

..BECCON 85

..PR 3

26th-28th July



APOLOGIA

First, an apology for the problems with P.R.2. which, apart from a number of typos, was not as well printed as we would have liked because we were unable to use our normal printing facilities. The main problem appears to have been that the last clue of the Beccroctic was not always very legible, so here it is again;

18 This is the only place I know

You'll find a Desrick - on _ _ _ _ _ ?

Now this PR3 is out quite early, so that we can sort out the room bookings as soon as possible. We are hoping that there will still be space to accept Memberships at Easter. To assist us in keeping on top of things, it would be very helpful if you would return the Booking Form even if you do not want a bed or are not coming to BECCON.

AND SO TO BED.....

The most important part of this P.R. is the Hotel Booking Form, so let us review the aspects of this.

1) MEMBERSHIP STATUS.

Rooms may only be booked by full attending members, so please first check your status with the listings at the back of this P.R. The categories used are,

MAIN LIST - You joined in time to have a priority option on the room bookings, and will have a white Booking Form. We cannot, however, hold a room for you indefinitely. We must therefore ask you to return the form by 1 March 1985 to obtain your priority.

ROOM WAITING LIST - You joined after we had really closed membership, on the understanding that you might not get a bed, and you have an orange Booking Form. If you want to try for a bed, you can return it immediately, but we will not deal with it until after 1 March 1985. The cut-off date to obtain this degree of priority is 1 April 1985, then, if there are still any beds available, they will be offered to;

MEMBERSHIP WAITING LIST - Who are not being sent this P.R. at the moment, but will be contacted later if rooms are available.

NO BED REQUIRED - You stated when you joined that you would definitely not require a bed at BECCON. A Booking Form is, however, enclosed with parts A & C deleted, and it would be appreciated if you would complete the rest and return it.

2) HOW TO FILL IN THE FORM.

Section A.

Fill in the type-of-room boxes by inserting a number to show the order of preference (1=most preferred, 2=next best etc.). Please note that, as with most modern hotels, there are VERY few single rooms.

Now fill in the nights-required boxes with a tick for each night you want a room. Note that the Convention will start at approx 6.00pm on Friday, and end at approx 11.00pm on Sunday. We will be running films throughout the night on Saturday.

It will assist the Committee greatly if anybody not requiring to book a bed still completes and returns the form.

Fri/Sat/Sun

Section B.

Fill in your name, address, membership number, and phone number.

If you are arranging your own sharer for a twin or double, please fill in the same details for them. Note that both occupants must be full attending members. In order to obtain the highest priority both should appear on the Main List (see above).

Section C.

To assist the Committee in organising room bookings please fill in any relevant details.

Section D.

As both occupants must be attending members, please send us lots of money. Cheques should be made payable to BECCON.

Section E.

Fill in any sub-section that applies to you, or your sharer. The Committee will contact you before the Convention if we wish to avail ourselves of any of your offers.

To assist you in remembering what you have booked, a copy of Section A is reproduced below.

1) SINGLE.....	☐	£19.00
2) TWIN (both names req.).....	☐	£32.00 (per room)
3) DOUBLE (both names req.).....	☐	£32.00 (per room)
4) TWIN - please find me a sharer.....	☐	£16.00 (per person)
5) NO BED REQUIRED.....	☐	£00.00
6) CONTACT ME if choice not available.....	☐	

THURS 25 Jul ☐ FRI 26 Jul ☒ SAT 27 Jul ☒ SUN 28 Jul ☒

Apologies if this all seems very bureaucratic, but so many of you seem to want to come that we have had to go to unusual lengths to try and be as fair as possible to everybody with the bookings.

CRECHE.

Jill and Vanda Bridges have very kindly offered to run the creche for us, and we expect this to operate during the day on the Saturday and Sunday. Obviously we need to know how many children to make provision for, so if you wish to take advantage of this facility, please make sure that you fill in that section of the Booking Form. We will be making no charge for this facility, as we consider it is as much a service to the rest of the Con as it is to the parents.
More details in P.R.4.

THE ADDRESS

ALL CORRESPONDENCE, room bookings, etc, should be sent to:

191 The Heights
Northolt
Middlesex
UB5 4BU

Phone 01 422 9895.

where it will be dealt with by Mike & Kathy Westhead.

RICHARD COWPER - BECCON 85 G.O.H.

As we announced in PR2 we are very pleased to have Richard Cowper as our Guest of Honour this year. As usual we will be producing, with his assistance, a full Bibliography to go alongside the Convention programme booklet.

However, to tell you something about his life and career, we present the following potted bibliography.

He was born into a literary family in Dorset in 1926, but went to school initially in that hotbed of SF - Norfolk. (Well. . . Aldiss and Fanthorpe to name but 25 authors!!)

After the war and after attending Oxford University he became a teacher. He started publishing stories in the 40's under the pseudonym of Colin Murry and his first novel was written in 1951.

Until 1967, when the appropriately named novel "Breakthrough" was published, almost all his work had been mainstream fiction. The main exceptions to this were two volumes of autobiography. Since Breakthrough almost all his output has been in the Science Fiction field, including novels, stories and articles. This successful transition helped in his decision to become a full time writer in 1970.

He has been happily married since 1950, and now lives on the south coast of Devon.

Potted bibliography of Science Fiction :-

Novels;

Breakthrough	Phoenix
Domino	Kuldesak
Clone	Time out of Mind
The Twilight of Briareus	Worlds Apart
The Road to Corlay	Profundis
A Dream of Kinship	A Tapestry of Time

Collections;

The Custodians and Other Stories
The Web of the Magi
Out There Where the Big Ships Go
The Tithonian Factor

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

In addition to the events we shall be attending which we mentioned in P.R.2, we can now give you details of UNICON 6 - CAMCON. This will be held over the weekend of 13-15th September 1985, at New Hall College, Cambridge.

Membership £7.00 Attending, £4.00 Supporting from:

CAMCON

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

PROGRAMME

Well, this PR is out rather earlier than usual for us, so the Programme is still at that awkward indeterminate stage where we have a good outline, but most of the actual items have not progressed far enough to be able to quote them as definitely happening yet. Still, some things are now reasonably firm, so here goes:

FILMS: We will be having even more films than in 1983, but the bookings are not in yet so all I can say for certain is that there will be a varied selection, including, of course, a real pig of a dyed-in-the-wool turkey.

AUCTION: We have asked in the Form if you will be bringing any items for the auction, in an attempt to get some idea of what to expect. We are mainly interested in books, mags, etc, - but a few other items never goes amiss!

GAMES & QUIZZES: Some old favourites, together with some new ideas now being worked out and tested.

FIREWORKS: This is a BECCON speciality, and we have to thank our friends from Oxford for offering to do it again for us.

We are also hopeful of presenting a "live entertainment". I really don't know what to say about this, but it's on the Programme and it's being scripted, so I shall just announce the Kate Davies production of "Spock in Manacles".

THE BECCONUNDRUM

We promised you that Part 2 of the Becquiz would be completely different to Part 1, so here is a small problem for you to solve!

The BECCON Committee have decided to send one official representative to each of five Conventions this year. Each of us is taking a different book to read on the way, and, unsurprisingly, a different alcoholic beverage!

(1) Kathy is going to Novacon. Brian is not going to Eastercon (poor man), nor is he reading Profundis.

(2) The absinthe drinker will be reading Kuldesak.

(3) Neither Caroline, nor the fan going to Albacon, is the Committee member reading Phoenix or the one drinking sherry.

(4) The beer drinker is going to Eastercon.

(5) Mike is reading Clone.

(6) Roger drinks Manhattans, but someone else is taking Profundis to Unicon.

Siliclone, Breakthrough, and Whiskey are also involved, but you don't need to know that - you have enough information already.

EVERYONE is going to BECCON, but are far too drunk to know which Roger it is.

Who is taking, and drinking what, where?

ADVERTISING

We need now to solicit your advertisements for the Programme Book, as PR4 will come out too late in our printing schedules. The rates will be as follows:-

	Professional	Amateur
Full Page.....	£25.00.....	£12.00
Half Page.....	£12.00.....	£5.00
Quarter Page.....	£5.00.....	£2.00

The deadline for receipt of ads will be 1 June 1985, copy to be A4 format (or part thereof), camera ready for reduction. If you have any special requirements, please contact us to discuss them.

THE ATOMIC PLANT.

The adventures of Earl Norbert Phettilfoon, amateur detective, gourmet and man about the Galaxy have often formed the basis for works of fiction, though his contribution has rarely been acknowledged.

To make a small gesture to correct this, I would like to tell you the story of how he was called in to assist the planet Margarine where the aggressive flora was making life extremely difficult by stalking the inhabitants - and without aid they were quite unable to stem its advance. He was roped in by an arch-bishop whilst playing an exciting game of bridge - the suspense was terrific, much better than pontoon - who persuaded him to take the contract by an underhand trick.

On arriving at the planet of the deadly vegetation he was concerned about the medical risks involved, but the doctor gave him a bottle of tablets which would protect him if taken daily. On the label it said "An ampoule a day keeps the doctor away".

Then he was taken out into the field to see for himself the problems that the population faced. There was the vicious pork-u-pine plant which attacked from ambush, the pare tree which cut slivers off you, (as did the paresnip) the carrote which strangled you, the radioactive Cloud mushroom, and of course, despite teams of trained combat pigs, they were having considerable trouble with truffles.

Now Earl had never been particularly interested in gardening or agriculture, so he found the whole thing rather harrowing, though he was determined to plough on. Nevertheless, despite the problems, an idea was growing in Earl's fertile brain. This must have been apparent to his guide, who said, "tell me - do you have a trick, a device, a stratagem, whatever you call it, to help us?" "It doesn't matter," said Earl, "what you call it. A ruse by any other name..... But I do have a notion for dealing with one of your problems. Take me to one of your pasture areas." At the pasture they were just in time to see the farmer being attacked by a patch of deadly crab grass. "How appropriate," remarked Earl, "he who lives by the sword shall die by the sword!" At this the crab grass turned brown and shrivelled up, to the guides amazement. Earl looked smug. "Just as I thought, the pun is mightier than the sword."

It was then that Earl was taken away and stranded on a primitive, low technology planet as a slave, gathering food on the seashore.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

1) MAIN LIST

014A Brian Ameringen	052A Gwen Funnell
206A Fiona Anderson	204S T.J. Furniss
136A Stuart Andrews	112A Pat Gardner
188S K.R. Armstrong-Bridges	078A Joe Gibbons
128A Denise Atkinson	125A Wendy Glover
091S Henry Balen	017A Charles Goodwin
201S Jim Barker	025A Roelof Goudrian
009A Barrington J Bayley	088S Mike Gould
023T Woofie Bear	183S Jonathon Green
073A Simon Beresford	148S Delicia of Grod
133S Duncan Booth	160A Pete Grove
189A Paul Brazier	103A Gil Harris
059A David Breen	179A Miles Harris
191S Jessica Brennan	084A Sue Harrison
210A Tim Broadribb	127A Graham Head
126A Ken Brown	163S Julian Headlong
094A Steve Bull	015A Anthony Heathcote
116A Charlotte Bulmer	032S Joy Hibbert
008A Ken Bulmer	114A Katie Hoare
066A Mark Bunce	113A Martin Hoare
124A Saul Bura	077A Marina Holroyd
072A Liz Burak	154A Martin Howell
041A Chris Bursey	071A Tim Illingworth
063A Jane Butterworth	178A Shelley Ingram
165A Ros Calverley	150A Angela Insole
161A Kim Campbell	081S Aandi Inston
129A Roger Campbell	164A John Jarrold
142A Mary Carmichael	195A Marsha Jones
117A Tony Chester	058A Michael Kalll
036A Vince Clarke	105A Eileen Kenny
167A John Clute	104A Rory Kenny
169A Clute 2	134A Morag Kerr
024A Peter Cohen	172A Annette Kilworth
089A Chris Cooper	173A Garry Kilworth
021A Jonathan Cowie	177A Barbara Kitson
001A Richard Cowper	156A Keith Knight
046A 1/2R Cruttenden	157A Peter Knight
056A John Dallman	096S Graham Koch
092A Mike Damesick	146A Ken Lake
107A Kate Davies	180A Steven Lawson
106A Malcolm Davies	047A Dave Lermitt
111A Stephen Davies	199S Nick Lowe
135S Lawrence Dean	095A Peter Mabey
123S Iain Dickson	070A Douglas Macdonald
184A Dermot Dobson	194A Hugh Mascetti
185A P Dobson	086A Helen McNabb
119S Vincent Docherty	087A Mike McNabb
075S Mike Don	150A Robert Meades
141A Chris Donaldson	122A Nick Mills
035A Paul Dormer	082A Debby Moir
068A Roz Druce	083A Mike Moir
205S Lillian Edwards	090S Mike Molloy
018A Richard Edwards	020A Caroline Mullan
049S Dave Ellis	176A Helen McCarthy
115A Fabian	027S Rory McLean
034A Colin Fine	209A Harry Nadler
193A Joan Fine	196S Frances-Jane Nelson
149A Rick Fox	137A Lisanne Norman
099A Susan Francis	153A Keith Oborn

140A Paul Oldroyd
130A Andie Oppenheimer
040S Simon Ounsley
080S Ozzie
198A Anne Page
050A Darrol Pardoe
051A Rosemary Pardoe
208A Chuck Partington
067A Dave Patterson
061A Joan Patterson
182A Nigel Pearson
013A Bernie Peek
012A Roger Perkins
044A Linda Pickersgill
132A David Plant
033A Maureen Porter
055S David Power
007A Chris Priest
069A Pete Randall
171S Kevin Rattan
076A Kevin Reader
048A Martin Reed
143A J.C. Reynolds
151A Andy Robertson
054A Andrew Robinson
053A Elizabeth Robinson
011A Roger Robinson
118S Barbara Rochford
144A Stephen Rothman
026A Marcus Rowland
031S Dave Rowley
207S Nick Rowsell
170A Geoff Ryman
168S Bruce Saville
102A Chris Sellar
145A Mathew Shackle
085S Moira Shearman
037S Mike Sherwood
062T Hand Skunk
203A Joyce Slater
202A Ken Slater
159A John Paul Smit
121A Jackie Smith
162S Judy Smith
029A Ian Sorenson
003A Brian Stableford
LSTA Sylvia Starshine
120A James Steel
190A Jenny Steele
045S Alex Stewart
016A John Stewart
064A Gary Stratman
098S John Styles
109A Chris Suslowicz
110A Tom Taylor
138A Mr Rod the Druid
074A D.G. Thomas
187A Charles Thornton
060A Tibs
175A G.N.G. Tingey
065A Sue Tonkin
097S Martin Tudor

019A Pete Tyers
147S Undepoldus
093A Larry Van Der Putte
101A Marion Van Der Voort
100A Richard Van Der Voort
155A Richard Vine
057A Dai Walters
174A Chris Walton
043A Peter Wareham
079A Ashley Watkins
004A Ian Watson
005A Judy Watson
139S Karyl Weber
200S Margaret Wellbank
166A Pam Wells
108A Helen West
010A Kathy Westhead
022A Mike Westhead
181A Laura Wheatley
028A Owen Whiteoak
030A John Wilkes
039S Bridget Wilkinson
186A Dewi Williams
131A Phil Willis
197S Anne Wilson
038A Katherine Wright

2) ROOM WAITING LIST

W19S Arnold Akien
W05A Stuart Aston
W21A Jon Axtell
W08A Peter Colley
W01A Barbara Conway
W17A Rachel Dickinson
W12A Ye Gerbish
W06S Pete Gilligan
W22S Christina Lake
W04A Stephen Linton
W13A Lynne Ann Morse
W14A Jeroen Nijenhuis
W07A Tony Rogers
W16A Paul Schofield
W18S Peter Smith
W03A Neil Taylor
W23S Peter-Fred Thompson
W24A Elda Wheeler

3) NO BED REQUIRED

NB2A Phil Dawson
NB1A Bernard Earp
NB3A Dave Race
NB4A Dov Rigal
NB5A M.G. Scantlebury

4) MEMBERSHIP WAITING LIST

W20 Malcolm Edwards
W02 Jan Lake
W10 A.E. Paice
W09 M.E.R. Paice
W11 Paul Stewart