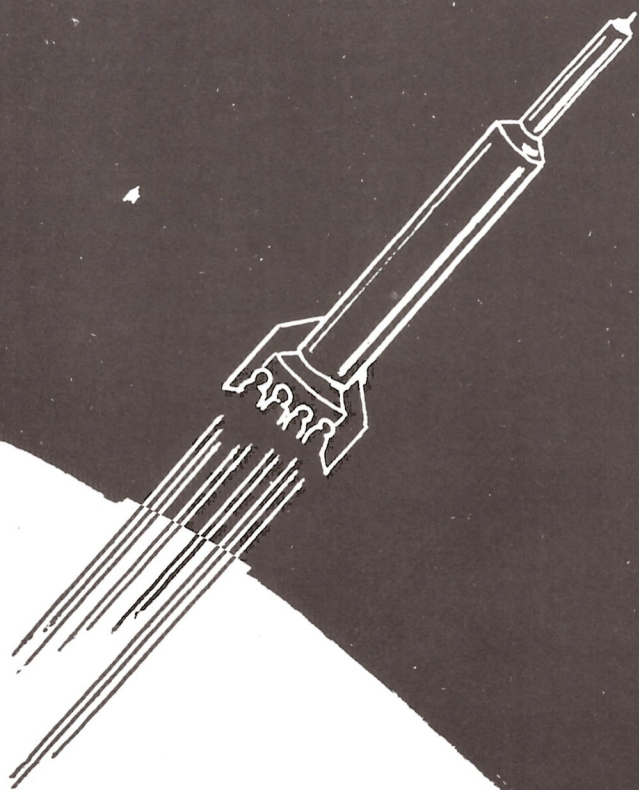
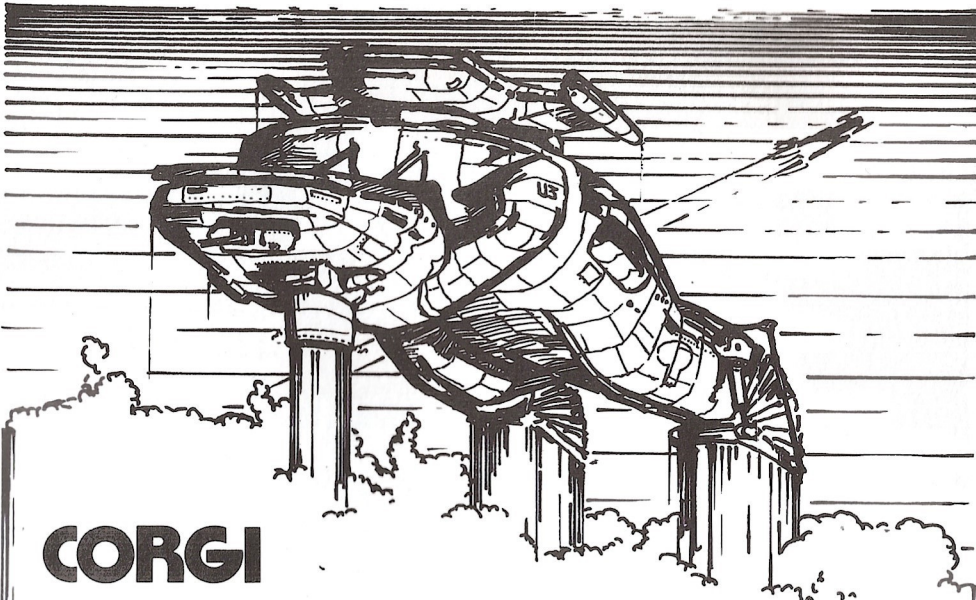


NOVA CON



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NOVACON 3

2-3-4- November, 1973

IMPERIAL CENTRE HOTEL, BIRMINGHAM

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COMMITTEE

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Gillon Field
Geoff Winterman
Meg Palmer
Stan Eling

Organised by the B.S.F.G.

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That evening, at the opposite end of the galaxy from Kandar, Fardel was incontinently fighting off the midgets with his bare hands. The mighty engines surged with power.....

'Die, scum!' thundered Elric, as he brandished a pointed stick at the alien horde. Was this the very stroke of doom?

(To be continued)

New dimensions in lousy SF - a PDP-10 computer programme by the

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY SPECULATIVE
FICTION GROUP.**

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

It appears to be something of a tradition for the chairman of each convention to use the space they have in the programme booklet of their convention to moan long and loud about the problems they've encountered up to that time and how they hope things will improve during the con itself. This invariably ends on the cry of 'Never again!'

Well, I'm going to break that tradition once and for all.

Everybody knows that running conventions which involve large numbers of people, is a difficult and often daunting task. Fans are no longer interested in what obstacles have had to be overcome. If you've overcome them, forget them. They're bored by pleas of 'If it all goes wrong, it's not my fault' and 'My problems are bigger than your problems'. It's somewhat childish to make these feeble excuses and surely beneath the intelligence of fans, including con chairmen.

O.K. so we're all mad for doing it, but what the hell? it's FUN! Never have I enjoyed myself as much as I have during the year's of Novacon's 2 and 3 when I've been on the committee. The headaches and hard work make a con really worthwhile. What could you achieve by running a good con, if there were no problems? What's the point in doing something any fool can do?

So NUTS! to the problems. I've had a really wonderful and hardworking committee whom I can never thank enough. We've done our very best to give you what you want in this convention. I can only say that I'm glad you've come. I hope you enjoy yourselves and I would do it again! Have fun.

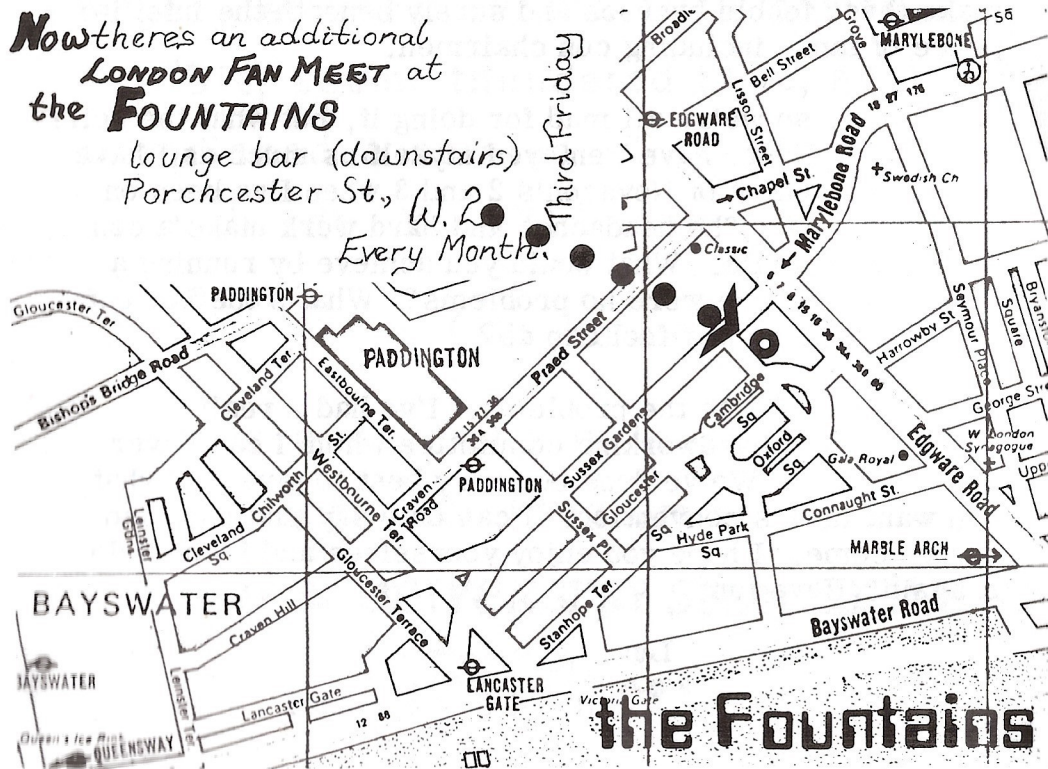
Luv.

Hazel C. Reynolds.

NOVA AWARD

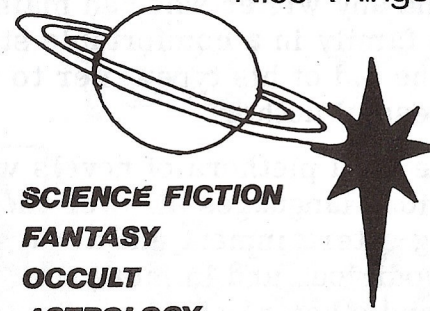
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KEN BULMER

If, in later years, any historian would engage in seeking the Compeate Fan, then Ken Bulmer would be the inevitable choice. In a sense he represents the era of which he is a part. A keen enthusiast of Science Fiction and Fantasy he graduated to amateur writer, amateur editor and publisher and then, some twenty years ago, became a professional writer and a good one.

There are many ways to determine success, but, no matter which you use, Ken Bulmer is a successful man. As an author he has lived for close to a generation on the sole use of his talent - and any writer who can maintain himself, his wife and his family in a comfortable style for so long with nothing but the aid of his typewriter to augment his skill has to be a successful author.

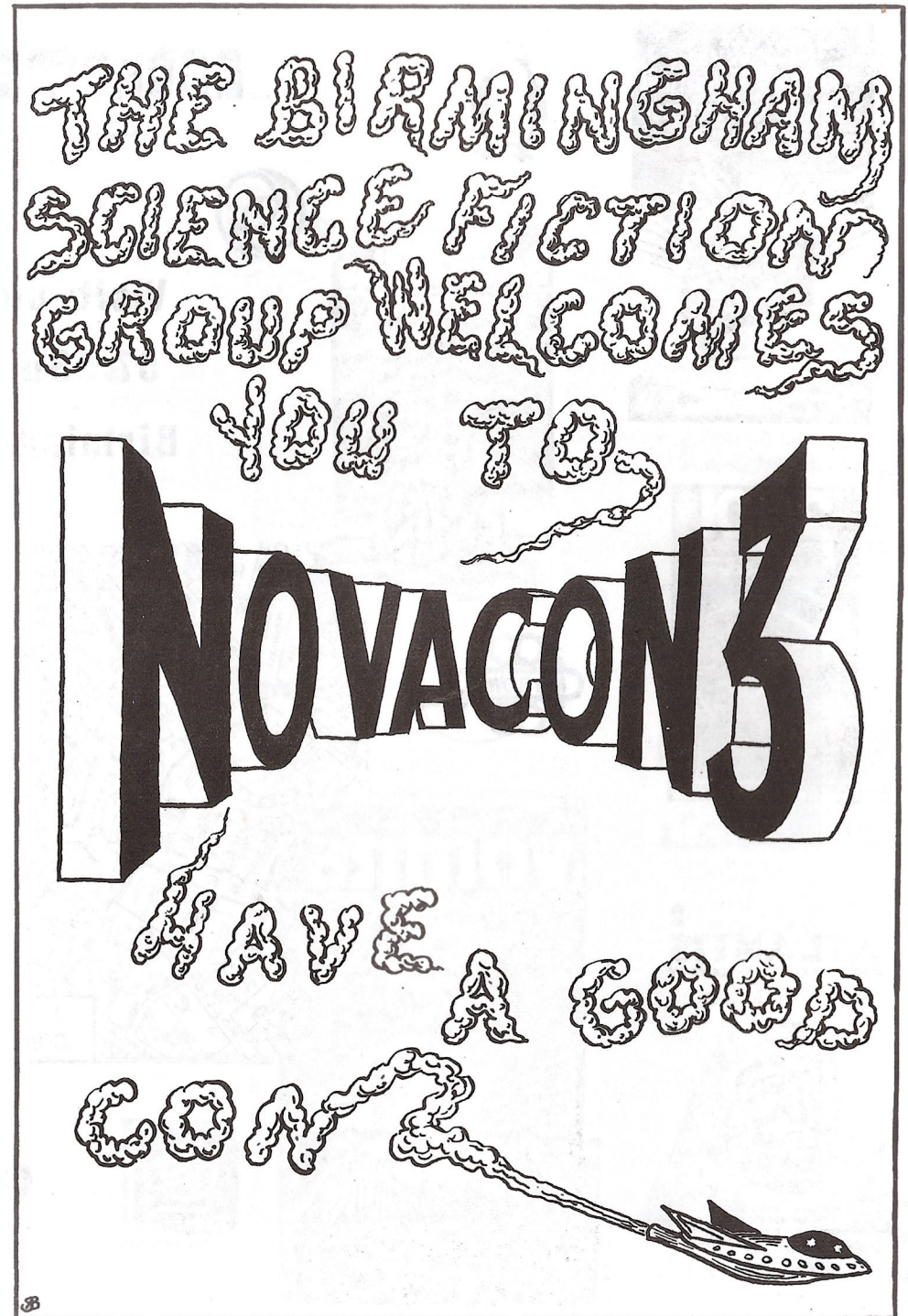
And his books prove it, a plethora of novels which sell and sell again in various languages all over the world. Good, strong, stimulating entertainment and always a joy to read. His output is prodigious and in more than one field both under his own and other names.

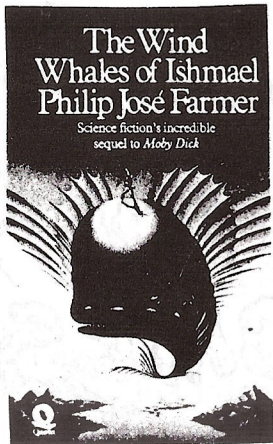
But an author is more than just a machine to turn out prose. Talk to Ken about Rome, Greece, the ships of ancient times, the weapons and armour used, the tactics and strategy - then touch more modern times and listen to a man who can tell you all about steam, the railways, modern methods of warfare, a host of varigated subjects in which he is deeply interested.

Those who know him consider him to be a kind, gentle and considerate man - and that is success of a different kind and, perhaps, harder to achieve than selling the products of an active brain. A man with a sharply dry sense of humour, a fund of anecdotes, one who can talk and, by the simple use of words coupled with an engaging personality, can hold an audience spell-bound. A skilled lecturer and an experienced professional editor as his Corgi New Writings has shown.

A man who, whenever he is a guest, is honoured - and who deserves always to be an honoured guest

E. C. TUBB





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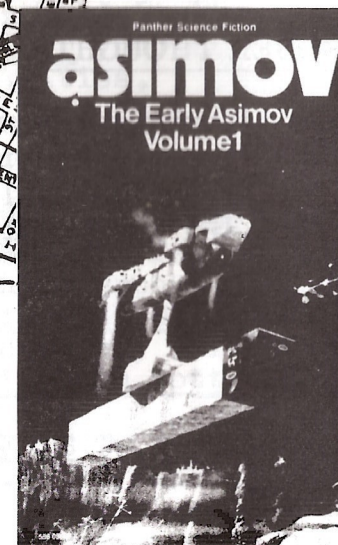
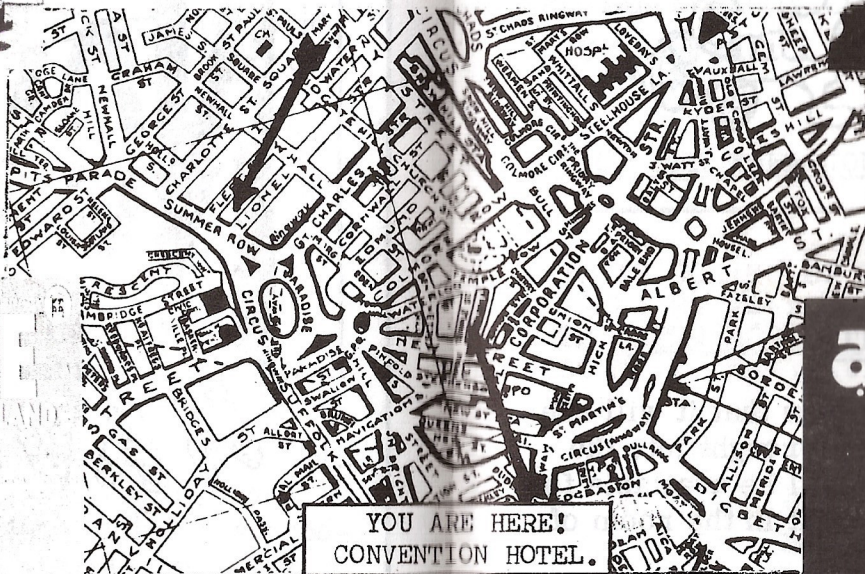
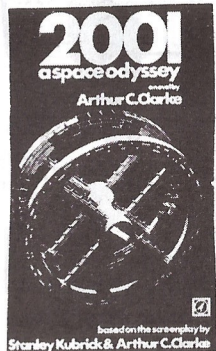


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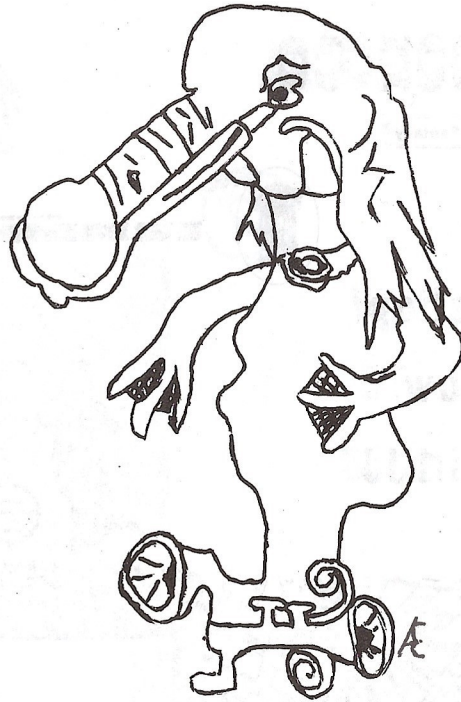
FANCY DRESS

This years Fancy Dress Party will take place in the Hertford Room, after the films on Saturday night.

The judging, for those who wish to try for the plonk, will be 1.30 prompt(ish).

Fancy Dress, anything connected with S.F. must be worn by ALL

For 10p suitable garb may be purchased at the door.



A SOBER THOUGHT

The management wishes to make it clear that it will charge corkage for any alcoholic beverage or drink brought into the hotel. However off sales cans and bottles will be available for purchase at the box and a price list will be put in the room of every convention member.

SON OF THE WSFA JOURNAL

Don Miller's fortnightly news- and reviews 'zine, covering all aspects of Science-Fiction fandom and Prodom - Conventions, Radio, TV, New s-f listings, Current magazines, etcetra averages ten pages per issue and is informed and informative.

"Highly recommended", says Ethel Lindsay.

"The record-book of s-f; short reviews and listings of virtually every aspect of the field....." says Bill Bowers.

And since it mixes in snippets on a dozen and one other fannish pre-occupations it's never dull, says I.

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TAFF IS COMING OF AGE THE TRANS-ATLANTIC FAN FUND will be 21 years old in '74, and may we suggest VOTE PETER ROBERTS your Delegate and Reporter at the DISCON 11 festivities.

Mike Glicksohn, editor ENERGUMEN.
Robert Coulson, editor YANDRO.
Malcolm Edwards, editor VECTOR.
Gray Boak, editor CYNIC.
Eric Bentcliffe, editor BLAZON.
Norman Shorrock, editor "Through lesser Silesia with Glass in Hand". (Forthcoming)
Ina Shorrock, editress "Through lesser Silesia with Bottle in hand".

SEND PETER ROBERTS TO WASHINGTON.....

.....DON'T MAKE A MONUMENTAL MISTAKE!

e.b.

Tynecon '74

"Now folks, let me tell you a little something about TYNECON '74. It's going to be held over the Easter weekend 12th - 15th April 1974 at The Royal Station Hotel, Neville St., Newcastle on Tyne. There's a full programme currently being arranged which will include many of your favourite authors and fans involved in discussions, lectures and panels.

Registration is 50p for supporting membership which entitles you to all convention literature and £2 which entitles you to attend the convention itself.

If you would like to register, send your checks and postal-orders to:

Ian Maule,
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or drop in on our desk at this convention."



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