

NOVACON 7

ORGANISED BY THE BIRMINGHAM SCIENCE FICTION GROUP

NOVEMBER 4th, 5th, 6th, 1977

ROYAL ANGUS HOTEL, BIRMINGHAM

PROGRESS REPORT THREE

With PR3, it's time at last for hard facts about Novacon 7. No beating about the bush, no silliness, no jokes. There's not even room to inform you at full and proper length that the erudite talk from Tom Shippey (our favourite egghead) will be entitled Closed Universes---Mental and Physical, or that Jim White's ever-popular Chat Show is returning once more after an absence of a whole year. ...No sir, no room for such stuff. This time around we put our cards on the table, get down to brass tacks and lay it on the line with facts---facts---facts---facts---moving up and down again--- Cast aside frivolity, good friends, and absorb at your leisure the mind-expanding knowledge which can only be found in Novacon Progress Reports (advt.)...

Booking Forms

The utterly vital booking form and card are enclosed. Please complete them as soon as possible and return both to Martin and Liese Hoare at 5 Aston Close, Pangbourne, Berks, RG8 7LG. All hotel bookings are processed on a first-come-first-served basis: post your forms instantly if not sooner to escape the dread overflow hotel. Please fill in "NOVACON" in the "Requested By" box of the card, and be sure to sign both card and form---otherwise no reservations can be made.

Advertising in the Programme Book

There is still time to advertise in the Novacon 7 Programme Book at the rates given below. Page size A4 for reduction (50%) to A5; halftones (which must be sent screened and ready for printing) £5 extra. Copy must be in black ink on white paper.

PROFESSIONAL RATES:	FULL PAGE	£10,	HALF PAGE	£6
SPECIAL FAN RATES:	FULL PAGE	£7,	HALF PAGE	£4

Please send copy by September 22nd 1977 to Dave Langford, 22 Northumberland Ave, Reading, Berks, RG2 7PW. All cheques payable to Novacon 7, please. The booking form includes a section for booking advertisements.

The Nova Award for Fanzines

Enclosed with this PR (along with the important forms---see above---which you are about to fill in and return to Martin & Liese and not to the hotel...) should be a copy of the revised rules governing the Nova Award. Liese is the award's Administrator, while famous fans Rob Jackson and Greg Pickersgill have kindly agreed to form two-thirds of the Nova Award Committee (the other place being filled by the infamous Langford). A ballot is also provided: if you qualify for a vote, please use it! For all other details, see the rules themselves.

For Reference

The room rates at the Royal Angus Hotel, Birmingham, will be £7 plus VAT per night for singles, £12 plus VAT for doubles and twins. The banquet, with a main dish of gammon---see booking form for full menu---costs £4 (without wine). Programme-book advertising rates are as above; tables in the Book Room may be hired at £5 each for the week-end. The extra cost of full English breakfast is £1; of an extra child's bed in your room, £2.75; of a cot for children under 6, £1.50.

Chairman: Stan Eling

Vice-chairman: Martin Hoare

Committee: Liese Hoare, Janice Maule, Ian Maule, Dave Langford

Registrations Received---To August 14th 1977

102 Gerry Webb	195 Kev Easthope	204 Sandy Brown
103 Anne Webb	196 J Haigh	205 Terry Moore
	197 Stephen Gould	206 P J Palmer
189 Colin Lester	198 Graham Ashley	207 Doug Ryder
190 David French	199 Michael Ashley	208 Brian Burgess
191 Helen McCarthy	200 Moy Griffiths	209 Dave Rowe
192 Fred Hemmings	201 Andrew Chapman	210 Allan Scott
193 Alan Farmer	202 Mary Coulton	211 Selina Lovett
194 Tuija Farmer	203 Philip C James	212 Kathleen Sterry

The Rest You Know

...or you should. Any really dedicated follower of the popular Novacon Progress Report series (now out in English translation with Eddie Jones covers) is well aware of all the following...

NOVACON 7 registration has held firm (despite inflation) at a steady level of £1 supporting or £3 attending (£2 for supporters). If you aren't a full member yet, slip a cheque in with the booking forms as you send them to Martin and Liese (address below): it's so much nicer to be paid up in advance. Isn't it? Well, it's nicer for us, certainly. Please make cheques out to NOVACON 7.

And while despatching vast quantities of stuff to Martin & Liese, you could even add your supporting membership of £2 (£1.50 for pre-supporters) for next Easter's SKYCON, to be held at the Heathrow Hotel at Heathrow Airport. Cheques for SKYCON should (surprise, surprise) be made out to SKYCON.

Do you have any rare, valuable material you want to dispose of? If so, leave it with the committee and they'll see you're no longer burdened with it... Any worthwhile material---things worth a few quid rather than yer actual tatty Perry Rhodan paperbacks---is welcomed for the Auction, that invariable feature of Novacons wherein irresistible Rog Peyton wheedles unheard-of prices from his stunned audience. Note that the convention takes 10% commission on material sold by auction.

Farewell, then, to Progress Report Three. Number four will be with you sooner than you want it, containing such forbidden knowledge (culled of course from the unspeakable Necronomicon of the mad Arab, Abdul Alhazred, as remaindered in the Hyades branch of Woolies) as "How To Find The Royal Angus Hotel" and "How To Find Birmingham".

(NB: Another repeat from last time: Ken Slater's prize of £10---for the best piece of artwork in any medium illustrating the "Dune" books---is still waiting for entries. Bring your magnum opus to the Novacon Art Show for display and judging. This prize is for amateur artists only---those who've earned less than £250 from artwork.)

"So," the arch-fiend hissed through clenched nostrils, "you have defeated me in this round. My plot for PR3 has failed. But, cursed Earthling, I shall be back!" And so saying, the villain began to make rough drafts for PR4. The fate of Earth seemed gloomy indeed, when the committee could think of no better way to end PR3 than this...

**ALL REPLIES TO
5, ASTON CLOSE
PANGBOURNE
READING
BERKSHIRE**