



"CURSOR"



The official Newsletter of the
COMMODORE COMPUTER USERS GROUP [QLD]

SEPTEMBER 1984

VOL.1 NO.3

CLUB ROOMS *MILTON STATE SCHOOL, BAYSWATER ROAD, MILTON*

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Diary for October

Group meeting on Tuesday, 2nd October 1984, at 7.30 pm in our club rooms. Visitors are welcome!

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

A panel of experts (!!!) will endeavour to answer all your questions, be they programming or equipment questions.

Experts urgently required!

Workshop meeting on Sunday, 14th October 1984, from 1 pm till 5 pm in our club rooms. To get the maximum benefit from the workshop it is recommended that you bring your own computer equipment.

Please note that workshop meetings are for members only!

Regional Meetings

Cannon Hill Sub-branch meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 7.30 pm, in the Cannon Hill State School. For further information ring Barry Wilson (VIC-20) at 399 6204 or Augy Norman (C-64) at 399 2080, after hours.

Springwood Sub-branch meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm, in the Springwood Pre-School, Dennis Rd., Springwood. Contact Terry Steer at 200 5926 (after hours) for further details.

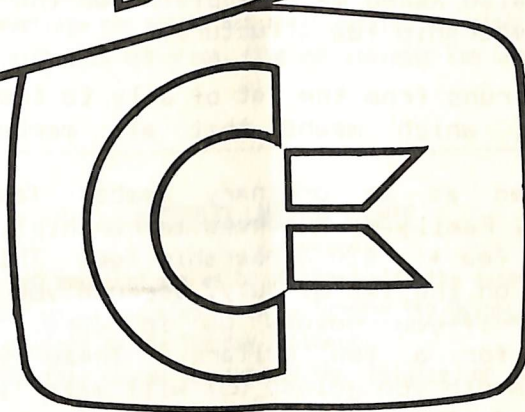
Pine Rivers Sub-branch meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month (1 pm - 5 pm) at the Strathpine High School (rear entrance). Ring Clayton Lancaster at 285 4157 (after hours) for further information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Copying of Commercial Software is *not allowed* at our meetings or workshops.

Failure to comply with this regulation will result in loss of membership!

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EDITORIAL

For the benefit of our new members the group has now produced a two-page leaflet which details all the different facilities and services our group has to offer.

It is our intention to send these out with all new membership cards, but if you have recently joined us, and you are not really too sure what we have to offer, see our treasurer for a copy of this leaflet.

Our treasurer has also asked me to explain for the benefit of our new members the membership fee structure.

Our financial year runs from the 1st of July to the 30th of June of the following year, which means that all membership fees are collected in July.

If you have joined as an ordinary member (as distinct from Pensioner, Country, Family or Business membership), you would have paid a \$10 joining fee + a \$20 membership fee. This is great if you have joined us on the 1st of July, because you are covered for 12 months. However if you joined us in June, you would have received a bill for a few dollars. These varying amounts (depending on the month you joined us) will make you a financial member up to the end of our financial year.

So, if you have a bill for an amount of less than the annual membership fee, you can make our treasurer's life a little bit less miserable by sending him your contribution! Our computerised data-base will automatically delete unfinancial members, thus forcing you to pay another joining fee if you wish to continue your membership.

Don't forget to read the wise words of our president on Library Facilities!

In next month's issue of CURSOR we will publish the first listing of Public Domain Software available to our members.

Ralph De Vries

NOTES & GOSSIPBUSINESS SUB-GROUP

At our September meeting it was decided to form a new Business Sub-Group.

The aim of this sub-group is to discuss and evaluate both Software and Hardware which is particularly useful in a business environment.

We hope to arrange actual demonstrations of business software and discuss the pro's and con's of the article in question, thus avoiding a lot of unnecessary expense and frustration.

Some of the programs to be evaluated will include Ledger programs, Stock (Inventory) Control programs, Data Bases, Spread Sheets, Word Processors - in fact any type of program to simplify and speed up the every day running of a small business.

It is hoped to have two meetings per month, but final details are still to be worked out. If you are interested in joining this sub-group, ring our convener Ken Charters at 208 2753 after working hours.

ASSEMBLER LANGUAGE COURSE

Sufficient students have now enrolled for us to go ahead with the assembler language course.

The first course gets underway at our club rooms on Tuesday 9th October at 7.30 pm in Room 3., and then further weekly sessions on the Tuesday following.

Those who have not paid the full course fee can pay the balance on the first night of the course.

Late bookings will still be accepted. Ring Steinar Johansen for further details on 207 3065, after working hours.

Our Strathpine Sub-Group is starting a BASIC COURSE. Ring Clayton Lancaster for further details.

BASIC COURSES are also run at Ithaca TAFE. Ring the college for further details.

Do you read "Compute's Gazette"? It is probably the best magazine for Commodore users on the market. They are also starting a BASIC COURSE for beginners in the October 1984 issue.

COMAL, another computer language is now in the library on disk for the C-64. See our librarian for further details.

Owners of CARDPRINT+6 interfaces: Did you receive a CARDPRINT+A instruction book with an insert for the +6 model? We returned our guarantee card to the manufacturer in the USA, and requested an updated instruction book. This finally arrived, and turned out to be a huge improvement on the original set of instructions.

If you have not done so return that guarantee card to the manufacturer. It is well worth it!

Have you ever heard of Mount Carmel College in Charters Towers? Their Computer Club is a member of our group. In a recent issue of "The Australian" (21-8-84) a substantial article was devoted to this college and their computer programme. They have 16 VIC's and 16 C-64's at the college, so the name Commodore is not unknown up there! Mike Calder is their computer and math teacher, and is doing his bit for computer literacy.

Greetings to all you computer buffs in Charters Towers from H.O.!

We would love to hear from you and your students Mike, and if we can be of assistance, well you know our address!

DESIGN A COMPUTER WORK BENCH

We would like to see if some of our members could design a sensible computer work bench (table). Most commercially available computer benches are impractical and too dear.

If anybody would like to have a go at designing a bench (preferably in timber - not many home handymen can handle steel), we hereby give you some design parameters which we consider a must:

- 1: A sensible working height for the keyboard and monitor (or TV set).
- 2: Room for at least 2 disk drives (or 1 disk drive and 1 cassette recorder).
#NOTE: keep the disk drives away from magnetic fields of monitor!
- 3: Room for printer - note the following conditions for positioning a printer:
 - A: It should be at eye level, so that you can read it while it is printing.
 - B: It should allow for paper feed from bulk supply.
 - C: Fairly close to disk drives because of cables and possible interfaces.
- 4: Adequate space for making notes or allow a program listing to be read comfortably.
- 5: Storage space for notes, accessories etc.
- 6: The total package to cost no more than \$100.00!

We realize that this design is rather a tall order, but you may already have come up with a design that improves on these specifications.

A prize will be donated for the best (and most economical) design.

Forward your entries (not necessarily working drawings, a sketch plan will do) to our newsletter editor.

NEW OPERATING RULES FOR THE LIBRARIES

Has anyone ever given a thought to the dedicated souls who operate the club's library facilities? You know, those people who get imprisoned behind a desk and are normally surrounded by almost impenetrable masses of people at the main meetings. And who, incidently, rarely manage to get to any of the lectures or demonstrations. Anyone thought what these people actually get out of the club? Not a lot, mostly complaints.

The librarians desperately need assistance at the main Tuesday meeting. Anyone willing to give up an hour or so of their time please contact the librarians at the meetings.

In an attempt primarily designed to relieve the burden placed on the librarians, but also to hopefully lead to a fairer and more efficient service, we have reorganized (what, again!) the rules for using the libraries. As of the October meeting, the following rules shall apply for a trial period of three months:

The meetings will run according to the following timetable (hopefully!)

- 7.15 - 7.45 Libraries open for
Return all borrowed items.
Perousal and reserving of loans.
- 7.45 - 8.30 Main meeting
Libraries closed
- 8.30 - 9.00 Libraries open for borrowing.
- 8.45/9.00 - Lectures/ demonstrations

The main change to the software libraries is that public domain disk software should now be obtained preferentially by MAIL ORDER from the librarian. Lists of all the disk software will be available at the next meeting and can be obtained by S.A.E. from the librarian. At present, we do not have adequate mass supplies of the documentation for all the programs but this will be available in the near future. Items will be provided for loan or sale only to club members who are financial and have paid their library deposits.

SUB-BRANCHES: Members who attend the sub-branch meetings and cannot attend the main meetings should contact their local area organisers who will have special access to the libraries to borrow on their behalf.

COUNTRY MEMBERS and AFFILIATED USER GROUPS: Country members and affiliated user groups should contact the librarians or myself if special arrangements are required. Unfortunately, the full book/magazine library is only accessible from the main meeting, but special arrangements can be made for country members.

(cont'd)

Disk Library: Librarian Cliff Pottinger Phone 277 4520
31 Wapping St, Acacia Ridge, 4110

Blank Disks (flavor of the month, but single sided, double density) at \$30.00 per box of 10 incl. library case available by mail order (plus 2.00 p&p) or at the main meetings.

Public Domain club disks may be obtained by mail order (a maximum of two disks per order) from the Librarian for \$5.00 per disk (incl. p&p). Copies WILL NOT be sold at the meetings.

Disks may also be obtained by either copying them yourself on your own equipment at the Sunday workshop meetings, or, if absolutely necessary, a copy of most disks may be borrowed from the Librarian at the main meeting and return either by post or at the next monthly meeting.

Public Domain Education Disks and Assembler Development Kit may be purchased by mail from the Librarian for \$5.00 per disk (incl. p&p). A.D.K \$15.00 per three disks.

** NOTE: Special rates available for all club software for bulk orders from schools **

Commercial Disk Software:

Borrow ONE item per member for maximum period of one month from the Librarian at the main monthly meeting. Return by the next meeting at the latest ***

Tape Library: Librarian Terry Steer Phone 200 5926

Purchase copies of the tapes for \$3.00 (incl p&p) either from Terry at the main meeting or by mail order.

VIC Library: Librarian Julianne Fallen Phone 30 2982

Borrow/purchase items at the Tuesday or Sunday meetings or by prior arrangement. ****

Book Library: Librarian Cliff Yule Phone 356 7571

Borrow books/magazines at main meeting for maximum period of one month only. ****

**** Please return items by mail if they cannot be returned at the next meeting. Action will be taken to recover items not returned on time.

We hope this will be satisfactory for most members. However, any member who feels they are/may be disadvantaged by this system should contact either the librarian concerned or myself and we will try to make special arrangements.

GREG PERRY

STARTING WITH DISK DRIVES

Part 5 - Track 18

We have been bowling along happily, and you should be doing great things (well, housekeeping anyway) with your disk drive(s) by now. The next command, Rename, will help some more.

Rename lets you give a file a new name with little effort. Why do this? OK, you have a program named GRAPPLE on disk, but for reasons known only to yourself want to name it 6ZYT3*KPW20. By the look of that, let's leave it that way. With WEDGE, you would say-

```
>R:6ZYT3*KPW20=GRAPPLE
```

with the new name being put in place ("=") of the old. This changes the bytes on the directory track where the name is stored.

Speaking of directories, the Validate command is next, so its time to start looking at the mysteries of Track 18. We will ignore everything except Sector 0 for now. So, here comes BAM.

BAM stands for Block Allocation Map. This is not a map in the traditional sense, but a series of bytes that store information about which sectors are in use, and which are not. Every time you store something on disk, the BAM is rewritten to mark the fact that you have used some sectors. In the same way, when you Scratch a file, the BAM takes account of this.

Well, that's the theory, and it works most of the time. But every so often, things go awry and the BAM gets out of kilter. Add up the number of blocks used (the left hand column in a directory listing). Subtract the result from 664 (the number of blocks on a disk, excluding 19 set aside for the directory track). This should be equal to the "blocks free" shown at the foot of each directory. If not, you need to validate the disk-

```
>V (or >V0 or >V1)
```

To my mind, this command is largely forgettable - except for one very important time. Read what follows carefully, as it could save you from losing the contents of a disk.

Sometimes (and the reasons vary) a file may not close properly. To show you this, DOS puts a '*' in front of the file type in the directory-

```
10 "YOURFILE" *PRG
```

DO NOT IGNORE THIS TIMEBOMB!

The BAM will not be upset (yet), but the Scratch command cannot erase the file from disk storage or the directory. Validate is your salvation. The old BAM is thrown away, and DOS looks up every active file, traces through the file noting each sector in use, and builds a new BAM as it goes. Unclosed files are ignored in the process, so the block count is accurate. Better still, the unclosed file is removed so that it will do no further damage to disk order.

If you DD ignore it, it is likely that the organisation of the particular disk will deteriorate until you can no longer read it.

While looking at Track 18 Sector 0, the rest of the sector holds the disk name and ID that you gave it, plus the DOS version (2A for a 1541). If you peek around 18/0, you may find a few 'funnies' from time to time. I have found things like 'BLOCKS FREE.' written there, when the words really have no business in that block.

While on the subject of Track 18, we could go on and talk (endlessly) about the directory proper. But as this series is to help you get started, I will keep deeper discussion for a later series. But WEDGE can be used very effectively to work with directories, so let's look at the major wedge directory commands.#1n2

You will have worked out how to read a directory by loading it into memory as a program file-

```
LOAD"$.8  
then LIST
```

This has the effect of wiping out any program you might have had in memory, as the directory is treated just like any other program. WEDGE treats you more considerately. Using WEDGE syntax, the directory can be listed to the screen only, so your program in memory is not disturbed-

```
>$ or >%0 or >%1
```

If the screen listing goes too fast, pause it with the space bar (tap it again to restart the listing). If you want to quit reading the directory, the 'STOP' key is handy. If you have Version 5.2 (DOS 5.2 is the usual name) you can save typing by pressing '=' then RETURN. A truly lazy routine!

That's it for this time. The next helping will tell you about some of the cute tricks available for manipulating the directory with WEDGE.

PAUL BLAIR

1520 UTILITY

Joe Bowman

If you own a 1520 plotter/printer and are, like me, attempting to use it with a CBM 64 and Word Processor you are probably infuriated at having to set up the plotting size, colour, etc before you can load your word processor.

Here is a little utility program that will allow you to set up the plotter easily and will then load in your word processor, database etc. It is menu driven and, I hope, mostly foolproof (famous last words).

It can also be used on a VIC 20 by changing the screen layout to fit, don't worry about the pokes in the last section, they are to the keyboard buffer which is the same on both machines.

```

1 rem 1520 plotter initialise routine by joe bowman.
2 rem -----
3 rem using this spacing gives a nice screen display
5 rem "" = [clr] = clear screen, "" = [down] = cursor down
7 a=0: a$="": b=0: b$=""
8 print"          1520 plotter utility": rem [clr] [down]
9 print"          -----"
10 print"                  menu"
11 print"                  ----"
12 print"          1 = reset plotter": rem [down]
13 print"          2 = select colour": rem [down]
14 print"          3 = select text size": rem [down]
15 print"          4 = upper/lower case": rem [down]
16 print"          5 = character rotation": rem [down]
17 print"          6 = sample print": rem [down]
18 print"          7 = load next program": rem [down]
19 print"          8 = all": rem [down]
20 print"          9 = end": rem [down]
22 getb$: ifb$=""then 22
25 b=val(b$)
30 ifb=1 then gosub 100: b=0
35 ifb=2 then gosub 200: b=0
40 ifb=3 then gosub 300: b=0
50 ifb=4 then gosub 400: b=0
55 ifb=5 then gosub 500: b=0
56 ifb=6 then gosub 600
58 ifb=7 then gosub 700
60 ifb=8 then gosub100:gosub200:gosub300:gosub400:gosub500:gosub600:
   gosub700:b=0
65 ifb=9 then print"": end: rem [clr]
70 goto 7

```

```
100 print " reset plotter": rem [clr] [down]
110 print" reset plotter"
111 print " -----": rem [down]
120 print " 0 = reset": rem [down]
130 print " 1 = leave as is"
140 geta$: ifa$="" then 140
150 a=val(a$)
160 ifa=1 then 180
170 open7,6,7: print#7: close7
180 return
200 print " select colour": rem [clr] [down]
201 print " -----": rem [down]
210 print " 0 = black": rem [down]
220 print " 1 = blue": rem [down]
230 print " 2 = green ": rem [down]
240 print " 3 = red   ": rem [down]
245 print " 4 = leave as is: rem [down]
250 geta$: ifa$="" then 250
260 a=val(a$)
270 ifa=4 then 290
280 open2,6,2: print#2,a: close2
290 return
300 print " select no of characters per line": rem [clr] [down]
301 print " -----": rem [down]
310 print " 0 = 80": rem [down]
320 print " 1 = 40": rem [down]
330 print " 2 = 20": rem [down]
340 print " 3 = 10": rem [down]
345 print " 4 = leave as is": rem [down]
350 geta$: ifa$="" then 350
360 a=val(a$)
370 ifa=4 then 390
380 open3,6,3: print#3,a: close3
390 return
400 print " upper lower case": rem [clr] [down]
401 print " -----": rem [down]
410 print " 0 = normal upper/shifted lower": rem [down]
420 print " 1 = normal lower/shifted upper": rem [down]
430 print " 2 = leave as is": rem [down]
450 geta$: ifa$="" then 450
460 a=val(a$)
470 ifa=>2 then 490
480 open6,6,6: print#6,a: close6
490 return
500 print" character orientation": rem [clr] [down]
501 print " -----": rem [down]
510 print " 0 = normal across the page,vertical": rem [down]
520 print " 1 = normal along the page,horizontal": rem [down]
530 print " 2 = leave as is": rem [down]
550 geta$: ifa$="" then 550
560 a=val(a$)
570 ita=> 3 then 590
580 open44,6,4: print#44,a: close44
590 return
```

```
600 print " sample printer test": rem [clr] [down]
601 print " -----"
610 print " 0 = print": rem [down]
620 print " 1 = do'nt print": rem [down]
650 geta$: ifa$="" then 650
660 a=val(a$)
670 ifa=>1 then 690
675 open4,6,0
680 print#4, "The quick Brown fox jumped over the lazy dog": rem [hash]
[t] [b]
685 close4
690 return
700 c$="": d=0
701 print " load next program": rem [clr] [down]
705 print " -----"
707 print "if you made a mistake enter the name 'wally': rem [down]
710 print "what is it's name": rem [down]
720 input x$
721 ifx$= "wally" then return
730 print "disk or tape"
731 getd$: ifd$="d" then d=8: goto800
732 ifd$="t" then d=1: goto750
733 goto 731
750 print "load"chr$(34)x$chr$(34)", "d", "1": rem [clr] [home]
760 poke631,145: poke632,145: poke633,145: poke634,145: poke635,13:
    poke198,13
770 stop: rem should never be reached
800 print "place the disk in the drive and then press a key": rem [down]
810 geta$: ifa$="" then 810
815 open15,8,15: print#15,"i": close15
820 goto 750
```

The above article has been taken over from the May 1984 issue of the ICPUG Newsletter.

CBM-64 NOTESBOOK REVIEWS:

COMMODORE 64 GETTING THE MOST FROM IT

Author: TIM ONOSKO Publishers: ROBERT J BRADY Co. (PRENTICE HALL)

Rec. Retail Price: \$23.95

Our copy by courtesy of the publishers.

This book in it's 300+ pages is probably one of the best books for the first time computer user, and as such a huge improvement on the Users Manual supplied with the 64.

The first three chapters are all about setting the computer up and get it running, plus a lot of useful information besides. The next four chapters are all about Basic programming, and certainly cover the basics (no pun intended). No general instruction book can give you a complete course in Basic programming, but this introduction is as good as any, and better than a lot of others.

Chapter 8 covers Word Processing, and chapter 9 goes into more details of colour, graphics, sound and games.

Chapter 10 goes beyond Basic, and covers quite a few additional aspects of our favourite computer.

There follow five chapters of appendices, including one by Jim Butterfield on the computer's memory, and two very good ones on graphics and sound.

The book is well sprinkled with programs with listings which for once are easy to read and type in.

Although I will not pretend to have read every C-64 introduction book, I have no hesitation in claiming it to be one of the best all-round introductions to the C-64. Proof required? I bought my own copy three months ago!

Ralph De Vries

"PROGRAMMING YOUR COMMODORE 64 IN BASIC"

Author: Mario G. Eisenbacher. Publishers: Prentice Hall.

Rec. Retail Price \$19.95

Our copy by courtesy of the publishers.

This book is a very valuable acquisition for the new Commodore 64 owner who has little knowledge of basic programming.

The author systematically takes the reader through basic programming step by step, while progressively mastering the use of the 64.

He achieves this by advancing the programmer through seven levels of computer proficiency. Each level includes a summary of new vocabulary in basic, practice programs and exercises.

In addition the author has added an "interest stimulator" program in each level and has clearly achieved his purpose of keeping the interest of the new 64 owner while increasing his or her knowledge of the machine as well as programming skills.

Although the book is not considered appropriate for the experienced programmer, it gives a good grounding in the main concepts of basic programming for the beginner.

I wish that this book had been available when I bought my 64 as it would have made my early days of programming a much less frustrating experience.

DALE GILBERT

SPEEDSCRIPT NOTES

Vic-20 and C-64 owners who purchased a 1520 Printer Plotter and use SpeedScript and have problems with upper and lower case characters can thank Roger Haigh for the solution. The answer is quite simple: after you load SpeedScript and before you run the program perform the following simple instruction:

OPEN 1,6,6:PRINT#1,1 and then Run.

To format to 80 column: at the top of the text page use the

Ctrl command -- Ctrl & l 1 left margin

Ctrl command -- Ctrl & r 81 right margin

Ctrl command -- Ctrl & s 1 space between lines

Ctrl command -- Ctrl & b 200 keeps text together rather than in page length.

And last but not least, to print:

Shift & Ctrl & P (together), then 6 and 3. The printer will not work with this command but it sends the message to print in 80 column size. When the cursor returns, again Shift & Ctrl & P (together) then 6 and 0 and the printer will spring to life.

To print in 40 column make the right margin 41 and to print: Shift & Ctrl & P followed by 6 & 0 only.

Barry Wilson.

VIC-20 NEWS

Attention VIC-20 Programmer's Aid Owners.

After owning the Programmer's Aid for almost as long as they have been available, I have been frustrated by this cartridge when I have wanted to use the function keys, because they have locked up.

Many users of the Programmer's Aid cartridge may have had no problems at all, but if you have a 12K Basic program which uses the function keys to go to subroutines, and the keys are locked because of the Progr. Aid cartridge, thus forcing you to save the program to cassette, turn the VIC off, and than reload the program, well, it becomes a bit frustrating, to say the least.

I have asked Commodore for a solution on several occasions, but to no avail until now. My thanks go to Garry Mason of Commodore in Sydney for his persistence in trying to find a solution to this problem.

Well here is his answer to the problem:

Type in KILL, and then press RUN/STOP RESTORE.

Again my thanks to Garry Mason.

Barry Wilson.

MOTHER BOARDS

The Mother Boards are now ready for collection.

Price: \$33.00 in Kit Form or \$39.00 for the Assembled and Tested board.

Contact Clayton Lancaster for your order.

REVIEWS:

VIC-20 WORD PROCESSOR: "HESS WRITER"

Our copy by courtesy of Chandler in McGregor.

HESS WRITER is a word processor with similar features to other word processors.

The variation in features and ease of use are only a matter of personal preference. HESS WRITER is a cartridge using ROM area and therefore allows all of VIC-20's memory to be used for text files (a big advantage, if you consider that SpeedScript requires approximately 5K of memory just for the program). The program also has the left and right justification feature. For members with 1520 Printer Plotters, the HESS WRITER has the upper/lower case print problem, and as yet no solution has been found.

Recommendation: If you have limited memory on your VIC use HESS WRITER. If memory is no problem, SpeedScript, which is in the group library, will satisfy most VIC users needs.

Barry Wilson

KINDERCOMP (VIC-20 CART.) \$54.95

Our copy by courtesy of Chandlers, Mcgreggor.

Most parents buy a computer for children's education, but you only seem to see games reviewed, so herewith a pre-school children's educational cartridge review:

1: Children can draw on the screen with cursor size blocks of colour. The background can be changed from black to white. Shapes can be filled with colour. Colours are changed by the fire button.

2: Fill the screen with letters or graphics.

3: Type in a name and have it displayed in several different ways.

4: Numbers are displayed in a sequence, and the next number is to be keyed in.

5: Letters - the lower case are displayed on the screen and the upper case have to be keyed in. After 3 correct tries the screen lights up with a colourful reward.

6: Match the pattern - three different patterns appear and the pattern in the box has to be matched - after three correct answers the screen lights up with a kaleidoscope of colour.

My only disappointment was that it was impossible to reproduce the picture which was displayed on the outside of the box, which is supposed to give the buyer a preview of what the cartridge can do if one tries. Maybe the picture can be reproduced on the 64 version only. The only improvement I would have liked to have seen would have been high resolution (smaller cursor size).

Barry Wilson.

CLUB DISCOUNTS

We are pleased to announce that C.W. ELECTRONICS of 416 Logan Road, Stones Corner are offering members a 10% discount on their computer purchases, on production of a current membership card.

C.W. also advised us of the pending arrival of new C-64 software and books from Abacus.

It is hoped to receive some of these for review for the next issue of this newsletter.

My personal thanks to Tony May, service manager of Commodore, for helping me out of a jam on a busy Friday afternoon when my disk drive packed it in. At very short notice he fixed the problem, thus allowing me to carry on with the editing of this newsletter. Great work, Tony!

Ralph De Vries

NOTES & GOSSIP

Commodore's new Daisy wheel printer (model DPS 1101) is about to be released.

At a recommended retail price of appr. \$799.00 it is one of the newer generation of reasonably priced daisy wheel printers for letter quality printing, and is ready to go on the VIC-20, C-64, and the new Commodore 16 and Plus/4.

Some of the features include both friction and tractor feed, and its 100-character print wheel contains upper and lower case, numerals and symbols.

The print wheels are compatible with Triumph-Adler wheels, providing a wide range of type faces and styles, including italics, gothic and pica.

The 1101 will print at 18 characters per second, and has some interesting features which can be used simultaneously such as: underlining, bold print, shadow print, proportional spacing, and horizontal and vertical tabulation.

Subscript and superscript options are also available, simply by using the print half line function.

The number of characters per inch can be changed by using either a switch or software, with character spacings of 10, 12 or 15 CPI or proportional spacing.

While the printer is bi-directional, a uni-directional print mode can be selected.

On arrival in Brisbane Commodore hopes to be able to let us demonstrate this new printer during one of our forthcoming meetings.

If they feel very generous they may wish to donate a printer to your editor to produce a better looking newsletter!

In the local newsagents another new Commodore magazine has appeared. This one is rather special, as it originates from Commodore in the USA.

Called "COMMODORE MICROCOMPUTERS" (not a very original name!), it is a first rate magazine, which covers all Commodore computers, including PET's, SUPER PET's and B series computers.

Although it is written partly by Commodore staff, there is enough material of an independent nature in the magazine to make it worthwhile reading.

Our group intends to take out a subscription on this magazine in the near future.

Are you wondering what happened to the Letters to the Editor column this month? Well, there weren't any, that's why!

Keep'em coming in country members - we would love to hear from you! Of course city members are welcome to write as well!

COMMODORE COMPUTER USERS GROUP (QLD) DIRECTORY

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For specific computer problems contact members of the relevant Sub-Committee.

Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope, when contacting committee members by mail.

Please address all editorial matter to:

24 Kaloma Rd. The Gap, Brisbane, QLD 4061. (Not to P.O. Box 274, Springwood please!)

Deadline for any particular month is the second Tuesday of that month.

The opinions expressed herein are those of the Author(s), and not necessarily those of the C.C.U.G. (Q) or the Editor.

Published by C.C.U.G. (Q), P.O. BOX 274, SPRINGWOOD Q 4127
 Printed by GAP PRINTING, Lahore Street, THE GAP Q 4061



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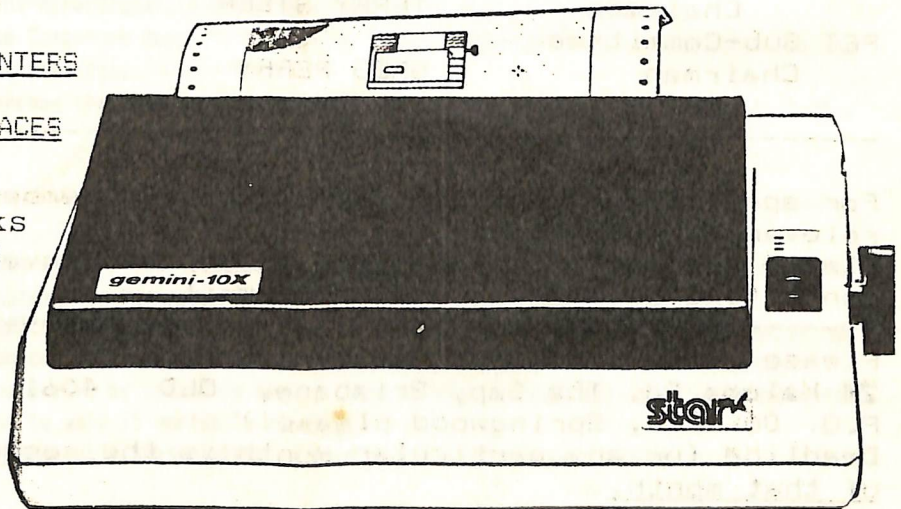
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