

POPULAR Computing WEEKLY

35p

22-28 March 1984 Vol 3 No 12

BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING MICRO WEEKLY

CLASSIFIEDS
START
HERE

VALHALLA

TITANIC

SEE PAGE 38

SABOTEUR

ANOTHER HIGH VOLTAGE GAME BY CABLE

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SEE PAGE 53

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★ **STAR**
Flight Simulator
on Spectrum
See page 10
GAME ★

News Desk

Software piracy — tapes seized

POLICE in Salford have charged two men with offences in connection with video game piracy.

Over 13,000 copied tapes were seized by police from a Salford warehouse two weeks ago — versions of top selling titles from Psion, Quicksilver, Ocean, Ultimate, Imagine and Durrell.

The two men, Donald Freeman and Stuart Caulfield Aspell, have been charged with criminal deception. Pirated copies of 10 Spectrum games have been discovered after Ocean reported the discovery of a pirated copy of its *Kong* game. All of the titles were professionally produced copies, with full-colour cassette inserts, hardly distinguishable from the originals. Among the other titles involved were *Flight Simulation* from Psion, *Boogaboo* from Quicksilver, *Schizoids* from Imagine, *Harrier Attack* from Durrell and *Atic Atac* from Ultimate.

One of the distinguishing

features of the copies was the type of cassette used. Rather than being of the welded type the cassettes were of the screw-type, probably of Spanish origin.

As well as being charged with criminal deception, the two accused individuals have been charged with violation of the 1956 Copyright Act. Freeman has appeared in court and

continued on page 5 ▶

Acorn 6502 second processor

ACORN has finally announced the first of its second processor options for the BBC machine — the units have been on display at shows for over a year.

The 6502 second processor, which Acorn says is available now, costs £199 and gives the BBC owner a second 6502 processor and an additional 64K of memory.

The unit plugs into the 'tube'

continued on page 5 ▶

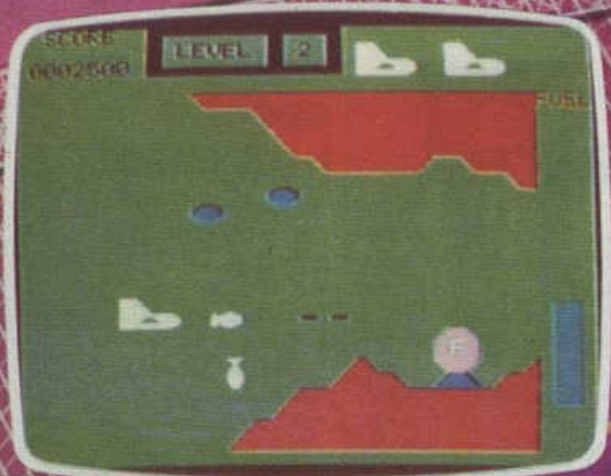


This Week

- **Reviews** Keith and Steven Brain examine the new look software from Dragon Data on page 16.
- **Programming** Boris Allan continues his analysis of the Motorola processor at the heart of the QL with a look at registers and counters. See page 19.
- **Spectrum** D Edwards treads boldly into a new character set in part II of his *Mucroid Run* program on page 22.
- **New Releases** This week includes a graphic adventure designer called *Dungeon Builder* from Dream Software and *Glug Glug* from Computer Rentals. See page 60.
- **Star Game** *Flight Simulation* on 16 or 48K Spectrum. See page 10.

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How to submit articles

Articles which are submitted for publication should not be more than 3,000 words long. The articles, and any accompanying programs, should be original. It is breaking the law of copyright to copy programs out of other magazines and submit them here — so please do not be tempted.

Accuracy

Popular Computing Weekly cannot accept any responsibility for any errors in programs we publish, although we will always try our best to make sure programs work.

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Editorial

The computer industry has been talking about joint standards and compatibility for almost as long as it has been in existence.

There has been a lot of talk recently about the Japanese attempts to make MSX Basic a common standard. Now, 12 European companies, including GEC, ICL and Plessey, have agreed to design future equipment to meet existing international standards.

This will have no immediate effect on the home computer industry, which is a very different animal from its professional/business counterpart. The Commodores and Sinclairs of this world are determined to keep their machines incompatible. Indeed, different machines in the same range are even kept incompatible from one another, viz the Vic20 and Commodore 64.

However, Commodore has followed Atari in deciding to write software for competing machines. In addition, Commodore is now marketing the Hyperion, an IBM compatible business micro.

There are obvious advantages to both software writers and micro users in establishing common standards. Each piece of software would immediately have access to a much larger market and far less time would be wasted in laboriously converting programs from one machine to another.

Next Thursday

Next week's star game is *Snakes for the Dragon 32* by Andrew Thompson — a micro version of an arcade classic.

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2nd Processor

◀ continued from page 1

high-speed data bus interface on the BBC machine. Most programs will run up to 50 percent faster with the second processor connected. The program is run on the second processor, leaving the 6502 in the BBC itself to simultaneously handle the screen display, Basic, operating system, keyboard, sound and input/output calls. With the 6502 second processor connected, the BBC machine has 60K of contiguous programming space — including 44K available to Basic — regardless of display mode.

Acorn plans to follow the 6502 unit with the Z80 second processor in June. The Z80 will be offered complete with CP/M operating system disc and software.

Bad news, however, for those looking forward to Acorn's third second processor option — the 16-bit National Semiconductor 16032 device. This option has receded still further and is unlikely to appear this year. Chip availability problems have been blamed, although Acorn says it is determined to continue with development of the product.

To complement the launch of the 6502 option, Acorn has announced a development of the Robocom computer-aided design software package originally developed for the Apple. The system has been considerably enhanced and is implemented on the BBC with twin-disc drive and 6502 processor system using the Bitstick — a kind of glorified joystick.

The sophistication of the Bitstick graphics system is matched by the sophistication of its price — £375.

BBC competitor

OFFICE Equipment manufacturer Triumph Adler is to produce a low-cost competitor to the BBC micro.

The Alphatronic PC is Z80-based with 64K Ram and priced at around £400.

Up to 28K is available for Basic programming and the machine runs a version of Microsoft Basic. It has a full-size professional keyboard with separate numeric pad and six function keys. The machine

Video nasties' Bill to cover micros

THE scope of a Bill being debated by Parliament designed to curb so-called 'video nasties' has been extended to cover video games.

The Video Recordings Bill — if passed, which seems almost certain — will mean that home computer games will have to be classified in much the same way as films are at present. A system of certificates would be imposed, limiting purchase of some games only to those aged over 18 and banning others.

Tory MP Graham Bright introducing the amendment to his Bill, drew attention to TV games showing scenes of sex and violence. In particular, he singled out the *Ship of*

Doom adventure by Artic which includes a rape sequence. A further change due for introduction when the Bill reaches the Lords will extend its powers to include Rom cartridge software as well as tape and disc material.

Under the terms of the Video Recordings Bill, fines of up to £20,000 could be imposed on individuals dealing in unclassified video game 'nasties'.

The Bill, which could become law before the end of the year, would have a far-reaching effect on the software industry. Every program, before it could be published, would have to be submitted to a group similar to the present British Board of Film Censors.

New name for Flan

FLAN has now come up with the title Enterprise Computers as a permanent and trouble-free name for the company.

However, the 64K Enterprise computer will not now be launched until September, five months later than originally expected.

This is due partly to the name change, and partly because the two custom chips used in the computer are not yet fully debugged.

"The de-bugging of the chips is going painstakingly, but well," said marketing manager Mike Shirley. "We would rather bring out a reliable product in September than an unreliable one earlier."

In addition, the 64K machine has gone up in price. Originally, it was to be £199.00. Now it will sell for

£228.85. The increase has been blamed on rising chip costs.

The 128K version of the machine has been delayed still further. It is not now scheduled to appear in Britain until the beginning of 1985. Its price has been set at £299.95.

Enterprise have signed a deal with Welwyn Electronics to manufacture both versions of the computer. The deal will create at least 90 jobs at Welwyn's Tyneside factory.

On the software side, Enterprise has been talking to Psion and Quicksilver, among others, with a view to producing 12 to 15 original programs.

Also being developed are two Basic emulator packages — for Sinclair Basic and for BBC Basic.

Enterprise's most recent identity problem — its third — began in December 1983, when Elan Digital Systems of Crawley, Surrey took action over the use of the name Elan — as Enterprise then was. Elan Computers became Flan as a temporary measure while they made sure they would not have similar problems over the

Tape piracy

◀ continued from page 1

been released on £10,000 bail. Aspell was due to appear in court on Monday March 19.

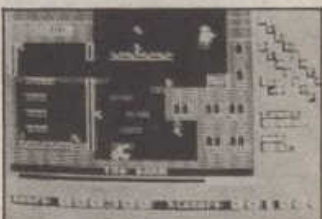
The arrests are a further indication, if any were needed, that commercial software piracy is now big business.

Doppelgangers

BUG-BYTE is not a company to give up without a fight.

Having lost its top-selling *Manic Miner* Spectrum program to Software Projects, it now plans a version of the game for the Commodore 64 — *Mattie Goes Mining*.

The legal position surrounding the Bug-Byte/Software Projects *Manic Miner* dispute has also been complicated still



Aligator's Bagger

further — Bug-Byte has trademarked the name *Manic Miner* while Software Projects retains the copyright to the game.

Bug-Byte's *Mattie Goes Mining* will not be the only game on the Commodore 64 to develop ideas used in *Manic Miner* — itself a distant relative of *Miner '49er* from the arcades. As well as Software Projects' *Manic Miner 64*, there is already *China Miner* from Interceptor and *Bagger* from Aligata.

Commented Software Projects' Alan Maton: "It is a kind of compliment to Matthew Smith's original *Manic Miner* program on the Spectrum."

name Enterprise.

● Bernard Dinneen wins our Flan competition and a free subscription to PCW. He offered the name Teflon Computers for Flan — because they can't find a name that will stick.

QL waiting list still growing

PCW's QL order: Week 9. Still no sign.

Sinclair has not yet decided on the form of compensation to be offered to customers whose

orders have been delayed.

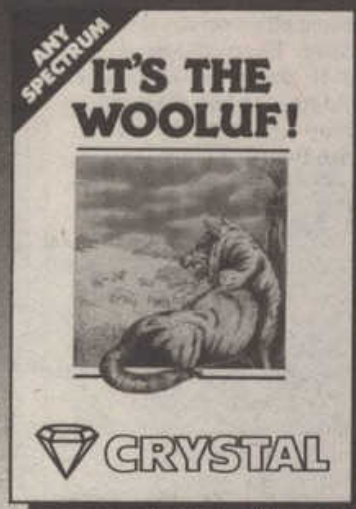
The money gained in interest by Sinclair from our QL order cheque which has been cashed is now over £3.70.



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Written by: Simon Brattel and Neil Mottershead



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Letters

Coded data via telephone

Having read D Tomlinson's letter (PCW 1-7 March) on data encryption, I wonder how many people owning personal computers and acoustic telephone couplers realise they have all the hardware necessary for sending coded data to their friends. It has seemed at times as if the half million computer mags on the shelves are all carefully avoiding this subject.

The key to this idea is developing a program for coding and decoding data. Personally, I would ignore all that one reads about public and private key encryption systems — I don't believe half of it anyway. Disinformation is the name of this game.

It is well known that the most secure encoding system is the one-time pad, where a table of random numbers are used to code a small message of, say, 100 letters. I would suggest it is possible to write a small program to produce a continuous stream of 'pads' which are recorded on two cassette tapes, one tape being carried away to a remote location. You can imagine the number of pads which could be fitted on a C90 tape.

Of course, the pseudo-random number generator of most home computers would be worse than useless for this application — you would have to devise a method of seeding true random numbers into your program. I have often wondered why manufacturers do not put true random generators into their machines, say something based on noise in a diode.

Now, let me turn to the ethics of my suggestion. Realistic people have, I believe, always accepted that messages by post or over the telephone will always be accessible for interception. People have grumbled, but most of us just shrug our shoulders and get on with using these facilities. Now that technology gives us the opportunity to communicate privately, should we embrace it or should we fret about making things easier for criminal elements to form conspiracies?

I believe that we should

embrace this technology for the reason that secret police or, to use the modern euphemism, the security services, have the potential to be the biggest criminal conspiracy of all, if wrongly directed. With all the resources of the state behind them, we should always fear them most of all.

So, I would suggest all amateur programmers should think about developing their own private coding systems and try real-time transmission and reception of coded messages for themselves.

Now, the big question is, does British Telecom have, or will it have, any regulations about sending coded data over the telephone lines?

P Shimmon
8 Selsey Court
Broadfield, Crawley
West Sussex

To the best of my knowledge, there are no regulations covering the transmission of coded data over telephone lines. But, any coupler linked to the telephone system must be British Telecom approved.

10 years after

Thanks a lot for inadvertently losing ten years from my age when you printed my letter (23 - 29 February).

I feel, however, that I must clear my reputation before I am accused of being anti-education. I stated that I have had many hours of amusement, which would have otherwise been wasted doing housework. Somehow, the word was lost in the translation, and ended up as *homework*! Nobody has given me any homework for quite some time now, but I would not consider it a waste of time if they did. Housework, on the other hand, is quite another matter.

If I can persuade my micro to do the ironing or washing-up for me, then perhaps I will submit the relevant program to you. On the other hand, I think I will tell the national dailies (*The Sun*, for instance?) and sell the idea to the highest bidder. I am sure the Mothers' Union could summon a fair

amount of money, faced with such a prospect!

Thanks for an excellent magazine, which would not be the same without the Automata advertisement. I look forward to that as much as to the editorial!

Gill Hesketh (over 21)
379 Liverpool Road
Eccles
Manchester M30 7HB

I am not quite sure how we lost 10 years and turned housework into homework, but we obviously owe you an apology.

As for persuading your micro to do the washing-up, what you really need is a robot (which is basically a micro with arms and legs). Cheap robots could be here sooner than you think.

A room of your own

In the game *3D Ant Attack* there is an opening on the side of the 'L' shaped amphitheatre, to the right of the city's entrance, which seems impossible to get into. There are three openings in the structure, two of which are linked by a tunnel. However, there is a way of entering the third hole.

After rescuing your partner, you must then stand on top of him/her, directly beneath the opening, and constantly jump towards it. After a while, an ant will come along and bite



"I know the company has been called Samurai, Elan, Flan and Enterprise, but I'm afraid your name escapes me."

your partner, who will in turn jump, giving you an added boost which is enough to enable you to enter the hole.

Once inside, you enter a room which is totally enclosed and seems to have no purpose. It would be impossible to rescue your partner from the room, as you need to stand on him/her to get in. Perhaps someone could write in and tell me what purpose the room serves. I cannot believe it is a bug in an otherwise superb program.

C Penny
120 Hatton Hill Rd
Litherland
Liverpool L21 9JW

Pascal or Forth

In his trenchant comparison of Forth and Pascal with BBC Basic, A Hegedus (PCW 16-22 February) discusses only control structures such as *For* loops, *While-Do*, and *Case*. If one considers also data structures, such as arrays and records, then to my mind the scales come down heavily in favour of Pascal. In particular, the ability to define one's own non-numerical types (eg days of the week), together with the *Record* structure, enables the programmer to construct and manipulate data bases of great complexity in a remarkably simple and comprehensible way.

No doubt there are still some applications for which the speed of Forth outweighs all other considerations, but as processors get faster it is difficult to imagine that a language whose central feature is reverse-polish operations on a data stack will maintain its present level of popularity.

Pascal has its defects, of course, and is not appropriate for every job, but if stands supreme at present in clarity of expression, as shown by its adoption for a wide range of practical and commercial applications, as well as in teaching.

M Dodson
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In Flight

A new game for 16 or 48K Spectrum by David Murphy

This flight simulator program runs on a 16K or 48K spectrum. This program simulates an aircraft cockpit in flight. The clocks & dials simulate the movement of the plane.

Try to land the plane on a runway. Full instructions in the program.

Program notes

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175-225 VARIABLES

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425-990 MAIN RUNNING PROGRAM
1000-1050 LANDING PROCEDURE
2000-3000 LANDING PROCEDURE
3000-3070 CRASHING PROCEDURE
4000-4030 ANGLE



[illegible]

```

450 IF H$="A" THEN LET KNOT=KNO
T-1: BEEP .01,7
460 IF M$="2" THEN LET ANGLE=AN
GLE-1: BEEP .01,5
470 IF M$="X" THEN LET ANGLE=AN
GLE+1: BEEP .01,5
480 LET C=INT (RND*2)
490 IF C=1 THEN LET ANGLE=ANGLE
+1
493 LET D=INT (RND*2)
495 IF D=1 THEN LET ANGLE=ANGLE
-1
510 LET FUEL=FUEL-2
520 PRINT AT 12,0;"
530 PRINT AT 4,0;"
540 LET TIME=TIME+1
550 LET HEIGHT=HEIGHT-KNOT
560 IF FUEL<=3 THEN LET FUEL=0
570 IF FUEL<=3 THEN LET KNOT=7
590 PRINT AT 16,9;H$
600 IF KNOT<=5 THEN LET H$="NOS
E IS DROPPING"
610 IF KNOT>5 THEN LET H$="
615 IF KNOT<=3 THEN LET KNOT=3
620 IF KNOT>6 THEN LET H$="NOSE
GOING UP "
630 IF FUEL<=0 THEN PRINT INK 2
,AT 18,9;"OUT OF FUEL": BEEP .1,
.01
640 IF KNOT>=6 THEN LET G=INT (
RND*3): IF G=1 THEN LET H$="FLIG
HT PATH OK "
650 IF FUEL=0 THEN LET I=INT (R
ND*3): IF I=1 THEN LET H$="YOU A
RE GLIDING"
655 IF HEIGHT<3 THEN LET HEIGHT
=0
660 IF HEIGHT<=1000 AND T<>5 TH
EN GO TO 1000
670 IF HEIGHT<=3 THEN GO TO 400
0
990 GO TO 240
1000 CLS
1010 LET O$=INKEY$
1015 BEEP .1,40
1020 PRINT INK 2;AT 11,0;"DO YOU
WANT WHEELS (Y/N). "
1030 IF O$="Y" THEN LET T=5: CLS
: GO TO 990
1040 IF O$="N" THEN PRINT "YOU A
RE STUPID": BEEP .1,1
1045 PAUSE 50
1046 CLS
1050 GO TO 1010
2000 REM LANDING PROCEDURE
2001 CLS
2010 PRINT INK RND*7;AT 11,1;"WE
LL DONE YOU LANDED"
2019 FOR Z=1 TO 50
2025 BEEP .1,Z
2030 NEXT Z
2500 STOP
3000 REM CRASHING PROCEDURE
3001 LET V=0
3005 CLS
3006 LET V=V+1
3007 IF V=20 THEN GO TO 3060
3008 BEEP .1,V
3010 LET A=RND*7
3020 BORDER A
3030 LET B=RND*7
3040 PAPER B
3050 GO TO 3005
3060 CLS : PAPER 7: INK 0: PRINT
AT 11,1;"BAD LUCK YOU CRASHED"
3070 STOP
3090 REM ANGLE
4000 IF ANGLE>2 THEN GO TO 3000
4010 IF ANGLE<-2 THEN GO TO 3000
4020 IF KNOT>7 THEN GO TO 3000
4030 GO TO 2000

```

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Board games

David Kelly talks to Peter Deutsch and Jon Baldachin of Leisure Genius

Peter Deutsch's company Leisure Genius has, almost without anyone noticing, cornered a unique niche in computer games.

Over four years ago, Peter Deutsch first started trying to get the rights to produce video games based on established board games. And since then he has reached agreement with some of the best known board game manufacturers including Waddingtons and Spears to produce micro versions of their titles.

"We never considered that we had the expertise to design our own original games ideas," says Peter. "Besides, the established games will have a longer life. Just like in the record industry — you have to keep coming up with the new *Culture Club* month after month. But Jim Reeves' records just keep on going year after year."

Board game manufacturers however were initially very hostile to the idea of video versions of their games. They felt threatened by losing sales to the micros and at the time when computers first began to take off the toy industry was in the middle of a deep recession.

"The toy industry is a very funny business" says Peter. "Everyone knows the colour of everyone else's underpants — everything is cross-licensed. Someone will do the plastic bits and market it under your name. Somebody else will do another part under their name. It is all very complicated."

"The problem for the board game companies was there was actually a demand for computer versions of board games and the toy companies suddenly found themselves having to take action against software companies who were ripping them off by producing unauthorised versions."

"Toy companies like Waddingtons wanted to keep total control over their games, but at the same time weren't sure if they wanted to become involved in producing software at all."

"If I had been a board game manufacturer two years ago I would have looked at computer games very warily. Games like *Monopoly* have been selling for 20 or 30 years and Waddingtons didn't want to rush into something that might die after a couple of years."

Some toy manufacturers also fought shy of jumping in after Atari and Mattel showed huge losses. For a toy manufacturer to involve itself directly would have been a big risk.

Says Peter: "We offered to take the risk for them — something they were only too happy to let us do."

The first game that Leisure Genius tried to produce was *Scrabble* from Spears. An Apple version was written and demonstrated to the public as long ago as 1982. And that was after two years of negotiations to tie up the contract with Spears. "I think our lawyer commutes to and from Monte Carlo on the fees from that work!" says Peter.

"What we proved with the Apple version of *Scrabble* was that a computer version of a board game could be a success."

Next, Leisure Genius came to a sub-licensing agreement with Psion to produce a Spectrum version with enhanced graphics. That game appeared last June and was very well received both as a game and as a programming achievement.

"After *Scrabble* we were able to talk with Waddingtons and other board game companies and say, effectively — 'we can do the same sort of thing for you'."

The approach obviously worked because Leisure Genius is now working on computer versions of *Cluedo* from Waddingtons, *Kensington* from Whale Toys, *Mastermind* from Invicta and *Mandala* from Future Games.

Leisure Genius is a partnership between Peter Deutsch, who looks after the business side of the company, and Jon Baldachin, who deals with the programming side. The company now has three full-time programmers working mostly on material for the Commodore 64.

John Baldachin, a former IBM programmer, bought his first micro — a Heathkit — in 1977 during a visit to the US.

Following the success of the Spectrum version of *Scrabble* by Psion, Leisure Genius decided to set up its own programming team.

"The first thing we have done" says Jon "is to write machine-code drivers for the Apple IIe and Commodore 64. They give us the same functions available for both machines — a virtual machine environment

— which allows us to write software on the Apple which will run on several machines. It is a similar approach to that if you were writing in C — you would need to produce a C compiler for each machine you wanted to run the code on."

The drivers — around 11K of machine code — are now finished for the Apple and the Commodore 64 computers and Jon and his team are working on *Scrabble*, *Cluedo*, and *Mastermind* for the Commodore 64 which should be finished by mid-April. Then work will start on the Spectrum drivers.

Once John is happy with the presentation and screen layout, the flowcharting of the game can begin. The flowcharts are written from top-down. When this is finished the programming can begin.

Most of the code for *Scrabble* and the other games on the 64 takes the form of 'machros'. These are machine-code routines which are then called by the program. "If you think of Simon's Basic, which contains code that creates extra commands in Basic, then what we have done is to write code which creates extra commands in machine code, called 'pseudo-ops'."

Programmers writing the games need not know how to program the processor in the target machine. Instead, they need to know how to program the common operating system offered by the driver routines.

"I made a decision to go with machine code rather than, say C, because it is faster. Also it is more sophisticated — for one thing the driver routines offer sprites."

"By the end of the year we will be producing an 8086 version of our drivers — we don't have any choice. By that time everything will be 16-bit — Sinclair has made that clear with the QL."

It is unlikely that any of the games will appear, at least in the short term, on the BHC or Electron machines though. Says Jon: "The games are ideal for the BBC machine. Unfortunately the BBC micro isn't ideal for the games. The shortage of memory would mean that writing drivers for BBC and Electron would be a pain."

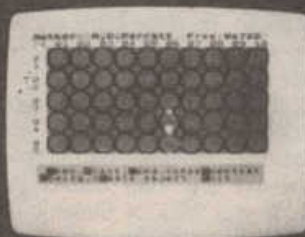


Leisure Genius (left to right) Mark Stubbs, Peter Deutsch, Chris Harper and Jon Baldachin — producing video games based on established board games.

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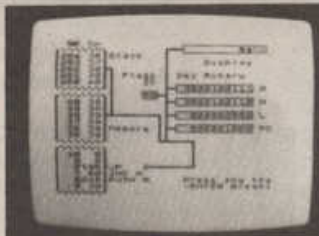
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Teeing off to start

Keith and Steven Brain beard the dragon in its lair in this latest collection of software

The general reaction to the original software offerings from Dragon Data was that they were far from inspiring. In fairness to Dragon, we must add that as the Dragon 32 was very rapidly supported by a whole host of independents, the standard expected by the user rose very quickly.

First of the latest batch of software is *Tee-Off*, a golf simulation which takes place in Cowboy Country where cacti rather than trees abound. Of course, the scenario is of only minor importance compared to the playability of the game, but less forgivable is the fact that minimal efforts seem to have been taken to customise the program for the UK market.

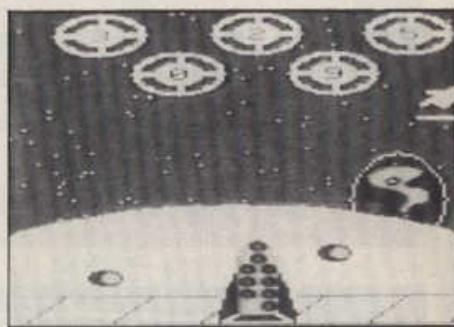
On executing the program, you are faced with a virtually unreadable display which is explained away in the booklet as "this is only for people with NTSC TV's, and should be ignored by the owners of PAL 1 TVs, ie UK owners". How much of that gobbledeegook is intelligible to the average user, and how much effort would it have taken to simply omit that section of the program?

Having read all these complaints, you might anticipate that we did not like this program, but you would be wrong, as it does take a quite interesting and novel approach to golf simulation. The game is

played entirely with the joystick and you are represented by an animated figure which can walk in the direction chosen. When you feel that you are in the correct position relative to the ball to take a shot, you press the fire button to visibly wind up your swing. When the button is released the club swings back and, if you are lucky, it makes contact with the ball which takes off in the appropriate direction according to your position and strength.

The power put into your stroke ('club selected') depends on the length of time for which you hold down the fire button. There are the usual hazards to avoid and when (or is that if?) you get onto the green, a close-up picture is provided for the final action. Up to four players can be accommodated, but you must wait for the current player to putt the ball successfully, which can be very time-consuming and rather boring for the other players.

Serious golfers may feel that it does not represent as close a simulation of the real thing as, for example, *Salamander's Golf*, but to the non-golfer it offers an interesting game of skill which makes a change from the 'shoot them up' genre. This is one of Dragon Data's cheapest offerings, but we feel that they should have spent a little more on UK customisation.



Screen shot from *Let's Count*

of how poor Basic is for writing arcade-type games!

The title *Jump Jet* is rather misleading as you are not able to carry out the famous 'hovering' and 'viffing' manoeuvres which characterise combat in the Harrier. The 'speech' is of the usual relatively unintelligible type and merely repeats screen messages. There appear to be a number of simple ways in which the program could have been improved, for example every time a hit is scored the action stops completely whilst the entire status display is rewritten.

Dragon Data have made much of the compatibility between the Dragon 64 and the Dragon 32, so it is absolutely unforgivable that *Jump Jet* crashes on line 3010 if you try it on the 64! This is because Dragon Data corrected the bug in the *Usr* function in the original 32 Rom, when they produced the new 'bottom' Rom for the 64. Since it is now well known that the bug could easily be circumvented by including a leading zero in the *Usr* call, surely it would have been more sensible to change the manual rather than the Rom. In this case the crash on the 64 can be prevented by editing out the leading zero in the *Usr* call (ie changing *Usr(080)* to *Usr8(0)* in line 3010).

The second offering from the same authors operates in a similar way to *Jump Jet*, except that it does not crash on the 64. In *Shuttlezap* you must navigate your shuttle out of a silo, take it into orbit, intercept enemy 'sputniks' and then return to base. But, once again, it shows that Basic is really too slow for complex action games. In any sort of comparison with *Space Shuttle* from Microdeal it comes a very long way behind, and at £12.95 the price seems exorbitant.

One area where the speed of Basic is quite sufficient is in role-playing games, so we had higher hopes for *Viking* (from Prickly Pear again). However, this turned out to be only a slightly souped-up version of the old-hat *Kingdom* theme in which you have to steer your Viking holding in 750 AD to success, by buying, selling, taxing, etc, while avoiding disasters.

This particular program did not seem to have any unusual features and it has little to recommend it over the versions already available more cheaply on 'compendium' tapes, or as listings in magazines. Although



There are two 'zap-ping' offerings (both written by J F McGuire and Son) which are unusual in that they are written in Basic and use the original 'Computa-voice' program (included) to provide speech output. The simplest is *Jump Jet* in which you have to defend your airfield against enemy attack and then attempt to destroy the enemy fortress on its island. Ten skill levels are provided, with control of position and firing through the joystick. Although the screen scrolls to the left as the game progresses, to reveal more of the countryside, the speed at which this occurs would disgrace a tortoise and this program gives a good demonstration

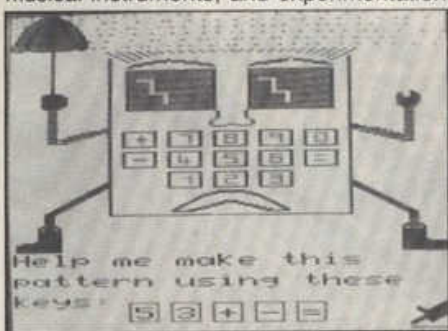
this program might just have been acceptable 12 months ago, the public now expects a much higher standard than this.

The sound capabilities of the Dragon are often criticised by users of other machines, although they are undoubtedly much easier to use than those on most other micros. There is, of course, no 'envelope' command, although it is possible to simulate this to some extent through Basic.

On the other hand, the *Synther-7* machine code program provides very simple, but total, control over sound formation, thus turning the Dragon keyboard into an effective music synthesiser. The screen display is divided into a number of sections. At the top is a representation of a piano keyboard, on which the corresponding Dragon keys are marked. The keys from 'up arrow' to 'clear' are used so that two octaves of notes are available at any one time.

The instructions cover the features of the program rather briefly, but at least explain things by practical 'hands-on' demonstrations. When you first *Load* the program, you find that these keys produce a sound very like that of a real piano instead of the usual asthmatic Dragon croak.

At the right of the display are listed a series of names (eg *Gamba*, *Krumphorn* and *Djinni*) which are described as 'organ stops' but which looked to the ignorant (ie us!) rather like refugees from Tony Bridge's *Adventure Corner*. However, a quick delve into the dictionary revealed that these names do really have roots in mediaeval musical instruments, and experimentation



Screen shot from Cranky

soon showed how selecting a different stop transformed the sound output.

A major feature of *Synther-7* is that it also provides a true *Adsr* envelope, which can be very simply tailored to your particular taste. The rest of the display consists of a series of histograms, which show the current state of a wide range of different parameters that influence the final sound — defining envelopes here is certainly much easier than it is on the BBC. As the sound output comes not only through the TV speaker but also through the cassette microphone lead, it is possible to record your efforts directly onto tape.

Perhaps we should make clear that this program is a very different animal to the *Computer* program reviewed in an earlier edition of *PCW* as you can only create and

record in real time, and chords are not possible. It must therefore be viewed as a musical instrument, rather than as a utility for adding music to other programs. It is an interesting program, especially with the excellent graphic display of the sound parameters, and it certainly provides a very good way of learning about, and experimenting with, sound synthesis.

Finally in this selection are a pair of learning programs written by Applied Systems Knowledge Ltd. The first of these *Let's*



Synther 7 — music machine

Count introduces the 3 to 7 year old to simple counting with the aid of a number of graphic games and various skill levels and rewards. The program is in two sections and the whole loading procedure takes about three minutes. It is clear that a lot of thought (and presumably educational expertise) has gone into this program and the instructions sensibly suggest that the child must be shown how to work the system by someone older at first.

Four different games are available. In the simplest *Treasure Island* you have to count the number of shields on the side of a ship and the numbers of chests shown on different islands, and move the ship to the island with the matching number. The program is well designed for small children as only the minimum number of keys are used, and all text is in lower case.

All movement is produced by simply pressing the spacebar and when you have decided that you have reached the correct location, you just press *Enter*. A friendly 'hand' symbol is used to indicate that you need to press the spacebar to continue, and the sound output varies from 'What shall we do with the drunken sailor' to 'Song of the Volga Boatmen' according to your performance.

In the second game *Space Stations* actual numerals are introduced and you must match the number of windows on a spaceship with the numeral which appears on a space station. In *Roll-A-Ball* you must sort a series of numbers into ascending order, and are rewarded by a rolling ball and a rising score stack.

In *Which Way*, you have to decide whether the number of green balls is greater than, equal to, or less than the number of blue balls displayed. At first we were irritated to find that we had to reload the program to change the game, but we

soon discovered that this was due to an omission from the manual rather than from the program. In fact, pressing *Shift* and 'left arrow' takes you straight back to the main menu.

The second offering was *Cranky* which is designed for an older age range (7-11) and introduces number patterns and relationships. The plot is built around a pocket calculator, some of whose circuits have been damaged by rain. The display first indicates the pattern of the offending circuits in Cranky's eyes, and then the same pattern is shown in detail on a 10 x 10 grid containing the numbers from 1 to 100 in sequence. All you have to do to make repairs is to make suitable additions and subtractions to move from one number to the next.

There is, however, one small problem — you are only allowed to use the numbers 5 and 3 and therefore some fiendish mental gymnastics are often necessary. At first sight the problems look very simple, but we soon found out that looks were deceiving and had great difficulty getting the correct answers every time when we were faced by complex shapes!

Overall, both of these educational programs are certainly as good as, if not better than, most of the competition in the educational sector. It is nice to see that the limitations of youngsters have been recognised and that, for example, the same series of commands and prompts are used in both programs. It is inevitable that educational programs are more expensive than simple games as the potential sales volume is much lower.

Conclusions

On the specialist side, Dragon have clearly added some useful programs to their range, but their efforts on the straight games side are much less successful. Software is only a sideline to Dragon, and specialist software houses know only too well that most of the real money is to be made from popular games. It is, therefore, not too surprising that they have been unable to lay their hands on material which can compete on equal terms with the excellent games programs produced for the Dragon by the independents.

Our final word must be a plea to Dragon to spend a little more time on careful and detailed checking of the contents of pretty new boxes before they are released.

Program	Price	Value (1-10)
Tee-Off	£7.95	6
Jump Jet	£7.95	3
Shuttlezap	£12.95	4
Viking	£7.95	4
Synther-7	£10.95	8
Let's Count	£10.95	8
Cranky	£10.95	8

* All programs produced by Dragon Data Ltd, Kenfig Industrial Estate, Morgan, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan SA13 2PC.



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BEYOND

CHALLENGING SOFTWARE

Catching the bus

Boris Allan looks at registers and counters in the Motorola microprocessors in the second of a three part series

We are told by Sinclair Research that the QL has "all the speed and power of 32-bit processor architecture". Sinclair Research refers to the Motorola MC68008, and last week we saw that the claim was possibly confusing.

The 32-bit processor architecture of the MC68008 consists of 17 32-bit registers, two 32-bit stack pointers, a 32-bit program counter, and a 16-bit status register.

For comparison, the Intel i8088 processor (used for the IBM PC) has 16-bit internal registers, as does the Motorola MC6809 processor (used for the Dragon and the Tandy Color computers). Both the i8088 and MC6809 have 8-bit data busses, yet the first is accounted a 16-bit chip and the second an 8-bit chip.

The MC68000 series are the only microprocessors for which it can be said that all registers are 32-bit; the closest to this, the National Semiconductors NS16000 series has eight 32-bit registers, and an almost equal number of 24-bit pointers.

The examination of the MC68000 registers has to start with the programming model (see diagram), and there is no difference between the register architecture of the MC68000 and the MC68008. More complex versions of the MC68000 series (ie. the MC68010 AND MC68020) have slightly differing architectures. I repeat what I said last week; the only difference between the MC68000 and MC68008 is that the first is quicker but the second is simpler to use with conventional gadgets.

The first eight registers are data registers (D0-D7), used for byte (8-bit), word (16-bit), and long word (32-bit) operations. The MC68000 instruction set contains instructions for hardware multiplication, and division of 16-bit and 32-bit numbers.

Each data register is 32 bits wide; byte values occupy the low order 8 bits, word values the low order 16 bits, and long words the entire register. Bit 0 is the rightmost/least significant bit, while the most significant/leftmost bit is designated bit 31. If the register is being used for a byte operation, for example, only bits 0 to seven are modified; the other bits remain unaltered.

The data registers can also be used as index registers, as can the next eight registers (A0-A7). The first seven of these registers (A0-A6) are address registers, and only recognise 32-bit values (that is, long words). Sometimes word values are implied by operations, and thus the low order word is used, but only after the high order word is modified to maintain the correct sign.

These registers can all be used as software stack pointers and as base address registers (a base address register is the lowest numbered location in an area of storage, eg the beginning of a table in memory). The system stack pointer (A7) can also be used for such purposes, but it has many other uses.

The MC68000 allows the creation of user stacks and queues by use of the system stack pointer. The system stack pointer is either the supervisor stack pointer (SSP) or the user stack pointer (USP), depending upon the value of the S bit in the status register. The state (either 'supervisor' or 'user') determines which operations are legal.

The 'privilege' state system is a means by which security can be provided in a computer system, and it works by allowing most programs to execute in user state.

In this system, the accesses are controlled so that the effects on other parts of the system are limited — essential in multi-tasking. The operating system executes in the supervisor state, and has access to all resources, performing housekeeping tasks for user programs.

Bytes within memory are individually addressable, with the high order byte of a word having an even address, which is also the address of the word. The low order byte

has an odd address which is one higher than the word address (this may seem back to front, but it is worth remembering that stacks on the MC68000 series fill from high memory down.)

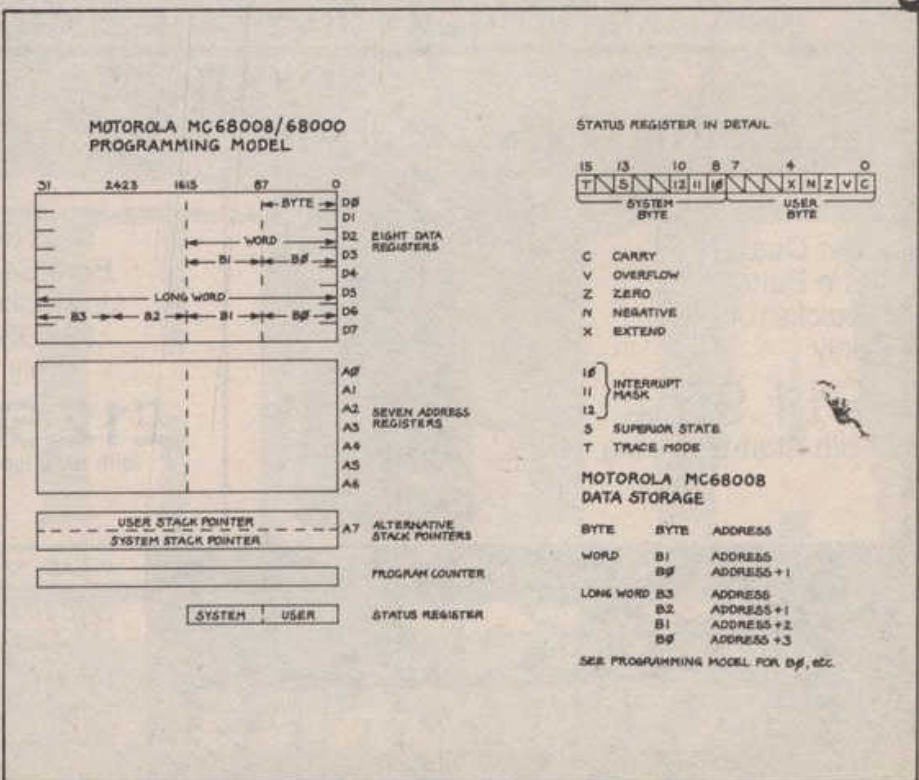
Instructions and multiple-byte data are accessed a byte at a time, in groups corresponding to the data type. For example, in the word read cycle, the byte at the even address (ie. the most significant byte) is read first and then the byte at the odd address one higher (the least significant byte) is read.

Whereas with MC68000 reading a word required four distinct states, for the QL's MC68008 there are eight distinct states (ie approximately twice as slow at accessing data). Given various comparison timings, it seems as if the MC68000 is about twice as fast as the MC68008, but the MC68008 is at least as fast as the i8086 (and far quicker than the IBM PC's i8088).

After the 32-bit program counter, there comes the 16-bit status register, which is split conceptually into two bytes. The user byte has five flags, four of which (negative, zero, overflow and carry) are fairly common.

These are a smaller complement than the flags on many 8-bit processors, and only the fifth (extend) is uncommon. When machine code is examined next week the meaning of these flags will be clearer.

The other half of the status register is the system byte, with five flags. Three bits are used to define the current interrupt level, so that any interrupt of level higher than that given will be recognised. The other two bits indicate whether the processor is in trace (T) mode or in the supervisor state (S).



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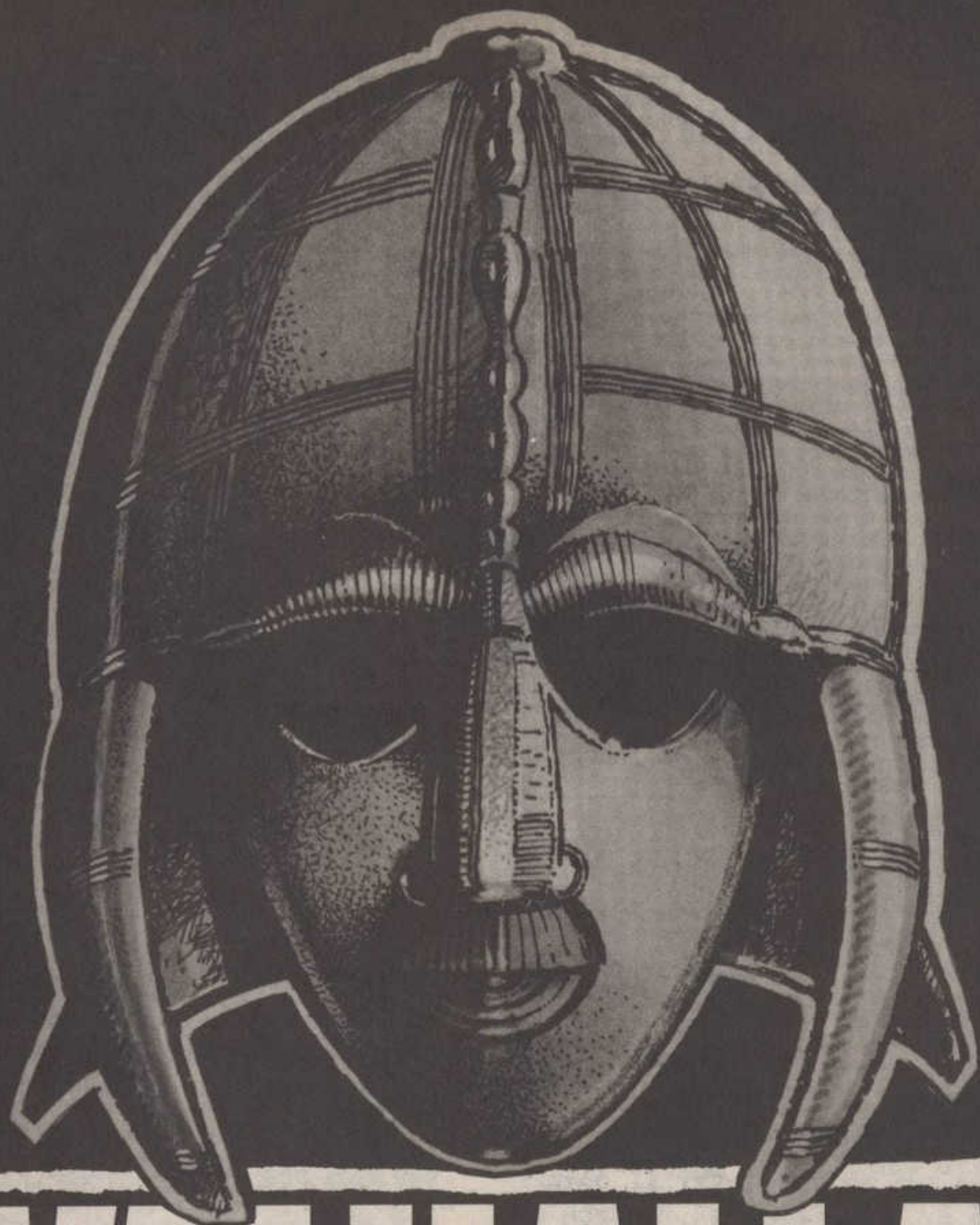
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Warp factor 2

D Edwards continues his Star Trek voyage with the second part of his three part series

This week we will discuss how to obtain alternative character sets on the Spectrum.

If you read page 173 of the Spectrum manual you will see the word *Chars*. This, like all other system variables, will not be recognised by name from Basic, but you can refer to them by their memory locations using *Peek* and *Poke*. The system variable *Chars* holds the location of the data which is the character set. Normally, this is address 15616 which is in the Rom. So every time the Spectrum goes to print a character whose ASCII code is between 32 and 127, it uses the system variable *Chars* and finds the bit patterns, corresponding to each character and uses them to print a character. The bit patterns are defined in exactly the same way as the user defined ones by using an 8 by 8 grid as shown.

Rather than using the bin function, you can work out the decimal values easily. Draw your character on a grid, such as the one shown. For each point containing a dot, add the appropriate value as shown above and below the grid.

The actual value for *Chars* is 23606 and 23607. The numbers they contain will give

the address where the character set is located, if you add them together and multiply by 256. Normally:

```
PEEK 23606 = 0
and PEEK 23607 = 60
so address = 15626; ie, the addresses of
the character set:
(1+60+0) = 256 = 15616
```

128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1	
								0
								16
								16
								16
								16
								0
								16
								0
128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1	

All we have to do if we wish to create a new character set is to find a suitable position in memory for it, such as 64000, and work out what this is as a two byte number. The following program will do this:

```
10 INPUT "Address"; a
20 PRINT a-256*INT (a/256)
30 PRINT INT (a/256)
```

All you have to do is to *Poke* the first number produced into 23606, and the second into 23607. Then you must copy the normal character set into this area. This is done by line 9500 of the initialiser. Then *Poke* the data for any new characters you wish to program. The formula to work out the address for each new character is:

Address of character set + (Code of character to be replaced - 32) x 8

Remember that each character requires 8 items of data and so must be added to this address for each bit pattern.

The initialiser replaces all the upper case letters and numbers, so that whenever these characters are printed your new set will appear. You may have many character sets in Ram at once and select them by *Poking Chars* with the start address. With 48K you can have 55 sets in memory at any time, as each one only occupies 760 bytes — of course having this means that you have no memory left for a program!

Next week we will conclude with the rest of the listing and explain what the machine code does and show techniques to speed up Basic programs.

```
530 FOR f=6 TO 4 STEP -1: PRINT
AT f,20-f;"EFG": BEEP .07,f: PR
INT AT f,20-f; OVER 1;"EFG": NEX
T f: PRINT AT f,16;"EFG": FOR c=
0 TO 60: OUT 254,c: OUT 254,c*2-
23: NEXT c: BORDER 0: PRINT AT f
,16; OVER 1;"EFG": INK 7: LET nu
c=0: LET den=20+INT (RND*15): GO
TO 135
```

```
550 REM SHIP-ENTERPRISE
555 FOR s=30 TO 300 STEP 4: FOR
f=0 TO 255 STEP s: OUT 254,f: O
UT 254,-f: NEXT f: NEXT s: DATA
"THE ENTERPRISE HAS BEEN", "DEST
ROYED BY THE MUCRON'S", "PHOTON T
ORPEDOES AND THEIR", "CYCLOIDS. Y
OU CANNOT COMPLETE", "YOUR MISSIO
N. IF YOU HAD USED", "THE SHIELDS
YOU MAY OF", "SURVIVED THE ATTAC
KS.", " ", " ", "THE GRAND MUCRON OF
BLOB", "IS VERY GLAD.", " ", " "
560 RESTORE 555: FOR x=1 TO 13:
READ t$: FOR l=1 TO LEN t$: PRI
NT AT 3+x,l;"E": CHR$ 8: OVER 0;t
$(l): NEXT l: NEXT x: FOR p=1 TO
200: NEXT p: LET pcl1=3: LET pc
l2=16: GO SUB 1000: GO SUB 650:
GO SUB 7000
```

```
565 STOP
600 REM SHIP-ENTERPRISE
605 FOR s=7 TO 0.1 STEP -.1: FO
R b=7 TO 0 STEP -s: BORDER b: NE
XT b: NEXT s: DATA "SHIPS COMPU
TERS REVEAL THAT", "THE ENTERPRISE
E'S POWER", "SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN E
```

```
XHAUSTED.", "YOU NOW CANNOT COMPL
ETE YOUR", "MISSION. IF YOU HAD U
SED THE", "PLASMA DISRUPTORS AND
THE", "SHIELDS LESS YOU MAY HAVE"
"SURVIVED.", " ", " ", "THE GRAND M
UCRON OF BLOB", "FINDS HUMANS VER
Y AMUSING."
```

```
610 RESTORE 605: FOR x=1 TO 12:
READ t$: FOR l=1 TO LEN t$: PRI
NT PAPER 0: INK 5: AT 3+x,l;"C": C
HR$ 8: OVER 0;t$(l): NEXT l: NEX
T x
```

```
615 FOR p=1 TO 100: NEXT p: LET
pcl1=3: LET pcl2=16: GO SUB 100
0: GO SUB 650: GO SUB 7000
```

```
620 STOP
```

```
650 REM SHIP-ENTERPRISE
```

```
651 LET s$="b1ee)w(aer) (i) #1
(1) get u(ou)": PAUSE 50: PRINT
```

```
OVER 0: PAPER 1: INK 6: AT 0,11:
```

```
"THE GRAND": AT 1,11:" MUCRON
```



```
: PLOT 8,a: DRAW 40,40-a/4: PLOT
```

```
: 100,a+3: DRAW 50,-2: NEXT a: IN
```

```
K 4: OVER 0: PLOT 8,45: DRAW 200
```

```
: 12: PLOT 8,43: DRAW 200,2: PLOT
```

```
: 10,41: DRAW 200,2
```

```
: 652 BRIGHT 1: INK 5: PLOT 80,50
```

```
: DRAW 15,2,1: DRAW -4,20: DRAW
```

```
5,7: DRAW 30,0: DRAW 5,-7: DRAW
```

```
-4,-20
```

```
: 653 DRAW 15,2,1: DRAW -2,36: DR
```

```
AW -10,3: DRAW 2,4: DRAW 6,4,2:
```

```
DRAW 30,-3: DRAW 3,-25: DRAW 4,2
```

```
: 1: DRAW 0,3: DRAW -3,25: DRAW -
```

```
30,-1,1
```

```

654 DRAW -2,5: DRAW -3,10: DRAW
-20,20,3: DRAW -20,-20,3: DRAW
-3,-10: DRAW 2,-5: DRAW -30,-1,1
DRAW 3,-25: DRAW 0,-3:
655 DRAW 4,2,1: DRAW -3,25: DRA
W 30,-3: DRAW 2,-3: DRAW -10,-3:
DRAW -3,-6,2: DRAW -6,-2: DRAW
-1,-25: DRAW -2,-4: DRAW 0,-4
657 INK 4: PLOT 115,112: DRAW -
2,-25: DRAW 4,3,2: DRAW 4,-3,2:
DRAW -2,25
658 INK 6: PLOT 72,85: DRAW -10
-20: PLOT 72,85: DRAW 5,-25: PL
OT 72,85: DRAW 0,-20
659 PLOT 170,80: DRAW 10,-22: P
LOT 170,80: DRAW -5,-25: PLOT 17
0,80: DRAW 2,-20,1
662 FOR f=2 TO 5 STEP 2: CIRCLE
INK 3,107,120,f: CIRCLE INK 3,1
25,120,f: CIRCLE INK 5,115,120,f
+1: NEXT f
670 FOR f=1 TO 300: NEXT f: RET
URN
999 STOP
1000 REM CRYSTAL FOUND
1010 FOR c=pc11 TO pc12: PRINT A
T c,1: INK 7: PAPER 0: FLASH 0:
OVER 0: BRIGHT 0: INVERSE 0: NE
XT c: RETURN
1045 REM CRYSTAL FOUND
1050 DATA "SCANNERS REVEAL THAT
YOU HAVE", "DESTROYED THE CRYSTA
L AND YOU", "NOW CANNOT RETURN TO
THE", "STARBASE.", "YOU HAVE
FAILED AND SO THE", "ENTERPRISE W
ILL SELF DESTRUCT."
1055 RESTORE 1050: FOR x=1 TO 7:
READ t$: FOR l=1 TO LEN t$: PRI
NT INK 2,AT x+l,1: INK 5,CHR
# t$: OVER 0: t$(l): NEXT l: NEXT
x
1060 PRINT PAPER 1: INK 6: OVER
0: AT 0,11: "DETONATION": AT 1,11:
IN
650
1065 FOR x=99 TO 10 STEP -1: PRI
NT OVER 0: PAPER 1: INK 6: AT 1,1
4: X: BEEP X/899, X/2: NEXT X: FOR
x=9 TO 0 STEP -1: PRINT OVER 0:
PAPER 1: INK 6: AT 1,14: "X:
BEEP X/899, X/2: NEXT X: FOR x=0 T
O 240 STEP 5: OUT 254,X: NEXT X:
LET pc11=3: LET pc12=16: GO SUB
1000: PAUSE 100
1070 DATA "THE ENTERPRISE IS DE
STROYED.", "THE GRAND MUCRON OF
BLOB IS", "ECSTATIC WITH DELIGHT
". RESTORE 1070: FOR g=3 TO 6: R
EAD t$: FOR l=1 TO LEN t$: PRINT
AT g,l,CHR# t$: OVER 0: t$(l)
NEXT l: NEXT g: PAUSE 200
1075 LET pc11=3: LET pc12=6: GO
SUB 1000: GO SUB 650: GO SUB 700
0: STOP
2000 REM CRYSTAL FOUND
2005 PRINT OVER 0: PAPER 1: INK
6: AT 0,11: "CRYSTAL": BEEP .3:
-12: PRINT OVER 0: PAPER 1: INK
6: AT 1,11: "LOCATED": LET disp
=USR 65064: PRINT OVER 0: PAPER
1: INK 6: AT 0,11: "CRYSTAL": AT
1,11: "LOCATED": PRINT AT x,y
: INK 6,k$: FOR i=7 TO 1 STEP -1
: PRINT AT x,y: OVER 1: "HHH": B
EEP .04,10: PRINT AT x,y: OVER 1:
"III": LET c=USR 65030: NEXT i:
2015 FOR i=7 TO 0 STEP -1: PRINT
OVER 1: INK 1: AT x-1,y: "I": AT
x,y: "I": AT x+1,y: "I": OVER
1: AT x-1,y: "HHH": AT x+1,y: "III":
BEEP .1,i*2: NEXT i: PRINT AT x
y: OVER 0: INK 0: k$
2035 RANDOMIZE USR 65064: GO SUB
70: INK 5: FOR l=0 TO 40 STEP 4

```

```

FOR g=0 TO 1: BEEP .01,l*0: OU
ER 0: PLOT 10,40: DRAW 100,l: PL
OT 10,150: DRAW 100,-l: PLOT 245
40: DRAW -100,l: PLOT 245,150:
DRAW -100,-l: NEXT g: NEXT l
2040 LET display=USR 65064: OVER
1: GO SUB 70: OVER 0: FOR b=0 T
O 1: BRIGHT b: FOR i=1 TO 7: INK
i: PLOT 85,97: DRAW 20,20: DRA
W 20,-20: DRAW 0,40: DRAW -20,-2
0
2045 PLOT 90,97: DRAW 80,0: DRAW
-20,20: DRAW -20,-20: DRAW 0,40
: DRAW 20,-20
2050 PLOT 85,97: DRAW 20,-20: DR
AW 20,20: DRAW -20,-20: DRAW 20,
-20: DRAW 0,40:
2055 PLOT 90,97: DRAW 80,0: DRAW
-20,-20: DRAW -20,20: DRAW 0,-4
0: DRAW 20,20
2060 BEEP .01,i*3: NEXT i: NEXT
b: BRIGHT 0: FOR p=0 TO 100: NEX
T p: DATA "YOU HAVE CAPTURED THE
", "DILITHIUM CRYSTAL FROM THE",
MUCROIDS AND BY DOING THIS", "DES
TROYED THEIR FLEET.", "THE
GRAND MUCRON OF BLOB IS", "VERY
ANGRY WITH YOU, HE SWEARS", "VENG
ENCE ON ALL MANKIND."
2065 RESTORE 2060: FOR p=3 TO 11
: READ t$: FOR l=1 TO LEN t$: PR
INT AT p,l,CHR# t$: OVER 0: t$
(l): NEXT l: NEXT p
2070 FOR p=1 TO 100: NEXT p: LET
pc11=3: LET pc12=16: GO SUB 100
0: GO SUB 650: GO SUB 7000: STOP
3000 REM TRAC OF BEAM DESTROYED
3001 LET s$="g(ouu) d(11)": PAUS
E 40:
3005 FOR s=1 TO 16 STEP .3: FOR
f=0 TO 17 STEP .3: OUT 254,s: OUT
254,-f: NEXT f: NEXT s: DATA "S
HIPS COMPUTERS REVEAL THAT", "THE
TRACTOR BEAM HAS EXPLODED.", "IF
YOU HAD ENERGISED IT LATER", "IT
MAY OF LASTED LONG ENOUGH", "TO
CAPTURE THE CRYSTAL.", "YOU
NOW CANNOT COMPLETE YOUR", "MISS
ION TO FIND IT", "THE GRAND
MUCRON OF BLOB FINDS", "THIS VER
Y FUNNY."
3010 PRINT PAPER 1: OVER 0: INK
6: AT 1,11: FLASH 1: "BEAM OFF":
BORDER 0: RESTORE 3005: FOR p=0
TO 15: READ t$: FOR l=1 TO LEN
t$: PRINT INK 7,AT p,l,CHR#
t$: OVER 0: t$(l): NEXT l: NEXT p
3015 FOR p=0 TO 100: NEXT p: LET
pc11=3: LET pc12=16: GO SUB 100
0: GO SUB 650: GO SUB 7000
3020 STOP
3050 LET keys=0: PAPER 0: BORDER
0: INK 7: OVER 0: BRIGHT 0: FLA
SH 0: CLS: GO SUB 9570: LET pc1
1=0: LET pc12=21: GO SUB 1000: I
NK 5
3060 DATA "WELCOME TO MUC
ROID RUN", "PRESS ENTER
TO CONTINUE", "YOU ARE TH
E CAPTAIN OF THE", "STARSHIP ENTE
RPRISE AND ARE ON", "A ROUTINE PA
TROL MISSION.", "WHILST JOURNEYIN
G THROUGH THE", "VOID YOU RECEIVE
A DISTRESS", "SIGNAL FROM YOUR S
ISTER SHIP", "THE CHALLENGER.",
"GOING TO INVESTIGATE YOU", "D
ISCOVER THAT THE CHALLENGER", "HA
S BEEN DESTROYED BY THE", "EVILEST
MOST VILE CREATURE IN", "THE KN
OWN UNIVERSE, THE GRAND", "MUCRON
OF BLOB.", "PRESS ENTER TO
CONTINUE", " "

```

Program 3 reads the characters to be *Poked*, while Program 4 will *Poke* the characters to the screen. To use Program 4, the characters to be printed must be contained in *PR\$* and their position in *Q5*, ($Q5=X+(255*Y)$), eq:

Program 5 uses this method to display the screen for the 'Lawn Mower' game. *Poking* the screen is fast enough for displaying the screen, but is too slow for moving graphics. To achieve speed you need to *Poke* the characters to the screen and then *GET* them. Program 6 shows how this is done. When the character is needed, it can be put to the screen as shown in

After defining the graphics for the game, the next stage of development is to add movement. The movement routine in this game is needed to move the lawn mower. The lawn mower moves continually around the screen until it hits an obstacle. Figure 4 shows how the movement routine works. Program 8 contains the movement routine:

Along with the movement routine is a check routine. This routine checks to see if

The position of the lawn mower is stored in X & Y , so to tell if the lawn mower has hit anything you can find the value of $P(X/8, Y/8)$. This will give you a value between 0 and 3:

Program 9 contains the check routine for the program and is incorporated in the loop containing the movement routine:

LINE 570 Checks to see if a wall is hit
580 " " " " tree is hit
590 " " " " blank square has been
mowed over
620 " " " " you have run over an oil
can

```

graph TD
    Start([START]) --> Input[/INPUT  
A$/]
    Input --> Decision{IS  
A$ ↑ ↓ → ←  
?}
    Decision -- YES --> Process[B$ = A$]
    Decision -- NO --> PrintGrass[/PRINT  
GRASS OVER  
THE  
LAWN MOWER/]
    Process --> PrintGrass
    PrintGrass --> PrintMower[/PRINT  
LAWN  
MOWER/]
    PrintMower --> Pause[PAUSE FOR  
P]
    Pause --> Input

```

```

30 DIM U(2),D(2),L(2),R(2),B(2),G(2),E(2),
   P(30,20),O(2),W(2),SR(1269),AC(127,7)
70 PMODE 4:PCLS:SCREEN 1,1:CLS:PRINT @
   232,"PREPARING SCREEN"
80 PR#=" ":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),B
90 PR#="! ":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),D

```

```

100 PR$=CHR$(34):GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),U
110 PR$="#":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),R
120 PR$=" ":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),L
130 PR$="&":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),G
140 PR$=" ":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),E
150 PR$="<":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),O
160 PR$=">":GOSUB 1480:GET(0,0)-(7,7),W

```

PROGRAM 7

```

380 FOR R=1 TO 15
390 A=RND(20)+1:B=RND(13)+1
400 P(A,B)=1
410 PUT(A*B,B*B)-(A*B+7,(B*B)+7),E
420 NEXT
430 FOR C=1 TO 10
440 A=RND(20)+1:B=RND(13)+1
450 IF P(A,B)=1 THEN 440 ELSE P(A,B)=2
460 PUT(A*B,B*B)-(A*B+7,(B*B)+7),O
470 NEXT C

```

PROGRAM 8

```

480 X=80:Y=80:P(10,10)=0:F=20
490 A$=INKEY$:IF A$="" THEN 520
500 IF A$<>CHR$(94) AND A$<>CHR$(10) AND
A$<>CHR$(8) AND A$<>CHR$(9) THEN 520
510 B$=A$
520 PUT(X,Y)-(X+7,Y+7),G

```

```

530 IF B$=CHR$(94) THEN Y=Y-8:PUT
(X,Y)-(X+7,Y+7),U
540 IF B$=CHR$(10) THEN Y=Y+8:PUT(X,Y)
-(X+7,Y+7),D
550 IF B$=CHR$(8) THEN X=X-8:PUT
(X,Y)-(X+7,Y+7),L
560 IF B$=CHR$(9) THEN X=X+8:PUT(X,
Y)-(X+7,Y+7),R
630 FOR PA=1 TO P:NEXT
640 GOTO 490

```

PROGRAM 9

```

570 IF X=0 OR X=200 OR Y=0 OR Y=144 THEN
PUT(X,Y)-(X+7,Y+7),W:GOTO 650
580 IF P(X/8,Y/8)=1 THEN PUT(X,Y)-(X+7,
Y+7),E:GOTO 650
590 IF P(X/8,Y/8)=0 THEN BN=BN+1:P(X/8,
Y/8)=3:IF BN=175 THEN 840
600 F=F+1:IF F<20 THEN 620 ELSE LINE(230,
F-1)-(232,F),PSET,BF
610 IF F>190 THEN PUT(X,Y)-(X+7,Y+7),
B:GOTO 650
620 IF P(X/8,Y/8)=2 THEN P(X/8,Y/8)=0:
F=F-50:IF F<25 THEN LINE(230,190)-
(232,25),PRESET,BF ELSE LINE(230,190)
-(232,F),PRESET,BF

```

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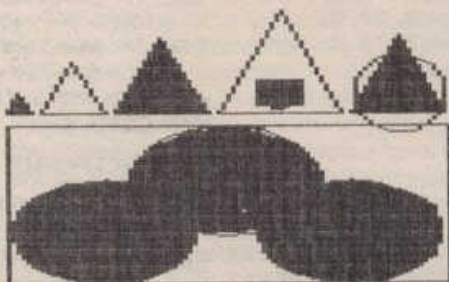
CRYSTAL COMPUTING IS THE TRADING NAME OF CHANDREX LTD. The name Crystal is used under licence

Painting by numbers

Simon Pithers presents a graphics drawing and painting program for the BBC

This program, called *BBC Graphics Pad*, is written for a BBC Model B and uses most, if not all, of the available memory. I have tried to make it as flexible as possible and have added a procedure to allow your picture to be screen dumped to a printer.

The program should work normally on all versions of BBC Basic as I have already tried it on Basic I & II. For users with O.S. 1.0 or below, line 190 should be replaced as in the Rem statement.



This program has been split into two halves. The second half will be printed next week.

Program Procedures:

PROCscreen — This Procedure sets up the MODE 2 screen
PROCkeywords — This prints the utility keywords in the left hand box
PROCinput — This asks the user to enter a choice.
PROCmovecursor — This allows the user to move the pen around etc
PROCclsinfospace — This clears the left hand side box
PROCwait — This makes the computer wait for about a second
PROCcircle — This allows the user to draw a full or empty circle in any colour
PROCsav — This allows the user to save the picture
PROCload — This allows the user to load back the picture

```

10 REM *****
20 REM *
30 REM *   GRAPHICS PAD   *
40 REM *
50 REM *   (c) 1984       *
60 REM *
70 REM *   S.C.Pithers    *
80 REM *
90 REM *****
100
110
120 MODE7
130 PRINTTAB(3,10); "Do you want
    instructions (Y/N)"
140 A$=GET$
150 IF A$="N" THEN 180
160 CLS
170 PROCprogramdetails
180 MODE2
190 *FX200,1
200 REM Above for OS 1.0 onwards only
210 REM if OS 0.1 then use 'ON ERROR GOTO ERL
220 VDU23;8202;0;0;0;
230 PROCscreen
240 PROCinput
250 END
260
270
280 DEF PROCscreen
290 X%=640:Y%=312
300 X1%=640:Y1%=312
310 GCOL0,2
320 MOVE0,200:DRAW1280,200
330 COLOUR6
340 PROCkeywords
350 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
360 VDU 29,0,200;
370 VDU 24,0,200;1280;1024;
380 COLOUR 5
390 ENDPROC
400
410
420 DEF PROCkeywords
430 VDU 28,0,31,19,0
440 PRINT TAB(0,26); "Tri  Circ";
450 PRINT TAB(0,27); "Box  Vdus";
460 PRINT TAB(0,28); "Save Load";
470 PRINT TAB(0,29); "Move-curs";
480 PRINT TAB(0,30); "END";
490 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
500 ENDPROC
510
520
530 DEF PROCinput
540 CLS
550 COLOUR3
560 PRINT "Enter a"
570 PRINT "letter"
580 A$=GET$
590 IF A$="T" THEN PROCtriangle:GOTO540
600 IF A$="C" THEN PROCcircle:GOTO540
610 IF A$="B" THEN PROCbox:GOTO540
620 IF A$="S" THEN PROCsave:GOTO540
630 IF A$="L" THEN PROCload:GOTO540
640 IF A$="V" THEN PROCvdu:GOTO540
650 IF A$="M" THEN PROCmovecursor:GOTO540
660 IF A$="E" THEN PROCend
670 SOUND1,-15,50,5
680 CLS
690 COLOUR1
700 PRINT "INVALID"
710 PRINT "KEYWORD?"
720 PROCwait
730 GOTO 540
740 ENDPROC
750
760
770 DEF PROCmovecursor
780 PROCclsinfospace
790 VDU 28,0,31,19,0
800 COLOUR5
810 PRINT TAB(0,26); "Press S"
820 PRINT TAB(0,27); "to go to"
830 PRINT TAB(0,28); "keywords"
840 PRINT TAB(0,29); "1=Pen on"
850 PRINT TAB(0,30); "2=Pen off"
860 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
870 CLS
880 COLOUR7
890 PRINT TAB(0,0); "C=Colour"
900 *FX12,5
910 *FX11,5
920 Q=3:C=7:ST=4
930 GCOL0,C
940 PLOT69,X%,Y%
950 REPEAT
960 GCOL 0,C
970 IF INKEY(-98) THEN PLOT69,X%,Y%:
    X%=X%-ST:PLOT69,X%,Y%
980 IF INKEY(-67) THEN PLOT69,X%,Y%:X%=
    X%+ST:PLOT69,X%,Y%
990 IF INKEY(-73) THEN PLOT69,X%,Y%:Y%
    =Y%+ST:PLOT69,X%,Y%
1000 IF INKEY(-105) THEN PLOT69,X%,Y%:
    Y%=Y%-ST:PLOT69,X%,Y%

```

```

1010 IF INKEY(-49) THEN Q=0
1020 IF INKEY(-50) THEN Q=3
1030 IF INKEY(-83) THEN C=C+1:PLOT69,X%,
    Y%:GCOLOR,C:PLOT69,X%,Y%
1040 IF C=8 THEN C=0
1050 IF C=0 THEN PLOT 69,X%,Y%
1060 PRINTTAB(0,3);"COL=";C;" "
1070 IF INKEY(-82) THEN PROCclsinfospace:
    PROCkeywords:ENDPROC
1080 PRINTTAB(0,1);"X=";X%;" "
1090 PRINTTAB(0,2);"Y=";Y%;" "
1100 IF X%<5 X%=4
1110 IF X%>1275 X%=1276
1120 IF Y%<5 Y%=4
1130 IF Y%>819 Y%=820
1140 UNTILFALSE
1150 ENDPROC
1160
1170
1180 DEF PROCclsinfospace
1190 VDU 28,0,31,19,0
1200 PRINT TAB(0,26);" "
1210 PRINT TAB(0,27);" "
1220 PRINT TAB(0,28);" "
1230 PRINT TAB(0,29);" "
1240 PRINT TAB(0,30);" "
1250 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
1260 *FX12,0
1270 *FX11,0
1280 *FX15,1
1290 ENDPROC
1300
1310
1320 DEF PROCwait
1330 FOR Z=1 TO 2000:NEXT
1340 ENDPROC
1350
1360
1370 DEF PROCcircle
1380 PROCclsinfospace
1390 VDU 28,0,31,19,0
1400 COLOUR6
1410 PRINT TAB(0,26);"Enter"
1420 PRINT TAB(0,27);"Radius"
1430 PRINT TAB(0,28);"& Colour"
1440 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
1450 CLS
1460 PRINT"X Radius="
1470 INPUT R%
1480 CLS
1490 PRINT"Y Radius="
1500 INPUT R1%
1510 CLS
1520 GCOL0,0:PLOT69,X%,Y%
1530 PRINT"Colour="
1540 INPUT C
1550 CLS
1560 PRINT "Filled in"
1570 PRINT "or not ?"
1580 PRINT "Y or N"
1590 INPUT FI$
1600 IF FI$="Y" OR FI$="y" THEN 1690
1610 CLS
1620 GCOL0,0:PLOT69,X%,Y%
1630 GCOL0,C
1640 MOVEX%,Y%+R1%
1650 FORF%=1TO366STEP12
1660 B=F%*PI/180
1670 DRAW R%*SIN(B)+X%,R1%*COS(B)+Y%
1680 NEXT:GOTO1760
1690 GCOL0,C
1700 MOVEX%,Y%+R1%
1710 FORF%=1TO366STEP12

```

```

1720 B=F%*PI/180
1730 MOVEX%,Y%
1740 PLOT85,R%*SIN(B)+X%,R1%*COS(B)+Y%
1750 NEXT
1760 CLS
1770 PROCclsinfospace
1780 PROCkeywords
1790 ENDPROC
1800
1810
1820 DEF PROCsave
1830 PROCclsinfospace
1840 CLS
1850 VDU 28,0,31,19,0
1860 COLOUR1
1870 PRINT TAB(0,26);"SCREEN"
1880 PRINT TAB(0,27);"SAVEING"
1890 PRINT TAB(0,28);"FILENAME"
1900 PRINT TAB(0,29);"=PADFILE"
1910 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
1920 PRINT"ARE YOU"
1930 PRINT"SURE (Y/N)"
1940 INPUT A$
1950 IF A$="N" THEN CLS:PROCclsinfospace:
    PROCkeywords:ENDPROC
1960 CLS
1970 *SAVE"PADFILE" 3000 70FF
1980 PRINT"SAVED"
1990 PROCwait
2000 *FX12,1
2010 CLS
2020 PRINT"Do you want"
2030 PRINT"to end the"
2040 PRINT"program."
2050 INPUT A$
2060 IF LEFT$(A$,1)="Y" OR LEFT$(A$,1)="y"
    THEN PROCend
2070 CLS
2080 PROCclsinfospace
2090 PROCkeywords
2100 ENDPROC
2110
2120
2130 DEF PROCload
2140 PROCclsinfospace
2150 CLS
2160 VDU 28,0,31,19,0
2170 COLOUR3
2180 PRINT TAB(0,26);"LOADING"
2190 PRINT TAB(0,27);"SCREEN"
2200 VDU 28,10,31,19,26
2210 PRINT"ARE YOU"
2220 PRINT"SURE (Y/N)"
2230 INPUT A$
2240 IF A$="N" THEN CLS:PROCclsinfospace:
    PROCkeywords:ENDPROC
2250 CLS
2260 PRINT "Press any"
2270 PRINT "key to"
2280 PRINT "start the"
2290 PRINT "loading."
2300 A$=GET$
2310 *LOAD "PADFILE" 3000
2320 PRINT"LOADED"
2330 PROCwait
2340 CLS
2350 PROCclsinfospace
2360 PROCkeywords
2370 ENDPROC
2380

```



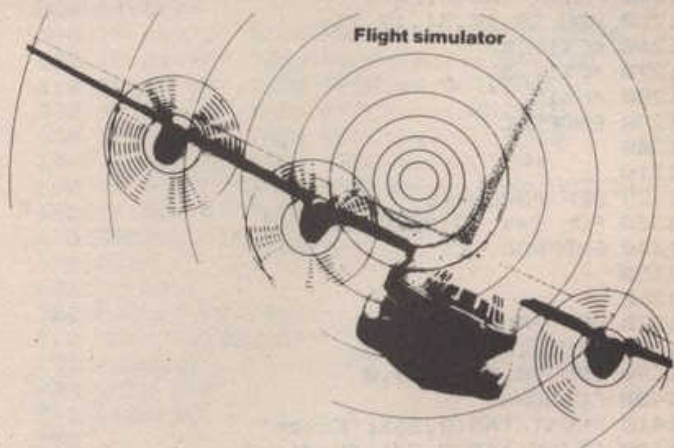
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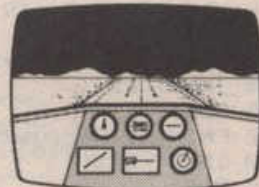
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A little byte music

Richard Barton concludes his SID chip demonstration program

This is the second part of Richard Barton's program for the Commodore 64, which demonstrates all the facilities of

the SID chip. The first part was published last week.

The program is easy to operate and

controlled either from the keyboard or a joystick. It also gives full opportunities for variations on the character of each note.

The listing below is self-explanatory, and Rems are used to clarify the various sections of the program.

```

18060 IFRG>1THENPRINT":GOTO18050
18065 IFRG=1THENRG=4
18070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
20000 REM SECTION TWO *****
20010 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
20020 PRINT"SECTION TWO END (SPECIAL) R884"
20025 PRINT"PLAYING CONTROL SUSPENDED WHILST VIEWING"
20030 PRINT"SELECT CONTROL FROM FOLLOWING:-"
20040 PRINT"1 = PITCH SYNC-VOICE TWO WITH ONE"
20050 PRINT"2 = PITCH SYNC-VOICE TWO WITH THREE"
20060 PRINT"3 = PITCH SYNC-VOICE ONE WITH THREE"
20070 PRINT"4 = VOICE THREE DISABLE"
20080 PRINT"5 = VOICE THREE FREQUENCY UTILISATION"
20085 PRINT"6 = ENVELOPE OUTPUT UTILISATION"
20090 PRINT"7 = RETURN TO MENU ONE"
20091 GETA$:IFA$=""THEN20091
20093 A=VAL(A$)
20095 IFA>7THEN20091
20096 PRINTCHR$(147)
20097 ONAGOTO21000,22000,23000,24000,25000,26000,10
21000 REM PITCH SYNC-TWO WITH ONE*****
21010 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
21020 PRINT"1 PITCH SYNC-TWO WITH ONE R884"
21030 INPUT"SELECT SYNC- ON=1/OFF=0-";S2
21040 IFS2=1THENS2=2
21050 GOTO10
22000 REM PITCH SYNC THREE WITH TWO*****
22010 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
22020 PRINT"2 PITCH SYNC-THREE WITH TWO R884"
22030 INPUT"SELECT SYNC- ON=1/OFF=0-";S3
22040 IFS3=1THENS3=2
22050 GOTO10
23000 REM PITCH SYNC-ONE WITH THREE*****
23010 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
23020 PRINT"3 PITCH SYNC-ONE WITH THREE R884"
23030 INPUT"SELECT SYNC- ON=1/OFF=0-";S1
23040 IFS1=1THENS1=2
23050 GOTO10
24000 REM VOICE THREE DISABLE*****
24010 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
24020 PRINT"4 VOICE THREE DISABLE R884"
24030 INPUT"SELECT DISABLE- ON=1/OFF=0-";Z2
24035 IFZ2=1THENPRINT":GOTO24030
24040 IFZ2=1THENZ2=128
24050 GOTO10
25000 REM VOICE THREE FREQUENCY UTIL***
25010 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
25020 PRINT"5 VOICE THREE FREQUENCY UTILISED R884"
25030 PRINT"SELECT CONTROL FROM FOLLOWING:-"
25040 PRINT"1 = CONTROL PITCH- VOICE ONE"
25050 PRINT"2 = CONTROL PITCH- VOICE TWO"
25060 PRINT"3 = CONTROL FILTER FREQUENCY"
25065 PRINT"4 = RETURN TO MAIN MENU"
25070 GETA$:IFA$=""THEN25070
25080 A=VAL(A$)
25090 IFA>4THEN25070
25095 PRINTCHR$(147)
25100 ONAGOTO26000,29000,30000,10
26000 REM *****
26010 REM CONTROL BY ENVELOPE (V3)
26012 REM *****
26020 PRINT"ENVELOPE OUTPUT UTILISATION R884"
26030 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
26035 PRINT"CONTROL BY VOICE THREE'S ENVELOPE R884"
26036 PRINT"SELECT FROM FOLLOWING:-"
26037 PRINT"1 = VOICE ONE PITCH CONTROLLED"
26040 PRINT"2 = VOICE TWO PITCH CONTROLLED"
26045 PRINT"3 = FILTER CUTOFF FREQ.CONTROLLED"
26050 IFC1>1THENPRINT":GOTO26040
26060 GETA$:IFA$=""THEN26060
26070 A=VAL(A$)
26080 IFA>3THEN26060
26090 PRINTCHR$(147)
26100 ONAGOTO32000,33000,34000
28000 REM *****
28010 REM FREQ.MODULATION OF V1 BY V3
28020 REM *****
28030 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
28035 PRINT"2 FREQ.MODULATION OF V1 BY V3 R884"
28040 INPUT"SELECT CONTROL- ON=1/OFF=0-";C1
28045 IFC1>1THENPRINT":GOTO28040
28060 GOTO10
29000 REM *****
29010 REM FREQ.MODULATION OF V2 BY V3
29020 REM *****
29030 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
29035 PRINT"3 FREQ.MODULATION OF V2 BY V3 R884"
29040 INPUT"SELECT CONTROL- ON=1/OFF=0-";C2
29045 IFC2>1THENPRINT":GOTO29040
29060 GOTO10
30000 REM *****
30010 REM FREQ.MODULATION OF FILT.BY V3
30020 REM *****
30030 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
30035 PRINT"4 FREQ.MODULATION OF FILTER BY V3 R884"
30040 INPUT"SELECT CONTROL- ON=1/OFF=0-";C3
30045 IFC3>1THENPRINT":GOTO30040
30060 PRINTCHR$(147):GOTO10
32000 REM *****
32010 REM VOICE ONE PITCH CONTROL(ENV3)
32020 REM *****
32030 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
32040 PRINT"6 VOICE ONE PITCH CONTROL BY ENV(3) R884"
32050 INPUT"CONTROL ON -1=YES/0=NO";O1
32060 IFG1>1THENPRINT":GOTO32050
32090 PRINTCHR$(147):GOTO10
33000 REM *****
33010 REM VOICE TWO PITCH CONTROL(ENV3)
33020 REM *****
33030 PRINT"*****SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
33040 PRINT"7 VOICE TWO PITCH CONTROL BY ENV(3) R884"
33050 INPUT"CONTROL ON -1=YES/0=NO";O2
33060 IFG2>1THENPRINT":GOTO33050
33090 PRINTCHR$(147):GOTO10

```

continued on page 30 ▶

◀ continued from page 29

```

34000 REM *****
34010 REM FILTER FREQ. CONTROL BY ENV(3)
34020 REM *****
34030 PRINT"NOISID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
34040 PRINT"FILTER FREQ. CONTROL BY ENV(3) R884"
34050 INPUT"CONTROL ON -I=YES/0=NO":I03
34060 IF I03>1 THEN PRINT"J1":GOTO34050
34090 PRINTCHR$(147):GOTO10
40000 REM *****
40010 REM DISPLAY ALL CURRENT VALUES
40020 REM *****
40023 PRINTCHR$(147)
40030 PRINT"NOISID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
40040 PRINT"DISPLAY ALL CURRENT VALUES SET R884"
40045 PRINT"PLAYING CONTROL SUSPENDED WHILST VIEWING"
40050 PRINT"VOICE ONE PITCH ="H1"-L1
40051 IFW1=17 THENW1$="RAMP"
40052 IFW1=65 THENW1$="SQUARE"
40053 IFW1=129 THENW1$="WHITE NOISE"
40054 IFW1=33 THENW1$="SAWTOOTH"
40055 PRINT"VOICE ONE WAVEFORM ="W1$
40056 PRINT"VOICE ONE DUTY CYCLE ="J1"-K1
40060 PRINT"VOICE TWO PITCH ="H2"-L2
40061 IFW2=17 THENW2$="RAMP"
40062 IFW2=65 THENW2$="SQUARE"

```

```

40063 IFW2=129 THENW2$="WHITE NOISE"
40064 IFW2=33 THENW2$="SAWTOOTH"
40065 PRINT"VOICE TWO WAVEFORM ="W2$
40066 PRINT"VOICE TWO DUTY CYCLE ="J2"-K2
40070 PRINT"VOICE THREE PITCH ="H3"-L3
40071 IFW3=17 THENW3$="RAMP"
40072 IFW3=65 THENW3$="SQUARE"
40073 IFW3=129 THENW3$="WHITE NOISE"
40074 IFW3=33 THENW3$="SAWTOOTH"
40075 PRINT"VOICE THREE WAVEFORM ="W3$
40076 PRINT"VOICE THREE DUTY CYCLE ="J3"-K3
40082 IFFM=16 THENF0$="LOW PASS"
40083 IFFM=32 THENF0$="BANDPASS"
40084 IFFM=64 THENF0$="HIGH PASS"
40085 IFFM=80 THENF0$="NOTCH REJECT"
40087 IFFM=0 THENF0$="FILTER OFF"
40090 PRINT"FILTER MODE ="F0$
40092 PRINT"FILTER CUTOFF FREQUENCY ="Q"-R
40093 PRINT"FILTER RESONANCE LEVEL ="RE
49990 GETA$:IFA$="THE49990"
49995 PRINTCHR$(147):GOTO10
50000 REM*****
50010 REM COMPLETE RESET OF VOICES
50020 REM*****
50030 RUN

```

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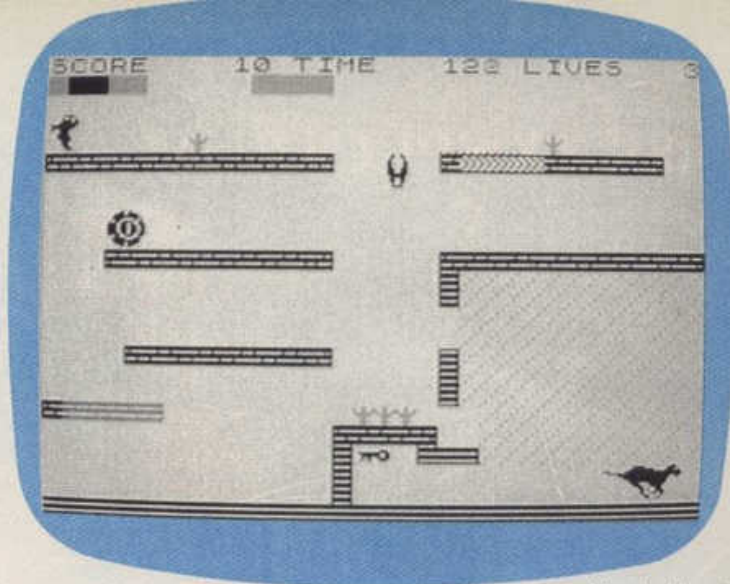
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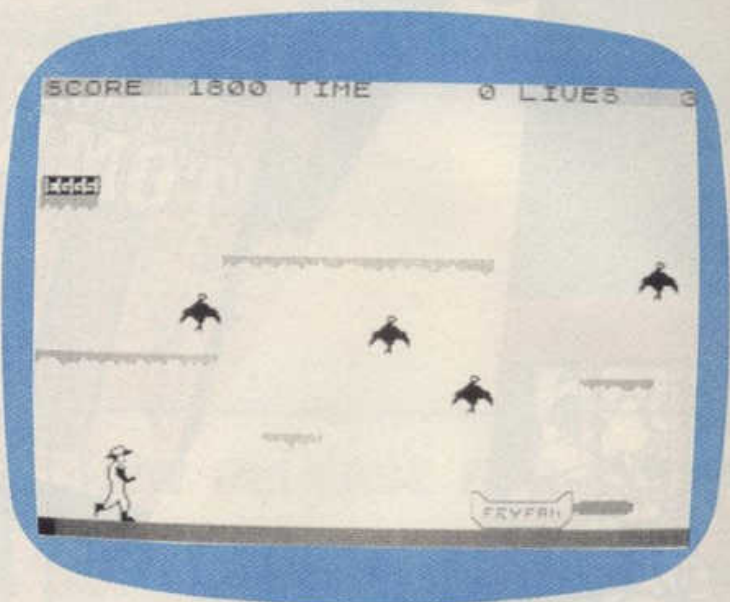
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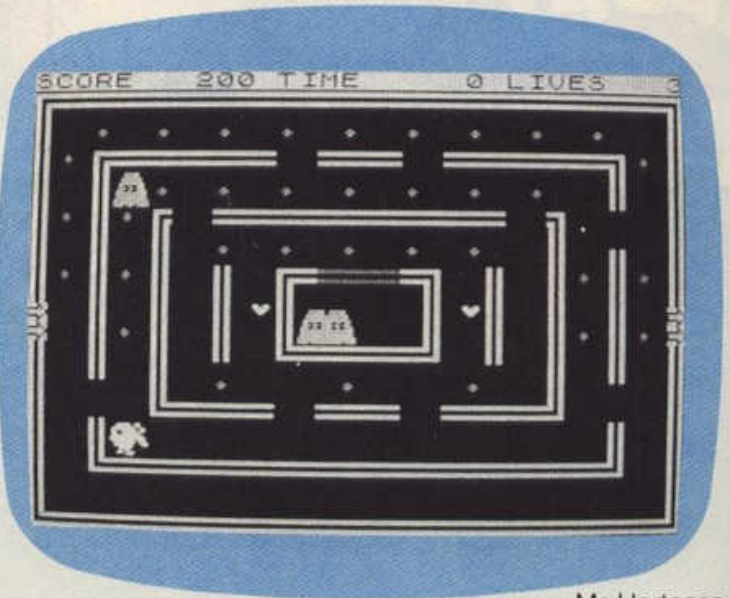
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Space Sweeper

on Vic 20

In this game for the unexpanded machine you are in control of a mine sweeper. Your task is to clear sectors of space of mines. They are highly dangerous so don't run into one. For each mine destroyed you get 10 points and four extra fuel units. There are five controls using the keyboard.

A Rotate right
D Rotate left

S Accelerate
H Hyperspace
Spacebar fires torpedo

The computer displays your acceleration, the amount of fuel units remaining and your score. Watch your fuel level, and don't use too much acceleration.

To make the game more difficult or easy, change the amount of fuel units given in line 295.

Variables

SC Score

VOL Sound volume
SHIP Character of ship
FUEL Fuel units
X Position of ship on screen
AS Command
DELAY Delay loop

Program notes

9-10
Jump to character creating routine

10-30 Set up variables and clear screen
30-31 Sound effects for Hyperspace
31-32 Prints mines randomly on screen
35-81 Gets command and acts accordingly
90-91 Acceleration routine
95-190 Moves ship
200-285 Firing torpedo routine, moves torpedo and checks to see if it has hit a mine
290-300 Explosion routine
400-455 Ending routine
500-660 Sets up user defined graphics

```

1 REM *****
2 REM * SPACE SWEEPER *
3 REM *
4 REM *BY STEVEN GREEN*
5 REM *
6 REM * 1983 *
7 REM *****
8 REM
9 GOSUB500
10 POKE36879,8:SC=0
15 PRINT"J":VOL=36878
20 POKE650,255:POKE36869,255
25 VEL=0:SHIP=1:FUEL=100
30 X=7910
32 PRINT"J":FORA=0TO10:G=INT(RND(1)*400):POKEG+7680+30720,6:POKEG+7680,10:NEXTF
35 GET A$:IF FUEL=<1THEN400
34 POKE36879,15:FORA=241TO135STEP-1:POKE36875,A:NEXTA:POKE36878,0:POKE36875,0
37 PRINT"S"
38 PRINT"J":INT(VEL):"*****":INT(FUEL):" ":SC
40 IFA$="A"THENSHIP=SHIP-1:FUEL=FUEL-1
45 IFSHIP<1THENSHIP=8
50 IFA$="D"THENSHIP=SHIP+1:FUEL=FUEL-1
51 IFA$="H"THEN FUEL=FUEL/2:GOTO31
55 IFSHIP>8THENSHIP=1
56 FOR DELAY=0TO50:NEXTDELAY
60 IFA$="S"THEN85
64 IFA$=" " THEN200
65 POKEX+30720,1
70 POKEY,SHIP
80 IFVEL>0THEN91
81 GOTO35
85 REM
90 VEL=VEL+2:FUEL=FUEL-1
91 REM
95 Y=X
96 FOR DELAY=0TO50/VEL*5:NEXTDELAY
100 IFSHIP=1THENY=Y-22
105 IFSHIP=2THENY=Y-21
110 IFSHIP=3THENY=Y+1
115 IFSHIP=4THENY=Y+23
120 IFSHIP=5THENY=Y+22
125 IFSHIP=6THENY=Y+21
130 IFSHIP=7THENY=Y-1
135 IFSHIP=8THENY=Y-23
140 IFY=<7702THENY=Y+441
145 IFY>=8161THENY=Y-441
150 P=PEEK(Y)
155 IFP<>32THEN400
160 POKEX+30720,0
165 POKEY+30720,1
170 POKEY,32
175 POKEY,SHIP
185 VEL=VEL-.5
190 GOTO35
200 REM
210 Y=X
215 FORR=0TO10
220 POKEY,SHIP
230 IFSHIP=1THENY=Y-22
235 IFSHIP=2THENY=Y-21
240 IFSHIP=3THENY=Y+1
245 IFSHIP=4THENY=Y+23
250 IFSHIP=5THENY=Y+22
255 IFSHIP=6THENY=Y+21
260 IFSHIP=7THENY=Y-1
265 IFSHIP=8THENY=Y-23
270 IFY=<7702THENY=Y+441
275 IFY>=8161THENY=Y-441
276 P=PEEK(Y):IFP<>32THEN230
280 POKEY+30720,1:POKEY,46
281 FORDELAY=0TO10:NEXTDELAY
282 POKEY,32
285 NEXTR
296 GOTO35
290 IFP=10THENPOKEY,11:SC=SC+10
291 FORL=15TO0 STEP-1
292 POKE36877,135:POKEY,32:
POKEY+30720,7:POKEY,Y
640 DATA 128,161,4,12,128,0,144,199,0
650 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
660 RETURN

```

continued on page 37 ▶

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NEWS
FLASH

TITANIC

N.A.S.A. SOURCES REVEAL POSSIBLE LOCATION OF
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At a Press Conference today a N.A.S.A. spokesman confirmed that recent photographs taken by their Intel-Sat G Marine Resources Satellite show a

number of large sub-marine objects, one of which is thought to be the wreck of the TITANIC which sank 72 years ago next month.

ZX SPECTRUM ACCESSORIES

SPEEDYLOAD: Halve your waiting time! This short program lets you save/load at 3000 baud on a normal cassette recorder. Easy to use. Cassette (48K) £3.55
NMS TAPE CONTROL: This unique unit plugs into the cassette ports leaving the expansion port free and is easy to use. It provides fully automatic on/off and load/save lead switching of one of one or two cassette recorders from keyboard or from within program using simple BEEP commands. Built-in beep amplifier with volume control, SAVE/LOAD indicators, semi-auto switch for rewind, verify, etc. Smart black case, instruction booklet £23.45 (P&P £1.50)

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and rats!

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Sounds

on Commodore 64

This program is written to help you gain

user control in real time in the SID sound synthesizer chip.

The listing is well supplied with *Rems* which can be left out if desired. There is provision for altering all the parameters of the three 64 voices (plus white noise) and

even games paddle control of the various voice treatments is possible. The program utilises the Filter, Ring-Modulator, Waveform control, Pulse width control, etc. With care some very professional sounding effects can be achieved.

```

1 REM SID CHIP DEMO (CBM 64)
2 REM RICHARD BARTON 1984
3 PRINT"J"
4 POKE53281,1
5 REM PRESET TO MAKE A CHORD *****
6 H1=8:L1=97:H2=10:L2=143:H3=25:L3=30:W1=17:W2=17:W3=17:BP=64:RZ=0
9 FORI=1TO28:POKE54272+I,0:NEXTI:REM ZERO ALL ADDRESSES IN SID CHIP
10 POKE54296,(15+LP+BP+HP):REM SET VOLUME/FILTER MODES
20 POKE54277,190:POKE54278,240:REM ADSR(VOICE ONE)
21 POKE54284,190:POKE54285,240:REM ADSR(VOICE TWO)
22 POKE54291,190:POKE54292,240:REM ADSR(VOICE THREE)
24 IFXD=0THENPOKE54293,0:POKE54294,R:REM C/O FILTER
25 IFXD=1THENPOKE54293,PEEK(54298):POKE54294,PEEK(54298):REM EXTERNAL CONTROL
26 POKE54295,(7+RE):REM RESONANCE FILTER
27 IFD1=0THENPOKE54275,J1:POKE54274,K1:REM DUTY CYCLE - VOICE ONE
28 IFD2=0THENPOKE54282,J2:POKE54281,K2:REM DUTY CYCLE - VOICE TWO
29 IFD3=0THENPOKE54289,J3:POKE54288,K3:REM DUTY CYCLE - VOICE THREE
31 IFD1=1THENPOKE54275,PEEK(54298)/15:POKE54274,PEEK(54298):REM EX.PULSEV1
33 IFD2=1THENPOKE54282,PEEK(54298)/15:POKE54281,PEEK(54298):REM EX.PULSEV2
35 IFD3=1THENPOKE54289,PEEK(54298)/15:POKE54288,PEEK(54298):REM EX.PULSEV3
39 IFXA=0THENPOKE54273,H1:POKE54272,L1:REM VOICE ONE PITCH
40 IFXB=0THENPOKE54280,H2:POKE54279,L2:REM VOICE TWO PITCH
44 IFXC=0THENPOKE54287,H3:POKE54286,L3:REM VOICE THREE PITCH
45 IFXA=1THENPOKE54273,PEEK(54297):POKE54272,PEEK(54297):REM EXT.CNTRL(VOICE1)
46 IFXB=1THENPOKE54280,PEEK(54297):POKE54279,PEEK(54297):REM EXT.CNTRL(VOICE2)
47 IFXC=1THENPOKE54287,PEEK(54297):POKE54286,PEEK(54297):REM EXT.CNTRL(VOICE3)
50 POKE54276,W1+RZ:POKE54283,W2+RZ:POKE54290,W3+RZ:REM WAVEFORM/RING MODULATOR
60 GOSUB1000
70 GOTO20
1000 REM MENU DISPLAY *****
1010 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
1020 PRINT"MENU SECTION R.BARTON84"
1030 PRINT"SELECT CONTROL FROM FOLLOWING:-"
1040 PRINT"1 - VOICE ONE PITCH"
1050 PRINT"2 - VOICE TWO PITCH"
1060 PRINT"3 - VOICE THREE PITCH"
1070 PRINT"4 - VOICE ONE WAVEFORM"
1080 PRINT"5 - VOICE TWO WAVEFORM"
1090 PRINT"6 - VOICE THREE WAVEFORM"
1200 PRINT"7 - ALL VOICE FILTERS"
1210 PRINT"8 - ALL VOICE RING MOD."
2000 GETA$:IFA$=""THENRETURN
2003 A=VAL(A$)
2005 IFA$>CHR$(56)THEN2000
2007 PRINTCHR$(147)
2010 ONAGOTO4000,6000,8000,10000,12000,14000,16000,18000
4000 REM *****
4010 REM VOICE ONE PITCH CONTROL
4020 REM *****
4030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
4040 PRINT"VOICE ONE PITCH CONTROL RB84"
4050 INPUT"INPUT HIGH CODE-";H1
4060 INPUT"INPUT LOW CODE-";L1
4065 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL(1=YES/0=NO)";XA
4070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN

```

continued on page 41 ▶

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```

6000 REM *****
6010 REM VOICE TWO PITCH CONTROL
6020 REM *****
6030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
6040 PRINT"VOICE TWO PITCH CONTROL          RB84"
6050 INPUT"INPUT HIGH CODE-";H2
6060 INPUT"INPUT LOW CODE-";L2
6065 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL(1=YES/0=NO)";XB
6070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
8000 REM *****
8010 REM VOICE THREE PITCH CONTROL
8020 REM *****
8030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
8040 PRINT"VOICE THREE PITCH CONTROL          RB84"
8050 INPUT"INPUT HIGH CODE-";H3
8060 INPUT"INPUT LOW CODE-";L3
8065 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL(1=YES/0=NO)";XC
8070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
10000 REM *****
10010 REM VOICE ONE WAVEFORM
10020 REM *****
10030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
10040 PRINT"VOICE ONE WAVEFORM CONTROL          RB84"
10045 PRINT"CODES ARE 17-33-65-129"
10050 INPUT"INPUT WAVE CODE-";W1
10051 IFW1<17ANDW1<33ANDW1<65ANDW1<129THENPRINT":GOTO10050
10052 IFW1<65THEN10070
10054 PRINT"INPUT DUTY CYCLE REQUIRED-"
10056 INPUT"ENTER HI CODE (0-15)-";J1
10057 IFJ1>15THENPRINT":GOTO10056
10059 INPUT"ENTER LO CODE (0-255)-";K1
10060 IFK1>255THENPRINT":GOTO10059
10065 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL(1=YES/0=NO)-";D1
10070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
12000 REM *****
12010 REM VOICE TWO WAVEFORM
12020 REM *****
12030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
12040 PRINT"VOICE TWO WAVEFORM CONTROL          RB84"
12045 PRINT"CODES ARE 17-33-65-129"
12050 INPUT"INPUT WAVE CODE-";W2
12051 IFW2<17ANDW2<33ANDW2<65ANDW2<129THENPRINT":GOTO12050
12052 IFW2<65THEN12070
12054 PRINT"INPUT DUTY CYCLE REQUIRED-"
12056 INPUT"ENTER HI CODE (0-15)-";J2
12057 IFJ2>15THENPRINT":GOTO12056
12059 INPUT"ENTER LO CODE (0-255)-";K2
12060 IFK2>255THENPRINT":GOTO12059
12065 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL(1=YES/0=NO)-";D2
12070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
14000 REM *****
14010 REM VOICE THREE WAVEFORM
14020 REM *****
14030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
14040 PRINT"VOICE THREE WAVEFORM CONTROL          RB84"
14045 PRINT"CODES ARE 17-33-65-129"
14050 INPUT"INPUT WAVE CODE-";W3
14051 IFW3<17ANDW3<33ANDW3<65ANDW3<129THENPRINT":GOTO14050
14052 IFW3<65THEN14070
14054 PRINT"INPUT DUTY CYCLE REQUIRED-"
14056 INPUT"ENTER HI CODE (0-15)-";J3
14057 IFJ3>15THENPRINT":GOTO14056

```

continued on page 43 ▶

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```

14059 INPUT"ENTER LO CODE (0-255)";K3
14060 IFK1>255THENPRINT"J";GOTO14059
14065 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL(1=YES/0=NO)";D3
14070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
16000 REM *****
16010 REM ALL VOICE FILTERS
16020 REM *****
16030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
16040 PRINT"  FILTER CONTROL                RB84  "
16045 INPUT"INPUT HIGH CODE";Q
16046 INPUT"          LOW CODE";R
16048 INPUT"EXTERNAL CONTROL?(1=YES/0=NO)";XD
16049 IFXD>1THENPRINT"J";GOTO16048
16050 INPUT"TYPE OF FILTER(L/B/H/N)";FM$
16060 IFFM$="L"THENFM=32:GOTO16080
16062 IFFM$="B"THENFM=64:GOTO16080
16064 IFFM$="H"THENFM=128:GOTO16080
16065 IFFM$="N"THENFM=160:GOTO16080
16070 PRINT"J";GOTO16050
16080 INPUT"RESONANCE SETTING (1-15)";RS
16081 IFRS<1ORRS>15THENPRINT"J";GOTO16080
16083 RE=RS*16
16190 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN
18000 REM *****
18010 REM RING MODULATOR
18020 REM *****
18030 PRINT"SID SOUND GENERATOR CHIP EXPERIMENTS"
18040 PRINT"  RING MODULATOR CONTROL        RB84  "
18050 INPUT"RING MODULATOR?(1=YES/0=NO)";RG
18060 IFRG>1THENPRINT"J";GOTO18050
18065 IFRG=1THENRZ=4
18067 IFRG=0THENRZ=0
18070 PRINTCHR$(147):RETURN

```

Sounds
by Richard Barton

Microradio

GW6JJN



Bearcat scanner radio

An interesting item of news has reached Microradio this week concerning a new product made by a company called Electra based in the United States. If you're feeling rich, their phone number is area code 317-894-1440; and you need to be fairly wealthy to buy their Bearcat Compuscan Scanner Radio.

Many amateurs are already familiar with the Bearcat range of scanners, which operate mostly on the VHF and UHF

bands where all the interesting things happen. Here are the aircraft bands, the marine and shipping frequencies, the taxis and road services—even, your friendly local gas and electricity board, or television repair man, to name but a few. More importantly, there are two amateur bands, television signals and downlink transmissions signals of all sorts. There are simply so many frequencies involved and so much going on that I have often thought a computer was needed to sort it all out.

Electra had the same idea and came up with the Compuscan. This is designed to interface with the Commodore 64 computer and comes complete with a program on disc, a mains adapter, an indoor aerial, various connecting cables and the Bearcat Compuscan itself. Basically it is a black box

(white, in fact) that you connect into the computer and into which you plug an aerial. The dial doesn't exist anymore and the means to scan the bands or choose a particular frequency is all done via the computer keyboard and the monitor. Not only will the computer find the stations you select, but it will remember all those stations it found while scanning around. Interesting thought that—Big Brother is listening.

On the whole, I think I prefer to twiddle the knobs myself and write the stations I hear down in the logbook. After all, some things are still better done with a paper and pencil. If you disagree, the Bearcat Compuscan Scanner Radio can be yours for a mere \$500. You pay your money and you take your choice.

Must mention here two recent publications reaching Mic-

roradio. The first is the excellent SARUG (Sinclair Amateur Radio Users Group) Newsletter which contains many good program listings and information for Sinclair users interested in radio. For those of you who are not Sinclair Users there is the RAMTOP newsletter fresh off the presses with goodies for all radio-computing enthusiasts. SARUG can be reached by SAE to 4 Red House Lane, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4JZ. Likewise RAMTOP, SAE to Great Billing Rectory, Northampton NN3 4ED.

Ray Berry GW6JJN

This series of articles is designed for radio and microcomputer enthusiasts alike. If you have any queries that you want answered, hints and tips to share, or topics that you would like to see covered, write to: Ray Berry, Microradio, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.

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Tony Bridge's Adventure Corner



Worth the price?

Software can be very expensive nowadays! *The Hobbit* was the first of the British programs to charge £15, but in this case the buyer was getting:

- a) one of the best adventures available
- b) a well-produced manual
- c) a copy of the book to boot (or read, as you wish!)

No one can complain about that for value, but what about *Trader*, that was mentioned by Mr Valentine last week? This is called, in the adverts "a graphic adventure". It isn't really, being rather a series of braintwisters, separated by slowly-drawn graphics which rely heavily on arcs and circles. Although the packaging was, for its time (late 1982, being written by Pixel for the ZX81, selling for £7, and only later being updated for the Spectrum and Vic 20) rather nice, it was never worth the asking price. In fact, it had an attention-span of about 5 minutes!

Anirot seem to come out quite well in Mr Valentine's mini-review (see last week's page). I haven't seen any of their programs (hint hint), but *The Dungeons*, in particular, seems worthwhile investigating.

Crush, Crumble & Chomp would not, I must admit, figure on my list of good adventure programs. It is, to be sure, a very good game that I enjoy playing (although, as Mr V pointed out, it is rather pricey — but this is true of most American imports) — and although I am certainly in favour of allowing many arcade games to receive the honorary title of adventure, *C,C & C* is not one of them! It is, however, a good strategy game, and one in which you, for once, are the alien!

The Valley has always been a *D & D* favourite of mine. The scenario concerns the adventures of the player, in this case taking on the role of Alarian, a young wizard, in his battles against the evil Vounim. There are a lot of spells to be used, and a lot of monster-bashing and gold-collecting.

The responses are ultra-fast, though not very subtle: in fact they consist of not much more than 'stab or slash?', the answer to

which you have to give in about two seconds, before being battered by whatever monster it is that you're fighting! Great stuff! And I would have given the program rather more than 4 out of 10.

I was surprised to hear of *Alarian's Revenge* though — I remember that ASP had some trouble a few months ago with copies of their game on the market (the company who perpetrated that have since disappeared).

The Orb (which I remember from the early days of the Spectrum) and *The Kingdom* are oriented too much toward luck, as Mr Valentine says. I still think that adventures should be solved through skill and cunning rather than sheer good fortune (bad fortune, too, can play a large part, which is not so good when you've made a series of calculated moves).

Mr Valentine ends his letter with a plea for help — "How do I get past the bear in *Adventureland* without losing the royal jelly? And how do I get across the lava?" Well, bears are notorious, in adventures, as in real life, for being pretty hungry! This, of course, necessitates losing the Royal Jelly — so you could try surprising him in some way. As for the lava... well, upon reflection (hint! hint!) I would try to get rid of the heat in some way!



That should also help Richard Briggs, of Thornford, in Dorset, who is also playing *Adventureland* at the moment.

Leaving Scott Adams for now, let's turn to Winterson's *Ring of Darkness*. Some months ago, I asked my colleague, John Scrivener, to review this program for Adventure Corner — I have not seen the game yet, although there is now a version for several of the most popular micros, and it has been well received. Neil Scrimgeour writes from Corby: "I have been stuck for about two months in *Ring Of Darkness*. The problem is that I have completed dragon's sign quest, been down labyrinth of doom

and become a level 2 dwarf, but I cannot seem to get any more money. I can't complete other quests because I can't buy enough hit points or food with only 150 gold pieces. Is there any other way I can gain money easily, apart from killing bandits etc? With regard to another adventure, *Franklin's Tomb*, it may be helpful to have a bath plug when entering the aquarium."

Thanks for that tip, Neil, I've been stuck there myself for weeks. In the meantime, can anyone help with those *Ring of Darkness* problems?

This week, just two names in *The Hobbit Hall of Fame*: the first is particularly noteworthy, as J L Davies is the first person (to let me know, anyway!) who has completed *The Hobbit* on the Oric. He gained a creditable score of 77.5 per cent. "Experience," says J L, "has taught me that there are plenty of locations yet to be explored. If any Oric owners are being driven to distraction by any particular part of the adventure, I would be only too glad to assist."

The other name for the *HHOF* this week is Ian Ferguson on his Spectrum. Ian asks for help in a couple of adventures, the first being the excellent *Inca Curse*, from Artic, of course. "How do I put out the fire? Also, in *Ship of Doom*, how do I get the key from beneath the glass?"

First, the fire. Using our little code (starting at the second letter, read off every other letter — when you get to the end, return to the first letter and repeat the process:

TSHM/BOLT/AHNE/KREW/TI

and to get the key:

IPCO/DIRN/TVS/EORN

Ian carries on: "Now a suggestion — please review *Gateway to the Skies* by Solarsoft. I can assure you that you will not regret it. Howard Goodman, the author, has excelled himself with this fabulous game. True it was featured on the New Releases page, but this did not give the public a fair insight into the wonderful game."

I have not seen this *Adventure*, Ian, but Wizard Taylor's page each week would give you at least a vague idea of what to expect, an out-and-out arcade shoot-'em-up, or a relaxed mind puzzle. Having said that, Ian, why not write a review for me — the game obviously means a lot to you! Why not let everyone in on your discovery?

This series of articles is designed for novice and experienced Adventurers alike. Each week Tony Bridge will be looking at different Adventures and advising you on some of the problems and pitfalls you can expect to encounter. So, if you have an Adventure you want reviewed, or if you are stuck in an Adventure and cannot progress any further write to: Tony Bridge, Adventure Corner, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.



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BUSINESS AID

Tommy Udall of Hadley Road, Cockfosters, writes:

Q I have a Commodore 64. I am quite happy with it, though I am finding a few problems creating sprites.

I would like to know if the 64 can handle CP/M. I want to be able to use my computer to help my father who has his own business. I have been told that CP/M needs another (Z80) Cpu. Is this true? If so, can it be attached to the Commodore?

A You are correct in that CP/M can only be Run on a Z80 Cpu. Commodore have had a Z80 card planned for a long time, but it has had 'production problems'. It should be available in the form of a plug-in cartridge, but the timing is still uncertain.

Please note that you will need to have a disc drive attached. If you do not have Commodore's own drive, then you will need an additional interface as well as the disc drive.

KEYBOARD CHANGE

Graham Todd of Deerswood Road, West Green, Crawley, West Surrey, writes:

Q Having recently bought a Dk'Tronics keyboard for my Spectrum I now find myself with a perfectly serviceable but unnecessary Spectrum keyboard. Could you advise me whether or not I could use this with my ZX81? If so, could you tell me if any hard/software alterations are needed?

It seems silly to waste my old

keyboard, but so far neither Sinclair nor Dk'Tronics have replied to my enquiry.

A Both the keyboards are identical, in that they use the same grid of 8x5 (8 address lines and 5 data lines). The data lines are mapped into the same numbers D0 to D5.

There should be no problems if you are careful. If any problems do develop, it is most likely that the address lines will have been misrouted and you might have to change one or two of these around. It goes without saying that this will void your guarantee.

SKI SCROLLS

Dorian Bloch of Park Hill Road, East Croydon, Surrey writes:

Q I have a BBC model B and a commercial game which scrolls to the right. However I would like to make it scroll downwards. I was thinking of putting in a few lines, before Loading to turn the screen 90° clockwise, is this possible? (The game is *Ski Slalom* by RH Electronics.)

A In all honesty I do not know why you want to change the screen display. Scrolling up or down, usually by just printing off the top line of the screen, invariably produces inferior results, when compared to the well written Machine Code side scroll you have in *Ski Slalom*.

More importantly, it is, to say the very least, difficult to do. A routine to rotate the screen display, wouldn't be sufficient, as the main fabric of the program would have to be changed. To move a single pixel point one place to the right, you increment by one. Simple, but to move it up or down you need to increment by the difference in screen lines which, in turn, depends on mode.

Just to make things difficult, besides the actual programming task involved, there is the added problem that *Ski Slalom* is one of the few non Acorn programs that uses the locking facility within the new 1.2 OS. When some of the details of this system were broken and

published, Acornsoft prosecuted. The case never went to court; the publisher involved settled out of court. Do you know how to break into the Lock?

WIPE OUT

Miss K D Yardwood of Meadow Croft, Hatfield, Herts, writes:

Q Please could you help me and perhaps give a warning to other computer owners. I have a remote control TV and a Spectrum 48K. When I went to use it the other day I could not get it to work, not even the (c) 1982 notice. Is it possible that the infra-red remote control has wiped out the ROM? If not what could it be?

A I would be very surprised indeed if your remote control was to blame, as far as wiping out your roms. Certainly infra-red can be used for this, but this involves Eproms which have the actual silicon wafer within the chip, exposed to the radiation for some hours. I presume that you did not dismantle your Spectrum.

To be honest I think the problem lies elsewhere. Assuming you have tried the obvious items such as the leads, and the fuse in the plug, have you tried re-tuning your television? It is well known that most home computers, not least the Spectrum, are liable to wander off station. Have you tried using your computer on a friend's television?

JOB PROSPECTS

Heather Manley of Maindiff Court Hospital, Abergavenny, writes:

Q Would you give me some advice? I want to buy a

computer in order to learn Basic and improve my job prospects. I was thinking of the Vic starter pack.

A I am not certain that the Vic is necessarily the best for your purposes, despite its many advantages — the Basic is not of the best and with its use of control codes etc, wouldn't be much like the kind of Basic you would meet in a job.

You need a computer with a fairly standard Basic that can also run other languages, few jobs require Basic many need *Fortran* and *Cobol*. My suggestion (in the same price range) would be either the Spectrum 48K (the Basic is slightly odd but you have quite a large range of other languages you can run on it) or the Electron (excellent BBC Basic although not many other languages as yet). One other alternative might be to get a ZX81 starter pack which is a cheap and reasonable introduction to the subject.

MAKING MUSIC

Francis De Forne of Hayes, Kent, writes:

Q I have heard of a program where a joystick can be used on a Commodore 64 to play music. Is this true? I have a CBM 64 which I was given for a Christmas/Birthday present, and I have a joystick as well. If there is such a game could you tell me where I can get it?

A By the time you see this, it should be available in your local computer shop. The program you are thinking of is 'Dancing Feats' and it is an unusual and impressive program from Artic. The price is £6.95, and it allows a great many rhythm variations to be set against a melody line. The real advantage is the program will not let you get out of tune.

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Name: Joe Hon

Address: Nijenburg 42, 1081GG, Amsterdam, Holland.

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Adventure: The Heroes of Karn

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Name: Mark Brayne

Address: 26 Colburn Avenue, Hatch End, Middx HA5 4PF.

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Adventure: Super Spy

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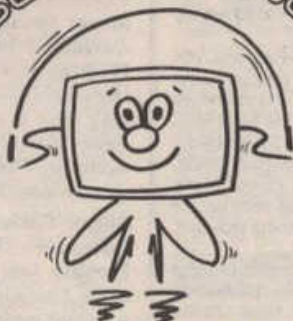
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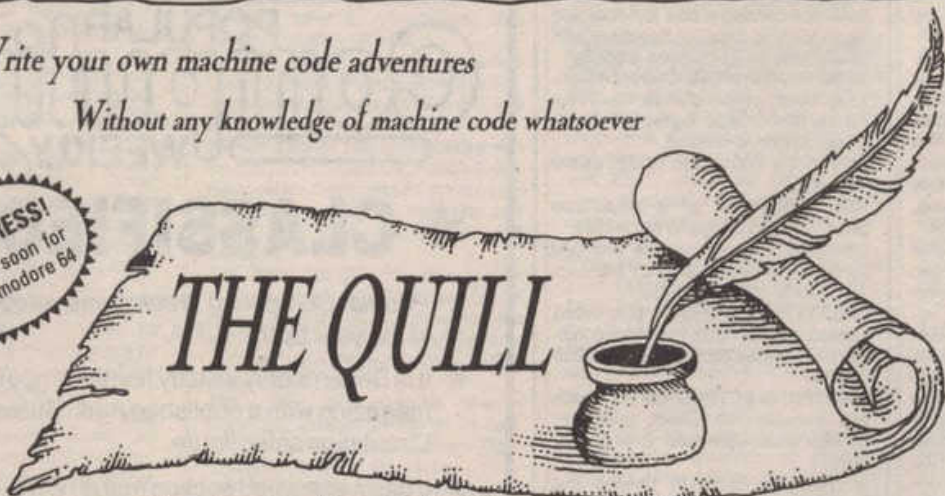


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PYTHONESQUE

The Quest for the Holy Grail is a graphics adventure from Dream Software, based loosely on the Monty Python film of the same name.

In terms of the quality of the graphics, *Holy Grail* is roughly *Knight's Quest* quality. A quick play suggests the puzzles are going to be nearly as difficult to solve. The big difference is that the adventure is populated by CND supporters, nuclear powered lamps and other anachronisms.

The game is neatly packaged in a box with a moderately funny booklet explaining the plot for £5.95. I have a feeling you'll be hearing a lot more about this one from Tony Bridge in the coming months.

Program *The Quest for the Holy Grail*
Price £5.95
Micro Spectrum 48K
Supplier Dream Software
 PO Box 64
 Basingstoke
 RG21 2LB

DIAMONDS

Suddenly, everybody is discovering that not only can you have sprite graphics on the Spectrum, you can also have them on the Vic20.

Bongo, which requires an extra 16K, features a mouse who must overcome all sorts of obstacles to marry a Princess. The way to win her is to collect her lost diamonds — surely no basis for a sound relationship?

Anyway, getting the diamonds involves the usual running and jumping over all kinds of ladders and holes etc, and as you would expect from sprites, the graphics are large and smooth moving. There are six different screens for *Bongo* (the mouse) to negotiate and three different skill levels.

Program *Bongo*
Price £7.95
Micro Vic20 (16K)
Supplier Anirog
 29 West Hill
 Dartford
 Kent

DIVING DEEP



Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the water, CRL have brought out *Glug Glug*. You are a deep sea diver salvaging treasure from the ocean floor, and avoiding, at all costs, any marine life on the screen — they're all hostile. Luckily your dive is equipped with a ray gun and an unlimited supply of ammunition.

The game is enjoyable both for its simplicity and originality. Played on progressively more difficult levels, it can seem very easy at first, but rapidly becomes tricky as a wider variety of fish wiggle back and forth. Look out for the sharks at Level 6 — they're not only after you, but will also eat through your line.

The graphics on *Glug Glug* are particularly pleasing, as each fish is clearly distinguishable and recognisable. However the 'sound effects' advertised on the cover are only really as good as you can expect from the Spectrum.

Program *Glug Glug*
Price £5.95
Micro Spectrum 48K
Supplier CRL Ltd
 9, Kings Yard
 Carpenter's Road
 London E15 2HD

DESIGNER

In the same way that there is no need for computer knowledge

to write decent text adventures with *the Quill*, so *Dungeon Builder* intends to provide the same facility for graphic adventures.

Obviously, such an elaborate system is going to demand an extensive review but, sticking my neck out, I think the program is going to prove superb, and should have quite a number of the lesser Spectrum adventure houses worried.

The program divides neatly into the two parts, text logic and pictures. The latter are produced by a straightforward designer option which lets you draw with the keyboard and fill in shapes with different colour — with care you can get good results.

The text logic part of the program is less easily summarised. Basically, it operates in a similar way to *The Quill* — you describe objects, locations and the logic that links them using a number of memories. Like *Quill* it's essentially easy to use, except that you must think about the logical implications

of what you wish to do very carefully before you begin.

Program *Dungeon Builder*
Price £9.95
Micro Spectrum 48K
Supplier Dream Software
 PO Box 64
 Basingstoke
 RG21 2LB

TURMOIL

If you are one of those masochists who like adventure games that are very difficult indeed, then *Klartz & the Dark Forces* could be for you.

The world (as is usually the case in adventure games) is in turmoil — overrun by Klartz and his forces (they're the ones who are dark). Does anyone else out there share my doubt about Klartz as a name to conjure up fear and trembling — surely, he sounds a bit weedy?

Like *Time Lords*, the game is set in several time zones and in each there are particular

Pick of the week

RAID THE LARDER

Caesar the Cat was a marvelously endearing program for the Commodore 64. Now it is available for the Spectrum.

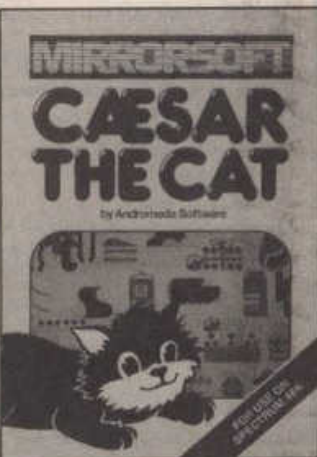
The idea of the game is to move a cat — Caesar — around a larder grabbing the army of mice who are nibbling away at all the goodies to be found there.

Caesar works on a strict time limit — he must keep catching mice to keep his job. Aside from the way the mice dart about, there are several large jars stored in the larder which Caesar must try not to break.

One of the several features that gave the Commodore 64 version of the game its appeal was the sheer beauty of the graphics — large, colourful and realistic (in a cartoon sort of way). The Spectrum version cannot quite match the original, simply because of the hardware's limitations, but nevertheless the graphics are still

large and realistic, matching anything seen from Ultimate. Marvellous.

Program *Caesar The Cat*
Price £6.95
Micro Spectrum 48K
Supplier Mirrorsoft
 Holborn Circus
 London EC1P 1DQ



New Releases

objects corrupted by Klartz which must be redeemed and brought back to the light.

This involves retrieving them from their zones and placing them together in a suitable place for them to receive the Power of Light. Presumably God, or even Wagner, descends and blesses them or something.

However, facetiousness apart, this is the best adventure I've ever seen for the Dragon — it's complex and entirely machine code. Expect to be up all night.

Program *Klartz & The Dark Forces*
Price £9.95
Micro Dragon 32
Supplier Dungeon Software
Milton House
St John Street
Derbyshire DE6 1GH

IN TRAIN



Midnight Express is a train orientated program for the Commodore 64. In fact, train obsessed might be a better way of putting it.

The plot is very complicated and is divided into three sections. In the first, you are a man who turns into a carriage and tries to join onto a train circling a track. In the next, you try and reduce the number of carriages to prevent the train from bumping into itself — mad railmen are constantly adding carriages to the track. Finally, you have to rescue various parcels that are strewn on the track from the mad rush of an oncoming train.

The game is mostly in machine code and consequently the action is fast and furious. An original concept too.

Program *Midnight Express*
Price £7
Micro Commodore 64
Supplier Camilla Software
4 Marennes Crescent
Brightlingsea
Colchester CO7 0RX

RUSTIC

Bubble Bus has done some good software in the past for the Commodore 64. Its latest title is *Flying Feathers* and is rustic in theme.

You are a game keeper whose regrettable task it is to sit in a freezing boat in the middle of a lake preventing various eagles from grabbing fish. This involves shooting at them.

Other than that there isn't much to say; the graphics are excellent as is the sound track. Apparently the game utilises 10 sprites rather than the supposed maximum of 8. Bubble Bus's new games are priced at £6.99 which is a couple of pounds lower than the norm — let's hope it's the beginning of a trend.

Program *Flying Feathers*
Price £6.99
Micro Commodore 64
Supplier Bubble Bus
Software
87 High Street
Tonbridge
Kent TN9 1RX

CRASH DIVE

Yet more ZX81 programs! *Sea Wolf* is the latest and it comes from Stephen Hartley Computing — a company I've not heard of before.

The game involves stalking and eventually sinking a target ship with your submarine. There are both periscope and sonar displays and a large number of command keys. As a game, it has far more in common with *Flight Simulation* than *Space Invaders*.

The ship can respond to your attack with depth charges re-



quiring an immediate crash dive — it's exciting stuff.

Program *Sea Wolf*
Price £3.95
Micro ZX81 (16K)
Supplier Stephen Hartley
Computing
16 Park Road
Coventry
CV1 2LD

FREUDIAN

If you are bored with cosmic battlecruisers, aliens and mega destruction, how about trying self sacrifice? In *Nursery Nightmare* your unending task is to pacify a crying baby by grabbing bottles of milk scattered about his nursery.

This seemingly simple objective is made difficult by the hostile nature of the baby's toys which seek to block your path. There are five screens of increasing difficulty and a baby whose oral fixation would surprise even Freud. Its machine code and the graphics are amusing.

Program *Nursery Nightmare*
Price £7.50
Micro Commodore 64
Supplier Cable Software
52 Limbury Road
Luton
Beds LU3 2PL

INTRIGUING

Cosmic Bounce is a far more ingenious game than its name suggests. While trying to wipe out assorted Doovries with your plasma cannon, you must

also protect your energy source in mid-screen. Since the energy source can be hit by both the Doovries, and your own rocket and plasma bolts, this is no simple task.

The graphics are, however, fairly basic — in fact, once your rocket is whizzing round the screen it more resembles a bluebottle than a plasma cannon. Sound effects, too, are of a standard "boom-boom" type. But, for all that, the game is utterly addictive.

Program *Cosmic Bounce*
Price £7.50
Micro Commodore 64
Supplier Cable Software
52 Limbury Road
Luton
Beds
LU3 2PL

ADRENALIN

Star Commando is a 'zap the aliens' game for the Commodore 64 with enough new features to make playing it worthwhile.

Aside from laser cannons and hordes of baddies there is a sort of *Star Trek* element to the game. You have maps of the universe divided into different segments and you have to warp back and forth looking for baddies and, from time to time, your Mothership.

Actually the fuel supply runs out rather quickly and finding the Mothership is the most nerve wracking, adrenalin inducing, part of the game.

The graphics are well done and each group of aliens moves in a different way. Another good Commodore game from Terminal.

Program *Star Commando*
Price £7.95
Micro Commodore 64
Supplier Terminal Software
28 Church Lane
Prestwich
Manchester

New Releases is designed to let people know what software is coming on to the market. If you have a new game or utility which you are about to release send a copy and accompanying details to: New Releases, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, WC2R 3LD.

Vic 20

- 1 (2) Wizard and the Princess (Melbourne House)
- 2 (3) Crazy Kong (Interceptor)
- 3 (4) Bewitched (Imagine)
- 4 (9) Wacky Walters (Imagine)
- 5 (5) Paratrooper (Rabbit)
- 6 (10) Jetpac (Ultimate)
- 7 (-) Ski (Commodore)
- 8 (6) Gridrunner (Llamasoft)
- 9 (-) Supervaders/Bomber Run (K-Tel)
- 10 (-) Sky Hawk (Quicksilver)

Commodore 64

- 1 (1) Manic Miner (Software Projects)
- 2 (-) Siren City (Interceptor)
- 3 (4) Mr Wimpy (Ocean)
- 4 (8) Falcon Patrol (Virgin)
- 5 (3) Chinese Juggler (Ocean)
- 6 (2) Boogaboo (Quicksilver)
- 7 (5) Megawar (Paramount)
- 8 (-) Vortex Raider (Interceptor)
- 9 (-) Forbidden Forest (Centresoft)
- 10 (-) Revenge of the Mutant Camels (Llamasoft)

Dragon 32

- 1 (9) The King (Microdeal)
- 2 (2) Ugh! (Softak)
- 3 (6) Eightball (Microdeal)
- 4 (-) Cuthbert in the Jungle (Microdeal)
- 5 (7) Devil Assault (Microdeal)
- 6 (1) Hungry Horace (Melbourne House)
- 7 (-) Frogger (Microdeal)
- 8 (5) Space Shuttle (Microdeal)
- 9 (3) SAS (Peaksoft)
- 10 (-) Grand Prix (Salamander)

ZX81*

- 1 (1) Flight Simulation (Psion)
- 2 (3) Football Manager (Addictive Games)
- 3 (2) 1K Chess (Artic)
- 4 (8) Crazy Kong (PSS)
- 5 (9) Hopper (PSS)
- 6 (4) Invaders (Quicksilver)
- 7 (-) Meteor Storm (Dk Tronics)
- 8 (-) ZX Forth (Artic)
- 9 (10) ZX Dissembler-Debug (Bug Byte)
- 10 (-) Chess 2 (Artic)

* 1K only. * All 16K except where shown.
(Figures compiled by Boots/Websters)

Books

- 1 (1) BBC Micro Disk Companion, Latham (Prentice-Hall)
 - 2 (-) Commodore 64 Programmers Reference Guide, Commodore (Commodore)
 - 3 (5) Spectrum Microdrive Book, Logan (Melbourne House)
 - 4 (7) Commodore 64, Getting the Most From It, Onosko (Prentice-Hall)
 - 5 (3) Mastering Machine — code on your ZX Spectrum Baker (Interface)
 - 6 (-) Advanced Programming Techniques for the BBC Micro, McGregor and Watts (Addison Wesley)
 - 7 (-) Getting More from your 64, Harrison (Sigma)
 - 8 (-) Advanced User Guide for the BBC Micro, Bray (Cambridge Micro Centre)
 - 9 (9) Forth for Micros, Oakley (Newnes)
 - 10 (6) Advanced Graphics with the BBC Microcomputer, Angel and Jones (Macmillan)
- (Figures compiled by Watford Technical Books, Watford 0923 23324 Prestel 28844)
(Last week's position in brackets)

Spectrum*

- 1 (1) Chequered Flag (Psion)
- 2 (2) Atic Atac (Ultimate)
- 3 (-) Flight Simulation (Psion)
- 4 (6) Lunar Jetman (Ultimate)
- 5 (3) 3D Art Attack (Quicksilver)
- 6 (7) Alchemist (Imagine)
- 7 (5) Hunchback (Ocean)
- 8 (9) The Hobbit (Melbourne House)
- 9 (6) Cyrus IS Chess (Intelligent)
- 10 (4) Scuba Dive (Durrell)

*All require 48K.

(Figures compiled by W.H. Smith and Son, London)

BBC*

- 1 (9) Hopper (Acornsoft)
- 2 (2) Planetoids (Acornsoft)
- 3 (1) Rocket Raid (Acornsoft)
- 4 (3) Killer Gorilla (Program Power)
- 5 (7) 747 Flight Simulator (Microdeal)
- 6 (5) White Knight MK (BBC)
- 7 (-) Transistors Revenge (Computer Concepts)
- 8 (-) Disc Doctor (Acornsoft)
- 9 (8) Sphinx Adventure (Acornsoft)
- 10 (-) Starship Command (Acornsoft)

*All Model B

(Figures compiled by Micro Management, Ipswich 0473 59181)

Atari

- 1 (1) Rally Speedway (Adventure International)*
- 2 (-) Savage Pond (Starcade)
- 3 (4) Warlock (Calisto)
- 4 (8) Slinky (Cosmi)
- 5 (6) Saga 5 The Court (Adventure International)
- 6 (-) Escape from Pulsar 7 (Channel 8)
- 7 (-) Wingman (Microscope)
- 8 (-) Aztec Challenge (Cosmi)
- 9 (5) Saga 4 Voodoo Castle (Adventure International)
- 10 (2) Popeye (Parker Brothers)*

*Cartridge. \$ 48K disc. ± 32K cassette.

(Figures compiled by Calisto Computers, Birmingham 021 632 6458)

TUTORIAL

Despite its title *The BBC Micro Compendium* contains neither 100 games nor a beginner's guide to Basic — in fact it is a fairly sophisticated tutorial on advanced uses for the machine.

This vast book begins with sections on assembly language programming and various kinds of arithmetic. These sections are well written and almost manage to make the subject sound un baffling.

Later sections are more specialised — and author Jeremy Ruston has designed two specialised languages called *Froth* (a kind of Forth) and *Slug*. These are used as a basis for a discussion on computer languages in general as well as being useful in their own right.

Finally you get a complete BBC Rom disassembly, fully annotated to explain what's going on. For some people it could be an essential purchase, others may be merely left baffled. It's expensive but full of information.

Book *The BBC Micro Compendium*
Price £14.95
Micro BBC

Supplier Interface

9-11 Kensington High Street
London W8 5NP

MANIC MICRO

It's usually an unmitigated disaster when computer writers try to be funny — they are usually only embarrassing.

So, a book that manages not only to be funny but also to convey useful information is a rare find.

Micromania surveys the whole computer field, from blasting aliens on cheapo micros to advanced word processing on expensive systems. From this sweeping vista a number of profound laws are discovered, most of which will ring horribly true to the most fanatical computer addict.

The book covers a vast range of topics and never fails to be both telling and funny. I had to wrench it from the sweaty hands of more than one member of Sunshine Inc to do this review. At £7.95 for a hardback, it's not bad value either.

Book *Micromania*
Price £7.95
Micro General
Supplier Gollancz Publishers
14 Henrietta Street
WC2

This Week

Program	Type	Micro	Price	Supplier
Battlezone	Arc	Aquarius	£5.95	Add On
Boulder	Arc	Aquarius	£5.95	Add On
Break Out	Arc	Aquarius	£5.95	Add On
Games Pack 1	Arc	Aquarius	£5.95	Add On
Anagrams	S	BBC	£3.95	Cylindrical
Flint's Gold	Ud	BBC	£7.95	Micrograf
Vampire Castle	Ad	BBC	£7.95	Micrograf
Alley Oops	Arc	Commodore 64	£7.99	Allrian
Boxing/Galactica 1	Arc	Commodore 64	£7.50	I G Programs
Bozo's	Arc	Commodore 64	£6.90	Task Set
Calc Result	Ut	Commodore 64	£49.95	Handic
Colossus Chess 2.0	S	Commodore 64	£9.95	CDS
Compiler 64	Ut	Commodore 64	£34.50	CP White
Cosmic Convo	Arc	Commodore 64	£6.90	Task Set
Cypher	S	Commodore 64	£5.00	I G Programs
Dinky Doo	Arc	Commodore 64	£7.95	Software Projects
Gyropod	Arc	Commodore 64	£6.90	Task Set
Jammin	Urc	Commodore 64	£6.90	Task Set
Pontoon	S	Commodore 64	£3.50	I G Programs
Super Pipeline	Arc	Commodore 64	£6.90	Task Set
The Sorcerer's Apprentice	Arc	Commodore 64	£9.95	Phoenix
Troopatruck	Arc	Commodore 64	£5.99	Rabbit
3D Space Wars	Arc	Dragon 32	£7.95	Hewson
Ace High	Arc	Dragon 32	£6.95	Tudor
Cave Fighter	Arc	Dragon 32	£8.75	Cable
Crazi Plumber	Arc	Dragon 32	£6.95	Wizard
Cuthbert in the Mines	Arc	Dragon 32	£8.00	Microdeal
Decathlon	Arc	Dragon 32	£5.95	Wizard
Pro File	Ut	Dragon 32	£15.95	Cable
Starword	S	Dragon 32	£5.95	Wizard
Strategy	S	Dragon 32	£8.45	Wizard
Sword Master	S	Electron	£7.95	Micrograf
Frigate	Arc	Oric/Atmos	£7.50	IJK

Ghost	Arc	Oric/Atmos	£7.50	IJK
Green Cross Toad	Arc	Oric/Atmos	£7.50	IJK
Probe 3	Arc	Oric/Atmos	£7.50	IJK
Africa Gardens	Ad	Spectrum	£5.95	Gilsoft
Barsak the Dwarf	Ad	Spectrum	£5.95	Gilsoft
Basic Utilities	Ut	Spectrum	£7.25	Jaysolt
Death Star	Arc	Spectrum	£5.99	Rabbit
Devil's Island	Ad	Spectrum	£5.95	Gilsoft
Dustman	Arc	Spectrum	£5.90	Timescape
Energy 30,000	Arc	Spectrum	£4.90	Elm
Jet Set Willy	Arc	Spectrum	£5.95	Software Projects
Knight Driver	S	Spectrum	£5.95	Hewson
Mindbender	Ad	Spectrum	£5.95	Gilsoft
Nebula	S	Spectrum	£6.95	Redshift
Orion	Arc	Spectrum	£5.95	Software Projects
Rebelstar Raiders	S	Spectrum	£9.95	Redshift
Spyplane	Ad	Spectrum	£5.95	Gilsoft
Test Yourself	Ed	Spectrum	£7.95	Datek
Tribble Trouble	Arc	Spectrum	£5.95	Software Projects
Wilfred	Arc	Spectrum	£5.50	Microbyte
Bugs	Arc	Spectrum 48	£6.95	Wizard
Spectrum Cricket	S	Spectrum 48	£5.45	Wizard
Blocko	S	ZX81	£3.95	D Woolman

Key: Ad — adventure/Arc — arcade/Ed — education/
S — strategy-simulation/Ut — utility

This Week is a new section that covers all the new software coming on to the home micro market each week. All suppliers should send details of their new programs to: This Week, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.



Software piracy rampant

Two years ago piracy in the video industry, was rampant. Nearly every video retailer stocked at least one product that was either a back-to-back copy he had made himself, bought at a very low cost, or a cheap 'off the back of a lorry' counterfeit, or was material that had not yet been officially released on video.

Most dealers did not feel that they were doing anything wrong — they were simply supplying what the public wanted with product that protected their margins. This attitude was reconfirmed by the derisory penalties received by the handful of dealers who were prosecuted — in general a maximum of £50 fine.

The video companies were bothered about piracy but were not willing to spend any money on long term solutions while business remained good and the market appeared to continue to grow. It was only when sales dried up that they realised that their livelihood was in danger and that they would have to invest in legal and legislative action if they were to stay in business.

Exactly the same thing is now happening to computer software. Although the number of dealers involved in product of a dubious nature is still much smaller, the software companies are beginning to notice the number of sales they are losing. Even the bigger companies are feeling

the pinch.

The Guild of Software Houses is becoming increasingly active in the battle against the software thieves, pursuing action on a number of fronts — some of which would be impossible to discuss without hampering the possible effect of the action. Many Government bodies are only too happy to help in protecting the industry's long-term interests. But it is not enough to secure conviction under existing law, because the penalties are not adequate, so the difficult problem of legislating change must also be dealt with.

A large number of computer industry groups are now pooling their resources to try to secure suitable protection for software houses by seeking amendments to the 1956 Copyright Act. The Government has already announced its intention to rewrite this legislation in order to bring it into line with the latter part of the twentieth century, but seems singularly inactive in doing so.

In the mid 1970's it set up the Whitford Committee to look at copyright reform — it reported its findings in March 1977. There then followed a lull of four years when the Government published a Green Paper, the equivalent of a discussion document. There has been much discussion since, but still no action.

One of the problems the Government faces is how restrictive copyright should be. Looking at games software for example — if one company has brought out a maze game, should all other companies be prevented from doing so? How similar can different games be without infringing one another's copyright? Should game copyright extend over all hardware formats regardless of whether the first company has any interest in putting its game out on other formats?

The difficulty comes in 'drafting the line'. If the same standards could be applied as for literature, then it would still be possible to develop a game type, without copyright infringement as long as an author is developing rather than simply ripping off a theme.

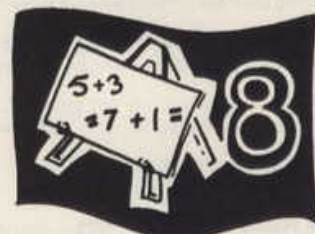
But the problem remains, will Judges — unable to distinguish *Culture Club* from, say, *The Beatles* — be able to rule upon obvious points of difference between games like *Zaxxon* and *Falcon Patrol*?

Nick Alexander

At odds

Puzzle No 99

"Every even number can be formed by adding together two odd number primes — counting 1 as a prime." Professor Hex paused to allow his students time to write this down.



"For example," he continued, "four is the sum of three and one. Some even numbers may be formed in more than one way." To illustrate this he wrote on the blackboard: $5+3=8$ and $7+1=8$.

"Can you tell me," he continued, "in the range of even numbers from 2 to 100, which number, or numbers, can be formed in the most possible ways?"

Can you work it out?

Solution to Puzzle No 94

The program calculates all squares that are equal to one less than the sum of two identical smaller squares.

```
10 LET A = 1
20 LET T = (2 * A * A) - 1
30 LET S = SQR (T)
40 LET S = VAL STR$ S
50 LET S = INT S THEN PRINT A
60 LET A = A + 1
70 GOTO 20
```

There are an infinite number of these possible, but the first few numbers (representing the sides of the smaller squares) are: 1, 5, 29, 169, and 985. Of these only the answer given is in the correct range implied in the question.

The smaller tables each had 29×29 tiles on them, making 1682 tiles in all. If one tile is broken the remaining 1681 tiles can be re-formed into a 41×41 arrangement.

Winner of Puzzle No 94

The winner is: H Hudson, Leyton Crescent, Bradford, W Yorks, who receives £10.

I've ironed out the Bugs
in your Space Shuttle
program son... now you
won't keep
losing
space
satellites,
Heat panels
etc....



What did you do
that for dad?...
Now its nothing
like the
Real thing



...but seriously, AUTOMATA

PIMANIA — the cult adventure that's for real
16K ZX81 £5 ☐ BBC 32K £10 ☐ Dragon 32 £10 ☐ Spectrum 48K £10 ☐

GROUCHO — the Pimania sequel, Concord-QE2-USA prize
Free rock music on the flipside ☐ Spectrum 48K £10 ☐

PI-EYED — the comedy cartoon arcade game, starring
the PiMan. Free protest disco record ☐ Spectrum 48K £6 ☐

PI-BALLED — A triumph of the arcade programmer's art
Starring the PiMan. Free offensive Reggae music ☐ Spectrum 48K £6 ☐

MORRIS MEETS THE BIKERS — exciting arcade fun,
as seen on TV. Outrageous free doo-wop record ☐ Any Spectrum £6 ☐

YAKZEE — Bruddy wonderturr game of ruck and skrii
An oriental masterpiece for ☐ Dragon 32 plus ☐ Spectrum 48K £5 ☐

GO TO JAIL — Play the game
find out what all the fuss is about, cookie ☐ Spectrum 48K £6 ☐

THE PIMAN'S GREATEST HITS — amazing stereo L.P. cassette ☐ £3 ☐

OLYMPIMANIA — He's back! He's going for gold!
He's sober! Free National Anthem on the flipside ☐ Spectrum 48K £6 ☐

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