

INVENTION

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



Progress Report 2

Introduction (mk 2)

In the beginning was Faircon, then Albacon. Now from the makers of neither of those we bring you Invention, Glasgow's eighth SF Convention.

But seriously, welcome to our second Progress Report in which we will endeavour to relay our progress so far. So what's been happening then? Well, we have as our Guest of Honour Chris Boyce (author of 'Catchworld'), as our Fan Guest of Honour Jim Barker (fan artist and loony) and we also hope to have a Special Guest, details of whom will be announced at a later date.

We will have a Main Programme with films, panels, talks, Fancy Dress and the like; an alternate & Fan Programme with the usual quizzes, fan-turn challenge and general silliness. We also hope to have a strong Space-Flight element in the Con - we have already discussed the inclusion of talks on Asteroid Mining and Space Medicine with various interested parties.

Above all this, (literally!), on the second floor, will be the Video Programme, Art Show, Computer Room, Wargames Room and we hope a Star Trek Room.

Near the Main and Alternate Programmes there will also be the Dealers Room where you can go and spend lots and lots of money and failing that there is the bar where you can go to relax, talk and spend lots and lots of money.

(Over the three days of the Con there will be lots of real ale available and the bar staff are very friendly, but they do not like drunks, so if you see any of the Albacon II committee then pick them up and prop them up in a quiet corner somewhere.)

Albacon II

If you are reading this at Albacon II then why not come along to our desk and give us your ideas for any programme items that you would particularly like to see. Perhaps you might even like to provide one. Whichever is the case, come along and have a chat. (You could even be given the chance to buy your very own membership, so don't miss us.)

Main Programme

Our main programme is already half-full and I have a good idea how the remaining time will be filled; so if you want to run an item please contact me soon or you may end up in the Alternate Programme.

The Film Programme (see below) reflects our aim that Invention should cater for as wide a variety of fans as possible, with comedy, horror, Space-flight etc. The perennial favourites, the Vagon Poetry and Fancy Dress Competitions will, of course take place, as will a book panel and (if there are enough authors around) a planet-building panel. The rest will be the usual quizzes and talks, with I hope a lot of Spaceflight material.

For details send a SAE to the membership address.

Vince Docherty

Alternate Programme

The Alternate Programme will contain the usual mixture of, talks, films and quizzes. We may have to open the partition between the Alternate and Main Programme halls for the GoH speech

and the Fancy Dress, but at all other times the room should be doing business as usual. At night, the Fan Room will probably come into its own and charades and filk (SF folk music) will take over till the wee, small hours.

We are proposing to run two SF/Fantasy quizzes, the first of which will be an SF Challenge open to teams of 3 or 4 persons answering questions on anything to do with SF or Fantasy. The committee has hinted at vast prizes, but personally I don't believe them. Secondly, if there is enough interest, we will hold an SF Mastermind quiz, again with vast prizes.

If you are interested in either of these competitions then send the following details to the address below:

For the SF challenge, the names and addresses of the team members and the name (if any) of the team.

For the SF Mastermind send your name, address and your choice of specialist subject.

The address to send entries to (with suitable donation to the Eamonn Patton Benevolent Fund) is:

E J G Patton
43 Tinto Road
Newlands
Glasgow G43 2AH

(Enclose a S.A.E. if you want an acknowledgement.)

Computer Room

This has always proved popular in the past and no doubt it will again be packed with video junkies scrambling to get a fix of their favourite games. The more games there are, the better, so if you have programs for the SPEC-TRUM, BBC, VIC 20, APPLE or any other popular micro, then please bring them along. Also, please let us know if you have a spare micro lying around

that you might let us borrow, (or a portable TV for that matter). (See Donations).

We will probably be running a few competitions - space invaders, pacman etc. so get those fingers going if you want to win.

Norman Kent

Dealers Room

The Dealers Room at Invention will be a departure from tradition - it will be cheap. Tables will be £1 each so that you.... yes you with the wotsit, can afford it.

The reasoning behind this is that there are a lot of non-professionals out there who would be quite happy to sell something and waste a few hours as long as they didn't have to lay out much cash selling such things as second-hand books and comics, badges, fanzines, computer-tapes, art prints D & D equipment and T-shirts etc. Incidentally, real dealers are also welcome (at the same rates natch). Indeed they will get priority in table numbers and positioning, if demand is great.

The room itself is quite spacious (50' x 28') and the tables are 6' x 3'. The room will be secure at night and we carry insurance which will cover most goods. (If you have very valuable or unusual goods please tell us and we will arrange extra insurance.) As usual with Glasgow Cons assistance will be provided for loading and unloading but please note that cars and vans can only stay for a short time outside the Hotel so please let us know when you arrive.

Forms giving these and other details will be available after Albacon II from our usual address. (Please mark envelopes 'Dealers Room').

Hope to see a lively show.

Neil Craig

Vogon Poetry

Shriek! Scream! Aaaaah! No! No! No! Heeelp! Arrgh! Howl! Ooooh! Mercy! Vugh! Yes! It's yet another Vogon Poetry Competition. Remember - entries may be your own work or translated from the Vogon; no entry used in another competition is valid; a poetry reading service will be available. See you there! (Cackles of evil laughter).

Fancy Dress Competition

Q. What can be said about a Fancy Dress Competition that isn't always said?

A. Nothing.

Oh well, in case anyone's been hibernating for a while and forgotten, or never been to a Con before (shock horror), I'll say it again. Marvellous prizes, entries must not have been used in a previous competition and must not be hired. We hope lots of you will come in fancy dress even if you're not entering the actual competition; a good time will be had by all. Well, better than at the Vogon Poetry at any rate.

Frances Jane Nelson

Video Programme

The video programme will be situated on the second floor in the Arran room so there should be plenty of room for everyone. The T.V. set..... sorry, the large screen video, will provide easy viewing of the packed and varied programme. As at Faircon 82, the programme will probably last all night as well as all day, but to aid us in this attempted creation of Square-Eyed Monsters we will need an abundant supply of video tapes. Your mission (should you choose to accept it) is to

lend them to us. All right, calm down, of course we'll look after them! Not only that, we'll return them after the Con, so if you can point a few tapes in our direction then send details of what they are, how long they last and format (e.g. Con Runner, 40 mins, beta). It would also be useful to have the tapes a few days prior to the Con if possible, to check them on our equipment. If you feel really generous then we will gratefully accept donations of video records which we promise will be looked after with our utmost care. (See the section on Donations.)

Alex Benzie

Fan Room

Invention proposes to have a Fan-Room, (or at least part of a room), so if you have fanzines to distribute then please send them to us or bring them along to the Con.

There will be a Fan-Room party - helped along by something alcoholic (not a frequent drinker myself, rest assured that I'll arrange something suitably potent for your consumption - Pangalectic Gargleblasters available on request!) and also by the Fannish events we intend to arrange. Jim Barker our Fan Guest has promised he'll talk - but only under severe torture and the influence of a bottle of Southern Comfort.

Warning; the dreaded Fan-Turn Challenge is staging a come-back, (in spite of all my efforts to prevent it!).

Madeleine Campbell

Wargames Room

There will be a wargames room though the content has not yet been finalised. We will have the usual playing games, (D & D et al), with the possibility of a tournament. If you want to bring your own games then feel free

to use space available. Alternatively, if you want to take a hand in running games for newcomers then send name, address and type of games which you play to the membership address. Further details about the programme of the wargames room will appear in PR3.

(And if you are feeling ambitious, why not paint a few games figures, or enter some you have already done in the Figures section of the Art Show.)

Gophers

As every Con does, Invention will need help on the day. Things have to be fetched and carried, chairs and glasses tidied away, computers looked after, people have to be dragged screaming from the Vagon Poetry contest and many other superhuman feats will have to be performed. If you think that you could manage to help for a morning, afternoon and evening, then let us know and we will round you up at the Con. Now, where did I put that whip?

John Allardice

Donations

This is really to allay any fears that people might have about lending computers, tapes, portable TV's etc. Have no doubt that everything will be well looked after. There will be a security room where items will be stored when not in use and we do have full insurance cover. So if you can, bring a few films, games or anything which will make the Con more enjoyable for every one.

Art Show

OK, this is the chance for all you SF Da Vinci's, Constables, Dali's and Barker's to show off your talent. There will be a prize given to the Best in the Invention Art Show. (The judges decision will, of course, be arbitrary, prejudiced and final).

Further details of hanging space, categories etc. will appear in PR 3 or write to our membership address if you have a query. No bribes please!

Jackie Robinson



Films

Glasgow Cons are well known for their substantial film programmes and Invention will not be an exception. Listed below are the films booked so far with comments by Bruce Saville. Any others that we get will be detailed in PR 3.

ALLEGRO NON TROPO - Animation with musical passages. Just like Fantasia except slightly more adult and has an orchestra full of old ladies and a cruel task master linking the animation.

DUCK SOUP - Not what the people actually think when they talk of Marxist political systems. Here the Marx Brothers show how to destroy international relations. (And none of the terrible musical interludes.)

KADOYNG - C.F.F. cheapie full of nutty scientists, home made robots, time machines, flashing lights, whirr-whirr noises etc. Just the thing to get the kiddies screaming.

PSYCHO - Cheaply made film with a few shocks, teasing clues and a too simple psychological explanation. Survives all that by adding a great atmosphere of seediness, heat and suspicion. Aided and abetted by marvellous set pieces and the fantastic Bernard Hermann music striking throughout the film. Watch the chocolate sauce go down the plughole.

SILENT RUNNING - Marvellously made SF film by Doug Trumbull goes all out to wring a tear from you with the cute little robots and a guilt-ridden Bruce Dern. Considered by some to be a minor classic.

SOME LIKE IT HOT - A Marilyn Monroe classic. Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis impersonating female musicians. M.M. and Joe E Brown as the objects of our heroes' attentions, all played down in sunny Miami following a Wilder & Diamond recipe.

THEM - Great; eerie; noises shriek through the desert night. Little girls stumble through the sand shouting "Them, them." What creature has been mutated by the US atom bomb tests this time? Survives a recipe for hokum to produce an excellent film, justifiably called a classic.

TOPPER - A banker is driven out of his wits by the ghosts of his friends. Lovely witty comedy with Cary Grant and the rest of the cast giving excellent performances.

VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED - A village full of golden-eyed, golden-haired kids who have a nice way of dealing with things if they don't get their own way. Nice, entertaining film based on Wyndham's "The Midwich Cuckoos".

WEREWOLF NIGHT - Saturday

THE WOLFMAN - Laurence Talbot suffering terrible pangs of guilt and sudden hair growth as he ranges the Universal Middle-European backlot. Lon Chaney Jr. takes up the Wolfman mantle for the first time. Includes the hammy gypsy woman with her little rhyme.

AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON - A mixture of horror and laughs in this film which details the consequences of walking in deserted, mist-strewn moors at night. Title music - 'Blue Moon'!!!!

THE HOWLING - Modern America comes into contact with centuries old legend as werewolves roam around the extremities of civilisation. Ingenious script and some amazing transformation sequences.

Just before you go for your gun - yes, we have ordered **ROCKY HORROR** for all you late-night Frankie fiends. If there are any other films you would particularly like to see then tell us at Albacon II.

Bruce Saville

The Committee

What can one do when told to write an article on the Invention Committee? I hear you cry, "But you're the Chairman, you should know them!" Ha! As you should know by now, it is the Chairman's job to make the tea/coffee at committee meetings and to nod and make "Hear Hear" noises when the minutes are read. However, I will make an attempt at giving you the (sorry) details of our illustrious committee. Alphabetically, they are:

John Allardice - In charge of gophers and helping with the film programme. John is renowned as Glasgow's budding Steven Spielberg, with several (attempts at) films under his belt. You can see these at Albacon II, along with Hardware Wars and the like. Likes Guinness.

Alex Benzie - Veteran of most of the Faircons, Alex is our GoH liason and is in charge of the Video programme. Claims that his years running the Queen Margaret Students Union make him well qualified. I wouldn't like to guess what in, but since he is the only one who can get the video my lips are sealed. Has habits. (You'll regret that - AB).

Madeleine Campbell - Writes for herself: "In charge of the bank, Fan room and letter writing. Previous experience of ordering people around - secretary of Strathclyde University General Committee of Clubs and Societies; Vice-President of the Space & SF Society, S4; Secretary of the fencing club; lengthy service as a gopher. My hobbies are archery, fencing and rifle (ie, killing, killing and killing), reading, (sometimes even SF), and writing - more often than not for fanzines."

Neil Craig - Dealers Room. Writes: "Went to my first Con, Faircon 78, while still young and impressionable. Sufficiently impressed to volunteer to run the dealers room in 79 and thus worked my way up to my present position. Hobbies: running own SF

bookshop, counting money, mild debauchery."

Vincent J Docherty - Me. In charge of the committee, main programme and production. A Spaceflight enthusiast masquerading as an SF fan, I have been (at various times) President of S4; Convener of the University Archery Club; gopher (I've been to every Glasgow Con and haven't yet recovered); member of various Spaceflight organisations. Don't smoke or drink. Happy when fed.

Kevin Henwood - Treasurer, in charge of membership, helps with production. Goes to Cons everywhere, and is a well known local fan. (Best known at the bar). He will be the one after your bank account at Albacon II, so watch out!

Norman Kent - Computer Room, assists treasurer. Former treasurer of Strathclyde University G.C.C.S., wargamer and computer fiend. He is the only committee member who can look Jim White face to face.

Frances Jane Nelson - Vagon poetry and Fancy dress Competitions. Member of the Albacon II Committee as well. Long serving (and suffering) local fan. **Eamonn Patton** - Alternate programme. Physics Student and Secretary of S4. Another local fan who regularly helps out.

Jackie Robinson - Hotel liason and art show. A popular fan and regular Con attendee. Tends to leave slower minds far behind.

Bruce Saville - Films and general programming. Very well known fan, who often goes to Worldcons. You will probably find him in the bar arguing fiercely with someone over the merits of some films.

Well, that is the committee. You should see most of them at Albacon II. Do talk to them, (they don't bite) and have a good Con.

by **Vince Docherty**
(The Chairman)

Second Foundation

GLASGOW'S NEW COMIC & SF BOOKSHOP OFFERS:

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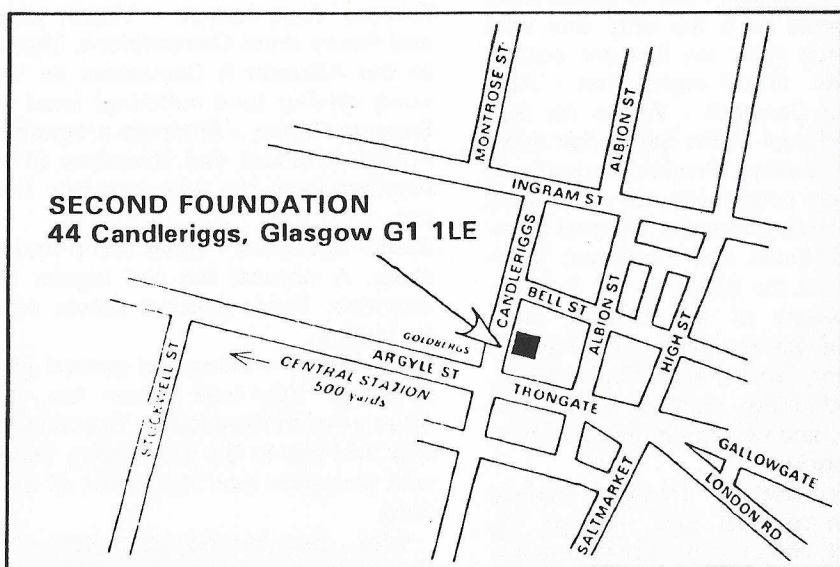
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*Special offer to all Invention Members – 50p off any purchase over £1.00
at our shop until 1 May.*



44 Candleriggs Glasgow G1 1LE

Membership

Firstly a brief explanation of the difference between Supporting and Attending membership for the benefit of any newcomers.

Supporting membership basically supports the running of the Convention although you are NOT entitled to attend. For your money you receive all the Progress Reports, leaflets, posters and the Programme book as well as information from other Cons. Please note that taking out Supporting membership freezes the amount you have to pay to convert to Attending. Full Attending membership includes all of the above, plus you can come along to the Central Hotel and enjoy a weekend of exciting fun or relax in the bar and talk to other fans.

If you are at all unsure of your plans for the weekend then take out a Supporting membership which you can later convert to Attending - even at the door.

Now, having considered the fact that there are many SF groups around the country, it has been decided to introduce BLOCK memberships. Hopefully this will provide a better deal for fans in existing groups and more importantly, encourage others to get together and perhaps bring a few friends who would otherwise miss an enjoyable weekend. The BLOCK rates will give groups of ten or more people Full Attending membership with a discount of £1.50 per person on the Full price at the time.

The membership rates are:

Membership to 16 April 1983
Full:£ 9.00 Block:£7.50 Supporting:£5.

Membership to 18 September 1983
Full:£10.00 Block:£8.50 Supporting:£5.

Day membership will be £5 at the door.

Under fives get in free to Invention, older children must pay the Full price.

No postal applications will be accepted after 18 September 1983. Foreign currency rates on application.

The address for membership monies to be sent to is:

Invention
c/o Kevin Henwood
10 Woodlands Gardens
Bothwell
Glasgow G71

1 Chris Boyce	26 Eamonn Patton
2	27 Bruce MacDonald
3 Jim Barker	28 Jackie Robinson
4	29 Iain McCord
5 Madeleine Campbell	30 Mick Molloy
6 Vincent Docherty	31 Neil Craig
7 Norman Kent	32 Susan Grose
8 John Allardice	33 John Wilkes
9 Alex Benzie	34 Alan Gordon
10 Oscar Dalglish	35 Mark Meenan
11 Kevin Henwood	36 James MacLennan
12 Bruce Saville	37 Alan Jeffrey
13 Frances J. Nelson	38 Ian Sorensen
14 Bob Jewett	39 Iain Dickson
15 Mark Turner	40 Doug Lennox
16 Phil Palmer	41 Henry Balen
17 Caroline Mullen	42 Pat
18 Tibs	43 Bill Morris
19 Kay Allan	44 Paul Paolini
20 Tom Taylor	45 Mike Murdoch
21 J. Murnin	46 Iain Byers
22 Joan Paterson	47 Peter O'Rourke
23 James Greer	48 Alan Blair
24 Dave Rowley	49 Ross Walker
25 Joy Hibbert	50 Lesley Affrossman

If your name is misspelled or missing
please let us know.

By the way, if you are at Albacon II right now, why not save a stamp and pay your membership straight to us. Remember, the prices go up after the Con.

Hotel

You have probably realised by this point that Invention is being held in the Central Hotel in the middle of Glasgow. Being part of BR's Glasgow Central Station it is easy to get to and will provide us with excellent accommodation and staff experienced from previous Cons. You may have noticed that room rates are slightly higher than Al-bacon II's this being due to the relative sizes of the Cons, however, our rates are still considerably reduced from the usual price and are excellent value for money.

The Central has 211 bedrooms with 303 beds so there should be no problems with accommodation. However, if you want to be assured a room, book early!

By popular acclaim, Invention will NOT be having a banquet. They have not proved terribly popular with previous Cons in Glasgow for various reasons; price and the small numbers attending

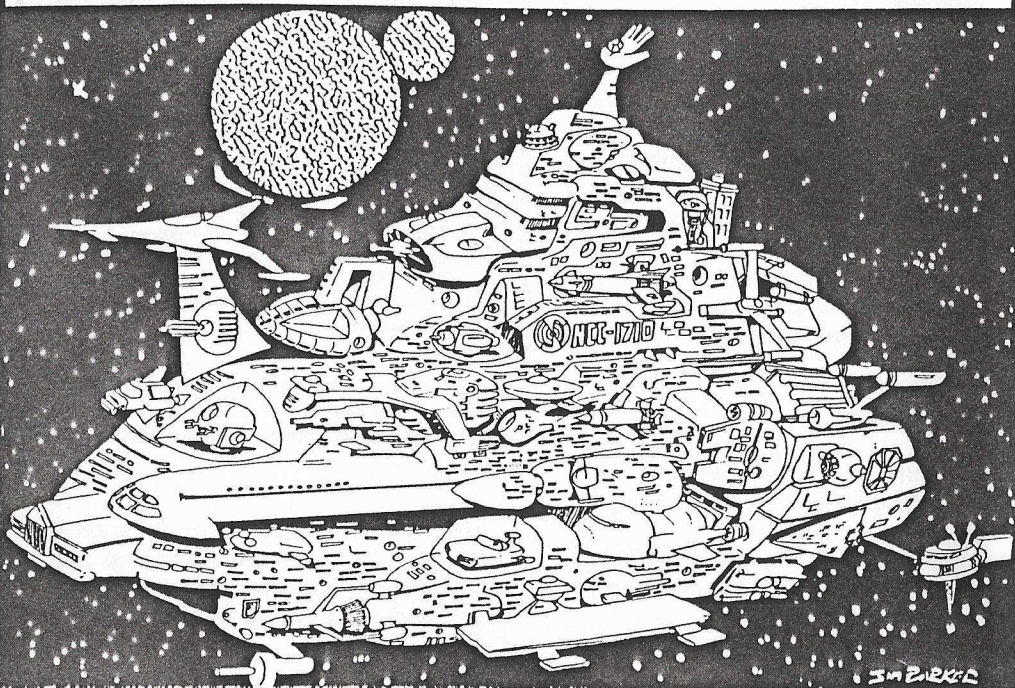
being just two. Have no fears about being found in a corner, wasted away - there are plenty of places to eat not least in the Central itself. We will give a full list of eating (and drinking) places to be found in and around the Central in PR 3.

The Hotel rates are as follows:

Single Room per night	£15.00
(with bath/shower)	£17.00
Double Room per night	£12.50*
(with bath/shower)	£14.50*
Twin Room per night	£12.50*
(with bath/shower)	£14.50*
Triple Room per night	£10.00*
(with bath/shower)	£14.00*

* Each Sharing

The rates are fully inclusive of full English Breakfast, (worth £4), services and VAT. A non returnable deposit of £5 is payable. Send deposit and completed booking form (enclosed with this PR) to the membership address.



Advertising

We would be glad to accept advertising. Our rates are given below. All adverts should be camera ready A4. Please allow adequate margins - 1" top & bottom, ¾" at sides. Any extra processing costs incurred will be charged at costs. For further information contact:- Vincent Docherty on (041) 882 3006. Rates are:

	Professional	Fan
Progress Report		
Back Cover	£20.00	£15.00
Full Page	£17.50	£10.00
Half Page	£ 9.00	£ 6.00
Quarter Page	£ 5.00	£ 3.00

Programme Book

Inside Front & Back Cover and Back Cover	£25.00	£25.00
Full Page	£20.00	£15.00
Half Page	£12.00	£ 8.00
Quarter Page	£ 6.00	£ 4.00

(Part pages of covers charged pro rata)

Copy deadlines:

Progress Report 3: 1 July 1983

Programme Book: 1 August 1983

All correspondence about advertising should be sent to the membership address.



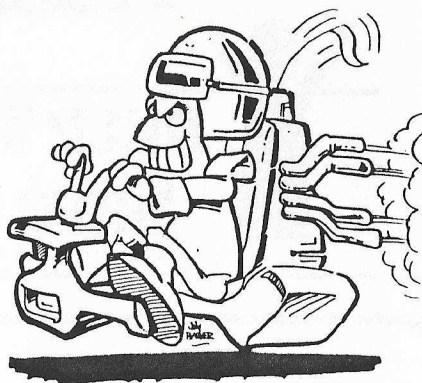
The Chairman

Travel

If you intend to travel by rail then we cannot offer any deal that is better than the Big City Savers, Railcard tickets or weekend returns, so we suggest that you might look into these.

If anyone is interested in offering lifts or if you need a lift then please let us know so that we can try and arrange car-sharing.

Details of how to get to the Central Hotel for those of you from outside Glasgow will appear in PR 3.



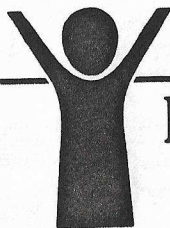
Endpiece

Hopefully PR 3 will have some articles other than the usual convention information. Perhaps a Con report on Albacon II? (Hint to all you budding writers). Plus articles on our guests, and the mystery Special Guest.

Don't forget that if you are not a member you will not get PR 3, so take advantage of the low price and join at Albacon II. You will find one (or all) of us at the Invention table, hiding behind my computer, so do come and have a chat.

Vince Docherty

THE WORLD'S MOST INNOCENT VICTIMS ARE ALSO THE MOST HELPLESS.



HELP THE INNOCENTS Save the Children

Mary Datchelor House, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD Telephone: 01 703 5400

FREE ADVERTS

We are offering all Invention members up to 30 words of advertising free in our Progress Reports. The offer is subject to space limits but we'll try hard to fit your ad in somewhere if there is great demand.

ARTIST? Fanzine editor desperately needs cover for "Dragonbreath". If you think you can help then contact Oscar on 041 638 1774 after 6 pm.

Does anyone have a copy (hard or paper cover) of the EDDAs? English student interested in buying. Contact M.A.C. at 041 423 6927 after 6 pm.

Anyone interested in the Halley Watch? If you are, then contact Vince on 041 882 3006 after 6 pm.

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