

# TAFFWORLD

👉 *Official Newsletter of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund*

Issue number 1 | August 2014

Well, it's been a hectic time in TAFFworld and activities have paused momentarily to allow me to take a few moments to let you all know something of what we've been getting up to.

You may have heard that we've had a bit of a shindig over here in Great Britain land known as Loncon 3, the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention.

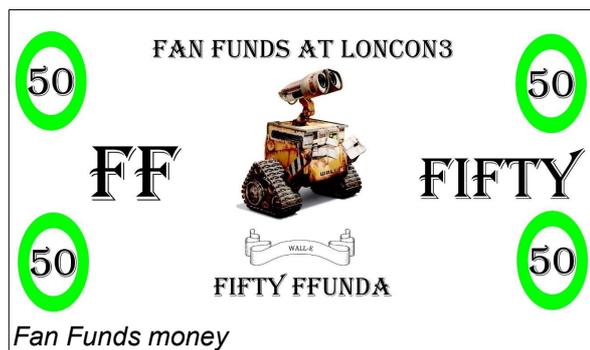
Thousands of people came along to this little gathering and so we felt obliged to show them many ways in which they could be parted from their money for the benefit of the fan funds. The mainstay of our money relieving methods was, as always, the Fan Funds Auction. We were especially fortunate this year in that Dave Langford had brought along three pieces of stained glass by Bob Shaw. This caused a great deal of excitement and we found many people in the audience who had come along specifically for the glass. Bidding was very fierce indeed and the 3 pieces fetched 790 pounds for the fan funds. The piece shown here is called Twin Planets 2 and was the most sought after. Ever keen to find more cunning methods of separating folk from their cash we created our own den of iniquity in the Fan Village and held a casino night. The convention hired 2 roulette wheels and 2 blackjack layouts (thank you Loncon3) for us and then I got some poker dice and chips for two more



*Bob Shaw stained glass - Twin Planets 2*

tables. There were around a dozen past fan fund winners and our current TAFF delegate, Curt Phillips, helping us out at the tables plus we managed to pull in a couple of ringers that actually knew how to play these games. A special mention to Kylie Ding who, dressed in a tight corset and little else, played the part of cigarette girl selling trip reports and various ribbons from her tray. Also a special mention to Doug Spencer who designed, printed and cut the special Fan FFunda money with which we played. People donated cash at the door and we then gave them a bunch of FFunda to play with at the tables.

Dave O'Neil ran a pub quiz in the Fan Village and TAFF donated prizes for the quiz. In return Dave charged a fee to play and handed that over to us. Finally, after the auction we found we still had a large number of donated items still in our possession. Carrie and I grabbed a table at the back of the Dealers' Zone and began selling it. This section shut



down so we moved to the Library. It had been cleaned out of books so we were getting little passing traffic. We then moved right into the middle of the Bar area in the Fan Village and were inundated with people wanting to know what on earth we were doing and while they were what on earth they often spotted something on the table they liked. Result!

*Jim Mowatt*

**TAFF takings** through the weekend: the auction = £835, the casino = £161.10, the pub quiz = £11.40 and the fan table £157.48. The grand total was 1164.98 although there will be more to come from Dave Cox's bequest.

*Claire Brialey*

**Hit the road, Jacq...**TAFF has a new North American administrator! Please join Jim Mowatt and I in welcoming Curt Phillips as he takes over the reins of the fan fund (after returning from his trip to the UK and Loncon3). We wish him well on his fannish journey through auctions, elections and newsletters. Curt will no doubt be a splendid representative; TAFF is in very good hands indeed - on both continents.

And Jacq? She's sprinting out the door, cartoon smoke behind her. Actually, she bids a fond "adieu to you and you and you" and remains TAFF's humble servant in both spirit and practice.

*\*So Long, Farewell - Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammersten II - The Sound of Music*

*Jacq Monahan*

### **Heroes of TAFF**

There have been many heroes during my current administration of the fan fund including, of course, Claire Brialey, Jacq Monahan, Justin Ackroyd and Dave Langford but there's one person that I feel needs more recognition. The person of whom I speak is my long suffering wife Carrie. During the recent Worldcon in London we were both extremely busy putting on the various fan fund items as well as running the section of fan programming named, rather peculiarly, Traditional Fan Programme. We had 33 items to nurse through, including our own fan fund events. Carrie hustled and bustled, making sure everything was in its place and ready to go. Our main event was the Fan Funds Auction. Throughout the year Carrie has been continually hunting down things she felt would sell well at auction. She has an eye for the fun little things that will amuse and

delight such as the I Love Bacon jewellery and the Doctor Who goodie bags that were only available at the 50th anniversary event held at the Excel last November. She performed the low key but important function of runner at the auction. She then helped me get all the stuff out of the room before the next item came rampaging through demanding our space. The next day we set up a table in the Fan Village and sold even more stuff and were able to spend a good deal of time explaining to people what the fan funds were and why they should give us money. Carrie was tireless and charming throughout. I'd also like to thank her for the hours she spent running the poker dice table during the fan funds casino we held at Worldcon and the effort and perspiration she exerted, lugging about boxes of things to make everything happen. Most of all I'd like to thank her for



*The Doctor's new Companion ?*

her love and support. She's been absolutely invaluable throughout my administration and particularly through the hectic blaze that was Loncon3.

*Jim Mowatt*