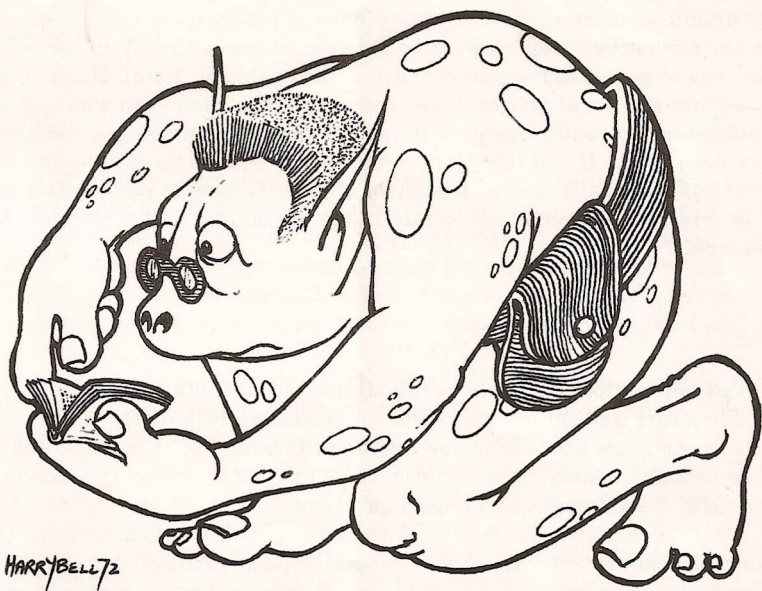


# Tynecon '74

## Progress Report 2

October  
1973



The progress we have to report since June is mostly steady headway; there have been no startling new developments - at least none we can announce just yet. We expect to have some pleasant surprises finalised for PR3 in January, but please be patient until then. I'm also glad to say that we are still waiting for our first really difficult problem. Touch wood?

HOTEL and BOOKING FORMS

Booking forms are enclosed with this Progress Report, as you probably noticed when you took it out of the envelope.

All bookings are to be made through the committee. Please return your booking forms to us at Ian Maule's address; we will confirm all bookings ourselves. We would very much appreciate an early return of booking forms for two reasons: firstly, if booking response is strong, we will be able to tell the hotel well in advance that they will not need to book any guests apart from convention members; secondly, you'll get into the hotel itself! Naturally we strongly recommend that you stay in the hotel itself. If you have already attended a few conventions you will know how much more convenient this is than staying in an overflow hotel or with friends. We have minimised the discomfort for those who are forced by tardy booking or impecuniousness to stay in the overflow hotel; our overflow arrangements are with the County Hotel which is only 50 yards from the Royal Station Hotel and across the road, and which is ample for all our overflow requirements - in fact it was at one stage mooted as a possible convention hotel! If you live locally you will of course be able to attend the convention on a daily basis, though you will still have to pay the full membership fee as this pays for other essentials in the organising of a convention than the hotel itself.

TRAVEL

As most conventions are held in the Midlands and South of England your committee have a fair amount of experience of travelling long distances to attend conventions, and now that the tables are turned somewhat, I feel that the least we can do to make it easy - and inexpensive - for you to attend Tyncon is to pass on some of the information we have gathered.

Rail travel first, because it is the most popular - comfortable, fast, and reasonably convenient. Also I just happen to have a leaflet about it. This leaflet makes interesting reading indeed for those who want to save money on their rail tickets. It gives details of reduced rate returns of various types; some of the reductions are spectacular. At the top of page 3 is a list of present fares from two representative cities, London and Birmingham. (Naturally these are present prices and are subject to change, but the classes of ticket will still be available.)

Type of ticket	London	Birmingham
Standard return	£11.90	£8.80
Weekend return	£8.40	£6.20
Economy return	£6.50	£4.50
Day return	£6.80	£4.90

On a Weekend Return you travel between Friday and Monday, and don't need to book in advance; this should still apply over Easter - it did last Easter. An Economy Return is midweek travel booked three weeks in advance. A Day Return is just that, but I hope you will be staying longer than a day! Naturally all these are "subject to change without notice", but the actual likelihood of change is minimal. You can get these special reduced rates from all principal stations.

Air travel is easy to Newcastle - six flights a day from Heathrow, of which almost all are Tridents. Also, it's great fun unless you're either bored with the whole thing or the very idea gives you the willies.

I don't know much about coach travel. It's supposed to be cheap but not too exhilarating an experience; try it if you like, and tell me afterwards.

Otherwise you can use your car if you have one, or hitch if you haven't. There are unfortunately no car parking facilities available at the Royal Station Hotel itself, but we will supply you with information on parking facilities with the map we will be enclosing with Progress Report 4.

PROGRAMME

Our programme is now beginning to take definite shape, and it is doing so in a most promising fashion. Perhaps surprisingly for a group like ours with a strong fannish reputation, our programme is shaping up towards being both fuller and more strongly science-fiction oriented than any convention since Worcester. Although circumstances may naturally alter or force us to cancel some of these items - nothing is pre-ordained at an SF Convention - we can announce a few of our projected items now.

One of the major afternoon items will be a lengthy session with Brian Aldiss and James Blish, who will discuss their attitudes towards SF criticism. Another important session will be a discussion by major fan critics of the SF published in 1973 - a year which has seen major new works by Heinlein, Clarke, Aldiss, Vonnegut, and Lem, among others. We have a talk by a newcomer to the professional SF field, Ian Watson, on a subject - linguistics - which figures largely in his new novel The Embedding. We also intend to hold a panel with editors and publishers (the return of an old feature which has been missed in recent years), an art panel, and a panel on breaking into the professional field by writers who have just managed it.

On the fannish side we have a panel featuring those with memories of the Golden Age, and a quiz game of a completely different style to the one featured

at Ompacon - ours will be faster moving, fairer, a better test of knowledge, and more fun for the participants and the audience.

Immediately after the BSFA AGM will be the bidding session for the 1975 Eastercon; bids for this are warmly welcomed. This will be followed by a period of discussion on a closely related topic which caution forbids me from mentioning outright, but which is bound to generate much excitement and possibly not a little controversy.

### POETRY SOIREE

Lisa Conesa is putting together an extremely attractive programme for this. She already has contributions from Brian Aldiss, Michael Moorcock and Robert Calvert, Hawkwind's lyricist, among many others; we hope and expect that all these will be reading their work during the evening. Lisa is also preparing an exhibition of Concrete and Visual Poetry posters for display in the hall where the Soirée will be held, and a Poetry Booklet mostly containing the poems which will be read at the Soirée. This will be "printed and illustrated; graphics by Harry Turner and any other willing artists who care to submit. The booklet will be of professional standard, and as glossy posh and utterly super as is humanly possible." Lisa goes on to say: "If you have any poems, suggestions, ideas, please do not hesitate for one minute - let me have them all. Your poems are asked for soonest, 'cos the booklet will take time compiling. I'd like everything to be just perfect and as much fun as possible; with your help *YAY* we'll do it!"

### AUCTION

Most of you have stacks of books and fanzines, not all of which are essential to your collection by any means; donating it to the Auction helps us and helps you. We would appreciate knowing in advance how much you intend to bring - a couple of fanzines, a box of books, or an atticful of assorted guff. Please tell us at Novacon, write to us, or tell Gray Boak or Mary Legg next time you see them.

### BANQUET

As you will see in the Booking Form, our Banquet tickets are basically £1.75 for the three-course meal plus coffee. As the meal itself should be over reasonably quickly, there will probably not be enough time for everybody who wants wine to order it and have it served (unless you like your wine with your coffee, that is). The Banqueting Manager and we feel that a single selection of wine ordered in advance and served to those who have paid in advance for it

contributes to the comfort, convenience, and hence the enjoyment of all. There will thus be a tear-off portion of the Banquet ticket which those who want wine will pay 45p extra for; they will retain this until it is served. We expect that this will make for a well-run and enjoyable Banquet.

We are pleased to announce that at the Banquet the cheques for the winners of the Gollancz/Sunday Times Competition for new SF authors will be presented to the winning authors by Mr. John Bush, Chairman of Victor Gollancz Ltd. (No doubt those who are entering will not need reminding that the closing date is January 31st 1974.)

### ART SHOW

We expect to have ample display space for this; however, artists who wish to exhibit their works are asked to give an indication of the amount of material they will be bringing when they fill in the Booking Form, as this would help enormously with planning.

### MODEL COMPETITION

Ken Mardle wishes us to reassure potential entrants that models need not be at all complex; with a little bit of ingenuity some striking effects can be gained using very simple materials - for example, a spaceship made from a Squezy bottle and a paper cup was one amusing contribution last year. Models do not need to be shining perfection; just entertaining. All entries to Ken Mardle at the address shown in PR1, please.

### SOUVENIRS

You may have noticed the absence of a questionnaire about various types of souvenirs such as often appears in convention booking forms, and for an Eastercon with a significant numerical landmark to celebrate this may seem odd. We do not intend to sell souvenirs; we intend to give them away, as we feel that all members of the Convention should possess them.

### ADVERTISING RATES

We have revised our advertising rates and they are now as follows:

Professional organisations £6.00 per page.  
Amateur organisations £3.00 per page.

These rates are for the Convention Booklet; space is available in Progress Reports 3 and 4 at half the prices. Copy should be on 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ " by 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ " paper, with 1" margins. We regret that copy sent without remittance will not be printed. Half and quarter pages are available pro rata; the back cover costs £1.00 extra. Please enquire if you wish to advertise in the Progress Reports or the Convention Booklet and have not received one of our advertising rates leaflets, which gives more details, as well as mentioning opportunities for display advertising and hiring dealers' tables in the Book Room.

KEN MCINTYRE MEMORIAL AWARD

Ken McIntyre was an artist whose work appeared during the 1950's in NEW WORLDS, NEBULA and SCIENCE FANTASY. Ken was a keen SF fan, a regular attendee of the annual SF convention and a Knight of St. Fanthony. He was always willing to do work for amateur magazines completely free and his work can be seen in many fanzines of the last twenty years. Ken died from a heart attack in 1968.

Three people suggested independently that some form of memorial was needed and after discussion the Ken McIntyre Memorial Award was formulated. Although there are awards presented in the SF field, there is no award for artwork presented in Britain apart from this. It was felt that an award for art would help give encouragement to young artists in the field as well as give some form of reward to established artists. In the past two years the winners have been Jim Pitts and Dave Fletcher.

Rules for entry of artwork:

1. The Ken McIntyre Memorial Award will be presented annually to the artist who, in the opinion of the judges, submits the most deserving piece of artwork.
2. The artist must be resident in the United Kingdom.
3. The piece of artwork must have appeared in an amateur publication during the twelve months January to December preceding the Easter at which the Award is made.
4. The piece of artwork must be accompanied by a copy of the publication in which it appeared.
5. The subject matter of the piece of artwork must, in the opinion of the judges, be fantasy or science fiction.
6. Each panel of judges may alter these rules for the following year; these rules shall be published and once published may not be altered in that year.
7. The judges shall be: Roger G. Peyton, Jim Marshall, Keith Freeman (or other Knight of St. Fanthony), J. Michael Rosenblum (or other BSFA Ltd representative), and the Chairman of the Convention Committee.

The piece of artwork must be submitted by the artist himself or by the

editor of the publication in which it appeared. The original together with a copy of the publication must be handed to one of the judges on the first day of the Easter Convention (Friday April 12th). If for any reason it cannot be handed in until the Saturday, Roger G. Peyton should be notified in writing prior to the Convention. The entries submitted will be displayed in the Artroom and the Award presented on the Sunday evening.

The rest is up to you. Remember the piece of artwork must be from a publication appearing between January and December 1973.

Roger G. Peyton.

NEW MEMBERS since Progress Report 1

120 Mary Legg	138 James Goddard	154 Judy Cohen
121 Bernie Cairns	139 Hans Loose (NL)	155 Roger Waddington
122 Gerald Bishop	140 Ella Parker	156 George Lye
123 Mike Glicksohn (Can)	141 Brian Varley	157 Shirley Lye
124 Don Allen	142 Dave Douglass	158 Con Turner
125 Allan J. Ovens	143 Frank Barron	159 Pauline Turner
126 Ethel Lindsay	144 Ron Holmes	160 John Hall
127 Andrew Porter (USA)	145 D. A. Symes	161 Mark Adlard
128 Will Haven	146 Gerald Lawrence	162 Geoff Winterman
129 Gillon Field	147 Brenda Piper	163 Harry Turner
130 T. P. Hogan	148 Ian Watson	164 Alexander Brown
133 Don Wollheim (USA)	149 Judy Watson	165 Helen Brown
134 Elsie Wollheim (USA)	150 Thom Penman	
135 Ken Mardle	151 Ritchie Smith	
136 John-Henri Holmberg (Swe)	152 James Cawthorn	
	153 Philip Bell	

ERRATA

In my short eulogy of Peter Weston in Progress Report 1 I actually managed seriously to understate his achievements in the Hugo nomination field. Speculation has been nominated for a Hugo not once, but four times (or is it five?) Ignorance is no excuse, Jackson.

José Bernard is not José Bernhard, and Jan Howard FINDER is American, not Canadian; our profound apologies to both.

HITCHED.....

The Tynecon '74 Committee are particularly pleased to announce that two of their number were married on September 22nd; our congratulations to Harry

and Irene Bell. Their new address is: 9 Lincoln Street, Gateshead NE8 4EE, County Durham.

Progress Report 2 has been written, typed and proofread by me, Robert Jackson, who is (am) thus to blame for all the typos and indiscretions herein.

A final word in the shape of an aphorism which could very well be adopted as a motto for all those organising a convention, exhibition, SF festival, or whatever: "If you can keep your head in the midst of all this confusion..... you don't understand the situation."

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Tynecon '74 is the 25th annual British Easter Science Fiction Convention, to be held in the Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle upon Tyne from the 12th to the 15th April 1974. Guest of Honour is Bob Shaw; Fan Guest of Honour is Peter Weston. Supporting membership, which entitles you to all Progress Reports and the Convention Booklet, is 50p; attending membership is a further £1.50, making a total of £2.00 for full membership.

All enquiries to Ian Maule, Chairman, Tynecon '74,  
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Forest Hall,  
Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 0HX, U.K.

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