

MANORCON XXXVIII

2pm Fri 15th July to 2pm Mon 18th July 2022

Stamford House and The Point, University of Leicester

(Stamford House, University of Leicester, Stoughton Drive South, Oadby, LE2 2ND)

Programme Booklet

This booklet is also available to download from the ManorCon Website.

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ManorCon 2022 – It's back, and it's a bit different...

After missing two years due to the pandemic, ManorCon is back. However it's been a bit of a rush. Normally we sign the contract with the University in September and are taking bookings in January. This year, the University weren't even sure they could host us at all until early March. We get the impression that we are the first convention they have hosted since the pandemic. We are using their only working kitchen for meals. The bar is being run by an external team. And we (and the University) have not had anything like the normal time to get everything ready.

- The biggest change is, we are back where the first ManorCons in Leicester were held, split between the hall formerly known as the Lasdun Dining Hall, now called The Point, and Stamford House (which is still called Stamford House, but is also known as The Village Hub).
- We do not have the usual supply of Real Ale, due to a combination of the shortened timescales, a new bar team, and a bar that doesn't have the space for it.
- There is no treasure hunt, due to not having a winner from last year to set it, and due to the time required to write it. We do need somebody to run this in 2023, so please let the committee know if you're interested.
- Due the small number of tournaments, we won't have a prizegiving on Monday. We'll do each one separately.
- The Programme Booklet has been a bit of a rush to put together. Hence it's not quite as refined as usual.

But that still leaves a lot of things which are going ahead – there's lots of games to play, games stalls, the pop quiz, food, drink. And after two years of ManorCon via Zoom, it's good to be back.

Timetable

Friday 19th July:

2 p.m. : Doors open
2 p.m. : 18XX tournament starts
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 20th July:

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

Midnight : Second Midnight Party round
Sunday 21st July:
8 – 9.30 a.m. : Breakfast
12.30 – 2 p.m. : Lunch
6 - 8 p.m. : Dinner
Midnight : Third Midnight Party round
End of 18XX tournament

Monday 22nd July:

8 – 9.30 a.m. : Breakfast
9.30 a.m. : Deadline for checking out of all rooms.
12.30 – 2 p.m. : Lunch
2 p.m. : Doors close
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

So, this is your first ManorCon, and hopefully you're looking forward to the experience. However, it can be a wee bit daunting for the newcomer, so here are a few tips to make your life just that little bit easier!

Make sure you have a look through this booklet. There's little more disappointing than reading the booklet on the train home and discovering that you missed taking part in something interesting because you didn't know it was taking place.

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. But with so many people around, how do you find the ones with similar tastes? There are several ways.

If you want to play in the 18XX tournament, there will be plenty of games played during the weekend, usually in the Quiet Games Room. Usually several games start immediately after breakfast, with a few games starting later in the day.

If you want to play a less common game, then there may be game request forms on the noticeboards. Have a look for other people already looking for a game, and if you can't find any, then put up a request form yourself; ask at the ManorCon Registration Desk if you need paper, a pen and 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, either to play the game or merely to discuss when to play it. Or leave your mobile number (if you are lucky enough to have signal in the gaming rooms!).

Another approach is to start setting a game up on a table in a prominent position, and wait for people to 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.

If you aren't looking for a particular game, you just want to play something, then there are several things you can try doing:

- Have a wander round and see what's being set up. If a game that looks interesting, 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!
- 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.
- Look for other people looking equally lost, and ask if they are looking for a game.

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 ManorCon, the thirty eighth of the series and the fourteenth one to be held in Leicester. Yes, after a long three year gap due to the pandemic, its ManorCon time again, a four day games fest and the chance to socialise in congenial company playing your favourite games. This year, we are back at Stamford House in the University of Leicester. The Committee have been working very, 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 long-running 18XX tournament is taking place once again. The ever popular, Midnight Party will continue to take place at midnight each evening during the convention. We also have the Pop Quiz on Saturday night, run by David Norman. The Second Hand Games Stall will be taking place once again, and is being run by Steve Bailey. Also, Meeple Games are back for a third year with the Games Stall in the main gaming area.

As mentioned above, we are back at Stamford Hall. The accommodation on the Stamford site is split between Bowder Court, John Foster and the Lasdun Blocks. The gaming areas are still split between two locations: the main gaming area is located in the Dining Hall where our meals are served, and in Stamford House where the Bar is located.

So, have a fantastic convention everyone. There should be 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!

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, gaining particular renown as a Tournament Director for many, many Diplomacy tournaments. He also updates the ManorCon WebPages (but usually only when prompted by someone else), and this year, is the guest editor of this booklet.

Gary Duke spent a number of years playing games with people on the registration desk, which made him an ideal candidate to take charge of it. He is also in charge of running the advanced postal and online booking systems and the room allocation system.

Mark Stretch originally attended ManorCon over 30 years ago as part of the Oxford Mob. He is in charge of publicising ManorCon, and can often be found answering questions about the convention on Facebook.

Nick Harrison 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 due to his involvement with the tournament Diplomacy scene and usually edits this booklet (although he's taken this year off). Living in Brighton, Dave acts as our source of local knowledge for the convention (it helps that he's originally from Leicester).

ManorCon is one of the largest amateur games conventions 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!). This is located just inside the side entrance of The Point (the dining hall).
- 3 From outside the convention, the committee will hopefully have a signal on the 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).

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

There are two recommended car parks for ManorCon attendees. For those staying in Bowder Court (which is the en-suite accommodation close to our venue for the last few ManorCons), there is a reasonable size car park around and behind Bowder Court. Access is from Manor Road. From the junction with Stoughton Drive South, the entrance is the first turning on the right which doesn't have a low kerb to cross. There is a white sign which simply says "Car Park".

For those staying in Lasdun (the non-en-suite accommodation), the car park is accessed from Stoughton Drive South. Look for the blue sign "Lasdun Car Park", shortly after passing Southmeads Road.

There is also access to the games rooms for loading and unloading only. From Stoughton Drive South, look for the entrance with the blue sign, "The Village Hub". Please do not park anywhere in this area, except while loading or unloading.

Convention Hours

The convention opens at 2pm on Friday and closes at 2pm on Monday. The Point dining hall will be open from 7:15am to 1am, and Stamford House from 7:15am until the last committee member goes to bed (which given Dave and Nick are both around, will be sometime in the small hours...).

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 main Reception of John Foster Hall from 2pm on Friday.

This year, most of the en-suite bedrooms are located in Bowder Court, with one block on the John Foster site. These blocks each have communal kitchens, and the John Foster Block has 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. The non-en-suite accommodation is in Lasdun. These have communal kitchens and toilets/bathrooms. Rooms service will be done every day, and won't start until after 9:30 a.m.

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 may be 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 on the ManorCon Registration Desk 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 is located in the Dining Hall. Upon exiting Stamford House, bear right and follow the path leading to the rear of the site. The Dining Hall is located to your left as you approach it; if you are not sure, see the site plan on page 6. **The main gaming hall is open from 7:15am until 1 am each night. When moving between it and Stamford House during the late evening, you need to be fairly quiet.** We ask for your co-operation in this matter. If you wish to carry on gaming very late, you will need to adjourn to the gaming areas in Stamford House which will be open later.

The other gaming areas are located in Stamford House – see the floor plan on page 7 of this Programme Booklet. Stamford House has an open wireless network which attendees can use to connect a laptop to the internet. The Junior Common Room will not be available for gaming during the Pop Quiz (Saturday evening). The Thornton Room 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. Note that the Junior Common Room, Lounge Area and Games Room are a single, continuous open area.

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 in the Dining Hall and other areas; 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 when you have finished with it.

Noticeboards

There are two main Noticeboards, one located just inside the Dining Hall and the second on the wall next to the Bar. You can find anything there, from people looking for players for a more obscure game (i.e. game request sheets), 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 Food Court 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:	18:00 – 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

There are no food vending machines in the convention area, but there are snacks available from the bar. There is also a vending machine in the main building at John Foster Hall. 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 page 10 and 11.

The Bar

The bar is run by the University catering team and is located in Stamford House. 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

The bar reserves the option to close early if not doing much business (although this has never come close to happening...).

Unfortunately the bar is not able to stock our usual selection of Real Ales, but we still have a wide range of drinks available:

- On draft: Shipyard IPA, Fosters, Strongbow.
- Bottled: Old Speckled Hen, Newcastle Brown, Doom Bar, San Miguel, Corona, Amstel, San Miguel, Magners.
- A dozen different spirits
- Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Fruit Burst Orange, Water

There will also be a range of bar snacks available.

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. It will take place in the Thornton Room in Stamford House 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, and between 11am and 1pm Saturday; note that you will need to sign a Terms and Conditions form, which will be provided by the organisers. Sellers should collect their money and unsold games from the organisers by 6pm on Saturday afternoon.

Having really enjoyed running the Second Hand Games Sale for the last few years, this will be Steve's last year. Steve says it has been a joy and a privilege to meet and chat to so many people over the years. We will need someone to take this on from next year. Steve will be providing some handover notes, and if you are interested, it might be worth talking to Steve over the weekend to learn what's involved.

Meeple Games Stall

Meeple Games will be running a Games Stall over the course of the weekend. They have the sole right to sell first-hand games and gaming accessories at ManorCon, and anyone else wanting to do so must speak to the committee first. They will be located in the Dining Room. There will be a 10% discount available on all games sold at their stall. Most of your favourite games should be available.

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).

Help Needed

We need a number of volunteers for ManorCon 2023:

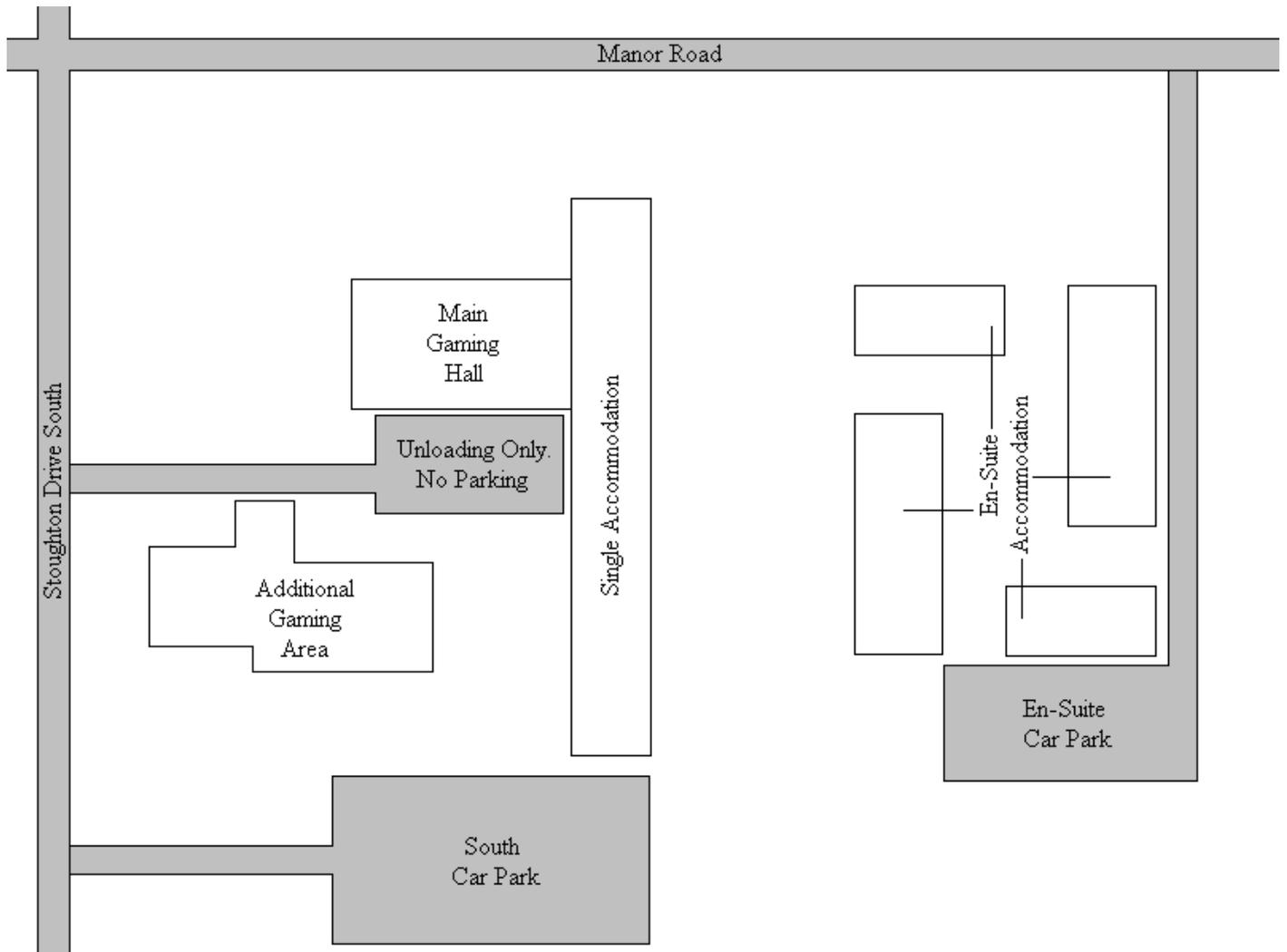
- We have not been able to run the Treasure Hunt this year. Normally the winning team sets the hunt for the following year – so we need someone to volunteer to be the ManorCon 2022 Treasure Hunt champions!
- After running the Second Hand Games Sale for many years, Steve Bailey is stepping down after this ManorCon. Steve is available to discuss how it all works, and will provide some written notes as well.
- The Pop Quiz needs a quiz master. Past quiz masters or new volunteers welcome.

If you can help with any of these items, please get in touch with a committee member.

Maps of the ManorCon Site

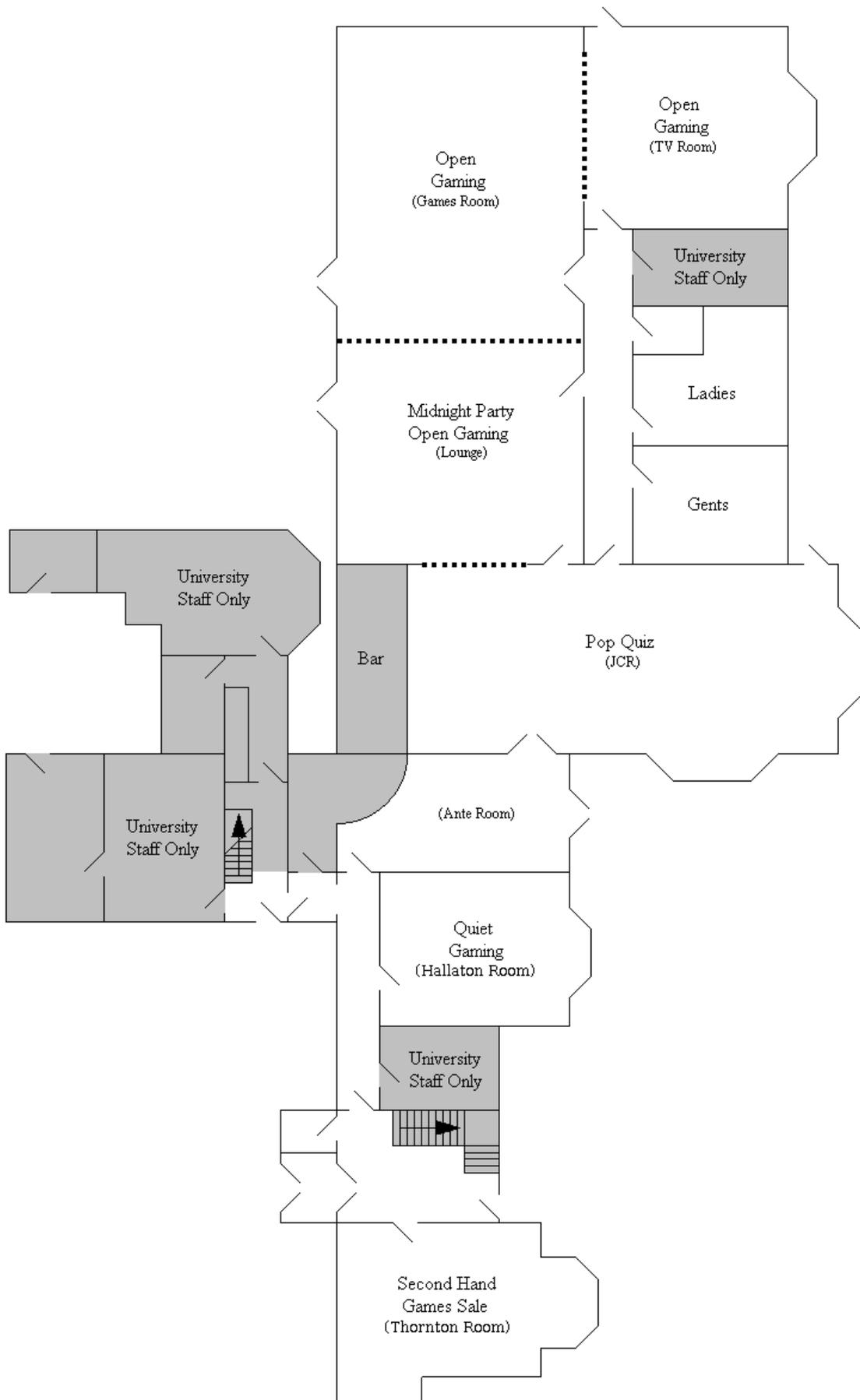
Site Plan

Below is a general map of the relevant portion of the University of Leicester, including The Point (the main gaming hall) and Stamford House (Additional Gaming).



Gaming Plan

Stamford House, University of Leicester, Stoughton Drive South, Oadby, LE2 2ND



Tournament Overview

As ever, there are a number of tournaments and other events at ManorCon. All welcome beginners, although in the case of Midnight Party, you should let the Tournament Director know a few minutes 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 18XX, just find a game starting and ask if they mind a beginner joining in. Most players will welcome new players (although some may want a serious game, in which case, ask them to direct you to someone who can teach you).

Tournament & Event Details

18XX is 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 Hallaton (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 might be an 18XX noticeboard available in the Hallaton room this year, or they might just be located somewhere suitable in the room.

The tournament is run on an ad-hoc basis – games are played, the result is put in official results envelope, and at the end of the weekend, the tournament director takes all the results and calculates the overall rankings. The rules, results envelopes, etc, can be found in Hallaton (the Quiet Gaming room). The deadline for results is midnight on the Sunday. Check the rules for more details.

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 Lounge. 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 will be run by David Norman this year and is for teams of any size (although 4 will give you the best chance of winning!). Having been put together at the last minute, it will be a mix of rounds from quizzes which David has run elsewhere, and whatever can be thrown together quickly – which will either make it intriguingly different, or a good reason for someone else to volunteer to run it next year! 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 usually runs on a Sunday afternoon. However, the short lead time we've had to organise the convention this year has meant it's not been possible to run this. We do however need a volunteer to set the Treasure Hunt in 2023.

Steve Jones' Personal Games Recommendations – back in 2019, I mentioned a number of science-based games I had recently acquired. I now have a number of new ones, including "Genotype", a worker placement game based on Mendelian Genetics where the players are assistants helping Gregor Mendel with his pea growing experiments, and hot off the press, "Cellulose", another worker placement game set in a plant cell. I should mention that "Genotype" is the best science-based game that Genius Games have published so far; it is a very, very good game. I'll also make a shameless plug for Vital Lacerda's brilliant "On Mars" which I hope to play at some point over the weekend. If you fancy any of these, including "Subatomic", "Periodic" and "Cosmogenesis", please see Steve. Make sure you ask how long it will take to learn the rules beforehand!

Upcoming Conventions

Mindsports Olympiad

JW3, Finchley Road, London
21-29 August 2022
<http://www.msoworld.com>

Boardgames Holiday

Le Pas Opton, France
12-19 September 2022
springharvestholidays.com/feature-weeks/board-games-holiday

Castlecon Autumn 2022

Flanesford Priory, Goodrich
16-30 September 2022
<https://boardgamegeek.com/guild/2397>

Raiders of the Games Cupboard LIV

Waterside Community Centre, Burton-upon-Trent
24 September 2022
www.raidersonthegamecupboard.co.uk

MidCon 2022

Derby Mickleover Hotel
4-6 November 2022
MidCon.org.uk

GridCon 3

Holiday Inn, Taunton
11-13 November 2022
gridcon.co.uk

Raiders of the Games Cupboard LV

Waterside Community Centre, Burton-upon-Trent
7 January 2023
www.raidersonthegamecupboard.co.uk

Boardgames at the Manor

Otford Manor, Kent
20-22 January 2023
<https://www.oakhall.co.uk/browse/manor>

SoRCon

Holiday Inn, Festival Leisure Park, Basildon, Essex
24-26 February 2023
www.sorcon.co.uk

Raiders of the Games Cupboard LVI

Waterside Community Centre, Burton-upon-Trent
25 March 2023
www.raidersonthegamecupboard.co.uk

BayCon 2023

Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, Devon
12-16 April 2023
www.facebook.com/groups/baycon/

ManorCon XXXIX

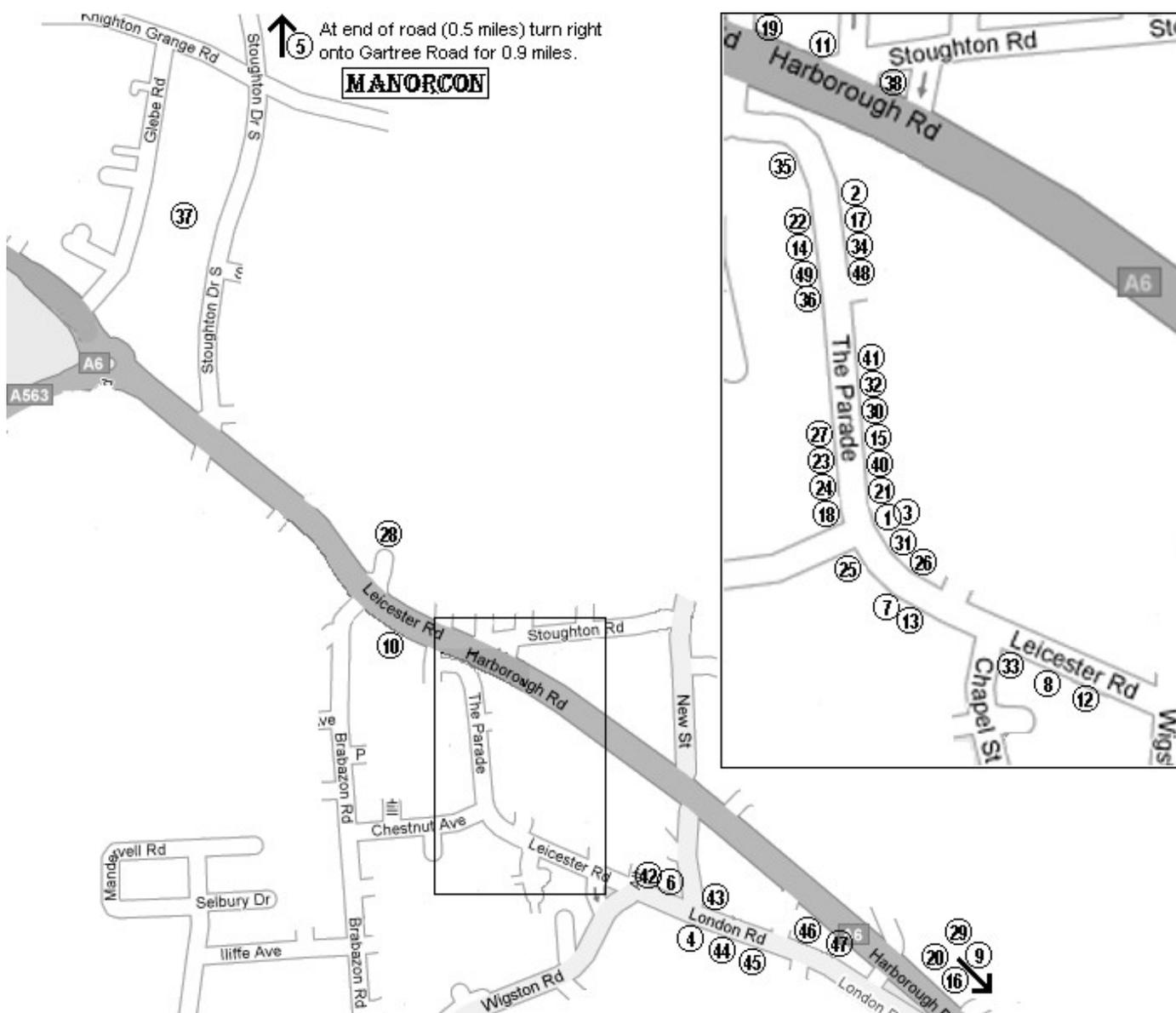
University of Leicester, Oadby, Leicester
21-24 July 2023
www.manorcon.org.uk

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 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, inside the convenience store. **Lloyds (25)**: 56 Chestnut Avenue, Oadby (just off The Parade). **National Westminster Bank (26)**: 5 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. Also in The Parade is **M&S Food (40)**. And just North of the Parade is a **Spar (38)** at the BP Petrol station.

Chemists: There is a branch of **Boots (30)** at 35 The Parade, and a **Lloyds Pharmacy (31)** located at 9 The Parade. 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. Unfortunately due to a fire, it is currently only offering takeaway. It offers high quality food at around £8 per dish (2016), 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 (2016), 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. 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. **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 (2015). 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. 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. Note also that it is closed on Sunday and Monday. For something quicker, **Pizza Mondo**, **Papa Johns Pizza** and **Fireaway Pizza** are all in The Parade, and all do delivery. The first has been used by ManorCon attendees in the past, costing around £7 (2016) for a large pizza, offering reasonably good pizzas with quite fast delivery; it also now does curries.

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 the drinks aren't cheap. **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 (2016), 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 (2016), but only until 9pm, but avoid the pizza. There are now a few 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 now called **Millie's Cafe** and is not far away. **Demilhs Cafe** is new since the last ManorCon. There is also a **Costa** over the road.

Further afield, **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**. 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. And finally to finish your meal, there is now a dessert restaurant in the Parade, **Shakehouse**.

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

1. Leeja Palace (TAKEAWAY ONLY)	13 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 0482	2016
2. Oadby Garden	83 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 3509	2014
3. Chestnuts Coffee Shop	15 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 1445	
4. Swatlands	38 London Rd, Oadby, LE2 5DH	0116 271 1117	2016
5. Cow and Plough	2 Gartree Road, Oadby, LE2 2FB	0116 272 0852	2016
<i>6. Geetas Krupa</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>		
7. Tipu Sultan	12-16 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 5553	
8. Yum Sing Cantonese Restaurant	11 Leicester Rd, Oadby, LE2 5BD	0116 271 6331	2015
<i>9. Pearl City</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>		
10. Oriental Star Takeaway	61 Leicester Road, Oadby, LE2 4DF	0116 271 2324	2011
11. New Lucky House	11 Stoughton Road, Oadby, LE2 4DS	0116 271 1688	
12. Cheikho's Restaurant	9 Leicester Rd, Oadby, LE2 5BD	0116 271 1933	2009
<i>13. Pizza Mondo</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>		
14. Papa John's Pizza	90 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BF	0116 271 0400	2016
15. Costa	29-31 The Parade, Oadby EL2 5BB	0116 272 0810	
16. Grange Farm	Florence Wragg Way, Oadby, LE2 4QZ	0116 271 5088	
<i>17. Wow Burger</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>		
18. Millie's Cafe	26 The Parade Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 0676	
<i>19. Oadby Chippy</i>	<i>Currently not in business</i>		
20. Oadby Fish Bar	81 Highcroft Ave Oadby LE2 5UH	0116 271 9919	2011
24. Greggs	28 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 8395	
32. Demilhs Cafe	37 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	07933 944358	
34. TJ's Oadby Kebab House	71 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BB	0116 271 0595	
35. Lord Keeper of the Great Seal	96-100 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BF	0116 272 0957	2015
36. Subway	76 The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BF	0116 271 6662	2014
41. Cafe Makaan	41C The Parade, Oadby LE2 5BB	0116 380 5672	
42. The Black Dog	23 London Road, LE2 5DL	0116 210 2479	2016
<i>43. Indus</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>		

44. <i>Pizza Zebedee</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
45. <i>Pauls Kitchen</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
46. The Wheel Inn	99 London Road, LE2 5DP	0116 271 7510
47. Sports Lounge Oadby	115 London Road, LE2 5DP	0116 271 1234
48. Fireaway Pizza	63 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BB	0116 271 2444
49. Shakehouse	94 The Parade, Oadby, LE2 5BF	0116 271 4735

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. Narborough Road brings all cultures together by offering a wide variety of cuisine.

At **The Case Restaurant and Champagne Bar** in Hotel Street, you can enjoy international cuisine in classy surroundings. The **Casa Romana** in Albion Street offers a real slice of Italian culture as well as great atmosphere and splendid dishes. There is also **Altro Mondo**, rated highly by ManorCon visitors. 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.

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 **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.

<i>Croques</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
The Case	4-6 Hotel Street	0116 251 7675
Casa Romana	5 Albion Street LE1 6GD	0116 254 1174
Altro Mondo	10-12 Humberstone Rd LE5 0AR	0116 253 7567
Kayal	153 Granby Street LE1 6FE	0116 255 4667
Chef and Spice	1 Andrews St, LE3 5PG	0116 242 2240
<i>Rise of the Raj</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
<i>Curry House</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
The Good Earth	19 Free Lane LE1 1JX	0116 262 6260
Bobby's	154-156 Belgrave Road LE4 5AT	0116 266 2448
<i>Sonal's</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
<i>Sayonara 4 Seasons</i>	<i>No longer in business</i>	
Sharmilee	71-73 Belgrave Road LE4 6AS	0116 266 8471
Istanbul	73 Narborough Road LE3 0LE	0116 255 7909
Barceloneta	54 Queens Rd LE2 1TU	0116 270 8408
North Bar and Kitchen	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).