

The Ankh-Morpork Times

"The Truth Shall Make Ye Free"

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NOVEMBER 9TH, YEAR OF THE RECIPROCATING LLAMA

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CAPTAIN'S BRIEFS

An Open Letter from the Chair of the Watch Open Weekend

Welcome to the first Newsletter from the IDWCon 2015 team. We have some wonderful treats in store for you in just under a year's time. But some of you may have signed up for the newsletter ages ago, and be wondering: what's this all about?

The Irish Discworld Convention is a 4-day event, where fans of the works of Sir Terry Pratchett meet up, commandeer a hotel and generally have fun. It is run every two years, on (appropriately) odd years. It has been going since 2009, when three Mad Irish Girls™ went to the International Discworld Convention and thought, why don't we do this at home? We are forever indebted to them for their vision. So we all went to the Falls Hotel in Ennistymon, and had a wonderful time. And then

we did it again in 2011. Then we moved to the Limerick Radisson Blu near Shannon Airport for 2013. And now, for 2015, we are bringing the Convention to the Real Capital, the People's Republic: Cork. Cork and Ankh-Morpork are both built on rivers which separate different sides of the city; and both have a University where there are buildings which function on a Pratchettian L-Space level of architecture - to name but two of the many similarities that these two great cities share. And our chosen venue is the Cork International Hotel, ideally situated next to Cork Airport, which will be a great convenience for those of you coming from 'forn parts'. We hope to see you there.

- Captain Shivers

WATCH DRESS CODE ALL SEWN UP!

Sources within the Watch have revealed (exclusively to the *Times*) an update to the Watch dress code. At next year's Watch Open Weekend, our City's Watchmen will be sporting a variety of winter, summer and dress uniforms. Not only that, it is also expected that the close-knit plain clothes division will be out in force. Captain Shivers ("Stop asking my age!") was quoted stating,

"Everyone is welcome at the Watch Open Weekend, whether in any type of full costume, normal clothes or anything in between¹. A few precautions will be necessary so that everyone can have an enjoyable time, however: Any citizens wearing war paint or clan markings² should ensure that they bring their own towels and do not make direct contact with hotel furnishings. Whether in full costume or not, you'll be a shoo-in at the Convention."

The Patrician (no, we didn't ask his age - would you?) informed the *Times* that the new Watch dress code was "tolerable", but reminded citizens that the public event's weapons policy would be strictly enforced. The policy in question reportedly states that all weapons³ have to be checked with Ops, and can only be worn with permission at special occasions such as the Maskerade.

The *Times'* iconographers will be there to see how the outfits measure up.

by R. Scanlon

¹ As long as people wear at least something!

² The *Times* understands this to include Feegles, among others.

³ Of any kind: wooden, metal, plastic, dwarf bread, etc...

ADVERTISEMENT

In the Year of the Prawn, a crack technical unit was sent to a Convention for a crime they didn't commit.

They promptly escaped from a maximum-security Ops desk to the Convention Underground.

Today, still wanted by the Patrician, they survive as Soldiers of Fortune.

If you have skills with equipment... if you want to help... and if you can find them... then maybe you can join

**THE
TECH TEAM**

WEATHER FORECAST

Typical autumn temperatures are expected over the next few days, though a druidic convention in the Shades may lead to heavier than normal rainfall. Strong winds are expected from a mostly Hubwards direction, with equal chances of sunny spells and cabbage showers. The Ankh will remain mostly solid though unsuitable for walking on until after Hogswatch.

MRS CAKE'S PREDICTIONS for the 9th of November

"Today, you'll find a Hershebian half-dong down the back of the sofa.

Remember that if you picket, it'll never get better.

You'll meet a tall dark stranger. He'll steal your wallet, but helpfully leave a receipt."

OUT AND ABOUT IN ANKH - Our Weekly Society Column Reporting On The People You Can't Get Close To!

This week has been Host to a dozen Social Functions, all attended by the Cream of Ankh-Morpork Society! Lady Monflather (43), noted for her large and impressive balls, held a wonderful party to celebrate the upcoming night of Alls Fallow. Her ladyship, who looked Resplendent in her Family Jewels, organised a delectable dinner for her guests which included succulent sweetbreads cooked with exotic Mountain Oysters and Nuts.

(Turn to the Back Page to learn how to imitate such a Wondrous Feast in the comfort of your Own Kitchen!)

Though you may think that the Upper Classes live lives of Constant Excitement, be assured that, for most nobles, Day-to-Day life is as normal as that of the average Morporkian¹. Sometimes however, there can be a Great Scandal that rocks the nobility to its core. The *Times* has learned that Lord Rodley, His Grace,

Duke of Quirm, has been challenged to a Duel by Jocasta Wiggs, Student Assassin (21). Lord Rodley, who came to his title at a young age, has recently returned to the City after a brief holiday to Quirm, which lasted a little over nine months.

No one can possibly guess the source of Jocasta's ire, but sources say the Duke is (rightly) Reluctant to go blade to blade with one of the Guild's Finest. The *Times* was fortunate enough to bump into Lord Rodley (24) outside his Club yesterday, but upon inquiry as to whether he was wearing a Cowherd and Edwards bespoke suit, and how he felt about his probable imminent death, he wittily replied "Bally well Bugger Off, you Miserable Cow" and left.

by M. Browne

¹ It has been brought to the attention of the *Times* that the average Morporkian is, in fact, the common brown rat.

HOTEL BOOKINGS NOW AVAILABLE

Hotel bookings for the Watch Open Weekend have been made available, the *Times* can exclusively reveal. Watch spokesperson Captain Shivers ("You don't give up, do you?") acknowledged that it is now less than one year to go until this historic Watch outreach programme. She had this to say:

"In light of passing this important milestone, we have published details on our website of how to book a room at our venue, the Cork International Hotel - not only for the enthusiastic recruits that have already signed up, but also any potential others who may be interested in this excellent opportunity to serve alongside our great City's finest."

Capt. Shivers strongly denied any rumours that the hotel had been booked up by the Sunshine Sanctuary's annual fundraiser, and confirmed that the Watch Open Day would go ahead on the 2nd-5th of October next year.



THE TIMES CROSSWORD by "Puzzler"

Clues Down

1. A pleasant disposition (6)
2. Take unlawfully (3)
3. Adds spice to a dish (6)
4. To a great extent or degree, very much (8)
5. Shade of brown tinged with yellow (7)
6. Walt's favourite gypsy (9)
11. Ben and Paul took the liberty (4)
13. Not a loser (6)
17. Long stemmed flower (4)
18. Richard made a steep bluff (5)
19. Mischievous individual (3)

Clues Across

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| 7. I say, that's an antiseptic (6) | 10. Green leafy vegetable (7) | 18. The favoured vegetable among dwarves (6) |
| 8. The theme of all the other answers (5,5) | 12. Fossilised tree resin (5) | 20. Wolf-like (6) |
| 9. One who strives more (7) | 14. Not wet but not dry (5) | 21. Rhythm instrument (4) |
| | 15. Name for a foul friend (5) | 22. Possible breakfast venue (7) |
| | 16. Bird's mouth (4) | |