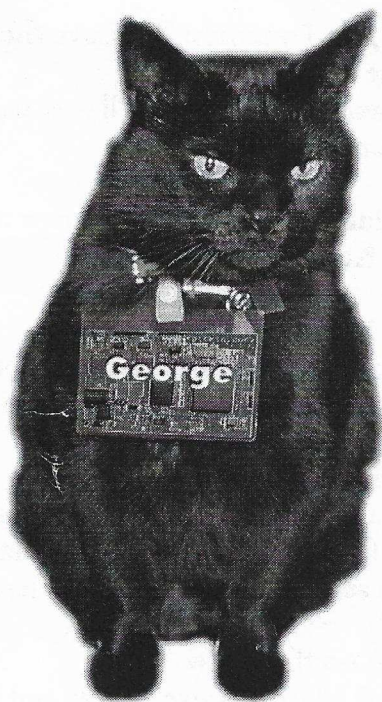


<plokta.con>

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Welcome to <plokta.con>. Here is the stuff you might want to know while you're here.



Our chairman, who sadly can't be with us this weekend

Meals

Breakfast is served 6:30 till 11:30. Bar snacks will be available over the bar from 12 to 2 and from 6 to 8. Outside these times there is room service (expensive but tasty) and all the myriad delights of Leicester. There is also a hotel restaurant.

Drinks

The convention bar will be open from 7pm until 2am on Friday, 11am until 2am on Saturday, and noon till midnight on Sunday. Outside these hours, hotel residents can get drinks from the hotel bar when it's open, or via room service.

Please drink all the real ale and Scrumpy Jack, as the convention is underwriting it and will have to pay for any we don't drink.

Warning about the Foot Bridge!

You can't get off the foot bridge into the hotel. You need to use the traffic light that takes you from the island towards the town centre.

The Programme

The programme takes place in the Harborough Room. These are the items we think we'll be having. If you're on a programme item, please get there a little bit early

and someone will buy you a drink. Fuller programme notes are contained in *Plokta*.

The Mowbray room contains dealers, repro, internet access (some of the time) and lots of K'Nex. We do need gophers to volunteer to man this room: please see us.

We'd like to keep both of these rooms smoke-free please. You may smoke in the bar and lounge, but please be considerate of non-smoking fans and children.

Friday

7pm: Superfluous Technology: the dark side
Julian Headlong, Martin Easterbrook, Ken MacLeod

8pm: Opening Ceremony: come along and meet our guest of honour. This won't take very long, so at 8:10 we're having a

Fanzine Panel: We Love the Smell of Hecto in the Morning.

Lilian Edwards, Vicki Rosenzweig, Dave Hicks and Yvonne Rowse

9pm: Read 'Em and Weep. Paul Kincaid and panellists discuss famous but bad works of SF.

10pm: Curing the Fan Hugos
Victor Gonzalez, Julian Headlong, Steve Green and hecklers in the audience.

11pm: Style Challenge
Stylish fans Alison Freebairn and Guy Dawson consider the style of fans and what can be done about it.

Saturday

11am: Honey, we Flattened the Universe
Amanda Baker & Dave Clements

12noon: Harry Potter and the Runaway Success
Maureen Kincaid Speller, Joan Paterson, Sasha Walton

2pm: Worldcon '05 presentation
Kim Campbell, Vince Docherty and Hecklers in the audience

3pm: The Secret History

Ken MacLeod's Guest of Honour Speech

4pm: No-tech Babble

A silly game from Peter Wareham and Gwen Funnell

5pm: Book Collecting for Fun and Profit

Brian Ameringen, Roger Robinson, John Dallman, Ken Slater

6pm: Is "Is SF Dead?" dead? (or stop moping and get on with it)

Tibs, Mark Plummer, Emmet O'Brien

8pm: How to be a Complete Bitch

Lilian Edwards, Alison Freebairn, Sue Mason

9pm: Live Music from Chris Conway

10:30pm: United Fan Funds Auction

Give us all your money.

Sunday

11am: A Good Read

Jo Walton, Mike Scott, Austin Benson discuss *The Sky Road*, by Ken MacLeod, *Mythago Wood* by Robert Holdstock, and *Revelation Space* by Alastair Reynolds.

12 noon: Superfluous Kari and Phil

Kari and Phil Nanson discuss bendy *females* in Hong Kong cinema, with worked examples.

2pm: A Fan in the Oven (or how to make new SF fans from materials you probably have lying around at home)

Alison Scott, Caroline Mullan, Joan Paterson

This panel specially features no Lori Meltzer, here shown with Joseph, who turned up unexpectedly last week and prevented Lori and Morris from joining us at <plokta.con>. Our very best wishes to all three of them.



3pm: Runaround

staring Chris O'Shea as Mike Read and all of you as contestants. Come along and win weird shit.

4pm: Electronic Fanzines: We Love the Smell of JPEGs in the morning

Mike Scott wonders whether we'll ever see a top quality web fanzine.

5pm: Ken MacLeod reads from his new novel, *Cosmonaut Keep*.

6pm: Partly Baked Ideas

John Dallman discusses those great notions of science that didn't quite make it, with help from the audience

9pm: Question Time

Please put your questions in advance for us to put to our panel of fannish experts, including Claire Brialey and Steve Green. Alice Lawson plays Jeremy Paxman.

10pm: Quick on the Draw

Fan artists Sue Mason, Steve Jeffrey and Dave Hicks demonstrate their ability to draw anything. Alison Scott provides colour commentary.

11pm: Strange Things in your Cleavage

Sunday Night is Cleavage Night, and this is the cleavage panel. Cleavages provided by Sue Mason, Yvonne Rowse, Sue Dawson and Claire Brialey.

Monday

10:30: A Hansom Cab to Hinckley

Steve and Alice Lawson are running a field trip to the Paragon site so you can see what it's like. Turn up at reception. Drivers especially welcome.

11am: Good But Under-rated Writers

Anne Wilson, Ken MacLeod, Caroline Mullan, Austin Benson discuss them.

12noon: Thog's Masterclass

Dave Langford reprises Thog's Aussiecon Masterclass.

2pm: Closing Ceremony

Come along and help close down the convention.

