

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

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Forthcoming Conventions

Manorcon XXXII John Foster Hall, University of Leicester 2pm 18th July–2pm 21st July 2014 Info(at)manorcon.org.uk www.manorcon.org.uk	Essex Games Day Writtle Village Hall The Green, Writtle CM1 3DU 09:30-20:30 27 July 2014 www.sorcon.co.uk	The Cast are Dice Stoke-on-Trent 6th Form College 9 - 10 August 2014 http://www.thecastaredice.co.uk/
Mindsports Olympiad JW3, Finchley Road, London 17 - 25 August 2014 http://www.msoworld.com	Board Game Week Le Pas Opton, France 8-15 September 2014 Springharvestholidays.com/board-game-week	Raiders of the Game Cupboard XXVIII The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent DE14 1DR 27 September 2014 www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk
TringCon XXIX Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth, Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 27 September 2014 Keith Thomasson: tringcon(at)fwtwr.com www.fwtwr.com/tringcon	Pasteboard and Plastic Saltdean Scout Hut, Brighton Saturday 1 November 2014 Details: http://tinyurl.com/3ex38k Map: http://tinyurl.com/ybq7ng	MidCon 2014 The Hallmark Hotel Derby DE1 2SQ 7-9 November 2014 MidCon.org.uk
Winter StabCon 2-4 January 2015 Britannia Hotel Stockport bookings (at) stabcon.org.uk	SoRCon 8 Holiday Inn Basildon Essex 27 Feb – 1 Mar 2015 www.sorcon.co.uk	TringCon XXX March 28th 2015 Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth, Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 27 September 2014 Keith Thomasson: tringcon(at)fwtwr.com www.fwtwr.com/tringcon
ManorCon XXXIII John Foster Hall, University of Leicester 17-20 July 2015 Info(at)manorcon.org.uk www.manorcon.org.uk		Derby on Board Games Bean Caffe, Friar Gate Studios, Derby 30 July 2014. 17:00-22:30 Nothing in Aug. Future venue TBA.

Editorial (Jeremy Tullett) – Jeremy says Yes (Computer says ‘Maybe’)

It isn't clear to me how “progressive” a “Progressive Rock band” can be when the members of it are in their mid-sixties, but, then, most of the audience spanned an age range of perhaps two decades down to mid-forties, with most of the younger outliers apparently in the company of older relatives.

Rather than using a tour to launch a new album, the band took the opportunity to play live three of their older albums: *Close to the Edge*, *The Yes Album*, and *Going for the One*.

I thought the first worked the best, consisting as it does, of a mere three tracks at about 20 mins, 15 mins, and 5 mins, but the second album also has opportunities for extemporisation, particularly in the relatively famous *Starship Trooper*, and *I've Seen All Good People* titles.

In fact, extemporisation was minimal, and, as a few critics in the press noted, this was pretty much a straight play-through of the albums as published, although a live performance always sounds different, and the instruments and their sophistication have obviously moved on in 35 years or so.

This was the second tour without Jon Anderson doing lead vocals. Jon is very much the ‘sound’ of Yes, and one of the two founder members, but Benoit David took the lead singer spot during 2008-2011, and he has in turn been replaced by Jon Davison, who is more of a sound-alike for the unique Anderson voice than Benoit was.

Elements of the music press also described the gig as ‘pedestrian’, and it was true that was little overt excitement from the audience, but, hey, this was Sheffield City Hall not Glastonbury, so what do we expect? Zimmer frames being thrown onto the stage? Plenty of the audience were quietly singing along, nodding their heads, and tapping their feet, and the applause and appreciation were genuine enough.

These guys must be very comfortably off by now, so programmes at £15 for a soft brochure full of photos seemed excessively pricey, but T-Shirts (and other memorabilia) were better priced and, yes, reader, I bought one.

Yes is the only prog rock band I have seen live (saw the Moody Blues once, and was dragged along to see the Plasmatics, but they were cancelled by the local council just before the show started), and I've seen *them* twice during the last decade, so they clearly appeal to my musical taste – I have been buying their albums since 1977.

Then, last weekend I saw *Götterdämmerung* at the Sage (Gateshead). Now then, can you reconcile those two choices? Was Wagner the prog rock of his day? Well, quite possibly.

This was a concert performance, so no distractions from pretentious stage sets, although, after my second Ring Cycle, I still think that the final Act goes on about 30 mins longer than is necessary after Siegfried is murdered, and one can't help but think that Wagner wanted to despatch the other protagonists to bring closure, but had himself got bored by the whole thing.

So we have to endure the opera maundering on while Gunther is also murdered, Brunnhilde immolates herself (and her horse) on Siegfried's pyre, and Hagen meets a watery death at the hands of the Rhinemaidens, weialala! Oh, and Valhalla burns.

MidCon 2014 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 7th October, so YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

After October 7th, rooms will be open for sale to the general 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.

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"), cash, or transfer to "MidCon Convention", Lloyds Bank Colmore Row 30-00-03 03033129. Please provide your name and postcode as a reference with direct transfers. We *cannot* collect convention fees from credit cards.

Name(s)			
Address			
Post code		Tel:	
E-mail			
I enclose a sterling cheque (payable to "MidCon Convention") or I have made a bank transfer to MidCon (delete as appropriate) for £20 per registration (£25 after 1st November)			

Bed and breakfast prices per room per night

	Thu	Fri / Sat	Twins / doubles are available for single occupancy, at the full room rate. The convention closes 6pm Sunday, but anyone wishing to stay on Sunday night will get the Friday / Saturday room rate. <i>Charges to your room are your responsibility, and are to be paid on departure.</i>
Hallmark Hotel Single	£TBA	£61.00	
Hallmark Hotel Twin / Double	£TBA	£74.00	
Hallmark Inn Single	£TBA	£51.00	
Hallmark Inn Twin / Double	£TBA	£64.00	

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.

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.

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? (Hotel / Inn)	Thursday	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 Convention") to: Jeremy Tullett, **MidCon**, 7 Midland Place, Derby, DE1 2RR

18th to 21st July 2014

John Foster Hall, University of Leicester

Progress Report Number 2 - June 2014.

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. **As was the case last year, the University are handing out the keys for us, so you must take this chit with you to ManorCon and hand it in at the University's reception desk in John Foster Hall to receive your room key.** As long as you have your chit with you and do not need to change your booking, you only need to visit the ManorCon Registration Desk for your badge and a Programme Booklet. If you forget to take your chit with you, then you will have to queue at the Registration Desk for a new one. **Please note: your receipt CANNOT be exchanged for a room 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; c) we may have made a mistake; or d) you haven't booked... 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

Same New Venue

After last year's move, ManorCon is once again taking place in John Foster Hall in the University of Leicester. It continues to offer us lots of gaming space (and room to expand), with the food and the bar all under one roof, and en-suite accommodation for all pre-booked delegates in adjacent buildings.

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 gaming rooms will all be open from Breakfast until the last person leaves the room, with the exception of the dining room, which closes at 4am each morning.

Food and Drink

Tea and Coffee is available continuously from breakfast until 30 minutes after the evening meal stops serving, but you'll have to pay. 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 15-20 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 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 Sara Merritt's third year in charge of running the SHGS. Volunteers are always welcome to help out in the running of the SHGS; if you would like to help, please contact Sara at saraljpx@gmail.com. Sellers can book games in between 5pm and 7pm Friday and 11am and 1pm Saturday along with a completed Second Hand Games Sale Form; this form can be printed off from the link on the ManorCon website: www.manorcon.org.uk. Selling sessions will be Friday 7.30pm to 9pm and Saturday 2pm to 3pm with pack up by sellers by 4pm Saturday. All games must be collected by 6pm Saturday.

Treasure Hunt

This year's treasure hunt will be run by last year's winners "Team One" – Dave Durant, Mark Fox, Annie Percik, David Tittle and Katy Walters. This year's theme is a Pirate Quest located in the island city of Bandar Lanun, famed for its cliff-side rope bridges and hanging prison cells. It will be held on Sunday afternoon in the bar area.

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

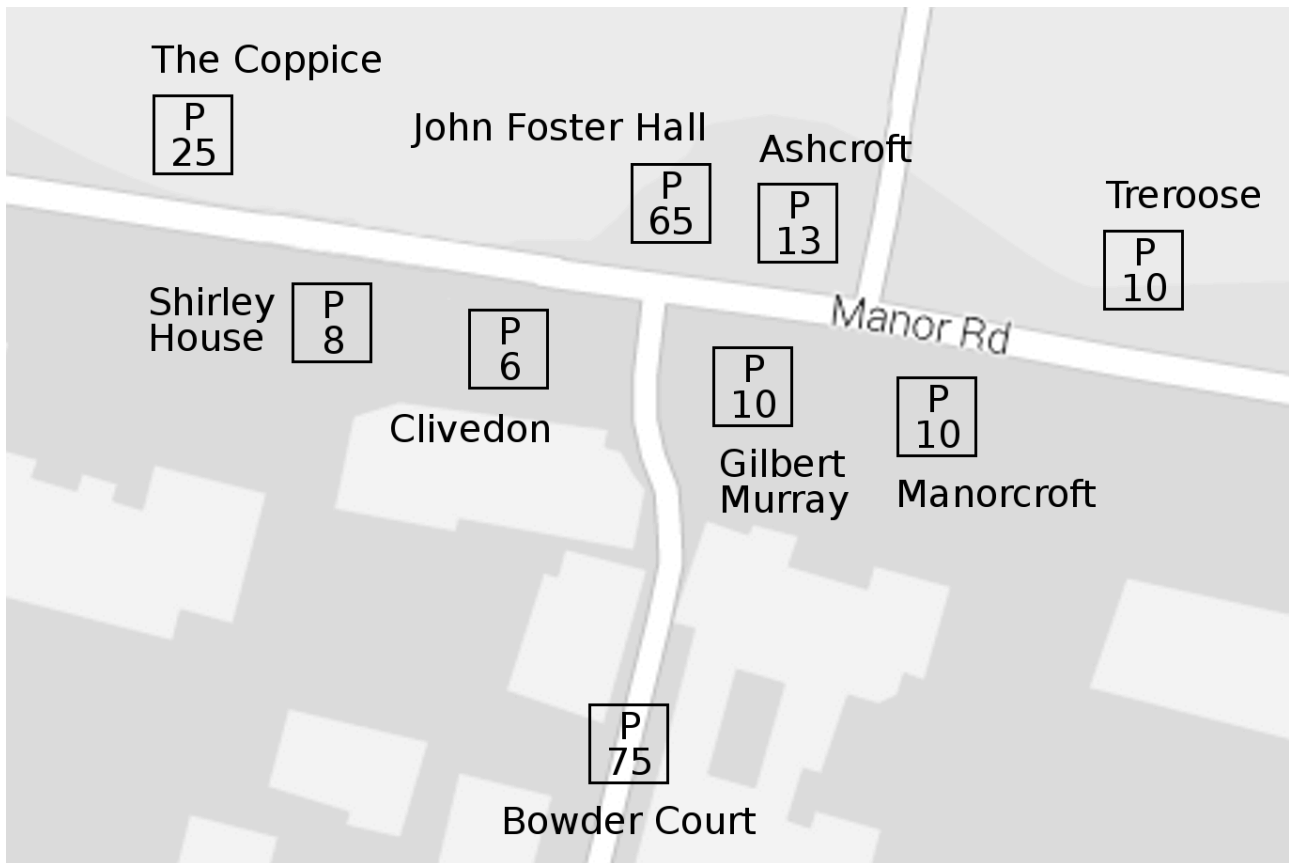
The full address is John Foster Hall, Manor Road, Oadby, Leicester LE2 2LG. Telephone (0116) 223 1493. If you need to contact one of the committee, the ManorCon mobile number is 07899 635561 (or +44 789 963 5561 from outside the UK). This can also be used if you want to contact someone who isn't on the 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

On arrival at John Foster Hall, if you have a large volume of games to unload, we will have a few spaces outside the main entrance reserved for unloading only. You are welcome to use these while you unload, but please then move your car elsewhere.

John Foster has a deceptively large amount of parking available – around 65 spaces in total – but these are all in bays, which take a few cars each. You are welcome to park in any marked bay on the site, but it may take a little driving around to find an empty space. There should be car-parking attendants on duty to help you.

If the spaces are all full, then you can also park in any other Leicester University Car Park, including Bowder Court (where the en-suites were in previous years) and Gilbert Murray (which is also just across the road). Please do not park on the road, as while it does not have parking restrictions, the University are required to keep their delegates from parking on the road. (Map on next page.)



When you arrive....

The ManorCon Registration Desk will be located just inside the entrance to the dining 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 John Foster reception to pick up your room key, and then collect your badge and programme booklet from the ManorCon Reception Desk. ALL room keys are to be collected from John Foster reception.

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.

Anyone who has not pre-booked will also need to go to the ManorCon Registration Desk. We will have plenty of rooms available on the door, although they may not all be as close to the main hall as the pre-booked rooms. 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 this 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. All room keys should be returned to John Foster reception.

Tournaments

Some of the tournaments at ManorCon are Ad-hoc. Just play a game when you want, and put the results in the envelope. We anticipate an ad-hoc tournament for 18XX only. The non-Ad-hoc tournaments are as follows:

Diplomacy, for which you need to sign up by 6.30pm on Friday to play in round 1. For the Saturday round, please sign up by 9.30am on Saturday. The Sunday round starts at 10am. For full details, please see the programme booklet. Prize giving should be completed by 4pm on Sunday. Up to date information will be posted on the Diplomacy notice board.

Croquet is a four round knock-out 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.

Tzolk'in is a fixed round tournament, with at least two rounds. It will take place on Saturday, starting at 10 am. Those who wish to play should sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Noticeboard; it is also possible to sign up on CGE's Facebook page prior to the convention. **Could we also appeal for owners of the game to bring their copies along and loan them for the tournament.**

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! The Programme Booklet should be available 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.

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 John Foster 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 John Foster 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 John Foster 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 10-15 minute walk up Stoughton Drive South and then right along Manor Road to John Foster 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 John Foster 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.

After about 600 yds you come to a crossroads where you turn right onto Manor Road. The entrance to John Foster Hall is 300 yds on the left.

Yorkshire DipCon 2014 (Graeme Murphy)

The 20th – 22nd June saw the leafy East Yorkshire village of Cottingham host the newest event on the UK Face to Face Diplomacy groups 'Tour of Britain'.

Five rounds of Diplomacy were played over the weekend with the Saturday seeing rounds start at 10am, 3pm and, because of an extended curry and beer break, 9pm. All the players got a chance to take part in 3 games of Dip with some managing to cram in 4 and, after some hard fought games that still managed to be played in a friendly atmosphere, David Wigglesworth emerged as the First Yorkshire DipCon champion with Jeremy Tullett taking the runner-up berth and Brian O'Farrell securing third place on the last day.

Following positive feedback from all the attendees, who thought the accommodation and the venue were good, and offered great value for money (£25 per night B&B), the event will be repeated in 2015 and has already been booked with the University for the weekend 19-21 June.

The aim of the event this year was to deliver a Dip only event and attract people to play. In this respect it succeeded and, with two to three weeks to go, it almost looked as if we would have two boards running consecutively throughout the weekend. Alas, numbers dwindled from 16 down to 11 as people, or their partners, bosses and bank managers found other things for them to do on the weekend they should have been playing Dip. This did not prevent those that did turn up having a fantastic time, making some new friends and enjoying the opportunity to play some new games once the Diplomacy was done for the day.

Whilst the feedback forms from players was generally positive, there were a few niggles that will be addressed prior to 2015. Some of these were caused by problems with the original venue in the Lawns Centre still being awash with building contractors with the completion of its refurbishment being delayed. This resulted in the gaming having to be moved to rooms within Ferens Hall, which had previously only been intended to house the accommodation, and this did bring some unanticipated difficulties.

Some gamers loved the closeness of the games to their accommodation, but others felt that the table provision in each of these rooms, whilst OK for the Dip, was limited for those wanting to play some more expansive games. As we had the run of the whole of 'M' Block in Ferens Hall, however, this was simply addressed by gamers who decamped to play Game of Thrones and Firefly in a room upstairs with two huge circular tables inside.

Of more serious import however was the toilet provision. Each bedroom in the block was en-suite and understandably the accommodation didn't have any general toilet facilities. This isn't a problem normally but in a Dip game where you are playing against a clock, taking 5 mins to nip back to your room for a pee confers something of a disadvantage, and was commented on by a few of the players. This is easily solved in 2015 either by taking up the original rooms in the Lawns Centre (hopefully they will be builder free by then!) or by obtaining the keys to the bedrooms most immediately adjacent to the games rooms themselves and simply leaving them open and available to players to use throughout the weekend.

The University did recognise that the change in venue for the gaming would come with a degree of impact, and generously arranged to provide all the gamers, whether resident or not, a free hot meal on the Friday and free buffet lunches on the Saturday and Sunday. These were warmly received (and consumed) by the players, and our thanks go out to the University and its staff who served these meals, and couldn't do enough to make us feel welcome.

So how did things pan out in the end ...

Well, David Wigglesworth got off to a great start with a 12 centre Austria in round 1 and consolidated this with a 10 centre France in round 2. Jeremy Tullett put pressure on in round 3 with an 11 centre Turkey that complemented a solid performance in round 2. Round 4 was won by tournament organiser Graeme Murphy with an 11 centre England and as the 5th round dawned it came down to a showdown between Jeremy and David. Alas for Jeremy, David's lead was too much and, Jeremy was unable to catch up as David took third place with a 5 centre Best Germany in a board that was won by Brian O'Farrell with an 11 centre Russia, Jeremy only managing a 7 centre England by way of riposte.

The Final Scores were:

Posn	Player	Score	Additional Awards
1	David Wigglesworth	107	Best Austria, Best France, Best Germany
2	Jeremy Tullett	85	Best Turkey
3	Brian O'Farrell	75	Best Russia
4	Graeme Murphy	51	Best England, Yorkshire Pudding Award for the player who received the heaviest battering. 7 centres down to 2 in a single year.
5	Simon Chandler	41	Best Italy (Shared)
6	Owen Richards	31	Mid-summer Madness Award for the player who made the strangest decision or move. Owen threw away a three-way draw to give Turkey a win in round three.
7	Dave Simpson	24	Best Italy (Shared)
8	Keith Smith	19.5	
9	Joe Loveland	19.5	
10	Andrew Jones	9.5	
11	Simon Stansfield	1	Geoffrey Boycott award for the most stubborn defence as Turkey in Round 1.

Planning is already underway for Yorkshire DipCon 2015 and full information will be available on the UK Face to Face Website (www.ukf2fdip.org) from July 2014 onwards.

MidCon in the 21st Century (John Harrington)

We have a Boardgamegeek guild. In fact, for all I know, we have two (see Facebook entry, below).

If we'd created the community 42 guilds earlier we could have got the coveted 1830 number for our guild, but as it is, the URL is: <http://www.boardgamegeek.com/guild/1872>

Please join the guild because currently I am Nobby No-Mates and the only guild member.

The guild has a calendar - just one entry on it at the moment - plus a forum (empty) and an images library (ditto).

I might have known that young Dave Simpson had already set up a Facebook page. Unfortunately, I only found out after I had also set one up, now we have two. We are the Janus of the Facebook world. Take two Facebooks into the shower?

The original and much more populated page is at <https://www.facebook.com/MidConBoardgames>, and has been for yonks, though I could not find it when I searched for it.

The new MidCon Facebook page, which had better become a page dedicated to the Bring & Buy games sale, is: <http://www.facebook.com/midcongames>. There is not a lot on it at the moment, and nothing that is not already on the web site, but that may change at some point in the near future.

I am also not sure why Dave's site is a secure one with an https prefix and mine has an http prefix, but then clearly there is a lot about the Internet I don't know, other than that it is a proper noun and should therefore be capitalised.

Next stop, Witter (sic)

Spring Harvest Holidays Board Games Week (Matt Young)

Bookings are coming in nicely for the Board Games Holiday, though there'll always be room for more! If you would like any business cards for this, please email matt.young@springharvestholidays.com.



The Final Word

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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)

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