

INTUITION

**49TH BRITISH NATIONAL SCIENCE FICTION
CONVENTION (EASTERCON)**

10-13 April 1998

Jarvis Piccadilly and Britannia Hotels, Manchester

Read Me

This is the *Read Me*. It contains information about things inside the hotels other than the programme. Information about Manchester can be found in *Outside*. The programme can be found in the *Programme*.



Introduction

This is the *Read Me*. It will tell you virtually everything you may need to know to get you through Intuition apart from information about the programme, which is contained in the *Programme*. Additional information about Manchester is contained in *Outside*. Further copies of these three publications are available from registration subject to availability at a cost of £1 each. The A4 souvenir book contains nothing you *need* to know at the convention.☞

Hotels

There are two hotels, the Jarvis Piccadilly (Piccadilly hereafter) and the Britannia (please note that members should not carry any drinks between the two).

Piccadilly: *Basement:* Leisure centre. *First floor:* Coypu Sanctuary. *Mezzanine:* Senate Suite, Congress Suite, Jade Green Room, Signing sessions, Convention desks. *Third floor:* International Suite, Subsidiarity Suite (rear of, and entrance to, International), Registration, Information desk, Gopher hole (Terrace Room), Belvedere Bar, Veranda Restaurant. *Fourth floor:* Dealers' rooms (Park Suite, Park Avenue & Video Theatre). *Fifth floor:* Workshops 1 & 2, Costume workshops, Newsroom.

Britannia: *Basement:* Jenny's Restaurant, Overstuffed Pizza, Saturday's Bar, Spinner's Bar, Leisure centre. *Ground floor:* Crystal Suite, Art show (Britannia & Piccadilly Suites), Games room (Boardroom & Study), Crompton's Bar & Restaurant. *First floor:* Film programme (Cheshire Suite), Bottle Green Room (lounge). *Second floor:* Ops. *Third floor:* Lancashire Suite. *Fourth floor:* Shropshire Suite.☞

Volunteers

Intuition is run entirely by volunteers willing to give up some of their spare time for the benefit of the convention. As you may have read in our literature, we're planning to try something new this year. We want to try to get more people involved with helping make this convention run smoothly, but we realise that not everyone wants to commit to particular times or duty rosters or whatever, so we thought we'd give people the chance to help out when and where it suits them. And, of course, we'd be very grateful for the extra help ourselves.

The idea is that you can collect a ribbon from the Information Desk (called an "Oh all right then!" ribbon, for obvious reasons), and wear it whenever you would be willing to be asked to help out. Obviously, if you don't want to be asked just then, you take the ribbon off.

Volunteers to help in particular areas on a more regular basis are also very welcome.☞

First Aid Volunteers

Could volunteer first aiders please make themselves known to us as soon after arrival as possible. You should go to Ops where you can collect a first aid badge. You must hold a current St John's Ambulance certificate (other nationality qualifications will not be acceptable, even if equivalent). Volunteer first aiders will be able to sign up into our First Aid shift system; they will be issued with a First Aid kit and a mobile phone or radio for the duration of their shift.☞

How to get help

If you have a problem that we can do something about during the convention contact the information desk on the third floor of the Piccadilly or the Ops Room on the second floor of the Britannia.

During hours when the Information Desk is closed, you should go directly to the Ops Room, or ask convention staff for advice how to pass on your problem to the Ops Room, if you are unable

to go there yourself. We will *not* be holding a gripe session as such but there will be an opportunity to make suggestions to the people running future eastercons about matters of policy or problems which might also affect them. There will also be a suggestion box at the information desk.☺

Badges

Please wear your badge at all times. It's your proof that you're a member of Intuition; without it, you're liable to be refused admission to the designated convention areas of the hotel or, late at night, to the hotels themselves. The convention reserves the right to refuse to replace lost badges; if we do replace it, a charge of £5 will be made.☺

Voodoo Board

You can use the voodoo board, which is located near the Information Desk on the third floor of the Piccadilly, to leave messages for other convention members. When you arrive at the convention, please tick your name on the list so other members will know that you've arrived.☺

Newsletter

Pieces for inclusion can be handed in at the information desk or brought direct to the news room; if the news room is closed, please leave your contribution in the plastic wallet by the door. Line or box adverts can be placed in the newsletter for a small fee; contact the news room for more information.☺

Awards

All members of Intuition are eligible to vote for the Doc Weir and BSFA Awards. A Doc Weir ballot form should be in your registration package; if you can't find it, a further copy is available from registration. Completed ballots should be placed in the box provided at the information desk by noon on Sunday. BSFA Award ballots are available from the BSFA desk in the dealers' room. Completed ballots may be handed in at the BSFA desk on Friday or Saturday, or placed in the ballot box at the information desk by 10:00 PM on Saturday.☺

Registration

The registration desk is located on the third floor in a booth outside the main bar. It is open during the following hours:

Friday	10:00 to 20:00
Saturday	10:00 to 18:00
Sunday	10:00 to 16:00
Monday	10:00 to 12:00.☺

Dealers' rooms

There are actually three dealers' rooms—Park Suite, Park Avenue and the Video Theatre—but they're all clumped together on the fourth floor of the Piccadilly. Opening hours are:

Friday	14:00 to 18:00
Saturday	10:00 to 18:00
Sunday	10:00 to 18:00
Monday	10:00 to 14:00

Please note that between 10:00 and 11:00 on Saturday the Park Suite will only be open to anybody with mobility problems, with the same arrangements for Park Avenue and the Video Theatre on Sunday.

You mustn't eat, drink or smoke in the dealers' rooms unless you're a dealer.

The dealers' room organiser is Mark Plummer.☺

Art Show

There are two rooms—the Britannia and the Piccadilly Suites—both located on the ground floor of the Britannia. Opening hours are:

Friday	14:00 to 18:00
Saturday	10:00 to 18:00
Sunday	10:00 to 18:00
Monday	10:00 to 14:00

Additionally, please note that between 18:00 and 19:00 on Friday the Britannia will be open to anybody with mobility problems, with the same arrangements for the Piccadilly Suite on Saturday.

You mustn't eat, drink or smoke in the Art Show.

The Art Show organiser is Pat McMurray. ☺

Con Desks

These are located on the Mezzanine floor of the Piccadilly. They are open, or not, pretty much when they feel like it but hours are likely to be similar to the dealers' room. Due to space constraints, there are a couple of dealers located here as well. If you have pre-booked a con-desk (or have not booked but would like to set up if space is available) please contact the information desk. ☺

Auctions

For dates and times, please see the programme. However, if you have material you wish to include in any of the auctions, please note the following:

Book Auction: all material should be handed in to one of the syndicate room on the fifth floor of the Piccadilly (follow the signs) by 10:00 PM on Friday. Items should be clearly marked with the name of the owner, any applicable reserve price and on whose behalf the item is to be auctioned.

Art Auction: contact Pat McMurray in the art show.

Clothes auction: all items should be brought to the auction room during the half-hour preceding the auction itself. ☺

Masquerade

If you wish to take part, please complete the registration form available at the information desk. In particular, we need to know of any technical requirements. Registration forms will also be available in the costuming workshop. ☺

Electrical Equipment

As stated in PR4, we'll be conducting full electrical testing of any equipment being used for Intuition purposes; if you're bringing your own equipment for a programme item or any other convention use, please be prepared for it to be tested and labelled—and be aware that it must pass the test in order to be used. Hopefully, you've contacted us in advance about what needs to be tested. If not, please contact our Tech expert, Clare Goodall, via Ops as soon as possible. ☺

Weapons Policy

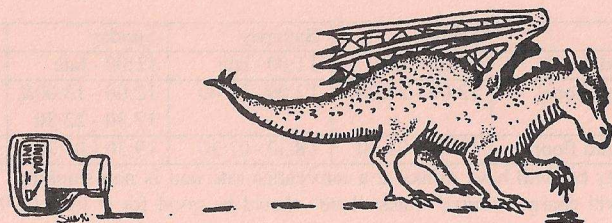
No weapons or facsimiles thereof will be allowed to be carried at the convention. This includes edged weapons, projectile firing weapons, any replica or facsimile weapon, or any other object the committee deems to be dangerous. If an object looks dangerous enough to cause concern to other convention attendees, please keep it in your room.

The exception to this is the Masquerade. Subject to the approval of the Masquerade Director, obtained in advance, a weapon may be used as part of a costume. However, arrangements must be made to transport the object to and from the event carefully wrapped. ☺

***Intuition* merchandise is still
available...**

**T-shirts with dragon design (as below)
by Sue Mason.
Front and back print on unbleached cotton.
£7.50 each.**

Sizes: Medium, Large, Extra Large, Extra Extra Large



**Soft-top mousemat with
artwork as at left, again by Sue
Mason. Silver design on navy
blue. £2.50**

Available at the convention of afterwards, while stocks last, from:

**John Dowd – Intuition Merchandising
4 Burnside Avenue – Sheffield S8 9FR**

Mobile phones etc.

If you have a mobile phone, pager, tamagotchi or anything else liable to make a noise, please turn it off while you're in any of the programme rooms. ⌘

Videos and photography

Videoring programme items is not generally permitted; if for any reason you wish to do so, please obtain the explicit permission of the moderator of the item. No flash photography during the Masquerade please. A photo call will be arranged. ⌘

Smoking

Follow the signs. However, as a guide, smoking is not allowed in:

- any of the programme rooms (with the exception of participants);
- the dealers' rooms (with the exception of dealers);
- the art show;
- the Subsidiarity when set out as a bar. ⌘

Hotel food and drink

BARS

Piccadilly	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Belvedere (third floor)	11:00 - late	11:00 - late	11:00 - late	11:00 - late
Portland (ground floor)	12:00 - 23:00	12:00 - 23:00	12:00 - 13:00 & 17:30 - 22:30	12:00 - 23:00
Subsidiarity (third floor)	19:00 - 01:30	18:30 - 01:30	19:30 - 01:30	closed

The Subsidiarity bar will have drinks at a convention rate and is non-smoking. The Belvedere and Portland will charge 'normal' rates. 'Late' should be good for at least 02:00. While non-resident convention members can drink in the Piccadilly after 01:30 *only residents will be able to purchase drinks.*

Britannia	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Saturday's bar (basement)	11:00 - 20:00	11:00 - 20:00	12:00 - 00:00	11:00 - 20:30
Crompton's bar (ground)	18:00 - late	18:00 - late	19:00 - late	18:00 - late
Spinner's (basement)	11:00 - 23:00	11:00 - 02:00	12:00 - 22:30	11:00 - 11:00

Saturday's and Crompton's will have drinks at a convention rate. Spinner's will charge 'normal' rates. 'Late' means at least 04:00 for both resident and non-resident convention members.

BREAKFAST

Piccadilly	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Veranda (third)	7:00 - 10:00	7:00 - 11:00	8:00 - 11:00	8:00 - 11:00
Britannia	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Jenny's (basement)	7:00 - 10:00	8:00 - 11:00	8:00 - 11:00	8:00 - 11:00

LUNCH/DINNER

Piccadilly	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Veranda (third)	12:30 - 14:30 & 18:30 - 22:30	12:30 - 14:30 & 18:30 - 22:30	12:30 - 14:30 & 18:30 - 22:30	12:30 - 14:30 & 18:30 - 22:30
Belvedere (third)	12:00 - 14:30	12:00 - 14:30	12:00 - 14:30	12:00 - 14:30

The Belvedere will be serving sandwiches only.

Britannia	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Saturday's (basement)	10:00 - 19:00	10:00 - 19:00	10:00 - 00:00	10:00 - ??
Overstuffed Pizza (bsmt)	10:30 - 2:00	10:30 - 2:00	10:30 - 00:00	10:30 - 2:00
Jenny's (basement)	12:00 - 14:30& 18:00 - 22:00	12:00 - 14:30& 18:00 - 22:00	12:30 - 14:30& 18:00 - 22:00	12:00 - 14:30& 18:00 - 22:00
Crompton's (ground)	18:00 - 22:00	18:00 - 22:00	closed	18:00 - 22:00

Saturday's will have cheap convention food. The Overstuffed Pizza also offers 'take-away'. ⌘

Corkage

Please note that this is *expensive*. If you wish to organise a party, please contact Steve Lawson via the information desk. ⌘

Car parking

The Piccadilly has limited parking during the week, but at weekends has access to commercial parking on the same level. It comes to about 350 spaces altogether. Parking priority: spaces close to the hotel entrance will be given to drivers with disabilities and to dealers. Convention members staying in other hotels should be able to park for the weekend in the Piccadilly car park, subject to space.

The Britannia offers no parking facilities.

There are NCP car parks on Chorlton Street (nearly 600 spaces, £12 per 24 hours, open 24 hours), or York Street (beneath the Piccadilly, over 150 spaces, open 7.30 AM to 7.30 PM, £12.50 per 24 hours). Car crime can be a problem in Manchester, so don't park on the street and take all precautions appropriate to city centre parking. ⌘

Pools/Leisure

Piccadilly: The pool is free to residents. Charges for leisure facilities are advertised at hotel reception.

Britannia: There is no charge to residents for use of Spindles Health Club or the pool. ⌘

Posters and signs

Convention members are permitted to use blu-tak to stick posters to the glass surfaces of the Britannia or the Piccadilly, but the Piccadilly has a 'no hand-written signs' policy. ⌘

Hotel check out

Piccadilly: Midday on Monday; 11:00 AM on other days.

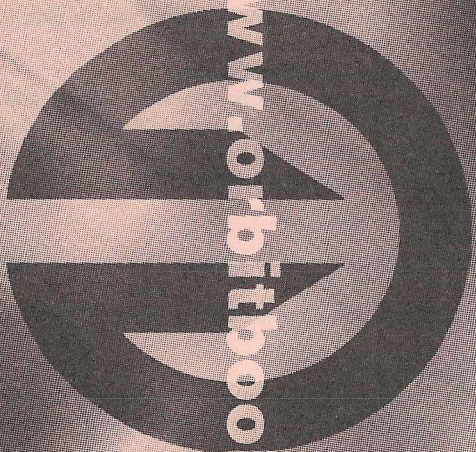
Britannia: 11:00 AM

Both hotels have luggage storage facilities on request. ⌘

Childcare

Having examined all the options available to us for child care, and unfortunately having had to discard most of them for legal and insurance reasons, we have settled on the following:

The Nutkins Nanny Agency is a licensed agency working in the Manchester area. Its staff are not police-vetted, but references are taken up by the agency. It is willing to supply baby-sitters in the hotel to members of the convention. Their costs are very reasonable, especially considering that this is a holiday weekend. We have to stress that any costs or arrangements made are between you as an individual parent and the agency, and Intuition can accept no financial or legal liability whatsoever. Hopefully, you've made arrangements in advance, as suggested in PR4. If not, you could try contacting: ALISON SKINNER, Telephone: 0161 282 1508. ⌘



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