

# NOVADON II

## P.R.3



CONOVAN the BAR BRAIN

Novacon PR3

### Variations on a Theme

It's about this time, when nearly everything's finalised, the final touches being decided upon, that a con-committee waits for the inevitable to happen: The G-O-H decides to emigrate, the hotel informs you that the bars must close at 10.30p.m. and the local cheap restaurant closes... Thankfully none of this has happened to us, but we do have a couple of changes to report.

The most important is that Jean Frost, having been very ill recently, has had to resign as registrations secretary. Helen Eling has agreed to take over, a task she has carried out at many Novacons in the past. All new registrations and/or queries should now be sent to Helen, whose address is at the end of the PR.

The other change is in the film programme. Unfortunately, Unicon has just shown 'Twilight's last Gleaming' and 'Capricorn I'; rather than showing these films again a mere six weeks later, we are now showing 'The Wicker Man' and 'The Big Bus' instead.

And so on to other, more mundane, subjects:

### Times

Having experimented recently with various starting times, we've found the ideal time to start is 8.00p.m., which is when the programme will commence this year. Rooms at the hotel will, of course, be available from 1.00p.m. The programme will end around about midnight on the Sunday.

### How to get to the Hotel

By Car: From the North you will arrive in Birmingham along the Aston Expressway; this carries on as St. Chad's Queensway. The hotel is on the left at the end of this road just before you reach St. Chad's Circus.

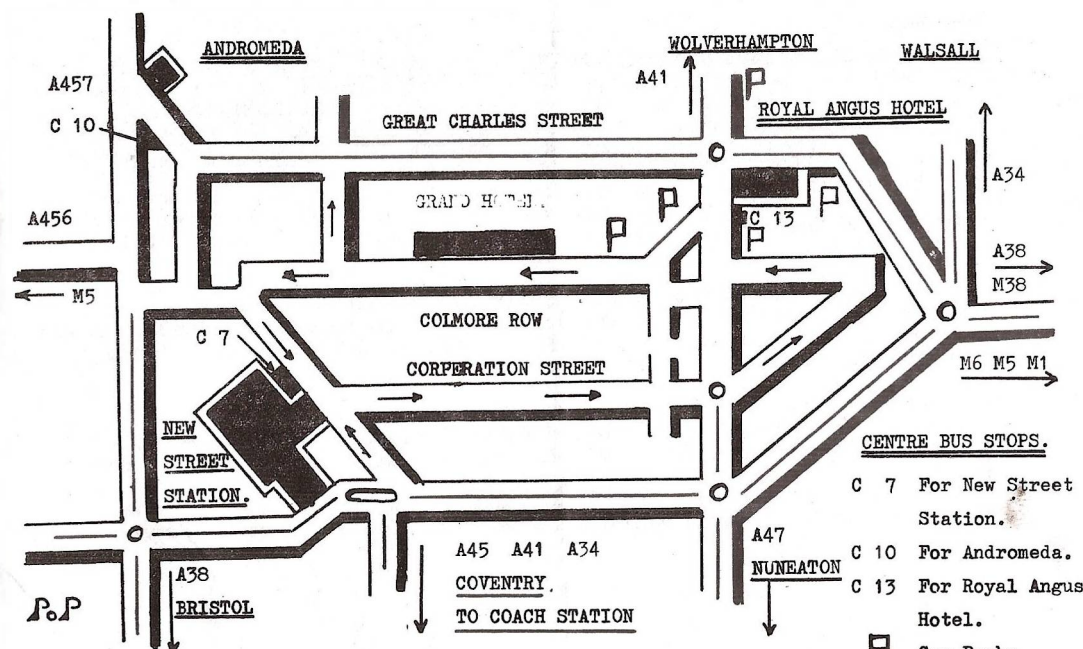
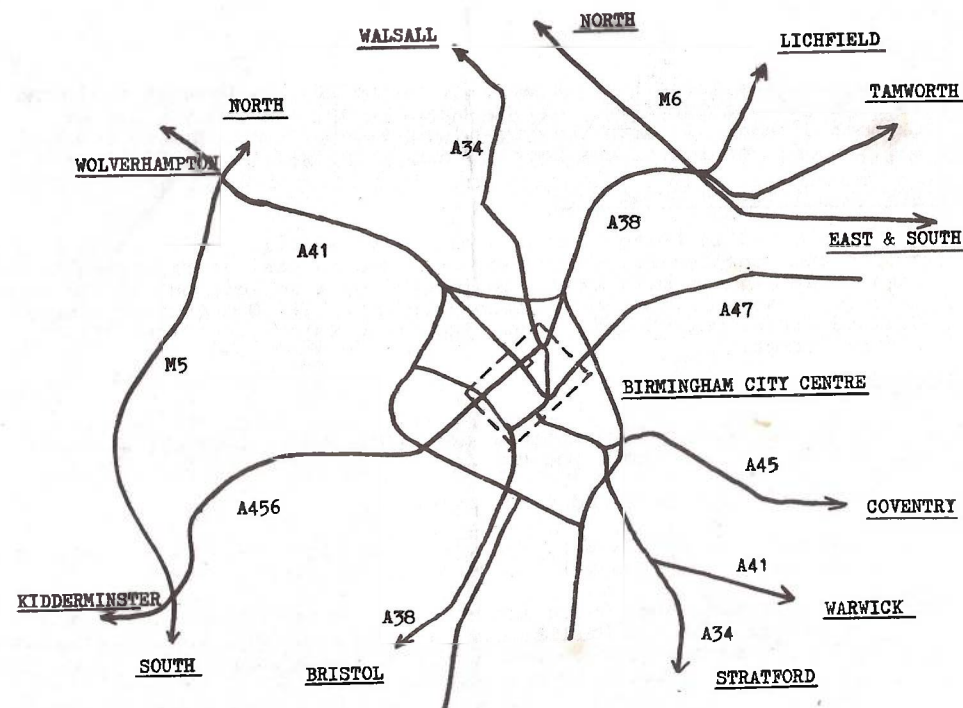
From the South you will enter the city centre along Bristol Road, then Bristol Street, to Holloway Circus. Turn right here, along Smallbrook Queensway, then out to St. Martin's Circus, take the second exit, along Moor Street Queensway, across Masshouse Circus to James Watt Queensway, left at Lancaster Circus, which brings you onto St Chad's Queensway, at the end of which is the Royal Angus.

Coming into Birmingham from East and West will bring you onto the Aston Expressway and Paradise Circus respectively. Follow the 'North' Route from Aston Expressway; from Paradise Circus go on to New Street (4th exit after Broad Street), drive to the end, where you will be at St Martin's Circus. From there on follow instructions from the South.

The map enclosed should hopefully enable you to follow these directions.

### By Train or Bus

The 101 'Centrebus' runs from New Street Station (Point C7) on the map to point C13, where you disembark for the Angus. Otherwise, find the New Street exit from the Bull Ring, which is what both the train and bus stations are underneath. Facing you will





be Corporation Street. Walk up this to the Priory, Queensway (large roundabout) and turn left onto Colmore Circus. Facing you is the Gaumont Cinema. Go down the right hand side of this, and facing you will be one portion of the Royal Angus. (The walk takes 10-15 mins.).

#### How to get to the Grand Hotel

The Grand is being used as overflow hotel this year, and is much closer than the Centre, which has been used in past years, being less than three minutes walk away. To get there, turn left out of the Angus, onto St. Chad's Circus, left again onto Snow Hill Queensway, right at Colmore Circus onto Colmore Row. The Grand is on your right after Livery Street.

#### Arrival

When you've finally circumvented Birmingham's giratory systems, and arrived at the hotel, you should:

1. Book into the hotel and find your room.
2. Take the lift to the second floor, turn right out of the lift, up a few stairs and you will come to the registration desk.
3. Give your name and convention number to Helen Eling (or various assistants) and you will receive a package containing the programme book, programme, your convention badge and a copy of the short story written especially for Novacon by Bob Shaw. This will be limited to 550 numbered copies, and is No. 3 in a series of such stories written especially for Novacon by Guests of Honour. There will also be Nova Award voting ballots available, and doubtless several other leaflets designed to cajole, browbeat, and generally intimidate you into buying other people's products.

#### Programme

1. Seven teams have entered the SF University Challenge and we are again having a pre-convention postal eliminator round, which has been sent to the Captains of the following teams: The WEAR WONDERS; The SOUTH HANTS. SF GROUP; The SURREY LIMPWRISTS (last year's winners); The CITY ILLITERATES; The TRANTORIAN; CHANNELCON and The CUSFS/STAFFEN/JOMSBORG LIMPWRISTS. The four entrants with the best sets of answers will then be included in the SF University Challenge proper. Any of the above teams who have not received their eliminator questions by the time this arrives should phone me (Paul Oldroyd) on 0532 440910 DURING WORKING HOURS.
2. As usual, the Auction will require all manner of donations. Money received for donations which are sold will go to convention funds, unless sold for specific funds such as TAFF or GUFF or sold on commission (for which the convention receives 10% of the selling price).
3. Dave Langford and John Collick will be presenting a repackaged version of Sex Pirates of the Blood Asteroids, originally presented at Yorcon II but missed by many owing to lack of space in the fan room.
4. The Leeds Group have just finished filming "Bollardes" (or the Life and Times of D West) which will be given its premiere at Novacon.

#### Eating

Where and what you eat is entirely up to you. Only half the hotel restaurant will be open during the convention (the rest becoming an extended bar, as last year) so if you wish to eat in the hotel it may be advisable to book in advance. The Angus will again be providing cheap snack/meals at lunch, evening and midnight. Breakfast is included in the room rates.

#### Drinking

As just mentioned, the large extension of the bar into the restaurant will be repeated this year. The bar will open at 10.30a.m. and will stay open until about 3.00a.m.

#### Book Room

Books will be on sale over the weekend from various dealers who will be only too happy to part with various literary (and not so literary!) delights. Books will be on sale at the following times:

Friday	2.00p.m. - 6.30p.m.
Saturday	9.30a.m. - 6.30p.m.
Sunday	9.30a.m. - 6.30p.m.

#### General

Remember that it is your responsibility to pay the hotel for your room. You must be out of your room by midday on the day you have booked up to, or you will be charged for an extra day.

By the time you receive this you should have had confirmation of booking from the hotel. Check to see that the details are correct. If you have not received your hotel booking confirmation, or any details are wrong, contact Helen Eling at the address at the end of this PR.

We may still need to add to our supply of Gophers, so if you are interested in being one, please contact me (Paul Oldroyd) at the convention.

This is the last communication you will receive prior to the con. I hope we've included everything you need to know in the PRs: If not, or for any other queries, please contact one of the people mentioned on the back page.

See you at the con!

# Convention Number Listing (Cont'd)

255 Jan Howard: Finder	291 David Pringle	326 Neil Craig
256 J P Leahy	292 Tony Rogers	327 Mike Dickinson
257 Kevin Anderson	294 Nigel Robson	328 Jacqueline Gresham
258 Lin Anderson	295 Alan Ferguson	329 Chris Baker
259 Lee Owens	296 Shunkichi Maki J.	330 Dave Langford
260 Heather Millsden	297 Kumiko Maki J.	331 Hazel Langford
261 Sue Millsden	298 Alyson Abramowitz	332 Les Flood
262 Mararet Thorpe	(USA)	333 Helen Starkey
263 Mal Thorpe	299 Phil Wain	334 Stuart Hall
264 Rog Peyton	300 Ashley Walker	335 Elise Pechersky
265 Arline Peyton	301 Hugh Mascetti	336 Chris Suslowcz
266 William Bains	302 Harry Harrison	337 Mike Field
267 Chris Priest	(USA & I)	338 Kevin Clarke
268 Lisa Tuttle	303 Todd Harrison	339 Peter Day
269 George Martin USA	304 Mandy Dakin	340 Bernie Morton
270 Laurance Miller	305 Pete Lyon	341 Mick Evans
271 Jackie Miller	306 Richard Smith	342 Peter Weston
272 Phil Rogers	307 C/o Richard Smith	343 Mike Llewellyn
273 Doreen Rogers	308 Lilian Edwards	344 Eunice Pearson
274 Dave Hardy	309 Marjerie Sachs	345 G Kemp
275 Kees Van Toorn H.	310 Richard Cooper	346 Ann Looker
276 Angelique Van Toorn H.	311 Malcolm Edwards	347 G Clarke
277 Fred Ingham	312 Chris Atkinson	348 Tim Stannard
278 Dave Hicks	313 Graham Head	349 Geraldine Amarasinghe
279 Pete Wright	314 Henry Newton	
280 Anthony Johnston	315 Cherry Newton	
281 Dave Shotton	316 Chris Jones	
282 Ken Cheslin	317 Kevin Smith	
283 Susan Booth	318 Dave Montgomery	
284 Mike Gadd	319 Jonathan Cowie	
285 Sue Gadd	320 D Plant	
286 Alan Cash	321 Dave Holmes	
287 Ian Sorensen	322 Perdy Dobson	
288 Arnold Akien	323 Dermot Dobson	
289 Sam J Lundwall S.	324 Dave Raggett	
290	325 Bob Shaw	

Any correspondence about NOVACON II, apart from that mentioned within, should be sent to one of the following addresses:

Registrations, Hotel Booking Forms etc. to:  
Helen Eling, 124 Galton Road, Warley, Smethwick,  
W. Midlands.

Nova Award and advertising to Joe Nicholas, Room 9,  
94 St George's Square, Pimlico, London SW1 3QY

Art Show to Pete Lyon, 2 New Row, Old Micklefield,  
Leeds LS25 4AJ.

All else to Paul Oldroyd, Garforth House, 118 Domestic  
Street, Holbeck, Leeds LS11 9SG.