

BRUM GROUP NEWS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

BIRMINGHAM SCIENCE FICTION GROUP

JULY 2016

ISSUE 538

HONORARY PRESIDENT: **BRIAN W ALDISS, OBE**

COMMITTEE: **VERNON BROWN (CHAIRMAN); PAT BROWN (TREASURER); VICKY STOCK (SECRETARY); CAROL GOODWIN (NEWSLETTER EDITOR); DAVE CORBY (PUBLICITY OFFICER); WILLIAM MCCABE (WEBSITE); VICKY STOCK (MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY); NOVACON 46 CHAIR: DOUG SPENCER**

WEBSITE:

www.birminghamsfgroup.org.uk/

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/groups/BirminghamSFGGroup/

EMAIL:

bhamsfgroup@yahoo.co.uk

TWITTER:

@BirminghamSF



DAVE LALLY

8th July

Our guest this month, **Dave Lally** will be known to many of us, as he is a regular attendee and participant at many SF conventions, including the BSFG's own Novacon.

He was born and raised in rural Ireland. His family were one of the very first in their area to get a TV set which introduced him at an early age to SF programmes such as **QUATERMASS AND THE PIT**, **SPACE PATROL** and **FIREBALL XL5**.

August 12th - Summer Social meal at the Black Eagle

In the early 70's he spent two and a half years travelling between Ireland and mainland UK before eventually settling in London and working in the pensions industry from which he retired in 2014.

He has been involved in fandom since the 1970's and will be talking to us about his 5 main phases of (and the different areas within) fandom -with which he has been intimately linked since those early 70s: These are

- the early days (primarily *Prisoner* fandom and their Portmeirion conventions),
- Worldcons (from 1979 - which he blames on a certain Peter Weston!) and Eastercons (his first in 1984 and then continuously from 1988) -both attending and then later as the organiser of the video programming thereat,
- Octocons (Irish National SF Cons - from 1990 onward), plus later-- Mecons and Titancons,
- From the mid-1990's: Novacons and then Eurocons (including his European Science Fiction Society (ESFS) Chairmanship for 8 years)
- And finally, from 2014 post-Worldcon/Loncon3-- his assumption of BSFA Membership Officer duties.

The meeting will take place in the conference room on the first floor of The Briar Rose Hotel, Bennetts Hill, off New Street.

The doors open at 7.30pm and the meeting will normally 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. The entrance fee for our January AGM is free and the August and December socials are ticket only events. All other meetings the entrance fee is £3 for members and £4 for non-members.

Editor's Note: As the observant among you may notice, I have experimented in this newsletter with a bit of colour on the colophon and text box borders etc (following a suggestion by Rog Peyton). I would welcome any thoughts - negative or positive - on this eg. change back, more or different colours etc. If people hate it, I can easily switch back to Black as used in previous newsletters CG

BLACK EAGLE MEAL - 12th AUGUST *Vernon Brown*

There are still a few places left, so if you would like to join us give Pat your £5 deposit at the July meeting or send it to Vicky Stock (address on back page) - email Pat via the Group address as well so that she can register you.



The food is good English restaurant plus a specials board while the wine list is reasonably varied and reasonably priced. The restaurant, which has won awards, is separate from the pub proper, which has also won awards, although they are in the same

building. We sit down about 7.45 pm, although some people usually turn up a little earlier to have a pre-prandial drink in the bar. It's a quiet "traditional" pub so you'll have no difficulty in finding us. Get there as follows:

Address: The Black Eagle, 16 Factory Road, Hockley, B18 5JU

By Car Opposite Villa Road, where it meets the junction of Soho Hill and Soho Road, is St Michaels Road. Go down it then up the other side, now Factory Road. The Black Eagle is a little way up on the right; it's set back, don't overshoot it.

By Bus Catch the No 74 round the corner from the Square Peg in Old Square, Birmingham and ask for the stop before Villa Road, just before the Sikh Temple. About five minutes out of town the road goes downhill then past a flyover It then goes up the other side of the valley - at the top is a bus stop - you want the stop after this. When you alight walk a little further on to St Michaels Road, turn left then as by car above.

By Metro Catch the Metro in Upper Bull Street, Birmingham. Pay on the Metro itself and ask for Benson Road, Soho. There's also a stop notification board in the carriage. At the exit turn right down Benson Road to the Black Eagle.

You will be given more details and a map when you pay your deposit, which will be refundable against your bill. VB

SPACE CENTRE VISIT- 20th August - Carol Goodwin

Just a reminder for anyone who wishes to attend the trip to Leicester Space Centre on the 20th August, that tickets must be purchased by the end of July. At the time of writing this newsletter only 5 spaces remain.

Tickets can be purchased at a Group meeting or by sending a cheque (payable to the “Birmingham Science Fiction Group”) to me at 73 Langfield Road, Knowle, Solihull, B93 9PS. If doing the latter, it would be appreciated if you also sent an email (to goodwincd@yahoo.com) to let me know you want a place so I can reserve you a seat immediately without having to wait for the post.

For a very reasonable price of £10 you get return transport, access to the Space Centre galleries, a free ride on the 3D Simulator and a free Planetarium show CG

Proposed joint meeting on Friday 9th September.

A joint meeting between the Andromeda 2 convention and the Birmingham SF Group will be held at the All Services Club, 91 Church Road, Moseley on September 9th. This will run from 8 till 10 pm and will consist of a talk by Jasper Bark (novelist, children's author, poet and scriptwriter) and another item/panel (which is yet to be arranged). The room hire and speaker expenses will all be covered by the Andromeda 2 convention.

For those wishing to attend only this meeting, the cost will be the normal Brum Group entry fee (which will be kept by the Brum Group). Anyone who is a Convention member would also be entitled to attend this Friday meeting for no cost. There will be a bar available on the site.

If anyone then wishes to attend the following day, they can purchase a Saturday only ticket (£20) - (discounted from £25) - this goes to finance the Andromeda 2 convention

Alternatively, for those who wish to attend the whole Andromeda 2 weekend, the cost is £27 including a Friday night buffet (discounted from £30) - proceeds go to the Convention).

Additionally, anyone who purchases a convention membership online in July at <http://ac2.greatbritishhorror.com/> or at the Brum Group July meeting will be entered into a free draw to win a signed copy of recently released **THE FIREMAN** by Joe Hill (an apocalyptic SF novel).

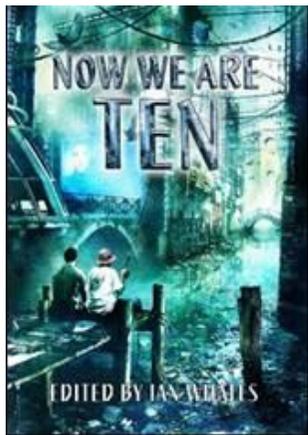
NOVEMBER MEETING – FILM NIGHT? Dave Corby

Since the proposal of a Film Night for the November meeting, and my request for suggestions I have only received replies from a few people. So if anyone else has any thoughts on a film that you think the Group would be interested in watching, please can you let me know.

As a reminder, a film should not be much longer than two hours (as if we start prompt at 8 pm. it would be good to be done not long after 10 pm). It could be a classic movie, a modern movie, something well-known or unusual, or should it be strictly SF or maybe Fantasy elements are allowed?

Send your suggestions to David.Corby@Nationalgrid.com and I will publish the ideas in the newsletter. I suspect we shan't all agree, so why not be as controversial as possible?? *DC*

NEWCON PRESS – BIRTHDAY PARTY & NEW BOOKS



Following on from last month's very enjoyable visit by Ian Whates, I have included some follow-up information which might be of interest.

As mentioned in the meeting, NewCon Press is celebrating its 10th Anniversary year in July with a party and book launch on July 9th at 1 pm and BSGF members were invited to attend. The venue is **THE STAR OF KINGS** pub in London (126 York Way, N1 0AX) which is about a 5-minute walk from Kings

Cross station.

There will be special musical guests, a bar and every guest will receive a free copy of the anthology **X MARKS THE SPOT**.

There will also be book launches for four new books, **NOW WE ARE TEN, CRISES AND CONFLICTS**, **SECRET LANGUAGE** by Neil Williamson, and **TALES OF THE APT: THE SPOILS OF WAR** by Adrian Tchaikovsky. Further details (including the authors included in the anthologies) about any of NewCon Press' publications can be found at www.newconpress.co.uk/ CG

NEWS IN BRIEF



Anton Yelchin, the actor who played Chekov in the recent *Star Trek* films (and also appeared in **TERMINATOR SALVATION**) has died at the age of 27. He was killed when his car rolled down his drive and pinned him against a brick mailbox. A lawsuit has been brought against the manufacturers for “intentionally covering up fatal design flaws”

Congratulations to **David A. Hardy**, who is one of the Chesley Award finalists in the category of Lifetime Artistic Achievement, awarded by the Association of Science Fiction & Fantasy Artists. The winners will be announced at MidAmeriCon2 (17th-21st August) The **David Gemmell Awards shortlists** will open from midday on 8th July and close at midnight on 19th August. The results will be announced at Fantasycon on 24th September. Voting is at www.gemmellawards.com/ and is open to everyone **Eurocon 2016** (in Barcelona) is completely sold out Two formal **bids for WorldCon 2018** have been received from San José and New Orleans It has been confirmed that **James Earl Jones** will return as the voice of **Darth Vader** in the next *Star Wars* film. Due for release in December, **ROGUE ONE** sees the band of rebels who steal the original Death Star plans Despite a massive public drive to name element 117 “Octarine” in honour of Terry Pratchett, the more prosaic name of Tennessine (after the state of Tennessee) has been chosen **Margaret Atwood** will be touring the UK in October/November to promote her new book, **HAG-SEED**, which is a modern version of Shakespeare’s **THE TEMPEST**. This will include an appearance at The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford NASA has announced the discovery of an **asteroid, 2016 HO3**, which is orbiting the Earth and has been for approximately a century,

although it is classed as a “stable quasi-satellite” not a **new moon** as reported by some of the press NASA’s Juno spacecraft will hopefully have arrived at Jupiter on July 4th where it will go into a polar orbit.

CG

LOCUS AWARDS 2016

The winners of the Locus Awards were announced on the 25th June.

Science Fiction Novel: ANCILLARY MERCY
by Ann Leckie (Orbit)

Fantasy Novel: UPROOTED by Naomi Novik
(Pan)

First Novel: THE GRACE OF KINGS by Ken
Liu (Head of Zeus)

Young Adult Book: THE SHEPHERD’S
CROWN by Terry Pratchett (Doubleday)

Novella: SLOW BULLETS by Alastair
Reynolds (Tachyon)

Novelette: “Black Dog” by Neil Gaiman (in
TRIGGER WARNING - Headline)

Short Story: “Cat Pictures Please” by Naomi Kritzer (in *Clarkesworld*
1/15)

Anthology: OLD VENUS edited by George R Martin & Gardner
Dozois (Titan Books)

Collection: TRIGGER WARNING: SHORT FICTIONS AND
DISTURBANCES by Neil Gaiman (Headline)

Non-Fiction: LETTERS TO TIPTREE edited by Alisa Krasnostein
& Alexandra Pierce (Twelfth Planet Press)

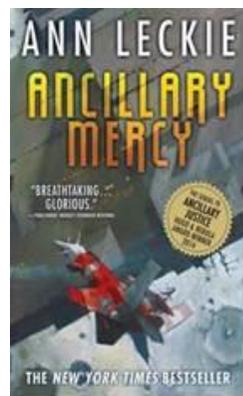
Art Book: JULIE DILLON’S IMAGINED REALMS, BOOK 2:
EARTH AND SKY by Julie Dillon (Self-published)

Artist: Michael Whelan

Editor: David G Hartwell

Magazine: *Asimov’s*

Publisher: Tor



BRITISH FANTASY AWARD SHORTLIST

The shortlists for the British Fantasy awards have been announced. The nominees for Best Fantasy Novel and Best Horror Novel are given below. Nominees in other categories are available at www.britishfantasysociety.org:

Best Fantasy Novel (the Robert Holdstock Award)

GUNS OF THE DAWN by Adrian Tchaikovsky (Tor)

HALF A WAR by Joe Abercrombie (HarperVoyager)

THE IRON GHOST by Jen Williams (Headline)

SIGNAL TO NOISE by Silvia Moreno-Garcia (Solaris)

SORCEROR TO THE CROWN by Zen Cho (Macmillan)

UPROOTED by Naomi Novik (Macmillan)

Best Horror Novel (the August Derleth Award)

A COLD SILENCE by Alison Littlewood (Jo Fletcher Books)

THE DEATH HOUSE by Sarah Pinborough (Gollancz)

LOST GIRL by Adam Nevill (Pan)

RAWBLOOD by Catriona Ward (Weidenfeld & Nicholson)

THE SILENCE by Tim Lebbon (Titan Books)

WELCOME TO NIGHT VALE by Joseph Fink & Jeffrey Cranor (Orbit)

NB: As well as the above Fantasy award nominations, two of the nominees for Best Independent Press are recent guests of the Brum SF Group - NewCon Press/ Ian Whates and Alchemy Press / Peter Coleborn and Jan Edwards

NEW CINEMA FILM RELEASES

Listings should not be necessarily taken as recommendations. Release dates are subject to change. View at your own peril!

GHOSTBUSTERS - Release date July 11th. Remake with a female group of Ghostbusters, who act as a ghost removal service.

THE PURGE: ELECTION YEAR - Release date July 15th. SF/Horror. Presidential candidate who aims to eliminate the Purge, the annual night of penalty-free lawlessness, is under threat.

STAR TREK BEYOND - Release date July 22nd. SF. The *Enterprise* crew encounter a mysterious new enemy.

SUICIDE SQUAD - Release date August 5th. Comic-inspired film. Imprisoned supervillains are recruited to dangerous black-ops missions.

SPECTRAL - Release date August 12th. SF/Thriller. A special-ops team fights against supernatural beings. CG

FORTHCOMING BOOKS

(NB Prices given are Recommended Retail Price and may be available at cheaper prices)

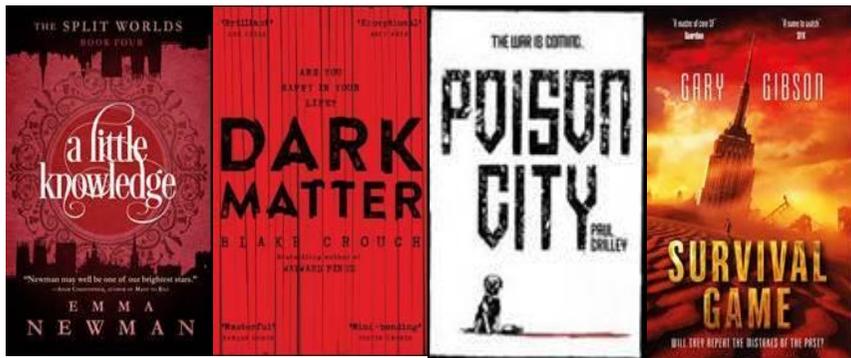


DROWNED WORLDS edited by Jonathan Strahan / Solaris / 336 pgs / £12.99 paperback / ISBN 978-1781084502 / July 14th. Anthology of SF & Fantasy stories with a flooded world theme.

THE RACE by Nina Allen / Titan Books / 448 pgs / £7.99 paperback / ISBN 978-1785650369 / July 19th. SF. Set in a future Great Britain, with illegal racing of genetically modified “smartdogs”, four damaged people find their lives inextricably linked.

LAMENT FOR THE FALLEN by Gavin Chait / Doubleday / 384 pgs / £14.99 hardback / ISBN 978-0857523693 / July 28th. SF. A strange craft that crashes in an isolated W. African country contains a mysterious survivor who may be more than human.

HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD: Official Script Book by J K Rowling, Jack Thorne & John Tiffany / Little Brown / 352 pgs / £20 hardback / ISBN 978-0751565355 / July 31st. A grown-up Harry Potter and his son struggle against darkness from the past.



A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE (Split Worlds 4) by Emma Newman / Diversion Publishing / 360 pgs / £10.52 paperback / ISBN 978-1682302910 / August 2nd. Fantasy. Dynastic families feud to please their capricious Fae patrons. Cathy’s attempts to modernise the “Court” bring her into danger.

DARK MATTER by Blake Crouch / Macmillan / 352 pgs / £12.99 hardback / ISBN 978-1447297567 / August 11th. SF. Jason Dessen wakes from unconsciousness to a different world. Which is the real one?

POISON CITY (London Tau 1) by Paul Crilley / Hodder & Stoughton / 352 pgs / £18.99 hardback / ISBN 978-1473631588 / August 11th. Fantasy. South African, police occult investigator and his talking, hard-drinking spirit dog hunt for the killer of his daughter.

SURVIVAL GAME (Apocalypse Duology 2) by Gary Gibson / Tor / 352 pgs / £18.99 hardback / ISBN 978-0230772779 / August 11th. SF. A Russian and American from alternate worlds ally to destroy an artefact which could destroy both civilisations. *CG*



BOOK REVIEWS



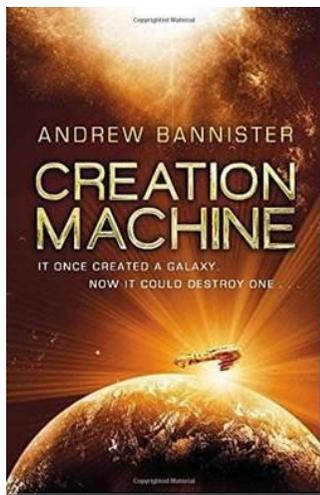
(**REVIEWERS** please note: - all reviews should be emailed direct to me at goodwinced@yahoo.com **Deadline** for each issue is 14 days prior to the date of the monthly meeting)

CREATION MACHINE by Andrew Bannister

Bantam Press / 327 pgs / £14.99 hardback/ ISBN 978-0593076484

Reviewed by Jim Pearce

This book as well as being the first stand-alone volume in a trilogy, is the author's debut novel. It is set in an area of space that is known as the 'Spin' which is described as being a thickly populated region containing 94 planets looped in complex orbits around 21 suns. It is about 30 light-days wide. In addition, it is split into 4 distinct and separately moving astro-geographic parts. While, as is indicated by the book's title, the area is obviously a highly artificial construct, no suggestion is provided as to how its stability is maintained.



Throughout most of the book the action alternates between two apparently unconnected storylines. In fact, on reaching the end I did not find any strong connection between these strands. The first of these follows Fleare Hass, a fighter of a failed dissident group, 'Society Otherwise', which has been defeated by the brutal and oppressive industrial dominated 'Hegemony' in which her father is a leading figure. Her narrative starts with rescue from imprisonment in a desolate monastery on a remote and inhospitable planet by a friend who has been turned into a cloud of sentient nanites. After escaping they meet up with 2 other survivors from 'Society Otherwise' and flee across the 'Spin' to a cluster of fallen planets known as 'the Catastrophe Curve'.

The other strand follows Alameche Ur-hive, a senior member of the government of the brutal and despotic empire of the 'Fortunate' which rules the 6 planets of the inner region of the 'Spin'

known as the ‘Cordern’. What happens in this section covers a plot to control a mysterious object thought to be one of the machines used to create the ‘Spin’ and hence having the potential to become a highly destructive weapon. Nowhere in the book is there any contact between Fleare and Alameche.

What did I think of the book? I’m ambivalent; to me the story of Fleare has too many dislocations. I kept thinking how and why did they get to that point. In contrast the inhumane tale of Alameche was more coherent. Towards the end of the book, new characters existing in computer simulations are suddenly introduced and these are critical to the apparent resolution of the ‘Creation Machine’ problem, but in a way that left me unsatisfied.

Did I like and enjoy the book? Well it was readable and moderately enjoyable but did not, in my opinion, live up to the standard I expected from the endorsements made in the publisher’s press release. That said, Andrew Bannister clearly has great potential as he has very good ideas and has created interesting characters and settings. Perhaps this is one of those books that grow on you on rereading. Also perhaps the next book in the sequence will reveal more detail and all will be made clear. JTP

(Kindly donated by Transworld publishers)

***PLANETFALL* by Emma Newman**

ROC / 320 pgs / £10.99 (US) paperback / ISBN 978-0425282397

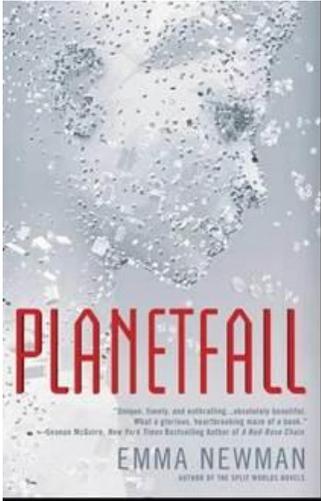
Reviewed by Pauline Morgan.

When we look at the people around us there is a danger that we will assess them according to our own lights. The physically disabled and frail are usually easy to recognise but some conditions are hidden, such as diabetes, heart conditions and asthma. They can be as debilitating but are externally invisible. So are many mental issues. It has taken a very long time – centuries in some cases – for the medical fraternity to recognise some of them. How much harder is it, then, for the ordinary person to know? Especially if the sufferer doesn’t talk about their concerns.

The basis behind the novel, **PLANETFALL**, is an expedition to a distant planet, instigated by Suh-Mi. She has been missing, presumed dead for more than twenty years but her presence

resonates throughout this book. The remaining colonists have built their town around an alien structure into which Suh-Mi disappeared. Most of them are expecting her to return with words of wisdom. They have been waiting a long time. In this sense she is a Moses figure, leading her people to a promised land and now they wait for the final revelation.

Renata Ghali (Ren) is a printer engineer. Since most of the needs of the community are met using 3-D printers she is a valuable and respected member. Outwardly, she seems as balanced as everyone else. The fact that she goes down into the recycling room and takes away thrown-away items that she thinks can be mended is eccentric but understandable; well within the norms of human



behaviour. Then the society is destabilised by the arrival of Sung-Soo. He staggers in from outside. That he is alive is revelation enough as everyone believed that the landers carrying other colonists were all destroyed. He explains that there were survivors but he is the last of them. And he is Suh-Mi's grandson. The other revelation is that although the plants native to this planet are toxic to humans, he can eat them, probably due to the parasite they find living in his gut.

Nevertheless, he is made welcome and a home is made for him.

He wants to know everything, especially about his grandmother. His presence, though, is a catalyst for change. Ren has not invited anyone into her home for years. Gradually the reason unfolds. She is a hoarder. She is unable to throw anything away. She has filled every available space with the broken objects that she has rescued. To other eyes, they are garbage, to her, they are precious. She will fix them - eventually. When the other colonists discover this, they see it a deviation not as a mental illness that should be looked on with sympathy and treated. Their reactions set off a further chain of events that threatens to dissolve the glue that holds the colony together.

It is unusual, and pleasing, to have a seriously damaged person as a central character but as this is a first person narrative it is possible to show Ren's mind-set and the way that she fails to understand that there is anything odd about her behaviour. Newman treats her sympathetically and it is easy to relate to Ren's issues, even perhaps, seeing a little of ourselves in her.

This book has excellent characterisation and the plot revelations, as they creep up on the reader, are delightfully handled. I cannot recommend it highly enough. *PM*

(Review copy kindly donated by the Author)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All details are correct to the best of our knowledge, we advise contacting organizers 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 is always welcome - please send to Carol at goodwincd@yahoo.com

BIRMINGHAM HORROR GROUP, 2nd July, Birmingham. Celebration of the 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley's FRANKENSTEIN at 7 pm. The Anchor Inn, Digbeth, B5 6ET. Details: www.birmingham-horror.co.uk

AN EVENING with DAN VYLETA, 8th July, Nottingham. Author discusses new fantasy novel, SMOKE. Waterstones Nottingham. 9 pm. Free but must be booked. Details: 0115 947 0069.

FORAY INTO FANTASY with Jen Williams, Peter Newman & Den Patrick, 23rd July, Birmingham. Three Fantasy authors discuss their books. Waterstones High Street 6:30 pm. Free. Booking: 0121 631 4353, or call instore.

SHOCK AND GORE FESTIVAL, 8th - 21st July at Electric Cinema, Birmingham. Screening of many Horror films including NIGHT OF THE DEMON (15th-21st July), ANGEL HEART (18th July).and THE HUNGER (18th July) £8.70. www.theelectric.co.uk or 0121 643 7879

TWILIGHT ZONE & FLASH GORDON screenings, 8th & 28th July, Coventry. The Urban Coffee Company at Fargo Village presents episodes from the original *Twilight Zone* (7th July) and **FLASH GORDON** film (28th July). Free. 7:30 pm. Fargo Village, Far Gosford Street, Coventry, CV1 5ED. www.fargovillage.co.uk

THIS SAVAGE SONG with V E Schwab, 4th August, Birmingham. Fantasy author discusses her latest book at Waterstones High Street from 6:30 pm. £3. Booking: 0121 631 4353, or call instore

CONVENTIONS

EDGE-LIT 5, 16th July, Derby. Literary SF/Fantasy festival. Guests of Honour M John Harrison, Emma Newman & Alastair Reynolds. Tickets £30 at www.derbyquad.co.uk/special-event/edge-lit-5

NINE WORLDS GEEKFEST, 12th - 14th August, London. Multi-media con with strong literature strand. Tickets £100 at <https://nineworlds.co.uk/>

ANDROMEDA 2, 9th - 10th September, Moseley. SF/F convention organised by Theresa Derwin. Guests of Honour: David A Hardy, Sam Stone. Master of Ceremonies: Jasper Bark. Moseley All Services Club, 91 Church Road, Moseley, B13 9EA. Tickets: £25/£20 BSFG discount (Saturday only) or £30/£27 BSFG (weekend ticket inc. Friday night buffet). Details at <http://ac2.greatbritishhorror.com/>

FANTASYCON BY THE SEA, 23rd - 25th September, Scarborough. Guests of Honour Adam Nevill, Frances Hardinge and Scott Lynch. At the Grand and Royal Hotels. Tickets £50 + £35 Awards Banquet. <http://fantasyconbythesea.com>

BRISTOLCON, 29th October, Bristol. Guests of Honour Ken MacLeod, Sarah Pinborough and Fangorn. Doubletree Hotel. £20. Details at www.bristolcon.org

NOVACON 46, 11th - 13th November, Nottingham. Guest of Honour is Juliet McKenna. The Park Inn, Nottingham. Tickets £46. Details at www.novacon.org.uk

SLEDGE-LIT, 26th November, Derby. Literary SF/Fantasy festival. Guests of Honour Justina Robson & Stephen Volk (novelist &

screenwriter). Tickets £25 at www.derbyquad.co.uk/special-event/sledge-lit

INNOMINATE (EASTERCON), 14th - 17th April 2017, Birmingham. Guests of Honour are Pat Cadigan, Judith Clute and Colin Harris. To be held at the Hilton Metropole, NEC, Birmingham. Membership £60 at www.eastercon2017.uk/home

FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE BSFG

August 12th - **Summer Social Meal** - venue Black Eagle

August 20th - **Leicester Space Centre visit**

September 9th - Andromeda 2 joint meeting with speaker **Jasper Bark** + **panel to be announced**

October 14th - astronomer and lecturer **Andy Lound**

November 4th - **Film night**

December 2nd - **Christmas Social**

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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 Membership Secretary, 10 Sylvan Avenue, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2PG