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# DATA STATEMENTS



## Welcoming the 64C

Commodore's long-awaited and much-trumpeted 64C has finally been released in a classic Commodore gift pack in time for the Christmas rush.

Billed as a new personal computer for home, schools and business, Commodore describes its design as post-writing and its colouring (the

same as the 128's) as eye-catching ivory and grey.

Described as completely compatible with the C64 (and believed to be a C64 with a face lift) by many in the know, Commodore claims buyers of the new machine will have access to the largest software base in the world.

Commodore's aim in launching the new machine is to use it to pave the basis of a second generation of operating methods and facilities, completely new to the home computer marketplace.

Commodore's Chris Kaday commented: "The mixed business and home computer audience at this (PCW) show has exposed this product to the broadest potential user base possible. Their initial reaction bodes well for every associated person and company in the computer industry, retailers who are eager to sell it and software developers who will enjoy the challenge of producing new packages to exploit its facilities."

The 64C has been launched in a package including games and a mouse under the label Commodore's Collection. The exact contents of the package is as follows: the 64C plus closed to print, mouse and three colour graphics software, Pitman's Typing Tutor, plus computer versions of the board games Monopoly, Scrabble, Cluedo, Chess and Renaissance.

The price of the Commodore's Collection is £249.99.

## Freebie

Commodore UK: 1 Havers Road, Welton, Croy, Norfolk  
Tel: 0136 263335



John Judo at the PCW Show

## Get Up and Go

The ever-popular sport games market is still proliferating new titles.

The latest from the US Gold stable are Super Cycle (Hypoc) and Go for Gold (American).

Super Cycle is a motorcycle simulation; your machine is a 150cc job and the game pits you and your bike against the road, curves, your rivals and, of course, the clock. First choose your machine and leathers, then devise your tactics. There are deadly obstacles for you to negotiate as you speed your way around the circuit; water, ice and oil make the going tough at every turn. A realistic instrument panel helps you get the best from your machine using the Tachometer and speedometer. Super Cycle is available

## DATA STATEMENTS

on the C64 for £9.95 cassette and £12.95 disk.

*Go for Gold* is a budget sports simulation featuring six events. There is the 100m sprint, the long jump, 110m hurdles, archery, weightlifting and springboard diving. To exert yourself mentally if not physically will cost a mere £2.99 cassette and £4.99 for the disk version.

Golf, baseball and basketball - championship style - are all now available from America's Gamemat software house courtesy of Activision UK. Prices start at £9.99.

*Championship Golf* takes you to the famous Pebble Beach course where you begin by surveying each hole from an overhead view. Full and split screen views allow you to plan your shot. Club selection, foot position and direction are all under your control as is the motion of your swing from start to finish. Remember to compensate for the wind from the ocean.

*Championship Basketball: Pro-Action* allows you to compete in a team and devote yourself to the spirit of the game. The roar of the crowd, the sweat of the net, slamdunks(!), three-point shots - all these features are included. You can also compete in a four division, 12 team league.

*Championship Baseball* has batting practice, ninth inning rallies, catching, pitching, outfield rallies, base running and sliding under tags. You become player and manager by selecting your team and competing yourself. After each game you can review the division standings to check your progress in the race for the pennant.

From the Far West to the Far East, *Arco* brings you *Thal Racing* for the C64 (with an enhanced version for the C128 on disk). C64 cassette is priced at £7.95 with the C64 disk version at £9.95. If you want to go one step further on your C128 then the disk is £11.95.

Another game in the physical violence genre is *Uchi Mata* from Maroch. Satisfied with only the best, Maroch has taken an International Judo champion Brian Jacobs as technical consultant. Brian said: "I am very pleased with the results I have seen so far. Not only is it a fun game to play, it can be used as an accurate training aid." A copy of the C64 version should now be awaiting you in your local computer games store.

**TeachMe**  
*DS Golf: Chris J.C. Hoyle's Way*,



*Medical: Birmingham 89 745 Feb 82/ 836 238. Archibute 13 Pond St. London NW3 2PN. Amco 13 West Hill, Hampstead, Kent DA1 3JL. Feb 82/2*

*8/213 Maroch Maroch House, Bay Terrace, Foreway, Bay, E. Sussex BN24 6EE Feb 82/2 766076*

## Latest Flips

Verbatim is offering improved design, packaging and testing to buyers of Optima, a new top of the range mini-disk.

Verbatim's claims for the development and quality of the new discette are high indeed. The disks are subjected to over 100 tests during manufacture and are then certified 100% error free and carry a lifetime guarantee.

A specially formulated lubricant produces optimum rotation and lubrication in temperatures as low as 5 degrees C and its jacket is made from a special PVC which allows operation without deformation in temperatures of over 70 degrees C. Suitable for Indians and Australian alike.

Audio Technica is a company which also wants to make your disk headaches a little less severe. *Floppy Cleaner* cleans up floppy disk heads and so avoids disk errors.

Features of the product include Safe design containing no magnetic materials or compounds; safe, quick cleaner prevents disk errors; suitable for single and double sided drives; drives only requiring no-liquid oper-

ation is the same as for ordinary disks; can be used up to 100 times.

The 5 1/4" version costs £18.85.

**Verbatim: Philips and Head Associates, 29 Adon and Eve Mews, High Street, Kensington, London W8 5JG.**

**Audio Technica: Technica House, Lovellwood Close, Leath LS17 3JG. Feb 82/2 571447**



## D A T A S T A T E M E N T S

## Cartoon Time

Ariolasoft has signed up two major Hanna-Barbera cartoon series and is producing them as computer games.

Both cartoons will be recognizable to viewers of children's TV.

The *Centauros* are a supreme unit of three men made all powerful by Eudraimes on to which they attach advanced assault weapons. Each Centaurian then gains the power of 1000 men and becomes both man and machine - the embodiment of Power-centaurs.

In *The Challenge of the Gobots*, renegade forces on the planet Gobotron have been forced to flee. They are led by the mad king Cy-Kill, the reckless Crusher, the cold blooded Cop-Tar and the Godzilla of Gobots, Zed.

They are matched in strength by The Guardians, led by the good Leader 1, the courageous Turbo, the computer wit Scouter and three human allies Matt, Nick and AJ.

Both games are released on the Konix label from Ariolasoft for the C64 and C128.

## Timeline

*Ariolasoft*: 68 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9AW Tel: 01 836 5411.



Wyn Hildrew - control order

## In the Sticks

According to the Makers of the *Speedking* joystick, the demand for their product has been so great since its launch in January this year, that they have been hard pressed to meet it. In fact Konix claims that demand has outstripped supply three times over.

This situation has now changed (see pic) with Konix fairly drowning under a waterfall of joysticks coming off the production lines at the factory in Tredegar, Wales. So if you have had a yearning for a new *Speedking* joystick for the last twelve months and met with bitter regret and disappointment at your inability to obtain this coveted possession then you can now breathe a sigh of relief.

Wyn Hildrew of Konix said (as he loomed out of a cardboard box) "We would like to thank all our customers for their patience over the last few months. Now that the joystick can be produced in sufficient numbers, we can concentrate on ensuring the best joy-

stick yet is also the best-selling joystick yet." The price is £12.95.

Chertab Marketing also believes that it has the ultimate joystick with the *Match 1*. Features of the *Match 1* which Chertab hopes will justify this claim are: four fire buttons, two in the base and two in the handle, to assure that both left and right handed players can use it comfortably; fast return-to-center action; rapid action slider switch for autofire; four gripping action pads on the base. It's built from high impact, wear resistant material with top quality micro-switches and a high grade metal shell. The cost? £14.99.

## Timeline

*Chertab*: Units 12-14, Sibley Mill Industrial Estate, Tredegar, Monmouth NP23 4QZ

*Chertab*: 1 Walswell Science Park, Crickfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire SG1 2JF Tel: 0223 375347



Match 1 from Chertab

## DATA STATEMENTS

## Weird and Wonderful

Palace Software, makers of the classic *Castle* games, have now announced the release of *The Sacred Armour of Antiriad* on the C64.

*Antiriad* is a visually stunning arcade adventure. And Palace's talented programmers have put in months of work to perfect the animation, graphics and sound.

Written and designed by comic artist Dan Malone, the sound track and sound effects were created by Richard Joseph and *Antiriad* was programmed by Stanley Schenkel. Included with the game is a 36 page illustrated booklet, also by Dan Malone, which explains the legend of the Sacred Armour and the background to the game.

*Antiriad* will initially be available on C64 cassette at £8.99 and a disk version is forecast although a date has not been finalised.



Dan Malone - *Antiriad's* artist



New from Rainbird Software (developed by Magister Software) is *The Power*. An adventure set in the magical world of Korvenia. There are separate versions for the C64 and C128 both consisting of two disks and retailing at £39.95.

King Erik, ruler of Korvenia, is going through a bad time, what with famine and bankruptcy. The peasants are beginning to find him revolting and are thinking of revolting themselves. Part of Erik's bad press is due to the fact that the Bookbeyonds dwarfs, makers of the best whiskey in Korvenia, were all hounded under

suspicion of assassinating the queen. Other drinks manufacturers are using their influence to keep the dwarves out of the country and with a general election looming the king is becoming pretty worried. When you arrive, to restore peace, prosperity and whiskey to the depressed peasants. Or do you? First you must discover your goal and then find the best way to achieve it.

Features of *The Power* include: a sophisticated language parser allowing complex sentences and extensive vocabulary; 30 atmospheric illustrations; a graphics window allowing the

player to scroll graphics up and down the screen over the text; word processing style text editor; representation of all characters so if they existed in a real world, storing complex information about their attributes and properties linked to their particular position or context in the game.

**Footnote**

Palace Software, 275 Finsbury Road, London N7 9NF, Tel: 01 776 0351. Antiriad, 74 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1PS Tel: 01 240 8808.

## Into the Underworld

CRI, has brought us another game from the St Bride's Classroom, this one's called *Rageo Maximo* and features a pale blue rabbit who lives in 1932 Chicago and wants to take over from Al Capone to become Public Enemy No 1.

This game is for those who like violence, theft, bribery and corruption with a lot of tongue in cheek humour thrown in.

It's now available for C64/C128 at £7.99 cassette and £12.95 disk.

Antisoft's is also getting into the world of crime with its new release *They Stole a Million*. You're the boss of a small time gang, just out of jail, so of course you're short of money.

Using vital blueprints you choose your target and then all you need is a gang. There are five targets to choose from ranging from a High Street jeweller to a bank bullion raid and there are 18 criminal characters to help you succeed plus five fences to get rid of the stuff and turn it into the ready money that you want. C64 cassette is £9.95 and the disk is £14.95.

**Footnote**

Antisoft, CRI, House, 9 Kings Yard, Carpenter's Road, London E13 2ND Tel: 01 523 7918. Antisoft's 182 Long Lane, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9AM Tel: 01 811 5474.

# EREBUS

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## D A T A S T A T E M E N T S

## Indoor Games

Sports Simulations may be popular but so are computer versions of games which are strictly for those who don't like being out in the cold. Here's a batch of the latest.

Bag Byte's latest release is *Miami Dice* (tabled pan boys!) which is a Craps game simulation - American rules. You can choose the players from eight different characters, rename them, place bets and then roll the dice. There's a table room facility and animated players who will even comment on the game. *Miami Dice* was launched by Bag Byte using a real craps table (you bet) and specially invited guests could have a shot at winning a Bag Byte T-shirt or even a pair of underpants. Like all games in the Bag Byte range, *Miami*

*Dice* is £2.99. A C64 version is available.

Alligata's latest release is *Pak Games* for the C64/128. It costs £9.99 on cassette and the disk version is the same price.

Seven games are included in both formats. These are all traditional pastimes to be found in the smoke filled, hazy atmosphere of alehouses around the country. These is table football, dominoes, poker, pomsom, skittles, bar billiards and of course darts.

**Teachline**

*Bag Byte Victory House, Activator Floor, London WC2E 7AE. Tel: 01 419 8666. Alligata: 1 Change Street, Southampton ST 4BW. Tel: 0742 733796.*



Peter Hobbs of APS with a customer operator

The MSP 100 is an 80 column printer while the MSP 150 prints across 132 columns, apart from that both machines have identical performance characteristics. Draft output is 100 characters per second and NLQ speed is 40 characters per second. Other features include standard UK buffer, full bit image graphics, proportional spacing and built in IBM and Epson compatibility. The MSP 100 sells for £249 and the MSP 150 is £449.

**Teachline**

*Citizen Europe: Wellington House, 4-20 Grosvenor Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3JF. Tel: 0895 73617*

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**Citizen's MSP 100 and 150**

## Model Citizens

Three new printers are being added to Citizen Europe's extensive range. The models are the HQP 45, the MSP 100 and the MSP 150.

The HQP 45 has a 24 pin (12 x 12 staggered) print head with thermal protection, print speeds of 300 CPS in draft mode, 132 CPS in correspondence mode, and 66 CPS in letter quality mode. It has built in push feed, RS232C serial interface as standard, paper cut sensors, a 24K buffer and automatic paperload plus numerous other specifications. The HQP is now available.

## YOUR

## COMMODORE

As you will now have realised, if you are one of our regular readers, Your Commodore is a magazine which never stands still. We're always striving to make the magazine a more enjoyable read both in content and looks.

In accordance with this, to celebrate the new year, our January issue will have a bright distinctive new logo,

so keep your eyes peeled for this.

The January 1987 issue will also appear one week early on the shelves of your newsagent so rush out and get it on the 28 November.

The February issue will be published on the usual date, that is the first Friday in January 1987.



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of the game

# Druid

*Enter the dank, dark depths of Firebird's latest masterpiece and see if you can survive.*

*By Stuart Cooke*

**T**he arcade game genre has certainly started off a new class in computer games. Many companies are producing clones or programs similar to this superb arcade game. Firebird's offering is *Druid*. It has everything you would expect, spells, leveling characters, treasure and obviously an overall goal. What's more it is exceptionally easy to play. Give it a couple of minutes and you'll be hooked, even so it's going to take you quite a while to win.

The object of the game is to guide your druid through numerous levels of dungeon and find your evil skulls that were created by the Princess of Darkness. At the start of the game our Druid finds himself wandering around a forest with a number of spells to protect him. No sooner has he started on his quest than the money left his game and plants at you. Be thankful that your druid is carrying a number of water spells as a quick blast from one of these is enough to banish the nasties back to whatever plane of your OS's circuitry they came from.

The water spell isn't the only one that your druid can use. He has access to fire and electricity spells which affect

different monsters that he meets upon his travels, different spells having more effect on some nasties than others. A key spell enables him to open any doors that he comes across, if he should want to. Invisibility spells allow your druid to disappear for a short time. Chaos destroys everything in



sight and perhaps the most interesting of all spells, the Golden spell gives your druid an aid by his side.

You can replenish your supply of spells by searching the treasure chests that you find on your way. Be warned however, make sure that you choose the right item from the treasure since the rest will disappear as soon as one item is removed.

The Charm and Invisibility spells are quite easy to understand, the Golden however needs further explanation. The Golden when brought into life will wander around the playing area either under the control of yourself or that of a second player, with a second joystick. The Golden has no interest in its own safety and kills everything that it comes into contact with, even if this does mean that its energy is reduced and it will finally disappear into nothing. If you are letting the Druid control the Golden then it does take quite a lot of handling. Getting the Golden to go where you want it to is sometimes right on impossible. Quite often he'll simply get to your way so that you can't move anywhere. When another player takes control of the game becomes much easier. With the Golden taking care of the nasties the Druid has much more time available to him to find treasure chests and the way deeper into the complex, and hopefully to the four skulls.

Energy is something that not only the Golden loses upon contact with the enemy but the Druid also suffers from this type of loss. As with most wizards, the druid does only have one life. He can however replenish his energy but standing upon one of the mystical pentagrams that are to be found

while chasing after the skulls.

The graphics used within the game are in the main excellent with only a few of the monsters lacking in reality. There's nothing worse than watching a quivering ghoul heading towards you when you've just run out of spells. The monsters lack any real intelligence and seem to take the shortest path to you. This means that a enemy will quite often find itself stuck behind some object he it a wall of some foliage allowing the druid to pick it off at his leisure.

The actual playing area consists of a number of large scrolling levels. The scrolling of the background being very smooth. As with real life the fact that you don't see the whole screen is annoying when you find you're just hauled your way past a horde of giant ants only to find yourself at a dead end and having to retreat your steps.

Druid is an excellent game. It is extremely simple to play with minimal controls, the joystick is used for movement with just a few keys to select spells etc, but extremely difficult to master.

The number on levels of the game are enough to keep both the newcomer to computer games and the arcade fiend hooked for quite some time.

**SYGEMALINE** Publisher: Demand. Price: £7.95. Machine: C84. Supplier: Firebird, Whittington House, Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2M 3LX. Tel: 01-277 4752.

Originality: *5/10*. Playability: *10/10*. Graphics: *9/10*. Value: *10/10*. 93

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MM 100	5 1/4 x 130	17.70
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**0707 52698**

# Win A Citizen Printer

*Citizen has teamed up with your Commodore to offer a very special prize to celebrate this Christmas issue.*

One of the most important pieces of hardware that any Commodore owner could have is a printer. Should you write your own programs then it is essential that you have a printer so that you can produce listings of your work so far. You can throw away your old ferro's and start to produce professional looking letters to send to your friends, or more likely your bank manager. All in all you shouldn't be without one.



However there is one small problem, a good printer is so expensive.

Well now, for one price at least, your problems may be over.

Citizen is offering, as a prize for this month's spot the difference competition, an excellent IBM dot matrix printer. Priced at £197 + VAT this printer offers all of the following features:

Expanded, compressed and double strike print.

Italics, superscripts and subscripts.

Correspondence quality print for producing high quality printouts.

International characters for 11 countries.

Programmable graphics.

It prints 120 characters per second.

It will behave as either an Epson compatible printer or an IBM graphics printer.

Easy to access switches for selecting different modes.

Plus lots more.

As you can see the IBM is a very special printer, whatever else it will certainly find it useful!

So that the printer will work straight away with your Commodore computer a Commodore printer interface is also being included so that you will be able to use the printer with your Commodore software.

## How to Enter

Study the pictures on this page. There are several differences between the two.

Mark the differences on the picture which is attached to the entry coupon that completes the rest of the coupon and send it to us. Make sure that you write clearly. Write the number of differences you found on the back of the envelope.

## Citizen Competition Entry

Closing date Monday, December 29, 1986.



Entries will not be accepted from employees of Argus Specialist Publications and Citizen. This restriction also applies to employees' families and agents of the companies.

The How to Enter section forms part of the rules. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Send your entry to: Citizen Competition, Your Commodore, 1 Golden Square, London W1R 1AB.

Write clearly and fully and don't forget to write the number of differences you have found on the back of your envelope.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode .....

Number of differences found .....

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Please Note: The above prices include 160Postage & Packing for the US only



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Call 011-444-1616 to provide details

TC2

# Wigmore Offer

*Your Commodore together with Wigmore House presents  
a host of special offers on their mouse and related  
material.*

**T**his Christmas Commodore is placing, among other items, a mouse and graphics software on cassette. We reviewed this mouse in the March '86 issue of Your Commodore and were very impressed with it.

Wigmore, the company which markets the mouse, has recently released a new package called *Arnie* 64 to which we gave a glowing review in the November 1986 issue of the magazine.

Because we were so impressed by the mouse and its associated software we have teamed up with Wigmore House to provide our readers with a series of special offers based around these products.

1) Firstly we have the mouse itself. As previously mentioned Commodore was so impressed with this package that it has been bundled into the Christmas Commodore's collection package. The Software Office is supplied on cassette and is an excellent introductory graphics package. The mouse is well constructed and even has a mode which enables it to imitate a joystick.

The usual price for this package is £48.99. We are able to make it available to you for just £42.99 plus £1.50 p.p.p.

2) As mentioned above the graphics package that comes with the mouse is a tape only version. Wigmore has made a disk available and we are also offering a special offer on this. This may also be of interest to purchasers of Commodore's Christmas pack who would want their mouse to work with disk. Price, just £7.90 plus 75p p.p.p compared to a normal price of £8.50 plus p.p.p. The disk software loads at 5-6 times normal disk speed.

3) *Arnie 64* is an excellent graphics package and we were extremely impressed with its range of capabilities. It is in fact probably the most versatile graphics program that we have seen. You don't need a mouse to use it as the software will quite happily work with joystick.



Price, just £28.50 plus 75p p.p.p. Usual price £34.99.

4) *Deal Tap* takes the mouse even further. It gives you C64 (or C128 in C64 mode) a range of interesting utilities which are accessed by the mouse.

The package includes such features as a 100 year calendar, a diary, a clock, calculator, disk utilities and much more. Price £17.50 plus 75p p.p.p for cassette and disk.

## Wigmore Order Form

I would like to order the following Wigmore products

PRODUCT	PRICE	CODE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Mouse + Chess cassette	£44.49	803011		
Chess on Disk	£8.95	803012		
Arnie 64	£18.25	803013		
Deal Tap - cassette	£17.50	803014		
Deal Tap - Disk	£18.25	803015		

Name .....

Address .....

POSTAL CODE .....

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £..... made payable to  
ANGUS SPECIALIST PUBLICATIONS LTD.

All orders should be sent to: Your Commodore, Readers Service, Angus Specialist Publications, Wobley House, Wobley Road, Bernal Hempstead, Herts HP2 4ES. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

Battle for Midway, Battle of Britain, Theatre Europe,  
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# Bismarck

On the evening of  
24th May 1941, HMS Hood  
took a direct hit in her  
magazine. Of the 1415 men  
on board, only 3 escaped  
with their lives.  
BISMARCK had claimed  
her first kill....

MAIN MAP



COCKPIT VIEW



ABRECKON MAP



BRIDGE VIEW



FREE

DEMO TAPE COVER

See below

for full details

Features: **GAME CONTROLS:** Command Bismarck vs. Computer, Royal Navy vs. Computer, Full joystick control, Iron driven, Variable speed game, Variable difficulty level, "Set Battles" option, Save Game, Real time Action. **FLEET CONTROLS:** Main map screen, Air reconnaissance screen, Weather forecasting. **SHIP CONTROLS:** Visual search from bridge, Radar search, Control heading, speed etc., Fire heavy guns, Control anti-aircraft guns, Allocate damage control via fully detailed plan views, Torpedo attacks, Fairy Swordfish light simulator.

To receive your FREE Demonstration Tape of BISMARCK and a catalogue of our other products, send a self addressed envelope (at least 11cm X 22cm) with a 17p stamp to "BISMARCK DEMO", DEPT 2, P88, 463 STONEY STANTON RD, COVENTRY, CV8 5DG. TEL (0203) 667666. (offer only available while stocks last)

CBM 64/128 9.95 (C) 14.95 (D)

**WARGAMERS**  
SERIES



# Club 128

*A look at what is available on Computet this month together with details of a very special free offer*

*By Neil Day*

I've been reflecting recently on that great enigma, the John Bull Rolled Oats packet. It earned a large picture of John Bull, with top hat and Union Jack vest, proudly carrying a packet of John Bull Rolled Oats. If you looked carefully you could see that this illustrated packet had its own picture of John Bull: smaller but equally resplendent, and he was definitely carrying a flannel, microscopic packet of rolled oats. Many a breakfast was absent-mindedly consumed by people seeking the answer to the fundamental question of how many ever-diminishing John Bulls could be seen, assuming, as economists say, perfect information and better printing than is usually found on the average porridge packet? Historians of the future might write on something like this to explain the capacity of twentieth century man to deal with recursively structured computer language!

It was the selection of items to mention in this month's review of Club 128 that set me thinking about John Bull and the porridge packet. A lot of the very best things available on Computet simply help you use the network more efficiently. Once you can make better use of it, you'd even more programs and information that enable you to use Computet even more effectively, and so on. I'm not sure if the cycle of exploring and learning about the network would

revolve the number of John Bulls an enthusiastic porridge eater could discern, but it is a lot less fascinating!

## Enhancer

One of the most popular programs available on Computet is the Editor Enhancer uploaded by MACH1. For readers who aren't familiar with it, Editor Enhancer adds graphics capabilities to the Computet Editor program that comes built in to the modem you purchase. It enables you

to add spectacular graphics effects to Epsan frames, and can be used with different character fonts to produce a range of large "logos". Various users have designed their own fonts, and, typical of Computet, these are freely available for other users to download. There are more than a dozen fonts to choose from!

If you're new to Computet, you'll find a number of frames about the Enhancer if you GOTO ENHANC.

## Utilities

The CNET UTILITIES area (GOTO 38) includes many other programs that make life easier for Computeters. Most of these have a very professional feel about them. For sheer excellence of design and quality of documentation you would be hard-



pressed to find a program superior to Epsan Drawery AS90GOTO-1829121. If you have an Epsan compatible printer, this program is an essential purchase as it lets you print text or graphics from Computet frames. The impressive thing about the program is its flexibility: when printing, text the user can set up the page length and the horizontal position where the frame will be printed. For changing graphics there is a wide range of choices. For







instance, the translation of each of the 16 characters can be set by the user to one of three printed tones.

The program costs £3.90, more than reasonable given its usefulness and quality.

### Icons

There are many other programs of interest in the various applications user. For example a **ARMIDEAS** updated by AMID has recently been updated. This provides an icon driver disk operating system as well as other features. It costs a mere £1.99 (**GOTO ARMIDEAS**).

These programs show the advantages of buying user software on CompuNet. You can read the documentation at your leisure before purchase. There are detailed reviews available to the devotees alongside the programs, or you can **GOTO REVIEWS** for a full set. It is easy to contact the programmer or the reviewer with queries. And, if my experience is anything to go by, the authors are only too keen to discuss the use of their programs and consider modifications or improvements, by that with commercially purchased software! Finally, you can hear the opinions from a range of other users. For instance, some comments by purchasers have been uploaded near the **DRIVER** program, covering the use of the interface with a range of printers.

### Free Madam

CompuNet is making a very attractive offer to non-members. For £15 plus £3.50 postage you can get a free

madam with three months subscription to CompuNet's Gold service. This provides, if anything, more facilities than the home user is likely to need. You must undertake to remain a member of CompuNet for at least a year, but that should be no problem! Get in touch with any CompuNetter. The incentives that CompuNet is offering those who recruit new members should ensure a warm welcome!

If you can't find the frames mentioned in this article, it is possible that they have died. If possible, I'll try to resurrect them, and leaving note of any changes in the **YOURCIB** directors (**GOTO YBCIB**) or the **MAGAZINE SCENE** directory (**GOTO MAGS**). ☐

### Footnote

Name: CompuNet Televisions Limited,  
7-11 Altona Road, London NW10 6MJ  
Tel: (01) 947 8266.

## OXFORD PASCAL

**FOR THE C64**  
More than 70,000  
worded copies  
Dish **£34.95**  
Cassette **£31.95**

- Subprogram Pascal + extensions
- Speed - Fortran compatible Fortran-90
- Features (in compiled disk computer)
- Full Editor
- Powerful Editor
- Compiler/Linker
- Good error handling programs

**OXFORD PASCAL includes TWR3 compilers:**

- 1) A resident compiler that runs in BASIC just like a BASIC interpreter (ideal for learning Pascal and debugging)
- 2) A FULL disk compiler which lets you use the whole of memory for Pascal programs

The package includes a **LINKER** allowing maintenance and repairs compilation. **PASCAL** is faster to create and alter programs which run independent of the Pascal system.

## PETSPED BASIC COMPILER

- UP TO 41 TIMES THE SPEED OF BASIC
- Compiles ALL BASIC commands
- Compatible with machine code
- Makes large programs smaller
- Program analysis utility included
- Features in BASIC
- Long variable names option
- Recommended by Commodore

Using **PETSPED** couldn't be simpler: just type in the name of your program, wait a few minutes and that's your software running on a 40 times faster.

## HACK-PACK including RAM-DISK

The ultimate utility pack for the C128

• **RAM TONKAT** commands include **FRAG**, **CHANGE**, **DUPPI**, **FRAG**, **TYPE**, **INFO** etc.

4 Amps only **RAM-DISK**

Programs that drive like the C64 or C128 only many times faster. This is **RAM-DISK**. **RAM-DISK** requests all of the usual disk commands such as **ERASE**, **DELETE**, **DELETE**, **DIR**, **OPEN**, **CATALOG** and before you know it's copying files. The only difference is that everything happens much faster. **RAM-DISK** is resident in the **RAM-DISK** supplied as standard on the **RAM-DISK**, the **IT** and the **AMITRAC** and provides a way for you as a programmer to help explain the C128's large memory. The **COMP** command can be used to move files from a physical disk drive to **RAM-DISK** and vice versa. At the end of a session of the **RAM-DISK** can be loaded up onto floppy disk. **RAM-DISK** is accessible from **MODEM** or machine code.

• **THE COMPRESSOR**

The compressor is a utility for compressing programs down to their minimum size (just type in the name of your program, wait a minute or two and there you are) written with all options and **RAM-DISK** removed and will up to 284 characters packed onto each line. Make your code smaller and faster and protect programs from unauthorized copying.

• **THE COPY**

Copy files (and directories too) from one disk to another. This is a very useful utility for copying files from one disk to another. It can copy files from one disk to another. It can copy files from one disk to another. It can copy files from one disk to another.

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### Order Form

- Basic software (all responses boxed)
- OXFORD 64
- OXFORD 128
- OXFORD PASCAL 64 DISK
- OXFORD PASCAL 128 Cassette
- OXFORD PASCAL 128
- HACK-PACK 128
- THE HIGHER'S SPECIAL OFFER

Send this completed order form to:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**SPECIAL OFFER**  
C64 Language pack  
Buy both **OXFORD PASCAL 64**  
and **PETSPED 64** for only  
**£45**

# Wimp

*Create an easy to use icon environment in your own programs with the first routine in a new series.*

By Allen Webb

**T**his is the first part of a series of routines for the slightly more serious user. Over the months, I intend to describe some routines which will simplify the writing of Basic programs. The majority of routines will be in machine code thus allowing you to perform complex sequences by the use of a simple SYS call.

The first package is somewhat larger than most and provides three quarters of a WIMP environment. For those of you who don't know, WIMP means, Windows, Icons, Mouse and Pointers. This package mostly covers the WIMP part since Windows would need quite a bit more code.

Newer machines use the WIMP system to provide a simple "front end" whereby a user with little training can use the software. Icons (little pictures) are used to represent functions, these being selected with pointers controlled by a mouse. Due to the constraints of such a system, bit mapping of the screen is mandatory. Hence this rather large lump of code.

The code is in two Basic loaders (listing 1 parts 1 and 2). Before I describe how you use the routines, it is best if I indicate the memory usage.

Consider Figure 1:

Figure 1	
8000-800FB	Work space
8000-800FF	Text buffers
8000-80040	Pointer Sprite
8C00-8CFFF	Colour matrix
9000-90FFF	Colour buffer
9400-94FF8	Icon library
9700-97FFF	Speed RAM
AA00-ADFFF	Bit map
BC00-BCAED	Machine code
8C00-8CFFF	Character set
8E00-8EFFF	Bit map buffer

This shows the memory areas used by the package. When using the package, you are left with about 12K which should be enough for most purposes.

The package provides 24 commands. They are entered via a jump table starting at 8C000+49432. I shall refer to this address as SA, from now on.

## SETUP (SYS SA, INK, PAPER, BORDER)

This routine switches on the bit mapped screen and sets the ink, paper and border colours as required. Ink refers to the colour of set points, and paper refers to the colour of unset points. I have adopted high resolution mode with 320 by 200 points and two colours. This gives the most satisfying results. This routine clears the bit map.

## COLSET (SYS SA+3, INK, PAPER)

This instruction sets the bit map to the specified colours without clearing the area.

## TURNON (SYS SA+6)

This command simply turns on the bit map whilst leaving the pattern and colour untouched.

## TEXT (SYS SA+9)

This allows you to return to the normal text screen.

## POINT (SYS SA+12, X, Y, FLAG)

This is the first instruction involved with the changing of the vectors in information. The command acts on the point X,Y according to the value of the flag:

Flag = 0.....erase point  
 Flag = 1.....set point  
 Flag = 2.....flip points

The routine checks the X and Y values. Values greater than the screen range are set to the maximum value on the screen.

## CHANGECOL (SYS SA+15, INK, PAPER)

You may, from time to time, want to change the colours in a particular area. This command does this but leaves the rest of the screen untouched.

## ZONE (SYS SA+18, XS, YS, XF, YF, FLAG)

This command is closely related to POINT in that it is used to change a rectangle of screen according to the FLAG (see command point for the values). The rectangle is defined by its top/left corner (XS, YS) and its bottom right corner (XF, YF). The command acts to single pixel resolution and is therefore a little slow.

## CHARS (SYS SA+21, ADDRESS)

The ability to print text on the screen is a crucial part of this package. The design of the characters used are kept in a block of RAM from 8C000 to 8C0FB. This provides enough space for 256 characters. You can of course, load your own designs in the area. Alternatively, you can copy the 64's character set down using this instruction. The relevant addresses are:

Upper case .....51248  
 Lower case .....51266

## TOGGLE (SYS SA+24)

The system used location 1800 to decide whether the colour matrix is to

be updated each time a point is manipulated. This instruction toggles this location. This allows you to alter the design without messing up the colours. It is akin to POKE 1000 with one at the start of your programs to enable colour updating.

### BASICSSCREEN (SYS SA+37)

This routine sets up a standard screen design. This has the form of a sheet of paper with a shaded heading area and a "previous page" icon. The default colours are set to two-grey shades.

### HLINE (SYS SA+30, X8, Y8, XF, FLAG)

This draws a horizontal line from X8 to XF at Y8 according to the value of the FLAG (see PLOT).

### VLINE (SYS SA+31, X8, Y8, YF, FLAG)

This is the vertical analogue to HLINE.

### SHAPE (SYS SA+36, ADDRESS, X, Y, WIDTH, HEIGHT, FLAG, KP)

The main vital aspect of this system is the use of shape tables to generate icons. This command draws a shape stored in RAM starting at the specified address. The top left corner of the drawn shape is placed at X,Y and the shape occupies a square of characters of specified width and height. The flags have the following effects:

#### FLAG:

- 0 ..... overlay (erase) current screen contents.
- 1 ..... ORN shape with screen
- 2 ..... AND shape with screen
- 3 ..... ORN shape with screen

#### KP

- 0 ..... draw normal shape
- 1 ..... draw shape in reversed field

The shape is stored in the same way as the character table. Consider a design of characters, 3 by 2 in size, in

The character A is defined by eight bytes, as is B etc. These must be stored in sequence in RAM, i.e.

#### ABCDE

If you're not sure about redefining characters, take a look at the 64 Programmer's Reference Guide.

### PTTEXT (SYS SA+39, TEXT, LINE, TAB, FLAG, KP)

This command prints a line of text on a specified line starting at a specified horizontal offset (TAB). The effects of FLAG and KP are as in SHAPE.

Text can be input as a string, or in quotes, the following examples being valid.

```
SYS SA+39,AB,3,0,0
SYS SA+39,"HELLO" 8,1,1
SYS SA+39,"FILE ""+FILE""
SCRATCHED",0,0,0,0
```

### ZSHAPE (SYS SA+42, X, Y, WIDTH, HEIGHT, ZP)

This instruction acts on an area of whole characters of specified height and width with its top left corner at X,Y. ZP has the values:

```
ZP=1 ..... clear zone
ZP=0 ..... reverse field zone
```

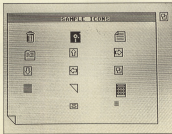
This instruction is useful for high-lighting areas and providing non-destructive cursors.

### ICON (SYS SA+45, ICON, NUMBER, X, Y, FLAG, KP)

I felt that it would be handy to provide a resident library of icons. I have therefore provided 13 of the most commonly used. The specified icon is placed with its top left corner at X,Y in accordance with the flags (see SHAPE). The icons provided are:

- 0 ..... Desk icon
- 1 ..... Floppy disk
- 2 ..... Sheet of paper
- 3 ..... File index card
- 4 ..... Arrow pointing up
- 5 ..... Arrow pointing right
- 6 ..... Arrow pointing down
- 7 ..... Arrow pointing left
- 8 ..... Previous page
- 9 ..... Hatched heading area (large)
- 10 ..... Button folded over corner
- 11 ..... Calculator
- 12 ..... Cassette
- 13 ..... Hatched heading area (small)

Icons 9,11,12 and 13 are 3 characters wide by 3 characters high. Icon 13 occupies one icon. The remainder are 2 by 2 in size.



ABC  
DEF

**STOWIT (SYS SA+48)**

This instruction copies the current screen (both bit patterns and colours) to two storage buffers. This allows you to keep a default display on hand for use with the "last page" icon.

**GETIT (SYS SA+51)**

This is the complement of STOWIT in that it recalls any screen currently in the storage buffers.

**PRINTMENU (SYS SA+64, TEXT, LINE, TAB, WIDTH, FLAG, RP, INK, PAPER)**

The crux of WIMP systems is the use of pull down menus. These comprise a list of options in the form of a box, from which you can make selections. This option took the most thought since I want it to have maximum flexibility. The text given in the command is printed as a box of specified width with it's top left corner at the specified line and tab position. FLAG and RP have their usual effects and you may set the colours as required to give appropriate contrast from the background.

You should ensure that the text length is an exact multiple of the menu width. If you don't, the command won't crash but your menu may not look quite right. In addition, you must insert all spaces. Consider this simple menu and imagine that all asterisks represent spaces:

```
***DIS*MENU**
CATALOGUE****
VALIDATE*****
SCRATCH*FILE*
```

The text used in the command will be:

```
***DISK**CATALOGUE****
VALIDATE*****SCRATCH*FILE*
```

A width of 13 should be used.

**POINTER (SYS SA+67, COL1, COL2)**

This command initiates the pointer. This has the form of an arrow pointing southeast. To give a feeling of depth, the pointer has one colour

(COL1) and a shadow (COL2). The command has the action:

- 1) Turns on the pointer option.
- 2) Puts the pointer at the top left corner of the screen.
- 3) Turns on the interrupt to drive the pointer.

The pointer is controlled by joystick in port 2. Since the pointer is interrupt driven, it is moved independently of any Basic program. You can, however, monitor the pointer's progress from Basic by PEEKing three locations:

```
899 ..... holds the number of the line pointed to
870 holds the number of the column pointed to
888 ..... holds the fire button status (0=pressed, 1=not pressed)
```

**KILL (SYS SA+60)**

This disables the pointer. This command is required on occasions such as when accessing disks.

**Examples**

Well that's all of them. The important point to appreciate is that this package is deliberately general so that it can be used for the widest possible range of applications. You still have to write the BASIC kernel program. So that you have an idea of how to use the program I've included a simple demonstration in listing 2. This program is by no means optimum and is simply there to show you how the system works and to give a few ideas (so no complaints about the poor structure).

The program is a simple disk aid. The basic screen shows a simple four option menu. This is selected by the pointer with the option currently pointed to highlighted. The last page icon in the top right corner also functions. To choose an option, point at the required option and press fire. You will notice that neither icons nor menu light up until the pointer is on the relevant area, this feature is crucial.

Try using the program, apart from pressing Y or N at one stage, you need just the joystick.

The most important part of the routine occupies lines 118 to 900. In summary, the lines have the following effects:

- 118: Set up menu limits.
- 113: Scan fire button and see if pointer is looking at an option or icon.
- 128: Read current line and column.
- 138: Check whether pointer is off the menu. If not go to 180.
- 148: On menu, if currently pointing to an option, go back to 118.
- 158: Pointing to new option so reverse field last option.
- 168: Highlight new option and return to 115.
- 170: Back to 115.
- 180: Are we pointing to the icon, if so go to 210.
- 183: If not and we were looking at the icon then de-highlight icon and back to 113.
- 198: Back to 115.
- 208: Reset icon.
- 218: Highlight icon and back to 113.
- 900: This performs the "last page" function.

I've used the flags FL and RP to keep track of whether an option is highlighted or not. Additionally, RP holds the position on the screen of the option in a menu. Since we know the position of the top of the menu, we can easily calculate the number of the option (line 1000 shows this).

The scratch option also uses a copy of the routine but uses a menu based on the array FR which is created by the catalogue subroutine.

The only option which isn't covered by the package is the input of text from the keyboard. This need should not arise too often, but if it should, try listing 1 on something similar.

Given the time, I will write a menu structured program which will really show what this package will do.

**Your turn**

I finally went to activate your fountain pens. If any of you have any ideas or any problems that you would like covering in the *Amiable Business* series, drop me a line care of the editor at Four Commodore and I'll do my best to oblige.

Should you create any programs using these routines that you think may be of interest to other Four Commodore readers, please send them into the magazine and we will publish the best ones.

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# Show Stoppers

*For those who didn't manage to get along to the Commodore Show in Manchester, our show report brings you the highlights.*

*By Allen and Margaret Webb*

**I**t was with much anticipation that we took ourselves 20 miles down the motorway to the great metropolis of Manchester to see this year's Commodore Show.

For whatever reason, it was decided that an alternative venue to London was to be used this year. In all, it was a mistake.

Compared to previous shows, this was a rather small and unexciting affair. Having said that, we have nothing but praise for those companies that did choose to attend, for the rest, we simply despise.

The choice of a date so close to the PCW show was probably the main error, but the deliberate choice of the major sell-ware houses to only attend the London show sealed the fate of this event. We know that times are tough for the industry but by ignoring the Commodore Show, the industry is simply biting the hand of those that feed it, i.e. Commodore owners and users. It was also particularly hard on those of us who live in the north and who cannot afford the price of attending the shows held in London.

OK, having got that pipe out of the way, here's a rundown of the highlights of the show.

Overall there were about 50 stands,

the centre-piece probably being Commodore's.

## The New Boys

The 64C was very much in evidence, as was the Amiga. This was our first close encounter with the Amiga and we were thoroughly impressed. We had a long chat with David Hill of Commodore who alluded to all sorts of interesting plans without giving any details. There certainly appears to be some special 64C package for Christmas, the only question is will it make the machine attractive enough to sell? We somehow suspect that it won't.

Badly, there was no indication as to what action was to be taken to make the Amiga more accessible to the home user.

## It's a Gas

While on the subject of the Amiga, Stephen had an Amiga running a transporter via a sidcar. For those of you who haven't met it, the sidcar converts the Amiga into an 16-bitator. Since they hadn't got the necessary graphics driver, it wasn't possible to have a flashy demo.

Instead, the transporter was quietly calculating the diffusion of a gas in a stagnant room. Not guaranteed to get everyone's attention but impressive enough.

## School Days

The greatest source of noise in the place was the Calson stand. This company has a number of interesting products most of which are aimed at the educational market. The area of music is well supported by a Music Compendium and a Music Creator. The compendium seems to be a complete teach yourself system and appeared to be quite comprehensive. The Music Creator allows you to write your tune and then converts it into a piece of interrupt driven code. This allows you to use the music in your own programs. The value of the creator has been amplified by a Quilsoft advertiser called Mystery Voyage. It was announced that a future Quilf system may well include a patch to this music system. It will be interesting to see if this materialises. A particularly interesting product from Calson was a variant using Amstrug's Picoe decreased 6501. This allows you to write music by

simply stating the notes. Due to the noise at the show, the device was not demonstrated but there was a video showing its abilities. It appears that the system, as with all Colson's range, is aimed at the disabled and as such will be a valuable and cheap aid. We managed to get hold of a preview copy of Colson's forthcoming educational software. Watch the Education column for our appraisal of it.

## The Hard Stuff

Everham Micros had the usual hardware goodies on show with a particular emphasis on Dolphin 300Y. This hardware addition for your disk drive enables significant increases in I/O and saving space. Since the overall performance of the disk is increased, and even that loaders are handled more quickly. The result is quite phenomenal.

Another hardware specialist company which attended was Trilogic, Trilogic's flagship device is the *Expert Cartridge*. This device uses software from disk rather than on ROM to give a flexible, easily updated, product. Apart from the existing frame frame and monitor functions, nibblers and a reverse assembler to disassemble which gives assembly source code in the pipeline. A new product is the *Scripton*. This is a device which allows the use of either joystick port for a single stick. A switch on the top of the box allows you to switch the stick to either port or both. We've tried this unit out and it's certainly well made and works well. It's main value is that by eliminating the need to physically move your joystick from one port to the other, it prevents nasty accidents which might blow your interface chip. On the whole, a nice little number. For 128 owners, Trilogic offers a game called *J-COM* which converts RGB to RGB so allowing you to get 80 columns on TV. Since not all TVs are suitable, you should talk to Trilogic if you are interested.

## Clabbing

For the real enthusiasts, there was the usual stand from ICPUG (Independent Commodore Products Users Group). Using the normal running and guide the Club managed to attract

our renewal fee from our overburdened bank account. Seriously, though, at only £18, membership is a great investment.

## All Systems Go

System Software had a number of very interesting items. This company specialises in compilers for various languages. The well known *Perigord* has been extended to the 128 and looks very interesting. A new product is a book called *Toolkit 128*. This is a collection of toolkit items and includes a RAM-disk facility. A 64 compilation comprising of Pascal and Basic compilers and a toolkit is also on the cards.

## Analytically speaking

The supposed selling point of the 64C is a thing called *GEDS*. First Analytical Ltd, the UK agents for this product, was in attendance. *GEDS*, if you don't know, is a window/open system providing file handling, a text handler and a graphics pack. It seems quite a nice suite of programs. Spreadsheet and word processor software are scheduled for later this year making the system more attractive to the serious user. *GEDS* is an interesting albeit expensive package which is worthy of a close look. See elsewhere in this issue for a detailed review.

## More from Meedmore

Meedmore (Distribution) had an interesting mix of items. On the one hand, they had a range of hardware from the now defunct STACK Computers. On the other there was also a rather nice mouse driven graphics package called *ARTIST*. This software was capable of most functions one expects from graphics routines and gave some interesting results.

## On Line

The two main exponents of networking - *Complanet* and *Macnet* - were in evidence with special subscription offers. These systems have improved a great deal and offer a wide range of facilities to those who can afford the phone bill (although they make the point that it's not that expensive).

## Repair Shop

A common source of anguish is the problem of obtaining spares when your machine turns its toes up. HHS Electronics Ltd, which claims to be the sole UK Distributor of CBM spares, seem very much in evidence. Certainly, they may be a life saver for those obscure little items.

## Conclusion

So what was our overall impression? Well, the most appropriate word is disappointed. We got the feeling that this was a poorly organised show which made the 63 entrance fee very steep. This impression of shabbiness was enhanced by the poorly produced Official Guide which was a joke to say the least. The use of a venue other than London is a good move but it must receive the same degree of support from the industry as the London based shows - the world does not end at the Watford Gap!

### Twitter

Colson Ltd, 18 Bishop St, Penygrove, Rhondda Mid Glamorgan CF40 1PQ.  
Tel: 0481 431706.

Everham Micros, Bridge St, Everham, Weymouth, Dorset DT97 4BY.  
Tel: 0305 47680.

ICPUG, 18 Bannister Rd, Newbury Park, Oxford, Oxon OX2 7EP.  
Tel: 01 287 1129.

Meedmore (Distribution) Ltd, 18 Ferryway Way, Netherston, Merseyside L30 4EL.  
Tel: 051 571 1262.

System, Unit 2C, Newlands High Technology Centre, Aglinville Lane, Hwl H18 7TQ.  
Tel: 0487 802942.

Trilogic, 29 Holme Lane, Bradford BD4 6QA.  
Tel: 0171 684289.

HHS Electronics Ltd, Electron House, 51 Bar St, BS4 4BB.  
Tel: 0177 771 2525.

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# Disk Drive 2000

*Fed up of your 1541 disk drive, Firmline Software has brought out an alternative drive for the C64.*

*By Mycroft Appleby*

**W**ith the dramatic un-availability of the 1541 disk drive, and the unreasonable expense of the 1570-1 drive, what alternative for Commodore owners is there except to sell the car? Perhaps the Enhancer 2000 could help you avoid the necessity of such drastic action.

The Enhancer 2000 is a third party (i.e. you didn't make it, neither did Commodore) replacement for the official Commodore 1541 disk drive, with which it is reasonably compatible. Externally it looks like what a 1541 should have looked like if the designer of it hadn't had a headache at the time. It is a slim, half-height unit, and is the same grotty grey as the Commodore 64. The considerable size reduction has been achieved by putting the power supply outside the case in the same way as that of the Commodore 64.

This is a very sensible idea and doesn't clutter up your desk with too many big boxes. The Enhancer 2000 has a footprint of almost half that of the 1541, neat and simple.

The connectors around the back are the usual two serial sockets and the power in. This is the same type of socket, but the plugs will not go into each other's sockets. Otherwise connecting up is the same as a normal drive.

As far as using the device is concerned, it is operationally identical to the 1541. All the commands are there, even some of the more advanced and lesser used ones in an attempt to improve the compatibility. The manual, however, is a bit disappointing.

If somebody had said that this was possible to produce a worse manual than Commodore I would have had doubts, but now I know that it's true. The Enhancer manual is awful. However, there are a number of Commodore disk drive books on the market and any one of them will suffice.

If this all sounds like money for jam, then I'm sorry because I have saved the hard bits until last. The

Enhancer 2000 is not compatible with most commercial software. Anything with a fast European turbo or some of the more recent American turbos, will not work. Likewise a lot of the more fiendish European copy protections. The American protections are catching up (like Activision) but some of it will still run (like Epyx).

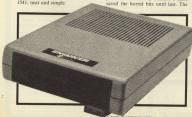
With some software however, it is the case that the program will run, but you cannot make a copy of it.

On the subject of turbos, it is probably worth mentioning that the Enhancer 2000 has its own built in, that increases speed by about 40%-50%. This does mean that other utilities that write to the drive RAM will be upset.

## Conclusion

For £115, the Enhancer 2000 is a good buy. The speed at which the drive works is good, and the styling and reliability is as good as you can get. But incompatibility with a lot (up to 60%) of protected commercial software must be taken into consideration (you should also remember that the 1570-1 is also incompatible with a proportion of commercial software). On the other hand, if you are not going to be using that much commercial software, then I would recommend this peripheral without reservation. ■

*Tech Line  
Product: Enhancer 2000 (and bundled Hard Processor). Price: £149.95 (inc p&p). Company: Firmline Software, 206 Great North Road, Essex Sains, St Neots, Cambs PE 19 3EP.*





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Repton is much larger than its predecessor - it has 34 fascinating screens, and players who are skilful enough to complete them all can enter our prize competition described below. All the favourite Repton characters have been retained, together with several new features: a creeping poisonous fungus which grows of on clearing role, time bombs and time obstacles for puzzles, the 4th dimension, and golden crowns as well-deserved rewards for your endeavours. **Can you complete Repton 3?**

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The screen pictures above show the BBC Micro version of Repton 3.



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# Welcome to the Machine

Get to grips with the C64's mathematical routines.

By Allen Webb

**W**ell it's hello for the last time since this year's final dose of machine code (do I hear hells-of-despair?) in this series. I want to finish off our encounter with the 6502 by considering floating point routines.

In an earlier part I described how floating point values are stored in five bytes. The resident Basic contains a wide range of routines which allow you

to manipulate these numbers. The question is, why would you want to use floating point? If you want to write games, you don't need them - floating is too slow! If you want to write programs to manipulate data, you WILL need them.

Table 1 summarises some of the floating point routines available.

FAC1 is floating point accumulator 1 and FAC2 is floating point accumulator 2. Where the routine involves a floating point value in memory, the start address of the value is held in the indicated registers.

Another important function COMPARES FAC1 to a value held in memory. The address of the value is held in Y/ACC and the entry point is \$B65B. The accumulator returns a value depending on the result of the comparison:

```
ACC = 0...FAC1 = memory
ACC = 1...FAC1 > memory
ACC = $FF...FAC1 < memory
```

LISTING 1 shows some example routines using two values in memory (N1 and N2).

Lines 40 to 88 show how to load FAC1 with a value. Lines 90 to 158 add two numbers. Lines 178 to 258 multiply two numbers. Lines 240 to 260 extract the square root of a number. Lines 280 to 358 simply print FAC1 on the screen to show that the routines function correctly.

The ROMs also contain a number of handy constants which are readily accessible:

```
$AE48 .....PI
$B200 .....PI/2
$C2E5 .....PI*2
$C26A .....0.25
$BF11 .....0.5
$BAF9 .....10
$B6C8 .....SQRT(2)
$B936 .....SQRT(5)
$B6DC .....1
```

TABLE 1

Function	Pointer		Entry point
	MSB	LSB	
FAC1 -> memory	Y	X	\$B604
memory -> FAC1	Y	ACC	\$B6A2
memory -> FAC2	Y	ACC	\$B6A6
FAC2 -> FAC1	—	—	\$B60C
FAC1 -> FAC2	—	—	\$B60F
FAC2=FAC1+FAC2	—	—	\$B65A
FAC2=FAC1*memory	Y	ACC	\$B667
FAC2=FAC2/FAC1	—	—	\$B653
FAC2=memory-FAC1	Y	ACC	\$B659
FAC2=FAC1*memory	Y	ACC	\$B628
FAC2=FAC1*FAC2	—	—	\$B62B
FAC2=memory/FAC1	Y	ACC	\$B60F
FAC2=FAC2/FAC1	—	—	\$B612
FAC2=SIN(FAC1)	—	—	\$E264
FAC2=COS(FAC1)	—	—	\$E264
FAC2=TAN(FAC1)	—	—	\$E264
FAC2=ATN(FAC1)	—	—	\$E264
FAC2=EXP(FAC2)	—	—	\$BFED
FAC2=LOG(FAC2)	—	—	\$B6EA
FAC1=FAC2*memory	Y	ACC	\$BF78
FAC1=FAC2*(FAC1)	—	—	\$BF79
FAC1=SQRT(FAC2)	—	—	\$BF71
Random No -> FAC1	—	—	\$C60E
FAC1=FAC2+J	—	—	\$B649
FAC1=FAC2*10	—	—	\$B6A2
FAC1=FAC2/10	—	—	\$B6A7

## LISTING 1

```

40 LEARACE1 LDA #000
45 LDY #01
50 JNB BR002
55 JNB BR100PLP
60
65 AND LDA #01
70 LDH #01
75 JNB BR002
80 LDH #02
85 JNB BR002
90 LDH #02
95 JNB BR002 ; FAC1=01+01
100 JNB BR004
105 JNB BR100PLP
110
115 MULT LDA #001
120 LDY #01
125 JNB BR002
130 LDA #01
135 LDH #01
140 JNB BR002 ; FAC1=01+01
145 JNB BR100PLP
150
155 AORT LDA #000
160 LDY #01
165 JNB BR002
170 JNB BR002 ; FAC1=00+01
175 JNB BR101 ; FAC1=00+01
180 JNB BR100PLP
185
190 M1 .JNB BR1,010,020,030,040,050
    .L120000
195 M2 .JNB BR1,010,010,020,030,040,050
    .L1212000
200
205 BR100PLP JNB BR000
210 JNB BR001
215 RTS

```

These values are quite handy and save you the agony of creating your own constants. LISTING 1 shows how they can be used:

## LISTING 2

```

10 JNB BR000
20 JNB BR001
30 JNB BR002
40 RTS
50 LDA # 0A8
60 LDY # 0A8
70 JNB BR002
80 RTS

```

Lines 10 to 40 load FAC1 with a random number and multiply it by 08. FAC1 therefore holds between 00 and 99. The remainder of LISTING 2 loads FAC1 with the value of PL.

From these examples you should see that floating-point operations aren't difficult to use. They are, as I've said before, very slow.

If you try using the random number routine, you'll find it's just as

slow in machine code as from Basic.

If you want to generate a random number, there are better ways than by using of floating-point routines. First, you can use the value held in the internal clock. This is ideal in Basic, but at machine code speeds, it's no use. The best source of random numbers is the white noise generator in the sound chip. Consider LISTING 3:

## LISTING 3

```

10 LDA # 0FF
20 STA SD40E
30 STA SD40F
40 LDA # 080
50 STA SD41E
60 STA SD41F
70 LDA SD41E
80 RTS

```

Lines 10 to 30 set the frequency to the highest possible value. Line 50 selects white noise on voice 3, line 60 turns off the audio output of voice 3. Line 70 extracts a random number based on the amplitude of the waveform on voice 3. I find this method very effective and time independent.

Well that pretty well finished our tour of the ROMs. If you look at a decent disassembly of the ROMs, you will find many other useful routines and will derive many hours of harmless amusement.

You may have wondered why only a fraction of the possible 126 instructions are implemented on the 6510. In fact, it appears that some other codes do have a function. I must warn you that these instructions are unofficial and I cannot guarantee that the codes will function properly but you can try cladding with them.

First, there are a collection of additional NOPs. You will already know that NOP is a nothing instruction which can be used to leave space in code or refine timing loops. There are in fact one byte, two byte and three byte NOPs.

## One Byte NOPs

The usual instruction used for NOP is BEA. This instruction is also performed by the instructions 01A,02A,03A,07A,08A,0FA.

## Two Byte NOPs

This instruction is not only ignored but also the following byte. The following bytes perform this function, 00A,00A, 01A,02A,04A,07A,06A,07A,08A,08A.

## Three Byte NOPs

This instruction is ignored plus the following two bytes. The relevant instructions are, 00C,01C,03C,03C, 03C,03C.

The value of these instructions are that they are ignored by normal disassemblers and are therefore useful if you want to make your code difficult to decode. Let us consider a simple example. LISTING 4 points an asterisk at the current cursor position:

## LISTING 4

```

10 LDA # 02A
20 JNB BR100
30 RTS

```

Let us insert the bytes 00A and 00A between lines 10 and 20.

## LISTING 5

```

10 LDA # 02A
11 .BYTE 00A,00A
20 JNB BR100
30 RTS

```

The 00A is a two byte NOP so that it is ignored as is the 00A (RTS). This means that the additional bytes are ignored and the routine runs as required. If we try to disassemble this code, however, we get the mess given in LISTING 6:

## LISTING 6

```

LDA # 02A
??
RTS
JNB BR100
RTS

```

If this is repeated at one or two other places in the code, you can see that the code would become rather tough to decipher.

# elcome to

In TABLE 2, I've listed some other instructions. There are other instructions but I've tried to list the most useful. The validity of these instructions are uncertain since they were derived from the 6502. For sure, however, that you'll enjoy dabbling to see if they work on your 64.

TABLE 2

Op Code Possible Effect

60 xx	ASL (xx,X) ORA (XX,X)
67 xx	ASL xx ORA xx
6F xxxx	ASL xxxx ORA xxxx
12 xx	ASL (XX),Y ORA (XX),Y
17 xx	ASL xx,X ORA xx,X
1F xxxx	ASL xxxx,X ORA xxxx,X
A7 xx	LDR xx, Y LDA xx, Y
B7 xx	LDR xx, Y LDA xx, Y
07 xx	DEC xx,X CMP xx,X
D7 xx	DEC xx,X CMP xx,X
CF xxxx	DEC xxxx,X CMP xxxx,X
DF xxxx	DEC xxxx,X CMP xxxx,X
0F xxxx	DEC xxxx, Y CMP xxxx, Y
AF xx	LDA (xx),X LDR (xx),X
BF xx	LDA (xx),Y LDR (XX),Y

Remember, I cannot take responsibility for any problems you may have if you choose to use these codes. They are really more of curiosity value than anything else.

In this series I've tried to show that there is no mystique to machine code. On the contrary, if you've developed tidy programming habits you should find it easy to use. The only nuisance is that unlike high level languages, machine code forces you to develop an understanding of the hardware to get the best results. But that isn't such a bad thing, is it? Anyway, here's wishing you many hours of successful programming.

## Homework

Last month I gave you a choice of homework. Hopefully the more heroic readers will have tackled both. Here are my solutions without any comments (I'll leave it to you to see them out).

First, a routine to extract the first and last words from an input string. I've used the screen to provide the various text buffers so that you can see it function.

```

80 TEXTSTART = 20480-200
81 TEXTLEN = 830
82 VERBUFFER = TEXTSTART+128
83 VERBLEN = 830
84 WORDBUFFER = TEXTSTART+280
85 WORDLEN=470
860 SETUP LDA #12
870 LDY #0
880 LOOP0 STA TEXTSTART,Y
890 STA WORDBUFFER,Y
900 STX #0
910 INY
920 BNE LOOP0
930 LDA #0
940 STA WORDLEN
950 STA VERBLEN
960 ;
1000 TEXT1 LDA #147
1010 JIR #FF02
1020 LDA #7
1030 JIR #FF02
1040 LDY #0
1050 LOOP1 JIR #FF0F
1060 CMP #13
1070 BEQ LOOP2
1080 STA TEXTSTART,Y
1090 INY
1100 JMP LOOP1
1110 LOOP2 LDA #0
1120 STA TEXTSTART,Y
1130 STX TEXTLEN
1140 ;
1150 GETTERS LDY #0
1160 LOOP3 LDA TEXTSTART,Y
1170 CMP #32
1180 BEQ LOOP5
1190 STA VERBUFFER,Y
1200 INY
1210 CPT TEXTLEN
1220 BNE LOOP3
1230 LOOP4 STX VERBLEN
1240 CPT TEXTLEN
1250 BEQ LOOP 5
1260 ;
1270 COMPARE LDY TEXTLEN
1280 LOOP5 LDA TEXTSTART,Y
1290 CMP #31
1300 BEQ LOOP6
1310 ORL
1320 BNE LOOP5
1330 LOOP6 INY
1340 LDA #0
1350 LOOP7 LDA TEXTSTART,Y
1360 STA WORDBUFFER,X
1370 INY
1380 INY
1390 CPT TEXTLEN
1400 BEQ LOOP7
1410 STX WORDLEN
1420 LOOP8 RTS
    
```

```

20 C1 = 830
30 C2 = 831
40 C3 = 832
50 B1 = 833
60 B2 = 834
70 ;
80 ;
900 ENCODE ASL CHAR2
910 ASL CHAR2
920 ASL CHAR2
1000 ASL CHAR2
1010 ROL CHAR1
1020 ASL CHAR2
1030 ROL CHAR1
1040 ASL CHAR2
1050 ROL CHAR1
1060 ASL CHAR3
1070 LDA CHAR2
1080 ORA CHAR3
1090 STA B2
1100 RTS
1110 ;
2000 DECODE LDA B1
2010 AND #111111000
2020 LSR A
2030 LSR A
2040 LSR A
2050 STA CHAR1
2060 LDA B2
2070 AND #100111111
2080 LSR A
2090 STA CHAR3
2100 LDA B1
2110 AND #100001111
2120 ASL A
2130 ASL A
2140 STA CHAR2
2150 LDA B2
2160 AND #111000000
2170 LSR A
2180 LSR A
2190 LSR A
2200 LSR A
2210 LSR A
2220 LSR A
2230 ORA CHAR2
2240 STA CHAR2
2250 RTS
    
```

Second is a simple text compression routine. As a bonus, I've added a decoding routine. The three characters are input in C1,C2 and C3. The encoded data is returned in B1 and B2. If you want to use it, simply assign the alphabet to characters 1 to 26. The remaining 3 characters can be used for punctuation (e.g. '.', '!', and space). ☺

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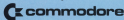
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# Blow Your Own

*Imagine being able to make your own cartridges for the C64. Until now this has been a preserve of the enthusiast. Now Sircal bring the advantages and convenience of cartridges to the common man.*

*By Mycroft Appleby*

**I**n principal the cartridge is a very simple device. A read only memory (ROM) on a small board that brings the connections of the ROM into an edge connector and a simple plastic case that provides a convenient housing to protect its contents and make sure that the ROM is connected to the computer the right way around.

The difficulty comes when manufacturing the cartridges. To create a masked ROM, you have to physically build in the program at the time when the chip is actually made - economically amount for numbers less than 20000, and who can guarantee sales of that number in this competitive market? Also the cost of manufacturing a cartridge is many times the cost of duplicating a tape. The old 'one amongst us will remember the £30-£50 for VCS cartridges 5-10 years ago. Commodore solved their cost problem by manufacturing their own chips - resulting in around £10 for a Commodore cartridge. Nobody else could compete and the cartridge games market as we know it collapsed for the moment (i.e. Nintendo has sold 80 Million cartridges for the Nintendo machine - but that's another story...).

There is another way of making cartridges, and another market to buy them - EPROMs and utilities. An EPROM is similar to an ordinary

ROM and is functionally identical as far as the computer is concerned. However it can be programmed after manufacture and erased. The programming and erasure isn't like a normal read/write memory such as a Random Access Memory, but must use a special programmer and eraser. The eraser will wipe the chip in about 20 minutes by shining UV light through a small window in the top of it. Programming is accomplished by plugging it into a programmer which can fill a chip in about 15 minutes.

This programming and erasure cycle can be carried out about 100 times before the chip 'wears out'. The chip will retain its contents for about 100 years before it needs reprogramming (good enough for most applications I think - unless you have some valuable Victorian software that's about to corrupt).

Utility cartridges are still available, and if you look inside one of them you will see that they will usually contain EPROMs. They are usually eighty cartridges because utilities generally have very small production runs, and EPROMs are suitable for low volume production.

ASIC owners are very well served with EPROMs as the machine has some spare sockets that they just fit into. Commodore owners not so much so. This is mainly due to having to find

an EPROM programmer (called a blower), an eraser (called a diproner), a supply of empty cartridges, and some EPROMs, then trying to find all the necessary software and the skill and information to use it. A daunting task for anybody not completely skilled in the art.

Sircal has a new product aimed at the inexperienced (and more experienced) user in the form of a complete cartridge creating kit. Comprising of a programmer that fits on to the rear port of the Commodore 64, a stand alone (i.e. doesn't need to plug into anything except the main) diproner, non-compressing driver software (in cartridge - of course!), and a blank cartridge. The blank cartridge is identical to a normal cartridge except for one or two differences that allow the EPROM inside it to be programmed without taking it out, and a small hole that lets the UV light shine into it to wipe the cartridge when its time is done.

Blank cartridges are a bit expensive at £14 each, but after a while you could always make your own as the chips are only £2 a throw with the empty cartridges at about the same. The cartridges are also only 8K in size and sit in the 8000-8A000 area in memory - reserved for the use of external cartridges while keeping Basic alive. 16K cartridges will be made available

if there is enough demand, those sit between \$800 and \$C000 and page one Basic for applications that don't need it.

The cartridge can be programmed in two ways - Basic or machine code. The machine code method can be used to make an auto-start cartridge - like a Basic utility or a game. And all the formatting and header codes are up to you. The Basic method has all the hard work done for you and will take a Basic program and put it into the cartridge where it can be instantly recalled for later use. All the header codes and the software needed to reload the program are written into the cartridge by the operating software - so you don't have to worry about a thing.

The operating software is easy to use, unambiguous, and well explained in the short, but informative manual. My only gripe is with the crase.

With this you plug the cartridge into it to crase and a small LED shows you when the time is up for crasing (too long reduces the life of the EPROM, too short and it doesn't crase properly). My gripe is that the join between the crase and the cartridge is not very good and some of the light leaks out. You may think that this is not all that important - but the wavelengths that you need to crase an EPROM can damage your eyes. Sircal say that they think it's safe, but...

There is an interlock which prevents you crasing the crase on without the cartridge in place, but I would have preferred something a little better just for peace of mind.

Overall this is a great package for creating cartridges for either your own use or for limited distribution. For a less enthusiast though, I would recommend getting your own EPROM blowing system where you could just

use a standard EPROM and a normal EPROM blower, just because of the relatively high cost of this system. However for a multiple installation such as a school or college, I think that this system is excellent and I'm sure that anyone with that type of installation could think up many ideas for customised machines with easily changeable ROM software. The only bad points are the small size of the cartridges - SE isn't a fan for a program nowadays. And the inability to change the mapping - so that it can override the operating system for instance, like a lot of disk formats do. Otherwise a well thought out product.

TS

**Twistler**

Name: *Eplog* - Price: £148.85 Machine ROM Supplier: *Signal Instruments (UK) Ltd, 25, Camberley Rd, Sunning, Surrey, GU2 6RT* Tel: 07 644 8983

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# Extended Basic

*We provide a table for all the Commands  
for last month's FREE Extended Basic*

**B**ecause we presented the instructions for our Free Extended Basic as an article a few of you are having problems sorting out all the different commands. We are therefore pleased to print a table of all of the available commands together with their syntax.

COMMAND	ACTION		
RENUM <sub>s,y,z</sub>	Renumber program. s = start line number (0 for all program) y = increment z = new start number	TRIOFF	Turn off TRACE command
AUTO <sub>s,y</sub>	Automatic line number generation. s = start line number y = increment	DIR <sub>s</sub>	Display disk directory. s = drive number
DEL <sub>s,y</sub>	DELETE to quit Delete a range of lines s = start line number y = end line number	DISK "command"	Send a disk command. "command" = standard Commodore disk commands
DUMP	Display values of all variables used in a program	ERR <sub>s</sub>	Display any disk errors
KEY	Display contents of function keys	B-D <sub>s</sub>	Binary to decimal conversion. s = a binary number
KEYs,"text"	Program function keys s = key number text = string to be programmed. For a space in the text use shifted space. For an automatic RETURN add s = to the end of text	D-H <sub>s</sub>	Decimal to Binary conversion s = a decimal number
OFF	Turn OFF function keys	D-H <sub>s</sub>	Decimal to Hex conversion s = a decimal number
OLD	Restore a NEWed program	H-D <sub>s</sub>	s = a hexadecimal number
PAUSE	Modify LIST command SHIFT will now pause the listing.	MERGE "name".dev	Merge program "name" into program already in memory. dev = device number
TRACE	TRACE program execution Press space for next line or a number to alter speed of trace.	APP "name".dev	Append program "name" on to the end of program already in memory. dev = device number
		MLoad "name".A1,dev	LOAD a program into any area of memory. "name" is the program name d = device number s = start address for LOAD "name" is the program name d = device number
		Msave "name".A1,dev	s = start address e = end address +1 Display memory available
		MEM	Set top of memory to addr
		HI addr	

## FREE SOFTWARE

<b>LOAD</b>	Set bottom of memory to addr
<b>CODE</b>	Translate all Commodore graphics in program to memory.
	NE program will not RUN after this command.
<b>QUIT</b>	Leave the Extended Basic ROM after this command.

The following table displays the mnemonics that are added to a program after the CODE command. All codes appear within square brackets.

[BLK]	SHIFT + 1
[WHI]	SHIFT + 2
[RED]	SHIFT + 3
[LTN]	SHIFT + 4
[PUR]	SHIFT + 5
[GRN]	SHIFT + 6
[BLU]	SHIFT + 7
[YEL]	SHIFT + 8
[ORG]	CBM + 1
[BN]	CBM + 2
[L. RED]	CBM + 3
[GR]	CBM + 4
[GR2]	CBM + 5
[L. GRN]	CBM + 6

[L. BLU]	CBM + 7
[GR3]	CBM + 8
[REVERSE ON]	REVERSE ON
[REVERSE OFF]	REVERSE OFF

<b>Cursor Control</b>	
[CR]	CURSOR RIGHT
[CL]	CURSOR LEFT
[CU]	CURSOR UP
[CD]	CURSOR DOWN
[HOME]	CURSOR HOME
[CLS]	CLEAR SCREEN

<b>Function Keys</b>	
[F1], [F2], [F3] etc.	
<b>Control Codes</b>	
[CTRL letter] —	CONTROL KEY + letter eg. [CTRLA]

<b>Graphics Characters</b>	
[G > letter]	SHIFT + letter
[G < letter]	[G] means graphic
[PI] —	CBM + letter
	PI character

A number before the code means that you should press the key that many times.

eg. [HCD] means press cursor down 10 times.  
[RG > 8] means press SHIFT + 8 15 times.

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# Games Reviews

Your Commodore's trusty team of reviewers has got together the latest batch of software for your delectation.

## ASTERIX

If you're sick to death of the usual futuristic space-bait shoot-'em-up type of game then this game makes a pleasant change. Asterix takes you back over 2000 years to the time of the Romans and the Gauls.

Asterix is the Gauls' hero, or at least he will be if you help him succeed on his task. Asterix with his friends Obelix has to set out and find seven pieces of a missing magic pot. The village druid Getafix needs this pot for making his magic potion to help the Gauls stand against the Romans.

In this arcade adventure Asterix must wander around the countryside battling against wild pigs and Romans. If the Romans are beaten they turn themselves into neat carryable items which are useful for keeping Obelix by your side.

You may find it useful to map your route around the playing area as several paths seem to lead to the same locations. Unfortunately the screens don't move as quick as Asterix so there is quite a game while the next screen is drawn. Asterix simply jumps in limbo until the program finishes drawing the screen, or perhaps this is when he gets off to the gods.



When fighting with Romans on the boats, a blow-up picture of yourself and your opponent appears on the screen. This means that you can see exactly where you are hitting your opponent, or more probably, where he is hitting you.

The action in the fighting sequence is very reminiscent of one of the numerous boxing/fight in etc. type games. Asterix can punch, duck and kick. Even so it's tricky to prevent him being clobbered over the head by a Roman's staff.

Now Asterix isn't known for being a coward but I must admit that the best strategy I found while playing was simply to hit your opponent once and R.I.P.

Despite its excellent graphics, Asterix has limited lasting interest. For a start all of the pieces of the cauldron appear in the same place, once you've found where they all are and you've mastered the fighting techniques you will find the game extremely dull.

Oh, and there's also a small bug, well quite a big one really, that enables you to collect all the missing pieces of the cauldron within a couple of minutes of starting the game, but I'll leave you to find out what it is.

Superb graphics and music are let down by the actual game. Still if you remember the TV series and the comic strip of Asterix then you may enjoy this game for a while. **4/5**

### Thunderbox

Name: Asterix, Machine: C64, Company: Multispace  
 House, 66, High Street, Hampton Hill, Kingston, Surrey  
 KT1 2JH, Tel: 01 841 3341  
 Originality: 8/10, Playability: 4/10, Graphics: 9/10, Value: 5/10

## THAI BOXING

Yet another combat simulation on a sport as yet undiscovered by any of the other software houses. The thing that distinguishes Thai Boxing from its more normally seen counterpart, is the not only is it fair game to hit your opponent, you can also kick him. So imagine a fast and furious boxing match with added violence.

Boats normally take part in a boxing ring, but because these are graphically boring, Asea has provided six different backdrops on a rapidly oriented theme, each one representing an extra level of skill. Unless you own a 128, these screens are loaded in two at a time to make sure that you keep 'play' pressed on your console to monitor. The high score table can also be saved if you are particularly proud of your achievements.

There are 12 different moves to be mastered. Normal movement of the joystick will move you forward, back wards or make you jump or attack. Pressing the fire button gives access to a high and low punch, high low, flying and a croup kick as well as two deliberate manoeuvres in which you can protect your head or your body. The characters, although



fairly small, are well animated. A bomb takes place over three one minute rounds, although it can be defused if one person runs out of energy. At the end of each round, the players shift position so that you can get a slightly different perspective. There are the usual one or two player options.

There is nothing particularly outstanding about this game but nothing dreadful either. Its appeal though is likely to be limited to fans of combat simulations. **G.R.H.**

## TOUCHLINE

Name: *The Bomb*, Company: *Area, 4 Westgate House, Spital Street, Bangor, Co. DVI 2MM, Tel: 0122 92511, Price: £7.99 cassette, £9.95 disk.*  
*Originality: 4/10, Graphics: 5/10, Playability: 5/10, Value: 4/10.*

flames as soon as you step on them. Ropes crumble at your touch plunging you to your doom. And there are other problems as well. All the superstitious may be a red herring designed to lose you lives. A platform that is initially invisible may lead directly to your desired object. You may have to construct extra platforms out of building blocks.

As well as eight different speed levels to choose from and one or two player options, you can also select which of the 51 screens you want to start from. This is an excellent idea as there are many screens when you know what you want to do but are unable to find a way of doing it. There is nothing worse than being stuck on screen two knowing that there are another 49 to see around. The graphics are not the best in the world but still infinitely better than the original. The balance



between puzzle solving and action is just right and there is a constant feeling of just one more screen. All in all, a great little game, especially for the price. **G.R.H.**

## TOUCHLINE

Name: *Gods and Heroes*, Company: *Alpha Omega, P Kings Yard, Capenhurst Road, London E15 2EM, Tel: 01 533 2918, Price: £1.99 Machine, £44.*  
*Originality: 5/10, Graphics: 6/10, Playability: 8/10, Value: 10/10.*

## GODS AND HEROES

A couple of months ago, I reviewed a game called *Heracles*, a fiendishly difficult platform game. The main arguments levelled against it by those who (for reasons unknown) didn't like it, were that all too often, you had to leap into the unknown hoping that a platform would mysteriously appear underneath you at the crucial moment. They thought that there was too much trial and error involved as you frequently had no time at all to think. Well, Alpha Omega has just released the sequel called *Gods and Heroes* and it is every bit as good a game as the original with the added bonus that you can now use a lot more on the screen to help you plan your route through each of the 50 chambers. It is still, however, fiendishly difficult.

Continuing the classical theme, the Gods are playing games with the Greek Superheroes. All these tasks of men like Jason and Hercules were so menial that assault courses designed to amuse the inhabitants of Olympus. To see how you would fare on the Ancient Greek equivalent of the Krugger Factor, you are invited to try your hand at solving the 50 puzzles that have been set before you.

The object of each screen is to reach a specific item - a club, sword or an axe are typical examples. There are platforms to be kept on to, metaphorical monsters to be avoided and ropes to be swung from but be warned, everything is not as it seems. Some platforms burst into

## SINBAD

As Sinbad, you do have must break out of your dungeon, recover your treasures and do battle with various monsters, until eventually you meet the vile and evil Sultan, who cursed you all this grief in the first place.

On the surface this appears to be just another platformer that moves type of game. However, underneath lies a very difficult game to master. The game is played over five scenarios, each one needing a password to gain access to it. (Except scenario one and scenario five, which is a continuation of four). This feature I liked. There's nothing worse than, after successfully getting past one difficult screen, you have to do it all again should you die off. Each level has its own particular degree of difficulty.

At the start of the game, you have to break out of your dungeon by unlocking two doors with two keys that you obtain. To obtain a key you need to collect eight of your



confiscated treasures. There is no limit to amount of treasures that you can carry, but you are only allowed to carry one key at a time. To hinder you in your task are birds (particularly nasty), snakes and Stribald localities. If this wasn't enough, there are numerous pulsating walls to navigate. These need split second timing and nimble fingers on the joystick.

Scene two is a straight forward platform scene. (Straight forward did I say?) You have to kill off a certain number of the guards who appear from behind the doors, using a sword which you have miraculously obtained. One hit proves fatal for these guards, whilst you on the other hand can sustain up to four hits before you die. You can recover your lost energy by collecting a golden dialoo, these appear at random. However, one guard is a very nasty fellow, one touch from him means instant death for you, and the recovery of a couple of dead guards.

Scene three is perhaps the easiest scene of all, but by no means a walkover. The object here is to guide five of your camels safely across the desert whilst fighting off all sorts of evil flying things. Shooting your own camel will spend him up, but should he be hit by anything else, then watch that timer drop. When firing missiles remember that all the time you have your finger on the fire button, you can guide your bolt to its target. To compensate for this though, you are restricted to the bottom 10 lines of the screen. So accuracy is vital.

Scenes four and five make up one scenario. On four, you have to shoot down the ever-present flying carpets and ice birds. The guards on the carpets take one hit, whilst the birds take three - because of falling bodies! A hit a certain number have been disposed of enter the Sultan. Being a nasty type, he transforms himself into a fire breathing dragon and shoots deadly fireballs at you.



One thing that I must mention. On all the screens, you not only have the task of hindering your progress, you also have a timer counting down from 999. This moves very rapidly, so don't hang around deciding what to do, time is short.

Overall, I liked this game tremendously. Some of the screens were almost impossible to complete without the given time. But this is the challenge. The graphics are nicely presented, and the music, although not in the Rob Hubbard/Ben Dalglish vein, is pleasant to listen to.

One small criticism is the fact that disk users cannot save on high scores.

## TOUCHLINE

Name: Stribald Company: Asperius, Regent Way, Slither Ln, Lamb Park, IL15, Morriston, CM4  
Originality: 4/10, Playability: 7/10, Graphics: 7/10, Value: 8/10.



## DANTE'S INFERNO

**I**n the ever changing world of computer games, one thing always remains constant. There are a few producers of software that are consistently good. One of these companies is Denton Design, which is behind Dante's Inferno, so I was therefore waiting eagerly for this program to load in. Sure enough, in a few seconds came the familiar expert loading pattern.

When the program did eventually start, I thought to myself: "Oh no, not another Robin of the Hood type Graphic Adventure!" Undaunted, I carried on and to my pleasant surprise I'm glad I did. True, it is in the Bof W style, the same type and quality of graphics, but there the similarity ends. For this program is cunningly difficult to master.

For a start, you need to make decisions quickly and accurately. The main objective is to pass through the various realms of hell until you come face to face with Lucifer himself. Aiding and abetting you, or hindering you as the case may be, is a large assortment of nasty evil creatures. Your job is to find objects with which you can bribe these creatures.

The manipulation and use of the objects takes some time to control. Practice whilst still in Limbo. (The first screen you have to use and manipulate them is advisable. Telling you how to use them would spoil the fun of finding out for yourself. Be prepared to die often at the start, this is very frustrating, but don't let this put you off. Once you have mastered the first few screens you will agree that it was worth persevering with it.

Knowing a little of the story of Dante will undoubtedly help you finish this game.

The playing area is quite large and very well presented. The problems are not easy to solve, but a little intelligent thought will clear the mist for you. There are a total of nine realms for you to pass through before you meet the main himself. Good luck to you. And as they say in all good systems, I'll see you in Hell.

P.K.

## TOUCHLINE

Name: Dante's Inferno, Company: Beyond, Wellgate House, Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2. Tel: 01 379 4715, Price: £79.95, Machine: C64  
Originality: 5/10, Playability: 8/10, Graphics: 8/10, Value: 8/10.

## GO FOR GOLD

Multiple event sports games have been around for a long time now and *Go for Gold* is no exception. Originally released as Hexgames a couple of years ago, it got very little attention which is a pity because it is one of the best games of its type ever released. And to be able to buy it for less than three pounds has got to be one of the bargains of the year.



Up to six players can compete against one another with each one getting to select the colour of his or her kit. There are six events to compete in – a complete mixture of skills being required if you are going to win the big G. Your first chance to make a splash is quite literally that, springboard diving. You must time the jumping up and down on the board for maximum effect as well as deciding when to come out of your dive and whether or not you are going to dive forwards or backwards. If you are looking especially clever, you can nominate the dive that you are going to perform (think as lesser mortals who just jump and see what happens) and score an extra 10%.

The 800m sprint and 1500m hurdles are two very similar events. The former involves you wiggling the joystick from left to right as fast as you can whilst the latter is the same with added extra that your joystick should be to the right when you reach a hurdle or the you trip up and get slowed down. The program is equipped to watch out for false starts so you can't cheat as you go for the record.

Hand and eye co-ordination are required if you are to be on target for the next event – archery. Six arrows at four targets of varying distances. You must take wind speed and direction into account and should also try to shoot quickly for the longer you delay, the more tired your arms get and the harder it is to aim properly.

Speed and timing are the essential elements of a successful long jump. You must run as fast as you can towards the board and then time your leap at just the right moment. Even then you can't relax as you must react in time to throw yourself forward on landing in order to gain those precious extra inches.

The final event is weight lifting which is divided into two sections, the snatch and clean and jerk. The power for lifting comes from the thighs and timing is crucial if you are going to get those huge weights above your head. Everything is carefully controlled from your joystick and you get some idea of what's involved for the clean and jerk with these

movements, all of which must be timed to perfection. Down, up, down, pause, up, pause, down, up, down (very fast), pause, up. This sequence brings the bar up on to your chest and then power it upwards as you drop down on to one knee before finally standing upright. Well, that's the theory.

One of the nice things about *Go for Gold* is the little touches. As you increase the weights, so you see the larger weights going on the bar. There is a real feeling of your hands shaking in the archery and the Russian judge in the diving is shortighted and pushes it if you land in front of him. He is also supposed to be biased if you score well! You can even get action replays of all the events except archery and so watch your spectacular belly flop over and over again.

This is far and away the best game released under the American flag so far. From someone whose only criticism is wishing his watch up in the morning, all I can do is suggest that you go and get a copy today. G.R.H.

## TOUCHLINE

Name: *Go for Gold*. Company: US Gold/American. Units: 2/3, Halford Way, Welford, Kettering NN16 7JX. Tel: 015 356 1088. Price: £2.99. Stockist: C&W. Originator: 3/78. Graphics: 3/78. Playability: 3/78. Value: 58/78.

## CONAN

When playing games, if I want a good adrenaline pumping hour or so, I play shoot 'em ups. For a really good problem packed adventure I play Infocross. To bring out the awesome and ruthless in me it's a good strategy game. But for sheer relaxation and fun then it's got to be the good old platform game. Conan is just that.

As in all platform games you have to collect the odd item or two to help you on your travels, while disposing of any nasty creatures that may come your way. OK, so at times, you as Conan may look like bit of white assembly up your ladders. The odd cloud or two may jerk its way across the screen. The odd ladder character may show through the sprites and scenery, but for all that, this program is enjoyable to play.

The main objective is to find a little green headed man called Volta and dispose of him. Throughout your task, you are helped by a nice little bird that will at times bless you with an extra life. To dispose of the nasties you wield your



magical sound and throw it with all your might. Having succeeded in this, you then catch your sword as it hurtles back into your hands.

The features which attracted me to this particular game, was that not all the screens were cluttered with platforms after platforms. The playing areas are quite barren in some scenes. The joy and skill, is in finding the correct path to follow. To this end you are aided by a large flashing arrow showing you where you should end up. (Hinting there is the fun). Some of the routes you have to take are quite novel in their approach.

I cannot really say why, but for some reason this game had me going back to it time and time again. One point which many people may find disconcerting is that each screen is loaded in separately from the disk. However, the load is a fairly quick load, so it should not detract too much from the overall enjoyment. P.E.

## TOUCHLINE

Name: *Crane*, Company: *CE Gold/Americana, 54th St, Highland Hq, Holford, Middlesbrough 46 5AE. Tel: 041 388 3388. Price: £2.99. Machine: C44 disk. Originality: 5/10. Playability: 10/10. Graphics: 10/10. Value for Money: 8/10.*

## TRIVIAL PURSUIT

Are you one of those people who is full of useless information and tends to give it to others? Well so this is the game for you.

Unless you've been living on a desert island for the last couple of years then you will probably have come across the board version of this computer game.



Personally, I prefer the computer version as it adds a few extra features to the board game. For a start a little character called TP does all the work for you, including throwing a dart at the numbered board so that you don't have to roll a die. You also have the added dimensions of visual and musical questions. (A point worth bearing in mind is that if you don't have any sound from your computer then you will not be able to hear any of the musical questions.)

Unfortunately, the music produced isn't all that clear and you have to listen very carefully to it. I'm sure that with a little more effort the sound could have been improved dramatically.

The playing area is set up exactly the same as the board game, see the screen shot. The idea is to move around the board answering the questions on the relevant subject. Your go continues until you fail to answer a question correctly. The large sections at the end of the spokes earn you a wedge in the category's colour if you get the question correct. Once your piece is full then its back to the centre where the other players pick the subject for you, answer this correctly and you win the game.

Provided with the game is an extra set of questions, this extra set can be used on any computer that is running Trivial Pursuit and more sets will be available at a later date.

If you wish to speed up the game then you can make TP redundant, he doesn't get too upset. This speeds up the game since TP normally 'sneaks' out the questions to you quite slowly, turn him off and they appear extremely quickly.

One extremely interesting feature of this game is the ability to have a break down of the questions that you have answered. This tells you which subject you favour, which ones you excel at and more to the point the ones that you haven't a clue about.

A time limit can be set in which the questions must be answered. The maximum time allowed is nine minutes so you don't have to wait until your Uncle Fred grows in the depths of his brain to find something he read about in 1945.

What makes a great change for this type of trivia game is the fact that you don't have to be good at spelling and type the answers in as the computer expects them. You simply have to tell everyone you answer, press the fire button on the joystick and the correct answer will appear so that you can compare.

One feature that is missing from the game is a SAVE GAME option. This would be extremely useful as games can go on for many hours and it isn't always possible to play through the night.

Some of you may spend a happy fortnight going round and round the board getting nowhere fast but it is great fun finding out what you don't know. Anyway it's far less energetic than outdoor pursuits. J.G.

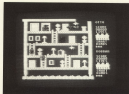
## TOUCHLINE

Name: *Trivial Pursuit Machine*, Cost Price: £54.99  
Supplier: *Dunark, 284 Weyple Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 6PN. Tel: 01 847 5422.*  
Originality: 4/10. Playability: 8/10. Graphics: 8/10. Value: 8/10.

## CLEAN UP TIME

Everything is set for the grand opening of the new board in town. Unfortunately, the day before you let the public in, vandals break in and start scattering litter all over the place. As there are no employees present, the owner has no option but to hire two cowboy contract cleaners - Otto and Barbara.

Brithed with the promise of large amounts of money, they go in armed with bombs, guns (for blowing the radioactive vandeils) and smart bombs. Your objective is to sweep up the various bits of rubbish before the vandals can put them back. Succeed and it is on to the next one of eight different levels. There are also two bonus buckets to be collected on each level as well as a time related bonus.



*Close Up Time* can be played as either a one or two player game. If you select the two player option, then you can decide to play either as a team or competitors. As you score bonus points for killing the other person, it is not too difficult to see what more people will do, claiming that it was an accident. The problem with this is that at the start of each level, the two closers come out of their respective rooms at the top of the screen which just happens to be right next to each other so that one player can put a bullet in the other's back before he even blinks.

This is a simple game to play with not too much to recommend it but with nothing too bad about it either.

G.R.H.

## TOUCHLINE

*Name: Clean Up Time. Company: Players, Mercury. Name: Culture Park Industrial Estate, Aldermaston, Berks. Price: £2.99. Machine: C64. Originality: 4/10. Graphics: 4/10. Playability: 5/10. Value: 4/10.*

## JACK THE NIPPER

**E**very kid, and some grown ups, wants to do naughty and bad things and get away with it. This game lets you do just that.

As Jack, you are let loose upon an unsuspecting public and you cause havoc wherever you go. The more havoc you can create, the more your rating goes up.

The basic idea is that you go around the town and pick up objects that will assist you in your dirty deed. Having secured an object, you then have to decide in what way it can be best used. This aspect of the game brings all your skills as a Dennis the Menace into play. Use an object in one place, and your Naughtyometer will hardly budge, but used in the best place - up it goes.

Movement is by the standard left/right and fire button space. To pick an object up - you may carry only two - you press the one or two key accordingly. (That is to say if you press the two key first, then the object you pick up is placed into pocket two. To use it you press two again.) To go through a door, you press Return.

Exploring the town can be quite funny, as usual though, you have to avoid anything else that moves. Coming into contact with any moving object gets you spanked. After a certain number of spankings you loose one life.

The game presents some nice touches, with a couple of nice sound tracks. All in all a fairly novel, humorous and pleasant game.

P.E.

## TOUCHLINE

*Name: Jack the Nipper. Company: Gamma Graphics, Alpha House, 10 Carver Street, Mayfield ST 4PS. Tel: 0742 23421. Price: £6.95. Machine: C64. Originality: 5/10. Graphics: 4/10. Playability: 4/10. Value for Money: 5/10.*



## AFTERMATH

**E**veryone likes a good shoot 'em up - and I'm no exception. The adrenalin builds up as you get further and further into the battle. Unfortunately, *Aftermath* could not even get me slightly excited.

The main object of the game is to fight your way through wave after wave of alien craft until you reach the enemy's stronghold. Having reached this far, one strategically placed bomb makes you the master.

I have to be honest though and admit that I did not get this far into the game. The main reason being that I turned off my machine. The playing area consists of a continuously downward scrolling patch of greyery, dotted with grey squares to represent the buildings of the enemy.

Having got past the first wave, you immediately get the second one and so on and so on. Unless you miss the slight pause between each wave, you would not know that you had successfully negotiated the previous one.

To add to all the excitement, you have a continuous flicker on screens when the interrupt occurs, this somewhat distracts your attention from the job at hand.

I do not normally criticise a program in such a strong way (I always think of the hard work and effort that the programmer puts in) but in my opinion, and please remember, this is only MY opinion, this game is a very poor Black Hawk.

G.R.H.

## TOUCHLINE

*Name: Aftermath. Company: Alpha/Omega, CRO, 9 Kings Rd, Coppenote Road, London E25. Price: £1.99. Machine: C64. Originality: 3/10. Playability: 2/10. Graphics: 4/10. Value: 4/10.*

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## TWO ON TWO

**A** logical title for the successor to One on One, Two on Two is a one or two player basketball simulation in which you play either singly or as a team against the computer or as opponents with the computer controlling one player on each side.

Before you actually start playing, there are a huge number of options ranging from practice mode to choosing the abilities of your player (dribbling and jumping skills, shooting accuracy etc). You can choose to play in a one off exhibition match or take place in a league.

The game itself is divided into four quarters. First one side attacks and then the other. Although you can steal the ball, you have to wait for the other part of the pitch to be drawn before proceeding so that there are no quick break-aways. Success in the game depends on your shooting and passing abilities. A quick press of the joystick throws the ball to your team-mate or asks him to do the same to you whilst a longer press makes your man jump and you should aim to release the ball towards the basket right at the top of the hoop.

Your computer controlled team-mate plays a semi-intelligent sort of game, trying to find space and seiving opportunities as he sees fit, but he doesn't always do what you think he ought to. If this is really annoying you, you can start to call the plays and tell your man to patrol a specified zone on the court.

The animation of the players is well done although the rest of the graphics are nothing special. The main problem with the game is that basketball is very much a minority sport over here and with the game being fairly expensive and dull only, is likely to remain that way. For true fans only.

G.M.B.

**Teacher**

Name: *Two on Two Basketball*. Company: *Atari*, 23 Paul St, Mansfield, London NW9 2PN. Tel: 81 437 1381. Price: £24.99. Machine: C64. Occupancy: 2/18. Graphics: 3/18. Playability: 3/18. Votes: 6/18.



## HOPELESS

**S**ome people really get upset when they lose their girlfriends. One such person is Al 'Dutch Meat' Blumie. Al was just a plain, ordinary former interplanetary sportsman and bartender until the day that Marie, Marie kidnapped his loved one. MM is the greatest criminal brain in the whole universe and he has taken the voluptuous Jane to a part of the galaxy unknown to the rest of mankind - New Alamo. Big Al decides to go and rescue her and so hi-jacks a space shuttle in order to get himself to the orbital zone of MM's nerve centre.

The first thing to say about the game is that it is huge - a massive arcade adventure cum platform game cum strategy game set over 2000 screens. You only get some idea of how big it is when you log on to one of the terminals giving you access to a map of the area full of weird and wonderful structures to be explored. Correct use of terminals is essential if you are to rescue your young lady and there are 16 different sorts for you to log on. These range from ordinary viewers to teleport systems. There are various two and four-way windows to be manipulated and top up stations for your strength, energy and fuel supplies. The most important though are the heart terminals. These open previously locked doors which allow access towards the huge heart where MM has made a love nest for the unwilling Jane. There are 14 hearts to be deactivated as well as some chests.

Al starts off in his space ship and his first problem is getting out. There are only three rooms but they are full of assorted mines and energy barriers to be overcome. Naturally, Al has taken the trouble to arm himself and has three different weapons systems available. The energy shield forms a barrier all round our intrepid hero, killing all that it touches but it does require considerable amounts of - surprise, surprise - energy. Your laser is a more effective distance weapon but guags fast. Finally, there is the good old fashioned Kanite kick which again uses energy and can only be used when you are standing. Personal damage reduces

strength but all three of these levels can be topped up at the appropriate terminal.

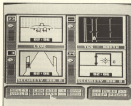
Once you have worked out how to escape from your capsule, it is necessary to switch into flying mode in order to explore the vast regions of space. All changing between transport and weapon modes is done by selecting the correct icons via the function keys. A teleport terminal is a useful first one to find as it saves you both time and trouble as you fly through space. You cannot teleport directly into another building but there are many convenient platforms for you to land on. A word of warning. It is necessary to switch back into walking mode before you use a terminal. Remember to start flying again before you walk off the platform or else you will find yourself suspended before you can say Alpha Centauri.

Hoplax is a highly original game and one that, unusual for a game on such a large scale, is both playable and addictive. Well worth keeping an eye open for.

G.R.H.

#### Trailblazer

Name: Hoplax Company; Publisher/Developer, 68 Long Ave, Covent Garden, London WC2E. Tel: 01 834 5411. Price: Machine £84.  
Originality: B/M. Graphics: S/M. Playability: B/M. Value: B/M.



## HACKERS II

**A**fter your success in breaking into the system in the original Hackers, the Government of the USA now looks on you as being some sort of specialist in the field. One day whilst quietly perusing the Activision Bulletin Board, your activities are interrupted by an on screen message from the CIA. This insists you to go off in search of the Doomsday Papers which are reported to be hidden in a secret Siberian base. The contents of these papers if released, would end Western civilization as we know it.

As might be expected, the papers are protected by a complex security screen and you will have to generate it if you want to get away with your mission. The defenses consist of a series of cameras and guards and to outwit them, you have a device known as Multi-function Switching Matrix. This is a combination of four screens which can be tuned in to monitor some of the 30 cameras. This is coupled with a video from which you can record various bits and then use the tapes to bypass a specific camera with your recording. This requires some considerable editing skills as everything has to be perfectly synchronised.

You also start off with three Mobile Remote Units which you will use to actually get the papers when you find them providing you can avoid the Assassinator - a little beast that the Russians can call upon with the sole objective of destroying the MRUs.

The presentation of Hackers II is phenomenal and you can spend hours just playing with your machine, tuning in your monitors and switching from screen to screen. The instructions come in the form of an operating manual which is somewhat verbose and requires considerable study. I have considerable reservations about the game itself though. I suspect that it will be the sort of title that you show to your friends in order to demonstrate how clever you and the machine are, but will seldom go back and actually play.

G.R.H.

#### Trailblazer

Name: Hackers II. Company: Activision, 21 Pond St, Wappington, London NW3 2PN. Tel: 01 437 1000. Price: £99.99 cassette, £14.99 disk. Machine: £84.  
Originality: B/M. Graphics: B/M. Playability: S/M. Value: A/M.

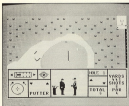
## NOW GAMES 3

**C**ollections of games are all the rage at the moment and Now Games 3 follows in the style of Now That's What I Call Music pop records - in other words, an assortment of last year's hit titles. There are five games included on the tape and they range from sporting simulations to strategy games to arcade adventures.

First off the top is Nick Faldo Plays the Open which as you might guess, is a golf simulation. The course is the Royal St George's in Sandwich and you must select clubs, power and direction of shot. The game is entirely team driven and there are added features such as the caddy questioning you where if he thinks that you are wildly out in the club that you pick. Not a bad golf game but suffers in comparison to recent releases such as Leaderboard and Golf Construction set.

Sorcery is an arcade adventure in which you play a wizard trying to defeat the forces of evil. As you fly around the various locations, so you find objects which must be manipulated correctly in order to allow access to other areas of the game. Collisions with monsters deplete your energy and you must also complete your task of placing a specific item on the altar at Stonehenge before your time limit expires.

Clock Name Mat II sees you as Captain of Centaur II trying to protect the energy rich sandlines of the Planet Vesta. Your ship is equipped with various scanners, weapon systems and warp drives and you must decide how best to deploy your forces as you attempt to destroy the invading fleet of Myan craft. An interesting mix of strategy, flight simulation and combat action.



The final program on side one of the tape is another arcade adventure - Everyone's a Wally starring Wally Wink and his rest of his family. Your objective is to collect the scattered parts of the code that let you into the safe and so pay your wages. Different members of the family have different abilities and you need to swap between them as you explore the somewhat unusual town where they live. All this whilst avoiding tripping over the baby and other assorted hazards.

There is only one game on side two but it is in three separate parts. A View to a Kill is an arcade adventure based on the James Bond film of the same name. Part one involves a car chase round Paris and is shown as a 3-D maze together with a plan view of your surroundings. The second part sees our hero and his lady friend attempt to escape from a burning building in San Francisco, collecting such useful items as a grigger counter on route. This is used in the final part in which James has to defuse the nuclear bomb hidden deep within a mine - another maze. You can only enter parts 2 and 3 when you earn a code from part 1 but this shouldn't prove to be too difficult. A disappointing attempt at what could have been a very good game.

There is nothing outstanding in this package which makes you think that you ought to buy the tape straight away but none of the games are really bad either. Probably only worth considering if you don't already own any of the titles. If you have seen one or two before, then there are plenty of other collections to consider.

G.R.H.

#### Football

Name: New Games 3, Company: High, 2-4 Vernon Road, Farnborough Road, London W11 2DQ. Tel: 01 727 8878. Price: £9.95. Machine: C64.

Value: 3/10.

## PUB GAMES

Alternatively titled "A Drinking Man's Summer Games", Pub Games lets you keep your head in when the Dog and Duck is closed or allows the kids to see what they have been missing before they are old enough to sample the dubious delights of the above-mentioned hospitality. Seven different events are included for you to make a fool of yourself although, as if you do succeed in knocking over the black mushroom every time you step up to the bar/billiards table, everyone will just assume that the landlord hasn't been watering the best bitter quite as much as usual.

Darts is the most popular pub game and is first to appear on the tape. Usual rules, straight in, double out. Your hand wobbles badly violently as you aim your arrow so it is not too easy to keep getting the high scores. The wire around the table 20 also seems to have been strengthened considerably and unless your shot is dead on, your dart bounces to the floor off the wire. However, if you do manage to score a maximum, then there is a recognisable version of a drunken "180".

Bar billiards is played over a set period of time with the objective being to pot balls billiards (unless whilst avoiding knocking over three strategically placed wooden mushrooms. You must select the angle, power and spin of your shot. The table is superbly depicted as shown from where you would actually stand if you were playing and the only problem is a bit of dodgy bouncing when several balls collide at the top of the table.

Dominoes is a well presented version of the game, the main problems being that you can see what your opponent is holding if, like me, you are unacquainted. It is also easy to lose track of both ends of the chain if you are not careful so that you need to remember what dominoes are on the table.

Table football is the best of three games with rick balls per game. The computer selects which end the ball is nearest and all you have to do is move up and down on the rod to position your men and move backwards and forwards to kick. Great fun this.



The two card games are a bit dull. Pontoon is a straightforward buy, twist and stick version. You start off with £10 and play for 10 consecutive hands or until your money runs

out. The series of jokes though would make the Cuisinart Kid turn in his grave though. Ten hands are dealt in succession and you get one chance to replace as many cards as you want in an attempt to improve your hand. There is no betting put to apart from an initial ante and money is paid out according to fixed odds on what hand you hold although these are well below what they should be (put by a factor of thousands in some cases!)

The final game is skittles. Two targets move across the screen at different speeds, the one at the front representing your hand and the one at the back being where you are aiming. Press the button and the ball travels in a straight line between the two, hopefully knocking down a few skittles en route.

Pub Games is not a bad collection of events. There are a few quirks such as player one sometimes using joystick one and sometimes joystick two which is a trifle annoying when you find all your pins (sorry points) going to your opponent's total. Also, although you can practice on your own, you really need someone else to play against. Personally, I prefer the real thing, several pins and all.

G.R.H.

#### Touchline

Name: Pub Games, Company: Alligata, 1 George St, Sheffield, Price: £7.95, Machines: C&A.  
Originality: 5/10, Graphics: 7/10, Playability: 7/10, Value: 6/10.



#### DEACTIVATORS

It's quite refreshing when a new style of game peeks its head into the office. Deactivators is certainly one of these and offers every games player a challenge.

The Deactivators are in control of an office complex and have been given the job of defusing a number of bombs that someone has kindly left lying around the complex.

Simple you might think, wander around the buildings find the bombs and get rid of them. Well you'd be wrong. Firstly you can't get all of the bombs-out of the office block since some of the transportation, it's a very modern office, don't work. Plus there are of course the nasties out to stop you.

The game has five different office buildings of different complexities. You start off in a door by four building that is obviously very easy to find your way around. The droids that are given the job of cleaning out this setup can only move around limited areas within the rooms. The playing area shows you the droid that you are currently controlling and the room next door. The playing area is actually shown in 3D. The droids actually change in size as they move towards the back or front of the room which is an extremely nice touch.

Moving around and between the rooms is simply a matter of going through doorways dropping through holes in floors, up and down fireman poles and via earlier transportation.

The first level should really be treated as a practice one. The simple four by four layout gives you a taste of what is to come. As an example of the type of problem that you have to overcome consider the plight of the droid whose nearest transporter will not work and is stuck within only two rooms with a bomb to keep him company. One of the other droids must find a circuit board that is missing from the computer console, insert it in its proper case so that the original droid can get rid of a bomb. Simple isn't it?

Once you get on to the later levels the fun really starts. I forget to tell you earlier that the office complex has been open to some experimentation in gravity. This means that some of the rooms totally ignore the normal effects of Newton's discovery. You may find that the floor has suddenly become the ceiling or the wall has suddenly become the floor. This can get you really confused when you are trying to control a droid.

Usually only one droid has access to the building's outer door where the bombs must be detonated. This means that you have a certain amount of switching between droids. For example one droid may get hold of a bomb, he may then have to throw it through an open window, only to be caught by a droid in the next room, who must then rush to the outside door and get rid of it. This is no problem on the first room but certainly presents further problems later on in the game.

As mentioned, the programmers have included some nice graphics effects, especially the 3D mentioned earlier. However, colour has been used very little in the game and tends to give you a feeling of emptiness as though nothing is happening. This however isn't the case in the game is fast and furious and doesn't leave you a second spare.

An excellent game which is refreshingly-difficult. Even if it is a little difficult to play at first.

#### Touchline

Name: Deactivators, Company: Ashbaugh, 68 Long Ave, Cannon Gables, London W12, Tel: 01 834 5474, Machines: C&A, Price: £9.95.  
Originality: 10/10, Graphics: 5/10, Playability: 8/10, Value: 8/10.



# The great Christmas extravaganza

## 9th official Commodore computer show



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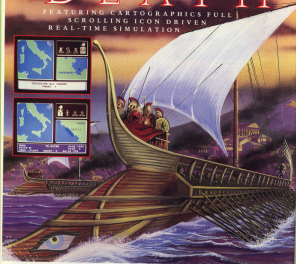
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# Christmas Shopping

By Mark Curry

**A**ppreciative as always of your problems, we decided to bring you a special guide to what to buy the Commodore owner who has everything.

Christmas is a time of good cheer, parties, loving your neighbours and general high spirits. However it can also be a time of lots of brain-racking and headaches. Those awkward people who never seem to need advice, bath foam or M&S gift vouchers suddenly appear in your life demanding presents on December 25. If those people also happen to own a Commodore computer then your problems could be solved by reading our buyer's guide. We've picked out lots of interesting and useful items to suit every pocket.

Then again if you're a Commodore owner and you don't want yet another ghastly jumper from your aunty 'N, leave Your Commodore open at this page on the coffee table when the relatives come round and you never know your luck!

## Under £20

### Operation Alignment

*Operation Alignment* is an offshoot of *Operation Commodore*, released last year by Global. This version contains only the alignment tips and screwdrivers for adjusting tape heads and is in a smaller wallet.

**Company:** Global Software  
**Address:** PO Box 67, London SW11 1BS  
**Tel:** 01 228 1350  
**Price:** £5.95

### Mouse-House

If you think that your computer mouse lacks personality and looks dully in winter, then perhaps the furry Mouse-

House from Digital Delicatessen could solve your problem. It's also aimed at making your mouse feel more comfortable in your hand. The silly season has definitely arrived.

**Company:** Digital Delicatessen  
**Address:** Unit 208, 23 Highway Green, London N5 2EE  
**Tel:** 01 258 5045  
**Price:** £8.95

### Business Dials

Clear up Christmas day by going business and buying someone some dials for their stocking. *Business Dials* are reversible and double sided double density.

**Company:** Disking  
**Address:** Propost, Liphook, Hants GU10 7BK  
**Tel:** 0426 722683  
**Price:** £0.95 per 10 pack, 50p p&hp per pack.

### ICPU02

The *Independent Commodore Productivity Users Group* has over 70 local clubs with regular meetings. It publishes a newsletter every two months containing 80 pages of news, reviews and information. ICPU02 supports all Commodore machines from the PET to the Amiga.

**Name:** ICPU02  
**Address:** Jack B Cates, Membership Secretary, 20 Brancaster Road, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex IG11 7EP  
**Price:** One year subscription (UK) £18

### Dangling Fourway Sockets

For those who are fed up of living amid a tangle of wires, The Duxell range

comprises of two models the non-loud 4135 and the loud 4136. Features include a rocker on/off switch, a neon mains indicator and a removable terminal cover for easy wiring.



### Duxell Fourway Sockets

**Company:** Duxell Electricals  
**Address:** Westwood Works, Margate Road, Broadstairs, Kent  
**Tel:** 0463 68771  
**Price:** around £10

### Konix Spordling

A new design of joystick giving instant response to your movements. It's microswitch based and is designed to fit your hand not the table top giving comfort even during the longest games. It has a 12 month guarantee.

**Company:** Konix  
**Address:** Unit 13, Silthway Industrial Estate, Trowbridge, Wiltshire NP2 4QZ  
**Tel:** 04922 2411  
**Price:** £12.95

### Commodore 128 Reference Guide for Programmers

This book is published by Sams, the company which brought out *The Commodore 64 Reference Guide*. The first chapters review elementary topics and later chapters concentrate on special programming applications. All operating systems are described in the

book plus hardware and software specifics and details of input and output features. There are also complete RAM and ROM maps with tips for memory management.

**Company:** Pitman Publishing  
**Address:** 128 Long Acre, London WC2E 6AN  
**Price:** £18.95 plus £1.70 p&p  
**ISBN:** 0 827 22056 3

#### Trilogic's GT Leader

Essentially a fast loader, this cartridge has a reset button to protect the cartridge on your 64. It works well with most 64 software and if there are any problems it reverts the program to the normal loading process.

**Company:** Trilogic  
**Address:** 29 Holme Lane, Bradford BD4 0QA  
**Price:** £17 (£18 with post)

#### The Official C128 Programmer's Reference Guide

The book contains 344 pages covering Basic 7, machine language monitor, mixing Basic and machine language. Also included is information on disks, printers, RS232, modems, joysticks etc. There is a CP/M section and hardware schematics and electrical specifications.

**Company:** Level Ltd (Computer Publications)  
**Address:** Bibles Distribution Ltd, Star Road, Partridge Green, Nr Horsham, W Sussex RH13 8LD.  
**Price:** £18.95 plus £2 p&p

#### Script/Plus Cartridge

The Script/Plus Cartridge from Parasoft is for the C16 and Plus4. It's a wordprocessor called EasyScript, already well known in its own right, with lots of extras also packed into the cartridge. Features include block move and erase, search and replace, variable margins, final printout preview and disk or cassette options. There's also a 150-page manual detailing all the functions available.

**Company:** Parasoft  
**Address:** 8 Park Terrace, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7JZ  
**Tel:** 01 336 8961  
**Price:** £18.95

#### Trojan Light Pen - Plus4 and C16

The Trojan Light Pen allows you to write or draw free hand on the screen. There are five pen thicknesses including quills. The Paint Brush can use all 16 colours plus eight brightnesses to give 128 shades. Possible geometric shapes include circles, boxes, lines, triangles and bending. Colour fill is available in any area with any colour.

**Company:** Computer Capboard  
**Address:** Pippert, London W3 1BB  
**Price:** £19.95 inc p&p

#### Magic Disk Kit

Everytime you use your disk, drive the protection on your software hangs your playing head and can eventually knock it out of place. The Magic Disk Kit, supplied with a book of tips, can help correct head alignment faults and help your machine's performance and also increase its life.

**Company:** Robtek  
**Address:** Unit 4, Islworth Business Complex, St John's Road, Islworth, Middlesex E9 7 8SL  
**Tel:** 01 847 4427  
**Price:** £19.95

#### Super Diabloc

Super Diabloc is a Commodore 64 utility which enables you to protect your valuable data, scan it on the bytes on your disk, interpret them in hex, ASCII or English, make changes and replace them. In the event of an accident Super Diabloc can make the best possible repairs.

**Company:** Precision Software  
**Address:** 6 Park Terrace, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7JZ  
**Tel:** 01 336 7166  
**Price:** £19.95

#### Trojan CAD-Master

This package includes a Trojan 64 light pen, a graphics software and an instructions booklet. Facilities available are freehand draw, paint brush, shape fill, geometric shapes, dynamic rubber banding and pen point function.

**Company:** Microcomputer Software and Accessories

**Address:** Trojan Products, Dept Y Com, 168 Derbyway, Darwent, Scaunton SA3 7PP  
**Tel:** 0292 205491  
**Price:** £19.95 for package

#### Under £50

##### I-Con

The I-Con from Trilogic gives you 80 columns on your TV or monitor. It can convert RGBE into RGB and is fully compatible with the C128. All 16 colours are available in both modes and an audio test is included in the price.

**Company:** Trilogic  
**Address:** 29 Holme Lane, Bradford BD4 0QA  
**Tel:** 0574 684289  
**Price:** £21.95 inc VAT and p&p

##### Microscript Light Pen

A compact robust pen, no bigger than an ordinary ballpoint which connects to the joystick port of the C64. Included with the pen are a booklet and a software package. This is a light, cheap and simple to use piece of hardware.

**Company:** Microsoft  
**Address:** Parwell Book Centre, Polina, Brentford BS18 3LQ  
**Price:** £28.95

##### The Expert Cartridge

The Expert Cartridge from Trilogic is for the C64. It can freeze and save programs to disk, save programs on one file, compact programs to reduce disk space used, save more programs faster and save RAM and disk based software for instant low cost upgrading.

**Company:** Trilogic  
**Address:** 29 Holme Lane, Bradford BD4 0QA  
**Tel:** 0574 684289  
**Price:** £21.95 inc VAT and p&p

##### Per Upgrade Boards

Courtesy of Supersoft you can now upgrade your PET. The RAM Plus boards allow any machine to be upgraded to a full 128K. The RAM Plus 60K will upgrade a 108K PET and the RAM Plus 24 upgrades any large keyboard machines from 96K to 128K.

**Company:** Supramol  
**Address:** Winchester House, Canning Road, Walsingham, Middlesex HA1 7SL  
**Tel:** 01 881 1866  
**Price:** RAM Plus 10K - £25, Raw Plus 34K - £90

#### The Final Cartridge

The *Final Cartridge* is an operating system built in a cartridge and is compatible with 80% of all programs. It includes a disk turbo, tape turbo, advanced economics interface, screen dump facilities, 20K extra RAM for Basic, Basic 4.0 commands, Basic Toolkit, preprogrammed function keys, extended HL monitor, reset controls and buffers.

**Company:** HiP Computer  
**Address:** 9 Hornbeam Walk, Wilman, Essex CM8 8JZ  
**Tel:** 0756 211471  
**Price:** £45

#### Static Buster

Integrity Solutions' *Static Buster* is designed to combat the effects of static electricity on your computer. It diverts electricity from the keyboard, screen and operator. *Static Buster* consists of a small unit with two leads, each with a plug uplead which attaches to a screen or keyboard. A third lead attaches to an earth point and the system works up static.

**Company:** Integrity Solutions  
**Address:** 504 Manchester Road, Rochdale, Lancs BL11 4HE  
**Tel:** 0706 34235  
**Price:** £49.95

#### Citizen Two Colour Printer

The *Citizen Two Colour Printer* is designed to be completely compatible with the Commodore range of computers. It uses roll paper 8 1/2" wide, the same as most office calculators. There are a large number of commands available. All Commodore graphics characters can be printed and listings can also be printed out in lower case mode. The ribbon is black and red so text can be highlighted.

**Company:** Citizen  
**Address:** Brunton Mansions, 25 North Row, London W1B 2BY  
**Tel:** 01 831 8262  
**Price:** £48.95

#### Under £100

##### Commodore Computer Courses

Microvia UK has introduced home studies courses using your own Commodore. Courses are suitable for both children and adults who wish to gain a better understanding of their computer and computers in general. Subjects now available for the C64 are *Introductory and Advanced Programming, Assembly Language, Graphics and Applications. Software and test is included with each course.*

**Company:** Microvia UK  
**Address:** 75 Priddygate Road, Chichester GU9 4ED  
**Tel:** 0208 371718

##### Vision

C128 owners in need of an 80 column monitor may be interested in this Trilogic product. *Vision 1* allows any TV or monitor to display the 80 column output of the C128 in any of the 16 available colours. The *Vision 2* has the same function but cannot be used with a standard TV and the *Vision 3* is a monochrome version of *Vision 1*.

**Company:** Trilogic  
**Address:** 29 Holme Lane, Bradford BD4 8QA  
**Tel:** 0724 685828  
**Price:** *Vision 1* £59.95, *Vision 2* £49.95, *Vision 3* £29.95

##### Open Organizer Desk

The *Open Organizer Desk* is designed to help you sort out your computer system. There is shelving to accommodate your monitor, printer, computer, disk drive, cassette recorder and software and the task finished unit is fitted with casters to make it fully mobile. Assembled dimensions are height 31", width 49 1/2" and depth 26".

**Company:** Open Supplies  
**Address:** 55 Overseas Way, Holmewood Estate, Hatfield, Surrey  
**Tel:** 0753 65888  
**Price:** £59.99 (inc. VAT and delivery)

##### Computer Weekend Breaks

Cheap and educational these weekend away allow you to get away from it all and expand your computing knowledge at the same time. Hosted by Ardmore Adventure and Crest House

these are weekends specially designed for Commodore users of all ability levels.

**Company:** Ardmore Adventure  
**Address:** 23 Keston Place, London W1  
**Tel:** 01 439 4461  
**Price:** about £50

##### Keypoint Mouse

The *Keypoint Mouse* (available for the C64 and C128) uses an optical system to decide movements of an internal tracker ball and is precisely monitored by the interface using a simple port card. This feature means the protocol can be easily incorporated into existing or future graphics or business packages.

**Company:** Keypoint  
**Address:** Unit 4, Maston Lane, Bedford MK41 7SHY  
**Tel:** 0234 327554  
**Price:** £59.95

##### Voyager 7 Modem

The *Voyager* range of modems has full BART approval. It's multi-speed including 300/300, 1200/75, 75/1200 full duplex and 1200/1200 full duplex, LED and computer status messages and (according to Modem House) more software than any other modem.

**Company:** Modem House  
**Address:** 78 Longbrook Street, Exeter, Devon EX4 5AP  
**Tel:** 0392 212250  
**Price:** £91.99 (inc. VAT)

As an extra with this product you can buy the *Mastering 32 Cartridge* which provides automatic auto answer and help/quit support. It's available from Modem House and costs £49.95.

#### £100 plus

##### 64 Multimodem

This modem gives you databases, bulletin boards, electronic mail and Prentel on your Commodore 64 or 128. Features include auto/dial and auto-answer, comes software on board in ROM. It's menu driven and multiprogram with CCITT V21/V23 and Bell 103 standards, baud rates 300/300, 1200/75 and 75/1200.

**Company:** Miracle Technology  
**Address:** St. Peter's Street, Ipswich IP1 1SL  
**Tel:** 0437 205141  
**Price:** £166.15 (inc VAT and p&hp).

#### Red Boxes



Red Boxes are a new way in which your computer can help run your life. They are programmed, using your C64 as a C128, to send signals along the mains wiring of a domestic house to control lighting, heating and other appliances powered by a 13amp socket. They can also receive and react to signals from devices such as intruder detectors, smoke detectors and temperature gauges. The Red Box Starter Pack contains three units Red Reader, Red One and Red Two.

**Company:** General Information Systems  
**Address:** 1 White Hart Yard, London SE11 1NX  
**Price:** £129 (starter pack)

#### Enhancer 2000

The *Enhancer 2000* disk drive is Commodore compatible and super high speed compared to Commodore's own drives. It comes with a one year warranty and is suitable for double density 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " 25 track disks. It has a direct drive spindle motor and uses no computer memory. Bundled free with the disk drive is master writer and copy drives word processor worth £50.

**Company:** Firstline Software  
**Address:** 286 Great North Road, Easton Socon, St Neots, Cambs PE19 3EF.  
**Price:** £137.50 inc VAT and p&hp (£23 extra for one day express mail).

#### Egyptian Cartridge System

This user-friendly system allows you to store permanently Basic and machine code programs on to a cartridge. A special eraser system is included which can clear the cartridge for reuse. The

system pack includes: cartridge programmer, cartridge eraser, user-friendly operating system and an erasable cartridge.

**Company:** Sival Instruments  
**Address:** 11 Southfields Court, Sutton Common Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 3EU.  
**Tel:** 01 644 0981  
**Price:** £164.95 inc VAT and p&hp

#### W5400 Modem

The *W5400* from Miracle Technology is fully intelligent and speed buffered and offers modular and autoseeker as well as Hayes type compatibility. In standard version the *W5400* supports the CCITT V21 and V22 standards offering speeds of 300, 600, 1200, 1200/75 and 75/1200. Optional upgrades include V22 1200 baud full duplex and V22bis 2400 baud full duplex plus options of DTMP tone dialling, battery packed internal telephone directory, process control port and HELL standards for telegraphic communication.

**Company:** Miracle Technology  
**Address:** St Peter's St, Ipswich IP1 1SL  
**Tel:** 0437 205141  
**Price:** £149.95

#### Star Printers

Two star printers have been reduced in price and are now much more accessible to home users on a low budget. They are the *Hops Powertype* daisy wheel printer and the *Hops dot-80* thermal printer.

**Company:** Star Microtics  
**Address:** Crown House, 40 Unbridge Road, Ealing, London W3 2BS  
**Tel:** 01 848 1580  
**Price:** *Powertype* £229, *dot-80* £79

#### Commodore's Collection

Following last year's special Commodore computer pack, Commodore is attacking this year's Christmas market with a collection of products based around the new 64C computer, a re-styled version of the standard Commodore 64.

The Commodore pack comes complete with a 64C computer, cassette version of the well known board games *Mosopoly*, *Sivabids*, *Clwads*, *Claw* and *Amazonsare*. For those of you who are interested in typing, the

official Pitman typing course is included and for graphics freaks a mouse and graphics software are also bundled inside.

So that you can use this pack as soon as you get it home a Commodore cassette recorder is also provided.

**Company:** Commodore UK  
**Address:** 1 Hunters Road, Widdow, Corby, Northants NN17 1JX.  
**Tel:** 0536 205151  
**Price:** £249.99



#### Commodore C128

For those of you who are more interested in putting your computer to work than playing games all of the time, the Commodore 128 computer is definitely well worth looking at.

The Commodore 128 computer comes complete with a built in double sided disk drive, ideal for running business packages. The computer maintains compatibility with the Commodore 64 computer and just about all 64 software will work on the C128 without any problems.

The Basic has been expanded from the C64 version of the language making it an ideal machine for someone who is interested in writing their own programs.

If you are interested in using this machine for business then you will be pleased to learn that this computer is compatible with CP/M. A system that has been running on business machines for a number of years. This means that a large number of business programs are already available for this machine, including the ever popular *Wordstar* wordprocessor program.  $\square$

**Company:** Commodore UK  
**Address:** Commodore Business Machines Ltd, 1 Hunters Road, Corby, Northamptonshire NN17 1JX.  
**Tel:** 0536 205151  
**Price:** £499

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# On-Going News Situation: US

*America, birthplace of Commodore machines, is still fertile ground for new ideas. Our Stateside correspondent brings you the latest from over there.*

*By Lewis Tilley*

Party line everybody! Party line! This is the Gazette cry during the holiday season in the States. From the hazy rooms in a school dormitory to the sleek penthouse offices of the advertising agencies in the big towers, this invitation to fun and games is heard. This column is devoted to helping you have the best of all times in this season. A full page advertisement in a favourite Commodore magazine goes us off to the right start with a bright red heading: CELEBRATE EVERY OCCASION WITH YOUR COMPUTER! It reads: The ad continues "you've no idea just how much fun your computer can be!", and invites you to a party software line with *Card-ave* (\$9.95), *Purysave* (\$14.95), *Nurysave* (\$9.95) and, to help me, *Worvival* (\$14.95). The last "party" named product doesn't actually include software but supplies you with all the colourfully designed paper, envelopes, stickers, markers, disk labels and a disk on to which you print the other disks. They are all offered by Hi-Tech Expansions Inc. What hath Penelope wrought?

Now that you have an invitation to a party in the US, it's time to look at the culture. Join me in some of the different versions of American football to which you were introduced in the final last summer.

*World's Greatest Football* by Epps has wondrous playing fields and tricky windows and icons and costs \$15. Epps also does *World's Greatest Football* which isn't quite up to the standard of the football game.

*On-Field Football*, \$28.95 by Gammat, uses only six men on a team and might get neophyte fans confused about the real games. Gammat's *On-*

*Goal Team*, also \$28.95, seems to give a more realistic version of that game with 10, shadows, coordinating and good joystick controls.

*Super Bowl Sunday* (\$15) from the Arvon Hill Game Company, is a total control simulation which uses the two football conferences, AFL/NFL, in games based on statistics of Super Bowls in the past. This game is here called "the outstanding statistical replay football program in the computer field".

There has been an *Expansion Disk 1* previously issued which covered the 1984-85 National Football League season. For this Christmas we have the *Expansion Disk 2* which digs into the past for more super teams. Would you believe Detroit-Cleveland 1453? I can barely remember it. The expansion disks are only \$20 each.

Had enough American football? Epps follows *Summer Games 7 and 8* and *Winter Games with World-Games*. You travel around the globe to compete in eight different events. Or with another Epps title you could stay in one squared circle and wrestle all by yourself or with a friend and/or joystick. In *Championship Wrestling* there are 28 holds plus overhead graphics. For bike races there is also the new *Super Cycle* from Epps.

*Leader Board* has been one of the outstanding computer sports presentations for the American market (and now it has also met with success in the UK). It is the sound and the sump which makes the golf game so satisfying. One feels that they have actually grooved a slab like a master.

*Leader Board's* publisher, Access-Software Inc., is issuing *10th Frame*, "the professional bowling simulator" by the same authors, Bruce and Roger

Carver, for the Christmas trade. Both of these games cost a whopping \$39.95 here in the US. I bought my *Leader Board* on a light-magnified magazine disk in Italy for 13 Lira (about \$14). Of course there was the other \$800 for the flight, you can't win.

A recent reconstruction in *Paper* of the interior of 22M *Archer Street* was modelled on one that was done in London at the time of the last reconstruction. This boardgame adaptive of the same name doesn't give you the feeling of being with Holmes in his own digs but it does challenge you with 20 cases of the old Sleuth in Victorian London. Thirty more cases are being prepared for future issue by Investigations/Dataset.

Electronics Arts is trying something new with *Scavenger Hunt*. In an attempt to involve the whole family in computer games, *Scavenger Hunt* uses a 64, a gameboard and a pack of cards. There's also another package called *Murder Party* which supplies invitations, clues and differently coloured answers for every party time.

I can't let you have my party without sending you on to another one so I've saved the spicy one till last. *Leather Goddesses of Fashion* (obviously to be available in the UK, I am informed) is from infowans and features leather-clad women who want to turn earth into a sea some for themselves. Cheap thrills from a computer, a rather dubious sales ploy, I'm inclined to believe.

To conclude, I think that I've included something for everyone in every sense so all that remains is to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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# Listings

Get it right first time with our deluxe program system for the C64.

You may have noticed that our listings are free of those horrible little black blinks which send you searching around the keyboard for a suitable graphic symbol. You may also have noticed the funny numbers by the side of each line of the listing. First no more, it's all part of our easy entry aid.

Instead of those nasty graphical rows of countless spaces in PRINT statements and strings we use a special coding system. The code, or mnemonic, is always contained in square brackets and you'll soon learn to decipher their meanings.

For example, [SA] would mean type in a Shifted A, or an asc of spaces in layman's terms, and [SA0] would mean a row of ten of those symbols.

[H+] means hold down the shift key and press the plus key twice. It doesn't take a great leap of logic to realize that [C+] means exactly the same thing except that the Command key (bottom left of the keyboard) is held down instead of the shift key.

Unless that two spaces appear in a statement then this will be printed as [SP4] or, exceptionally, [SPC4]. Translated into English this means press the spacebar four times or in the latter case hold the shift key down while you do it.

A string of special characters would appear as:

```
CTRL N, DOWN2,LEFTS,BLUE,
FLAC]
```

This would be achieved by holding

down the CTRL key as you press N, press the cursor key down twice, the cursor left key five times, press the key marked BLUE while holding down the CTRL key, press the F3 key and, finally hold the Commodore key down while pressing the number two key (C2 would of course make the computer print in brown).

Always remember that you should only have a row of graphics characters on your screen with no square brackets and no commas, unless something like this appears:

```
[SS][C*]
```

In this case the two characters should have a comma between them.

On rare occasions [REV T] will appear in a listing. This is a delete symbol and is created by entering the line up to this mnemonic. Then type a closing quotation mark (SHIFT & 2) and delete it. This gets the computer out of quotes mode. Hold down CTRL, and press the number nine key (RV90N), type the relevant number of reversed T's and then hold down CTRL and press asc (RV50FF). Now type another quotation mark and delete it again. Now finish the line and press RETURN.

A list of those special cases is given in the table but remember that only one of these mnemonics will appear outside of a PRINT string; the symbol for pi. This may appear when its value is needed in a calculation so this may look something like:

-CC=C\*PI\*PI;

Ignore the square brackets and just type in a shifted upward pointing arrow (or the pi symbol).

PROGRAM	LISTING	EXPLANATION
10	PRINT "HELLO"	PRINT HELLO
20	FOR I=0 TO 10:PRINT I	FOR I=0 TO 10:PRINT I
30	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
40	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
50	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
60	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
70	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
80	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
90	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
100	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
110	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
120	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
130	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
140	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
150	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
160	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
170	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
180	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
190	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"
200	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"	PRINT "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z"

by Eric Doyle

## Checksum Program

The hexadecimal numbers appearing in a column to the left of the listing should not be typed in with the program. These are merely checksum values and are there to help you get each line right. Don't worry if you don't understand the hexadecimal system, as long as you can compare two characters on the screen with the corresponding two characters in the magazine you can use our line checking program.

Type in the Checksum Program, make sure that you've not made any mistakes and save it to tape or disk

immediately because it will be used with most of the present and future listings appearing in Your Commodore.

At the start of each programming session, load Checksum and run it. The screen will turn brown with yellow characters and each time you type in a line and press the RETURN key a number will appear on the screen in white. This should be the same as the corresponding value in the magazine.

















If the two values don't relate to one another, you have not copied the line exactly as printed so go back and check each character carefully. When you find the error simply correct it and

















press RETURN again.

If you want to turn off the checker simply type SY\$OFF12 and the screen will return to the familiar blue colours. You can then do whatever it was you wanted to do and if this doesn't use the area where Checksum lies you can go back to it with the same SYS command.

No system is foolproof but the chances of two errors cancelling one another out are so remote that we believe our listings are more reliable than any other magazine in the world. So get typing!

23

Mnemonic	Symbol	Keypress
[RIGHT]		CRSR left/right
[LEFT]		SHIFT & CRSR left/right
[DOWN]		CRSR up/down
[UP]		SHIFT & CRSR up/down
[F1]		F1 key
[F2]		SHIFT & F1 key
[F3]		F3 key
[F4]		SHIFT & F3 key
[F5]		F5 key
[F6]		SHIFT & F5 key
[F7]		F7 key
[F8]		SHIFT & F7 key
[HOME]		CLR/HOME
[CLR]		SHIFT & CLR/HOME
[RYSON]		CTRL & 9
[RYSOFT]		CTRL & 0

Mnemonic	Symbol	Keypress
[BLACK]		CTRL & 1
[WHITE]		CTRL & 2
[RED]		CTRL & 3
[CYAN]		CTRL & 4
[PURPLE]		CTRL & 5
[GREEN]		CTRL & 6
[BLUE]		CTRL & 7
[YELLOW]		CTRL & 8
[POUND]		£
[LARROW]		←
[RARROW]		→
[PI]		SHIFT & ↑
[INST]		SHIFT & INST/DEL
[REV T]		rev text
[Clear]		CRM + letter
[Store]		SHIFT + letter

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please contact this address for price and availability.

## The Cassette

All programs on the cassette are saved using a turbo program. If you have ever purchased software from us on cassette before it is worth pointing out that as of this issue cassette the turbo used has been altered. On all cassettes for previous issues the programs are unprotected and appear in the same format as they do in the magazine i.e. in the form of Basic loaders. The new turbo being used from this issue onwards allows us to produce fully working versions of the program on cassette. This means that you will simply have to LOAD the programs in and they will automatically start. Should we put any programs for the C128 on the cassette they will be stored as C64 programs. LOAD these programs into the computer in C64 format and save them to cassette or disk. To use the programs turn your computer into C128 mode and LOAD and RUN as normal.

## The Disk

Programs on the disk will also be supplied as totally working versions, i.e. where possible we will not use Basic Loaders thus making use of the programs much easier. Unfortunately at the moment we cannot duplicate C16 and Plus/4 cassettes. However programs for these machines will be available on the disk.

What programs are available?

At the top of each article you will find a strap containing the article type, C64 Program etc. So that you can see which programs are available on which format you will also find a couple of symbols after the strap. The symbols have the following meaning:



This symbol means that the program is available on cassette.



These programs are available on disk.

## Please Note

Since the programs supplied on cassette are total working versions of the program, we do not put disk only programs on tape. There is no sense in placing a program that is supposed to be loaded from disk on to tape. TB

## UTILITY SPECIAL

This contains a few of our most popular utilities from earlier issues of the magazine. The programs are:  
**MACH 2** — our disk based assembler from Nov '85 to Feb '86.  
**STOP THREE** — add protection to your programs with this utility from our Feb '86 issue.  
**IN CHARACTER** — an excellent character editor from November 1985.  
**MOB MAKER** — to complement the character editor, a sprite editor from the March 1985 issue.  
**DISK EDITOR** — an extremely powerful utility for disk drive errors allowing you to directly access and alter every segment of your disk.

Should you not have any of the above issues and would like instructions then a full set of photographs is available for £1.50. Please order this separately from: **Four Commodore, Utility Special Photographs, No 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB.** Cheques or Postal orders to be made payable to A.S.P. Ltd.

**ORDER CODE**

DISK — YDM1862 **£6.00**  
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**NOVEMBER 1986**

**Into The Eighties** — now you can give your C64 80 column capability, with this program. You have access to two screens either the 40-column version or the new 80 column one.

**C64 SOUND SAMPLER** — now your C64 or Plus/4 can sound like any instrument you like with this sound sampler. Available on disk only.

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**TELEPHONE EXCHANGE** — Our excellent teletype communications program for use with a C64 and RS232 modem.

**SPRITES** — Ease your manipulation of sprites with this utility. Includes sprite animation, collision detection, sprite design etc. (C64).

**DATA BCS** — Keep track of your information with this database program for the C128.

**BASIC TEST SYSTEM** — A useful utility for debugging programs. Commands include TRACE, SINGLE STEP and the ability to set break points (C64).

**HOPMON** — A superb machine code monitor with 19 commands including Decimal to Hex conversion, disk access, memory disassembly etc. (C64).

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**ADVENTURE AID** — A set of routines to help you write your adventures. Includes facilities for setting up location

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**TELEPHONE EXCHANGE** — (See April 1986).

**3D ROUTINES** — Routines to allow you to produce effects similar to those found in the famous 3D maze type game (C64).

**WORDPROK** — A powerful disk based wordprocessor for use with the C64. Includes commands for line spacing, writing margins performing word counts etc.

**POLAR PETE** — Can you help Pete build his igloo in this game for the C64?

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**JUNE 1986**

**DATABASE 64** — A superb database program for 64 owners. For use with tape or disk.

**TAPE INLAY** — Produce tape inlay cards with your C64 and your 1520 printer/plotter.

**LOW RES UTILITY** — Plotting routines for use with your C64 and its low-res graphics. Includes dots, lines fill etc.

**BETTER MATRIX** — Produce descenders on your MPS 801 printer (C64).

**BUDGET 64** — Keep track of your finances with this C64 program. Up to 30 different budgets can be set up within each bank account.

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**DATABASE 128** — Keep track of your disks with this utility for the C128.

**DETAILED DIRS** — Gives useful information about your disks including track and sector at which programs are stored, start address of program and address etc. (C64).

**IBAL A FILE** — Files downloaded with our TELEPHONE EXCHANGE program can now be edited with this extension for the C64.

**ASSEMBLER 128** — A full Moven assembler for use with your C128 and tape or disk.

**LUNAR ORBEAL** — Rescue the stranded men in this game for the C64.

**ORDER CODE**

DISK YDM1586 **£6.00**  
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**FAST FORMATTER** — Speed up the formatting speed of your 1541 disk drive with this handy program (C64).

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**EMMON 128** — Disk utility program for the C128. Includes commands for editing tracks and sectors of the disk, protecting programs, write protect disk etc.

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### SEPTEMBER 1986

**BACKGROUNDS** — Sample backgrounds and sprites for use with the JIM EDITOR published in August 1986.

**ASSEMBLER 128** — Full C128 assembler. Same as JULY86 issue.

**ICON DRIVER** — A small routine that allows you to move a sprite around the screen with a joystick. Useful if you want to develop an icon program (C84).

**RECONFIGURE** — Develop routines to alter the memory configuration of your C64 with ease.

**CROSSWORD** — Put your brain to work with this superb

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**ALL CLEAR** — Some interesting ways to clear the screen with this collection of routines (C84).

**ADVENTURE GRAPHICS** — Add graphics capability to our ADVENTURE AID program published in the May 1986 edition of Your Commodore (C84).

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**CROSSWORD** — See September issue.

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# Remember the Plus/4

Joe Bradley provides some more utilities for your Plus/4.

If you feel that your programming skills are coming along fairly well, then this article should be of interest to you. I propose giving three major utilities all to be used via the direct mode.

(a) A **FIND** routine which will be of use in developing Basic programs. **FIND** will find all Basic lines containing **ak**, ready for you to examine or change.

(b) A **MERGE** routine for disk use which will merge all or part of a program on the disk with a program in memory. The routine is a true merge in that you could select a subroutines from a program on disk and merge it with a program already in the Plus/4 memory — not add it on the end as is the case with many Merge programs.

(c) An assembler for the Plus/4 which would support all labels etc. and enable you to write machine code programs in assembler language.

## Starting Up

The program in its completed state is loaded from disk or tape into the normal Basic area. The first part is a Basic which operates routines to move the address into memory starting at **MEM0**, leaves the top of memory to protect the routines and inserts a wedge in the **GETCHR** routine so that new Basic commands **FIND**, **MERGE** and **ASSEMBLE** are accepted.

First type in the Basic program in Figure 1. The **SVS 4325** will operate the sequence which initialises the program, the screen is cleared and a heading printed so that you know the program is ready for use. **DO NOT RUN** this program before typing in the initialisation program which is given in Figure 2.

FIG. 1 INITIAL PROGRAM

```

10 PRINT" [CLEAR]";:SBS4528
20 PRINT"[SPC4]*****
25 PRINT"[SPC4]" PLUS/4 SUPPORT SYSTEM: **
30 PRINT"[SPC4]*****
35 PRINT:PRINT
40 PRINT"[SPCT]ASSEMBLE"
45 PRINT
50 PRINT"[SPCT]FIND"
55 PRINT
60 PRINT"[SPCT]MERGE[CHR](34)"PRG NAME[CHR](34)",
  START-FINDER"
70 END
  
```

I have decided that the best way to enter machine code is to use the monitor. The reason most programs are written in data statements is that the C64 does not have a monitor. So

type **M[Shift][K]** and **(RETURN)** to go into monitor, then **M [MEM] (RETURN)** will display the first block of memory. Change the memory locations to read as in Figure 1. At the

FIG. 2 INITIALISATION

```

>1188 45 40 50 70 04 49 43 82
>1188 7E 04 49 82 80 7F 84 49
>1188 82 80 04 45 7F 85 81 85
>1188 14 48 01 49 01 86 78 81
>1188 14 91 03 08 00 70 85 84
>1188 85 15 45 15 09 79 80 82
>1188 80 04 48 00 70 80 80 83
>1188 85 34 85 30 48 00 80 73
>1188 86 37 48 54 41 52 41 53
>1188 53 45 49 31 31 30 03 7F
>1200 80 88 7F 68 64 78 80 7F
>1200 7F 60 80 3E 7F 61 20 80
>1210 3F 7F 80 43 14 84 80 83
>1210 80 80 03 64 70 7F 68 80
>1220 08 39 49 83 40 89 41 88
>1230 49 03 44 45 84 48 89 80
>1230 83 48 80 71 83 48 89 83
>1238 48 49 0F 48 40 08 41 82
>1240 08 34 50 5E 06 84 84 80
>1248 01 81 04 1F 04 11 80 03
>1250 01 09 87 00 54 45 80 05
>1258 08 45 80 09 81 38 40 81
>1260 06 89 80 80 81 24 84 81
>1268 04 60 80 80 80 84 84 80
>1270 43 7F 08 80 80 82 30 87
>1278 08 20 70 70 80 88 89 80
>1280 80 50 00 00 00 04 05 88
>1288 10 72 03 80 70 04 05 88
>1290 84 87 16 74 05 08 80 83
>1298 85 38 04 18 78 20 83 83
>1300 86 88 80 81 81 48 80 87
>1308 10 40 50 45 45 48 04 83
>1310 90 52 47 85 41 53 53 45
>1320 40 40 40 53 53 53 41 83
>1328 49 75 50 41 43 45 50 50
>1330 41 43 45 50 50 41 45 49
>1338 08 04 84 80 80 80 80 80
>1348 7F 08 00 00 80 7F 84 80
  
```

end of the first block, M (RETURN) will display the next block of memory ready for you to change.

Have you done it correctly? This is always a worry but there is a check. On the Plus/4 you can disassemble the routine using the monitor.

Type **E 1180 (3CF (RETURN))** to disassemble the routine and it should be as Figure 3. If not, check for errors and adjust.

This may be as far as you wish to go in your first session, as I shall now look

at the save routine which you will need to use at this point. We want to save the Basic program and the machine code routines at the same time, so while you are still in the monitor type:

**S-UTILITIES\*,1,100,2400** for tape or  
**S-UTILITIES\*,1,100,2400** for disk.

At the next session you will be able to load and save with normal Basic commands provided you do not alter

the small Basic program at the start.

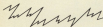
You can run the program to check what happens so far. You should see the heading appear and the cursor flashing to show that it is ready for your next command. Your save routines are not in yet, so if you type **FIND (RETURN)** the computer will probably hang. Don't do this just yet, although you can reset and reload your program. However if you look at the top of memory pointers **\$P1**, **\$P4** you will see that top of memory has been

FIGURE 3

1110	A9 4C	LDR #14C			
1112	0D 7D 04	STR #047D			
1114	A9 43	LDR #143			
1116	0D 7E 04	STR #047E			
1118	A9 E3	LDR #1E3			
111C	8D 7F 04	STR #047F			
111E	A9 E2	LDR #1E2			
11C1	85 04	STR #04			
11C3	A5 FF	LDR #1FF			
11C5	85 03	STR #03			
11C7	85 14	STR #14			
11C9	A9 01	LDR #01			
11CB	A9 11	LDR #11			
11CD	85 15	STR #15			
11CF	81 14	LDR (#14), Y			
11D1	91 03	STR (#03), Y			
11D2	00	INV			
11D4	D0 F9	BNE #11CF			
11D6	E6 04	INC #04			
11D8	E6 15	INC #15			
11DA	A5 15	LDR #15			
11DC	C9 29	CMR #129			
11DE	F0 02	BEQ #11E2			
11E0	30 04	BCC #11E6			
11E2	A0 00	LDR #000			
11E4	F0 E9	BEQ #11CF			
11E6	A9 E3	LDR #1E3			
11E8	85 34	STR #34			
11EA	85 38	STR #38			
11EC	A9 00	LDR #000			
11EE	85 33	STR #33			
11F0	85 37	STR #37			
11F2	60	RTS			
1200	80 3E FF	STR #FF3E			
1202	58	CLI			
1204	60	RTS			
1206	78	SEI			
1208	8D 3F FF	STR #FF3F			
120A	60	RTS			
120C	8D 3E FF	STR #FF3E			
120E	81 22	LDR (#22), Y			
120F	8D 3F FF	STR #FF3F			
1212	60	RTS			
1213	A2 12	LDR #12			
1215	ED 00 E3	LDR #E300E3			
1218	ED 00 E3	STR #E300E3			
121A	CA	DEX			
121C	10 F7	BFL #1215			
121E	60	RTS			
121F	8D 03 E4	STR #E403			
1222	A9 E3	LDR #1E3			
1224	48	PHR			
1226	A9 41	LDR #141			
1227	48	PHR			
1228	A9 03	LDR #103			
122A	48	PHR			
122B	A9 E4	LDR #1E4			
122D	48	PHR			
122E	8D DD E3	LDR #E3DDE3			
1231	48	PHR			
1232	ED F1 E3	LDR #E3F1E3			
1235	48	PHR			
1236	A9 03	LDR #103			
1238	48	PHR			
1239	A9 0F	LDR #10F			
123B	48	PHR			
123C	A0 08 E4	LDR #E408			
123E	A6 06 E4	LDR #E406			
1242	60	RTS			
1243	8E 06 E4	STR #E406			
1246	3H	TSX			
1247	ED 01 01	LDR #0101E3			
1248	C9 1F	CMR #1F			
124C	30 11	BNE* #125F			
124D	8D 02 01	LDR #0102E3			
1251	C9 07	CMR #07			
1253	30 09	BNE #125F			
1256	A5 38	LDR #38			
1257	30 06	BNE #125F			
1259	A5 3C	LDR #3C			
125B	C9 02	CMR #02			
125D	F0 04	BEQ #1269			
125F	A6 06 E4	LDR #E406			
1262	A0 00	LDR #000			

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1264	B1 38	LDA #0000,Y	1296	F6 03	LTX #00
1266	4C 01 04	JMP #0401	1298	5B 01 03	LDA #E3D1,X
1269	F6 00	LDF #00	1299	49	PHA
126B	8E 03 04	STX #0409	129C	0D 07 03	LDA #E3D7,X
126E	04 03	STY #03	129D	49	PHA
1270	A2 FF	LDX #FFF	129A	59	RTS
1272	E8	INX	129E	46 49	LSR #49
1273	B9 00 02	LDA #0200,X	129D	4E 04 4D	LDR #4DC4
1276	30 E7	BNE #125F	1298	45 52	EOB #52
1278	C9 28	CMF #420	1282	47	???
127A	F8 F6	BCD #1272	1283	C5 41	CMF #41
127C	B9 0A E3	LDA #E30A,Y	1285	53	???
127F	F8 0E	BCD #125F	1286	53	???
1281	5D 00 02	EOB #0200,X	1287	45 4D	EOB #4D
1284	5D 04	BNE #1289	1289	42	???
1286	C8	INX	128A	4C 05 53	JMP #E3C5
1287	E8	INX	128D	5D 41	BVC #128D
1288	18 F2	BPL #127C	128F	43	???
128A	C9 00	CMF #00	1288	45 53	EOB #53
128C	F8 0A	BCD #1298	1282	7D 41	BVC #1285
128E	C8	INX	12C4	43	???
128F	B9 0A E3	LDA #E30A,Y	12C5	45 53	EOB #53
1292	10 FA	BPL #128E	12C7	5D 41	BVC #128A
1294	E6 0B	INC #0B	12C9	43	???
1296	5D D8	BNE #1270	12CA	45 53	EOB #53
1298	E6 3B	INC #3B	12CC	5D 41	BVC #128F
129A	CA	DEX	12CE	43	???
129B	18 FB	BPL #1299	12CF	45 00	EOB #00
129D	20 13 03	JSR #E313			

lowered to \$E300 ready for our machine code.

A little more explanation now will help when you are writing your own routines, so let's look at the code in Figure 3.

The first six statements store the machine code command JMP \$E345 in the GETCHR command in the operating RAM. The routine starts at \$M71 and it decrees a few moments of study so disassemble it using the monitor and work out what it does.

This is the routine which is in constant use when the computer is executing Basic routines. When you type [RETURN] after a direct command the operating system uses this routine to read your instruction.

Our new command inserted into the routine is called a wedge and will enable the computer to look our new commands before the operating system looks for a normal Basic command. If it finds one of our new commands our program will be executed, otherwise operation will be returned to the computer operating system. This wedge will make a slight difference to the speed of operation

but so small that you will not notice it and your normal Basic programs will still be able to work even when the utilities are loaded.

The statements from LDA \$E2 to MOV \$11CF move the machine code from \$1280 to \$2FFF into high RAM from \$E300 to \$FAFF.

New values for the top of memory are loaded into the pointers at \$3, \$24, \$17 and \$38 finishing with a return RTS which returns us to the basic program to print the header.

The rest of the machine code works from high RAM but for explanation I will refer to its low RAM locations. However, after you've typed the

initialisation routine and run the program to relocate at \$E300, you could disassemble from the new locations for a clearer idea of what is happening.

The routines from \$1280 to \$1212 are the ROM and RAM switches/deals with in Four Commodore, May-July 1981. These will be moved to the tape buffer area \$0108 by instructions \$1213 to \$121E when the routines are activated.

\$121F to \$1242 is the routine to enable high RAM to use sub-routines in the ROM (Four Commodore, July '81).

\$1243 to \$125D checks if the computer is dealing with a direct command, if not the wedge returns the computer to the GETCHR routine with the JMP \$0401 command.

\$125E to \$12A4 checks to see if the direct command is one of ours, if not it returns to Basic by the branch statement at \$1276.

A list of the new commands is given from \$12A5 to \$12CF. These are stored with the last letter shifted to. FIND is stored as \$46, \$49, \$4E and finally \$C4. I have left a little space from \$128C to

FIG. 4 ROM SUBROUTINE												
\$E300	00	04	04	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
\$E305	FF	35	00	00	00	FF	58	2E				
\$E309	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
\$E30D	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF	FF
\$E310	FF	E5	53	32	32	07	72	47				
\$E315	6E	20	07	95	44	44	01	09				
\$E320	8C	09	03	08	01	04	00	01				
\$E325	00	78	03	20	03	38	04	00				

SELECT for your own commands when you write your own utility. (Actually the space will be in high RAM from SELECT to SELECT).

The addresses of the new routines (0) are stored as Hi bytes from \$12D1 and Lo bytes from \$12D7. Remember the stack adds one to the pointers stored on the stack when a RTS is encountered in the program.

Notice that I've left three zero bytes at the end of each list to enable you to add your own routines later.

If one of our new routines is required then its address is pushed on to the stack at \$12A9 to \$12A7 and then goes to the routine on meeting the RTS at \$12AA.

### Entering the Code

We will now enter the code at the place where it normally exists.

Remember that before you start to enter the routine you will need to be in high RAM and you will need to alter the memory location \$1775 to \$180 so that RAM will be displayed rather than ROM. Figure 4 shows the storage for the ROM substitution addresses that will be available for our program. Figure 5 is the FIND routine, Figure 6 gives the MERGE routine, Figure 8 gives the ASSEMBLER program.

When you have entered all the code, or at an intermediate stage if you like, save the program as follows:

(a) Type N[RETURN] to go back to Basic, then NEW [RETURN].

(b) LOAD UTILITIES if on tape, LOADUTILITIES if on disk.

DO NOT RUN

(c) Type M[MEMORY][RETURN] to go into monitor.

(d) Check that location \$1775 is \$180.

(e) Type T \$180 F180 [END]. This will transfer our machine code to low RAM to join our Basic program.

(f) Return to Basic with K[RETURN].

(g) Save with the normal instructions. SAVE UTILITIES - tape, SAVE UTILITIES - disk.

At the start of the next session LOAD and RUN the program in the normal Basic manner. Continue to enter the machine code from where you left off and, at the end, save as above.

### Check Program

Remember that it is always a good idea to save machine code programs before you run them in case you have made a typing mistake which makes the program hang. If you do get a hang-up, press the RUN/STOP key and keep it pressed while you press the reset button. If you have difficulties, load the check program Figure 8, RUN and check the values given in the table, Figure 9. This will enable you to find which section has the mistake.

The machine code program that you have now entered is an aid to programmers. It contains three programs: FIND, MERGE, ASSEMBLE.

### Procedure

It is a good idea to keep the programs the first on a disk when SHIFTED RUN/STOP will load and run the programs. For a cassette system, load and run in the normal manner. You should see the title of the program which will have loaded into the top of RAM. The top of memory pointers will also have been lowered to protect the program. Basic programs can now be used as required. FIND, MERGE and ASSEMBLE will also be available.

### FIND

This command will print all the Basic lines containing the sequence of characters following the command e.g.

FIND PRINT will list all the lines in the program containing the word PRINT.

Note: If you wish to search for a sequence that is inside brackets then you must put brackets after the command FIND e.g.

FIND "PRINT" searches for the word PRINT inside brackets. It will find different lines to FIND PRINT.

### MERGE

This routine will merge a program on disk with a program in memory. If it

FIG. 5 FIND ROUTINE

%E400 03 F8 A5 58 80 38 04 81	%E488 08 20 1F 83 A9 20 A4 49
%E410 55 24 8E 04 89 A2 01 20	%E490 29 7F 8E 06 84 A2 04 85
%E418 1F 83 A5 28 80 5F A2 20	%E498 1F 83 09 22 00 05 85 8F
%E420 05 60 A5 81 84 0F 81 5F	%E4A8 48 FF 85 0F 08 00 05 81
%E428 00 A2 82 80 20 1F 83 09	%E4B8 5F 00 A3 10 85 09 7F 00
%E438 03 00 39 80 13 A2 FF 84	%E4C0 81 84 0F 80 20 A4 84 45
%E43E 03 88 82 84 80 00 30 09	%E4C8 A3 81 84 23 A0 8E 84 23
%E440 20 00 05 09 22 00 00 08	%E4D0 80 00 04 00 11 0A 10 00
%E448 01 5F 00 10 09 04 00 07	%E4D8 86 22 00 02 16 23 20 8A
%E450 09 22 00 09 50 04 02 00	%E4E0 03 10 05 00 00 08 20 8A
%E458 80 A4 03 08 00 07 80 00	%E4E8 03 30 01 8E 04 24 A2 04
%E460 01 5F A4 09 81 5F 86 5F	%E4F0 20 1F 83 00 00 8E 04 84
%E468 85 A0 00 86 9C 85 84 A2	%E4F8 A2 03 20 1F 83 A5 01 A5
%E470 01 84 0F 8E 06 84 A2 01	%E500 00 91 30 88 A9 5F 91 3B
%E478 20 1F 83 08 01 5F 8A 04	%E508 40 81 04 0F 0F 0F 0F 0F
%E480 01 5F 84 A5 8E 06 84 A2	





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18255	88	69	88	68	37	63	00
18260	20	03	83	08	00	78	34
18265	18	10	12	99	38	78	08
18270	64	00	83	20	84	75	00
18275	00	85	08	70	83	84	88
18280	70	20	04	78	85	38	89
18285	88	05	20	83	85	09	80
18290	00	90	30	78	08	00	34
18295	81	70	02	84	40	20	84
18300	60	46	38	86	38	48	78
18305	50	20	00	83	03	20	03
18310	28	03	83	09	21	08	08
18315	00	85	08	30	78	04	08
18320	54	02	28	85	05	09	78
18325	58	20	09	88	80	88	08
18330	84	47	40	29	17	83	44
18335	88	03	25	80	84	09	88
18340	87	62	41	20	83	85	08
18345	70	84	09	27	80	88	45
18350	85	74	69	80	88	75	20
18355	89	40	44	88	88	85	84
18360	06	20	17	83	84	84	84
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18370	42	08	28	17	83	14	78
18375	14	04	78	01	30	83	88
18380	44	88	20	03	88	88	41
18385	08	85	42	28	03	88	48
18390	88	42	80	84	83	41	08
18395	80	59	11	85	91	78	83
18400	88	83	80	80	89	84	87
18405	45	20	85	74	85	88	76
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18435	30	85	38	88	88	41	88
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18985	88	88	88	88	88	88	88
18990	88	88	88	88	88	88	88
18995	88	88	88	88	88	88	88
19000	88	88	88	88	88	88	88

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FF290 99 21 85 88 10 FA 28 0E
FF294 88 44 4C 81 3F 20 18 8F
FF298 89 14 85 84 49 00 91 45
FF2A4 08 AD 14 85 91 93 88 46
FF2A8 85 85 86 85 84 9C 4A 4C
FF2B4 04 48 90 85 80 03 4C 8E
FF2C0 81 45 46 09 82 9A 0A 85
FF2C4 02 80 83 20 31 8D AD 30
FF2C8 85 09 9C 90 15 09 8E 80
FF2D4 08 AD 42 80 09 42 7A 20
FF2D8 20 8F 89 80 85 92 45 92
FF2E4 06 81 89 91 89 80 30 8F
FF2F0 8E 40 80 81 20 31 8E AD
FF2F4 81 85 80 45 42 85 91 20
FF300 8F 80 20 88 8F 4C 08 81
FF304 85 88 09 2C 70 03 9C 0A
FF310 83 AD 38 85 03 28 06 25
FF314 85 82 09 58 85 04 48 48
FF318 00 03 89 87 84 88 20 88
FF324 00 03 81 8D 28 08 8F 45
FF328 42 09 80 85 82 42 28
FF334 80 8F 8C 88 81 20 31 8F
FF338 80 8F 8C 88 81 20 31 8F
FF344 85 82 09 58 85 04 48 48
FF348 08 84 80 34 89 88 00 00
FF354 88 48 80 40 20 88 8E 20
FF358 81 82 20 08 8F 4C 08 81
FF364 85 8C 09 58 70 84 89 84
FF368 00 03 81 8D 28 08 8F 45
FF374 80 20 88 8E 20 31 8F AD
FF378 48 20 88 8E 20 31 8F AD
FF384 38 15 03 25 20 1C 45 4F
FF390 80 32 AD 7A 20 20 8F 4A
FF394 80 85 87 4C 04 83 38 4A
FF3A0 41 83 01 80 02 05 42 38
FF3A4 85 03 86 41 85 42 85 04
FF3B0 80 04 09 8F 80 8C 45 41
FF3B4 10 28 30 08 09 80 28 20
FF3C0 85 81 38 0E 20 88 8F 4C
FF3C4 8E 81 AD 38 85 09 23 80
FF3D0 42 28 31 8D 85 42 80 80
FF3D4 89 42 86 48 20 88 8E 20
FF3D8 88 8F 28 73 8F 4C 08 81
FF3E4 89 48 85 48 20 88 8E 20
FF3F0 88 8F 4C 88 81 20 31 8F
    
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FF3F4 6D 28 85 09 20 80 18 48
FF400 42 85 88 20 88 8E 20 08
FF404 0F 20 12 8F 4C 8E 81 48
FF410 45 00 88 48 85 85 88 28
FF414 88 8E 28 31 8D 43 8E 85
FF420 09 28 9C 18 29 38 00 07
FF424 85 42 88 41 8C 3C 84 45
FF430 42 80 08 AD 74 20 20 8F
FF434 89 00 85 41 20 88 8F 4C
FF440 8E 81 AD 38 20 7F 83 6A
FF444 20 09 8E 20 42 84 88 08
FF450 20 03 86 20 40 84 88 08
FF454 85 04 85 46 20 30 42 84
FF460 89 28 20 40 84 60 80 28
FF464 20 78 8F 80 84 85 84 28
FF470 42 84 AD 18 85 20 42 84
FF474 48 45 20 85 20 42 84 85
FF480 8C 20 04 85 20 42 84 85
FF484 13 88 18 85 20 89 8E 08
FF490 80 80 24 20 48 84 80 80
FF494 85 48 01 20 86 84 80 88
FF500 20 68 84 20 05 68 20 80
FF504 85 48 20 30 8C 84 80 18
FF510 85 80 80 80 80 20 20
FF514 80 8F 20 40 8F 20 83
FF518 8E 09 84 84 20 60 8F 20
FF524 40 8F 4C 81 04 AD 80 20
FF528 8F 83 09 03 80 03 4C 80
FF534 8C 78 85 45 08 80 78
FF538 25 80 48 25 80 10 85 80
FF544 18 8F 86 89 20 80 80 80
FF548 8A 80 43 89 28 20 20 20
FF554 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
FF558 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
FF564 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
FF568 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
FF574 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
    
```

50 STROUT=8988

Or by using them as labels in statement lines:

68 LOOP TXA

Statement 50 will assign the HEX value 8988 to STROUT.  
Statement 60 will assign the current location to LOOP.

Note that a label should be separated from the Op-Code by a space. Also the first three letters of a label should not normally be an Op-Code e.g.

80 LDA LDA845

would not be accepted.

If such a label is essential then use a colon after the label.

18 LDA LDA845

would be accepted by the program.

The two types of statement should not be used on one line

i.e. 80 LOOP STROUT=8988 is not permitted.

Variables may be up to six characters in length and may be a mixture of alpha-numeric characters. Statements of the type:

80 LABEL=NAME

are only valid if NAME has already been defined. If not LABEL would be given the default value (FFFF).

It is particularly important that all cross page addresses are defined before they are used.

Difficulties may arise if these simple rules are not followed, for example:

```

ASC
ASC-HX
ASC-IN
    
```

would be taken as identical, since the first non alpha-numeric character is used in the ASSEMBLER program as a terminator.

The symbol \* has a special meaning:

10\*=8000

assigns the next code to location 8000 and the ASSEMBLER will continue assembling from this point. The default value has been set at 8033.

The symbol \* may not be used as a variable or label e.g.

HNE \*\*2

will not work (Use HNE 2).

The ASSEMBLER runs through the assembler language program twice, the first time allocating values to variables and labels, the second run produces the print out. In a long program there will be a short pause before the print-out commences.

Comments

Comments should be preceded by a semi-colon.

(i) If the comment follows a normal instruction it should be limited to 35 characters - all characters after this will be ignored.

(ii) If the statement contains only a comment then the print out will be offset to the left. The comment may then be up to 57 characters.

(iii) If the statement contains only a semi-colon then nothing will be printed but a carriage returns/line feed will be sent to the screen or printer. This is useful when it is required to leave a gap between different sections of the program.

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**Op-codes**

All the 6802/7501 op-codes are accepted plus an additional three.

(1) TXT will load all characters after the apostrophe into memory as ASCII codes.

(2) WED OPERAND will load the operand as low then high bytes.

(3) BYT OPERAND will load an OPERAND of value less than 256 as one byte.

BYTE LABEL will load the low byte of LABEL.

BYT LABEL will load the high byte of LABEL.

**Modes**

Different modes are recognised by the following normal convention:

IMPLED and ACC - Op-code with no operand - SEC.

ABSOLUTE - Op-code with absolute operand - LDA#ROL, ZERO-PAGE - Op-code with 8-bit-page operand - LDA#OL.

INDIRECT - Operand in brackets - JMP#MEMZ.

INDEXED - Operand followed by comma then X or Y (Default value is Y) LDA #M.Y.

INDIRECT INDEXED - Brackets Comma - LDA (M.Y).

INDEXED INDIRECT - Brackets Comma + Bracket - LDA#M(X).

IMMEDIATE - before operand - LDA #M.

RELATIVE - Recognised from coding - BCC LABEL.

**Operands**

There are several types of operands.

(1) Base 10 - 5120.

(2) Hex - \$A12B.

(Note: Hex numbers must be preceded by a dollar sign and have either two or four characters e.g. \$E2 not \$2.)

(3) Binary - %10000011

(Note: Binary starts with % and may have up to eight digits of either one or zero.)

(4) ASCII - 'B'

(Note: Start with ' and limited to one character apart from TXT. Care is needed here since the program uses the Basic editor. Statements such as:

HLDA 'T'

are liable to be changed by the Basic editor to HLDA 'PRINT'. The same problem arises with SHIFTED

FIG. 7 ASSEMBLER

38230 FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF	>E11E 4C 44 58 6A 84 9C 51 52
38240 84 00 07 08 2C 08 23 08	>E120 81 84 9C 53 52 4E 4E 4E
38250 80 00 28 08 3F 08 4C 28	>E122 53 52 63 58 4C 39 50 49
38260 8A 41 44 43 42 58 41 44	>E124 5E 4C 53 52 4A 5A 58 49
38270 93 43 74 81 8A 83 84 74	>E126 50 41 8A 4F 52 41 42 00
38280 81 44 43 45 53 41 44 43	>E128 4F 50 41 53 74 8F 52 41
38290 47 51 41 44 43 48 71 41	>E12A 48 74 8F 52 41 45 09 4F
382A0 94 43 49 85 41 44 43 48	>E12C 52 41 47 81 4F 42 41 48
382B0 75 41 48 44 42 28 41 48	>E12E 71 4F 52 41 45 09 4F 52
382C0 94 43 39 81 48 44 84 38	>E130 41 44 75 60 40 41 41 48
382D0 41 42 44 45 29 41 42 44	>E132 50 48 50 41 88 58 40 41
382E0 47 71 81 88 84 88 71 81	>E134 41 68 50 40 60 41 28 58
382F0 45 44 49 25 41 48 44 48	>E136 4F 4C 81 2A 52 47 4C 4C
38300 35 41 85 4C 81 84 81 53	>E138 3E 5C 4F 4C 43 3E 58 4F
38310 4C 42 88 81 53 40 43 1E	>E13A 4C 49 26 53 8F 4C 48 3E
38320 41 53 4C 49 85 41 53 4C	>E13C 52 4F 52 41 5A 52 4F 52
38330 4A 76 82 83 43 81 82 82	>E13E 42 62 62 4F 43 78 52
38340 41 53 41 85 42 45 41 41	>E140 47 52 43 68 52 40 52 48
38350 40 82 69 5A 82 3C 82 48	>E142 75 52 5A 49 41 40 52 48
38360 54 49 24 42 40 49 41 30	>E144 55 41 60 52 42 43 42 52
38370 40 48 49 41 50 42 50 42	>E146 58 42 49 43 8D 53 42 43
38380 41 50 42 52 40 41 80 42	>E148 40 49 53 42 43 8D 53
38390 52 45 41 60 42 64 53 41	>E14A 42 43 47 81 55 42 43 48
383A0 70 42 59 54 00 80 43 40	>E14C 41 52 43 82 43 8D 53 42
383B0 41 41 58 43 44 41 48	>E14E 43 44 75 58 45 43 48
383C0 43 4C 49 81 58 43 40 58	>E150 53 49 44 41 78 53 45 49
383D0 41 85 43 40 50 42 28 43	>E152 41 78 53 54 41 42 83 53
383E0 40 50 43 50 43 50 44	>E154 49 41 43 80 53 54 41 43
383F0 59 43 40 50 45 09 43 43	>E156 49 53 24 41 47 81 53 54
38400 52 47 01 43 40 50 48 41	>E158 41 45 41 63 44 41 49 80
38410 43 40 50 49 05 43 40 50	>E15A 53 24 41 44 55 53 54 58
38420 44 05 43 50 58 40 8C 43	>E15C 42 8E 53 54 49 88 88 93
38430 54 54 49 80 43 50 58 49	>E15E 54 68 88 43 54 58 62
38440 54 43 58 58 42 0C 43 50	>E160 8C 53 54 59 48 84 53 58
38450 44 49 03 43 50 59 79 44	>E162 59 44 84 84 41 68 41 68
38460 44 43 43 42 0E 44 45 43	>E164 54 41 59 41 48 54 53 58
38470 43 08 44 46 45 54 54 54	>E166 41 8A 54 58 41 41 8A 54
38480 45 43 44 58 44 45 58 41	>E168 68 53 41 84 54 58 54 00
38490 54 44 54 59 41 85 46 4F	>E16A 00 54 59 41 41 08 00 80
384A0 42 43 44 49 4F 53 53 53	>E16C 41 40 53 28 20 41 84 84
384B0 45 4F 52 84 59 45 8F 52	>E16E 52 45 53 53 28 48 4F 52
384C0 45 49 45 4F 54 41 81 45	>E170 20 54 45 49 4F 70 50 41
384D0 4F 53 48 51 45 4F 52 45	>E172 47 45 50 42 44 46 46 52
384E0 45 45 4F 52 44 59 49 4C	>E174 45 47 54 62 42 44 48 45
384F0 43 42 88 43 43 43 43 43	>E176 20 20 8F 54 54 28 4F 46
38500 43 48 43 49 46 46 46 43	>E178 52 41 4E 4F 46 30 41
38510 44 85 49 48 58 41 88 49	>E17A 44 84 52 45 53 53 20 4C
38520 48 58 41 08 44 40 50 42	>E17C 49 82 45 20 85 53 24 41
38530 44 48 40 54 46 4C 4A 53	>E17E 52 54 20 44 48 54 54 28
38540 52 43 28 4C 44 41 42 40	>E180 57 59 24 60 27 28 4C
38550 4C 44 41 4C 8C 4C 44 41	>E182 49 4E 45 20 85 4F 54 28
38560 44 89 4C 84 41 85 45 4C	>E184 43 8F 44 85 20 45 52 52
38570 44 47 47 41 4C 44 41 48	>E186 52 41 4E 4F 46 48 48 28
38580 81 42 44 41 49 45 4C 44	>E188 00 58 88 85 46 44 44 44
38590 41 48 85 4C 44 58 42 4E	>E18A 45 44 20 41 44 44 44 45
385A0 4C 44 54 88 4C 44 48 58	>E18C 53 93 30 49 49 48 43 28
385B0 45 43 4C 44 58 45 4E 4E	>E18E 08 00 8F 80 80 80 82 00
385C0 44 58 44 8E 44 44 53 42	>E190 28 03 85 28 20 79 48
385D0 4C 4C 44 53 43 8C 4C 44	>E192 44 28 45 45 4C 3C 44 44
385E0 59 45 43 4C 44 54 49 44	>E194 68 4C 7F 88 20 93 83 08

character - they may disappear altogether. Lines that will give rise to problems should be spotted if the source program is listed before assembling. Lines can be protected by putting brackets marks at the start of the line.

```
EO ~LDA 7
```

would give no problems.

(v) A defined variable or label, e.g. LABEL where LABEL is defined somewhere in the program as indicated earlier.

### Modifications or Operands

Operands may be modified by up to + or - 255 using statements such as:

```
LDA LABEL+2
```

The IMMEDIATE and BYT have a further modification available:

```
LDA LABEL,
```

will load the low byte of LABEL.

```
LDA LABEL,
```

will load the high byte of LABEL.

### BRANCH

A branch opcode, may be followed by an address (variable) where the program will calculate the size of the displacement or alternatively the programmer may calculate the displacement required.

```
BNE LOOP
```

means a branch to LOOP.

```
BNE 6
```

means a branch of +6 from next opcode.

### Errors

Details of errors are printed during assembly and also at the end of the assembly.

The address of labels are also printed at the end of the assembly.

FIG. 8 CHECK PROGRAM

```
100 EQ="EQ00":AsDEC(12)
110 FQ00=0T00:(SUM)
120 GQ00=0D127
130 S00aS00a+P000(A+T)
140 N000
150 F00T000(A1" TO "HE000+127)" "SUM
160 A=0+128
170 N000
```

### Memory Allocation

(i) WEDGE, FIND, MERGE,

ASSEMBLER from \$E00 to \$F000.

(ii) Assembler Source Language program as normal Base from \$001.

(iii) Eight bytes of memory are required to store each label used in the program. The labels are stored in RAM following the source program.

Details of errors are stored after the labels, each error needing three bytes of storage. No out of memory error has been incorporated in the ASSEMBLER program.

(iv) A small part of the cassette tape buffer is used by the program, namely \$010 to \$01F. This area should not be used for program location.

(v) There is a protected area above ASSEMBLER which could be used for

machine code programs. This area is from \$160 to \$1CF.

### SAVING and LOADING

The inbuilt Plus/4 monitor may be used to save machine code programs e.g.

```
"PROGRAM" $,7000,7100
```

would save from \$7000 to \$7100 under the name PROGRAM on to disk.

To load from disk use LOAD "PROGRAM" \$,1.

Source code programs may be saved and loaded as normal basic programs.

That's it! Try it, you should find it very useful. BT

FIG. 9 CHECK VALUES

E000 TO E040	17871	E000 TO E040	14846
E050 TO E0CF	16139	E050 TO E0CF	13243
E0D0 TO E0FF	14648	E0D0 TO E0FF	14620
E100 00 E1CF	17870	E100 TO E1CF	14646
E1D0 00 E1FF	15981	E1D0 TO E1FF	14615
E200 TO E2CF	14688	E200 TO E2CF	14667
E300 TO E3FF	14208	E300 TO E3FF	16263
E400 TO E4CF	12862	E400 TO E4CF	16618
E500 TO E5FF	13496	E500 TO E5FF	16295
E600 TO E6CF	9448	F100 TO F1CF	17010
E6D0 TO E6FF	11368	F1D0 TO F1FF	17846
E700 TO E7CF	11280	F200 00 F2CF	16901
E7D0 TO E7FF	11080	F2D0 00 F2FF	16904
E800 TO E8CF	10127	F300 TO F3CF	15800
E8D0 TO E8FF	11079	F3D0 TO F3FF	15104
E900 TO E9CF	8313	F400 TO F4CF	14908
E9D0 TO E9FF	16240	F4D0 TO F4FF	10203
E000 TO E0CF	16305		

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# Graphic Environment Operating System

*Windows, Icons and Menus all form part of the new easy to use operating system that you can add to your C64 with GEOS.*

*By Stuart Cooke*

When first introduced to computers, people shrank in horror at the sheer number of commands that you need to know before you can get your computer to work. Take a look at the C64 with its complicated disk commands which no genuine to computer is going to remember straight away. It is therefore not surprising that someone has at long last come up with a product that will make communication between you, your C64 and its Commodore disk drive a lot easier and much more pleasant.

GEOS replaces many of the usual typed commands with a series of pictures, called icons, making handling of your input much easier. For example instead of having to type in the usual LOAD "name", device, secondary-address command as you normally would with a C64 program you simply have to move your pointer to the icon or 'picture' of the program that you require, select it by pressing the button, next choose LOAD from the appropriate menu and it's away you go.

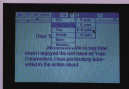
Not only does GEOS improve your

communication with your computer but rather it gives you access to a whole host of facilities. For example you have faster disk access, a desk top which offers you facilities such as calendars and alarm clocks and a calculator. With the software supplied you also get a graphics program called *painter* - GEOPAIN\* and a pseudo Wordprocessor called GEOWRITE.

Perhaps the best way to describe the operation of the program is to refer to the pictures accompanying this review.







Once you have loaded GEOS into your C64 you will be greeted with a display similar to that in photograph 1. The large area in the center of the screen shows what programs are on the disk in the drive - or rather a portion of the files on disk. If you look at the bottom corner of this "page" you will find a "drag-out", move your pointer to this and the next page of programs on the disk is shown. If you examine the screen shot more closely you will see that each of the files has a different picture associated with it. This enables you to see at a glance what type of program each one is. For example the picture with the palette is a graphics program - easy isn't it?

Whenever you start a program while using GEOS the date and time that it was SAVEd is noted together with a small amount of text if you like. As you may already know it is possible to protect files on a C64 disk, however Commodore didn't give any easy way to use this extremely useful facility... with GEOS you can now protect and unprotect files with ease.

Any C64 disk can be used with GEOS. Should you use one that hasn't been set up for use with GEOS, all of the files will be given the symbol of an index card with a standard Commodore logo on it. This symbolizes an old-style C64 program. You do have the option of turning your disks into GEOS disks and this doesn't alter the contents of your disk at all but does take up some room. Changing a disk writing GEOS is also extremely easy. Move the pointer to the disk LOGO and press the button, the file now displayed on the screen will be those that are on the current disk in the drive.

Across the top of the area that is

used to illustrate the contents of the disk currently being used you will find a series of Menus. Should you move the pointer to one of these, the menu will "pull down" and the various options available are shown. Photograph 2 shows the GEOS menu. As you can see each menu has a number of different commands available, I will deal with each one in turn so that you know what is available.

## GEOS

This menu is used to access a number of different disk accessories. You needn't have all of those available on the disk you are using, after all if you never use the calculator option then you may as well remove it from the disk directory so that you get more room for program storage. The options available on the standard GEOS disk when you select this menu are the PREFERENCE MANAGER which allows you to change the actual colours that are being used on the screen. You can alter the speed at which the pointer moves and you can also alter the design of the pointer. The preference menu is also where you set up the clock and the date for use within the program.

A calculator is also available which offers 11 functions. You can either point to the numbers on the calculator that appears on the screen when you choose this option or you can simply use the keys, which is far quicker.

A notepad with 127 pages is available for jotting down those important telephone messages and the text and photo managers allow you to transfer little pieces of artwork and text around different programs.

The printer that you are using is also selected from the GEOS menu. You must use a printer with graphics capability with GEOS since any printout is actually produced on a graphics dump rather than using the printer characters set. This is a lot slower than printing straight text but does allow you to use numerous type styles and different fonts.

While on the subject of printers it is worth pointing out that to print any file you simply need to point to it and then move the now highlighted file to the printer icon at the bottom of the screen, the file will now be printed. If you should wish to erase a file simply move the picture to the trash bin instead.

## File

The file menu is where you can start to manipulate your disk files. First on the list of commands from this menu is OPEN which simply LOADS and RUNS the selected file. DUPLICATE allows you to copy an existing file to one of a new name but on the same disk. Copying programs between disks is extremely simple. Select the file that you wish to copy. Move its icon below the file display area. Close the source disk and remove it from the disk drive. Place the new disk into the drive select OPEN from the disk menu move the icon of the file back into the display area and hit **print!** One copied file.

RENAME, as its name suggests, allows you to alter the name of any files on your disk. PRINT is the same as dragging the file to the printer - it prints out the contents of the selected file.

The INFO command is extremely interesting as it allows you to examine

specific information about the files on disk this information includes:

Name of the disk where the file is located.

The type of file - system, application etc.

The permanent internal name of file.

The file structure.

The size of the file.

The date and time that the program was last modified.

The name of the programmer.

Whether the program is write protected or not.

## View

This option allows you to select the way in which the files are displayed in the display area. One choice available is ICONS, which displays the programs with their icons, as in photos 1 and 2. You can also display the files alphabetically by name, in the order of last modification by size or by the file type.

## Disk

This is where GEOS allows you to perform your general maintenance upon your disks. The first option in the menu is OPEN. This will read the disk that is currently in the drive and display the directories on the screen in the format specified in the view option. CLOSE is the opposite to this command and you should always CLOSE a disk before you remove it from the drive.

Copying a whole disk is made possible with the COPY command. This disk copy is intended only for two drive systems and works extremely quickly. Single drive users can still use the command and they will be

prompted to swap disks by the program, this may however take 25 swaps to copy a full disk. A BACKUP utility program is provided on the GEOS disk which will need only three disks (swap so is obviously much better).

A new disk obviously needs to be formatted before use. The FORMAT command allows you to do this with ease.

Quite often it is useful to be able to change the name that appears at the top of your disks. The RENAME command allows you to do this.

When you have used a disk for quite some time it is useful to be able to tidy the disk up and check it for errors. Normally you would use the standard Commodore Validate command to perform this. The VALIDATE option in the DISK menu performs the same task.

When you first boot GEOS into the computer it is set up for single disk operation. The ADD DISK option enables you to use a second drive with GEOS, adding greater flexibility to the system and requiring fewer disk swaps.

## Special

This is the menu that allows you to escape from GEOS. The options available allow you to perform a RESET of GEOS and reinsert the disk. BASIC returns you into standard Commodore Basic. To reload GEOS you simply have to make sure that the original GEOS is in the drive and hit the RESTORE key. This however will only work if you haven't run any programs that use the area of memory at which the GEOS bootstrap sits (ROM).

The final option isn't of that much interest to UK users as it boots up a

communications program called QLINK. It is important to point out that QLINK is for use with an American communications system and cannot be used in the UK.

## The Programs

As well as providing an exceptionally friendly front end for disk users, GEOS also comes complete with two extremely powerful programs GEOWRITE and GEGPAINT. Many people have referred to GEOWRITE as a wordprocessor but I think that this is going a little far. What GEOWRITE does do is allow you to enter text into your C64 in one of a number of selectable fonts, include pictures that you have produced with GEGPAINT and then dump the whole thing to your printer. Missing from the program are all of the usual things that you would expect from a wordprocessor such as search and replace, variable page lengths, different line spacing etc, though you can change margins and tabs as on a typewriter.

GEOWRITE is extremely easy to use and should present no problems to anyone who would like to print out a letter or document. To start up the program you simply have to OPEN the GEOWRITE program by using the pointer (hit a quick double press on the button while pointing to the program performs the same function), you will then be asked if you want to create a new file or wish to edit an existing one, again all answers are input via the pointer and controller. Once the necessary information has been entered you will find yourself in GEOWRITE staring at the text editing window.

Because the C84 does not display on its screen as many characters as a



printer produces the screen acts as a window over a large piece of paper scrolling as you move around the page. The ability to save text where you want is particularly important when you want to add pictures that you have created from within GEOPAIN. When entering text you do not have to worry about the positioning of words as you would when using a typewriter as the program has an automatic word-wrap facility. This means that if a word will not fit on a line then the computer will automatically start it on the next line of the display for you. Across the top of your document you will see a similar menu to that found when using GEOS as a 'float edit' for your disks. As before you have the GEOS menu which offers you all of your desk top facilities such as calculator etc.

FILE allows you to perform such operations as SAVING the file to memory for later use or simply updating the copy of the file that is on disk so that you can carry on working knowing that what you have already done is safely on disk.

No matter how proficient a typist you are or how good a writer, you are bound to make some mistakes, thus the EDIT command. This option allows you to navigate whole sections of text from the program or simply copy it elsewhere, this is extremely handy for re-organising the structure of your document. Inserting text into a document is also extremely easy, simply move the pointer to the place where you would like to insert and it's away you go!

The options menu has some extremely powerful commands within it. The first of these is the PREVIEW PAGE option. This draws on the screen a high-res picture of what the page will look like. Since the page is greatly reduced this isn't usually legible but it does give you an idea of what your finished page looks like so that you can move things around if necessary.

The second important option is HIDE PICTURES. As previously mentioned, you can insert pictures from GEOPAIN into your text. However, every time a picture is displayed on screen it is fetched from disk showing down the whole operation until it is almost unbearable. With this command all pictures are erased from the screen until PRINT or SHOW PICTURES is selected.

## Fonts

Numerous fonts are available for use with the wordprocessor and many of these are available in different sizes. For examples of the text available take a look at Figure 1 which contains a printout of some of the text. As well as being able to alter the type and size of the fonts you can also alter the style in which they are printed. The options available are SOLID i.e. normal face, BOLD ITALIC, OUTLINE and UNDERLINE. Again, these are shown in Figure 1.

GEOPAIN is extremely easy to use though it does have a couple of 'quirks'. For example if you select a new font and start typing, it takes a while for the program to load the new font from disk and then catch you up. This quite often means that you have typed a lot of text that the program has not printed, the way around this is simply to take time when changing fonts.

Typing letters and documents can now be made more interesting by adding text styles and graphics. However, I don't think that you would find too many people who would like to use this program on an every day basis as wordprocessor, too many functions are missing. It is however great fun.

## Geopaint

This program, supplied with GEOS, allows you to create your own charts tables or other graphics for inclusion within any text or you can even design pictures that will occupy a full sheet of printer paper. The program has two modes of operation, 16 colour mode and mono mode. The colour mode allows you to access the full colour capabilities of the C64, any printout being produced in shades of grey. The mono mode allows just two colours which is far better and clearer for pictures that are to be printed out. After all a printer only has two colours, black and white. If you have ever used a graphics program that you will be pleased to know that all of the options that you would expect from a professional graphics program are present.

A pencil is used for this detailed lines around the screen and a brush is used for painting in large areas. When using a brush it is possible to select the actual shape that the brush takes and what pattern it leaves behind it. A computer brush doesn't need to leave a solid wash of paint, it can leave behind it textures such as checks or bricks. In fact any of 32 different patterns. Should you simply want to shade an area of your drawing, then the



airbrush is probably what you require. This places random dots all the screen, the longer you hold it on a particular area the more dots you get.

Filling in areas of the screen is made particularly easy with the fill option. Point to the picture of the tap and then to any area on the screen and the area will be rapidly filled with the current pattern. This fill is extremely fast and is one of the best that I have seen in a C64 graphics program.

Options exist for drawing straight lines, the measurements of which are given at the bottom of the screen in a handy readout. There is also a ruler option that allows you to measure distances on the screen, again the figures appear at the bottom of the screen.

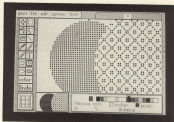
## Shapes

Options exist for producing squares and circles with either filled or open centres and both are extremely quick. It would have been nice to see options for other shapes as well such as triangles or ellipses although you can draw these with the pencil and lines option, should you need them, and then fill them in using the fill option.

Not only can you copy a picture into a text file but you can also subtract into a picture. This is useful for adding text to graphics, labelling pictures or simply leaving your mark on your latest masterpiece. As with the wordprocessor you can choose the text style and font that you require. All text is entered in rectangular text regions. The actual dimensions of the region being under your control. You can even move a region and alter its dimensions when it has text in it, the text reformatting itself to fit the new area.

## Don't Panic

As with all good graphics programs, a safety device is available which will recover the state of your picture before the last command. This is extremely useful if you make a mistake such as filling in your whole picture with a pattern. Also, whenever the viewing area of the page is moved, the whole picture is stored to disk so you can usually get a fairly recent version of your artwork back from disk with the RECOVER option. Should you make small errors then you can use the erase to rub them out.



## Getting Larger

A zoom facility is available which makes it extremely easy to add fine detail to your picture. One extremely nice touch is the way that you can always see an actual size picture of any enlarged area at the bottom of the screen.

## Areas

It is possible to manipulate rectangular areas of the screen in a number of ways. You can invert them, rotate them, copy them, move them and even wipe them clear.

As with the Wordprocessor only a small area of the screen is displayed at once, the PREVIEW option again displays the whole page in small detail so that you can see what the finished product looks like.

GEOPaint is one of the better graphics programs that I have used. The fact that you can only see a small area of the screen is a bit of a hindrance at first but is quite easy when you get used to it. The fact that you only see a small area of the screen at once does mean that you can get more detail into your pictures than is available with most other graphics programs since they generally only work with an area the size of the screen.

## Verdict

GEOS provides an extremely easy user interface for the C64 and a disk drive. Myself, I would probably prefer to use

the old style Commodore commands for LOADING and RUNNING disk programs, though I must admit I have been using them for quite some time. Having shown GEOS to a number of computer novices it is clear that they found GEOS both quick and easy to use. The programs supplied are extremely powerful and should provide both experienced users and people who are just playing around with some quite satisfying and professional results.

GEOS doesn't end here however. As I have noted it is really a new way of communicating with your C64 and disk drive. Numerous new programs are in the pipeline that will be based around the GEOS front end. These include a professional wordprocessor and database, a host of new fonts and a set of new disk utilities including a calendar generator, an editor that will allow you to change the icons to suit your own applications, an art grabber that will allow you to map graphics with other commercial programs and even a game of Blackjack.

If the forthcoming programs can manage to maintain the same ease of use as the ones provided with the program, then GEOS is certainly a winner. ☺

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## Caption Competition

**N**ew software houses, Codemasters (see Data Statements) seem to be having a bit of trouble keeping up with life in the fast lane of the software industry!

Sharings Richard, Jim and David look as if they're heading for some thrills and spills. The imaginative editor in *Your Commodore* couldn't think of a caption to go with this picture so we decided to let our inspired readers have a go at this knotty problem. If you think of the best one then you'll get a crispy five for your trouble which you may not want to spend on Codemasters software. Send your entry to *Your Commodore* Caption Competition, 1 Golden Square, London W1B 1AB. Closing date: Monday 29 December 1988.

## Dope!

**I**n the November issue of the magazine we stated that it was possible to SAVE the Disk Utility which was on the free cassette on to your disk by simply pressing RUN/STOP and RESTORE and then performing a normal SAVE operation. However, it appears that the turbo which was used to generate the cassette has altered some of the pointers within the program making it impossible to SAVE using the above method. Should you wish to make a copy of the program on your own disk then you can use either of the following methods:

1) Use a machine code monitor to SAVE the program out. The start address of the program is \_\_\_\_\_ and the end address



## Have You Won?

**H**ere are the 20 winners of our Global Software Competition. The five top prize winners are: Mario Kirov, Mehta, Malta; D Louie, BEME; Mark Outman, Derby; Mark Parvis, Morpeth; Vasilios Vangelis, Athens. They will all receive a copy of *Magician's Ball* from Global Software plus a copy of *Global's Caretaker* program. The 15 runners up will receive a copy of *Magician's Ball*. They are: J. Naud, Orban, Belgium; Chris

Garbutt, Baddlow; Steven Collins, Kettering; Salim Patel, Donabury; Ray Martin, Birmingham; Michael Isaacs, Leeds; Tony Carter, Devonport; Louise Copeland, Clacton-on-Sea; Richard Drivas, Carlow; Simon McManis, Ravenhead; S.E. Williams, Sheffield; Wayne McCormack, J.M.J. White, Belfast; Steven Dickinson, Devonport; Mark Flowerley, Malton.

2) This is the easiest method if you don't understand machine code. When the program is running press the RUN/STOP and RESTORE keys at the same time. The computer will now return to the READY prompt. Now enter the following line:

```
POKE43,1:POKE44,5:POKE45,12:
POKE46,78:SAVE"Diskana".d
```

you will now have a copy of the program on disk.

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 Assistant Editor: Marie Curry  
 Editorial Assistant: Stuart Kirkham  
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