

A Message from the Future

Here is a short excerpt from a convention report on Corflu Concorde from X, who prefers to remain anonymous as he doesn't want the fact he has a time machine to be widely publicised:

... the program was about to restart but I needed a drink, so I went down in the lift and bought an unusual brand (to me) of keg beer, then back to the lift which I had to wait a bit for. By the time I reached the top of the hotel I found my pint glass was mysteriously empty. I went back down.... I repeated this process several times and thus missed the program item I'd been looking forward to all morning. This will, I'm sure you'll understand, explain why I have no memory of any program item that might (or might not!) have occurred...

Overall I had a very enjoyable Corflu (as usual) - enlivened by the many friendships I formed in the elevator.

Whoever had this experience sadly didn't think of the idea of bringing a number of drinks upstairs all at once on a tray. That is what is known as an unconsidered trayful.

Acknowledgements

Overall: Thanks (in alphabetical order) first to **the committee**, without whom all of this would not have been possible: Sandra Bond, Bill Burns, Nic Farey, Tommy Ferguson, Keith Freeman, Ian Millsted, Peter Sullivan and Pat Virzi.

Also James Bacon and **the Dublin '19 team**, Claire Brialey, Jerry Kaufman, Dave Lally, Alice Lawson, Caroline Mullan, Mark Plummer, John and Valerie Purcell, & Alison Scott.

Hotel: Thanks to the Events team and all the staff of the Mercure Holland House Hotel.

Tech ops: Thanks to Bav (John Baverstock) and the Bristolcon team.

T-shirt: Thanks to Venetia Easton, and Martin Smith of TEC Promotions, Petersfield.

Publications

Bristol Tapestry - Sixties and Seventies:

Thanks to Doug Bell, Harry Bell, Jerry Elsmore, Rob Hansen, Dave Langford, Mike Meara, Greg Pickersgill and Peter Roberts.

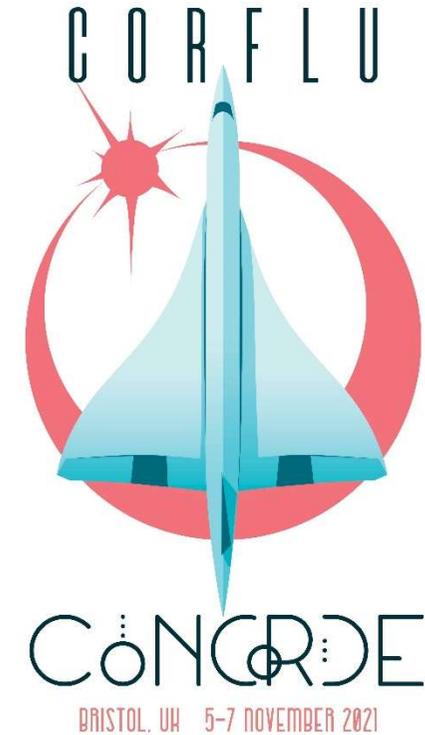
TAANSTAAFL and beyond: Bristol SF group

1985 to 2000: Thanks to Doug Bell.

21st Century: Thanks to Bav (John Baverstock), Amanda (Dr Bob) Kear, Ken Shinn, Pete Sutton and Nick Walters.

Daangerous Visions: Masses of work went into this, and Sandra Bond as Editor and the production team were helped by many hands. See the book and the Programme Book for the full list.

All unsigned content in this ReadMe is by Rob Jackson, except Tommy Ferguson's programme, X who reported to Keith Freeman, and the Corflu Pangloss info by Jerry Kaufman.



READ ME

What you need to know during Corflu Concorde

The Concorde Crew (convention committee)

Rob Jackson: Chair, hotel liaison, publications
Sandra Bond: Auction, special publications
Bill Burns: Webmaster
Nic Farey: FAAn Awards Administrator
Tommy Ferguson: Programme
Keith Freeman: Treasurer, Memberships
Ian Millsted: Local Agent
Peter Sullivan: Virtual Corflu
Pat Virzi: US Agent, publications production

Membership

Attending membership costs £60 or US\$75. **We can take card payments for memberships, Auction purchases, T-shirts and the sandwiches on Saturday lunchtime.**

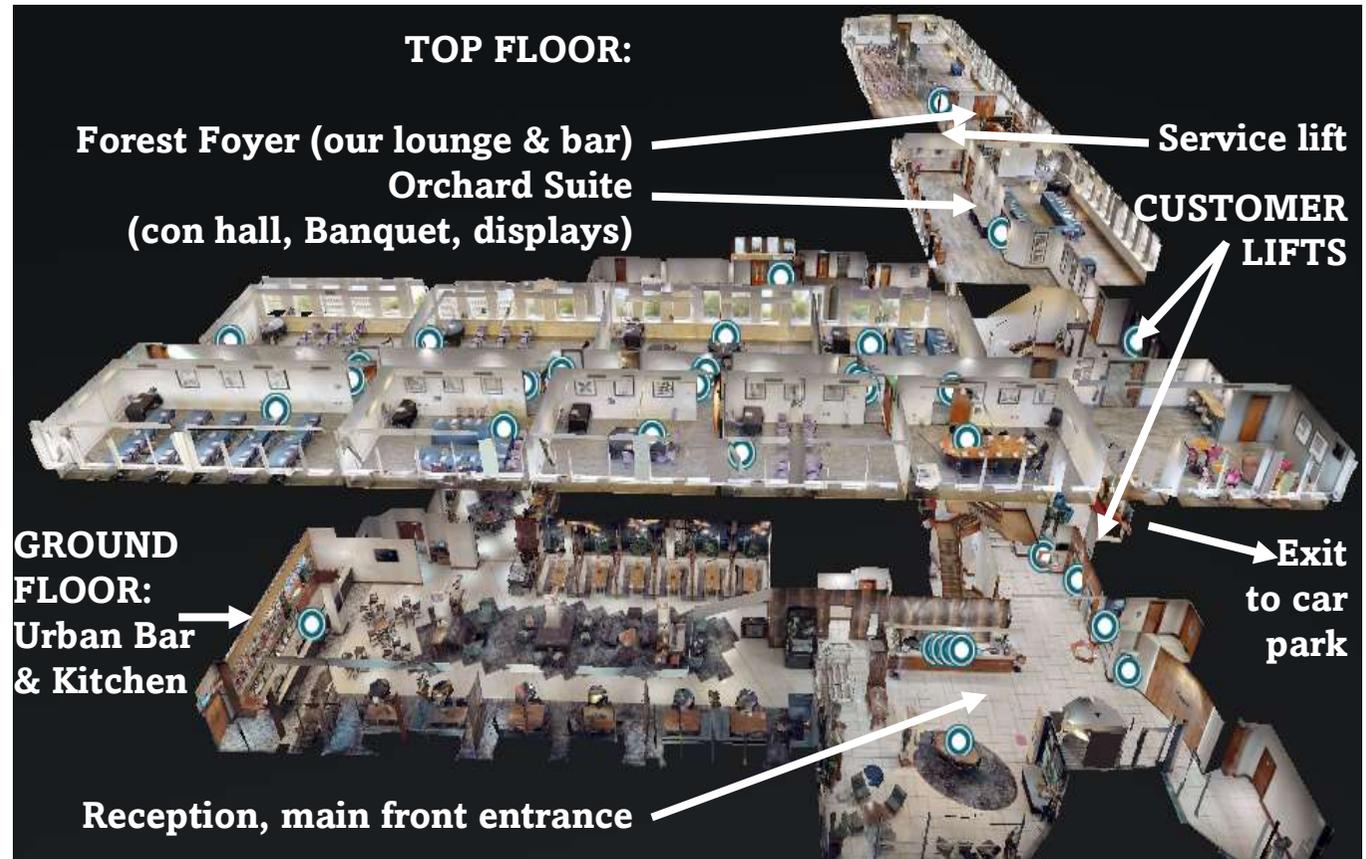
Attending membership includes in-person attendance at all convention events as well as all convention publications which will be mailed out after the con. Walk-in members may be allowed to attend the Banquet at the discretion of the hotel Events team.

Supporting membership costs £15 or US\$20. This includes virtual attendance at the convention programme and all publications.

Virtual membership is free and includes access to the convention's Discord channel, where in turn the Zoom links for the programme items will be found. The Discord link is <https://discord.gg/rcOmjNdUCH>

3D map of the Mercure Holland House Hotel's conference facilities

For satnav or phone, the hotel's address is Redcliff Hill, BS1 6SQ. More info, including a 360 degree tour of the conference facilities, is at <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=9UTcHMfNiwB>



The main car park is at the back, to the right of the L-shape of the main hotel. There is an auxiliary car park in the angle of the L.

Further wings of the hotel contain bedrooms but no conference facilities, and are not shown on this 3D representation.

The pool and fitness suite are on the lower ground floor directly below the Forest and Orchard Suites. The pool has recently been refurbished and is now open again; you will be given COVID safety info when you check in.

Programme Guide

Thursday 4th November

- 5.00 pm** Advance registration opens in bar
6.00 pm (ish) Meet up in hotel bar
7.00 pm (ish) Dinner/drinks – probably at the Ostrich

Friday 5th November

- 12.00 (ish)** Early arrivers' lunch – check out a local pub?
2.00 pm (ish) Walking tour of Bristol, weather permitting
5.00 pm **Opening Ceremony**, GoH draw
5.15 pm Panel: **It's a Zoom Pandemic!**
Chair: Alison Scott; featuring John Nielsen-Hall, Christina Lake, Tommy Ferguson
6.15 pm Break for dinner
9.00 pm **Open Mic Night**, host Tommy Ferguson; featuring Sandra Bond, Nigel Rowe, Ian Sorensen and, via Zoom, John Purcell and Nic Farey
10.00 pm **Wine Tasting**, in the Forest Suite. Hosted by Spike; special guest barman Tommy Ferguson

Saturday 6th November

- Early** Park Run (for those interested)
10.30am Panel: **The Proper Study of Fankind is Fan** Chair: Steve Jeffrey; featuring Caroline Mullan, Nigel Rowe, and (via Zoom) Farah Mendlesohn

- 11.30 am** Panel: **Bristol and Points South-West** Chair: Ian Millsted; featuring Christina Lake, Bill Burns, Keith Freeman, Ken Shinn
12.30 pm Lunch break; sandwiches £5 in Forest Suite
2.00 pm **Is Print-on-demand Fannish?**
Chair: Rich Coad; featuring Victor Gonzalez, Pete Young and (via Zoom) Pat Virzi
3.00 pm Panel: **How Did We Get Here?**
Chair: Tommy Ferguson, featuring Rob Jackson, James Bacon, Claire Brialey, John Coxon, Doug Bell
4.00 pm **Auction.** Chief Auctioneer: Sandra Bond. Bids from remote buyers via Zoom as well as from the audience. See the Virtual Corflu section below.
6.15 pm Break for dinner
9.00 pm **Just a Minac:** Sandra Bond hosts the panel game; contestants Keith Freeman, Rich Coad, Rob Jackson and Nigel Rowe.
10.00 pm Pangloss and Belfast **Corflu bid party** in the Forest Suite. Featuring Irish whiskey tasting

Sunday 7th November

- 11.45 am** **Convention group photo**
12.15 pm **Corflu Banquet** (Buffet Lunch)
See details of menu elsewhere
1.15 pm GoH Speech, Past President of FWA, FAAn Award Presentations, Future Corflu presentations
7.00 pm (ish) Dead Dog dinner/drinks, possibly?

Virtual Corflu

Peter Sullivan

Introduction

Corflu has been at the forefront of providing off-site streaming access to the convention since 2008. This year, we are seeking to increase the level of interactivity between the virtual attendees and those actually in the programming room, to recognise that a larger number of our regular attendees will be unable to attend in person. As such, we will no longer be using YouTube for streaming, as the latency (delays) in YouTube streaming makes it difficult to have a meaningful back-and-forth. Instead, we will be using Zoom as our main streaming platform.

Discord

Discord is a text-only messaging application. In order to provide tech support or answer queries about Zoom, and any other updates needed during the course of the convention, we will have a Discord server available (it's actually open now). If you have used Discord before, just use the same username (e-mail) and password that you use for other Discord channels. If not, set up a new (free) Discord login for yourself. To join the Corflu Concorde server, point your browser at <https://discord.gg/rcQmjNdUCH>. You can either access Discord via their website, or use a Discord client on your computer, tablet or computer.

You will start off with very limited privileges on the Corflu Discord server – just the #welcome, #general and #covid-policies channels. If you are a recognised Virtual, Supporting or Attending member, we will then assign you the “Members” role, which should give you access to all the members’ channels.

We will be monitoring the Discord for reports of technical problems etc during the weekend, but please bear with us if we take a few minutes to respond.

Options for using Zoom

There are multiple ways of accessing Zoom:

Preferred:

- 1) Download the Zoom client for Windows to your PC desktop or laptop from www.zoom.us
- 2) Download the Zoom client for MacOS to your Mac desktop or laptop from www.zoom.us
- 3) Download the Zoom client for Linux to your Linux desktop or laptop from www.zoom.us

Also available:

- 4) Download the Zoom client to your smartphone from the Apple iPhone App Store or Google Play (Android) App Store.
- 5) Download the Zoom client to your tablet from the Apple iPhone App Store or Google Play (Android) App Store.
- 6) Download the Zoom Progressive Web App to your Chromebook from the Google Play App Store.

- 7) Join a Zoom meeting directly from the www.zoom.us website.

If possible, you should use one of the first three options, as the last four have limited functionality in some areas, as noted below. However, we appreciate you may have no option – in particular, option 7 will be your only choice if you don’t have install rights on your device.

Check Your Zoom Version

If you have used Zoom before, be aware that it is surprisingly poor (considering it is an internet application) at “nagging” you to install the latest version. Go to the “Check for Updates” option in your current Zoom software and download the most recent version if it says an update is available.

Logging in

Follow the link to the Zoom channel, which will be e-mailed to all members (virtual, supporting and attending) just before the convention starts, and which will also be on the #key-links channel in Discord. If you haven’t used Zoom before, it’s best to create a free Zoom login (username and password) – you will **have** to create a login if you are using option 7 above.

Panel Items

For panel items: we will ask Zoom users to mute themselves during these, both so we can all hear what’s being said in the programme room and so we can get a decent recording. The Mute button is the microphone icon at the bottom left of the display. (This mutes **you** to the rest of the

audience – not to be confused with the Mute button in the top right of each user’s picture, which mutes **them** for you...)

If you join Zoom *during* a recording, Zoom will tell you that there is a “Recording in Progress”: please mute yourself immediately, or the Zoom wrangler will have to mute you from our end (this is not ideal, as only the wrangler can then unmute you).

You can have your video on or off during Panel items.

To view panel items properly, “pin” the window showing the panel so it is always your main window. To do this, hover over the window showing the programme room and click the triple dots, then from the menu, click Pin. (You can do the same process to “unpin” it later.)

Panel item recordings will probably not be uploaded to YouTube until after the weekend, but we will put a notice on the Discord as they become available.

Auction We expect to be able to take bids from remote buyers via Zoom as well as from the audience. The Zoom moderator will coordinate external bidders, and all bidders must notify the Zoom moderator they intend to bid. Announce you want to bid in Zoom Text Chat first and unmute yourself when the moderator calls you. Remote bids made via other media (e.g. on Discord) will not be noticed, as the Zoom moderator can only monitor one channel at once. More details will be announced on Discord and at the beginning of the auction itself.

Interactive Items & General Chat

For interactive items, you can either have your microphone live, or leave it muted and just press & hold the space bar when you want to say something. You can have your video on or off during these items.

It is your choice whether to have Gallery View (a static display of everyone on the call) or Speaker View (the display snaps to whoever is speaking at the moment). Click on the “View” icon in the top right of your window and select your preference. You can change back it at any time. This is the “marmite” of Zoom – everyone seems to prefer one and can’t understand why anyone could possibly prefer the other!

Exact procedures for bidding in the auction will be discussed at the start of that session, but note that remote bids made in other ways (e.g. on Discord) will not be noticed.

Other Zoom Features

We will have Closed Captioning/Subtitles available in the main Zoom channel. You can switch them on or off for yourself using the icon along the bottom. Auto-generated subtitles have improved greatly, to the point where they are pretty usable most of the time, but they may still struggle with proper nouns and esoteric fannish terms.

Zoom Text Chat exists. Use it like you would use whispering in your neighbour’s ear at a live panel. For questions during panels, put the question in Zoom Text Chat first, and unmute yourself when called. If we can work out how to do it without generating an audio feedback loop, we will aim to

feed the Zoom audio into the PA for the programme room.

If you want a break from the main programme room, Breakout Rooms are available. There is an icon at bottom to show a list of available rooms. Click the number at the side of the room, not the room name itself to enter a room. In general, Breakout Rooms seem to work best with 6 to 8 people, unless one person is “holding court”. Note that there will be no closed captioning or recording in Breakout Rooms. If you are using the Zoom options 4 to 7 above, we think you will find you cannot move yourself to a Breakout Room, so will need to send a Zoom Text message to the Host or a Co-Host to move you.

Time zones

Those of us at the con should have sympathy for those on Zoom in the USA or Canada. They are mostly still asleep when we are getting busy, so not many may join us till our afternoon.

In the UK, British Summer Time will already have ended, so on Friday and Saturday Transatlantic time differences will be 1 hour less than usual – 4-7 hours. As US clocks go back early on Sunday morning November 7th, the time difference returns to normal on Sunday – 5-8 hours.

Mike Meara’s OMPACon Challenge

Back in their fannish youth in 1973, Mike and Pat Meara were on the OMPAcon committee (the 1973 Bristol Eastercon). In between committee duties, Mike snapped merrily away, as did Pat at

times. Many of these photos are mounted on display boards for your amusement (and bemusement).

As well as identifying the fans, you are invited to decide what they might have been saying. Just what exactly was John Brunner writing on Peter Nicholls’s naked back? (That’s given away two names, but who’s worried?...) There may be some sort of reward for the silliest caption.

Table of Stuff

If you have things you no longer want but think others may like, we will have a table and a donations bucket (or cardboard box): proceeds to fannish Good Causes in the usual way.

Banquet

12.15 pm Sunday 7th November.

Menu

- Sticky rib burger with sweet and sour hot sauce and devil cheese
- American style hotdogs served in a pretzel bun with confit onions and mustard mayo
- Lemongrass BBQ chicken served in a pitta wrap with Thai red sauce
- Tandoori lamb kebab with minted onions and coriander yogurt
- Dirty pea falafel pitta with a black and blue dressing (*vegetarian*)
- Loaded potato skins with spring onion and cheddar cheese sauce and garlic mayo (*vegetarian*)

Meat eaters: Please remember that vegetarians have first dibs on the actual vegetarian items.

Hotel and catering

There will be drinks and packet snacks (crisps, peanuts, biscuits and so on) in our lounge bar, but after recent events the hotel are not yet set up to provide sandwiches or other snacks on the convention floor without advance orders.

So for those who want to stay in the hotel for Saturday lunchtime we have ordered a sandwich buffet. This will be in our lounge bar and cost £5 per head, payable to the convention.

Food in the city, and watering holes

Restaurants

There are far too many of these for me to list a worthwhile selection here, and you will know what you want. I'm sure you can find your way round the usual apps, but here are some of the more interesting lists I have found. I'm sure everyone knows about TripAdvisor, but these ones come up on a search:

<https://www.timeout.com/bristol/restaurants/best-restaurants-in-bristol>
<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/whats-on/food-drink/bristol-restaurants-best-amazing-visit-680030>
<https://bridgesandballoons.com/best-bristol-restaurants/>

<https://www.countryandtownhouse.co.uk/food-and-drink/best-places-eat-bristol-foodies-guide/>
<https://www.squaremeal.co.uk/restaurants/bristol/local-restaurants> (restaurants from miles away included; look for the BS1 postcode first)
<https://visitbristol.co.uk/food-and-drink> (easy to select a type of restaurant)

Lists of pubs

- <https://www.timeout.com/bristol/bars-pubs/the-best-pubs-in-bristol>
- https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Restaurants-g186220-zfg11776-Bristol_England.html (mostly gastropubs)
- <https://visitbristol.co.uk/food-and-drink/pubs-and-bars> (lots of different lists on this one)
- <https://www.designmynight.com/bristol/pubs-in-bristol>

Specific pubs

Nearby

- The Ostrich, Lower Guinea St, BS1 6TJ, <https://butcombe.com/the-ostrich-pub-bristol/> Personally recommended by Concorde committee, and on Time Out's top 25; on waterfront, and décor refers to city's maritime heritage
- The Colosseum, Redcliff Hill, BS1 6SJ; the nearest (turn left out of hotel), but no website
- The Golden Guinea, 19 Guinea St., BS1 6SX, <https://thegoldenguinea.co.uk/>
- The Cock & Tail, Commercial Rd, BS1 6TG, <https://www.cockntail.co.uk/>; interesting 360° tour, but emphasises their fine sound system, so you may not be able to chat

Further afield (each about 20 minutes' walk) but noteworthy

- The Bag of Nails, 141 St. George's Road, Hotwells, BS1 5UW, <http://www.catpub.co.uk/>; also see <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/bristol-cat-pub>)
- The White Hart, Lower Maudlin St., BS1 2LU, <https://www.whitehartpubbristol.co.uk/>; part of Bristol's fan history & still decent beer. Charmingly imperfect website: "2 minute walk to Cabot Circus Shopping Centre" and catering for "city workers with short lunch brakes."
- The White Harte, 54-58 Park Row, BS1 5LH. Also part of Bristol fan history, at <https://www.pubswithmore.co.uk/thewhitehartebristol>, but "lively student pub"? "American comfort food plus live TV sports"? Hmmm.

Activities & attractions

Classic mainstream tourism

- https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g186220-Activities-Bristol_England.html. Scroll down a bit for the top 12 list. Unsurprisingly, the SS Great Britain is top, and for good reason; but all of these are worth it.

A bit further off the beaten track

- <https://www.atlasobscura.com/things-to-do/bristol-england/places>

Concorde

- Surprisingly, Aerospace Bristol doesn't feature on the lists above, but visits are bookable in advance: <https://aerospacebristol.org/>. Mostly their activities are aimed at schoolchildren, but the Aerospace Lives feature is more for adults.

Our publications

A note from the publishers of *Daangerous Vision*

Vision: The title and cover artwork of our fanthology are affectionate homages to Harlan Ellison's historic 1967 anthology *Dangerous Visions*, and the ground-breaking cover artwork on the dust-jacket of the first edition hardback. As well as being an enjoyable read, we would like *Daangerous Visions* to bring a greater recognition of faan fiction as a genre of fannish writing, and act as a reminder of Harlan's original anthology.

Most copies of this book are distributed free to members of this convention or to contributors. As is standard practice in sf fandom, any surplus from sales of this book to non-members go to the traditional fannish Good Causes such as the Transatlantic Fan Fund and other similar funds such as the Corflu Fifty, or to support the running of future Corflus.

Some have expressed pleased surprise that we still send printed publications to non-attending members as opposed to a cheaper e-format of some sort. Printed publications are a Corflu tradition, not least as fanzines are what we do. We support the tradition completely, but we have offered a choice, and many prefer a PDF.

T-shirts

The front cover of this ReadMe shows Venetia Easton's artwork for the shirt. The shirt itself is silver-grey, and is available in 6 sizes from S to XXXL for £12.00 at the con or \$16.00 for those in the US or Canada who want one sent with their convention publications. Get one quickly before we sell out of your size!

COVID safety

Etiquette

The hotel is operating within English national guidelines for COVID safety. Masks, double vaccination and regular thorough hand-washing are not compulsory but very strongly encouraged, and hand sanitiser will be available in prominent locations. The hotel's pool and gym have reopened after refurbishment, and information is available at check-in.

Novacon's guidance

Novacon is the weekend after Corflu Concorde. They have arrangements about spaces in their hotel which do not apply to us as our event is smaller. However their guidance for con members is excellent and is reprinted here:

- We ask that all members are vaccinated where possible.
- We ask all members to take a lateral flow test prior to attending the convention.
- Masks will be required while moving around the hotel but not whilst sitting in bar areas.

- Masks will be required in the main programme unless you are on the panel.
- Please do not host or attend room parties.
- Please do not attend if you think you have symptoms of COVID-19. Follow Government advice and stay safe.

Useful links

To obtain lateral flow tests:

<https://www.gov.uk/ordercoronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

If you think you may need a lateral flow test for any reason, ask the committee.

Government guidelines:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Rob Jackson's personal reflection on masks

There is a common misplaced idea that masks mostly help stop you getting the virus from other people. Well, not exactly: they are best at stopping you unwittingly giving it **to** other people. The mask is closer to your own breath than it is to other people's!

Even if you are asymptomatic, you can't be 100% sure you don't have a few viruses, so wearing your mask is only partly for self-protection but mainly to protect others. You are being public-spirited if you wear one, and less so if you don't.

The risks from COVID are steadily lessening, mostly because of mass vaccination. However they are still higher than almost any other common health risk. Complacency is a risk too.



**Corflu
Pangloss – A
Fanzine
Convention**

*The best of all possible
Corflus, under the
circumstances*

March 18-20, 2022
Best Western+ Sands Hotel
1755 Davie Street Vancouver,
British Columbia V6G 1W5
Canada

Membership rates have increased:
US \$90, CAN \$110, €75, £65
Supporting rates continue: US
\$25, CAN \$32, €21, £18
Don't delay – rates may increase
at the door!
See Claire Brialey or Mark
Plummer for more details,
memberships, Progress Report
#2! Or, after Corflu Concorde,
find us at www.corflu.org.

We expect all members (Attending, Supporting and Virtual) to respect each other. If you feel someone is out of order, let a nominated convention committee member know.

Membership list Stop Press

Members who have joined since the Programme Book went to press:

85	A	Pete Young
86	A	Sandra Bond
87	S	Edie Stern
88	S	Joe Siclari
89	S	Joyce Scrivner
90	S	Hal O'Brien
91	S	Pat Charnock

Virtual members (so far):

1	V	Pat McMurray
2	V	Julie McMurray
3	V	Henry Balen



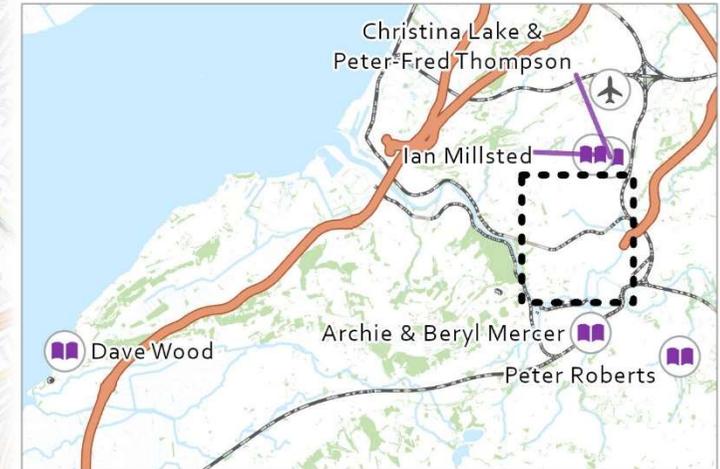
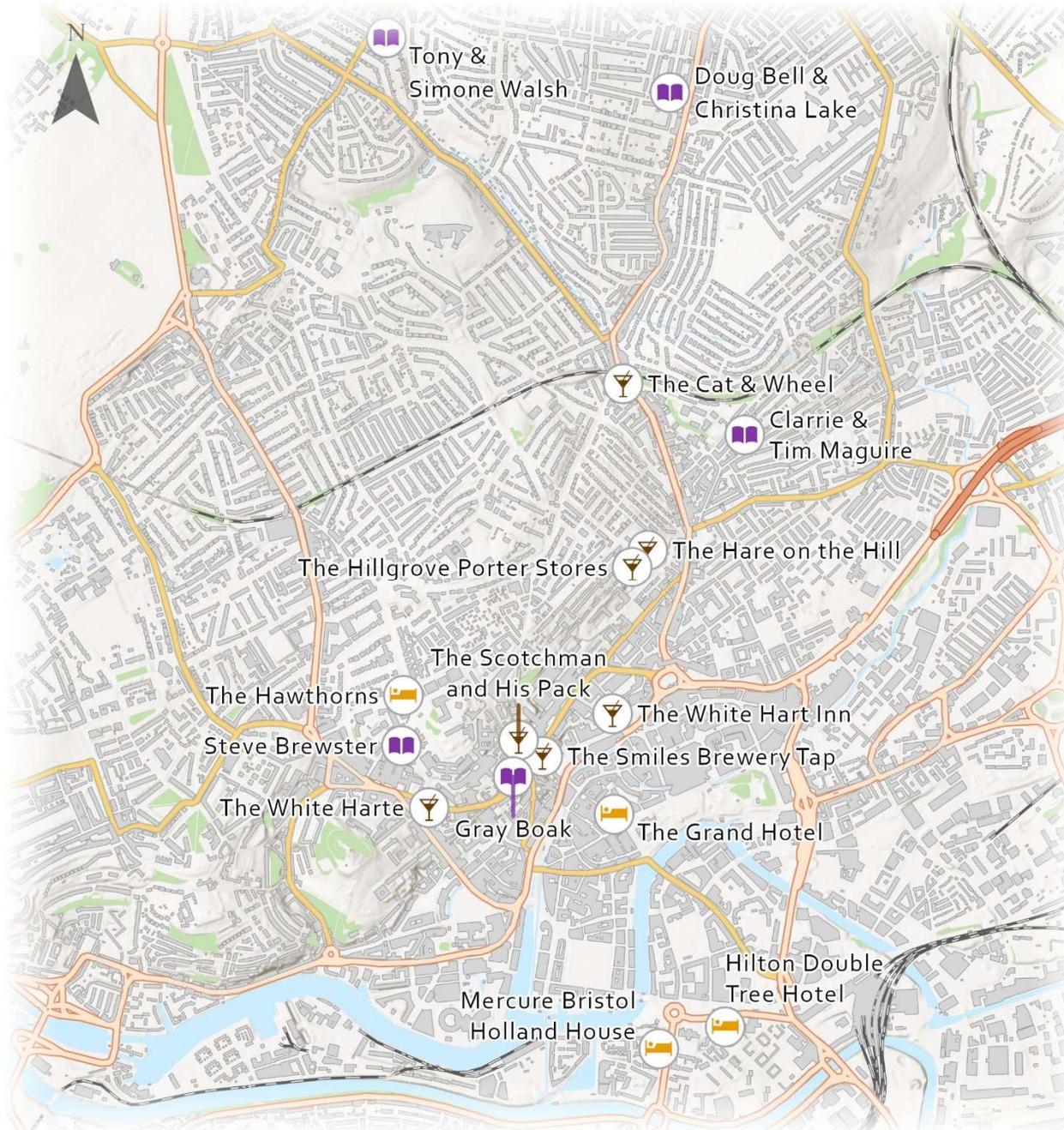
Respectful behaviour

Corflu has never felt the need for such a thing as a code of conduct in the past; as a close and

supportive community it has never seemed necessary. However, just in case anyone asks, especially given increased online participation which poses a greater risk of unpredictable or divisive behaviour, here is a brief statement.

Fanhistorical Bristol

October 2021, for Corflu Concorde

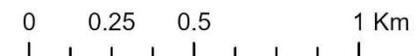


-  Fannish household/Fanzines were made here
-  Fannish pub meeting
-  Convention hotel
-  Concorde was built here
-  Location of the city centre

Credits: Various fanzines, convention website, Rob Jackson, Bristol fan-group books. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2021. World hillshade © Esri 2021.

Tech stuff: British National Grid, OSGB 1936 GCS and Datum, Airy 1830 Spheroid.

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Bristol Waterside and City Centre

Highlighted places:

- Mercure Holland House Hotel
- Bristol Temple Meads railway station
- S.S. Great Britain museum
- Bristol Shopping Quarter
- The Ostrich pub

Maps from Google

Nearest ATM:

We use them less than we used to, but the nearest is on Prewett Street, across the dual carriageway & 100 yds ahead.

The next closest is in the Asda superstore in Bedminster less than half a mile away: turn right, cross the river, and Asda is 300 yards down East Street on the right.

