

In a castle, by the sea, dread Towlson lies dreaming. But hosts are gathering, with arcane instruments of sound and light, to wake this fluffy-Yog from its slumbers.

Is this truly the end of condom?

Illumination

The 1992 British National Science Fiction Convention 17-20 April at the Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool

Progress Report 4: "Beamtenherrschaft "

February 1992

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Chairman's Address

Light on, man!

25 Wycliffe Road, Cambridge... Will this do Dave? No it won't... Ed.

Welcome for the final time to an Illumination Progress Report, complete with brand spanking new Colin Johnson cover (remember that name for the Novas, folks!) and eye-catching insides. By the time you read this, Easter will be only just around the corner and your committee will have gone into panic overdrive some time ago. Steve and Alice Lawson will be trying to eat the Membership Database, Anne Page will be threatening to blow up the hotel, David Cooper will be taking a long holiday on the proceeds, Nick Mills will be tying microphone cables into nooses, Jason Stevens will finally find a biro, Ivan Towlson will have turned to programming ZX80s, John Bray will have all the information that he needs, Dave Clements and Amanda Baker will have disappeared under a vast pile of paper, and Rhodri James will be talking about himself in the third person.

As of now, though, there are three months to go and I haven't got the faintest idea of what to write. Actually, as I've said before, I'm never quite sure what I'm supposed to be writing about in this column; I suppose that I'm expected to produce a reassuring homily on the wondrous delights to come at Illumination. Look, can we take all that as read? You all know that any convention committee worth its salt is going to do its damndest to run the best convention that it can with the resources it has. Besides, I don't want to insult your intelligence.

I could go through the shopping list of all the virtuous things that are happening, have happened and will happen with the convention, except that they are all being related by the people closer to the action elsewhere in this PR. I could tell you about the way that the programme is shaping up, but Ivan's doing that. I could say how much I think that perceptions of Illumination have been formed by the look and feel of our publications, but that would embarrass Dave horribly. I could tell you about the hotel refurbishments, but Anne will be doing that. I could tell you about how my car broke down, but I'm saving that for my own fanzine.

In short, there's not an awful lot I can do in this column that isn't a complete waste of space like the last two paragraphs. So I though I might offer a few simple guidelines for enjoying yourself at the con.

- 1. DO feed the animals. We are hungry.
- 2. DO NOT start custard pie fights between the towers.
- 3. DO NOT panic the committee will be doing quite enough of that for everyone.
- 4. DO buy me drinks. (And the rest of the committee!!!.... Ed.)
- 5. DO enjoy yourself, whatever else.

Thank you and good night.

Rhodri James

Final Approach

How to Achieve Illumination: The Penultimate Step (Or: How to get to the Norbreck Castle Hotel)

By Car:

1. Follow the M55 to Blackpool

2. Head for the sea front

3. At the sea front turn right

4. Head for Fleetwood; hotel 3 miles on right (its the first castle you get to... Honest!)

OR

1. Follow the M55 to Blackpool

2. Leave at Junction 3, A585 to Fleetwood

3. At traffic lights turn left, A585 to Fleetwood

4. Next traffic lights bear right, A585 to Fleetwood

5. Next traffic lights straight on, A585 to Fleetwood

 At roundabout straight on, A585 to Fleetwood
Next roundabout straight on, A585 to Fleetwood

8. Next roundabout turn left, B5412 to Cleveleys (Victoria Road West)

9. At Cleveleys Town Centre turn left, A584 to Blackpool

10. Follow tramline; hotel one mile on left (its still the first castle you get to... Honest!)

By Rail:

1. Change at Preston for Blackpool, if you haven't got a direct train

2. Train terminates at Blackpool North

3. Catch Taxi (approx. £4) OR

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3. Walk to seafront (about 10 minutes)

4. Catch a tram heading north to Fleetwood or Cleveleys (going right as you face the sea). Ask for Norbreck. Cost 65p. Trip is 2 1/2 miles, takes approx. 20 minutes

By Coach:

1. Arrive at Talbot Road bus station 2. Turn left and walk to North Pier

3. Catch tram (see above)

By Air:

Land at Blackpool Airport
Catch taxi (if you can afford the air fare, you can afford the taxi...)

By Sea:

1. Dock at Fleetwood

2. Catch tram heading south

3. Stop at Norbreck

Going Up the 'Pool (Or: What to do if you don't want to spend all your time in a Castle or a Convention)

If the con gets too much for you, you can always visit the pleasure beach. Just jump on a tram and ask to be let off there. This is a must for anyone who likes funfairs. One of the very first rides, Sir Hiram Maxim's Captive Flying Machine (1904) is still in operation in a somewhat different guise. This, along with many others, make up a forty acre funpark, ideal for children of every age.

For anyone who likes walking, there are miles of shops and markets that sell anything you can think of from aardvarks to zebra's. For chocoholics you can buy a chocolate whatever_takes_your_fancy (yes, even one of those !)

(I won't ask how Alice found out about that ... Ed.)

If you feel suicidal you can try go_carting or swimming in the sea. The tower is also worth a visit but don't throw yourself off the top (the committee will be there ahead of you !)

There is a Louis Tusaud which is rather good and there is a museum of horror which is not. With other attractions which can be found by walking along the front, there is something for just about everyone.

Have fun, but don't forget the con.

Alice Lawson

Trams- A Beginners Guide

Just a quick note for all those who may never have seen a tram system in operation before. Blackpool has a tram line running up and down the seafront, and a little bit elsewhere too. These things look like buses, but are powered by overhead cables, and run on rails. As far as the passengers are concerned, they function just like buses down to the little scrappy tickets we're all used to. The convention hotel, the Norbreck Castle, has its very own tram stop right outside, called, not surprisingly, Norbreck. If you get lost in Blackpool, just head for the seafront, get on a tram going towards Fleetwood (or towards Blackpool if you've got lost in Fleetwood) and ask for Norbreck.

Dave Clements

Directions

The Programme

"I didn't want it, and now I haven't got it."

It now appears, at long and occasionally bloody last, that the Illumination programme has taken shape. It is, and I may as well admit this from the start, not the programme I wanted it to be. I may as well also admit that this is my fault, and that it is largely thanks to the efforts of others (take a bow, John) that it has taken shape at all.

Does that sound negative? Read it again. My original ideas for the Illumination programme were ambitious-in retrospect perhaps unreasonably so. That the final result is not what I originally hoped for is (a) not surprising and (b) not indicative of a weak programme. On the contrary. Looking at the way things are coming together, I think that we will have an extremely strong programme, with a lot of unusual items, imaginative ideas and provocative discussions. But these will be mixed in with a lot more traditional (or, as early Ivanesque broadsides damned it, 'boring') material. Reinvent the talking-heads panel, us? Well, needs must when the devil drives. The story behind this can be obtained from me for the price of a pint and a sympathetic ear. A different story can probably be obtained from others for a similar cost. You're not interested. You want to know what is going to be happening.

Somewhere nearby, by the magic of Dave's electric wigglies, should be a copy of Friday's programme. The items should give you a fair idea of what direction the programme will be taking from there on. I could spend the rest of this article reciting the programme, but am not convinced there is really much point. Better to pick on a few representative items and selected highlights. The big items-the masquerade, the awards, the fireworks-you already know. We'll be having an audio-visual programming room, which will spend some of the time showing films and videos, but will also contain our more visually-oriented items. See, for instance, cuddly John Bray forget his computer password in glorious stereo. See, for instance, film quizzes desperately trying to identify famous stars by the backs of their necks. See, for instance, the Earth in shattered ecological ruin. See Steve Lawson's shirt ...

Rule Your Own Planet! (By Committee, Anyway) Illumination's AV programme will feature a mass participation version of the "Gaean" computer game SimEarth, which allows players to follow the various ways that the planet could have developed, and to she effects of changes feeding through the biosphere. The computer output will be projected onto a large video screen, and everyone in the audience will be able to join in the play decisions. The winner is the one with the most mackerel at the end.

The main programme, as previously droned on about, will tend to feature items with big floppy ears: a lot of what goes in here will be the bits of fluffy bunny rabbits that protrude above ground. For instance a couple of workshops on solving the ecological crisis either by adjusting our lifestyles to be less destructive or by finding ways to compensate for the damage we cause would lead eventually to a main programme discussion, "The Green and the Grey", on whether science is the cause of the problem or the solution. You can also find the usual run of stuff here: auctions, debates, Steve Lawson's shirt...

Yes, the guest of honour items will be here, and yes, there will be boring speechy or interviewy type things. But there will also be excitement, adventure and, at least in Pam Wells' case, really wild things. Paul McAuley appears to be planning more in the direction of really weird things. He will also be judging the sandcastle competition ("on the condition that I get to stamp on the losers," he adds).

Sunday night we plan to have—and we didn't rip this idea off lconoclasm or anything like that—a cabaret, so polish up your acts in readiness. We will also show the Chronoclasm video to get you in the mood or spark idiotic ideas. Filkers are welcome, but please note that we don't just want a filk cabaret! They get their chance on Friday evening with the Golden Oldies of Filk. If there's a song you want to hear that no-one seems to bother with nowadays, or if you're just higgerant (that's ignorant to non-Welsh speakers... Ed.) and want to find out what the noise is, then this is the place to come. Secret Mastery of Filking will be rigorously suppressed and even people as tone deaf as me may join in on the choruses.

Bring Out Your Dead!

While on the subject of slightly pilfered items, here's one that's more than slight. We nicked the Unknown Programme Item from Contrivance and we're not ashamed to admit it. On Friday evening there will be a workshop meeting to decide on a

programme item to stage on Monday. Please bring ideas and stage presence, or just ideas. On Jersey a bunch of us staged the 1999 Eastercon (in an hour). Remarkable how that seemed vaguely more organised than the 1992 one... At any rate, there is a prime spot on Monday's main programme going begging. Take that diem out and carp it.

In the alternative programme you'll find more random items: the odd quiz, the occasional talk, the "You Didn't Want It And Now You're Not Going To Get It" collection of remaindered programme items, the lecture on teabag science, Steve Lawson's shirt...

Work at Lawrence-Livermore

One of the non-standard-panel formats we will be using is the 'floating panel' where anyone in the audience who makes a few good comments is invited up to join the panel, as other panellists fade away (yes, these items are scheduled late at night).

In one of these you'll be ask to come up with ultra -high-tech weaponry. Brilliant Pebbles too stupid for you? B2's spotted at 4000 yards? Come along to this one and the SDI talent scouts may pick you as the winner of a multibillion dollar defence contract!

That just leaves the workshop items, which I still insist are the good bits even if everybody else thinks I'm hallucinating. Strangest and quite possibly most intriguing item here is Graham Joyce's "Lucid Dreaming". This will actually consist of two workshops, with a couple of days in between for people to experiment before reporting back and discussing the results. Graham is the author of "Dreamside", so these items should provide some interesting sidelights on that.

If you have any interest in ecology, we will be running two related discussions, "How to be Green" and "Building Blueprints". The first asks what it means to be ecologically friendly: having a non-CFC fridge, or something deeper-from family planning to caring for the everyday environment (don't drop litter!) to the contemplation of high art, or at any rate ugly modern architecture. It should be interesting to see how people look on the environment as a whole, as a place in which to live and work, as well as just the more obvious and hackneyed issues of what to do about sunburning penguins. The latter is the prime concern of the other item (and the penguins), though, which assumes that people will always want a rising standard of living-and the Third World will always want fridges no matter how CFC-ridden they are-and investigates models for society that allow people to enjoy their luxuries

without exhausting the planet. Can these conflicting needs be balanced? Working out how will be an exercise to challenge the most creative of fannish brains...

Extra-caffeinated guest of honour Geoff Ryman will be going in search of willing types to help out in the "SF Theatre" workshop, which will be a planning session for a play or other jamboree about the life of Philip K Dick, to be performed at the convention. Geoff needs willing volunteers for this to let us know before the convention. Contact the Illumination address (or phone) if you're interested. Definitely not to be missed (but then nor are any of the other items on at the same time).

Students take note that once again the National Student SF Association will make a doomed attempt to keep the links between college sf groups open through the dark months of summer. This is a good idea whose day will come, and the sooner the better, so come to their meeting and speed it up a bit.

We also plan to produce an Instant Fanzine at the convention, so bring your journalists' notebooks. There will also be advice on how to repeat this activity in the comfort of your own home. The fanzine scene needs new blood badly, and we'd like to see people at least attempting a transfusion.

The fan programme, in the capable hands of Anne Page and Pam Wells, looks set to complement the "mainstream" programme perfectly, with a light smattering of Damn Fine Items and lots of tea, coffee and hospitality. Anne seems to be planning a fan room for fans, not just for people who already know fandom, and will be making everyone welcome. Drop in and meet the gang.

Programming in the Sun Lounge and the Norcalympia—our two lounge areas—will be light. Really light. But the really, really light stuff will be in the programme rooms. We have a great hotel, a great programme and a great shirt (well Steve does anyway). And I, personally, have my fingers crossed.

Ivan Towlson

Members attending with soft toys should ensure that their animals are not infected with myxomatosis, as it has proven impossible to have the fluffy bunny rabbits inoculated. Thank you.

Friday Programme

Time	General		Main (Ballroom)	Alternate (Lancastria)	Video (Connaught)	Flopsy	Mopsy	Cottontail	Peter Fan (Adam)
10.00									
11.00									
12.00					•				
13.00									
14.00									
15.00	Dealers' ro opens	room	Opening Ceremony						
16.00			Fringes Introduction	You didn't want it and now you're not going to get it				Writers' Workshop introduction	
17.00			Media Friction	Jim Burns	Pathfinder	Birth of the Unknown Programme Item			
18.00	Dealers' ro closes	room	Cutting Edge	Anglocentricon	Frankenstein Unbound	contd	Non-Instant Fanzine		
19.00			Illuminati Talk	Urban Myth	contd	SF Theatre introduction	contd		
20.00			Historical Perspective		Neptune	Award Nominee Readings			A new fan's guide to other fans
21.00			Golden Oldies of Filk	of Turkey Reading					Perceptions of Fandom
22.00			Filking	Unspeakable Weaponry		Helicon Party	Storytelling		SFCD RG GB Party
23.00			contd			contd	contd		So you want to run the

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CRITICAL WAVE

THE EUROPEAN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY REVIEW

"CRITICAL WAVE is the most consistently interesting and intelligent review on the sf scene." - Michael Moorcock.

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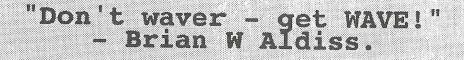
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Founded in 1987 by Martin Tudor and Steve Green, CRITICAL WAVE is published six times a year and has established a reputation for hard-hitting news coverage, perceptive essays on the state of the genre and incisive reviews of the latest books, comics and movies. Regular features include publishing news, portfolios by Europe's leading science fiction and fantasy artists, extensive club and convention listings, interviews with prominent authors and editors, video, film and comics reviews, fiction market reports, fanzine and small press reviews, convention reports and theatre reviews.

Previous contributors have included: MICHAEL MOORCOCK, IAIN BANKS, CLIVE BARKER, LISA TUTTLE, COLIN GREENLAND, DAVID LANGFORD, ROBERT HOLDSTOCK, GARY KILWORTH, SHAUN HUTSON, DAVID WINGROVE, BOB SHAW, TERRY PRATCHETT, RAMSEY CAMPBELL, LARRY NIVEN, STEVEN BARNES, DAVE CARSON, DAVID A HARDY, BRIAN W ALDISS, ANNE GAY, STEPHEN BAXTER, GRAHAM JOYCE, D WEST, JIM PORTER, RAYMOND FEIST, CHRIS "FANGORN" BAKER, CHRIS CLAREMONT, MICHAEL MARRAK and STORM CONSTANTINE.

A six-issue subscription costs only seven pounds and fifty pence or you can, if you wish, purchase a sample copy for one pound and ninety-five pence. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to "Critical Wave Publications" and sent to: Martin Tudor, 845 Alum Rock Road, Ward End, Birmingham, B8 2AG. Please allow 30 days for delivery.



Operations

Weapons Policy

Please note that in accordance with the law the following rules must be respected by all members of the convention at all times:

1) NO weapons [e.g. swords, bows, guns or sticks (other than medically necessary)] or weapon replica [e.g. real looking pistols] are allowed. This applies especially to hall costumes and includes peace-bonded swords!

2) Weapons or weapon replica which are part of a costume for the masquerade must be wrapped up and hand-carried to the back stage area. They may only be drawn and wielded as part of the performance on stage.

Party Organisers Note

All drinks consumed in the hotel must be purchased from the hotel. Private parties on hotel premises have the option to pay the hotel corkage instead which is currently rated at almost £4 per litre bottle. A list of hotel prices is available from the Illumination address.

Creche Users: Urgent!

As many of you are aware, the CHILD ACT has changed many areas related to childcare. This means that the ever dependable Vicky Evans can no longer run our creche. The act states that it must be run by a trained person. The hotel will provide a creche nurse but the number of children attending will determine whether or not we have to pay. Can you please let us know if you will require creche facilities as soon as possible. Drop us a line or telephone us but let us know .. Even if you have marked creche required on your hotel booking form, it would be helpful if you could just give us a reminder and confirm the arrangements.

PS Lisanne Norman is looking for someone to split baby-sitting costs. If you are interested give me a call and I will pass it on.

Alice Lawson

Contacting Illumination Fast!

Illumination, can be contacted on 0742 728639. There is an answering machine available if the Lawsons are out, so please call us anytime about this or anything else you need to talk about.

Volunteers Volunteer forms were distributed with the last PR. If you haven't volunteered then there is still time to do so. Forms that have been sent back are now being processed and you will receive an acknowledgement shortly. You may not hear from us again before the convention. This doesn't mean that we've forgotten you! It just means that we haven't allocated you to a specific job in our pre-con planning but would like you to be available for more general duties. When you get to the con check your programme pack for details of where to go to sign up for work.

At the con there will be a Gopher Hole providing refreshments to all staff and volunteers. Free coffee and tea will be available here. Vouchers exchangeable for drinks from the bar will also be redeemed here. These may be earned as a reward for duties preformed and will be issued by shift leaders at the end of the shift.

Posters

Because the hotel and decorations will be brand new when we are there, we must be very careful about how posters and other advertising are put up. For this reason, you MUST see Ops before putting up any material in the hotel.

Art Show

Yes! There will be an artshow at Illumination (with all the wonderful Colin Johnson covers, how could we miss a chance of showing them all off?). This will be organised by Mary Burns. Please contact Illumination HQ in Sheffied (phone number given beneath the Creche article) for more details.

Auctions

There will be both a Book Auction, and a Fanzine Auction at Illumination. The Book Auction is being coordinated by Brian Ameringen, while Pam Wells will be organising the Fanzine Auction. Please bring along lots of stuff so these can be a success. If you are planning to bring stuff, please contact the Convention address (phone number given at the bottom of the Creche article).

Medical Probelms

Would all people with a medical problem, and all qualified doctors, nurses and first aiders who are willing to help us, please give us their room numbers after checking in. This list will be kept in the Ops Room, and will help us immensely in the event of any emergencies.

Thank you!

Updates

Hotel

The renovation of the hotel is almost complete, and what a transformation! Those of us who 'survived the North Wing' at Frontiers were relieved and pleased to see this change. Booking is proceeding rapidly, and we have run out of single rooms. If you haven't yet booked, please do so immediately to avoid disappointment - rooms are hard to get in Blackpool at Easter and the beach can be very drafty and cold! The hotel are doing all they can to meet our requirements and are anxious to please, and the new owners appear to have done all they've promised to date. The facilities the hotel provides should prove excellent. A dealers room with plenty of room between tables and an art show with space to stand back and view the work in comfort will be a novelty and an improvement.

So don't delay - book today.

Masquerade

After the success of Helen McCarthy's costume con 'Masque', we know that the talent is out there - so get into practice for Gytha North's costume Con 'Masque 2' in 1993 (plug!) by trying out your ideas on Illumination's Saturday night Spectacular. Costumes shown at Masque 1 can be entered for Illumination too, so you have NO excuse. If you have any special requirements please contact Anne NOW on 0709 851353 (answerphone). Please note that if you bring a tape with your own music on it would help if each side of the tape has your music on, and right at the start of the tape, too, please. This ensures that the likelihood of any mistakes in playing your music becomes remote. Entry details can be sent to Anne Page at 1 Lockwood Road, East Herringthorpe, Rotherham, F65 3RH, or given in to the Fan Room by Saturday noon. We hope to have a rehersal early on Saturday morning.

Fan Room

Pam Wells (fan GoH) and I envisage a place to relax and to meet other fans, with light programming during the day. Evening will see more programming with the aim of 'desperate fun'. The room will be set out lounge style and will open at 11am. We are experimenting with coffee time between 11am and noon when coffee, tea and biscuits will be available for purchase (useful for those who missed breakfast), followed by a programme item at noon. There will be no programming opposite GoH talks but 'tea time' between 3 and 4 pm will offer more tea, coffee and biscuits while you mix and mingle. The rest of the fan room programme offers such diversities as games, talks, TAFF auctions, a disco and a party. So come along, meet new people, broaden your horizons and exercise your sociable natures - everyone's welcome!

Anne Page

Writers' Workshop

Interesting Times, the Birmingham based writers group are running a writers' workshop at Illumination. They would like people to bring along a 1000 word extract from a short story, novel or play for discussion. There will be an introductory meeting on the Friday evening for people to bring along their work to be photocopied and circulated to the rest of the group. The workshop itself will be on the Sunday morning, where they hope to discuss such things as character, pace and style. The aim is to provide constructive criticism and to help writers' improve their work.

Awards

Each Eastercon since 1989 has presented the Eastercon Awards. These are not literary awards, but are based on the enjoyment given by any piece of work. Nominations should be based soley on the entertainment value of the proposed piece, regardless of its critical acclaim. Of course, you can enjoy a critically-acclaimed work! Nomination forms are included with this PR.

Nominate one work per category, and return the form to the Illumination address before 1st April 1992. Anything first presented in Britain since 1 January 1990 is eligible.

Categories and past winners:

Long Text (eg novels, novellas, collections) 1989 The Discworld series (Terry Pratchett) 1990 The Wooden Spaceships (Bob Shaw) 1991 Good Omens (Pratchett & Gaiman)

- Short Text (eg short stories, articles, reviews):
- 1989 The Drabble Project (Rob Meades & David Wake)
- 1990 Dark Night in Toyland (Bob Shaw)
- 1991 The Intermediate Reptile (Mullan, Frost, etc)

Artwork (any artwork):

- 1989 Discworld covers (Josh Kirby)
- 1990 Cover to The Drunken Rabble Project (Sue Mason)
- 1991 Robert, the Foundation Collecting Monster (Sylvia Starshine)

Dramatic Presentation (eg films, music, TV): 1989 The Conspiracy Fireworks (Dermot Dobson) 1990 Horizon: The Voyager Reports (BBC TV) 1991 Return to the Forbidden Planet (Bob Carlton)

The other usual Eastercon awards (Doc Wier, Ken McIntyre etc.) will also be presented. For details, see your convention package.

Tim Illingworth

The Illuminator Hotel:Long Stay Lower Rate

In a new development, it was announced that the hotel room rates for people staying at the Illumination hotel, the Norbreck Castle, for 4 or more days, will pay at the lower rate of £25 for the whole of their stay, not just for those days not during the convention.

Ecstatic hotel liaison operative Stevenalice Lawson was rumoured to have cracked open a case of bubbly to celebrate the good news.

Foundation Shock

The Bad News: The Polytechnic of East London (in Barking), which houses the Foundation library (approximately 20,000 volumes) has had a bad attack of the auditors. The outcome of this is that they will cease to fund the Foundation at the end of the coming financial year (1992-93).

The Good News: The council of the SF Foundation (both Polytechnic and SF members) are determined to carry on! This means that the critical journal 'Foundation' will become an independant publication, and that all existing subscriptions etc will be honoured.

The Friends of Foundation are actively seeking new premises, and also all offers of help, money, books and so on. An emergency issue of the FoF newsletter will be in your Illumination programme packs, giving full details and further information. However, if you require more information immediately, please contact:

> FoF c/o Rob Meades 75 Hecham Close Walthampstow London E17 5QT

A recent announcement was also made that all single rooms in the Norbreck Castle have now been filled. There are still plenty of doubles, twins etc. available 'but you should get your bookings IN QUICK' said an Illumination official today. He further commented that the Norbreck Castle Hotel were being very helpful with all the requirements for the convention. He also reminded all members to bring their swimming costumes for use in the pool.

Hotel Winners

The winners of the prize draw for early hotel room bookings have been drawn. In a shock result, the Illumination committee announced that the first prize was won by Jack Cohen, with the second prize won by Phil Nanson. A worried Rhodri James, Illuminati Primus, was later heard to be muttering 'They'll think it was a fix...'

Bray Takes Control

Bemused computer analyst John Bray rose to the ranks of the Ten Invisibles recently, and has not been seen since. John foolishly volunteered his services to get the Illumination Programme, a seriously complcated piece of computer code, to function properly. 'It was a tough job, but someone had to do it' he was later heard to comment.

John was also recently noted to be designing wierd and wonderful alien creatures for the Illumination Alien fluffy bunny rabbit. He said that anyone interested in this new artform should bring an alien design to Illumination so that world renowned experts could discover more about the odd life forms that inhabit the galaxy. Designs could also be improved during the Aliens workshops at the convention.

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Illumination Checklist

There is quite a bit of stuff scattered around this and previous PRs where you need to contact us before the convention. Here we gather those items where we need your help to make the convention run smoothly. Please check through this list to make sure we know all we need to help you. You need to contact us for most of these items, so remember that the convention address is: **379 Myrtle Road, Sheffield, S2 3HQ**

- Have you booked a hotel room?
- Have you volunteered to help?
- •Have you told us of any medical problem?
- Have you told us if you need the creche?
- •Do you want to help with the PK Dick show?
- •Do you want to take part in the art show?
- •Have you items for the book auction?
- Have you items for the fanzine auction?
- •Do you want to enter the masquerade?
- Have you sent us Eastercon award nominations?

Membership Rates

Until 1-4-92 Attending £25 Supporting £15 Associate £7.50

After this date membership will be £30 on the door. Conversion from supporting to attending is always at the current difference between the rates. Child members (age 9-14 at the convention) pay half the attending rate, infants (under 9 at the convention) pay £1. Associate membership is for people who wish to stay in the hotel at convention rates, but do not wish to attend the convention.

Hotel Rates

£28 per person per night for the 3 nights of the convention. Details in PR 3, pages 3 & 13. Book Early!

Hotel booking information and a booking form are supplied with this PR. Please remember to book early, and that a deposit of £20, on a cheque made payable to Illumination, must be sent for each *adult* booking a room.

The Editor

Art Workshop

The reason why I was persuaded to do artwork for Illumination are lost in the mists of some Picocon. The publications suncommittee artfully massaged my ego, and with a cry of 'OK! I can adapt', I forgot my sensitive watercolours of flowers and landscapes and started on an endless series of PRs, badges, poters and letterheads. I enjoyed doing these so much that I now want to talk about them. This will not be a complacant discussion of my artwork, but a workshop session on the techniques I used and how to solve problems in composition, and arty things like that. However, I do need the cooporation of budding young artists to make it work; please bring along some of your own artworks and exlplain how they were done. Otherwise, I'll just have to inflict the arcane horrors of airbrushing techniques on you.

I'll be even happier if you want to by a drawing as well!

Colin Johnson

Advertising Rates

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£20 per table for all of convention £7 per table per day if required

Tables are approximately 2m long, and will be housed in a large area together with displays and the art show. Booking can be made on the enclosed General form. Becasue of the large size of our dealers room, space is still available. Please enclose payment with your booking, payable to Illumination.

Editorial

Well the space for these editorials gets smaller and smaller! I have to apologise that this issue is rather bitty and rushed. The bittiness is understandable, it rather goes with this stage of a con, but the rushedness is not. You know who you are! Getting articles in a month or more late will not do! Rhodri and, perhaps, Dave Cooper, are the only people not on my shit list at the moment, and its going to get longer when we come to the Programme Book.There'll be some additions to the firewroks at Illumination if I have anything to do with it (heh heh heh).

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