

Sou' Wester

THE 1994 EASTERCON



1ST-4TH APRIL 1994
ADELPHI HOTEL, LIVERPOOL

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Guests of Honour

BARBARA HAMBLY
DIANE DUANE
NEIL GAIMAN
PETER MORWOOD

WELCOME to PR2

- coming out exactly when we intended it to, and without a single computer glitch to mar its progress even our publicity manager going on holiday at a critical moment in its development couldn't slow it down. That, of course, is because he has begun to recruit the rest of his team, and they carried on without him and ignored any rights he might have claimed to proof-reading or suchlike niceties. Thanks are due to three Chrises here (no, that isn't a typo for crises, however much it may feel that way!). In alphabetical order rather than importance, Chris Bell, Chris Croughton and Chris Malme are seeing this one through the presses, so you know whom to blame. And if you can't blame them, there's always

The Committee (*and others*):

Commodore: **Marcus Streets** (*Chairman*)

First Lieutenant: **Ninja Bear** (*Secretary and Co-ordinator*)

Purser: **Ben Brown** (*Treasurer*)

Quartermaster: **Chris Bell** (*Membership and Hotel Liaison*)

Bosun: **Rhodri James** (*Programming*)

Naval Attaché: **Sue Edwards** (*Guest Liaison*)

Flag Lieutenant: **David V. Barrett** (*Publicity and Publications*)

Chief Petty Officer: **Gary Stratmann** (*Ops*)

Sergeant of Marines: **John Harold** (*Security*)

Sparks: **Richard the Rampant** (*Tech*)

Officers of the Watch: **Harry Payne and David Row** (*Video Programming*)

Supercargo: **Mark Plummer** (*Dealers' Room*)

We're still in the market for mad fools and volunteers, in virtually all fields, so don't be backward about coming forward and offering your talents to any of the people above: we can almost certainly use YOU. All offers of assistance gratefully received, both over the coming year and of course at the convention itself. (And "No, Tim" doesn't work here: none of us is called Tim.)

SOUTH BY SOUTH WEST

So what are we doing for programming? This is the question on everybody's lips, and has been ever since someone expected a fully designed and agreed programme at the bidding session. Back in the real world, a little over a year out from the convention, we have a good deal of flesh on the skeleton of our original designs, and are well on target for calling Dr Frankenstein in next Easter.

Of course, I can still only talk in broad terms about what's on the programme. Apart from anything else, we have a lot of surprises in store that I don't want to spoil! Broadly speaking, then, the main themes of the con are Travel and Change, in all their various forms. What has happened to the American and Russian space programmes, for example? Why are skiffy and futurological projections so rarely accurate? What bizarre travel films can the projectionists find? These and other questions may or may not be answered or even considered in the usual hodge-podge of talks, panels, films, videos and drinking sessions in the bar.

What we are at work on here is a traditional Eastercon programme for a traditional Eastercon hotel; friendly, comfortable and not too demanding on the audience. This is what people seem to want from an Eastercon -- please feel free to contradict me if you think otherwise - and this is what we are quite happy to give you. However, at least one

controversial thing will be happening, or rather not happening, at Sou'Wester. Let me put it in a paragraph all of its own, just to stir things up.

There will be no Fan Room.

This doesn't mean that I intend to ignore the sort of programme that would traditionally appear in the fan room, in either its fanzine or its light entertainment guise. On the contrary, both will be featuring strongly in the main and alternative programmes. No, the reason for dropping the Fan Room is that in the Adelphi, there is absolutely no point in having it. Friends old and new can meet, drink and talk perfectly comfortably in the Lounge, fanzine and fanart displays could quite happily co-habit with the Art Show or similar displays, and nobody but nobody needs a ghetto anyway.

Yes, I said ghetto. In general, all that dedicated special interest rooms seem to do in fandom is to create a hideyhole for people to disappear into and never be seen again. This is not what fandom is all about. I want to get people out of their ghettos and meeting each other, and in that context the fan room is not just an irrelevance but a positive distraction. I don't want people to sit and vegetate in the fan room, the film show, the video room, the filk sessions, the games room, and so on and so forth, and if this means that everyone ends up in the bar rather than in the programme then at least I will have succeeded in making people socialise.

Enough talking about what isn't there. What sort of things will be on the programme at Sou'Wester? Well, there will be full film and video programmes (grumble, grumble... but watch out for the film and video related items in the main and alternate programme rooms) and a games room (ditto). Our Guests of Honour will be doing their stuff (and with this lot I hesitate to say anything so predictable as "speeches"), as will a number of other well-known fans and pros. There will be talks, discussions, inter views, games, quizzes and all the usual stuff. They will be liberally mixed together, with a dash of manic energy for added fizz, and served up around the hotel in such a way that you can find what you want, miss what you don't want, and meet all these other weird people.

One thing that does deserve a little more notice in these pages is what we've got labelled as "The Rant Stream." This is a series of short talks by different people about things that particularly irritate them. Of course, such a stream is only going to work if there are enough fans with pet peeves to make it work, so if there's anything that you would like to be incisive, witty and very, very sarcastic about, be it the state of the economy or the patronising programming chiefs, please let me know. We will arrange the soapbox and the captive audience, you just have to book them in advance. Please. Otherwise I will have to froth and gibber about apathy, and I can't really be bothered to do that.

This, then, is what will be on offer. Nothing too demanding, nothing too unusual, nothing that will force you in any particular direction, just something pleasurable to enhance a pleasant weekend with a lot of like-minded people. Which is, after all, what the Eastercon is all about.

That's quite enough of me. We now return you to your regularly scheduled Progress Report...

Rhodri James

WHO WATCHES THE WATCHERS?

In which Harry Payne and Dave Row tell you about the video programme, and what you could do to help.

First, we want to kill a rumour we've heard stone dead. WE ARE NOT GOING TO SHOW WALL TO WALL ROBOTS. Or even floor-to-ceiling robots. Did you hear that at the back?

Right, back to the video programme. Yes, we have one and it's going to be as varied as we can make it. No, we can't tell you what's going to be in it, for the same reason that Tim and Co. can't tell you what films they're going to show. Generally, you can get into an awful lot of trouble if you advertise a con on the basis of what your film/video programme is going to be. Besides, an Eastercon isn't a film fest; dare we say there will be other things to do during Sou'Wester than sit in a dark room looking at a screen? Like sitting in a dark room

looking at a screen and drinking real ale...

We've divided the programme into six major categories: Mainstream Media, Other Media, Films, Animation, Documentaries and Miscellaneous. This list is not exclusive; if you, the con-goers, feel we've left some vital category out, let us know.

Our aim is to allow 20% maximum of allotted time for any one category; this will prevent any category or categories from dominating the programme. As for allotted time, there probably won't be a round-the-clock programme. We are all too human, and have to eat and sleep occasionally. What we will aim for is to present interesting items in as high quality a format as possible (fifth generation super-long-play NTSC conversions are a no-no!). Any foreign material will be either dubbed or subtitled, except for American stuff, where you are strictly on your own.

As con-goers come in all ages, we'll try to cater for them. To this end, the first part of the day's programme will be suitable for children. Of all ages. There'll be a general range of items until the late evening, after which the more "adult" stuff will be shown. Every item will be shown to all con-goers except where marked "A", where children will be let in provided they are accompanied by a responsible adult, and "X" where nobody under 18 will be admitted. Times will vary, but on the whole we expect to keep to the schedule. If

you have any doubts about something, ask one of us and we'll give you a breakdown on what it's all about.

Finally, although we have ideas, there's just the two of us. You number in the hundreds, and we're sure you've got at least that many ideas on what should be shown. So why not let us know about them? We can't guarantee that we'll take them up, but the more of them we get, the better the chance of us coming up with a programme you want to watch. Be hearing from you...

Harry Payne & Dave Row

HOTEL NEWS

As promised in PR 1, a brief update on the Britannia Adelphi, Liverpool, and their treatment of us so far.

It's looking good. We have a contract with them, and when we went and visited them a few weeks back to chat about this and that with their management, they were bending over backwards to be helpful. We took the opportunity to mention Mushrooms For Breakfast - several times - and they seem to believe us about the quantities they're likely to need to satisfy the hobbit-like tendencies of the fannish population. Perhaps the fact that they have now had experience of two Eastercons is helping us to make our various points. When we started talking Real Ale, they grinned and agreed

More seriously, they are entirely with us about security, ours and theirs,

and offered us all the help we wanted. Indeed, they had already thought of transparent rubbish sacks instead of black ones; and any of you innocents out there who can't think what we're on about, I'm not going to explain, I'm just glad to know how pleasant you are in this wicked suspicious world, it restores my faith in human nature! I shan't steal John Harold's Head of Security thunder by revealing details of our plans at this stage - I hope that many of them will never be known at all to anyone but the devious and efficient man himself, because I hope they won't be needed - but I'm certainly feeling more comfortable myself about the whole security aspect of the convention, and I'm a well-known paranoid.

You can expect to find all the necessary details about hotel prices per night, overflow hotels and so forth in the last progress report before the convention. I know, I'm mean, but if you're anything like me you'll have forgotten them by the time you get round to filling in booking forms, so we'd only have to print them all over again then anyhow. And before then, too, I shall be asking our Native Guides to prepare a map of how to get to the hotel by road, rail, coach, air, canal, pogo stick likewise a list of nearby tolerable eateries.

Chris Bell - Hotel Liaison.

MEMBERSHIP

Sou'Wester is now (as at Easter 1993, and until at least Novacon 1993) offering membership at the following rates:

Attending:	£25.00
Supporting:	£12.50
Child (9 - 14 years old on April 1st 1994) attending:	£12.50
Badges for babies and beasts:	£1.50

Attending membership is obvious: you get sent all our publications, and come to the convention.

Supporting membership means that you will be sent all those of our publications which come out after you've joined up, (we can't promise to send you all the earlier ones, though we'll try) but have to convert to attending membership if you want to come to the convention.

Conversion from supporting to attending membership will cost whatever the difference is between the two rates at the time of conversion.

Supporting membership is not available for children, babies or beasts.

Presupporting members of Sou'Wester will receive a £2 reduction on Supporting or Attending membership taken out before April 1st 1994.

To join Sou'Wester, if you happen to be reading this somewhere other than at Helicon, send your name, your address, your badge name if it is different, details of membership(s) you want, and the money (cheques

etc payable to "Sou'Wester", please, and we'd very much prefer them to be in Pounds Sterling if you can possibly manage this) to Chris Bell at the convention address:

**3 West Shrubbery, Redland,
BRISTOL BS6 6SZ, England.**

This Progress Report is being sent, or in some cases handed, to all paid-up attending and supporting members of Sou'Wester.

Chris Bell - Membership

MEMBERSHIP, THE HOTEL AND SECURITY

A boring repetition, for all newcomers, of the warning given in Progress Report One.

We are not going to be encouraging on-the-day memberships of Sou'Wester, because of the problems with sneak-thieves which have been experienced by previous Eastercons at the Adelphi. The following procedure is a bore and a pain and a drag, but if it keeps the Dealers' Room free from theft, and the handbags in the bar safe, then it's worth it.

If for whatever reason someone is unable to join the convention before April 1994, even as a supporting member, then they will be asked at the convention reception desk to produce some form of official proof of identity and address - we know that many people don't carry driving licences, bank statements, or whatever else in their pockets as a

general rule, but we are trying to make sure over the coming year that everyone knows they'll need to bring something of this sort with them if they want to get in on the day.

If someone cannot produce proof of identity, and is not personally known to any member of the committee or to some other fan known personally to the committee, in other words if they cannot produce a reliable "sponsor" on the spot, then we shall have to decline (very reluctantly) to take their money or to accept them for membership.

If anyone is unable to decide before April 1994 whether or not to come to Sou'Wester, it would save a certain amount of potential hassle and embarrassment if they could at least let us know in advance about their existence, by writing to Chris Bell at the convention address and telling her that they may be coming.

We shall be very grateful if everyone can publicise this paranoid attitude of ours; we certainly don't want to turn away any bona fide fans simply because we don't happen to know them. If you do know anyone who might be planning to turn up out of the blue, or if you live locally and are encouraging friends to come and sample fandom, please could you warn them about our policy?

Thank you.

Chris Bell - Membership AND Hotel Liaison!

(And with a tiny bit of a Security hat on as well, would you believe?)

GUESTS OF HONOUR

Barbara Hambly

Barbara has written a dozen fantasy novels, including the Darwath trilogy, Dragonsbane and The Silicon Mage, a vampire novel, Immortal Blood, a historical whodunnit and a couple of Star Trek novels. Several of her novels have been nominated for Nebula Awards. She's been a model and a karate instructor, and is into historical and fantasy costuming, so watch out at the Masquerade. Barbara is not married to any of the other guests.

Diane Duane

Diane has written some of the funniest and most convincing teenage novels about wizards ever: So You Want to be a Wizard?, Deep Wizardry and High Wizardry; the fantasy novels The Door into Fire and The Door into Shadow, and several Star Trek novels, including the best selling one of all time, Spock's World, and the fiftieth, Doctor's Orders. Diane is married to Peter Morwood.

Neil Gaiman

Neil has not (so far as we know) written any Star Trek novels. He is best known for his designer five o'clock shadow at all times of day and night, and for writing award-winning comics such as Sandman, Black Orchid, and Violent Cases. With Terry Pratchett he co-wrote Good Omens, a very funny novel about how we're all gonna die because it's the end of the world. Neil Gaiman is not married to

Barbara Hambly, or to Diane Duane, or to...

Peter Morwood

Peter has written the best-selling fantasy trilogy The Horse Lord, The Demon Lord and The Dragon Lord, two novels set in Old Russia, Prince Ivan and Firebird, several SF novels in collaboration with his wife, and the obligatory Star Trek novel. He has a very convivial attitude to bars, alcohol and late hours, which should come in useful at Sou'Wester. Peter, by some strange coincidence, is married to Diane Duane.

ADVERTISING AND DEALERS

Advertising rates in PRs: £30 per page for pros, £16 for fans, et pro rata for divisions of a page. Camera-ready copy for PR3 (on A4 for photo-reduction) to the Sou'Wester address by 1st October 1993 please.

Dealers' Room: £7.50 per table per day, £25 per table for the whole con. Bookings via the Sou'Wester address.

T-Shirts £6, available at cons, or at London meetings by prior arrangement; ask your nearest committee member.

WEAPONS

No weapons or facsimiles thereof will be allowed except as part of Masquerade costumes. Except during the Masquerade they must be kept either in your room or in secure store. This has been agreed with the hotel management.

Membership of Sou'Wester as at 15th March 1993

P = Presupporting, A = Attending, S = Supporting,
B = Baby or Beast, C = Committee, G = Guest

144A Michael Abbott	119A Alan Braggins	247A Martyn Dawe
232A Andrew Adams	240P John Bray	360A Peter Dawson
255A Iain Alexander	201A Brian	131A Robert Day
329S Mike Alexander	2C Ben Brown	128A Lawrence Dean
85A Alice	237P Denzil J. Brown	261A Zoe Deterding
245P Alice	93P John Brunner	129A Iain Dickson
256A Kay Allan	87A Bug	205P Dermot Dobson
24A Phil Allcock	251A Bill Burns	120A Vince Docherty
309A Brian Ameringen	252A Mary Burns	38A Paul Dormer
102A Chris Amies	227A Steven Cain	299A Dragon
211A Simon Amos	343A Jenny Campbell	262A David Drysdale
171P Amyl	32A KIM Campbell	G Diane Duane
290P Andrew Anderson	344C Matt Campbell	263A Tim Duckworth
25A Fiona Anderson	345A Ramsey Campbell	204A Dyrewulfe
64P Friend of Fiona Anderson	346A Tammy Campbell	264A Roger Earnshaw
198A Kevin Anderson	229P Jane Carnall	39A Martin Easterbrook
318A David Angus	115P Avedon Carol	287A Edward
178P Arato the Mad Elf	253P Carolyn Caughey	4C Sue Edwards
177P Arnica	291P Ceri	189P Egg
359S Julie Atkin	81A Giulia De Cesare	306A Dave Ellis
116A Margaret Austin	191P Neil Chambers	216P Peter Ellis
20P Countess Axyllides	330A Mark F.W. Charsley	217P Sue Ellis
26P Amanda Baker	215A Chris	105A John English
302A Friend of Iain Banks	221P Chris	200A Bernie Evans
28P John Bark	286A Christine	127A FanTom
257A Trevor Barker	331A Ewan Chrystal	65A Mike Figg
29P Jane Barnett	15P Gareth Cithad	207A David Alan Finch
30A Paul Barnett	199P Fiona Clark	334A Colin Fine
230P Julia Barnsley	114P John Clute	238A Brian Flatt
231P Simon Barnsley	170A Eddie Cochrane	324A Ronan Flood
7C David V. Barrett	233A Jack Cohen	265A Mike Ford
228A Stephen Baxter	34A Chris Cooper	16P Fox
31P Stephen Baynes	133P Cosmic Dave	213A Richard Fox
145A Bazooka!	35P Keith Cosslett	266A Anders Frihagen
999C Ninja Bear	259A Count	267S Wolfgang Frisch
70A Square Bear	332A Gary Couzens	41A Gwen Funnell
27C Chris Bell	147P Geoff Cowie	G Neil Gaiman
101P David Bell	103A Adrian Cox	268A Peter T. Garratt
196A Michael J. Bernardi	212P Jonathan Coxhead	339S George
169P Simon Bisson	355A Paul M. Cray	130P Steve Glover
319A B.A. Blackburn	5A Andy Croft	188P Jette Goldie
104A Lissa Blackburn	192P Cuddles	347A Ilona Gombos
209A Blackie	195P Michael Cule	66P Clare Goodall
158A Hans-Ulrich Boettcher	234A Sharon Cullen	167P Tim Goodrick
301A El Dave Bonko	260A Tony Cullen	356A Stephen Goudge
62A Susan Booth	84A Rafe Culpin	176A Peter Grace
258A Kjell Boreström	37A John Dallman	269S John A. Graham
193P Jill Bradley	296A Maggie Dalton	143A Steve Grover
194P Phil Bradley	173P Barbara Davies	113P Jacky Grüter-Andrew
	82A Steve Davies	67A Oliver Grüter-Andrew

270A Urban Gunnarsson
 53A ½r
 11P Dave H
 G Barbara Hambly
 124A Tony Hammond
 335A Dave Hardy
 90A John Harold
 165P Richard Harrison
 357A S.C. Hatch
 308A Julian Headlong
 295S Duncan Hedderley
 298B Theophilus A.
 Hedgehog
 140P Kari d'Herblay
 297A Graham Higgins
 6A Hitch
 43A Martin Hoare
 358S Matthias Hofmann
 92P Rob Holdstock
 364A Steve Holland
 12A Tom Holt
 168A Brian Hooper
 44S Valerie Housden
 45S Terry Hunt
 9A Tim Illingworth
 315A Edward James
 271A Rhodri James
 272S Wilf James
 214A Jenny
 363A Jez
 313A Jinx
 208A John
 328A Les Jones
 361A Martin Jones
 305A Steve Jones
 243P Sue Jones
 46P Kevin R. Joyce
 49A Judith
 348A Nico veen Kamp
 61P Kati
 354A Amanda Kear
 197P Paul Kearney
 36A Keris
 166P Debbi Kerr
 14P Talis Kimberley
 353A Paul Kincaid
 117P Vicki King
 235P Tim Kirk
 316A Linda Krawecka
 126P Kulux the Drow
 351S Dorothy Kurtz
 163P Christina Lake
 244A Dave Lally
 94P Colin Langeveld
 17A Dave Langford
 184P Steve Lawson

666S Leave It Blank
 336A Dave Lermitt
 108P Shelagh Lewins
 249P Chris Linton
 250P Steve Linton
 294B Lockheed
 48P Bill Longley
 273A Hans Loose
 224P Tim Macalre
 254P Alastair McCullough
 210P Rory McLean
 91A Peter Mabey
 23A The Magician
 185P Keith Martin
 274A Jurgen G. Marzi
 241P Barbara Mascetti
 76P Hugh Mascetti
 79A Sue Mason
 50A Rob Meades
 138P Andrew Meadowcroft
 182P Mark Meenan
 109A Melusine
 135P Richard Middleton
 337A Ray Miller
 203P Rob Miller
 78P Rod Milner
 68A Minstrel
 99P Anthony Neale
 Mittenshaw-Hodge
 311A Debby Moir
 146A Mike Moir
 322A Chris Morgan
 323A Pauline Morgan
 G Peter Morwood
 314A Steve Mowbray
 161A Caroline Mullan
 150A Murphy's Lawyer
 141P Narkil of Norm
 285A Nick
 110P Gideon Nisbet
 220A Andrew Norcross
 183P Lianne Norman
 21P Zander Nyronnd
 149A Omega
 71A Jean Owen
 275A Dave Parkinson
 111P Nigel Parsons
 18A Joan Paterson
 142P Ellen M. Pedersen
 52P Bernie Peek
 226P PPOG Penguin
 83P Roger Perkins
 276A Nick Petty
 321A Marion Pitman
 54A Phil Plumbly
 72P Mark Plummer

162A Pompino the Kregoyne
 202P Sherrie Powell
 155P Dave Power
 152A Larry van der Putte
 172P Madam Purple
 277A Feryal Rajah
 95A Suzanna Raymond
 219A Thomas Recktenwald
 303A David Redd
 307A Peter Relton
 242P Stephen Rice
 55A John Richards
 248P Rincewind
 112P Sylvia Robertson
 51A Roger Robinson
 325A Mic Rogers
 300A Tony Rogers
 278A Howard Rosenblum
 279A June Rosenblum
 280A Steve Rothman
 239A David Row
 98A Marcus L. Rowland
 186P Rufus
 281A Geoff Ryman
 125P Marjorie Sachs
 304A Lena Sarah
 317A Bruce Saville
 181P Andy Sawyer
 121A Alison Scott
 137A Mary Scott
 153A Mike Scott
 80P Bob Shaw
 63A Jean Sheward
 175A Linda Shipman
 13P Pat Silver
 106P Simon
 157P Sioux
 56P Ken Slater
 174A Frank R. Smith
 338A Maggie Smith
 282A Dan Smithers
 154P Smitlet
 333A Smitty
 187S Christine Smythe
 156P Snarf
 73A Kate Soley
 134A Spanner
 352A Maureen Speller
 89P Gary Starr
 22A James Steel
 292P Helen Steele
 33A Barbara Stewart
 122P David Stewart
 74A John Stewart
 326A Paul A. Stewart
 283A Lars Strandberg

3C Gary Stratman
 1C Marcus Streets
 8A Rae Streets
 75A Charles Stross
 327A Alyson Taylor
 206P Graham Taylor
 69P Teddy
 47P Tenayn
 10P This Space
 Contemplating
 312A Dave Thomas
 293P Sue Thomas
 164P Peter-Fred Thompson
 19A Tibs
 218P Helen Tidswell
 60P Tim
 236P Time Travellers

349S Tom
 284A Angellique van Toorn
 159A Kees van Toorn
 97P Ivan Towison
 310A Barry Traish
 179A Chris Tregenza
 139P Nienna Tromlin
 362A Helen Turner
 160P Peter Tyers
 350A Huw Walters
 40A Peter Wareham
 320A Wood Warrior
 222P Ian Watson
 223P Judy Watson
 148A Pam Wells
 136P Mark West
 59A Kathy Westhead

58A Mike Westhead
 288B Peter Westhead
 289A Eileen Weston
 180A Peter Weston
 100P Eida Wheeler
 86A Alastair Wheeler-Reid
 77P Mike Whitaker
 88A James White
 190A Kim Whysall
 123P Colin Wightman
 151P Bridget Wilkinson
 118A Linda Williams
 246A Matt Williams
 96P Dave Wood
 132P Anne Woodford
 225P Mark Young
 107P Zum!



THE ADDRESS

All correspondence, unless otherwise agreed, should
 go via the official Sou'Wester address:

**Sou'Wester, 3 West Shrubbery,
 Redland, Bristol BS6 6SZ.**