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A publication intended as a newsheet for students and others interested in SF activities in the London area.

WORLDCON NEWS

The 1979 Worldcon will now definitely take place in this country. According to our correspondent at the Miami Worldcon last month the actual voting figures weren't announced simply in order that the New Orleans bid opposing Britain shouldn't be embarrassed. So it's time to start saving the pennies for four days in glorious Brighton, at glorious hotel rates, in 79.

EVENT HORIZON

4'th October - Tuesday - British Interplanetary Society meeting Botany Lecture Theatre, University College, Gower St WC1. The subject of this BIS meeting will be SPACE TRAVEL - RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT to mark the 20'th anniversary of the launching of Sputnik.

18'th October - EXPLORATION OF THE PLANETS - a series of BIS lectures in the Kent room of Caxton Hall, Caxton St, SW1 6.30. The first lecture is "Mapping Mercury" by C. A. Cross.

21'st October - 2001 - Friday 7.30 University of London Union, Manning Hall. 35p Students.

3'rd November - Thursday - ONE TUN meeting Saffron Hill. Monthly meeting at the One Tun pub (Farringdon or Chancery Lane Tube's) for any SF fans in London. Regular meeting held on the first Thursday of every month.

4'th November - Saturday - Regular monthly Tolkien Society meeting in the Carpenter's Arms, Whitfield St (Goodge St tube).

4-5'th - Weekend - NOVACON. The smaller but cosier of the annual SF conventions in this country. A whole weekend in a Birmingham hotel with like minded loonies. For details of this wonderful event as well as a free lesson in how to have your money painlessly removed by computer contact Martin & Liese Hoare 5 Aston Close, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7LG.

COUNTRY PURSUITS

Plans proceed to set up a British branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism the organisation involving many American SF fans dedicated to medieval recreation. The first event will be a weekend "Costume and Weaponry Workshop" held over the 11'th - 13'th November at the New Inn, Saxmundham, Suffolk (cost about £10)

For further details of the weekend or of the SCA proposed organisation contact Helen McCarthy, 96a Forthill Rd, Finsbury Park N4 3 HT. Telephone 01 - 263 - 3113.

Books

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After mentioning Andrew Stephenson's new novel NIGHTWATCH last month I feel bound also to advertise the appearance of Robert Holdstock's EYE AMONG THE BLIND in paperback at the end of the month. Indeed having been informed of Mr Holdstock's reputation as the man who breaks the parts other author's cannot reach I feel it is advisable for my health that I do so, especially after the opportunity of dipping into some of the more berserk fantasies of Mr Holdstock's mind.

Released in hardback this month is Christopher Priest's new novel A DREAM OF WESSEX £4.25 from Faber and Faber. Sadly the review copy just arrived so I can't supply even the 2 lines of opinion to mislead the reading public that this sheet usually runs to. However to those teetering on the brink of hardback purchase I do recommend Chris Priest's SPACE MACHINE now available in hardback as an ideal sampler.

New from Penguin this month is "SIGNS OF LIFE" from Ian Ridpath an examination of the search for intelligent life in space. This book summarises present theories about the incidence of intelligent life in space and deals with present and projected methods of searching for any such intelligence.

Rumour has it that Harry Harrison is to publish a history of sex in Science Fiction entitled GREAT BALLS OF FIRE. I can't wait till the film comes out.

FILMS

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While we in Britain have to wait until Christmas to see STAR WARS plans are going ahead for the production of 8 sequels (count 'em 8!). Lucas, director of STAR WARS intends to direct the last of these himself but the rest will have other directors.

Dimly overheard from the radio, at the unearthly hour I now have to get up, was a plea for a totally bald, preferably hairless, woman to replace Spock as the Enterprise' resident alien. So, if you happen to be a totally hairless woman, now you know who loves ya baby!

SCIENCE FICTION FOUNDATION

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With the resignation of Peter Nichols last week the staff of the Science Fiction Foundation at North London Polytechnic is now down to none. If anyone feels like getting professionally involved in the crazy world of SF there are now vacancies for a Principal-Senior Lecturer, lecturer and a librarian.

For those encountering SF 'organised' activity for the first time and who are not totally repelled addresses of note are; The British Science Fiction Association, c/o Keith Freeman, Dept of Statistics, Reading University Whiteknights, Reading and Peter Roberts, 38 Oakland Drive, Dawlish, Devon (publisher of CHECKPOINT).