



tranSept

The 7th UK Filk Convention
The Royal Cambridge Hotel
3rd-5th February 1995

PR I

Chapter I: Introductions

Brother Michael was hurrying towards the chapel for Compline when the ladies and their retainers arrived. He paused to observe, for it was not often that such visitors came to the Abbey, nor so late. Prior Rhodri was already present to receive the ladies with the patrician grace that he could always muster for a suitable audience, and he welcomed them warmly in the name of the Abbey of St Philip and St Joseph as the grooms held their horses.

Lady Anne dismounted smoothly, and asked Rhodri to convey her thanks to the Abbot for the hospitality shown to them. Michael watched with interest; not a lady to be taken lightly, this Anne of the White Acres. She was an heiress of no small estate, and by all accounts as deft in her management of those lands as any lord's son might be. Mistress Susan, her companion of many years, had already conversed with the porter, and was directing with quiet competence the unloading of their possessions.

Prior Rhodri personally led the ladies to the guest chambers, allowing Brother Michael to take his place in the choir in good time. Curiosity gnawed at him. Why should two ladies be travelling so far so late in the year, and why should they be breaking their journey for so long at the Abbey? Interfering old busibody, he chided himself, and raised his voice in the responses....

Or, to put it another way:

The Committee:

Rhodri James:	Chair, Hotel and GoH Liaison
(why we need to liaise with chairs is a mystery only he can explain)	
Mike Whitaker	Membership Secretary
(and Speaker-to-anachronistic-technology)	
Sue Edwards	Programming
(and voice of sweet reason)	
Anne Whitaker	Treasurer
(Your money is <i>quite</i> safe...)	

Guests:

Short profiles by Mike Whitaker

Joey Shoji:

I think it's probably Chris Bell's fault. But then, a lot of things are, one way or another. And those that aren't will be adequately covered in the next section.

Chris supplied me with my first serious filk fix on tape. And, like a lot of people, the names on those tapes became as gods - the "movers and shakers" of US filk. Names like Kathy Mar, Leslie Fish, and so on. And the people who helped, but didn't have tapes of their own - among many, Kristoph Klover, Dominic Bridwell and our guest for Transept. Joey Shoji.

I've only met Joey in the flesh once - sat, spellbound for 40 minutes at Magicon, as he and Larry Warner amalgamated two twenty-minute concert sets into one, and filled the time with glorious harmonies and melodies, finishing, to my (and Anne's) delight with Javert and Valjean's duet from *Les Misérables*. Rhodri's the big Joey Shoji fan on the committee, mind - judging from their conversation at Magicon, it's a mutual appreciation of two fine singers for each other.

What he'll sing for us at Transept is anyone's guess. The quality of the singing, however, will leave nothing to guesswork.

Philip Allcock:

I remember singing Flanders and Swann with Phil, late into the night at Conspiracy. Sometimes, I think it was a mistake.

At Follycon, he was a regular attendee at the filking, and was one of the infamous "Smilks" - sometime after that, he decided to take up guitar. By Wincon 1, he was pretty good - and shortly after that, I issued a warning that by turns I regret and am glad for: "Phil," I said. "I'll make you a deal. You can filk anything of mine. As long as you can play it first."

Phil's acceptance of that challenge has been immortalised in several songbooks, a tape, and innumerable second and third generation filks. His prowess as a parody writer is legendary. And they're *quality* parodies - they retain the feel of the original to the extent that I have been known to find myself singing the damn parody when I'm supposed to be performing the original!

Sometimes, though, people forget that Phil writes serious songs. He can tug at your emotions with the best of them, as those of us who sang backup to an early version of "Requiem", recorded in Brighton, will testify. Not only that, but he can craft wonderful, melodic guitar parts - witness the beautiful "Golden Gypsy", or the intricate "Pursuit".

He'll make you laugh, cringe, and cry, by turns, at Transept. And I can think of many worse things to be remembered for than being a source of inspiration for Phil Allcock.

Hotel

The Royal Cambridge Hotel is in many ways ideally placed for anyone planning to look around Cambridge. Situated next to the University Department of Engineering, it is within spitting distance of the Botanical Gardens and the Fitzwilliam Museum, and only a short walk away from the colleges and a wide selection of restaurants. Also it is close to the train station (well, as close as anything is in Cambridge), and near the wide open spaces of Lammas Land and Parker's Piece.

The Hotel itself is ideal for filking. The main room itself, down in the dungeons so that we won't keep people awake, is a slightly odd shape with lots of sliding partition walls. We will be taking the opportunity to partition off an area as the Dealers' Room as was done at Treble, so if you find yourself without that vital hymnal you will be able to dash over and purchase it without missing a thing.

Vital statistics time. The Royal Cambridge has around 70 beds, so as you can imagine we are expecting to fill the place. We have negotiated room rates of £35 per person per night, but for various reasons we have not been able to block book the bedrooms for the convention. So if you want to guarantee your room, you should send your booking form in now. And yes, before you start worrying too much, we are negotiating with overflow hotels, none of which are more than five minutes walk away.

Hotel Booking

Yes, I know it's early. Book anyway, you know it makes sense. Please just fill in the form and send it to the convention address, together with a deposit of £10 per head. Make cheques out to Transept, please. These forms will be passed straight on to the hotel, so don't write anything that you don't want them to see. If you simply must tell us something, write it on a separate sheet of paper (© C. Bell, 1993) and we promise to read it.

Please don't just tick one type of accommodation; there is a decent chance that you won't be able to get your first choice, or possibly even your second, and people who wilfully don't give us any options may find themselves consigned to Outer Mongolia. You have been warned. Just number the options on the form, putting '1' by your first choice, '2' by your second and so on. If you are planning to share with someone, please could both of you say so on your forms (and both of you send in forms, or fill one in jointly).

Finally, the Royal Cambridge has a number of "Family rooms", equipped with a double bed and one or two singles. If you would like one of these rooms, please indicate how many occupants you would like (e.g. two adults, one child and a giant invisible rabbit). Otherwise you will end up with a random number of beds in the room, which may or may not be what you wanted.

And now, a word or two from the Worldcon folks:

The Intersection Filkbook

Contributions for this should go to Lissa Allcock, 57, Gipson Park Close, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, ESSEX SS9 5PW. Or you can email them to filkbook95@keris.demon.co.uk

Filts/Quilks

Following the success of the Quilk at Pentatonic, a similar strategy is being planned to raise money for the filk guests at the Worldcon in August 1995.

Three filts will be made, each on a different theme, "Space", "Time" and "Music". The pieces are to be 8" square overall, with a maximum design area of 6" square. All squares must be created on or with pure cotton fabric, as for the Pentatonic Quilk.

The overall background of each Quilk will be blue, (a different blue for each Filt. Of course.), so please bear this in mind when creating your design. The total size of each Filt will depend on how many squares we get... so Get Filting! We'd like to have at least one done by Eastercon next year.

Anything goes, as long as the design fits one of our three themes... patchwork... embroidery... fabric painting... whatever. If you're really stuck, we may even be able to help you out!

P.S. We already have a Tardis booked for both Space and Time!!

"We" are:

For the Space quilk:

Marion Beet
7A Hargrave Park
London N19 5JP

For the Time filt:

Miki Dennis
15, St Catherines's Cross
Bletchingley
Surrey RH1 4PX

For the Music quilk:

Gytha North
35 Iverley Road
Halesowen
W Midlands
B63 3EP

transept

Hotel Booking Form

Name Membership No.

Address

Email Phone

- I/We want to book a
- single
 - double
 - family room, adults, children
 - twin, sharing with
 - twin, please find me a sharer
 - room in an overflow hotel

Sue says theres loads of room up here for more details.

We would like a room away from nighttime noise.

If you want us to find you a sharer, please fill in the following:

I am male smoker
 female non-smoker

I have the following allergy or medical problems of which the hotel and booking procedures should be aware (e.g. no feather pillows, unable to manage long walks or stairs)

I recognise that I am responsible for paying my hotel bill.

Signed Date

Membership List

Philip Allcock	2G
Lissa Allcock	40A
Andy	55A
Andrew Barton	8A
Mary Baird	31A
Marion Beet	4A
Chris Bell	26C
Child of Chris Bell	27A
Michael Bernardi	14A
Jenny Blackburn	57A
Susan Booth	28A
Roger Burton-West	39A
Rafe Culpin	3A
John Dallman	47A
Lawrence Dean	20A
Mikki Dennis	50A
Sue Edwards	32A
John English	9A
Colin Fine	25S
Brian Flatt	12A
Gwen Funnell	16A
Martin G-K	54A
Clare Goodall	46A
Hitch	51A
Juliane Honisch	49A
Valerie Housden	19A
Susan Humphries	22A
Tracey Jackman	30A

Keris	56A
Tim Kirk	35A
Annette Kirk	36A
The Magician	48A
Sue Mason	37A
Robert Maughan	11A
Melusine	23A
Tom Nanson	41A
Gytha North	42A
Nigel Parsons	13A
David Peek	44A
Richard Rampant	43A
Nicky Retallick	21A
Roger Robinson	10A
Tony Rogers	18A
Jean Sheward	29A
Joey Shoji	1G
Smitty	38A
Kathy Sterry	17A
Marcus Streets	33A
Rae Streets	34A
Teddy	45A
Peter Wareham	15A
Mike Westhead	4A
Kathy Westhead	5A
Peter Westhead	6C
Karen Westhead	7C
Mike Whitaker	52A
Anne Whitaker	53A

A few final details to fill up the back page:

Our address:

Transept,
2, Westbrook Park Road,
Woodston,
PETERBOROUGH,
PE2 9JG

Our phone:

0733 894928

(and if we answer "Pengelly Vets, Emergency Service", don't panic.)

Our email:

mikew@sdl.ug.eds.com

Current rates:

Attending: 22 pounds
17 pounds unwaged

Supporting: 10 pounds