newsletter@mancunicon.org.uk

Pyjama Party

The hotel will be testing the fire alarm system on Monday morning at 11am. It will sound for three seconds, two or three times. Please do not evacuate unless the alarm sounds continuously. Please do evacuate if it does.

Could Try Harder

If we want the real ale bar to stay open later, we all need to drink faster. This means you, now, tonight.

"Gosh, Peter Mabey is Game, Isn't He?"

Peter Mabey, with creditable honesty, points out that he wasn't actually involved with the running of the first Loncon. But he did help organise Loncon 2.

Waspish Correction

On behalf of the hundreds of wasp species that don't try to steal your sandwiches, many of whom do very useful jobs for us (including pest control and pollination), please can you retract your description of all wasps as evil.

Hymenoptera* are awesome!

Thank you!

-Gwen Hitchcock

* the taxonomic family that contains bees, wasps & ants

That Was a Very Good Year

David Hardy has a significant birthday next month. He will be 80 years young (although he will only admit to being 35). If you see him at the bar his tipple is either a scotch or or an ale.

--Jackie Twine



Make Room! Make Room!

Rumours of police brutality during today's quicklysuppressed Occupy Ops demonstration have been denied by rapidly setting con chair Pat McMurray, who pointed to the large number of bodies concealed behind the science displays on the ground floor as proof of his good intentions.

Don't Obstruct the Walkways

It makes them soggy and hard to light.

Programme changes

The **Steampunk Jewellery** Workshop has been cancelled; our apologies. Rumours that this was because we needed all the resin to plasticise Pat into a living monument to the glory of Mancunicon may have been slightly exaggerated.

New item: there will be a discussion of the Future of Eastercon statistics at 10am on Monday in Room 6. A chance for approximately 17 of you to view and discuss the statistics from the FOE Ouestionnaire, as offered in today's discussion. [I've read these and they're more interesting than you think -Ed.]

A practical workshop on Eastercon joining options is ongoing in the downstairs lobby. Marvel at Follycon's iPad-enabled 21st century cloud-busting internet payment website! Thrill at CooperCon Innominate's retro triplicate graphite transfer system! Compare the two as you seamlessly lioin both seated Eastercons! NB: There will be a small charge (of £60 and £55) for this workshop to cover materials.

Channelling Charnock

There's still time to cash in your *I-Spy at the Eastercon* booklet (*tinyurl.com/ispypdf*) for a super fun prize. As one bemused neo explained, "Yes, I've read a fanzine. I went to the 'Welcome to Eastercon' panel and Caroline Mullan gave me her second-hand *Vibrator*. I found it completely impenetrable."

Craft Beer Revolution

The pop-up craft beer stall has moved up to the upstairs bar. The newsletter team has been comprehensively testing the craft beer and assures you that it's all excellent. We were particularly impressed by the beading beer, the handspun knitting beer, and the tiny resin models of beehives beer. *Hic.*

All the Bees

As in 2015, we'll have a page on the Mancunicon website linking to all your photos, reviews and reports about the convention. Email them to us at dancewaggle@gmail.com and we'll put them all online. We'll also be keeping a look out for interesting stuff appearing on Twitter and elsewhere.

Just Beecause

We still have a very few Mancunicon bee t-shirts left, available for £12 from Judi Hodgkin's stall in the dealers' room.

Take Eastercon Home With You

Both the 2017 Eastercon, Innominate, and the 2018 Eastercon, Follycon, have set up their social media accounts so that you can all keep in touch. Innominate can be found at @Eastercon2017 and as Eastercon2017 on Facebook, and Follycon can be found as @Follycon2018, www.facebook.com/Follycon2018, and as Follycon on Tumblr. Go add them!

Overheard and then Rapidly Censored on Twitter

Thanks to the person who keeps misreading Mancunicon as Mankinicon. Thanks for the photo, too. We think. We decided you all could live without seeing it, and we didn't dare ask Sue if she could draw us a bee in a mankini, in case she said "of course darling; let me get my sketchbook". Probably for the best.

Restaurant Review Hotel Restaurant

Downstairs, Down all the stairs,

We had dinner in the hotel, discarding con food, enjoying the hotel's proper Podium menu (very good, although of course not *quite* at con prices), and came out very satisfied after lovely soup, great steak, nice pavlova, and a Costa macchiato.

-Jan van 't Ent

Evuna

277 Deansgate

The Evuna tapas restaurant is a very short stagger up
Deansgate and has been fully booked the last couple of nights. Tonight they had free tables and we were right in there. The food was excellent and we have converted a previously skeptical vegetarian to the idea of tapas. Chickpeas, chorizo and black pudding was especially good.

-Steve Davies

Art Auction

Please could anyone who hasn't yet paid for purchases from the Art Auction go along to Ops and do so tomorrow morning.



This issue was produced by Alison Scott, with help from Jan van 't Ent, Mike Scott, Flick, Sue Mason, Steven Cain, Giulia De Ceasare and Steve Davies. All the bees by Sue Mason. So many bees. The bees, the bees... I might be becoming a bit deranged...