

220P BILL LANGLEY	264S DAVE PATTERSON	20A CHRIS SOUTHERN
240A PATRICK A. LAWFORD	17A ROGER PERKINS	21A JENNY SOUTHERN
62P STEVE LAWSON	251F ANNABEL PICKERING	64P PHIL SPENCER
122P RUTH LE SUEUR	213A FRAN PICKERING	203P GARY STANSFIELD
117P BERNARD LEAK	214A JOHN PICKERING	65A JAMES STEEL
123P BERNARD LEAK II	218P PHIL PLUMBLY	270S ALEX STEWART
215P J.W. LEMMING	124P DAVID POWER	119A JOHN STEWART
113P DAVE LERMIT	98P TERRY PRATCHETT	168P MARTIN STEWART
268A ROBIN LEVY	254A TERRY PYLE	241A LARS STRANDBERG
232A ROWENA LEVY	198P JO RAINE	192P GARRY STRATMANN
42A STEVE LINTON	131A KEVIN WINSTON	165P JOHN STYLES
107P ANN LOOKER	READER	173A ALAN J SULLIVAN
228P H.K. LOOSE	134P JOHN F.W. RICHARDS	84P CHRIS SUSLOWICZ
46A PETER MABEY	24A DOV RIGAL	91P DAVE A. SYMES
45S BRUCE J.M.	252A GUY ROBINSON	67P FAY SYMES
MACDONALD	81P JACQUELINE	142A ALYSON TAYLOR
166P E.J. MANN	ROBINSON	152A GILL TAYLOR
130P HELEN MARSHALL	39A ROGER ROBINSON	129A TOM TAYLOR
222P MRS CAROL MARSHALL	125P BARBARA ROCHFORD	87A DAVE THOMAS
115P HUGH MASCETTI	121P MIC ROGERS	151P PETER-FRED
280S MISS MATOR	219P PHIL ROGERS	THOMPSON
89A DAVE LANGFORD	171P TONY ROGERS	37P SUSAN THURSTON
258S CHRIS MAYERS	180A HOWARD ROSENBLUM	32P TIBS
G ANNE MCCAFFREY	181A JUNE ROSENBLUM	157P ADAM TITMUS
194P RORY O MCLEAN	29P STEPHEN ROTHMAN	70P MARTIN TUDOR
216P ANDY MCMASTER	41A MARCUS ROWLAND	78P PETER TYERS
56P ROB MEADES	190P DAVE ROWLEY	22A LARRY VAN DER
58S MARK MEENAN	71P BRUCE SAVILLE	PUTTE
137P NICK MILLS	99P MIKE SCANTLEBURY	272A ANGELIQUE VAN
106P DEBBY MOIR	36P ALISON SCOTT	TOORN
226P MIKE MOIR	23P MIKE SCOTT	273A KEES VAN TOORN
231P ANDY MORRIS	188A ANGUS H.C.	112P JAMES WALLIS
118A CAROLINE MULLAN	SCOTT-BROWN	13A PETER WAREHAM
233A HELEN MURPHY	47P BOB SHAW	95A CLIVE WARREN
269S HARRY NADLER	225P MORAG SHAW	94A JEANETTE WARREN
196P LINDSEY NADLER	60P D.M. SHERWOOD	169A DAVE WEDDELL
143P PHIL NANSON	217P INA SHORROCK	274A JAINE WEDDELL
50P HENRY NEWTON	100P DAVE SHOTTON	267K KAREN WESTHEAD
237A ANDREW NORCROSS	197P KURT SIDAWAY	43A KATHY WESTHEAD
146P GYTHA NORTH	234A MIKE SKELDING	72A MIKE WESTHEAD
209P JEROEN NYENHUIS	74P JOYCE SLATER	266K PETER WESTHEAD
223P ANDREW O'DONNELL	73P KEN SLATER	82A PETER WESTON
153A CHRIS O'SHEA II	244S JOHN PAUL SMIT	66P LAURA WHEATLEY
48S KEITH OBORN	145P FRANK R. SMITH	276A MARY WIGLEY
212P PAUL OLDROYD	139P MARTIN SMITH	275A MIKE WIGLEY
265A PER OSTERMAN	27A PETER SMITH	161P BRIDGET WILKINSON
175A DAVE PACKWOOD	138P PETER SMITH II	235A GEOFF WILLIAMS
172A ANNE PAGE	111P IAN SORENSSEN	108S KATE WRIGHT
33P JOAN PATERSON	208P IAN SORENSSEN II	

CONTRIVANCE, 63 DRAKE ROAD, CHESSINGTON, SURREY

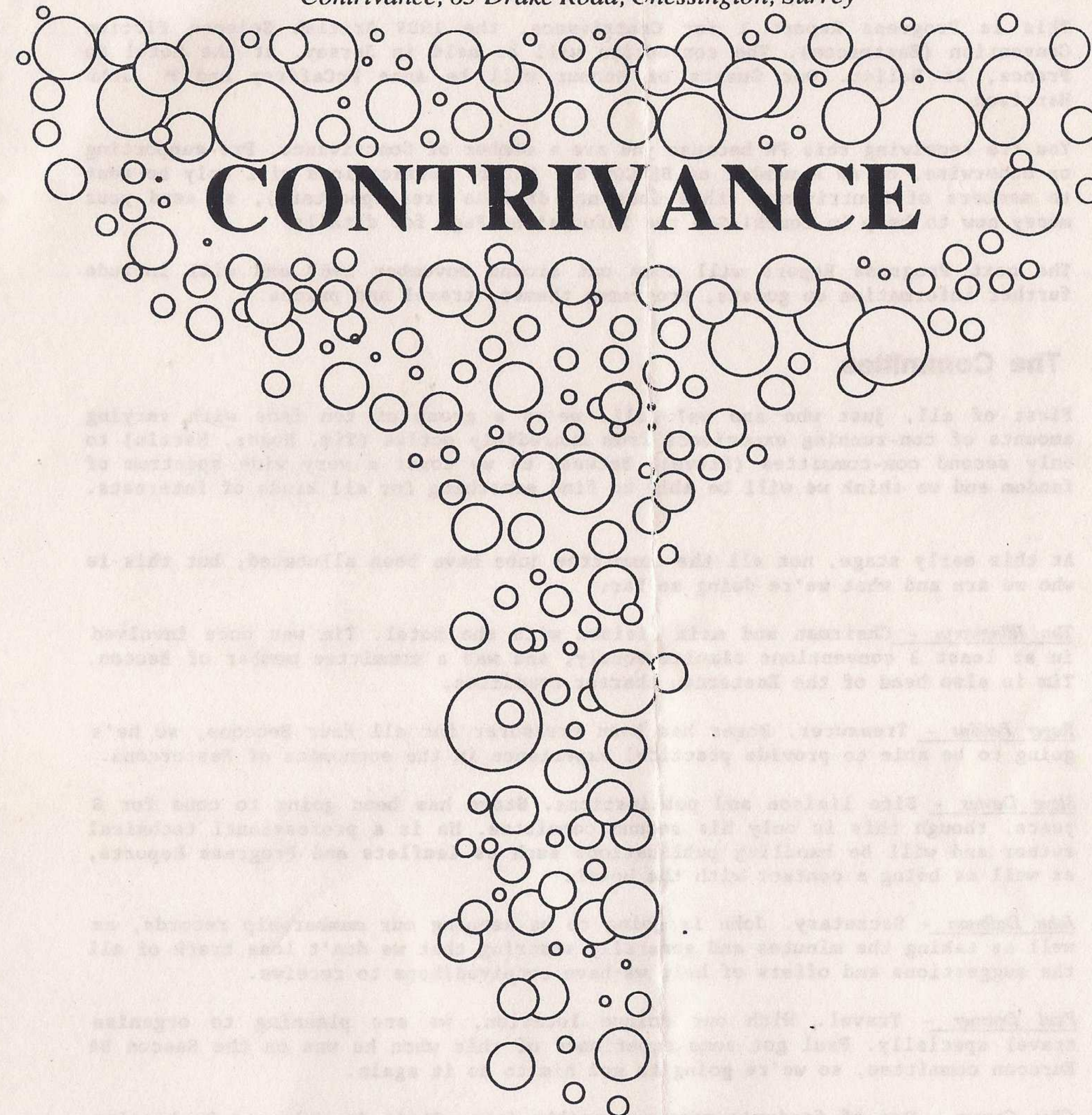
I enclose:

- ☐ £ for supporting membership(s) at £6/£8*
☐ £ for attending membership(s) at £12/£15*
☐ £ for child/animal/soft toy membership at £1
☐ with £ for being a pre-supporting member

* The higher figure applies from 2nd September 1987

PLEASE ENTER NAME AND ADDRESS OVERLEAF.....

Contrivance, 63 Drake Road, Chessington, Surrey



PROGRESS REPORT 1

1989 British Science Fiction
Convention

PROGRESS REPORT ONE

This is Progress Report 1 for Contrivance, the 1989 British Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon). The convention will be held in Jersey, at the Hotel de France, St Helier. Our Guests of Honour will be Anne McCaffrey and M. John Harrison.

You are receiving this PR because you are a member of Contrivance, Pre-supporting or otherwise, or as a member of BECCON 87. Future publications will only be sent to members of Contrivance (this does not include Pre-supporters), so send your money now to keep in touch! See the Information Page for details.

The next Progress Report will come out around November 1987 and will include further information on guests, programme themes, travel and prices.

The Committee

First of all, just who are we? Well, we're a group of ten fans with varying amounts of con-running experience from incredibly active (Tim, Roger, Martin) to only second con-committee (Steve). Between us we cover a very wide spectrum of fandom and we think we will be able to find something for all kinds of interests.

At this early stage, not all the committee jobs have been allocated, but this is who we are and what we're doing so far:

Tim Illingworth - Chairman and main liaison with the hotel. Tim was once involved in at least 3 conventions simultaneously, and was a committee member of Beccon. Tim is also head of the Eastercon charter committee.

Roger Perkins - Treasurer. Roger has been treasurer for all four Beccons, so he's going to be able to provide practical experience in the economics of Eastercons.

Steve Davies - Site liaison and publications. Steve has been going to cons for 8 years, though this is only his second committee. He is a professional technical author and will be handling publications such as leaflets and Progress Reports, as well as being a contact with the hotel.

John Dallman - Secretary. John is going to be keeping our membership records, as well as taking the minutes and generally ensuring that we don't lose track of all the suggestions and offers of help we have received/hope to receive.

Paul Dornier - Travel. With our unique location, we are planning to organise travel specially. Paul got some experience of this when he was on the Seacon 84 Eurocon committee, so we're going to get him to do it again.

Chris Cooper - One of fandom's most noticeable fans, Chris is going to be keeping order and making sure that media fandom doesn't get overlooked.

Peter Wareham - Peter was shanghaied while he was attending a convention in the USA and couldn't argue back.

Gwen Funnell - Not just present to keep Peter under control, Gwen brings that essential touch of realism to committee meetings.

Martin Hoare - Quite apart from being a technical wizard, Martin has a lot of experience of con committees and is especially adept at handling hotels. We haven't needed to brow-beat the De France yet, but we can do it if we have to.

Katie Hoare - Essential for brow-beating Martin, Katie is currently embroiled in Conspiracy but will be getting more involved with Contrivance after August.

But enough of the Committee.....

What sort of Convention do we plan to run?

We plan to run a proper, well-rounded science fiction convention, in which written SF holds pride of place but doesn't squeeze out other interests. The Eastercon is no longer the only British convention, but it is still the showcase and the way in which a lot of people first meet Fandom. We want to offer prospective fans a taste of everything that's available, impress the outside world, and have a really good time while we're doing it.

We want to run a convention that will include as many people as possible. Not just mass quizzes with everyone being eliminated, but actually taking part in discussions and workshops. We want you to go away from Contrivance with the feeling that you've really contributed something to the convention, instead of just sat in one of our many bars and watched the world go by (unless of course you want just to sit in the bars).

Fannish activity will be emphasised in all its aspects, from fanzines to literary discussion groups, from conrunning to filking. To help with this, we Lilian Edwards and Christina Lake will be organising the fanroom for us.

We also feel that any true science fiction convention must have a predominance of serious programme items. Unfortunately, these are always the most difficult to organise and it is very tempting to take the easy option of filling up empty hours with silly games and quizzes. If you want to hear talks on specific subjects, or see something special, or if you want to have workshops on something unusual, best of all if you are prepared to run such an item, we want to hear from you. You've got nearly two years to prepare, why not give it a try?

We're also considering dropping some items which have become under-subscribed in recent years. For instance, although masquerades are still popular with audiences, there seem to be fewer and fewer entrants. Since Jersey is a long way to cart extra clothes and props, we may drop the masquerade unless there is a sufficient number of people interested. So, if you feel strongly that there should be a masquerade, or any other item, please let us know.

Obviously, with another Eastercon before 1989, we don't want to give away too many of our programme ideas. However, our themes will probably include subjects like "Islands in the Sky", "Music in SF", "The Baroque in Science Fantasy" and "Biology or Xenobiology?". Each theme will have several different items associated with it, including films, panels, talks and workshops. As 1989 draws nearer, we will be getting firmer commitments from our speakers and panelists and so we'll be able to expand on the programme in future Progress Reports.

Guests of Honour

Our two main guests of honour will, we believe, appeal to two totally different parts of Fandom:

Anne McCaffrey

is of course famous for her dragon series of stories. For this reason, we hope to concentrate more on some of her other works, especially those dealing with music in SF and Fantasy.

M. John Harrison

was closely involved with New Worlds magazine during the infamous New Wave period. He is also renowned for his baroque fantasies set in the decaying city of Viriconium.

We are planning to build programme streams and themes around both Anne McCaffrey and M. John Harrison, as well as getting them involved in the workshops.

There will of course be additional themes, some with special guests of their own, to be announced in future Progress Reports.

The Hotel

One of the most important things for making a convention go smoothly is the hotel. We believe that we have found a place that is ideally suited to being a con hotel. The De France was built in the last century as a luxury hotel and, except for an interlude when it was a Jesuit seminary, has continued that tradition ever since. It stands on a low ridge overlooking the town of St Helier (capital of Jersey) and can accommodate over 600 people. In the hotel's private grounds is a conference centre (the Lido de France) which we shall also be using. The Lido includes a disco, a health-club, several bars, a large hall and a cinema with 35mm projection facilities.

Our major problem with the De France so far, has been that every time we ask them to provide something special for the con they tell us that they already do that as standard (and at a cheaper rate than most hotels after months of hard bargaining). The facilities are not only spacious, they are well-organised, which we have found to be a very rare virtue in modern hotels.

The number of function rooms is more than we anticipate needing, so we will be able to cope even if we have a sudden influx of people at the last moment. Furthermore, all the rooms are within the grounds of the hotel, so there will be no need to brave Jersey's (minimal) traffic when going from one item to another.

The overflow hotel (the Rosebank) is also within the grounds of the De France, and is owned by the same management so there should be no problems there. The Rosebank, incidentally, is being connected to the De France by a covered, well-lit walkway so you won't even have to expose yourselves to Jersey's sunny climate when you go to the programme.

If the overflow fills up, there are an incredible number of small hotels and cheap boarding houses very nearby. We have been told that there are 5000 beds inside 10 minutes walk from the hotel, and we could probably accommodate the whole convention within two hundred yards of the de France.

Rates

We have agreed a room rate for the Hotel de France of £20.50 per night per person in a twin. This is a firm rate for 1989 and not an estimate based on current prices. The room rate includes full English breakfast - and also serve yourself with rolls, cold meat, fruit, fruit juice etc. We sampled this breakfast when we were over there recently, and it makes the average hotel breakfast pale in comparison (the convention will be served the standard breakfast, not a cut-down version as some hotels do). The hotel has offered the facility of continental breakfast served in the rooms for those people in the De France. We have not yet decided whether to take them up on this.

What we are also offering, however, is a similar room rate (actually £21), for up to a week both before and after the con. So if you want to, you could have a two-week holiday in the Channel Islands at discount rates and with a convention in the middle of it. What more could you possibly want?

Well, you might want to bring your (non-fannish) family so we are having a "relatives membership" at a nominal cost. This allows them to take advantage of the cheap rates and facilities under the convention's agreement with the hotel. Naturally, there are also cheap membership rates for children, soft toys, and other pets (there are no quarantine restrictions between the UK and Jersey).

Room rates for the Rosebank (the overflow hotel next door) are approx. £15 (75% of the De France rate) including full breakfast. The Rosebank isn't quite as stunning as the De France but it is a comfortable hotel and is a very short walk away.

The rooms in a boarding house next door to the overflow hotel were about £10 this year, and should still be priced in that general area in 1989.

Alternatively, you could try self-catering accommodation, and some travel agents are offering package deals including travel and accommodation which is (entirely by co-incidence) no more than ten minutes walk from the De France. By arranging to travel in groups, you may get further discounts.

We should point out at this juncture that single rooms are (as everywhere) in very short supply. If you want a single in the De France or the Rosebank, it will probably be in a twin room, and the rate will reflect this. For those with large families, though, the De France does offer family rooms with three beds (one of which is a double).

Food and drink

Jersey has lots of cheap and wonderful food and cheap drink. The De France itself has two restaurants, one of which will seat everybody staying in the hotel (so there should be no need to queue for breakfast). The food in the De France is excellent, and very good value for money both in the restaurants and the bar snacks. Good food is extremely easy to find in Jersey. There is an annual good food festival which ensures that quality is kept up, not just in the top restaurants but also in the cheap fast food places as well.

As no doubt you realise by now, Jersey has no VAT and minimal excise duty. Therefore the price of alcoholic drinks is very much lower than on the mainland. Coupled with Jersey's proximity to France, you can see that you will have to be very careful not to over-indulge. Fortunately, Jersey counts as an overseas country and you can count on a generous duty-free allowance when going home (and going to the convention, come to that). The same naturally applies to petrol, tobacco and perfume - though we advise you not to drink too much of these.

The hotel is currently serving the local beer, Mary Ann, at a price of around 70p per pint. If you don't think that's cheap enough, we found a pub (called The Wellington!) with a bar price of 50p per pint. For the convention, the hotel will also be serving real ale.

Travel

This is of course the place where Contrivance appears to be slightly more expensive than the common Eastercon. However, we calculate that the average fan can probably save their extra fare out of the VAT/excise duty that they won't have to pay (especially if VAT goes up again).

There are two main options, ferry and plane. The ferry will cost about half the standard fare (though the Theatre and Concert Rail Club tell us they may be able to beat that) and takes most of a night. The plane is a bit more expensive, though we are investigating the possibility of chartering an aircraft (which brings the price down considerably, but has the disadvantage of requiring people to turn up at the same time). Theatre & Concert apparently have a deal with British Airways, so there may be room for improvement here too. We are making plans to provide transport to and from a selection of planes and ferries.

Of course, if you try one of the standard travel agents' packages, you might manage to do it even cheaper. At least one current package deal costs £89 for seven nights accommodation with the return air fare included.

Basically, the overall cost for a London fan would probably be marginally less than attending a convention in the North. The break-even point is somewhere around Birmingham, with Scottish fans having to pay a bit more to get down south. We think it's worth it; and we hope you will too.

THE INFORMATION PAGE

Correspondence.

All correspondence should be sent to;

Contrivance
63 Drake Road
Chessington
Surrey
KT9 1LQ

Or, if appropriate, to our overseas agents who are:

USA

Bill & Mary Burns
23 Kensington Court
Hempstead
NY 11550
USA

Scandinavia

Mats Claesson
c/o Bjork
Saltamang 12
11359 Stockholm
Sweden

We need a Dutch agent. Any volunteers?

Progress Reports

Progress Report 2 will be out at the end of October 1987.

Progress Report 3 will be out at the end of March 1988.

The following rates for advertising will apply:

	Pro	Fan	Deadlines
Full page	£15	£10	
Half page	£8	£6	Ads for PR2 must be received before 14/9/87
Quarter page	£5	£3	Ads for PR3 must be received before 15/2/88

Membership

The rates are;	To 2/9/87	From 2/9/87	Payment
	£	£	
Attending	12	15	Cheques should be made payable to Contrivance.
Supporting	6	8	
Child 9-13	6	6	
Associate member	6	6	Payment may be made in US\$ at the rate of: £1.00 = \$2.00
Child under 9	1	1	
Pets, soft toys.	1	1	

Conversion from Supporting to Attending is always at the current difference in rates.

Conversion from Pre-supporting is at the above rates less £1.00 or \$2.

Please note that we need both real names and fannish names (if you adopt one specially for conventions) when you sign up. Real names will generally be used for mailing. This is because in the past people have been "lost" because they have moved and their mail has been returned marked "This person does not exist". So either keep us up to date on your address, or let us know who you really are (preferably both).

Members as of May 1987:

P=Pre-support A=Attending S=Supporting

63A	MIKE ABBOTT	163P	MARY CARMICHAEL	126A	SUSAN FRANCIS
120P	PHILIP ALLCOCK	77P	MIKE CHRISTIE	199P	MISS K.E. FRY
40A	BRIAN AMERINGEN	51P	MATS CLAESSION	14A	GWEN FUNNELL
193P	PATRICIA AMES	260A	(FRIEND OF) JOHN CLUTE	189P	P.M. GARDNER
250A	MICHAEL ANCELL			148P	WENDY GLOVER
184A	FIONA ANDERSON	259A	JOHN CLUTE	76P	JIM GODDARD
159P	KEVIN ANDERSON	133P	PETER COHEN	253A	MARGARET GORDON
158P	KEITH ARMSTRONG-BRIDGES	164P	BARBARA CONWAY	183A	MICHAEL R GOULD
		12A	CHRIS COOPER	236P	MIKE GRANT
97P	C.P. ARYES	243S	PHILIP A. COWAN	57S	MIKE GRAY
79P	MARGARET AUSTIN	256A	DAVE COX	83P	STEVE GREEN
206P	JON AXTELL	44P	1/2 R CRUTTENDEN	144P	PHILIP GROVES
162P	HENRY BALEN	114P	WENDY CRUTTENDEN	88A	URBAN GUNNARSSON
102P	IAIN BANKS	11A	JOHN DALLMAN	176P	ANDREW HALL
135A	JOHN BARK	34P	MIKE DAMESICK	182P	SUSAN E. HARDING
179A	TREVOR BARKER	104P	MALCOLM DAVIES	G	M. JOHN HARRISON
185P	PHIL BARNARD	15P	STEVE DAVIES	277A	SUE HARRISON
93P	ANDERS BELLIS	178A	ZOE DETERDING	69P	EVE HARVEY
75A	SIMON BERESFORD	141A	IAIN DICKSON	68P	JOHN HARVEY
170S	HELEN BERNARDI	202P	MARTIN DICKSON	61P	CHARLES HAWDSLEY
204S	MIKE BERNARDI	207P	M.K. DIGRE	110P	JULIAN HEADLONG
92P	TONY BERRY	85P	DERMOT DOBSON	221P	JULIAN HEADLONG II
283A	GEOGRE BONDAR	86P	PERDY DOBSON	249A	TERESA HEHIR
186A	DUNCAN BOOTH	242A	VINCENT DOCHERTY	156P	ANGIE HESKETT
187A	JUDY BOOTH	105P	CHRIS DONALDSON	155P	PAUL HESKETT
248A	KJELL BORGSTROM	16A	PAUL DORMER	19P	KATIE HOARE
28P	JOHN BOTHAM	154P	MICHELLE DRAYTON	18P	MARTIN HOARE
271A	RICHARD BRANDSHAFT	49P	MARTIN EASTERBROOK	167P	MALCOLM HODKIN
147P	MARK BRENNAN	31A	BARBARA A. EDWARDS	205P	MARINA HOLROYD
109P	TIM BROADRIBB	160P	GLENN EDWARDS	96P	MIKE HOOK
128P	KEN BROWN	30A	RICHARD EDWARDS	261A	VALERIE HOUSDEN
191P	PAT BROWN	227A	HELEN ELING	10A	TIM ILLINGWORTH
279S	JOHN BRUNNER	255A	STAN ELING	247A	MATTHEW IRVING
25A	STEVE BULL	35S	DAVE ELLIS	245A	ROB JACKSON
224A	CHARLOTTE BULMER	26P	DAVID ELWORTHY	54P	LINDA STRICKLER JAMES
263S	M.A. BUNCE	38A	BERNIE EVANS	132P	MORAG KERR
174A	SAUL.A. BURA	257A	MICK EVANS	55P	ALICE KOHLER
201A	BILL BURNS	52P	JULIET EYEIONS	150P	CHRISTINA LAKE
200A	MARY BURNS	177P	JOHN FAIREY	229P	JAN LAKE
149P	ROBERT BURRAGE	59P	NICK FAREY	230P	KEN LAKE
262A	CHRIS BURSEY	103A	COLIN FINE	195A	HENRY JOHN LANDIS
282P	JENNY CAMPBELL	239A	JOAN FINE	89A	DAVE LANGFORD
116P	KIM CAMPBELL	238A	PHILIP FINE	90A	HAZEL LANGFORD
281P	RAMSEY CAMPBELL	80P	MIKE FORD		
53P	JOHN W CAMPBELL REES	278A	WILLIAM HENRY FORRESTER		

Name: _____

Address: _____

(I agree to have my personal details kept on a computer database)

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