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BRISTOL



BRISTOL CON

BRISTOLCON-26



BRISTOL CON

BRISTOLCON 2026 – SATURDAY 24th and SUNDAY 25th OCTOBER
Hilton DoubleTree Hotel, Redcliffe Way, Bristol
PROGRESS REPORT TWO

Guests of Honour:

TRIP GALEY



CHERYL MORGAN



LEE CARTER



Hello everyone!

Welcome once again to our BristolCon update report.

Although we are in the midst of summer, October isn't that far away, with two exciting conventions to look forward to ... it should be fairly obvious that we are going to focus on BristolCon.

I have been a little bit 'hands off' for the last few months. In April I lost my mother to Cancer, and then for 'reasons' I suffered a detached retina, but the team have done fabulously hard work to make up for the very little that I've done, and bless them, many have said it didn't feel like any extra work at all ... which I don't think is an insult.

Anyway, as is becoming a fun tradition with these updates, we have another update on committee members. After a year with a temp-deputy Chair (thanks again to Joey Hall) I am very pleased to confirm that the awesome Pete Sutton has agreed to step in if I fall over ... which given I have only one leg is probably more of a commitment than the usual deputy chair role.

Pete has been on the committee before and we are very pleased to welcome him back.

If you are in the middle of trying to convince a friend to come to BristolCon now is the time, as this is the last price point before the 'on the door' prices, and it really does pay to plan in advance, as that is how you get to be on panels!

I have probably written enough now and don't want to fall into the trap of going on and on... so see you in Update 3!

All the Best
Bav
Chair
BristolCon

LET'S WELCOME GUEST OF HONOUR CHERYL MORGAN!

Cheryl Morgan is a writer, editor, and publisher. She has won four Hugo Awards and owns Wizard's Tower Press. Her non-fiction has appeared in venues including *Locus*, the *SF Encyclopaedia*, *Vector* and *Strange Horizons*. Her fiction has appeared in various small press magazines and anthologies. She was a keynote speaker at academic conferences at the University of Graz in 2018, University of Glasgow in 2022.

Cheryl has been involved in running science fiction conventions around the world, including being a Deputy Division Head for the 2005 Worldcon in Glasgow, running the Press Office for the 2009 World Fantasy Convention in San Jose, and being one of the founders of BristolCon. She is a Director of San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc. and a member of the Society of Authors.

In addition to her science fiction interests, Cheryl is a regular speaker on LGBT History subjects. She was for several years a co-host of Women's Outlook, a talk radio show on Ujima Radio in Bristol. She has lived in London, Melbourne and San Francisco.

In 2025 Cheryl was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws by the University of Exeter.

Mae hi'n dysgu Cymraeg.



A VIEW FROM THE DEALERS' ROOM

For a smallish convention, BristolCon has an amazingly vibrant dealers' room. It's so popular, it fills up very quickly. I've had a table in the dealers' room for some years now, and it's always a fabulous place to spend time in – most of the convention attendees pass by, and leave with a smile and an armful of books, games, toys or other delights (it's a great use for your free BristolCon Bag of Holding, too!). Last year, we moved locations from the front of the hotel to what used to be programme room one, which gave us more space, and guaranteed a regular flow of people between programme items or during breaks.

If you're a regular attendee, I'm sure you've already discovered the cornucopia of joys to be found in the dealers room. If it's your first convention, be sure to drop by – there are bargains to be had, and dealers' are always happy to offer recommendations, or just hang out and discuss your favourite genre.

And if you're a dealer who missed out on getting a table, be sure to book early in 2027 before the room fills up!

Membership rates

Current rates are: £70 for full weekend (£50 for Saturday only, £30 for Sunday only); there are reduced rates for disabled or concession (low waged or young adult under 18); children under 4 – free. There will be no increase before the convention, but on-the-door tickets will be slightly more expensive, so if you are planning to attend, book now! Link for registration: <https://signup.bristolcon.org/>

Art Show

BristolCon has always had a vibrant art show. If you are interested in exhibiting in the art show, please contact artshow@bristolcon.org. At this time there is still some space!

Dealers' Room

The dealers' room is full, with a waiting list! We are delighted with the speed with which dealers purchased their spaces – it's a demonstration of how successful and popular our dealers' space is!

Special offer!

Want to sell books at BristolCon but don't want to run a dealer's table? Sperrystone Press will carry **one or two** books per author – if no sales are made, there will be no cost. If a sale is made, we will require a contribution to cover the SumUp percentage and toward the table cost. Please supply a small notice advising the genre and tropes in the book, and the price. Any unsold books must be taken away by you at the end of the convention. The table will be manned for both days of the convention.

Interested? Please email Judith at jmortimore42@googlemail.com. You MUST advise us prior to the convention if you want to take up this offer, so that we can assess the space requirement. The table is filling up fast, so if you're interested don't delay! Please note: BristolCon is not directly involved in this book sales operation.

Programme:

Sadly it's too late now to be offering any new ideas for the panels. The feed back form asking which panels people are interested in attending/being on – please complete this and return it as soon as possible. We also still have some space for suggestions for workshops and table talks – again, if you have a suggestion, please let us know! Emails to programme@bristolcon.org

Programme Booklet Adverts

If you want to place a science fiction or fantasy related advert in our printed BristolCon Programme Booklet, please contact booklet@bristolcon.org - pages will be A4 size, and adverts can be full, half or quarter page.

The venue and access

As per previous years, the convention will take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Redcliffe Way. The hotel is fully accessible with ramps and elevators between the car park and the ground and first floors.

Hotel accommodation

We have arranged a discounted rate with the Doubletree by Hilton. Please note the link in early registration acknowledgements was last year's and not valid. Click here to access the 2026 link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/brsrwdi-94k-be7a7712-89d6-41cc-8371-bcaff2059b01/>

As previously, if you are able to get a better rate from your favourite discount hotel booking site, for example Hilton Honors, go for it!

Traveling to BristolCon The hotel is a short walk from Bristol Temple Meads Station. If you are travelling by car, please note the hotel is within the Clean Air Zone. You can check whether you will need to pay at : https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/streets-travel/bristols-caz/charges-and-vehicle-checker	BRISTOLCON COMMITTEE Chair Bav Deputy Chair Pete Sutton Secretary Rosie Oliver Treasurer Dan Pawley Membership, IT and Web Development Christopher Rumble Artshow Manager Andy Bigwood Dealer Liaison Katie Operations and Crew Co-ordinator Grace Picknett-Powell Programme Manager Dan Pawley Web content Judith Mortimore Audio/Video Tech Si
Parking We will update on this nearer the date of the convention.	
Volunteering Volunteers are the lifeblood of any fan-run convention, and ours is no exception! Without our amazing volunteers, we simply wouldn't be able to put on the event. We are working to build our crew, both before and during the con. Whether helping with registration and badge pickup, assisting with the running of the programme panels and workshops or with set-up and tear-down, our volunteers are involved in every aspect of the convention. It's their hard work and dedication that makes it all possible. If you are unsure of what area you would like to volunteer in, tick the box in your membership application and we will help you find something that you enjoy. We appreciate every bit of help we can get. Whether you are a long-time attendee, or this is your first BristolCon, we would love to have you join our volunteer crew! Is there a link for this?	
Health Advisory There is no mask requirement. People are welcome to bring their own and use a breathing mask if they want to, but BristolCon will not enforce its use. Should the situation change nearer to the convention date, we will update this advice.	
Code of Conduct The BristolCon Code of Conduct can be found on the website at: https://bristolcon.org/who-we-are/code-of-conduct A few paper copies will also be available at registration.	