

PARAGON
ПАРАГОИ

The Programme Book

PARAGON

Hinckley 13th-16th April 2001
Hanover International Hotel



Guests of Honour

Stephen Baxter
Lisanne Norman

Michael Scott Rohan
Claire Brialey
Mark Plummer

Committee

Chair:

Alice Lawson

Finance:

David Cooper

Hotel &

Memberships:

Steve Lawson

Publications:

John Dowd

Programme:

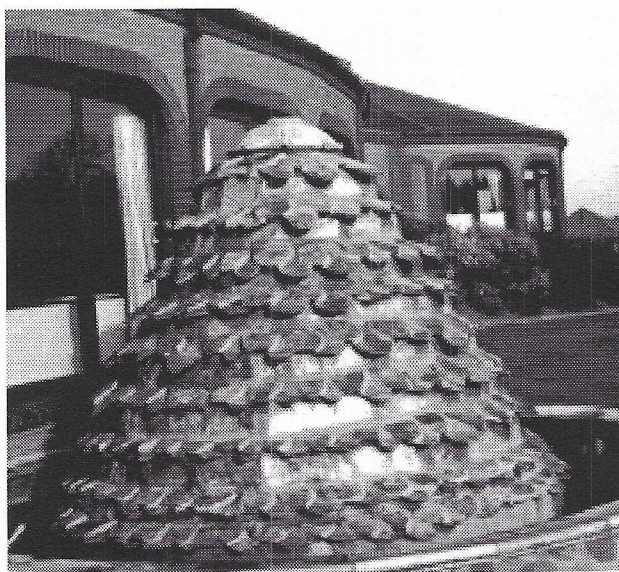
Sabine Furlong

Operations:

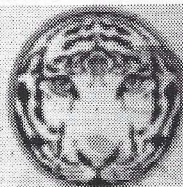
Nigel Furlong

Staff

Robbie Bourget	<i>art show</i>
Roger Robinson	<i>dealers' room</i>
Giulia de Cesare	<i>masquerade</i>
Mary Frost	<i>tech ops</i>
John Harold	<i>ops rovers</i>
Gary and Linda Stratmann	<i>gophers</i>
Fran Dowd	<i>website</i>
Dave Lally	<i>video programme</i>
Sue Edwards	<i>green room</i>



*" I did wonder about that pineapple
at breakfast. . . "*



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3 From the Chair

Alice welcomes everyone to the convention.

4 The Committee

Brief biographies of the committee written by themselves.

8 The Guests

We asked the guests to write something. We left it quite open. The pieces produced give various insights into pros, fans and the world out there.

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Well. . .

That's that then. Easter is here or gone depending on when you read this. Hope you have or are still enjoying the convention. I would like at this point to share some thoughts with you. When I started this I knew that it would be hard work. I was not wrong, but I still enjoyed the experience. The only downside actually turned out to be a positive thing. As some of you know I missed Novacon because my dad fell very ill when visiting us in Sheffield. As far as I was concerned that obviously took priority. It was a very scary time. From my side the convention went on hold apart from a few e-mails to committee. That was the downside. The upside was that the committee carried on and the convention plans went ahead. When my dad was discharged from hospital almost three months later, Paragon was about where it should have been, more or less. That was because I chose a very good team. They knew what they were doing and got on with it. They did not try to run or interfere in each other's areas.

Somewhere in the midst of all this I remembered why I started to help run conventions. It was because going to and helping at conventions is my hobby, and hobbies should be fun. **RUNNING A CONVENTION IS A HOBBY AND SHOULD BE FUN.** I was amazed at the number of people who think that a committee somehow gives up work and family life to run a convention. Yes I know it takes a lot of time, yes I know that it takes a lot

of energy. There are always going to be problems. There are always going to be people who complain. BUT RUNNING A CON.....

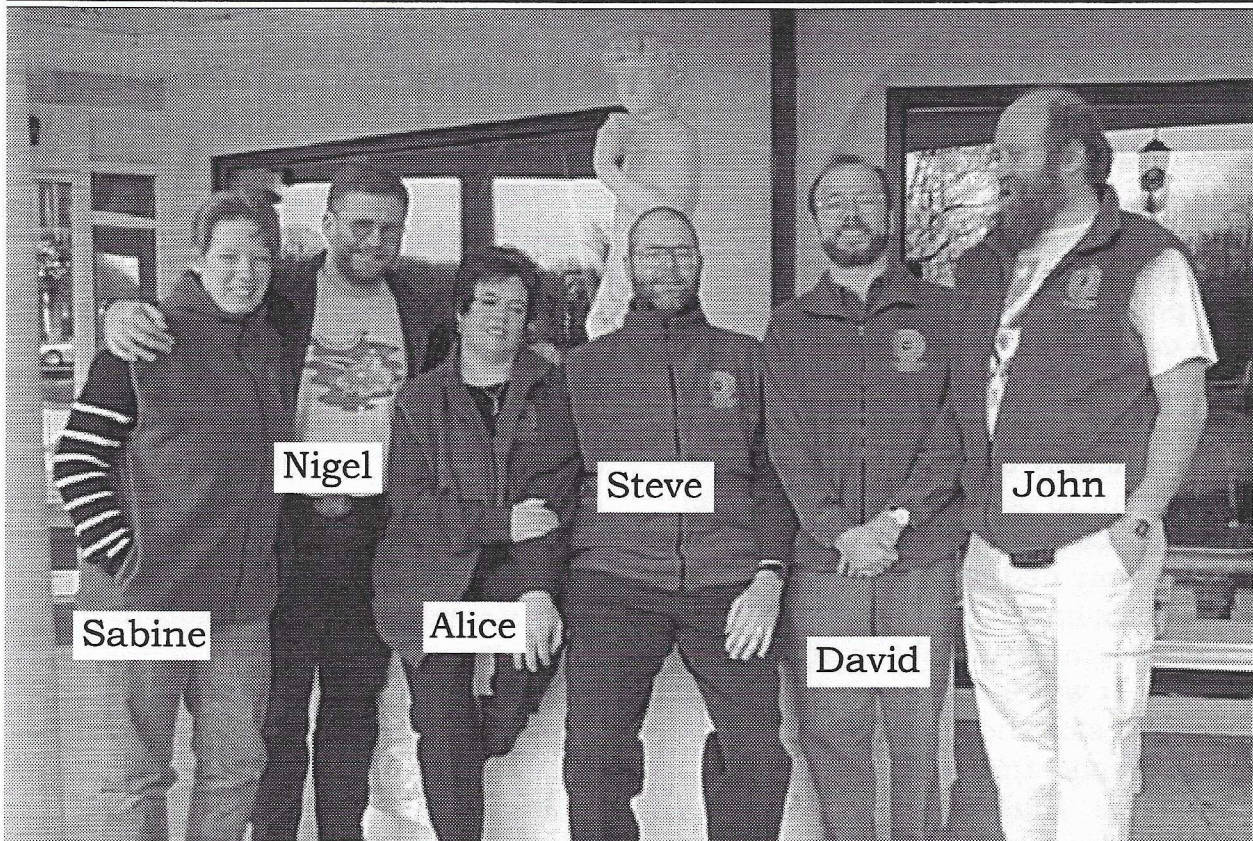
Enough whingeing I hear you say. OK.

What I intend to do at Paragon is to enjoy it and have a good time. To do this I intend to talk to lots of people, eat lots of food, drink a small amount of alcohol (don't laugh) and perhaps go to some of the wonderful programme items. I would advise you to do the same or at least some of the same. Try going to a type of programme item you have never attended before, although that is assuming that you have actually gone to any programme before. Some people don't you know. Strange that. However if staying in or around the bar is your convention, try talking to someone new. If you are fairly new to conventions and you want to get to know people, the best way I know is to volunteer. Conventions cannot run without gophers and you get to speak to lots of great folk.

OK I know that I may be a bit busy to do any of this, but I am going to try. Remember when I said that running a convention should be fun? There is something else to remember. **GOING TO CONVENTIONS SHOULD BE FUN.** We have done our bit. We have provided the venue and the programme. Your friends old and new will be there. The rest is up to you.

ALICE





Nigel Furlong
Operations

Hello, I'm Nige Furlong. My wife Sabine and myself live in Didcot, Oxfordshire. I became interested in Science Fiction from watching Doctor Who on TV and later reading Doctor Who books. From there I went on to main stream authors like Heinlein and Poul Anderson. I have been involved in conventions both within the UK and beyond since the world con in 1987. Working at both literary and media conventions both large and small in areas such as security, art show, book room and programming I am now trying my hand at con running.

David Cooper
Finance

David was a Sheffield fan who has been in fandom since 1987. He now lives in Oxenhope, up in the West Yorkshire Pennines with his family. He has been on many convention committees in the past ten years always in the post of treasurer. This is because, in the beginning, no one else wanted to do it and now he doesn't want to do anything else. He has been treasurer of two previous Eastercons, Illumination and Intuition and was At-Con Treasurer for Intersection. As well as this year's Eastercon, he will be taking money off you for this year's Novacon and the Worldcon bid for 2005.



Steve Lawson***Hotel & Memberships***

Hi my name is Steve Lawson; I've been going to conventions since 1977. I found that I liked to help and run the things so I've been doing that for some time now as well, I don't feel that I am very good at writing, so my main problem on a committee is writing bits and pieces for the Con publications, in this case a bio for the program book. So up until now I've managed to get other people to write them for me, but Alice, that's my wife and also the chair for this convention told me to write this myself so here goes.....

Hi my name is Steve Lawson; I've been going to conventions since 1977 and I really like them. See you in the bar.

Sorry but we need more than that Steve.

OK. I've been interested in science fiction, ever since I can remember, starting with Kemlo, Hugh Walters books etc. I soon ran out of science fiction books in the Junior Library in Carlisle where I was brought up. I was not allowed to join the Adult Library until I was 11, I think I was 8 or 9 at the time. Luckily the Adult Library had all its Science Fiction in one section so I was able to send the assistants through to procure me more reading matter, the Gollancz range in its distinctive yellow dust jackets were nice and easy for them to find. Eventually I was able to explore the shelves myself; of course by then I had read a good proportion of the available selection already. Soon

after that however I discovered the delights of Second Hand Bookshops, and I never looked back.

I still have all the books I have ever bought, I can't seem to get rid of any, even my Gor books, only the first five, or my Perry Rhodan, only the first twenty seven, all books I will probably never read again.

In my heyday people used to look askance at you if you admitted to reading Science Fiction books, later when that was more respectable I got into American Marvel and DC comics, again that was seen as slightly odd. Only a few years later comic reading became accepted.

However by then I had discovered Fandom.....

Sabine Furlong
Programme

Hi y'all. I am Sabine and I'm a fan. I started out as a Trekkie in Germany, mainly because the convention culture in German Trek Fandom is very laid back and fun. I started a more in depth study of SF literature after Intersection. So many books, so little space on the shelves! So Nige and I simply HAD to combine shelf space. If you come and visit, you can see the European video lake next to the European book overflow. I write SF and crime stories, cuddle my baby Karen, watch B5 or Blake 7, cuddle my hubby and still work in fandom.

Not bad, ey?



Alice Lawson Chair

I need a bio said John. Hmm lets see. What would you like to know? I am 42 and although I was born and bred in Glasgow I now live in Sheffield with Steve and our one remaining cat. I love reading but I hate writing. I love to try all sorts of different foods but I am not that fussed on sweet things including chocolate, with the exception of the occasional bit of dark stuff. Fake fan I hear you cry. It gets worse. I can take or leave mushrooms (except Fran's) and I prefer lager to ale. Oh dear oh dear.

I love movies and TV. I also love theatre, both going to and being a part of it. I was in a couple of theatre groups in Glasgow. I have been Magenta in a Rocky Horror revue. That was back in the far distant past when I was a lot younger and a fair bit slimmer. It was great fun and it was doing this that led me to fandom and then conventions. I have even done Shakespeare. I was cast as Hermia in A Midsummer Nights Dream, more because of my height than my acting talent I think. Ask Julian Headlong about that one. I think he has stopped laughing. The first convention I went to was Conspiracy in 1987 where I helped out at the masquerade. I have been helping at conventions ever since. It is the best way to get to meet people.

So there you have it, I got paid to wear suspenders in public and I am a fake fan, what more do you need to know?

John Dowd Publications

A voracious reader of anything with words my earliest SF memories are of the Kemlo series. At university I discovered people I was not related to also read SF and joined CUSFS. I was a relatively slow starter at conventions because they interfered with sailing, especially Eastercons. The spring trip to the Norfolk Broads was important. (Ask me about the Norfolk Toilet Fairy some time.)

I combined sailing and con going by being one of two people attending Conspiracy in Brighton on my own yacht (and the only monohull.)

Marrying Frances who became Sofa of Intuition resulted in Eastercon attendances. Seeking something to do, I ran the newsletter with one of the best teams of people ever. That somehow led to this job.



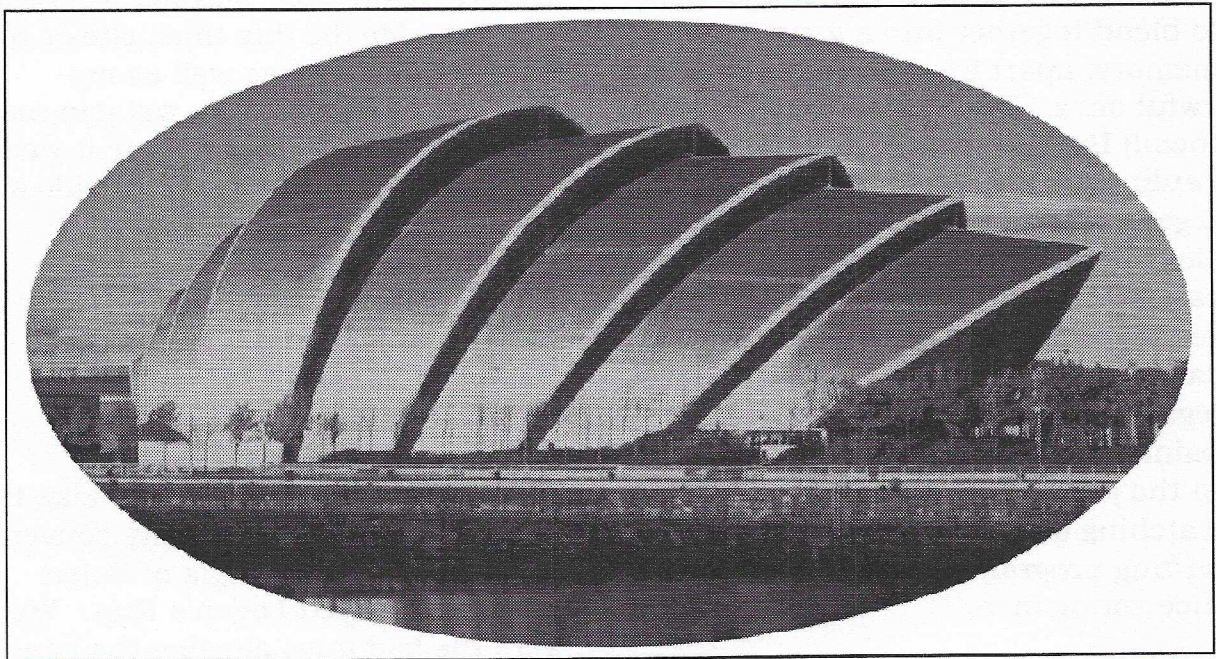
Alice Masquerading as Magrat



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Is it an armadillo?
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Just When You Thought It Was Safe To Go Back In The Water

Lisanne Norman

I got an e-mail from John today reminding me I owed him an article for the programme book. I went into immediate panic mode and mailed him back asking him for more information. He replied, "a piece talking about your experience in fandom. Anecdotes, stories etc." reminding me, "You may remember we spoke of this for some time in the bar at 2Kon and later amongst many other things in the jacuzzi after the con."

Strangely it was his mention of the jacuzzi that brought on the light bulb inside my head. After 23 years in fandom, conventions and hotels tend to blend together into a generic memory, apart from one or two truly awful ones. (No, I'm not mentioning them!) But jacuzzis I never forget! Pauline and I had gone down there together, her to swim a bit for exercise, me to chill out in the hot tub! I can swim, but my spinal problem has rendered the only stroke I know - I call it the frog stroke cos your back legs do frog impersonations - too painful for me to do. Instead I wallow in the jets of hot water and enjoy watching others exercise. Or discuss writing programme book articles with nice young men.

Nothing quite like sharing time in a jacuzzi together to put you on a comfortable footing, so to speak. I remember a con, perhaps my first one in Coventry in 1978, where the pool had a moving floor to cover it, and a suede bikini clad young lady with amazing long titian hair who was to

later become a close friend - Kate Solomon - was tricked into falling into the pool! There was the Hyatt Hotel in Anaheim, a suburb of LA, during a Worldcon in August 1984. That jacuzzi was on a rooftop garden complete with astro turf, between the five tall towers of the hotel. I remember that one because I was four months pregnant and couldn't use it. There was the one at Conference 9 in Los Angeles in January 1999. It was on the ground level and again on astro turf, with a small swimming pool nearby. That one I went into with either Marsha or her partner Ira - I think it was Ira. Marsha will be at Paragon. Maybe this time, she or her sister Sheila, who as well as my friend is also my Editor, will join me. That jacuzzi was fun because it was sculpted to look like a pool beside a small waterfall - and it was right outside my bedroom. The weather was warm enough even in January to go into the pool and jacuzzi.

But I'm rambling a bit, aren't I? Other reminiscences of fandom. Hmmm. There are so many. Like the time we went to a University convention and under the aegis of Helen McCarthy played Logan's Run. We were the bad guys chasing the runners and at the briefing we asked if we could use the car belonging to one of our little group of 3. It was black with a horizontal grey stripe, we pointed out, just like the tops we'd been told to bring to play our parts. She said yes, as long as we kept to the campus roadways. We did, and



posed as lost motorists, stopping Runners to ask directions then squirting them with the obligatory water pistol and taking their arm band to show as a Kill. We caught quite a few like that, but they should have been on their guard having all been at the briefing when we'd asked about using the car!

Then there was my second Eastercon, when I entered my first masquerade, if memory serves me. The red headed young lady in front of me suddenly turned round and asked me to help her with her guns as the nylon cord had become detached from the trigger of one. Not a problem I thought, recognizing her from the year before in the suede bikini. Then I found out that the guns were mounted inside her bikini top and she was portraying the female lead from the film *The Tenth Victim!* I suppose it's one way to meet people! We certainly struck up a great friendship and later successfully entered a lot of masquerade competitions together. Last time I tried to count them up it was 2 Worldcon wins, 1 Eurocon win, and at least 8 Eastercons plus several Novacons before they stopped having masquerades at them.

The person you can blame for introducing me to fandom was Ken Slater. I'd been buying books and corresponding with him for about a year, since the day fate, in the form of a Gollancz SF book with a flyer for *Fantast Medway* in it had alerted me to the existence of specialist SF bookshops. He persuaded me to go to the one in Coventry in 1978. I

didn't then know how many firm and wonderful friends I would meet who were already part of fandom.

I arrived there alone, knowing one person and then only by chatting on the phone or exchanging letters with him - Ken Slater, and he hadn't yet arrived.



In the hotel booking-in queue I met and made friends with Andrew Stephenson, who was an enormous help in the early years of learning the craft of writing. He took the time to read my attempts at fiction and critique them then send them back to me. We worked on one story for 19 reworks and it was still a non-starter. Then John Brunner brought out *The*



Sheep Look Up, which was coincidentally part of the idea I had been working on but done so much better. I gave up totally on that story when I read his. After dumping my suitcase in my room, I headed downstairs for the first time. I saw this nice looking man sitting alone on a sofa. Now having a totally brass neck and the cheek to go with it, I plucked up all my courage and sat next to him to strike up a conversation.

It went along the lines of,
 "Hello. I'm hoping to be a writer one day. Do you write at all?"

I got a long, cautious look.

"Yes," he said.

"Have you had anything published yet?" I asked.

"Yes," he said, drawing the word out.

"What?"

He then named several books, the last of which I had just finished reading, thankfully. It was at this point that Chris Priest realized I was for real and not playing some joke on him!

Pauline Morgan was Chairman at that con, though I didn't meet her till a couple or so years later. Kate Solomon I've mentioned, but not her husband Malcolm. Then there was Ann Page and Helen McCarthy, two lovely ladies sadly no longer seen at the Eastercons or Novacons that I go to.

There are many others I've met since those early days. Among them are Joyce Mains from my own area of Lanarkshire where I lived at the time, Chris O'Shea, Alice and Steve Lawson, Ina, Marsha Jones of course,

who then lived in Liverpool but who moved back to the US in 1988. And my second husband.

I became involved in the masquerades at conventions the following year after a conversation with Ken Bulmer in the lift. Life suddenly opened out for me. I got the intellectual stimulation I needed from conversations with fellow writers, and the fun and thrills of performing action sequences from books and films for the masquerades on Saturday nights at the conventions. Of all those folk though, the ones who pushed me into finishing my first novel were Marsha Jones and Ann Page.

It was 1987 and we were sitting in the lounge of the hotel round a table chatting. I think my son was playing beside me - he was 3 then - and I remember him picking up Ann's room keys which lay on the table and giving her a very adult, knowing look. We fell about laughing at him and quickly retrieved the keys. The conversation then turned to my unfinished novel which they had both read, and when was I going to finish it? Marsha said if I finished it before Christmas when she was going over to her sister's in New Jersey, she'd take it with her as her sister was a publisher. The rest, as they say, is history. Even though I had to wait 5 years for it to be bought by DAW, that phone call, only a few days before Christmas Day, was one of the best presents I have ever had.

/cont page 21



Do Con Guests Dream of Electric Vikings?**Mike Scott Rohan**

Do I remember my first convention?
Do I?

Why, I can see it clear as day, sonny, even now. There was that Bob E. Howard, flexing his triceps in front of some pretty neos in the main hall and rattling on about the evils of sex and violence, while Ike Asimov tried to talk some sense into the fan-room duplicator. There was H.G.Wells with his high squeaky voice, chatting up the masquerade winner, Naomi Mitchison; she'd come as the Robot from *Metropolis*, in rubber, instantly getting Fritz Leiber's vote. Now he was standing alongside Sprague de Camp, like two tall thin quizzical trees wreathed in tobacco smoke (at least with de Camp it was tobacco). On the panels Jules Verne and the Rosnys were arguing about who was the *real* father of French SF, and Olaf Stapledon was preaching socialism to C.S. Lewis, despite G.K.Chesterton's frantic attempts to moderate; while among the unpublished authors sitting rapt and worshipful in James Blish's writing classes were sensitive, thrusting young Rob Holdstock, willowy Andrew Stephenson and shy, naive Chris Morgan....

Well, no. Of course not. I mean, Rob Holdstock had already sold to *Analog* before I even started con-going. And I have to admit I'm not too clear on the details of my first con, because in those pre-real ale days someone was giving a really cheap deal on Newcastle Brown. I practically cleaned my teeth in it all weekend, with the cus-

tomary fearful results come Monday, amnesia mercifully included. But the con went something like that.

Or so it seemed - names everywhere, and everybody seemed to know each other, except me. At least nobody used that bloody awful jargon, although one old-time fan GoH gave an interminable speech full of apparently hilarious references which might as well have been Martian to me. Still, the commute between bookroom and bar was short, and somehow or other I began to enjoy myself. I thought I might try again. And so I have done, over the years. I may not have encountered Wells or Verne, but I have had some memorable sights and encounters, Jim Blish included. The vision of Leiber and De Camp was real; I was too shy to talk to either of them, though, and that was a damn shame. Occasionally I have been the sight myself. As half a duo of duelling Vikings in the masquerade I plunged my trusty broadsword up through the ceiling and into the hotel electrics. "Ah," quoth my scholarly partner as I smoked gently, "*He lifted high his sword and flames ran down the blade!*" We won a prize, possibly for conductivity, or for scaring off the next entrant before he could complete his strip-tease. Photos exist. Unfortunately.

Ah, they don't make them like that nowadays? Actually they do, although as a writer and guest my perspective has changed a little. The circus is the same, /cont page 21



In the Heart of the Country

Stephen Baxter

It's a great honour to be a guest of Britain's national convention, held here, in the year 2001, at the heart of England.

In August 2000 I was honoured to be a guest of Finnconn, Finland's national convention. The con was held in Helsinki. It's good to travel to conventions in unfamiliar places – and Finnconn was a lot of fun, not least because of the Nokia phones handed out to all guests - but it's also good, I think, to get out of the warm comforting fug of the con itself, and see something of the history of a country quite different from Britain's.

So my wife and I took some time out. We rented a cabin by a lake that stretched to the horizon, we made much use of our own boat and sauna, and we travelled around.

And eventually we made our way to the heart of a different country - which I would identify as a place called Savonlinna, a relaxed tourist town a couple of hundred miles north-east of Helsinki. Here we visited a castle called Olavinlinna, which means "Olaf's Castle". This immense pile, with walls five feet thick, was founded in 1475 to guard the border between Sweden and Russia: for most of its history Finland has been border country, suspended between rival empires.

We were shown around by a student, a young man with Brains glasses, a stinking cold, and disturbingly good

English. And as he explained the castle's history, with remarkable candour our guide gave us an insight into the character of the country.

"This is not a castle like your great English manors. It is not full of great paintings and other works of art. The Swedes built it up to fortify the border against the Russians. And when the Russians came the Swedes took away all their equipment, every artillery piece, every tapestry, every stick of furniture. And then the Russians turned Olavinlinna the other way and built up the castle against the Swedes. And when the Swedes came back the Russians took away everything they could, and the Swedes built the castle up again ... Our history is not like yours. Ours is a colonial history. This was a border post. Decisions were made far from here ..."

Finland has been independent since 1917. But still it has been caught between empires: between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia, between Cold War east and west, and now between the prosperity of the European Union and the disturbing decay of their giant neighbour, Russia. Perhaps, as empires come and go, it will always be so.

Generalising wildly, the Finns seemed to me remarkably calm and sane. They have accepted their past, and their future. As have their neighbours, in fact: Sweden stopped being a great power /cont page 21



'THE MOST AWESOME IDEAS IN SCIENCE FICTION TODAY'
The Times

**TIME
SPACE
ORIGIN**
(Published August 2001)

THREE BOOKS
MANIFOLD UNIVERSES
ONE ESSENTIAL AUTHOR

**STEPHEN
BAXTER**

It's Difficult To Be Nostalgic When You Can't Remember Anything

Claire Brialey

Last night I dreamed of Shepperton again.

I went to my first convention at Easter in 1987, and you might think this means that I went to Becon if you'd forgotten that this was back in the Eighties, the era of market forces, consumer choice, and really good shoes, when people ran other general sf conventions at Easter and there were contested Eastercon bids as well. We were younger then. In fact I was 16.

And now I'm 30 and back at the Shepperton Moat House again. Lots of the same people are there, or at least people who look rather like them. It looks strangely smaller, although that might be because nearly all of us look strangely larger. The carpet is patterned so virulently that I am surprised my imagination can concoct such bright colours, even in a nightmare in which I sit around in the convention bar from my sixth form and student years and take part in a conversation about pension plans and mortgages. But you know what? This isn't all a dream.

Aliens Stole My Handbag was the responsibility of James Bacon and Stefan Lancaster, whose purchase of army surplus body bags the year before may have given the unwary an impression about their idea of where to draw the line in having fun which would be alarmingly close to reality. When people ask you what actually

goes on at these sci-fi conferences, the right answer inevitably depends on your audience. Some people will understand the attraction completely if you concentrate on parties, silly games, mad conversations and a lot of hanging out in the bar. For others it seems more prudent to focus on the idea of authors, panels, the book room, meeting up with old friends and just an occasional drink. Thus Aliens, to my colleagues, was a science fiction convention featuring famous authors John Whitbourn and Dave Langford as well as principal guest of honour Robert Rankin. However, some people might react better to an equally accurate description involving body piercing, tattoos, whips, baked beans, military vehicles and men in tights-and most of them were already at Aliens Stole My Handbag.

There was in fact a certain dreamlike quality to it all which fortunately we never quite drank enough to ascribe to the spectres of our younger selves laughing hysterically at the ludicrous prospect of a future that could encompass Worldcons and the BSFA and the Arthur C Clarke Award, in which we would give our fanzines to more than twenty people and were going to be-no, stop it; now you're just getting silly-guests at an Eastercon.

Back in the science fictional future of the year 2000, we could have drunk enough to predict the similar transition of Tobes being guest of honour



at the British Worldcon in 2013 if we'd attended John Waggott's cocktail workshop. The results were pretty much as expected; those inexperienced in the way of Wag's drink-mixing propensities could be spotted for the rest of the evening by the way they looked variously as green or as grey as any alien and then decided to go to have a little lie-down. Those most experienced in the way of Wag's cocktails didn't go to the workshop at all. And so we found ourselves sitting in the comfy chairs in the lobby, talking about old times and absent friends and science fiction and keeping firmly off the subject of mortgages, when Jerry Thomas was led past by a socially responsible Chris Tregenza *en route* to the bar. We glanced up at them.

'Everybody's looking at me!' wailed Jerry. 'This is so embarrassing!' We hadn't been paying particular attention until then, but it proved to be a self-fulfilling prophecy. Suddenly the bar and consequently Chris seemed less than entirely responsible after all, but in the event Jerry was made to drink a couple of pints of water and then sent off for an early bath (something which was quite literally true of everyone who elected to go anywhere near the paddling pool full of baked beans which had been a feature of some doubtless sercon programme item earlier in the day. Mark later encountered Noel Collyer in the gents' toilets trying to dispose of the evidence of several opened but unwanted catering tins of baked beans). About forty minutes later, Jerry reappeared, having decided whilst

unattended that it would be a good idea to go to the fetish party. He'd remembered to put on his costume and everything. He was dressed as a schoolgirl. Inevitably, several people were dressed as schoolgirls and all of them were male. Jerry continued to be sensible and to drink lots of water, but he had quite a long way to go before he could be considered to be even approaching sober. Perhaps because of all the water, Jerry made a number of trips to the gents'. This involved leaving the fetish party, walking past us in the lobby, and negotiating a long corridor in which there were more comfy chairs. On these comfy chairs were sitting some of this weekend's representatives of normal members of the public who always seem to want to come to hotels we're trying to have conventions in. Jerry was apparently acutely conscious that he was drunk, and had realised that most other people were aware of it too-although in a number of cases this was because he'd told them. He was also acutely conscious that he was dressed as a schoolgirl. This was all quite surprising because an hour or so earlier no one would have thought that the phrase 'acutely conscious' could be applied to Jerry in any way other than as being the point at the opposite end of the spectrum; clearly we should never underestimate the healing power of Thames Water-the local water company, that is, since the experience of Anne Stokes's dog suggested that a quick plunge into the raw untreated product in the marina was unlikely to be quite so restorative.



OK, quickly then: on Sunday afternoon the ladies' loo was noticeably damp, with what seemed to be muddy water spread liberally around. Shortly afterwards, we encountered Anne and her dog Obi. Obi was betraying some signs of being wet and smelly although, Anne assured everyone, considerably less wet and smelly than he had been shortly after he decided to go swimming in the marina. Anne was due to leave shortly and had checked out of her room. She had felt that it might be something of a strain on friendship to ask to use anyone else's room in order to bathe her dog, particularly since some hotel bathrooms still bore the scars and possibly the blockages of their close encounters with the baked beans the day before. Thus she decided to try to wash Obi in the ladies' toilets.

The ladies' toilets at the Shepperton Moat House Hotel are pretty good by the standards of these things. There are lots of cubicles. There are several sinks, with interactive space age taps. There is a choice of both hot air and paper towel hand dryers. There's quite a lot of space. However, there isn't really anywhere designed for bathing a large spaniel, a design flaw still regrettably common to many ladies' lavatorial facilities. The space age taps were also more trouble than they were worth in these particular circumstances. They were obviously designed to save water, both by operating only when they sensed something underneath them which might need washing and also by gradually increasing the temperature of the water, perhaps so that you wouldn't

carry on washing your hands for too long. Or maybe so that you wouldn't attempt to bathe dogs in there, or anything daft like that.

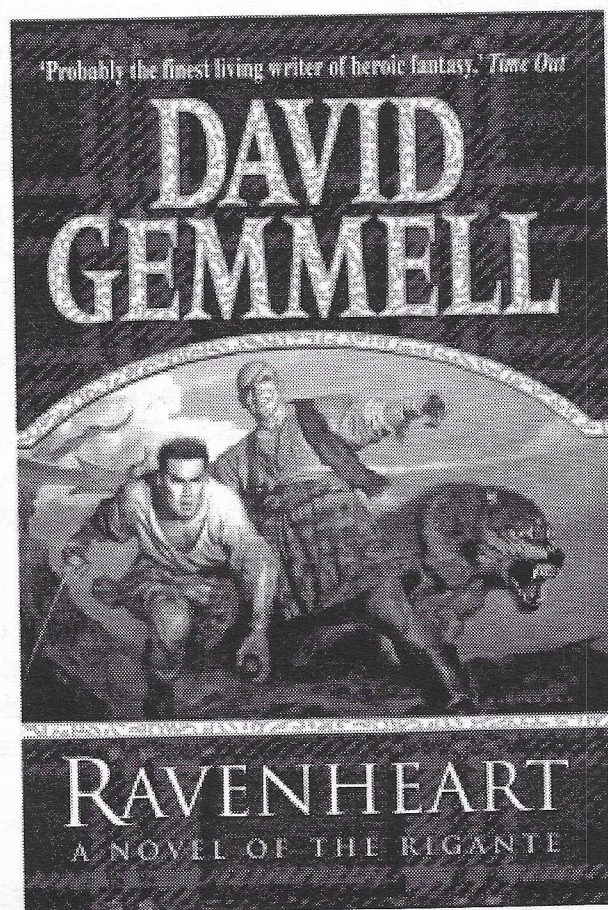
Anne had therefore lifted Obi into the first sink and wedged enough of him under the tap to make it work, and started washing him. Then the water got too hot, so she carried him over to the next sink and carried on. There were four sinks, two on each side. By rotating Obi around the sinks the water was mostly cool enough to get rid of most of the marina. Obi is, remember, a large spaniel. A large, wet, smelly spaniel, who had decided in the way dogs do that dirty water he wanted to jump into was good and thus clean water which he was being lifted into must be bad, particularly when it kept getting too hot. And at some point Obi presumably decided to shake himself. It all makes perfect sense when you know the full story. Meanwhile, back in the gents' the night before, Jerry evidently realised that the old ladies sitting in the corridor must be a bit shocked by the frequent sight of a drunken man dressed as a school-girl, and stopped on his way back to apologise. This wasn't, strictly speaking, entirely necessary since he had already stopped on his way to the toilet to apologise. And in both directions on all three previous occasions he'd been. Eventually they moved somewhere else, which is just as well as otherwise they would also have had the chance to see what Dave Langford accurately described as the 'unaesthetic spectacle' of Robert Newman in stockings. During his days at Oxford, Dave /cont page 21



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Mark Plummer

'I want to give you some crunchy feedback,' said my colleague Liz.

No, it's not a euphemism-or at least I don't think it is. To be honest, I've never been precisely sure what it means, but the usual context for this particular piece of office jargon suggests that it's a warning to the listener that the speaker is about to be frank, perhaps brutally so, but it's nothing personal and if we all act like mature adults we will emerge from the process as Better People.

Just what you want when you're down the pub with your colleagues on a Friday night.

It was a work leaving do, something that seems to be back in fashion at the moment, and I was sitting on the edge of a table in some anonymous chain pub on the south side of London's Blackfriars Bridge. Liz was also sitting on the table, perched... well, like a rather drunk woman on a none-too-stable table actually, leading me to suspect that any crunching that went on was likely to be the sound of splintering wood as two people crashed to the floor amidst a tangle of table legs.

But Liz was determined to be conversationally crunchy-in the nicest possible way.

Her basic point was that people in the office find me a bit stand-offish. 'You mean I'm not like the other guys?' I offered hopefully.

Apparently not, and it's not just that I'm the only middle manager who doesn't wear a tie, that I'm not in the slightest bit interested in football, and that I have been known to sit in the staff restaurant with a copy of a Neil R Jones paperback, which last behaviour is the sort of thing that marks you out from even the fannish herd.

I had my defence all ready, at least about the Neil R Jones book, and was prepared to argue that it was just research to enable me to engage in vigorous debate with one G Pickersgill about the enduring merits of the 'Zorome' stories, but Liz seemed to think this was less to do with my reading habits and more about the desocialising effect of the computer. And thus we dutifully worked our way through the issues around the fact that yes, I am the local on-site IT man; and no, I don't have my own computer at home and thus do not spend my entire life in front of a computer screen (this really didn't seem the sort of environment into which to introduce fanzines, something that means I do spend altogether too much of my life in front of a computer screen); and that yes, I do get out quite a bit actually.

But Liz crunched on, changing tack in the manner of somebody who has an awful lot of tack to get through and not much time in which to do it.

'So what do you believe?'



Yeah, a little light philosophical banter for an after-hours social encounter with your work colleagues. I refrained from expressing my primary belief at that moment-that Liz should have stopped after the first bottle of Chardonnay-and suggested she be more specific.

'OK, what do you believe *in*?'

Yes, one little word-two little letters-that adds whole layers of clarity to the original question. In fact, a similar effect could have been achieved by embedding the question in a small ball of tar, wrapping it in three black plastic bin liners and burying it at the bottom of the box full of BRE *Astoundings* that have been hiding behind the slow cooker in my conservatory since 1997. Suffice to say that only one of us thought this elucidation had taken things in a useful direction. I pressed Liz.

'?' I said. This is one of my leading conversational gambits, right up there along with 'Er', 'Um' and 'Ask Claire'.

'Well, do you believe in God?'

At least, this was something focused, something I could try to address.

'Er' -notice the use of conversational gambit number two here-'no.'

'So you're an atheist then?'

Here I wanted to elaborate about how atheism in itself requires a belief, which on one level inclines me more to agnosticism. However, I'm mindful of a conversation with the venerable

Peter Weston some ten years back in which he'd denounced my agnosticism as being completely wishy-washy, and enjoined me to have the courage of my convictions and declare myself to be a no-holds-barred atheist. And it is true pretty much that I only accept the possibility of the existence of a god in as much as I accept the possibility of just about everything really. I mean look at Greg Pickersgill. We all think he comes from South Wales but he *could* be... oh I don't know, from Jupiter or somewhere. It might not be even remotely likely or anything, but it could happen. It could. Think about it: stocky build, high gravity planet... hell, some days it seems more likely than the existence of a supreme being.

I was sort of getting ready for all this but as it so happens I didn't progress much beyond an initial 'Um' before Liz worked in another slick segue and decided to talk about science fiction, which is of course an entirely natural progression from god. 'But you're into that science fiction stuff, aren't you?' she said.

Caught out. Liz had obviously seen me in the restaurant with a tatty Ace paperback about Professor Jameson's intergalactic adventures with a gang of tentacled biscuit tins. 'Yeah, I read the odd book, now and again...' I advanced cautiously. You never know where this kind of thing will lead. Another one of my colleagues now considers me to be a dangerous intellectual after she discovered that I read something called *The Metaphysical Review*.



'So do you believe in it?'

'What, science fiction?'

'Yeah, do you *believe* in it?'

'Of course I don't. Well, yes, I mean I believe that it-science fiction-exists. Walk into any bookshop-even in Forbidden Planet, if you can get past the dump-bins full of plastic daleks-and they'll probably have at least half-a-dozen shelves full of the stuff. Of course, most of it's *fantasy* these days, but science fiction's definitely out there. And the authors are real people too. I've even met some of them. That Steve Baxter gets everywhere-although, come to think of it, I only ever see him when I've been drinking so maybe he's not real. But, you know, sf... it's not a bloody belief system. It's entertainment, art, whatever.'

Liz wobbled a bit, in an artful sort of way.

'So,' she said thoughtfully, '... books?'

Yes, I agreed. Novels. Stories. Fiction. (The clue's in the name I always find).

'So which authors do you like?'

'Er...' To this day I don't know why this question always wrong-foots me; it should be so easy but I'm never quite sure what to say. Still, at least we seemed to be getting away from belief and thus were heading in generally the right direction, so having deduced, correctly I feel, that this was not the time to introduce Neil R Jones into the discussion-and if

truth be told I am firmly of the opinion that 'The Planet of the Double Sun' (*Amazing*, February 1932) has not survived its journey up the timestream-I thought I'd fall back on the old plan: if in doubt, chuck 'em a familiar name. I hurled in Iain Banks.

'Iain Banks? Not Iain *M* Banks?'

No, Iain Banks. As it so happens, I've never really got on with the 'M' books which I've always found to be a little impenetrable. But I do quite like talking about books in general, and so we splashed around the pool of literature awhile, Liz and I. She likes nineteenth century French writers: Balzac, Zola, Stendahl. I thought it best not to mention that I'd never actually read anything by any of them, and also that I'd always assumed-in as much as I ever thought about it-that Stendahl was German. I didn't mention either that I knew a song about Emile Zola; I wouldn't want to reinforce those stereotypes about science fiction fans.

But after a bit of fishing we eventually arriving at a common 'books read' list: Iain (not 'M') Banks and *Bridget Jones's Diary*. It could have been worse.

And we never really got to the bottom of what Liz *really* meant when she asked me if I believed in science fiction. Just as well really. If pressed on the point I'd probably have said 'Er' and 'Um' a bit and then suggested that she ask Claire.



Lisanne Norman

While waiting for the book to be published, I decided to change my direction in fandom and got involved with Helen McCarthy in putting together a bid for the 1990 Easter Convention which we won. The immediate reaction was "Hurrah!" quickly followed by "Oh Sh*t! We gotta DO it now!" Though I enjoyed doing that convention, I decided not to do it again because it involved too much of a commitment that I couldn't give at that time in my life. I was still writing, in fact was well into the third book by then, so I decided to concentrate on that. Fandom has given me so much, not just in friendships and memories - in or out of jacuzzi - that I treasure, but also the ability to share my writing within its membership. I know it will give me even more good memories and new friendships in the years to come.

And you know where to find me - in the wonderful tropical jacuzzi! Don't forget to bring a pot of coffee with you though!

Stephen Baxter

sometime in the eighteenth century, and must have gone through their own version of post-imperial angst, but unlike young Brits visiting France or Belgium we didn't hear any visiting Swedes chanting "If it wasn't for the Swedes you'd be Russian ..."

Maybe there is a lesson here for us. In a couple of centuries we might come to terms with our own history, and, like the Finns, find ourselves paradoxically both proud and humble about our place in the world.

Mike Scott Rohan

but the guest is - well, maybe not a literary lion, but at least a performing seal. It's his - or her - duty and privilege to be Someone, to trumpet his opinions on panels (I have censored my opinion on panels), to amuse the groundlings by spilling beer down Terry Pratchett's flies (please, Miss, it was that David Gemmell's fault), and generally let his ego out to graze, where it will inevitably contract foot-in-mouth.

Please don't be put off - and please do talk to us. After all, where else has anybody heard of us?

Claire Brialey

informed us not entirely *sotto voce*, spectacles such as Robert would be dunked in the river for their pains. Hours ahead of Obi, we contemplated the marina.

Then the real schoolgirls arrived-the other allegedly normal people with whom we were sharing the hotel and a group who demonstrated, as Jim de Liscard has been telling us for years ever since he gained uncharacteristically respectable employment, that schoolgirls are abhorrent. They peered through the doors into the main hall to see whether the disco was worth crashing. Then they drew back, looking startled: "Oh my god, it's full of men in tights."

Not even in your dreams...

Names have been retained to acknowledge the guilty.



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Stephen Baxter**Series***Xeelee*

Stephen Baxter's first published story, *The Xeelee Flower*, appeared in 1987 in *Interzone 19*. Since then the Xeelee Sequence has continued with:

- Raft (1991)
- Timelike Infinity (1992)
- Flux (1993)
- Ring (1994)
- Vacuum Diagrams (1997) - a collection of short stories

the latest addition is still awaiting publication:

Xeelee (original date 1999)

Alternate World

There are currently three books set in Stephen Baxter's Alternate Worlds:

- Anti-Ice (1993)
- The Time Ships (1995)
- Voyage (1996)

Saddle Point Sequence

Began with the three stories *Gaijin*, *Saddle Point* and *Fusion Summer*, published in SF Age, July 1996. Others have followed, including the three stories *Kintu's Children*, *Wanpamba's Tomb* and *Kimera's Breath* published in 1997 under the collective title *The Engine of Kimera*, and *Roughneck* published in 1998. A book titled *Saddlepoint* is due to be published in 2002.

The Web

The series is edited by Simon Spanton. Other authors in the series include Graham Joyce, Peter Hamil-

ton, Stephen Bowkett, Eric Brown and Maggie Furey. Stephen Baxter has contributed two books featuring heroine Metaphor:

- Gulliverzone (1997)
- Webcrash (1998)

Gulliverzone appeared in the omnibus *The Web: 2027* (1999), *Webcrash* in the omnibus *The Web: 2028* (1999)

Mammoth Trilogy

- Book 1 - Silverhair (1998)
- Book 2 - Longtusk (2000)
- Book 3 - Icebones (April 2001)

The Manifold Sequence

- Time (2000)
- Space (2000)
- Origin (planned for publication in August 2001)

Novels

- Titan (1997)
- Moonseed (1998)
- The Light of Other Days (2000) with Sir Arthur C Clarke

Non-fiction

- Deep Future (2001)

Short Fiction

- A collection of short fiction: *Traces* (1998)

and numerous other appearances from 1987 to the present.

A full bibliography is maintained by Simon Bradshaw at The Bacterium:
<http://www.cix.co.uk/~sjbradshaw/bacterium/bacterium.html>



Michael Scott Rohan**Series***The Winter of the World*

There are currently five books set in Mike Scott Rohan's winter universe:

The Anvil of Ice (1986)

The Forge in The Forest (1987)

The Hammer of the Sun (1988)

a stand alone novel:

The Castle of the Winds (1998)

followed by its sequel:

The Singer and the Sea (1999)

*The Chronicles of Stephen Fisher /
The Spiral Series*

Chase the Morning (1990)

The Gates of Noon (1992)

Cloud Castles (1993)

Maxie's Demon (1997)

Novels

Run to the Stars (1983)

The Lord of Middle Air (1994)

The Ice King (1983) with Allan Scott

A Spell of Empire: The Horns of Tartarus (1992) with Allan Scott

Non-fiction

Includes:

The Hammer and the Cross
(Christianity and the Vikings,
co-authored with Allan Scott)

Painting on China (co-authored
with Agnes Pinhas-Massin)

Contributions to a wide range of
publications on classical music

Short fiction

Aries 1 (ed John Grant - 1979)
contains *The Insect Tapes*

Forthcoming

Shadow of the Seer (August
2001)

Lisanne Norman**Series***Sholan Alliance*

Turning Point (1993)

Fortune's Wheel (1995)

Fire Margins (1996)

Razor's Edge (1997)

Dark Nadir (1999)

Stronghold Rising (2000)

Between Darkness and Light (in
progress)

Short Fiction

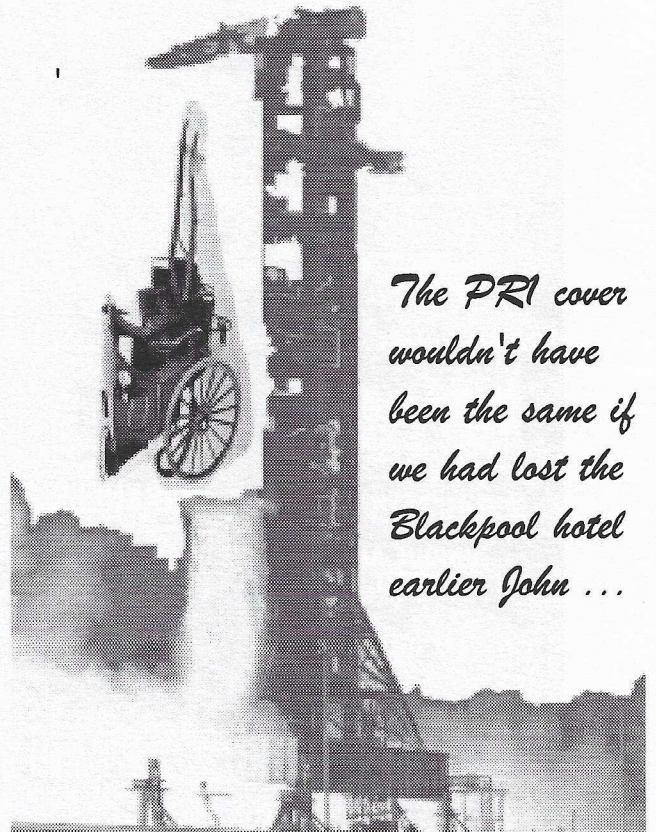
Battle Magic (ed Martin

Greenberg and Larry Seagrif -
1998) contains *The Jewel and
the Demon*

Merlin (ed Martin Greenberg -
1999) contains *The Wild Hunt*

Spell Fantastic (ed Martin

Greenberg and Larry Seagrif -
2000) contains *To Catch a Thief*

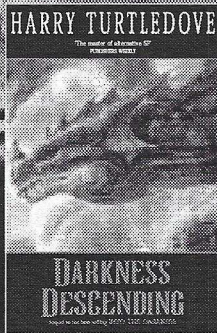


*The PRA cover
wouldn't have
been the same if
we had lost the
Blackpool hotel
earlier John ...*

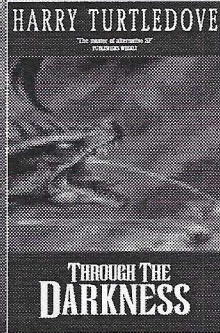


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The Main Programme and the Fan Programme have been assembled with a view to giving the con member a wide choice. Sabine declares that it is complete but as the programme book must go to press some weeks before the convention some changes may occur. The ReadMe, the Newsletter and notices at the convention will provide up to date information.

The main programme will happen in the **Paris** (the main con room), the **Westminster** (the second con room), and several minor conference rooms. The fan programme will happen in the **Lakeside**.

The fan programme is listed on pages 38 to 41.

Friday

Paris

13:30 What is harder to predict: Social or Technological Change?

I am sure that many authors have pondered this question when inventing new societies, new worlds and new technologies. We have the basis on which to build, but where will it go? If you want to create a realistic future, what do you find easier to predict? Have there been authors who were right on the dot or are they all wrong?

Chaired by Mike Scott Rohan
With: Mike Cobley, John Harold, Lianne Norman, John E. Stith.

15:00 Author Dialogue

This is a one to one of the special kind. Two authors or publishers talk about anything they like. You'll get an in depth view of what they are really like and what really interests them.

With: John Jarrold and an author to be announced.

16:00 Opening Ceremony

Come and meet the committee to declare this convention open.

17:30 Out of the Bookpool

Some of you were brave enough to sign up for this one. Each of them will introduce a script, story or novel and place them in a, well, bucket. Then you can discuss, say your thing, rip them apart and kick them out of the bucket one by one. The last one still in is the winner!

With: Peter Redfarn, Roy Gray, Mike Goble, Peter T Garrett, Anthony Hilbert.

19:00 SF/Fantasy Author's Websites

Don't worry. This is not a computer freak panel. We are just after content, not software. However, let's get down to it. What are good sites? What are bad sites? What should a good Web Page do? What should be on it? Should the artists/authors set them up themselves or commission the job? Should a fan do it or a publisher? Maybe the odd author can take home a lesson or two.

Chaired by Simon Bradshaw
With: Mike Scott Rohan, Dave Hardy, Tanya Brown, Alex McLintock.

20:00 1st Eastercon - We have come a long way!

A little bit of local fannish history: The 1st Eastercon was held in Kettering, just a few miles from Hinckley. The panel wants to take you back down memory lane and see where Eastercons were coming from. What were the goals and hopes? What did they imagine Eastercon 2001 to be? Did we fulfil their dreams or go awry somewhere? A look into the future might round the picture.

Chaired by Alice Lawson
With: Ken Slater, Vincent Docherty, Ina Shorrocks.



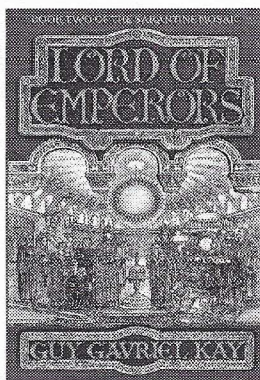
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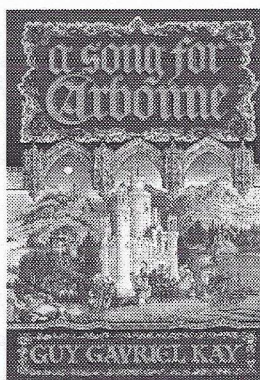
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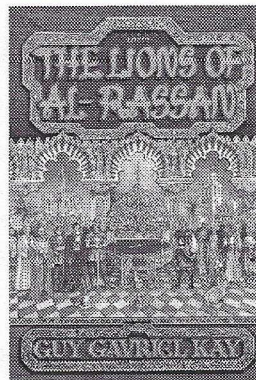
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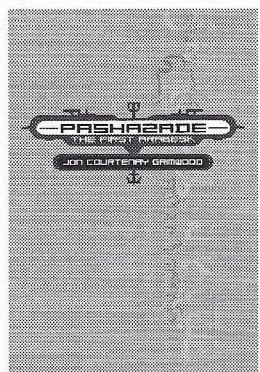
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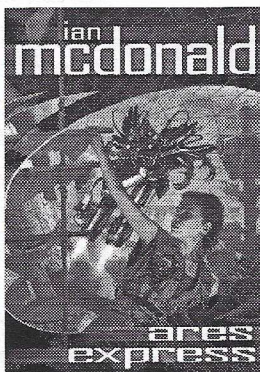
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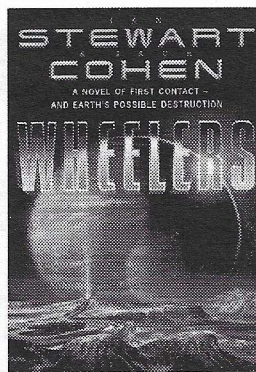
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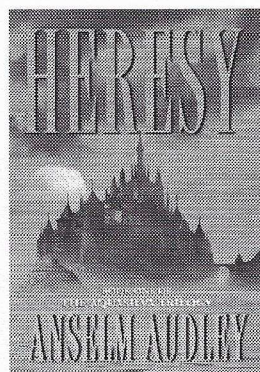
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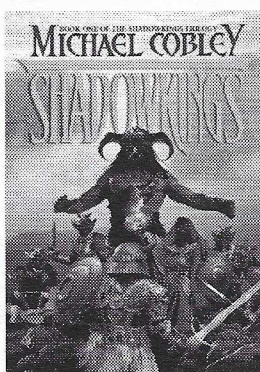
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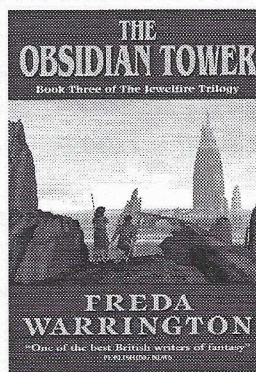
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It is 2001, after all !

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21:00 Cobra Whips

Paragon presents: Alex - The Whipman. Some of you who may have seen him at *Aliens Stole My Handbag*. I hope you will all enjoy a little SM. It's kinky, it's funny, it's a new experience. If you like whips or even if you don't, come and see this extraordinary show. Sorry, kids! Adults only!

With: Alex - The Whipman.

23:00 Rocky Horror Picture Show

Pack your waitress costume and newspaper and do the Rocky Horror with us. ...and just a step to the right...

Westminster**13:30 Users Guide to Eastercon**

If you have never been to an Eastercon or any con before, come and get an introduction. Wombat will fill you in on all the things you need to know to survive this experience. Trust the man, he's been there before.

With: Wombat.

15:00 If he dies we get our own show

A look at the sidekick. What makes a sidekick tick? Why is he or she needed? What would Duncan be without Methos? Why does Xena need the annoying blonde? What would happen if the hero lost and the sidekick took over?

Chaired by Linda Stratmann

With: Gary Stratmann, Gabriela Bennemann, Jane Killick.

17:30 We do things differently

... because we are European, British, American or Australian. The panel wants to discuss the differences and similarities in Fandom and con running. What can we learn from each other and what could only work in each other's cultures?

Chaired by Wombat

With: KIM Campbell, Vince Docherty.

18:30 "All Cats are Grey"

Simon Ings is going to give us a humorous speech relating to his new book.

With: Simon Ings.

20:00 Author reading: Molly Brown

An author, a book, a round of chairs - Enjoy a piece of literature read by the person who wrote it. Who knows what new insights you can gain.

With: Molly Brown.

21:30 Desert Island Discs - Stephen

Always wondered about the secret passions of our guests of honour? Come to hear them lay their souls bare. Find out what Stephen could not live without if he ever got stranded on a desert island planet.

Chaired by Chris O'Shea

With: Stephen Baxter.

Conference 11**17:30 Gone but not forgotten**

Does writing about TV shows or movies long gone still make sense? Why interview the same old actors again and again? Can there be news about Blake's 7? Can we find one more facet in Star Wars? What is the continuous appeal of articles about these past gems? Is it just nostalgia, or the basis for a cult?

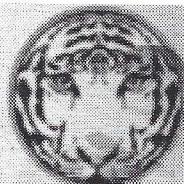
Chaired by Judith Proctor

With: Steve Rogerson.

19:00 Time Times 4

The BSFA wants to challenge your sense of time with 4 different items about, well, time. Come and be taken away to another time and place. You could go to the future or the past. Surprise yourself.

With: Andrew Butler, Claire Briailey, Mark Plummer.



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**21:00 The future sucks -
SF Vampires**

Let's discuss our blood sucking citizens. We know Buffy, we know Angel, we know Anne Rice. Is this the definitive way vamps and their hunters are going to be these days? Is this a new genre, a mixture of fantasy and horror? What other vamps are there? What can SF do for Vampires of today? Or we could just discuss how cute Angel and Buffy really are.

Chaired by Ben Yalow

With: Colin Odell, Gary Stratmann, Linda Stratmann, Mitch Leblanc, Peter T Garratt, Tanya Brown.

22:00 Rocks have Rights

We all heard the plan. A rock comes along hurtling through space. Perhaps it has been there for millions of years and then we puny humans come and mine the heart out of it. Are we really allowed to do it? Can we claim Mars as our own? There are some serious issues here that need to be discussed!

Chaired by John Bray

With: Gwyneth Jones, Dave Clements, Judith Proctor.

Saturday**Outside****22:00 Fireworks**

Multiple explosions to the accompaniment of car alarms. Sponsored by Reconvene.

Paris**10:00 Masquerade Rehearsal**

If you wish to enter the masquerade you need to go there to discuss your entry, whether you want music or special lights. This is your opportunity to rehearse on stage for the coming evening performance.

12:00 GoH - Mike Scott Rohan

The first of our guests interviewed by Steve Davies. There will be an opportunity for questions.

With: Mike Scott Rohan, Steve Davies.

13:30 Martial Arts in SF

Why don't Minbari break their fingers? What are the Dendarii on about? Gary and Linda Stratmann will give you a valuable insight into martial arts used in SF. Lots of action and multi media! Prepare to be dazzled. Trust me, these people know what they are talking about!

With: Gary Stratmann, Linda Stratmann.

15:00 GoH - Lisanne Norman

Lisanne is well worth listening to whether in the main programme room or a jacuzzi. Chris Morgan interviews.

With: Lisanne Norman, Chris Morgan.

**16:00 Who wants to be a Six
Million Dollar Man**

So far you have won a bionic leg, x-ray vision and a set of brain implants .. but we don't wanna give you thaaat! You know the show, you know the phrases. Now think how much more fun it would be if you could actually get bionic implants instead of mere money. Oh, yes, the questions for this one are SF, of course.

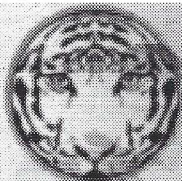
Chaired by Stephen Baxter / Sue Mason

17:30 The Brits Awards

An introduction and discussion of this year's Arthur C Clarke and BSFA Awards. If you want to make an informed decision, this is a must for you.

Chaired by Andy Sawyer

With: Edward James, Tony Cullen, Tanya Brown, Farah Mendelsohn, Jon Courtney Grimwood.



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20:00 Masquerade

Get your costume out and put your show together. The annual Eastercon Masquerade promises to amaze you once more.

With: Sue Mason.

23:00 Disco**Westminster****10:00 SF and Genetics**

With Dolly the sheep being old news and cloning humans just around the corner, how has the concept of genetics changed over the years? We have all read stories about cloning. We have all wondered about the ethics involved in this. How do authors see this subject today? How did they see it in the past? Has our view changed, have our ethics changed? What will be the future?

With: Lucy Smithers, Joan Paterson, Julian Headlong, Nik Whitehead.

12:00 SF Countdown

Let's play Countdown the interesting way. You know it from the telly, now let's add an SF aspect to the game and pronto, you've got a whole new panel game. Give me another consonant and two vowels, please.

With: Chris Tregenza, Jess Bennett.

13:30 Why is the world not like 2001?

Ever wondered why we are not on the moon? Us too. Let's look back at what we thought 2001 would be like 20, 30 40 years ago. Why is the space station not open for business yet? Why don't robots do the dishes? Why are we not living in oval houses and flying to work? What went wrong? What do we have instead that nobody thought of?

Chaired by Andy Sawyer

With: Julian Headlong, Tony Berry, Jaap Boekestein.

15:00 The Psychology of Fans

What makes us tick? There must be something different about a fan's psyche, so what is it? We have all experienced it.

You come out of the closet, talk with excited eyes about Peter Hamilton's newest instalment and mundanes look at you as if you have grown a second nose. But why is there such a difference? What makes us special? Let's find out with the help of science and psychology.

Chaired by Sparks

With: Farah Mendelsohn, John Bray, Peter Cohen, Peter T Garratt.

16:00 George Hay Science Lecture

Again we are opening our doors for a guest lecturer. This year we have Dr. Helen Priddle of the Roslin Institute. Remember Dolly? She will get you up to date with the latest developments in her field of expertise. A must for science buffs.

With: Dr. Helen Priddle.

17:30 Desert Island Discs - Mike

Your opportunity to discover Mike's taste in music and essential luxuries in the second of these classic interviews.

Chaired by Chris O'Shea

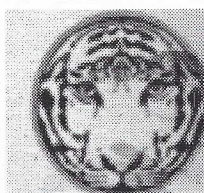
With: Mike Scott Rohan.

19:00 Isms and Ologies in SF

A look at feminism and other hotly debated isms and ologies in SF. Is there a specific genre for these? Do they crop up every once in a while? What isms and ologies are they and should SF be dealing with them? Bring a sharp mind and the will to discuss to your heart's content.

Chaired by Gwyneth Jones

With: Jon Grimwood, Jennie Dailey-O'Cain.



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20:00 Author Dialogue

Two more authors talk about anything they like. You'll get an in depth view of what they are really like and what really interests them.

With: John Meaney, Ian Watson.

23:00 Filk Concert

Laugh, sing and be moved by some of the best filking talents fandom has to offer.

Conference 11**11:00 If Tolkien and Lewis had snuffed it in the trenches...**

where would fantasy be today? The panel wants to discuss the turning points of modern fantasy. Without the Ring and Narnia, what would be today's basis? Who else could have had the immense influence those two authors have shown?

Chaired by John Clute

With: Edward James, China Miéville, Farah Mendelsohn, Steve Jeffrey, Maureen Kincaid Speller.

16:00 The making of a good SF Model

Gary Stratmann, a master in the field of building SF and fantasy models, wishes to tell you about his art. If you want to pick up a few tips and tricks on how to make that ultimate model, this is your programme item. If you are a resin kit person or start from scratch, come and compare notes.

With: Gary Stratmann.

19:00 Media Literature: A waste of space or worthwhile reading?

Effinger once wrote a Planet of the Apes TV novel. His characters thought a lot, because he wasn't allowed to change the dialogue. Is this really what Media literature is all about? Is it all just a big rip off to get our last dime? Do we need another

Dr Who or Star Trek novel? Is this just glorified fan fiction? Or has media literature matured into something better and worthwhile reading?

With: Claudia Kern, Molly Brown, Robbie, David McIntee.

20:00 Time Times 4

The second of a sequence of sessions from the BSFA. This is an item to challenge your sense of time, perhaps its really the fourth session.

With: Claire Brialey.

21:00 Alternative History - Is it boring by definition?

A bit of a provocative title quoted to me by an author recently. Is this a general view? What can alternative history do to set things right? What other turning points can we find in British or European history to make sure that we don't get another

World War I, II or US Civil War story?

Chaired by Paul Kincaid

With: Ben Jeapes, Peter Redfarn, Andrew Langhammer.

Conference 13**10:00 Gripe Session**

If you have a problem with anything connected to the con and cannot solve it yourself, come and let us know. We might not be able to help either, but at least you can have a good whinge and feel better all day.

12:00 Riddles in the Dark (kids reading)

Wombat will read Tolkien. Bring your kids here for some good entertainment.

With: Wombat.

13:30 BSFA AGM

17:30 Backrub workshop

What your partners always wanted you to learn. Why not take turns in learning the necessary moves to transport your victim into absolute relaxation bliss.

With: Wombat.

Conference 12**11:00 Author reading: Gwyneth Jones**

Gwyneth will read her choice of material.

With: Gwyneth Jones.

12:00 World building workshop: Adult (kids Sunday)

David Angus will show the grown ups how a beach ball can be terraformed. No need to bring anything but your imagination and a sense of humour.

With: David Angus, Amanda Baker.

15:00 How to design your academic career for a job in space.

You want to work in outer space? Well, what do you have to study to have that chance in a million? What jobs will be there, what skills will be needed? Learn from the few who have tried.

Chaired by Nik Whitehead

With: Dave Clements, Wombat, Simon Bradshaw.

16:00 Author Dialogue

A free form discussion between two people with firm opinions.

With: Mike Goble, Keith Brooke.

19:00 Realism in SF

Why do we have heroes that always win? Do we really enjoy drama about captains who never fail and storm troopers who'd miss a barn door? Should Blake pop a pill and go on or sit this round out?

Chaired by Eddie Cochrane

With: Edward James, Tony Cullen, Tanya Brown, Farah Mendelsohn, Jon Courtney Grimwood.

Sunday**Paris****11:30 Beyond Cyberdrome**

Welcome to the Cyberdrome. Bring your robot and win the glory. Hollywood has the Gladiator. Hinckley has the Cyberdrome. Let's stage the ultimate robot knock out game under the watchful eyes of SMS.

With: SMS.

13:30 GoH - Stephen Baxter

Stephen interviewed by Steve Davies. Look out for imaginative hard science ideas. Questions will be taken at the end.

With: Stephen Baxter, Steve Davies.

15:00 Bournemouth Vice!

Think about it. Miami Vice made in the UK? I am sure Dennis Waterman and Frank Bruno would have made the ideal team. Or Knight Rider? Ian Oglivy in his black Vauxhall Astra would have pulled that one off easily! We already know that Red Dwarf didn't work on the other side, but how about Blake's 7? I am sure Bruce Boxleitner would have loved being Blake.. Let's let our imagination fly and have a bit of fun!

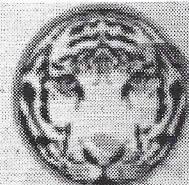
Chaired by Ian Sorensen

With: David Lally, Eddie Cochrane, Julian Headlong.

16:00 Bid Session

This is where the 2003 Eastercon will be decided. It is up to you. Will it be one of the bids? Will it be a rollover? Will there BE any bids. This is going to be interesting. So be there. (see 21st Century Eastercon, page 48.)

Chaired by Pat McMurray



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17:30 Mars Programme

Amanda Baker, a member of the Mars Society, will update us with new developments in the Mars Programme of the Mars Society. The Mars Society is trying to get to Mars outside the "usual" NASA route. They are promoting a cost effective way which could actually get us there. If this is your dream, come and hear what Amanda has to say.

With: Amanda Baker.

20:01-A Sunday Odyssey

"One Minute past Eight" suffers from middle trilogy syndrome being a mere linking piece between the previous "Captain Tartan Saves the World Again" and David Wake's return to form with "Tartan - Year 2003". Many though prefer this darker vision and consider the other productions in the series to be rather silly pantomimes. For them, "20:01" is a classic of the form. Whatever the critics and fans opinion, we can at least console ourselves that it is still many years before the travesty that will be "Captain Tartan - Episode One". So get your seat early, settle down and enjoy this latest multi-media extravaganza from the Reconvene Rubber Tree Company.

With: David Wake & co.

22:00 Award Ceremony

Entertainment and fun galore with your host Chris Hill. Let's honour our nominees and award winners. A great opportunity to dust off those dinner jackets and frocks- dress code formal but optional.

With: Chris Hill.

Westminster**10:00 Archaeology and Fantasy**

Archaeology seems to be a preferred hobby for fantasy authors. Is this a coincidence or is there a deeper interest at work? What is the connection, if there is one? What kind of information, what kind

of lesson can a fantasy author draw from a dig? Do fantasy authors look to the past to create their future?

Chaired by Edward James

With: Lisanne Norman, Miller Lau, Martin Easterbrook, Mike Scott Rohan, Peter Weston.

11:00 Art Auction

This is where your money goes! Have you put in a bid on anything in the art show? Then here is where you go to make sure you actually carry the item home. Happy bidding to you!

Chaired by Wombat

13:30 Is Science a feminist issue?

If science is pure are scientists? Is this a topic worth discussing? We think it is high time someone does. What are our panellists' experiences? Are there solutions? Is a change in culture necessary?

Chaired by Amanda Baker

With: Lis Sourbut, Jennie Dailey-O'Cain.

15:00 Author Dialogue

The last of these free running conversations between people responsible for supplying our fix of ideas.

With: Tony Ballantyne, Miller Lau.

17:30 Genre in SF - Debate

Simon Ings leads a debate on Genre in SF. Is there a fair way of dividing SF? Do we do justice to a story if we put it in alternative history or space opera pigeonholes? What if the genres are mixed? What if the author does not want to be put in a pigeonhole?

With: Simon Ings.



19:00 Generic Comedy Panel Game

Contestants will pit their wits against each other in the name of comedy. This item, run by Chris Tregenza promises an hour of laughter in the name of SF.

Chaired by Chris Tregenza

With: Mark Plummer, Ian Sorensen, Chris O'Shea, Alison Freebairn, Jim De Liscard.

21:00 Let's create our own convention sidekick

So let's pretend. You are the hero. You have to survive a convention. You need a sidekick, definitely! But what does he or she need to make it worth your while? Flat head to put your pint on? Tight bodice? Mike Siddall will host and Dave Hicks will visualise your convention sidekick dreams!

With: Dave Hicks, Mike Siddall.

Conference 11**10:00 Is this the way the World dies?**

People who should know will discuss disasters that could and some that probably will happen to this world. Authors have long tried to find ways to wash away the world we know to build their own. Now you can find out what might actually happen.

Chaired by Mic Rogers

With: Nigel Furlong, Simon Bradshaw, Marcus Rowland.

11:00 Time Times 4

The BSFA continue to intrigue us with the third (or is it the first) in the sequence of items on the subject of time.

With: Mark Plummer.

12:00 What if Richard III had not died at Bosworth?

Local history - Bosworth is just around the corner - and a little alternative history. What would have happened? Where would we be now? What cultural or socio-

logical changes could this different ending to the battle have had? Or would it not have mattered at all? Let's find out.

Chaired by Edward James

With: Freda Warrington, John Bray, Mike Scott Rohan, Stephen Baxter.

13:30 The ones with the ears -

Why are media fans so different? Or are they? Why are they generally less respected than literary fans? What makes them tick? We want to get to the bottom of the being called media fan. They are not all screaming kids who want to take home Kirk for fun, but what else is there? What fascination can be found in media that you cannot find anywhere else?

Chaired by Andrew Adams

With: Ian Sorensen, John Richards, Kim Campbell.

16:00 Paper Tiger -**What's New Pussycat?**

Chris Moore and Fred Gambino talk about their books and artwork complete with a slide show and some anecdotes thrown in.

With: Chris Moore and Fred Gambino.

17:30 Poetry Circle

Kluggers the Barred will run this year's poetry circle. Bring your material, sit in the round and read on McKluggers!

With: Kluggers the Barred.

19:00 Big Books

Let's face it. No book can make it in today's best-seller list under 800 pages. Why is that the case? Where are the 200, 300 pages Heinlein or Bob Shaw stories? Is this a general trend? Is it just a market fluke? Are stories more complex these days and therefore have to be so long? We will get to the bottom of this.

Chaired by Farah Mendelsohn

With: Jaap Boekestein, John Meaney, Lisanne Norman, Molly Brown, Alastair Reynolds, Tanya Brown.



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20:00 Big Engine Party

An open party hosted by the Big Engine Publishing House. Never been to a book launch? Come and see what it is all about.

Conference 13**10:00 Gripe Session**

If you have a problem with anything connected to the con and cannot solve it yourself, come and let us know. We might not be able to help either, but at least you can have a good whinge and feel better all day.

15:00 SF Foundation AGM

With: Farah Mendelsohn.

Conference 12**11:00 Copyright - A discussion**

Some are of the opinion that copyrights should be shortened. With internet novels breaking into the market and information becoming more and more accessible, is this a good idea, a necessity or simply the worst thing to happen to authors all over the world?

Chaired by KIM Campbell

With: John Meaney.

13:30 Playground Games

Look back at your school days. What was your favourite class? Recess? Mine too. And what did we play? How did that game go again? If you want a little exercise, come to this item. There will be a lot of running, hopping and laughing and even some Gummispringen.

With: Jess Bennett, Ziggie.

15:00 World Building workshop: Kids

David Angus shows the young folk how a beach ball can be terra formed. No need to bring anything but your imagination and a sense of humour.

With: David Angus.

16:00 Philip Pullman workshop

Strictly sign up only! Andrew Butler will discuss Philip Pullman's latest instalments in his Northern Light Trilogy. This is a very interesting and in depth workshop and, therefore, has to be limited to about 20 people. Andrew did this at last year's Lexicon in Oxford and it was a great success.

With: Andrew Butler.

17:30 Harry Potter and such

Seen in a book shop: "If you liked Harry Potter, you'll like Anne McCaffrey". Well, will you? What is Harry's appeal? What should you recommend to your eager kids when they want more? Can Heinlein or Lewis still compete? The panel will try to find an answer.

Chaired by Julian Headlong

With: Farah Mendelsohn, Andrew Langhammer, Caroline Mullan, Peter Weston.

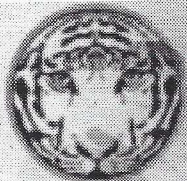
Monday**Paris****10:00 What makes a Good Space Opera?**

Space Operas seem to be the Marmite of SF. You either love them or hate them. Some people say they are boring and longwinded, others find them exciting. We seem to be celebrating a space opera renaissance at the moment. The panel wants to discuss why they enjoy space opera and what a good space opera should have to excite the reader.

With: Alistair Reynolds, Andy Sawyer, John Meaney, Sparks, Maureen Kincaid Speller

11:00 TV shows turned movies and vice versa

Would you pay to see Mork and Mindy on the big screen? Or would you watch Star Wars - The Series? No? Well, you prob-



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ably would, but why didn't those two happen? Why on the other hand do we have Highlander the Movie transferred into Highlander The Series. And pushing it back again, why did the last Highlander movie go straight to video in the UK? Let's find out why some projects work and some just die.

Chaired by Eddie Cochrane

With: David Lally, Linda Stratmann, Sabine Furlong, Noel Collyer.

12:00 What happened to Cyberpunk?

Cyberpunk was big in the 80s but where is it now? What new novels and authors are out there? Has the genre changed? If yes, has it changed because society has? What was it that drove Cyberpunk and what drives it now? Let's see what we can find out together.

Chaired by Mic Rogers

With: Andrew Butler, John Harold, Mike Cobley.

14:00 As Others see us

Stephen Baxter and John Clute discuss humans and their culture as we would be - or are - seen from afar. If you ever wondered why we have not been contacted yet, this might give you a clue.

With: Stephen Baxter, John Clute.

15:00 Have I Got Media News For You III

All new questions, a few new faces, a new presenter. Two teams fighting it out over TV, movie and soundtrack questions. Are you up on your quotes? Can you name that old TV tune? Then you might help to steal the victory again for the audience.

Chaired by Mike Siddall

With: Claudia Kern, Gary Stratmann, Linda Stratmann, Nigel Furlong, Sabine Furlong, BUG & Steve Lawson.

16:00 Closing Ceremony

This is where we say goodbye. We hope you had a great time. Join us later to party on at the Dead Dog as the committee collapses in relief that it is all over.

17:00 Feedback

Did you have a good time? Did you have a bad time? Let us know why, so the next committee can take home some lessons learnt.

Westminster

10:00 Lojban Workshop

Lojban and its parent Loglan, are artificial languages created not for a universal auxiliary like Esperanto, but as an experimental tool; people now work with them for a variety of reasons, from poetry to computers. Why do people make and use such languages? What makes them distinctive? The session will not try and teach any Lojban, but will focus on what properties it has that are novel or unfamiliar, and why people continue to work with it.

With: Colin Fine.

11:00 Author reading: Simon Ings

Enjoy a piece of literature read by the person who wrote it.

With: Simon Ings.

12:00 Techno Greens

Is there a mid-point between the classic anti-technology Green and the pro-technology polluters? Can you support both nuclear power and composting worms? Are we missing some part of the solution here, or are technology and the environment always at war? Can you be a Techno-Green?

Chaired by Dave Clements

With: Farah Mendelsohn, Gabriela Bennemann, Nigel Furlong, Peter T Garratt.



13:30 Desert Island Discs -Lisanne

Does that big sword of Lisanne's mean she would be particularly capable in a desert setting or would she spend too much time with her music? Find out in this last visit to the desert island planet.

Chaired by Chris O'Shea

With: Lisanne Norman.

Conference 11**12:00 The Politics of SF**

What could we do if we were in government? No, seriously. What would be our

goals if Fandom had influence, and I don't - only - mean real ale prices. This should be a groundbreaking discussion about our influence in party culture and what we could or would do.

Chaired by Martin Easterbrook

With: John Bray, John Clute, Rhodri James.

15:00 Time Times 4

The BSFA wants to challenge your sense of time with 4 different items about, well, time. Come and be taken away to another time and place. You could go to the future or the past. Surprise yourself.

Away from the programme

Not everything that happens at the convention happens in carefully timetabled one hour blocks. There are workshops, whole day and whole con activities.

Robot Building Workshop

If you always wanted to build a robot but never had the chance, come and find some likeminded fans in the Robot Building Workshop. Here you can build and construct as much as you like. If the robot you want to enter into Beyond Cyberdrome still needs some work, come in and screw around... so that we can rip it apart on Sunday morning. But you never know, you might just win!

The Great Easter Egg hunt

On Sunday we will stage an Easter Egg hunt for great and small. We'll form teams, and send them to find eggs. These will contain questions. Answer the question, find the solution, find the great Easter Egg.

Gamers

Locked away in their own space the gamers have a convention all of their own. You might be the new blood they need.

Chaos Costuming Workshop

You want to create a costume, perhaps even enter the masquerade, but you've got nothing to wear? Fear not. Here you can make yourself a costume, get advice, fresh ideas and some helping hands. Just some imagination and off you go.

Hall Costuming Day

Do you have a costume you want to wear but don't think you want to be in the Masquerade? Sunday is your day to wear it. Don't be shy, be proud to show off your costuming talents. There might even be a prize in it for you. There will be voting forms in your convention pack. The others simply vote for the best hall costume they see.

Dave Lally Programme

There are people who have been to conventions for years and still do not know what happens in the Dave Lally programme. Are you going to be one of them?

Dead Dog Party

Monday evening. If you are still here, get your tired body to the Dead Dog Party where we will send out this year's Eastercon in style or just in-toxicated?



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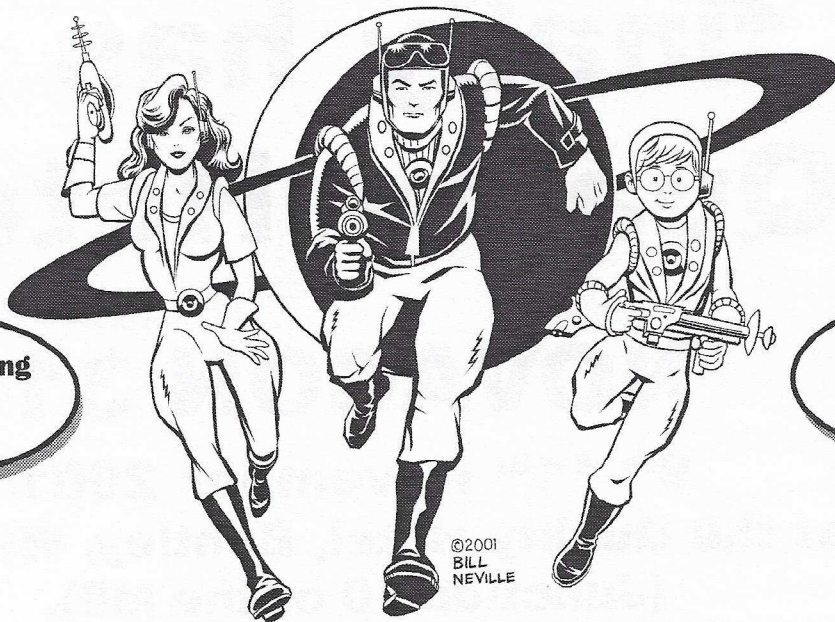


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With your support, we can protect the galaxy from zwilniks.

The Fan Programme has been created by a dedicated group based around our guests, Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer. It is fully part of the convention and yet has a separate identity that is almost a convention within a convention. It will take place in the fanroom (**Lakeside**).

Friday

16.30 What's The Point Of...

Fanrooms (1)

*What's it all for? A discussion of fan activities, conventions, and science fiction, predicated on the idea that a Fanroom embodies all these and other aspects of sf fan culture. If there is indeed such a thing as 'sf fan culture'. The unifying thread of many programme items is 'What's the Point of...' and we're trying to get back to first principles on these ideas and see how many bear carrying on. For example is having a Fanroom at all meaningful in the Future, when **everyone** loves sci-fi and is by extension a Fan.*

Greg Pickersgill (Moderator - yes, really!), Claire Brialey, Eric Lindsay, Rhodri James.

18.00 What's The Point Of...

The BSFA and the Science Fiction Foundation

What relevance do these organisations have to sf readers, or to the typical convention attendee (who, it it appears, belongs to neither). Why should we care about them? What good are they to the average sf fan or reader? And if they are any use, how do we convince Little Jimmy Fan to take them seriously.

John Richards (M), Andy Sawyer, Paul Billinger, Farah Mendlesohn, Stephen Baxter.

20.00 What's The Point Of...

Electronic Fanac

The Internet and the Web are Wonderful Things, everybody knows that. But do

they sap the creative energy of writers who could contribute better material in a traditional paper-based form? Does a writer genuinely reach more people via the WWW than they would through paper fanzine, or is it just never mind the quality, feel the bandwidth? Is evanescence the norm - will anyone ever want to read RASFF postings in thirty years time with the same enthusiasm as we read issues of fanzines like HYPHEN, MADRGAL and GRUE?

Alison Scott (M), Alex McLintock, Cheryl Morgan, Sandra Bond, Victor Gonzalez.

22.00 TAFF V GUFF - Quiz

Roger Robinson is Quizmaster (twitich that bottle RR!). Eric Lindsay, Jean Weber, Eve Harvey, and Paul Kincaid represent GUFF. Maureen Kincaid Speller, Sue Mason, Victor Gonzalez and AN Other represent TAFF. What does it all mean? It'll make you laugh. Really!

Saturday

10.30 Look Out! It's The Wordcon Again

KIM Campbell says "What we want to do is launch a project, get things done, make it fun and involve as many people as possible in the Worldcon, without overtaxing and over committing people. This element of the project looks at the space at the SECC and considers the best design for a convivial flow of people. We want to make the site 'Fan Friendly', or at least not as fan hostile as it was. A lot has changed since last time, and with a bit of imagination we could achieve considerable improvement."

KIM Campbell and a sturdy gang of committed henchmen

12.00 The Real First Editions - The SF Magazines

What is it that makes the magazines so compulsively interesting? Obviously they are where many novels and stories originated, and there are many excellent



pieces never reprinted. But they are also the Secret History of sf - it's the features, the letters, book reviews, fanzines columns - that really matter. Wow! Did you know that issue of SUPER SCIENCE STORIES was so important?

Mark Plummer (M), Sandra Bond, Julian Headlong, Roger Robinson.

14.00 And When I Die

We're all getting older. What happens to our collections -books, fanzines - when we've had it? Do they go to the nearest landfill, be sold for pennies, passed on via a will, or go to an institution like the SF FOUNDATION? We all know horror stories of vast and valuable collections given to charity shops because no-one knew what to do with them, but is willing everything to a Library definitely the better course? Face the inevitable - this means YOU!

Greg Pickersgill (M), Caroline Mullan, Andy Sawyer, Pat McMurray.

16.00 The Fan Guests of Honour Banana Twins Fun Hour

Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer - or their stunt doubles - do something really interesting. It involves pictures. Honestly, don't miss it, they're our Greatest Living Fans.

18.00 What's The Point Of...

Fanzines

What the hell are fanzines for? Simply self-expression with editors projecting their own personalities and enthusiasms, or artifacts distinctly linked to sf and sf fandom? Are fanzines that aren't centrally about sf or fandom worthwhile? What's the difference between electronic and print fanzines? Does it matter? If you don't read fanzines are you missing something unique and exciting? Or is FARSCAPE more fun?

Bridget Bradshaw (M), John Dallman, Sue Jones, Andrew Butler, Mike Scott.

20.00 What's The Point Of...

Eastercons

This enormous cometary thing recurs annually taking up enormous amounts of time and energy and to what effect? Why is there an Eastercon at all, and what should be its constituent parts? Is it primarily a social event with important consideration being given to venue and facilities outside the convention itself, or is it a quasi-formal meeting of people with specific shared interests within the science fiction field, in which programming and organisation is paramount? Should we really care either way?

Claire Brialey (M), Mike Scott, Martin Hoare, KIM Campbell, John Harvey.

22.00 Quiz Gunfight

Catherine McAulay rides herd on know-alls and showoffs - volunteer Now! to join this sudden-death one-on-one Best-of-20-Questions knockout quiz. Real prizes! Heightened self-esteem! For the winner anyway, feelings of futile failure for the rest.

Sunday

12.00 Forward Into the Past

Why does every generation of fans try to reinvent fandom anew? Newcomers are often resistant to knowledge of past activities and feel fandom should adapt to them, rather than they learn its ways and history. Why has the culture not stabilised -why does it have to be rewritten every generation (ie every five years)? People usually expect and want to pick up the ways, dialect and history of a situation, yet those new to fandom often protest against that. This contradicts a common human tendency to be part of a community, to learn its ways and be accepted. Is this a problem associated with the sort of people who become fans?

Claire Brialey (M), Doug Bell, Ken Slater, Steve Davies, Jean Weber, Victor Gonzalez.



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14.00 What's The Point Of...**Awards**

What do Awards within the sf/fannish culture mean, both to those who give (including those who vote in 'popular' awards like the Hugo or Nova) and those who receive. What advantage does it confer upon givers and recipients - is it a way of making sf Important, or just a marketing tool? Or simply a pointless ritual of self-congratulation?

Martin Easterbrook (M), Chris Hill, Dick Jude, Tony Berry, Eric Lindsay.

16.00 Don't Look Back

A traditional dream of the sf fan is to become a writer or editor, but fans who become professionals often become indifferent or hostile to their erstwhile friends and activities. Obviously changing life patterns apply, but there does seem to be pressure from within and without to create that distance. Does moving into the professional world mean giving up amateur (in the true sense) activities to be credible? Or can Terry Carr and Bob Shaw, who determinedly kept up their fanactivity be seen as good role models? Also, given that comparatively few present-day professionals have any sf-fan background, does any of this still apply?

Peter Weston (M), Lisanne Norman, Stephen Baxter.

18.00 What's the Point of...**Fundraising**

How do we do it, why do we do it? Should money be raised for anything at all at conventions or within fandom, and if it is done at all should it be specifically for sf or fan concerns, or for Good Works generally? Also, should it be done by a variety of little groups or should we work together through some central body?

John Richards (M), Bridget Bradshaw, Maureen Kincaid Speller, Vince Docherty, Alison Scott.

20.00 Only in it For the Money

An eight-foot shelf of Bookdealers talk about their relationship to books (do they really like what they sell, and how far do they stretch their principles to make a living), and their customers (weirdos, loonies, ripoffmerchants, obsessives, the odd decent character...).

Mark Plummer (M), Brian Ameringen, Lennart Uhlin, Rog Peyton, Ken Slater.

22.00 Fanzine Fans V Conrunners SF and Fandom Quiz

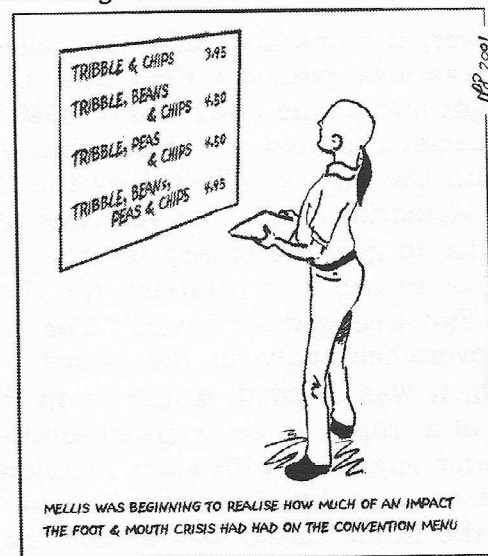
Greg Pickersgill collates two pals for the paper fans, **Tim Illingworth** summons a couple of gophers to get things organised. **Catherine McAulay** asks the questions. The world awaits as two tribes go to war.

Monday**12.00 What's The Point Of...****Fanrooms(2)**

Greg Pickersgill, Mark Plummer and some of the loudest voices of the previous few days wonder whether it all all been worthwhile. What next?

14.00 What's The Point Of...**Having an Auction on a Monday**

We're making this up as we go along...we'll think of something even if it is a bloody auction...



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Doc Weir Award

The Doc Weir Award is presented at Eastercon. Paragon is proud to host this award as it is one that recognises the contribution of those that support and maintain fandom but do not seek the limelight. A good Doc Weir winner is surprised to be chosen. No-one else is. Voting slips for the award should be in your membership pack. There is no nomination process, no shortlist. You vote for who you think has contributed to fandom and has not been adequately recognised. Study the list of previous winners. Your vote can help choose the next member of this band of modest heroes.

On 4th March 1961, Arthur Rose "Doc" Weir died. Though a relative newcomer, he was already old when he discovered fandom. He had been a dedicated worker for the BSFA and so, on 15th March, John Phillifent wrote to Ella Parker and Peter Mabey suggesting that the BSFA could help out his widow by making an offer for his sf collection. This was believed to be of high quality and Phillifent thought it would be a useful addition to the BSFA library.

However, it transpired that the collection was less extensive than was first thought and at the 1962 BSFA AGM it was decided to hold a vote on what to do with the money collected by the Doc Weir Memorial Fund. The vote was on whether to give the money to Mrs Weir, or to use it to establish the "Doc Weir Fan Recognition Award". The vote was overwhelmingly for the award which, it was decided, would be in the form of a trophy to be awarded annually and engraved with each recipient's name. The trophy ultimately bought with the funds raised was a silver cup, mounted on a plastic base.

The 1963 Eastercon, Bullcon, was held in April at the Bull Hotel in Peterborough and attracted over 130 fans, the highest turnout at a British convention since the 1957 Worldcon. Peter Mabey was the first recipient, in absentia, of the Doc Weir Award, for his work with the BSFA lending library.

(Information extracted from Then, a history of British fandom by Rob Hansen)

Previous winners are

- 1963 **Peter Mabey**
- 1964 **Archie Mercer**
- 1965 **Terry Jeeves**
- 1966 **Kenneth F. Slater**
- 1967 **Doreen Parker**
- 1968 **Mary Reed**
- 1969 **Beryl Mercer**
- 1970 **J. Michael Rosenblum**
- 1971 **Phil Rogers**
- 1972 **Jill Adams**
- 1973 **Ethel Lindsay**
- 1974 **Malcolm Edwards**
- 1975 **Peter Weston**
- 1976 **Ina Shorrocks**
- 1977 **Keith H. Freeman**
- 1978 **Gregory Pickersgill**
- 1979 **Rog Peyton**
- 1980 **Bob Shaw**
- 1981 **John Brunner**
- 1984 **Joyce Slater**
- 1985 **James White**
- 1987 **Brian Burgess**
- 1989 **Vinç Clarke**
- 1990 **Roger Perkins**
- 1991 **Pat Brown**
- 1992 **Roger Robinson**
- 1993 **Bridget Wilkinson**
- 1994 **Tim Broadribb**
- 1995 **Bernie Evans**
- 1996 **Mark Plummer**
- 1997 **John Harold**
- 1998 **Andy Croft**
- 1999 $\frac{1}{2}$ r **Cruttenden**
- 2000 **Tim Illingworth**



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Arthur C. Clarke Award

Presented annually, this is for the best science fiction novel receiving its first publication in Britain. It is a jury award, decided by two representatives each from the British Science Fiction Association and the Science Fiction Foundation, and, since 1999, one from the Science Museum.

The 2001 Jury consists of Paul Billinger and Gary Dalkin (BSFA), Caroline Mullan and Lisa Tuttle (SFF), and Doug Millard (Science Museum). The Award will be presented in late May.

The 2001 shortlist is:

<i>Parable of the Talents</i>	Octavia E Butler
<i>Ash</i>	Mary Gentle
<i>Cosmonaut Keep</i>	Ken MacLeod
<i>Perdido Street Station</i>	China Miéville
<i>Revelation Space</i>	Alastair Reynolds
<i>Salt</i>	Adam Roberts

Previous Winners (with year of presentation) are:

1987	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	by Margaret Atwood
1988	<i>The Sea and Summer</i>	by George Turner
1989	<i>Unquenchable Fire</i>	by Rachel Pollack
1990	<i>The Child Garden</i>	by Geoff Ryman
1991	<i>Take Back Plenty</i>	by Colin Greenland
1992	<i>Synners</i>	by Pat Cadigan
1993	<i>Body of Glass</i>	by Marge Piercy
1994	<i>Vurt</i>	by Jeff Noon
1995	<i>Fools</i>	by Pat Cadigan
1996	<i>Fairyland</i>	by Paul McAuley
1997	<i>The Calcutta Chromosome</i>	by Amitav Ghosh
1998	<i>The Sparrow</i>	by Mary Doria Russell
1999	<i>Dreaming in Smoke</i>	by Tricia Sullivan
2000	<i>Distraction</i>	by Bruce Sterling



BSFA Awards

This is the award that you can affect. Yes you reading this. As an attending member of Paragon you and the membership of the BSFA get to decide upon something that is significant and important.

So how does this work?

The shortlists are decided by members of the British Science Fiction Association using arcane methods that are a mystery to non members such as me. Once this shortlist has been created it is published far and wide. You may see it in Ansible. I did. Just by being there it counts as being published far and wide.

Then you read the words, study the artwork on the shortlist and make a careful reasoned decision. Alternatively you can make your choice based upon prejudice and whether the author bought you a pint at Eastercon last year. Or something in between, it's up to you. That's the beauty of a democratic process.

With your responsibly considered choices you arrive at the convention. You need a voting slip. The BSFA will put some around the convention in easy to find places. There will voting slips on the BSFA stand in the dealers' room where you can round off voting with a go on their famous tombola.

The BSFA Awards shortlists for 2001 are:

NOVEL

Perdido Street Station China Miéville
redRobe Jon Courtenay Grimwood
Paradox John Meaney
Revelation Space Alastair Reynolds
Ash: A Secret History Mary Gentle

SHORT

'Destiny on Tartarus' Eric Brown (Spectrum SF #2)
'La Vampiresse' Tanith Lee (Interzone 154)
'Adventures in the Ghost Trade' Liz Williams (Interzone 154)
'Singing Each to Each' Paul di Filippo (Interzone 155)
'The Suspect Genome' Peter F. Hamilton (Interzone 156)

ARTWORK

Physiognomies of Flight China Miéville (Vector 213)
Hideaway Dominic Harman (Interzone 157)
Afeterere's Eyes Gerald Gaubert (Scheherazade 19)



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JOHN MEANEY
AUTHOR OF *TO HOLD INFINITY*
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The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund

You may have noticed voting papers, auctions and other activities to do with the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund (TAFF). You may have bought at a TAFF auction complete tat (I remember used chocolate wrappers selling well) or valuable memorabilia.

Paragon welcomes Victor Gonzalez as the current TAFF winner from America.

TAFF was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and popular fans familiar to those on both sides of the ocean across the Atlantic. Since that time,

TAFF has regularly brought North American fans to European conventions and European fans to North American conventions. TAFF exists only through the support of fandom. The candidates are voted on by interested fans all over the world, and each vote is accompanied by a donation of not less than \$3 or £2. These votes, and the continued generosity of fandom, are what makes TAFF possible.

For further details, please talk to the current administrators Sue Mason (takes the reins at Paragon) and Vijay Bowen.

Previous trip winners are (⇒ indicates an eastbound trip and ⇐ a westbound):

1954	⇐ A. Vincent Clarke ¹	1980	⇐ Dave Langford
1955	⇐ Ken Bulmer	1981	⇒ Stu Shiffman
1956	⇒ Lee Hoffman ²	1982	⇐ Kevin Smith
1957	⇒ Bob Madle	1983	⇒ Avedon Carol
1958	⇐ Ron Bennett	1984	⇐ Rob Hansen
1959	⇒ Don Ford	1985	⇒ Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden
1960	⇐ Eric Bentcliffe	1986	⇐ Gregory Pickersgill
1961	⇒ Ron Ellik	1987	⇒ Jeanne Gomoll
1962	⇐ Ethel Lindsay	1988	⇐ Lilian Edwards and Christina Lake
1963	⇒ Wally Weber	1989	⇒ Robert Lichtman
1964	⇐ Arthur (ATom) Thomson	1991	⇐ Pam Wells
1965	⇒ Terry Carr	1992	⇒ Jeanne Bowman
1966	⇐ Tom Schluck	1993	⇐ Abigail Frost
1968	⇒ Steve Stiles	1995	⇒ Dan Steffan
1969	⇐ Eddie Jones	1996	⇐ Martin Tudor
1970	⇒ Elliot Shorter	1998	⇒ Ulrika O'Brien
1971	⇐ Mario Bosnyak	1998	⇐ Maureen Kincaid Speller
1973	⇒ Len and June Moffat	1999	⇒ Vijay Bowen
1974	⇐ Peter Weston	2000	⇐ Sue Mason
1976	⇒ Roy Tackett and Bill Bowers (tie) ³	2001	⇒ Victor Gonzalez
1977	⇐ Pete Roberts		
1979	⇒ Terry Hughes		

Footnotes

¹ Unable to make trip

² Declined funds

³ Election tied; funds insufficient to send both; Bowers withdrew



G U Fan Fund

Paragon welcomes two delegates from the antipodes, the winners of the latest GUFF race, Jean Webber and Eric Lindsay. As winners they become joint administrators with the previous south-going GUFF winner Paul Kincaid.

Unlike TAFF where the TA is an unambiguous trans atlantic, the GU in GUFF is open to some debate. The definitive answer from Paul is that it depends on the direction. Southwards it's The **G**oing **U**nder **F**an **F**und and Northwards It's the **G**et **U**p-and-over **F**an **F**und.

Modelled on DUFF and TAFF, GUFF was motivated partly by Chris Priest's

visit to Australia and by the British 1979 Worldcon. Originally intended as a one-off for Seacon, it took off like so many temporary things and became an irregular fixture in the fannish calendar.

As with TAFF the next race has not yet started, so you can relax for a while knowing that no-one is going to pester you to vote. However those two letters **FF** are a give away. They will be seeking your money to build up the fan fund. Paul Kincaid will be trying various fundraising tactics and will have back issues of his trip newsletter **GUFFaw**. This contains lots about GUFF. For extra information or just to give them money find and talk to Paul, Jean and Eric.

GUFF Winners

Year Delegate

1979 John Foyster

1981 Joseph Nicholas

1984 Justin Ackroyd

1985 Eve Harvey

1987 Irwin Hirsh

1989 Roelof Goudriaan

1990 Roman Orszanski

1992 Eva Hauser

1995 Ian Gunn & Karen
Pender-Gunn

1999 Paul Kincaid

2001 Jean Webber and
Eric Lindsay

Convention attended

Seacon, Brighton, UK-Worldcon

Advention '81, Adelaide-NatCon

Channelcon, Brighton, UK-British National
Convention (Eastercon)

Aussiecon Two, Melbourne-Worldcon

Conspiracy '87, Brighton, UK-Worldcon

Swancon 14, Perth-NatCon

Confiction, The Hague, The Netherlands-
Worldcon

Syncon '92, Sydney-NatCon

Intersection, Glasgow, UK-Worldcon

Aussiecon 3, Melbourne-Worldcon

Paragon, Hinckley, UK-British National
Convention (Eastercon)



21st Century Eastercon

This article is in the Programme Book of the 52nd Eastercon, Paragon, which is also the first Eastercon of the 21st Century. The 2002 convention has already been decided and Helicon 2 will take place in Jersey, the third time the Eastercon has been there. The Eastercon as a distinct event has a continuous history stretching back to 1948 (or even 1937 if the scope is widened). Since 1977 the con has attracted between 800 and 1000 fans, once going above 1500 and in general declining in numbers only when there is a UK Worldcon the same year. Last year's Eastercon in Glasgow attracted just over 1000 fans. These facts would suggest that the institution of the Eastercon remains strong and should have a long future.

However, at the time of writing of this article there are no bidders for the 2003 Eastercon. Now it may well be that, as with many fannish activities, a 2003 bid is being quietly assembled and will appear at the bidding session at Paragon. Even in the event that one does not, then the two-year Eastercon site selection process means that at the bidding session next year in Jersey there will be another chance for a 2003 bid to emerge.

I wonder whether that will happen and I'd like to consider that there is a systematic problem with the way that Eastercons are currently organised. This may require us to take action now and for those who wish to see the Eastercon continue as the UK

Vincent Docherty

primary SF convention to stand up and take a more active role.

If we look back to its origins then, in general, the Eastercon has always been targetted primarily at fans with a literary interest in SF. Up till the late 1970s the con also had a focus on fans whose main fannish activities revolved around fanzines. There was also, for many years, a formal relationship with the BSFA, though only the BSFA Awards and AGM now remain as part of the Eastercon. With the influx of fans following the boom in film and TV SF in the late 1970s and early 1980's the Eastercon became more pluralistic and the programme larger and more diverse, though with a continuing central focus on active participation, literary SF and with a strong science element, in contrast with the emergence of media-focussed conventions which have been more commercial and deliver a product to customers. The fannish/fanzine component of Eastercon has remained but not as the central part of the programme. During the 1990's this trend continued, with in some cases a direct contest between fans who wished the Eastercon to retain its older, more focussed scope and those who supported a 'broad church' approach, the latter coming to dominate. An excellent summary of this evolution is given in an article by Mike Scott in his fanzine *Zorn*. You can read that article by contacting Mike or reading it online at

http://www.moose.demon.co.uk/zorn/zorn_issue_1.htm



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and I don't intend to summarize it here. My interest is in the group of active fans who now largely organise and run the Eastercon and whether they retain sufficient numbers and enthusiasm to ensure the Eastercon's further existence. My contention is, with the many alternatives for SF related activity (now that SF has effectively won the culture war) coupled with the use of the Internet/WWW which offers a different way for fans to interact with each other, that the pool of fans willing and able to run an Eastercon is diminishing.

Another issue that has to be considered is the size of the event and the available sites where it can be held. The favoured approach has been to base the convention programme and the rooms of as many fans as possible in a single hotel, using overflow hotels for accommodation, although sometimes also for con functions. In general this remains the model even in a time of increasing availability of convention centres and competition for hotels (which in part justified the move to 2-year bidding in 1987, which could be another article completely). In the Seventies and Eighties this was largely possible as the Eastercon's 800-1000 fans could usually be accommodated with 300-400 hotel bedrooms. With the ageing of fandom the demand for rooms has grown and a requirement for 500-600+ rooms is becoming more usual. Unfortunately this has hit the problem of the small number of sites in the UK which can handle the numbers. I suspect that the result has been for the same sites to be (over) used and alternatives more difficult

to find or possibly, to be considered.

Should there be no bidders at the 2003 Bid Session at Paragon (and possibly even if there are), my proposal is that we should discuss these issues and in particular the scope of con we want, the availability of sites and of potential committee members. My suggestion is that we ask for volunteers from those attending the bid session who will be tasked with looking into these issues in more detail and to come back either at Novacon or in Jersey in 2002 with, as a minimum, proposals for specific sites and volunteers to run the events. The volunteers (who could be organised into smaller groups) would not be committing themselves to running future Eastercons (though that would be fine of course) but rather to finding the fans who will.

I hope there will be sufficient interest in following through with this. My impression of recent Eastercons is that fewer people are involved and fewer serious bids have come forward. I remember the bidding session for the 1991 Eastercon where the spoof bid won on the first count, but after frenzied discussion (and not a little hysteria by some) a recount was held and the serious bid won (though general feedback is that the resulting con was not very successful). If we wish to avoid this becoming the norm, to have an ongoing event called the Eastercon, with a lively, innovative programme and a thriving base of fans to organise and participate in it, then let's consider how we will ensure that it actually happens!



Early Conventions

1937	Leeds	
1938	London	
1939	London	
1943	Leicester	<i>Midvention</i>
1944	London	<i>Eastercon</i>

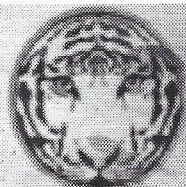
Eastercons

1	1948	London	<i>Whitcon</i>	<i>Bertram Chandler</i>
2	1949	London		
	1951	London	<i>Festivention</i>	<i>Forrest Ackerman; Lyell Crane</i>
3	1952	London	<i>Loncon</i>	
4	1953	London	<i>Coroncon</i>	
5	1954	Manchester	<i>Supermancon</i>	<i>John Russell Fearn</i>
6	1955	Kettering	<i>Cytricon</i>	
7	1956	Kettering	<i>Cytricon II</i>	
8	1957	Kettering	<i>Cytricon III</i>	
9	1958	Kettering	<i>Cytricon IV</i>	
10	1959	Birmingham	<i>Brumcon</i>	
11	1960	London		<i>E. J. 'Ted' Carnell; Don Ford</i>
12	1961	Gloucester	<i>LXIcon</i>	<i>Kingsley Amis</i>
13	1962	Harrogate	<i>Ronvention</i>	<i>Tom Boardman</i>
14	1963	Peterborough	<i>Bullcon</i>	<i>Edmund Crispin</i>
15	1964	Peterborough	<i>Repetercon</i>	<i>Ted Tubb</i>
16	1965	Birmingham	<i>Brumcon II</i>	<i>Harry Harrison</i>
17	1966	Yarmouth	<i>Yarcon</i>	<i>Ron Whiting</i>
18	1967	Bristol	<i>Briscon</i>	<i>John Brunner</i>
19	1968	Buxton	<i>Thirdmancon</i>	<i>Ken Bulmer</i>
20	1969	Oxford	<i>Galactic Fair</i>	<i>Judith Merrill</i>
21	1970	London	<i>Scicon '70</i>	<i>James Blish</i>
22	1971	Worcester	<i>Eastercon 22</i>	<i>Ethel Lindsay; Anne McCaffrey</i>
23	1972	Chester	<i>Chessmancon</i>	<i>Larry Niven</i>
24	1973	Bristol	<i>OMPAcon</i>	<i>Samuel R. Delany</i>
25	1974	Newcastle	<i>Tynecon</i>	<i>Bob Shaw; Peter Weston</i>
26	1975	Coventry	<i>Seacon</i>	<i>Harry Harrison</i>
27	1976	Manchester	<i>Mancon 5</i>	<i>Peter Roberts; Robert Silverberg</i>
28	1977	Coventry	<i>Eastercon '77</i>	<i>John Bush</i>
29	1978	Heathrow	<i>Skycon</i>	<i>Roy Kettle; Robert Sheckley</i>
30	1979	York	<i>Yorcon</i>	<i>Graham and Pat Charnock;</i> <i>Richard Cowper</i>
31	1980	Glasgow	<i>Albacon</i>	<i>Jim Barker; Colin Kapp</i>
32	1981	Leeds	<i>Yorcon II</i>	<i>Tom Disch; Dave Langford; Ian</i> <i>Watson</i>



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33 1982 Brighton	Channelcon	Angela Carter; John Sladek
34 1983 Glasgow	Albacon II	Marion Zimmer Bradley; Avedon Carol; James White
35 1984 Brighton	Seacon '84	Pierre Barbet; Waldemar Kumming; Josef Nesvadba; Chris Priest; Roger Zelazny
36 1985 Leeds	Yorcon III	Greg Benford; Linda Pickersgill
37 1986 Glasgow	Albacon III	Joe Haldeman; John Jarrold
38 1987 Birmingham	BECCON '87	Chris Atkinson; Keith Roberts
39 1988 Liverpool	Follycon	Gordon Dickson; Gwyneth Jones; Greg Pickersgill; Len Wein
40 1989 Jersey	Contrivance	Avedon Carol; Rob Hansen; M. John Harrison; Don Lawrence; Anne McCaffrey
41 1990 Liverpool	Eastcon	Iain Banks; Anne Page; SMS
42 1991 Glasgow	Speculation	Rob Holdstock
43 1992 Blackpool	Illumination	Geoff Ryman; Paul McAuley; Pam Wells
44 1993 Jersey	Helicon	John Brunner; George R. R. Martin; Karel Thole; Larry van der Putte
45 1994 Liverpool	Sou'Wester	Diane Duane; Neil Gaiman; Barbara Hambly; Peter Morwood
46 1995 London	Confabulation	Lois McMaster Bujold; Roger Robinson; Bob Shaw
47 1996 Heathrow	Evolution	Jack Cohen; Colin Greenland; Paul Kincaid; Bryan Talbot; Maureen Kincaid Speller; Vernor Vinge
48 1997 Liverpool	Intervention	Brian Aldiss; Octavia Butler; David Langford; Jon Bing
49 1998 Manchester	Intuition	Ian McDonald; Martin Tudor; Connie Willis
50 1999 Liverpool	Reconvene	Peter Beagle; John Clute; Jeff Noon
51 2000 Glasgow	2Kon	Guy Gavriel Kay; Katherine Kurtz; Deborah Turner-Harris
52 2001 Hinckley	Paragon	Stephen Baxter; Claire Briailey, Lisanne Norman; Mark Plummer; Michael Scott Rohan
53 2002 Jersey	Helicon 2	Brian Stableford; Harry Turtledove; Peter Weston



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Me and the Hanover

Ian Watson

About 15 years ago Judy and I were driving along the A5 when in the middle of nowhere we spied this strange oasis and palace beside the road. Thirsty for enlightenment and for a beer, we went in - and promptly found ourselves at an Eggers convention.

Eggers are those craftspeople who, with tiny saws and manicure scissors and emery boards (and miniature hinges and cords of silk gimp and diamond dust and seed pearls and ribbons and lace and velvet, etc), convert hen and goose and ostrich eggs into bedecorated latticed grottos where cherubs pose pertly or Fragonard ladies sit on a swing. Or into a bit of Disneyland. Or whatever. Kitsch run rampant. Now, at the time, I was working on what became my tripartite story called "Stalin's Teardrops," about the KGB department which falsifies maps and about how areas of alternative reality come into existence. What would the third, concluding part of the story focus on? Eyeing the products of the Eggers, I quickly spotted the Russian connection - for did not Carl Fabergé, court jewellers to the Tsars, create bejewelled golden eggs? Soon I was writing my conclusion, "The Cult of the Egg," about Russian Egger-witches, all thanks to that quirky event at the Hanover.

A decade later I found myself wondering - as one does - what would happen if, while driving around, you saw by the roadside a Roman

centurion displaced in time. This led to my 1997 novel "Oracle".

What more suitable road to find your Roman by than the A5, Watling Street, the old Roman road stretching from London to North Wales? What better time should the Centurion hail from than 60 AD? That was when Boudicca's revolt was suppressed, the big battle probably taking place quite near to, let's see, present-day Hinckley.

If you meet a Roman it's quite a good idea to be able to speak a bit of Latin. Invoke a conference funded by Brussels money about the prospects for machine translation. All sorts of linguists are present, including my main chap, a lapsed Catholic from Ulster who might have entered the priesthood (so he learnt Latin), and a Finnish woman devotee of Latin (the Finns actually broadcast the news once a week in Latin). Where would you hold a conference somewhere near Hinckley? Bingo, Chapter 2 of Oracle is set in what I call the Hinkley Pool Hotel. Yes, dear reader (and proofreader), despite the umpteenth times I have looked at roadsigns etc etc, I left the "c" out of Hinckley. (Well, it is quite a long way from the sea. Though there's that massive statue of Poseidon in the lobby...)

What observations did I make about the Hanover in Oracle? Page 11: "Damned uncomfortable little chairs in the bar, like padded buckets which cramped you tight..."



The published membership lists for Paragon always use badge names if you have given us one. We prefer to have your real name (it gets interesting taking Lord Zog of the Hairy Knees to casualty because of a bar rugby accident in costume) but we take the view that your badgename is how you want to be publicly known. If you have chosen a badgename that is a variation on your real name the name may occur in apparently the wrong place in this list.

This list was correct on 30th March.

Membership codes

A adult G guest J junior I infant C child S supporting
X committee (to distinguish from child, a difficult call sometimes)

A 60 ½r	A 393 Ellen T. Andresen	A 52 Amanda Baker	A 684 David Brain
A 630 Geir Aalberg	A 297 Andrew	A 638 Barbara Ballantyne	A 288 Michael Braithwaite
A 56 Michael Abbott	S 168 Linnéa Anglemark	A 637 Tony Ballantyne	A 241 John Bray
A 340 Dawn Abigail	A 464 David Angus	A 312 Barbara-Jane	G 4 Claire Brialey
A 672 Abraham	A 222 aRJay	A 165 Trevor Barker	A 51 Gordon W Brignal
A 43 Andrew A. Adams	A 315 Andy Armstrong	A 234 Andrew Barton	A 655 Keith Brooke
A 657 Adelheid	A 316 Helen Armstrong	G 1 Stephen Baxter	A 515 Barbara Brooks
A 678 Alan	A 407 Sion Arrowsmith	A 352 bazooka	A 284 Christopher Brooks
A 387 Aletia	A 550 Erik Arthur	A 274 Covert Beach	A 514 Ian Brooks
A 179 Lissa Allcock	A 503 Caroline Asher	A 597 Mary Beaird	A 590 Eric Brown
A 180 Philip Allcock	A 504 Neal Asher	A 27 Chris Bell	A 276 John Brown
A 42 Paul Allwood	A 584 Sandy Auden	A 53 Doug Bell	A 458 Molly Brown
A 70 Brian Ameringen	A 33 Margaret Austin	C 518 Rowen Bell	A 231 Su Brown
A 540 Chris Amies	A 182 Jon Axtell	A 188 Alan Bellingham	A 519 Tanya Brown
A 507 Simon Amos	A 609 Jonathan Baddeley	A 673 Ben	A 693 Robert Bryson
A 509 Anders Prime		A 140 Jess Bennett	A 242 E.D. Buckley
A 266 Diane Anderson		A 438 Austin Benson	A 91 Bug
A 265 John Anderson		A 143 Meike Benzler	A 145 Bill Burns
		A 621 Johannes H Berg	A 253 Jackie E Burns
		A 133 Micheal Bernardi	A 144 Mary Burns
		A 89 Tony Berry	A 14 Roger Burton West
		A 493 Betsy Wollheim	A 211 Andrew M Butler
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Page 13: "This whole place could have been a soothing, seductive airport lounge, utterly disconnected from the farmland nearby..." Hmm.

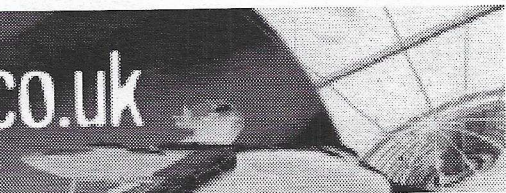
But we don't wish to cavil about this fine hotel which has caused two bits of my writing to come into being (unless that is, in itself, a reason for caviling). Before the coming of the great Paragon something science-fictional already happened at this venue, at least so far as I'm concerned. The Stars My Destination? On the contrary: The Hanover, My Inspiration!



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						A 300	Mark Young

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