

NEWS OF THE DISC



Welcome to the First News of the Disc

*your source for all Discworld Convention 2012
related news*

UNBELIEVABLE! MESSAGE INTERCEPTED FROM THE CLACKS OF CHAIRMAN BRIAN

Hello to you all, fellow Discworld fans and, of course, fellow con-goers! As 2011 passes by and the Discworld Convention 2012 comes ever closer we wanted to update you all on what's going on and what we have planned for our event next year.

The committee and I have been working very hard (well, they've been working hard, I've been swanning off to the US to check out the North American Discworld Convention) to make sure that the 2012 Con exceeds even the heady heights we reached in August last year.

For the Eighnnnnnn... sorry, 7a-th Convention we're taking our theme and ideas from the first two Discworld books, *Colour of Magic* and *The Light Fantastic*. So you can expect high fantasy, gods, monsters, tourists, wizards (& Wizzards), dragons, mad cults, deeds of magic and, if we're all very unlucky, the end of the world, but let's see what we can do about preventing that, shall we?

PSST, WANNA RUN A PROGRAMME ITEM?

Without programme items the DWCon 2012 would be several hundred people sitting in the bar, and while that might be fun for some, we like to put on a little bit more of a show.

Of course all these events need people to run them, special people, wonderful people, people like you.

So, if you have an idea for an event, something that people will enjoy and talk about for years to come, email programme@dwcon.org and tell us about it, and you, and we'll take it from there.

But never fear, we certainly won't be ignoring the rest of the Discworld universe and we expect there to be witches on broomsticks, guards on patrol and postmen zooming here and there. In short, we expect it to be a Discworld Convention and while there's a year to go and much work to be done, we can't wait!

EXCLUSIVE! GUILD ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE MONKS OF COOL

This is Old Ankh-Morpork. Before Vetinari, Vimes or even Ridcully.

A cauldron of robbery, vice and general villainy; in which mortals rise or fall according to the games of Fate and Luck... and Blind Io, Offler and sundry other cosmic entities. But there are darker things than the shadows; and your fellow mortals may well be the least of your challenges.

For some time, the Discworld Convention has had Guilds. Guilds are many things: a way to meet other people, to display creativity by organising events, to add flavour to the Convention - and the framework for a certain amount of friendly¹ competition.

They are loosely based on the organisations that Ankh-Morpork instituted to keep from descending into complete and utter chaos².

This created a slight problem when we picked the theme for this Convention; with a few exceptions, there were very few listed Guilds in Ankh-Morpork at the time.

What does this mean for Guilds at the 2012 Convention? Well...

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1. No one has died yet, or even been seriously injured.

2. Not that we would dare imply that conventions are in any way chaotic.

Reader offer!

Do you want to show your support for the Discworld Convention 2012? Now you can with our stunning limited edition pre-convention t-shirt.

Priced at just £12 including UK P&P (other shipping may be available on request) you can buy these beautiful t-shirts from our ebay shop at <http://stores.ebay.co.uk/discworld-convention> from 14th August until we sell out!

Featuring the logo in white as designed by the very talented Saoirse and available in sizes S to 3XL in either black, green or blue you can be the envy of friends and neighbours alike.



NO ROOM AT THE INN?

Hotel rooms at the Convention hotel are going like, well, hotel rooms at a Discworld Convention if we are honest. So it is no surprise that we can announce that all the family rooms are sold out. There are, however, plenty of single and double rooms still available.



Don't forget no payment is taken when booking your room (although you will need to provide card details to secure the booking) so book now to ensure you get the type of room you need.

Should you wish to be placed on a waiting list for a family room or have any other queries please email hotel@dwcon.org

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Don't expect any of the Guilds we've had in previous years.

While set around a different theme, their function will be roughly the same.

Because it's easier for everyone, we'll still refer to them as Guilds.

The Monks of Cool (that's us) are aides and arbiters; we smooth the waters, help the Guilds – and we're happy to address any questions you may have.

We can be found on the DWCon Guilds Google Group - at http://groups.google.com/group/dwcon_org_guilds

Or to reach the Monks directly email monks@dwcon.org

Further announcements regarding this will be made soon...

SWEET CHARITY WHO ARE WE SUPPORTING?

SHELTERBOX – LUGGAGE TO THE RESCUE!

In addition to the Orangutan Foundation, we will be supporting ShelterBox at the Convention.

WHO ARE THEY?

ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity. They instantly respond to natural and manmade disasters by providing boxes of aid. Each box provides a family with emergency shelter and other vital equipment, such as blankets, mosquito nets, water purification and cooking equipment; to use while they are displaced or homeless.

They have depots worldwide with stock of boxes ready for instant deployment. The box typically contains a tent, blankets, cooking gear and basic tools. Where required there will be mosquito nets and water purification supplies. Other contents are flexible depending on the location and other circumstances. They also put in colouring books and crayons, which takes up minimal space and is a really nice touch. Even the box is useful once all the other stuff is taken out.

Each box costs £590. They are individually numbered, and when you make a donation you get the number of 'your'

box. You can then track 'your' box via their web site. Obviously we'll circulate the numbers of the boxes we sponsor, so you'll all be able to follow them.

You can find out more at <http://www.shelterbox.org>

ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION

In a world where doing something once makes it tradition, and doing it twice means it's never been different, the Discworld Convention has supported the Orangutan Foundation since the very beginning.

Their mission is the protection and conservation of the orangutan and, as no ape is an island, of the orangutan's habitat, the tropical forests of Borneo and Sumatra. This involves protecting and conserving the biodiversity of their home forests, as well as carrying out research and educating people the world over.

With the Librarian, Terry Pratchett has created a very evocative Discworld orangutan, with his own special strategy for survival. On Roundworld, Terry is a Trustee of the Orangutan Foundation, and a wholehearted supporter of their work.

The Discworld Convention is proud to do its bit, through money raised at the Charity Auction, donations, and other fundraising activities. In 2010, thanks to our generous members, the Discworld Convention (in its official guise of Star Turtle Ltd.) was able to donate well over £8,000 and we hope to replicate this in 2012.

