

LONDON IN 2014

A bid for the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention



LONDON: Capital city of "United Kingdom". Quite diverse by Earth standards but fewer than 10% of the population are from off-planet; most of those are pigeons.
NOTED FOR: Royalty, Pearly Royalty, Jellied Eels, Museums, markets, Bridges, Shakespeare, Inns, afternoon tea, Guy Fawkes, parks.
Bad years to visit: 1381 (peasant's revolt) **1665** (plague), **1666** (fire), **2012** (massive security lockdown)
Good years to visit: 43 (settlement), 1851 (Great Exhibition), 2014 (World Science Fiction Convention)



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Progress Report Minus One
www.londonin2014.org



LONDON IN 2014

A bid for the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention

As you have received this, it means you are already supporting the bid for the 72nd World Science Fiction Convention to be held at ExCeL London over the weekend of 14th to 18th August 2014. Thank you for your support!

We're excited by the opportunity to bring Worldcon back to London after a gap of 49 years. London is the home of the United Kingdom's publishing and media industries. It's the largest and most diverse city in Western Europe and, as such, gives us the chance to run a very special Worldcon.

This publication is to let you know what we have been doing to make sure we win the bid, enabling us to run a fantastic convention. There are articles about London and both pros and fans tell of their excitement at the prospect of a London Worldcon. The committee are looking forward to making this the best convention we can. Enjoy!

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LONDON IN 2014

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The best route to London in 2014 starts here!

STEP ONE

Become a Friend of the Bid
either at our desk at Chicon 7 or online
(pre-supporters can upgrade).

STEP TWO

Vote for London in 2014 at Chicon 7
or upgrade online for the same price.

Get in on the ground floor.
London is coming over the horizon.





Welcome from the Bid Chairs

Steve Cooper and Mike Scott

Two months to go. Yes, just two months to go, and if all goes to plan what is now a vibrant and extremely popular bid will be an equally vibrant and popular Worldcon coming to ExCeL in London over the 14th to the 18th of August 2014.

Right now we have over 1,800 Supporters, a huge number in its own right: this is even more amazing when you consider that of these, around 850 are friends and subscribers. But we're not slowing down one bit. We've just run extremely popular events at Wiscon and DeepSouthCon, and we'll be at Westercon in Seattle in a few days time. Combined with a continuous stream of new supporters coming in online, we are fully on track to reach our goal of 2,000 Supporters, with over 1,000 friends and subscribers, when we close our bid desk for the final time at 6pm on Saturday September 1st at Chicon 7.

What does this mean? Well put simply it means that this London Worldcon will be off to the best start of any recent Worldcon. These numbers should mean we'll leave Chicon 7 with close to 2,000 members, 1,000 of whom will be attending members, and we'll have

at least another 500 names in our database that have pre-supported the bid. This gives us a target to aim for of 2,500 members by EightSquaredCon, the Eastercon in 2013.

In preparation for this momentous start the bid has been getting ready to leave the starting blocks with everything in place. We will have a nearly complete set of division heads and deputies to announce at our launch, along with a full slate of Guests of Honour. We aim to launch with a comprehensive website taking online membership from the go with plans to eventually have a fully integrated online database to give members an online experience without parallel for a Worldcon. And we are planning our first convention party for the Sunday night at Chicon 7 that will celebrate not only our win, but our guests and our host city.

As for our site, this gets better and better, with improved facilities every time we visit. The programme and events space are luxurious and will allow us not only to be the first UK Worldcon to run on a single site, but also on a single compact site with everything within a few minute's walk of everything else. Our programme, events, exhibits and hospitality teams are already beginning the planning to make each of these areas some of the best seen at any Worldcon. Yes there will be some limitations on the parties, but there are none that we can't work with to make this a unique and spectacular part of our Worldcon.

London in 2014 will be a very special Worldcon, one that you won't want to miss. So if you're going to be there, and why wouldn't you be, why not become a Friend of the bid, unless you already are one. It makes great financial sense being the cheapest way to become an attending member, and it will make sure you're kept in the loop about everything we are planning. Or even better fill in our volunteer form and become part of the Worldcon of the Century. And if you're a member of Chicon 7 don't forget to vote for us.

See you in London in 2014!

– Steve and Mike (bid co-chairs)

discover new worlds

BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

For over 50 years the British Science Fiction Association has been helping fans to discover the new worlds of science fiction. We offer members the following benefits:

Publications

Vector is the BSFA's critical journal is full of book reviews and essays, a comprehensive insight into modern *sf*. *Focus* is our magazine for writers, helping you write better and get published. We also publish a range of special editions, fiction and books.

Orbiter

The BSFA administers a number of online workshops for writers that offer you the chance to learn by sharing your work with others.

Events

The BSFA organises regular monthly meetings in London and an annual mini-conference/AGM.

Awards

The BSFA Awards are amongst the most prestigious in science fiction. Members have the unique opportunity to nominate works for the shortlist and to vote for the winner.

Join us

The BSFA is a membership run organisation that encourages our members to take an active role in contributing to the work we do. For more information about how to join the British Science Fiction Association, visit <http://www.bsfa.co.uk/join-the-bsfa/> or email: bsfamembership@yahoo.co.uk.

WWW.BSFA.CO.UK



The End is Near

James Bacon

Well it's nearly farewell from me now. My fourth Worldcon is rapidly approaching. I should say, I am the London's bid head of promotions, and have worked on promoting the idea of holding a Worldcon for over four years now. If we win the bid, I will be moving to the Programme Division in two months' time (not that it hasn't been fun!). Our approach to promotions has been to always have a strong presence, to get out to unusual corners of fandom, to do a variety of promotional activities and to do everything in full measure.

Initially we needed to make sure we looked so strong that no one would bid against us. Having a competing bid would add a cost running into the tens of thousands, and here we succeeded: we are indeed unopposed. A lot of that is because the bid was strong in itself, with a mixture of Worldcon and British con running experience on the team.

Of course a strong presence also feeds into a philosophical approach: The view that every pre-supporter and friend are a brick in our convention's foundation. Each person who joins has committed some

of their hard earned cash to our bid and is closer to being a potential full member than they were. The more we have, the more we will get; London offers us fantastic opportunity, but we need the members. Right now, we are running at over 1,800 pre-supporters. This is phenomenal. By comparison, Glasgow had 1,300 pre-supporters when they won their bid.

We have four months to go. Of course, the Worldcon at which the vote will occur (Chicon 7) is ahead of us. London's aim is for 2,000 pre-supporters. My aim? 2,200, it has been for a long time now. I'm confident we'll do it. Can you imagine? Over two thousand people signing up to a convention that is only a bid. Such aspirations are possible due to the faith and belief of all who have joined so far.

The committee have been very keen to promote the bid through a variety of activities, and always focussing on the SF. When bid committee members are on panels, opportunities to talk about London arise, and people usually want to hear about what excites us about London. We have requested London themed discussions and sometimes opportunities arise in unexpected places – as Claire Brialey proved during her Hugo acceptance speech in 2011, when she encouraged people to support London in 2014. We have sponsored programme activities and, in the case of Satellite 3, a guest speaker.

We have still utilised the two standard ways of getting memberships: At tables and at parties. Luckily it's not at all hard work, and it can be very enjoyable. We have had a presence at dozens of conventions, sometimes having a corner of a table, like a parasite, at some far-flung con, other times having a bank of tables with massive banners.

We've thrown many parties, including Scotch tastings: Eastercon, Novacon and a number of American cons have all seen this type of hospitality. Our trademark Pimm's goes down a treat, as do Mr Kipling's cakes and jelly babies. Normally, if we can, we have a membership table taking memberships all night at such parties, but the uptake the next day and online afterwards is visible. We have latched onto doing certain things that people seem to enjoy. Hosting tea parties has gone down a treat, and we have done these at

Novacon, Eastercon and Gallifrey One. These selections of proper tea accompanied by cakes have proven very popular.

Sometimes our parties are the best of the convention, sometimes we are on a par, and sometimes we are eclipsed by the craziness of other parties. We have navigated a clear path, with our posters of book covers, our obvious appreciation of and focus on SF, and our tube line of science fiction and fantasy destinations. For instance, at Worldcons we have made sure to avoid the Hugo Awards, because all our volunteers and committee and party team want to be there. It sets us apart; we are not just conrunners, we are science fiction lovers who want to run a convention. People love the older book covers, and we have Mark Slater's videos, in case anyone was unsure of the pedigree that London possesses when it comes to visual SF and what fiction and authors the UK has to offer.

To watch the two videos that Mark put together for the bid, [click here to visit a YouTube playlist containing both](#), or search on YouTube for London in 2014.

The bid's co-chairs, Mike Scott and Steve Cooper, have been stalwarts at Worldcon Business meetings and Fannish Inquisitions, where the more bureaucratically minded get to quiz our bid. We also benefited greatly from the team who brought Smofcon to Amsterdam in 2011. These occasions are, in a way, a form of peer review, providing reassurance that we're on track. Other elements also prove reassuring, including our presence, membership uptake, the venue and the hotels, the strength of the team and how we listen.

We have many agents across the world, from Japan to Ukraine, Italy to Canada. All get flyers posted to them, and seek out places for adverts. A great example is our French agent, Pierre Gevert, who edits 'Galaxie' and who has arranged adverts for us, gotten us mentioned in 'Les Imaginales' and taken flyers to 'Les Utopiales' in Nantes and 'Salon de l'Imaginaire' in Sèvres (near Paris).

In the UK, people have been taking flyers to conventions, far and wide, from Fantasycon in Brighton to the SFX Weekender in Prestatyn and the Satellite conventions in Glasgow. We have been getting

advertises in Vector, the journal of the BSFA, and we just had an advert in Sci-Fi London's brochure. There are plans afoot for Vector to have a look at London elements of SF during the summer.

Outreach events in the US and UK have been fun. Under the guidance of John Dowd, we have been to about ten large media and comic based events, both in Milton Keynes and London's Earl's Court. We give away free books, promoting as many events and conventions and organisations as we can – in more recent times, with the London banner proudly standing next to us, people have asked repeatedly about it. We have become known, colloquially, as 'the free books people' and it's amazing how many book readers are out there. We have given away thousands of books, thanks to generous dealers and fans, especially Erik Arthur and Ted Ball, Andy Richards and Brian Ameringen.

We came back from Eastercon with over a hundred memberships. John Dowd as usual was invaluable at the table, as is Steve. We put as many members of our committee and staff as possible behind the table, with our massive banner announcing our presence.

Spike, our indomitable North American agent, is planning to host a party at Wiscon, and then she will have the task of helping to manage our tables at Chicon 7. (If you'd like to help, just head to <http://www.londonin2014.org/content/volunteer-form> and you can do so!) Kim Kofmel is planning our parties at Chicon 7, and we have a secret plan in the works for the win night (if we win). Chicon 7 will be the bid promotion team's last major item. Kim is going to work elsewhere within the convention structure, too. We have to win the bid – a must – and the plan is the last thing I get to help with, but before that we have a presence to manage.

Ireland, the UK's nearest neighbour, is hosting the 2014 Eurocon, which will present a series of interesting opportunities, between now and when we ourselves win the bid. It could be a bedlam ten days there, and we will look to working with them. They won their bid in Zagreb – 2012's Eurocon – and Alice was there promoting London, hosting a group hospitality event, appearing on a panel and successfully taking memberships.

The handover to Nicholas Whyte as head of con promotions will begin shortly, so that he can lead his team with a running start from September. As I said to the team a number of years ago now, the only thing we can do wrong is lose the bid, and the only person who can do that was and still is me, as head of promotions. Otherwise everything we do is on the way to brilliance, and it has been.

Moments of awesome such as Spike our North American agent driving a lorry into a vast hall, bailing out a fire exit hauling suitcases of booze into a boot of a revving car to be taken at speed to a hotel, Trevor Clark wheel spinning as he U-turned in rain on our way to Macro, the cake plates of towering doom, one of Britain's longest serving fans Ina Shorrock joining at Novacon, kettles blowing the circuitry, Geri Sullivan's car of Tardis proportions, Tom Becker's Jammie Dodgers, Joel Phillip's mid event shopping trip, Dave O'Neill the Barman and Kim Kofmel's hat.

Apparently at Boskone Murray Moore and Deb Geisler arm wrestled for possession of the Bid desk/table kit -- in order to send it safely back to Spike. Moments of hilarity, satisfied smiles, jobs well done.

Everyone is so excited about London. I love it whenever London gets mentioned on a panel. I love it when a crowd of people all gather around a screen and look at the vision of London that Mark Slater so skilfully put together. I love just explaining to people how to get from one side of London to the other.

The excitement is building as we are on the cusp of winning the bid. This is something which – like all the rest of the committee and other volunteers – I'm even more excited about, because the purpose of running the bid is to run a convention. A convention where we get to share an amazingly good time with around 6,000 people.

People who we will be thrilled to welcome to London in 2014.

– James Bacon (deputy bid chair)

SHAMROKON

THE DUBLIN EUROCON 2014

***The Burlington Hotel, Dublin
22 - 24 August 2014***


In 2014, London is calling for Worldcon, and a week later Irish fandom believes that Dublin is the perfect venue to relax, unwind and enjoy the best that European Sci-Fi and Fantasy has to offer. With a hundred thousand welcomes and a million stories, Dublin hopes to be at the centre of European fandom in August 2014.

Shamrokon wishes the London Worldcon bid every success in Chicago.

***For More Information:
<http://www.shamrokon.ie>***

***Guests of Honour
Jim Fitzpatrick Seanan McGuire***





A World (in a) City

by Claire Brialey (based on ideas by Vincent Docherty)

London Docklands, by night: the driverless trains of the Docklands Light Railway sweep almost silently between the tall glass towers, their lights reflected in the water. Capture the image on your phone and know that we are in the science fictional future. This is where your flying car is.

Yet the DLR journey to ExCeL by day lets you take the longer view of London in the world. As you approach the site of what we hope will be the 2014 Worldcon, the sun shines (and, yes, sometimes the rain falls) not just on the shining towers of modern commerce but on the stone, brick and concrete structures that mark the collected centuries of a living city, and the waterways through which the tastes and treasures of the world used to enter London.

London contains four World Heritage Sites, the Mother of Parliaments, and the oldest underground railway network in the world. But London today is a centre of the arts, media and sciences as well as the financial and commercial hub it has been for centuries. In London you can always look both forward and back at the same time, often in

the same street. That's one of the things we want our Worldcon to reflect.

Among the warehouses and offices and restaurants, the parks and schools and colleges, the sports grounds, libraries, cinemas, theatres, concert halls and places of worship, you'll see different eras, styles and sizes of homes. People have lived in and around London for two millennia and around eight million live there now, speaking more than 300 languages between them; more than a quarter of London's residents were born outside the UK. London has long been an international centre and a crossroads: a place to visit, a place to start new ventures or a whole new life, a place to meet new people.

It stands now as the capital city of both England and the United Kingdom, and as the sum of many boroughs and districts and communities; but London's history as the heart of empire, for good and ill, can also still be found there. Now the UK maintains membership of both the Commonwealth and the European Union while sustaining its 'special relationship' with the USA. And within this network of global relationships, London itself continues to look out to the whole world.

We define a world city through many characteristics of its economy, political system, culture and infrastructure. By any recent measure, New York and London continue to head the list: the site of the first Worldcon, in July 1939, and the city where we want to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of that event.

Among its historical milestones, London has a proud record as a location for international events that showcase excellence and wonder. The Crystal Palace in Hyde Park in 1851 hosted the Great Exhibition – the best-known of the first world expositions, although now we can graciously acknowledge their basis in the French tradition of national exhibitions. Yet such expositions were focused mainly on trade, science and technology until 'Building The World of Tomorrow' in New York City in 1939-40, which broadened the scope of World's Fairs to culture and the future, and prompted the first World Science Fiction Convention to be held alongside it.

A London Worldcon in 2014 would be the third to be held in London (the city is also, of course, about to host the modern summer Olympic Games for the third time – the first to do so). It would also be the fifth Worldcon in England, the seventh in the UK, and the ninth in Europe.

In that context we thought carefully about whether a potential Worldcon in London should also bid to be that year's Eurocon, since a London Worldcon will already have a strong focus on science fiction and fandom in the rest of Europe. But we wanted to avoid the risk of being unable to do as much justice to the distinct traditions and significance of the Eurocon, within the broader scope of a Worldcon, as a separate event in a different country could provide.

If London is as successful in its Worldcon bid as Dublin has now been for the 2014 Eurocon, this obviously provides an extra incentive for fans attending the Worldcon to visit Ireland for the following weekend. But the proximity of the Irish Eurocon in both time and space made us decide not to try to steal their thunder by becoming a Euroconference either – although of course that won't stop us having programme, exhibits, and social events throughout the Worldcon that embrace the diversity of European SF.

We look forward to seeing Worldcon attendees in London from as many other European countries as possible, as the basis for an event that really feels like a *world* science fiction convention. The previous British Worldcon, Interaction in Glasgow in 2005, had attendees from the largest number of different countries represented at any Worldcon so far; and that's a record we'd like to beat.

Travel around London – by train, tram, bus, bicycle, boat, car, cable car or on foot – and see the world in a city. Come to London in 2014 and see the world in a convention. It'll be a British convention, all right, but to be British in London means exploring all that other cultures want to share. This will be a British convention run by SF fans from many countries, looking out as well as looking in, forward as well as back, and reflecting the great diversity of the people, ideas and dreams that find their home in London.

– Claire Brialey (bid secretary)



**THE 70TH
WORLD SCIENCE
FICTION CONVENTION
AUG. 30-SEPT. 3, 2012
HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO
WWW.CHICON.ORG**

GUESTS OF HONOR

Mike Resnick
Author GOH

Rowena Morrill
Artist GOH

Jane Frank
Agent GOH

Story Musgrave
Astronaut GOH

Peggy Rae Sapienza
Fan GOH

**TOASTMASTER:
John Scalzi**

**SPECIAL GUEST:
Sy Liebergot**

NASA Flight Controller, Apollo EECOM

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP RATES

Attending Membership:	\$ 215	Family Membership*:	\$540
Young Adult (17-21):	\$ 100	Upgrade Supporting to Attending:	\$165
Child (5-16):	\$ 75	Upgrade Supporting to Young Adult:	\$ 50
Supporting Membership:	\$ 50		

*All Prices in U.S. Dollars. Rates good until 07/31/12.
Two Adults & All Children plus \$25 per Young Adult

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LIVE JOURNAL (CHICON7) AND TWITTER (CHICON_7)!**

ALAN WHITE

"World Science Fiction Society," "WSFS," "World Science Fiction Convention," "Worldcon," "NASFiC," "Hugo Award," and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.



Excitement!

Paul Cornell:

London was the inspiration for some of the great works of SF, and it's home today to some of SF's great writers. Culturally, it thumps over its weight. I'm looking forward to a celebration of that history and future. England swings SF!

Cory Doctorow:

What could be more science fictional than London in 2014? Still reeling from the emplacement of missile launchers and the enactment of martial law during the Olympics, attempting to make sense of whatever is left of Europe, and ramping up for a fresh election with all the bunting and swearing entailed thereby! Mega-City One, here we come!

Ben Aaronovitch:

Science Fiction has been happening to London since before Science Fiction. Futuristic underground transport systems – London had them first. First city to be bombarded by ballistic missiles – London, by cruise missiles – London, by gigantic airships – let me see that would be London again. Oh wait, world's first time machine, let me think was it New York, was it Chicago? I don't think so. First city to be invaded by Martians (Woking doesn't count) – guess. Should Worldcon come to London? Why would it go anywhere else?

Christopher J. Garcia:

I love London. Of all the places in England that I've been to it's easily my favourite. So, when I heard that there was going to be a bid to bring Worldcon to the Docklands, I was psyched! Not only is Worldcon coming to the best city on Earth that isn't San Francisco, but it's going to be in a part of town that I'd never made it to! Along with getting to hang with the greatest fans in the world, those good Europeans, go to the Museum of London Docklands and enjoy some fine dining at Plateau. Oh yeah, and there'll be a Worldcon to party at!

Claire Brialey:

Twenty-five years ago, a British Worldcon was my third convention, and that was exciting. I've attended – and run – so many cons since then that it takes more to excite me now – and yet I am. We're planning to run Worldcon in a part of London that looks like the science fictional future; to involve thousands of SF fans, old and new, in five days of programme and exhibits and events, conversations and creativity and fun; to bring people together from all round the world to share ideas. And I know who the guests of honour will be. Who wouldn't be excited?

Dave Haddock:

Worldcon 2014 – the great and the good of SF fandom assembling less than an hour from where I live, for the first time in London since I was born. This world city with a grand tradition of science fiction events, an inspiration and location for many science fiction works. London, the most diverse city in the world, celebrating the literature of ideas, the most popular genre of films, and all manner of other creative endeavours. This will be about my thirtieth convention, but only my second Worldcon. What's not to be excited about?

España Sheriff:

I'll admit it, I'm shallow. Until last month I had never even been to England, and I pre-supported London 2014 based almost entirely on the sheer awesomeness of their parties. But I have no regrets and am growing more excited about the convention with every day that passes. Everything about it just seems right; right time, right place, right people. The enthusiasm behind the bid is energising, the support is solid, and the t-shirt designs are pretty swell. Now Dublin has won their bid to host Eurocon in 2014, one week after Worldcon. The stars are aligned. Join us.

James Bacon:

Thousands of fans, all smiling and enjoying a convention in one of the world's most awesome capital cities, steeped in fiction. The opportunity for authors, exhibits, speakers, scientists and enthusiasts to converge on the convention in one huge celebration. Most of all, the chance to give book readers – new to conventions, or new to Worldcon – the chance to go to the most incredible science fiction event in the world. Often it may be too far away, out of reach, but now, it's here, in London. I've worked to bring a Worldcon to my locality, and I hope that those people at their first Worldcon enjoy it as much as I did, seventeen years ago.

8² EIGHT CON SQUARED CON

Eastercon 64 • Bradford • 29th March - 1st April 2013



Walter Jon Williams



Freda Warrington



Anne Sudworth



Edward James



The Sixty-Fourth

British National Science Fiction Convention

Cedar Court Hotel, Bradford

www.eightsquaredcon.org

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Satellite 4

...one step beyond...

Guests of Honour

John Meaney

Juliet E McKenna

Jim Burns

Alice and Steve Lawson

Special Guest

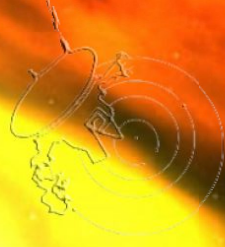
Sir Terry Pratchett (limited appearance, subject to health)

The 65th British National
Science Fiction Convention

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Glasgow

18th – 21st April 2014

www.satellite4.org.uk





Building the Team

Alice Lawson

It's not long to go now before we know for sure if we've been successful in our bid to bring the World Science Fiction Convention to London in 2014.

As you know, we won't be able to run the convention without a lot of help and support from people across the SF community – and I'm very happy to say that we have been able to fill some of our key posts in anticipation of winning the bid. Even better, these are people from many parts of the world and many parts of fandom. Our list of overseas agents is impressive in itself.

I can't list everyone here, but I would like to introduce you to our proposed Division Heads. These people form the bulk of the committee and the overall decision-making team. They will help to influence the look and shape of the convention. And they may be knocking on your door soon, as we start to fill out the rest of the

structure needed to make London in 2014 the best convention we can.

If they do knock on your door, or if you're just looking forward to the Worldcon we hope this will be, please think about joining us. We will be looking for people who can give a few hours before the convention, through those who can work on a specific project for a few weeks or a particular task over a longer time, to people who can join us on the day and be invaluable.

If you would like to volunteer and have not already done so, please visit <http://www.londonin2014.org/content/volunteer-form> and fill in the form. Worldcon only works when people volunteer, and we would all really appreciate your support.

Let's take a look at the Divisions and our committee. We are operating with nine Divisions plus the chairs' office and we have recruited almost all of the Division Heads: Seven have been confirmed so far.

The Division Heads (and their deputies) that have been appointed are, in alphabetical order:

- Exhibits: Farah Mendlesohn.
- Facilities: Mike Scott (deputy: TR).
- Hospitality: Eemeli Aro (deputies: Alison Scott and Patty Wells).
- Programme: James Bacon (deputies: Liz Batty & Ian Stockdale).
- Promotions: Nicholas Whyte (deputy: Paul Taylor).
- Publications: Kees Van Toorn.
- Services: Rita Medany (deputy: Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf).

There are two Divisions that do not yet have a confirmed head: Events and Logistics (Mark Meenan has agreed to be the deputy of the latter).

So, those are the Divisions, but what about the chairs' office? Well, in there you'll find me and Steve Cooper as the convention co-chairs. There will also be Claire Brialey, Deb Geisler and Mark Plummer as chairs' staff; and Vincent Docherty and Colin Harris as chairs' advisors.

There are some parts of the convention which will come directly under the chairs, including:

- Internet: John Harvey.
- Membership: Steve Lawson.
- Treasury: John Dowd.
- WSFS: Ben Yalow.

All of these people bring a wealth of experience and energy to the convention and I feel very lucky to have them as part of our team. I hope some of you will also join us soon... but I'm also looking forward to seeing all of you, and many more, at the convention in just over two years' time!

– Alice Lawson (convention co-chair designate)



Progress Report Minus One

Edited, compiled and designed by
John Coxon

COVER ART

Cover art by Alison Scott (under a BY-SA Creative Commons licence).
London Skyline: David Iliff. Octopus tentacle: Chris Williamson.

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NOVA CON 42

9th to 11th November 2012
Park Inn Hotel, Nottingham

Guest of Honour: Jaine Fenn



Photograph: James Cooke

Now into its 5th decade Novacon is the UK's longest-established regional science fiction convention. Held every autumn since 1971, it's built around a single-stream programme mixing literary items, science talks and more informal events, with deliberate emphasis on social contact between sf fans and genre professionals.

Join us for:
SF Authors
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Dealers Room
Art Show
Book Launches
Nova Awards

www.novacon.org.uk

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Science Fiction Foundation (SFF)

Founded in 1970

<http://www.sf-foundation.org>



Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction
(three issues per year)

Science Fiction Foundation Masterclass, 2013; Nick Lowe, Cat Valente and Graham Sleight (contact farah.sf@gmail.com)

Physics for Fiction; led by Dave Clements at Imperial College, London (contact d.clements@imperial.ac.uk)

Swords, Sorcery, Sandals and Space: Fantastika and the Classical World, Liverpool, July 2013.
<http://www.sf-foundation.org/conference>