

Jonnycon I

Saturday 1st August 2015

The Iron Duke, Brighton

Convention Programme

Jonnycon I Programme Grid				
	The Lounge	The Theatre	The Bar ¹	The Pavement ²
7 pm	Registration ³			
8 pm	Opening Ceremony ⁴			
9 pm		Reading	Board Games	Smoking ⁶ / Chat
10 pm		Closing Ceremony		Signing ⁵
11 pm		Dead Dog Party (music, dancing)		Smoking ⁶ / Chat
12 pm				
1 am				Drunken goodbyes

We have The Lounge and The Theatre booked for our exclusive use from 7pm until 1 am. The pub itself closes at around 2 am.

¹The Bar is a public, shared space, not exclusively booked for Jonnycon.

²The Pavement (outside the Iron Duke) is also (obviously) a public, shared space, not exclusively booked for Jonnycon.

³If you've no idea what this means, don't worry. It's basically just us welcoming you when you arrive and giving you a badge you can write your name on (your full name, your first name, your nick name – whatever you want).

⁴This is basically Jonny giving a speech thanking everyone for coming.

⁵If Pigs Could Fly ARCs will be given out free. Game Night will be available for purchase at a special rate.

⁶Smoking optional.

Hi there!

Firstly, I'd like to thank you for coming to this event. Jonnycon I's a launch party themed in the style of an SF/F¹ convention, and it's being held to mark: a) the formal launch of Wild Jester Press; and b) the start of the pre-launch marketing phase of *If Pigs Could Fly*.

At the end of the day, it's just a party, and can be enjoyed as such. Grab a drink, find some food, chat. There may even be dancing. This guide (and the timetable on the back) is really just part of the theme, but it does give some idea of what's happening for those who, like me, crave structure in their lives.

Yours,

Jonny Nexus

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General Information

We're giving an ARC² of *If Pigs Could Fly* to every attendee. It's free, but if you would like to recompense us in some way, we'd very much appreciate you pre-ordering the Kindle version of the book, which is available now at a special pre-launch price of 99p. You don't need a Kindle to do this, just an Amazon.co.uk account and a smartphone (iPhone or Android). Feel free to collar me and I'll show you how.

We also have paperback copies of my first novel, *Game Night*, for sale at a special price of £4.99 (normally £6.99).

We will be providing food at a "snacks/nibbles" level. All food provided by us is vegan, and thus suitable for: vegans; vegetarians; flexitarians; freegans; those people who "eat chicken", who really annoy me; Buddhists; followers of Judaism; Muslims; Hindus; Sikhs; and omnivores. (If you're a Jain, a Coeliacs, or have a nut allergy please let us know, and we'll see what we can do). Alternatively, the Iron Duke serves food up to 9:30 pm.

¹ Shorthand for "science-fiction and fantasy".

² Advance Reading Copy. This is a term used to describe free copies given out by publishers ahead of launch in the hope of generating publicity and reviews. It's usually a condition that the book cannot be sold, and they may have more typos than the final, release version. Rather than print a special edition with an ARC cover, we've stuck ARC stickers on them. This does mean that you can evade all legal restrictions by simply peeling the sticker off, but while you are free to do this, it's our humble opinion – based on a hope that we will eventually sell more books than we give away – that leaving the sticker in place will make your copy a more collectable item.

Notes on the ARC of "If Pigs Could Fly"

Jonnycon has been cunningly arranged at the start of the peak summer holiday season. Now contrary to what my idol and favourite author Douglas Adams once wrote, it is my belief that a towel is merely the second most useful thing a traveller can carry, the most useful thing being a paperback novel.

A traveller can rip pages from a novel to serve as kindling for a fire; said pages can also substitute for missing toilet paper. When mixed with flour and water, torn out pages can be used to form items such as novelty fancy dress helmets or improvised casts on broken limbs. A new or obscure novel is a handy conversation starter, and can even – by virtue of its genre – serve as a "secret handshake" to contact like-minded individuals³. A page flicked novel can scare off hostile wildlife. A thrown paperback can, unlike a hardback or e-reader, indicate displeasure without risk of maiming. Placed until the leg of an unlevelled table, it can prevent wobbling. Its pages can inflict paper-cuts as part of as part of a consensual sex session of an alternative nature.⁴ It can be used to accessorise otherwise empty bookshelves.⁵

Or alternatively, you could find a lounge somewhere and read it.

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Other Events / Things To Do

Brighton Pride is happening on Saturday and Sunday. If you're reading this ahead of time, the parade is on Saturday morning, and is well worth watching. If people are up for it, we may organise a breakfast on Sunday morning. I'd recommend a visit to the Pavilion, and the pier is quite good fun.

And if you're looking for a place to eat, nearby Preston Street has thirty-two eateries serving damn near every type of cuisine⁶.

³ Please note that if it's a copy of a 50 Shades novel you're displaying, you might find yourself getting more than a "handshake" from any "like minded individual."

⁴ I guess. Unlike E.L. James, I'm more than happy to admit I know damn all about BDSM.

⁵ You laugh, but back in the 60s and 70s, newly-weds would join a book club until they'd enough books to fill the bookcase they'd bought when they married.

⁶ Moving from East to West: Japanese (x3), Korean, Chinese (x4), Vietnamese, Thai (x2), Indian (x3), Sudanese, Lebanese, Turkish, Greek, kebab, Italian, French, Moroccan, Scottish steakhouse, English (x2), "New York", pizza (x3), "beach", burgers/chicken, and American steakhouse. (There was a Spanish tapas bar, but it appears to have gone).