

Tynecon '74



March
1974

Progress Report 4

By the time you receive this Progress Report there will be only a fortnight, maybe even a week, to go to the Convention itself: time, then, for us to give you what guidance we can on how to get here, what to bring with you, what to expect when you get here, and what to do when you get here.

GETTING TO THE HOTEL

By train: Ridiculously easy. When you get past the ticket barrier at Newcastle Central, ahead of you and on your right is a sign saying "Royal Station Hotel". Follow it; the hotel's back entrance opens onto part of the station concourse.

By car: See the map on pp. 4 and 5 of this Progress Report.

Most of you will probably be coming into Newcastle by the Tyne Bridge (A1) from Gateshead; as soon as you cross the river you will find yourself on a big roundabout. Turn left, down Mosley Street. Go straight across one traffic light; you come to another where you can only turn left. Do so, then at the next traffic lights turn sharp right into the bottom of Westgate Road. This, like half of Newcastle, is a one-way street: you find yourself bearing slightly left as the road widens out into Neville Street. On your left now is the Royal Station Hotel. Here there are eleven or so temporary parking spaces directly beside the hotel portico, nominally for hotel patrons only. Park here (if it isn't full — otherwise you can park in the Station car park, but you will probably have to pay if you stay more than twenty minutes only) and unload, if you are staying at the Royal Station, and come inside to register at our registration desk, Tynecon's registration desk and hotel reception are both in the ground floor foyer.

Please do not leave your cars directly outside the hotel for the duration of the convention; these spaces are needed for other fans arriving. You will probably find it best to park your car in the Manors Multi-storey Car Park (the curved black block on the right of the map). This is open all through Easter. Getting back there from the hotel is another problem in one-way street negotiation: go to the other end of Neville Street (past all the bus stops), and turn sharp right, then right again at the second traffic-light, which should bring you into Westgate Road. You keep going straight until you get back along Mosley Street to the roundabout at the end of the Tyne Bridge. Go to the other side of the roundabout, then turn sharp left again once you're off it. That should be Manors Car Park. If not, scratch head.

If in doubt (as you probably are) ask one of us hardened locals to explain when you register.

By plane: If you come in by bus from the airport, look for buses which go to the Central Station. Any taxi-driver worth his salt should know where the Royal Station Hotel is.

This has been the last Robert Jackson Progress Report until the next one. Produced while repeatedly floating off on a track called Harp Tree Lament by Kantner, Slick and Freiberg, which is far too lyrical for our Disco. Buy and enjoy.

HOTEL

As you can see, we have had an unbelievable number of new registrations in the 2½ months since PR3. The Royal Station Hotel is now virtually full, and so also are the single rooms in our first overflow — that is the measure of how fast the convention has expanded. Our second overflow, the Royal Turk's Head Hotel, is within easy staggering distance of the Royal Station, and like the County, its convention rates are cheaper than the Royal Station's. So if you are still teetering on deciding whether to come, don't let that stop you. (Please?)

Our various arrangements with the hotel have now been finalised.

Firstly, and of paramount importance to many Tynecon members, the bar arrangements. It is impossible for the Hotel to keep the upstairs private bar open for very long continuous stretches, as it is a long way from washing-up arrangements; however, we have arranged a virtually continuous supply of booze as follows:

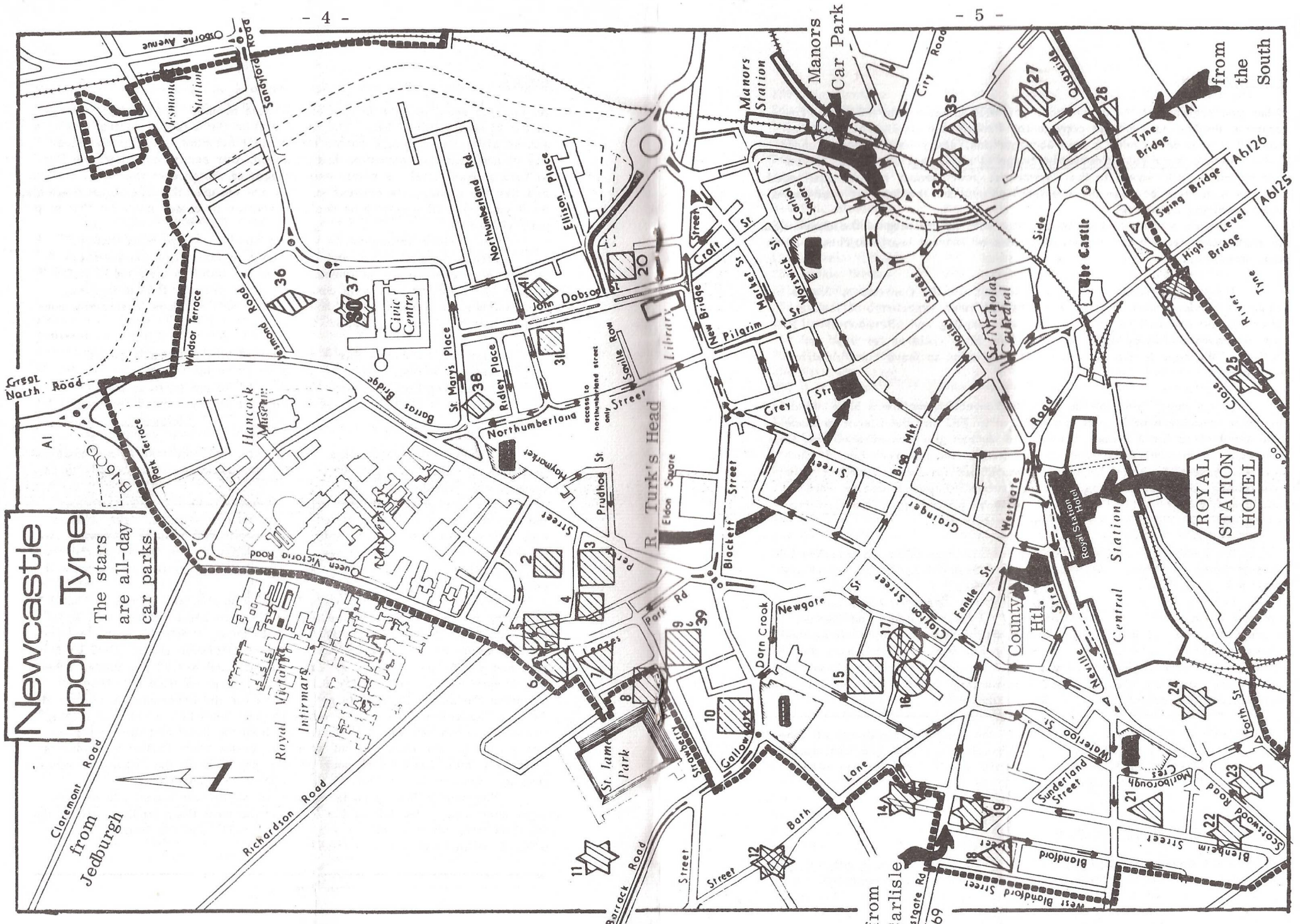
Downstairs Cocktail Bar — 11 am to 2.30 pm (open to public)
Upstairs Private Bar — 3 pm to 10.30 pm
Downstairs Cocktail Bar — 6 pm to 10.30 pm (open to public)
Downstairs Cocktail Bar — 11 pm to 3 am, and on if required
(closed to public)

So that's your hangover arranged. What will you take in the morning to soothe it? Yes, all right, black coffee and aspirins; what I really meant, though, was breakfast.

The hotel have arranged that breakfast will be by waiter service: the second course will be a Mixed Grill of bacon, sausage, eggs, tomato etc, which is brought for you unless you specifically request otherwise. We expect that this will speed up service. Breakfast will be served at the special Convention time of 8.30 to 10 am. (You won't be getting up early, will you?)

Another small plug for Oscar's Viking Restaurant, where the hotel is providing lunches in place of the usual full-blown hotel lunches — it is in the Good Food Guide. Thought you'd like to know. It will be open, for Convention members only, from 12 to 2.30 each afternoon (12.30 till 2 on Monday) and 6-8.30 pm Friday 6-8 pm Saturday, and 6-7.30 pm Sunday (when the Banquet will be at 6.15 for 6.30 pm — this gives time for those not attending the actual Banquet to get upstairs for the presentations afterwards). Oscar's Restaurant bills can be added to your hotel bill if you are staying in the Royal Station; we remind you that both the hotel and the convention are willing to take cheques, but would far prefer them backed by Banker's Card or Credit Card where possible. All payments to the Convention other than for registration or Banquet tickets must be backed thus.

The hotel's floor plan is simple: all significant rooms are on straight corridors to the left of the foyer or the first floor landing, except the Cocktail Bar, which is off the foyer to the right, and the Dealers' Room, which is behind the first floor landing.



Newcastle upon Tyne

The stars are all-day car parks.

from Jedburgh

from Carlisle

from the South

Great North Road

Claremont Road

Richardson Road

Royal Victoria Infirmary

Hancock Museum

Barrow Bridge

Whidder Terrace

Leam Road

Whidder Terrace

Osborne Avenue

Leam Road

Queen Victoria Road

Northumberland Road

St. Mary's Place

Ridley Place

John Dobson

John Dobson

John Dobson

John Dobson

John Dobson

Prudhoe St

Northumberland Street

Sanville Row

Library

New Bridge Street

Croft Street

Malker St

McKerwick St

McKerwick St

Blackett Street

Grey Street

Grey Street

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REGISTRATION

When you register at the convention, you will receive: your 72-page Programme Booklet, a separate copy of the Programme itself, your Banquet ticket if you ordered one, a free souvenir pen, and your Convention badge.

Please wear your Convention badge at all times; otherwise, if you are not personally known to the Committee, your identity may be challenged. This is necessary because of occasional unfortunate incidents at past conventions involving outsiders.

Anybody willing to help in any way with the running of the Convention, in particular manning the registration desk or moving heavy objects is more than welcome.

Babysitter: We have hired a babysitter for the Convention. She is a young ex-Sunday School teacher who has had other experience of looking after babies; she will be at the convention morning and afternoon from Friday afternoon to Sunday night. She will look after children for 50p. per half-day. We hope it will be a load off your mind to leave your children with her.

Discotheque: Some of the younger Convention members have objected to the over-definite philosophy put forward in PR3 for the Disco: to those who are looking for a proper discotheque we can give reassurance that what you want is what will be played. We trust that the non-rock fans at the Con will save their brickbats for afterwards and for the Committee! It is our feeling, though, that most SF fans are well-disposed towards rock music and will enjoy the Disco: we hope to be proved right, but if we're wrong, then let next year's con committee take note.

We have confirmation of booking for all those films we mentioned in PR3 as being on order, plus also a short film about Apollo-17. which we trust will interest you.

Other programme items we have recently arranged are a panel on "What's Wrong with Science Fiction Art?" chaired by Eddie and Marsha Jones, with some of Eddie's own slides, and prominent people airing their views: a panel on the Need for an Ideology, in which James Blish, John Brunner and hopefully Anne McCaffrey look at why man doesn't always see himself as supreme: and a discussion on whether the BSFA has achieved its original purpose or not.

All programme speeches are © copyright the individual speakers: all other panel discussions are © Tynecon '74. Anybody who would like to transcribe one of the talks is asked to get in touch with Ian Williams or any other member of the convention committee.

CONVENTION MEMBERS to 24 March 1974

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|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 233 James Campbell | 235 Joyce Slater | 237 Kenny Forth |
| 234 Pamela Boal | 236 Susie Slater | 238 Tony Sudbery |

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|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 239 John Brunner | 277 W. J. Johnson | 315 David Somerville |
| 240 T. P. Williams | 278 Robert Swarbrick | 316 Karel Thole |
| 241 Duncan Lunan | 279 Edward Jackson | 317 Mrs. Thole |
| 242 A. G. L. Williams | 280 Roger Bates | 318 Anne McCaffrey |
| 243 Peter Berg | 281 Adrienne Chalmers | 319 Jean Bowden-Green |
| 244 R. T. Hill | 282 D. J. Clarke | 320 Robert Levine |
| 245 Sheila Simonson | 283 C. H. Clarke | 321 John Bramall |
| 246 Eric Simonson | 284 F. Horn | 322 Peter F. Boyd |
| 247 Mickey Simonson | 285 David R. Upton | 323 Ann Mullins |
| 248 Peter Nicholls | 286 George Hay | 324 Malcolm S. Evans |
| 249 Pamela Nicholls | 287 Christine Hay | 325 T. K. Stackhouse |
| 250 Jennie Bunton | 288 Marion Turner | 326 Cath Gardner |
| 251 Bob Stanley | 289 Charles Nightingale | 327 Pat Kennedy |
| 252 Carol Stanley | 290 Cheryl Harvey | 328 Peggy Kennedy |
| 253 Pandora Birch | 291 R. Lauder | 329 Danny Plachta |
| 254 Ian McAulay | 292 C. Gooch | 330 Banks Mebane |
| 255 M. S. Mitchell | 293 Andy Prior | 331 Sam Russell |
| 256 Vivianne Croot | 294 J. Barrett | 332 Florence Russell |
| 257 J. W. Yates | 295 Wendy A. Glover | 333 Nigel Robinson |
| 258 David H. Walters | 296 Rosemary Henderson | 334 Rita S. Saltz |
| 259 Brian R. Parker | 297 P. A. Owen | 335 Diane Ellingsworth |
| 260 Gail Rogers | 298 David Gress-Wright | 336 Ron Anderson |
| 261 Nicola Le Saux | 299 Barry Watkin | 337 Trev Reed |
| 262 Susan Hart | 300 Eric W. Briggs | 338 J. Fairey |
| 263 N. M. Green | 301 Janet Cobill | 339 John Lane |
| 264 A. W. Barclay | 302 M. L. Yeadon | 340 N. Stewart |
| 265 Mark Rodgers | 303 Paul Phillips | 341 Mrs. N. Stewart |
| 266 D. Percy | 304 Graham Andrews | 342 Lars Junell |
| 267 Rory O. McLean | 305 Anthony Wilson | 343 Jonathan Rubinstein |
| 268 Patrick McGowan | 306 Deirdre Smyth | 344 Lars Olaf Sjögren |
| 269 Ron Stell | 307 John Grigg | 345 Chris Bursey |
| 270 Tony Fagan | 308 Bengt Persson | 346 John Lowe |
| 271 Robin Hill | 309 Martin Easterbrook | 347 Dr. Alison Brown |
| 272 Tony Edwards | 310 Malcolm J. Davies | 348 Julia Baynes |
| 273 Marjorie Edwards | 311 Ralph Leask | 349 Ian Warner |
| 274 Anthony Johnston | 312 David Garnett | 350 Allan P. Milne |
| 275 James Barker | 313 Andrew Jobling | 351 Neil Witheridge |
| 276 George Locke | 314 Hugh Herdon | 352 Jeff Yates |

A LIST OF THINGS NOT TO FORGET

Your Fancy Dress, if you've made some.
Your science-fictional models for the Model Competition; again, if you've made one.
Any photos for the Photo Competition — we have arranged to use a slide projector, and 2" by 2" slides are welcome.
Material for the Auction. If you have any surplus books, fanzines, etc., we would be more than grateful if you would hunt them out and bring them along. Any valuable items can be auctioned by special arrangement with

the committee.

Pieces of paper: BSFAward, Doc Weir Award, and TAFF voting forms; more of all these will be available at the convention.

This Progress Report, for some happy confusion trying to find the hotel...

So, it only remains for me to wish you the best of journeys to the Con: see you in three weeks or less, as I type this.

OMPACON '73: BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS

<u>Income:</u>	£	<u>Expenditure:</u>	£
Registrations	568	Hotel account (including banquet)	445
Sponsorships	88	Gratuities for hotel staff	30
Advertising	141	Guest of Honour	52
Tables in Book Room	19	TAFF Representatives	24
Banquet tickets	282	Art display facilities	54
Net auction receipts	54	Films (including equipment)	59
Chessmancon donation	25	Programme booklet	140
Sale of ball point pens and souvenir cards	<u>45</u>	Printing (badges, forms, cards etc)	30
Total	<u>£1222</u>	Post Office handstamp	29
		Postage for souvenir cards	16
		Ball point pens	13
Surplus disposed of as follows:	£	OMPACON Party	28
		Prizes	20
		Insurance	10
Tynecon '74	25	Bank charges	3
O. M. P. A.	20	Expenses during year (Progress Reports, postage, advertising etc.	<u>194</u>
B. S. F. A.	15		
T. A. F. F.	<u>15</u>		
Total	<u>£75</u>	Total	<u>£1147</u>

Tynecon '74, the annual British Science Fiction Association Convention, is the 25th event in the series. It is being held at the Royal Station Hotel, Neville Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K. from the 12th to the 15th April 1974. Registration will begin on the evening of the 11th. The Guest of Honour is Bob Shaw, and the 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 for full membership. In America supporting membership is \$2 and full membership \$6. All cheques, P.O's etc. payable to Tynecon '74.

All enquiries to Ian Maule, Chairman, Tynecon '74.

13, Weardale Avenue.

Forest Hall,

Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 0HX, U.K.
