

220P	BILL LANGLEY	264S	DAVE PATTERSON	20A	CHRIS SOUTHERN
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122P	RUTH LE SUEUR	213A	FRAN PICKERING	203P	GARY STANSFIELD
117P	BERNARD LEAK	214A	JOHN PICKERING	65A	JAMES STEEL
123P	BERNARD LEAK II	218P	PHIL PLUMBLY	270S	ALEX STEWART
215P	J.W. LEMMING	124P	DAVID POWER	119A	JOHN STEWART
113P	DAVE LERMIT	98P	TERRY PRATCHETT	168P	MARTIN STEWART
268A	ROBIN LEVY	254A	TERRY PYLE	241A	LARS STRANDBERG
232A	ROWENA LEVY	198P	JO RAINE	192P	GARRY STRATMANN
42A	STEVE LINTON	131A	KEVIN WINSTON	165P	JOHN STYLES
107P	ANN LOOKER		READER	173A	ALAN J SULLIVAN
228P	H.K. LOOSE	134P	JOHN F.W. RICHARDS	84P	CHRIS SUSLOWICZ
46A	PETER MABEY	24A	DOV RIGAL	91P	DAVE A. SYMES
45S	BRUCE J.M.	252A	GUY ROBINSON	67P	FAY SYMES
	MACDONALD	81P	JACQUELINE	142A	ALYSON TAYLOR
166P	E.J. MANN		ROBINSON	152A	GILL TAYLOR
130P	HELEN MARSHALL	39A	ROGER ROBINSON	129A	TOM TAYLOR
222P	MRS CAROL MARSHALL	125P	BARBARA ROCHFORD	87A	DAVE THOMAS
115P	HUGH MASCETTI	121P	MIC ROGERS	151P	PETER-FRED
280S	MISS MATOR	219P	PHIL ROGERS		THOMPSON
89A	DAVE LANGFORD	171P	TONY ROGERS	37P	SUSAN THURSTON
258S	CHRIS MAYERS	180A	HOWARD ROSENBLUM	32P	TIBS
G	ANNE MCCAFFREY	181A	JUNE ROSENBLUM	157P	ADAM TITMUS
194P	RORY O MCLEAN	29P	STEPHEN ROTHMAN	70P	MARTIN TUDOR
216P	ANDY MCMASTER	41A	MARCUS ROWLAND	78P	PETER TYERS
56P	ROB MEADES	190P	DAVE ROWLEY	22A	LARRY VAN DER
58S	MARK MEENAN	71P	BRUCE SAVILLE		PUTTE
137P	NICK MILLS	99P	MIKE SCANTLEBURY	272A	ANGELIQUE VAN
106P	DEBBY MOIR	36P	ALISON SCOTT		TOORN
226P	MIKE MOIR	23P	MIKE SCOTT	273A	KEES VAN TOORN
231P	ANDY MORRIS	188A	ANGUS H.C.	112P	JAMES WALLIS
118A	CAROLINE MULLAN		SCOTT-BROWN	13A	PETER WAREHAM
233A	HELEN MURPHY	47P	BOB SHAW	95A	CLIVE WARREN
269S	HARRY NADLER	225P	MORAG SHAW	94A	JEANETTE WARREN
196P	LINDSEY NADLER	60P	D.M. SHERWOOD	169A	DAVE WEDDELL
143P	PHIL NANSON	217P	INA SHORROCK	274A	JAINIE WEDDELL
50P	HENRY NEWTON	100P	DAVE SHOTTON	267K	KAREN WESTHEAD
237A	ANDREW NORCROSS	197P	KURT SIDAWAY	43A	KATHY WESTHEAD
146P	GYTHA NORTH	234A	MIKE SKELDING	72A	MIKE WESTHEAD
209P	JEROEN NYENHUIS	74P	JOYCE SLATER	266K	PETER WESTHEAD
223P	ANDREW O'DONNELL	73P	KEN SLATER	82A	PETER WESTON
153A	CHRIS O'SHEA II	244S	JOHN PAUL SMIT	66P	LAURA WHEATLEY
48S	KEITH OBORN	145P	FRANK R. SMITH	276A	MARY WIGLEY
212P	PAUL OLDROYD	139P	MARTIN SMITH	275A	MIKE WIGLEY
265A	PER OSTERMAN	27A	PETER SMITH	161P	BRIDGET WILKINSON
175A	DAVE PACKWOOD	138P	PETER SMITH II	235A	GEOFF WILLIAMS
172A	ANNE PAGE	111P	IAN SORENSEN	108S	KATE WRIGHT
33P	JOAN PATERSON	208P	IAN SORENSEN II		

CONTRIVANCE, 63 DRAKE ROAD, CHESSINGTON, SURREY

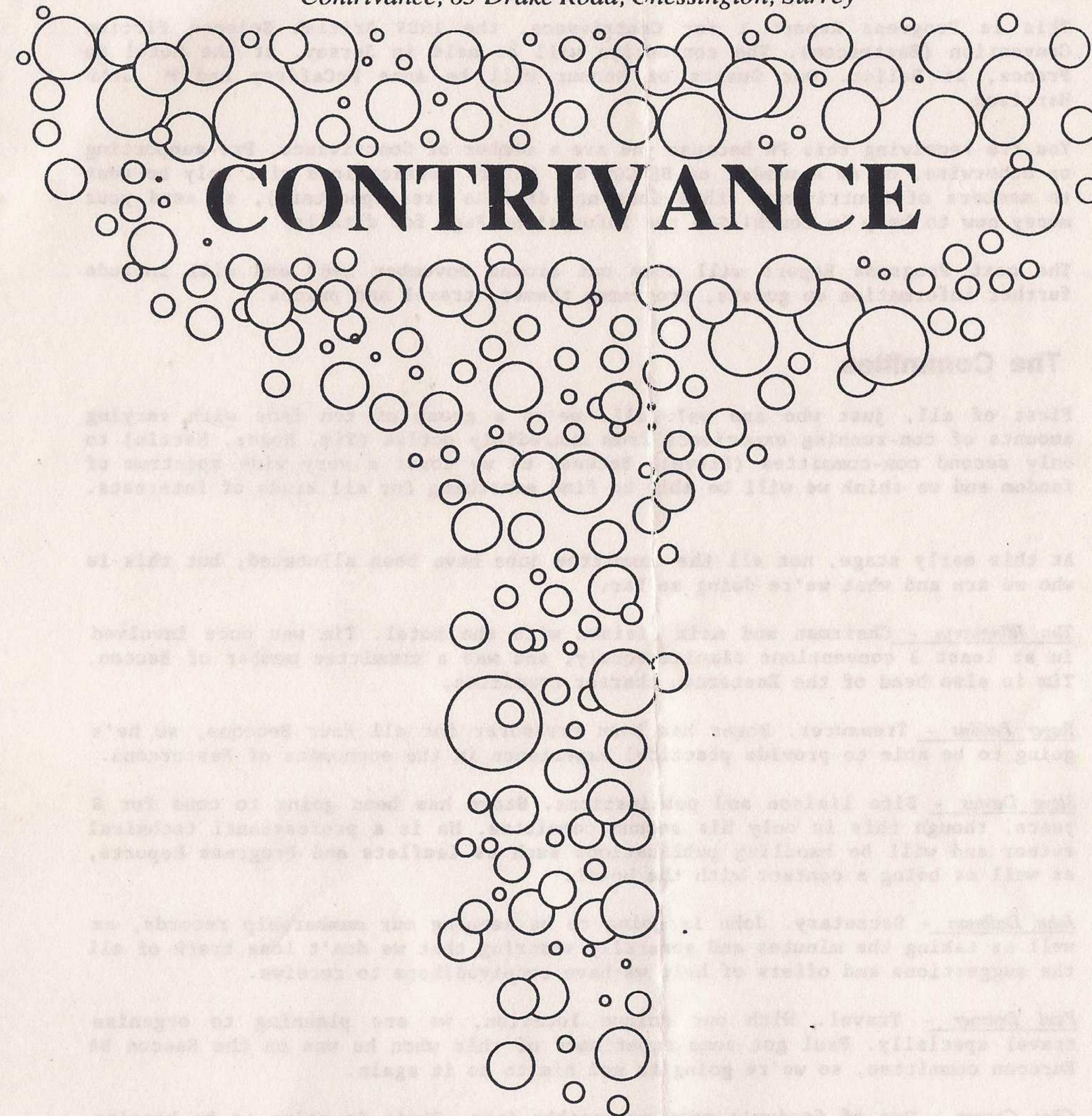
I enclose:

- £ for supporting membership(s) at £6/£8*
 £ for attending membership(s) at £12/£15*
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* The higher figure applies from 2nd September 1987

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Contrivance, 63 Drake Road, Chessington, Surrey



PROGRESS REPORT 1

1989 British Science Fiction
Convention

PROGRESS REPORT ONE

This is Progress Report 1 for Contrivance, the 1989 British Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon). The convention will be held in Jersey, at the Hotel de France, St Helier. Our Guests of Honour will be Anne McCaffrey and M. John Harrison.

You are receiving this PR because you are a member of Contrivance, Pre-supporting or otherwise, or as a member of BECCON 87. Future publications will only be sent to members of Contrivance (this does not include Pre-supporters), so send your money now to keep in touch! See the Information Page for details.

The next Progress Report will come out around November 1987 and will include further information on guests, programme themes, travel and prices.

The Committee

First of all, just who are we? Well, we're a group of ten fans with varying amounts of con-running experience from incredibly active (Tim, Roger, Martin) to only second con-committee (Steve). Between us we cover a very wide spectrum of fandom and we think we will be able to find something for all kinds of interests.

At this early stage, not all the committee jobs have been allocated, but this is who we are and what we're doing so far:

Tim Illingworth - Chairman and main liaison with the hotel. Tim was once involved in at least 3 conventions simultaneously, and was a committee member of Beccon. Tim is also head of the Eastercon charter committee.

Roger Perkins - Treasurer. Roger has been treasurer for all four Beccons, so he's going to be able to provide practical experience in the economics of Eastercons.

Steve Davies - Site liaison and publications. Steve has been going to cons for 8 years, though this is only his second committee. He is a professional technical author and will be handling publications such as leaflets and Progress Reports, as well as being a contact with the hotel.

John Dallman - Secretary. John is going to be keeping our membership records, as well as taking the minutes and generally ensuring that we don't lose track of all the suggestions and offers of help we have received/hope to receive.

Paul Dormer - Travel. With our unique location, we are planning to organise travel specially. Paul got some experience of this when he was on the Seacon 84 Eurocon committee, so we're going to get him to do it again.

Chris Cooper - One of fandom's most noticeable fans, Chris is going to be keeping order and making sure that media fandom doesn't get overlooked.

Peter Wareham - Peter was shanghaied while he was attending a convention in the USA and couldn't argue back.

Gwen Funnell - Not just present to keep Peter under control, Gwen brings that essential touch of realism to committee meetings.

Martin Hoare - Quite apart from being a technical wizard, Martin has a lot of experience of con committees and is especially adept at handling hotels. We haven't needed to brow-beat the De France yet, but we can do it if we have to.

Katie Hoare - Essential for brow-beating Martin, Katie is currently embroiled in Conspiracy but will be getting more involved with Contrivance after August.

But enough of the Committee.....

What sort of Convention do we plan to run?

We plan to run a proper, well-rounded science fiction convention, in which written SF holds pride of place but doesn't squeeze out other interests. The Eastercon is no longer the only British convention, but it is still the showcase and the way in which a lot of people first meet Fandom. We want to offer prospective fans a taste of everything that's available, impress the outside world, and have a really good time while we're doing it.

We want to run a convention that will include as many people as possible. Not just mass quizzes with everyone being eliminated, but actually taking part in discussions and workshops. We want you to go away from Contrivance with the feeling that you've really contributed something to the convention, instead of just sat in one of our many bars and watched the world go by (unless of course you want just to sit in the bars).

Fannish activity will be emphasised in all its aspects, from fanzines to literary discussion groups, from conrunning to filking. To help with this, we Lilian Edwards and Christina Lake will be organising the fanroom for us.

We also feel that any true science fiction convention must have a predominance of serious programme items. Unfortunately, these are always the most difficult to organise and it is very tempting to take the easy option of filling up empty hours with silly games and quizzes. If you want to hear talks on specific subjects, or see something special, or if you want to have workshops on something unusual, best of all if you are prepared to run such an item, we want to hear from you. You've got nearly two years to prepare, why not give it a try?

We're also considering dropping some items which have become under-subscribed in recent years. For instance, although masquerades are still popular with audiences, there seem to be fewer and fewer entrants. Since Jersey is a long way to cart extra clothes and props, we may drop the masquerade unless there is a sufficient number of people interested. So, if you feel strongly that there should be a masquerade, or any other item, please let us know.

Obviously, with another Eastercon before 1989, we don't want to give away too many of our programme ideas. However, our themes will probably include subjects like "Islands in the Sky", "Music in SF", "The Baroque in Science Fantasy" and "Biology or Xenobiology?". Each theme will have several different items associated with it, including films, panels, talks and workshops. As 1989 draws nearer, we will be getting firmer commitments from our speakers and panelists and so we'll be able to expand on the programme in future Progress Reports.

Guests of Honour

Our two main guests of honour will, we believe, appeal to two totally different parts of Fandom:

Anne McCaffrey

is of course famous for her dragon series of stories. For this reason, we hope to concentrate more on some of her other works, especially those dealing with music in SF and Fantasy.

M. John Harrison

was closely involved with New Worlds magazine during the infamous New Wave period. He is also renowned for his baroque fantasies set in the decaying city of Viriconium.

We are planning to build programme streams and themes around both Anne McCaffrey and M. John Harrison, as well as getting them involved in the workshops.

There will of course be additional themes, some with special guests of their own, to be announced in future Progress Reports.

The Hotel

One of the most important things for making a convention go smoothly is the hotel. We believe that we have found a place that is ideally suited to being a con hotel. The De France was built in the last century as a luxury hotel and, except for an interlude when it was a Jesuit seminary, has continued that tradition ever since. It stands on a low ridge overlooking the town of St Helier (capital of Jersey) and can accommodate over 600 people. In the hotel's private grounds is a conference centre (the Lido de France) which we shall also be using. The Lido includes a disco, a health-club, several bars, a large hall and a cinema with 35mm projection facilities.

Our major problem with the De France so far, has been that every time we ask them to provide something special for the con they tell us that they already do that as standard (and at a cheaper rate than most hotels after months of hard bargaining). The facilities are not only spacious, they are well-organised, which we have found to be a very rare virtue in modern hotels.

The number of function rooms is more than we anticipate needing, so we will be able to cope even if we have a sudden influx of people at the last moment. Furthermore, all the rooms are within the grounds of the hotel, so there will be no need to brave Jersey's (minimal) traffic when going from one item to another.

The overflow hotel (the Rosebank) is also within the grounds of the De France, and is owned by the same management so there should be no problems there. The Rosebank, incidentally, is being connected to the De France by a covered, well-lit walkway so you won't even have to expose yourselves to Jersey's sunny climate when you go to the programme.

If the overflow fills up, there are an incredible number of small hotels and cheap boarding houses very nearby. We have been told that there are 5000 beds inside 10 minutes walk from the hotel, and we could probably accommodate the whole convention within two hundred yards of the de France.

Rates

We have agreed a room rate for the Hotel de France of £20.50 per night per person in a twin. This is a firm rate for 1989 and not an estimate based on current prices. The room rate includes full English breakfast - and also serve yourself with rolls, cold meat, fruit, fruit juice etc. We sampled this breakfast when we were over there recently, and it makes the average hotel breakfast pale in comparison (the convention will be served the standard breakfast, not a cut-down version as some hotels do). The hotel has offered the facility of continental breakfast served in the rooms for those people in the De France. We have not yet decided whether to take them up on this.

What we are also offering, however, is a similar room rate (actually £21), for up to a week both before and after the con. So if you want to, you could have a two-week holiday in the Channel Islands at discount rates and with a convention in the middle of it. What more could you possibly want?

Well, you might want to bring your (non-fannish) family so we are having a "relatives membership" at a nominal cost. This allows them to take advantage of the cheap rates and facilities under the convention's agreement with the hotel. Naturally, there are also cheap membership rates for children, soft toys, and other pets (there are no quarantine restrictions between the UK and Jersey).

Room rates for the Rosebank (the overflow hotel next door) are approx. £15 (75% of the De France rate) including full breakfast. The Rosebank isn't quite as stunning as the De France but it is a comfortable hotel and is a very short walk away.

The rooms in a boarding house next door to the overflow hotel were about £10 this year, and should still be priced in that general area in 1989.

Alternatively, you could try self-catering accommodation, and some travel agents are offering package deals including travel and accommodation which is (entirely by co-incidence) no more than ten minutes walk from the De France. By arranging to travel in groups, you may get further discounts.

We should point out at this juncture that single rooms are (as everywhere) in very short supply. If you want a single in the De France or the Rosebank, it will probably be in a twin room, and the rate will reflect this. For those with large families, though, the De France does offer family rooms with three beds (one of which is a double).

Food and drink

Jersey has lots of cheap and wonderful food and cheap drink. The De France itself has two restaurants, one of which will seat everybody staying in the hotel (so there should be no need to queue for breakfast). The food in the De France is excellent, and very good value for money both in the restaurants and the bar snacks. Good food is extremely easy to find in Jersey. There is an annual good food festival which ensures that quality is kept up, not just in the top restaurants but also in the cheap fast food places as well.

As no doubt you realise by now, Jersey has no VAT and minimal excise duty. Therefore the price of alcoholic drinks is very much lower than on the mainland. Coupled with Jersey's proximity to France, you can see that you will have to be very careful not to over-indulge. Fortunately, Jersey counts as an overseas country and you can count on a generous duty-free allowance when going home (and going to the convention, come to that). The same naturally applies to petrol, tobacco and perfume - though we advise you not to drink too much of these.

The hotel is currently serving the local beer, Mary Ann, at a price of around 70p per pint. If you don't think that's cheap enough, we found a pub (called The Wellington!) with a bar price of 50p per pint. For the convention, the hotel will also be serving real ale.

Travel

This is of course the place where Contrivance appears to be slightly more expensive than the common Eastercon. However, we calculate that the average fan can probably save their extra fare out of the VAT/excise duty that they won't have to pay (especially if VAT goes up again).

There are two main options, ferry and plane. The ferry will cost about half the standard fare (though the Theatre and Concert Rail Club tell us they may be able to beat that) and takes most of a night. The plane is a bit more expensive, though we are investigating the possibility of chartering an aircraft (which brings the price down considerably, but has the disadvantage of requiring people to turn up at the same time). Theatre & Concert apparently have a deal with British Airways, so there may be room for improvement here too. We are making plans to provide transport to and from a selection of planes and ferries.

Of course, if you try one of the standard travel agents' packages, you might manage to do it even cheaper. At least one current package deal costs £89 for seven nights accommodation with the return air fare included.

Basically, the overall cost for a London fan would probably be marginally less than attending a convention in the North. The break-even point is somewhere around Birmingham, with Scottish fans having to pay a bit more to get down south. We think it's worth it; and we hope you will too.

THE INFORMATION PAGE

Correspondence.

All correspondence should be sent to;

Contrivance
63 Drake Road
Chessington
Surrey
KT9 1LQ

Or, if appropriate, to our overseas agents who are:

USA

Bill & Mary Burns
23 Kensington Court
Hempstead
NY 11550
USA

Scandinavia

Mats Claesson
c/o Bjork
Saltamang 12
11359 Stockholm
Sweden

We need a Dutch agent. Any volunteers?

Progress Reports

Progress Report 2 will be out at the end of October 1987.

Progress Report 3 will be out at the end of March 1988.

The following rates for advertising will apply:

	<u>Pro</u>	<u>Fan</u>	<u>Deadlines</u>
Full page	£15	£10	
Half page	£8	£6	Ads for PR2 must be received before 14/9/87
Quarter page	£5	£3	Ads for PR3 must be received before 15/2/88

Membership

The rates are;	<u>To 2/9/87</u>	<u>From 2/9/87</u>	<u>Payment</u>
Attending	£12	£15	Cheques should be made payable to Contrivance.
Supporting	£6	£8	
Child 9-13	£6	£6	
Associate member	£6	£6	Payment may be made in US\$ at the rate of: £1.00 = \$2.00
Child under 9	£1	£1	
Pets, soft toys.	£1	£1	

Conversion from Supporting to Attending is always at the current difference in rates.

Conversion from Pre-supporting is at the above rates less £1.00 or \$2.

Please note that we need both real names and fannish names (if you adopt one specially for conventions) when you sign up. Real names will generally be used for mailing. This is because in the past people have been "lost" because they have moved and their mail has been returned marked "This person does not exist". So either keep us up to date on your address, or let us know who you really are (preferably both).

Members as of May 1987:

P=Pre-support A=Attending S=Supporting

63A MIKE ABBOTT	163P MARY CARMICHAEL	126A SUSAN FRANCIS
120P PHILIP ALLCOCK	77P MIKE CHRISTIE	199P MISS K.E. FRY
40A BRIAN AMERINGEN	51P MATS CLAESSON	14A GWEN FUNNELL
193P PATRICIA AMES	260A (FRIEND OF) JOHN CLUTE	189P P.M. GARDNER
250A MICHAEL ANCELL		148P WENDY GLOVER
184A FIONA ANDERSON	259A JOHN CLUTE	76P JIM GODDARD
159P KEVIN ANDERSON	133P PETER COHEN	253A MARGARET GORDON
158P KEITH ARMSTRONG-BRIDGES	164P BARBARA CONWAY	183A MICHAEL R GOULD
	12A CHRIS COOPER	236P MIKE GRANT
97P C.P. ARYES	243S PHILIP A. COWAN	57S MIKE GRAY
79P MARGARET AUSTIN	256A DAVE COX	83P STEVE GREEN
206P JON AXTELL	44P 1/2 R CRUTTENDEN	144P PHILIP GROVES
162P HENRY BALEN	114P WENDY CRUTTENDEN	88A URBAN GUNNARSSON
102P IAIN BANKS	11A JOHN DALLMAN	176P ANDREW HALL
135A JOHN BARK	34P MIKE DAMESICK	182P SUSAN E. HARDING
179A TREVOR BARKER	104P MALCOLM DAVIES	G M. JOHN HARRISON
185P PHIL BARNARD	15P STEVE DAVIES	277A SUE HARRISON
93P ANDERS BELLIS	178A ZOE DETERDING	69P EVE HARVEY
75A SIMON BERESFORD	141A IAIN DICKSON	68P JOHN HARVEY
170S HELEN BERNARDI	202P MARTIN DICKSON	61P CHARLES HAWDSLEY
204S MIKE BERNARDI	207P M.K. DIGRE	110P JULIAN HEADLONG
92P TONY BERRY	85P DERMOT DOBSON	221P JULIAN HEADLONG II
283A GEOGRE BONDAR	86P PERDY DOBSON	
186A DUNCAN BOOTH	242A VINCENT DOCHERTY	249A TERESA HEHIR
187A JUDY BOOTH	105P CHRIS DONALDSON	156P ANGIE HESKETT
248A KJELL BORGSTROM	16A PAUL DORMER	155P PAUL HESKETT
28P JOHN BOTHAM	154P MICHELLE DRAYTON	19P KATIE HOARE
271A RICHARD BRANDSHAFT	49P MARTIN EASTERBROOK	18P MARTIN HOARE
147P MARK BRENNAN	31A BARBARA A. EDWARDS	167P MALCOLM HODKIN
109P TIM BROADRIBB	160P GLENN EDWARDS	205P MARINA HOLROYD
128P KEN BROWN	30A RICHARD EDWARDS	96P MIKE HOOK
191P PAT BROWN	227A HELEN ELING	261A VALERIE HOUSDEN
279S JOHN BRUNNER	255A STAN ELING	10A TIM ILLINGWORTH
25A STEVE BULL	35S DAVE ELLIS	247A MATTHEW IRVING
224A CHARLOTTE BULMER	26P DAVID ELWORTHY	245A ROB JACKSON
263S M.A. BUNCE	38A BERNIE EVANS	54P LINDA STRICKLER JAMES
174A SAUL.A. BURA	257A MICK EVANS	
201A BILL BURNS	52P JULIET EYEIONS	132P MORAG KERR
200A MARY BURNS	177P JOHN FAIREY	55P ALICE KOHLER
149P ROBERT BURRAGE	59P NICK FAREY	150P CHRISTINA LAKE
262A CHRIS BURSEY	103A COLIN FINE	229P JAN LAKE
282P JENNY CAMPBELL	239A JOAN FINE	230P KEN LAKE
116P KIM CAMPBELL	238A PHILIP FINE	195A HENRY JOHN LANDIS
281P RAMSEY CAMPBELL	80P MIKE FORD	89A DAVE LANGFORD
53P JOHN W CAMPBELL REES	278A WILLIAM HENRY FORRESTER	90A HAZEL LANGFORD

Name: _____

Address: _____

(I agree to have my personal details kept on a computer database)

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