

8 Bit Power

July 1996 - Issue 1

We cater for:-

BBC/Electrons, Commodores, Spectrums,
Early Atari's and Amstrad microcomputers.

All Change

Sorry that this issue has taken so long but we have decided to go 'Multi-Format'. That means Imperial Spectrum User Fanzine has now changed to the '8 Bit Power' magazine. This magazine covers all the formats mentioned. There will be a section dedicated to each format and a few multi-format pages. The usual sections are still in. Eg. Miss Divine, Readers letters, For sale, Free ads, etc.

It was only a joke!

So many of you were taken in by our april fools joke. We said that a new american company called Zircom Computer Technologies had bought the copyrights to the Spectrum range of computers. It was all complete bull, but we think that someone believed us. This someone was the 'Eight Bit Alliance' they wrote an article in PD Power saying that Amstrad weren't going to start making Spectrum PC's because they didn't deal with third party machines, etc.

We also said in our april fools joke that Zircom Computer Technologies were going to start making Spectrum PC's.

So what do you think. Do you think they got hold of our fanzine and copied the joke.

We think so.

News

PD Reviews

Cheats

Listings

Plus much more

Such An Error

In a recent article in Martyn Sherwood's PD Power it states that an Acorn 7000 is a PC computer, but in fact it isn't. Acorn computers are not PC's. They are RISC technology computers. Something totally different. Although some PC's are now starting to use RISC technologies. Acorn computers use different formats, programming techniques, etc. Plus Acorn computers can format up to 16 mb floppy disks not 144mb floppy disks. So there. P.s. We use Acorn computers by the way, so we're slightly biast. No offence!

England 4



Holland 1



**WE SUPPORT
BRITISH BEEF**



Foreword

Right:- Neil then
Robert

Hello and welcome to this, the first issue of 8 Bit Power. (Formerly known as Imperial). We hope that you enjoy this issue and will continue to subscribe. Grovel, fawn, lick!. We hope that we, with your help, can continue to support the 8 bit scene for a long time to come.

Neil -

I have a 48k Spectrum with an Interface 1, Microdrive, Citizen 180E printer and a Multiface 128. I also have an Atari 800 XL.

I have been into 8 bit computing for about 8 years and when we launched Imperial we wanted to try and contribute to the speccy world. Although we weren't bothered about profit, we lost a large sum of money on the mag, and therefore we had to fold.

Let's get to know the 8 Bit Power team a little bit better.

Neil Taylor

The boss and all over good guy. Also the leader and writer of this section. I started with a Spectrum 16k back in the good old days when you could get away with it! Then I upgraded to a 48k and a Saga keyboard, with Interface 1, Microdrive, and a Multiface 128. After that I never looked back.

I also have an Atari 800 XL which I got from the car boot and an Atari 520 STe. Printer wise I have a Citizen 180E 9 pin printer. I also want to say that I bought my Multiface 128 from Donny Racecourse car boot for 4 quid!

Robert Hedley

The intelligent one! Yes it's true Neil has an I.Q. of about 60, only joking. NOT.

Regarding work on this magazine I am the administrator, the typesetter, the bloke who does all the DTP stuff, plus anything else that is left.

My first computer was a Spectrum +2. I



8 BIT
POWER

got this when I was about nine and I thought it was brill. (For the time anyway). I then moved onto the Amstrad CPC 464+ computer. What a brill computer, I must say. Ha, ha.

Then for the last of my 8 bit machines I got a Commodore 64 with a datacorder.

I then progressed onto the 32 bit range of computers.

First I got a 486 Sx-33 PC which was pretty good. Then an Acorn 3010 with a pointless 1 Megabyte of memory. What can you run on 1 Megabyte. You could only just run a speccy emulator. Then I got an Acorn 3020 computer with 4 Megabytes of memory. A lot better this time. Printer wise I have a 660 C colour deskjet and a Citizen ABC 24 Pin colour printer.

Neil thinks that he can program, but only a bit. I can program some pretty decent programs, but only on the BBC computer.

We Need Your Help

We need you to send us your articles about the 8 bit scene and life in general. It can be about anything, maybe you need to let off steam about something or you just want to express yourself. It could be a new listing of a program that you have written or just an interesting story that you have come across. What ever it is send it to us at:-

Neil Taylor,
265 Broadway,
Dunscroft,
Dunstable
DN7 4HS

Commodore Bit



Can anyone tell me where I can get hold of an SX64 ?

I have around thirty pounds to spend but I'm sure someone out there can meet my budget.

I only want the machine and no software, but if you are willing to give both for thirty pounds then, wahey who's complaining.

Now for all you one finger typists we have a listing which you should have found with this fanzine.

Here are the instructions and an explanation of the game.

The age of romantic adventure has returned!

The clock has been turned back to the birth of the hot air balloon and the era when exploration of undiscovered lands was all a rage - and there were still undiscovered lands to be discovered.

You have been placed in the shoes of Rodney Bigglesworth, famous explorer and upper class twit, who is preparing to take his new balloon on an epic journey across the countryside.

Once the rope has been cut and the sand bags dropped from the side of the basket, you will be airborne.

The strong winds soon blow the balloon miles away from your home and you'll have to help Rodney avoid church steeples, trees and other careless balloonists if you hope to

reach your secret destination.

Some Useful Address's And Things

PD Libraries

Binary Zone (Tape or Disk)

34 Portland Road,

Droitwich,

Worcs, WR9 7QW

Or Phone (01905) 779274

Fox PD (Tape only)

6 Sturton Avenue,

Goosegreen,

Wigan, W93 6SZ

WWW Pages

Commordore 64 Web Page

<http://www.hut.fi:81/~msmakela/cbm/>

Shareware

Shareware Plus (Disk only)

P.O. Box 301,

Worcs, WR8 9YW

Formats Column

You can send articles by the following methods:-

Paper based

Disk based:-

3.5" DD L 640k ,D 800k ,E

800k / HD F 1.6Mb Acorn disk in Ascii

3.5" DD 360k, 720k Atari disk in Ascii

3.5" DD DOS 720k / HD DOS 1.2Mb, 1.44Mb PC disk in Ascii

Amiga Ascii on a PC disk as above.

BBC / Electron Microcomputers



Foreword

Sorry about the logo but we haven't got a BBC one. We know it's the current Acorn logo but we couldn't draw a BBC one and that's the closest thing to a BBC logo anyway.

Right let's get down to business. This section is written exclusively by Robert Hedley, so don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

BBC Listing

This is a little program that I have written myself. It shows how to use data routines to output a file. The program hasn't got a name so make one for it yourself. It is quite simple to understand BASIC wise. We'll look at retrieving your data next issue.

```
REM Data file routine
REM Disk system version
```

```
PROCinitialise
PROCinput_info
PROCoutput_info
```

```
DEFPROCinitialise
*DISK
ENDPROC
```

```
DEFPROCinput_info
PRINT"Simple DATA Handling Routine"
INPUTTAB(0,3)"Please type in your name
: "name$
INPUTTAB(0,4)"Please type in your age :
"age$
IF name$="" THEN PROCinput_info
IF age$="" THEN PROCinput_info
ENDPROC
```

```
DEFPROCoutput_info
filename$=LEFT$(name$,5)+age$
LET file=OPENOUT(filename$)
```

```
PRINT #file,name$
PRINT #file,age$
CLOSE #file
END
```

Next we have another appeal for help. Can any tell me where we can get the following from ?

Plus one for Electron
BBC Joysticks
View cartridge
Plus any other half decent stuff for the BBC.

Here we have another little feast of programs for the BBC. All you have to do is press the keys which are shown in the programs listing, for the first listing.

```
10 REM Tune Player
20 S$ = " c d e f g a b C D E F G A B"
30 REPEAT
40 INPUT "=>" T$
50 FOR N% = 1 TO LEN T$
60 P% = INSTR(S$,MID$(T$,N%,1))
70 SOUND 1,-15,P1%*4,4
80 NEXT
90 UNTIL FALSE
```

```
10 REM Zap!
20 ENVELOPE 1,129,-15,-8,-
3,10,10,10,126,0,0,-126,126,126
30 REPEAT
40 SOUND &11,1,255,5
50 UNTIL GET = FALSE
```

We at Trading Post stock the very best in eight bit computer consumables and parts, plus we stock a wide range of other 'bit' computer consumables and parts.

For the latest catalog, write to the address below or phone the number below with your enquiry.

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VICTORIA ROAD, SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE, TF11 8AF
TELEPHONE / FAX (01952) 462135

Please mention 8 Bit Power when replying to this advert



Atari Section

In this issue we shall be reviewing an Atari game.



Sorry we couldn't get any news on the Atari scene for this month's issue but you can have our review on one of Atari's early releases.

In this issue we will review 'Eastern Front'.

Eastern Front is a pleasing strategic game in which you play the war time germans invading communist Russia. Although graphically it is inferior to many other games, they are bold and serve there purpose.

On the sound front (get it ?), incorrect choices are rewarded with a grating buzz and little else.

But despite the piss poor sound and graphics this game is rather absorbing and has kept me glued to a fuzzy television screen for over three hours at a time.

Although my score has never got over fifty five. This was originally distributed with most new Atari's. So if you dig deep enough within your collection, you'll probably find it somewhere.

Star ratings

Graphics	★
Sound	★
Playability	★★★★
Lastability	★★★★
Overall	★★★

Please find enclosed with this issue of Eight Bit Power, a listing for your Atari 400's and 800's in 8k mode.

The supplied listing is a game called Dragon Run by Peter and Mark Wright. In this game you are a 'Dragon runner', this basically means you have to run away from the dragon. To do this you

must use your joystick controller to move your little man on the screen.

The aim of the game is to get from the bottom of the screen to the top of your screen and into the castle.

You must beware as a computer controlled dragon is chasing you a round the screen.

The secret of the game lies in the glades and copses on the Dark Forest which bars your way to the castle. Neither you or the dragon can pass through the Dark Forest, but if you are clever enough you can trap the dragon in the trees and race to the castle before it escapes.

Every time you reach the castle and get in you receive 100 gold coins by a way of reward. If you manage to complete ten runs and collect 1000 gold coins the dragon calls up its mate and you have to deal with two deadly monsters.

In this game you are represented on screen by a white square and the dragon by a green square. The dragon does not appear until you start moving.

To complete one run you must slam shut the door of the castle to do this you must be positioned exactly in the centre of the castle gateway, and remember you are not safe until you shut the door of the castle.

Joke Corner

Q: What's the difference between light and hard ?

A: You can sleep with the light on.

Q: How do you circumcise a whale ?

A: Send down four skin divers.

Q: What goes in stiff and dry, comes out limp and wet and gives pleasure to two people ?

A: A teabag.

Q: How do you sink an Irish submarine ?

A: Knock on the door.

Q: What's the definition of a drawing pin ?

A: An excited Smartie.

Eight Bit Power Campaign

Do you remember when Future Publishing shut down the last of the 8 bit magazines, Commodore Format ?

There was a lot of talk about a fanzine version. Also when Your Sinclair and Amstrad Action shut. The same was said about them.

But what happened ?

We wrote a letter to Future Publishing and at the time of writing we are still waiting for a reply.....

Future Publishing
30 Monmouth Street,
Bath,
BA1 2BW

If you would like to campaign against Future Publishing photocopy this page. Cut out the two coupons at the bottom of this page.

Then send one coupon with your name to future publishing and make up another name on the other and send them both in separate envelopes by second class post to Future Publishing. Address elsewhere.

Neil Taylor
265 Broadway,
Dunscroft,
Doncaster,
DN7 4HS

Date as postmark

Dear Future Publishing,

I represent a small general eight bit fanzine and on behalf of our readers and the whole eight bit community, we would urge you to think about publishing an general eight bit fanzine.

As when you ceased publication of Commodore Format, Your Sinclair, and Amstrad Action you promised a fanzine version.

What happened ? . Where are the fanzine versions ? We are going start a campaign to try and get an eight bit magazine or fanzine published in the near future.

We thought that you could publish an eight bit magazine and sell it by subscription and not via retail outlets.

We hope you will see sense and get writing a magazine soon.

Please write with a reply to this letter soon.

Yours faithfully,

Neil Taylor. (Editor - Eight Bit Power)

Eight Bit Power Campaign

I am sending this coupon to protest that you should start to publish an 8 bit fanzine.

Name _____
Address _____

Eight Bit Power Campaign

I am sending this coupon to protest that you should start to publish an 8 bit fanzine.

Name _____
Address _____

Amstrad Avenue

News Flash

News just in indicates that SRS Micro Systems have got a lot of Amstrad equipment for sale. Here are a few, just to mention.

Amstrad 6128, Colour monitor	£39
Amstrad 464's, from	£25
Amstrad monochrome monitors for the 6128 and 464	£15
Amstrad colour RGB monitors	£29
CPC 464 Plus (Machine only)	£16

SRS also have a lot of other eight bit computing equipment, such as:-

Spectrum Interface 1's	£13
Microdrive systems	£8
Centronics interface	£5
Commodore 8023P Printer	£20
Atari 1050 disk drive	£34
Atari 1027 Printer	£27
Modem for Commodore 64	£13

SD Microsystems have recently acquired stocks of CF2 Three inch disks.

All disks come brand new, and are boxed in packs of five, for the bargain basement price of

£14.95

Also if you are having trouble with your three inch disk drive, you may be interested in the three inch disk reviver kit, for the price of £12.50

These items are available from this address:-
SD MICROSYSTEMS (Dept PC),

P.O. Box 24,
Attleborough,
Norfolk, NR17 1HL

Well bless me' guvins Mr Pike, we've left all this space. They'll have me' guts for garters, if I don't fill it up with a nice picture, so ere's one for you all.

Why are these three inch disks so expensive? Can anyone write in and tell us. By the way we already know, but write in anyway.

**Right:-
Crappy
Three Inch
Disk.**



Joke Corner

There were seven dwarfs in a shower all feeling happy. But happy walked out so they started feeling grumpy instead.

Q: How do frogs die?

A: They Kermit suicide.

Q: What's pink and hard?

A: Miss Piggy with a flick knife.

Q: What did Spock find when he went to the enterprises loo?

A: The Captain's Log.

There was an Italian man, a French man and a man from Doncaster. The Italian man said, "When I make love to my wife, I rub her Clitoris with the top of my dick and she jumps two inches off the bed.", The French man then said, "That's nothing, I nibble her ear and rub her Clitoris with my big toe and she jumps three inches off the bed.", and finally the man from Doncaster said, "That's nowt lad. When I've finished shaggin' me' wife, I wipe me' dick on the curtains and she hits the fucking roof!".

sinclair

Hello all you little Spectrum heads out there. It's me Neil here with your monthly dose of your Spectrum enjoyment.

Like the logo ?

It took Robert about 3 hours to get it right. Down to business first off we have a appeal for help. Nothing new here !

If you have a skill for writing then write an article and bung it in the post to us. (See formats column for methods of sending).

If it is printed we may send you some goodies and you will have a nice warm feeling in your gut from contributing to the scene as well.

Next up can anyone send me a copy of the ship manual for 'Elite'.

I have the novel bit and the keyboard overlay type-thing.

Thanks send it to:-

Neil Taylor,
265 Broadway,
Duncroft,
Doncaster,
DN7 4HS

Cheats

Don't you just love 'em ?

Here we have a veritable explosion of the little devils. They get everywhere don't they ?

First up we have a few Multiface pokes for you. To use these pokes you will need either a Multiface one, 128 or 3, or a Multiprint.

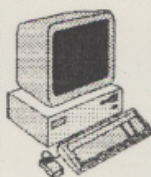
To use pokes load up your the game you want to poke and when your ready to do it press the little button on top of your multiface. When the menu pops up press 'T' for toolkit and the menu will change. Now press the space bar key then type in your start to type your poke.

First type in the five digit number, press the comma key and type the shorter number which follows in the listing. Now press enter.

In more than one poke is required repeat this process. When you've finished press 'Q' to quit the toolkit and then 'R' to return to the game.

Right here we go with the pokes.

Chuckie Egg	42873,0 - Lives
Chuckie Egg 2	35453,0 - Lives
Combat School	37088,0 - Time
	37088,53 - N. Time
Dizzy	54216,0 - Immortal
	62745,0 - Lives
Dragon's Lair	51867,0 - Lives
Dragon's Lair 2	35766,0 - Lives
Elite (48k)	39517,0 - Energy
	39959,0 - Missiles
	46848,0 - 1 hit kills
	46759,0 - No overheat
	56997,0 - Fuel
	56280,0 - Fuel part 2
	56290,0 - Hyperspace
	39987,0 - Escape pods
	28820,0 - En. bombs
	54261,0 - E.Bom Part 2
	54275,0 - Extra Cash
Emp. Strikes Back	43624,0 - Shields
Flash Gordon	50732,0 - Time
	49213,0 - Bullets
Mario Bros.	44079,0 - Lives
Rock 'n' Roll	41423,0 - Lives
R-Type	37452,0 - Lives
	38241,154 - Life part 2



FOUNTAIN PD

For the best in Spectrum public domain. Anything and everything including utilities for tape, microdrive, +3, +D, business, printers, etc.

For the latest catalog send an SAE to:-
Fountain PD, 11 Camel Road, London, E16 2DE

Regulars

This is the regulars section. Everything on this page will appear in every issue of Eight Bit Power.

Free Adverts

In each issue there will be a 'Free Adverts' section. In this section you can place an advert for anything you like. It doesn't have to be about computers in general. The first twenty words are for free and after that the prices are indicated. To place your article in 'Free Adverts' photocopy this page fill out the form, cut it out and send it to the Eight Bit Power address.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

I enclose £ . for payment of my advert.

Signed _____

Please could
you make all
cheques
payable to:-
Neil Taylor

All postal orders be made payable to:-
Neil Taylor
at Doncaster
Main Post
Office. No
cross chequed
postal orders.

Please note

When paying by cheque
or postal orders please
add 75p to the total.

This covers
administration costs.

Eight Bit Declaration

I the reader of 8 Bit Power, swear my undying alliance to the 8 Bit range of home computers and I will never leave the path of righteousness that is the 8 Bit range of home computers. People with PC's may call us inferior just because we don't have the latest 'Ninja' PC but we struggle for the recognition of 8 Bit computing as a worthwhile hobby. I shall never buy any other 'bit' computer.

					Free
					25p
					50p

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are available at the following rates:-

- | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------------|
| (a) 1 Issue | - £1.00 | (1 Month) |
| (b) 6 Issues | - £5.50 | (6 Months) |
| (c) 12 Issues | - £11.00 | (12 Months) |

If you would like to subscribe photocopy this page, fill in the form below, cut it out and send it to the Eight Bit Power address.

Dear Mr Administrator,
Please register me for subscription option ().
I enclose cash/p.order/cheque for the
subscription charges.

Name _____

Address _____

Signed _____

**The 8 Bit Power address is:-
Neil Taylor, 265 Broadway,
Dunscroft, Doncaster, DN7 4HS**

Private Advertisements

Private advertisements are available as follows.

3 1/4 Page boxes, flyers	£4.00
6 1/4 Page boxes, flyers	£7.50
3 1/2 Page boxes, flyers	£6.50
6 1/2 Page boxes, flyers	£12
3 Full page boxes, flyers	£8.75
6 Full page boxes, flyers	£16

Other sizes and options are available on request. Flyers are leaflets sent with enquiry letters and any other outgoing mail.

A fully comprehensive advert and flyer design service is available. If you would like to take advantage of this service please add £2.99 to any of the option prices. Any artwork which you currently have can be included.

For more information send an S.A.E. to the
Eight Bit Power address.