

# EDITORIAL

Welcome to issue 47 of *Principium*, the quarterly magazine of i4is, the Initiative and Institute for Interstellar Studies. Our Lead Feature is *Pringles is a Verb: Fabrication and Exhibition of "the Big Object"* the first outing of our laser propelled interstellar probe replica.

We have five News Features *International Astronautical Congress IAC24: The Interstellar Presentations Part 1, Report from the Space Propulsion Conference 2024 Glasgow, 20-23 May 2024, The Wow! Signal – explained?: A review of Arecibo Wow! I: An Astrophysical Explanation for the Wow! Signal* and *First European Interstellar Symposium: The Abstracts*. Also nine pages of Interstellar News and our regular summary of relevant peer-reviewed papers in *The Journal of the British Interplanetary Society (JBIS)* and *Acta Astronautica*.

And we have Features - In *Rise of the Serpent-God: The Apocalypse Plot*, Adam Hibberd explains the trajectory of Apophis which has a finite chance of hitting Earth in 2028, and how to deflect it. We introduce the new *i4is Project Hyperion*, a design competition for the habitability of a multigenerational worldship. Our volunteers recount *Glasgow 24 SF WorldCon: What we did at the Con* and we have more about the *i4is' Science Fiction Anthology and Book Club*.

Our front cover image is an envisaged interior for a worldship from the *Project Hyperion* competition briefing. The rear cover image is two images of Vega from the veteran Hubble space telescope and its recent, bigger, younger sibling, the James Webb space telescope. More about both in *Cover Images* inside the rear cover. And, as always, we have the i4is members' page and our regular call to action, *Become an i4is member*.

Next time, P48 in February 2025, we will have the second report of interstellar items from the 2024 International Astronautical Congress in Milan. And the usual Interstellar News and journal reports. More details on P48 in *Next Issue* at the end of this issue. And if you would like to help with any part of *Working towards the real Final Frontier* then please take a look at our poster on page 28.

**After 10 years and 41 issues John Davies will be stepping down as Editor after the 50th issue, August 2025. He will be working with Deputy Editor Patrick Mahon and the i4is Board of Directors over the next three months to appoint a successor and a broader team, sharing responsibilities for the magazine, in time for a transition period. Please get in touch with either of us if you would like to be part of the Principium team,**

**John I Davies, Editor, Patrick Mahon, Deputy Editor,  
[john.davies@i4is.org](mailto:john.davies@i4is.org) [patrick.mahon@i4is.org](mailto:patrick.mahon@i4is.org)**

## MEMBERSHIP OF i4is

Please support us through membership of **i4is**. Join the interstellar community and help to reach the stars! Privileges for members and discounts for students, seniors and BIS members. Details in *Become an i4is member* in this issue and at [i4is.org/membership](http://i4is.org/membership).

### Members have access to:

- **Networking:** [i4is.org/members/networking-opportunities](http://i4is.org/members/networking-opportunities)
- **Principium preprints:** [i4is.org/members/preprints](http://i4is.org/members/preprints)
- **Videos:** [i4is.org/videos](http://i4is.org/videos)

Please print and display our posters - all our poster variants are available at [i4is.org/i4is-membership-posters-and-video](http://i4is.org/i4is-membership-posters-and-video).

## KEEP IN TOUCH!

Join the conversation by following i4is on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/InterstellarInstitute](http://www.facebook.com/InterstellarInstitute)

Become part of our professional network on LinkedIn [www.linkedin.com/groups/4640147](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/4640147)

Follow us on X (Twitter) at [@i4Interstellar](https://twitter.com/i4Interstellar)

### And seek out our followers too!

Contact us on email via [info@i4is.org](mailto:info@i4is.org)

Back issues of *Principium* can be found at [www.i4is.org/Principium](http://www.i4is.org/Principium)



The views of our writers are their own. We aim for sound science but not editorial orthodoxy.