## News from Pan Books

## DAN MORGAN

WILL BE GUEST OF HONOUR AT NOVACON 175 TO BE HELD AT
BIRMINGHAM'S ROYAL ANGUS HOTEL FROM NOVEMBER 7th to 9th

Dan Morgan divides his time between Spalding, in the flat, fertile Lincolnshire fens and Almeria, in the spectacular sunlit mountains of Andalucia, where most of his writing is done. Now on the 'chilly side of 40' - which he consoles himself is a positive advantage for a writer - his occupations have included those of Professional Musician, Soldier (R.A.M.C.) and Menswear Retailer.

In addition to the three books in the STARS series (with John Kippax) he has written eight SF novels, five of which have been published in the U.S.A., and a book called <u>Guitar</u> - a companion/instruction book about the instrument - which has been selling steadily in the U.S. and U.K. for the last nine years.

SF is a very important part of his life and he can be very impatient with people who say things like: 'Now that man has landed on the moon SF is finished'. He believes that SF is a way of looking at life and people, and that so long as either of these exist there will always be something for SF writers to write about. Story and entertainment value are of prime importance in SF, but the SF writer has an additional bonus, because he can at the same time speculate on such questions as: 'Is Man, with one foot on the moon, already preparing for the leap towards the planets and beyond, fundamentally any different from Man who stood at the entrance of his cave half a million years ago and looked at those same stars?' He believes, in other words, that SF is not about gimmicks, gadgets or machines, but about the proper study of mankind, human beings.

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A lifelong love affair with the guitar and the fact that Spain is one of the few countries where one can live <u>la vida padre</u> on the earnings of an SF writer without going completely broke are only two of the many reasons he offers for spending so much time there. Perhaps more important to him is the way being an alien helps in the writer's constant task of searching inside himself for his own kind of truth.

And his hobbies include Skin-diving, Fish-watching, playing the guitar - jazz, classical music and flamenco. He himself likes wine, good food and good conversation. And his favourite authors include Phillip K. Dick, Kurt Vonnegut, Georges Simenon, Angus Wilson, Scott Fitzgerald and Nathaniel West.

PAN have published A THUNDER OF STARS, SEED OF STARS and THE NEUTRAL STARS (written in conjunction with John Kippax) - and if you would like to interview Dan Morgan, please contact either Tony Hammond (Chief Press Officer) or Anthea Doyle (Press Officer) on O1-373 6070.

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