

# NOVACON 16

31 Oct - 2 Nov '86

De Vere Hotel

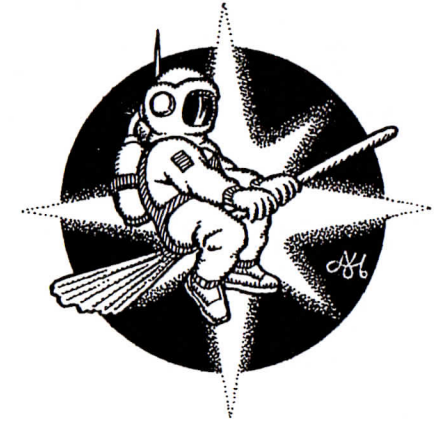
Coventry



PROGRESS REPORT 3

# NOVACON

## I6



31st October - 2nd November 1986

GUEST OF HONOUR: TED TUBB

SPECIAL GUEST: CHRIS EVANS

HOTEL: The De Vere Hotel  
Fairfax Street  
Coventry  
CV1 5RP  
Telephone 0203-51851  
Telex 31380

### REGISTRATION:

£8.00 before the convention or £10.00 at the door. Send to Graham Poole, 86 Berwood Farm Road, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B72 1AG. Make cheques payable to NOVACON 16.

### COMMITTEE:

Tony Berry (Chairman); Graham Poole (Treasurer); Nick Mills (Films); Roger G. Peyton (Book Room and Advertising); Maureen Porter (Programme); Darroll Pardoe and Rosemary Pardoe (Publications).

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## Booking

If you haven't already returned your Booking Form, then in your own interest we advise you to do so as soon as possible. Send the completed form to Graham Poole (address above), NOT to the hotel.

## Getting There

Enclosed with this Progress Report is a form for cheap train tickets to the convention. Return this to the Theatre & Concert Rail Club, NOT to us or to British Rail. Please note that this year the tickets will be subject to the restrictions applying to Saver Tickets - choose your train accordingly.

### ARRIVING BY TRAIN

Trains from London leave from Euston Station. Trains to Coventry from all destinations arrive at Coventry B.R. station, which is about a mile from the hotel. Take a no.17 or no.27 bus to Pool Meadow bus station, which is opposite the hotel. Or use a taxi, which will cost about £1.50. If you wish to walk (not recommended after dark), leave the station and turn right, out of the station square. In front of you is a subway. Follow the signs to the City Centre. Out of the subway, turn right across

the Ring Road to another subway. Head for the City Centre again. Out of the subway you will see three church spires ahead of you. Head straight on towards the left-hand spire up Hertford Street Pedestrian Precinct. At the statue of Lady Godiva, turn right and head for the centre spire. This is the old cathedral. Walk round the front of the cathedral, past the new one and down the hill. The De Vere Hotel is on your left.

ARRIVING BY CAR

Roads from any direction will bring you on to the Coventry Ring Road. Leave this at Junction 2 for the De Vere. There is a long-stay car park next to the hotel.

ARRIVING BY COACH

The main coach station is at Pool Meadow, right opposite the hotel.

AT THE HOTEL

As you enter the foyer from the street, Hotel Registration is on your left. The convention registration desk will be set up adjacent to it. If you arrive after the convention desk is closed please find a member of the committee and ask to be registered - the convention bars will not serve you unless you are wearing a badge.

On the right as you enter the foyer is the hotel porter's desk, where luggage can be deposited and keys picked up.

**Food**

Cheap food will be available in the Three Spires Restaurant on a similar basis to last year. A list of places to eat in Coventry will appear in the Programme Book.

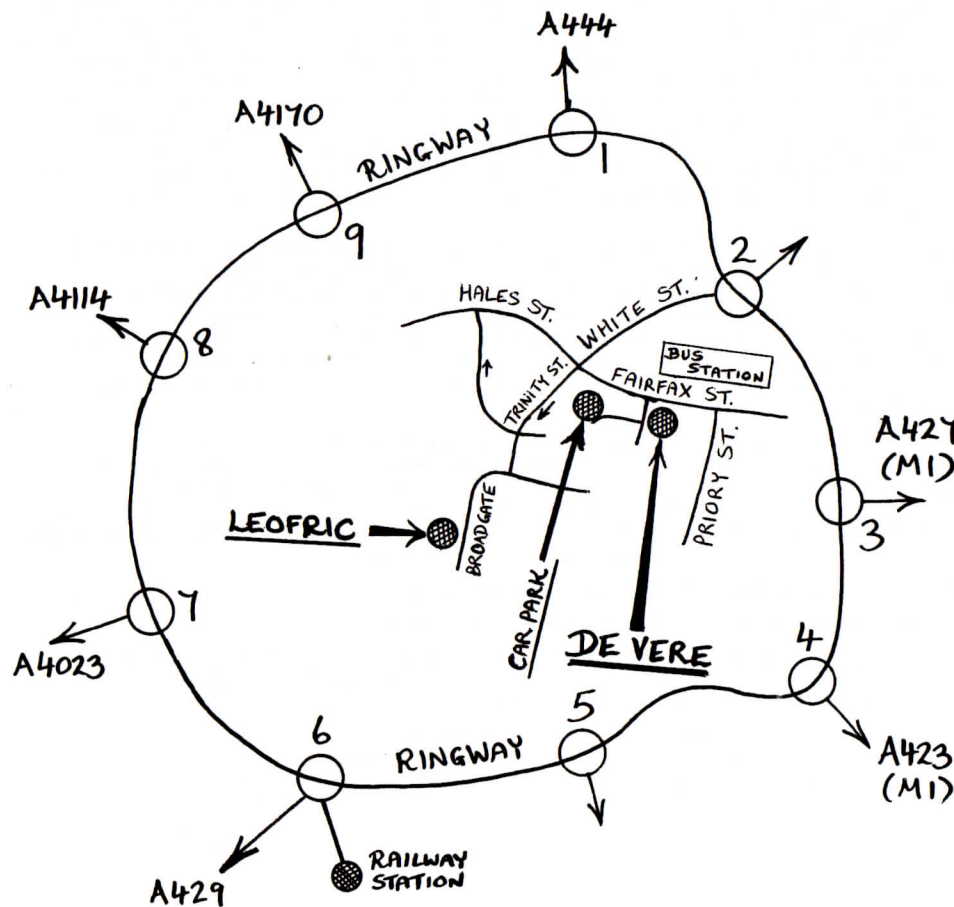
**Art Show**

Marsha Jones is now organising the Art Show. Contact her at 9 Cecil Road, Prenton, Birkenhead, Merseyside L42 9PF. This year the Art Show and Book Room will be in the Fairfax Suite.

**Gophers**

If you'd like to volunteer to act as a gopher, please contact Tony Berry, 567 Holyhead Road, Coventry, West Midlands CV5 8HW.

**COVENTRY**



## PROGRAMME

I'm delighted to announce that we have more or less got the programme into shape now, and if I say so myself it is going to be very interesting. We've settled for two streams of reasonably intensive programmes, and I think there should be something to please everyone. Obviously, Ted Tubb and Chris Evans will be giving speeches, but we're also hoping to talk to Ted about his fannish experiences. For example, did you know that he was instrumental in setting up the BSFA back in the 1950s? We're also hoping to have a panel exploring the 'cyberpunk' phenomenon and whether it really exists outside the publishers' blurb, and we'll hopefully be asking some new writers to take a look back at some classic SF and see whether it has any relevance to modern SF writing.

What else? Well, there's been a lot of debate recently about whether we really need awards - the BSFA Award, the Nova, the Hugo and so on - so we want to discuss this in greater depth with award winners and award administrators, and we want audience participation, of course. And we'll also be discussing Novacon and where it ought to go next. I particularly want to find out what people will have thought about this year's convention, and also learn what it is people expect and want from a convention, so I am hoping to get a lot of feedback from this particular item. And with the Worldcon in mind, we're going to ask people about Worldcons they've attended, and compare experiences. You probably know already that American cons aren't at all like British cons, and the influx of American visitors next year could be in for a few shocks, as could we.

Novacon has a long tradition of introducing more serious scientific items, and this year is no exception. Some of you may remember seeing a programme about Spontaneous Human Combustion on television last year. We've invited Tony McMunn, who took part in that programme, to come and talk to us about the phenomenon, particularly in view of the fact that it's cropped up in several SF novels recently. Dr John Davies, who should have been with us last year, has agreed to come along and talk about asteroid and comet collisions with Earth.

But it won't all be hard work. Alan Dorey will be putting on his quiz master's hat to organise a game along the lines of Every Second Counts. Alan is well known for his skills at organising games so this shouldn't be missed, as shouldn't Pathfinder, coming to us courtesy of Peter Wareham, the other doyen of fannish games. Both of them have asked me to make an appeal for teams for these games.

Alan Dorey requires four fannish couples.

Peter Wareham requires three teams of three.

May I suggest that teams and couples get in touch with me, and I'll let the relevant quiz master know. Write to me at 114 Guildhall Street, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1ES (0303-52939).

We're hoping to organise a Halloween party of sorts on the Friday night, and it would be very nice indeed if at least some people came along in costume, to build up the atmosphere. But you'll be coming to Novacon anyway, won't you, to meet Chris Evans, Ted Tubb, and people like Garry Kilworth and Terry Pratchett and Iain Banks, not to mention David Brin and Kim Stanley Robinson who are also hoping to attend. After all, it would be a shame to miss out on the biggest event of the year, wouldn't it?

Maureen Porter

## FILMS

Arranged just in time to miss the last PR, we have obtained a very interesting selection of films to show at the convention. Topping the bill we have REPO MAN, a movie which gained much critical acclaim when it was released last year. Possibly of even greater interest is BORN IN FLAMES, an award winning feminist film which those of you who were at Mexicon will have heard about but not seen. For some less intellectually demanding relaxation we have MORONS FROM OUTER SPACE with Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones, and for those young at heart DOUGAL AND THE BLUE CAT. There's a good selection of horror for Halloween - Roger Corman's LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS; a short film from Ireland, A CHILD'S VOICE; and a chance to reappraise Hammer horror with BRIDES OF DRACULA.

In addition we have some really good short films, with THE UNLIMITED DREAM COMPANY - a portrait of J.G. Ballard and his work - and a compilation of the films of Georges Méliès, one of the earliest of all science fiction film makers.

Plus cartoons from around the world including a Yugoslavian version of MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH and the award winning FLATLAND, an adaptation of Edwin A. Abbot's story of the inhabitants of a two-dimensional universe.

Whatever your interests there should be something here to intrigue, stimulate or amuse you.

Nick Mills

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## THE NOVA AWARDS

The NOVA is an award for fanzines produced by science fiction fandom in the British Isles. Started in 1973 by the late Gillon Field and presented annually at the Birmingham Science Fiction Group's Novacon, the NOVA was, until 1981, given to the editor of the fanzine voted 'Best of the Year'. From 1973 to 1976 the NOVA winner was decided by a select panel of judges chosen for their knowledge of fandom; in order of appearance these were: Jim Linwood, Phil Rogers, Ina Shorrocks, Andrew Stephenson, Greg Pickersgill, Keith Walker, Malcolm Edwards, Peter Roberts, Gray Boak, Leroy Kettle, Mike Meara, Dave Rowe and Ian Williams.

But in 1977, whilst the Novacon committee persuaded the ultra select NOVA committee that a more democratic system would be more appropriate, an inebriated Stan Eling persuaded an even more inebriated Dave Langford to draw up a set of rules to govern the new democratic system. The result of all this was, in Kev Smith's words, "the three volume presentation set of NOVA Award rules with the seven appendices". These rules provide for an Administrator (responsible for printing and distributing the ballot forms) and a Committee (who are responsible for assessing the eligibility of votes cast and counting them). Previous Administrators to date: Liese Hoare, Coral Jackson, Dave Langford and Paul Vincent. NOVA committee members: Rob Jackson, Greg Pickersgill, Dave Langford, Joseph Nicholas, Harry Bell, Eve Harvey and Owen Whiteoak. The only other major change to the NOVA came in 1981, again by request of the Novacon committee, when it was decided to extend the NOVA to include two additional categories - 'Best Fanwriter' and 'Best Fanartist'.

The fundamental idea of the NOVA as it's been run since 1977 is that it should be awarded by informed vote. The informed votes come from informed voters, defined as Novacon members who have been active in fanzines sometime in the year or two preceding the relevant Novacon. 'Active in fanzines' is a bit harder to define, but for the sake of clarity the NOVA Award Rules state that this means having produced one or more fanzines, or having contributed articles/artwork to two or more fanzines or having had letters of comment printed in three or more different fanzines.

These criteria were not designed to be prohibitive, and even in these days of falling fanzine productivity they still allow a large proportion of Novacon members to vote. A ballot form should accompany this Progress Report. You can either send it to me before Novacon 16 or post it in the ballot box provided at the registration desk. But whatever you do, if you consider yourself to be an active fanzine fan please USE YOUR VOTE! By doing so, you will help to make the awards as representative as possible of fandom-at-large.

MARTIN TUDOR  
NOVA ADMINISTRATOR

# CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Ted Tubb             | 61. Helen Eling             |
| 2. Chris Evans          | 62. Niall Gordon            |
| 3. Iris Tubb            | 63. Undepoldous (W.H.James) |
| 4. Faith Brooker        | 64. Marcus L. Rowland       |
| 5. Tony Berry           | 65. Simon Beresford         |
| 6. Graham Poole         | 66. Julian Headlong         |
| 7. Maureen Porter       | 67. Dave Ellis              |
| 8. Nick Mills           | 68. Colin Fine              |
| 9. Rog Peyton           | 69. Bernie Evans            |
| 10. Darroll Pardoe      | 70. Dave Holmes             |
| 11. Rosemary Pardoe     | 71. Helen Holmes            |
| 12. Chris Southern      | 72. Peter-Fred Thompson     |
| 13. Jenny Southern      | 73. Peter Wareham           |
| 14. Larry van der Putte | 74. Gwen Funnell            |
| 15. Mike Westhead       | 75. Peter A. Tyers          |
| 16. Kathy Westhead      | 76. Colin Langeveld         |
| 17. Roger Robinson      | 77. D.M.Sherwood            |
| 18. Roger Perkins       | 78. Steve Lawson            |
| 19. Howard Rosenblum    | 79. Allen Boyd-Newton       |
| 20. June Rosenblum      | 80. Pauline Oliver          |
| 21. Dai Price           | 81. Mike Damesick           |
| 22. Vince Docherty      | 82. Paul McCarthy           |
| 23. Jonathan Cowie      | 83. Peter Strover           |
| 24. Oscar Dalglish      | 84. Rory O. McLean          |
| 25. Stephen Davies      | 85. Ye Gerbish              |
| 26. Tim Illingworth     | 86. James White             |
| 27. Owen Whiteoak       | 87. Peggy White             |
| 28. R Cruttenden        | 88. Bruce J.H. Macdonald    |
| 29. Wendy Cruttenden    | 89. Phil Rogers             |
| 30. Saul Bura           | 90. Peter Cohen             |
| 31. David Perkins       | 91. Greg Pickersgill        |
| 32. John F. Dowd        | 92. Linda Pickersgill       |
| 33. John Perry          | 93. Joyce Slater            |
| 34. Chris Jennings      | 94. Ken Slater              |
| 35. Brian Ameringen     | 95. Jan Poole               |
| 36. Caroline Mullan     | 96. Carlene Poole           |
| 37. Richard Harris      | 97. David Symes             |
| 38. Jonathan C. Salmon  | 98. Fay Symes               |
| 39. Chris Bursey        | 99. Rob Jackson             |
| 40. Phil Spencer        | 100. Barbara Conway         |
| 41. George Ternent      | 101. Mike Ford              |
| 42. Linda Ternent       | 102. Ken Lake               |
| 43. Chris Cheyne        | 103. Jan Lake               |
| 44. Susie Cheyne        | 104. Alun Harries           |
| 45. Alex Cheyne         | 105. Tom Taylor             |
| 46. Urban Gunnarsson    | 106. Ann Looker             |
| 47. Margaret Austin     | 107. Paul Kincaid           |
| 48. Martin Easterbrook  | 108. Martin Tudor           |
| 49. Malcolm Davies      | 109. Bob Shaw (real)        |
| 50. Charles Mawdsley    | 110. Paul Oldroyd           |
| 51. Paul Dormer         | 111. Chris Donaldson        |
| 52. Adrian Snowdon      | 112. Michael Hill           |
| 53. Peter Mabey         | 113. Alex Stewart           |
| 54. Tony Rogers         | 114. Moira Shearman         |
| 55. John Steward        | 115. Jenny Watson           |
| 56. Pauline Morgan      | 116. Phil Barnard           |
| 57. Chris Morgan        | 117. Robin Levy             |
| 58. M.M.Kamal Hashmi    | 118. Rowena Levy            |
| 59. Dave Thomas         | 119. Stuart Hall            |
| 60. Stan Eling          | 120. Peter Smith            |

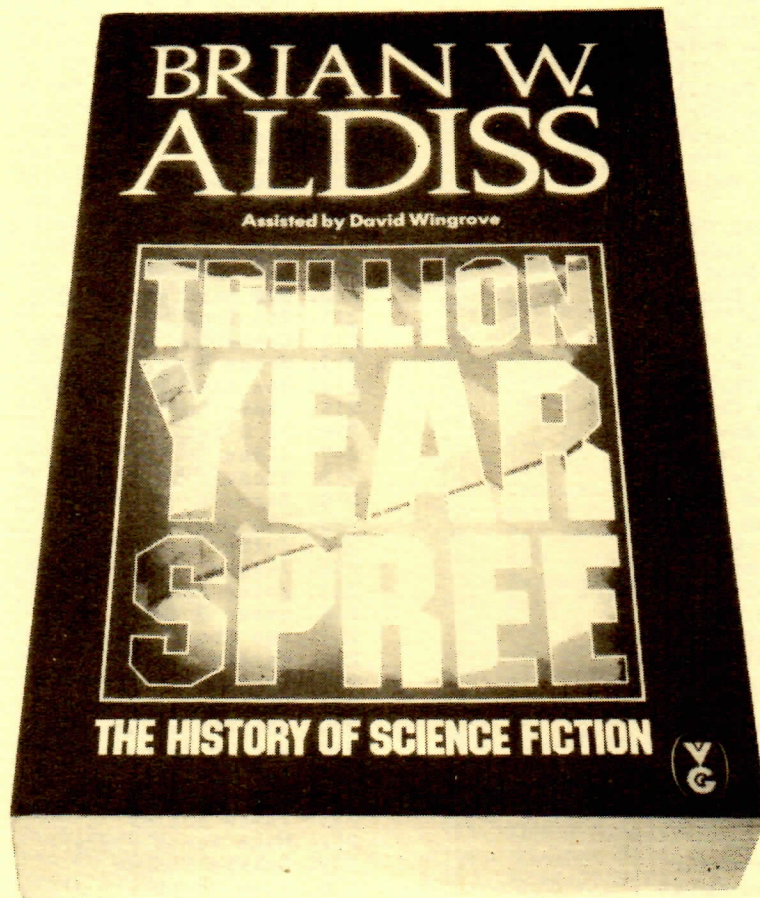
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|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 121. Ingrid Walton      | 181. Annette Kilworth    |
| 122. Nicholas Walton    | 182. Ros Calverley       |
| 123. Walton Children    | 183. Chris Walton        |
| 124. " "                | 184. Dave Langford       |
| 125. " "                | 185. Geoff Williams      |
| 126. Peter Day          | 186. Rod Milner          |
| 127. Mike Gray          | 187. T.R. Robinson       |
| 128. Doreen Rogers      | 188. D.G. Gibson         |
| 129. Phil Willis        | 189. Iain Banks          |
| 130. Leslie Flood       | 190. Martin Reed         |
| 131. Mike Gould         | 191. Liz Burak           |
| 132. Jean Maudsley      | 192. Chris Cooper        |
| 133. Dave French        | 193. David Gemmell       |
| 134. Shirley French     | 194. Mike Moir           |
| 135. Helen McNabb       | 195. Debby Moir          |
| 136. Mike McNabb        | 196. Bob Shaw (Fake)     |
| 137. Katy McNabb        | 197. Vernon Brown        |
| 138. Adam McNabb        | 198. Martin Hoare        |
| 139. Nicola McNabb      | 199. Katie Hoare         |
| 140. Brian Aldiss       | 200. Mike Scott          |
| 141. Eric Bentcliffe    | 201. David Angus         |
| 142. Ken Bulmer         | 202. David Elworthy      |
| 143. Alex Clarke        | 203. Lena Sarah          |
| 144. Daphne Mortimore   | 204. Dave Swinden        |
| 145. Terry Walsh        | 205. Tim Smith           |
| 146. " "                | 206. Mark Fletcher       |
| 147. Patrick Curzon     | 207. Bruce Saville       |
| 148. Nigel Robson       | 208. Steve Hubbard       |
| 149. Anne Hamill        | 209. Ina Shorrock        |
| 150. Jimmy Robertson    | 210. Sue Harrison        |
| 151. Mathew Irving      | 211. Tim Broadribb       |
| 152. Patrick A. Lawford | 212. Katharine Broadribb |
| 153. John Dallman       | 213. Helen Starkey       |
| 154. Mike Christie      | 214. Ben Staveley-Taylor |
| 155. Chris Chivers      | 215. Steve Boyce         |
| 156. Tina Hewett        | 216. T. O'Neill          |
| 157. Chris Sellar       | 217. Aidan Collard       |
| 158. Gill Sellar        | 218. Richard Edwards     |
| 159. Edmund Jackson     | 219. Barbara Edwards     |
| 160. Norman Shorrock    | 220. Ian Stewart         |
| 161. Peter Weston       | 221. Juliet Eyeions      |
| 162. Jonathan Cowie     | 222. Jacqueline Robinson |
| 163. Richard Brandshaft | 223. Peter Pinto         |
| 164. Laura Wheatly      | 224. Steve Green         |
| 165. Vincent Clarke     | 225. Ann Green           |
| 166. Christina Lake     | 226. Marsha Jones        |
| 167. Charlotte Bulmer   | 227. Maggie Pinfold      |
| 168. Pete Gilligan      | 228. Philip James Grove  |
| 169. Simon Joukes       | 229. Stephen Rothman     |
| 170. Tibs               | 230. Martin Smith        |
| 171. Stephen Tudor      | 231. Les Flood           |
| 172. Pam Wells          | 232. S.H. Redburn        |
| 173. John Brunner       | 233. Peter Colley        |
| 174. Dave Hardy         | 234. Mike Scantlebury    |
| 175. Ron Gemmell        | 235. Graham Stokes       |
| 176. Sharon Hall        | 236. John Sheppey        |
| 177. Bryan Hall         | 237. Sue Moss            |
| 178. David Barrett      | 238. Dave Fussell        |
| 179. Mary Gentle        | 239. Helen Hancock       |
| 180. Garry Kilworth     | 240. Terry Pratchett     |

(list complete to 6/9/86)

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