

TEACHING NESSIE TO TAPDANCE

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INTERSECTION

'The Scottish WorldCon'

The 57th World Science Fiction Convention



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (MARTIN) - AUGUST (1994)

(This is an edited version of Martin's report and serves as a Chair's Introduction. - some items have already been dealt with. Vince was mired in the depths of our Canadian Presence and so will provide articles in the next Nessie.)

ACTIONS OVER THE LAST MONTH:

1) Hotel Rates

Encouragement & coaching from the sidelines on Hotel negotiation. This has been going slower than we hoped but there will be a blitz on it over the next couple of weeks. We have identified the primary and secondary party hotels. Can't tell you which yet as we are still negotiating the prices down.

2) Airline Deal

Working on an airline deal, primarily to give some help for people coming to the Convention from the US. This is now looking more promising (Ed - see article later on).

3) Meetings

a. Planning a Board weekend. A November meeting where we can get the Board together for an intensive brainstorming session on the Convention. Intended to give board members who are rather geographically more remote more chance to talk to everyone else. (Well Jacky has actually done all the work).

b. Meeting with Paul Oldroyd. A smaller group of us intend getting together with Paul to discuss where Conspiracy was at this point and what we might learn from their experience. (Just an informal afternoon pub meet at this stage).

4) Attending Divisional meetings

I missed the programme meeting (again) because I was in the US.

Filing Weekend (Membership Services); A good chance to see what life is like for people who do the real work.

About 6 of us working for a day managed to complete another third of the filing. A bit more than a third remains to do. Jacky will be announcing a date for another weekend. The first fans found to have the ideal membership profile (pre-supporting, voting and converting) were Jacky and Oliver.

Al & Al are to be congratulated for getting the incoming mail under control. Problems with memberships have reduced drastically.

5) Recruited a Newsletter editor (I hope). I have a tentative 'yes' from an editor.

CURRENT TARGETS

1) Try to get more PR info, out in the UK. I'd like to do another 'Intersection Mammal' for the 'Ton meeting.

In particular I'd like to do some more rumour control. Somehow for instance a rumour of 'mass resignations' from Intersection has got loose in the UK. In fact we have had only 3 people resign. Several others have changed jobs and some are temporarily inactive while working on Confabulation and Evolution but these will be working pre-con or on the day. Someone at the 'Ton even told me that I had resigned!

If anyone hears any more pieces of misinformation like this can they do their best to squash them there and then. Also post them to me so that we can make sure they don't spread any further. Possibly by sending round THEMENWITHBIGSTICKS.

2) Check on items on the urgent list. These are currently childcare and Insurance. Jenny Glover is doing some more research on childcare.

Margaret (Austin) is getting the Insurance application forms. We are trying to bring this back up to schedule. *Anyone who will have equipment that needs insuring at the con should e-mail/mail details to me*.

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3) Planning some organisational restructuring.

The 'Executive' structure (Myself, Oliver, James & Malcolm) with Kathy as secretary plus Vince or TR if they were in the country, has been an effective 'steering committee', able to make decisions at board level in areas where a full board meeting was either not needed or could not be got together in time. Now that Malcolm's work commitments are too great for him to continue on this we will need to restructure it somewhat.

We also have the annual October reexamination of organisational structure coming up. We've found that we do genuinely need these as we add more people to the organisation.

4) Get the Divisional Timeline information collated into a single document.

5) Making the running of the Con a more fun job.

The Intersection organisation is the most widely spread committee ever to organise any con anywhere. The penalty we pay for this is that a lot of people are off on their own doing tough jobs 'for the good of fandom' while getting little of the interaction with the rest of fandom which was why we originally got involved. We need to get together and socialise more. The staff weekends have been excellent but the cost to most people, relative to their spare cash, means we can't hold them as often as we'd like.

I'd like to try and find a some cheaper events, say a Saturday evening every couple of Months where people can get together between staff meetings.

NEW DIVISION HEADS - those unfortunates who didn't say NO!

Intersection has some more Division Heads who have come on board for the duration.

Programming Division Head - Tina Hewett: exchanges roles with John Richards i.e. he is now her Deputy. Tina is perhaps better known in Media Fandom but is definitely a confirmed 'Bookie'. In the short time she has been Division Head there has been a noticeable difference in Programme in that people are now able to find out what is happening in this division, rather than being aware that 'things' were actively lurking under the surface.

Promotions Division Head - Claire Brialey has taken on this mammoth task for the Convention. Eddie has stepped down to Deputy due to the fact that he hasn't the time between a fairly busy job and the fact that his girlfriend is now located in Norwich. This makes for a lot of weekend travelling!!

Finance Division - Vince Docherty has picked up the reins on this specialised area and needs no introduction.

Alice Lawson and Dave Cooper will be responsible for day-to-day running of things like the banking, expenses and basic budget control. Malcolm Reid, the previous incumbent, has taken a step down and now is responsible for Corporate Business i.e. taxes! His reasons are almost identical to Eddie Cochrane's, but you need to add a new house in London (having moved from Glasgow), and a fiancée currently residing in Glasgow (whom he sees every weekend) plus a new project at work that requires a lot of time! Enough for anyone's schedule.

Foreign Legion - Heidi Lyshol has agreed to be the Division Head, taking over from Fiona Anderson who is now responsible for the Op's Area and is Deputy to Patty Wells (Op's DH). Heidi is well known amongst attendees of EasterCons, and was involved in running InterCon's for several years in Norway - her home port. There are very few continental fan's who don't know Heidi. She now resides in Guildford and can be seen at a Tun near you!

WSFS Division - Paul Dormer, our resident WSFS expert, now takes on this role having been the Deputy. As you can see from his Divisional Report he is well on the way with planning.

Membership Services Division - Jacky Grüter-Andrew moves into the Division Head slot. Pat McMurray, is now the Evolution Committee member responsible for Site (not a task to be envied!). As you can see from the various articles in this APA Jacky is already well on the way to polishing pre-con areas and planning at-con work.

Looking at the Board structure now - there is one Norwegian, two Scots, one New Zealander, one Dutch, an American and a German and a Co-chair living in Oman and a sprinkling of English. We have also now got 17 Agents in the Foreign Legion. If this isn't an international Worldcon I don't know what is. (There are now also more women on the Board than men - watch out!).

CONTACT BODY

by Jacky Grüter-Andrew

One of the main problems with running any large convention is COMMUNICATIONS (no, no, not *that* word again ...). Well, it's true. We now have over one hundred people actively working on the convention (having just sent out the staff weekend invites please be assured of this!) in the UK alone, and many people involved in the US under TR's aegis. This means that when someone has a brilliant idea for programme, or a suggestion on how to run things better, or even a complaint, it can often be confusing about who to approach - and when you ask someone else they might not know or could send you down the garden path. Having been regaled with stories at the Tun of people

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who tried unsuccessfully three times to send their brainstorm in the right direction I can sympathise.

The first method of solving this it to again say to people 'just because someone is involved in Intersection doesn't mean they will pass things on to the right person'. If you are in Fixed Exhibits, and tell someone in Membership Services your brainchild - despite good intentions there is no guarantee it will get to the right person in Programme. If you come up to our beleaguered Co-Chair Martin at a staff weekend with said idea, despite good intentions he has already had 100+ requests/ideas. This is not necessarily going to get to where you want either!

The second step is to appoint someone to be a CONTACT PERSON. This person would act like a walking/talking/mailling organisation chart and be able to tell you who (and how) to contact the right person, or alternatively would know who to ask to find the answer = A CONTACT PERSON. Thinking this fell somewhere under the Information Desk, Alison Scott was approached about possible volunteers - she volunteered!

Her details are attached to the Nessie. This is, at the moment, the best solution we can come up with. If anyone has any further ideas of how to improve communications (please remember the people and money points involved in your suggestion) we would be grateful to hear it - with this idea please contact your local Co-Chair!

THE INTERSECTION PROGRAMME

by Tina Hewett

When I took over the position of Head of Programming a couple of months ago, I was deluged in bad news, problems, peoples fear, worries and dire rumours of doom, gloom and despair. The Con with no Programme, no department heads, no information and no previous experience. Luckily, I have broad shoulders and no obvious suicidal tendencies apart from the one that prompted me to put myself forward for the position of Head of Programming!

I'll let you into a little secret, PROGRAMMING IS DOING JUST FINE!

As the former and current Department Head for Media Programming I had been involved with Intersection actively for a few months and had attended a programming meeting. As far as I could tell, everyone within the 'Creative' division were of one mind, to produce a totally mixed and integral programme covering the Globe in our search of programme items and participants. Media programming certainly has had a structure in place for several weeks and had several irons in the fire. Science was romping away, Filk had financed its own Guest. The Fan programme was

chugging away happily and Film adopted some media ideas to put its programme together. Literature had acquired Maureen Speller and Paul Kincaid, two experienced and trusted people at the helm, and Games was quite happily whirring away. Where were the problems? Who had the problems? What was wrong with the Programme? Nothing. All right, we didn't have a string of topics, panels and guests, but there was no way that we could commit to such things so far in advance. This sort of information wouldn't be ready until the Draft Programme was put together at the start of 1995.

Now I have been in office for a couple of months. What is my opinion of the Programme and Programmers? Wonderful! Yes, I quite happily admit that I am biased, but I am also a realist. There are some problems, but they are small in comparison to the positive aspects. The Con with no Programme, you must be joking. If things keep going as they are, I'm going to have problems getting it all in.

I expect that you are all waiting with bated breath to hear about the Programme now that the waffle is over. I hate to disappoint you, but I still can't say. Why? Because any ideas that are worked too heavily now will become stale by Intersection and no participants are willing to commit themselves to times and dates so far in advance.

My first controversial act seems to have been widely discussed and at times elicited quite vehement debating. What is it you ask. A questionnaire. Yes, a bit of a let down really, but yes a questionnaire caused great waves of consternation. Perhaps people will understand a little more if I explain the premise. As a group, Programming wanted to get a mix of old and new. We all know people who have helped out and participated before, but who gets to know about the 'closet fans' who have hidden talents and knowledge that could benefit the convention, especially in non-English speaking areas and countries?

Appeals in PRs often get little if any response and that from the people who actually read the PRs. We decided to be a little more direct. We will issue a general questionnaire to every member, and a second, more specialised follow up to those people who reply to the first. As well as hopefully bringing a lot more material and information to the Programming team, it helps with trying to adapt sections of the programme to those people who will be watching it. A by product is the proof that Intersection is interested in the ideas and views of all its members. There are cons as well as pros, finance being a major one, fears that people might take this as a personal invite another. But at the end of the day the strength of feeling was that our 'cons' are far outweighed by the 'pros'.

I expect that before Intersection is over I will be involved in many more battles to a greater mad lesser degree. I'll make some friends and some enemies, but

that is basic human nature. At the end of the day, so long as we make a good Programme, which gives our customers value for money, we will have achieved a great deal. I have no doubts that we will achieve our goal.



OCTOBER STAFF WEEKEND

Jacky Grüter-Andrew

The next Intersection staff weekend will be held 15/16 October in Wolverhampton (near Birmingham) at the Victoria Hotel Perequito (was known as the Victoria Park Hotel). We are not able to go back to the Leofric because they are already booked. The hotel is literally a hop, skip and a jump from the main station - you definitely don't need a taxi to take you as one fan did at a filk con held there, the driver asked if he really wanted to be taken across the road! The room rate of £30 per person includes dinner, bed and breakfast.

If anyone has any useful suggestions for items you would like to have discussed, topics raised etc. please contact me at:

jacky@magellan.demon.co.uk
Ph. 081 761 2635

A room booking form will be sent out within the next few weeks. If you don't receive anything from me please let me know and I will send out full details.

Everyone is more than welcome to attend, but beware, if you aren't working on Intersection and you decide to show up, by the end of the weekend... (gurggle, gurggle, wicked laughter, a witch's pointy hat falls off the trembling coat rack).

BRITISH AIRWAYS DEAL

Margaret Austin and Jacky Grüter-Andrew

Martin has negotiated with BA who have agreed to be our official carrier - and provide us with discounted flights - the wording for any printed promotional material is:

"Specially discounted fares from British Airways have been offered for all Intersection members.

To take advantage of this offer please phone your local British Airways office for details. Just quote reference CIC*115/62.

Please note, this offer is only valid when booking direct with a British Airways office."

Whilst we can't include the percentage discounts in promotional material we are, of course, allowed to give our members full details when they ask at the Intersection desk at any convention.

We can't put this info. into the Nessie - please ask any Board Member or those who are running are desk about the, rather good, percentage discount.

WAFFLE

Alison Freebairn supplied this article to us.

I don't know if there are any fans from the North-West (Scotland that is) or of any Islanders who are in fandom. Why not? Don't try to tell me that these areas are too remote - live there for a while before you slag it off, please. Communications are getting better every day. We do have electricity, telephones, cars and even the much lauded e-mail up there, you know.

Perhaps it's just that I would love to see a fanzine in Gaelic one of these days. It would take me months to read it - I'm not a native speaker so I rely on dictionaries and tapes very heavily - but perhaps this is the time to bring the ancient language into the fan scene.

Intersection is being held in Glasgow, after all, and perhaps this would be a good time to involve the Gaels. Just think of all the visitors from the USA who will be there ...

When my family were in Lochaber, and when I returned to live there a few years ago, the area would be swamped every summer by Americans eager to see the land of their ancestors. Genealogy is a fast-growing scene in the UK but the Americans and the Antipodeans have us beaten hands down. Let's exploit that.

I hope that Intersection is "a Scots convention" - not "The Scottish Con" as I have heard it called. "The Scottish Con" sounds too much like "The Scottish Play" which actors are afraid to mention. The Nessie image is fun for those of us who know what the country is like for real, but let's not drag out the string vests and bagpipes as well.

Scotland is a stunningly gorgeous and vibrant place. It would be tragic if the visitors only saw the SECC and the inside of a Glasgow hotel. For many of the congoers who have travelled thousands of miles for the convention and have some days to spare, a few hints as to the major tourist attractions wouldn't go amiss. If nothing else, we should give them directions to Glencoe or Spean Bridge and the address of The Dark Island Hotel on Benbecula. Tell them about Wester Ross and hint that there will be a major shinty match in Portree later in the week. No, I'm not working for Highlands and Islands Tourist Board.

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See Glasgow? See Cul'chur? It's a wonderful city, and they should be satisfied with the sights, the buildings and the nightlife - not to mention the people.

It's just that if we really give them a good reception and show them what a great time they can have here, they'll tell their friends, and their relatives, and with the "Murder at Midnight" scenario, we just might be able to boost Scotland's tourist industry to the point where we can afford to host many more such events as Intersection. That would not only be good for fandom, the knock on effects would be good for everyone. Sponsorship will come easier, funding will be more readily available.

Too many people are still completely unaware that a Worldcon is being held in Glasgow. Other fan groups, like the much-maligned media associations, don't have a clue about it - and those who do are scared to come forward and offer help.

The convention is so big and so exciting that we should be shouting it from the rooftops. Who cares if it is still 12 months away? The past will fly by at such a rate that we may find ourselves sitting here next year, with the realisation that the publicity machine has left us far behind slowly dawning in our complacent minds.

I hope that's not the case, but it seems to me that not enough is being done at the moment. There are around 150 people actively involved in the Doctor Who groups in Glasgow and Edinburgh - and 99 per cent of those people are also into literature and comics and all kinds of genres (and have never even seen an anorak) - but they didn't even know Intersection was being held until I dumped a pile of flyers in their laps.

That is criminal. Media and comics fans are human too - they are fans as well - and they have every right to know that a major fan event is going to be held on their doorstep. They just might be interested in going along, and I bet you wouldn't say no to their money...

CHILDCARE AND KIDCON

by Jenny Glover

Childcare is a very complex and necessary part of Worldcons, not just to help the parents enjoy themselves, but to make sure that the children are safe, and those that are not babies, enjoy themselves too.

What is meant by childcare?

It is an inescapable fact of life that people likely to attend Worldcons do tend to occasionally have children! However, since attending any Worldcon is a big commitment for the whole family, some people may wish to combine a Worldcon trip with some form of holiday and since there are people who either miss their children when they are separated or who do not have

alternative childcare arrangements, it is likely that some con attendees at Intersection will bring their families.

However, parents may wish to go to programme items which could not interest children or to go to the dealers/art room to spend money on themselves for once instead of children; or help to run the convention. All of these can be done more enjoyably and more effectively without children.

Childcare therefore consists of prime time and space devised for children where the children can be entertained and kept safe.

Who benefits from childcare at a con?

If parents who have been hesitating about attending Intersection are aware that there is a satisfactory childcare system and decide to attend, then the convention will benefit substantially in terms of increased revenue from membership fees and in terms of increased members for programme items, audiences and help with the running of the con.

The hotel and function centre will benefit financially because children need regular meals and drinks plus parents of children prefer a hotel as near the con site as possible.

Hotel staff and childless con attendees will benefit by not being disturbed by bored and possible disruptive children.

How can childcare be arranged at Intersection?

Childcare can be arranged satisfactorily at Intersection, though expensive in terms of space, resources and personnel. Children have different needs according to their ages, usually split by age into 3 groups;

BABIES (0-3) - Looking after babies is not difficult. Even the most excited baby has the occasional nap and this can be encouraged by it being put into a pram/pushchair and taken for a walk. Babies need calm adults to play with and read to them. They need regular (but small) drinks and snacks and equally regular nappy changing!

Toddlers/Juniors (3.5-7) - This is a challenging but intensely interesting group. It can be very satisfying looking after children of this age, who are able to watch videos, read or be read to, play games or go for walks.

Seniors (7.5-10) - These children tend to be articulate and can be reasoned with, though their logic does not tend to resemble 'adult' logic. They will be interested in meeting particular authors, attending workshops, seeing videos and doing things such as clay modelling and mask making.

However, as every parent has a different view about table manners, it would be a good idea for children to

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have breakfast, lunch and tea with their parents. (This will also give the childcare helpers a chance to recover and recharge their batteries.)

(Ed - As you can see, a very thorough article has been put together by Jenny Glover, of which the above is an excerpt. A great deal of work has been done and we look forward to seeing the results.)

MEMBERSHIP QUERIES - HOW TO HANDLE THEM

by Jacky Grüter-Andrew

In future could all membership queries regarding UK and Rest of the World be sent to Judith Jackson who deals with membership entry onto the database, and copied to Alasdair Hepburn and myself for information. This only applies to 'internal' queries such as an Area Head querying about an Author/Dealers status. All 'external' queries should be directed, as usual, to our office who will send it on to Judith for processing. US and Canadian 'external' membership queries should still be sent to TR Smith in the States.

The expected turn around time for all queries, including e-mail, is one month from receipt if not sooner. This is because occasionally we need to check obscure records, track people down to ask them questions, and sometimes make a policy decision about a really difficult one. If it is extremely urgent please say so - and justify yourself!

I stress the importance of contacting the right people if someone comes to you with a query at your local SF group meeting e.g. the Tun, or a convention. Please tell them (or yourself!) to put it in writing to either of the appropriate convention offices, or send to intersection@smof.demon.co.uk. Judith should only be contacted directly by those working on Intersection. If we don't see it in writing our poor overworked synapse might lose a neurotransmitter or two and 'forget'

Judith's, Alasdair's and my contact details are attached to this Nessie.

If anyone has any questions/suggestions please feel free to contact me.

'AND ENGLISHMEN ABED...'

by Kim Whysall

So where were you?! A small bunch of truly heroic fans tackled the Intersection filing backlog, AND WON!!!

Mind you, we are all now 'alphabet blind' and never want to see another receipt again..... Do you know how many Schneiders there are?

Here are some of the survivors, amid labels, stationary and files. The roll of honour was (in no particular order):

Alex McLintock
Joe Gibbons
Tony Hammond
Jacky Grüter-Andrew
Kim Whysall
John Bray
Simon Bradshaw
Pat McMurray
Judith and Glynn Jackson

Jacky G-A here - Much thanks to all the above brave souls who trudged through two days worth of filing. There is still a little more to do but the back of this donkey is well and truly broken! This was the first filing day, those who attended the second filing day were Oliver Grüter-Andrew, Simon Bradshaw, Kathy and Ian Taylor, Martin Easterbrook and Fiona Anderson (see Chairman's report on page 1).

PROMOTIONS AT UK CONVENTIONS

by Claire Brialey

This article has two purposes: to explain our basic plans for promoting Intersection at UK cons over the next year; and to ask other staff members for ideas, useful suggestions and offers of help. Well what did you expect?

I suspect that I'll be stating the obvious somewhat in this article, but with an organisation as big as this, I find that stating the obvious is the safest thing to do - in case everyone else has thought something was so obvious that they wouldn't personally need to do anything about it.

We have reorganised the Promotions division to try to make sure that groups of both fans and non-fans are targeted properly, supplied with relevant information and promotional material, and generally made to feel that Intersection is something worth their while to attend. Basically, our aim is to make sure that everyone who sees some promotional information about Intersection is told why they should want to attend it. To state the obvious, then, conventions are an obvious and direct way of reaching a lot of fans, giving us a real opportunity to make a good impression and to provide detailed information face-to-face.

We now have a specific Conventions area for Promotions with KIM Campbell and Chris O'Shea as area heads; they have responsibility for arranging promotional activities at cons. This will include:

(i) providing information about Intersection and other conventions in a regular news-sheet and con-listing;

(ii) co-ordinating running of sales tables for Intersection at other cons; and

(iii) arranging as many other things as possible which will promote Intersection in positive ways at conventions.

You'd better get used to the sight of me, the Divisional Co-ordinators, and Chris and KIM bearing down on you, demanding to know what conventions you are going to and what precisely you'd be prepared to do to help your Worldcon while you're there. It would be easier for you just to give in now...

To state the obvious again: the main thing is for us to get noticed.

Ways to get the table noticed include a large and eye-catching banner, the familiar large and eye-catching Nessie, and a large amount of eye-catching merchandise which we are working to make available for cons this summer and onwards. The merchandise should include new T-shirt designs, in addition to the staff "volunteer" T-shirts (get them while they're hot, they're luvly, only £5 to you), a sweatshirt for the autumn and winter, baseball caps, key rings, pens, mugs, badges and anything else that looks lucrative once we've sold the first lot. To state the obvious again, the point of merchandise is both to raise revenue and to raise awareness of the convention - having a range of merchandise should make Intersection look more organised and workable, and having T-shirts prominently displayed on bodies at cons gives us a lot of walking adverts.

Ways of getting the convention itself noticed include saturation paper coverage. To this end, we're producing flyers aimed at specific groups of fans, including a flyer for media fans and one which will promote every "name" we can use amongst attendees; we will also have cheap and cheerful posters specifically for conventions, as well as classy ones for shops and libraries.

Basically, I want more wall space at cons covered by Intersection posters and flyers than by anything else - including wallpaper. We will also be producing balloons because they're effectively floating flyers but a lot more fun. (All this and alliteration too!.)

Coming on to ways of really getting ourselves noticed, Intersection staff should be appearing on panels to plug the convention, running games and other events, entering competitions as an Intersection entry, and taking any other opportunity we can to make people think Intersection is something they don't want to miss out on. The point is, of course, that we want to promote the convention in a positive way. A lot of fans have preconceptions about it: to change their minds we need to show them something that's confident, professional and looking like a lot of fun. After all, if we don't sound convinced, why should they be?

I'm prepared to admit that a successful combination of these strategies will probably make people heartily sick of us - but I've found that this is in no way a bad thing! Eventually they will be so sick of us and so weakened by the effort that they'll give in and register - or even volunteer...

The point about this, though, is that it's really got to be a partnership; it's down to Promotions to arrange tables at conventions, to bring the flyers and balloons and merchandise and banner and Nessie, to organise Intersection events, and to make sure that the people trying to promote the con have the right information.

But, to state the obvious yet again, we're not meant to be operating in a vacuum. This is why we need programmers to tell us what's happening in relevant areas of the programme before we go to a con, so we can pass information on to people who ask about it - and the same thing applies to the Fan Fair, the Dealers Room, the Extravaganzas, in fact anything which should make other fans want to attend. It's also why we need people to tell us about accommodation, and transport, and food and drink, and the site, and other things to do in Glasgow and Scotland. And then, of course, we need willing volunteers to sit behind the table, absorb this information, and sell the con. We need people to go on panels, to help run events or even just to join in.

I declare an interest, but I think that anyone who's working for Intersection should also be working implicitly (and in many cases explicitly) for Promotions - whether by giving us the information we need, helping out at the conventions when you have the time, wearing Intersection T-shirts and badges and letting people know how much of fandom is involved, taking flyers and posters to local shops and libraries, or just by encouraging others to attend. We should all be promoting Intersection at every opportunity - not to the extent that people avoid you in pubs or at cons or even on the net, but just so that you take the opportunity to tell people the good things, rather than agreeing with denigrators that it'll all be a disaster, and so that you encourage people to come or to get involved, rather than sit sniping on the sidelines without bothering to try to do something positive. I'm aware that this really is stating the obvious, but in a way it's so simple that it's very easy to forget or think it's not important.

We've got a great opportunity in the next three months, not just at Conadian but in the UK as well, to sell Intersection to people while registration still costs only 60. We'll carry on selling the con even harder after this, of course, but we really mustn't miss this chance. Registration goes up to 80 at the end of September - so impress on everyone who hasn't paid up yet what a bargain they'll be getting if they join now!

If you have any constructive ideas about ways to promote Intersection at other conventions, if you'd like

to offer help at any cons you'll definitely be attending, if you're willing to take flyers to smaller cons where we'd otherwise have no presence at all, or if at the very least you want to let us know about some cons at which you think we should try to promote Intersection, please get in touch with me, or with the convention area heads, as soon as possible.

Thanks.

(Go on, go on, you know you want to...)

AN OVERVIEW OF THE INTERSECTION FILM PROGRAMME

by Tim Broadribb

It is planned that the Intersection Film Programme (as opposed to video) will run from 10am to 10pm Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. It may be necessary to truncate the Thursday and Monday programmes depending on set-up and strike times.

Given this suggested programme duration of 12 hours per day, we anticipate showing five films per day, i.e. twenty five during the course of the convention. To some extent we have taken a lead from the Media programme and adopted some of the themes; send in the Comics; Profound Effects; Slime, Scientists and Metal Men, Space Opera and other Musicals; Programmed for Comedy.

On the 35mm front, little progress has or can be made. Film companies have only the vaguest idea of what productions will be coming to fruition towards the latter part of 1995. It hardly seems worthwhile for us to spend money to hire 35mm prints of existing productions which all of our attendees will have had the opportunity to see.

Should there be, coincidentally, a major Science Fiction release upcoming at the right time we shall suggest to the film company that ours would be an excellent preview site and with this in mind we have been talking to the Glasgow Cinema with a view to using their facilities. There is a possibility that they will be running their own SF programme at the time of the convention and we shall do our best to dovetail with them. We have been offered the use of some facilities, unfortunately the sites are remote from the City centre and therefore it would be impractical to use them for the convention.

POSSIBLE FILK INTERSECTIONS WITH OTHER PROGRAMMING AREAS



by Valerie Housden

In my opinion, this is the biggest area of Intersection. Every Filker reads. Every Filker has written something

inspired by a book he or she has read. Furthermore a number of pro-writers are Filkers, including the following; C.J. Cherryh, Gordon Dickson, Mercedes Lackey, Juanita Coulson, Suzette Haden Elgin, Joe Haldeman, Elizabeth Anne Scarborough and Diana Wynne Jones. Some Filkers have made the transition from Filker to pro-writer.

There are an awful lot of Filks based on Terry Pratchett's Discworld books, partly because they are Discworld books, and partly because I announced I wanted to do a book of Discworld songs. Many books have inspired Filks, including those of Anne McCaffrey, Peter Morwood, H.P. Lovecraft, Gary Kilworth, Robert Heinlein, Gael Baudino, Colin Greenland and many others.

Apart from the Discworld (and possibly H.P. Lovecraft) songs, I cannot at present think of an author about whom I could safely say, yes, there are sufficient songs by British Filkers based on books by this person to fill 45 minutes. This is why I was planning to do themed items, such as "Space" or "Magic" etc.

In 1989, a group of us were invited to put on a concert of comics based Filk songs for Scam, the Comics Con. In this we featured songs based on stories from 2000 AD, the Uncanny X-Men, EXcaliber, Asterix the Gaul, Redfox and others. There are now enough British songs to do at least 45 minutes of X-Men/EXcaliber inspired songs. These are in addition to the American Filk songs inspired by comics.

In the US, Star Trek Fandom has supplied a major part of Filk Fandom. In the UK, Media Filk is much more diffuse, many being based on films. Other Media ideas include; Radio and Stage- especially Return to the Forbidden Planet, Filk videos, the Mediaeval Tavern, many Filkers are also costumers and members of the Far Isles. Following from the Mediaeval Tavern idea, although August is the wrong time of the year for a Burns Night, how about a McGonagle Night!

There are an awful lot of American space Filks. These vary from the celebration of the human achievement through to the celebration of the hardware. The Filksong "Cosmos" by Frank Hayes was used to wake up the Hubble shuttle astronauts, and a parody by the Filk Guest Bob Kanefsky was included as an appendix in a manual taken up by another shuttle crew. And "Computers"!! There are lots of computer songs on both sides of the Atlantic.

As can be seen, just a quick look shows that Filk can be used in conjunction with every other Programming department to produce joint items for the Programme.

IDEAS FOR THE FOREIGN LEGION



by Martin Easterbrook

When we first set up the Foreign Legion our intention was to provide a method whereby countries outside those that traditionally hold Worldcons can become more involved.

As well as the at-con ideas I can suggest several pre-con actions.

1) Contacting local publishers, fan groups and conventions to see if they would like to advertise in our PRs or souvenir book.

2) Getting articles about the "Year in Science Fiction" from your country for the souvenir book.

3) Letting us know if there are any SF TV shows from your country that have not been seen elsewhere. It would be fun to get some clips of these for the Media programme. Most countries have produced some shows of this sort but only the US, UK and Japanese ones are more widely distributed. (I've become a great fan of the German 'Raumpatrouille' (is that the spelling Oliver?) without understanding anything more than the count down so far.)

4) Encouraging local artists, costumers, filk singers etc. to come along and take part in those areas of the convention. (I'd advise getting hold of some pictures of Worldcon costumes so people can see what they would be up against though.)

5) Sending in ideas on items and speakers for the Intersection programme that you know about but we don't.

6) Working with everyone at Con in the areas Fiona mentions (Ed - see Camel 3, Foreign Legion APA) We hope to have mixed European/UK/US teams working together in all areas as we think this is the best way to introduce fans who haven't met before.

7) Finally and most important. The Fan Fair. We have an enormous area in Hall 4 intended to provide space for displays by as many interested fan groups as possible. Again these can cover any and all Science Fiction and Science Fiction fandom from your country. It is an opportunity to bring your own fandom to the Worldcon. In fact if you aren't there it will not be a complete Worldcon. If this is successful then we hope that both the Foreign Legion and such Fan Fair displays will become part of future Worldcons.

This is going to be more work than has been involved in being an agent for a Worldcon in the past. If you can recruit a team to work on such activities it will be more fun and should be easier. Even if some of your friends

can't come to the convention itself they may want to come to help with exhibits so that the rest of the world can see something about their fandom. Some countries form natural groups, like Scandinavia. It may be more fun and more productive to work together. If you come up with ideas that seem too expensive then try contacting some local companies (perhaps SF publishers) or Culture ministries to see if they can help by sponsoring exhibits.

We aim to be the most serious attempt to involve non US/UK fandoms that there has ever been. Even greater than Confiction. If it doesn't work here there is unlikely to be a similar chance for many years. If it does work the idea will be taken up by future Worldcons. We are relying on you to make the difference as much as you are relying on us to give you the opportunity.



SCOTLAND THE WHAT?

by Lillian Edwards

If we come down to it, the person who put this particular cat amongst the porridge was James Steel. In his post Eastercon Digest (the unofficial and self-consciously scruffy organ of the Worldcon) James pleads enticingly: "Let's please have a little less fake Scottishness!" A few lines further, even more brilliance: "I want some real Scottishness in this Con and I think it's going to drown in fake Tartan if we go on like this..." The grand image is just too little of SF and too much of Tartan tweeness.. If you have something positive to say about Scotland and the way Scotland's culture, motifs and images have influenced SF, Fantasy, the Media or whatever then get in touch..

Remember, if you don't write we may never be rid of the Brigadoon tendency."

My own sentiments more than exactly. So much so that I had opened my heart about exactly this to James only 5 weeks earlier at the Glasgow Intersection evening in February... OK James, I'm willing to believe the 80 shillings on tap had something to do with this mysterious amnesia. But forgive me if I indulge myself with the airing of a few ideas outside the dedicated desktop of the Digest.

Question number one: why should there be any real Scottishness in the Worldcon programming?

Well, why not? It has always been acknowledged since the very earliest days of the bid that the location in Scotland would be one of the principal draws for the overwhelming majority of American lumpenfandom. If it's Scotland the masses want then why not give it to them? Not Tartan tat Scotland which they will find better done at any of a thousand Highland gift shops or craft centres. Not blown up Nessie fandom. Why not real Scotland? Even (whisper it) real Scottish SF?

There could be advantage in this after all. Innovative programming has never seemed so far at least, the long suit of this particular Worldcon. Gant charts and multicoloured ribbons are more its speed. And let's face it, we all (and especially those who have programmed x conventions already this year (unlike me, phew)) are at the stage where a new idea for a programme theme item that hasn't been tried before is about as likely as Madonna finding an untried sexual position. Historically, Scottish conventions of the past have been run to an audience more interested in the new skiffy film releases or old episodes of the Prisoner than in straight SF or history, Scottish or otherwise. Hence there has, in the past, been little attempt to investigate the potential of a Scottish theme for SF programming at Faircons, Albacons or the like. (The nearest that any convention has got is Mexican II which had the vision to hire Alasdair Gray as one of its Guests of Honour - a strategy which is warmly recommended.) Wouldn't it be a nice idea to emphasise the Scottish motif of the Scottish Convention, not by gagging on haggis and whisky and displaying the appalling knees of Board members but by celebrating what is different and intersecting and appropriate about Scottish culture as it relates to SF, to Fantasy and more broadly to the speculative and fantastic? Wouldn't that concept be a fertile storehouse of ideas for jaundiced audiences.

That's the pragmatic argument. There is also the political one. Some have said that the fact that the Worldcon is being held in Scotland is a geographical accident, that it could just as well have been held in Brighton, there were no complaints about lack of involvement with the local Brightonian culture. This is true with one caveat: Brighton is not a nation. Scotland is. It is foolish, discourteous and wasteful to ignore this. Scotland's nationhood should be seen not as an irrelevance but a plus, a resource for programmers just as much as for PR men. (Some might say it is as strange to have a Scottish Worldcon run exclusively by English people ignorant of Scottish culture as it is to have publications for a largely anglophone membership produced by foreign language speakers but let it pass, let it pass.)

Scotland as a nation has lived out its life through fantasy, unable to realise its dreams in any other way, the dreams of a small, impoverished and disappointed nation at the furthest end of Northern Europe, squashed up against its bigger, brassier and overwhelmingly more successful neighbour England, which intercedes between it and the beckon of Continental Europe. While England was building an Empire, Scotland failed even to establish a peak in Darien. It is unsurprising that for Scotland (as for Ireland, another colonised Celtic nation) fantasy is the national preoccupation: fantasy found more often perhaps at the bottom of a glass or on the football field, Scotland's twin obsessions, but also found in literary guise. Peter Pan, the ultimate wish fulfilment was the child of Scot J.M. Barrie. Alasdair Gray's *Unthank* is fantastified Glasgow. Any trip on a British Rail train out of

Glasgow or Edinburgh will show a startlingly high proportion of readers buried in Donaldson and other Tolkienesque clones. Many of Scotland's fantasists have been expatriates, adding to the Scottish yearning for fantasy, the characteristic alienation of the emigrant. It seems to me that there are more than a few passing themes for an interesting programme strand.

THE UK CONVENTION OFFICE

by Jacky Grüter-Andrew

The Intersection Pre Con Office isn't quite like any other UK convention offices so I thought that we should explain what it is that actually happens at the other end of our Glaswegian Admail address.

This area is run by the dazzling Allison Ewing with help from her Significant Other Alasdair Hepburn (who also doubles as the Area Head for Pre Con Registration).

All the mail that is sent to the Admail address arrives at the London H.Q. a day or two after it touches down in Glasgow. Al and Al then sort out who it needs to go to (according to what the relevant Division Head has told them), writes their name/area in the top left hand corner, date stamps it, photocopies it and sends it on to the relevant person within 7-10 days of receipt of the letter. At this point they also detach any monies for memberships and send them direct to Alice Lawson in Sheffield - the memberships then go to Judith Jackson who processes them and sends out receipts and PR's (as well as entering them in the membership database) to the new or converted member.

Photocopies of all correspondence are kept in chronological order at the office in case the selective black hole (also known as the Post Office or your office desk) swallows it up.

Allison and Alasdair reply directly to queries like 'What is Worldcon?' and 'Where is Scotland ?!' with materials provided by the Promotions Division. When requested they will also send out data packs produced by areas such as the Masquerade. If the enquiry has other questions which they can't answer a 'holding' reply will also be sent with the data pack. In all cases Areas will receive a copy of the information enquiry with a notation saying a pack has been sent to the person with/without a holding note.

Another important function of the Office is the Intersection stationery account held with Viking. These are by far the cheapest suppliers we have been able to find and have the added advantage of delivering anywhere in the country - so long as someone is there to collect. When a Division head authorises the expenditure from their budget the stationary order is placed by Al and Al - and the invoice is marked up by Finance to the correct Division. You're getting the drift

when you realise it is not coming out of MY (Membership Services) budget!!

The US Office is run by TR Smith with helping hands in the form of her mother (Katje Renner) and DeeAnn Farey. They run things a little different there as they also process memberships.

If you have any queries about how the Office is run - or suggestions - we would be happy to hear them. Please remember we have tried not to bore you with ALL the nitty gritty!



TIMIZOARA

Eurocon, Timizoara, Romania.

by Bridget Wilkinson

Eurocon was the 1994 Eurocon, and besides being the Worldcon, so will Intersection be in 1995.

So what's the difference between Eurocon and Worldcon, and between the European Science Fiction Society and the World Science Fiction Society?

Eurocon was founded in the seventies as an answer to Worldcon, but the formats rapidly separated. Worldcon is a democracy of members, Eurocon is based on a parliament of country representatives. ESFS is interested in promoting international publications of art, fiction, criticism, with Eurocon as a means. WSFS organises the Worldcon.

One of the most important practical differences (as opposed to the theoretical ones) is that Eurocon is a convention in the local mode with an international flavour, while Worldcon is governed not only by rules but also by custom. The skeleton Eurocon is two committee meetings and an awards ceremony, but it had better be more than that...

Timizoara held most items in English and Romanian with simultaneous translation, complete with interpreters and gadget boxes. This slows things down, though, not as much as being translated as you speak.

Other solutions were also found - the play Cassandra was theoretically in English, but to all intents and purposes in mime. Fireworks and lasers need no translation.

The site was split, although not badly so. Administration (Ops. in our terms) was done at the University House - there was also exhibition space there and a meetings room in which the ESFS meeting and press conference were held. The press conference was the gripe session - but see below for that. The Opera House and the University were also used. Extravaganzas went on late by our standards (until

midnight). Some people went straight to bed, others held parties of sorts. Some room parties were held, mixed and single nationality, but other fans, particularly the younger ones, spent time drinking Coca-Cola out of glass bottles (yes, they still have them!) at all-night open air stalls by the main square. This would only work in London during a heat wave. A considerable amount of socialising was done on the square as well. This works just well in a country where SF is very respectable, though there were problems with gate crashers.

The main Art Show site was ten minutes walk away. This had worried me before the convention, but since it also held the dealers (not many of them, the number of books printed is still fairly small by our standards, they sell out very fast and second hand material is difficult to come by), and about ten book launches a day were run there, people moved back and forth. The launches were dry but well attended as if the book may sell out in two hours you want to be there when it comes out! (More stocks would appear later in Bucharest, but fans from small towns could have real problems. As far as I know there are no mail order dealers yet.)

The Art Show was on three sites and was superb.

Despite being superficially split there were no real large distances to walk, and the facilities were good, even if some of them were run down by western standards. It would be quite possible to hold a bigger convention there, although hotel space would become a big problem. The foreigners were provided with interpreters. At lunch on the first day this caused real confusion. The interpreter had to leave briefly, so I spoke to the waitress about drinks in Romanian. Then I tried my somewhat ancient German on Herbert Franke, the German SF writer/scientist guest. He spoke back, although my effort had been futile as his English was much better than my German. We switched. Back in English he asked me what was happening after lunch, and about registration.

"I don't know, your guess is as good as mine."

"But you're a member of the committee, aren't you?"

I don't know who looked more stunned, me or Franke when Paul Dormer and Neyir Cenk Gokce fell about laughing.

One of the interpreters later reckoned that I had to be counted as about 0.9 of an interpreter, (I'd said 0.1, Cenk reckoned 0.5), this stood me in good stead for the great airport taxi disaster.

The really conspicuous feature was the media. As ESFS chair I was getting interviewed by the local and national press, radio and TV. (Ask Paul Dormer if you don't believe me - I'd sometimes barely move ten yards.) Dave Lally got some of the same treatment too.

There was an SF radio programme before the revolution, and afterwards SF fans moved rapidly into all of the media, with SF taken seriously practically by all. This is how this started.

The vast majority of the hordes of media people were SF fans, and those who weren't were respectful. The Sunday afternoon set piece was a live broadcast from the main square, while mobile cameras were filming much of the convention, and radio people would book interviews with passing personalities.

This is the context in which I turned up to the press conference and found myself in the gripe session. The press were asking the con organisers about all the snafus at the con. Dave Lally was looking on in horror. I assured him that I thought that relatively few of the complaints would actually hit paper. This was the press as ombudsman, not the gutter press baiting conrunners.

Romanian TV are almost certain to be at Intersection. They have given the con free publicity already (OK, it's in Romania, what do you expect ?), and will not be trying to be obstructive (anybody can be obstructive when they don't know what the hell is going on, however!). Can we please have a "friendly press" policy? (We might even include Charlie Brown in it.) I'd rather pre-empt problems than fire fight them, and so no doubt would we all.

How much of the above was "Eurocon"? How much of it was "the biggest con ever held in Romania"? I don't know. That's the difference between Eurocon and Worldcon.

Among others who went were: Paul Dormer, Dave Lally, Jack Cohen, Jon Cowie, Tony Chester, John Brunner, Li Yi, Leonid Kouritz, Neyir Cenk Gokce, Norman Spinrad, Lee Wood, Joe and Gay Haldeman. Ask them for their impressions too.

WHO DO YOU KNOW ?!

As people find out what it required on the day and before the convention new areas become apparent and are in need of filling. Such examples are:

Programming - Light Entertainment (to put the fun in!
Sense of humour required).
Programming - Theatrical (SF and the Theatre)
Programming - Art (Aspects of art in SF)

Also wanted is brave souls to take on:

Ops - Logistics
Staff Services - Nessie Editor

Please contact the relevant Division Head or Deputy with your suggestions.

RIBBONS, EPAULETTES, CAPS, T-SHIRTS - YOU NAME IT!

Jacky Grüter-Andrew

The topic of identification of staff (at all levels) at any convention is always filled with weird and wonderful ideas. It also typically includes a reference along the lines of 'Oh, not the ribbons again'. Fine. I now throw the challenge out to all those persons with peculiar and pernickety ideas and say to you 'join the discussion'.

If you would like to join a sub-committee (this consists of sitting in a nice pub with adequate liquid provisions somewhere and, for those further afield, some letters/phone calls) and brainstorm these ideas, please let me know (contact details at back of Nessie). The only parameters you will need to work within is that whatever you come up with it must be as inexpensive as ribbons, as VISIBLE as ribbons, and fairly easy to manufacture - it should also be as Scottish as possible.

A VISION OF THE FAN ROOM

by Jenny Glover

Getting a space for the fan room at Intersection, the 1995 Worldcon at Glasgow, acceptable to most parties has been a Herculean task in itself, but the final solution appears to be what is nicknamed 'The House of Cards', an enclosed area with a muslin roof which will hold about 50 people. There might be display areas surrounding it which will both permit fan related posters, flyers and quizzes and will also make the programme area more sound proof.

Surrounding that room, in a loose semi-circle, will be a collection of tables and chairs, cafe style, which will blend in with the fan fair proper and immediately adjacent to the fan programme will be the Virtual fanroom, a collection of computers to give access to the Internet, bulletin boards and generally interesting programmes.

The flexible semi-circle (nicknamed "The Horse Shoe") will be a self-maintaining fan room and, of course, it will be near a bar! It will provide a place for people to sit and chat, meeting others with whom they've hitherto only had a paper relationship through groups like this one, through the letters columns of fanzines or on the Internet: and it will also form an introduction for people new to fandom (and, perhaps, people drifting through the fan fair with no clear idea of what to do next, the same thing perhaps?) by providing puzzles, mathematical diversions and occasional entertainments.

There will be regular set pieces which will anticipate a slightly larger audience than can be crammed into the fan programme area - Dave Langford or Bob Shaw with vintage fannish material or the Fan Guest of Honour,

Teaching Nessie to Tapdance

Vincent Clark. In addition, the fan programme will occasionally move to another room where fan videos can be seen (even made?) or for crossover items which intersect with other areas of the programme such as "What is this thing called filk?" or a guided tour of the Art Room (a guided tour of the Dealers Room is an optional extra, too!)

Getting programme items of different lengths to fit within the structure of other strands of the programme is going to involve a lot of negotiation. So we're going to build in some "commercial break" advertisements for fannish items such as the Mexican Foundation or the James T. Tiptree Jr. Award, monologues, stand-up comedy, five minute "Did you know that ..." mini-lectures, party political type snippets for future conventions, even a thought for the day or rant of the minute.

Either in, or adjacent to the fan programme area, we're proposing to have a flip chart with magic markers for fan artists like Bill Rostler or Peggy Ranson to draw cartoons which may be auctioned for worthy fan causes. A bit further away, at the Fan Room/Fan Fair boundary, there's a blank wall just yearning to be covered by banqueting roll and illustrated with episodes from past fandoms.

It's a delicate balance to provide a forum for experienced fans without being elitist and to attract people new to fandom without seeming patronising. Given that the more fannish fans tend to stay up drinking late and stay in bed as long as possible in the morning, the programme will be blasted towards new fans in the morning, co-ordinated by Jackie McRobert and Alison Freebairn. Jackie is enthusiastic and has all the fannish expertise of her boyfriend Ian Sorensen behind her; Alison Freebairn is also enthusiastic, she's a journalist living in rural Scotland with lots of fresh ideas: both have produced fanzines which present their attitudes towards fandom and their suggestions to make the world a better place. Steve and I will be on duty in the afternoon in the in-between time when fans of all ages will be mingling and then, in the late evening, Lillian Edwards and Christina Lake will provide the sophisticated fannish enter'acte. Both of them have just come back into fanzine publishing, following their joint projects of 'This Never Happens' and 'The Caprician' and of course they went off to the States on a recent TAFF trip, thereby gaining a wealth of contacts, friends and American trivia.

If the fan programme is a success - and Steve and I have a vested interest in encouraging it to be - then the place will be buzzing with activity with people participating in the programme. There might be the occasional item where three talking heads face a somnolent group of three bored strangers, but we'll be aiming for an involved and interested audience. To give the audience a fighting chance, we'll be avoiding the stage plus regular ranked rows of chairs set-up and get the audience arranged so they can all see and be

heard (a nightmare for the tech. people, murmurs a voice in the distance. A challenge for the tech. people, I retort, and we may get them involved in the programme items as well). We want people to scan the programme strands in the programme book and think 'Hmmm! I rather fancy that' when they see a programme item.



THE NESSIE RUMOUR MILL

Supplied by 'sources'.

Contrary to popular opinion the membership rates are NOT going up to £90, they will go up to £80 after having remained at £60 for an entire year (unprecedented generosity to those who bought their memberships early).

Options are being looked at to produce a hotel booking procedure which is fair to all - regardless of where they live! This is really difficult ... however, we will do our best to even out as many of the differences created by geography and postal systems as possible.

Room rates - University accommodation will be as low as £21 and there are tons of these rooms. Some are located next to the Carrick Hotel and the Central Hotel. B&Bs will be as low as £12 per person - there are said to be 500+ available in the city centre.

Yes folks, there is an Intersection budget which is why you Area Heads hear the word 'NO' from your Division Heads. We are on budget for zero, although Worldcons generally have an uncertainty of several tens of thousands of pounds until a few months out from the convention itself.

That's all folks!

DIVISIONAL UPDATES

The below are some brief updates from some of the divisions;

CO-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

(From April 1994)

by Martin Easterbrook

DIRECTION - Internally this seems to be going very well. The announced intent of the bid was to 'involve more of the World in Worldcon' and in particular to follow up on the success of Confiction. We have now re-stated this as 'The Gathering of the Clans' to fit in with our Scottish location but the aim remains the same. Externally we have got the message across in the USA and Europe, but we still need to do some more work in the UK.

Teaching Nessie to Tapdance

CO-ORDINATION- At the Glasgow meeting we discovered a potential conflict with the set up required by the Dealers Room and the dates when we can move into the various halls in the SECC. I am sure that there are many more of these that we haven't spotted yet.

This is why I am placing such importance on starting to get regular reports from all areas and all Divisions. Without this raw material the co-ordination task is impossible. (Note: The Division Heads can't report anything unless the information is passed to them by the Area Heads so this 'message of the day' applies to everyone.)

We also need to get a central library of all our publications. If you are publishing any documents within Intersection or externally please send a copy to me. here are some Divisional APAs now running. I would like to get copies of all of these.

Specifically we had Ben Yalow and Patty Wells working on Ops at Sou'Wester. This was intended to go some way toward repeating the very successful experiment of using Kees and the Confiction committee on the Ops staff at Eastercon so that we had a much more integrated team in Holland. As a Head of Ops living in the US, Patty's particular task is to make sure that we have as much on the day help from US fans as possible. We want to prevent the staff shortages and general overwork that many of us experienced at Conspiracy.

Co-ordination also implies getting together to have fun while working on the convention. Enjoying ourselves putting Intersection together should be reflected in the atmosphere of the convention. We've been making a big effort to keep the number of formal meetings down. Informal ones where people can chat and brainstorm things are often much more productive. People also find getting the boring parts of the work easier to do after an event which puts the fun back in the convention.

EXTRAVAGANZAS - Gytha North

Immediate tasks are to establish the lighting and sound details for Hall 5 so that we can work out a stage plan and design backstage. Once these are done we can produce the floor plans, door heights etc. for the Masquerades and Photographers. We also need to work on ideas for the Closing Ceremony, video highlights are going to be part of it, but what else? Six months out we need to start hassling Costumers if we don't have sufficient confirmed entries. We also need to seek appropriate entertainment for judging break of the Masquerade.

Kim Knight is now in charge of the Opening Ceremony.

WSFS - Paul Dormer

The Division has currently assigned a staff of two departmental heads, Mike Moir in charge of Hugo voting and Kevin Standlee in charge of 1998 site selection. Most of the division's activities start at or after Conadian. 25th February 1995 is the deadline for bidders filing with Intersection for site selection.

For the Hugo voting, PR5 includes the nomination forms and relevant bits of WSFS constitution. 31st January 1995 is the deadline for memberships to be eligible for voting, while 24th July 1995 will be the postmark deadline for ballots.

Final staff appointments are due in December 1994.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES - Jacky Grüter-Andrew

Intersection is now registered under the Data Protection Act. All Area Heads should have received an explanation of what this means for Intersection by now - please contact me if you have not received it.

The merge of the US/UK databases proved 'interesting' from a technical point of view but has been accomplished! Congrats to all involved.

The location of Registration is under discussion and should be resolved within the next few months.

FAN FAIR DIVISION - Helen Steele

1. Name

Despite any remarks to the contrary we have decided on one name: Fan FAIR. Definitely not Fan FAYRE or FAIRE.

2. Staff

I now have a deputy division head; Paul Treadaway. Paul was on the committee of Uniconze (the 1990 Unicon) and has been active in Cambridge fandom for years and years.

I have also recruited a roaming troubleshooter; Simon Arrowsmith. Simon has worked with me on the last Unicon, staffing at cons and in Cambridge fandom.

These two, most important recruitments come after recruiting several Glasgow students among others as staff. I expect Paul, Simon and I will do the majority of the decision making and responsibility taking.

3. Space Allocation

The following is a current wish-list of areas requested in Hall 4 and the Area or Division requesting them, FF means we are organising what goes in the space as well as the space itself. We have already started thinking about possible placements of areas but nothing can be

Teaching Nessie to Tapdance

finalised until we have spoken to the SECC about it and the catering.

Catering

Gopher Hole, Ops, Fiona Anderson
Fan Programme Room, Programme/Fan, Steve Glover
Fan Lounge, Programme/Fan, Steve Glover
Science Programme Room, Programme/ Sci, Dave Clement
Contact Room, Programme/Sci, Dave Clement
Computer Room, Prog/Sci/Fan, Dave Clement/
Steve Glover
Poster area, Programme/Sci, John Bray
Arena, Programme/FF
Exhibition space, Fixed Exh/Exhibit, Steve Lawson
Con tables, FF
Fan Market, FF
Fan Exhibitions, FF/(Fan Programme)
Play area, FF
Kaffee Klatch, FF/(Programme)
Graffiti wall, FF
Info desks
Massage area, Andy Adams + others

Plan: After visiting SECC for talks on location of catering (see 4) we will be able to start allocating space. We expect to have a draft floor plan by late August/early September.

What we need from other divisions: If you have other things you want in Hall 4 tell us now, as we can't guarantee space later.

4. Catering

40% of Hall 4 has to be catering space, run by the SECC and their caterers. Preliminary negotiations with the SECC have shown them to be amenable to the idea of smaller cafe/bars rather than large blocks of catering.

5. Specific areas:

a) FAN PROGRAMME & LOUNGE

The Preliminary Floor Plan for FP & Lounge has been drafted by me and SG. It has been shown and approved by Science Programme and Programme. There will be a small fan bar located close by.

If anyone needs to see the plans for this area they should ask me or Steve.

b) FAN MARKET

We are starting to get queries about the Fan Market which we are dealing with currently on a 'please wait' basis. We need to set rates for Fan Dealers and draw up rules, especially to make sure that we only get fan dealers and not those who should really be in the Dealer

Room. We have to make sure that we do not price the poorer fans out of the market, especially the Eastern European fans.

Plan: To produce before 1 October (or earlier, basically as soon as we can, when we have prices for chairs and things) a flyer for Fan Dealers to mail out to all people asking for details and anyone else showing an interest.

Con tables (which we presume will be in the FF) will be free.

6. Flyer

A flyer is being prepared to send to groups around the world, anyone enquiring about FF etc. etc.. so far we have a piece about FF from Martin, a piece from Jenny Glover about Fan Programme and the rest of the bumf from FF Div. It is typeset, but I would prefer to have the Intersection logos and fonts so that it actually looks like it is coming from Intersection.

Plan: Hopefully I will have the flyer ready by early September.

7. Other Stuff

The Wall: We really need Fixed Exhibits to finalise plans for the wall, including the price and what it is going to be made of.

USEFUL INFORMATION

- The UK office now has a fax - it is on the same line as our answerphone (081 522 1995).
- The Intersection Christmas Party will be held on 10 December 1994, location unknown. If you would like to host it, or know of someone who could be persuaded, please let Jacky Grüter-Andrew know.
- If you have sponsorship ideas please let Mike Westhead know (details attached).
- We will have a World Wide Web entry soon - details to be announced.
- A reminder to those of you with email that Intercom, the convention discussion group, exists. Please contact your Division Head if you would like to be included.
- There is a convention email filing address if you need a record of documentation (this includes small group discussions) called interlog @smof.demon.co.uk.
- Please ensure that all minutes of any meetings gets copied to Martin, Vince, Oliver and Margaret - ignorance is NOT bliss!

Teaching Nessie to Tapdance

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

(16 August 1994):

Attending	2584
Supporting	1315
Child	26
Junior	23
Soft Toy	1
Guests	5

TOTAL: 3954

A friendly reminder from Membership Services that the rates will be going up at the beginning of October to £80 for a Full Attending - buy now while it's still cheap!! **We also now take credit cards.** If you want to buy your membership through the UK Office we need a letter or fax with full details which need to include:

Name, Address credit card bills are sent to, amount, and what is being purchased, date, signature and card details i.e. number, expiry date.

At the moment we can't take membership by e-mail as we need a physical signature (although the US Office can).

NESSIE ARTICLES

Could people please send them to Tina Hewett for the meantime as she is the temporary Nessie Editor:

115 The Brent
Dartford
Kent DA1 1YH

Letters, articles, suggestions and artwork welcome - and if you don't put it in now, you will be chased!

OTHER INTERSECTION APA's

The Camel (Foreign Legion) - available from the Bjorklinds
GWR (Membership Services) - available from Tony Hammond.

APA's soon to be available:

Programme - Editor Bernie Evans
Fan Fair - Editor Helen Steele

Addresses for these people are attached.

CONVENTION CONTACT DETAILS:

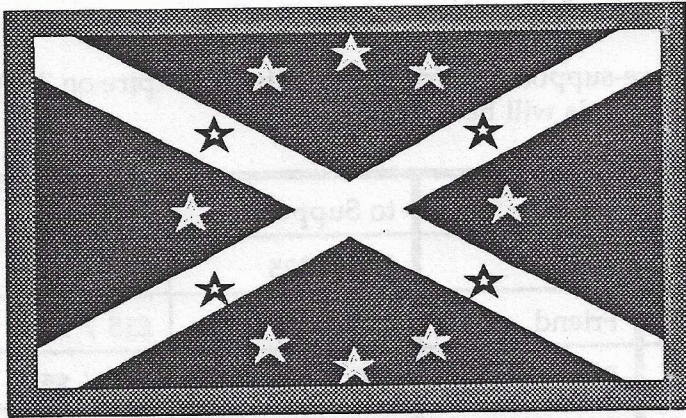
UK: Intersection
Admail 336
Glasgow G2 1BR
Ph/Fax: + 44 81 522 1995

USA: PO Box 15430
Washington D.C., 20003-0430,
USA
Ph/Fax: + 1 301 345 5180

Email: intersection@smof.demon.co.uk



GOPHERS RULE OK!!!



Progress Report 0.1

Guest of Honor
Samuel R Delany

INTERSECTION

"The Scottish WorldCon"

Guest of Honour
Gerry Anderson

Intersection will be the 1995 Worldcon. It will be held in central Glasgow at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre and the adjacent Moat House International Hotel, over the weekend of 24-28 August 1995 - the English Bank Holiday, one week before Labor Day.

Further Guests will be announced during the next two years. Look out for our announcements in future publications and at Confrancisco and Conadian.

Progress Report 1 will be published in April 1993: advertising rates will be available in December 1992.

And a big 'Thank You' to all who helped us

The Committee and Friends of "Glasgow in '95" would like to thank all our friends on the "Atlanta in '95" committee for all their help in running both bids. We are pleased to feel that it was a clean fight in which each committee gave the other plenty of assistance and support.

We would also like to thank everyone who sent offers of help or who made suggestions, and all the expressions of inquiry from dealers and artists. We hope to send out letters of acknowledgement in the near future. If you would like to make further suggestions, please write to one of our addresses below!

UK Address: Bernie Evans, 121 Cape Hill, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B66 4SH

US Address: Theresa Renner, Box 15430, Washington DC 20003-0430

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "Worldcon", "Science Fiction Achievement Award", "Hugo Award" and "NASFiC" are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Membership Rates for Intersection

These rates are valid until 31 December 1992. Glasgow pre-support and friend benefits will expire on 30 April 1993: presupporters will become non-members and Friends will become supporters.

Voted?	PreSupported?	beFriended?	Status	to Support	to Attend
no	no	no	None	£15 / \$25	£40 / \$65
		yes	Friend	*	£15 / \$25
	yes	no	PreSupp	£10 / \$17	£35 / \$57
		yes	Friend	*	£10 / \$17
yes	no	no	Support	£0 / \$0	£25 / \$40
		yes	Attend	£0 / \$0	£0 / \$0
	yes	no	Support	£0 / \$0	£20 / \$32
		yes	Attend	£0 / \$0	£0 / \$0
Bought Attending when voted			Attend	£0 / \$0	£0 / \$0

Memberships for children born after 24 August 1988 will be £5 or \$10

Memberships for children born after 24 August 1980 will be £15 or \$25

Child memberships do not include childcare, as the costs of this are as yet uncertain.

Cheques and Checks should be made payable to "Intersection".

Refunds of overpayments will be made as finances permit. If you prefer, you can donate the excess to a fund to bring Eastern European fans to the con. Please let us know if you would like to do this.

Voting Figures

MagiCon received a total of 2,603 site selection ballots, of which 2,544 were valid and 59 were invalid. On the first round of counting, "Glasgow in '95" received 53% of the valid ballots cast, excluding blank and "No Preference" ballots. "Atlanta in '95" received 47%. About one-half of one percent of the votes were cast for write-ins and "None of the Above".

	Declared Bids		Write-ins		Others			TOTAL
	Atlanta	Glasgow	I95	New York	None of the Above	Invalid	No Pref	
Mail-In	248	322	1	-	1		15	587
At Con	918	1,003	11	1	1		23	1,957
TOTAL	1,166	1,325	12	1	2	59	38	2,603