

EDITORIAL

Welcome to issue 48 of Principium, the quarterly magazine of i4is, the Initiative and Institute for Interstellar Studies. Our Lead Feature is *Building Our Home Among the Stars: A Report from the First European Interstellar Symposium*.

We have another News Feature, *International Astronautical Congress IAC24 - The Interstellar Presentations Part 2*. And eight pages of Interstellar News and our usual, *The Journals - JBIS and Acta Astronautica*, the regular summary of relevant peer-reviewed papers in *The Journal of the British Interplanetary Society* (JBIS) and *Acta Astronautica*. And a Feature - *Can Wormholes Be An Answer to the Ansible Problem?* - following up *Why Quantum Entanglement Won't Deliver The Ansible* in P46.

Our cover images illustrate how your Editor came to think about our long term future in the stars. The front image from the Kon Tiki expedition (a raft across the Pacific in 1946 to test a theory about human migration) and the back a vision of starship launch which appeared in The Eagle comic in 1955. 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, P49 in May 2025, will be a bumper issue including -

- A review by Andreas Hein of the new book, *From Stars to Life: A Quantitative Approach to Astrobiology*.
- A Project Hyperion progress report.
- IAC24 - Third Report, more papers and presentations at the 2024 International Astronautical Congress.
- FEIS report - on papers and presentations at the First European Interstellar Symposium.
- A review of a recent paper by Professor Greg Matloff, *Aerographite: A Candidate Material for Interstellar Photon sails* in JBIS.
- A review of the story collection, *The Ross 248 Project*, edited by Les Johnson and Ken Roy.
- A ground breaking paper, *Novel Technosignatures*, by more interstellar pioneers, Dr Al Jackson and Dr Gregory Benford.

And our regular *Interstellar News*. More details on P49 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 16.

John I Davies, Editor, Patrick Mahon, Deputy Editor,
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After 10 years and 41 issues John Davies will be stepping down as Editor after the 50th issue, August 2025. He is working with Deputy Editor Patrick Mahon, Membership/Infrastructure Manager Tam O'Neill 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. If you would like to be part of the Principium team please get in touch with -

John (john.davies@i4is.org), Patrick (patrick.mahon@i4is.org) or Tam O'Neill (tam.oneill@gmail.com).

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.

Members have access to:

- **Networking:** i4is.org/members/networking-opportunities
- **Principium preprints:** i4is.org/members/preprints
- **Videos:** i4is.org/videos

Please print and display our posters - all our poster variants are available at i4is.org/i4is-membership-posters-and-video.



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Back issues of Principium can be found at www.i4is.org/Principium

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