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*29th British Easter Science Fiction
Convention: 24th to 27th March 1978*

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Guest of Honour **ROBERT SHECKLEY**

Fan Guest of Honour: LEROY KETTLE



Progress Report 2

[illegible]

A horizontal row of small, stylized triangles forming a continuous wave-like or zigzag pattern across the width of the page.

THE COMMITTEE

No jokes this time, just the committee.

KEVIN SMITH	<i>Chairman and Treasurer</i>
DAVE LANGFORD	<i>Publicity and Things</i>
LIESE HOARE	<i>Secretary</i>
MARTIN HOARE	<i>Registrations</i>
DERMOT DOBSON	
STAN ELING	
KEITH OBORN	

Subcommittees: IAN MAULE (*Fan Room Subcommittee*)
JOHN & EVE HARVEY (*Films Subcommittee*)
MARY BURNS (*American Subcommittee*)
MIKE GRAY (*Envelopes Subcommittee*)

Skycon Addresses:

U.K 5 Aston Close, Pangbourne, Berkshire, RG8 7LG

U.S.A 48 Lou Avenue, Kings Park, New York, NY 11754

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP of Skycon provides you with each Progress Report and the Convention Booklet. The cost is £2, deductible from the cost of full membership.

FULL MEMBERSHIP entitles you to attend Skycon as well as to receive the literature. The cost is £4.50---£2.50 for supporting members---for which you have the run of the hotel's facilities, the full range of programmed events and, of course, the even wider range of unprogrammed events.

HOTEL RATES & BOOKING

The price for a double or twin room is £13.80 per night, inclusive of 15% service charge but not of VAT. For a person wishing to share a twin room the price is precisely half---£6.90. For Eastercons as they are now these prices are not likely to be repeated. The full double room rate at the Heathrow Hotel is already over £20 per night. There are no single rooms as such.

Breakfast will be an extra cost if you have it. A full English breakfast should cost about £1.60 and a continental breakfast 85p, but these prices are not yet firm.

And now, an innovation. The hotel is offering a massive discount on normal room rates; but it requires a deposit from con members for booking rooms. This deposit is half the basic room rate, i.e. £6 per night for a double or twin and £3 for sharing a twin. The amount payable should accompany your hotel booking form; the full booking details will follow in PR3 in November. This will enable you to spread the costs of attending the con, which will no doubt please the book dealers.

Should you pay the deposit and later find yourself unable to attend Skycon, we will refund the money provided someone else can be found to take the room. *Please* don't request room bookings or send deposits before you receive the booking forms later this year.

THE HEATHROW HOTEL

This hotel, situated on the edge of Heathrow Airport, is the biggest, most luxurious and best equipped hotel ever selected for an Eastercon. The con facilities include the Wessex Ballroom, which can seat 550 people and will serve as the main con and banqueting hall; the Windsor Room with a floor area of 1250 square feet will be the book room; the Hanover suite, divided by a sturdy partition into George I and George II, will house the fan room and art show; and, pride of the hotel, the York Videotheatre with a capacity of 262 and a wide screen will allow all-day film showing to complement the con hall programming. And, of course, the bars which will house most of the fans for most of the time.

The additional facilities of the Heathrow are more than an Eastercon hotel has had before. A heated swimming pool with an attached bar, a sauna and solarium and a shopping arcade can all be found in the hotel.

The rooms are very well equipped with double or twin beds, bedside radio, and a colour television offering a continuous choice of two first-run feature films as well as normal programmes. Each bedroom has a fully equipped bathroom and shower, and, it says in the brochure, a "versatile personal drinks dispenser". We haven't yet tested the limits of its versatility, but the device is there all right.

All rooms have full air conditioning. One of our committee---Dermot---stayed in the hotel during an exhibition and, feeling hot in his room, turned the air conditioning down to *cold*. He woke in the night shivering, with condensation running down the walls. Unlike some hotels, the Heathrow has air conditioning that works!

And needless to say (though that won't stop us), the Heathrow is fully soundproofed. The aeroplanes, and the traffic on the A4, can be seen but not heard.

You'll also find that at least one of the hotel's restaurants is always open, 24 hours a day.



PROGRAMME: THE STATE OF THE ART

Some programme notions were roughly outlined in Progress Report 1---such star items as the talks from Guest of Honour Robert Sheckley and from Bob Shaw, and such regular institutions as the banquet, fancy dress, book room, art show and quiz. Other panels and special items are in preparation (some, indeed, will remain under our various hats until The Day itself), while the Fan Room continues to fester and to pullulate under the guiding hand of Ian Maule.

We have arranged for the appearance of the *Iridescent Village* disco, which has terrorised the eardrums of all Oxfordshire; big Dermot Dobson will be in charge of this. Dermot is also collecting material for the Auction---send your surplus H.G.Wells first editions or copies of *Hyphen* to him at 41 Boswell Road, Cowley, Oxford. Or save them up in a cardboard box and bring them with you at Easter.

John and Eve Harvey, meanwhile, are struggling with innumerable film catalogues; we are confident that their efforts will succeed in netting at least a few of the following: *Young Frankenstein*, *The Phantom of the Paradise* (vastly enjoyed by a handful of fans at Silicon and deserving of a wider audience), *Rollerball*, *Rosemary's Baby*, *Silent Running* and *Barbarella*. Also, for light relief, we have ordered such gems as *Billy the Kid vs. Dracula* and the ever-popular *Plan 9 from Outer Space*.

NEWS SECTION

The most important news for British SF fans is that our bid for 1979 has been successful: that year's World Convention will be held in Brighton at the end of summer. The next most important news item is that our very own Kevin Smith is now a qualified accountant. And while you're all still reeling from the shock, here are this year's SF and fannish awards...

HUGO AWARDS

Novel: *Where Late the Sweet Birds Sang* by Kate Wilhelm

Novella (tie): *By Any Other Name* by Spider Robinson

Houston, Houston, Do You Read? by James Tiptree Jr.

Novelette: *The Bicentennial Man* by Isaac Asimov

Short Story: *Tricentennial* by Joe Haldeman

Professional Editor: Ben Bova of *Analog Science Fact/Science Fiction*

Professional Artist: Rick Sternbach

Fanzine: *Science Fiction Review* (once *The Alien Critic*) ed. Dick Geis

Fan Writer (tie): Susan Wood, Dick Geis

Fan Artist: Phil Foglio

John W.Campbell Award for Best New Writer: C.J.Cherryh

J.R.R.Tolkien Award ("Gandalf"): Andre Norton

FAN ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT ("FAAN") AWARDS

Best Fan Editor: Rob Jackson of *Maya*

Best Fan Writer: Bob Shaw

Best Fan Artist (Humorous): Harry Bell

Best Fan Artist (Serious): James Shull

Best Letter-of-Comment Writer: Mike Glicksohn

Best Single Issue (tie): *Maya* 11, *Spanish Inquisition* 7/8

CHECKPOINT FAN POLL (BRITAIN ONLY)

Best British Fanzine: *Wrinkled Shrew*

Best British Fanwriter: Leroy Kettle (*Skycon's* Fan Guest of Honour)

Best British Fan Artist: Harry Bell

(Information from *Suncon Newsletter* and *Checkpoint* 83-84)

ADVERTISING RATES

There still remain two Skycon progress reports, whose intended dates are November 1977 and February 1978. The print runs are, as for this present PR, 600+. Advertisements may be placed in PR3 or PR4 at the rates below---all cheques payable to SKYCON, please.

	<i>full page</i>	<i>half page</i>	<i>quarter page</i>
Professional	£7.00	£4.00	£2.40
Fan or Amateur	£5.00	£3.00	£1.75

Copy should be camera-ready on black and white (no half tones)---full page size A4 for reduction (50%) to A5. Final copy dates for advertising are as follows:

PR3: November 15th 1977

PR4: February 2nd 1978

Please send all copy and correspondence on publicity to: Dave Langford, 22 Northumberland Avenue, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 7PW.

AMERICAN FANS PLEASE NOTE

Mary Burns (at the SKYCON USA address given on p.2) is our American agent. All cheques sent to this address should be made payable to Mary herself. USA supporting membership costs \$4 and full membership \$9.

Advertisers in the States can send their copy to Mary, at least three weeks before the deadlines given above. The dollar rates for advertising are as follows:

Pro: \$13 full page, \$7.50 half page, \$4.50 quarter page

Fan: \$10, \$6, \$3.50

MISCELLANEOUS

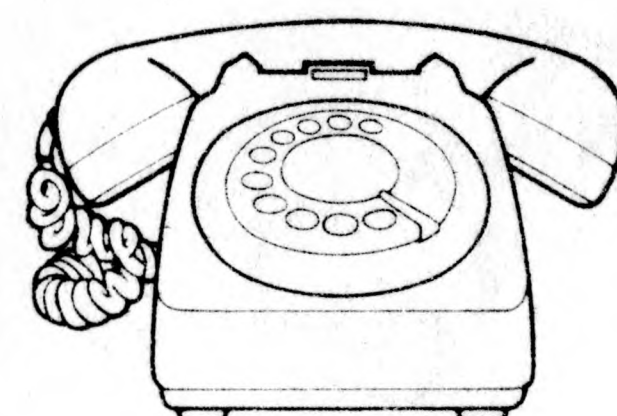
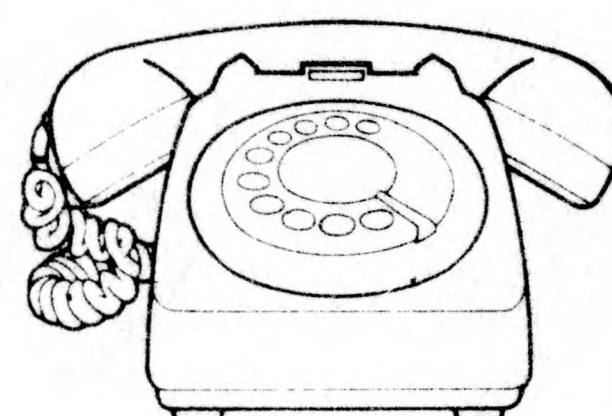
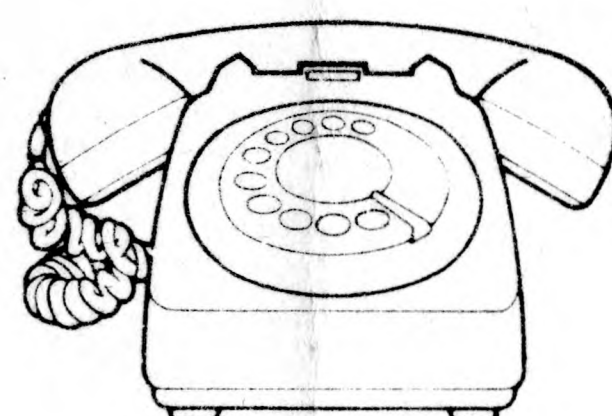
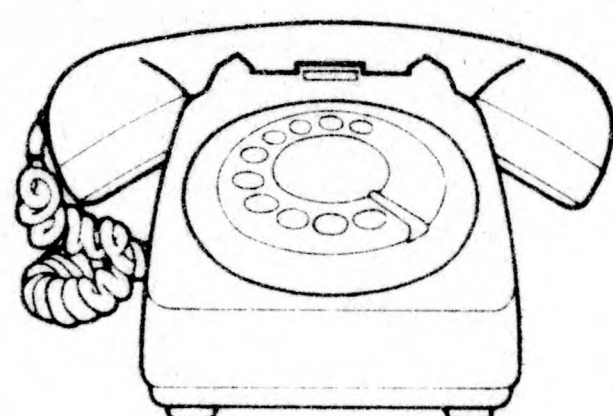
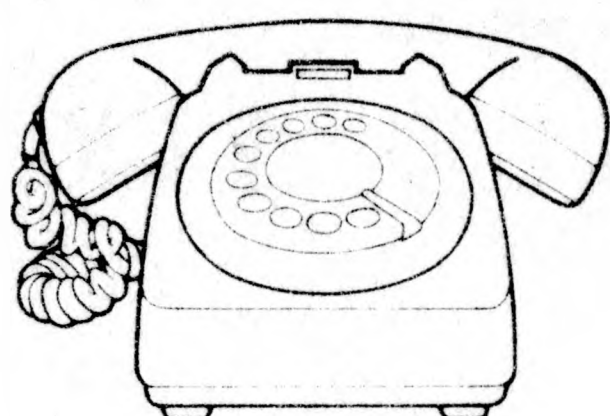
In our next stirring PR, along with the much-heralded booking form, we will be announcing advertising rates for the Convention Booklet itself. This should be a really worthwhile production, with Famous Names writing little-known facts about Robert Sheckley and Infamous Names passing snide comments upon Leroy Kettle, while critics survey the progress or otherwise of science fiction in the various media through 1977, fans reminisce upon the fannish **scene**, and even our shy, retiring committee is persuaded to reveal nearly all. Some surprise items are also planned, of course...

ART CREDITS

The cover for this PR was drawn by Jocelyn Almond, while the possibly atypical fan upon p.3 is from the loathesomely creative pen of Jon Langford.

EMERGENCY! EMERGENCY!

Well... if it really *is* an emergency connected with registration or bookings---if, for example, you're a registered member of Skycon but don't receive PR3 by mid-December---then ring Martin and Liese some evening, at Pangbourne (07357) 2875. They may even be in...



BEGGING AND PLEADING DEPT.

(1) *Pamela Boal* hopes to fly to New York immediately after Skycon, and (owing to wheelchair problems) needs a travelling companion or two. We'd be glad to hear from anyone intending to make this trip at this time---relevant mail will be forwarded to Pamela.

(2) *The harassed Skycon committee* reminds fans that it is not possible for us to respond instantly to every query; that it is of no use to request hotel reservations etc. before we send out the booking forms with PR3; and that unless you have a Really Distinctive surname, an initials-and-surname signature upon a letter is quite likely to cause confusion. Please sign correspondence with your full name and (if registered) quote your convention number. Only thus may our nervous and hysterical computer be cajoled into serving its supposed Masters.

(3) *The solitary person*, who sent in ingenious ideas for the use of the Heathrow's swimming pool, is feeling acutely lonely. There is still time to compete for the Free Attending Membership prize by suggesting a pool use so startling and inane that even the committee has not thought of it...

~~~~~

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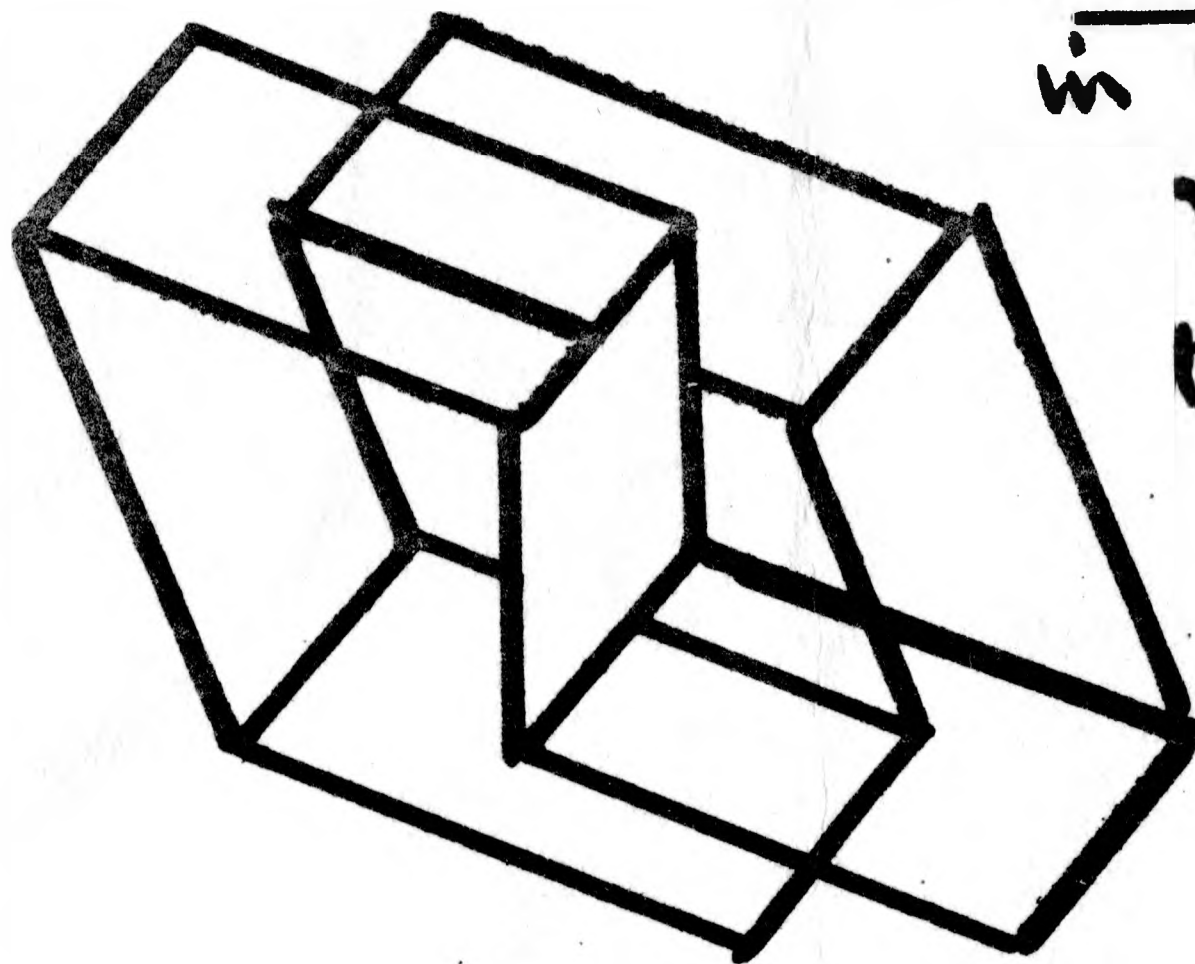
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## SUPPORTING MEMBERS, TO DATE

|                      |                        |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 149 L.Hutchinson     | 184 J.E.Haigh          | 218 Kathy Sterry       |
| 151 ½r Cruttenden    | 185 Paul Williams      | 219 Richard J.Smith    |
| 152 Wendy Cruttenden | 186 Louise Barry       | 220 Peter Hammerton    |
| 153 Jocelyn Almond   | 187 Ethel Lindsay      | 221 Anthony Watkins    |
| 154 Keith Seddon     | 188 Ella Parker        | 222 Ian Barber         |
| 155 John Bush        | 189 Guido Eekhaut      | 223 Ethel T.Buzzard    |
| 156 Julia Felton     | 190 Josaine Cortoos    | 224 Stephen Wilson     |
| 157 Marcus Rowland   | 191 Joyce Deeming      | 225 Anders Reuterswärd |
| 158 Rob Carter       | 192 Dave Cluett        | 226 Richard Brandshaft |
| 159 Bill Bains       | 193 Edgar Belka        | 227 Pam Boal           |
| 160 Tim Illingworth  | 194 Fred Hemmings      | 228 Derek Boal         |
| 161 Margaret Austin  | 195 Roy Mortimer       | 229 David Boal         |
| 162 Harry Bell       | 196 Daphne Mortimer    | 230 Ake Jonsson        |
| 163 Richard McMahon  | 197 Paul Parsons       | 231 Dave Raggett       |
| 164 T.Pickard        | 198 Louise Talbott     | 232 Milton Strain      |
| 165 Josh Kirby       | 199 Mike Skelding      | 233 Charlie Radley     |
| 166 Paul Kincaid     | 200 Heather Woodeson   | 234 Mark Knight        |
| 167 John Brosnan     | 201 Margaret Draper    | 235 I.Newman           |
| 168 Jorgen Forsberg  | 202 S.C.Hatch          | 236 Norman Finlay      |
| 169 David Symes      | 203 Judy Blish         | 237 Gabriel Stein      |
| 170 Fay Symes        | 204 Takis Nikolaou     | 238 Henry Skoglund     |
| 171 Douglas Hill     | 205 J.C.G.Lesurf       | 239 Ylva Spangberg     |
| 172 Michael Hill     | 206 Derek Hepburn      | 240 Don Rogers         |
| 173 Norman Weedall   | 207 T.R.Robinson       | 241 Mic Rogers         |
| 174 Kev Easthope     | 208 Alan Farmer        | 242 Steve Lovett       |
| 175 Martin Stallard  | 209 Andrew Chapman     | 243 Peter Weston       |
| 176 Mark Woodward    | 210 Flo Russell        | 244 Chris Jordan       |
| 177 Maxim Jakubowski | 211 Miss P.A.Thomas    | 245 Brēnda Piper       |
| 178 Andrew Richards  | 212 Tim Broadribb      | 246 David Williams     |
| 179 Tim Denton       | 213 Samantha Broadribb | 247 Elric Williams     |
| 180 Cherry Wilder    | 214 Don Wollheim       | 248 David Wilkinson    |
| 181 Paul Paolini     | 215 Elsie Wollheim     | 249 Alison Lowe        |
| 182 Stephen Gould    | 216 Marion Z.Bradley   | 250 Jackie Wright      |
| 183 Jennifer Marsh   | 217 Neil Thompson      | 251 Harry Harrison     |

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

If you have changed your address since registering for Skycon, please complete the little form below and send it to the Skycon address (see page 2 for USA address).

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FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CONVENTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS (BLOCK LETTERS, PLEASE) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Gollancz**



**Recently published**

**Michael Bishop**  
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**Algis Budrys**  
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**Bob Shaw**  
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**Robert Silverberg**  
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EARTH

**William Tenn**  
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**Ian Watson**  
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**George R. R. Martin**  
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