

NOVA CON

PR ONE.

4 NOV-6 NOV 1983
ROYAL ANGUS HOTEL
BIRMINGHAM

13



FANDOM ETC. CONT.....

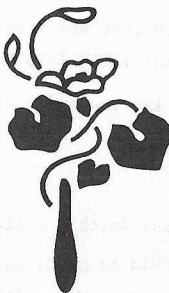
At our last committee meeting, we tentatively discussed the possibility of having a fan-room. Should we have one? No doubt many people would be very upset if Novacon began to 'look' like a fully-fledged Eastercon. Novacon is supposed to be an informal affair. A week-end long drinking bout with a few added distractions. However; and this is a big 'but'; there many people who not like getting very drunk and/or who like lots of programme items. This means that, almost every year, the committee is harangued with complaints that there were too many items, and that there were not enough!

So this year we propose to have a fan-room. Or rather, it will be called Not The Fan-Room! It will be run by Steve Green and his cohorts, as an informal drop-in centre. There may or may not be an actual programme, we leave that up to Steve. So if you have any ideas for that, get in touch with him.

Wanted:

GOPHERS: Every year it seems the same people volunteer for gopher duties. So isn't about time you volunteered this year? Your duties won't take up very much time, so don't worry about spending the whole con working. And gophers get a rather nice reward for their efforts.

AUCTION: Once again we do need auction material. Any unwanted posters, fanzines, books, that old FTL ship gathering dust in your garage..... So start digging!!



NOVACON

THIRTEEN

4th-6th November 1983
Royal Angus Hotel
Birmingham

GUEST OF HONOUR
LISA TUTTLE

PROGRESS REPORT ONE

1984 is here! This is the year of Big Brother. The year in which the world is to end. (But not before November!)

The curse has already started. There I was, intending to write all about Novacon 13, when all of a sudden..... All I can say is that there are some very strange things going on. For instance, on the way to a committee meeting I walked underneath a lucky black cat, hitting a mirror, slipped over a ladder and was cursed by the Blag Morron-an of Gobi!

I was not going to mention the significance of the number, but short of calling this year's Novacon 12B or 14 minus 1, there was little I could do.

Seriously, Novacon 13 is underway and short of the hotel being attacked by overgrown gorillas, concords, tidal-waves, earthquakes, etc. etc. it will be held at the Royal Angus, 4th to 6th of November. But then again you know all that if you have read the top of the page!

Yes, we are back at the Angus. For a very good reason. The Angus is the best hotel in Birmingham for Novacon. Sure there are others, but you have to believe me when I tell you that none of them would suit us. In any case, what other convention can claim such a traditional home?

A seven pound registration fee is justified by the fact that we are going to have a very full programme. But more details of that are included elsewhere in this P.R. It would be wrong to let Novacon coast along on its own fame, each one looking the same. But it would also be wrong to change it into a style that is not Novacon.

So, as chairman of Novacon 13, I welcome you to the party and on with the show.....

PHILL PROBERT.

Hotel Rates

The Royal Angus has around two hundred rooms, each with its own colour TV, facilities for making tea or coffee and bathroom. The room rates are:

SINGLE ROOM £15 per night.

DOUBLE/TWIN ROOM £12 per person, per night.

These prices include VAT at 15%, Service Charge, and full English Breakfast. (Always very delicious!) As usual, cheap snack-meals will be served at lunch, early evening and midnight, or there is always the hotel's a-la-carte restaurant.



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Programme

We cannot yet give you a detailed description of the programme, but we do have a few surprises planned! One of which we can tell you about, to whet your appetites! That is, Novacon A.M. - wake up with our own morning radio-show. Hosted by Steve Green, Birmingham's answer to David Frost! The fannish element will be very strong this year. Again, we're leaving this in the hand's of the mad Solihull cheque-book journalist, (he hasn't got a proper notebook) Steve J. Green. There will be the usual films, serious discussions of things scientificational, the art-show, auctions and lots of unplanned drinking and general merriment!

Nova Awards

There will be three awards again this year. So get busy faneds! Last year, if you remember, Rob Hansen carried off both best fanzine and fanartist awards. Best fanwriter was Chris Atkinson, for the second running. Don't forget, you are only able to vote if you have produced at least one fanzine; have contributed articles or artwork to two or more 'zines; or have had letters of comment printed in three or more 'zines. There are many more devious and complicated rules, copies of which lie in the hands of the devious and complicated Dave Langford. If you would like a copy of the document which makes the DHSS's new claims form look like Neanderthal man's cave graffiti, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the man himself, 94 LONDON ROAD, READING, BERKSHIRE, RG1 5AU.

Advertising

We will be taking adverts for inclusion in Progress Reports two and three, the extra Summer Special, and the Programme Book. These will be produced in A5 size. You may submit adverts in A5, though we would prefer them to be A4 size, to be reduced. Rates are:

PROGRESS REPORTS AND SUMMER SPECIAL.

	Full page.	Half page.*	Third page.	Quarter page.
Professional.	19.00	11.00	8.00	7.00
Non-Professional.	13.00	8.00	6.00	5.00

PROGRAMME BOOK.

Professional.	26.00	15.00	11.00	9.00
Non-Professional.	17.00	11.00	8.00	7.00

COPY SIZES.

Full Page = 7" x 10½"

* Half Page = Landscape 7" x 5¼"
Portrait 3½" x 10½"

Third Page = 7" x 3½"

Quarter Page = 3½" x 5¼"

In all cases, dimensions are width x height. All copy should be black on white and camera ready please. Half-tones will be charged £4.00 extra per advert. Please ask for quotes for special requirements, such as bleeding-off, reversals, etc.

If you have any queries, please address them to JOHN WILKES. (See the end of this P.R.)

DEADLINES FOR ADVERTISING.

Copy must be received no later than these dates:-

PROGRESS REPORT TWO: (published early April) - March 1, 1983.

SUMMER SPECIAL: (published early August) - July 1, 1983.

PROGRESS REPORT THREE: (published early October) - September 1, 1983.

PROGRAMME BOOK: (issued at Novacon 13) - copy by September 15, but space must be booked by September 1, 1983.

Again, please send copy to John Wilkes.

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Committee

PHILL PROBERT is your earstwhile chairman this year, having first sat on two previous Novacon committees. (Quite a painfull experience!) EUNICE PEARSON is still wondering what has happened since she tentitively entered the world of fandom way back around Novacon 10. This is now her second time on a con-committee and is in charge of publications. PAUL OLDROYD and CHRIS DONALDSON are our token Leedsites. They are responsible for registrations and all that lovely cash! These jobs always seem to be done by couples! Paul was chairman of Novacon 11. We have hijacked JAN HUXLEY and JOHN WILKES from Unican. They just don't know when enough's enough! Jan is in charge of programming and John is our advertising man. This year's art-show is in the hands of DAVE HADEN, a local artist. He will also be providing the P.R. and Programme Book covers and some excellent cartoons. PAUL VINCENT, Real Ale fan and bannana custard hater, is looking after the films. And that just leaves STEVE GREEN, our fannish representative, in charge of some of the programme items.

If you have any queries, ideas, complaints, naughty suggestions or bribes, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the relevent beings. All their address' are situated at the end of this P.R.



Lisa Tuttle

If you have read this far, you will by now have realised that this year's guest-of-honour is Lisa Tuttle. What better person to tell us about her, than Lisa herself!

"Born September 16, 1952, in Houston, Texas. Grew up in Houston, then went to Syracuse University, (upstate New York) where I majored in English. (MA, 1974.) I've been both reading and writing for as long as I can remember, and in the late '60s my interest in science fiction led to the discovery of fandom. There wasn't much going on in Texas fandom at the time except among the comic fans - so, with a couple of renegade fans, I started the Houston Science Fiction Society which provided me with sufficient impetus and audience to edit my first fanzine (MATHOM). When I got to Syracuse, I joined forces with Jerry Lapidus to found the Syracuse University Science Fiction Association, and became co-editor of his fanzine, TOMORROW AND.... In the summer of 1971 I attended a Clarion SF writer's workshop for six weeks at Tulane University in New Orleans. By the end of the summer I'd sold my first story, (Stranger In The House published in CLARION II edited by Robin Scott Wilson, published by Signet in 1972) and realized that, at the age of not-quite-nineteen, I'd already fulfilled my greatest dream, to be a Real Writer. About eight months later, (notice I say nothing about all those rejection slips) I sold my second story, to my favourite magazine, THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION. (This story, Dollhouse, appeared in the February 1973 issue.) I went on like that for years, writing and selling short stories in no great quantity, but they have added up. In 1974 I won the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer of the Year....honesty compells me to point out that this was a tie with Spider Robinson. Also in 1974 I was forced to realize that, without the excuse of continuing education I could no longer rely on financial support from my parents, and selling three or four short stories a year - usually for less than \$100 per story - was not going to provide what even I could consider a living. In other words, I had to get a job. I moved to Austin, Texas, where a fair number of my fannish friends had settled, and was lucky enough to get a job as a typist for the daily

newspaper, "The Austin American-Statesman". There the fact that I had sold some science fiction stories made me the paper's resident science fiction expert, and in no time at all I was being paid to review science fiction movies and books. A change in management meant a change in staff, and I was abruptly promoted to the position of TV critic - for the next three years I wrote a daily column about television, (reviews, dull listings and sarcastic comments). In the meantime, I was still writing my short stories and trying, and failing to get a novel underway. Back in 1973 I'd been introduced to another young writer at a convention - George R.R. Martin. Despite the fact that we were then in competition for the John W. Campbell Award, we became friends almost immediately. Before long, for reasons I'm not sure I could explain today, we were talking about collaborating on a story together. He was impressed with my way with fantasy and horror stories, but I felt that since I could do that by myself, why collaborate? What interested me was the type of story I felt incapable of doing myself - a good, solid, hard-SF story, set in the future, in or on a world totally different from our own. I wanted to sell a story to ANALOG and it seemed to me that George knew how to do it. And so, somehow, WINDHAVEN was born. It began as a short story, and then grew and grew. Even the original story, ("The Storms Of Windhaven", published in ANALOG, May 1975) turned out twice as long as we'd imagined, and while we were writing it we both kept getting ideas which could not be encompassed within the onw story. When we finished it, we knew we wanted to write more stories set on the same world. I began another story almost immediately, and sent it off to George.....but it was 1978 before we got around to completing One-Wing, which turned out to be the length of a short novel on its own. After One-Wing we were convinced we had a book on our hands, and began working on the final segment, and also began trying to sell it as a complete book. And when we sold it, I quit my job in order to write full-time, feeling I would never manage to write a whole novel on my own unless I had more time to myself. That was in 1979. I spent most of 1980 writing a novel called FAMILIAR SPIRIT, (due from NEL in April, 1983) and some more short stories. In December 1980, I moved to England; in April 1981, married Chris Priest; we lived in Harrow, on the outskirts of London. I'm working on a new novel at present, which is not science fiction and not any othe definable genre that I know of..... I find it extreemely difficult and extreemely exciting. I hope to finish it before we're too far into the New Year. Any questions?"

Well, I don't know about you, but I found that very interesting. I love to read about how people got into fandom and writing, but then I always was nosey!!

Fandom etc.

When faced with a challenging question, the average politician nods in mock attention, sighs "I'm glad you asked me that" knowing full well he isn't, and then attempts to steer the conversation into safer ground, like listing the reasons why his particular party is a dead cert to win the next general election.

Similarly, when Phill Probert catches me in one of my (rare) less-than-sober moments, traps me in his steely gaze, (not to mention my throat in his steely grasp) and demands "What is the secret of life, the Universe and FANDOM?!!", I nod, sigh and try to change the discussion to why Blackpool is such a triffic place to hold Eastercon '84.

But all is lost. Phill has the ultimate deterrent to my verbal escape attempt: it's his round. Hell, I never expected the Fannish Inquisition.....

Phill has a point though. Conventions, especially those as large as Novacon can be pretty daunting affairs for novices in the art of watching lousy films till dawn, insulting their favourite authors and falling over in the shadow of the bar, and if a short series of introductory articles in the next three progres reports helps prepare this year's initiates for entrance into the True Faith, it's worth trying. As they say in the classifieds: WATCH THIS SPACE!

P.S. Yes, I realise the answer is 42, but Phill found that harder to swallow than Ansell's!

STEVE GREEN.

* Last year you had Kev Smith's articles on fanzines, this year you get Steve on fandom. Should be good, so you had better register now, if you havn't already, to be sure of reading them all. Which leads me to my next point:-

FANDOM ETC. CONT.....

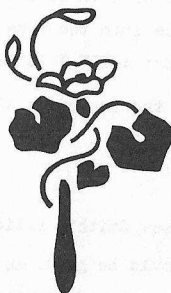
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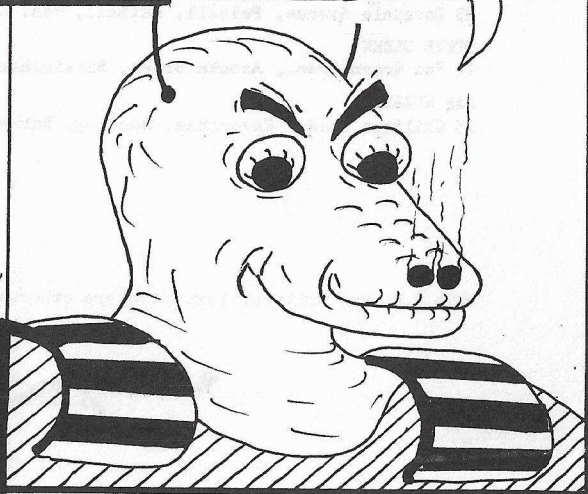
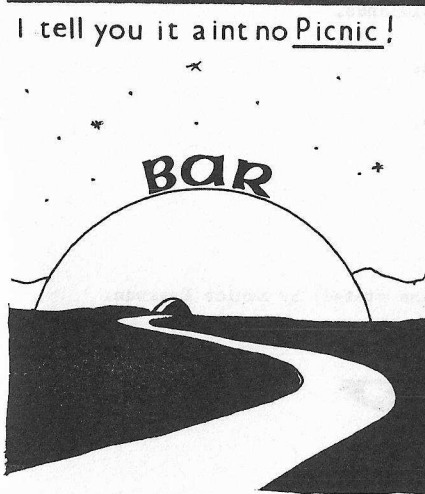
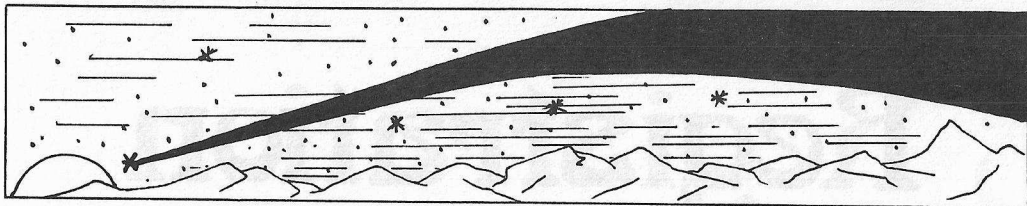
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THE MARS BAR



Registration

All you do is send a cheque, postal order, or, at a pinch, cash, (though that really is a foolish way) to Chris Donaldson, at the address below. Oh, I nearly forgot to tell you how much! The registration fee is £7 for attending, or £3.50 for supporting.

COMMITTEE ADDRESSES

PHILL PROBERT & EUNICE PEARSON:

Apt. 2, 1 Broughton Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. B20 2PT.

PAUL OLDROYD & CHRIS DONALDSON:

46 Colwyn Road, Beeston, Leeds. 11.

DAVE HADEN:

Shottery P.O. & Stores, Shottery, Stratford-On-Avon.

JOHN WILKES:

18A Ivel Gardens, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. SG18 0AV.

PAUL VINCENT:

25 Dovedale Avenue, Pelsall, Walsall, West Midlands.

STEVE GREEN:

11 Fox Green Cres., Acocks Green, Birmingham.

JAN HUXLEY:

23 Chiltern Road, Caversham, Reading, Berks.

This P.R. was written, (except where otherwise stated) by Eunice Pearson.

