

# READ ME

## NOVACON REGISTRATION

This is in the business office in the main foyer. It will be open:

Friday: 16.00 – 18.30 and 19.30 – 22.00 for N40 registrations only  
Saturday: 10.00 – 18.00 for all Novacon business  
Sunday: 10.00 – 16.00 for all Novacon business

## DEALERS' ROOM

This is in the Churchill Suite, which is next to the main bar. It will be open from 16.00 – 18.45 Friday, 10.00 – 13.15 and 14.30 – 18.00 Saturday and 10.00 – 16.00 Sunday. No food or drink in the room please (unless you're a dealer!)

## MEETING ROOMS

All the small meeting rooms are located together downstairs. These will house the Artshow, Dave Lalley's programme, secure ops store, children's room and a room for smaller programme items.

## DAVE LALLEY'S PROGRAMME

In addition to the main programme, Dave Lalley will be running his usual box of delights from 16.00 Friday until Sunday afternoon. This will take place in one of the meeting rooms downstairs. See flipchart outside the room for a list of what's on.

## ART SHOW

This is in meeting room 2. It is open from 10.00 – 18.00 Saturday and 10.00 – 11.30 Sunday. No food or drink in the room please.

## OPERATIONS

We'll probably be hanging out around the business centre in main reception, but there will be a secure ops store in meeting room 6 which will be used to keep any books you have for the auction, Sunday evening beer, coats and bags (at the owner's risk) and various other stuff. If you want to leave anything here, speak to the convention Duty Manager (who will be wearing a subtle red waistcoat). If you have volunteered to be a GOPHER, come and find any committee member and we'll sort you out. There are rewards!

## FOOD AND DRINK

All convention food will be served in the main bar area on the ground floor. As last year the food orders will be taken over the bar and cooked to order. This will mean you wait a bit longer but it's worth it! It may be obvious, but please remain in the bar until you've got your food.

The DOWNSTAIRS BAR will be open as a bar this year, so please make use of it. The range of drinks and opening times will be limited, but there are comfy seats and lift access.

Friday: Dinner 18.30 – 22.00. Selection of hot and cold food, such as pizza, burger and chips, baked potato, vegetarian option, salad. Main dish £4.95.

Late night: bacon/sausage/chip butties £2.00

Saturday: Breakfast 7.30 – 10.30

Lunch: 12.30 – 14.30. Selection of hot and cold food as above

Dinner: 18.00 – 22.00

Late night: Butties

Sunday: Breakfast 7.30 – 10.30

Lunch: 12.30 – 14.30

Late night: Butties

The regular bar menu will also be available throughout the weekend. If you want a sit-down meal in the restaurant using the regular hotel menu, can you please **reserve a table**, especially for Saturday evening.

Snacks such as crisps, nuts, chocolate and baguettes (£2.00) will be available from the bar 10.00 – 23.00.

THE MAIN BAR is the Savoy on the ground floor and is open from 10.30 until we're all tired. THE DOWNSTAIRS BAR is available for use as lounge area and will also be selling drinks, though not for the extended hours upstairs. You can take food down there once you've got it from the main bar.

#### LEISURE FACILITIES

We have full use of the leisure club which has a pool, sauna and gym. Access for disabled guests is through the main club entrance outside, reached from the bar.

**Please note:** the pool runs some adults-only swim sessions. These are: Friday 19.00 – 21.30; Saturday 13.00 – 15.00, 19.00 – 20.00; Sunday 15.00 – 17.00, 19.00 – 20.00.

#### SATURDAY EVENING WHISKY TASTING

Do you know your smooth malt from your rough blend? Come and exercise your palate and support the 2014 Worldcon bid. This will take place at 21.00 in the off-piste programme rooms downstairs beyond the Artshow. Until supplies run out!

#### SUNDAY EVENING BEER TASTING AND FOOD

We continue the tradition of having a winding-down event in the shape of the famous beer-tasting and meal. We will be providing some beer, but rely on you to bring the more interesting stuff. A minimum of 3 bottles will get you a place at the bar, or buy a badge from registration for £5. The beer tasting starts at 19.30 in the Churchill Suite. At 20.00 the food will be served, this year with an Indian theme as chosen by our GoH. The food is by **ticket only**. These are on sale from registration and cost £10. **YOU MUST BUY YOUR FOOD TICKET BY 11.00 SUNDAY MORNING.**

A selection of **soft drinks** will be available free to everyone.

## BADGES

The hotel bar and leisure club are open to the public and so there may be non-convention people in the hotel. Please wear your badge at all times, or you will be refused entry to the artshow and dealers' room, as well as being turned away from the con food. This is also a matter of security – we want to know who's who! Don't make us unleash the attack-gerbils.

## DIRE WARNINGS

The Park Inn is in the business of selling accommodation, food and drink. Neither the hotel nor the Novacon committee approve of members crashing in rooms or bringing in their own supplies, so don't do it. Remember this is a no-smoking hotel, and if you light up on the premises, they can ask you to leave.

## LEFT LUGGAGE

This can be left in the secure Ops store downstairs. Find a committee member to let you in.

## RNIB RAFFLE

As usual we will be running a raffle throughout the convention, with proceeds going to the RNIB Talking Books for the Blind. Someone will wave a book of tickets at you at some point.

## OUTSIDE

If you venture outside the hotel (which you won't of course, because the convention is just too much fun) there is pretty well all you could need nearby. The big pub over the road is an illusion. So is the food and real ale it serves. Honest. Keep on that side of the road and there is a bank with a cashpoint, various shops, newsagent and supermarket with basic medicines. If you need an actual pharmacy there is a Boots about half a mile away - ask reception. And of course there's the Tin Tin shop.

If you want to do the tourist bit then apparently there's a local legend about some bloke in green tights; sounds dodgy to me. Besides that there is the famous Olde Trip To Jerusalem Inn, which is the oldest boozer in England, dating back to 1189AD. Yes it is and I don't care what anyone else says. Been there many times, but not since they refurbished it and opened up more long-buried parts. Worth a visit as it's partially built into the cliffs beneath the castle, but it is very popular and can get crowded. I don't suppose they run sightseeing tours of my old house in the Meadows, but they should.

## RESTAURANTS

Stand in front of the mirror and repeat: "I will stay in the con, I will stay in the con, I will stay...."  
There are of course plenty of restaurants in Nottingham, but we haven't actually tried any. I'm sure you all have access to the interweb and can look at a dozen sites listing eateries, so we'll leave it to you to do the work. Or you could just go downtown and wander; I'm sure you'll find somewhere!

## NOVACON 40 = PROGRAMME

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
10		<b>With A Bang or A Whimper</b>	<b>Brain Aldiss Reading</b>	
11		<b>Book Auction</b>	<b>Ian Stewart: What Would An Alien Look Like.</b>	
12			<b>Art Auction</b>	
01		<b>Carolyn Crawford: Sounds of the Universe</b>	<b>The Hard Stuff</b>	
02		<b>Iain Banks (Dealer's room closed)</b>		
03		<b>The Magnificent 6</b>	<b>Best books of the last 40 years</b>	
04			<b>Awards ceremony</b>	
05		<b>Brian Aldiss</b>		
06				
07		<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	<b>Forty Significant Objects</b>	<b>Beer tasting &amp; Banquet</b>
08		<b>Genre Pile Up</b>		
09	<b>Book Launch: <i>Surface Detail</i></b>	<b>Geoff Ryman: Before Sound No-one Could Hear You Scream</b>		
10	<b>Friday Night With Steven J Green</b>	<b>Novacon 40<sup>th</sup> Party with a Serious Scientific Talk</b>		
11				

Any updates and changes will be announced at the opening ceremony, via posters outside registration, and by the time honoured tradition of a man shouting in the bar.

We hope to arrange some kaffeeklatsches with the amazing number of authors attending the convention. Check registration for latest info.