



Doctor Who: A Celebration: Two Decades Through Time and Space

Peter Haining , Verity Lambert (Contributor) , Terry Nation (Contributor) , William Hartnell (Contributor) , Patrick Troughton (Contributor) , Jon Pertwee (Contributor) , Tom Baker (Contributor) , Peter Davison (Contributor) , more... Barry Letts (Contributor) , Terrance Dicks (Contributor) , John Nathan-Turner (Contributor) , Jeremy Bentham (Contributor) ...less

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With the benefit of hindsight it is difficult to see how BBC TV's Doctor Who series could possibly have failed. In fact, it had a most inauspicious beginning. Due to the extensive television coverage devoted to the assassination of President John Kennedy the day before, the first episode of Doctor Who went out later than scheduled. Viewing figures were disappointing, but a decision was taken to give the programme a second showing the following week. The response was tremendous and after a shaky start the series was all set to run and run and run...

Peter Haining has compiled a fitting tribute to the success of this remarkable programme, to mark its twentieth anniversary. His book reflects the rich diversity of talent and ideas that have invested Doctor Who with its unique appeal to viewers of all ages and made it the vital and popular series it remains to this day- a popularity reinforced by W.H. Allen/Target's novelisations of the stories.

In addition to articles on key landmarks in the Doctor Who universe, this celebratory volume contains contributions from Verity Lambert, the first producer of the programme; Barry Letts, one-time director, producer, and executive producer; Terrance Dicks, ex-script editor, script writer, and author of many of the Doctor Who novelisations; John Nathan-Turner, the current producer; and all five actors who have played the part of the Doctor give their views on this epic phenomenon.

For those who first saw the programme in 1963 to those who regularly watch it today, this W.H. Allen special will be a constant source of pleasure and a unique volume to treasure.

Doctor Who: A Celebration: Two Decades Through Time and Space Details

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From Reader Review Doctor Who: A Celebration: Two Decades Through Time and Space for online ebook

Mel says

This book I found for sale randomly on the street in Archway and I'm SO glad I did. It's lovely!! It was released in 1983, shortly after Peter Davidson became the doctor (and ironically for now was filled with lots of "ooh isn't he a bit young to play the doctor, I'm sure he'll do well" type comments. But this book is brilliant for old who fans. Nice interviews with some of the people in charge, including all the doctors. It has fact about the characters, Gallifrey, a bio on all the companions, a complete episode guide for every episode (including which ones survived in the vaults and which didn't). It's a great reference and lots of fun to just sit and read cover to cover. I think I'll be enjoying this for years. (And am terribly jealous of those who've had it for the past 27!)

Robert Davis says

I practically had this book memorized when I was in high school. I am proud to say that I could recite every episode title in order, from Doctor Who and an Unearthly Child to Doctor Who: The Five Doctors. There is a very rare, leather bound edition of this book which I saw being sold at a DW convention in 1984. I wanted to buy one, but they were crazy expensive.

Travis says

A great reference work covering the history of the first five Doctors. Articles, and interviews, with all five actors, several of the main writers and directors. There are articles on a half dozen of the main monsters, a listing of all the companions (K-9 even gets his own chapter.) and a really informative episode guide.

Love it, my copy has been thumbed through to the point that it's falling apart.

Gareth says

One of the first big Doctor Who non-fiction books I ever owned. Although it seems quite basic now I've got fond memories of getting this for Christmas 1983 and devouring it.

Ben Flay says

good read worth owning

Shanna says

It's about five doctors behind, but still seems to be an interesting read...

John says

1989 grade A

Non-fiction

Interesting: Good story lines

Damian Dubois says

It only feels like yesterday I received this book one Christmas but in actuality that was thirty years ago now - makes me feel damn old.

Seeing as 2013 is the much anticipated 50th Anniversary of Doctor Who I thought I would indulge my love of nostalgia and dive back into *Doctor Who - A Celebration: Two Decades Through Time and Space* for probably the third time in my life (yep, once a decade for me, never get tired of it.)

One of the things that I found so appealing about this book was the sense of wonder it gave me about all those missing episodes. Although some episodes have been found in the intervening years, quite a few of the Hartnell serials and the bulk of Troughton's era remain missing to this day. Yes, you can experience these adventures either through the Target novelisations, the tele-snap episodes made by fans or even listen to the audio soundtracks of the stories but they still wouldn't compare to actually laying your eyes on to them. Oh, why oh why did the BBC have to wipe those master tapes?!?!

Another sad thing to note is that since the publication of the book some of the contributors have also passed away, most notably Patrick Troughton, Jon Pertwee, Verity Lambert and Barry Letts.

All in all though this was a good old trip down memory lane :)

Daniel Kukwa says

For an entire generation of "Doctor Who" fandom, this was our bible to the series, past and (as of 1983) present. So many of the opinions expressed in this book became uncontested dogma...and it's been as much fun debating and re-evaluating preceived wisdom as it was **READING** about it in the first place! One of those books that I will always look upon with the rosiest of glows.

Kristin Myrtle says

Just picked this up at a garage sale for \$2! couldn't pass it up!

Nicholas Whyte says

"<http://nwhyte.livejournal.com/1331947.html>[return][return]Most of the material is of course familiar to me from many other sources, but there is a particularly nice piece by Barry Letts. Lots of good illustrations too. Shame that Haining didn't get any contribution from Philip Hinchcliffe or Robert Holmes, but the pieces by Terrance Dicks and John Nathan-Turner are also above average."

Stuart says

In the time before the internet, this book was my only connection to the early years of Doctor Who. A great source of trivia, information about the creation of the show and plot summaries for lost episodes of the series.

Rich Meyer says

Great book that covers the first five Doctors, with a LOT of information about their various companions and adventures. Great for the old-school Whovian in your family!

Steven says

A wonderful history of the first two decades of Dr. Who and the characters and their personal stories too. For loving the Dr. Who series since the 80's, this was a great view of the characters of the series.
