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Contents and Stuff

Take a look inside



DOCTOR WHO >

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CLUB OF VICTORIA

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Sonically Stylised - Volume 4.1 - Issue #181/#182

Here's what you will find inside this Special Double Issue of Sonic Screwdriver, our tribute to Lis Sladen and Nicholas Courtney...

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Cover photo credit unknown

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Nicholas Courtney tributes

Brigadier's photo diary

Exclusive Interview with Sonic Editor

Michael's photo diary

News, Reviews and Stuff:

Colin Baker & John Leeson exclusive interviews, Book review, DVD review, Torchwood preview, News etc...

Who's clubbing

River Song's photo diary



Next Issue

#183 should be out later in 2011. but it all depends on you. We have no articles left over from this issue, so please submit your reviews of **A Christmas** Carol and all of Season Six so far, or anything else urgently!!! Review your favourite WHO Book, or WHO Audio Adventure ... or write something new yourself!!!

You should *already have received* your

Fan Comic 1.7

bonus by separate post in April. If you did not receive your comic, please email us at:

sonicscrewdriver @dwcv.org.au

and we will arrange for you to receive it!

Comic 1.7



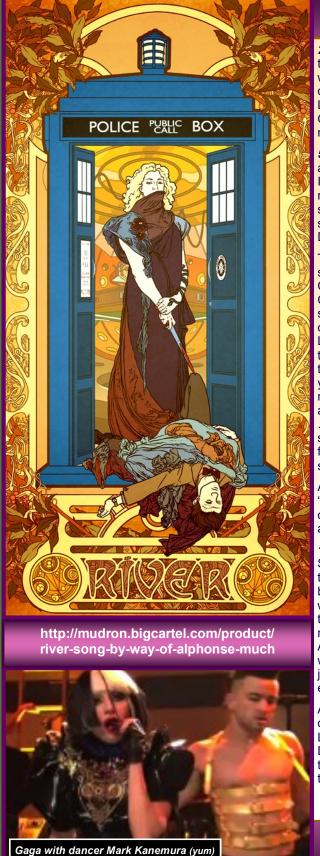
Sonic is written under the influence of the genius of the Lady Gaga album "Born This Way"... it involved a lot of dancing and strange costumes!





The Chase

Sonic Boom Boom Pow



sonicscrewdriver@dwcv.org.au

20May2011: There are a lot of people who say that the world will end tomorrow (of course, if you are reading this, obviously they were wrong!) ... So I thought about what I would miss or regret if it did end. I quickly realised that I would only regret two things: not hearing the new Lady Gaga album; and never finding out who River Song really is! Otherwise, I am very happy with what I have and more than happy to not have to work to live any more!

5June2011: They were wrong! We are still here ... no surprise there... and I have just watched "A Good Man Goes To War" and I was right!!! I thought that River Song was Amy & Rory's daughter, from the moment that there was any indication that Amy was pregnant. It also seems that Melody (how obvious is that name) is the little girl in the space suit and that she can regenerate, and that she killed the Doctor ... but was it really the Doctor or just a copy???

The episode has had some mixed reviews and reactions as has all seven episodes of season six part one. I was pleased that the Cybermen were only in it for a short while ... I really hate these new Cybermen, I hate the voice and they are just too unable to win our sympathy ... go back to the early days when they were humans with cyber parts, not robots with a little bit of human in them ... boring! Loved the Sontaran nurse, and also Rory's strength at the start, also thrilled there were no Daleks in this one. As for the season so far ... there just feels like all episodes have missed the mark somehow, last year was so much stronger. The performances are magnificent, so it must be the scripts, they are definitely crammed with too much detail and not containing enough time for the audience to breathe and enjoy ... even the great effects shots like the pirate ship at sea felt a few seconds too short ... apart from a few critical moments, the season so far is quite forgettable. This is a big concern for Steven Moffat's second year ... but let's not panic just yet!

As well as all that, I also got to hear the new Lady Gaga CD called "Born This Way" ... what an incredible collection of 17 new songs and only two of those I do not love, an amazing achievement from an amazing artist!

13June2011: Enough of that ... here we have, finally, the latest Sonic Screwdriver which has taken a long time to materialise ... because it took a long time to get the help we needed to make it happen. A very big thank you to those who have contributed to this, your work is wonderful and greatly appreciated! As for me, I was just totally lacking the inspiration and vision that is needed to make this happen, until recently, and I realise that I needed a break, but most of all, without lan A Chapman to bounce ideas off and get the "fun of the game" from it was like Bjorn from ABBA trying to write another hit without Benny ... it just does not work! But finally I got it done... but I really miss the team environment we had.

Above all, I really miss Sarah Jane ... I don't think I will ever really get over the unexpected loss of Lis Sladen! This issue is also our tribute to Lis Sladen and Nic Courtney who are irreplaceable members of our Doctor Who family ... you have no idea how painful it is to do work on this and see those happy images of them while struggling to grasp that they are both gone. We love you and will always miss you!

Until next time ... Keep contributing!

Michael Young | Editor | Designer | Creative Supervisor

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I would like to thank everyone who notices any spelling editing, and indeed writing this magazine yourself. Even just ask them to keep this knowledge to themselves. Either that any manner which you can & submit to our will, or Sonic. or you should feel most welcome in compiling, designing,

error, grammatical faux pas, or graphical misalignment and producing articles we most appreciate so please help us in sonicscrewdriver@dwcv.org.au



2011 DUCTUR III WHO CLUB OF VICTORIA



"I could never foget you, Sarah Jane..."



Goodbye, Sarah Jane....

Star Tributes

So many people have been shocked and distressed by the unexpected and sudden death of Elisabeth Sladen! None of us had any idea that she was fighting cancer, which ultimately took her life. We all awoke to the terrible news on 19April that she was gone. Since then there have been many tributes to her, here are some from Who realated people as we all say "Goodbye, Sarah Jane... I could never forget you!" ...



Sarah Jane dead? No, impossible! Impossible. Only last week I agreed to do six new audio adventures with her for Big Finish Productions. She can't be dead.

But she is: she died yesterday morning. Cancer. I had no idea she was ill; she was so private, never wanted any fuss, and now, gone. A terrible blow to her friends and a shattering blow for all those fans of the programme whose lives were touched every Saturday evening by her lovely heroic character, Sarah-Jane Smith.

Lis Sladen was very important to me, you know. When I joined the little world of Doctor Who, Lis was already a star. She had an enormous success with Jon Pertwee. She was good pals with the Brigadier, our

beloved Nicholas Courtney; she knew all the regular directors. She was adored by Barry Letts, the producer who cast her in the role. She always said she was Barry's girl. It was for that reason she decided to leave the show. But it was not necessary at all. The fans adored her, Philip Hinchcliffe, our new and glamorous producer, adored her, so did David Maloney, her favourite director.

Terry Walsh, the regular stunt man adored her. Once in deep, dark Wooky Hole caves Lis was almost swept away in a small boat, fifty feet from a terrifying black hole that looked like the entrance to hell. In a flash Terry Walsh dived in and caught the boat and all was well, thanks to the devotion of Terry. Lis was safe and the show could go on.

So when I replaced Jon Pertwee, it must have been an anxious time for Lis; it was a very anxious time for me. Following in the big footsteps of Jon was daunting. Tom Baker? Never heard of him. And so we started on the first story under Barry Letts as director. We did the location stuff first and I just obeyed orders; running about, with the Brigadier and that silly car Bessie Trotwood, I think it was called: too small for me, but also in its own way a character". Jon loved cars. But back in the rehearsal room things were quieter and there

was time to put in little details, time for Lis and me to get acquainted, time for me to try and make a little mark, so to speak. And Lis laughed at my silly antics; yes, she did, she laughed me to success. We both came from Liverpool, that small detail helped. We both loved old movies. And guite suddenly Lis and lan Marter and Tom Baker were a trio. It is so consoling when one is sad and bereft to remember the good times, the laughter, the glamour; yes, the glamour: we three switched on the lights at Blackpool! A very great honour. We performed a little melodrama directed by (guess who?) yes, David Maloney! And now Lis was adored by Ian Marter and Tom Baker too.

And it never ceased. And in the evenings Lis, would simply disappear back to wherever we were staying and the rest of us would often be raucous! And too soon she decided to leave; no fuss at all, all was calm. And Philip Hinchcliffe gave her lovely farewell party at the Hilton. Those sweet memories of happy days with Lis Sladen, the lovely, witty, kind and so talented Lis Sladen. I am consoled by the memories. I was there, I knew her, she was good to me and I shall always be grateful, and I shall miss her

From: www.tom-baker.co.uk



What struck me about Lis was her grace!

She welcomed me, educated me, and delighted me with her tales and adventures on Doctor Who.

And she also seemed to have a quality of youth that not many people retain as they go through life. Her grace and kindness will stay with me because she had

such qualities in abundance and shared them freely. I will miss her, as will the world of Doctor Who and all the Doctors that had the good pleasure to work with Lis Sladen

and travel the universe with Sarah Jane.

Matt Smith



Sarah Jane Tributes





Goodbye, Sarah Jane ...

Star Tributes



I just can't believe that Lis is gone. She seemed invincible.

The same woman who enchanted my childhood, enchanted my time on Doctor Who and enchanted generations who have watched her and fallen in love with her – just like I did. I feel very honoured to have shared a TARDIS with Sarah Jane Smith, and I feel very lucky to have shared some time with Lis Sladen. She was extraordinary!

David Tennant

Russell T Davies who brought the character of Sarah Jane back to the death of Lis Sladen. Great Doctor Who and who later created The Sarah Jane Adventures said: "I absolutely loved Lis. She was funny and cheeky and clever and just simply wonderful. The universe was lucky to have Sarah Jane Smith; the world was lucky to have Lis."

Steven Moffat, Doctor Who's current Lead Writer and Executive Producer said: "Sarah Jane Smith was everybody's hero when I was younger, and as brave and funny and brilliant as people only ever are in stories. But many years later, when I met the real Sarah-Jane Lis Sladen herself - she was exactly as any child ever have wanted her to be. Kind and gentle and clever: and a ferociously talented actress, of course, but in that perfectly English unassuming way."

John Barrowman, who worked with Sladen on Doctor Who, posted on twitter:"I loved my time on the Tardis with her. I am proud to have worked with such an icon of the sci fi world, your Dr Who family are very sad and will miss you and your beautiful smile."

Mary Tamm, who played Romana in the classic series, said: "Sad, sad day. Just heard the news of Elisabeth Sladen's death. I can honestly say she was one of the loveliest women I ever met beautiful, talented, charming and clever. I was over the moon for her when her career in who was resurrected with the Sarah Jane Adventures: she was brilliant in it. how we will all miss her. Goodbye Liz, you were loved more than you knew, dear friend."

Colin Baker Very sad to hear of sympathy for her husband and daughter. She was far too young to be lost to them.

Keith Jones, Director, BBC Cymru Wales which make The Sarah Jane Adventures, said:"A brilliant presence on screen and on set, she brought the excitement and energy of the Doctor Who family of programmes, of which we are very proud at BBC Wales, to a whole new generation. She will be missed by all at BBC Wales who worked with her."

Damian Kavanagh The Controller of CBBC said: "Lis brought joy, excitement and a sense of wonder to her many fans in her role as Sarah Jane Smith. She was adored by our young audience and I know all of them will miss her as much as I will."



Roger Carey, who represented Lis for many years, said: "She was not just a client, but a dear friend. She was so positive about life and her natural energy was intoxicating. She couldn't believe her luck when her career was resurrected in her own series.'



It is very difficult to listen to the commentary on Planet Of The Spiders without being constantly reminded that this was probably the last time that Lis and Nic were together ... such a huge loss to the Who community ... heartbreaking!

Sarah Jane <u>Tributes</u>





Goodbye, Sarah Jane....

Fan Tributes



It is still impossible to discuss or even think about the unexpected death of actress Elisabeth Sladenforever remembered as the Doctor's best friend, Sarah Jane Smith.

Born in Liverpool in February 1946, Elisabeth Sladen took an interest in acting from an early age; she joined the Liverpool Playhouse repertory company as assistant stage manager after drama school, where she would meet her future husband Brian Miller. After a stint touring the country in repertory, she settled in Manchester, during which she had her breakthrough television role in 1970, appearing as Anita Reynolds in Coronation Street. More small roles were to follow in popular shows like Doomwatch, Z Cars and Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em.

Then in 1973 came what would be her defining role as she was cast as the replacement companion for third Doctor **Jon Pertwee**. Following in the footsteps of popular companion Jo Grant played by **Katy Manning**,

Sladen was to hit the ground running as investigative journalist Sarah Jane Smith in her debut story *The*

Time Warrior, and over the next three years would see her popularity soar as she became part of what is arguably known as the "golden years" of Doctor Who alongside fourth Doctor Tom Baker, an era including the story frequently appearing top of fan polls, Genesis of the Daleks.

Despite choosing to leave the programme in 1976, with an emotional departure scene at the conclusion of the serial The Hand of Fear, Sladen later stated in interviews that although she had left Sarah Jane, "Sarah Jane never left me". Although she declined producer John Nathan-Turner's offer to come back as support for the Fourth Doctor's regeneration (being present at his own arrival at the end of Planet of the Spiders), she did return to the role for the 1981 pilot: having been described by the Doctor as his best friend, Sarah was to form her second long-lasting partnership with his "second-best friend" in K9 and Company.

Sladen was re-united with "her" Doctor, Jon Pertwee, in the 1983 20th anniversary celebration *The Five Doctors*, and again during the 1990s for the two radio stories *The Paradise of Death* and *The Ghosts of N-Space*, written and produced by the person who originally cast her, **Barry Letts** - the two would also be joined by another popular Doctor Who legend in the form of **Nicholas Courtney** as the Brigadier.

Outside of Doctor Who, Elisabeth continued to work in theatre and television, often alongside her husband Brian; roles included Josie Hall in *Take My Wife*, a small role in the film *Silver Dream Racer*, and as Lady Flimnap in a production of *Gulliver in Lilliput* by her former producer Barry Letts, followed a few years later in his production of *Alice in Wonderland* as the Cheshire Cat. However, with the birth of her daughter **Sadie** in 1985, she was to focus more on her family.

However, Sarah would never be far from her life, with the actress continuing to be a popular guest at Doctor Who conventions, and also featuring in a series of audio adventures from **Big Finish**. Then, in 2005, a discussion with the revived Doctor Who's head writer and long-term fan of hers, **Russell T Davies**, led to a guest appearance in the second series adventure *School Reunion*, which re-united Sarah and K9 with the Doctor in his most recent incarnation (**David Tennant**) - her appearance proved instrumental in cementing the connection between the 20th and 21st Century productions in a way that the Daleks couldn't!

The character, and Sladen's performance, proved to be as popular as ever, if not more so, and led to her own starring role in spin-off series, *The* Sarah Jane Adventures; the CBBC series continued on from her reintroduction in Doctor Who as an independent investigator of alien activity - now joined by her own young assistants as well as her faithful K9 and winning a whole new legion of fans, both young and old. It is also a testament to the strength of the show that it has been graced by the appearance of the both the Brigadier (Nicholas Courtney), and the Doctor himself in both his Tenth incarnation in The Wedding of Sarah Jane Smith (David Tennant's final performance as the Doctor), and Eleventh in the form of Matt Smith in Death of the Doctor where Sladen was also to come 'full circle' by performing with the actress she 'replaced' way back in 1973, Katy Manning, aka Jo Grant (Jones).

The series itself has gone on to win awards, including the **Royal Television Society** award for *Children's Drama* recently.

At the time of her death there are still three stories of *The Sarah Jane Adventures* to be broadcast on television, (six episodes) and it is confirmed that there will be no more to be made after this without Lis.

Her autobiography, *Who's That Girl* is due out later in the year and will be a must-have for most fans.

The world is a duller place without you, Lis Sladen! Various



THE SARAH JANE COMPANION

A Coincidental Tribute: The Sarah Jane Companion Volume Two

The ultimate guide to the adventures of the Doctor's best-loved companion, as played by Elisabeth Sladen.

This Doctor Who Magazine Special Edition #28 takes you behind the

scenes of Series Three and Four of *The Sarah Jane Adventures* with an indepth episode guide – includes original storylines, deleted scenes, media appearances, ratings info and thousands of facts about the day-to-day life of making the award-winning programme. All illustrated with gorgeous, never-before-seen photographs, this collectors' edition

examines Prisoner of the Judoon, The Mad Woman in the Attic, The Wedding of Sarah Jane Smith, The Eternity Trap, Mona Lisa's Revenge, The Gift, The Nightmare Man, The Vault of Secrets, Death of the Doctor, The Empty Planet, Lost in Time and Goodbye, Sarah Jane Smith, as well as Alien Files, specially-made trailers and more. (Check with Minotaur ~ Pg 2)

Sarah Jane Tributes



Goodbye, Sarah Jane....

Fan Tributes



Dear Nick and Lis.

Sometimes, on very, very rare occasions, something happens that is impossible to properly conceive. The death of someone we know is one of these things. Recently, Whovians have had to deal with two inconceivable events. First the passing of Nicholas Courtney and then the sudden passing of Elisabeth Sladen. When I first heard of Nicholas Courtney's passing, I thought there must have been some mistake. How? Then I read Tom Baker's beautiful tribute and I learnt that he had been suffering from cancer for some time. I was in a profound state of shock. As I was finally getting over this passing, and my excitement was reaching epic proportions, I learn of Lis Sladen's passing. I am still not over this one. It feels like a sucker punch to the gut.

One heartless person said to me the other day; "Why are you so upset? You didn't even know them." No, I didn't know them on a personal level. But what happens when you really, really love a program, to the level of which you escape within, and that you watch it so regularly that these people feel like your family. It feels like one of your best friends has died. Yeah, I know, that sounds stupid and it will, to anyone who doesn't know that feeling. But once you feel it, it hurts so much.

Life is fragile and sometimes it breaks. Far too often. But the impact that they have had on my life is massive.

When I get bullied (I'm that sort of guy), sometimes it gets too much and I just consider giving up. But I then I would watch a classic serial with Lis and Nick and it felt like a bumper support package for life. They made one person happy and that sometimes life was worthwhile even when it didn't look like it. Sometimes escaping into a fantasy world makes you see the real world in a different way and every time I watch a serial I look at the world in a new and better way, and that has a lot to do with people like Nick and Lis. I hope that they knew that.

With both of these cases, the deaths came as a terrible shock. And for a long time I couldn't deal with the loss of Nick Courtney. Not at all. I couldn't concentrate in classes and my mood swung dramatically. I realised I needed to speak to someone about this. Mum and I sat down and she told me about the story of her Nan. Her Nan had cancer and for a long time Mum didn't want to see her in that way. Then one day she woke up, and said she needed to see her Nan quickly, as it was likely to be the last time, just a feeling. At the hospital, Mum described seeing her Nan in that way, so crippled by pain, "horrible and tragic. I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy." Mum said she cried all the way home. The next day, she received a phone call which said that Nan had passed away about half-an-hour after Mum left the hospital. At the funeral, Mum's mother

was annoyed that Mum had not cried. When she later questioned her about it, Mum's reply was this: "She is in a better place without the pain."

This story was personally very comforting for me to hear. Tom Baker wrote in his

tribute to Courtney that it was an "ordeal seeing a beloved old pal so reduced by illness." We know that Lis Sladen and Nick Courtney were feeling pain and know they are in a better place, where they can see Jon Pertwee & Roger Delgado. I wish to express that our thoughts and prayers are with Nick Courtney's wife Karen, his son Philip & daughter Bella and Lis Sladen's husband Brian Miller & daughter Sadie.

Nick Courtney, Lis Sladen, I just want you to know that you have helped me through so much, I wish I could have met you both and that I will miss you forever.

RIP ~ Nick Courtney & Lis Sladen You were the best!

JAMES GARDINER <



TWITTER Tributes:

Mark Gatiss: A tear, Sarah Jane?' Farewell to the wonderful, irreplaceable Lis Sladen.

Paul Cornell: Very sorry to hear about Elisabeth Sladen, a great actor, special to everyone of my generation and a whole new one.

Gareth Roberts: Can't really find the words. Goodbye, our wonderful wonderful Lis.

Matthew Graham: Sarah Jane was a childhood pal, a childhood crush, a childhood hero. And she never stopped being. Goodbye Mistress. Xxx

Lizo Mzimba: Very sad news that Elisabeth Sladen has died.

Nicola Bryant: I'm so sorry to have to say I've just had a call to say Liz Sladen has died. It's too much to take in, but it's true. How tragically young.

Phil Ford: Sarah Jane was my Companion as a kid. To later

know Lis and write for her and share a laugh with her was a privilege.

Joe Lidster: The last time I saw Lis. http://bit.ly/9uP9QJ The interview shows her fantastic sense of humour & how much she cared about the show. Lovely.

James Moran: Without Elisabeth Sladen, the world is a less magical place. Can't believe she's gone. You'll be missed, Sarah Jane. So

Murray Gold: Elisabeth Sladen enchanted three generations, never seeming to age, tire or cloud. RIP

Toby Hadoke: I hate today, unbelievable. My eyes are stinging with tears. My children will be devastated tomorrow. By God she was good. RIP Lis Sladen.

Tom Spilsbury: I feel utterly drained. Farewell, Lis - I'm so sorry I didn't have the chance to say goodbye. We'll do you proud

in DWM, I promise.

Benjamin Cook: Lovely lady. Met her many times over the years. She was always so kind. Heartfelt condolences to Brian & Sadie. Such sad news.

Clayton Hickman: Will miss Lis Sladen more than I can say. A beautiful person and an outstanding actor. Oh it's all too sad for words.

Gary Gillatt: A hand, tight on your arm; anxious, uncertain. But you're amazing, you would say. Thank you, she'd reply, are you sure? Yes, Lis. Amazing.

Stephen Fry: What terribly sad news about Elisabeth Sladen - her Sarah Jane was part of my childhood. Deepest sympathy to her family.

Finn Jones: saddened to hear elisabeth sladen has passed away - a truly beautiful, talented and wonderful woman - a pleasure and honour to work with.

A TV Tribute:

The BBC broadcast a special show called My Sarah Jane: A Tribute to Elisabeth Sladen. Shown on the CBBC channel at 6:45pm, directly after Doctor Who finished on BBC1

This 15 minute programme is both a tribute and a celebration of Elisabeth Sladen. It brings together stories from friends and colleagues and archive of material to remind us of Sarah Jane's journey, from companion to the Third Doctor to the central character in her own award-winning series!

Sarah Jane Tributes





10

2011 DUCTUR III WHO CLUB OF VICTORIA

SONIC · SCREWDRIVER MAGAZINE

Volume 4.1 - Issue #181/#182

May 2011

END OF AN ERA

INSIDE:

Tribute to our hero Brigadier!

NICHOLAS COURTNEY

16 December 1929 ~ 22 February 2011

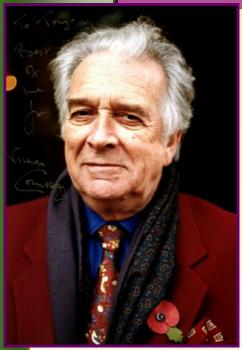
"Chap there with the wings, five rounds rapid..."



Bye Bye, Brigadier...

TOM BAKER and CHRIS TYLER Remember

Too much loss, too much sadness ... TOM BAKER and other fans of Nick remember the man who became The Doctor's longest running companion and is missed by millions...



It's with much sadness that we note the passing of Nicholas Courtney, a man who was, at least for the Third Doctor, as much a part of Doctor Who as the TARDIS Console or Sonic Screwdriver and just as indispensible. Nicholas will of course be best remembered for his portrayal as the Brigadier against the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 7th Doctors but as an actor he first appeared as Bret Vyon with William Hartnell in the Daleks Master Plan. He reported that Hartnell took a shine to him and told him he was wasting his time with his current agent and Hartnell would look after him and sign him up with his agent. Apparently he didn't work for a year after that.

William Nicholas Stone Courtney was born in Cairo, Egypt in 1929, as a child his parents moved around a great deal as his father was a British Diplomat, he was educated in France, Kenya and Egypt. Courtney was in national service for 18 months but decided to leave as he didn't want to spend his life in the army, it is perhaps ironic then that he is best known to us for portraying the quintessential British soldier: loyal, brave, skilled, nononsense, highly trained, conservative and with the ability to only take in a couple of new concepts at a time. In the 60's and 70's Nicholas Courtney stared in may famous cult TV shows such as The Saint, The Avengers, The Champions, Callan, Randall And Hopkirk (Deceased) and Doomwatch back when the British TV landscape seemed able to handle many fantasy/sci -fi shows at once. But of course it was Doctor Who that brought Courtney fame and his more recurring role.

The qualities that Courtney brought to the role are evident, he inhabits the role of the soldier, the Brigadier exudes military bearing, he has his duty and all else is inconsequential, but there's time for a nice cup of tea and a joke when appropriate.

We can thank noted Doctor Who director Douglas Camfield for identifying Courtney as a talent, remembering him from The Daleks Masterplan, Courtney was selected to play the mysterious Colonel Lethbridge-Stuart in The Web of Fear. Initially selected to play Captain Knight he was bumped up after the actor who was to play Lethbridge-Stuart

Lethbridge-Stuart was well received and was brought back for Terrance Dick's great experiment The Invasion, meant to be a pilot to see if Doctor Who would work essentially Earth bound. Responses to UNIT were enthusiastic, this led to the landscape of Doctor Who changing dramatically. In 1970 it came back in colour, with a new Doctor, and a new ensemble cast which included Brigadier Alistair Gordon Lethbridge-Stuart.

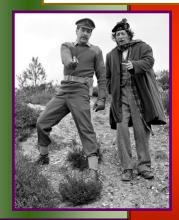
The experiment was a huge success and the ratings continuously went up during the 1970's due in no small part to UNIT. Kids were invited to join UNIT, there were UNIT buttons, UNIT radios and a UNIT Club. What child wouldn't want to be associated with a military outfit unambiguously on the side of good, ready to fight aliens, with the Brigadier as their leader?

Courtney returned to the role many time since the 70's both on screen, in a play and latterly in Audio format where he starred in Fourteen Big Finish productions. Although the character never appeared in the new series he was mentioned many times and Courtney did, so fortunately for us, make one final appearance as the Brigadier in a recent episode of The Sarah Jane Adventures.

Courtney said of Doctor Who: "When I look back on my career, I think I might have done more classical work, but I jolly well don't mind. A friend who's done a lot of that said, "Yes, but look, you're rich." Which is kind of true."

Nicholas Courtney was 81. .

Chris Tyler



Brigadier Tributes

battle with cancer. I went to say goodbye to him on Friday at the wonderful hospice near Belsize Park in North London. The lady in charge said he was very stoical. And indeed he was. It was so distressing to see him so weak and yet so strong in resignation. My jokes were received with a generous effort

The Brigadier is dead!

Nick Courtney died yesterday

after a very long and painful

from Nick to smile. I was with Michael McManus who helped me through the ordeal of seeing a beloved old pal so reduced by illness.

Of all the characters in Doctor Who there is no doubt that he was the most loved by the fans for his wonderful portraval of the rather pompous Brigadier. "Five rounds rapid" was the line we all loved, always addressed to Sergeant Benton. Nick's close friends simply adored him. There was a certain innocence in his personality that was utterly endearing. He was very easy to tease, and I did my share. which made him shake his head in disbelief when he realised he had been had.

He was a wonderful

companion and his friends would call each other or e-mail to relate the latest little stories of a night out with the Brig. He had a marvellous resonant voice which he used brilliantly when it was his turn to spin a yarn. And his background was fascinating too: born in Alexandria, Egypt, he was brought up speaking French and Arabic. Later he perfected English and after a few drinks he would speak in Latin tags to great comic effect.

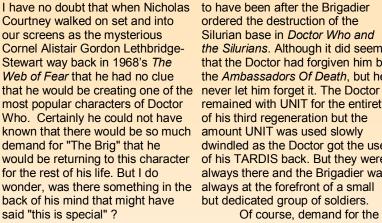
We shall miss him terribly!

Tom Baker <



Bye Bye, Brigadier...

CHRIS TYLER and LUKE FILMER Remember



Part of the alure of the character in that first story was the mystery surrounding the man, was he a good guy, was he a bad guy? The fact that Courtney was able to capatalise on this also meant that Douglas Camfield remembered him well when it was time to test the waters on what would become the format for the 1970's in The Invasion. Colonel Lethbridge-Stewart was to return this time as the Brigadier in a story testing the public's reaction to the concept of **UNIT** and stories set almost exclusively on earth. Having the Doctor attached to the United Nations Inteligence Taskforce was a great ploy but it would have meant little without the relationship between the Doctor and the Brig.

It wasn't always smooth, indeed at first it was almost a marriage of convenience for both parties but slowly over time, mutual respect and finally friendship grew, but of course, it was not without it's ups and downs. The biggest

to have been after the Brigadier ordered the destruction of the Silurian base in Doctor Who and the Silurians. Although it did seem that the Doctor had forgiven him by the Ambassadors Of Death, but he remained with UNIT for the entirety of his third regeneration but the amount UNIT was used slowly dwindled as the Doctor got the use of his TARDIS back. But they were always there and the Brigadier was always at the forefront of a small but dedicated group of soldiers.

Of course, demand for the Brigadier didn't end with the close of the Pertwee era, he would accompany the forth Doctor in his first story and he, as well as UNIT, returned when the Zygons started taking down oil rigs off the coast of Scotland. It wasn't until Season Twenty the Brigadier graced our screens again but then we got a double dose in both Mawdryn Undead and The Five Doctors where he once again played against Patrick Troughton. Although it must be said that the UNIT reunion in The Five Doctors would have been something of an anticlimax if the Doctor and Brigadier hadn't been kidnapped by the Time Scoop, given only three people bothered to turned up. Mardwyn Undead attemped to give the Brigadier a life after UNIT but opinion is divided on how successful this was. Whatever the truth, there is one thing that is always true about what we see when we see Alastair: he's a normal man who's been trained by the Army to think in simple terms,

coming to grips with a universe that has inhabitants far beyond human knowledge and understanding with a complexity that would stump men with far greater imagination. Yet he is totally unflappable and moves with a surety that to us the viewer, who knows all, might seem ignorant or simplistic but must seem very reassuring to the men under him.

The last time the Brigadier was portrayed on screen was in The Sarah Jane Adventures which sadly showed his frailty in this precious reunion. Before that it was in the 2009 short "Liberty Hall", which is just a conversation with the Brigadier, which is freely available on You-Tube, but unfortunately it's not good.

It's probably preferable for me at least, to remember the Brigadier as he was in Battlefield. As the Doctor's mythology was evolving in Season 24 and his legend was becoming more apparent, so too was the Brigadier's never more obvious than in this story where he plays Arthur to the Doctor's Merlin. Like Arthur in defeating the Destroyer, he proved himself worthy even if he was only doing his duty, having slept (retired) awakening to active duty when England needed him most.

So it would be nice to think that some of that mythology has been kept alive, with the Brigadier sleeping again in Avalon waiting for a great menace to strike so he can awake point to the nearest soldier and shout "Chap with the wings there, five rounds rapid".

Chris Tyler

argument we never saw would had It was a slow start to their enduring friendship. The Brigadier was wary of the Doctor's claim he'd regenerated in Spearhead From Space. In The Silurians a rift developed between them after the Brigadier put paid to the Silurians' return to the surface of the Earth (nicely referenced again at the start of Ambassadors). Inferno pitted the Doctor against a ruthless eye-patched version called the Brigade-Leader on a parallel Earth, but in the closing moments of Inferno that never fails to put a smile on your face, the Doctor and the Brigadier became the best of friends for years to come.

In the 1970s I watched as the Brigadier battled alongside the Doctor against countless alien invasions of Earth and smoothed the transition of the Third Doctor to the Fourth as he'd done from the Second to the Third.

In the 1980s he returned 3 times accompanying the Fifth and Seventh Doctors. Nicholas Courtney is again on top form, portraying the Brigadier with memory loss, 2 versions of the character in the one story again, reunited with earlier incarnations of his friend (as he'd done in The Three Doctors) & fulfilling his duty even in his retirement. It was also in the 1980s that I saw Nicholas Courtney's first performance as the Brigadier in The Invasion, relishing the responsibility he'd been given leading UNIT.

I've always liked the surviving clip from The Daleks' Masterplan Part 4 in which Courtney plays SSS Agent Bret Vyon agonising over the fact "I can't sacrifice everything just for the sake of one girl" - his duty clashing with his moral fibre - so it was a fantastic bonus being able to see him in a full episode from this missing story. It's a pity we can't see his first appearance as Colonel Lethbridge-Stewart in The Web of Fear, but we can be thankful for what we do have and that is an actor who brought to life a character that's an iconic part of Doctor Who! Luke Filmer <=



STEVEN MOFFAT: Following the death of Nicholas Courtney, Steven Moffat, Doctor Who's Lead /riter and Executive roducer, epitomised the feelings of many when he gave his reaction to this sad news: only met Nicholas Courtney once and very briefly - but he was as kind and generous and funny as his reputation suggests. And on creen, his perfectly pitched performance as the Brigadier carved a very special place in the history of Doctor Who. Not just because he could be grave and funny at the same time, and wise and silly in the same moment, and not just because you could still love him vhen he was clearly in the wrong, or because he could point a gun at you and still somehow vinkle - but because out of all the people the Doctor has met, in all of space and time, Nicholas Courtney's Brigadier Alistair Gordon Lethbridge-Stewart as the only one who was ever his boss. Somewhere out there, the Doctor just



got a little lonelier.

Brigadier Tributes





SONIC · SCREWDRIVER MAGAZINE



Interview inside this section:

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Michael Young ~ Interviewed by Jack!

Sonic Interview



Interviewed by Jack!

Hey there ... Captain Jack 😇



(the Alternate DWCV Universe version) here again!

This time I am proud to return to present this exclusive interview with long time Sonic Editor, Michael Young ... conducted early 2010 when I presented him with the Double Gamma awards at his home in Melbourne ... Enjoy!

So here I am at his front door ... should I knock?? No, I'll ring the bell ... Ding! Dong! ... and I wait ... after a few minutes the door opens...

- M: Jack!? What are you doing here? You know I hate surprise visits!
- J: Thanks, good to see you too! I have something for you...
- M: I've heard that one before...
- J: I hope you can handle it...
- M: I'm sorry, what exactly do you want me to handle? Hang on, this is getting out of hand, how about we go again from the start...
- J: Go again, already? Very impressive...
- M: JACK! Come in, and stop the innuendo ... what is this surprise you have for me?
- J: Before that, who is this?
- M: Jack!, meet Merlin, our new little boy ... (Jack! gets lots of kisses

from Merlin) ... after 12 years we had to put our beautiful girl Daria down a few months back, she was in too much pain ... we adopted this mad boy a couple of weeks ago ... he is quite a handful and I have had "baby brain" since getting him because we have to keep a constant eye on him ...

J: He is so cute ... adorable!

M: He sure is ... now, what was it you have for me?

J: It is my great honour to present you with these awards on behalf of the Australian Sci-Fi community ... the **Double Gamma Award for Best Editor** and for **Best Magazine**!

M: What? OMG! Amazing, Wonderful! WOW! Jack, thank you! This is really fantastic! Can I do a speech??

J: Of course...

And finally, I want to thank everyone who voted for me, you obviously know talent when you see it!!!

J: Thanks to you too Michael, for allowing me to continue with my often controversial reviews and commentaries on the world of Doctor Who and beyond.

M: A bit of controversy is always good for getting people out of their comfort zones and to promote contribution and comment. You have been the backbone of Sonic for a number of years now and

we are sad to see you stepping back now, and jealous that you are "getting a life"!

J: I'll still be around, just not as much. And there is one other that needs to be thanked ...

M: Was that "thanked" or "spanked" ???

Yes, Ian A Chapman, our current President and coeditor and producer and whatever else he wants to call himself. Without his encouragement,

agreement, ideas and all

purveying twisted sense of humour (if only you could see his 'fake' cover for Sonic issue #176 ... truly HOT!) then we would never have been able to achieve some of the very special results that we have with our Sonics.

(We have now moved into the Home Office and settled in for the chat)

- J: This is amazing, you are obviously proud of what you have done with Sonic, you have every one of your covers framed on the walls of this office!
- M: Yes, very proud, one of the greatest achievements of my 48 years. I find it so very inspiring to have all these great covers on the wall ... keeps me going when I just want to say "No more, I want time for myself and not have to worry about the next Sonic"... which happens every issue.



M: Well, this is all such a surprise...

Thanks mum for having me and helping to support my Doctor Who addiction when I was younger, for typing that script for the Doctor Who Movie that I made back in High School in 1980, and teaching me how to knit that 17 foot Tom Baker scarf I had back then.

A big thanks to my longsuffering partner, David, who describes himself as a Sonic Widow, and to our beautiful departed fluffy daughter Daria, who sacrificed countless walks for the sake of Sonic production deadlines... love you's!!!

Also a big THANK YOU to the rest of the Sonic Team, both regular and guests, without whom it would never have happened, especially you Jack! for your long-running contributions ... this is for all of you!

Merlin

Exclusive Interview

This interview was done a few months back, before we lost Lis Sladen and Nick Courtney ... I also find their loss so hard to come to terms with ...

Who will never be the same! I will always miss them! ~ Jack!



Interviewed by Jack!





J: How did it all start?

M: I was a member of DWCV many years ago, left for a while then returned in about 2004. I loved reading Doctor Who Novels back then and began to review them for Sonic, becoming a very regular contributor. Eventually the previous Editor, Andrew Saunders, decided that he needed to take a break after many years of editing Sonic. I had various ideas about how Sonic could be improved while I was contributing and jumped at the chance when they were looking for a new Editor to take over from him, Ian was the only other member who showed interest in editing Sonic so we decided to try working on it together ... that's how this winning team was born.

J: That was easy ...

M: Actually, 'easy" is the last thing I would call the process of editing Sonic! We initially had to teach ourselves how to use MS Publisher from scratch, which we obviously did, then start to change and improve the look and style of Sonic. It was SOOOO much harder than we ever imagined, but also so very rewarding.

J: What is your favourite part of the process?

M: Holding the completed Colour version of each Sonic in my hand, fresh from the printers ... that is an amazing feeling of achievement and success! As for my favourite part of the actual creating, that would be doing the covers.

J: Least favourite part?

M: The time and searching it takes to find all the images, save them, reduce them down to a small pixel size, and then fit them into the image bars etc without distorting them ... it is such a pain, but it turns out looking great every time... it literally takes hours! The same with River Song's Photo Diary, it turns out to be brilliant but it is a pain in the ass to do!

J: Issue #168 introduced you new Sonic Screwdriver logo, it is brilliant, how did you do that?

M: Just something that popped into my head. I got some help from someone who is good with a different program to make it under my direction. I love it too.

J: You have created some beautiful covers, what is your favourite?

M: Definitely the Donna cover for issue #169. It is like the cover of some fashion magazine ... I am very proud of that one. Also the unique covers we have done with stars from he show actually holding our magazines, those cover photos are just so very, very special ... I particularly love



the recent Christmas one with Sylvester wearing the Santa hat, and we had taken that one long before the recent Christmas issue of DWM was released with Matt Smith wearing a Santa hat. There but for money and location go we!

J: You have said before that the Official Doctor Who Magazine from the UK is an inspiration for you.

M: Yes, I have said that my dream was to be the Editor of the Official Doctor Who Magazine in the UK and it has been a great measuring stick for what we have been doing with Sonic. RTD wanted to Produce Doctor Who, I wanted to Edit the Official DW Mag! During the last few years there were periods where our magazine was more attractive than theirs,

some times they go too far and get too cleaver for their own good. There is a fine line between what is eye-catching and what is overwhelming and off-putting and they sometimes cross that line. Just because you can do it, does not mean you should! Sometimes I have also found some of their issues completely uninteresting, even boring because they were filled with pointless stuff.

J: Do you have a favourite issue of the Official DW Mag???

M: No not really, have some least favourites. The recent *Issue 428* had the worst cover I had seen in a long, long time ... I know they were deliberately trying to make it look like a typical Who Weekly style issue but it was just awful, totally classless, unattractive and cheap!

J: What was their best cover for 2010?

M: They are just over here, let's take a look ... no, no, that Sylvester cover is rubbish ... 424 the wedding cover is nice ... no, Cyberman cover is awful, no, no ... they are really all so dull and uninspiring aren't they ... the Dalek cover is very good ... I did not realise how uninspiring they were, when they have so many amazing resources at their fingertips ... they need me to sort them out! :-)

J: From the Who related people you have met, who would be your favourite?

M: Definitely Paul McGann, he was so great when we interviewed him here in Melbourne earlier this year. He was totally here for us, and appreciative of the opportunity to come here and contribute to the fan event. I also ran into him at Auckland airport when I was returning from New Zealand recently, he was there for Armageddon, he remembered me and we had a lovely chat.





We also now welcome Millie to the family who has provided endless days of amusement, distraction, mess and madness to our lives ... she is adorable and a great little sister to Merlin!

ExclusiveInterview





Exclusive Interview



Exclusive Editor Interview

Interviewed by Jack!



J: Who is your favourite Doctor?

M: It was always Tom Baker, he was my Doctor and the one who got me interested in the show back in the 70's. I was also very fond of David Tennant but now. without guestion, I think that Matt Smith is absolutely exceptional as the Eleventh Doctor. For someone so young he really does have that ancient

wisdom at times as well as a totally infectious joy. Matt Smith is magnificent ... even better than David Tennant!

J: Least favourite Doctor?

M: Sylvester McCoy. Partly because he was the Doctor during my "Born Again Christian" phase and I rarely watched Doctor Who then because

they kept telling me it was evil. Also, when I got out of that circus and did watch the episodes I found that, although many of the stories were very good, McCoy was obnoxious and the character was written wrongly. He did redeem himself somewhat by wearing the Santa Hat for our cover!!! The runner up to him is

Christopher Eccleston because he was not the slightest bit interested in the responsibilities that come with such a privileged role and he ran away after only one vear ... there are many other actors who could have been even more effective in bringing back the show in 2005.

J: Your favourite companion?

M: Sarah Jane Smith! I am so thrilled that she now has her own successful series. She always had such a solid character, with charm and integrity and a real purpose away from the Doctor. I also love Donna, she was fantastic and exceeded my expectations by miles. I also

Sullivan... both fantastic characters and people and, sadly, we lost lan Marter far too soon! River Song is brilliant too.

J: Do you have a least favourite companion?

M: Rose and Ace. Rose because there was far too much of that in-love-with-the-Doctorkissy-kissy rubbish going on that overtook her character. And Ace because she was too rebellious and her calling the Doctor "Professor" all the time just drove me crazy, it was so idiotic! I also found that all of Peter Davison's companions were a bit annoying and ineffective, both in character and delivery.

J: Do you have any thoughts on Life, the Universe & everything?

> M: Many would think that the answer to Life, the Universe and Everything is 42 ... but it is not! It is not even 48 ... but I have learned so much in my 48 years of this life and I now know, beyond any question, the only thing that matters is Love! Everything else is just clouds in our eyes obscuring

this truth from view. The world is driven by religion and greed and all of our problems are because of these two man-made obsessions! All religions are basically good and the same ... it is what man has done to interpret, edit and structure them that has twisted them. They talk of love, which is from God, but if



think that Amy and Rory are a winning combination and make the perfect team with Matt Smith's Doctor, I hope they have a long run together! Leela was great too but poorly used and a wasted opportunity, she is utilised much better in the Companion Chronicles. I also have to mention the Brigadier and Harry







Whoniverse Edition ~ #166 ~ April 2008

Interviewed by Jack!



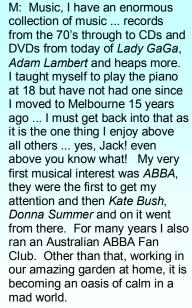
they talk of judging others, hate or needing money ... then that is from man, not God! The positive parts are wonderful but the fear part is nothing to do with God, it is from man in order to control others. Religion can also be such an easy cop-out for so many people who won't take full responsibility for their lives and their choices. When I was younger I always cried out to God ... "I didn't choose to be here. I don't want this crap life!" because my early years were horrible, but when I realised that indeed I DID choose this life, it all become immeasurably easier.

J: So what do you believe?

I know that I have been here before and that I may be here again and I am here only to love and learn the lessons that I have chosen to face before I was even born. Then I will rest and may choose to return for my soul to learn more and grow more. There is a lot more to it but that is the basis. It is not in opposition to what I learned from religions but rather a higher view of the eternal process. For all the answers read the book: Many Lives, Many Masters by Dr Brian L Weiss. This book literally changed my life more than any other, even more than the Bible. WOW! That was deep wasn't it ... but really simple as well!

Only LOVE is real ... all the rest is just dust in the wind!

- J: That is brilliant. And how do you see your future?
- M: Simply focussing less on the distracting things, such as doing Sonics and more on my own spiritual progress. There has been a lot of time spent giving, now it is time to refresh.
- J: So are you saying that you will stop Editing Sonic for good?
- M: Well, yes, I guess I am. I really think it is time to have a break from it. It used to be exciting to get into each new Sonic. Now, three years and 15 issues later, it is agony to do the tasks that I used to love, and I believe it is the same for lan as well. We need a break, we are tired and drained of most of our creativity. It is just time for others to step up and give it a go! We will still be around to help, advise, direct ... and I would still like to do the final "proof and pretty-up" before it is sent off to print, but that is it, that is all I have the energy for now.
- Yes, Issue #180/181 will be my last!
- J: So who will take over?
 M: We have a couple of people in mind ... I am sure we will have that all sorted before the next issue is due out. It definitely takes a team of two or more to be able to sustain this level of quality.
- J: Will you continue to contribute articles to Sonic?
- M: Sure, once I am feeling rested and inspired again.
- J: What are your other interests?



J: Have you met any of them?

M: I was very privileged to meet and interview Bjorn when he was here in 2001 for the premiere of *MAMMA MIA!* in Melbourne, but he is the only one. I was interviewed on a number of TV shows back then and Radio and press, most recently I was on ABC Collectors. We saw a lot of ABBA related places when we went to Sweden a few years ago but we didn't stalk them at their home or anything like that. The interview is at my very much unfinished website at:

http://home.vicnet.net.au/ ~abba/











Exclusive Interview



Interviewed by Jack!



J: What other TV Shows do you love?

Sarah Jane Adventures, Merlin and Torchwood, of course. Smallville, Stargate (not Atlantis), Sanctuary, Legend Of The Seeker, Sherlock, Brothers & Sisters, Desperate Housewives, Dexter, Ghost Whisperer, Glee, Graham Norton Show, Ellen Degeneris, Bondi Vet (he is so hot), Home And Away, Packed To The Rafters (they love that in New Zealand), Sea Patrol, The Young And The Restless (got really pissed off when they took that of Channel Nine), Being Human, True Blood... I also love 60 Minute Makeover from the UK, I wish they would do it here in Aus, our place needs a bit of a lift after five years!

- J: You also told me that you love New Zealand TV Shows.
- M: Yes, the accent is brilliant ... really choice, Bro ... sweet as! There are two New Zealand shows in particular that I adore ... Outrageous Fortune and Shortland Street, you can see from some of the included photos that they were the only reason for us to visit Auckland on our recent New Zealand holiday. The absolute highlight was finding the actual house exterior they used for six years in Outrageous Fortune and taking photos out front ... Fabulous! The show is now finished and the sets from the TV studio are being moved to the museum in Auckland, so we hope to go back next year to see that too ... I really am TV obsessed!
- J: You said it! Do they have tours to the house like they do here for Neighbours?
- M: No, they don't, in fact, they try to keep the location a secret so that the people who live there and their neighbours are not hassled. If you look at Google Maps you find that the street view of the house is blocked, but you can still tell from above that it is the right

house ... silly really, they have a bus stop right out front anyway!

- J: Are we allowed to say the address??
- M: Of course not! But I will anyway ... David found it on a fan website: 85 Royal View Road, West Auckland!!!
- J: Favourite Doctor Who related books?
- M: My favourite DW Novel is still Wolfsbane by Jacqueline Rayner, she is a brilliant DW writer and it is a crime that she is not writing episodes for the show. I also love the book that *Ian Marter* wrote



called *Harry Sullivan's War*, he should have had his own spin-off as well. Favourite DW non-fiction book is *The Writers' Tale* by RTD, the original version is the best overall book because the extended version had too much stuff that was similar to the original.

- J: Favourite DW item?
- M: Probably my 11 Doctor box of figures that David gave me for my birthday ... oh dear, 48 and that is what I get for my birthday ... that does sound tragic!
- J: Is there something you would call your greatest success during your time with Sonic?
- M: I would say that my greatest achievement during my time with the club in general was to help make the position of Sonic Editor as a full voting part of the DWCV Executive Committee ... right from when I joined the club and Andrew was Editor of Sonic I have thought it a crime that his role was not one of the four Exec Committee positions! One of the biggest problems with DWCV is that the

vast majority of members do not attend AGM's and do not vote on who gets onto the committee ... so there is a tiny minority of members with their own agendas who are making all the election decisions for the other 80 or 90 percent of the club! Then many of them sit there and bitch about everything but are not willing to step up and contribute in an effective way to Sonic or to the club meetings etc. The Editor of Sonic represents the entire membership of DWCV and the Editor clearly has the full support of the majority of members since they keep renewing their memberships

... therefore, the Editor, whoever that is, should have a MAJOR say in who is elected to positions of power and decision making and what happens in the club generally. Quite clearly, I did not campaign for this for my own selfish reasons, as the position does not become Exec Committee until July this year when I will no longer be Editor of Sonic ... it is the principle of it, simply the right and logical thing for a club which has a membership based on it's magazine rather than meetings!

Then there is all the promotional material I have created over the recent years. I have always thought that those small photocopied pieces of paper that clubs use to get members are just tacky,



Exclusive Interview

It seems that I will not be leaving Sonic after all ... at least not for the near future ... keep the contributions coming!!!! MY



Interviewed by Jack!



cheap and uninviting. So I created these brilliant "rack cards" to be used in places like Minotaur to promote the club and attract new members.

As well as that I have created dozens of promotional postcards and other giveaways to go with Sonics and four recent conventions which I am very proud of, including full colour large postcards of each Sonic cover for the benefit of those who get a black and white magazine. Take a look at the next page (12) to see some of what I created ... there is no other fan club I have found that ever had so much amazing giveaways! I though it was very funny when the official DWM from the UK recently started putting bonus photo cards of previous covers in with their latest issues ... nothing new there ... we have been doing it for years! (See page 22)

J: You are right, you have created an amazing collection of work and you leave a huge legacy, you should be very, very proud of what you have done!



M: Thank you, and the other thing that I am very proud of is being able to Pay Forward the gift of being able to create and edit this magazine ... one way of doing that was by supporting the great work and creativity of Manuel Bouw and publishing seven (so far) individual fan comics of his work as an extra to Sonic Screwdriver (see below). I am sure he will find was to pay that forward to others in the future. I strongly believe that we should give to others when there is a need or opportunity, and instead of expecting something back, expect them to give to others without return ... that can really change the world. Everyone should try it!

J: Any final words?

M: Since we are introducing new Editors I thought it would be very, very helpful for them if everyone could respond to a few questions in a survey about Sonic Screwdriver Magazine ... give them a good guide of where to go in the future. So everyone, here's your chance to have your say! ...















2011 Readers' Survey:

- 1 Favourite thing about Sonic?
- 2 Least favourite thing about Sonic?

(Don't say that it runs late ... there IS NO ACTUAL publishing schedule!)

- 3 Favourite article?
- 4 Least favourite article?
- 5 Favourite issue (#165 to #181)
- 6 Least favourite issue (#165 to #181)
- 7 Favourite regular features?

(Jack! ... of all trades.../ River Song's photo diary/ Adam Richard's Big Finish/ Manuel Bouw's comics/ lan's President's Report/ Archive 6)

- 8 Least Favourite regular features?
- 8 Any other thoughts or suggestions about Sonic???

Send your responses and suggestions to:

sonicscrewdriver@dwcv.org.au

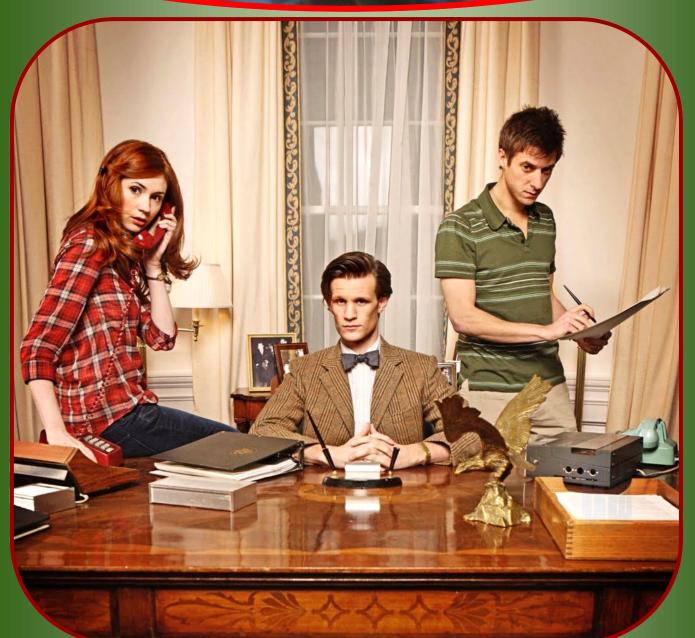
ExclusiveInterview



Michael's Photo Diary...



SONIC · SCREWDRIVER MAGAZINE



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Page 28 & 29

DVD Review By Michael Young

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Torchwood: Miracle Day Preview

Other News etc...

News, Reviews & Stuff



Exclusive Interview

COLIN BAKER at "Look Who's Talking" Event.

Our intrepid reporter, MANUEL BOUW forced his way through the crowds at the recent "Look Who's Talking" convention in Melbourne to get these exclusive interview with Sixth Doctor COLIN BAKER and the voice of K-9, JOHN LEESON ... (He passed on interviewing Sylvester McCoy)...

COLIN BAKER Interview 27th March 2011

MANUEL: Is this your first time to Melbourne?

COLIN: No, I've been in Melbourne twice before. I came over about 10 or so years ago, and I was here 5 or 6 years ago as well.

MANUEL: In the mid 80's you were cast as The Doctor, after some consternation that you may be overlooked, having already appeared in the show as Commander Maxil. How did it feel when you secured the role of The Doctor?

COLIN: Well, there wasn't any consternation really, I was just aware that until I had played The Doctor, no actor who had played it had ever been in the series before, and I don't think any has since either, so it's nice to be unique. I remember when I was offered the part of Maxil, my agent rang me up and said "you've been offered this part in Doctor Who" and I said "oh what a shame, I always thought one day it would be quite nice to play The Doctor", and my agent said "well that's not going to happen, so I suggest you take this, it's 3 week's work". So I did. And of course I wouldn't have played The Doctor had I not taken it, because John Nathan Turner and I got on extremely well, he liked my performance as Maxil, even though at first he said it was a bit over the top. And so I toned it down a bit. He didn't want me standing behind Peter Davison yawning and looking bored, which I was doing. But when Peter, shortly after that, said he wanted to leave, the first person he though of, so he said, was me. So without planning it, I had played exactly the right cards to get The Doctor. And it was offered to me, I was quite proud of not having to audition or jump through hoops just to be offered the part. It was one of the best moments in my career.

MANUEL: How much influence did you have with regards to the appearance and personality of the Sixth Doctor?

COLIN: None on the appearance, I wanted to be all in black. My logic was that somebody who was going to find himself in the kind of tricky situations that he often is would probably be intelligent enough to look inconspicuous. But the program was being made in the 1980's and Glam Rock was all the thing, and John Nathan Turner's notion was that The Doctor would be so disturbed by his regeneration that he'd grab anything because he didn't care, and that kind of reflected his personality. In terms of the character, I said I'd like to make him inaccessible. The analogy I've always given is the character of Darcy in Pride and Prejudice, who for 9/10's of the book you think is unpleasant, arrogant, pompous, and you don't like him. And then you find out that the reasons for his actions were completely altruistic, he was doing it for other people, and he's the kindest, best man in it. That's what I wanted The Doctor to be. To be inaccessible to start with, for people to say "this isn't my Doctor, why is he doing that?" and for it all to click into place, as the layers of the onion are unpeeled.

MANUEL: 11 episodes later you were let go, and since then you have appeared as The Doctor on stage, and in countless audio dramas. Do you feel any vindication in having continued on in the role away from TV?

COLIN: Well, Big Finish have allowed me to do with The Doctor what I wanted to before I was so rudely interrupted. I'm now told that I've done more stories than Tom Baker. Which, I made the stupid mistake of saying at the beginning, "I want to beat Tom Baker's record". Oh dear. The Monty Python foot in the sky, Stomp! You mustn't say things like that. I've learned my lesson there. But now I'm redressing the balance. I love doing the audios.

MANUEL: The readers of Doctor Who Magazine have rated you as the best Doctor for the audio dramas. How does it feel to have that kind of adoration from the fans?

COLIN: I suppose I should take it in the same way as I should take my story in Doctor Who Magazine being rated the worst story ever. They had a list of every single story, the favourite was The Caves Of Androzani, which I was in but not really, and the worst story was the one that immediately followed it, my first story. That was kind of like a sledge hammer blow to the solar plexus. And it's made me realise that I'm not that keen on polls, and I should not take it to heart. I mean, bless their hearts for voting me best Doctor Who of the audio dramas, and yes it is a vindication. But it proves that, given the chance, any one of The Doctors can turn out the good work. Every single Doctor is a very good actor. So maybe the time has come to stop saying "favourite" and just celebrate the program. Yes it's nice to be told nice things, and it's horrible to be told nasty things, but maybe its better not to do either, then we can all just get on with it.

MANUEL: In the mid 90's you wrote the Doctor Who comic book, Age of Chaos.

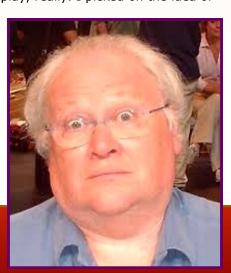
COLIN: Yeah.

MANUEL: Which I've been unable to get a copy of, despite my best efforts.

COLIN: It's hard to come by, it wasn't bad actually, I'm quite proud.

MANUEL: What was it like to write for the characters?

COLIN: It's a bit like writing a stage play, really. I picked on the idea of



Exclusive Interview

Sylvester McCoy was also at this convention but we decided not to pursue another interview with him after our recent one published in Sonic #180



Exclusive Interview

JOHN LEESON at "Look Who's Talking" Event.



what happened to Nicola (Bryant), after she married King Yrcanos, which was kind of a ludicrous concept, but I thought "yeah let's go with it, let's throw that ball in the air and see what happens". I'm a very undisciplined writer, I started writing the story without any idea of where it was going, I let the story tell itself, whereas your supposed to give a storyline, discuss it with the editor. I said "I'm going to do this, and if you don't like it in the end, don't publish it. I'm going to do it my way". And I loved doing it, because I do understand my Doctor. You might argue that I'm a bit too close to it. Some writers have taken in slightly different directions which have really worked, and maybe I did in that, I don't know. What you have to do is, describe what is in each little square, it's a bit like writing a film script, which I've never done before. The artwork was brilliant.

MANUEL: Have you ever thought about writing an autobiography?

COLIN: I have thought of it, I've been asked to by a couple of people. I think my life is not as interesting as other actors. I read Frazer Hines' autobiography recently, and he's had a very interesting life. His amorous conquests are remarkable. Whereas I've been a little more monogamous in my activities, I wouldn't want to write about all that side of life anyway. Got up, had breakfast, filled up the car with petrol. It may not be interesting to a lot of people. But maybe I should? My other problem is I can't remember. People say to me "remember that day when you did this?" and I'll say "did I?" But I might try, I might.



JOHN LEESON Interview 27th March 2011

MANUEL: How does it feel to play K-9, one of the most recognisable characters in Doctor Who history, despite not actually appearing on screen?

JOHN: Yes well it's rather interesting, actors fall into two distinct groups. There are actors who like to hide, I think I fall into that category, and there are actors who like to display, and be larger than life. I'm really quite happy because in the early days of my career I always used to play character parts where I was covered in makeup and I looked completely unlike myself, I was hidden from that point of view, but my background is basically stage acting anyway. So playing the voice of K-9 was a little bit strange, it was only in the one story called "The Invisible Enemy" in 1977. And lo and behold, here we are 30 years later on and I'm still playing K-9, it's fantastic. I do have to tell people though, I do do other things!

MANUEL: In 1978 you left the show, and returned a short time afterwards. Are you happy to talk about this?

JOHN: Yes absolutely. Partly because after the first few stories I was in, I thought "Well I'm a reasonably young actor, I want to get my face around the business rather more" and playing a voice over character is all very well, but no-one's going to recognise me. So I thought I must actually take courage and jump ship. Now this was a bit of a risk, I didn't know what I was going to be jumping in to. In fact, it was one of the busiest years of my career, I did a tremendous amount of TV sitcoms, stuff like that, which was great. Then there was a change of producer, John Nathan Turner came on board, he phoned me to say that David Brierley was no longer going to play K-9, he'd had enough, and would I consider coming back and taking K-9 out gently, they were going to lose the character after three stories. And I said "okay", I created the character so I'll say goodbye to him then. And K-9 still kept coming back by popular demand, it was just fantastic.

MANUEL: At the 1983 Doctor Who convention in Longleat (I did), you were locked in a booth (I was). Do you think you should've been up on stage instead?

JOHN: Yes, well that was quite an event. The BBC simply didn't anticipate how many people were going to turn up.

The first thing in the morning, the lines of people were over the field around Longleat House. We thought "they'll never all going to get into here" because the Doctor Who Exhibition was relatively small and enclosed. On the first day, I did the announcements in K-9's voice. On the second day, I was fending off complaints and arguments and Lord knows what else, I was sort of a PR guy, because people simply couldn't get in to see the stars and to see what they wanted to. It was something that made the BBC think rather hard about how to put conventions on.

MANUEL: Do you have any plans whilst you're in Melbourne?

JOHN: Yes I do, in fact I have a secondary, parallel profession these days, I'm an accredited wine teacher. And I have a friend who lives in Melbourne, and I'm told he's going to take me out to places like the Mornington Peninsula, Geelong, the Yarra. So I'll be looking at some wines over there. Then I'm heading off to New Zealand for another Doctor Who Convention. Not a wine convention.

MANUEL: That's funny because that was going to be my next run of questions.

JOHN: "K-9 is very good at anticipating!"

Laughter. MANUEL: Which is your favourite wine?

JOHN: The answer to that is YES.

Laughter. JOHN: I've just been doing a convention in Adelaide, and I was lucky enough to be taken down to the Barossa, some really good Chiraz down there, really, I have enjoyed myself.

MANUEL: Red wine and fish. Is this still taboo?

JOHN: Well, the rules of the road are this: Drink young before old, light before heavy, white before red, and lastly, throw away the rule book. Do what you like.

MANUEL: Have you ever thought about writing an autobiography?

JOHN: I'm actually doing one as I speak. No I'm not, I'm talking to you. I've been asked by a publisher the other day if I would consider writing one, and I'm putting something down. So eventually there'll be something to read, something I can read that'll put me to sleep. Who knows?

Adventures Of K-9 are currently being repeated on Channel 10 every Saturday at 9:30am... We all love Freeview!!!







Book Review

By James Gardiner

We welcome the first contributions from our new reviewers James Gardiner and Drama Queen, this time looking at the Doctor Who Missing Adventure ~ Millennial Rights as well as the new movie starring Matt Smith ~ Christopher And His Kind.

Millenial Rites

Millenial Rites is the best Doctor Who book ever written. Sorry, I better backtrack a little. The Sixth Doctor era on television was a failure. While still having something to offer the **Doctor Who** fan it was a failure in the eves of the casual viewer. The Trial Of A Time Lord is the prime example. By the end of Trial, the story had succeeded in (just) calming Sixie down, writing out Peri and introducing new companion Mel. The story was a failure in almost all other aspects. Ideas introduced at the beginning of the story were not resolved satisfactorily or, in some cases, at all. Clever ideas such as the Valeyard and his past were never explained to give any depth or credibility. This is such a disappointment because the concept behind the Valeyard is deeply fascinating. An enemy who is actually a darker version of the hero, what a fantastic concept. This is where Millenial Rites comes in.

It is clear from the beginning of the book, that Craig Hinton loves Doctor Who and knows where it fails. Fortunately, he also knows how to fix it. The recharacterisation of Mel is superb. Turning her from being a frustratingly annoying character to one that is at least likeable and at best understandable is a difficult task, but Hinton relishes the opportunity.



It is on page 9 that this transformation begins. Mel is in attendance at a University reunion, and she sees her "old" friends. Well, they are old for them, but for Mel, they are not a day older. This is once of the consequences of Time Travel. This, among other things, really helps to see Mel as more than a screaming red-head and more of a person, a human being.

Millenial Rites is an unusual narrative style in that the book is essentially focussed on two very different strands of storytelling. (Here I must stress the importance of reading this review after having first read the book in order for certain plot elements to remain unspoiled. This book is truly one of the greatest Doctor Who items written in any media, and I would hate to spoil some of the surprising twists. This is your one and only warning. Now read the book. You've read it? Good, then I can continue.) The first half of the book revolves around a plot about computers and Anne Traver's fear of the Great Intelligence returning to Earth. It is a very earthbound aspect of the narrative. The remainder of the book is about a parallel universe where magic is real and the Doctor's fear of transforming into the Valeyard. This approach to narrative storytelling has almost never been used before in this way. Inferno is the closest example, with it's parallel world. Such a way of achieving this leads to a felling that the writer has chosen to use the best of both worlds that the Doctor finds himself in (ie: Earthbound and space travel). The reader, much like the writer, is thrilled to read such an interesting and fascinating novel. It wouldn't be half so absorbing had the characters that Hinton uses are themselves so deeply interesting.

Two of the most predominant examples of this within the novel are the characters of Louise and Barry. They are two of the few characters used within the novel that are entirely from Hinton's imagination. They are utterly fascinating characters, and over the novel, we grow to view them as part of our own family and, perhaps more importantly, real human beings. They cease to be aspects of Hinton's mind and become characters that we can identify. This is an interesting point, on a sidestep, because in this

novel our viewpoint is not the companion, but Louise and Barry. Mel is too difficult a companion to possibly become our viewpoint. Readers (and television viewers) fail to identify with a screamer who is a computer programmer from Pease Pottage. For any strange and wonderful series to work, viewers MUST have an audience viewpoint (more on this fascinating detail of Doctor Who production in this issue's column, The Escapists). While Mel is hard to identify with, Barry and Louise are perfect as the reader viewpoint. Barry and Lousie are workers who smoke and have grown closer to those which they work with. This is seen no more clearly than when Barry is inconsolable as he loses, not his job but the friends which he has made at this seemingly dead end job. Louise is also a normal person with normal problems. She loves her child despite her girl's disorder, she can see past that. It leaves readers unprepared and ready to sympathise as Barry and Louise's world is changed

The Doctor is one of the books greatest achievements. His television incarnation was a failure (as stated earlier). He was a hothead, a Doctor that would lose his temper at the drop of a hat. He was a Doctor that, not only could audiences not relate to, he was a Doctor that wasn't even likeable. While the Sixth Doctor has now been changed into one of the most likeable and cuddly of all Doctors, such a renaissance was yet to occur when Millenial Rites was written. Time Of Your Life is the closest readers had got to experiencing a softer Sixth Doctor. But Millenial Rites takes that one better. This Doctor is fun. He's having a ball of a time, pushing away computer personnel and having Italian cuisine with Anne Travers.

The Doctor that appears in the second-half of the book is very different indeed. London has been changed into a place where magic is real and tangible. Every character that audiences have met earlier have been changed into something completely different. The Doctor that appears in the second-half of the book is very different indeed. London has been changed into a place where magic is real and tangible. Every character that audiences have met earlier

Book Review

SONIC · SCREWDRIVER















DVD Review

By Drama Queen



have been changed into something completely different. Mel becomes Melaphyre the Technomancer, worshipping the Lady TARDIS. Ashley Chapel (bad guy) becomes the Archimage who worships Yog-Sogoth. Anne Travers becomes the Hierophant who worships the Great Intelligence. Barry (now Bartholomew) and Louise (Louella) become court Jester and Chancellor, respectively. And the Doctor... Well, he at first seems unaffected by the manipulation of the world. But as the novel goes on, events soon become clear, the Doctor was affected and he is transforming into the Valeyard!

Such a twist did not come as a major surprise to this reviewer due to the utterly superb cover. What surprised me more was the Valeyard comes very close to murdering a child. Your valiant reviewer was convinced that the Doctor/ Valeyard was going to do the deed. Does he? Well, no. It doesn't stop that scene from being the scariest in the whole novel.

There is one more aspect which I have yet to mention. That is the world-

building that occurs here. Readers truly get a hold as to what this world is actually like and how it is run. This reader drew several detailed diagrams and maps as to how this worked. Every character gets about three names and they each have their own race and their own corner of the universe. We are notified of this quite early on due to the fact that the Doctor sees three different colours of building: gold (the Archimage), blue (the Technomancer) and grey (the Hierophant). This is probably the best example of world-building I am yet to read about.

As the book comes to its conclusion (Ashley Chapel meets a sticky end and Anne Travers proves herself worthy by choosing to be sacrificed instead of Mel. The Doctor was going to let Mel die, you see. It is this that the NA's would reason that this is why the Seventh Doctor killed off Six in order to become's Time's Champion. This is not a theory I buy into. I prefer that this is part of Seven's tortured psyche. Anyway, enough of my theories), I felt calm that this book actually finished. I didn't need to wait for the next instalment which would

never come (I'm looking at you The Devil Goblins From Neptune). The same can be said for much of this book. While it is a sequel (of sorts) to The Web Of Fear, the reader needn't have seen that story. It works very well as a standalone novel. This is the best Doctor Who book I have yet read (and I haven't even spoken in detail about Ashley Chapel, Anne Travers or the Gods). All the elements of the novel come together in a satisfying conclusion. Once read, the reader wishes to read it a second time in order to stumble upon yet more detail. The novel obviously had some clear aims (recharactise Mel and the Sixth Doctor, tell a good story), which it succeds upon. The re-characterisation of the Sixth Doctor is particularly important, as this is probably one of the first, if not the first, to fix up the Sixth Doctor's broken character. It is partly because of Millenial Rites that the Sixth Doctor is this reviewer's favourite Doctor. We owe this book so much. Well done Millenial Rites for telling readers a story that is not only utterly enthralling, but has helped shape the face of modern Doctor Who. Thank you Craig Hinton.

VERDICT: 10/10 James Gardiner



CHRISTOPHER AND HIS KIND Reviewed by Drama Queen

A beautiful cast, a beautiful story, hot scenes and tear jerk moments.

So well crafted that it is easy to become emotionally attached to the characters and their lives. Shows how freedom and joy was stolen away by the rise of the Nazi's and the fanatical support they got from the deluded masses. A fascinating and open memoir by writer Christopher Isherwood becomes a high quality gay movie that is a must watch!

Matt Smith (DOCTOR WHO) stars as English-born writer Christopher Isherwood, in this BBC

dramatization of the novelist's early years spent in hedonistic 1930's Berlin. The city's thriving gay scene proved to be momentous in both Isherwood's personal and professional life; during this time he met Jean Ross, the eventual inspiration for CABARET character Sally Bowles (Imogen Potts), and fell madly in love with a young street cleaner named Heinz (Douglas Booth ~Boy George in Worried About The Boy ~ is even more stunning here!)

Rating: 5 Champagne Glasses out of 5! ~ DQ!

http://dramaqueengayreviews.blogspot.com/

DVD Review



A STARZ" ORIGINAL SERIES











Coming Soon



TORCHWOOD Returns

One day, nobody dies. All across the world, nobody dies. And then the next day, and the next, and the next, people keep aging -- they get hurt and sick -- but they never die. The result: a population boom, overnight.

With all the extra people, resources are finite. It's said that in four month's time, the human race will cease to be viable. But this can't be a natural event – someone's got to be behind it. It's a race against time as C.I.A. agent Rex Matheson investigates a global conspiracy. The answers lie within an old, secret British institute. As Rex keeps asking "What is Torchwood?", he's drawn into a world of adventure, and a threat to change what it means to be human, forever...

Captain Jack Harkness (John Barrowman)

Jack looks like a hero. He's handsome, witty and subversive with a killer smile. But there's a reason for that glint in his eye. His dashing style hides a secret. Truth is Jack Harkness is immortal, the only one of his kind. He once ran the Torchwood Institute, a British organization dedicated to fighting the strange and bizarre. But Torchwood closed down, and Jack disappeared to start yet another of his many new lives. When a new, epic danger affects the whole planet, Jack finds himself back at the centre of events, fighting not just for his own life, but for everyone on Earth.

Gwen Cooper (Eve Myles)

Gwen once lived the ultimate double life – the funny, salty, earthy woman who loves home and family, combined with the tough, ruthless warrior, who loves the thrill of the fight. She was the heart and soul of an organization called Torchwood. She was a defender of the human race. But now she lives in seclusion, with her devoted husband Rhys and baby Anwen, knowing that one day trouble will come calling again. When events surrounding "Miracle Day" push Gwen to the limit, she'll need to call on resources she never knew she had and make the most terrible decisions, on behalf of all mankind.

Rhys Williams (Kai Owen)

Gwen's husband is loyal, loving and passionate about her. A new father, he is firmly devoted to their daughter Anwen and the unity of their family. They've been through a lot, particularly when Rhys discovered Gwen's secret life working for Torchwood - a world he could barely have imagined. Unafraid to tell Gwen when she's out of line or to say family sometimes needs to come first, Rhys is confident in his relationship with her and carries a grudging respect for Jack. But how much longer can he endure the dangers of Torchwood?

Oswald Danes (Bill Pullman)

Well-educated and a former school teacher, Oswald's a convicted child killer, both guilty and unrepentant. But when Oswald survives his own execution, he's given a whole new life. The most infamous man in the world, he becomes the most provocative figure in modern media. He's a flare, reviled yet mesmerizing, whose very existence embodies how the world changed on "Miracle Day."

TORCHWO

MIRACLE DAY

- 1 The New World
- 2 Rendition
- 3 **Dead Of Night**
- 4 Escape To LA 5
 - The Categories Of Life 10
- The Middle Men
- 7 **Immortal Sins**
- 8 **End Of The Road**
- The Gathering
 - The Blood Line





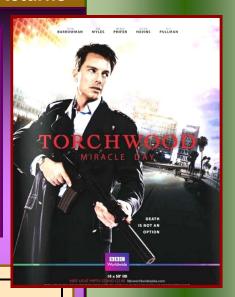
WHO's News

TORCHWOOD Returns



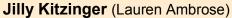
TORCHWOOD

07.08.11



Rex Matheson (Mekhi Phifer)

Rex Matheson is a CIA agent at the top of his game. Ruthless, brilliant and destined for fast-track promotion, nothing's going to stop this man from getting whatever he wants in life. But when the world convulses under Miracle Day, Rex discovers that everything he thought was true and safe and fair is now in danger. And when the CIA itself turns against him, Rex finds himself on the run. The only people he can trust are some strangers from a long-lost British institute called Torchwood. Rex finds himself traveling across continents as the scale and ambition of the threat is revealed - but in trying to save the world, will he put his own life at risk once too often?



As a PR woman, Jilly sees how the world spins and instinctively knows how to manipulate her position in it. Ambitious and ruthless, there's little she wouldn't do for her career. A great talent spotter with a dark understanding of human needs, she is unshockable in a world that is increasingly corrupt and boiling. Jilly soon realizes that, in a world gone mad, Oswald Danes could easily become her ticket to power.

Esther Drummond (Alexa Havins)

Esther is an innocent, in a world of assassins, liars and zealots. She got where she is with the CIA through diligence and application. Hard work keeps Esther focused but she still dreams of active duty as a field agent serving her country. The dream is going to happen faster than she thinks and in no time at all, Esther finds herself running alongside Jack, Gwen and Rex, living off the grid, gun in hand, fighting a global conspiracy against enemies ranging from big business to the state. It's a tough, brutal, hard lifestyle where survival is hard won and life-changing choices have to be made.

Dr Vera Juarez (Arlene Tur)

An attending surgeon in Washington D.C., she's smart, fast talking and hard working, Vera is on the frontline of medical care on "Miracle Day." As the world crisis grows, Vera's surgical and ER experience sees her recruited to advise on government think-tanks. Sexy, confident and passionate, Vera's life is soon inextricably tangled up with Rex's.

With only days to go until Torchwood: Miracle Day premieres on US Network Starz on the 8th July, the channel continues its promotion of the show by releasing some promotional photos of the cast, alongside the brief bios for the characters originally unveiled from the press launch in January.

Teaser trailers have been playing on the channel for a number of weeks, though a full cast/clips style version has yet to air (both the <u>BBC</u> and <u>Starz</u> have shown a couple of clips in general promotional showreels).









Coming Soon





News, Review and Stuff

A few last minute additions ...

The house was silent; even the sounds from outside were muffled by the heavy snow. But the household was not asleep. The house's sole inhabitant sat opposite the cold hearth, sunken deeply in gloom and memory. Despite his determination, he was just like his father – everybody said so, and just look at what happened last Christmas: it was exactly what old Eliot Sardick would have done, and Kazran had so desperately wanted to grow up to be different...

And then soot began to fall into the fireplace.

Kazran stared as an impossibly familiar figure stood up, brushing soot from his tweed jacket. Then he turned around, and this time he wasn't smiling.

"Doctor?" Kazran asked tentatively, and received a curt nod and another cloud of soot in reply. "I never expected you to come back, after-"

"Over four thousand people died on that ship. Four thousand people who had their whole lives ahead of them, and who knows how many more when their entire district was flattened. On Christmas Eve. Merry Christmas, Kazran Sardick." The Doctor's voice was bitter as he nearly spat the traditional greeting.

Kazran raised his head wearily. "Is that why you're here, Doctor? To remind me of my crimes? You're wasting your time," he said, with the ghost of painful irony in his eyes. "I'm reminded every day, every time a family begs me for a loan, because there's nobody left to earn the money and nothing left to sell. Every time I look at somebody who refuses to look me in the eye, because they know what I did and see me for what I really am. Well, I see it too, now!" His voice trembled as it rose. "Kazran Sardick, the heartless old miser who wouldn't give his old mother a horse

blanket if she were dying in the snow in front of him!"

He had risen shakily from his chair as he shouted; now, he half-collapsed back into his chair, looking old and ill: the effort had taken its toll, and what little fire there had been left was gone.

"Do you see it, Doctor?" It was barely a whisper now. "Do you see what I've always been?"

"I didn't come to punish you, Kazran," the Doctor said. "You can still make it right: the ship doesn't have to crash." He crouched low, to meet his downcast gaze. "Your past can be changed. But you have to tell me you *want* it to be."

The old man stared at him, hardly daring to let hope finally dawn.

"Kazran," said the Doctor, gently, and this time, he did smile.

"I'm giving you a second chance."

Miriam







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Another Short WHO Year Coming?

BBC1 Controller **Danny Cohen** revealed that, after much speculation generated since the article in UK paper *Private Eye* and subsequent BBC denials recently, *Doctor Who* will indeed be returning in a curtailed form during 2012.

Cohen's comments were relayed via Twitter: "Danny Cohen says there won't be a full series of Doctor Who in 2012, but a special run for the anniversary in 2013". The BBC's Entertainment Correspondent Liza Mzimba confirmed the comments, adding that other reported comments by Cohen on the decision being made to enable head writer Steven Moffat more time to write his other hit series Sherlock were light-hearted and not meant to be taken seriously.

No other details on how many episodes will comprise the 2012 run at present, though the BBC confirmed that fourteen episodes had been commissioned, including this year's Christmas Special, with Matt Smith in the role as The Doctor.

Final SJA Ever In October!

The final series of *The Sarah Jane Adventures* starring the late **Elisabeth Sladen** is expected to be shown during what has now become its 'traditional' month of **October** on CBBC and BBC1(HD), reports Doctor Who Magazine.

The titles of the three, two-part stories that make up the fifth series are: Sky by Phil Ford, The Curse of Clyde Langer also by Phil Ford, and The Man Who Wasn't There by Gareth Roberts.

News & Reviews



SONIC · SCREWDRIVER

MAGAZINE



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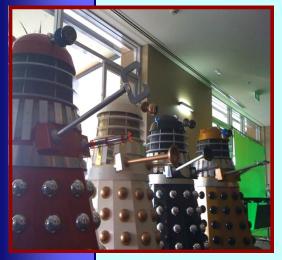
Who's Clubbing





Davros Speaks....

David Speaks as Acting President...













President's Report

SONIC · SCREWDRIVER



my name's David and I'm Vice the Club WILL CLOSE unless President but currently I am the the positions aren't filled. acting President until the AGM.

I joined the club in early 2003, Our good friends at the DWCA mainly due to my parents going on about this show Doctor Who Which they used to watch in the 'Good Old Days'. So anyway, like any bored 12 year old would do, I went to the Library and borrowed every Doctor Who video in quick succession, myself (That's why there are which wasn't much.

was the AGM, I'm probably not Trek 5 in May at Rydges tickets the first to say AGM's aren't are from \$90 and can be boring. So since I've been purchased attending regularly since, I www.firstcontactconventions.co joined the committee in m.au or call Scott on 0439 444 2004/2005 (I can't remember 901. The guests are Avery which) as Junior Officer a role Brooks aka Captain Sisko and which I did till 2008 where I Garrett Wang aka Ensign Harry became general committee Kim. member then a year later I became Vice President.

Meetings Mix-up

Now unfortunately we've had some problems regarding dates in Sonic, so the date we had printed wasn't the date we had booked was the MSFC Mini Con. so I apologise to any member who arrived on either we there wasn't. I apologise!!

MSFC Minicon

Now I'd like to congratulate Sam Rooney and her committee on her amazing day, I had a great day. It was nice to meet with the other clubs and Um that's about it I will finish meet the Browncoats who love all things Doctor Who Stories: Joss Weadon.

DWCV Committee

Well currently the AGM is coming up and we have some vacancies in the committee. Currently the roles of Treasurer and Secretary remain unfilled. I will point out that these positions **NEED** to be filled other wise the club Will Not Continue. Experience with Excel and Microsoft Office are required as is a computer. A car is not necessary but preferred.

If you are interested in it, please email secretary@dwcv.org.au Well I should introduce myself, with your name. I will again say

Conventions!!!!!

held Whovention Part 1 earlier this year, and Part 2 will be held in june 11 in Sydney. With Sylvester Mc Coy as their Guest. I wish them a successful con. I went up for their con in March and really enjoyed lots of photos)

The first meeting I attended First Contact are holding Oz from

> Other Cons include Oz Trek 6 with Kate Mulgrew and Tim Russ tickets start from \$90 and can be purchased from the same place as above.

There is Armageddon booked, but the date we had Convention at Jeff's Shed (Exhibition Buildings near crown) with Mark Sheappard who appeared in the opening 2 day, expecting a meeting when parter for series 6 as Canton Delaware. That's in October 22/23

Series 6

One word, Brillant...... can't wait for the second half.

Melbourne with a Top Five of my Favourite

- 1. The Two Doctors 2. Resurrection Of The
- **Daleks**
- 3. Tomb of The Cybermen
- 4. The Sontaran Stratagem
- 5. Daleks Invasion Of Earth 2150AD (Doesn't count but I like it
 - anyway)
- 6. Dimensions in Time....

Yours Truly

Davros or David Ross





BIG FINISH NEWS

By David Ross



The Five Compainions....?

Peter Davison, Sarah Sutton, William Russell, Peter Purves, Jean Marsh and Anneke Wills will all be under the same roof for *The Five Companions*, and they'll be joined by Dan Starkey, playing Sontarans, and Nicholas Briggs as the Daleks.

Eddie Robson's script is an exciting and rather tender reunion, in which the Fifth Doctor meets up with his distant past – the schoolteacher who settled down, the space pilot who became a King, the security agent who died and lived again and the swinging Sixties secretary who has made her own way in the world.

The Five Companions is available only to subscribers of the main <u>Doctor Who</u> range whose subscription includes the December 2011 release. However, those who take out a 12-month subscription after this release will be able to select the story as their additional free CD.

The Lost Stories Season 3

The New Season starts with a Trilogy of Peter Davidson stories featuring Janet Fielding and Sarah Sutton. With The Elite, Hexagora and The Children of Seth.

The Season then stops for a few months and begins again with a Trilogy featuring Colin Baker and Nicola Bryant. Starting with <u>The Guardians of Prophecy</u> by Johnny Byrne and adapted by Jonathan Morris is a sequel to the 1981 story *The Keeper of Traken. Power Play* by Gary Hopkins, set on present day Earth and it features Victoria Waterfield, the Doctor's former companion who was played by Deborah Watling in 1967/68. Next up is *The First Sontarans* by Andrew Smith, Dan Starkey (who plays Sontarans in the current TV series), will be showing off his old style Sontaran.

The remaining Lost Stories in this series are narrated adventures performed by original cast members. August 2012 sees the release of the three-disc *The Masters of Luxor* by Anthony Coburn, adapted by Nigel Robinson. The story is performed by Carole Ann Ford and William Russell, with guest star Joseph Kloska playing the Derivitrons and The Perfect One.

The series ends with *The Rosemariners* by Donald Tosh (working from his original script). Frazer Hines and Wendy Padbury narrate, with help from guest stars David Warner and Clive Wood.

The Forth Doctor Adventures...

Season One will be available from January 2012, and comprises six single disc releases with Louise Jameson as Leela set immediately after The Talons of Weng-Chiang. Season Two will follow at a date TBA, and comprises seven single disc releases with Mary Tamm as Romana set immediately after The Armageddon Factor.

A five-disc box set entitled Doctor Who: The Lost Stories – The Fourth Doctor Box Set will also be available in January 2012. The six-part *The Foe From the Future* by Robert Banks Stewart has been adapted for audio by John Dorney, and will be recorded as a full cast drama with Tom Baker as the Doctor and Louise Jameson as Leela. These are Available from Big Finish To Pre Order.













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President's Report

















Blue Vortex Club Future



The Shop

new releases

ITEM No PRICE

Blu-Ray - Series 5 Volume 3 (Smith) \$ 35.00 Blu-Ray – Series 5 Volume 4 (Smith) \$ 35.00 DVD - Series 5 Volume 3 (Smith) \$ 27.00

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DVD - Revenge Of The Cybermen / Silver Nemesis \$ 35.00 DVD - The Complete 5th Series (Smith) (DEC) \$ 90.00

Blu-Ray - The Complete 5th Series (Smith) (DEC) \$ 125.00

DVD – Revisitations 1 Boxset (7DVD) (DEC) \$ 72.00 DVD – The Seeds Of Doom (T. Baker) (DEC) \$ 27.00 CD – The Cradle Of The Snake #138 (Davison) \$ 30.00

CD - Project: Destiny #139 (McCoy) \$ 30.00 CD - A Death In The Family #140 (McCoy) \$ 30.00

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recent releases

ITEM No PRICE

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Blu-Ray - The Complete Specials (Tennant) (5 disk) \$ 115.00 DVD - The Complete Specials: Box Set (Tennant) \$ 90.00

DVD - The Creature From The Pit (T. Baker) \$ 27.00

CD - The Whispering Forest #137 (5th Doctor) \$ 30.00

CD - 8th Doctor 4.03: Nevermore (McGann) \$ 22.00

CD - Comp 5.02: Echoes Of Grey (Padbury) \$ 22.00

CD - Lost Stories 1.08: The Macros (6th Doctor) \$ 30.00 Autographed Photo of David Banks (80's Cyberleader) \$ 15.00

DVD - Doctor Who 2008: Box Set (Tennant) \$ 90.00

DVD - Doctor Who 2007: Box Set (Tennant) \$ 90.00

DVD - Doctor Who 2006: Box Set (Tennant) \$85.00

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DVD – Space Museum/The Chase (Hartnell) (3 DVD) \$ 35.00 DVD – Space Museum/The Chase (Hartnell) (3 DVD) \$ 35.00 DVD – The Masque Of Mandragora (T. Baker) \$ 27.00 DVD – Peladon Tales (Pertwee) (3 DVD) \$ 35.00 DVD – Dalek War (Pertwee) (4 DVD) \$ 45.00

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Blu-ray – Torchwood Season 2 \$ 85.00 Blu-ray – Torchwood Season 1 \$ 85.00

DVD - Torchwood Children Of Earth (Season 3) \$ 37.00

DVD – Torchwood Season 2 \$ 85.00

DVD - Torchwood Series 1 (7 Disk Box Set) \$ 90.00

DVD - The Infinite Quest (Tennant) (Animated) \$ 18.00

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- The Angel Of Scutari #122 (7th Doctor) \$ 33.00

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Melbourne Science

Fiction Club

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2011: The Year of The Bunk Bed

Northcote Town Hall - One till Five

| 1 PM till 5 PM | Rooms 2A & 2B | Town Hall, 180 High Street, Northcote |
|----------------|------------------------|---|
| July 9th | Annual General Meeting | Majority of the committee will not stand again President / Secretary / Treasurer all need filling Please enquire about how you can learn club roles |
| September 10th | K-9 Retrospective | The Marks of the K-9 |
| November 12th | Anniversary | Content decided by new committee |
| December ?? | Annual Christmas Party | Content decided by new committee |

Games of Rassilon

colouring books, *Doctor Who* Placed in tripping distance *Adventures* magazines, *Sonic* of the front door, the membership K•9 playing.

The library table will boast a new range of non-BBC DVDs, small selection of chilled soft audio adventures of the second drinks, bags of crisps or goodies, Doctor and a donations box and maybe even donuts and

A children's table will offer suspiciously close to a request list.

Screwdriver and comic inserts, table will be there for the usual raffle and door prizes.

biscuits. Tea and coffee are free, though a donation would be welcome.

Finally we have a games plus a portable DVD with SJA or entrance fee, Sonic collection, table where board games including Battle to Save the Universe and Dastari's Kitchen will offer a The Time Wars; plus card games Uno and Top Trumps will sit next to the remote-controlled Daleks.

Lost Library of Ukko

We have talked of this for some time; but the Doctor Who Club of Victoria now boasts its very own library with the following donated items available for borrowing on a between-meeting basis. We would like to expand the library so let us know what items you would like to see in the collection or alternatively donate some books or DVDs yourself.

For practical and cost reasons, we do not hold any Doctor Who books; however a few can be found with the AusTrek library and a huge collection can be found at the MSFC, although they are separate from their main collection so you will need to ask. Both those clubs will require you to be a member, for obvious reasons, before you can borrow any of their items. Same goes for us too. Airzone Solution

Auton 1 & Cyber Hunt - Audio Auton 2: Sentinel & Green Man Confidential series 1-3 & Specials Confidential series 4 plus Specials Dimensions in Time: 1993 Sketch Longleat '83: Greatest Show More than 30 Years in the TARDIS Patrick Troughton in America Real Time: Colin Baker Robots of Danger (Fan Film) Scream of the Shalka (Richard E Grant)

Shada: Paul McGann Ultimate Adventure - 3rd and 6th

Panopticon Tapes: 3 DVD Sets 1: Main Event with 2. Early Years

3. Pertwee Years w/ 4. JNT Years 5. Dragonfire w/ 6. Panopticon VII

The Stranger: 3 DVD Sets Summoned by Shadows More than a Messiah + Interviews In Memory Alone + Outtakes Sound Track Season One

Missing Stories Soundtracks Abominable Snowmen Dalek Masterplan Enemy of the World Faceless Ones Fury from the Deep Highlanders Macra Terror Moonbase Power of the Daleks Space Pirates Web of Fear Wheel in Space

Abslom Daak: Dalek Killer

Brain Teasers and Mind Benders Ninth Doctor: Collected Comics Dragon's Claw: Forth Doc Comics Iron Legion: Forth Doctor Comics Quiz Book: One and Two Tides of Time: Fifth Doctor Comics TSV: Issue 75 and 76: NZ DWFC Shooting Scripts: Season 2005

The Brand Spanking New Facebook Page



Available Hear http:// www.facebook.com/? ref=logo#!/pages/The-Doctor-Who-Club-Of-Victoria/221093847901 294

Or just Search Doctor Who Club Of Victoria' And like our Page!

Traditional Membership: \$25 for six B/W A4 issues of Sonic Screwdriver, plus six issues of A5 Fancomic: one discount card

Family Membership: \$35 for six B/W A4 issues of Sonic Screwdriver, plus six issues of A5 Fancomic; up to six discount cards

Silver Membership: \$45 for six colour A5 issues of Sonic Screwdriver, plus six issues of A5 Fancomic; up to six discount cards, plus one free pass to a regular Northcote meeting

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AUSTREK STAR WALKING INC

First Saturday Each Month

1pm to 5pm Northcote Town Hall, High Street, Northcote www.austrek.org

Second Saturday Feb, April, June, Aug Oct. Dec

Whitley College 50 The Avenue, Parkville Mel Ref: 43 F1

SPACED OUT

Last Friday **Every Month**

6:30 @ Grandma Funks 256 Swan Street

8:30 @ Richmond Library 415 Church Street

All material for Sonic is scrolls of Rassilon's step-sister

