABOUT WHAT THE STARS ARE DOING IN THE NEWSLETTER?

We are doing our best with this and we rely heavily on you, our members, to send us in the info. We used to get up-to-date info on the stars mainly from the STW newsletter, but due to a mix-up we've not had a copy in months. This means that we need you to send us any info you get. It does make our job easier if you can lay out the info ready to put straight in the newsletter if you don't send the full cutting - see how Karen Pearce and Ann Neilson did it for INFO ON THE STARS. Please let us know anything you hear.

SOME TIME AGO I WROTE TO YOU ASKING IF YOU KNEW WHAT A SET OF NUMBERS ON THE SECONDARY HULL OF THE ENTERPRISE WERE FOR. ALL THAT WAS FOUND OUT ABOUT THEM WAS THAT THEY WERE 'A SERIES OF TECHNICAL MARKINGS' - HAS ANY MORE LIGHT BEEN CAST UPON THIS ENIGMATIC SUBJECT? We're afraid not. You'll just have to accept that as your answer, anything further is likely to be pure speculation.

HOW ABOUT SUGGESTING A CONCENTRATED LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN TO GENE RODDENBERRY ASKING IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE EITHER FOR A PREVIEW OF THE ST MOTION PICTURE (WHEN FINALLY COMPLETED) FOR ALL THE BRITISH STAR TREK CLUB MEMBERS, OR PERHAPS ARRANGE FOR THE CINEMAS WHERE THE FILM IS FIRST TO BE SHOWN TO BLOCK BOOK THE FIRST FEW PERFORMANCES. I REALISE TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION ALL THE WAY TO, SAY, LONDON WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR MANY, SO HOW ABOUT MAYBE EVEN A GRAND CONVENTION WITH THE FILM, IN THREE OR FOUR SITTINGS, AS THE MAIN ATTRACTION? Firstly - we do not want a letter campaign to Gene Roddenberry. Gene has been with the fans all the way with the movie. We don't need to tell him what we want - he already knows. Also, he is busy with the post production of the movie; this is a very important stage and we don't want to hinder him and his staff with excess mail. If there was any way Gene could get all the STAR TREK fans together from all over the world and premier the movie, he would. But some things just aren't possible. Let us be grateful that we've been promised a simultaneous release across the English speaking world. This means we'll have the chance to see the movie at the same time as everyone else. As to block booking cinemas - we will look into this, but no promises. At the most we could block book one cinema for one performance. Running a con to coincide is out of the question as far as STAG is concerned, we just couldn't cope, although we are perfectly willing to support anyone who does. Also with booking hotels etc you really need to start arranging a con about a year in advance and prices in the London area are exorbitant.

ANY CHANCE OF ARTWORK IN THE NEWSLETTER OR WOULD IT COST TOO MUCH?

The club could afford to print two or three pieces of artwork during a year; unfortunately we don't have much artwork that would be suitable for a newsletter and anyway, we can't really afford the space.

COULD WE HAVE A SPOT IN THE NEWSLETTER WHERE OUR HONORARY MEMBERS COULD CONTRIBUTE?

Gene and Susan often do by giving us information; we've also had contact this last year with Jimmy Doohan and Grace Lee Whitney. Remember these people are all very busy; they get the newsletters and will no doubt contact us if they have any info for us. We are probably only one of a large number of clubs who have them as honorary members.

COULD THE NEWSLETTERS COME OUT EVERY MONTH?

You must be joking! It takes us a lot of time and effort to get them out bi-monthly. It isn't only the compiling and printing the newsletter which takes time but also getting all the address labels done and the wrappers sorted out and checked. We send out nearly 700 newsletters; processing and wrapping time is the same whether the newsletter is 10 pages long or 20. It now takes us a fortnight to get a newsletter out (at one time it took us nearer three weeks, when Janet was in Dorset) and during that time everything else is dropped; and with only two weeks out of every four to work in, we couldn't get as many zines out as we now do - and quite frankly, membership dues do not cover the cost of running the club. We need income from sales - and that means zines - if the club is to remain viable. With a monthly newsletter, as well, club dues would have to be doubled, especially if we didn't have a supplementary income, and this could very well price the club out of some members' pockets.

STAG/EMPATHY MIDICON

For us, of course, the con started months ago; we even had reached the point of wishing it was still some weeks away, there seemed to be so much else to do. Then, a fortnight before the con, came the bad news - winter had returned. Roads in the Borders and the North of England were blocked. Janet started quietly panicking. Sheila tried to keep calm...until the Thursday before the con when the roads south were still blocked. Then she started panicking. However, reports on the Friday were better..

We had made arrangements to go down separately; Janet travelled with Nicola Moore, who spent the Thursday night with her. They spent the evening putting the badges into the envelopes and making last minute alterations, got to bed about midnight and were up bright(?) and early next morning, managing to get away just before 9am.

They reached Leeds about 4.40pm and had no trouble finding the hotel. While Nickie went in search of her roommate, Janet got her room key and with the help of some stewards got everything up to the room.

Sheila had to work on Friday, but managed to slip away at lunchtime. Valerie had come through on Thursday to travel down with her; we packed everything in the evening and then spent the rest of Thursday wondering what we'd forgotten.

We were somewhat startled by the depth of snow at the sides of the road as we went over the A68 - Tow Law, north of Darlington, must have been completely paralysed for a while by the depth of snow that still lay window-deep on the pavements. However, the roads themselves were clear and we arrived safely just after 6pm.

First thing Sheila did was organise a chain gang to cart our boxes of goodies from the car park to the sales room - thanks, girls! Setting up the sales tables took a little longer than we'd hoped - there weren't enough tables in the room and Janet had to chase up the hotel to get more. Then - as always - the room plan was adapted to try to fit in an extra table... (We did, too! With the help of a porter and some stewards (thanks to all of you) and some suggestions from Rog Peyton, we managed to get the room set up in time for opening to dealers at 7.30.) The room was locked at 10.30 and we decided to go out for a meal. The only place open was an Italian restaurant and we thoroughly enjoyed the meal. We then went back to the hotel and Janet phoned Paramount to speak to Susan Sackett. They had a great natter and Susan told us how things were going with the movie. Gene was in Washington, DC, and he was going to a dinner that evening where he was to get an award. We think Susan said it was the National Space Club Award, and we'll try to find out from Gene or Susan exactly what it is and let you all know. Susan would have loved to be over here at the con and we think we are going to have to try and arrange that for a future con. Sheila and Sylvia also had a chat with Susan during which she mentioned to Sylvia that they were opening up the Bridge set to take film of 'hands operating controls and pushing buttons'. The evening ended up with a quiet party with friends in our room and we managed to get to bed early - around 2.30am!

Saturday started early - too early! But we wanted breakfast and there was soon going to be work to do. Valerie was called away early for the sales room, and Sheila took time to have a quick glance round the tables before gathering her personal stewards and going to get the projectors and films, as we wanted to test both projectors and get one set up for the first film. (We believe in keeping our options as wide open as possible - when we show films we take two projectors and in this case we had 6 spare bulbs, none of which we needed). The night before the Brigante Suite had been split into three sections, two of which were in use and after Manchester when some of the stewards and committee had to set up the room we're not sure just what we expected to find. It was almost a shock to find the room completely ready and Chris Chivers and Jerome Perkins already checking equipment. The testing of the projectors, etc, went well, with only a minor hold up getting a cable long enough to reach the mike at the front of the hall, and after the opening ceremony and Susan's tape the first episode started off on time. We broke up for lunch with a feeling of satisfaction, although Janet was beginning to be concerned that everything was going too smoothly.

The hotel provided some good food at reasonable prices for lunch. After it, Anne McCaffrey spoke for an hour - a very interesting talk, and she also answered some questions. After this we ran into the first snag.

There were wires all down the middle of the hall and a steward accidentally stood on one of these and broke a joining plug. The next film was slightly held up while everyone concerned with the audio-visual side of things searched frantically for insulating tape

to do a temporary repair. We could probably have done without it, but we were scared that if the bared wires touched the carpet we'd blow something. This threw the programme about ten minutes late; and because Anne Page wanted a little extra time to rehearse the fancy dress entrants, we had decided to put the next film forward half an hour. The result was that we had only about twenty minutes for the panel of club committees. None of the committee members roped in for the panel were particularly keen, although we still think this is a good idea and hope that it will be done at a future con as it gives you all a chance to ask us questions, so we decided to miss it out, thus bringing ourselves back on time. Some people missed the announcement at the opening ceremony that Tribbles was to be put forward, and although it was put on the notice board in the foyer as well, someone unknown rubbed it out to make space for another announcement. We can only say 'sorry about that' and try to make sure that nothing like that happens again; on Sunday we made sure the altered film times were kept on the board.

After the tea break came the fancy dress and the disco. The fancy dress was excellent, with a wider range of entrants than some cons have had, and the winners well deserved their awards. We didn't stay long at the disco; the noise is more than we can take, and we ended us, after talking to some of you in reception, having a relaxing evening with one or two friends, just talking. But bedtime was still about 3am...

Sunday started with a minor panic. Chris informed us that the speakers weren't working after the disco but that he was going to try and sort out the problem. When Janet remembered the date she wondered whether he was having us on but then she decided he was looking too serious for that. They found that the amplifier was working, but the speakers were dead. Luckily we had Janet's speaker for the 8mm projectors and the 16mm projector had its own speaker too, and we ended up with a sound system Chris patched together from these two speakers, which is why the sound on Sunday wasn't so good as it was on Saturday - we couldn't put the volume up too loud on the small ones as it would have distorted the sound and maybe have blown those two speakers as well.

After the first film came the auction. Rog Peyton as auctioneer could sell - well, the traditional description is 'refrigerators to Eskimos'. He even managed to sell a book with several pages missing and the empty cardboard box 'everything came in', autographed by himself! Many thanks to Beth for organising the auction so efficiently.

In the afternoon the fashion show was due to start at 2.15 but was delayed till 2.45 due to a few problems including that of getting some of the collections there. Poor Dot and Cath spent a lot of time making costumes over the weekend. Dot would have been ready before but her duplicator was giving trouble and this meant that it took her more than double the time it should have to get the zines ready for the con and put her behind. We sympathise as we've had problems with a bad batch of paper in the past and it really is soul-destroying; a job that should take 8 hours can end up taking 24.

Even with Dot and Cath having to finish their costumes at the con we thought both their collections very good. We didn't see all of the fashion show but what we did see was excellent, and we think everyone enjoyed it.

We were short of one judge for the fashion show and Anne suggested we get a fairly new fan to judge, one who hadn't been to a con before and wouldn't know any of the models. Janet immediately decided on Doreen Twivey. Doreen hasn't been into fandom very long but she is very keen; in fact she was Janet's steward during the con. Doreen didn't know why she was called to the back of the hall and was rather surprised to find herself being asked to judge. She enjoyed it but we're not sure if she's forgiven Janet yet - Janet reckons she'll need to watch in case Doreen tries to get her own back.

Tom Baker was due on next, but unfortunately he couldn't come as he was tied up at the BBC. Because of this we brought forward the next film and followed it by fitting in Let That Be Your Last Battlefield. We managed in fact to catch up the lost half hour, partly due to the help Sheila got from her two stewards, who had everything ready for her as she needed it - many thanks, Sue and Pamela, and we'll want you again next con! The award ceremony was held up fractionally waiting for the results of Alnitah's Grand Tribble Contest, a bit of fun where Janet's family pet Trib got a special mention. Sheila had a tribble entered too - a birthday present from Nicola Moore, who won the Best in Show award with a magnificent white tribble. Dot Owens was slightly embarrassed to win two things in STAG's raffle - it looked almost bad, a committee member getting two things, but of course Dot bought tickets as a STAG member! We had tried a trivia quiz at the con with everyone getting a questionnaire but it wasn't a success as we only had about 14 answer sheets handed in. We probably made it too difficult but we had to have some difficult questions to be sure of getting an outright winner.

We were sorry to say goodbye to all of those who had to go home on Sunday night but since quite a large number were staying on we showed Squire of Gothos at 7pm. After it finished a group of us cleared the last of the sales room as we were having a birthday party there for Anne McCaffrey and Sheila. It was birthday weekend, in fact; there had been a couple on Saturday, Anne and Sheila on Sunday, there was at least one on Monday and Carol Keogh, whose birthday was on Thursday, produced a magnificent and very good cake. Rog read extracts from the book *Psychic Power of Pyramids* (we're threatening to make him read from *Meaning in Star Trek* next time) which had us all falling about, then Chris Chivers led a song session that everyone enjoyed. The party finally broke up when Chris's voice gave out, and we went on to a room party with Dolores Whitbred and some others. (Some of Chris's songs are available on a limited edition cassette he was selling at the con, but not his ST one 'I don't want to join the Enterprise' which is Janet's favourite) Bedtime proved to be about 4am...

Valerie, Sheila and Janet had decided to stay at the hotel till Tuesday to give us a chance to unwind so on Monday it gave us a chance to see most people off. We found this much better psychologically than having to rush off ourselves. We went out late morning to the Golden Egg for a meal but on studying the prices decided we would get much better value back at the hotel. So we went back to have lunch there. Anne Page joined us as she was waiting for her train and it was nice to sit and relax and have a chat.

In the afternoon we went over to Dot's in Halifax and then to Keighley to see Peter Fryer and watch - you've guessed it, *Star Trek on Video*... We saw *Journey to Babel*, *Operation Annihilate* and *Mirror Mirror*. We enjoyed watching these - Janet had been waiting to watch *Babel* for months as it's her favourite episode. (Kirk bleeds so nicely...)

We got back to the hotel at 1am Tuesday morning - a little later than we've originally intended! - but Janet read until about 3... It's therefore no surprise that we slept in slightly on Tuesday, so that we were an hour later than we'd hoped getting away. On the other hand, since Valerie was returning by train, it gave her less time waiting on her own. We went to Dundee first, picked up Sheila's mail, and then headed on for Lochgilphead. And we've only just about recovered now - Sunday 8th.

This is the first con we've had anything to do with and we would like to say it was a pleasure running a joint con with such a good committee. We would like to say a special thank you to Dot for arranging everything so well with the hotel, Anne for organising the fancy dress and fashion show, Chris for bringing his equipment and looking after the audio side and to all the stewards. Also the hotel staff deserve a big thank you for doing their best to see that we had everything we required and who were very helpful. The Dragonara is definitely the best hotel we've had a con at.

Janet & Sheila

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The convention began for me on Friday afternoon, sitting in the hotel foyer talking to all the other fans who'd had the sense to arrive early. By evening I'd met many of my old Trekfriends, and a few new ones. I was too excited to sleep much that night, and was up bright and early to start enjoying Saturday.

The programme of events started at 10.30, but before that I'd spent an hour and a fair amount of money in the dealers' room, buying mostly zines and a couple of books, including, at last, 'The White Dragon'. Being an Anne McCaffrey fan, I'd heard so much about this latest book of hers in the past months that I couldn't wait to get it in paperback now it has finally been published in Britain. So, an expensive buy...but well worth it! Actually I'm surprised I didn't buy more: obviously experience is teaching me control!

The opening ceremony included a half-hour tape by Susan Sackett, Gene's assistant, about the *Star Trek* film: most of it seemed to be correcting strange rumours that had been spread and we didn't learn a great deal new (editor's comment - of course, they're not allowed to say much about the movie - all that they're allowed to say probably has been publicised already). A showing of both parts of *Menagerie* followed: once again I was impressed to see *Star Trek* on the big screen.

After lunch came our Guest of Honour's talk, and as always Anne was super (O.K., so I'm biased - but aside from loving her books I do think she has a great personality) telling of her amusing experiences and answering questions about her writing.

After the next episode, the panel of club committees was dropped - things were running slightly late (as all conventions tend to do: it's traditional!) - and *The Trouble*

with Tribbles was shown next. So good to see old favourites like that after what seems such a long time.

Then, after a good long break for food, discussion, gloating over purchases etc, the evening festivities got under way. The Fancy Dress Parade was really good; the costumes just get better from year to year making decisions extremely hard for the judges. This time many costumes were from Star Trek episodes, lovingly and accurately reproduced. Rather ironically, though, the prize for 'best in TV series' went to a very elegant Servalan! (BBC series Blakes Seven) The original designs, including a galactic hitch-hiker, a fantasy heroine and a smart black-and-silver uniformed space patrolman, were of equally good quality.

After this I changed for the disco; this took a little while to liven up. Gradually, though, as the DJ's voice weakened, we were able to get the music we wanted. Nondescript (to my mind) disco tunes were replaced by the BBo's Space Themes album, 'I lost my heart to a Starship trooper' and other singalong tracks like 'YMCA' and 'In the Navy' which we swiftly altered to 'In the Starfleet'! I danced till exhaustion set in, cooled down with lemonade and fell into bed at about one o'clock. There was still another day to go! Sunday morning came. Getting up took longer than last time but I made it, ensured I had missed nothing in the dealer's room and rather than watching Miri relaxed in the foyer for a while. Someone was playing a tape of the beautiful music from 'Silent Running', one of the loveliest of films, so I listened contentedly to that.

Feeling more alive by eleven, I then sat through the auction. I never dare to bid, but Rog Peyton as auctioneer is not to be missed. This time he was on top form, selling an empty cardboard box (autographed by him!) and several copies of dud books. First it was a book by James Blish with the first twenty pages missing; next, 'UFOs: Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind' - quite seriously claiming that weird aliens are landing and having sexual relations with Earth people. The extracts Rog read out had the audience in stitches. And this phenomenon was repeated with 'The Psychic Power of Pyramids' to the extent that Rog actually fell off the platform laughing. He managed to sell three or four copies of this 'rare and scholarly work'.

On display at the con were a large variety of models, ranging from plastic kits of Space 1999's Eagles and Star Wars X-wings to a lovely sculpture of Mnemeth, the bronze dragon, and his rider from Anne McCaffrey's books. Little artwork was in evidence, though, but of the few pencil drawings of Star Trek characters most were very good indeed. In the next room were entries for Alnitah's Grand Tribble Show, complete with pun-filled pedigrees! This seemed to be a very popular innovation.

The Fashion Show was the main event of the afternoon, and as with the Fancy Dress the standard is improving from year to year. The winning collection this time was remarkable in that it portrayed four totally non-humanoid races effectively without trying to hide the models' Human form, rather as is done in ballet. Also, for the first time, there was a collection with no commentary at all: simple mime was enough for the story of a band of exploring Klingons thrown into utter chaos by their unintentional involvement with a sack full of tribbles! All the costumes were splendid and each collection very well presented: I'm very glad I didn't have to do the judging!

I thought that would be the last highlight of the con. It was not. A birthday celebration had been planned in the evening, for Anne McCaffrey and Sheila Clark. Empathy had given Anne, earlier in the day, a ceramic dragon, and at the party Sheila presented her with six whisky glasses on behalf of STAG.

The party was a success. It began with a swing, as someone had discovered a piano in the adjoining storeroom and dragged it out. Another musical soul produced a mouth-organ and Anne led the company in 'When Irish Eyes Are Smiling', 'Danny Boy' etc. Others followed with Star Trek songs of a humorous nature.

The birthday cake was huge, decorated with an IDIC and a delicate shade of blue. Inside it proved to have even stranger colouration, and several people were reluctant to sample it!

At about eleven o'clock I felt exhaustion setting in again, but as I was preparing to leave Rog Peyton produced copies of his Pyramid Power book, which he handed out, and then proceeded to read from. After ten minutes he was laughing too much to go on and Anne took over. All over the room people started finding passages, or having hysterics, falling through doors, rolling on the floor... The funniest part was that such books are published and taken seriously! Anyway, for about an hour hilarity reigned as various people read from The Book. At last someone folded a napkin into a pyramid shape and bowed to it a

couple of times, then stamped on it! "Right," said Rog, gathering his books. "What am I bid for this priceless volume...?" But by then I could take no more, and staggered to bed. (Someone later put a pyramid outside Rog's bedroom door - editor)
So that was the con, and I think it was the best I've ever been to. The atmosphere was great, everyone just friends - or was it family? Roll on October!

Jay Felton

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CON COMPETITION AWARDS

Fancy Dress	Best costume	Robin Hill
	Best alien	Susan Goddard
	Best from TV series	Pat Thomas
	Best dressed girl	Kate Davies
	Best male entry	Phillip Brinkley
Fashion Show	Best collection	Kate Davies
	Best costume	Kate Davies
	Best model	Cheryl Ellington
	Best alien	Christine Jones
	Best script	Pat Thomas
	Highly commended	The Baddies - Marion Allsebrook
Fiction	1st Distress Call	Yvonne Jenkins, Ceri Murphy, Rita Oliver, Gladys Oliver.
	2nd The Planet	Therese Holmes
	Commended Klara	Josephine Timmins
Poetry	1st Deathscram	Susan Meek
	2nd Hybrid Birth	Gladys Oliver
	Commended Mother of her Race	Janet Balch
	Dream Time	Sandie Cowden
	Beaches	Susan Meek
Art	Painting/sketch	Richard Gardner
	Models	Paul Holroyd
	Other media	Christine Hall
Trivia	1st Margaret Bazell	64½/75
	2nd Sue Toher	62/75
Grand Tribble Show	Family pet	Special mention No 76 Trib, Janet Quarton 2nd No. 65 Alnitah, Margaret Draper Best of Breed No. 49 Arcturus, Valerie Galliers
	Short-haired Terran	2nd No. 33 Fang the Terrible, Margaret Devonshire 1st No. 11 Ben, Carole Cooper
	Long-haired Terran	Special mention No. 54 Suzy Jones 4, Richard Rowe 2nd No. 22 Festus Quintillius Maximus the 41st, Penny Lansdale
	Foreign	1st No. 51 Moonshine Mirhil of Rivendell, Nicola Moore 2nd No. 88 Stoned of Vulcan, Theo Skeat
	Best of Show	1st No. 67 Selenius Spinifex 3rd, Sandie Cowden No. 51 Moonshine Mirhil of Rivendell, Nicola Moore

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Yorkshire Post Monday April 2nd 1979

STAR DINNER FOR WRITER

About 400 science-fiction fans took over the Dragonara Hotel, Leeds, at the weekend, for the sixth annual Star Trek convention. They held a birthday dinner last night for their guest, the American authoress Anne McCaffrey. Her latest book "The White Dragon" is top of the New York Times hardback bestseller list.

The two-day Leeds convention featured Star Trek films banned on British TV because they were considered unsuitable for family viewing.

(NB Anne McCaffrey is Irish, not American - when will papers get their facts right?)

AUSSIETREK

Aussietrek, the result of three years' long planning, was held over the weekend of March 10/11th at the Menzies Hotel in Sydney. Guest of honour was George Takei; Jim Doohan had to bow out due to other commitments. The Menzies is one of Sydney's fancier hotels, right in the heart of the city, and I dare say has seldom witnessed such a peculiar gathering. Attendees came from all over Australia, as well as Britain, America and Hong Kong; there were about 300 in attendance.

Not all of us could afford the Menzies so many fans were in hotels around the city - I was in this category. Being forced to commute between the two hotels gave me a thorough grounding in the idiosyncracies of Sydney's underground rail circuit, especially since I was attired in full Klingon uniform on a typical hot and humid Sydney summer day. Arriving bright and early for the opening of registrations at 8.30 on Saturday, we found a great crowd waiting, many in costume, and there was much greeting of old friends from previous gatherings. Registered, and adorned with 'boarding passes' (the first time a Klingon commander has ever been designated a cadet in Starfleet, I dare say!) we went on to the dealers' room, and the art room. Business was exceedingly brisk in the dealers' room, with the leading clubs of each state being represented as well as sellers of ST merchandise. I bought quite a few local zines I'd been meaning to buy but never got around to as well as some T-shirts made by Astrex member Mike McGann, a talented artist, which had original Dr. Who, Star Trek, D&D and other designs on them.

There was some excellent art on display in the art room, much of it for sale. I was lucky to buy a really excellent portrait of Tom Baker as Dr. Who.

At 10am we filed into the Ballroom for the official opening. Karen Lewis, the Chairperson, began by thanking everyone for coming and saying what a true realisation of a dream it was to have all of us ST fans from all over in one place. She then handed the MCing over to someone else who introduced fan guest of honour, Diane Marchant of Melbourne, who is the Australian Welcommittee rep. Diane spoke briefly about the new movie and showed pictures from it plus photos taken of the floral design Australian fans sent the cast & crew of the film at the start of shooting. The photo of the floral design (of the Enterprise) was autographed with thanks from - if memory serves - Gene Roddenberry, Walter Koenig and George Takei.

After Diane came a speech from the other fan guest of honour, Susan Clarke, president of Astrex, Australia's oldest continuing fan club. Susan gave a brief talk on the history of Trek fandom in Australia and the growth of the fan clubs. She concluded by remarking on how nice it was that all the clubs co-operate so well and help each other out.

Karen then introduced George Takei who took a bow. He looked quite stunning - so bright, vital and tanned, with a white suit on and grinning from ear to ear. He did not speak then, though. Then the Con Committee were introduced.

Next, Catspaw was shown and then it was time for lunch. If I ate anything, I really don't remember. Typical con-goer.

After lunch, George Takei gave his speech. He spoke for the best part of an hour. As he was bound not to say anything that would reveal too much of the plot, he told amusing anecdotes of isolated incidents and aired, quite candidly, his views on the new uniform. He disliked the unisex look, saying that men and women should enjoy each other's physical differences and not try to look the same. This led into a discussion of women's lib, which he supported, but, he said, he did not like it when it destroyed plain courtesy and the conventions of civilisation. He also mentioned some of the practical difficulties of the new uniforms - like getting into them! One type was so tight that it had to be put on by someone else while the actor wore a silk bag over his head so that the uniform did not rub off his make-up on the way over his face.

Next came a talk on cosmology and the possibility of life on other planets, well illustrated by slides. When that was concluded there was an autograph session in one of the other rooms. When I went up to the desk George was sitting at in my Klingon uniform, he said 'You're a fierce one, aren't you?' So I told him I was one of the more peaceful ones. Anyway, he signed my programme then we had our picture taken, seated together with his arm round my shoulders and me giving a Klingon salute. I thought it an excellent idea that the committee had the forethought to arrange for everyone to have their picture taken with George (if they wanted to and at a price) when they got their autograph. It meant that every single person at the con had the chance to speak with him personally and be photographed with him.

How could I forget to mention - it was one of the highlights of the con - the auction,

handled in his inimitable style by the ever-behatted Keith Curtis. Needless to say, a lot of Trek stuff went off, including some zines I'd always wanted and which I managed to buy (O/P US zines) However, the really big prices went for books and annuals connected with the various Gerry Anderson TV series. They have a big following among certain fans. Also up for auction were some excellent masks of the Salt Vampire from Man Trap, which fitted over the whole head, made by a fan.

Back to my hotel after the autograph session, grabbing a meal on the way, to change into costume for the masquerade to be held at 8.30. I had to negotiate the transport system among the Saturday night jobs out for a good time in town. As I sailed onto Town Hall Station in full rig as Darth Vader, black cloak and robes streaming behind me, some dingbat yelled 'Superman!' Hardly. Wrong colour clothes, wrong species, wrong alignment, wrong film...

The costumes in the parade were excellent and some amusing, with a wide selection from various SF films, as well as some costumes people had made up. A cameraman from a TV station and from a magazine were there, taking pictures. For some reason the TV man picked on me and insisted I dance for his camera. Vader costumes are not made for boogying in, not on a hot Sydney night...

Much later we adjourned to a room party - the usual 30 people packed into a tiny room, all clustered round George who was holding forth. Part way through, he was presented with a doll of a swagman and much time was consumed in explaining this piece of Australian folklore. I'm sure the poor man was twice as confused as before when we'd finished!

Sunday started late, mercifully. There was a repeat of the clever film clip constructed from ST slides and music used for the opening ceremony, a talk on UFOs and Balance of Terror. In the afternoon the auction was concluded, then came some short films which included a 1940s Superman cartoon - beautiful colours and superb animation even if the story was a little gung-ho. The real hit was a film 'Hardware Wars'. This was a hilarious parody of SW, using irons, toasters and the like to represent the spaceships and boasting such characters as Augie Ben Doggie (complete with Boris Karloff accent) Princess Ann Droid (who had real buns for hair) Fluke Starbuckler whose conversation was limited to 'Gee! Gosh! Gollie!', Ham Salad and the Wookie Monster (a muppet cookie monster).

Then we had a talk on special effects in films by Richard Bradley, head of Driftaway Productions. He had just come back from overseas where he had talked with the spfx men who did/are doing Superman, Moonraker and the like. He answered questions from the audience on such things as the flying sequences in Superman.

As Spock's Brain was on next, we decided to adjourn for dinner. Anyway, my friend and I both had to come back at 6pm as she wanted to see Man Trap and I had to see Karen about a little bit of byplay to come at the end of my talk. This was at 6.30 when I presented a paper on Klingons - a straight look at Klingons as they appear in scripts and not in fan fabrications. It went down very well.

George came on again for a Q&A session. He answered questions about the movie - as far as he could. He also spoke of his forthcoming book and asked us to back him up over its title. He originally wanted to call it 'In the Image Of...' but that didn't suit the publisher who thought 'Revolt of the Robots' sounded better. Then she suggested 'Star Killer' as trendier and wants it to come out along with the ST movie but he doesn't want that kind of exploitation. He want us to support him in calling it 'Terminal Saboteur', writing to Sharon Jarvis, Playboy Book Division, 7473rd Avenue, New York City, NY.

At the conclusion of his talk, he was presented with a gift-wrapped boomerang which he, in true Sulu style, wanted to try out immediately... He then presented the prizes to the art and costume winners.

All in all, the con seems to have been a great success with everyone enjoying themselves.

Nikki White

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 Sorry we had to cut your account of Aussietrek, Nikki - this N/L is already becoming a monster! - Sheila.

.....
 Val Rogers adds to Nikki's account - "When Paramount became paranoid, because of the stolen Enterprise plans and having to call in the FBI, our local TV channel 9 was ordered to back down on their promise to run a Star Trek marathon for us. No one was even allowed to mention the words Star Trek...and we were ordered to soft-pedal on our advertising for the convention... but using the grapevine, we were practically booked out."

AN OUTLINE OF THE PROBABLE LIFE OF COMMANDER SPOCK

by Sheila Clark and Valerie Piacentini

- Parents** Sarek of Vulcan, one time Ambassador to Earth (1) and Amanda Grayson (2), a teacher (3). No explanation for this marriage has ever been recorded, Sarek's only comment being "It seemed the logical thing to do" (4). Fan speculation on the marriage mostly indicates a belief that Sarek suffered (entered) pon farr while on Earth and Amanda mated with him on that occasion, the marriage ceremony taking place either immediately before or very soon after. No official record has ever been made public, however.
- Name** Spock, like Sarek, seems to use his given name in dealing with Humans; the family name is impossible for them to pronounce (3,4,5)
- Childhood** Nothing is known of Spock's birth or early years apart from Sarek's assurance that he was, in effect, a 'test-tube' baby (6) - probably necessary because of the genetic differences between Human and Vulcan. It has been firmly stated (7) that he has no siblings, either full or half. In view of these genetic differences it seems very probable that Human/Vulcan hybrids are rare, despite a number of fan-written stories assuming them to be relatively common. The taunts Spock suffered as a child (2,4) tend to support the view that he is one of a kind, or one of a very small minority. The first positive information we have on Spock's childhood is that at the age of 7 he undertook the Kahswan, a test involving survival (2). He realised at this time that he could choose to be Human, but in a personal test he decided that he preferred Vulcan. At this time his pet sehlat died, which may have affected his decision if he felt that Vulcan philosophy helped him to accept this loss. Having chosen the Vulcan way of life, he was bonded at the same age to T'Pring (8). This marriage, arranged by the parents of the children, was probably for social or possibly economic reasons and we are given no reason to suppose that the children even knew each other or were given any opportunity to get to know each other thereafter. Indeed, when an adult, the only portrait Spock is known to possess of T'Pring shows her at seven (8). Little else is known of his childhood, except that his father gave him his first instruction in computer technology (4).
- Starfleet** It is not known when Spock's interest in Starfleet began, or why, but at or about 18 he entered Starfleet Academy. Sarek disapproved of his decision, wishing him to enter the Vulcan Science Academy as Sarek himself and his father before him had done; he marked his displeasure by refusing to accept Spock as his son, and for the next 18 years they had little, if any, contact. Spock did not completely lose touch with home; he is known to have visited occasionally, presumably to see Amanda (4). At the Academy Spock met and became friendly with Leila Kalomi (3), who fell in love with him. Spock, however, was unable to return her affections; undoubtedly this was in part due to T'Pring, but it is also possible that despite his apparent physical maturity he had not yet reached puberty - Amok Time would seem to indicate his first experience of pon farr. This could also explain his apparent immunity to the disease contracted by Kirk and the other members of the landing party on Miri's planet. (9) It is probable that his first assignment was to the USS Enterprise under Captain Pike at age 23. His career was distinguished enough for him to gain several medals; Vulcan Scientific Legion of Honour; Award of Valour; twice decorated by Starfleet Command (10). (There is no record of his being awarded any while serving under Captain Kirk.) Early in this period - he at this time held the rank of lieutenant - the Enterprise approached Talos IV (11) and he was closely concerned with the events there, and with the attempts to rescue Captain Pike. It is interesting to note that at this time his behaviour showed certain Human characteristics which he later shed. There has never been any logical reason put forward for this paradoxical fact, but it is possible that in his early days among Humans Spock tried to win acceptance by behaving in a Human

manner, but abandoned the attempt after realising that they would never think of him as anything but Vulcan. It is also possible that his smile to Pike in 'The Cage' may have been an effect of the ringing plant he was examining at the time rather than a voluntary response.

Spock's precise attitude to Captain Pike is open to speculation. Certainly he felt for Pike considerable loyalty such as all Vulcans give their commanding officers, and was trusted in return - in 'Menagerie' Pike permitted him to stay, although he rejected the presence of Kirk and McCoy. Was it only loyalty, or was it friendship, that impelled Spock to risk his very life by taking the ship back to Talos IV in defiance of General Order No. 7? (11a) And to complicate the paradox further, although his friendship and concern for Kirk is well established, (12) he is known to have said "When I feel friendship for you, I am ashamed" (13). Ashamed of the friendship, or of the Human blood which allowed him to feel such an emotion?

After 11 years under Pike, Spock found himself with a new commanding officer, James T. Kirk. It has not been recorded whether Spock was at first unhappy about the change, but he quickly adapted to it and his first recorded relationship with Kirk is over a game of chess (14).

At this point in his career Spock's rank and position on the ship are uncertain. It has not been clearly established

- 1) When he was promoted to Lieutenant-commander, then to full Commander
- 2) When he became First Officer. In *Enemy Within* he describes himself as 'Second officer' though this may in fact simply be a way of saying 'second in command'.

Another example of the confusion over his rank occurs in 'Court Martial' where he is described as Lieutenant-commander and First Officer, although all pictures available of incidents prior to that occurrence show him as wearing the rings of a full Commander. There are two possible explanations,

- a) The events of that time occurred earlier than the record indicates, or
- b) Unlikely as it seems that it would pass uncorrected in Court, Starfleet Records still had not registered his promotion.

The first possibility would appear more likely except for the change in uniform that occurred between Stardates 1312 and 1329, and the fact that Kirk's Court Martial is dated 2947. All lines of speculation seem equally unproductive, and it has proved impossible to get any clarification of this matter from any official source.

Commander Spock was 35 when his first pon farr affected him (8). There is no record of whether this was the normal age, or unusually early due to his Human blood, but as T'Pring appeared to have reached full maturity it appears that it was in fact the normal age. T'Pring behaved very badly over this and only McCoy's quick thinking retrieved the situation and saved Kirk's life. The Vulcan attitude is interesting here as T'Pau permitted the combat even though she was aware that Kirk did not know the fight was to the death. For a time Spock believed that he had killed his Captain, and he was willing to suffer punishment for it. The combat, plus the shock of believing his friend dead having shaken him back to normal, the discovery that Kirk was still alive after all on top of everything else provided the only recorded occasion on which Spock actually smiled without any alien influence causing it.

The absence of Commander Spock's parents on the occasion of his marriage may be taken to indicate the depth of his estrangement from Sarek (though it should be noted that as far as can be ascertained T'Pring's parents were not present either.) Father and son were reconciled when Spock provided blood for a transfusion when Sarek required heart surgery to save his life (4) although there is no clear reason why this should have influenced Sarek's judgement, as it did not show him that Spock's choice was the correct one for him. It may have been - as Amanda thought - that Sarek was proud of the career Spock had made for himself, and grasped the first opportunity to be reconciled without loss of face. Spock, like all Vulcans, proved to be a touch telepath (15). It is probable that in full-blooded Vulcans this ability is stronger than in a hybrid. Spock normally shows reluctance to use this ability but this may be due to his unwillingness to invade another's personal privacy. It also appears to be a considerable drain on his strength (16) but this may be due to his having to overcome reluctance on the part of the 'victim' - there was little strain shown when he was recorded as having melded when the 'victim' was a willing participant in a normal frame of mind (15).

The paradox here is that Spock remained totally unaffected by the barrier at the edge of the Galaxy (14) and yet he must have had the highest ESP rating on the ship. This may be an area in which Humans are affected, Vulcans immune.

The incident with Murasaki 312 is stated as being 'his first command' (17) though it would seem more accurate to say it was his first command out of contact with the ship. Spock seemed slightly inadequate in that situation, possibly because he had not yet learned to compensate for Human emotions. On subsequent occasions when command fell on him, he acted decisively, and though his reasons were not always understood - particularly by McCoy - his course of action proved effective.(18).

Though his considerable experience would qualify him for command, Spock seems more interested in remaining as a scientist. He has stated that he has no desire for command (19). There has been considerable speculation on how far other considerations - personal loyalty to Kirk, self-doubt as to his ability to command Humans as the ultimate authority - have influenced this attitude.

* * * * *

- 1) Concordance quotes Amok Time
- 2) Yesteryear
- 3) This Side of Paradise
- 4) Journey to Babel
- 5) D.C. Fontana
- 6) Record - Inside Star Trek
- 7) Making of Star Trek
- 8) Amok Time
- 9) Miri
- 10) Court Martial
- 11) The Cage
- 11a) Menagerie
- 12) Tholian Web, Bread & Circuses, etc.
- 13) Naked Time
- 14) Where No Man Has Gone Before
- 15) Spectre of the Gun, Turnabout Intruder, and others
- 16) Changling, By Any Other Name and others
- 17) Galileo 7
- 18) Tholian Web, Paradise Syndrome
- 19) Several episodes; Mirror Mirror gives the alternate Spock's point of view, and there is no reason to suppose that it is different.

WHAT HAPPENED TO WALTER KOENIG?

I wonder did you watch Columbo on Monday 25th January, which featured William Shatner. This was on STV, so most people will not have seen it then. Funny, I could have sworn I saw Walter Koenig's name on the credits, but I never saw him in the programme.

Peter McGuire

* * * * *

This Columbo episode has been shown pretty well country-wide by now; I saw it some months ago (on Grampian). Peter isn't the first person to ask where Walter was. Walter Koenig had a very short appearance right at the beginning as a policeman standing in the background - so short that if you blinked you were liable to miss him. Since William Shatner was involved in the same scene, and carrying the action, most viewers' eyes would be fixed on him. Janet missed seeing Walter; it was sheer chance that I spotted him. Sheila.

KLINGONS?

Out of the mouths of babes - at the school of which I am deputy headmaster, the teacher of one of the primary 7 classes where most of the boys are ST fans recently gave her class a general knowledge quiz. One question was 'What are the inhabitants of Ceylon called?'

A boy (known as Spock to his mates) replied, 'Klingons, Miss!'

Charles Goodall

SOLE SURVIVOR

A brilliant performance by Shatner, who bares his chest more than once (much to the delight of Janet?). The film on the whole lacked something, I think mainly the appearance of a female, but it must have been a good film because it was watched by 14,350,000 viewers in Britain, which makes it number 19 in the top twenty TV favourites.

C.A. Rauch

ST & OLD ENGLISH POETRY

I was at a tutorial a couple of weeks ago on Old English Poetry. The tutor was talking about dream poems and he reckoned that their modern counterparts were SF stories especially Star Trek! Star Trek uses planets, he said, whereas the dream poem used a dream to put forward a moral point.

Lynn Collinson

THE MOVIE UNIFORMS

This will probably bring down the combined wrath of the membership, but having seen the uniforms for the film, both in STAG newsletter and Starlog 18, I don't like them. They look like rejects from Space 1999. I realised there'd probably be some changes, principally with the women's uniforms which are ridiculous I know, but the men's uniforms have been changed too radically. In the colour photographs in Starlog, all the uniforms are either pale blue or buff; all the senior officers seem to be wearing pale blue regardless of the branch of the service to which they belong. And what are those boxes on the front? If they're communicators, they'll all appear to be talking to their navals! (See P8 - editor) This is not to denigrate the efforts of all those working on the film; I just feel that if the visuals are all as different from the originals as are the uniforms, it's going to be a bit distracting.

Pam Baddeley

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Editor's comment - in the January 1979 issue of the JDIFC Journal, Jim Doohan was asked about the new uniforms; he replied 'I don't like the colors but I know it's necessary for this movie not to have too much moving color.'

BOOK REVIEW

Spock Must Die! by James Blish

Like most loyal fans I was most grieved by the death of Mr. Blish in '75 and I have now collected all his ST works. This is his fourth book, an original novel - in the preface it says that he hoped that it would be made into an episode, I hope it does. This is the only one of his books which includes the Stardate at the beginning of each chapter. A fast moving story with lots of theoretic science fitted in, the author finds some subtle distinctions in moods of the characters; i.e., when Scotty is serious, he has no accent. It is about a war, an impossible war between the Federation and the Klingons. Why wasn't it stopped by the Organians? Spock is to find out. Using a system whereby an anti-matter (?) Spock is beamed over to Organia they intend to find out what has caused the war - why it wasn't stopped. Unfortunately the transporter chamber is sealed off and when two Spocks arrive back on the Enterprise and both claim to be the original all hell breaks loose. Spock suggests himself that for the good of the ship, he and his other must die! I enjoyed it very much, Mr. Blish knows what he is writing about even although he had not met any of the cast or Gene Roddenberry. The story is basically suspense, the Spock 1 & Spock 2 element is really well written. The character involvement is between Kirk and Spock; McCoy does have a part to play in this, but it is definitely not a Janet K/S/M story. All the minors get a go at voicing their feelings.

David Roylance.

COMPETITION

The last competition was quite poorly responded to, with only four entries, from Nicola Moore, Wendy Riggs, Sue Turner and Anne Walton. The four plot synopses were all interesting, but we felt the one with most potential was the one by Sue Turner, and therefore announce it as the winner.

Sue left her plot without a definite resolution, which means that we could very easily - we hope - get several useable stories out of it!

The competition for next time, is, as announced last time, to write a story using Sue's winning plot.

The Enterprise is sent to a planet to investigate rumours of a black market drugs trade in a rare mineral which (it is claimed) radically slows the aging process, and thus commands a fantastically high price. Beaming down to contact the local Governor, Kirk takes Scotty along as well as Spock and McCoy, as the Governor complains of a mechanical fault in one of the planet's major computer complexes. Spock locates the fault and leaves Scotty to oversee repairs, as the job is a massive one, requiring at least 25 - 30 skilled mechanics/engineers. In the process however, Scotty is kidnapped by a gang of black marketeers who want him to fix one of their mining machines that they use in their illegal operations. The Governor is actually one of the ringleaders of the group, and using the body of a recently-deceased native, persuades Kirk and Spock that Scotty has died in a fire. Grief-stricken, Kirk prepares to leave the planet - having been persuaded that the rumours are false - thus abandoning Scotty, who will be killed once he has finished the repairs to the machine. But McCoy is suspicious and beams back down to question the Governor...

You can adapt this plot as much as you want - the drug can have other properties than slowing aging, for example; it doesn't have to be a computer complex that is faulty; but do follow the general outline until McCoy beams down. Then you're on your own! Stories should be sent to Sheila by May 25th - we know this is shorter time than usual, but it's only six weeks until the next N/L comes out!

The artwork competition, too, was poorly entered, with entries by Joan Griffiths, Yvonne Jenkins, Karen McGarvie and Christina March. Again, all were excellent, making a decision very difficult, but we decided that the drawing of Uhura by Joan Griffiths was the best. Interestingly, all of the entries bar one (most of them sent in more than one drawing) were of Sulu or Uhura! The exception was a nice rendering of Yeoman Mears from Galileo 7. Unfortunately, Christina, we need drawings to be in black and white, rather than brown, if they're to cut properly onto electro-stencil. We do hope to use most of these drawings in issues of Log Entries at some future date.

For next time, we'd like a drawing that could fit the above story outline. Black and white, please, preferably line without too much shading, maximum size A4 allowing for a full inch of margin all round. Please, no black backgrounds!

Artwork should also be sent to Sheila by May 25th. Keep entries flat if possible and unfolded.

FICTION SECTION

TO: KEVIN REILLY

From: Capt. J.T. Kirk

Reilly, don't sing that song any more please
 It's driving us all round the bend
 It's a terrible song, it's too noisy and long,
 And if Kevin when you reach the end,
 With your face full of dare, you take in more air,
 And start it all over again,
 I'll personally assure it
 'Take me home Kathleen' is
 Recorded and played to you time without end!

Denise Whalen

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EXTRACT FROM A SUSSEX NEWSPAPER (?)Sent in by Jean Barron

Fireman Jim Brown retired this week and when asked to describe one of his most memorable experiences, said -

"I minds the time we was called to a fire in the 'aywards 'eath area. When we gets there, we finds this woman screamin' 'ysterical-like and tryin' to climb back into the 'ouse through a ground floor window. Course, when she starts yellin' to us to save the Captain and First Officer, Tom and me gets our breathin' gear on and asks 'er where they were when she last saw 'em.

'The Captain's stuck on the wall,' she says, 'and Spock's 'angin' from the bookcase.'

'Well, Tom's jaw dropped a mile and I dropped an oxygen cylinder on the Chief's foot - which didn't please 'im none. 'Owever, nothin' daunted, we starts to climb in through the window; then she grabs me by the collar. 'Don't forget Scotty!' she yells.

Well, everyone knows I got a soft spot for dogs so I tells 'er not to worry. 'And bones,' she says.

'I'll save the dog,' says Tom, "but I ain't riskin' me life for 'is bleedin' dinner!"

As it turns out, all we managed to save was a pile of pictures and, funny enough, that seemed to satisfy 'er. Poor old gel - she's probably sittin' in 'er little padded cell right now, clutchin' them posters and suchlike!

* * * * *

The sunlight and rain alternately caressed the white, broken-down buildings of the city. The sea lapped gently at the remains of a city wall. All was silence. Nothing stirred. Then -

The solemn grey-eyed child came slowly down the cobbled street - what was left of it. Her hair hung round her shoulders, touched the dirty material which was tied round her.

Would the strangers come again today? she wondered. The one in the golden top looked kind - the other one with the pointed ears, he looked so stern. Just the same as her father had looked when he caught her staring at those points of light in the sky, wondering.

'They are evil,' he had said. 'Nighttime is evil, only day is good.' He had then pushed her into the underground room beneath one of the ruins where the other fifty people, remains of a world, sat huddled, waiting for their leader to press that switch on the wall which would produce that weird blue flickering that would surround them for the duration of the night. None of the people really understood the blue light.

When the strangers appeared, the little girl followed them again. They were talking, but the child could not understand them. "Take a tricorder reading on these buildings, Mr. Spock," said the one dressed in gold. "I want to know just how old these ruins are."

The one in blue produced an alien device and looked at it for a while, then said, "The ruins are over 100,000 years old, sir - wait, I am picking up two life-form readings!"

The child was again dragged away by her father and taken to the cellar where the other natives were. The strange blue light again surrounded them.

The two strangers came into the building. "This is extremely peculiar, sir. The two life forms are no longer registering," said one voice.

"The tricorder must have been malfunctioning before," said the other one. "There's been no life down here for centuries. It's a good thing too with that star about to go nove - they'd be fried. Well, we've got all the information we need. Beam us up, Mr. Scott." The voices faded.

The child lay under the protection of the ancient forcefield. I wonder what they were talking about? she wondered.

Christine Leeson

THE CONVENTION

Five hundred minds
 All bonded together as a single thought,
 Overcome with inexplicable feelings
 For the same reason that they congregated .
 Here, in the beginning.
 Star Trek registered in their eyes
 Which, as never before, were straining
 Into the distant, yet not impossible future.
 Survival not occurring in their
 Calm faces, all concentrated
 On one thought.
 Star Trek flickered momentarily
 Across the screen, and
 Breaths were caught gently in the silence
 As the fantasies flooded into
 Reality, over the followers and their souls.
 The facts of a true, wonderful life,
 Called, simply,
 Star Trek.

Jackie Newey

.

THE FAN

Rushes in the rain to catch the bus home,
 Danger of missing 'Star Trek'.
 Not knowing what spurs her on,
 She loves it, even yet.
 Many years since it first began,
 But no change of feeling for the fan.
 Kirk and Spock, her favourite two,
 Eyebrows raised, mission anew.
 Danger, excitement, the action's begun.
 Always in the end, the good guys won.
 Nevertheless, the stories were fine.
 Promise of justice and freedom from crime.
 Peace and love were spread far and wide.
 The people were earnest,
 No secrets to hide.
 The rushing is done now, the switch on the set.
 Settled back in an armchair,
 The appetite's whet.
 The story is done and stillness has come,
 But the message lingers on,
 Like an old familiar song.
 Rushes to the bookstall,
 More photos to buy.
 Those who aren't fans
 Ask themselves why?
 It's hard to explain,
 I don't think I can.
 Perhaps it's because,
 I am a fan.

Martina O'Hagan

.

De-WHAT?? by Jenny Elson

The transporter had flipped its lid again, and Scotty's temper was not improved by the fact that it had flipped on him. He should not have been standing on the station anyway with the transporter in that condition. It was just one of... those...

things...!

He materialised into a very strange place, part Enterprise, part not; and the part that wasn't was an ungodly jumble of primitive electricals, and his engineering curiosity soon got the better of him. Drawing his phaser just in case he started forward, but was interrupted by a tap on his shoulder.

"Hi! Haven't I seen you someplace before?"

"Er..." Scotty glowered at the man, who could have been his twin. "Er - ye cud say that, I suppose."

"Is this some kind of put on? The accent? The make-up?"

Scotty's bad temper worsened considerably. "I'm no that odd! Make up, indeed! What do you take me for?"

The man circled, hands on hips. "This has got to be a put on! Where did you get that phaser?"

"Bloody stupid question! Ye'd best watch out or I'll use it on you!"

"Sure! Go ahead if it'll make you feel better!"

Scotty had had enough. He blasted the first thing he saw, which happened to be a chair.

"Hey, it worked! That thing really worked!"

"I'm no holding it for fun!"

"Does Gene know you've got that thing?"

"Jean? Who's she?" Scotty growled.

"HE! Gene Rodd... Say, who ARE you?"

"Lt-commander Scott of the USS Enterprise. Who are YOU?"

His 'twin' stared unblinkingly. "You gunning for my job or something?"

"No, I'm not! I'm satisfied wi' the one I've got!"

"Then it has to be a put on."

"IT IS NOT A BLOODY PUT ON! The transporter went wrong and I got beamed down here. And believe me, I'd rather be with the Klingons than in this junk-heap!"

"You're sick, fella."

Scotty spat out a Gaelic swearword, which gave him great satisfaction. Much to his relief - and his 'twin's', judging by his expression - he saw Kirk, Spock and McCoy coming towards them. Odd that Spock was laughing, but he hadn't time to go into that phenomenon right now.

"Hi, Jim!" Kirk called.

"Huh?" Scotty queried, glaring at all three. "Captain, you're Jim, no him. Please, ye canna change yer name now!"

Scotty's twin hitched a thumb at him. "Okay, which of you guys thought this one up?"

They looked blank.

"Bill?" he asked Jim. Bill, Jim or whatever, he shook his head.

"Sorry, Jimmy. Not guilty."

"Leonard?"

Spock answered...with a flashing smile. "Nor me."

"Come on," Scotty protested. "HE'S Leonard!" He pointed to McCoy. "And HE'S Spock!"

Scotty was ignored as his twin continued with the grilling of his friends. "De?"

"D who?" Scotty asked.

"Sorry, me neither, Jimmy, but it's a good one!" McCoy answered.

"D what?" Scotty asked desperately as though it was of vital importance to the whole crazy situation. McCoy was his best drinking buddy. It was disconcerting to hear him being reduced to a letter in the alphabet. "David...Donald...Duck...?"

"DE! It's my name, like yours is...I mean his is...Jim..."

"Scotty..."

"And his is Leonard..."

"Spock!"

"And his is Bill..."

"Jim..."

"Mine is De F..."

"Leonard..."

"Got it?"

"Er...no exactly. Er...can I have a wee peek up your Jeffries Tube or have ye renamed THAT as well?"

All three men looked slightly exasperated, which was nothing to what Scotty was feeling. When some feller came hollering for his chair, Jim-Scott pointed an accusing finger. "Would you believe he blasted it with his phaser?"

"Sure! And the Queen of England has just popped in for tea! Cummon! I want my chair!"

For the second time, Scotty lost his temper. His phaser zapped a cluttered table out of existence.

"What the...!"

"The Queen, laddie, has just popped in for tea!" He whirled round on McCoy. "Look here, Dr. D, ye'll hae some sick people around here if I get no answers soon! I dinna like being impersonated...I dinna like being told I'm wearing make up. I dinna like my friends being impersonated, AND I dinna like my ship being impersonated either! In fact, I'm turning very nasty, so start talking...and quick!"

McCoy, D or whatever, was about to deliver an angry line of his own when Scotty was abruptly transported back to the Enterprise. McCoy was standing by, just to make sure he was okay.

"D?" Scotty asked foolishly.

"D what?"

"Thought you cud tell me!" he snapped, then looked up at the chronometer. "Must be awa tae my journals. Goodday, Doctor."

He stomped off towards his own quarters. In all probability McCoy would soon be after him for a psycho test.

...D for Donald...D for David...D for Duck...

Sighing heavily, Scotty realised that the unresolved problem would bug him for many a day to come...

.

MOTHER OF HER RACE

Forgive me my
 Children,
 I have failed.
 I am your guardian,
 your protector,
 Mother to you
 And I have failed.
 I am here
 deep within our world,
 in the silent darkness.
 Waiting, knowing,
 soon they will come,
 then more killing,
 death, the end
 of all that lives.
 How many more must die?
 Then what?
 an empty life
 the end of all we know
 what could have been.
 They are here
 such strange creatures
 a fragile frame, yet
 how deadly they can be.
 Two men, they are
 somehow the same
 somehow different.
 He touches me
 warm,
 What thoughts are these?
 Oh, Children, he is good,
 he understands,
 you are safe.
 He understands the loneliness
 for I see a trace in his mind.
 So alone
 as I
 until my Children come.
 Let them,
 Let them.

Janet Balch

• • • • •

BEACHES

As you stand here
 Drawn in the isolation of command
 To the deserted observation deck
 And dream the old, old dream...
 The security of stability...
 Time to stroll in the moonlight
 Your arm around a beautiful girl
 And a long sandy beach to walk upon,
 Do you never think
 Of the web of contradiction
 In which you are caught?

For if you had a stable existence
 Would you not be yearning
 For the thrill of challenge?
 If your arm were around a beautiful girl
 Would your mind not fly
 To your other, sky-born lady?
 And if your feet were on the beach
 Would your eyes not be fixed
 Forever on the stars?

Susan Meek

.....

THE DREAMTIME

The ship sleeps.
 How strange it seems;
 The noises so much louder
 Than the living day,
 As my footsteps echo softly
 On the deck.

No guard stands
 Silent as a sphinx,
 To watch the sleeping cradle
 Of so many sleeping babes.

For what are we
 But children?
 Bound by filial love
 To our sweet mother Enterprise,
 As she is bound to us
 By all the hopes we have
 And all the dreams we make
 In her arms.

Silent is our night,
 And silent is our destiny,
 As darkness wraps us round
 And bids us all:
 Sleep well, gentle dreamers.

For your dreams
 Are as infinite as darkness,
 And as finite as the star
 Which guides you

Home.

Sandie Cowden

.....

The above three poems were all commended in the STAG/EMPATHY Midicon, March/April 1979.
 'The Fan' was another entry.

.....

Born of Vulcan and Human form,
 Intelligence well above the norm,
 He knew quadro-triticales from corn,
 His emotions are hidden; forlorn.
 His existence is two worlds apart,
 He tries so hard a friendship to start,
 But it is always the same; a broken heart,
 Yet I know that he is really smart.

Mike Slawin

.....

COMMAND DECISION by Susan Meek

"I will decide who will best serve the success of this mission! When I have made my decision - command decision, gentlemen - you will be notified."

There. They have gone now, leaving me alone with my thoughts, and with the most difficult choice I have ever had to make in my life.

Responsibility. The Captaincy. I have always thrived on it. The power of issuing orders, of making decisions. Never afraid of them. 'The buck stops here' and all that. Well, now the buck has stopped right at your door, James T. Kirk, and you have to choose which of your two friends you will pass a probable death sentence on.

Spock and Bones. Meaning so much to me in different ways...

Bones...doctor, adviser, friend for many years; his compassion helping through bad times, his humour making the good even more so.

And Spock...I try to think of the words to express what he is to me, but none come. He has always been there, at my right hand, in everything I do. He...

No! No, don't think about it! Thinking emotionally...will only make this more difficult than it already is. (Oh Spock, I wish I had your rationality, your capacity to think logically). No, this has to be a logical decision. The survival of this ship is at stake, and I have to put everything aside but the facts of this situation.

Facts: We know that after a few hours in the amoeba in that shuttlecraft, a man would stand very little chance of survival. The real question under consideration is - which of the two is most likely to survive the turbulent entry into the amoeba and stay alive long enough to get out the information we need. Which one?

Bones...eminently qualified scientifically to accomplish this mission, and determined to do it. But would Human willpower make up for the frailty of the Human body?

Spock has the Vulcan strength and resistance to get through that barrier, and the scientific flexibility to cope with the situation...

I can almost imagine them now, standing outside. They will be glaring at each other, hiding their caring behind their respective masks of cynicism and logic. Each willing to give his life for this ship...

How can I send...? I must. The lives of four hundred and thirty people, possibly the lives of many more, are resting on my decision.

I sigh. A long shuddering sigh that reverberates through my soul because of the inevitability of what I must do.

It has to be him. It is the only...logical decision. Logic...the very word tastes bitter. I always knew that some day this might have to come, but that makes it no less difficult. I will have to send him into that thing and I will lose him and I will be empty inside. And after...if we escape from that thing, I...dare not think about that.

All right, Kirk. Get ready to face them and to put on the command facade. And pay the price of being the Captain.

"Gentlemen."

They come in, glaring at each other, then turn to me; Bones with his face full of hope, and Spock impassive as always. He knows...

"I'm sorry."

Bones smiles, turns, gets ready to leave.

"I'm sorry, Spock. Sorry that it has to be you." Words are such very inadequate things. My own voice sounds in my ears like the voice of a stranger. The voice of the Captain, who is already paying the price...

One quick, understanding look, a nod, and then he is gone; quickly and quietly, as I knew he would, to do what is necessary.

Gone. Bones follows him out and the man who has just sent his best friend out to die is left alone.

Oh Spock...

God forgive me.

.

BORN TO LEAD

Five years our Captain's mission lasted,
During which our ship was blasted,
Fired on, captured, kidnapped too,
But Captain Kirk was always true.

He pulled us out of endless terrors,
Some unfortunate lives were lost,
But those who knew him, loved him too,
And followed him, whatever the cost.

He was the best, we all agreed,
A kind word here, a thoughtful deed,
And not a person would betray him,
He was a genius, born to lead.

Too soon those wonderful years were over,
And our ship returned to base,
The love that, once, we all had shared
Was gone, and nothing could take its place.

Then one day, we heard the news,
Another mission, it was said,
And so 'To work', our Captain ordered,
Our Enterprise, rised from the dead.

'Ahead, Warp Factor 3,' he told us,
Only he knew what lay ahead,
But we would go where he would lead us,
Our love for him, and loyalty shared.

Linda Hughes

And so we come - at last - to the end of another zine...sorry, newsletter. Now all we have to do is proofread, correct (hopefully having caught all the mistakes), print, collate (shudder!) staple and wrap...

And then it will be the turn of the staff of the Lochgilphead post office to shudder when they see two -- or more likely, three -- boxes of newsletters waiting to be franked. Like the month we took the newsletters down on the Saturday, handed them in, then started putting stamps on the foreign ones. We were midway through when a plaintive voice from behind the counter said,

"Janet, do these have to be sent off today?" - one poor solitary postman on duty all alone...

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

P.S. Just before printing this page I think it is safe to give James T. his due. He has just slogged his way through printing this newsletter and hasn't put a foot wrong. We have done a 750 print run which is 33,000 pages, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$,000 sheets, so the post office will get 4 boxes not 3. Give James T. a round of applause, he deserves it.

PHOTOS

These cost 30p each for either a 3½" x 5" enprint or a duplicate slide, usually 35mm. Please specify clearly whether you want prints or slides. Postage rates are as follows - up to 20 prints or clips, 7p or 9p; 21 - 34, 9½p - 12½p; 35 - 48, 12p or 16p. If you send a stiffener you won't get quite as many for each rate. Foreign - 60c each plus 23c postage on each 3 ordered. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. The last orders have been sent out, the last of them on April 4th - the BBC photos went off early in March. Those of you who ordered 29/23 - you'll get it, but the firm did not supply it although they charged for it. I put the clip back in, and have again got it back without the prints. As I'm at Janet's and won't get home again until April 13th to chase the processor up, there will be a delay on it. Sorry!

Orders should be sent to Sheila by May 15th. Late orders will be filled but will be delayed - remember we only get enough printed to cover orders.

We had meant to offer Mirror Mirror this time along with Enemy Within. However, Janet turned out to have more Enemy Within clips than I'd thought, so Mirror will be held till next time, and offered along with Dagger of the Mind.

- 5/1 Spock, back to camera, McCoy mid distance, looking at both Kirks in transporter.
- 5/2 As above, transporter pad empty.
- 5/5 Spock, Scotty, McCoy at transporter console, waist length.
- 5/6 Kirk, h/s, and Spock back to camera
- 5/11 Spock, waist length, talking to Kirk stripped with towel round neck.
- 5/13 Kirk in doorway watching Spock talking to McCoy, back to camera.
- 5/14 Sulu on planet, wrapped in tarpaulin.
- 5/17 Kirk waist length shirt half off.
- 5/18 Kirk sitting at desk looking tired.
- 5/21 Two Kirks facing each other in engineering (one back to camera)
- 5/25 Spock, McCoy half crouched over 'dog' in transporter.
- 5/27 Kirk sitting at briefing room table, watched by Spock, quarter face.
- 5/28 As 1 & 2, one Kirk now in transporter.
- 5/32 Kirk sitting in sickbay, Spock and McCoy standing one each side of him.
- 5/34 Sulu wrapped in tarpaulin holding communicator.
- 5/42 Kirk sitting at briefing room table, very long shot.
- 5/44 Scene as in 1 & 2, Spock helping Kirk 'A' hold Kirk 'B', watched by McCoy. Long shot.
- 5/45 Kirk H/S about to drink from brandy bottle. shot.
- 5/47 Kirk 'B' in transporter, half length.
- 5/349 Scotty, Kirk, Spock, McCoy at console looking towards transporter platform (out of shot)
- 5/375 'Dog' lying on platform (dead). shot)
- 5/711 Kirk lying on floor; legs of other Kirk beside him. Clapboard in f/g not hiding
- 5/902 Two Kirks (one back to camera) H/S fighting. action.
- 5/1375 Kirk 'B' rolling on floor with Rand.
- 5/1376 Kirk in command chair.
- 5/1507 Kirk, H/S, looking worried.
- 5/2134 Kirk H/S with brandy bottle. Longer shot than 45.
- 5/2240 Kirk (back of head) talking to Spock, McCoy; duplicate Kirk on bed behind.
- 5/3346 Kirk, McCoy, half length, just inside bridge door.
- 5/3349 Kirk, H/S profile, lying on bed.
- 5/4634 Kirk H/S in briefing room.
- 5/5242 Long shot - two Kirks in engineering (much longer shot than 21)
- 5/5442 Kirk 'A' holding Kirk 'B' in transporter. Clapboard in f/g hiding part of back.
- 5/5443 Spock H/S holding 'dog'. Faulty clip - badly marked - but a nice shot.
- 5/5444 Kirk drinking, McCoy holding glass, waist length.
- 5/5445 As 44, Spock moving off pad to go to console.
- 5/5446 Similar to 5444, both holding glasses at waist level.
- 5/5447 As 5445, Spock halfway to console looking back.

Prints only

- P5/1 Kirk (back of head) looking in mirror, reflection showing, dabbing scratch.
- P5/2 Spock holding 'dog' facing Kirk. Profile, H/S.
- P5/3 Kirk holding 'dog' facing Spock. Poor original.

We decided to offer several similar ones this time to make up sets - these are very effective.

SALES LIST

April 1979

This supercedes all previous sales lists.

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

Prices include postage and packing inside the U.K.

- Log Entries 4, 5, 6 (few left of these) (reprint) 60p each
- Log Entries 7 (reprint) 75p each
- Log Entries 17, 18, 19, 20 (few left of these) 21, 22 80p each
- Log Entries 23 80p each

(Stories by Christine Leeson, Josephine Timmins, Sally Syrjala, Susan Stephenson, Meg Wright, Jean Barron, Tina Pole, Mariann Hornlein; poetry by Susan Meek, Gladys Oliver, Gillian Catchpole, Janet Balch, Roo)

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

Variations on a Theme 1 by Valerie Piacentini & Sheila Clark 65p
 Reprint. An alternate universe story. A Spock whose Kirk has died searches the other universes for a replacement Kirk. He finds one whose Spock is a sadistic bully who uses Kirk ~~sexually~~ as a target for his cruelty and sets out to rescue him.

Variations on a Theme 2 by Valerie Piacentini & Sheila Clark 90p
 Reprint. The crew of the Enterprise have accepted Spock without question; but what will happen when Spock has to go 'home' to visit his family? What will happen when Sam Kirk comes aboard the Enterprise as a crewman?

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

Wine of Calvoro by Valerie Piacentini (few left) 80p
 Janet wanted a story in which Kirk got a bullet in the shoulder. But in this story, this is the least of his worries. A real Kirk-bonker in true Janet style.

Enterprise Incidents 2 Stories by Sheila Clark 80p
 Reprint. This zine contains the winning and running up short stories and poems from the Terracon '78 writing competition.

The Wheel Turns by Valerie Piacentini 55p
 Reprint. Kirk and Spock are stranded on a Prime Directive planet, and Kirk has amnesia.

Tomorrow is Another Day by Lesley Coles 80p
 Spock is returned to Vulcan suffering from an incurable ailment. While Vulcan doctors search for a cure, the Enterprise goes off on another mission and gets lost.

Slogan stickers - grab bags of 50 stickers, mixed slogans 25p + 7p or 9p stamp

Insignia stickers - strip of 3, one each command, sciences and engineering 25p + stamp

Prints of Barry's Willmott's drawing of the Enterprise from N/L 30 } 30p, foreign \$1.00.
 Richard Gardner's Naked Time collage, N/L 31 }

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

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