

WACCI

A MAGAZINE FOR CPC USERS AND A
MEMBERS SUPPORT CLUB

THESE CLIP ART DISC'S FROM THE
WACCI PD LIBRARY, ARE REALLY GOOD



ISSUE 134 OCTOBER 2000 £2=00

WACCI

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More members that are coming on line to be added in the next issue.

Dave...

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Dave...

Thanx & Stuff

Edited by : Dave Stitson
Owned by : The Members
Chairman : Frank Neatherway.

Conceived and Founded By : Jeff Walker October 1986.

Developed and Expanded By : Steve Williams. Clive
Bellaby. Paul Dwerryhouse. Philip Dirichleau and John
Bowley.

Copy Date : October 2000

If life was only
this simple as a
Wacci Editor



Firstly I would like to personal thank those of you who have either wrote to me or phoned to thank me for taking on the editors job. All that I ask is that the few members who have contacted me to say that you would prefer to see this and that in the magazine or that this added or not used, it will take me a little time to get things nearly right to satisfy everyone, if that is at all possible but I very much doubt it.

Next I would on behalf of the committee, thank those who have returned the questionnaire. We do need that returned and I'm sure that you can if you try, put aside just a few minutes to complete it and return it to Frank.

Hopefully in the next issue, we can publish the results and the future outcomes of the club and magazine, but remember, if you haven't yet returned the questionnaire, you can't complain if the club doesn't progress the way you think it should.

And finally, many thanks to the members who have volunteered to help out in the post's that needs filling. Not as many replies received as we would like to have seen on this request but we do understand that some members may be thinking, let's wait to see if the magazine and the club will continue before offering your help after such a long lay off. This is the sort of thing that we are trying to avoid happening once again, so please do get the questionnaire's in to Frank.

You will note that there is a change in the PD Librarian and it's RAY POWELL.

For those of you who are wondering as to what's happened to Christine, let me explain.

Christine is quite poorly and she felt that until the Doctors can sort her out, she felt that she could not cope with both her illness and the PD Library, and that is quite understanding. But the good news is that Christine will remain an active committee member.

We all hope and wish you a speedy recovery Christine.

For your PD requirements, please send your orders to Ray who's address is on the inside page of the cover. And if you read the back page you will notice that I have published the cost of the PD and there's an incentive to kick start your PD purchasing. Ray has all the disc's and is waiting for your orders.

Please remember to make all cheques payable to WACCI.

Thanks once again Ray for offering your services as the PD librarian.

There are other voluntary post's that have been taken up by members, and in the next issue I hope to publish the members names and details of the various post and help that they are offering to the members. Hopefully, we may have some more members coming forward to offer their services, remember, there is always someone out there who needs help, yourselves for instance on how to get the best from a program, a short cut on how to do things. Please don't assume that because you know it others don't need help.

THE AKTIV ADVERT.

I have quite a few members contact me to say that the advert was out of date, sorry but that one was the only one that I had. I have scanned a few of the pages over from the latest issue that came to me, and you will find them on the last 4 pages of the magazine. Hopefully this will bring you up to date with the current prices if you are thinking of purchasing a new ink cartridge or a printer ribbon so to AKTIV I apologise for publishing an out of date advert.

The next issue of the magazine should be with you by Christmas, that's what I'm working on anyhow, so please if you are thinking of sending in an article, story or whatever, then please get it to me as soon as possible as I do need material to publish.

And very finally, I should like to personally thank those of you who have sent in articles to me for publication. I still have one or two that I received via Brian when he collected all Wacci correspondence from John. I'm still ploughing through what I received and trying to match up the articles with the writers but there seems to be pages missing from some of them so if you did send articles to John and have not yet seen them in print, please send a copy to me if you still have it.

That's it for Thanx and Stuff for this issue. See you in the next Dave...

FAIR COMMENT

By Dave Stitson

This is the page where you have your say, providing it's printable.

Hi Dave

Many congratulations on your first Waccl magazine.

I received mine this morning and I'm delighted with it, excellent job Dave. I love the clarity of the print.

Regards

Angie Hardwick

<< I'm glad that you found the print to be easier on the eye. May be it's because I prefer the slightly larger font Dave..>>

Hi there

Just a quick note for you to (possibly) include in Waccl.

Megablasters can now be downloaded from the author's homepage as a .ZIP file.

The unpacked archive contains 4 DSK files for use with the CPC emulator, or can be converted with a program called DSK2CPC but you need a 3.5" drive attached to the CPC.

Good work with issue 133, but I noticed a few grammatical errors/ never mind though. I personally will be happy to see WACCI produced on the PC (although I hate PC's, they are better for the task, but what about a MAC or Amiga ? My Amiga can emulate a CPC, PC, (Win 3.1/95/98/00). Mac, C64, Speccy, Playstation, NES, SNES, Megadrive and dozens more.

Here is the URL for Magablasters.
<http://www.seeseiten.de/user/odie.cpc/mb/>

PS : I also have some information which may be useful to print in WACCI.

I have in my possession a CD-ROM called CPC Classix. This CD is intended for use on a PC or Amiga and consists of the following

11 different emulators for the PC + Misc utilities 3.9 mb.

7 different CPC emulators for the Amiga + utilities 1.7mb

Approximately 2100 games in .DSK format +76 ROM images 336mb

11 PC games, titles converted from the CPC (Arkanoid, Bubble Bobble, Outrun etc).

Total capacity of the CD.339.3mb.

The DSK files are separated alphabetically from A-Z and there's a ROM drawer consisting of roms such as 464/664/6128 Basic BIOS images, Discology, Multiface, Nirvana, Oddjob, Maxidos, Rom dos and dozens more. You can obtain the CPC Clasix from.

Epic Marketing on 08700 - 110010 for a measly £10=00

Thanks

Conn O'Griofa

Odiesoft's Megablasters.

<connogriofa@eircom.net>

Ireland.

<< Thanks Conn for the information. With reference to the few Grammatical errors, that's me I'm afraid, a thicky from Devon >>

<< To Roy Everett. Was this the CD ROM you mentioned in your letter to me? I couldn't quite make it out >>

Hi Dave.

I wish to express my grateful thanks to you for taking on the Editorship of WACCI. Next comes a very big congratulation on a magazine that was good to look at. I was very impressed. It was easy to read and had a wide range of

very little to work with. You put together a magazine that managed to help members that had asked for help.

I can only say that all the experience you had on CPC Southwest paid off and I hope you will stay with your own personal view on the way the magazine should be, each to his own. I feel it's one of the best as far as fonts goes, also I found the layout quite refreshing. A little more Clip Art would add that little bit extra, but under the circumstances I still feel you did a great job, well done.

Please note my new e-mail address.

christine raisin@ntlworld.com.

Christine Raisin.

AMENDMENT

The article Transferring Data was written by Nic Rayner for my pages in Waccl PC newsletter and not my self. therefore NIC should be given the credit .

<< Sorry Nic. It was I who assumed that Christine had written the article, as it came to me via other articles that Christine had sent to me. In fact I have a few articles that came to me without any conformation as to whom wrote them, so if you notice that I credit someone else then please let me know and I'll put an amendment in the next available issue. So Please NIC accept my apologies.>>

<< Thanks Christine for you kind remarks on my first issue of WACCI. What I can say is yes it did help by being the Editor of CPC Southwest, but it's a lot more difficult using this PC Publisher for the first time. I will see if I can arrange for more clip art. >>

While I have this page to fill, may I thank all of you who have phoned, written or sent me an email. Why has so many sent commiseration's to me for taking on the roll of the Editor of WACCI ?

It is a hard task trying to please everyone and I can only hope that I can improve on issue to issue.

Dave...

Hi Dave

I was interested to learn that you are a Social Worker - I trained as a residential Social Worker in the early 190's and now do management constancy largely to residential and day centres.

I have not jumped at offering my services directly to WACCI as I already have a lot of commitments but I'm happy to continue writing for the magazine as that can be fitted around other things without me feeling I have a deadline to meet.

Re Ron's letter about printers, like Keith he needs the official Epsom 24-pin manual to find the codes for alternative fonts. In answer to his question, yes there is a problem because very few printers now offer Epsom FX-80 or JX-80 emulations.

I bought an Epsom emulation cartridge for my HP Deskjet to enable me to print Amstrad graphics but there is no colour in this. The answer for most members will be to look out for good condition older kit-perhaps from an office supplier-that had 9-pin emulation included. For example, my eight year old Deskjet still gives good service and the Star LC-10 at home is even older and still works well (though it hasn't taken the same punishment as the Deskjet.

I presume the version of the CP/M article was from John because my name was printed wrongly.

John Hudson

< John that was my mistake and I do apologise for calling you Jonson. What material I have has all arrived mainly in hardcopy so I guess there will be a

mistakes to begin with>>

Just a quick note to follow up Christine's excellent account of how to transfer data in ASCII format. << On the previous page you will note that it was Nic Raynor who sent in the article via Christine, not doing very well am I ??? Dave >>

If you are faced with a Data base for which you do not have the original program, you may well be able to access the data using VDE in ASCII mode. Before you use VDE make a copy of the source file and only use VDE on the copy.

There may be all sorts of control characters in the file but sometimes you can very quickly convert the file to coma and the Tab separated variables if you spot the end of record character and the delimiter between the fields and replace them throughout.

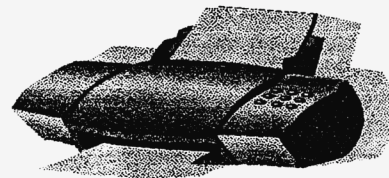
Most databases will accept the comma rather than the Tab as a field delimiter but, if you need to use the comma rather than the Tab and the field delimiter is not already a comma, you will need to replace all the commas in the file with something else (I usually use a space) before the next stage. Sometimes the end of record character will be <return> and you only need to work out the field delimiter, other times-MS Word mailmerge files for example-the end of record delimiter is two end of field delimiters. So always look for the end of record delimiter first and get that sorted before you get to work on the field delimiter.

Change all the field delimiters to <return> or <control> M <control> J.
Get rid of any other garbage

the field and then, if the file is not too wide, use VDE's block print function to print a dozen or so lines of the file to check that you have exactly the same number of field delimiters in each line. Otherwise you will need to count them on screen.

If there aren't the same number, something has gone wrong and the file won't work with any other database.

If desperate,
phone 01484 423252 for support
John R Hudson...



Dave here John. I should imagine that Social Work has changed a lot since the early 1970's. I'm in my tenth year as a Social Worker and each year the changes have made the job less exciting. Gone are the old days of a are applying for, these then one as to prioritise and sit back and hope the Team Manager puts his signature to your care plan which doesn't often happen. Then it's back to the client to inform them of what is available and what it is likely to cost them. Here in Plymouth there is hardly an in-house domiciliary care service available and all services have to be purchased from outside agencies which we have to negotiate on behalf of the client which of course takes up extra time that we just doesn't have in a day's work. Also if we have a holiday or go sick, there is no one to take our case load over so the work just piles up for our return.

I'm sorry to the other members who are reading this, but it is nice to have a paper chat with a fellow Social Worker who started some ten years in the job before me.

Dave....

Dated 1 st. April 2000.

Dear sirs

I have been advised by a friend with access to the Internet that you may possibly have a manual on the Amstrad PC2086/30 circa 1989.

If you have such a manual could you please advise the cost, if not could you suggest another source ? Amstrad or rather beamish Bus Machines suggested a Car Boot Sale.

I was given the computer, plus keyboard, 640K personal computer PC2086 with a printer Star LC10 by a relative for free.

To complicate matters, my relative has lost the manual and has forgotten the password. It has been suggested that I remove the battery from the motherboard for five minutes to cause the hard drive to forget the password and revert to factory status. I enclose a SAE for your comments and convenience.

yours sincerely

James Price.

9 Bankfield Road. Widnes.
Cheshire. WA8 7UN.

< Brian have you such a manual ? if not is there anyone out there who could oblige James with his problem >

< Here is quite an old fair Comments letter from the archives 1.10.99. and sent to John >

Dear John

I hope you are well and coping with what must have seem quite a burden doing what you do and trying to live a normal domestic life.

However, I do not want to add to your burden too much, but, the note "Production Method" inside the front cover of WACCI magazine intrigues me. I have used a CPC 6128 for many a year and have lots of past records on 3.5" discs. I have now changed over to a PC and it

seems that all my past records are lost.

It appears that WACCI is produced on a CPC and transferred to the PC using da,deh,da,deh and lots of luck.

Can you please tell me where I can obtain copies of the programs used for the transfer, my PC is a 486. Please don't bother to reply formally a scribbled note will do.

Many thanks and regards.

Frank Cossgrove

59 Fenton Road. Bournemouth.
Dorset. BH6 5BS.

<Not sure Frank if you had a reply from John but here is how I transfer from Amsdos to the PC format.

1. Load the file in Protext. SANKO it then save as pure RTF. DOSCOPY it over to a 720K PC format disc. This I believe I'm right in saying that you can only transfer text this way. For any graphics I use a MAKE BMP to convert from .CUT file to Bit Map File. I'm assuming that you still have your 6128 as you will need one
Dave >

Dear Angie

Just a short note as a reply to a letter in the WACCI 133 issue and an update to my membership details.

If you come in contact with John Bowley, Please convey my deepest sympathy to both him and his wife along with my greatest respect for the work he has done on WACCI over the years < we all agree Roger >

Also to your self and the present WACCI team deserve a standing ovation and an infinite number of "thank you's" for your continued efforts at continuing to support, sustain and breath new life into WACCI. I look forward to the future of WACCI and would like to offer you guy's my help in any way possible. Whatever the task, give me a call and I will help in what ever way I

can. Thanks again

Yours sincerely

Roger Graves

26a. Hope Street West.
Macclesfield.

Cheshire. SK10 1BE.

new phone numbers.

Home. 01625-261687

(9AM - 1 PM)

Work. 0161-4863030

(2PM - 10PM).

<thanks Roger for your comments on the new leadership of Wacci. Not so sure about the "Standing Ovation". We committee just couldn't see this great little club go to the wall as John was clearly unable to carry on.>

I had a letter from Roger offering to write articles for the magazine. By the time you are reading this Roger should have received some disc's from me to play around with and write an article or two. I liked his spirit and that is what we need now from other members to keep this club going. Writers are always needed especially new writers of articles. It's not as hard as you think
Dave>>>

A MAN OF MANY COATS.

Unlike many Wacci'ers of years gone by, I only knew Doug Webb for a short time. I was briefly graced with a potential friendship that sadly didn't work. Doug was no forthright man, a man who stood by his principles, this much I did know of the man.

Doug's name will like others who have done so much for Wacci live on through the magazines history. For those of us members who where privileged enough to now Doug in a deeper richer way that comes with true friendship, I truly feel your loss.

Where ever you are now Doug
You get Em' TOLD.

Jonty Jones.

We have just herd from Olivier Floquet of France (oliver.floquet@libertysurf.fr) via the CPC E-mailing (cpcmail@listbot.com) that there will be a get-together in France for CPC enthusiasts to be called "CROCO CHANNEL MEETING 2".

A clever play on words, there, between "Coco Channel" the famous fashion and perfume designer and the CPC game "CROCO MAGNETO".

Ah,CPC fans, there so intellectual!

Another CPC meeting is planned in France...

CROCO CHANNEL 2 in he North of Paris from 27th to 30 th October. It's organised by Candy,Shap,Winny and Fafa.. Everybody is welcome!!!

You can find more information on (www.roundoudou.com) or mail to: candy@club-Internet.fr

Several English enthusiasts have attended these get-together's before and have been made very welcome. As part of our News Services we'll try to keep you informed on them as the information comes to us. Ideally, our publishing schedule will allow to do something about attending too.

In the mean time, if you'd like to be kept informed by letter on future similar events, drop me a line and I'll send you a personal notification of them.

Brian Watson.

Address etc on page 2.



Dear Dave

How good to see dear old WACCI back! I only hope it has a golden twilight and flourishes for a while rather than dies of apathy within an issue or two.

<< Not if the new committee has anything to do with it Peter >> But I fear that time must be against us. After all, a cold and draughty CPC winter is all but upon us, one in which the good old faithful machine languishes keyboard-deep in snow at windswept bootsales,unsold at a couple of British pounds. But maybe before that horror of freezing horrors we can spend a long Indian summer in Wacciland.

Right then: printers. Someone wanted to know what we did about printers, so I'll explain my computer set-up so that everyone knows how sad I am.

Basically I attack computing from a double-pronged dewberry. In one room I've got a PC, and that has an Ink-jet HP Printer attached to it. I use that machine for scanning and printing images of my Grandchildren (you should see my walls-it's an obsession)and a long stroll through the vales and over the hills of the magical land of the Internet.

By far more important is my CPC. That's why its in the living room. I have all sorts of things dangling from it,including three printers, all with their own functions. For text I use a 24-pin Star (LC24 200) which I use to have on the PC. For the few Microdesign labels and so on that I produce from time to time I use a Citizen 120D and for the dart scanner I use an Amstrad DMP-1. In order to keep the printers happy I have two printer leads-

one for the dart scanner and one shared between the other two.

As a matter of interest, I use Protext in preference to PC word-processing software (though spell-checking on the PC is an option I like to chose) But the raw stuff, the words, I produce on the CPC and sanko it onto a Dos Disc, and sometimes print it on the Ink-jet HP printer to get top quality print-outs.

I don't know if that is of interest or help to anyone, I have no idea about 24 pin codes, I got my 24 pin printer cheaply and minus it's handbook.

Finally,a query about AKTIV advert in the last Wacci. I receive occasional catalogue from them, and the prices have been increased from what appears the last issue of Wacci.

Best of luck with WACCI, Dave.

Peter Rogerson
83 Vale Road.
Mansfield Woodhouse.
Notts.
NG19 8DW.

<< Hello Peter. Thanks for the information on your set-up and regarding printers.

With reference to the AKTIV advert, yes it is an old one, you will see that the article from Jonty Jones there is a scanned image of their very latest catologe. I have emailed them for an updated version to go it Wacci, I will scan in the pages showing prices, for this issue so as the members will have a better idea of the current prices.

>>

Dave...

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL WITH ANGIE

I have asked in WACCI 133, that members do me a personal profile to be printed in the magazine, in order that we can get to know one another.

Here is the first member profile by Terry Ward of Swansea.

Boyhood Dreams

I became interested in electricity as a boy when I was given an electrical set of batteries, bells and switches etc. I wanted to be an Electrical Engineer.

Army Life

As a young man I sought an apprenticeship but at that time the Second World War and the shortage of funds by my parents, led me to join the Army as a boy to serve my apprenticeship, I hoped. originally as a Radio Engineer. But the Army makes it's own choices and after three years of studying, I became an Electrician, specialising in Vehicle electric's and generating plant.

Part of the deal was to serve for eight years, plus a further four years on reserve. Again the Army chose to re-train me on Electronics which was to be my first contact with computers, in the form of Anti Aircraft Predictors and I went on to maintain the control equipment in Armoured Fighting vehicles namely the Centurion Tank in Germany.

I continued my studies, gained a number of City & Guilds Certificate in Electrical & Radio Engineering while in the Army and ended my service as an Electrical Instructor.

On discharge I secured employment as a Development Engineer in the Midlands and continued my studies with evening classes. I spent a number of years involved in the development of automated test

equipment and non-destructive testing using Ultrasonic and Eddy currents on materials and finished tubular products.

All the nice girls love a sailor ?

I was nearly forty before I eventually realised my ambition by joining the MOD and serving in the Royal Navy shore training ship, maintaining and operating Radio and Navigation equipment, some which were computer operated.

On my way to the Top.

I gained another promotion and a job with the Home Office in London; there I was involved in the design and installation of Security Systems in the Government for over eight years before taking early retirement some ten years ago. I cant for obvious reasons say much about that period.

Family Life

My youngest son was a boy in the 1980's when a surge of home computers occurred. He started with the ZX81, moved on to the Spectrum and I eventually bought him a CPC 464. Naturally I became involved and helped with the type-ins etc. We later graduated to the CPC 6128 and I sought a Protext Word processor package, but at the time they were not available, I was offered Amsword, which we learnt. I used Amsword in connection with y job, writing letters, reports and even specifications while my son used it for college work.

Through Wacci I obtained a number of Data Storage programs ,

VDE and the Protext programs, which I use on occasions but I found the Amsword very easy to use so it's the one I tend to fall back on.

RETIREMENT

When I retired my Wife and I undertook an extended tour t h r o u g h Scandinavia, Russia, China, Japan and South East Asia, eventually spending six months in Australia and New Zealand with a visit to Fiji. During the years we spent travelling I kept a diary, which I later re-wrote with Amsword, with photographs this filled seven A4 ringed binders.

My wife was interested in her family History and we used a Genealogy program, Genny to keep track of data on over 170 relatives extending back over 500 years. When the programmer died a few years ago, I gained permission from his son to allow Wacci to offer the program to it's members after deleting his Fathers Name and Address, making a few improvements to make the program more user friendly. I also took interest in Paul Derryhouse's ISPELL and again introduced a number of changes which allowed more space for words in the dictionary's.

So my interest still continues although I haven't mastered machine code but some experience in Basic.

My Wife and I still travel, eight weeks in Australia again this year and winters in Spain, so long as our savings hold out,
Terry Ward.

THE INTERNET

BY PETER ROGERSON

Peter sent John an article in answer to Nora Lees request for information regarding setting up with the Internet. He assures Nora that it needn't cost her an arm or leg or even the earth.

I've recently gone about the task and I'm not rolling in pounds, pence or even farthings, I've got my self a decent enough connection to the Internet.

There are two main areas that involve expense: getting the machine up and running and then using that machinery. Let's tackle them in that order.

Firstly, the machinery. A decent 486 PC will do, and these can be bought for almost a song. Mine came via an Internet auction and cost just a five plus P & P. Though it was described as faulty (a check revealed a loose fuse in the power supply).

I've added a few bits and pieces to it, notably a CD drive elderly - 2 speed job but suitable for my purposes and a second hard drive. Now I guess that you wouldn't want to risk your precious cash buying an unknown quantity for a fiver so I'd advise that you spent about £50=00 on a machine that you can see actually working. For your fifty green notes (they were once) you'd expect the whole thing complete. Keyboard, Computer, Monitor and Mouse-and may be even a Modem.

Do try to get one with a CD drive already in situ. I had a problem finding the right drive for mine. If your lucky, it I'll already have windows installed if now well I bought an original copy of windows 3.1 at a boot sale as well as the windows 95 upgrade CD. Windows is merely an operating system, which helps with the day

to day running of your PC and simplifies (!!!) things for you, you will need one or the other of them.

I mentioned the Modem a moment ago. They come in two kinds-internal and external. The fastest is 56K and it's slightly longer in the tooth brother is 28K. Either of those will do, but anything slower is asking for unnecessarily large telephone bills, they can be picked up these days for about £15=00.

Now all you need is the Internet software, here you need to make the decision. Do you want to pay a monthly fee for access to the Internet or would you prefer the free option? There doesn't seem to be much to separate the two genres of access, though I sometimes think maybe it's imagination the free fellow that I use seems a little on the slow side at peak times, if on a budget chose the free one as they supply the software on a CD and will steer you through the intricacies of obtaining your account.

You have your Computer, the Modem which must be plugged into a phone socket, and that is really all there is to it. You're on line. You will soon master the various search engines at your finger tips and you are free as a bird in cloud cuckoo land as you swoop from one piece of fascination information to another, that is until your telephone bill arrives.

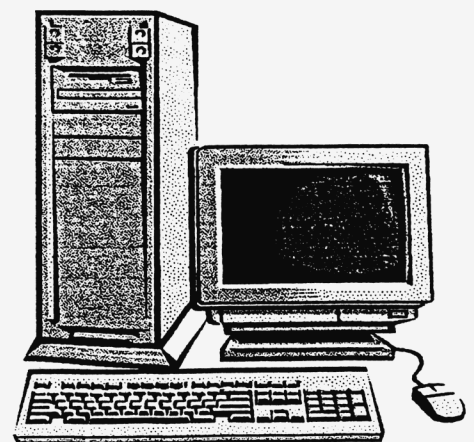
You see, the provision of a server may be free but Mr, Telecom or Cable or whatever has attached wires to your house still make

those charges for the use of those same wires as used when you are using the phone.

It's here that discipline enters the arena, you must curtail your activities unless you're prepared to pay unreasonable phone bills. My system is to allow myself up to half an hour a day after six PM and a couple of hours at the weekends when the rate is cheaper to use the phone. My average Internet cost's is about £3=00 per week which isn't so bad. I only use it before six PM for emergencies.

The Internet is a wonderful thing and it can feed your every Hobby and Interest with the facts and opinions generated by an international army of others with like interests. You never know - soon you'll be clamouring for a WEB site of your own add to that sea of information-cum-opinion.

Hallelujah.

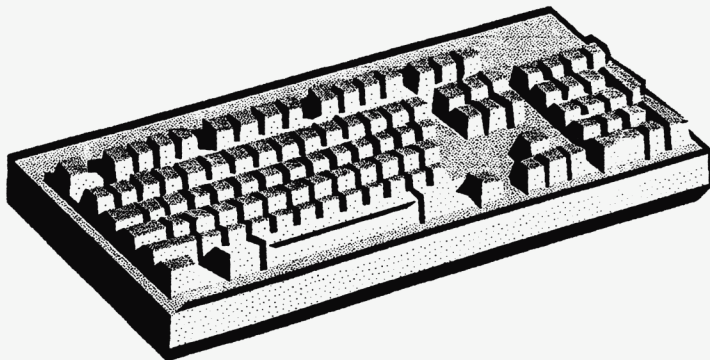


Thanks for the article Peter

Dave...

TYPE - IN'S

I hope to introduce a series of Type-ins for you to play around with or may be learn on how the experts did it.



Dave ...

Here is a simple little Menu program that you may want to use if you have several files on your disc that will list the files and let's you Run them with one key press.

In my earlier days when I found my self doing a CAT to see what was on the disc and then had to type in the file name and press Enter to get the file to load, I wrote what I thought was a simple, yes I have no doubt you programmers amongst you will say it is a simple basic program when you see this program, but to me it was the first program I wrote my self and I was quite pleased with myself and the results.

MENU

```
10 CLS:PRINT " MENU BY your name":PRINT
20 PRINT "1 - filename":PRINT
30 PRINT "2 - filename":PRINT
40 PRINT "3 - filename":PRINT
50 PRINT "4 - filename":PRINT
60 PRINT "5 - filename":PRINT
70 PRINT "6 - filename":PRINT
80 INPUT "ENTER YOUR ELECTION"; n
90 ON n GOTO 110 - 160
100 GOTO 10
110 n=(1) : RUN " filename
120 n=(2) : RUN " filename
130 n=(3) : RUN " filename
140 n=(4) : RUN " filename
150 n=(5) : RUN " filename
160 n=(6) : RUN " filename
```

This little program will let you name six files and run them after selecting the filename number by pressing 1 to 6. You can of course add more files by making the adjustments from line 80. I have no doubt some of you will snigger at this little program and of course you will have a shorter program to do better, but remember I did say it was the very first program that I wrote all by my self.

If any member out there has written a small basic program, then why not send it in for others to have look at.

Dave ...

```
1 SYMBOL AFTER 32; CLS : X = 30 : Y = 6 : G = 40707
2 PRINT " BANNER PRINTER "
3 PRINT " PUT PRINTER ON LINE WITH CONTINUOUS PAPER "
4 WIDTH 255 : PRINT # 8, CHR$ (21)
5 INPUT " MESSAGE : "N$ : FOR J = 1 TO LEN (N$)
6 PRINT " WAIT" : FOR B=1 TO 8 : FOR C=1 TO 9
7 Z=G+(ASC (MID$ (M$,J,1 ))* 8) FOR C=1 TO 8
8 T$ = BIN$ (PEEK (Z) , 8) : FOR P=1 TO 2
9 PRINT #8,CHR$ (27) "Z" CHR$ (X*4 ) ; CHR$ (0) ;
10 PRINT #8, STRING$ (X*4, VAL (MID$ (T$, B, 1 )) * 127 ) ;
11 NEXT : Z = Z - 1 : NEXT : PRINT#8 : NEXT C, B, J
```

This little program prints a Banner. But remember to use continuos paper and can use up a lot of your ink and play havoc with your ribbon on dot matrix printers

Good luck and have some fun typing these in if you want to Dave

VDE THE WORD PROCESSOR

BY JOHN HUDSON.

A GOOD ALL-ROUND TEXT-BASED GENERIC WORD PROCESSOR

VDE has most of the facilities of other word processors plus some they lack; it is fast because it runs entirely in memory and it can double as a program editor. It will run on a single disc machine under CP/M 2.2 but I am assuming that most users will have CP/M 3. If there is the demand, I will do a short piece on using VDE CP/M 2.2.

It has no graphics capabilities and it does not know anything about your computer, only CP/M interface, but it does know that CP/M allows you to customise your computer and it relies on you using these facilities to get the best out of it.

For example, it has no facility to print pound signs (£) ; it expects you to use LANGUAGE 3 on your Amstrad and set the dip switches on your printer to print UK English (ISO language) in order to obtain the pound signs.

INSTALLATION

You can install virtually every feature of VDE you want to suit your taste but, unlike many word processors, it saves this information in separate files. The word processing features you chose are stored in the main file but there are separate files for the keyboard and printer. This means that once someone has created a keyboard or printer file, it can be used by

anyone else. The VDE distribution disc (PD Disc 10) is already set up for the CPC and comes with several examples of other peoples keyboard and printer files. I supplied some more at one stage but I'm not sure if they were added to the Wacci PD Disc.

To install an already created keyboard or printer file, you simply enter.

VINST266 myfile.VDK and press Return. for a keyboard file. For a printer file myfile.VDP.

When the installation screen appears, press S and it will be installed. If you want to revise the file or if the file you specify does not exist, press K or P to go into the installation dialogues.

MANUALS and HELP

VDE was ten years ahead of most distributors in providing an on-line manual both for the program and for the installation. Both are worth printing out and reading because there are so many facilities in VDE that can save you time if you know that they are there. There is also a quick reference sheet plus on-line help using CONTROL - J .

USING VDE

You can get started with relatively few instructions. If

you load VDE, it should present a full screen with a status line at the top.

THIS TELLS YOU

DU:Filename.EXT [M Pg n Ln C1 nn INS vt hy.

Where D is the disc, U is the user number, M is the file mode, Pg is page, Ln is line, C1 is column, INS shows that insert mode is on, Vt means variable tabs are available and hy means hyphen help is on.

VDE can use two classic keyboard arrangements. WordStar and CP/M; most people chose WordStar which is based on the ESDX diamond. These represent UP. LEFT. DOWN. RIGHT.

The keys around them represent extensions of these four directions.

W Scroll up.
E Up
R Screen up
A Word left
S left
D Right
F Word right
Z Scroll down
X Down
C Screen down.

So by pressing CONTROL with one of these keys obtains the cursor movement which we associate with the arrow keys to carry out the functions

rather than relying on the ESDX diamond. Because VDE is generic, it does not assume you have arrow keys; it just assumes a typewriter keyboard plus ESC and CONTROL.

Similarly, simple deletions are carried out by using CONTROL with one of a cluster of keys :

T - delete word
Y - delete line
G - clear.

As with arrow keys, you can use SETKEYS to ensure that CLR and DEL work properly with VDE. Finally, as with many CPM programs, CONTROL-V toggles between insert and overwrite mode.

Knowing these keys will be more than enough to get you creating your masterpiece in VDE. Unless you are using a version set up for programming, you will find that it word wraps at the end of the line and everything behaves as you would expect a good word processor should. One feature rare in CP/M is the ability to open a window in the bottom half of the screen where you can view one part of the file while working on another in the top half.

All this happens in memory; to save your work or print it out, you need to use a two letter combination beginning CONTROL-K. These commands are similar to but not the same as WordStar commands.

For example, CONTROL-KS Saves and continues, CONTROL-KX saves and exits but CONTROL-KD saves and asks for the name of a new file to load. CONTROL-KQ quits without saving but VDE is canny enough are you sure ? if

it knows you have made changes since the last save.

FILE MODES.

You can save a VDE file in one of three formats-ASCII, non-document or WordStar. ASCII is VDE's native format and, unless you are a WordStar user, will be most peoples preferred format. Non-document is the format you need to use VDE as a text editor when programming. You specify the format by adding [A, [N or [W after the filename

If you are disciplined about the way you use filenames, you can install VDE to recognise each type automatically - for example, by using .ASC for ASCII files, .DOC for WordStar files and .TXT for non-document files. But you are not bound by this; for example, if you want to edit PROFILE.SUB in VDE, simply add [N and it will treat it as a non-document file.

CONTROL-KP prints the file after asking for your options when you can add headers and page numbers or print selected pages. If you have a block marked, CONTROL-KPB <RETURN> prints that block only. You can all the normal cut and paste operations using the WordStar commands. There are two other major groups of two letter commands, CONTROL-Q and CONTROL-O.

CONTROL-Q commands are best thought of as quick commands. So CONTROL-QS takes you quickly to the left margin and CONTROL-QC takes you quickly to the end of the file. Among this group are CONTROL-QF the find command and CONTROL-QA the find and replace command. Each of these have options and

produce dialogues in the top right hand corner of the screen; so they are probably better left until you have read the manual.

CONTROL-O commands affect the on-screen appearance, and sometimes the printout, so for example, CONTROL-OL allows you to change the left margin, CONTROL-OR allows you to change the right margin, CONTROL-QC centres the text and CONTROL-OF prints the line flush right.

To see and print out a summary of many VDE commands, load VDE then enter.

CONTROL-KL VDE266,QRF <return> then CONTROL- KP <return> to print t out.

Finally, in this whirlwind introduction, VDE was one of the first programs to have it's own macro language allowing you to automate certain actions in the way that spreadsheets first did. Anyone who wants to do a complicated find and replace will find this facility invaluable.

I have prepared a version of VDE which includes a suitable SUBMIT file, KEYS.VDE to make the arrow, delete and copy keys work and assign macros to the numeric keypad, MACRO.VDE to execute these macros and printer files for EPSOM 9-pin, IBM Proprinter Hewlett-Packard and Daisywheel printers.

If anyone would like all or just one of the files off the disc is invited to phone me via the Help line and leave their name and address if they get the answerphone.

< in the next issue you will have some VDE tips >>

Thanks peter....

D.I.Y. 3.5" DRIVES FOR THE CPC by RAY POWELL

Ray tells us how to adapt a PC 3.5" disc drive for the CPC at a fraction of the cost from a manufacturer.

In October 1998 I knew nothing about second drives, but for some time I had a desire for one. Plentiful, inexpensive discs and masses of bytes. I could even send articles to John and not worry about his "Bermuda Triangle" for discs.

I then read Stephen Potts article on making "Widgets" in issue 128, so I thought that I would make up some for my Plus machine. Christmas was soon upon us so it was early in January before I got a Maplins catalogue. Among all the other wonderful goodies in it I found that PC 3.5" drives was only £17=49. and a suitable cable for another £4=00.

Having read that these drives will work on the CPC, I ordered one thinking that it would be simple to fit, it wasn't too bad but it did give me a few problems and for those who are not squeamish about attacking the innards of their computer with a soldering iron, then my DIY efforts may be of some interest.

The drive is a 3.5 volt Sony, and the cable is intended to fit two drives in a PC with two edge connectors and three drive plugs on it. Cutting the cable to about 400mm and with a plug at one end and a edge connector at the other, I had my cable. That was the easy bit (I thought). I decided to take the power from



the 5 volt input to the computer. Removing the upper casing, the circuit board is then unscrewed and still attached to the cables at the drive end, gently turned over. Where the 5 volt socket is fitted to the board, there are three prominent soldered tags, Using a suitable length of twin cored wire I soldered the marked core to the positive tag, this is the one away from the edge of the board, and the negative marked core was soldered to the tag closest to the edge of the board.

Feeding the cable out of harms way I then replaced and screwed down the board. At about 7mm from the forth vent slot I drilled a hole about 6mm to fed the cable through and then screwed down the casing. Not having a proper socket to fit the drive I cut off a block of four holes from one of the spare 34 sockets, pulling out the top four pins, I soldered the positive wire to the right hand bottom pin and the negative to the third from the right as seen from the rear. I now had power. I have since fitted the correct

plug. All that I had to do was to plug in and go. If life was only that simple! On plugging in and switching on the motor ran continuously but nothing else. After several checks and assuming that the red stripe on the cable is pin one, I take the casing off the drive and sure enough pin one is pin one, but what is this? Number one on the computer is number two, the pins are reversed top to bottom.

The only way around this was to make a reversiboard and adapter. Try again but the same result, I had looked up every possible reference to second drives and it came to mind about an article in Fair Comment from Philip Di Tigger, remember him? he had said that pin 34 had to be shorted to ground for the ready signal, and in a Teacie Forum Richard stated that a side switch is connected between pin 32 and ground. In the Amstrad manual the pins 32 and 34 are already grounded. So the obvious thing to try was to put the edge connector into the computer upside down, I earthed pin 34.

The "Drive B read fail" that appeared on the screen when I tried the drive was wonderful to see. Firing up XEXOR I formatted a disc and copied a program to check all was well and it was. Being now on a high, I went for the side switch between pins 32 & 33. EASY !!

The next thing was to get the drive to work on my plus machine. By making a suitable widget and using the now redundant reversiboard, after a few mistakes I arrived at a working set up. It says a lot for the robustness of the drive and the computer that they came through all the wrong clicking's, wirrings apparently unscathed. My second drive seems to work as it should.

My next step was to get Parados to get the most out of the drive. For those who may be interested, here is the list of items needed and all are obtainable from Maplin Electronics.

LX59P SONY 3.5" drive £17=49

DG41U Floppy Cable £ 33=99

HB58N PCB Latch Hsng £0.15

YW25C PCP terminal £0=55

POSTAGE £3=95

The latch housing and terminals are for the correct power socket. A small switch if a side switch is desired.

There you have it. A new drive for less than £27=00 (1998) prices and a few evenings work.

<< Thanks Ray for the information, I to had a problem getting my second drive work when I first transferred it over from the 6128 to the plus. A quick phone call to Nigel Callcutt put matters to right.

Has anyone else out there information on building hardware or modifications done to their computers that would be of interest to other members >>

Dave....

GAME CHEATS

by DAVE

ALPINE GAMES.

Event 1: Skiing. Use keys 1 and 2 alternatively to slowly and rhythmically build up your speed. You must ski as fast as possible to reach the qualifying time.

Event 2: Ski Jump. Hit the Q key when the power meter is at maximum. As the skier lands on the flat part of the ramp, hit the Q key again. Early or Late jumps will result in a fall,

Event 3: Speed Skating. Use key 1 & 2 as in Event 1:

Event 4: Bob Sled. Use keys O (Left) and P (right) to change the direction of the Bobsled. The course must be completed without crashing to qualify.

Event 5: Bi Athlon. To advance to the targets, press the Q key each time the meter is at maximum. Hit all the targets within the qualifying time to complete the first round of events.

A life is lost each time you fail.

THE APPRENTICE.

Come, tender novice, your skill to try at this game to end all games. But caution, if by chance the apprentice dies then bid farewell to friends and fame.

Save the apprentice from his blundering spell ! Steer him around perilous pitfalls; through concealed exits! Does disaster await the apprentice ? Play and see.

Tips...

10 Wizards guard the entrance to the ring chambers, bribe them with gifts and they will open the doors for you. Each wizard requires a different gift, you must collect all 10 rings to complete the game.

There are 5 scrolls in the maze which will open magic doors if used in the correct place. 4 must be used to complete the game. The apprentice can destroy his enemies by firing bolts but beware, he cannot put out fires.

Pull back on the Joystick to pick up dropped items.

KEYS.

Q (up). O (left). P (right). A (collect). SPACE (fire).

These game cheats came via Angie Hardwick

MARKET STALL WITH ANGIE

Here's some other bargains for you. Remember if you are wanting or selling PC. CPC. or other computer related items (Hardware or Software). Then let Angie know.

Hi all. Many thanks to those who have sent me a personal profile. I would like some more please so we can all get to know one another better.

If you haven't sent in the questionnaire yet, then please do as it's important to let us know what you want.

Regards Angie.

FOR SALE.

464 and a 464 plus, colour monitor, 7 boxes of games, three keyboards, loads of disc's, several boxes and a disc drive.

Please contact. : Mrs. June Sims. 3. Hayfield Close. Staveley. Chesterfield. Derbyshire.
Telephone : 01246 - 477975 for full details and to make an offer.

WANTED.

Paul Wass would like the following games on 3.5" disc's if possible.

The Deep
Millennium
Roy of the Rovers
Shanghai Warriors
Storm Warrior
Yogi's Great Escape
Multi Player's Soccer Manager
Question of Sport
Shard of Inovar
Street Sports Basketball
Also on 3.5" disc's or Tape.
Soccer Pinball
Scull & Crossbones

Us Gold.
Incentive.
Gremlin.
Players.
Elite.
Itec.
D & H.
Encore.
Mastetronic.
Epic's.

Codemaster.
Dmark.

Paul Wass. 86. Jenford Street. Ladybrook Est. Mansfield. NG18 5QZ.
Telephone : 01623 - 451464.

Looking for CPC stuff ? Give Brian Watson a call on the phone, he has loads of it.
Also a supply of drive belts.
Brian Watson 01353 - 777006.

That's all for this issue. look out for more goodies in the next

Angie

PROSPELL

THE SPELLING CHECKER

What can Prospell do ? Prospell can do several things. First and foremost it will proof read a document and find most mistakes, this can be simple typing mistakes as well as words that are genuine misspellings. The program will draw your attention to mistakes but cannot automatically correct them.

Prospell has two major advantages over other spell checkers, it checks the document very quickly and provides very easy methods for correcting mistakes.

The way Prospell works is the same way as you would use a dictionary, however in this case the dictionary is on a disc, and whereas you would only look up those words that you weren't sure of, Prospell looks at every word at a speed that you could not equal manually.

Prospell can be purchased in either Disc or as a 16K EPROM format. Of course the Rom version you will need a Rom Box . You install the Rom version as a background Rom which means it provides facilities that can be used from other Rom's such as PROTEXT.

Background Rom's must be fitted in slots between 1 and 15, but with the CPC 464, between 1 and 7 . When the Rom is installed and you switch on your machine, the Rom should announce itself by displaying it's name and copyright message, if this message does not appear, check that you have not installed it in slot 7.

To install the Disc version you insert the disc and type RUN"DISC press enter and the program will then work exactly

as the Rom version except that you have less memory available for your text. Here is where the Rom version has an advantage over the Disc version, it's available for instant use.

If you are using the Disc version of PROTEXT and want to load the Prospell disc. First Load the Protext, use "Q" to return to BASIC and then load Prospell, it doesn't work the other way round. But please NOTE that with both Protext and Prospell loaded, the memory available will be reduced substantially , also remember if you load Prospell before entering any text , by loading Prospell when there is text in memory, the text will be lost. When I first obtained the programs in disc only, I use to save the text to another disc then load Prospell, that was before I discovered the "Q" trick, it saved me lot of time.

One thing to remember about the Dictionary disc is to make a copy as a work disc, never use the original just in case of accidents. The Dictionary is normally on the "B" side of the Protext disc. Most suitable copiers will copy the Dictionary disc without ant problem.

Prospell can work in either one or two drives. If you have two drives then the dictionary disc is in one drive and the text is in the other and it is always

displayed at the top of the screen.

The "Spell Menu".

You can either check the spelling of a document while in Protext before you save the file or you can save the file then spell check it. Prospell will read the file and check it by comparing words in the dictionary, the words are first sorted alphabetically and you are informed of the number of words that have or is being checked. Any word that is not in the dictionary will be shown o the screen and you are prompted to chose one of the 5 options.

1. Store the word in the dictionary
2. Ignore the word.
3. Change the spelling of the word.
4. Look up the correct spelling.
5. View context of the word.

The words listed on the screen generally fall into one of two categories.

1. Incorrectly spelt or miss-typed.
2. The word is correctly spelt but is not in the Prospell dictionary. Single letters "a" "i" for example are always ignored and are not in the Prospell dictionary, CPC6128, the numbers are ignored but the letters CPC are checked and yes there is such a word in the Prospell dictionary and I guess that one would expect that as Prospell was produced by

Large files may not fit into the memory in one go. In these cases the file will be checked in two or more sections. When the first section has been checked, the text will be saved and the next section loaded in and so on.

One can bypass the spell menu, you just enter " | SPELL ". Now suppose you want to spell check a file named My Letter. This can be done from Protext command mode by typing SPELL MY LETTER and it also possible to spell a defined block of text within Protext by typing the command "SPELLB".

I use to find the "Two Pass Spelling" check very convenient with large files. On the first pass, it will list all unrecognised words but not stopping the spell check. Then the second pass the words are displayed one at a time to allow you to either.

Store the word.
Ignore the word.
Change the word.
Lookup the word
View the word.

The advantage of the two pass check is that you can use several dictionaries if needed by being prompted to insert a dictionary when one has completed it's task.

You have an option to have all the unrecognised words and your responses printed out by simply pressing "P".

There is a Catalogue facility to allow you to see the files on your disc that you may want to spell check.

Also there is a facility to erase backup files, very useful this one. Again a simple key press



"B" will get rid of the files no longer needed as backups.

One can also use the external commands. Handy if you have Roms connected and want to copy for example. | UTOPIA.
| DRIVE for Parados etc.

This has been a quick run down on the spell checker, yes you have guessed the name.

"PROSPELL" and I'm sure that there are those who is reading this can come up with other features that I haven't mentioned that the program is capable of doing. I have kept to what I thought those of you who hasn't got the program and but may be thinking about it, needs to know and just as a final reminder. You can obtain the Prospell on disc from our own PD library. A quick note, here, It's not a Public Domain program but it is available to Wacsi members. If it's the Rom version that you are after, then it's Ian Neill who you need to contact.

Perhaps someone could write in and explain how other Arnor programs work, or how to get the best from them or any other program that you may think the members may like to read about.

Dave...

COMPETITION WINNER

Thank you for all those who entered the spirit of the competition in the last issue. We did have a few outright winners, several of you nearly got it right. So here are the correct answers.

- 26. Letters of The Alphabet
- 1001. Arabian Nights
- 12. Signs of the Zodiac
- 54. Number of Cards in a Deck with the jokers.
- 9. Planets of the Solar System
- 13. Stripes on the American Flag
- 90. Degrees in a Right Angle
- 200. Pounds for passing GO in Monopoly
- 29. Number of Days in February in a Leap year
- 3. Coins in the Fountain
- 15. Number of Red Balls on a Snooker Table
- 21. Spots on a Dice
- 24. Hours in a Day
- 13. Baker Dozen
- 64. Squares on a Chessboard
- 40. Number of Thieves of Ali Baba
- 4. Seasons in a Year
- 20. Numbers on a Dartboard.

The name picked out of the HAT was. Peter Robson from Oldham.

Your voucher for you choice of PD from the library should be with you by now.

With Peters entry was a note welcoming me to the hot seat and he appreciates the efforts of everyone who contributes to running the club. He would also like to thank John Bowley through the magazine for all his stirring work for the members benefit over the years wearing many different hats << There are a lot of members who have expressed their thanks to John >> Dave.

So the competition got you stumped for a few days eh! It did me until I read the answers.

Dave...

SPRITE'S BY JONTY JONES

JONTY ASKS WHO WANTS TO BE A SPRITE MASTER

Who said you have to have a video and or a video camera to have fun with Vidi Digitiser Routines ?.

Because you don't. All you require is imagination, Advanced Art Studio and a small routine teamed up with equally small RSX code. Oh and an idea where to draw your sprites so they flow evenly when displayed. I would forget my head if it wasn't for the wife wanting it where she could find it to swing from now and then.

First I must tell you how this came to me. My dear friend Martin Bella got his hands on a broken Video Camera some time ago and set about attempting to fix it. (Trust me this is relevant to this article). The task that he achieved was quite amicable in my opinion.

To show me what he had done by videoing himself waving his arms about then digitised the routines and sent them to me for viewing. Now being a curious CPCer that I am (Ahem) I took a look at the sprite screens and found that they were nothing more than a set of Art Studio screens, saved as

17K files. Instantly my board brain hit on the idea of, why cant I simply replace the images with something of my own design ?.

I set to work on the drawing which for me was quite simple, especially since I was merely altering a pre-drawn snippet of clip art and then re-producing slightly altered versions over and over again. I then set about altering the interior of the run program to get the mode and colours that I wanted, then saved them out along with a back up copy of the RSX.BIN file.

I re-set the 6128 and typed RUN. Blow me! not only did it work but exactly how I predicted that how I wanted it too. Ok so there was a slight gutter of the sprite images as the screen were displayed, but owing to what the sprite was, a beautiful woman's face mortifying into a demon sticking it's tongue out, the juttering kind of gave it a character in the end.

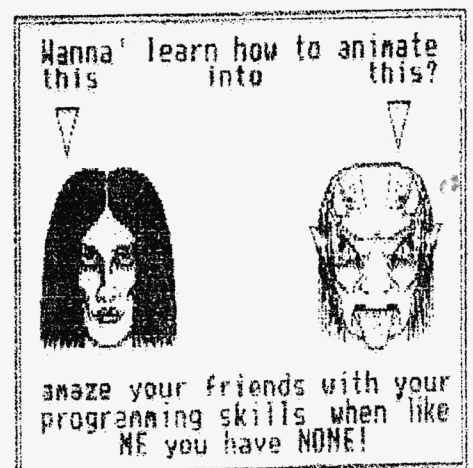
With time permitting, going to have stacks of fun creating more short routines that run through this program and I was wondering if there is anyone out there who would

like my help to create a disc of mini sprite routines for fun value.

I would be happy to copy out the routine and the RSX's along with brief notes on what to alter to make a mode 0, 1 or 2 and columns etc. With Art Studio MAO images I'll show you how and where to create your sprites so that they run correctly. I will copy onto the disc what I have created so far so as to get you started.

But please do send a 3". 3.5" or a 5.25 disc(s) and the return postage to .

Jonty Jones
17 Beech Way
North Seaton
Ashington
Northumberland
NE63 9TD.



6128 Plus-The Dead Drive

How many Plus owners have tried to wire up a second drive to their machine and killed the "A" drive ?. If you have a dead drive then this article may be of interest to you.

This article was taken off the Internet so I'm sorry as I'm not sure who it was that wrote it.

DISC MISSING

Unless the correct pinouts of the 6128 plus machine are known, constructing a second drive cable can be a bit of a hit and miss affair. The Plus's second drive socket has 36 pins, whereas a disc drive only has 34, if the cable is not connected properly it can kill the "A" drive as I found out to my cost.

When the drive is accessed, there is no motor sound, and the computer reports the dreaded Disc Missing Error. This is not to be mistaken for the slipping drive belt problem, but if the the motor sounds can be heard as what happened to my machine, I examined the PCB and traced the fault to a little component named **CIRCUIT BREAKER**. This component is designed to act like a fuse if the 5 Volt line is shorted. It is a little component and mine was marked N1 1004. I found out that it was dead by putting my meter across the two legs of it but I got no reading from the meter so I assumed that it was dead. No problem I thought just get another, but this proved more difficult than I imagined it would be. I searched various electronic catalogues but couldn't find one anywhere, but I'm sure someone out there reading this knows different..So how was I going to repair it now. I hit on the idea of using a small single strand of wire from a piece of mains flex or such like fuse wire if one can get 5 Volt fuse wire. If you are attempting to

carry out the repair your drive using this method. DO NOT use thick wire.

TOOLS NEEDED.

Again only attempt this type of repair if you feel competent with a soldering iron.

1. A small tipped iron.
2. A small cross headed screwdriver.
3. A small flat head screwdriver.
4. The strand of wire.
5. Optional-Multi meter to check out your connection after making the repair.

HOW TO DO IT

Firstly, please read this before tempting to start delving inside of your machine.

Disconnect everything and turn the machine over, remove the six screws and gently release the three clips, turn the machine back over again the right way up and tip the top casing back over it's self, remove the four screws from the disc drive casing noting the Black earth wire. Gently with a small flat screwdriver prize of the ribbon cable, then remove the screws from the drive casing and slide the mechanism out. DO NOT pull on any of the small wire cables.

Turn the drive with the PCB uppermost with the disc slot to the left. Locate the solder pads which hold the breaker in place, you should notice a white line drawn between them. With a meter or circuit checker, check

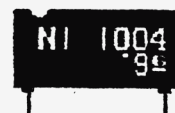
that the circuit is between these points and you shouldn't have any reading whatsoever. If you are thinking of using a simple Bulb and battery to test the circuit, DO NOT use a 9 Volt battery as this could seriously damage other components .

You may find it easier to remove the two screws and unplug the PCB . Then gently heat the pads holding the legs of the breaker and gently pull it out. DO NOT AT THIS STAGE TURN over the PCB otherwise the write protect pin could drop out.

Gently reheat the pads and push one end of the wire into the hole and the same for the other end of the strand of wire but making sure that the wire is not too long and shorting against any other of the components

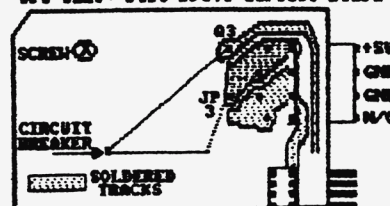
Reassemble in reverse order and all the cables and don't forget the Black earth wire. Switch on and your drive should now be working again.

DIAGRAM's



Circuit Breaker

CPC 6128+ Disc Drive Circuit Board



THE PROJECTS PAGE

by ?????

I'M SORRY IF YOU RECOGNISE AN ARTICLE HERE ON THIS PAGE THAT YOU WROTE AND HAVE NOT BEEN CREDITED WITH.

SIDE SWITCH

It is proving very difficult to buy 3" disc's since Amsoft and Maxwell stopped making them, so what alternatives are there ?. Well we could easily attach a 3.5" or a 5.25" drive and use the much cheaper disc's and easily copy our software over and use it.

However we come to a problem, AMSDOS will only support single sided disc's, and many "new" CPC DOS's use the features, without those new DOS we cannot use the second side of the disc. (Also some games and programs will need to access the floppy disc drive correctly and bypass any new \DOS we put in so the problem still remains). For a 3.5" disc this means it is still a 178K disc.

With the 5.25" disc we can simply take out the disc and turn it over to write to the second side, we can cut a notch in the opposite side to the excising write protect notch. But the 3.5" disc's we cannot turn them over.

The solution is to build a side switch. Now instead of only 178K per 3.5" disc, we can flick the switch and use the other side of the disc giving a 2x 178K storage on one disc. By fitting a side switch you can access both sides of the much easier to get hold off disc's without buying another DOS. And if you fit an

ABBA switch, you can run all of your software from the 3.5" drive as your "A" drive.

This modification will work if you have an extended operating system, all you do is, leave the switch in the side O position.

SIDE O POSITION

| O | - SIDE 1 SELECT

| | GND

| O | - SIDE 1 POSITION.

<< Thanks to who ever sent this article to John Bowley, I came across it on a disc. Dave... >>.



RESET SWITCH

This is a simple project to add a reset switch to your CPC.

The main usage of this switch is that you dont have to keep switching it on or off everytime the computer crashes, or like with some games, Contol, Shift and Escape pressed at the same time, just do not reset the computer, and I find that really enoying, so I fitted this simple device to make my life easier and here is how it's done.

You Will Need.

- . A CPC new or old generation
- . A push button switch
- . Some suitable wire

A soldering Iron.

You connect a lengt of wire from the reset line on the expansion port to one of the pins on the push button switch. Another length of wire from a ground connection on the expansion port to the other pin on the push button switch.

On the older generation of CPC's (edge connector type) you can simply solder to the edge connector directly.

All you have to do then is to drill a hole in the computer casing and fix the push button switch to it. You will need to have a look at the schematics in the manual or << heres a plug for the WACCI book library- Hire out a suitable book to ensure that you are making your connections correctly >>

Dave Here

<< As I said at the begining, I have NO idea as to whom sent in these articles, they were found on a disc that I received that came from John. If you recongise your article then please let me know and I will credit the article to you in the next available issue.

If you have any little projects that could be of interest to other members then please do send them to me >>

Many thanks to whoever you are for the articles

GAME REVIEW & CHEATS

AVAILABLE

Angie very kindly sent me a lot of Game Instructions and Cheats. So if you are on the look out for any cheats, then drop me a line to see if I can help

AN OLD AMSTRAD ACTION GAME ON TAPE 112.

FURTHER ADVENTURES OF FRED.

This is a game for nostalgia freaks everywhere. Yes even in the deepest Mongolia. Remember the OLD PACMAN theme where you walk around a maze, avoid loads of nasties and pick up some goodies.

This game has all the features you'd expect modelled on a 70's classic, a involved title, block graphics and no animation.

It has on the other hand one other ingredient : naked gameplay! Forget sound, forget graphics, forget inane special moves because, like many games of this type. Further Adventures concentrates on one thing and one thing only, pure and simple game playability.

For me it's an example that modern game designers would do well to follow, but I expect there are those of you who like the fancy graphics.

You won't find any in this game. What I did find out about this game was that I kept on and on trying to get to that next level, shouting and swearing each time that I failed, just because I was one credit short of the target to get me to the

next level.

I found that I kept being caught by one of those bad guys or that I made that one mistake that would have never make in the proverbial month of Sundays. I just had to start all over again as I was being over ruled by my brain matter, stating the the next time I was going to make it to the last level and beat this darn thing once and for all.

If your the nostalgic type, then try to get hold of a copy of this little devil from someone and see what I mean.

If you haven't the foggiest of what I have been blabbing on about, then do try to get hold of a copy of " The Adventures of Fred".

It has probably by now entered into the Public Domain, or you may be able to get some kind member to down load it from the Internet for you. My Granddaughter has it on tape and each time we visit them, I have to get out the tape, load it up (yawn) and have a go.

WARNING WARNING

You are likely to find yourself glued to the CPC for hours upon end playing this game trying to beat it, and like me one time I found that I had ventured into the wee small hours of the night keeping up me determination to

beat this flaming thing, but alas, I had to give it up and admit defeat.

Even a lot of coffee to keep me awake didn't help, I thought it would help me to keep my whit's about me, but no such luck.

THE END.

Dave...

Don't forget, if you need any cheats then drop me a line to see if I can help you.

Here's a thought and I'm sure Angie wouldn't object to this suggestion that I'm about to make.

Is there anyone out there who would be willing to accept all the disc's that has been sent to e and write up some articles for the magazine on game cheats etc, as I'm sure there are several members who play games a lot and would benefit from finding out the cheats to make the game more satisfying by beating the darn things.

Please contact me if you are interested.

Dave...

LOOKING AT PAST ISSUES

BY DAVE...

I want to run a series of looking over past issues of the magazine. It may jog someone's memory on how to do it or how to solve a problem. I shall look at the back issue at random.



Yes it's ISSUE DECEMBER 1995 and above is a scanned image. Not a very good one I know but it was the best that I could manage due to my Dog deciding to break open the carrier bag that the magazines where in and using it for a bed. Let me explain. We have had some alterations done to the house and the room where I keep my computers etc. had to be cleared out. One always has a junk room to put everything in for such events, my dog thought how lovely, something new to sleep on and guess what he chose, yes the pile of magazines that came out of the cupboard and he clawed away the carrier bags that I had them in, some of the magazines he has ruined. Must get his claws trimmed.

So what was in this issue then ?

It was Edited by Paul Dwerryhouse and it states a membership total 356.

At that time it cost the club for printing, labels & envelopes + postage a grand total of £475=00.

Carol & John's Competition Page.

Philip Dirichleau was the Fair Comment's Editor. With lots of interesting snippets.

Angies Market Stall full of goodies.

David Crookes told us how or how not to write a fanzine.

Alan Tilling gave us a run down on Very Basic,Basic.

Angela Cook told us how to get the best from SD Microsystems Super Labeller.

Charley's diary with Richard Fairhurst.

Story Time by various members.

Thot For The Day by ???

FAQ-Extracts from the Internet by Ian & Ron Izett.

The Givers (game) by Isobel Swade.

The Great WACCI series of years gone byeeee by John Keneally-a TechTips article.

Lots of Adverts from suppliers such as. Comsoft.

Trading Post.

Wizard Games.

OJ Software.

Merline-Serve.

8Bit Magazine from Brian Watson.

Computer Cavern.

I like looking back over the magazines when I have the time. I don't think that we can get back issues anymore, so if you are after any back issue place an advert with Angie in the Market Stall. You may be lucky to get the issue that you have been after for some time.

Dave..

IT'S ALL IN BLACK & WHITE

BY JONTY JONES

If you've got a few minutes dear reader, I'd like to draw your attention to a growing family business that not only supplies the ink to print out these WACCI pages, but they advertise in WACCI also. Yes it's **AKTIV** the Printer Supplies Specialist for Home and Office.

On the far right of the page is a scanned image of the latest front cover of their magazine that comes with every order and on each page there are lots of goodies for you to purchase from, Printer ribbons, Ink cartridges, special papers and the latest CD Rom games and software.

The company covers so many aspects of computing that it's split up into sections that are handled by separate heads of departments.

A crystal clear picture accompanies each page/section so not only do you get a run down of what each section of the business holds in stock for you, the information you require is in a plain and concise manor, your made to feel welcome on each page as a cheerful smiling staff members face greets you.

My last order with the company was for four Epsom 24 pin printer ribbons, two of which were for my LQ-100 printer and the remain two for my LQ-800 printer. The order arrived within ten working days and when I opened the package I found one of the ribbons for the LQ-100 printer missing. After looking into the envelope I found a short letter explaining that they had in fact temporally run out of the LQ-100 ribbons but they had every confidence

in completing my order within a matter of days.

And yes within four days later the outstanding ribbon arrived through the post and at no further cost to me,smashing.

I have found in my case that no matter how small the order is it makes no difference, the orders come with speed and an accompanying letter that makes me feel I'm being treated like someone who had placed a large order through them.

The company states that everyone is treated with the same respect befitting valued regular customers. It is nice to know that no matter how old your printer is, you can still be treated with such reverence isn't it?

QUALITY REALLY MATERS.

So far, I have had no reason to shun the company when it comes to the quality and value for money of their wares. To be frank with you I see no reason to do so in the future. For what it's worth an order for less than a tenner might not be much to some other companies when it comes to customer relations, but **AKTIV** provides an excellent standard of ribbons and due to this I have no reason to question anything else they supply. You would think that £2-50 would not buy you a decent ribbon



these days, but you would be wrong.

With **AKTIV**, they always put value for money and the quality of the supply **FIRST**.

You have to go a long way these days to find a company that can be highly recommended, but **AKTIV** is definitely on my recommend list of suppliers no doubt what - so - ever.

You can find the address or telephone number in their advert, so if you are in need of a new ribbon, inkjet cartridge, printer paper or any updated CD Rom games or software, then do contact them and you wont be sorry.

Remember the name
AKTIV

Jonty

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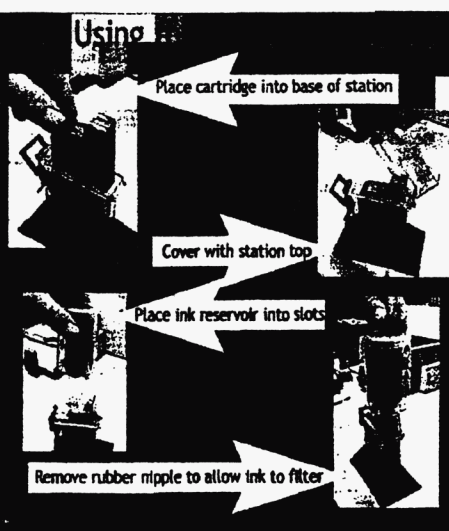
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670	51629A	19.99	12.99	9.99	51649A	21.99	9.99
690	51629A	19.99	12.99	9.99	51649A	21.99	9.99
693	51629A	19.99	12.99	9.99	51649A	21.99	9.99
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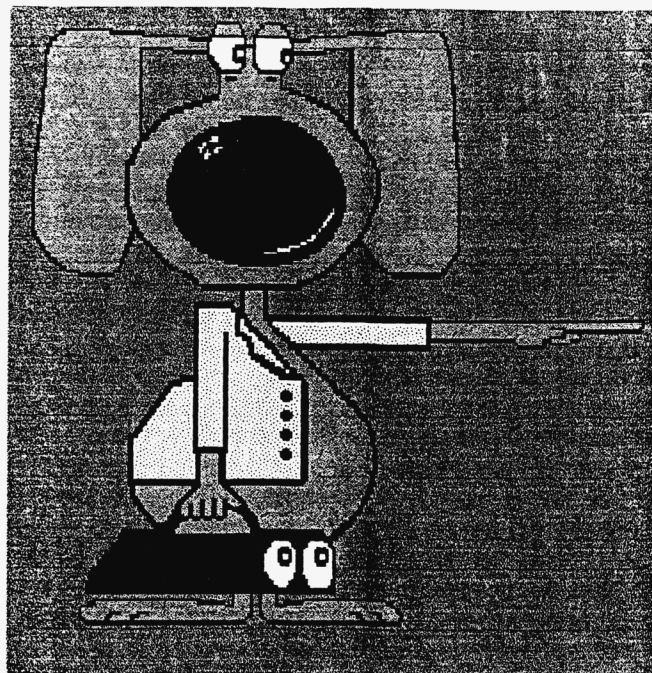
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