



4th-6th November 1983 Royal Angus Hotel Birmingham

Here they are; probably the most important documents you will fill in this year. Please read them and the following instructions <u>carefully</u> before you write anything. You may be a super-intelligent being, but it is very easy to make a mistake.

Hotel Booking Forms will only be accepted from those who have taken <u>full</u> membership. If you are supporting and wish to attend the convention, please convert to full membership <u>now</u>.

- 1. Fill in your hotel booking form, remembering to complete those sections where you are asked to give a second choice.
- 2. Fill in the Hotel Reservation Card, following the instructions on the next page.
- Send the form and the card to CHRIS DONALDSON. Her address is; 46 Colwyn Road, Beeston, Leeds 11.

N.B.

If you are sharing a room, please make sure that only <u>one</u> person returns a card, though both can send in forms. (If you send the forms in together, that would make things a lot easier.) If you would like to ask the hotel to arrange someone to share with you, please indicate this is the special requirements section of the form. And don't forget to sign the form <u>and</u> the card.

Chris will process the cards and forms in the order she receives them. They will then be sent to the Royal Angus who will send you confirmation of your booking. When the Angus is full, the hotel will pass the reservations to a overflow hotel — that is the Crest Hotel, which is on New Street. The same Novacon room rates will apply there.

We suggest you book for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday as the convention programme will end very late Sunday night. You may stay for only one or two nights as you wish, and of course, you can also stay over the Thursday and Monday nights at the same room rate.

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE A HOTEL BOOKING FORM AND CARD WITH THIS P.R. PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS IMMEDIATELY.

GUEST OF HONOUR

LISA TUTTLE

Chairman: Phill Probert, Committee: Chris Donaldson, Dave Haden, Jan Huxley, Paul Oldroyd,

Eunice Pearson, Paul Vincent, John Wilkes.

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by PAUL VINCENT

ALTERED STATES

(1980 - Columbia/EMI/Warner - 102 minutes - Directed by Ken Russell.)

For some years now, certain individuals have got their jollies from lying in tanks of salty water in total darkness and silence; hallucinating, having mystical insights and generally having a good time. Yes that's right -- loonies, so who better to base a film on this LSD substitute than the arch-eccentric himself, Ken Russell. Cuddly Ken gives us his usual over-the-top production with plenty of whizz-bang special effects. I'm told we're supposed to take it all seriously, but be advised to take along one or two pinches of salt.

AN AMERICAN WAREWOLF IN LONDON

(1981 - Rank Film Library - 97 minutes - Directed by John Landis.)

In this everyday tale of lycanthropy. a pair of American chums on holiday in England ignore the dire warnings of the local yokels, resulting in a fatal encounter with the local warewolf. One of them, though bitten, survives. Black comedy sets in as his former friend, decomposing over the carpet, returns from the grave and urges him to kill himself before the next full moon. Understandably, he declines. Sure enough, the full moon brings out the beast in him and he embarks on a merry trail of blood and destruction. Watch out for the superb transformation scene -- you can't see the join.

QUINTET

(1979 - Columbia/EMI/Warner - 118 minutes - Directed by Robert Altman.)

Caught in a new Ice Age, the surviving inhabitants of a decaying city pass the time by playing the game which gives this film its title. However, like D&D players gone beserk, the characters then attempt to assassinate one another in a 'real-life' version of the game. Robert Altman certainly sets us an enigma as both Paul Newman, in the lead role, and the audience try to fathom out what exactly is going on here? All in all, a very serious and puzzling piece of cinema, beautiful to watch, which 20th Century Fox in their infinite wisdom, never saw fit to put on general release, so be sure to catch this one!

LOVE AT FIRST BITE

(1979 - Rank Film Library - 96 minutes - Directed by Stan Dragoti.)

Remember what <u>Blazing Saddles</u> did to westerns? This is where vampire movies get the same treatment, with George Hamilton having a fangtastic time hamming it up as Dracula. The poor old leech is evicted from the old Transylvanian homestead and (inevitably) emigrates, to the U.S. of A. In-jokes abound as bat meets girl, bat gets girl, and girl becomes bat (!) despite the efforts of an inept vampire-hunter. At one point, this would-be hero misguidedly tries to ward off the Count with a Star of David. "I suggest you find yourself a nice Jewish girl" quips Drac, unperturbed. Lovely stuff.

TIME AFTER TIME

(1979 - Columbia/EMI/Warner - 112 minutes - Directed by Nicholas Meyer.)

Everyone knows that the time machine in H.G. Wells' famous novel was strictly fictitious, right? Wrong! This off-beat thriller reveals that H.G. actually built such a machine in his cellar. Unfortunately, Jack the Ripper used it to elude the rozzers, escaping to modern-day New York with Wells in hot pursuit (well I said 'off-beat' did'nt I). Thrills and tension are skilfully balanced by humour, resulting chiefly from Malcolm McDowells anachronistic portrayal of Wells; and a final plot-twist can be found in the on-screen postscript.



The Art show has gone up in the world, or rather , up in the Royal Angus. Since this year it is no longer in the depths of the hotel.

This year in line with Novacon 13's attempt to give fans more, we will be taking the risk and moving the art show to the main floor. It will be hosted by Dave Haden, who has provided the super artwork for Novacon 13.

Since this is a new site for the art show (3 bed rooms near the lifts.) it will mean that you will have to order your display space well in advance. Not like last year when people arrived on the door expecting space available. So if you wish to display your artwork, order your space now on the hotel booking form provided in this progress report.

Also this year we will be having an award. 'The Novacon 13 Art Show ' award. None of the confusing categorys and professional/ amature status. Just a simple open award. Since the best pice of artwork will be chosen by our Guest of Honour : Lisa Tuttle.

The Nova is the annual award made by the Birmingham Science Fiction group to fandom. It is presented at their convention Novacon each year. There are three categorys; Best Fanzine, Best Fan Writer and Best Fan Artist. Last year at Novacon 12 they were won by, Rob Hansen for Best Fanzine, Chris Atkinson for Best Fan Writer and Rob Hansen (Again !) for Best Fan Artist.

AWARD

To qualify for this award. Two or more issues of your fanzine must have appeared between the dates 1st of October 1982 and 30th of September 1983. For a Fan writer and a Fan Artist to qualify, a piece of writing or artwork by the individual must have been published for the first time between the above dates.

Qualifications for voting are;- the publication of one fanzine.or two contributions to two different fanzines or three letters of comment to three different fanzines. Again between the dates 1st of October 1982 and 30th of September 1983. The actual rules and regulations are much much longer, five pages in fact ! They can be obtained from Dear Ol' Dave Langford 94 London Road, Reading, Berks. by sending an SAE.

"Write a few words for the P.R. on your plans for the Novacon 13 Fan Roon," beamed Eunice as she stood between me and the toilet door, "the Brum Group could do with a good laugh." Held to ransom by the beer I'd just consumed, I nodded and hurried past, quietly thankful there remains one place in the Ivy Bush where one can still seek sanctuary from the fannish press gang.

And so it is that on a particularly dismal afternoon, when I could be merrily sheltering from the rain in the warm embrace of my local legless Arms, life instead finds me trapped behind a typewriter trying to explain why this year's Novacon committee has decided to revive a fannish tradition its five predecessors prefered to forget.

Well, in many ways it's a reflection of the new committee's strong links withthe more overtly fannish gatherings of the past few years, coupled with my and Chairman Phill Probert's determination to offer fans at Novacon 13 a genuine choice of programmes.

This year the fan room will offer an alternative programme, (Not that the main programme will be boring you understand.) a lively mixture of games, humorous talks (including the 'Not the Guest of Honour Speech' by Lisa Tutle.) and a fairly strong re-examination of the essential fanish values, launched on the Friday night with a massive Brum Groupsponsored party. We're also hard at work on Novacon:AM, Fandom's first pirate radio station, which I'll be covering in greater detail nearer its unveiling.

-- STEVE GREEN.



23rd-25th of September 1983 Glasgow's Eighth SF Convention Held at the Central Hotel GOH:Chris Boyce

GUEST SPEECHES, MAIN, ALTERNATE & FAN PROGRAMMES, FORMAL & INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, A FULL FILM AND VIDEO PROGRAMME, DEALERS, GAMES & COMPUTER ROOMS, BOOK PANEL, UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE, FANCY-DRESS & THE DREADED VOGON POETRY COMPETITION PLUS LOTS MORE.

£9 Full. £5 Support. £5 Day. Memberships to: Kevin Henwood, 10 Woodlands Gdns.,Bothwell,G71 T H R F N RER

1 LISA TUTTLE 2 Chris Priest 3 Phill Probert 4 Chris Donaldson 5 Dave Haden 6 Jan Huxley 7 Paul Oldroyd 71 Eunice Pearson 8 Paul Vincent 9 John Wilkes 10 Harry Harrison 11 Brian Aldiss 12 Rog Peyton 13 Roger Robinson 14 Roger Perkins 15 John Stewart 16 Maureen Porter 17 Julian Headlong 18 Tim Headlong 19 Murray Lynes (S) 20 Animal 21 Peter Thompson 22 Christina Lake 23 Gerald Lawrence Colin Fine 24 25 Iain Dickson (S) 26 Dave Thomas 27 Steve Lawson 1/2r Cruttendon 28 29 Chris Southern 30 Jenny Southern 31 Ian Sorenson

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	43	Kathy Westhead	7
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COMMITTEE ADDRESSES :-

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PHILL PROBERT & EUNICE PEARSON: (Chairman & Editor.)
32 Digby House, Colletts Grove, Kingshurst, Birmingham
PAUL OLDROYD & CHRIS DONALDSON: (Treasurer & Registrations.)
46 Colwyn Road, Beeston, Leeds, Yorks.
DAVE HADEN: (Art Show.)
Shottery P.O. Stores, Shottery, Stratford on Avon, Warks.
JOHN WILKES: (Advertising.)
18A Ivel Gardens, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 OAV.
PAUL VINCENT: (Films.)
25 Dovedale Avenue, Pelsall, Walsall, West Midlands.
STEVE GREEN: (Not the Fan Room.)
11 Fox Green Avenue, Acocks Green, Birmingham .
JAN HUXLEY (Opperations.)
128 Whitley Wood Road, Reading, Berks,RG2 8JG.

REGISTRATION :is £7.00 attending Membership and £3.50 for supporting. Send your money to Chris Donaldson, 46bColwyn Road, Beeston, Leeds 11.

THIS PROGRESS REPORT :was written except where stated by Phill Probert

and Eunice Pearson.

NOVACON 13 IS ORGANISED BY THE BIRMINGHAM SCIENCE FICTION GROUP.