

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

Forthcoming Conventions

Brighton DipCon II Brighton Railway Club 4 Belmont Brighton Sussex BN1 3TF 13-15 May 2011 www.ukf2fdip.org	Beer and Pretzels The Town Hall Burton-on-Trent Staffordshire 14-15 May 2011 www.spiritgames.co.uk/bnpdetail.php	UK Games Expo The Clarendon Suites 2 Stirling Road Edgbaston, Birmingham 3-5 June 2011 www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk
Raiders of the Game Cupboard XV The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street, Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. DE14 1DR 18 June 2011 www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk	Summer StabCon Britannia Hotel Stockport 1-3 July 2011 Bookings(at)stabcon.co.uk	Pasteboard and Plastic 15 Saltdean Scout Hut (about 5 miles east of Brighton) 9 July 2011 http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic
Manorcon XXIX Stamford Hall University of Leicester. 15-18 July 2011 www.manorcon.org.uk	Sevenoaks Settlers Tournament III Otford Manor, Sevenoaks, TN15 6XF Sunday 17th July, 2:30-6pm mattyoung27(at)gmail.com	Evesham Games Day Evesham Town Hall Market Square Evesham Worcestershire WR11 4RW 13th August 2011 m.a.stretch@btinternet.com
Raiders of the Game Cupboard XVI The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street, Burton upon Trent Staffordshire. DE14 1DR 17 September 2011 www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk	TringCon XXIII Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 1 October 2011 www.fwtwr.com/tringcon	Pasteboard and Plastic 16 Saltdean Scout Hut (about 5 miles east of Brighton) 29 October 2011 http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/pasteboardandplastic
	MidCon Board Games Convention 2011 & EuroDipCon 2011 Hallmark Hotel Derby DE1 2SQ 11-13 November 2011 www.midcon.org.uk	

ManorCon XXIX

15th to 18th July 2011

Stamford Hall, University of Leicester

The organization for ManorCon XXIX is proceeding well. If you haven't booked yet, remember that you can do so in two ways. You can book online via PayPal or a credit or debit card – visit <http://www.manorcon.org.uk/book.htm> and follow the links. Or you can still post a form and cheque – the form can be found at the same place if you need one. Please remember that **advance registration is only available until 11th June**. After this, you will have to register at the door and pay higher registration fees and accommodation charges (and you may not get any accommodation at all – our supply of rooms is fairly limited).

If you have booked, but need to cancel all or some of your booked accommodation, you should inform us as soon as possible. If you cancel by the booking deadline, then you will definitely avoid cancellation charges. Thereafter, the later you leave it to inform us, the more likely you are to suffer accommodation cancellation charges.

ManorCon is run by volunteers, and does not aim to make a profit. In order for us to keep this tradition, we ask for volunteers for a number of tasks. One of these is help with the registration desk, usually by manning the desk for an hour on the Friday afternoon. Now that we hand out keys in addition to handling on-the-door bookings, we need lots of volunteers! If anybody asks anything you don't know, just point them at the nearest committee member – it's not difficult. If you would like to help us out and failed to mention it when booking, please e-mail us at regdesk@manorcon.org.uk.

This year, as usual, we will have a mix of scheduled and ad-hoc tournaments, plus some other competitions and events.

Scheduled tournaments:

Croquet – knock-out tournament limited to a maximum of 16 players.

Diplomacy – individual rounds at 1800 on Friday, 1000 on Saturday, and 1000 on Sunday. 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.

Midnight Party – three rounds, at midnight each evening.

Ad-hoc tournaments (play games as and when you wish):

- 18XX
- Dominion
- Race for the Galaxy
- Acquire
- Puerto Rico
- St Petersburg

Other events:

Games Stall. Milestone Games will again run a games stall for new games and gaming accessories. They will provide a 15% discount to all purchases, and there will be some special offers as well.

Pop Quiz – on Saturday evening.

Second Hand Games Sale – We hope to have two sessions, on Friday and Saturday. Unfortunately, Richard Frost, who normally organises the SHGS, has family commitments on the

weekend. We therefore require a volunteer to step forward to organise it this year. Richard can arrange for SHGS supplies to be available, and the normal helpers should be available. If nobody steps forward, we shall have no option but to cancel this popular event. So, could we have a volunteer, please?

Treasure Hunt – on Sunday afternoon. “Pit your mental and physical abilities against tests of skill in a race against time across four zones to unlock the mystery of this year's treasure hunt!”

Please note that, for several reasons, including the need to ensure there is sufficient space, the selling of games other than via the Games Stall or the Second Hand Games Sale should not be done without permission from the ManorCon Committee (contact details below).

There will be trophies for: 1st to 3rd in the Diplomacy, Dominion, and 18XX, and the winners of the Acquire, Croquet, Diplomacy Challenge, Puerto Rico, Race for the Galaxy, and St Petersburg competitions.

As of 20th April the following 40 people have registered:

Ben Brown	Sam Brown	Jeff Clark	John Colledge
Paul Cook	David Cowie	Howard Cox	John Cudmore
Robert Dillon	Gary Duke	David Durant	Mark Fox
James Goodman	Steve Guest	Hazel Hawker	Philip Honeybone
John Hopkins	Andrea Horsman	Steve Jones	Steve Kearon
Seth King	Kevin Lee	Jen Marshall	Pete Mason
David Norman	Andy Parsons	Nigel Pepper	Annie Percik
Richard Ramsden	Dave Simpson	Juho Snellman	Mark Stretch
Steve Thomas	David Tittle	David Van-Cauter	Daniel Victor
Bekki Warren	Terry Warren	Derek Wilson	Phil Woods

If you think you are missing from this list, please let us know as soon as possible, but remember that the list only shows those who had booked by 20th April. If you booked after that date, your name will not be on the above list, but you should have received confirmation of your booking from Neil Duncan. You can also contact us:

By post: Steve Jones, 59 Sudeley Walk, Putnoe, Bedford, MK41 8JH, UK.

By phone: +44 (0)1234 405878.

By email: info@manorcon.org.uk

On BoardGameGeek: <http://www.boardgamegeek.com/guild/441>

On Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=5594179334&v=wall>

And our website is <http://www.manorcon.org.uk>

The Diplomacy Tour of Britain: Brighton DipCon II (Dave Simpson)

Ukf2fDip.org cordially invites you to Brighton DipCon II - booking is now open!

The tournament runs between May 13th & May 15th, 2011 at the same venue as last year, namely: Brighton Railway Club, 4 Belmont, Brighton. BN1 3TF

4 rounds of Diplomacy are possible, only 3 of which will actually score for any player, but you can play in all 4 if you wish. The format of this tournament will be games to winter 1907, C-Diplo 73 scoring.

Game times are:

Friday 6pm - 11pm (this could be a learning game if required)

Saturday midday - 5pm

Saturday 6pm - 11pm
Sunday midday - 5pm

Prize-giving follows immediately afterwards with trophies for 1st to 3rd place, best country awards and other prizes also available

The cost for a single day is £5; for anyone wishing to play 2 or more days, it is £10.

Debit and credit card payments may be made through PayPal from the website, <http://www.ukf2fdip.org>. It is also possible to pay on the door.

This was a great event last year. We'd love to see it bigger and better this time around. Hope to see you there!

For additional information, please contact the Tournament Director, Dave Simpson, at dave@ukf2fdip.org

Spielchamps 2011 (Nick Harrison)

SPIELCHAMPS 2011

UK TEAM BOARDGAMING CHAMPIONSHIPS



REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY 16th MAY 2011

You think you're good at boardgaming, your regular group is hot, or you'd just like a bit of friendly competition, then why not come along and find out how good you are !!!

The UK SPIELCHAMPS 2011 will be held at Eclectic Games (Reading) on 21st May 2011

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 top three or four teams are invited to represent the UK at the European boardgaming championships in Essen, Germany in October 2011 (www.europemasters.org).

The Games :

- 1. Vasco da Gama**
- 2. Stone Age**
- 3. Brass**
- 4. Navegador**

To enter, get more information, or to be added to the mailing list, please send an email to: [**nick.harrison@baesystems.com**](mailto:nick.harrison@baesystems.com)

MidCon XXXII Report (Jeremy Tullett)

MidCon XXXIII takes place in the comfortable Hallmark Hotel in Derby from Friday morning (11am) to Sunday evening (6pm).

MidCon is 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, Power Grid and Agricola, 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.

The convention features:

- the opportunity to play board games with other gamers
- the **MidCon** general knowledge quiz for teams of 4 on Saturday evening
- a games shop
- a Bring & Buy stall where you can sell your games, or pick up a bargain
-

Costs

Attendance at **MidCon** costs £17-£20 for the whole weekend (day rates of £10 for each of Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and accommodation is available in the Hallmark Hotel or its sister establishment, the European Inn across the road, at reasonable rates. Both hotels have dedicated, free, car parks.

Derby railway station is about 50 metres away, and there is a bus link from there to East Midlands airport.

The City

Derby has a new Westfield centre for shoppers, and old ‘cathedral quarter’, and a number of interesting museums. There are at least two dining areas in the city (one near to the hotels), and a busy nightlife as well as several ‘real ale’ pubs.

Registration Fee

£17 per person for the whole weekend, when booked before 1st November, £20 afterwards, and on the door. A single registration fee covers both MidCon, and EuroDipCon, which is part of the event this year. The day rate is £10 per day. Please note: convention fees are not refundable.

Our block booking is held until 14th October, so **YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AS EARLY AS**

POSSIBLE.

After November 1st 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 £56:00 Single, £70:00 Double / Twin
Thursday 10 November 2011 available at £76:00 Single, £90:00 Double/Twin

European Inn Accommodation: Bed and breakfast prices of £46:00 Single, £60:00 Double /Twin
Thursday 10 November 2011 available at £66:00 Single, £80:00 Double / Twin

The European Inn is 50 metres from the Hallmark, across the street.

UK Games Expo 2011 (Mick Pearson)

UK GAMES EXPO 2011

“Everything about games”

3rd to 5th June 2011

The Clarendon Suites

2 Stirling Road, Edgbaston,

Birmingham B16 9SB

www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk

Dates and Times

UK Games Expo dates are as follows:

Friday 3 June

Once again the Free Play rooms, at the Strathallan Hotel, will be available from 10am on Friday for 3-day weekend ticket holders. This will involve open board gaming as well as roleplaying game tables. This format worked well at Expo 2010 and we hope more of you will take advantage of the facility in 2011.

Saturday 4 June

Read on for details of what is lined up for 2011.

Trade Hall Hours: 10am till 5pm.

Free-Play rooms at the Strathallan Hotel, Edgbaston next door to the Clarendon Suite will be available from 5pm till late. This year we have secured the whole of the Strathallan Hotel for the entire weekend, with plenty of gaming opportunities outside the main Expo site.

Sunday 5 June

Read on for details of Sunday events.

Trade Hall Hours: 10am till 4pm.

Charges

UK Games Expo Entry Ticket and Board Game Tournament Fee

The entry ticket grants entry to UK Games Expo. If you decide to enter any of our tournaments you buy a UK Games Expo Entry Ticket and also pay a Tournament Fee. These are the prices for 2011 (frozen at 2010 levels):

ENTRY TICKET	2011	Adult	Child	Family
(same as 2010)	1 Day	8	5	20
	2 day	13	8	30
	3 Day	16	10	35

Board game tournaments: Saturday long tournament £5, Sunday am/pm half day tournament £3.

Progress on Expo

We have had a busy few months since the last issue of QLA. Trade is 99% sold out, only one stand remains unsold, with plenty of board game companies attending, we expect to be fully sold out very soon. We have made changes to the way we handle entry to the show, especially on Saturday morning. I well remember the crush and queues of 2010 and we really want to do our best to avoid this in 2011. If you pre-book entry and tournament tickets then from about 8am on Saturday morning there will be a collection point at the rear of the Clarendon Suite, this is in addition to collection on Friday if you are in the area. Here you can collect tickets prior to entering Expo. Once the doors open at 9.30am you will be able to enter both at the rear and the front entrances. So our advice is to pre-book and collect your tickets to avoid queuing.

Game Companies

Go to our website to find details of who will be exhibiting at Expo 2011, currently 76 traders are committed to attend the show; there are links to many of their websites on our Exhibitors page.

We are planning a designated area for developers of new games to have prototypes of their games on display for feedback and play testing, so that you can be involved in the development of the games you will be playing in 2011 and beyond. We are also hosting an area for authors to display their work, with a number of authors already signed up to attend.

Board Game Events

Keep checking our website page for details of tournaments. Currently we have David Norman's Grand Board Games Tournament, also Barry Ingram is running his Memoir 44 and Command and Colours Ancients Tournaments. These are in addition to the UK Carcassonne Championship, the Agricola Championship and the UK Settlers of Catan Championship. We also have tournaments in addition to the above – Powergrid, St Petersburg and Puerto Rico, keep checking, there may be more coming.

An exciting addition for 2011 is a Living Munchkin event based on the mega-hit card game. Rather than draw and play cards the game is played out in real time. This event is fully supported by Steve Jackson Games, using original artwork, and we are working on having unique prizes through sponsorship from Steve Jackson Games. Look out for this event when our booking system goes live, around Easter weekend – spaces are limited and we know the event will be a sell-out.

The list of new games premiering at Expo is growing by the week, also there will be prototypes for you to see and play, including releases from Cubicle 7, Surprised Stare and many more. There will be a dedicated play test area in the purple zone.

We are also developing on last year's seminar schedule. Currently we have 8 seminars across Saturday and Sunday – too many to mention, they are listed on our website. There will be a board game designers' panel on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday Lewis Pulsipher will be giving tips on how to design a good board game. We also have Steve Jackson and Ian Livingstone back at Expo to talk about their favourite games.

Accommodation

The Clarendon Suites have no hotel accommodation. However, within 500 yards are many hotels. Our website has details of those nearby, here is the link:

<http://www.ukgamesexpo.co.uk/accommodation.php>.

Some details of special deals at hotels have yet to be finalised. We are working to negotiate special rates for you and these will be published on our website once this is done. The Strathallan, the official Expo hotel, will offer open gaming rooms (also open to non-residents) on Friday and Saturday night.

Details of other hotels are found (yes you've guessed it) on our website.

So, if we have whetted your appetite then go to www.ukgamesexpo.co.uk for much more information. Look out for our pre-booking system to open around Easter and remember to book early to avoid missing out on your favourite game. We want to welcome you back for what promises to be the best UK Games Expo yet! (OK we try and make each one better than the last, so I was bound to say that wasn't I?)

If you have any questions email me at mick@ukgamesexpo.co.uk

OxCon 2011 Report (Robert Pope, President of the Oxford Board Game Society)

There was a great turn out to OxCon 2011, starting with several of us on the Friday meeting at pizza express for a meal after which we returned to the societies usual meeting place for an evening of games.

The Saturday kicked off at the usual location, the Mitre pub on the high street, with food and drinks available throughout the day. With the Puerto Rico tournament eventually being won by David Buckley with a final tournament score, after 4 rounds, of 15.6. The Sunday saw the Settlers of Catan tournament that after 4 rounds was won by David Van-Cauter with a grand total of 42 tournament points. There were also many casual games throughout the weekend and lots of interesting games that people had brought along. Finally, I want to thank all the people that helped make this year's OxCon such a success.

The Queen's Lane Advertiser (incorporating Convention News)

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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

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