

The **PROGRAMME** will take place in the WROXTON SUITE on the 2nd floor.

The **BOOKROOM** (the ARIEL SUITE) is situated at the rear of the 2nd floor adjacent to the restaurant. Opening times are Friday - 3pm to 6pm; Saturday - 9.30am to 5.30pm; Sunday - 10am to 4.30pm.

The **ARTSHOW** will be in the WAVERLEY SUITE on the 6th floor. Opening times are Friday - 4.30pm to 7.30; Saturday - 9.30am to 6pm; Sunday - 10am till noon.

And don't forget to **VOTE** for the NOVA AWARDS!

PROGRAMME

Friday

8.00pm **OPENING CEREMONY** - check the committee's faces for future reference, and meet our Guest of Honour GARRY KILWORTH. Help start the celebration of NOVACON's Coming of Age - 18 years older and still no wiser!

8.30 **ASTOUNDING STORIES OF WHAT?** Some people - usually booksellers - would have you believe there's a sci-fi boom going on. Others loudly contend that SF as it used to be is now veiled in shoddy fantasies. GARRY KILWORTH, CAROLINE MULLAN, JULIAN HEADLONG and chaired by PETE WESTON.

10.00 **ANDROMEDA/NOVACON PARTY AND SIGNING.** Cosponsored by ANDROMEDA BOOKSHOP and NOVACON, this event has something for everyone - signing sessions with GARRY KILWORTH, FREDA WARRINGTON, DAVID GEMMELL, ROBERT HOLDSTOCK, DAVID LANGFORD and TERRY PRATCHETT who all have new books out and, to make sure you're in the right frame of mind to spend oodles of cash on books, there's FREE drink!

12.30 **FILM: THE FLY.** (see 'Film Notes' on Page 26).

Saturday

- 10.30am **BOOK AUCTION** - the usual collection of the commonplace (but cheap!) and the odd and interesting, handled by the amalgam of all four ROG PEYTON, extracting even more odd and interesting bids.
- 12.30 **A movie...IT'S ALIVE Part 1.** (see 'Film Notes' on Page 26).
- 2.00 **THE RE-WRITING OF THE SHORT STORY.** The resurrection of the SF magazine and the resurgence of original anthologies seems to have opened up the market for SF's most valuable form in Britain. JOHN JARROLD chairs a discussion with CHRIS MORGAN, ALEX STEWART, SIMON OUNSLY and ROBERT HOLDSTOCK, on how this will affect their credit ratings and our reading pleasure.
- 3.30 **GARRY KILWORTH - GUEST OF HONOUR.** True to recent form, Garry splits his offering into three. An address will be followed by a reading, concluding with a questions from the audience.
- 5.00 **STUPID MYTHS AND TRADITIONS IN FANDOM.** Do something twice in fandom and it becomes a tradition; three times it's a legend. Is this the good, bad or ugly side of fandom. HAZEL ASHWORTH, JIMMY ROBERTSON, DAVE WOOD and MIKE ABBOTT rewrite fan history, tempered by LINDA PICKERSGILL.
- 6.30 **THE UNIVERSE AGAINST THEM.** MIKE CHRISTIE and GREG PICKERSGILL take on any challenge from the audience in this quiz of SF and fan knowledge. Any pair of volunteers can take them on over a best-of-twenty-questions round. Prizes for beating them, at least a free drink for trying! ROGER ROBINSON sets the questions and orders the proceedings.
- 8.00 **Another movie...TERMINATOR.** (see 'Film Notes' on Page 26).
- 10.30 **THE DISCO.** Good grief, isn't fandom too old for this sort of thing yet? [Fandom might be, but NOVACON is just 18 - thought that was just the right age to boogie into the small hours! - Ed.]

Sunday

- 10.00am **BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** Well, they've got to meet somewhere. If you are not a BSFA member, go and buy some more books!
- 11.00 **Movie matinee - IT LIVES AGAIN!.** Gosh, what happens next? (see 'Film Notes' on Page 26).
- 12.30 **THE SCRYING OF CONTINUUM.** A Collis/Thirteenth Key Production. An accelerated journey through archetypes. A video exposition of STORM CONSTANTINE's *Wraeththu* in collision with pirate visions of humanity, textured with a Y; BYZANTIUM soundtrack. Featuring extracts from *Fulfilments of Fate and Desire* (*Wraeththu* #3). Original screenplay devised/created by NEURO KABBALA. Soundtrack by Y; BYZANTIUM. Directed by MATT COLLIS.
- 1.30 **ART AUCTION.** Our resident auctioneer ROG PEYTON is assisted once again by CHRIS MORGAN to sell you visual splendours to tastefully adorn your walls.
- 3.30 **ALIENATION - THE OUTSIDER IN SCIENCE FICTION.** Many of the heroes and protagonists of SF either begin as loners operating outside the bounds of their societies, or end up out in the cold no matter what. What does this mean about fulfilling the readers' expectations apart from anything else? CHRIS EVANS chairs this discussion with, among others, GARRY KILWORTH and LISA TUTTLE.
- 5.00 **AWARDS CEREMONY.** The presentation of the NOVA AWARDS for Best fanwriter, Best Artist and Best Fanzine, along with pats and prizes for anyone else the committee deems deserving.
- 6.30 **LAST NIGHT'S DREAM.** Can't be bothered? Couldn't care less? Share your disillusionment with GREG PICKERSGILL, chatshow host with all the tact of Jonathan Ross and the charm of Robin Day. Root out some of the first public declarations about the latest TAFF rum from LILLIAN EDWARDS and CHRISTINA LAKE, and be kind to old people when ROG PEYTON, PETE WESTON and STAN & HELEN ELING reminisce about the NOVACON they've seen grow to adulthood since 1971. And a few other things as well, no doubt.

9.00 or thereabouts, depending on whether the previous item works or not, we'll have a carefully contrived bit of spontaneity in the shape of the *PEOPLE'S DISCO*. You can never go home again.

END OF OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

FILM NOTES

All too often, 'Science Fiction', especially in films, is defined as technological science: space, computers, warfare, artificial intelligence. Medicine, genetics and biology are all sciences, too. Just because a film describes a biological possibility rather than a technical one, it does not make it any less SF.

In *The Fly*, David Cronenberg has directed a top-notch film based on an old movie classic in which a man and a fly are accidentally genetically fused in the man's developing invention, a matter transporter. The film may be graphic for some, but for my money it's a great movie and one of the most romantic love stories I've seen for some time.

It's Alive, directed by Larry Cohen, and *It Lives Again* are not original in idea: pregnant women on new drug give birth to mutated babies with peculiar habits. They are, however, well conceived and carried out. Keep an eye on what emerges from the NOVACON creche after you've watched these two!

Terminator is the exception here. Not particularly biological but it is a good fast-paced action film about an assassin from the future returning to our time to kill the woman who will become the mother of the rebel leader. There are some good little scenes from the future world and the only nude shot of Arnold Schwarzenegger I've ever seen. Besides, it's our chairman's favourite film and we need to keep him happy.

Linda Pickersgill