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Progress Report 3

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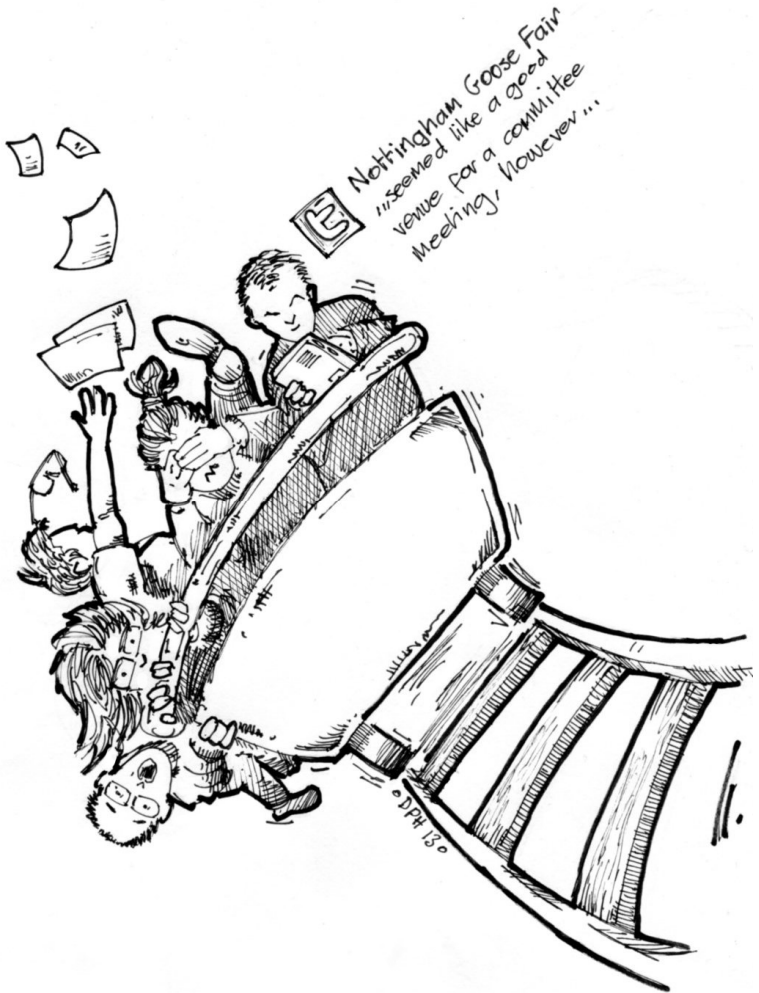
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Park Inn Hotel, Nottingham

8th–10th November 2013

Guest of Honour

Jo Walton

Membership Rates

Adults: £45 13-16 years: £12 12 years and under: free

Deadline for advance memberships is November 1st.

Adult rate on the door is £50, other rates will remain unchanged.

Day rates for adults: Friday £12, Saturday £25, Sunday £17.

Hotel Rooms

Double or Twin: £43 pppn

Single: £61 pppn

Children under 5 years: free

Children 5-13 years: £5 pppn

(ages at the date of the convention)

Hotel forms need to be with Steve by November 1st.

Contact Details

See the website at <http://www.novacon.org.uk/> for more information.

Chairman: Yvonne Rowse (yvonne@hallsfarm.demon.co.uk)

Memberships: Steve Lawson (steve@altair-4.co.uk)
379 Myrtle Road, Sheffield S2 3HQ (0114 281 1572)

Treasurer: Eve Harvey (eve@harveyconsultancy.co.uk)

Secretary: Cat Coast (catdavefans@gmail.com)

Hotel and Beer: Tony Berry (morbius@altair-4.co.uk)

Programme: Theresa Derwin (theresa.derwin@yahoo.co.uk)
Yvonne Rowse (as above)

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Novacon 43 progress report 3

There would have been some introductory paragraphs here, the usual incoherent rambling stream-of-consciousness, but it's been a complicated month.

This is PR3; read it, it's important. See you there.

Douglas Spencer

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The Weekend Before Novacon

Joanne Burman, Team Librarian at Nottinghamshire County Council, writes:

Celebrate 50 years of Doctor Who at Mansfield library.

*Meet voice of the Daleks Nick Briggs and some of his alien friends
at our family friendly event.*

3rd November 2013, 11am-3pm. The event is free.

For more details as they are announced visit our website

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/whatson>

or contact Ask Libraries on 0845 026 7972

See the enclosed flyer for more information.

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Acknowledgements

Thanks to our contributors: Tony Berry, Steve Green and Yvonne Rowse;

“How to get there” adapted from an original by Cat Coast.

Cover illustration by Dave Hicks, other illustrations by Brad W Foster.

Chair's Ramblings With Some Proggy Stuff

by Yvonne Rowse

So, here we are with less than a month to go and the excitement is building. Or, at least, the anxiety. As I write we have the final committee meeting at the hotel this weekend to finalise stuff. Half of the committee have received their hotel confirmation emails. The rest of us are waiting patiently. It would be worth checking your room is booked. It will say on the front of the envelope that the PR arrived in. If you receive an email alerting you to the presence of PR3 on the website there should be a hotel confirmation on that.

The programme is coming together. You can find the programme grid for Friday opposite. As is traditional, after the opening ceremony we will have Steve Green chatting to Jo Walton about what she would like to put into Room 101 and then we will have a pitch from Peter Harrow for his 2015 Eastercon bid, Dysprosium. I was loath to give him this spot because he tends to outclass the Novacon Committee in the sartorial elegance stakes but he was very grumpy about my initial suggestion, the DeadZoneSaturdayDinnerSlot.

Following the Dysprosium event, David B Wake will be launching his book with entertainments and then we finish the evening with the UK premiere of Simon R Green's scary film, Judas Ghost. I'm very excited, not to say terrifically nervous about this. I don't do terror due to a very overactive imagination. It's taken me years to get over each and every horror film I have ever 'seen' or rather, listened to. I'm hoping Fran Dowd is going to provide me with the traditional Doctor Who style sofa.



COSMO HAS JUST ABOUT PERFECTED HIS SWOON...

We have the usual science items to drag you out of bed, we have a few Doctor Who items and then we will be talking about stories and books and writing and reading. Not only will we have readers and writers, but I'm hoping that Patrick Nielsen Hayden will give us an editor's viewpoint.

Finally, to come back to the DeadZoneSaturdayDinnerSlot. Anyone I have offered this programme slot to has become grumpy and refused. Given the choice I would just have an empty slot marked 'Dinner' in the programme grid but there are those of the Novacon SMOFs who deem this unacceptable. Luckily Theresa Derwin and Adrian Middleton have agreed to present SFF QI, for which I am grateful.

The Programme Grid for Friday

19:00	Opening Ceremony	The convention will be opened, hopefully without the Lawsons making me dress up
19:30	Jo & Steve in Room 101	Steve asks Jo to nominate the things she would really like never to see again
21:00	Dysprosium Launch	A short video presentation about the venue, what we want from an Eastercon and a Q & A session
21:30	David Wake's Other Book Launch	This evening he'll be bringing some theatricality to the vexed question of book launches.
23:00	Judas Ghost	The UK premiere of Simon R Green's first feature film

The Hotel Bit

by Tony Berry

Only a couple of weeks now before we show up and give the Park Inn staff a workout.

As last year, to ease congestion in the bar on Friday evening, the hotel will be running a fixed-price carvery in the restaurant as well as the over-counter con food. This should speed things up a bit, but please bear in mind that it's the start of the con and always hectic, and the con food is cooked to order, so patience is a virtue.

Our Guest of Honour, Jo Walton, has chosen Chinese food to accompany the beer tasting on Sunday evening. Tickets for both will be on sale from Saturday at registration. You must buy a ticket to get the food but for the beer tasting you can buy a ticket or provide at least 3 bottles/cans of beer (the more unusual the better) and leave them with us.

The downstairs bar will be open on Friday evening serving bottled drinks, again to ease the pressure on the ground floor bar. It's actually more comfortable down there and easily accessible in the lift. It may be open on Saturday evening for the book auction, but even when it's not, it is available as lounge space and has a drinks-machine. We are also planning a couple of book launches in there, so look on the flip chart in reception for these.

If you are staying in the hotel and planning to arrive after 4pm on Friday, remember to ring the hotel to guarantee your booking.

The number is 0115 935 9988.

Don't forget to register your car in the car park upon arrival otherwise you will receive a large penalty notice in the post. This even happened to me.

How to get there

The convention takes place at

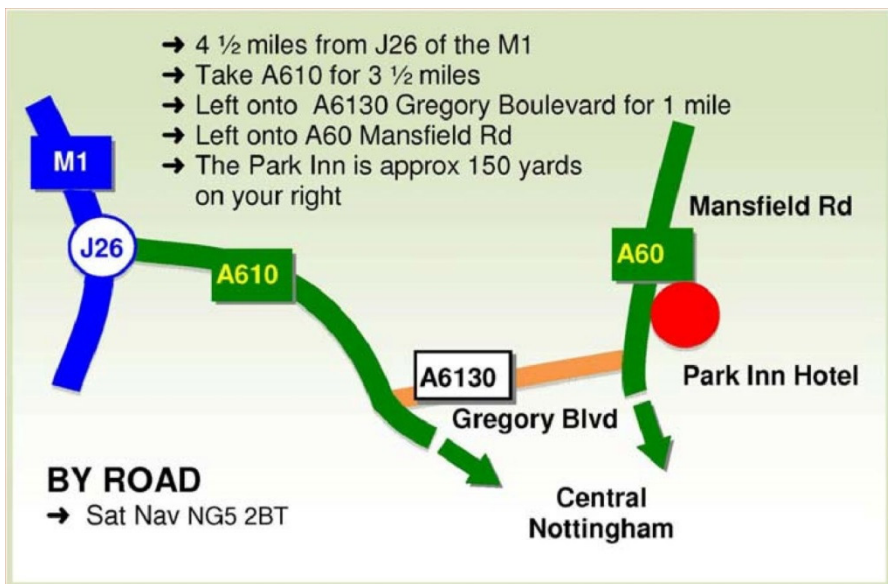
The Park Inn Hotel, Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG5 2BT

<http://www.parkinn.co.uk/hotel-nottingham/location>

CAR USERS will need to leave the M1 at Junction 26 (if you're not using the M1 then your route is left as an exercise for the reader). You might think, if you're coming from the south, that you'll have a better chance with a lower-numbered junction, but trust me, you'll want to stay on the motorway until J26.

Take the A610 towards Nottingham. Stick with it until after you've slalomed across the ring road and then gone past a Tesco Express on your right, then at the next traffic lights turn left into the poorly-signposted A6130 Gregory Boulevard.

At the end of Gregory Boulevard, you'll find two roundabouts in succession. Turn left at the second, onto the A60, and the hotel is 150 yards along on the right.



As Tony says on the previous page, if you've put a vehicle in the hotel car park, be sure to register it with the hotel when you arrive, to avoid being sent a large and unexpected penalty charge after the convention.

Reception staff will be happy to show you what you need to do.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS are likely to arrive in Nottingham at either the rail station or Broadmarsh bus station.

If there's two or more of you, you're probably better taking a cab from there to the hotel. It's almost certain to be less than a tenner between you. Heck, you're on holiday, you might want to take a cab even if you're travelling on your own.

If you're a hardier soul, or if you prefer to spend your cab money on beer, you may want to make your way on foot to the bus stops (20 minutes, mostly uphill).

TO FIND THE BUS STOPS: The railway station has two exits. If you go out of the side exit you arrive onto Station Street; turn left and then right onto Carrington Street. If you go out of the main entrance you are already on Carrington Street, where you turn right. Go over the canal; walk past the entrance to Broadmarsh Bus Station. (Of course, if you started at the bus station you're already here.)

Walk up to Collin Street and cross at the Pelican crossing. Walk straight through the shopping centre and emerge into a shopping precinct called Lister Gate. Keep walking up the hill and you should emerge into the Old Market Square. Keep going, either up Market Street or Queen Street, and you'll find yourself on Upper Parliament Street, where you can turn right to find Lower Parliament Street. The bus stops you need will be on the left, near Age UK and Spar. Find a bus from one of the stops in "P" zone: you'll need the Lime Line (numbers 56, 58 or 59) or the Purple Line (numbers 87, 88 or 89). The bus takes about 7 minutes, it will cost you £1.70 (£1 for students and children), and you'll need the exact change.

Once you've been on the bus heading out of Nottingham for a few minutes (about 2 miles), look out on the left and you'll see a cemetery while going down a hill. The bus will cross a large roundabout with flowerbeds; you need the very next stop, which is called Clarendon College. Get off here.

There's a Pelican crossing 20 yards further along the road, and the Park Inn Hotel will be clearly in view another 80 yards further away.

If you go past a pub called The Grosvenor, you've gone too far. Get off the bus at the earliest opportunity and walk back.

Adventurous fans (it says here) may wish to take the tram from the stations to the bus stops. From the railway station the trams are signposted; from the bus station, exit left into Carrington Street, cross the canal bridge and turn left into Station Street. The lifts to the tram terminus are about 50 yards down on the left. Get on a tram and a conductor will sell you a combined tram-and-bus day ticket, and (unlike on the buses) they can change smaller notes. Get off the tram at the Royal Centre and cross the road to walk past the Theatre Royal towards Lower Parliament Street and the bus stops.

Seriously, you're probably better taking a cab from the station to the hotel.

2013 Nova Awards: Update

by Steve Green

We are now just one month away from the announcement of this year's Nova Awards for achievement in fanzines. If you're resident in the UK or Eire, all you need do is read six eligible titles – most of which are available online at eFanzines.com – and fill out the electronic ballot form we launched at the Novacon 43 website in September. You needn't even be a member of the convention, so why not suggest to your friends that they take part?

Here's the current 'longlist' of known eligible fanzines:

Andromeda's Offspring #6 (Theresa Derwin)
Ansible #303-313 (Dave Langford)
The Banksoniain #19 (David Haddock)
Banana Wings #51-53 (Claire Brialey, Mark Plummer)
Beam #5, #6 (Nic Farey, Jim Mowatt (as Jim Trash))
Boomchickawahwah! (Graham Charnock)
BW #6, #7 (Claire Brialey, Mark Plummer)
Data Dump #177-186 (Steve Sneyd)
Detritus #1 (Chuck Connor, Rodney Leighton)
Eat That Duck #4 (Ron Gemmell)
Eric the Mole #4 (Ron Gemmell)
Exhibition Hall #22-25 (James Bacon, Chris Garcia, Ariane Wolfe)
Fanzine Fantastique (Autumn/13; Keith Walker, Rosemary Walker)
The FFix #29-32 (Steve Green)
The Fortnightly Fix #28 (Steve Green)
Fourth Age Lembas #4 (Sandra Bond)
Griff #5 (Ian Milsted)
Gross Encounters #22 (Alan Dorey)
Head #11.5 (Doug Bell, Christina Lake)
Journey Planet #14, #15 (James Bacon, Chris Garcia)
Inca #9 (Rob Jackson)
The Little Book of 42s (Carrie Mowatt, Jim Mowatt)
A Meara For Observers #13-16 (Mike Meara)
Motorway Dreamer #8 (John Nielsen Hall)
No Sin But Ignorance #52, #53 (Claire Brialey)
Nowhere Fan #1 (Christina Lake)
Pips #9, #10 (Jim Mowatt)
Procrastinations #12 (John Coxon)
QuantumB*locks #10 (Jinnie Cracknell)
Raucous Caucus #1, #2 (Pat Charnock)
Relapse #20, #21 (Peter Weston)
Science Fact and Science Fiction Concatenation (Jan/13; Jonathan Cowie)
Theresa For TAFF Newsletter #1-3 (Theresa Derwin)
Tiny TAFFzine #1-4 (Jim Mowatt)
Unreliable Narrator #2 (Doug Bell).

If you produce a fanzine yourself (the full rules regarding eligibility are available on the Novacon website), please spread the word among your readers that electronic voting closes on 31 October (paper ballots will still be available at the convention). Personal campaigning is not only allowed, but positively encouraged.

Book Auction

There will be a Book Auction, late on Saturday evening in the off-piste area. We are instructed to remind you that only Genre books will be accepted.

We were told, in fact, that dire consequences await anyone who brings non-Genre books to the book auction, so we asked Rog what sort of consequences he had in mind. His brow darkened, a steely glint came to his eye, and his hair began to writhe. A bit. "Anyone who brings non-Genre books to the book auction," he intoned, rising to his feet, "will get their books given back to them."

So that's us told, then.

Art Show and Art Auction

There will be an Art Show, and an Art Auction. Don't forget you don't have to be an artist to be in the art show. We are actively encouraging owners of artwork to bring it along for display and, if you wish to sell it, to put it in the art auction.

TAFF Auction

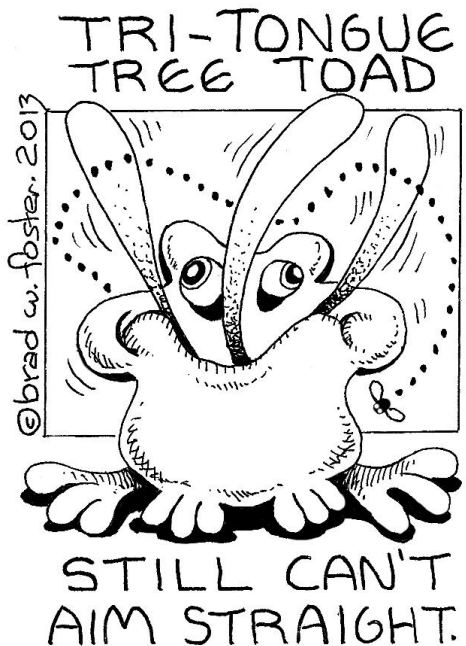
There will be a TAFF auction, presented by European TAFF administrator Jim Mowatt, to help fund the forthcoming TAFF trip.

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and popular science fiction fans familiar to those on both sides of the ocean across the Atlantic.

In 2014 the trip will be in the eastbound direction. Over the coming months a ballot will choose a North American fan to visit Europe and to attend Loncon 3, the 2014 Worldcon, which takes place in London in August.

If you have a candidate in mind, you may wish to talk to them about it, and ask the administrators for more information.

Nominations are open – see the full announcement on the back cover.



Novacon 43 Members as at 14th October 2013 (total 186)

1 Jo Walton	11 Theresa Derwin
28 ½r	57 Paul Dormer
100 Michael Abbott	161 Fran Dowd
133 Dawn Abigail	162 John Dowd
143 Justin Ackroyd	50 Steve
6 Brian Aldiss	47 Roger Earnshaw
38 Brian Ameringen	61 Martin Easterbrook
39 Emjay Ameringen	71 Janet Edwards
103 William Armitage	72 John Edwards
185 Patricia Ash	35 Sue Edwards
60 Margaret Austin	2 Jaime Fenn
33 Barbara-Jane	177 Samantha Fennell
27 Minnow	88 Flick
148 Doug Bell	78 Gwen Funnell
76 The Bellingman	45 Ron Gemmell
69 Austin	171 Angela Goodfellow
8 Tony	178 Carol Goodwin
9 Helena	58 Niall Gordon
163 David Breslin	156 Simon R Green
29 Claire Brialey	109 Steve Green
183 David	104 Dave Hardy
182 Hunting Osprey	12 Eve Harvey
167 Tim Broadribb	13 John Harvey
165 Chris Brooks	48 Julian Headlong
94 Pat Brown	160 Anders Hedenlund
95 Vernon Brown	151 Feòrag NicBhrìde
154 Alison Buck	18 Dave
153 Pete Buck	19 Penny Hicks
130 Charlotte Bulmer	116 Martin Hoare
10 Cat	136 Andrew Hobson
179 Nolly	135 Sue Hobson
173 Dave Cooper	172 Anders
174 Jane Cooper	102 Rob Jackson
176 Libby Cooper	121 Andy
175 Matthew Cooper	120 Jan
82 Margaret Croad	115 Al
20 Serena	114 Steve Jones
15 Julia Daly	93 Sue Jones
89 Christine	26 Tim Kirk
90 Michael	140 Michael Krawec
118 Malcolm Davies	147 Christina Lake
106 Steve Davies	110 Dave Lally
122 Robert Day	74 Dave Langford
107 Giulia DeCesare	17 Alice

14 Steve	62 Harpal Singh
155 Steve Lovett	164 Mark Slater
113 Peter Mabey	31 Martin
128 Duncan MacGregor	152 Luke Smith
184 Alex Mair	32 Melica
157 Vron McIntyre	134 Bhob
4 John Meaney	59 Adrian Snowdon
5 Yvonne Meaney	117 Kate Solomon
168 MEG	68 Ian Sorensen
166 Farah Mendlesohn	16 Doug S
40 Chris Morgan	98 Danesh Standage-Bowles
41 Pauline E Dungate	36 Tim Stannard
131 Johnny M	159 Richard Stephenson
170 Jim Mowatt	23 Chris Stocks
37 Caroline Mullan	145 Alex Storer
99 Tony N	150 Charlie Stross
186 Patrick Nielsen Hayden	111 Neil Summerfield
65 Omega	142 Paul T
125 Morag	86 Calvin Ternent
123 Alex James	85 George Ternent
124 Nat	84 Linda Ternent
129 Charles Partington	34 Markus
73 Andrew Patton	81 David Thomas
66 Hal Payne	91 Alison Tomkinson
64 Murphy's Lawyer	92 Neil Tomkinson
67 Jodie Payne	25 Dave Tompkins
158 John Peters	141 Edward Trayer
112 Rog Peyton	44 Tobes
96 Catherine Pickersgill	132 David Wake
97 Greg Pickersgill	108 Jim Walker
30 Mark Plummer	77 Peter Wareham
119 Liam Proven	3 Dave Weddell
169 Pete Randall	144 Jo West-Moore
75 Colette	138 Anne Whyte
43 Roger Robinson	139 Fergal Whyte
24 Tony Rogers	137 Nicholas Whyte
105 Steve Rogerson	83 Bridget Wilkinson
46 Ang Rosin	127 Gary S Wilkinson
79 Marcus Rowland	101 Anne Wilson
49 Sally Rowse	70 Caro
7 Yvonne Rowse	181 David Wilson
149 Andy Sawyer	21 John Wilson
63 Jamie Scott	51 Alan Woodford
87 Mike Scott	52 Anne Woodford
146 sarah@auntsarentgents	180 Diane
126 DM Sherwood	

TAFF 2014 Eastbound Trip: Nominations Open

The TAFF administrators write as follows:

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund is looking for candidates for the 2014 Eastbound TAFF trip. Candidates must:

- *Be nominated by three North American SF fans.*
- *Be nominated by two European SF fans.*
- *Submit a written platform not exceeding 101 words.*
- *Post a bond of \$20 (USD).*

The candidates must also pledge to take the 2014 TAFF trip and attend Loncon 3, to be held in London, UK from 14th August to 18th August 2014

TAFF delegates are expected to write and produce a trip report and will administer the fund for two years. The fan fund will pay for the trip, related expenses and the publication of the completed trip report. Candidates will be voted on by interested fans from all over the world – voters and nominators must be active SF fans that are known to the administrators.

Nominators should send their nominations to their local administrator.

The North American administrator is Jacqueline Monahan

Email address: jaxn8r@msn.com

Postal address: 2991 El Cajon Street, Las Vegas, NV 89169, United States.

The European administrator is Jim Mowatt

Email address: jim.mowatt@gmail.com

Postal address: 273 The Rowans, Milton, Cambridge, CB24 6ZA, UK.

If you would like to be considered for this incredible opportunity please notify either of us and begin to gather your nominators, since the deadline for nominations is 11:59 p.m. (23:59) PST on 31st December 2013.

Nominators should aim to have their nominations sent to the administrators as soon as possible. Voting will commence shortly after the close of nominations and ballots must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. (23:59) PST on 22nd April 2014.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

<http://www.taff.org.uk/>

<http://www.loncon3.org/>