

FOOD ALONG BATH ROAD

Farah Mendlesohn posted some useful food suggestions to her Livejournal for those wanting to grab food outside of the Radisson Edwardian.

“What I've done is to start at the Heathrow Airport end, and end at the turn off to Hatton Cross. I have placed in bold the ones I think are the best value for money.

“**Three Magpies pub.** Food 11am to 9.30pm. Monday thru Saturday. Sunday food is served 12-9. Pub food £7 entree. Serves London pride and bombardier. Basic malts.

“Park Inn: in foyer bar salads, burgers, pasta and bar food (12-20) offers a veggie burger. Also French restaurant £16-30 but offers Sunday lunch for £9.95.

“Small Somerfield at Texaco Garage and then if you turn right there is a pizza place set back from the road, also **Sovereign Food and Wine shop** which makes sandwiches to order and sells take away curry and salads. (curries £6, sandwiches (£2.50). A nicer shop than it looks from outside.

“Marriott: Illy coffee bar which sells sandwiches; American grill (£13-20); Tuscany Ristorante (£17-25)

“Sheraton: Starbucks in the lobby; **sports bar (lunch on Sat and Sun only) has sandwiches and curries (£10-15)**; Al Dente lounge sandwiches and salads (£10-13); restaurant (lunch £15-20) dinner one course £17, 2=£22, 3=£26)

“Renaissance: entrees £16-24. Sandwiches and burgers £10-13.

“The next two are further up the road. I know nothing about the Holiday Inn but the Ibis has a rep for being cheaper than the others.”

UPDATE

For those looking for the nearest shops, if you tried the small Somerfield petrol station on Bath Road in vain this morning: the shop was just closed to the public this morning, due to repair work being carried out on the main entrance door. However, they assure us they'll be open again from 3pm and they're usually open 24 hours.

SIGNUP SHEETS AT OPS

Signup sheets for the Kaffeeklatsches and Drawing Comic Art have been moved to Ops, which is located in room 32 on the third floor.



Photo: Bo Hansen

Michael Cule, better known as exploding man from Max Headroom, can today add another title to his CV. With assistance from his minions, the audience, Michael answered all the question correctly in the today's quiz and was crowned Master of the Universe

KEEP COOL!

Be aware that even moving around the minibar contents may get it charged to your room bill; you might request to have the whole contents removed if you think this is going to be a problem.

AUDIO FANZINE

Jim Mowatt is doing an audio fanzine at this convention. It's at eastercon.mevio.com. He has three episodes up so far, including an interview with our chief editor Wilf James.

TWITTERING!

The podcast panel, Podcasts – Science Fiction and SF News, at 7pm in room 12 will accept questions from Twitter. If anyone wants to discuss (before and after as well), the tag is #easterpod

ODYSSEY BY THE NUMBERS

By Chris Garcia

Number of Attendees as of 2pm - 1280 (only 1203 of those bodies warm).

WorldCon bids for 2014 announcing their location at 9pm in Room Newbury 1 - 1

Breakfast Meats Served in Buffet - 6

Guests of Honour I've confused with American pro wrestlers - 1 (Mike Carey)

points scored for playing 'Qwyjibo' in Scrabble (American edition) - 81 pts.

Nouns verbed by Americans on Eastercon panels - 47

Bondage/BDSM panels attended so far - 0, though I did tie my shoes pretty tight earlier...

MEAL TICKET PRICES

The buffet style dinner tickets today (and for the duration of the convention) are £10.

PROGRAMME CHANGES AND ADDITIONS AS OF 1PM FRIDAY

As Carlos Ezquerro is sadly unable to join us this weekend, there are some changes in our main programme stream. The first of these is Saturday 10am in Commonwealth will now be “2000 AD and its influence”, moved forward from 1pm. Carlos’s Kaffeeklatsch is cancelled.

Saturday 10am in room 41 is “First timers meeting” – a chance for those who haven’t been to an Eastercon before to find out what’s going on and how to navigate through it. Our friendly native guide, Chris, will answer all your questions.

Saturday 11am in Room 42 will be “Aliens in our Midst” – different fan groups and cultures, and how to reconcile them.

Saturday 11am in Room 41 will be “So We Had an Empire Once” - is cultural appropriation something British writers should be interrogating more closely? With Farah Mendlesohn, Tanya Brown, Niall Harrison, Ian R McLeod + tbc.

Ben Goldacre is confirmed for 12pm Saturday.

10pm Saturday in Connaught is the ever popular Buffy singalong “Once More with Feeling”

Sunday 1pm Room 12 is now “Approaches to Writing” with Iain M Banks and Ken McLeod.

Sunday 1pm room 42 is “Fan Programming” – what this has traditionally meant at Eastercon, and what it could mean in the future. A discussion led by Fran Dowd.

Sunday 2pm in room 18 is The Body Muteable - how has feminism, queer theory and neuroscience changed the way we write the sf body?

Sunday 3pm room 42 is “The nature and Future of Eastercon” – a wide ranging discussion, including themes from “Aliens in our Midst” and “Fan Programming.”

Sunday 4pm in room 41 is “What do we Mean when we say Mainstream: Iain Banks’s black and white novels” Chris Hill, Abigail Nussbaum, Graham Sleight, Ruth O’Reilly, Farah Mendlesohn.

“The new pink is slightly off colour.”

Judge Dredd and Strontium Dog - Heroes or Anti-Heroes? Moves to Sunday 6pm in Room 12.

Sunday 9pm in Room 42 is a screening of Shark Attack! – a John Barrowman classic (???)

Two marine biologists discover a giant shark’s tooth off the coast of Mexico, and their worst fears become reality - the tooth is that of Megalodon, a prehistoric shark with a 100 foot-wide bite. The creature was believed to be long-extinct, but when tourists start turning up in pieces, the authorities decide that a decisive plan of action is required. Rated 15 (apparently for the shower scene...)

Sunday 10pm in Royal C&D is the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Monday 11am room 40 is “Eastercon 2011 & 2012, what do you want to see?” with representatives from the 2011 and 2012 bid committees.

Monday 5pm in Royal C&D is a gopher debrief – if you have been a gopher, come and tell us how it was for you!

(adv)

Futures is the award-winning SF stream in Nature. If you are an SF writer, or aspire to be, and fancy a crack at writing a short-short (850-950 words) for the world’s premier science magazine, inquire at futures@nature.com or find editor Henry Gee here at Eastercon.

SCRUMPY

Review of Old Rosie scrumpy (Available at the Bar, no not that one, the other one...)

The bar’s scrumpy has a lovely, slightly somewhat obfuscated florality that is adjudicated by a sense of long-ago sorrow and slight pomegranate tones. It’s also pretty tasty, especially after 5 or 12 pints.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

The Sentinel is desperate for news - where are all you guys going to, what interesting bits did you overhear, what great place did you have dinner at? Please bring in all these traditionally factual and even unconventionally fantastic tidbits, preferably semi-legibly written on pieces of parchment to the Newsroom - room 37 - just off the atrium. Or, for the more futuristically minded, e-mailed to odysseynews.2010@googlemail.com.