



DAN MORGAN IS NAMED AS GUEST OF HONOUR

The committee is pleased to announce that Dan Morgan will be Guest of Honour at NOVACON 5. Dan has been writing SF, mainly short stories, for over 20 years yet this will be the first time he has been Guest of Honour at any convention. He is the author of 11 science fiction novels, three of which were written in collaboration with the late John Kippax, plus a highly successful book on guitar playing. His novels include THE NEW MINDS, INSIDE, THE RICHEST CORPSE IN SHOW BUSINESS, HIGH DESTINY and A THUNDER OF STARS. During most of each year he runs the family tailoring business in Spalding, Lincs., but for a few months in each year he goes with his wife to Almeria in Spain where he spends the time writing while Georgie soaks up the sun and obtains a tan that is so dark, traces are still left the year after! His hobbies are skin diving, fish watching and playing the guitar - jazz, classical and flamenco - and he likes wine, good food and good conversation. We feel sure that the last three items alone will make Dan Morgan an excellent Guest of Honour.

New books

We understand that Dan has completed and sold the fourth book in the 'Mind' series - the previous three books being THE NEW MINDS, THE SEVERAL MINDS and THE MIND TRAP. This will be published by Corgi late in 1975 - hopefully in time for NOVACON 5. Dan will again be off to Spain this year where if all goes well he will be writing the fifth book in the 'Venturer 12' series.

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NEXT PROGRESS REPORT - JULY

DEADLINE IS JUNE 26th

NEW HOTEL FOR NOVACON 5!

NOVACON, the annual science fiction convention sponsored by the Birmingham SF Group will take place this year at the Royal Angus Hotel, Birmingham. This will be the fifth NOVACON. After being held for four consecutive years at the Imperial Centre Hotel it was felt that there was need for a change mainly due to the fact that we have outgrown the old Imperial. NOVACON along with the annual Easter Convention gets bigger each year and a more spacious hotel is required.

At the end of NOVACON 4, we promised you that we would look for an alternative hotel. This proved to be a considerably more difficult task than anticipated. Hotels in Birmingham are not built for big functions and those that are, have facilities totally unsuitable for our needs - the convention hall in one hotel is open on one side and that side is the main passage-way to and from the kitchen! We even looked outside of Birmingham where one hotel quoted us rates of £11.50 per night single subject to increases between now and November! Eventually we looked at the Royal Angus and immediately realized that this was the hotel for NOVACON 5.

The Royal Angus, one of Birmingham's newer and more luxurious hotels, was opened in 1970. It accommodates 222 guests and all bedrooms have their own bathroom, shower, radio and t.v. A hotel brochure is enclosed with this Progress Report so that you can see for yourselves the excellent facilities that this hotel provides. We are sure that those travelling by car will welcome the fact that the hotel is on one of the main roads through the city centre as the hotel is connected to the city centre through from 'Spaghetti Junction' to the city centre. Also, the hotel has its own car park, connected to the hotel by a covered footbridge.

Room rates

Room rates at the Royal Angus will be £5.25 a night for a single room and £4.50 a night per person occupying a double or twin-bedded room. These rates include continental breakfast, VAT and Service Charge. Full English breakfast will be available to convention members at an extra 60p. These rates are final and not subject to any increases that will occur between now and November.

Dates

After the controversy caused by last year's break in progress, NOVACON 5 will be held in the official month of November. It will commence on the evening of Friday November 7th and continue through to Sunday afternoon on the 9th.

THE COMMITTEE

Your committee for NOVACON 5 is, in alphabetical order:-

Ray Bradbury - the Birmingham fan with the famous name. Committee member on the very first NOVACON and last year designed and produced the NOVA Award.

Dr Jack Cohen - was chairman of NOVACON 4 and this year will be helping us out with contacts in the non-SF world.

Pauline E Dugate - committee member on NOVACONS 1 and 4 and Chairman of NOVACON 2. Pauline is our Treasurer and will be handling all registrations and hotel booking forms.

Robert Hoffman - was on committee of NOVACON 4 which also was his first convention.

Laurence Miller - a newcomer to convention committees. Attended NOVACON 4 and more recently the first FANTASYCON.

Arline Peyton - took over as secretary of NOVACON 4 after the untimely death of Gillon Field. Doing the same job this year.

Rog Peyton - previously on committees for the 1965 and 1971 Easter Conventions and last year helped out on NOVACON 4. Chairman of NOVACON 5.

Addresses

All correspondence relating to registrations and - later in the year - hotel bookings should be addressed to Pauline E Dugate, 4 Lindaworth Court, Monyhull Hall Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3QS. All correspondence relating to the programme, advertising, etc. to the Chairman, Roger G Peyton, 131 Gillhurst Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 8PG.

THE NOVA AWARD

The NOVA Award for the best fanzine produced in the United Kingdom will again be presented at NOVACON 5. Make sure that this Award is a continuing success by nominating the fanzine of your choice. All nominations and queries, etc. to be sent to the Award Administrator, Hazel C Reynolds, 40 Portia Avenue, Shirley, Solihull, Warks. and not to the NOVACON 5 committee.

WANTED - RUBBISH

As with all conventions, one of the main sources of income is the proceeds of the auction. NOVACON 5 will be no exception. We will need donations of material - books, magazines, fanzines, artwork, posters. In fact, anything and everything of interest to the science fiction/fantasy fan. We are not collecting material yet but this is just a reminder that when you are about to throw away your unwanted complete collection of ASTOUNDING/ANALOG, it may bring a few extra pence at our auction. If you do have anything of value to sell, we are prepared to sell items at the convention on a commission basis, but we must know well before the convention so that we can send out for postal bids.

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The following is a list of all persons registered for NOVACON 5. This includes those who have registered for NOVACON 5, those who have registered for NOVACON 5 and those who have registered for NOVACON 5. Please note that the list is in alphabetical order of surnames. Abbreviations are: (UK) - United Kingdom; (I) - Italy; (W) - West Germany; (F) - France; (A) - Australia; (C) - Canada; (S) - South Africa; (NZ) - New Zealand; (J) - Japan; (E) - Europe; (O) - Other.

1. Bob Payne
2. Bob Payne
3. Arlene Peyton
4. Pauline Duggan
5. Jack Cohen
6. Lawrence Hillier
7. Robert Hoffman
8. Chris Morgan
9. Vernon Brown
10. Dave Snow
11. Bernard Peake
12. Howard Rowanblum
13. Brian Hampton
14. The British Group
15. Robert Jackson
16. David Sprou
17. Jeffrey Harber
18. Simon Jackson (B)
19. Caroline de Koning (B)
20. Vera Johnson

21. John Snow
22. Tony Durr
23. Max Durr
24. David Denton
25. Michael Brown
26. Jim W. Fleming (E)
27. C. W. Johnson
28. Arthur Doughton
29. David Doughton
30. Raymond Taylor
31. Dave Kyla
32. Chris Fowler
33. Eddie Shaw
34. Bob Shaw
35. Marcus Howland
36. Brian Burgess
37. Norman Woodall
38. Wendy Crutenden
39. Pat Harker
40. Michael Harker

Members will only be those who have registered for NOVACON 5. Please note that the list is in alphabetical order of surnames. Abbreviations are: (UK) - United Kingdom; (I) - Italy; (W) - West Germany; (F) - France; (A) - Australia; (C) - Canada; (S) - South Africa; (NZ) - New Zealand; (J) - Japan; (E) - Europe; (O) - Other.

CONVENTION MEMBERS

41. Keith Owen
42. Keith Owen
43. David Lawrence
44. Richard Doughton
45. David Doughton
46. Peter Harker
47. Peter Harker
48. David Harker
49. David Harker
50. John MacFarlane (G)
51. Brian Elton
52. Sean Elton
53. Phil Rose
54. James Vernon
55. Ken Sinker
56. John Steward
57. Dave Langford
58. Derek Salter
59. Phil Johnson
60. Andrew Stephenson

61. John Piggott
62. Keith Owen
63. Davey Owen
64. Ron Bennett
65. Ian Williams
66. Charles Winston
67. Ian Maule
68. Marsha Jones
69. Eddie Jones
70. Eddie Barker
71. Sue Barker
72. Michael Damsick
73. Joan Cassidy
74. Richard Hands
75. John Bessling
76. R. Gibberd
77. Jim Bessling
78. Richard Wilkes
79. Graham Dullock

DON'T DELAY — REGISTER NOW!

To: Pauline E Duggan, Treasurer, NOVACON 5, 4 Lindsworth Court, Monlyhull Hall Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3QS.

I/We wish to register for NOVACON 5 (7th to 9th November 1975). I/We enclose £ (75p per person) registration fee(s).

Please make cheques, postal orders, etc., payable to NOVACON 5.

NAME(S): (1) _____
(in block capitals please)

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

ADDRESS: _____

THE 75p REGISTRATION FEE ENTITLES YOU TO ALL PROGRESS REPORTS AND A COPY OF THE PROGRAMME BOOKLET AND IS DEDUCTED FROM YOUR ENTRANCE FEE IF YOU ATTEND THE CONVENTION.

NOVACON 5 ARTSHOW

With magazines like SCIENCE FICTION MONTHLY and new books like 100 YEARS OF SCIENCE FICTION ILLUSTRATIONS, the visual side of science fiction is having far greater impact than ever before. Paperback covers today are vastly superior to those of, say, twenty years ago. Now, the covers are works of art in their own right - not simply splashes of colour feebly attempting to look 'abstract'. Today, the original paintings used on paperback and magazine covers are highly prized possessions fetching between £15 and £60 (and more!) each in convention auctions. At NOVACON 5 we will be having the usual art show - we hope that we will be showing some of the best artwork around. Last year we had original art by Eddie Jones and David Hardy, both excellent artists in the field. This year we hope to give them some competition by having artwork by Chris Foss, Bruce Pennington, Peter Jones, etc.

There will of course be room for artists who wish only to display and not sell their work, as well as sections for 'fanzine' artwork.

Details are not finalized yet but there will be cash prizes for artwork at NOVACON 5.

FANTASYCON

Yet another British Convention! The first FANTASYCON, hopefully the precursor of larger things, was held at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham on Saturday, February 22nd.

Approximately 50 members of the British Fantasy Society gathered in the convention hall to hold their Annual General Meeting on the Saturday morning.

After lunch, the programme consisted of panel discussions and an extremely good talk on H P Lovecraft by Ramsey Campbell.

Available at the convention was an interesting and well-produced programme booklet (15p) containing a couple of articles and a selection of biographies.

Anyone wishing to join or simply enquire about the British Fantasy Society should write to the Secretary, Sandra Suttan, 194 Station Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7TE.

SMALL ADS

(available to convention members at 10 per word - names and addresses free)

WANTED - For trade or cash: THIS FORTRESS WORLD - James Gunn (1968) (Penguin); THE STAR WALKER - John Gardner (1968) (Penguin); THE GREAT SILENT WAR (1968) (Penguin); REVOLT ON ALPHA 5 (1968) (Penguin) by TERRA (Ace) - all by Silverberg; THE PLOT AGAINST EARTH - Calvin M Knox (Ace); THE GOLDEN SLAVE - Poul Anderson (Avon); BRAIN TWISTER - Mark Phillips (Pyramid) - Rog Peyton, 151 Giltburst Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 8PG.

WANTED - L Ron Hubbard books...FROM DEATH TO THE STARS (PFC1) and SCIENCE FANTASY QUINTET (PFC1) - Laurence Miller, 10 Peartree Court, Bishop Ashury Crescent, Great Barr, B'ham B43 6HL.

PERSONAL

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STOP PRESS

CURRYCON 1 Postponed! Due to unforeseen circumstances (there is no April 31st this year) CURRYCON 1 will now be held on November 31st 1975

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