

NOVAcon 8

Progress Report 4



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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 accommodation- £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 booking form for the banquet is enclosed with this P.R. If you want a place or places at the banquet please complete it and return it to Dave Holmes at the above address by the 27th October. Please note that unlike previous years it will not be possible to purchase tickets at the convention as the hotel want final numbers for the banquet three days before the convention. However there is some good news; as usual you do not have to pay for the tickets until the Convention.

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CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLES

How time flies! Once again it's time to ramble and we've at last reached the final Progress Report. Only seven weeks to the con and here we go with the standard, calm, last minute details....PANIC!!!! What have we forgotten that we should have done, what have we done that we shouldn't and can anyone think of anything else. Well it's not really that bad but the temptation is always there when we reach the last PR which is our last chance to give you any information required to make your con enjoyable and well organised(that's the theory). Just to make life easier, I've now moved house and still have two thirds of my belongings in cardboard boxes. This is of course ideal for easy access and knowing precisely where to find things.

Firstly, a brief note concerning Hotel Bookings. If you haven't yet received confirmation of your booking, Don't Panic. It is not the usual policy of the hotel to confirm bookings for events of this nature but they did agree to send out confirmations when we requested them to do so. What they didn't say was when this would be done so I am now chasing this up but don't get alarmed as we have more than enough rooms for everybody. Also, if you have not yet booked but you intend to, please send your booking in as soon as possible because the management have shown a preference for receiving the majority, if not all, of the accommodation reservations by October 1st and it does make life easier for us if we know before the third of November. If you have not received PR3 please let us know immediately, as, to date, the GPO has managed to mislay some three dozen PR3's according to complaints sent in so far.

The programme is under firm control with content finalised and precision timing noted, down to the last second (sound of amused laughter off stage right & left). However I do not intend to give you any further details before the convention as this would leave no surprises for the actual Con, least of all to us. You can have some clues to help you on your arrival at the Holiday Inn. These include how to find it (see accompanying map) and how to get in (try the front entrance). When you enter the hotel to your left can be found the Hotel Registration Desk, you should stop off here to tell the staff that you have arrived and to collect your room key. Following this you will find the Convention Registration where you can collect your convention literature & badge (to be worn at all times) and also you will note the dealers room where you can dispose of all your spare money before enjoying the rest of the convention, thus relieving yourself of all financial worries and all that surplus weight. You will find the main convention hall on the SF floor together with that most important of all rooms, THE BAR, where you will probably find everyone you want to meet as well as those you don't. The rest is in the Programme Book.

That only leaves me to say, I hope you all enjoy the convention and have a good time. See you sometime between November 3rd and 5th,

Laurence A. Mill

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WERE**
and
**GOLDEN
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J. GAYNOR-77

THE FINAL PROGRAMME

No, you've not strayed into a novel by Mike Moorcock, this is the final PR. You are now on your own and will be expected to display all necessary survival qualities in the trip to Birmingham & navigation vital to arrive safely at the Holiday Inn. To further confuse and bewilder you, a map is enclosed with this Progress Report. It provides a fascinating guide to many locations in and around Birmingham, including (surprise, suprise) the location of the Holiday Inn.

Travelling details now follow:-

BY RAIL: Passing the barrier at New Street Station, take the escalator in front of you, turn left at the top of it and walk towards the fountain, pass it to enter the passage leading out of the station shopping precinct. At the end of this passage you will find a ramp descending to New Street with a stairway at the left down to Stephenson Street. Either turn left at the foot of the ramp into New Street, walk right along New Street to Paradise Circus where you will, hopefully, find the Holiday Inn on your left or, if you are feeling lazy (and sensible), go down the stairs and catch a No. 101 bus in Stephenson Street, pay the standard fare of 5p. Get off at stop 9 in Paradise Circus from where the Holiday Inn should be visible or nearly so, up the road and immediately on the other side of the dual carriage way by the ATV Centre.

BY CAR:- Follow the map to the Holiday Inn and turn left into the forecourt of the hotel or turn into Holliday Street, it doesn't matter which, and you are THERE! If on the wrong side of the road (some people will, we suppose, come from odd directions) go on to the Holloway Head roundabout and return in the opposite lane.

BY BUS:- Turn right on leaving the Station Street Bus Station, take the first passage to your right (the escalator is usually out of order) in Station Street and climb the stairs to the first street level. You have only to cross the narrow street to your left, enter the forecourt of New Street Station (on your left) and walk to the right, arriving at the escalator described for the rail route, as above, and proceed accordingly.

BY TAXI:- Wait for hours until a taxi condescends to stop for you (actually the service is, usually, very good), meanwhile practising articulating, "The Holiday Inn" very, very clearly. You will arrive.

ON FOOT:- Walk to Birmingham and use the map. Start now.

Having finally attained the Holiday Inn, you will find the Novacon registration in the alcove next to the hotel registration. If residing visit both, they will have your accommodation and we will give you many goodies, including a badge which must be worn if you wish to buy drinks at odd hours and avoid resounding cries of "You must buy me a drink, I'm a committee member and you're not wearing your badge". The Programme commences with the official opening at 8 PM Friday, though the Dealers room will doubtless be open before this to help relieve you of the burden of excess cash which may be weighing you down.

NB If you are bringing material for the Art Show, could you please (immediately) let Marsha Jones know at 9 Cecil Road, Prenton, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L42 9PF

J. MICHAEL ROSENBLUM MEMORIAL FUND

It is with the deepest sadness we are organising a memorial fund for Michael who died suddenly on the 28th June 1978.

My husband, Phil Rogers and Keith Freeman have unilaterally decided to make an appeal for such a Memorial Fund and after discussions, it has been decided Phil will open an account designated as above, to remain open until the 30th September 1979 and after that date he, Keith Freeman, a member of Fandom in general and a member of the family will constitute a Committee to decide what form the Memorial shall take.

It would be presumptuous of me as a comparative newcomer to Fandom to give an obituary of Michael but I can say from my own knowledge, he was a science fiction enthusiast, a keen fan, an outstanding Vice-Chairman and Life Member of the B.S.F.A. and a happy member of St. Fantasy.

If you wish to make a contribution to a Memorial Fund for Michael, please send the same to the "J. Michael Rosenblum Memorial Fund" at 69 Brumby Wood Lane, Scunthorpe, South Humberside, DN17 1AA.

Other Proazines and fanzine Editors please copy in toto to ensure the widest possible publicity is given to the Fund.

Doreen E. Rogers
8th August 1978

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

We have had a suggestion from Julian B Cable that he might be able to book up to 20 VDU's at the University of Birmingham to play computer games if there are sufficient people were interested. He says that he has several games available including possibly his Dungeon. If anybody is interested it will involve a trip over to the University on either the Friday or Saturday. If there is anybody who is interested in this possibility could they please let Dave Holmes know so that we can judge whether it is worth arranging such a session and so the VDU's can be booked if appropriate.

BANQUET BOOKING FORM

Please book me ____ places at the banquet at a cost of £5.25 plus VAT.

Signed _____

Address _____

The menu for the banquet is; Melon in Port.
Chicken Chasseur
2 Vegetables &
Potatoes.
Gateaux.
Coffee.

The cover for this Progress Report is the work of Robin Hill who did it while he was on holiday!! Thanks Robin.

One final note, will anyone who has material to donate to the book auction, please hand it in at the Registration Desk upon arrival at the convention. This also includes any material which you wish us to auction for you. The Convention takes 10% of Selling Price. Please include clear details of your name, reserve price (if any) and make it good quality material (we are not auctioning 50 paperback, individually, at 10p each, on commission, for anybody. Thank you for your help.

REGISTRATIONS

219 Bob Shaw	237 Joan Langveld	255 B.J.F. Cowie
220 Sadie Shaw	238 A. McIntyre	256 Jane Keeble
221 Dave Shotton	239 Hans Loose	257 Mike Skelding
222 Henry Newton	240 Dave Weedon	258 S. Gould
223 Cherry Newton	241 Chris Priest	259 Ian Williams
224 Richard Brandshaft	242 Phil Dawson	260 Howard A. Sayles
225 Chris Holmes	243 James White	261 P. Probert
226 Robert Day	244 Peggy White	262 Alun Harries
227 Eric Bentcliffe	245 Mike Meara	263 Duane Harwood
228 Malcolm Thorpe	246 Pat Meara	264 Rob Hanson
229 Margaret Thorpe	247 Tony Rogers	265 Julian Brown
230 Chris Beaumont	248 Elsie Donald	266 Simon Ounsley
231 Ian Maule	249 Paul Wilson	267 Anna Prince
232 Janice Maule	250 Stephen Miller	268 Susan Busby
233 M. Longley	251 R.A. Hakes	269 Anita Robson
234 Michael Llewellyn	252 Ian Aldridge	270 John G. Collick
235 Sonia Holman	253 David E. Bridges	271 Steve Bruce
236 Colin Langveld	254 Owen Whiteoak	
