

SMALL MAMMAL

December 1989

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EVENT HORIZON

- 9 Dec **CASABLANCA** - Being signed by *Michael Moorcock* at FORBIDDEN PLANET.
- 21 Dec **XMAS WELLINGTON MEETING.**
- 31 Dec **HOLODECK NEW YEARS PARTY.** APOLLO HOTEL BIRMINGHAM. Registration £30 to Hollodeck New years Eve, PO Box 628, Bristol BS99 1TZ.
- 2 - 4 Feb **CON2BILE.** GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL PETERBOROUGH. GoH *Meg Davis* (if she is available for that weekend). Registration £13 attending £5 supporting to Con2bile, 93A Park Rd, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
- 24 Feb **LUCON-tinued.** LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION. GoH *Michael Scott Rohan*. Registration £6 attending, £3 supporting. Details from Ian Creasey, 20 Meadow View, Leeds LS6 1JQ.
- 3 Mar **PICOCON .** IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON. Details from ICSF Society, S.U. Imperial College, London.
- 13 - 16 Apr **EASTCON 90.** ADELPHI HOTEL LIVERPOOL. Goh's *Iain Banks Ken Campbell, Nigel Kneale.* FGoH *Anne Page.* AGoH *SMS.* Registration £20 attending, £15 Supporting. NOTE attending membership goes up to £25 on the 1st of January. Registration address Eastcon 90, 15 Maldon Close, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8DD.
- 13 - 16 Apr **ELYDORE.** SHEPPERTON MOAT HOUSE. GoH's *Terry Pratchett, Anne McAffrey, Neil Gaiman.* Registration £25 attending (£13 for 1 day) to Mrs Bougourd, High Hopes, La Vrangue, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands.
- 25 - 28 May **INCLINATION.** CHEQUERS HOTEL NEWBURY. A convention for those interested in actively participating in conventions. The program will be entirely arranged by the membership. Registration £8 to Inclination, 51 Danes Rd, Exeter, Devon.
- 23 - 27 Aug **CONFICTION.** NETHERLANDS CONGRESS CENTRE, THE HAGUE, HOLLAND. GoH's *Joe Haldeman, Wolfgang Jeschke, Harry Harrison.* FGoH *Andrew Porter .* Toastmistress *Chelsea Quinn Yarbrow.* Registration £40 attending £16 supporting (attending rises to £55 from 1st January). Send to Confiction, c/o Colin Fine, 28 Abbey Rd, Cambridge, GB5 8HQ.

Oct/Nov 1991 **SOUPCON**. A relaxed convention in Jersey (Guess which hotel ?). Membership is intended to be 150 - 200. Membership £15 to SoupCon, 63 Drake Rd, Chessington, Surrey KT9 1LQ.

SMOFCON 2

This was the unofficial title to the **CONFICTION** planning meeting held over last weekend. Attendees included 3 Americans 10 Britons and a large number of Dutch fans. The convention planning is further advanced than we had thought and the outlines of the event are now starting to become clear.

The convention is going to be a rather interesting mixture of styles. The organisation is going to be based on the American model but very heavily staffed by British fans. The fan room will however try to follow the British model rather than that of an American "Hospitality Suite". The keynote speech for the event was given by *Ben Yalow* who pointed out that the major problem of Worldcon organisation is that it requires fans from widely separated areas, with different styles of working, to cooperate on the event. Even at purely American Worldcons it is possible for confusion to arise between two groups who have each been using their own methods quite successfully for several years but who suddenly have to merge these two styles together. The West Coast representative, *Rick Fass*, pointed out that this may prove far more entertaining at **CONFICTION** when messages between US and UK fans are passed via Dutch fandom.

Ben then proceeded to give an unintentional demonstration of his point by describing in detail how the **NOREASCON** program was put together and almost giving two of the **BECCON** committee heart attacks (**BECCON** programming takes place a long time in advance while **NOREASCON**'s was done much closer to the convention utilising 5 PC's and a large amount of software assistance).

The Congress Center (or indeed the Congress Centre) is an enormous building with many large program rooms, indeed most of the competition for space is about who will be able to use the smaller rooms. The fan room and fan bar, for instance, would be easily capable of holding a British Easter Convention. During the tours we did not get a chance to use the service lifts which will be necessary for any disabled fans but the very great number of stairs in the building may very well give them problems to the extent that I would recommend that disabled fans write to the committee explaining their requirements.

The next major planning meeting **OPSCON** is scheduled for May of next year. It will help a great deal if as many British fans who are going to be working on the convention as possible can attend this. Also although there will be a lot of work to get through the weekend should be very enjoyable.

The convention will need help with set up before the formal opening. If anyone might be able to turn up early the Dutch should be able to find them somewhere to stay. Perhaps this kind of arrangement may suite students who will be on vacation then. If you might be able to help in this way please contact the Mammal address.

NOVACON 19

Was crowded but fun and friendly. It is likely that **NOVACON 20** may be back in the Excelsior hotel again next year. The increase in convention business in the Birmingham area has made it very difficult to find other hotels.

Though a good hotel the Excelsior is rather small and this may mean some membership restrictions next year, so get your registrations in early !