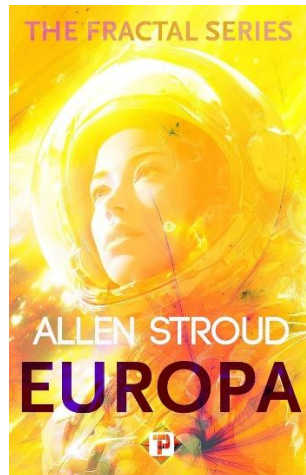
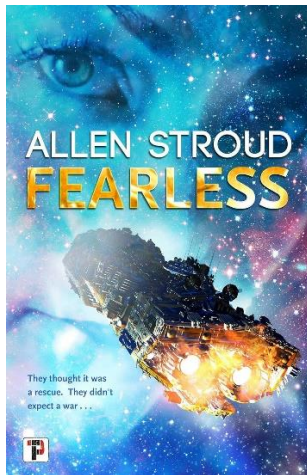


# NOVACON

## PROGRESS REPORT 2



**Guest of Honour**

**Allen Stroud**

**8th – 10th November 2024**

**Palace Hotel Buxton**

## **COMMITTEE**

**Chair:** Claire Cartwright & Carol Goodwin  
*chair@novacon.uk*

**Hotel Liaison:** Alice Lawson  
*Hotel\_liaison@novacon.uk*

**Memberships & Hotel Booking:** Steve Lawson  
*membership@novacon.uk*

**Treasurer:** Steve Lawson  
*treasurer@novacon.uk*

**Publications:** Carol Goodwin  
*publications@novacon.uk*

**Programme:** Helena Bowles & Richard Standage  
*programme@novacon.uk*

**Social Media:** Helena McCallum  
*socialmedia@novacon.uk*

**Secretary:** Maggie Standage-Bowles  
*secretary@novacon.uk*

**Art Show:** Serena Culfeather & John Wilson  
*artshow@novacon.uk*

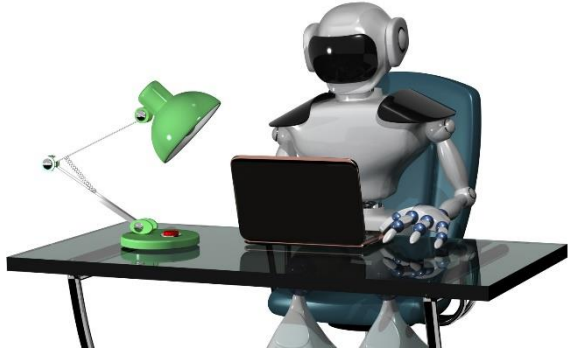
**Logos/Website:** Alex Storer  
*blog@novacon.uk*

## **STAFF**

**Dealer Bookings:** Tony Berry  
*dealer\_booking@novacon.uk*

## A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRS

Hi everyone. We're post-Worldcon and refreshed and ready to bring you another Novacon in just 9-weeks' time. Our programme team Helena and Richard are hard at work to bring you an



exciting programme. More on that in PR3, but we are really looking forward to it, and we're sure there will be something for everyone.

Our guest Allen Stroud is looking forward to the convention and has chosen Carvery as his choice for the Sunday night banquet. We need a little help from our vegetarian friends, please can you help us choose the best vegetarian option for the carvery? We have a choice of pasta, curry, or nut roast. If you could let us know by email to [chair@novacon.org.uk](mailto:chair@novacon.org.uk) it would be gratefully appreciated.

Those of you who were at Funcon may have already seen the refurbishments at the Palace Hotel, but the ground floor is looking fantastic, and we are hoping to present the newly refurbished Rippon Bar to our attendees. Keep your fingers crossed!

If you haven't booked your hotel rooms yet, it's a good time to do so. Details are further on. If you would like to be a part of our art show, we would be glad to have you. Please contact John and Serena at [artshow@artistsink.uk](mailto:artshow@artistsink.uk) for more details. Looking forward to seeing you all in a couple of months.

*Claire.*

### ART SHOW

If you want to show your art it is free to convention members, but you will need to reserve space. So, contact us to discuss what you need and so that we can do a little planning. If you have any questions related to the art show, please contact Serena.

## HOTEL & CONVENTION INFORMATION



Palace Hotel Buxton  
Palace Road  
Buxton  
SK17 6AG

As we said in PR1 Novacon 53 will be returning to the Palace Hotel in Buxton in the Peak District.

For those who have not been before Buxton a thermal spa town, with lots of interesting buildings and places to visit for those who wish to venture outside the hotel. These include the Opera House, the Devonshire Dome (once the largest unsupported dome in the world), a restored



Georgian crescent and the ornamental Pavilion Gardens. There are supermarkets nearby (Waitrose, Aldi & Sainsburys Local) and plenty of cafés and restaurants, not forgetting the lovely real ale pubs. More information can be found at [www.visitbuxton.co.uk](http://www.visitbuxton.co.uk).

As before, all the convention rooms including Programme, Off-piste, Art show and Dealers are all on the ground floor. The bars and toilets are also on the ground floor and there is plenty of seating. There is ramp access at the rear of the hotel for those with difficulty with steps. Please note **if you have specific requirements, don't hesitate to contact the hotel directly at 0871 221 0253.**

We mentioned in PR1 that there would be a few changes; however it has been decided to keep the Dealers' room in its usual place and it will once again be in the Cavendish room next to the Art Show.

**Robert Rippon Bar** - Those of you who were at Novacon 51 will remember the Robert Rippon bar. The refurbishment is almost complete and will be open in time for us to enjoy at Novacon 53. We have been told that it will have real ale from the Buxton brewery which is good; however it also means the hotel is reluctant to get in the number of real ales we have had in the past.

### Convention room rates and Booking

The **Room Rates** (given below) are per room per night. Convention room rates: Rooms with Breakfast are: £110 per night for a Standard Double or Twin room (i.e. £55 per person with two people sharing). Single rooms are £70pp.

To reserve a room call **Central Booking 0333 323 1574** and use the code **NOVA080224** to get our rates. This number is available 8am - 8:30pm, Monday - Friday, 9am - 5:30pm Saturday.

Anyone with **mobility requirements** should call the hotel on **01298 767000** and use the option 4. This number is not available evenings and weekends.

If you have a problem getting through please email Sarah Shilcock with your contact details and she will call you back [sarah.shilcock@theelitevenueselection.co.uk](mailto:sarah.shilcock@theelitevenueselection.co.uk)

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

A Convention is a private event and, as such, the Committee has always had the right and the ability to remove any attendee for antisocial behaviour. Over recent years, it has become standard

practice for such events to publish a Code of Conduct providing guidelines as to what that antisocial behaviour may include.

The Code of Conduct is a living document. It evolves, intending always to reflect current best practice. The version in use at each Novacon is fixed in advance of the convention, and the version for Novacon 53 will be available on the website ([www.novacon.uk/n53/](http://www.novacon.uk/n53/)) and will be printed in the convention Programme book. It should be noted that the Code of Conduct governs not only behaviour at Novacon, but also in certain spaces elsewhere, including but not limited to activity online, such as in messages or replies to Novacon accounts on social media, and posts in Novacon pages and groups.

The Novacon Code of Conduct team receives complete information from preceding Novacon Code of Conduct teams, and passes complete information to future Novacon Code of Conduct teams. It also maintains an awareness of activity which has been of concern to other conventions. For most people, the simple principle of, “Behave like a decent human being,” is enough of a guideline. However, if in any doubt, please consult the Novacon website or contact the team at [CodeOfConduct@novacon.uk](mailto:CodeOfConduct@novacon.uk)

#### DEALERS' TABLES

Dealers' tables (6 ft) are available at £20. Dealers normally have to be a member of the convention but we are happy to talk about this. Also, we are open to discussion if you wish to only come for one day. Contact Tony at the email address on Page 2

## DISEASE MITIGATION POLICY AT NOVACON

It has become increasingly clear that even though things have improved since the height of the pandemic, an awareness of the potential for the spread of infectious disease in convention spaces needs to be always considered.

At this point in time, as a minimum, we would ask that:

- All attending members are **fully vaccinated** against Covid where possible.

- We request members to **take a lateral flow** test prior to attending convention.
- If you have any symptoms of an infectious respiratory infection, please do not attend the convention. If you take ill during the convention, please consider isolating yourself from other attendees.

Other specific measures may be announced nearer the convention, and the committee will continue to monitor things. We will keep members up to date with any other proposed restrictions.

### CONVENTION TABLES

These are free to anyone who is running a convention. Contact Tony for reservations.

## NOVACON ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

Novacon is committed to making our convention as accessible as possible for our members. We are still working with the hotel to see what is feasible given the nature and age of the Palace hotel. Once this is complete, we will publish a detailed policy, via the website and convention publications.



### MEMBERSHIP LIST SEPTEMBER 2024

- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Allen Stroud      | 8 Steve Lawson              |
| 2 Jen Williams      | 9 Helena McCallum           |
| 3 Carol Goodwin     | 10 Magdalen Standage-Bowles |
| 4 Claire Cartwright | 11 Richard Standage         |
| 5 Tony Berry        | 12 Alex Storer              |
| 6 Helena Bowles     | 13 Serena Culfeather        |
| 7 Alice Lawson      | 14 John Wilson              |

15 Noel Collyer  
16 Martin Smart  
17 Vanessa May  
18 Pete Randall  
19 Sue Jones  
20 Jamie Scott  
21 Dave Hicks  
22 Peter Hicks  
23 Cat Coast  
24 Pauline Morgan  
25 Chris Morgan  
26 William Goodall  
27 Chris Bell  
28 ½r  
29 Gwen Funnell  
30 Peter Wareham  
31 Stephen Cooper  
32 Nick Mills  
33 Tommy Ferguson  
34 Caroline Mullan  
35 Brian Ameringen  
36 Emjay Ameringen  
37 Harry Payne  
38 Hal Payne  
39 Jodie Payne  
40 Omega  
41 Bridget Wilkinson  
42 Claire Brialey  
43 Mark Plummer  
44 Chris Stocks  
45 Tim Kirk  
46 Steve Dunn  
47 Anne Woodford  
48 Alan Woodford  
49 Marcus Rowland  
50 Christine Davidson  
51 Michael Davidson  
53 Roger Robinson  
54 Morag O'Neill  
55 Tim Stannard  
56 Paul Dormer  
57 Flick  
58 Ian Sorensen  
59 Yvonne Rowse  
60 Sally Rowse  
61 Hazel Ashworth West  
62 Jackie Burns  
63 Jean Thompson  
64 David Langford  
65 Alexander Clarke  
66 Kevan Grayson  
67 Kate Solomon  
68 Malcolm Davies  
69 Niall Gordon  
70 Adrian Snowdon  
71 Alan Fleming  
72 David Bamford  
73 Kevin Mortimer  
74 Neil Simpson  
75 Ian Maughan  
76 Andy Sawyer  
77 Peter Newman  
78 Karen Fishwick  
79 Henry Eggleton  
80 Roberta Roe  
81 Peter Buck  
82 Alison Buck  
83 Jeffrey Wasserman  
84 Melania Ion  
85 Dominika Klimczak  
86 Phil Nanson  
87 Kari  
88 David Cartwright  
89 David Hodson  
90 Ian Warner  
91 Fran Dowd  
92 John Dowd  
93 Angela Rosin  
94 Tobes Valois  
95 Ian Stewart  
97 Susan Peak  
98 Helen Gould