

PROGRAMME

ALL PROGRAMME ITEMS WILL BE HELD IN THE CON HALL - THE WROXTON SUITE

Friday

- 8.30pm OPENING CEREMONY - the convention Chairman opens NOVACON 12 with (hopefully) a Very Special Item, and introduces the Guest of Honour, HARRY HARRISON, and the committee responsible for this convention.
- 9.00pm FAN TURN CHALLENGE Round 1 - Jim Barker hosts an item of games, the sillier the better, between two teams chosen from -
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|----------------|----------------|
| 1) The Authors | 2) The Artists |
| 3) The Dealers | 3) The Fans |
- 10.30pm The Friday Film Show
- 1) BATTLE BEYOND THE STARS (Columbia-EMI-Warner, 102mins). Directed by Jimmy Murakami at Roger Corman's New World Productions Studios, this multi-million-dollar space saga has been described as 'a sort of outer space MAGNIFICENT SEVEN'. The peaceful Akira are suddenly threatened with annihilation by nasty Sador (not Vader) the Conqueror. Brave young Akira, Shad (Richard Thomas), scours the galaxy to recruit mercenaries (of all shapes and sizes) to help them. An action-packed romp.
 - 2) THE NUDE BOMB (UIP, 94mins). A comedy (well, have you ever seen a bomb with its clothes on?), in which the evil organisation KAOS (go on - pronounce it) broadcasts to the world that it has the power to destroy all known fabrics on Earth unless its demands are met. This one'll scare the pants off you - unless it comes true, in which case it won't need to.

Saturday

- 9.30am The Saturday Morning Matinee (guaranteed OK for kiddies)
- TIME BANDITS (Columbia-EMI-Warner, 110mins). The surprise fantasy hit of 1981/82 - described by STARLOG as "THE WIZARD OF OZ meets ALICE IN WONDERLAND, as told by Monty Python". With six zany dwarfs, Sean Connery as King Agamemnon, John Cleese as Robin Hood, and a Map of the Universe showing all the Holes in Time, the film was a critical as well as a box office success. It'll have the tears running into your shoes.
- 11.30am Coffee/Tea break.
- 11.45am Eunice Pearson chairs a panel discussion on fanzines with panellists Judith Hanna, Eve Harvey, Christina Lake and Janice Maule.

- 1.00pm Lunch break.
- 2.00pm The Phil Strick Moving Picture Show. Yet again, film and country and western expert Philip Strick returns to Brum to amaze and entertain us with a selection of rare clips and short films.
- 3.30pm Toby Roxburgh, SF editor at Futura, gives a talk - "The Economics of Publishing SF in the UK" - and hopefully answers the question you've all been asking - "Why are books now dearer in the UK than they are in America?"
- 4.30pm FAN TURN CHALLENGE Round 2 - Jim Barker returns with the other two teams with even sillier games. Can these people be made to look bigger idiots than those performing Friday night?!
- 5.30pm The Book Auction, conducted by Rog Peyton. Rare Japanese editions of Lionel Fanthorpe's Autobiography!
- 6.30pm (approx) Break for Dinner.
- 10.00pm It's Disco time! Time to get your favourite fancy dress costume out and see if it will stay in one piece while you strut your stuff. C'mon, baby, let's groove!

Sunday

- 10.30am Sunday Morning Wakey Wakey Film Show.
- 1) CLOSET CASES OF THE NERD KIND (Pyramid, 12 mins). What mysterious force could turn mild-mannered sewage worker Roy Dreary into a total twit? This is the revised version, complete with mashed potato, a famous French scientist, an over-sized xylophone (all together now - 'soh la fah fah, doh'), and, of course, UFO's.
 - 2) HARDWARE WARS (Pyramid, 13mins). SEE egg-beaters and helpless slices of toast destroyed before your eyes with deadly rays scratched directly on to celluloid by fearless film-makers! SEE the amazing adventures of Fluke Starbucker and Ham Salad, with loveable robots Artie Deco and 4-Q-2, as they combat the incomprehensible Darph Nader and his Steam Troopers! SEE the greatest prizewinning parody the screen has ever known! May the farce be with you.

- 11.00am The Chris Morgan Interviews. Book-reviewer, one-time editor of the BSFG Monthly Newsletter, Researcher, Quiz-master - Dave Langford's ubiquitous co-author Chris Morgan will interview two (or maybe three) well-known NOVACON members.
- 12.30pm Lunch Break.
- 2.00pm Speech by our Guest of Honour, Harry Harrison.
- 3.30pm Coffee/Tea break.
- 3.45pm Art Auction, conducted by Rog Peyton and Chris Morgan. Original artwork going for a song - or maybe double what you can afford.
- 5.00pm Sunday afternoon Snooze-it-off Film
END OF THE WORLD (ITC, 88mins). Every con should have a serious, thought-provoking film, and this isn't ours. But consider the cosmological implications of a remote convent taken over by aliens who have assumed the features of the local priests and nuns. This one stars Christopher Lee.
- 6.30pm Dinner break.
- 8.30pm FAN TURN CHALLENGE - The Grand Final. The silliest team from Friday versus the silliest team from Saturday. Can Jim Barker embarrass them further?
- 9.30pm Closing Ceremony. Presentation of the Nova Awards, Art Awards and 'Fan Turn Challenge' prize.

followed by (10.30 approx)

The Sunday Night 'Richard Matheson' Film Show

- 1) SOMEWHERE IN TIME (UIP, 104mins). Based on the award-winning novel, BID TIME RETURN, by Richard Matheson, this is the one to relax with after the previous hectic epics. It stars Christopher (Superman) Reeve, Jane Seymour and Christopher Plummer and is basically a love story: Richard Collier falls for a photograph of a beautiful actress - taken in 1912 - whom he met as an old lady on the night she died. Can he somehow travel back to meet her 'again'? Watch and find out. But bring your hankies.

- 2) THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING WOMAN (UIP, 89mins). This is the one that made Richard Matheson weep! Pat Kramer (Lily Tomlin, a normal, contented wife and mother, married to an advertising executive, finds that she is shrinking, inch by inch. Instead of being pleased, like most women, that she is losing weight, she tells her physician, who promptly kidnaps her to further his devious plans to control the world. But help is at hand - from Sidney the Gorilla... Oh, yes, didn't we mention? It's a comedy.

SNACK MEALS - Cheap snack meals will be provided by the hotel on Friday between 7pm and 8pm. On Saturday between 1pm and 2m and between 6.30pm and 7.30pm. On Sunday between 12.30pm and 1.30pm and between 6.30pm and 7.30pm. In addition, snack meals will be served at midnight on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Please note that running times of films have been arranged to finish between midnight and 12.15. The second film each night will commence about 20 to 30 minutes later.

