

Time	Description
09:45	Welcome : MEG
09:50	Reading: Gaie Sebold
10:00	Where Do I Begin: Gaie Sebold, Dave Hutchinson, Adrian Selby, Kim Lakin-Smith, John Allen (M) The panel discusses the different approaches to starting your story. Is it better to start at the beginning or throw your reader right in media res? Should you plot everything, or just strike off into the unknown? This panel discusses what you do before you even start typing (make a cup of tea, I shouldn't wonder)
10:50	Reading: Joanne Hall
11:00	GoH: Joanne Hall interviewed by Roz Clarke
11:50	Reading: Graham Austin-King
12:00	IKB The Engineer Lewis P Bear presents an insight into Isambard Kingdom Brunel with particular focus on the SS Great Britain.
12:50	Reading: Piotr Swietlik
13:00	GoH: Andrew Skilleter interviewed by Ken Shinn
13:50	Setup:
14:00	Book launch: Pete Sutton's "Seven Deadly Swords"
14:50	Reading: Jasper Fforde
15:00	How To Become A Published Author: Jasper Fforde, Anna Stephens, Jacey Bedford, Simon Kewin, Cavan Scott (M) SPOILER: It's not easy. But with a manuscript under your belt you've done the hard part. Our panel of professionals from the writing and publishing worlds will offer hints and tips based on their own experiences and careers to date.
15:50	Reading: Dave Hutchinson
16:00	GoH: Dave Hutchinson interviewed by Dan Pawley
16:50	Reading: Kim Lakin-Smith
17:00	Writing The Nonhuman: Dev Agarwal, Kim Lakin-Smith, Gareth L Powell, Chery! Morgan, Su Haddrell (M) Our genres are full of aliens and elves, sentient spaceships and intelligent dragons. How can we make these believable without reducing them to people in funny costumes? How does a good writer get across the profundity of species difference?
17:50	Reading: Emma Newman
18:00	The City As Protagonist: Emma Newman, Neil Beynon, Ian Millsted, Stark Holborn, Anne Corlett (M) An urban fantasy set in Bath would read very differently from one set in Doncaster. To what extent does the choice of location influence the story and atmosphere of these works? Does the setting become a character in its own right?
18:50	Reading: Anne Corlett
19:00	Spaceship Top Trumps: Cavan Scott, Nick Walters, Alicia Wanstall-Burke, Anne Corlett, Kevin Henney (M) Playground games go high tech as we finally settle the question of which spaceship is best by rating them on a number of attributes, including special abilities, crew, and just plain looking cool.

Time	
09:30	"My First Con": a quick session for the nervous or inexperienced on how to get the most out of the day, with John Baverstock and Dan Pawley
09:45	Welcome: Dan Pawley
09:50	Reading: David Gullen
10:00	But What Does It Mean For Me?: Janet Edwards, Rosie Oliver, David Gullen, Kevin Henney, Dev Agarwal (M) SF casually tosses around massive paradigm shifts without really diving into their impact on everyday life. If teleportation became widely available tomorrow what would the impact be on a worker in a car factory, a GP or a border official? What would the impact of that be on society? Almost every SF writer missed the coming of smartphones – let's get ahead of the next wave.
10:50	Reading: Tony Cooper
11:00	A Many Headed Beast: Tony Cooper, Gail Williams, Alicia Wanstall-Burke, Jason Whittle, Chery! Morgan (M) Publishing has splintered into several different models now. There's Big Five traditional publishing, small presses, self publishing electronically or physically, and hybrid takes on these. This panel is not intended to be a deathmatch to establish which is the One True Model, but a weighing up of pros and cons to help you decide which one is best for you
11:50	Reading: Rexx Deane
12:00	What Does God Want With A Starship: Ben Jeapes, Rexx Deane, Jaine Fenn, Vicky Brewster, John Baverstock (M) Religion and SF can coexist, as works like The Sparrow prove, but they are few and far between. Why might this be? Is there a place for religious discussion in the genre, and can salvation be found amongst the cold equations?
12:50	Reading: Jessica Rydill
13:00	It Were All Fields Round Here: Dave Hutchinson, Jessica Rydill, GR Matthews, Anna Smith Spark, Steven Poore (M) The panel discuss the books from their past they still hold dear to their hearts, even if a modern revisiting can be a letdown. What will you forgive in the service of nostalgia? What do you hold close despite the general insistence that it is actually terrible?
13:50	
14:00	Break 0
14:50	Reading: Steve McHugh
15:00	Here Be Dragons. And Yokai. And Tokoloshe. And Kupua...: Nick Hembery, Zoe Burgess-Foreman, Steve McHugh, Sarah Ash, Jessica Rydill (M) Our fantasy is still largely based in the folklore and mythology of Western Europe, but eyes are beginning to look further afield. There are equally rich traditions all over the world, but do we need to tread carefully when taking from them? How do we stay true to the core of a myth, or be inspired by it, without missing the point or appropriating someone else's culture? How can we encourage representation of writers from these cultures?
15:50	Reading: Dominic Duley
16:00	My Favourite Cliché: Joanne Hall, Reiley Daniels, Dominic Duley, Piotr Swietlik, Ben Jeapes (M) Panellists pick the tropes and cliches that they love (or hate) from SF&F. Can't get enough of lost heirs to faraway kingdoms, or are you sick of easy FTL travel? Audience votes will decide what gets saved, and what gets consigned to Room 101
16:50	Reading: Juliet McKenna
17:00	Where Have All The Thin Books Gone?: Pete Sutton, Juliet McKenna, Graham Austin King, Gail Williams, Ian Millsted (M) A genre novel in the 70s usually came in at around 200 pages. Now we are regularly served up tomes the height and thickness of a house brick. What does this mean for authors? Do they get paid more for fat books, or does the industry just expect them to write faster in order to make a living? How much of this expansion is down to the tale that needed to be told, and how much is to make it look good in the bookshop?
17:50	Reading: Anna Smith Spark
18:00	Desert Island Fantasy: John Allen, Anna Smith Spark, Terry Jackman, Steven Poore, Jasper Fforde (M) Our panellists choose one fantasy book they'd take to a desert island. If you could only take one fantasy book to a desert island what would you take and why? What makes a book re-readable, what attributes does a good desert island book need?
18:50	Reading: Anna Stephens
19:00	The Future of War: Jonathan L Howard, Anna Stephens, Dr Bob, Mark Iles, David Gullen (M) Battlefield AI, autonomous drones, smart guns, battle stations as big as a moon... Does the tech rule or can we still make a human story when writing military science fiction? Is an understanding of the history of warfare a help or an impediment? Are galactic empires with giant battle fleets feasible, or just for fun?

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09:45			
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10:00	Vicky Brewster	networking for introverts: As promoting books (and authors) falls so much more heavily now on the individual, I'd like to discuss some strategies for networking and getting the most out of a con -- or any social situation -- when you're an introvert. Would include discussing the difference between introversion and shyness or anxiety, go through some conversation starters, self confidence tips, active listening and having meaningful conversations.	
10:50			
11:00	Juliet McKenna	Making Every Word Count - effective use of detail in fiction.	
11:50			
12:00	Jasper Fforde	Any issues around writing, motivation, structure, adding 'sparkle' or writing series books, dealing with publishers/editors/publicity.	Sarah Ash / Zoe Burgess Foreman anime talk
12:50			
13:00	Joanne Hall	Secrets of the Slush Pile: I'm the acquisitions editor at a small press, and in this discussion I'll tell you some of the ways to help your manuscript escape the dreaded slush pile. We'll be talking about presentation, cover letters, the dread synopsis, submission guidelines and more, and I'll let you in on some secrets of the slush pile and tell you hope to help your manuscript shine!	
13:50			
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15:00	Gareth L Powell	Kaffeeeklatsch. Especially happy for aspiring authors to come along and ask any questions they may have about the craft and business of writing, or just kick back and have a conversation	Silk Paintingwith Sophie E Tallis - practical workshop
15:50			
16:00	Emma Newman	Are you struggling to write the first draft of your novel? Are you researching endlessly but not actually writing the book? Have you had a book in your head for years but been unable to start it? Do you have a drawer full of unfinished stories and manuscripts?	
16:50			
17:00	Rexx Deane	(Self-publishing A-Z), covering discussion on hiring editors, whether you need to buy ISBNs (and how), how to format your book, which companies are available to print, and how to set up distribution. I'd hope to cover all the things I found difficult to find out when I started on my self-publishing journey.	Write Your Name In Gallifreyan with Andy Bigwood
17:50			
18:00	Andrew Skilleter	Kaffeeklatsch - meet the artist	
18:50			
19:00			