



2024

OH!CON 2024

AT A GLANCE

Where should you be? What should you be doing? Here's a quick guide what not to miss at OH!CON.

Workshops for children (up to 13 years) **Art Room (AL)**

- 10.15am: Manga heroes and crazy creatures
- 1pm: Write the future!
- 3pm: Miniature figure painting
- 4pm: Miniature figure painting

Workshops for young people (13 years+) and adults **Drum Room (AL)** **13+**

- 10:15am Create stories and characters through illustration
- 1:15pm Grace Curtis writing workshop

Cosplay masquerades **Auditorium (AL)**

- 12 noon: Children (0-15yrs) and families
- 3pm: Adults (16 yrs+)

If you want to enter either masquerade (rather than just watch) you must register at the OH!CON merch table in An Lanntair at least 30 minutes before the start of the masquerade.





OH!CON is at An Lanntair **and** the Town Hall. Keep your wristband on so that you can leave and enter each venue throughout the day.

Talks

- 11am: Solarpunk: imagining a better future **Balcony (TH)**
- 12 noon: Pict-ish: What goes into historical roleplaying games? **Drum Room (AL)** **13+**
- 12:30pm: How to write fanfiction **Balcony (TH)**
- 2pm: Between Storms, the UK's first Hebridean manga **Balcony (TH)**
- 4pm: Creating Tara Togs **Drum Room (AL)**
- 5pm: Comedy – Still ready to believe you **Auditorium (AL)** **16+**

Sword skills demonstration

- 10:30am An Lanntair auditorium
- 1:30pm Town Hall
- 4:30pm An Lanntair auditorium

RPG sessions

Games start at 10:30am and 2pm in the Harbour Room (AL). Sign up at the OH!CON merch table.

Activities and displays

Both venues have drop-in activities and other things going on throughout the day:

- **AN LANNTAIR:** Registration, art activities, build a spaceship, face painting, archery, RPGs, NERF, guests tables, green-screen photography and cosplay.
- **TOWN HALL:** Board games, wargames, retro-gaming, VR and merch stalls

Go! Explore OH!CON! Have fun!

Note: all guests and activities were confirmed at time of printing but may be subject to cancellation or alteration due to guests' sickness or professional obligations, equipment failure, venues changes, space-time continuum irregularities, alien invasion or other circumstances beyond our control.



OH!CON

2024

What is Solarpunk?

Can books and comics change the world? Paul Goodenough, the creative behind 'The most important comic book on earth: stories to save the world' would say that they definitely can!

Science fiction writing has traditionally stretched the boundaries of what is possible and shown its readers the infinite possibilities of the future. Some imagined futures have been unsettling, with dystopian visions of what might face us if we allow inequality, injustice, pollution, war or a destroyed natural world to happen.

Other stories show us a more positive future – not so much the impractical world of Utopia, but tales that stretch and challenge us about the kind of future we may just achieve if we work together and make it happen.

There are terms to describe writing like this, such as **solarpunk** and **cli-fi** (climate fiction). Solarpunk stories imagine a world that is sustainable and equitable. A world where we either have or are on the way to using natural and renewable energy and live in balance, both with each other, and the natural world. These stories give us hope and the imagination to work towards building a better world to live in.

Alternatively, cli-fi stories deal more directly with climate change in the future, and where it may lead us. They imagine both dystopias and utopias, depending on how people actually respond to the climate crisis we are facing at the moment.

Which future do you want to imagine?



Here's a selection of some of our favourite solarpunk and cli-fi titles

Picture Books

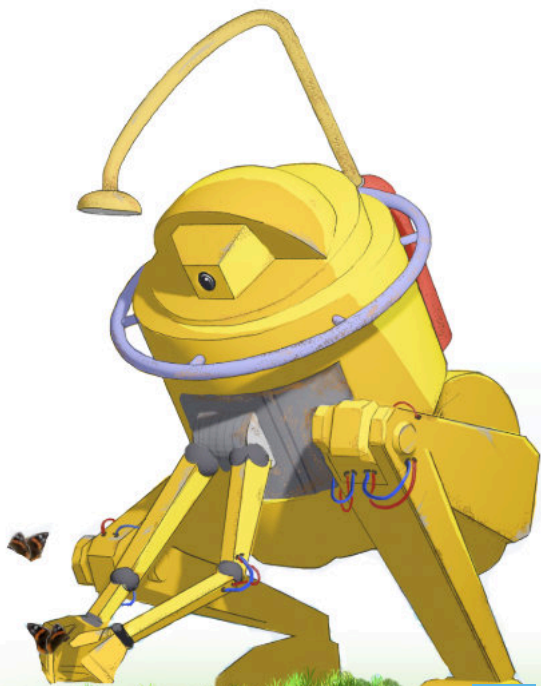
- **Anya's Quest** by Jasbinder Bilan & Jane Ray
- **Clem and Crab** by Fiona Lumbers
- **The Great Paper Caper** by Oliver Jeffers
- **The Last Wolf** by Mini Grey
- **Omar, The Bees And Me** by Helen Mortimer & Katie Cottle
- **Somebody Swallowed Stanley** by Sarah Roberts and Hannah Peck
- **Stories for a Fragile Planet** by Kenneth Steven
- **There's a Rang-tan in my Bedroom** by James Sellick & Frann Preston-Gannon
- **This Moose Belongs to Me** by Oliver Jeffers
- **Window** by Jeannie Baker

For Young Adults

- **Code Blue** by Marissa Slavin
- **Future Hopes: Hopeful Stories in a Time of Climate Change** edited by Lauren James
- **Green Rising** by Lauren James
- **If Not Us** by Mark Smith
- **The Last Whale** by Chris Vick
- **On Silver Tides** by Sylvia Bishop
- **Snow Globe** by Soyoung Park
- **Song of the Dolphin Boy** by Elizabeth Laird
- **The Summer We Turned Green** by William Sutcliffe
- **Survival** by Nicky Singer

For Children

- **Aubrey and the Terrible Ladybirds** by Horatio Clare
- **Breaker** by Annemarie Allan
- **The Extraordinary Colours of Auden Dare** by Zillah Bethe
- **Floodland** by Marcus Sedgewick
- **Global** by Eoin Colfer & Andrew Donkin
- **Island** by Nicky Singer
- **The Lost Whale** by Hannah Gold & Levi Pinfold
- **Song of the Dolphin Boy** by Elizabeth Laird
- **Song of the River** by Gill Lewis
- **The Uprising - The Mapmakers in Cruxia** by Eirlys Hunter



For Adults

- **The Dispossessed** by Ursula Le Guin
- **Ecotopia** by Ernest Callenbach
- **Emergency Skin** by N. K. Jemisin
- **The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet** by Becky Chambers
- **Parable of the Sower** by Octavia E. Butler
- **Pacific Edge** by Kim Stanley Robinson
- **Suncatcher** by Alia Gee
- **Sunvault: Stories of Solarpunk and Eco-Speculation**
edited by Phoebe Wagner
- **Walkaway** by Corey Doctorow
- **The Word for World is Forest** by Ursula Le Guin

Find out more...

Climate Fiction Writers League - a group of authors who believe in the necessity of climate action, immediately and absolutely.

'Fiction is one of the best ways to inspire passion, empathy and action in readers. Our works raise awareness of climate change, and encourage action at the individual, corporate and government levels.'

This is a great resource for all ages, with lots of chats and book recommendations.

<https://climate-fiction.org/>



Storytelling to Accelerate Climate Solutions - download this free book that shows how storytelling can inspire concrete action toward addressing climate change.

<https://shorturl.at/Txw8M>



PROGRAMME

10:15am

WORKSHOP

Art Room (AL)

Manga heroes and crazy creatures

With Eira Richards

10:15am to 12:15pm

Suitable for: 8 - 13 yrs

In this fun and informal workshop, you will learn how to draw in manga style, and invent your own manga characters and fantasy creatures. If you love drawing and making up characters and stories, this session is for you! Artists of all abilities are welcome.

Note: Due to limited room, parents must drop their children off for the workshop and collect them again when it is finished.



10:15am

WORKSHOP

13+

Drum Room (AL)

Create stories and characters through illustration

With Tanya Roberts

10:15am to 12:15pm

Suitable for: 13+ yrs/adults

Want to find out how to create stories and the characters that make up those worlds? Come and hang out with Tanya Roberts as she takes you through world building and how to cultivate compelling characters.



10:30am

RPG SESSIONS

Harbour Room (AL)

RPG sessions

10:30am to 12noon

Come and join us for some role playing games.

Beginners and experienced players welcome. Never tried an RPG? Now's your chance!

Sign up for a place at the OH!CON merch table in An Lanntair.

More RPG sessions at 2pm in the Harbour Room.

12 noon

TALK

13+

Balcony (TH)

Pict-ish: What goes into historical roleplaying games?

With Brian Tyrrell

12 noon to 1pm

Brian speaks about challenges faced while working on **Carved in Stone**, a Pictish roleplaying encyclopedia.

How can we prime players to explore faded faiths and ancient kingdoms? How do we discuss dark histories without glorifying or vilifying those who came before? How do we bring the human heart back into histories we don't know much about? Brian can't promise any firm answers, but he can point out the pitfalls and how his team have tried to navigate them.

Content warnings provided at the start of the talk.



11am

PANEL TALK

Balcony (TH)

Solarpunk: imagining a better future

11am to 11:50pm

Join a panel of our OH!CON guests to discuss how they imagine the future in their work.

Is today the future their younger selves imagined it would be? And how do they imagine the future now? Are we heading for utopia or dystopia? Come along and find out!

12 noon

COSPLAY

Auditorium (AL)

Children and families cosplay masquerade

The first cosplay masquerade of the day is for children (0-15yrs) and families. Come and marvel at this year's fabulous costumes.

If you want to enter the masquerade (rather than just watch) make sure to register at the OH!CON merch table in An Lanntair at least 30 minutes before the masquerade starts. Will you be crowned OH!CON cosplay champion 2024?

Various

LIGHTSABERS

Balcony (TH)

Sword skills demonstrations

It slices, it dices, but it's not the K-tel Veg-O-Matic (ask your parents) - it's the OH!CON sword display team!

You have 3 opportunities to watch these masters of the lightsaber!

10:30am Auditorium (AL)

1.30pm Town Hall

4:30pm Auditorium (AL)

12:30pm

TALK

Balcony (TH)

How to write fanfiction

With Tereza Kovanicova

12:30pm to 1.30pm

Join award-winning writer Tereza Kovanicova and discover how to write great fanfiction.

Fanfiction is a specific genre. Writing fanfiction is really easy. Writing good fanfiction? Not that much. What do you need to keep in mind? And is fanfiction really that different from original works?



*Find out more about
this year's fantastic
guests at:
ohcon.info/guests*

OH!CON **2024**

1pm

WORKSHOP

Art Room (AL)

Write the future!

With Alistair Chisholm

1pm to 2.30pm

Suitable for 9 - 13 yrs

You can change the future!

Join award-winning author Alastair Chisholm (Orion Lost, Adam-2, I Am Wolf) to learn about sci-fi, world building, and inventing awesome characters, settings and stories. Then create your own sci-fi adventures and design the world of tomorrow...

Note: Due to limited room, parents must drop their children off for the workshop and collect them again when it is finished.



1:15pm

WORKSHOP

13+ Drum Room (AL)

Finding a (different) voice: establishing world, character and more through dialogue

With Grace Curtis

1:15pm to 2.45pm

Suitable for young people/adults

A fun interactive workshop about all the ways fictional chatter can breathe life into your story.



2pm

RPG SESSION

Harbour Room (AL)

Lasers and Feelings

2pm to 4pm

Sci-fi RPG sessions in English and Gaelic. Beginners welcome. Sign up for a place at the OH!CON merch table in An Lanntair.

2pm

TALK

Balcony (TH)

Between Storms: the UK's first Hebridean manga

With Eira Richards

2pm to 3pm

Manga artist and illustrator Eira Richards talks about her latest book, *Between Storms* – a historical fantasy graphic novel with a Hebridean setting.

Eira will discuss the sources of inspiration behind the book, the Gaelic folklore and mythology that informed aspects of the story, and the process of interpreting history and folklore through the manga format.



3pm

WORKSHOP

Art Room (AL)

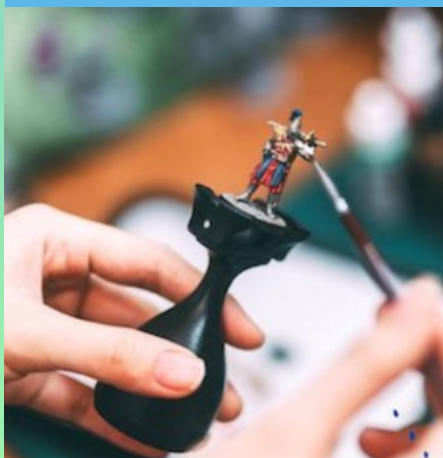
Miniature figure painting

3pm to 3:30pm

Suitable for: ages 5 years plus

Learn to paint your first miniature! Perfect for beginners eager to get into model painting. This workshop is for those who have never painted before.

Note: Due to limited room, parents must drop their children off for the workshop and collect them again when it is finished.



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3pm

COSPLAY

Auditorium (AL)

Adults (16yrs+) cosplay masquerade

The second cosplay masquerade of the day is for adults (16yrs+).

If you want to enter the masquerade (rather than just watch) make sure to register at the OH!CON merch table in An Lanntair at least 30 minutes before the masquerade starts. Will you be crowned OH!CON cosplay champion 2024?

OH!CAST
SCI-FI, FANTASY, COMICS, GAMES AND STUFF

OH!CON in your earhole!

Subscribe to **OH!CAST** – the official OH!CON podcast, discussing sci-fi, fantasy, games, comics and stuff.

Guests have included Chris Gonnerman (Basic Fantasy RPG), Ian Bell (Elite) with more to come!

Available from Spotify, Audible, Apple and other purveyors of fine podcasts.

4pm

TALK

Balcony (TH)

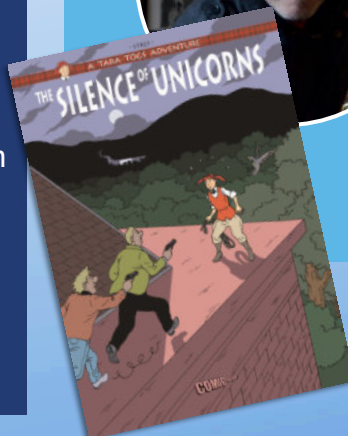
Creating Tara Togs

With Stref

4pm to 5pm

Stref, aka Stevie White, talks about his new comic creation, Tara Togs. His work and career as an artist, the inspiration for the story and style of Tara, along with the experience of using Kickstarter to support its publication.

Copies of the first Tara Togs, **The Silence of Unicorns**, will be on sale and Stref will be available to sign copies after the talk.



4pm

WORKSHOP

Art Room (AL)

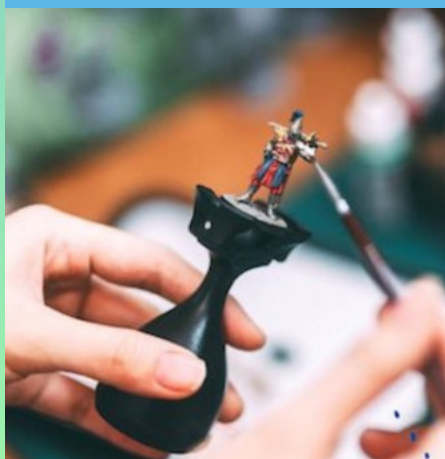
Miniature figure painting

4pm to 4:30pm

Suitable for: ages 5 years plus

Learn to paint your first miniature! Perfect for beginners eager to get into model painting. This workshop is for those who have never painted before.

Note: Due to limited room, parents must drop their children off for the workshop and collect them again when it is finished.



5pm

COMEDY

16+ Auditorium (AL)

Still ready to believe you

With Des O' Gorman

5pm to 6pm

Suitable for 16yrs+

Des O'Gorman performs his one man Ghostbusters tribute show, Still Ready to Believe You, celebrating 40 years of Ghostbusters.

Fun, funny, and moving, Des talks about everything Ghostbusters and how growing up a GB fan has its ups and downs. Covering the movies, comics, cartoons, toys, and the most recent instalments.



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OH!CON 2024

Writing Competition

What does the future look like?

The OH!CON WRITING COMPETITION is looking for science fiction, speculative, weird or fantastic short stories inspired by the theme of the OUTER HEBRIDES in the FUTURE, written in Gaelic or English.

Open to residents in the Outer Hebrides, in the following categories:

- Adults: 16 years plus (2500 word max)
- Children and young people: 8 to 15 years (1000 words max)

Closing date: 31 October 2024

Full rules and entry details at: www.ohcon.info/writing



Interested in writing?

Check out these sessions:

- **How to write fanfiction** (12:30 Balcony, Town Hall)
- **Write the future** (1pm, Art Room An Lanntair, for 8-13yrs)
- **Finding a (different) voice: establishing world, character and more through dialogue** (1:15pm, Drum Room An Lanntair)

Thank you!

Thank you for coming to OH!CON – your continued support means so much to us.

If you can, please take 5 minutes to fill out our online survey and tell us what you thought was great, or not so great, about this year's OH!CON.

This helps us get funding and plan for next year's event.

All surveys completed by October 20th 2024 will be entered into a prize draw for a bundle of OH!CON goodies.

ONLINE SURVEY: www.ohcon.info/survey



OH!CON

2024

OH!CON events throughout the year

OH!CARDS

Join us for our monthly CTG gathering with Pokemon, Magic and Yu-Gi-Oh!

The Space, Stornoway Library

2pm to 4pm, last Saturday of the month.

OH!TT

OH!TableTops is our monthly meetup for tabletop RPGs.

Tables for D&D, Basic Fantasy and more. Meets at The Caladh Inn. See our website and social media for dates.

Follow us



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X



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This year's charities

This year we're proud to be supporting **RNLI** and **Western Isles Food Bank**. All proceeds from Quiz Night and collected in our charity buckets on the day will be donated to them.

OH!CON has raised over £900 for local charities since 2022.

OH!CON is supported by



An Lanntair



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

with support and donations from Tech Mobile, Isle of Harris Distillery and Essence of Harris.