

# MABINOGICON

## THE THIRD BRANCH



# MABINOGICON UNICON 12

Neuadd Rathbone, UCNW Bangor  
26-28 July 1991

Progress Report 3: July 1991

Guest of Honour: ANNE McCAFFREY

Special Guests:  
GAEL BAUDINO  
STEPHEN GREGORY

Fan Guest:  
AGNIESZKA SYLWANOWICZ

## AGNIESZKA FOR BEGINNERS

*In which Unkle Dave gets hassled for yet another article, now now now, poor chap.*

Agnieszka Sylwanowicz is our fan guest from Poland, brought to MabinogiCon courtesy of the truly wonderful Bridget Wilkinson and the Fans Across The World organisation (all stand and uncover, please). As guests go she seems pretty appropriate, as the more I found out about her the more her interests seemed to coincide with our programme themes.

To begin with, she has always wanted to come to Wales, and is fascinated by Celtic mythology (although she likes Norse myths too). After a great start like that, Agnieszka goes on to say that along with horses and whales, dragons are "the most wonderful creatures on our Earth and beyond", liking both the traditional fire-breathing type and those of our GoH Anne McCaffrey. In fact Agnieszka has already met Anne, at the last Worldcon, and probably again at this year's Eurocon in May. As well as her works, Agnieszka, a longtime fan of *Star Wars*, lists le Guin, Kay, Kurtz, Dick, Kuttner, Lem and the Strugatsky brothers among her favourite authors. However her absolute number one is Tolkien: she's been in the Tolkien Society and as a member of the Silesian SF Club in Katowice she founded its Tolkien Section, which publishes a fanzine in both Polish and English editions.

Publishing is an area in which Agnieszka is also involved professionally. Until recently she was the Foreign Rights Manager at Polish Scientific Publishing, a position she resigned from in order to seek part-time employment, which should enable her to concentrate more fully on developing her career translating sf and fantasy. Unfortunately for Geoff I haven't been able to ascertain whether or not Agnieszka is a biologist, but in her engagingly modest description of herself she says, "I am afraid I am not a very good fan, as I am not especially fond of beer."

Speaking as one of the club's more serious beer drinkers, I think we can just about forgive that...

*Dave Baynham and his amazing non-typing Civil War DCM Hat.*

# STARSHEEP MANOEUVRES

*In which it is explained how to reach the nether corners of the galaxy.*

## Cars

Getting to Bangor shouldn't be a problem, as it's one of the major cities in this part of the country (the other one is St Asaph; it's not that easy to get them confused, don't worry), and both of the major routes from England pass close to it eventually. Whether you choose the A5 over Snowdonia or the A55 along the coast is a matter between you and your atlas, but please bear in mind that travelling through Conwy any time between about 4 and 6 pm is an experience devoutly to be avoided, and that the road through Snowdonia would barely make B-road status anywhere else. (Then again the coast road has a 20 mph limit in places. But that's okay because the tractor in front of you will only be doing 15 anyway.) Either of these routes will eventually bring you to a roundabout from which Bangor is signposted directly. You'll pass Penrhyn Castle on your right and the cemetery on your left before coming to the town proper. Pass the harbour (ahem) on your right and follow the curve of the road round to the left. This brings you onto the map near the top right. In rapid succession you pass a swimming pool, a park and, er, another park, then you come to a pedestrian crossing. Turn right here up Love Lane (Lon Cariadon). At the top—if your car makes it that far—turn left, then immediately left again into the Rathbone car park. If you miss the turn or otherwise vanish into the vast metropolis that is Bangor, the map should be able to get you out. (The words to conjure with are probably College Road.)

If you're coming in from the direction of Holyhead along the A55, follow signs for Bangor. You'll probably—depending on the exact mood of the road system—end up driving above the Menai Straits. Your first sight of Bangor will be Menai View Terrace on your right, after which you come to a pedestrian crossing where you turn left down College Road. After a while you come to Rathbone on your right.

If you're up to something weird, use the map, but there surely aren't that many directions by which one can come into Bangor...

## Trains

Bangor is on the main line from Crewe to Holyhead. (And back again, oddly enough.) Trains are slowish but fairly regular, and there are direct trains from Manchester and London. Having made it as far as Bangor train station (at the bottom of the map towards the left, marked A), recover from the exciting revelation that the Welsh spell it "Fangor" for reasons that only Nigel understands, and then proceed straight on down Deiniol Road. Spend several hours passing the biology department on your left. Admire the thrilling architectural experience of the Students' Union and marvel at the forthcoming attractions at Theatr Gwynedd. Get assaulted by squirrels operating out of the safety of Top College. Then turn left up Love Lane and discover why Bangor students are so much fitter than Cambridge ones (except that they aren't). Like cars, you have to turn left at the top. (Nigel, by the way, thinks that turning left out of the station and going along College Road is a better route; you pays yer money and you takes yer choice.)

## Buses

You'll arrive in the Buses' Graveyard, a backish road halfway between the High Street and Deiniol Road, near the middle of the right-hand side of the map (marked E). Get off the bus (this is an *essential* stage). Follow the road until you come to Deiniol Road. Love Lane is almost opposite you, from which point see above. Pedestrian crossings are for wimps.

## Walking

Begin at the top of Snowdon. Follow the force of gravity. In the event of arriving in Caernarfon or Porthmadog, start again, buying an OS or tourist map this time.

## Scenic Routes

Those with more time than navigational ability might care to explore some of the backroads on their way to the convention. For instance, if you're coming along the A55, you could try taking the Tal-y-bont exit, which will take you along a minor road that allows excellent views of Penrhyn Castle (and is fractionally shorter to boot). If you're coming along the A5, detour via the Pass of Llanberis. You not only

get scenery, you get Aztec architecture and a random bit of castle as well (Dolbadarn Castle). Beddgelert is further from the normal route but worth the trouble.

And the beauty of it is, you can get lost in perfect safety, because almost all the mindor roads round here can be passed off as scenic routes, as long that is as you avoid Maesgeirchen and Blaenau Ffestiniog.

*Ivan Towilson—I don't drive and I've got a Bus Gwynedd season ticket, so what do I care?*

## ERIC THE ENGLISH SUPREMACIST'S GUIDE TO WELSH

*In which Eric demonstrates again his facility with languages (and how facile can you get?).*

Good afternoon chaps, Eric here just back from the distant and little-visited continent of Wales. Wales is a wild and ethnic place, perhaps even more so than Hertfordshire, and across the land lies a dark and sinister force known only as the University of Wales. This entity is particularly strong in the area I have been traversing, that of dimmest Bangor (it is called that because of the biologists). However in between being shown some extraordinarily interesting experiments on intestinal worms, I was able to pick up some of the local patois, including some words that must undoubtedly grace the tongues of you inheritor-type chappies of Verne and Wells.

Native Lingo	King's English
Everyday Chat	
croeso i Fangor	welcome to Bangor
croeso i Cymru	mine is a pint
toiledau	cyfleusterau
maes parcio	car park
clwb snwcer	snooker club
clwb golff	aardvark and tuna sandwich
dim ysmegu	no smoking
dim yn biologyddau	no biologists (rare)
Saesneg	tourist
horrocks	answers on a postcard
Local Place Names	
Lon Cariadon	Love Lane; also, Big Hill
Lon Pobty	Even Bigger Hill
Lon	Lane (not hill, apparently)
Eryri	insignificant hillock; often called 'Snowdon'
Roman camp	a field
C.P.G.C.	U.C.N.W.; Welsh joke
neuadd	hall
Rathbone	ratbin
Wrexham	authentic ethnic Welsh name
Wrecsam	unbelievably ethnic Welsh name
Essential Sci-Fi Lingo	
cyberpwnc	cyberpunk (now considered archaic)
sci-ffi	is dead anyway
Mabinogion	Welsh epic poem
MabinogiCon	foul pun
pen gwyn	white head
penguin	responsible for all this
cyrdeithas ffullen gwyddoniaeth a ffantasi	gone into hiding

*Nigel Evans, famous Wrexhamite and indeed occasional Wrecsamaid.*

# SURFING WITH THE ALIEN

*In which Unkle Dave tries to raise the tone of the publication,  
but finds it has a graphic equaliser instead.*

So how come we decided to discuss sf and fantasy lyrics in rock music anyway? Well... since I wasn't too familiar with country and martian music, didn't remember anyone singing "I woke up this morning with those ringraith on my trail blues", and couldn't think of much in the way of intergalactic disco beyond "Doctorin' the Tardis", I figured that the one type of music most strongly associated with sf and fantasy was rock. I was just about to ask the rest of the gang about this when I realised just how many of them were in the college Rock Soc. But that's another panel... ("Why do sf fans gopher heavy metal so much, starring Mark Bailey," probably Sunday at 2pm.)

*Meanwhile, back at Eats, I was still thinkin'!  
I said, "Outa all the places you coulda landed  
how come you ended up here?"  
And he said, "Well, accordin' to my lil' ole spacemap  
this here town is supposed to be  
the boogie capital of the USA!!"*

Brownsville Station, "The Martian Boogie"

The complex and intriguing relationship between the two genres in music and fiction provided a large number of topics with potential for discussion. Getting down to basics, I'd thought about dividing songs into two categories: those based on existing material, such as "Borrowed Time" by **Diamond Head** and "Chronicles of the Black Sword" by **Hawkwind**, which are both based on work by Michael Moorcock, the latter involving the author in writing some of the lyrics; and those involving wholly original sf and fantasy themes--for instance, "The Descendants of Smith" by **Roy Harper** and "One for the Vine" by **Genesis** would both make good short stories if they weren't songs.

However like all categorisations this is only one way of looking at the material out there. It would be just as possible to divide lyrics into those which are mainly narrative ("Red Barchetta" by **Rush**, and if that's wrong then I blame Dave's handwriting -typist) and those which are more descriptive ("The Last Human Gateway" by IQ). As with all such divisions there will always be the ones that got away, and often they are the more challenging works in an area. The question "it's good, but is it science fiction?" is just as applicable to the album "Operation Mindcrime" by **Queensryche** as it is to Iain Banks' novel **The Bridge**.

*Layers of smoke in the atmosphere  
Have made the Earth too hot to bear  
The Earth might be a desert soon  
America's just left the moon.*

Hawkwind, "Uncle Sam's on Mars"

In fact one thing that both sf and rock have in common is that both can often be thought provoking: while the sf fan of the thirties got the chance to worry about atomic weapons years before they were invented and causing paranoia in the general public, the rock fan of the seventies got the chance to worry about ecological disaster years before environmental consciousness became so widespread as to be plastered all over supermarket shelves as a sales point on various products. Yet both media are derided for being too escapist! They can be escapist too, but that's part of why we like them.

*And the sea crashed upon the shores  
And the land crumbled upon itself  
The vast dome, the only remaining  
Structure on the dying continent  
Shuddered and sank slowly to the depths of the ocean.*

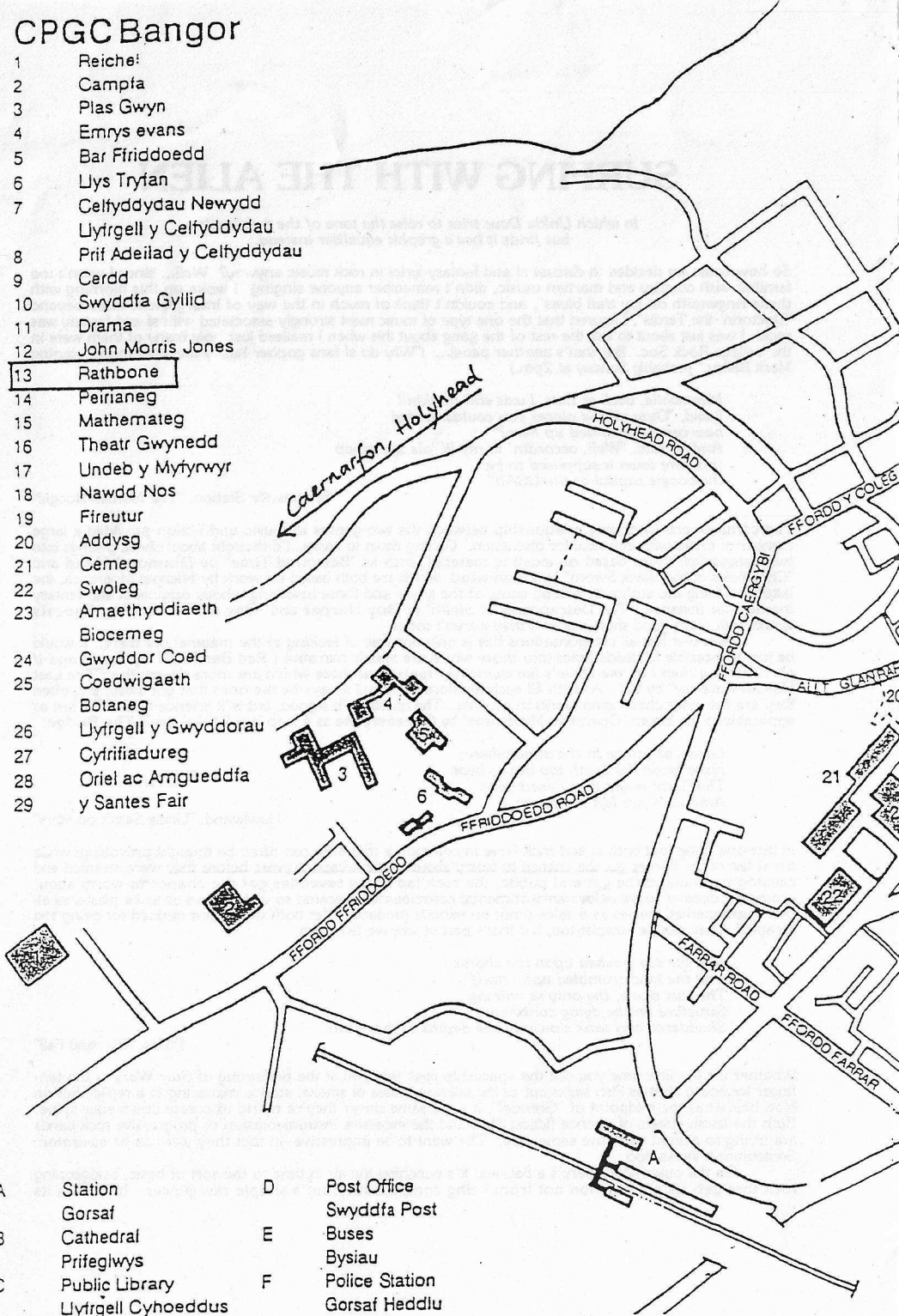
Pallas, "Rise and Fall"

Whether it's the first time you see the spaceship roar past you at the beginning of *Star Wars* or the ten-finger keyboard blast as Fish stalks out of the billowing mass of smoke, starkly menacing in a replica Sutton Hoo helmet as the midpoint of "Grendel", it's the same shiver they're trying to create down your spine. Both the lavish effects of science fiction films and the excessive instrumentation of progressive rock bands are trying to delight us in the same way. The want to be impressive--in fact they want to be *awesome*. Sometimes it works, too...

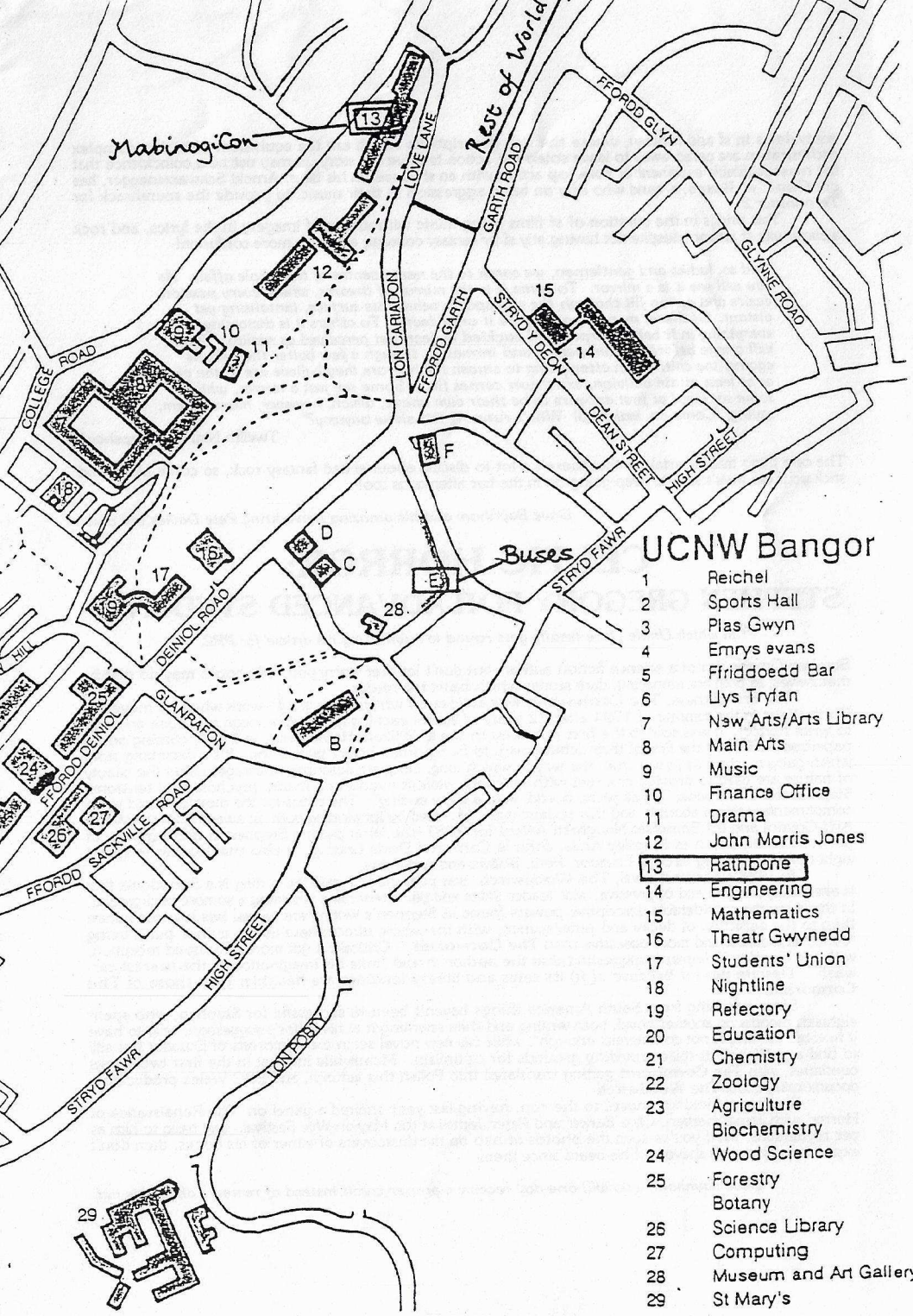
On the other hand there's a fist, and it's punching the air in time to the sort of basic, bludgeoning rock that gets its gut reaction not from being complex but from a simple raw power. It too has its

# CPGC Bangor

- 1 Reiche!
- 2 Campfa
- 3 Plas Gwyn
- 4 Emrys evans
- 5 Bar Ffridoedd
- 6 Llys Tryfan
- 7 Celfyddydau Newydd  
Llyrgeil y Celfyddydau
- 8 Prif Adeilad y Celfyddydau
- 9 Cerdd
- 10 Swyddfa Gyllid
- 11 Drama
- 12 John Morris Jones
- 13 Rathbone**
- 14 Peirianeg
- 15 Mathemateg
- 16 Theatr Gwynedd
- 17 Undeb y Myfyrwyr
- 18 Nawdd Nos
- 19 Firetur
- 20 Addysg
- 21 Cemeig
- 22 Swoleg
- 23 Amaethyddiaeth  
Biocemeig
- 24 Gwyddor Coed
- 25 Coedwigaeth  
Botaneg
- 26 Llyrgeil y Gwyddorau
- 27 Cyfrifiadureg
- 28 Oriol ac Angueddfa  
y Santes Fair
- 29



- |   |                                      |   |                                 |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| A | Station<br>Gorsaf                    | D | Post Office<br>Swyddfa Post     |
| B | Cathedral<br>Prifeglwys              | E | Buses<br>Bysiau                 |
| C | Public Library<br>Llyrgeil Cyhoeddus | F | Police Station<br>Gorsaf Heddlu |



## UCNW Bangor

- 1 Reichel
- 2 Sports Hall
- 3 Plas Gwyn
- 4 Emrys evans
- 5 Ffridoedd Bar
- 6 Llys Tryfan
- 7 Nsw Arts/Arts Library
- 8 Main Arts
- 9 Music
- 10 Finance Office
- 11 Drama
- 12 John Morris Jones
- 13 Hatnbone**
- 14 Engineering
- 15 Mathematics
- 16 Theatr Gwynedd
- 17 Students' Union
- 18 Nightline
- 19 Refectory
- 20 Education
- 21 Chemistry
- 22 Zoology
- 23 Agriculture
- 24 Biochemistry
- 24 Wood Science
- 25 Forestry
- 25 Botany
- 26 Science Library
- 27 Computing
- 28 Museum and Art Gallery
- 29 St Mary's

equivalents in sf and fantasy, where the rich descriptions which are the equivalent of highly complex orchestration are pared away to leave solely the action to drive the story. It may not be a coincidence that the most profitable exponent of non-stop action with an sf veneer in his films, Arnold Schwarzenegger, has got **Guns 'n' Roses**, a band who rely on basic aggression in their music, to provide the soundtrack for *Terminator 2*.

This brings in the question of sf films using music without any sf imagery in the lyrics, and rock albums with sf artwork despite not having any sf or fantasy content, and even more confusion!

*And so, ladies and gentlemen, we come to the nerve centre of the whole affair. As you will see it is a mirror. To some it is the mirror of dreams, where every passion, desire and action flit through the still spaces behind its surface, tantalising yet distant. Of these, many stand before it until death. To others it is distorting, everything in it being warped and buckled by fear, yet perceived as reality. These will cringe before it, whimpering and immobile, though a few batter their skulls against the chill sheen attempting to smash the horrors they believe are in the glass, or at least attain oblivion, whichever comes first. Some see just a mirror, whilst some see what at first appears to be their own image, which, however, moves them, saying, "Come on, wake up! Who's running this show anyway?"*

Twelfth Night, "Creepshow"

The one thing that is certain is that there's a lot to discuss about sf and fantasy rock, so come along and stick your oar in—it's sure to keep going on in the bar afterwards too!

*Dave Baynham and his amazing non-editing Pete Davies fan club.*

## CELTIC HORROR: STEPHEN GREGORY FOR ADVANCED STUDENTS

*In which Unkle Dave finally gets round to submitting his article for PR2.*

Stephen Gregory is not a science fiction author—but don't let that worry you. His books may do that by themselves, as both are menacing, dark stories which haunt the reader.

The first of these, **The Cormorant**, was an idea on which he began to work when he moved to North Wales in the summer of 1984 after 12 years of schoolteaching (probably enough to inspire anybody to write horror). It was sold to the first publisher to see it, William Heinemann, in 1986, coming out in paperback and being the first of their debut novels to be reprinted before publication. It's a disturbing story which gains much of its power from the way in which long, eloquent descriptive passages about the beauty of nature are used to provide contrast with macabre, violent events and murky psychological tensions. Stephen said of the book, "it's all pretty horrid, with a nasty ending". The critics for the most part said more complimentary things about it, and this acclaim was confirmed by its winning both an award from the Welsh Arts Council and the Somerset Maugham Award for 1987—the latter putting Stephen in the company of previous winners such as Kingsley Amis, John le Carré and Doris Lessing. It also enabled him to spend eight months travelling through Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Argentina.

In 1988 his second novel, **The Woodwitch**, was published. Again the setting is a Snowdonia that is alternately pastoral and oppressive, with leaden skies and persistent rains providing a sombre background. In this story the considerable descriptive powers found in Stephen's writing are turned less towards nature than to the depiction of decay and putrescence, with the whole atmosphere as the author put it being "darker and denser and more obsessive than **The Cormorant**." Critically it got more of a mixed reception, with the *Sunday Telegraph* suggesting that the author should "take his imagination to the nearest car-wash". Despite this (or because of it) its sales and library lendings are healthier than those of **The Cormorant**.

Since returning from South America things haven't been as successful for Stephen, who spent eighteen months on another novel, both writing and then rewriting it at his editor's suggestion, only to have it rejected as "simply not commercial enough", while his new novel set in the rainforests of Ecuador has still to find a publisher, despite providing grounds for optimism. Meanwhile interest in the first two books continues, with **The Cormorant** getting translated into Polish this autumn, and BBC Wales producing a documentary about **The Woodwitch**.

Stephen is looking forward to the con, having last year chaired a panel on 'The Renaissance of Horror' with James Herbert, Clive Barker and Peter James at the Hay-on-Wye Festival. Say hello to him as per regulations, but if you've seen the photos of him on the dustcovers of either of his books, then don't expect it to help—he's shaved off his beard since then!

*Dave Baynham, who will one day receive a proper credit instead of remarks about his hat.*



*From their dark enclaves, the Ten Invisible Masters sent forth their emissaries across the globe,  
to spread the word,  
to gather power,  
to summon forth a mighty Eastercon!*

# Illumination

UK National SF Convention 1992

GoHs include:

Geoff Ryman

Paul McAuley

Fan GoH:

Pam Wells

Featuring multitudinous panels, films,  
discussions, games, and even . . .  
fireworks!

**17 - 20 April 1992**  
at the  
**Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool, UK**

Registration: £20 attending, £12 supporting; from:

Illumination  
379 Myrtle Road  
Sheffield  
S2 3HQ

# THE PROGRAMME

*In which Big Nigel flops it on the table.*

So, lo and behold, a programme takes shape before our very eyes. Fevered minutes with a biro and a membership list, mammoth drinking (oh yes, and idea) sessions in the Ffridd bar, long hours in darkened rooms trying to encourage Dave back onto the thread of what he was about to say before he started explaining its provenance... God, it was hell, but we did it. Only the DCM shifts to work out now, he muttered, as The Doors began to fade in on the soundtrack. Or was that just Mark playing his Hawkwind records too loud again? Only time would tell.

The description of the programme below is provisional. Some of the items are distinctly on the wobbly side. The placement of others depends on the preferences of those involved. Some items which we fully expect to run have not been mentioned. Some of the items mentioned remain in search of another couple of participants. So, it's not too late to volunteer: in fact, it's never too late to volunteer, but it makes our job easier if you do so now rather than on the door!

(Further to the above, and added at press time, is that large numbers of quoted timings in the following have already gone awry. Ho hum. I've tried to add notes where possible, and sometimes even where not.)

The programme opens at 6pm on Friday with the **Opening Ceremony**, which proceeds to blend smoothly into **How To Be Local**, a survival guide to North Wales drawn from the experiences of Eric the English Supremacist, who may also be giving lessons in Welsh. This may also feature the last reference to cyberpunk (which is dead) of the entire convention. At 7pm the programme proper gets going: in one stream we intend to arrange an **Introduction to the Mabinogion** for those who, like me, are too lazy to bother with the real thing, while in the other we kick off our strand on **SF in Music**. (*Both of these items now look likely to be put back to Saturday. You have been warned.*) Other items are subject to confirmation, but we plan to include author readings, a filk band, one quiz or game or another and a panel on the monstrous evils of filk music (which Unkle Dave intends to call **Go Filk Yerself**. Dave is conveniently skipping town for a wedding the next day). At 10pm we have the by-now-traditional **Cocktail Workshop**, in which people run around with funny coloured drinks, mixing them with even more funny coloured drinks, saying "Here, you try it" and then falling over. There will be a small charge for this item as the convention cannot cover the entire cost of the drinks! Meanwhile in the other room we plan to have **Singalong Filking**—the sort that you can really get into when you're spending half of your time in a cocktail glass.

Saturday will feature **Anne McCaffrey's** Guest of Honour speech and **Agnieszka Sylwanowicz's** guest talk, as well as the **Masquerade** (and its attached costume workshop), the **Food Tasting** (subject to the presence of food—let us know!). The hard science types finally get their long-awaited look-in too, with a talk on **Sunken Cities** around the coast of Wales, a panel of scientists lamenting how woefully sf has mistreated their subjects, and (an idea we stole from ICON and which will be followed up at Illumination) a debate on **The Green And The Grey**—whether science is the solution to the world's ecological crisis, or its cause. As a follow-up to that, we are continuing Uniconze's idea of floating panels, in this case as a late-night silly-idea session on increasingly insane ways to save the world: **Desperate Times Require Desperate Measures**. If you've ever contemplated putting your clapped-out laser printer into low earth orbit to help save the ozone layer, then this panel needs you (though possibly not as much as you need this panel).

We'll also be contemplating what Stephen King-type horrors might emerge when **Bangor, Maine, Comes to Bangor, Gwynedd**, asking whether **Keeping Mediaeval Music Alive** is a way to keep the past bright or just another exercise in museumship, and hearing about **Celtic Magic** from those who know. In the bar, we'll be holding **Matt's Ffridd Quiz**, a well-loved Bangor institution, in which lovable bartender Matt tries to find thirty *Trivial Pursuit* questions that the local wargaming/roleplaying group haven't learnt off by heart by now, and usually fails. Matt's convention quiz will of course feature a lot of sf questions which we're sure all of you will get easily.

On Sunday, we have more guest talks, this time from **Gael Baudino** and **Stephen Gregory**. The **Turkey Buffet** will feature readings, videos, performance art and the pulsating and dynamic soundtrack to **Battlefield Earth** (which as you may recall revolutionised music a few years back)—for the starving student contingent among you we may even supply turkey sandwiches. The ritual discussion on the state of **SF in the Colleges** will produce the ritual conclusions or lack of same. Dave will be hiding from filkers, nursing a hangover and speculating on **Why Do SF Fans Go So Much For Heavy Metal?** (if they do, that is). He will also be explaining the title of **When The Legend Becomes A Fact, Print The Legend** (it's a quote, but only ask him about it if you have time to spare), and maybe even running the corresponding panel on how historical figures and events get co-opted into mythology. (The John Crowley-loving typist wanted to call this one **History Hungers For The Shape Of Myth** but it isn't as snappy. He has therefore threatened to vent hideous revenge by moving it to Friday.) In the same vein, **I Mythed Again!** will follow up our Reconnaissance panel by examining the role of the mythologies that *haven't* won an integral place in Western culture: Australian aboriginal, Native American, Chinese, etc. What are we missing out on, both

as sf/fantasy fans and as members of that culture? More myth symbols in the **Dragons!** panel, as we look at one of the few truly universal mythical creatures, as well as one of the most respected and/or feared. For those of you who haven't left the bar all day, there will be the ever-exciting **Bidding Session & Business Meeting**, in which you get to complain about all the things that we did wrong before we can pass the buck to whoever you'll be complaining at next year. (Bids so far heard from include Glasgow and nobody else.) **Celts in Space!** was originally an excuse for Stewart to shout "You are all a load of Protestant bastards!" in a non-BBC-approved accent and then run away very quickly but has now been replaced by a panel on skiffy stereotypes of Celts (we do not mention *Star Trek*). And in the last of our many desperate bids for Bridget Wilkinson's "Rudolph" award we'll be catering to those of who who are staying around with some short talks on **How To Be A Tourist**. In short, more fun than a wet Welsh village on a Sunday afternoon.

The programme will finish at 6pm with the innovative and originally-named **Closing Ceremony**, after which the committee will get some sleep and you lot can make your own fun in the bar. In fact most of you will be doing that all the way through the con anyway, so why don't we just call it quits and let us locals get to bed early...?

*Ivan Towlson, who isn't Nigel. At least half of the time, anyway.*

## INFORMATION

*In which we take the Prisoner quote as read.*

MabinogiCon is Unicon 12, to be held on 26-28 July 1991 at Neuadd Rathbone, UCNW Bangor. Attending membership costs £11, supporting membership £6, and conversion is always at the current difference in rates. Membership on the door is £13; conversion on the door will be £6. Presupporters should remember that they get a £1 discount (want your money back, John?). Accommodation (bed and breakfast) is £10.52 per night (17.5% VAT, what 17.5% VAT?), and it is possible to book accommodation for several days before and after the convention if you plan on looking around the area. A limited number of double rooms are available for the appropriate backhanders. Meals on site will cost around £3-4, with meals for children under 12 at half price (contrary to disinformation put out earlier by pigdog subversive elements of the committee acting under direct instructions from, er, me).

Advertising in the Programme Book is £14 per page, reduced pro rata, or half for fannish causes. Deadline is, well, awfully soon really. Dealer's tables are £5 per table.

Stop press news is that site are dragging their heels a bit about taking people before and after the con, so if you have booked accommodation for an extended period, expect to hear from us again in the near future. If the worst comes to the worst, ring us on 0248-364461 before you turn up. If we can't talk site round one way or another we will try to arrange bed and breakfast accommodation for those who want it. Please note that those who have booked for Friday, Saturday and Sunday are not affected, and everything in their lives will be happy and fluffy.

Convention registration will be open from mid-afternoon on Friday, and will remain open until circa 10:30pm. If you arrive after this there'll be a note up telling you where to find people (hint: the cocktail workshop). Registration proper reopens on Saturday.

For the benefit of those who have had trouble with the concept, we would like to stress that Eric the English Supremacist is a joke. A *j-o-k-e*. (Actually he is Stewart the Gopher, but that's another story.) So all you biologists, put down the dissection kits and remember that it was all Nigel's fault anyway.

## REMINDERS

### Food Tasting...

The traditional Unicon event will be going ahead on Saturday lunchtime, subject to people bringing along some food! We will have a microwave available if necessary; however as far as I know we don't have fridges, so if you want something to be kept cool warn us and we'll try to work something out with site. Please let us know if you're bringing anything so that we can plan for it.

### Auction...

Brian Ameringen has kindly agreed to handle the auction for us, and will be bringing some of his own stuff along. So will the Firing Line fund. If you want to bring anything to sell, though, it will be more than welcome, and even more so if you are able to warn us in advance.

### Fan Funding...

Don't forget that two of our guests are being brought over by the generosity of fandom: Gael Baudino by Firing Line, and Agnieszka Sylwanowicz by Fans Across The World. Unfortunately I have forgotten FATW's address right now, but I'm sure Bridget won't give you the chance to miss them at the con. The same goes for Firing Line (except that it's Mike Whitaker), only I can remember their address: 26 Scotland Road, Cambridge. At least I hope that's right. All contributions gratefully received and thoroughly encouraged.

# MabinogiCon

**9 Friars Avenue, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1BB**  
**JANET e-mail: eeu621@uk.ac.bangor.vaxa (Nigel)**  
**or bsu646@uk.ac.bangor.vaxa (Jafo)**

In times of crisis only please: tel. 0248-364461

## MEMBERSHIP LIST

*In which I would say the members are listed, but it seems superfluous.*

- |                          |                              |                          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 C Mark Bailey          | 40 A Dave Langford           | 79 A Ali Nouredin Moussa |
| 2 C Nicky Barnard        | 41 A Hazel Langford          | 80 A Phil Rogers         |
| 3 C Dave Baynham         | 42 A Brian Ameringen         | 81 A Doreen Rogers       |
| 4 C Cath Bircher         | 43 A Pat Silver              | 82 A Sukhita Walters     |
| 5 C Nigel Evans          | 44 A Mary Morman             | 83 A Keith Cosslett      |
| 6 C Geoff Hale           | 45 A Kent Bloom              | 84 A Julia Daley         |
| 7 C Stewart Johnson      | 46 A Susan Francis           | 85 A Jim Walker          |
| 8 C Ivan Towison         | 47 A Rhodri James            | 86 A Eileen Everitt      |
| 9 A John Richards        | 48 A Marcus Streets          | 87 A Tony Edwards        |
| 10 A Mike Cheater        | 49 A Tim Illingworth         | 88 A Marjorie Edwards    |
| 11 P John Botham         | 50 A Mike Whitaker           | 89 A David Redd          |
| 12 A Dave Rowley         | 51 A John Bray               | 90 A Vera Croughton      |
| 13 A Phil Plumbly        | 52 S Resurgam                | 91 A Chris Croughton     |
| 14 P Steve Glover        | 53 A Michael Kennedy         | 92 A Christine Krebs     |
| 15 A Gareth Rees         | 54 A Mary Morman (2)         | 93 A Sally Harvey        |
| 16 P Jonathan Coxhead    | 55 A John Dallman            | 94 A John Harvey         |
| 17 P Steve Rothman       | 56 A Ben Brown               | 95 A Nick Larter         |
| 18 P Chris Stock         | 57 A Sue Edwards             | 96 A D Scott             |
| 19 P Dave Ellis          | 58 A Helen Steele            | 97 A J Scott             |
| 20 A Larry van der Putte | 59 A Philip Alcock           | 98 S Roy Smith           |
| 21 A Rafe Culpin         | 60 A Robert Maughan          | 99 A Gus Smith           |
| 22 S Alex Perry          | 61 A Mike Damesick           | 100 K Kate Edwards       |
| 23 A The Magician        | 62 A Smitty                  | 101 A Terry Jones        |
| 24 A James Steel         | 63 A Smitty's Baby Brother   | 102 A Carol Williams     |
| 25 A Michael Abbott      | 64 A Lissa Blackburn         | 103 K Carol Williams (2) |
| 26 A Caroline Mullan     | 65 A Tanaqui                 |                          |
| 27 A Bridget Wilkinson   | 66 A Tim Kirk                |                          |
| 28 A Terry Hunt          | 67 S Annette Trickette       |                          |
| 29 A Paul M Cray         | 68 A Peter Garrett           |                          |
| 30 A Richard Crook       | 69 A Paul Marrow             |                          |
| 31 A Paul Dormer         | 70 A Alastair Wheeler-Reid   |                          |
| 32 A Mike Stone          | 71 A Bridget Hardcastle      |                          |
| 33 A Peter Wareham       | 72 A Richard Wheatley        |                          |
| 34 A Gwen Funnell        | 73 A Fiona Anderson          |                          |
| 35 A Ken Slater          | 74 A Roy Williams            |                          |
| 36 A Joyce Slater        | 75 A David Bell              |                          |
| 37 A Marcus L Rowland    | 76 A Minstrel                |                          |
| 38 A Colin Wilkinson     | 77 A Kevin Joyce             |                          |
| 39 A Andy Morris         | 78 A Diana J Williams-Moussa |                          |