

Missing Stardust Issues and Explanations of Gaps by Luca Vanzella

In the November 2012 issue of *Stardust*, I discussed the efforts at compiling a *complete* digital archive of this august publication. I used italics for the word complete, because I strongly suspect there are 4 issues missing and my hope of finding them is fading. *Stardust* has not always had a consistent publication schedule and occasionally, a publication gap has occurred for various reasons. It has thus been tricky to determine whether issues missing from the digital archive are ones that simply have not been found or are in fact gaps in publication. Since space in the issue did not permit listing the reasons for the gaps, I have prepared this web-exclusive summary.

Period	Explanation
1956 May to July	GAP. October issue says no issues since April.
1957 July to September	GAP. October issue welcomes readers back from summer.
1958 October	MISSING. The November 1958 issue is numbered Vol 5, No 2.
1959 April 1959 May	MISSING. Likely missing since the March and October 1959 issues make no mention of a gap. Should be Vol 5, No 7 & 8.
1960 June to September	GAP. Summer gap. October issue is Vol 7, No 1.
1961 July	GAP. Summer gap.
1963 June 1963 October	GAPS. June is a summer gap. September is a special issue devoted to Star Night. November issue says "With the start of another season".
1965 October	GAP. October had a banquet meeting, possibly no issue was produced. November 1965 issue has a new editor.
1966 September	GAP. The June issue says "last issue until September" and has part 1 of a Dave Roles article that ends saying that Part 2 will appear in September. But, the October issue has part 2 of the Dave Roles article.
1967 January	MISSING. December 1966 and February 1967 issues make no mention of a gap. Might be a gap since the February issue talks about the end of an era in meeting location and the unusual date for the January meeting.
1967 September	GAP. The June was last issue of Dave Rodger, who said there might not be a summer issue. The October to December issues are brief and no editor indicated. January 1968 has Franklin Loehde as editor.
1970 June 1970 September	GAP. Franklin's binder has a note saying September missing. 1968-1974 pattern has June and September issues. October 1970 issue mentions a change in editors. Michael Ward found 2 meeting notices for June and September.
1971 April	GAP. May issue says "As we did not have a regular issue of Stardust for the month of April".
1984 June/July 1984 August 1984 November/December 1985 Jan	GAPS. April/May is the last Alan Dyer issue. A merger with the ESSC newsletter was mentioned. The September/October issue is a brief 1-page issue and says there was no summer issue. The President's message in the February 1985 issue mentions a "goal to reestablish Stardust" and Treasurer's Message mentions "lack of a regular issue of Stardust".

By the way, the RASC National website archive of *Stardust* issues does not contain any of the missing issues. Whereas there are 550 issues archived in our website as of November 2012, the RASC National website has 348 issues.

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