

# 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:

- **MidCon** 2013 Progress Report
- Manorcon Report, including tournament reports, lost and found, and feedback
- Brief news on OxCon 2014

## Forthcoming Conventions

<b>MidCon 2013</b> The Hallmark Hotel Derby DE1 2SQ 8-10 November 2013 <a href="http://MidCon.org.uk">MidCon.org.uk</a>	<b>Pasteboard and Plastic</b> Saltdean Scout Hut, Brighton Saturday 16 November 2013 Details: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/3ex38k">http://tinyurl.com/3ex38k</a> Map: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/ybq7ng">http://tinyurl.com/ybq7ng</a>	<b>Raiders of the Game Cupboard XXV</b> The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent DE14 1DR 28 December 2013 <a href="http://www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk">www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk</a>
<b>Winter Stabcon 2014</b> Britannia Hotel Stockport 3-5 January 2014 <a href="mailto:bookings(at)stabcon.org.uk">bookings(at)stabcon.org.uk</a>	<b>Oxcon</b> Oxford January 2014 Search Oxcon 2014 on <a href="http://boardgamegeek.com">boardgamegeek</a> for details	<b>Essex Games Day</b> Writtle Village Hall The Green, Writtle Chelmsford Sunday 26th January 2014 <a href="http://www.sorcon.co.uk">www.sorcon.co.uk</a>
<b>SoRCon 7</b> Holiday Inn Festival Leisure Park Basildon 28 February - 2 March 2014 <a href="mailto:info(at)sorcon.co.uk">info(at)sorcon.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.sorcon.co.uk">www.sorcon.co.uk</a>	<b>Raiders of the Game Cupboard XXVI</b> The Salvation Army Citadel Mosley Street Burton upon Trent DE14 1DR 22 March 2014 <a href="http://www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk">www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk</a>	<b>TringCon XXVIII</b> Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth, Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 5 April 2014 Keith Thomasson: <a href="mailto:tringcon(at)fwtwr.com">tringcon(at)fwtwr.com</a> <a href="http://www.fwtwr.com/tringcon">www.fwtwr.com/tringcon</a>
<b>BayCon</b> Exeter Court Hotel Kennford Devon 24-27 April 2014 <a href="http://www.baycon.co.uk">www.baycon.co.uk</a>	<b>25th Beer and Pretzels</b> The Town Hall Burton upon Trent 17-18 May 2014 <a href="http://www.spiritgames.co.uk/bnpdetails.php">www.spiritgames.co.uk/bnpdetails.php</a>	<b>UK Games Expo</b> NEC Hilton Metropole Birmingham 30 May - 1 June 2014 <a href="mailto:richard(at)ukgamesexpo.co.uk">richard(at)ukgamesexpo.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk">www.UKGamesExpo.co.uk</a>
<b>Manorcon XXXII</b> John Foster Hall, University of Leicester 2pm 18th July–2pm 21st July 2014 <a href="mailto:info@manorcon.org.uk">info@manorcon.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.manorcon.org.uk">www.manorcon.org.uk</a>	<b>TringCon XXIX</b> Marsworth Village Hall Marsworth, Nr. Tring Buckinghamshire 27 September 2014 Keith Thomasson: <a href="mailto:tringcon(at)fwtwr.com">tringcon(at)fwtwr.com</a> <a href="http://www.fwtwr.com/tringcon">www.fwtwr.com/tringcon</a>	<b>Derby on Board Games</b> Bean Caffe, Friar Gate Studios, Derby Last Wednesday of the month 17:30-22:30

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## MidCon 2013 (Jeremy Tullett)

Numbers are building nicely for 2013, and at this stage are about where they were in 2012 and 2011.

The 87 registrations so far (6<sup>th</sup> October) are:

Ken Simpson	Simon Langley-Evans	John Langley	Mike Oakes
Susan Killean	Richard Adams	Jen Marshall	Colin Harden
Steve Jones	Jen Petruccio	Stewart Pilling	Steve Thomas
Alex Brown	Bod	David Clasby	Bill O'Neill
Nigel Pepper	Eric Norton	Jeff Cousins	Oli Cousins
Dave Thorby	Owen Richards	Alan Harvey	Kevin Lee
David Thornton	Graeme Murphy	Philip Pettifer	Bekki Honeybone
Phil Honeybone	Jeff Edmunds	Pete Mason	Richard Minson
John Cudmore	Brian Moore	Herbert Gratz	Ian Wilson
Phillip Woods	John Hopkins	Gary Duke	David Blowers
Angela Counce	Tony Bromley	Daniel Victor	Lee Edwards
Ruth Cooper	Larry Devis	Barrington Beavis	Mike Hutton
Richard Beattie	Marcus Barbor	John Harrington	Paul Oakes
Jeremy Tullett	Philip Hannay	Simon Forth	John Colledge
Geoff Hardingham	David Walker	Simon Craddock	Andy Walker
Tina Walker	Mark Fox	Sean Byrne	Shaun Derrick
James Faulkner	Rob Thomasson	David Norman	Teik Chooi Oh
Matthew Deaville	Paul Cook	Richard Skinner	Robin Walters
Katy Walters	Richard Skinner	David Durant	Peter Campbell
Stephen Cowley	Andy Pelton	Peter Card	Mike Moor
Greg Moor	Iain Alexander	Dave Simpson	Bill Mayling
Mike Head	Kath Collman	Keith Rapley	Francis Tresham

## Bring and Buy (John Harrington)

After about five years of running the Bring & Buy there is a very real danger of me getting the event to run like ever so slightly rusty clockwork.

Certainly the advance logging of games being sold helped streamline things. This year we may well go the whole hog and have some printed forms with assigned (unique) numbers which we can hand out to sellers who can then complete details of the games they have for sale, put the relevant details on the post-its, attach the post-its to the game and viola! Bob's your firkin.

In total we had 218 games up for sale in the Bring & Buy in 2012. Of these 103 were sold, suggesting people are getting the hang of "pricing to sell". The total amount raised through sales was £753. A copy of Kingsburg, at £26, was the most expensive game.

I am obliged to Pete Card and Geoff Challenger for their usual assistance and one other person whose name I cannot recall. Whoever he is, he did an excellent job of shuffling the games on display to ensure every box had its moment in the sun.

## MidCon 2013 Booking Form

### Registration Fee

£20 per person for the whole weekend, when booked before 1<sup>st</sup> 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 12 October, so PLEASE BOOK AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.**

After October 12th, rooms will be open for sale to the open public, and so are likely to sell out. After 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.MidCon.org.uk) for details), sterling cheques (made out to "MidCon Convention"), cash, or transfer to "MidCon Convention", Lloyds TSB 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.

<b>Name(s)</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Post code</b>		<b>Tel:</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>			
<b>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 1<sup>st</sup> November)</b>			

### Bed and breakfast prices per room per night

	Thu	Fri / Sat	Twins / doubles are available for single occupancy, at the full room rate.
Hallmark Hotel Single	£64.00	£59.00	
Hallmark Hotel Twin / Double	£78.00	£72.00	The convention closes 6pm Sunday, but anyone wishing to stay on Sunday night will get the Friday / Saturday room rate.
Hallmark Inn Single	(£54.00)	£49.00	
Hallmark Inn Twin / Double	(£67.00)	£62.00	
<b><i>Charges to your room are your responsibility, and are to be paid on departure.</i></b>			

**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 <sup>o</sup> . of single rooms				
N <sup>o</sup> . of twin rooms				
N <sup>o</sup> . 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

# ManorCon XXXI - Results

ManorCon XXXI saw the start of a new chapter, with the move to John Foster Hall. All in all, it went very well. There were of course a few teething problems, which we will look to resolve for 2014 (more about that in the feedback section), but the overall reaction to the new venue has been very positive – as the committee hoped and expected it would be.

Having everything in one building makes for a much more cohesive convention, and the subsidiary gaming rooms upstairs and the quiet games room downstairs still allowed people to get away from the main mass of people a little if they wanted to. Having the bar and servery so close together works much better than having them in separate buildings.

One change we have seen this year, is a further drop off in the number of people playing various tournament games. There has been a gradual decline for a number of years, but this has suddenly dropped away further this year, so that we will be dropping several of the tournaments for next year. The trend now is for people to play “this year's big thing”, with a lot of games of Snowdonia and Tzolk'in being played during the weekend. In future, we may look to run tournaments in whatever's new this year, for one year only.

Behind the scenes, we did have one major panic shortly before the convention, to do with the sale of rooms on the door. We were able to resolve it in the end (both for 2013 and for future years). The upshot is that in future years, we will always have rooms for sale on the door in similar numbers to this year, but they may not be of the same quality as the rooms sold in advance, and they may not be quite so close to the main building. It will all depend on which rooms are wanted by other users, as to which rooms we will be allowed to hold as rooms on the door.

## Thanks.

ManorCon is run completely by volunteers. Some of those volunteers are daft enough to call themselves the committee, and spend 12 months a year organising ManorCon. But they could not do it by themselves. Therefore we'd like to thank everybody else who helped with the running of ManorCon XXXI:

For their help on the Registration Desk: Peter Campbell, Kath Collman, Chris Dawe, James Goodman, Kevin Lee, Dane Maslen, Bill Mayling, and Eric Norton.

For organising tournaments: Steve Guest, Phil Hannay, Timothy Luffingham, Dane Maslen, and Phil Williams.

For hosting the convention, and being ready to deal with problems as quickly and effectively as always, the University of Leicester.

## Treasure Hunt

Three teams competed in the treasure hunt, solving puzzles to receive clues to try and find the stolen rules to Dr. K's new game, and to find the thief. Team One solved the final puzzle at the first attempt, and thus won the hunt, and with it, the rights (or should I say, obligation) to set the hunt next year. Congratulations to Dave Durant, Mark Fox, Annie Percik, David Tittle and Katy Walters.

# 18XX

The 18XX tournament had 17 players playing 10 games, a drop down from last year, although I am reliably informed that two unreported games were also played. The games included one each of 1761, 18FL, 1837, 1858, 1848:Australia, 1856, 1848, 1841:v.2, 1822, and 18Ard. About half way through the weekend, there was no obvious front-runner. However, after Sunday's results came in, two big wins saw, respectively, Jon Draper recover from a bad first loss to second overall and a runaway win by Steve Thomas, with three wins out of four. Congratulations to Steve on winning the tournament.

Rank	Name	Games	Wins	Score
1	Steve Thomas	4	3	109.12
2	Jon Draper	3	2	100.36
3	Ian D. Wilson	4	1	89.27
4	Peter Eldridge	3	0	77.81
5	Dave Berry	2	0	71.50
6	Ken Simpson	2	0	71.12
7	Markus Barbor	2	1	68.53
8	Ben Brown	1	1	68.53
9	Danny Victor	2	1	64.78
10	Geoff Hardingham	2	1	63.27
11	Dave Thorby	2	0	51.30
12	Chris Dawe	1	0	50.37
13	Sam Brown	1	0	49.28
14	Steven Redpath	1	0	32.61
15	Jean Michalski	4	0	17.98
16	Jean-Francois Lemire	3	0	7.30
17	John Hopkins	3	0	-20.37

## Dominion

Just 10 games played by 5 different players this year.

Rank	Name	Score	Wins/Games	
			3-player	4-player
1	Chris Dawe	0.228	1/3	2/7
2	Iain Alexander	0.122	-	1/4
3=	Mark Ashfield	0.000	0/3	0/3
3=	Derek Wilson	0.000	-	0/7
TD*	Dane Maslen	0.469	2/3	4/7

With such a low number of players, this will be the last year that the Dominion Tournament is run. Congratulations to Chris Martin, who won three of the five Dominion tournaments, winning 18 of the 20 games he played in the process.

\* As Tournament Director, Dane excluded himself from the rankings.

# Diplomacy

This year's tournament was down to just 8 players, and just one board each on Friday and Saturday.

<b>Friday 1</b>			
Austria	Owen Richards	1904	0.40
England	Keith Smith	6	13.77
France	David Wigglesworth	3	6.70
Germany	Steve Agg	3	6.70
Italy	Dave Simpson	13	42.93
Russia	Graeme Murphy	9	24.09
Turkey	Jim Mills	1904	0.40

In just 6 years of gameplay, Dave, working with Graeme, managed to kill off both Austria and Turkey simultaneously, and grow to 13 centres, giving him a significant lead after round 1. Between them, Russia and Italy held 22 centres.

<b>Saturday 1</b>			
Austria	Dave Simpson	4	8.63
England	Graeme Murphy	11	32.55
France	Jim Mills	11	32.55
Germany	David Wigglesworth	1	3.78
Italy	Steve Agg	1907	0.70
Russia	Steve Massey	1906	0.60
Turkey	Keith Smith	7	16.73

Round 2 saw two Western powers ending the game holding 22 centres, although more balanced than in the first round, with an 11-11 split. While this scored Graeme significantly less than Dave had in the first round, Dave being held down to just 4 centres meant Graeme took the lead.

Unfortunately only six players were available for the Sunday round, not helped by two of the players from the previous rounds being unable to stay for Sunday, and the tournament director having to run the Treasure Hunt (having accidentally won it the previous year when he wasn't needed to make up a board for the Sunday round). So no game was played, and the tournament was decided based on just the Friday and Saturday rounds.

So the Final Results were:

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Overall</b>
1	Graeme Murphy	24.09	32.55	56.65
2	Dave Simpson	42.93	8.63	51.57
3	Jim Mills	0.40	32.55	32.95
4	Keith Smith	13.77	16.73	30.49
5	David Wigglesworth	6.70	3.78	10.48
6	Steve Agg	6.70	0.70	7.40
7	Steve Massey		0.60	0.60
8	Owen Richards	0.40		0.40

Following the failure to get 7 players together for the Sunday round, there was a long discussion amongst the remaining players as to what to do for future years. While there are only a small number of players left, those who are left are enthusiastic about continuing to play Diplomacy.

The discussions will continue between now and next ManorCon, but the likely direction is to play shorter games, probably in the region of 4 hours, so that the opportunity to play more other games as well as taking part in the Diplomacy tournament.

## 7 Wonders

29 players played 6 games. John Colledge managed to win the tournament, despite having only learned the game at the convention.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Score</b>
1	John College	2	1	99.4
2	Bill Mayling	2	1	88.38
3	Pete Mason	2	0	83.37
4	Jeremy Tullett	2	0	79.62
5	Mark Stretch	2	0	77.25
6	Rob Cowan	1	1	66.20
7	Stephen Frye	1	1	65.26
8	Nigel Pepper	2	0	64.89
9	Mark Wightman	1	1	61.36
10	David Thornton	1	1	58.61
11	Dan Lester	1	0	54.62
12	Annie Percik	1	0	52.89
13	John Marsden	1	0	52.58
14	Philip Honeybone	1	0	52.54
14	Kevin Shaw	1	0	52.54
16	Bekki Warren	1	0	51.77
17	Steve Jones	1	0	51.55
18	Colin Evans	1	0	50.47
18	Tom Garretty	1	0	50.47
20	Matthew McIntyre	1	0	48.68
21	Simon Hornby	1	0	47.69
21	Mark Rigby-Jones	1	0	47.69
23	Kevin Lee	1	0	47.42
23	Alex Brown	1	0	47.42
23	Pete Campbell	1	0	47.42
26	Chris Dearlove	1	0	44.81
27	Hayley Croombs	1	0	39.40
28	Dave Putt	1	0	37.85
29	Paul Cook	1	0	34.62

With nobody playing more than 2 games of 7 Wonders, we will be dropping this tournament next year. After 18 games were played in the tournament's first year in 2012, just 6 were played in 2013.

# Puerto Rico

22 players played 7 games, although only the top five played more than one game.

Rank	Name	Games	Won	Score
1	Paul Hoad	2	1	91.26
2	Julie Richards	2	1	89.84
3	Gary Duke	2	0	73.03
4	Matthew Greet	2	0	72.72
5	Paul Richards	2	0	72.59
6	Ben Brown	1	1	71.97
7	David Buckley	1	1	67.61
8	Richard Beattie	1	1	64.60
9	Mark Stretch	1	1	61.78
10	David Thornton	1	1	59.78
11	Richard Minson	1	0	57.97
12	Peter Card	1	0	51.66
13	Pete Campbell	1	0	50.96
14	Andy Gregory	1	0	50.33
15	Kevin Lee	1	0	49.68
16	Steve Cox	1	0	48.68
17	Mark Ashfield	1	0	46.96
18	Bill Mayling	1	0	44.59
19	Kath Collman	1	0	42.37
20	Chris Paterson	1	0	40.72
21	John Hopkins	1	0	39.82
22	Bill O'Neil	1	0	36.23

With nobody playing more than 2 games, we will be dropping the Puerto Rico tournament in 2014, after 12 years of being run at ManorCon. Congratulations to the two multiple winners of the tournament over the years, Steve Jones (2003, 2007 and 2011) and Matthew Greet (2006, 2012).

## Pop Quiz

Eight teams took part in this year's Pop Quiz, this year run by Phil Hannay. Seven rounds of questions, and a very strange mix of music!

Team	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Joker	Total
The Famous Five	14	17	8	19	15	<b>18</b>	8	18	117
Did Steve tell you perchance?	14	9	<b>12</b>	15	13	15	10	12	100
Jjedi	14	10	7	15	11	<b>17</b>	9	17	100
Team Fat Roll	14	9	7	15	<b>11</b>	17	8	11	92
Jelly Tots	15	9	10	10	11	<b>17</b>	7	17	96
Return of the Quiche	7	<b>13</b>	9	10	11	16	4	13	83
Team Fat Rock	7	5	5	17	10	<b>11</b>	5	11	71
The Castleford Ladies Magical Circle	9	9	4	10	4	10	<b>6</b>	6	58

Congratulations to Martin Burroughs, John Gates, Dave Gittins, Ian Le Brocq and Timothy, the dog on their win.



The rounds were:

Round	Title	Description
1	Robot Sex Butchery	Dubstep remixes. 10 songs butchered horribly into dubstep versions. 1 point each for artist and title of original song
2	When is round number 1?	Name the year. 10 mixes of number 1 hits from the same year. Name the year for 2 points, a year either side for 1 point.
3	The are not the songs you are looking for	10 songs. For each song, name the artist and title of a different song (not a cover) that has the same title. 1 point for artist, 1 point for title
4	Lyrics	17 lyrics. Name the song for 1 point each. Take the first letters of the answers to make a new lyric, 3 points for naming that song.
5	Find someone to rescue Princess Zelda!	Find the "Link" round. 9 songs - 1 point each for artist and title. Then 2 points for the connection.
6	Iron the Bedsheets	Metal Covers. 10 pop songs covered by Metal bands, 1 point each for song title and original artist
7	Poly Glot a Cracker	20 songs in distinct languages. Name the language for 1 point each

## Midnight Party

3 games played – unsurprisingly scheduled for Midnight on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. With two wins and a second place, Steve Guest managed to convincingly win the tournament.

More people played three or more games in the Midnight Party tournament, than in any other tournament!

Rank	Name	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Overall
1	Steve Guest	13	12	10	8.75
2	Andy Edgell			12	6
3	Tanya Lim	10	9	4	5.75
4	Mike Townsend	11	6		5.67
5	Neil Munkman	7	3	9	4.75
5	Gail Baker	3	9	7	4.75
7	Dave Holmes	8	6	4	4.5
8	Ian Wilson	6	9	2	4.25
9	Michael Milford			8	4
9	John Mitchell	5	4	7	4
11	Alex Zbyslaw	4	10	1	3.75
12	Stuart Malaure	10	1		3.67
13	Dave Cowie	1		7	2.67
14	David Anderson		3		1.5
15	Steven Redpath	2			1

# Croquet

Fifteen people signed up in the end, so I gave last year's winner a bye in the first round, and randomly drew the match-ups - with an eight-sided die and a four-sided die! After doing the draw, the tournament more or less ran itself, although I had to chase up people, especially after some first round matches were not played on Saturday. It was disappointing to see some walkovers; I presume that these were agreed amicably. The scores of some of the matches were not reported; you're slipping there, guys!

The final pitted Committee member Gary up against former champion Mick, with Gary prevailing this time. Congratulations to Gary on his fourth crown, and commiserations to Mick.

Mick Haytack	14	Mick Haytack	14	Mick Haytack	14	Mick Haytack	9
Phil Honeybone	2						
Paul Speck	w/o	Paul Speck	4				
Adam Siejka							
Bernard Thompson	14	Bernard Thompson	?	Stuart Stafford	1		
Bekki Warren	6						
Stuart Stafford	w/o	Stuart Stafford	14				
Jim Winteler							
Mark Eddy	?	Sean Byrne	?	Marek Siejka	11	Gary Duke	14
Sean Byrne	14						
Marek Siejka	14	Marek Siejka	14				
Sue Philips	?						
Timothy Luffingham	14	Timothy Luffingham	1	Gary Duke	14		
Martin Burroughs	10						
Gary Duke		Gary Duke	14				
Bye							

## St. Petersburg

12 players played 3 games.

Rank	Player	Games	Won	Score
1	Mark Ashfield	2	0	66.10
2	Dane Maslen	1	1	64.53
3	David Buckley	1	1	61.35
4	Kevin Lee	1	1	59.09
5	John Webley	1	0	55.25
6	Mick Haytack	1	0	54.14
7	Steve Jones	1	0	51.68
8	Derek Wilson	1	0	51.16
9	Pete Campbell	1	0	50.48
10	Bill Mayling	1	0	47.48
11	David Thornton	1	0	46.27
12	John Marsden	1	0	40.93

With only three games played, we will be dropping this tournament in 2014. Congratulations to the late Tony Wheatley, who was the only player to win the St Petersburg tournament more than once, winning all of the first three years it was run.

# Your Feedback

Thank you to everybody who filled in a feedback form. With the move to a new venue, your feedback is especially useful to the committee this year.

There were a number of issues. The main one was the lack of table space at times, which was caused by us agreeing a table layout with the University for each of the rooms, but when they then came to lay out the tables to the plan, they found that that they didn't have sufficient tables! We now have a complete inventory of their tables, so will look at how to better use the tables they have, or if that is still insufficient, we will arrange for them to bring some in from outside. We have also now seen how the layout works for us, so that next time we can improve it, including if necessary, taking one or two more rooms upstairs for our use.

There were also problems with the lack of parking space. Unfortunately all we can do about this is to advise as to other options for where to park. But there are some good options, including just across the road, which is actually closer to the hall than some of the furthest spaces on the John Foster site.

We also had problems with the sound for the Pop Quiz – it just wasn't loud enough (which may have been a blessing, given some of the music!). Our plan was to plug into the built-in sound system in the bar (which we knew was in place, but hadn't been able to test beforehand), with the TV speakers as a backup. Unfortunately the built-in sound system wasn't working, so we had to go to the back up, which was inadequate (despite sounding more than adequate when tested with the room empty). Next year we will confirm that the built-in system is working, and if it is not, we will use a PA system, as we did in Stamford House.

Finally, we also received some feedback about problems with the bedrooms (e.g. shower cold, room not serviced, etc). As ever, if you do have such a problem, please report it to the committee as soon as you get a chance, as this allow us to report it up to the University who will get it resolved quickly. They do have people on duty during the weekend to resolve problems such as these, and those problems which were reported to the committee were resolved quickly once we knew about them.

If there is anything you think we haven't picked up, please feel free to contact the committee so we can look to improve it for next time.

## Lost Property

We have just two items of lost property this year – both games:

**Puerto Rico** and **Snowdonia**

If either of these is yours, please contact a member of the committee to claim them.

## Rounding Things Up

The number of attendees was the highest since we moved to Leicester from Birmingham, at 242 (up 10 from 2012). There were 211 on Friday, 235 on Saturday, 225 on Sunday, and 144 on Monday. The number of rooms used was 183, up by 18 compared to 2012. The use of the Internet for booking continues to increase, with 75% of bookings now being made via the Internet.

We look forward to seeing you there for ManorCon XXXII on 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014.

To contact the committee, write to: David Norman, MANORCON, 38 Conigre Square, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8LJ, UK. Or e-mail [info@manorcon.org.uk](mailto:info@manorcon.org.uk). More information on the ManorCon website, [www.manorcon.org.uk](http://www.manorcon.org.uk).

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## OxCon 2014 (Dominic Bisset)

Oxcon is happening January 2014 – Oxford. Search Oxcon 2014 on boardgamegeek for details.

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## SorCon 2014 (Christopher Dearlove)

### SoRCon 7

Friday 28th February to Sunday 2nd March 2014

New improved venue:  
Holiday Inn, Festival Leisure Park,  
Basildon, Essex, SS14 3DG

Registration: £15 for weekend booked by end of year,  
£25 thereafter (daily rates also available)

Further details and booking at [www.sorcon.co.uk](http://www.sorcon.co.uk)

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Editor: Jeremy Tullett

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)

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

Jeremy Tullett, 7 Midland Place, Derby DE1 2RR

Telephone: 01332-385322

Email: [Jeremy.tullett\(at\)homecall.co.uk](mailto:Jeremy.tullett(at)homecall.co.uk)