

The Queen's Lane Advertiser

(Incorporating Convention News)

Issue Number 33

Printed in Essex

July 2010

Edited by Jeremy Tullett

A magazine containing news about various games conventions taking place in the UK

Inside this issue:

◆ Expo 2010 report ◆ Booking form for MidCon 2010 ◆ MidCon moving for 2011 ◆ Final progress report for Manorcon 2010

Forthcoming Conventions

Summer StabCon Britannia Hotel Stockport 2-4 July 2010 Bookings(at)stabcon.co.uk	Manorcon XXVIII Stamford Hall University of Leicester. 16-19 July 2010. www.manorcon.org.uk	Sevenoaks Settlers Tournament II Otford Manor, Sevenoaks, TN15 6XF 18 July 2010 mattyoung27@gmail.com
WorldDipCon XX The Hague Netherlands 20-22 August 2010	Mindsports Olympiad The Soho Theatre Soho London 21 - 30 August 2010 http://www.boardability.com/	EuroDipCon XXVII Paris France 27-29 August 2010
Raiders of the Game Cupboard XII The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street, Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. DE14 1DR 25 September 2010 www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk	TringCon XXI Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 25 September 2010 www.fwtwr.com/tringcon	Eastbourne Con East Beach Hotel, Eastbourne 18-21 November 2010
MidCon XXXII Thistle Birmingham City Hotel Birmingham 19-21 November 2010 www.midcon.org.uk	Raiders of the Game Cupboard XIII The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street, Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. DE14 1DR 29 December 2010 www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk	TringCon XXII Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 2 April 2011 www.fwtwr.com/tringcon
BayCon 2011 Exeter Court Hotel Kennford Devon 28 April - 2 May 2011 www.baycon.co.uk		UK Games Expo The Clarendon Suites 2 Stirling Road Edgbaston, Birmingham 3-5 June 2011 www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk

Editorial (Jeremy Tullett)

I made my first trip to the Games Expo (the organiser's report is elsewhere in this newsletter) this year to see for myself what was going on.

After a longer walk from New Street than I had expected - the venue was not as close to Five Ways as I had remembered – I arrived at the suites, a number of which, rather quaintly, appeared to be Masonic Halls. Indeed, I found David Norman sitting enthroned on one of the High Chairs, a sight that I found vaguely disturbing. The whole place was a warren of rooms and passages, and although the organisers had done a grand job with information and maps, it was still not easy to find my way about. I never did find the location of the Memoirs of 1944 tournament, despite a number of posters advertising it.

I was most struck by the number of games vendors present. The stalls essentially lined the walls of three large rooms, and then some, which I suppose is indicative of a healthy market of boardgames for grownups in the UK. I dutifully supported the traders by buying copies of Canalmania, Last Train to Wensleydale, and Blooming Gardens, the latter by way of early Christmas shopping.



As you can see (left) there were tables laid out in the centre of these rooms for gaming (and elsewhere), and they were mostly full when I visited on the Saturday.

I recognised a few folk there from the MidCon/ Manorcon population, but mostly the visitors were not known to me.

Clearly, the fame of the Expo reaches inter-Galactic proportions, as I spotted both Dr Who and Darth Vader in attendance. The latter was engaging in a fine line of mildly insulting remarks to passing attendees, and the former was there in two incarnations simultaneously, which surely breaks the rules of the time-space continuum.



The accompanying Daleks were curiously muted. Frankly, a little extermination from them would have helped at the second-hand games stall, whose bar-top location was not well suited either to displaying the games on sale, or accommodating the scrummage that swirled around it.

Obviously, a lot of work had gone into this event, and it looked every bit the success that is reported later. It would be nice to import some of the visitors to some of the games conventions where a few more new (and younger) faces would be a Good Thing.



ManorCon XXVII
Stamford Hall, University of Leicester
16-19th July 2010

Progress Report Number 2 - July 2010

Welcome to Progress Report Number 2. ManorCon is fast approaching, so here are the final details you will need before you get there.

Don't forget your chit!

As in previous years, we are issuing chits to everyone who booked accommodation in advance and paid in full. If you've done both of these, you should find a chit enclosed with this Progress Report.

You must take this chit with you to ManorCon and hand it in at the ManorCon reception desk to receive your room key. If you forget to take your chit with you, then you will have to queue for a new one. Please note: your receipt CANNOT be exchanged for a key, only your chit can.

If there is no chit included with this mailing, this is probably for one of the following reasons: a) we think you owe us money; b) you are non-resident; or c) we may have made a mistake... In any case, don't worry about it - just come to the ManorCon Registration Desk when you arrive. We will not be sending out any further chits before the convention.

NEWS

Gaming rooms

There are a number of gaming rooms. The main gaming hall is where the ad-hoc gaming will mostly take place. It's also where all the food will be served. There are also rooms for the Diplomacy, the Pop Quiz and Treasure Hunt, the Second Hand Games Stall, a quiet gaming room, and a couple of other general gaming rooms.

The main gaming room is open from Breakfast until late. The second Hand Games Stall will be locked when not open for sales. The other minor rooms are open 24 hours a day. The night porter will check noise levels.

Food and Drink

Tea and Coffee is available continuously from breakfast until 30 minutes after the evening meal stops serving. The bar will be open 2pm to 1am Friday, noon – 1am Saturday, noon to 1am Sunday and noon to 2pm Monday, but may close early if not doing much business. Note that due to the licensing laws you are not allowed to bring your own alcohol onto the site.

Other facilities

The convention is 10 minutes walk from Oadby centre. Oadby is a suburban centre on the outskirts of Leicester, which has a collection of shops, restaurants, etc. There is also a large Asda between the convention and Oadby. If Oadby does not provide all the facilities you are looking for, then it is

about 3 miles from the convention to Leicester City Centre.

Games Stall

Milestone (formerly Cardiff Games) have the sole right to sell first-hand games at ManorCon, and anybody else wanting to do so must speak to the committee first. If you wish to pre-order any games for collection at ManorCon, then please contact them on 01455 636 286 or email sales@milestonegames.co.uk

Second Hand Games Sale

This is being run by Richard Frost and will run on a similar format to previous years. So selling sessions should be Friday 7.30pm to 9pm and Saturday 2pm to 3pm with pack up by sellers by 4pm Saturday. Booking items by seller should be 5pm through to 7pm Friday and 11am to 1pm Saturday. Sellers will need to sign a terms and conditions sheet – details are on www.manorcon.org.uk The second hand games stall is run by volunteers. If anyone would like to help, please contact Richard Frost, on shgs@manorcon.org.uk

As in previous years, sellers can reduce the price of their games during the morning. The Sellers selling sheet is on the website, www.manorcon.org.uk which prospective sellers should download to list their games. All games must be collected by 6pm Saturday. Any games not collected by that time will be left in the SHGS room for collection, with the door unlocked. We hope they will not be stolen, but their security from 6pm onwards is the responsibility of the owner.

Please note that this facility is not for commercial sales.

Treasure Hunt

This year's treasure hunt will be run by last year's winners - Martin Burroughs, John Gates and Stuart Stafford. It will have an Arabian Nights theme. To avoid it turning into the endurance contest that we have seen for the last couple of years, it will be time-limited to 2 hours for the main puzzles (solve as many as you can in that time) plus half an hour for the finale, which anyone can win. It will be held on Sunday afternoon, in the bar area

Spiel Champs

After a couple of years struggling to get the very minimum number of entries for the Spielchamps competition, it does not appear that there will be any more interest this year, so we have decided not to hold Spielchamps at Manorcon 2010. I would like to apologise on behalf of the Spielchamps organising committee, especially to those of you who have already made travel and accommodation plans, but we are committed to a greater effort to foster interest in the competition for 2011. Please address any queries to spielchamps@manorcon.org.uk.

Closing time....

The convention finishes at 2pm on Monday.

Full directions and a map appear at the end of this progress report, but meanwhile...

Address and Phone Number

The full address is Stamford Hall, Stoughton Drive South, Oadby, Leicester LE2 2ND Telephone

(0116) 221 2035 (John Foster Hall). If you need to contact one of the committee, the ManorCon mobile number is 0797 713 6609 (or +44 797 713 6609 from outside the UK). This can also be used if you want to contact someone who isn't on the committee, but only in an emergency, and only if we can find them... PLEASE do not use this number before the Thursday morning of ManorCon! If you need to contact us beforehand, please phone Steve Jones (01234-405878), or drop us a letter, or email info@manorcon.org.uk

Parking

For people in the standard accommodation, park in the car park south of the location. For the people in en-suites, park in the car park adjacent to the en-suite accommodation. Note that the white lines are a guideline and you can park outside of them if required.

The area in front of the hall will be available for loading and unloading, but should not be used for parking, including disabled parking.

When you arrive....

The ManorCon Registration Desk will be located just inside the entrance to the main hall. If you are not staying in the University and do not owe us any money, simply collect your badge and programme booklet from the table near the ManorCon Registration Desk. If you have booked accommodation in advance, do not need to make any changes to your booking, and have your chit with you, simply report to the ManorCon check in desk in to pick up your room key, and then collect your badge and programme booklet. ALL keys are to be collected from the ManorCon check in desk.

If you want to make changes to your booked accommodation, or if you still owe us money, or if you have forgotten your chit, you will need to report to the ManorCon Registration Desk first.

Please note: we will NOT be able to make changes to the type of room you have booked.

Anyone who has not pre-booked will also need to go to the ManorCon Registration Desk. We hope to have both En-suite and Single rooms available on the door, although it may be that one of these is not available. Once you have registered with us, we will issue you with a chit to be exchanged for your room key. We will also sort out your name badge, any money owing, etc.

Please try to arrange your transport so as not to arrive before ManorCon opens at 2pm on Friday. If you are on public transport and you will be arriving early because that is what the timetable says, or the drive is quicker than you think and you do end up arriving early, you will be able to drop your bags off, but you will not be able to get into the gaming hall. You are welcome to arrive at any time after 2pm on Friday, although if it is after 11pm, the ManorCon Registration Desk may be closed.

Late Arrivals and Changes of Plan

If you plan to arrive on the Friday evening after 11pm, or have transport difficulties and end up arriving late, please let us know. Ring the ManorCon mobile on 0797 713 6609. If you haven't pre-booked accommodation but subsequently decide that you do want to stay over, please let us know (either via the ManorCon Registration Desk if open, otherwise track down the committee member on duty) before 11pm on the night in question, as we will have difficulties finding extra rooms after his point.

And when you leave.....

PLEASE NOTE: you **must** vacate your room and return your key by 9:30am on the day of your departure. Also, we will put out a box for you to return your badge.

Tournaments.

Most of the tournaments at ManorCon are Ad-hoc. Just play a game when you want, and put the results in the envelope. We anticipate ad-hoc tournaments for 18XX, Acquire, Dominion, Puerto Rico, St Petersburg, and Race for the Galaxy. The exceptions are as follows:

Diplomacy, for which you need to sign up by 5.30pm on Friday to play in round 1. For the Saturday tournament, please sign up by 9.30am on the Saturday. The Saturday round starts at 10am. For full details, please see the programme booklet. Prize giving should be completed by 7pm on Sunday. Up to date information will be posted on the Diplomacy notice board. In addition to the main tournament, there is also the Diplomacy Challenge, an individual one round tournament based solely on scores in the Saturday round.

Croquet Croquet is a four round knockout tournament. Entries can be made up until breakfast on the Saturday morning, at which point the draw will be done. Advance entries are welcomed for those who will not be arriving at ManorCon before Saturday morning; contact Steve Jones via the ManorCon email address, info@manorcon.org.uk. The draw will be posted on the general notice board.

Midnight Party will as usual be run at midnight each night.

Pop Quiz: the pop quiz will as usual be run in the bar area on Saturday night.

Programme Booklet: when you arrive at ManorCon, don't forget to pick up your programme booklet and look through it.

It will contain all sorts of useful information such as maps of the building and surrounding area plus directions to the nearest shops, ATMs and restaurants, instructions for finding a committee member, what to do if you have a problem, opening hours of the bar and the canteen, details of the tournaments, and lots more. Be warned that committee members sometimes get exasperated with people who ask them questions for which the answers are in the programme booklet! This year, we hope to have the Programme Booklet on the website in advance. – www.manorcon.org.uk

Directions.... or how to make sure you find us

Public transport directions first:

By air:

The nearest airport is Nottingham East Midlands (www.eastmidlandsairport.com), which has flights to various European destinations and other parts of the UK (see for details).

Other relatively convenient airports served by low-cost airlines are London Stansted (www.stansted-airport-guide.co.uk/) and Luton (<http://www.luton-airport-guide.co.uk/>). Intercontinental travellers are likely to have to use Birmingham International, London Gatwick or London Heathrow.

The following sections describe how to get to Leicester (either to the main railway station or to the bus station). Once there follow the instructions below for getting from the city centre to Stamford Hall.

By air, from Birmingham International Airport

Take the free Air-Rail Link to the Birmingham International station - it only takes a couple of minutes. Buy a ticket to Leicester. Take any train to Birmingham New Street (frequent). Change there and take a CrossCountry train to Leicester (approximately every 30 minutes). The total journey time is about 1h 20m. Alternatively take the scheduled bus service to Coleshill Parkway and change there onto the CrossCountry train to Leicester. The total journey time is about 1h 10m.

By air, from Nottingham East Midlands Airport

Take the Leicester Skylink bus from the airport to Leicester City Centre (hourly during the day, every other hour in the evening; for timetable see www.skylink.co.uk). The journey time is under an hour.

Alternatively take the Loughborough Skylink bus from the airport to Loughborough station (half hourly during the day, hourly in the evening; for timetable see www.skylink.co.uk) and then any train from there to Leicester (at least two per hour). The bus journey time from the airport to Loughborough station is about 30 minutes, the train journey time from there to Leicester about 15 minutes.

By air, from London Gatwick

Follow the signs in the airport to the station (if you have arrived at the North Terminal, this will involve using the transit to the South Terminal).

Buy a ticket to Leicester, specifying that you will NOT be travelling on the Gatwick Express service. Take a First Capital Connect train to London St Pancras (every 30 minutes). From there take an East Midlands Trains train to Leicester (every 30 minutes). The total journey time is about 2h 20m. Alternatively continue on the First Capital Connect train to Luton or Luton Airport Parkway and change onto the East Midlands Trains train there. This avoids the short walk between the subsurface and overground parts of London St Pancras station, but there is only one train to Leicester per hour from each of Luton and Luton Airport Parkway, so you must find out which station it is correct to change at.

By air, from London Heathrow

Follow the signs in the airport to the station. There are three stations - one for Terminal 4, one for Terminal 5 and one for Terminals 1, 2 and 3. The following instructions are valid for all the stations.

Buy an Underground ticket to Zone 1, take the Piccadilly Line from Heathrow to St Pancras (frequent), and then buy a rail ticket to Leicester and take an East Midlands Trains train from London St Pancras to Leicester (approximately every 30 minutes). The total journey time is about 2h 30m.

Alternatively - this is a more expensive option - buy a ticket to Leicester valid for use on Heathrow Express services (this will cover both parts of the train journey and also the cross-London transfer on the Circle Line). Take the Heathrow Express train to London Paddington (every 15 minutes).

Then take the Circle Line to Kings Cross St Pancras (frequent), and then an East Midlands Trains train from London St Pancras to Leicester (approximately every 30 minutes). The total journey time is about 2h 20m.

By air, via London Stansted Airport

Buy a ticket to Leicester. Take a direct Central Trains train to Leicester (hourly). The journey time is about 2h 30m.

By air, via Luton Airport

Take the free shuttle bus to Luton Airport Parkway station - it's only just over a mile. Buy a ticket to Leicester. Take a direct East Midlands Trains train to Leicester (hourly). The journey time is about an hour.

By coach

Though not always as fast as trains, coaches provide direct and cheap links between Leicester (St Margaret's Bus Station) and many other cities. Find out more information on bus routes operated by National Express. www.nationalexpress.com Booking line on: 08717 818181. Disabled Persons Travel Helpline: 08717 818179. Textphone: 0121 455 0086.

By train

Details of train times can be found on www.nationalrail.co.uk.

The following paragraphs describe how to get to Leicester from various parts of the UK. Once there follow the instructions below for getting from the city centre to Stamford Hall.

There are direct East Midlands Trains services from Derby, London St Pancras (Eurostar services from Paris and Brussels arrive here), Nottingham and Sheffield.

There are direct CrossCountry services from Birmingham New Street, Cambridge, Nuneaton and Peterborough.

From much of the South and South East it will be quickest to travel via London, using the Underground to cross London from the relevant rail terminus to St Pancras (though walking between Euston and St Pancras is also an option if you are lightly loaded). If, however, you have a direct service to Cambridge or Peterborough, it might be quicker to go that route.

From stations such as Brighton and East Croydon that are served by First Capital Direct services, the cross-London journey on the Underground can be avoided by taking one of their trains to St Pancras.

From the South West a CrossCountry service to Birmingham New Street and then a CrossCountry service from there to Leicester is likely to be the best route. Travelling via Birmingham New Street will probably also be the best route from South and mid Wales.

From North Wales, the North West and parts of Scotland travelling via Birmingham New Street might be the best option, but if you have a direct service to Nuneaton, it's likely to be quicker to change there.

From the North East and parts of Scotland the best options are likely to be either a CrossCountry service to Sheffield and then an East Midlands Trains service from there to Leicester, or an NXC service to Peterborough and then a CrossCountry service from there to Leicester.

From the city centre

The easiest way to get to Stamford Hall is by taxi or by bus.

The 31/31A bus service stops immediately in front of the railway station and runs at frequent intervals. The correct stop for the university campus is just before the Asda at Oadby, soon after the junction with the A563 Ring Road (which is also where the racecourse is). You can't see Asda from where you stop so watch for the ring road & racecourse junction. From here it's a 5-10 minute walk up Stoughton Drive South to Stamford Hall.

There are taxi ranks at both the bus station and the railway station.

Useful information.

Up to date travel information can be found in a number of places. As most of you will know, road information is available online at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/travelnews/> Useful websites for public transport information are www.arriva.co.uk, <http://www.kinchbus.co.uk/>, and <http://www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/eastmidlands/leicester/home/index.php> Finally there is a link from our website to a maps webpage showing the exact location of Stamford Hall. Click the link on www.manorcon.org.uk.

By car

From almost anywhere in the country, the best driving route to the convention is via the M1 Junction 21 - the junction with the M69.

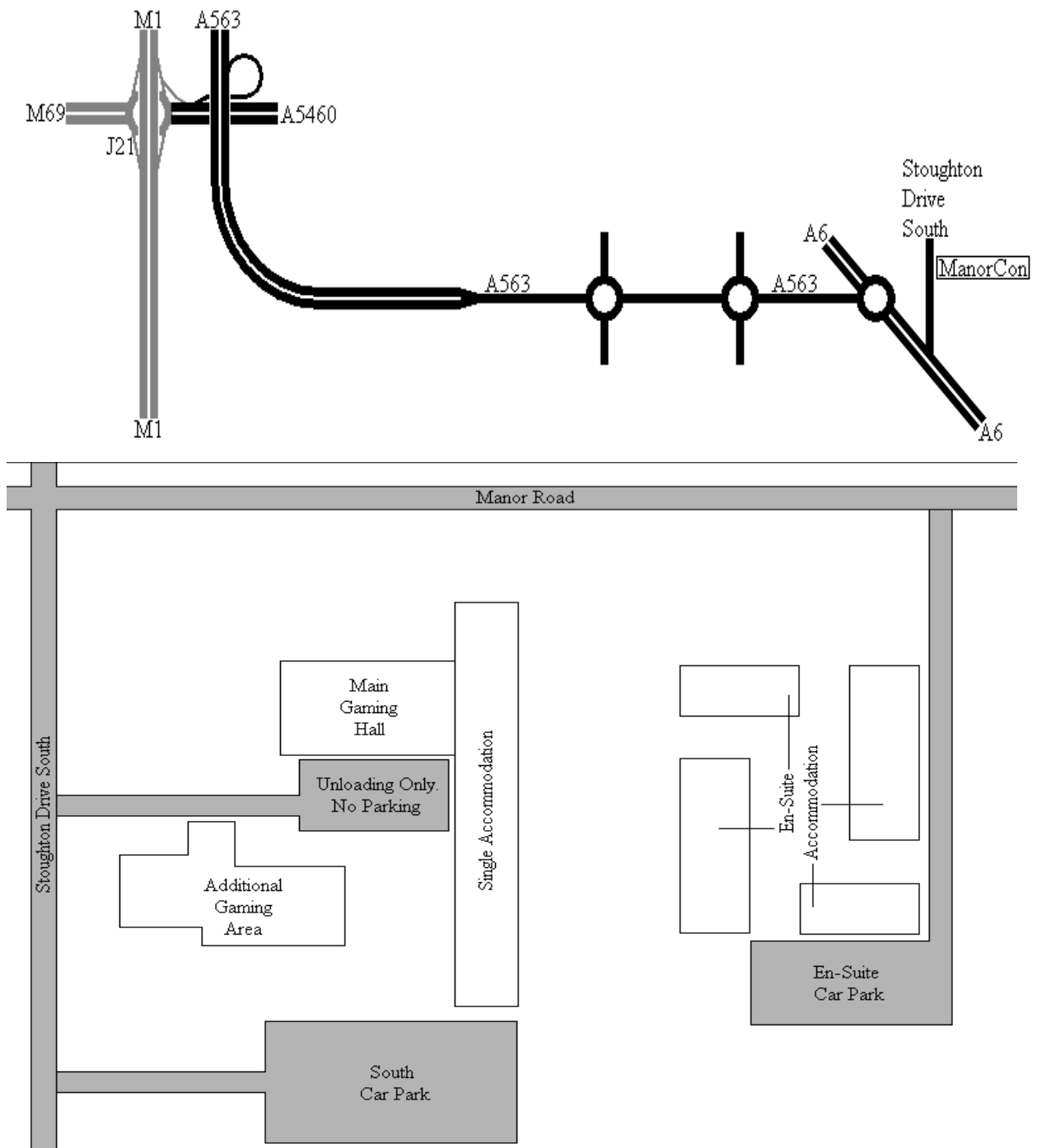
From the M1 J21, take the A5460 towards Leicester for about 1/4 of a mile.

As you go under the A563, immediately turn off to the left, looping back on yourself, and going over the bridge you have just gone under, on the A563 (Leicester ring road) heading around the South of the city.

Follow the A563 for about 4 miles, until you get to the roundabout with the A6.

Take the second exit off the roundabout, turning right. Then immediately turn into the first road on the left - Stoughton Drive South.

Stamford Hall is along this road on your right. If you come to the junction with Manor Road, you've gone too far.



UK Games Expo 2010 (Mick Pearson)

Recently Birmingham's Clarendon Suite and the Strathallan Hotel were the venues for the 4th UK Games Expo. This one was, in many respects, bigger and better than the previous three and we have now finalised that our 5th UK Games Expo will take place from 3rd to 5th June 2011 at the same venues.

Why was this year's event such a success? Well, much time and effort were put into the organisation. This year we had the venue set out in plenty of time to receive our many traders and game organisers, we tweaked a few things with the Clarendon Suite and we also vastly increased the number of free role play slots available on Friday (visitors could play all day Friday instead of just Friday evening). Our volunteers were also better prepared and worked well to ensure that before and during the event any glitches were put right. We have also learned from previous events and will learn again from this year's show. The queue to get into the Clarendon on Saturday was something that took us by surprise; we managed to put over 1000 visitors through the door in about an hour. We plan improvements for next year.

The tournaments were again very well attended and I will detail the winners in a little while. We also had some new events for 2010. One very successful addition was the series of seminars and talks we held on Saturday - I am name-dropping when I mention two of our speakers - Steve Jackson and Ian Livingstone - you can imagine our joy when the creators of "Games Workshop" and "Fighting Fantasy" agreed to come along for the day. Their seminar was packed out and was a great part of the event. I spoke to Ian and Steve later in the day and they were having a great time, we are confident that they will be back for 2011 - who knows what we might be able to persuade them to do - keep checking the website later in the year for announcements.

We held a very successful Children's competition on Saturday, this we see as a crucial element to the Expo. To quote "I believe that children are our future" - well they are the future gamers, role players, wargamers and also they encourage parents to spend money on some of the great products that were on sale over the weekend. The prizes and presentations for this year's competition were given by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of the City of Birmingham. I was lucky enough to escort them around Expo and they thoroughly enjoyed their visit. Whilst not gamers they spent time talking to both traders and visitors, and spent about 30 minutes around the Children's competition, leaving just a couple of minutes for a hard-earned cup of tea before leaving for another engagement.

Now for some results from the weekend:

Grand Board Game Tournament (Sponsored by JKLM)

(Combined results from Agricola, Puerto Rico, Carcassonne, St Petersburg and Settlers Tournaments)

1st Richard Gough
2nd Bijan Mehdinejad
3rd Phil Dall

Agricola Tournament (Sponsored by Board Game Extra)

1st Claire Baker
2nd Niki Widdowson
3rd Phil Dall

Puerto Rico Tournament (Sponsored by JKLM)

1st Jim Clokey
2nd Chris Dixon
3rd Bijan Mehdinejad

UK Carcassonne Tournament (Sponsored by Board Game Extra)

1st Mike Head (who has the right to represent the UK at Essen)
2nd Jonathan Gasnier
3rd Barry Wilkes

St Petersburg Tournament (Sponsored by JKLM)

1st Grant Hall
2nd Lyndon Gurr
3rd Stephen Frye

Settlers of Catan UK Championship (Sponsored by Heron Games)

1st Richard Gough (Who has the right to represent the UK in the World Finals)
2nd Mark Stetch
3rd Daniel Cheng

Other tournament results (and this isn't all of them by any means) include:

Field of Glory (Sponsored by Magister Militum)

1st Paul Longmore
2nd Kevin Jonson
3rd Peter Butler

Warhammer 40k

1st Harry Allen
2nd Rob Madeley
3rd Adam Bickley

AT-43 Tournament (Sponsored by Simple Miniatures Games)

1st Floris Husaarts
2nd John
3rd Tom Bodicoat

Warmachines/Hordes (Sponsored by Privateer Press/Cerebus)

1st Jim Lawrence
2nd John Snape
3rd Jamie Perkins

Best painted army Nick Roberts

Best Sportsman Ant Evans

Flames of War (Sponsored by Battlefront/Wargames Inc)

Results to follow - this was the final tournament to finish on Sunday.

Other highlights of the show included further talks from Alessio Cavatore (a workshop on how to design a boardgame), MD Lachlan, Stephen Deas and Gavin Smith (a fantasy writing panel with live

readings) as well as various book signings.

We also had our usual Expo Awards, some real competition for these awards, the certificates were again expertly drawn by our artist in residence, Bethan. The winners were:

Special Awards

Martin Wallace of Treefrog for services to the Games Industry and his support of UK Games Expo

Triple Ace Games for Best Looking stand

Best New Boardgame

Workshop of the World (Ragnar Brothers)

Best Role-playing Game

Dr Who (Cubicle 7)

Best General /Family Game

Forbidden Island (Coiled Spring)

Best Abstract Game

Mijnlieff (Hopwood Games)

Best Card Game

World Cup 2010 (Games for The World)

I just couldn't write a post-show news item without mentioning the people who made it all possible, these included fellow organisers and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly for 6 days, with very little sleep, to manhandle the tables, boards and other equipment into the venue; the family and close friends who gave their services, making Expo a truly family-run event, the staff at both the Clarendon Suite - Diane, Mark and their team; the staff at the Strathallan Hotel; numerous suppliers of equipment; local clubs and individuals who supplied terrain, equipment and the like; the many organisers of tournaments and the GMs who made the role play sessions such a successful part of Expo; John Dodd and Paul who made the RPGs run smoothly, I could go on.

My apologies if I have missed anyone, but space doesn't allow me to mention everyone.

So, a great event, coming back in 2011, which will be bigger and better than in 2010, you cannot afford to miss it.

All the best from me (Mick Pearson), Tony Hyams, Richard Denning and Pat Campbell - don't forget you can get more information from our website: www.ukgamesexpo.co.uk.

MidCon XXXII Progress Report (Jeremy Tullett)

The following bookings have been received at 16 June: Jeremy Tullett, Mark Fox, Ian Fleming, Dave Simpson (singles) and Richard Barton (double).

Everything else is in place, and we look forward to seeing you again.

This year, the hotel will only hold our block booking open until 8th October, so **YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE** using the form on the **next page**.

MidCon XXXIII in **2011** is definitely on the move. We have signed a contract with the Hallmark Hotel in Derby. Although the move was prompted by the attitude of the Thistle's finance team to us, the Hallmark offers clear advantages over the Thistle:

- ✓ More gaming space
- ✓ Better rooms
- ✓ Free car-parking
- ✓ Adjacent to Derby railway station
- ✓ A dozen restaurants within a 10 minute walk, and two nearby pubs selling real ales
- ✓ Similar pricing

Derby is on the M1 and is served by cross-country trains and fast services from London St. Pancras, so is just as accessible as Birmingham from most of the country. Feel free to discuss this with any member of the committee. We are interested in your views.

The registration fee for **MidCon** is £17 per person for the whole weekend when booked before 1st November, £20 on the door, or £10 per day. Please note: convention fees are *not* refundable.

Payment for MidCon XXXII, 19-21 November 2010

For the **convention fee** we accept payment by PayPal (visit www.midcon.org.uk for details), cheques (made out to “MidCon”), or cash. We *cannot* collect convention fees from credit cards.

Name			
Address			
		Tel:	
Post code			
E-mail			
I enclose a cheque / PO (payable to “MidCon”) for		£	
			(See above for registration rates)
Other names covered by this registration			

Accommodation

Please reserve the following rooms at the rate of £56.00 per person per night for a single room and £38.00 per person per night sharing a twin/double room – a full English breakfast is included. Hotel charges will be settled directly with the hotel on your departure.

Accommodation deposits may be made when booking through the **MidCon** website, by supplying us with a credit card number and expiry date, or with a cheque made out to the ‘Thistle Birmingham City Hotel’, accompanied by this form.

Please select one of the following options by ticking the appropriate box.

- ☐ I hereby give permission for **MidCon** to pass my credit card details to the hotel to reserve my room. My credit card details are given below
- ☐ I enclose a cheque for 50% of the total cost of my room booking, payable to "Thistle Birmingham City Hotel", as a deposit.

My credit card details (**You do not need to provide these if you have enclosed a cheque to cover the deposit on your room**)

The name on my credit card is:			
The credit card number is:		The expiry date is:	

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
N ^o of single rooms			
N ^o of twin rooms			
N ^o of double rooms			
Sharing with ...			

When complete, return this form, together with your registration fee (payable to “**MidCon**”) to: Jeremy Tullett, **MidCon**, 7 Midland Place, Derby, DE1 2RR

The Queen's Lane Advertiser (incorporating Convention News)

Editor: Jeremy Tullett

Coordinator: David Norman

Printing and Distribution: Markus Welbourne

Please contact the coordinator if:

- You run a convention and would like to be a part of the 'zine.
- You run a convention and would like to be included in the upcoming conventions list.
- You would like to offer to help out in some way.
- You are not on the mailing list for this 'zine, but would like to be.
- You would like to advertise in QLA.

The coordinator can be contacted at david@ellought.demon.co.uk

This issue of The Queen's Lane Advertiser was brought to you by:

Jeremy Tullett, 7 Midland Place, Derby DE1 2RR

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Email: jeremy.d.tullett@btinternet.com

A member of the **MidCon** committee enjoys himself at Manorcon.

