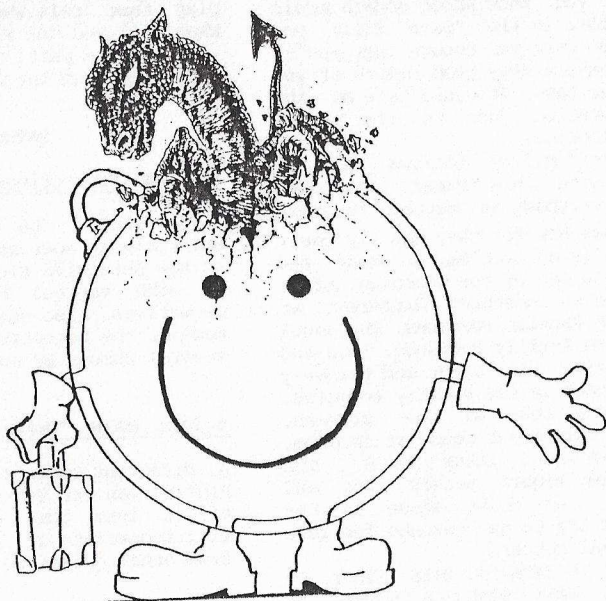


Programme Notes



You will have probably already decided what programme items you want to see (GOH speech, Rocky Horror, Fancy Dress etc.) i.e. our traditional items and special events. The idea of this review is to mention some of our other items, things you might not consider going to on first glance but we hope might reconsider after reading this. So please read this at the con and not on the way home. (That is pretty pointless as you will read the above statement when you read the article. Oh, never mind).

FRIDAY.

1.30pm. MAIN "Project the right image"

Ever sat watching a film at a convention, late at night when it gets to the end of the reel and the projectionist isn't there to change it? Ever wanted to do something about it? Now is your chance to be initiated into the rites of that strange band of people who run about the darkened hall, able to see without light, who do with less

sleep than you (if at all) and then sleep in bathtubs and other very unlikely places, who mutter such strange things as "How many feet running now". Chris O'Kane shows all in the projection course, learn how to show your own programmes and let him get to bed.

4.00pm. MAIN "Does the Team Think"

or just an excuse to say anything we wanted. Bring along your questions and our panel will endeavour to answer them. We take no responsibility for the depths to which they descend with their answers.

7.00pm. MAIN "Robots I Have Known"

is the title of this year's Ed Buckley Talk. Watch and listen as Ed ranges through vast resources of material and slides to illustrate his theme. Robots from all over will be discussed. You can't realise just how much material there is in Robots till you hear Ed's talk.

7.00pm. ALTERNATIVE "Friday Fun Night"

A bumper collection of events, contests and quizzes with the accent on fun. If you think you know about modern music then take part in the "Dave Ellis Pop Quiz", we do warn you though that you'll have to have a very good memory if you want to beat Dave. It would take me the whole convention just to list Dave's record collection.

Mike "Biggles" Molloy follows that at 8.00pm. with his "Paper Aeroplane Contest". Everybody is welcome to take part and see how far they can fly their plane. Size is no problem, go ahead and make a plane out of the Guardian. After this it's on to something different at 9.00pm. with Fannish Fortunes. The panel game based on Family Fortunes. Lots and lots of prizes on offer and the only talent you need is the ability to guess. Just make up a team of four players. After that things get messy at 10.00pm. as the main bout takes place. The "Custard Pie Fight" occurs then and mayhem will no doubt ensue as the hotel staff try to get revenge for last year with real custard.

PLEASE NOTE: IF ENTERING THIS EVENT IT IS BEST TO WEAR SOME OLD CLOTHES, AS ANYTHING YOU WEAR WILL GET EXTREMELY DIRTY.

8.00pm. MAIN. While fun and frolics are on the alternative, the Main programme remains deadly serious with a talk/discussion on "Space Militarization". An important subject, which is why we have given it two hours on a Friday night. What effect will the Pentagon's "Star Wars" plans have on the safety of the planet? For a lively and serious discussion don't miss this.

10.00pm. MAIN. "SF and Music" Panel is the first of our panels on other media and it's relationship with SF. When we first discussed this we were amazed at the number of possible topics that the title suggested. We are sure that this will be a very entertaining panel with Anne McCaffrey on it. Topics that could be covered include the use of music as a language, as a culture (Orson Scott Card and others), SF music (Hawkwind, ELO etc.), it's use as a theme and a plot device.

11.00pm. ALTERNATIVE. "E.T. Encounter"

is a simulation exercise being run by ASTRA. Basically you take a role and play that role when the ALIENS arrive. What will you do? Turn up early if you want to take part. There will be another opportunity on the Sunday night.

SATURDAY.

12.30pm. "Detectives in SF" Panel

this should be an informative and entertaining hour as our panelists talk on how Detective Fiction has impinged on SF with various heroes as futuristic detectives. Also some mention will be made of the Detective Fiction written by several famous SF authors.

4.30pm. MAIN. "Jokers Wild" (SF Quiz)

A different type of SF quiz. Marion and Richard van Der Voort have put a lot of effort into this and we are sure you will appreciate it. It's a lot different from other quizzes we have had.

4.30pm. ALTERNATIVE. A debate on whether "SF is a suitable Vehicle for Academic Criticism". Last year our debate was of a political nature. This year we have gone for a literary one. Find out how good or bad this form of literature is considered to be by other mainstream fiction writers.

11.00pm. FAN. "Late Night Horror Panel"

Join our panelists as we plunge into the ranks of horror fiction. This is a subject that is seldom touched on at SF conventions. So we decided to put something on for the Boys and Ghouls.

SUNDAY.

11.00am. ALTERNATIVE. "4 Minute Warning Debate"

is a humorous participation between the audience and speaker. Who can come up with the funniest way to spend those last precious moments. Can it be better than Dave Ellis's boiling a 4 minute egg. (Which leaves no time to eat it).

12.00pm ALTERNATIVE. "Films I Love and Hate"

could end up being a very contentious panel indeed if any one's favourite films makes on another panelists hate list. For some verbal fireworks (and maybe some visual ones) watch this panel.

8.00pm. ALTERNATIVE. "Communications in The Future" Panel

This panel will be looking into the future to see what directions communications could take. Will cable or satellite rule the TV screens? Will we all talk via micros thus killing the telephone and the letter? If you have any specific thoughts on this subject turn up and air your views.

9.00pm. MAIN. "Gremlins v. Ellison". A Trial by Jury.

Following his published comments on the Steven Spielberg Film of "Gremlins", the court convenes with Mr Ellison in the dock to defend his views. Does his case hold water in Britain? Remember that you are the jury, you will decide. So ensure that you turn up for jury duty (and bring some rope).

10.00pm. ALTERNATIVE. "Custard Pie Quiz"

A quiz with a difference. Not so much prizes for the winners (there are though), but penalties for the losers. How brave are you? (and the audience) as custard pies fly for every wrong answer. Can you survive? If you're Game for a Laugh please let us know.

11.00pm. (In the Bar) "Late Night Comedy"

We hope for a hilarious session as some of the best raconteurs and story tellers tell their tall stories. Can you not laugh at one of Dave Ellis's Train Stories? What about when Bill Morris and Gus McAllister join forces? This one should be a side splitter.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON is when the "Treasure Hunt" takes place. It only takes half an hour as you explore a small part of

Glasgow trying to solve the puzzles. Big prizes await the quick and the smart. This is one programme item where you are directly involved. Take some time off from the rest of the programme and try it.

ANYONE WHO WANTS TO TAKE PART SHOULD REPORT TO THE REGISTRATION DESK AT 1.00pm.

MONDAY.

12.00pm. MAIN. "SF Poetry"

Alasdair Gray and other panelists discuss and read what many regard as a very inferior literary form. But is it? What are your thoughts about it? Come along and listen in.

2.00pm. MAIN. "Treatment of Alien Cultures in SF".

Susan Grose examines how SF has treated 'Alien Cultures. How good are they? Are some possibly accurate interpretations? How considered are they? Come and hear what Susan has to say on this subject.

4.30pm. MAIN. "Water Tasting Panel"

Before the convention closes we have some silliness to partake in. Following the successes of the Beer, Coffee, and Tea Tastings, we get down to the basic liquid. How good are your taste buds? Can you tell Perrier from Highland Spring? Taste the difference between water from the Ayrshire hills and from Loch Catrine which supplies the city. If you consider yourself a gourmet on this subject then this may be the ultimate challenge.

5.30pm. MAIN. "Convention Publications"

This will be a very informative and probably revealing discussion. What do you think of our PRs and programme books? How good or bad are they? Does it really matter? How well does a good looking PR sell a convention? Let's hear your opinions.

*PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN ANY OF THE PROGRAMME ITEMS PLEASE ASK AT THE REGISTRATION DESK FOR CHRIS O'KANE, BRUCE SAVILLE, DAVE ELLIS OR HENRY BALEN.

Film Reviews

ALBACON 85 FILM REVIEWS by Bruce Saville

Splash

The surprise hit of last summer. This is a charming, quaint, modern fairy story. Tom Hanks underplays his part quite considerably in this simple tale of a man falling in love with a mermaid. But of course it must have it's big bad wolves and these turn out, surprise, surprise, to be scientists. Will true love win out in the end? One of those films which leaves you with a nice warm feeling. Just non-taxing entertainment.

Zelig

Woody Allen's marvellous tale of a human chameleon who imitates all around him. Marvellous picture editing blends the modern film with old newsreels. Very funny, but the impressive photography and effects do distract you at times and you view it as fact rather than as part of a film. Parts to watch out for are: the Pope's speech, Hitler's rally and the hypnosis sketch where Woody reveals his true feelings for Mia Farrow and his thoughts about her cooking.

The Philadelphia Experiment

This is the idea of men thrown out of their time. 2 US sailors thrown from World War II into present-day America. There are some nice performances at the beginning as they are dumfounded by the world they find. But once Nancy Allen joins them the nice confident touches are flung away and it becomes just another B-movie with scientists mumbling all sorts of mumbo jumbo, the hero shooting first before the military can even say stop. The hero is played by a

40's James Dean in the 80's and the heroine is a modern version of the screaming helpless female of the 50's B-movies. All harmless fun with lots to laugh at.

The Dead Zone

This film shows you what can be achieved when they get the horror element right. It takes the idea of a man who has visions and can see the future. It develops that into the idea of whether or not he can and should affect that future. Is it a gift or a curse? A nicely tortured performance from Christopher Walken with Martin Sheen his usual excellent self.

Christine

Adapted from Stephen King's novel it comes off as the worst of the killer-car movies. The film itself is not too bad, but it just does not convey the sense of horror it should by using a modern and very familiar object as the vehicle of possession. Still, it is watchable.

Dreamscape

For some reason this movie just disappeared after it's release in this country. Those who have seen it have had to watch it on video. The basic storyline involves a project where people can nip in and out of other people's dreams and nightmares. However it is not too long before the baddy appears with his ideas about using this ability as a weapon. The actual dreams themselves vary between very impressive

(especially the final one) to rather mediocre. A very undemanding film.

Android

Back by popular demand. A cheerful and wonderfully humorous movie. Not many people caught this on it's initial release. It is well worth watching and has a lovely performance from Klaus Kinski.

Blade Runner

Another one back by popular demand and fast becoming a cult at cons. From the mesmerising opening scenes through the atmospheric squalor of downtown Los Angeles to the climactic clash between Harrison Ford and Rutger Hauer (who steals the show), this film enthral's you in it's view of a futuristic America. Although the film is different from the book it is based on, it completely satisfies with it's vision. Quite an experience.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show

A cult classic. This is an affectionate spoof of all the 50's B-movie SF and Horror flicks as summed up in the opening number. Yes, (for those of you who don't already know) it is a musical. Come along and sing for your supper, and watch out for the mess.

1941

Steven Spielberg's exercise in murderous mayhem, as America waits for Japan to invade. Paranoia runs riot through California as various characters go through their little skits. A big bold canvas is used to produce a huge hilarious comedy. A lot of the jokes flop but even more of them hit the target. One of my favourite moments is Robert Stack watching Dumbo as war rages outside in the street.

Dragonslayer

Walt Disney's venture into live action fantasy comes out like a not too bad live version of Sleeping Beauty. Mild

harmless fantasy toned down so that children can see it too.

The Right Stuff

This is the mustn't miss movie of the convention. A marvellous treatment of Tom Wolfe's best seller. The story of America's race into space through the eyes of the press, the politicians, the rocket scientists, and above all the test pilots, using the character of Major Chuck Yeager as a fulcrum over which all others rise and fall. Terrific performances from a little known cast, with very rousing music, capture the flavour of the book. Basically what it's like to be a hero and what it's like to live and work with one. Winner of four Oscars, and rightly so, this film is simply American cinema at it's eye baring best.

Excalibur

If Dragonslayer is the children's version of fantasy then this is the adult one. A dark look at Arthurian legend, the film is very atmospheric and conveys a strong feeling for the underlying tragedy occupying the whole legend. Don't just watch this film for the special effects, but watch it as a work of a man with a very distinct vision.

Wizards

Back again after a long, long absence, this cartoon feature about two wizards battling for the world, is very funny. Forget about a cute Disney cartoon feature though, this one has sex, violence, hatred and love all mixed together. Parts of the animation detract from the film, especially in the battle scenes, but it is certainly worth watching.

Charly

Based on the classic story "No Flowers for Algernon", this is a very moving film. It won a Best Actor Academy Award for Cliff Robertson. Hankies available in the foyer.

Spaceflight

Programme

Spaceflight Programme - Albacon 85.

Events arranged by ASTRA: the Association in Scotland to Research into Astronautics, Limited.

(1) Extraterrestrial Encounter.

If you were Prime Minister, of course you would know what to do if visitors arrived from outer space. But what if you were General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union? Or head of the CIA? Chris Boyce's ET Encounter simulations put you among the action as the challenges to the established order develop. Last year it was an incoming probe - what will this year's be?

Unlike most SF convention events, for this one intending participants should be on time. It's difficult to allocate roles and provide briefings for latecomers - and you wouldn't want to be on the sidelines as history is made.

(2) Militarization of Space.

The Military have had a stake in space exploration from the outset, but now it's entering an entirely new phase and "Star Wars" isn't fun anymore. Should it be happening? Can it be stopped? ASTRA secretary Bill Ramsey introduces the issues and chairs the discussion.

(3) The Waverider Update.

Last year John Bonsor and Gordon Dick described ASTRA's Waverider Aerodynamic

Study Programme - working up to a model of the Nonweiler Waverider re-entry vehicle, to be launched by a sounding rocket. Now the WASP team has been invited to take part in a NASA space probe study. Ken Bradshaw, John and Gordon talk about, and demonstrate, the last year's progress.

(4) Programming for Ariane.

Giotto is on its way to Halley's Comet - Europe's first interplanetary mission and a success for Europe's Ariane booster. Susan Grose gives us the inside news on Ariane's future assignments.

(5) The Galileo Lecture.

Next year the Galileo probe will be launched from the Space Shuttle - assuming that the prior launch of the International Solar Polar Mission, the first use of the Centaur G liquid-fuelled booster with the Shuttle, is a success. Duncan Lunan, ASTRA president, saw the Galileo probe in assembly last year, and also the Centaur boosters at General Dynamics/Convair. Ken Jackman of General Dynamics has been asked to speak on Galileo project but has still to be confirmed as we go to press;

Duncan Lunan is back up speaker.

(6) Planetary Exploration.

Scottish premier of the NASA "Voyager" documentary, followed by a panel discussion chaired by Duncan Lunan with Susan Grose, John Bonsor et al.

Have you heard of The Case for Mars? The Argo Venture? This is your chance.

FRIDAY

MAIN

ALTERNATE

fan

10.00am — Film: **SPLASH**

An incredible tale about an incredible tall! A fishy love story.

Noon. — **THE OFFICIAL OPENING**

The weekend starts here.

12.30pm — **FILM REVIEW PANEL**

Find out what to see and avoid

1.00pm — **PROJECT THE RIGHT IMAGE**

Learn how to show your own films and run your own programme.

2.00pm. — Film: **CHARLY**

An extremely moving and sad film about mans inhumanity to man. One of Harlans' favourites.

4.00pm. — **DOES THE TEAM THINK**

5.00pm. — Film: **THE PHILADELPHIA EXPERIMENT**

A time twister, with lots of action and a few laughs. Watch out for the Ronald Reagan jokes.

6.00pm

7.00pm. — Talk: **ROBOTS I HAVE KNOWN**

A very revealing and entertaining slide show by Ed Buckley. A look at robots in SF.

8.00pm. — **THE PAPER AIRPLANE COMPETITION**

A chance to take part in the aviation event of the year. But read the rules very carefully.

9.00pm. — **FANNISH FORTUNES**

A chance to win some truly worthless and some really valuable prizes. You don't have to be smart for this one, just silly.

10.00pm — **MUSIC IN SF**

Anne McCaffrey and Duncan Lunan examine the use of music as a theme in SF.

11.00pm. — Film: **DREAMSCAPE**

A machine is designed which can enable one to enter other people's dreams with terrifying results.

Midnight — **CHRISTINE**

A beautiful Plymouth Fury is possessed by a demon resulting in mayhem for all it's enemies.

THE DEAD ZONE

Adapted from the Stephen King Story. A man finds he has the ability to see into the future, but can he change it? Well acted and intelligent.

Till 5.00am

COMICS PANEL

A discussion on the art in, writing for and collecting of SF and Fantasy comics.

COMMITTEE'S WELCOME

Your chance to meet the Guests and the committee of your convention in an informal party.

FOP MUSIC QUIZ

Try your knowledge on this one and win a musical prize. Be warned, teeny boppers need not apply.

Talk/Debate: **SPACE MILITARIZATION**

A pressing issue in our time. What is Star Wars? Will it make our planet any safer

THE CUSTARD PIE FIGHT

The annual bout of madness. All participants are ensured their just desserts.

Scenario: **ET ENCOUNTERS**

A very intelligent staging of a possible event. What would it be like if an alien intelligence arrived tomorrow

An Introduction to Fandom.

Your chance to find out what life is like being a science fiction fan.

Review of the Year

A look back to what's been happening in fandom so far.

Beer Tasting

Bring along some beer and sample some others from various parts.

Party

Your chance to get down on it, or get up off it?

SATURDAY

MAIN

ALTERNATE

FAN

9.00am.	<p>Film: ANDROID</p> <p>Funny and entertaining romp with Klaus Kinski in charge of a forgotten space station, being helped out by his faithful but inquisitive android.</p>		
10.00am.		Slide/Talk: DAN DARE	How to Produce a Fanzine
10.30am.	Panel: AMERICAN TV		Get in on the publishing business.
11.00am.	<p>Barlan Ellison, Lisa Tuttle and Anne McCaffrey discuss the world of television and compare how much it differs on both sides of the Atlantic.</p>	Talk/Panel: PLANETARY EXPLORATION	
Noon.	Film: BLADE RUNNER	Panel: DETECTIVES IN SF	Con Running
1.00pm.	<p>A dazzling display of cinema as Harrison Ford plays detective in a chaotic Los Angeles in the year 2029. cult film and Alpacon favourite.</p>	<p>Where does Philip Marlowe fit in?</p>	Do you want to be a Con Runner?
2.00pm.	<p>GUEST OF HONOUR SPEECH</p> <p>Barlan Ellison reveals all.</p>	<p>Talk: SPACEFLIGHT</p> <p>Susan Grose speaks of Europe's part in space exploration and what we may expect to see in the next century.</p> <p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED</p>	
3.30pm.	Quiz: JOKERS WILD	<p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>Debate: IS SF A SUITABLE VEHICLE FOR ACADEMIC CRITICISM?</p> <p>Alasdair Gray, Chris Boyce and Duncan Lunan discuss the merits of SF as a serious form of literature.</p>	
4.00pm.	<p>A very entertaining SF quiz with Marlon Van Der Voort asking the questions.</p>		What is Fandom?
5.30pm.	<p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>////////////////////////////////////</p>	<p>Film: THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW</p> <p>The madness begins. If you don't like the film you might enjoy the music - if you can hear it!</p> <p>CLEAR HALL FOR FANCY DRESS HELPERS NEEDED!</p>	Good question.
7.30pm.	<p>CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED</p>	<p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>TEA BREAK TEA BREAK TEA BREAK TEA</p>	
8.30pm.		<p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>THE FANCY DRESS COMPETITION</p> <p>Anyone wishing to enter should get their entry forms at the registration desk as early as possible. Fun contest and displays before the judging.</p>	
11.00pm.			Late Night Horror Panel
Midnight.	<p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>////////////////////////////////////</p> <p>////////////////////////////////////</p>	<p>MIDNIGHT PARTY</p> <p>Everyone welcome. Dance the night away.</p>	Listen to the panel relate their tales of terror.
1.00am.	<p>Films: 1941</p> <p>A crazy Stephen Spielberg comedy in which the Japanese invade America. Sheer paranoia.</p> <p>Film: SPLASH</p> <p>Another chance to see the fine Walt Disney adult comedy.</p> <p>FILM: ZELIG</p> <p>assume the appearance of anyone around him. Strange but very</p>		
Till 6.00am	funny at times.		

SUNDAY

MAIN

ALTERNATE

FAN

9.00am **Cartoons: THE BUGS BUNNY SHOW**
Just what you need for a Sunday morning. Laughs galore.

10.00am **Panel: BOOK REVIEWS**
A review of some recent SF releases with Oscar Dalglish, Caroline Mullan and John Smit.

11.00am **Film: DRAGONSLAYER**

Noon.

1.00pm **SPECIAL GUEST SPEECH**
Anne McCaffrey reveals that Dragons can be great companions.

2.30pm ******* HARLAN READS *******
A not to be missed premier. Harlan reads one of his brand new stories, never before heard in public.

3.30pm

4.00pm.

4.30pm **Film: THE RIGHT STUFF**

5.00pm The oscar winning film of the truth behind America's race into space. Don't miss it.

7.00pm

8.00pm **Debate. GREMLINS vs ELLISON**
Harlan defends and explains his review of the Stephen Spielberg film, but what do you think about it?

10.00pm.

11.00pm **EXCALIBUR**
A terrific version of the classic, King Arthur legend. Beautifully made.

WIZARDS

A super animated feature about a post holocaust world inhabited by wizards.

DRAGONSLAYER

A second chance to see this undemanding adventure film.

Humorous Debate: THE 4 MINUTE WARNING

What would you do with those last precious moments?

Panel: FILMS I LOVE AND HATE
Harlan Ellison, Chris Boyce, Vince Docherty and Chris O Kane

Slide/Talk: WAVERIDER PRESENTATION
Duncan Lunan reveals Scotland's unique project in space exploration.

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CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED

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ART AUCTION
Now's your chance to bid for some of that super artwork seen in the art show.

BOOK AUCTION
Many rare and unusual items may appear at this auction. well worth looking in on. (Bring lots of money).

AN INTERVIEW WITH HARLAN ELLISON
Oscar Dalglish talks with Harlan about his work. Should be very revealing.

Panel COMMUNICATIONS IN THE FUTURE
Chris Boyce, Duncan Lunan and Bill Ramsey discuss the future use of satellite tv, computer link ups and other soon to be seen wonders of technology

Quiz. CUSTARD PIE QUIZ
Watch out here, if you get the answer wrong you could end up in a sticky situation.

Scenario. ET ENCOUNTER
Another chance to take part in a historic event.

What's the Difference?
Conventions, fanzines, programmes etc.
Who does what?

Fan Guest Speech

Colin Fine

The (n+1) Fandoms.

Debate: Wither the Worldcon.

Where will future Worldcons be held? Hear about the British bid in 87.

Politics in Fandom and Fanzines
Should SF fans get involved in politics?
Do they have anything valid to say?

Late Night Comedy Panel

Try to keep your face straight with this one. Any comedians out there?

Till 5.00am

MONDAY

MAIN

ALTERNATE

10.00am. — Film: **BLADE RUNNER** —
Another chance to see this almost
cult film.

Noon. — Panel: **SF FORTRY** —
Alasdair Gray, Edwin Morgan and
Diane Duane

1.00pm. — Slide/Talk: **THE GALILEO SPACE
PROBES**
Duncan Lunan profiles the mission
of the new Jupiter probes due to
be launched

2.00pm. — Talk: **ALIEN CULTURES IN SF** —
Susan Grose discusses the use of
this theme in literature and
cinema.

3.00pm. — Discussion: **The Future of SF** —
Harlan Ellison, Anne McCaffrey
and Chris Boyce discuss the
relevance of SF in an
increasingly complex
technological society.

4.30pm. — Panel: **WATER TASTING SESSION** —
Taste the difference in waters
from various parts of the
country, who's got the best.

5.30pm. — Discussion: **CONVENTION
PUBLICATIONS** —
Come and air your views.

6.30pm. — **COMMITTEE'S FAREWELL** —

7.00pm. — Films: **REPEATS** —
A chance to catch again some of
the best films of the convention.

8.00pm

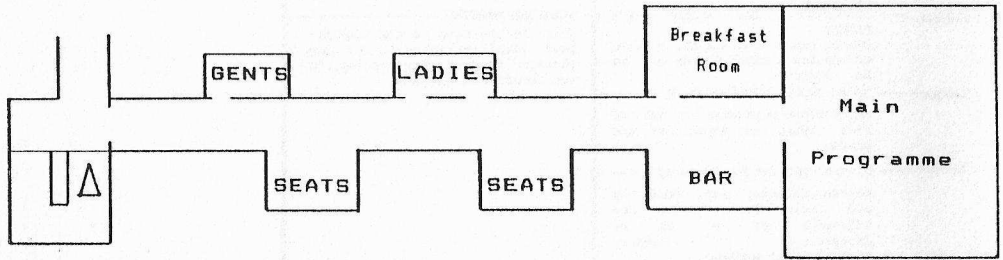
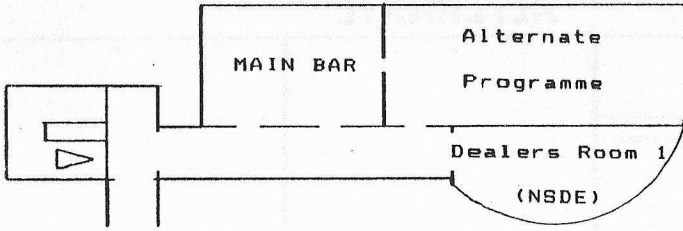
Talks: **FUTURE CONVENTIONS and
SPECIAL INTERESTS**
A look at some upcoming events.

BUSINESS MEETING —
This is the time to come and air
your complaints/compliments and
perhaps suggest ways to improve
our future conventions.

THE DEAD DOG PARTY —

A place where you can collapse
and recover from the past
weekend's excitement and
exhaustion.

Entresol



1st Floor

(NSDE) = No smoking,
no drinking,
no eating

