

# 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*

Inside this issue:

- ◆ Games Expo 2009 Report
- ◆ Final details for Manorcon 2009
- ◆ New entry in QLA: GameCon 2009
- ◆ First notice of OxCon 2010
- ◆ What I Did on my Holidays

## Forthcoming Conventions

<p><b>Pasteboard and Plastic 9</b> The Scout Hut, Saltdean, Brighton. 11 July 2009 <a href="http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic/">http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic/</a></p>	<p><b>Raiders of the Game Cupboard VII</b> The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. 11 July 2009. <a href="http://www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk">www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Manorcon XXVII</b> Stamford Hall University of Leicester 17-20 July 2009 <a href="http://www.manorcon.org.uk">www.manorcon.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Raiders of the Game Cupboard VIII</b> The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. 19 September 2009. <a href="http://www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk">www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>TringCon XIX</b> Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 3 October 2009 <a href="http://www.fwtwr.com/tringcon">www.fwtwr.com/tringcon</a></p>	<p><b>GameCon 2009 / Game 09</b> Palace Hotel Manchester Oxford Street Manchester M60 7HA England 16-18 October 2009</p>
<p><b>GamesFest 4</b> The Watford Colosseum, Watford 24th October 2009. <a href="http://www.gamesfest.co.uk">www.gamesfest.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>MidCon XXXI</b> Thistle Birmingham City Hotel Birmingham 13-15 November 2009 <a href="http://www.midcon.co.uk">www.midcon.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Pasteboard and Plastic 10</b> The Scout Hut, Saltdean, Brighton. 21 November 2009 <a href="http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic/">http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic/</a></p>
<p><b>OxCon</b> The Mitre High Street Oxford. 23-24 January 2010. <a href="http://users.ox.ac.uk/~board/oxcon">users.ox.ac.uk/~board/oxcon</a></p>	<p><b>UK Games Expo</b> The Clarendon Suites 2 Stirling Road Edgbaston, Birmingham 4-6 June 2010 (TBC). <a href="http://www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk">www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Manorcon XXVIII</b> Stamford Hall University of Leicester. 16-19 July 2010. <a href="http://www.manorcon.org.uk">www.manorcon.org.uk</a></p>

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## Editorial (Jeremy Tullett)

So, here I am back from two weeks in Provence, having spent a lot of time trawling over the Roman remains at Arles, Nîmes, Orange, Vaison-la-Romaine and picking up along the way trips to Cassis, Marseille, Stes-Maries-de-la-Mer, the Gorges de Verdon, several bottles of rosé wine and a gloriously unfashionable suntan.

We were staying in Aix-en-Provence, where I lived for a year in 1985, and were in fact in the same Aparthotel that I used back then.

Things haven't changed much. The area around the flat was considerably greener as the trees and bushes appear to have been largely untended in the interim. Aix has developed a confusing one-way system, rendered the more so by the way the French erratically signpost destinations – a habit that leads to some waspish conversations between driver and navigator. The sort of waspish conversation that opens with “I think you should have taken that turn ...”.

Lots of money has been sent tidying up the great Roman theatres and amphitheatres in the area. Notwithstanding that these venues are still used (largely for bullfights and theatrical productions), I could not help but feel that they have been somewhat over restored, and it was sometimes hard to see what was Roman, and what was modern work.

With Manorcon 2009 almost upon us, let us move to the listings.

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## MidCon XXXI 13-15 November 2009 (Jeremy Tullett)

### About the con

**MidCon XXXI** takes place in a comfortable hotel in the centre of Birmingham from Friday afternoon (1pm) to Sunday evening (6pm). It features:

- the opportunity to play board games with like-minded adults
- the **MidCon** music quiz on Friday evening
- the **MidCon** general knowledge quiz for teams of 4 on Saturday evening
- the chance to buy even more board games
- the chance to sell your surplus games on the Bring & Buy stall on the Saturday afternoon

**MidCon** is primarily 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 and Power Grid, 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.

### Costs

Attendance at **MidCon** costs £15-£18 for the whole weekend (day rates of £8/£10/£8 for Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and accommodation is available in the Thistle Hotel at reasonable rates. The hotel is reachable by public transport and there is an adjacent car park.

### Registration

If you would like to join us at **MidCon**, please complete the form on the back page of this 'zine and return it with the convention fee of £15<sup>1</sup> a head to:

Jeremy Tullett, **MidCon**, 7 Midland Place, Derby, DE1 2RR, or register electronically at [www.midcon.org.uk](http://www.midcon.org.uk).

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<sup>1</sup> Goes up to £18 on November 1st

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## **GameCon 2009 / Game 09 (Peter Scott)**

GameCon 2009/Game 09 - "It's about playing the Game"

16th to 18th of October

Palace Hotel Manchester

Oxford Street

Manchester

M60 7HA

England

Website: [www.gamecon.co.uk](http://www.gamecon.co.uk)

Game 09 has expanded to 3 days, with the first day (16th) at the central Premier Inn bar, on Portland Street, central Manchester. Their bar will be decked out with games and activities for early convention attendees. The first day is also free. If you want to play a particular game, please bring it along. We'll have a library of games there, but not all that you might want to try or play. We'll also have a pre-sales desk for entry to the main event.

Days 2 and 3 are at the prestigious City Centre Palace Hotel where we'll be running lots of games of every type possible, including many boardgames, especially from smaller manufacturers. The large venue will be laid out with a host of demo tables where you can try before you buy games. Entry on Saturday is from 9:00 for people who are pre-registered and 10:00 for on-the-day tickets. Sunday is from 9:30 am for pre-registrants and 10:00 for on-the-day ticketers.

GameCon is a non-stop event over the weekend, so you can come at 9:00 on Saturday and not leave until 6:00 pm on Sunday!

Entry tickets are £10 per day for adults and £7 for children (under 15s). Under-10s come in for free (max 3 per adult). Each ticket includes a voucher that can be used for:

- 1) GameBoot table – a DIY bring and buy concept first tested at GameCon at a major convention. You have a table of your own to sell your 2nd hand games.
- 2) Tournament entry – many tournaments are £3 and the voucher can be used for entry to these
- 3) Role-playing sessions – RPG sessions are £3 each. You can use your voucher to play a session.
- 4) Trader discount – if you spend £15 or more at a trader, you can use the voucher to get £3 off

Tournaments are held for scouts and schools on the Saturday and Sunday. These are ably run by Nigel from Imagination Gaming. Two very different types of games will be run for teams of 4 players in each. Each scout troop or school can enter one or more teams – email [enquiries@gamecon.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@gamecon.co.uk) for more information about the games. These tournaments are designed to bring children closer to gaming and all the benefits that gaming brings.

GameCon is "about playing the game" and we therefore host the largest mix of tournaments in the UK, including:

- 1) Card games – Football resurrection, Magic: the Gathering, VS, Yu-Gi-Oh, Pokemon,

Legend of the 5 rings, World of Warcraft

- 2) Miniatures games – Dungeons and Dragons miniatures, Dreamblade, Warmachines/Hordes, Monsterapocalypse, World of Warcraft, Warhammer 40k, Bloodbowl
- 3) Role-playing – Dungeons and Dragons, Call of Cthulhu, Vampire, Werewolf, Pathfinder, Maid and many more, including home brews
- 4) Historical Miniatures – Field of Glory, Flames of War and Wings of War (the first ever UK tournament in this excellent game)
- 5) Console Gaming – some very exciting events going on that we cannot yet release details yet – keep your eyes on the website and QLA.

We're constantly on the lookout for volunteers to help develop GameCon in new directions – please contact us on enquiries@gamecon.co.uk if you want to help out, or suggest events.

Hope to see you at Game 09

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## ManorCon XXVII (Mark Stretch)

www.manorcon.org.uk  
17th to 20th July 2009  
Stamford Hall, University of Leicester  
Progress Report Number 2 - July 2009.

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. **You must take this chit with you to ManorCon and hand it in at the ManorCon reception desk to receive your room key.** If you forget to take your chit with you, then you will have to queue for a new one. Please note: your receipt CANNOT be exchanged for a 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; or c) we may have made a mistake... 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

### Gaming rooms

There are a number of gaming rooms. The main gaming hall is where the ad-hoc gaming will mostly take place, and will host the Spielchamps. 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 main gaming room is open from Breakfast until late. The minor rooms are open 24 hours a day. The night porter will check noise levels.

## Food and Drink

Tea and Coffee is available continuously from breakfast until 30 minutes after the evening meal stops serving. 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 10 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

Cardiff 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 at [cardiffgames@btconnect.com](mailto:cardiffgames@btconnect.com)

## Second Hand Games Sale

This is being run by Richard Frost and will run on a similar format to 2008. So selling sessions should be Friday 7.30pm to 9pm and Saturday 2pm to 3pm with pack up by sellers by 4pm Saturday. Booking items by seller should be 5pm through to 7pm Friday and 11am to 1pm Saturday. Sellers will need to sign a terms and conditions sheet – details are on [www.manorcon.org.uk](http://www.manorcon.org.uk)

As per the past sellers can reduce the price of their games during the morning. The Sellers selling sheet is on the website, [www.manorcon.org.uk](http://www.manorcon.org.uk) which prospective sellers should download to list their games.

Please note that this facility is not for commercial sales.

## Treasure Hunt

This is being run by the 2008 winners, on Sunday afternoon.

## Spiel Champs

The UK SpielChamps will be taking place at Manorcon on the Saturday between 0930 and 1800 (ish). Formerly known as Intergame, this is a tournament for teams of four players. The tournament consists of four rounds, each round playing a different game, and each player competes against three different opponents in each round. The highest scoring team across the four rounds wins the tournament, and the top four teams are invited to represent the UK at the European Spielchamps in Essen, Germany in October. The games have now been chosen, and will be:

- In the Year of the Dragon
- Puerto Rico
- St Petersburg
- Sceptre of Zavandor

### Special Tournament Rules:

In the Year of the Dragon: the events will be drawn randomly at the start of the game, and be the same for all boards (so that it is equal for all teams).

St. Petersburg: the Judge will have 4 income and 2 VPs. The Mistress of Ceremonies will have 4 income and 3 VPs. (This rebalances these cards, which can otherwise be too powerful if they come out early.)

Sceptre of Zavador: the 4 roles for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th players will be decided randomly at the start, and be the same for all teams.

There is no entry fee (other than being registered at Manorcon for the Saturday), but each team must bring one copy of each of the games. Players who wish to take part should try and form teams of four in advance – the organisers will help people find team-mates if notified in advance. Players or teams wishing to take part or who would like more information can contact the organisers at [spielchamps@manorcon.org.uk](mailto:spielchamps@manorcon.org.uk) or on the forum at:

<http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/SpielchampsUK/>.

### 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 Stamford Hall, Stoughton Drive South, Oadby, Leicester LE2 2ND Telephone (0116) 271 5875 (Warden). If you need to contact one of the committee, the ManorCon mobile number is 0797 713 6609 (or +44 797 713 6609 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](mailto:info@manorcon.org.uk)

### **Parking**

For people in the standard accommodation, park in the car park south of the location. For the people in en-suites, park in the car park adjacent to the en-suite accommodation. Note that the white lines are a guideline and you can park outside of them if required.

The area in front of the hall will be available for loading and unloading, but should not be used for parking, including disabled parking.

### **When you arrive....**

The ManorCon Registration Desk will be located just inside the entrance to the main 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 the ManorCon check in desk in to pick up your room key, and then collect your badge and programme booklet. ALL keys are to be collected from the ManorCon check in desk.

**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.

**Please note: we will NOT be able to make changes to the type of room you have booked.** Anyone who has not pre-booked will also need to go to the ManorCon Registration Desk. We hope to have both En-suite and Single rooms available on the door, although it may be that one of these is not available. 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. Also, we will put out a box for you to return your badge.

### **Tournaments.**

Most of the tournaments at ManorCon are Ad-hoc. Just play a game when you want, and put the results in the envelope. The exceptions are as follows:

**Diplomacy**, for which you need to sign up by 5.30pm on Friday to play in round 1. For the Saturday tournament, please sign up by 9.30am on the Saturday. The Saturday round starts at 10am. For full details, please see the programme booklet. Prize giving should be completed by 7pm on Sunday. Up to date information will be posted on the Diplomacy notice board. In addition to the main tournament, there is also the Diplomacy Challenge, an individual one round tournament based solely on scores in the Saturday round. This replaces the team round from previous years.

**Croquet** is a four round knockout tournament, so only the first 16 entries can be accepted. Entries can be made up until breakfast on the Saturday morning, at which point the draw will be done. Advance entries are welcomed; contact Steve Jones via the ManorCon email address, [info@manorcon.org.uk](mailto:info@manorcon.org.uk). The draw will be posted on the general notice board.

**Midnight Party** will as usual be run at midnight each night.

**Spielchamps:** ManorCon is the home of the UK SpielChamps, which will take place on the Saturday between 0930 and 1800 (ish). Details are above.

There is no entry fee (other than being registered at Manorcon for the Saturday), but each team must bring one copy of each of the games. Players who wish to take part should try and form teams of four in advance - the organisers will help people find team-mates, and if necessary, scratch teams may be formed on the day (the Cardiff Games stall will have some stock of each of the games). Players or teams wishing to take part or who would like more

information can contact the organisers at [spielchamps@manorcon.org.uk](mailto:spielchamps@manorcon.org.uk) or on the forum at:

<http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/SpielchampsUK/> .

## **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! This year, we hope to have the Programme Booklet on the website in advance. – [www.manorcon.org.uk](http://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, which has flights to various European destinations and other parts of the UK (see for details).

Other relatively convenient airports served by low-cost airlines are London Stansted ([www.stansted-airport-guide.co.uk/](http://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 Stamford 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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 Stamford 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 Stamford 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 5-10 minute walk up Stoughton Drive South to Stamford 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 on teletext (BBC2, Page 430) or online at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/travelnews/>

Useful websites for public transport information are [www.arriva.co.uk](http://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 Stamford Hall. Click the link on [www.manorcon.org.uk](http://www.manorcon.org.uk).



**Best New Boardgame**

Snow Tails (Asmodee Version)

**Best Role-playing Game**

Lovecraftian tales from the Table- The Bradford Players (Yog radio)

**Best Miniatures Range**

Kiss Kiss Bang Bang - Copplestone Casting

**Best General/Party Game**

Liar-Liar – Pants on Fire Games

**Best Family/Children's Game**

Cubiko – Kevin Birnbaum

**Best Abstract Game**

Kamisado – Burley Games

**Best Card Game**

Fzzzt! – Surprised Stare

**Best Collectible Card Game**

Huntik - Upper Deck Entertainment

**Special Award**

Dr Who, Companions and the Daleks

Galactic Legion

**TOURNAMENTS****Grand Board Game Tournament**

61 Players all participated in at least 1 tournament. Thanks again to David Norman for his efforts this year. Starting at noon on Saturday did seem to work better this year. We are looking at increasing the capacity of tournaments for next year. Here are the top ranks:

**Agricola**

Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
Matthew Barratt	97.39	125.65	125.41	348.45
Claire Baker	127.42	125.93	67.21	320.57
Peter Piggott	125.30	69.71	121.47	316.48

**Heron Games/Mayfair Games Settlers Tournament**

Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
Declan Waters	124.85	130.77	125.84	381.46
David Dorwood	127.81	83.58	119.93	331.31
Tony Hetherington	125.84	67.15	122.88	315.88

**St Petersburg**

Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
Phil Cork	122.00	128.50	129.00	379.49
Steve Jones	120.51	125.47	70.40	316.38
Phillipa Dall	78.41	93.25	127.75	299.41

**Carcassonne**

Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
Grant Hall	123.26	123.42	119.77	366.44
Michal Frys	127.12	119.47	98.19	344.79
Andrew Smith	110.47	85.16	128.78	324.40

### On the Underground

Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
Declan Waters	122.72	92.31	121.56	336.60
Chris Welbourne	84.30	122.38	86.33	293.01
Mark Stretch	78.54	134.81	79.50	292.85

### Puerto Rico

Name	R1	R2	R3	Total
Jim Clokey	122.39	129.04	127.04	378.47
Kevin Lee	124.07	117.80	79.93	321.79
Lyndon Gurr	128.76	120.74	71.90	321.40

### Overall Tournament

Name	Agricola	Settlers	St Petersburg	Carcassonne	Puerto Rico	On the Underground	Total	Played
Declan Waters		381.46		242.95		336.60	961.01	3
Lyndon Gurr		250.73	290.15		321.40		862.28	3
Matthew Barratt	348.45		251.59			255.30	855.34	3
Jim Clokey		285.33			378.47		843.23	2
Philippa Dall		250.73	299.41		292.46		842.60	3

### **Memoir 44/ Command and Colours Tournament**

Barry Ingram ran a Richard Bourg Tournament. Winners:

#### **Saturday Memoir 44:-**

8 Players

Winner and retaining his Championship from last year - Ian 'Bill' Roberts

Runner-up - John Bennett

#### **Sunday C&C: Ancients:-**

12 Players

Winner - David Andrew

Runner-up - Andrew Lawrence

### **Combat Commander Tournament**

Thanks to John McIntock for running this event, which was in the evenings at the Strathallan Hotel. 10 players participated. The Winner was Steve Bishop, with a perfect 5/5 record. The top players were:

Steve Bishop

Robert Lloyd

Paul Laverack/John McIntock

### **Children's Board Game Tournament**

A total of 29 Children played in 2 tournaments run by Nigel Scarfe.

## **School Team Tournament**

1st Place St Peters Boys team ( Thomas, Callum, Gabriel, Mohammed, Conor )

2nd Place St Peters Girls team ( Rhea, Chelsea, Amy, Khadija )

3rd Place Chad Vale ( Amman, Amelia, Abigail, Jacob )

4th Place Blackwood ( Emily, George, Simran, Lewis, James, Angela )

Total players 19

## **Individual tournament**

1st Place Remy

2nd Place Jacob

3rd Place Alec

Total players 10

## **Field of Glory Tournament**

This had 28 Players and was won by Ian Speed.

## **Privateer Press Warmachines/Hordes Masters**

This had 48 Players. Here are the top 3:

First Place: Martyn Jenkins

Second Place: Tim Martin

Third Place: Jim Lawrence

There were other tournaments, which, as yet, we have not received notification about.

## **PLANS FOR 2010**

We see UK Games Expo as providing a showcase of games of all kinds with lots of new releases, demo games and chances to play in tournaments and participate in open gaming as well. Combined with the costumed groups and activities for younger visitors we hope we provide an event for all the family as well as catering for the enthusiast. That will certainly be the model again next year.

It is very early in our plans for 2010 off course but the provisional date is 4 to 6<sup>th</sup> June. I will confirm that in the next QLA.

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## **OxCon 2010 Progress Report (Robert Clough)**

Next year's OxCon will be over the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of January. As last year we plan to host a Puerto Rico Tournament on the Saturday and a Settlers of Catan Tournament on the Sunday, with casual gaming continuing throughout the weekend. We also hope there will be a board game retailer, so you can buy games over the weekend.

On Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be visiting a Pizza restaurant in Oxford, followed by games at a yet to be decided location. Saturday night will include a trip to an Oxford curry house, and we are looking into possible restaurants closer to the town centre.

Tournaments will begin at 11:00 with a requirement to sign up before 10:50. The venue will be the Mitre Pub on the high street, which has served us well for many years. More details on how to find the location and the pricings of the event will be released at a later date.

If you have any queries please contact [board@herald.ox.ac.uk](mailto:board@herald.ox.ac.uk)

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***The Queen's Lane Advertiser (incorporating Convention News)***

Editor : Jeremy Tullett

Coordinator : David Norman

Printing and Distribution: Markus Welbourne

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@ellought.demon.co.uk](mailto:david@ellought.demon.co.uk)

This issue of *The Queen's Lane Advertiser* was brought to you by:

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# MidCon '09 Booking Form

The registration fee for **MidCon** is £15 per person for the whole weekend. Day rates are £10 for the Saturday and £8 (each) for the Friday and the Sunday. Please note: convention fees are *not* refundable. After November 1<sup>st</sup> 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. **Please note that the registration fee goes up to £18 after November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

<b>Name</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Post code</b>		<b>Tel:</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>			
<b>I enclose a cheque / PO (payable to "MidCon") for</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>(See above for registration rates)</b>
<b>Other names covered by this registration</b>			

## Accommodation

Please reserve the following rooms at the rate of £49.00 per person per night for a single room and £39.50 per person per night sharing a twin/double room – a full English breakfast is included. Hotel charges will be settled directly with the hotel on your departure.

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 below
- I enclose a cheque for 50% of the total cost of my room booking, payable to "Thistle Birmingham City Hotel", as a deposit.

**My credit card details** (You do not need to provide these if you have enclosed a cheque to cover the deposit on your room)

<b>The name on my credit card is:</b>			
<b>The credit card number is:</b>		<b>The expiry date is:</b>	

The cancellation policy of the hotel is complicated, but full refunds should be available up to 10 weeks before **MidCon**, with an escalating cancellation fee as 13<sup>th</sup> November approaches.

	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
<b>N<sup>o</sup>. of single rooms</b>			
<b>N<sup>o</sup>. of twin rooms</b>			
<b>N<sup>o</sup>. of double rooms</b>			
<b>Sharing with ...</b>			

When complete, return this form, together with your registration fee (payable to "**MidCon**") to: Jeremy Tullett, **MidCon**, 7 Midland Place, Derby, DE1 2RR. Alternatively, credit card bookings may be submitted online at [www.midcon.org.uk](http://www.midcon.org.uk) by clicking on the Booking Form link in the left hand menu bar.