

BACON

Unicon 15

New Hall, Cambridge

8-10 July 1994

Progress Report 3

Info:

Dates and times

Bacon will run between 6pm on Fri., 8 & 6pm Sun 10th July 1994

Convention Address

All correspondence should be sent to:

BACON, 38 Scotland Road, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1QG

email: bacon@derwent.co.uk

Tel: (eve only): (0223) 564483

Committee

Bacon committee are Simon Arrowsmith, Jon Knight, Tim Morley, Matthew Reid, Mel Barlow, Helen Steele and Robert Wilson

Memberships:

Attending memberships	£16
Presupport conversion	£14
Supporting memberships	£6
Under 16s	free
On the door memberships will be £10 per day	

Advertising Rates

Advertising is welcome for the (A5) Program Book at the following rates:

	Fan	Pro
full	£12	£25
half	£6	£12
quarter	£3	£6
back cover	£25	£50

Deadline for camera ready copy is 1 July. Other forms of ad submission (by disc/email) can be dealt with if necessary, please email or phone the above for details.

Programme

Included in this last Progress report are details of some of the programme items and some teasers...

The Evolution Game

The shallow seas of the Cambrian are full of strange animals. In this game, you have to guide a species' evolution as you become a better competitor for food, better defended against predators and eventually conquer the challenges of new environments. Care is needed. Your competitors are evolving, there are natural disasters,, and your own abilities must be used, or they will decay. Your goal is to survive and spread throughout the world. If you think you are up to the task, then play Evolution at Bacon and, maybe, this time round the pigs will fly

Blake's Seven — missing episode found at last

Season C of Blake's Seven is noted for containing such seminal episodes as *Volcano* and *Harvest of Kairos* (the latter having been written by Germaine Greer under a pseudonym), but few amongst even the most dedicated have so much as heard of *Mission: Attack!* This episode, scripted by a ten-year-old prodigy, was scheduled third in the original running order, but industrial action (a one-day talent strike by Equity) led to its hurried replacement by *Dawn of the Gods*. *Mission: Attack!* is a masterpiece, with Avon's desperate search for Blake drawing him into an encounter with Servalan unrivalled in its tension even by that in *Deathwatch*. The Bacon committee has syndicated private performance rights for *Mission: Attack!* from a certain organization, and there will thus be an informal reading of the script (in parts) at the con. Information concerning precisely how we got hold of *Misison: Attack!* is at present unavailable in public, pending an investigation by Marlon Pentangle.

The Danger Within — Marlon Pentangle

Many of you will be members of secret societies. To those few who are not, I may say that you are lucky — for they are perilous! In the past ten years, I have uncovered the deviant activities of some five hundred such groups — among them a cabal devoted to maligning that fount of commonsense and decency, Mr. Norman Tebbit. A new danger is upon us! A

group known only as the SSSS, and its associated sects, may even have penetrated Fandom itself. Be Warned! Activities I have seen myself include:

1. A clique *devoted* to paying for everything with an even number of coins.
2. A group *determined* to say the word 'Stetson', even when it is unwarranted.
3. A club *set* on sniffing their own trainers.

Avoid them At All Costs!!

Marlon Pentangle will be giving his lecture on 'The Danger Within' at Bacon.

It's a Fact! — *Wizzo*

Welcome to another roundabout roustabout of amazing articles and COMPLETELY TRUE FACTS from the world of science. And this week it's our special stomach issue, featuring amazing BUT ALL TRUE facts from the world of the human digestive organs!

For instance amazing technical breakthroughs have been reported from the American city of Bertram, Ohio, where American MILLIONAIRE Jim 'Slippery' Tarbush has had his stomach surgically removed in its entirety! "Hell no, it wasn't diseased," he told Wizzo's own roving reporter, who was there on holiday. "I just got fed up with my ulcer." Yes! Slippery Tarbush, as his friends call him, has had his entire upper digestive tract removed and replaced by mechanical CONTRIVANCES and polyethylene membranes so as to further his partying and consumption of goods without any more physical discomfort, nausea, indigestion or unease. He can now sit drinking WHISKY, becoming drunker and drunker for as long as he can stay awake, with no fear of vomiting or eroding that oh-so-precious stomach lining; he can devour the richest foods and the most piquant sauces without regretting the consequences. No more ASPIRIN for him, he announces "The greatest thing about this artificial stomach is that it's disposable. When I'm full, I just have to pull the ripcord in my navel and the whole thing can be voided from a natural vent and a new one inserted on similar lines, under air pressure from this machine here with the cylinders on the back." Sadly, doctors have not yet found a way to create a natural supply of BILE and digestive juices for Mr Tarbush and so his surgically-

removed real stomach is being kept alive in a nutrient tank to be milked of BILE at regular intervals. Mr Tarbush has a spigot below his ribs into which it can be fed.

“What will you do when your stomach naturally dies in its tank, Mr Tarbush?”

“Why I don’t rightly know,” he says with a wicked grin, “I guess I’ll just have to get somebody else’s.” **It’s a fact!**

And finally, while we’re in the mood for the abdomen, let’s here about Kenneth Korkey of Darlington in England — the incredible but REAL-LIFE MAN who had nervous connections with his stomach severed entirely. But don’t make the mistake of thinking that his motives were the same as our Jim Tarbush’s! No. For Kenneth Korkey had his mind on higher things. In his diary approaching the operation, Korkey records “All emotion is felt in the stomach. When I’m worried I’m sick in the gut. When I’m in love it manifests itself as a pressure on the lower ribs, and I cannot eat or sleep. I wish to rid myself of this animality, of those passions, and experience the emotions as the ancients experienced it — something cerebral, fine and noble.” Following the operation, Korkey announced himself as the clearest thinker in the world. He subsequently became very rich and is still remembered in Darlington as the Liverless Lothario, a nickname won from his five post-operative marriages. Each time was to a rich widow, and each time in the subsequent divorce, Korkey won for himself substantial alimonies. Sadly Kenneth Korkey died in 1988 from an undetected case of food poisoning. **It’s a fact!**

If you have heard of any interesting facts or statistics from and about the world of science and have the documentary PROOF to support those facts which our responsible researchers need, then Wizzo would like to hear from you. There is a small prize for every TRUE FACT that Wizzo prints. However, we would be grateful not to receive any further facts about stomachs. Thank you.

Wizzo will be running his *It’s a Fact* Game at bacon.

Video Room

We shall be running a 24 hour video room throughout the convention: if you have any special requests for shows, episodes or films, then let us know: we aim to show interesting, difficult to get-hold-off material as well as old favourites. During the weekend we will also be showing

Simon Ings' short film, *Rose Red, Violent Blue*, made in collaboration with film-maker Simon Pummell.

Writers' Workshop

The Workshop will be held on the Saturday and the Sunday of the convention, starting with an introductory session on the Saturday morning. Anyone will be welcome on the day, but submissions are preferred before the convention, so they can be distributed to anyone who has declared an interest. If you are interested in submitting, or just commenting, please let us know at the convention address (see page 2).

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Simon Ings has written several short stories, including some published in *Interzone*, *Omni* and *New Worlds*. His first novel, *Hot Head*, is a strange tale of a near future where Europe is the dominant economic power in a world that has almost run out of oil. Technology has advanced, with intelligent, self replicating machines for mining planets that man cannot, and brain implants called data-fats.

The shape of world society has also changed dramatically, with a huge immigration from Asia and Africa, as drought and famine leaves moving as the only possibility. Europe is no longer dominated by either Caucasians, or by Christians, has by necessity become very concerned with cleaning the environment and is the dominant force in the world. Is this a realistic scenario? 2020 Vision, a floating panel, discusses this and other futures.

This is the first convention that Simon has been guest of honour at, and we hope that it will prove to be an interesting and enjoyable occasion, and we look forward to hearing more about him, both at the con and in his future writings. *In the City of the Iron Fish*, a sequel to his first novel entitled *Howwire* (the author describes it as a 'nasty followup') is published the weekend of the convention and we shall have copies on sale at a **special discount price**

Real Ale Bar

Following the popularity of the bar at Uniconze, Bacon will have a real ale bar run by Gerbish. There will be a choice of the full range of Bateman's beers from mild to stout, in addition to drinks available at the main bar.

How to get there:

New Hall is situated on Huntingdon Road (the A1307) at the top of Castle Hill. This is to the north of the town/city and is the only reasonably lumpy bit in a ten mile radius. Don't bother looking for the castle — it isn't there.

Train

Lots of trains from London (Kings Cross or Liverpool Street) and a reasonable supply from everywhere else (unless you insist on InterCity, in which case you'll need to change off the east coast main line). From the station, a taxi is about a fiver, and during daylight hours there is a regular bus service to the city centre (Drummer Street bus station).

Bus numbers in Cambridge are very confusing: there is one set of numbers for weekday daytime, another for weekday evening, and a third for Sundays. Friday and Saturday daytime **number 95** will get you as far as Castle Hill from the station, **numbers 1 and 5** go to the city centre. From there, try and figure out what will get you to the top of Castle Hill, or consult a tourist map and walk. You can walk from the station, but it will take over half an hour flat out (this is not a guess—I've done it).

Coach

Surprisingly, stops at Drummer Street bus station. See above.

Car

North: Get off the A1 onto the **A604** heading for Cambridge/M11. At the M11 junction (**junction 14**), take the **A1307** signposted for the town/city centre. New Hall is about two miles down this road on your right, just before the traffic lights and Texaco garage. If you get to the bottom of the hill, you've gone too far.

South: Take **junction 13** off the M11 (the **A1303**) and turn right. In about two miles you reach a mini-roundabout — bear left, and in a hundred yards or so turn left at the traffic lights. Go up the hill, and New Hall is on the left just past the next set(s) of lights and the Texaco garage. If you miss it, turn round and follow the instructions from the North.

East: Get onto the **A45** by the A11, A10 or whatever else takes your fancy, and off it onto the **B1049** signposted Cambridge. This brings you to the

Texaco garage featured above — turn right and New Hall is just on the left.

West: You'll probably be better pretending you're coming from the north or south. Failing that, take the **A45** until the junction with the **A1303** (probably signposted Coton and Cambridge). About two miles along the A1303 you reach **junction 13** of the M11, and from there follow directions as from the south.

Plane:

Fly to Cambridge International Airport. If you can afford the plane, you can afford to get a taxi from there.

How to get back: Reverse the route used to get there, unless you caught a bus somewhere in Cambridge. The Sunday service **number 92** runs past New Hall and stops in the city centre and at the station.

Car parking

New Hall has adequate car parking facilities. If you are coming from the bottom of the hill you need to take the first turn left after the Texaco garage traffic lights. From the North, the last right turn before the lights (just after New Hall). The car park is the entrance immediately on the right. **NB** For people that have been to New Hall before: this is **not** the car park used for Uniconze etc...