

JERSEY YARNS



The Contrivance Newsletter

24th March 1989

Friday Morning

CONTRIVANCE LOSES ITS VOTE

For the first time in a decade members of the Eastercon will not be able to vote for the annual BSFA awards. The awards, which in recent years have been both voted for and presented at the Eastercon, will instead be presented at Mexican in May following the usual postal ballot of BSFA members.

Mike Moir, administrator of the BSFA awards since 1986, resigned last year, but was asked to handle this year's awards when no-one could be found to replace him. Unfortunately, by then it was too late for BSFA members to vote in time for Contrivance. There are no rules governing the administration of the awards: Basically, Mike explained, "the awards administrator can do whatever the hell he likes." He also mentioned that he was "glad not to be lugging them [the awards are glass decanters] on the plane to Jersey," and expressed the heartfelt wish that "they find someone else to do it next year."

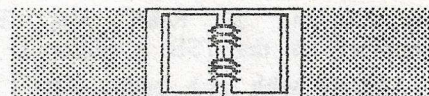
Mexicon chairman Greg Pickersgill told Jersey Yarns he only discovered the awards were to be presented at Mexican when he read his February Matrix. He is, however, quite happy to accommodate the BSFA.

The Contrivance Committee have expressed regret at this turn of events, and announced the Eastercon Awards to be voted on by attending members of Contrivance. Ask at the registration desk for details.

£1000 FOR RACHEL POLLACK

Unquenchable Fire by Rachel Pollack won the Arthur C. Clarke Award for best science fiction novel of 1988. Pollack accepted the award and £1000 cheque from judge Maxim Jakubowski at the Groucho ("I don't care to belong to a club that will have me as a member" Marx) Club on 15th March. Brian Stableford's *Empire of Fear* came a close second, and third, American Richard Grant's *Rumours of Spring*. Other shortlisted authors were Michael Bishop, Gwyneth Jones, Lucius Shepard and Ian Watson. Only Pollack and Watson

were present to hear Jakubowski's fumbling presentation. He forgot the title of Grant's novel, and failed to deliver the message sent by Clarke to mark the occasion. The fifty or so people present - including members of the Science Fiction Foundation and of the BSFA, critics Rez Kaveney and John Clute, and judge Mary Gentle - clapped enthusiastically at the first syllable of Pollack's name, obviously both surprised and pleased at the result. "Fairly tedious otherwise..." commented Rez Kaveney afterwards, "...manky crisps".



Microtrap (Lido Cinema 3pm Friday) - this is the film only: The distributors will not now be giving a presentation before the film begins.

Banquet tickets will be on sale until registration closes on SATURDAY night (Read Me says Sunday and Read Me is wrong!)

TWP Meeting - Room 1002 4pm Sunday. Bring swimming gear and chocolate craving!

PAPA MEETING: The PAPA AGM will be held at 7:30pm Sunday in Room 1000, and PAPA 32 will be there too.

Monday 7pm - Empire Room
The print of "*Not of This Earth*" arrived so damaged as to be unusable, so the film in this slot is now "*Chances*". We do not yet have any more information on the replacement.



Things you can't do...

...get breakfast in the De France without a ticket. If you've lost yours or never got one, contact the Contrivance registration desk.

...use mainland stamps to post your letters. You can get Jersey stamps (17p to the mainland) from the hotel newsagent.



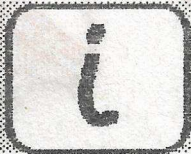
The clock symbol says that something is happening today that you should know about in time. Since today is Thursday and the convention hasn't started yet...



This symbol means parties. No one told us about any parties tonight. (What do you mean we weren't invited?)



This one means you can do it if you insist but it's at your own risk and really not advisable. For example, should you come across any Stroh... you have been warned!



Banks and Cashpoints:

The correct telephone number for the Midland Bank is 73696 not as shown in Read Me. The number for the TSB is 30351.

Banks with cash points are:

NatWest on Broad Street and Brook Street

Lloyds on Bath Street and Conway Street.

Midland on Library Place and Mulcaster / Hill Street

Barclays on Library Place

Royal Bank of Scotland on Mulcaster Street

TSB on New Street

There are no LINK or MATRIX cash machines on the island.

Everything Else

The Games Room is in room 123 in the old wing of the hotel.

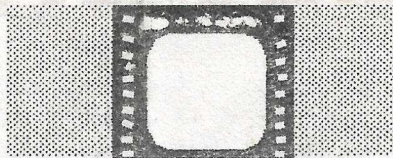
Perhaps not beautiful, but the closest launderette is on St. Mark's Lane. Go down Stopford Road towards town. £1.50 in 50p pieces for each wash and 50p for 10 minutes drying.

Mike Gould recommends The Owl and the Pussycat on Bath Street: a shop that sells handmade toys and does a good line in dragons. Get one before Anne McCaffrey buys them all.

There is a good quality copy shop, Alpha Graphic, on Broad Street which charges 3p per A4 copy. However they are only open on Saturday from 9am to noon. You could always try the Repro Room for duplicating services instead. Be kind to the inhabitants, and they will do what they can.

Tim Broadribb has copies of the short version of The Wizard of Speed and Time available for £5.99. Find him wherever films are being shown: start with the Empire Room at the end of the hall past the Con (Minstrel) Bar.

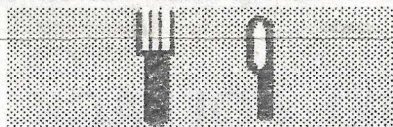
Jersey Zoo is Contrivance's official charity. We have adopted a duck (Howard the Duck? Ed.) and a plaque will be on display at the zoo. The original idea was to adopt a small reptile, but it evolved. Buses (Number 3B) to Jersey Zoo leave the Hotel de France at 51 minutes past the hour from 9.51am and return at 14 minutes past until 6.14pm.



Moontrap prod.-dir.

Robert Dyke.

You could say this was the British premiere: an opportunity for knock-em-dead outfits and hiring the limo. Walter Koenig starred in it, before going off to do Star Trek V on a budget ten times greater. Here he plays an astronaut who finds traces of an ancient civilization on the moon. It was shot in Detroit. Could this explain Koenig's finding bizarre mechanical creatures who have constructed themselves out of rubble? There are also some Evil Dead echoes: Bruce Campbell is one of the co-stars and the production company, Magic Lantern, did some of the effects work on Evil Dead II.



Snack food is served in the Coffee Shop (the glass-ceilinged part of the Atrium Restaurant) 12:30 to 3:30pm and 5 to 10pm each day. The menu varies, but always includes soup, various salads, sandwiches, and a choice of hot dishes. Reckon £1.50 for a snack to about £5 for main dish, dessert and coffee. First reports are good, with the vegetarian hot dish particularly recommended.

Three course meals are available in the hotel restaurant (Read Me labels it "Breakfast Area") between 7.00 and 9.30pm, but all tables must be booked by phoning 396 on an internal phone or by visiting the cashier in the Atrium.

Le Normand is wonderful: 10/12 Beresford Street. Please book 24 hours in advance as they can't cope easily with large unexpected parties. (Andy Morris and others.)

The Rice Bowl is an excellent Chinese priced at £10 to £15 per head. Greve D'Azzette. (Mike Scott.)

Present Friends

Although there were not enough people on Sunday night's ferry to start a party it was not without its moments. We had a force nine gale. The captain's parting words as we docked were "I hope you found that trip less exciting than I did."

After the usual Thursday afternoon panic, envelope stuffing etc., Tuesday ended with a birthday party for Peter Cohen. Without a doubt the highlight of the party was the arrival of a chocolate cake, baked by Carole Shetler, topped with innumerable candles and rich chocolate icing. Larry van der Putte added his unique touch by dousing the cake in enough Stroh (140 proof rum - Ed.) to fell most of the Jersey cows on the island. It certainly affected the party attendees, witness the following conversation...

Andy Morris: "Why do you have to keep sticking your tongue in my"

Andy Morris (again, a few seconds later): "Oh God! I Hurt."

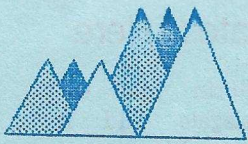
Carole Shetler: "How do you think my nose feels now?"

Later, when the cake itself was dead, Carole was heard to say, "Let them eat cake, but give me the crumbs." Your humble respondent, always willing to make sacrifices in pursuit of the journalistic art, tried some. For those of you who have never tried neat Stroh, let me explain that it's like being kicked in the teeth by a dragon. Those cake crumbs were like being kicked in the teeth by a chocolate dragon.

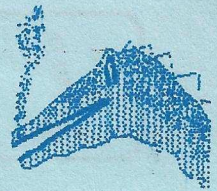
Bernie Peek

Credits

News, views, reviews, gossip and bribes eagerly anticipated in the Repro Room. Meanwhile, this first edition of Jersey Yarns was knitted for you by Chris Suslowicz, Bernie Peek, Caroline Mullan and Steve Linton of the editorial team, with help from Carole Shetler, Frances Bonner (for film preview), and Computer Workshop Ltd.



JERSEY YARNS



24th March 1989

Friday Afternoon

PAUL McAULEY DICK WINNER!

Paul McAuley's **FOUR HUNDRED BILLION STARS** has won the Philip K. Dick Memorial Award for best original American SF paperback (actually joint first with Rudy Rucker's **WETWARE**, but as he isn't here we won't talk about him). Completely unavailable here or anywhere else, 4×10^9 * (sic) is published by Del Rey and Gollancz. McAuley has not gone to NorWesCon to pick up the award but is here instead -- but if anyone wants to fly him out for the day... If you watch closely, you may be lucky enough to see the fine tremor that overcomes him when he is Dicked by Amstrad suborbital satellite, probably some time late Saturday night.

Sean Flynn.



Banquet tickets will be on sale until registration closes on **SATURDAY** night (Read Me says Sunday and Read Me is wrong!)

TWP Meeting - Room 1002 4pm Sunday. Bring swimming gear and chocolate craving!

PAPA: The PAPA AGM will be held at 7:30pm Sunday in Room 1000, and PAPA 32 will be there too.

Safer Sex Workshop - Room 1000 9pm Sunday. Come along -- bring a friend, have fun. See LINDA MORGAN for more details.

Monday 7pm - Empire Room

The replacement for "Not of This Earth" is not in fact "Chronos", but "Kronos", in which alien filing cabinets attempt to drain Earth of its energy. Will you have any energy left to drain by that time we wonder?



Things you can't do...

...get breakfast in the De France without a ticket. If you've lost yours or never got one, contact the Contrivance registration desk.

...use mainland stamps to post your letters. You can get Jersey stamps (17p to the mainland) from the hotel newsagent.



Late night films

There are two films tonight, **Bucket of Blood** at midnight and **She-Demon** (preview overleaf) at 2am. There is no overnight programme because the noise carries to bedrooms upstairs.



Beware of Scottish and Jersey banknotes, which are different colours from each other and from their English equivalents.

Come in Number 1000

Member Number 1000 signed in at 11:15 am this morning and was given a free membership to mark the occasion. He is Ian Bellamy from St. Helier. We hope he's feeling generous when we meet him in the bar. Member Number 2000 will be given 2 free memberships.

Fans Across The World

Multi-legged Race.

This exciting event will be run (staggered, crawled, whatever) in front of the hotel at 11am on Sunday. There will be a prize for the first to finish and another for the best costume. Entry fee: 50p per **person**. Handicaps may depend on further donations! Sign up at the ReCONaissance desk.

Fans Across the World is a fannish charity promoting international contact between fandoms. We are raising money to help fans come to Holland in 1990.

IN THE DEALERS' ROOM

When the doors officially opened at 10 o'clock Friday two unsuspecting passersby were nearly killed in the rush. However, at least one dealer had made a handsome profit on Thursday while setting up her stall. The main book dealers are: Andromeda from Birmingham; Fantast (Medway) from Wisbech; Forbidden Planet from London; together with Jura Bookshop and Printed Word who both come all the way from St. Helier. So far, the only dealer in second-hand books is George Coune from Belgium. Other dealers who have set up their stalls are Gytha North (jewellery and filkiana), Jean and Jim Porter (art, cards), Confiction (memberships for the Dutch Worldcon in 1990) and Computer World (displaying and selling computer games).

Buy now while stocks last!

STOP PRESS: Heather North (Sculptures), Hoards of Albion (Metalwork), and Lorraine Pritchard (Ceramic Jewellery) have arrived.



Still no parties, as far as we have heard. If we don't get some invitations soon...



Banks and Cashpoints:

The information in Read Me about Banks and Cashpoints is not completely accurate. For full information see the last issue of Jersey Yarns, or call in to Ops.

Everything Else

The Games Room is in room 123 in the old wing of the hotel.

The Sovereign Bar in the Lido is not actually run by the De France, but by the Fitness Centre, and De France charge cards are not accepted there. But it appreciates your custom when you are in the area.

Perhaps not beautiful, but the closest launderette is on St. Mark's Lane. Go down Stopford Road towards town. £1.50 in 50p pieces for each wash and 50p for 10 minutes drying.

There is a good quality copy shop, Alpha Graphic, on Broad Street which charges 3p per A4 copy. However they are only open on Saturday from 9am to noon.

Tim Broadribb would like his friends to know that Gytha North has copies of special blank videos on her stall.

Buses (Number 3B) to Jersey Zoo leave the Hotel de France at 51 minutes past the hour from 9.51am and return at 14 minutes past until 6.14pm.

The Eastercon awards are being made by John McCourt at the L'Etacq Woodcraft Centre. Why not go and see him at work with the other craftsmen at L'Etacq, (which is on the map of Jersey, not St Helier).

The cheapest place to buy print film is Boots: offering three for the price of 2.

Colin Fine still has some fact sheets on Morris Dancing and the dances he taught at his workshop. Anyone who would like one, find Colin.

Absent Friends

Chrisses Atkinson and Donaldson celebrated their 40th birthdays on Helen Starkey's less than 40th. Marked by higher than usual cake casualty rate, presence of forgotten figures such as Leroy Kettle and Linda Strickler James, plus self sustaining conversation about John Ciute and inflatable bananas. All will be revealed at Mexican

Born again Greg Pickersgill has joined Mrs Whitehouse's National Viewers and Listeners Association. With convert's zeal he immediately photocopied their literature to share with friends, including John Brosnan. Is Brosnan saved? "No comment, Hallelujah!"

Enraged contributors to Harry Bond's delayed fanzine sent messages through the usual channels (P Wells), but were not mollified by his telephoned excuse. "Well, I went to my usual stationary shop, down in Bromley, they usually have lots of stock and they're much cheaper, but Avedon Carol had got there before me and bought up every last box of quarto. Some people will do anything to suppress a Michael Ashley article.

Talking of freedom of expression, Roll On The Ninth Crusade: Unable to find lavatory paper in a shop in Brick Lane (centre of East End fundamentalism), Roz Kaveney politely enquired where it was shelved and got a 10 minute lecture on how bog roll was decadent, atheistical, Western and generally UnIslamic. She really should stop wearing those baggy trousers.

"Mainlander"

Present Friends

"I may have the body of a weak and feeble woman but I have the stomach of a concrete elephant." Diane Duane

Andrew Drabble will be attending the Drabble Workshop. Presumably his parents don't feel they need to!

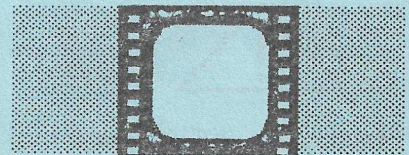
TAFF Delegate is Here

Robert Lichtman is the 1989 TAFF delegate, and is at Contrivance. We asked Jeanne Bowman to write about him:

I first met Robert at a SAFE meeting before as in sex, as in Sonoma Alternatives for Energy. Robert was a vegetarian long-haired drop out from an inspirational spiritual community. My man!! My kinda guy! Robert was politically correct before P.C. was co-opted by IBM. Now he's a computer literate, P.C., shorn and shaven, un-reconstituted vegetarian kinda guy. He likes garlic, kim chee (still makes his own) and works a real job. Shit happens.

Jeanne Bowman,

March 1, 1989



She - Demons

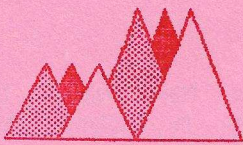
Richard Wiha (1953)

Schlock of the first order. Initially 7166 feet of schlock, but with any luck in the years since it was made, discriminating but ham-fisted projectionists and sub-standard equipment will have reduced it a bit. It doesn't have the entire works, but see "Read Me" for some of them. Anyone who takes up with foaming lava power generation however should expect a volcanic eruption, though, shouldn't they? Neither the cast nor the director seems to have evinced great enthusiasm for the project - or if they did it didn't show.

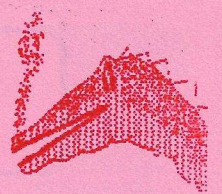
Frances Bonner

Credits

This edition of Jersey Yarns was knitted by Steve Linton, Chris Suslowicz, and Caroline Mullan, with help from Carol (now correctly spelled) Shetler, Zoe Deterding, Philip Pine, and Computer Workshop Ltd.



JERSEY YARNS



25th March 1989

Saturday Afternoon

SWANCON SONGS

Swancon, the Australian National SF Convention, is presently being held in the Kings Ambassador Hotel in Perth, W.A. Attendance is thought to be somewhat below expectations, but Chairthingy Cindy Clarkson is well-pleased with the con's finances thanks to the local policy of active fund-raising all year round.

There is a small British contingent: John and Eve Harvey; Bob and Sarah Shaw; and Phil Palmer. Daily temperatures of over 30 degrees C. are forcing Bob to adopt a largely sub-aquatic existence in the hotel's rooftop swimming pool, but he reports he is enjoying a varied programme, including the Guest of Honour John Varley speaking forcibly in defence of Salman Rushdie.

Perth, Western Australia, 10:36 am GMT, 25 March 89

Fusion?

The Independent, 25 March 1989: Physicists at the Universities of Utah and Southampton have reportedly sustained a fusion reaction at room temperature for 100 hours. The method uses electrolysis to condense deuterium nuclei inside the metal of a palladium electrode. Researchers in the UK have not managed to duplicate the experiment: Harwell's sensitive neutron detectors have not found any of the expected neutron emission. Ron Bullough, Chief Scientist at the UKAEA, suggest that natural radioactivity in the palladium may explain the results.

Local expert Steve Bull comments: "Successful fusion would require a large input of energy, and it is difficult to see where the energy would come from in this experiment"



We've found some parties tonight (Saturday); and you're ALL invited!

Tonight

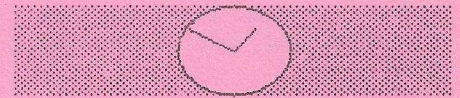
DISCON III: 7 to 9pm Fan Room Bar (Colony). The party heard round the world for the 1992 Worldcon Bid, is running "con-currently" in JERSEY, Baltimore, Minneapolis, Seattle, and Perth, W.A.

GOPHERS/USSG: 9pm Room 717 Quiet Area. Informal.

CONFICTION 1990: Dutch Worldcon 11:15pm Basement.

Sunday

EASTCON 90: 11:30pm Room 1000. Everybody welcome. Any questions about the con will be cheerfully answered (where possible).



ANNE McCAFFREY SIGNING Saturday 5 pm for one hour at the Coffee Shop Dais. Watch this space for more signings.

LATE NIGHT FILMS in the Empire Room:

Midnight The Princess Bride

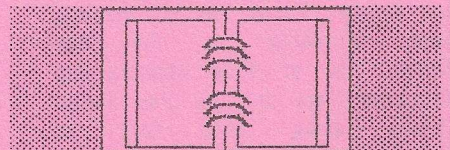
2am Dr. Phibes Rises Again

Reminder: no beverages in the Empire Room Cinema or the Cine de France.

FANNISH SCRUPLES Starts 9pm Saturday instead of 9:30 as in Read Me.

Catch as Catch Can

People marked "I'm alive" (or "I'm dead") are involved in a game of Killer. By the time you read this you have probably already missed the 2pm meeting in the games room during which the game was set up, but if you want to take part in future games during the con, try to be in the Games Room (Room 123) at 4pm today (Saturday).



GAMES Co-operative Games Session is on Sunday at 7pm. It has been moved from the basement to Room 1000 (New Wing) because it's cuddlier.

LAST CALL Banquet tickets will be on sale until registration closes on Saturday night.

Monday 5pm Empire Room: Nick Larter will talk about the International Space University (ISU). The talk will include attribute to the three American students who came up with the idea, and a presentation on the inaugural session held at MIT from June to August 1988, along with a look to the future of space education and the ISU in particular.

Monday 7pm Empire Room: Film in this slot is now Kronos.

Logistic Catastrophe

The hotel ran out of Champagne Truffles last night, and no more can be obtained until Tuesday. Thanks to Andrew Parker of Maison Saint Louis for running the chocolate shop, though fans' arteries might disagree.

Dealer's Room News

Best Sellers (apart from the Guests of Honours' books): Jura: Chiaroscuro by Tim White.

Printed Word: Exile's Gate by C.J. Cherryh

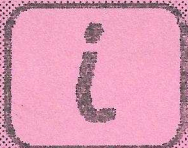
Fantast Medway All books by Diana Wynne Jones.

Forbidden Planet: Cyteen by C.J. Cherryh (sold out!).

Overheard

"Fifty cream eggs and a whirlpool bath, all we need now is a couple of toy boys and we can have an orgy."

C. Mullan



Convention member Harry Payne has been taken into the General Hospital. The hospital report that he's now quite comfortable and able to receive visitors. Visiting hours are from 4 to 8pm and he's in Chevalier Ward.

MINSTREL BAR FOR CHILDREN A section of the Minstrel Bar has now been partitioned off for children only. No unaccompanied adults are allowed in this area.

BOOKSHOPS IN TOWN

Thesaurus, Burrard Street, secondhand books, good pb SF, specialized hardbacks and a few Analogs.

Alternative II Comics, Burrard Street, looks like a clothes shop but sells comics at 20p each!

Hilgrove Books, Hilgrove Street, opposite Boots: good quality secondhand SF and horror pbs, children's, classics, Gerald Durrell, and mainstream.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY Public toilets can be found on Conway Street and in the Market.

GREETINGS to all at Contrivance from Six of One: The Prisoner Appreciation Society. Dave Lally will advise in Jersey Yarns re a meeting later, probably in the Fan Room. Six of One membership brochures are in the Fan Room (free!), along with info on Portmeirion (The Village).

ATTN HdeF Residents: Room Service Cards (Menus) are not valid for the duration of the con unless you're ill.

PLEASE DRINK UP REAL ALE Follycon is beating us!! Can we drink it all by tonight?!

PERSONAL Desires, do you want a ride back to Roermond? Please leave a message in Room 831, or look for the man wearing the fedora. (Mark)

Credits

This edition of Jersey yarns was knitted from the varied strands of Caroline Mullan, Steve Linton, Chris Suslowicz, Colin Pine, Carol Shetler, Bernie Peek, Simon Bell, Johan-Martin Platon, Steve Bull, and all our reporters and contributors.

Present Friends

Recreation of conversation in which Jack Heneghan and I decided to come to Eastercon. (Omitting digression about whether visiting family qualifies as a vacation.)

Jack: Next year, we are taking our vacation together.

Elaine: We are going to California for Christmas.

Jack: That doesn't count, we are visiting your family.

...digression....

Elaine: Where do you want to go?

Jack: Jersey, next Easter.

Elaine: New Jersey? You want to take a vacation to New Jersey?

Jack: Not New Jersey, the Isle of Jersey, in England. They are having...

Elaine (interrupting): Isn't that a strange time to visit a beach resort?

Jack: EasterCon is there next year.

Elaine: In England, Jack, I only go to local conventions in the United States. Why go to England?

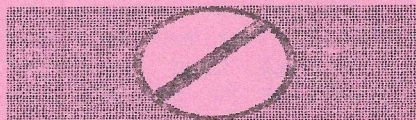
Jack: Avedon and Rob are going to be fan guests of honor for EasterCon.

Elaine: Oh, why didn't you say so in the first place... sounds like a great idea.

recollected by Elaine Normandy

In the Bar

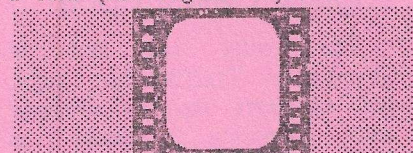
Jersey Sybarites, under the leadership of Elsie Toal and J. S. Beresford, held a meeting in the bar last night. A breathless Miss Toal said last night "I". Mr. Beresford added "Almost everything gives me some kind of internal titillation."



Things you can't do...

...take glasses into the cinemas.

...stand at the back to watch a film (fire regulations).



Blade Runner

Ridley Scott (1982)

Yes, you've seen it before, but don't let that deter you. Now you're no longer worrying about the plot, enjoy the surface. Syd Mead is the star (credited as a visual futurist, he was hired to design the spinner; he left after a year having cost more than Ford). Use this viewing to answer those really important questions: why is a replicant useful at breakfast when you've no slotted spoon; how does a really fast efficient eye make-up applicator work; and above all, are Rutger Hauer's skintight rubber shorts functional or decorative?

Frances Banner

Art Show

Caroline Mullan asked for a hundred words on the Art Show. I don't know if I can make this a Drabble but I'll try. Briefly, small but salubrious; an over-preponderance of Dean Symons, but I liked the fusilli-like imagery. The desirable but expensive Laila Tulin, and the up and coming and very good value Jim Porter vied with the irritating NPS's, i.e. Fangorn. Go see Don Lawrence, artist guest; David Angus; and others unmentioned but not lacking in standard. Personal Favourites: Douglas Carrell's "Symbiosis" (Fantasy) and Keith Scaife's "Starman's Son" (SF).

Kate Soley's badges - highly desirable. Is that 100?

S. Starshine

The Drabble Project

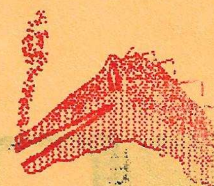
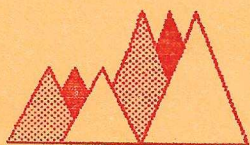
At the Drabble Workshop on Friday the editors, Rob Meades & David Wake related the history of the Project: from Monty Python sketch to limited edition hardback.

For the few among you who don't know, a Drabble is a story of exactly one hundred words.

By the end of the workshop over 20 new Drabbles were in the editors' hands: to be added to the growing pile for the second book.

The first book has sold 800 of the 1000 copies, raising 600 for the RNIB talking books fund.

JERSEY YARNS



26th March 1989

Sunday Morning

Masquerade Awards.

Best of Show: A pageant from A Storm of Wings
Mike Ibeji, Alice Kohler, Hugh Mascetti, Jane Smithers, Nina Watson and James Steel.

Best Workmanship: Mike Ibeji (from A Storm of Wings)

Most Authentic: Cutter from Elfquest Tobias Klipfel

Acting and Characterisation: Post Holocaust Shaman and Friend
Dov Rigal and Gary Stratmann

Best Presentation: Sexually depraved Pterodactyl and Playmate
Jaine Weddell

Most Humorous: A Guided Muscle Doug McCallum and Kate Solomon

The standard of the show was generally good, despite the high number of scratch entries, many made up in the costume workshop during the afternoon, varying from Kim Campbell as Little Girls should be Obscene and not Heard, to Martin Hoare as Roger Perkins! Even the less spectacular entries still had the hook of a good joke.

The winners, however, were obvious and Mike Ibeji and Co. as A Pageant from A Storm of Wings were voted Best of Show unanimously by the judges, a verdict supported by cheers from the audience.

The whole event went remarkably smoothly and the Marcus Streets autodestruction award was held over due to lack of successful entrants. Even the entry by Tech failed!

Many thanks to Tech, judges and contestants.

Quotes:

The GoH, on seeing a contestant strung round with cameras: "Hey, it's an American".

Heard in the Ops Room about 3.30pm "Could all gophers please go to the costume workshop, make themselves up a costume and enter the masquerade."

"Kate Solomon seemed to be having a hell of a time with her joystick"... meanwhile one of the judges all but leapt into the arena after Guided Muscle Doug.

Incidents:

One of the audience appeared to have a well trained and appreciative dog, it barked loudly at contestants dressed as gopher and dog, leaving all others alone.

Bridget Wilkinson



SF Art Prize Launch

Fan/pro SF artists wishing to get their portfolio under the noses of the Science Photo Library may wish to enter the cash prize competition being run in conjunction with Concatenation. Unlike other recent talent spotting SF competitions, this one ensures that rights revert to the entrant. For details see Concatenation (Future Image page) or Mike Malloy in the Contrivance art show.



1/2r Cruttenden will be hosting a birthday party in the Fan Room at midnight (2400 Sunday). Brian Ameringen has orchestrated the punch. The vintage of the host is uncertain but the proof of the punch will be in the hundreds.



All pubs on Jersey will be closed between 1:30 and 4:30pm on Easter Sunday. Hotels are not affected.



GAMES: Co-operative Games Session is on Sunday at 7 pm. It has been moved from the basement to Room 1000 (New Wing) because it's cuddlier.

Papa People

The PAPA meeting has been brought forward to 3pm Sunday, room 1000.

Half-Price Sale

From 10am Sunday, Forbidden Planet will be having a half-price sale of selected hardbacks.

Addition

Sunday at noon, in the Fan Room: "Pun my Soul".

A number of volunteers are required to form two teams of three players, with a predilection for puns, and a good knowledge of SF literature, to act out puns in a cross between charades and a pun competition.

We will also need a number of puns.

Any interested punsters contact Mike Wigley (Mike Who?) via Ops.

Don Lawrence Signing This will be at the Forbidden Planet table in the bookroom at 2pm today (Sunday).

TWP Meeting: Room 1002 4pm Sunday. Bring swimming gear and chocolate craving!

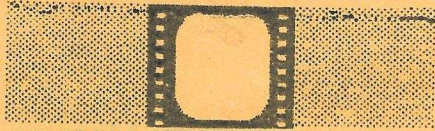
Glutton For Punishment

A housemaid started work at the De France this week. She last worked at the Adelphi in Liverpool, where the 1988 Eastercon was held.



The Pizza Express in Halkett Place is recommended. They have the usual range of Pizzas and a good Fruiti del Mara.

Also recommended is the Caravela, 70 New Street. Excellent Portugese food at around £10 including wine (No. 39, the Garrafiera recommended).



Crazy Family

If you liked Repo Man, do not miss this. Though not so clearly SF-related, it has the same punkish feel, a frenetically hyperactive climax that has you laughing so much it's hard to breathe, and driving music.

This is one weird bunch. Did any of your family ever try to kill each other? Like all great movies, a 2nd viewing gives you something new: a real fondness for all these loonies.

Mr Vampire III

A sequel to the triumphant "Mr Vampire" shown out of order at Becon. Not quite as funny or inventive but some brilliant scenes & stupefying stuntwork. If you think you know about vampires, forget it; the Hong Kong version is a much funkier dude.

The Princess Bride

Rob Reiner (1987)

Script by William Goldman from his own novel. In the framing tale, a grandfather reads a story to his bedridden grandson, anchoring the fantasy. Part sword and sorcery spoof and part homage to the fairy tale, this story is altogether too complicated to precis. The performances are good, the SPFX restrained, the archness under control, and Mark Knopfler did the music. Pay attention to the cast list. Peter Cook's role is formally named "Impressive Clergyman", and Paul Badger is the "Assistant Brute", but the innocuous-sounding "Fezzik" is played by real-life Andre the Giant. Take your teddy (or wear it for afters).

Credits

This edition of Jersey Yarns was knitted from the varied strands of Bernie Peek, Steve Linton, Chris Suslowicz, Colin Fine, Carol Shetler, Jonathon Cowie, Bridget Wilkinson and all our reporters and contributors.

An Author Speaks.

Had huge glooping seafood casserole full of misc. bivalves. And Hollywood-style bubblebath, the kind Clint Eastwood shoots people from under. Seen worst sf film of decade. Hotel got more staff than guests (put down empty plate for five seconds, whoosh). Con been going on forever, real life a distant memory, but who cares? Sorry, nothing humourously anecdotal happened yet, Iain not climbed anything...

Terry Pratchett

Books to Czechs

The Fans of Jules Verne SF Club of Czechoslovakia thank everyone who made donations of books or cash toward postage at Follycon. All the books got there; now they have set up a lending library for fans. Please send your new or well-loved books to:

Egon Cierny, Matechova 14, 140000 Praha, Czechoslovakia

He'll pass them on to eager fans who can't buy books from abroad. There is a box in the Ops Room marked "Books for Czechs" in which you may deposit books or change. There will also be a collection at the Con on Sunday.

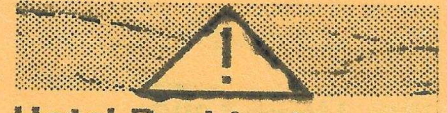
Jersey Wildlife Trust

Considering the generally left-wing and hence ecologically aware, stance of fandom, the talk by the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust was abysmally attended. Those of us who were there felt pulled between joyous amazement at the wonders of our own planet and despair at their likely extinction. Would you believe fuzzy golden tree-climbing porcupines?

Organisations like the Trust encourage the hope that somewhere something is being done. The Trust showed in St. Lucia and Jamaica (where they are keeping and breeding a rare species of Jamaican ground mammal) that just popularising the endangerment of a species goes a long way toward preserving it.

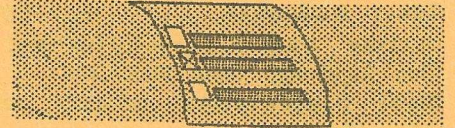
Education is a major part of the process so why weren't you out there being educated?

Vicki King



Hotel Residents

Would anyone who is leaving on early ferries or flights please clear their accounts the night before. This will avoid traffic jams at reception, which might make you miss your ferry or plane.



This section will be covering any news we hear about con bids, etc.

Unicons are small conventions run in colleges around the UK, including Northern Ireland. The conventions are usually run by students.

There are two bids for the 1990 Unicon; flyers for both are available around the convention.

In alphabetical order they are:

Spawn of Cosine

This would be held at Oxford Polytechnic. Contact Ivan Towlson here.

Uniconze

This would be held at New Hall, Cambridge. Contact Rhodri James here.

Imperial College are bidding **ICON** for the 1991 Unicon.

Presupporting membership will cost £1.00 and be available from either Simon Bradshaw or Dave Clements (in the blue ICSF sweatshirts).

Millenium

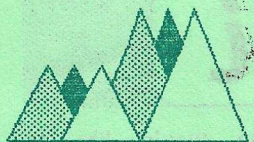
Celebrate the end of the century/millennium, starting 27th Dec 1999, ending 2nd Jan 2000. Membership fee £2.00 per year, deductible from your final membership fee.

Contact: Rob Houwerzijl, Larry van der Putte, Malcolm Reid, or Bruce Saville.

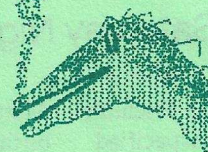
At noon on Sunday, the bidding session for the 1991 Eastercon will take place. To date Jersey Yarns has heard from two bids:

Speculation propose to run a single-stream convention at the the Hospitality Inn in Glasgow; see the blue flyer or contact Ian Sorensen.

Inconceivable propose a convention at the Brighton Metropole, with L. Ron Hubbard as GoH, **Real** Watney's Red Barrel and other delights.



JERSEY YARNS



26th March 1989

Sunday Evening

1991 Eastercon Bidding

The bid vote took place in the Empire Room at 1:00pm Sunday. A show of hands and a lobby vote were held, contributing to the drama of the occasion.

On the show of hands the voting was:

- Inconceivable 18
- Speculation 56
- Hold Over Decision 70
- Abstentions 12

A lobby vote was then requested and was used to decide between the two main options, Speculation and Hold Over. The lobby vote was much closer. The final vote was Speculation 70 and Hold Over 68. The 1991 Easter convention will be Speculation in Glasgow. The convention is now accepting memberships at £15 per head at least until after Novacon.

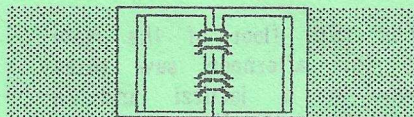
Ian Sorensen, presenting the bid for Speculation, then announced the GoH will be Robert Holdstock.

These astonishing events (at a bid that many expected to be straightforward) have aroused very mixed feelings among fans.

Sex in Fandom

Kate Solomon on the "Sex in Fandom" debate Saturday night: "If the average fannish IQ is as high as some were claiming last night, I'd surely like to meet the individuals who were compensating for the audience." David Lally also commented on the discussion. He agreed that flirting is a marvellous activity on its own, a separate and parallel thing, which does not necessarily lead any further.

Carol Shetler



Millenium

Members of Millenium are asked to gather on the stairs at the entrance to the De France at 12:00 on Monday for the group photo-graph. The collection will be displayed at Millenium.

Small Screen

Monday 2pm in room 1000, "Numbers on the Small Screen"; a media meeting primarily for "The Prisoner"/"Avengers"/"Fanderson", etc. All welcome.

Overflow Auction

The overflow book auction will begin in the fan room at 5pm on Monday.

Inconceivable

Inconceivable initially announced it was showing a profit on presupports; later it was bankrupt and fundraising.

Fans Across The World

The multilegged race was won by the one-legged Viking. The John Stewart, etc. Centipede got the award for the silliest entry, arriving late after frightening the occupants of a 2CV down by the Lido. Fang was scratched just before the start. The best news is that we raised more than £30.

Thanks to all.

Aerial Warfare

A major outbreak of hostilities took place in the Minstrel Bar between the Leicester and Exiles groups. Highlights were George's ICBM which successfully traversed the stratospheric heights over the full length of the bar, and Iain Banks' honourable demise in a suicide mission. The war was ended by subterfuge when the exiles' military geniuses succumbed to bribery and surrendered in return for a sweetie each... Eat your heart out Najibollah

Filk Report

The filk programme kicked off horribly late last night, but was worth waiting for: at least I think so. MCed by Gytha, the range of songs shows how much Filking is developing con by con. Audience participation is also on the increase. Filkers of note included GoH Anne McCaffrey, who beguiled the audience with her rendition of Leslie Fish's "Carmen Miranda's Ghost". By a stroke of luck, this was followed by Rhodri James' haunting lament for The Ship Who Sang. An hour of the concert was lost due to the vagaries of Channel Islands summer time, and it is sad to think of all the songs I missed by attending the Inconceivable room party. I'm getting used to being accused of evangelism, but if you haven't tried it yet, why not drop it into a filk session sometime? You have nothing to lose but your ears.

Alison Scott. 02.20 Sun
26th March 1989

(Isn't it funny how some events tend to overrun???)

Anything I like

So far I've had more or less just that. I'm enjoying this, apart perhaps from a little matter of sex and horror, where as far as I was concerned there was rather too much horror. I actually saw Jersey last night and the moon as well. It came up big and orange and made a path over the sea. We took a taxi that was obviously a hearse in its spare time and saw Gorey, which is wonderful and nothing like its name. If you want to see the perfect castle, take the hearse too. The driver can be relied on to sell you Jersey. My only problem: horror apart is that I keep unaccountably missing items I want. Somehow I find myself in the bar...

Diana Wynne Jones

Absent Friends; Saturday Night Fever

Triclub's Matthew celebrates unspecified birthday yesterday with free bar, Gamma and John Brosnan if nobody else were appreciated.

John Skipp and Craig Spectre turned up for an impromptu signing session followed by Forbidden Planet sources saying "splatterpunk authors are real rock and rollers". Rummy fandom, who are not at all jealous, hit Dudley Zoo. Which animal reminded them of Steve Green? Graham Cox-England presented his idea of worldwide computer fan link-up at Mexican. Typical Linda Pickersgill reaction: "what you do in your own hotel room is your affair but please don't tell me about it".

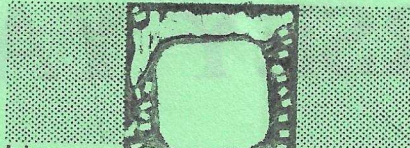
Gamma: ("Everyone thinks I'm a fucking disaster because I am Barry Bailey's agent") and Elaine plans to top Chris and Faith's record by giving birth at Beccon; all push together now! Wet-behind-the-ears Forbidden Planet person tried to win Munchen closing time argument with "have you ever met John Jarrod". Trouble was he was talking to Greg and Linda Pickersgill and

Abi Frost, London

Whither The Eastercon

"Whither the Eastercon" meeting proved most interesting in that a wide range of views were expressed. These ranged from the suggestion of an overall co-ordinating body for British SF (the poor BSFA was considered "untrustworthy"), to the adoption of the Unicon Charter idea (ie of passing the deposit on from one organising Committee to the next), to the selective morality of letting a debt-ridden Committee bail itself out but objecting to profits being spent as and how a Committee liked (especially on itself). Obviously, those attending felt that UK Fandom had a future but in our own individualistic way, could not agree on how it should be guided. A good informative, lively event which should become a permanent feature on Eastercons.

Dave Lally



Howard the Duck

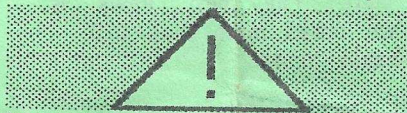
This is one of the great financial (and possibly spiritual) failures of the 80's (or any other decade). In a desperate and ultimately unsuccessful attempt to improve matters, it was also released as "Howard the All-American Hero", though without any other changes. Quite what this says about American heroes (and ducks, er shouldn't that be drakes?), I hesitate to commit to paper. A friend who saw it when pissed and in the company of a pregnant woman and her impregnator, after an aubergine-based evening meal, says that not even all this distraction helped. Try your own additives. Plot? Well, there's this furry sort of object with a beak ...

Frances Banner

A film will be chosen to be re-shown between 10pm and 12pm Monday. The decision will be made by show-of-hands during the closing ceremony. The choices are Crazy Family, Princess Bride or Dr Phibes Rises Again.

Film Rumours:

"Jabberwocky" is coming to the Empire Room in the pre-dawn hours of Monday, 27 March. It will start between 3 and 4 am (0300-0400).



Hotel Residents

Please remember to settle accounts the night before if you are leaving on an early ferry or flight.

Credits

This special wholemeal edition of Jersey Yarns was lovingly hand-knitted by:

Caroline Mullan, Carol Shetler, Alison Scott, Diana Wynne Jones, Abi Frost, Dave Lally, Frances Bonner, Chris Suslowicz, Steve Linton, Simon Bell, Ahrvid Engholm, Bernie Peek and all our other reporters.

Only the finest natural materials were used.

i

Harry Payne would like to thank everyone for their best wishes during his stay in hospital. He will be discharged Monday morning and will stop in at the con for a short visit before flying out.

MINSTREL BAR FOR CHILDREN: A section of the Minstrel Bar has now been partitioned off for children only. No unaccompanied adults are allowed in this area.

Consult The Oracle Fortune telling! Consult the Mah Jongg Oracle in the con bar.

FANZINE EDITORS

NOTE: Don Melia, Publicity Manager for Titan Books, would like to meet you. Get on the Press List now! Receive comics, books and news once a month. Stop Don and talk to him now!

PHONE DIRECTORY ENQUIRIES FROM JERSEY:

Unlike on the mainland, you must put a minimum of 5p in the payphone slot first, and then dial 192. Regrettably, there is no mention of this on the phone itself or in the book.

Fan Fund

There is a new Scandinavian Fan Fund, called "The Second Foundation". If you wish to make a nomination contact Ahrvid Engholm, who is at Contrivance.

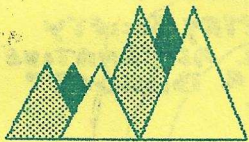
Parties Past

The fifth floor of the New Wing this afternoon saw three women in a jacuzzi and a photographer standing on the washbasin. Also featured were melting chocolate cream eggs and banana brandy.

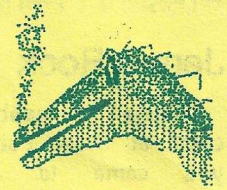
Overheard

Ian Sorensen was heard to say today, "The reason so many fans from Canada are coming to British cons is that they are short on people to hug over there." Kim Campbell and Carol Shetler strongly endorsed this opinion!

"Why is there marmalade all over this monitor?"
"Because they couldn't find the honey."



JERSEY YARNS



27th March 1989

Monday

Awards!

Last night after the banquet the winners of the Art Show and Eastercon Awards, together with the Doc Weir and Ken MacIntyre, were announced and presented with their awards.

The Eastercon Awards, inscribed plaques mounted on wooden bases, were:

Best Graphic Presentation: Josh Kirby for Discworld book covers

Best Dramatic Presentation: Dermot Dobson and Armageddon Enterprises, the group that gives you more bangs for your buck! for the Conspiracy Firework Display.

Best Long Text - Terry Pratchett for the Discworld Books

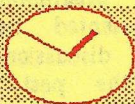
Best Short Text - David Wake and Rob Meades for The Drabble Project

Three of the awards were presented to the winners in person: only Josh Kirby was absent and his award was collected on his behalf by Terry Pratchett.

The Doc Weir Award for an outstanding contribution to fandom was collected by Rob Hansen on behalf of Vince Clarke. In recent years Vince has maintained, and made available to fans, a comprehensive library of fanzines and other fannish writings covering the whole history of fandom in this country.

The Ken MacIntyre Award for best piece of fan art published in a fanzine went to Jim Porter, for Whalien published in Concatenation last year. Jim has artwork on display in the Art Show.

The Awards presentations followed the consumption of an excellent banquet, attended by about 140 people. At the end of the meal, by popular demand, the chef was given a standing ovation. Even vegetarian FCoH Avedon Carol, who has been unlucky at past British banquets, was satisfied this time. Peter Morwood gave a hilarious after dinner speech, in which he discussed the Last Supper considered as a convention banquet and then included a parable from the gospel according to St. Simon the Inebriate. It is rumoured that he we will repeat it to order if sufficiently well lubricated.

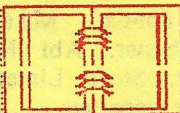


Filksinging

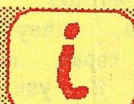
Monday night in the Basement at 9:00pm.

Overflow Auction

In the fan room from 5pm (Monday). This will contain a large selection of magazines, signed art portfolios and quality art and comic books as well as hardbacks and paperbacks. Don't miss it!



There will be a report on Contrivance, and some interviews, on Radio Jersey tomorrow (Tuesday) between 7:30 and 8am.



Britain in '95

There is a proposal to bid for the 1995 Worldcon in Britain, probably in Glasgow or Birmingham. For information contact Vince Docherty at his new address: Flat 2, 276 Camberwell Rd., Camberwell, London, SE5 0DR.

Bernie Evans will be available to take minutes for Novacon, Mexican or Critical Wave until midnight tonight.

Hotel! Update

The Minstrel (con.) bar will remain available to convention members as a social area, at least after 6:30pm, and earlier if there is demand, after the end of the convention.

Safer Sex Workshop

In years to come, when newly famous authors are asked: "Where do you get all your ideas from?" at least one may well reply, "Actually, most of them came from Linda Morgan's Safer Sex Workshop."

A truly seminal discussion. And I won't even mention the practical...

Helen Wake

Congratulations

to Steve Lawson, who won the Convention Quiz with 29 points.

Turkey Reading

This was a great success, with £155 raised for The Jersey Wildlife Fund. Star of the show was Frank Belknap Long's "John Carstairs: Space Detective", brought and read by Fiona Clark.

Pete Garratt

Crossed Lines

Despite a lascivious and graphic charade by Linda-Claire Toal involving two suitcases, a false beard, a microphone stand and a male volunteer from the audience, Geogre Bondar and Ian Sorensen were entirely too polite to guess the word "bangs" (as in "Elephant Bangs Train"). Suitably shamed, your reporter made his excuses and left, though the item changed venue twice and continued until lam.



The Hotel coffee shop will be serving as is, until 7pm Tuesday.

Breakfast will be 8am until 10am from tomorrow (Tuesday).



We can reassure our readers that the rumours about Bonnie Langford and Bob Meades are completely unfounded.

Present Friends

Jersey Rock

There is gabbro on the North coast at Sorel Point, but the reason you come to Jersey is granite, pink, massively bedded, full of crystals, eroding into great polyps and elephants' ears you can grab with both hands and swing up on in the sunshine while the water bangs into the rocks behind you like someone trying to make a point in some invincible rhetorical language, so that you hesitate for a moment in balance across a corner or some wild arid crystalline slab eighty feet above anywhere, and lookaround and repeat "Fucking hell! Fucking hell!" because there simply isn't any other way of celebrating, let alone describing, how you come to be here on your own two feet in your pretty French boots with their racing car rubber and pointed toes that give you corns like any court shoe: and then you take a deep breath and chalk your hands and reach up... Headlands stretch away north and south, surfed white under a bright blue sky. Above you nothing but red rock. This is where you could let your life flare away, flow out, meet the welcoming gesture of the world with a generosity of your own: life, sun, water, rose-red granite at least as old as time. This what you came to Jersey for. This is what you came to life for.

M. John Harrison

Overheard

"It's hairer than I would have thought possible."

Alison Scott, examining part of Terry Pratchett's anatomy

Absent Friends

Greetings from Elydorel

It's party night here following a day and a half of busy multi-stream programming. Saturday's highlights have included a talk by Mat Irvine (of BBC construction kit fame); costume and writers' workshops, the latter with myself, Neil Gaiman, Bryan Talbot, and others; a comics panel; and now the fancy dress and disco. There's still the midnight showing of Rocky Horror to come, and other programme streams are still running. Everyone is having a good time (somewhere in the hotel) and we hope you're all enjoying Jersey. Best Wishes.

Tony Chester, Concatenation Reporter, Saturday.



Hotel Residents

Please remember to settle accounts the night before if you are leaving on an early ferry or flight.

Warning To These In Suites With Jacuzzis:

DO NOT put an entire sachet of bubble bath in the Jacuzzi at once, particularly if it is already inhabited by three women, chocolate cream eggs and a bottle of banana brandy. This causes a "tidal wave" effect in the bath, resulting in foam cascades.

This Is An Official Warning From TWP.



Hotel

Thursday's issue of "Flight International" features an article & cutaway illo of the HOTOL. Two copies left in the Bath Street newsagents.

Lost and Found

Three copies of "Papa 32" have gone missing. These are not fanzines for free distribution, they are the personal copies of the Apa members. If you have one, please return it to the Ops Room.

OpsCon

OpsCon will take place in late May 1990 in The Hague.

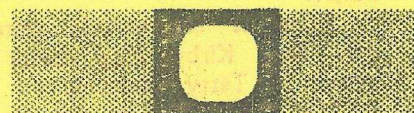
It will be a con-runners convention for anybody intending to work on Fiction later that year.

Attendees will get to see the convention centre in The Hague, have fun on the beach at Scheveningen, try to unfathom the strippenkaart system used by the public transport system and discover the rijsttafel.

Attending membership will be £10.

Write to Martin Hoare, 45 Tilehurst Road, Reading, Berks, RG1 7TT for details.

THE CORRIDOR
JAPANESE POETRY SOCIETY
FIND A RADICAL ALTERNATIVE
TO "WHYAS YER BRIDGE?"



Elected Film

One film will be re-shown from 10pm on Monday. It will be chosen by show-of-hands at the Closing Ceremony. The choices are:

"Crazy Family",
"Princess Bride" or
"Dr. Phibes Rises again".

Eastcon '90...

...is next year's Eastercon, emphasising both the Science and the Fiction in Science Fiction.

The programme includes writing oriented items (Writers' workshop, discussions, panels); a look at the past and possible future of Man and the Environment; and all the traditional items: Films; Disco; Masquerade; Banquet; Art Show, with cash prizes for a competition; and Fan Room organised by Ian Serensen. And of course, the Bars!

Credits

This special Kaffe Fassett edition of Jersey Yarns was lovingly designed and knitted by:

Caroline Mullan, Simon Bell, Geogre Bondar, Mike Harrison, Tony Chester, Abi Frost, Chris Suslowicz, Steve Linton, and all our other reporters.

Special thanks to Cath Easthope, Computer Workshop Ltd, Stage 3 Solutions Ltd and Steve Davies, without whom this newsletter would not have been possible.