



DISPATCHES 4



THE Reconnaissance FORUM

Dateline: Cardiff. Issue 4: January 1991

Inside: Directions and Programme Updates.

Hotel Update

The Park Hotel now has no single rooms and no double rooms left. If any single or double rooms become available, they will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis from the dates on the booking forms that were received. Instead of single rooms we can offer twin rooms for single occupancy (known as TBSO) with a £10 per day supplement on the normal twin room rate of £30, i.e. £33.50 per night for TBSO instead of £30 for a single. The available room types and prices (per person per night) breakdown as follows:

- Single Rooms: None available.
- Double Rooms: None available.
- Twin Rooms: Available at £23.50.
- TBSO: Available at £33.50.

If you have not sent in your Booking Form (see membership list on page 4), another is enclosed with this issue of *Dispatches*. If you wish to take TBSO, put a 1 in the 'Single Room' box on the form and write "Will accept TBSO" in the line left for 'Other (please specify)'. We can still find sharers for those people who want them.

In summary:

1. Those people who asked for a single room and have received confirmation of a single room will get a single room, but those who have accepted a twin room for single occupancy will be allocated a twin room unless a single room becomes available.
2. Those people who have asked for a double room and received confirma-

If you have not sent in your Booking Form, please fill in and send to us the one enclosed with this *Dispatches* immediately.

tion of a double room will get a double room, but those who have asked for a double room and received confirmation of a twin room will be allocated a double room if one becomes available.

3. Those people who have asked for a twin room should have no problems unless we run out of Hotel space entirely.

If there are any problems with your room booking we will contact you. Likewise, if you have any difficulties, please contact us, preferably by telephone on the number given in the Information section at the rear of this *Dispatches*.

The telephone number of the Hotel is given in the Information section, but you should not book rooms directly with the Hotel since you will then be charged the prevailing rate and not the reduced Convention rate.

A 6 ft by 2 ft table costs £15 and we have room for a total of 15 tables. Anyone who wishes to book a table (including those that expressed an interest on their Booking Form) should telephone us on the number given in the Information section at the rear of this *Dispatches*.

Convention tables are free and are being dealt with separately.

Advertising

It is still possible to get an advertisement into the *Reconnaissance* Programme Book. Telephone us on the number given in the Information section at the rear of this *Dispatches* before 30 January 91, and get camera-ready copy to us before 6 February 91. The booklet will be quality photocopy A5 size and will have approximately 40 pages; at least 250 copies will be printed.

Rates are as follows:

Fan Rate: £30 full page,
£15 half page.
(e.g. individuals, conventions, clubs).

Pro Rate: £60 full page,
£30 half page.
(e.g. Bookshops, publishers).

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Dealers

There is still space available in the Dealers Room. For those of you who do not already know, the Dealers Room will house tables from which various bookshops, collectors, craftspersons and clubs will be selling their

Programme Changes

Since *Dispatches 3* we have tweaked the programme in a number of ways. **No Shame** is now on the programme – anyone who is interested in taking part and has not yet got in touch, please do so. The **Discussion Groups**, meanwhile, have contracted to a single hour of panel/discussion (with some run-on time, just in case).

The **Build a Flyer** competition has proved very popular, but we can still accommodate more people.

The Quiz, **Hangfan**, now has two teams, lead by John Dallman and Tim Illingworth.

□

Special Participants

The list of Special Participants has grown since the last *Dispatches*:

Gill Alderman, Lionel Fanthorpe, Mary Gentle, Colin Greeland, John Gribbin, Roz Kaveney, David Langford, Lorna Mitchell, Terry Pratchett, David Pringle, Alex Stewart, Charles Stross, Ashley Watkins and Dean Wayland. □

The Programme

What follows is a list of the titles of our programme items to give you an inkling of what the convention will be looking at on each day. There is no room here to give a description of each item, so you'll have to imagine the rest until you arrive and pick up your Programme Book.

Friday (start 18:30)

Film: *Sword in the Stone*
 Film: *Pas de deux*
Opening Ceremony (20:15)
 Panel: *The Forgotten Heritage of SF*
 Panel: *What I Would Have Done Ten Years Ago If Only I Had Known ...*
 Film: *The Man in the White Suit*
 Story Telling:
Morgan le Fay Meets the Star Trek Rebels

Saturday (start 10:15)

Film: *Barbarella*
 Demonstration:
Medieval Weapons in Fantasy and Reality
 Panel: *International Comics*
 Panel: *The Future of SF*
 Films: *Synchrony and Cosmic Zoom*

Appeal: *SFF Appeal*
 Panel: *The Edges of SF*
 Panel: *Shocking Liberties*
 Panel: *That Sinking Feeling*
 Game: *Build a Flyer*
 Talk: *Hungry Generations*
 Panel: *Back Into the Telephone Box*
 Game: *Time Police*
 Films: *Canadian Animation*
 Quiz: *Hangfan*
 Panel: *Magazines*
 Panel: *SF Myopia*
 Theatre: *No Shame Theatre*
 Reading: *Leaks*
 Panel: *Use and Mythuse in Fantasy*
 Film: *Dr Strangelove*
Hawaii and FATW Party

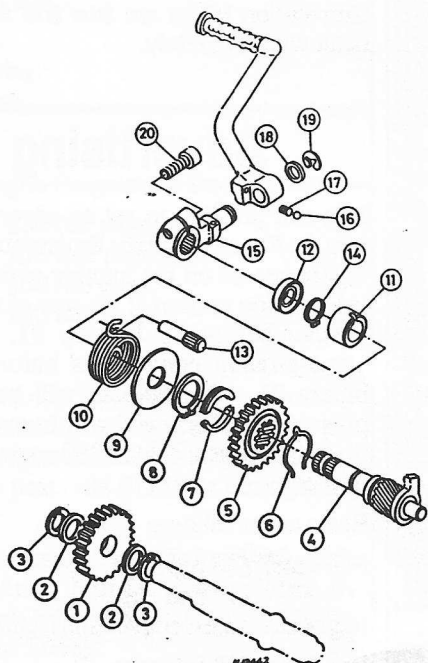
Sunday (start 10:15)

Film: *Mad Max II*
Book Auction
 Panel: *Filthy Prose*
 Talk: *Zen, Hal or Holly*
 Game: *Earthdoom!*
 Talk: *Why Aren't You at Your Church?*
 Panel: *Business Meeting*
 Panel: *Images of SF*
 Panel: *The Death of Paper*
 Panel: *Are Awards Worth Anything?*
 Talk: *SF in Europe*

Closing Ceremony

(Programme ends 18:30). □

Zen and the Art



1. Are BR Timetables SF or Fantasy?
2. What happened to the first, second and third bridges?
3. If a human life is beyond price, why does the cost of living keep going up?
4. When can I vote for the Boston Tea Party?
5. Would Angels have greater freedom if they had better footwear?
6. What happens to the cold light of day during Summer?
7. What do you print on a trouser press?
8. Are the Coast Guard there in case of theft?
9. How do bumble-bees fly?
10. Is turning water into milk an economic miracle?
11. How many staves does a biscuit barrel have?
12. What do 2 out of 10 cats have against Whiskers?
13. Why does the telephone always ring when I'm in the bath?
14. Is a milliHelen the amount of beauty required to launch one ship?
15. Why did Shakespeare use so many quotes in his works?
16. If 'I think therefore I am' what happens when I go to sleep?
17. Do we live in interesting times?
18. Why does cigarette smoke always drift towards non-smokers?
19. Why am I doing this?
20. When will it all end? □

Directions

The Severn Bridge:

If you intend to use the Severn Bridge, the Department of Transport tell us that it is usually busy between 16:00 and 18:00 on a Friday (apparently due to people returning home for the weekend after spending the week working in London); they say there should be no problems returning on a Sunday. They have no planned works on the Bridge for the period of the Convention, but if you wish to make absolutely sure you can telephone:

Bristol (0272) 299299

for a recorded message about the current state of traffic. There is a toll on the Bridge of £1 for cars.

By Car from the South East:

From the South East, take the M4 West-bound to the Severn Bridge. If you anticipate traffic queues at the Bridge (a delay of more than 1 hour, say), don't take the Bridge, but instead take the M5 North at junction 20 and go around via Gloucester and the A40 or the M50 (see the route from the Midlands and the North).

However, if all is well, cross the Bridge into Wales (Croeso i Gymru and all that) and carry on along the M4, past Newport, until you reach junction 29, where you should turn off onto the A48(M). This road will take you into Cardiff (East and South according to the road sign).

You will travel past the Post House and Moat House hotels on your right and will reach a turn-off for the A470 (as the University College Hospital appears on your right); take this turn-off. You will reach a

roundabout underneath a fly-over, where you should take the second exit signed to the City Centre (the A470). Carry on along this road until you reach a small tidal flow system (very shortly after going over a railway bridge) In the tidal flow system the road forks at a set of traffic lights – take the right hand fork, leading to North Road. After another set of lights (where you should go straight on) you will see the large stone-built law courts and University buildings on your left.

Get into the left-hand lane and at the next major junction (a box junction), you can either go straight on and then immediately left onto Kingsway leading to Greyfriars, or you can go left and then immediately right onto Kingsway leading to Greyfriars, both of which lead you to Park Place past the NCP car park. As you pass the NCP, you will reach a set of traffic lights where the road bends left. Turn sharp right for Park Place. The Hotel car park is through an entrance on your left and the Hotel entrance is 30 metres further on.

By Car from the Midlands and the North:

Get to the M5 and travel South to the junction with the M50 (junction 8). At the end of the M50, take the A40 towards Monmouth, then at Raglan turn off onto the A449 heading for Newport. This joins the M4 at junction 24 (just before Newport), where you should continue as the instructions for travel by car from the South East.

Car Parking:

The Hotel has its own Car Park with a capacity of 60 cars. It is free for use by residents and non-residents, but in the event of it getting over-full, Hotel residents will be given priority. There is an NCP car park within 100 yards of the Hotel (see map),

called Greyfriars. It has a multi-storey section which is open 24 hours and costs £5.50 for 24 hours (less for shorter periods), plus an underground section for attended parking (i.e. you leave your keys with them and they park the car); this costs £2.40 for parking 7:30 to 13:00 and £2.40 for 11:30 to 17:30 (i.e. £4.80 for 24 hours), but note that it is shut from 17:30 until 7:30 the following morning.

By Rail and Coach:

Cardiff Central Station (telephone number in the Information section overleaf) and the central Coach and Bus Station are next door to each other. From here you can either get a local train to Queen Street Station (about a one minute journey) or you can walk to the Hotel in 10 minutes.

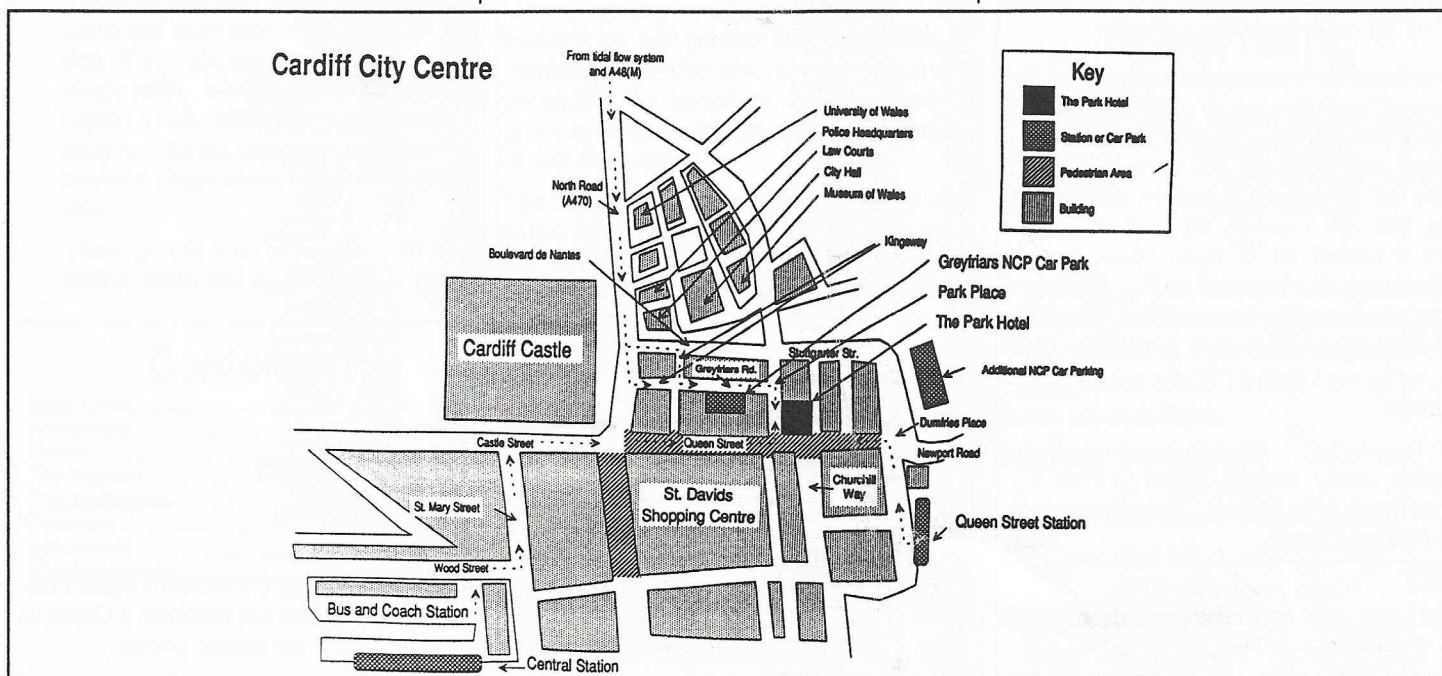
If you took the train to Queen Street Station, turn right as you leave the station building, then after about 100 metres, turn left onto Queen Street. The Hotel is 100 metres away on your right (entrance in Park Place).

If you decide to walk from the Central Station, head for the City Centre (along Wood Street for a short distance), then turn left onto St. Mary Street, heading for the Castle. When you reach Castle Street, turn right and walk down the pedestrianised Queen Street. The Park Hotel is 200 metres away on your left (entrance on Park Place).

By Air:

If you are travelling by plane into Cardiff Wales Airport, get a taxi or coach into town.

If you are coming in your reproduction Leonardo da Vinci flying machine, the nearest open space in which to land is in front of the town hall (beside Boulevard de Nantes), but watch out for the fountains.



Information

Reconnaissance will take place over the weekend of 22-24th February 1991 at the Park Hotel, Cardiff.

All memberships should be addressed to: *Reconnaissance*, 5 St. Andrews Road, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 2DY.

Telephone: 081-531 1703 (answer-phone).

Postal memberships MUST be sent to reach us before 8 February 91.

Electronic Mail Contact Points:

Greenet: gdn:johnstewart
DASnet: DE3MIR:johnstewart

The Convention Hotel is the Park Hotel in Park Place, Cardiff, telephone: 0222 383471 (do not book accommodation with them directly as you will be charged the prevailing rate and not the reduced Convention rate).

The telephone number for Cardiff Central Station is 0222 228000 (24 hours with call queuing).

Membership (received by post before 8 February 91):

£18 Attending
£10 Supporting.

Conversion is always the current difference in rates. Cheques should be made payable to *Reconnaissance*.

Full membership on the door £20 all weekend.

Day membership on the door (valid from 8 a.m. to 8 a.m.):

£5 Friday.
£12 Saturday.
£10 Sunday.

Advertising in Programme Book:

Fan Rate: £30 full page,
£15 half page.
Pro Rate: £60 full page,
£30 half page.

Reconnaissance T-shirts and sweatshirts will be available for £5 and £8 respectively from the registration desk at the Convention, or by post (add £1.00 for postage and packing).

The committee: Patrick Lawford, Rob Meades, Andy Morris, Chris O'Shea II, James Steel, John Stewart, Gary Stratmann and Marcus Streets.

Credits

Thanks to our contributors, thanks to the Store Street Press for being patient, and thank God it's almost over.

Membership List

As at 15 February 91

A=Attending S=Supporting
B=Baby/Juvenile

38A Mike Abbott
4A Gill Alderman
101A Philip Allcock
173A *Arwen Allen
79A Brian Amcringen
178A Fiona Anderson
153A *Dafydd ap Thomas
59A *William Armitage
165A Margaret Austin
102A *Henry Balen
121A John Bark
91A Stephen Baynes
193A *David Beasley
202A *Meike (A.Penguin) Benzler
201A *Meike (Howling Frog) Benzler
130A *Michael Bernardi
32A Neil Blaber
131A Lissa Blackburn
162A *Paul Blair
172A Heather Brading
34A Jill Bradley
35A Phil Bradley
42A *Alan Braggins
66A Michael Braithwaite
132A John Bray
45A *Jon Brewis
27A Ben Brown
196A *Ceri Brown
47A Pat Brown
155A Peter Brown
43A Steve Bull
129A *Steve Burrige
111A Julian Burrows
37A *Steven Cain
133A Mike Cheater
26S Paul Clough
181A David "Eddie" Cochrane
156A Malcolm Cohen
58A Peter Cohen
157A Geoff Cook
114A Barbara Cooper
97A Chris Cooper
68A Keith Coslett
95A Rafe Culpin
184A Patrick Curson
70A John Dallman
40A *Mike Damesick
134S *Penny M Davidson
205A *Barbara Davies
203A *Robert Lyn Davies
161A Steve Davies
135S Martyn Dawe
71A Peter J B Day
171A G de Cesare
211A *Simon de Wolfe
108A *Ian Dickson
46A Paul Dorner
136A Tim Duckworth
82A Martin Easterbrook
137A *Sue Edwards
112A Frances Elsworth
36A *John English
31A Fabian
10A Lionel Fanthorpe
138A Mike Figg
64A *Colin Fine
73S *Alan R Fleming
182S *Mike Ford
98A Richard Fox
24A Susan Francis
80A Gwen Funnell
117A Peter Garratt
8A Mary Gentle
87A *Jenny Glover
90B *Robert Glover
88A *Steve Glover
89B *Tara Glover
74A Tim Goodier
65S *Karen Goswell
28S *Michael Gould
3A Colin Greenland
139A Ben Gribbin
11A John Gribbin
72A P J Groves
160A Tony Hammond
163A Bridget Hardcastle
22A Ecf Hartman
140A Jackie Hawkins
179A Cornelia Heaney
166A *Martin Hoare
25S Trader Horn
177A Valerie R Housden
141A *Paul Hunt
106A *Mike "The Fingers" Ibeji
174A Tim J P Illingworth
191A *Simon Ings
30A Rhodri James
54A *Richard James
194A *Peter Jeavons
39A *Neil Jezard
96A Steve Jones
195A *Kevin R Joyce
189A F.oz Kaveney
206A *Peter Keelan
53S *Jane Killick

176A *Paul Kincaid
154A James F Klein
116A *C. V. F. Knight
21A Alice Kohler
9A David Langford
77A Nick Larter
23A Adrian Last
15A *Patrick Lawford
197A Ruth Le Sueur
100A *Steve Linton
142A *Justin Lloyd
152A Ann Looker
207A *J M Looker
164A *Nicholas Mahoney
204A Barbara Mascetti
158A Hugh Mascetti
169A Sue Mason
199A Kari Maund
168A W.A. McCabe
85S *Helen McNabb
192A *Steve McWorthy
49A Robert Meades
170A *Mark Meenan
109A *Christine Milford
6A *Lorna Mitchell
115A *Anthony Neale Gerald Mittenshaw-Hodge
69S *David C Moor
16A Andy Morris
20A *Wim Morrison
183A *Steve Mowbray
78A Caroline Mullan
198A Phil Nansen
208A Tom Nansen
12A Chris O'Shea II
167A *Jean Owen
104A Dave Packwood
150A Nigel "Gunther" Parsons
2A *Phil Partridge
107A *J. M. Paxton
122S *Harry Payne
99A Bernie Peck
61A Roger Perkins
187A Hywel T Phillips
110A Phil Plumbly
213A *Alan Pomeroy
212A *Camilla Pomeroy
55A *Maureen Porter
14A Terry Pratchett
149A David Pringle
57S *Liam Quin
200A *John Campbell Rees
52A John F. W. Richards
44A Roger Robinson
188A Marjorie Sachs
128A Bruce Saville
124A Alison Scott
123A Mike Scott
56S *D.M. Sherwood
33A Anna Smith
48S *Chris Smith
186A Maggie A Smith
29A *Nick Smith
113A Dan Smithers
143A *Jane Smithers
120A Liz Sourbath
151A *Rob Southall
210A Gary Starr
17A James Steel
67S *John Stewart
51A Alex Stewart
18A John Stewart
144A Mike Stone
148A Gary Stratmann
19A Marcus Streets
5A Charles Stross
175A *Vanessa Tatler
105A Graham Taylor
103A D Thompson
76A *Toerag
86A *Ivan Towlson
126A John Trasler
127A Karen Trasler
83S *Martin Tudor
41A Larry van der Putte
119A *Angelique Van Toorn
118A *Kees Van Toorn
145S *David Vines
92A David B Wake
93A Helen Wake
94B Rachel Wake
81A Peter Wareham
190A *Ashley Watkins
13A Ian Watson
1A *Nina Watson
125A *Jeffrey G Watts
7A Dean Wayland
84A Jonathan Weeks
63A Kathy Westhead
62A Mike Westhead
180A Peter R Weston
60S *Elda Wheeler
146A *Mike Whitaker
159A Kim Whysall
185A Colin Wightman
50A Bridget Wilkinson
147A *David Wingrove
209A *Dave Wood
75A Melinda Young

Note: An asterisk (*) beside a name indicates that we have not received a Convention Form from the named person.