

NOVACON 6

Organised by the Birmingham Science Fiction Group

5th-6th-7th November 1976

Royal Angus Hotel, Birmingham

Progress Report Two.

'But what's on the programme?', 'What will the programme be?'. Variations of this question accompany many registrations, in vain we explain that Novacon was originally conceived as a fannish gathering with the programme played in a low key. 'A relaxed weekend in which to meet friends and make new acquaintances among others who enjoy SF'. Thus spake Vernon Brown in 1971. We intend, if possible, to continue the informal atmosphere associated with past Novacons, but seeing that there is never enough room for everyone in the bar at one time we are, as usual, arranging some programme items, to ease the pressure in the bar and give the staff some time to wring out their drying cloths.

Following its great success last year, the much requested 'Jim White Chat Show' will again be featured on Sunday morning, when 3 as yet unsuspecting volunteers will be 'interviewed'. Also on Sunday, first thing in fact, when everyone's brain is light and flexible, we will be holding the quiz. This year the contestants will be chosen by lottery, but don't worry, anyone drawn and not wishing to participate will be passed over in favour of the next number, this way we hope to unearth (maybe) some of those hidden master-minds who usually sit in the audience answering all the questions for the benefit of those next to them, and never getting a shot at the ~~poor~~ prizes.

There will be a panel discussion (what convention would be complete without one) of a literary nature, exact content yet to be decided. Panel will comprise Chris Morgan, Laurence Miller, Chris Priest and Ian Watson.

The following all fall into the 'we hope to have' category:-

A fantasy item, which we think has been rather neglected.

A talk on 'Dungeons and Dragons'.

Having been persuaded that one hard science item has its place in a balanced convention programme, we are attempting to get Professor John Taylor of King's College, London, who will no doubt expand the largest mind with the latest developments in cosmology and psi.

Should he be able to attend the Con., Brian Aldiss has promised to perform on the Japanese nose-flute or failing that, talk about SF.

Films: Soylent Green, The Omega Man and Westworld, we are confident are somewhere on this planet.

If you think some of the above sounds evasive with just a dash of flippancy, I am only trying to emulate progress reports of other Cons., whilst desperately awaiting replies to letters.

Guest of Honour speech, Art & Book auctions are standard as is the banquet.

With any luck we should be able to give the full programme in the August PR with plenty of time for last minute panic-stricken alterations.

NOVA AWARD.

Given to the best British Fanzine. Please nominate on enclosed form. The Judges this year are:-

Graham Boak, Leroy Kettle, Mike Meara, Dave Rowe & Ian Williams.

All correspondence relating to the NOVA AWARD, to Hazel Reynolds, 40 Portia Avenue, Shirley, Solihull, Birmingham B90 2NW.

N.B. A fanzine title nominated covers all issues of that 'zine between 1st Oct. 1975 and 30th Sept. 1976, ie the award is for a years run.

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Sheet Two.

Ken Slater, the well known philanthropist and raconteur, has again kindly offered a £10 prize for artwork. Thanks Ken.

Rules are:

The prize will be given to the most original illustration from Robert Silverberg's novel, 'Tower of Glass'.

Artwork can be in any medium.

Any entrant who has sold professionally will not be eligible (this means anyone who has earned £25 or more by artwork).

The judges decision is final.

Any further details write to: Stan Eling, 124 Galton Road, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B67 5JS.

I have been asked to provide information on dentistry facilities for anyone unfortunate enough to require it during the convention, this is being sorted out and will appear in the Programme Booklet, any other requests for information (of a reasonable nature) we will do our best to satisfy.

Convention Members as of May 10th 1976:

28 Arthur Cruttenden	99 David A. Symes	133 Ian Robinson
29 Wendy Cruttenden	100 Roy Mortimore	134 Ian Williams
67 David Flint	101 Daphne Mortimore	135 Peter Presford
68 Brian Robinson	102 Dave Hardy	136 Eddie Jones
69 Brian Ameringen	103 Michael J. Lord	137 Marsha Jones
70 Milton A. Strain	104 William Graham	138 Gerald Lawrence
71 Cynthia Strain	105 Yvonne Heather	139 G.P. Dresch
72 Peter Roberts	106 Patricia Baxter	140 Brian Lewis
73 Jerry Webb	107 Dave Rowe	141 James R. Wharton
74 David V. Lewis	108 Simon Joukes	142 Alexandre D.
75 William H. Thomas	109 Alan H. Smith	DeBettenCourt Jr.
76 Norman Weedall	110 Graham Boak	143 Dave Upton
77 Merf Adamson	111 Meg Boak	144 George Hay
78 James A. Burnett	112 Bob Shaw	145 Mollie Gillam
79 Marcus L. Rowland	113 Sadie Shaw	146 J. Rubinstein
80 Chris Walton	114 Sandra Richardson	147 Jim Marshall
81 Ian Covell	115 Peter J. Wright	148 Jim Baker
82 Rory O. McLean	116 E.J. Ward	149 Martin Easterbrook
83 Ian Watson	117 Pat Charnock	150 Elke Stewart
84 Judy Watson	118 Graham Charnock	151 Alan Stewart
85 David Hill	119 Alan Farmer	152 Al Fitzpatrick
86 Robin Hill	120 Trevor Davis	153 D. Pringle
87 Joyce Deeming	121 C. Perks	154 Fred Hemmings
88 Ian Maule	122 G. Pearson	155 Don Rogers
89 John Pigott	123 J. Stokes	156 Nellie Pardoe
90 John Steward	124 T. McMahon	157 John Harvey
91 Tim Broadribb	125 Andrew Charman	158 Ye Gerbish
92 Samantha Broadribb	126 Ken Cowley	159 Andy Dunning
93 Peter Baker	127 Dave Griffiths	160 C.J. Spicer
94 Graham Andrews	128 Dan Morgan	161 Leroy Kettle
95 Tim Stannard	129 Georgie Morgan	162 Christine Wakelin
96 Joan Cassidy	130 Glenise Wee	163 David Wakelin
97 Janice Wiles	131 Philip Barnard	164 Andy Ellsmore
98 Mrs F.Z.L. Symes	132 Warren Heyes	165 Peter Day

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Sheet Three.

166 Vera Johnson	173 Donald Malcolm	180 Richard T. Hughes
167 Ron Poyser	174 Joseph M. Nicholas	181 R.P. Harrison
168 Kate Armstrong	175 James White	182 Bob Whitaker
169 Judy Mansfield	176 Peter Thomson	183 Dave Cluett
170 Norman Shorrocks	177 Tony Beasley	184 Anne Looker
171 Ina Shorrocks	178 Barbara Beasley	185 Margaret Austin
172 E. Blair Wilkins	179 Katherine Sterry	186 Margaret Draper

APRIL 8-11 1977

EASTERCON '77

THE HOLIDAY INN, LEICESTER

GUEST OF HONOUR: JOHN BUSH

Supporting membership - £1 to Dave Upton,
49a Moor St., Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3SP
(cheques, etc., made out to "Eastercon '77")

Last word, don't forget to keep putting stuff aside for the auction.

Best

Stan Eling

committee: Stan Eling (Chairman) · Arline Peyton (Secretary)
Helen Eling (Registration) · Laurence Miller (Treasurer)