



## Christina Lake



Christina gave an engaging presentation on *The Getting of Fandom*. Amongst her anecdotes was a story about taking advantage of her co-editor's vocabulary. She also raised the question *Which was the best decade to be a fan?* We'll leave you to debate that in the bar this evening!

## Feline Groovy

Many of you may have thought our piece this morning was an April Fool. Think again! The article "Cats prefer species-appropriate music" by C T Snowdon, D Teie and M Savage appeared in 2015 in the academic journal *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, volume 166, pages 106-111.

## Stern note from the Chair

First, thank you for keeping access lanes clear. However, it has been noticed that some of you have been openly drinking from your own hip flasks and bottles in the bars. You may think you're being discreet, but you're not.

Please knock it off! Hotels quite reasonably take a dim view of this sort of thing. We have a good relationship with the Majestic and we'd like to keep it that way.

## Hugo Awards

We are delighted to hear that two of our fabulous Guests of Honour appear on the Hugo shortlists:

Best Novel  
*New York 2140* by Kim Stanley Robinson (Orbit)

Best Novella  
*Binti: Home* by Nnedi Okorafor (Tor.com)

Best Young Adult Book  
*Akata Warrior* by Nnedi Okorafor (Viking)

## Card for Geoff Ryman

A get well card is available for signature at Info Desk.

## Hay Lecture report

Climate change is a hoax. Its proponents are alarmists.

We have all heard these views, but Dr Kevin Cowtan from the University of York used this year's Hay Lecture to explain why people think like that even when the science is clear.

A lot of this comes down to scepticism, but he distinguished between two types of scepticism – real sceptics who are knowledge seeking and fake sceptics who are knowledge avoiding.

Fake sceptics reject science primarily for worldview and social reasons.

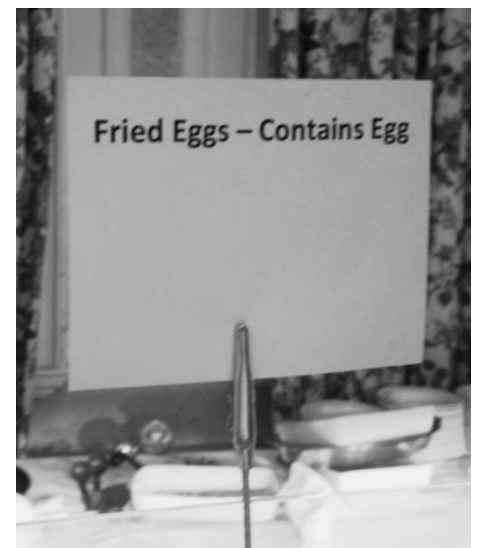
When trying to understand a scientific topic, he advised looking out for signs of bias and seeking out media that distinguish between real and fake scepticism.

## Overheard At-Con

In Ops: We need a cable, preferably a round one... maybe three feet across? (*muddled with a parallel conversation about tables!*)

Child at the Easter Morning Service: Daddy, when the bread comes to us can we put jam on it?

## Redundant information?



## Fencing demo

Members will be giving a demonstration of historical fencing at 10 am on Monday on the Terrace (weather permitting).

## Restaurant reviews

### Betty's Tea Rooms

1 Parliament St, Harrogate, HG1 01423 814070

The first floor Imperial Room is a trip back in time to a world of cake forks and

starched white aprons. The five course afternoon tea for £33 (£40 with champagne) is a classic selection of sandwiches, scones and cakes with a few contemporary twists like the pea, cucumber and tomato cocktail. There is an excellent range of teas and infusions available. The only real dilemma is whether the clotted cream or jam should go on the rose petal-infused scone first. They will refill the sandwich plate on your cake stand, although unfortunately not the plate of fancies. Phone ahead to book.

*Nik Whitehead*

### **Konak Meze**

11/13 Mount Parade  
01423 500330

TripAdvisor guided us to this little Turkish restaurant. The service was friendly, the meze platters were delicious and the waiter's tie had sheep on it. We couldn't have asked for more. £25 per head inc. wine.

*John Coxon*

### **Stuzzi**

46B Kings Road  
01423 705852

Highly recommended for lovers of proper Italian food. It's a "small plates" joint but unpretentious. Staff were charming and attentive and everything was delicious. There are several non-meat options. Superb selection of Italian wines. Approx £30 per head for 6 plates, breads and oil, 1 bottle and 2 glasses of wine.

*Ian Taft*

### **Kinara Tandoori**

19 Cheltenham Crescent  
07931 462003

Small restaurant, so try and make a reservation. Excellent choices and great quality – the garlic and chilli naan is to die for. My chicken tikka was great with a vegetable curry on the side. Mains from £9 but prawns etc more expensive. Side dishes £5.

*Jan van't Ent*

### **Cardamom Black**

Old Empire Theatre,  
2-6 Cheltenham Parade  
01423 313136

This busy and large Indian restaurant has quick, efficient and friendly service in a converted theatre. The food we could not fault. A main dish plus desert and a drink costs about £20.

*Steve Rogerson*

### **From Andrew**

Can the kind fan who helped Andrew Patton escape from his predicament (bath) earlier today please contact Andrew.

### **Murder Mystery Clue 5**

Paul was in a room number two greater than Caroline.

### **Statistics**

When advance memberships closed, we had members living in 22 countries: Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Contributions to:

[newsletter@follycon.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@follycon.org.uk)

Drop-off box at Info Desk

### **The Daily Drabble: Operation Transmogrification, Verbal Division**

"Jings, man, ah've never heard such wrang heided dafty speak in aw ma days. Ye'll no change the wiy ah tolk wi yon mad, mental thingummy boob. Ah'm shoacked ye can even siy it wi oot gettin a total riddy oan."

The scientist's smile beamed from his face as he turned to his grinning assistant. "Mark this one up as a success please, Gerald. Would you be so kind as to escort Mr. Chomondley-Smythe into the waiting room and give him something to read. And remember, verbal checks every fifteen minutes to ascertain the full duration of the Scottification Ray."

*Brian (Munchkin) Milton*

### **More Fun with Fan Funds**

A collection at the candidates' interview raised over £60. Also, the Auction on Sunday evening may not be your last chance to buy things to support fan-funderly: look for a Dealers' Room table on Monday next to Novacon.

### **Beer Alert**

We understand the Con is likely to run out of real ale this evening. Don't Panic! Supplies of craft beers are being sourced for Monday.

