

ARMADILLO DREAMS



THE NEWSLETTER OF **INTERACTION**

NUMBER THREE

THE 63RD WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION AND EUROCON

SUMMER 2005

BRING THE ENVELOPE WITH YOU!

There's only a short time to go before you all head off to Glasgow for the convention, and this is the last communication you'll get from us before you arrive. We hope you've had as much fun reading our previous publications as we did writing them, and although you may find this edition a little less entertaining, please read it carefully, as it contains a lot of useful information.

Firstly, you may have noticed the banner headline above, "BRING THE ENVELOPE WITH YOU!"

That's because you'll need the information on the label at registration. Please don't forget to bring it with you.

Secondly, here's a list of some things to think about before you set off on your trip:

- Bring this newsletter, as well as the envelope it came in.
- If you are not a UK citizen you'll need health insurance, or if you are an EU citizen you'll need to have your completed E111 form.
- Bring your hotel reservation details, including a printout of the booking confirmation email you received from Infotel. If there is a problem, look up the contact information listed with the "Getting To Your Hotel" article in this newsletter.
- Photo ID – if you're travelling from abroad you'll have this with you. For those of you from within the UK: bring a photo ID with you if you have it.
- Emergency contact information – details of whom to contact in an emergency; you should probably keep these on your person.
- Travel Documents – passport, tickets (air/ rail/ coach), visas (if needed). One point to note – check that your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay, otherwise you will need a new passport.

- Remember to bring some UK money, and your debit and credit cards, as these are usually the cheapest way to do a currency exchange; although check with your card company to confirm this. Not all cards are widely accepted in the UK; for details check the "Cash & Credit" article in this newsletter.
- If you are a dealer or are showing in the Art Show, you should bring along your booking details and any shipping documents you have relating to your property.
- Buy a UK plug adapter before you arrive in the UK. They are not easy to find in the UK and may be very expensive. Also see the "UK Electricity" article in this newsletter.
- Finally, if you are travelling via or from the United States, don't lock your luggage with a regular luggage lock. Use cable ties or a TSA approved lock. Otherwise, US security will automatically break open your luggage if they need to search it.

Get in Touch

General contact address:

info@interaction.worldcon.org.uk

Web site:

<http://www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk>

LiveJournal forum:

<http://interaction.livejournal.com>

INTERACTION

4-8 August 2005

Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre &
Moat House Hotel, Glasgow, United Kingdom

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Getting To Your Hotel & the SECC

Options for how to get to Glasgow were included in Progress Report 3 and are on our web site at www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk/uktravel.htm.

By Car: To get to Central Glasgow from either the airport or from the rest of the UK, come off the M8 motorway at Junction 19. The SECC is a short drive to the west along the Clydeside Expressway and is clearly signposted. Most of the hotels we are using have their own web sites and many include a section on how to get to the hotel.

The Airport Bus (Route 905) runs between Glasgow Airport and several points in the city centre, including close to Glasgow Central and Queen Street railway stations and to Buchanan bus station. The airport bus has additional luggage space for arriving passengers. The buses run every 10-15 minutes during peak hours and from 6am to just before midnight every day but Sunday, when they start at 7am. The fare is a flat £3.30 single and £5 for an open-ended return. The approximate journey time is 25 minutes. The city centre bus stops have an

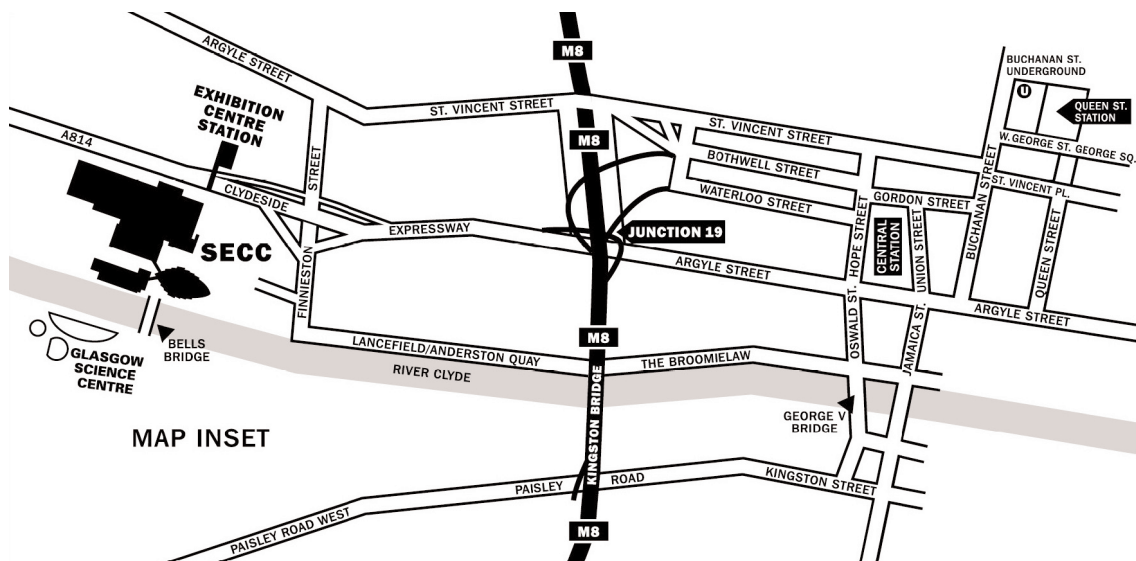
airport logo on them. There is an alternative bus/rail link, details of which are on the airport web site.

Alternatively, you can catch a taxi, which will deliver you to the door of your hotel or the SECC. This will cost you around £17 for a single journey to the city centre, including the SECC.

From **Glasgow Prestwick Airport**, your best option is to catch the regular train service to Glasgow Central from

the airport station. The journey takes about 45 minutes. Fares are £5.40 for a single and £9.55 for an open return. There is a 50% discount on the single fare if you can show an air ticket for the day of travel. There is a coach service run by Stagecoach, but this takes longer and costs more.

By Train: Glasgow Central and Queen Street are the city's mainline stations. Taxi journeys from either station to your hotel will typically cost between £2.50 and £5 depending on where you are staying. A taxi from the station to the SECC will cost around £5. Note that black cabs can take up to five people. The SECC can also be reached by local train. Exhibition Centre Station is two stops from Glasgow Central Station and one stop from Anderston station, which is next to the Hilton and Marriott hotels (£1 Single / £1.25 Return). These trains currently run from 9am to 11pm with up to 4 trains an hour.



CREDITS

ARTWORK

ARMADILLO DREAMS LOGO:

SUE MASON

FILLO'S: SHERYL BIRKHEAD

TEXT

STAFF-EDITED,

TYPESET BY JAN VAN'T ENT,

BASED ON A DESIGN BY PAUL

TREADAWAY

Once you get to the SECC you can park in the SECC car park at £3.50 per visit (pay the attendant on exit), or if there is space in the Moat House car park for £2 per visit (pay the machine on exit). A 'visit' can be the duration of the con, if you wish to leave your car there.

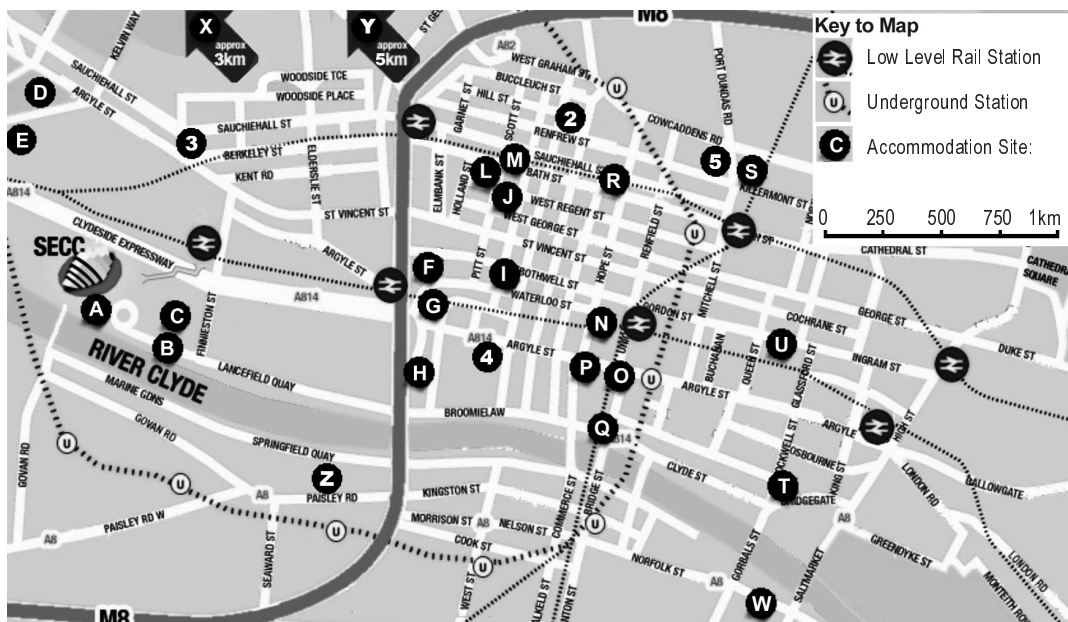
By Air: Glasgow has two airports.

Most of you will be arriving at **Glasgow International Airport**. You can find more details online at www.baa.com/main/airports/glasgow.

Several **car rental** firms are based at the Airport. See the airport web site.

Bus and rail tickets can be purchased from the **SPT Travel Centre** on the ground floor of the terminal building, adjacent to Domestic arrivals. You can also purchase a variety of period travel tickets for use around the city, which cover rail, bus and underground.

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A	Moat House	0141 306 9988
B	City Inn	0141 240 1002
C	Campanile Hotel	0141 287 7700
D	Univ (Cairncross)	0141 330 2318
E	Univ (Kelvinhaugh)	0141 330 2318
F	Hilton (Party Hotel)	0141 204 5510
G	Marriott Hotel	0141 226 5577
H	Milton/Menzies Hotel	0141 222 2929
I	Holiday InnCity West	0870 400 9032
J	Malmaison	0141 572 1000
L	Hotel Ibis	0141 225 6000
M	Bewleys Hotel	0141 353 0800
N	Quality Hotel	0141 221 9680
O	Jurys Inn	0141 314 4800
P	Radisson SAS	0141 204 3333
Q	Eurohostel	0141 222 2828
R	Arthouse Hotel	0141 572 6000
S	Langs Hotel	0141 352 2452
T	EbHl Riverside	0141 548 5000
U	Ramada Jarvis	0141 314 1000
W	Tulip Inn	0141 429 4233
X	One Devonshire Grdns	0141 339 2001
Y	Univ (Queen Margaret)	0141 330 2318
Z	Travelodge Paisley Rd	0870 191 1642
1	Novotel Glasgow	0141 222 2775 (not indicated on map; between J,L,M)
2	TravelodgeCity	0870 191 1641
3	Argyll Hotel	0141 337 3313
4	Corus Hotel	0141 248 2355
5	EbHl Theatreland	0141 331 6800

For Infotel queries, problems, etc. prior to Friday, July 29, people should call +44(0)1775 843403. That is an office and is open regular business hours (call it 9am to 4pm UK time, to be safe).

From Monday, 1 August, the primary number is +44(0)790 320 0394 from 8am until mid-

night each day. Between Monday and Friday the back-up number is the office number above during regular work hours.

We strongly recommend that anyone with a booking problem less than four weeks prior to the convention call, do not write, Infotel, to assure the problem is resolved quickly.

Cash & Credit in the UK

The official currency of the United Kingdom is the Pound Sterling, which is worth about US\$ 1.80 or EUR 1.50 at time of writing. Notes and coins are issued by the Bank of England, which is the UK's equivalent of the Federal Reserve or Central Bank. However, Interaction is taking place in Scotland, which, while part of the UK, is definitely not England. For historical reasons, the banks in Scotland (and in Northern Ireland) are allowed to issue their own bank notes. Today, three Scottish banks issue them: Bank of Scotland, Royal Bank of Scotland, and Clydesdale Bank. Strictly speaking these are not legal tender and by law, there is no obligation on anyone to accept them. However, in practice, they are accepted everywhere in Scotland. The situation is not so clear-cut south of the border, however. The further south you go, the less likely the notes are to be accepted. If you do plan on travelling to other parts of the United Kingdom, change your Scottish notes for Bank of England ones. Any bank will be happy to make the swap for you.

Another point worth noting is the acceptance of credit and debit cards. Whilst Visa and MasterCard will be accepted almost anywhere (but not everywhere, as some places still refuse all cards) the same cannot be said for other cards. American Express is accepted in some places, including most hotels, Diners Club is accepted in a few places. As yet, Discover has not reached the UK and is not accepted anywhere. Any other card should be treated with caution and should not be an essential item for your time in the UK.



Volunteers Still Needed!

If you've not already volunteered to help out at Interaction, we're still recruiting! It's a great way to meet people, learn heaps, and even earn food and drink tokens and T-shirts! If you'd like to work in a particular area of the con, send details of your interests and experience to volunteers@interaction.worldcon.org.uk, or go to the Volunteer page on the web site www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk/volunteer.htm for more info.

If you'd prefer just to be a general gopher, helping out wherever you're needed, either contact us now at the email above, or come to the Volunteer Desk in Hall 1 of the SECC. We look forward to meeting you there!

All Hands On Deck!

If you're in Glasgow before the official start of the con, we need your help to move in and set up! From Monday morning till Thursday midday, come to the Ops Office (on the concourse of the SECC) if you'd like to help out. No experience necessary, just enthusiasm!

Step One: Check In

Convention Registration / Check-In

At-Con Registration is the first thing you see of the convention and we hope to make it an enjoyable – but very short – experience.

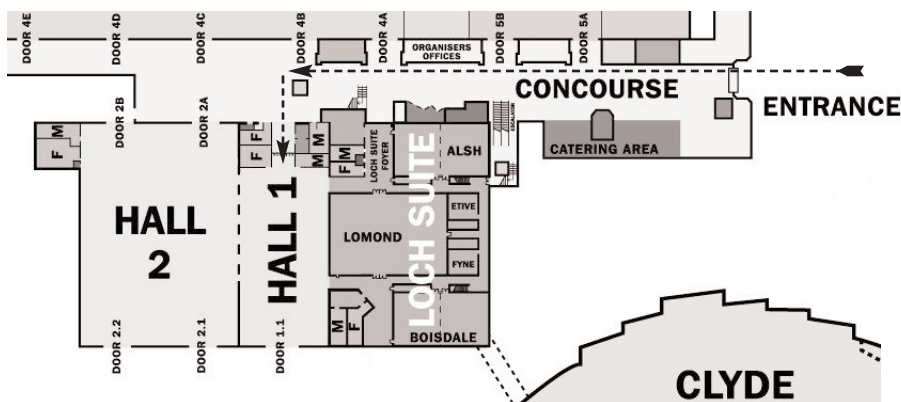
Where

At-Con Registration is in Hall 1 of the SECC. You can access Hall 1 from the SECC Central Concourse (see Site map below). The hall has no level changes and the aisles will be wide enough for electric wheelchairs.

When

At-Con Registration will be open at the following times:

Day	Date	Open	Close	Remarks
Tue.	Aug. 02	1pm	6pm	Pre-registered members only
Wed.	Aug. 03	10am	9pm	All (Pre-registered and Walk-in)
Thu.	Aug. 04	10am	9pm	All (Pre-registered and Walk-in)
Fri.	Aug. 05	10am	6pm	All (Pre-registered and Walk-in)
Sat.	Aug. 06	10am	6pm	All (Pre-registered and Walk-in)
Sun.	Aug. 07	10am	6pm	All (Pre-registered and Walk-in)
Mon.	Aug. 08	10am	1pm	All (Pre-registered and Walk-in)



If you arrive after At-Con Registration has closed, go to the Operations Office, where you will be provided with a temporary 'Night' badge for a deposit of £20. You will need to return the Night badge to At-Con Registration on the following morning when you collect your real badge and convention materials. Your deposit will be returned at the same time. The Operations Office can be found in the SECC offices between Halls 4 and 5 – look for the signs.

How

As you enter Hall 1 you will see the desks for pre-registered members on the right-hand side of the hall. Above these desks will be signs indicating which part of the alphabet each desk is handling. In selecting the right queue, remember, your badge will be filed under your last (family) name,

and not your badge name. To make sure we have filed your badge correctly, please check the label on the envelope this newsletter came in: the last name you have given us is the first part of your name on the label. So if your address label gives your name as "van der Fan, Jo", your badge will be filed under the letter "V" and you should queue at the desk which is handling this letter.

Identification

You need to be able to prove your identity to the volunteer at the desk.

Acceptable identifications in order of validity are:

1. Government-issued photo ID: passport, drivers licence, military ID.
2. Big Business-issued photo ID: press card, company card.
3. Label of Newsletter 3 Envelope plus Newsletter 3.
4. Receipt of payment to Interaction with the name of the member.
5. A – to us – well known fan vouching for the identity of the member.

Once we have confirmed your identity, we will ask you to sign two data cards for our records, and then issue you with your badge.

You will then be asked which version of the Souvenir Book you would like (see article on p6 of this Newsletter). You may choose either a paperback Souvenir Book at no charge, or a £5 voucher which can be used towards the hardback version, which will be available for £15 (£10 with the voucher) from the Sales to Members area in Hall 2.

You will also be given the rest of your Interaction publications, including the Convention Guide. You will also be able to select freebies from the freebie tables which will be behind the registration desks. You can then leave registration, either back into the SECC Concourse on Tuesday and Wednesday, or continuing on into Hall 2 from Thursday onwards.

For those who would like them, the desk staff will be able to provide labels which can be placed on the back of your badge for medical or family information. This could be for instance the membership number of a parent of a child, or an "In emergency call..." instruction. Please feel free to ask for these labels.

You can register more detailed information on medical conditions at the Electrical Eggs desk (the Egg Carton) in Hall 2. This information will of course be kept private and only released in a medical emergency.

If you or your child wants a specific name on your child's badge, please pass this on to memberships@interaction.world.org.uk at least a week before the convention. This will avoid unnecessary delay for you at registration.

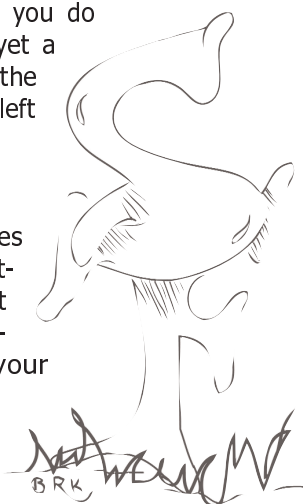
UK Electricity

Walk-ins

Well, *you* aren't of course. But if you do take someone along who is not yet a member (the more the merrier), the walk-in desk is to be found on the left side of Hall 1.

Solutions

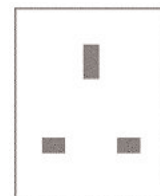
Now, there may be those rare cases where not everything is to the satisfaction of the member. In that case, you should go to the solution desk where they can solve your problem. You can find the solution desk on the far side of the walk-in rectangle of desks at the left-hand side of Hall 1.



Lost Badge Policy

If you lose or forget your badge, you will be charged for a replacement. However this charge may be refunded if you are able to find your original badge and return the replacement within a reasonable length of time. The best way to avoid problems is of course not to lose or forget your badge in the first place! And remember, taxis in Glasgow are cheap, so if you have left your badge in your hotel, it may well be easiest to take a taxi back there to fetch it.

In the UK mains voltage is typically 240V and the frequency is 50Hz. This compares to 110V and 60Hz in North America. So please check that any electric equipment you are planning to bring with you will survive the change. But even if they will, you will need a socket/outlet adapter, as UK power outlets have a different design to those you will find in other countries. In particular, standard power sockets normally have three rectangular holes for live, neutral and earth/ground connections. You will therefore need a plug or adaptor with three matching prongs. These are laid out in a triangular arrangement with the earth/ground prong being larger and longer than the other two, so the plug can only be inserted with the correct orientation.

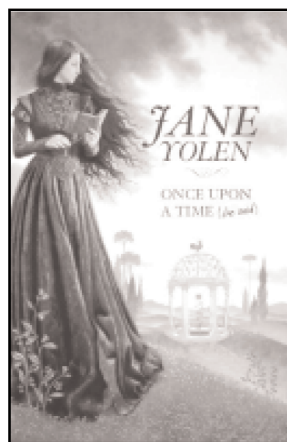


In the bathroom you may find a small socket with two round holes. These are meant for low voltage appliances such as electric shavers, and they do not have an earth/ground connection. Adapters to convert a UK 3-Pin plug to a 2-Pin plug are readily available in most electrical shops.

Another point to note – electrical switches in the UK generally work in the opposite sense to those in North America, and up means off and down means on.

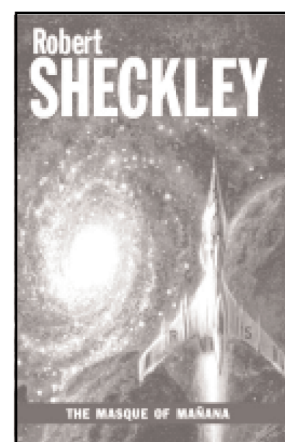
Batteries operate to an international standard, and you will find all types of batteries readily available in the UK.

The NESFA Press in Cooperation with Interaction is Proud to Present The 63rd World Science Fiction Convention Guest of Honor Books



Once Upon A Time (She Said)
by Jane Yolen
Hardcover • US\$26/£16

The Masque of Mañana
by Robert Sheckley
Hardcover • US\$29/£18



Copies will be available for purchase at both the Sales to Members area and the NESFA Sales table in the Dealer's Room. Additional fine works of SF are available through the NESFA Press on-line store: <http://www.nesfa.org/press>.

Interaction will also have for sale at the convention a book produced by the Science Fiction Foundation celebrating the work of our Guest of Honour Christopher Priest. This book of critical essays, entitled *Christopher Priest - The Interaction*, will be available from the SF Foundation table in the Dealers' Room, priced at £10 for the paperback edition.

Step Two: The Departure Lounge

Tartan Tat

It is one of the finest traditions of Scottish Worldcons to use an ever-so-slightly kitschy Scottish theme while bidding and then to gamely attempt to refocus on more substantive Scottish themes (like the excellence of Charles Rennie Mackintosh) for the convention. But should we lose sight of the convention's roots? We say **no!** So, as you are touring around Scotland and see an especially awful example of kitsch with a Scottish theme, bring it along and add to our collection in Hall 2! You'll be glad you did (at least you won't have to look at it any more!)

In Memoriam

Fandom is a community and like every community, we lose people each year. In Hall 2 we will have an *In Memoriam* wall and we invite all of you to bring something along to remember fellow fans who have died recently: Bring a photo, or a press clipping, or one of their fanzines. Bring something from a convention they worked on, or a club newsletter, or a personal memento. Or just write your own remembrance and post it. *Keep the memories alive!*

Photo Scanning

As always, FANAC (www.fanac.org) will be running a photo scanning station in Hall 2 amongst the exhibits. Do you have fannish photos you would like to contribute? Bring them along and drop them off and we'll scan them. (Be sure to identify your photos so we can get them back to you.) And if you have already scanned your photos yourself, bring them along on a disk.

Besides photo scanning, FANAC's display in Hall 2 will feature many photos of fandom at home, at conventions, and at parties.

But who are these people?

Drop by and help us identify them. We'll post the photos so that you can write your identifications on them using Post-it notes. Do you have photos where you don't know the people? Bring them along and maybe we can ID them! We'll be focusing on UK fandom, but there'll be photos from all over the world.

UK Worldcons

Our historical exhibits in Hall 2 will focus on UK Worldcons, with a special exhibit on each. Do you have something to share? Bring it (or a copy) along! We'd love to display it. (Please contact exhibits at exhibits@baskerville.org in advance if it is valuable and needs protection.) We'll also have a big sign-up sheet for people who attended each of those conventions. C'mon by and sign up!

As Others See Us

In Hall 2 Fanac will be displaying part of its collection of newspaper clippings about fandom and conventions. Do you have an interesting clipping? Bring it along and let us post it! (Please only bring original clippings if you are donating them to the collection – otherwise, please bring a copy.)

The Egg Carton

Electrical Eggs UK desk – 'The Egg Carton' – will be located in Hall 2 to provide information on barrier-free access, offer assistance for those who may need extra help and have accessories such as puncture repair kits and magnifying glasses available. Fans affected by age, illness, injury or disability should contact Eggs UK as soon as possible at eggs@interaction.worldcon.org.uk, particularly those with significant medical alert status.

The Egg Carton will be open daily (from Thursday) from 10am-5pm except for Monday, when we officially close at 1pm.



*Naw, i'm just sittin'
here, watchin' the
words go by.*

Anyone Gotta Blimp?

To celebrate the 32nd anniversary of not holding the 1973 Worldcon in Minneapolis, we'll have a special Mpls in '73 exhibit in Hall 2. (It's never too late to sign up as a Mpls in '73 pre-supporter.) The problem is that we've lost our blimp. It wouldn't be a Mpls in '73 exhibit without an inflatable blimp and we don't have one – can you help? Contact blimp@toad-hall.com if you have a spare blimp to loan us.

Food at the SECC

The SECC have an appointed caterer – Leith's. They have a number of fixed outlets that will be open for our event. Cafe Ritazza is on the SECC main concourse across from Hall 5; Quay West is outside Hall 3 (the Dealers' Room & Art Show). Upstairs is a restaurant and the Terrace Bar. In addition they are setting up outlets in Hall 2 to sell snack type foods, and there will be another bar in there as well.

Meat served by Leith's is, in general, Halal. Kosher food can be ordered in advance by contacting Vicki Gold of Leith's – email vicki.gold@secc.co.uk – tel. +44(0)141 576 3138. This will have to be paid for in advance, as it will be need to be ordered in from an external supplier.

The Souvenir Book

We are delighted to announce that in addition to the standard paperback and limited hardback editions of the Souvenir Book which have already been announced, we will now also be producing a regular hardback version. This will provide something more substantial than the paperback, whilst being considerably cheaper than the limited edition.

The regular hardback Souvenir Book will be on sale at a cost of £15 from the Sales to Members area in Hall 2. We are also helping people to choose their preferred option at registration, by offering each member a choice of a paperback Souvenir Book, or a £5 voucher which can be used towards the Hardback edition. A total of 400 regular hardbacks will be available, on a first-come, first-served basis.

We also still have some copies remaining of the limited edition hardback, slipcased and signed by the Guests of Honour. These will also be on sale from the Sales to Members area.

LOCUS

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Masquerade - Last Minute Info

by Giulia de Cesare

Where has the time gone? And if I'm thinking this, how much more so are all of you madly sewing, gluing and otherwise constructing your costumes?

So this is my last chance to encourage you to enter!

Enter!

There, that's that done.

Chaos Costume - Help Needed

We'll have a sign-up roster at the masquerade desk (near the masquerade exhibit in Hall 2) for help to supervise the chaos costume room, open Friday and Saturday. Anyone with a bit of costume experience would be appreciated.

Stage Arrangements

There will be a couple of big screens over the stage, one on each side, with at least six metres' clearance below them.

If you are planning something big or hard to move in, please send in a masquerade registration form at:

<https://vault2.secured-url.com/secure05/mgentry.htm>

so I can reserve some space in the wings for you – your alternative is to negotiate stairs or a ramp and narrow corridors and doorways.

The presenters will be at a lectern on stage left. We will prefer entrants to come on at stage right and exit stage left. See me at rehearsal if you need a different arrangement.

Fan Photography

There is no room backstage, and other locations in the Armadillo are accessible only through long narrow corridors, up stairs or via a tiny lift.

So we're going to put fan photography in the Moat House, a short distance away and reachable from backstage.

This requires a short walk outside – fine if the weather is good, but a major problem if raining or windy. If the weather is bad, an alternative is to have fan photography on the stage, after prizes have been awarded. Entrants who want to be photographed will have to stay in, or get back into, their costumes.

Neither of these arrangements is ideal, but I hope you will be understanding, as we were considering not having fan photography, such was the problem.

Photographers must apply for tickets from the masquerade desk, which will be near the masquerade exhibit in Hall 2.

Lastly, watch the skies! Or, at least, keep an eye on:

www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk/mq_info.htm

for any last minute changes or additional information between now and August.

See you then!

The Play

Reductio Ad Absurdum's latest epic production "Lucas Back in Anger" (all 6 Star Wars movies reduced to absurdity) premieres in the Clyde Auditorium at 8pm on Friday 5 August. And don't forget: the first 1000 people who show up will receive a super free gift. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll kiss an hour goodbye!



There Will Be Room For Fans

We asked for a little space for the fan room for this last newsletter, mostly to give us a chance to remind you that the fan room is there.

We're in the Moat House, and hope to entice you over there with a full programme of exciting fannish activity, loads of fanzines and other fannish bits and pieces, and lots of other fans to chat to. Not to mention that we are the sole providers of Real Ale.

Here's some things you might want to bring to the con to enhance your fan room experience:

- A suitable costume for Space Pirate Night. Space pirates. Space. Pirates. Cleavage.
- Feel free to improvise. Buckle that swash! Rip that Bodice!
- Parrot! Eyepatch! Pieces of Eight!
- Biscuits* from your local environment for the International Battle of the Biscuits.
- Small games and puzzles for the fan lounge.

(* or "cookies" if that's the approved term in your local jurisdiction.)

- Photos of fans in compromising positions for the walls of the fan room.
- Comfy clothes for yoga, dance, other physical items.
- Moose, antlers, moose-related paraphernalia.
- Penicillin for warding off viral conventions.
- Material for one-shot fanzines.
- Chocolate.
- Items for the Fan Fund Auction, Tat Tombola and Table Auction.
- Your fanzine, especially if you want us to review it in the bath.
- Rules and equipment for famous fannish games like nurdling and astral pole.
- Whatever else we've forgotten.
- Something you think would surprise us.
- Yourself!

We look forward to seeing you!

REMEMBER TO BRING THE ENVELOPE!