

THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC KICKSTARTED BACK INTO PRINT!

SONIC

THE COMIC CON



October 26th 2014



DEFYING CONVENTION!

SONIC THE COMIC KEEPS COMING BACK FOR MORE!

Cover by Michael Corker

Control Zone

Greetings, Sonic Boomers!

Welcome to a very special edition of Sonic the Comic! Firstly, I'd like to thank each and every one of you reading this issue right now for helping us Kickstarter this project. Back in spring 2014 when we devised the concept of Sonic the Comic Con, we were extremely unsure of what the demand (if any) there would be for a convention based solely around Sonic the Comic. Additionally, we were also completely unsure of how successful a convention in the north of England would be. It was with great trepidation we set about creating the Sonic the Comic Con Kickstarter event; however our apprehensions were quashed shortly after the campaign was launched, with the initial target being smashed within a matter of hours.

It rapidly became apparent that we had underestimated the popularity of STCC and the passion that still existed for Sonic the Comic. A phenomenal amount was raised in the three weeks of the Kickstarter campaign, and because of this we have been able to make the event even bigger and even better. One amazing product of the campaign is the comic you hold in your hands; it is a product of your generosity, and the tireless work of those who have spent hours slaving away on its construction. I thank you all for making this happen and I hope it will be something you cherish for years to come.

Sonic the Comic Con has already become something incredibly unique. It is not only a testament to the magic of what made Sonic the Comic so special to so many, but a celebration of its continuation as Sonic the Comic – Online, which endures to this day, and continues to carry on the STC saga. Not only that, STCC is possibly the largest gathering of STC artists and writers, past and present, that has ever taken place; this comic reflects that fact, and has become an incredible amalgam of contributions from Sonic the Comic 'alumni', as well as from the fans themselves.

I hope you all enjoy the day of the convention and this special issue, and that Sonic the Comic continues to bring you much joy for years to come.

Best wishes,

Adam Tuff

**Sonic the Comic Con co-organiser
and creator**



EDITORS: Michael Corker, Michael 'Stiv' Stephenson, Adam 'T-Bird' Tuff

CONTRIBUTORS: Jean-François 'Adamis' Thebe, Luke 'LT' Fletcher, Charles Ellis, Seumidh MacDonald, Pete Murphy, Matt Dittmer, India Swift, Zak Simmonds-Hurn, Mark Hughes, Claire 'MamboCat' Ryan

SPECIAL GUEST CONTRIBUTORS: Nigel Kitching, Nigel Dobbyn, Richard Elson, Ferran Rodriguez, Roberto Corona

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Kev Hopgood, Jon Haward, Carl Flint, Tracy Yardley!

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Hey Boomers!

Well, wow. They said it couldn't be done, they said it had been too long, they said we'd never drag Carl Flint away from his mansion but here we are! (Although we have had to cover the cost of Carl's leg wax).

You guys have had me on an emotional rollercoaster this summer! The level of support we've had for Sonic the Comic Con has been absolutely amazing, each and every person holding this comic should be proud of themselves because without you, it wouldn't even exist.

The Humes have been working so hard for months that I've had to start putting skimmed milk in their tea, their waistbands were starting to feel the pressure more than they were!

Anyway, it's all done now and ready to blow your mind! Welcome to Sonic the Comic Con! We've got Humes! We've got more Boomers than you can shake a stick at! Competitions, games, galleries! People who actually know what you're chuckling at when someone pulls a pack of camembert from the fridge (Seriously, you don't know? Ask around, it's been years)!

Have a fantastic time!

MEGADROID

Well here we are!

21 years later and the comic that's still sharper than a cyber razor cut finally gets its very own convention! There's not much left to be said that hasn't already so I'll just say **THANK YOU!** and give you three pieces of sage (sega?) advice:

1. READ THE STRIPS 2. RUN THE ZONES 3. HAVE A BLAST!

Here's to another 21 years!

Michael Corker

Sonic the Comic Online co-founder
and Editor-in-Chief

Agenda

10am

DOORS OPEN
AND WELCOME

11am

8 OUT OF 10
CATERKILLERS

1pm

Q ZONE PART 1

- Carl Flint
- Kev Hopgood
- Ferran Rodriguez
- Jon Haward

2pm

SONIC THE PODCAST
LIVE!

3pm

Q ZONE PART 2

- Nigel Kitching
- Richard Elson
- Nigel Dobbyn

5pm

END OF SHOW

ART CLASSES

A selection of Art classes by STC alumni will take place throughout the day.

Visit the Control Zone stand for info on how to sign up!

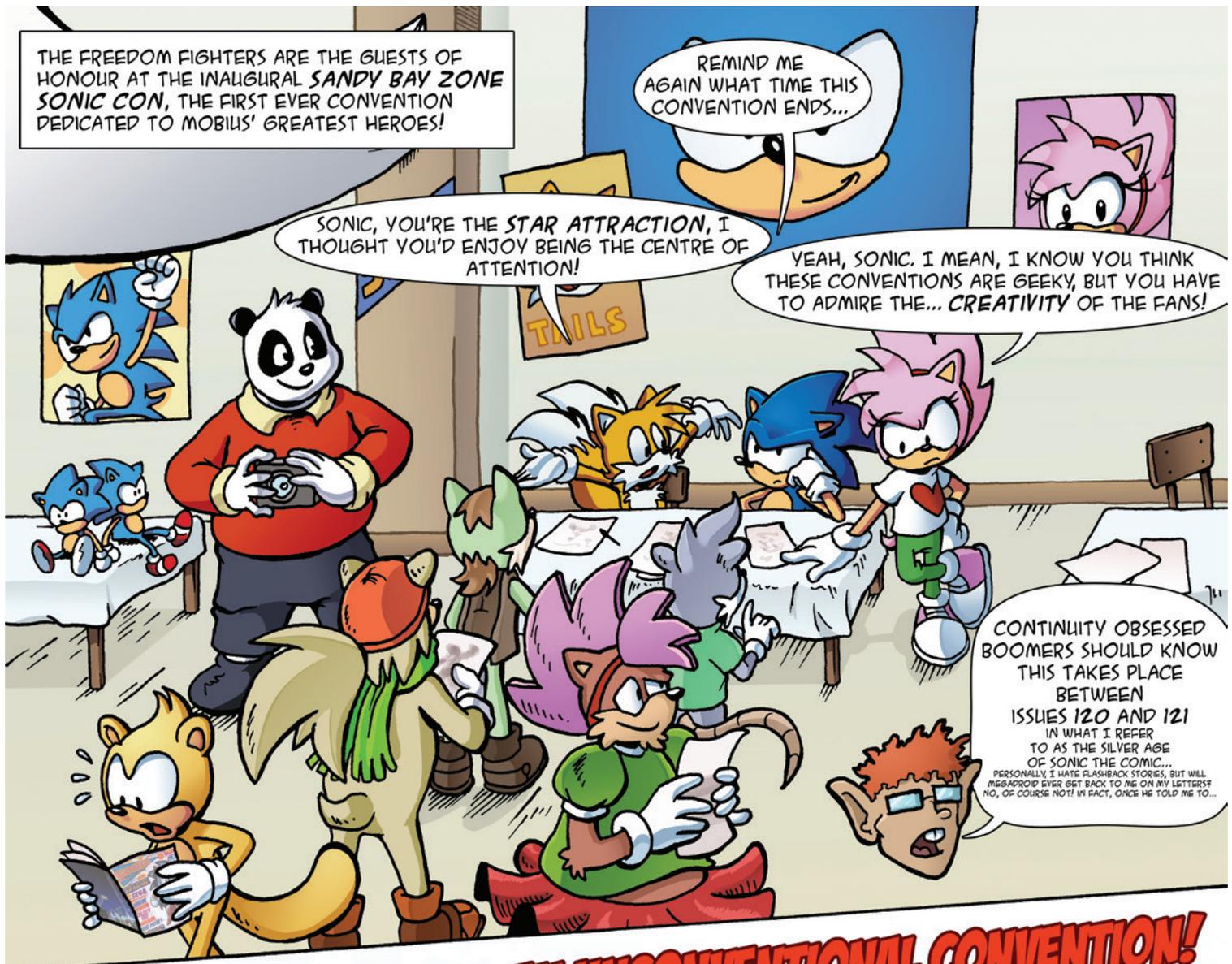
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE THE GUESTS OF HONOUR AT THE INAUGURAL SANDY BAY ZONE SONIC CON, THE FIRST EVER CONVENTION DEDICATED TO MOBIUS' GREATEST HEROES!

REMAND ME AGAIN WHAT TIME THIS CONVENTION ENDS...

SONIC, YOU'RE THE STAR ATTRACTION, I THOUGHT YOU'D ENJOY BEING THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION!

YEAH, SONIC. I MEAN, I KNOW YOU THINK THESE CONVENTIONS ARE GEEKY, BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIRE THE... CREATIVITY OF THE FANS!

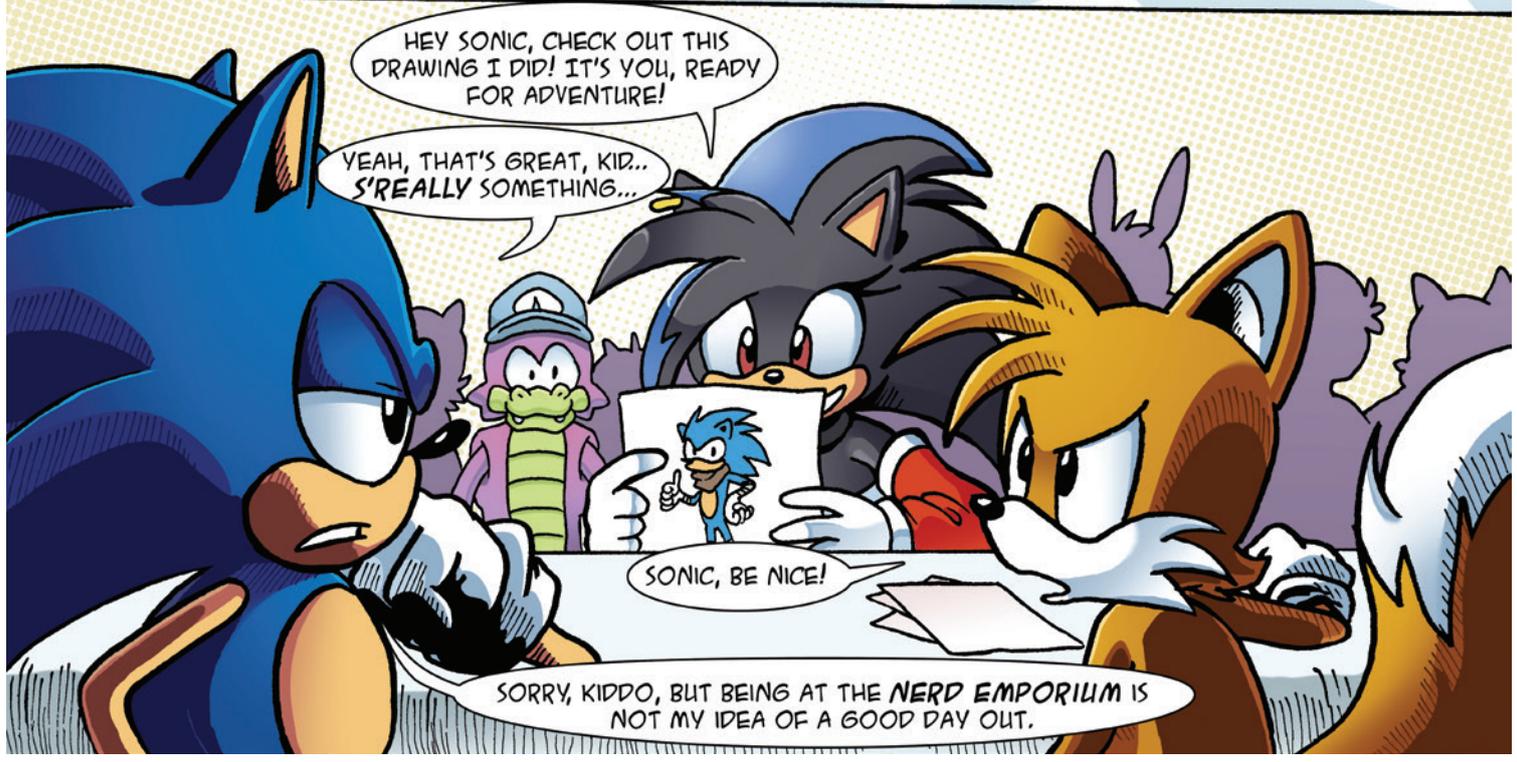
CONTINUITY OBSESSED BOOMERS SHOULD KNOW THIS TAKES PLACE BETWEEN ISSUES 120 AND 121 IN WHAT I REFER TO AS THE SILVER AGE OF SONIC THE COMIC... PERSONALLY I HATE FLASHBACK STORIES, BUT WILL MEGADROID EVER GET BACK TO ME ON MY LETTERS? NO, OF COURSE NOT! IN FACT, ONCE HE TOLD ME TO...



AN UNCONVENTIONAL CONVENTION!

SONIC

Script by L.T. Fletcher
Black and white art by Adamis and Seumidh MacDonald
Colours by Pete Murphy and Matt Dittmer

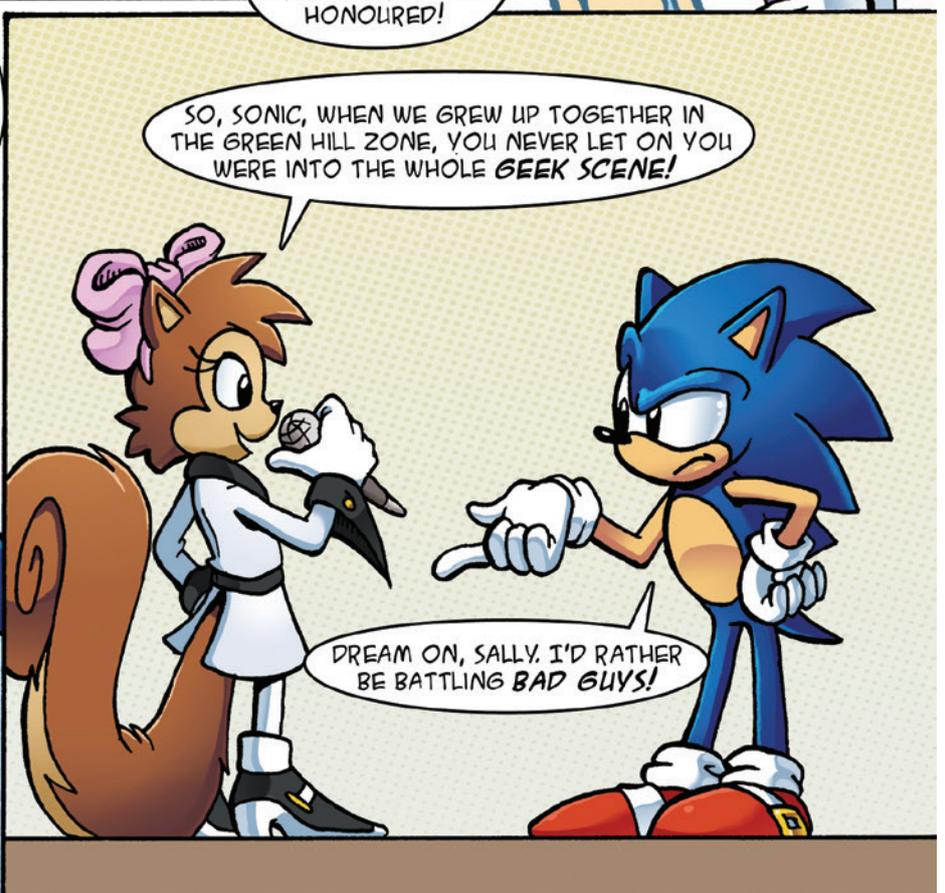
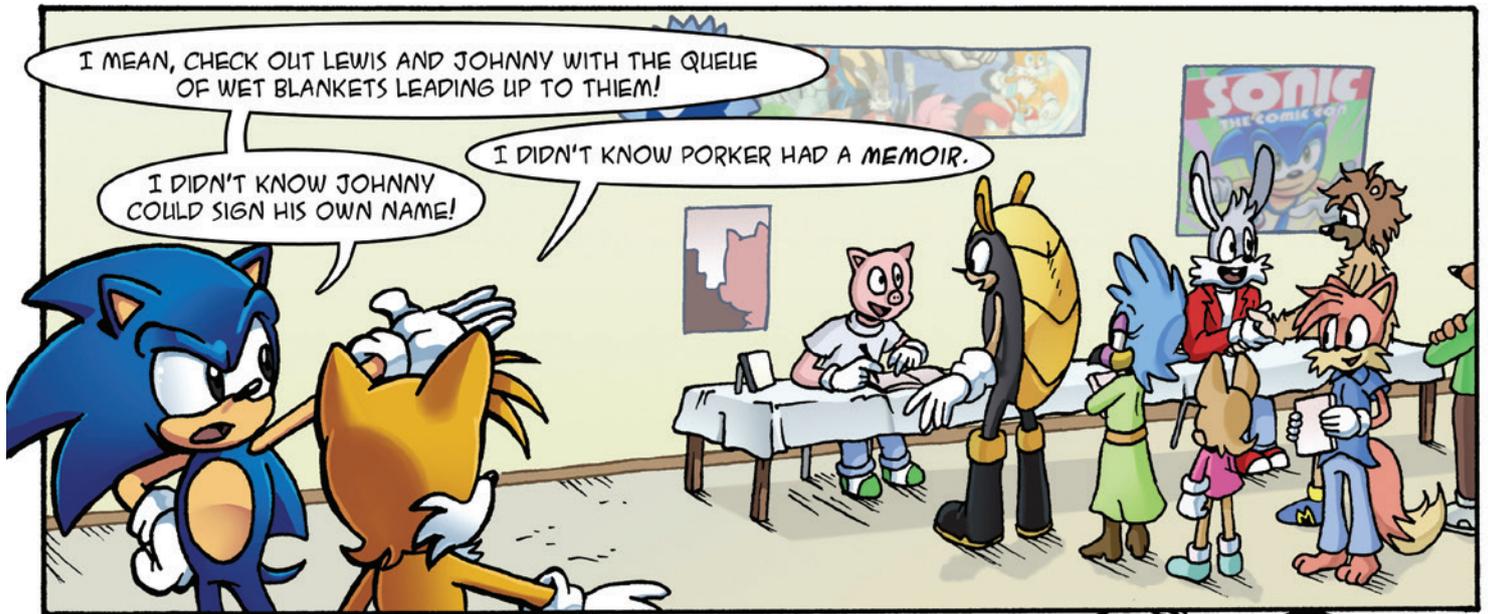


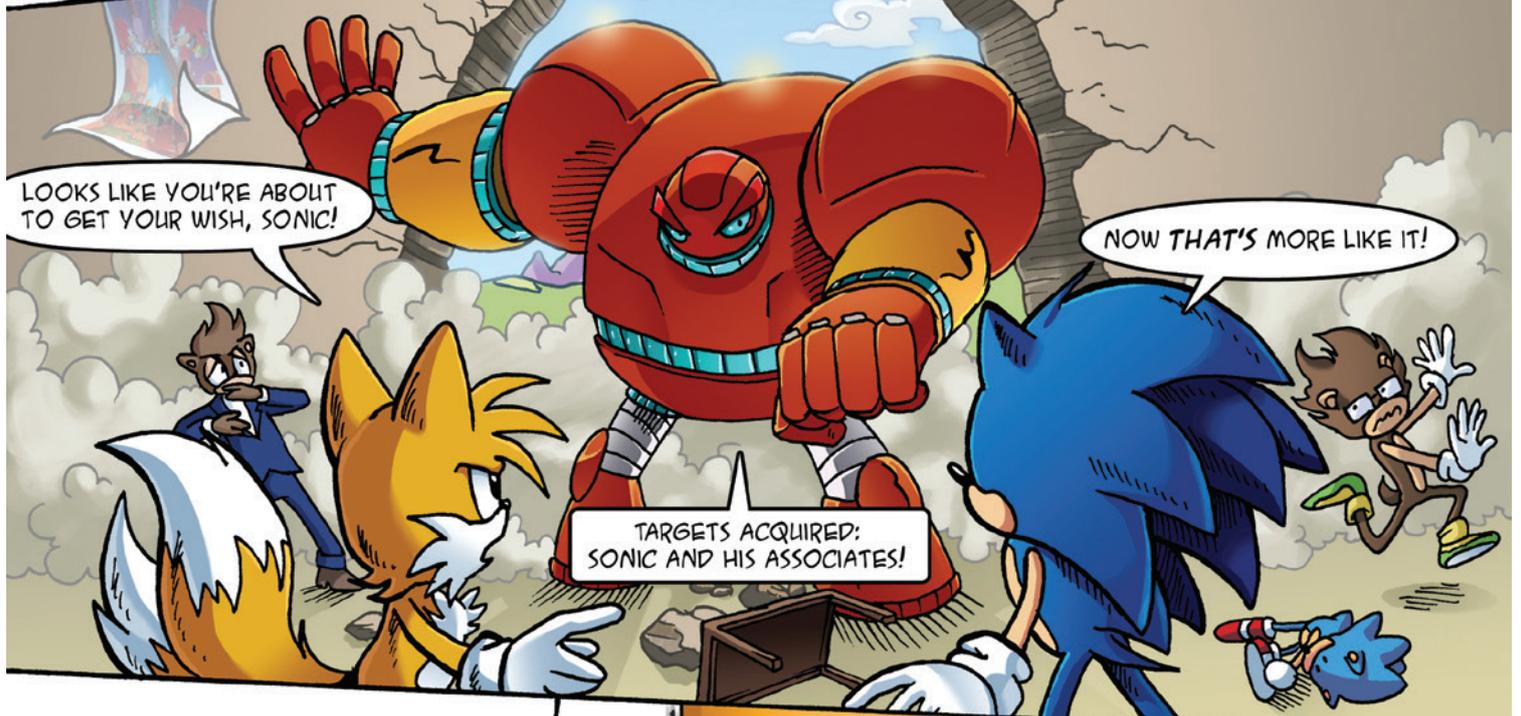
HEY SONIC, CHECK OUT THIS DRAWING I DID! IT'S YOU, READY FOR ADVENTURE!

YEAH, THAT'S GREAT, KID... S'REALLY SOMETHING...

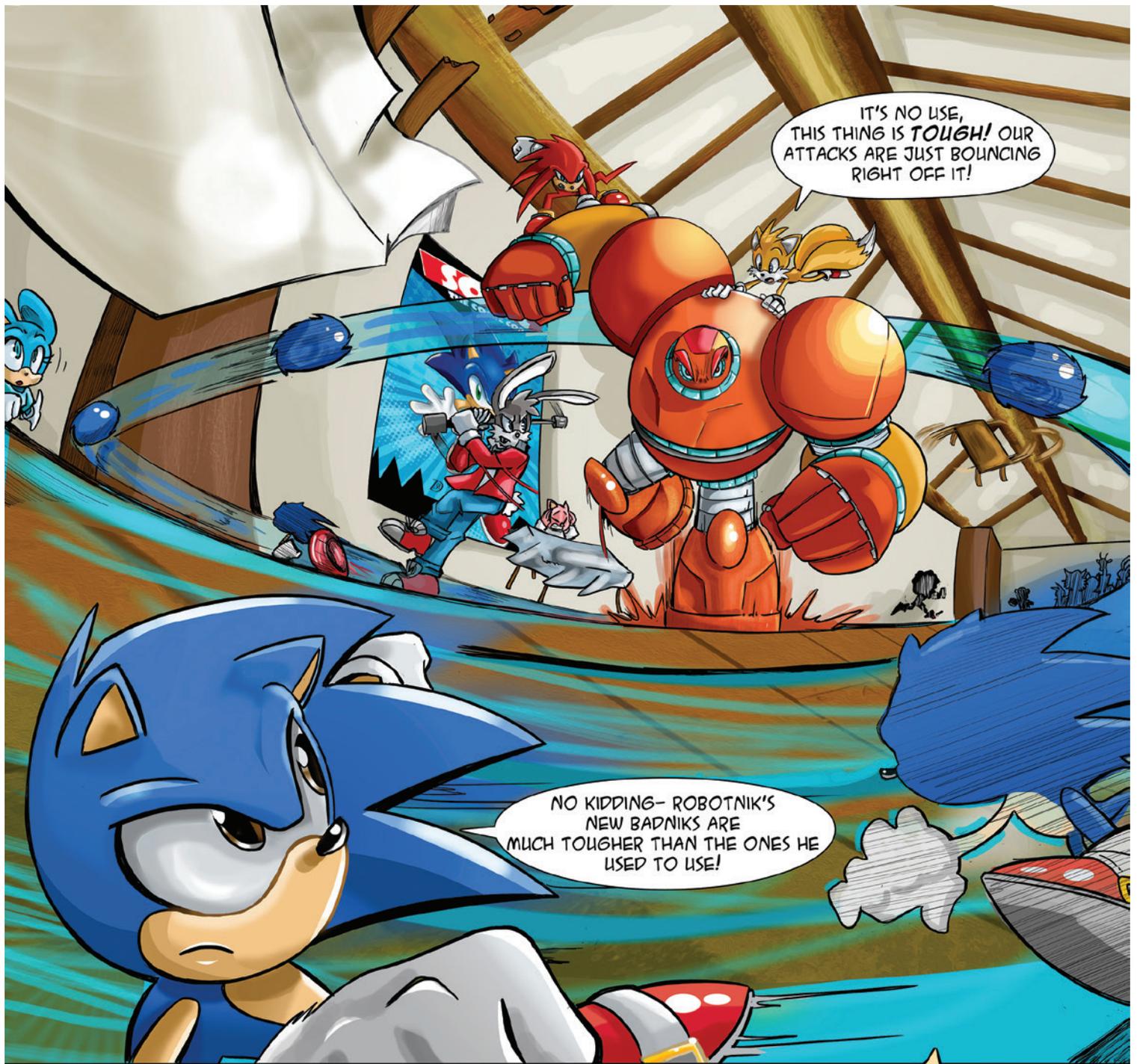
SONIC, BE NICE!

SORRY, KIDDO, BUT BEING AT THE NERD EMPORIUM IS NOT MY IDEA OF A GOOD DAY OUT.









IT'S NO USE, THIS THING IS **TOUGH!** OUR ATTACKS ARE JUST BOUNCING RIGHT OFF IT!

NO KIDDING- ROBOTNIK'S NEW BADNIKS ARE MUCH TOUGHER THAN THE ONES HE USED TO USE!



UNGH! WE'LL HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING BEFORE THIS THING TRASHES THE CONVENTION CENTRE!

WHOKK!



WE HAVE AN IDEA, AMY!

COME ON, GUYS, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN SCRAMBLE THIS BADNIK'S CIRCUITS!



HEY UGLY! WHY DON'T YOU FOCUS ON THE REAL FREEDOM FIGHTERS?!

NEVER MIND, SONIC, HE'S NO BIG DEAL! WHY NOT SEE IF YOU CAN TAKE THESE MUSCLES?

DON'T FORGET ME, AMY ROSE, SONIC'S GIRLFRIEND!

SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND!



AND IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH, WHY NOT TAKE ON MY BUDDY PORKER AND ME?

OR ME, SHORTFUSE THE CYBERNIK! ONCE, I WAS A HUMBLE SQUIRREL, BEFORE ROBOTNIK CAPTURED ME AND TURNED ME INTO THE ULTIMATE WEAPON- BUT I RESISTED THE BRAINWASHING PROGRAM AND BECAME HIS WORST NIGHTMARE!

THAT'S NICE, DEAR!

I'M TAILS.

DOES NOT COMPUTE. MULTIPLE TARGETS CANNOT BE THE SAME ENEMY.

SYSTEM FAULT. ERROR! ERROR! DOES NOT CO-

CH-POW!

SEE, SONIC? THESE FANS AREN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL! THEY'RE THE REAL HEROES TODAY!

WELL, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT WITH A ROLE MODEL LIKE ME?

AND SO, THE DAY IS SAVED AND EVERYONE IS HAPPY!

NOT QUITE EVERYONE, SALLY!

GAAAAHH! CURSE THAT BLUE SPEEDREAK!

GAKK!

FOR MORE ADVENTURES WITH SONIC, VISIT STCONLINE.CO.UK



Tracy
Yardley!

Tracy Yardley!



SONIC



Flash Forward Zone

Report filed by **L. T. Fletcher**, assisted by **Mark Hughes** and **Michael Corker**



Greetings, convention-going Boomers!

I am the omnipotent Omni-Viewer (but who am I kidding, you already knew that!). Instead of our usual Flashback Zone, I thought I'd treat all the lovely folks who helped us put this show together to a look into STC's future! The Humes-Who-Think-They're-In-Charge at Sonic The Comic Online are always hard at work to bring you readers the most exciting stories possible, so when Megadroid wasn't looking I "borrowed" some of the concept art for upcoming issues!* Don't forget, the newest issues are always found at stconline.co.uk!



Ooh-err! This metal-clad nasty certainly looks intimidating! Who are they and what do they want with one of our heroes?



You'd better not pout, you'd better not cry because we listened to your demands for more of this familiar feline! Watch out this Christmas because Big the Cat is coming to town!



Here's a blast from the past! Sega Superstar Alex Kidd is due to star in his first ever hilarious STC adventure!

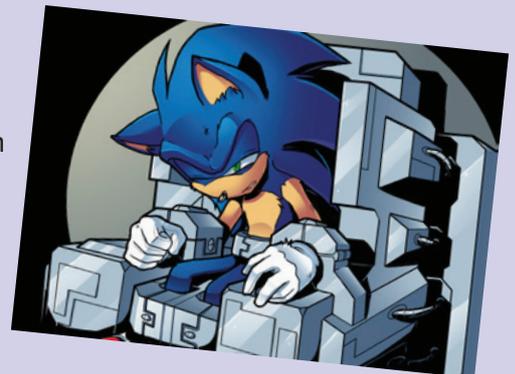


This groovy girl gorilla looks like she knows her way around a toolbox- but what's her connection to the good guys? And who exactly are the Scrap Mobians?



Looks like Sonic's fugitive days may be at an end- someone's finally caught him!

But who could they be and what do they plan to do with him?



Boomers, please note that everything you see here represents a work in progress- all character designs are subject to change.

Omni-Viewer, please note I've locked you out of the STC Towers wi-fi you cheeky so-and-so!



BEFORE IT WAS DESTROYED, THE **MIRACLE PLANET** USED TO APPEAR IN MOBIUS' ORBIT FOR THREE DAYS A YEAR AND THEN RETURN TO ITS OWN, SECRET DIMENSION.

DURING THE LAST DAYS, CHILDREN IN AT-RISK ZONES WERE **EVACUATED** TO THE PLANET AND A GUN TEAM TRIED TO STOP ROBOTNIK CAPTURING IT - **THAT IS WHY WE'RE STILL HERE.**



NO OFFENCE, BUT THIS WAS AS FUN AS **THE PLAGUE**. WHEN I GET HOME, I'M TAKING A LONG BATH!



SHOULDN'T WE BE TAKING OFF? THE **MIRACLE PLANET'S** WARPING OUT IN A FEW MINUTES.

SUPER SONIC IS TARGETING AIRPORTS AND DOCKS ACROSS SOUTH ISLAND. MOBIAN AIRSPACE OFF-LIMITS TO ALL NON-COMBAT-

NO....

WE'VE HAD A **CODE 13** ALERT - THAT'S "GLOBAL PERIL". WE'RE AWAITING UPDATE....

WAIT! SOMETHING'S COMING THROUGH -

THEY DIDN'T **KNOW** ABOUT THE **IBLIS**, THE POOR SOULS - THE **MIRACLE PLANET** HAD WARPED OUT BEFORE HE ATTACKED.

STORIES

SONIC'S WORLD

DECADES LATER. SCRIPT BY CHARLES ELLIS, ART BY INDIA SWIFT, MATT DITTMER, CLAIRE RYAN AND PETE MURPHY

MY **FATHER** WAS ONE OF THOSE EVACUEES, **SILVER** - HE GOT TO **SEE** ROSE AND THE **FOURTH COMMANDER STEELE** IN MORE PEACEFUL DAYS. THE DAYS YOU'RE GOING BACK IN TIME TO **SAVE**.



WHOA. DID... DID SHE EVER TELL HIM ANY WORDS OF WISDOM?

THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW **TAILS** ONCE BEAT UP A **NASTY MONSTER!**

ONE DAY* THIS MYSTERIOUS TRAVELLER
CAME TO THE EMERALD HILL ZONE....

THEY CALL ME....
THE MYSTERIOUS
TRAVELLER!

AMY WASN'T VERY GOOD
AT COMING UP WITH NAMES



THESE BOOTS ARE A GIFT -
THE WEARER WILL BECOME
THE COOLEST PERSON
ON MOBIUS!

STC #32! - MEGADROID



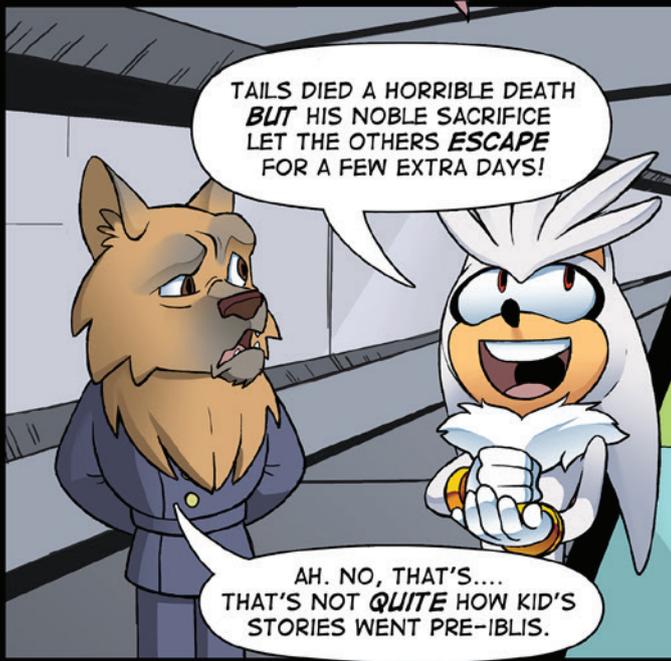
OUTTA THE WAY,
PIXEL-BRAIN!
ONLY SONIC GETS
TO BE COOL!
HUR, HUR!

URNS OUT THE TRAVELLER WORKED FOR
ROBOTNIK AND THE SNEAKERS MADE YOU
SWAP PLACES WITH AN INVINCIBLE MONSTER!
SONIC'S EGO AND GREED HAD DOOMED
EVERYONE....



....AND ONLY I CAN SAVE THEM!
BUT WHAT CAN I DO AGAINST
SUCH A MONSTER?!

YOU KNOW WHERE THIS SORT OF STORY IS GOING



TAILS DIED A HORRIBLE DEATH
BUT HIS NOBLE SACRIFICE
LET THE OTHERS ESCAPE
FOR A FEW EXTRA DAYS!

AH. NO, THAT'S....
THAT'S NOT QUITE HOW KID'S
STORIES WENT PRE-IBLIS.



.....AND TAILS
GOT UP AND
HIT IT AGAIN!
IT MAY HAVE
BEEN TOUGH
BUT HEROES
DON'T QUIT!

AND SHE ENDED UP *BEING* A STORY, HER AND *GUN'S FINEST*:
TEKNO THE CYBERNIK, NORRIS HARD, MISTER BIG, AND BOB THE PLAX...



YOU KNOW WHAT THEY DID! THEM AND THE OLD STEELE,
THE COBRA WHO TOOK A *SHATTERED GUN* AND *SAVED US*...

...A HARD, UNBREAKING MAN.

IF... IF THINGS
HAVE GONE
TRULY BAD,
I'M THE NEW
COMMANDER
STEELE
BY DEFAULT.
AND... AND...



OH HECK.



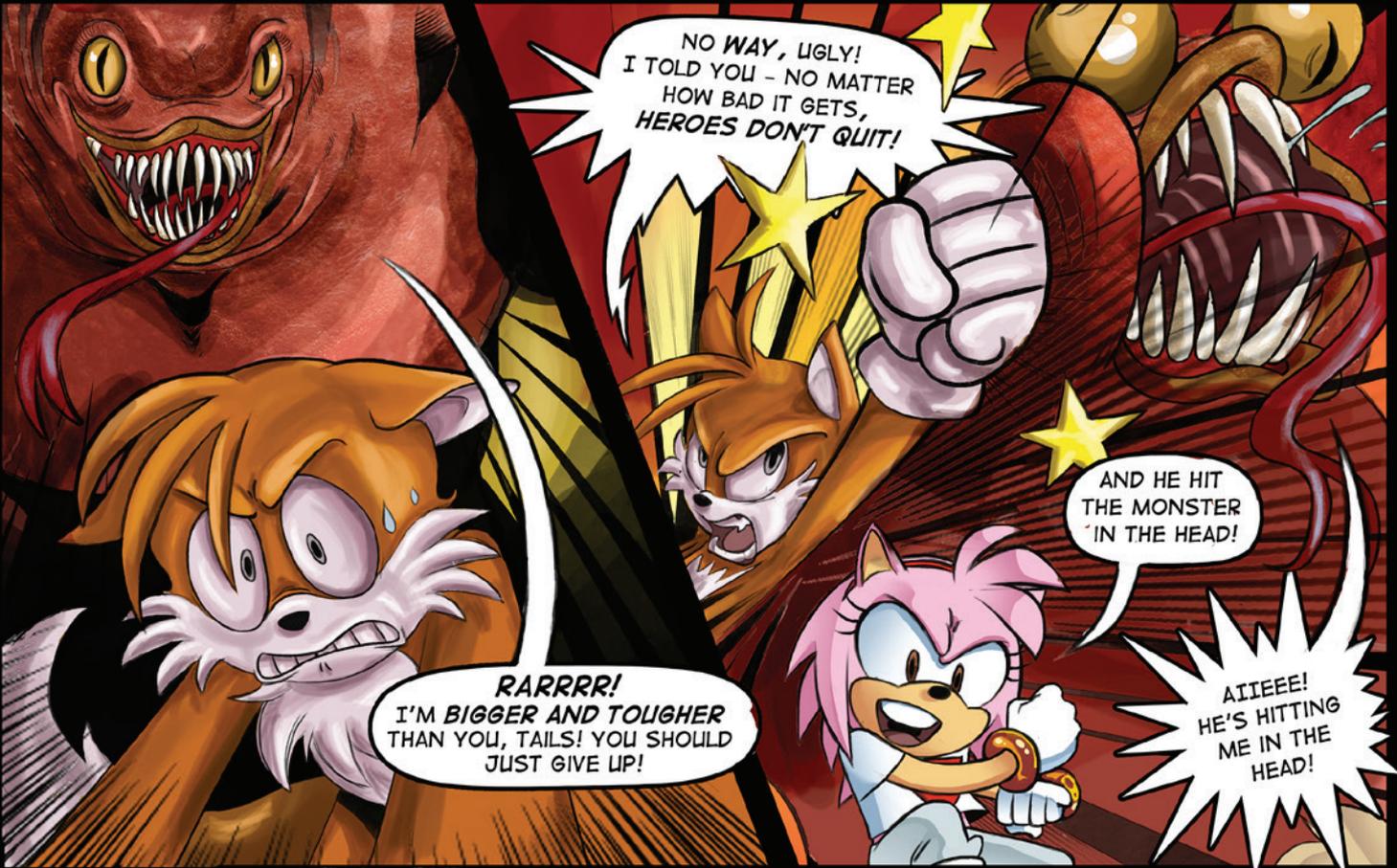
WE'RE TALKING
HYPOTHETICALLY,
SERGEANT TIN.

TAILS AND THE GANG
WILL HAVE STOPPED
SUPER SONIC.
WE'RE JUST
BEING *CAUTIOUS*.

SHOULD WE TELL THE KIDS—



YOU WANT THEM
TO LIVE WITH *THAT*
FOR *THREE DAYS*?!
EITHER IT'S ALL FINE,
WHICH IT WILL BE,
OR THIS IS
THEIR LAST DAYS
OF INNOCENCE
AND WE PREPARE
THEM THE ONLY
WAY WE CAN...



NO WAY, UGLY!
I TOLD YOU - NO MATTER
HOW BAD IT GETS,
HEROES DON'T QUIT!

AND HE HIT
THE MONSTER
IN THE HEAD!

RARRRR!
I'M *BIGGER AND TOUGHER*
THAN YOU, TAILS! YOU SHOULD
JUST GIVE UP!

AIIEEE!
HE'S HITTING
ME IN THE
HEAD!

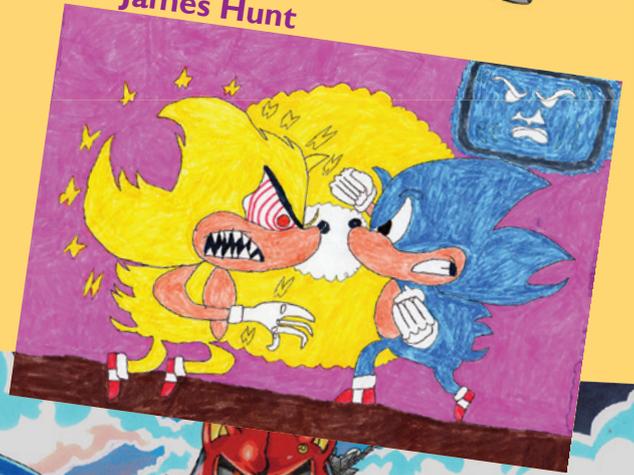
Graphics Zone



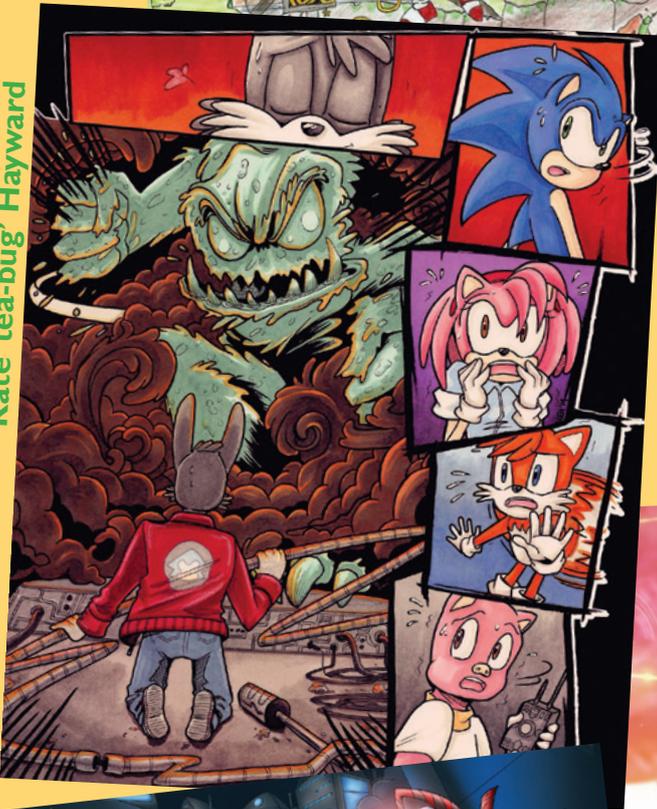
James Sudds



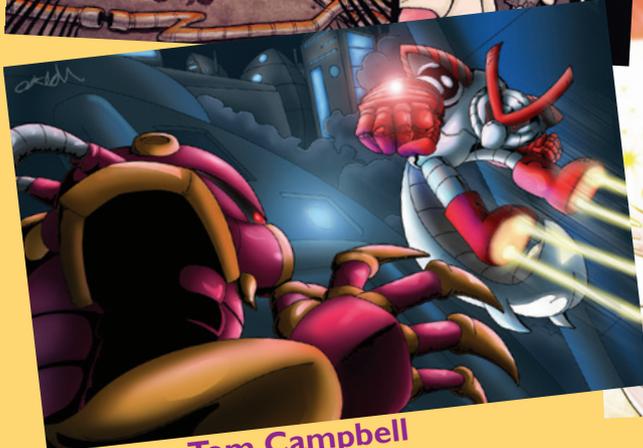
James Hunt



Kate 'tea-bug' Hayward



Jessica Findley



Tom Campbell



Blaise Bensley

"I'll always know you're just behind me... Driving me to fight on."

We received so many entries we couldn't fit them all in the comic! If you can't see yours don't worry, they'll be online soon!

Contributors

We'd like to take this time to say a special thank you to everyone who made this event possible. Every single one of you has a special place forever in my read-only memory!

Alan Aldred	D-Rock	Liam Latham	Claire "MamboCat" Ryan
Adam Anderson	Luke "SuperSonicDuke"	Adam Lennon	Samladdy
Hannah Arnold	Durham	Jonic Linley	Thomas J. Selinka
Miles Arquio	Laurie Durham-Muir	David "KC" Luís	Rob Sellers
Liam Ashcroft	Dan Dyer	(RadioSEGA)	Daniel Sellers
Caleb Barnes	Kevin Eva	Dave Luty	Anthony Sheldrake
Tanner Steven Eric Bates	Thalia Evans	Seumidh MacDonald	Simon Shirley
Mena Begum	Tyson Everick	Richard Malone	Phil 'Vger' Sims
Darren Betts	Mark Eyles	BD Manchild	Monty Singleton
The BlackBolt Project	Feniiku	Lauren Matthews	Harry Smith
Joseph D. Bliska	Matt Ferguson	Christie-lee McColl	Candice Sonic
Boozerman	Ellie Finch	Darren McFarlane	Nathanael Spencer
Stephen Brown	John "Turbo" Finlay	(Delusphere)	Gareth "Go Go Sexy
Liam Brown	Luke Fletcher	Mainman McLaglen	Randal, The Pharaoh
Rory Butler	F-sonic	Lloyd McLaren	Wizard" Spriggs
Tom Campbell	Chris Gould	Pirate Mike	Stewart Stephenson
Joshua Urtheart	The Gagaman	Rachel Miller	Gail Stephenson
Cartlidge	James Games	Pete Murphy	Abigail Stephenson
Darragh Cattigan	Kay Garbett	Nomun Neren	Michael 'Stiv'
Phil Chapman	Stuart Gipp	Pete Nethercote	Stephenson
Charles	Carlo Guidotti	William Newsome	Marcus Stockley
Amy Chen	Jake Hainey	Christopher Nichols	Gavin Storey
Lewis "Sonic Yoda" Clark	Matthew Hall	Andrew Noble	Parris Stubbings
Dann Cook	Leeann Hamilton	Vincent Pavey	Andrew 'Kasey' Stubbs
Brett & Sophie Cooper	Jase Hanratty	Sopheark Phan	Martin Sturrock
Robert "Coops"	Kate Hayward (tea-bug)	Daniel	James Suddes
Coopland	Blaise Herbert	"Danimej86" Poole	Timothy Sutcliffe
Benji Copeman	Tony Hills-Duty	Mark Porter	Bryce Sutherland
Sian Copeman	Becky Hills-Duty	Roarey Raccoon	Jan Swidan
Andrew Copeman	Keiran Holmes	Steven Reynolds	India Swift
Michael Corker	Mark Hughes	Ed Reynolds	Reuben Taylor-
Robert Cox	Niki "wormst17"	William Reynolds	Panayiotis
CrimDa	Hutchinson	Joanie "BubblyOasis"	Jasmine JiNX Thompson
CrimJims	Tom Huxley	Rich	Demelza Thompson
DarkOverord	T. Jackson	James "Neko Riddles"	Andy Tunstall
Darkspeeds	James Jarycky	Ridler	David Wall
DarrenIndeed	Jennifer Johnson	Peter Robinson	James Ward
Dave & Claire	Timothy Kelly	Raiden Robinson	Weegee
Bethany Day	Will "TheFatPanda"	Aymee-Rose Robinson	Rebecca Whiting
Ravinder Deol	Kemish	Sarah 'Samanfur' Rose	Nick Whitney
Matt Dittmer	Ryan Ketteridge	Max Ross	David Williamson
Michael Dobson	Andrew Kirby	Phil Ross	James Zeach

Speedlines

Dear Megadroid,

I just wanted to write in and tell you how wonderful my experience was working on Sonic The Comic throughout the nineties and to thank you (and, by extension, Richard Burton) for the opportunity. I've been a full time working comic artist for over twenty five years and, on both a personal and a creative level, my years on STC were the happiest and most satisfying that I have yet experienced.

The continued support of the readers and the dedicated efforts of a small band of creators who have maintained the online production of STC up to the present day have secured the unique status of this great comic. I feel ridiculously lucky and privileged to have been involved in something that turned out so well.

**All the best,
Richard Elson**

Dear Megadroid,

I love STC with its colourful characters and great stories. In fact, it's so good that I reckon these characters could work outside the printed comic page - they'd be ideal for games, possibly even games for 'computers', maybe even on telly too. My favourite character is Tails the Fox, he's a real good guy... not sure about the hedgehog though - he's quite rude sometimes.

I'd like to ask a couple of questions while I'm here: Who's the smartest - Grimer or Porker Lewis? And who's the fastest - Sonic or Shortfuse the Cybernik? I've noticed that some football magazines ask footballers what is their pre-match meal - I'd like to know what the Sonic writers and artists like to eat before they sit down to work. And finally, do you have any plans to introduce a beaver character into the Sonic universe?

Make mine Megadroid!

Flint Carlson
(aged 8 and three quarters) Date: 1/4/95

Dear Sonic the Comic,

Fate and luck and trial of fire was my path to Sonic the Comic! Richard Burton, editor of 2000AD mused and viewed my first Judge Dredd art - 6 pages drawn, inked, and coloured in 10 days.

The story was by Garth Ennis called "Barfar", set in Mega-City One Zoo - it was lots of hard work but fun to draw. Richard looked at me and smiled: I had passed his trial by fire! He told me he was looking for artists who were like marathon racers, who can start the race at a pace and can finish without sprinting and running out of gas.

He smiled and told me he was working on a new comic called Sonic the Comic and asked me if I would be interested in drawing the Shinobi strip. I immediately said yes (being a fan of martial art movies)...and the rest you know, dear readers! It was fate and luck being in his office at the right time, and trial that gave me a two year stint drawing for Sonic the Comic.

Happy 21st anniversary to the comic!

**Best wishes,
Jon Haward**

Dear Sonic the Comic,

I've never been much of a computer games player, so when I was asked to do the cover for the first issue of Sonic the Comic, I knew absolutely nothing about the character. I had to do some research, and quickly!

What struck me about the characters was how completely surreal their concepts were. I was then impressed by how instantly appealing the characters were and how detailed the worlds they inhabited were.

I think all of these factors go to explain the longevity of these characters.

Kev Hopgood



Dear Megadroid,

When I hitched my wagon to the star that was Sonic the Comic all those years ago, little did I realise how it would still be in my life all these years later. Some of that is, no doubt, due to the enduring popularity of the characters, but some, I hope, is also down to the thought and care that went into crafting those stories for what was dismissed by many as merely a licensed tie-in “kids’ comic”.

I fell in love with the comic strip when I was very young and still love the medium to this day. I’m not a gamer, never have been, so I can’t really appreciate that aspect of STC, but the fact that there are people out there who have been inspired and continue to have a love of creating stories in a comic strip medium due to our efforts makes me very happy. Long may you continue!

Nigel Dobbyn

Dear Sonic the Comic,

If someone would ask me what means “Sonic” to me, the answer would be short, “happiness”. He came to my life by the hand of my daughter Nuría, just as I finished the third issue’s cover the very day she was born. Before that, I spent hours and hours playing his games, trying to know the guy I had to draw. Sonic was the start of a close friendship with pencil and pen. Now, twenty one years after, I can’t imagine life away from art.

After years and years of quietness, he came into my life again, and like then, twenty years ago, a new door was opened. The door allowed me to meet Sonic fans, and even though my work was not a major part of the comic, after all these years, it still remains in the heart of many people.

Now Sonic has become a window, a real window from which I can watch, from the quietness of my studio, all the fans in the UK. A window full of brand new friends that, hopefully, will endure for a long time.

Ferran Rodriguez

Dear Megadroid,

Here are four good things (and I could easily find more) that spring to mind when I think about Sonic The Comic:

1. Working with Richard Elson and us becoming good friends (no, really...). Nobody drew Sonic like Rich.
2. Working with my already-good-friend Nigel Dobbyn. Those pages he drew for the Knuckles strip were just stunning.
3. Getting to write for my all-time favourite British comic book artist Mick McMahon. You have no idea how proud I felt when he told (a bemused, I’m sure, interviewer) that he thought his best work was done for Decap Attack.
4. And finally, I have to confess, it is kind of nice when people tell me that my work on STC meant something to them when they were growing up.

I will say that I do feel a little awkward when I hear this sometimes but it does mean a lot to me.

Nigel Kitching

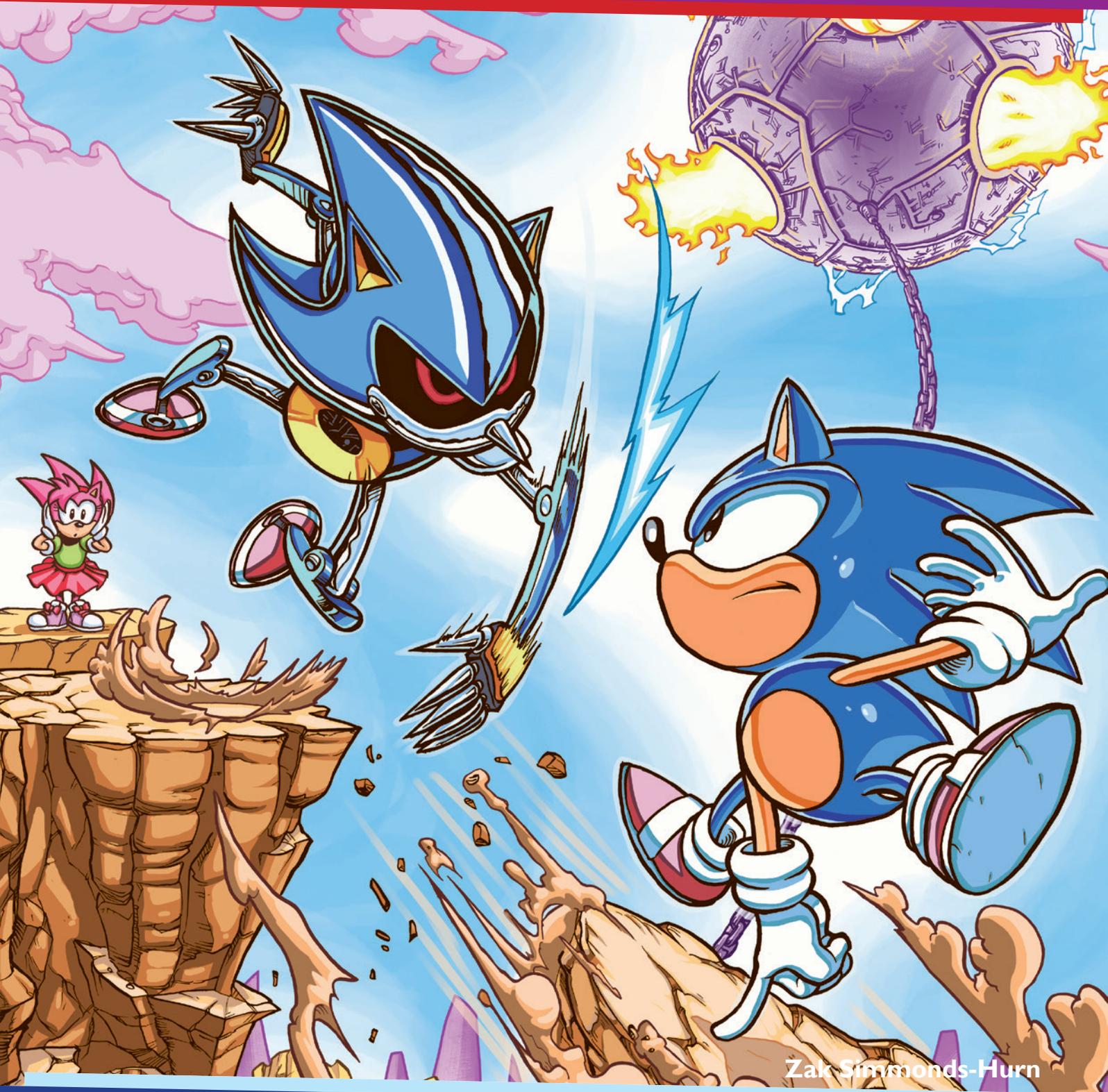
Special thanks to all of the incredible STC alumni who wrote in to us for this very special issue!

If you’d like to write (or draw) to us here at Speedlines visit the site below and get submitting!

speedlines.stconline.co.uk

Megadroid

Want to see more?



Zak Simmonds-Hurn

www.stconline.co.uk