(Honorary Presidenta: Brian W. Aldma and Harry Harrison)

Birmingham
Science Fiction
Group

### NEWSLETTER 122

OCTOBER 1981

The Birmingham Science Fiction Group has its formal meeting on the third Friday of each month in the upstairs room of THE IVY BUSH pub on the corner of Hagley Road and Monument Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 16. There is also an informal meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at THE OLD ROYAL pub, on the corner of Church Street and Cornwall Street, Birmingham 3. (Church Street is off Colmore Row.) New members are always welcome. Our treasurer is Margaret Thorpe, 36 Twyford Road, Ward End, Birmingham 8. The 12-month subscription is £3.50.

OCTOBER MEETING - Friday 16th October 1981 at 7.45 pm

We have a speaker from THE AETHERIUS SOCIETY, probably Mr Tony Perrott, the Publicity Officer of their Derby Branch, speaking on the subject: "FLYING SAUCERS AND SPACE". The Aetherius Society was founded in 1955 by Sir George King. Its members believe that Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are inhabited by powerful beings of great intelligence who have frequently visited Earth by flying saucer, and who are able to communicate with the chosen few on Earth by telepathic means.

When the Leicester SF Group had a speaker from The Aetherius Society, everybody who attended agreed that it was probably the most lively and entertaining meeting the group had ever arranged. We expect this Friday's

meeting to be just as good. Don't miss it!

#### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Bob Shaw and Dave Hardy showed us slides of all the illustrations in their joint book and related so much of the text that there'll be no need for you to buy a copy. Seriously, though, Thomas Cook's Galactic Tours will be published at the end of October by Proteus at £4.95. With a bit of luck it will be reviewed in next month's newsletter.

#### FORTHCOMING

\* November - Novacon 11 (Oct 30th - Nov 1st) at Birmingham's Royal Angus Hotel, with Bob Shaw as guest-of-honour. Send your £5.50 (for attending membership) to Helen Eling, 124 Galton Road, Warley, West Midlands. If you have any queries, telephone her on (O21) 420-1369.

\* Our November speaker will be an editor from an important publishing firm, talking about the trials and tribulations of choosing which SF and fantasy

books to publish.

\* December - Xmas Party on Friday 18th at The Ivy Bush. The inclusive price for entry, high quality buffet meal and various entertainments is only £2.25 per head. Numbers are limited to 55, and members will be given priority over non-members. Get your tickets from our treasurer at this month's meeting, or send her the money (her address is at the top of this page).

\* January 1982 - Annual General Meeting, including election of committee

members, plus an auction.

Spring 1982 (probably either March or April) - Marion Zimmer Bradley.

HUGO AWARDS have been announced for SF published in 1980. Best novel: The Snow Queen - Joan Vinge; best novella: "Lost Dorsai" - Gordon R. Dickson: best nov-

elette: "The Cloak and the Staff" - Gordon R.Dickson; best short story: "Grotto of the Dancing Deer" - Clifford D.Simak; best nonfiction book: Cosmos - Carl Sagan; best professional editor: Edward L. Ferman; best professional artist: Michael Whelan; best fanzine: Locus; best fan artist: Victoria Poyser; best fan writer: Susan Wood; best dramatic presentation: The Empire Strikes Back; John W. Campbell Award: Somtow Sucharitkul.

TAFF candidates for 1982 are Kevin Smith and our own Rog Peyton. One of them will win a free trip to the USA for the 1982 world SF convention in Chicago next September, the contest to be decided by popular vote. If you've been connected with SF fandom (been a BSFG member, for example) since at least April 1980, you'll be eligible to vote (and contribute to the fund). More details --- and voting forms --- next month.

ANDROMEDA BOOKSHOP's top ten best selling paperbacks for September were: 1. The Dr Who Programme Guide volume 1 - Jean-Marc Lofficer, 2. Death's

Angel - Kathleen Sky, 3. Dragon's Egg - Robert L. Forward, 4. Dark Forces
ed by Kirby McCauley, 5. Firestarter - Stephen King, 6. Masks of the Illuminati - Robert Anton Wilson, 7. Duncton Wood - William Horwood, 8. Salem's Lot - Stephen King, 9. The Ringworld Engineers - Larry Niven, 10. Roadmarks - Roger Zelazny.

ANDROMEDA BOOKSHOP will be moving to a new location in the centre of Birmingham in December this year. Watch this space for details.

ARLINE PEYTON has resigned as BSFG secretary after four and a half years, due to over-work. Our thanks to her for doing such an excellent job. Now we need to find a replacement, preferably somebody willing to take on the job now and stay with it at least throughout 1982. It involves taking and typing up the minutes of BSFG committee meetings -- one a month. Anybody interested should mention it to Rog Peyton (or any committee member).

SOLIHULL SF GROUP meets on the second Friday of each month, from about 8pm at the Mason's Arms, High Street, Solihull.



"Just act nonchalant." Is anyone out there interested in floating a BSFG Film Unit, to make a film entirely written, produced, shot, edited, etc by Brum Group members? If so, please contact ALAN CASH with ideas, offers of help, and so on. Even if you have no desire to cavort before the cameras there are plenty of fascinating jobs behind the cameras, such as Key Grip (whatever that is). Please not that this appeal is not for the faintly interested or the I'll-see-if-it-gets-off-the-ground-first brigade. Film-making can be hard work, but it's so absorbing that you might well be on another planet (which sounds like the best excuse yet for the existence of SF films). Get in touch with Alan Cash : 28 Englestede Close, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham 20; tel: (021) 554-1175.

## CLASH of the TITANS

Paul Oldroyd reviews both the film and the book (by Alan Dean Foster, Futura £1.25, 223 pages)

First of all I must explain that I like the Greek myths. The original stories of wild and petulant gods throwing thunderbolts across the sky and flying with winged sandals were among my favourite childhood tales. But Charles H.Schneer has managed to direct a film about them that may well qualify as dud of the decade. You can't even laugh at the thing.

The story (of the film) is concerned with a rift between the gods. Zeus has seduced the daughter of the King of Argos, who produces a son, Perseus. The King is enraged, and casts them both adrift on the sea. Zeus is in turn miffed, so he summons up the Kraken and uses it to produce a tidal wave which destroys Argos. Thetis (a sea-nymph) bears a son, Calebos, whom she plans to marry to Andromeda, princess of Joppa. Perseus is meanwhile growing up on an island where he and his mother landed safely. Perseus is presented as all that is good, Calebos as all that is evil. Zeus points this out rather vividly to all concerned by changing Calebos into a slimy, mis-shapen creature. Thetis, deciding to have a final confrontation between Perseus and her son, dumps Perseus into an amphitheatre in Joppa. The rest of the story concerns two quests, one being Andromeda's hand in marriage and the other a way of preventing Andromeda from being sacrificed to the Kraken, mainly involving seeking out and killing the Gorgon.

Many of these facts have been altered from the Greek original, but, even worse, the powers that be decided that any contemporary fantasy film had to possess the stock ingredients of <u>Star Wars</u>. In other words, the good guys had to be genial middle-class <u>Americans</u> and the bad guys nasty, misshapen brutes, the heroine had to be a princess, and there had to be a cute <u>robot</u> in it! Furthermore, most of the acting is reminiscent of

Thunderbirds. 'Nuff said.

The film's saving grace is in its special effects, which are never less than reasonable and often very good, particularly the destruction of Argos and the juxtaposition of live action and stop-motion photography in the capture of Pegasus. Ray Harryhausen is one of the masters of such

techniques, and his work here will disappoint no-one.

Which brings us to the book by Alan Dean Foster. He was obviously onto a loser with the script. The description in it is virtually limited to having to remind readers of the special effects, which leaves very little scope for originality. One thing he can't be forgiven for, however, is the description of fish as "finny hordes". Purple prose is one thing, but finny hordes... The best that can be said about the book is that it is a competent rendering of the film. Which makes it almost impossible to read.



# STAN ELING

THE FIFTH IN A SERIES OF PROFILES
OF BSFG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Stan Eling is living proof that SF keeps you looking young. He was born in 1935 in Smethwick, and still lives there. All his adult life he's been a printer, having served an apprenticeship in it, and he works for a West

Midlands firm that prints newspapers.

It was in his teens that he was first lured away from reality by the wish-fulfilment promises of science fiction. At that age he remembers reading and enjoying Conan Doyle's The Lost World, some of the works of H.G.Wells, and Dan Dare. (He still possesses the front covers of those early Eagle comics, which he bought new from issue number one.) Nowadays he still reads H.G.Wells (being a member of the H.G.Wells Society), and he also like to keep up with the work of writers as diverse as Christopher Priest, Hal Clement and Lloyd Biggle.

Until 1971, Stan didn't realise that such an animal as SF fandom existed. In that year Peter Weston organised a Speculation conference in Birmingham, and although Stan couldn't attend that he did get to an exhibition of SF books which accompanied it, put his name and address in the visitors' book, then received a letter from Peter Weston saying that a Birmingham Science Fiction Group was being formed. Stan joined at once, attending the very

first meeting.

Very quickly he was dragged in to help organise things, because he was hard-working and very dependable. First it was Novacon, of which he has served on the committees of numbers 2,3,4,6,7,9 and 11 (being chairman of 6 and 7). He has also served on the BSFG committee, being treasurer in 1973-5 and Novacon representative in 1976-7 and this year. Additionally, he was on the committee of Skycon in 1978 as an adviser. He reckons that over the last ten years he's done fifteen years' work for fandom, and his great ambition is to retire from organising things so that he can just enjoy the events. At his own count he has attended 34 cons, including two at Ghent in Belgium.

Stan has always been interested in mathematics and mathematical puzzles, and he used to set such puzzles for this newsletter. His other hobbies are

Richard III (he's in that society, too) and Egyptology.

It's difficult to think of Stan without also thinking of his wife, Helen, who has helped out with a great many BSFG activities, particularly taking registrations for Novacons (which she's doing now for Novacon 11). To look at either of them you wouldn't believe they've got two grown-up children. While SF isn't guaranteed to keep everybody young it's certainly worked for both of them.

## Informal Meetings

There's an informal gathering on the first Tuesday of each month in THE OLD ROYAL pub, on the corner of Church Street and Cornwall Street, Birmingham 3, from about 8.00 pm. Come along and join us.

Peter Weston reviews the film

Eileen and I were very impressed with the first half of the film. Starring Sean Connery, it's a grimly realistic story set in a mining colony on Jupiter's moon, Io, a century or so from now. It seemed to me that here we had one of the closest ever film equivalents to a really good hard-SF story; no Kubrick-style surrealism, no Evil Telepathic Mutants, no Message for Mankind.

We see Connery as the law-enforcer, finding something smelly going on in the colony. And at the same time we see the unpleasant conditions, the matter-of-fact use of high technology, and the misfits and failures who work in this environment. This part of the film is done well, although we both agreed the nastiness of the place was rather overdone; no-one could stand all those bare steel walls and control panels in the living room ---neither would they be necessary, as witness the luxurious conditions of present-day North Sea platforms. As for the dormitory scene, well, the stink of body-odour is just one of many reasons why the layout would be unacceptable. But exaggeration is the nature of the film medium, and these quibbles are forgiveable. Where the film does disappoint is in the resolution; where for some entirely silly reason the producers have staged a re-run of High Noon. You can't convince me that two baddies with sawn-off shotguns would come a-lookin' for Connery, nor that he's able to trick them into shooting through the outer walls of the colony, with predictable results to themselves. I mean, these people have spent their lives

in space; they'd surely be a bit more <u>careful</u>!

So once again the dramatic promise is unfulfilled, though <u>Outland</u> comes closer than most to a truly "realistic" SF film. Only one scientific blooper, too, in the scene which shows prisoners in null-g conditions on the surface of Io. All right, maybe they have gravity control---yet still use rockets? And anyway, did you notice that blood was dripping <u>upwards</u>? Good try. Well worth seeing.

Dave Hardy reviews the book (by Alan Dean Foster, Sphere £1.50, 269 pp, with b & w illustrations)

"Now a Major Film" it states on the cover, as if the book came first. But inside we see "Based on the Screenplay by Peter Hyams". Now sometimes one can turn to the book for a deeper insight into some aspects of the film, but Foster's 'novel' is virtually scene-for-scene, word-for-word identical with the film version, with the sort of pacy style we have come to expect. Outland has been described as 'High Noon in space', and whilst it is set in a mine on Io (the characters being remarkably healthy considering they are deep inside Jupiter's radiation belts!) this is basically a cops-and-robbers (well, cop-and-drug-smuggler) action movie/book. Not SF, some might say, but I quite enjoyed it.

## BOOK REVIEWS

THE PALACE by Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, N.E.L. £1.50, 408 pages

Reviewed by Pauline E.Morgan.

This is the second of a four-volume series chronicling the adventures of vampire hero the Comte de St Germain, though it is set some 250 years earlier than volume one, <u>Hotel Transylvania</u>. The setting of <u>The Palace</u> is Florence at the time of the death of Laurenzo de Medici (the city's great benefactor) and the rise to power of the fanatical priest Savanarola. The action is less intense than in <u>Hotel Transylvania</u> because it covers a period of eight years. Tension is built up in encapsulated scenes, cleverly linked by letters to and from the principal characters. The effect is to give a sense of the passage of time without losing reader interest. An excellent novel, flawed only by its appallingly trashy cover.

PROJECT POPE by Clifford D.Simak, Sidgwick & Jackson £7.95, 313 pages
Reviewed by Margaret Thorpe.

Clifford Simak at his best is a very good writer, and this latest novel ranks with <u>City</u> as his best. Robots functioning without human guidance can give rise to many interesting situations, and in this case the role is also reversed, with robots controlling humans. Robots from Earth, unhappy at being denied the existence of souls, colonise a planet in order to build a Vatican of their own. They construct a computer pope which, by its very nature, is something more and less than they hope. Their continued anonymity and even their existence are threatened by aliens and by one of the human sensitives in a research programme, who thinks she has discovered Heaven——complete with golden staircase and angels. The story of how the robot cardinal Theodosius and his two human companions unravel the problems makes highly entertaining reading.

THE LEFT HAND OF DARKNESS by Ursula Le Guin, Macdonald £4.95, 256 pages and Granada £1.25, 205 pages Reviewed by Chris Morgan.

Not only did this novel win the Hugo and Nebula when it appeared in 1969, but it has probably won more praise from the critics than any other modern work of SF. At the same time as telling a good story about am Earth envoy's experiences on the alien (but not very alien) planet of Gethen, it succeeds in saying something important about interpersonal relationships (particularly sexual relationships and sex roles) and about cultural alienation. It's interesting that two completely separate British publishers should have the book in print at the same time. If you don't already have a copy of it I urge you to rush out and buy one, and you may find that, for a work of this high calibre, it's worth possessing a hardcover.

CITIES IN FLIGHT by James Blish, Arrow £2.50, 607 pages

Reviewed by Chris Morgan.

This is the first British one-volume edition of Blish's four "Okie" novels, which have achieved the status of classics of SF. They tell of large cities (such as New York) being powered by spindizzies---anti-gravity devices---which enable mankind to go off and explore the galaxy. Compared with other future history series, by Heinlein and Asimov, for example, Blish's stands up well to the test of time. It is deeply written, with historical, sociological and technological implications all well thought out. Of necessity the series is episodic (you can't cover two thousand years of history any other way) but good fun.

CITIZEN OF THE GALAXY by Robert A.Heinlein, Penguin £1.50, 263 pages Reviewed by Alan Cash.

This is another reprinted novel which Penguin used to market as a juvenile but have now upgraded. After an entertaining first half---a slave boy with an unknown past is adopted by a crippled beggar who is, in reality, a galactic secret agent---the story loses direction and drive. A fair read.

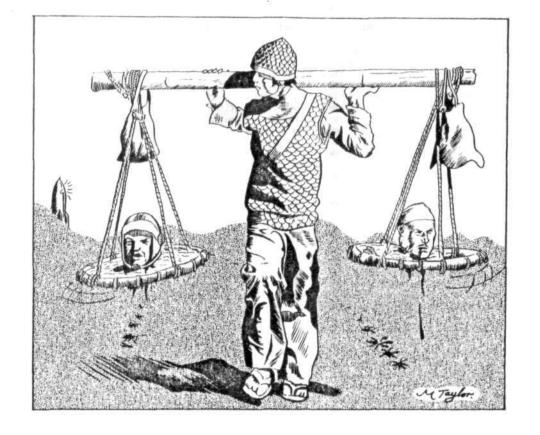
THE LAND LEVIATHAN by Michael Moorcock, Granada £1.25, 173 pages

Reviewed by Anne Gay.

Oswald Bastable strikes again. Well, picks a bit. If you want to find out what happened to the Warlord of the Air---nothing. First, Moorcock's (improbable) grandfather relates his inability to publish part 1; then Bastable describes What Happens When You Feed The Poor: War and the Black Attila. Sketchily journalistic with all the good ideas cowering in corners.

DIRECT ENCOUNTERS by Judith M.Gansberg & Alan L.Gansberg, Coronet £1.25, 191 pages Reviewed by Dave Hardy.

Basically this is a series of "contacts" with UFO occupants---of highly differing shapes and sizes, but all humanoid---often culminating in a flight, and apparently authenticated by hypnosis, lie-detectors, etc. For a sample of the science, try this: "Voyager 1's findings that there could be volcanic activity on Eos [sic; they meant Io], one of Jupiter's moons, indicate that the satellite could support life forms and add to speculation about other organisms on [also sic] our galaxy." One for real UFO buffs and psychologists, this.



EYES OF AMBER by Joan D. Vinge, Macdonald £5.95, Futura Orbit £1.75, 288pp Reviewed by Bob Vernon.

Ms Vinge is an ambitious writer, using her anthropological training and SF writing to raise some of the "basic questions of life and death", such as moral relativity, justice/punishment, reality/illusion, humanity, love and redemption. Thankfully the results are not as turgid as the intent. Most of the stories in this collection are written with a pace that carries you across their faults, and although her writing is not as limpid as she thinks, it is competent. Three stories involve aliens——more carefully realised than some of the humans——while another two concern alienated humans("View from a Height" and "Tin Soldier") and work well. "Media Man" inhabits the Heaven Belt and is the least successful (despite having a heroine called Fukinuki). Recommended, poised twixt Jayge Carr and Ursula Le Guin, and with the potential to become first rate as long as The Snow Queen's success doesn't spoil her.

THE VERY SLOW TIME MACHINE by Ian Watson, Granada £1.25, 222 pages
Reviewed by Dave Packwood.

Ian Watson is better known for his novels, so to see his work in short story format is somewhat disarming. This collection of 13 stories spans the years 1973-1978 and ranges from the surrealistic "My Soul Swims in a Goldfish Bowl" to the hard science of "The Event Horizon". Each story is extremely self-contained and brings to light a different facet of the author's capabilities. For instance, there is rampant lampoonery in "Programmed Love Story" and satirical racial comment in the apocalyptic "The Roentgen Refugees". Watson can often confuse and confound with his penchant for new technology and mystical ways of thought, but on the whole the collection is sufficiently diverse to please all tastes.

THE SHADOW OF THE TORTURER by Gene Wolfe, Arrow £1.60, 303 pages

Reviewed by Chris Morgan.

What we have here is the best novel of the year, no less! Which year? Well, of almost any year, actually. It's such an extraordinarily sensitive and subtle piece of writing that it shows up most SF for the shallow, juvenile-orientated rubbish that it is. Gene Wolfe has set his multi-layered tale in an ancient, slightly crumbling city on what seems to be far future Earth. There has been some regression of civilisation to perhaps a mediaeval or renaissance level, though elements of advanced technology remain. The setting and some curious events make the book as much fantasy as SF. The best thing about it all is the language: Wolfe has excelled himself in sustaining a writing style which is both archaic and beautiful. Despite the fact that this is volume one of four I found it marvellously satisfying, and I recommend it very highly.

DARK FORCES edited by Kirby McCauley, Futura £1.95, 551 pages

Reviewed by Chris Morgan.

This massive anthology of 23 original stories must be the bargain of the year in the horror/fantasy field. Not only does it contain new stories by many of the best known names in the business (Ray Brabury, Robert Bloch, Theodore Sturgeon, Clifford Simak, Gene Wolfe, Richard Matheson, etc) but it has an entire short novel by Stephen King. King's contribution is one of his best---a combination of SF and horror so gripping that you won't be able to put it down before the end. There are good stories from a lot of other authors, too. Recommended.

SHAKEHOLE by R.W.Mackleworth, Robert Hale £6.25, 208 pages

Reviewed by John Farr.

This tense, all-action thriller is set in a near future of such proximity to the present day as to be only marginally science fictional. In a Britain menaced by left-wing and right-wing terrorists there is a race against time by old friends and the authorities to find and free an important political figure who may be incarcerated in a Yorkshire pothole. There's plenty of excitement, and the long potholing sequence is convincingly handled. Not a stylish novel but quite enjoyable.

SIGHT OF PROTEUS by Charles Sheffield, Arrow £1.60, 282 pages

Reviewed by John Farr.

As a novelist, Charles Sheffield is a reasonable scientific journalist. In this, his first novel, he postulates a complex future world where people are enabled to choose almost any bodily shape they like, and it's the various physical and legal limits to shapes which give rise to the story---which is in the form of a detective thriller. The technical details are all convincing, though given at too great a length, but the writing style and characterisation are poor. The whole thing reads like an inferior imitation of Larry Niven.

HOTHOUSE by Brian Aldiss, Granada £1.25, 206 pages

Reviewed by Chris Morgan.

Here's a reprint of one of our joint honorary president's best works. This tale of tiny humans struggling to survive on a far future Earth (a dying Earth, a devolving Earth) originally appeared as separate stories and won a Hugo. After twenty years it's still fresh, exciting and meaningful.

## **Editorial Notes**

Many thanks to Locus, Ansible and all contributors: without you this news-letter could not exist. Art credits this issue: Ivor Latto (p.1), Kevin Clarke (p.2), Dave Hardy (p.4) and Mike Taylor (p.7). Next month's issue will contain reviews of Harry Harrison's Starworld, Gene Wolfe's The Claw of the Conciliator and Robert Silverberg's Lord Valentine's Castle, plus a report on Novacon 11. This issue has been edited & produced for the BSFG by Chris Morgan, 39 Hollybrow, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 4LX.

## At the Central Hotel, St Mary's St, Cardiff,

#### WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE WELSH ARTS COUNCIL

#### CYMRUCON NOVEMBER 14/15, 1981

## Information Sheet Two 9th September, 1981

- 1. Guest Speakers include:- LIONEL FANTHORPE (The World's Most Prolific SF and Fantasy Author), YE GERBISH, CHRIS MORGAN, BRIAN STABLEFORD, IAN WATSON, PETE LYON, URIEN WILLIAM & B.D.HARRIES.
- 2. Fancy Dress: All entrants should get in touch with Richard Downes at 56 Cefn-yr-Allt, Aberdulais, Neath, West Glamorgan, SA10 8HE, telephone: Neath 58338.
- 3. Debating and Discussion Groups: Suggestions for topics and volunteers wishing to speak should contact Richard Downes at the above address.
- 4. Art Exhibition: Several interesting pictures have already come in some offered for sale and some for display only further entries will be very welcome. Artists should contact: John Sinclair, 416 Green Way, Rumney, Cardiff, telephone (0222) 796949.
- 5. Model Exhibition: This is being run on similar lines to the art show. Steve Purbrick is in charge. Model makers should contact Steve direct at 23 Rectory Road, Canton, Cardiff, telephone (0222) 33286.
- 6. Video Games/Cassettes: Mike King, Hotel Manager, The Central Hotel, St. Mary's Street, Cardiff, has organised a selection of video games to be available throughout the Convention. Any members with particular requests for favourites are invited to contact Mike at the Hotel, telephone 396455. He will then ask the suppliers if your favourite machine can be included.
- 7. We now have a non-stop, 35 (YES! THIRTY-FIVE!) hour SF and Fantasy/Horror film programme lined up. This probably represents the best value in terms of films offered at any Convention. Titles include:- Eight StarTrek Episodes, Star Trek the Motion Picture, Barbarella, Invaders from Mars, The Lost World (1924 Silent Version), King Kong (W.O'Brien's Original Version), Mighty Joe Young, Quatermass, Quatermass 2, Quatermass and the Pit, X the Unknown, Night of the Living Dead, Battlestar Galactica, Buck Rogers, Dark Star, Silent Running, Texas Chainsaw Massacre, Rosemary's Baby, Dracula Prince of Darkness, Scars of Dracula, Plague of the Zombies, The Star Wars Saga, Superman the Movie, Tribute to Gerry Anderson, and many more! (Some of the above will be shown in abridged versions.) We are also negotiating for additional video films.
- 8. Saturday night disco: SHACKSOUNDS 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday. The disco will follow the Fancy Dress Parade and Competition and it's hoped that the fancy dress competitors will dance in costume!
- 9. Ken and Sherry Ward of the Norwich Science Fiction Society "BREAKAWAY" are bringing their really superb "FANTASY WORKSHOP" show. Their costumes have featured at World and National Conventions, and their models are top professional quality.

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- 10. Mike Tilley is bringing his Hammer Horror Show a selection of the spectacular special effects that made Hammer synonymous with effective cinema horror for so many years.
- 11. Mike Parry Organiser of the highly successful STAR ONE Blake's Seven Conventions is bringing most of his LS.T.R.A. Team, with models, displays and costumes.
- 12. Mike and Kathy Westhead, members of the Committee who organised BECCON at Basildon earlier this year this was a really great Convention are coming along with other members of the BECCON team to organise the SF/Fantasy Games and Charades.
- 13. George Wootton and Lionel Fanthorpe, who are both 2nd Dan Judo Instructors with NSJL. are arranging some SF/Fantasy Fight Simulations.
- 14. The British Amateur Electronics Club [BAEC] will be running a separate BAEC Exhibition in a room adjacent to CYMRUCON. Attending membership of Cymrucon entitles members to visit the BAEC Exhibition FREE, and to participate in the electronic games and experiments FREE. Further details from the BAEC Chairman: Mr C.Bogod, 26 Forrest Road, Penarth, Cardiff, S.Glamorgan, telephone: Penarth 707813.
- 15. Especially for Welsh Language Speakers:Bydd URIEN WILLIAM a B.D.HARRIES yn trafod Ffuglen wyddonias a dychymyg
  mewn llenythiaeth Gymraeg. GYDA CHYMORTH CYNGOR CELFYDDYDAU CYMRU.
  Two addresses will be given in the Welsh Language on Sunday morning at 11 a.m.
  Mr William and Mr Harries will talk about Fantasy and Science Fiction in Welsh
  Literature. English language summaries of their talks will be available for non-Welsh
  speakers. Special tickets will be available for Welsh language enthusiasts who
  wish to attend these two talks only. These tickets will cost 50p, and will be
  available in advance from 129 City Roac, Cardiff, telephone (0222) 498368 or
  at the door on the day.
- 16. Writers' Workshop: as part of the Alternative Programme there will be a writers' workshop for those interested in the techniques of writing SF and Fantasy. Sessions will be led by Ian Watson, Brian Stableford and Lionel Fanthorpe. The Workshop is being organised by: Tony Donovan, 29 Llanbleddian Gardens, Cardiff, telephone (0222) 372490 [Home] or (0222) 43474 [Work]. Those interested in taking part should contact Tony in advance or at Cymrucon.
- 17. Book and Badge Sales: Dealers' Tables are available at £10 per table which includes I full membership per table. We are already being well supported by dealers, but there are one or two tables still available. This will be an excellent bookroom from a collector's point of view. Ian Watson's new anthology PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION will be on sale, and both Ian and Pete Lyon, the illustrator, will be on hand for autographs, as will several of the writers whose stories are in the anthology. Helen McNabb will be in charge of the Book Room during the Convention. Advance bookings from dealers should be sent to 129 City Road, Cardiff, telephone (0222) 498368.
- 18. Saben and James, lightning Artists, will be in attendance at Cymrucon so that members can have their portraits and/or cartoons drawn, in fancy dress or alongside a guest speaker.

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### ACCOMMODATION AND CATERING

Venue: THE CENTRAL HOTEL, St Mary's Street, Cardiff. Telephone: (0222) 396455 The Hotel is adjacent to Cardiff Central Railway Station.

Rates: Single £13.50 per night including V.A.T. and Full English Breakfast Double £20 per night including V.A.T. and Full English Breakfast.

Members of the Convention are responsible for their own accounts.

Please make your booking direct with the Hotel Manager: Mr M.J.F.King.

#### Food

The Hotel Management, who are very helpful and co-operative, are arranging for economically priced snacks and basket meals, fish and chips, etc., to be available for members during normal hotel meal times.

#### Bar

There will be a 24 hour private bar available to members.

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### Organising Committee

- 1. Lionel Fanthorpe, Executive President, 129 City Road, Roath, Cardiff, CF2 3BP. Telephone: (0222) 498368.
- 2. Patricia Fanthorpe, Programme/Order of Events/Allocation of Areas, address above.
- 3. Naveed Khan, Chairman, Room 16, Traherne Hall, Llwyn-y-Grant Rd., Penylan, Cardiff, CF3 7UX.
- 4. Tony Donovan, Writers' Workshop, 29 Llanbleddian Gardens, Cathays, Cardiff. Telephone: (0222) 372490 [Home], (0222) 43474 [Work].
- 5. Tony McCarthy, Films, 28 Claude Road, Cardiff. Telephone: (0222) 493590.
- 6. Richard Downes, Debates and Fancy Dress, 56 Cefn-yr-Allt, Aberdulais, Neath, West Glamorgan, SA10 8HE. Telephone: Neath 58338.
- 7. John Sinclair, Art Exhibition, 416 Greenway, Rumney, Cardiff. Telephone: (0222) 796949.
- 8. Steve Purbrick, Model Exhibition, 23 Rectory Road, Canton, Cardiff. Telephone: (0222) 33286.
- 9. Mike McNabb, Chief Gopher, 47 Harding Close, Boverton, Llantwit Major. Telephone: Llantwit Major 4282.
- 10. Helen McNabb, Book Room, address as above.
- 11. Mike and Cathy Westhead, Panel Games/SF Charades, 191 The Heights, Northolt, Middlesex, UB5 4BU.
- 12. George Wootton, 2nd Dan N.S.J.L., Security, 102 Ryder Street, Cardiff.

## Information Sheet Two/ 9.9.81/ Page 4

## Registrations as at 9.9.81

registrations as at 9.9.81		
1 Mike Ashley G		
2 Lionel Fanthorpe G		
3 Chris Morgan G		
4 Brian Stableford G 5 Ian Watson G		
6 Ye Gerbish F		
7 Mike Westhead (Games)		
8 Cathy Westhead F		
9 Roger Perkins F		
10 Tony McCarthy (Films)	· /n	
11 Richard Downes (Fancy I	Dress/De	ebates)
12 John Sinclair (Art)		
13 Steve Purbrick (Models)		
14 Peter Tyers F		
15 Jessica Brennan S		
16 Stephen Coffin F		
17 Peter Watts F		
18 Dave Bath F		
19 David Denis F		
20 Simon Rudyk S		
21 Barbara Rudyk S		
22 Dave Jones F		
23 David Bevan F		
24 LDavis S		
25 Sergio Masci F		
26 Darren White F		
27 R.Mortimore S		
28 Peter Hughes F		
29 Miss S.Hollingdrake S		
30 Roger Campbell F		
31 David Clough (Film Staff	f)	
32 Steve Fyles (Film Staff)		
33 A.N.Other (Film Staff)		
34 Pauline Morgan F		
35 Linda Thomas F		
36 Afan Ab Alun F		
37 P. Howard Roche F		
38 Andrew P. Wallum F		
39 David Redd S		
40 Chris Davenport F		
41 Andy Holyor F		STO
42 Andrew Whitfield F		210
43 John Porter F		up
44 Laurence Taylor F		Section 25
45 Susan Taylor F		
46 Steve Davies F		
47 John Stewart S		
48 Simon Beresford F		
49 Hugh P. Mascetti F		

50 Dave Ellis S

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51 David G. Gibson F
52 Martin Walters F
53 Mark Craske F
54 John Carter S
55 Pete Lyon (Art)
56 Patricia Fanthorpe (Admin.)
57 Stephanie Fanthorpe F
58 Fiona Fanthorpe F
59 Andrew Jones F
60 Neil Burgess F
61 Bill via Tony McCarthy F
62 Forever People F
63
64
65 B.D.Harries (Welsh Speaker)
66 Urien William (Welsh Speaker)
67 Mike King (Central Hotel)
68 Patricia King (Central Hotel)
69 Nichclas King (Central Hotel)
70 Louise King (Central Hotel)
71 Saben and James (Lightning Artists)
72 Ken Ward (Fantasy Workshop)
73 Sherry Ward F
74 David Ward F
75 Robert Stubbs F
76 Dee Fullerton F
77 George Wootton (Security/Fight Scenes)
78 Laurie Gee F
79 Joan Gee F
80 Mike Parry (I.S.T.R.A. Organiser)
81 C.Bogod (BAEC Chairman)
82 Mike McNabb (Chief Gopher)
83 Helen McNabb (Book Room)
84 Tony Donovan (Secretary/Writers' Workshop)
85 Naveed Khan (Chairman)
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STOP PRESS: Membership is now up to 120 and still growing!!