

# MANORCON XXXVI

2pm Fri 20<sup>th</sup> July to 2pm Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

Stamford Court, University of Leicester

(Stamford Court, University of Leicester, Manor Road, Oadby, LE2 2LH)

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## Timetable

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July:**

2 p.m. : Doors open  
2 p.m. : Ad-hoc tournaments start  
5 – 7 p.m. : Submitting second hand games to SHGS organisers  
6 - 8 p.m. : Dinner  
7.30 – 9 p.m. : Second Hand Games Stall first session  
Midnight : First Midnight Party round

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July:**

8 – 9.30 a.m. : Breakfast  
12.30 – 2 p.m. : Lunch  
2 – 3 p.m. : Second Hand Games Stall 2<sup>nd</sup> session  
6 - 8 p.m. : Dinner  
10 p.m. : Pop Quiz (Bar area)  
Midnight : Second Midnight Party round

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July:**

8 – 9.30 a.m. : Breakfast  
12.30 – 2 p.m. : Lunch  
2 – 5 p.m. : Treasure Hunt (Bar area)  
6 - 8 p.m. : Dinner  
Midnight : Third Midnight Party round & End of ad hoc tournaments

### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July:**

8 – 9.30 a.m. : Breakfast  
9.30 a.m. : Deadline for checking out of all rooms.  
Midday : Final prize giving ceremony  
12.30 – 2 p.m. : Lunch  
2 p.m. : Close doors

Bar open from noon to 1.00 a.m. within the convention hours above, as long as there is sufficient trade to keep it open.

## Information for ManorCon first-timers

If this is your first ManorCon, then you're hopefully looking forward to the experience. Turning up at a gaming convention for the first time can appear daunting, so here are a few tips to make your life a little bit easier! Firstly, make sure you have a look through this booklet as soon as you get it, as it covers most of what's going on and when. With over 200 other people attending, you should be able to find plenty of other people here who want to play the same sort of games as you. The rest of this section gives you some tips on how to go about finding them.

For 18XX, there is a formal tournament in the Saxby Room (see map on page 7) so head on over there. If you want to play a specific game, then there may be game request forms or notices on the Main Noticeboard. Have a look around the noticeboard for other people already looking for players or put up a request form yourself. Ask at the ManorCon Registration Desk if you need paper/pens/drawing pins for this. Bear in mind, however, that trying to find someone you've never met before in a crowd of 200 people is not easy, so make sure that your request form suggests a time and place to meet, or that you put your mobile phone number on the request form.

Another approach is to start setting your game up on a table in a prominent position, and wait for people to come along and ask if you are looking for players. You could even put a sheet of paper saying "Players wanted" on the table while you're setting the game up so that other people won't be shy about asking.

If you aren't looking for a particular game, you just want to play something, have a wander round and see what is being set up. If you see a game that looks interesting, then ask about it. What is it, how long does it take, do the other players mind teaching you? Most people are happy to teach a new player, and if they aren't, they will often know someone else who is. Do bear in mind, however, that most people tend to underestimate how long games will take! Look for other people looking equally lost, and ask if they are looking for a game. Alternatively, try asking at the ManorCon Registration Desk to see if anyone there is looking for a game. Or if the ManorCon Registration Desk is closed, ask the Committee Member on Duty instead. One or other of the ManorCon Committee will be "on duty" to answer queries, try to solve problems, etc. throughout the weekend – look for the person with the helium balloon!

At the end of the day, the aim of ManorCon is to play games and have fun. We hope you succeed in both, and that we will see you back next year as a new member of the ManorCon regulars.

## Welcome

Welcome to another ManorCon, the thirty sixth of the series and the twelfth to be held in Leicester. Yes, it's ManorCon time again, a four-day games fest and the chance to socialise in congenial company playing your favourite games. We are back in Stamford Court for the games playing and food, with the accommodation mostly in the adjacent Bowder Court, with some across the road in John Foster Hall as per the last few years.

The Committee have been working very hard behind the scenes, and in conjunction with the University, to get the venue ready for you, and once again we have a number of tournaments and events organised for you. The only trophy tournament is the 18XX; the croquet has been dropped due to lack of demand, and there may be a Diplomacy tournament if numbers permit. Paul Grogan of "Gaming Rules!" is back, this time running an Adrenaline tournament, and will also be demoing more games than you can throw a stick at. The long-running Midnight Party will continue to take place at midnight each evening during the convention. We also have non-gaming events including the Pop Quiz on Saturday night, run by Dan Lester, the eighteenth ManorCon Treasure Hunt on Sunday afternoon which will be run by Phil Hannay and Chris Barnett, and the ever-popular Second-Hand Games Stall which is being run by Steve Bailey.

As mentioned above, we have a change of accommodation this year, as the majority of the bedrooms are located in Bowder Court, immediately adjacent to Stamford Court, with additional rooms available over the road at John Foster Hall. No matter the location, the accommodation consists of en-suite singles arranged in individual blocks, with each floor in each block having its own kitchenette. For those who need to phone home, phone cards are available for purchase from the Porter's Lodge. This year, as per the last couple of years, the gaming takes place in Stamford Court, adjacent to the Bowder Court accommodation blocks. The main gaming hall is where the ad-hoc gaming will mostly take place. It's also where all the food will be served. There are also rooms for the Second-Hand Games Stall, a quiet gaming room, and another general gaming room. The gaming rooms will all be open from Breakfast until the last person leaves the room.

So, have a fantastic convention everyone. There is a very full programme that should provide something for everyone, whether you are an old-timer, or here for the first time. Whatever you get up to, the important thing is to get on with the games, and most of all, to have fun – that's what we are all here for!

With a gap to fill, lets ramble. Boardgames have many themes, and recently, I have acquired a number of science-based games. First up, there is "Cytosis", a worker placement game set in a human cell - play and learn a bit about biochemistry! Another game I came across with a science theme is "Cosmogogenesis", a game where players construct a solar system from scratch - cosmic billiards in the Pillars of Creation! But the granddaddy has to be "Bios: Genesis", a game in a tiny, tiny box that packs a punch. It covers the evolution of life on Earth over the first four billion years of its existence. As the designer says "this is a brutal game of survival.", and has the steepest learning curve of any game I know. Whether it gets played at ManorCon, we'll see. If you want to play any of these, come and see me.

Steve Jones, Chairman of the ManorCon Organising Committee.

## Committee Members

In order to make it easier for you to find a committee member if you have any problems, the six committee members will be wearing large red printed name badges. The committee members are:

**Steve Jones** – The Chairman. Steve has been on the ManorCon committee since the late 1980's, becoming the chairman in 1999. He manages the Convention finances, runs the 18XX Tournament, and liaises with the University. Steve also does his own stunts.

**David Norman** has been attending conventions since 1994. Since then, he has become a regular attendee at conventions both in the UK and around the world, gaining particular renown as a Tournament Director for many, many Diplomacy tournaments. He also maintains the ManorCon WebPages.

**Gary Duke** is in his fourteenth year on the committee. After many years playing games with the Reg Desk people on Saturday, we decided to make him useful. Gary is in charge of organising the ManorCon Registration Desk and with running the advanced postal and online booking systems and the room allocation system.

**Mark Stretch** is in his thirteenth year on the committee. Mark is in charge of publicising ManorCon. He is a member of the Oxford Mob, and has been attending ManorCon for 27 years.

**Nick Harrison** is in his tenth year on the committee. Nick joined the committee as part of the Spielchamps organising team, and has stayed on despite Spielchamps having moved on to pastures new.

**Dave Simpson** joined the committee in 2014 due to his involvement with the tournament Diplomacy scene and now edits this booklet. This is only Dave's eleventh ManorCon, but as he's likely to still be awake when you go to bed, he's actually catching up with you.

ManorCon is the largest amateur games convention in the UK, and organising it requires the devotion and effort, in their free time, of a large committee. We are therefore in need of extra hands, so please let us know if you could commit the necessary time and energy to help organise ManorCon.

## Finding a Committee Member

Except overnight, there will always be a committee member available. If you need a committee member, please try to find the member who is on duty at that time. They can be found in several ways:

- 1) Look for the balloon. We will have a helium balloon, which will be hovering above the Committee Member on Duty.
- 2) Ask at the ManorCon Registration Desk. There will often be a Committee Member there (or directions to one!)
- 3) From outside the convention, the committee will hopefully have a signal on the new ManorCon Mobile Number, 07391 046410.

## 24 Hour Porters

John Foster Hall has a 24-hour porter service which covers the whole campus and is located in John Foster reception. There should always be someone on duty in John Foster Hall reception, even at night. John Foster reception can also be contacted by phone on 0116 223 1493 (ext 1493 internally). Gilbert Murray Reception should be manned from around 8am to 10pm each day.

## Problems

If you have any problems with your room (e.g. your key doesn't work, the light bulb's blown, etc), please contact the Porters at John Foster Hall in the first instance (see above). Likewise, if there are any general "housekeeping" problems such as blocked or flooded toilets, or if your room hasn't been cleaned and serviced, please bring them to the attention of the Porters so that they can be put right at the time, rather than waiting until the convention is over and then complaining to us! If, on the other hand, you have any problems relating to the convention itself, rather than the venue, please seek out the Committee Member on Duty so that they can be dealt with promptly. If you accidentally break anything, please report it to a committee member or to the Porters. It is very embarrassing for the ManorCon committee if damage goes unreported and is subsequently discovered by the site staff.

## Parking

To assist those of you driving to ManorCon, there should also be some ManorCon signs visible from the road. Parking attendants will be on hand on Friday afternoon to help you. Stamford Court shares its car park with Bowder Court. This is a large car park and is the best choice if you want easy access to your car while you're gaming. It is recommended that John Foster residents use the car parking spaces close to that accommodation. There are around 65 spaces in total, located in bays which take a few cars each; it may take a little driving around to find an empty space. Additional parking is available in the other Leicester University car parks - see the site map on page 6. The University request that you do **not** park on the road.

This year, parking permits will be issued from the ManorCon reception desk, but if for any reason you do not get one, please collect one from John Foster Hall reception. Please return your permit to one of the University receptions before leaving. Note - ManorCon is not responsible for your car nor for your parking permit issues (but we still don't believe that the permits are actually enforced).

## Convention Hours

**The convention opens at 2PM on Friday and closes at 2PM on Monday.** All attendees are welcome to play games 24 hours a day. You will be given a name-badge when you arrive - please wear this at all times. It will be colour-coded to display your status and help both us and the university staff. Please do not swap name badges with anybody else! **Residents will need their badge for breakfast.**

## The Bedrooms

**Room keys will be available for collection from the side entrance of Stamford Court from 2PM Friday and on Saturday morning. After this, they will be available from the main Reception of John Foster Hall for handing out by the University.**

This year, the en-suite bedrooms are located in Bowder Court blocks CC, EE, FF, GG, HH and II adjacent to Stamford Court as well as blocks G, J and K within the John Foster site across the road (see site plan on page 6). These blocks each have communal kitchens. Rooms service will be done every day, and won't start until after 9:30 a.m. The John Foster Blocks have lifts, which is useful for moving those boxes of games, but take it from someone who knows, 7 people in one lift is too many.

Note that all bedrooms have a Cat-5 Ethernet socket which can be used to connect a laptop to the Internet. However, no network cable is supplied, so you will have to provide your own. There are phones in the bedrooms, but they're not in service.

If you're going to be heading to bed in the small hours, maybe just a tad the worse for wear, please try to consider of the feelings of your fellow gamers, who may be trying to catch a little shut-eye before an early start. i.e. PLEASE KEEP THE NOISE DOWN!!!

**On your day of departure, you must vacate your room and return your key to John Foster Reception or the box at the side entrance of Stamford Court by 9:30am.** The University no longer charges for lost keys, but to avoid them reconsidering this, it is in your interest to look after your room key!

## The Gaming Areas

The main gaming area in Stamford Court is located in the Gilbert Murray room. The other gaming areas are located elsewhere within the main building – see the floor plan on page 7 of this booklet. Stamford Court has an open wi-fi network which is more than capable of supporting our requirements. The Bar (Shearsby) will not be available for gaming during the Pop Quiz (Saturday evening) and the Treasure Hunt (Sunday Afternoon). Willoughby is reserved for the Second Hand Games Sale (All of Friday and Saturday daytime). The remaining rooms, and the above rooms when not reserved for other uses, are available for open gaming. As required by law, all indoor areas are no smoking, so if you need to smoke, please do so outside.

A large number of rubbish bins are provided throughout Stamford Court; note that some of these will be for recyclables of various types. Please can you help to keep the gaming areas tidy by putting your rubbish in the bins supplied.

## Noticeboard

There should be a Noticeboard located in the main gaming room. This should contain the rules, results sheets and results envelopes for all the ad-hoc tournaments, along with room for non-tournament notices. You can find anything there, from people looking for players for a more obscure game to completely non-gaming notices. As you would expect, the committee asks that all notices be polite and non-confrontational and reserves the right to remove any notice that they feel to be inappropriate.

## The Servery and Bar

### The Servery

The Servery in the Hospitality Lounge area is open at the following times :

Breakfast:	08.00 - 09.30	(Saturday, Sunday and Monday)
Lunch:	12.30 - 14.00	(Saturday, Sunday and Monday)
Dinner:	17:30 - 20:00	(Friday, Saturday and Sunday)

We have exclusive use of the Servery during the course of the convention. The Servery provides a full English breakfast for free to all resident attendees upon production of their convention badges – so don't forget your badge, and don't lose it! At lunch and dinner, the servery operates on a cafeteria basis where payment is on a cash basis. Hot and cold meals are available for both lunch and dinner, and baguettes/sandwiches and rolls will also be available at lunchtime.

You are free to eat your meals anywhere you please. You may, if you wish, take your meal tray (provided, we hope!) to one of the other gaming rooms to eat; in this case, you should return it to the Servery promptly.

### Other Refreshment Supplies

Free tea and coffee will be available from numerous places within the hospitality lounge up to 10pm each evening. There are also water coolers available to provide you with chilled water. There are no food vending machines in Gilbert Murray, so head for the bar or over the road to the main building at John Foster Hall for snacky items. Kettles, cups, etc are provided in all the bedrooms, along with supplies of tea, coffee and milk.

The convention is a 20 minute walk away from an Asda supermarket and Oadby centre, where there are plenty of shops and restaurants. For further information, see pages 11 to 12.

### The Bar

The bar is run by the University catering team and is again operating out of the Shearsby Room. We have asked for the bar to be open at the following times:

Friday:	14.00 - 01.00
Saturday and Sunday:	12.00 - 01.00
Monday:	12.00 - 14.00

Note that although the Bar is open until 1 am each night, it may close early if not doing much business.

The choice of drinks on offer will again include some cider and lager this year (Hornet and Rutland Cider, plus draught Heineken) as well as a range of soft drinks and bottled alcohol, alongside a range of typical bar snacks (crisps, nuts, flapjacks sweets etc). Never hasty in amending a good thing, we are once more sourcing a range of ales from the Grainstore Brewery, from just over the border in Rutland. You will find the 2018 selection is reassuringly similar to 2017, namely;

Rutland Beast	5.3%	Strong, yet exceptionally balanced.
GB Best	4.3%	Light, based on the Golding Hop.
Cooking	3.6%	Smooth, full flavoured golden bitter.
Panther	3.4%	A well-blanaced dark mild.
Ten Fifty	5.0%	A full strength mahogany coloured beer.
Triple B	4.2%	balances malt sweetness with a hoppy, clean aftertaste.
Red Kite	3.8%	Deep red, made using traditional Mild Ale malt.
Rutland Bitter	3.4%	A full bodied session ale.
Osprey	4.0%	A Refreshing light golden brew.
Gold	4.5%	A refreshing, light golden brew.
Hornet Cider	4.6%	Medium dry Cider.
Rutland Cider	5.2%	Medium Cider.

See <http://www.grainstorebrewery.com/drink/> for more information You can find out more about the beers and the brewer. The Bar area is available to us for playing games throughout the convention, but is reserved on Saturday night for shouting during the pop quiz and again on Sunday afternoon for the treasure hunt.

**Please Note:** Due to the licensing laws you are not allowed to bring your own alcohol onto the site. Please do not embarrass the Committee by flouting this ruling, as this will make it difficult for us to maintain good relations with the University. You have been warned!

## Stalls and Sales

This year, there are two stalls at which you can buy things.

### Second Hand Games Stall

The Second Hand Games Stall is being run by Steve Bailey and will take place in the Willoughby Room (see site plan on page 7) between 7.30pm and 9pm on Friday evening and between 2pm and 3pm on Saturday afternoon. If you have any second hand games to sell, take them along and book them with the organisers between 5pm and 7pm Friday or between 11am and 1pm Saturday; note that you will need to sign a Terms and Conditions form before you can sell anything and this form will be provided by the organisers. Sellers should collect their money and unsold games from the organisers by 6pm on Saturday afternoon.

### Meeple Games Stall

Meeple Games have the sole right to sell first-hand games and gaming accessories over the entire ManorCon weekend, and anybody else wanting to do so must speak to the committee first. Meeple Games will be located in the Gilbert Murray Room. There is a 10% discount available on all games across the weekend and customers who've pre-ordered will be able to collect their games (with the same discount applicable).

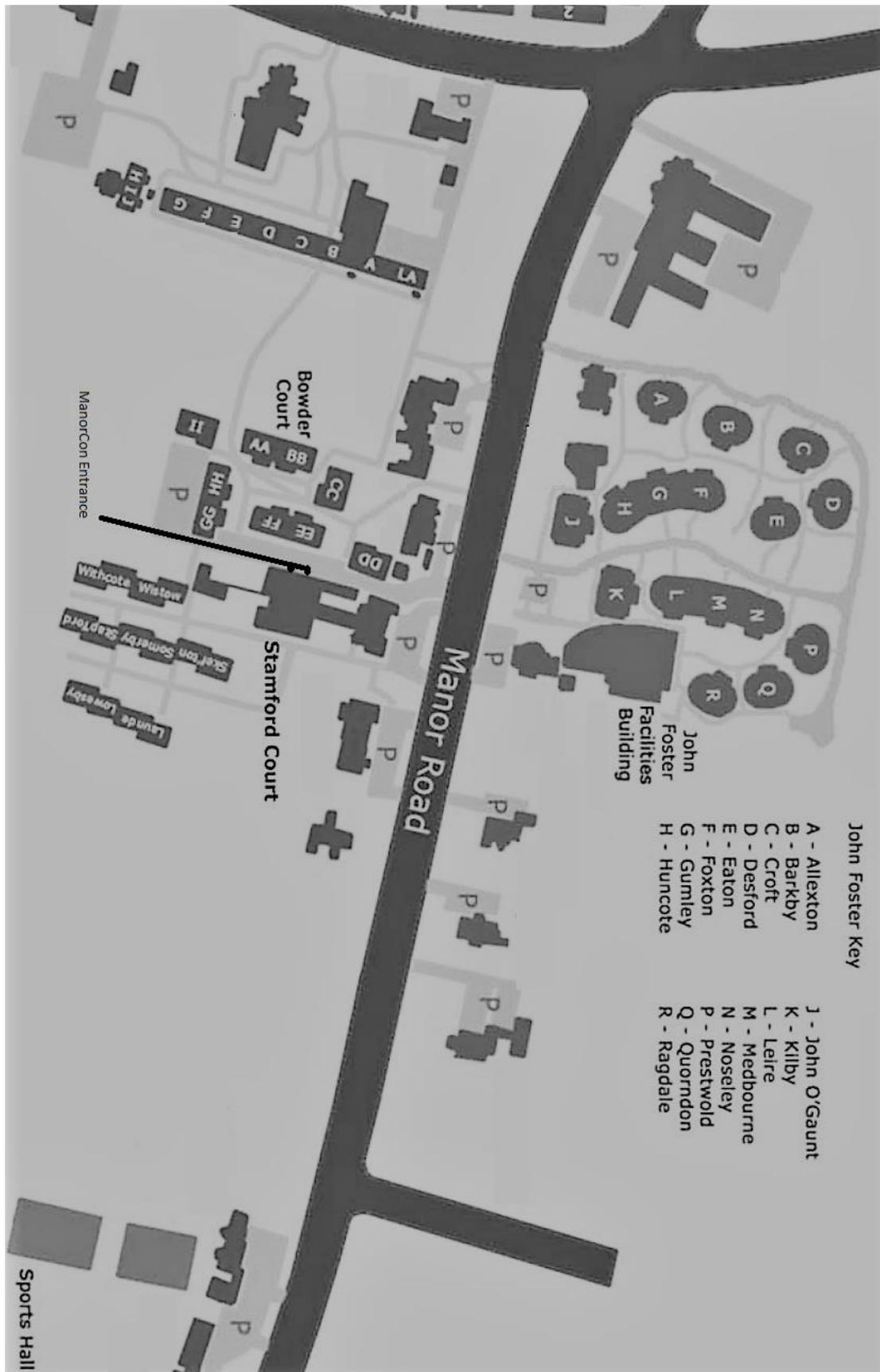
## Gym and Pool

There is a gym and a pool available, free of charge, to University residents, including ManorCon attendees. Roger Bettles Sports Centre, 40 Manor Road, Oadby, LE2 2LL Monday to Friday 6:30am-10pm. Saturday and Sunday 8am-8pm. (this is located to the right hand side of the map overleaf, further along Manor Road).

# Maps of the ManorCon Site

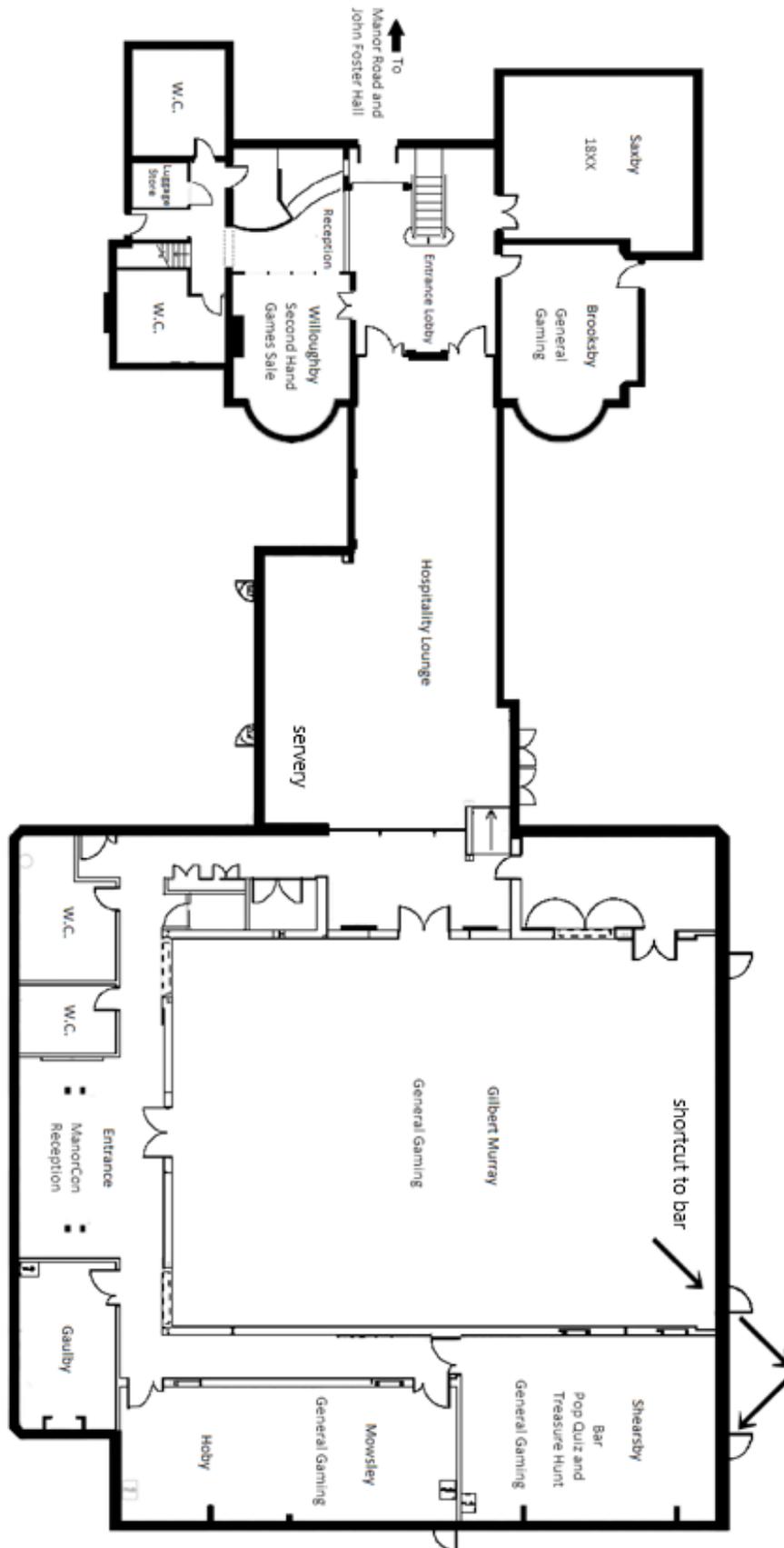
## Site Plan

Below is a general map of the relevant portion of the University of Leicester, including Bowder Court and John Foster Hall.



Gaming Plan

Stamford Court, University of Leicester, Manor Road, Oadby. LE2 2LH



## Upcoming Conventions

### **Pasteboard and Plastic 36**

Saltdean Scout Hut, Brighton  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
Details: <http://tinyurl.com/3ex38k>  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/ybq7ng>

### **The Great Indoors**

Parkside Suite, Market Street  
Bromsgrove, B61 8DA  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> – Sun 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
<http://www.great-indoors.co.uk>

### **HandyCon 4**

Holiday Inn, Manor Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 2RA  
10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2018  
<http://www.handycon.co.uk>

### **Mindsports Olympiad**

JW3, Finchley Road, London  
19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018  
<http://www.msoworld.com>

### **Boardgames Holiday**

Le Pas Opton, France  
10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
[springharvestholidays.com/board-game-week](http://springharvestholidays.com/board-game-week)

### **Raiders of the Game Cupboard XLIV**

Waterside Community Centre  
Heath Road, Burton-upon-Trent DE15 9LF  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, 10am – 8pm.  
<http://www.raidersofthegamecupboard.co.uk>

### **Castlecon 2018**

Flanesford Priory, Goodrich, Ross on Wye, HR9 6HZ  
22<sup>nd</sup> September – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
[gmillerspruce@btinternet.com](mailto:gmillerspruce@btinternet.com)  
<https://boardgamegeek.com/guild/2397>

### **TringCon**

Marsworth Village Hall, Marsworth, near Tring, Bucks  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
[contact@tringcon.com](mailto:contact@tringcon.com)  
<http://www.tringcon.org>

### **DragonDaze**

Newport Centre, 1 Kingsway, Newport, Wales, NP20 1UH  
Saturday 6 October 2018  
<http://www.dragondaze.com>

### **Swan Con 2**

The Swan Knutsford Cheshire  
11-14 October 2018  
[geggus@sky.com](mailto:geggus@sky.com)

### **MidCon 2018**

Hallmark Hotel, Derby DE1 2SQ  
2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
<http://www.midcon.org.uk>

### **Pasteboard and Plastic 37**

Saltdean Scout Hut, Brighton  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
Details: <http://tinyurl.com/3ex38k>  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/ybq7ng>

### **Board Games at the Manor**

Otford Manor, Kent, TN15 6XF  
14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
[office@oakhall.co.uk](mailto:office@oakhall.co.uk)  
<http://www.oakhall.co.uk/manor>

### **HandyCon 5**

Holiday Inn, Manor Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 2RA  
18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
[www.handycon.co.uk](http://www.handycon.co.uk)

### **SoRCon 12**

Holiday Inn, Cranes Farm Road, Basildon, Essex, SS14  
3DG  
22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
<http://www.sorcon.co.uk>

### **TringCon**

Marsworth Millenium Hall, Marsworth, near Tring, Bucks  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
[contact@tringcon.com](mailto:contact@tringcon.com)  
<http://www.tringcon.org>

### **MidCon**

Hallmark Hotel, Derby DE1 2SQ  
8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
<http://www.midcon.org.uk>

## Tournament Overview

There are a number of tournaments taking place at ManorCon this year. All tournaments welcome beginners, although in the case of fixed schedule tournaments, you should let the Tournament Director know well in advance of the start time for the round, in order to make sure you know the rules, and are ready to play when the round starts. In the case of ad-hoc tournaments, just find a game starting and ask if they mind a beginner joining in. Most players will welcome new players, or can direct you to someone who can teach you.

## Tournament & Event Details

**18XX** is an ad-hoc tournament run by Steve Jones. The tournament includes a whole stable of games based around the theme of making money from running railroads, with each game in the stable being named after a year from the eighteen hundreds (hence the tournament name). Essentially, they are complex business games in which the players generally buy shares in the various railroad companies that are available, and attempt to run them for profit (assuming you manage to get control of a company). Each game consists of two interacting sub-games: one in which the players buy and sell shares in the railroad companies, and one in which the players run the railroad companies (this last involves building track, buying trains and running services). 18XX games tend to be long (from 4 to 10 hours). The rules are highly complex, and vary from game to game within the genre. If you want to try one of these games out, they will be played in Saxby (the Quiet Gaming room), but you are advised to turn up early (just after breakfast, 9 a.m.) to be assured of getting into one of the three or four games that start each morning. There should be an 18XX noticeboard available in the Saxby room this year.

**Midnight Party** is a three-round tournament played late on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights during the convention, and is run by Steve Guest. Each round starts at Midnight, probably in the Mowsley/Hoby Room. The idea of the game is to avoid being caught by Hugo the Ghost in a kind of musical chairs in which a limited number of rooms (to hide in) take the place of the chairs. It started many years ago as an unofficial event, but has become more and more popular (and cultish) each year. Each round takes about 45 minutes, and it is very easy to learn how to play.

**The Pop Quiz** is at 10:00pm on Saturday in the Bar area. It is run by Dan Lester, and is for teams with up to four members. The rounds will cover a variety of popular music eras and styles – there's something everyone can have a go at. This will supposedly be the easiest quiz for years, so turn up at 10pm for music and fun. Teams will be formed at the start, so don't worry if you don't have a team before you arrive.

**The Treasure Hunt** is an ideal Sunday afternoon activity for those that like escape rooms, newspaper puzzles, and similar. It's a team event for teams of up to 4, taking place in the Shearsby Room at 2pm until about 5pm. Don't worry if you haven't got a team, turn up anyway and we'll put you in one. There's no prize, other than the admiration of your peers and the opportunity (if you want!) to run next years' treasure hunt.

This year's event is being run by Phil Hannay and Chris Barnett, and the theme is "Great British Bake Off". There will be cake.

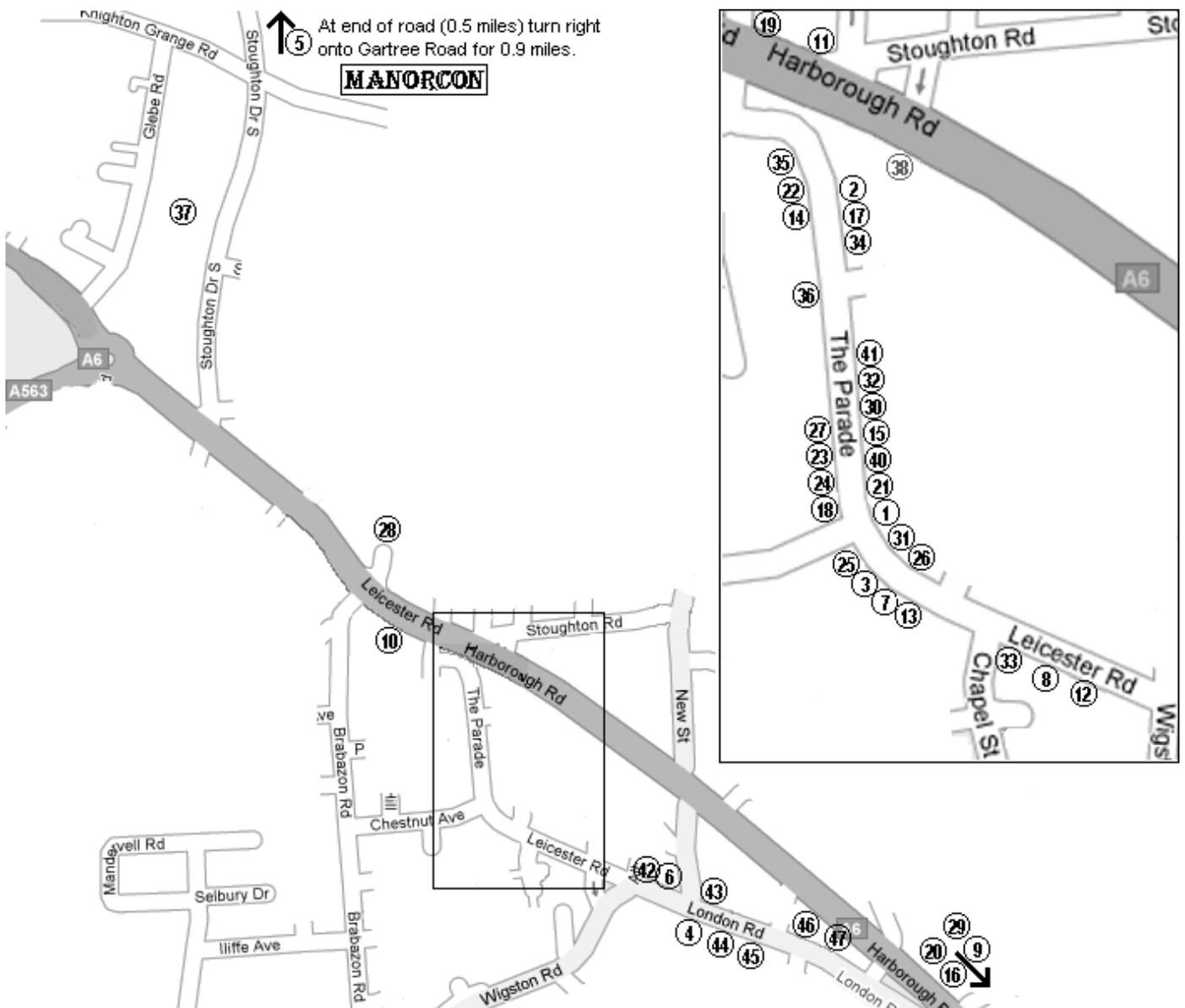
**Paul Grogan** of Gaming Rules! will be teaching and running tournaments for a number of recently released games and will also have some top-secret prototypes of games that have not yet been released, including Escape Plan from Vital Lacerda (Eagle-Gryphon Games)! He will be running a Pulsar 2849 tournament on Saturday starting at 10 am, with teaching on Friday for anyone who needs it. There will also be a Klask tournament on Sunday. For more information, seek out Paul online (e.g. FaceBook) or when you arrive at the convention - look for the Gaming Rules! demo area in the main hall.

## The Surrounding Area

We've been in Leicester for quite a few years now and our knowledge of the surrounding area is growing all the time. This is mainly from the feedback we get from you. If you do use anything mentioned in this section or anything not mentioned that should be included, please make sure you mention it when you fill in a questionnaire at the end of the convention. Thank you!

### Oadby centre

The convention is a 15 to 20 minute walk from the local shops in Oadby centre. Oadby is a suburban centre on the outskirts of Leicester, and has a good collection of shops, restaurants, etc. To get to Oadby, walk out to Manor Road, turn right and follow Manor Road to the crossroads with Stoughton Drive South, turn left and follow this down to where it runs into the A6; once there, turn left and follow the A6 into Oadby centre. The location of restaurants, banks and other facilities listed in the following pages is shown on the map. Positions within a street are fairly accurate, but they are a mix of experience from previous years, feedback from attendees, and guesswork, so please don't rely on the map alone!



### Local services

**Banks, Building Societies etc** – head for the Parade in Oadby! **Barclays Bank (21)**: 25 The Parade. **Nationwide Building Society (22)**: 92 The Parade. **Oadby Post Office (23)**: 34 The Parade. **Lloyds (25)**: 56 Chestnut Avenue, Oadby (just off The Parade). **National Westminster Bank (26)**: 5 The Parade. **Santander (27)**: 62 The Parade. All except the Post Office have a cash machine.

**Supermarkets**: There is a large **Asda store (28)** on Leicester Road (A6) on the way to Oadby; it also has a cash machine – the closest to the convention. There is also a **Sainsburys (29)** on the other side of Oadby centre, on the right hand side of the A6, and a **Waitrose (38)** at 36 Harborborough Road, on the right side of Harborborough Road beyond the turnoff to The Parade. Also in The Parade are a **Coop Food store (32)** and **M&S Food (40)**.

**Chemists**: There is a branch of **Boots (30)** at 35 The Parade. There is also a **Lloyds Pharmacy (31)** located at 9 The Parade and a **Boots Pharmacy (33)** at 11c/11d Leicester Road. There is also a Pharmacy in **Asda (28)**.

**The Botanic Garden (37)** is located on Stoughton Road South. It's open from 10am to 5pm every day in summer.

### Eating out in Oadby

If you're looking for Indian food, Oadby has you covered. **Leeja Palace** can be found on the Parade, Oadby's main shopping street, and was recommended as both a restaurant and a takeaway, offering high quality food at around £8 per dish, and good service. Delivery is free on orders over £10, and there is a 20% discount for takeaways. Very Popular with ManorCon attendees on Saturday and Sunday night. **Swatlands** is also a favourite of ManorCon attendees, feedback has generally been good, especially for the chefs specials. Dishes are around £10, and it coped OK with a party of 7, but has also been reported as having slow service – it is rather small. Its service also got the thumbs-up, as did the English options. Oadby Spice on London Road has been replaced by **Geetas Krupa**, a pure Mumbai vegetarian restaurant and Cafe Asia is now **Indus**, also on London Road, which offers North Indian Punjabi Cuisine. There is also a **Tipu Sultan** on the Parade, which is one of a restaurant chain.

If Indian isn't your thing, there's also a few Oriental restaurants and takeaways. **Oadby Garden** is a takeaway on the Parade which has also been regularly used by the ManorCon committee and **Wok In Wok Out** is also on The Parade. **Yum Sing Cantonese Restaurant** is just around the corner from the Parade in Leicester Road, and is another restaurant that is recommended by the ManorCon Committee. Main dishes are around £7. However, even on a mid-week night there is often a 2-hour wait for a table, so

it is advisable to book well in advance if you want to eat here. **Pearl City** is a little further away, on the A6 on the far side of Oadby. It offers a variety of Peking and Cantonese dishes. And also on the Oriental front, there's **Oriental Star Takeaway** and **New Lucky House**, both of which are Chinese Takeaways; the former is reported to sell decent food.

For Italian food, **Cheikho's Restaurant** is on Leicester Road, it has a comprehensive menu, including a good selection of fish, chicken, salads and meat dishes. The average price is £20-£25 according to godine.co.uk. Note also that it is closed on Sunday and Monday. For something quicker, **Pizza Mondo** and **Papa Johns Pizza** are both in The Parade, and both do delivery. The former has been used by ManorCon attendees in the past, costing around £7 for a large pizza, offering reasonably good pizzas with quite fast delivery; it also now does curries. **Pizza Zebedee** is further away, on London Road, but also offers burgers and Halal.

For Pub food, **Grange Farm**, and **The Lord Keeper of the Great Seal** are pubs in Oadby which serve food. **Grange Farm** is a converted farm/stable, which makes for a fairly dark setting. The food is good, but don't expect to get cheap drinks from the bar. **The Lord Keeper of the Great Seal** is a surprisingly decent example of the Wetherspoon's chain with standard, cheap food. Another pub-restaurant is the **Cow and Plough** which retains 100% positive feedback. The pub has multiple guest beers, plus beers from their own brewery, and the food is typical of a top quality pub, with main courses around £10-£12, eaten either in the restaurant area, or if the weather's good, outside. The **Black Dog** pub also received good reviews in 2016 for real ale, serves good food, around £7, but only until 9PM, but avoid the pizza. **Brooklyn Cafe Bar** is on the parade and appears to be more of a pre-night out on the town drinks establishment, so we welcome feedback from anyone who pops in. There are now a couple of cafes on The Parade, **Chestnuts Coffee Shop** is a Café at 15 The Parade and looked popular when I passed it last year. **Cafe Maromme** is not far away. There is also a **Costa** over the road.

We appear to have a bunch of new places at the far end of Oadby; **Pauls Kitchen** is at 60 London Road, **The Wheel Inn** is further along London Road (good scores from Trip Advisor) and slightly further along you'll find the **Sports Lounge**, a sports bar. Of course, if you want really traditional, the other option is a Fish and Chip shop. Oadby has **Oadby Fish Bar** and **Oadby Chippy**. Finally, two more options if you want quick food. There is a **Subway**, a **Greggs** and **TJ's Oadby Kebab House**, both on The Parade.

A number of recommended restaurants were mentioned in the text above; these are as follows (but not all are open on Sunday night!):

<b>1. Leeja Palace</b>	13 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 0482	2016
<b>2. Oadby Garden</b>	8 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 3509	2014
<b>3. Chestnuts Coffee Shop</b>	15 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 1445	
<b>4. Swatlands</b>	38 London Rd, Oadby, LE2 5DH	0116 271 1117	2016
<b>5. Cow and Plough</b>	Gartree Road, Oadby, LE2 2FB	0116 272 0852	2016
<b>6. Geetas Krupa</b>	29 London Road, Oadby, LE2 5DL	0116 272 0010	
<b>7. Tipu Sultan</b>	36 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 5553	
<b>8. Yum Sing Cantonese Restaurant</b>	11 Leicester Rd, Oadby, LE2 5BD	0116 271 6331	2015
<b>9. Pearl City</b>	Glen Rise, Oadby, LE2 4RG	0116 259 2308	
<b>10. Oriental Star Takeaway</b>	61 Leicester Road, Oadby, LE2 4DF	0116 271 2324	2011
<b>11. New Lucky House</b>	11 Stoughton Road, Oadby, LE2 4DS	0116 271 1688	
<b>12. Cheikho's Restaurant</b>	9 Leicester Rd, Oadby, LE2 5BD	0116 271 1933	2009
<b>13. Pizza Mondo</b>	4 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 1122	2007
<b>14. Papa John's Pizza</b>	90 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BF	0116 271 0400	2016
<b>15. Costa</b>	29 The Parade, Oadby EL2 5BB	0116 272 0810	
<b>16. Grange Farm</b>	Glen Road, Oadby, LE2 4RH	0116 271 5088	
<b>17. Wok In Wok Out</b>	79 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 0044	
<b>18. Cafe Maromme</b>	26 The Parade Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 0676	
<b>19. Oadby Chippy</b>	7 Stoughton Rd Oadby LE2 4DS	0116 271 5555	
<b>20. Oadby Fish Bar</b>	81 Highcroft Ave Oadby LE2 5UH	0116 271 9919	2011
<b>24. Greggs</b>	28 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 8395	
<b>34. TJ's Oadby Kebab House</b>	71 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BB	0116 271 0595	
<b>35. Lord Keeper of the Great Seal ('Spoons)</b>	96-100 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BF	0116 272 0957	2015
<b>36. Subway</b>	76 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BF	0116 271 6662	2014
<b>41. Brooklyn Cafe Bar</b>	41 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BB	0116 215 1234	
<b>42. The Black Dog</b>	23 London Road, LE2 5DL	0116 210 2479	2016
<b>43. Indus</b>	47 London Road, LE2 5DN	0116 271 7595	
<b>44. Pizza Zebedee</b>	52 London Road, LE2 5DH	0116 271 6444	
<b>45. Pauls Kitchen</b>	60 London Road, LE2 5DH	0116 210 8036	
<b>46. The Wheel Inn</b>	99 London Road, LE2 5DP	0116 271 7510	
<b>47. Sports Lounge Oadby</b>	115 London Road, LE2 5DP	0116 271 1234	

The year on the right is the last year we received feedback on the restaurant.

## Eating out in Central Leicester

Leicester excels in authentic Indian restaurants but also offers truly cosmopolitan dining, sometimes with live music. The range of cafes and restaurants in Leicester is extensive; lively Spanish tapas bars, wonderful Italian cuisine, Mexican, Chinese, Creole, French, Greek and Arabic. Melton Road hosts some of England's most delicious and mouthwatering Indian cuisine, whilst London Road has the most delicate and powerful Italian recipes in Leicester. Narbrough Road brings all cultures together by offering a wide variety of cuisine.

**Croques** in Loseby Lane does wraps and sandwiches, as well as breakfasts. At **The Case Restaurant and Champagne Bar** in Hotel Street, you can enjoy international cuisine in classy surroundings. The **Casa Romana** in Albion Street and **Joe Rigatoni's** in St Martins Square offer a real slice of Italian culture as well as great atmosphere and splendid dishes. **Dino's**, in the Haymarket, offers an international menu and is ideal for theatre goers. Indeed, there are many restaurants offering first rate special occasion meals. There is also **Altro Mondo**, rated highly by ManorCon visitors. For Greek cuisine and culture there is **Babylonia** in Bowling Green Street. There are so many good Indian restaurants in Leicester that you could visit a different one almost every week for a year. **Kayal** on Granby Street is close to London Road railway station and serves very good South Indian cuisine according to a ManorCon attendee last year (and Trip Advisor!) This is authentic Kerala cuisine, not typical UK curry house fare. **Chef and Spice** on Hinckley Road is also very well regarded. **The Rise Of The Raj** in Evington Road and **The Curry House** in London Road are both also up-market, **The Curry House** having main dishes for around £8 for good standard Indian food.

If you are vegetarian, you are in the right city, particularly during the day. **The Good Earth** in Free Lane is the city's longest established wholefood restaurant, open mornings and afternoons Monday to Saturday and also on Friday evenings with live music. **Bobbys** in Belgrave Road is a Vegetarian only Indian restaurant, and offers a buffet for just £8 per head, which given the quality of the food, is excellent value. You might also try **Sonal's Bhijiya House** in Narborough Road, **Sayonara** in Belgrave Road or **Sharmilee Sweet Mart** in Belgrave Road for more vegetarian Indian fare. Also, for Turkish BBQ, you could try **Istanbul** which is said to be cheap and fast, busy, but plenty of staff. For Tapas, try **Barceloneta**, which continues to get favourable reviews from ManorCon attendees. The best place in town is supposedly **North Bar and Kitchen** on Hinckley Road, which is getting good reviews around town for its British and vegetarian food.

<b>Croques</b>	19-21 Loseby Lane LE1 5DR	0116 262 1101
<b>The Case</b>	4-6 Hotel Street	0116 251 7675
<b>Casa Romana</b>	5 Albion Street LE1 6GD	0116 254 1174
<b>Joe Rigatoni</b>	3 St Martins Square	0116 253 3977
<b>Dino's Brasserie</b>	13 Garrick Walk, Haymarket Centre LE1 3YQ	0116 262 8308
<b>Altro Mondo</b>	10-12 Humberstone Rd LE5 0AR	0116 253 7567
<b>Babylonia</b>	23 Bowling Green St LE1 6AS	0116 254 0380
<b>Kayal</b>	153 Granby Street LE1 6FE	0116 255 4667
<b>Chef and Spice</b>	1 Andrews St, LE3 5PG	0116 242 2240
<b>Rise of the Raj</b>	6 Evington Road LE2 1HF	0116 255 3885
<b>Curry House</b>	118 London Road LE2 0QS	0116 255 0688
<b>The Good Earth</b>	19 Free Lane LE1 1JX	0116 262 6260
<b>Bobby's</b>	154-156 Belgrave Road LE4 5AT	0116 266 2448
<b>Sonal's</b>	122 Narborough Road LE3 0BT	0116 247 0441
<b>Sayonara</b>	49 Belgrave Road LE4 6AR	0116 266 5888
<b>Sharmilee</b>	71-73 Belgrave Road LE4 6AS	0116 266 8471
<b>Istanbul</b>	73 Narborough Road LE3 0LE	0116 255 7909
<b>Barceloneta</b>	54 Queens Rd LE2 1TU	0116 270 8408
<b>North</b>	42 Hinckley Rd LE3 0RB	0116 255 5961

## Transport

Two taxi companies have been recommended by ManorCon attendees; Victoria Cabs (0116 270 6655) offer taxis for up to 7 people, Gold Line (0116 273 1110) are reasonably priced. Direct Taxis (0116 272 1000) are recommended by the University. Victoria Cabs have smartphone apps, which sound a bit like Uber, with driver name, location and vehicle registration. Bus Tickets cost £4.20 for a ticket valid all day. The 31 Bus runs along the A6 past the end of Stoughton Drive South into central Leicester. (2 buses an hour on Sunday. More frequently at other times).