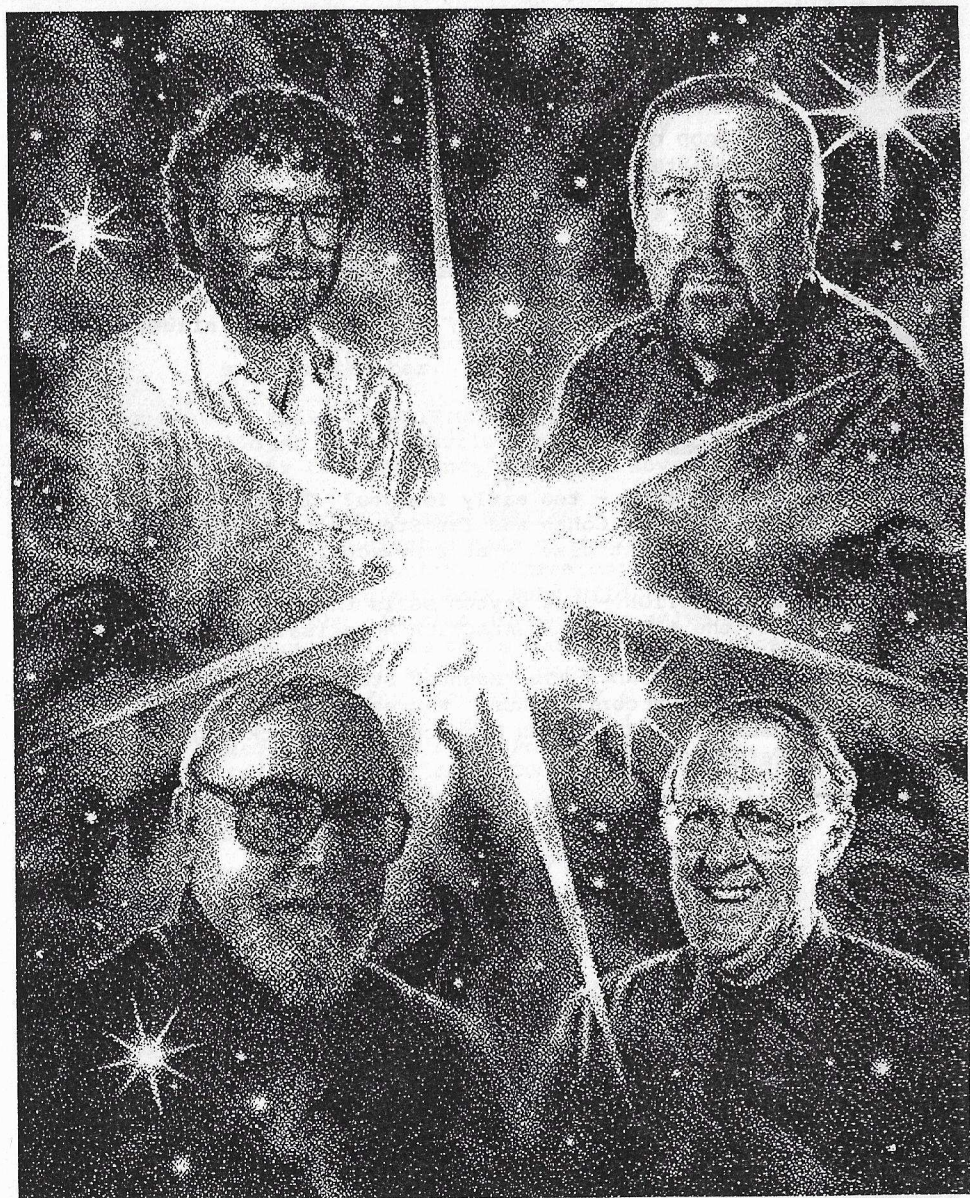


Read Me!

novason



Programme Notes by Chris Murphy

Friday 3rd November

- 8pm: THE GOOD OLD OPENING CEREMONY - done a little differently this year. MC Mike Siddall saunters splendiferously through the introductions and notices.
- 8:30pm: SPECIAL GUEST SPEECH - Iain M Banks.
- 10:30pm: LIVE BAND - Black Country mega-group Bad Influence.

Saturday 4th November

- 10:00am: SCIENCE ITEM - too early for you? Tough, you're missing Jack Cohen and Ian Stewart, together again for the first time - at a Novacon.
- 11:30am: BOOK AUCTION - Rog Peyton sells the good, the bad and the BATTLESTAR GALACTICA novelisations.
- 1:30pm: SF MASTERMIND - Tim "Magnus" Stannard ruthlessly grills the contestants: Maureen Kincaid Speller, Paul Kincaid, Julian Headlong, Greg Pickersgill and Pete Weston.
- 2:30pm: HUMOUR IN SF AND FANTASY - Our Panel, featuring John Brosnan, Tom Holt and Iain M. Banks, discusses the difficult art of comedy.
- 4:00pm: GUESTS OF HONOUR DIALOGUE - Brian W Aldiss and Harry Harrison.
- 6:00pm: THE HOUSE OF FUN - silly game. Steve Green and Kevin Clarke introduce us to their "hypertext" version of the convention.
- 8:00pm: ROOM 101 - Pam Wells invites Iain M Banks, Helena Bowles and Graham Joyce to reveal the things they most hate. What (or who) will be condemned to oblivion?
- 10:00pm: DISCO - well, did you really expect to get through the con without one?

Sunday 5th November

- 10:00am: A VAST IGNORANCE: A NEW PROFILE OF THE FUTURE - talk by Stephen Baxter.
- 11:30am: ART AUCTION - your chance to let Chris Morgan and Rog Peyton sell you those items you've been admiring in the Art Show.
- 1:30pm: 15 to 1 - Catherine McAulay hosts an edition of the popular television quiz show.
- 2:30pm: THE TOP 10 - Our Panel, featuring Rog Peyton, Pete Weston and Julian Headlong, discuss which sf books of the last 25 years deserve this rating.
- 4:00pm: GUEST OF HONOUR SPEECH - Bob Shaw.
- 5:45pm: AWARDS CEREMONY - in which the Novas are presented, the worthy are thanked and rewarded and the unworthy stay in the bar. Or something like that.
- 6:30pm: 25 YEARS OF WRITING SF - Our Guests of Honour, Brian Aldiss, Harry Harrison and Bob Shaw, look back over their careers since the first Novacon.
- 8:30pm: BLACK COUNTRY BEER TASTING - time to relax and savour a select sample of four classic beers from the Black Country. [Three confirmed so far: Sarah Hughes Original Dark Ruby Mild (OG 1058, ABV 6%, "a rich ruby ale that unleashes a salvo of different flavours at the taste buds. Sweet, malty and fruity in the mouth with a lingering hoppy and malty finish"), Enville White (ABV 4.2%, "lightly hopped, crystal, wheat beer...finished with Styrian hops") and Church End's Pew Porter (ABV 4.5%). Descriptions from THE BLACK COUNTRY GOOD BEER GUIDE 1994, £3.95 (excluding p&p), contact CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts., AL1 3BW.]

Please note that the programme may have changed since this was printed (surprise, surprise). Any last-minute alterations will be posted on the notice board by the entrance to the Rowton Suite.

In addition to the above it is also worth your while checking out DAVE LALLY'S PROGRAMME in the Baskerville Suite (details of which will be posted on the notice board by the door of the suite).

The Women's Periodical, Britain's women only APA, will be celebrating its Tenth Anniversary with a party in the Hancock Suite on Saturday night. Women only 9.30pm-10.30pm, all welcome from 10.30pm. (Please bring your own drinks - from the bar.)

Hotel Food and Drink

BREAKFAST: Will be served in the Princess Helena Restaurant from 6.30am-11am.

PRINCESS HELENA RESTAURANT:

Friday: 12.00-2.30pm, 2 course lunch from the carvery £6.00.
6.30pm-10pm, 3 course dinner from the carvery £8.00.

Saturday: 6.30pm-10pm, 3 course dinner from the carvery £8.00.

Sunday: 12.30-10pm, 3 course meal from the carvery £8.00.

NAYLOR'S BAR: Both Naylor's Bar (and the mini-bar in the no smoking Highbury Suite) will be serving drinks from 11am until as late as demand justifies on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Tea, coffee and food (see below for details) will be available all day until midnight on Friday and Saturday and until 10pm on Sunday. Food purchased in Naylor's Bar may be consumed in the bar, in the Highbury Suite or, when the restaurant is closed, in the Princess Helena Restaurant.

SET:

Chamberlain Platters	£1.50
Assorted Baguettes	£2.50
Soup of Day	£1.25
Roll and butter	30p
Baked Potato	£2.25
Cheese, Coleslaw, Vegetable or Meat Curry	
Tuna and Sweetcorn with Market Salad	£3.25

WEEKEND SWEETS:

Cheese Cake	£1.50	with Whipped Cream	£1.75
Gateaux of Day	£1.50	with Whipped Cream	£1.75
Cheese and Biscuits			£1.50

FRIDAY ALL DAY:

Meat or Vegetable Lasagne
Deep Fried Scampi Tartare Sauce
Chicken Marango with Boiled Rice

All of the above served with Salad Garnish, Chips and Peas.

All Main Courses £3.95

SATURDAY ALL DAY:

Giant Pastie
Vegetable or Meat Chilli Boiled Rice

(pto)

Battered Cod

All above served with Salad Garnish, Green
Beans and Boiled Potatoes £3.95

No vegetable or Potatoes £3.25

SUNDAY ALL DAY:

Pasta Spirals
with a Vegetable or Meat Bolognaise Sauce

Roast Chicken

Lamb Hot Pot
with Salad Garnish, Roast Potatoes,
Mixed Vegetable £3.95
No Vegetable or Potatoes £3.25

Restaurant Guide by Tony Morton

While the Chamberlain Hotel offers a very reasonably priced menu in the Princess Helena Restaurant and wonderfully cheap food in Naylor's Bar, I'm sure there are several people who are intent on trying the "local" cuisine in the vicinity of the hotel. So I give you: *Places to eat out at Novacon (relatively close to the Chamberlain Hotel).*

While the Chamberlain is slightly out of the city centre, there are numerous places close by to eat out at. Heading back towards the centre you will come across the city's CHINESE quarter; here there are number of good restaurants:

Restaurant	Location, Map Number and telephone number (where known)	Comment
TONG LEE	Corner Bromsgrove St/ Hurst St (1) 622 1989	Personally, the best Chinese in Brum. Excellent menu, good value. Brilliant staff
CHUNG YING	Wrottesley St (2) 666 6622	Chinese. Impressive menu and Dim Sum excellent.
CHUNG YING GARDENS	Thorp St (3)	Chinese. As above, but more expensive.
MR YEUNG	Arcadian, Hurst St (4)	Chinese.
DYNASTY	Hurst St (5) 622 1410	Chinese. Expensive but interesting menu.

Restaurant	Location, Map Number and telephone number (where known)	Comment
CHINA VILLA	Bromsgrove St (6) 622 4730	Chinese. Personally not impressed, but others swear by it and it is certainly cheaper than most.
MAHARAJA	Hurst St (7) 622 2641	Indian. High quality traditional Indian food. Can be expensive.
ROYAL TANDOORI	Smallbrook Queensway (8) 643 0976	Indian. Can be good but variable.
ASIA BALTI HOUSE	Horsefair (9)	Balti. Fair
BOMBAY	Essex St (10) 622 3106	Indian. Good in past, not recently visited.
KOHINOOR	Horsefair (11) 622 2053	Indian. Good in past, not recently visited.
FESTIVAL BALTI	Arcadian, Hurst St (12) 622 6289	Balti. Good reports but quite expensive.
TAJ MAHAL	Theatre approach (13) 643 3695	Indian.
TEPPANYAKI	Arcadian, Hurst St (14) 622 5183	Japanese. Good reports, but hear it is expensive.
LA CAPANNA	Hurst St (16) 622 2287	Italian. Pricey but reportedly good.
JUST HEALTH	Arcadian, Hurst St (17) 622 5923	Health Food.
ANTONIO	Arcadian, Hurst St (18)	Italian.
AGRAFORT	Suffolk St Queensway (19)	Possibly Indian.
PIZZA HUT	Arcadian, Hurst St (32)	Guess....
CAFES, TAKEAWAYS, ETC		
CITY FISH BAR	Inge St (23)	Fish & Chips.
CRUMBS	Arcadian, Hurst St (24)	Patisserie.
OSCARS	Hurst St (15)	Kebab House.
SATIS-FACTORY	Hurst St (25)	Sandwiches.
SUM YE	Arcadian, Hurst St (26)	Chinese.

CAFES, TAKEAWAYS, ETC

MR YEUNG	Kotwall House, Ladywell Walk (27)	Chinese.
SHAMRAM KEBABS	Smallbrook Queensway (28)	Kebabs.
PIZZA PIE	Holloway Circus (29)	Pizzas.
QUICK EATER	Holloway Circus (30)	Go and see.
PARTNERS	Hurst St (20)	Cafe/Bar.
JUNCTION	Horsefair (21)	Fast Food.
MR EGG	Hurst St (22)	Cheap & cheerful, plenty of eggs. Bacon sandwich £1.00; egg, chips and slice of bread £1.00 etc. Open VERY late.
CAFE SURF	Arcadian, Hurst St (31)	Specialist Tea & coffee. Internet on site!

Please note: The Arcadian centre is split between two levels!

[In addition to being ideally situated for "China Town", the Chamberlain is within a few minutes (by taxi) from "Balti Town". This is the area surrounding Ladypool Road which features dozens of authentic Balti restaurants. As everyone who has frequented "Balti Town" has their own favourites, you are best advised to ask a local to recommend one to you. (My own personal favourite is the Punjab Paradise, 377 Ladypool Road, tel: 449 4110. - Martin Tudor.]

Miscellaneous Information

DIRE WARNINGS: Please remember that the Chamberlain Hotel is in the business of providing beds, food and drink with a view to making a profit. Therefore neither they, nor the Novacon 25 committee, will take too kindly to people staying in rooms without paying, or bringing food and/or drink into the Hotel. Corkage will be charged at the rate of the equivalent cost of the food or drink if purchased in the Hotel. The Hotel have been very fair in their dealings with Novacon 25 and the committee intend to be as fair in return. We will back the Hotel in any dispute with people caught "crashing" on, or smuggling food or drink into, the premises.

CAR PARKING: As we mentioned in Progress Report #3, when you arrived you should have parked your vehicle in the hotel's car park. After which you should have been given a pink slip of paper which you exchanged at the Hotel Reception for a token.

This token will allow free access to the car park over the whole weekend. (Please note the token must be handed in when you check out.) Charges are £2.00 per car per day or £3.50 per van per day - very reasonable rates.

BOOZE: The Hotel is, unfortunately, unable to serve "Real Ale" but they have arranged for Kilkenny to be available in Naylor's Bar and have laid in extra supplies of Guinness for the weekend. (The mini-bar in the Highbury will be serving a more limited selection of drinks, namely lager, bitter and spirits.)

ERRATUM: Re. the advertisement for BEYOND magazine in the Programme Book; the contact address for BEYOND is - Parallel Universe Publications, 130 Union Road, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, BB5 3DR.

DISABLED ACCESS: This is via the ramp at the side door of the Hotel; which is situated on the right hand side of the building as you face the main entrance.

NO SMOKING: The Princess Helena Restaurant, the Highbury Suite, the Dealers' Room (Moseley/Westminster), Art Show (Alcester) and the left hand side of the Main Programme Room (Rowton, this being the side you enter from the main corridor) are all no smoking areas. Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated. (NB: The restriction on smoking in the Dealers' Room applies to customers not dealers.)

ART SHOW: Is in the Alcester Suite and will be open 10am-6pm on Saturday and 10am-11am on Sunday.

DEALERS' ROOM: Situated in the Moseley and Westminster (inter-connecting) Suites. Open from 10am-6pm on both Saturday and Sunday (although closed for the Guests' speeches on both days). It may be open on Friday afternoon/evening - at the discretion of the dealers (as indeed are the above times).

HOTEL SHOP: This will be open from 7am until 8.45pm each day (later if demand appears to justify it).

NOVACON REGISTRATIONS: The registration table, which will be taking late registrations for Novacon 25 as well as selling memberships for Novacon 26 next year, will be open at the following times: Friday 4pm-8pm, Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-approx. 5pm. The only exceptions to this will be during the guests' speeches when the table will be closed. (Membership of Novacon 26 costs just £23.00 at Novacon 25, rising to £25.00 after.)

Membership Update: Members who have joined since the Programme Book went to press, as of 27 October 1995:

339	Andy Richards	347	Stuart Capewell
340	Gerry Webb	348	Tom Holt
341	Mali Perera	349	Helena Gough
342	Douglas Hill	350	Robert Jones
343	Julia Daly	351	John Rowbotton
344	Mark Simmons	352	John Harcourt
345	Elizabeth Billinger	353	Kim Campbell
346	Paul Billinger		

CONAN, GILGAMESH, BEOWULF, JASON,
MARATHON, HANNIBAL, ROBIN HOOD,
CHARLEMAGNE, ARTHUR, EXCALIBUR,
ALEXANDER, DRUSS, THE DRENAI,
SIPSTRASSI STONES, JON SHANNOW...

ALTERNATE WORLDS,
ALTERNATE HISTORIES:
THE LEGENDS LIVE ON

Novacon 26

Guest of Honour
David Gemmell

8-10 November 1996

at the Hotel Ibis, Ladywell Walk
(off Hurst Street), Birmingham.

Attending Membership:

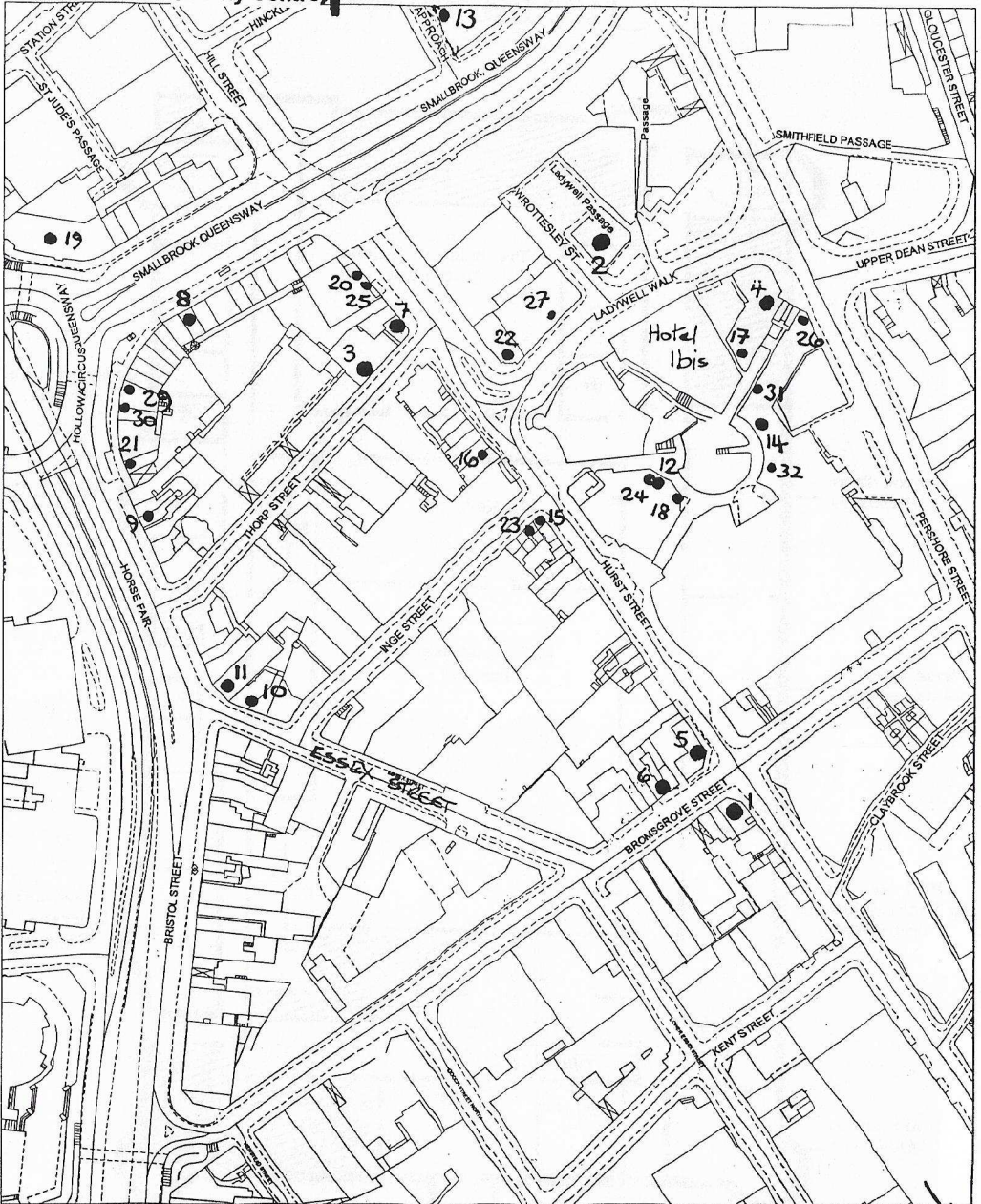
£23.00 until 6 November 1995,
then £25.00 until Easter 1996.

Supporting Membership: £10.50.

**Contact: Carol Morton, 14 Park Street,
Lye, Stourbridge, West Mids, DY9 8SS.**

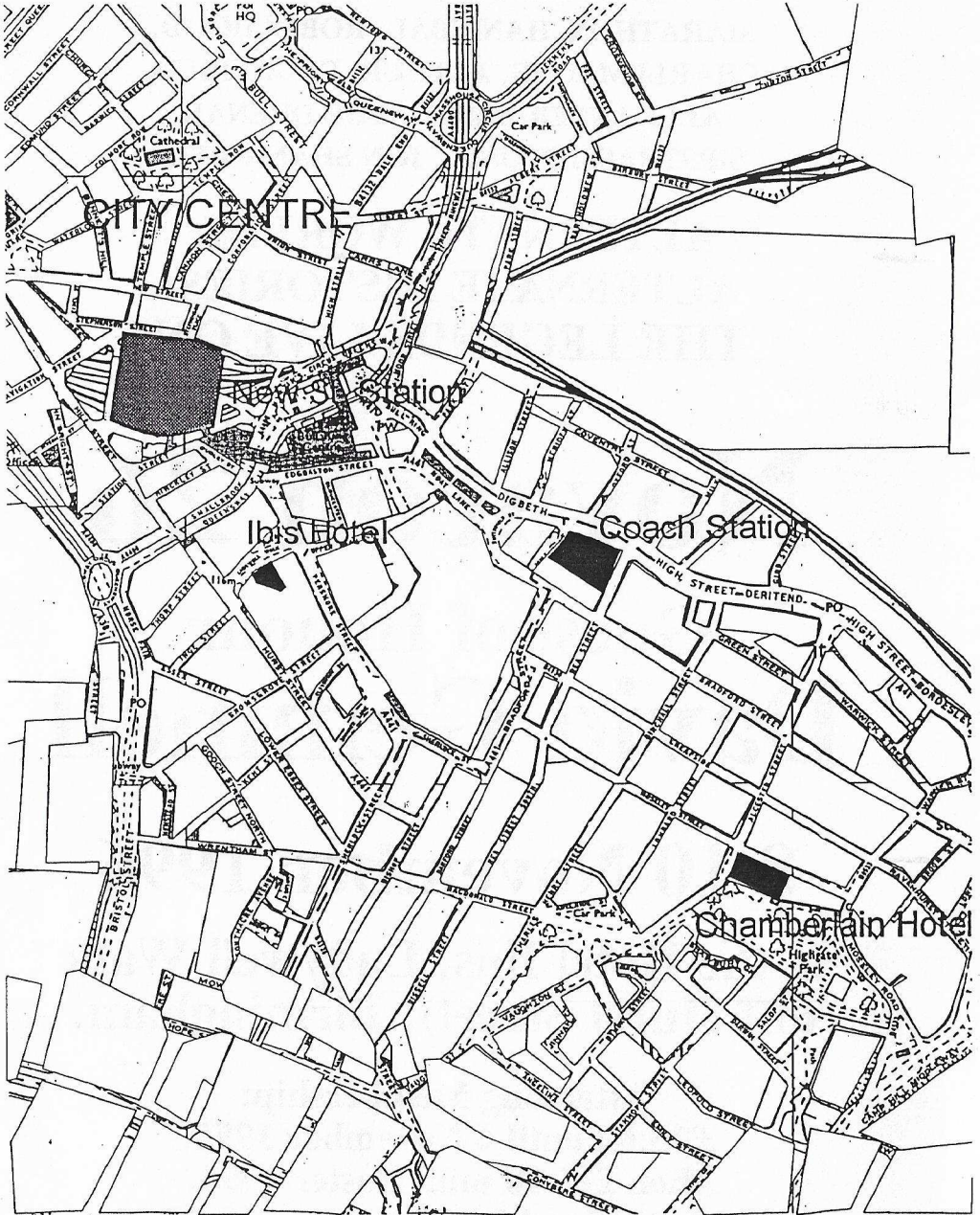
Location of Restaurants

To City Centre ↑



Chamberlain Hotel ↓

Location of Ibis Hotel and Route to City Centre



I M & K A TAYLOR
43 ONSLOW GARDENS
WALLINGTON
SURREY
SM6 9QH



CHAMBERLAIN

HOTEL

