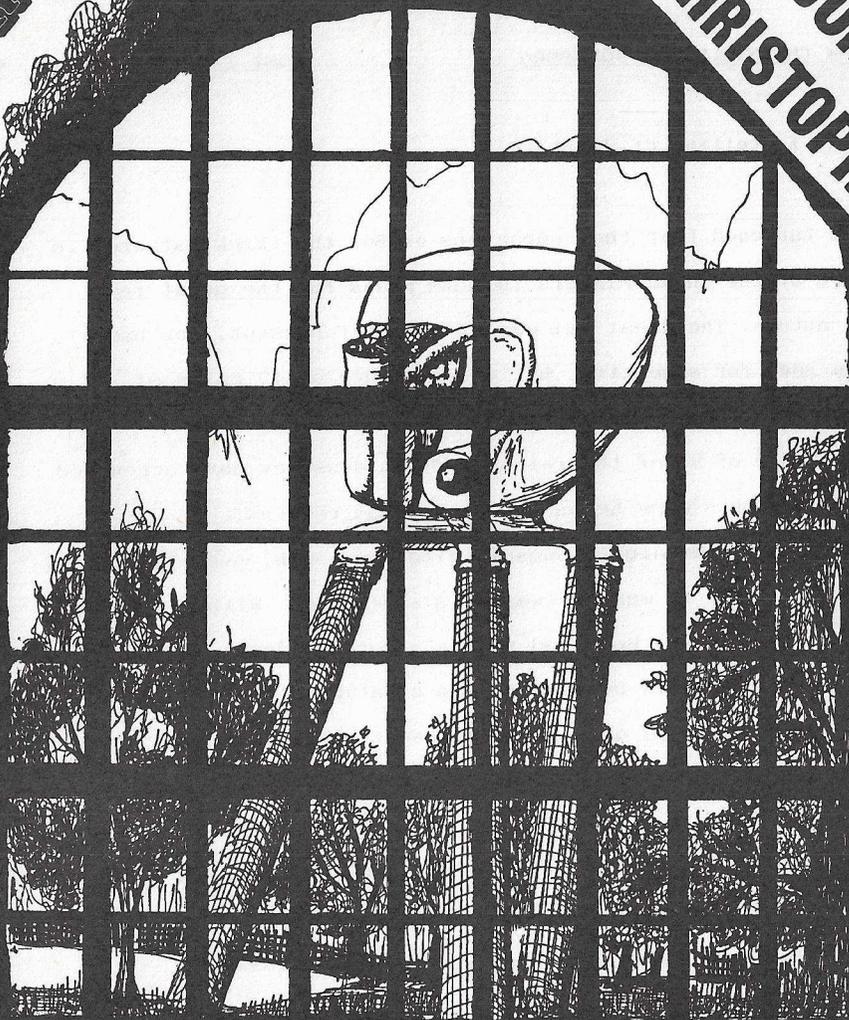


PR. 2

G.O.H.
JOHN
CHRISTOPHER



Camcon

UNICON 6

13 - 15th SEPTEMBER 1985

From the fortelling of Jómsborg

It so happened that the companions of Bui-the-thick gathered in the Borg of the Chess-Players to make plans for the great feast in the autumn. The Great Bui was not himself present, nor had he been seen for some time, but the presence of 13 casks of Ethelthroth's 'Old Painkiller' mead in his hall and the disappearance of 37 of the fairest Jómssmaidens may have accounted for this. Rumours were he was doing his tax returns.

Having caught the night longship from the north, Sven-the-twenty-six-fingered (for it was he) was first to arrive. With him came Helga-the-namemaster. Both had narrowly escaped death in the cavern of the Victoria Deathburger (a creature with ideas above his station) and could only be prevented from sliding into catatonia by the liberal application of hot coffee and (purely medicinal) brandy.

Everyone soon arrived so Lui-the-not-quite-so-thick-but-increasingly-hairy cleared his throat operatically and began to speak,

"Well, what must we decide?" he asked. No-one answered.

Now in that place there were many towers on which the great writings of history had been inscribed. Also, there were many boxes labeled with such names as Pandora (which the vikings left alone because it was so boring) or the great contradiction, Monopoly. By far the most interesting was the mystic's box, simply labeled wood. Much time was spent in its contemplation.

"Oh well," said Lui, "it looks like this is going to take some time!" So he went off to get some mead and collect his thoughts.

Introduction

As winter finally draws to a close and the odd crocus forces its way through the permafrost in the garden, thoughts turn to the Eastercon. With that comes CAMCON PR.2. Firstly, thanks to everyone who commented on the first PR. It's nice to hear from someone outside Cambridge for a change!

This PR contains a fairly comprehensive room booking form/questionnaire following the BECCON example. Please fill this in and return it even if you don't want a room as every little piece of information we get is helpful to us, both in our negotiations with the college and in programme planning. More details about things on this form can be found dotted about this PR.

The completed form should be sent to:

CAMCON C/O Tim Illingworth,
63 Drake Road,
Chessington,
Surrey,
KT9 1LQ.

During the past few weeks we have been involved in extended negotiations with the college in which we have worked out what facilities we will be using and how the con will run in the college. As the accomodation is intended for students, all rooms are single and hence only one room rate, namely £16.10 per person per night, will apply. However we are offering a bed moving service which will convert two single rooms into a twin room and an empty room for holding room parties in etc. Please specify which you would prefer on the room booking form.

We have also fixed the bar hours as noon to midnight with a possible extension on the Saturday night to allow people to buy drinks after our main film has finished. On the food front, the college has agreed to provide inexpensive meals (£1 to £2 or thereabouts) at lunchtime and dinnertime. The cost of breakfast is included in the room rent.

You will be expected to pay your room bill on arrival at the con. Since we are collecting this money for payment to the college we can only except cash or cheques (with a cheque card).

Guest of Honour

For some time now people have been wondering who our Guest Of Honour will be, and some people have made tentative guesses based on the cover of PR1. However until recently this was mere speculation.

We are pleased to announce that our G.O.H. will be John Christopher which makes our earlier choice of artwork somewhat apt. Although he has written several adult novels (including 'The Death Of Grass' and 'The world in Winter'), he is perhaps better known for his juvenile works, particularly the trilogy 'The White Mountains', 'The City of Gold and Lead' and 'The Pool of Fire' which was filmed recently by the BBC as 'The Tripods'.

Further biographic information will follow in later publications and we hope to produce a complete bibliography for the programme book.

CALLING ALL PRESUPPORTERS...

There are still a goodly number of people who haven't yet converted from presupporting membership. If this includes you, then take a trip to your cheque book, do not pass go, and send us £6 immediately to convert to full attending membership (or £3 if you only want to support). This is the last missive you will receive unless you do.

.....And FRP Freaks

We are thinking of booking an extra room for those people interested in D&D and other fantasy rôle playing games to meet and play in. If you are interested in this facility then tick the appropriate box on the room booking form.

To the Satisfaction of Pedants

It has been pointed out that the name of our venue is correctly known as New Hall, Cambridge, rather than New Hall College. Despite this, our venue is a college, rather than the old and draughty church hall that the correct name implies.

Experience has shown that there are many problems associated organising a con at short notice. Although we have been fairly fortunate in that we have had few major setbacks it would be wise for anyone considering bidding for the next Unicon to start organising things now.

Programme

We now have a draft programme with the usual range of talks, quizzes, panels and silly games. Precise details have yet to be worked out for many items but one or two things may be said about those which have been arranged.

When I looked at the draft I noticed that we are intending to hold a "Tim Illingworth Special Three Round Game" of some description far too complicated for a mere PR writer to understand. I am told it is based on the American TV game "Jeopardy" but since I have never seen this I cannot say how it will work. However we need people to take part in this. So if you feel like bashing your head against a few impossible questions in this (or any other programme item) then tick the appropriate box on the room booking form. We need eight teams of four people.

(NOTE: No competitor will be expected to sing Brünnhilde's death solo whilst standing on one leg on a barstool - unless they really want to!)

On a more serious note we do want to hear from anyone willing to take part in programme items be they panels, quizzes or silly games. So if you fancy yourself as a budding pundit or a gameshow whizzkid do let us know. Among the possible topics for panel discussion are FRP games, sexism in fantasy, Fanzines etc. and the quizzes will probably include another "University Challenge"

All in all we think the programme is coming along quite nicely but we are always interested in new ideas. If there is anything you would like to see on the programme then don't hesitate to drop us a line.

Masquerade

Karen Naylor is organising this probably for the Saturday night. We are not setting a theme for costumes as seems to be a feature of some cons as we are attempting to encourage a few more impromptu entries. For this reason the event will be run on an informal basis, possibly in the bar. Single Costumes, "set pieces" and totally new approaches are required to make this event a success. If you would like to enter (we need a certain minimum number before it becomes worth organising) then tick the box on the room booking form. There will be an alcoholic prize for the winner(s).

Video

We still require new, interesting video material to extend our video programme. If anyone has a copy of Artemis 81 we would be very interested to hear from them. We are also looking for videos of 'The Tripods' as recently shown on TV.

Albacon 85

July 19th-22nd 1985

Glasgow's 10th Science Fiction Convention

Guests Of Honour

Harlan Ellison

Anne McCaffrey

Central Hotel Glasgow

Attending Membership £8
Supporting Membership £5

Albacon 85
c/o Vincent J. Docherty
20 Hillington Gardens
Cardonald
Glasgow G52 2TP

Films

In choosing our film programme we tried to avoid the films that turn up at conventions time and again while still maintaining a range of different films that should appeal to as many people as possible. Though this is a difficult task we feel we have succeeded. There is the usual serious major (recent) film together with some good old films and turkeys in an attempt to keep the film programme balanced. We hope there is something for everybody!

The main film at CAMCON will be "The Falls" a 3½ hour epic about the aftermath of a VUE (Violent Unknown Event). The other films include:-

Things to Come

Charly

Old Mother Riley Meets the Vampire

The Wizard of Speed and Time

Doc Savage: The Man of Bronze

Should anyone wish to bring any other (pro) films to show we will endeavour to put them on if there is time. Please contact us regarding projector formats, lengths etc.

FOOD TASTING

YOUR CHANCE TO WREST THE TITLE "SECRET MASTERS OF FAN FOOD" FROM
THE BECCON COMMITTEE

If you have read the back of the room booking form you will probably have noticed a section labelled "Food Tasting" that will need explaining. The idea is that entrants bring a cold dish (that will keep to Saturday) which will be judged and prizes awarded to the best. In return for bringing a dish you will get a chance to taste some of the other delicacies, swap recipes etc. There is no limit (except keepability) to what you may bring, cakes, starters, dips or anything else is welcome although it should be possible to divide the dish into about 20 bite-sized portions both for judging and other competitors to try.

Precisely how the event will be run has not been finalised but it is envisaged that entry will entitle you to six tastes of other entrants food. All the remaining food left when the competitors have had their "tastes" will be sold, proceeds to Britain in 87.

Which seems as good a lead in as any to

Auction

The usual plea; we are having an auction and want something to sell. If you have anything you want to get rid of (usual con auction arrangements) then please indicate this in the appropriate place on the room booking form and bring it along. Please tell us if you intend to bring large lots or anything very unusual.

Tours of Cambridge

The programme is planned to start at about 6pm Friday 13th September (ugh), but for the early arrivals we are trying to arrange tours of Cambridge with the local tourist board. During the summer, when the town is full of Nikon-wielding Japanese tourists and hordes of European "Ngleesh Lengwich" students, there are a large number of organised tours around Cambridge Colleges. These are led by trained guides and run by the tourist board. It is one of these tours we are trying to arrange.

What we need to know is how many people will be interested, since there is a minimum number of people necessary before such a tour becomes viable. Please fill in the appropriate bit of the room booking form if you are interested. Should you not be intending to arrive until later in the weekend we are considering running the same trips on Sunday afternoon. Again please fill in the form so we can get some idea of numbers.

There will be some "touristy" information in the programme book if you would prefer a less organised view of Cambridge, including a fairly detailed map of the city centre and main colleges.

Adverting Rates

Just a reminder of our advertising rates and deadlines. These are:-

| PR3 (Deadline 10th June) | | | Programme Book (Deadline 25th July) | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Page | $\frac{1}{2}$ Page | $\frac{1}{4}$ Page | Page | $\frac{1}{2}$ Page | $\frac{1}{4}$ Page |
| £20 | £10 | £5 | £32 | £16 | £8 |
| | | | Inside cover (page only) | | £40 |
| | | | Back cover (page only) | | £50 |

All quoted rates are pro rates. Fan rates are exactly half.

If anyone would like to do any artwork or write any articles for the latter then please contact us as soon as possible.

Contact Address

Please send any correspondence to:-

(Note: except the room booking form - see earlier)

CAMCON c/o Neil Taylor,
Perspective Design Ltd.,
Top Floor, 9 Pembroke Street,
Cambridge,
CB2 3QY.

Please make all cheques payable to CAMCON.

This PR was committed by Steve Bull, aided and abetted by the rest of the committee. The CAMCON committee are Neil Taylor, Tim Illingworth, Peter Wareham, John Dallman, Steve Linton, Karen Naylor and Steve Bull.

