

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: Covid-19 effects for Manorcon XXXVIII and **MidCon** 2020.

Forthcoming Conventions

ManorCon XXXVIII 17-20 July 2020 CANCELLED	Pasteboard and Plastic 42 Saturday 25 July 2020 CANCELLED	HandyCon 7-9 August 2020 CANCELLED
Virtual UK Games Expo Online 21-23 August 2020 www.ukgamesexpo.co.uk	Boardgames Holiday 14-21 September 2020 CANCELLED	TringCon Marsworth Millennium Hall, Marsworth, Bucks Saturday 19 September 2020 www.tringcon.org
Raiders of the Games Cupboard LII Waterside Community Centre, Burton-upon-Trent 26 September 2020 www.raidsofthegamecupboard.co.uk	MidCon 2020 The Hallmark Hotel, Derby 13-15 November 2020 MidCon.org.uk	Pasteboard and Plastic 43 Saltdean Scout Hut, Brighton Saturday 21 November 2020 tinyurl.com/3ex38k
Boardgames at the Manor Otford Manor, Kent 11-13 December 2020 https://www.oakhall.co.uk/manor/boook/trip/manor?tripid=4477	SoRCon 14 Holiday Inn, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon, Essex 5-7 March 2021 www.sorcon.co.uk	UK Games Expo NEC Hilton Metropole, Birmingham 4-6 June 2021 www.ukgamesexpo.co.uk
	ManorCon XXXVIII Stamford Court, University of Leicester 16-19 July 2021 www.manorcon.org.uk	

This information is taken from websites as at 1 July 2020. You are strongly advised to check before travelling with any event that you may be intending to attend, in case there have been any late changes.

ManorCon XXXVIII (David Norman)

If you were considering attending ManorCon in 2020, then you should already be aware that the convention has been cancelled.

If you have already booked then you should have received an email from Gary. If you haven't, please contact him at bookings@manorcon.org.uk for full details, but basically, you can carry your booking over to next year or request a refund.

However, ManorCon is going ahead in a virtual sense. On ManorCon weekend, we will be running a Discord server where people can meet up; for those unfamiliar with Discord, Discord is an online system for text and voice chat originally created for multiplayer online video games. There will be a set of voice channels that can be used while playing an online game together on any of the variety of online boardgames websites. We will also have a Google spreadsheet where people can arrange games in advance. Full details should be on the ManorCon website, www.manorcon.org.uk, by the time you read this.

So we look forwards to seeing you, either at virtual ManorCon, or in person at ManorCon next year, from Friday 16th to Monday 19th July 2021.

MidCon 2020 (Jeremy Tullett)

Meantime, we have a few months to think about what is happening to MidCon. I currently swing between thinking it will happen, and that it will not, depending on what I have just read in the news. Unless a vaccine becomes widely available, I think we may just have to hope that we slot in between a period of low infection rate and a winter upswing in cases.

For the event to happen at all, the following have to be in place:

1. Government guidelines must permit indoor gatherings of around 250 people
2. The hotel must be prepared to host the event

The following conditions may affect how the convention will run:

1. The degree of social distancing required
2. The occupancy level of hotel bedrooms allowed by the hotel
3. The availability of public transport for non-drivers to get to Derby

I am determined that we will run something if at all possible, but we may be obliged to put a cap on headcount and/or insist on widely spaced tables and/or find extra gaming space in nearby venues, such as the Aston Court.

It is too early to say what personal protection measures may be recommended by November, but I am prepared to provide bottles of sanitiser at convention expense. If face coverings were still recommended, I'd prefer to let people make their own personal choice about what they might wear.

We have a few bookings already, and I am sorry that I have not yet acknowledged them. We *are* open to bookings, and all registration fees are fully refundable in the event of cancellation. Room bookings are subject to the policies of whichever hotel you book at.

You may register on our website (midcon.org.uk) or contact me directly as below.

Fingers crossed ...

The Final Word

This issue of The Queen's Lane Advertiser was brought to you by: Jeremy Tullett, 7 Midland Place, Derby DE1 2RR (Tel: 01332-385322 Email: jeremy.tullett@talktalk.net, who put it all together, and David Norman, who arranged for the printing and distribution.