

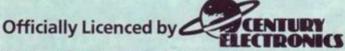






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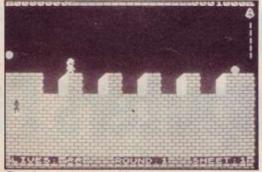
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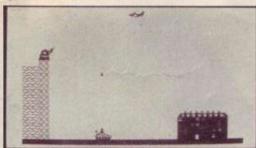
Devonts



Software shortlist: page 89



Quazimodo: page 132.



Dam splat: page 168.



Above: ZX-81 bubble sort: page 183. Below: The spirit of Christmas to come.



Electric Globe by Tony Bassett. 01-328 3861.

- COMPETITION: Bumper Christmas Competition! Win a £1200 Advance B! A £400 Advance A! Activision-Atari sets! Fun, fun, fun!
- EDITORIAL AND YOUR LETTERS: A Spectrum owner with technical difficulties; Tim Hartnell lambasted, and Vic-20 load command problem solved.
- NEWS: Oh no, it's Trevor; dating games to embarrass Auntie; new generation machines from Japan and plug-in expansion box for the Electron.
- YOUR COMPUTER CHRISTMAS FAIR: Glad tidings of great joy Your Computer's very first Christmas Fair all to itself. We preview the gifts to be bestowed.
- COMPUTER CLUB: Paul Bond FIRST BYTES: Our introduction for micro novices: databases and sorting. floats down the Cam.
- SOFTWARE SHORTLIST: My name is uncle Groucho, you win a fat cigar; or you can plumb the depths of Cyrus or drive a big fast car. The latest commercial software.
- ON THE GRID: A long hard look at what you get for between £100 and £400. Your Computer takes 13 machines including the Atari 600XL, Sord and BBC on the road.
- PRINTER SURVEY: From the cheapest £40 black and white thermal printer to a firsttime review of the Tandy ink-jet full-colour printer. David Horne rolls the presses.
- COMMODORE SOFTWARE SURVEY: The wide range of software available for Commodore's trusty Vic-20 and the newer CBM-64 leaves Peter Connor breathless.
- THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS TO COME: Martin Soble peers through a glass darkly into 1984. Meirion Jones' grim spectre confronts the makers.
- BBC CHRISTMAS CAROLS: Save the wassail. Andrew Bindon coaxes tidings of comfort and joy from the BBC Micro. Guaranteed to warm the hearts of frozen cherubs.
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- DRAW: A relocatable vector drawing facility a bit like the one on the Spectrum. David King puts back into the ZX-81 what the printer routines took out.
- ORIC DISASSEMBLER: Mike VIC TRICKS: Amaze your friends with John Ransley's routines. Shackleton converts mnemonics.
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- BBC FRUITWORM: Mind the bricks and rocks or you will never grow up to be a nice big slimy creature. Shingo Sugiura demonstrates that even a worm will turn.
- DRAGON SCREEN KIT: Sound CBM-64 DAM SLAM: Simon and vision by Damian Clancy. Scott drowns the secret state police.
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- ZX-81 BUBBLE SORT: Not shell sorting or file inversion. Andy Scott rearranges numbers or strings into ascending or descending alphanumerical order.
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- BBC HEARTSTOP: John Dawson's continuing story of everyday life in a general hospital. Can you keep the patients alive despite impending health cuts?
- SOFTWARE FILE: A festive feast RESPONSE FRAME: Tim of fun Oric, CBM-64, BBC etc. Hartnell reassures worried users.
- COMPETITION CORNER: The winner of October's competition for a an Atari 600XL is announced. No brain-teaser this time because of the big competition.
- DATEBASE: Microcomputer events of every conceivable magnitude anywhere in the known universe. Let us know of anything happening in your area.







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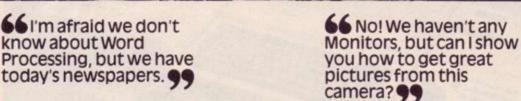
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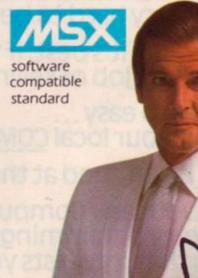
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90K * 256K * *	YES 32K * * * * 256K * *	YES 64K 64K	ADDITIONAL COST 48K NO	7 NO 64K N/A	NO 32K 32K	YES 32K 64K	NO 16K 48K
87	71	63	61	66	73	53	40
YES YES YES	YES YES YES	NO NO YES	NO YES YES	NO YES YES	NO YES YES	NO YES YES	N/A NO YES YES
YES NO	YES YES	NO NO	YES NO	NO NO	NO NO	YES	NO NO
256×192 32 3	256x192 32 3	280 x 160 N/A 1	320 x 192	320 x 200 8 3	256 x 640 N/A	256 x 192 16 3	256 x 192 N/A
YES	YES	NO NO	NO NO	YES	3 YES	5 NO	NO NO
2 CHANNEL YES YES 256K	2 CHANNEL YES YES 256K	1 CHANNEL NO NO 143K	2 CHANNEL YES NO 92K	1 CHANNEL NO NO 170K	2 CHANNEL NO NO 100K	2 CHANNEL YES NO 100K	1 NO NO 100K
YES	YES	NO****	NO NO	NO	NO YES	NO NO	NO
	8V 328 48K 96K YES 80K** 256K** 87 10 YES YES YES NO 16 256x192 32 3 8 YES 2 CHANNEL YES YES 256K	48K 32K 96K 96K 96K YES 96K	### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##	### SV 328	### SV 328	### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##	### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##

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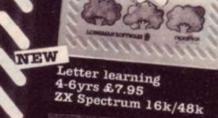
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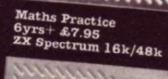
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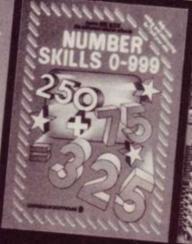


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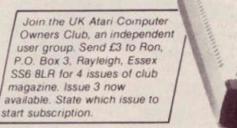
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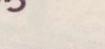
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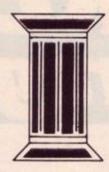
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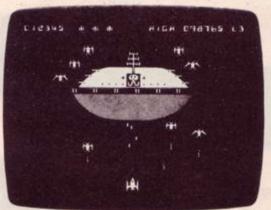
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Colour Genie is now one of the most successful home computers that you can buy.

Not just because of price.

But simply because more families are realising that a computer with less all-round performance than the 32K Colour Genie is a waste of money and not so rewarding.

After all, you cannot tell what will interest you most until you've tried everything computers can offer you.

Some others ask you to compare the technical facts. Well, to give them all a surprise we've published some of 32K Colour Genie's most important features.

But for the less technical, here are a few other important questions and answers.

WHY YOU CAN'T BUY A COLOUR GENIE AT THE CORNER SHOP

You see, ALL computers are more complex than they first appear.

So when you start computing, you do need a bit of help. A Saturday shop assistant is NOT the right person to go to.

To ensure that you obtain the answers to any doubts or questions you may have about computers, a list of the many Genie specialists appears below. But if you have any problem whatsoever, get in touch with us at Lowe Computers — we're here to help.

- Design efficiency. 95% of RAM is available for user memory
- 16K ROM with Microsoft Colour BASIC Extended
- Forth (optional)
- 256 predefined characters with 128 more you can program yourself. A massive 256 can be displayed at any one time
- Repeat operates on all 63 keys
- 4 function keys giving 8 user programmable statements
- Full editing and tracing facilities for de-bugging
- Screen resolution of 320 x 200 with text and graphics
- Or 160 x 102 individually addressable pixels in 4 colours

WHY OUR 32K CAN MEAN A LOT MORE THAN EVEN THE MOST RECENT COMPETITORS

It's easy to quote big memory numbers like 32K. In many other popular computers of that size, it is not so easy to use it all

Even some of the newest models let you use little more than two thirds of the user memory. The other third is snatched away to drive the computer.

- Screen display, 25 rows of 40 characters
- 16 colours (8 full, plus 8 tints)
- 80 commands plus more than 40 graphics, arithmetic and special functions
- 8 octaves, independent on each of 3 separate sound channels with independent volume, duration and envelope on each channel
- Full synthesised sound effects via separate T.V. or Hi-Fi output ports
- Cartridge based software
- Prestel/Viewdata modern. Software cartridge loaded for fast system access
- Floppy disc system
- Superb digital joysticks, with numeric pads and two fire buttons.

Colour Genie has the type of "drive" facility that you would expect to find on a computer costing around £400. It uses less than 5% of RAM -giving you as much as 30K for more exciting games and more useful applications.

WHY GOOD PICTURES CAN BE MORE COLOURFUL ON THE COLOUR GENIE

Many other computers offer several modes. These give high resolutions but at a cost.

On some, high resolution uses so much RAM that you get only 2 colours, and very little memory left to play with.

But Colour Genie has got other ideas to let you have the good quality picture effect of high resolution (320 x 200 for the technical). AND FULL COLOUR

THIS IS HOW IT WORKS

Colour Genie lets you create as many as 128 different shapes that it tucks away in its memory, in addition to the 128 shapes it has permanently stored (you can see 64 of them on the keys in the photograph).

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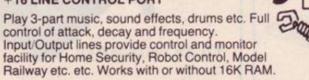
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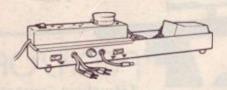
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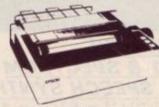
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Epson RX80 £326 (£309) £340. Epson RX80 £71 £346 (£316) £346. Shinwa CT1 CP80 £293 £271) £312. Epson FX80 £440 £448 £438. Epson MX100/3 £494 £465) £495. Seikosha GP100A £234 £219) £254. Oki Microline 80 £243 £227) £268. Oki Microline 84 £831. The Ultra 21 combined daisy wheel and electric typewriter £438 £415) £445. The brother £P22 combined matrix printer and electric typewriter £173 £166) £186. Juki 6100 proportional daisy wheel printer £423 £404) £434. MCP40 colour printer £134 £123 £140. Star STX80 thermal printer £165 £159) £169. We can supply interfaces to run all the above from Sharp computers £58 £52) £55.

UK101 AND SUPERBOARD

We still support these gorgeous machines. Write for our tempting list of

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Inside...
New Interface 2
and ROM cartridges!
New Software!

TAKING NEW SOFTWARE IN NEW DIRECTIONS

You'll see that this issue of Sinclair Special devotes considerable space to software. Why, when we've so much to say about hardware and peripherals? Simply because at Sinclair we believe in supporting first-class hardware with first-class software.

This month sees the start of a new commitment to education in our catalogue, both for adults and children.

In the field of micro theory, we've programs like Beyond BASIC and Make-a-Chip, which take you from the creation of simple ZX® assembler subsets to simulated circuit design projects.

There's Musicmaster, to teach you music terminology, note values and composition.

And if you're keen to beat your Spectrum at chess (which can be hard), you'll certainly want to try Chess Tutor 1, the first program in a complete chess masterclass.

Coming soon...

In the pipeline are many new releases, some of which break completely new ground. LOGO and micro-PROLOG for instance. They're fifth generation languages which will take you and your Spectrum closer than ever before to the creation and application of artificial intelligence.

A formal agreement between Sinclair and Macmillan Education has been announced, the first results of which will be published this autumn. These consist of five programs in a complete early reading course plus the first four of a series of programs based on Macmillan's top selling Science Horizons Scheme. All programs are designed for use in schools or the home.

And with Blackboard software, we're publishing six more home education programs for primary school children. Covering alphabet, spelling and punctuation, each of these programs is a true gem, unlike any other education software, and fascinating to run. Even for adults!

I believe that these new titles represent a major advance in educational software for the home.

New ROM software too!

You may well have heard news of ZX Interface 2[®] and ROM cartridge programs. You'll find full details of the Interface and its software on the facing page (and there's an order form on the back page too!). These offer an instant games playing facility at unbeatable prices, and expand the possibilities of using your Spectrum in yet another direction.

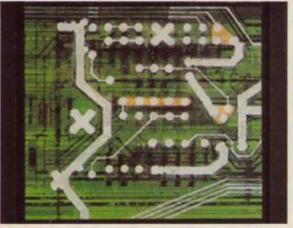
Alison Magnire

Alison Maguire
Applications Software Manager

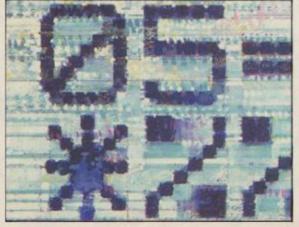
SOFTWARE UPDATE

The latest cassette software for ZX® Computers









Chess Tutor 1 For 48K RAM Spectrum. £9.95.

Chess Tutor is a new way of learning all about chess – using your ZX Spectrum.®

It starts from the beginning by teaching you about the chess pieces and the way they move – including castling, en passant, promotion, check, checkmate, stalemate and perpetual check.

Then it teaches you the basic tactics - pins, forks, double attacks and skewers.

There are over 120 exercises and over 200 questions for you to answer – with demonstrations and hints from your ZX Spectrum when you want them.

You can choose which parts of the course you want – and even experienced players may be surprised at what they can learn from Chess Tutor.

Musicmaster For 48K RAM Spectrum. £9.95.

Musicmaster turns your ZX Spectrum into a musical instrument which will not only play tunes, but will also demonstrate key signatures, durations of notes, and scales.

You can write your own tunes – in any key – play them over and over again, save them on tape, modify them.

You can either write your music on a stave, or place a simple overlay on your Spectrum for a 17-note keyboard.

Make-a-Chip For 48K RAM Spectrum. £9.95.

Make-a-Chip teaches you the basic elements of circuit design, shows you how they fit together, and then lets you design and test your own circuits.

When you have designed a circuit, you can give it inputs and outputs and your ZX Spectrum will check it for you. Then it will run it, or tell you what's wrong so that you can modify it.

Make-a-Chip is a fascinating way of finding out how computer logic works.

Print Utilities For 16K and 48K RAM Spectrum. £9.95.

Increase the printing and display facilities of your ZX Spectrum with the Print Utilities program.

Print Utilities enables you to enhance your programs by generating characters of eight different sizes which you can place anywhere on your screen.

Beyond BASIC For 48K RAM-Spectrum. £9.95.

Takes the agony out of assembler. Takes the mystery out of machine code.

Beyond BASIC gives you a deeper insight into the workings of your ZX Spectrum. It explains what happens inside your micro when you run a program, and it teaches you simple Z80 machine code programming.

A major feature of Beyond BASIC is that it enables you to write your own Z80 assembler programs – then you can actually see on your screen how they affect the ZX Spectrum memory and registers.

ZX INTERFACE 2°

The New ROM Cartridge/Joystick Interface

Loads programs instantly! Takes two joysticks! Just plug-in and play!

The ZX Interface 2 is the latest new peripheral for the ZX Spectrum® system. It enables you to use new ZX® ROM cartridge software: plug-in programs that load instantly. It allows you to use two standard joysticks, without the need for separate, special interfaces.

To use new ZX ROM cartridge programs, just connect Interface 2 to the rear of your Spectrum or Interface 1 and plug in the cartridge of your choice. The program is then loaded, ready to run!

You can use any joystick that has a 9-way D plug. Use one or two of them for extra fun with ZX ROM cartridge or Sinclair cassette programs – or with dozens of other Spectrum-compatible programs!



...AND BRAND NEW ROM CARTRIDGE SOFTWARE!

There's already plenty of choice of ZX ROM cartridge programs for your Spectrum. Some are old favourites, in an exciting new form. Others are new.

And now, thanks to ROM cartridge technology, you can run them all on a 16K RAM Spectrum, even if they were originally written only for 48K machines!

Every ROM cartridge program loads fast and faultlessly. No wires, no waiting, no worries about loading errors! All of them are affordably priced too, at £14.95.

Backgammon



Everything you need to play the famous and deceptively simple board game. Board, stones, rolling dice

and doubling dice are shown in full colour and high resolution. Choose from four levels of skill to suit experts and beginners alike – full rules are included.

Space Raiders



Your skill is all that's stopping successive waves of aliens from destroying Earth. Use your gun base

to attack. Shelter behind buildings... move out and blast the passing alien soaceship!

Full-colour high-resolution graphics with sound.

New! PSSST



Robbie the Robot sits in his garden. Help him fetch compost to cultivate his prize Thyrgodian Megga Chrysanthodil. Help

him make the right choice of pesticide, to ward off devilish insects. Stop the insects breeding to overwhelming numbers before Robbie's plant has bloomed. PSSST is horticulture with a horrendous twist!

One and two player option, with a host of features including sound effects.

Planetoids



Dodge and swerve using your thrust button, turn on a planetoid...fire! But beware – the alien ship moves

fast to destroy you with cluster bombs. And when it comes to the crunch, use your hyperspace button!

Full-colour high-resolution graphics with sound.

Hungry Horace



Horace is forever being chased around the park by guards.

He steals their lunch, eats path-

way flowers and creates chaos in the park by ringing the alarm!

You'll have to be quick to keep Horace out of trouble!

Full-colour high-resolution graphics with sound.

New! Tranz Am



Set in a future time ruled by cars and trophies, in a land where petrol replaces gold, and status is possession

of the 8 Great Cups of Ultimate.

Driving your Super Blown Red Racer, use your skill to outwit and crash the Deadly Black Turbos. Use your instruments to locate and collect the trophies – before you overheat or run out of fuel.

A program with outstanding multi-directional movement, graphic features, and a playing area equivalent to more than 600 times actual screen area.



Chess

This sophisticated program does everything you'd expect at board game level, and much more besides.

The high-resolution chessboard and pieces are arranged in a row and column system, so it's easy to key in your moves.

At any stage of the game you can request the computer to suggest a move, reverse roles or change the level of skill.

Full-colour high-resolution graphics.

Horace and the Spiders



Guide Horace on the hazardous journey to the cobwebbed house full of poisonous spiders.

Safely in the house, you must move along cobwebs, choose a spot...and jump on it! The spiders will be in a frenzy – scuttling to repair their precious web.

And when a spider is spinning a new section, you're safe to attack and destroy it!

Kill all the spiders, and a new web appears ... with even more spiders to catch.

Full-colour high-resolution graphics.

New! Cookie



You're Charlie the Chef, who keeps his ingredients locked in the larder. But if the ingredients escape, they

bring the inedible Nasties with

You must daze the escaping ingredients with flour bombs, and knock them into the mixing bowl. Stop them getting into the dustbin, at all costs! And beware of Nasties that get into the mixing bowl!

Cookie is fast-moving panic in the pantry, with a cast of real characters. A program to make you smile – and sweat!

New! Jet Pac

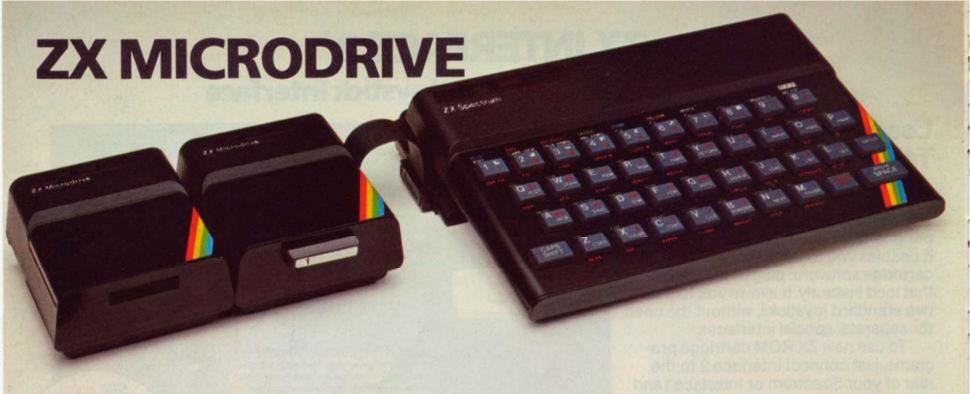


As Chief Test Pilot of the Acme Interstellar Transport Company, your task is to deliver and assemble spaceship

kits. On your way round the galaxy, you're free to collect precious stones and gold.

The catch? Rocket fuel is precious and scarce. And the aliens don't take kindly to the theft of their valuables. You'll need your wits and your lasers!

With a host of features, including multi-directional movement, explosions, sound effects and one and two player option.





NOW ON RELEASE

The ZX Microdrive System – as you'd expect from Sinclair – is unique to the world of computing. It's a compact, expandable add-on system which provides high-speed access to massive data storage. With just one Microdrive alone (and Interface 1), you'll have at least 85K bytes of storage, the ability to LOAD and SAVE in mere seconds, the beginnings of a local area network of up to 64 Spectrums, and a built-in RS232 interface! The cost? Less than £50 for each Microdrive.

How to get ZX Microdrive Spectrum owners who bought direct from us, by mail order, have been sent full details. Order forms are being mailed in strict rotation, so if you haven't yet received your order form please bear with us. We're making good progress in meeting the huge demand.

If you didn't buy your Spectrum by mail order, don't worry. Send us the form from the bottom of this page. We'll add your name to the mailing list, and send you details by return.

Each Microdrive costs £49.95.
Interface 1 costs £49.95, but just £29.95 if purchased with a ZX Microdrive. Extra ZX Microdrive cartridges: £4.95.

How to order

Simply fill in the relevant sections on the order form below. Note that there is no postage or packing to pay on some purchases. Orders may be sent FREEPOST (no stamp needed). Credit card holders may order by phone, calling 01-200 0200, 24 hours a day. 14-day money-back option, of course. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

[®]ZX, ZX Spectrum, ZX Interface and ZX Microdrive are all registered trade marks of Sinclair Research Ltd.



Sinclair Research Ltd, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3PS. Telephone: (0276) 685311.

ORDER FORM To: Sinclair Research Ltd, FREEPOST, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3BR. Section A: Hardware CASSETTE PROGRAMS for ZX Spectrum Chess Tutor 1 4308 9.95 Item Price Total Code Qty Item 3 4306 9.95 E7/S Musicmaster 4307 9.95 ZX Interface 2 8501 19.95 **E8/S Beyond BASIC** 9.95 ZX Spectrum - 48K 3000 129.95 E6/S Make-a-Chip 4305 ZX Spectrum - 16K 3002 99.95 L5/S **Print Utilities** 4404 9.95 Postage and packing: orders under £90 0028 2.95 3 JATOT 4.95 orders over £90 0029 I enclose a cheque/postal order made TOTALE payable to Sinclair Research Ltd for £. **ROM CARTRIDGE PROGRAMS** *Please charge to my Access/Barclaycard/Trustcard account no: G12/R Planetoids 14.95 5302 14.95 as applicable G9/R Space Raiders 5300 14.95 G13/R Hungry Horace 5303 Signature G24/R Horace and the Spiders 5305 14.95 G28/R PSSST 5307 14.95 Mr/Mrs/Miss G30/R Cookie 5309 14.95 G29/R Tranz Am 14.95 5308 14.95 G27/R Jet Pac 5306 5304 14.95 G22/R Backgammon 14.95 G10/R Chess 5301 YOC 911 (Please print)

ZX Microdrive information request

Please add my name to the Microdrive Mailing List, and send me a colour brochure with full specifications of ZX Microdrive/Interface 1 (tick here). You can use the above form to send us your name and address.



...with SCOPE Computer Graphics Language and write arcadestyle game programs to compete with the professionals.

HIS sensational SCORE utility and your Spectrum will unlock your imagination. It's amazingly simple and fast and enables you to write fastmoving games in MACHINE CODE:

SCOPE realises your potential and releases it. You'll amaze family and friends and surprise the professionals.

They said it couldn't be done.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

SCOPE is a fully structured multitask compiled language, specifically for writing arcade type games enabling you to program machine code without any knowledge of machine code.

SCOPE can be used as an assembler with SCOPE words as

plain language mnemonics, therefore no knowledge of machine code is required.

Each command word will write into the program memory the relevant machine code.

It is generated from BASIC and is fully compatible with BASIC.

The language from the user end is very easy to comprehend and is comprehensive, providing many features not available from BASIC. SCOPE has to be used to be believed.

- As fast as MACHINE CODE
- Simpler than BASIC
- ☐ Instruction Manual
- □£11.95

48K SPECTRUM

Marine de Authoris Au

Computer Graphics Language

Now, a home computer with virtually no limit to its possibilities. The astonishing new Sharp MZ700. A machine with a dazzling array of talents.

First, it's a 'clean' machine. So you are not limited to any one computer language. You have the flexibility to run and write programs in BASIC, FORTRAN, MACHINE CODE, PASCAL, ASSEMBLER and many others. And the MZ700's 512 predefined characters mean you can build up detailed pictures on the screen, without spending time specifying and designing special characters for games and special effects.

Second, it has a memory of 64K. So as your technique improves and develops, you are able to move forward to more and more advanced programming.

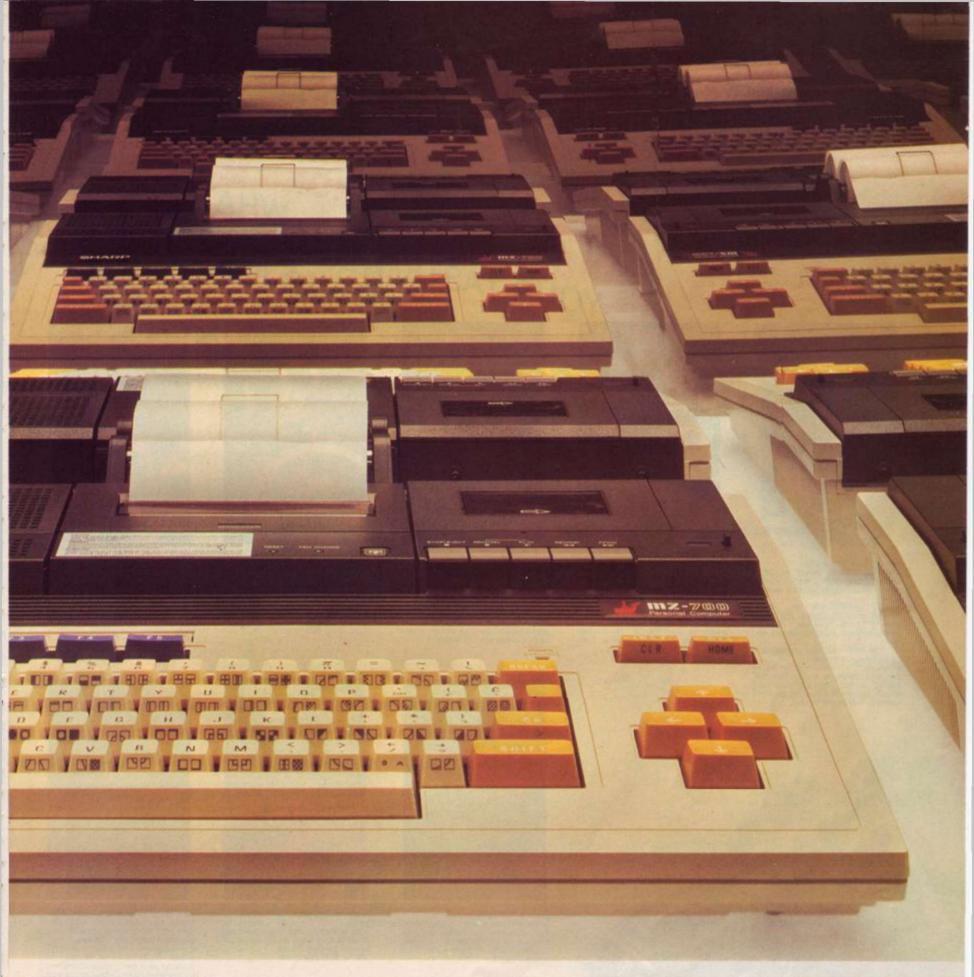
All of which makes this the perfect home computer for parents, as well as children.

The MZ700 gives you access to a wide



choice of new software, from only £3.95 per cassette. An additional plotter/printer, costing £129.95, can produce high resolution graphics in 4 colours. A data cassette recorder is an extra at £39.95. Both addons fit snugly into this easy to carry compact system with no trailing wires. And you get ten exciting games, free on purchase, including Super Puckman, Circus Star, Snake v. Snake, and Man-Hunt.

The brilliant new MZ700.
The no-limit computer. £249.95. From Sharp. Where great ideas come to life.



CPU:	Z80A	. 1
ROM:	Monitor 4K byte ROM Character generator 4K byte ROM	1
RAM:	64K byte D-RAM 4K byte V-RAM	
1/0 bus:	Expansion 1/0 bus Additional printer 1/0 bus Cassette READ/WRITE terminals Joystick terminals	1 2

RGB MONITOR/VIDEO MONITOR/RF OUTPUTS



Look for this logo on software denoting Sharp Compatible Software.

To: Sharp Electronics (UK) Ltd, Home Computer Division, Sharp House, Thorp Road, Newton Heath, Manchester M10 9BE. Tel: 061-205 2333

Please send me details of the Sharp MZ700.

Name ____ Address _

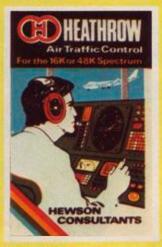
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The world of SHARP where great ideas come to life.

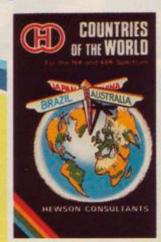




FOR SOFTWARE HAT CHALLENGES MIND WHATEVER DEXTERITY ... WHATEVER OUR TASTE, WE HAVE SOME THING FOR YOU THING FOR YOU















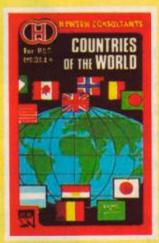




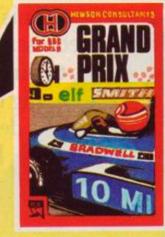


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BBC









DRAGON



Selected software available from JOHN MENZIES, SPECTRUM and all leading micro computer software retailers.

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We require high quality software for all the popular home computers. We pay top royalties.

Send in your programs today for fast evaluation and prompt reply.



40 BEST MACHINE CODE ROUTINES FOR THE ZX SPECTRUM by Andrew Hewson and

GOSUBs, GOTOs, RUN etc., many more.

20 BEST PROGRAMS FOR THE ZX SPECTRUM by Andrew Hewson Program titles include: Machine Code Editor Index File - filing system for the ZX Spectrum. Duckshoot Graphix — construct up to 210 graphics. Plus football, digitiser, diary and many more.

Please rush me (Tick boxes as required)

BBC NIGHTFLITE £6.95 3D SPACE-WARS £5.95 QUEST ADVENTURE £5.95

NIGHTFLITE £5.95 HEATHROW A.T.C. £7.95

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40 BEST MACHINE CODE ROUTINES £5.95

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Not all home computers stay at home.

The BBC Micro is the ideal family computer-simple to operate, yet fast, powerful,

with enormous potential.

But it's nice to know, when you buy one for your home, that the business, educational and scientific worlds agree with your choice.

Here are a few stories to illustrate how the BBC Micro gets out and about. And one to remind you how helpful it can be when it stays at home.

A practical lesson in business admin.

The contribution of the BBC
Micro in the classroom has long
been recognised at Perins Community
School in Hampshire.

The School has 12 BBC Micros used extensively across the syllabus: in fact some pupils are using them to study for their GCE O Levels in computing.

One of the programs available to Perins teachers

such as David Beck, pictured below with his class, is "Newsagent."

This program contains all the necessary information for the class to run a newsagent's shop; allowing them to organise daily deliveries, make up bills and keep an eye on stock control and ordering.

It's a nice example of how the BBC Micro can be used not only to acquaint

of computers, but also with some of the realities of the community in which they live.

Correcting
Jodrell Bank.
The BBC Micro is a
familiar worker around
Jodrell Bank.

You'll find it in the reception area explaining the workings of a radio telescope to visitors, for example.

But it's also been helping in a more testing task: to improve the performance of the Defford telescope.

In this application it has been used to make calculations necessary to determine the precise parabolic shape of the dish.

Theodolites are used to do the measuring—then the BBC Micro works out the necessary corrections.



The end of the scrawl.

If any of you have noticed how much easier it is to read and understand labels on drugs and medicines these days, then you can most probably thank the BBC Micro. John Richardson, a Preston pharmacist, was first to realise how a micro with a suitable printer could produce labels that were accurate and legible and which could include, automatically, such information as drug reaction warnings.

SPOONFULS DAY

PHARM

PARACETAMOL *

At the same time it could record drug usage for better stock control.

He chose the BBC Micro for its versatility and potential for expansion.

John Richardson believes that this system will be recognised as standard

in the profession and be used in hospitals, health centres and pharmacies throughout the UK.

Meanwhile back at home.

Dr. & Mrs. Yarwood bought a BBC Micro as a birthday present for their 12 year old daughter. programs. Mrs. Yarwood is particularly proud of one program she has compiled to help teach her daughter French vocabulary.

They all agree that although the Micro is fast and powerful enough to be at home

in Jodrell Bank, it is also the ideal computer at the Yarwood home: simple to set up (virtually any TV set and cassette player is all you need) and simple

to use.



All this for only £399.

The BBC Micro comes with a comprehensive, step-by-step User Guide which introduces you to your micro and shows you how to construct useful programs of your own.

You will also receive a free "Welcome" cassette which contains 15 different

programs for you to experiment with, ranging from music and graphics to games like Kingdom and Bat'n' Ball.

The BBC Micro is available from WH Smith Computer Shops, Boots, John Lewis and local Acorn stockists.

Alternatively if you would like to order one with your credit card or if you want the address of your nearest supplier just phone 01-200 0200 or 0933-79300.



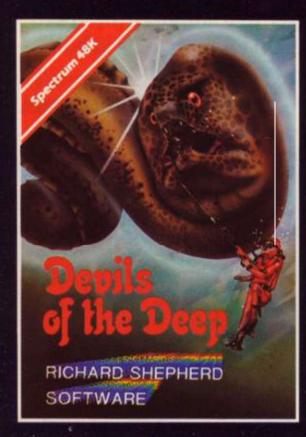
However, it quite quickly became common property.

All three can now write their own

The BBC Microcomputer System.

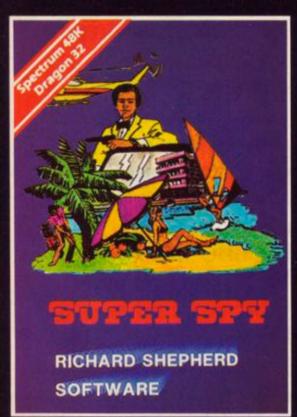
Designed, produced and distributed by Acorn Computers Limited.

"ADVENTURES INTO IMAGINATION"



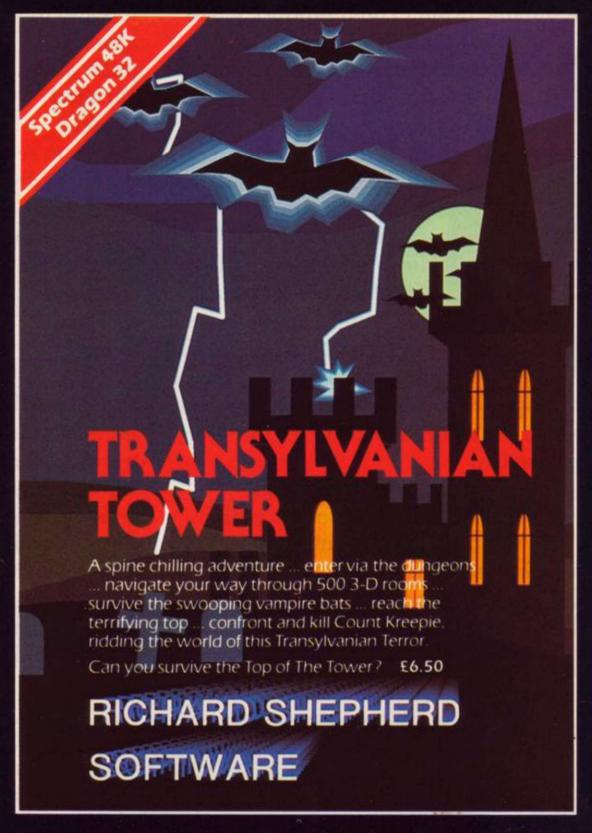
Devils of the Deep

Discover the secrets of Atlantis as you wander amongst its ancient columns. Explore the 100 deadly sectors of its treacherous seabed! Beware of giant eels! £6.50



Super Spy

Follow the trail of Dr. Death through complex puzzles, coded messages and 3-D mazes until you find his lair! But beware — even with your deathdefying gadgets you may not live to tell the tale! £6.50 CREDIT CARD HOTLINE 06286 63531 (24 HOURS)



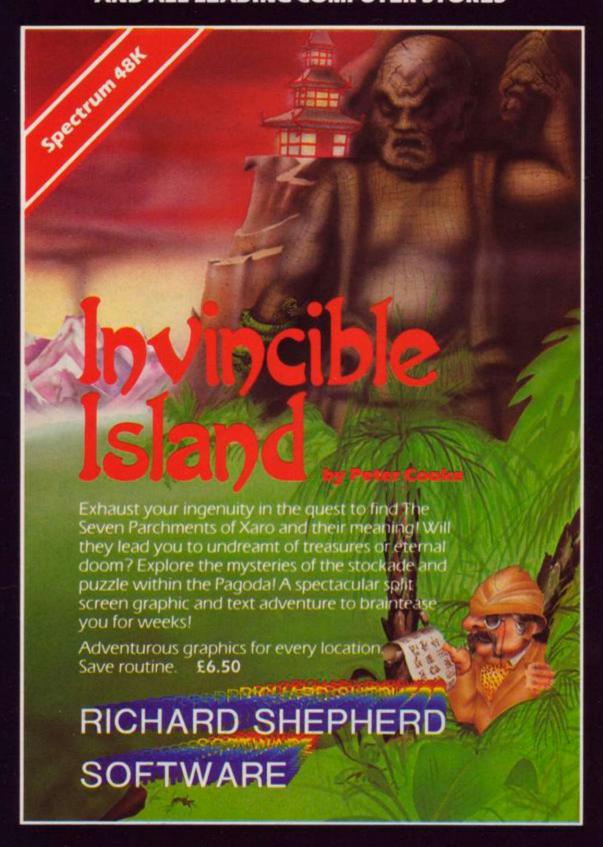
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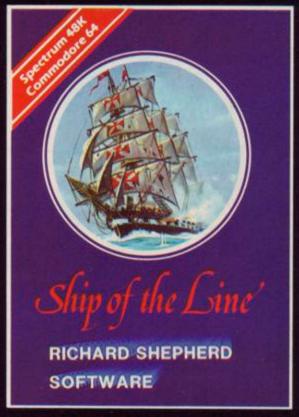
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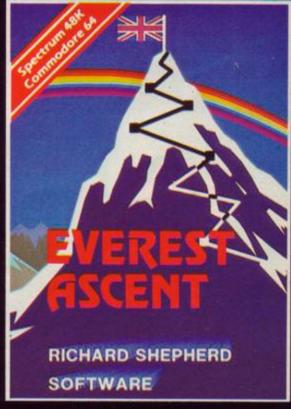


ELM HOUSE, 23-25 ELMSHOTT LANE, CIPPENHAM, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE.



Ship of the Line

Command a sailing ship, juggle your supplies, crew and firepower. Fearlessly battle your way up the admiralty ladder, bribe Sea Lords as necessary until you make First Sea Lord! £6.50

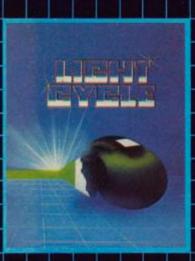


Everest Ascent

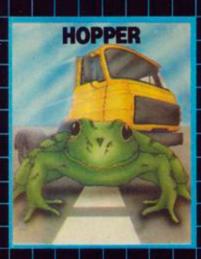
Conquer the world's highest peak in defiance of all the obstacles, man and nature can throw at you. Survive avalanches, cross bottomless crevasses, cope with wayward Sherpas — but don't run out of supplies! £6.50

Softuudre For THE ORIC 1.

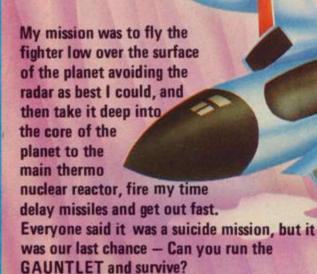












6.95



Approved by Oric Products International.

INVADERS

A superb example of this truly classic arcade game. Includes all the features of the original and much, much more.

6.95

LIGHT CYCLE

The MASTER CONTROL
PROGRAM has ordered you to
race your light cycle on the
infamous grid. This is an
incredibly fast, adrenalin
pumping game that is very
addictive. There is an option
to race against either another
player or the computer — but
we warn you its very very good!

6.95

THE ULTRA

You have been challenged to a duel to the death in outer space by the ULTRA, an evil race of mutants from the darkest depths of the galaxy. We dare you to accept their challenge!

This is a PURE arcade game and a must for all you alien zappers! 16 different screens make things really tricky.

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HOPPER

Help FERGUS and his friends across the highway avoiding the traffic, and then over the treacherous river on the backs of turtles and logs to the safety of the lilly pond.

Features include: 6 lanes of traffic, diving turtles, crocodiles & flies.

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CENTIPEDE

You are caught in a vicious jungle of giant insects. Centipedes are attacking you from all sides. Killer fleas are dropping from the sky, and to top things off there's a venemous spider lurking in the background. You only have your trusty laser cannon as defense.

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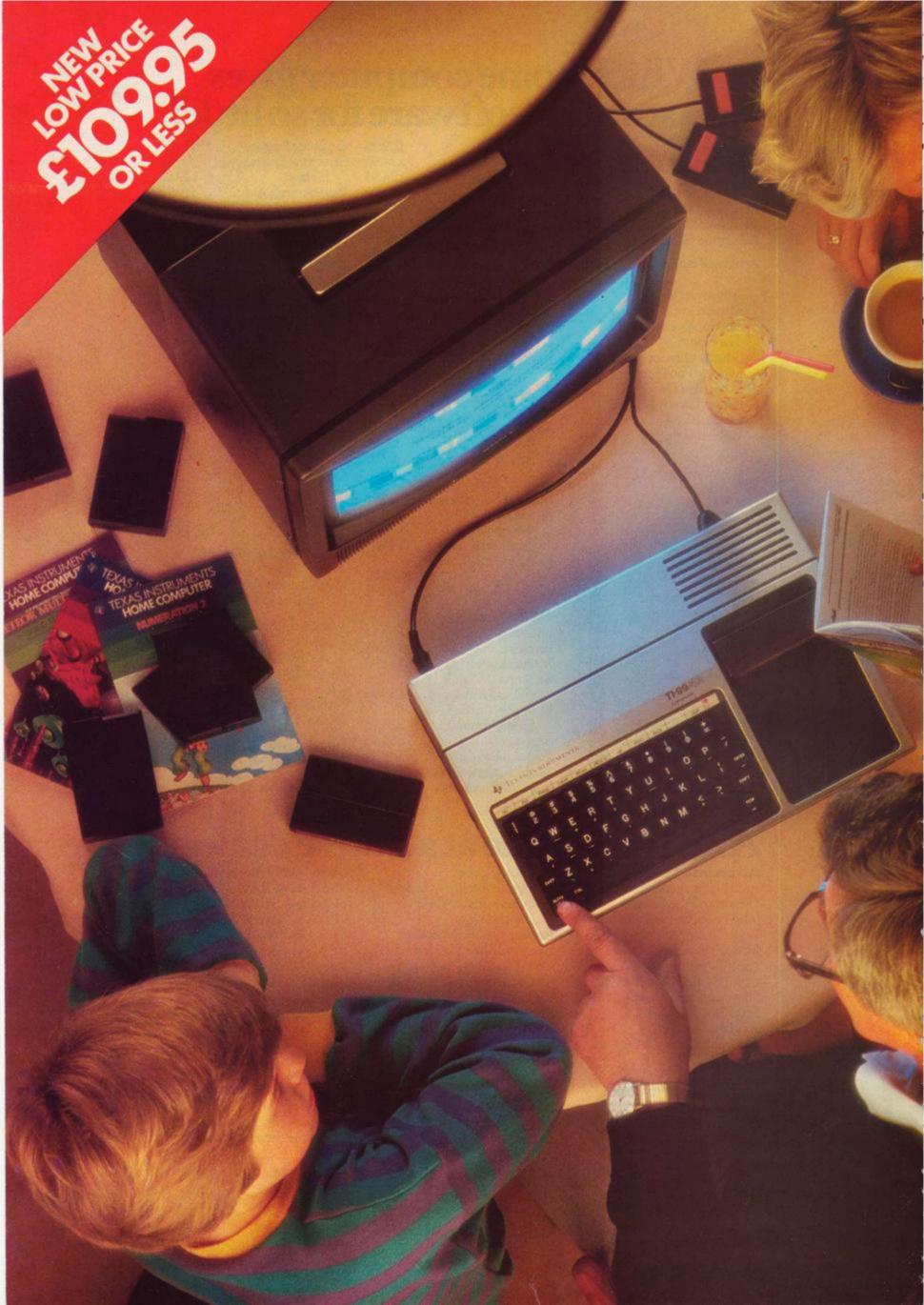
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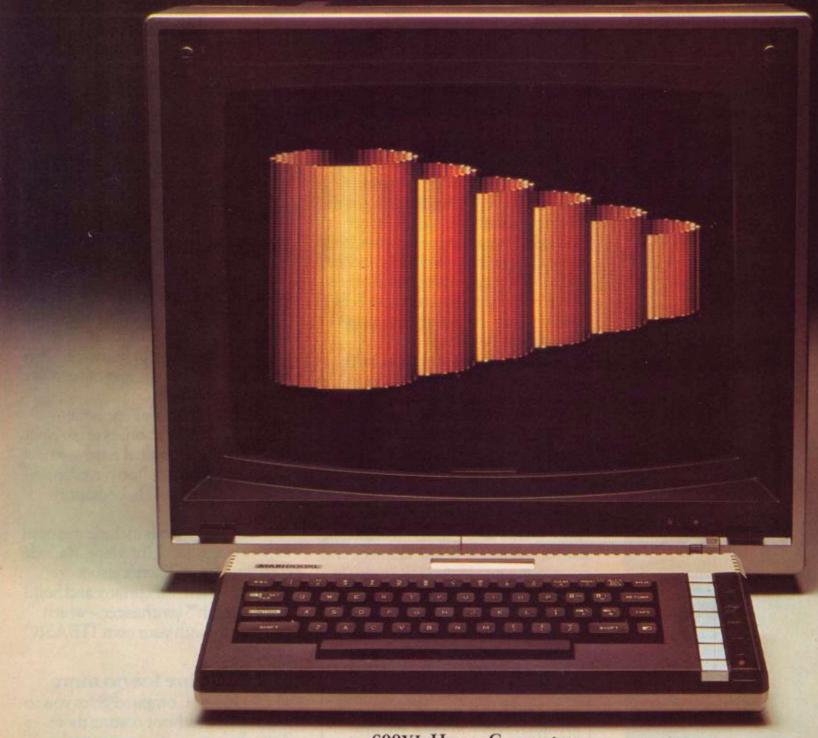
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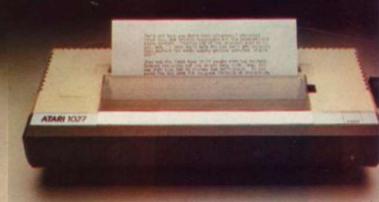
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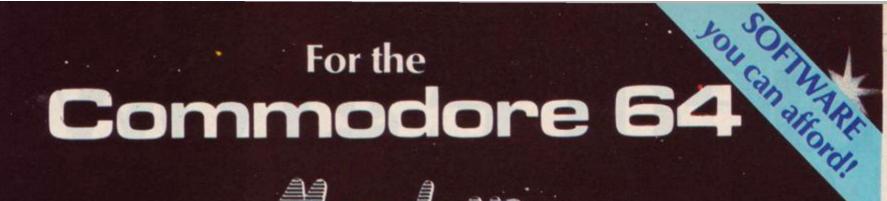
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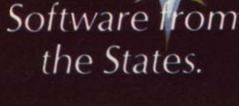
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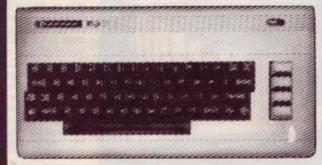
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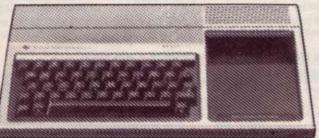
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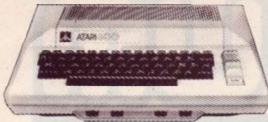
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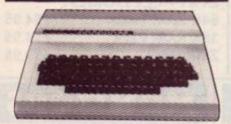
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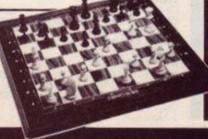
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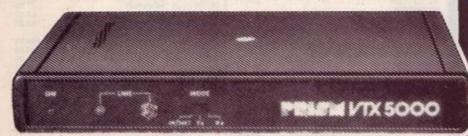
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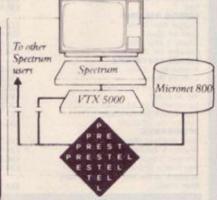
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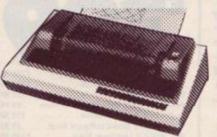
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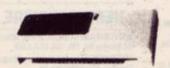
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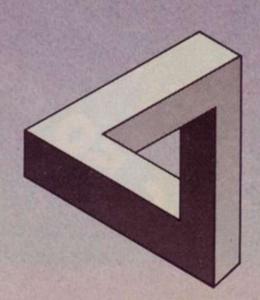
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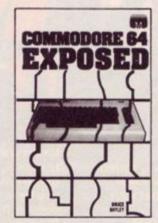
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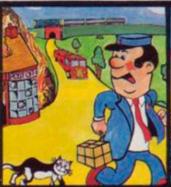
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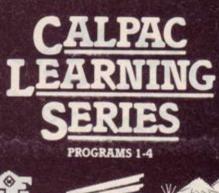
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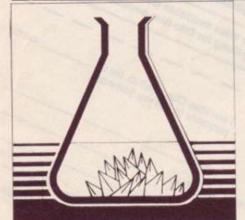
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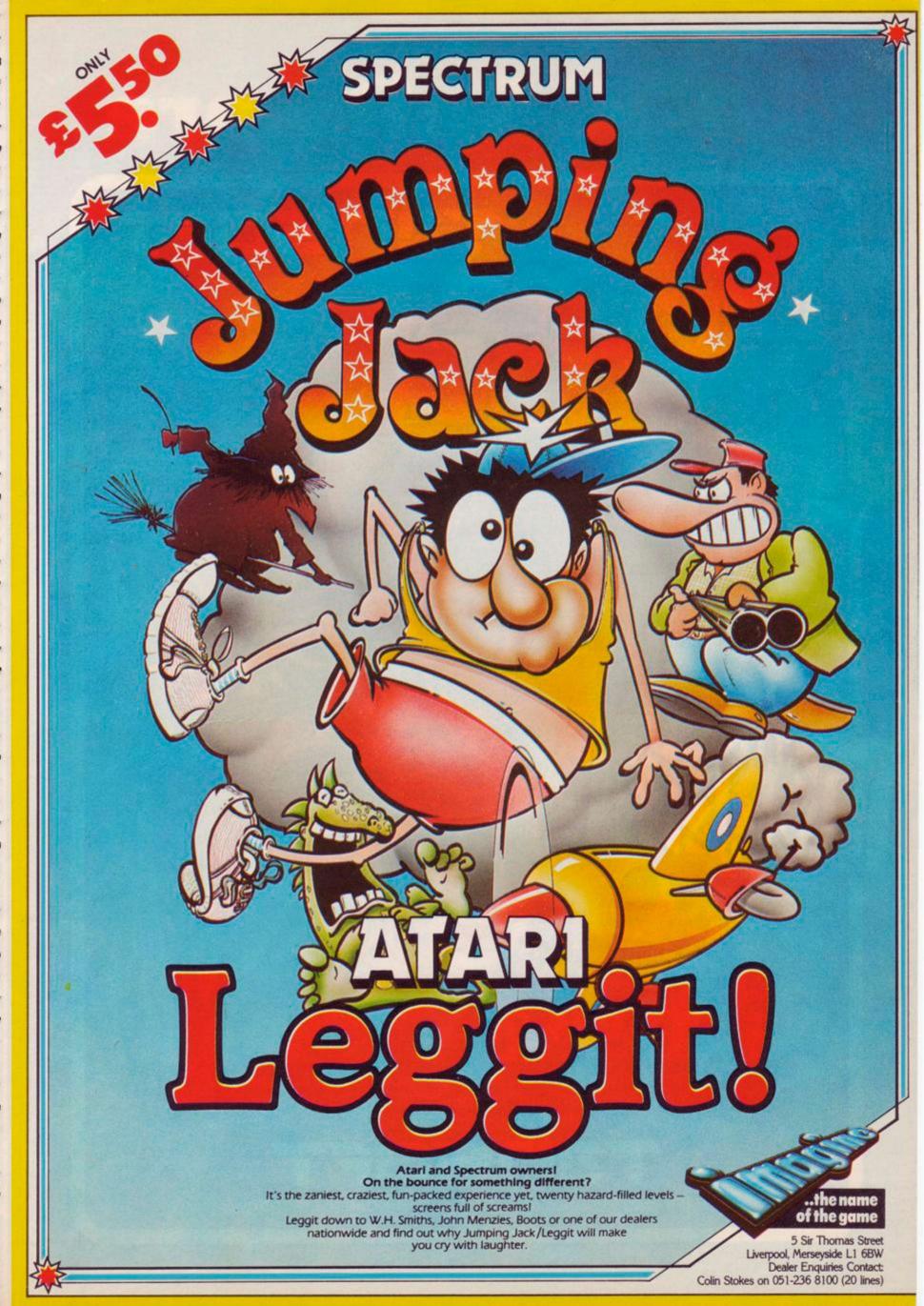


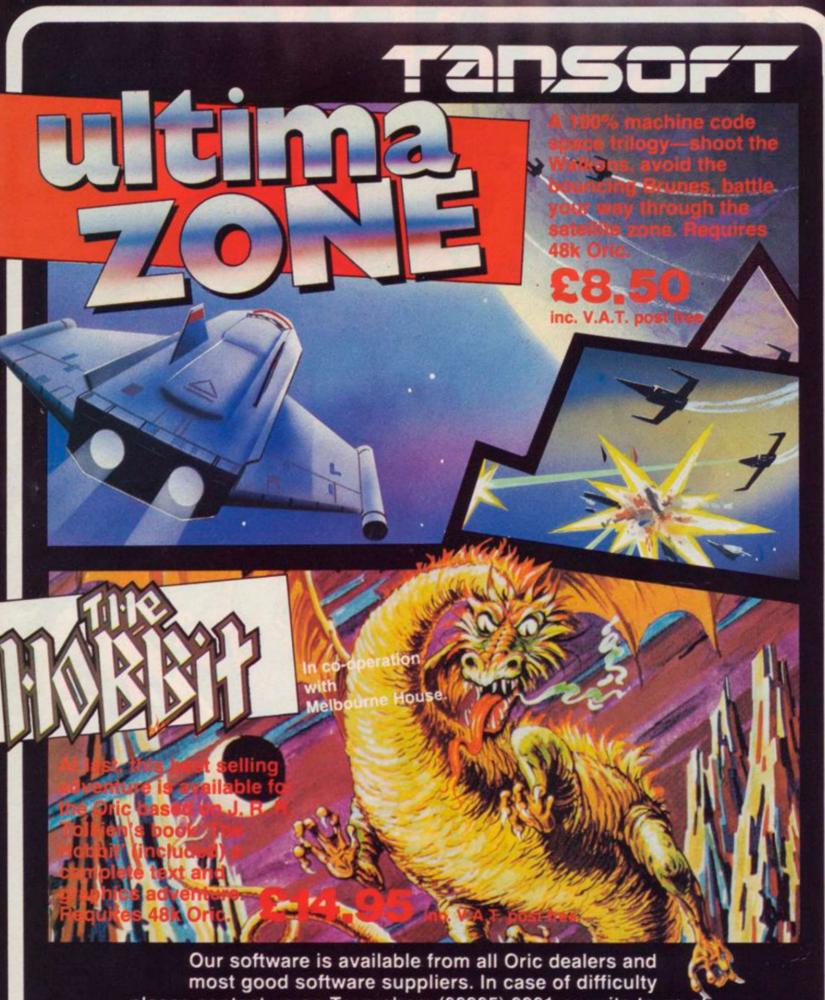
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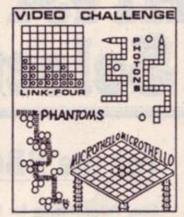


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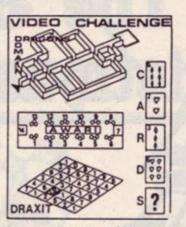
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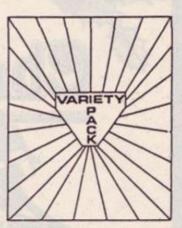
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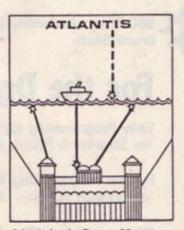
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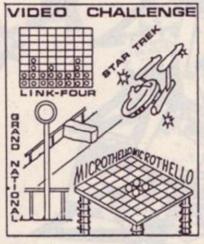
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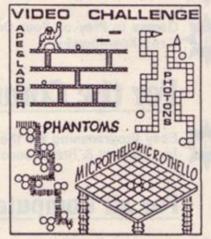


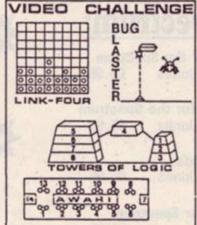
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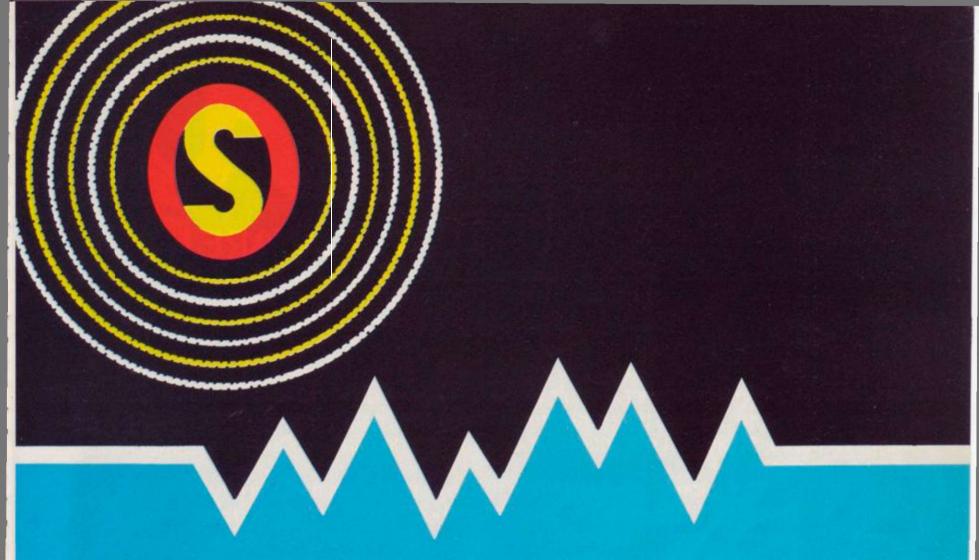
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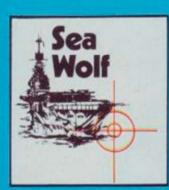
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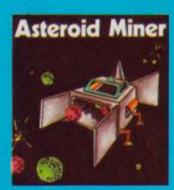
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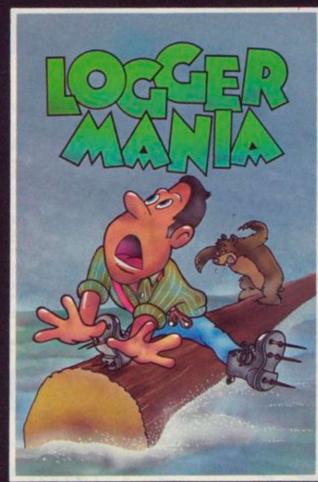
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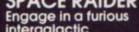
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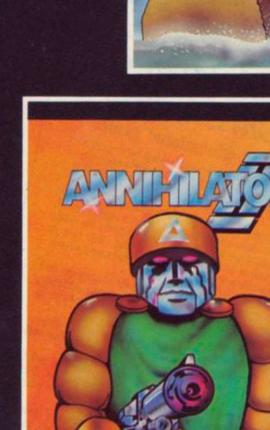


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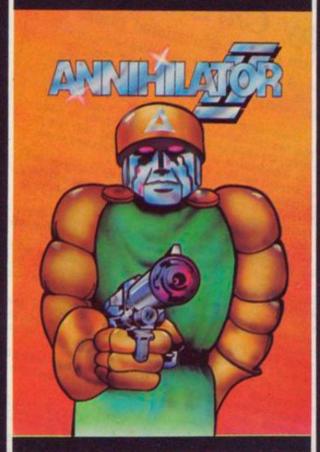


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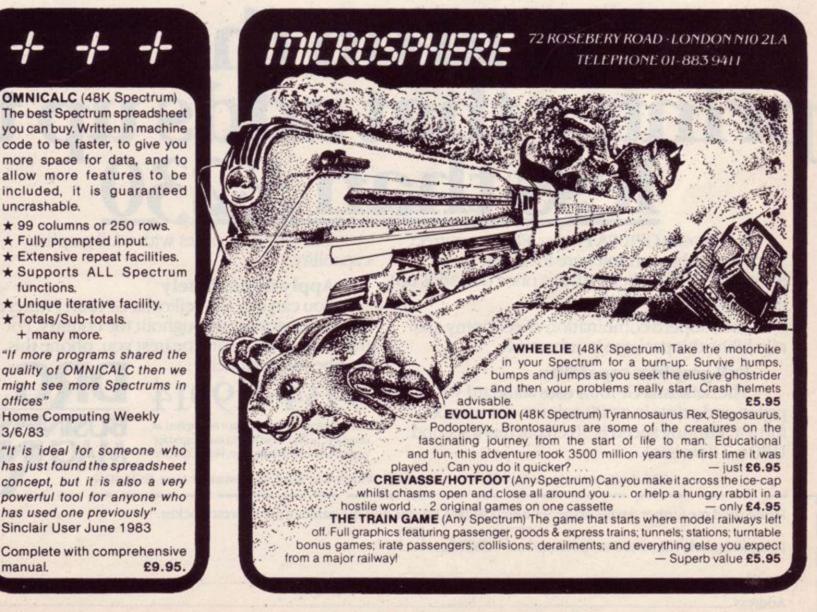
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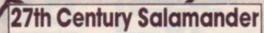
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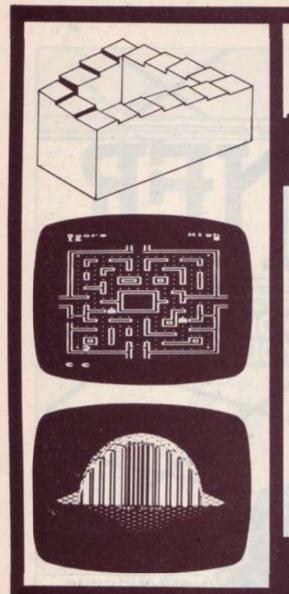
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August/September Issue — GAMES — Space Lords (32K) a two-player space battle, and Mars Lander (16K). Build Yourself a Light Pen — simple explanation for the beginner, together with a sample program. Use our "Contact Points for the Beeb" to discover who to contact when in need. We show how to put those 'awkward' cassette programs onto disc. Final installment of our popular 5-part series on "Using Files". REVIEWS of — MICRONET, Watfords Electronic's Disc Filing System, two EPROM programmers, and the tax advisory package "Microtax" This month's visual programs include Spider's Web, Super Large Screen Characters, Bounce and Swing. We also show how to hold two complete screen pictures at once, and switch rapidly between them in "Dual Screens on the Beeb". A Crossword, Brain Teaser and our 4th Software Competition provide a competitive edge to this month's magazine. We also have our very popular scattering of Hints and Tips.

October Issue — GAMES — Munch-Man, a Snapper type game with super graphics, Illusions graphics and sound you won't believe. A Versatile Renumber program for Basic, Fabric Patterns, an invisible Alarm Clock, Disc Sector String Search and a program fro drawing 3D Surfaces. Articles on the Teletext Mode for beginners, Compilers and Interpreters, using Joysticks, using the Speech Synthesizer and more. Reviews of two Cassette Recorders (Marantz Superscope C190 and Acorn Data Recorder), three Printers (NEC pc-80238, Star DP840 and CP-80), and lots of new games software (and we've arranged SPECIAL OFFERS for members). Plus a review of the new Acorn Electron and news of our new magazine for Electron users called ORBIT. Plus all our usual features like Hints and Tips, Postbag, and a new Brainteaser.

STOP PRESS
BEEBUG has negotiated a deal with ACORN over the new 1.2 OPERATING SYSTEM ROM. BEEBUG members are offered the ROM at around half-price. See BEEBUG Feb. Issue for details.

SOFTWARE DETAILS
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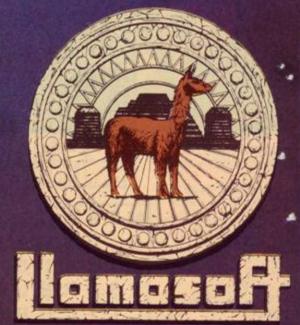
ATTACK of the MUTANT CAMELS

Planet earth needs you! Hostile aliens have used genetic
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Can you fly your tiny, manoeuvrable fighter over the mountainous
landscape to weaken and destroy the camels before they invade
the humans stronghold! You must withstand withering laser fire and
alien UFOs. Game action stretches over 10 screen lengths and
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unbelievable animation! Play this game and you'll never be able to
visit a zoo again without getting an achy trigger finger! Awesome
m/c action!

m/c action! Available for Commodore 64 £7.50.

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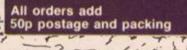
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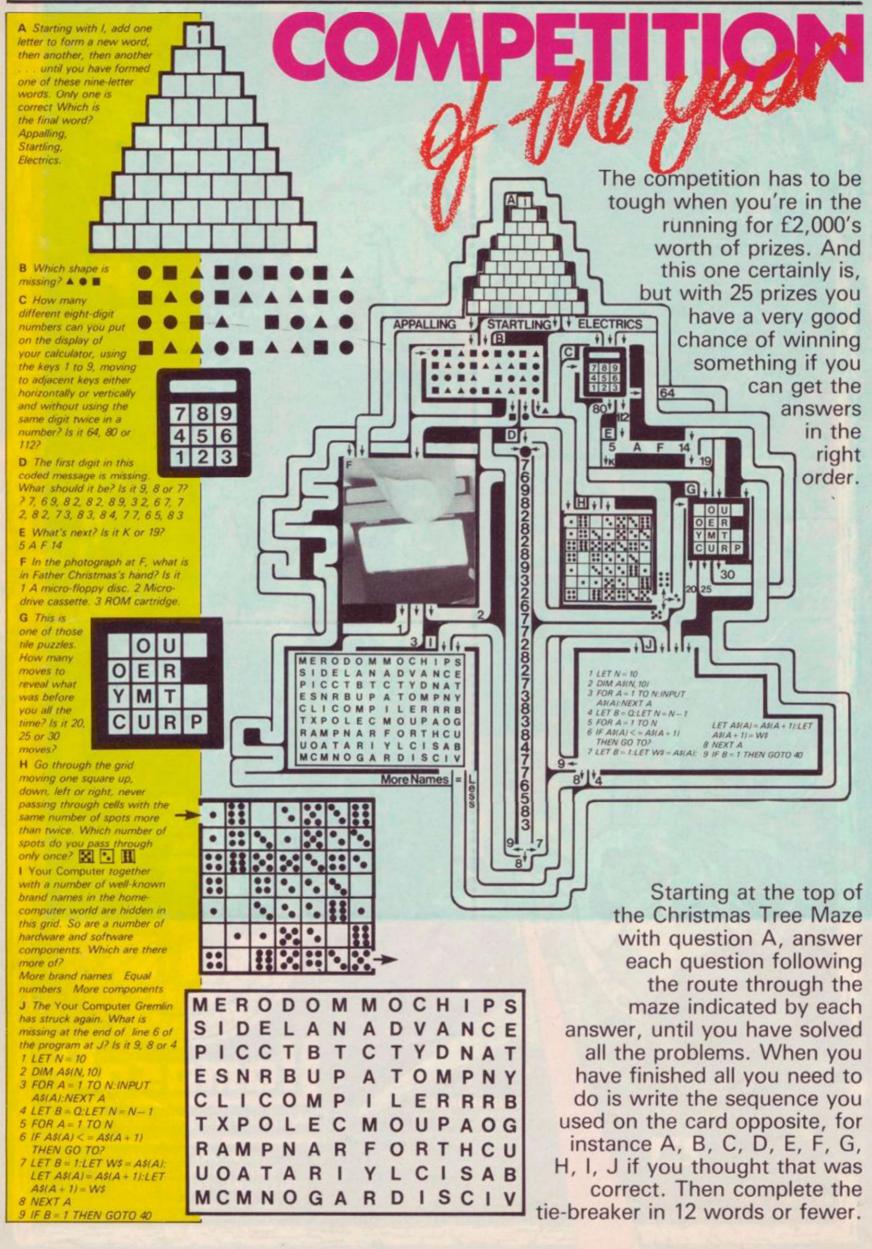


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PRIZES

£1,200 ADVANCE MODEL B

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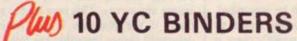
ACTIVISION GAMES AND ATARI VCS CONSOLES

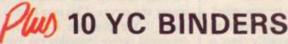
Two sets of three Activision games plus two Atari VCS consoles.

10 HAND-HELD CGL **GAMES**

The action is played on two screens which fold together to form a case. A quartz

watch and alarm function are included with Mario Brothers and Donkey Kong II.





YOUR LETTERS

EXTRACTING THE BINARY

ere is an interesting one for all Spectrum and fake-Spectrum owners. Now, I am no wizard with electronics or computers, but I decided to build a synthesiser then produced its notes by binary code. Great eh? Well after two months of oscillators, shapers, filters, equalisers, and sample hold I finally got the thing going. Now for the easy part!

I'll write off to the nice Sinclair Research and find out what logical on's and off's come out the back of the mighty machine. Well three weeks later I was still playing synth by the boring old method of fingers instead of ins, outs etc.

Never been one to shy away from the Buzby I rang Sinclair and spent five minutes chatting to the telephonist who assured me that the technical dept did not reply by post and I had better speak to a

technician. Ring back between 3 and 4 pm.

3.30pm: "Hello, I phoned earlier about some technical information."

"Oh yes! I'll just put you through." Healthy pause "Oh!"

"Good afternoon, technical department, can I help?"

"Oh yes please. Can you tell me if the binary code output from the output port is series or parallel?"

"Er. I don't really know. Have you not got any sheets or technical books on this?"

"Er. I don't really know. Is there anyone else slightly more technical there please?"

"Er. Not really were in a bit of a mess really I don't really know."

"Really. You don't know a lot do your?" "Er! not really."

"Can you connect me back to your switchboard please?"

"Hello! Switchboard here."

"Oh hello! can you give me the phone number of your head office please? Your technician doesn't seem to know a lot, maybe someone there who knows more" — delay.

"I'm sorry I don't have the phone number but this is the address. Oh by the way the letter you sent will be replied to by our technician."

Well next I rang head office and was partially helped by a nice young lady with a charming accent who, after phoning around, assured me the code went out in parallel — it's a start anyway — but she couldn't help as regards what went out of each pin connection.

Maybe you could suggest someone who would know what and how these binary get out of the back of our beloved Spectrum.

P. R. Robinson, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

HARTNELL SLAM

has risen from poor quality to the very best, both in content and value for money. You publish more, and better, machine-code games than a certain games-only magazine which only produces poor Basic games. You cater for the game player and beginner alike, but one small alteration has yet to be made.

Many people have criticised your Response Frame for inaccuracy or being uninformed. Tim Hartnell's books contain many errors and the older books are filled with unnecessary pictures. Many times, in Response Frame he has answered questions wrongly or not even answered the question he was asked.

In the October issue he replied to Mr Hallam, "Unfortunately there is no way this — disabling the Spectrum Break key — can be done in Basic". Absolute rubbish! Having copied WH Smith's Spectrum demo while they were not looking, I discovered a method which is in fact obvious!

The method of Break proofing is as follows: As the first line of your program, have the following:

10 LET V1 = PEEK 23613-2: POKE 23613,V1.

Since this is sometimes restored by For... Next loops, Gotos and Gosubs the Poke 23613, VI may need to be repeated sometimes within the program. This can be determined by experiment. This works by dropping the error stack pointer, causing the computer to ignore any errors. This may lead to a crash if the program is not fully debugged before installing the Poke.

Also, Tim Hartnell gave a poor reply to D G Britton about tape recorders. He said that expensive tape recorders are good for high-quality Spectrum recordings. Expensive tape recorders have filters which often regard computer signals as noise and actually degrade them.

Thus, cheap recorders are best. My recorder is called a Comic, similar in appearance to Ferguson, but without pause control. It loads tapes, no matter how bad, make the most reliable recordings around and has tone control and tape counter at £19.95.

It is also available as Eurosonic or Lloytron, among other names, but all the same model. This is the best possible I have seen on the Spectrum, and better than a friend's Sony.

So much for expensive models. The examples I have given are from just one issue. Many mistakes are made in just about all issues, and it is a shame since this is the only flaw in your magazine, apart from printing many listings too small, but just readable.

In the October issue, I might add, Tim Hartnell did not answer what was asked on Vic memory by M Finch, and was even uncertain if New affected a certain Vic system variable when replying to G Ashton.

I would suggest that a panel of experts on each machine be used for replies instead. Response Frame is your main weakness.

Justin Keery, York.

LOADED VIC

would like to know if any other Vic-20 users have experienced any problems with using the Load command within a Basic program. My experience is that when Load is used in a program, only the first part of the next program is successfully entered into memory — using a tape recorder as the storage device.

If this problem is universal, and not some fault of my particular computer, I offer the following way around the problem:

The screen is first formatted with printed Load and Run commands, in white, on white so the user is unaware of the problem. Then the keyboard buffer is given two carriage returns — ascii 13 decimal — before terminating from program control. The effect is a valid Load and Run command automatically executed by the system software.

998 POKE 198,3:POKE 631,13: POKE 633,13:POKE 36879,25

999 PRINT"(cir home)(white)(3down) NEW(3down)LOAD(3down) LOAD(4down)RUN(3down) RUN(home)(blue)"

The instructions in brackets are cursor control functions and should be self explanatory. Load and Run must be typed twice to allow for the possibility that the Play button can be engaged or disengaged.

Archie Tuck, Northleach, Gloucestershire.

TV SPECTRUM

recently bought an Amstrad colour TV and found that my Spectrum would not produce any colour on it. Having read in magazines like yours advice on how to cure the problem by lifting off the cover and having a twiddle with the potentiometers inside, I did so.

It cured the colour problem, but carefully lifting off the case had factured the keyboard ribbon cable.

I believe the ribbon cable had become brittle with age, possibly due to the excessive heat generated inside the case of the computer when used for any length of time. It is known that heat adversely affects plastics in this way even though the temperature is not great enough to

Now for the cruncher! Since I cannot hide the fact that I have had the top off my computer, I have invalidated the guarantee and so must pay Sinclair a minimum charge of £30 to have it repaired.

Please can you print a warning to all Spectrum users not to lift off the cover of their machines if they have

NO COMMODORE COMPATIBILITY

have been following your magazine every month since I bought my Vic-20 last August. A few months later Commodore Business Machines had introduced its new mode, Commodore 64. With this improvement I am very disappointed that Commodore 64 could not run Vic-20 software because a different system had been used.

Compare other computers such as the Apple II and Apple II+ and Apple IIA; BBC Model A and Model B; Atari 400 and 800 for example. In these, software is compatible. Furthermore, Atari upgraded its 16K micro to 48K without any extra charge and the difference in price between a 16K and 48K Spectrum is small. How about Vic-20 to Commodore 64?

Another problem I would like to point out is that of method of payment for buyers outside the U.K. — whether Postal Orders or Bank cheques are acceptable. I could get software from my local authorised dealer, but it would take weeks or months to get the latest software shown in your advertisements.

Educational software seems thin on the ground. Why? It would be nice, for example, if Commodore could introduce engineeringlanguage software.

Abdul Jabbar BS, Singapore.

EDITORIAL

had them for some time. On a brighter note though, I have been into WH Smith's and bought an issue 3 Spectrum which gives excellent colour on my Amstrad TV and still works well with all my extensive existing software with the one exception of DK'Tronics Light Pen.

Incidentally, this was typed on the new Brother EP-22 typwriter/ pritner which takes full A4 size paper, works off four torch batteries, can use plain paper or thermal paper, has its own RS-232C interface and at £170 inc. VAT must be one of the best buys around.

M D O'Dea, Lewisham, London.

PLAY THE GAME

aving bought a 48K Spectrum it took only a week to realise I was not interested in games. I did want to use the computer in my business though. Sinclair's Small Business Accounts seemed the answer. It took five weeks to arrive and seemed just what I needed but within hours it failed and was returned.

After fruitless letters over another four weeks Sinclair offered me my money back — still not received at time of writing. Is there no-one that offers the small business man a program that makes the Spectrum worth owning?

G. J. Abrahams, Birchington, Kent.

There are several blunders to be corrected in the November issue. The first and most grievous one is that two bytes are missing at the end of each line in the Oric Invaders hex dump. Our apologies to those who have found this out the hard way. Send us your address and we will send you a copy of the correct listing.

The hex loader for the Scram-81 program works perfectly if you start off by typing GOTO 7000. You might however like to add line 50 which reads GOTO 7000.

I Brown's program Maze, in Software File is wrongly billed for the Dragon. It runs instead on the Spectrum.

The listing for Andrew Caple's Capman program in the October issue is correct. A number of people, however, have complained that when they run the program it stops with an error message at line 40. Almost certainly this indicates that they have made a mistake in keying in the Data statements in lines 110 to 242.

Line 40 reads in the Data: if it finds that the Data statement is one character too short or too long, or contains a letter outside the range A to F it will throw the message "nonsense in Basic" or "variable not found".

At this point type in directly from the keyboard, PRINT A\$.
This will allow you to track down the faulty Data statement. A\$ should contain the string of hex numbers which is found between the quotation marks in each of the Data statements.

WHILE YOU ENJOYED an Indian summer of computer price cuts, manufacturers were already preparing for a bleak winter. They knew that some of their number would not make it to the shelter of the Christmas consumer spending spree.

With low micro prices paring profit margins down to a lean minimum — and beyond — it seems inevitable in retrospect that there would be casualties. A few companies have gone out of business altogether; others have decided to pull out of home computing before their losses become intolerable.

The move by one of the oldest names in the market, Texas Instrument, to abandon its home-computer operation came just two weeks after the U.S. toy manufacturer Mattel's decision to hand over distribution of the Aquarius to the builder of the micro, Radofin. That ends both companies' involvement in the production of fully-fledged home computers.

Atari, the company that offered Texas such stiff competition on both sides of the Atlantic, has also been bloodied by heavy losses. It was \$180 million in the red on the last three months' trading.

Hopes of a return to better fortunes are pinned on Atari's new XL series — the first new machines from the company for four years.

In a market where there is major price warfare, you have to be big to sustain losses, and ideally have the support of a wide product range. Atari, Texas and Mattel are large concerns with considerable financial muscle. But two British producers, Dragon Data and Oric Products, have both been obliged recently to look outside for new investment to help them over liquidity problems.

Incidentally, Dragon's founder Mettoy, which had gradually sold off all but a 15.5 percent stake in the computer company, recently went into receivership.

Dragon created most of its large user base by having machines available in volume for last year's Yuletide rush. It could only pull off a similar coup this year if Electrons, CBM-64s and Atari 600XLs are not around in sufficient numbers to satisfy demand.

Computer companies that fell by the wayside are Grundy Business Systems — the NewBrain's manufacturer — and now Jupiter Cantab which created the first and only Forth-based home micro. Even a price-cutter in the business portable market, Osborne Computer, has had to seek protection from its creditors under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code's section 11.

But how is it possible for a market as ostensibly booming as home computing to harbour so many financial problems? It is exactly because of the rapid expansion that firms have great difficulties in estimating growth accurately, and planning for it accordingly.

An apparently minor miscalculation at the bottom of an exponential growth curve can lead to a financially crippling error at the top. Add to that problem a savage campaign of price cuts and few companies can count themselves safe. The moment of truth will come for more manufacturers when we reach the 1984 side of Christmas. Until then, computer enthusiasts may sympathise with the plight of the companies, but they will be drinking festive toasts with the money the price war has saved them.

How to write for Your Computer

We called this magazine *Your Computer* precisely because we welcome your views, tips and hints and even your criticism of machines and software in general. If you would like to see your name in print, whether on a Software File program or a full-blooded article, here is how to go about it. Ideally, all articles should be typed double-spaced on one side only of uniform sheets of paper. If listings can be dumped directly from a printer — you can always use a friend's or user group's — this minimises the risk of error. In a perfect world a cassette would accompany the article. That considerably speeds up the checking process. Not only do you get to air your own discoveries and opinions, but we will even pay you for the privilege. We pay £35 per published page — that's as it appears in the magazine and includes illustrations.

Why not give it a try? You have nothing to lose but your postage.

ABC

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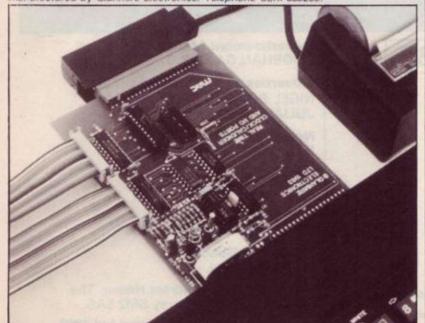
How the Electron will grow: expansion boxes

WITHOUT DETRACTING from the many positive features of Acorn's new baby, it does lack the RS-423, user and printer ports of its big brother, the BBC Micro. While it is no secret that the Electron features a built-in connector for the addition of hardware expansion units, the first picture of such a unit is reproduced here - it is important to emphasise that this is just a prototype.

Each hardware expansion unit will have a certain number of functions built in, to allow users to customise their Electron for particular purposes. Definitely on the drawing board is a box containing not just a disc interface, but a complete disc and drive units as well. Acorn favours a proper 3 to 3.5 inch diameter disc, but is still deciding among companies like Sony, Winchester, Hitachi and others. It will plump for a manufacturer whose product is likely to become an industry standard. It is not clear if one of the expansion boxes will contain the 'missing' RS-423, printer and user interfaces of the BBC Micro, although a box containing an A/D converter, RS-423 and interface for ROM cartridges was one of the possible configurations under consideration.

The cartridge sticking out of the box in the photograph contains two 16K ROMs which would be able to provide the Electron with, for instance, View - the BBC's word processor, or programming languages like BCPL or perhaps Forth. Another feature not present

This real-time clock/calendar with I/O ports has eight programmable inputs and eight programmable outputs. The battery-powered clock provides the computer with month, day, date, hours, minutes and seconds. So you could, for example use your Sinclair as an electronic diary; the clock would keep time while the ZX-81 or Spectrum was switched off. The clocks are manufactured by Glanmire Electronics. Telephone Cork 889209.



Teletext. This, together with the lack of an RS-423 hinders networking. Nevertheless, a box could be produced which would add these features.

It was recently claimed that 20,000 Electrons had been ordered by British Telecom for a new medical network accessed through Prestel called the Chain. This network enables doctors and nurses to get through administrative drudgery quickly on-screen, with the central computer at the hospital providing prompts. In fact, it seems unlikely that the order is for an Electron per se, or even for an Electron plus a magic box, but rather for a dedicated terminal using Electron components. Nevertheless, this indicates that the potential is there.

The potential is also there for the Tube - although, of course, we have yet to see it officially for the BBC itself, let alone the Electron.

However, Acorn has successfully used Z-80s and 6502s as second



An Electron with a difference

processors with the Electron, so it looks like the Tube will be in a box.

Things are still very much at the prototype stage for the expansion box; for certain applications it looks as though an intermediate expansion

box may be necessary to obviate power feedback problems - the intermediate box would have to supplant the Electron's own power supply as well as powering the new peripheral.

Companies may come and go but the microcomputer show goes on

TI-99/8 are being written out of the

script before they have even put in

EXIT TEXAS Instruments, Mattel and | Jupiter Cantab stage left; enter IBM from wings stage right. The homecomputing story-line is now incredibly complicated; the only thing stopping it from being a farce is that it is not funny.

With Texas Instruments' decision to pull out of the home-computer

on the Electron is the BBC's Mode 7 | market, new machines like the

Giant toy-maker Mattel has also concluded that now is the time to stop selling computer hardware, and early in 1984 it will be handing over distribution of the £50 Aquarius to Radofin Electronics U.K., the

an appearance.

Big Blue's little baby

machine's manufacturer.

FLUSHED WITH its success in the personal computer market, IBM has decided to make its presence felt in the home. The U.S. giant broke the shell of secrecy surrounding its home-computer project to reveal not the Peanut, but the PCjr.

Apart from the novelty of the PCjr's cordless keyboard which uses an infra-red signal to communicate with the separate 8088-based, 16-bit computer from up to 20ft. away, this colour micro holds few surprises.

It comes in two versions: a \$669 64K for the basic unit, or \$1,269 for 128K and diskette drive - hardly the sort of prices that will put it in the mainstream of British home computing.

In any case IBM has no plans to bring the PCjr out in the U.K. yet, but when it does you can expect the cheaper version to sell for between £500 and £600.

The £90 Ace, the only Forth-based home micro, is now out of production. A meeting of creditors of the Ace's manufacturer, Jupiter Cantab, has been called.

But the long-expected twist to the plot is that IBM has launched itself into the home-computer free-for-all with the £500-plus PCjr. With that sort of price, Big Blue is clearly going for the more stable end of the market.

Texas - in 1979 the first company to produce a home colour micro, the TI-99/4 - has decided to call it a day after sustaining major losses in its home computer operation. According to a Texas spokesman the firm was "loosing money hand over fist in the home-computer market" a fact which accounts for almost all of Texas' \$230 million losses in the last six months.

The chip-making side of Texas' business is "going ahead strongly", and the company has no current plans to withdraw its popular Speak and Spell range of learning toys. Warranties on Texas hardware will be honoured.

Even though TI-99/4A production is ceasing, there should be no shortage of programs for the moment. The Texas spokesman says that there are "large inventories of software, and a certain amount of new stuff still in the pipeline".

Video teach-ins for serious programmers and games freaks

IF GUTENBERG had spread the word about printing by sending out hand written notes it would have taken the world a long time to find out about its advantages. So the argument goes you should not write books about computing but instead harness the television screen to teach people. Ideally you could put the lessons on a ROM cartridge but present ROMs do not carry enough memory. Both PolyGram and WH Smiths have done the next best thing by bringing out videos. Smiths has produced an

Floppy cuts on the horizon

NEXT YEAR you can expect to see floppy disc drives widely available in high street chains and at dramatically lower prices. One major source of disc drives, Taiwan, hopes to push its export price below \$100. By the time they reach the shops here the drives could be selling for as low

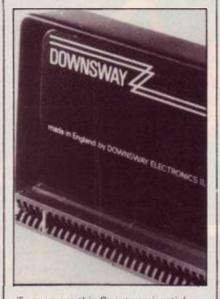
WH Smiths already stocks 51/4 inch Cumana drives and 3 inch Hitachi drives for the BBC micro in 30 of its 250 branches. In these stores the normal computer departments have been expanded into "shops within shops"

Both drives have been packaged to allow the user to "plug in and go" They come complete with cables, a manual and a formatting disc. A single 100K unit from Cumana costs £250 while a 3 inch Hitachi drive with the same capacity costs £225.

For £329 Cumana also sells a disc system for the Dragon although this will not be available at WH Smiths.

own brand video - its first-ever which is probably also the first Spectrum tuition video.

Called Introduction to Programming, the course presented by David Redclift comes in two parts costing £16.95 each. Level One teaches Basic programming, and contains four programs which can be downloaded from the video via an audio tape recorder into your Sinclair ZX Spectrum. More advanced programming is the topic of the Level Two tape. This tells you about



To program this Spectrum joystick interface, just press the key to go left, for example and move the joystick left Any key specified by the games software can be "learned" by the interface - eight directions plus fire. The £22.95 Downsway interface is compatible with switch-type joysticks such as the Atari, Competition-Pro, Starfighter, Wico etc. Telephone Epsom 27222.

with confidence, thanks to your micro

LOVE is the wisdom of the fool and the folly of the wise, they say. Foolish or wise, two new programs from Acornsoft deal with love's young dream.

The Dating Game, developed by Dr Glenn Wilson of the University of London's Institute of Psychiatry, comes in four units. The first, the Dating Game itself, enables you to enter data on up to 40 people and see who is compatible with whom. It is based on the same attitudinal testing used by big computer dating

The second section, Love Style, asks you incredibly personal questions to find out what sort of lover you are: fanciful or practical, serious or playful, cool or passionate.

The third segment, Relationship, figures out whether you are a giver or a taker, committed or free, 'boss' or slave, quiet or exciting.

The final section, Dating Skills, is lightheartedly aimed at discovering if you are approaching the object of your affections in the best possible way, or if you are just plain boorish and socially incompetent.

The other program, I Do, is based on the controversial Dr Eysenck's book Your Guide to a Happy Marriage. This is a bit more serious and is aimed at married couples with an eye to use by marriage guidance counsellors. It has sub-sections dealing with social attitudes, personality, marital satisfaction, feminism and anti-feminism, masculinity and femininity and sexual attitudes. Apparently marital breakdown costs the country around £1 million per year, so this is your chance to help with the national debt.

string slicing, array handling and animation. Two programs are included for transference into your computer.

The videos will be on sale at 250 Smiths branches in the U.K. On a less eductional note, PolyGram Video has produced a trilogy entitled How to Beat Home Video Games. Presented by ace games player Philip Wiswell, games from stables as diverse as Parker Brothers, Apollo, Imagic, Activision and Atari are presented. As the techniques are explained, the game plays are shown.

The three cassettes cover different games for different systems. The first volume - entitled the Best Games illustrates classics like Frogger, Asteroids, Space Invaders, and Chopper Command. volume two deals with more recent games to appear, like ET.

The third volume is more hardware-oriented, dealing with new video games systems - the Vectrex, Colecovision and the Atari 5200 but it also shows 20 games.

Wiswell has endorsed the video approach not because he feels that his potential audience cannot read, but because it is difficult to visualise from the written word what he is trying to say: "When you see it happen on tape, it is no longer

Game Company Machine ■ Android Computer Attack Concepts Arcadia Vic-20 Imagine Attack of Llamasoft CBM 64

the Mutant Camels Atari **■**Crazy English Copter Software

Interceptor Vic-20 ■ Crazy Kong Dampe Quicksilva ZX-81

Glooper Flight Sinclair Simulator

ZX-81 Flight Sinclair ■Gridrunner Llamasoft Vic-20

Spectrum

Spectrum

Jet Pac Ultimate Bug Byte Spectrum ■Manic Miner Salamander Dragon Night

Flight ■ Pool Bug Byte Spectrum Ring of Wintersoft Dragon

Darkness Acorpsoft BBC Snooker ZX-81 ■ Space Sinclair Raiders

■3D Grand DK'tronics ZX-81

■Ultra PSS Atari Zaxxon Datasoft Atari Zzoom Imagine Spectrum

Hinged pop-up screen on Olivetti's new portable



Olivetti's M-10 portable computer

OLIVETTE'S NEW portable computer, the M-10 is clearly intended to compete with the Epson HX-20. Like the Epson it is small enough to fit into a briefcase with a base area roughly the size of an A4 sheet of paper but provides a full-size Qwerty keyboard. Its distinctive feature is a hinged pop-up screen which offers eight lines of 40 characters or graphics in a liquid crystal display.

At a price which is expected to be between £400 and £500 it will appeal mainly to business users.

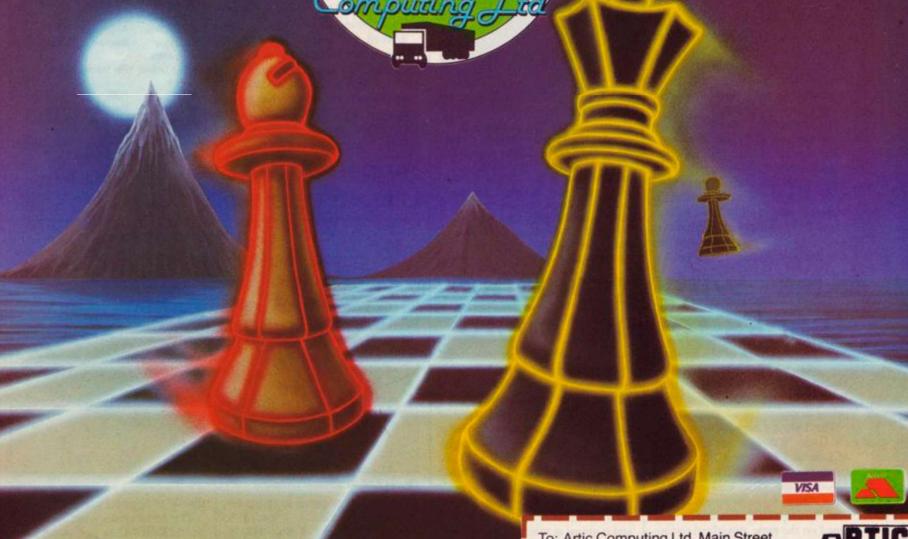
The M-10 comes with 32K RAM and 32K ROM. As well as the Basic interpreter the ROM contains a text editor, a terminal emulator, an address book and diary. The machine's interfaces include parallel and serial ports, a cassette port and a socket for a bar code reader. Olivetti is planning to support the M-10 with a battery-operated four-colour printer/plotter and an acoustic

CHESS PROGRAM Spectrum Chess II 16K/48K Spectrum Chess Tutor £6.95 48K Spectrum Chess II £9.95 Two years of research and development Not only an excellent companion but also have produced the strongest chess game yet, with 999 levels of play. teaches the absolute beginner how to play chess. 48K Spectrum Voice Chess £8.95 This incredible program talks you through your game. It tells you its move, recommends a move and contains a range ZX Chess II £9.95 A great game of chess for your 16K ZX81 or 48K Spectrum. Seven levels of play. Analysis and recommended move of facetious comments. The game is based on the highly acclaimed ZX Chess II. options. ZX Chess I £6.50 1K ZX Chess ZX81 £2.95

A fantastic 1K chess game ideal for someone who wants a quick game without waiting for loading.

Non-speaking version. Spectrum Chess £8.45

Very popular machine code program, with six levels of play and analysis option.



WARNING: These programs are sold according to ARTIC COMPUTING LTD's terms of trade and conditions of sale. Copies of which are available on request.

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Chnisimas Fair

Your Computer readers will be able to use the voucher in this issue to enter the Fair for 50p less than usual. There are also special offer all-in travel and admission tickets from British Rail which can save you money. Full price admission is £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children under 16 and pensioners.

Special exhibition fares including rail travel to London and admission to the Fair starts at £4.50 for adults, £2.50 for children from anywhere in Greater London up to £13.50/£7.00 from Birmingham. These prices do not include tube travel to Wembley.

The easiest way to get to the Fair by underground is by Metropolitan line or Jubilee to Wembley Park or Bakerloo to Wembley Central. British Rail's Broad Street line also runs to Wembly Central and the 83, 92, 182, 18, 297, 245 and 734 Green Line buses all go near the Wembley Conference Centre.

By car, follow signs for Wembley stadium and then the Conference Centre where you will find a 5,000 space car park. The Fair opens each day at 10.00am and closes at 6.00pm except Friday when there will be late night opening till 8.00pm.

and buy your tickets before the big day, you can order them from Your Computer Christmas Fair Advance Tickets, Reed Exhibitions, Throwley Way, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4QQ, telephone 01 643 8040. Tickets cost £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children. Special party rates are available on request. Remember that applications for the Super-Saver tickets must be in no later than December 5.

CHRUSTMAS

LIST OF	
EXHIBITORS	
	Stand
Company name	number
A&F Software	299 293
Abrasco Ltd Addictive	
AGF Hardware	V3 V38
Anirog	269
Arrowsoft	166
Artic Computing Ltd	157
ASP'Software	159
Automata UK Ltd	237
Beebug and Orbit	262
Bernard Babani	
(Publishing) Ltd	V5
Bug-Byte Software	277
Carnell Software	174
CDS Micro Systems	245
Cheetah Marketing Ltd	V32
Compusound	V16
Computasolve Ltd	255
Computer Add-ons	V22
Computer Bookshops Ltd	
C.R.L.	V15
Computer Superbooks	162
CP Software	V26
Crystal Computing	V7 212
Currys Micro Systems CWP Computers	285
Dean Electronics Ltd	V17
Dillons University Booksho	
DJL Software	114
DK Tronics	234/241
Dragon Data	231/243
Duckworth	296
East London Robotics	V28
ECC Publications	124
Elfin Software	219
Exeter Software Supplies	V11
Fantasy Software	155
Ferranti & Davenport Ltd	120
Fox Electronics	115
Fuller Micro Systems	V34
Gem Software	205
Grahame Micro Accessorie	
Hi-Soft	111 220
Honeyfold Software Ltd IMS Software	217
Interceptor Micro's	209
lvysoft	V19
Kelwood Computer Cases	
Kempston Electronics	123
Kenema	264
Level 9	169
Llamasoft	287
Longman Software	165
Lucas Bookselling	
Services Ltd	170
Martech Games	295



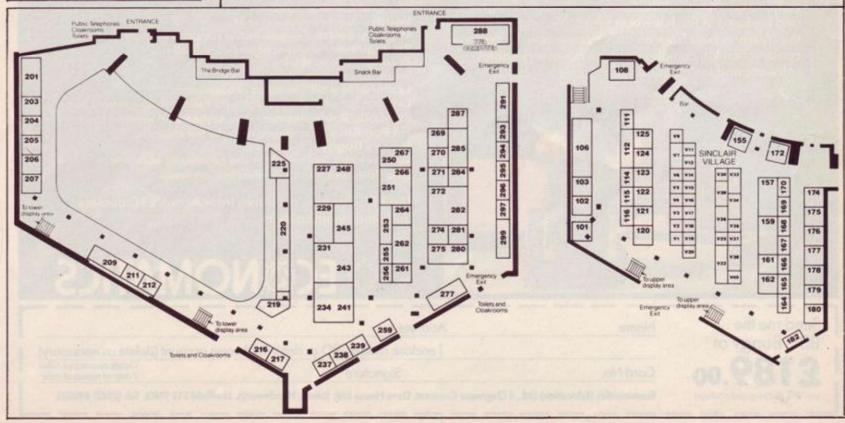
Gifts galore

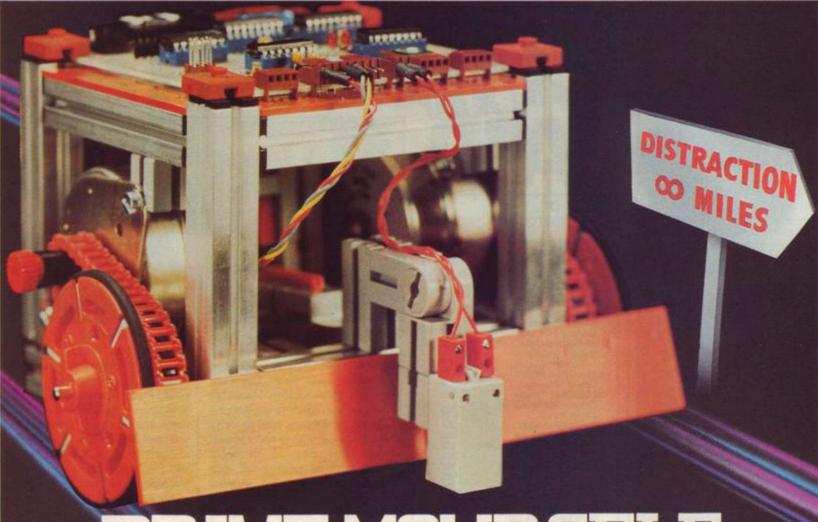
LUCKY NUMBERS will be the name of the game at our Christmas Fair. The Fair which runs from Thursday, December 15 to Sunday, December 18 is your last chance to see the pick of the year's software releases, with all the latest computers and add-ons, before Christmas. A different number will be printed on each catalogue sold and lucky numbers will be drawn every hour on the hour during the afternoon session of the Fair. The winners will receive gifts of software and add-ons pocket calculators, Spectrum sound booster, mugs, tee-shirts and 1984 diaries

Lots of choice

BE SPOILT for choice. That's the slogan of the first Computer Fair designed to appeal just to Your Computer readers. With 100 companies exhibiting everything for the home computer from joysticks and track balls to speech synthesisers and printers the Christmas Fair just will not have room for business machines. You can buy and try a wider range of peripherals for your micro than you could ever hope to see in one store. You can see all the rival games for your computer up and running on screen before you choose what you want to buy for Christmas

Ī	Master Distributors	1900	Quicksilva .	227/248
	(UK) Ltd	182	Richard Shepherd Softwar	
	McGraw-Hill Book Co.	THE RESERVE OF	Ricoll Electronics Ltd	164
	(UK) Ltd	103	R&R Software	168
	M C Lothorian	V20	Salamander	229
	Melbourne House	180	Severn Software	271
	Merlin Software	211	Shards Software	259
	Microdealer UK Ltd	284	Silversoft	253
	Micro Management	275/280	Softeach Ltd	V40
	Micromania	V2	Softek	250/267
	Mikro-Gen	108	Software Index	297
	Miniature Tool Co	256	Spectadraw	V36
	New Generation Software	V30	Stack Computers	270
	Opus Supplies	239	Stack Computers	V30
	Oric Products International		Sunshine Publications	291
	Ltd	272/282	Superior Software	294
	Orion Software	V1	Tansoft	201
	Picturesque	V18	The Software Farm	V25
	Prentice Hall International	238	Timescape Software	216
	Print & Plotter Products	V3	Ultimate Play The Game	172
	P.S.S.	106	Your Computer	288





VE YOU

Trying to determine the limitations of the BBC Buggy is a task which will drive you to distraction. So sit back and accept the fact that your BBC Micro computer (Model B) controlled Robot will provide you with hours and hours of stimulating entertainment.

This rugged little vehicle which has been designed in conjunction with the BBC Computer Literary Programme and featured in the television series 'Making the most of the Micro' is built from an easy to assemble fischertechnik construction kit, complete with all necessary cables, software and instructions.



The Buggy's software which is based on the 'building block' principle consists of 12 robust application programs and one familiarisation program all of which feature full graphics.

Take a trip into the future without ever leaving your key-board – drive a BBC Buggy.

PROGRAMS

Test and familiarisation.

Test and familiarisation.

Switch – direct computer control.

Memory Switch – demonstrating computer memory.

Routeplanner – advanced version of Snail.

Recorder – route display.

Snail – screen route planning.

Explore for wall – mapping of boundaries.

Explore for object – seeks objects, defines shapes, returns home.

Bar Code Routeplanner – non-keyboard information input.

Tin Pan Alley – composing music by bar codes.

Man vs Buggy – 'Flying blind'.

Sunseeker – seeking a light and negotiating obstructions.

Line Follower – black or white line following.

The BBC Buggy is available from Acorn/BBC dealers and other major outlets.



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I could

In the piece on sorting and searching, we mentioned the binary search. This month's challenge is to see which reader can come up with the most efficient program, judged by both speed and program size, to implement the binary sort.

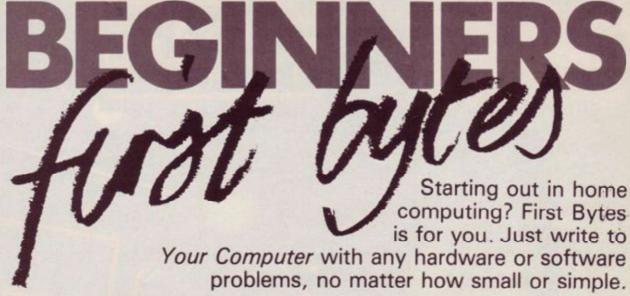
Assume that you have an array with sorted data in it already, and try to make the routine as general as possible. Also try to explain as best you can what it is that you are doing. This should help other readers to understand.

Obviously the task set in October's "I could do that" failed to stimulate First Byters' interest or perhaps, proved too difficult.

Not a single entry landed on our desks before the closing date - so, no prize and no solution.

Let us hope this month's poser is less intimidating.

Read Piers Letcher's introduction to sorting first and then try your hand there is £15 at stake.



Printing to the screen

"There appear to be several methods for printing information from a program on to the screen, but I do not know what they all are, or which to use. Can you help me?"

THE COMMONEST, and most well known method of getting information to the screen is by using the Print command, from Basic. There are an enormous number of different versions of this, not just on different micros, but within each machine. The Print statement comes with many parameters, and can tell the micro precisely where the next piece of information should be printed.

The micro keeps a count of just where on the screen the current



position is, and at the basic minimum, using a Print statement will cause the micro to put the information at the beginning of the next line after this pointer. If the Print statement has a comma in it,

that adds a tab's length to the pointer, and the next piece of information gets printed at the next tab marker.

The pointer that the computer (continued on page 85)

Sorting – why bother?

'What is the point of sorting?" IT IS NOT really until you start to use your micro as a tool, rather than a toy, that you start to see the uses for sorting. In fact, it is the close relation of sorting, searching, that is often the more useful of the two.

It is quicker and easier to find a piece of information if the data is sorted first.

If you typed in the data in order anyway, then you would save yourself the trouble of having to sort it out. A problem occurs when you find that you have to store new information. A short program to sortthings for you means you can put it where you want.

If you have got a series of addresses in order say, then the most likely thing you'll want to do is to see one of them. This is where a searching routine comes in handy. You could list all of the addresses of people whose name begins with I. for example. To do this you need a general search program.

This works on the following principle: Find out where in the address or record the information you are comparing is stored. For example, it might be in the 40th to 50th character positions in a string. Now look at each address, and see if characters 40 to 50 match Cardiff or

London. Then if the match is true, print out that record.

Now if the addresses happened to be in alphabetical order of town names then you could start in the middle, see if the town you are looking for is lower down the alphabet or higher, and then look in the middle of the section you now know it is in, and keep going until you reach the bit you're looking for. This is known as a binary search.

The binary search above only works on sorted data, and so it's a good reason for getting your information in some order. Doing this is simpler than it sounds. If you have an array of 10 numbers, then you can sort it using the array, and just one temporary variable:

10 REM SORT ROUTINE

20 DIM A(10)

40 FOR J = 1 TO 10 50 FOR K = 1 TO 9

60 IF A(K)<A(K+1) THEN GOTO 110

70 LET TEMP = A(K)

80 LET A(K) = A(K+1)

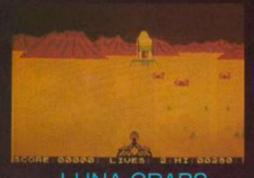
90 LET A(K+1) = TEMP 110 NFT K

120 NEXT J

A very simple refinement to this puts in a count, so that you do not keep on sorting once the array is sorted, as this one does.

Pier Letcher. (continued on page 85)





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(continued from page 83)

keeps is the key to all output to the screen. It is this that makes things like the Print Tab statement work, and it is this that you reset if you want to start a new page on the

Setting a new page is usually done by a command like Cls. This wipes off the old screen, and sets the pointer back to the top left-hand corner of the screen. The Cls command is actually a way of sending the micro a control character.

Control characters

Control characters are much the same as ordinary characters. All characters are represented in the computer as numbers, for example, "A" is represented in the computer as the number 41 - hexadecimal, in ASCII, note that some computers use other codes. So if you wanted to print an A on the screen you could just type

PRINT CHR\$(65)

The reason you used 65 not 41 was

that the 41 was hexadecimal, so it needed converting to decimal:

 $4 \times 16 + 1 = 65$

In the same way, all of the control codes have numbers.

The control code

The control code for Clear text screen - on the BBC - is given by Control and L, or the number 0C, so if you press Ctrl and I. at the same time it should clear your screen. Unfortunately you cannot put Ctrl and L into a PRINT statement, so you have to tell the program to

PRINT CHR\$(12) instead. This has the same effect as typing Cls in a program.

Matters are further complicated, because most micros have two places in memory that you can print from. One is the graphics area, and the other is the text area. This gives you the text screen, and the graphics screen "windows". You can now print from either to the screen. Your normal print statement etc. will cause text to appear, from the text window. However, with a different

First bytes

command for every machine, VDU for the BBC, GET/ PUT/ SCREEN for the Dragon by way of example, you can now print user-defined characters from the graphics area.

These specialised commands are highly machine specific, since they rely on the way that the memory has been organised on that particular machine.

So, to sum up, it depends on what you are trying to do. Print is usually a perfectly sensible way of outputting to the text screen, and use of control characters, and the machine's own useful functions like the Dragon's Print @ statement, which allows you to print at any position on the screen, are recommended. First, of course, you have to find out what is available. Again, your machine will have specific commands to deal with printing from graphics areas to the screen. Your manual should at least tell you what commands you can

Piers Letcher.

Can you do anything sensible with a home computer?

"Most people use their new micros to learn to program in Basic, and to run games. But can you do much else with a home micro - in particular can you do anything sensible?"

THE ANSWER IS yes - but there are obvious limits, otherwise banks and offices would all be using Spectrums. Software certainly exists for most home micros to at least let you try out word processing, electronic spreadsheets and database management. The limitations are usually imposed by limitations of the hardware.

Word processing is far superior to using a typewriter - once you are accustomed to it it is difficult to go back. The key advantage of a WP program is that what you type appears first on the screen, where you can correct it and manipulate it before finally committing yourself to paper. Most word processors let you move whole blocks of text from one place to another, and let you try out laying out your text in different ways with wide margins, for instance, or double-spaced.

The main problem of doing practical word processing on a cheap home micro is that it soon gets expensive. Apart from the cost of the software, which may range from £10 to £50 or £60 but which is always more expensive than a simple game program, you obviously need a printer. This may cost at least as much as the micro.

You also rapidly discover you need a decent keyboard if your machine does not already have one. And then you start wanting discs - one of the convenient things you can do with a word processor is keep standard letters and then load them in for small alterations when needed.

Some WP programs will even automatically print out a whole batch of letters, merging a name and address file with your standard

A less obvious problem you discover once you start using your micro a lot to look at text is the quality of the screen. Most home micros are plugged into colour TV sets, which give a less stable image than a monitor or even a black and white TV. Sometimes the display problem lies with the micros themselves, as they are very much designed down to a cost.

A few hours of word processing on the Dragon connected to a colour TV rapidly makes you realise why businesses are prepared to pay a lot more money in the first place to get a proper office system.

Until Visicalc came along no-one had thought of the idea of an electronic spreadsheet. This program was probably responsible for selling more micros than any other piece of software. Visicalc and the host of imitative calc programs let you work out calculations on the screen. You type numbers into boxes in a grid and then type in a formula saying what you want done.

So if you want to add up a column of figures you just type in all the numbers and then, at the place you want the answer to appear, type in the name of the boxes you want added up, for instance B1+B2+B3. Much more complicated mathematical operations are possible and you can work with complete rows and columns at a time.

The power of calc programs lies in the ease with which they let you answer 'what if...' questions. What if you just change that number there, what if you alter the formula slightly. You can try out a whole number of different approaches with very little effort.

Calc programs are quite suitable for use on home micros as you can



do a lot of useful work without discs and the quality of the keyboard does not matter much. Although home micros only display a small part of the calc grid you can quite conveniently work with much larger grids than will fit on the screen by scrolling. But it still helps to see as many rows and columns as possible at a time so 80 character by 24 line office machines still score for frequent use.

So-called database programs are the micro equivalent of a card index. The usual approach is for the program to display record formats on the screen, which you can type information into, Save and alter. You really need a floppy disc system.

Most let you select records on a number of different criteria - all people interested in the Oric living in North London for example if you are storing information for a computer club file for example and some let you sort selected records into order. Unless the selection and sort facilities are good the database program probably has little advantage over a manual card

If you intend to do a lot of sensible-type things with your micro it helps to have chosen the right machine in the first place. Taking into account availability of software, quality of keyboard and ease of expansion to discs and printer, the BBC Micro and the Commodore 64 are probably the best home machines

Next probably come the Vic-20 and Atari 800 and 600, which have proper keyboards and a reasonable variety of packages. The Dragon is let down by its display and machines like the Oric and Spectrum by their keyboards. When you count up the cost of all the add-ons you may end up buying, for serious use the more expensive machines may work out better value in the end.

Ian Stobie

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All keys on the FDS keyboard contain all the Graphic Characters of the ZX Spectrum Microdrive interface i easily adapted to fit inside the case



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The Fuller FDS Keyboard has been especially designed for the professional user. This elegant, slim line, desk top system has a keyboard that inclines toward you and contains all the graphic characters of the ZX Spectrum, plus, additional function keys, shift keys on either side and a space bar. With all the entry keys double size, lightning fast accurate data entry is now made easy. Other amazing features of the FDS include:—

Gold plated key switch contacts, guaranteed for 10⁶ operations. 4 cursor control keys, 2 functions for direct entry

Based on the popular FD42 system, the Fuller FDS is simple to install; it requres no soldering or technical knowledge. For the user who is reluctant to install his computer circuit board inside the FDS, a buffer is available (£8.75 + 80p&p) which simply plugs into the expansion port and connects directly to the keyboard.

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If you have anything of interest to tell us about your computer club why not contact us on 01-661 3144.

Local news

United States

Sinclair Amateur Radio User Group is an American club with around 100 members in 27 states. You have to be a licensed radio ham and be willing to contribute to QZX their newsletter. Send an sae to Paul Newman, 3 Red House Lane, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4JZ.

Brussels

The Belgian ZX Micro Club which boasts three TV monitors and a wide range of other hardware has just started in Brussels. Contact Michel Hunin, ZX Micro Club, 6 Boulevard Leopold III, bte 15, B-1030 Bruxelles, Belge. Telephone 02-2160125.

Southampton

Southampton Amateur Computer Club has its main meeting on the second Wednes-day of each month at the Medical Sciences Building, Basset Crescent East, between 7.30 and 10.30 pm. There is an active BBC group which meets at the Crestwood Centre on the last Friday of each month. Contact Paul Blitz on Chandlers Ford 69050.

Crewe

The South Cheshire Atari User Group meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Earl of Crewe, Nantwich Road, Crewe. Meeting unofficially for some time, the group has been going in its present form for some two months but already has over 30 members. Topics such as sorting routines have been discussed at recent meetings. Membership is £5 per year for adults, or £2.50 for children. There is also a £7.50 family membership rate. Contact Mr A Davies, 48 Blagg Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire or ring 0270-626969.

COMPUTER Paul Bond visits Cambridge

Paul Bond visits Cambridge to see Acorn's technological hierarchy show off the Electron and really digs the "jazz concert" atmosphere.

CAMBRIDGE MICROCOMPUTER Club meets on the third Wednesday of every month at the Portland Arms in Milton Street. This worthy hostelry is set in a town that is renowned for far more than its dreaming spires—one club member estimated that there must be anything between 80 and 120 separate companies engaged in some aspect of microcomputer-related work in the area, whether it be design, research or manufacturing.

In the midst of all this microgenesis, it is only to be expected that CMC itself would attract a rather high-flown or even esoteric following. The club secretary, Derek Tripp, is director of Herald Computers, a marketing company whose standard fare is machines in the £2000-£6000 range. He and his club treasurer had in fact come hotfoot from visiting two computer shows that day in Birmingham, IBS, and a show concerned with the use of computers in agriculture.

The club is now in its third year and thriving — perhaps partly due to the fact that its treasurer attended the same accountancy course at Cambridge Tech as Acorn supremo Hermann Hauser.

The sturdy facade of the Portland Arms, harpessed together with the English licensing laws provide an effective bulwark against microkids—viewed as a definite plus by some club members who feel that the more serious technical aspects of an evening, such as the one that Your Computer attended when Acorn's technological hierarchy were there in force, might not be fully appreciated by younger computerniks.

Whatever their feelings about the youth of today in general, the Acorn men were definitely proud of their new baby, the Electron, which is what they were there to talk about. Adrian Warner kicked off for the company, giving us his personal insight into the soul of a new machine. As the BBC project closed in November 1981, the early idea of a "baby to the Beeb" was conceived, but obviously the company had more pressing considerations of production and selling their main model.

In November 1982, emulation began with four double-height Eurocards full of TTL to model the OS and make changes to the ULA. Having one single; complex ULA



which handles everything has slowed the Electron down by comparison with the BBC, and not just where processing is concerned. It provided plenty of development and production headaches too.

In April of the same year Alan Boothroyd designed the prototype casing which underwent changes until November. Little things, like ventilation holes underneath to stop the machine frying itself alive were added

In parallel with the other works, Steve Furber was "doing wonderful things" with Feranti ULAs. While the first printed-circuit boards were ready in September 1982, it was the ULA that killed all hope of a 1982 Electron at Christmas. All the designs until the current Mark G flopped. As the deadline began to slip, a number of goodies were dropped from the specification, though Mr Warner was obviously reluctant to say exactly what they were. He pointed out that it was a 95 per cent density ULA which evoked rapturous cries of "Crazy!" from the audience. For a moment I thought I was at a jazz concert.

Much has been made in the advertising of the machine's environmental testing — "We have a quality manager who drives me mad" — but it makes sense that a machine assembled in Malaysia and airfreighted around the world should

be subjected to drop testing and thermal shock. Still the tests have apparently convinced British Telecom's medical micro network, the Chain, that it is worth ordering 20,000 Electron-based terminals.

Which brings us to one of the main points of the evening — the unveiling of the first of a new range of expansion boxes which will instantaneously customise the machine for whatever purpose. Zahid Najan spoke about the expansion philosophy. "Whatever box we come out with has got to be very, very cheap." The box he showed us contained the minimum considered necessary and provided an interface for cartridges containing two 16K Eproms which would provide the Electron with BCPL, or View, for example.

Another project is a disc interface box which actually contains the disc and disc-drive as well. This would be quite different from anything available.

The club, which has around 50 members, publishes its own journal, Don't Panic, which is supposed to come out six times a year — things don't always go smoothly, hence the title. Past publications have included articles on baud-rate generation, matrix routines for the BBC Micro, and RS-232 driver and receiver. For further information contact Derek Tripp on 0223 315662.



Spectrum

BRIDGE PLAYER

At last you can play Bridge against your Spectrum. Unlike other bridge type programs, Bridge Player does not use pre-dealt hands.

The Acol bidding system with a week 1NT opening bid is used and the Blackwood and Stayman conventions are accepted. The display shows your hand and dummy, which you also play, the current and last trick, score and contract. A replay facility and scoring with honours, slam and rubber points are included.

Makes an ideal combination with our Bridge Tutor.

48K Spectrum

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Improve your programming. Add structure to your programs and take the pain out of debugging. Spectrum Extended Basic can help you do this by providing ten additional BASIC commands which are considered essential aids for most programming applications, so much so that many of these commands are standard features on other

The program occupies less than 5K bytes, is user friendly, requiring only a two key entry and incorporates syntax checking.

The commands are: *Auto; *Clock; *Delete; *Examine; *Find; *Memory; Renumber; * Scroll; * Trace; * Variables.

48K Spectrum

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GOLFING WORLD

Choose a club and the direction, use your skill to miss the bunkers, trees and water, reduce your handicap and watch your game improve.

Handicap Golf, a 1 or 2 player game played on a randomly generated course wth a 'close up' of the greens for putting. Reduce your handicap below 12 and enter the Club Championship; win this to qualify for the Open. The Club Championship and the Open are one player games played on a set course modelled on Lytham St. Annes. Scoring card, hole details and leader board (Championship and Open) shown.

48K Spectrum

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SUPERCODE

The ultimate Machine Code Tool Kit with 100 routines. Renumbers with and without go to's, go sub's etc; on break/ on error go to; beep/sound generator; block inserts/deletes; REMKill; dozens of screen routines' random number generator; etc.

★ Index of routines ★ Call up details of each routine including information to tailor the routine to individual requirements * Repeatable demonstration of most routines, save and verify individual routines * Direct from the combined (48K only) Basic program, 16K version using printed instructions.

16K and 48K Spectrum

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Supports Forth 79 structures, trig functions, logs, RND, square roots, etc., the ZX printer and access to I/O ports.

Has all the Spectrum hi-res colour graphics, plot and draw and beeper facilities. Allows direct entry of machine code. Up to 300 stock items, 117 UDG characters and 23 named variables are available Comprehensive User Guide supplied.

ZX REVERSI

When put to the test against other Spectrum Reversi programs, ZX Reversi was the conclusive winner. 10 levels of play (easy to expert).

Self play, player v. player and player v. computer, handicap system, set up a position, select the colour of the display, scrolling move history, scoring updated after each move.

48K Spectrum

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48K Spectrum

SUPERCHESS II

One of the strongest Spectrum chess programs, beating Sargon II, whose features include:

7 level of play

Plays a variety of openings

e.g. French Defense, Sicilian Defense, Ruy Lopez, Queen's Gambit etc. Self play mode · Analyse mode · Enhanced end-game play · Recommended move

SUPERCHESS II

16K Jupiter Ace £8.95 Lynx

48K Spectrum

SNAIL LOGO

An advanced implementation to the Logo turtle type graphics. Uses the original style Logo instructions to control the movements of a graphical Snail around the screen instead of a mechanical turtle. Includes the following features: Full operating system and Editor Comprehensive user guide with sample programs Multi-level Hierarchic Procedures Procedures Parameters · Recursive Procedures Nestable repeat loops Variables Colour and wall bouncing controls · 25 Language Instructions, over 20 warning and error messages · Commands to control the optional ZEAKER turtle.

48K Spectrum

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PLUS

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48K Spectrum	£5.95
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16K and 48K Spectrum	£5.95
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Send SAE for catalogue.

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UK prices include VAT and post & packing

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CP SOFTWARE, Dept.YC9,17 Orchard Lane, Prestwood, Bucks. HP160NN

Star* 50 F

Wild West Hero

48K Spectrum: Shoot-'em-up: Timescape Software: £5.90

* * *

Like all good Westerns this has a good opening visual and the controls are clearly explained beneath the Wild West saloon bar-type writing. A brief kaleidoscopic display transports you to the Arizona desert where you are suddenly surrounded by tough guntoting hombres and rather volatile cacti which blow up and kill you when you bump into them. You automatically shoot in the direction you are moving. Once you have made a name as a fast draw, more tenderfeet appear on screen.

The Ultra

48K Oric-1: Shoot-'em-up: Personal Software Services: £6.95

* * *

A touch of nostalgia here for the heady days of 1978 when the first space invaders began to creep into local pubs and arcades suddenly took on a new lease of life. The Ultra, as usual, are an evil race of mutant aliens - anyway they come in 16 waves of increasing mutancy and you attempt to destroy them with your lone laser. Good use of the Oric-1's colour facilities and a quiet/loud option on sound effects. Since a quiet Oric is a contradiction in terms, you should be warned that option two is liable to induce shell-shock.

Tool Box

BBC Model A or Model B: Utilities BBC Soft: £21.00

Over 20 programming aids in machine code and Basic, including a character definer, compacters, a program resequencer, variables dump and six sort routines, plus a fat ring-bound manual. A worthwhile collection, even if there are some items you do not need. But beware the Epson graphics dumps: they only work with the MX-80, and the disc version does not go at all.

Bugaboo

■48K Spectrum £6.95

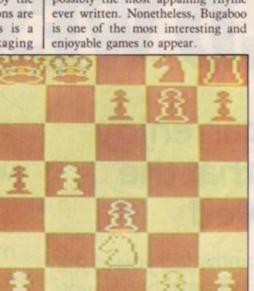
Quicksilva

* * *

IF YOU HAVE ever had a dog you will know how agile the flea is. Bugaboo is a highly original new program which features an athletic yellow flea of prodigious jumping ability. His task is to escape from the bottom of the screen to the exit at the top. Attempting to thwart his ambition is a vicious yellow pterodactyl which swoops around in menacing fashion.

One of the most attractive features of Bugaboo is its landscape; a multilevelled collection of dark caves and jagged ledges, decorated with psychedelic coloured mushrooms and shrubs. Cursor keys allow you to scroll left and right, up and down, to view the prospects in store.

Controlling Bugaboo's leaps is a tricky business, not helped by the fact that the on-tape instructions are not very explicit. Since this is a Quicksilva game the packaging contains only a silly blurb, with possibly the most appalling rhyme ever written. Nonetheless, Bugaboo is one of the most interesting and enjoyable games to appear.



Cyrus Chess

- Dragon 32K
- **■** Cartridge
- ■£24.95
- Dragon Data

CYRUS CHESS, RELEASED on cartridge by Dragon Data, is a version of the program which won the 1981 European Chess Championship. It has been decked out with quite a few extra facilities. You can set up the board for a problem, run through an already completed game, or take back a move; and, if you wish, the program will demonstrate what it thinks is your best move.

Perhaps the most useful feature is the way it allows you to interrupt its thought-process. At any of the nine levels of playing strength you can force Cyrus to come up with the best move it has found so far. This is a blessing since chess programs can be infuriatingly slow at higher levels.

But all these options are incidential to the most important question one should ask of a chess program - how good a player is it? The answer is that for a home computer program Cyrus plays a surprisingly strong game.

Chess programs are notoriously weak at stategic play. Typically they will defend a pawn with tenacity while ignoring the build-up of a standard king's side attack. Cyrus, however, is rather better than most. It plays a highly agressive game, throwing its pieces forward and piling on the pressure early.

It is all too easy to underestimate the program's skill, especially if you play passively. Before you know it Cyrus has swamped your defences and you are about to be trounced. The best course here is to weather the storm with cautious play: if you are lucky it will then over extend itself.

737 Flight Simulator

er 44 174

■BBC

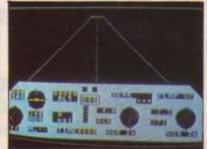
£9.95 ■ Salamander

* *

THERE MUST BE people with more flying time in computer clubs around the land than British Caledonian's entire Hamble intake combined. The trouble is, every time we get real pilots behind one of these computer simulators they tend to say things like "This perpetuates the myth that flying is difficult", or "Last time I went to the Boeing facility all I had to do was push a button and the bloody thing took off by itself."

However this may be, if you can not run to a Piper Comanche at the moment, a flight simulator will give you a better idea of the theory and instrumentation and some idea of how various controls relate than just reading a book - but it is no substitute for the real thing, or even for a real flight simulator. As there is no similarity between the layout of your computer keyboard and the controls of a jet airliner. Salamander has, sensibly, not attempted to recreate the aircraft's control layout on the keyboard.

There is a pause during the loading procedure when you are asked if you want to define your runway - because of geographical features, restricted areas and air (continued on page 91)



WHAT THEY SAID AT THE PCW SHOW...

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Please send me Wild West Hero now!

(continued from page 89)

traffic control requirements, no two runways are alike. You can even select a scale to suit the size of the chart so that it fits on the screen.

The controls which greet you when the flight deck is put up include compass heading, fuel gauge, DME - distance measuring equipment, artificial horizon, altimeter, gear position indicator, VSI - vertical speed indicator, and IAS — indicated airspeed indicator. It is worth it just for learning the acronyms alone. Future airline disaster movies might do well to feature a scene where, the crew having all been struck low by salmonella and the dipsomaniac conscience-stricken ex-flier having failed to make it up the steps, an unseemly brawl breaks out between owners of ZX-81, Atari and BBC

Documentation is excellent with a hardy labelled representation of the flight-deck instrument panel, a quick guide to control keys and a useful flying leson to familiarise yourself with the controls.

This said the visual display itself is not very impressive. There is no view from the cockpit when you take off - you are flying in "low cloud" - which is the computer version of the black square that is supposed to be a picture of a black cat in a coalhole at night.

The instruments all work, and this is the sort of game that will appeal to people who like figuring out what is going on from instruments.

flight simulation programs.

HUNCHED BEHIND the wheel of your Formula 1 racing car the endless

ribbon of tarmac unreels towards you at an incredible rate - well, quite fast. This is an impressive simulation of Atari's Pole Position, although for some reason the trees appeared to be red. Perhaps it is autumn. Rocks, warning arrows, lakes and

Chequered Flag

■48K Spectrum

* * * *

Psion Computers

£6.95

other landmarks zoom convincingly towards you over the horizon. The engine strains as you go up hills. Instruments require careful monitoring to achieve maximum performance and avoid skidding or overheating. You also get a choice of cars. The Feretti Turbo, the Psion Pegasus and the McFaster Special. Each has its own characteristics the McFaster has an automatic gearbox, so is ideal for beginners; the Feretti is turbocharged and develops 640 bhp between 8,000 and 10,000 revs per minute.

The dashboard display has fuel and temperature guages, a gear selection indicator, a rev counter, a lap counter and a full analogue speedometer. Real-life hazards such as skidding on oil patches and coming off the road are wellsimulated. Running over glass on the road causes a tyre to burst. You wobble violently and the car slows till you can reach the pits.

Ten circuits have programmed in: anywhere from Psion Park to Saturn Sands, or more terrestrial venues like Silverstone or Monza. There is even a circuit whimsically entitled Micro Drive.

An impressive array of keys are used to get the fine control required, at least eight for actual driving, plus a pause and an abort key. You can turn fast left or slow left for example by pressing different keys, which is great for your co-ordination; however, this is a game which cries out for a joystick option. Nevertheless, this is one of the most effective usages yet of the Spectrum graphics



Groucho

■48K Spectrum

F10

Automata U.K.



OURS IS A WORLD where people do not know what they want and are willing to go through hell to get it. Such was the lot of Pimaniacs, as the helpless purchasers of the last big piece of competition software from Automata became known.

The new mindbender from Portsmouth confirms T R Marshall's opinion that what this country needs is a good five-cent cigar. In fact, there was even one attached to the cassette box. This, and the "smash-hit disco track" on the flip-side, which is a curious fusion of Mark Knopfler vocals and Depeché Mode backing, with a Bonzo Dog Band play-out indicate the company's belief that Pimania and Groucho are not so much adventure games, more ways of life.

The prize you have to keep your eye on in this case is a trip for two to Hollywood to meet the star whose mystery personality is hidden within the program. The lucky duo will fly Concorde to New York then subsonic to Hollywood. They come back on the QE2, subject to availability.

An excellent loading graphic shows the immortal Groucho Marx with twitching eyebrows and his famous cigar. On following the first clue the program correctly deduced that I had never played Pimania and then conversationally asked me to wait a minute. Loading completed, I was plunged in the scenario of Metroville, Burger Valley, Tinsel Town and Indian Creek. Having lost quite a lot of my money in the local casino, I went into a bar where I met a Swedish actress whose name I had to guess from a number of clues.

But of course, I really cannot give too much away, that is the catch when reviewing this sort of game with a prize. Suffice to say the game is humorous and the graphics are excellent.

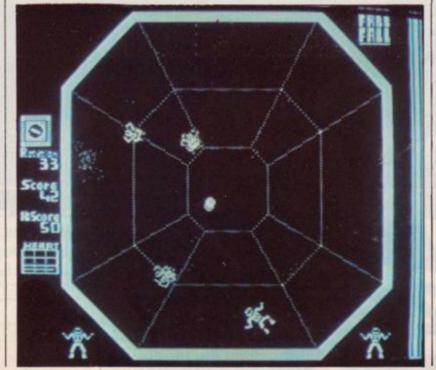


Free Fall

■ Electron £9.20

■ Acornsoft





A FAMILIAR EVENT in any spacestation these days is invasion by alien life-forms. In Free Fall Alphoids have "infected your air supplies with their own cyanidebased atmosphere" and you are the only crew member to have got his space suit on quickly enough. Your task, obviously, is to survive and destroy as many of the Alphoids as possible

The screen displays the octagonal station around which you float, propelling yourself with jets or pushing off from the side with your

Methods of killing the Alphoids are quaintly old-fashioned; you can punch, kick or ram them. If you can grab hold of one you can use a bomb. The aliens themselves come in the rather terrestrial form of Craboids, Lobstoids and the particularly vicious Warpoids. They will attempt to pinch, sting or bomb you to death.

Free Fall is a monochrome game, Acornsoft having sacrificed colour for high resolution and, as such, is visually rather dull. There are also too many keys for comfort, although you might find it more manageable with a joystick.

Everyone wants to get their hands on The Fuller Gift Pack.



The Fuller gift pack has got to be the computer bargain of the decade; no wonder everyone wants to get their hands on one. This super gift pack contains the fantastic Fuller Master Unit, the ultimate unit that provides all the requirements for the serious games enthusiast. The Fuller Master Unit incorporates both the Fuller Box and Orator; its amazing features include a speech synthesiser, an independent sound synthesiser, a joystick interface, an amplifier for standard Spectrum sound, a cassette interface and a hi-fi socket. The pack will also include a Master Unit demo tape and full documentation.

As well as the Master Unit this Gift Pack also contains a de-luxe Joystick, with suction adhesion, a firm smooth action and a moulded hand grip incorporating twin firing buttons.

Once your Spectrum has been added to the Fuller Gift Pack you will have an extended computer system that is second to none.

Now you can pit your mind against the four unique, exciting computer games included in the pack. These games have been especially adapted for this superb system and have added arcade sound effects and speech to bring out the very best in your Spectrum.

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In the twilight zone between pocket money and a government enterprise loan there are several good reasonably-priced home computers. Your Computer assesses the advantages of the machines at the top end of the market and suggests points to ponder prior to paying a pretty penny.

THIS MONTH'S REVIEW covers the computers that cost over £100. The machines can be treated as more than just games players and have the ability to run some of the simple business-type programs. Because of the change of emphasis in use, the general criteria by which a machine is judged shifts as does the required quality of the product.

Last month's preamble regarding the requirements of games machines will obviously not be repeated, but it is necessary to discuss the long-term viability of some of the contenders for your money, followed by the requirements of a home computer being used as a business tool.

The long-term prospects for a number of computer suppliers is not good. There is a need for rationalising and a combining of resources if the U.K. firms are to withstand the imminent challenge of the Japanese and hold back the American push for further market penetration. Divided they will fall.

Design is second to none

The design of the computers is second to none; the problem arises in producing the range of peripherals and software at the product launch, necessary to sustain an initial market penetration with further developments of current and future products. It is no use coming up with a promised accessory a year later.

This requires extremely tight qualitycontrol of the products and an overall discipline that may be lacking in some of the fledgling companies.

On the horizon are several computer systems which, on a computer head to head basis, are way below that of the best UK suppliers. But with huge resources available, the manufacturers are able to offer immediately those facilities which make the system cost effective and not just a technologically advanced toy, with a promised golden future.

The days of being able to market a sub-

standard or half-developed product have gone and any manufacturer trying that now will get severely burnt.

Merely financing future developments at or just above existing levels is a recipe for financial disaster. The market is about to split into very low cost home/games computing and business computing. Low cost in the home computing market means very large overseas sales which no U.K. manufacturer has.

The business market is less likely to buy on sales hype and will be expected to take a look at the cost-effectiveness of computer systems, which means available hardware and software.

In the business field most of the manufacturers do not supply or support software, they might distribute the odd game but they are in the business of selling computers. The software houses are likely to be the only source of supported software.

If you know what you are doing, then you can write your own, otherwise the software needs support.

It pays to think of the consequences of hardware breakdown and of the software having a fault:

Are you automatically notified of software faults? - is this service available as an extra?

How long is support guaranteed in writing for your system?

If the computer breaks down, who will repair it? - how long? - will you be able to manage if all the information is now stored in the computer and you cannot get to it?

Do you require back-up facilities? Thus if you are computerising your stock control, what happens if the floppy with all your data on it gets accidentally damaged. How do you recover, not only from the heart attack but also recover the data which may have taken months if not years to accumulate.

At a local level, what about security? Can your computer or data be wilfully damaged?

It sounds a terrible situation to be in. But it is not really that bad, it just needs careful thought and planning to avoid possible

disasters that are predictable. A car is not expected to work forever so why expect more from a computer?

Cassette tapes are the cheapest means of offline data-storage but suffer from several major disadvantages. The data can only be accessed serially - first file first, then second file etc. Data in a cassette file cannot be changed; it is necessary to rewrite the file somewhere else. Getting a particular file can be very slow. The advantages other than that of cost are the general availability of cassettes and the very large storage capacity of cassettes.

Cassette data storage is only suitable in a small number of cases at present. This statement may be reviewed if sending electronic mail to answering machines is proved to be both cheap and reliable.

Microdrives or floppy tapes are a slightly more expensive means of data-storage using an endless loop of tape. The Sinclair Microdrives cost £50 each and can store approximately 90K bytes, the floppy tape drives expected early in 1984 will cost a little over twice that for an extra 50 percent storage.

This means of data-storage is relatively new and it is advisable to duplicate data in a drive until long-term stability is proven. The Microdrive and floppy cartridges permit files to be erased and then rewritten - quite slow of course but the ability to change data is available and that is what counts.

Disc drives and interfaces

More expensive at about £200 are the floppy disc drives, the cost may well be much more because of the need for an interface to control the transfer of data from computer to disc. These can store about 100K bytes of data in single sided format. Double density and double sided disc drives are available but at even greater cost.

There are currently two standard sizes of floppy disc, 8 inch and 5 inch. The 8 inch discs are becoming a bit dated but the 5 inch floppies are reasonably reliable and provide rapid random access to files and data.

Hard discs represent the top end of the storage market, capable of storing very large (continued on page 95)

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(Sinclair User)

"At last, the alternative to death & destruction games.

(Which Micro)

"The best evidence that computer gaming has come of age complete entertainments package. Pimania is an adventure enthusiast's dream."

(Computer & Video Games) (P.C.W.)

"A real life treasure hunt meets Monty Python. "A real treasure, dripping with gold and diamonds.

(P.C. News)

"Health warning: this game can damage your brain. Try it, you'll love it"

(Personal Computer World) "An all time classic. Automata must be congratulated for their fantasies.

"THE BEST ADVENTURE GAME EVER WRITTEN'

(The PiMan)



my name is Uncle you win a fat cigar!

Automata proudly presents its 1983 BIG PRIZE PROGRAM: starring Groucho, the PiMan and a galaxy of Hollywood Stars. With a free outrageous disco single on every cassette. If you thought "PIMANIA" was entertaining you ain't seen nothing yet! Discover the identity of the world-famous Hollywood personality that we have hidden in the

program, and you can win a trip for two to Hollywood, to meet the star in person! Fly out on supersonic Concord, jet down to California to meet the Star, stay at the fabulous Waldorf in New York, then cruise back on the luxurious QE2, with £500 to spend along the way!!! Closing date: June 1st 1984. The winner to be announced on our regular back page in Popular Computing Weekly, on July 4th 1984 . . .

We dare you to play GO TO JAIL against your computer - but BEWARE, it may well win! Rise to the challenge of GO TO JAIL from Automata.



"This excellent simulation of the famous board game is unique! There are other versions, but this is real fun. A triumph of the programmer's Full marks. Another superb game for Automata. Computer World).

"Smooth continuous display. Allows you to personalise the program." (Your Computer).

"The game has to be seen to be appreciated. My Spectrum outsmarted me!" (Personal Computer News).

"Up to five players, including your Spectrum, a large scale moving board display, honest banker. We dare you to play against your machine. But beware! It may well beat you." (The PiMan).



MORRIS meets the

From the distant constellation of Morris Minor comes "MORRIS" the intelligent little car with a big problem: Morris suffers from claustrophobia! Abandoned in a multi-storey carpark, our tin-plate hero must get out fast, the problem is that PHANTOM KAMIKAZE BIKERS from the distant galaxy are after him, and he only has his Magic Horn to protect himself . . . ! Featuring worrying wheel clamps, penurious parking fees, treacherous tin tacks, problem petrol, hesitant hydraulic ramps, loony lift cages, creepy carbon monoxide, fastidious fuel gauge, and those fearsome phreaky phantom

Kempston Joystick compatible, machine code, 9 screens of play, with free tear-jerking record on the flipside "LEADER OF THE PAC", by Lady Clair Sinclair & the PiMen.

MORRIS MEETS THE BIKERS.....THE LEADER OF THE PAC!

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(continued from page 93)

amounts of data and providing almost instantaneous access to files. Winchester discs capable of holding over 6 Mbytes are available for approximately £450 plus additional costs for an operating system and interface.

A great deal depends on how much funding is allocated in the computerisation of the business. If you are not sure what to do, buy a cheap micro and play with it for two weeks and then ask your questions. If you dilligently work your way through the manual, there should come an understanding of some keywords being used and at least the user will know whether computing is the right thing.

There is absolutely no point in following the rest of the flock if the user finds it impossible to understand computing, that is just another way of spending money. Computing can bring efficiency, it can also bring incredible waste.

If the decision is to go ahead with computerisation then find the software first that is the most difficult part - and then buy a computer which will run the programs.

An alternative approach is to use the training facilities offered by a number of the larger retail outlets. These classes are run on a country-wide basis by Tandy and in London by a few of the major stores.

As a guide perhaps the following advice may be of help:

- Take your time and find the software package that suits your business, ask your association for guidance if you have one.
- You are looking for a system that suits your needs, that does not mean that you need the "best" computer.
- Colour may not be relevant in a business software environment.
- The software bought for the computer and the hours spent in setting up a computer operation will far exceed the price of the computer itself. Cost is a factor but in a business many other items contribute to the total system cost.

Home computing

Please bear in mind that with computers in the price range of £100 to £400 we are talking in terms of home computers providing some of the facilities of real business micros like the IBM.

This machine has a huge array of fully supported software available for almost any business activity, but they do cost money and require a financial commitment.

The choice of using what is effectively a computer is justifiable, but only

providing adequate software is readily available or the user has the inclination to invest a great deal of time and effort in producing the

SORD M5



Price	£179.95
Processor	Z-80A @ 3.6 MHz
Keyboard	Rubber moving key (55 keys)
Available memory	3K bytes
Operating system	Keyword or typed entry
Data correction	No syntax check on entry
Error format	Error codes
Editor	Screen editor (limited)
Cassette interface	250 baud
Display outputs	TV plus video
Basic	Very limited. Needs Basic-G
Expansion	Cartridge - Centronics type
When the real	I/F
Graphics	16 colours 32 sprites

Sound	Three channels plus noise through TV High quality software but
	expensive and in short supply. urely a games machine and does

not appear capable of interfacing into disc drives. The use of the cassette interface is likely to prove too slow. The amount of memory available is very small for a machine in this price range. The manuals do not explain clearly how to use the advanced graphics capabilities of the computer which includes two screens which may be alternated for animation.

TRS-80 COLOUR COMPUTER



f 179.95
6809E & 0:9 MHz
Plastic moving key (53 keys)
8K
Typed data
No syntax check on data entry
Abbreviations and error line number
line editor
1500 baud
TV only
Extended Basic (Microsoft)
RS-232 socket & cartridge port
Nine colours
256x192
128 × 128 (four colours)
Single channel through TV speaker
Considering the computer age, the software is expensive and only average in performance.

 The color computer has been around some time now, and has all the peripherals necessary to make an elementary business machine. It is expensive compared to other machines of similar performance. A large machine which has a built in power supply. Software support is likely to be better than that available for any other machine.

MINIMUM BUSINESS	SSYSTEM
Colour Computer	f179.95
Disc Drive	£400
RS-232 Printer	£150

SPECTRUM 48K



Price	£130
Processor	Z-80A @ 3.5 MHz
Keyboard	Rubber moving key (40 keys)
Available memory	41K bytes
Operating system	Keyword entry
Date correction	Each line syntax checked on entry
Error format	Full error messages
Editor	Line editor, very easy to use
Cassette interface	Reliable 1500 baud
Display outputs	TV Video from rear connector
Basic	Sinclair Basic
Expansion	Edge Connector, I/F1 & I/F2
Graphics	Eight colours - U.D.G.
Pixel resolution	256x192
Colour resolution	32x48 max.

Border	Eight selectable colours
Sound	Single channel beep
Games	Masses of high quality cheap games software

 The Spectrum has a moving key keyboard which not everybody likes. It is probable that your cost microdrive storage will bring about a large range of business software. The lack of descent sound from basic is unlikely to matter in a business context. The ability for several Spectrums to access the same database through Interface 1 is very useful in an educational environment.

MINIMUM BUSINESS SYSTEM 48K Spectrum £130 Interface 1 £30 2 Microdrives £100

MEMOTECH MTX



Price	£275
Processor	Z-80A @ 4 MHz
Keyboard	Real keyboard (79 keys)
Available memory	16K bytes
Operating system	Each line syntax checked on entry
Data correction	Fairly good editor
Error format	Full error messages (space sunsitive)
Cassette interface	2400 baud - variable
Display outputs	TV and monitor
Basic	Comprehensive with built-in
	Assembler
Expansion	Centronics & expansion Skt
Graphics	16 colours
Pixel resolution	256x192
Colour resolution	256x192 (16 colours) -
	Sprites
Sound	Three channels + Hi-fi output
Games	Some games planned

· Again, it is hoped that this computer will be able to run CP/M software in the very near future.

ATARI 600XL

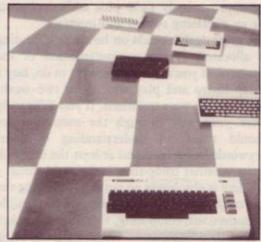


Games

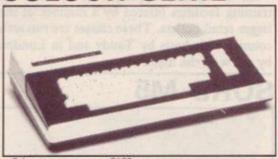
£159.99 Price Processor 6502B Keyboard Real keyboard (63 keys) Available memory 6-13K bytes Operating system Typed entry Data correction Each line checked on entry Error format Error codes Editor Very good screen editor Cassette interface Requires an Atari recorder Display outputs TV plus video

Average Basic implementation Basic Parallel bus and cartridge Expansion 16 colours Graphics 320x192 Pixel resolution 160 × 160 (four colours) Colour resolution Sound Four channels through TV

Very high quality • The Atari 600XL is a repackaged version of the Atari 400 with a smart new keyboard. Much of the published literature on the Atari 400 and 800 computers is the same.



COLOUR GENIE



Price Processor Z-80 @ 2.2 MHz Real keyboard (63 keys) Keyboard Available memory 26K Operating system Typed entry with function keys Data correction No syntax check on data entry Abbreviated error messages Error format Line editor Editor Cassette interface Display outputs TV and video Basic Average implementation Expansion Parallel interface & cartridges **Eight colours** Graphics 160 × 102 Pixel resolution 160 × 102 (four colours) Colour resolution Sound

Multi channel Not much software available

for the games enthusiast The latest Colour Genies contain an enhanced ROM with several minor improvements. The

inclusion of Integer, single and double precision does make the computer more suitable for business usage but the version of Basic implemented is a little dated. The picture stability on this model was not all that it should have been.

(continued on page 101)



Overseas add £1.00 to each Game



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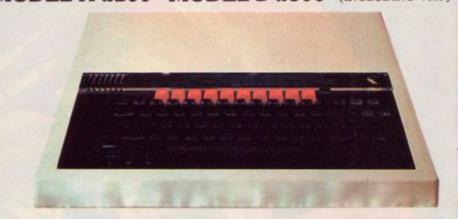
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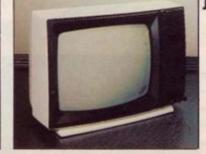
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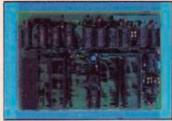


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Your starter for £150.



This complete starter pack for the price you'd expect to pay for a computer alone.

It's a complete computer system: the Commodore VIC 20 computer, a cassette unit, a simple explanation of computer programming (called "Introduction to Basic Part 1"), plus an exclusive compilation tape of four computer programs (Blitz, Type-a-Tune, Race, and Hoppit).

And all for just £149.99 or less.

It's a terrific opportunity to introduce yourself, and all your family, to the exciting world of home computers – and with what has been described as the best home computer in the world. The VIC 20 has educational programs for all ages (spelling, physics, arithmetic, etc.), plus music, typing, chess and home accounts.

There are special programs like Robert Carrier's menu planner and BBC 'Mastermind', and not forgetting, of course, lots and lots of wonderful arcade games.

You'll very soon be exploring new worlds of colour, animation, and sound.

Not just with a vast choice of programs, but with unlimited scope for expansion in the future.

The VIC 20 is the perfect com-

puter to start with because you can keep adding to it, and so get even more enjoyment out of it.

There are printers, disk drives, memory expansion packs and many other peripherals to choose from.

Which means, as your confidence grows, so can your VIC 20.

Get the VIC 20 starter pack today, and we promise you'll never look back.

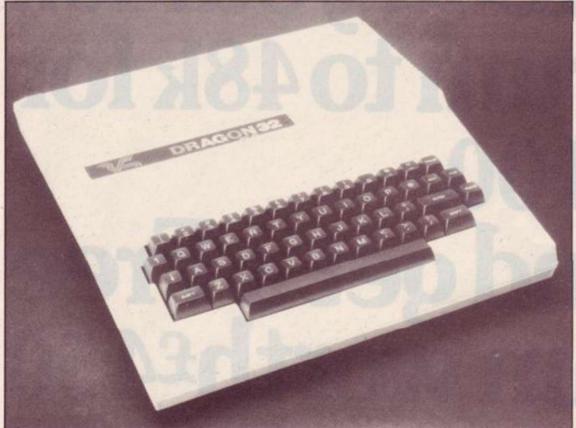


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ALSO AT BRANCHES OF A NATIONAL NETWORK OF COMMODORE COMPUTER DEALERS.

(continued from page 96)

DRAGON 32



Price	£175
Processor Keyboard Available memory Operating system Data correction Error format Editor Cassette interface Display outputs	Real keyboard (53 keys) 25K bytes Typed entry No syntax check on data entry Abbreviated error messages Line editor TV and monitor
Basic Expansion Graphics Pixel resolution	Similar to the TRS80 Basic Centronics & cartridge port 9 colours 256x192

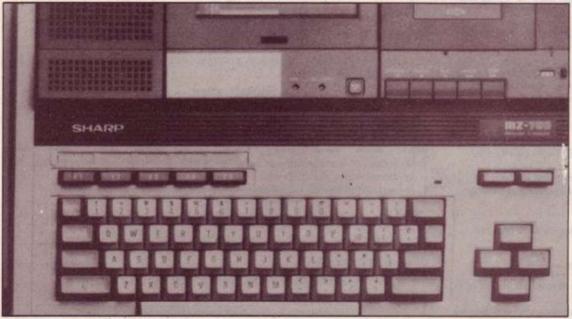
Colour resolution Sound	128x128 (four colours) Single channel through TV speaker
Games	As a games machine, definitely superior to the TRS color

quality of games

• The Dragon is based on the TRS80 Colour Computer. Being very similar, most written material is interchangeable. Support on the business side for the Dragon may be considerably below that of the color computer and whether the difference in price is sufficient to forgo such support is extremely doubtful.

computer in quantity and

SHARP MZ-711



Married Married Control of the Contr	PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	The state of the s
Price	£249.95	and the legislature
Processor Keyboard Available memory Operating system	Z-80A @ 3.5 MHz Real keyboard (69 keys) 37K bytes Typed entry & function keys	Graphics Pixel resolution Colour resolution Sound
Data correction Error format Editor	Full error messages Screen editor	Games
Cassette interface Display outputs	1200 baud TV video and RGB	The MZ-711 t the other comp
Basic	Has to be loaded from tape (2-3 mins)	cassette drive. pen drive mech
Expansion	Rear connector & Centronics	test each pen o

Eight colours 80x50 80x50 Single channel The screen resolution is not sufficient for most arcade style games

takes a slightly different approach to puters and has a built-in printer and The printer is the popular 4 colournanism, but unfortunately it does not on start up.



Price	£199	
Processor	2-80	
Keyboard	Rubber moving keys	
Available memory	13K bytes	
Operating system		
Data correction	Very gc screen editor	
Error format	Full erro messages	
Editor	Screen tor	
Cassette interface	1200/2- 0 baud	
Display outputs	TV and video	
Basic	MSX basic	
Expansion	Motherboard expander &	
	cartridge	
Graphics	16 colours	
Pixel resolution	256x192	
Colour resolution	64x48 (32 sprites)	
Sound	Three channels plus noise	
Games	A new machine with very little games software available in	
	this country	

which uses the new Microsoft Basic MSX. It operates in default double precision numerals and aspires one day to be able to run CP/M software. With may of the major Japanese manufacturers about to jump on the MSX bandwagon. We expect the low cost 8-bit computer mass market to succumb by default.

(continued on page 103)

Extend your 16k pectrum to 48k for ust£23.00. And get a Free

gram worth£4:50

Is the manual past chapter 24 a mystery to you? Beyond Horizon shows 48K Spectrum users how to PEEK and POKE systems variables, how to manipulate the display file, how to control the attributes, how to find out how much spare memory is left and much spare memory. With the SP48 this program is free. On its own, £4,50

SP48, 32K Memory Extension with Program - £23.00

Now, our SP48 offers even better value

Because now, we're not only offering you the facility to up-grade your 16K Spectrum to 48K, we're also offering you the opportunity to be able to utilise this vastly extended memory quickly and easily.

For £23 all you need to do is plug the chip-set into the sockets provided by Sinclair on your issue 2 (or £35 for issue 1) and you have a standard 48K

Spectrum fully compatible with all Sinclair add-ons and very low in power

There is no soldering required

Fitting and removal are easy

And the SP48 carries our full warranty and is upgradable, on a part exchange basis, to SP80

Then all you need to do is LOAD our specially written 48K guide program. 'Beyond Horizons', and your 48K computer will guide you through

its memory.

With no need to labour through manuals.

This will save you time, because we all know how easy it is to get lost with memory maps

SP80 Paged Memory Extension - £46

This ingenious device gives a 16K Spectrum two memory banks of 32K each and a massive total of 80K of RAM.

It can be used as a standard 48K machine, but pages can be switched by

software instructions within your program. The SP80 is not recommended for absolute beginners unless used with 48/80 FORTH

Fitting, power consumption and Sinclair add-on compatibility are identical to the SP48.

Fit and Test service at our premises £3, by registered post £7 48/80 FORTH - £14.95

This new FORTH compiler/editor is the latest, best and most complete version of FIG-FORTH for the Spectrum. Each tape includes both a 48K version and an 80K version. (Don't forget that an SP48 can be part exchanged for an SP80)

48/80 FORTH gives you the speed of machine code with the programming simplicity of BASIC, and is ideal for games-writing. Unlike other FORTH versions, all the Spectrum's excellent graphics commands are

retained, and sound is still available using BEEP. Cassette handling routines are also included

 $48/80\,FORTH$ includes a separate FORTH editor which uses part of RAM as if it were disc. The 48K version allows a 16K "RAM disc", and the 80K version a massive 32K "RAM disc

48/80 FORTH comes with a comprehensive user manual covering both compiler and editor

ZX Slowloader - £10

This classic piece of software loads ZX81 BASIC programs and arrays straight onto your Spectrum, ready for SAVEing and EDITing. It can do in a

ew minutes what would normally take weeks of keyboard time.
All products on this order form are in stock at the time of going to press. Same day dispatch for phoned Access and Visa orders. To East London Robotics Ltd: Please send by return (tick items required)
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(continued from page 101)

BBC MODEL B



Price
Processor
Keyboard
Available memory
Operating system
Data correction
Error format
Editor
Cassette interface

Cassette interface Display outputs Basic

Expansion

f399
6502 @ 2 MHz
Real keyboard (74 keys)
9-28K bytes
Typed entry with function keys
Simple to use line editor
Full error messages
Line editor
— baud

TV video and RGB BBC Basic with built-in Assembler

Centronics, RS232, disc etc

Graphics Eight colours
Pixel resolution 640 × 256
Colour resolution 320 × 256 (four colours)
Three channels

Games A very large volume of quality software available

• The BBC computer has been with us for some time now and has made great in-roads into business use. Its use in the educational field is also pretty extensive. A very fast version of Basic with a built-in assembler. The machine to compare against for a low cost business machine. Will have extreme difficulty in holding that position in 1984.

CAMPUTERS' LYNX



Price f225

Processor Z-80

Keyboard Real

Available memory 14K

Operating system Type

Data correction Four

Error format Full

Editor Line

Cassette interface 1200

Display outputs TV a

Z-80A @ 4 MHz
Real keyboard (57 keys)
Typed entry
Found to be complicated
Full error messages
Line editor
1200 baud
TV and RGB monitor

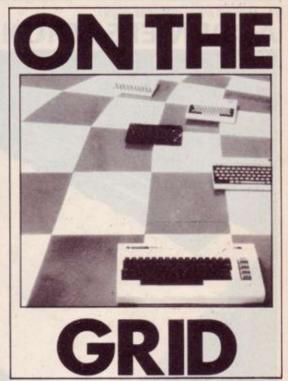
Basic Well structured with built in monitor

Expansion RS-232 & parallel expansion bus

Graphics Eight colours
Pixel resolution 256 × 248
Colour resolution Sound Single channel

Games Not seen as a games machine and very little software available in this area

The Lynx has, from its earliest days, held pretentions of being a business machine. When it finally can run CP/M software it will have reached its goal. Until then, the amount of software for business purposes is limited and expensive. For some unknown reason, this computer was felt to be more complicated in operation than the others in this review.



ATARI 800



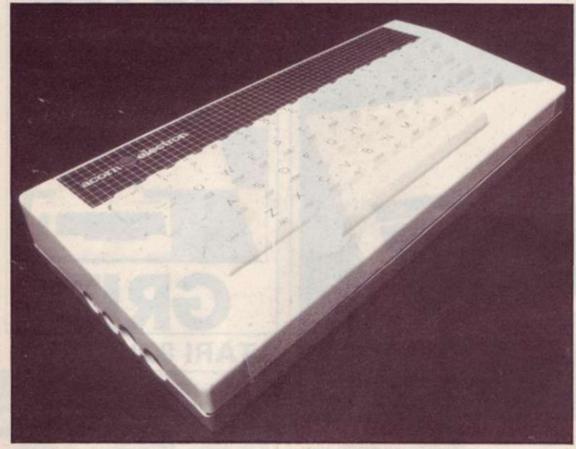
Price £249.99 6502B @ 1.8 MHz Processor Keyboard Real keyboard (61 keys) Available memory 38K bytes Operating system Typed entry Each line syntax checked on Data correction entry Error format Error codes Editor Full screen editor Cassette interface Requires an Atari recorder Display outputs TV plus video Basic A very good implementation in its day Cartridge ports Expansion 16 colours Graphics Pixel resolution 320x192 Colour resolution 160 × 160 (four colours) Sound Four channels through TV speaker or Int Games Very high quality but expensive software

The Atari 800 has been around a long time and will shortly be superceded by the 800XL. Whether under these circumstances the machine should be bought depends purely upon the level of discount available. Remember to add the price of an Atari recorder to the cost of a system.

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

ACORN ELECTRON



Price Processor 6502 @ 2 MHz Real keyboard (56 keys) Keyboard 9-20K bytes Available memory Operating system Single key or typed entry Data correction Simple to use line editor Full error messages Error format Editor Line editor Cassette interface Baud TV video and RGB Display outputs Basic

Expansion 50 way rear connector

BBC Basic running approx 2/3

Eight colours Pixel resolution 640 × 256 320 × 256 (four colours) Colour resolution Sound Single channel Games As a games machine, this should challenge Atari in software quality

· A cut down version of the highly successful BBC computer. It operates slightly slower and with only a single sound channel. Cannot help but be a runaway success with the BBC badge behind it. Whether it would achieve such ascendancy over the opposition on its own is questionable. Will need interfaces for printer and disc drives.

COMMODORE 64



11100	1223
Processor	MOS6510 (6502 compatible)
Keyboard	Real keyboard (66 keys)
Available memory	38K bytes
Operating system	Typed entry
Data correction	Simple to use screen editor
Error format	Full error messages
Editor	Screen editor
Cassette interface	Requires a CAM cassette unit
Display outputs	TV and video
Basic	A rather limited version of
THE RESERVE OF STREET	Basic
Expansion	Serial port and cartridge port
Graphics	16 colours
Pixel resolution	320×200

£229

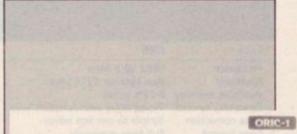
Colour resolution Sound	(sprites) Three channels
Games	As the price of the '64 is lowered, it broadens its base and comes more into the games market
	to the million selling Vic-20 is le

interfaced to a printer, disc drives and fitted with a CP/M option. The Commodore 64 is supported by a

reasonable library of business software. MINIMUM BUSINESS SYSTEM Commodore 64 £229 Disc Drive £229 £230 Printer

GRID

ORIC-1 48K





Price £139.95 Processor 6502A Plastic moving key (57 keys) Keyboard Available memory 37-44K bytes Operating system Typed data Data correction Mediocre line editor Error format Error messages Editor Line editor 300/2400 baud. Cassette interface Temperamental TV plus RGB monitor output Display outputs Average implementation Basic Expansion Edge connector, Centronics 1/F Eight colours - U.D.G. Graphics 240x200 Pixel resolution Colour resolution 80x200 max. Border Three channels plus noise Sound Games Quality software becoming available

• The Oric, like the Spectrum, does not have a propoer keyboard but does have a space bar. At launch several peripherals were promised which must soon be available? Speed printer - is this the MCP40 at 12 characters/sec max - Oric micro disc and communications modem. Rumour has it that Oric are about to relaunch with the original errors in ROM corrected.



PRINTER REVIEW

David Horne with a quick guide to the best printers on the market. THERE IS A VERY large and bewildering choice of printers available for the computer hobbyist and not a great deal of published work regarding the suitability of the machines for specific tasks. It is not possible to look at all the combinations of computers and printers but I hope to give a guide as to what can be expected from printers in each price bracket.

I have also highlighted the points that the user should evaluate when contemplating the

I have also highlighted the points that the user should evaluate when contemplating the purchase of a printer. The factors will be weighted differently depending upon whether the required use is business, educational or



hobbyist. For this reason I have simply stated the advantages and disadvantages of each approach.

The machines reviewed are all very good value for money and have been chosen on the basis of offering the most facilities within a given price-bracket.

As a general introduction it should be said that ideally a printer should have both Centronics and serial interfaces. It is logical that as the number of homes with more than one computer increases, whether it be one computer per child or just a spare computer, that each computer should be able to share the expensive peripheral devices that are used infrequently.

The annual/biannual cost of upgrading your system can be significantly reduced by purchasing a printer with the common interfaces — RS-232 and Centronics, although just as the last few years have seen an enormous expansion in the areas in which home computing is used, the same is about to happen to the printer.

What this actually means is do not buy a badge-engineered product if it has reduced facilities i.e., either the RS-232 or Centronics interface removed, unless there are overwhelming financial reasons for doing so. It could provide a limitation on your future choice of computers.

The two current main uses of a printer are to obtain listings of a Basic program and to perform word-processing activities. All the printers are suitable for producing listings. Some users may like wide listing paper so that comments may be added to the right of the relevant lines of Basic, but usually these would be added as Rem statements.

The reason normally given for adding comments separately from the listings is either (continued on page 109)

TANDY CGP-220





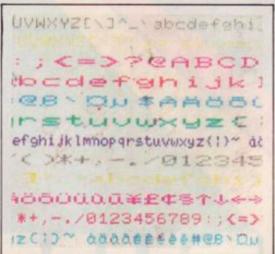
Price £499	Control of the	
Speed chars/sec	3	7
No. chars/line	9	1
Type of paper	pla	in
Paper width	8	
length	13	5'
No. shts		-
cost	£9.9	5/3
Cost of		
Ink cartridge b/w	£6.	95
col.	£9.95	
Print capability	yes	no
Upper/lowercase	-	
Graphics	~	
Screen dump	-	
Colour	-	
INTERFACES RS232	-	
Centronics		

A very high quality 7-colour ink jet printer capable of excellent text and graphics performance. Very easy to load and unload ink cartridges, which can quickly be set 'off' for long periods of no use. Quiet in operation. The character set is in two parts with the 'sign' in what is called the 'European set' at CHGR\$ (163). Colour resolution is 320 pixels across the

paper although the dot resolution is 640 because the colours tend to mix. Each ink cartridge is sufficient for about 8 rolls of paper. Centronics and serial interfaces. CONTROLS CHR\$ 10 Linefeed CHR\$ 13 Carriage Return CHR\$ 18 Bit image graphics CHR\$ 28 Repeat commands CHR\$ 30 Exit bit image

SEIKOSHA 700A





Price £725 + VAT	2	0
Speed chars/sec	3	
No. chars/line	10	
Type of paper	pla	in
Paper width	1()"
length	- 11	**
No. shts	91	4"
cost	£16 for 2,000 she	ets
Cost of pens	N/	A
ribbons	£2.	50
Print capability	yes	no
Upper/lowercase		
Graphics		
Screen dump		
Colour	*	
INTERFACES		
RS232		-
Centronics	-	

A very nice looking colour printer that has the ability to produce colour screen copies. Each pixel is colour addressible. There is software control over formfeed and lines/page. Centronics interface only. There is a copy command for screen dumps. When the optional extra screen dump board is installed. Does not appear as noisy as the two less expensive Seikoshas.

CHR\$ 10 Linefeed
CHR\$ 12 Formfeed
CHR\$ 13 Carriage Return
CHR\$ 14 Double width
characters
CHR\$ 15 Standard
characters
CHR\$ 16 Print start
position address
CHR\$ 20 CR without LF
(DC4)
CHR\$ 27 ESC commands
CHR\$ 28 Repeat
commands

CONTROLS

TANDY CGP-115





Speed chars/sec	12	
No. chars/line	80	
Type of paper	plain	
Paper width	4.5	
length	150'	
No. shts	N/A	
cost	£4.99/3	
Cost of pens	£1.99/3	
ribbons	N/A	
Print capability	yes n	
Upper/lowercase	-	
Graphics	-	
Screen dump	~	
Colour	-	
INTERFACES		
RS232		
Centronics		

A colour printer that has virtually become the standard, in many different badge engineered forms. Capable of high quality plotting and of screen dumps in colour. Low noise level and very good quality print but a trifle slow. Has limited capability of setting different print parameters, i.e. Carriage Return or Carriage Return and Line Feed.

CONTROLS

CHR\$ 8 Backspace CHR\$ 10 Line feed CHR\$ 11 Reverse linefeed CHR\$ 13 Carriage Return CHR\$ 17 Set text mode CHR\$ 18 Set graphic mode

CHR\$ 29 Change colour There is also a range of controls in graphics mode to enable the printer to operate as a four-colour plotter.

ANIROG

COETIMAD ULIVVAN





MISSILE DEFENCE

ANIROG SOFTWARE

8 HIGH STREET, HORLEY, SURREY. 24 HR. CHEDIT CARD SALES HORLEY (02934) 6083 AYMENT BY CHEQUE, P.O., ACCESSIVISA 50p post & packaging

MISSILE DEFENCE

Brings the well known arcade game to life on the Spectrum screen in glorious colours. Defend your cities from the missile attack and smart bombs. 10 skill levels. KB/JS 16K/48K £5.95

SLAP DAB

An exciting game based on the arcade game Painter which combines fast action with strategy. Giant insects hiding under the old paint surface are released by your paint brush. You require fast action and quick thinking to outwit them and finish the panel. The game is 100 percent machine code and HI-RES. Graphics also includes Hi-score and running score.

GALACTIC ABDUCTORS

A stunning action packed game with superb large animated graphics. Giant Space Hawks whirl and weave in intricate patterns as they drop their deadly homing mines which will destroy your base on contact. While you are busy defending yourself the Hawks will feed on your helpless population returning only their skulls. All M/C game complete with high score table that will blow your mind with its graphics and sound

KB/JS 16K/48K £5.95

FROGRUN

Popular arcade game. All machine code with brilliant colour graphics and sound effect. Features include snakes, crocodiles, lady

frogs, turtles, cars, lorries and logs. KB/JS 16K/48K £5.95

TINY TOT'S SEVEN

Super games pack for younger children with bright colour graphics and sound effects. Everybody's favourite Simon plus Super Snap O's and X's. Word Jumble. Bomber. Duck Shoot and Mad Drivers.

KB 16K/48K £4.95

AVAILABLE SEPT. 1983

KONG KB/JS £5.95 **XENOII** KB/JS £5.95

TRADE ENQUIRIES 29 WEST HILL, DARTFORD, KENT. (0322) 92518

(continued from page 107)

program security - it makes it easier for someone else to follow if a program is correctly annotated - or that the comments can be written in a different colour and therefore stand out much better, enabling the reader to gain a better insight to the workings of the program.

With the limited memory available on many machines, the use of valuable RAM working space on formatting neat program notes for easy reading - if it is not neatly tabulated it will not be very easy to see the remarks - is not something that the user will usually contemplate.

The advent of the very popular four-colour printer plotter enables the user to provide his own listings with remarks coloured for easy viewing. Inserting a pen which has run out of ink into the appropriate colour pen holder you must not run the mechanism with a pen missing - will provide copies without visible remarks. It took me ages to think of this use for an old dried up pen. Waste not want not.

For word-processing the needs of the enthusiast are not the same as the small business. Generally speed is not that important as the quantity of processed text will be small. The requirement for an A4 print is also not quite such a necessity, as it is just possible to get away with less. For instance, sending text to a magazine in 40 column format will generally be OK as that is how we

Accepting that narrow text is in certain cases permissible, it should only be considered as an interim solution until finances permit the acquisition of a A4, 8 inch wide paper, printer.

Another consideration for word processing systems is lower case descenders. This is the portion of the printed character that is below (continued on page 111)

BROTHER EP-22



There is a very larg computer hobbyist and suitability of the mac at all the combination guide as to what can t I have also highligh contemplating the purc differently depending educational or hobbs advantages and disadvo The machines reviews chosen on the basis of

Price £170	
Speed chars/sec	17
No. chars/line	75
Type of paper	plain/
	Thermal
Paper width	A4
length	
No. shts	N/A
cost	£2.85 for 100
Cost of pens	N/A
ribbons	£5.70 for 5
Print capability	yes no
Upper/lowercase	-
Graphics	
Screen dump	,
Colour	-
INTERFACES	
RS232	-
Centronics	,

A portable printer that can be used as a typewriter, a calculator and as a word processor, capable of storing approx one page of A4 text with the power switched off. Currently the cheapest 'wide' paper printer. would have liked to use it to enter data into the computer but nonetheless a very good printer. The keys are a trifle 'light' with no

audible feed back. The 16 character LCD display shows what is being typed in and allows a measure of text correction. This is a new concept in printers. There are no lower case descenders.

CONTROLS CHR\$ 8 Backspace CHR\$ 10 Linefeed CHR\$ 13 Carriage return (as selected)

ZX PRINTER



1110 GOTO IF Y Y-F (0 OR Y-1120 1),X; 1125 PRINT AT Y-F,X PEEK (PEEK THEN GOSUB NT AT Y-(F ODE PRINT -F,X; 1130 1135 1136 1150 NEXT F PRINT AT Y-6,X PRINT AT 0,X;" PRINT AT Y,X;" LET FR=FR+1 RETURN 1180 1190 1199 1200 REM ********
FOR F=1 TO 5
PRINT AT Y X;

Price £40	
Speed chars/sec	50
No. chars/line	32
Type of paper	metallized
Paper width	4"
length	65'
No. shts	N/A
Cost of pens	N/A
ribbons	N/A
Print capability	yes no
Upper/lowercase	
Graphics	-
Screen dump	
Colour	-
INTERFACES	
RS232	
Centronics	

Probably the cheapest means of producing hard copy output from a Special computer. Sinclair interface prevents its use without an adaptor on other computers, at which price you should consider other printers. The metallized paper rolls are of variable quality and can produce faded bands of printing. The accumulation of particles inside the printer

affect the drive logic leading to alternate line offsets and rather peculiar characters. The printer is also prone to become noisy after prolonged use. The solid bar roll holder is a useful accessory and helps in overcoming the initial sticking of the paper drive. Very fast COPY, LLIST and LPRINT. Plotting and user defined graphics available.

NEC PC-8221A

28 CLS: PRINT * FULL-WIDTH PRINT * SYSTEM * 25 LET st=64736 26 PRINT * 48K version * 30 PRINT * 3 4 Hill ay Ltd 1983 * 32 PRINT * 470 way a to ten to your particular printer. In ma cases this is not necessary: Jeres ENTER. *; AT 20.0; Do you want to adapt this printer ten to your particular printer? * 5 press ENTER. *; AT 20.0; Do you want to your printer? * 5 press ENTER. *; AT 20.0; Do you want to your printer? * 6 press ENTER. *; AT 20.0; Do you want to your printer? * 70 LET * 4736 * 80 INFUT (* 400 many characters pressing ENTER * 11 printer the Ldefaulti value. * 70 LET * 4736 * 80 INFUT (* 400 many character * 11 ne does your printer have Let * 12 press * 12 press * 13 press *

Price £80	
Speed chars/sec	below To low
No. chars/line	40
Type of paper	thermal
Paper width	3
length	150'
No. shts	THE TAIN
cost	
Cost of pens	- "
ribbons	
Print capability	yes no
Upper/lowercase	-
Graphics	
Screen dump	
Colour	-
INTERFACES	SPECIAL PROPERTY.
RS232	■ Computer
Centronics	V

Currently the cheapest Centronics and the cheapest dot addressible printer on the market. Exceptional value for money. Run by four penlight batteries or a mains adaptor. Limited paper width of 3 inch. Very quiet in operation and completely portable.

CONTROLS CHR\$ 10 Line feed CHR\$ 13 Carriage return CHR\$ 14 Double size printing CHR\$ 15 Standard printing CHR\$ 27 ESC Used to produce user defined graphics which may be 16x16 pixels in size.

Computer Pro

65 Falstones Basildon Essex SS15 5DF Tel. (0268) 412545

Very clever machines

At silly

SPECIFICATION

Executive quality daisywheel 120 words per minute Parallel or Serial 88 character ASCII 10 or 12 char spacing Paper width 13" Easy operational use 6.4" x 19.5" x 12.4"

SMITH - CORONA

TP-I £299 plus VAT at £44.85 r.r.p. £485 + VAT at £72.25 SAVE £213.90

THE COMPUTER PRO

STAR DP 510/515 510-£235

+ VAT at £35.25 r.r.p. £289 + VAT at £43.35

SAVE £62.10 515-£285

+ VAT at £42.75

r.r.p. £399 + VAT at £59.85

SAVE £131.10

SPECIFICATION

Dot Matrix printer Parallel interface 100 chars, per sec. Friction and Tractor feed 2.3K Buffer Bidirectional logic 9 x 9 matrix (descenders) Italic printing (96 ASCII) Auto underlining 5.3" x 15.2" x 12.4" 5.3" x 21.3" x 12.4"

PROMISE Computer Pro is owned and run by electronic engineers. We test and evaluate the equipment to ensure quality - then we negotiate the best

possible price. If you can buy cheaper we'll refund the difference.

SPECIFICATION

12 chars, per second 88 ASCII chars. 10 or 12 char. spacing Serial or parallel Simple operation Correcting Tape Automatic relocation 5.5" x 16.9" x 14.2"

SILVER REED EX 43 £249

VAT at £37.35 (centronics interface £99 + VAT at £14.85, RS232 interface £109 + VAT at £16.35). r.r.p. £325 + VAT at £48.75

SAVE £87.40

STAR stx 80 £129 plus VAT at £19.35 r.r.p. £149 plus VAT at £22.35



SPECIFICATION

Thermal printer 60 chars, per sec. Parellel or serial 5 x 9 dot Matrix 80 columns Bi-directional

HOW TO ORDER

Just send a cheque with your order to: Computer Pro Limited, Department YC, FREEPOST. Basildon,

Essex SS15 4BR Tel. (0268) 412545 * Don't forget to add VAT.

* Don't forget to add £10 for securicor carriage on printers and £1 for other items.

* Don't forget to specify interface required.

* IEEE to Centronic convertors available for Commodore 64 and VIC 20 at £26 + VAT at £3.90.

ALL EQUIPMENT CARRIES FULL MANUFACTURERS WARRANTY

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Each disk individually certified.

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Packs of 10.

s/sided s/density £12.95 s/sided d/density £15.95 d/sided d/density £18.25 s/sided g/density £19.95 d/sided q/density £22.95 + VAT at 15% post and packing £1 per pack.

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giving outstanding value on ZX81, Spectrum, VIC 20, Commodore 64, Dragon 32, ORIC I, Atari, Texas TI 99/4A and BBC micros and software. Complete listing of monitors, disk drives printers, cassette readers, books, all peripherals and accessories.

(continued from page 109)

the general base level of the printed capital letters i.e., the lower case letters g, j, p, q and y. If these sit up on a line the text can become difficult to read, with problems in differentiating between the g, q and 9.

All the printers will work within a normal office environment without creating a significant noise problem, but the dot matrix printers and the ZX printer can cause a disturbance in a domestic environment especially late at night.

In this respect the ink jet and thermal printers are the most suitable, but clearly do not have the capability of producing multiple copies from multi-part paper. I know it's obvious but with the colour matrix printer, only the original is coloured, the carbon copies are black and white.

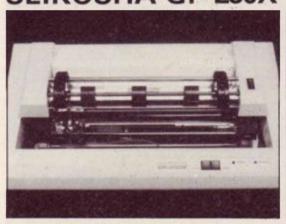
One of the main uses to which printers will be put in the very near future is electronic mail. Messages can be transmitted to suitably equipped sites at 1200 baud, usually at less cost than posting a first class letter, which should arrive the next day, or of sending the message orally over the telephone.

Think of all the post that you send and how much of it could be serviced in this manner including the payment of bills using a credit card facility. It could be seen in today's climate as a way of greatly reducing costs in a very labour intensive industry.

The development of electronic mail is dependant upon the advent of very cheap Modems, which are also responsible for holding back the demand for access to large database networks. We really are very close to the electronic communications age, not just for big business but also the general public, with all its obvious advantages and sometimes not so obvious perils.

(continued on next page)

SEIKOSHA GP-250X



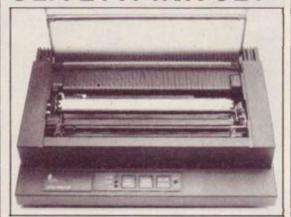
! "#事%&'()*+,-./012345 parstuvwxyz(|)~ dädā£r !"非事况&? < > 注 HIJKLMNOPQE panstuvwxyz 羊丘中ライルテラPOR !"#\$%%(()*+,-,/012345 panstuvwxyz(|)~ dädāés ! "#\$%&'()* HIJKLMNOPQR

Price £260		
Speed chars/sec	5	0
No. chars/line	8	0
Type of paper	pla	nin
Paper width	10)"
length	N.	A
No. shts	£15	for
cost	2.0	000
Cost of pens	she	ets
	N	A
Print capability	ves	no
Upper/lowercase		
Graphics	-	
Screen dump	-	
Colour		-
INTERFACES		7
RS232		100
Centronics	~	

A very good business machine but not really suitable for the home where the noise and installation may be a problem. Cover removal is required to gain access to switch selectable functions including baud rate. Dual centronics and serial interfaces. Paper feed not very easy to use. Has control over print operations, with form feed and lines/page.

CONTROLS CHR\$ 7 Bell CHR\$ 10 Linefeed CHR\$ 12 Formfeed CHR\$ 13 Carriage Return CHR\$ 14 Double width characters CHR\$ 15 Standard characters CHR\$ 16 Print start position address CHR\$ 20 CR without LF (DC4) CHR\$ 27 ESC commands CHR\$ 28 Repeat

OLIVETTI INK JET



! "#\$%&'()*+,-./0123456 qrstuvwxyz{|}"#\$%&'(cdefghijklmnopgrstuvwx; UVWXYZ[\]^_ `abcdefghij GHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZE\ 9:; (=) ?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMN: +,-./0123456789:;(=)?@[{|}-!"#\$%&'()*+,-./012; mnopqrstuvwxyz{|}" #\$! `abcdefghijklmnopqrsti QRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_ 'abcdef' CDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWX'

Price £400 Speed chars/sec No. chars/line Type of paper Paper width length No. shts cost	66 132-80 plain 8-9" N/A £15 for 2,000 sheets
Cost of ink £7.5	50
Print capability	yes no
Upper/lowercase	-
Graphics	-
Screen dump	-
Colour	-
INTERFACES	
RS232	*
Centronics	,

CHR\$

tabulation

A very fast quiet ink jet printer with manual control of the print intensity. Capable of very high quality graphics. I could not use the roll paper as the machine was supplied without a left hand support bracket.

CONTROLS CHR\$ 7 Bell CHR\$ 9 Horizontal Tabulation CHR\$ 10 Linefeed

CHR\$ 12 Formfeed CHR\$ 13 Carriage Return CHR\$ 14 Double width characters CHR\$ 15 Standard characters CHR\$ 16 Print start position address CHR\$ 20 CR without LF (DC4) CHR\$ 27 ESC commands CHR\$ Repeat 28 commands

11

Vertical

TANDY TP-10



!"#\$%&'()*+,-./01234 ~8 !"#\$%&'()*+,-./0123)~Z !"#\$%&'()*+,-./012 1)~8 !"#\$%&'()*+,-./01 (1)~8 ! "#\$%&'()*+,-./0 2 (1) ~ 図 ! "# 歩ん& ' () * + , - . / 9z(1)~8 !"#\$%&'()*+,-. xyz(1)~2 !"#\$%&'()*+,-WX9Z(1)~2 !"#\$%&'()*+, VWX9Z(1)~8 !"#\$%&'()*+ uvwx9z(1)~Z !"#\$%&/()* tuvwx9z(1)~8 !"#\$%&'() - + m m m - / 1 1 m = 1 H # 4 % 6 / /

Price £80 Speed chars/sec	30	
No. chars/line	32	
Type of paper	thermal	
Paper width	4"	
length	65'	
No. shts	N/A	
cost	£2.80/2	
Cost of pens	N/A	
ribbons	N/A	
Print capability	yes no	
Upper/lowercase	-	
Graphics	-	
Screen dump	~	
Colour	-	
NTERFACES		
RS232	-	
Centronics	~	

Currently the cheapest RS-232 printer on market. The quality is extremely good but limited to 4 inch wide paper and 32 chars. The printing is very quiet spoilt by a comparatively noisy line feed ratchet.

Graphics capability is limited to quarter character cell blocks. There are no lower case descenders in the character set. Currently the best print quality for under £100.

Note that all examples are actual size. The cost of the Seikosha 700A featured on page 107 is about £440 and not £725 as indicated. Other prices should only be taken as a general guideline.

(continued from previous page)

I hate to think what is actually going to happen to the network when the 'enthusiast' gets hold of it with an intelligent terminal; with the new electronic exchanges I can not see how it will be stopped.

A printer uses what is euphemistically called consumables. These affect the ability of the user to actually print hard copy output. In an office, if the printer runs out of paper, either to to the stationery cupboard and get another botx or get some from a local stationery stockist.

It is not quite that easy in the evening at

home, a hobbyist is unlikely to carry a large range of spares so it is worth considering what levels of spares is required. A ribbon can dry out if left for any length of time unused and exposed. In such cases, wind the ribbon back and forth to wet it from adjacent inked portions of the ribbon.

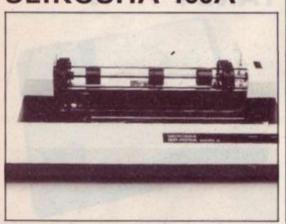
Always cap ink pens when not in use. If these run out then your stuck. Users of the four-colour printer mechanism may prefer to purchase replacement pens from a Sharp stockist who provides packs of four pens — one of each colour.

Ensure that if the equipment is battery

operated, the batteries have sufficient charge to produce a clear print, otherwise use the main adaptor. As a general rule, roll paper as supplied is less likely to contain creases and is also less likely to jam. If you use fanfold paper, there may be a requirement for a form feed, otherwise printing over the perforated tear may occur, which besides being difficult to read, creates a lot of printing noise.

The space requirements of fanfold paper is much greater than that of roll paper behind the printer, think very carefully about how and where you intend to install your printer. It is not usually a problem.

SEIKOSHA 100A

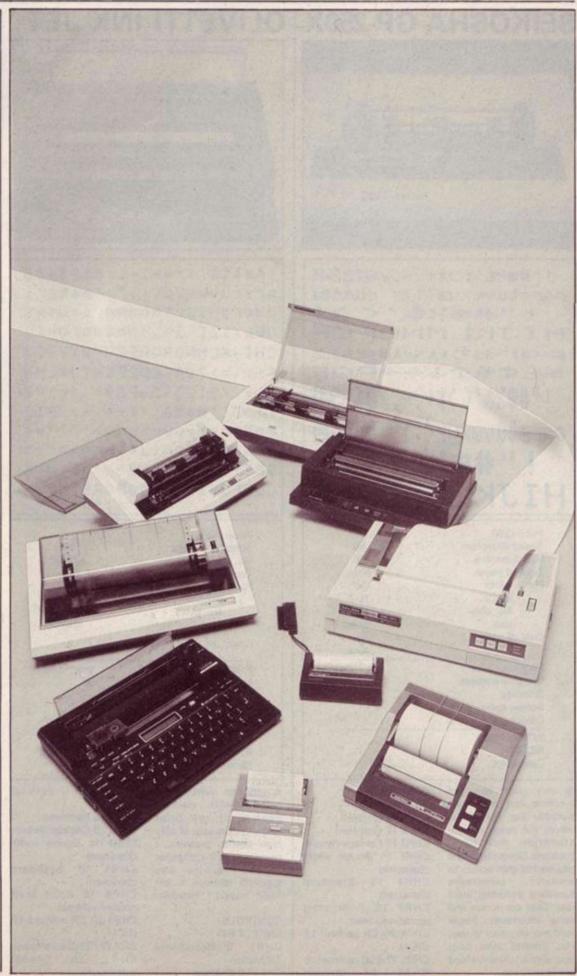


ZENIAL abcdef9hijklmno
ZENIA_P9rstuvwx9z(1)~
ZENIAL abcdef9hijklmno
ZENIA_P9nstuvwx9z(1)~
ZENDALNabcdef9hiJklmno
ZENJA_Parstuvwx9z(1)~
ZENJ^_ abcdef9hijklmno
ZENIA_Panstavwx9z(1)~
ZENIA_Nabcdef9hijklmno
ZENJ^_pqnstuvwxyz{1}~
ZENIA_Nabcdef9hijklmno
ZENJALP9nstuvwx9z(1)~
75.30 sahadafahi iklman

Price £215 Speed chars/sec	5	0
No. chars/line	8	0
Type of paper	pla	in
Paper width	4-1	0"
length	N/	A
No. shts	N/	A
cost		
Cost of pens		
ribbons		
Print capability	yes	no
Upper/lowercase		
Graphics	-	
Screen dump	-	
Colour		-
INTERFACES		
RS232		-
Centronics		

One of the cheapest dot matrix printers with graphics capabilities. Can be used with two part paper to produce carbon copies. The top cover has to be removed to gain access to CR or CR/LF switch. Paper feed not very convenient, can be upgraded for RS232, the cassette ribbons easy to install. A UK character set may be used which puts the £ on Shift-3 key. No lower case descenders

CONTROLS CHR\$ 8 Backspace CHR\$ 10 Linefeed CHR\$ 13 Carriage Return CHR\$ 14 Double width characters CHR\$ 15 Standard characters CHR\$ 16 Print start position address CHR\$ 20 CR without LF (DC4) CHR\$ 27 Horizontal dot address CHR\$ 28 Repeat command



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PACKAGE GOES FAR BEYOND THE POPULAR IMAGE

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YOU CAN ALSO ADJUST THE SPEED AND DIFFICULTY OF EACH GAME TO SUIT YOUR CHILD. OR LET THE COMPUTER ADJUST ITSELF **AUTOMATICALLY AS YOUR CHILD** PROGRESSES.

LEARNING WITH

MRT

MR T, GOOD HOUSE-KEEPING'S LIVELY ANIMATED CHARACTER, WILL HELP YOUR CHILDREN EXPLORE ALL SORTS OF PREVIOUSLY DIFFICULT EDUCATIONAL AREAS. NOW THEY CAN LEARN TO TELL THE TIME, OR COPE WITH REAL MONEY, IN AN EXCITING AND ENTERTAINING WAY.

MR T WILL ALSO HELP YOUR CHILDREN COME TO TERMS WITH THE WHOLE IDEA OF COMPUTERS AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THEIR FUTURE LIVES.

THE PARENTS' HANDBOOK

A PARENTS' HANDBOOK IS INCLUDED IN EACH PACKAGE, CONTAINING SIMPLE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS AND A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO HELP YOU AND YOUR CHILD GET THE BEST OUT OF EACH PROGRAM. IT ALSO CONTAINS A WEALTH OF FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES FOR YOU BOTH TO ENJOY AWAY FROM THE COMPUTER.

YOUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE **BEGINS HERE**

PUT YOUR HOME COMPUTER TO WORK FOR YOUR CHILDREN NOW. SEND FOR YOUR GOOD HOUSEKEEPING EARLY LEARNING



OR ABOVE 48K MR T TELLS THE TIME E1295 EACH

MR TS ALPHABET GAMES E1295 EACH MR TS NUMBER CAMES E1295 EACH AVAILABLE MR TS MEASURING GAMES £12.95 EACH MR T'S SHAPE GAMES £1295 EACH TOTAL

DRAGON AND COMMODORE 64, VERSIONS AVAILABLE 1984 ENCLOSE MY CHEQUE/FO, FOR THE AMOUNT ABOVE INCLUDING VAT AND PAIR MADE PAYABLE TO EBURY SOFTWARE OR CHARGE MY ACCESS/VISA/DINERS/AMERICAN EXPRESS.

DATE

(BLOCK LETTERS) ADDRESS_

TOTAL NUMBER OF PACKAGES ORDERED.

REMITTANCE SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO EBURY SOFTWARE AND SHALL BE HELD ON S BEHALF IN THIS ACCOUNT UNTIL THE GOODS ARE DESPATCHED. PLEASE ALLOW UP TO DAYS FOR DELIVERY. OFFER APPLIES TO UK. AND FIRE ONLY.

EBURY SOFTWARE (A DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE CO LTD)

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING SOFTWARE EARLY LEARNING

ALL OVER THE COUNTRY this Christmas children will wake to find their stockings grotesquely bulging. Yes, Santa has brought them a nice Commodore 64 or a homely Vic-20 all the way from Greenland. Or wherever it is he lives. If they haven't been broken on the trip down the chimney, then those children - and adults - will need some

If they are lucky they will have been given some of the better programs from the wide range available for these two machines. But if the mere thought of Christmas depresses you and the thermal underwear is not keeping the mid-winter chill out of your bones, you might like to plug in a program that transports you to the balmy days of summer.

Hovver Bovver, from Llamasoft for the CBM-64, will do just that although, as the name suggests, there is not a lot of peace and goodwill around. The bizarre imagination of Jeff Minter has here turned suburban contentment into a screaming battleground of dogs, gardeners and ordinary old chaps.

As Gordon Bennett you borrow Jim's Air-Mo to do the lawn thinking that "Jim won't mind if I borrow his mower." Jim, however, minds very much and comes raging after you to re-posses his machine. As you try to avoid him you are helped by your local hound, Rover, snapping at Jim's ankles to keep him away. But Rover does not like the sound of the mower so you have to keep an eye on the Dog Tolerance and Dog Loyalty displays.

Horticultural holocaust

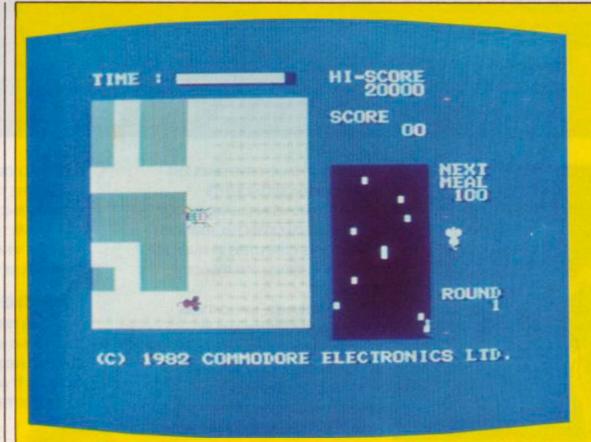
As you run away from Jim - or Alf or the others whose mowers you expropriate - you must be careful not to plough through a flower-bed; should you do so you will bring an angry gardener onto the scene and this makes your job all the more difficult.

Hovver Bovver's graphics are excellent but it is the sound that particularly impresses; barking, snapping, screaming and mowing are all cleverly imitated while in the background a manic version of "In an English Country Garden" remorselessly grinds away. This clever game features 16 different lawns, one of them with a llama-shaped flower-bed.

This strange obsession with llamas surfaces again in a Llamasoft game for the unexpanded Vic-20. This is an entry for the longest computer-game title of all time competition; Metagalactic Llamas Battle At The Edge Of Time - hereinafter referred to as Battle.

The extraordinary blurb rivals Quicksilva for absurdity; in the struggle against the evil empires of Irata and Zzyax only the "cerebrally-enhanced llamas" are holding out at the "edge of time". Their opponents are "cyborg arachnid mutants" - spiders to you and me. The spiders descend on strings while the llamas spit at them. Should a spider reach the ground it will turn into a "disgusting

If you move the force-field up and down "expectoration may be aimed at many parts of the screen from a static llama". Make no mistake, these beasts can really squirt it out and the game is very fast and quite exciting; it is certainly good value for the unexpanded Vic. After the shoot'em-up it's the age of the spit'em-up game.



Pete Connors mows the lawn, battles with the CBM-64's Bits, helps Dicky the owl recover his diamonds, rescues Fay Wraye and puts England into the World Cup final — all from the comfort of his armchair.

There is no spitting yet from Virgin though. It has four new games out; Bitmania and Falcon Patrol for the CBM-64, Envahi and Creepers for the Vic-20. With Creepers Virgin seems, at last, to have produced a winner. The game induced in me some of the excitement and compulsion that Space Invaders once had.

It is essentially a very simple idea. At the top of the screen are the aliens who bounce up and down stealing your energy supplies at the bottom. Your ship is to the left of the screen and can move only up or down, thus making it harder to hit the aliens farther away. When an alien has collected five of your energy units it mutates into a vicious green projectile which comes weaving after you.

At the start the game seems a little bland, even dull, but as the aliens get more frenzied it really does become compulsive. The nervejangling sound effects enhance the appeal, as do the crisp and uncomplicated graphics.

Envahi is an interesting idea, but rather dull in the execution. You have a helicopter with which you must protect a city, and the dam which towers over it, from invasion. If the alien munchers get through the dam wall is eaten and the city is deluged. Other invaders, preferring terra firma, make straight for the

There is not quite enough going on or

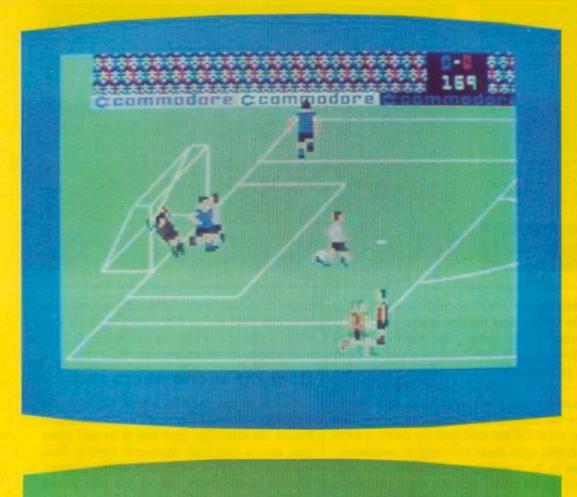
enough graphic interest to make Envahi a gripping game. Fed up with the helicopter? Then why not take the VTOL fighter for a spin? As in Falcon Patrol, where you have to protect your ground installations from attack by enemy aeroplanes.

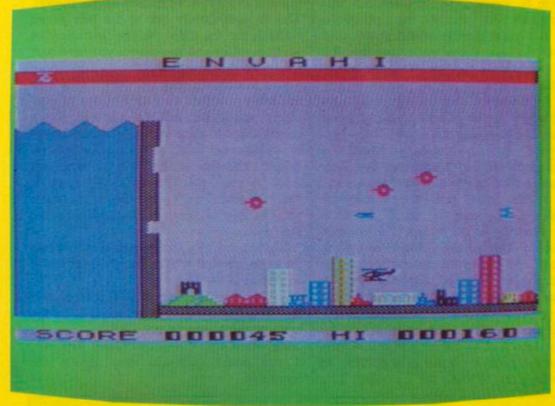
You have 100 missiles and a Defender-style radar at the bottom of the screen. Periodically you must do a vertical landing in order to refuel, a trick I never perfected as the enemy always comes at you just as you settle. The graphics in this game are good but the landscape is a trifle monotonous - palms, sand and flat-topped buildings. Falcon Patrol, though, is an enjoyable version of a familiar

At the heart of the micro

In Bitmania "you are inside a data-bus within the 64 and battling against the neuron flow". You must reach the central core, defending yourself against the CPUs armies of Bits. These are opponents looking like baubles falling off a Christmas tree. Bitmania features Centipede-like mutations and obstacles and is a colourful game, though its sound effects are

Imagine's Bewitched is a maze-type game although you would not realise it from reading the ridiculous blurb with its talk of death,





Top left: Rat Race from Commodore. Top right: International Soccer from Commodore Above: Envahi from Virgin Software.

dungeons and famine. You have keys of different colours which you must match with a door of the same colour in order to escape, meanwhile avoiding the ghosts who resemble purpic tadpoles. Those who like maze games could find Bewitched, for the unexpanded Vic-20, worth an investigation.

The need to see what lies on the next screen is one that all games players must have experienced. Zorgon's Kingdom from Romik, for the 8K or 16K Vic, is a program which uses this need to the full. I will not attempt to convey the anguish I felt when I realised that to see screen two I had to get my man to the top of screen one not just once but two times.

Zorgon's Kingdom has five screens through which you must endure similar agonies of

frustration. The first screen has ladders, walls, holes and rolling bombs; it is a mixture of Monsters and Krazy Kong. Screen two goes on to ropes, lifts and mutating octopi. And so on. The graphics are interesting but not particularly exciting, yet the game has an appeal which makes it fun to play.

Romik's Atom Smasher, for the unexpanded Vic, is Centipede for the nuclear age; you are in a "runaway nuclear reactor" and must shoot the protons building up around the central core. It is a fast and noisy game which I found difficult to control with joystick or keys. Melt-down was rapid.

Diamonds are traditionally a girl's best friend, but in an entertaining and witty game from Romik for the CBM-64 we see an owl

and a spider battling for possession of the sparkling gems. Stephen the spider has stolen Dicky the owl's diamonds, and he does not want to give them back.

Stephen, in fact, is a curious spider since he seems to have only half the normal complement of legs. However, this does not prevent him from spinning a tricky web which Dicky has to penetrate to retrieve his rocks. Dicky's task is difficult and requires the player to have quick reflexes and use logical skills and to find the best way through the web.

If you are not a very wise owl, Stephen will come and poison you. Thank God I did not meet his pal Cecil who appears on later pages. The moral of Dicky's Diamonds seems to be that you should never trust an arachnid with your jewellery.

Behold the Pac-Man

Zappy Zooks, also from Romik for the CBM-64, is disappointing in comparison. It is a dull Pac-Man-style game with an uninteresting maze and fuzzy graphics.

Audiogenic's A Country Garden for the 8K Vic-20 takes us back to summer pastimes. It seems that the "future of English horticulture depends on you" as various mutant pests ravage your carefully tended garden. The game is, in fact, a good version of Centipede, very fast and with clear graphics. If mass murder is one of your hobbies, then this game will appeal to you.

Amok, for the unexpanded Vic from Audiogenic, is a rudimentary game in which your little man must shoot or avoid the nasty green robots who have gone berserk. It is not the most exciting of games, but if you haven't got any extra RAM, what can you expect?

Anirog has three new games for the CBM-64; Skramble, Kong and Hexpert. The first has all the usual features; the rugged landscape, the cavern, with yo-yos, the firstballs and skyscrapers. The graphics are well up to standard and the sound is very good, especially when your ship is blown up, but sadly the game is terribly slow.

Kong, too, is a familiar game. To Rescue Fay Wraye from the nasty gorilla you must climb to the top of the screen avoiding barrels and monsters. Later screens offer lifts, girders and conveyor belts. Your brave little man is a funny creature with a long wobbling nose like an anteater's proboscis. This is an adequate version of an old favourite.

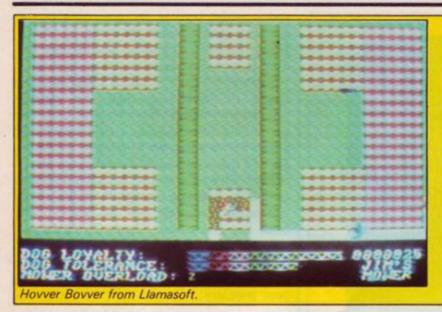
Hexpert is not nearly so effective. Here your man Bert must paint each block of a 3D pyramid made of hexagons, avoiding the rubber balls and Coily the snake. The graphics are rather ghostly and Bert is sometimes hard

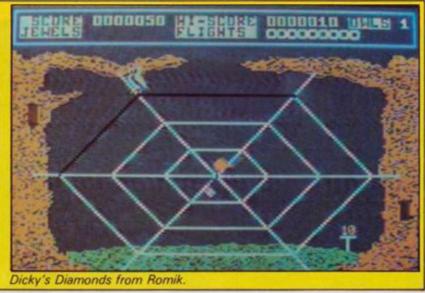
to spot in this dull game.

Quintic Warrior for the CBM-64 is from Quicksilva and, of course, comes with a silly blurb, this time about the sixth sense, sinister crabmen and mangled mutants. The game itself is similar to Gridrunner. Mutants rise from the bottom of the screen and must be zapped. Along the sides are two lasers; if you are caught in their fire, then the game is up. Quintic Warrior is an enjoyable fast game despite the ordinary graphics and weak sound.

From AVS comes a flight simulator for the unexpanded Vic, Flight Zero-One-Five. The

(continued on next page)





(continued from previous page)

program requires lots of information to be keyed in and, therefore, lots of keys to be used. It lacks a good display of the horizon and does not seem to be worth the time it takes to really master the controls.

The road goes ever on

The Hobbit is one of the all-time best-sellers for the Spectrum, and now Melbourne House has produced a version for the CBM-64. Not surprisingly, it is virtually identical to the original. Based on Tolkien's famous book, the Hobbit allows you to assume the role of the diminutive, but charming, Bilbo Baggins. Your task, while looking after Thorin the dwarf, is to find the evil dragon and recapture the stolen treasure. En route you will encounter opposition — the evil Gollum, trolls and suchlike.

Help might be available from the magician Gandalf, though you must be careful as he is a testy old wizard.

Each different location in the adventure has its own clean graphic representation. Melbourne House claims that characters in The Hobbit interact with each other and, therefore, that no two games are the same. I never got far enough to really test this claim. Commands can be entered with more flexibility than is usual in adventures, due to what Melbourne calls "Inglish".

If you want to succeed it does help to have read the book. The Hobbit is a superior

adventure game which should be as successful on the CBM-64 as the Spectrum.

Commodore's new cartridges for the CBM-64 include Rat Race, a superior maze type game in which your mouse — or is it a rat? — must find the cheese. He or she is pursued by nasty red opponents who would rather eat him, or her, than the cheese. To throw them off the trail you lay down a scent which will send them spinning in confusion.

Also to be avoided are the black cats who smugly block your path. At the right of the screen is a radar display which shows your position relative to cheese and opponents. Rat Race's graphics are good and the game is very enjoyable.

The CBM-64's sound facilities are acknowledged to be the best among home computers. Surpassing even the BBC. This difference can be clearly heard in Commodore's Music Composer cartridge. The sample tune can be altered to feature any three of the nine instruments that are available. As the tune is played the notes appear on staves on the screen. The program will allow you to use the CBM-64 as a piano keyboard, again with the notes appearing as you play them. Creative users will want to compose, and this is one of the main purposes of the program.

Unfortunately, you must enter a tune by pressing keys A to G, rather than just playing it in on the piano keyboard as is possible on Quicksilva's MU-PROC for the BBC. This

slight criticism apart, Music Composer is a welcome addition to CBM-64's software and will provide much entertainment, and instruction, for those who use it.

Over the moon about this

And so to the choicest morsel on offer this Yuletide; Commodore's own International Soccer on cartridge. Just slot it in and there you are; a hundred thousand baying fans, luscious green turf, supremely skilful players. This is undoubtedly one of the best games available for the CBM-64; the sophistication of the graphics and the control you have over your players are remarkable.

You manoeuvre only one player at a time but when you pass control switches to your player nearest the ball. So you can play a robust long ball game as if you have a soupcon of continental flair, one-touch football of delicacy and finesse. Either way, when you score a goal the joy of the players is heartwarming. They bounce back to the centre circle in slow motion jubilation, Match of the Day style.

Goalkeepers, too, are impressive as they leap for a stinging shot or dive bravely at the feet of oncoming forwards.

International Soccer gives 100 percent over the full ninety minutes, Brian, and is by far the best speaking simulation available for the home computer. It is a two player game or, if you prefer, you can play against the computer.

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P.O. Box 88,	(Vic-20)		15 Palmeston Road,		
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			Romik,	Dicky's Diamonds	
Commodore,	International Soccer	£15 or less	272 Argyle Avenue,		£6.99
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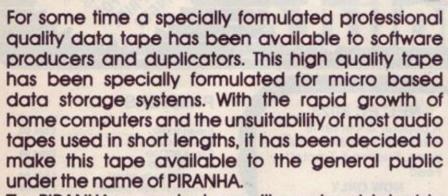
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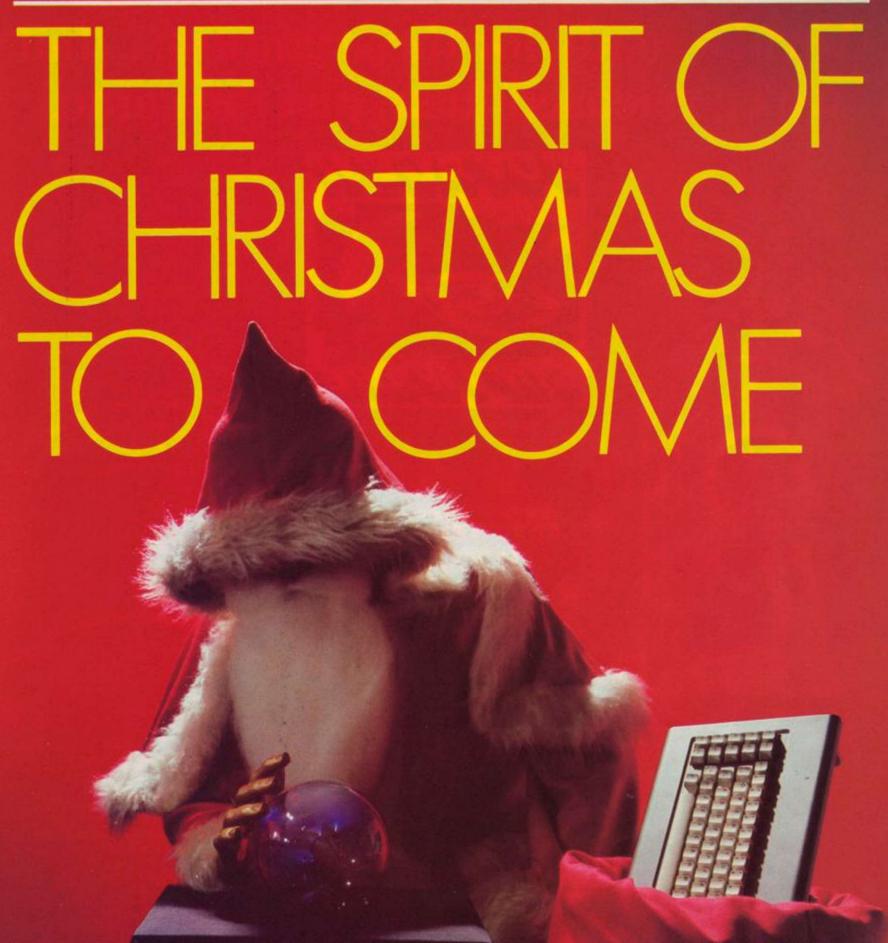
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Christmas



A STRIKING microcomputer industry trend in 1983 was the continuing fall in retail prices. Traditionally Christmas is the time for the biggest price cuts, but since prices have been dropping ever since micros appeared, how much longer and how much further can they go? In the video cassette recorder market, by comparison, prices have already stabilised, and will probably increase slightly, but with accompanying improvements in facilities.

Most computer companies will be looking for record sales this Christmas, and an increased market share. But quantity commitments to factories are usually needed almost 12 months ahead. In other words, by the end of January this year, the major retailers had already decided how many machines they could sell this Christmas.

After deciding the right quantity, they just have to sit back and wait. By August, some forecasts can be reviewed, but it is already too late to change the numbers; by now the factories have already made the majority, and have bought parts for the rest.

The sales potential of any home microcomputer is inversely proportional to the price. By September, the Christmas selling prices must be determined. Brave — or blinkered — companies stick to the regular price; nervous ones start hacking the regular price down. Provided the dealers now buy all the manufacturer's stock everyone's happy. If they do not, some drastic steps are needed. First off, the high-turnover operations are approached; people like Boots, WH Smith and other multiple chains will often respond to discount offers. The second step is to beef up the advertising campaign. The fastest reacting method is TV, but the price has to be paid, and £250,000 does not go too far these days.

Commodore U.K. reckons it is heading for 35 per cent of the British market this Christmas, and has projected over £7 million on advertising/PR to achieve it. With a market estimated at £500 million, Commodore targets retail sales at over £150million, with about 5 percent going to the advertising campaign. In practice when dealer discounts are considered, actual sales are nearer £100 million, and the advertising portion is relatively higher.

(continued on page 123)

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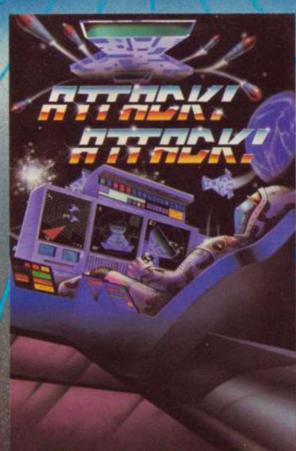
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Anyway, by Christmas Eve it is all over and some manufacturers should live to see another year. For many this price war will be the last, and not enough fat will have been stored away to see them through the lean months. The casualties can usually read the writing on the wall by mid-November, but will still go down fighting.

There have already been some signs as to how tough the fight will be; Dragon Data has recently raised £2.5 million, reducing, Mettoy, the parent company's stakes, to around 8 percent. How many more hard times can they survive?

Once this Christmas is out of the way, we can all look forward to next. I will try a few predictions, but in this business any form of forecasting is usually inaccurate.

For Christmas 1984 many of this year's micros could be half-price. The Commodore 64 could be £99.95, the Tandy Colour around the £100 mark. Sinclair's Spectrum will not reduce much, say to £69.95, with Oric following. The BBC Model B must have some price cuts, though I am surprised it has held for so long. While the big school purchases are still there, maybe it will stay at £399. Who knows? What of the Electron? It ought to share its big brother's success, although the investors seemed cautious when Acorn's share issue was undersubscribed.

Many computers introduced

Many of this year's favourite computers will continue through to next year, but numerous others will be introduced for next Christmas. However many new micros are launched, there is sure to be another offering from Sir Clive. What will it be? Oft has the Sinclair Business Computer been suggested, but unless the price-point is right, he has little chance of churning out the tens of thousands needed to ensure success. Business users do not buy mail order, or wait months for delivery. The actual specification of the business machine is still not officially released, although many have published their predictions. If it is to be aimed primarily at the business market, it must include disc drives and a monitor as standard.

Even Sir Clive did not rate his new flatscreen TV as a computer monitor. Unless colour is required, liquid crystal displays have a number of advantages over the flat screen, but no doubt Sinclair can reverse this status. For disc drives is he thinking of the Spectrum Microdrives? If he wants a 16-bit micro to compete with the IBM-PC, he will have to use more conventional drives like the Sony 3.5 inch units. For the home market, the Spectrum could be upgraded to include the cartridge and joysticks option as standard, with probably 64K of RAM.

Many of the existing micros wil see a new lease of life with some of the latest peripherals coming next year. One of the most interesting from the enthusiast's point of view will be the micro-disc drive, although prices and capacities of the 5.25 inch drive will improve. I would still favour the regular mini-disc drive for a couple of years yet, although by then the "micro-Winchester" may be the norm. A combination 3.5 inch fixed hard drive and floppy microdisc seems like an ideal

combination for the business machine.

Some machines will be expanding their RAM complement as the 64K-bit chips become cheaper. Surprisingly there is a shortage of many types of integrated circuit right now, with a potential supply crisis early next year. In the long term the situation will improve, but until then, most chips will hold their price, which will keep manufacturing costs up slightly, and encourage some designs into custom chips rather than standard components.

One market sure to expand in the next year is portable computers. This year saw the introductuion of the Tandy Model 100, a revolutionary device with its built-in software and 40-character-by-eight-line liquid crystal display, and all working off four penlight batteries.

A number of other manufacturers will follow Tandy's lead, with other devices from the same stable and surely prices will fall. The liquid crystal displays will become larger and cheaper, maybe up to a full screen size of 80 by 24. This type of product is exactly what the Japanese manufacturers need. Taking existing technologies and making it cheaper, smaller and more reliable is their forté.

The factory where the Tandy Model 100 is made is one of the most up-to-date in Japan, with almost total automation. Small unmanned trolleys move components and finished items around the factory by sensing wires in the floor. All the components are automatically inserted, and then solder-dipped, before being 100 percent tested. Further stages of manufacture are totally automatic, leaving the employees to do only jobs robots can not do — yet. Nearly 300 staff produce the equivalent of five computers each per day.

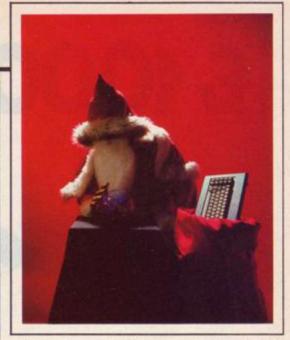
Telecom Gold Service

The liberalisation of British Telecom might help promote the underutilised communications capabilities of modern microcomputers. The introduction of the Telecom Gold service will give the business user freedom and security in setting up a system, and the private user a chance to use a nation-wide network for the cost of a local call and minimal rental for his mailbox.

Telecom Gold is a service offering the basis of a sophisticated electronic mail network, for very moderate cost, and allowing various levels of communication outside the user's network.

Each user is allocated a user identification — ID — password. To log in, the user calls a local number, and an auto-answer Modem answers. When the carrier tone is heard, the user switches to data, or inserts the telephone handset into the acoustic coupler. From now on it is all keyboard stuff; after entering the ID and password, the system prompts if any mail has been received since the last log on.

"Mail" is messages sent from one user to another, or from one user to a whole group. Each message is time and date stamped, and can be coded for "acknowledge receipt" or "reply requested". After mail has been read and answered, it can be either deleted or stored appropriately. Many other features are available, but this is the basic concept.



All that is required to use an electronic mail system is a computer and an acoustic coupler; a device that usually connects to the computer's RS-232C port and fits into the phone handset, so that tones produced by the coupler can be transmitted down the lines. Unlike the acoustic coupler, the direct-connect Modem actually links on to the telephone wires, and can also offer auto-dialling and auto answer.

These Modems, with the auto-dialling and auto-answer facilities will soon be sold for around £100. In fact, if the Japanese were allowed a chance they could be £29.95. There is nothing inside a Modem to make it £400, it is just quantity production that is required.

An unpublicised set of conditions for BT—British Telecom—approval of integral Modems—actually it is BABT not BT, but same controls—means that after a sample has been technically approved in the UK, BABT has to send one of its engineers to inspect the supplier's factory. If this happens to be in Japan, the cost can be quite extortionate. Considering the high-quality standards of manufacture in Japan, they do not have any problems convincing the BABT safari man!

Over the past few years various types of alternate input device have been introduced, but none is a real threat to the Qwerty keyboard. There have been bid pads; a type of writing pad that can decode characters written on it, the Microwriter; a one handed keyboard which uses combinations of five keys strategically located under each digit, and the latest one to crawl out of the skirting board; the mouse.

Mouse on the way out?

None of these devices has been particularly successful, so why should the mouse be any different? Who is likely to pay around £6,000 for the Apple Lisa and use only the mouse? It is far easier to press one key to indicate the desired function, then it is to locate it with the mouse. On a cheaper machine which could justify its price for one unskilled user, maybe the mouse has a valid purpose, but I believe after a short while the mouse user would prefer to learn to type. The mouse cannot be used to enter strings of text so the user must resort to the keyboard for word processing anyway. I think that the mouse will become extinct in 1984, but what new gimmick will replace it, who knows?

For some time now, there has been talk of standards for hardware specification of home (continued on page 125)

£1000 TO BE WON!



SEARCH FOR THE UNIVERSE'S WHIZ KID & VID WHIZ

Softek are scanning the known Universe for the greatest Whiz's, both at programming a popular micro and acheiving the highest scores ever on a Softek game.

ARE YOU THE GREATEST WHIZ KID?

Rumour has it that this Universe's greatest programmer resides on planet SOL 3, sometimes known as "Earth". Can you prove that it's true? Between now and Dateline 31.12.1983 A.D. Softek are hunting for this planet's greatest. If that's you then send us proof! We'll consider any evidence of your supreme ability! Send that brilliant new program you've been working on, or the groundwork of it (which of course still shows its greatness quite clearly!). Softek will guarantee you 100% ASSURANCE that your copyright will be observed and confidence maintained. In January we will announce in the Micro-press who the Softek Whizz Kid is. If it's you then you can expect to be signed up by Softek to publish your wonder works. Even if it is not you, then there's a chance that you'll be offered a contract to write for Softek anyway - incorporating the highest royalties of any Software house together with worldwide distribution which is second to none!

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(continued from page 123)

computers, giving the opportunity for software compatibility between different manufacturers' machines. Some may doubt the advantages for such a move; any constraints on the specification of a new model to ensure compatibility with the standard could mean that the new machine has no advantages over its predecessor, except perhaps on price.

But do we only want cheaper computers? It stands to reason that any form of standard to be introduced by the big manufacturers will have to be flexible enough to allow unfettered evolution, but retain a common core to use the software developed en masse for the whole range. If the standards concept is thrown out of the window - which I feel is unlikely - the format of the next generation of micro computers will go the way the strongest muscle decides. By muscle I mean manufacturer's muscle, not consumers' muscle. The consumer has a track record of trading machine performance for value for money, and often ignoring value for money in favour of lowest price.

In the business end of the marketplace, we have already seen the might of IBM enter the ring with its personal computer.

Nobody invited IBM. No. They simply put millions of dollars into developing a new 16-bit micro, sought the co-operation of software giants like Microsoft, and then used their considerable marketing clout to launch the product.

When the machine was first announced, many declared the hardware specification too unconventional, and with a new species of operating system to overcome, the IBM was often dismissed as a non-runner. More like a one-horse race. IBM needed penetration of the marketplace, and software is the key in business computer marketing. Quantity production is the key to software marketing, so with promises of huge sales of the IBM PC, software houses could not afford the risk of missing out on this sector of the business.

But the race is still on. Now that so much software has been developed on the IBM and its MS-DOS operating system, — called PC-DOS on the IBM — other manufacturers are seeing the light and switching research and development funds to IBM look-a-likes. Even some of the biggest names in the business have conceded that they must marked an IBM-like machine in their range. But IBM must not wait around too long, either, now that others are on their bandwagon, and if they want to stay ahead of the rest, they will quickly move on to greater things and lead the industry to the next horizon.

New Japanese standard

On the personal computer front, and by "personal computer" I mean "home or enthusiast computer", there is a move afoot to settle a new Japanese standard known as MSX. The main point being to standardise the software and minimum hardware configuration so that there will be compatibility of software between many different home computers made by a range of manufacturers. This would suit the oriental producers because they could concentrate on churning out more and more micros at lower and lower costs. If lower costs mean lower

shop prices, and software compatibility gives a huge range of packages, then what has the consumer to worry about?

We have welcomed standards in audio records and tapes; selecting the best and discarding the rest. Even though the 33 rpm record has been in use over 20 years, considerable technological improvement in both the "hardware" and "software" has been achieved without changing the basic configuration.

The consumer can still buy the *el cheapo* record player for a few pounds or spend a four-figure sum on high-fidelity stereo equipment. Until the compact digital disc arrived on the scene, the record was considered by most to be a suitable medium for their music.

When the compact cassette drove the eighttrack cartridge out, few tears were shed. Many advancements have been seen since in cassette technology, for instance, Dolby noise reduction, chrome and metal tapes, without leaving the original hardware owners out in the cold, or incompatibility of the latest machines with the earliest tapes.

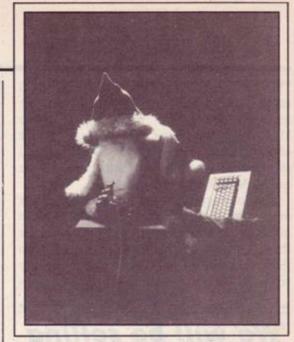
Some competition in standards can be a useful ally of the consumer, as has been seen in video cassette recorders, with the two main standards; Betamax from Sony, and VHS from JVC, Hitachi et al. Both systems have quickly evolved to a degree now that not much change in hardware configuration is expected in the next year or so.

If Japan succeeds with the MSX generation of microcomputers, what will we expect to see for next Christmas? Not all the big Japanese names are yet convinced about MSX, and two of the existing computer manufacturers, Casio and Sharp have decided to go their own ways. One of the first into the MSX arena will be Matsushita, followed closely by Sony. Also expected to join in are; NEC, Sanyo, Toshiba, Yamaha, Pioneer, JVC, Hitachi, Fujitsu and Mitsibishi. Retail prices for the MSX standard machines is projected to run from about £130 up to £300.

Surprisingly, the Japanese government is not supporting the MSX system, as it feels there is still room for technical innovation, and setting standards now will inhibit further advances.

Digital Research, founder of the world famous CP/M operating system for floppy-disc computers, has suggested to some of the Japanese manufacturers not already on the MSX road, a different set of standards, but keeping very quiet about it.

Some of the software products available for the home computer range are now so diverse, any form of standardisation of hardware must help to increase the software library for each machine. The greater compatibility of each program over a range of computers, the higher sales can be expected. As most of the cost of a program is in the initial development, the retail price of any package will be reduced when quantity sales can be realised. The pirate-to-legal copy ratio is inversely proportional to the selling price, so lower prices mean higher sales again. Unfortunately, the high number of illegal copies of any program encourages suppliers to distribute their software on ROMs. These cartridges have many advantages with their instant



loading and stability. More important, for many of the small memory micros, as a cartridge is memory itself, it needs less RAM to run a program. By not making the program relocatable, even if an unscrupulous user does manage to read the ROM, the code is unlikely to run in the RAM portion of the computer. Even using complicated colour graphics, some excellent cartridge programs can run in 16K RAM devices that would need 48K to be RAM-based. Until the standard memory of home microcomputers is up to 64K, cartridge programs will be an important medium for software distribution.

Europe in the lead

Business software suffers less from illegal copying; it often requires regular updating, and business users are less amenable to the cost savings of pirate copies against the support and assistance provided to bona fide users.

Europe has always lead the application software market. The Americans may have the upper hand in system software, with companies like Microsoft and Digital Research, and systems such as CP/M, MS-DOS and Unix to their claim, but it is in Europe and Britain in particular, that the application software expertise lies.

On the hardware side, considering that the U.K. is one of the major design centres of new computers in the world, we do not always seem to bring the innovative products to fruition, especially at the low end of the market. So often British companies develop systems, only for the financially rewarding production to end up overseas.

One new business computer to emerge this year was the Apricot from ACT, which will surely be one of the top sellers in 1984. With its IBM compatibility and new micro-disc drives, it bridges the gap between latest generation hardware and existing software, but leaving room for new programs that would use the full capabilities of the hardware.

To predict what the future generations will have to offer the user is difficult. There will have to be a point where the rate of technological advancement slows down but only for commercial reasons, and consolidation of the existing models is the main concern. The major manufacturers must all find their niche in the marketplace and develop it. There is no reason to believe that the computer industry will not develop as the motor industry has, but in a considerably shorter time.

"WE WILL BE SELLING a very powerful computer with more than 256K of memory for less than \$50 by 1986" predicts Commodore U.K. chief John Baxter confidently. But what of next year, what sort of machines and software can we expect and how much will we hve to pay for them?

Everyone agrees that you will be able to buy more performance for less money but there are disputes about which routes to take to get there. Firms like Sinclair and Atari are known to be working on 16-bit machines to eventually replace the eight-bit ones they are selling now

'We will be selling a computer with 256K bytes of memory by 1986'

and Acorn is even attempting to skip that stage and move straight form the eight-bit BBC Micro to the 16/32-bit Gluon unit.

Some software houses are confident that by next Christmas "16 bits are going to be standard" as Imagine's Bruce Everiss believes. On the other hand John Baxter thinks that "16 bits are irrelevant as far as home computers are concerned."

Elan director Robert Madge is so confident that eight-bit machines will still be to the fore that the high specification Elan Enterprise which will be launched in March is designed around the 7-80 chip. If the Japanese finally

THE FUTURE OF THE MICRO INDUSTRY

John Baxter, marketing

manager of Commodore U.K.

make the impact long predicted on the British computer scene it will be with Z-80 based machines sharing the MSX standard.

'16 bits are going to be standard'

Despite the fact that many British companies believe that MSX is a "low performance standard" as Robert Madge puts it the specification of some of the MSX machines recently unveiled in Tokyo is quite impressive.

The Japanese think that people are beginning to treat home computers a bit like hi-fi or televisions and so long as a unit produces reasonable sound and pictures and looks neat they do not care whether it contains state of the art electronics or not.

One trend among the Japanese machines is greater integration with other domestic appliances. The Sanyo NPC series micros for instance can connect up to a video recorder or television and take still pictures from there to use as the raw materials for computer manipulation on screen.

Yamaha has even incorporated the MSX

specification into something which looks and behaves like a cross between an electronic organ and a home micro. But while the

'Commodore never looks to the past'

Japanese seem to think that the recipe for success in 1984 is to use a proven but oldfashioned design and then embroider it with gimmicks like built in light pens, and take



advantage of a potentially huge common software base to all MSX machines Robert Madge believes in greater sophistication.

He believes that the natural point to standardise will be when home computers have reached the limits of the other equipment you can find around the home. There is no point in making computers with better resolution than the average television unless you think people will go out and buy purpose built monitors. John Baxter thinks that falling computer prices will cut the costs of peripherals including monitors and, of course, disc drives.

He predicts a price of £120 for a good 64K computer this time next year with disc-drives

Meirion Jones corners some of the leading lights of the microcomputer industry and presses them for their views on possible developments both in hardware and software. How will the market change in the new year?



Bruce Everiss, general manager of Imagine Software.

costing £100 and full colour monitors also around £100.

"Commodore never looks to the past," quips John Baxter, and indeed Commodore has a new home computer on the stocks for 1984 but first glimpse of that will not be until the American Consumer Electronic Show next year.

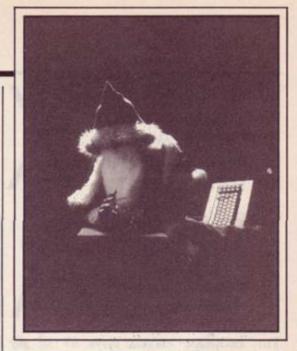
The failure of MSX or any other standard to establish itself internationally means that the traditional problem of the software industry—lack of portability between machines—will not be solved in 1984.

Whether games will be as important next year as they were this is a moot point. New programs like International Soccer for the

MSX: 'A low performance standard'

Commodore 64 — reviewed in this issue — are taking computer games beyond the two-dimensional arcade and maze formats yet many people believe that games will decline in importance compared with educational and home control and planning software.

The Elan, for instance, will come with 80-column display and a built-in word



processor. Bruce Everiss of Imagine believes that the market for games will at least double next year: "It's the mass market. Games playing is here to stay". At the same time he sees a narrowing of the gap between business and home micros which perhaps explains his enthusiasm for 16-bit computers with colour and sound.

Everiss expects to see the first million-seller program early in 1984. Although bubble memory and monster RAM chips are beginning to drop in price no-one expects to see them displacing disc drives as a means of mass storage for home computers by next Christmas. However, there seems general agreement that the drives themselves will be down to the £100 mark by then. Outside of Sinclair and Coleco there seems little

'We're going to get some viable competition from record companies'

enthusiasm for fast tape storage systems.

John Baxter points out the rapid progress educational software has made this year "whoever thought you could sell Physics O level revision." A point echoed by Robert Madge who says that by next Christmas "homework will naturally be done on the computer". Although he still believes that "games will be dominant".

Everiss sees the in-house software companies — Sinclair, Acornsoft, Commodore continuing to do well but thinks that there will be a thinning out of the ranks of the smaller houses leaving a few big independents.

"In the long term" Everiss believes "we're going to get some viable competition from the big record companies." Among the hardware manufacturers everyone is expecting a shake out with some companies going to the wall or stopping making home computers.

After all the predictions that 1983 was going to be the year of the Modem there is bound to be some cynicism at predictions that by this time-next year a lot of the Christmas cards will be sent by electronic mail. Nonetheless, Modems have now been completed for most of the major home computers and some companies like Oric and perhaps Sinclair are considering building them.

While shepherds watched the box one night, Andrew Bindon plugged in his BBC Micro.

oth, Andrew plugged in Micro. AROLS

THE PROGRAM LISTED plays 19 of my favourite Christmas carols in three-part harmony. At the same time it displays each note on to a normal musical score individually as the note is sounded. The clever part is that the program composes its own musical harmony to go together with the melody.

To understand how the auto-harmonisation works we must consider the way in which simplest musical harmony is composed. As an example let us use the key of G major. Using the common name-note notation together with pitch numbers this runs from octave to octave:

G A B C D E F# G
81 89 97 101 109 117 125 129

If we start at any note on this scale and take three alternative notes we form a triad. Basic musical harmony uses three of these triads beginning on the first, the fourth and the fifth note of the scale. These are called the primary triads. For the key of G major they are: G 81; B 97; D 109; C 101; E 117; G 129; D 109; F# 125; A 137.

We see that using these triads we have encompassed every note in the scale. The same chords will also map on to notes an octave away, or two octaves. These triads have a particularly pleasant musical sound. By selecting one of them to play with each note in the melody we can obtain an interesting and pleasant-sounding harmony backing.

The melody itself is read from data statements at the end of the program. These may be replaced in your preference. There is nothing new in reading data for music in this way but perhaps something which is new is the way in which the data is stored. Each of the single individual melodies are stored as three lines of data. The first line gives the number of rhythm units/bar, the position at which the bar is, the time signature, and the best way to display the music respectively.

The second line then gives the pitch of each note in the melody. The third line then gives the length of each note in the melody. All three lines are read at the start of a piece. The procedure Procdata then picks out the character from the data string and converts them to pitch and duration numbers.

In this way a great saving on space is obtained and also this opens up the way for future enhancement of the program.

The code for this data storage is d for Do up to t for Te in the first octave and then the same for the next but in capitals. The range could be extended if needed. The rhythm is c for crotchet and so on. Dotted notes are then represented with capitals. Both of these codes can be understood clearly by examining the

relevant lines in the Procdata routine.

The data conversion process may be fully understood by typing in the following lines.

DtDRDFFMitDisssDtDRDFFMitDisss MRDMSFMitDFMRD (RETURN)

the computer will respond with Mistake but this does not matter,

REPEAT: char\$ = GET\$:posit = INSTR("drmfslt DRMFSLTa",char\$):pit% = VAL(MID\$ ("03304104905306106907708108909710110911 7125129",(posit-1)*3 + 1,3)):SOUND1,-15, pit%,2:UNTIL FALSE (RETURN)

Now move the copy cursor up to the line of characters which you have typed above, think of the rhythm of the carol As With Gladness Men Of Old, and start tapping the copy key.

The process of transferring the notes to a musical score takes up a good part of the program. Each duration note is a character defined in procvdu. The score is displayed in Mode 4 with a yellow score background and a red foreground. At the beginning of each piece four lines of score with treble and base and key signature are constructed. Then as each note is played it appears on the score.

It is my experience that a program is never finished, merely developed. You start with an idea and develop it more and more until it becomes so huge that you scrap it and start again. It is thus that the listed program is open to enhancement. One thing you might like to try is changing the following lines thus:

770 pit% = VAL(MID\$("033041045053061065 077081089093101109113125129",(posit-1) + "3 + 1,3))

2340 DATA33,45,61,53,65,81,61,77,89 1950 key = VAL(MID\$("1432505234161", pitch/4 + 4 + 12*(pitch>= 40),1)) 1960 flat = VAL(MID\$("00-100-100-1-100-100-10000",pitch/2 + 7 + 24*(pitch>= 40),2))

This causes all the melodies to be played as if they were written in a minor key, although the score as shown does not allow for the raised 7th and the minor key is a rather crude

The program was developed on a 32K l



machine — Model B, OS 1.2. It will run on any 32K machine, but will not fit into 16K as memory for the Mode 4 screen. The program Saves in 20 blocks — that is 5K. 16K users could try leaving out all the graphics score routine, meaning variable names, the title list, or the input procedure. I have not included in the listing a profusion of untidy Rem statements. The meaningful variable and procedure names and the colon spacing between each procedure attempt to make the program readable.

To help your understanding of the program and debugging your typing errors the following may be useful:

PROCinput — inputs choice of melody, the key, speed and envelope selection.

PROCread - reads data into the arrays.

PROCfirst — sets up variables at the beginning of each melody.

PROCdata — converts data to pitch and duration numbers.

PROCplay — sounds melody together with harmoney syncronised, and checks for first beat of bar accent.

PROCchoosecord - selects harmony to accompany melody.

PROCenv - defines envelopes.

PROCtoscore - puts note onto screen.

PROCvdu — turns off cursor, defines colours and note characters.

PROCscore - sets up screen.

PROCclef - draws base and treble.

PROCbar - draws barline.

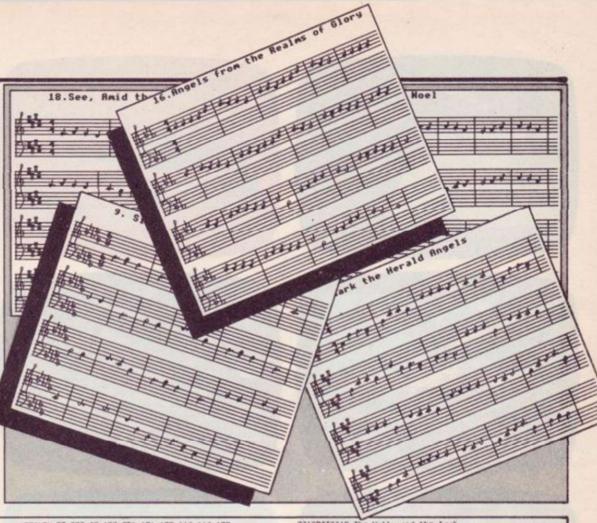
PROCsig - draws key signature.

PROCtotrep — selects random keys, speeds and envelope selections.

100N EFROR CLEAR
2001M chord%(2,2), env%(3,2), pit%(2), title#(19)
30;
40;
50RESTORE
60FROCread
70GeFEAT
80MODE7
70PROCinput
100MODEA
110PROCVdu
120FOR number=0 TO repeat
130FROC%irst
140PROC%core
150FOR char=1 TO LEN(pit#)
160PROChosechord
190PROChosechord
190PROChosechord
210PROCAD#
220NEXT
210passe=0ET
220NEXT
230UNTIL FALSE
240END
250;
260;
270DEF FROCread

280FORC=OTD19
290READ titlef(C)
300NEXT
310FORC=OTD2
320FORK=OTD2
330READ chordX(C,K)
340NEXT
350NEXT
350READ envX(C,K)
390NEXT
400NEXT
400NEXT
410ENDFROC
4201
430DEF PROCInput
440totrep=0
450PRINTTAB(4,2)*CHOICE (1 to 20)7 1*
460FORC=OTD19
470PRINTTAB(2,4*C);CHRE(129+(C MOD 7)); titlef(C);
480NEXT
490REMEAT;PRINTTAB(25,2);SPC(15);:INPUTTAB(25,2) choice: UNTIL choice>0 AND choice<20 AND choice=INT(choice)
500IF choice>20 totrep=-1: choice=0: repeat=18: ENDF





```
S20PRINTTAB(2,3)"MHAT IS THE SPEED (1 - 10)?"

S30PRINTTAB(2,8)"MO. OF REPEATS?"

S40PRINTTAB(2,13)"PITCH (0 - 12)?"

S50PRINTTAB(2,13)"PITCH (0 - 12)?"

S50PRINTTAB(2,18)"ENVELOPE (0 TO 3)?"

S60REPEAT;PRINTTAB(4,4);SPC(15);I:NPUTTAB(4,4) speed

ILNITL speed)0 AND speed(11 AND speed*INT(speed)

S70REPEAT;PRINTTAB(4,14);SPC(15);I:NPUTTAB(4,14) repeat

trUNTLL repeat>0 AND repeat*INT(repeat)

S80REPEAT;PRINTTAB(4,14);SPC(15);I:NPUTTAB(4,14) pit

chiLNITL envel)>0 AND pitch(*12 AND pitch*INT(pitch)

S70REPEAT;PRINTTAB(4,14);SPC(15);I:NPUTTAB(4,14) env

sliuNITL envel)>0 AND envel(*3 AND envel*INT(envel)

600pitch*pitch*4: speed*(speed*4)/10

610ENDPROC

620:
               620:
630DEF PROCfirst
640IF totrap PROCtotrep: choice=choice+1
650RESTORE(2380+30+(choice=1))
650across=11 down-41 sub+01 PROCenv
670transao=o1 transat=o1 transat=o1 transat=o
680transab=o1 transat=o1 transat=o1 transat=o
690READ bar,count,top,botton,scansion,pitf,durf
700pitf=pitf+"
710durf=durf+"
720ENDPROC
730:
               720ENDPROC 730: 740DEF PROCEdata 750char$-MID8(pit$,char,1) 750char$-MID8(pit$,char,1) 750char$-MID8(pit$,char,1) 760posit = INSTR("drafsitDRWFSLTA",char$) 770pitX(0) = VAL(MID8("0330410490530610690770810890971 1109117125129", (posit=1) *351,35) 780pitpos*-160-posit*8 790char$-MHD8(dur$,char,1) 870posit=1NSTR("qBCCaMs",char$) 810dur=VAL(HID8("0004060812162432",(posit=1)*2+1,21) 820notdur=(posit=1)*2-1 820notdur=(posit=1)*2-1 850ENDPROC 8401 850DEF PROCEDIA*
                850DEF PROCDIEY
850DEF PROCDIEY
850TF count=0 sub=-1: PROCENY
870FDR C=07D2
880SOUND($201+C),envX(envel,C),gitX(C)+pitch,dur/spe
               900SQLND1,0,0,0
910IF count=0 sub=0: FRDCenv
920ENDPROC
   920EMBPROC

9301

940DEF PROCchosechord

950FDRC-0T02

960FDRC-0T02

9701F pitX(0)=chordX(C,K) OR pitX(0)=chordX(C,K)+48

OR pitX(0)=chordX(C,K)+96 THEN pitX(1)=chordX(C,K+1)+10

D31:pitX(2)=chordX(C,K+2)+10D31:C=2xK+2

980NEXT

1000EMBPROC

10101

1020DEFPROCenv

1030EMBMPROCENV
               1030ENVELOPE1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,126,-4,-1,-1,110-sub*16,9
           0-sub*10
1040ENVELDPE2,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,126,-4,-1,-1,70-sub*10,50
sub*10
1050ENVELDPE3,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,60,10,0,-100,50-sub*10,11
            --sub+10
1050ENVELDPE4,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,60,10,0,-100,24-sub+8,50-
sub+10
1070ENDPROC
           1070ENDPROC

1080:

1090EF PROCtoscore

1100transRowtransA1: transRistransA2: transA2=transA3

transA3-pitpos

1110transB0-transB1: transB1=transB2: transB2=transB3

transB7-motdur

1120addur+VR_(MIDE("000406B12162432",transB0+2,21)

1130IF addur+0 ENDFROC

1140count=tcount+addur1 MOD bar

1150pipos=transA0

1160pipos=transA0

1160pipos=transA0

1170nodur=transB0

1170nodur=transB0

1190whether=(pipos)72 AND pipos(118) OR pipos(24

1190whether=(pipos)72 AND pipos(118) OR pipos(24
             1180whether=(pipos)72 AND pipos(118) OR pipos(24
11901F pipos-72 MOVE 156+scansion*across,224*down-721
PRINTORE(240)
             11901F pipus=72 MOVE 156*scansion*scross,224*do
FRINTOREK (240)
1200pipos=pipos=16*whether
1210MDVE 164*scansion*scross,224*down-pipos
1220PEINT CHRE(223*nodur-whether)
1230across-scross-1
12401F count=0 FROCher
12501F scross-1050/scansion down-down-1: scross
1250EMDFROC
1270;
1200DEF FROCVdu
1290VDU 23;8202;0;0;0;
1300VDU 19;1,1,0,0,0
1310VDU 19,0,3,0,0,0
1320VDU 23,224,12,10,10,8,104,248,240,96
1320VDU 23,224,12,10,10,8,104,251,243,96
```

```
530VBU 23,245,252,130,130,1,1,1,1,1
540VBU 23,246,1,2,2,4,4,8,48,192
     1560:
1570DEF PROCecore
      |SBOCL6
|SPOVDU4
|AGOPRINTTAB(5,1); title#(choice-1);
     1840/PC | 1850/PC | 1850/P
 1730MEXT
1740FOR score=0 TO 96 STEP 96
1750MDVE 164,880-score :PRINTSTR#(top)
1750MEXT 164,048-score :PRINTSTR#(bottoe)
1770MEXT 1780ENDPROC
1790ENDPROC
      BIOMDVE 12,5core+16: VDU241,8,10,242,8,10,243,8,10,2
 1820MDVE 12,score-116: VDUZ45,8,10,246
1830PLDT 69,48,score-118
1840PLDT 69,48,score-134
1830ENDFROC
 1850sNDPROC
1860:
1870DEF PROChar
18801F across=0 ENDPROC
1890HOVE 176+scansion*across,224*down=16
1970DRAW 176+scansion*across,224*down=176
1970across=224*down=176
1970across=224*down=176
1920ENDPROC

19301

1940DEF PROCess

1940DEF PROCess

1950Fey=VAL (MID#("1432505234161",pitch/4+1,1))

1960F1at=VAL (MID#("00-100-100-100-100-10000",pitch/

+1,2))

1970FF key=0 ENDPROC

1980F0R key=0 I To key

1980F0R key=0 I To key

1990poxVAL (MID#("00282404-83616124044082016",4*(key=-1)-2*41at+1,2))

2000MDVE 48+16*(key=-1),score=ps

2010FRINTCHRE(238-f1at)

2020MDVE 48+16*(key=-1),score=ps-112

2030FRINTCHRE(238-f1at)

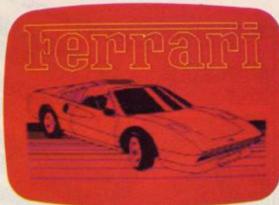
2040NDET

2050ENDFROC
   2060t 2060t PFROCtotrep
2070DEF PFROCtotrep
2080pitch=(RMD(13)-1)*4
2090envel=RMD(4)-1
2100speed=(RMD(4)-1)/10+0,8
2110ENDPROC
 2170: 2120DATA"1. Good King Nenceslas"
2130DATA"1. Good King Nenceslas"
2130DATA"2. As with gladness sen of old"
2130DATA"3. Mark the Merald Angels"
2130DATA"3. In the bleak Hid-winter"
2130DATA"5. In the bleak Hid-winter"
2130DATA"5. In the bleak Hid-winter"
2190DATA"7. It came upon a mid-night clear"
220DATA"8. While shepherds watch"
2210DATA"9. Silent Night"
2220DATA"10. Away in a manger"
2230DATA"11. Ne wish you a Merry Christnas"
2230DATA"11. The First Noel"
2220DATA"13. The First Noel"
```

2250BATA*15.The First Moel*
2250BATA*14.WE Three Kings*
2270BATA*15.God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlesen*
2280BATA*16.Angels from the Reales of Glory*
2290BATA*17.Once In Royal David's City*
2200BATA*18.See, Amid the Winter*s Snow*

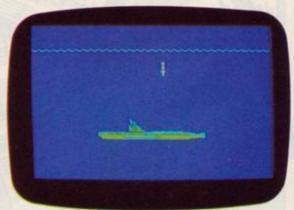
2310DATA*19. The Holly and the Ivy* 2320DATA*20. Bun through total repertuire* 2330: 2340DATA33,49,61,53,69,81,61,77,89 ACDATAL,4,4,3,1,1,1,2,2,3,4,4 2520DATA*CqccmmCqccsCqccmmccCqsCqccccmccccq d" 2640DATA"CqcMCqcMacMacMacCqcCqcMacCqcCqcMaccccMMcGcCq , Zobobata abbraum saltana ambani espunaum saltana abbraum salta 27900ATA* сасарараСсасарараСсасарарарарарарарассасарарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарассарарасса CCQqqqqe 2000DATA33,0,4,4,56 2000DATA33,0,4,4,56 29000ATA*DRDE1 subRFMMRDRDE1 subRFMRDDSSFMRDLSSFMRDLDR
2910BATA*CqccCqmccccCqmCqccCqmccccCqmCqccccmCq
ccCqaCqccccm
29200ATA32,0,4,4,56
2930DATA*DDDDLSHDDDDLSSFMRDM911sDRMFMRDDDDDLSMDDDDLS
FMRDM11sDRMFMRD
2940DATA*CqcccCqqqccmqqqqcqqqqccmcqqccCCqqqccmq



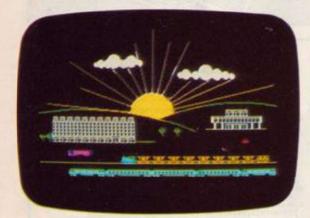








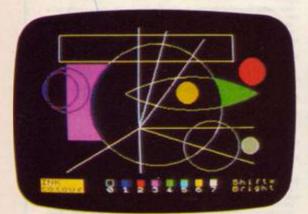




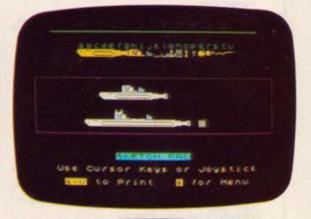




THE MOST IMAGINATIVE GRAPHICS PROGRAMMING SOFTWARE FOR YOUR SPECTRUM.

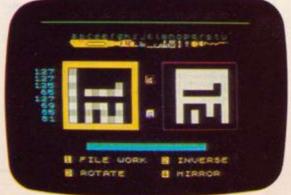












There's now one piece of software that's a must for every 48K SPECTRUM owner.

It's called "PAINTBOX".

If you wish to exploit the full graphics capability of your machine, you can do so . . . simply and easily with "PAINTBOX".

'PAINTBOX" is produced by Print 'n' Plotter Products — the company that has pioneered (and led) the field of graphics aids for ZX Computers.

With our name and reputation you are assured of

quality and immense graphics capability!

Take a look at the actual screen prints opposite. They are the sort of thing you could produce on your SPECTRUM.

With a little practice — and "PAINTBOX" — you could be planning, producing, and utilizing these sort of graphics in your programs — producing software that will come alive with originality!

Just look at some of the facilities available from

"PAINTBOX":

UDG EDITOR:

Giving you the facility to define (and re-define) up A CHII to 84 graphics characters which can be held in memory, stored in your BASIC programs for instant recall from its own built-in machine code!

UDG DRAWING BOARD:

A fully integrated UDG Planner for up to 4 Banks of user-defined characters. Planning facilities include MIRROR IMAGE, ROTATE, INVERSE, and FILE.

SKETCHPAD:

An experimentation "window" that allows you to try-out your UDG ideas during development of the 84 graphic character set.

PRECISION PLOTTER:

An amazingly versatile high-resolution drawing board which includes PAPER choice, INK choice, PLOT, DRAW, DRAW RADIALLY, CIRCLE, ARC, OVER, FILL, instant change of INK colours (including BRIGHT), ERASE, and STORE in permanent memory during development!

All cursor movements can be controlled by Joystick or Keyboard operations, with choices which include FAST or SLOW movement and "Crosswire"

or single Pixel cursor!

SCREEN PLANNER!

Combining the best of both worlds! PRECISION PLOTTER and UDG Characters! For complete screen planning of graphics. A multi-purpose graphics facility to enable you to produce screen graphics that are the equal of those seen in bestselling software!

All graphic results can be sent to the Printer, saved as SCREEN\$ or SAVED as CODE with its built-in machine code routines for instant recall from BASIC.

"PAINTBOX" is such a comprehensive graphics toolkit that it is impossible to describe it all in one advertisement!

The program comes complete with a cassette demonstration of what you could produce with "PAINTBOX" including a 28 page booklet describing in easy-to-understand language how to use it for best results and many tips for storing and using your graphics in BASIC programs.

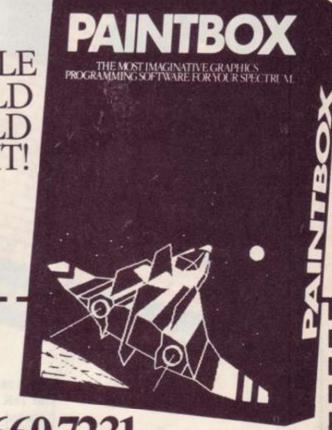
Of course, "PAINTBOX" is ideally suited for use with Print 'n' Plotter's other great graphics aids.

The dedicated programmer will want to use it in conjunction with our ZX SPECTRUM JOTTER PAD THE ORIGINAL (AND BEST) GRAPHICS PLANNING PAD!

So why not place your order today?

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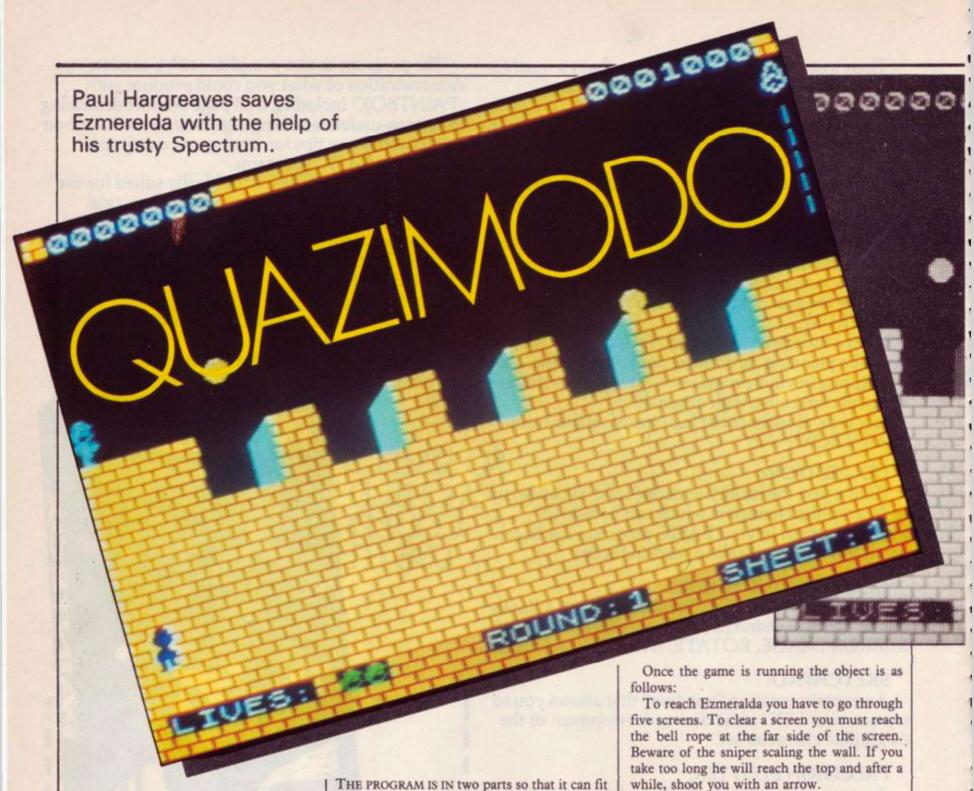
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in 16K. The first one is for graphics and the second is the game. The graphics program

should be Saved first before typing in the

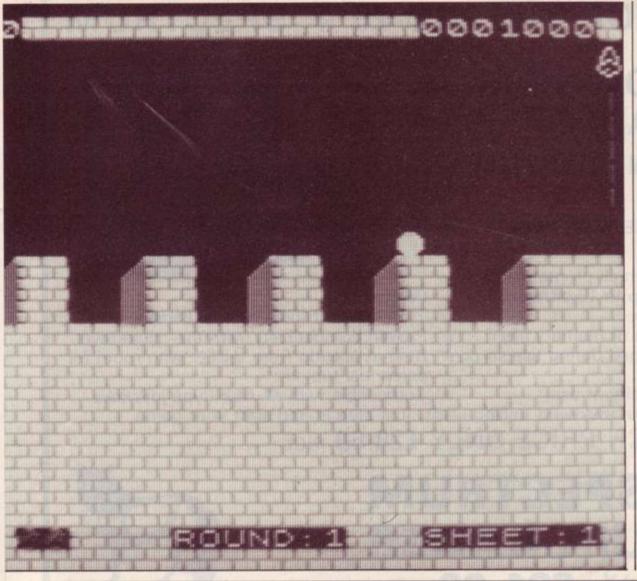
2,28
130 DATA 52,127,127,127,54,54,1
18,7
140 DATA 52,127,127,127,54,54,5
5,112
150 DATA 50,126,255,255,255,255
,126,50
160 DATA 24,24,60,90,24,24,60,2
4
170 DATA 0,60,46,70,70,39,55,55
180 DATA 250,50,50,125,126,126,
255,36
190 DATA 8,41,84,118,165,173,80
,255
200 BORDER 0: PAPER 0: INK 7: C
LS
210 PRINT AT 1,2; INK 6; "THE HU NCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME"
220 PRINT 'TAB (5); PAPER 1;"
BY P.HARGREAUES 16/9/83"
285 PRINT AT 10,8; INK 6; PAPER 2;"LOADING PART TUO"; AT 19,2;"P
RESS PLAY ON TAPE RECORDER"
295 INK 0: PRINT AT 17,3; LOAD
300 STOP

bonus is awarded.

By the way, he gets faster each round, up

until the fourth one. If you manage to save

Ezmeralda without losing a life then a super



Listing 2.

Note the letters between quotat ion marks in PRINT statements an d LET statements shouldbe entere d in graphics mode

10 GO SUB 9000 20 GO SUB 8900 30 GO SUB 8000 100 PRINT AT XXX g;" ";AT X+1,4; 105 IF INKEY\$="" THEN GO TO 130 110 IF INKEY\$="3" THEN LET MS=" A" LET n\$="8" IF 9<31 AND ATTR (x+1,y+1)<>36 THEN LET Y=y+1 115 IF INKEY\$="1" THEN LET S\$= C" LET n\$="0" IF y>0 AND ATTR (x+1,y-1)<>36 THEN LET Y=y-1 120 IF INKEY\$="0" THEN GO TO 20 120 IF INKEYS="0" THEN GO TO 20

130 IF y=31 THEN GO TO 1000
150 PRINT AT x y; INK 5; M 5; AT x

+1, y n 6

150 GO SUB 300
160 GO SUB 400+(10+100)
165 IF ATTR (x+2, y) x 86 THEN GO
170 IF ATTR (x, y) x 89 OR ATTR
190 GO TO 100
200 IF M 5= C THEN LET N 5= F

LET Jd=1 GO TO 215
205 IF M 5= A" THEN LET N 5= E"
LET Jd=1 GO TO 215
210 LET Jd=0 TO 215
210 LET Jd=0 TO 215
210 FOR 8= 1 TO 1 STEP S FRINT
TAT x y; "; AT x +1 y; " LET Sx +1 IF y 311 AND y 30 THEN LET y

= x +1 IF y 311 AND y 30 THEN LET y

= x +1 IF y 311 AND y 30 THEN LET y

= x +1 IF y 311 AND y 30 THEN LET y

= x +1 IF y 311 AND y 30 THEN LET y 295 GO TO 275 300 IF MX =9 THEN GO TO 323 305 LET MX=MX+(r0/5) PRINT AT

BX 1. PAPER 5, INK 1 "N" AT BX 1

1. "P" AT WX +2 1: INK 5 PAPER 2

310 IF \$X ** 9 THEN PRINT INK 6

PAPER 2 AT 10 1: "G" AT 11 1: 5

315 RETURN
320 PRINT AT 8 1: INK 8 "N" AT 11

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 81 1: INK 9

1 "O" LET BX = BX -1 IF AT 81 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 81 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 81 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 81 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 81 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 81 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 82 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 82 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 82 1: INK 9

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 2

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 8 2 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 2 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 PRINT AT 10 3

EN FOR 9 PRINT AT 10 AX 11 TO Y-1 TO ## OR ax=14 THEN LET ad=-as

OR AX=14 THEN LET ad=-as

OB RETURN

OF ARTHUR

OF ARTHUR BEEP .01.a: PAUSE 5 PRINT AT 2.a: F BEEP .01.-a PAUSE 5 PRINT AT 2.a: F BEEP .01.-a PAUSE 5 PRINT AT 2.a: F BEEP .01.-a PAUSE 5 PRINT AT 10.2: F BEEP .01.-a PAUSE 5 PRINT AT 10.2: F BEEP .01.-a PAUSE 6 PRINT AT 17.4 PRINT BONUS FOR a 21 TO 60 STEP 2 BEEP .01.a. NEXT a 986 IF RO:4 THEN LET RO:4

990 LET LE=1: LET be=0 G0 T0 0 0 2035 GO TO 10 PAPER 0 INF 7 E RIGHT OLS PRINT AT 0.0 INF 6 PAPER 2.35 PRINT AT 0.1 00 0000000 AT 0.24 00000000 AT 0.24 00000000 AT 0.24 0.34 INF 6 PAPER 2.35 AT 0.31-LEN STAB 1.1 INF 6 PAPER 2.35 AT 1.0.35 POR 3=1 TO 1.25 PRINT 10 AT 0.34 PRINT 1 0 14, POUND FO, HT 0, 24, SHEET

8020 FOR 8 = 1 TO 60 PRINT AT 0 8

42+9, IN 5 U AT 1, 8+2+9 K

8030 FOR 8 = 10 TO 21 PRINT AT 8

3040 PRINT AT 1 21, U AT 2, 31

K FOR 8 = 3 TO 7 PRINT AT 8 31

8040 PRINT AT 2 31, U AT 8, 31

NEXT 8

8045 LET FR 8300 LET FS 8

8050 GO SUS 8050+(16+50)

8055 IF LE 1 THEN LET R 831 GO T

0 8500 LET FR 80 LET W 818

8085 LET K 80 LET W 90 LET W 8 8

8085 LET FS 80 LET Y 90 LET W 8 8 3030 LET (n=0) LET (n=0) LET (n=0)
3030 LET (n=0) LET (n=0) LET (n=0)
25 STEP (n=0) TO 12 FOR b=5 TO
25 STEP S PRINT AT a, b; IN
3100 FOR b=7 TO 27 STEP S PRINT
3100 FOR b=7 TO 27 STEP S PRINT
3110 LET (n=0) LET (n=0)
3130 FOR b=10 TO 19 PRINT AT a,
3130 FOR a=10 TO 19 PRINT AT a,
3130 FOR a=10 TO 19 PRINT AT a,
3130 FOR a=10 TO 19 PRINT AT a,
3150 FOR a=10 TO 19 PRINT AT 12,
3150 PRINT AT 11, a, "N" at 12,
3150 RETURN
3200 GO SUB 3100 FOR a=5 TO 26
35150 RETURN
3200 GO SUB 3100 FOR a=5 TO 26
35150 RETURN
3220 FOR a=10 TO 19 PRINT AT a,
3100 FOR a=10 TO 19 PRINT AT a, ILL HAVE TO BE THE ROPE SCREEN PARTY ON THE ROPE SCREEN FOU JUMP ON THE ROPE AND SWING A CROSS. BEUARE OF THE SNIPER SCALING THE CASTLE WALL HE WILL SHOOT YOU IF YOU TAKE TOO LONG SHOOT YOU IF YOU TAKE TO YOU TAKE TOO LONG SHOOT YOU IF YOU TAKE TO YOU TAKE 9025 PRINT KEYS ARE 1 I H 3
JUMP=0" PRINT #0, AT 1,1 INK 1
FLASH 1, PAPER 0; PRE55 ANV KE
V TO PLAY HUNCHY"
10030 IF INKEYS=" THEN GO TO 903 9040 RETURN

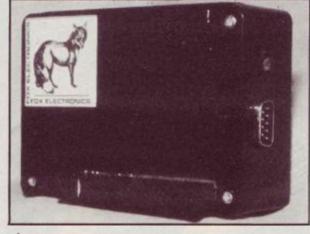
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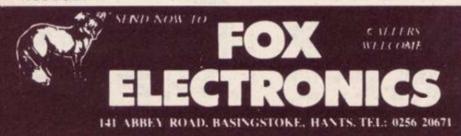
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DEADLY MISSILES are tracking inexorably downward, threatening six cities which it is your job to preserve. You do this by placing your sight at the base of the thread-like vapour trails which are weaving the delicate but deadly tracery of death in the skies above the stricken settlements. Press the fire button and the incoming bombs will be neutralised. You have only a limited amount of energy, so restrain the impulse to pepper the sky with upper atmosphere detonations as you will be left to watch helplessly as your beautiful home planet is pounded into rubble.

Begin by typing in

PCLEAR 8

(continued on next page)

Machine code loader.

10 REM MACHINE CODE LOADER

20 PRINT "TYPE '999' TO END"

30 INPUT "ENTER START

ADDRESS"; S

40 PRINT S; : INPUT V

50 IF V=999 THEN END

60 POKE S, V: S=S+1

70 GOTO 40

```
Basic program.
10 REM SEYSHIELD
20 REM (C) COPYRIGHT 1903
30 REM BY A.M.RICHARS
40 REM INSTRUCTIONS 7
                                NEM BY A.M.RICHMAS
REM INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MISSIST COMMAND.

CLSIFRINT MISSIST COMMAND.

CLSIFRINT MISSIST COMMAND.

FRINT DO YOU REQUIRE INSTRUCTIONS

AS-INCTVALIFACTIVENING

IF MO-YO COSUM BUD

O REM INITIALISE WARIABLES

O REM SI-SI SCORE

O POMESI, OF POMESI, OF POMESI, OF POMECI, II P
         300 k-INT((M+M/.5)/3-1):POKER1,F:POKER2,F:POKER3,F
```

120 CLS 130 EXECE+12000 130 EXECE+12000 130 EXECE+12850

360 FDR1+1TD1000:NEXT
370 REM EXECUTE MUC CITY CHECK
380 EXECANCY04
390 PCLS:CLS2:GDREENO,0
400 FDR1+0TD1000:NEXT
410 REM INCREENENT SCORE
420 SC-MEEN:S1)*10000+PEEN:S2)*1000+PEEN:S3)*100
430 KL-MPEEN:S1)*10000+PEEN:S3):IFFL-0THENAS0
440 FDR1+ITO KLIPRINTE129, "SCORE";IPRINTE129,SC1:SC-SC*1001-MAYV35150CB";NEXT
450 QMHPPEEN:C1)*PEEN:C3)*PEEN:C3)*FEEN:C5)*FEEN:C5)*FEEN:C6)*PEEN:C3)*PEEN:C4)*FEEN:C5)*FEEN:C6)*PEEN:C *100;PLAYTV31TS0CB*;NEXT
450 GM=PEE* (C1)*PEE* (C2)*PEE* (C3)*PEE* (C4)*PEE* (C5)*PE
KK (C5)*
460 IFSM****OTHEN480
470 FORT=1TO GM:PRINT8129, "SCDRE";:SC-SC+300;PRINT8139
,SC;;PLAYTV3101TS0DEFED3**;NEXT
480 T1=1NT(SC/10000);172**INT
((SC-T1*10000-T2*1000)/1001

**YOF FORE\$1,T1:PGES2,T2:PDKES3,T3
500 REM EXTRA BASE "
510 IF SC-EB*10000 THEN EB*=EB*1;FORT=C1 TO C6:1FPEE*(11)**OTHEN PCME1,1:PLAYT25SCE*AGDBAGGCE***AGDBEFCAECGDEEB
GABCEGGG***10M**OM***1;GOTOS20 ELSE MEXT
520 H*****3:IFM**AYTMEM****4
530 L=***1
540 R1:RG3***ITM***(M/3):IFR1**(OTHENRI***0
550 IFSM***OTHEN580
570 REM EMD OF GAME
580 CLS2;PRINT813, "CMFORTUNATELY ALL OF YOUR";
590 PRINT863, "CITIES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED";
640 PRINT863, "CITIES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED";
640 PRINT863, "CITIES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED";
640 PRINT8640, "HI-SCORE 15";***B1
550 PRINT8641, "HI-SCORE 15";**B1
550 PRINT8737, "ON YOU MAINT ANOTHER GAME (Y/N)";
640 A****INTEXTS,"O YOU MAINT ANOTHER GAME (Y/N)";
640 IFAX****Y**THEN640
650 IFAX****Y**THEN640
670 CLS:END 660 TERSTAND ARE THE DEFENCE OFFICER OF THE PLAN ET NOBARD, UNFORTUNATELYYOUR CUSHY, DULL JOB LIVENS UP ABIT WHEN A BATCH OF GALATIC MISSILES ARE AIMED A

T THE PLANET";

690 PRINT-YOU MUST PROTECT SIX CITIES THATREST ON THE
TOP OF THE PLANET WITH YOUR OWN INTERCEPT HISSLESSH
ICH ARE CONTROLED BY A SIGHT."

700 PRINT WHEN YOU THINK THE SIGHT IS IN THE RIGHT PL
ACE TO DESTROY AN ENERY MISSILE THEN PRESS THE FI
RE BUITOM ON THE JOYSICK, A MAXIMUM OF TEN MISSILES
CAN BE FIRED IN SUCCESSION BEFORE THE GUN CHEM MUST
REST."; 700 PRINT"WHEN YOU THINK THE SIGHT IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE TO DESTROY AN ENRY MISSILE THEN PRESS THE FIRE BUTTON ON THE JOYSICK, A MAXIMUM OF TEN MISSILES CAN BE FIRED IN SUCCESSION BEFORE THE GUN CHEM MUST REST."
710 IFINEYS="THEN7IO"
720 PRINT
720 PRINT
730 PRINT THEN MISSILES ARE ONLY
730 PRINT THEY HESSILES ARE ONLY
730 PRINT THE MIDDLE OF AN EXPLOSION CREATED BY YOUR ONN MISSILES, YOU STAY ALIVE AS LOWG AS AT LEAST TO NE OF YOUR CITIES REPREADES INTACT, EXTRA CITIES A RE GAINED AT EVERYIOODOO POINTS."
740 PRINT"YOUR SIGHT IS CONTROL BY THE LEFT JOYSTIC FORLY AND THE RIGHTJOYSTICK MUST BE REMOVED, THE SI GHT CAN MOVE OFF THE END OF THE SCREEN LEFT OR RIGHT IN AND MILL RE-MPEAR ON THE OTHER SIDEBUT THIS DOES NOT MORE FOR TOP AND BOTTOM."
730 IFINEYS=""THEN7SO"
740 PRINT"FINT"TO THE LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTRE OFTHE SCREEN ARE YOUR BREES CONTAINING THE MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES YOU MIVE IN THAT BROKE SHOWS HOW MANY MISSILES ON THE TOP-RIGHT OF THE SCREEN
770 PRINT"ATTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED EACH MANY YOUR REMAINING MISSILES ANDOUNDERS OF CITIES ARE ADDED TO YOUR BE STARTS WITH NOW, THREE MISSILES ON BANK THE OP THE TOP OF THE "OP PRINT"STREEN AND DETS A LOT HARDER,"
790 PRINT"SCREEN AND DETS A LOT HARDER,"
790 PRINT"STREEN AND DETS A LOT HARDER."
790 PRINT"STREEN THEN TO THE STREEN THE PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT"PRINT (continued from previous page)

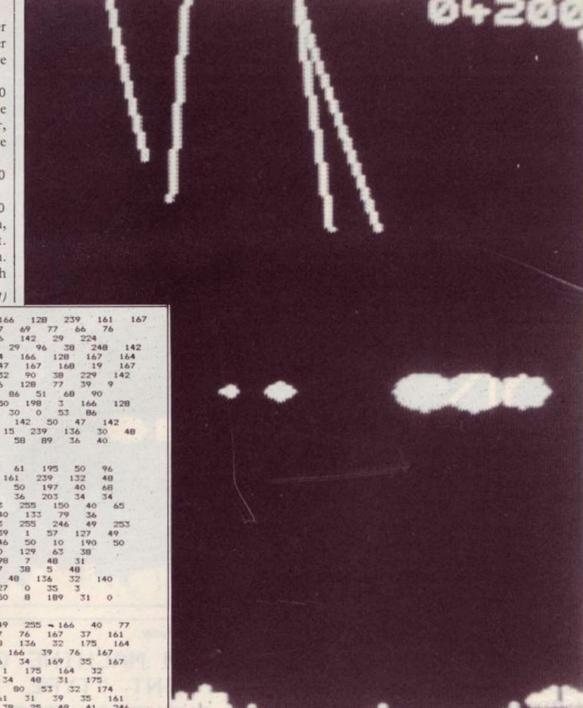
and then type in the machine-code loader program, and enter the machine code. After entering the machine code Save what you have done by typing

CSAVEM"COM(M)", &H1E00, &H34FF, &H1E00 which will Save both chunks of the machine code - and program and data - together, or, if you require to Save them separately because you are short of tape, then type

CSAVEM"COM1(M)", &H1E00, &H2910, &H1E00 and then

CSAVEM"COM2(m)", &H3000, &H34FF, &H3000 Now type in the Basic Controller Program, once again Save this on tape, and then Run it. Full instructions are given in the program. There are a few interesting addresses which

(continued on page 141)



78

6 203 (listing continued on page 141)

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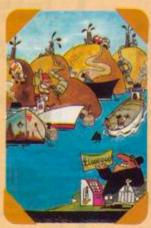


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(S. User) The adventure that made 1983 famous is now alsoavailable for the 32K BBC. Free
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(continued from page 136) you may like to play around with:

	Explanation Maximum number of explosions on screen at same	Range (Default
	time -	1-10	9
& H34BB			
	explosions	1-255	51
&H31FC	Speed of light	1-255	50
&H31FE	Number of missiles minus		
	one	2-49	

12744

12960

50 51

74

44 2

2 0

213

0 12

76

85 0 85 0 44

1 0 60

32 0

2 0 0

1 128

255 234 99 0 0 32 128

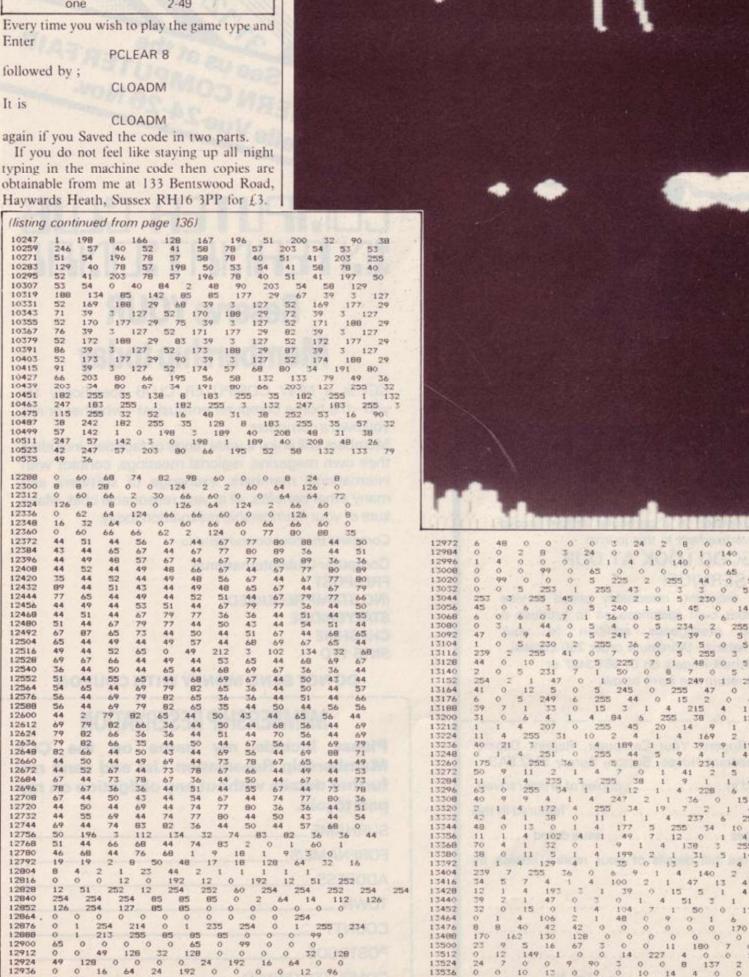
13512

124

1 9

again if you Saved the code in two parts.

typing in the machine code then copies are obtainable from me at 133 Bentswood Road,



5 3

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```
Figure 1.
   FD
                         9B
FF
00
                                                        36
78
78
          AØ 78
                                 FF
28
                  11
FE
   30
                                         ED
                                                48
CB
                                         ØC
47
   40
   28
                  06
                                 AB
                                                 04
                                                         18
                          79
                                         99
FF
           14
                  14
                                                28
                                                        ØC
4F
   02
                                 FE
                                 ØE
   CB
                         1C
AF
                                         79
                                                8876
   ØC
           18
                                                        30
                  02
          69
   26
                  D5
                                 5F
                                                        61
                                         00
   20
                  41
                         05
                                 16
                                                        78
                  38
                         93
C5
28
   1F
4F
                                                        94
          85
                                 BC
                                         38
                                                4F
78
28
                                 18
                                         25
                                                        4F
  D5
          D9
                                         40
0E
                                                        84
ØE
                                 36
                          85
                                 38
          4F
   30
                  CD
```

```
Hexloader.
     1 REM ...
          LET A$=""
FOR A=16514 TO 16633
IF A$="" THEN INPUT A$
POKE A,16*CODE A$+CODE
    10
    30
                                                                       A$ (2
    40
   476
           PRINT A$( TO 2);
LET A$=A$(3 TO )
NEXT A
POKE 16510,0
POKE 16646,118
   50
   50
    70
```

David King illustrates a draw and undraw routine for the ZX-81. It is similar to that provided on the Spectrum.

```
Figure 2
3 REM CLEAR OKA/* CLEAR OKA)
COPY COPY GOSUB ??RND? RETURN C
PACS ?CF* COPY B?* / *==? RETURN C
PACS ?CF* COPY B?* / Ø078K* ?STR$

### 7 INKEY$STR$ - ??3 $5 $5 $6?
OR AT VAL /* ??STR$ OR AT EQRND?
#### 3:C:X?LN B" OR ?(**SGN INT
COPY C PRUSE INT
```

```
Figure 3.
```

```
Figure 4.
              GOPY COPY GOSUB ??RND? RETURN CERCS ?CF. COPY GOPY F. / *** RETURN CERCS ?CF. COPY GOPTE . *** RETURN CERCS . *** RETURN CERCS . *** RETURN COPY CERCS . *** COPY GOPTE . *** COPY CERCS .
                                                                                                                                                                                                                   RAND USA 16514
NEXT Y
NEXT X
```

```
Figure 5.
```

```
Figure 6.
                                                                REM CLEAR OKE/* CLEAR OKE)
PY COPY GOSUB ??RND? RETURN C
RC5 ?CF. COPY G? /*==? RETURN
ACS ?CF. COPY G? /*==? RETURN
PY C PAUSE INT GROWN PROPERTY OF PY C PAUSE INT GROWN PY C P
                                                            48 INPUT R$
58 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 78
60 POKE A,16*CODE A$+CODE A$(2
-476
78 NEXT A
```

WHEN THE ZX-80 first came out in 1980 with its 4K Basic ROM, Sinclair announced it would soon be producing an optional 8K drop-in replacement chip, which would give moving graphics, trig functions, all keywords direct from the keyboard, plus inverse graphics, and 81/2 digit floating arithmetic. However it also would have Read, Restore and Data, plus Draw and Undraw, and a number of other features.

Very soon after Sinclair launched the new 8K ROM, it decided to delay introduction of these features and design a printer. The new printer routines necessitated the space the extra facilities took up, and so when the 8K ROM finally came out Draw and Undraw were not there. In addition, Sinclair designed a completely new computer to go around the 8K ROM, which it called the ZX-81. It had a steady display which was sadly lacking on the ZX-80 with 8K ROM.

I decided it would not be all that difficult to give the ZX-81 Draw and Undraw facilities like those on the Spectrum. Useful routines which I might want to include in Basic programs I find easiest to place in Rem statements. This Draw routine draws as straight a line as possible in pixels from the last point plotted to a relative position indicated by the Vectors Poked into addresses 16507 and 16508. There are only two USR addresses to remember, one for Draw and one for Undraw, just as there are Plot and Unplot.

Type the Hexloader into your ZX-81, line 1

contains 120 full-stops.

Then type Run Newline and enter the 120 Hexcodes in figure 1. You can enter them singly, followed by Newline, or enter them in batches, then Newline. Try not to make any mistakes, even one mistake may make the routine crash.

When the report code 0/90 appears type 10 Newline. Line 90 ensures that when you type 10 Newline, lines 10 to 90 are all deleted, we no longer need the Hexloader part of the program. You should now have an uneditable line 0 which looks like that in figure 2 chaos.

Line 0 contains the Draw routine, the characters you can see are the equivalent of the hexcodes you entered. At this point Save the Rem statement on tape.

When you have checked that it has Saved properly add lines 10 to 40 to your Rem statement, and type Run Newline - see figure 3.

If all is well a diagonal line will be drawn from the bottom left-hand corner of the screen to the top right-hand corner.

Notice that the numbers in a Draw statement can be negative, although those in a Plot statement cannot. If x (16507) is negative the finishing place will be x pixels to the left, instead of to the right. If x is zero the line will be vertical. If y (16508) is negative the finishing place will be y pixels down, instead of up. If y is zero the line will be horizontal - see figure 4.

One thing to ensure is that x and y are not both zero, this causes the Draw routine to get a bit muddled, however Break brings it out of its misery.

(continued on next page)

```
Figure 7.
               REM CLEAR OKN/ CLEAR OKN/
PY COPY GOSUB ??RND? RETURN C
CS ?CF COPY P?F/ 00?KF?STR#

PY COPY P?F/ 00?KF?STR#

PY C PAUSE INT

10 PLOT 40,10
20 POKE 16508,20

40 RAND USR 16514
      COPY
```

```
REM CLEAR OK / CLEAR OKE)
COPY GOSUB ??!ND? RETURN C
?C. COPY B? / ==? RETURN
S ?C. COPY B?£/ 00?5K ?STR$
?INKEY$STR$ - ??3 S 35 5?
AT UAL / ??STR$ OR AT EORND?
S:C:X?LN B" OR ?[***SGN INT
   C PAUSE INT
PLOT 31,21
POKE 16507,
POKE 16508,
                                                16514
                            USR
```

(continued from previous page)

Try the short programs for a demonstration of the ease with which graphics can be created.

If you do not get the required result — or the program crashes, you have probably made a mistake in entering the Hexcodes. Use the program in figure 6 to check through the Hexcodes. If you want to change an entry type in the correct Hexcode, then press Newline, otherwise press Newline on its own.

If you understand vector drawing, ignore this section. The statement Draw to draw a straight line on the Spectrum takes the form:

DRAW x.v

Figure 9.

S REM CLEAR OKE/* CLEAR OKE)

COPY COPY GOSUB ??RND? RETURN C

EACS ?CE** COPY B7: /*==? RETURN

CEACS ?CE** COPY B7: /*==? RETURN

CEACS ?CE** COPY B7: /*=? RETURN

CEACS ?CE** COPY B7: /** OKE AT EARNO?

TOPY C PAUSE INT BY OR AT EARNO?

COPY C PAUSE INT BY OR ?(**SGN INT

10 FOR Y=0 TO 43 STEP 2

20 PLOT 0, Y

32 POKE 16508,43-Y*2

50 RAND USR 16514

50 NEXT Y

70 FOR X=0 TO 63 STEP 4

60 PLOT X,43

90 POKE 16508,-43

110 RAND USR 16514

120 NEXT X

Using this program you have to Poke x and y into memory locations, in addition the Rand USR 16514 command does not set the Random seed. You could equally well use Print USR 16514 or Let A=USR 16514, and neither a number would be printed nor a value assigned to A; control is passed to the next line.

The starting place of the line is where the last Plot or Draw statement left off — this is called the Plot position; New resets it to the bottom left-hand corner (0,0) — and the finishing place is x pixels to the right of that and y pixels up. Notice that Draw on its own deter-

```
Figure 10.

© REM CLEAR OKE/ CLEAR OKE)
COPY COPY GOSUB ??RND? RETURN C
RACS ?C COPY @?** /* ==? RETURN C
RACS ?C COPY @?** /* 00?** /* 25TR$

E? /** ?INKEY$5TR$ - ??3 IS SEP 2
OR AT UAL /* ?* 5TR$ OR AT EORND?

** 7?W S: C: X7LN ** OR ?(** 5GN INT

COPY C PAUSE INT

10 FOR Y=0 TO 43 STEP 2
20 PLOT 0,0
30 POKE 16508, Y
50 RAND USR 16514
60 PLOT 63,43
70 POKE 16507,-63
50 POKE 16508,-Y
90 RAND USR 16514
100 NEXT Y
```

mines the length and direction of the line, but not its starting point.

You can experiment with a few Plot and Draw commands — see figures 7 and 8.

Figures 9 and 10 make use of the interference patterns between the individual pixels of lines to create interesting patterns.

Figure 11 draws a number of random direction lines, each leaving off from where the last ended.

As I mentioned earlier, it is also possible to Undraw as well as Draw lines. To Undraw lines use Rand USR 16520. The program in figure 12 illustrates this.







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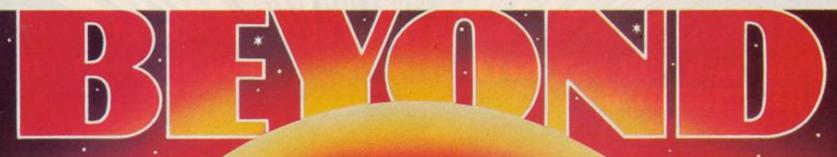
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YC 12

IF, LIKE ME, YOUR ownership of a Vic-20 is now into the second honeymoon stage, you will probably share my view that Commodore probably produces the best home computers in the world and definitely produces the worst documentation. So once you have recovered from the user's manual and have come to realise that there is more to Vic's life than jerky seagulls and a lot of bouncing balls, it soon dawns that Vic has some great little side orders if only you can find them on the menu.

The following collection comprises orginal thoughts and ideas I have culled from various sources and tailored to fit the Vic. I make no claims for the profoundness of these routines; but I believe many of them will hold a few surprises for you.

Nothing up my sleeve

There is a way of losing the ubiquitous question mark — and accompanying blank space — generated by use of an Input statement. It not only makes for tidier screen displays but also overcomes what is often an inappropriate character — for input screen prompts do not always take the form of a question. Here is one example of the technique:

10 OPEN 1,0:PRINT "TYPE YOUR NAME:";:
INPUT #1, N\$:PRINT

20 PRINT "THANK YOU "N\$:CLOSE 1,0

Both Tab and SPC functions can be great timesavers; they do away with many of those cursor-right and cursor-left keystrokes for a start! But one of Vic-20's quirks is that it will not allow you to use either Tab or SPC as the *first* item preceding a Print statement. If necessary, introduce a dummy statement — such as a screen clear or cursor home — before calling Tab or SPC.

Could you use a random number generator that you can still influence to some extent? Try this:

10 X = INT(RND(1)*TI/200) + 1

20 PRINT X

30 GOTO 10

This routine produces three-digit numbers, using Vic-20's clock as a source of true randomisation. But change the divisor in line 10 to any lower than 150 and four-figure numbers will start to occur. Progressively reducing the divisor will relatively increase the chances of a four-digit result, which could be a useful quality in some games of chance. Similarly, a divisor of 1800 or more will produce only two and single digit random numbers.

and particularly those involving a lot of text or figure work — it helps to introduce some blank spaces between significant blocks of the program, which will make for easier reading on screen or printout. The traditional way of doing this is to use one of the following forms: 10 REM

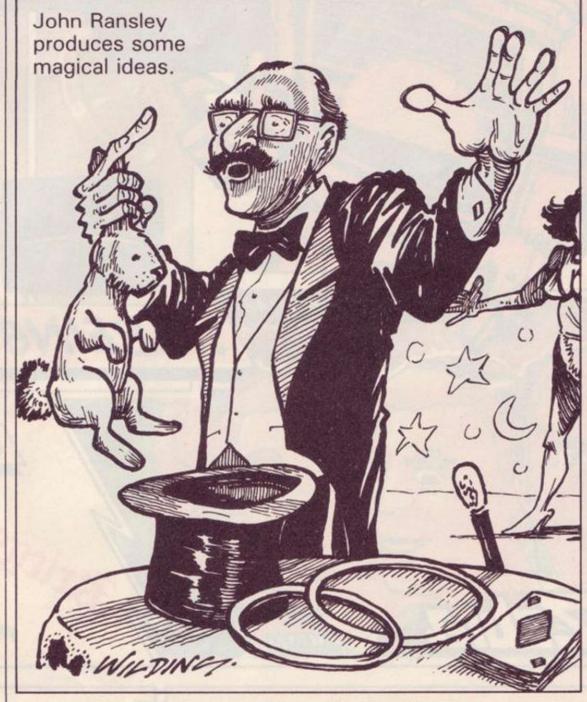
10

In other words, a Rem statement or single colon. Neither look particularly elegant, specially if you want to introduce several blanks at a time. But here is a routine that produces a line which is truly blank except for its number.

10 A LINE OF LISTING

20 ""(DELx2) (CTRL) (RVS ON) (SHIFT) -(SPACE) (RETURN)

TRICKS FOR YOUR VIC



30 A LINE OF LISTING

This may seem a little complicated, but it soon becomes second nature. In case line 20 fazes you, tackle it this way. Press the quotes key twice; press the Delete key twice — thus cursoring back over the quotes you have just entered; hold down the Control key and press Reverse On; hold down the Shift key and press the minus sign key; finally, hit Return. When you come to List these lines, only the line number will appear.

■Remember the byte-saving — but often overlooked — value of using the integer qualifier % whenever setting up DIMs and arrays. For example, the following single line gobbles up no fewer than 637 bytes:

10 DIM A (10,10)

but squeeze a % after the A and this statement

will then occupy just 275 bytes of memory. Prove this to yourself by Running both versions of the line and typing in direct mode ?FRE(X) and Return each time.

■ The Super Expander is one of the first addons the Vic-20 owner usually buys — not least because it is excellent value with its 3K of extra memory in addition to 27 new commands for handling hi-res graphics, music, joystick and other input values, and function key operations.

Before your very eyes

Although the Super Expander does not shift Vic's significant memory locations, there are times when you will want to take it out of service. But frequent removal and refitting won't do the delicate cartridge slot contacts —

or your temper - any good. There is an easier | way. Simply typing, as a direct statement,

SYS 64850

disconnects the expander and returns Vic-20 to normal working. To re-enable the Super Expander, type

SYS 41031

Incidentally, it is sometimes important to remember that Vic's screen shrinks from 22x23 characters to only 20x20 when using the Super Expander's Graphic command.

Here are two ways of thwarting the pirates more about others later. Location 775 usually holds a value of 199; so enter Poke 775,198 or Poke 775,200 as a direct or program statement and it becomes impossible to List any program in memory.

Better still, Poke 818,32 corrupts the Save operation; the screen prompt refers only to the data cassette's play key and even pressing record as well will not transfer the program. Remember to Poke 775,199 and 818,133 to restore the List and Save commands respectively.

■Dim and Data statements are among the most common causes of bugs - and Vic's apparently imprecise error messages do not always help to pinpoint the real root. It helps to remember that an out-of-data error will misleadingly blame and identify the line containing the relevant Read statement.

Almost always, however, the real fault will be found in the Data line or lines; a comma missing or replaced by a full stop, an absent digit, or some other discrepancy between the number of items the Read statement states should be taken on board and the total making up all the Data lines.

Likewise, if a string is wrongly Dimensioned, the error prompt will cite the first line to call the variable concerned and not that containing the DIM statement itself.

Still on Data statements, some Vic programmers get annoyed at Vic's apparent inability to accommodate punctuation within them - a facility that is often useful when, say, constructing multi-clause sentences in adventure programs.

Data items can include punctuation - and can even take the form of a single comma or colon - provided each is enclosed in quote marks. Try this example:

10 READ A\$ 20 PRINT A\$

30 DATA ",","."

40 GOTO 10

■ The way program lines whizz by when you List, even when the Ctrl key is held down, it is no wonder that debugging the Vic can be an even more brain-blustering experience than ever. You can watch your program lines building before your eyes with the direct mode statement Poke 37879,0 and Return before

Holding down the Ctrl or Shift key slows the scrolling speed even more. Poke 37879,69 restores normal operation.

Have you ever envied those colourful title screens used in commercial programs and thought to yourself, "There but for my 3.5K . . . "? Then you must have overlooked Vic's ability to generate and hold a display on your TV or monitor screen even when you have executed a New statement and wiped memory clean. Type this:

10 PRINT CLR

20 PRINT SPC (200)"YOUR TITLE SCREEN" 40 NEW:END

Type Run and hit Return - now List and you will see that memory is empty, ready for the main program, perhaps, which can be Loaded in the usual way.

Only, did you notice how the Ready prompt spoiled the display generated by line 20? You can lose it by adding the following line:

30 PRINT " CTRL WHITE "

Hit Stop and Restore to return normal visibility.

■ The potential of Vic's graphic set is easily underrated and under-utilised; it is difficult to imagine how they can be used to construct anything more than a square-eared cat or cuboid loco. The following little routine may help to set your imagination alight:

10 POKE 36879,25: PRINT "CLR"

20 CH = INT(RND(1)*254) + 1

30 POKE 3687, CH

40 S = 7678:C = INT(RND(1)*128) + 1

50 P = INT(RND(1)*255) + 1

60 X = INT(RND(1)*10) + 1

70 N = INT(RND(1)*44) + 1

80 FOR J = 0 TO 506 STEP N

90 POKE S + 30720 + X + J,C

100 POKE S+X+J,P:NEXT J

110 FOR D = 1 TO 600:NEXT D

120 GOTO 20

Complex magical images

You can freeze any character/colour combination you particularly like by hitting the Stop key, then Run and Return to continue. If you are fortunate enough to possess a VCR, you can also videotape the effects this program fleetingly displays and view them again later, as many times as you

Like to hear some alien vibes? Lay this on your Vic:

10 POKE 36878,15

20 FOR X = 1 to 18:POKE 36874,252-X 30 NEXT:POKE 36874,0:GOTO 10

Or, to back up that brilliant Chopper program you are just about to write:

10 POKE 36878,15:FOR X = 255 TO 128 STEP -12

20 POKE 36877, X:NEXT:GOTO 10

TO save you the chore of updating the colour code location every time you Poke a character into screen memory, set up these variables at the beginning of any program needing them: 10 SC = 7680:CC = SC + 30720

The number 30720 is, of course, the difference between the first screen location -7680 - and the first colour memory map position - 38400.

■Another wheeze to give those pirates problems; drop this line in early in your program:

10 POKE 808, PEEK(808) + 2: POKE 37150, PEEK(37150)AND 127

This serves to disable the Run Stop and Restore keys, thus making List and Save impossible to execute. To restore normal operation, enter this line:

90 POKE 808, (PEEK) 808-2: POKE 37150, PEEK (37150)OR 127

■ The only trouble with Pokes which disable certain keyboard functions in a bid to combat plagiarism is that they can be identified and wiped by simply Listing the program before it is Run. There is a much better way of safeguarding your programming secrets remembering that just one line of novel or ingenious technique can have a value much greater than its application is just one particular program.

First, List the program you want to protect and select the first line for attention; perhaps one containing some crucial Peeks and Pokes or formulae. The only qualification is that it must contain fewer than 17 characters including the line number and any spaces. At the end of the existing line, add exactly this: :REM""

That is, a colon hard up against the final character of the existing line followed by Rem in capitals and two quote marks. There should be no spaces between these six new characters. Now hit Return.

Next, cursor back to the space immediately following the new line ending and hit Del once to remove the second quote marks. Now hold down Shift and press the Inst key precisely 22 times. Release Shift and press the Del key precicely 22 times. Now hit Return,

That's all there is to it. Clear the screen and List the program again. You may see your newly-protected line appear for a fraction of a second and then vanish. The same will occur whenever it is Listed - even if this doctored version of your program is Saved and Loaded again - so do not forget to keep your own copy of the unexpurgated Listing.

You can, of course, repeat this procedure with as many more lines as you wish provided none of them exceeds 17 characters in length.

■ Wait is a much less long-winded version of Get, with its emply quotes and all the rest, but it works with only a couple of keys. One is the Commodore flat key, as in this example:

10 PRINT "TOUCH C = KEY TO CONTINUE" 20 WAIT 653,2:WAIT 653,2,1 30 PRINT "OK - CONTINUING"

Substituting 1s for the 2s in line 20 will allow you to use the Shift key instead - so alter line 10, too.

Touching any other key when this routine is called - including Run Stop - has no effect - a built-in mug trap.

Some more keyboard tricks worth keeping up your Qwerty. Poke 808,100 not only disables the Run Stop key but also makes your program indecipherable if Listed. Restore with Poke 808,112. Knock out the keyboard completely with Poke 649,0 and make it live again with Poke 649,10. If you want a cursor flashing with Get statements the way it does with Input, Poke 204,0. The usual value is 1.

Poke 211 with any number between 0 and 22 to set the cursor's column position, and 0 and 23 if you want to Poke 214 with a new row location. Only the space bar and cursor controls offer auto repeat the way Vic comes out of the box. But Poke 650,255 will make every key repeat faster than a bowl of radishes; Poke 650,0 disables this facility.

Start enjoying some screen acrobatics with the locations which control Vic's display area. Location 36864 usually holds the value of 12. Try this:

10 FOR L = 12 TO 65 20 POKE 36864, L:NEXT

The screen's vertical position is normally (continued on page 151) PROGRAMS WANTED

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(continued from page 149)

Poke 36866,150. Tinkering with this value will also produce some interesting effects.

- ■Introducing a reverse field character or string is an easy matter within Print statement; just a question of holding down the Ctrl and Reverse On keys. But when you are Poking characters into screen memory, simply use Poke 199,1 to get into reverse; Poke 199,0 to get out of it.
- It is often reassuring if responses to Input, Get or Wait statements are acknowledged with a satisfying bleep. It is easy to add this facility - preferably in the form of a subroutine, if it is to be used several times in the course of a single program:

10 IF PEEK(197)<>64 THEN POKE 36878,15: POKE 36876,232: FOR D = 1 TO 10: NEXT Add another colon and Return if used as a sub-routine.

Using Peek(197) to test keyboard input from any of the four function keys has one big disadvantage; the value returned is the same whether the key is Shifted or not - that is, f1/f2 answers Peek(197) with 39; f3/f4 with 47; f5/f6 with 55; and f7/f8 with 63. The way round this snag, so you can make sure of all eight keys, is a different form of statement using the keys' ASCII values, like this:

10 PRINT "(CLR)":GET K\$:IF K\$ = CHR\$(133) THEN 30

20 GOTO 10

30 PRINT "YOU PRESSED KEY f1": END

You can test for any number of function keys in the one statement, using the appropriate ASCII value for each. These are: f1, 133; f2, 137; f3, 134; f4, 138; f5, 135; f6, 139; f7, 136; and f8, 140.

One simple Poke will put some speed onto your programs, let you zoom through screen editing, and allow you to build graphic displays much quicker than usual. Location 37159 normally holds a value of 72.

Slowing down the clock

Anything below this, down to Poke 37159,10, speeds Vic's internal clock and everything governed by it - including the cursor flash rate. Conversely, Poking this location with values up to 255 will slow down all the complementary processes.

When studying or keying listings reproduced in Your Computer and other publications, do not make the mistake of confusing the proper statement CLR with the abbreviation for a screen clear properly shown in square or curly brackets - that is, [CLR] or {CLR} - and which appears on-screen as a heart shape.

The statement CLR is something else altogether; it serves to wipe any variables, to restore the Data pointer to the first item in the queue, and to 'unDimension' any arrays; all functions which are automatically performed also whenever Load, Run or New is executed.

■ Direct mode statements or functions can be useful during program development - for example, to test the value of a particular location in a program temporarily halted with a Stop.

Better still, you can string several direct mode statements together in one line using a colon to divide them, just like you would with a conventional numbered program line. Here is a simple example:

10 POKE 36878,15: POKE 871,0: POKE 3687,1

Hit Return, Run and Return again. Now type - with no line number - ?PEEK 36878:?PEEK 871:?PEEK 3687 and hit Return once more. The new screen display will confirm the values you Poked with line 10. Do not underestimate the value of this facility. You could, for example, use it as a kind of What If . . .? statement in concert with an offbeat line whose effects you wish to test.

- ■Try experimenting with Vic's screen width and height to produce interesting graphic variations. Poke locations 36866,16 and 36867 with values from 16 and 32 upwards respectively; the proper values are 150 and 174. You will have to execute a screen clear,
- As a fundamental step towards faster program execution, use Print statements wherever possible in preference to Pokes, avoid If Then... Gotos, and never type the superfluous Let prefix when labelling variables.
- Numbering your lines from 100 and thereafter in increments of 10 may look and seem neat, but it is a practice that gobbles up bytes. A program of 100 lines numbered in that fashion will occupy 301 bytes in line numbers alone. But using simply 1 to 100 instead will take just 189 bytes.
- Another use for that rarely used Wait statement is in programs, and particularly games, using a joystick. Given that it is used to move your craft or whatever around playfield, and to zap away at all those lovely user-defined invaders, it seems rather clumsy reverting to the keyboard to call another game. Instead, add these lines:

2000 PRINT "PRESS FIRE BUTTON TO PLAY AGAIN"

2010 WAIT 37137,32 2020 WAIT 37137,32,32 2030 RUN

■If you are working on a household management or similar program, you may like to know about this easy way of persuading Vic-20 to display neatly whole numbers and/or decimals; it otherwise ranges them all to the left, which can be confusing and anyway looks ugly. Here is a simple demo of the technique:

10 PRINT " ICLR !"

20 INPUT "NUMBER?":N

30 IF N = > 1 THEN PRINT TAB(15-LEN(STR\$(INT(N))))N

40 IF N < 1 THEN PRINT TAB(14)N 50 GOTO 20

■ There is a method of changing by direct statements the colour of your working screen if the standard - and rather insipid combination of blue on white with a cvan border - Poke 36879,27 - does not suit your taste or your eyesight.

To ring the changes, choose a new combination of screen and border colours; the 127 combinations possible with their relevant values are shown on page 134 of the user's guide. For example, Poke 36879,104 generates a deep blue screen with a black border. Ooops! — lost your cursor?

Just hold down the Ctrl key and press Wht or Yel. Experiment to find the mix that you find most restful and legible. Incidentally, the Rev keys will continue to function, and your new screen/text colour will stay put as you type and enter program lines, List and edit them.

Only pressing Run/Stop and Restore will bring back the original.

One more way of seeing for yourself the fabulous patterns and effects which Vic's graphic characters can generate so easily. Here's a sample:

10 POKE 36879,24:PRINT "[CLR]"

20 FOR L = 1 TO 505:X = RND(1) 30 IF X < 0.75 THEN PRINT "/";:GOTO 60

40 PRINT "+":

50 NEXT

60 GOTO 60

Using any combination of graphic characters within the quotes in lines 30 and 40 - and note that the closing quote marks in each case must be followed by a semi-colon will produce a limitless range of effects; and the randomiser ensures that a different pattern is generated every time the program is Run, even if you leave the characters the same.

Now add some colour to the Print statements too, as well as Rvs On variations and you could come up with the design for Kraftwerk's next album cover.

When exploring Vic's music-making capabilities, you will doubtless use Data statements to store both tone values and note durations. But what vardstick should you use when, say, copying from sheet music? A fairly accurate base for music in 4/4 time is, one whole note = 120 jiffies.

Keeping in tempo

Use a larger number to slow the tempo, a smaller one to quicken it. But make sure that the base number you adopt is easily divisible into values for half, quarter and eighth notes at least - and remember to alter these proportionally when you tinker with the whole note value for tempo changes.

■This five-line program will produce an electronic colour swatch which presents every possible combination of screen/border colours and pauses at each; a useful utility when designing games screens:

10 PRINT "[CLR]" 20 FOR A = O TO 7:FOR B = O TO 15 30 POKE 36879, 8+16+A*B 40 FOR D = 1 TO 800:NEXT D 50 NEXT B: NEXT A

You may be used to constantly checking the screen for a refreshed display incorporating a new prompt, but it is easy to forget that others may not be. And when any screen starts filling up with text and graphics, it always helps to highlight the latest prompt in the same way that the cursor draws attention to itself - with a quick flash, if you will pardon the expression. There are a dozen variations on the following utility; type and Run this version and then improve upon it yourself.

10 PRINT "[CLR]"

20 PRINT SPC(200)"FLASHY, AREN'T I?"

30 FOR D = 1 TO 800

40 PRINT "[CLR]"

50 FOR D = 1 TO 400

60 GOTO 20

These are just a few of the ways in wich you can harness Vic's sometimes idiosyncratic but always fascinating logic to bring extra value, visual appeal and entertainment to your programs; I hope they will stimulate you to devise some original programs.

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This was exactly as intended but unfortunately something went wrong. During the programming strange uncomplimentary messages began to appear on the screen. At first they were so few they were not taken too seriously, but soon they could no longer be ignored. Somehow the Spectrum had been given a personality — a rather devious, supercilious, dislikeable, hateful, horrible mind.

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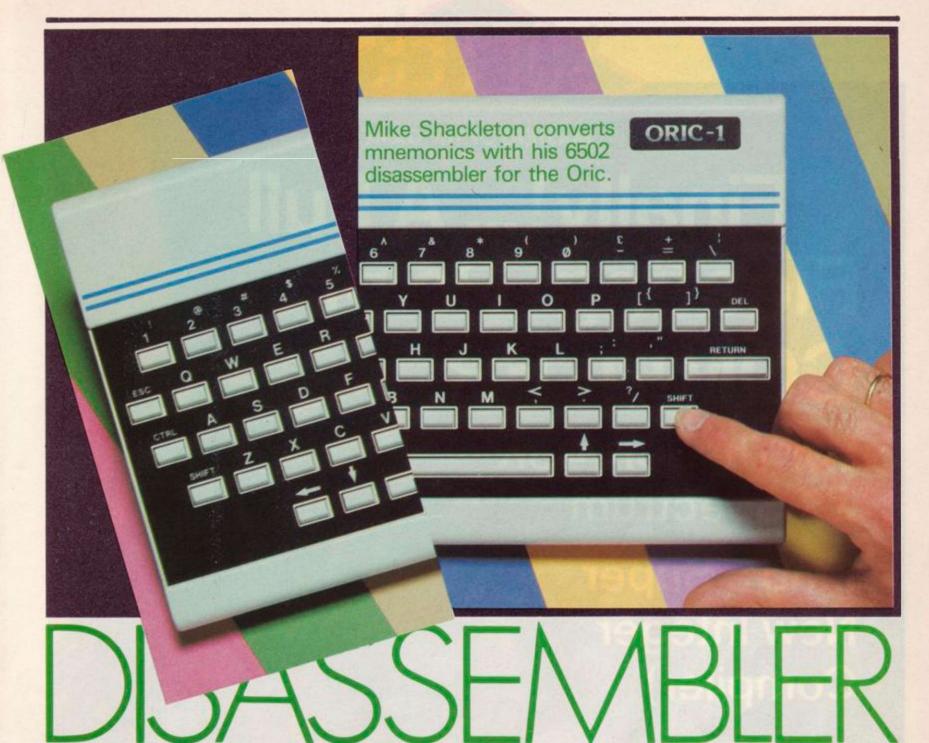
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OHIMEM#8FFF: INK7: PAPER0:CLOAD""
CSAVE"DISASMBLR1",A#400,E#518...

Press play and record and New. Type in program 2 — you can load it with CLOAD"Program 2",S then Run and New.

Type in program 3 — you can load it with CLOAD"Program 3",S then Run and New followed by:

CSAVE"DISASMBLR2", A # 9000, E # 97FF
The computer must not be turned off in

between the last two stages as the code from both is Saved with the final command. To use the program rewind tape and type: New and: CLOAD "DISASMBLR1"

and press play. The computer loads first stage. Then Run and press Play. The computer loads second stage. Then

CALL# 9144

and stop tape. Contents of the cassette are (continued on page 157)

Program 1. 5 REM<<<< ' M. SHACKLETON. 1983>>>> 6 REM<<<<PROGRAM1>>>> 10 A=#400 20 READA\$ 50 IFLEFT\$(A\$,2)="**"THENPRINTRIGHT\$(A\$,LEN(A\$)-2):GOT 020 55 IFA\$="END"THENEND 60 C=VAL ("#"+A\$) 70 POKEA,C 80 A=A+1 90 GOTO20 500 DATA**SUB1,AA,29,0F,85,02,8A,4A,4A,4A,4A,C9,0A,90, OA, E9, OA, 18,6 9,41,CB 510 DATA91,08,D0,05,69,30,C8,91,08,A5,02,C9,0A,90,0A,E 9,0A,18,69,41 CB,91,0B 520 DATADO,05,69,30,CB,91,08,60 530 DATA**SUB2,A9,24,91,08,E6,04,D0,02,E6,05,A2,00,A1, 04.C6.06.F0.1 0,85,07 540 DATAE6,04,D0,02,E6,05,A1,04,20,00,04,EA,A5,07,20,0 550 DATA**SUB3,20,33,04,A9,2C,C8,91,08,A9,58,C8,91,08,

560 DATA**SUB4,20,33,04,A9,2C,C8,91,08,A9,59,C8,91,08, 60 570 DATA**SUB5,A9,28,91,08,C8,20,33,04,A9,2C,C8,91,08, A9,58,C8,91,0 8,49,29 580 DATACB, 91,08,60 590 DATA**SUB6,20,9B,04,A9,2C,CB,91,0B,A9,59,CB,91,0B, 60 600 DATA**SUB7, A9, 28, 91, 08, C8, 20, 33, 04, A9, 29, C8, 91, 08, 60 610 DATA**SUBCONVERT, C9, 41, B0, 06, 38, E9, 30, 38, B0, 06, 38, E9,41,18,69,0 620 DATAOA, 0A, 60 630 DATA**SUBB,A9,24,91,0B,E6,04,D0,02,E6,05,A2,00,A1, 04,18,69,01,0 9,80 640 DATABO,13,65,04,85,07,A5,05,69,00,20,00,04,A5,07,2 0,00,04,18,90 ,19 650 DATA49,FF,69,00,85,07,A5,04,38,E5,07,B5,07,A5,05,E 9,00,20,00,04 660 DATA20,00,04,60, "END"



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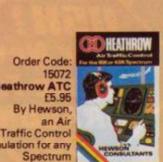


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(continued from page 153)

shown on the cassette - use the slow side as this is more reliable. To make a slow copy use pencil corrections.

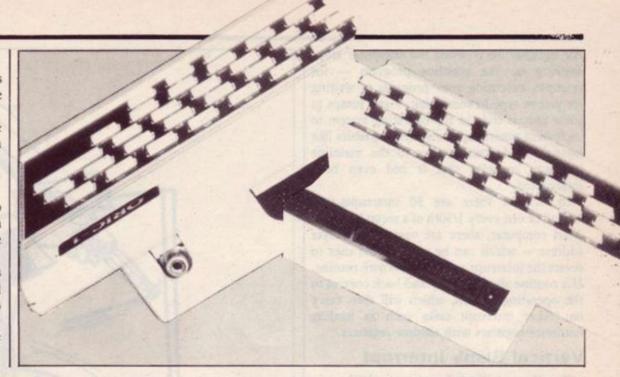
After call #9144 a prompt appears at the bottom left of the screen as >. Then type in the hexadecimal address for disassembly:

> >0400 0400 TAX

The first line appears automatically. To advance line by line press space-bar for each line. For rapid disassembly hold down space

If you wish to disassemble another address press D, a prompt will appear as above and the same procedure is followed. If you try to disassemble 0300-0400 - inclusive strange results will be obtained as this is the location of the physical I/O address.

To exit from the program type X.



```
Program 2.
5 REM<<<<' M. SHACKLETON. 1983>>>>
6 REM<<<<PROGRAM2>>>>
10 A=#9000
20 READA#
30 IFA$="END"THENEND
  C=VAL ("#"+A$)
54 POKEA,C
60 A=A+1
70 GDTD20
500 DATAA2,D1,86,00,A2,BB,86,01,A2,1A,A0,26,B1,00,48,8
8, DO, FA
510 DATAA5,00,38,E9,28,85,00,A5,01,E9,00,85,01,C8,68,9
1,00,C0,26,D0
,F8,A5,00
520 DATA18,69,50,85,00,A5,01,69,00,85,01,CA,DO,D3,A5,0
0,38,69,28,85
,00,A5,01
530 DATAE9,00,85,01,A9,20,C8,C8,91,00,C0,26,D0,F9,60
540 DATAA2, BB, 86, 08, A2, BF, 86, 09, 20, 00, 90, A0, 00, A9, 3E, 9
1,08,A2,04
550 DATABA,48,98,48,20,F8,C5,85,02,~8,A8,68,AA,A5,02,C
8,91,08,20,A9
,04,85,02
560 DATA98,48,A5,02,A0,04,0A,26,04,26,05,88,D0,F8,68,A
8,CA,DO,D6
570 DATAA2,93,86,0B,A2,00,A1,04,A0,04,18,61,04,90,02,E
6,0B,88,D0,F6
```

580 DATA85,0A,20,00,90,A0,00,A5,05,20,00,04,A5,04,20,0 0,04,A2,C1,86 .08.A0.00 590 DATAB1,0A,91,0B,CB,CO,03,DO,F7,B1,0A,B5,06,C6,06,C 8,81,0A,F0,59 .AA.CA 600 DATAFO, 15, CA, FO, 2B, CA, FO, 2E, CA, FO, 31, CA, FO, 34, CA, F 0,37,CA,FO,3A CA,FO,3D 610 DATAA9, 23, 91, 08, A9, 24, C8, 91, 08, E6, 04, D0, 02, E6, 05, A 2,00,A1,04,20 ,00,04,18 620 DATA90,27,20,33,04,18,90,21,20,59,04,18,90,18,20,6 7,04,18,90,15 20,75,04 630 DATA18,90,0F,20,8D,04,18,90,09,20,9B,04,18,90,03,2 0,BE,04,20,FB 640 DATAC9, 20, F0, OC, C9, 44, F0, O5, C9, 58, D0, F1, 60, 4C, 4F, 9 0,E6,04,D0,02 ,E6,05 650 DATAA2,BB,86,08,4C,8C,90,A2,80,86,00,A2,BB,86,01,A 2,62,86,04,A2 91,86 660 DATAO5, AO, OO, B1, O4, 91, OO, CB, CO, 13, DO, F7, 4C, 4F, 90, 6 0,20,4D,2E,53 670 DATA4B, 4C, 45, 54, 4F, 4E, 2E, 31, 39, 38, 33, "END"

Program 3. 5 REM<<<< ' M. SHACKLETON. 1983>>>> 6 REM<<<<PROGRAM3>>>> 8 P=#9300 10 FORA=0T0255 20 READA\$ 30 FORB=1T03:POKEP+A*5+B-1,ASC(MID\$(A\$,B,1))-ASC("A")+ 65: NEXT 40 FORB=4T05:POKEP+A*5+B-1, VAL (MID\$ (A\$,B,1)):NEXT 50 NEXT 500 DATABRK10, DRA25, ???10, ???10, ???10, DRA22, ASL22, ???1 0,PHP10, ORA21 ,ASL10 510 DATA???10,???10,DRA32,ASL32,???10,BPL28,DRA26,???1 0,???10,???10 ORA23 520 DATAASL23,???10,CLC10,ORA34,???10,???10,???10,ORA3 3,ASL33,???10 ,JSR32 530 DATAAND25,???10,???10,BIT22,AND22,ROL22,???10,PLP1 0,AND21,ROL10 ??10 540 DATABIT32, AND32, ROL32, ???10, BMI28, AND26, ???10, ???1 0,???10 550 DATAAND23,ROL23,???10,SEC10,AND34,???10,???10,???1 0, AND33, ROL33 ???10,RTI10 560 DATAEDR25, ???10, ???10, ???10, EDR22, LSR22, ???10, PHA1 0,EDR21,LSR10 77710 570 DATAJMP32,EDR32,LSR32,???10,BVC28,EDR26,???10,???1 0,77710,EDR23 ,LSR23 580 DATA???10,CL110,EDR34,???10,???10,???10,EDR33,LSR3 3,77710,RTS10 590 DATA???10,???10,???10,ADC22,RDR22,???10,PLA10,ADC2 1,ROR10,???10 .JMP37

600 DATAADC32,RDR32,???10,BVS28,ADC26,???10,???10,???1 0.ADC23.RDR23 610 DATASEI10, ADC34, 77710, 77710, 77710, ADC33, RDR33, 7771 0,77710,STA25 620 DATA???10,STY22,STA22,STX22,???10,DEY10,???10,TXA1 0,???10,STY32 STA32 630 DATASTX32,???10,BCC28,STA26,???10,???10,STY23,STA2 3,STX24,???10 TYA10 640 DATASTA34, TXS10, ???10, ???10, STA33, ???10, ???10, LDY2 1,LDA25,LDX21 650 DATALDY22, LDA22, LDX22, ???10, TAY10, LDA21, TAX10, ???1 0,LDY32,LDA32 ,LDX32 660 DATA???10,BCS28,LDA26,???10,???10,LDY23,LDA23,LDX2 4,???10,CLV10 ,LDA34 670 DATATSX10,???~0,LDY33,LDA33,LDX34,???10,CPY21,CMP2 5,7??10,???10 ,CPY22 680 DATACMP22, DEC22, ???10, INY10, CMP21, DEX10, ???10, CPY3 2,CMP32,DEC32 2210 690 DATABNE28, CMP26, ???10, ???10, ???10, CMP23, DEC23, ???1 0,CLD10,CMP34 ???10 700 DATA???10,???10,CMP33,DEC33,???10,CPX21,SBC25,???1 0,CPX22,???10 ,SBC22 710 DATAINC22,7??10,???10,SBC21,NDP10,INX10,CPX32,SBC3 2, INC32, ???10 , BEQ28 720 DATASBC26, ???10, ???10, ???10, SBC23, INC23, ???10, SED1 0,SBC34,???10 ,???10 730 DATA???10,SBC33,INC33,???10

AN INTERRUPT IS when the computer stops working on the mainline program — for example, executing your program or waiting for you to type in something — and jumps to some special code in the operating system to increment timers, update system variables like joysticks and then returns to the mainline program, unaware that it had even been interrupted.

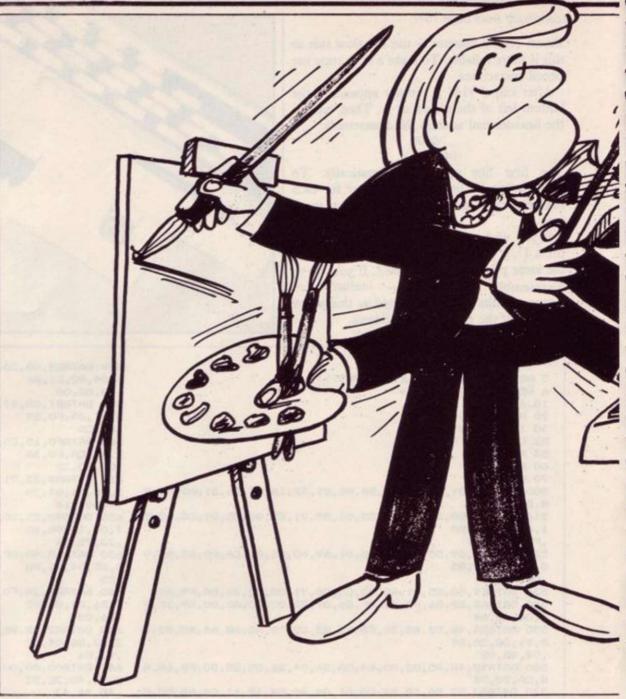
In Britain, there are 50 interrupts per second or one every 1/50th of a second. On the Atari computer, there are vectors — 2 byte address — which can be used by the user to divert the interrupt routine to his own routine. His routine should then hand back control to the operating system, which will then carry out other interrupt tasks such as loading hardware registers with shadow registers.

Vertical Blank Interrupt

The Vertical Blank Interrupt — VBI — is so called because this interrupt occurs just after the computer has drawn the screen. The screen then goes blank ready for it to be drawn once again. To create an interrupt you first have to have your machine-code routine somewhere in memory, for instance Page six — 1536 to 1791. Your code can consist of anything but should not be too long as the computer might start getting impatient by shaking up the screen display. Do not end it by putting a RTS but instead a JMP \$E462.

You have to enable it

Now you have to enable it. Unfortunately, you cannot just Poke the address of your routine into its appropriate vector — \$224,5 — since there is the risk of an interrupt vectoring through that vector after you have changed one byte but before you have changed the second. The result will probably send the 6502 into a totally confused piece of memory.



INTERRUPTS

O REM ATARI INTERRUPTS: PROGRAM 1

1 REM BY CHRIS LAM

5 SOUND 0,0,0,0

10 DATA 160, 4, 162, 6, 169, 7, 32, 92, 228, 104,

96

20 DIM ACT\$ (11)

30 FOR N=1 TO 11:READ A:ACT\$(N,N)=CHR\$(A

): NEXT N

1500 FOR N=1 TO 48: READ A: POKE 1539+N, A:

NEXT N

1510 ACT=ADR (ACT\$)

1520 XX=USR(ACT)

10000 DATA 174, 28, 2, 240, 3, 76, 98, 228, 162,

50, 142, 28, 2, 166, 203, 240, 15, 162, 0, 134, 203

,162,6,142,243,2,142,197,2,76

10010 DATA 98, 228, 162, 1, 134, 203, 162, 2, 14

2,243,2,142,197,2,76,98,228,0

ATARI

Luckily for us, there is a special routine to Poke two bytes into a vector without the risk of an interrupt; it is called SetVBI and is situated at \$E45C. Register A should hold a seven, X should hold the high byte and Y the low byte. Y*256+Y should point to your routine; the 7 in register A tells the operating system where to put X and Y.

Type in program 1 and study the two sections of code needed to get it going. The second program is rather more elaborate. After entering it, turn up your TV speaker and Run it. Past ZX Spectrum owners will no doubt recognise it. Just one more point on VBI's. There are, in fact, two types of VBI — deferred and immediate.

Deferred addresses

The addresses I have mentioned up until now refer to the deferred type. The main difference is that the immediate one is executed before the operating system updates anything and the deferred afterwards. You usually use a deferred if it affects the screen, e.g., colour changes but there is no reason why you can't have both working at the same time.



Chris Law takes you through Vertical Blank Interrupts — what they are and how to use them on the Atari.

The instructions for immediate VBI are:

- Terminate routine with a SMP\$ E45F
- Its vector is \$ 222,3
- Make register A hold six.

The Display List Interrupt or DLI is very special. Whereas all computers have something similar to Atari's VBI, the DLI is unique. Again, as with fine scrolling and display lists, all credit goes to Antic. In the Display Lists article in Your Computer, you will have seen that the most significant bit of a byte enables DLI. Well, what exactly is a DLTS

The DLI enable

DLI is an interrupt executed while the screen is being drawn. Therefore, when Antic comes across a DLI enable, it will freeze the 6502 and send it, through a vector - \$200,1 to your routine. Actually, how far down the screen it is executed depends on how far down the display list the DLI enable(s) are.

5 SOUND 0,0,0,0 10 DATA 160,4,162,6,169,7,32,92,228,104,96

30 FOR N=1 TO 11:READ A:ACT\$(N,N)=CHR\$(A

1500 FOR N=1 TO 120: READ A: POKE 1539+N, A

O REM ATARI INTERRUPTS: PROGRAM 2

REM BY CHRIS LAM

20 DIM ACT\$ (11)

1510 ACT=ADR (ACT\$) 1520 XX=USR (ACT)

2 REM TURN UP TV SPEAKER.

10000 DATA 169,175,141,1,210,165,203,141 ,0,210,174,28,2,224,0,208,21,164,204,185 ,52,6,141,28,2,200,185,52,6,133 10010 DATA 203,192,71,240,6,200,132,204, 76,98,228,160,0,132,204,76,42,6,50,121,5 0,108,25,102,25,108,50,121,50,121 10020 DATA 50,108,25,102,25,108,50,121,5 0,102,50,91,100,81,50,102,50,91,100,81,3 8,81,12,76,25,81,25,91,25,102 10030 DATA 25,108,50,121,38,81,12,76,25, 81,25,91,25,102,25,108,50,121,50,121,50, 162,100,121,50,121,50,162,100,121

O REM ATARI INTERRUPTS: PROGRAM3 1 REM BY CHRIS LAM

10 FOR N=0 TO 15: READ A: POKE 1536+N, A: NE

20 ST=PEEK (560) +PEEK (561) \$256

30 POKE ST+3+3+11,130

40 POKE 512,0:POKE 513,6

50 POKE 54286, 192

1000 DATA 72,141,10,212,169,0,141,24,208

, 169, 6, 141, 1, 212, 104, 64

If you have a DLI enable with Antic Mode 2 - Graphics 0 - right after the IMS operaids, then the interrupt is called while the second GR.0 line is being drawn. As a result the changes made by the interrupt will not be seen until the third line is being drawn.

The structure of your routine should be kept to four stages:

- The saving of all registers, whose values will be altered during the DLI.
- Wait for Antic to finish drawing the current line.
- Change appropriate locations.
- Restore all registers and leave the interrupt.

Type in program 3 and study the appropriate code listing. In this program, we have inserted the DLI enable half down the display list and consequently it was executed half way down the screen. This time we are free to poke in the address of our routine as long as we enable the interrupt - Poke \$4286,192 - afterwards.

No unsightly border

STA WSYNC (\$4282) will freeze the 6502 until the current line is completely printed. This is so that we do not have unsightly border where the changes take place.

Although we have only one DLI vector to use, it is not difficult to achieve many. To do this, make your first DLI Poke the address of the second DLI into \$200,1. Then the next time it meets a DLI enable, it will vector through to your second routine and so on. Make sure that the last DLI pokes back the address of the first DLI into \$200,1.

DLIs must be kept very short and should only affect registers related to the screen e.g., colour changes. Anything else can be done with an ordinary VBI.

The next example - program 4 - demonstrates Atari's trump card, the ability to put dozens of colours on to the screen at once; two dozen in this case. All the Antic modes in the display list have been enable. Have a go at converting it to display 192 colours in GR.8 normally only two colours.

Program 5 will show you have to combine

GR.9-11 with the other modes. The secret is that with GR.0-8, location 623 (GPR1OR) holds 0 but GR.9-11 will hold 60, 128 and 192 respectively. In figure 1 you will see the set-up on the screen.

Write to hardware register

You should always write to the hardware register. Each hardware register has a shadow register from where data is moved from to its hardware register every 50th of a second. Therefore if we write to the shadow register it is permanent since that value will always be located to its hardware equivalent. We have to write to hardware registers instead and the OS interrupt will reset them.

For even deeper information, obtain a copy of De Re Atari (£17) and/or a copy of the Atari Reference Notes (£17) and perhaps even an assembler/editor cartridge (£40) which is essential to understand Atari's hidden powers. Note that \$ denotes hexadecimal numbers.

O REM ATARI INTERRUPTS: PROGRAM4

O REM ATARI INTERRUPTS: PROGRAMS

1 REM BY CHRIS LAM

5 GRAPHICS 9

XT N

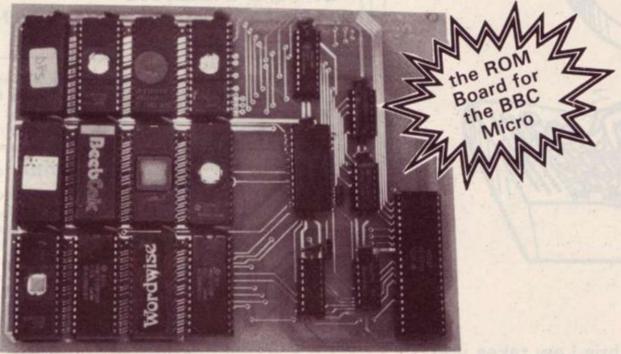
```
1 REM BY CHRIS LAM
10 FOR N=0 TO 28: READ A: POKE 1536+N, A: NE
XT N
20 ST=PEEK (560) +256 PEEK (561)
30 POKE ST+3, 128+64+2
40 FOR N=0 TO 22:POKE ST+6+N, 130:NEXT N
50 POKE 512,0:POKE 513,6
60 POKE 54286, 192
70 POKE 712,10
1000 DATA 72,141,10,212,165,203,201,230,
240, 10, 24, 105, 10, 133, 203, 141, 24, 208, 104, 64, 169, 0, 133, 203, 141, 24, 208, 104, 64
```

10 FOR N=0 TO 10:READ A:POKE 1536+N, A:NE

```
15 POKE 623,0
20 ST=PEEK (560) +256*PEEK (561)
31 POKE ST+3,66:POKE ST+6,2
32 POKE ST+7,6:POKE ST+8,134
33 POKE ST+168,65:POKE 169,PEEK (560):POK
E 170, PEEK (561)
50 POKE 512,0:POKE 513,6
60 POKE 54286,192
70 POKE 710,0
100 POKE 87,0
110 POSITION 0,0:? "
                            ATARI INTERRUPTS-
FROM Your Computer "
120 ? "YOU MUST BE PROUD OF YOUR ATARI N
OW!?!"
125 POKE 87,1: POSITION 0,4
130 ? #6;" WE ARE NOW IN GR.1"
140 ? #6;" GR.1 ONCE AGAIN !!"
150 POKE 87,9:C=0
160 FOR N=3 TO 176 STEP 10
170 COLOR C: C=C+1: IF C=16 THEN C=1
180 FOR I=0 TO 10:PLOT 0,N+I:DRAWTO 79,N
+I:NEXT I:NEXT N
1000 DATA 72,141,10,212,169,64,141,27,20
8,104,64
```



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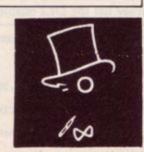
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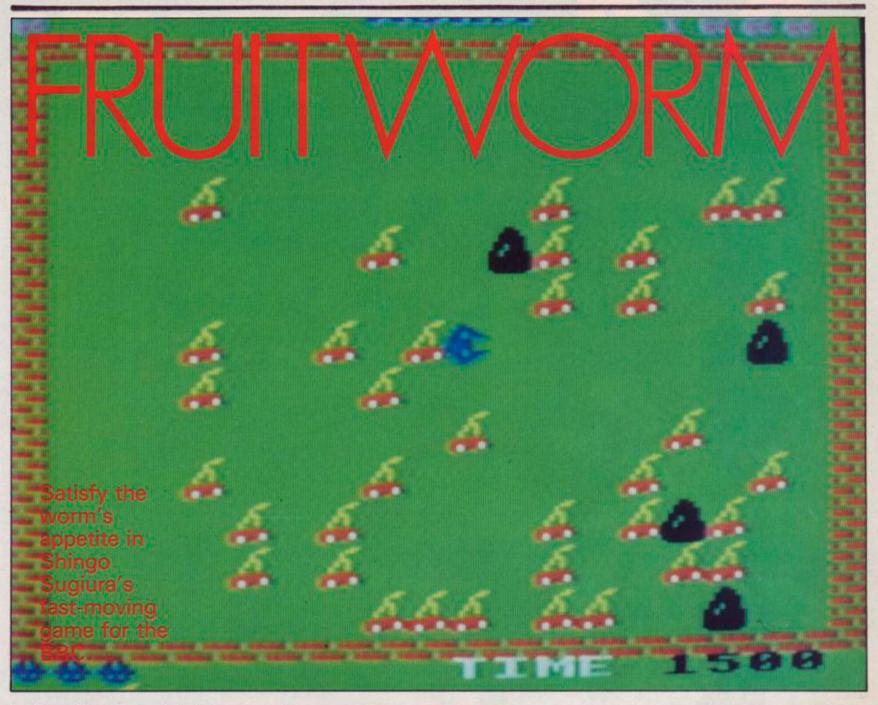
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IN FRUIT WORM your task is to move a hungry worm around the garden which is full of fruits. You have to guide him so that he can eat the fruits and grow to be an adult worm, but the trouble is there are rocks and the brick wall to be avoided and the task of keeping your wary eyes on the time which is constantly ticking away.

Save sections of memory

First type in listing 1 and Save it under the name of 'INIT', then type in listing 2 and Save it under the name of 'BFRUIT' on a different cassette. Run listing 2 and the cursor should reappear in a few seconds. You must now Save the sections of memory which

contains the data for the multi-coloured characters i.e., the fruits. To do this type *SAVE "FRUIT" 2D00 + 550

wind the tape containing 'INIT' to just after 'INIT' and press Return. After this type in listing 3 and Save it after 'INIT' and 'FRUIT' before you run it.

All this must be done because the program contains quite a bit of machine code and thus could crash the machine if there is a mistake, probably resulting in Bad Program. Those fortunate enough to have disc drives won't

have to go through all this but must make sure not to insert any extra spaces in the third program otherwise they will probably get a No Room message.

Now rewind the tape to the beginning and Chain the program. When 'INIT' is loaded the title page will appear. Press Stop on tape unless you have motor contol facility or have discs - in which case the first program will load the main program at &1100. When the title page appears you can press Q if you do not want any sound otherwise press the spacebar to load the rest of the program.

The game will begin

When 'FRUIT' and 'WORM' are loaded, the game will begin. In the middle of the screen you will see the worm's head for a while before it starts moving - in the first screen there is a short burst of music so if you have the sound off nothing will be happening for a while. This can look as if the machine has crashed so resist the temptation to press Escape. In fact, this precaution applies to various other points in the game where there is

You control the movement of the snake with Z, X, : and / to move left, right, up and down respectively. If you manage to make the worm gobble up enough fruits before the time runs out, the remaining time will be added to the

(continued on page 165)

Listing 1. EYOPAGE-51100:NCH, "WORM":H X138,0,128

TAIL TEATA-BET: UNTILA-320RA-810RA N-81 THEN *FX210,1 A-83 THEN *FX210,0

COS GAMES THE

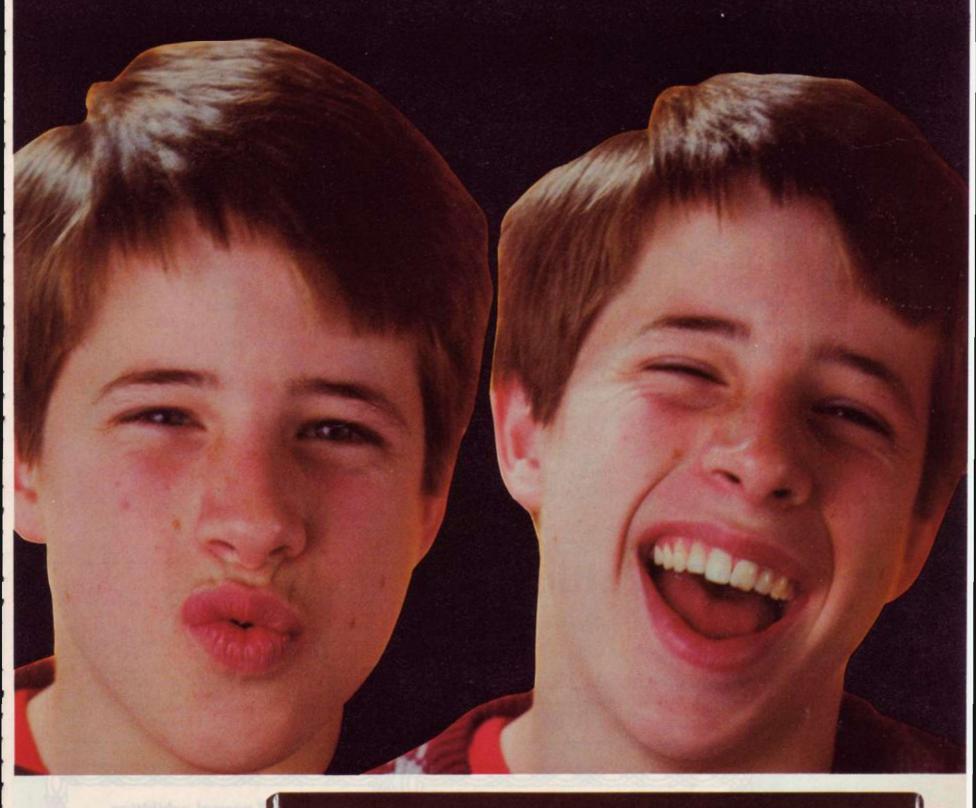


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(continued from page 161)

score and you will get to control another worm in another garden with another type of fruit. There are nine kinds of fruit and if you do not kill all four of the worms before this a bonus of 2000 will be added to your score and you will also receive an extra life, then you go on to do the whole thing all over again, but I doubt if many people could even get to the ninth screen very easily let alone do it repeatedly.

When you kill all four worms and the score

is in the top eight you will be asked to input your name. This can be anything up to 14 characters long then the top eight scores, together with the names of the scorers will be displayed. At this point if you have the sound off but would like it back on, press S if you have the sound on but want it off press Q, if you like the sound as it is simply press the space bar to replay.

My high-score is 16380 but I am sure many of you will beat that.

The programs are long and typing them in — especially listing ? — will be a long, boring and an arduous process. If you do not have the time or the energy for such a task send a cheque or a postal order for £3.50 made payable to Shingo Sugiura to the following address:

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```
290DATA 3,3,11,3,9,3,3,3
300DATA 3,3,3,3,3,6,6,12
310REM Fourth fruit
320DATA 13,12,12,9,23,23,23,23
330DATA 15,13,12,13,3,3,3,3
340DATA 12,14,14,15,11,3,3,3
350DATA 12,12,12,6,3,3,3,3
360DATA 3,3,3,9,9,12,12,12
370DATA 43,43,23,23,3,3,3,9
380DATA 3,3,3,3,3,3,6
390DATA 3,3,3,3,3,3,6
400REM Fifth fruit
410DATA 13,12,12,12,12,25,28,25
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     580DATA 48,48,36,36,12,12,12,12
     10HIMEM=&2D00
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     590REM Seventh fruit
     20F0RA=0T0575: READB: A7&2D00=B: NEXT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     600DATA 12,12,12,12,12,12,12,12
610DATA 12,12,12,12,12,12,12,12
620DATA 12,12,12,12,12,13,10,10
     30END
     40REM First fruit
     SODATA 12,12,12,12,12,12,12,12
60DATA 12,12,12,12,13,13,14
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     630DATA 15,15,4,14,14,14,14,14
650DATA 12,12,12,13,15,10,15,14
660DATA 13,15,10,10,5,15,14,12
670DATA 5,5,15,15,14,12,12,12
60DATA 12,12,12,12,12,13,13,14
70DATA 12,13,14,14,15,13,13,13
80DATA 15,14,12,12,12,12,12,12
90DATA 12,9,3,3,3,3,9,12
100DATA 14,3,3,3,43,43,6,12
110DATA 3,3,3,3,3,9,12,12
120DATA 6,3,3,43,43,6,12,12
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  670DATA 5,5,15,10,10,5,15,14,12
670DATA 5,5,15,15,14,12,12,12
680DATA 14,14,12,12,12,12,12,12,12
690REM Eighth fruit
700DATA 12,12,12,12,12,9,13,11
710DATA 12,15,13,9,3,11,7,11
720DATA 15,15,14,14,3,11,3,11
730DATA 12,15,12,12,12,6,6,3
750DATA 7,11,7,11,7,11,7,9
770DATA 7,11,7,11,7,11,7,9
770DATA 7,11,7,11,7,11,7,1
800DATA 3,3,3,3,6,6,12,12
790REM Nineth fruit
800DATA 12,12,12,24,24,24,48,48
810DATA 24,48,48,48,48,48,48,48
820DATA 36,48,48,48,48,48,48,48
830DATA 12,12,12,36,36,36,48,48
850DATA 48,12,3,3,12,15,12,12
860DATA 48,12,3,3,3,15,15,12
870DATA 48,12,3,3,3,6,14,15
880DATA 48,12,3,6,6,12,12,15
                                                                                                                                                                                          410DATA 13,12,12,12,12,25,28,25
420DATA 15,15,12,25,54,57,54,57
430DATA 14,15,13,51,51,57,54,57
440DATA 15,14,12,12,38,38,38,38
450DATA 54,57,54,57,54,57,54,25
460DATA 54,57,54,57,54,57,38,12
 130REM Second fruit
130REM Second fruit

140DATA 15,13,12,12,12,29,9,23

150DATA 12,14,15,13,15,23,3,3

160DATA 13,15,14,12,6,3,43,3

170DATA 14,12,12,12,12,46,6,3

180DATA 43,23,3,3,9,9,12,12

190DATA 23,3,43,3,43,3,23,9

200DATA 23,3,23,3,43,3,6,6

210DATA 23,3,3,6,6,12,12,12

220REM Third fruit
                                                                                                                                                                                           470DATA 54,57,51,57,38,12,12,12
480DATA 38,38,12,12,12,12,12,12
490REM Sixth fruit
                                                                                                                                                                                         490REM Sixth fruit

500DATA 12,12,12,12,12,12,24,24

510DATA 15,13,12,24,48,48,48,48

520DATA 13,15,6,48,48,48,48,48

530DATA 14,12,12,12,36,36,48,48

550DATA 24,24,12,12,12,12,12,12

560DATA 53,53,53,48,24,24,12,12

570DATA 48,48,48,58,48,48,36,12
230DATA 12,12,12,12,12,12,9,7
240DATA 12,12,13,9,9,9,7,9
250DATA 13,15,15,12,12,9,3,9
260DATA 14,15,15,13,12,6,3,3
 270DATA 11,13,14,13,14,3,9,12
280DATA 3,6,11,7,3,9,7,3
```

```
1270JSRfindiTXA:CMP#32:BEDcont
1280TXA:BEDgrow
1290LDA#1:STAdie:JMPcont
1300, grow
1310JSRnoise
1320INCIen:CLC:LDAscore:ADC#20:STAscore
1330LDAscore+1:ADC#0:STAscore+1:LDAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:STAscore+2:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0:ADC#0
   Listing 3.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            670vDU31,10,VPOS,134,141:PRINT"Today's Greatest"
680vDU31,10,VPOS,134,141:PRINT"Today's Greatest"
690vDQ order=0 TO 7
700vDQorder+49,46:PRINTTAB(6);sc(order);TAB(12)"...
";f(names=order+15)"
                             10HIMEM=&2D00
20MODE2:PROCass
30REPEAT
                               40'score=0:screen=1:1:=3:done=FALSE
50MD0E2:VDU23:10,32:0:0:0:17,130,12
60MEPEAY
                           AOREPEAT
70FROCescreen:PROCinitiPROCeo_ord:PROCeusic:PROCease
BOUNTIL death
90FROCend
10UNTIL FALDE
200EFFROCEase
30FROCeast(1000):VDU31,10,14,32,10,8,72
40TIME=0
30FROCeast(1000):VDU31,10,14,32,10,8,72
30FROCeast(1000):VDU31,10,14,32,10,8,72
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       1360.edve

1370.DAB31: JSROSMRCH

1390.DYLen:LDAKCO,YIJSROSMRCH

1390.DAYCO,YIJSROSWRCH:LDAB32:JSROSMRCH

1400.DAYCO,JSROSWRCH:LDAB3:JSROSMRCH

1400.DAYC:CFF4:SMRCH

1420.RC:CO:LDAB232:STANEAd:RTS

1430.RC:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          770UNTILA-32
780ENPROC
780EPROC
780EPROC
810FTR (*score(*sc(7) ENDPROC
810FTR (*score(*sc(7) ENDPROC
810FTR (*score)*sc(order*) *sc(order*1)*sc(order*);#(names
(order*1)**153*#(names*order*15);fix=order
830NEXT
840sc(fix)**1score
850FRINTTAB(6,2)DHR134CHR141*Congratulations*!*
850FRINTTAB(6,2)DHR129*Tualifies
850FRINTAB(6,2)DHR129*Tualifies
850FRIN
                           (60PROCHait (100-screen*10): VDUI7,5,31,0,1:PRINT: 'sco
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       1430.pr
1440LDAdir:CMP#2:BNEn1
1450DEDcco:LDA#230:STAhead:RTS
1460.nl
1470LDAdir:CMP#3:BNEnu
1480DECyco:DECyco:LDA#226:STAhead:RTS
1490.nu
1500INCyco:INCyco:LDA#228:STAhead:RTS
1510.ca1
1520LDY#30
1530.loop1
                       170time=1500-10*(INT(TIME/10)):VDU17,0,31,15,29:PRIN
190UNTL 76101 OR 1100:30 OR 1100:10
2001F 76101 OR 1100:00 OR 1100:10
200EFFR.DC (X,Y)
210ENDFRDC
220DEFFR.DC (X,Y)
2200E578000-XX324YeA40
240DEFFRDCAMAIL(T)
250FOR 610XX=0 TO TINEXT delayX
260ENDFRDC
270DEFRDCCc_ord
280FDR A=0 TO 30:A7xco=10:A7yco=14:NEXT
290ENDFRDC
300DEFPROCCc_ord
280FDR A=0 TO 30:A7xco=10:A7yco=14:NEXT
290ENDFRDC
300DEFPROCCc_ord
280EDR A=0 TO 30:A7xco=10:A7yco=14:NEXT
290ENDFRDC
300DEFPROCCc_ord
280EDR A=0 TO 30:A7xco=10:A7yco=14:NEXT
290ENDFRDC
300DEFRDCS(C=em
310VDU5:GCOLO,5:HOVE520,1000:PRINT*WDRM*
320GCOLO,4:HOVE512,1004:FRINT*WDRM*;VDU4
330VDU17,5,31,0,0:FRINT*Score*TAB(15,0)*High*:TAB(10,29):TINE*:
340VDU17,5,31,0,1:PRINT;'score*TAB(15,1);sc(0)
350VDU17,0,31,15,29,49,53,48,48,17,1
360VDU17,4,31,0,29:FRIND$(20,0)#8:(234));
370FRINTTAB(0,29:FRIND$(20,0)#8:(234));
370FRINTTAB(0,29:FRIND$(20,0)#8:(234));
380FORN=2TO27;VDU31,0,1,274,31,1,4,234:NEXT
390VDU17,4,31,0,29:FRIND$TRIND$(1:,0)#8:235)
400CDLQURFO:FDR D=0 TO 0creen=5
410VDU31,RND(14)+3,2*(RND(10)+3),256,10,8,237:NEXT
420CGCob=0T040:Die-82000*(screen=1)*64*:Chr=Oi*
430LOC=FNLDC*(GND(14)+3);2*(RND(10)+3)]:Do=4.DC:CAL
draw
440CH=82D00+(screen=1)*64*32:Chr=CH:110c=4.DC:CAL
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             890FORA-OTOIS:READB,C:SOUND3,3,8,C:SOUND2,3,8-48,C:N
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     1920LD9430
1530.L0091
1530.L0091
1530.L0091
1530.L00920-1,YISTALCO,Y
1550.DAYCO-1,Y
1550.DAYCO-1,Y
1590.DAY17.JSROSWRCHILDA#4:JSROSWRCH
1590.DAY2
1600.L0092
1610LDA#21;JSROSWRCH
1620.LDA#23;YIJSROSWRCH
1620.DAYCO,YIJSROSWRCH
1630.DAYCO,YIJSROSWRCH
1630.DAYCO,YIJSROSWRCH
1640.L0A#224:JSROSWRCH
1640.DA#224:JSROSWRCH
1640.DA#224:JSROSWRCH
1640.DA#224:JSROSWRCH
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  900FR[NTTAB(4,11)CHR#131"Flease enter your name."
910VBU31,5,15,134,157,129,31,76,15,156,31,9,15:*FX15
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         ## 920'82D00mnames*fin*15:782C02*14:782C03*12:782C04*12
7:XX*800:YX*8ZC
930AX*0:CALLDSMORD:CLS:ENDFROC
940DATA121,2,141,8,141,8,149,8,149,8,169,14,157,2,14
1,6,141,2,157,6,141,2,129,8,161,16,149,6,137,2,141,16
950DEFFECT:time=time=10:1score*iscore*10:SDUND&11,-15
time=10,1
970VDU17,5,31,0,1:PRINT:'score;:VDU17,0,31,15,29:PRI
NT:time:" ":PROCwait(20)
990CMTIL time:10
990Screen*macreen*lilf screen:9 THEN FROCcongrat
1000VDU20,0,29,19,0,12,26
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   1640LDA#274:JSROSWRCH;LDA#10:JSROSWRCH:LDA#8:

1650DEY:EMEToop2

1660LDA#31:JSROSWRCH

1670LDA#31:JSROSWRCH:LDAYCO,Y:JSROSWRCH

1670LDA#0.Y:JSROSWRCH:LDAYCO,Y:JSROSWRCH

1680LDAhead:JSROSWRCH:LDA#10:JSROSWRCH:LDA#8

1690JSROSWRCHILDA#3CLC:ADC#1:JSROSWRCH

1700LDA#19:JSROSWYE

1710RTS

1720.Find

1720.Find

1730LDA#135:JSROSEVTE

1740RTS

1750.DA#135:JSROSEVTE

1740RTS

1750.DA#135:JSROSEVTE

1750.DA#135:JSROSEVTE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              010ENDFRGC
1020DEFFFGCcongrat; VDU28, 1, 27, 18, 3, 12, 26; bonus=1000; d
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           1010ENSTRUCTION OF THE PROCESS OF TH
         430100=FHLDC:(RND:(4)-57;2*(RND:(10)+3)):*loc=LDC:CAL
draw
4400H=82B00+(screen-1)*64+32:!chr=CH:*loc=LDC:CAL
draw:MEXT
450VBUT;4,31,10,14,232,10,8,233
460L0C=FNLDC:(screen+2,30):CH+82B00+(screen-1)*64:!ch
=CH:*loc=LDC:CALL draw
470L0C=FNLDC:(screen+2,31):CH+82B00+(screen-1)*64:32:
chr=CH:*loc=LDC:CALL draw
470L0C=FRCC:init
500Pdir=1:17!en=2:7die=0:death=FALSE
510ENDFROC
490DEFFROCdeath
5301score='score*50:VDUT;5,31,0,1:FRINT:!score:
540FOR A-100 TO 60 STEP-5:SDUNDSO1,4,2:NEXT
5501=1:1:FI:(0 THEN death=TRUE
560PROCwait:(3000):IF 11>=0 VDUZB,0,29,19,0,12,26
570ENDFROC
580DEFFROCeusic:RESTORE
5901Fdone ENDFROC
600FORA=100:RECADPROC
600FORA=1018:RECADPROC
600FORA=1018:RECADPROC
610EXT:done=TRUE:ENDFROC
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      Tjbonus;" "!PRCCwait (30)
1070UNTIL bonus(10
100PRDCMait (2000) vDU17,5,31,5,20:PRINT"Extra life"1
100PRDCMait (2000) vDU17,5,31,5,20:PRINT"Extra life"1
100PRDL17,4,31,0,29:PRINTSTRING#(1:,DHR#235)
1100PRDCwait (3000):screen=1
1110EMDPROC
1120DEFROCend:RESTORE1150
1120DEFROCend:RESTORE1150
1120DEFROCend:RESTORE1150
1140EMDPROC
1150DATA33,20,5,20,5,10,13,10,17,10,13,10,5,10,1,10,5
30
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 770LDX#880;LDY#800;JSRDSWDRD
780LDA#7;LDX#888;LDY#800;JSRDSWDRD
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         1820.drloop
1830LDA(chr),YrSTA(loc),V DEY:BFLdrloop
1840RTS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   IBSO, keys

IBSO, keys

IBSO, keys

IBSO, by

                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      130
1160DEFFROCass
1170head=870tdir=8711die=872:1en=873:chr=874:1oc=876:
score=878
1180:860=811:7582=1:7584=126:7586=6:7588=510:758A=-15
758C=3:758E=6
1190:05MROH-MFFEE:0SBYTE=8FFF4:DSMCMD=8FFF1
1200DIR sc:81,sco 30,yco 30,names 150,code 400
1210FDRFASS=0T02STEF2:FZ=code
1220:0FFFASS
1230:JSR6vsi:JSR6vse
1240:DASCI:JSR6vseCH
1250:DASCO:JSR6SMCH
1250:DASCO:JSR6SMCH
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         910.ndown
920LDx+BBD:LDY#NFF:LDA+LB1:JSROSEYTE:TXA:BEDnr:uh*
     GONEST CODE=TRUE: ENDPROC
610DATA101,5,121,3,137,5,121,2,129,2,121,2,129,2,121
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       1940.neight
1950LDX#89E:LDY#RFF:LDA#RB1:JSFOSBYTE:TXA:BEDhleft
1970.nleft
1970.nleft
                             117,3
2006476101,5,121,3,137,5,121,2,129,2,121,2,129,2,121
   6200HTRIO, 5.121, 5,137,5,121,2,127,2,121,2,127,2,121,4,121,4,117,5
6300EFFROCtable
640PROCammend:RESTORE
650VDU129,157,31,5,0,130,141:PRINT*Fruit Worm Hall o
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                1990:NEXT
2000FDE name=0 TO 7:E(names=name=15)="Ehingosoft":sc(
name)=1000-name=100:NEXT
2010ENDPROC
                     Fame" 660VDU129,157,31,5,1,130,141:PRINT"Fruit Hore Hall o
```



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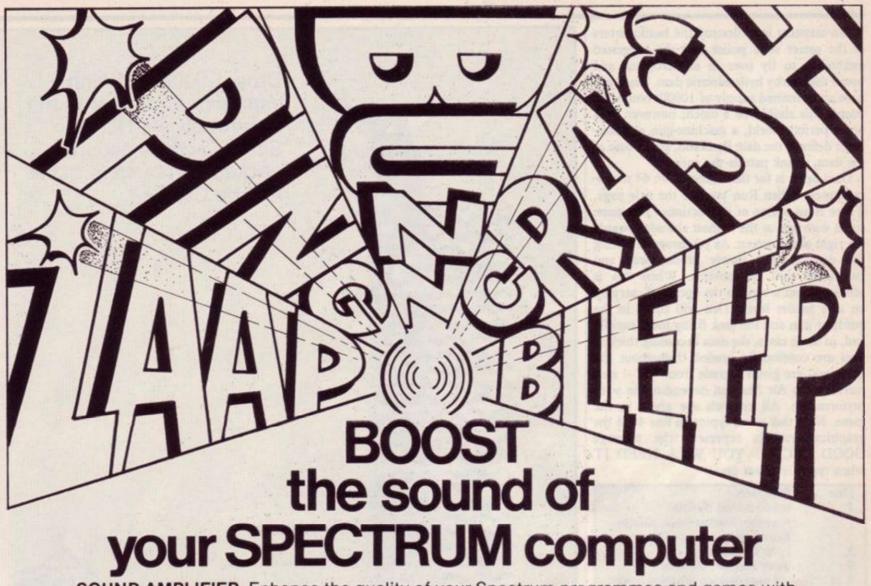
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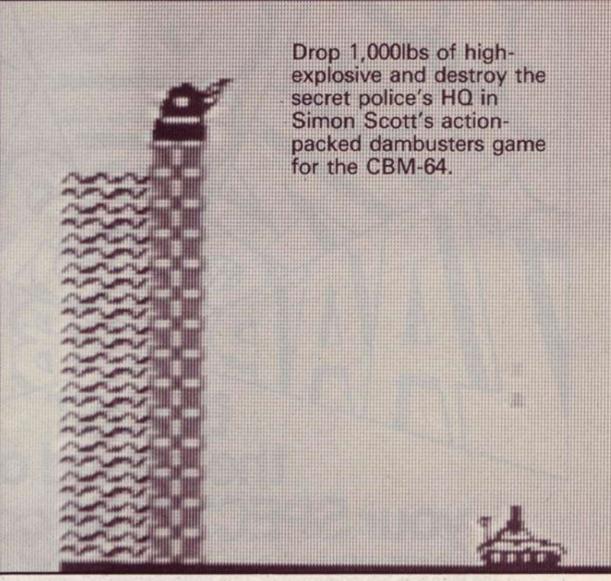
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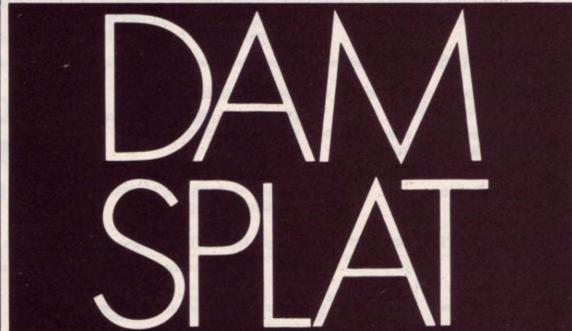
WEST MIDLANDS (Kingswood) NORTHANTS AND OTHER H. G. Radkin South East Midi R.S.C. R.S.C. P. V. Tubes Melody House Electronic Services Microchip Shop R. Seedle Ltd. LEADING HOME WILTS. Co-op Richard Reeves **COMPUTER SHOPS** Peter Parks Andover Radio Raunds Weston Favell Alpha Nu Leisuretin

YOUR MISSION is to destroy the headquarters of the secret state police and the suggested method is to fly over in an aeroplane and bomb the nearby hydroelectric dam. Since you have an unlimited supply of 1000lb bombs on board, this should be a cinch; however, it is not a perfect world, a machine-gun emplacement defends the dam itself and, at the base of the dam, a tank patrols the gorge.

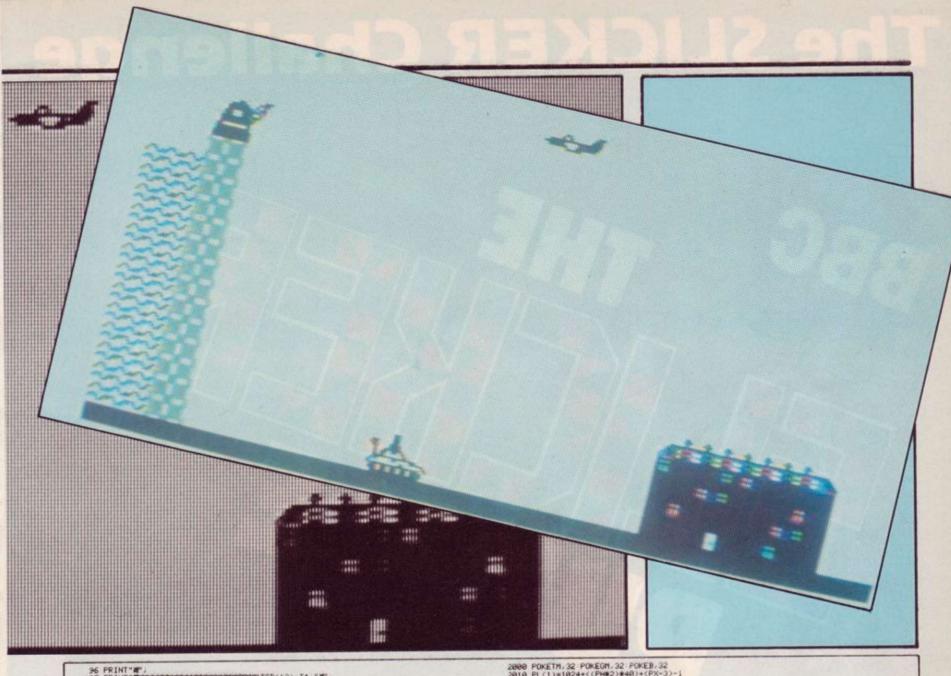
Dam Splat is for the Commodore 64 microcomputer. When Run you see the title page. There is an option of instructions. The game starts with you at the highest altitude towards the right of the screen. As you progress hitting the dam it will slowly erode away and eventually spill its contents. When this is achieved, you are given the option of carrying on at a harder level. This will result in the machine gun and the tank firing more rapidly and, in some cases, the dam becoming thicker. You are continually graded throughout the game and are given a grade from erk - new recruit - to Air Marshal depending on your performance. All controls are given in the game. Note that when typing in line 4034 the graphics symbols represent the message GOOD LUCK ... YOU WILL NEED IT

Line	Function
1	set variables: disable
	Runstop/Restore keys: disable
	Basic List
2 3	jump to title page
3	lower memory pointers
4-10	set user defined graphics mode:
	POKE DATA into memory
20-56	Data for graphics
60-63	set strings
80-99	set up screen ready for game
100-140	main loop
200-220	bomb drop routine
230-245	dam erosion routine
250-260	dam spilling water routine
275-340	mission complete message and
	rank
400-440	final rank and cold start, resets
	the computer using SYS 64738
900-920	planes height
930-995	machine-gun fire routine
1000-1010	tank move routine
1100-1150	tank fire routine
2000-2021	plane fall after a hit
2030-2070	explosion and message
3000-3014	title page
3100-3121	instructions option
3130-3150	instruction print-out routine
4000-4045	Data for instructions
4050-4055	wait for a key
5000-5010	set up an array containing ranks

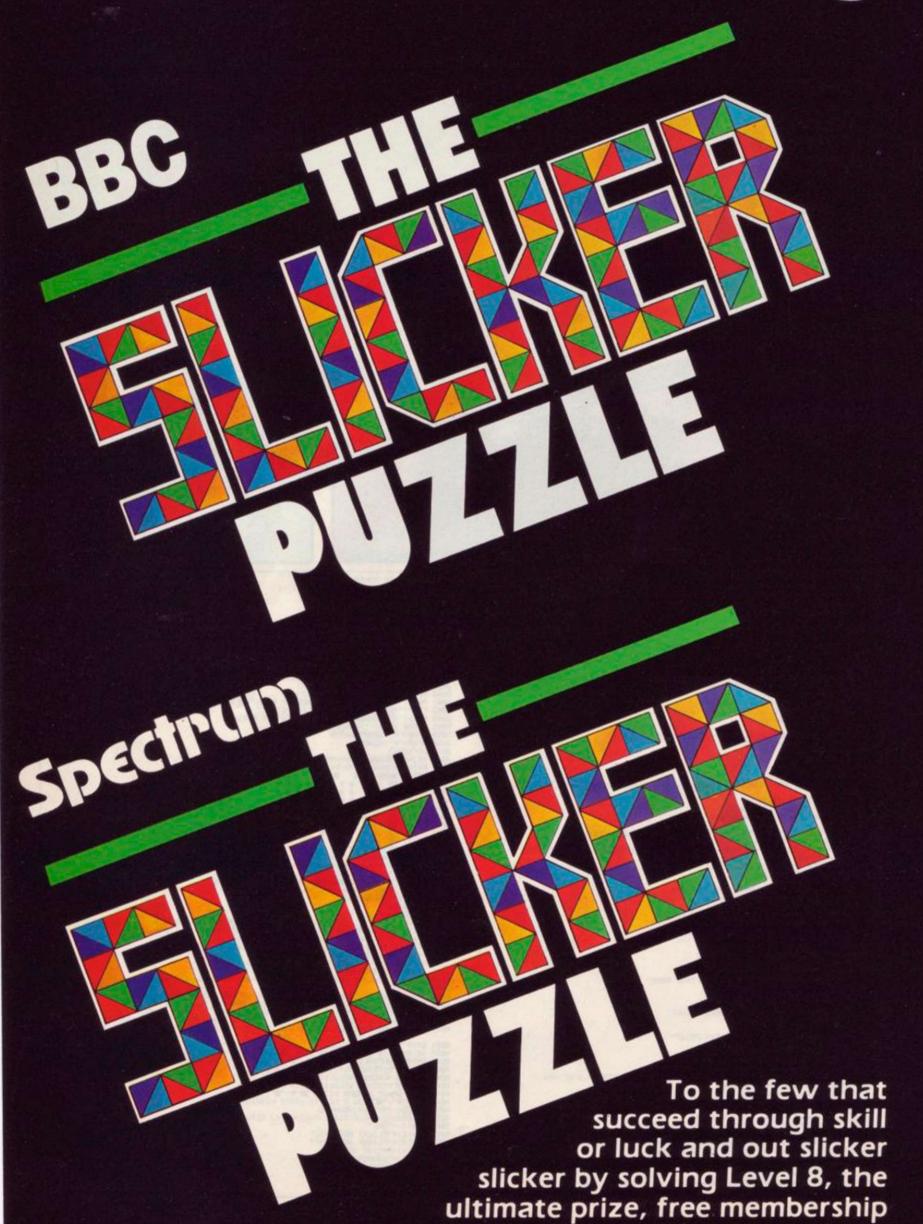




```
3 REM ** HRITTEN BV SIMON SCOTT **
1 PRINT**; PR+0 IN=.2 POKES08.225 POKE775.200
2 POKE53220.1 POKE556.40
4 POKE53222.4 POKE56.40
4 POKE53272.4 PEEK (56334) AND254
6 POKE5.522.4 PEEK (56334) AND254
6 POKE5.522.4 PEEK (56334) AND254
7 POKE5.521 POKE56.100.2
7 POKE56304.PEEK (56334) AND254
9 POKE56304.PEEK (56334) OR1
10 FOR1*12288T012583 READM POKEI.8 NEXT
20 DATR155.255.126.126.126.126.255.195
21 DATR195.254.124.126.124.120.252.195
22 DATR192.224.112.112.96.112.248.192
24 DATR192.224.112.112.96.112.248.192
25 DATR0.192.04.04.100.112.112.232.194
25 DATR0.192.06.64.64.424.244.240
25 DATR0.192.0.64.0.64.192.128
26 DATR0.192.0.64.0.64.192.128
27 DATR0.192.0.64.0.64.192.128
28 DATR0.192.0.64.0.64.192.128
29 DATR0.192.0.64.0.64.192.128
20 DATR0.3.134.0.97.146.12.0
27 DATR0.0.120.306.144.21.96.34
28 DATR0.6.146.73.146.36.34.146.36
29 DATR0.5.192.48.36.36.31.27.127.127
30 DATR0.5.254.2.254.2555.255.255
31 DATR0.0.3.7.7.14.14.31
32 DATR0.96.248.253.255.355.255.255
32 DATR0.0.3.7.7.14.14.31
32 DATR0.96.248.253.255.355.255.255
33 DATR0.0.3.7.7.14.14.31
32 DATR0.96.248.253.255.355.255.255
33 DATR0.0.3.7.7.14.14.31
32 DATR0.96.248.253.255.155.255.255
33 DATR0.0.3.7.7.14.14.31
32 DATR0.96.248.253.255.155.255
34 DATR0.96.248.253.255.155.255
35 DATR0.96.96.96.96.96.96.35.39
36 DATR0.224.124.2.249.52.248
39 DATR0.0.0.96.160.96.35.39
40 DATR0.6.96.96.96.240.248.190
41 DATR0.0.0.9.96.160.96.35.39
```

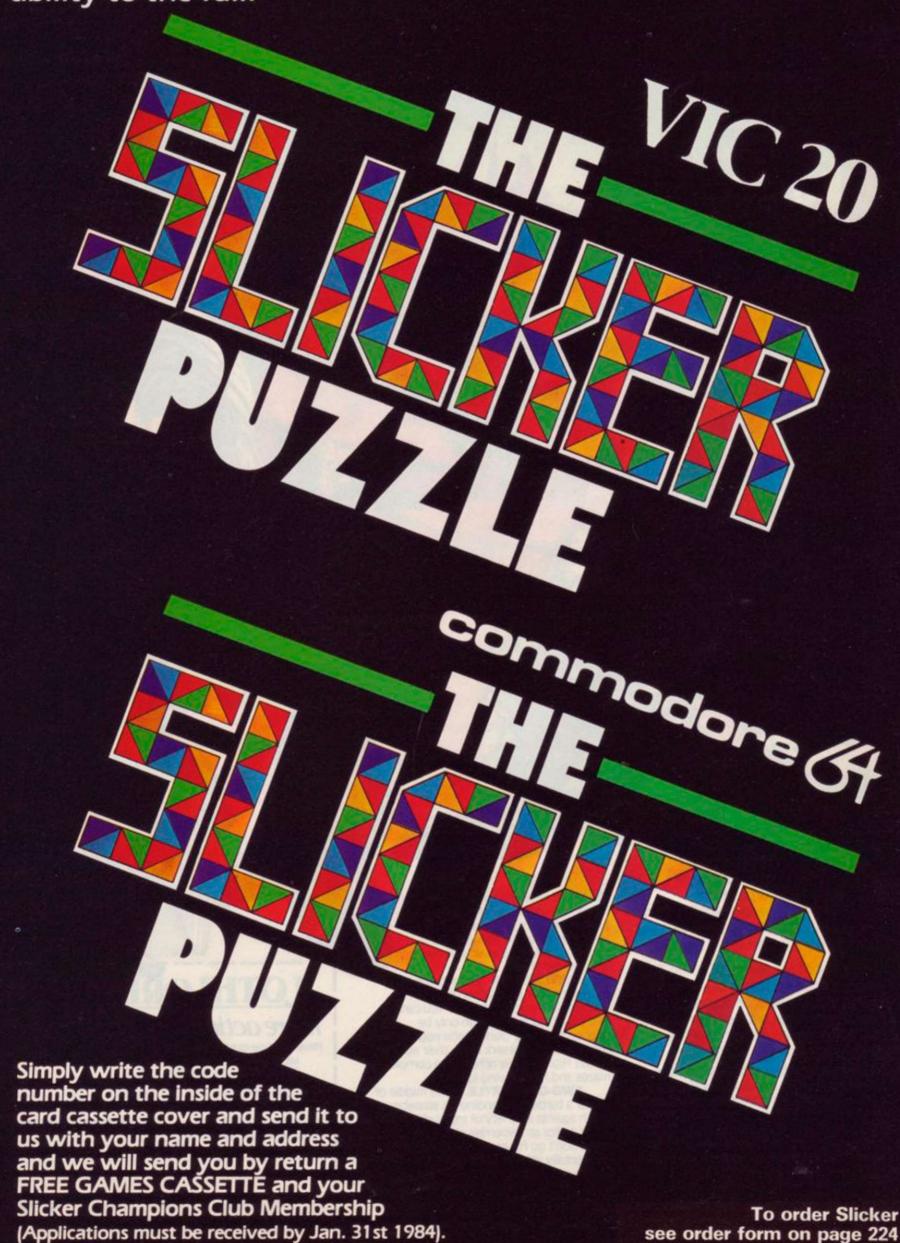


The SLICKER Challenge

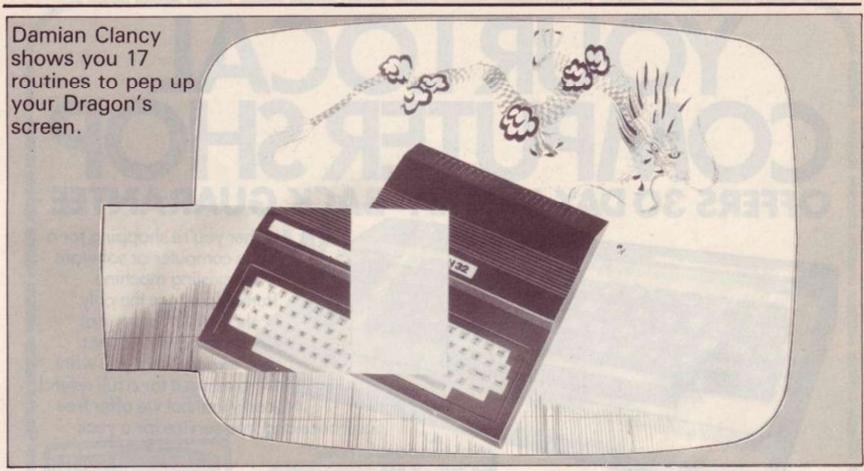


of the Slicker Champions Club.

We challenge you to beat SLICKER the new totally original puzzle game that has been designed to test your micro games ability to the full.







SCREEN KIT

HERE ARE 17 routines to enhance the screen of the Dragon 32 and add better sound effects to your progams. The routines will scrool the high resolution or low resolution screens in all four directions, invert either screen, fill the whole low-res screen, the foreground or the background with a specified character, draw a border of a specified character around the screen, and produce two different sound effects.

When the printed program is typed in and Run, it will Poke the routines into memory from address 32000 onwards. The program should then be Saved and all the routines tested.

Each time you wish to use any of the routines in your own programe while the program is under development the routines must be loaded separately before loading your own program. Before loading the routines using CloadM you should type

CLEAR 200,32000

When your own program is finished, before Saving it type:

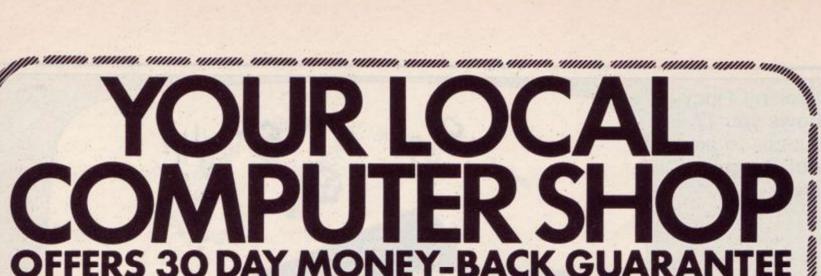
POKE 27,&H7F: POKE 28,&HFF.

This will allow the routines to be Saved together with the Basic program using the CSave command. However, it will stop you from editing the program and so should only be used when you have finished the program. The routines available are listed in table 1. Type Exec followed by the start address.

When all the routines have been tested and when they work they can be Saved using

CSAVEM "SCREEN",32000,32600,600. They can be loaded again using CloadM.

DATA BE,06,00,A6,01,A7,80,8C 20 DATA FE,A7,00,30,10,8C,05,FF 2 DATA 1E,00,26,F7,86,00,8E,1D 21 DATA 26,F3,39,8E,12,00,64,82 3 DATA FF, A7, 00, 30, 88, E0, 8C, 06 22 DATA 64,82,25,07,8C,06,00,26 4 DATA 04,2E,F6,39,8E,1D,FF,A6 23 DATA F7,20,08,A6,01,88,80,A7 5 DATA 1F,A7,00,30,1F,8C,06,00 24 DATA 01,20,F1,8E,06,00,A6,00 6 DATA 26,F5,86,00,8E,06,00,A7 25 DATA 84,7F,A7,00,30,88,10,8C 7 DATA 00,30,88,20,8C,1D,F6,2D 26 DATA 12,00,26,F2,39,8E,04,00 8 DATA F6,39,8E,1D,FF,A6,88,E0 27 DATA BC,06,00,27,29,A6,00,B1 9 DATA A7,00,30,1F,8C,06,20,26 28 DATA 40,25,17,81,80,25,19,1F 10 DATA F4,8E,06,00,86,00,A7,80 29 DATA 89,C4,F0,84,OF,43,F7,7F 11 DATA BC,06,20,26,F9,39,BE,06 30 DATA FF,84,0F,8B,7F,FF,A7,80 12 DATA 00, A6, 88, 20, A7, 80, 8C, 1D 31 DATA 20, DE, 8B, 40, A7, 80, 20, D8 13 DATA E0,26,F6,86,00,A7,80,8C 32 DATA 8B,CO,A7,80,20,D2,39,8E 14 DATA 1E,00,26,F9,39,8E,06,00 33 DATA 04,00,A6,01,A7,80,8C,06 15 DATA A6,00,43,A7,80,BC,1E,00 34 DATA 00,26,F7,86,60,8E,05,FF 16 DATA 26,F6,39,8E,06,00,68,80 35 DATA A7,00,30,88,E0,8C,04,06 17 DATA 68,80,25,07,8C,12,00,2D 36 DATA 2E,F6,39,8E,05,FF,A6,1F 18 DATA F7,20,07,A6,1E,4C,A7,1E 37 DATA A7,00,30,1F,8C,04,00,26 19 DATA 20,F2,8E,11,FF,A6,00,84 (listing continued on page 175)





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53 DATA 08,A7,80,8C,06,00,26,F3 (continued from page 173) 54 DATA 39,30,01,20,F6,86,3F,B7 38 DATA F5,86,60,8E,04,00,A7,00 55 DATA FF,23,C6,00,F7,7F,FF,7C 39 DATA 30,88,20,8C,05,FA,2D,F6 40 DATA 39,8E,05,FF,A6,88,E0,A7 56 DATA 7F, FF, F6, 7F, FF, 5A, C1, 00 41 DATA 00,30,1F,8C,04,1F,26,F4 57 DATA 26, FB, 86, 40, B7, FF, 24, F6 42 DATA BE,04,00,86,60,A7,80,8C 58 DATA 7F, FF, 5A, C1, 00, 26, FB, 4F 43 DATA 04,20,26,F9,39,86,04,8E 59 DATA B7, FF, 24, B1, 7F, FF, 26, DF 44 DATA 04,00,A7,89,01,E0,A7,80 60 DATA 39,00,86,3F,B7,FF,23,C6 45 DATA 8C,04,20,26,F5,A7,1F,A7 61 DATA FF, F7, 7F, FF, 7A, 7F, FF, F6 46 DATA 00,30,88,20,8C,06,00,26 62 DATA 7F,FF,5A,C1,00,26,FB,86 47 DATA F4,39,86,04,8E,04,00,A7 63 DATA 40, B7, FF, 24, F6, 7F, FF, 5A 64 DATA C1,00,26,FB,4F,B7,FF,24 48 DATA 80,8C,06,00,26,F9,39,86 65 DATA B1,7F,FF,26,DF,39 49 DATA 04,8E,04,00,E6,00,C1,60 100 CLEAR 200,32000 50 DATA 26,08,A7,80,8C,06,00,26 FOR F=32000 TO 32517
READ A\$: POKE F, VAL ("&H"+A\$) 51 DATA F3,39,30,01,20,F6,86,04 120 52 DATA 8E,04,00,E6,00,C1,60,27 130 NEXT F

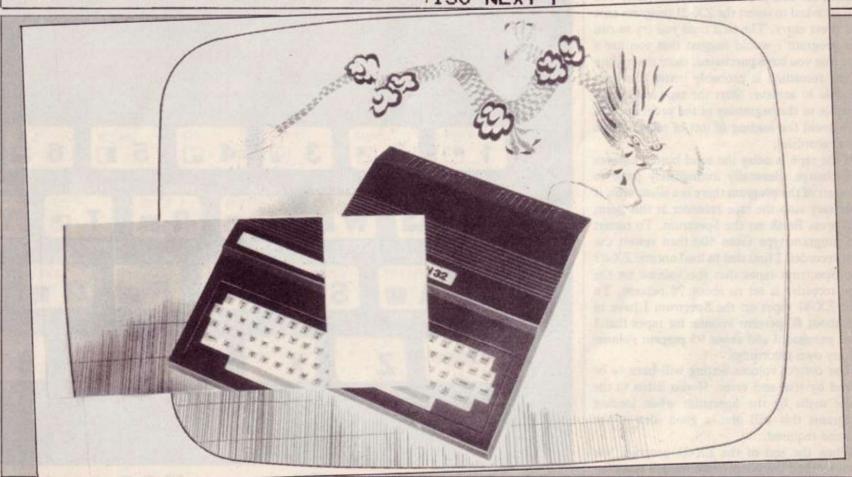


Table 1.	High-resolution routines		1,1. Red turns green, Blue turns yellow		the character used should be poked into
Table 1	Routine		and vice-versa. Orange and buff swap		location 32342 before calling the
address			over and cyan and magenta switch.		routine using Exec. The Poke codes are
32000	Scroll the hi-res screen one byte to the left — eight pixels. This routine is for use in Pmodes 1,3 and 4 and works on	32123	Scroll the screen left one bit — one pixel. This is for use in Pmodes 0 and 2 and affects the first two pages. It is		slightly different than the ASCII codes listed at the back of the manual. To find the Poke code of a character with ASCII
	the first four hi-res pages.		smoother than the byte scroll used in		code X, use Print at 0,Chr\$(X);:Print
32028	Scroll the hi-res screen one byte to the		the other modes but slower.		Peek (1024)
0	right. This also scrolls the first four	32163	Scroll the screen right one pixel. This	32370	Fill the screen with a specified
	pages in Pmodes 1,3 and 4.		also affects the first two pages in		character. The character's Poke code
32058	Scroll the screen down one pixel. This routine scrolls the first four page and		Pmodes 0 and 2.		should first be Poked into address 32371.
		Low-res	text routines	32383	Fill the background with a character. All
32086	Scroll the screen up one pixel. This also scrolls the first four pages in Pmodes 0		Routine	- 14-14	the spaces on the screen are filled with the character whose Poke code is in
	to 4. However, when used in Pmodes		Invert the screen.		address 32384.
	0,1 and 2 the Exec command should be		Scroll the screen left one character.	323406	Fill the foreground with a character.
	followed by the command line		Scroll the screen right one character.		
	(0,191)-(255,191), Preset.	32313	Scroll the screen down one character.	Sound r	outines
32109			There is no routine to scroll the text	Start	Routine
	first four pages in all modes. Green		screen up as this can be done with the		
	pixels and buff pixels turn black, black		simple Basic command Print at 480.		Laser/Phasor/Zap
	turns green or buff depending on	32341	Draw a border of a specified character		Swanee whistle. When used several
	whether you are in Screen 1,0 or screen		around the screen. The poke code of		times at once produces a siren noise.

THIS PROGRAM, WRITTEN for the 48K Spectrum, will load ZX-81 program tapes and transform them so they are able to run on the Spectrum.

After the Basic program has been typed in from the program listing, which should not present any problem, run from line 9900 which will Save and Verify the program on tape.

When the Basic program has been Saved run from line 10. First the C() array will be filled with the Spectrum codes in the ZX-81 position, and the machine-code programs will be Poked into the correct location. All this information is held in data statements from line 9000 onwards. At the end of each data line there is a check-sum digit for the line. If an error occurs when the offending line will be listed ready for editing. After the line is corrected, restore the data and Run the program again.

Once the data has been loaded correctly you will be asked to insert the ZX-81 program tape and press enter. The first time you try to run this program I would suggest that you use a tape that you have purchased, since the quality of the recording is probably better than you are able to achieve. Start the tape as close as possible to the beginning of the program, this is to avoid the loading of lots of noise from a poor recording.

If the tape is noisy the solid border colours will change. Generally immediately prior to the start of the program there is a silent area; if necessary stop the tape recorder at this point and press Break on the Spectrum. To restart the program type Goto 500 then restart the tape recorder. I find that to load normal ZX-81 and Spectrum tapes that the volume on the tape recorder is set to about 75 percent. To load ZX-81 tapes on the Spectrum I have to use about 80 percent volume for tapes that I have purchased and about 95 percent volume for my own recordings.

The correct volume setting will have to be found by trial and error. If you listen to the noise made by the Spectrum when loading programs this will give a good idea of the volume required.

When the end of the ZX-81 program has been reached the border colours will revert to the solid changing colours. At this point press the Space-key - not Shift space or Break. The Basic program will then continue by asking for the name of the ZX-81 program that you have just loaded. The Basic program will then proceed to try and find the name among the information it has read from the tape.

When the ZX-81 program is being loaded, all the information that comes from the tape recorder is stored as it is received. This may mean, if the tape was noisy prior to the start of the program, that the program name is not at its correct position. The Basic program therefore looks at the first few storage locations to see if it can find the name.

If it cannot, it will then shift each bit along one position and repeat the search up to eight times for the program name. If the program name is not found, change the tape recorder settings and start the program again from line 500. If you still fail to find the program name then it will be necessary to re-record the ZX-81 program taking great care to produce

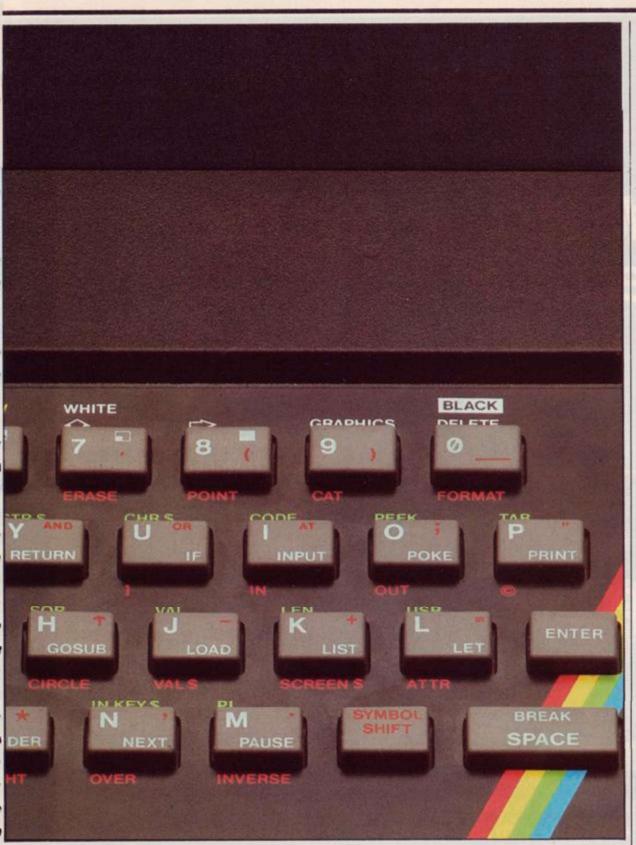


the best quality recording you can. If you entered the wrong program name, then restart the Basic program from line 1000 and enter the correct name.

If you still fail to find the program name then it will be necessary to re-record the ZX-81 program taking great care to produce the best quality recording you can. Alternatively it may be possible to transfer the

program directly from the ZX-81 to the Spectrum using a tape recorder and amplifier from an audio system. To do this, first load the program into the ZX-81. Then connect the Mic lead from the ZX-81 to the microphone input of the tape recorder, if it is stereo remember which channel you are using.

Connect the headphone output of the amplifier to the Ear lead of the Spectrum; if it



is a stereo amplifier turn the balance control so that only the correct channel is being used. Put a tape in the recorder and start recording, this will link the tape recorder and amplifier. Start the Basic program in the Spectrum from line 500 and finally instruct the ZX-81 to save its program.

This causes the ZX-81 program to be simultaneously recorded on tape, which can then be discarded, and lay the recording signal directly to the Spectrum, which thinks it is reading a tape. I found that the best results were obtained when as few as possible modifications were made to the recording signal, i.e., no Dolby, peak noise filter, bass, treble and other sound enhancements. Despite the number of leads and power supplies required, I found this method to be the most trouble-free. It also works Spectrum to Spectrum.

Having found the name of the ZX-81 program, the rest of the program is then converted so that it is able to run on the Spectrum with the following differences to

statements.

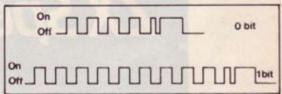
Slow, Fast, Poke and Usr are replaced with Rem to stop the converted program accidently crashing. Unplot is replaced with Plot and the shaded ZX-81 graphic characters are replaced with Spectrum's user definable graphics — which you will have to define later.

If a legitimate Rem statement is encountered, you are asked if the line contains machine code and, if so, if you want to Save the machine code on tape.

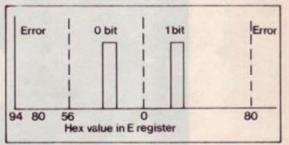
After the ZX-81 program has been converted you are prompted for a program name so the converted program can be Saved on tape. The Saved program can then be loaded back into the Spectrum as a normal Spectrum program. Most programs that are free of Peek, Poke and User statements are then able to run without any further modifications.

If having found the name an error occurs during the conversion, you will be prompted to Save the program, so far converted, on tape. After the program has been Saved an attempt is made to find a new entry point into the ZX-81 program. Thus several sections of the ZX-81 programs can be Saved on tape and later using the Spectrum's Merge command, the programs combined together into one program, plus a few gaps. If errors do occur it is indicative of wrong volume setting or a poor recording.

There are also four machine-code programs used by the Basic program during the course of loading and converting the ZX-81 program. The first machine-code program interprets the ZX-81 tape signals and stores each bit of information as it is received. The signal on a ZX-81 tape has the following form:



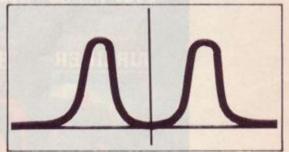
There are four or nine regular on and off signals — indicating 0 bit or 1 bit respectively — followed by a short on and off followed by a long on and off — which indicates the end of the bit. In the ZX-81 these signals are decoded by counting the time between reaching the start of the long off signal, from the previous bit, and deciding that the long on has been reached. The distribution of time taken to decode a bit looks like this.



The E register is used as a counter and starts with the value Hex 94, decreasing by one each time it passes through the loop. A long on signal is deemed to have been reached when the signal has been on for 26 loops.

If the long on is reached prior to the counter reaching Hex 56 then an error is assumed to have occurred and the counter starts again from Hex 94. If an error occurs anywhere else but the first bit, then the program will not load correctly. If a valid long on occurs before the counter reaches Hex 00 then the bit is an 0, otherwise the bit is 1. The grouping of time for the 0's and 1's is very compact and the ZX-81 seems difficult at interpreting the signal.

If the same procedure is followed on the Spectrum the following distribution occurs:

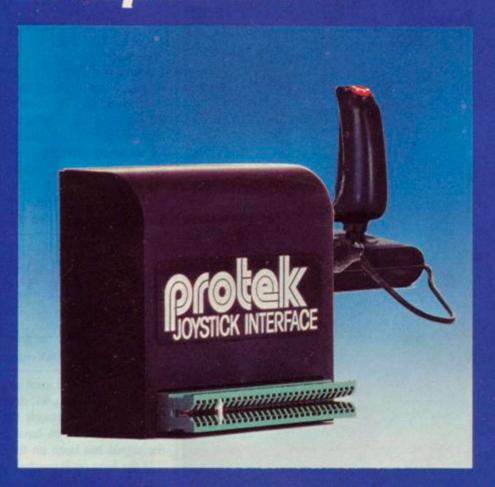


Instead of the grouping being compact, they appear like the statistical normal distribution with the accompanying tails. To get the distribution into the same form, the setting of the volume and tone controls on the tape

(continued on page 181)

PLAY

Arcade Action For The ZX Spectrum



If you want Arcade quality control for your Sinclair ZX Spectrum, you'll find the Protek combination hard to beat. The interface is compatible with a range of software including a number of titles from: ULTIMATE, SILVERSOFT, RABBIT SOFTWARE. QUICKSILVER, QUEST, **PSION, NEW GENERATION** SOFTWARE, IMAGINE. OCEAN, plus many more.

The protek joystick interface is simple to use. It just plugs in at the back of your Spectrum and is compatible with any "Atari type" Joystick Connector. We recommend the Spectravision Joystick at only £9.95 for Pistol Grip Joystick with a top and base fire button

plus specially contoured shape and rubber suction cup footing for single hand operation.

STOP PRESS * Now compatible with Zzoom * Jet Man * Kong * and Grid Runner

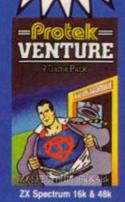












E GAIVIE

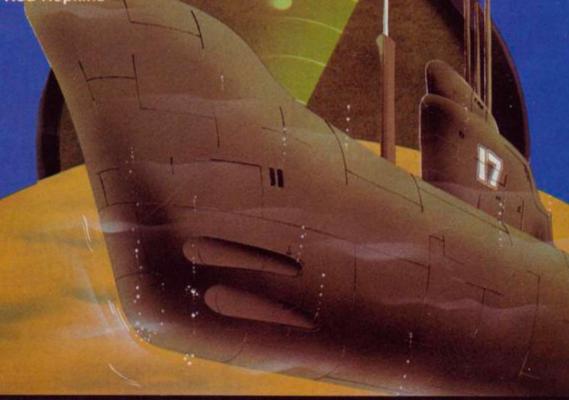
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For the 48K ZX Spectrum

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Written by Rod Hopkins



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YC 12

(continued from page 177)

recorder are critical — which is not the case on the ZX-81 — otherwise the distribution looks rectangular.

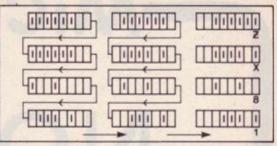
The next problem is that different tape recorder settings cause the peaks, and more importantly the tails, of the distribution to move. This then leads to the tail crossing the boundary between a 0 and 1 bit.

These differences between the ZX-81 and the Spectrum mean that it is not possible to use the ZX-81 method of decoding the tape signal and this is why greater care has to be taken when recording the ZX-81 programs to avoid the square shape of the signal becoming unduly rounded thus making it difficult to pick out the long on signal correctly.

The problem of knowing when the end of a bit has been reached is overcome by going back to first principles. By counting the on signals and looking at the long on signal to see if it occurs roughly on the fifth or 10th signal. The loading routine is the first of the machine-code programs and is very straight forward and simply reads the tape and stores each bit as it comes from the tape for interpretation later.

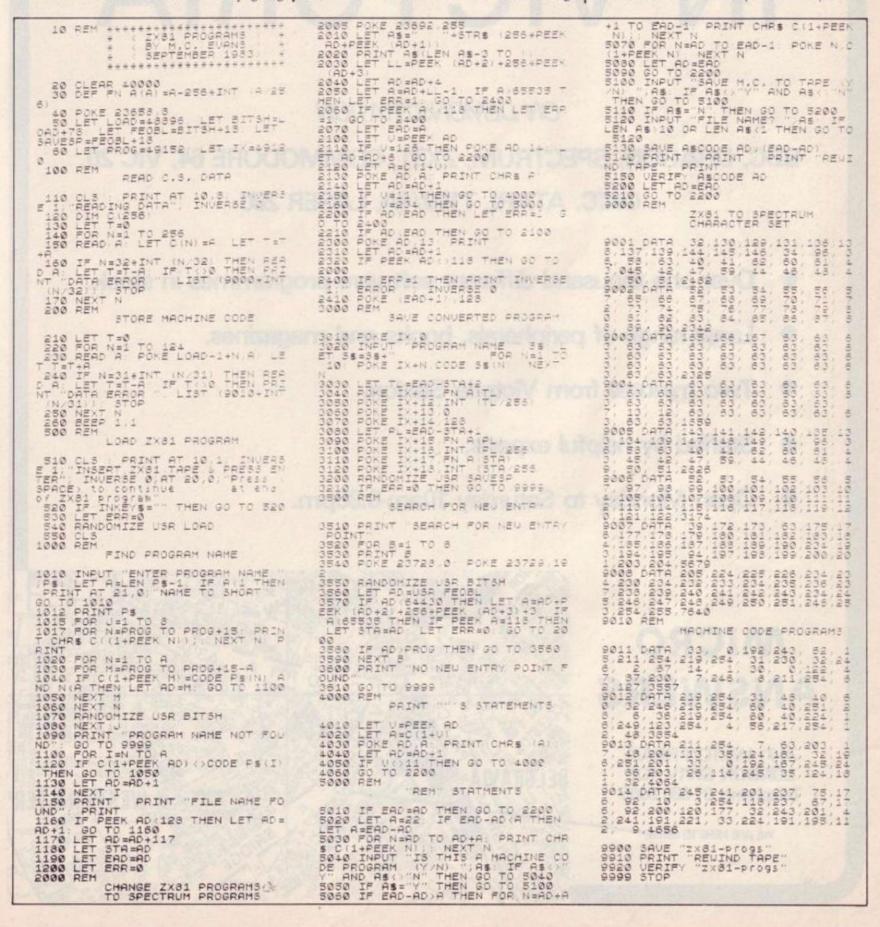
This leads to the problem that if there is any noise on the tape prior to the start of the program then the program itself will not be at the start location and each bit of data may not be at its correct position in the byte.

After a program has been loaded into the memory the next problem is to get each bit into correct position within the byte. This is done by the second machine code program trying to find the name of the ZX-81 program somewhere within the first few storage



locations. To do this the Basic program first asks for the name of the program already loaded, then looks at about the first twenty locations to see if the name occurs, if it does not then each bit is moved one place, as shown below, until the name is found.

The third machine-code program is used to find a new entry point into the ZX-81 program by looking through the 16K storage area to see if it can find a code 118 (NEWLINE).



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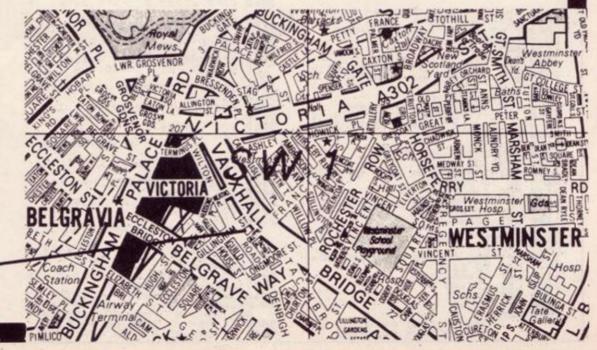
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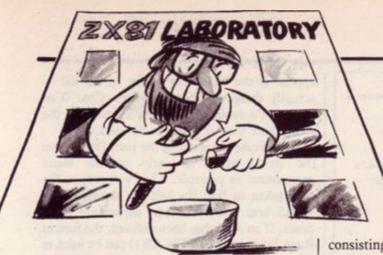
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BUBBLE SORT

Andy Scott shows you how to rearrange numbers or strings.

MOST DATA-PROCESSING programs usually require the use of a sort at least once; for instance, the arrangement of a register of people's names into alphabetical order, the arrangement of football league tables into order according to the number of points accumulated . . . the list is endless. As can be seen by these examples, a sort is the rearranging of numbers or strings into ascending or descending alphanumerical order.

The main problem with sorts is that the more items that are required to be sorted, the longer the sort takes — but on a timescale increasing by the square of the number of items. Larger sorts require very sophisticated algorithms to keep this time down.

One of the most popular and easily understood sort algorithms is the bubble sort. Although not particularly efficient above about 50 items it is still nevertheless a good general-purpose sort. Also, since the sort described here is in machine code, its operation time is faster than a Basic counterpart.

It was decided to take the general case of sorting strings as opposed to numbers — it is comparatively easy to convert numbers to strings by using, for example, STR\$ 1234. In the example described by the flow chart, the data items are stored in a string array A\$(B,C)

consisting of B strings, each C characters long. In practice, any name can be used for the programme to work, for example Z\$(B,C).

The routine can be used with any sized ZX-81. Reference to page 174 in the Sinclair manual explaining how string arrays are stored within the ZX-81 may be necessary for complete understanding of the machine-code listing.

Note that the USR entry point is at hex 4090. One problem was how to tell the routine which string array it had to sort. This needed to be put into a Basic programme without affecting its operation and without creating a syntax error during entry of the Basic line. It was decided to call the routine by:

RAND USR 16528 + LEN A\$(1)

where A\$ is the name of the string array — it could equally be called S\$,Z\$, etc. Of particular interest is the use of the IX and IY registers which, according to the Sinclair manual, are banned from use for fear of crashing. After studying Sinclair's use of these registers, it can be assured that the sort programme has no adverse affect on the operation of the ZX-81. The two Halt instructions at the beginning of the listing are there to prevent the characters within the Rem statement from being listed onto the screen.

Use program 1 to load the machine-code programme. The machine code will sit in the Rem statement in line 1. After typing Rem, follow it with 258 characters — I usually use

(continued on next page)

			Table 1.				
No. of Length of items strings		Possible number of different characters in strings	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	ne-code amme	Basic (Fast)		
10	25	6 (2)	<0.5sec	(<0.5sec)	4.5sec	(8sec)	
20	25	6 (2)	<0.5sec	(<0.5sec)	17sec	(33sec)	
50	25	6 (2)	1.5sec	(2sec)	2m 5s	(4m 53s)	
100	25	6 (2)	6.4sec	(7.7sec)	12m 11s	(>20m)	
225	25	6 (2)	42sec	(53sec)	-		
100	10	6 (2)	3.5sec	(4.6sec)	11m 16s	(-)	
255	10	6 (2)	23sec	(32.5sec)	_		
10	255	6 (2)	<0.5sec	(0.8sec)	6sec	(6.6sec)	
10	1	6 (2)	<0.5sec	(<0.5sec)	3.3sec	(1.7sec)	
100	1	6 (2)	0.8sec	(0.7sec)	5m 12s	(4m 4s)	
255	1	6 (2)	4.7sec	(3sec)	_		

	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	** . *			4008		TE	LD	A, (HL)	411F		180F	JR.	4100,GETCHAR
Maci	hine-code	e listing.			4009		328540	LD	CISTDIM),A	4121	NEXTSTR	CB4E	BIT	1,(HL)
					4000		23	INC	HL	4123		2886	JR	Z,4128, TESTLAST
4882		76	HALT		40CD		7E	LD	A,(HL)	4125		CESE	RES	1,(HL)
4083		76	HALT		40CE		87	AND	A	4127		FDE1	POP	IV
4084	NAME	00			40CF		28F1	JR	NZ,40C2,ERROR	4129		DDE1	POP	IX
4085	ISTDIM	66			4001		23	INC	HL	4128	TESTLAST	388540	LD	A. (ISTDIM)
4086	SHODIN	00			4802		7E	LD	R, (HL)	412E		88	CP	В
4087	FLAGS	00			4603		328640	LD	(2NDDIM).A	412F		2880	JR-	Z,413E,LRST
4088	STRST	6606			4006		23	INC	HL	4131	HOTLAST	388640	LD	H, CZRODINO
408B	TEMPIX	0000			4607		7E	LD	A. (HL)	4134	NEXTRODR	0023	INC	IX WILLIAM
408C	TEMPIY	0000			4008		87	PIND	R	4136		FD23	INC	IV
408E		0000			4009		2067	JR.	NZ,40C2,ERROR	4138		30	DEC	B
4090	BEGIN	CD230F	CALL	0F23,FRST	400B		23	INC	HL.	4139		20F9	JR	HZ,4134,NEXTADOR
4093		281648	LD	HL. (CH-ROD)	40DC		228840	LD	(STRST) .HL	4138		94	INC	В
4096		23	INC	HL	40DF	SORT	DDES	PUSH		413C		1800	JR	48FE, CHARI
4097		23	INC	HL	48E1		FDE5	FUSH		413E	LAST	CB46		D, (HL)
4098		7E	LD	R.(HL)	40E3	START	0602	LD	B.02H	4140	Lino)	2001	JR	
4899		F600	08	COH	40E5	SILVE	DD268848	LO	IX, (STRST)	4142	ET TANES			NZ,40E3,START
409B		CBRF	RES	5.A	48E9		DDE5	PUSH	IX		FINISH	FOE1	POP	Personal sales
					40EB		ED588648	LD	DE. CENDOINO	4144		DDE1	POP	IN
4090		328448	LD	CHIPME 2 , FI						4146		CD2B0F		0F28.5L04
4090	Commission of the last	281040	LD	HL, (VARS)	40EF		1600	LD	H90, 0	4149	-	Ç9	RET	
40R3	NEWHATE	7E	LD	A, (HL)	40F1		0019	ADD	IX,DE	4148	EXCHERIOE	00228840	LD	CTEMPINOSIN
4084		FE88	CP	80H	40F3		DDES	PUSH		414E		FD228C48	LD	CLEMETA>*1A
4086		2005	JR	NZ,40AD,0K	40F5		FOEI	POP	18	4152		CB4E	811	1, (HL)
4088		CD2B0F		OFZB;SLOW	40F7		DDEI	POP	IX	4154		2008	JR	Z,415E,00HT2
40AB		CF	RST		40F9		28	LD	A,D	4156		FDE1	POP	18
40AC		91	DEFB		40FR		218740	LD	HL,4087H,FLA0S	4158		00E1		18
40AD	OK	57	LD	0,8	40FD		77	LD	(HL),A	4159		DDE5	FUSH	1×
40AE		386448	LD	A, (NAME)	40FE	CHAR1	0E01	LD	C,01H	4150		FDE5	FUSH	19
4081		EH	CP	0	4100	OETCHAR	FD7E00	LD	A,(IY+0)	415E	CONTR	E0588640	LD	DE, (2HODIH)
4082		2896	JR.	Z,408A,INITIATE	4103		DDBEGG	CP	(IX+8)	4162	EXCH	DD7E00	LD	A, (1)(+0)
40B4	NOTFOUND	CDF209	CALL	09F2	4106		3842	JR	C,414A,EXCHANGE	4165		F5	PLISH	RF PARTY NEWSCOOL
4007		EB	EX	DE,HL	4108		2017	JR	NZ,4121,NEXTSTR	4166		FD7E00	LD	A;(IY+8)
40B8		18E9	JR	4093, HEINAME	4108	EQUAL	3A8648	LD	A,(2NDD1H)	4169		007700	LD	(IX+0),A
40BA	INITIATE	23	INC	HL	4100		B9	CP	C	4160		F1	POP	AF .
4088		23	INC	HL	410E		2811	JR	Z,4121,NEXTSTR	4160		FD7700	LD	R. (8+VI)
40BC		23	INC	HL	4110		C84E	BIT	1, CHLO	4170		0023	INC	DX
4080		3E02	LD	A.02H	4112		2006	JR	NZ,411A,CONT	4172		FD23	INC	IV
408F		BE	CP.	(HL)	4114		CBCE	SET	1,(HL)	4174		10		E
4000		2805	JR.	Z,4007,DIM	4116		DOES	PUSH	IX	4175		20EB	JR	NZ,4162,EXCH
4002	ERROR	CD2B0F	CALL	OF2B, SLOW	4118		FDE5	PUSH	IV	4177		DD288848	LD	IN, (TEMPIX)
4005		CF	RST	08H	4118	CONT	ec	INC	C	4170		FD288048		IV, (TEMPIY)
4006		ep o	DEFB	00	4118		0023	INC	Di.	417F		CBC6		B, (HL)
4007	DIM	23	INC		4110		FD23	INC	14	4181		189€		4121 NEXTSTR

(continued from previous page)

0's. Note that this will severely limit available memory on 1K ZX-81s. When running programme 1, enter the code in hexadecimal, either as a single byte plus Newline — for example 76 N/L — or as a block at a time — for example 76760000 N/L.

Make sure each byte consists of two digits — for example 00 and not 0. On completion of loading the machine code, enter S plus N/L. Delete lines 10 to 90. Do as a direct command Poke 16510,0. This changes the Rem line number from 1 to 0 and will thus prevent deletion of this line. Now, as a direct command, do a Clear. This will clear the variables area. Now Save on tape and, to be on the safe side, do a backup copy.

How is the program used? Program 2 is useful in that not only does it illustrate the implementation of sort, but also it can be used to ascertain the sort speed under various conditions. It asks how many strings are required to be sorted — I — of what length — J — and how many different letters in the alphabet are to be contained within the strings.

The requisite number of strings are then randomly made up from the number of letters chosen. The programme then Stops itself with report 9/290. If a report of 4/170 is received, the ZX-81 has tried to create an array which was too big for the memory available — reduce the size of I and/or J to compensate. The Stop is there to enable timing of the sort; press Cont then Newline and a stopwatch at the same time. As soon as a display starts to appear, stop the watch. The speed of the sort has now been

```
Program 1.

1 REM (fill this with 256 characters)

10 LET X=16514

20 LETA*=""

30 IF A*="" THEN INPUT A*

40 IF A*="S" THEN STOP

50 POKE X,16*CODE A*+CODE A*(2)-476

60 PRINT AT 11,7;X;" ",A*(1 TO 2)

70 LET X=X+1

80 LET A*=A*(3 TO)

90 GOTO 30
```

timed. The critical line is 300 — this is where the sort routine is entered.

RUN (in FAST)

140 NEXT H

Obviously, to use the sort in a Basic programme, the Rem line with the machine code must be Loaded from tape first. If any null strings are within the array to be sorted, that it those that have been Dimed but have not been defined with characters, these will

```
Program 2.

8 REM ... the Machine code sort programme (258 bytes)
100 CLS
110 PRINT "MON MMENY STRINGS REQUIRED ";
120 IMPUT 1
130 PRINT I
140 PRINT "LEMOTH OF EACH STRING ";
150 IMPUT J
160 PRINT J
170 DIM M8(1,J)
180 PRINT "HON MENY DIPPERENT LETTERS REQUIRED ";
190 IMPUT D
200 IF D.26 THEM SOTO 190
210 PRINT D
220 PAST
230 FOR Hall TO I
240 POR Lal TO J
250 LET M8(N,L)=CHR# IMT (D#RMD+30)
260 MEXT L
270 MEXT N
280 SLOW
290 STOP
380 RMHQ USR 16528+LEN A#(1)
310 FOR N=1 TO I
320 IF PEEK 16442C=2 THEM SCROLL
330 PRINT M#(N)
```

appear at the beginning of the sorted list — actually these will be filled with Char 0 or spaces. To avoid this, do not Dimension the array more than is going to be used.

To increase the speed of the sort, Dimension the string array as early in the Basic programme as possible. This will reduce the time taken to find the relevant string in the VARS area. Note the sort returns in Slow mode. If an array has been defined, the format Rand USR 16528+LEN A\$(1) can be used as a direct command, as well as in a Basic programme.

During the running of sort, two types of error could occur:

2:— no such string array exists (standard Sinclair definition)

E: – relevant array has more than 2 dimensions, or at least 1 dimension > 255

Using the example program, table 1 was created. This indicates average times of the sort under different conditions.

The timings very clearly show the huge advantage of the machine-code version. Where a dash occurs, no timings were done due to their inevitable extreme length — hours in some cases! Even in machine code, the influence of number of, length and contents of strings is clearly seen.

Users of old Sinclair ROMs note the following changes to the machine-code listing:

4090-4092	CD200F
40A8-40AA	CD280F
40C2-40C4	CD280F
4146-4148	CD280F

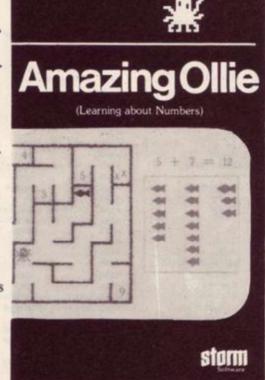
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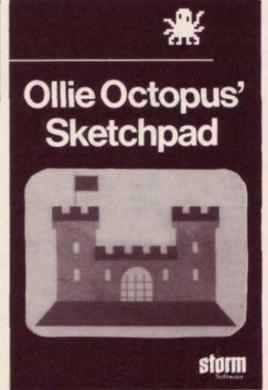
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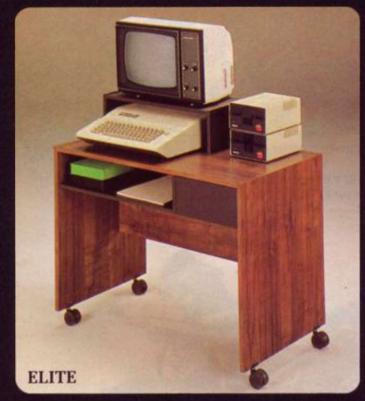


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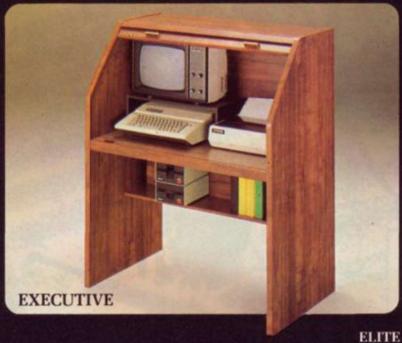


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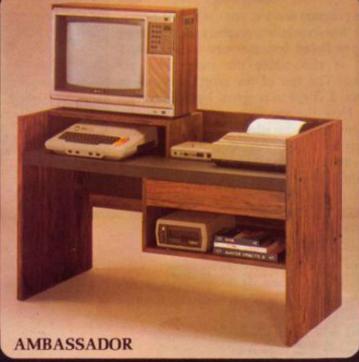
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The longer you survive the more adversaries join in and you slow down as you start to tire. You receive three points for every second you survive and bonus points for each adversary you hit. You cannot drop a rock on an enemy soldier who is holding on to the top of the wall or on one who is walking along it. You control your man with keys:

Z - Left C - Right F1 - Drop a rock

The program also lets you use a joystick.

The high-resolution graphics and machine code are Poked into memory in program 1 which is also where the instructions are situated. The rest of the program comes in program 2. Type in program 1 and Save it on tape. New the memory and then type in program 2. Save this after program 1 and then it is ready to re-load program 1. After running, program 2 Loads and Runs automatically. The machine code only sets up the screen.

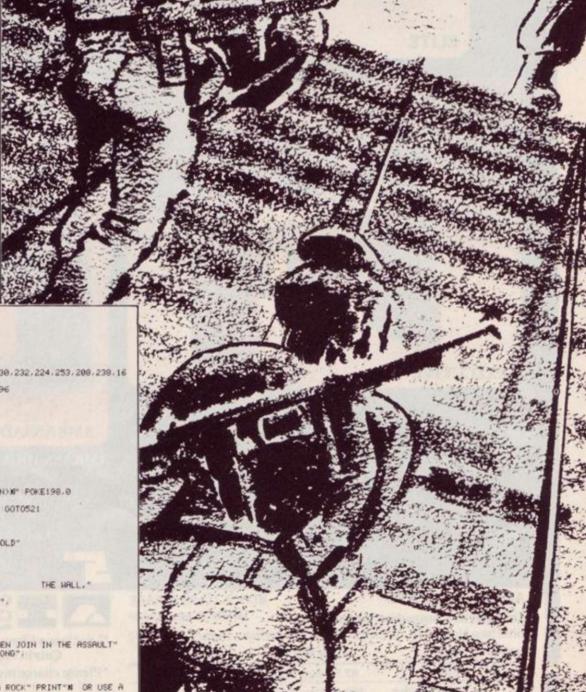
If the game is left as it is, you probably will not

Program 1.

THE REPORT OF COMMENT OF THE PARTY.

get past level 8. To make it easier change line 860 to:

FW = INT ((A + 7)/4):IFT = FW OR T = FW*2 OR T = FW*3 OR T = FW*4 THEN GOSUB 996

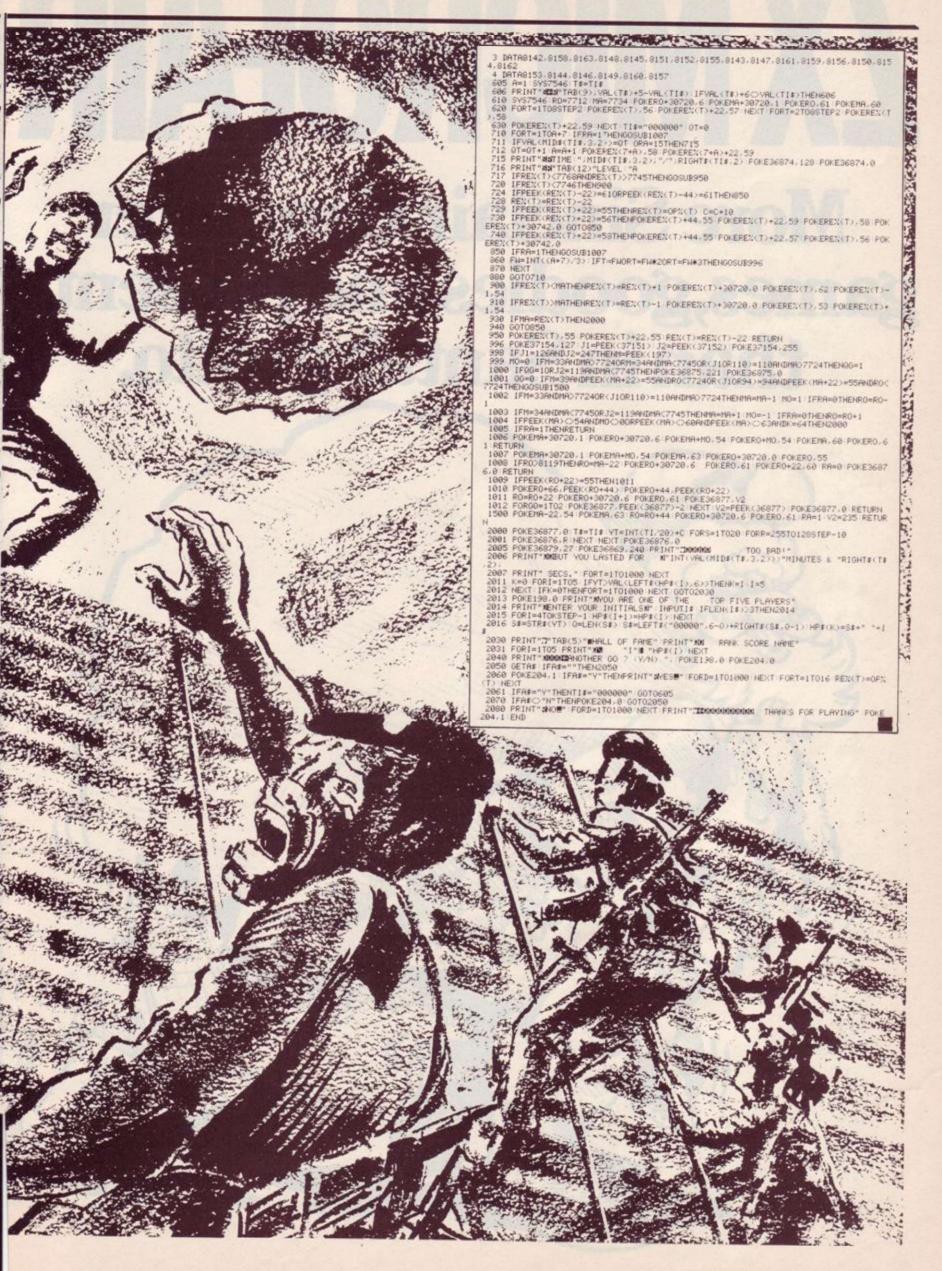


DIMREX(22) DIMOPX(22) DIMMP#(5) FORT=1T05 HP#(T)="88888 ???" NEXT TI#="888888

33,207 22 POKE634,13 POKE635,82 POKE636,213 POKE637,13 END

FORT+1T022 READR REX(T)=R OPX(T)=A NEXT RA=8 FORE36878.15

Program 2.



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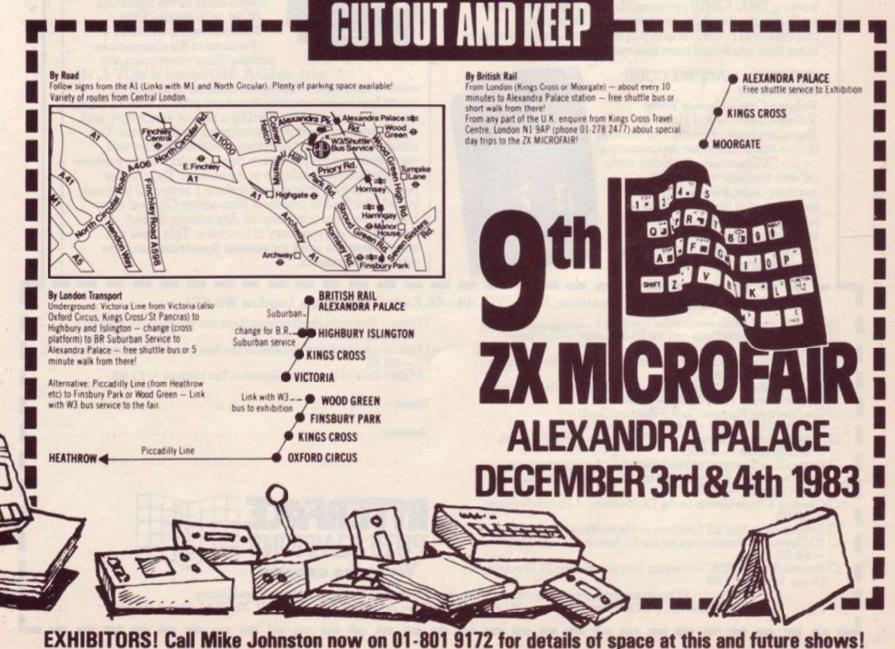
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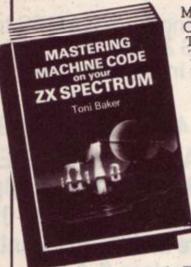
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At last! MASTER MACHINE CODE on your Spectrum



MASTERING MACHINE CODE ON YOUR ZX SPECTRUM Toni Baker £9.95

This 315-page book is designed to teach you the essential elements of programming in machine code. Written by Toni Baker, author of the highly successful 'Mastering Machine Code on the ZX81', this new book assumes absolutely no previous knowledge of machine code whatsoever, and yet promises to take you to a level of proficiency beyond your wildest dreams. Starting with simple addition and subtraction you'll be slowly guided through the entire subject of machine

code. The book explores and utilises the incredible speed of machine code, giving you real time graphics games like BREAKOUT and leads you up to a full working DRAUGHTS program. Among other useful skills you'll acquire the ability to create music in real time (impossible in BASIC) and to plot in high-resolution graphics faster than you would have believed possible.

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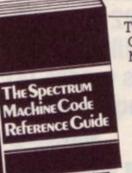
These two books provide a graduated course in machine code programming on the ZX Spectrum. Book one starts off with the basic concepts of machine code, followed by an explanation of binary maths, hexadecimal and base conversion, leading as quickly and painlessly as possible onto the rules and types of addressing the Spectrum's



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THE SPECTRUM MACHINE CODE REFERENCE GUIDE Microdrive, Interface 1, and ROM Disassembly

Richard Ross-Langley £4.95
This 170-page reference work for Spectrum machine code programmers contains a full disassembly of the Spectrum ROM, with details of the Microdrive and Interface 1. Features of the disassembler include: Zilog mnemonics are

used, eg LD A, (HL) instead of MOV A, M; relative jumps show the signed decimal offset and the result; hex values are default and are printed without suffix; decimal values are preceded by a plus or minus sign; and some restart instructions are followed by data bytes. The absolute addresses of all system variables and several important routines have been named, using where possible the standard names shown in the manual. The chapter headings in the Microdrive/Interface 1 section of the book include the RS232 Interface; Microdrive Channel data; Local Area Network; Network Algorithms; System Variables; and a summary of functions. This book is a must reference work for serious Spectrum machine code programmers.

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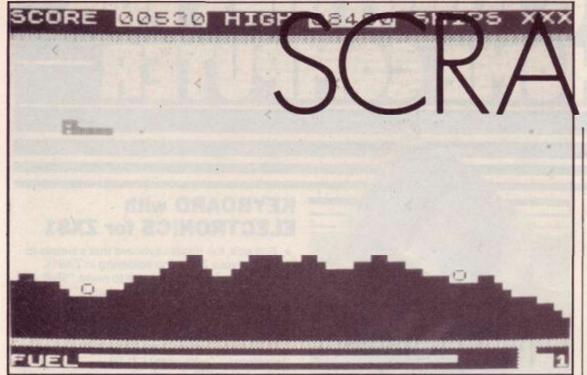


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Rem 14. 21331 - 110A500609C51A4F = 424 21339 - 131A47132A0C40ED = 490 21347 - 4A360013C110EEC9 = 795 21355 - CDBB02CB4DCCAB53 = 1132 21363 - CB45CCC953CB5C = 1124 21379 - 0CFE53CD1754ED5B = 1181 21337 - 08502A0C4019368E = 427 21395 - 23368A233683210A = 490 21403 - 50ED500850060373 = 620 21410 - 3A0650FE02C8E521 = 862 21419 - 3A0650FE02C8E521 = 862 21419 - 3A0650FE02C8E521 = 862 21427 - 0650352A08501121 = 319 21435 - 00A7ED527D320850 = 703 21419 - 3A0650FE02C8E521 = 862 21427 - 650352A08501121 = 319 21435 - 00A7ED527D320850 = 525 21451 - 50FE15C8E5210650 = 903 21451 - 50FE15C8E5210650 = 903 21459 - 342A085011210019 = 257 21467 - 7D3208507C320950 = 525 21475 - E1C93A0750FE00C8 = 1025 21491 - 2B7D3208507C3209 = 489 21491 - 2B7D3208507C3209 = 489 21491 - 2B7D3208507C3209 = 489 21491 - 2B7D3208507C3209 = 552 21537 - C8E5210750342A08 = 651 21523 - 9050E1C92A0C40ED = 870 21531 - 58085019206037EFE = 593 21539 - 0028053E01320050 = 238 21547 - 2310F3C9 = 495

Rem 15.

21557 - 3A0150472A0C4011 = 345
21565 - 0A30197E3CFE2620 = 545
21573 - 063E10772B18F477 = 645
21581 - 10EAC93A02502142 = 657
21589 - 50BE2804232318F9 = 657
21589 - 237232019C92105 = 771
21605 - 503SC02A0C40E058 = 771
21605 - 503SC02A0C40E058 = 771
21613 - 0350197EFE832004 = 655
21621 - 35811805FE8123003 = 561
21622 - 35811805FE8123003 = 561
21631 - 0350197EFE83280710 = 633
21645 - 08320550E05802350 = 545
21653 - 2A0120518E053023 = 551
21655 - 2A0120510E058023683 = 337
21665 - FSED5303500918ED = 1113
21655 - 024011050204710 = 633
21669 - FSED5303500918ED = 1113
21655 - 024011050204710 = 633
21669 - FSED5303500918ED = 1113
21675 - 024011050204710 = 632
21701 - 7E19772810F72800 = 632
21703 - 7E06807710F92300 = 935
21704 - 7E19772810F72800 = 935
21773 - 7EC6807710F92300 = 935
21773 - 7EC6807710F92300 = 935
217749 - 050A2A0C40117501 = 2657
21775 - 473AF4544F17728 = 939
217781 - 7E072377AF1520FA = 653
21789 - 473AF4544F17728 = 839
21781 - 8072377AF1520FA = 653
21781 - 8072377AF1520FA = 653
21781 - 8072377AF1520FA = 653
21782 - 473AF4544F17728 = 839
21783 - 473AF4544F17728 = 839
21783 - 473AF4544F17728 = 839
21781 - 8072377AF1520FA = 6339
21821 - 0002175734749 = 000217574749

WE NOW MOVE INTO part two of the program for Scram-81. This is where the aircraft and other features of the game are added. Reserve more space for the machine code by creating Rem statements 14 to 18 of lengths indicated in table 1. Check the addresses as before.

The aircraft and bombs etc. are held on a separate screen which is superimposed onto the background and erased just before the background is moved. The time of erasure is kept to an absolute minimum to avoid any excess flickering of the screen. Enter the machine code for Rem 14. This deals with the movement of the aircraft.

In addition to the last Basic program, add or change the following:

131 LET F = 20499 132 FOR G = 1 TO 6 **ZX-81**

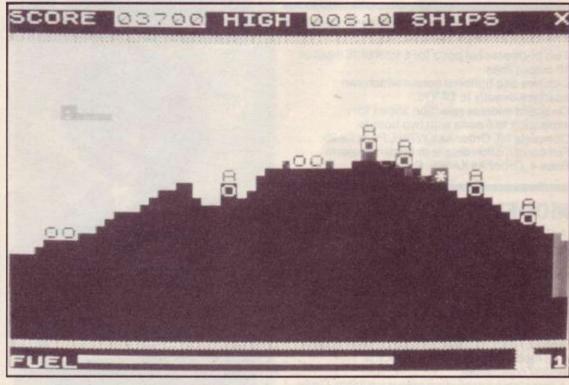
Philip Harwood completes his Scramble-type game for the ZX-81 with details of aircraft movement and firing systems.

133 POKE F,22 134 POKE F + 1,3 135 POKE F + 2,0 136 LET F = F + 3 137 NEXT G 138 POKE 20488,185 139 POKE 20489,2 141 POKE 20480,0 142 POKE 20486,21 143 POKE 20487,3 155 RAND USR 21331 170 RAND USR 21355 180 IF PEEK 20480 = 0 THEN GOTO 155

The aircraft should now appear and is controlled by the keys A — up, Z — back and M — forward. Note that two keys can be pressed simultaneously to give diagonal movement. There is a limit to how far the aircraft can move forward, this can be adjusted by Poking address 21506.

Rem 15 contains seven subroutines:

(continued on page 193)



```
21967 - 553600112100197E = 340
21975 - C3A155CDBB02CB75 = 1155
21975 - C3A155CDBB02CB75 = 335
21983 - 202106042115507E = 335
21991 - FE00280723232310 = 422
21983 - 202106042115507E = 335
22095 - F61814361728283A = 511
21991 - FE00280723232310 = 422
22103 - 0050553A0E505706 = 433
21999 - 1050553A11505713 = 452
22007 - 1050553A11505713 = 452
22119 - 211310FD773237211 = 502
22007 - 1050553A11505713 = 452
22119 - 215006021AFE0028 = 441
22015 - 7323721115500604 = 392
22127 - 2E1818C51A4F131A = 447
22023 - 1AFE0028221818C5 = 605
22135 - 472A0C400918D516 = 460
22031 - 1A4F131A472A0C40 = 339
22143 - 22031520FCD17912 = 690
22039 - 0918037912137812 = 335
22151 - 137812C17EFE00200 = 762
22047 - C17EFE00200F237E = 781
22167 - FE00200936171313 = 414
22065 - FE00200936181313 = 414
22167 - FE00200936171313 = 410
22061 - C32D56CDBB02CB5D = 1016
22163 - C39D56 = 438
```

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(continued from page 191)	
Screen score	21557-21583.
Score character convert	21584-21602.
Fuel gauge	21603-21643.
Refuelling	21644-21680.
Down scroll	21681-21721.
Crash flash	21722-21746.
Success graphics	21747-21856.
ent t	

These subroutines cannot be tested properly at the moment but they should be entered just now.

Bombing and firing is held in Rem 16. This should be entered.

Also add:

172 RAND USR 21978 — firing 173 RAND USR 22074 — bombing 174 RAND USR 21603 — fuel gauge

Keys 1 to 5 operate the bombs and Return fires the bullets. There is a maximum of two bombs and four bullets. Before Running — 100 — add the following lines in Basic:

151 PRINT AT 0,0; "SCORE 00000"

152 POKE 16418,0

153 PRINT AT 23,0; "FUEL (25 x graphic 6) graphic H"

Enter Rems 17 and 18. These are the two main reset/controller programs. If the machine code has been entered correctly type:

RAND USR 22411

and the complete game should Run. To break

Table 1. Rem	Length	Start address	End address	Type	Purpose
14	220	21331	21550	mc	Move the aircraft.
15	300	21557	21856	mc	Subroutines.
16	323	21863	22185	mc	Bombing and Firing
17	213	22192	22404	mc	Reset subroutines.
18	393	22411	22803	mc	Drive/controller program.

into it, press the zero key. If it works, then congratulations, if not then check the machine code for part two. If you wish to add a title page then Poke addresses 22801 and 22775 with 201. This will let the program return to Basic at the end of every game where a title page in Basic can be added.

To complete the program, delete all the Basic except the initial Rem statements and add:

50-100 title page (if desired) 150 RAND USR 22411 160 GOTO 50.

If anyone does not wish to attempt the task of entering this large machine-code program or has problems in getting it to Run properly then a cassette version is available by writing direct to the author; P. Harwood, 12 Upper Glen Road, Bridge of Allan, Nr Stirling. Price £3.50 inc. p&p.

Rem 17.			22296	-	2323230080568888	=	929
22192 - D11A13D5FEFFC877	=	1295	22304	-	AAB1FFCDCA563688	=	1288
22200 - 2318F52A0C401122	=	473	22312	-	2323369D21FC4F36	=	699
22208 - 0019062036892310	=	305	22320	-	0123233603233600	-	217
22216 - FBC92A0C4011FC02	=	841	22328	-	2180543605210557	=	650
22224 - 19061936832310FB	=	543	22336	-	3610C921FA4F3600	=	687
22232 - C92AØC4Ø23CDBØ56	=	821	22344	-	2336002335233600	=	266
22240 - B8ASB4B7AA801C1C	=	1069	22352	-	2323233600232323	=	264
22248 - 1C1C1C8@ADAEACAD	=	904	22360	-	3614233603233605	=	250
22256 - 8010101010103088	=	580	22368	-	2336152336@32336	=	291
22264 - ADAEB58880BDBDBD	=	1407	22376	-	8923360221135006	=	414
22272 - FFCDBB562A0C4011	=	868	22384	-	0636162336032336	=	263
22280 - D702190520368A23	=	507	22392	-	002310F5CDCA5621	=	822
22288 - 10FB282B2B368823	=	621	22400	-	9857366BC9 = 604		

Rem 18.	
22411 - CDD956CD4357CD53 22419 - 53CD585221FEFD06 22417 - 6853CD3856CD3856 22427 - 6853CD3855CD3856 22443 - CD35543R0056FE01 22443 - CD35543R0056FE01 22445 - CR23583RFD4FFE01 22445 - CR23583RFD4FFE01 22445 - CR23583RFD4FFE01 224467 - CC091582RFD10CCD18228 224475 - 00197EF10CCD18228 224475 - 00197EF10CCD18228 224467 - FACCS398315721FE334 224467 - FACCS398315721FE334 224467 - FACCS398315721FE334 22457 - FACCS398315721FE334 22459 - FACCS3983157221FE334 22459 - FACCS3983157221FE334 225515 - FACCS3983159C2886801FE 2225523 - 2810F03919C2886801FE 2225539 - 34282398319C2886801FE 2225539 - 342823886801FE21986801FE 222563 - CD08542R800288801FE 222563 - CD08542R800288801FE 222567 - FACCS984681112800388681FE 222567 - FACCS984681112800388681FE 222567 - FACCS984681112800388681FE 222567 - FACCS984681112800388681FE 222567 - SECONDSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS	5337 2 55 5044250057529130953160150507427735422052610404719 120537035530361703124453810607319705562058739108239 1115791495117205376174954554569373564165534148541657

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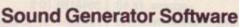
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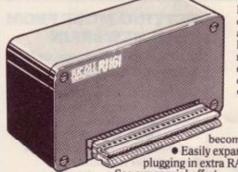
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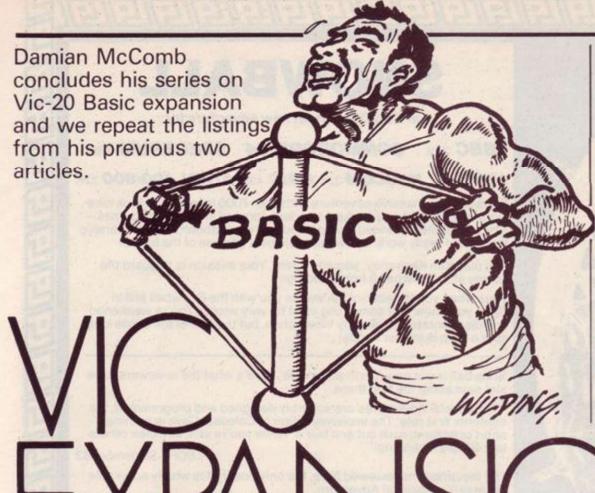
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THIS MONTH is the third and final part of the extended Basic program for the Vic-20 with 3K expansion. Listings from the previous two articles have been included as well as the final part of the program. I must stress that you must use a 3K expansion and no other type since they use different memory blocks. However, if you have an expansion board you may use additional 8K and 16K packs along with the 3K. When you type in and run the three extended Basic programs one after the other, the familiar

CBM BASIC V2

message should appear. You must now type the following command, which protects the program from being overwritten, before anything else:

LOMEM 2830: DOKE 2829,0:NEW

You are now ready to use the new commands. Remaining commands include:

Trace A: Parameters -A=0, turns trace off; A=1, turns trace on. This command puts a trace on a Basic program while running. The (continued on page 199)

```
FOR "M" READ INVERSE POUND SIGN 0 POKE56,22: POKE55,7:CLR
                                                    ":PRINT"DEVIC EXTENDED BASIC"
 1 POKE36879, 238: PRINT "TIMIS
 2 PRINT"NI
                                  ":PRINT" X DDD NACOPYRIGHT 1983":PRINT X DDDD DDDDDDDDD NA
 3
  PRINT" MPPPP DAMIAN MC COMB": PRINT WINDOWS PLEASE WAIT..."
   REM **
 8 REM ** INITIALISE
 9 REM **
 10 DATA20,46,04,20,1A,04,58,4C,7B,E3,A2,0B,BD,26,04
 20 DATA9D,00,03,CA,10,F7,60
 30 DATA3A,C4,83,C4,79,05,DB,05,0E,06,34,06
 40 DATA2C, 11, 91, 20, 34, F7, 20, E1, FF, D0, 06, 20, 49, 04, 60, 02, C0, 40, 56, FF
 50 DATA20,6D,EA,20,6D,EA,20,F9,FD,20,18,E5
 60 DATAA9, D2,8D,16,03,A9,FE,8D,17,03,60
 67 REM **
 68 REM ** DISPATCH
                         68 REM ** LOCATIONS
 69 REM **
 70 DATA89,FF,62,06,AD,06,B2,06,C3,06,D3,06,2E,07,5C,07,63,07,82,07,97,07,AE,07,
D1,07,E6,07
 71 DATAOF, 04, 33, FD, F9, 07, 07, 08, 15, 08, 2F, 08, 53, 08, 63, 08, 91, 08, 9E, 08, AF, 08, D7, 08,
F7,08,17,09
 72 DATA3A,09,70,09,B2,09,20,0A,42,0A,59,C3,17,E5,57,0A,83,0A,99,0A
 73 DATAD2,0A,E3,0A,F4,0A,01,0B
 84 DATA END
 87 REM **
 88 REM ** TOKEN TABLE
 89 REM **
 90 DATA52,45,53,55,4D,C5,46,49,4C,CC
 91 DATA43,4C,D3,45,52,D2,57,49,4E,44,4F,D7,53,4F,55,4E,C4
 92 DATA4D, 55, 53, 49, 43, A8, 49, 4E, CB, 50, 41, 50, 45, D2, 42, 44, D2, 41, 55, D8, 52, 455, 50, 45
 41, D4
 93 DATA50,41,55,53,C5,43,55,52,53,45,D4,52,45,53,45,D4,4B,49,4C,CC
 94 DATA4C,4F,4D,45,CD,48,49,4D,45,CD,53,45,54,43,41,53,C5,42,52,45,41,CB
 95 DATA49,52,D1,42,45,45,D0,46,45,54,43,C8,43,4C,C4,43,53,D6,42,4F,4F,CD,5A,41,
DØ
 96 DATA50,49,4E,C7,4D,4F,44,C5,52,45,4E,55,4D,42,45,D2,54,52,41,43,C5,44,4F,4B,
C5,50,55,D4
                                                                   (listing 1 continued on page 199)
```



current line number is displayed in the top left hand corner of the screen and the program can be paused at any point, to view the line number, by pressing the Ctrl, Shift or Commodore keys.

Doke A. B: Parameters — A (0 to 65535); B (0 to 65535). This command is similar to Poke, only it is used to set words — two bytes of memory at a time instead of single bytes. For example

DOKE 0, 1000 would put 232 in 0, and 3 in 1.

Put A: Parameters - A = ASCII value

(0-255) repeatable. This will out a character or group of characters separated by commas to the present output device — usually the screen. For example

PUT 65, 66, 67, 32, 48, 49, 50 will output: ABC 123.

Brk produces a forced break on the Vic-20 which is the same as holding down Run, Stop, and Restore.

Setscreen resets the screen to its default status. That is to say it will reset the Ink, Paper, Bdr, Window and rows and columns of the screen. Scroll A: Parameters -A = 0 or 1. This scrolls the screen one line up or down -0 = up, 1 = down.

Mot A: Parameters -A = 0 or 1. This enables and disables the cassette motor -0 = enable, 1 = disable.

Joy reads the joystick and returns a value according to direction: 0 = no direction; 1 = up; 2 = down; 4 = left, 8 = right; 128 = fire button.

Remember that the fire button can be used with any direction and diagonal directions

(continued on next page)

```
Listing 2.
498 REM FILL
 500 DATA20,5D,06,A5,14,85,FA,A5,15,85,FB,20,FD,CE,20,5D,06,A5,14,85,FC,A5,15,85
510 DATA20, FD, CE, 20, 9E, D7, 8A, A0, 00, 91, FA, A6, FB, E4, FD, F0, 04, B0, 11, D0, 06, A6, FA, E4
FC
520 DATABO,09,E6,FA,D0,EA,E6,FB,18,90,E5,20,79,00,C9,2C,D0,06,20,73,00,18,90,B6
,60
 531 REM CLS
 540 DATAA9,93,40,09,E1
 551
    REM ERR
 560 DATA20,9E,D7,E0,00,F0,04,E0,1F,90,03,4C,48,D2,4C,3A,C4
 571 REM WINDOW
 580 DATA20,9E,D7,8E,00,90,20,FD,CE,20,9E,D7,8E,01,90,60
 591 REM SOUND
 600 DATA20,9E,D7,E0,04,90,03,4C,48,D2,86,FF,20,FD,CE,20,9E,D7,A9,F0,2D,0E,90,8A
 610 DATAOD, 0E, 90, 8D, 0E, 90, 20, FD, CE, 20, 9E, D7, 8A, A6, FF, 9D, 0A, 90, 20, FD, CE, 20, 5D, 06
,E6,14,E6,15
 620 DATAA0,05,A2,00,CA,D0,FD,88,D0,F8,C6,14,D0,F2,C6,15,D0,EE,A9,00,A6,FF,9D,0A
,90
 630 DATA20,79,00,09,20,D0,06,20,73,00,18,90,A6,60
 640 REM MUSIC(
 650 DATAA2,00,8E,00,01,20,9E,D7,A8,8A,AE,00,01,9D,01,01,E8,E0,06,B0,0B,20,73,00
.00,29
 560 DATAF0,07,C0,2C,F0,E2,4C,08,CF,CA,BD,01,01,9D,0A,90,CA,10,F7,60
 669 REM INK
 670 DATA20,9E,D7,8E,86,02,60
 679 REM PAPER
 680 DATAA9,0F,85,FF,20,9E,D7,A0,01,8A,0A,0A,0A,0A,AA,A5,FF,39,0E,90,99,0E,90,8A
 690 DATA19,0E,90,99,0E,90,60
 699 REM BDR
 700 DATAAD,0F,90,29,F8,8D,0F,90,20,9E,D7,8A,29,07,0D,0F,90,8D,0F,90,60
 709 REM AUX
 710 DATA20,9E,D7,AD,0E,90,29,0F,8D,0E,90,8A,0A,0A,0A,0A,0D,0E,90,8D,0E,90,60
 719 REM REPEAT
 720 DATA20,9E,D7,8A,C9,03,90,03,4C,48,D2,C9,02,F0,0E,C9,01,F0,04,8D,8A,02,60,A9
, 40
 730 DATASD.8A,02,60,A9,80,8D,8A,02,60
739 REM PAUSE
 740 DATA20,5D,06,E6,14,E6,15,A2,00,CA,D0,FD,C6,14,D0,F7,C6,15,D0,F3,60
 749 REM CURSET
 750 DATA20,9E,D7,86,FF,20,FD,CE,20,9E,D7,8A,A8,A4,FF,18,4C,F0,FF
759 REM LOMEM
 760 DATA20,5D,06,A5,14,85,2B,A5,15,85,2C,4C,64,C6
 769 REM HIMEM
 770 DATA20,5D,06,A5,14,85,2D,A5,15,85,2E,4C,64,C6
 779 REM SETCASE
 780 DATA20,9E,D7,E0,02,90,03,4C,48,D2,E0,01,D0,06,A9,80,8D,91,02,60,A9,00,8D,91
,02,60
                                                                     (listing 2 continued on next page)
```

(continued from previous page)

may be used so combinations of the above values may occur, e.g., up + fire = 129.

Pen A reads the horizontal and vertical components of the light pen. If A=0 the horizontal is read; if A=1 the vertical is read.

Pad reads the paddle controller.

Key reads the keyboard and returns the different value for every key.

Switch returns the status of the cassette switch. 64 means it is off; 0 means it is on.

Because I tried to keep the Basic extension program so short — 1.7K — this has meant a few minor drawbacks . . .

■ Command abbreviation — such as P shift O for Poke — are not available for the new commands. When using the new commands directly after a Then statement you must place a colon. For example

IF X=0 THEN: FILL 768, 8185, 81

This is the same case for any Basic extension on the Vic including the Super Expander cartridges.

■ Some of the new commands occasionally — in direct-mode only — cause a syntax error even though they are still carried out. Do not worry about this as it does not affect the execution of the commands in any way and it never happens within a program. There are several ways of avoiding the syntax errors, one of which is to type a colon — or two — after the command. For example

RENUMBER 100,20::

One point in favour of the Basic is that all parameters can be constant, variables or calculated using other functions. For example

> PAPER 2 INK 4*N+3 WINDOW SIN(J)*10,COS(J/2)*15

If you missed the previous instalments of this series, I have a cassette available containing the extended Basic, demonstration game and a few other demonstration programs along with a reference manual for £5.00.

I also have cassettes of my other two programs published in this magazine — Saucer Attack and Gridmania — for £4.00 each. Make all cheques or postal orders payable to D. McComb, 23 Woodlawn Drive, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 1AJ.

(listing 2 continued from previous page) 879 REM ZAP 888 INTRAC, 0E, 90, R9, 0F, SD, 0E, 90, A9, FE, SD, 0C, 90, A2, 00, CR, D0, FD, CE, 0C, 90, AD, 0C, 90 C9, 7F '89 REM BREAK '90 DATA20,9E.D7.E0.02.90.03.4C.48.D2.E0.01.D0.0B.A9.02.8D.1E.91,A9.00.8D.89.02 C9,77 882 DATADO,F1,8C,0E,90.60 889 REM PING 890 DATA20,9E,D7,8E,0C,90,20,FD,CE,20,9E,D7,86,FF,A9,0F,8D,0E,90,A0,00,A6,FF,CA DATAR9.82.80.1E,91.89.08.80.89.02.60 DATASS.D0.FS.CE.0E.90.D0.F1.60 REM MODE DATASO.9E.D7.E0.06.B0.15.E0.04.90.18.A9.F7.2D.0F.90.8D.0F.90.E0.05.F0.06.A9 D REM IRO DATA20.5D.06.78.85.14.8D.14.03.85.15.8D.15.03.58.60 REM BEEP 820 DATA78,A9,71,8D,14,03,A9,08,8D,15,03,58,60,A9,00,8D,0E,90,8D,0C,90 830 DATAA5,CE,C5,96,85,96,F0,0E,C9,40,F0,0A,A9,C8,8D,0C,90,A9,0F,8D,0E,90,4C,3F DATA85,98.68.89.F2.8D.85.98.60.89.88.0D.8F.98.8D.8F.90.BD.6D.89.8D.85.90.60 ER \$39 REM FETCH \$40 DATAR9.00.85.C6.A5.C6.F0.FC.A9.00.85.C6.60 \$49 REM CLD \$50 DATAR9.01.A0.FF.R2.01.20.BA.FF.A9.00.20.BD.FF.4C.D5.FF \$59 REM CSV REM REMUMBER DATA20.EB.D7.86.85.A5.2B.85.83.A5.2C.85.04.A0.80.B1.03.85.FB.C8.B1.03.85.FC DATARB.88.81.83.08.01.68.88.82.85.14.91.83.08.85.15.91.83.85.85.18.65.14.85 DATA20, 5D. 06, A5, 14, 85, FE, A5, 15, 85, FF, 20, FD, CE, 20, 5D, 06, A9, 01, A8, FF, A2, 01, 20 14,90,82 914 DRTRE6,15,A5,FB,85,83,A5,FC,85,84,18,90,CB 990 DRTA 1400 FORI=6235T07600 READA# IFA#=""THEN5000 1410 GOUBLEGOOD:POKEI.N NEXT 5000 PRINT"JMBNOW LOAD THE 3RD PARTM":POKE2999,0 POKE43,184 POKE44,11 NEW 10000 A=ASC(A#)-48 B=ASC(RIGHT#(A#,1))-48 N=B+7#(B)9)+16#(A+7#(R09)) RETURN DATAR9,00,20.BD.FF.A9.FE.A6.14.A4.15.40.D8.FF 369 REM 800M 370 DATAR9.FF.8D.0D.90.A2.0F.8E.0E.90.A2.50.A0.00.88.D0.FD.CA.D0.F8.CE.0E.90.D0 75 DATASC. 0D. 90. 8C. 0E. 90.60

```
Listing 3.
 10 PRINT" PLEASE WAIT ... "
99 REM TRACE
100 DATA20,9E,D7,8A,D0,0B,A9,0E,8D,08,03,A9,06,8D,09,03,60,A9,CF,8D,08,03,A9,09
,8D,09,03,60
104 DATAA5,9D,D0,3E,38,20,F0,FF,86,FA,84,FB,AD,86,02,85,FC,A5,C7,85,FD,A9,14,A0
, 0A
106 DATA20,1E,CB,20,C9,DD,A6,FA,A4,FB,18,20,F0,FF,A5,FC,8D,86,02,AD,8D,02,F0,0D
108 DATAA0,FF,A2,FF,CA,EA,EA,EA,D0,FA,88,D0,F7,A5,FD,85,C7
110 DATA4C,0E,06,13,12,90,3C,20,20,20,20,20,3E,13,1D,00
119 REM DOKE
120 DATA20,5D,06,A5,14,85,00,A5,15,85,01,20,FD,CE,20,5D,06,A5,14,A0,00
125 DATA91,00,66,00,90,02,66,01,A5,15,91,00,60
129 REM PUT
 130 DATA20,9E,D7,8A,20,09,E1,20,79,00,C9,2C,D0,06,20,73,00,18,90,EC,60
139 REM SCROLL
140 DATA20,9E,D7,E0,00,D0,03,4C,75,E9,38,20,F0,FF,8A,48,98,48,A9,7E,A0,0A
 145 DATA20,1E,CB,68,A8,68,AA,18,20,F0,FF,A9,9E,85,DA,60,13,11,9D,94,20,00
149 REM MOT
150 DATA20,9E,D7,AD,1C,91,E0,00,D0,06,29,F3,8D,1C,91,60,09,0C,8D,1C,91,60
159 REM JOY
160 DATA78, A2, 7F, 8E, 22, 91, AC, 20, 91, CC, 20, 91, Da, F8, A2, FF, 8E, 22, 91, A2, F7, 8E, 20, 91
58
 162
    DATAAD,1F,91,CD,1F,91,D0,F8,48,29,1C,4A,C0,80,90,02,09,10,A8,68,29,20,C9,20
,98,6A
165 DATA49,8F,A8,4C,A2,D3
169 REM PEN
170 DATA20,9E,D7,E0,02,90,03,4C,48,D2,BD,06,90,A8,4C,A2,D3
179 REM PAD
 180 DATA20,9E,D7,E0,02,90,03,4C,48,D2,BD,08,90,A8,4C,A2,D3
189 REM KEY
 190 DATAA5,CB,AE,8D,02,F0,02,09,80,A8,4C,A2,D3
199 REM SWITCH
200 DATAAD,11,91,29,40,A8,40,A2,B3
990 DATA
1400 FORI=7083T07600:READA$:IFA$=""THEN5000
 1410 GOSUB10000: POKEI, N: NEXT
 5000 FORI=1040T02840:POKEI,PEEK(I+4600):NEXT:SYS1040
 10000 A=ASC(A$)-48:B=ASC(RIGHT$(A$,1))-48:N=B+7*(B>9)+16*(A+7*(A>9)):RETURN
```

200

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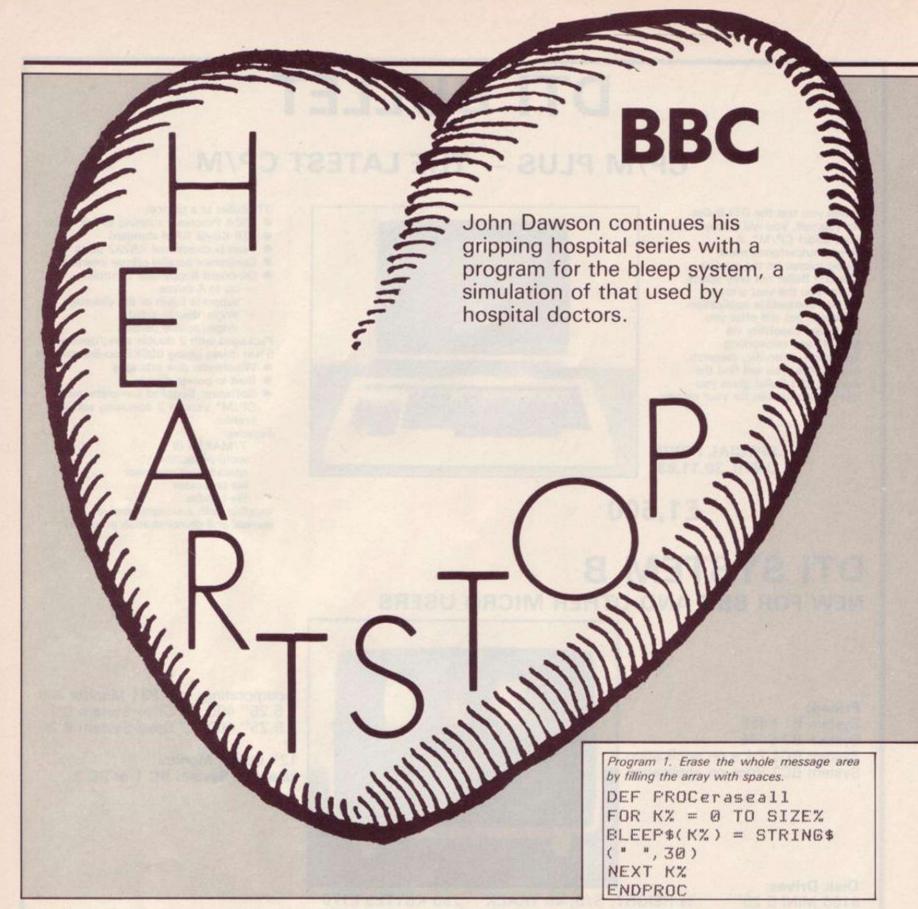
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HOSPITALS ARE not what they used to be. A place for Christmas in hospital used to be something that was sought after, a guarantee of physical and social warmth, adequate food and care and attention. Regular Christmas attenders were welcomed on to the wards with weary affection by nursing sisters who remembered last year's complaint and the year before.

Communications systems have also lost some of the old-fashioned charm of the fifties and sixties. Radiopaging bleeps are now universal and have displaced a number of ingenious methods of attracting a doctor's attention when he or she was needed by the telephone operator, or in a different part of the hospital.

As far as I can remember it was the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital in Ryde which had the most charming system I ever saw. Columns of either four or five different coloured lights were suspended from the ceilings of the corridors at conspicuous points.

When a person was needed I think that a combination of lights was selected, possibly with a short bell sound to make people look at the new code.

Dr. Finlay, for example, would be allocated Code Red/Yellow on taking up his employment at the hospital while Dr. Kildare would be given Code Blue/Green. The colours would have been relevant only to reinforce the position of whichever of the lights was selected and a column of five lights could produce 31 combinations.

Voice message to doctor

Modern times have changed all that. Most bleep systems will now alert a specific recipient that he should telephone his answering number on the internal exchange to be connected to the person making the call. Most systems will have a broad band capability that allows the switchboard operator to give a voice message directly to the doctor. When a cardiac arrest bleep goes off you may

see doctors, nurses and technicians running down the corridors holding their bleep to one ear while it announces which ward or unit they should head towards.

Less dramatic messages may be held by the switchboard if the doctor fails to answer immediately. If the doctor is in the middle of stitching a patient's lacerated arm or is busy putting up a drip, the matter will generally have to wait.

If the doctor is unable to answer the bleep or cannot ask another member of staff to take a message it is likely to go off again a few minutes later. If there is still no reply the message may be referred to a more senior doctor.

Heartstop should reflect these things as accurately as possible and the construction of the bleep procedures for the game is of central importance for this is the way in which the player's tasks are set. Answering a bleep in real life is likely to take between one and ten minutes on the initial call but may then

Program 2.

DEF PROCbleepdisplay FOR $K\% = \emptyset$ TO SIZE% PRINT BLEEP\$(K%) NEXT K% ENDPROC

Program 3.

DEF PROCupstack(X%) IF BLEEP\$(SIZE%) (> STRING\$(* *, 30) THEN PROCstackfull: REM call the consultant! FOR IX = (SIZEX-1) TO XX STEP -1BLEEP\$(I%+1) = BLEEP\$(I%)NEXT I% BLEEP\$(X%) = STRING\$(**,30)ENDPROC

involve further telephone calls or the doctor's attendance in a different part of the hospital.

Each time the bleep goes off in Heartstop the game clock will be advance by a number of minutes to reflect the time taken to get to a telephone. Deciding what to do about the message might be dealt with in real-time multiplied by five or 10 times.

In other words you can take as long as you like to respond to the bleep message but game time will be running at five or ten times normal speed. While you are making your decision the program should be checking the state of the game and if you run over an internal deadline your bleep may go off again.

The bleep section

The following functions are likely to be needed for the bleep section of Heartstop:

- Erase all the bleep messages. In other words, clear the stack.
- Generate a bleep message by using random numbers to Read strings from Data statements.
- Generate a bleep sound.
- Check various events withing the program and generate a bleep if the game time has passed a certain value, for example, or if a patient's condition has deteriorated.
- Display all the current bleep messages on
- Flash an urgent bleep message on to the current screen display.
- Allow the player to select a bleep message to be answered, delete that message from those waiting to be answered, and close up any remaining messages.
- Open up a space for a new message in the stack. If a new message is urgent it should be placed on the top of the stack.
- Repeat a bleep signal if there is no response from the player.
- Call in the consultant if the stack of messages exceeds the allowed total or if an urgent bleep is unanswered within a couple of minutes. This procedure will terminate the game with some prejudice to the player's

Program 4.

```
DEF PROCdownstack(X%)
LOCAL I%
FOR I\% = X\% TO SIZE%
BLEEP$(I%) = BLEEP$(I%+1)
NEXT I%
BLEEP\$(SIZE\%) = STRING\$("", 30)
ENDPROC
```

future references and career prospects.

I had expected to set out listings for most of the procedures necessary to achieve these functions and show how they interfaced to the existing Heartstop program. Alas and alack-aday I did not make a back-up copy of the cassette I was working with. In a fit of enthusiasm with the Maplin Modem I downloaded a program for the BBC machine from the London TBBS and Saved it on a cassette. At least I think that's what happened because I cannot find it now.

However, here are the outline listings for some of the procedures. They have a more general value than their inclusion in a game program might suggest. Used with a simple Repeat . . . While loop to input lines of text they couald form the basis of a very simple line oriented text editor.

Somewhere in the main body of the program you must dimension the array that will be used to hold the lines of text, each line will contain one message:

SIZE% = 5: REM SIZE% can be altered to set the maximum number of lines or messages. DIM BLEEP\$(SIZE%)

Note in program 1 that the length of each string has been set to 30 characters. In a more general text editing program that value could be changed to a variable such as

LINE LENGTH %

which could be set at the start of the program. Program 2 assumes that the screen is in a

TOP OF STACK

TOP OF STACK

```
Program 5.
   SIZEX = 128:REM approx. 2 pages of A4 text
DIM BLEEP&(SIZEX)
REFEAT: REM start of Main Command Level
REFEAT: REM start of Main Command Level INPUT CS INPUT CS IF CS = "W" THEN PROCUPITE ... Here you must write other lines to call procedures to display, print, or edit the text held in BLEEPS. UNTIL FALSE: REM end of MCL
DEF PROCEPTICE
PROCEPTS 0
PROCEPTS 0
PROPERTY 0
PROPERTY 1
PLS 1
P
```

suitable state to display the messages and that there are no odd text windows in force.

Program 3 takes a parameter into the procedure from the main body of the program to set the position at which the stack should be split to insert a new message. All the messages above the designated point (X%) are moved up by transferring

BLEEP\$(SIZE %-1) TO BLEEP\$(SIZE%) and so on all the way back down to X%. The string BLEEP\$(X%) is then filled with spaces and is ready to receive the new message when the program returns from the procedure.

To close-up the message stack after a message has been removed fro action by the doctor you will need to move any remaining messages down by one place, eliminating the chosen entry - see program 4.

You can write a loop

Using a few more lines of Basic you can write a loop that will continue to ask for text until you type 'quit' when you will be returned to a Main Command Level - see program 5.

Named procedures and the Repeat . . . While construction are two of the better features of BBC Basic. Their use is extensively covered, among other things, in Structured Programming with BBC BASIC, written by Roy Atherton and published by Ellis Horwood. It costs £6.50 and must be among the best value in computer books on the market at the moment.

The book is the perfect Christmas present for teenagers who are using computers at school it is published jointly by Heinemann Computers in Education - and for anyone who wants to learn how to write good, effective programs.

```
Figure 1. The bleep message stack before and after removal of a message.
```

- New patient waiting in Casualty
- Please 'phone your bank manager
- Mrs Williams blood pressure dropping
- Peter Benthams relatives are waiting

BOTTOM OF STACK If the doctor chooses to deal with the third message the Downstack procedure will be used to remove it from the stack and close up the remaining messages:

- New patient waiting in Casualty
- Please 'phone your bank manager
- Peter Benthams relatives are waiting

5 6

BOTTOM OF STACK



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RESPONSE FRAME

Do you have a problem? Your manual is incomprehensible or you just cannot get the hang of that programming trick you tried whatever it is, Tim Hartnell will do his best to answer your queries. Please include only one question per letter and mark them "Response Frame".

SAVING ARRAYS

■ I own a ZX Spectrum and have written a fairly large program for book-keeping. Each time the accounts are updated, the date is Saved onto cassette using the Spectrum's facility for Saving arrays. Unfortunately, there are 15 separate arrays, which means that the Enter key has to be hit each time. I wonder if there is a way around this, apart from the obvious one of Saving the entire program on each occassion?

DA C Patrick, Leeds.

THE SIMPLEST solution, and one which may not be satisfactory, would be to Save your data in one enormous string or numeric array, using parts of this giant array to take the place of the 15 smaller arrays you

are using at the moment.

JOYSTICKS

I have just bought a cassette recorder for my Vic-20 and have been looking for some good quality games. But most of the games I have come across need a joystick. If I buy a joystick, will it be compatible with any game which needs a joystick?

Shamsher Johal, Sunnyhill, Derby.

ANY JOYSTICK advertised for the Vic-20 will work with any Vic-20 program demanding a joystick. The joystick provided by Commodore for the Vic-20, although it looks cheap, is reliable and robust. I have been using mine for over two years, and although the sheath broke off several months ago, it still functions perfectly well. You should have a good look at this unit before deciding that you need to buy a more expensive one.

JUST A MINUTE

I am writing a program for a ZX-81 to help me with my job. I need to work out the efficiency of machines, to find any time lost. The problem is that I cannot figure out how to get the computer to work out the running time, say from 8.15 to 1.50, which is five hours 35 minutes. I need the minutes in decimal, which makes the time 5.58. If I put the time in, in decimal, the program works perfectly, i.e., 13.83-8.25 = 5.58. I would like to be able to enter the time as ordinary time so that other people in the factory could use the program. Your help would be appreciated.

7im Brush, Belfast. THERE IS OFTEN a problem in programs when non-standard units are being used. You must first get everything into a similar form to compare values. If the second decimal place is not vital, you could ask for the input in three stages; "enter hours", "is this am or pm?" then "enter minutes". This would be needed twice, for the starting time and the ending time. The response to the second question - is this am or pm? - could be used to add 12 where needed to the hours figure. You can change the minutes figure into a decimal in the program as follows:

PRINT "ENTER MINUTES" INPUT MIN

LET MIN = (INT(100*MIN/60))/100

Once the two figures have been compared, you can change your decimal "minutes" into ordinary ones by multiplying the decimal figure - such as 0.53 - by 60. This should work closely enough for your

BBC PROCESSOR

Can you tell me if it is possible to use Z-80 machine code with the second processor attachment for the BBC Micro? Your answer will affect by choice of computer.

Mrudang Kalaria, Manor Park, London.

THE SECOND PROCESSOR for the BBC can be either 6502 or Z-80. They are not available at present, but are expected around March 1984.

COMPETIBILITY

I have recently purchased a Vic-20 colour computer with a 16K RAM expansion. I would like to know whether hardware for the Pet computer is compatible with the Vic-20. For instance, can the Pet printer run on the Vic-20?

Tim Adams. Didcot, Oxfordshire.

No. THIS IS because the Pet peripherals communicate via the IEEE/488 interface whereas the Vic-20 - and the Commodore 64 use a proprietory serial bus.

ZX-81 IN USA

Is it possible to modify my home-built ZX-81 to operate with a TV set in the U.S.A? I realise that I will have to use a power supply suitable for the American mains voltage, but will I have to replace the TV signal modulator?

R H Pond, Carnoustie.

IT IS NOT A simple matter to make the conversion you describe, because of the ZX-81's ULA. And there is little point in making such a change. I have seen the TS-1000 - a ZX-81 with 2K on-board - on sale in the U.S.A. for around £12 (!) so the simplest thing to do would be to buy one of these when you get there.

RIBBON HELP

Our computer club has recently been given a Nascom Micro Imp printer. However, as Nascom have gone out of business, we have been unable to get hold of a ribbon. Could you or one of the readers please help?

Ian Anderson. The Universal Micro Club, 35 Surrey Close, Corby, Northants NN17 2IG.

I HAVE INCLUDED your address in full so that anyone who can help can get in touch with you directly.

CONVERSION

About a year ago I purchased a ZX-81 with 16K RAM, which I extended with the Quicksilva sound board. Since then, I have sold my ZX-81 and bought a 48K Spectrum. I have seen some advertisements for connectors to convert ZX-81 hardware to the Spectrum. Could you advise me whether such connectors would be useful? The main chip on the sound board is the AY-3-8910 which I have seen advertised for Spectrum sound boards. This spurred me to think that my three channel sound is not redundant. Is this true?

R Woods, Seaton Sluice, Tyne and Wear.

THE QS SOUND board is probably mapped to the ZX-81 memory map above the ROM but before the RAM. This area is occupied by the second half of the 16K ROM on the Spectrum. Because of this, Spectrum sound boards are mapped to the I/O ports rather than the memory map. The answer then, I'm afraid, is no.

JOYSTICK CONTROL

I read Your Computer every month and I think it is a great help to my programming. I would like to ask one small favour. I have an unexpanded Vic-20 and a joystick, which I want to use in a program I am writing. However, I do not know how to get the Vic-20 to understand that I want to use the joystick. Could you please tell me what commands to use? Will these change if I expand my Vic-

S A Veitch, Bletchley, Milton Keynes.

THE ROUTINE TO control joysticks is not very long but it is a little tricky to use. You initialise it as follows: FOR Z=0 T02:FORJ=0T02:READJS

(J,Z):NEXTJ,Z DATA-23,-22,-21,-1,0,1,21,22,23 To actually read the joystick, you include the following lines: POKEDD 127:S3 = -3((PEEK(PB)AND) 128) = 0):POKEDD 255 P = PEEK(PA):S1 = -((PAND8) = 0): S2 = ((PAND16) = 0):S0 = ((PAND4) -0) FR = -((PAND32) = 0):X = S2 + S3:Y =S0 + S1

This allows you to move an object around in any direction - including diagonally. I suggest you get hold of the Vic-20 Programmers' Reference Guide - from which the above routine was adapted - for a full program showing the routine in action, and an explanation of how it works. The routine will work on any size Vic-20. A machine-code routine to read joysticks is given in the book More Games For Your Vic-20 by Andrew Nelson, published by Virgin

LEARNING MC

■ I am going to purchase a ZX Spectrum and, now that I have learned Basic, I think my next step should be to learn machine code. I do not know any of this language. What should I buy to help me learn it? Tim Thakur,

Al-Ain. United Arab Emirates.

THE EASIEST WAY to learn Spectrum machine code is with the help of books, plus a friend who already knows how to program in it. If you do not have any friends who can program in machine code, you could team up with one who also wants to learn it, share out the cost of the books, then help each other. It is not particularly easy to learn but machine-code skills can be acquired with patience. If you look through the advertisements in this issue of Your Computer you will see there are six or seven books available to help you with this.

UNFAIR DEAL

■ I recently ordered an add-on product for my Spectrum. It took seven weeks to arrive rather than the three mentioned in the advertisement. While the demotape loaded alright, none of my own programs did, neither did a copy of the Spectrum program I made. On telephoning the company, I was told that my cassette recorder did not give enough volume, and I needed to buy an Atari cassette deck. The sales literature for the master unit claims: "The unit also enhances the saving signal, so that cheaper cassette recorders can be used." I feel they are contravening the Trade Descriptions Act. I also feel that £50 for an Atari cassette recorder to make a £54 add-on I I Jones, work is excessive. Hartley, Plymouth.

I AGREE, AND THINK you have been treated badly. Send the unit back and demand a full refund. Such companies do not deserve your money, or anyone else's.

What programs will you be watching this Christmas?



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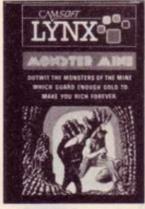
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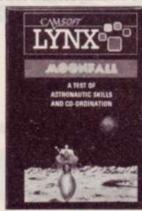
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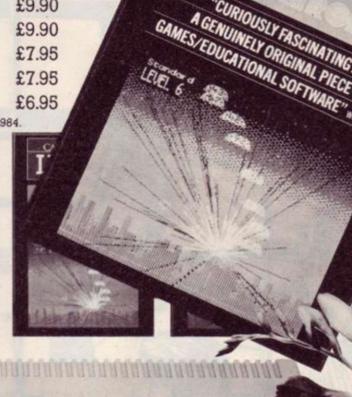
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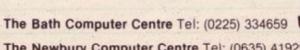
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Bricks

Graham Pearce, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

SPECTRUM

THIS PROGRAM WILL just fit into a 16K Spectrum and works on the 48K Spectrum as well. The object of the game is to knock all the bricks out of a wall at the top while trying to protect a row of bricks at the bottom. A bonus score of 100 is added after each 1,000 scored. The game is over after all the bottom row of bricks have been knocked out. If all the top bricks are knocked out they are then replaced, leaving the bottom row as it is. 10 points are awarded for each brick at the top but no score is given for a brick on the bottom which is knocked out.

On running the game there will be a long pause while the machine code is Poked and the message

PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT will appear, followed by a prompt THIS IS WHERE YOU ENTER YOUR SKILL LEVEL

Level 1 is the easiest and level 4 the hardest. Only integers are accepted. To move the bat:

1 - Slow ball speed left.

Slow right. 1 and 2 together - Fast - two times the ball speed - Left.

4 and 5 together - Fast right.

1 REMS.Pearce 1983 2 SAVE "WALLS" LINE 5

"325","125","50","50","250","125","20","125","20",

a: NEXT g
3.4 DATA 205,221,126,62,32,185,200,62,145,185,32,77,5
8,250,125,254,1,32,9,50,252,125,61,50,250,125,62,32,215,
62,32,215,62,8,215,62,8,215,58,255,125,254,20,32,17,38
2,132,215,62,8,215,62,8,215,58,255,125,254,20,32,17,38
2,132,125,264,0,50,219,126,33,0,1,17,30,205,181,3,201
35 DATA 205,39,125,58,225,125,60,50,250,126,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,272,125,60,50,275,125,62,0,50,25
0,125,60,50,372,2155,42,165,255,125,61,50,255,125,62,0,50,272,125,60,50,275,125,62,105,25
0,125,60,50,272,125,41,50,255,125,62,148,185,37,9,62,1
126,60,50,372,115,61,50,251,125,62,148,185,37,9,62,1
126,60,50,32,201
25,105,60,50,272,125,61,50,273,125,62,148,185,37,9,62,1
150,253,125,61,50,251,120,62,2,205,1,22,13,0,17,254,1
25,205,60,32,201
36 FOR g=WAL "31800" TD VAL "32140"; READ 46; PORE g
WAL 48; NEXT g
40 DATA "22","7", "12", "32", "147", "143", "143", "143", "143", "148", "32", "17", "254", "254", "254", "252", "35", "35", "58", "58", "58", "124", "254", "254", "252", "32", "35", "58", "58", "58", "124", "254", "

, "229", "205", "181", "3", "225", "17", "8", "0", "167", "237", "82", "32", "240", "201", "6", "75", "197", "33", "0", "1", "17", "15", "0", "22", "205", "181", "3", "225", "17", "16", "0", "16", "77", "237", "82", "32", "240", "193", "193", "16", "233", "201", "47 DATA "0", "22", "21", "0", "20", "1", "83", "9", "111", "114", "101", "32", "48", "48", "48", "48", "48", "32", "32", "32", "72", "10", "101", "118", "101", "108", "32", "48", "32", "32", "72", "10", "101", "118", "101", "108", "32", "48", "32", "32", "72", "10", "10", "118", "101", "108", "48", "48", "48", "32", "32", "20", "0", "48", "10", "14", "125", "60", "254", "38", "32", "77", "62", "48", "50", "14", "125", "201", "33", "15", "0", "13", "128", "24", "4", "50", "13", "128", "25", "17", "16", "3", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "15", "10", "16", "33", "15", "15", "35", "35", "32", "35"

240", "255", "240", "0", 255", "10", 255", "255", "240", "0", 255", "255", "240", "0", 255", "10", "255", "255", "255", "240", "0", "255", "25

AI NEXT g 9100 RANDOMIZE USR VAL "31900" 9105 POKE VAL "32255", VAL "19"; POKE VAL "32256", VAL "

7105 PORE VAL "32295", VAL "19"; PORE VAL "32256", VAL "15"
9200 IF PEEK VAL "32476" VAL "45" THEN PORE VAL "32476", O; BD TD VAL "9001"
9210 LET a=(1PEEK (VAL "32012")-48) *VAL "1000")+(1PEEK (VAL "32013")-48) *VAL "10")+(PEEK (VAL "32015")-48)
9212 LET As="
9212 LET As="
9215 FOR G-VAL "1" TD VAL "32"; LET As(6) *SCREENS 121, B-11; NEXT G
9210 BORDER VAL "1"; CLS

9220 FLASH 1: PRINT AT 21,0;44;AT 9,11; FLASH 1; GAME OVER"

7230 FLAGH 11 PHINT AT 21,0]###17 PLAGH 1; "DAME OVER"

7300 LET b=((PEEK (VAL "32031")-48) #VAL "1000")+((PEEK (VAL "32033")-48) #VAL "100")+((PEEK (VAL "32033")-48) #VAL "100")+(PEEK (VAL "32033")-48) #VAL "32031", PEEK (VAL "32034")-68) ###1 FLAGH PDME UN L "32031", PEEK WAL "32032", PEEK VAL "32013"; POK E VAL "32033", PEEK VAL "32032", PEEK VAL "32033", PEEK VAL "32034", PEEK VAL "32035"; PEEK VAL "32034", PEEK VAL "32035"; PEEK VAL "32035"; PEEK VAL "32034", PEEK VAL "3

OR CODE ##***
410
410
9420 LET A=VAL A#-1
9430 LET B=3-A: FORE VAL "31908", B: PORE VAL "32024", A
49: CLEAR : PRINT AT B,6; "PRESS ANY KEY TO PLAY": PAU
SE 0: BORDER 2
9431 FOR B=VAL "32012" TO VAL "32015": PORE G,VAL "48"
: NEXT B
: NE 9435 PORE VAL "32475", VAL "0"; PORE VAL "32476", VAL "0
"1 PORE VAL "32250", 11 PORE VAL "32251", 11 PORE VAL "3
2252", 01 PORE VAL "32255", 10; PORE VAL "32255", 10; PORE VAL "32256", 10; PORE VAL

1 REM LABYRINTH-TONY BROWN 2 REM JULY 1983-YOUR COMPUTER

3 REM DRAGON 32K,64K OR

4 REM TANDY COLOR COMPUTER

5 REM 16K AND EXTENDED BASIC

6 REM REMOVE THIS POKE IF YOUR

7 REM MACHINE CANNOT HANDLE IT

8 POKE&HFFD7,0

9 PCLEAR8:DIM X(5),N\$(4):PMODE4,1:PCLS:PMODE4,5:PCLS:G

10 A\$=INKEY\$: IF A\$="" DR (A\$<>"1" AND A\$<>"2" AND A\$<> "M" AND A\$<>" ") THEN 10 ELSE SOUND 150,1

11 IF A\$="1" THEN D=D-1

12 IF A\$="2" THEN D=D+1

13 IF D=0 THEN D=4 ELSE IF D=5 THEN D=1

14 IF A\$=" " AND F=0 THEN PP=PP+X(D)

15 IF A\$="M" THEN T=T+1:GOTO 19

16 F=0:PCLS:D1=X(D):D2=X(D-1):D3=X(D+1):GOSUB 22

17 PCOPY 5 TO 1:PCOPY 6 TO 2:PCOPY 7 TO 3:PCOPY 8 TO 4

18 POKE 1023+PP,LL:GOTO 10

19 SCREENO, O: PRINT@448, "YOU ARE FACING "; N\$(D); : POKE 1 023+PP,21

20 PRINT@480, "TIME "; INT(TIMER/50)+T*5; "SECONDS";

21 IF INKEY\$="" THEN 21 ELSE PMODE4,1:SCREEN1,1:PMODE4 ,5: GOTO 16

22 A\$=CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+D1)-64): IF A\$=" " THEN 23 ELSE IF A\$="£" THEN 55 ELSE F=1:RETURN

23 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+D1+D2)-64)="*" THEN LINE(0,0)-(49,37), PSET: LINE-(49,154), PSET: LINE-(0,191), PSET ELSE LINE(0,37)-(49,154),PSET,B

24 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+D1+D3)-64)="*" THEN LINE(255,1

(continued on page 211)

Labyrinth

Tony Brown, Preston, Lancashire.

DRAGON

LABYRINTH WILL run on a Dragon 32 or 64 and the Tandy Colour Computer with extended Basic and at least 16K. Instructions are in the program. Level 1 plays normally but if level 2 is chosen it becomes impossible to retrace your steps because the locations are filled as you leave them. The only record of the maze is stored on the text screen and this is also used to show the map. To return from the map to the high-resolution display press any key. Movement instructions are included in the program. Save program using CSave before running.

Program notes.

10-18 Movement and keyboard routines.

19-21 Map routine.

22-37 This section decided where to put each wall on the high resolution screen according to the plan on the text screen.

38-51 Instructions.

52-57 Set up variables

Remove the Poke in line 8 if your computer cannot handle double speed.

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ORIC 1 16K ORIC 1 48K

SOFTWARE FILE

(continued from page 209)

91)-(206,154), PSET: LINE-(206,37), PSET: LINE-(255,0), PSE T ELSE LINE(255,37)-(206,154),PSET,B 25 A\$=CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+2*D1)-64):IF A\$=" " THEN 26 EL SE IF A\$="*" THEN LINE(49,37)-(206,154),PSET,B:RETURN ELSE LINE (49,37) - (206,154), PSET, BF: RETURN 26 IF CHR\$ (PEEK (1023+PP+2*D1+D2)-64)="*" THEN LINE (49. 154) - (88,125) , PSET: LINE-(88,66) , PSET: LINE-(49,37) , PSET ELSE LINE (49,66) - (88,125) ,PSET,B 27 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+2*D1+D3)-64)="*" THEN LINE(206 ,154)-(167,125),PSET:LINE-(167,66),PSET:LINE-(206,37), PSET ELSE LINE(206,66)-(167,125),PSET,B 28 A\$=CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+3*D1)-64):IF A\$=" " THEN 29 EL SE IF A\$="*" THEN LINE(88,66)-(167,125),PSET,B:RETURN ELSE LINE(88,66)-(167,125),PSET,BF:RETURN 29 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+3*D1+D2)-64)="*" THEN LINE(88, 125)-(109,109),PSET:LINE-(109,82),PSET:LINE-(88,66),PS ET ELSE LINE(88,82)-(109,109),PSET,B 30 IF CHR*(PEEK(1023+3*D1+D3+PP)-64)="*" THEN LINE(167 ,125)-(146,109), PSET: LINE-(146,82), PSET: LINE-(167,66), PSET ELSE LINE(167,82)-(146,109), PSET, B 31 A\$=CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+4*D1)-64): IF A\$=" " THEN 32 EL SE IF A\$="*" THEN LINE(109,82)-(146,109), PSET, B: RETURN ELSE LINE(109,82)-(146,109),PSET,BF:RETURN
32 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+4*D1+D2)-64)="*" THEN LINE(109 ,109)-(117,103),PSET:LINE-(117,88),PSET:LINE-(109,82), PSET ELSE LINE(109,88)-(117,103),PSET,B 33 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+4*D1+D3)-64)="*" THEN LINE(146 ,109)-(138,103),PSET:LINE-(138,88),PSET:LINE-(146,82), PSET ELSE LINE(146,88)-(138,103),PSET,B
34 A\$=CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+5*D1)-64):IF A\$=" " THEN 35 EL SE IF A\$="*" THEN LINE(117,88)-(138,103), PSET, B: RETURN ELSE LINE(117,88)-(138,103),PSET,BF:RETURN
35 IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+5*D1+D2)-64)="*" THEN LINE(117 35 IF CHR\$ (PEEK (1023+PP+5*D1+D2)-64)="*" THEN LINE (117, 103)-(123,99), PSET:LINE-(123,92), PSET:LINE-(117,88), PSET ELSE LINE (117,92)-(123,99), PSET, B
36 IF CHR\$ (PEEK (1023+PP+5*D1+D3)-64)="*" THEN LINE (138) ,103)-(132,99),PSET:LINE-(132,92),PSET:LINE-(138,88),P SET ELSE LINE(138,92)-(132,99),PSET,B

IF CHR\$(PEEK(1023+PP+6*D1)-64)="£" THEN LINE(123,92)-(132,99), PSET, BF: RETURN ELSE LINE(123,92)-(132,99), P SET.B: RETURN SET,B:RETURN
3B CLS:PRINTe43,"LABYRINTH";:PRINTe75,"----";
39 PRINTe139,"TONY BROWN";:PRINTe171,"-----;
40 PRINTe192," THE OBJECT OF THE GAME IS TO ESCAPE F
ROM THE LABYRINTH AS QUICKLY AS IS POSSIBLE.USING T
HEMAP ADDS TO YOUR TIME. THE EXIT IS WHITE
ALL OTHER WALLS ARE BLACK." ALL OTHER WALLS ARE BLACK."

41 PRINTe451, "PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE";:EXEC 41194

42 CLS:PRINTe43, "LABYRINTH";:PRINTe75, "----";

43 PRINTe135, "SPACE BAR--FORWARD";

44 PRINTe205, "M--MAP";

45 PRINTe268, "1---LEFT";

46 PRINTe332, "2--RIGHT";

47 IF L=0 THEN PRINTe456, "LEVEL(1 OR 2)";:INPUT L: IF

L<1 OR L>2 OR L<>INT(L) THEN L=0:GOTO 47

48 PRINTe453 "PRESS"+CHR\$(128)+"any"+CHR\$(128)+"key"+CHR\$ 48 PRINT@453, "press"+CHR\$(128)+"any"+CHR\$(128)+"key"+C HR\$(128)+"to"+CHR\$(128)+"start"; 49 IF L=1 THEN LL=96 ELSE LL=106 50 SCREENO, 1 IF INKEY = " THEN 51 ELSE CLS *** **** *** *** **** **** *** *** *** *** *** *** *** ** ** ************** 54 PP=385+RND(30):D=2:X(0)=-1:X(1)=-32:X(2)=1:X(3)=32: X(4) = -1:X(5) = -32:N*(1) = "NORTH":N*(2) = "EAST":N*(3) = "SO"UTH": N\$ (4) = "WEST ": T=0: TIMER=0: GOTO 19 55 CLS:PRINT"WELL DONE.YOU HAVE ESCAPED FROM THE MAZE IN"; INT (TIMER/50) + T * 5; "SECONDS"; : POKE&HFFD6,0
56 PRINT@453, "ANOTHER GAME (Y OR N)"; 57 A\$=INKEY\$: IF A\$="Y" THEN RUN ELSE IF A\$<>"N" THEN 5 7 ELSE STOP: END

Golf

Richard Williams, Burscough, Lancashire.

23-31

THIS GOLF PROGRAM for the 16K ZX-81 takes you round an 18 hole course and generates a different layout for each hole. Before making your stroke you must choose the direction and hitting strength. Direction is indicated by inputting a number from 1 to 12, where the directions correspond to the positions of the numbers on a clockface. Thus 6 indicates South and 9 West.

The program contains a short machine-code routine, so your first step is create a Rem statement followed by 13 Xs. Now use program 1 to Poke in the following numbers: 6, 176, 62, 8, 215, 215, 215, 16, 0, 46, 43, 0, 201. Press Newline after each entry.

You can now enter the rest of the program deleting lines 10 to 40 of program 1 but retaining line 1. During play press Newline to proceed - at the start of the game and at the start of each new hole.

```
1 REM XXXXXXXXXXXX

2 FAST

5 GOTO 500

10 LET L=LEN A$

15 FOR I=0 TO (Y1-L)*F/L

20 PRINT AT X1*RND+X0,Y0*(Y1-L)

**RND; A$

30 NEXT I

40 RETURN

127 FOR Z=1 TO 2

500 LET P6=PI/6

510 LET COURSE PAR=0

529 LET DFILE=PEEK 16396+256*PE

EK 16397+1

535 LET GREEN=3550

540 LET BUNKER=3550

540 LET TREES=4E3

550 LET TREES=4E3

550 LET TREES=5E3

550 LET ROUGH=5E3

565 LET ROUGH=5E3

570 LET K$="
 570 LET K$=",

600 LET PAR=INT (3+4+RND)

602 FAST

610 LET SHOTS=0

620 LET YARDS=10+INT (10+(PAR-2
+RND))

622 LET S1=32/YARDS

625 LET HOLE=HOLE+1

630 LET O$="#"

640 RAND 0+USR 16514

1030 FOR I=2 TO 28

1040 LET L=5+5+RND

1050 PRINT AT L,I;

1060 FOR J=L TO 11+5+RND

1070 PRINT TAB I; "#"

1080 NEXT I

1110 LET F=4

1130 LET Y1=3

1140 LET X0=0

1150 LET X0=0

1150 LET Y0=5+20+RND

1190 GOSUB 10

1200 NEXT Z

1215 LET X0=2

1215 LET X1=15
```

```
1220 LET Y1=25

1230 LET A$="..."

1240 LET F=.6

1250 GOSUB 10

1255 LET A$="B"

1265 GOSUB 10

1280 LET Y0=1NT (15*RND+1)

1290 LET Y0=20*RND+5

1300 FOR I=X0 TO X0+4+2*RND

1320 LET Y1=Y0+2*RND

1340 PRINT AT I,Y1;" TO

2+4*RND)
 1340 PRINT AT I,Y1; "" (TO
2+4+RND)
1350 NEXT I
1360 NEXT Z
1380 LET HOLEX=INT (3+15+RND)
1390 PRINT AT HOLEX-2,0;
1400 FOR I=1 TO S
1410 PRINT TAB 27; "
1420 NEXT I
1430 PRINT AT 0,13; "HOLE"; HOLE; A
T HOLEX,29; ""
1440 LET BALLX=10
1450 LET BALLX=10
1470 PRINT AT 0,0; YARDS; "YDS"; TA
B 27; "PAR"; PAR
1480 SLOU
1500 PRINT AT 10,2; "T"; AT 10,2; "
1500 PRINT AT 10,2;"T";AT 10,2;"
1510 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 1500
1515 PRINT AT 21,0;K$;AT 21,0;"D
IRECTION(0-12)?"
1520 INPUT ANG
1525 IF ANG:12 THEN GOTO 1520
1530 LET ANG=ANG*P6
1540 PRINT AT 21,0;K$;AT 21,0;"S
TRENGTH(0-100)?"
1550 INPUT $
1560 PRINT AT 21,0;K$
1565 IF 3)100 THEN LET 5=100
1570 LET 5=5*31
1580 FR RUF THEN LET 5=5/4
1590 PRINT AT BALLX,BALLY;O$
1600 LET BALLX=BALLX-5*COS ANG
1630 LET BALLX=BALLX-5*SIN ANG
1630 LET BALLX=BALLX-5*SIN ANG
1630 LET BALLX=BALLX-5*SIN ANG
1630 LET BALLX=BALLY+5*SIN ANG
1630 IF ABS (BALLX-10)</br>
```

1660 IF BALLY O THEN LET BALLY = 0 1670 IF BALLY > 31 THEN LET BALLY = 1660 IF BALLY (0 THEN LET BALLY = 0 1670 IF BALLY) 31 THEN LET BALLY = 31 1675 LET SHOTS = SHOTS + 1 1680 PRINT AT 21,0; "OUT OF BOUND S-PENALTY SHOT 1681 FOR I = 1 TO 20 1682 NEXT I 1700 LET OS = CHR\$ PEEK (INT (BALLY + .5) + 20 1682 NEXT I 1700 LET OS = CHR\$ PEEK (INT (BALLY + .5) + 20 1682 NEXT I THEN GOTO 2100 1710 IF OS = THEN GOTO 2203 1715 IF OS = THEN GOTO BUNKER 1720 IF OS = THEN GOTO BUNKER 1725 IF OS = THEN GOTO TREES 1735 IF OS = THEN GOTO GREEN 2000 PRINT AT 8ALLX, BALLY = 20 10 IF INKEYS = THEN GOTO 2005 2005 PRINT AT BALLX, BALLY = 20 10 IF INKEYS = THEN GOTO 2005 2100 CLS 2103 LET PAR = INT (SHOTS - PAR) 2105 PRINT AT 4, 12; "HOLE ", HOLE; AT 6,0; "HOLED IT IN "; INT SHOTS 2107 IF NOT PAR THEN PRINT " A 2107 IF NOT PAR THEN PRINT ": A PAR: KEEP GOING"
2110 IF PAR=-1 THEN PRINT ": A BI TRDIE NOT BAD"
2112 IF PAR=-2 THEN PRINT "MY GO D..." "A GREAT BIG EAGLE", "EXPE RT STUFF"
2114 IF PAR=-3 THEN PRINT "AN AL BATROSS"; TAB 3; "THIS IS INCREDIB LE STUFF"
2116 IF PAR & THEN PRINT " ": PAR; " OVER PAR"
2118 LET COURSE PAR=COURSE PAR+PAR
2120 PRINT AT 12,6; " OVERALL" 2120 PRINT AT 12.6; " OVERALL" 2123 IF COURSE PAR THEN GOTO 213 0 2125 PRINT "ON PAR" 2127 GOTO 2140 2130 PRINT ABS INT COURSE PAR 2132 IF COURSE PAR<0 THEN PRINT "UNDER PAR" (continued on next page)

SOFTWARE FILE

```
(continued from previous page)
2135 IF COURSE PAR) @ THEN PRINT
"OVER PAR"
2140 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 2140
2150 GOTO 500
3000 PRINT AT 21,0;"ON THE GREEN
IN "; INT (3HOTS);
3010 GOTO 2E3
3500 PRINT AT 21,0;K$; AT 21,0;"B
UNKERED-A CHIP SHOT"
3510 LET SHOTS=INT (3HOTS+1)
3520 GOSUB 3600
```

```
3530 PRINT AT BALLX, BALLY; "."; AT 21,22; INT SHOTS 3540 LET BALLX=BALLY+3*RND-1 3550 LET BALLY=BALLY+2*RND 3560 LET 0$=CHR$ PEEK (INT (BALL X+.5)*33*INT (BALLY+.5)*DFILE) 3580 GOSUB 3600 3590 GOTO 1705 3600 FOR I=1 TO 10 3610 PRINT AT BALLX, BALLY; "B"; AT BALLX, BALLY; "B" 3620 NEXT I 3630 RETURN
```

```
4000 PRINT AT 21,0; "IN THE TREES
-PENALTY SHOTS
4010 LET SHOTS=SHOTS+1
4020 GOTO 2E3
4500 PRINT AT 21,0; "IN THE LAKE;
PENALTY SHOTS
4510 LET SHOTS=SHOTS+1
4520 GOTO 2E3
5000 PRINT AT 21,0; "IN THE ROUGH
-BETTER HACK IT"
5010 LET RUF=1
5020 GOTO 2E3
9000 REM "GOLF"
```

Dodgems

Olaf Morris, Brussels, Belgium.

775-30

DODGEMS IS A version for the Vic-20 of the well known game in which you control a car driving round a four-lane track. One can change lanes at four points on the circuit. To complicate things there is a rival car driving in the opposite direction. Its objective is to crash into you. It will change lanes rarely at first, but after 10 screens it will change just about whenever necessary.

The keys are as follows: A to change lanes leftwards; D to change lanes rightwards; W to change lanes upwards, and X to change lanes downwards.

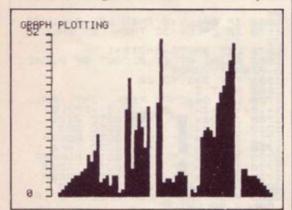
Pointing the way

David Rees, Weybridge, Surrey.

CBM-64

ONE DEFICIENCY OF the Commodore is that the basic machine has no command to plot points in any of the computer's many resolutions. Even printing needs a liberal sprinkling of control characters for characters to reach every part of the screen.

The following routine amends this in part.



The plotting resolution is low -80×50 — but the machine code contains an entire command, with few inconveniences.

The first listing Pokes the machine code into part of the 4K RAM buffer at location 49152. As the command is self-sufficient, the listing is then no longer needed, and may be Newed. Thus, providing nothing else is stored in the first 300 bytes of the RAM buffer, none of your Basic memory is used.

The next thing to do is to understand and operate the command. To plot, it uses the graphic squares in the Commodore character set, allowing text to be displayed at the same time. All calculations are carried out in the code so using the command is easy.

To get data in, the routine uses three integer variables — X%, Y% and C% — so no Poking is necessary. The only disadvantage is that you

POKE55,216:POKE56,29:CLR:POKE650,129:DIMEN(5),CA(5):HS=500 FOR I = 0 TO39 : READA : POKE I + 7640 , A : NEXT DATA,102,255,129,129,255,102,,60,102,102,36,36,102,102,60,129,90,60,126
DATA78,44,90,129,,,60,36,36,60,,,,36,24,24,36,,:POKE36869,255:L*.2:CO=2:L1=79 10 POKE36879, 110:PRINT*_M*1:FORI=1TO20:PRINT*M>>>>>>>>>>>>> *:NEXT:POKE368 12 PRINT" 14 PRINT" | NI BREEDE PROPERTY IN THE ----IS PRINT" -BARN BUT BUT BUT BUT BUT BUT BUT BUT - MINIMINI NI " 18 FOR 1 = 1 TO 4 : PR 1 NT " | "!!NEXT:T1\$="000000":L=L+.02:IFL>1THENL BROTH BUILDING TREES BUILDING 22 PRINT"- MINIMINIMINA - MIMI INI DESI BBBB1 B1 B1 1 B1 B1 A(4)=22 28 DO=144:G\$="# 30 ENK 5)=4:CA(5)=4:EN=8130:CA=8132:E=1:F=1:PC=160:FOR1=7953TOL1-1:POKE1,60:NEXT 32 POKECA, 160: CA=CA+CA(E): IFCA=ENTHEN84 34 IFPEEK(CA)=620RPEEK(CA)=1600RCA+CA(E)=ENTHENGOTO38 GOSUB74 X=60: IFE=10RE=3THENX=59 38 40 IFPEEK(CA)=62THENGOSUB83:POKE36876,0:IFDO=0THENPOKECA,160:GOTO106 POKECA, X:GETAS IFA#="W"ANDPEEK(CA-22)=160ANDE(>4ANDE(>2THENPOKECA,160:Y=-44:CA=CA+Y:GOSUB78
IFA#="X"ANDPEEK(CA+22)=160ANDE(>2ANDE(>4THENPOKECA,160:Y=44:CA=CA+Y:GOSUB78
IFA#="A"ANDPEEK(CA-1)=160ANDE(>1ANDE(>3THENPOKECA,160:Y=-2:CA=CA+Y:GOSUB78 46 50 IFA#="D"ANDPEEK(CA+1)=160ANDE(>3ANDE(>)1THENPOKECA,160:Y=2:CA=CA+Y:GOSUB78 52 POKEEN, PC: EN=EN+EN(F): IFCA=ENTHEN84 IFPEEK(EN) =620RPEEK(EN) = 160THENGOTO58 56 GOSLIBZE 58 IFRND(1)>LTHENGOTO68 60 Z=EN((FAND3)+1): IFPEEK(EN+Z)=160ANDCA(5)(EN: 5)THENEN=EN+Z*2:EN: 5)=EN: 5)-1:GOT 068 62 Z=F-1: IFZ (1THENZ =4 64 Z=EN(Z) 66 IFPEEK(EN+Z)=168ANDCA(5)>EN(5)THENEN=EN+Z*2:EN(5)=EN(5)+1 68 X1=60: IFF=10RF=3THENX1=59 PC=PEEK(EN): IFPC=XTHEN84 72 POKEEN, X1: GOSUB82: GOTO32 CA=CA-CA(E):E=E+1:E=(E-1AND3)+1:CA=CA+CA(E):RETURN EN=EN-ENKF):F=F+1:F=(F-1AND3)+1:EN=EN+ENKF):RETURN 78 V=E+11V=(V-1AND3)+11 IFCA(V)=Y/2THENCA(5)=CA(5)-11RETURN 88 CA(5)=CA(5)+1:RETURN 82 FOR I = 0 TO 50 : NEXT : RETURN 83 POKE36876,200:DO=DO-1:SC=SC+LV:PRINTG\$;SC: " : RETURN 84 POKE36877,130:POKECA,61:GOSUB82:POKECA,62:GOSUB82:POKECA,63:L1=L1-1:POKE36877 86 POKEEN, 160:POKELI, 160:POKE36877, 0:1FLI; 7953THEN30
88 CD=1:POKE36869, 240:POKE36879, 13:PRINT "200000":FORI=0TO10:PRINT "2"; FORJ=1TO8 POKE646,CD:CD=CD+1:IFCD=8THENCD=1 92 PRINT:PRINT* DESCREE: SC:PRINT* DHI-SCORE: SHS: IFSC)HSTHENHS=SC:8D=1 96 IFBD=1THENBD=0:PRINT" MEYOU BEAT THE HI-SCORE.":PRINT" 98 PRINT - BORNES ANOTHER GAME 73" 102 IFA#()*N*THENRUNB 184 END 106 BO=ABS(300*LV-LV*VAL(T1\$)):LV=LV+1 108 POKE36869,240:PRINT" TENDERLELL DONE !":PRINT" BONUS:":BO ":80+SC:FOR!=0T02000:NE 112 SC=SC+B0:POKE36869,255:POKE646,C0:C0=C0+1:IFC0=8THENC0=2

must define these variables in the correct order, and before any others, as in the example program. X% and Y% give the X and Y positions of the pixel, starting from the top left-hand side of the screen. You need not worry if the position lies beyond any of the screen edges, as the command automatically ignores these points.

C% is a more versatile command variable. The first four bits — 0-15 — give the colour to be plotted, but bit four — switched on by adding 16 to the colour number — gives an Exclusive Or feature. This feature draws

points so that if the place to be plotted at is blank a point appears, but if a point already exists a blank is drawn. Thus, to rub out a point you can simply draw and EORed point on top of it.

This is especially useful as the variables are never changed by the command, so you can draw a point and erase it quickly using very little program space. This variable setting principle is used in line 430 of the example program where, just by changing Y%, a column of points can be drawn at a rate of up

(continued on page 215)

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MODEL REFERENCE	1302-1 Medium Resolution	1302-2 High Resolution
RESOLUTION	370 x 470 Pixels	580 x 470 Pixels
C.R.T.	14"	14"
SUPPLY	220/240v. 50/60Hz.	220/240v. 50/60Hz.
E.H.T.	Minimum 19.5kv Maximum 22.5kv	Minimum 19.5kv Maximum 22.5kv
VIDEO BAND WIDTH	6MHz.	10MHz.
DISPLAY	80 characters by 25 lines	80 characters by 25 lines
SLOT PITCH	0.63mm	0.41mm
INPUT: VIDEO	R.G.B. Analogue/ TTL Input	R.G.B. Analogue/ TTL Input
SYNC	Separate Sync on R.G.B. Positive or Negative	Separate Sync on R.G.B. Positive or Negative
EXTERNAL CONTROLS	On/off switch and brightness control	On/off switch and brightness control



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special Buyer's Guide on micros under £200, a comparison of the Oric, Spectrum and Sord and a report on what Oric owners like and dislike about their computers and software.

As well as an article on how to learn Basic and reviews of all the latest games and software. Plus lots more to make choosing a computer easy. And owning one fun.

SOFTWARE FILE

(continued from page 212) to 50 points per second.

Another speed boost is given by the command name. The code is stored at byte 49152 and beyond, but by putting a machine code Goto statement at location 760, the computer takes less time to digest the address number written in Basic. The quicker point command is called SYS 760 — instead of 49152.

The second program listed — the demonstration routine — shows how to use the command and is useful in its own right. It contains a short routine which draws a 70-column bar chart using the data from line 1000 onwards, though it should be simple to adapt it for keyboard-data entry. The program is also self-scaling, so at least one column always reaches the top of the graph.

Finally, if you think 80×50 is too low a resolution to look effective, I have included a graph printout that might be impressive enough to change your mind.

Mower

Shingo Sugiura, Putney, London.

0313

THIS GAME WAS originally written for a BBC model B — April 1983, Your Computer. Now I have converted it to run on the Oric 48K. The original game had background music continuously ringing during the game but I am afraid I had to leave this feature out of the conversion.

Having failed all your O levels, you could only get a job as a lawn mower but the garden you mow is not a normal garden. It is littered with rocks which will crunch up your mower. The garden is enclosed in an electric fence and your mower is peculiar in that if the fuel runs out it blows up. If you lose three mowers you are fired.

E DEM LAUN MONED

6 REM*BAR CHART PLOTTER*
7 REM* BY DAVID REES *
8 REM* DEMONSTRATION *
9 REM* OF POINT COMMAND*
10 XX=0:YX=0:CX=5
20 V=53248:DIMD(69):DIMS(69)
99 REM*[CLS]
100 PRINT"]"
200 FORN=0TO69:READD(N):NEXT
210 M=0 210 M=0 220 FORN=0T069 230 IFD(N)>MTHENM=D(N) 248 NEXTN 250 FORN=0T069 260 S(N)=50-INT(D(N)*45/M) 270 NEXTN 270 NEXTN 299 REM*[CLS] 300 PRINT"DGRAPH PLOTTING" 310 POKEV+32,0:POKEV+33,6 319 REM*[UP][RIGHT*4] 320 PRINTM:PRINT" "BBBL"
330 FORN=0TO21:PRINT"
339 REM*.[HOME]
340 PRINT" 0 __M" I" : NEXTN 400 FORN=0T069 410 XX=N+10 420 IFS(N)=50THEN440 430 FORM=49TOS(N)STE FORM=49TOS(N)STEP-1: Y%=M: SYS760: NEXTM 440 NEXTN 450 GETA\$: IFA\$=""THEN450 459 REM*[CLS] 460 PRINT"" 999 REM*DATA FOR BAR CHART* 1000 DATA0.1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8,9,10 1010 DATA0.2.4.6.8.10.12.14.16.18.20 1020 DATA40.10.22.28.24.17.31.0.0.32.52 1030 DATA0.1.2.3.5.6.7.9,11.13.15.17.20 1040 DATA22.24.27.29.32.35.38.42.46.51 1050 DATA1, 1, 10, 10, 7, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0

You have to control your mower around the garden avoiding the rocks and the fence, gobbling up fuel cans. The difficulty lies in the fact that if you mow over an area already mowed your oil will decrease but your score will stay the same and you know what happens if your oil runs out. So the trick is to avoid areas already mowed as much as possible. Once you have mowed a certain percentage of the garden you will go on to another garden with more rocks.

Note when typing in this program that some of the characters in the listing are not directly accessible from the keyboard. This is because not all the characters on my printer are the same as that of the Oric's but share the same ASCII code. They are the following:

Line 100 a copyright sign CHR\$(96) Line 390 a pound sign CHR\$(95) Line 680 a pound sign CHR\$(95)

Line 30 Sets up score, screen and lives. Line 40 Calls routine to set up the screen. Lines 60 to 90 Scans keyboard. Line 100 Rubs out the mower. Lines 100 to 140 ... Updates mower position. Line 150 Sees what is in front of the mower. Line 160 If it is not a space, go to a checking routine. Updates score and oil. Line 180 Calls a routine to print the mower. Lines 190 to 210 . . Takes appropriate action if dead. Lines 300 to 392 . Sets up the screen. Lines 400 to 430 . . Initialises variables. Lines 500 to 720 . . Instructions. Lines 1300 to 1410 Defines characters. Lines 1500 to 1530 Routine to print out the mower. Prints score. Line 1550 . . . Prints oil left. Lines 2000 to 2030 Checks what is in front and

takes appropriate action.
Lines 2100 to 2160 Routine called when one mower dead.

ı	5 REM LAWN MOWER	
	10 TEXT: GRAB: HIMEM#B400	
	20 GOSUB1300:HI%=0:CLS:GOSUB500	
ı	30 SC=0:LE%=1:LI%=2	
ı	40 CLS: PAPER2: INK4: GOSUB300	
ı	50 REPEAT: K\$=KEY\$	
ı	60 IF K\$="Z" THEN A\$="LEFT"	
ı	70 IF K\$="X" THEN A\$="RIGHT"	
ı	80 IF K\$="'" THEN A\$="UP"	
ı	90 IF K\$="/" THEN A\$="DOWN"	
ı	100 PLOTX%, Y%, "'": REM COPYRIGHT CHARACTER	
ı	110 IF A\$="LEFT" THEN X%=X%-1	
ı	120 IF A\$="RIGHT" THEN X%=X%+1	
ı	130 IF A\$="UP" THEN Y%=Y%-1	
ı		
ı	150 CH%=SCRN(X%,Y%)	
l	160 IF CH%<>32 THEN GOSUB2000	
ı	170 SC=SC+0.1:0IL=0IL-0.1	
ı	180 GOSUB1500	
ı	181 IF OIL O THEN DIE=TRUE	
ı	190 UNTIL DIE OR SC>46*LE%	
ı	200 IF DIE THEN GOSUB 2100: GOTO V	
ı	210 IF SC>46*LE% THEN GOSUB 2200:GOTO40	
ı	299 REM SET UP THE SCREEN	
l	300 PLOTO,0,CHR\$(1):PLOT14,0,"< <mower>>"</mower>	
ı	310 FORA=2T036:PLOTA,2,"!":PLOTA,23,"!":NEXTA	
ı	320 FORA=3T022:PLOT2,A,"!":PLOT36,A,"!":NEXTA	
ı	330 PLOTO, 24, CHR\$(5): PLOT2, 24, "OIL": PLOT25, 24,	"SCORE"
	340 PLOTO, 25, CHR\$(0): PLOT2, 25, "MOWERS LEFT": PL	
	341 M\$=RIGHT\$(STR\$(LI%),LEN(STR\$(LI%))-1):PLOT	
I	341 N#-RIGHT# (51R#(C1%), CEN(S1R#(C1%))-1/1FC01	
ı		(continued on page 217)

AGF

PROGRAMMABLE JOYSTICK INTERFACE

Spectrum

ABOUT OUR INTERFACE

The AGF Programmable Joystick Interface is a unique design offering the use of any Ataricompatible joystick with absolutely all software, whether it is cassette or ROM cartridge, with the Sinclair Spectrum or ZX81.

The hardware programmable interface requires no additional software and accurately replicates the keys of the computer in a manner which is responsive to absolutely ALL key reading methods, both BASIC and Machine Code.

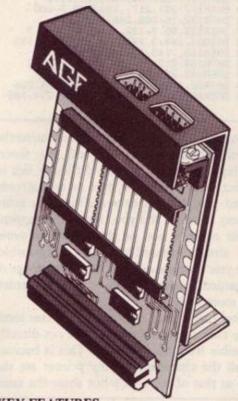
The interface does not interfere with key operation and can therefore be used simultaneously with the keyboard.

There is no need to remove the interface once fitted as the rear extension connector will accommodate further expansion, i.e printers or RAM packs etc. This important feature avoids excessive wear to the expansion port.

The key replication principle pioneered by AGF means that your own programs can use eight directional joystick movement by utilising simple key reading BASIC.

Two joystick sockets are provided which share the same keys, for use with the majority of two player games. Several interfaces may be used on the same computer for multiple joystick applications.

The interface is programmed by a two digit code, which is looked up on a programming chart supplied, for each direction and firing button. The two numbers are then selected on a pair of leads which are clipped onto appropriately numbered strips on the interface.



KEY FEATURES

* Programmable design gives TOTAL software support.

PACKAGE CONTENTS SUPPLIED

- Programmable Interface Module as illustrated, complete with clip-on programming leads.
- Self adhesive programming chart detailing how to define which key is simulated by UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT, and FIRE. This can be fixed on to the case of your computer or if preferred the protective backing can be left on. The chart is made of a very durable reverse printed plastic and is extremely easy to read.
- One pack of ten Quick Reference Programming Cards for at-a-glance setting to your games requirements. The card allows you to mark the configuration in an easy to read fashion with space to record the software title and company name.
- Video Graffiti demonstration program which is written totally in BASIC to illustrate how all eight directions and fire can be read. This is also a useful high resolution drawing program.
- 12 months guarantee and full written instructions.

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ZX81 🗆

DEALER ENQUIRIES WELCOME

ZX SPECTRUM

SOFTWARE FILE

```
(continued from page 215)
350 LE#=RIGHT#(STR#(LE%), LEN(STR#(LE%))-1):PLOT31,25,LE#
360 FOR OB=1 TO LE%*4+6:X=RND(1)*33+3:Y=RND(1)*18+3
370 PLOTX,Y,"@":NEXT OB:REM CHR#(64)
380 FOR FU=1TOLE%*4+6:X=RND(1)*33+3:Y=RND(1)*18+3
390 PLOTX,Y,"_":NEXT FU:REM POUND SIGN
391 PLOT2,26,"HI-SCORE:":H#=RIGHT#(STR#(HI%),LEN(STR#(HI%))-1)
                                                                                                                                                                                                            1430 RETURN
1500 IF A$="LEFT" THEN PLOTX%,Y%,"%"
1510 IF A$="RIGHT" THEN PLOTX%,Y%,"%"
1520 IF A$="DDWN" THEN PLOTX%,Y%,"$"
1530 IF A$="UP" THEN PLOTX%,Y%,"$"
1540 S$=RIGHT$(STR$(INT(SC)),LEN(STR$(INT(SC)))-1):PLOT32,24,S$
1550 FU$=RIGHT$(STR$(INT(OIL)),LEN(STR$(INT(OIL)))-1)
392 PLOT11,26,H$:PLOT0,26,CHR$(7)
400 REM INITIALISE
410 A$="RIGHT":XX=15;YX=15:GIL=40
                                                                                                                                                                                                            1555 PLOT6,24,FU#+" "
1560 RETURN
                                                                                                                                                                                                           1999 REM CHECK WHAT IS IN FRONT OF THE MOTOR
2000 IF CHX=95 THEN DIL=DIL+2:ZAP
2010 IF CHX=96 THEN SC=SC-0.1:DIL=DIL-0.2
2020 IF CHX=64 OR CHX=33 THEN DIE=TRUE:EXPLODE
420 DIE=FALSE
430 RETURN
499 REM INSTRUCTIONS
500 PRINT:PRINTCHR$(4);SPC(15)"MOWER":PRINTCHR$(4)
510 PLOT1,1,10:PLOT1,2,10
520 PRINT:PRINTSPC(10)"BY SHINGO SUGIURA":PLOT0,4,CHR$(1)
                                                                                                                                                                                                            2030 RETURN
2099 REM DIE
                                                                                                                                                                                                           2100 LIX=LIX-1
2110 PLOT6,24,"0"
2120 IFOIL>=0 THEN GOTO 2130
520 PRINT:PRINTSPC(10)"BY SHINGO SUGIURA":PLOTO,4,CHR*(1610 PRINT:PRINT"CONTROLS'
620 PRINT:PRINT"'Z' --- left 'X' --- right"
630 PRINT:"' --- up '/' --- down"
640 PRINT:PRINT"@ --- rock... # --- mower.."
680 PRINT"_ --- fuel cans.."
700 PRINT:PRINTCHR*(140)SPC(7)"Press SPACE BAR to play"
710 REPEAT:UNTIL KEY$=" "
720 RETURN
1299 DEFINE CHARACTERS
                                                                                                                                                                                                            2125 PLAY1,0,2,1000:FORA=12TOSTEP-1:MUSIC1,3,A,10:WAIT3:NEXT 2130 PLAY0,0,0,0
                                                                                                                                                                                                            2140 WAIT300
                                                                                                                                                                                                           2150 IF L1% O THEN GOSUB2300: V=30: RETURN 2160 V=40: RETURN
                                                                                                                                                                                                           2199 REM NEW SCREEN
                                                                                                                                                                                                           2200 PLOT10,10,"SCREEN "+LE$+" MOWED":PLOT9,10,CHR$(1)
2205 PLOT25,10,CHR$(4)
2210 FORA=1T012:MUSIC1,3,A,10:WAIT20:NEXT:PLAY0,0,0,0
 1299 DEFINE CHARACTERS
1300 FORA=46344T046351:READB:POKEA,B:NEXTA
1310 DATA63,46,63,29,63,46,63,29
1310 DATA63,46,63,29,63,46,63,29
1320 FORA=46360T046391:READB:POKEA,B:NEXTA
1330 DATA63,33,63,33,63,12,12,30
1340 DATA30,12,12,63,33,63,33,63
1350 DATA7,5,37,61,61,37,5,7
1360 DATA56,40,41,47,47,41,40,56
1370 FORA=46592T046599:READB:POKEA,B:NEXTA
1380 DATA12,30,30,31,15,61,61,63
1390 FORA=46840T046855:READB:POKEA,B:NEXTA
                                                                                                                                                                                                           2210 FURA=1T012:MUSIC1,3,A,10:WAIT20:NEXT:PLAYO,0
2220 LEX=LEX+1:RETURN
2230 PLAY1,0,2,1000
2235 FORA=12T01STEP-1:MUSIC1,3,A,10:WAIT20:NEXTA
2299 REM DEATH
                                                                                                                                                                                                          2300 PLAY1,0,2,1000:FDRA=12TD1STEP-1
2305 MUSIC1,3,A,10:WAIT20:NEXTA
2310 PLAY0,0,0,0:IF SC>HIX THEN HIX=SC
2320 PRINT:PRINT"Press SPACE BAR to play"
2330 REPEAT:UNTIL KEY$=" "
2340 RETURN
1400 DATA12,18,33,63,30,30,30,30
1410 DATA62,47,59,63,55,61,59,31
```

Life-cycle

C Maitland, Hammersmith, London.

BBG

PART OF THE fascination exerted by John Conway's game, Life, lies in the way it appears to simulate a natural process - the life-cycle of a colony of cells or, perhaps, a population. Narrow your eyes when you look at the display and you can imagine that a colony of amoebas is loose in the cathode ray tube.

For the best animation effects a Life program should be fast. This version for the BBC models A and B is exceptionally quick and can handle up to 10 generations a second. It uses Mode 7 to plot the cells on a 40 by 25 grid. It treats cells along the opposite edges as adjacent so that a cluster of cells moving to the top will reappear at the bottom.

The program offers you the option of setting

up the initial display yourself or taking a randomly generated display. There is also a choice of speed.

For those who are unfamiliar with the game here is a short explanation: Life generates patterns by applying a few simples rules to an array of cells. Each cell occupies a character space bounded by eight other spaces. If a cell has two or three neighbours it survives to the next generation, otherwise it dies. If an empty space is bounded by exactly three cells a new cell is born.

```
10 *KEY1 GOTO 730:M
20 REM PRESS ESCAPE TO STOP
30 REM PRESS F1 TO RESTART
                                                                         440 CMP #32: BEQ LB2: INX
                                                                         450 .LB2 CPX #2:BEQ LB4
                                                                         460 CPX #3: BNE LB3
    40 ARL=&70:ARH=&71:?ARL=0:?ARH=&30
                                                                         470 LDA #CHAR: LDY#0: STA(SCL), Y
   50 DPL=&72: DPH=&73: ?DPL=&D7: ?DPH=&2F
                                                                         480 LDX TEMP:RTS
   60 SCL=&74:SCH=&75:?SCL=HIMEM MOD 256:?SCH=HIMEM DI
                                                                         490 .LB3 LDA#32:LDY#0:STA(SCL),Y
V 256
                                                                         500 .LB4 LDX TEMP:RTS
   70 TEMP=&76
                                                                         510 .LIFE LDX#3
520 .LB5 JSR COMP
   80 CHAR=ASC"O": REM CELL CHARACTER
  90 REM CHANGE THIS FOR CHARACTER OF YOUR CHOICE 100 DIM START 250
                                                                         530 INC DPL:LDA#0:CMP DPL:BNE LB6
                                                                         540 INC DPH
  110 FOR IX=0 TO 2 STEP2:PX=START
                                                                         550 .LB6 INC SCL: INC ARL
  120 COPT 1%
                                                                         560 LDA#0: CMP SCL: BNE LB5
  130 JSR FILL: JSR LIFE
                                                                         570 INC SCH: INC ARH: DEX: BNE LB5
  140 RTS
                                                                         580
                                                                             .LB7 JSR COMP
  150.FILL LDX#3:LDY#0
160 .LOOP
                                                                        590 INC DPL:LDA#0:CMP DPL:BNE LB8
600 INC DPH
  170 LDA(SCL),Y:STA(ARL),Y
                                                                         610 .LBB INC SCL: INC ARL
  180 INY: BNE LOOP
                                                                         620 LDA#232: CMP ARL
  190 INC SCH:INC ARH:DEX:BNE LOOP
200 .LL1 LDA(SCL),Y:STA(ARL),Y:INY:CPY#232:BNE LL1
210 LDA#HIMEM DIV 256:STA SCH:LDA#&30:STA ARH
                                                                         630 BNE LB7
                                                                         640 LDA#0:STA SCL:STA ARL
                                                                         650 LDA#HIMEM DIV 256:STA SCH
  220 LDX#41
                                                                         660 LDA#&30:STA ARH
  230 .LL2 LDA &33BF,X:STA &2FD7,X
                                                                         670 LDAW&D7:STA DPL
  240 LDA &2FFF, X:STA &33E7, X
                                                                         680 LDA#&2F:STA DPH
  250 DEX
                                                                         690 RTS
  260 BNE LL2
                                                                         700 ] NEXT
                                                                         710 CLS: *FX15,1
  270 RTS
  280. COMP STX TEMP: LDX#0
                                                                         720 PRINT "
730 PRINT'"
                                                                                                  SELECT SPEED"
  290 LDY #0:LDA(DPL),Y
300 CMP #32:BEQ LL3:INX
                                                                                               GENERATIONS PER SECOND"
                                                                         740 PRINT " A. 10"
  310 .LL3 LDY #1:LDA(DPL),Y
                                                                         750 PRINT" B. 8"
                                                                         760 PRINT" C. 6"
  320 CMP #32: BEQ LL4: INX
                                                                         770 PRINT"
                                                                                       D. 4"
  330 .LL4 LDY #2:LDA(DPL),Y
                                                                                       E. 2"
  340 CMP #32: BEQ LL5: INX
                                                                         780 PRINT"
  350 .LL5 LDY #40:LDA(DPL),Y
                                                                         790 PRINT"
  360 CMP #32:BEQ LL6: INX
                                                                         800 A$=GET$
                                                                        810 IF A$="A" THEN S%=10
820 IF A$="B" THEN S%=130
  370 .LL6 LDY #42:LDA(DPL),Y
380 CMP #32:BEQ LL7:INX
  390 .LL7 LDY #80:LDA(DPL),Y
                                                                         830 IF A$="C" THEN S%=350
                                                                        840 IF A$="D" THEN S%=750
850 IF A$="E" THEN S%=2000
  400 CMP #32:BEQ LLB: INX
  410 .LL8 LDY #81:LDA(DPL),Y
                                                                         860 IF A$="F" THEN S%=4500
  420 CMP#32: BEQ LB1: INX
  430 .LB1 LDY #82:LDA(DPL),Y
                                                                                                            (continued on next page)
```

SOFTWARE FILE

```
(continued from previous page)
                                                                              1020 FOR N=0 TO 250: ?(HIMEM+RND(998))=CHAR:NEXT
                                                                              1030 VDU 23; 10,32,0;0;0;
  870 CLS
  880 PRINT "
                     DO YOU WANT TO"
                                                                              1040 REPEAT
                       SET UP THE SCREEN?"
  890 PRINT
                                                                              1050 CALL START
  900 PRINT"
                     Y/N?"
                                                                              1060 FOR N%=1 TO S%: NEXT
  910 A$=GET$:IF A$="N" THEN CLS:GOTO 1020
920 PRINT "USE Z AND X FOR LEFT AND";
                                                                              1070 UNTIL FALSE
                                                                              1080 DEFPROCCURS
  930 PRINT"RIGHT"
                                                                              1090 REPEAT
  940 PRINT"USE : AND / FOR UP AND DOWN"
                                                                              1100 A=GET
  950 PRINT"USE SPACE BAR TO ENTER"
960 PRINT"USE E FOR ERASE"
970 PRINT" PRESS RETURN WHEN YOU";
                                                                              1110 IF A=32 THEN PRINT"0";:VDUB
1120 IF A=90 THEN VDUB
                                                  980 PRINT" HAV
                                                                              1130 IF A=BB THEN VDU9
                                                                              1140 IF A=58 THEN VDU11
E FINISHED"
  980 PRINT" HAVE FINISHED"
990 PRINT" "PRESS ANY KEY TO START"
                                                                              1150 IF A=47 THEN VDU10
                                                                              1160 IF A=69 THEN PRINT" ":: VDUB
 1000 D=GET: MODE7
                                                                              1170 UNTIL A=13
 1010 PROCCURS: GOTO 1030
```

Bridge-builder

S Powell, Honiton, Devon.

SPECTRUM

DROPPING STEEL SECTIONS by helicopter may not be the usual way of constructing a bridge, but it is the method used in this game.

Type in listing 1 - the graphics loader and run it. This sets up the user-defined graphics. Type New and then type in listing 2 - the main program. Save this on tape by Goto 9998 it is saved in two parts, program and bytes. You can now Run the program.

It will start by showing a list of the highest scores, and after a while, will give a demonstration. To start a game, press Space.

The game begins by showing an unfinished bridge with a man on it and a helicopter flying above. Unfortunately, the man is blind, and he walks slowly forward while the bridge is built. Use the Space key to drop a section of bridge from the helicopter. You must drop it next to the end of the left-hand section of the bridge, to make it longer. If you miss, then the blind man will walk off the edge and fall in the river.

Fortunately, there are three lifebelts with which to save him but the fourth time he falls in, he drowns. When you have completed a bridge, you get a 50-point bonus and another bridge to build. If you get one of the ten best scores, you can enter your name. Use the right and left arrow keys to select the correct letter, then press 0. Press enter when you have entered your name.

Listing 1.

```
1 REM User graphics set-up
9900 FOR z=USR "a" TO USR "U"+7:
READ X: POKE z,X: NEXT z
9902 DATA 127,2,31,55,103,103,63
9904 DATA 240,1,131,255,255,240,
224,192
9906 DATA 0,0,15,28,63,63,63,12
9908 DATA 255,138,140,136,240,16
0,192,128
9910 DATA 255,136,x,x,255,136,x,
9912 DATA 255,×,×,×,153,189,219,
9914 DATA 0,x,128,192,252,x,x,48
9918 DATA 0, x, 60, 90, 125, 24, 60, 21
9920 DATA 24,x,x,x,60,102,195,12
9922 DATA 0,x,60,90,126,153,126,
9924 DATA 195,231,255,x,x,x,x,x
9926 DATA 15,63,124,224,x,124,63
240
9932 DATA 52,44,36,36,52,44,36,3
9934 DATA 60,90,126,24,60,218,25
9936 DATA 121,103,97,97,121,102,
96,x
9938 DATA 224,x,240,x,248,252,25
4,255
9940 DATA 7,7,15,15,31,63,127,25
9942 DATA 255,72,40,16,7,4,2,1
```

Listing 2.

OREM BRIDGE BUILDER

© 1983 Simon Powell.

```
@ 1983 Simon Powell.

1 GO TO 4
2 IF INKEY$=" THEN GO TO B
3 RETURN
4 DIM h (10) DIM h $ (10,10) B

ORDER 1: POKE 23693,56: CLS
5 FOR Z=1 TO 10: LET h $ (Z) = " D

OBODY NEXT Z

OBODY
```

```
140 GO TO 300
190 STOP
200 LET D=0: IF A(>N THEN LET L
                                        IF A=N THEN LET L=13
IF A(N OR A)24 THEN LET L=1
    +1;" "
270 NEXT Z: PRINT AT 1,8+1; PAP
ER 7;"F"
  ER 7; "F" A<>N AND (A>N AND A<25)
THEN PRINT AT Z-1,A+1; "
276 LET H=A
280 GO TO 130
320 PRINT AT 11,N; "; AT 12,N; "
; AT 11,N+1; "I"; AT 12,N+1; "H"
340 FOR Z=1 TO 5
355 BEEP 1,50; PRINT AT 11,N+1
; "I"; AT 12,N+1; "H"
357 BEEP 1,0; PRINT AT 11,N+1; "I"; AT 12,N+1; "J"
360 NEXT Z
370 FOR Z=10 TO 15; PRINT AT Z,N+1; "K"; AT Z+1,N+1; "J"; AT Z-1,N+1; "J"; AT Z-
            375 NEXT Z
378 PRINT AT 15,N+1;" ";AT 16,N
     380 PRINT AT 15,N+2;"HELP!": F
R Z=1 TO 5: PRINT AT 16,N+1;"I
BEEP .1,0: PRINT AT 16,N+1;"K
```

```
BEEP .1,10: NEXT Z

385 LET LV=LV-1

386 IF LV=-1 THEN GO TO 2000

390 SUB 900

390 PRINT INK 2: PAPER 6: FLASH
1; AT 10,8; LU; LIFE-BELT "S" A

ND (V > 1; LEFT"

395 FOR X=1 TO 10: FOR Z=X TO X

+50 STEP 10: BEEP .01,Z: NEXT Z:

NEXT X

397 PRINT AT 10,8, AT 15,N+2; "

398 FOR X=0 TO 4: PRINT PAPER 8

;AT 18-Z31-Z; "U"; "EEEEEEE" TO

X): NEXT Z: PRINT PAPER 7; BRIGH

398 FOR X=1 TO 1,0+1; STEP -1

910 PRINT PAPER 8; AT d,Z; INK 2

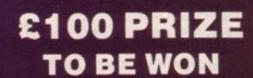
910 PRINT PAPER 8; AT d,Z; INK 2
        920 PR10.
"MNO
925 BEEP .01, Z
936 NEXT Z
935 FOR Z=d TO 1 STEP -1: PRINT
AT Z, n+1; "P": NEXT Z
940 FOR Z=d TO 15
950 PRINT AT Z, n+1; "MNO"; AT Z-1
n+1; "P"
1040 PRINT AT 12,0, PRINT AT 1
3,6,TAB 26,
1100 LET n=5: GO TO 82
3000 LET n=n+1: FOR z=17 TO 20
3010 PRINT AT z-2,n+1; PAPER z-1
6: INK 7; "GLUG!!", PAPER 8,AT z-1
1,n;" "AT z,n; "I", AT z+1,n; "J":
BEEP 1,22-z
3015 PRINT PAPER 1; AT z,n; INK 7
; "K": BEEP 1,21-z
3020 NEXT z
3030 BEEP 1,48 BEEP 1,36 BEE
    3030 BEEP .1,48 BEEP .1,35 BEE
P .1,24 BEEP 1,12 BEEP .2,0
3040 PRINT AT 20,0 PAPER 1; INK
                                                                                                    (continued on page 223)
```

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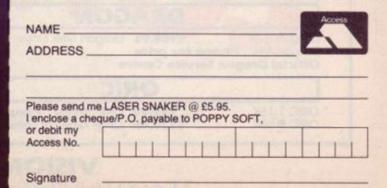
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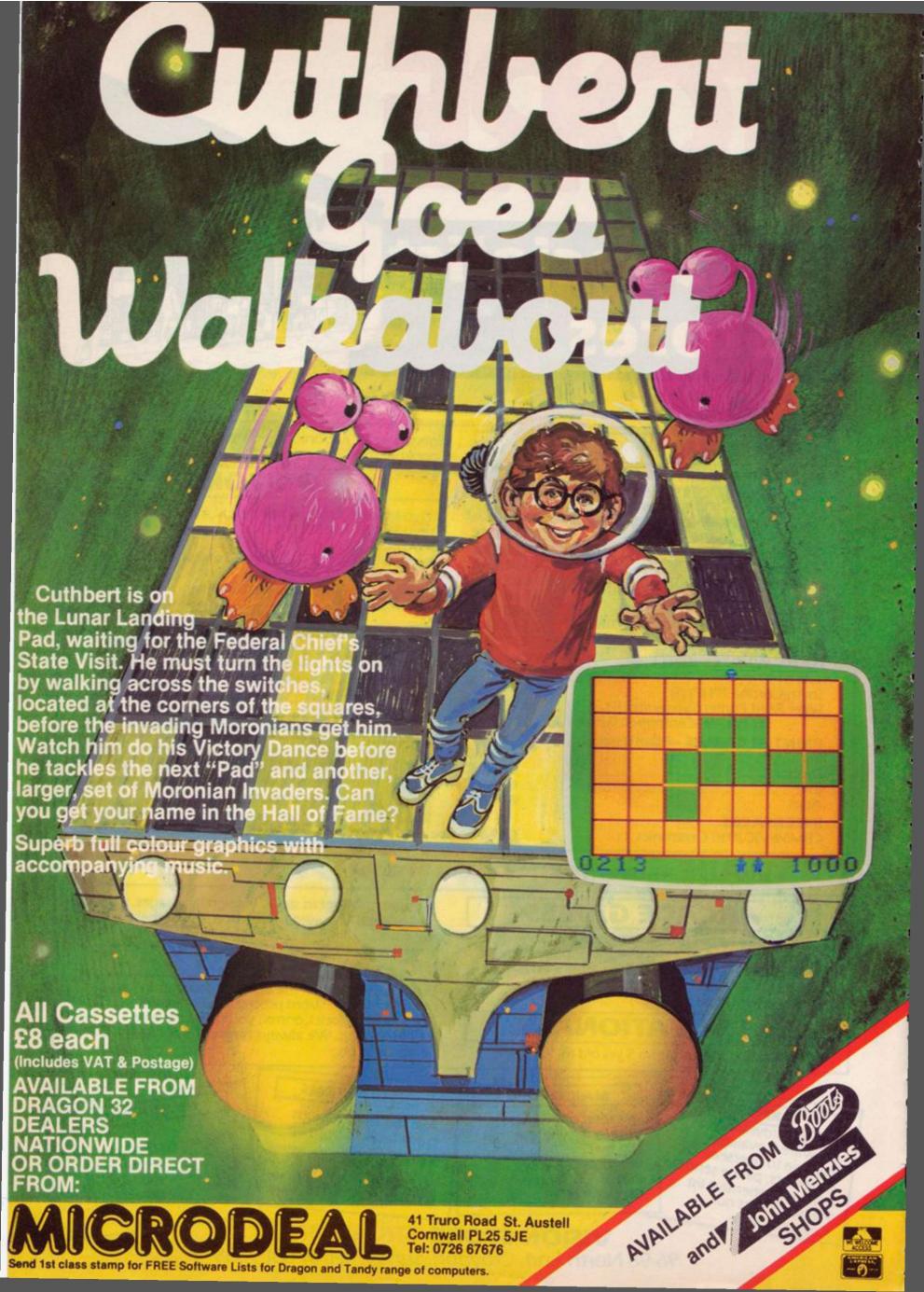
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SOFTWARE FILE

```
(continued from page 218)
3050 PRINT AT 10,11; INK 1, "GAM OVER", AT 10,11, "DEMO" AND 3m 3050 FOR z=1 TO 300: NEXT z 3050 IF dm THEN GO TO 4000 3100 FOR z=1 TO 10 3110 IF s (=h(z) THEN NEXT z GO TO 4000
TO 4000
3120 PRINT "YOU HAVE GOT ONE OF TODAY'S" HIGHEST SCORES. PLEA SE ENTER" YOUR NAME."
3135 LET C=21 LET Z$=" ?ABCDEFG HIUKLMNOPORSTUZY!.-+#"
3137 LET h$ (10) = "" LET Z$=Z$+Z$ PRINT AT 11.16;"1",AT 10.16. PAPER 4;" PAPER 7;AT 15.10;"
 3140 FOR Z = 1 TO 10
3142 PRINT AT 15,10+Z; PAPER 7
INK 5; FLASH 1; "
```

7-0 c+31) 3170 PAUSE 0 LET c=c+(INKEY\$="8 ")-(INKEY\$="5") IF c>34 THEN LE 3170 PHUSE 0 LET C=C+(INKEY\$="0"
")-(INKEY\$="5") IF C>34 THEN LE
T C=1
3172 IF C<1 THEN LET C=34
3173 IF INKEY\$=CHR\$ 13 THEN GO T
0 3190
3175 IF INKEY\$="0" THEN LET h\$(1
0,2)=Z\$(C+16) PRINT PAPER 7, AT
15,11;h\$(10) FOR x=1 TO 50 STEP
16: BEEP,01;x: NEXT x: NEXT z:
GO TO 3190
3180 GO TO 3160
3190 LET h(10)=\$ PRINT AT 15,11
; FLASH 1; INK 2; PAPER 6;h\$(10)
3210 FOR z=1 TO 9
3215 BEEP,005;z
3220 IF h(2)(h(Z+1) THEN LET t=h
(Z+1) LET h(Z+1)=h(Z) LET h(Z)
=t: LET a\$=h\$(Z+1): LET h\$(Z+1)=

ON BRIDGE BUILDE

4010 FOR Z=1 TO 10 PRINT AT Z+4
,5; h(Z): TAB 18; h\$(Z): NEXT Z

4020 PRINT AT 17,7; % 1983 \$: mon
Powell"; AT 20,5; FLASH 1; INK 2
"PRESS (SPACE) TO START"

4030 FOR 0=1 TO 5: FOR Z=1 TO 7

4040 FOR x=1 TO 10: PRINT AT X+4
,5; PAPER Z; INK 9; OVER 1: TAB 3
9; IF INKEY\$=" THEN GO TO 9

4050 NEXT X: NEXT Z: NEXT O

4070 LET dm=1: GO TO 10

9998 SAVE "BRIDGE" LINE 9999: SA
VE "Udg"CODE USR "a", 21+8
9999 LOAD ""CODE USR "a" BUN

IN THIS GAME for the Atom you drive a

motorboat up a log-filled river. Controls are:

Lines 30-160 assemble the code to scroll the

screen downwards. Lines 170-250 assemble

the code to draw banks, click the loudspeaker

and scan the keyboard. Lines 270-280 clear the

screen, draw banks and set up position of boat,

A, number of logs, B, and distance travelled,

Lines 290-300 Link to the code (lines

30-250) and move the boat. Line 320 draws

the boat and logs. Line 330 increments

distance and every 100 distance increases the

number of logs. Line 340 checks for the boat

crashing. Lines 350-370 print distance and

explode the boat. Line 380 asks for another

arom

Logger

Steven Atkins,

left - Z and right - /.

Appleton,

Cheshire.

64 function key

Mark Tingle, Harlow, Essex.

60M-64

THIS PROGRAM ALLOWS one to define up to four words for function keys F1, F3, F5 and two words for function key F7. The four words are accessed with the use of the function key on its own, the function key and the shift key, the function key and the Commodore key and the function key and the Ctrl key. Each defined word can be up to nine characters in length and can include the abbreviated keywords like GΓ for Goto.

No spaces can be included in the words unless the code is altered. This is because the machine code picks up a space as the end of a word. Function key F7 and the Commodore key have been programmed to alter the border colour. Function key F7 and the Ctrl key have been programmed to alter the screen colours. The code is divided into six parts:

Part 1 displays the title and the start address of the code.

KEY DEFINE BY M. TINGLE SYS256*156 STARTS

The start location for the code is 39936 to

Part 2 sets the interrupt pointer to location 40013 which is the start of the main

Part 3 detects which key has been pressed and then jumps to the next routine.

Part 4 is the print word routine. The start location for the code is 40151 to 40167.

Part 5 is a delay routine that stops more than one word being printed on the screen. At the end of this routine is the jump for the exit from interrupt.

Part 6 changes the screen and border colour. At the end of changing colour it jumps to the delay routine to avoid too rapid a change of colour.

The ASC codes of the words are stored from location 40500 to 40640.

Two lines of the code will need to be altered to include spaces.

410 DATA E8,C8,C9, + + ,D0,F4,88,84,C6:REM 1170 POKE M, × × : REM

As the machine code picks up a specific character at the end of a word, a character not normally used would be the best substitute e.g. π . The ASC code for π is 255 and the hex value for 255 is FF. Then + + will be replaced by FF and ×× will be replaced by 255.

If a carriage return is required at the end of a word the symbol - is used. Although there is a check carried out on the data ensure that a copy is taken before running the program.

10DIMLL4; P. \$21; F. A=0T01; P=#2800

20E

30:LL0 LDX@#FF

40JSR#FE66

50:LL1 LDA#7FE0,X

60STA#8000,X

70LDA#80E0,X

80STA#8100,X

90DEX

100CPX@#FF

110BNELL1

120LDX@32

130LDA@32

140:LL3 STR#7FFF,X

150DEX

160BNELL3

170LDA@#FF

180STA#8000

190STA#801F

200LDA#B002

210EOR@4

220STA#B002

230:LL4 JSR#FE71

240STY#80

250RTS

260]; N. ; P. \$6

270D0; P.\$12; F. A=0T0#1E0 S.32; A?#8000=#FF; A?#801F=#FF; N.

280A=#81F0;B=1;D=0

290D0; LINKLL0; IF?#80=#3A; A=A-1

300IF?#80=#1F;A=A+1

310C=?A

3207A=1; IFA.R. %5<B; !(#8001+(A.R. %27))=-1

330D=D+1; IFD%100=0; B=B+1; ?#8000=#7F; ?#801F=#7F

340U.C<>32

YOU TRAVELLED: "D'''; F. B=0T0200 350@=0;P."

3607A=R.;?#B002=?#B002:4;N.

3707A=#AB; F.A=0T0150; WAIT; N.

380P. "AGAIN?"; DO; LINKLL4; U. ?#80< >#FF; U. ?#80< >#39; E.

```
10 REM COMMODORE 64 FUNCTION KEYS BY
```

```
460 DATA C9.02.D0.06.AE.20.D0.4C
470 DATA 18.9D.C9.04.D0.EF.AE.21
480 DATA D0.E8.E0.10.90.06.8E.21
490 DATA D0.4C.E8.9C.A2.00.4C.0F
```

(continued on page 225)

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SOFTWARE FILE

(continued from page 223)

DATA 9D.E8.E0.10.90.06.8E.20 CODE ***********************

L=39936:N=0:TT=0

1000 READ A# 1010 C=LENCA\$) 1020 IFA\$="*"THEN1100 1030 A=ASC(A\$)-48 1040 B=ASC(RIGHT#(A\$,1))-48

1110 FOR T=1T014 1120 N=M READ AS FORA=1TOLEN(AS)

1130 B=ASC(MID#(A#,A,1)) 1135 IF B=95 THEN B=13 REM CHECKS FOR A

1140 POKEM, B 1170 POKEM, 32 REM THIS POKES THE CODE FOR A SPACE AND IS USED BY THE CODE 1175 REM TO DETECT THE END OF A WORD **

1180 M=N+10 1190 MEN+10
1190 NEXT T
1200 DATA"POKE,","PEEK(","READ","RETURN"
1210 DATA"SAVE","LOAD","RUN+","DATA "
1220 DATA"GOTO","GOSUB","NEXT","PRINT"
1230 DATA"LIST+","FOR"
1300 PRINT"JMMM" SYS39936 CLR NEW

Secret file

M Shackleton, Cottingham, Humberside.

013113

ON MOST COMPUTERS when you type CLoad or its equivalent the computer will load the first program it comes across on tape and display the file name. However, on the Oric the file name is not displayed. This can be

very annoying if you forget a file and as, apparently, there is no way to find out. This program, which occupies well under 1K and can be Newed after running, provides a way of displaying the name of a file. Type in the Basic program, run and New then type:

CALL # 400

From now on any program loaded with CLoad will have its name displayed at the top of the screen in the reserved line after loading.

10 P=#400

20 READ AS: IF AS="END" THEN END

C=VAL ("#"+A\$) : POKE P,C

P=P+1:GOT020

50 DATA 78,A2,OD,8E,29,02,A2,04, BE,2A,02,58,60,48,BA,48,98,48 A2.80

60 DATA 86,00,A2,BB,86,01,A2,48, 86,02,A2,00,86,03,A0,0F,B1,02 91,00

DATA 88,D0,F9,68,~8,68,AA,68, 4C,03,EC,"END"

Earhole

Trevor Cook, Goole, North Humberside.

SPECTULUM:

As Spectrum owners will be aware from their manuals, the ear socket of the computer is read via bit 6 of I/O port 254 decimal. The program contains a short machine-code routine which returns in the BC register pair, a value which is proportional to the frequency of any tone which may be present at the ear socket. The routine is designed so that if no tone is present, a value of zero will be returned. I have located the routine at 32600 dec i.e., the start of the user-definable graphics area on the 16K Spectrum. Owners of 48K machines will need to modify this accordingly by modifying line 400.

Now that we have the means to obtain a tone value, what can we do with it? There are many possibilities but, to explore just one, the program Soundscan allows us to graphically represent tones applied to the ear socket, and although written in Basic it is still fast enough to be acceptable.

Type in and save the program with: SAVE "SOUNDSCAN" LINE 100

On running, three modes of display will be available. These follow the form of normal graph, histogram-type graph, and a point-plot display. Options exist within the program to freeze and restart the display, and to change display mode.

Lines 250-275 contain the main routine, with the Let = USR Tone in line 255 collecting the tone value from the machine-code routine. Lines 400-410 Poke the machine code into memory. Users of 48K machines should change line 405 to Let Tone = USR "a" if they wish to assign the machine code to the UDG area of memory. This has the advantage that a change of RAMtop is not necessary.

Ideally, a cassette recorder with some form of monitoring facility should be used as it enables the user to listen to the cassette output and observe the display simultaneously, which reinforces the effects of the program. The display is particularly impressive if used in Mode 1, i.e., normal graph mode using a music cassette containing a prominent female vocalist as the sound source.

100 REM SOUNDSCANNER

101 REM T.COOK 1983

102 DEF FN A(L)=1+INT (.5+L/30)

103 GD SUB 405

105 GO TO 200

110 DRAW INK FN A(L); X-N,-L+Y: LET X=N: LET Y=L:: RET URN

120 DRAW INK FN A(L); O,-L: RETURN

200 PAPER O: INK 7: BRIGHT 1: CLS

210 PRINT AT 1,9; INVERSE 1; "SOUND SCANNER"

215 PRINT AT 3,1; "This program gives a graphical resentation of audio signals applied to the Spectrum's 'EAR' socket."

220 PRINT AT 8,1; " Insert a cassette (e.g musicsette), start tape and select one of the following opt ions:"

225 PRINT AT 13,8; "1) NORMAL GRAPH"; AT 15,8; "2) BLOCK GRAPH"; AT 17,8; "3) DOT GRAPH"

230 INPUT INVERSE 1; "ENTER OPTION (1-3) ";Q: IF Q<1 0 R Q>3 THEN GO TO 230

250 CLS : PRINT AT 0,7; INVERSE 1; "'SPACE' TO FREEZE" : LET I\$="": LET X=0: LET Y=0

255 FOR N=0 TO 255 STEP 4: LET L=USR TONE: PLOT N.L

260 IF Q<3 THEN GO SUB 100+(Q*10)

265 LET I\$=INKEY\$: IF I\$=" " THEN GO TO 300

270 NEXT N

275 GO TO 250

300 PRINT AT 0,5; INVERSE 1; "M=MENU R=RESTART E=END ": PAUSE 0

305 LET I\$=INKEY\$: IF I\$="M" THEN RUN

310 IF I\$="R" THEN GO TO 270

315 IF I\$="E" THEN STOP

320 GO TO 300

400 DATA 1,0,255,17,0,0,219,254,203,119,32,1,19,16,24 7,66,75,201

405 LET TONE=32600

410 FOR N=TONE TO TONE+17: READ D: POKE N,D: NEXT N: RETURN

Acetrace

Alan Wagstaff, Richmond. North Yorkshire.

333

HERE ARE TWO assembly-language programs for the BBC Micro. They can come in very handy when faced with bugs in long Basic programs.

The Trace facility on the BBC Micro is

useful but there are occasions when one is left gazing at a screenful of line numbers, obscuring the program display and leaving one feeling a trifle non plussed.

Acetrace displays the Basic line number which is about to be executed in the top left hand corner of the screen. There is then a pause for about 2.5 seconds, which can be cut short by pressing a key, then the line is

(continued on next page)

SOFTWARE FILE

(continued from previous page)

The assembly-language program produces machine code starting at address D01 hex. It also sets up function key 9 to enable Oswrch to be vectored to the machine code and also switch on the Trace facility.

To use Acetrace, enter and run the listing. Then enter New and load in the Basic program to be debugged. Press function key 9 then run the Basic program. When you have seen enough, press Break followed by Old. This restores the normal Oswrch vector. Acetrace is still available by pressing function key 9 provided this has not been altered.

Dynvars produces a machine-code routine starting at D01 hex. This code, when called, prints the names of all dynamic variables used by a Basic program.

To use it, enter the listing and run it. Then enter and run the Basic program. Entering

CALL &D01

will list the Basic programs variables.

30REM ACETRACE 250STA M+2 40REM A. WAGSTAFF 260LDA #4 270JSR oswrch 1983 50oswrch=&EOA4 280. tab 60osbyte=&FFF4 290LDA #31 70FOR F%=0 TO 1 300JSR oswrch BOP%=&DO1 310LDA #0 90[OPT F%*2 320JSR oswrch 100STA M 330JSR oswrch 110CMP #91 340BEQ arec 120BNE space 350. space 360CMP #32 130LDA #1 140STA M+1 370BNE arec 150LDA #134 380LDA M+1 160JSR osbyte 390BEQ arec 170STX M+3 400LDA #0 180STY M+4 410STA M+1 190LDA #117 420LDA #129 200JSR osbyte 430LDX #255 **210TXA** 440LDY #0 220AND #32 450JSR osbyte 230BEQ tab 460LDA #31 240LDA #1 470JSR oswrch

480LDA M+3 490JSR oswrch 500LDA M+4 510JSR oswrch 520LDA M+2 530BEQ zera 540LDA #5 550JSR oswrch 560LDA #0 570STA M+2 580.zera 590LDA #0 600BEQ fini 610. arec 620LDA M 630.fini 640JMP oswrch 650] 660M=P% 670NEXT 6B0*KEY9?&20E=1:?& 20F=&D:MTRACE ONIM

Dragon Artist.	300 IF L=1 AND D=0 THEN LINE(CX,CY)-(PX,PY),PSET
1 PCLEAR4	310 IF B=1 THEN LINE(CX,CY)-(PX,PY),PSET,BF
10 L=1:B=0:PM=4:SC=1:FC=1	315 AUDIOOFF
20 D=1	320 GOTD40
SO REM *** DRAW AT SMALL ***	330 CLS
O PHODE PH, 1: SCREENI, SC	340 PRINT"SAVE OR LOAD (S/L)"
O PX=JDYSTK(O)+4	350 Es=INKEYs: IF Es="THEN 350
0 PY=J0YSTK(1)+3	360 INPUT NAME OF FILE INMS
O De=INKEYs	370 IF ESC>"S"AND ESC>"L"THEN 40
O IF GO="C" THEN PCLS(CC)	380 ST=1536
0 IF Q#="," THENR=SQR((CX-PX)^2+(CY-PY)^2)	390 IF PM=1 OR 2 THEN EN=4607
OO PSET (PX.PY.CC)	400 IF PM=3 DR 4 THEN EN=7679
10 PRESET (PX,PY)	410 CLS
20 IF D#="L"THEN L=1:B=0	420 PRINT@202, "READY RECORDER"
30 IF OS="O"THEN 330	430 MOTORON
	435 IF E#="L" THEN 500
40 IF Qs="B"THEN L=0;B=1	
SO IF Q#="5"THEN SC=ABS(SC-1)	440 X#=INKEY#
60 IF Q#="D"THEN D=1	460 IF E#="B" THEN PRINT@234, "SAVING "; NM#
70 IF OF-"U"THEN D-0	465 IF X#=""THEN 440
BO IF Q#=". "THEN CIRCLE(CX,CY),R,CC	466 AUDIDON
90 IF Qs="1"THEN PM=1	470 PHODE PH,1:SCREEN SC
00 IF D#="2"THEN PM=2	490 CSAVEMNHI, ST, EN, EN-ST
10 IF D#="3"THEN PM=3	494 GOTO40
20 IF Qs="4"THEN PM=4	500 IF Es="L"THENPRINT@234, "LOADING "; NMs
30 IF Q#="0" THEN CX=PX1CY=PY	505 As=INKEYS: IF As=""THEN 505
40 IF Q#="P"THEN PAINT (PX, PY+1),CC,CC	510 PMODE PM, 1: SCREEN1, SC
50 PE=PEEK (65280)	520 IF Es="L"THEN PCLS
60 IF PE=126 OR PE=254 THEN CC=CC+1	521 AUDIOON
770 IF CC>8 THEN CC=0	530 CLOADMNM\$
280 DRAW"C"+STR\$(CC)	540 AUDIOOFF
290 IF L=IAND D=1 THEN LINE-(PX.PY).PEET	600 BOTD40

Auto line number

D North, Ripley, Derby.

LUUSTEETE

THESE PROGRAMS produce automatic line numbering for either the 48K or 16K Spectrum. The machine-code program is stored above RAMtop and is called automatically by diverting the interrupt which occurs every 20ms.

The following system variables are used in the program:

ECHO E, LAST K, FLAGS, E PPC and KSTATE A checksum is used in each program to warn if there is an error in the Data lines. If the error-in-data message appears when the program is run then carefully check through these lines correcting any errors, and run the program again, until the instructions appear.

To turn the program on:

RANDOMISE USR 65121

or 32340 for 16K machines. Pressing Enter again should produce 0010 for the first line number. If at any stage you wish to alter the next line number then delete the number printed and type in the next number required after which automatic numbering will continue from this line. The step between line numbers can be altered by Poking the required value into 65192 - 32411 for 16K.

If the Enter key is held down the routine will rapidly run through the line numbers. This can be used if you want to delete part of a program, by entering the first line number to be deleted and simply holding Enter down until the last number to be deleted is reached.

If the line number exceeds 9999 a colon -: - will be printed in the first digit position to warn that the line cannot be entered.

To turn the routine off delete the last (continued on page 231)

Artist

R Billingham, Upper Bangor, Gwynedd.

DRAGON

THIS IS A COMPLICATED Artist program allowing use of all the Dragon's graphics modes and all colours the pictures can be Saved or Loaded from tape under program control. The joystick moves the flashing point cursor around the screen.

Control keys.

Clears screen to present colour. Changes hi-res screen - 0 or 1.

1.2.3.4. Chooses resolution - mode. Sets a fixed reference point. Draws line between the last cursor

position and the present one. 0 Draws cursors with L.

Is the opposite of O and as Undraw which joins all cursor points with the fixed point from O.

Box - alternative to line L draws boxes to last point etc. Draws circle centre 0 and radius to

present point in present colour.

Fire button Changes colour (0-8). Part area in colour up to border of present colour.

Output/input screens to tap.

Auto line 16K. 1010 CLEAR 32329: PRINT 1020 LET C=0 RESTORE 1080 FOR N=32330 TO 32486 READ A POKE N A LET C=C+A: NEXT N: IF C:>173 48 THEN PRINT FLASH 1, "ERROR IN DATA": STOP o : " Excellence soldies

Auto line 48K. 1010 CLEAR 85110: PRINT 1020 LET C=0: RESTORE 1060 FOR N=65111 TO 65267; READ A: POKE N A: LET C=C+A NEXT N IF C'190 86 THEN PRINT FLASH 1; ERROR IN DATA STOP 1030 PRINT AT 0.0:

NUMBER ROUTNEED

1040 PRINT PRINT

R 65121 TO TURN ON

R 65111 TO TURN OF **AUTO LINE RANDOMIZE US RANDOMIZE US 1090 DATA 1.24 252.205.209.254.2 54.3.40.57.1.156.255.205.209.254.2 .254.2.40.47.1.246.255.205.209.2 .254.2.40.47.1.246.255.205.209.2 .254.2.40.47.1.255.255.205.209.2 .254.2.41.40.37.1.255.255.205.209.2 .254.2.54.2.9 .254.2.1.254.29.33.1.255.255.205.209.2 .254.2.254.201.30.209.225.237.66 .61.195.48.229.33.5.92.119.55.59 .92.233.239.33.599.225.241.251 .94.254.201.193.209.225.241.251

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and COPY are used to print on any
CENTRONICS type printer. All ASCII
characters are generated and

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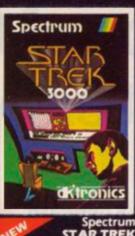
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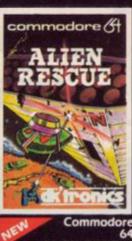
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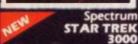


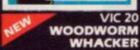




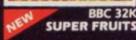








ALIEN RESCUE

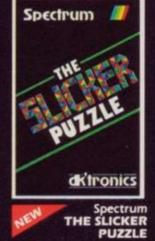


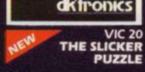




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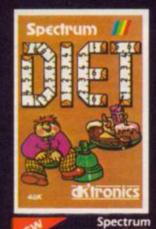
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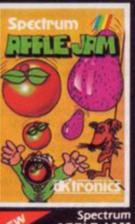


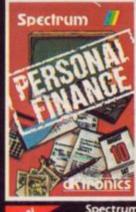
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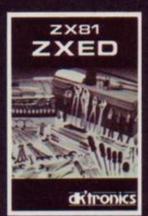
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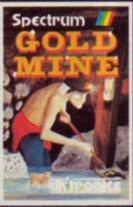
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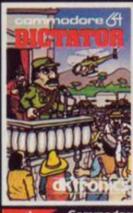
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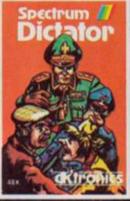
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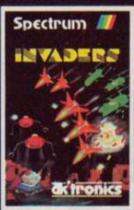
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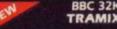


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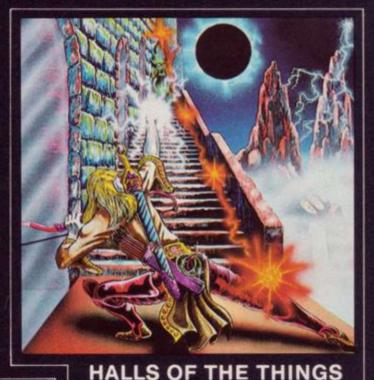
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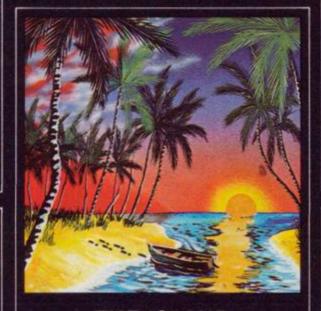
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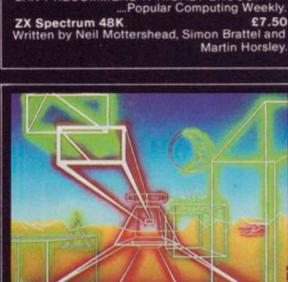
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FTWARE FILE

(continued from page 226)

number printed and type RANDOMISE USR 65111

or 32330 for 16K. This should always be done before using any other program which uses

When the program has been successfully

SAVE "AUTO LINE 48K" CODE 65111,157

SAVE "AUTO LINE 16K" CODE 32330,157

This can then be quickly loaded when required, but remember to set RAMtop first to protect the program. Alternatively, the

program can be loaded from the Basic listing, and after turning on the routine the Basic lines can be quickly removed by the method described. Incidentally, it is possible to have program names longer than 10 characters by using keywords in the name. These are only available in the extended mode.

Stringdump

G Jones, Wiltshire. VIG-20

STRINGDUMP IS A non-relocatable machinecode routine which will print out all the string variables currently used by the Vic-20, except those stored in arrays. It is loaded by the Basic loader program into memory starting at decimal location 7424 - just below the screen memory - and is protected from the Basic program and its variables by lowering the top of memory pointer. After the machine code has been loaded, the Basic loader will New itself. The routine may then be called by SYS 7424 when needed.

Lines 10 to 50 set up a two-byte pointer to point to the end of program/start of variables by Poking 251, Peek (45) and Poking 252, Peek, (46) - in machine code. Lines 60 to 230 check for a string variable by searching through memory to find a valid sequence of characters corresponding to the name of a

POKE36879,8:PRINT"#" 2 POKE36879,8:PKINI" "":PRINT" "":PRINT" "":PRINT" "MANNKLOADING M/C)"
5 POKE55,255:POKE56,28:POKE7423,0
10 DATA162,2,181,44,149,250,202,208,249,24,144,68
20 DATA32,95,29,32,106,29,160,6,201,91,176,244,201,41,144,240,133,253,32,106,29 30 DATA201,128,144,229,201,218,176,225,233,127,133,254 40 DATA165,253,32,122,242,165,254,32,122,242,169,36,32,122,242,169,61,32,122,24 50 DATA32,117,29,160,2,32,95,29,169,13,32,122 50 DATA242,165,252,197,48,144,6,165,251,197,47,144,176,76,103,228 70 DATA192,0,240,6,32,106,29,136,208,250,96 30 DATA162,0,161,251,230,251,208,2,230,252,96 90 DATA32,106,29,168,132,0,32,106,29,133,253,32,106,29,133,254,164,0,192,0,208, 100 DATA160.0,177,253,200,32,122,242,196,0,144,246,32,225,255,240,1,96,76,103,2

string and printing them, followed by "\$=".

Control then passes to the routine Stringprint which calculates the start address of the string and prints it, the length of which is determined by the contents of the Y register. After the string is printed, a carriage return is printed to move down a line and then a check is made to ensure that the end of variables address has not been reached.

If it has, then the program is terminated in line 430 by jumping back to Basic. Otherwise, the whole process of searching for and printing a string is repeated. Also included in Stringdump is a means to Stop the program at will by pressing the stop-key. This is desirable when dumping a lot of strings since the string you wish to examine may scroll off the top of the screen unless the listing can be stopped.

Graffiti

lan Fildes, Wheldrake.

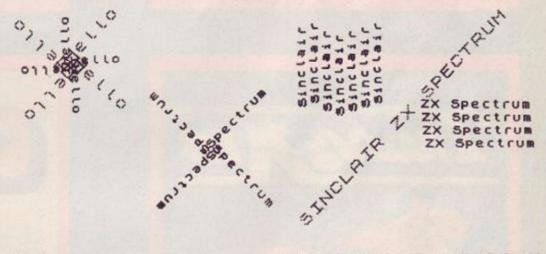
SPECTRUM

GRAFFITI IS A program for the 48K Spectrum which lets you write on the screen in any of eight directions.

The program works by printing your message at the bottom of the screen in the same colour as the paper so it cannot be seen. This part of the screen is now scanned by the point command and if this gives a positive result the computer jumps to a special plot routine depending on which way up you wish to write.

A problem arises when you wish to ask the user a question, you have to write to the screen and disrupt the display. So two short machinecode routines are used to move the screen around in memory.





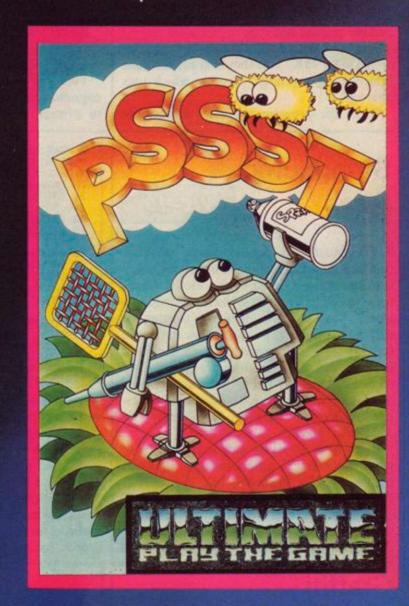
C; m\$
150 FOR n=0 TO LEN m\$*8
170 FOR 0=0 TO 7
180 IF POINT (n,0)=1 THEN GO SU
8 1000+10*8
190 NEXT 0: NEXT n
200 RANDOMIZE USR 40000
210 GO TO 80
1000 REM PLOTS
1010 PLOT 0-X, n+y: RETURN
1020 PLOT n+X-0,n+y: RETURN
1030 PLOT n+X-0,n+y: RETURN
1040 PLOT n+X-0,n+y: RETURN
1040 PLOT n+X-0,n-y-0: RETURN
1050 PLOT n-X-0,n-y-0: RETURN
1050 PLOT n-X-0,n-y-0: RETURN
1050 PLOT n-X-0,n-y-0: RETURN
1050 PLOT n-X-0,0-y-n: RETURN
105 7010 PRINT ''' This program lets you write on the screen in 8 directions."
7020 PRINT "The screen can be COPYed to the ZX-printer." "To save the screen being de stroyed by prompts and quest- ions from the computer, the screen is copied into ram and brought back down after the questions have been asked."
7030 PRINT There are 8 directions that you can write in and they go from 1 to 8 clockwise." 7010 PRINT 7040 RETURN 8000 PRINT #0; "Paper Colour ?10 8010 LET as=INKEYS

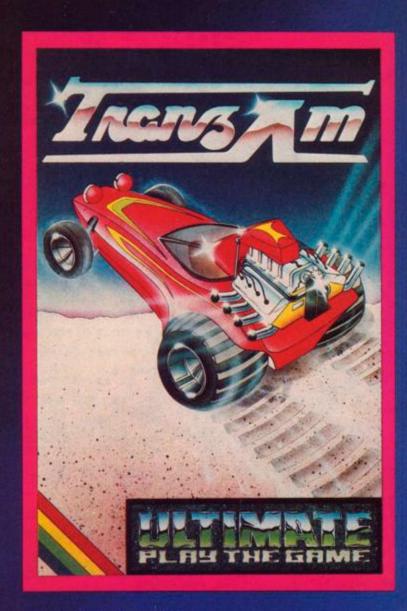
8020 IF a\$>"9" OR a\$("0" THEN GO TO 8010 8030 PAPER VAL a\$: CLS : FOR n=0 TO 100: NEXT n: LET c=VAL a\$: CLS : RANDOMIZE USR 40000 8040 PRINT #0; "Ink Colour 7(0 TO a\$>"9" OR a\$ ("0" THEN GO 8050 LET a\$=INKEY\$
8050 IF a\$>"9" OR a\$("0" THEN GO
TO 8050
8070 INK VAL a\$: CLS : FOR D=0 T
0 100: NEXT D
8080 PRINT #0; "Border Colour ?(1 8080 PRINT #0; "Border Colour fill TO 30 PRINT #0; "Border Colour fill 80 PRINT #0; "Border Colour fill 80 PRINT #0; "OR ask ("0" THEN GO TO 80 PRINT "MENU" 1.Ch 8110 BORDER VAL as: FOR n=0 TO 1 90 PRINT "MENU" 1.Ch 8110 BORDER VAL as: FOR n=0 TO 1 80 PRINT "MENU" 4.5 AVE screen to tape. ""S. None of these 81 PRINT #0; "1,2,3 or 4" 90 PRINT #0; "1,2,3 or COPY 9050 IF as="5" THEN INPUT "file name ?";as: RANDOMIZE USR 40012 SAVE asSCREENS 9070 FOR n=0 TO 100: NEXT n: RE URN

JET PAC – 16/48K ZX Spectrum or 8K Expanded VIC 20

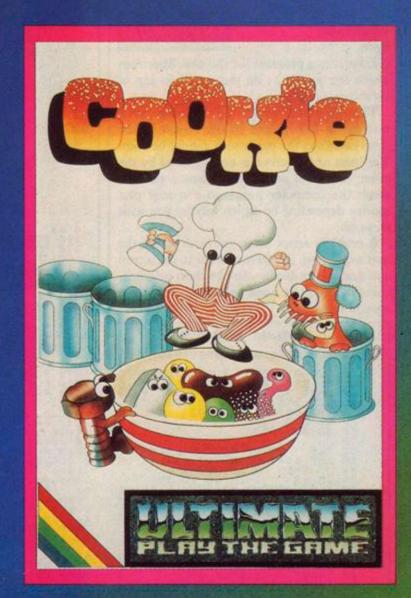


PSSST -19/48KZXSpectrum



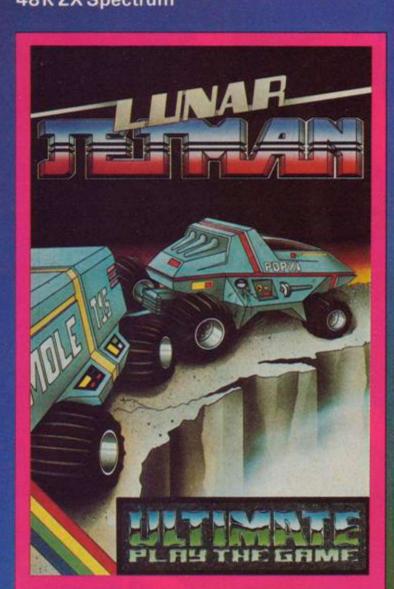


TRANZAM — 16/48LZX Spectrum



COOKIE – 16/48KZX Spectrum

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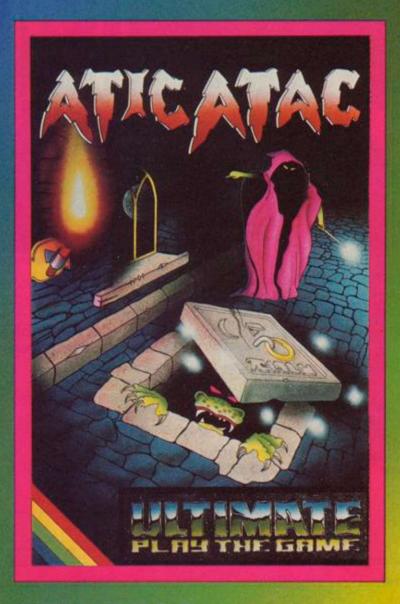
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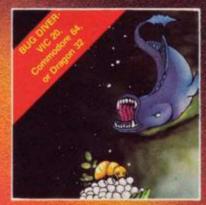
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COMPETITION CORNER

If you want to set a competition for Competition Corner, remember that the simplest solution should be calculable by a short program rather than by any other form of reckoning.

COMPETITION RESULTS

OCTOBER'S COMPETITION offered Atari's 600XL as prize. Contestants were asked to solve the crossword and finish the sentence, "I would excel with the new Atari because...

Naturally there were dozens of "xlellents" and "atarifics" as in B. Jeeves' "the XLent XL makes it easy to XL" or S. Brewell's "it's atarific computer with an extra large future". These we thought were a little too obvious. Other entries smacked of the world of the advertising jingle. R. Buttery suggested, "it's the ideal suitor for student or tutor" while D. Gilbert wrote, "for computer needs . . . Atari leads"

Many of the most entertaining entries were also the most irrelevant. C. Harris told us, "I am a binary based being from Betelgeuse". To which the reply might be: fascinating but how does Atari enter into it? Even more off- | awarded the prize to Les Isbister, 1

beam was M. Jasztal's "Mad frogs and Englishmen play well on the 800's son"

Some entries free-associated with abandon. The sequence of ideas seemed to be: XL600, rode the 600 ... Light Brigade! This produced J. Wilkinson's "the noble 600 leads the charge of the byte brigade".

On a slightly saner note R. Ford offered the crisp, "my ZX is OK but an XL would be KO"; S. Crump hoped he would have "wintry nights on an Atari - only the start of an I.C. safari"; and N. Milne pointed out that "with an Antic or two you miss the queue for the 6502"

Choosing from among so many entries would have proved tricky indeed. Fortunately, Atari itself saved us the trouble by exercising the right as prize-giver to pick the winner. We submitted a shortlist of some 20 entries. The company

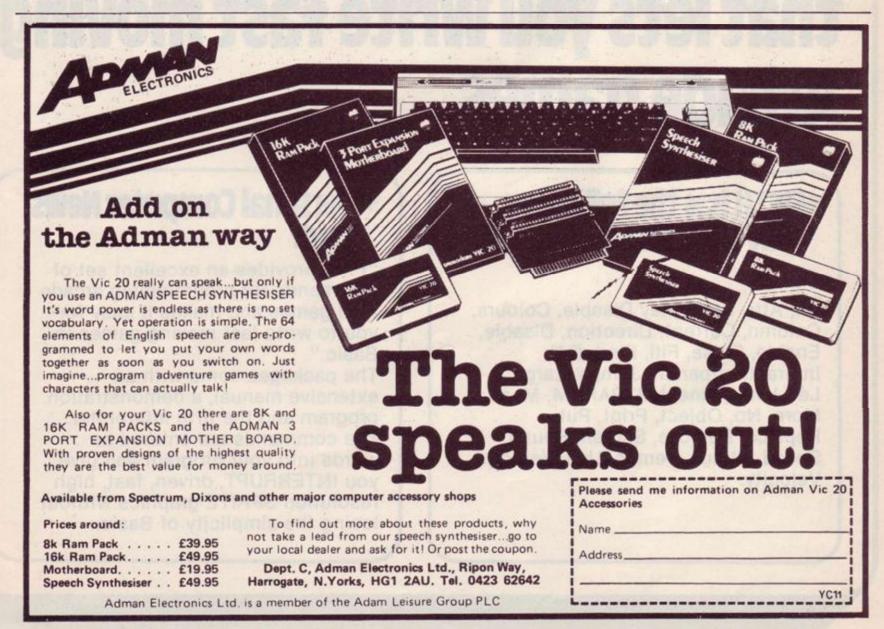


Mulberry Close, Biggleswade, | Bedfordshire, who said "its expandability takes the growing pains out of computing". Navy man R. Mills came a close second with "A tar I am, at sea I am, bored I am". There were only a few correct answers to October's Woodworm puzzle.

The first picked from the possibilities.

competition bag came from Andrew Scott, 55 Huntley Grove, Peterborough.

The maximum variety Willy the Woodworm can enjoy is 39. This total can be arrived at by following a number of different routes. The sequences 9,2,7,12,5,8,3 and 1,7,13,9,2,6,11,4 are two



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90 LET Hi =0: LET Z=1: LET SCOT 100 CLS : PRINT " HI: "; Hi; TAB 20; "SCORE: "; SCOTE 110 PLOT 0,163: DRAW 255,0 120 LET a=4000: REH LIMIT a 130 LET a=6000: REH INTERACT a 140 GO SUB 3000 150 LET X=0: LET y=50: REH HOVE Plane, X, y 160 LET X=255: LET a=30: REH HO VE Enemy X, X 170 GO SUB 2000: GO TO 170 1000 LET a=0: LET b=176 1010 REH HOVE Plane, a, b ENABLE P lane
1020 REM ALL Bomb\MOUE Bomb,a,b
1030 REM ENABLE Bomb
1040 REM HOUE Enemy,a,b\ENABLE E
1050 CLS 1050 CLS 1050 FOR a = 0 TO 7 1070 PRINT PAPER a; REM FILL 1080 BEEP .1,a*5: NEXT a 1090 PAUSE 25: FOR a = 50 TO 0 STE P -1: BEEP .005,a: NEXT a 1100 FOR C = 0 TO 1000 STEP 20 1110 LET a = 10: LET b = 3: LET d = 50 1120 REM SOUND a,b,c,d 1130 NEXT C 1140 LET a \$ = "SCORE: "+STR\$ SCORE 1150 LET x = 0: LET y = 50: LET t = 2: LET w = 3 TEMPS\LARGE 1150 LET x=0: LET y=50: LET t=2:
LET w=3
1160 REM TEMPS\LARGE
1170 IF Hi>Score THEN GO TO 1200
1180 LET Hi=Score: LET a\$="A New
HIGH SCORE"
1190 LET x=60: LET y=100: LET t=
2: LET w=1: PRINT INK 1;: REM LA
RGE
1200 PRINT #0, FLASH 1;" A
New Level? [y/n]
1210 IF INKEY\$()"" THEN GO TO 12
10
1220 IF INKEY\$="D" OR INKEY\$="N" 1510 IF INKEYS ()"" THEN GO TO 15 10 1520 IF INKEY\$="9" OR INKEY\$="Y" THEN LET SCORE=0: LET Z=1: GO T 0 100 1530 IF INKEY\$<>"0" AND INKEY\$<> "N" THEN GO TO 1520 1540 LET 3\$="OK": LET 9=16: LET 1=22 1550 CL5 1560 LET x=0: LET y=0: REH TEMPS LARGE 1570 LET a=21: LET b=31: REH GET x/y,a/b/a 1560 FOR a=0 TO 21: LET b=a*.687 1590 REM PUT a,b,a\$
1600 PAUSE 5: NEXT a
1610 LET a=INT (RND*8): PAPER a:
BORDER a: CLS: BEEP 1,-10
1620 GO TO 1610:
2000 LET a\$=INKEY\$: IF a\$="" THE
N RETURN
2010 IF a\$="6" THEN LET y=y+1+(L
evel(2): LET Score=Score-2
2020 IF a\$="7" THEN LET y=y-1-(L
evel(2): LET Score=Score-10

2025 PRINT AT 0,26;500re;" "
2030 IF y (20 THEN LET y=20
2032 IF y>168 THEN LET y=168
2035 REM MOVE Plane, COLUMN Plane 2040 IF as (>"0" THEN RETURN 2050 REM USE BOBB, Z 2050 LET z=z+1: IF z=4 THEN LET 2=1 2070 REH LET a=LINE Plane\LET b= COLUMN Plane\LET c=LINE Bomb 2075 IF c<>176 THEN RETURN 2080 LET a=a+10: LET c=(INT ((c+ 4)/8))-32*(c>250): REH MOVE Bomb 4)/8))-32*(C)250): REH MOVE BOBE
by
2090 RETURN
3000 FOR a=2 TO 31: LET b=INT (R
ND*10)+1: IF RND>.8 THEN GO TO 3
3010 LET d=INT (RND*5): FOR C=21
TO 21-b STEP -1
3020 PRINT AT C,a; INK d; BRIGHT
RND; "B": BEEP .005, C+25: NEXT C
3030 PRINT AT C,a; INK d; "B"
3040 NEXT a: RETURN
4000 REH LMTPARAM
4010 IF b="Plane" THEN GO TO 50 4015 IF hs="enemy" THEN GO TO 45 Sese LET Score=Score-1: PRINT AT 0,26;Score; CONTINUE SEM LET a=176: LET b=0: REM MOUE Plane, b,a\ENABLE Plane SSE REH ALL BOBB MOVE BOBB, b, a NABLE BODD 530 POKE 23681,0: CL5 540 LET a = "YOU HAVE LANDED" 550 LET w = 2: LET t = 1: LET x = 0: \$540 LET w=2: LET t=1: LET x=0:

\$550 LET w=2: LET t=1: LET x=0:

\$550 LET SCORE=SCORE+200

\$550 GO TO 1090

\$6000 REH INTPARAM

\$6010 IF h\$="bomb" OR i\$="bomb" T

HEN GO TO 7000

\$6030 LET p=255: LET o=50: REM HO

UE enemy,p,o\ENABLE enemy

\$6040 CONTINUE

7000 IF h\$="enemy" OR i\$="enemy"

THEN GO TO 7500

THEN LET T=CULUMN BOMB\HOUSE BOMB,CO

LUMN BOMB,O\ENABLE BOMB\HOUSE BOMB DMN BOBS, O(ENHBLE BUSINESS)

7820 LET q=INT (q/8): LET r=INT (r/8): IF r)31 THEN LET r=31

7825 IF q/21 THEN LET q=21

7830 LET p=q+INT (RND+5)+1: IF p

221 THEN LET p=21

7835 FOR o=q TO 10 STEP -1: PRIN T AT o,r-1+(r=0); "; AT o,r;"; "; AT o,r+1-(r=31); ": BEEP .01,o+

30: NEXT o

7840 FOR o=q TO p: PRINT AT o,r1+(r=0); "; AT o,r;"; "; AT o,r+1-(r=0); "; "; AT o,r+1-(r=0); "; "; AT o,r-1+(r=0); "; "; AT o,r-1+(r=0); "; "; AT o,r-1+(r=0); "; "; AT o,r-1+(r=0); "; "; AT o,r-1+(r=0); " 07070 LET SCORE=SCORE+8-(Level+2):
PRINT AT 0,26; SCORE;"
7000 CONTINUE
7500 LET 0=50: REH HOUE Enemy,CO
LUMN ENEMY,O\ENABLE ENEMY
7510 IF h\$="bomb" THEN LET i=h
7520 REH LET p=CURRENT Bomb\USE
Bomb\INOVE Bomb,COLUMN Bomb\O\E
NABLE Bomb\USE Bomb,P
7530 CONTINUE
8000 LET 3*="BOMBER": LET x=0
8010 LET y=0: LET t*2; LET w=5
8020 PRINT PAPER 5; BRIGHT 1;"

3030 REM LARGE
5040 PLOT 0,160: DRAW 255,0
5050 LET a\$=" A Game using"
3050 LET x=0: LET y=25
3050 LET t=1: LET w=2
3060 REM TEMPS\LARGE
8090 PLOT 0,0: DRAW 255,0
8100 DRAW 0,175: DRAW -255,0
8100 DRAW 0,-175: LET t=3
8120 LET w=6: LET x=8
8130 LET y=35: LET x=8"FIFTH"
8140 PRINT INK 2;: REM LARGE
8150 LET x=55: LET y=1
8160 PRINT INK 1;: REM LARGE
8170 LET a\$="By RICHARD TAYLOR"
8160 PRINT AT 12,5; "Key 6 to mo 8200 PRINT AT 14,5; "Key 5 to mov 8200 PRINT AT 16,5; "Key 0 to dro P a bomb" 8220 PRINT AT 18,3; " You must c lear a path to"; AT 19,3; "land on 3230 LET a=3: REM OBJECT Bomb, a 3240 LET a=1: REM OBJECT Plane, a 3250 REM OBJECT Enemy, a 3260 REM PRINT Bomb, a 3270 REM PRINT Plane, a PRINT Ene 3280 LET a=1: LET d=2: LET b=3: LET c=5 3290 REM SPEED BOMB, b, c 8300 REM SPEED Plane, a, a 3310 REM SPEED Enemy, d, a 3320 PRINT INK 2;: REM COLOUR BO 8330 PRINT INK 1; REH COLOUR EN 8340 LET a=7: REM UECTOR Bomb, a 8350 LET a=4: REM UECTOR Plane, a 8360 LET a=12: REM UECTOR Enemy, \$360 LET a=12: REM VECTOR Enemy,
\$370 FOR C=3 TO 13 STEP 10
\$380 FOR a=0 TO 500 STEP 10
\$380 FOR a=0 TO 500 STEP 10
\$3400 REM 50UND b,c,d,a
\$410 NEXT a: NEXT c

420 PAUSE 100
\$430 BEEP 2,-12: BEEP 2,-10: BEEP 2,-12: BEEP 2,-12: BEEP 2,-12: BEEP 2,-5: BEEP 2,-5: BEEP 2,-5: BEEP 2,-5: BEEP 3,-5: BE 3520 PAUSE 5: LET a\$=a\$(2 TO)+a IF INKEYS="" THEN GO TO 851 0
5540 CL5
8550 PRINT AT 17,0; FLASH 1; BRI
GHT 1; "SELECT LEVEL:"
3560 PRINT "0 - Easy"
3570 PRINT "1 - Medium"
5580 PRINT "2 - Hard"
3590 PRINT "3 - Very Hard"
3500 INPUT "Please Select:";Leve 3630 INPUT "Please Select: "; Leve 6610 IF Level(0 OR Level)3 OR Level() INT Level THEN GO TO 8600 5515 REM ERASE Plane 3620 RETURN 9000 RESTORE 9010 FOR a=USR "a" TO USR "a"+47 9020 READ b: POKE a,b: NEXT a 9030 RETURN 9040 DATA 0,0,0,56,124,124,56 9050 DATA 255,153,153,255,255,153,153,255 9090 DATA 0,0,159,196,255,255,4, 9500 SAVE "Bomber" LINE 9990: SA VE "Data"CODE 61030,4338 9990 CLEAR 61029: LOAD ""CODE 9999 RUN

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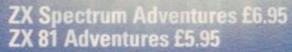
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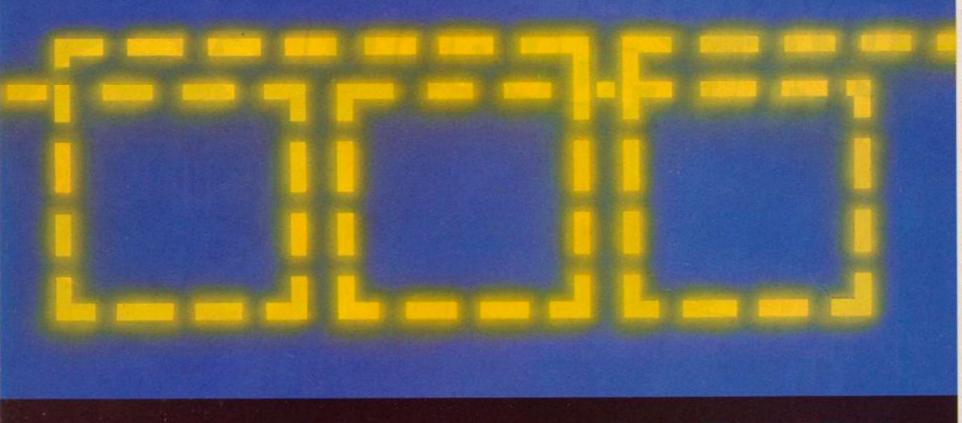
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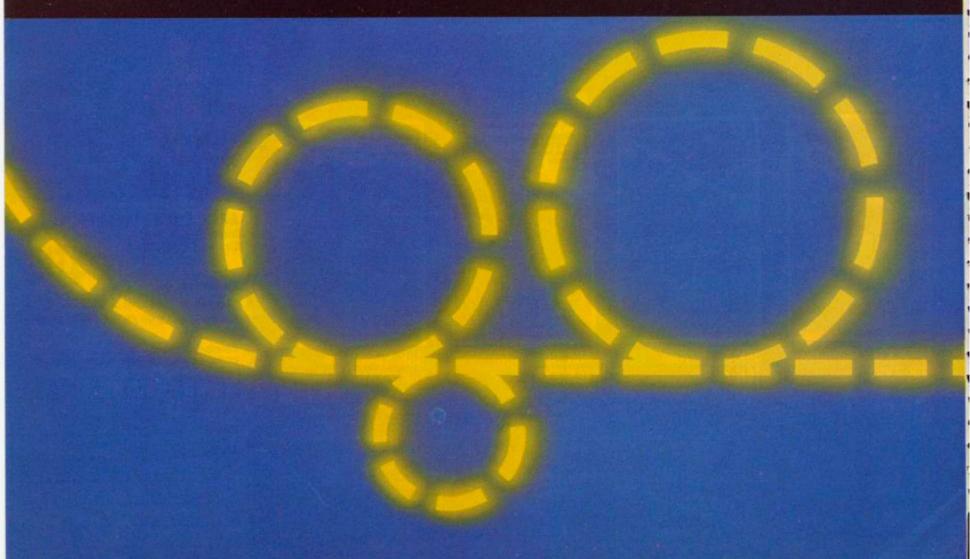
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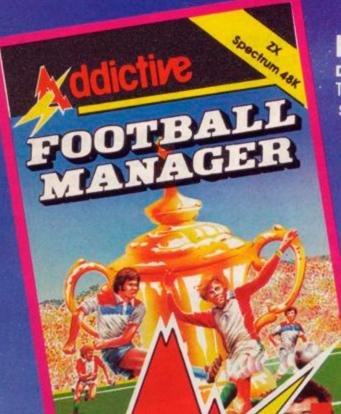
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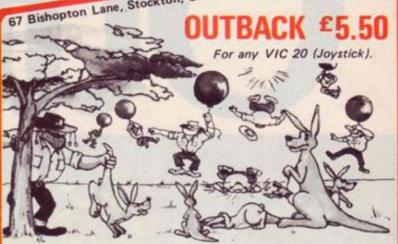
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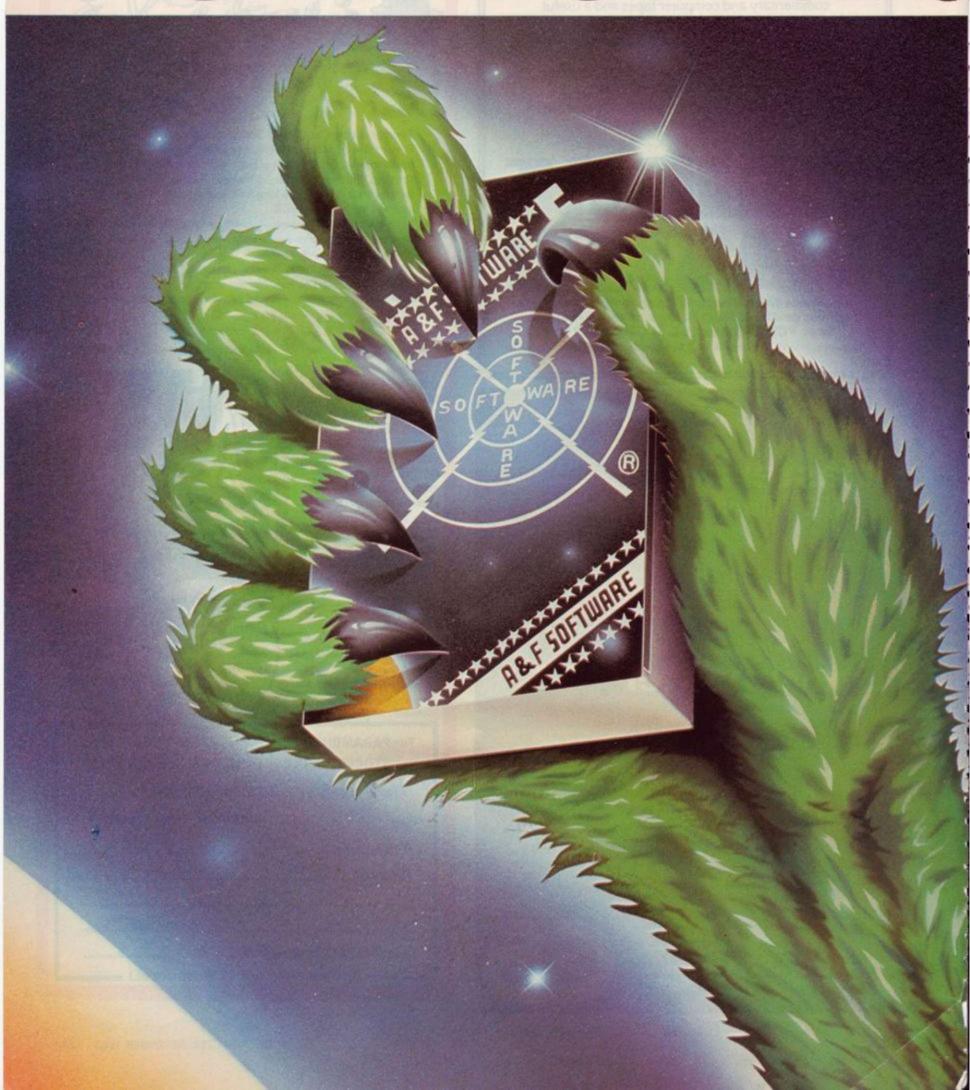
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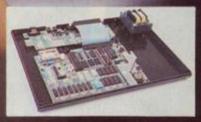
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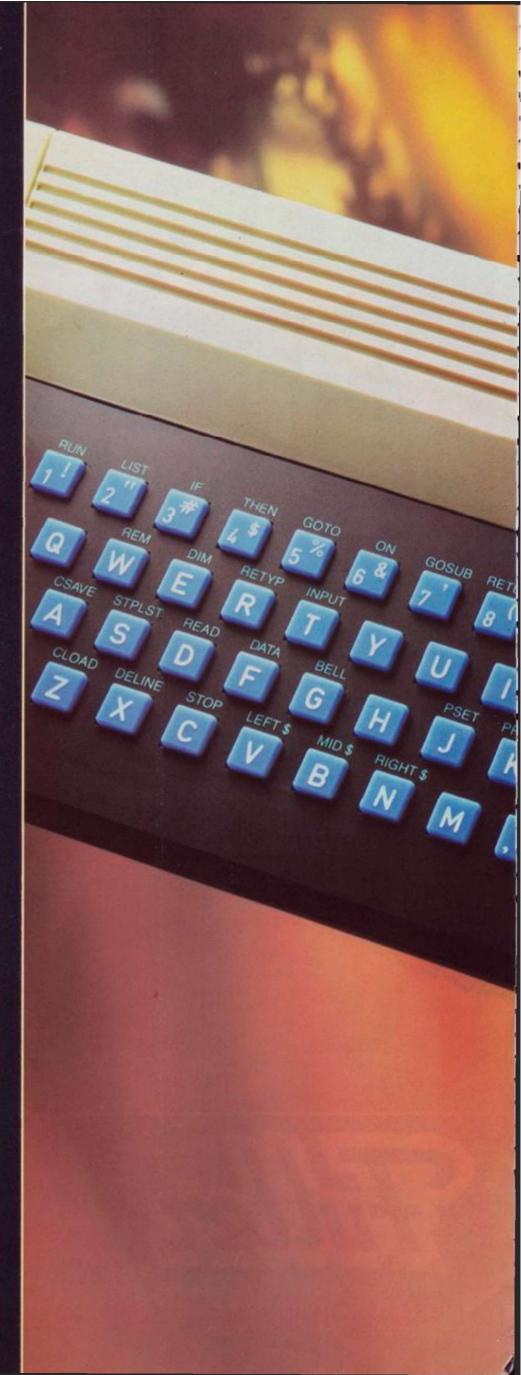
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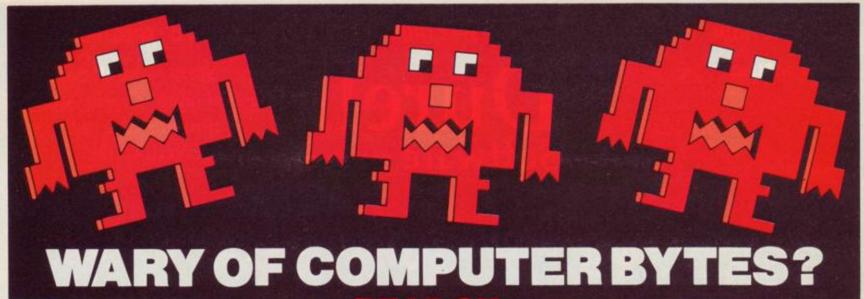


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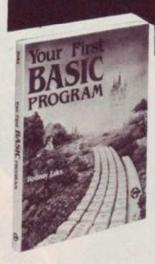






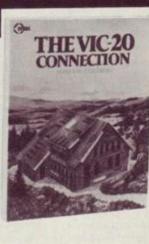












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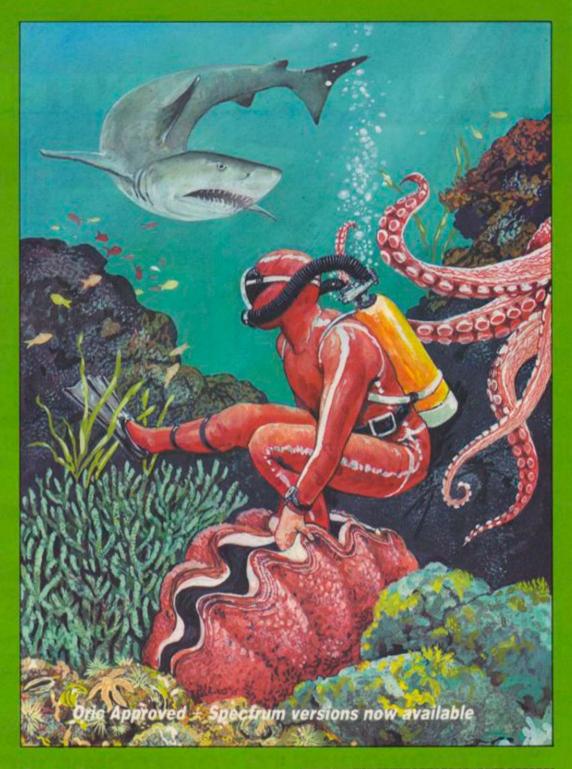
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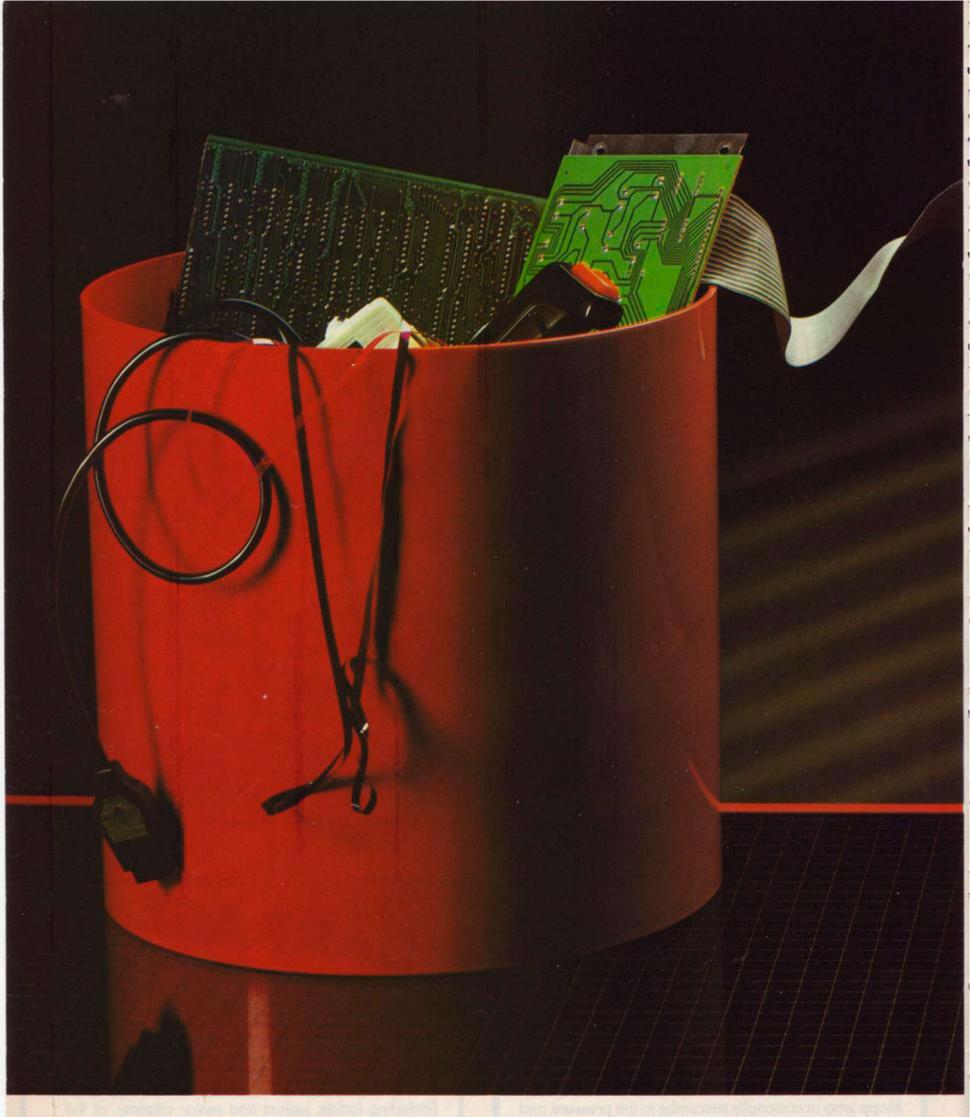
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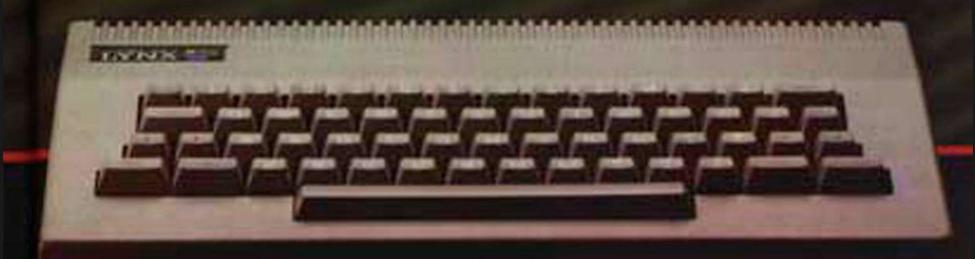
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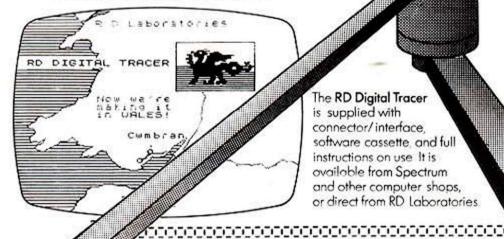
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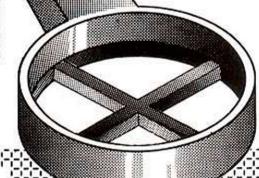
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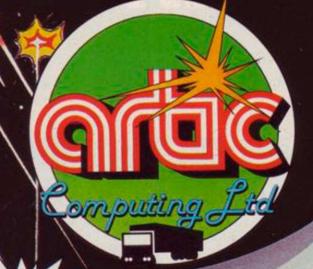
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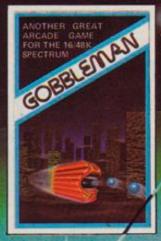
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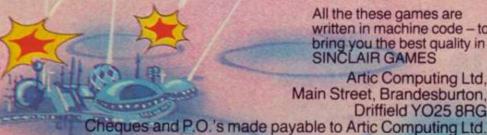
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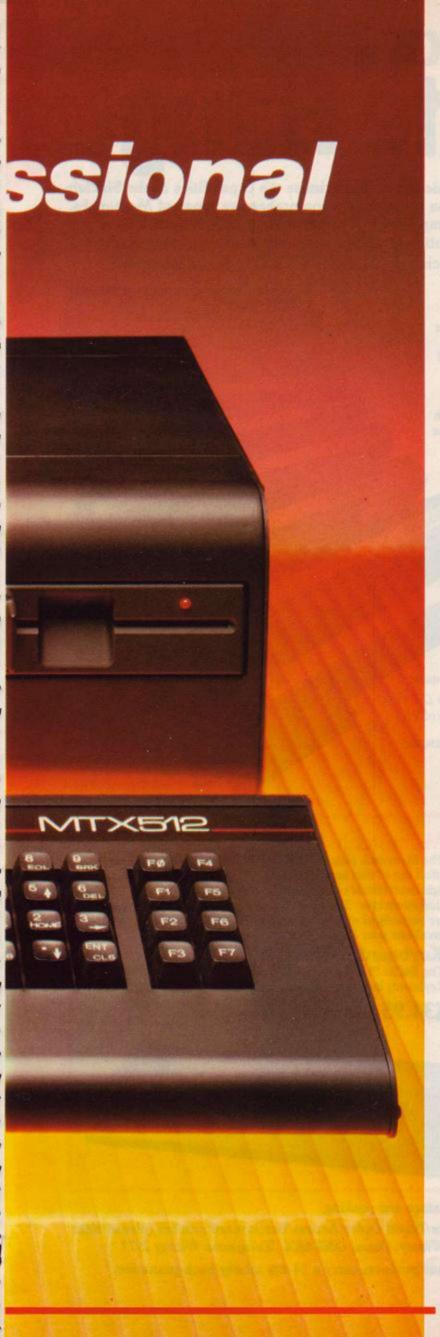
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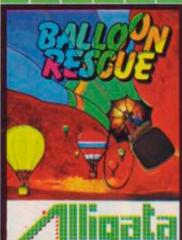
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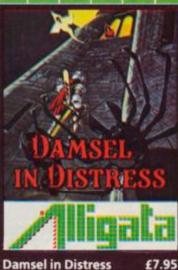
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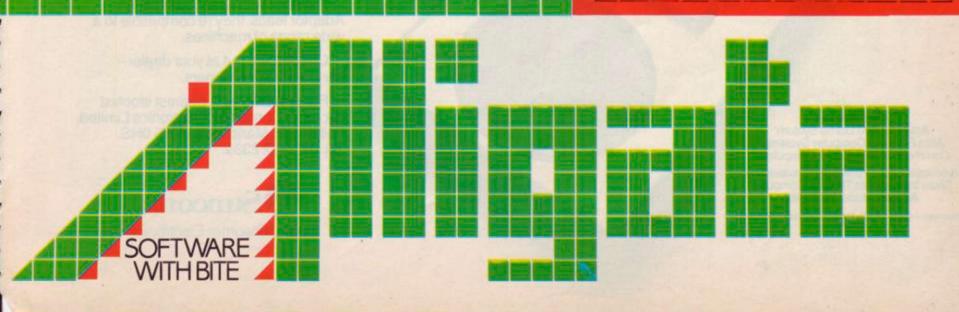
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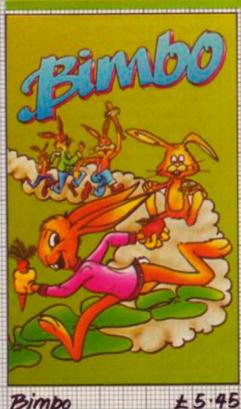
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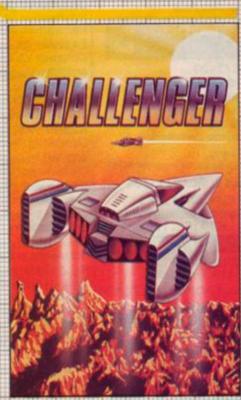
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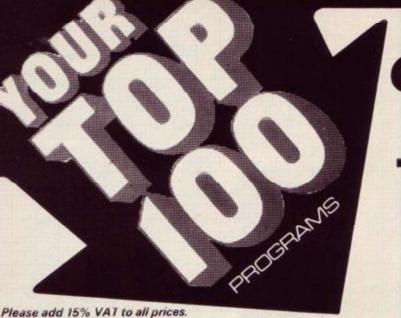
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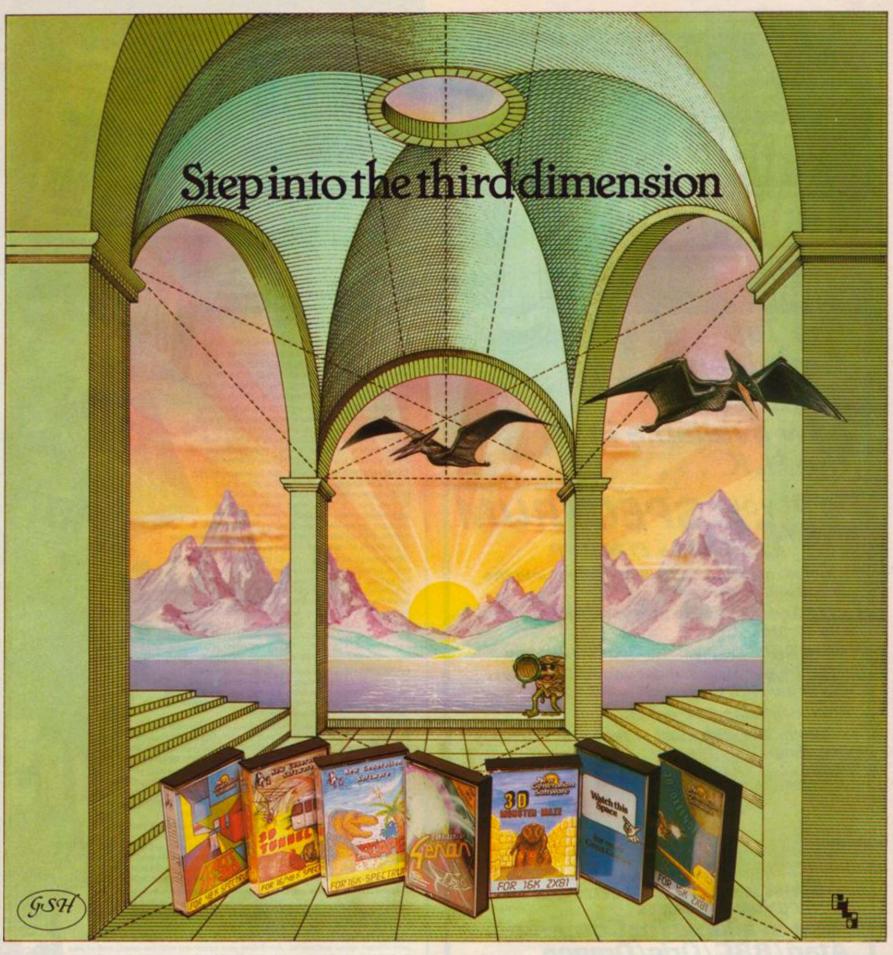
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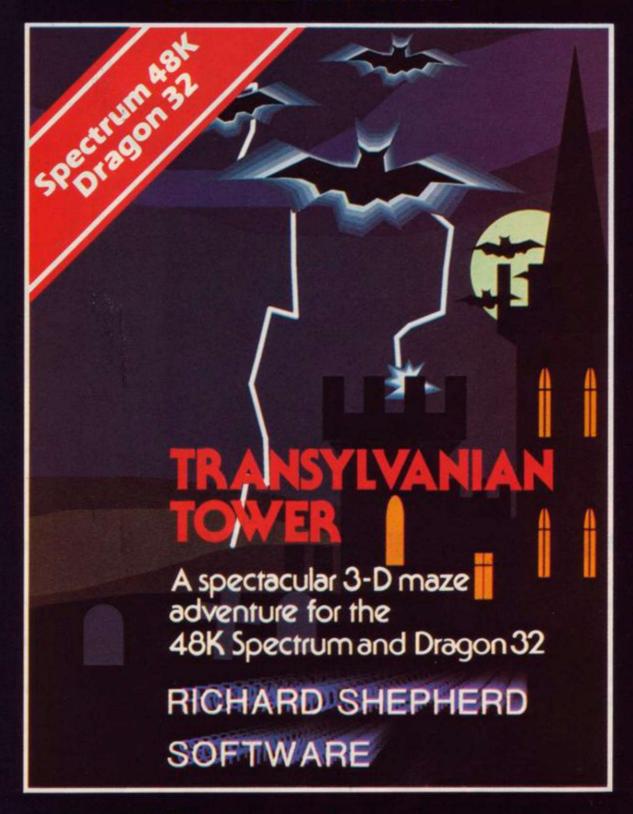
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CHOOSING WARNING A HOME MICRO

Choosing a home micro can be a daunting task to the newcomer, and with an ever increasing number of micros emerging on the market, even up-grading, say, from a ZX81 can be a risky and expensive exercise if the wrong decision is made. It is important to look at the real facts and specifications, and check exactly what you get for your money before choosing your micro-computer system.

THE PITFALLS

"DON'T LET THE ADD ONS ADD UP"

A number of large companies are offering packages that seem to be good value and low cost. These offers usually have a hidden sting inasmuch as the essential accessories such as connection leads, peripherals and software often carry very high cost premiums. e.g. software for low cost hardware usually costs between £29 and £49 for a ROM cartridge!!

CHECK THE QUALITY OF THE PRODUCT.

Raw materials are now an area where corners can be cut, and shoddy workmanship during 'building' can effect the 'up-time' of your unit. Areas to watch out for are unreliable edge connectors, corrosion and poor quality P.C.B.s. Low quality components and bad design will seriously effect the reliability of the end product, and can lead to false economy.

DON'T BUY A GAMES MACHINE

Unless you want just games and nothing else! With a games computer you are limited. Some computers, however, have the advantage of both games facility plus the whole world of computing to explore, as your interest and skills develop. A real computer system will allow you to expand your knowledge of the Hi-Technology world, and help earn its keep with its added uses in the field of education, communication and home business use.

SOFTWARE

Make sure the system you choose has a growing library of support software, to enable you to realize the full potential of your machine.

KEY POINTS TO LOOK FOR

High Resolution Colour

In general most home computers have a poor graphics resolution (or detail). Check on the vertical and horizontal resolution in graphic mode and multiply the two numbers together. If the result is less than 35,000, then the graphics can hardly be considered high resolution. Without high resolution graphics displays such as those used in games tend to be "Chunky" in appearance.

High Quality Sound

Some computers claim to provide a sound channel when in reality all that can be found inside the computer is a small buzzer controlled by electronic pulses. At the very least a sound facility should provide more than one channel and a raise channel as well (for gun shot effects in games for example). The best systems also provide envelope control of the sound channels to produce very sophisticated effects; very important for generating music. Also look for the ability to connect to external amplifiers.

Keyboard

For accurate entry of programs and data into a computer it is important that the keyboard has a good tactile feel in operation. Coupled with acoustic feedback the user is fully aware when the computer has accepted his/her actions. Also of importance in a keyboard is layout. A standard computer keyboard layout will familiarise the user with the vast majority of computers used in the world of business and professional applications: very important if the purpose of purchasing a computer is educational.

RAM

One of the most important features of a computer is the amount of RAM, or memory, included. In general the more powerful and exciting a computer program is the more RAM it requires. But take care, all computers are advertised quoting the total RAM used in the system. Computers use up a great deal of their own RAM for storing essential data and particularly in supporting the graphics display and the CPU. If it is less than 32K think again, is it enough?

Computer Language

It is too dificult to program a computer in its own binary language so high level languages are used, the most popular being BASIC. However, there are a number of BASICs, some being very different from the rest. A de facto standard in the computer industry is Microsoft BASIC.

Learn this one and you will be able to program in the majority of computer BASICs; such an important point if a home computer is to be used to educate your children to face the technology of the future.

Expansion

As your interest and knowledge of computing grows, you will need a



Choosing the right system carefully will save you from throwing your money away Check full specification, plus peripherals and software prices, before you buy. Preferably choose a Real computer system that can expand to meet your needs.

computer system that will grow with you; able to accommodate Printers, Disk-drives, Joysticks, Communications Modem, and Colour Monitor, as well as produce HI-FI sound effects.

Software

The computer you choose should have a growing selection of utility

software to make the most of its capability.

Remember, computing is here to stay. You can't learn to compute on a toy, or a device which does not behave like a real computer. In short, look out for a computer which offers all the points above, and you will be sure of getting the best value for money.

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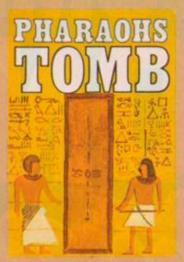
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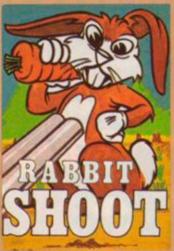


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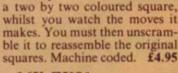


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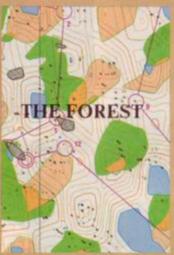




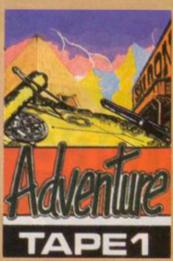
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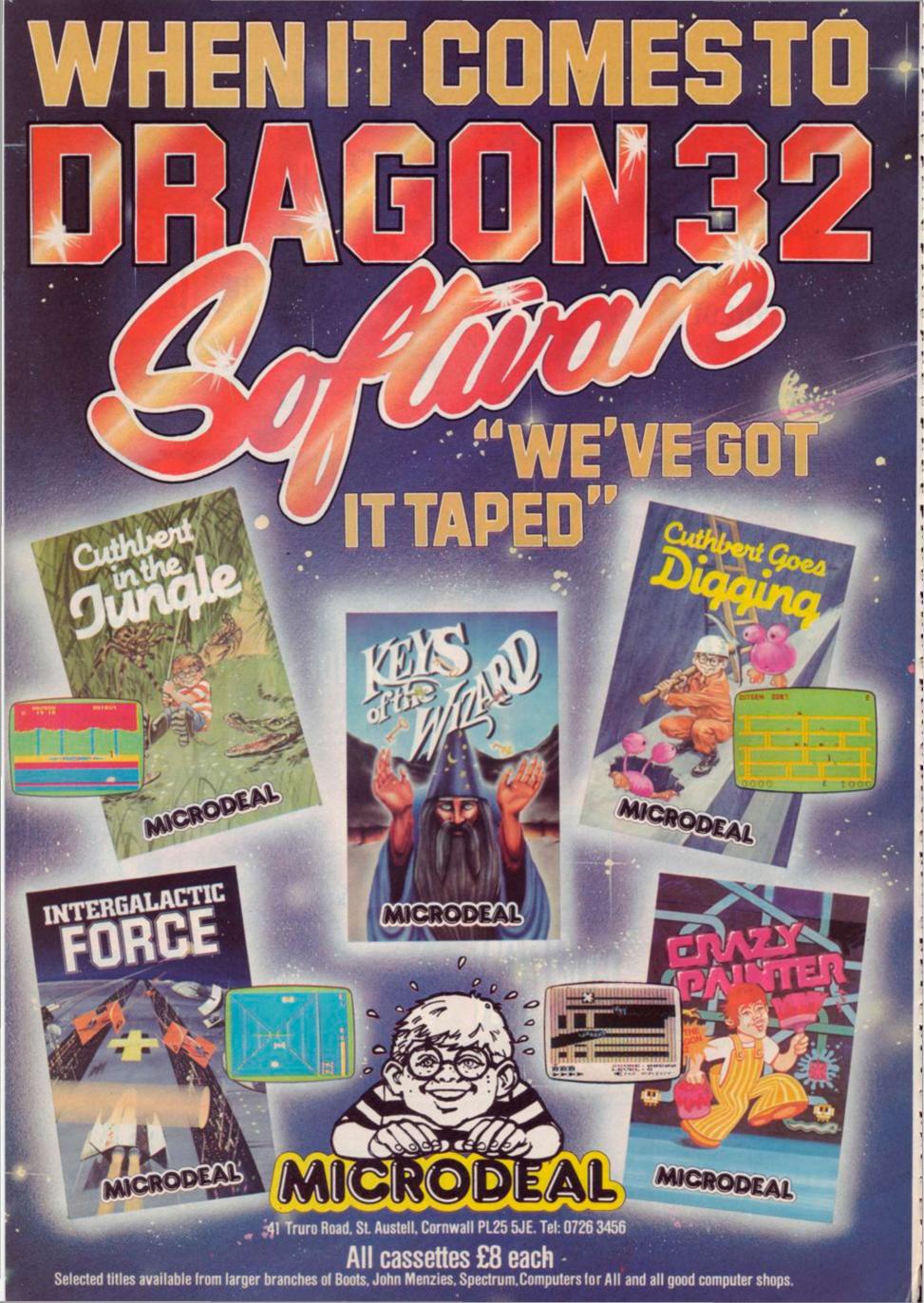
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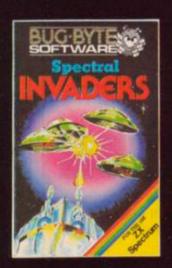
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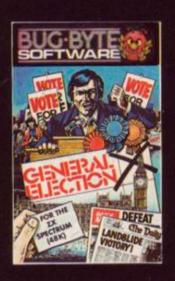


















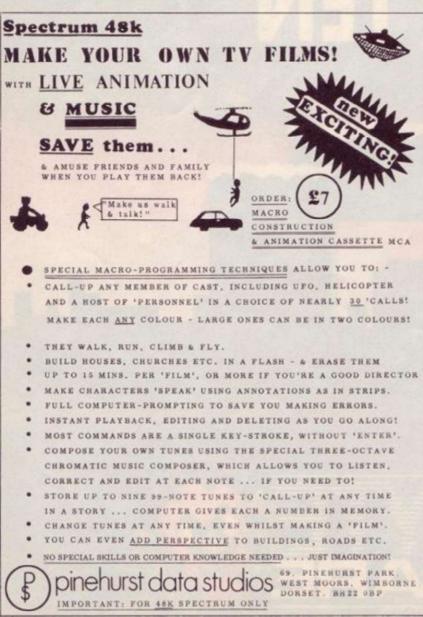
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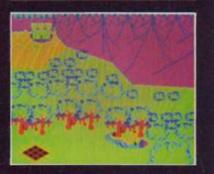


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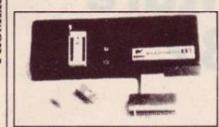
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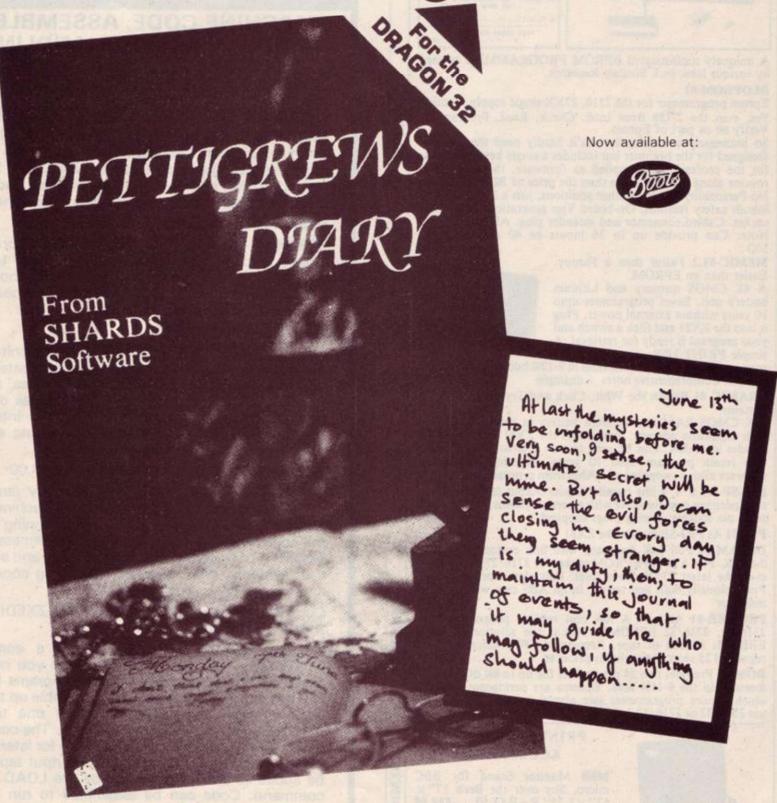
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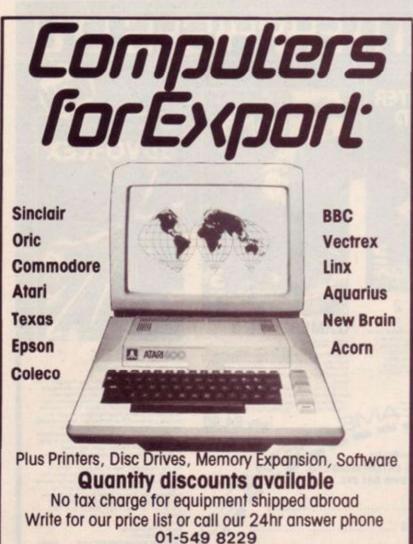
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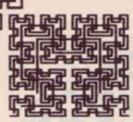


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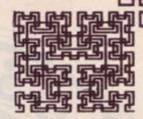
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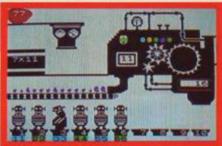
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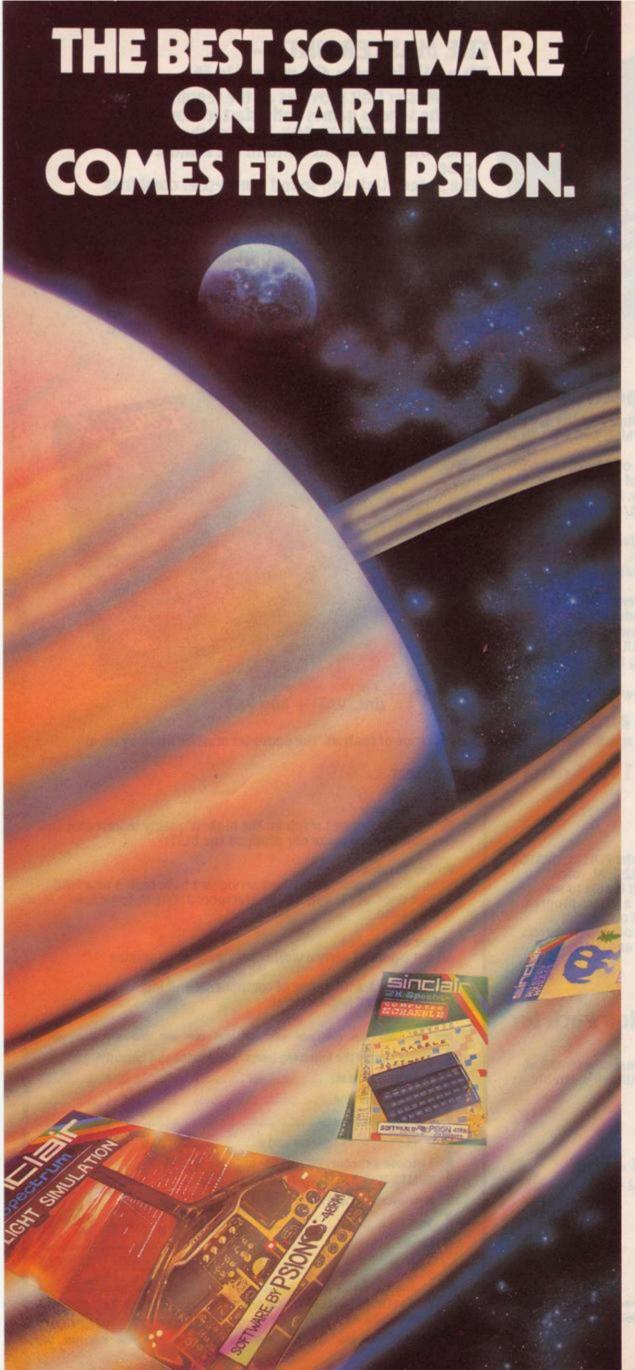
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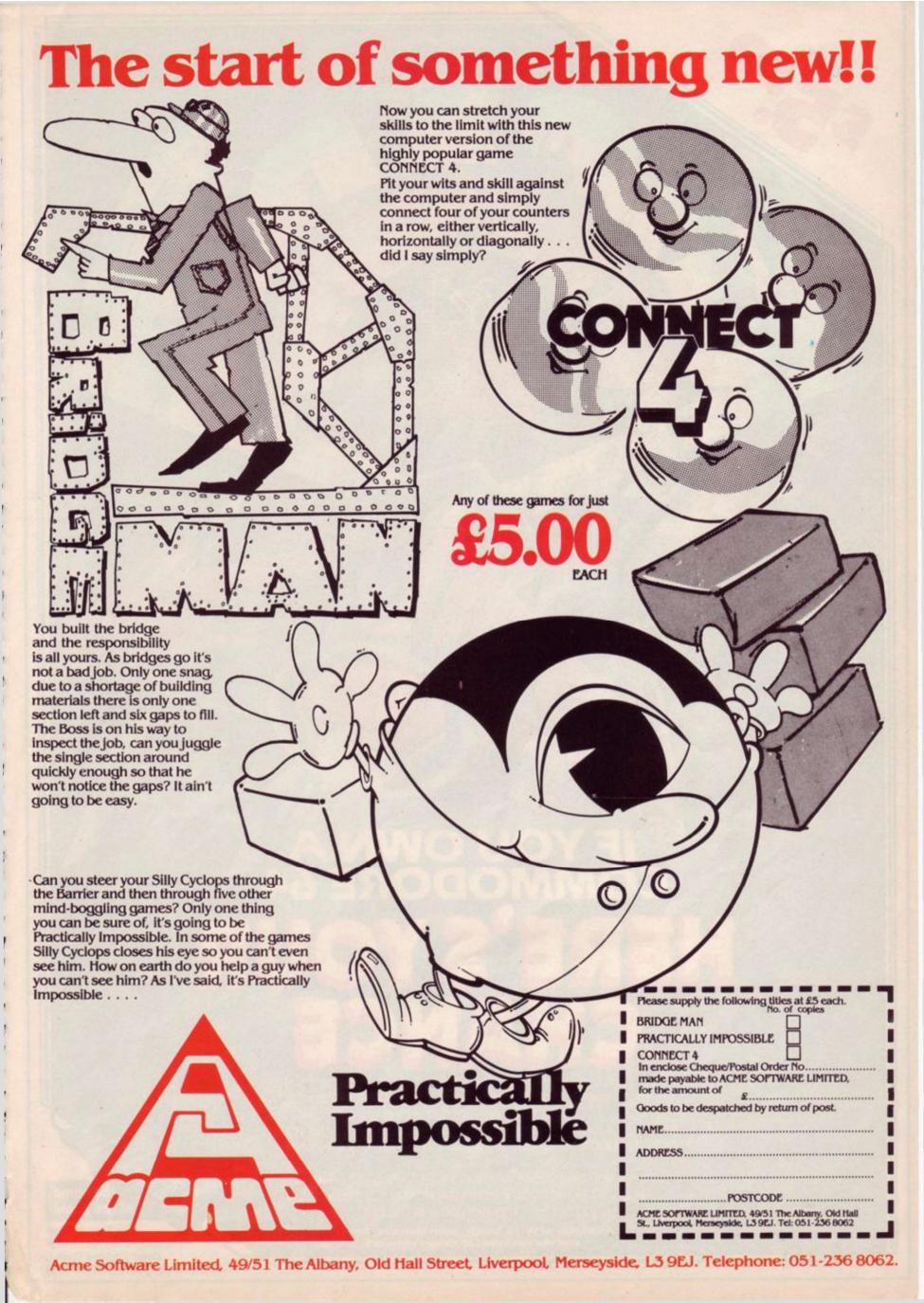
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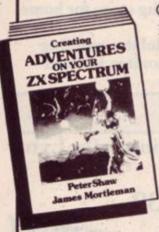
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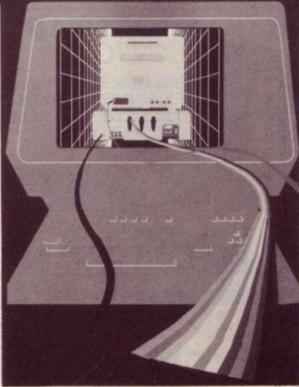
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December's Wireless World lists the available micros, their characteristics and facilities for connecting peripherals.

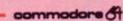
This is a survey for engineers and experimenters, who need to know how individual computers can be used in their work—the emphasis is on the interfacing capabilities of the machines described.

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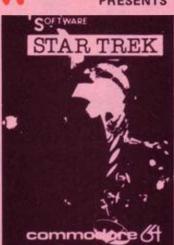






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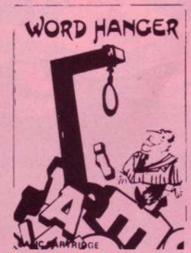


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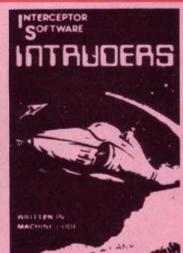












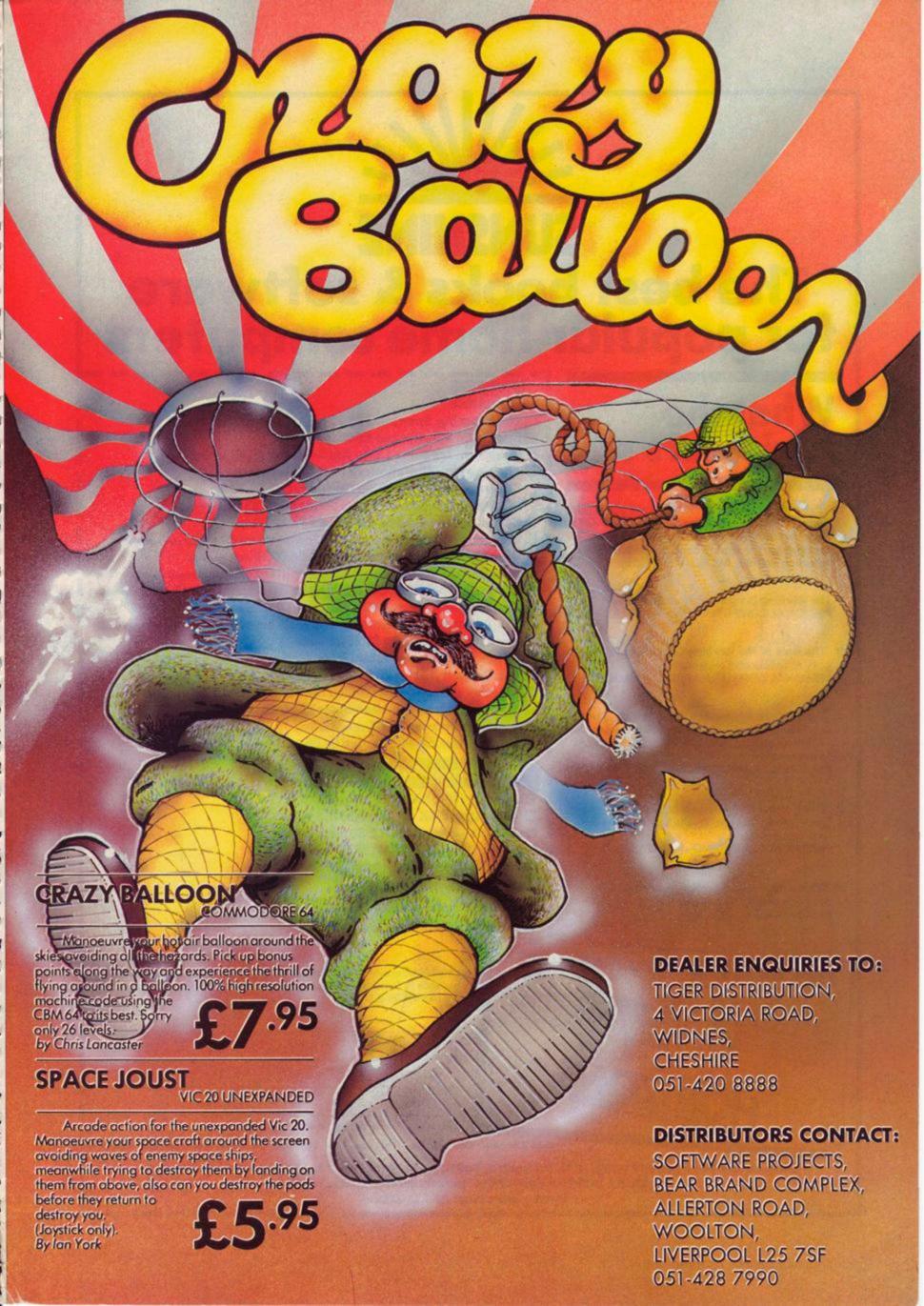
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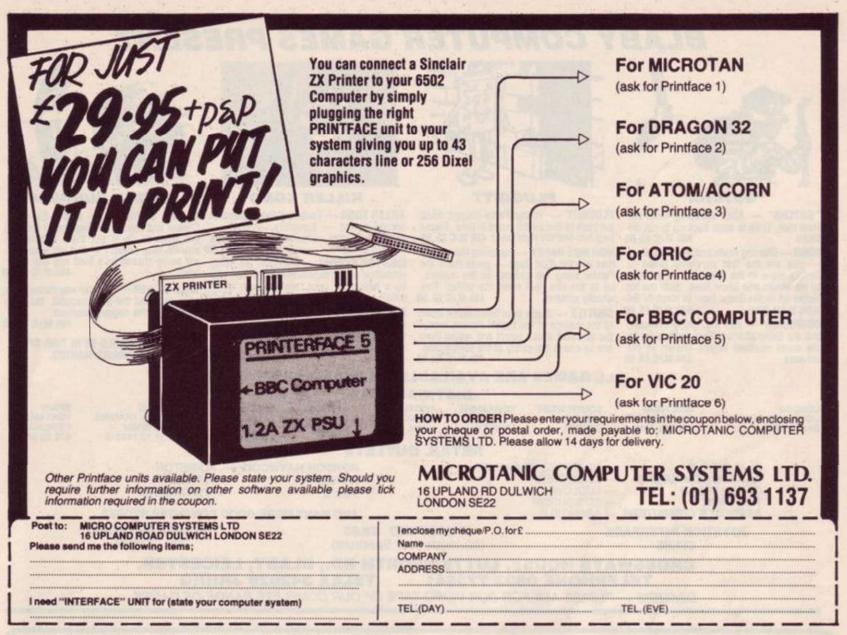
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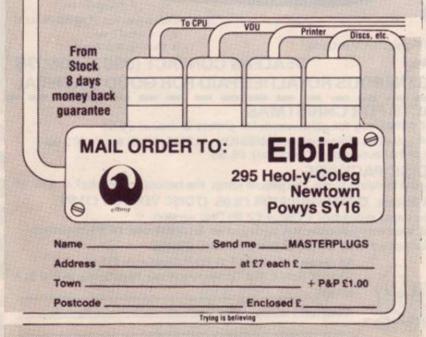
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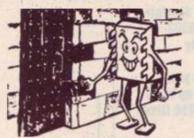
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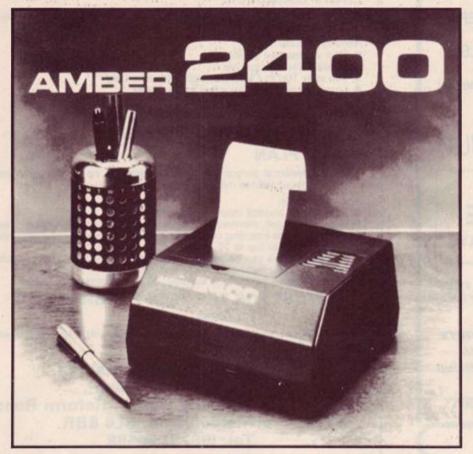
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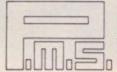
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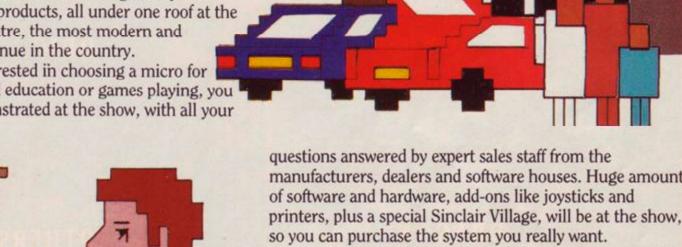
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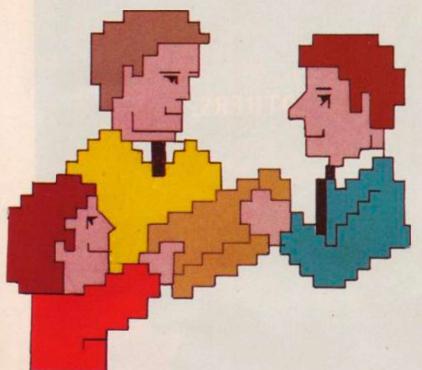
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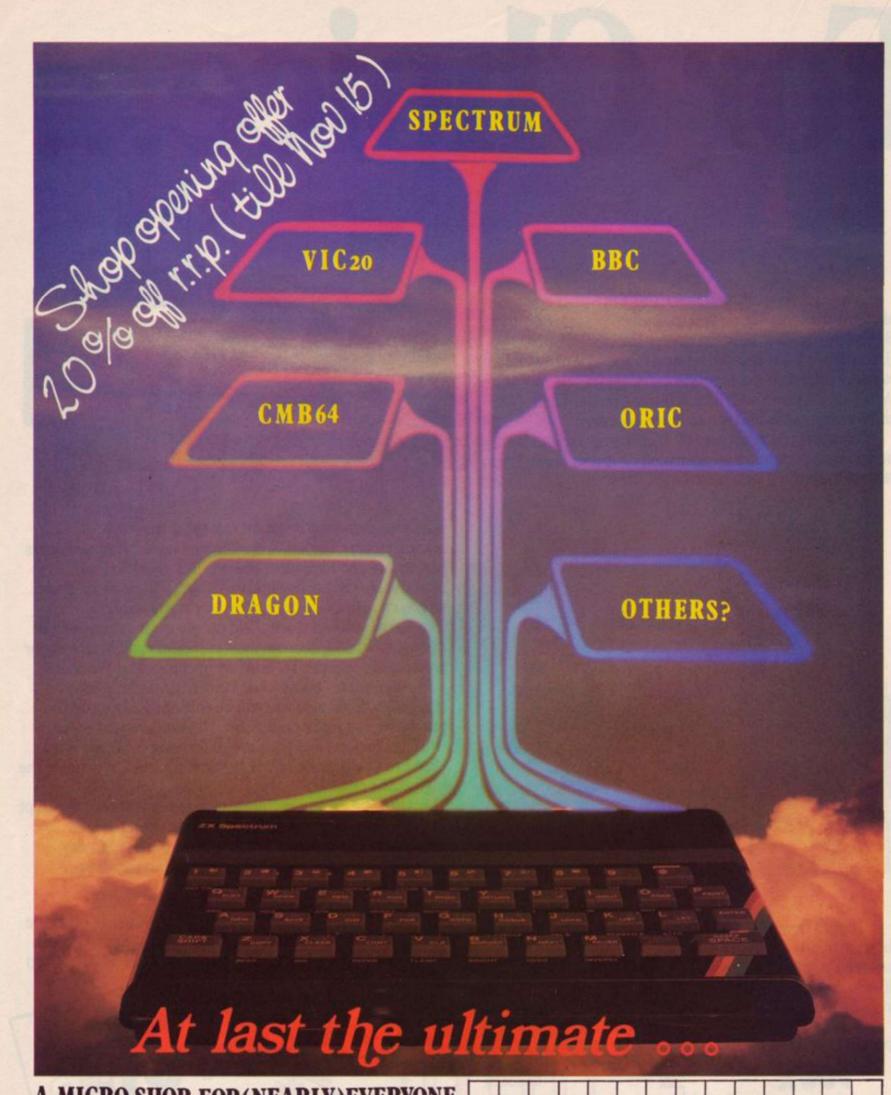
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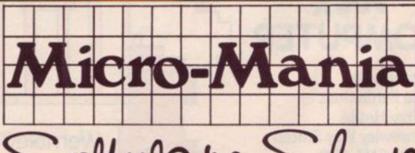
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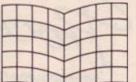
Seventeen-year-old Scott Vincent saw his book DYNAMIC GAMES FOR YOUR TI 99/4A outsell all other game books on the Interface Publications stand at the PCW show. Chris Callender is only 15, but he already has three successful Interface books in print -PUTTING YOUR BBC MICRO TO WORK, PUTTING YOUR ZX SPECTRUM TO WORK, and 36 CHALLENGING GAMES FOR THE BBC MICRO, which he co-wrote with 17-year-old Richmond student, Tim D. Rogers.

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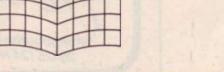
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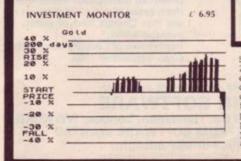


Tim Hartnell has written more than 35 best-selling books on microcomputers, including America's number one computer book for February and March 1983 (MASTERING THE TIMEX SINCLAIR 1000. co-authored by Dilwyn Jones, Waldenbooks Survey). Recent works in the UK include THE GIANT BOOK OF COMPUTER GAMES, THE GIANT BOOK OF SPECTRUM GAMES, MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR HX20 and HOW TO PROGRAM THE IBM PC. He is editor of the Virgin Books games series, and is computer consultant to Fontana Paperbacks.



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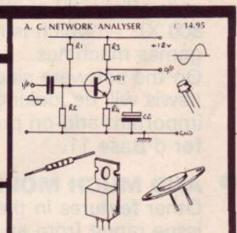
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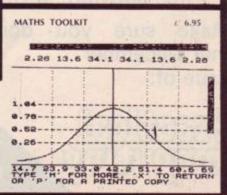
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GAMES

Fram Pac-Man to Corplan — in December's special section we survey the entire games spectrum - from arcade games based on death and destruction to serious business and educational games that - at least in theory — teach you things while you're having fun!

REVIEWS

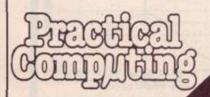
Hardware on the test bench ranges from the small but extremely powerful Hewlett Packard series 16 with Sony micro-floppies, to the new Atari 800 XL — which is more than a games machines.

On the software side, Mike Lewis will be looking at some important add-on programmes for d Base 11.

AND MUCH MORE!

Other features in the December issue range from an in-depth look at word processing on the Commodore 64 to an investigation of computer fraud. And there will be all the news of new micros, our regular columns and departments, plus pages of free software in Open File

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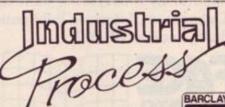
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ORWIN SOFTWARE ZX81 CASSETTES

'Michael Orwin has built a reputation for value-for-money software and his Cassette 4 offers quantity as well as quality."

Sinclair User, October '82

'If each game was on a separate tape and selling for £5 each I would still recommend them. But all on one for £5 . . ! This sort of value for money just has not been seen before on any personal computer.

"Without sounding pushy I would like to conclude this review by saying - if you have a ZX-81 and like games, then you should buy Michael Orwin's cassette 4."

2 extracts from ZX Computing, Oct/Nov '82

Eight games, including an excellent version of the Scramble arcade game East to operate, graphically impressive and good value for money."

The Times, Saturday 11th December 1982 (about Cassette 4)

8 GAMES FOR 16K ZX81 CASSETTE 4

ZX-Scramble (machine code) with Gunfight (machine code) Invaders (machine code) Galaxy Invaders (machine code) Snakebit (machine code) Life (machine code) 3D Tic-Tac-Toe (Basic)

"New polich on old favourites the quality of the software and the smooth action displays created on the screen make the programs worth-while for anyone who has a ZX-81 and plays the games using it.

CASSETTE 5 8 GAMES FOR 16K ZX81

Byte-man (machine code) Space Rescue (machine code) Breakout (machine code) Blitz (machine code) Planetoids.(machine code) Dodgems (machine code) Draughts (machine code) Merchant (Basic)

Most of the games include well-presented instructions which make them easier to play. It is pleasant to see that Orwin's kind of quality is available again from review of Cassette 5 in Sinclair User, September 1983.

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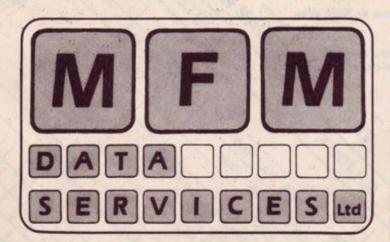
The book prices start at £5.95. They are written by expert programmers, are produced by the largest publishing houses, and cover the leading micros such as Spectrum, ZX81, BBC, Electron, Dragon,

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Acorn has planned to release a similar system on the ELECTRON.

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The BBC-SOLIDISK is simply a memory board which is dedicated to working as a super fast disk drive. You must have at least one disk drive before using the BBC-SOLIDISK. You will not notice the presence of the BBC-SOLIDISK before booting up the SOLIDISK operating system. The computer will then display:

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SIDE WAY PAGE IDENTITY: 15 (and 14 if expanded to 32K), write protected.
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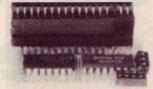
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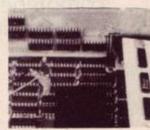




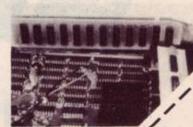
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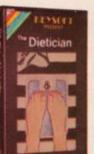


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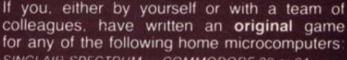
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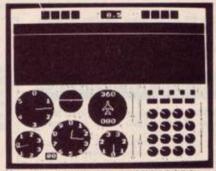
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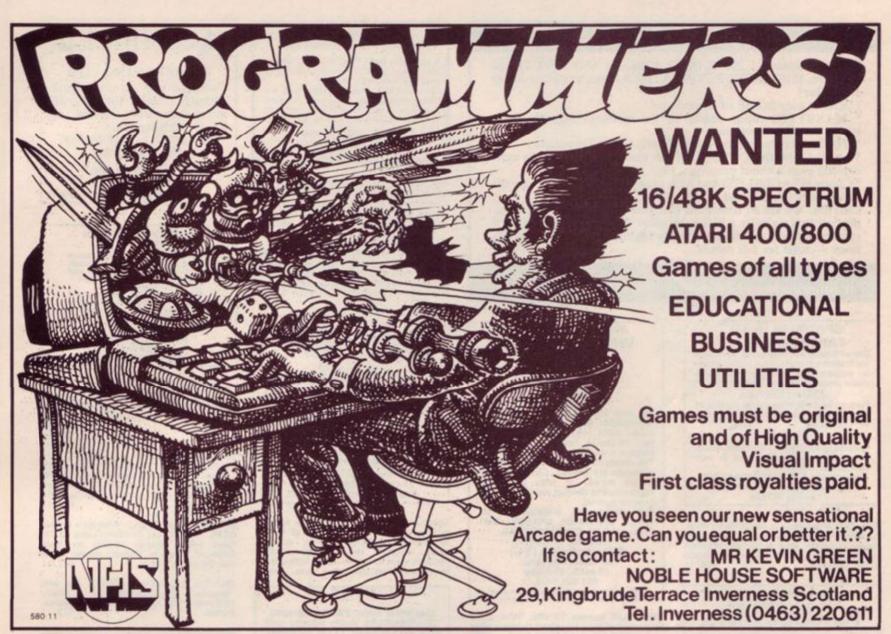
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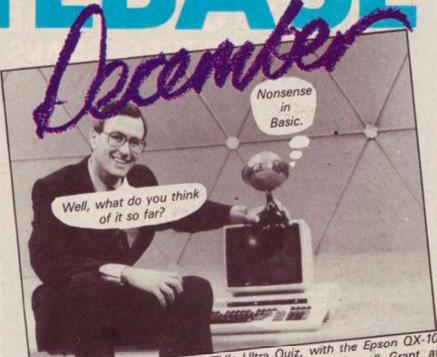
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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

A		
A&F Software		244, 245
AGF Hardware		216
ASN		238
Aardvark		256
Acme		299
Acom Computers		32, 33
		242
Addictive Games		235
Adman		
Amersham		294
Anik Microsystems		280, 281
Anirog		108
Aphroid		238
Arrowsoft		166
Artic	50	239, 263
Atari Internatio		0, 41
Audio Computers		320
Automata (UK) Ltd		94
		374
8		
Beebug		72
Betasoft		279
Beyond Software		146, 147
Blaby		310
Boom Software		68
Bridge Software		72
Bridgemaster		243
Bucon .		53
		312
Buffer		
Bugbyte		285, 287
C		
CCI		142
CDS Microsystems		162, 163
CP Software		88
CRL		253
Calisto Software		137
Calpac		55
		294
Cambridge Micro		243
Campbell	207	
Camputers	207	, 260, 261
Cardigan Software		69
Carnell		288, 289
Cascade		204
Chromasonic		258
Colvin		185
Commodore (UK) Ltd		100
Compusound		54
Computasolve		259
Computer Add ons		20, 21
Computer Cabin		204
Computer Choice		214
Computer Discount Ce	ntre	156
Computer Rentals		236, 237
Computerama		117
Computers for All		4,5
Computertown		98, 99
Consumer Electronics		80
Contrast		272
Crash Microgames		282
		230
Crystal Computing		230
D	1AE 170	171 224
DK'tronics	145, 170,	171, 224,
		228, 229
DRG		70
No. of the last of		

Daily Mirror	295
Database	65, 164
Datel	272
Dixons	180
Doctorsoft	67, 310
Doric	10
Downsway	48
Durrell	252
E	
East London Robotics	102, 240, 241
Economatics	82
Educare	194
Elbird	309
Elephant Software	166
F	
Fountain Software	62
Fox Electronics	134
Fuller Micro	86, 92, 296, 297,
	246,247
Galactic Software	234
Galaset	293
Gilsoft	48
H	
Hewson Consultants	30, 31
Hilton Computers	309
Hisoft	291
1	
Imagine	57, 300, 313
Imagine Software	Back Cover
Impact	118
Incentive Software	61
Industrial Process	318
Interactive Software Pe	ople 27
Interceptor Micro	305
Interface	190, 302, 311
J	
J Morrison	312
JCB Micros	293
JD Tronics	18
JK Greye	291
James Yorke	118
John Wiley	196
K	
Kempston Micro	257
Keysoft	321
Kuma	270
L	
LCL	22
Laserbug	279
Laskys	301, 303
Letherby	317
Level 9	198 61
Level Ltd	73
Llamasoft	120
Logic 3	7
Longman Group Lowe Computers	16, 17
Lyndenhurst	318
M	310
MC Lothlorion	172
MSM	319
	313

Mattell	248, 249
Mayfair Micro	67
Megadodo	10
Melbourne House	51, 250, 254, 255
Memotech	227, 264, 266
Merlin	53
Micro Answers	182
Micro Pro	110
Micro-x	54
Microdeal	222, 284
Microgame Simulatio	n 53
Micromanagement	11, 15
Micromart	54
Micromega	84
Microspares	194
Microsphere	69
Microstyle	208
Microtanic	309
Mikrogen	52
Mondata	42
N	
National Magazine	113
New Generation	271
Newnes Books	206
Noble House	105
0	100
Dakleaf	142
Dcean	
	Inside Front Cover 213
Opus Supplies	
Oric Products	275, 277
Orion	62
Orwin	318
PMS	312
PSS	
	36, 268
Paramount	243 269
Pase	
Peaksoft	19
Phipps Associates	283
Picturesque	69
Pinehurst	286
Pinnacle Electronics	167
Poppysoft	219
Practical Computing	311
Print n' Plotter	130, 131
Program Power	119
riotea	178, 179
Psion	298
0	
QED	64
Quest Software	66
R	
RD Labs	262
Reprints	142
Richard Shepherd	34, 35, 273
Ricoll Electronics	.195
Rose Software	302
Rotronics	274
Rumbelows	174

alamander	71
cisoft	194
creens	286
severn Software	56
hards	292
Sharp Electronics	28, 29
shiva Publishing	63
illica Shop	-43
ilverlind	22
Silversoft	278
Simon Software	166
Sinclair Research	10, 23
	160
ir Computers	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
ioftek	124, 154, 155
oftware Library	302
oftware People	27
oftware Projects	49, 306, 307
Software Shop	316
oftware Supermarket	140
iolo	293
pectavideo	6
pectre	317
pectrum Group	44, 47
stack Systems	62
itell	67
torm	184
	308
unshine Publishers	
Superior Systems	267
wanley	22
ansoft	58, 59
	304
asman	
emptation	97
exas Instruments	37, 39
he Computer Bookshop	251
he Micro Workshop	61
imedata	144
imescape Software	90
omorrows World	238
Ornorrows world	72
ouchstone	
wig Systems	60
,	
Iltimate Play the Game	232, 233
Stratable t my true course	202, 200
/irgin Games	322, 323
/ision Software	138, 139
/isionstore	220, 221
/oyager	122
V	1990
	000
Vhittington House	286
Vild West Software	279
Vildings	210
Villiam Stuart	19
Vireless World	304
Vorkforce	150
TOTALOGO	130
our Computer Christmas	
	314, 315
X Microfair	188, 189
	100, 100

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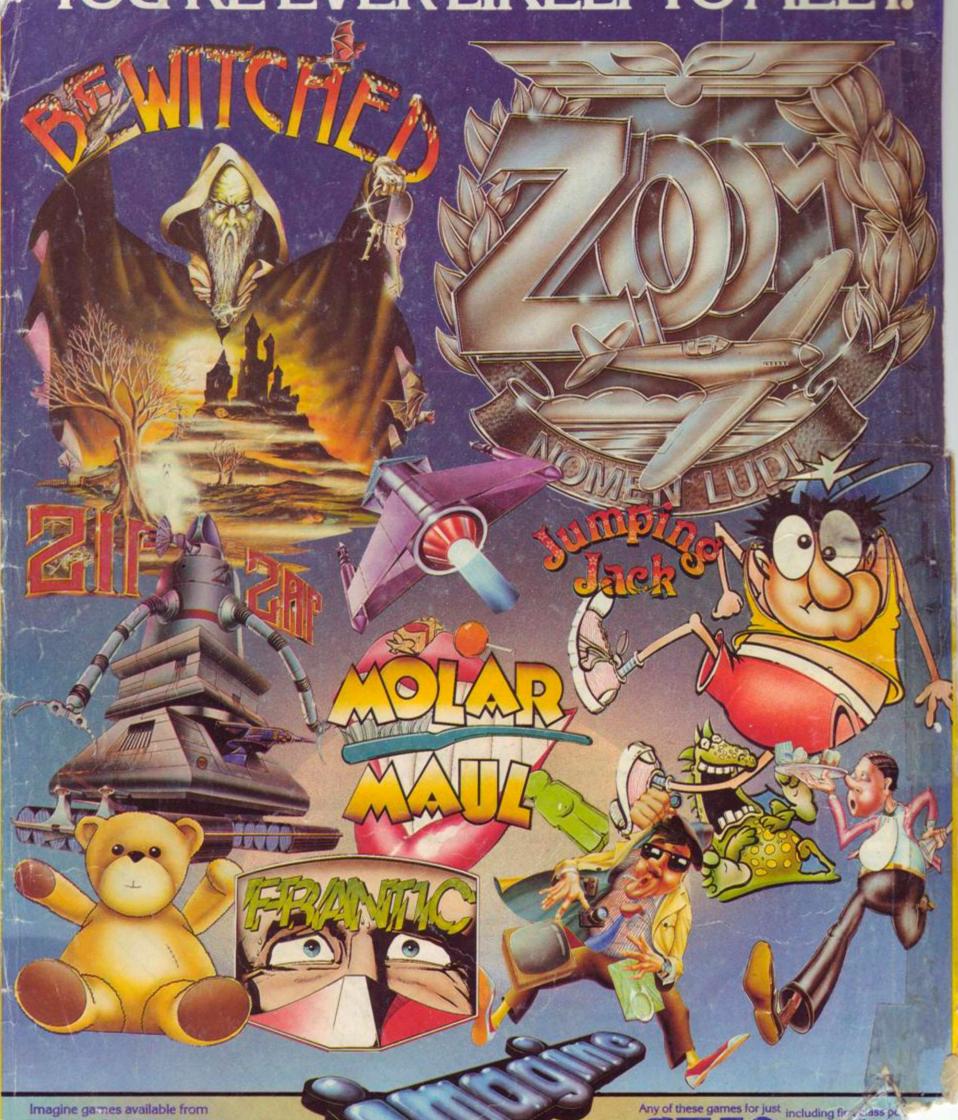
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