

December 1996

Issue 303

# BRUM GROUP NEWS

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The monthly newsletter of the Birmingham Science Fiction Group  
(Honorary Presidents: Brian W Aldiss and Harry Harrison)

Group Chairman & Newsletter Editor - Martin Tudor, Secretary - Anne Woodford,  
Treasurer - Sarah Freakley, Publicity Officer - Steve Jones, Ordinary Member - Alan  
Woodford, Novacon 26 Chairman - Carol Morton, Novacon 27 Chairman - Martin Tudor.

**Merry Christmas!**  
**Come to our**  
**Informal Christmas Meeting**  
**on THURSDAY**  
**19th December 1996**  
**in the upstairs ("top") bar of**  
**the Tap & Spile,**  
**Gas Street, Birmingham**  
**(off Broad Street, round the corner from Merchant Stores)**

The BSGF meets at 7.45pm on the 3rd Friday of every month (unless otherwise notified). The annual subscription rates (which include 12 copies of this newsletter and reduced price entry to meetings) are £10.00 per person, or £13.50 for 2 members at the same address. Cheques etc. should be made payable to "the Birmingham Science Fiction Group" and sent to the Treasurer, Sarah Freakley, c/o 121 Cape Hill, Smethwick, Warley, B66 4SH. (E-mail should go via [bsfg@bortas.demon.co.uk](mailto:bsfg@bortas.demon.co.uk)) Book reviews, review copies and other contributions and enquiries regarding the Brum Group News to: Martin Tudor, Newsletter Editor, 24 Ravensbourne Grove, off Clarks Lane, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV11 1HD.

## Colophon

The contents of this issue are copyright 1996 the BSFG, on behalf of the contributors, to whom all rights revert on publication. Personal opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the committee or the membership of the BSFG.

All text by Martin Tudor except where stated otherwise. This issue was printed on the CRITICAL WAVE photocopier. For details of WAVE's competitive prices contact Martin Tudor at the editorial address on the cover.

Many thanks this issue to BERNIE EVANS for producing the address labels, supplying news from the Net and transferring files; RICHARD STANDAGE, WHAT'S ON, and STEVE GREEN for the other news in the Jophan Report and the Events listing.

Will "P. Phillips", who joined the Group in May, please send his address to:  
Bernie Evans, 121 Cape Hill, Smethwick,  
West Midlands, B66 4SH.

## BSFG: COMMITTEE POSTS

by Bernie Evans

With the AGM looming on the 17th January 1997, it's time for all you enthusiastic members to send in your nominations for committee posts. You can, of course, nominate from the floor at the meeting if you wish, but if you KNOW you will be standing, send in your written nomination (and platform of no more than 250 words) so it can be printed in the January edition of BRUM GROUP NEWS for everyone to see.

Written nominations must reach Martin Tudor by the 30th of December 1996. He can be contacted either at the December Informal Meeting or by post to 24 Ravensbourne Grove, off Clarkes Lane, Willenhall, WV13 1HX.

So what positions are there?

**CHAIRMAN:** Will chair and keep order at all meetings, and will also hold regular committee meetings (at least one committee meeting per quarter). Will contact speakers, arrange accommodation where necessary and ensure they get to the meeting on time.

**SECRETARY:** Should be able to type, attend all committee meetings and produce Minutes of these to be sent to all Committee Members. Likewise the A.G.M. or other Group meetings. May also be asked to write to prospective speakers, etc.

**TREASURER:** If you don't know what a treasurer does, don't bother to apply!

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Has to produce the newsletter every month. Access to a computer and desktop publishing software and/or a word processor is an advantage, but not a necessity, a typewriter and a pair of scissors will suffice. The ability to type AND meet a monthly deadline ARE a necessity, as is the ability to drag contributions out of people, ditto artwork. A knowledge of design/layout is also an advantage.

**PUBLICITY OFFICER:** Will produce A4 posters, A5 flyers, and so on for meetings, and arrange for them to be displayed in local shops, libraries, and as many other outlets as possible. Will also produce general publicity for the Group.

and contact radio and tv if necessary. Enthusiasm and the ability to produce new IDEAS are an important factor.

In addition two other ORDINARY MEMBERS may be appointed by the Committee any time during the year at the discretion of the Committee.

So, that's who we need. Which do YOU want to do?

### Forthcoming Events

**19 DECEMBER 1996: BSFG INFORMAL CHRISTMAS MEETING from 7.30pm in the TOP bar at the Tap & Spile in Gas Street. No charge for admittance, members and non-members welcome. See centre pages of this newsletter for the food menu. Excellent selection of real ales and country wines also available. Please note that due to the fact that most venues were not available this meeting is on THURSDAY evening!**

**17 JANUARY 1997: BSFG AGM & AUCTION, 7.45 for 8pm in the upstairs function room at the QUEENS TAVERN, 23 Essex Street, Birmingham.**

14-17 FEBRUARY 1997: ATTITUDE: THE CONVENTION at the Abbey Hotel, Great Malvern. Attending £27.00 (until they close on 31 January 1997). Hotel booking forms are now available - deadline mid-November, so hurry! Contact: First Floor Flat, 14 Prittlewell Square, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 1DW.

28-31 MARCH 1997: INTERVENTION the 48th UK National SF Convention, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool. Theme "communication". Guests Brian W Aldiss, David Langford, Jon Berg and Octavia Butler. Attending £30.00. supporting

£20.00 until 30 November 1996. (Then £40.00 attending, £30.00 supporting.) Cheques (payable to "Intervention") should be sent to: 12 Crowsbury Close, Emsworth, Hants., PO10 7TS, (e-mail [intervention@pompey.demon.co.uk](mailto:intervention@pompey.demon.co.uk)).

3-5 SEPTEMBER 1997: LONESTARCON 55th World SF Convention, San Antonio, Texas, USA. Contact: PO Box 27277, Austin, TX 78755-2277, USA.  
14-16 NOVEMBER 1997: NOVACON 27, the annual sf convention of the Brum Group, will be held at the De Vere Abbey Hotel, Great Malvern. Guest of Honour Peter F Hamilton. Attending membership £25.00 until 1 April 1997. Supporting £10.50. Progress Report #1 and hotel booking forms now available. Contact: Carol Morton, 14 Park Street, Lye, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY9 8SS.

27 DECEMBER 1999 - 2 JANUARY 2000: MILLENNIUM. Venue to be announced, but definitely in Northern Europe (probably a BeNeLux country or UK), £3.00 (£10.00) per year, to be deducted from eventual membership fee (to be announced before 1997). Contact: Malcolm Reid, 186 Casewick Road, West Norwood, London, SE27 0SZ.

Although details are correct to the best of our knowledge, we advise readers to contact organizers prior to travelling. Always enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope when writing to any of the above contact addresses. Please mention the BRUM GROUP NEWS when replying to listings or advertisements.

If you know of any events which you think may be of interest to members of the BSFG please send details to the Editor.

If you have attended any events or seen any films or videos that you would like

to recommend to other members (or warn them about) please feel free to write a report or review and send it to the editorial address.

### The Jophan Report #99

Yet another BSGF member joins the ranks of published authors this month when Caroline Nevile's children's book THE MARVELLOUS MENAGERIE appears from Minerva Press - congratulations Caroline!

While Novacon 26 was taking place over the weekend of the 8-10 November 1996 the home of former BSGF and Novacon committee members, Richard Standage and Helena Bowles, was being burgled. Richard reports that the thieves took all the usual stuff tv, vcr etc, but obviously weren't fans - they uncovered but left behind the Gestetner duplicator!

### TAFFnews

TAFFnews is published by TAFFboy his self, Dan Steffan, at 3804 South 9th Street, Arlington, Virginia 22204. Unlike the rest of the world, TAFFboy is not on line or on the Net. He has no Web page or e-mail and can only be contacted by using the tragically outdated Postal Service or by performing the ancient ritual known as telephoning. Call him at (703) 685-7320 to hear his beautiful speaking voice. Special thanks, as always, to rich brown -- that's Dr. Gafia to you -- for providing net access.

This incarnation of TAFFnews is excerpted for the Internet from a much lengthier article in the pages of TAFFboy, the official publication of American TAFF, which is

due to arrive in mailboxes around the world in the next week or so. [*Which in turn was lifted from the Net by Alan Woodford for this newsletter - many thanks!*] Copies of TAFFboy are available upon request (though a stamp [*or IRC*] would be nice) to anyone interested in the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund. Circulated on December 9, 1996. Ghod Bless Steve McQueen.

### 1997 TAFF RACE IS CANCELLED

By mutual agreement of the two reigning TAFF administrators, Dan Steffan and Martin Tudor, the 1997 Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund campaign to send a worthy American fan to the 1997 Eastercon has been cancelled. The final decision was made on December 2nd, 1996 -- the deadline day for registration of interested candidates -- by the American administrator after consultation with and the agreement of his British counterpart. It is believed by both administrators that the cancellation will be a beneficial break for TAFF and will enable the Fund the necessary time needed to resolve recent problems of finance and public relations that have been plaguing it of late.

Nevertheless, a race is definitely planned for 1998, though no specific details have been made at this time.

Despite rumours to the contrary, the decision to cancel the 1997 race was based strictly on the number of available candidates at deadline time and not on the recently disclosed financial malfeasance in the UK. While it is true that unfortunate incident has had a very powerful impact on TAFF, it was only a small consideration in the decision to postpone. The actual deciding factor in the cancellation was the existence of only one full-fledged candidate for the race to the Eastercon.

As of the deadline, only Seattle fan Luke McGuff had successfully met the requirements for candidacy by providing a platform, a \$20 bond, and five nominators (including Joseph Nicholas, Pam Wells, Lucy Huntzinger, Jeanne Bowman and Jeanne Gomoll) which would guarantee his place on this year's ballot. The lack of a second (and preferably, a third) candidate made it impossible to properly conduct any kind of legitimate competition at this time. There was a very well-meaning last-minute bid from another Seattle resident, Ian Hageman, who generously volunteered himself as a candidate if we had to have a race this year, but who also recognised TAFF's desire to avoid another Simo-like straw man candidacy. He expressed a genuine interest in standing for TAFF in the future and both administrators encourage him to do so, and to use the intervening period of time to become better acquainted with British fans and fanzines. As a precaution, the possibility of a cancellation was discussed with TAFF's sole 1997 TAFF candidate prior to the filing deadline. After the deadline had passed Luke agreed to withdraw his name from consideration and expressed his support for TAFF's growth and recovery. He then promised to definitely stand for TAFF in the future, providing that the TAFF administrators then promised not to hold him to his promise. We promised.

Nevertheless, it was with some regret that TAFF has had to let a candidate as qualified as Luke McGuff slip through its bony fingers. He is a fan active in both convention and fanzine circles and a considerate and talented fanwriter as well. Despite his somewhat fringe status, Luke is exactly the sort of fan that TAFF hopes to expose to fandom's wider audience and we encourage any fans in the US and the UK

who are unfamiliar with Luke's talents to contact him and request a copy of his next zine: Luke McGuff, Box 31848, Seattle, WA 98103. You'll be glad you did.

Cancelling this year's TAFF race was unfortunate, but necessary. No one can argue with our conclusion -- it would have been impossible to have a race with only one candidate -- but the reasons we ended up with only one candidate should be mentioned. Despite the revelations about British TAFF's recent money problems, the real culprit was time. We didn't have enough of it. Martin's 1996 TAFF trip concluded in the middle of September and the 1997 race was scheduled to begin only ten weeks later. The news of Abi Frost's problems and the traumas that accompanied it had occupied so much of the administrators' time, after the Tudor's return home, that we didn't realise how quickly the deadline was approaching. It had, quite honestly, snuck up on us. Concerns about the abbreviated nominating time were expressed by both administrators, but it was agreed that there was little that could be done about it, short of outright cancellation of the race before it had a chance to start. No one wanted to do that. The timing of the Eastercon dictated that the race start at the beginning of December, allowing a bare minimum of nine weeks for the race itself, followed by a brief five or six weeks for preparations. Everyone involved agreed that this just wasn't enough time to conduct a proper race, but that we would stand by it, like it or not. We knew that it was important to continue the Fund's activities uninterrupted.

Despite the recent events in England, money wasn't an issue in the 1997 TAFF race. Had the race been held there would have been enough money available in the

# House Specials

## Tapsters Grill £5.95

Generous Portion of Steak, Gammon, Lamb's Liver, Kidney, Mushroom & Tomato

## Lockkeeper's Feast £3.95

Traditionally made Sausage with a heap of creamy mashed Potato and smothered in onion gravy

## Rosey & Jim £3.95

Sauted Lamb's Liver with Bacon & Onions

## Tap In The Spile £3.95

Large Yorkshire Pudding filled with Cumberland Sausage and lashings of onion gravy

## Some Like It Hot £3.95

Haricot, Kidney & Butter Beans in a rich Tomato & Basil Sauce topped with Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetarian Cheddar & Mozzarella

## All Aboard £3.95

Winter Vegetables in a light cheese & honey sauce topped with a savoury crumble & walnuts

All main courses are served with fresh seasonal vegetables or salad, and a choice of homemade chunky fries or baby boiled potatoes



# Old Favourites

## Drayman's Pie £4.95

Choice Beefsteak & Mushrooms in a Rich Ale sauce with pastry crust

## Harvest Pie £4.75

Mushrooms, Sweetcorn, & Peppers in a white wine, orange & ginger sauce topped with a pastry crust

## Poultryman's Pie £4.90

Turkey & Chicken with Leeks in a creamy wine & garlic sauce

## Fisherman's Pie £5.20

White Fish, Mussels, Prawns & Peppers in a creamy cider, garlic & herb sauce with a fluffy potato topping

## Stand And Deliver £4.75

Grilled, lean Pork Chops, Honey-glazed and served with apple & clove chutney

## Kiss Me Hardy £4.50

Breast Of Chicken topped with a creamy wild mushroom & herb sauce

All main courses are served with fresh seasonal vegetables or salad, and a choice of homemade chunky fries or baby boiled potatoes



# Light Lunch

## Homemade

## Soup Of The Day £1.50

served with fresh, crusty bread

## Soup & Sandwich £3.50

Homemade Soup with double-decker club sandwich choose from:

Ham, Cheese, Egg Mayo, Chicken, Roast Beef, Tuna Mayo

## Tap & Spile

## Doorstep or Baguette £2.25

Fresh Crusty White or Wholemeal Bread with your choice of filling:- Egg Mayo, Tuna & Sweetcorn, Cottage Cheese & Pineapple, Roast Beef, Ham Mature Cheddar & Branston (all with salad if required)

## Pate £1.95

Traditional Game Pate served with fresh, crusty bread & salad garnish

## Stilton & Crusty Bread £3.15

Wedge of finest English Blue Stilton with fresh crusty bread & butter

And Ask About Our Desserts!!



American bank account (with the aid of last-minute fund-raising) to pay for the winners expenses to Britain, even if the UK Fund were unable to contribute a single pence. Nevertheless, there was a sigh of relief when the decision was made to cancel the TAFF race. It goes without saying that the problems in Britain and the subsequent secrecy that surrounded them have been bad for TAFF's reputation. The impact of it all has already generated a lot of hard feelings between fandom and the Fund, as well as between the two branches of TAFF itself. We deeply regret this and hope to use the next year to repair as much of this damage as we possibly can. The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund is about unity and cooperation and anything we have done to dampen that unity is directly contrary to our aims and intentions.

Future plans for fund-raising are still under consideration at this time. However, there are a number of projects that should be available early in the new year. TAFF welcomes your interest and inquiries and encourages all kinds of fans to investigate the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund. Suggestions about TAFF's future and proposals for fund raising are also encouraged. Contact TAFF's UK administrator, Martin Tudor, at 24 Ravensbourne Grove, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV13 1HX, England, or the American administrator, Dan Steffan, at 3804 South 9th Street, Arlington, Virginia USA.. Thank you. -- Dan Steffan, TAFFboy.

### Book Reviews

**BRIGHTNESS REEF** by David Brin  
Orbit, pb, 705pp. £6.99.  
Reviewed by Chris Ridd.

Also known as "Book One of a new Uplift Trilogy", BRIGHTNESS REEF is located on the planet Jijo, where six different races have been exiled from the Five Galaxies.

The story begins in a swamp several thousand years after the last visit by the Galactics, with a mute human male being rescued by the exiled "natives". One plot throughout the book concerns his identity and where he came from, although

### BEHOLD THE MAN

by Michael Moorcock

Mojo Press (Austin, Texas), \$12.95,

hb, 129pp. Star rating \*\*\*

Reviewed by Chris Morgan

You may know the story, one of Moorcock's best, about the man who goes back from the 1970s, in a time machine, to look for Jesus Christ at about the time of the Crucifixion. It won a Nebula Award as a novella, in 1967. Moorcock extended it to shortish novel length a couple of years later, but here's that novella again, "The Thirtieth Anniversary Edition", with some impressionistic black & white illustrations and a sparkling afterword from Moorcock. It's also got a brief foreword from Jonathan Carroll, but I wonder why Carroll was asked and, once it was received from him, why it was used; it says nothing useful.

So is this book a justified and long-awaited reprint of a seminal work or a blatant rip-off? A bit of both, really. It's very brief, with relatively little text on each page and quite a few blank pages between sections; an attractive package but a lot to pay for fifty pages of story that's already been reprinted several times in at least one Moorcock collection and various anthologies.

The story is still clever and startling, after all these years. It hasn't dated, and its "back-yard inventor" cliché, is, after all, just a convenient literary device to bring present and past together. Moorcock makes it seem plausible through a mixture of good background detail, careful Biblical knowledge, and the character of his protagonist, Karl Glogauer. The frequent intercutting of Palestine in 28 AD with bits of Glogauer's childhood memories and his continuing arguments with his lover Monica about psychology and the nature of godhood give the impression of a fast pace. The climax, which I won't reveal, just in case you haven't read the story, seems inevitable from the half-way point, yet this doesn't detract from the overall impact.

The fact that the story was well received by most Christians and Jews but really annoyed some religious fanatics in the US Bible Belt is a good, though hardly sufficient, reason for reprinting it. So the book is scarcely worth buying, and yet, if you're an aficionado of fine writing and fine book design, you'll enjoy owning it.

## **THE INVISIBLE COUNTRY**

by Paul J. McAuley

Gollancz, £16.99, 319pp

Reviewed by Pauline Morgan.

This volume contains nine stories originally published between 1991 and 1995. They fall neatly into several groups. Four of the stories are precursors to his 1995 novel *Fairyland* (which won the Arthur C. Clarke award) in that they were written before the novel even though they are set in a time after the novel - *Fairyland* gives some of the history which leads to the future world of the stories. This is a world dominated by drugs, virtual realities and nanotechnolo-

gies. Most ordinary people live in the ribbon arcologies that surround the dying city centres but outside the cosiness of this background are the fringes. McAuley writes about the people who live on the edge of society and who believe in fairies. These are not small winged creatures but gene-engineered living dolls who have been freed from their control chips and live in the wild parts of Europe. In "Prison Dreams" Lianna is a convicted criminal. She is controlled by a chip connected to her nervous system behind her eye. Her job is to patch up dolls who have been injured. She begins to appreciate what it must be like for them to be controlled and sets out to release at least one of them. Mike, in "Dr Luther's Assistant" is in a similar situation. His job is to look after sex dolls and, occasionally, to help him alter them for specific clients. He would probably have finished his sentence if he hadn't met a fairy. "Children of the Revolution" takes a slightly different perspective. Here the fairies are the ones who are experimenting by sending one of their changelings into the underworld of the cities. "Slaves" shows what it is like to live on the fringes. Katz belongs to a small group of women vainly trying to restore health to the planet. She meets Jonas who wants to set free the dolls who are expendable slaves at a Flower Farm, and Juju Chile, a fairy. For her the relationships are part of a learning process, a rite of passage which prepares her for the choices she has to make. All these stories, rich in themselves, add together to provide an insight into this particular world and compliment the novel *Fairyland*.

Both "The Temptation of Dr Stein" and "The True History of Doctor Pretorius" feature the sinister character that first made an appearance in the alternate history *Pasquale's Angel*. The first is set in Florence



ten years after the story told in the novel while the latter is set in the present.

The other three stories serve to show the inventiveness of the author. Two, "The Invisible Country" and "Gene Wars" have themes of gene manipulation in common with the Fairyland stories. The first also involves people on the fringes of society and the ethical crises of conscience---do you suppress or broadcast a development which could benefit mankind at the expense of a lot of peoples livelihoods. The second extrapolates the effects of genetic engineering on societies.

The remaining story, "Recording Angel", also has an underlying theme of genetic alteration but is more concerned with the effects that attitudes from the past may have on a future civilisation. Angel has escaped from a space ship that has been out to the next galaxy and returned, a round trip of five million years. The world she has arrived on is nothing like the ship set off from.

The most important thing about these stories is that they are all worth taking the trouble to read carefully.

### **THE PRATCHETT PORTFOLIO**

by Terry Pratchett & Paul Kidby

Gollancz, £7.99 (large format art paperback), not paginated.

Star rating \*\*1/2

Reviewed by Chris Morgan

Here's another Discworld spin-off. A few of the better-known characters from the many volumes are illustrated, mainly in black & white, with a light-hearted commentary by Pratchett himself. Paul Kidby has done an efficient job - probably as well as anybody

could, having to follow the footsteps (and dustjackets) of Josh Kirby. My main quibble is that the book is so thin, with too many characters missed out. Perhaps the Gollancz publicity people believed that this was the size of book most likely to sell a million copies for Christmas, but I would like to have seen something at least twice as thick.

### **THE SNOWS OF OLYMPUS**

by Arthur C. Clarke

Gollancz, £12.99 (large format art paperback), 120pp. Star rating \*

Reviewed by Chris Morgan

I cannot recall another book as ill-conceived and annoying as this. It's supposed to be "The illustrated history of man's colonisation of Mars" and one of its nine chapters actually is that. The rest is a mish-mash of historical stuff about the telescopic scrutiny of Mars, references to a few of the best-known SF stories set on Mars and a lot of unconvincing computer-generated views of the same bits of Mars time after time in different colours.

Clarke has never been a deft writer of non-fiction (or of fiction, either, come to that) but here his tone is smug and self-congratulatory. He does his best to say how wonderful his own Martian fiction is. And he goes right overboard in praising new computer software which has enabled him to redesign bits of Mars. There are, in fact, some fine paintings of Mars in the book, but these are outnumbered six to one by dreadful computer art. I counted 34 different views of Olympus Mons, which may be the biggest mountain in the Solar System but which very quickly becomes boring.

Hark, what's that sound? Is it the bottom of a barrel being scraped in Sri Lanka?

**SPARES** by Michael Marshall Smith,  
HarperCollins, £9.99, 305pp  
Reviewed by Pauline Morgan.

This is the second novel from an author who first made his mark by writing short stories which won awards. Sparer is a science fiction novel which contains elements of the horrific, the surreal and evinces a kinship to the crime genre.

Imagine the Merry Hill centre but with two hundred floors, which can fly. This is a MegaMall. New Richmond is one that landed with engine trouble and failed to take off again. It is now a multi-layered society reminiscent of the Cities of David Wingrove's Chung Kuo series but on a smaller scale - the scum at the bottom, the rich at the top. Jack Randall was a conscript in a fruitless war, a cop in New Richmond and out of his skull on drink and drugs. He has just spent five years as caretaker of a Farm. Rich people sometimes need spare part surgery. As insurance for their children many have had clones produced of them. The clones live in absolute squalor and degradation on the Farms. If you thought battery hens had it bad existence for these "spares" is ten times worse. Jack decides to make life a little more meaningful for a handful of spares, teaching them to look after themselves, to talk and to read---he gives them dignity. When the ambulance comes for one of them and she protests Jack shoots his way to freedom with the spares. He takes them to New Richmond because he needs money to buy a truck to get as far away as possible. But when his ex-partner is killed and the spares are kidnapped Jack is determined to find them and get them

back. His attempts bring the past back to life.

Just as New Richmond has many levels, so does this novel. You think you are on top of everything, then Smith reveals more layers, usually underneath. This is where all the nasty things lurk. As Jack uncovers each level he discovers more and more that he perhaps should have left alone.

If this novel has any flaws it is that the wider world is totally ignored---it is as if it doesn't exist. Otherwise, excellent reading.

\* \* \* \*

The "Star Ratings" are:

- \* = Crap, beyond belief.
- \*\* = Crap, but readable.
- \*\*\* = Not too bad, really.
- \*\*\*\* = Pretty good actually.
- \*\*\*\*\* = BUY IT!


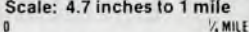
Please remember that reviews of books should reach Martin Tudor at 24 Ravensbourne Grove, off Clarkes Lane, Willenhall, WV13 1HX, within ONE MONTH of your taking the book.

A number of people still owe reviews, please ensure that these, along with reviews of books picked up at the last meeting are passed/mailed to Martin Tudor at/by this month's meeting.

Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year



TAP  
+  
SPICE

**CITY CENTRE**  
 One Way Street   
 Scale: 4.7 inches to 1 mile  
 0  1/4 MILE

**A**

**73**

**B**

**G**

**74**