



UPRAW

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first issue of UPRAW the periodical news letter for the University of Portsmouth Role-playing and War gaming Society.

As with previous years the committee along with other existing members of the society have planed several short taster games for the first couple of weeks and some have long term campaigns ready to run.

This is your society as well so if you have a game that you want to run, either on a Sunday afternoon or at any other time feel free to organise it, you can even advertise it here if you want.

This news letter can go nowhere without your support, so please if you have anything to contribute, be it fiction, games reports, adverts for games you are going to run or anything else related to the hobby then feel free to contact me in person or via email

jamie.ingram44@ntlworld.com

In closing for this issue welcome to anyone new and welcome back to returning members, enjoy your time here and remember these are just games.

EVENTS GUIDE

Main Meeting

Every Sunday afternoon 1pm to 7pm, term time only. University of Portsmouth Students Union meeting room, First Floor, just along the corridor from Lux.

Wargames Evening

Thursday Evenings 7pm to 10pm, term time only. University of Portsmouth Students Union meeting room, First Floor, just along the corridor from Lux.

Other events

Over the year we intend to organise other one off events. On occasions these will be organised in conjunction with the Science Fiction Society, at the moment suggestions include paintball / airsoft, possible outings to places like theme parks, and visits to games conventions.

THE COMMITTEE

President

I'm Robert Bateman President of the University of Portsmouth Role-Playing and Wargaming society. This is my fourth year as a student in the society and it's high time somebody spent some time improving it rather than keeping it ticking over. This year I hope to make a number of changes to make the society a better place for gaming.

Initially this means organising introductory games in the first two weeks for the different systems that we use. If any DM would like to run a full game afterwards, then let one of the committee know so we can organize people and places ahead of time.

That's all for now, hope to see you at the first meeting.

Vice President

Hi I'm zena, Vice president for the society, I am a third year photography student, I have been a member of the society since I joined the University and was a complete beginner when I started. I am endeavouring to play something other than vampire this year but will not be running any games as I have no experience as a GM.

My main role on the committee is to be a point of contact for the members and substitute for the President when he is not available. If you need to contact me you can talk to me at the Sunday Meetings or on email damnationdragon@hotmail.com

Secretary

Hi, I'm Jamie; I have been a member of the society for nearly a decade as both a student and a non-student member. I have been playing RPG's and Wargames for longer than I care to remember and as such have a scary level of knowledge about the hobby. I specialise in obscure and out of print systems and can be sidetracked fairly easily with such items.

As far as my role on the committee is concerned I am primarily responsible for communications within the society and am the editor of this news letter.

I can't express how important it is for all of you to be involved in this project and would encourage you all to contribute something over the year, even if it is only a couple of paragraphs.

Over the year I will be running a couple of games including one of the Introductory games during the first meeting. I look forward to hearing from you and can be reached by email at jamie.ingram44@ntlworld.com

Treasurer

Hi there my names' Mark and I am the society treasurer. I'm the guy who doles out the hard earned cash that the society manages to scrape together. These expenditures can range from buying new Role-Play books to society based trips. I'm not very hard to miss, I'll be the tall skinny guy who is either shouting or drinking (or both).

A little about myself eh? Well I'm studying Physical Geography (I likes rocks I do) and I've been involved in Role-Play for about six years now. That being said I've been involved in war gaming (Warhammer40K/Fantasy/Necromunda) for ten years. I have managed to play at least one game of each major game system and I'm a reasonably competent DM with D20 based gaming systems. If anyone has any bright ideas as to how to spend our hard earned money then contact me at the following email address. neural_reconstruction@hotmail.com

Wargames Co-ordinator

My name is Jean-Luc Dubois and my role in the committee has something to do with war gaming and collectable card games. Since it's only been invented this year I guess it never really got an official title though I've always liked overlord or emperor so hopefully It'll be one of those!!

Anyway, I've been role-playing and playing magic on and off for about 5 years and wargaming for a lot longer than that (I forget exactly when I started) I'm now in my second year studying psychology and when not at Uni I live a little north of Portsmouth near Fareham.

With regard to my duties next year as well as taking on some DMing I'm hoping to organise a Warhammer fantasy campaign set in the mystical east beyond the worlds edge mountains. Hopefully I'll make sure there will also be a 40k campaign in a similar vein to the one that was run this year. If anyone has any comments or suggestions (or abuse) feel free to e-mail, come to my house, harass me in the street etc. My e-mail is jithejedi@hotmail.com

Librarian

Greetings friends, welcome to the Societies repository for ancient, obscure an, new and used rules, knowledge, guidelines and general information. My name is Linda and I am Keeper of the Tomes, Protector of the Scrolls, Guardian of.....Oh, alright, I'm the Society Librarian; I have held the position for about four years.

If you have and questions about the library, its stock or the system for borrowing books please contact me in person at the Sunday meetings or on email at ramoth19@aol.com

GAMES ADVERTS

Warhammer Fantasy Roleplay (WFRP)

Rob Hesketh will be running a WFRP game during the year. At present the campaign is in an embryonic form but will be for 4 to 8 players at a time and location to suit those involved.

The campaign will be for starting characters and is suitable for all levels of players. Rob intends to use the updated rules set but will be using the game world in its earlier 'darker' form. For more information speak to Rob, he will be at the first meeting or can be contacted by email at honkifyourahero@hotmail.com.

Shadowrun 4th Edition

Jamie Ingram will be running a Shadowrun 4th edition campaign during the first term. The campaign will be for 4 to 6 players who are willing to look into the moral grey space between good and evil. The game is for players with a mature outlook.

The campaign will start in the 3rd or 4th week following the taster games. Contact Jamie at jamie.ingram44@ntlworld.com

Ars Magica 5th Edition

Advance notice.

Jamie intends to run an Ars Magica saga during the second term, the time and location for this is to be decided closer to the event. The intention is to continue with the saga started at the end of the last academic year, new players are welcome and assistance will be provided in generating characters of an appropriate level for the game. Contact Jamie at jamie.ingram44@ntlworld.com

Legend of the Five Rings

Stylianos Chaidas is Prepared to Start a "Legend of the Five Rings 3rd Edition role-playing game" this October. This is a campaign setting describing a fictional feudal samurai era eastern country. it's not Feudal Japan it's not Imperial China. But it's bit of both with monastic orders, Samurai, Ninja and Shugenjas (people who speak to the elements).

Stylianos would prefer 4-7 Players who are quite open minded in their beliefs of what is right and wrong with feudal eastern Asia and who can role-play effectively their given roles (or are willing

to learn). As fro the system it is unique to the given game and players will have to get some getting used 2 but except from that it only requires D10's

Aniventure

Jim wishes to test out of the third edition of his Aniventure rules (now based on the brand new Whitewolf storyteller system, as per VTR) with a proper campaign. So if anybody is interested in both Japanese Anime and RPG'ing he is looking for 4-8 players for that. The provisional title for this short series is currently "Macca Macca Mecha!": This should be a comedic near-future sci-fi campaign. More details will be available during the first couple of meetings.

Wheel of Time

If you have read Robert Jordan's Wheel of Time series then this will be the game for you although this is not essential. Tolkienesque but with some strange twists. Mark Linnell (Treasurer) will be running this game. There will be a two week introductory game and then a longer campaign game will run straight after.

Dark Eldar, Dreadnoughts and Spyrers. Oh My!

A Necromunda Campaign

The Necromunda campaign has been running over most of the summer and can continue for as long as people wish to play. New players are welcome as are new gangs if players wish to try something different or indeed run two gangs concurrently.

We currently have seven gangs; 2 Orlock, 1 Cawdor, 1 Van Saar, 1 Enforcer, 1 Spyrer and 1 Delaque. The Spyrers are on their third incarnation having proven that numbers really do count and one of the Orlock gangs have been declared Outlaw for stepping a bit too far over the line and attacking a Guilder Caravan.

So far in this campaign we have seen alliances rise and fall (but mostly fall). A Dark Eldar hunter has set an ancient war machine off on a rampage before cutting his own swathe of carnage through the local ganger population, and through it all the Enforcers have managed to keep the peace. (They keep it in their own little corner of the table where nothing bad ever comes to bother them *grin*)

Games have been run at peoples houses on an as-and-when basis and some large multiplayer games have been organised and (i hope) enjoyed when something unusual and just-a-bit-special is run.

("Aiee!!", "Its a F*cking Dreadnought!", "Cheque Please!!!!!!". Comments taken from the players who had just found out what they were up against!)

Background for the campaign

The settlement of Sludge Harbour is on the edge of a vast (vast!) septic tank system which is fed effluent from up-hive. Guilder caravans and other travellers usually elect to pay the only marginally exorbitant fees to be ferried across the sludge rather than take the week-long detour around the "coastline". Because of this, Sludge Harbour is something of a trade-route hub and, no stranger to outlaw activity, has it's own Enforcer Precinct House. Due to the nature of the "sea", the atmosphere near the coastline is somewhat...robust. Although the locals are largely used to the smell, occasional methane pockets can pose quite a hazard. Despite the dangers involved, there is a thriving cottage industry of salvage diving in an attempt to get rich off the artefacts from sunken caravan ferries and other trinkets "accidentally" lost overboard. Many of these items will be sold at the nearby Outlaw Trading Post of Slaith End.

The Library

The society Library contains books for a wide variety of games and systems and we are always looking to expand the collection.

Books are lent out on a fortnightly basis but can be renewed easily. Most of the stock consists of individual copies of each book and as such if another member requests the book you will not be able to renew the book.

The current stock includes: Spycraft, Changeling (revised edition) Deadlands D20, D&D 3rd edition core books, Warhammer Fantasy Roleplay, Conspiracy X, Rifts, Werewolf the apocalypse, Vampire the Masquerade, Cyberpunk 2020, Shadowrun 3rd Edition, Call of Cthulhu, Everquest players guide, Exalted, and the Forgotten Realms campaign setting.

If there area any books that you would like to borrow or you have items that you feel that we should add to the collection please contact the Librarian either in person at the Sunday Meetings or by email at ramoth19@aol.com