

The Queen's Lane Advertiser

(Incorporating Convention News)

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Edited by Jeremy Tullett

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

Forthcoming Conventions

Pasteboard and Plastic 16 Saltdean Scout Hut (about 5 miles east of Brighton) 29 October 2011 http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic	Southampton Games Afternoon St Deny's Community Centre, Priory Road, St. Denys, Southampton. 29th October 2011 http://www.boardgameextras.co.uk/games_day.php	Essex Games Day Writtle Village Hall 18 The Green Writtle Essex 5 November 2011 www.sorcon.co.uk
MidCon Board Games Convention 2011 & EuroDipCon 2011 Hallmark Hotel Derby DE1 2SQ 11-13 November 2011 www.midcon.org.uk	Eastbourne Con East Beach Hotel, Eastbourne 18-21 November 2011	Raiders of the Game Cupboard XIII The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street, Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. DE14 1DR 29 December 2011 www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk
StabCon 2012 Britannia Hotel Stockport 6-8 January 2012 bookings (at) stabcon.org.uk	OxCon 2012 21-22 January 2012 The Mitre Pub High Street Oxford OX1 4AG	SorCon Ramada Hotel Colchester 2-4 March 2012 www.sorcon.co.uk
TringCon XXIV Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 31 March 2012 www.fwtwr.com/tringcon	BayCon 2011 Exeter Court Hotel Kennford Devon 12-15 April 2012 www.baycon.co.uk	Telford Mini-Con III Shifnal Village Hall Aston Street Shifnal TF11 8DW 28th April 2012 www.gameslore.com
Beer and Pretzels The Town Hall Burton-on-Trent Staffordshire 12-13 May 2012 www.spiritgames.co.uk/bnpdetails.php	UK Games Expo The Clarendon Suites 2 Stirling Road Edgbaston, Birmingham 25-27 May 2012 www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk	Manorcon XXX Stamford Hall University of Leicester. 20-23 July 2012 www.manorcon.org.uk

Editorial (Jeremy Tullett)

Much has been made in the press of late about employers being unable to find suitable employees to fill vacancies, and I dare say that this might be true in some specialized areas, but are employers really so virtuous?

I have been 'job-seeking' for some time, applying for jobs that fit my CV and aspirations more or less closely. Leaving aside the behaviour of the employment agencies, who mostly ignore applicants unless the CV is an almost perfect fit – not that, most of the time, they actually know anything about the posts that they are trying to fill – I turn to the recruitment practices of employers, many of whom should know better.

I shall not name names, lest one of them happens to read this, but I cite the following egregious examples of poor management:

- A popular ploy is to tell candidates that they should assume that they have been unsuccessful if they hear nothing further from the employer. If you are very lucky, you might get a drop-dead date, but usually not.
- Invite a candidate to a second interview, and then ask an hour's worth of questions that can only be plausibly answered by an internal candidate.
- Tell a candidate that they are being put forward for a second interview, but, when he rings in to get the date, tell him that the job has been given to someone else.
- On arrival at an interview, tell the candidate that he is actually going to be interviewed for a more senior position, but at the end of the interview tell him that this position doesn't exist yet – the interviewer will now go away and try to persuade someone to create it.
- Invite just one external candidate for interview, and tell him that the internal candidates are not up to the job. Reject the candidate, but re-advertise with only a slightly different description, and then appoint an internal candidate anyway.

I get the sense from all of this that, actually, employers don't really know what they want themselves most of the time, and that moaning about the poor suitability of candidates arises from a poor job specification being posted in the first instance.

OK, they're not all bad. Siemens gave me a well-structured and considered interview, and rejected my application on perfectly reasonable grounds, and I suspect that were I ever actually to get across the threshold at Rolls-Royce, they'd probably do a good job too.

It is hard enough trying to find a job when everyone knows what they're doing. Poor recruitment practice does not make it any easier.

ManorCon XXIX

Results

ManorCon XXIX was once again a big success, with (as far as we are aware) no major problems to report.

This years tournaments were a repeat of last year. There were no big new games this year that we saw in advance, although given the amount of play it got, there could well have been a 7 Wonders tournament. If it continues to be as popular in the next 12 months, then we'll include it in the tournaments for 2012.

On the other end of the scale, 2011 will have been the last year for a couple of tournaments. Race for the Galaxy has dropped to just one game played, and Acquire to just two games played. Hence we will not be offering tournaments in these in 2012. This will be the first time there has not been an Acquire tournament at ManorCon since ManorCon started.

The Diplomacy and 18XX both continue to see a core group of players keep the tournament going, and as long as there are players who want to play these games, we will continue to offer tournaments in them.

Only 9 months to go until ManorCon XXX in 2012.

Thanks

ManorCon is run completely by volunteers. Some of those volunteers are daft enough to call themselves the committee, and spend 12 months a year organising ManorCon. But they could not do it by themselves. Therefore we'd like to thank everybody else who helped with the running of ManorCon XXIX:

For their help on the Registration Desk: Gordon Aickin, Peter Campbell, Kath Collman, Chris Dawe, Jerry Elsmore, Kevin Lee, Dane Maslen, Helen, Jim & Richard Payne, Ian D Wilson.

For organising tournaments: Gordon Aickin, Mark Fox, Steve Guest, Philip Hannay, Dane Maslen, Mark Rigby-Jones and Robin Walters.

For hosting the convention, and always being ready to deal with problems as quickly and effectively as possible, the University of Leicester.

18XX

The 18XX tournament had 22 players playing 17 games. Indeed, so much so, we saw the 18XX spill out from its normal room in the Library into other playing areas in Stamford House again; the takeover continues... The games included 3 each of 1865, 1817 and 1861, 2 of 1858, and 1 each of 18US, 1846, 1812, 18EU, 1848 and 18Ard. Two of the games resulted in bankruptcies (one game had two!) and this led to some very skewed scores. But this did not affect the overall result, with a

repeat of last year's runaway win by Juho Spellman, with three wins out of five, plus two other very solid results. Congratulations to Juho on another excellent performance this year.

Position	Name	Games	Won	Score
1	Juho Spellman	5	3	114.62
2	Danny Victor	4	2	98.38
3	Ian D. Wilson	5	3	91.11
4	Steve Thomas	2	1	78.32
5	Matthew Barratt	4	0	75.52
6	Dave Berry	4	0	73.10
7	Lucio Abbate	1	1	72.34
8	Jon Draper	4	1	71.53
9	Ben Brown	1	1	70.37
10	Dave Thorby	5	1	66.53
11	Barrington Beavis	3	1	66.50
12	Geoff Hardingham	3	0	61.47
13	Simon Craddock	1	0	53.62
14	Tim Troman	1	0	53.47
15	Gareth McSorley	5	1	50.22
16	Ken Simpson	5	1	40.78
17	Peter Eldridge	4	0	37.27
18	Alessandro Lala	1	0	36.78
19	John Hopkins	4	0	27.87
20	Stein-Eldar Johnsen	5	0	22.00
21	Richard Clyne	4	1	19.95
22	Greg Payne	3	0	13.54

Diplomacy

This year's tournament was back down to just 15 players, with 2 boards on Saturday, and 1 board on each of Friday and Sunday.

Friday 1				
Austria	David Wigglesworth	6	15.77	
England	Mick Dunnett	7	19.29	
France	Steve Agg	8	23.24	
Germany	Keith Smith	1904	0.40	
Italy	Emeric Miszti	1904	0.40	
Russia	Alfred Nicol	7	19.29	
Turkey	Owen Richards	6	15.77	

Friday's board saw a tight game – nobody wanting to give away a big lead to anybody else. Keith managed a spectacular collapse, dropping from 5 centres to 0 in 1904. A great welcome back after several years away from the hobby! But once he and Emeric were eliminated, the draw was agreed after 1905.

Saturday's round is also the Diplomacy Challenge – for players who only want to play one round. As ever, the extra incentive brought in more players, so that two boards were possible.

Saturday 1			
Austria	Emeric Miszti	6	15.64
England	David Norman	1906	0.60
France	Ivan Woodward	8	23.05
Germany	Tom Garretty	9	27.37
Italy	Alfred Nicol	2	5.76
Russia	Mick Dunnett	2	5.76
Turkey	Dave Simpson	7	19.14

Saturday 2			
Austria	Graeme Murphy	19	75.00
England	David Wigglesworth	3	1.00
France	Keith Smith	7	1.00
Germany	Robin Walters	1910	1.00
Italy	Nige Heales	4	1.00
Russia	Steve Agg	1	1.00
Turkey	Phillip Woods	1908	0.80

Board 1 saw another even game. France and Germany went for England from the start, while the South fought. However, once England was eliminated in 1906 and the France-Germany alliance turned south, a line quickly formed to stop them, and the draw was agreed in 1907.

On board 2 things were not resolved so quickly. Everybody was still in the game until 1908, by which time Austria was already getting large, and finished off the solo in 1910.

So, the Diplomacy Challenge Results, for the best Saturday score, were:

Position	Name	Board	Power	Centres	Score
1	Graeme Murphy	2	Austria	19	75.00
2	Tom Garretty	1	Germany	9	27.37
3	Ivan Woodward	1	France	8	23.05
4	Dave Simpson	1	Turkey	7	19.14
5	Emeric Miszti	1	Austria	6	15.64
6	Mick Dunnett	1	Russia	2	5.76
	Alfred Nicol	1	Italy	2	5.76
8	Keith Smith	2	France	7	1.00
	Steve Agg	2	Russia	1	1.00
	Robin Walters	2	Germany	0	1.00
	David Wigglesworth	2	England	3	1.00
	Nige Heales	2	Italy	4	1.00
13	Phillip Woods	2	Turkey	0	0.80
14	David Norman	1	England	0	0.60

With almost a 50 point lead, Graeme was a big favourite to win the tournament. It was possible for a few players to catch him without a solo, but it would take a huge result.

Sunday 1			
Austria	Mick Dunnett	7	17.88
England	Keith Smith	1905	0.50
France	Dave Simpson	11	34.81
Germany	Emeric Miszti	9	25.58
Italy	Steve Agg	4	9.23
Russia	Graeme Murphy	2	5.38
Turkey	Alfred Nicol	1	4.04

Dave made a good attempt to catch Graeme – and managed to keep Graeme down at the same time. But by 1907, he was unable to progress any further, and so the draw was agreed.

So the Final Results were:

Position	Name	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Overall
1	Graeme Murphy		75.00	5.38	80.38
2	Dave Simpson		19.14	34.81	53.94
3	Emeric Miszti	0.40	15.64	25.58	41.41
4	Mick Dunnett	19.29	5.76	17.88	40.06
5	Steve Agg	23.24	1.00	9.23	32.97
6	Tom Garretty		27.37		27.37
7	Alfred Nicol	19.29	5.76	4.04	27.08
8	Ivan Woodward		23.05		23.05
9	David Wigglesworth	15.77	1.00		16.77
10	Owen Richards	15.77			15.77
11	Keith Smith	0.40	1.00	0.50	1.70
12	Robin Walters		1.00		1.00
	Nige Heales		1.00		1.00
14	Phillip Woods		0.80		0.80
15	David Norman		0.60		0.60

Best Countries

Best Austria	Graeme Murphy	Saturday Board 2	19 centres
Best England	Mick Dunnett	Friday Board 1	7 centres
Best France	Dave Simpson	Sunday Board 1	11 centres
Best Germany	Tom Garretty	Saturday Board 1	9 centres
Best Italy	Steve Agg	Sunday Board 1	4 centres
Best Russia	Alfred Nicol	Friday Board 1	7 centres
Best Turkey	Dave Simpson	Saturday Board 1	7 centres

Other Awards

Award	Winner	Reason
Tournament Director's Award	Keith Smith	For going from 5 centres to 0 in one year

The ManorCon Diplomacy Tournament is part of the Tour of Britain, a series of tournaments throughout the year. It will end at MidCon, which this year is hosting EuroDipCon. With 2 wins from 2 events, Graeme is looking almost unbeatable, but a couple of other players are still in with a chance of catching him.

More information about The Tour of Britain, and the events that it comprises, can be found on the tour website, www.ukf2fdip.org.

Race for the Galaxy

Just one game played in this tournament. A sudden decrease from the 10 played last year. Hence this will be the last year for this tournament.

Position	Player	Played	Won	Score
1	Dave Thorby	1	1	0.60
2	Dave Berry	1	0	0.50
3	Jon Draper	1	0	0.43

Midnight Party

3 games played – unsurprisingly scheduled for Midnight on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The top three were:

Position	Name	Score
1	Andy Edgell	90.78
2	Stuart Malaure	89.70
3	Neil Munkman	74.19

St Petersburg

10 players played just 3 games. Unfortunately due to a clerical error, it wasn't clear that there was a St Petersburg tournament, which may be why so few results were submitted.

Position	Player	Games	Won	Score
1	Gary Duke	2	1	0.91
2	David Buckley	1	1	0.64
3	Steve Jones	1	1	0.61
4	Dave Anderson	1	0	0.52
5	Andy Bate	1	0	0.49
6	Andrew Gregory	1	0	0.48
7	Kevin Lee	1	0	0.46
8	Dave Thornton	1	0	0.44
9	Ian Pollard	1	0	0.44
10	Mark Stretch	1	0	0.38

Dominion

26 players played 41 games. Chris Dawe and Dane Maslen played 30 games each! After much discussion between Dane and David Norman, an experimental scoring system was tried, based on the maths used for calculating confidence levels in statistics!

Position	Name	Score	Wins/Games			
			2-player	3-player	4-player	5-player
1	Steve Thomas	0.55	1/2	1/2	8.5/14	
2	Simon Craddock	0.31			4.5/14	
3	Derek Wilson	0.29			5/18	
4	Dane Maslen	0.23		1/2	5/28	
5=	Tanya Fox	0.23			1/1	
5=	Iain Alexander	0.23	2/2			
7	Peter Campbell	0.22		0/1		1/1
8	Jack Rudd	0.19		1/1		
9=	Robert Dillon	0.18			1/2	
9=	Chris Martin	0.18			1/2	
9=	Adam Huby	0.18			1/2	
12	John Todd	0.17			2/9	
13	Eric Norton	0.15		0/1	1/1	0/1
14	Chris Dawe	0.11		0/2	3/28	
15	Helen Payne	0.10		1/1	0/1	0/1
16	Dave Thorby	0.03	1/4			
17=	Seth King	0.00			0/2	
17=	Rob Thomasson	0.00			0/2	
17=	John Mitchell	0.00			0/2	
17=	Jim Payne	0.00			0/1	0/1
17=	James Goodman	0.00			0/1	
17=	Greg Payne	0.00			0/1	
17=	David van Cauter	0.00			0/2	
17=	David Buckley	0.00		0/1		
17=	Andy Bate	0.00			0/1	0/1
17=	Andrew Gregory	0.00		0/1		

Treasure Hunt

Just three teams took part in this year's Crystal Maze themed Treasure Hunt.

Position	Team	Team Members
1	Three Odd Bods	David Winter, Hannah Gordon-Smith, David Tittle
2	Martin's Popular Front	Martin Burroughs, Stuart Stafford, Dave Gittins, John Gates
3	Ed Chewed Richard O'Brian's Pole	Ben Haytack, Carly Selby, Stuart Loetse, Hector Hurst

Puerto Rico

40 players played 13 games. This was the tenth Puerto Rico tournament at ManorCon, and although it's not as huge as it was originally, it's showing no signs of losing its appeal.

Position	Player	Played	Won	Score
1	Steve Jones	3	2	1.04
2	Nick Kinzett	2	1	0.97
3	John Webley	2	1	0.93
4	Gary Duke	2	1	0.91
5	Pete Campbell	2	0	0.89
6	Kevin Lee	3	0	0.82
7	Mark Stretch	2	0	0.74
8	David Buckley	2	0	0.71
9	Matthew Greet	2	0	0.71
10	A Tampion	1	1	0.66
11	Ben Brown	1	1	0.66
12	Tanya Lim	1	1	0.65
13	Eric Norton	1	1	0.65
14	Dave Anderson	1	1	0.64
15	Gail Baker	1	1	0.63
16	Stephen Frye	1	1	0.62
17	Alfred Nicol	1	1	0.62
18	Dave Berry	1	0	0.56
19	Greg Payne	1	0	0.56
20	David Wigglesworth	1	0	0.55
21	Michael Milford	1	0	0.54
22	Shaun Derrick	1	0	0.52
23	Neil Munkman	1	0	0.50
24	Andrew Gregory	1	0	0.49
24	Chris Green	1	0	0.49
26	John Todd	1	0	0.48
27	Darrell Perrins	1	0	0.48

Position	Player	Played	Won	Score
28	Tom Garretty	1	0	0.46
29	Owen Richards	1	0	0.45
30	Dave Thornton	1	0	0.44
31	Kelvin Allton	1	0	0.43
32	Sam Brown	1	0	0.42
33	Mick Dunnett	1	0	0.40
34	I Watters	1	0	0.40
35	Andy Bate	1	0	0.40
36	Alan Bellamy	1	0	0.38
37	Mark Ashfield	1	0	0.38
38	Simon Gatherer	1	0	0.37
39	Helen Payne	1	0	0.34
40	Rowan Baker	1	0	0.30

Croquet

Eight people signed up in the end, so it was a straight three-round knockout, with the match-ups randomly drawn - with an eight-sided die! After doing the draw, the tournament more or less ran itself, and the TD didn't really need to chase people up.

This year there was an early match-up between heavyweights, with joint-favourite Gary Duke against five-times champion Mick Haytack. Gary got his first ball around to the peg, and then Mick repeated the feat and pegged Gary's ball out! However, Gary managed to hit-in and finished it off with a three-ball break. The final pitted fellow Committee members Gary and Nick in a repeat of last year's first round match, but Gary got his revenge this time round. Congratulations to Gary on his second crown, and commiserations to Nick.

Gary Duke	14	Gary Duke	14	Gary Duke	14
Phil Honeybone	11				
Mick Haytack	14	Mick Haytack	7		
Ben Haytack	7				
Nick Harrison	14	Nick Harrison	14	Nick Harrison	6
Bekki Warren	3				
Stuart Stafford	10	Martin Burroughs	3		
Martin Burroughs	14				

Pop Quiz

Nine teams took part in this year's Pop Quiz, the first to be run by David Norman. Seven rounds of questions, varying from the common-or-garden garden name-that-tune type rounds, to the incredibly difficult Megamix round - 10 tracks all mixed together to make one new tune.

Team	5-4-3-2-1	Cover Versions	Connections	Album Covers	Megamix	Quick Fire	TV Themes	Joker	Total
Martins Back	15	16	20	15	17	17*	15	17	132
Sofa Fat Bastards	18	16*	20	14	12	16	12	16	124
Haytacks	9	18*	17	15	12	14	15	18	118
Uni Collective	18	17	16	12*	8	14	16	12	113
Limbo Cook	13	16	17	13	10	11	12*	12	104
Table Fat Bastards	13	19	12	11	8	13*	14	13	103
Cowboys & Indians	6	20	16*	8	5	13	14	16	98
Bar Staff	6	14	12	10	0	12	12*	12	78
Quizzie Rascals	5	8	14	11	1*	10	14	1	64

Congratulations to John Gates, Dave Gittins, Martin Burroughs and Stuart Stafford on their win.

The rounds were:

5-4-3-2-1	5 spoken questions with 5,4,3,2,1 answers required. 1 bonus point for full marks on each question
Cover Versions	Cover versions of well-known songs. Name the song and original artist
Connections	Nine tracks to name the song and artist. Question 10 is what connects the answers
Album Covers	Pictures of 20 album covers, put through a line drawing filter. Name the albums
Megamix	10 tracks mixed together to create one new track. Name the ten songs and artists
Quick Fire	20 tracks in 80 seconds. Name the songs.
TV Themes	20 TV Theme tunes. Name the TV Programme
Joker	Each team could play their joker at the start of a round (marked with a *), and scored double for that round

David is happy to run the Pop Quiz again next year – and promises that if he does, there won't be a Megamix round. Or if there is, it won't be *so* difficult!

Acquire

Just 2 games played, so after appearing at every ManorCon since the start, Acquire has finally reached the end of the road at ManorCon.

Position	Player	Played	Won	Score	Position	Player	Played	Won	Score
1	Mark Stretch	2	2	1.29	3	Helen Payne	1	0	0.51
2	Gary Duke	2	0	0.52	4	Andy Bate	1	0	0.30

Your Feedback

Thank you to the 75 people who filled out a Manorcon questionnaire. These indicate that most aspects of the convention ran very well – there was plenty of space to play games; the university accommodation was adequate; the variety of real ales and other drinks at the bar was much appreciated, although the last of the ales and some lagers ran out a little too early. The provision of free cold and hot drinks throughout the day was much appreciated; except when they ran out. The majority of those who expressed a preference preferred the new A4 format programme booklet. The main area of discontent was the inconsistent quality of food from the serverly. Although there was an overall improvement on last year, the quality and availability were still very inconsistent. We shall liaise with the university and see what improvements can be made for next year.

And Finally...

The numbers of attendees in 2011 was 8 down on 2010, with 218 attendees. There were 180 on Friday, 214 on Saturday, 203 on Sunday, and 116 on Monday. The number of rooms used was 159, up by 3 compared with 2010. Around 47% of bookings received were via the Internet, and 53% continued to book by post.

ManorCon XXX will be at Stamford Hall, University of Leicester next year, one weekend later than 2011 – 20th to 23rd July 2012.

To contact the committee, write to: David Norman, MANORCON, 38 Conigre Square, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8LJ, UK. Or e-mail info@manorcon.org.uk. More information on the ManorCon website, www.manorcon.org.uk.

MidCon XXXII Report (Jeremy Tullett)

MidCon XXXIII takes place in the comfortable Hallmark Hotel in Derby from Friday morning (11am) to Sunday evening (6pm).

MidCon is about playing games and meeting people. You can play any of the number of games people bring along with them, including the hot new games from the Spiel games fair in Essen, which takes place just a few weeks before **MidCon**. Popular games include 18XX, Puerto Rico, Power Grid and Agricola, but you are welcome to bring along your own favourite games – you will almost certainly find some people willing to play at least one of them.

The convention features:

- the opportunity to play board games with other gamers
- the **MidCon** general knowledge quiz for teams of 4 on Saturday evening
- a games shop
- a Bring & Buy stall where you can sell your games, or pick up a bargain

Costs

Attendance at **MidCon** costs £17-£20 for the whole weekend (day rates of £10 for each of Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and accommodation is available in the Hallmark Hotel or its sister establishment, the European Inn across the road, at reasonable rates. Both hotels have dedicated, free, car parks.

Derby railway station is about 50 metres away, and there is a bus link from there to East Midlands airport.

The City

Derby has a new Westfield centre for shoppers, and old ‘cathedral quarter’, and a number of interesting museums. There are at least two dining areas in the city (one near to the hotels), and a busy nightlife as well as several ‘real ale’ pubs.

Registration Fee and Room Prices

See the following booking form.

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

Current Registrations

As of 18th October, the following registrations have been received:

Phil Honeybone	Jerry Elsmore	Peter Campbell
Becky Warren	Paul & Geraldine Evans	Simon Craddock
Graeme Murphy	Dave Thorby	Tim Franklin
Chris Martin	Annie Pereik	Barrington Beavis
Dave Simpson	Dave Durant	Shaun Derrick
Bill O'Neill	Derek Wilson	Colin (& Jane) Harden
Lee Edwards	Lyndon Gurr	Michael Hutton
Jonty Blackwell	Stephen Webb	Toby Harris
Danny Victor	Paul & Julie Richards	Duncan Adams
Holger Fiedler	Andrew Havery	John Colledge
Dan Lester	Mark Fox	Richard Skinner
Geoff Hardingham	Stewart Pilling & Jan Petruccio	Femke Mulder
Paul Cook	Stephen Frye & Hayley Croombs	Jeff Cousins
Craig Nye	John Hopkins	Oli Cousins
Keith Smith	Iain Alexander	Steve Thomas
John Cudmore	Rob Thomasson	Paul Johnson
Pete Mason	Ken Simpson	Robin Walters
Steve Jones	Mike Oakes	Kath Collman
Gary Duke	Richard Adams	David Norman
Mick Haytack	Susan Killean	Chris Taylor
Kevin Lee	Sean MacMhaoinigh	Peter Card
Dave Thornton	John Harrington	Greg Payne
Jeff Edmunds	Paul Oakes	Keith (& Mary) Rapley
Angela Crick	Phil Davies	Nick Harrison
Ian Wilson	Phil Davies's partner	Mark Eddy
Malcolm Booker	Simon Forth	Alan Gates
Sean Byrne	Francesco Conte	David Wigglesworth
Adam Huby	Martin Wallace	Jon Draper
Mike Moor	Greg Moor	Mark Rattle
Rebecca Freeman	Vincent Reulet	Alan Harvey
Gemma Binns	Colin Freeman	Paul Allwod

... which is 81 so far, with a number of other folk known to be attending EDC, but not actually registered yet. This is running close to last year’s record-breaking registration count.

There are no more single rooms at the Hallmark, but there are twins and executive doubles. There is a limited supply of rooms of all types at the European Inn.

MidCon 2011 and EuroDipCon 2011 Booking Form

Registration Fee: £17 per person for the whole weekend, when booked before 1st November, £20 afterwards, and on the door. A single registration fee covers both events. The day rate is £10 per day. Please note: convention fees are *not* refundable.

Our block booking is held until 14th October, so YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

After November 1st we will not be able to accept postal bookings, and accommodation will have to be booked directly with the hotel, whilst the convention fee will have to be paid at the convention

Room Prices

Hallmark Hotel Accommodation: Bed and breakfast prices of £56:00 Single, £70:00 Double / Twin
Thursday 10 November 2011 available at £76:00 Single, £90:00 Double/Twin

European Inn Accommodation: Bed and breakfast prices of £46:00 Single, £60:00 Double /Twin
Thursday 10 November 2011 available at £66:00 Single, £80:00 Double / Twin

The European Inn is 50 metres from the Hallmark, across the street.

Payment for the Registration Fee and for Accommodation

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

Name(s)			
Address			
Post code		Tel:	
E-mail			
I enclose a sterling cheque (payable to "MidCon") at £17 (£20 after 1st November) for:		£	(See above for registration rates)

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 sterling cheque made out to the 'Hallmark 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 *here*:

Name on Card	16 Digit Card Number	Expiry date

I enclose a sterling cheque for 50% of the total cost of my room booking, payable to "Hallmark Hotel".

HOTEL NAME?	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
N^o of single rooms				
N^o of twin rooms				
N^o of double rooms				
Sharing with ...				

You will settle anything charged to your room directly with the hotel on your departure.

The cancellation policy of the hotel is complicated; please seek advice from a member of the **MidCon** committee if you have to cancel to minimise your financial exposure.

UK Games Expo 2011 (Mick Pearson)**UK GAMES EXPO 2012**

“Everything about games”

25th to 27th May 2012

The Clarendon Suites
2 Stirling Road, Edgbaston,
Birmingham B16 9SB
www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk

Dates and Times

Please note the change of weekend for UKGamesExpo 2012 – it is now the last weekend in May.

Boardgame Tournaments for 2012

We are pleased to announce that the Grand Board Game Tournament will again be a feature of Expo in 2012, organised by David Norman. Whilst the line-up is too early to announce, we are confident that we will again have the major games that have been a feature of Expo: Settlers of Catan, Carcassonne, Agricola, Seven Wonders and more.

Traders

The Exhibitor Pack is about to be distributed to traders for 2012. After a fantastic line-up in 2011, we are confident that 2012 will be even better. We are working hard to make sure that we have the cream of the pack at Expo.

Facebook

Due to changes in the Facebook terms and conditions as they apply to groups, which are now called pages, anyone who wants to remain (or join) the UKGamesExpo group should go to www.Facebook.com and find the group “UK Games Expo”, then just click on ‘like’ to join. Alternatively you can sign up to both our Facebook page and Twitter feed from the front page of our website. The link to our page is: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/UK-Games-Expo/119962004777238>

Website

The website will start to be updated at the end of October. Find out who will be there, what games have been arranged and much more. We are improving functionality on the site, so there may be some changes to how it looks and what information if there.

If you have any questions email me at mick@ukgamesexpo.co.uk.

Electronic Distribution of QLA (David Norman)

In the last issue, we said that QLA would be going to a partially web/e-mail based format. Unfortunately lack of spare time for the coordinator means that this has not happened this issue. We hope to have it in place for next issue.

OxCon 2012 (Robert Pope)

OxCon 2012 will be held on the 21st and 22nd of January 2012, at The Mitre Pub on Oxford High Street, (OX1 4AG). The room is booked until the closing time of the Pub on both days. Casual games will be going on through both days, along with the Puerto Rico tournament on the Saturday and the Settlers of Catan tournament on the Sunday. While we have a few copies of these games,

any extra copies that could be used for the event would be greatly appreciated. The tournaments will begin at 11:00 on each day but we ask that competitors arrive 10 minutes before this so that we can start promptly. There will of course be prizes for the winners of these tournaments.

On the Friday 20th there will be the traditional pre-OxCon going for a meal (probably pizza express) before returning to the societies usual meeting place for some games. If you are interested in this please email me at the address below so I can get an idea for numbers. I'm sure there will also be a trip to a local Indian restaurant on the Saturday that people are welcome to come along to.

The cost will be £4 entry (for the whole weekend) plus £3 for each tournament you wish to enter.

We hope to see lots of you there, with lots of exciting games; as well as some classics. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me at robert.pope@sjc.ox.ac.uk.

Halesowen Boardgamers (Mike Head)

We meet every Wednesday at 7:30pm to play the latest and the best Eurogames. Our home since 2002 has been:

Townsend Social Club,
2, Stourbridge Road,
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 3US

on the A458 road, 5 minutes drive from M5 junction 3. Check our website www.halesowenboardgamers.org.uk for further details, or email Mike Head at [yeltzfan\(at\)hotmail.com](mailto:yeltzfan(at)hotmail.com)

The Queen's Lane Advertiser (incorporating Convention News)

Editor: Jeremy Tullett

Coordinator: David Norman

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\(at\)ellought.demon.co.uk](mailto:david(at)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

Telephone: 0870 190 1977 (Office) 01332-385322 (Home)

Email: [Jeremy.d.tullett\(at\)btinternet.com](mailto:Jeremy.d.tullett(at)btinternet.com)