

Friday Programme Grid

	Main	Alternate	Workshops	Off-piste
15:00	Opening Ceremony			<p>Scan to view the programme online:</p> 
	SFF or not SFF?	Generation Starships		
16:00	It's not an AI	Internet Cats	Yarn and Yatter	
17:00	Too much Trek?	Guests Emeritus Readings		
18:00	Gentlebeing Dance	Quark's Bar	Games Room	
19:00				
20:00	Closed for set up			
21:00	Ceilidh			
22:00				
23:00				
00:00				

Saturday Programme Grid

	Main	Alternate	Workshops	Off-piste
10:00	How your cat is trying to kill you	Qi Gong Body Clock Flow	Mannekin Superheroes	
11:00	From Lab to our Arm	Would I Lie To You?		Kaffeeklatsch: Chris Priest
12:00	Cuddles' Desert Island Discs	Is print dead?	Poetry circle	Kaffeeklatsch: Ken MacLeod
13:00	The Great S8 Debate	Gravitational Waves	Scottish Cheese Tasting	Govan Stones Tour
14:00	Elsewhen Readings	Pointless Technology	Publishing Contracts	
15:00	Chris Priest GoH			
16:00				
17:00	Retry SyFy Quiz	End of the world again	Percussion for Beginners	
18:00	Garage Gene Manipulation	Open Mic Author Readings		
19:00	Green Steampunk	Finish My Joke	Games Room	
20:00				
21:00	Event Horizon			
22:00	Karaoke			
23:00				
00:00				

Scan to view the programme online:



Sunday Programme Grid

	Main	Alternate	Workshops	Off-piste
09:00				Exploring Clydeside
10:00	Science of Breakfast	Dead Authors	Clangers Galore!	
11:00	Chris Priest Room 101	Moving to Scotland		Kaffeeklatsch: Charles Stross
12:00	Edges of the Future	Androids Hugo?	Polishing your Transitions	Apocrypha Tea Party
13:00	It doesn't work like that!	Inadvisable Rocket Science	Paint a Portal	
14:00	Fuelling the Future	Captain Cliffhanger		
15:00	Cuddles GoH			
16:00				
17:00	Suitable for Life?	Glasgow 2024	Games Room	
18:00	Faircon@45	Save the Leopards!		
19:00	Closing Ceremony			
20:00				
21:00	Dead Laika Party			
22:00				
23:00				
00:00				

Scan to view the programme online:



Friday Programme

Opening Ceremony

Main, 14:30 – 15:00

Christine, Christopher Priest, Cuddles, Mad Elf, Mark, Michael, Morag

A warm welcome to the convention.

SFF or not SFF?

Main, 15:00 – 16:00

Christopher Priest, Dave, David Stokes, Dyllanne (M), Nina

The panel discuss SFF at the edge of genre, considering 'slipstream' literature (work tinged with SF or fantasy elements that might equally qualify as other genres), edge-of-genre movies e.g. Sliding Doors, and wider examples of SF imagery in mainstream culture e.g. advertising.

Economics of generation starships

Alternative, 15:00 – 16:00

Jesper Stage

It's been said that once you've solved all the other problems with generation starships, solving the economic problems involved would be trivial. Is that right, or would the economic problems be important as well? In this talk we'll look at what the economics of a generation starship might look like in practice, and compare with how we see this handled in SF.

It's not an AI, it's a Very Naughty Algorithm

Main, 16:00 – 17:00

Nik

ChatGPT and systems like it have provoked shock and awe at their ability to generate well-informed human-like responses to a wide range of questions. So how does it work, and is it really the threat some people fear?

The Internet is still made of cats

Alternative, 16:00 – 17:00

Mad Elf

An eclectic selection of the bizarre, stupid and beautiful from the internet - mostly featuring cats, science fiction and music. Note: may contain the occasional bad word and some fake blood.

Yarn and Yatter

Workshops, 16:00 – 18:00

Catriona

What do the following all have in common? Knitting, crochet, embroidery, cross-stitch and weaving? Answer - you can do all of them using some form of yarn AND you can take part while chatting to others. Even better, you can do both at Satellite 8. Catriona will be hosting an informal Yarn and Yatter session. Bring your own project and enjoy the chance to get together with other like-minded crafty types.

Can we ever have too much Star Trek?

Main, 17:00 – 18:00

Cuddles, Dave, David Stokes (M), Rhionnach, Robin CM Duncan

After the cancellation of Star Trek: Enterprise the franchise disappeared (from the small screen at least) for 12 years. However, we now have more Trek than ever - Discovery, Picard, Strange New Worlds - and Starfleet Academy recently commissioned. Is this a good thing? And did the movie reboot help or hinder the process? N.B. SPOILER ALERT!

The Guests Emeritus Readings

Alternative, 17:00 – 18:00

Charles Stross, Ken MacLeod

A chance to hear our Guests Emeritus, Ken MacLeod (GoH Satellite 1) and Charlie Stross (GoH Satellite 3) read from their recently-published works.

A Gentlebeing should be able to Dance as well as Fence

Main, 18:00 – 19:30

Jo (M) Thomas

A gentle dance through the basics of historical fencing footwork, intended to give an understanding of distance in martial arts - and the conversational element of sparring. (Gloves optional.)

Quark's Bar Challenge

Alternative, 18:00 – 19:00

Christine, Morag

Quark's Bar returns with yet another (vaguely) alcohol-related quiz proving hoo-mons will drink just about anything if it's free. For over 18's only. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 35 participants.

Ceilidh sponsored by Glasgow 2024

Main, 20:30 – 24:00

Come and dance the night away with the Kilbride Ceilidh Band. All welcome - from complete beginners to life members of the White Heather Club.

Saturday Programme

How your cat is trying to kill you

Main, 10:00 – 11:00

Pepper

Your cat might be a fluffy adorable ball of loveliness but they are also trying to kill you, from their razor-sharp claws to their tiny teeth and the contents of their bowels. Come along and find out more!

Qi Gong Body Clock Flow

Alternative, 10:00 – 11:00

Allison

Sequence of easy movements, designed for over 60s and mobility impaired folk, but suitable for all. Can be performed seated or standing. Wear loose clothing easy to stretch in. We recommend participants have a light breakfast at least 1 hour before attending the workshop.

Mannekin Superheroes

Workshops, 10:00 – 12:00

Ila

Making superhero costumes for small mannekins. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 9 participants.

Microfactories for nanoparticles: from the lab to our arm

Main, 11:00 – 12:00

Professor Perrie

Lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) have played a pivotal role in the development of mRNA vaccines, including the COVID-19 vaccines. LNPs encapsulate the mRNA and protect it from degradation until it reaches the target cells, where it generates our immune responses. This talk will explore the technology and potential of LNPs in the next generation of healthcare.

Would I Lie to You?

Alternative, 11:00 – 12:00

(Brian) Munchkin (Milton), Dyllanne, Ian Sorensen, Mad Elf (M), Nik

Four contestants. Three "facts" apiece. Two lies. Only one winner? Can our contestants tell the factual from the fictitious, or will deceit win out? Come along and see...

Christopher Priest: kaffeeklatsch

Off Piste, 11:00 – 12:00

Christopher Priest

Join author Guest of Honour Chris Priest for coffee and a chat. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 8 participants. Meet at Green Room.

Cuddles' Desert Island Discs

Main, 12:00 – 13:00

Cuddles, Michael

Fan Guest of Honour Michelle "Cuddles" Drayton-Harrold is an aficionado of film and TV music. Come and hear about some of her favourite tracks. Hosted by Michael Davidson.

Is Print Dead?

Alternative, 12:00 – 13:00

Alan Fleming, Claire, E.M. Faulds / Beth (M), Farah, Peter - Elsewhen Press

The escalating costs of paper, printing and shipping are making print editions less and less affordable (at least for indie and micro presses). Should we just accept that conventional books are going the way of the dinosaurs, or are we prepared to face the increase in costs needed to keep them viable?

Poetry Circle

Workshops, 12:00 – 13:00

The Legend that is

A chance to share your own poetry or read your favourite poems. Any convention member is welcome to read or just turn up and listen to poetry.

Ken MacLeod: kaffeeklatsch

Off Piste, 12:00 – 13:00

Ken MacLeod

Join Satellite 1's Guest of Honour Ken MacLeod for coffee and a chat. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 8 participants. Meet at Green Room.

The Great Satellite 8 Debate

Main, 13:00 – 14:00

Christine (M), Dave, Doug S, Michael, The Fossil

Which mainstream TV show would benefit most from an alien invasion? Four master debaters vie to convince the audience that theirs is the best choice.

Gravitational waves: what have we found and what happens next?

Alternative, 13:00 – 14:00

Jamie Scott

The first gravitational wave signal from two colliding black holes was detected over seven years ago. This talk will cover what gravitational waves are, how we build the instruments to detect them, what we have seen so far, and what we're planning to build in the future

Scottish cheese tasting: The Return of the Cheddar

Workshops, 13:00 – 14:00

Catriona, Morag

The team who brought you Scottish Cakes Tasting are back, this time with cheese! Learn how to tell your crowdie from your caboc. Find out about Arran cheese and Orkney cheese. Astound your friends with your new-found knowledge! Not suitable for vegans or those who require a dairy-free diet. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 10 participants.

Tour of the Govan Stones

Off Piste, 13:00 – 15:00

Alligator Descartes

A private tour of Govan Old Church and its associated top tier collection of Early Mediaeval/Viking stones. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 14 participants. Meet at the main hotel entrance at 13:00. Transport will be provided.

Elsewhen Author Readings

Main, 14:00 – 15:00

Alison - Elsewhen Press, Peter - Elsewhen Press

Elsewhen Press is proud to invite you to an exciting session of readings by some of our Scottish authors, from their new and forthcoming works. Stories by David M. Allan, David Craig, Craig Meighan, Christopher G. Nuttall, and Douglas Thompson.

Pointless Technology

Alternative, 14:00 – 15:00

Alan, Charles Stross, Nik, The Legend that is (M)

A light-hearted discussion, inspired by the Hilton Metropole self-service check-in App (the purpose of which escaped many who attended Eastercon 2023) about tech that performs so poorly that it's really very hard to see the point of it e.g. auto correct that adds spelling errors when you're not looking. The panel propose some examples. Bring your own favourites.

A Beginners' Guide to Publishing Contracts

Workshops, 14:00 – 15:00

Francesca - Luna Press

This workshop will discuss and demystify the language of publishing contracts. What do clauses mean; how to negotiate; the important bits to keep an eye on etc. Especially recommended for new and aspiring authors. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 12 participants.

Christopher Priest: Guest of Honour Interview

Main, 15:00 – 16:30

Christopher Priest, Meg MacDonald

Our author Guest of Honour Christopher Priest talks about his life and work. Interviewed by Meg MacDonald.

Retro SyFy Quiz

Main, 16:30 – 17:30

(Brian) Munchkin (Milton), Alan Fleming, Audrey, Cuddles (M), Dyllanne, Rhionnach, Steve, Throgg the Despicable

Take a trip down memory lane as Cuddles challenges two teams on their knowledge of some of the most iconic films & shows (from the 60's to the noughties). Captain Scarlett to Captain Kirk, Jaunting to Leaping, The Omega Man to Starman!

It's only the end of the world again

Alternative, 16:30 – 17:30

Allison, Dave Lally, David Bamford, Ken MacLeod, Vincent Docherty (M)

Post-apocalypse Earth is a staple of SF and - between climate change, war, and a global pandemic - it looks like we're rapidly heading in that direction. The panel discuss examples from TV, film and literature.

Percussion for Beginners

Workshops, 16:30 – 18:30

Christine, Nik

A fun chance to try some small percussion instruments of different types. Come along and have a bash! Sign up in Ops. Maximum 10 participants.

Garage level gene manipulation

Main, 17:30 – 18:30

Charles Stross, Farah (M), Jo (M) Thomas, Naveed, V Anne

With the costs and availability of genetic technology decreasing, could we soon be in a position to edit our own genes? If we could, should it be allowed only for medical benefit (to eliminate susceptibility to a hereditary disease for example) or should we be able to e.g. change our appearance and characteristics at will, as depicted in science fiction?

Open mic author readings

Alternative, 17:30 – 18:30

A chance for authors not featured elsewhere in the programme to read from their work. Sign up in Ops. Please note that each reading should be no more than 10-15 minutes long to allow as many people to take part as possible.

Is it Steampunk if it's real? The Green Pioneers

Main, 18:30 – 19:30

Feorag

Solar powered steam engines, wave power, electric cars and trolley buses have all been around longer than you might think. The latest instalment of "Is it Steampunk if it's real?" looks at 19th century attempts to save the planet, before anyone realised it needed saving.

Finish My Joke

Alternative, 18:30 – 19:30

The Legend that is

A variation on the Pub Quiz theme. Form your teams as normal, but instead of quiz questions, the Quizmaster will ask for the punchline of a joke. Two points if you get the “traditional” answer, but extra points if your answer is funnier.

Shoreline of Infinity presents Event Horizon

Main, 20:30 – 22:00

Andrew J. Wilson, Neil Williamson, Noel

Join us for another blast of science fictional songs, stories and poetry. Featuring music from Neil Williamson, and spoken word from E. M. Faulds, surprise guests and your host, Andrew J. Wilson.

Karaoke with Incognito

Main, 22:00 – 24:00

Incognito

No experience necessary, just bring your voice, your friends and your inner diva/divo!

Sunday Programme

Exploring Cydeside Fun Run

Off Piste, 09:00 – 10:00

Audrey

Curious about what that strange thing outside the convention called “real life” is? Here’s your chance to see some sights on a shortish run, jog or walk around the local area. Build up a thirst for the beverage of your choice, and tick off “real life - seen that” in your personal programme book. Meet at the main hotel entrance.

The Science of Breakfast

Main, 10:00 – 11:00

Doug S

Understanding breakfast is a complex matter, requiring a command of mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, economics, history, geography, religion, modern languages, computer science, ethnography and politics. Doug S makes it digestible.

Dead Authors Society

Alternative, 10:00 – 11:00

David Dryden, E.M. Faulds / Beth (M), Mark (M), The Fossil, Yvonne Rowse

Once an author stops producing new material, they are often no longer in the public perception and awareness of their works begins to fade. Each member of the panel will propose an author whom they feel is no longer as well known or highly regarded as they once were.

Clangers Galore!

Workshops, 10:00 – 12:00

Morag

Clangers, everybody loves them. We've all watched the TV programme, we've all made the clanger sounds with differing degrees of success. Now, it's your chance to make your own Pompom Baby Clanger using nothing more than some wool, felt and glue. All materials provided. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 12 participants.

Christopher Priest Room 101

Main, 11:00 – 12:00

Christopher Priest, Michael

Guest of Honour Christopher Priest discusses things he'd really like to consign to oblivion. But will the audience be persuaded? Hosted by Michael Davidson

So you still want to move to Scotland?

Alternative, 11:00 – 12:00

Alan Fleming, Christine (M), David Bamford, John Brown, Stephen Cooper

Reigning champions Steve and John defend their title against a new couple who have recently moved (back) to Scotland. Who can best distinguish their bannocks from their Tunnocks, and their Black Isle from their black bun?

Charles Stross: kaffeeklatsch

Off Piste, 11:00 – 12:00

Charles Stross

Join Satellite 3's Guest of Honour Charles Stross for coffee and a chat. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 8 participants. Meet at Green Room.

Exploratory Engineering and the Edges of the Future

Main, 12:00 – 13:00

Professor McInnes

Science fiction offers us a means of exploring the future through the human imagination, often unencumbered by the messy business of engineering details. Similarly, so-called exploratory engineering allows us to imagine future technologies, constrained only by the laws of physics. This talk will set aside engineering details (for just now) and explore a range of speculative, but in principle feasible technological pathways to the future through the medium of exploratory engineering. This is a useful exercise. If we carefully map out the likely edges of technological development, then by definition the practical technologies of the future will be somewhere within.

Do Androids Dream of Winning a Hugo?

Alternative, 12:00 – 13:00

Alligator Descartes, Francesca - Luna Press, Mark (M), Mike Scott, Nik

It's not only academia that is struggling with ChatGPT and other AI-generated content. There has been a surge in self-published e-books written (largely) by ChatGPT, whilst AI-generated art has caused huge controversy. What are the implications?

Polishing your Transitions

Workshops, 12:00 – 13:00

Helen Claire Gould

In fiction, transitions occur between scenes and chapters, and fall into different types according to function. We explore broad story structures and techniques for creating effective transitions. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 12 participants.

Apocrypha Tea Party

Off Piste, 12:00 – 13:00

Ambassador Harold, Catriona, Feorag, Fluff

Join Satellite 3's Apocrypha Guest of Honour Fluff the Plush Cthulhu, and Ambassador Harold of Sirius Prime, for coffee and a chat. Apocryphal members (and their minions) particularly welcome. Meet at Green Room.

It doesn't work like that!

Main, 13:00 – 14:00

Ellie, Pepper, Robin CM Duncan, V Anne, Vincent Docherty (M)

Science fiction often takes great care to be scientifically accurate - or at least stick within the realms of reasonable possibility - when it comes to physics and astronomy, but can the same be said of the biosciences? Our panel discuss some examples of highly improbable alien biology.

Inadvisable Rocket Science - Part the Eighth

Alternative, 13:00 – 14:00

Phil

Yet more times when just because you could do a thing doesn't mean you should

Paint a Portal

Workshops, 13:00 – 15:00

Serena

A door to a Borrower's Den, a Mouse's Mansion, a Fairy's Lair or another universe. Bring your imagination to decorate a mini wooden door for indoors or out. Sign up in Ops. Maximum 10 participants. Materials supplied.

Fuelling the Future

Main, 14:00 – 15:00

Charles Stross, Helen Claire Gould, Nik (M), Professor McInnes, Stephen Cooper

Climate change is the most important challenge facing human civilisation, with much of it driven by fossil fuel combustion. The panel discuss emerging and alternative energy sources and how far these are from practical application on a scale that would remove reliance on coal, gas and oil.

The Return of Captain Cliffhanger

Alternative, 14:00 – 15:00

(Brian) Munchkin (Milton)

In this time of modern serialised TV with carefully crafted episode endings that pull the viewer into the next installment come join me as we look at where it all started, the cinema serials of the Thirties, Forties and Fifties. Can you guess how our heroes escape their fate? What is an Orangapoid? Is that really John Wayne?

Michelle "Cuddles" Drayton-Harrold Guest of Honour Interview

Main, 15:00 – 16:30

Cuddles, Vincent Docherty

Our fan Guest of Honour Michelle "Cuddles" Drayton-Harrold talks about her life in fandom. Interviewed by Vincent Docherty

Suitable for Life?

Main, 16:30 – 17:30

Nik

In any discussion of life on other worlds people talk about 'the Goldilocks zone', those orbits in which planets can support liquid water. Is this enough for life? What are the basic requirements for a planet to support life, and are there any extras needed for advanced or intelligent life?

What's happening at Glasgow 2024?

Alternative, 16:30 – 17:30

Esther (M)

We are all hugely excited that Glasgow will be hosting the 2024 World Science Fiction Convention. The team bring you news of what to expect.

Faircon@45 - Celebrating 45 Years of Glasgow Conventions

Main, 17:30 – 18:30

Vincent Docherty

The 45th Anniversary of the first SF Convention in Glasgow, Faircon'78, falls shortly after Satellite 8. To celebrate, we have an exhibition in the Art Show, and run this open discussion, where we talk about that first Con and the many since. Come along and share your stories and recollections. The discussion will be facilitated by Vincent Docherty, and recorded for posterity.

Save the Leopards!

Alternative, 17:30 – 18:30

Pepper

Help Funcon 1 save their space leopards! Your mission is to protect the leopard eggs* from predators, solve the puzzles, and find the treasure**

* new scientific discovery! Leopards lay eggs!

** probably chocolate

Closing Ceremony

Main, 18:30 – 19:00

Christine, Christopher Priest, Cuddles, Mad Elf, Mark, Michael, Morag

Time to say goodbye and thankyou.

Dead Laika Party (including Pub Quiz starting around 21:00)

Main, 21:00 – 24:00

Christine, Mad Elf, Mark, Michael, Morag

Satellite's end-of-convention Dead Dog party, traditionally dedicated to the memory of the world's most famous space dog, Laika. Includes Pub Quiz.