

BRUM GROUP NEWS

THE *FREE* MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

BIRMINGHAM SCIENCE FICTION GROUP

MARCH 2010

ISSUE 462

HONORARY PRESIDENTS: **BRIAN W ALDISS, O.B.E.**
& **HARRY HARRISON**

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Friday 14th March JO FLETCHER

Back in October 2008 we had a visit from editor, writer, poet and journalist Jo Fletcher which proved to be one of the most popular talks we've had in recent years. By popular demand, we've invited Jo back to continue her talk on what goes on behind the scenes in publishing. She's worked at *Headline*, *Magnum*, *Pan/Macmillan* and is currently SF & Fantasy editor at *Gollancz/Orion*, working with authors such as Sir Terry Pratchett, the late Sir Arthur C Clarke, Ursula K LeGuin,

Charlaine Harris, Neil Gaiman, Gene Wolfe and Stephen Donaldson. Packed with amusing and interesting anecdotes about would-be writers and their manuscripts, Jo will also expand her talk to include cover art; how it is chosen, executed and how it affects the final product – the book you see on the shelves. If you were at her previous talk 18 months ago, we know you'll make sure you don't miss this one. If you did miss the previous talk, then *do* make sure of your seat

April 9th – Brum Group member CHRIS MORGAN will give an illustrated talk on the history of the paperback with particular accent on Penguin Books.

this month! Guaranteed to be a standout meeting.

RGP

The meeting will take place in the conference room on the first floor of the Briar Rose Hotel – YES, WE'RE BACK TO OUR USUAL VENUE – in Bennett's Hill, off New Street.

The doors open at 7.30pm and the meeting will commence at 8.00pm so please arrive early, get your drinks from the bar on the ground floor, and be seated in plenty of time. Members' admission is usually £3.00; non-members' is £4.00 but there is no charge for the AGM/Auction.

ARTWORK AT THE GAS HALL

Every two years, the Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery holds the 'Open' at the Gas Hall - so called because it's open to all artists living in the Midlands area. This year it received over 1200 entries, of which 146 were accepted. One of them was by our very own David A Hardy. The painting is called 'Enceladus: Ice Moon of Saturn' and it shows a geyser erupting near the south pole of that moon. It's possibly the first time that a piece of Space Art has been included.

The exhibition is open to the public at the Gas Hall from 6th March until 2nd May 2010. GO SEE!

2010 NEBULA AWARD NOMINATIONS

The SFWA has announced the nominees for this year's Nebula, Norton, and Bradbury Awards. The Nebula recognizes excellence in fiction, the Norton in Young Adult novels, and the Bradbury in screenwriting. This year's awards will be presented on May 15.

Novel

THE WINDUP GIRL by Paolo Bacigalupi (Night Shade)

THE LOVE WE SHARE WITHOUT KNOWING by Christopher Barzak (Bantam)

FLESH AND FIRE by Laura Anne Gilman (Pocket)

THE CITY & THE CITY by China Miéville (Del Rey)

BONESHAKER by Cherie Priest (Tor)

FINCH by Jeff VanderMeer (Underland Press)

Novella

THE WOMEN OF NELL GWYNNE'S by Kage Baker (Subterranean Press)

"Arkfall" by Carolyn Ives Gilman (F&SF, Sep09)

"Act One" by Nancy Kress (Asimov's SF, Mar09)

SHAMBLING TOWARDS HIROSHIMA by James Morrow (Tachyon)

"Sublimation Angels" by Jason Sanford (Interzone, Sep/Oct09)

THE GOD ENGINES by John Scalzi (Subterranean Press)

Novellette

"The Gambler" by Paolo Bacigalupi (Fast Forward 2, Pyr Books)

"Vinegar Peace, or the Wrong-Way Used-Adult Orphanage" by Michael Bishop (Asimov's SF, Jul08)

"I Needs Must Part, The Policeman Said" by Richard Bowes (F&SF, Dec09)

"Sinner, Baker, Fabulist, Priest; Red Mask, Black Mask, Gentleman, Beast" by Eugie Foster (Interzone, Jan/Feb09)

"Divining Light" by Ted Kosmatka (Asimov's SF, Aug08)

"A Memory of Wind" by Rachel Swirsky (Tor.com, Nov09)

Short story

“Hooves and the Hovel of Abdel Jameela” by Saladin Ahmed (Clockwork Phoenix 2, Norilana Books)

“I Remember the Future” by Michael A. Burstein (I Remember the Future, Apex Publications)

“Non-Zero Probabilities” by N. K. Jemisin (Clarkesworld, Nov09)

“Spar” by Kij Johnson (Clarkesworld, Oct09)

“Going Deep” by James Patrick Kelly (Asimov’s SF, Jun09)

“Bridesicle” Will McIntosh (Asimov’s SF, Jan09)

Andre Norton Award

HOTEL UNDER THE SAND by Kage Baker (Tachyon)

ICE by Sarah Beth Durst (Simon and Schuster)

ASH by Malinda Lo (Little, Brown)

EYES LIKE STARS by Lisa Mantchev (Feiwel & Friends)

ZOE’S TALE by John Scalzi (Tor)

WHEN YOU REACH ME by Rebecca Stead (Wendy Lamb Books)

THE GIRL WHO CIRCUMNAVIGATED FAIRYLAND IN A SHIP OF HER OWN

MAKING by Catherynne M. Valente (Catherynne M. Valente)

LEVIATHAN by Scott Westerfeld (Simon & Schuster)

Bradbury Award

STAR TREK - JJ Abrams, Roberto Orci, and Alex Kurtzman

DISTRICT 9 - Neill Blomkamp and Terri Tatchell

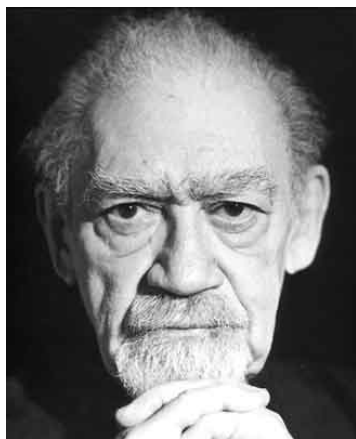
AVATAR - James Cameron

MOON - Duncan Jones and Nathan Parker

UP - Bob Peterson and Pete Docter

CORALINE - Henry Selick

NEWS IN BRIEF . . .



.... Author **Philip Klass** (b.1920) died on February 7 from congestive heart failure. Klass wrote SF under the name ‘**William Tenn**’. Klass began publishing SF with the story “Alexander the Bait” in 1946. His only novel was OF MEN AND MONSTERS. Tenn was best known for writing satirical SF and was one of the guests of honour at Noreascon 4 in 2004. Tenn was nominated for the Hugo Award for his non-fiction collection DANCING NAKED and in 1999 was named the SFWA Author Emeritus Author **Kage Baker** (b.1952) died on January 31. Baker was the author of several novels in the *Company* series and won the

Sturgeon Award for her novella “Empress of Mars” which was published in an expanded version in 2009. She began publishing with the short story “Noble Mold” in 1997 and followed up with her first novel, IN THE GARDEN OF

IDEN, the next year Author **Jim Harmon** (b.1933) died on February 16. Harmon wrote numerous short stories in the 1950s and 60s, appearing in magazines including *Galaxy*, *If* and *F&SF*. He also wrote westerns and occasionally used the pen name 'Judson Grey'. Harmon served a short stint as editor of *Monsters of the Movies* and was also a pioneer in the field of radio show history **Roger Gaillard** (b.1947) died on January 22. Gaillard was the curator of the Maison d'Ailleurs, a museum dedicated to SF, utopias, and extraordinary journeys, in Yverdon-les-Bains, Switzerland from 1989 through 1996. Gaillard also edited several books on SF Actor **Andrew Koenig** (b.1968) was found dead in a Vancouver, Canada park on February 25. Koenig, who had a recurring role on the television series *Growing Pains* also appeared in the film INALIENABLE, the fan film BATMAN: DEAD END, and an episode of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. He was the son of **Walter Koenig**, who portrayed Pavel Chekov in the original *Star Trek* and Bester in *Babylon 5*. Koenig, who had been missing since February 14, committed suicide according to his father Actor **Lionel Jeffries** (b.1926) died on February 19. Jeffries appeared in more than 100 films and television episodes. He played Blake in THE QUATERMASS EXPERIMENT, Pellinore in CAMELOT, Dilworthy in ROCKET TO THE MOON, and Cavor in THE FIRST MEN IN THE MOON. He had guest roles in several genre series, including *The Adventures of Robin Hood* and *Lexx* At this year's Nebula Awards weekend, **Joe Haldeman** will be named the Damon Knight Grand Master **The Academy of Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Films** has announced the nominees for the Annual Saturn Awards. The Saturn Awards, founded in 1972, recognize the best in genre for television, films, and DVD releases. The winners will be announced on June 24. There are no less than 33 categories with half a dozen nominations in each category – far too many to list in this newsletter! **The Science Fiction Poetry Association** has announced the winners of this year's Dwarf Star Awards, for speculative fiction poems of fewer than ten lines. The winners, along with several other poems, will be reprinted in the SFPA anthology THE 2009 DWARF STARS ANTHOLOGY: THE BEST SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY AND HORROR SHORT POETRY OF 2008, edited by **Deborah P Kolodji** and **Stephen M. Wilson**. First place: "Fireflies" by **Geoffrey A. Landis**; Second place: "The Leaf Whisperer" by **Elizabeth Barrette**; Third place: "Goodbye Billy Goat Gruff" by **Jane Yolen** The finalists have been named for the **Prometheus Hall of Fame**, given out by the **Libertarian Futurist Society** for classic works of SF which support the libertarian philosophy. Members of the society will vote in June and July and the winner will be announced at this year's Worldcon in Melbourne. The finalists are - "No Truce with Kings" by **Poul Anderson** (1964); "'Repent, Harlequin!' Said the Ticktockman" by **Harlan Ellison** (1965); "As Easy as A.B.C." by **Rudyard Kipling** (1912) and CRYPTONOMICON by **Neal Stephenson** (1999) **Warren Lapine** and **Angela Kessler** have announced that the magazine

Dreams of Decadence will be revived. While the magazine was originally a vampire magazine, in its new form the magazine will focus on urban fantasy and paranormal romance **Syfy** will arrive with a fresh new on-air look and “Imagine Greater” tagline as part of the global evolution of SCI FI to Syfy. The new channel will launch in the UK with the territory premiere of the highly anticipated and much talked about US series **V** - a 12x1-hour re-imagining of the groundbreaking alien invasion mini-series. The evolution of the channel name to Syfy is part of Universal Networks International’s initiative to reposition its brands with exciting new content and stunning new visual identities. Because SCI FI is not only a channel but also describes a genre, the change to Syfy will allow for an extendable ‘umbrella’ brand which can include fantasy, supernatural, reality, mystery, action and adventure An issue of **Action Comics #1**, which featured the debut of **Superman** has sold for \$1,000,000, setting a new record for individual comic sale price. The previous record was set last year when an issue of *Action Comics* #1 sold for \$317,000. *Action Comics* was published in 1938 and was originally sold for a dime.



About 100 copies are known to exist

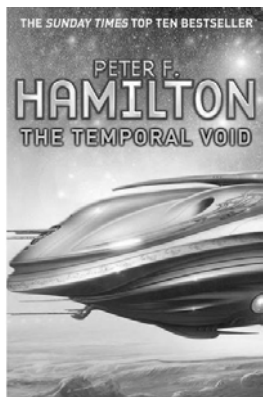
RGP



BOOK REVIEWS



(REVIEWERS please note:- all reviews should be emailed direct to me at rogpeyton@hotmail.co.uk) **Deadline for each issue is 14 days prior to the date of the monthly meeting.**



***THE TEMPORAL VOID* by Peter F. Hamilton**

Pan / 745pgs / £8.99 paperback ISBN: 978-0330507882

Reviewed by Pauline Morgan

The best advice that can be given is, don’t start from here! This is the second of two enormous books, the first being **THE DREAMING VOID**.

The universe is a vast and extraordinary place. With development of wormhole technology, longevity and re-life processes, the human race has expanded well beyond the solar system, encountering strange

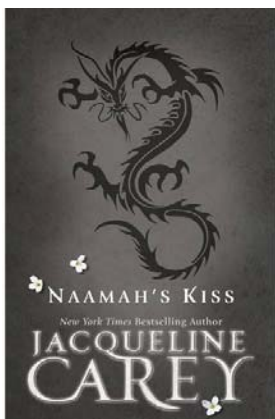
celestial objects as well as aliens. Some of the characters have also been encountered in Hamilton's previous duology, PANDORA'S STAR and JUDAS UNCHAINED. Although it is not necessary to have read these two volumes, to have does help to understand

some of the references which otherwise go unexplained.

The focus of these novels, and a projected third, is the Void. It has been observed for centuries but so far it hasn't revealed its exact nature. Inigo has been dreaming, in detail, about a young man called Edeard who lives on a planet where electronic technology is impossible, but all have psychic powers of some kind. The dreams pass to other people via the gaiantet - linked to the enhancements that most people have to exchange information. The belief is that the dreams come from within the Void. A faction called Living Dream has grown up around the Dreamer and their leader, Ethan, plans to take the followers into the Void to find enlightenment. To help them, they need to find the Second Dreamer and will go to any lengths in their search. The Second Dreamer is Araminta who spends much of the novel trying to keep ahead of the invading snatch squad.

As with all of Hamilton's novels, it is not as simple as this. In the midst of the mayhem, Paula Myo is trying to track down Troblum who says he has important information for him but who, in a firefight with the Cat (a resurrected opponent of Paula's), disappears.

In many ways there are two novels here; the story of Edeard and his attempts to clear his city of criminals, and the problems the Commonwealth has in trying to stop Living Dream's pilgrimage which, it is feared will cause the Void to expand and swallow the galaxy. And there is a hostile force of invading aliens on the way. Although some strands of the plot seem to be tied up by the end of this volume, there are a lot more loose ends hanging about for volume three. *PM*



NAAMAH'S KISS by Jacqueline Carey
Gollancz / 645 pgs / £14.99 trade paperback
ISBN: 978-0575093577
Reviewed by Jim Pearce

This is the seventh book in the *Kushiel's Legacy* series and the first following the life and adventures of Moirin mac Fainche born to the Maghuin Dhonn; the folk of the Brown Bear, the oldest tribe in Alba. Once there were great magicians born to the Maghuin Dhonn but now, only small gifts remain to them. Moirin possesses such gifts - the ability to summon the twilight and conceal herself and the skill to coax plants to grow.

The book follows her life from childhood on being raised in the wilderness by her reclusive mother. When she is about ten she is taken on a visit to Clunderry for a Midsummer's Day festival and Moirin learns how illustrious, if mixed, her heritage is. She is the great granddaughter of Alais the Wise, child of the Maghuin Donn, and a cousin of the Cruarch (Ruler) of Alba. She also learns her father was a D'Angeline priest dedicated to serving Naamah, goddess of desire. It is during this visit that she starts to sense the presence of unfamiliar gods in her life; the bright lady, and the man with a seedling cupped in his palm.

When Moirin undergoes the rites of adulthood, she finds divine acceptance, but her destiny lies somewhere beyond the ocean. Traveling to Terre d'Ange she finds her father, develops her talents, becomes an intimate of the Royal Court, being distantly related to the ruling family, and almost dies. Here she finds that her destiny requires her to travel with a visiting Ch'in philosopher who is summoned back to his homeland to save the life of a blindfolded warrior princess. When she arrives she finds that more is at stake, the fates of nations hang in the balance.

Moirin's story will continue in NAAMAH'S CURSE to be published later in 2010.

For once I concur with the comments on the back of the book. I found it hard to put down, a most enjoyable read; the text flowed easily, leading the reader through the life of a likeable heroine, and all the characters were well described. The fact that this was a book of over 600 pages was no burden. In addition, the fact that this is the seventh book in a series is not a hindrance to enjoyment as stated earlier, this is the first book following the life of Moirin mac Fainche and as such easily stands alone. I highly recommend it to potential readers.

JTP

TERMINAL WORLD by Alastair Reynolds

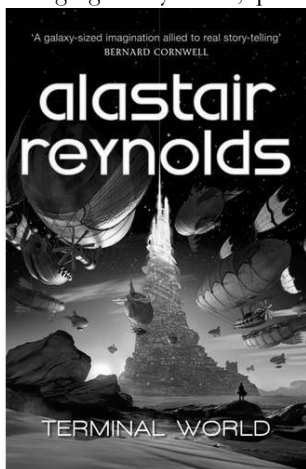
Gollancz / 583 pgs / £18.99 hardcover ISBN 978 0575007188

Reviewed by Michael Jones

Alastair Reynolds has become famous for his far-ranging space operas, but here he eschews this broad approach to set his latest novel on Earth. Some tens of millennia in the future it would seem to have suffered one or more quite major catastrophes, one result being to make it much colder than before.

The story opens in (or rather, on) Spearpoint, a vast and mysterious structure reaching right through the atmosphere and into space. Various communities cling to different levels on the outside of this structure, apparently existing in zones where the basic fabric of reality changes from place to place, altering the way in which both machines and living nervous systems are able to function - or not, as the case may be. Quillon (he has no other name) is forced to flee from Spearpoint where he has been living under an assumed identity and becomes an exile in the world at large where he and his escort encounter

skullboys, carnivorgs and tectomancers before falling in with The Swarm, a military community living on a fleet of airships. They find that zones of reality are changing everywhere, placing the Earth and its entire population in danger.

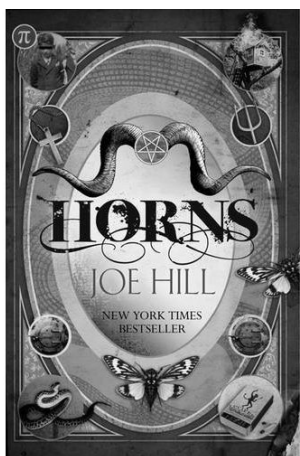


Eventually Swarm, taking Quillon with them, find their way to Spearpoint and he is able to set in motion a process which, hopefully, will undo whatever previous disaster has left the Earth the way it is and lead to the return of normalcy.

Integral to this is the nature of Spearpoint itself, and the conclusion the astute reader has reached about it, based on several clear hints, proves to be only partially correct. This is just one of several issues, some major and some relatively minor, which remain unresolved. Instead of dealing with these questions head-on the story has become complicated by incidental details which are introduced from time to time with little or no explanation, as if in the hope of keeping the story interesting.

As a consequence, the book comes to an end after having seemed to have gone on far too long, without coming to a proper conclusion. Even the future of Quillon, whose destiny the story is founded upon, remains in doubt. It is a tendency I have noted in this author sometimes - although, I hasten to add, by no means always - to leave things unfinished in this fashion. Perhaps he was planning a sequel, or perhaps merely leaving the opportunity for one. Either way, the result is rather unsatisfactory. It is good, certainly, but it could have been better.

MJ



***HORNS* by Joe Hill**

Gollancz / 364pgs / £14.99 hardcover

ISBN: 978-0575079168

Reviewed by Pauline Morgan

There are not many books that are exquisite in conception and execution. HORNS is a rare one.

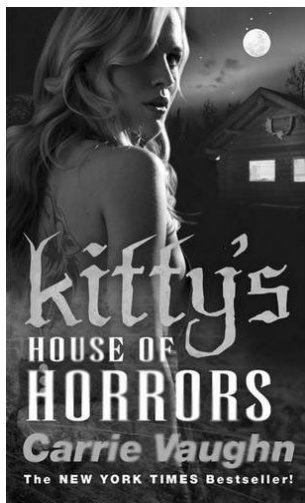
A year after the rape and murder of his girlfriend Merrin, Ig Perrish spends the night drunk and doing unspeakable things. He wakes up to find that he has grown horns. He discovers that not only do people seem unaware of the horns but they confess all the wicked things they would like to do and ask him if it is okay to do a particular sinful

thing. His current girlfriend tells him she wants to get fat so that he will leave her, then asks permission to eat a whole box of doughnuts. Looking for help, the receptionist at the hospital tells him all the things she would like to do to the mother of a screaming child, and asks his permission. He gives it and stands back to watch the mayhem.

He learns unpleasant truths from his family, the people he thought were supportive when Merrin was killed. Most of them think he did it. Then he discovers that skin contact with others transfers their darkest secrets to him. In this way he discovers what really happened on the night Merrin died. Then he wants revenge.

Superficially, this could be described as a horror-fantasy novel. It is also a very poignant, character-driven novel about the effects the death of the woman he loves can have on a man. Horns have different meanings in different cultures, so does the concept of the devil. Many of these are explored here. Just as life has many different facets, so does this novel. There is humour and betrayal, the joys of young love as well as a certain amount of grue. What it is not, is predictable. There are unexpected twists in the structure of the plot as the truth is revealed.

Whatever you normally like reading, give HORNS a go. If nothing else, you will enjoy the sheer quality of the writing. *PM*



***KITTY'S HOUSE OF HORROR* by
*Carrie Vaughn***

**Gollanz / 292 pgs / £6.99 paperback
ISBN: 978-0575090088**

Reviewed by Jim Pearce

This is the seventh in a series started by the publication of *KITTY AND THE MIDNIGHT HOUR* in 2005 chronicling the adventurous life of Kitty Norville who hosts a radio talk show during which she dispenses advice about all things supernatural. She is also a celebrity werewolf coming out on the air about three years before the date of the adventure set in the current book.

At the start of this book she agrees to appear on TV's first all-supernatural reality show alongside other shapeshifters, psychics, vampires and a sceptic. It is to be located in a Montana vacation lodge out in the middle of nowhere. All goes well for the first few days until one morning they wake up to find out that the electricity's been cut off, the production crew has vanished and there's no phone or transport away from the lodge. It does not take long for the body count to start rising. Is one or more of the houseguests in league with the murderers? Can Kitty and the

others escape or fight back and overcome the killers? Of course she can, as the eighth book, *KITTY GOES TO WAR*, is due out later this year.

I found this book an enjoyable easy and quick read with no side plots or unpredictable developments to extend interest and provide mystery. If you are interested in reading this book I strongly recommend that you try the first six, reading them in order as this will provide a good introduction to Kitty and a number of the book's other characters. *JTP*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All details are correct to the best of our knowledge, we advise contacting organisers before travelling. Always enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope when writing to any of the contact addresses.

Any information about forthcoming SF / Fantasy / Horror events are always welcome - please send to me at rogpeyton@hotmail.co.uk

The Central Library SF and Fantasy Reading Group meets on Thursdays at 5.45pm to 7pm monthly, in GP5 on the 5th Floor at the Central Library, Chamberlain Square, B3 3HQ. It's a small friendly group meeting to discuss SF & fantasy books. Contact person is Pam Gaffney on (0121) 303 3398.

Books to be discussed:-

March 18th - **PAVANE** by **Keith Roberts**

April 22nd - **THE CITY & THE CITY** by **China Mieville**.

Future books to be discussed will provisionally be...

TRANSITION by Iain Banks

FLASHFORWARD by Robert Sawyer

COALESCENT by Stephen Baxter

DIVERGENCE by Tony Ballantyne

LET THE RIGHT ONE IN by Jon Avide Lindquist

HUNTER'S RUN by Martin, Dozois & Abrahams.

THE MiSFiTs are an informal group of local SF fans who meet regularly at 7pm at the Wagon & Horses, Oldbury on the third Friday of each month. Real ale, good food, great company. More details from Martin Tudor - (empties084@btinternet.com).

Gagosian Gallery London will present "Crash: Homage to J G Ballard" a major group exhibition opening on 11 February 2010, which takes its title from the famous novel by J G Ballard. The exhibition closes on April 1st. For further inquiries please contact the gallery at london@gagosian.com or at 0207 841 9960.

CORFLU COBALT, the 27th Corflu, 19th-21st March 2010 at The Winchester Hotel, Winchester, UK For only the second time in its history,

Corflu, the convention for SF fanzine fans, is coming to Britain! Attending membership, inclusive of Sunday brunch banquet will cost £50 or \$75. Because we have to finalise the brunch banquet numbers for the hotel, full attending memberships will close on Saturday 13th March 2010. Full details from <http://www.corflu.org/>

ODYSSEY 2010, the 2010 Eastercon, 2 - 5 April 2010 will be held at Radisson Edwardian Hotel, Heathrow, London, UK Guests of Honour are **Alastair Reynolds, Iain M Banks, Liz Williams** and **Mike Carey**. Artist Guest of Honour - **Carlos Ezquerro**. Fan Guests of Honour - **Fran and John Dowd**. Full details from <http://www.odyssey2010.org/>

THE PRISONER LONDON LOCATIONS WALKABOUT: SUNDAY APRIL 11TH 2010. START TIME: 2.00PM UNDER MARBLE ARCH. Dave Lally will again be the guide for this 3.5 mile (so wear comfy shoes and dress appropriately - tour goes ahead regardless of weather) walking tour of London's *The Prisoner* location sites. Over 20 locations are visited including Number Six's House and the famous resignation corridor, car parks, and landmarks seen in the series' opening sequence and the episodes "Many Happy Returns", "Fall Out", and "Do Not Forsake Me". The tour traditionally ends at dusk with a visit to a local Pizza restaurant. Apart from food and travel to/from the start/finish points, the tour is free and you do not need to book to attend. Further events are detailed at www.theunmutual.co.uk/events.htm

SCI-FI LONDON 9: THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASTIC FILM will be held 28th April to May 3rd Full details from www.sci-fi-london.com/

THE WRITE FANTASTIC is celebrating its 5th Anniversary on May 8th with a special one day event at the Jacqueline Du Pré Building, St Hilda's College, Oxford. Guests confirmed so far are Stephen Deas, Ben Jeapes, Geoff Ryman, Mike Shevdon and Ian Watson. New members will be Kari Sperring, Ian Whates, Freda Warrington and Liz Williams. More details at www.thewritefantastic.com/anniversary.html

FANTASYCON 2010 will be held over the weekend of September 17-19 at the Britannia Hotel, 1 St James Street, Nottingham. Guest of Honour will be Lisa Tuttle. Master of Ceremonies will be James Barclay. Website is... <http://sites.google.com/site/fantasycon2010/>



NOVACON 40 – the Brum Group’s own convention and the longest-running regional convention in the UK, will be once again held at The Park Inn, 296 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG5 2BT. Dates are November 12th to 14th November. Guest of Honour is **Iain M Banks** and Special Guests are our Presidents **Brian Aldiss, O.B.E.** and **Harry Harrison**. Full details at <http://novacon.org.uk/>

FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE BSFG

- March 12th – Gollancz editor JO FLETCHER returns with more amusing and interesting anecdotes of life in publishing**
- April 9th – member CHRIS MORGAN – an illustrated talk on the history of the paperback and in particular Penguin Books**
- May 14th – comic fantasy author JASPER FFORDE**
- June 11th – SF author PAT CADIGAN**
- July 9th – SF/fantasy author STEVE FEASEY**
- August 13th – Summer Social – meal at The Black Eagle**
- September 10th – tba**
- October 8th – SF, fantasy author and satirist ADAM ROBERTS**
- November 5th – SF author CHARLES STROSS**
- December 3rd – Christmas Social**

BRUM GROUP NEWS #462 (March 2010) copyright 2010 for Birmingham SF Group. Designed by Rog Peyton (19 Eves Croft, Bartley Green, Birmingham, B32 3QL – phone 0121 477 6901 or email rogpeyton@hotmail.co.uk). Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the committee or the general membership or, for that matter, the person giving the ‘opinion’.

Thanks to all the named contributors in this issue and to William McCabe who sends me reams of news items every month which I sift through for the best/most entertaining items.

ABOUT US... The **Birmingham Science Fiction Group** meets on the second Friday of each month. Membership is £16 per year per person (or £21 for two members living at the same address). This includes the 12 free issues of the Newsletter plus reduced entrance fee at each meeting. Cheques should be made payable to ‘The Birmingham Science Fiction Group’ and sent to our Secretary, 10 Sylvan Avenue, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2PG