
(...Or, Here are some tips on making sure the surprises are all good ones!)

- Welcome! No matter your gender, colour, race, disability, language, otherness or sleeping arrangements.
- The Australian Discworld Convention is a FAN-run event. It is not for profit and any extra money raised goes to our Charities.
- The Committee are all volunteers and do not get free or subsidised tickets or preference for events or merchandise; actually, they often subsidise things from their own pocket to keep costs down!
- The Con is a dedicated three-day event. There are no hidden costs — everything is included in the three-day ticket price except the Gala Dinner.
- If you so choose, you can go into a draw to participate in a small group discussion with your favourite Guest. This is called a 'Klatch' and is included in the ticket price.
- Guests mingle with Conventioneers, so feel free to ask for signatures or photos, and do offer to purchase alcoholic or caffeinated beverages!
- Some attendees will arrive on the Thursday night for an easy start to the Con, but many will arrive on Friday, or even Saturday morning.
  - The Programme of Events will be published closer to the date of the convention, and updated as more events are confirmed. Check back regularly to see what surprises we have in store!
  - Look at the Programme of Events in advance and try to work out a rough timetable of what you want to see and when it is. There are several core events you should try and attend: The Opening and Closing Ceremonies, The XXXX Factor, The Masquerade, The Auction and The Gala Dinner.

- Seriously consider staying in the Convention Hotel. This allows you to really immerse yourself in the Con.
- Familiarise yourself with the two Con hubs — OPS (short for Operations) and The Bar!
- Dressing up is NOT COMPULSORY, but it does add to the fun. However, many Conventioneers will just be in jeans and a Convention T-shirt.
  - At registration you will receive your Con Bag which will include a Con Book, numerous forms and leaflets to enter competitions, a Con Badge **which must be worn at all times**, your auction paddle, tickets to anything you may have pre-booked, a separate Timetable and Map that you can carry around, and other bits and pieces provided by sponsors. Please take time to read the Con Book (and go to OPS if you need any help!)
- Make sure you schedule in breaks — the pace of this event can be intense! Follow the “5-2-1 Rule”: at least 5 hours of sleep, 2 meals and 1 shower a day!
- Consider volunteering. It’s a great way to get involved, meet people and have even more fun.

It is impossible to encapsulate this amazing event in just two pages. In fact some of it simply defies words! If you haven't already, have a read of the FAQ page, and there's also the Newbie's ABC guide which goes into more detail. But if you can't find the information you need, please do not hesitate to ask us questions on the Facebook Page or send us a message through the contact form. We will try to answer promptly and meaningfully.

We look forward to meeting you! Remember, a stranger is just a friend you have not met.

**Have a wonderful Convention!!**