

The Queen's Lane Advertiser

(Incorporating Convention News)

Issue Number 41

Printed in Wiltshire

October 2012

Edited by Jeremy Tullett

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

Inside this issue:

- **MidCon 2012** Progress Report
- **ManorCon XXX** Roundup and Tournament Results

Forthcoming Conventions

Liverpool One Day Gaming Event Scythe & Teacup Games Cafe, 61a Kempston Street, Liverpool, L3 8HE 4 November 2012 (11am-11pm) http://scytheandteacup.co.uk/	Autumn Beer and Pretzels The Town Hall Burton-on-Trent Staffordshire 3-4 November 2012 www.spiritgames.co.uk	Pasteboard and Plastic 19 The Scout Hut Saltdean Brighton 10 November 2012 uk.groups.yahoo.com/ group/pasteboardandplastic
MidCon XXXIV Hallmark Hotel Derby 9-11 November 2012 jeremy.d.tullett@btinternet.com www.midcon.org.uk	Essex Games Day Writtle Village Hall 18 The Green Writtle Essex 9 December 2012	Raiders of the Game Cupboard XXI The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent DE14 1DR 28 December 2012 www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk
Winter Stabcon 2012 Britannia Hotel Stockport 4-6 January 2013 bookings@stabcon.org.uk	SoRCon Ramada Hotel Colchester 1-3 March 2013 info@sorcon.co.uk www.sorcon.co.uk	Raiders of the Game Cupboard XXII The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent DE14 1DR 23 March 2013 www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk
TringCon XXVI Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth, Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 6 April 2013 Keith Thomasson: tringcon@fwtwr.com www.fwtwr.com/tringcon	BayCon Exeter Court Hotel Kennford Devon 4-7 April 2013 www.baycon.co.uk	Beer and Pretzels The Town Hall Burton upon Trent 18-19 May 2013 www.spiritgames.co.uk/bnpdetails.php
UK Games Expo NEC Hilton Metropole Birmingham 24-26 May 2013 richard@ukgamesexpo.co.uk www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk	BBBCon Skylark Hotel, Aviation Way Southend-On-Sea Essex SS2 6UN 21-23 June 2013 gamingfun@bbbcon.org.uk http://www.bbbcon.org.uk/	Derby on Board Games Bean Caffe, Friar Gate Studios, Derby Last Wednesday of the month 17:30-22:30

Editorial (Jeremy Tullett)

A triangular castle is not a thing that you meet every day. There's just one in Britain, and maybe only a couple of others in Europe, so it was hard to resist a visit there on a recent long weekend in SW Scotland.

Caerlaverock Castle sits in a moat, not far from Dumfries. The outer walls are 14th century, but a



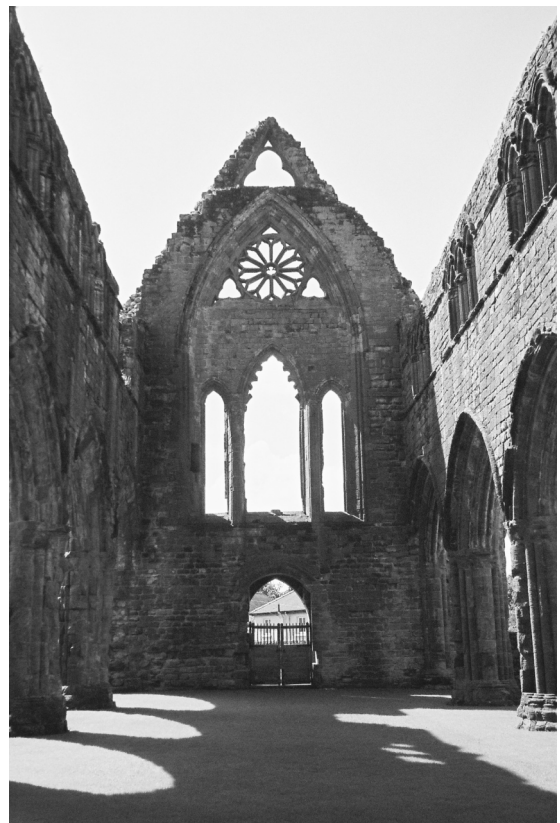
renaissance interior was added in the early 1600s. The day we visited, the sun came out and a wedding party arrived, complete with piper, only adding to the romantic charm of the setting. Quite why it was built in this triangular shape isn't known, but it is rather splendid.

A short distance away as the crow flies, but a longer drive to the top of the estuary and back is Sweetheart Abbey, so called because Lady Dervorgilla of Galloway (who founded it) was laid to rest there next to the embalmed heart of her husband. Historic Scotland has somewhat spoiled the experience by surrounding the tower in scaffolding for restoration work, although it wasn't offering a discount for the inconvenience. There was a nice tea shop there, and scoffing a cream tea with a view of the sunshine falling on the Abbey walls was very pleasant.

Since this was about the sunniest day of 2012, and one of the warmest, we decided to try to locate Lochmaben Castle on the way back to our hotel in Moffat.

This proved to be quite difficult. Whilst it is not hard to locate Loch Maben, signage to the castle is sparse, and the site, when you find it, is located down a rather obscure country lane. It is, however, unsupervised, so the visit is free.

Lochmaben Castle is in something of a parlous state, having been left to the attention of the ivy. It is a place of some historic significance, having been built by Edward I during his expeditions into Scotland, but was effectively redundant by the 17th century, and has been allowed to crumble away, with much of its facing stonework robbed out. It ought to have a nice view of the loch, but there's stand of trees in the way.





An unusual feature of this castle is the watercourse running through it, which clearly acted as a drain, but also as a sort of internal moat.

The remains of an earlier motte and bailey are nearby, but apparently all that's left is the mound, which is now an hazard on the local golf course.

At the other extreme, we have the “hunting lodge” also known as Drumlanrig Castle, “the ancient Douglas stronghold and Dumfriesshire home of the Duke & Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry”.

In the way of these structures, many of the locals were forcibly rehoused to ensure that no other dwellings were visible from the house. The gardens are a major feature of this property, although the grey nature of the day we visited meant that they were not looking their best. The estate is open



for part of the year as a country park, and visitors may hire bicycles. Come the shooting season, though, it is closed to the public, and the hunting parties arrive.

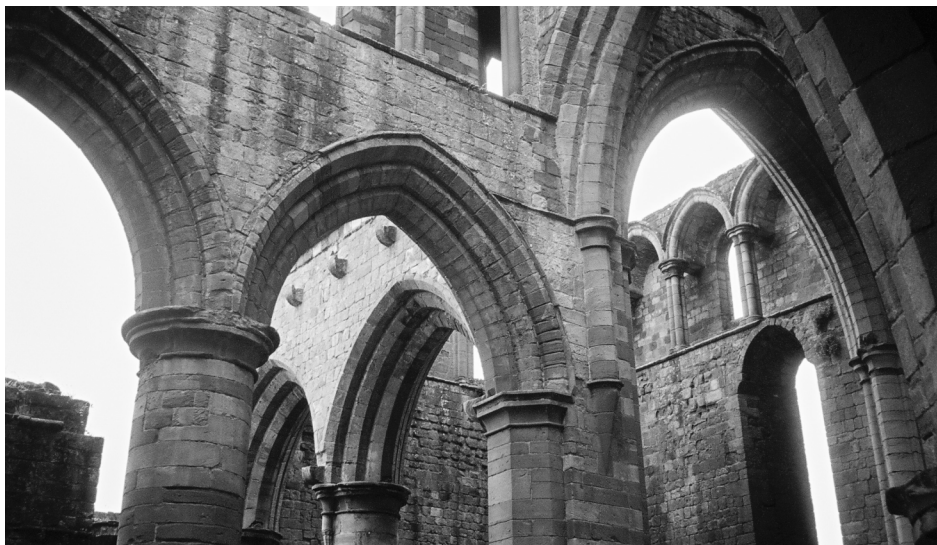


Not far away, and still on the Buccleuch estate, although cared for by the Historic Scotland, is the rather different Morton Castle. It isn't very big, and was probably largely rebuilt in the 1600s on the site of a late 13th century building. Its main feature is its location. Perched

on a bluff overlooking an (artificial) loch, there are great views along Nithsdale. Another castle that is hard to locate, it was well worth the effort, and the midges seemed to appreciate our arrival. It was the only day of our short visit that the insects were a nuisance, but they didn't seem to be bothering the fisherman in the loch below. It, too, has a triangular plan, although it doesn't seem to count as a triangular castle! I think that possibly it is regarded as having been little more than a fortified manor house, or hunting lodge.

On our return to England the next day we passed through Gretna Green, horribly commercialised, although a bargain was obtained at an outlet centre. I counted three "original" blacksmith's shops where marriages were said to have taken place.

We tried to find lunch in Brampton, but couldn't find anywhere to park, so Brampton didn't get the benefit of our tourist pound. Instead, we discovered that Lanercost Priory, just down the road, has a large and quite pleasant restaurant attached to it. After taking our refreshment, we called at the Priory itself. Never particularly large, the place suffered in the Dissolution of the Monasteries under Henry VIII. However, a part of it is still in use as the parish church.



We then returned via Birdoswald Fort on Hadrian's Wall to complete an interesting long weekend away, during which we pretty much avoided the rain – a remarkable achievement, given the weather we've had this summer.

MidCon 2012 Progress Report (Jeremy Tullett)

There are **NO SINGLE** rooms left at the Hallmark **Hotel**; we have filled all 35 available. If you require a single room, you may still obtain a single room at the Hallmark **Inn**, across the road, or take a Double room for single occupancy in the Hotel, which is more expensive than a single.

Booking is going briskly, and is slightly ahead of the same date in 2010. It is behind 2011, but we had EuroDipCon with us then, which is probably why.

At 14th October, we have 98 gamers registered. If you think you should be on this list, and are not, please let me know urgently.

Lee Edwards	Mark Jones	Hilary Jones
Derek Wilson	Ken Simpson	Bill O'Neill
Malcolm Booker	John Cudmore	Chris Martin
Gemma Binns	Colin Freeman	Bill Mayling
Graeme Murphy	Colin & Jane Harden	Daniel Victor
Mike Oakes	Jeff Edmunds & Angela Crick	Jeff Cousins
Oli Cousins	Susan Killeen	Richard Adams
Craig Nye	Steve Jones	Mark Fox
John Colledge	Ian D. Wilson	Keith & Mary Rapley

John Harrington	Paul Oakes	Jen Petruccio
Stewart Pilling	Phil Davies	Phil Davies's friend
Ryan Anonymous	Jen Marshall	Nigel Pepper
Teik Chooi Oh	Lisa Li	Stephen Cowley
Simon Bracegirdle	Francis Tresham	Tim Cockitt
Gary Duke	Stephen Webb	Lyndon Gurr
Barrington Beavis	Mark Stretch	Alan Harvey
Jeremy Tullett	Peter Campbell	Mr & Mrs Paul Evans
Peter Eldridge	Herbert Gratz	Paull Heppell
Paul Speck	Michael Roscoe	Ruth Cooper
Mark Wright	Pete & Cathy Mason	Martin Steventon
Tony Bromley	Shaun Derrick	Dave Thorby
Kath Collman	Theo Dodgson	Rob Thomasson
Phil Woods	David Blowers	Angela Counce
David Smith	John Hopkins	Mike Hutton
Simon Forth	Robin Walters	Katy Walters
Sean Byrne	Matthew Barrett	Rob Kinsey
Iain Alexander	Philip Hannay	Fran Snook
Dave Simpson	Andrew Pymont	David Winter
Peter Card	Paul Cook	Colin McNulty
Jadzia McNulty	Marcus Zielinski	Steve Thomas
Alan Gates	Simon Craddock	Adam Siejka
Brian Moore	Richard Beattie	Steven Agg
Paul Allwood	David Norman	

Spirit Games has been confirmed as the provider of the games stall, and the secondhand games sale will also happen as previously. It would be helpful if vendors of secondhand games could provide John Harrington (or me) with a list of what they are selling and the target price ahead of the convention.

Directions

The Hallmark Hotel and Hallmark Inn are located within 100 metres of Derby railway station. Both hotels have their own free car parks. Use the postcode DE1 2SQ if using satnav, or find the railway station in Midland Road

If you find yourself at the railway station, but with a view of Derby College and the former roundhouse, you are in Pride Park, and on the wrong side of the railway line.

The Hotel's car park entrance is on Nelson Street, reached via a turn into Carrington Street from Midland Road. The Inn's car park is on Midland and the way in is under the hotel.

Derby is served by two trains an hour from London St. Pancras International. Journey time is about 1h45m, courtesy of East Midlands trains.

CrossCountry runs an hourly service from Bournemouth/Southampton via Oxford and Birmingham, and another hourly service from Plymouth via Bristol and Birmingham. These services run, in the opposite direction, from Edinburgh and Newcastle, one via Leeds and the other via Doncaster.

There are also regional connections to Crewe (hourly direct service), the north-west (via Crewe or Manchester and Sheffield), the East (via Leicester or Nottingham), and Newport/Cardiff.

The Hotel is about 20m in front of the train station main exit. The Inn is about 100m away along Midland Road – walk between the Hallmark and Aston Court Hotels towards the Royal Mail building.

Derby is on the National Express coach network. The coach stop is at the bus station, which is about a mile from the hotels. Some local buses run from there to the railway station.

MidCon 2012 Booking Form

Registration Fee

£20 per person for the whole weekend, when booked before 1st November, £25 afterwards, and on the door. The day rates are £10/£15/£10 for Friday/Saturday/Sunday. Please note: convention fees are *not* refundable.

Our block booking is held until 12th October, so YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

After October 12th, rooms will be open for sale to the open public, and so are likely to sell out. After 1st November 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 £70.00 Double (single occupancy), £70.00 Double / Twin per room per night

Thursday 10 November 2011 available at £63.00 Single, £75.00 Double/Twin

Hallmark Inn Accommodation: Bed and breakfast prices of £48.00 Single, £60.00 Double /Twin per room per night

Thursday 10 November 2011 available at £53.00 Single, £65.00 Double / Twin

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 Convention"), or cash. We *cannot* collect convention fees from credit cards.

Name(s)			
Address			
		Tel:	
Post code			
E-mail			
I enclose a sterling cheque (payable to "MidCon Convention") at £20 (£25 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.

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

ManorCon XXX - Results

ManorCon XXX was once again a big success, with (as far as we are aware) no major problems to report, although the ongoing refurbishment of Bowder Court did make for a slightly longer (and bouncier) walk to and from the en-suite accommodation.

This year was the first year of the 7 Wonders tournament. Following its widespread play at ManorCon 2011, it once again made it to the table many times, with 38 players entering the tournament.

All in all, a successful ManorCon – the last one at Stamford Hall. But more about that later.

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 XXX:

For their help on the Registration Desk: Kath Collman, James Goodman, Kevin Lee, Dane Maslen, Bill Mayling, Eric Norton, Ian D Wilson.

For organising tournaments: Hannah Gordon-Smith, Steve Guest, Dane Maslen, David Tittle, David Winter

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

18XX

The 18XX tournament had 21 players playing 16 games, one less respectively than last year. The games included three of 1861, two of 1829 Mainline, and 1 each of 1846, 18Ard, 1826, 1822, 1858, 1817, 1837, 1812, 1847, 1880 and 18GB. The tournament was graced this year with the presence of Francis Tresham, the designer of the original 1829, and without whom this tournament would not have been possible. About half way through the weekend, you could hardly see daylight between the scores of the eventual first and second placed players, but after Sunday's results came in, we had a runaway win by Danny Victor, with three wins out of three. Congratulations to Danny on winning the tournament for, I believe, the first time.

Rank	Name	Games	Wins	Score
1	Danny Victor	3	3	113.81
2	Ken Simpson	5	2	81.06
3	Ian D. Wilson	4	2	78.22
4	Francis Tresham	2	1	73.23
5	Marcus Barbor	2	1	73.11
6	Dave Goldthorpe	1	1	72.27
7	Dave Thorby	3	0	67.27
8	Peter Eldridge	3	1	64.68
9	Lyndon Gurr	7	2	63.36
10	Jon Draper	4	0	61.34
11	Ben Brown	1	0	59.56
12	Stephen Webb	5	1	58.75
13	Geoff Hardingham	4	0	56.06
14	Steve Thomas	4	1	49.43
15	Chris Dawe	1	0	48.14
16	Richard Clyne	4	1	44.31
17	Matthew Barratt	3	0	40.13
18	Greg Payne	1	0	34.51
19	Dave Berry	3	0	26.62
20	Mark Wright	1	0	26.32
21	John Hopkins	2	0	23.65

Treasure Hunt

Four teams hunted for treasure on the island of Catan. The team who made the mistake of winning, and therefore have to set the treasure hunt next year, were "The Red Team" - Mark Jones, Timothy Luffingham, David Norman, Phil Williams.

Croquet

Ten people signed up in the end, so I gave everybody bar four a bye in the first round, and randomly drew the match-ups - with an eight-sided die and a four-sided die! After doing the draw, the tournament more or less ran itself, and I didn't really need to chase people up; well done everybody!

There was a desperately close match between Phil Honeybone and Timothy Luffingham. I understand that after getting both of his balls to the peg, Phil successfully pegged out one ball with his croquet shot, but left himself wired from the peg, and Timothy was able to clean up; unlucky blow, Phil. The final pitted fellow Committee members Gary and Nick in a repeat of last year's final, and Gary prevailed again. Congratulations to Gary on his third crown, and commiserations to Nick.

Gary Duke		Gary Duke	14				
Bye				Gary Duke	14		
Stuart Stafford		Stuart Stafford	5				
Bye						Gary Duke	14
Timothy Luffingham		Timothy Luffingham	14				
Bye				Timothy Luffingham	1		
Phil Honeybone	14	Phil Honeybone	13				
David Robson	5						
Bekki Warren	10	Martin Burroughs	14				
Martin Burroughs	14			Martin Burroughs	3		
Rachel Robson		Rachel Robson	7				
Bye						Nick Harrison	4
Marek Siejka		Marek Siejka	5				
Bye				Nick Harrison	14		
Nick Harrison		Nick Harrison	14				
Bye							

St. Petersburg

18 players played 9 games.

Rank	Player	Games	Won	Score	Rank	Player	Games	Won	Score
1	Andy Gregory	2	1	95.45	10	Timothy Luffingham	1	0	54.67
2	Matthew Greet	3	2	95.30	11	Callum Perry	1	0	52.00
3	Andy Bate	2	1	93.95	12	Gary Duke	1	0	51.98
4	David Buckley	2	1	92.98	13	Peter Campbell	1	0	51.34
5	Jack Rudd	2	1	90.41	14	Steve Jones	1	0	50.96
6	Ian Harris	2	0	81.90	15	Chris Paterson	1	0	47.46
7	Bill Mayling	5	0	80.53	16	Mark Stretch	1	0	45.50
8	Kevin Lee	1	1	61.32	17	Dave Thornton	1	0	41.38
9	Karianne Fog Heen	1	1	59.50	18	JP Houghton	1	0	37.33

Diplomacy

This year's tournament was down to just 9 players, and just one board each day. There were several more people who would have played to make up a second board if needed – but not enough to make a second board.

Friday 1			
Austria	Steve Agg	1907	0.70
England	Callum Perry	9	27.25
France	Rob Kinsey	7	19.06
Germany	Theo Dodgson	2	5.74
Italy	Dave Simpson	9	27.25
Russia	David Wigglesworth	3	7.58
Turkey	Keith Smith	4	9.84

Unusually, the Friday game went the full distance. However, in a tight game, 9 years of play still didn't let anybody get past 9 centres, leaving the tournament wide open.

Saturday 1			
Austria	Keith Smith	1	3.43
England	Tom Garretty	1905	0.50
France	Dave Simpson	11	29.58
Germany	David Wigglesworth	11	29.58
Italy	Callum Perry	1908	0.80
Russia	Steve Massey	11	29.58
Turkey	Steve Agg	1907	0.70

The Saturday game saw a group hug between Dave, David and Steve. They originally asked for an 11-11-11-1 draw to be agreed by vote in 1907, with the centre counts at 11-9-9-4-1. The tournament rules require that results are played out, but a further four turns didn't see any of them gain any ambition, so the game drew to a close at the planned result.

The Saturday round is usually also the Diplomacy Challenge, which is intended to be a competition for those who didn't want to play multiple games of Diplomacy. But as none of the players were prepared to fight for the board top, and all three of whom had forgotten that there was a prize for the best Saturday result, it was decided that rather than sawing the trophy in three, it wasn't awarded.

Going into the Sunday game, Dave Simpson had topped both rounds, so had a good lead. But with neither of the games being that high scoring, there were still many people who could catch him...

Sunday 1			
Austria	Dave Simpson	10	29.10
England	Rob Kinsey	9	24.81
France	David Wigglesworth	1	3.92
Germany	Callum Perry	1907	0.70
Italy	Steve Agg	9	24.81
Russia	Keith Smith	1908	0.80
Turkey	Theo Dodgson	5	11.38

... or on the other hand, they could let him top the Sunday board as well, giving him a convincing win overall.

So the Final Results were:

Rank	Name	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Overall
1	Dave Simpson	27.25	29.58	29.10	58.68
2	Rob Kinsey	19.06		24.81	43.87
3	David Wigglesworth	7.58	29.58	3.92	37.16
4	Steve Massey		29.58		29.58
5	Callum Perry	27.25	0.80	0.70	28.05
6	Steve Agg	0.70	0.70	24.81	25.51
7	Theo Dodgson	5.74		11.38	17.12
8	Keith Smith	9.84	3.43	0.80	13.27
9	Tom Garretty		0.50		0.50

Best Countries

Best Austria	Dave Simpson	Sunday Board 1	10 centres
Best England	Callum Perry	Saturday Board 1	9 centres
Best France	Dave Simpson	Saturday Board 1	11 centres
Best Germany	David Wigglesworth	Saturday Board 1	11 centres
Best Italy	Dave Simpson	Friday Board 1	9 centres
Best Russia	Steve Massey	Saturday Board 1	11 centres
Best Turkey	Theo Dodgson	Sunday Board 1	5 centres

Other Awards

The **Tournament Director's Award** was awarded to Lucy Dodgson, for being the only player nobody could stab (except when she wasn't looking...). (Lucy was Theo's younger sister, who plays Diplomacy with the family at home, but was too young to play in the tournament. Before the first game, Dave Simpson was saying how nobody could stab someone that cute - until she turned to look at everybody else, and he started vigourously nodding behind her. As soon as she turned back, he went back to calmly shaking his head again).

The ManorCon Diplomacy Tournament is part of the Tour of Britain, a series of tournaments throughout the year. This year it will consist of three tournaments – KentKon (which happened just after Easter), ManorCon and MidCon. After two events, David Wigglesworth is in the lead, having added third place at ManorCon to his win at KentKon. But Dave Simpson's ManorCon win has brought him into a very close second place.

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

Dominion

17 players, 37 games, with Chris Dawe and Derek Wilson playing 20 games each. Unlike last year there were no 2-player or 5-player games entered into the tournament.

Rank	Name	Score	Wins/Games		Rank	Name	Score	Wins/Games	
			3-player	4-player				3-player	4-player
1	Chris Martin	0.586	1/2	5/5	8=	Helen Payne	0.145	-	1/3
2	Chris Dawe	0.381	4/7	4/13	8=	Eric Norton	0.145	-	1/3
3	Adam Huby	0.320	1/4	3/6	11	Iain Alexander	0.088	1/6	1/10
4	Derek Wilson	0.284	3/6	3/14	12=	Zara Stuart	0.000	-	0/2
5=	Steve Thomas	0.246	-	3/5	12=	Terry Warren	0.000	0/6	0/9
5=	Richard Payne	0.246	-	3/5	12=	Sam Brown	0.000	-	0/5
7	Dane Maslen	0.204	2/5	2/12	12=	Raf Swinscoe	0.000	-	0/2
8=	Peter Campbell	0.145	-	1/3	12=	Katy Walters	0.000	-	0/1
					12=	Jake Hanny	0.000	-	0/2

Puerto Rico

22 players played 7 games.

Rank	Name	Games	Won	Score	Rank	Name	Games	Won	Score
1	Matthew Greet	3	1	96.13	12	Kevin Lee	1	0	50.65
2	Bill Mayling	4	1	95.90	13	Andrew Pymont	1	0	49.26
3	Timothy Luffingham	2	1	86.87	14	Sean Pritchard	1	0	48.03
4	Gary Duke	2	1	85.30	15	Phil Davies	1	0	47.43
5	Chris Patterson	2	0	83.09	16	Steve Jones	1	0	47.29
6	Dave Thornton	1	1	66.04	17	Alan Bellamy	1	0	46.46
7	James Owen-John	1	1	62.88	18	Mark Ashfield	1	0	45.45
8	Jack Rudd	1	1	61.16	19	Ian Harris	1	0	43.14
9	Nicola Widdowson	1	0	56.91	20	Richard Beattie	1	0	43.10
10	Paul Oakes	1	0	51.72	21	Andy Merritt	1	0	41.33
11	David Buckley	1	0	51.23	22	Andy Bate	1	0	39.82

7 Wonders

Making its first appearance at ManorCon, the 7 Wonders Tournament had more games and more players than any other tournament!

Rank	Player	Games	Won	Score	Rank	Player	Games	Won	Score
1	Philip Honeybone	5	2	117.28	20	Kath Collman	2	0	71.30
2	Karianne Fog Heen	3	2	112.85	21	Helen Payne	2	0	69.57
3	Chris Patterson	5	2	108.86	22	Sam Brown	2	0	68.07
4	Stephen Webb	6	2	106.11	23	David Goldthorpe	1	1	67.41
5	Bekki Warren	5	1	104.96	24	James Goodman	1	1	61.25
6	Zara Stuart	2	1	103.30	25	Jim Payne	1	0	60.73
7	Justin Beech	6	2	100.47	26	Raf Swinscoe	2	0	55.74
8	Ian Harris	3	1	100.39	27	David Van-Cauter	1	0	55.21
9	Matthew Greet	6	1	99.23	28	Ian Harris	1	0	48.12
10	Mark Stretch	2	1	94.06	29	Simon Wilcock	1	0	46.56
11	Bill Mayling	9	1	92.62	30	Richard Frost	1	0	45.54
12	Kevin Lee	2	0	85.02	31	B Dylan	1	0	44.79
13	Andy Bate	3	0	82.42	32	Lucy Dodgson	1	0	41.76
14	Martin Holden	2	0	81.74	33	Chris Taylor	1	0	41.33
15	Andy Gregory	2	0	80.19	34	Terry Warren	1	0	40.46
16	Andrew Lightwing	2	0	79.66	35	Steve King	1	0	39.58
17	Alan Bellamy	2	0	76.42	36	Michael Milford	1	0	39.47
18	Steve Massey	2	0	73.86	37	Richard Payne	1	0	37.22
19	John Colledge	2	0	73.04	38	Andrew Simpson	1	0	37.11

Midnight Party

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

Rank	Name	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Overall
1	John Mitchell	13	7	7	6.75
2	Neil Monkman	12	8	3	5.75
3	Chris Martin	11			5.50
3	Ian Wilson	15	6	1	5.50
5	Dave Cowie	8		7	5.00
5	Steve Guest	10	1	9	5.00
7	Dave Holmes	4	11	2	4.25
8	Alex Zysslaw	7	4	5	4.00
9	Jonathan Elcock	2	9		3.67
9	Mike Townsend	9	2		3.67
11	Gail Baker	7	3	4	3.50
11	Ian Watters	7			3.50
13	Stuart Malaure	4	6		3.33
14	Alan Bellamy	2			1.00

Pop Quiz

Nine teams took part in this year's Pop Quiz, once again run by David Norman. Seven rounds of questions, including some of the quizmasters favourites from last year, and some new rounds.

Team	MLSD	Connections	Polyphonic	Faces	Megamix	Quick Fire	Cover Versions	Joker	Total
Connect 4	14.5	16	16	12	19	14	18*	18	127.5
Team Fat Sofa	9.5	15*	18	16	19	11	20	15	123.5
It Legibly	7.5	17	20	14.5	17	10	17.5*	17.5	121
Team Fat Bastard	8	15	20	9	16	11*	17	11	107
Team Fat Barstool	4	11*	19	6	20	12	17	11	100
ZIOL	8.5	16	10	12	16	10*	15	10	97.5
S Bar Massive	6.5	4	17*	9	16	10	15	17	94.5
Sod the Quiche	9	14	14	13	11	8*	11	7	86
Indecisive	5	11	13	10	18	8*	8	8	81

Congratulations to Alex Anastasiou, Phil Davies, Hannah Gordon-Smith and Niki Widdowson on their win.

The rounds were:

MLSD	The Million Love Song Drop - 8 multi-choice questions. Select as many answers as you like, but you score more points if you select fewer answers - provided you selected the right one.
Connections	Nine tracks to name the song and artist. Question 10 is what connects the answers. This year, either the song or artist contained a US President.
Polyphonic Round	10 well known tracks from Bohemian Rhapsody to Bjork, played as polyphonic ringtones. Name the song and artist.
Faces	Pictures of 20 famous people from the world of music. Name the people.
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.
Cover Versions	Cover versions of well known songs, including Sheryl Crow covering Guns and Roses, Britney Spears covering Joan Jet & The Blackhearts, and Bill Bailey playing Metalica - Enter Sandman on a xylophone of car klaxons. Name the song and original artist.
Joker	Each team could play their joker at the start of a round (marked with a *), and scored double for that round.

With David having made the mistake of winning the Treasure Hunt, Phil Hannay will be running the Pop Quiz next year.

Your Feedback

Thank you to those who filled out the Manorcon Questionnaire. The number of forms we received was greatly reduced from last year, probably because so many things will be different next year anyway. However, the forms we did get provided a lot of useful information that we can include in next year's Programme Booklet and things we can work on to improve the convention.

Food and Drink

Those who commented on the bar only had good things to say. However, we did have a number of negative comments about the catering in the canteen, especially the quality of the breakfasts, the lack of vegetarian and vegan options, and the price of the teas/coffees available through the day. Next year we will be dealing with a different set of kitchen staff, so we will be looking to get these things right from the start.

Accommodation and Parking

There were a few comments about noise in the accommodation blocks, doors that didn't close properly and rubbish not being collected. Because of the building works, parking was also a little difficult this year. But again, it will all be different next year, and hopefully being in a building which is only seven years old, it will still work properly, and won't need refurbishing yet! As ever, if you do have any problems with the building, please do tell us during the convention, so we can request that they are fixed as soon as possible.

Lost Property

We have a number of items of lost property

- A copy of "Nobody is Perfect"
- A copy of "Es Geht, Seinen Gang"
- A copy of Puerto Rico
- A checked shirt
- A black coat
- A red keyring in the shape of a lizard

If any of these are yours, please contact a member of the committee to claim them.

Rounding Things Up

The number of attendees was the highest since we moved to Leicester from Birmingham, at 232 (up 14 from 2011). There were 188 on Friday, 223 on Saturday, 212 on Sunday, and 124 on Monday. The number of rooms used was 165, up by 6 compared to 2011. We seemed to reach a tipping point with Internet bookings - not only were more advanced bookings made via the Internet than postally for the first time, but the proportion was around 65% Internet to 35% postal.

ManorCon XXXI – A New Home

After six years in Stamford Hall & Stamford House, ManorCon is moving – right across the road to John Foster Hall. John Foster Hall is immediately opposite the entrance to the car park for the ensuite accommodation we used at Stamford Hall. It is the newest hall on the campus, having only opened in 2006.

The reason for the move is simple. The new venue is much better suited to the needs of ManorCon. One of the main downsides of Stamford Hall/House has been the two separate gaming areas; the move to John Foster will bring a return to a much more integrated convention.

John Foster Dining Hall is significantly larger than Stamford Hall, and at a squeeze, could accommodate the whole of ManorCon. Right across the corridor from it is the Quenby Suite, which will host the Diplomacy and other games. And next to the Quenby Suite is the bar, which has low tables and comfy chairs which can be used for relaxed gaming.

Below the Quenby Suite is the Senior Common Room, which will be the quiet gaming room (and being a modern building, it is quiet). And above the Quenby Suite and bar are four more rooms which can each hold 30-60 people, which we can use for things like the Second Hand Games Sale, and any other need that arises.

Adjacent to John Foster Hall is a space which is surrounded by round buildings. Each of these is an accommodation block, with between 18 and 30 rooms in each block. With around 20 blocks available, there is far more accommodation than we can possibly need. These are all en-suite, but because they are the only type of accommodation which will be available to us, we have been offered a significant price reduction – these will cost only slightly more than standard single accommodation cost in 2012.

Overall, we think the move to John Foster Hall is a big improvement, and we look forwards to seeing you there for ManorCon XXXI on 19th to 22nd July 2013.

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.

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: 01332-385322

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