

ILLITERATE

Issue 1

Friday

newsletter@eastercon2017.uk

Innominate: the 68th British National Science Fiction Convention

14-17 April 2017

WELCOME TO INNOMINATE!

We'd like to welcome everyone to Innominate!

Please take a look at your Read Me, where you'll find lots of useful information about the convention that will help you to have a great time this weekend.

Eastercons are run by volunteers, and it's not too late to help out with the weekend: if you've got some spare time, please head along to the Gopher Hole in Sussex and they'll put you to work.

—Steve Cooper

DOCENT TOURS

New to Eastercon? Confused by the layout of the hotel? Want to learn more about how it works? Why not come along to one of our three Docent Tours, all of which will be fully accessible. You can sign up for the tours at Registration.

The tours will be held on:

- Friday at 4pm (Programme focus);
- Saturday at 11:30am (for general Eastercon knowledge); and
- Saturday at 2:30pm (Dealers' Room focus).

AROUND AND ABOUT

The cash machine in the hotel lobby charges £1.99 for withdrawals, but there are free machines at Resort World, which is about ten minutes walk away around the lake. Resort World also has several restaurants, including Nandos, Pizza Express, Patisserie Valerie and many others, and a Holland & Barrett outlet store with a big range of cheap snacks like nuts and dried fruit. If you're after bottled water, Martin's newsagents (in the NEC, on the right-hand wall) sells 1.5L bottles, as well as other drinks and snacks.

—Edwin Hayward

ART TOURS

This year, there are five docent tours of the art show that you can sign up for at Registration:

- *Art Tour with Chris Moore*, a general art tour (Saturday at 10am)
- *Brave New Material World with Sarah Haddock*, which focusses on different materials in the art show (Saturday at 1pm)
- *Art Exhibit Tour with Fangorn*, which focusses on interesting techniques and

features (Saturday at 2:30pm)

- *Weird Art Tour with Robin Stevenson*, which looks at pieces in the art show inspired by or related to weird or surreal art (Saturday at 4pm)
- *Judith Clute's Art Work with John Clute*, which is exclusively about our Guest of Honour's work (Sunday at 10am)

Dawn Abigail will be holding poetry readings next to her pieces in the art show on Saturday at 11:30am.

OTHER SIGN-UPS

At Registration, You can put your name down for Saturday's Kaffeeklatsches and Literary Beers now, and for Sunday's from Saturday afternoon.

You can also sign up for Giulia De Cesare's *Winter Stars Beadwork Workshop* and Geoff Ryman's *SFF Criticism Mini-Masterclass*, both on Sunday, from Saturday afternoon. Sadly, Roz Kaveney's Saturday workshop has been cancelled.

If you'd like to sign up for the *Metal Clay Crafting Workshop*, please go to the London Metal Clay stall in the Dealers' Room.

ART SHOW

The Art Show will be open until 7pm tonight, with the Art Show Reception happening from 8pm to midnight.

On Saturday, it will be open from 9am to 8pm, and on Sunday from 9am to 3pm, after which it will close for the auction. You can collect your purchased art from 6pm to 9pm, and artist pickup will run from 9pm to 11pm and then from 9am to noon on Monday; all artwork must be collected by noon on Monday.

There will be space for young artists (ages 3 to 15) to contribute up to two pieces each to the Art Show. Works can be brought from home or created on-site with materials available in the Art Show.

We are also looking for members aged 6 to 15, who enjoy artwork and would like to form part of a panel to judge the work of our contributing artists: please speak to the Art Show team.

YOUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!

Please let us know if you have anything exciting, informative or just plain scurrilous for inclusion in the newsletter. You can email us on newsletter@eastercon2017.uk, or you can scribble illegibly on a piece of paper and leave it in the box at Ops.

MANCUNICON SOUVENIRS

If you were a member of last year's Eastercon, in Manchester, please head along to the Mancunicon table in the Dealers' Room and collect your copy of the convention Souvenir Book, which is hot off the presses this weekend.

A brown shoulder bag was left at Mancunicon: if it's yours, please go to the table to claim it.

—Dave Lally

PARKING

If you aren't staying in the hotel, remember that you can get a discounted £9 parking ticket from Ops

ANDROMEDA MEMORIES

If you go to the Porcupine Books table in the Dealers' Room, you'll see a box of DVDs featuring video filmed at the opening of the Andromeda book shop. It's full of familiar fannish faces, and being sold (minimum £1 donation) to raise money in honour of Dave Holmes (his children are planning a memorial plaque in his local pub).

I-SPY AT THE EASTERCON

At your first (or second, ish) Eastercon? Play *I-Spy At The Eastercon*, which you can collect from Registration or the Follycon dealers' table. Spot things around the convention, then head to the Follycon table to claim your special I-Spy badge!

BUT DO YOU NEED YOUR NEWSLETTER?

The increasing use of social media, software like the marvellous Grenadine, and smartphones means that more and more convention goers get their news far more quickly than the convention newsletter can provide it.

On the other hand, not everyone has access to that technology, and even people who do may prefer not to use it at a convention: for them, the newsletter is an important source of convention announcements, information about programme changes, and recommendations of restaurants to frequent or avoid.

We'd like to know what you think: is there still a place for paper newsletters at modern conventions, or should they go the way of the grocer's bicycle delivery service? [*Are we sure that's the best analogy, given that we're ordering Deliveroo for dinner this evening?*—Ed] Please get in touch and let us know what you think!

CONRUNNER CORNER

If you are running a convention function and you need to order anything from the hotel, please do not go to the hotel direct: this will cost us more money! Order via Vanessa May, Hotel Liaison, and she'll sort it out for you. Contact Ops with your request and they will pass it on.