

Fan Programme

Friday

21.00 Meet the Fanroom

Find out where the fan room is, marvel at the displays, meet the fan guests of honour, hear about our exciting programme, drink the punch, win the prizes.

22.00 My Brilliant Career - Conrunning in the '80s

(ch) Caroline Mullan, Vince Doherty, Mike Gould, Linda Toal

These days people seem to get involved in running conventions at the drop of a hat. Has con-running replaced fanzines as a route to fame and glory? The panel examines the question - why do we need so many cons and are we just running them for the sake of it?

24.00 Music After Dark - informal session where fans play their favourite music

Saturday

11.30 Those Were the Days - Should Fandom Have a History?

(ch) Rob Hansen, Robert Lichtman, Martin Smith

Or should it at least have a theory of its history? Rob Hansen has been digging into British fandom's fast-disappearing past. But is it enough to know what became of The Globe and who ran the first convention, or does it need some kind of structure to make it meaningful to today's fan?

13.00 Warwick Fandom Ten Years On

One of the lesser known groups in fandom explains their insidious influence on the course of fannish events from swinging the vote to Albacon II in 1982 to launching Laura Wheatly on an unsuspecting world

16.00 Future of Fandom - School for Pros(e)

Alex Stewart, Caroline Mullan, Avedon Carol, Christina Lake

Once fans with literary ambition spent their time producing fanzines, and jostling for position in the hierarchy of fan writers - now all they seem to care about is who'll be next editing the next sf anthology. Is all the energy in fandom going into fiction writing these days? And are we nurturing a new generation of pros or just a crop of grandiose delusions?

18.00 Whose Fandom Is It Anyway? - The Fannish Generation Gap

(ch) Christina Lake, Bill Bains, Pete Cox, Ashley Watkins, Linda Toal

Fandom could be all things to all men (and women?), if we let it, but in reality it's a tangle of feuds, elitism and people who don't understand each other. Fans old and new explain what fandom means to them and whether they care about The Enchanted Duplicator, Ratfandom and other trufannish icons - or if they've even heard of them. Is fandom still a cohesive force in the UK? Are we speaking the same language?

21.30 Fannish Scruples

Join Laura Wheatly as she ushers in a team of upright fans (or so they claim) to a game which will test their moral backbone to the nth. You've played the game, you've seen the TV show, now watch your friends and loved ones squirm as they try to find the least embarrassing solution to various compromising situations

23.00 Sexuality in Fandom - Penetrative Sex & Theory and Practice

(chs) Laura Wheatly and Avedon Carol with a cast of thousands including Kim Campbell, Kate Solomon, Ken Brown, Ashley Watkins, Heidi Lyshol and Judith Hanna
Sexuality must be a part of any sub-culture, but some would argue that fandom is a more tolerant, or possibly a more deviant sub-culture than most, especially in post-Clause 28 society. Fandom certainly appears to abound with a high

percentage of people whose sexuality, body shape or sexual politics do not accord with the Western norm; recently a gay apa was formed in the UK, and panels on fat and feminism have had an enthusiastic audience at American conventions for years. Come and share your experiences of sexuality in the fannish arena in this late night discussion of all three sexes.

24.30 Toyboy Disco

Sunday

14.00 Why Is All The Good SF In Comics Nowadays?

(ch) Peter-Fred, Lilian Edwards, Rob Hansen

Comics are hip as never before, splashed brightly and ubiquitously throughout the leading channels of modern mass media culture. While comics fandom emerges to high street credibility, sf seems as far from respectability as a genre in its own right as ever. Are comics just enjoying the late flowering of their cyberpunk boom? Or do they represent the way ahead for sf?

16.00 Whither the Eastercon? - Or Just When You Thought It Was Safe To Come Out of the Bidding Session

(ch) Ian Sorensen, Sylvia Starshine, Tim Illingworth, Mike Abbott

Bring along your gripes and your unasked questions to this session which considers where the Eastercon is going, discusses the effects of two year bidding and wonders if there might not be a more sane way of choosing Eastercons than wading randomly through demands for real cider and bed-side porno videos.

17.30 Future of TAFF : Fund for Yuppies?

(chs) Lilian Edwards, Christina Lake, Robert Lichtman, Rob Hansen, Alex Stewart

TAFF has been going for years, but seems to be coming to some kind of watershed as people try to work out who it's meant to be for and whether it's still valid to simply send the delegate to the biggest convention on offer. Delegates past and present face up to the question - has TAFF outgrown its usefulness.

22.30 Instant Fanzine Reviewing

(ch) Ken Brown, Avedon Carol, Robert Lichtman, Mike Abbott, Bridget Wilkinson

Our team of astute observers take a look at some of the fanzines that came out at or shortly before the convention, and fearlessly tell the world (and their editors) what they thought of them.

Monday

13.30 Is There a Place for Art in Fanzines

(ch) Lilian Edwards, Rob Hansen, Ashley Watkins, Mike Gould

In recent years art in fanzines has been denounced as amateurish, irrelevant to the text, and obsessed with nude women and pixie-eared elves. Yet at the same time the graphics and cartooning small press is thriving. Can fan art claim to be a species worth preserving? Or is there no place for art in fanzines?

15.00 Fandom after 1992 - Anglo-Centrism or the New Internationalism

(ch) Kees Van Torn, Robert Lichtman, Bridget Wilkinson

Can Europe sustain a regular worldcon bid? Is Britain part of Europe, anyway? And what about English language dominance? A team of international fans look beyond the insularity of British fandom to assess what is going on in the rest of the world.

16.30 End of Fandom As We Know It : The Hole in the Ozone Layer and the Greenhouse Effect

At last - the big question. Is there life after Contrivance, and what form will it take?