



REDEMPTION '07

23 – 25 February 2007

Hinckley Island Hotel, Hinckley, Leics

The Multimedia Science Fiction Convention



PROGRAMME BOOK

www.smof.com/redemption/

And so it begins

Welcome to Redemption '07, a non-profit-making convention with any money left over split between two charities – Asthma UK and the Woodland Trust. This booklet is here to show you where everything is and let you know what's on and when. With any event of this nature, there will always be last-minute changes to the programme, so make sure you check notice boards in the Rotunda regularly.

Who's who

Judith Proctor

Convention chair Judith will be handling hotel liaison.

Steve Rogerson

Steve is in charge of the programme and looks after convention publicity. He will also be dealing with members of the press and sorting out last-minute programme changes.

Eddie Cochrane

Eddie will be in charge of Ops, the con control centre.

Steve Kilbane

Steve will be running the wall games and hall costuming, and is in charge of publications and timeline.

David and Lesley McIntee

David and Lesley handle membership and will be sorting out any last minute problems. They also look after the money.

James & Lisa Harrington

James and Lisa will be looking after our guests.

Kelvin Proctor

Kelvin is in charge of tech.

Chris O'Shea

Chris is our MC and general committee member.

Bits of information

- Our head steward for the weekend is Colin Milnes. If you've volunteered to be a steward, then contact him and turn up at the stewards meetings at 7.30pm on Friday or 10.30am on Saturday in Hanson.
- Smoking is not allowed anywhere in the hotel except in bedrooms specifically allocated as smoking rooms. If you must smoke, then you will have to brave the cold outside.
- Please do not eat food in any of the function rooms. You can drink in all of them apart from the video room (5). Only dealers can eat or drink in the dealers room.
- Please make sure mobile phones and pagers are turned off during programme items. And if you have one of those annoying little watches that goes bleep every hour, throw it away.
- If you want to decorate the door of your hotel room, please feel free, unless your room is on the executive corridor (if you are not sure, please ask). But don't use anything that can damage the surface of the door. Masking tape and blu-tak are generally OK. There will be a prize for the best decorated door.
- Most committee members have agreed to wear fancy dress for at least part of the convention. This little note is here as a reminder should any of them later claim to have forgotten.

Eating and drinking at the hotel

Hotdogs, wraps and baguettes are available in the Rotunda from 11am until 4.30pm and all apart from hotdogs in the bar from 4.30pm until close (£3.50 per item). There will be a bowl of salad for you to add lettuce, tomato etc to your baguettes in the Rotunda, but not the bar.

Jacket potatoes are available in the Rotunda from 12 noon until 2.30pm (£3.50 per item, plus cost of filling). Flavours may include cheese, coleslaw, chilli, baked beans and garlic mushrooms, but not all fillings are guaranteed to be available all the time.

The Piazza Bar is serving the All Day menu, and there may be lunch available in the brasserie, depending on how many mundanes are in the hotel. These are at normal hotel prices.

A budget evening meal is available in the brasserie from 5.30 until 7.30pm for £7.50. Children's meals are half price. There is a range of options, including a vegetarian meal. After 7.30pm the brasserie will serve the normal carvery and menu options. To save queuing, you will be able to buy a ticket for the budget meal in advance from the lunch counter.

The room service menu is available but there is no reduction in the prices.

The coffee menu in the hotel foyer is available at normal hotel prices. But tea, coffee and hot chocolate, for £1.20 each, are available in the Rotunda from 10am until 4.30pm and in the Triumph bar until it closes at about 2am.

The tea and coffee stands will have soya milk. Please ask if you don't see it.

There is a 'Sweet Stuff' stall in the

Rotunda daily serving doughnuts, flapjacks, crisps and chocolate bars.

Water coolers are in all function rooms, apart from the video room.

Breakfast, which is included in the price of your room, runs from 7am until 10am on Friday, Saturday and Monday and until 11am on Sunday.

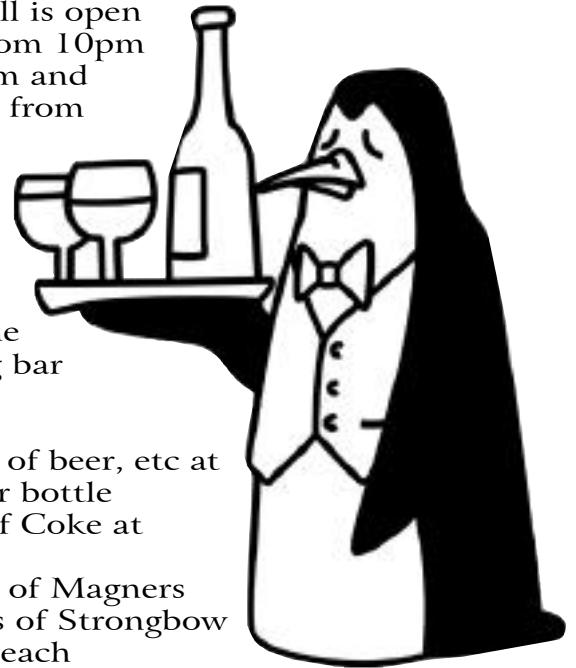
Bar opening times

The Triumph bar (it was called the Snooty Fox last time) is open from 11am until close (around 2am). This is a public bar, so there may be mundanes in there too.

The bar in the Main Hall is open Friday from 10pm to 1.30am and Saturday from 10pm until 2am.

We have agreed the following bar prices:

- Bottles of beer, etc at £2.50 per bottle
- Pints of Coke at £2.00
- Bottles of Magners and pints of Strongbow at £2.50 each



Cash machines

The hotel no longer has a cash machine, as you may have discovered by now, so if you need money, you will have to go into town. Somerfields near the station has all the usual ones.

Wireless internet

There is free wireless internet access in various places on the ground floor, including the Piazza Bar and reception. We have also managed to get it in the dealers room and the Rotunda.

Lift to the station

We will be running a bus to Hinckley station on Monday morning. You will be able to sign up for it on the flip chart in the foyer from 12 noon on Sunday. If you are going at a different time, you can order a taxi from hotel reception.

Groats

Stewards and other convention staff can claim groats which are worth £1 and can be used to purchase food and drink at the bar, coffee bar and food outlets.

Beyond the rim

For those who want to explore other food outlets, the committee was around and about in Hinckley in November and came up with this small selection. Things may have changed by now, so ring up first to check. Some of these do deliveries, but please note the hotel does not allow you to have food from outside delivered.

- Bamboo Garden Chinese Restaurant, George Street. Closed on Mondays but open from 5.30pm to 11.30pm every other day. Tel: 01455 615424
- Millennium Balti, 47 Derby Road. Indian restaurant open from 5.30pm till 11.30pm Sunday to Thursday and till 1am Friday and Saturday. 01455 250788/251900.
- Ponchinello's Pizza and Pasta takeaway. 39 Regent Street, 01455 636261. This is closed Mondays and Tuesdays and open 5-11pm on all other days. It has a web site at: www.ponchinellos.com
- Corner Cafe, 2 Coventry Road. Basic greasy spoon cafe open from 6am to 4pm seven days a week. Mind your head if you use the toilets upstairs. 01455 611422.
- Barnacles Restaurant, Watling Street, specialising in fish and seafood. This is almost directly opposite the hotel with a farm food shop and farm nurseries. Opening times for the restaurant are Monday to Friday noon to 2pm and 6.30 to 9pm and Saturday 6.30 to 9pm. It is closed on Sundays. Telephone 01455 633220. It too has a web site at:

www.barnaclesrestaurant.co.uk

- New Plough Inn, 24 Leicester Road (opposite the fire station). This is the only pub in Hinckley in the 2007 Good Beer Guide. 01455 615037.
- Baron of Hinckley (Wetherspoons pub), 5-7 Regent Street. Reasonably priced food and real ale. Open till midnight (1am on Friday and Saturday). 01455 890169.
- Railway Hotel, Station Road. A Marstons pub that is handy if you have a long wait at the station. 01455 615285.
- Next door to Hinckley Railway Station is Somerfield's supermarket, open from 8am to 10pm on Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm on Saturdays and 10am to 4pm on Sundays. It has all the usual cash machines. www.somerfield.co.uk
- There is a Harvesters pub and restaurant five minutes walk from the hotel. Follow the footpath as far as the M69 and then follow the grass verge. The hotel is on Watling Street (A5), and the pub is on the continuation of Watling Street on the other side of the roundabout. But take care.

Hall Costume Day

Saturday is Hall Costume Day. In your convention pack there will be three Hall Costume tokens. On Saturday, if you see a costume you like, just give the wearer one, two or three of your tokens; but don't give them all away at once because some costumes don't appear until later in the day. There will be a prize for the costumer who collects the most (hand them to Steve Kilbane or Ops). This is not for costumes that will be in the masquerade.

Playing with Lego

On Saturday, David Mackenzie will be setting up a Lego display in the Dealers Room depicting The Prisoner village, and on Sunday at 1pm he will run a workshop explaining how to build Lego models.

Drazi War Game

Winners in all games and some runners-up will get Drazi War vouchers. Hand these in to your team leader (if you have a green badge the leader will have a green sash, purple badge purple sash). Running totals will be displayed on the noticeboards. If you do any other creative fannish activity over the weekend that you think is deserving of Drazi points, then convince Steve Rogerson and he may give you some.

Hotel Leisure Club

Members staying at the hotel can use the hotel's leisure facilities including fitness room with CV and resistance equipment, steam room, sauna, solarium and heated swimming pool. There is also a wide selection of beauty treatments available.

Eclectic 21

Eclectic 21 started as a stand-alone convention in Leicester in 2001 and since then has been running as a convention stream at other conventions. The fit with what they were doing and what we do was so close that we invited them to run a stream at Redemption 05, which they did and it proved very successful. As such, we have invited them back for Redemption 07, and they have produced a fun stream once again.

They will be based in Room 12 and have three competitions that will run all weekend. First, you can build a fanfic story by finding snippets scattered over the hotel walls. There is a caption competition. And a guess the stills competition. All three can win you prizes and Drazi points.

But the fun does not end there. From Friday at 6pm when you can play Bingo Torchwood style to a debate on Sunday on the Knights Templar, the E21 team have pulled out the stops once again.

And you will be able to enjoy more E21 fun next year as they will be running a stream at Orbital.

See the leaflet in your con pack for more information.

My Science Fiction Life

My Science Fiction Life was produced by BBC4 in conjunction with the BBC forum of the same name and will be shown in the video room at 1pm on Sunday.

People were invited to say how science fiction had changed their lives. It features various aspects of science fiction from technology that has become reality to the study of cybernetics and features an enthusiast who connected his neural system to a computer interface. It also features an architect who designs futuristic buildings. Fans featured range from a vicar who uses Star Trek and Star Wars in his sermons to Starbase 410 founder Ann Thomas better known as Kickass contender for Ruler of the Universe. It was a very interesting programme that did not portray fans as sad geeks but people to whom science fiction has made a real impact on their lives.

Bring 'n' Buy

If you have any spare merchandise to sell, you can take it to the Bring 'n' Buy sale in the Rotunda at 2.30pm on Saturday

Children's activity room

If you are fed up with the talking and want something to do, come along to the space camp room (room seven).

The room, which will be open from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon, will contain the equipment and ideas for puzzles, drawing and making models including a simple dalek.

The scissors, paper, pens etc will all be provided. If you have any ideas of your own you wish to share, please bring them.

The room will not be supervised so you will be responsible for your own children.

If you need first aid, Robert Walker, Cub scout leader, 34th Meadvale, Surrey, will also be carrying a first aid kit.



Yes, there IS an Eastercon for 2007!

The Eastercon is a well-attended and popular annual convention celebrating the best in science fiction and 2007 marks the 70th anniversary of what is considered to be the first science fiction convention held in Leeds in 1937. This year's convention is at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chester.

Many of the Redemption team are involved in organising Contemplation as well as next year's Eastercon, Orbital 2008, so once you've had a good time at Redemption (and you will!), Contemplation offers another great excuse to meet up with friends old and new for a weekend of fannish fun, and it happens a whole year earlier than Orbital!

The programme will have a mix of media, literary and fun programme items including games, literary and science items, paper doll masquerade and a whole lot more! There's a draft programme on the web site, but it's not too late for new ideas to be included, so send in suggestions and/or volunteer.

Memberships for Contemplation are available NOW!

You can join here at Redemption or online,
Online membership, registration and more information at
<http://contemplation.conventions.org.uk>

"Eastercon" is the registered trademark for Eastercon, an unincorporated society.

The playing of games

The games room is on the first floor of the Rotunda. It will be open during the day for most of the convention. The games will be overseen by The Conspirators, an experienced game-playing team who will be on hand to explain the rules and help you play.

Friday

On Friday at 6pm in Room 12 you can enjoy a game of Torchwood Bingo, and the Teledu Challenge is in Westminster at 11pm. At 10pm, John and Rita will be leading a game of Werewolves in the Piazza Bar, and may be doing that every night knowing them.

At the opening ceremony there will be a fun mixer game followed by the pub quiz, both in the Main Hall.

The E21 crew will be challenging you to a Blake's 7 drinking game at 11pm and at midnight Eddie will be playing charades.

Those of you who who want to play the spy game over the weekend should join David and Jon in the Rotunda at 11pm.

Saturday

In the Rotunda will be the Babylon XI versus Blake's XI cricket game played with Spinner Cricket. This will start at 11am on Saturday and Sunday (weather and pitch inspection permitting).

The Edgewalkers RPG will be in the Rotunda at 10am. You can hunt for tribbles with Debbie from noon in the Rotunda.

And there will be lots of games in the

Zocalo on Saturday afternoon.

A TV quiz takes place in Room 12 at 11am, and at 6pm Rob Hayward will start the Babylon 5 Wars game Spoo(ks). Rob describes it thus:

Following the destruction of the Spoo mine in February two years ago, the price of Spoo has shot through the roof. This led to an increase in attacks by raiders on the Spoo shipping lanes. Prime Minister Londo Mollari promised that every convoy would be protected by a warship but this has not always been sufficient to ward off the raiders.

He has charged the fifth Minister of Indulgence (MI5) with getting the next convoy of prime spoo through at all costs. However a certain nefarious captain has learned of its timetable and is planning a little surprise.

Also at 6pm in Hanson there will be the Weakest Geek quiz. The Rotunda will be used at 10pm to host a casino.

Sunday

The cricket will continue in the Rotunda at 11am and there will be an Alien Egg Hunt in the Rotunda at noon. Also at noon in Hanson will be the return of the popular music quiz.

All weekend

There will of course be the usual wall games (watch the walls), and there are a few other goodies in Room 12.

Orbital '08 booking

For those who don't want to wait two years until the next Redemption, the Redemption team has been selected to run Orbital, the 2008 British Science Fiction Convention, also known as Eastercon as it is held annually at Easter.

It will be held from 21 to 24 March 2008 at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel at Heathrow, London. More information is on the web at www.orbital2008.org.

You can help us come up with programme ideas for Orbital at 3pm on Saturday in Room 11 and you can find out more about it from the table in the Rotunda.

As with Redemption, there is an early bird discount valid until 14 April.

Redemption '09 booking

Yes – we're going to do it all over again! Redemption '09 will be held from 20 to 22 February 2009, here at the Hinckley Island Hotel in Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Early bookings are good for committee morale and give us the money to be able to pay early expenses such as the hotel deposit. Our way of saying thank you for this help is to give a discount to people who book early. This price will be valid until 20 April when there will be the first of a number of rises.

You can register for Redemption '09 from 12.30 to 2pm at the registration desk in the Rotunda on Saturday and 12.30 to 2.30pm Sunday and after the closing ceremony for an hour on Sunday.

Friday 2pm to 6pm

	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm	5-6pm
Westminster	Dr Who companions: Pets or friends? Ruth Beckett, Douglas Spencer and Gina Dungworth	Radio, films and TV: Working for different media Scott Fredericks and James Swallow	Good and bad short run shows Eddie Cochrane, Jane Killick and Dave Lally	Buffy, Roswell, Smallville – why are the best shows teen shows? Rita D'Gaspo, Fifitrix and Kathy Sands
Room 11		How to run a panel Iain Coleman and Steve Kilbane		Books, 1: Leave your sword at the door Steve Kilbane and Nickey Barnard
Hanson			Ceilidh workshop Amelia Luzzi and Judith Proctor	
Rotunda		Door decorating workshop Lisa Harrington		
Video room (Room 5)	Star Maidens Ep 3: Nightmare Cannon (with Gareth Thomas) PG	Life on Mars Episode one 15	Buffy the Vampire Slayer S6 Ep7: Once More With Feeling 15	Star Trek: Voyager Ep 4.25: One (based on an idea by James Swallow) PG

Registration

The registration desk will open in the hotel foyer at about 12 noon, but if you arrive earlier than that you can register in Ops in Room 8.

Opening panels

The Doctor has had numerous companions over the years, but what does he really think about them? This will be followed by guests of honour Scott Fredericks and James Swallow talking about working for different media.

Book Thread

The first of three panels looking at the world of SF&F books. Today's panel examines whether fantasy is more than just swords and sorcery.

Short-run shows

Many shows do not last, some are good, some are bad. This panel looks at why they stopped and whether some of them deserved it. Or should all shows be given a fair run?

Decorate and dance

Two workshops help you learn how to decorate your door and dance in a ceilidh.

Dealers room

The dealers room will be open from 2pm to 6pm today selling everything from official merchandise to fan-produced zines.

How to run a panel

So, you are down as a panellist for the first time. Here are some tips on what to do.

Video programme

The video programme kicks off with the cult classic Star Maidens starring Gareth Thomas. If you are one of the unlucky people not to have seen Life on Mars, we will be showing the opening episode. This will be followed by one of the best Buffy episodes to get you in the mood for the panel immediately afterwards on teen shows. And finally, in this first session, you can see one of the Voyager episodes based on a story by guest of honour James Swallow.

Friday 6pm to 10pm

	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm
Main			Opening ceremony including mixer games	Pub quiz hosted by Douglas Spencer
Westminster	Red alert: How to fight a space battle Misha Surma, David McIntee, Ian Sewell and Tim Atkinson	Monologue Workshop Alison Page		
Room 11	Survivors: How do you cope when it all goes wrong? Iain Coleman and Jo Toomey	If you could spoof an SF show, which one? Sue Griffiths, Heather Turnbull and Ken Ludden		
Room 12	Live Torchwood Bingo E21	Forensics in fact and fiction Christine Davidson and John Wilson		Torchwood: Is Jack carrying a torch for the Doctor or just a hand? Jane Carnall, Mark Sinclair and Smitty
Hanson	Make a fanzine in a weekend: Introduction Emma Peel	First-timers meeting to 7.30pm Stewards meeting 7.30-8pm		
Video room (Room 5)	Babylon 5 What ever happened to Mr Garibaldi? PG	Blake's 7 Weapon (with Scott Fredericks) PG	Torchwood Everything Changes 15	Survivors Law and Order PG

Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony provides a chance to meet the committee and, more importantly, the guests of honour – Scott Fredericks and James Swallow. There will also be some fun and games.

Pub quiz

The traditional Friday night convention pub quiz will have a mix of general science fiction questions. Everyone will be in large teams so you can enjoy yourself even if you do not know much. The question master will be Douglas Spencer.

Workshops

Nothing planned for the cabaret? Your chance to prepare a monologue. In another workshop, we will start the process of producing a fanzine by the end of the weekend.

Virgins and stewards

If you've never been to a convention before and want to know what to expect and what to do, turn up in Hanson Room at 7pm for a quick guide from Chris O'Shea. If you have volunteered to be a steward, don't forget the stewards meeting at 7.30pm in Hanson Room.

Torchwood

Torchwood fans can play bingo, watch the first episode and debate the relationship between Jack and the Doctor.

Other panels and vids

Lots of stuff from fighting space battles, surviving when it all goes wrong, spoofing SF shows and examining forensics. Also on show are the Scott Fredericks episode of Blake's 7 and episodes from Babylon 5 and Survivors.

Friday 10pm to 2am

10-11pm

11pm-12

12-1am

1-2am

Main	Ceilidh with the Cracker Jocks (till 1am)			
Westminster	Design a runabout spaceship: Session 1: Technology Brian Parsons and Mark Sinclair	The Teledu Challenge Chris Tregenza		
Room 11	The rise and fall of Babylon 5 fandom Eddie Cochrane, Sue Griffiths, Kin-Ming Looi and Duncan Spence	If aliens exist, where are they? Ian Sewell, Heather Turnbull and Ruth Beckett		
Piazza Bar/ Rotunda	Piazza Bar Werewolves of Hinckley Gaspode and Rita d'Gaspede	Rotunda Spy game briefing David Brain and Jon Crew	Rotunda Charades Eddie Cochrane	
Room 12	Campaign for real elves Lesley McIntee, David McIntee and Becky Duty	Blake's 7 Drinking Game E21		
Hanson	Filking Organised by Smitty			
Video room (Room 5)	Star Cops Ep 1: An Instinct for Murder (with Chris Boucher commentary) PG	Film: Dark Star (until 12.30am) PG	12.30: Film: Abducted by Daleks 18	

Ceilidh and filking

The ceilidh will aim to tire you all out by about 1am or you could enjoy your music less energetically in the filking session.

The Teledu Challenge

Have you got what it takes to be a Teledude and gain the coveted Golden Teledu? Fun games and challenges for everyone.

Fun and games

The Gaspodes will organise a game of Werewolves, which will probably be the first of three sessions this weekend. There is a Blake's 7 drinking game to enjoy, Eddie will test your communications skills with cha-

rades and there will be the briefing for those who want to play the weekend's spy game.

Panels and workshops

The first of two sessions to design a runabout spaceship for the SF fans and the campaign for real elves for the fantasy fans. Also, what has happened to B5 fandom and where are all the aliens we hear so much about?

Video programme

The only way to watch the first episode of Star Cops is with Chris Boucher's commentary turned on. We don't have Dan O'Bannon this weekend but we do have Dark Star. And strictly adults only for the controversial Abducted by Daleks.

Saturday 10am to 2pm

	10-11am	11am-12	12-1pm	1-2pm
Main	Physics mistakes in science fiction Mark Sinclair	Room 101 Scott Fredericks, Ben Jeapes and Steve Kilbane	Wormhole physics 101 Nik Whitehead	Legitimacy of political power in Tolkien's universe Ruth Saunders
Westminster	Morning dance class Kellie Takenaka	American Tribal Style bellydance workshop Kat Woods	Guns, gadgets and Kung Fu David & Lesley McIntee	
Room 11	What would Blake's 7 be like not set in space? Jane Carnall, Ruth Saunders and Ben Jeapes	Props for military SF Nigel Furlong and Gary Stratmann	Dr Who: The Invasion of the fangirl Snowgrouse, Calapine and Loretta Merry	
Room 17	Chaos costuming Fifitrix and Ken Ludden			
Rotunda	Edgewalkers RPG Tom Hallam	Blake's XI v Babylon XI cricket game, 1st innings (subject to pitch inspection) Scorer: Harriet Monkhouse (ground floor)	Great tribble hunt Deborah Collard	Redemption '09 Registration Desk Open from 12.30pm to 2pm
Room 12	Breakfast with E21	Ultimate interactive TV quiz E21	How should writers deal with the age of consent? Judith Proctor, Rita d'Gaspede, Misha Surma and Leo Sands	Tentacle sex John Wilson, Serena Culfeather and Gina Dungworth (Adults only)
Hanson	First-timers meeting to 10.30am Stewards meeting 10.30-11am	Monologue Workshop Rehearsal Alison Page		Fanfic writers workshop Sue Griffiths
Room 18	Women as heroes Becky Duty, Jem Ward and Ruth Beckett	Design a runabout spaceship: Session 2: Design Brian Parsons and Mark Sinclair	Narnia: Film vs Books Jane Carnall, Ben Jeapes, Smurf and Pen Robinson	Roleplaying: It's more than D&D Becky Duty, Tom Hallam, Rita D'Gaspede and Pete Westhead
Video room (Room 5)	Film: Tideland Directed by Terry Gilliam 15		Film: Ginger Snaps 18	

Chaos costuming

Want to enter the fancy dress, but have no costume? Well, come along and let Fifitrix and Ken Ludden show you how to run something up. This will end at 1pm sharp.

Video programme

Morning film watchers can enjoy last year's surreal Terry Gilliam masterpiece Tideland and the quirky werewolves horror movie Ginger Snaps.

Guns, gadgets and Kung Fu

A workshop comparing how films such as the James Bond movies deal with martial arts and weapons, how real cops do it and how it would be taught in a martial arts class.

Talks

We have three main talks in today's session. Mark Sinclair will look at physics mistakes in science fiction, Nik Whitehead will give a beginners' guide to wormhole physics and Ruth Saunders will discuss political power in Tolkien's universe.

Dancing

Just the thing to wake you up and prepare you for a busy convention ahead. Head for Westminster and flex those muscles for a morning dance class. This will be followed by a workshop on American Tribal Style belly-dancing.

TV panels

Blake's 7 and Dr Who get put under our panellists' spotlight as we ask what B7 would be like not set in space and where have all the fangirls come from in Dr Who, once a show dominated by male fans

Fun and games

The Edgewalkers RPG will kick off the morning followed by the traditional Blake's XI v Babylon XI cricket game and the popular Great Tribble Hunt; Debbie says she has 400 tribbles for people to find this year. And you can test your TV knowledge with an interactive quiz.

Age of consent

Harry Potter fanfiction has brought to the fore the question of age of consent and how writers should handle this tricky and potentially controversial subject. The panel will offer advice to writers.

Redemption '09

The registration desk for Redemption '09 will be open from 12.30 until 2pm in the Rotunda.

Workshops

Rehearsal time for those who want to take part in the Monologue item in the cabaret. Sue Griffiths will give advice to fanfic writers. The second of the two sessions on designing a runabout spaceship will look at design.

Tentacle sex

Is it possible or desirable? A biological look at the facts behind many a pulp writers' imagination. Adults only.

Women as heroes

Spot the odd one out as Becky Duty, Jem Ward and Ruth Beckett discuss women as heroes.

Other panels

Scott Fredericks and Ben Jeapes tell us what they hate in Room 101. How do the Narnia films compare with the books? Is there more to roleplaying than Dungeons and Dragons? And Nigel Furlong and Gary Stratmann will talk about props for military SF.

First-timers

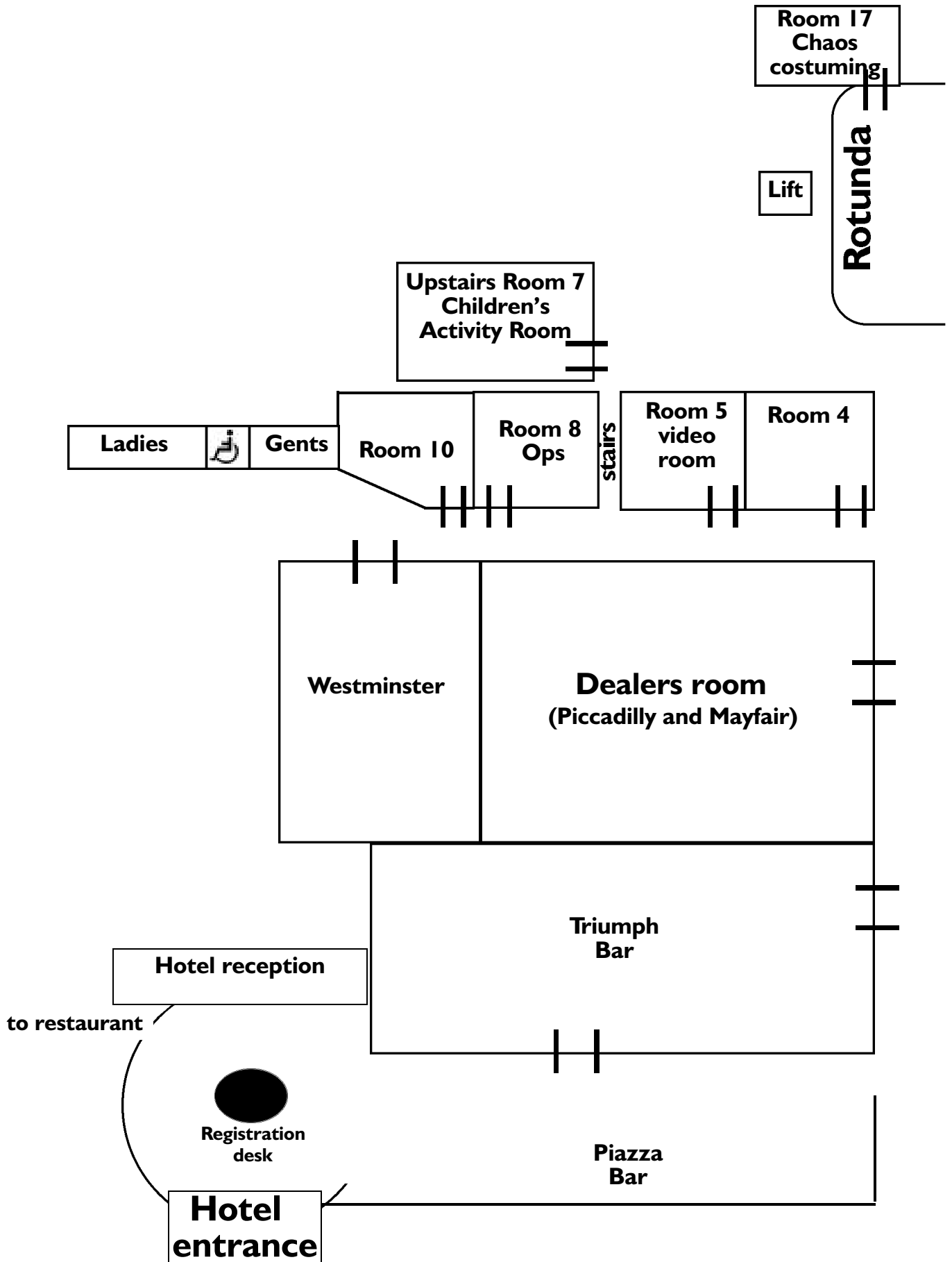
New to conventions? Find out from Chris O'Shea what it's all about. He should know, he's been to millions.

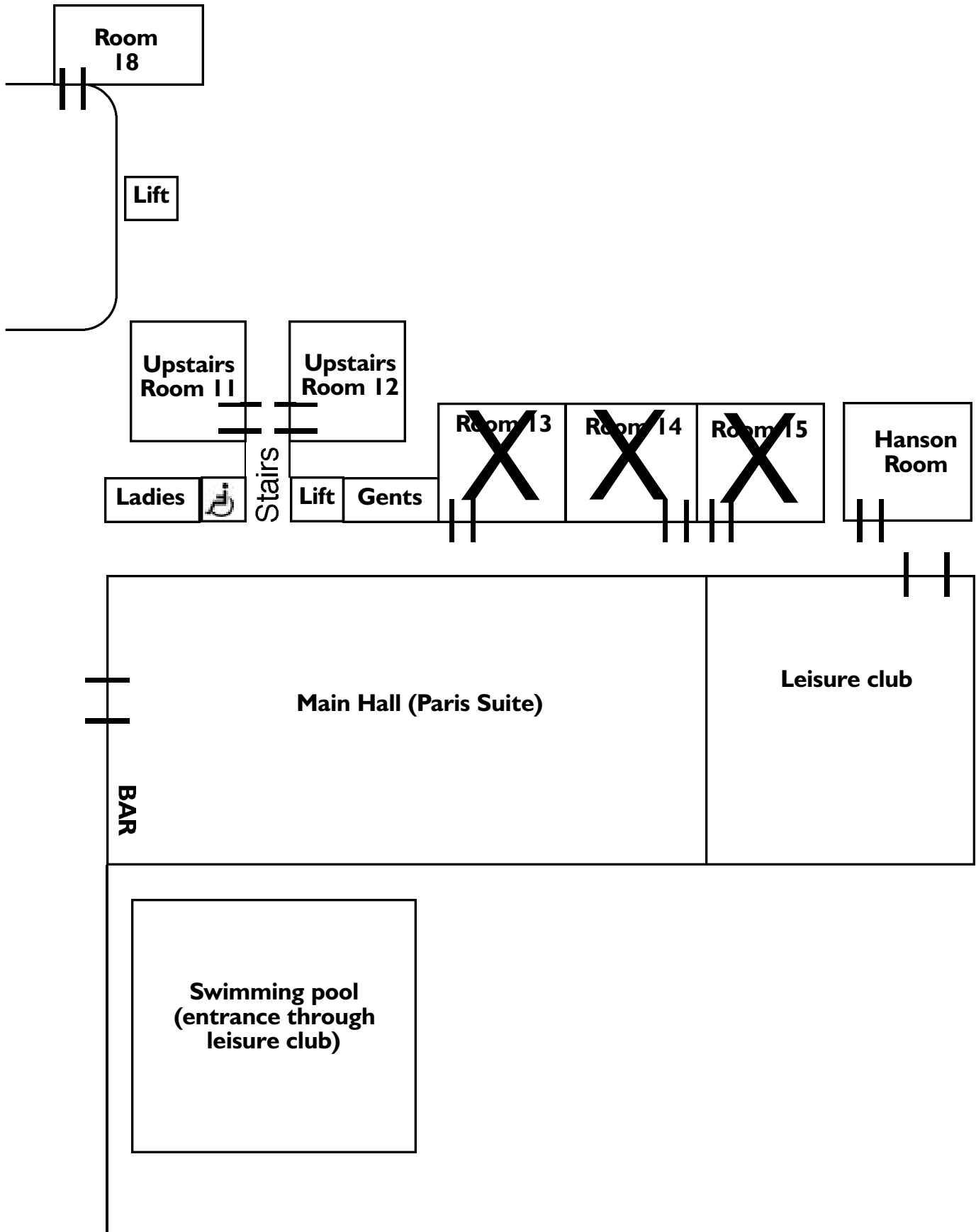
Stewards

Today's stewards meeting is at 10.30am. If you haven't signed up yet, there is still time and all help is gratefully received.

Dealers room

The dealers room will be open from 10am to 6pm today.





Saturday 2pm to 6pm

	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm	5-6pm
Main	Writing the Babylon 5 Season by Season Guides Jane Killick	Cabaret and fancy dress rehearsal		Main Hall closed
Westminster	Charity auction Judith Proctor and Daniel Tilley	Writing for radio workshop Scott Fredericks	Massage workshop Jo Toomey	Man of Iron script reading Harriet Monkhouse et al
Room 11	Life on Mars: Time travel, coma or madness Maddy Marsh, Sue Wadsworth-Ladkin and Peter Harrow	What would you like to see at Orbital 2008? Steve Rogerson and Mark Young	Why do we love SF but hate science? Christine and Michael Davidson, Becky Duty and John Dowd	Elections and politics in SF Peter Harrow, Alison Page and Ben Jeapes
Rotunda	(from 2.30pm) The Zocalo (till 5.30pm) Featuring Chaos Modelling, Bring 'n' Buy Sale, Tarot Reading, Juggling Workshop, Giant Twister, Candy grabbing machine, badge making and more			
Room 12	Future sex technology Gemma Tiley and Nat Titman (adults only)	Realism in Slash Ken Ludden (adults only)	Real Person Slash: Exploring a moral dilemma Nickey Barnard and Ruth Saunders	K9 Agility E21
Dealers room	Autographs			
Hanson		Books, 2: Hidden treasures Steve Kilbane and Jim Mortimore	Make a fanzine in a weekend: Session 2 Emma Peel	How does SF misinterpret paganism? Becky Duty, Gaspode and Loretta Merry
Room 17	What will SF conventions be like in 2057? Fran Dowd, Martin Easterbrook, Chris O'Shea and Pat McMurray		The good, the bad and the ugly: Web design in fandom Nic Mayer and Selenay	Crisis Management Workshop: Battlestar Galactica - a colonial last stand Nigel and Sabine Furlong
Room 18		What have Stargate and the new BSG learned from B5? Ashley Pollard, Mark Sinclair and Paddy Sinclair	Do kids get into SF through TV rather than books? Sabine Furlong and Barbara Graham	(until 8pm)
Video room (Room 5)	Battlestar Galactica Fraggled 15	Figures in a Landscape Cult film with an introduction by Dave Lally and discussion afterwards		

Cabaret rehearsal

If you want to enter tonight's cabaret or fancy dress, turn up to the rehearsal. We need to know how many items there are, how long each takes and technical requirements.

Autographs

This will be your first chance to get autographs from the guests. Both Scott Fredericks and James Swallow will be signing today.

The Zocalo

Redemption brings you all the fun of a country fair with games, stalls and the like, plus some of our old favourites such as the bring 'n' buy sale and juggling workshop.

Book Thread

The second in the series of three book panels looks at the fantastic books you have read that no-one else has heard of.

Chaos modelling

Come and make some SF spaceships and props out of household junk. This Blue Peter style workshop will be part of the Zocalo.

Realism in slash

Always a popular panel – slash writers get the chance to quiz a gay man for story ideas. Strictly adults only.

Charity Auction

This is your chance to bid for and buy lots of fun stuff and help raise money for charity at the same time. Pay for the items as you win them. If we run out of time, you will be able to pay immediately afterwards in Room 10.

Battlestar Galactica

Watch season two episode Fraggled and then discuss what the new Battlestar Galactica and Stargate have learned from Babylon 5.

Figures in a Landscape

It has never been released on video or DVD, but it has been shown on telly and has a cult following. Dave Lally tells us why and presents a rare opportunity to see the film.

K9 Agility

An unusual test of motor skills from the E21 crowd. Yes, master.

Real person slash

The subject of real person slash has risen to the top of the pile when it comes to controversy in fan fiction. Is it that much different from writing about fictional characters? What if it were you they were writing about?

Orbital 2008

The Redemption team will be running next year's Eastercon – the annual British Science Fiction Convention – and this will be your chance to help shape the programme. Come along with ideas for programme items, panels, workshops and so on.

Writing for radio

Guest of honour Scott Fredericks presents a workshop on writing for radio.

Man of Iron

Paul Darrow wrote Man of Iron to be used as a Blake's 7 episode, but it never made it to screen. Come and watch some dedicated fans performing this missing classic.

Babylon 5 guides

Jane Killick tells us the story behind the Babylon 5 Season by Season guides.

Other workshops

Nigel and Sabine will be putting volunteers through their paces in a crisis management workshop, Gemma and Nat will be discussing sex technology in the future in this adults only session and Jo will be explaining how to give a good massage. Plus session two in making a fanzine in a weekend.

Other panels

Loving SF but hating science, elections and politics in SF, and how does SF misinterpret paganism. Also, web design, how do children get into SF, a look at conventions 50 years from now, and what is Life on Mars about?

Saturday 6pm to 10pm

	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm
Main	Main Hall closed	7.30pm Doors open	Fancy dress and cabaret	
Westminster	Over the hills and far away Judith Proctor, Sally Humphrys, Nik Whitehead and Douglas Spencer	What is a singularity and will it ever happen? Fran Dowd, Alison Page, Smurf, Tim Atkinson and Ian Sewell		
Room 11	Would you trust a cylon? Daniel Tilley, Nicky Barnard, Martin Easterbrook and Paddy Sinclair	What would you cut first? Making a TV show to budget Iain Coleman, Ben Jeapes and Jane Killick		
Rotunda	B5 Wars Spoo(ks) Rob Hayward (see page 6)			
Room 12	Slash plot bunnies Sue Griffiths, Kathy Sands and Ruth Saunders (adults only)	What is happening with femslash? Ann Thomas, Jane Carnall and Hayley Marsden (adults only)		
Hanson	Weakest Geek Quiz Tony Walls			
Rooms 17 & 18	Crisis Management Workshop (continued): Battlestar Galactica - a colonial last stand Nigel and Sabine Furlong			
Video room (Room 5)	Dr Who: The Day of the Daleks (with Scott Fredericks) U		Film: Alien 18	

Fancy dress & cabaret

This is our main set piece, where we can see fans' inventiveness in making fancy dress costumes, from those who have spent months preparing to the last-minuters who put something together in the chaos costuming earlier today. Likewise, the cabaret will be a selection of short items put on by the fans themselves.

And the rest...

Filking fun with Over the Hills and Far Away,

a debate on how trustworthy cylons are, the B5 Wars spaceships miniatures game (see p6), a discussion on slash plot bunnies, what is happening in the world of femslash, how to make a TV show to budget and what actually is a singularity? And test your knowledge in the Weakest Geek Quiz. Tony Walls is Redemption's answer to Anne Robinson.

Video programme

Dr Who fun with Scott Fredericks in the Jon Pertwee episode Day of the Daleks followed by Alien.

Saturday 10pm to 2am

	10-11pm	11pm-12	12-1am	1-2am
Main	Redemption 007: Spy theme disco			
Westminster	Stepmania Gordon Dempster			
Room 11	What will humans be eating in 100 years time? Fran Dowd, John Wilson and Julian Headlong	Where's my jetpack: The technology we never got John Dowd, Misha Sumra, Nik Whitehead and Roger Fishwick	Religion in SF Ruth Beckett, Jane Carnall and Gina Dungworth	
Room 12	Sexiest pairings in slash E21 (adults only)	Fetishism in fandom Jonathan Baddeley, Douglas Spencer and Ann Thomas (adults only)	Flickums Birthday Party (Knight Rider Beer & Cakes) E21	
Rotunda	Casino Royal David and Lesley McIntee	Blake's 7 Wobblevision Harriet Monkhouse (ground floor)		
Hanson	Filking Organised by Kathy Sands			
Video room (Room 5)	Star Trek: Voyager Ep 6.14: Memorial (based on an idea by James Swallow)	Dexter Episodes 1 and 2	Smallville Season 6 Episodes 1 and 2	

Video programme

See the new show Dexter from the US and the latest Smallville episodes, plus another chance to see the Voyager episode Memorial, based on an idea by James Swallow.

Blake's 7 Wobblevision

Filming Blake's 7 in a slightly different manner. To see previous attempts, go to www.blakes-7.co.uk and look up Wobblevision.

Dancing and casino

The disco will have a spy theme and there

will be a casino nearby in the Rotunda. There will also be dancing fun in Westminster with Stepmania.

Other panels

Panels will look at what humans will be eating in 2107, what technology in SF never came to reality and why, or more importantly what would we like to have got our hands on, how SF treats religion, sexiest slash pairings and fetishism in fandom.

Filking and partying

Kathy Sands leads tonight's filking session. And the E21 crowd invite you all to a late-night birthday party.

Sunday 10am to 2pm

	10-11am	11am-12	12-1pm	1-2pm
Main	How do we bridge the energy gap? Christine and Michael Davidson, Steve Cooper and Judith Proctor	The new Blake's 7 James Swallow	Fantasy films before and after Peter Jackson Jessica Yates	Sherlock Holmes and SF Kellie Takenaka
Westminster	Introduction to Tai Chi Ian Sewell	Veil workshop Fifitrix	Backsword workshop Steve Kilbane and Sigga vala Gonnisdottir	
Room 11	SF and gender roles Snowgrouse, Alison Page and Ken Ludden		Acting for TV workshop Scott Fredericks	Was Orac sentient? Jane Carnall and John Dowd
Room 12	Let's write Blake's 7 slash E21 (adults only)	Templars - Saints or Sinners E21	Slash coloured glasses Kathy Sands, Ruth Saunders and Pen Robinson	Editing fan fiction Judith Proctor
Rotunda		Blake's XI v Babylon XI cricket game, 2nd innings Scorer: Harriet Monkhouse	Alien Egg Hunt David and Lesley McIntee (ground floor)	Ruler of the Universe hustings
Dealers Room			Redemption '09 registration desk open 12.30-2.30pm	Autographs
Hanson	Retro SF David McIntee, David McIntee Snr and Jim Mortimore	Battlestar Galactica: Old versus New Ashley Pollard, Mark Sinclair and Paddy Sinclair	Music quiz Christine and Michael Davidson	Lego workshop David Mackenzie
Room 18	Military SF Nigel Furlong, Gary Stratmann and Martin Easterbrook	Torchwood: Standalone or spinoff Ann, Emma and Donna Thomas, Andy Cornell, Steve Woods, Jaz Freeman and James and Lisa Harrington	Legal systems in Babylon 5 and Blake's 7 Peter Harrow, Ben Jeapes and Mark Sinclair	It's shit but we like it Rita D'Gaspo, Fifitrix and Dave Lally
Video room (Room 5)	Dr Who: The Curse of Fenric (with music by Mark Ayres) PG		Blake's 7 Orac PG	My Science Fiction Life (see p5 for details)

Dealers room

The dealers room opens from 10am to 4pm today for your last chance to buy.

The Curse of Fenric

We know Mark Ayres couldn't make it, but at least you can hear some of his work in this Sylvester McCoy Dr Who episode.

Autographs

Both our guests will be putting pen to paper.

Debating Orac

Was Orac really sentient, or just a very clever computer programme? To help you decide before the debate, the episode Orac will be shown in the video room.

Fun and games

The second innings of the cricket game is in the Rotunda, and earn Drazi points by finding the hidden Alien eggs. And the popular music quiz makes a return to test your knowledge.

The Knights Templars – Saints or Sinners?

Were they simply a devout security force to guard the Christian faithful making pilgrimages which along the way made them the forefathers of modern banking or had they a hidden, political agenda designed to make them the most powerful economic, secular and religious force in Europe and the Middle East, akin to neither Christianity or Islam?

Come along with your opinions and be prepared to debate.

The new Blake's 7

There have already been years of controversy among fans over the planned return of Blake's 7 in one format or another. We now know the plans and the audio series is due out soon. Our guest of honour James Swallow was one of the writers and today he will tell you a bit more about what is happening.

Fantasy and Sherlock

Jessica Yates will be talking about the influence of Peter Jackson on the fantasy film industry and Kellie Takenaka will explain why Sherlock Holmes should be of interest to SF fans.

Acting for television

Guest of honour Scott Fredericks gives some tips for budding television actors.

Who to vote for

This weekend you will have been bombarded with campaigns for the candidates for Ruler of the Universe. There will be a new ruler as the existing holder of the title – the one and only Og – has decided not to re-stand. The hustings will give you a chance to hear and see the candidates one last time before you punch your hole in the ballot paper. Your ballot paper was in the bag you were given when you registered.

Workshops

Ian Sewell starts the day off in Westminster by giving an introduction to Tai Chi (no experience necessary, but wear loose clothing) followed immediately by Fifitrix showing what to do with a veil. Finally, Steve and Sigga will be explaining how to handle a backsword. There will also be a workshop in Hanson looking at how to build spaceships using Lego. And Judith Proctor will be in Room 12 giving tips on editing fan fiction.

Slashy options

The E21 team will start the day with a Blake's 7 slash writing session (for those of you who don't know what slash is, it is fan fiction in which there is a homosexual relationship between two or more characters). And there will also be a panel where slash writers look at how they see slash in otherwise non-slashy situations.

Battlestar Galactica

One of the best debates at Redemption '05 was on whether the new Battlestar Galactica was better than the old. We have now had another season and a half to judge the new show, so this will be a chance to see if opinions have changed.

SF and gender roles

Once, SF paperbacks tended to carry pictures of scantily clad women on the covers. TV and film versions also often played to the male audience using sex as their tempter. But have gender roles in SF changed much since then or is it just more subtle today?

Other panels

The day starts off with a debate on bridging the energy gap. At the same time there will be a look at retro SF. In Room 18, there will be a series of panels starting with military SF, followed by views on whether Torchwood is nothing more than a spinoff, the legal systems in Babylon 5 and Blake's 7 and the shows that are so bad but we still like them, the new Robin Hood for example.

Redemption '09

Don't forget to book for Redemption 2009 – the rate is cheaper the earlier you book.

Sunday 2pm to 6pm

	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm	5-6pm
Main	The original Orion programme Nik Whitehead	Music and sound design in Big Finish Jim Mortimore	Closing ceremony	
Westminster		Creating an alien culture Loretta Merry, Alison Page, Ben Jeapes and John Wilson		Killing and torturing for a cause Alison Page, Jem Ward and Ken Ludden
Room 11	SF and fantasy in video games Becky Duff, David McIntee and Rita D'Gaspede	K9 to Data to cylons – AIs in SF Piers Beckley, Mark Sinclair and Nik Whitehead		Bringing characters back from the dead Rita D'Gaspede, Heather Turnbull and Smurf
Rotunda	Ruler of the Universe Voting to 3.30pm Ballot papers in your con pack			Redemption '09 registration desk open 5-6pm
Room 12	Why do lesbians and straight men like m/m? Gemma Tiley, Snowgrouse and Steve Rogerson	Slash: Does it count if it's canon? Jane Carnall, Leo Sands and Kellie Takenaka		Books, 3: Children's SF Steve Kilbane and Iain Coleman
Hanson		Make a fanzine in a weekend: Session 3 Emma Peel		5.30pm Stewards debriefing
Video room (Room 5)	Gareth Preston introduces Westlake Film productions including the Blake's 7 spoof Down and the cyberman film Deconstruction		Wonderfalls Wax Lion PG	Dr Who Dalek 12

Ruler of the Universe

Don't forget to vote in the Ruler of the Universe election. There was a ballot paper in your con pack and it will only count if marked with our Florida-style hole-punch machines.

Double slash

Two slash panels follow each other in Room 12. First, a discussion on why lesbians and straight men should enjoy reading stories about homosexual men. And then a debate about if there is an on-screen homosexual relationship, does that still count as slash if taken into fan fiction.

Lions and Dalek

Wonderfalls was wonderful, a short-lived fantasy series not released on DVD over here. Wax Lion is the first episode. We will also be showing the Christopher Eccleston Dr Who episode Dalek

Orion programme

Nasa is calling its new lunar programme 'Orion', but the name has an illustrious forebearer – the 1950s and 1960s plan to build spaceships powered by atomic explosions. Nik Whitehead explains what the original Orion programme was all about.

Video games

Some video games are better SF and fantasy productions than movies in the same genre. In fact, some have been spun off as movies. Our panellists look at the best that is on offer..

Stewards debriefing

If you have been a steward this weekend, this is your chance to say what we did right or wrong organisationally, so we can try to make it better for 2009.

Westlake Films

Gareth Preston of Westlake Films will be showing some of his company's productions including a Blake's 7 spoof episode and a new cyberman production.

Big Finish

No, this isn't the closing ceremony (that comes after) but Jim Mortimore talking about the music and sound design for the Big Finish audio productions.

Book thread

The third and final part of the book thread asks why there is a lot of fantasy in children's and young adults' novels but not so much SF.

Fanzine workshop

The making a fanzine in a weekend challenge reaches its third and final stage. Will we have a finished product at the end? Go along to find out.

Creating alien cultures

You have an idea for an SF or fantasy story and you need to set it on an alien world. But how do you go about creating a culture to make your story more believable?

Artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence has been a popular theme among science fiction writers from the jokey, such as K9 in Dr Who, to the more serious cylons in Battlestar Gallactica. We have seen Holly in Red Dwarf and Orac in Blake's 7. In Iain Banks' Culture novels, the

AIs have rights, a theme that Star Trek: The Next Generation toyed with with Data. Our panellists look at the different ways these have been treated over the years and how realistic they are.

Killing for a cause

The current political climate makes the subject of killing or torturing for a cause as relevant as ever. Our panellists discuss whether this is ever justified and how SF shows and books have dealt with the subject.

Raising the dead

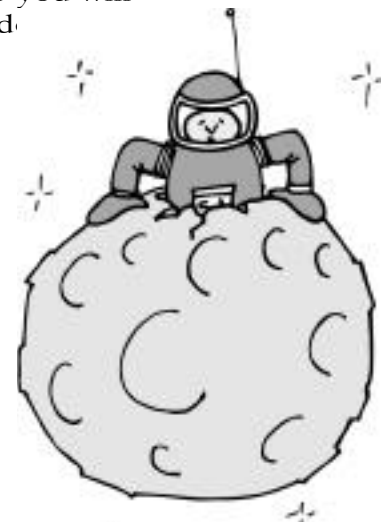
Once, when a character in a TV show died, he or she stayed dead. We never saw Gan again in Blake's 7 after a wall fell on his head. Adric in Dr Who was really gone for ever when the spaceship crashed. But now, dying seems no longer a career ending fate. In Xena, characters went back and forward from being dead like it was going out of fashion. Buffy's mum still made the odd appearance well after she'd snuffed it. The list goes on, but is this a good trend or does it make the shows just that bit more unbelievable?

Closing ceremony

Time to say goodbye, award all the prizes and find out which side won the Drazi War game. And, of course, we will announce the winner of the Ruler of the Universe election. This will be followed by the raffle draw.

2007, 2008 and 2009

There is still time to book for Orbital '08 and Redemption '09, so you will have fun things to do the next two years. And if you want something more to do this year, there is also Contemplation, this year's Eastercon, which our own Chris O'Shea is helping to run.



Sunday 6pm to 10pm

	6-7pm	7-8pm	8-9pm	9-10pm
Westminster	Does SF ignore environmental issues or embrace them? Christine Davidson and John Wilson	Closed for setup	7.30pm Arabian Nights Evening Lesley McIntee	
Room 11	How well do TV shows view the past? Loretta Merry, Martin Easterbrook and Kellie Takenaka	The future of SF and fantasy Scott Fredericks and James Swallow		
Room 12	Realism in BDSM Douglas Spencer (adults only)	Writing horror with SF Gina Dungworth, Heather Turnbull and Piers Beckley	Swordplay for writers Steve Kilbane	
Rotunda		Dead Dog Party Everyone who is left		
Hanson	What would you like to see at Redemption '09?	Online pseudonyms: How do we pick them? Should we use them? Rita D'Gaspode, Nickey Barnard and Smurf	Is there a middle class in Middle Earth Ruth Saunders and Mary Patey	Filking Organised by Gemma Tiley and Ann Murphy
Video room (Room 5)	Blake's 7 Blake PG	Film: Wilderness 15		Film: Rocky Horror Picture Show (to 10.45pm) 15

Doing the Timewarp

We end with the traditional convention close of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. Also on the video programme is the final episode of Blake's 7 and the British horror movie Wilderness, which was one of the best films of last year.

Future of SF

Our guests of honour look at the future for SF and fantasy.

Realism in BDSM

Douglas answers questions about making BDSM more realistic in fiction. This is an adults only session.

The environment

The environment seems to dominate the news from airline travel to recycling, but how is the subject treated in SF books and shows?

Swordplay for writers

Steve Kilbane explains how to handle that swashbuckling sword fight in your story without resorting to cliches.

Other panels

TV shows from Life on Mars to Dr Who try to give a realistic look of the past. Do they achieve it? How should authors mix SF and horror? Should we use online pseudonyms or are we just hiding our true selves? And the politics of Middle Earth get another look.

Dead Dog or dance

Either hang around the Rotunda chatting and consuming alcohol until the bar shuts or enjoy an Arabian Nights style dance in Westminster.

Final filking

The last chance to exercise your vocal cords.



REDEMPTION '09

20 – 22 February 2009

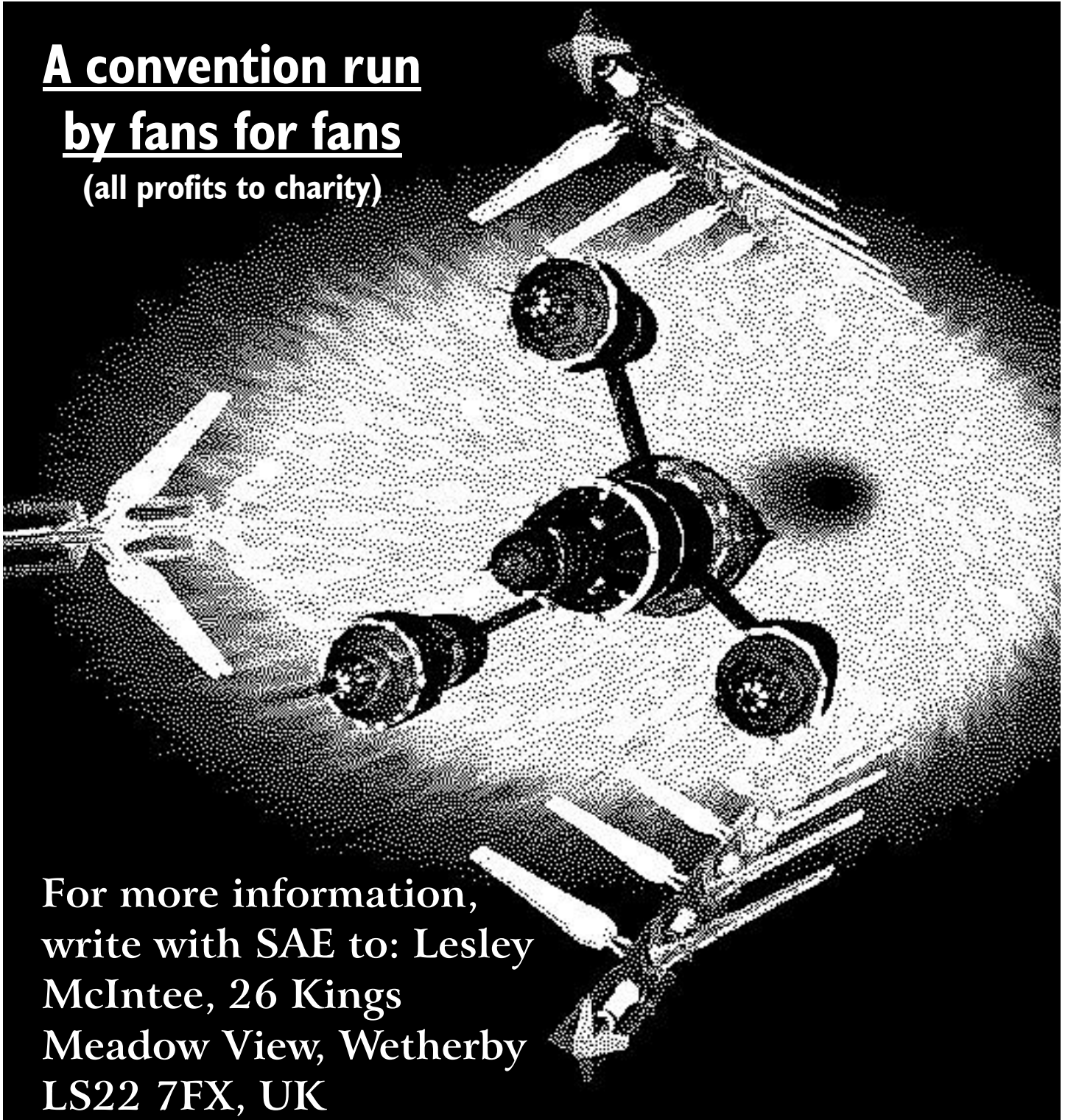
Hinckley Island Hotel, Hinckley, Leics, UK

Multimedia Science Fiction Convention

A convention run

by fans for fans

(all profits to charity)



For more information,
write with SAE to: Lesley
McIntee, 26 Kings
Meadow View, Wetherby
LS22 7FX, UK

redemptioninfo@smof.com

www.smof.com/redemption

EASTERCON 21st – 24th MARCH 2008



**2008 British National Science Fiction Convention
Radisson Edwardian Hotel, Heathrow, London**

Guests of Honour

Neil Gaiman

Tanith Lee

China Miéville

Charles Stross

Fan Guest of Honour

Rog Peyton

Eastercon 2008

Held annually since 1948, the Eastercon is a gathering for fans of all types of science fiction and fantasy.

The Hotel

Orbital will take place at the five-star Radisson Edwardian Hotel near London's Heathrow Airport. It has a wide range of function rooms to suit a varied and interactive programme. The hotel is well known to convention goers, having hosted the 1996 Eastercon as well as many TV-related conventions over the years.

The venue is minutes from London's Heathrow Airport on the A4 Bath Road, and convenient for the M4, M25 and west London. There are excellent train, tube and bus connections into central London, with Windsor, Twickenham, Kew Gardens and other attractions very close by.

What is Orbital about?

Our style is lots of programme streams and more interactive discussions than Eastercons normally run to. We'll still have the traditional talks and panels, but will also include many discussion items where everyone will be encouraged to contribute to the discussion. One of our key themes will be orbits. We'll also be covering the various subsets of fandom: books, television, movies, comics, writing, costuming, filking, and so on. We have an inclusive approach to programming. We do plan to have a Masquerade. In fact, we plan to have a Masquerade and a Cabaret. The Cabaret will be a showcase for any fannish skills such as comedy sketches, magic, belly dancing, filk songs, musicians, etc. The wider the range, the better.

Who we are

Members of the committee to run Orbital 2008 are:

Judith Proctor, Chair

Eddie Cochrane, Publications

Steve Rogerson, Head of Programming

Fiona Scarlett, Membership

Mark Young, Deputy Chair

John Wilson, Hotel Liaison

Vince Docherty, Treasurer and Finance

Chris O'Shea, Operations and Logistics

Con staff: **Giulia de Cesare**, Guest Liaison; **Steve**

Kilbane, Web Site; **Alex Holden**, Timeline.

Attending membership £45 (until 14 April 2007), see our web site for supporting, junior and other rates.

You can join on-line at our web site:

<http://www.orbital2008.org>

Or write to: **Orbital 2008, Waveney, 28 Diprose Rd, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3QY**

For queries email: **info@orbital2008.org**

or ask via our LJ community or Yahoo Group:

http://community.livejournal.com/orbital_2008

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/orbital_2008/