

Progress Report 3

NOVACON 8

3rd, 4th, 5th November 1978

Holiday Inn®

BIRMINGHAM
ENGLAND

THE COMMITTEE

LAURENCE MILLER

Chairman & Treasurer

JACKIE WRIGHT

Secretary

CHRIS WALTON

Publicity & Films

DAVE HOLMES }

Registrations

KATHY HOLMES }

Novacon 8 Addresses for Registrations & Information:

U.K. Dave Holmes,
1222 Warwick Road,
Acocks Green,
BIRMINGHAM,
B27 6PL
U.K.

U.S.A. Mary Burns,
48 Lou Avenue,
Kings Park,
NY11754,
U.S.A.

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP of Novacon 8 supplies you with each Progress Report and the Convention Programme Booklet. The cost is £1.50 (US \$3.00).

FULL MEMBERSHIP is entitlement to attend Novacon 8 as well as to receive the PR's & Con Booklet. This costs £3.50 (£2.00 for supporting members) paid in advance or £4.00 (£2.50 for supporting members) at the door. This will give you the full use of the hotel's facilities and our Programme events as well as the "unprogrammed" events.

HOTEL RATES & BOOKING

Room rates are as follows: Single accomodation- £11.00 per night. Twin- £7.50 per person per night. 3/4 sharing twin- £6.50 per person/night. Children 16 and under sharing with parents, up to 2 per room- £4.50 / child. These rates include Service charge, VAT and full English breakfast. All double rooms in Holiday Inns contain two double beds and there are a limited number of singles.

The standard double room rate at the Holiday Inn is now £22.50 and will be over £25.00 by November.

The Hotel Booking Form is included as the centre page of this P.R. Please fill in all relevant sections carefully and do not forget to sign it, include your 50% deposit as indicated & return it to Dave Holmes at the above address. If you are also sending money for some other purpose please make out 2 cheques, one to Novacon 8 and one to the Holiday Inn for your booking even though both are to be sent to Dave.

One small correction to the room information is that the Holiday Inn do not provide mini-bars in the bedrooms. I must have got my wires crossed but judging by Easter this facility won't be missed.

THE ART SHOW

This year Marsha Jones will be looking after the Art Show from the start. Display space is free for anyone to display or sell their artwork. All sales are subject to 10% commission for convention funds. Please contact Marsha at the address below stating approximate display area required (in sq. ft.).

Marsha Jones,
9 Cecil Road,
Prenton,
Birkenhead,
Merseyside,
L42 9PF.

THE BANQUET

This year's banquet will, of course, be attended by our Guest of Honour, Anne McCaffrey and Bob Shaw has agreed to be Toast-master.

Please indicate which of the two menus listed below you wish to be the Banquet Menu. There is a space on the booking form for your choice. Whichever menu receives the greater number of votes will be used for the Banquet and details for ticket reservation will be contained in PR4.

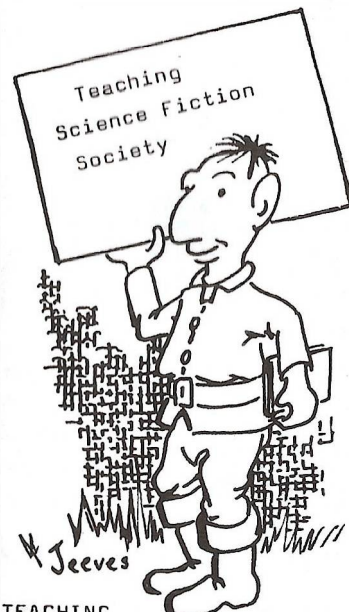
MENU A

Melon in Port.
*
Chicken Chasseur
2 vegetables &
potatoes.
*
Gateaux.
*
Coffee.
£5.25 + VAT.

MENU B

Melon in Port.
*
Prime Rib of Beef
in wine
2 vegetables
potatoes.
*
Gateaux.
*
Coffee.
£6.50 + VAT

A table plan will be available before the Banquet to enable you to choose your seating companions and the wine list will also be there so you may have your own preference in drinking.



TEACHING
SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY for a
free copy of the bulletin write
to
2 Daisy Bank
Quernmore Road
Lancaster
Lancs.
England

FILMS

We have confirmed the booking of 'Dark Star' and 'FLAAN', sorry, 'Flesh Gordon'. 'Wizzards' will either be available 2 weeks before or 2 weeks after the convention and will therefore be a last minute possibility. We are still attempting to track down 'A Boy & His Dog' but there does not appear to be a print in this country at the moment so our third film selection is still wide open. Further exciting instalments to follow but all will finally be revealed at Novacon 8.

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLES

As you will have noticed, this PR contains the Hotel Booking Form. Please make sure that you fill in all relevant sections carefully, enclose all necessary monies and return it to us as soon as possible because the hotel management would prefer all bookings to be with them by the 1st October. Also bear in mind that you must inform us of any special requirements which you may have, to enable us to provide them if possible. Sorry to keep labouring the same points but you wouldn't believe some of the booking forms that con committees receive despite clear instructions as to what is required (ask another committee member if you don't believe us!).

Programming.....Oh boy! What fun. First of all, thank you for all the brilliant ideas which were sent in after our prayers for original ideas in PR 1. Perhaps that's a slight exaggeration because the only suggestion we actually received was that any games machine placed in the bar area should be very quiet, if not silent, and should most certainly not make noises like, 'peeple, peeple'. So much for outside assistance. What we have arranged for your delight and delectation includes some old favourites, hopefully with a new slant, and possibly at least one completely new idea for conventions. Slight pause for suitable gasps of amazement and admiration..... Friday will start traditionally enough with 'The Chairman's Address' which I am already writing and so far runs to 36 sheets of closely typed paper, not actually A4 size, more like postage stamp size, this to be closely followed by a film or films. However, after this there will be a slight departure from other Novacons as instead of adjourning to the Bar, Joe Nicholas would like you all to adjourn to 'The Fan Room' where a 'meet the Fan Room' party should just be starting with the aim of showing that Fans & fandom are quite harmless and very enjoyable.

Saturday sees the Programme really start rolling with not only the Main programme but several alternatives available such as the Video room and the Fan Room programme. The main programme includes a special talk by Jack Cohen, the GOH talk from Anne McCaffrey and Rog Peyton doing his always popular auctioneering plus several surprise items (at least one being a surprise to us since we still have one slot to fill) as well as the Banquet. Please remember to choose the menu which you prefer.

Sunday's Programme is all arranged, provided everyone we've approached will not only be attending the convention, but will also agree to take part.....The best laid plans of mice and men etc.... Definite items include Joe Nicholas, a talk from the British branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism (all will be explained if you

attend this), the Art Auction, a film to finish with and several other items.

One further item of note is that after the Banquet there will be a disco till late where Fancy Dress is optional. The theme for those who wish to enter into the spirit of things will be Heroes & Villains. Ouch! I've just been reminded by the secretary.....the theme is as above or Heroines & Villainesses? More news later.

Items in the Video room will include tapes of interest to all fans of TV and Cinema SF which will be announced in the Programme at the convention.

THE NOVA AWARD

Full details of this award, the rules for voting and voting forms will be included with the next Progress Report to enable those, unable to attend, to vote for this prestigious Fanzine Award.

ADVERTISING

Only one more Progress Report to go and the Convention Programme Book. Rates below. No ½ tones in the Progress Report. Copy to be A4, proportional for reduction to A5 i.e. for ½ page Ad. copy should be ½ page A4 to reduce to ½ page A5 & for 1 page Ad. copy should be 1 page A4 to reduce to 1 page A5. All copy to be camera ready.

Progress Report 4:-	Full Page	½ page	¼ page
Professional UK	£7.00	£4.00	£2.50
US	\$14.00	\$8.00	\$5.00
Amateur/Fan UK	£5.00	£3.00	£2.00
US	\$10.00	\$6.00	\$4.00
Programme Book:-	Full Page	½ page	¼ page
Professional UK	£15.00	£8.00	£5.00
US	\$30.00	\$16.00	\$10.00
Amateur/Fan UK	£9.00	£5.00	£3.00
US	\$18.00	\$10.00	\$6.00

Final copy dates are:- Progress Report 4 - 28th August 1978

Programme Book - 25th September 1978

All copy to be sent to:- Chris Walton, 287 Holly Lane, Erdington, Birmingham B24 9LE.

Advertisers in the United States should send their copy to our US agent at least three weeks before the above deadlines.

LATE FLASH! D&D and other gamers, we have set up room(s) with tables and chairs especially for you so keep your eyes open for this. We also hope to have some demonstration games in operation in the same area to introduce non-players to the delights of SF/Fantasy wargaming.

THE FAN ROOM

This year we have a volunteer (I only twisted his arm once, honest) to look after the Fan Room. I speak, of course, of that well known personality, Joseph Nicholas, who will continue this spiel in his own words.

I've sometimes thought that the label 'Fan Room' can be a little elitist sounding, creating the impression that it and its facilities have been set up solely for the use of already-established fans, thus excluding those who still feel themselves to be raw & callow neo-fans. Anyone who looks upon the Fan Room at this or any other convention with this impression is quite simply labouring under a colossal misapprehension.

It's also become a cliché to say so but the number of people attending conventions has grown so much that Fandom per se has been squeezed into the background. Conventions are still organised by fans but a sizable proportion of the attendees are coming for the overtly SF content of the Programme, thus in catering to this demand for interviews with famous authors and panel discussions about the writing of the perfect short story, the convention organisers find themselves with less room in the programme for Fannish events. Even if they were to sneak in a few such events, it's an odds-on bet that this 'sizable proportion' would find them pretty incomprehensible, not due to a lack of interest in Fandom as such, but because Fandom doesn't appear to have any immediate relevance to them and it is not immediately explainable. Which is where the Fan Room comes in.

Fandom is something of a microcosm; not a totally enclosed world, but not one that can be entered overnight either. It is, essentially an acquired taste, one whose moods and (not to put too fine a point on it) philosophies take some time to adjust to. While none of us 'already-established' fans see ourselves as missionaries forcibly converting the 'heathen', we are nevertheless interested in the recruitment of new blood, and it's for this purpose that the Fan Room has been set up. It's a place, where those who want to discover more about Fandom, Fanzines and the Fans whose names & activities have achieved near-legendary status, can go to have their questions answered and, hopefully, begin the process of acclimatisation that will eventually give their names & activities the same status.

I'm still dreaming up subjects for the informal panel discussions that will be taking place in the Fan Room over the weekend, but I can tell you now that I've already lined up some talented hit-men to slice apart your favourite Fanzines before your horrified gaze and then stun you with their erudition as they set about putting Fanzine Fandom to rights; plus having a few names in mind for a discussion on the uses & abuses of the Fan Room itself; plus, of course, the Grand Opening Party on the Friday evening, to which all are welcome. At this party, loud music will play, Rog Peyton will give enthusiastically, and I will get disgustingly drunk on a punch made from a secret recipe of Ian Maule's, passed on to me with much swearing of frightful oaths and horrific sacrifices at midnight cross-roads. So come along; all you have to do is enjoy yourselves.

Joseph

REGISTRATIONS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10. Jack Cohen | 173. Mike Scantlebury |
| 128. Anne Page | 174. Brian Lewis |
| 129. David Todd | 175. Ron Bennett |
| 130. Peter Thomson | 176. Gerry Webb |
| 131. Kathy Ball | 177. N. Shorrocks |
| 132. Don West | 178. Richard Ivor |
| 133. Christopher Barlow | 179. John Brunner |
| 134. Dave Raggett | 180. Marjorie Brunner |
| 135. Jan Howard Finder | 181. Mike Westhead |
| 136. Graham England | 182. Ian Watson |
| 137. Mark Woodward | 183. Judy Watson |
| 138. Bob Shaw | 184. Judy Crowther |
| 139. Graham Dresh | 185. Ken Murphy |
| 140. Joy Hibbert | 186. J. Brosnan |
| 141. Mandy Dakin | 187. Peter Wareham |
| 142. Keith Freeman | 188. Mike Hutchingson |
| 143. B.J. Flynn | 189. Linda Hutchingson |
| 144. Allen Dorey | 190. Jay Felton |
| 145. David Kirby | 191. Doreen Rogers |
| 146. J.F.B. Cable | 192. Phil Rogers |
| 147. S.J. Long | 193. David Wakelin |
| 148. J.A. Burnett | 194. Chris Wakelin |
| 149. Roy Mortimore | 195. Ian Anderson |
| 150. Daphne Mortimore | 196. Ann Anderson |
| 151. Neil Faulkner | 197. Dave Brown |
| 152. Hazel Faulkner | 198. Mary Brown |
| 153. Lawrence Proctor | 199. John W. Bird |
| 154. John Stewart | 200. Phil J. Smith |
| 155. David Hardy | 201. W. Bavington |
| 156. Harry Bell | 202. Penny Lansdell |
| 157. Jim Barker | 203. Robin Hill |
| 158. Vera Johnson | 204. Bob Whitaker |
| 159. Virginia R. Kowal | 205. Alison Lowe |
| 160. Pete Weston | 206. Florence M. Russel |
| 161. Lisanne Sutherland | 207. Mike Tooth |
| 162. D.W. Pringle | 208. Marie Tooth |
| 163. Mike Dickinson | 209. John Mooney |
| 164. Dave Staves | 210. David Monteith |
| 165. Allison Leaver | 211. George Jones |
| 166. Sandy Brown | 212. Susan Brockbank |
| 167. Al Fitzpatrick | 213. Kevin Easthope |
| 168. Stuart Andrews | 214. Jean Frost |
| 169. Stephen Rice | 215. M. Caulton |
| 170. Julian Headlong | 216. D.H. Row |
| 171. Linda B. Williams | 217. Barbara Kitson |
| 172. Chris Chivers | 218. Judy Mortimore |

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you have changed your address since registering or are intending to change it, please fill in the form below and forward to the appropriate address for registrations.

NAME.....REGISTRATION NO.....

ADDRESS.....

POSTCODE.....COUNTRY.....

The Science Fiction BOOK CLUB

WE ARE TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

The Science Fiction Book Club was established in 1953. Twenty-five years later our members are still being offered the very best of the latest SF in hardback club editions at a price little more than some paperbacks. This month's choice is Chris Priest's *A Dream of Wessex*, published at £4.25, but available to members for only £1.50, a saving of £2.75! In months to come you could add to your SF library with books like Joe Haldeman's *All My Sins Remembered* and Spider Robinson's *Telepath* — all at big savings. PLUS extra titles in the publisher's own edition: Philip K Dick's *A Scanner Darkly* and James Tiptree Jnr's long awaited *Up The Walls of the World* — all at less than bookshop prices!

What better way to build up your SF library? Hardbacks look better and last longer. All you have to do is agree to take one book a month for six months.

So take advantage of this offer — three books for only 15p each and a bargain SF library.

Our attending representative Paul Begg will be at Novacon.

ISAAC ASIMOV comments: 'The Science Fiction Book Club is an admirable way in which to keep up with the very best in science fiction books published and I wholeheartedly recommend it for its quality and value.'

Take any 3 books for only 15p each PLUS CARRIAGE
and save up to £12.20 when you join the Science Fiction Book Club

1. *Alien Embassy* by IAN WATSON
(Published at £4.20)
2. *The Survival Game* by COLIN KAPP
(Published at £3.95)
3. *Arrive at Easterwine* by R. A. LAFFERTY
(Published at £3.95)
4. *Michaelmas* by ALGIS BUDRYS
(Published at £3.95)
5. *Deus Irae* by PHILIP K DICK & ROGER ZELAZNY
(Published at £3.75)
6. *Midworld* by ALAN DEAN FOSTER
(Published at £3.95)
7. *Best SF Stories of the Year 5* Edited by LESTER DEL REY
(Published at £3.95)
8. *The Lincoln Hunters* by WILSON TUCKER
(Published at £3.95)
9. *Wonderworlds* by WILLIAM F NOLAN
(Published at £4.50)
10. *Shakespeare's Planet* by CLIFFORD D SIMAK
(Published at £3.50)

To: Science Fiction Book Club,
Brunel House, Newton Abbot, Devon

I would like to join the Science Fiction Book Club for a six month membership (one book a month) and will thereafter give one month's notice if I wish to resign. I claim the three introductory books indicated at only 15p each (plus 60p total carriage).

PLEASE SEND INTRODUCTORY BOOKS NOS.

--	--	--

Please allow 21 days for delivery.

Mr/Mrs/Miss.....

Address.....

Signature.....
(or if under 18 signature of Parent/Guardian)

Science Fiction Book Club, Brunel House, Forde Road,
Newton Abbot, Devon. Reg in England No 843946.

SEND NO MONEY with this coupon UG

POST
TODAY!

BSFA Notes

The British Science Fiction Association approached us earlier this year to ask if they could present the BSFA Award at the Novacon Banquet. We, of course, said yes being in favour of any indications which show Fandom's preferences and opinions of excellence in the field of SF.

For those amongst you who may not be familiar with this award, The British Science Fiction Award is given, by democratic vote, to the best Science Fiction paperback published in the preceding year. The original awards were in the form of flying horses then with the decline of the BSFA, no actual, physical award was given until last year when all award winners were presented with a device consisting of a column topped by a flame and in future the BSFA hope to make each award unique to provide a pleasant surprise each year for the winner.

As the UK's only SF award voted for by the readers, it should have a place of honour and it is hoped to name it in memory of a noted contributor to the advancement of SF in this country especially as The British Science Fiction Award tends to be rather cumbersome for general usage whereas a specific name would also keep alive the contributions made by this noted personality as well as keeping the award clearly in front of SF in this country.

Sidgwick & Jackson's

Science Fiction List

Includes

John Morressy
UNDER A
CALCULATING STAR
283 98478 3 £4.50 August

Octavia E. Butler
SURVIVOR
283 98465 1 £4.50 August

A.E. Van Vogt
THE ANARCHISTIC
COLOSSUS
283 98464 3 £4.50 August

In the new QUANTUM series

Gregory Benford
IN THE OCEAN
OF THE NIGHT
283 98444 9 £5.50 May

John Varley
THE OPHIUCHI HOTLINE
283 98443 0 £4.95 May

SCIENCE FICTION
SPECIAL NO 25
283 98455 4 £6.95 July

SCIENCE FICTION
SPECIAL NO 26
283 98456 2 £6.95 July

SCIENCE FICTION
SPECIAL NO 27
283 98469 4 £6.95 July

SCIENCE FICTION
SPECIAL NO 28
283 98470 8 £6.95 July

SCIENCE FICTION
SPECIAL NO 29
283 98471 6 £6.95 July

SCIENCE FICTION
SPECIAL NO 30
283 98477 5 £6.95 July

NEW WRITINGS IN SF
SPECIAL 3
283 98448 1 £6.95 July