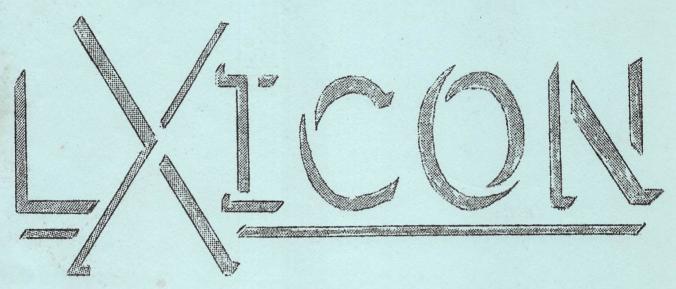
GLOUCESTER 1961 V.



# BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION



### EASTER

Friday March 31st.. Saturday April 1st. Sunday April 2nd... Monday April 3rd... 1961

### C O N V E N T I O N C O M M I T T E E

ERIC JONES - CHAIRMAN.

KEITH FREEMAN - SEC/TREASURER.

TONY WALSH PROGRAMME AND
BOB PARKINSON ADVERTISING.

ETHEL LINDSAY - HOTEL LIASON:

PROGRAMME BROCHURE
EDITED by BOB PARKINSON
COVER, illos, etc by EDDIE JONES
PUBLISHED by NORMAN SHORROCK

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And especially to the NEW COUNTY HOTEL, Convention Centre of the LXICON where will be held, we hope, the most outstanding of all British Science Fiction Conventions to have been held over the past few years.

Outstanding in the fact that we have with us Mr Kingsley Amis, who has rendered S-F a great service this year with his book "New Maps Of Hell".....outstanding because we have had full co-operation from the publishers whose displays you will see around the hall....outstanding in many other respects as you will, in due course discover.

The Convention Committee welcome those of you who have been fortunat; enough to be physically present -- and those of you who, from a distance, support this annual gathering 'of the clans' we welcome with this souvenir programme booklet as some slight recompense for your absence. All Convention members will receive the Final Report which will follow in due course.....

To those of you who have just received this programme at the registration desk, we would like to point out two things. The first is the Map of Gloucester (at the end of the Programme Section), the second is the Official Eatery Guide which is used in conjunction with the map. Usually much time is wasted looking for cafe's, so we've pointed out the best - and in one case the ONLY one which is open on a Sunday! We hope that the lesser gourmet find it useful!

The Programme, as in all previous years, will be adhered to as far as is possible, and we do ask those of you who are presenting programme items to be on hand and 'ready to go'! Each programme item has been alloted a NUMBER which you will find on the left-hand side of the appropriate page. This number will be displayed on a blackboard outside the Con Hall and you are asked to refer to it in the event that we have to switch items. Notices regarding other meetings may be affixed here....

Finally, as Chairman of the 1961 Convention, I would like to thank all those who have worked so hard to make this Con possible, especially NORMAN SHORROCK who produced this booklet in almost a last minute rush. I am sure that their efforts will be rewarded if you all have a wonderful time.....

To next year's Convention Committee (whoever they may be) we throw out this challenge.....we have laid the foundation blocks.... can you use them to build an even better Con next year?

Greetings From.

Fantust (Medway) Ltd

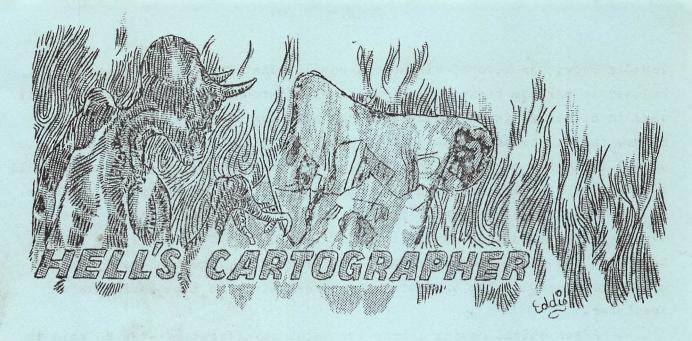
science fiction  $\epsilon$ fantasy

SUPPLIED TO ALL TERRESTRIALS

AND

EXTRA . TERRESTRIALS

75, Norfolk Street, WISBECH, Cambs.



"On one of the walls hung a portrait of a cavalier who was laughing very much without actually being the Laughing Cavalier."Thus in one sentence defined a whole awful species of pictures - the kind one sees in other people's homes and not in one's own.

The definition is Kingsley Amis's. Pseudo-art is not the only subject he has treated in this cavalier way. He is masterly at producing new Categories of Untouchables; for instance when one of his characters says of another "Oh God, he's the sort of man who tells you things", I see a whole class of grinning and informative young men standing convicted (and I wince a bit myself!)

All the more pleasing, then, to catch Kingsley walking voluntarily among the Untouchables himself, by publicly professing himself a reader (an enjoyer not a trend-hound!) of science fiction. He has so much to lose!

A lecturer in English at Swansea's University College, he first won general fame as the author of "Lucky Jim", the funniest novel since the war, despite such opponents as "Private Angelo" and "Billy Liar". Since then he has written three other novels, won the Somerset Maugham Award for one of them, been literary critic, jazz critic, and essayist, besides surviving numerous controversies and the TV cameras. In short, before he is forty he is regarded in this country as one of our most alive novelists, and abroada German friend assures me - as having taken over the mantle of both P.G. Wodehouse and John Galsworthy. On the surface it sounds like a reasonable and successful career... yet there have been ominous undertones.

Even in "Lucky Jim", Dixon has a penchant for pulling his Martian

Invader Face. The hero of his second novel, "That Uncertain Feeling", was reduced to boredom because he had read his 'Astounding' (er, that's what it used to be called in the good old days, son) and he had a while to wait before the twentieth of the month brought the next issue; incidentally this detail irritated at least one critic, whose name, Allsop, Kingsley might well have coined himself. And then there was the s-f play under Kingsley's name on the Third Programme. After that things went from bad to worse. He took over from the aged lady don (I think it was) as the Observer's s-f critic, he became one of the selectors of the SF Book Club, and he finally burned his boats by publishing an unmistakeable s-f story in last Christmas's Spectator.

After which, having learnt the value of effrontery - as he said in another context - he came out with "New Maps of Hell", a full-scale survey of..... science fiction.

Kingsley always does things thoroughly. He has put himself even more thoroughly among the Untouchables (no, dear lady fen, there I include you out) by agreeing to be the Guest of Honour at this Easter Science Fiction Convention. By doing so he honours us all greatly.

In Kingsley Amis we have a most invaluable critic, one who can interpret not only us to us, but us to Them, the outside world from which we must expect understanding, authors and support, if s-f is to continue to expand and progress as I believe it is at present. The importance of "New Maps of Hell" in working towards this goal cannot be underestimated. Its publication is the most vitalising event of this s-f year. (Yes he'll autograph copies....)

Perhaps this sounds unduly serious when we are all getting together to have a good binge and enjoy ourselves. Just wait till I wipe the steam off my spectacles and I'll be with you. But science fiction has brought us to Gloucester, and Kingsley Amis has done science fiction a good service, for which we are grateful.

You see I have hardly left myself room to say that you couldn't have invited a better companion for a celebration. We are fortunate too that he promises to bring his very engaging wife with him. Mr. and Mrs. Amis, I insist - this first round's on me......

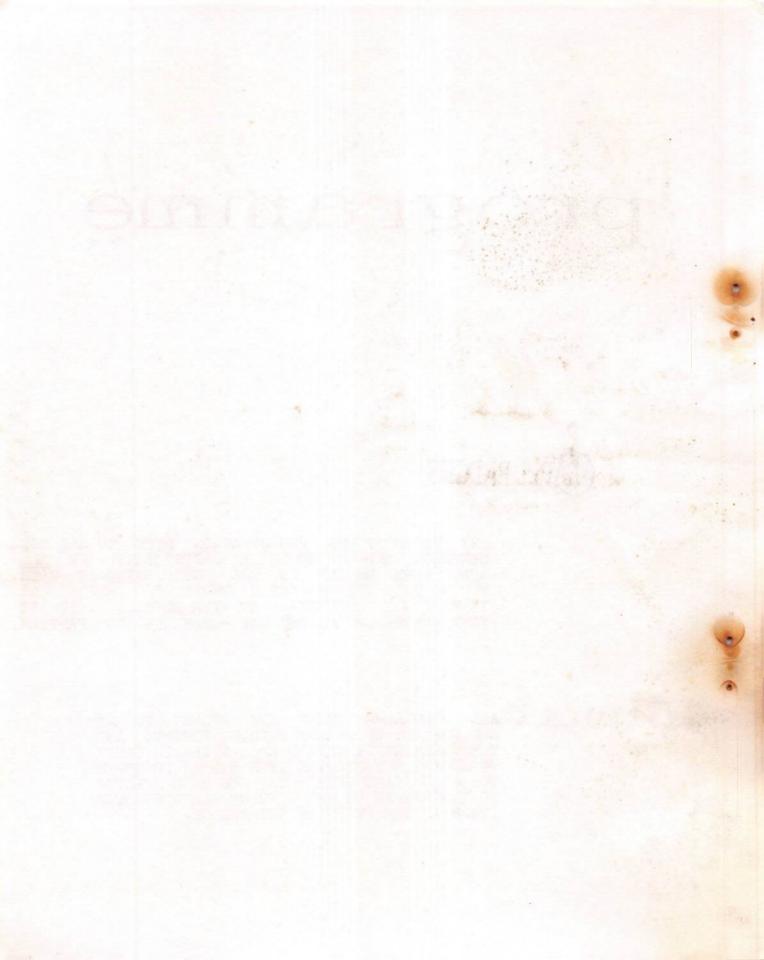


## LAPEL BADGES

ARE ISSUED AT THE REGISTRATION DESK TO ALL CON MEMBERS, AND IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF ALL ARE WORN WHILST IN THE HOTEL BRING IT WITH YOU TO THE TRANSGALACTIC TOURISTS' PARTY AS IT WILL BE REQUESTED AT THE DOOR..... IT IS YOUR INSURANCE AGAINST GATE-CRASHERS TO PARTIES.



ALL PROGRAMME ITEMS ARE LIABLE TO REARRANGEMENT OR CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE, AND
THE TIMES ARE INTENDED AS A GUIDE. IN ORDER
TO ASSIST MEMBERS, THE ITEM NUMBER POSTED ON
THE BLACKBOARD OUTSIDE THE CON HALL RELATES
TO THE NUMBER ON THE LEFT OF ALL PROGRAMME
ITEMS IN THE EVENT OF ANY CHANGE.



# FRIDAY MARCH 31st.

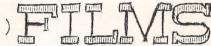
IN ORDER TO PUT ON A FULLER PROGRAMME THIS YEAR, THE CONVENTION WILL BE STARTING ON THE FRIDAY NIGHT INSTEAD OF SATURDAY.

FOR YOUR PLEASURE, AND WITH YOUR CO-OPERATION, THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE WISHES TO PRESENT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT:

8.00 P.M.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN, WHO WILL INTRODUCE SOME OF THE MORE NOTABLE PERSONALITIES PRESENT, AND TELL THE REST OF YOU THE SCHEME OF THINGS TO COME. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY THE

8.30 P.M. (At the latest !)



A PROGRAMME OF PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR (Non-Fan) SCIENCE FICTION FILMS FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT,,,,...

INCLUDING :



AFTER THE FILM SHOW, THIS WILL BE YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO CIRCULATE....TO RENEW OLD FRIENDSHIPS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS....GO AND FIND OUT WHO'S HIDING BEHIND THAT CON BADGE!

- Friday -

# TELL MANAGEMENT PARTIES

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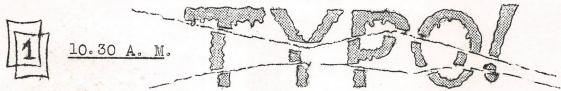
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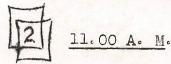
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## SATURDAY APRIL 1st.

ALL RIGHT ! EVERYBODY UP FOR THE FIRST ITEM AT :



BEING THE MAGNUM OPUS OF THE CHELTENHAM SCIENCE FICTION CIRCLE THIS MUST NOT BE MISSED. FOR THE SAKE OF THE PRODUCER, NOBODY, BUT NOBODY WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE HALL AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THIS ITEM (Except the Producer)



### AN ALIEN IN THE ACADEMY

O R
IS S.F. ENGLISH LITERATURE ?

A TALK BY Mr.G.D.DOHERTY(EDITOR OF "ASPECTS OF S.F")
(Murray 1960)



12.00 Mid-day.



See elsewhere in this booklet for the official list of suitable Eating Houses in Gloucester.



2.00 P. M.

EVERYBODY BACK FOR THE SUPERCOLOSSAL, FABULOUS,



SPECIALLY IMPORTED FROM THE U.S.A. FOR THE OCCASION !

Note. Off-Trail Magazine Publishers Association. Young S-F Readers Group.

Please watch the notice board for location and times of these meetings.

Saturday-

## SATURDAY APRIL 1st.

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# PAYAPRIL 1st.

3.00 P. M.

BRIAN ALDISS INTRODUCES .....

WHO WILL ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY, THIS WILL INEVITABLY BE FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION OR QUESTIONS....



4.00 P. M.

QUESTION MASTER -BOB PARKINSON - ASSISTED BY -ETHEL LINDSAY - PANEL MEMBERS WILL BE LEVERED FROM THE AUDIENCE. THIS SHOULD BE GOOD FOR A LAUGH !

Tea and biscuits will be available at the back of the hall at the end of this item ... to put you in good voice for -



4.30 P. M.

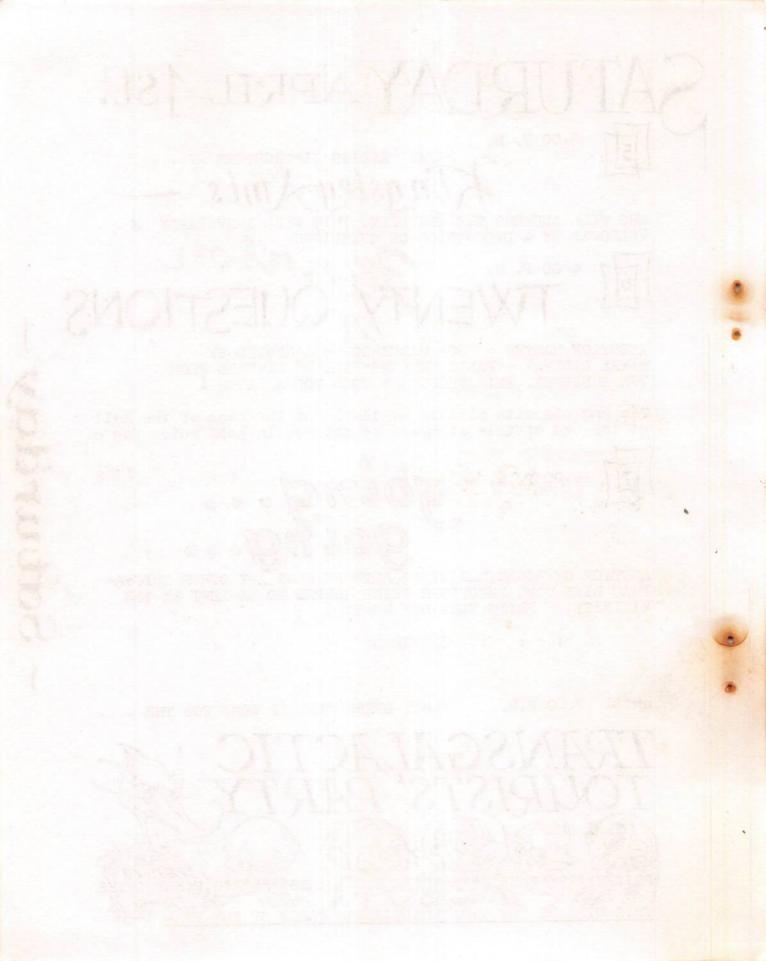
AUCTION OF BOOKS, MAGAZINES, ARTWORK, PLUS ANY OTHER BRIC-A-BRAC LIKE TAPE RECORDERS WHICH HAPPEN TO BE LEFT IN THE VICINITY. BRING YOUR OWN MONEY :

INTERLUDE :

until 7.00 P.M.

FANCY DRESS WILL BE WORN FOR THE ....





## IDAY APRIL 2nd.

11.00 A. M.

OF THE BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

Agenda:

- 1. Minutes of the last A.G.M.
- 2. To receive the Hon Secretary's report.
- 3. To receive the Hon. Treasurer's report.
- 4. To receive the Hon. Librarian's report.
- 5. Committee for 1961/62 will take office.

Any other business.

12.30 P. M.

SCIENCE FICTION CLUB OF LONDON WILL PRESENT. .... WELL, COME ALONG AND SEE !

2.00 P. M.

## AIS IS YO

WHICH, THIS YEAR, WILL BE CONCERNED WITH THE INNERMOST SECRETS OF MALLEY FILE ERRORS ... AND WILL BE COMPERED. BY ERIC BENTCLIFFE.



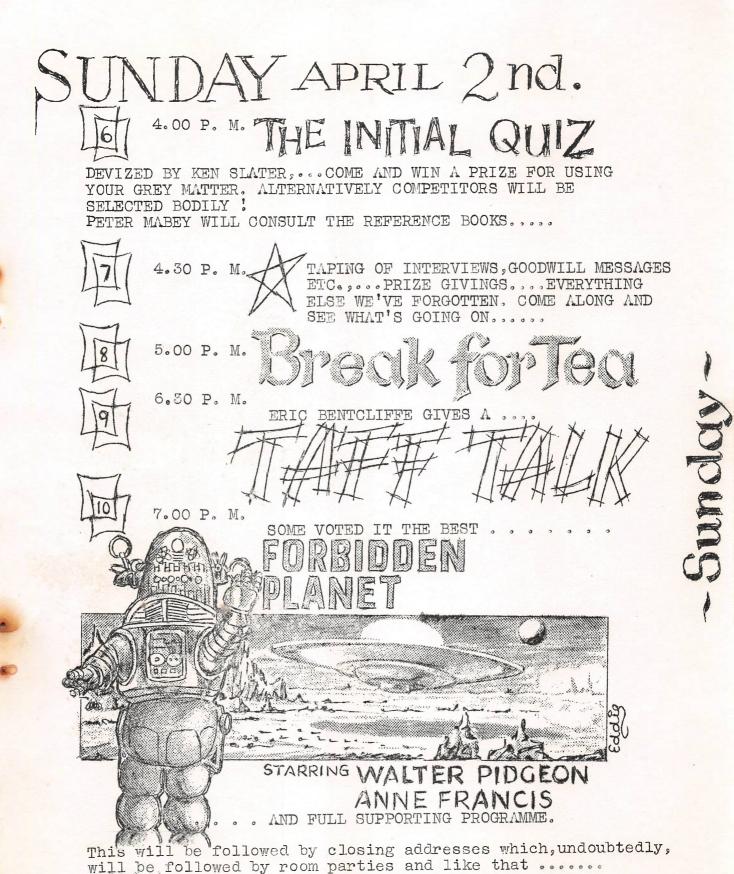
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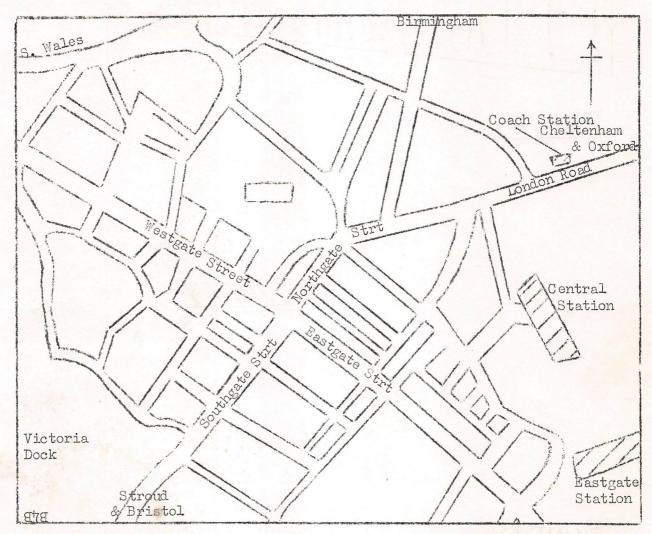
THE T.A.F.F. AUCTION CONDUCTED BY RON BENNETT, EVERYTHING MUST BE SOLD, BRING ANYONE'S MONEY!

Note. DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR THE DRAW FROM THE FEMME-FEN..., FANTASTIC PRIZES, LIKE.,...

> \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* A BAC OF MONEY \*\*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* A BOTTLE OF HOOCH \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\* A YEAR'S SUB, TO A U.S., S.F. MAG. \*\*

SUNDAY APRIL 2nds





### GLOUCESTER

This map is not guaranteed to be accurate; the main streets and the means of access into the City are marked - you can add the details YOU want on this map. Scale is approximately 9" to the mile.

# PROGRAMME NOTES

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

### OBITUARY

DR. ARTHUR ROSE WEIR, D. Sc.

It is with very great regret that we report the death of Doctor Arthur Rose Weir, D.Sc., the well-known bibliophile and reviewer, at Standish House Hospital at 3 a.m. on 4th March, 1961.

"Doc", as he was known to us all, was the Senior Physics Master at Westonbirt School in Gloucester and first found fandom through the pages of 'Authentic S.F.'. In an old copy, which he bought in 1958 for his collection, were details of the West Country Science Fiction Group, and although the address given in the magazine was very much out of date, Doc wrote in the hope of getting an answer, and the letter was passed on to me. He immediately joined the C.S.F.C. and, later, the B.S.F.A. of which he was secretary for 1959 - 1960, but was forced through illhealth to relinquish the post before the end of his term of office.

Many fen will remember his talk on 'Atlantis - A New Theory' which he delivered at his first Convention in 1959; later this was printed in Science-Fantasy, and he repeated the talk at the Hobbies Exhibition in Cheltenham in September of the same year.

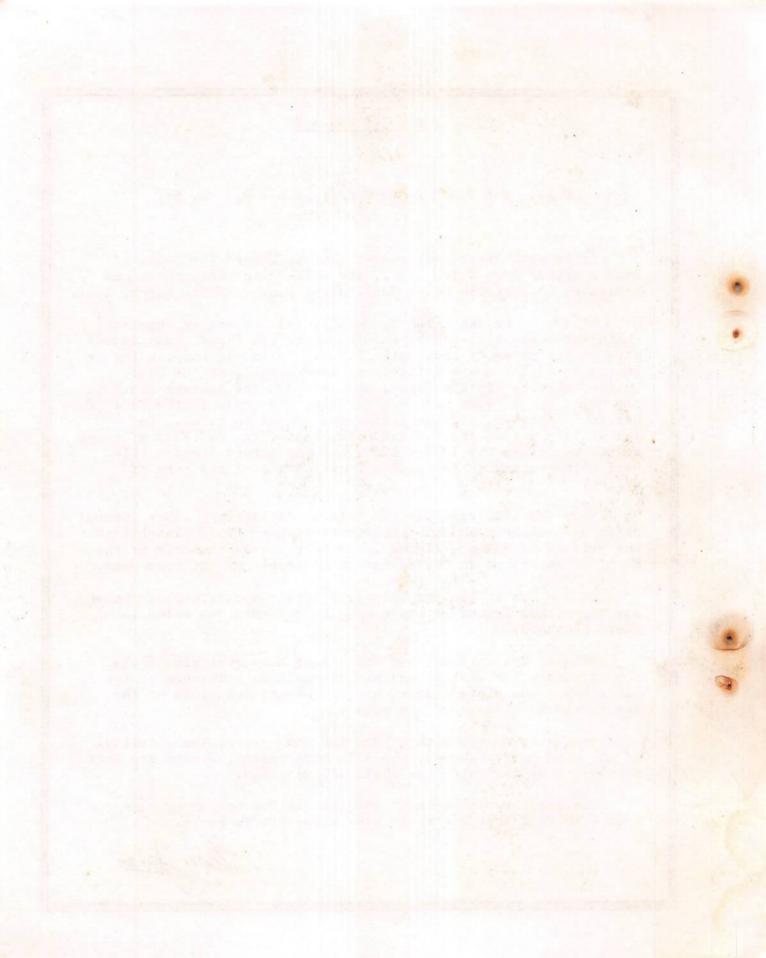
At the Con in 1960 he talked of Karel Capek's works; Capek was a personal friend of Doc's whom he met when domiciled in Czechoslovakia.

Between Conventions, Doc was always busy reviewing books and magazines for Vector, and his specialised knowledge of the older books and plots enabled him to compare the plots of the new novels with those of the old.

Dogged as he was with asthma for many years, the vitality of his mind never flagged, and with his passing, Fandom has lost a very worthy advocate; we shall all miss him.

His name appears amongst the list of Convention members for 1961 - we feel that Doc would have wished it to be so.

Eric Jones





According to the note I have here the gentleman editing this says he'd like me to write a sort of summary of the year's science fiction. I'll be frank. Casting my tiny little mind backwards over the memories of the last year (1960) deesn't ring any bells, score any bulls, or twitch any switches. This doesn't mean that no good and/ or memorable s-f was written during 1360, it just means that I don't recall it. I'm afraid that my s-f mind works that way these days. I can recall some of what I read five years ago, but I'll be darned if I can even think of the title of the new Leinster pb I read last night in bed. Nor can I recall anything of the two magazines which I scanned through over the last two days. Give it a month or two, and a glance at the cover may bring to mind anything which was (to me) memorable. But most of the stuff will just sink into the background of plot/gimmick/idea interweave which must already occupy a fair percentage of my memory cells. The ones which do stand out against the background are the "originals"...or the ones that gave it a new twist. Sometimes.....

Anyway, most fans have their own ideas of the last year or two of s-f. There are amongst us a number who don't recall some of the older yarns, and it might be a good idea if I just wrote a little about yarns that do stick in my mind....good, bad and indifferent.

Perhaps the first magazine s-f story (in the accepted sense) that I can recall reading was the good old "Skylark of Space" by E.E. Smith. As this one was fairly recently issued in pb form in this country, many of you will know it - and not think highly of it. It is memorable to me because of the sheer vastness of the concept in those far-off days. Most s-f yarns were somewhat akin to Wells' "The New Accelerator", concerned only with a very small group of people, a very tiny discovery or development, and usually ending in the destruction of the idea, discovery, or what-have-you - no "extrapolation" of the consequences of the discovery, nothing more than s-f on the laboratory scale.

Consideration of the effects of events and discoveries on people in general was given by Doctor Keller, and many of his stories are based on this....I recall "Free as the Air" among these early "sociological" s-f tales.

When the scope of a story was vast, it was all too often a story of cosmic disaster, again with no real "test" scope. The action was usually centred on a small group of people, and the threat was only made vast by words...not by implication, not by action, but by

#### NIME

## GREAT BOOKS A YEAR at bargain cost through SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CIUB

SFBC issues nine books a year - six in the winter and three in the summer - and each book is complete, library bound, and priced modestly at 5s.6d. Our selection committee includes John Carnell of New Worlds, Dr. J.G. Porter, F.R.A.S., astronomer and Kingsley Amis, famous novelist and critic. They pick the best of you could hope to find. Here are six books from this year's wonderful list in SFBC.

THE OUTWARD URGE
by John Wyndham and Jucas Parkes

The exploration of space through the generations of one family. Contains an extra chapter.

MARCH 13s.6d: for 5s.6d.

THE CANOPY OF TIME by Brian Aldiss

A collection of superb stories, ranged in chronological order from a century or two hence to the end of the galaxy.

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Appearance and reality keep changing places in this fascinating and unnerving story set in an ordinary town.

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CITY by Clifford Simak

The great of classic now re-issued. The race of men, long since passed away is only a legend to the civilisation of dogs.

OCTOBER

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GALACTIC CLUSTER by James Blish

Brilliant and unusual stories. The author ".. continually infliets an immeasurable impact on his readers.. a sparkling cluster that cannot fail to please"

Astounding.

NOVEMBER

15s: for 5s.6d.

693

words from the mouths of the central characters. This was not always true, however, and I recall the novel "Red Snow" by F. Wright Moxley was a story I have read many times subsequently - from different pens, in different ways...but very rarely as well done.

Of course I recall Verne's novels, but regret to inform you that they never impressed me anywhere as much as did the "Professor Challenger" stories of A Conan Doyle. This is perhaps because the boisterous Professor, operating on a "try it and see" principle in many cases, appealed to me. I have always tried to avoid the people who tell you it can't be done. I'd much rather have a demonstration, and see it get done!

Two stories which impressed me greatly, despite being short items, were "Cleon of Yzdral" and "Through the Vibrations" by P. Schuyler Miller. They appeared in AMAZING around 1930 or 1931, and at that time I'd not yet met Abraham Merritt's work; perhaps if I'd read Merritt first they'd have impressed me less. But if you care for semi-mystical fantasy with a psuedo-scientific base (the story concerns a different vibratory world, the one to which Atlantis was transmitted from ours, and has something of the 'geiss' principle which impels the hero { and the reader} in such stories as "The Dwellers in the Mirage") then these two are worth tracking down. On the other tack I recall one of Miller's early yarns for a very clear exposition of the problems in communicating with aliens, and a very fine effort at an early (non-telepathic) solution. This was "Tetrahedra of Space", and it too was around 1931 - although it was reprinted around the late '40's in STARTLING or TWS.

John Russell Fearn captured my imagination in the mid-30's with "Mathematica" and "Mathematica Plus", but whilst I can recall the serial length stories of his like "Liners of Time" and "Intelligence Gigantic", I'm afraid it is not with any great delight. These stories I recall as complicated and unsatisfying ... I always had the impression that a lot of loose ends just got lost in the various movements of the characters. The first fictional treatment of history apart from the delightful tales of Rudyard Kipling - with a fantasy theme which I read was the Viereck & Eldridge survey of the erotic customs, philosophical schools of thought, and general cussedness of mankind contained in the four and a half hundred pages of "My First Two Thousand Years , in which the story is told from the viewpoint of the Wandering Jew. I was about twelve at the time, and had access to the adult section of the Tate Library at Maidenhead by using my grandmother's ticket. I used to write a list of the books I wanted, and present this with the ticket to the librarian; who I presumed realised that in fact I was actually the reader of the books, as after my first few visits he allowed me into the stacks to pick "the books for my grandmother", and the paper list pretence was no longer used. The trilogy of Viereck & Eldridge have long remained on my favourite reading list.

Perhaps the earliest novel of pure fantasy I read was John Masefield's "The Midnight Folk", and to readers who have delighted in the fairy stories of C.S.Lewis (as opposed to the "Silent Planet"

### TRANSWORLD-PUBLISHERS-

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In addition to publishing the famous CORGI BOOKS, Transworld Publishers Limited, import and distribute many American paperbacks. Here is a list of the science-fiction titles now in stock. A glance at the author's names will tell you that all these books are top quality science-fiction.

CORGI	PILCRIMAGE TO EARTH by Robert Sheckley THE ILLUSTRATED MAN by Ray Bradbury THE SILVER LOCUSTS by Ray Bradbury FAHRENHEIT 451 by Ray Bradbury THE GOLDEN APPLES OF THE SUN by Ray Bradbury THE BIG EYE by Max Ehrlich DONOVAN'S BRAIN by Curt Siodmak THE TIDE WENT OUT by Charles Eric Maine A STIR OF ECHOES by Richard Matheson THE BRIGHT PHOENIX by Harold Mead THE CITY & THE STARS by Arthur C. Clarke	2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6 3/6 3/6	
BANTAM	YONDER by Charles Beaumont STORIES FROM THE TWILIGHT ZONE by Rod Serling A STORE OF INFINITY by Robert Sheckley IMMORTALITY INC by Robert Sheckley	2/6 3/6 2/6 2/6	
BAILANTINE	STAR SCIENCE FICTION NO.4 ed. Frederik Pohl THE CASE AGAINST TOMORROW Frederik Pohl TOMORROW TIMES SEVEN Frederik Pohl THE FOURTH 'R' by George O. Smith THE SOUND OF HIS HORN by Sarban	2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6	
PYRAMID	VENUS PIUS X by Theodore Sturgeon MEN AGAINST STARS by M. Greenberg OFF THE BEATEN ORBIT ed. Judith Merril THE TOMORROW PEOPIE ed. Judith Merril SPACE PRISON by Tom Goodwin THE INCOMPLETE ENCHANTER by L. Sprague de Camp & F.	2/6 3/6 3/6 3/6 3/6 Pratt	3/6
BERKTEY	TIME TO COME ed. August Derleth AWAY AND BEYOND by A.E. Van Vogt A TOUCH OF STRANCE by Theodore Sturgeon THE ALLENS by Murray Leinster	2/6 2/6 2/6 2/6	

Obtainable from your bookseller or direct from: Dept SF. Transworld Publishers, Park Royal Road, London, N.W.10 trilogy ) and items like Tolkien's "The Hobbit" I recommend they look this one up. So far as I know it is obtainable through any public Library service, although the companion work (the title of which escapes me) is much more difficult to obtain.

Of course, on the lighter side of fantasy there were W.A. Darlington's books; "Alf's Button", "Alf's Carpet" and "Wishes Limited" I can recall although it's over fifteen years since I last scanned them. There was at least one more, but obviously it didn't impress me as I can remember neither the title nor the faintest idea of the subject. The first, and perhaps the best, was "Alf's Button" - which was filmed - and although the humour may seem a little slow by modern standards, anyone who cares to read it will be rewarded by the perpetration of some really horrible punswhen the genie doesn't cotton on to the terminology of the trenches, circa 1916.

Folk who like the Arcot, Morey and Wade series of John W. Campbell, (which I trust is familiar to most of you) might find pleasure in a somewhat earlier and slightly more primitive pair of stories by Harl Vincent, titled "Venus Liberated" and "Faster Than Light". Both appeared in AMAZING STORIES QUARTERLY, I am sure, and the first was in 1929. In the second story Vincent takes the reader way outside the solar system, to meet strange metallic men of another sun, an idea very similar to the one used in Campbell's series.

On the hard-covered side, about the same time as Campbell's "The Mightiest Mackine" was delighting me in ASTOUNDING, I arrived at the "W" section of the public library, and discovered Charles Williams Dennis Wheatley and Sydney Fowler. Wright. "Beyond the Rim" by the last named I still recall with affection as introducing me to the mystery of the "flat earth" fanatics; for a while I was nearly convinced, but either common sense or public opinion (both very fallacious) won me back to more acceptable lines of thought.

Along this rather winding trail I am of course only picking out odd high lights, and ones which I can recall without making use of reference books. If I looked things up, I'd promptly strike new trains of thought from titles or names which don't spring to mind, but which I could hardly avoid seeing. For instance, somewhere about here I picked up an old copy of "Chums Annual" which had a long yarn in it about Martian Exploration. The book was already several years old, but the story I recall as striking even now. I can't recall the title, or the author, but I can recall that one point of similarity between this and a story in an "Interplanetary" issue of Wonder Quarterly was the method of drive for the space vessel - the energising of a rare element which then became anti-gravitic, the WQ story was in the Fall '33 issue, I think, and was by a German author. I can remember this story quite clearly - but again title and author escape me.

A series of stories which started around 1930 with the "Jameson Satellite" and continued right through - with gaps - to the '50's was written by Neil R. Jones, and can, I think, quite adequately

be called the "Future History" series of the '30's. The stories are divided into two main sets, the "Professor Jameson", and the "Durna" Rangue groups, with a number of other stories which were all connected into a whole by Jones in one yarn published in AMAZING somewhere around 1935. In this particular story, Jameson and the other 'Zoromes' - living brains immortalised in mechanical bodies - return to Earth and with the aid of a 'past time viewer' follow the history of mankind until the "Astounding Exodus" when the remnant of mankind leave the Solar system for ( I think) Sirius. There are about ten or twelve stories in the "Durna Rangue " series , of which I best recall "Little Hercules", and nearly two dozen "Zorome" yarns. The "Durna Rangue" series are connected with the activity of a scientific and rather horrific cult; the "Jameson" ones, after the first("The Jameson Satellite" in which Professor Jameson's body is fired in a capsule into space to become an orbital satellite) are somewhat harder to group', they deal with adventures of the "Zoromes" on various worlds they visit in exploratory voyages and cover a quite wide range.

Miles J. Breuer was, in his own right, a fairly prolific author from about 1928 until the mid-thirties, but of all his stories I recall best the two he wrote in collaboration with Clare Winger Harris in one case, and with Jack Williamson in antoher. Both stories appeared in AMAZING, the first, "A Baby on Neptune" in the monthly at the end of 1929 - the December issue, I am sure, and the second in the 'Quartely' at around the same time. The second was a real full-length novel, and dealt with the colonisation of the Moon. Admittedly, not quite the way we envisage it today, but when I read the story again recently, I still enjoyed it. One other story I recall was "The Gostak and the Doshes", a Wellsian fantasy, anti-war. Some of Breuer's other work was enjoyable, but I'll leave you to find out for yourselves.

Early stories by authors still producing in the field I find hard to recall. In fact, in scratching the head over it, I think that Murray Leinster's luo "The fifth Dimensional Tube" and "The Fifth Dimensional Catapult", are the only two which mean anything to me. And I remember these more for the cover of one, depicting a golden-leaf-shape with a carriage slung below, the thing being propelled through the air by a reddish crystal. Why this should stick with me, I don't know.....

Then there was the work of Stanely G. Weinbaum. I do not mean the "Dawn of Flame" and "Black Flame" stories, but those too few stories like "A Martian Odyssey" and its sequel, and "The Parasite Planet". The Aliens depicted by Weinbaum have yet to be equalled, except in very isolated instances. But the name of Weinbaum is still mentioned often enough to have been heard of by most fans. Warner van Lorne gets mentioned, but usually with scorn. I don't know why, except perhaps he had rather too much similarity in several of his stories. Nevertheless, until one rather catastrophic story which was his last appearance, several of his tales were definitely good. "Strange City" and "The World of Purple Light" were sufficiently adequate to have

been copied by later authors inmany respects, and "Glagula" I think stands out as a very fine treatment of the "stranded alien" theme. Of course, under this name F. Orlin Tremaine wrote "Upper Level Road", an extremely fine short yarn. But the later stories were written by someone else....

Any mention of s-f, early, would hardly be complete without a mention of Edmond Hamilton. So much of his early work was good swift action material....I find several stories, incomplete as to plot or title, spring to mind. I guess I will settle for one I can recall—"The Universe Wreckers", a three-part serial in AMAZING, around the beginning of the '30's.

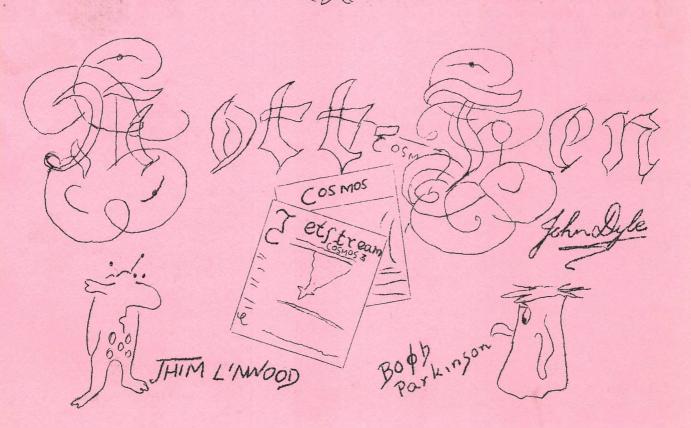
Perhaps I'd better conclude with a few references I can't quite fill in - there were two or three stories by Leslie F. Stone, with the Gold, Silver and Bronze men -one of whom marries a girl from Earth, and they journey to a world of butterfly creature; that series by Laurence Manning about "The Man Who Awoke", In WONDER STORIES, in which the hero sleeps through aeons, awaking at various stages in man's development, until finally he arrives at the time when mankind is spreading through the stars; those stories of the lost tribe (was it?) by Capt. S.P. Meek, one of which was "Drums of Tapajos"......

Much of this can be found in the B.S.F.A. Library and, if you have never delved into those musty- and often fragile - piles of mags, it is not too late to start.

K.F.S.

The state of the s

### GREETINGS FROM TONO NOTTINGHAM FANDOM



### CANN'S CAFE.

In LONGSMITH ST.; Turn left out of the Hotel, take first street on the left. Cafe is on your right. Looks a nice place for a snack, with a snack bar downstairs and a restuarant upstairs. NOT OPEN ON SUNDAY. Prices: 2/- to 4/-

### FOUR SEAS CHINESE RESTUARANT

In SOUTHGATE ST. Turn right out of the Hotel, walk for about 100 yds then restuarant is on your left. Both ENGLISH & CHINESE dishes are served here and the place is OPEN ON SUNDAY. Prices: 2/- to 8/-.

LYONS
In Northgate St. Turn left out of the Hotel, cross the traffic lights and you will see 'Joe's' on your right. This will be closed on SUNDAY but open on MONDAY. Serve yourself. Prices 2/- to 5/-.

#### BERNIES GRILL

In the OXEBODE. Turn left out of the Hotel, cross the traffic lights and carry on down Northgate St. Take first turning on the right (between Bon Marche and Peter Robinson's stores). Bernies Grill is on the right,50 yds down. NOT OPEN ON SUNDAYS. A.A. and R.A.C. recommended, but will be somewhat more expensive than most.

Prices: 4/- to above 10/-.

#### CADENA CAFE

In EASTGATE ST. Turn left out of the Hotel, at the traffic lights take street to the right. Cafe is a few yards down on right. NOT OPEN ON SUNDAYS. Prices 2/- to 8/-.

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Being the oldest place in Gloucester it is highly visible if you turn left out of the Hotel and cross the traffic lights. It is then on your right, in NORTHGATE ST. Prices 5/- to 12/-.

But then if you want to pay a good price for a meal you might just as well use the Restuarant in the NEW COUNTY HOTEL ITSELF, which has prices about the same as the average Hotel.

There are a number of small restuarants, cafe's et al if you want to go looking, but few are open on Sundays and the ones listed above are the nearest to the NEW COUNTY.

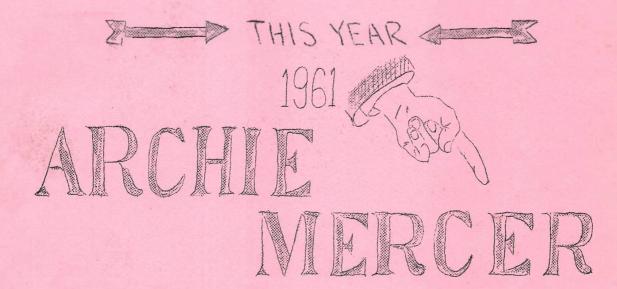
FOR A QUICK MEAL ON SUNDAY THE 4 SEAS RESTUARANT IS THE BEST BET.

This guide has been compiled by Bob Parkinson for the lesser gourmet who has to count his shekels before deciding whether to buy a mag or eat.

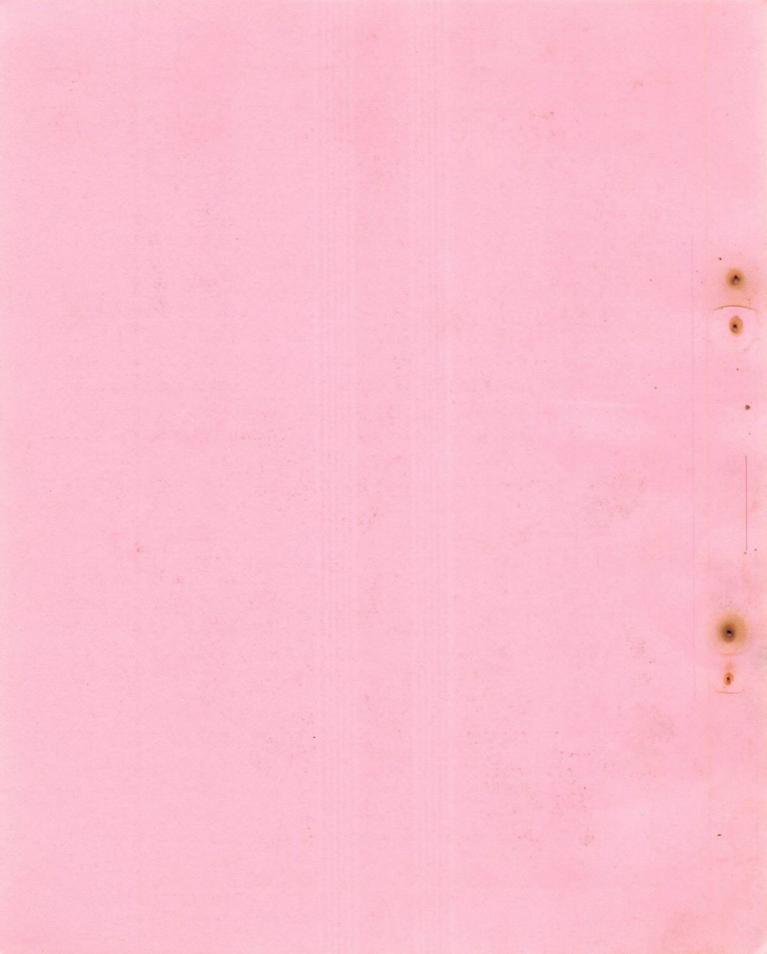
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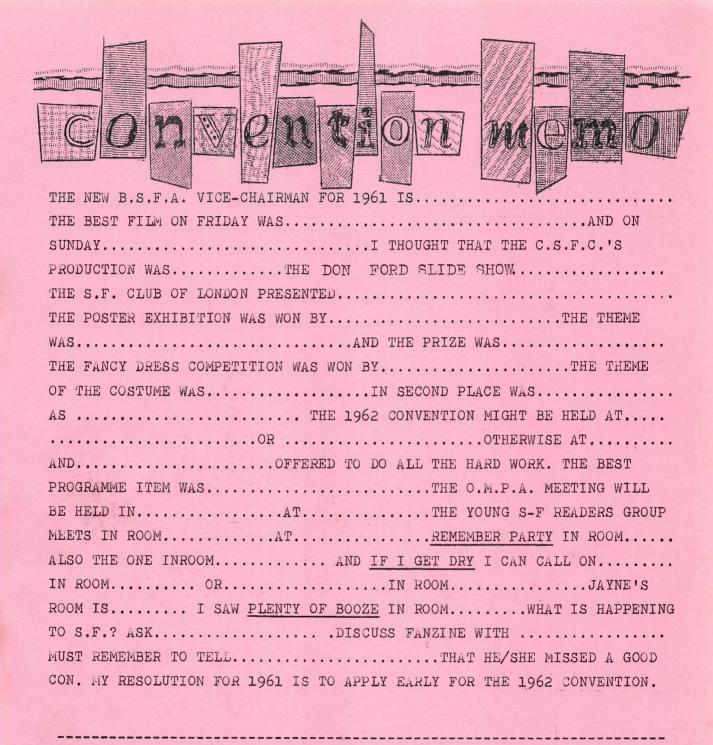
\$\approx \QUINTION \approx \approx

\$\alpha GUEST OF HONOUR\$



Founder of 'Archive' and the art of stationary caravanning in Fandem, lover of the wide open spaces; Fandom under Canvas is his latest project; whose main course at dinner is beans and chips..... inventor of the TRUFIN TALE, etc. Archie is probably known by the majority of B.S.F.A. members as the ex-Treasurer of the Association, and it is for his steadfast devotion to the CAUSE - amongst other things - that we are honouring him on this stuperendous occasion.



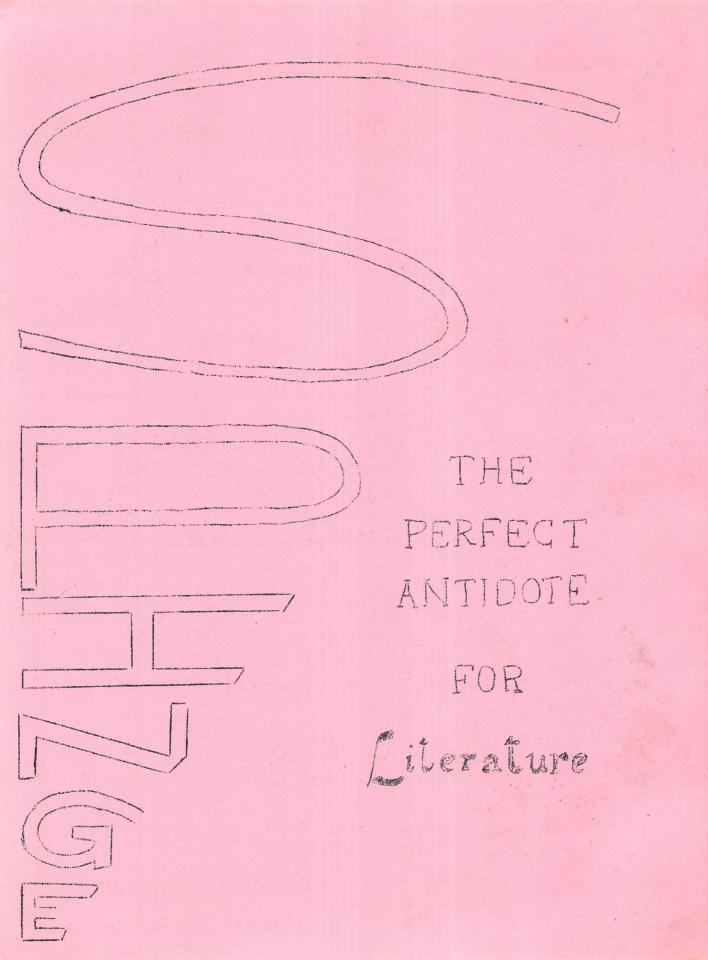


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Having Kingsley Amis as Guest of Honour at this year's British Science Fiction Convention is, in its way, highly significant.

Last year his survey of Science-Fiction, "New Maps of Hell", was published, and immediately won acclaim as the best book on the subject written by an 'outsider' ... an outsider in the sense that he is not an SF 'pro'. This book, however, is much more than just a good survey, for it serves as a bridge between the world of SF and the 'outside', if only in a rather tentative way.

Amis was born into a lower-middle-class home in Clapham, London, on April 16th, 1922, and grew up in Norbury. He was a pupil at the City of London School from 1934 until 1941; studied at St. John's, Oxford between 1941 and 1942, and returned there in 1945 after a spell in the army, which, says Amis, "Clears the mind wonderfully." He left Oxford in 1949, an established 'University Wit', to lecture in English at University College of Swansea.

In 1953 a volume of poetry, "A Frame of Mind", by Amis was published, this was followed in 1954 by his famous first-novel, "Lucky Jim". "Lucky Jim" has run to twenty-one editions, and has been translated into nine languages. It has been filmed by the Boulting Brothers, starring Ian Carmichal, and also serialized in the Evening Standard. Its chief character, Jim Dixon, emerged as the new 'hero' of English Literature; the innocent intell ectual who gets tough at the slightest hint of phoneyness. Critics acclaimed Amis as "..one of the leading writers of our time" and "one of the leading 'Angry Young Men'." This last term is not liked by Amis in respect to himself, he prefers to describe himself as "An elderly young intellectual, perhaps with connections in the educational and literary worlds, with left-wing sympathies." Nevertheless, Amis is one of the founders of the tough-intellectual school of writing, together with John Wain and John Braine.

In Amis' second novel "That Uncertain Feeling", we are introduced to John Lewis, assistant librarian in a Welsh town, who reads ASF in his spare time; this being the first indication that Amis is an SF fan himself. This became more apparent in 1957 when the BEC's Third Programme broadcast a pure SF play by Amis, "Touch and Go". This was no mundane Jet Morgan stuff about first landings on the Moon in the near future, but an SF story set in the far future concerning the adventures of an advance party on an alien planet. The characters talked quite casually about such topics as hyperspace and anti-grav landing grids, yet this did not destroy the feeling of realism that pervaded the play.

A year later, during 1958-9, as a visiting lecturer at Princeton University, Amis gave a series of talks on SF for Seminars in Criticism. These formed a basis for his survey "New Maps of Hell", which has been mentioned

earlier. Whilst reviewers have attacked Amis' conclusions on SF they consistently praised the book's writing and importance. Amis considers that SF is important, and must lead 'straight' literature into the future ... a view shared by many fans and authors of SF.

In the same way that Patrick Moore is fanatical about SCIENTIFIC SF, Amis is fanatical about SOCIO-LOGICAL SF, and rates Pohl and Kornbluths' "The Space Merchants" as a yard-stick for all good SF.

In his introduction to
Sarban's fine novel "The Sound of
his Horn" Amis distinguishs SF from
fantasy by saying: "One could
argue that fantasy appeals to deeper
and darker instincts than does SF.
The fears that find expression in it

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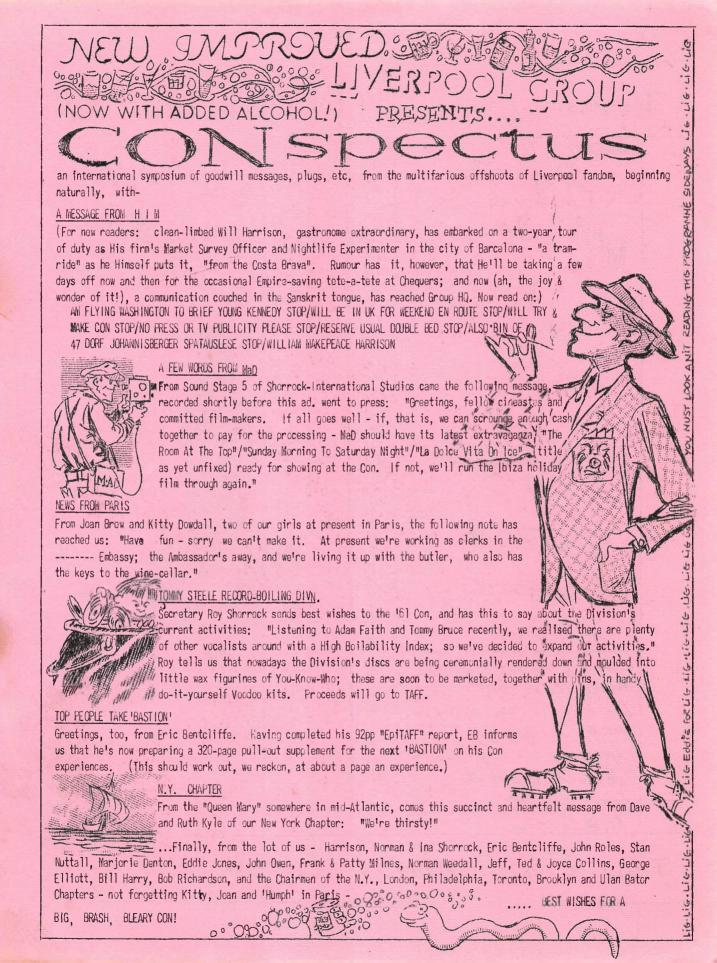
are not rational fears of an overgrown technology or a gradually encroaching totalitarianism, but ancient irrational fears of the world which science has blotted out of the conscious thought, the world of unseen forces beyond the extrication of science, to be seen more clearly in terms of the past, obviously, or in remote areas where the rule of science does not run."

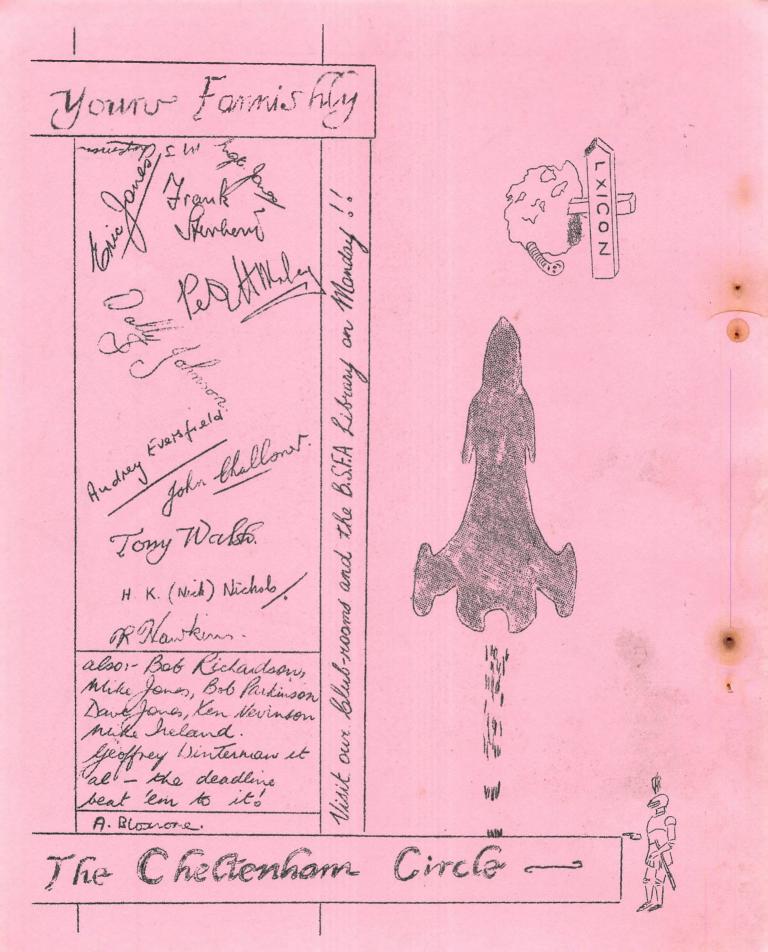
Amis is also a Jazz Fan, in his own words: "Make mine Chicago-style", despite the efforts of his students to convert him to modern-jazz he still prefers the 1920-style white-jazz (New-Orleans influenced) of Bix Beiderbecke and Eddie Condon.

Despite his many toyings with the idea of moving to London, Amis is still lecturing in English at Swansea, where he lives with his wife and two children. He contributes regularly to the Spectator and Observor, mainly criticisms of SF and Jazz, and is also a keen fan of Television and the Cinema.

Amis' has had two other novels published, "I Like It Here" (1958) and "Take a Girl Like You" (1960), and two other poetry collections, "A Case of Samples" (1956) and "Bright November" (1958). He is also on the selection committee of the Science Fiction Book Club.







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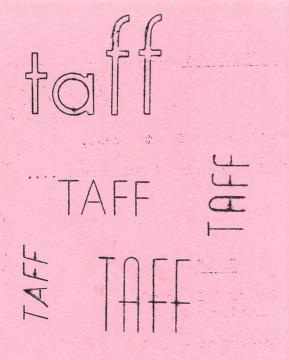
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As often as is financially possible an election is held, and the nominated fan who receives the greater number of votes is sent (carriage paid!) to the years major conventacross the ocean. Naturally, the Fund alternates between America and the United Kingdom.

THE TRANS-ATLANTIC FAN FUND is off to a fine start this year, largely due to the generosity of American Fans at the Pittsburgh World Convention (1960), and to the Convention Committee who organised the affair and who were kind enough to send a sizable donation to TAFF after they'd balanced their books. NEVERTHELESS...your VOTE and your help is still needed, particularly so if your friendly TAFF administrators are to succeed in their aim of not only having an American TAFF Representative at the 1962 British Convention, but also to send a Representative to that years World Convention in America.

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY VOTED, grab like quick a VOTING FORM (They'll be available at the Convention), and hand it to Eric Bentcliffe with your subscription. Minimum subscription 2/6...there's no maximum.

AND WHILE YOU ARE SPENDING MONEY! TAFF REPORTS generally make rather interesting reading, and you can order two of these at the same time you vote. There's the story of Don Ford's 1960 visit to England (and France), TAFF BAEDEKER, prise \$1.25 or 8/6. And Eric Bentcliff''s EPITAFF, the tale of his visit to Pittsburgh and America...7/— or One Dollar. Both reports run to almost one hundred quarto-pages, and profits from the sale of both go to TAFF. Which, latter, reason is why they are being sold. Both Don and Eric feel like giving out free-copies to everyone in thanks for their wonderful trips, but this way they can pay TAFF back a little for what it did for them.

SHOULD YOU BE UNABLE TO READ this at the convention...due to having inadvertantly drunk one of Norman Shorrock's special's too quickly, your handrare shaking too much after seeing Galactic Tourists all over the place (Rumour has it that this year Brian Burgess is coming as Himself!) You can send your vote postally to either TAFF Administrator (make postal orders or cheques payable to them personally, please, not to TAFF).

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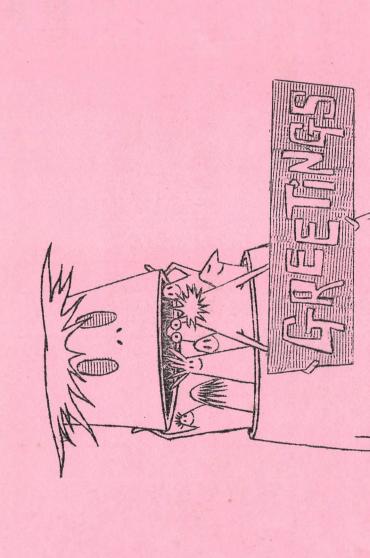
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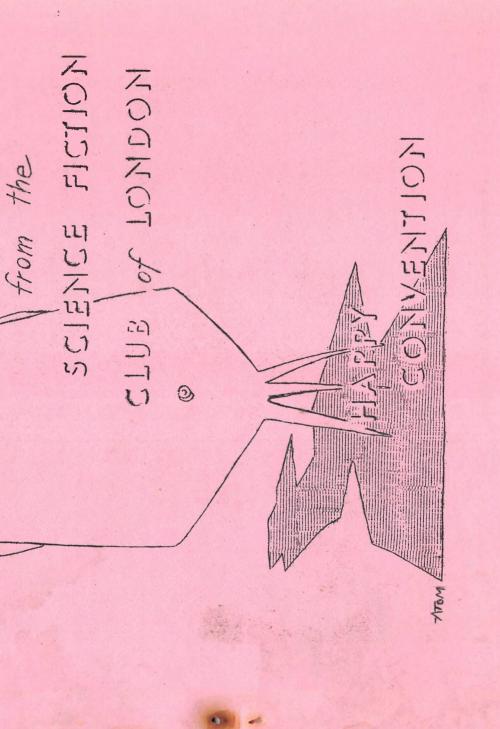
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39	Elizabeth Humbey - Maidenhead	11	THE STATE THE THEM TO SEE
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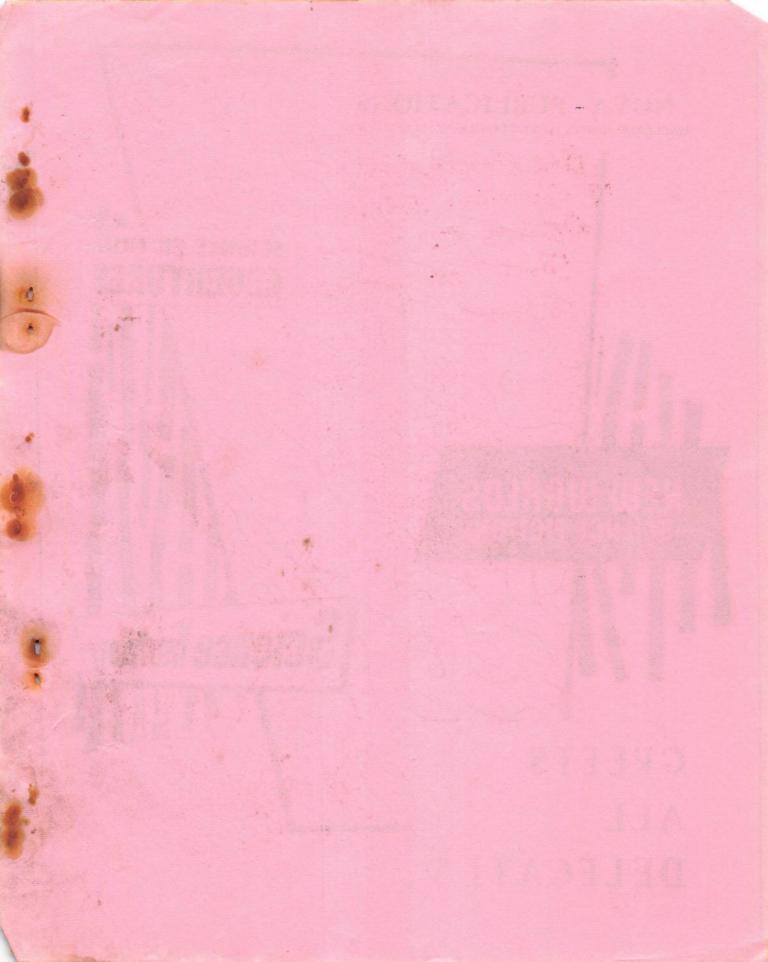
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