

# MISSION STATUS UPDATE



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## SATELLITE 2 COMMITTEE AND STAFF

Michael Davidson	Chair / Hotel Liaison
Carolyn Sleith	Treasurer
Christine Davidson	Programme / Guest Liaison
Colin Dalglish	Membership
David Gibson	Publicity Materials / Scribe
DC	At Con Publicity
Mad Elf	Website / At Con Ops
Jamie Scott	Art Show
Simon King	At Con Multimedia
Roger<beep>	Mascot



## A SHORT COMMUNICATION FROM FLIGHT CONTROL

Welcome to the Progress report for Satellite 2.

The Mission Control Team is working hard to put together an excellent and exciting convention. We have several items planned around our main theme, celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first manned moon landing (although we think NASA made a major mistake launching Apollo 11 in the middle of July...it would have been so much more convenient, and cheaper for future events celebrating the anniversary, if they had gone off-peak!)

Of course not all items will be moon related, and you can find further information on Programme on page 4. A real highlight of the convention will of course be our Guest of Honour, Iain M Banks. Iain has recently confirmed that he will be reading from his newest novel, *Transition*, which won't go on sale until September 2009. A real treat to look forward to!

Don't forget to order a convention T-shirt featuring our logo, designed for us by local fan artist, Neil McChrystal. You will be able to see more of Neil's work, as well as other local artists, at our convention Art Show.

Remember the lifeblood of any convention is you - the members. Get the most out of your convention by joining in. We are looking for volunteers for 'gophering', helping before or at the convention and participating in programme items. It is easy to volunteer – just email us at [programme@satellite2.org.uk](mailto:programme@satellite2.org.uk), speak to a committee member, write us a letter or send a carrier pigeon.

Enjoy the rest of this report and I look forward to seeing you all in July.

*Michael*  
*CHAIR ('Flight Control')*

## PROGRAMME

The programme is the heart of any convention, and ours aims to feature a wide variety of items to appeal to all fannish tastes, from SF to space science and from the fairly serious to the very silly! Highlights include:

### Guest of Honour

Iain M Banks will be giving us a sneak preview of his new novel *Transition*, due for publication in September 2009, and tells us about things that really get his goat in *GoH Room 101*.

### Talks

A diverse range of speakers have been recruited, including artists, authors, scientists and engineers. Dave Woods recounts the history of the Apollo Space Programme whilst astronomer Robert Law will look at the prospects for a *Return to the Moon*. There will also be talks on *Inadvisable Rocket Science*, *How Science Produces Art*, and a personal reflection, *Me and the Moon*, by well-known Glasgow fan Ed Buckley.

### Panels

We plan panels on how the moon has been portrayed in both literary and media SF and discussions on the *Future of Space Exploration*. We turn the spotlight on Iain M Banks' Culture asking *It may be a Techno-utopia but would you want to live there?* Some *Grumpy Old Fen* tell us why fandom just ain't what it used to be, and we consider *SF Things I Wish I'd Never Thrown Away*. Everyone has the chance to design their ultimate 'dream' convention in *Fantasy Football Con*. Our money's on Arthur C Clarke to beat Jules Verne for the coveted GoH spot in injury time!

### Workshops

Alex Holden oversees *Chaos Modelling*, a chance to build your own Lunar Lander from household junk, Munchkin challenges teams to *Fake Your Own Moon Landing* and David McIntee presents *Martial Arts on the Moon*.

## Games and Quizzes

Our sister Glasgow convention, *Albacon*, will run an SF music quiz, whilst our very own Mad Elf will oversee one more round of the popular *Finding Uranus*, plus a new game, *One Small Step*, in honour of 2009 also being the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Monty Python. Come prepared for much hilarity, running around and stomping!

## Evening Events

Saturday evening features a disco with the theme *Beach Party on the Shore of the Sea of Tranquillity*. Come in swimwear, a spacesuit, a Hawaiian shirt...or all three! On Sunday there will be the traditional *Dead Laika (i.e. Dog) Party*, with a pub quiz hosted by Dalg...for anyone still standing.

### CONVENTION T-SHIRT

T-shirts are black with the con logo on the front and the Apollo 11 mission patch on the sleeve. They can be ordered up until 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 at a cost of £15 (plus £2.50 postage and packing if applicable)

Order from the con address (see page 10).

Please include:

- the size of T-shirt you want
- a note of whether you will collect at Satellite 2 or would prefer postal delivery
- your address (for postal deliveries only)
- a cheque for £15 or £17.50 payable to "Satellite 2"

Note that we'll be producing shirts in batches, and only when we have sufficient orders. So please be patient!



## ART SHOW

Satellite 2 will include a small Art Show featuring mainly local artists. If you would like to exhibit work please contact Dyllanne. There will be no formal Art Auction, but bidding sheets will be provided for those wishing to sell their work.

## DEALER

Well-known SF Bookshop *At the Sign of the Dragon* will be running a stall at Satellite 2. Richard has promised to bring a diverse stock of merchandise, including space-related books, novels by our GoH Iain M Banks, and copies of Dave Woods acclaimed *How Apollo Flew to the Moon*.

## AUTOGRAPHS

Iain M Banks will be signing straight after his GoH speech on Saturday and also for a period on Sunday.

## MOON WALL

Space will be set aside for an exhibit of lunar landing related memorabilia. If you have anything you'd like to contribute to the display e.g. news cuttings, posters, stamps etc from the time, then please contact Dyllanne. The Moonwall will be located in a secure area (probably the art show/dealer's room) and all items will of course be returned to their owners after the convention.



## HOTEL INFORMATION

The Convention will take place in the [Crowne Plaza Hotel](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/925/en/home), Congress Road, Glasgow, G3 8QT. See <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/925/en/home>

Many of you will know it well already as it was the principal hotel for the 2005 Worldcon and the venue for Eastercon in 2006.

Don't forget, a special room rate has been negotiated for convention members. Rooms will be available on Friday, Saturday or Sunday nights for a convention rate of £115 per room per night (twin/double) and £105 p.r.p.n. (single occupancy) inclusive of breakfast.

For room bookings, please contact the hotel directly, quoting "Satellite 2". Please note these **special rates are only available until 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009**. So book early!

We have arranged to have our own convention bar at the hotel which will run until the wee hours. The convention bar will also be serving hot food up to 7 o'clock in the evening. Convention members will have access to the other hotel restaurants and bars at all times.

We are currently in negotiation with the hotel over other details, such as special convention rates for drinks as well as having a supply of Real Ale. As we progress, we will post up any news on our website, so please check there for further information.

Alternative accommodation can be found in Glasgow to suit all budgets and tastes.

Glasgow Tourist Information Centre  
11 George Square  
GLASGOW G2 1DY  
Tel: 0141 204 4400  
[www.seeglasgow.com](http://www.seeglasgow.com)



## Iain M. Banks – A personal perspective.

I have been a fan of Iain Banks since I saw “The Wasp Factory” in the circle at the Citizen’s Theatre. Iain was only 30 when this book was published and it was regarded by many as a staggering debut. The book was met with acclaim, but also controversy due to the level of violence and the extreme themes of the book. The dramatic adaptation was incredibly intense with the part of Frank being played by three actors. It has resonated with me to this day and it’s one of the few books in my life that has imprinted itself so much on my brain that I do not need to re-read it in order to remember every single scene.

The next book of Iain’s that I read was “The Bridge”. This book had been recommended to me by my sister, who had studied it for an English Literature class at Stirling University, Iain’s alma mater. “The Bridge” is very deep and complex and I read it three times without being able to understand all of it. I assumed that this was because I’m



a scientist and not an English Literature student. However, it did mean I had plenty questions for Iain when I met him in real life at Albacon ‘94, which saved me from giggling and stammering too much.

By the time I got to meet Iain I had read “Espedair Street” and “Complicity”. This also gave me an opportunity to put forward my theory on the three blue fiats featured in “Complicity”. I thought that they had all been bought so that one complete working car could be made from the parts of three



broken ones. Iain's works "Espedair Street" and "The Crow Road" have been included in "The Glasgow Novel" collection held at Strathclyde University as the city features significantly in these books. But for making a person feel utterly homesick when abroad, I recommend "Whit" for the sail in a rubber ring down the Firth of Forth alone.



I realise that I've not mentioned Iain's science fiction work, but I'll leave that for you to discuss amongst yourselves and with Iain in July.

*Carolyn Sleith*  
**PAYLOAD**

<p><b>The multi-talented Roger&lt;beep&gt;</b> <b>Chef, Musician, Yachtsman and International Man of Mystery</b></p>
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## **COSTUMES**

Hall costumes are welcome at Satellite 2 but any weapons carried as part of a costume must be clearly 'non-realistic' e.g. bright pink water pistols or similar.

## **CHILDREN**

Satellite 2 is aimed mainly at adult fans, but children are welcome to attend provided they are accompanied by a responsible adult. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer crèche facilities at the convention.

## **FANS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

The Crowne Plaza is experienced in hosting SF conventions and programme space should be fully wheelchair-accessible. Seating will be reserved at the front of programme items for use by fans that have, for example, mobility or hearing difficulties

### **CONVENTION CONTACT INFO**

Snail Mail	33b Hardridge Road Corkerhill, GLASGOW G52 1RH
General Enquiries	<a href="mailto:enquiries@satellite2.org.uk">enquiries@satellite2.org.uk</a>
Programming	<a href="mailto:programme@satellite2.org.uk">programme@satellite2.org.uk</a>
Accessibility	<a href="mailto:electricaleggs@satellite2.org.uk">electricaleggs@satellite2.org.uk</a>
Art Show and Moonwall	<a href="mailto:dyllanne@archaeoptics.co.uk">dyllanne@archaeoptics.co.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.satellite2.org.uk">www.satellite2.org.uk</a>
Yahoo Group	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Satellite_2">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Satellite_2</a>
LiveJournal	<a href="http://community.livejournal.com/satellite_2">http://community.livejournal.com/satellite_2</a>

## TRAVEL AND LOGISTICS

Opening Ceremony: approximately 10:30 am Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July  
Closing Ceremony: approximately 6:00 pm on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July

### How to get there:

*Trains:* Glasgow has two major railway stations in the city centre. Glasgow Central Station is the destination for west-coast main-line trains from the south. Trains from the north and most services via Edinburgh (including some of those originating on the east-coast main-line) arrive at Glasgow Queen Street Station. The Crowne Plaza is less than 2 miles from the city centre and a taxi should cost no more than £4.

The nearest public transport to the hotel is a train on the Argyle Line from Glasgow Central Low-Level Station to Exhibition Centre railway station. On exiting the station, turn sharp right and take the covered walkway to the SECC. The hotel is straight ahead.

*Planes* The hotel is 8 miles from Glasgow International Airport, which is served by direct connections from most major UK airports and by a variety of airlines, including budget operators such as *Easyjet*. A taxi from the airport will cost about £15.

*...and Automobiles.* The hotel is adjacent to the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC), the Clyde Auditorium (known locally as the 'Armadillo') and the (in)famous 'Squinty Bridge'. The M8 motorway runs close to the venue and the SECC exit is junction 19.

Further directions and maps can be found on the hotel website (see page 7) or by typing the hotel postcode into web-based route planners such as: <http://www.theaa.com/travel/index.jsp>

## LIST OF MEMBERS (at 24<sup>th</sup> March 2009)

Name	#	Badge Name	Type
Abbott, Jeanette	5	Jet	A
Banks, Guest	2		G
Banks, Iain M.	1		G
Bednarek, Ewa	57		A
Beel, Catriona	55	Catriona	A
Bentley, Joshua	33	The GeneGenie	C
Bhaskar, Rajnish	46	Raj	A
Buckley, Ed	14	E.D.Buckley	A
Campbell, Paul	12		A
Carlile, David	13	DC	A
Carty, Alistair	20	Alligator Descartes	A
Carty, Jim	18	Pog	C
Cooper, Steve	19		A
Cthulhu, Mighty	65	Cthulhu	N
Dalglish, Colin	6	Dalg	A
Davidson, Christine	7	Christine	A
Davidson, Michael	3	Michael	A
Dearn, Simon	60		S
Dennett, Sharon	26	Sha	A
Drayton-Harold, Michelle	41	Cuddles	A
Drayton-Harold, Ralph	40	Throgg The Despicable	A
Dryden, David	49	David	S
Ellis, Dave	15	Dave Ellis	A
Ewing, John	56		A
Furnass, Malcolm	59	Malcolm Furnass	A
Gallagher, Mike	28	Ahforgetit	S
Gibson, David	48	Domar Wuer	A

<b>Name</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Badge Name</b>	<b>Type</b>
Govan, Lorraine	64	Tig	S
Haddock, David	21		A
Harding, Mark	23		A
Harding, Mark	54	Mark Harding	A
Haworth, Sacha	34	Sacha	A
Holden, Alex	30	Alex Holden	A
Hooper, Roy	58	Roy Hooper	A
Jackson, Niall	4	Mad Elf	A
King, Simon	24	Ksimes	A
King, Wendy	25	Wendy King	S
Law, Robert	43	Robert Law	A
Leitch, Stuart	29	Stevie	A
Lunan, Duncan	69		A
MacLeod, Ken	52		L
McAllister, Angus	44	Angus McAllister	A
McConnell, Linda	17	Wee Growler	A
McGuinness, Des	47	Des McGuinness	A
McInnes, Alison	51	Alison	S
McInnes, Colin	67	Colin McInnes	A
McKenzie, David	37	Dave	A
McKenzie, Joanna	36	Jo	A
Meenan, Mark	61		S
Milton, Brian	27	Munchkin	A
Moss, Miriam	35		A
Naggs, Anthony	66	Tony	S
Odell, James	39	James	A
O'Neill, Ken	38		A
O'Neill, Morag	53	Morag	A
O'Rourke, Tracey	32	Tracey	A

<b>Name</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Badge Name</b>	<b>Type</b>
Rogerson, Steve	31	Steve Rogerson	A
Scott, Jamie	11		A
Shearman, Caroline	45	Caroline Shearman	A
Sleith, Carolyn	10	Dyllanne	A
The Spaceman, Roger	50	Roger	N
Thompson, Jean	42	Rhionnach	A
Turnbull, Heather	70	Heather	A
Wadsworth-Ladkin, John	71		A
Wadsworth-Ladkin, Susan	72	Sue Wadsworth-Ladkin	A
Walker, Danae	9	Bunny	C
Walker, Samantha	8	Esmerelda	A
Wellings, Phil	63	Phil	A
Whitehead, Nik	22	Nik	A
Woods, W. David	62	David Woods	A
Wurthman Sheena	68		A

G = GUEST, L = LIFE MEMBER, A = ATTENDING, S = SUPPORTING,  
C = CHILD, N = NON-SENTIENT

### CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

Adult attending:	£40 until 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2009 £45 from 14 <sup>th</sup> April to 17 <sup>th</sup> July £50 thereafter / on-the-door
Adult one day:	£25 on-the-door
Child attending:	£10 (5 – 14 years old at time of convention)
Infant attending:	£1 (0 – 4 years old at time of convention)
Non-sentient:	£1 (toys etc)
Supporting:	£10





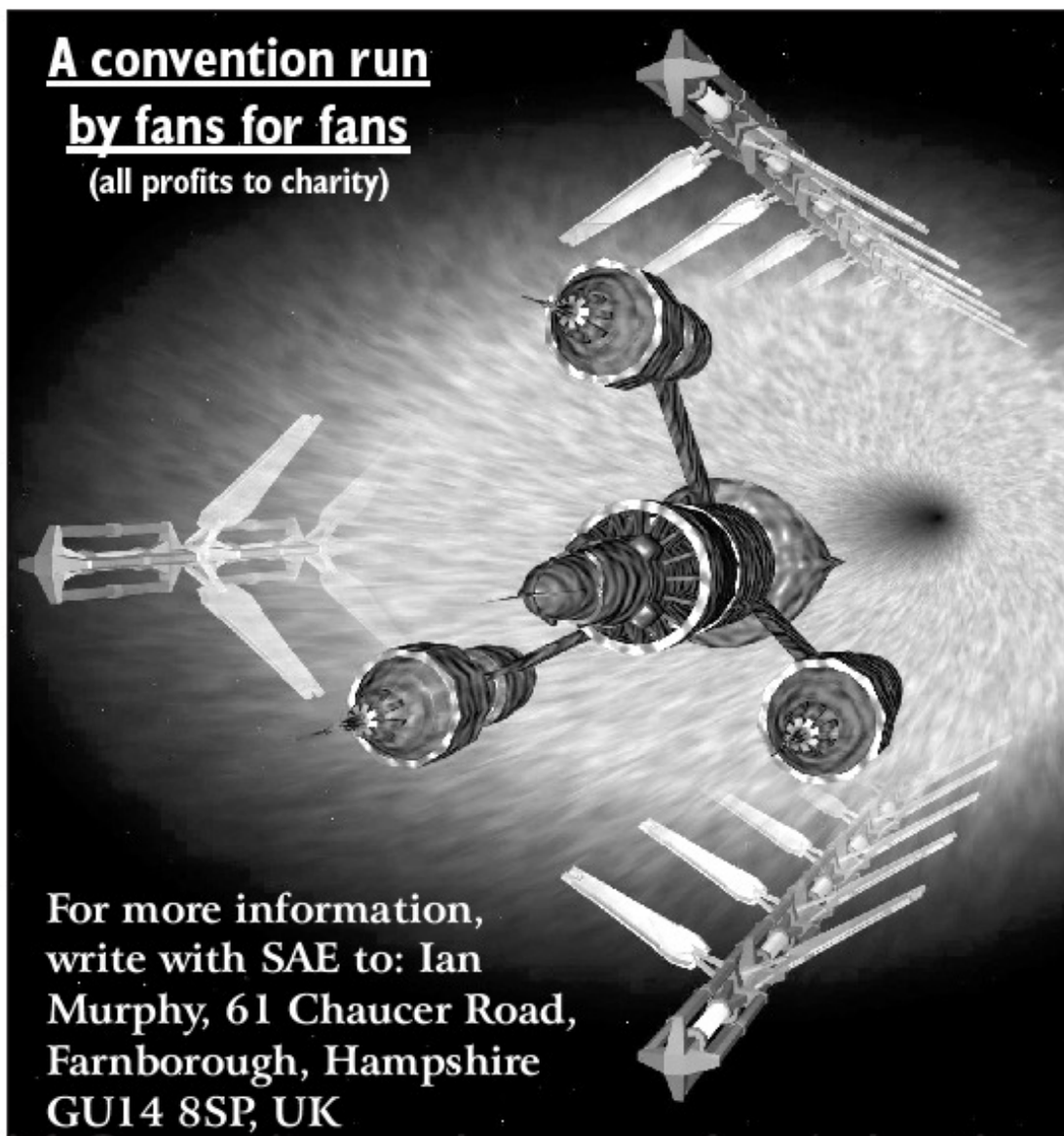
# REDEMPTION '11

25 – 27 February 2011

Britannia Hotel, Coventry, UK

## Multimedia Science Fiction Convention

**A convention run**  
**by fans for fans**  
(all profits to charity)



For more information,  
write with SAE to: Ian  
Murphy, 61 Chaucer Road,  
Farnborough, Hampshire  
GU14 8SP, UK

[info@conventions.org.uk](mailto:info@conventions.org.uk) [www.smo1.com/redemption](http://www.smo1.com/redemption)



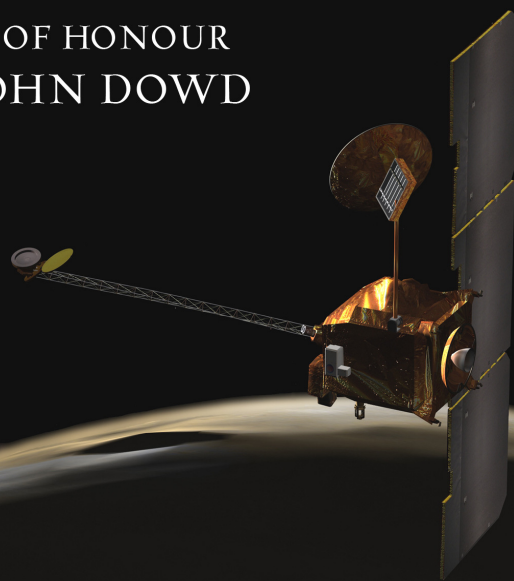
# ODYSSEY2010

THE 61ST BRITISH NATIONAL  
SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION  
2-5 APRIL 2010

GUESTS OF HONOUR  
ALASTAIR REYNOLDS  
IAIN M BANKS  
LIZ WILLIAMS  
MIKE CAREY

ARTIST GUEST OF HONOUR  
CARLOS EZQUERRA  
GHOST OF HONOUR  
ARTHUR C CLARKE

FAN GUESTS OF HONOUR  
FRAN & JOHN DOWD



WWW.ODYSSEY2010.ORG  
RADISSON EDWARDIAN HOTEL  
HEATHROW, LONDON, UK