

CONVENTIONS

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

1989

3 - 5 February CONTABILE (con-TAH-bill-AY) The filk con. Britain's first filk singing convention will be held at the Chequers Hotel, Newbury. GoH Leslie Fish. Attending f12 (rising soon so register now!), f5 supporting to CONTABILE, 7A Mill Rd, Cambridge CB1 2AB. Hotel £20 pppn, no surcharge for singles (or LPs!). Continental breakfast is included in the room rate.

4 February PICOCON 9. Imperial College, London. Films, games & general fun! Details from Simon Bradshaw, ICSF Soc, Imperial College, London SW7.

24 - 27 March CONTRIVANCE. Hotel de France, St Helier, Jersey. GoHs Anne McCaffrey, M. John Harrison, FGoH Avedon Carol, Rob Hansen. AGoH Don Lawrence (Trigon Empire). f21 attending, f11 supporting, f11 associate to Contrivance, 63 Drake Rd, Chessington, Surrey KT9 1LQ. (I think those are the most recent rates, but it seems that they get changed and/or amended every other week!)

28 April - 1 May SOL III. Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool. Trek Con. GoH T.B.A. Details from 39 Dersingham Ave, Manor Park, London E12 5QF. (s.a.e.)

13 - 14 May BRECON IV. (I may have the dates wrong) A secret location. This convention is held in a small town whose main claim to fame is that there are more bookshops per capita than anywhere else in Britain. This con is for those of us who are totally addicted to books and don't mind spending a lot of money on rare hardbacks if necessary. Due to the size of the hotel, and the tradition of the entire membership of the con eating together, the membership is limited to about 25. There are 3 or 4 places left, if you think this is the sort of convention for you (no program, no art show, no fan room, just a dealer's room and a bar) then contact Peter Smith, 16 Tresta Walk, Woking, Surrey, GU23 4XF.

26 - 29 May MEXICON III (A Science Fiction Convention). Albany Hotel, Nottingham. Fannish relaxacon/Straight SF. As usual no official GoH, but lots of authors show up as members. Hotel £20 pppn. including Breakfast/Lunch voucher. f15 attending to 'Mexicon III' c/o Greg Pickersgill, 7A Lawrence Road, South Ealing, London W5 4XJ.

16 - 18 June ICONOCLASM. Griffin Hotel, Leeds. LUCON II in exile! GoH Diane Duane & Peter Morwood. Attending f11 (rising f2 every couple of months so register now!) to 'Iconoclasm' c/o Jenny Glover, 16 Aviary Place, Armlay, Leeds LS12 2NP.

4 - 6 August INTERCON 89. University of Oslo. US GoH Samuel R. Delany, UK GoH T.B.A., Norwegian GoH Tor Age Bringvaerd. At least one third of program will be in English. All SCANDIFANS speak English. Special rates for non-Scandinavian fans: f5 until January 1st 1989, f10 after (and on door). Accommodation and tours can be arranged for those who book in advance. Details from: Heidi Lyshol, Maridalsvn. 235 A,N-0467 Oslo, Norway.

11 - 13 August U-NICON/UNICON X (I still think it should have been called UNIX!). University of Belfast, N.Ireland. UniCons are held every year in institutions of higher education, over the summer recess. This year Belfast has won the UniCon. GoH Iain Banks, Terry Pratchett (shurley shome mishtake -ED), James White and A. Scientist (?). Huge video program, pub crawl, Logan's Run game, Secret Comics war, quizzes, and a unique version of the Hugo awards! f6 attending, f2 supporting to U-NIcon, 106 Somerton Rd, Belfast BT15 4DG, N. Ireland.

25 - 28 August HONEYCOMBE. Media/Dr.Who. Wiltshire Hotel, Swindon. Leisure Hive type convention. Attending f18, one day f9 (£20/f10 from March 1st). Details from Daniel Cohen, 48 Gurney Drive, East Finchley, London N.2. (include 5 s.a.e.s)

25 - 28 August RECCON. Hilton International (nee Dragonara) Leeds. Trek con. GoH T.B.A. £20 attending, f5 day m'ship. All night Horror program. Details (s.a.e.) from Alec Lewis, 230 Dyas Ave, Great Barr, Birmingham, B42 1HG.

31 August - 4 September NOREASCON World SF con, Boston. GoH Betty and Ian Ballantine, Andre Norton, FGoH The Stranger Club (Boston's 1st SF club). Details and latest rates from UK contact Colin Fine, 28 Abbey Road, Cambridge, CB5 8HQ. Or direct from Noreascon Three, Box 46, MIT Branch Post Office, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.

1 - 3 September PORTMEIRICON 89. Portmeirion, NW Wales. Prisoner convention. Outdoor events free (except for small hotel toll to non-residents), indoor events open to SIX OF ONE members only. f12 annual membership. SIX OF ONE, P.O.Box 60, Harrogate (please note new address!)

22 - 24 September PREFAB TROUT. Swallow Hotel, Glasgow. Replacement for Albacon usually held at this time of year. This convention will be a smaller, more intimate affair (the bar is the largest function space being used!). There is going to be only one program stream including a small, select, eclectic film program. The hotel is limited to 300 bed spaces. f10 attending, f5 supporting to 'Prefab Trout', c/o Malcolm M. Reid, 55 Cederwood Ave, Newton Mearns, Glasgow, G77 5LP. Please include your type of beard (None / Stringy / Goatee / Full Set / Fondlable / Other) since Linda wants to know.

October NOVACON 19. Hotel T.B.C., Birmingham area. This years NOVACON has been moved one week earlier for various reasons, but the hotel has not been finalised. As usual I have misplaced the details of guests (Tanith Lee probably) and contact address but I think they are using the same address as last year which is, Bernie Evans, 7 Grove Ave, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 7UY. (and yes, I know you've never heard of the hotel T.B.C. in Birmingham.)

1990

13 - 16 April EASTCON '90. British national Easter SF con, Cobden Hotel, Birmingham. GoH Iain Banks, FGoH Anne Page, artist GoH SMS. Write for new registration rates. Details from, EASTCON '90, Unit 28, Metropolitan works, Enfield Rd, London N1 5AZ.

23 - 27 August CONFICTION. Netherlands Congress Center, The Hague. GoHs Joe Haldeman, Wolfgang Jeschke, Harry Harrison, FGoH Andrew Porter and TM Chelsea Quinn Yarbro. £37.50 attending, f16 supporting to Worldcon 1990, P.O. Box 95370, - 2509 CJ, The Hague, Holland. I have not changed these rates for a while now, and they go up on Dec 31st 1988, so register now! Make cheques payable to "Stichting Worldcon 1990". Access, MasterCard and Eurocard accepted.

31 August - 3 September HOLODECK. Bradford. Star Trek con. The 30th British Star Trek convention. More details at SOL III in May '89 when registration opens (registration £25). Put it in your diaries now!

1991:

See rumours for Reconnaissance!

The world con has been won by Chicago! I do not have any other details to hand at the moment, but as soon as I do, I will pass them on to you.

Convention Bid Forum:

A section to allow people who are bidding for conventions to publicise their bids.

Unicon 1990: Forget the boat race, this is the real Oxford / Cambridge battle! I came late to fandom and missed the hey-day of Cambridge conventions and so know nothing about them. However they (whoever 'they' may be) have stated that they are bidding for the Unicon in '90 but they have not sent me any details of their bid, more details from them at the same address as CONTABILE (pre-support fl). On the other hand I attended CONINE (the Oxford bid) last year and it was an excellent convention! The people (and penguins) that brought you CONINE, OUSFS, now announce SPAWN OF CONINE...The Penguin Returns! (Awk!) For July 1990 as a bid for Unicon 1990. Pre-supporting m'ship is fl and Spawn of Conine is a foul (fowl?) denizen of 298 Ifley Road, Oxford.

Easter 1991: More details! The name of the convention is (at the moment) SPECULATION (finally an Easter con without 'CON' in it!). It will almost certainly be in Edinburgh (I think!) and further details will be available as soon as I find out what they are!

RUMOURS:

A games convention will be held in Cambridge in 1990, this may or may not have anything to do with CONJUNCTION, which is a group of Unicon and Eastercon convention organisers getting together to run the convention they always wanted to go to (or so I have been told by a totally unreliable source!). A small convention will be held in Norwich also in 1990 (with some input from at least one person involved in Novacons). Reconnaissance ("The future of SF") will be held in early 1991, possibly in Nottingham, possibly somewhere else. A new Doctor Who related fan club is in gestation. Doctor Who conventions will be held (but nobody will tell me when!). Fanderson (and/or their cronies) will be organising a weekend long UFO (the TV series) convention. There is a possible RoboCop / Buckaroo Banzai club starting up (if anyone is interested, I will forward enquiries). This listing will contain details of various group meetings around the country starting with some of the London meetings.

MEETINGS:

Well, this is one rumour that seems to be coming true! This section will cover any meetings that are of interest to some area of fandom. For example:

The Wellington (the 'Ton), 1st Thursday of every month, Waterloo Road, London (between Waterloo and Waterloo East BR stations.) general pub meeting for London fandom of all types (Star Trek in one corner, ZZ9 and the Hatfield mob in another, fannish fans by the bar etc.) all evening, free (watch out for a Small Mammal, as they can be terribly informative).

BSFA, third Thursday of the month (not December), The Plough, Museum St (nr. British Museum): 50p members, fl non-members. Regular events (which will either be publicised here or in Small Mammal, and in Matrix/Vector) including author readings, auctions, quizzes etc.

ZZ9, the Hitch-Hikers Guide to the Galaxy fan club (or so I am informed) meets on the third Wednesday of the month at The Clacken, nr Oxford Circus (behind Liberties). No other details for the present. Obviously there are other groups meeting every month (or whenever), if you know of any such group (e.g. the Birmingham group, your local college society, Red Dwarf fan club etc.) then send me details, and I will publicise (plug!) them.

Special Events:

The following special events have been made known to me:

1) Who Framed Roger Rabbit? This excellent film (Ha! I saw it at Nolacon! It's mega-brill!) opens nationwide on December 2nd. A large group of fans (or is it a group of large fans?) have decided to go see it on the 2nd at the Barbican cinema at 8:15 pm. The Barbican cinema is widely regarded as the most luxurious cinema in London, and has a new sound system and a new, brighter screen. I do not know how many tickets the Barbican have left (though if I get a chance I will tick one of the boxes below) but I strongly encourage you to a) see it, b) see it as soon as possible and c) see it with other fans (it really adds something!).

Sold Out A few tix left Lots of tix left

2) The Christmas 'Ton. This looks like it will be happening on the fourth Thursday of December (the 22nd), though listen out for details.

3) FIB (The Federation Information Bureau, I think!) are holding their annual Star Trek New Years party/minicon again this year (surprisingly they hold an annual party EVERY year!). I don't have details handy, but if you want to know more, either drop me a line (and a Christmas card) or keep your eyes open at the 'Ton and other meetings. (It will be held December 31 - January 1 for those of you who are hard of thinking!)

Glossary:

pppn: Per Person Per Night (single, twin, double etc)]
'name in quotes': is who/what cheques are to be made payable to (where I have been told that is!).
GoH: Guest of Honour : FGoH: Fan Guest of Honour
AGoH: Artist Guest of Honour.
TM: Toastmaster/mistress (master of ceremonies)
s.a.e.: Stamped Self-Addressed Envelope. Include one with all correspondence to conventions.
T.B.A./T.B.C.: To Be Announced/To Be Confirmed. Please note that all guests are invited subject to other commitments. For media conventions especially, paying work comes first.

Disclaimer:

Wherever possible I have tried to confirm all the details in this list. However there are some conventions that I have yet to hear from. Please check that the convention is on the dates and at the location specified before travelling long distances. Please also note that the registration rates I have quoted are the most recent ones that I have handy. I may have lost (or never received) notice of a rate hike, so don't be surprised if the rate (or any other details) are out of date.

The Magician
12 Stannard Road
Dalston, London E.8. 1DB

Please send convention details to the above address. There is a checklist available to make sure that you have included all details. PRs and any zines are more than welcome and will be exchanged for the usual. Deadline for next edition is 20th January 1989!

This list has been compiled with the help of people far too strange to mention, and has been made possible by Steve and the boys.

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