

Corflu 42 – Ullaaaa!

11-13 April 2025

The Chequers Hotel, Newbury, UK



Memberships:

As of 18/04/2024, we have 50 members; 37 currently plan to attend, with 11 supporting and 2 virtual members. A list of all members can be found at: <https://corflu.org>; go and look, and feel that FOMO start to kick in...

Membership Rates:

Attending membership rates are currently £75/\$95, whilst supporting memberships are £25/\$32 and virtual memberships are £10/\$15

Payments:

Please refer to the website at: <https://corflu.org>

Progress Report 1 April 2024

Corflu 42 staff:

David Hodson – Chair
Claire Briailey –
Memberships/ Money/
General All - round Good
Sense
David, Mark Plummer &
Tommy Ferguson –
Programme
Tommy Ferguson – Resident
Tech Geek
Nigel Rowe – U.S. Agent
Bill Burns - Website

It's just over a month since I stupidly raised my hand in Las Vegas and said: "I'll do it!", at which point Nic Farey stared at me with a mixture of pity and relief. Since then, Eastercon in Telford has come and gone, and we've passed the magical "less than one-year until the event" mark where everything suddenly unfreezes, and hotel contracts can be signed, and room rates signed off.

This is the quick and easy PR1 where I can give you all basic details about the hotel, how to book rooms, what they are going to cost you, and some early ideas we're having about programme items. Obviously, some old favourites will be back: S&ra has gleefully agreed to entertain us all as she tortures four emotionally blackmailed, hand-picked victims on Friday evening with "Just A Minac!" and we've already, with the help of Dr Rob Jackson, arranged a bracing, entertaining, and informative yomp through the Berkshire countryside to kick-off proceedings on Friday morning. Expect more details in the next PR, due in July.



The Chequers Hotel, Newbury

Within easy reach of London, the Chequers Hotel has been previously used for Rubicons in the 1980s and a Plokta.con in the early 2000s.

The hotel has a range of bedrooms available to the convention starting at £70 per night for small doubles which are to be used for single occupancy, £80 per night for standard doubles, executive doubles at £100 per night, and two-family rooms and two suites for either larger groups or a little more luxury. There are seven ground floor rooms in the old stable block, which we are reserving for members who have mobility problems or other disabilities. Please inform either me or Claire via corflu42@corflu.org if you will need one of these rooms and we will liaise with the hotel to make sure they go to the people most in need. We are relying on the fair mindedness of a group of people who are effectively all friends and part of a community to make sure everyone is accommodated as comfortably as possible over the weekend. All rooms come with breakfast, the doubles and suites offer at least two breakfasts per room.

Future PRs will detail at least some of the many restaurants and hostelrys surrounding the hotel, as well as overflow hotel options; there is an abundance of choice, and Tommy and I should have no problems finding a pub showing the football over the weekend! 😊

The Nitty-Gritty...

In which the important early information is imparted...

Rooms can now be booked by con members either by emailing the hotel at: reservations@chequershotelnewbury.co.uk or by telephoning them on 01635 38000 (+44 outside the UK, obviously). Please bear with the staff as they get used to us as they may not recognise the name Corflu 42 immediately, in which case



just mention David Hodson (it worked for Claire). The hotel will ask to take a 10% deposit when you book; the balance will be due when you check out of the hotel. The hotel has agreed to extend the convention rate from Thursday 10th through to Wednesday 16th April, so anyone wanting to use it as a base before travelling over to Belfast for the following weekend's Eastercon is assured of a good deal.

Our intention is to try and break with the rather negative "where do we go from here?" tone of recent Corflus. That isn't to say we won't be trying to enthuse (m)any of the new faces we hope to attract to the convention by presenting and discussing the best of the fanzines, fanwriters, and artists of the past. To this end, Claire would like to ask for nominations for a prospective "Fanzine of Honour" with which we can then all get familiar and prepare to celebrate over the weekend. Feel free to email us with ideas and thoughts on what you believe has been the very best fandom has had to offer. Hell, go buy some spare copies from Andy Hooper if you need to; I'm sure TAFF, DUFF, the Corflu50, and sundry others will thank you!

Oppps, I seem to have run out of space... - Dave