

# Read Me!

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10.00 LHC Project	10.30 Darwin's Watch
	11.30 Book Auction	12.00 Art Auction
	13.30 GUEST OF HONOUR	14.00 Fandom's Trousers Of Time
	15.00 Visions of the Future	15.30 Live Journal Blogged My Zine
	16.30 FAN GUEST OF HONOUR	17.00 Awards Ceremony
19.00 Opening Ceremony	18.00 Are We Being Assimilated?	
19.30 Room 101	19.30 Film	19.00 Beer Tasting and Food
21.00 Book Launch	21.00 They Stole My Future, Or Did They?	
22.30 Charades	22.30 Pub Quiz	

## The Programme by Richard Standage

[Correct at time of going to print. More detailed notes in the Programme Book]

### *Friday*

#### **7.00pm Opening Ceremony**

Meet the committee and our two guests, and find out what's happening.

#### **7.30 Room 101**

Guest of Honour Ian R. MacLeod reveals his arch dislikes to host Steve Green.

#### **9.00 Book Launch Party**

Celebrate the launch of Ian's new book, *Song Of Time*. You'll be able to buy a copy here. Free wine and nibbles courtesy of the publisher.

#### **10.30 Charades**

Come and help wind up our first evening with a bit of physical silliness. All welcome, no previous experience necessary!

### *Saturday*

#### **10.00 LHC, The Universe and Everything**

Dr. David Evans from Birmingham University brings us up to date on the Large Hadron Collider project. Get your early morning brain in gear and you'll soon forget the hangover.

#### **11.30 Book Auction**

Rog Peyton and Chris Morgan will sell you some books because you don't have enough.

#### **1.30pm Guest Of Honour**

Ian R. MacLeod talks to John Jarrold.

#### **3.00 Visions Of The Future**

Nineteen Eighty Four or Brave New World? Ian MacLeod, Vernon Brown, Doug Spencer and Helena Bowles discuss the way society is headed.

#### **4.30 Fan Guest Of Honour**

Vernon Brown is interviewed by Rog Peyton.

#### **6.00 Are We Being Assimilated?**

How much do the likes of Google threaten our privacy? Charlie Stross moderates, with Liam Proven, Simon Bradshaw and Harry Payne.

#### **7.30 Film**

Come and enjoy a celluloid treat or two chosen by Steve Green.

#### **9.00 They Stole My Future, Or Did They?**

Did we get the future we were promised? Alice Lawson, Ian MacLeod, Vernon Brown and Tony Berry discuss the way the future was.

#### **10.30 Pub Quiz**

Yes, it's that time again. Put together a team and come and show off your skiffy knowledge. Dave Hicks and Tony Berry ask the questions.

### ***Sunday***

#### **10.30 Darwin's Watch Revisited**

Dr. Jack Cohen talks Darwin. Take more Nurofen and come along.

#### **12.00pm Art Auction**

Rog Peyton and Chris Morgan relieve you of more money.

#### **2.00 Fandom's Trousers Of Time**

What if Fandom as we know it never happened? Greg Pickersgill leads a discussion of possible alternative versions of the fannish scene.

#### **3.30 Live Journal Blogged My Zine**

Is there a future for printed fanzines and even conventions now that so many people do their fanac on line? Steve Green moderates.

#### **5.00 Awards Ceremony**

The raffle is drawn, the Novas presented, we tell you about next year, thank everyone then make a run for it through the fire exit.

#### **7.00 Beer Tasting and Food**

Ticket Holders ONLY for the hot food, which will be served at 7.30pm. The traditional Tasting of bottled and cask beer will also take place. You need a BEER BADGE for this, which can be obtained from con registration along with the food tickets. Soft drinks will be available free to all.

## Dave Lally's Programme

In addition to the highlights above the Dave Lally Programme will run from 4pm on Friday until Sunday afternoon in the Dudley Room (straight down the corridor from Hotel reception, first syndicate room on your left after the stairs); see the flip chart outside for details of what Dave will have on offer.

## Food and Drink

### *Breakfast*

Breakfast will be served in the Saddle Room Restaurant (next to the bar) from 8am until 10.30am on Saturday and Sunday, and 7.30am until 9.30am on Monday. **BREAKFAST VOUCHERS** will be issued this year, which can be exchanged over the bar for a baguette if you're too hung over to make brekky.

### **Lounge (No 10) Bar**

Will be open from 10.30am each day and cash and GRTs (Gopher Reward Tokens) will be accepted in payment for drinks.

Throughout the weekend Soup & Roll for £1.95 and a selection of filled baguettes at £2.35 each (half-baguette £1.20) will be available from the bar.

Tea and Coffee will also be available from the bar for £1.55 per cup. Chocolate bars will also be on sale.

The Hotel have laid on a supply of Black sheep Bitter at the special price of £2.40 per pint. In addition we have draught Addlestons Cider at £2.40 per pint.

Worthington and Carling £2.40. Grolsh and Murphys £2.60.

Also 10oz glasses of lemonade or coke at 90p each; orange juice and lemonade at £1.65 per pint.

House wine £2.70 per glass or £12.40 per bottle.

## **Convention Menu**

Con food will be served in the Saddle Room Restaurant.

But please note that Sunday Lunch will be available rather than con food in the Saddle Room Restaurant -- full Roast Carvery at £7.95 per head.

### ***Friday***

From the Saddle Room Restaurant 6pm-9.30pm. Selection of hot food with vegetarian option £7.75 per person. Salad bar £2.30. Jacket potato and fillings from £2.20; extra fillings 50p. Dessert £1.80 extra (from the dessert "trolley").

From Servery in No 10 Bar Midnight

Bacon, Sausage or Chip rolls/baps/sandwiches £1.80 each. Vegetarian option

### ***Saturday***

From the Saddle Room Restaurant 12.00-2.30pm

As above.

From the Saddle Room Restaurant 6pm-9.30pm

As above

**OR** From the Saddle Room Restaurant 6pm-9.30pm

Selection of three steak dishes for £9.50 each. All steaks served with chips, mushrooms and a grilled tomato.

From Servery in No 10 Bar Midnight

Bacon, Sausage or Chip rolls/baps/sandwiches £1.80 each. Vegetarian option.

### ***Sunday***

From the Saddle Room Restaurant 12.00-15.00pm

Roast Carvery Selection / Hot Vegetarian Option

(NB: one course £7.95 per head)

From the No 10 Lounge Bar All afternoon

Selection of filled baguettes £2.35 each. Half bag £1.20. Soup & Roll £1.95

From Servery in No 10 Bar Midnight

Bacon, Sausage or Chip rolls/baps/sandwiches £1.80 each

## **Novacon Registration**

Novacon Registration will be open:

Friday: 4pm-6.30pm and 7.30pm-10pm for N38 Registrations ONLY.

Saturday: 10am-3.00pm and 4.00pm-6pm for all Novacon business.

Sunday: 10am-4.15pm for all Novacon business.

From Saturday morning onwards Registration will be selling: Novacon 38 day memberships at £20 Saturday and £15 Sunday; BEER BADGES for the Beer Tasting (£5.00 per person or your 3 bottles of beer); tickets for the Food (on sale until 4pm Sunday); memberships to Novacon 39; raffle tickets in aid of the RNIB's Books for the Blind Project. There may also be some goodies from previous Novacons on sale.

### ***Dealers' Room***

This is in the King Charles Suite and will be open from 4pm until 6.45pm on Friday, 10am until 1.15pm and 3pm until 6pm Saturday, and 10am until 4pm on Sunday. Times are subject to change.

### ***Art Show***

In the Sedgley and Brierley Rooms (turn right at Hotel Reception and keep walking they're on your left). They will be open from 10am until 6pm on Saturday and on Sunday from 10am until noon.

### ***Novacon Beer Tasting***

As usual at such events we will be running the latest in a long series of Novacon Beer Tastings at the same time as our Food. This will be using the ever-popular BYOB (bring your own beer) format, at least 3 bottles to registration, or buy a badge for £5.

Novacon will have some beer on draught as well as a few other interesting bottles - the rest is up to you!

The Beer Tasting will start at 7pm on Sunday in the King Charles Suite. Food will be served from 7.30pm .

Soft drinks will be available free to anyone.

### ***Gophers***

If you *have* volunteered to be a gopher or if you *wish* to volunteer please report to Cat Coast or Chris Murphy in the Ops Room (Hatherton, up the stairs and straight in front of you. The stairs are located past hotel reception towards the bedrooms.)

### ***R.N.I.B. Raffle***

If you wish to purchase tickets for the annual raffle in aid of RNIB's Books for the Blind Project, a Glamorous Assistant will be selling them around the con, but tickets will also be available from Novacon Registration -- Saturday onwards. The top prizes will be given out as the draw is made at the Award Ceremony, then the other prizes will be available for collection from a table set up at the back of the room.

## ***Operations***

Operations will be in the Hatherton Room, which is upstairs from the hotel reception. As in previous years we will be operating a fascist 'tidy' Ops Room with designated areas for stuff to be stored and no non-essential furniture (or people). This is where you bring your beer or books to sell. You will be able to leave coats and bags in Ops on request and at your own risk. The room will not be manned all the time, but there should be someone in the con registration (glass office in reception), or look for the Duty Convention Manager who will be wandering round wearing a fetching shiny red waistcoat.

## **Dire Warnings**

Please remember that the Quality Hotel is in the business of selling accommodation, drink and food for profit. Neither the management of the Quality Hotel nor the Novacon committee will approve of people "crashing" in rooms they haven't paid for, and/or smuggling food/drink into the hotel. The Novacon committee will obviously support the hotel in any dispute with members of Novacon caught "crashing" and/or "smuggling".

## ***Badges***

As the hotel bar is a public bar, there may be non-convention people in the Hotel. It is therefore essential that you wear your con badge AT ALL TIMES! If you do not you may be refused food from the con menu, or wrestled to the ground by our Ninja security operatives as you try to enter the function rooms. Hotel Staff may challenge anyone not wearing a badge.

## ***Duplicate Room Keys***

We have made arrangements with the Hotel so that if you are sharing a room and require a key each you should be able to get one. (Unfortunately if you are in one of the 30 executive suites you cannot have a key each as they have different locks.)

However, if you require a key each you should have notified the Hotel of this on arrival. You may not be able to change your mind later because the Hotel will have programmed 100 rooms to accept duplicate key sets before we arrive. This is a time-consuming process and there are a limited number of these duplicate key sets available - the Hotel does not normally use them and has bought them in especially for Novacon. If you do have a key each please don't lose them! If you lose your key, two new keys will have to be issued as your sharer's key won't work after you've used your new key. If the hotel runs out of key pairs, then tough.

If you do not have a key each you can still easily gain access to your room by either tracking down your sharer or by asking Hotel Reception to let you in with a master, but please don't get them doing this all the time. The hotel will require you to produce your keycard as proof that it is your room, so please ensure you carry it.

### Creche

There is NO formal crèche this year, but The Children's Play Room will still be available for parents to make their own arrangements. This is the Ashmore Room (down the corridor past Hotel reception, all the way past the Art Show Rooms, on the corner). It will be supplied with a selection of toys, games, paper, pens etc.

### Check In & Out

Check-in time is from 2pm and check-out by 11am on the day of departure. (Bedrooms will be cleaned between 10am and 3pm). There is a special late check out time of 2pm on Sunday only.

### Left Luggage

*Luggage can be left in the Hatherton Room (upstairs).*  
You may have to find a committee person to let you in.

### Leisure Facilities

As paying guests we have full use of the hotel's leisure facilities. Ask at reception.