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MARCH 1983

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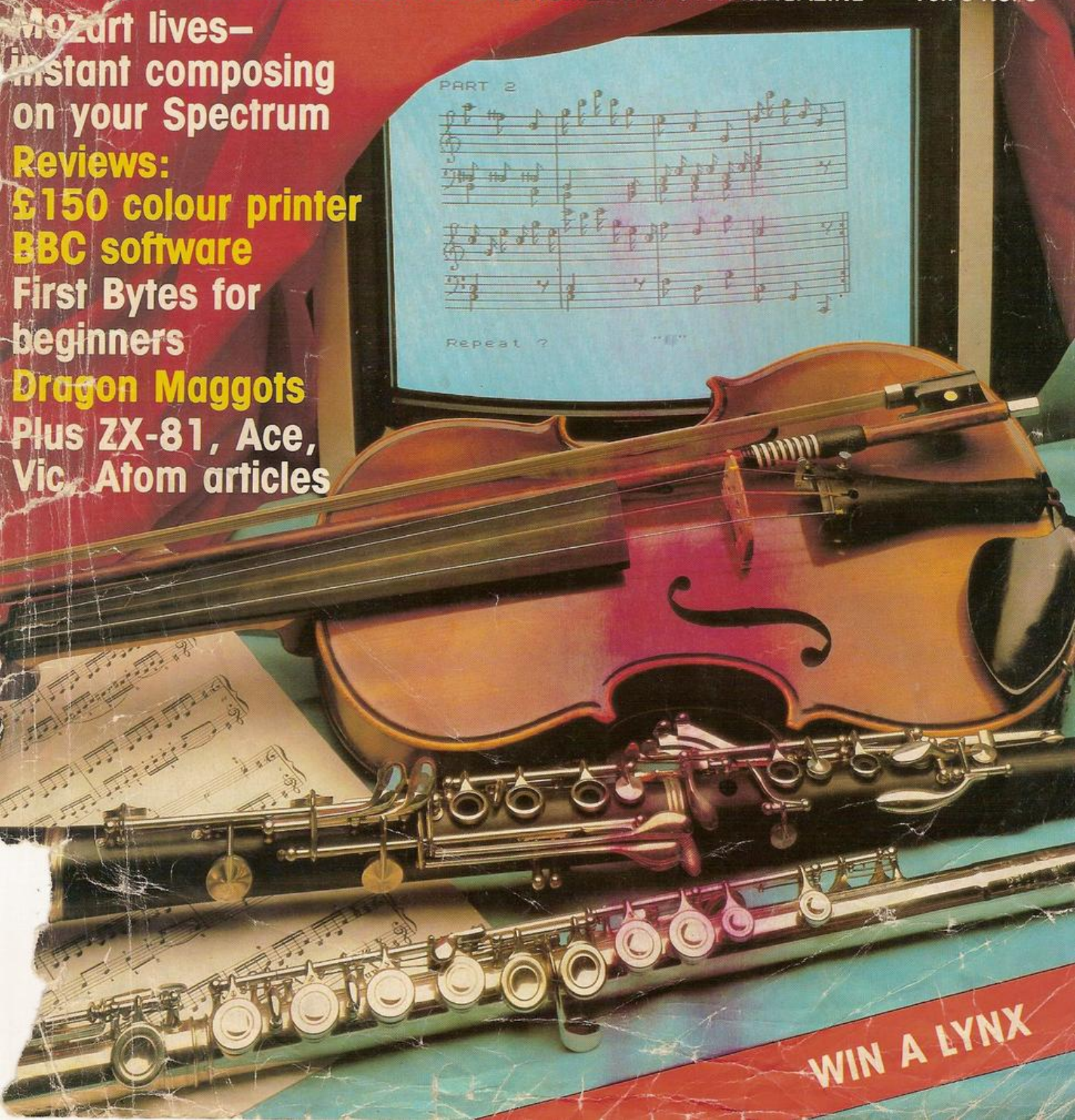
Vol. 3 No. 3

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on your Spectrum**

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£150 colour printer
BBC software**

**First Bytes for
beginners**

**Dragon Maggots
Plus ZX-81, Ace,
Vic, Atom articles**



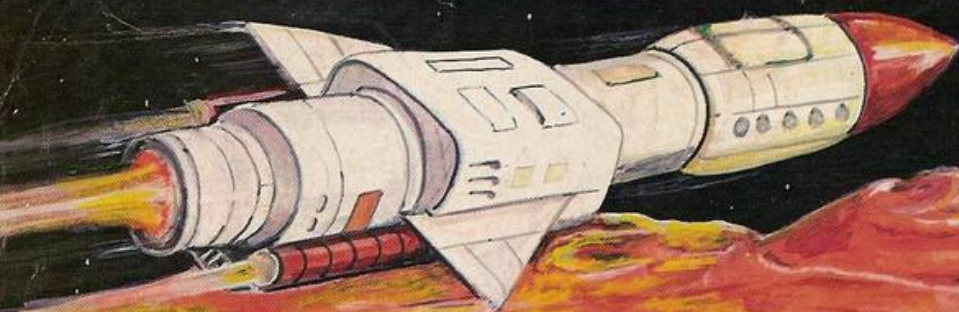
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Cover photograph by Stephen Oliver.

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50 BBC SOFTWARE SURVEY: Blast your way out of the arcades with Rocket Raid or just calm down and admire the economy of a word processor on a chip.

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70 INCREDIBLE SHRINKING COMPUTERS: John Dawson sums up 35 years of computer technology — from making noises in troughs of mercury, to silicon chips.

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90 BBC MONITOR: Space is of the essence in the BBC and Richard Harris has managed to fit a commercial-quality monitor into just 2K including a full disassembler.

97 BBC ASSEMBLER: The BBC Micro has the advantage of a built-in assembler but few people know how to take full advantage of it. Chris Melville advises.

100 LANGUAGE LEARNING ON THE ZX-81 AND DRAGON: The Brains show how you can use a micro to help you with French — or even Welsh — homework.

107 ATOM ERROR: When your desk-top Dalek starts screaming "Error" at you do not panic — just change the error messages to something more helpful.

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121 SOFTWARE FILE: 10 program-packed pages full of games, tips, and serious applications for the Ace, Atom, ZX-81, BBC, Vic-20, Dragon, Atari and Spectrum.

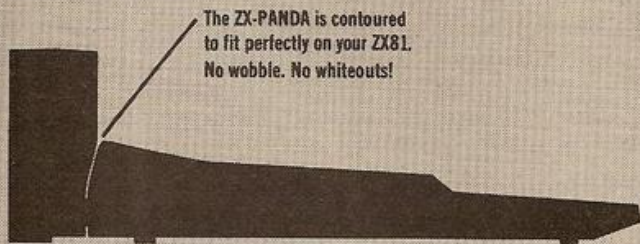
139 COMPETITION CORNER: Another exploding puzzle — Telepathic Dangers: a winner for the Oric competition and the result of the Star Stone teaser.

WIN A LYNX Just complete the crossword and think of a slogan to win this 48K colour computer — card between pages 26 and 27.

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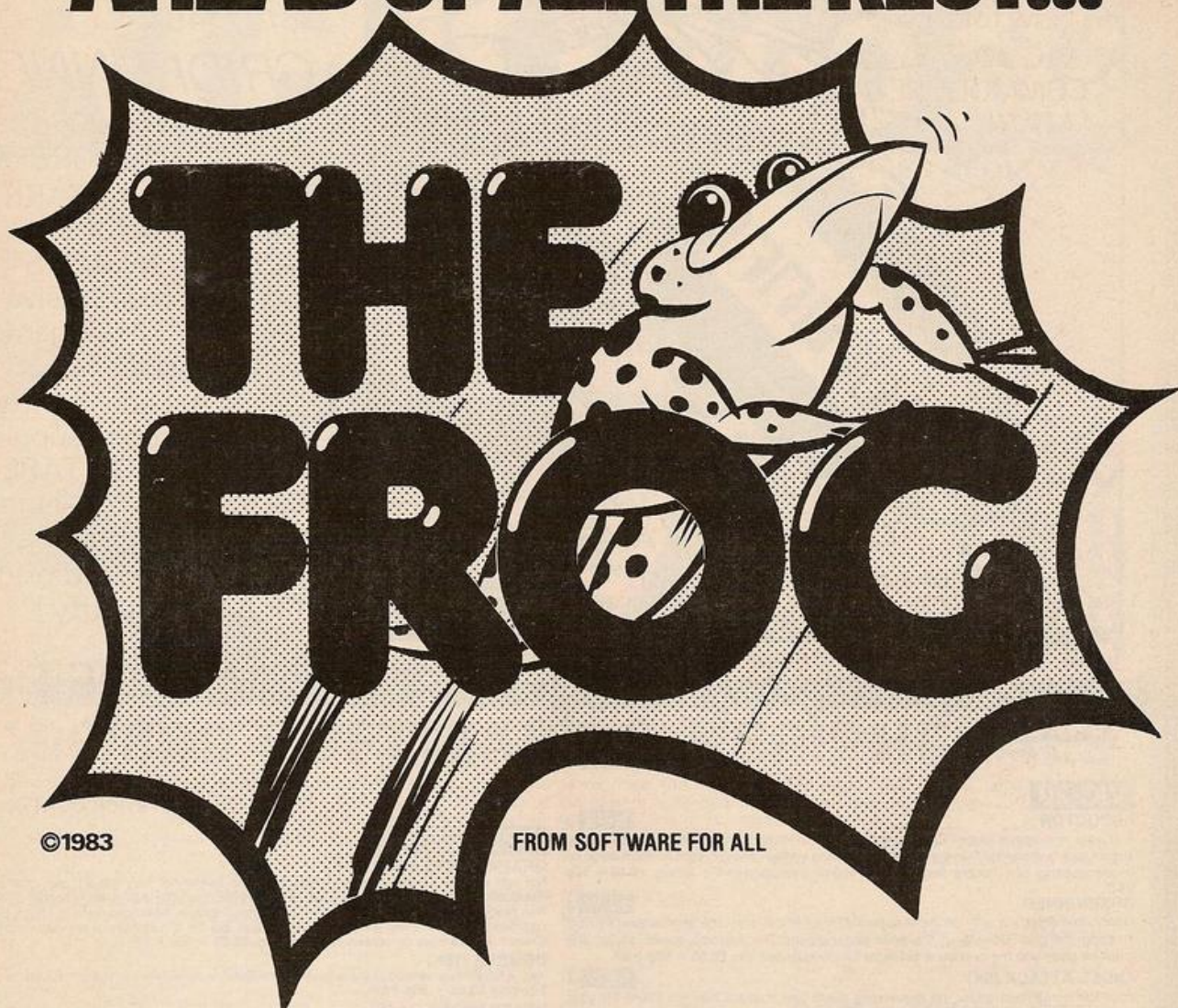


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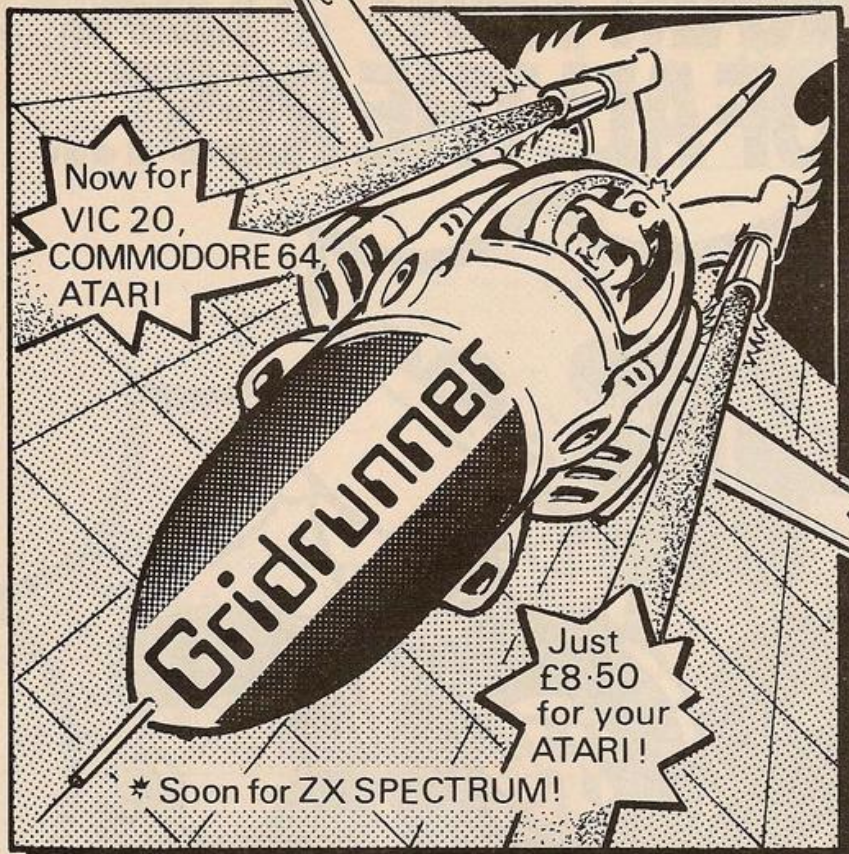
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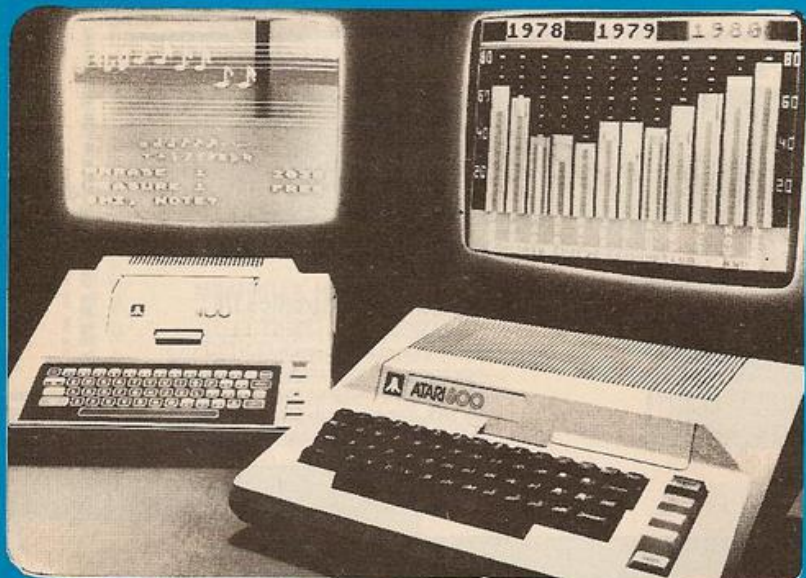
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YC0283 - Your Computer - February 1983

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MEMOPAK 16K For those just setting out on the road to real computing, this pack transforms the ZX81 from a toy to a powerful computer. Data storage, extended programming and complex displays become feasible. For even greater capacity, memory packs can be added together (16+16K or 16+32K). The MEMOPAK 32K and the MEMOPAK 64K offer large memories at economical prices.

MEMOPAK 16K

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32K: £49.95
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MEMOPAK Centronics I/F

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ZX81

It all adds up to an efficient, modular computer system

The Memotech approach to microcomputing is to take the well-proven and popular ZX81 as the heart of a modular system. This small computer houses the powerful Z80A processing unit and acts as the central processor module through which the Memopaks operate.

Memotech has a reputation for professional quality, producing units which are designed to fit perfectly, to look well-balanced, and to work efficiently and reliably.

The modular approach gives ZX81 owners the freedom to design the system they really need. Furthermore, the intercompatibility of the modules ensures that later additions will click straight in, to give you a system that grows with your ambitions and abilities.

To ensure that your expectations are realised, care is taken at every stage to design features into the system to anticipate your needs. For example:

1) Memories are cumulative e.g. 16K and 32K can be added

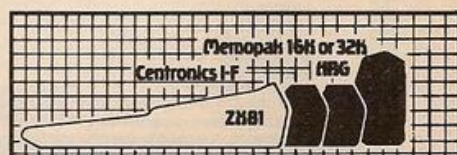
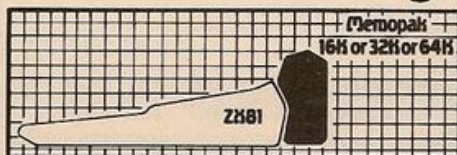
to the Memopak 16K or even to the Sinclair 16K RAM pack. 2) The HRG firmware allows commonly used constructions (such as scrolling, shading and labelling graphs), to be called by a few simple commands. 3) The Centronics I/F converts ZX81 character codes into ASCII and extends the print line to the width of the printer, still using the LLIST, LPRINT and COPY commands.

As one example, a system with 16K of memory and Memocalc is all that is required to perform the same sophisticated numerical projections as a computer at 10 times the price. The problem may be as complicated as a cash flow or production schedule, or as simple as household accounts or pocket money budgeting. If your bank manager wants to see a cash flow, then a single print instruction to the Centronics I/F will give a printout which is more than acceptable.

The example system which is shown, on the other hand, would satisfy the needs of someone who wanted to enter data

How it all fits together

You can see from the diagrams how various Memotech/Sinclair units can be combined.



otech, trial of your ZX81...

MEMOPAK HRG

MEMOPAK HRG This pack breaks down the constraints imposed by operating at the ZX81 character level and allows high definition displays to be generated. All 248×192 individual pixels can be controlled using simple commands, and the built in software enables the user to work interactively at the dot, line, character, block and page levels. Scrolling, flashing and animation are all here.

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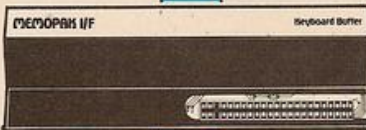
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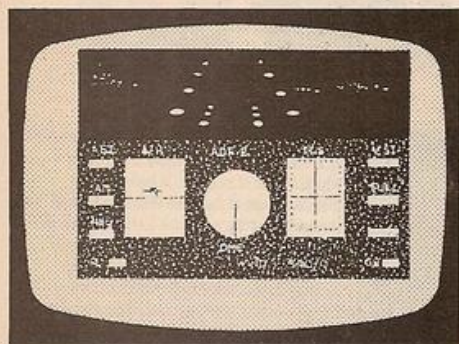
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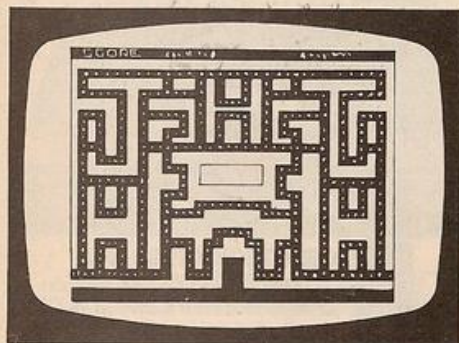
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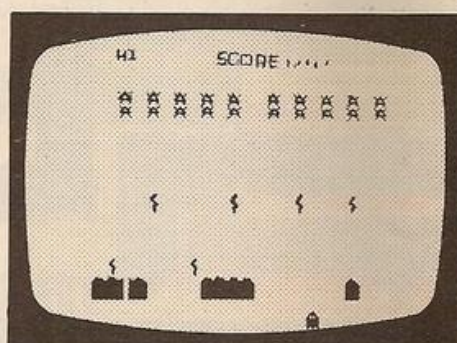
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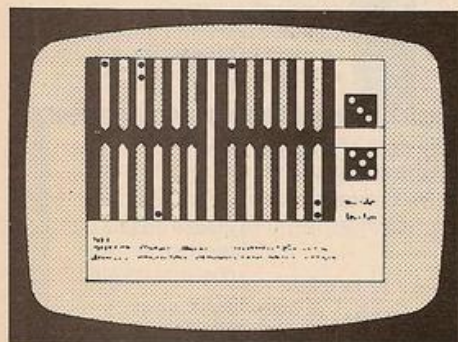
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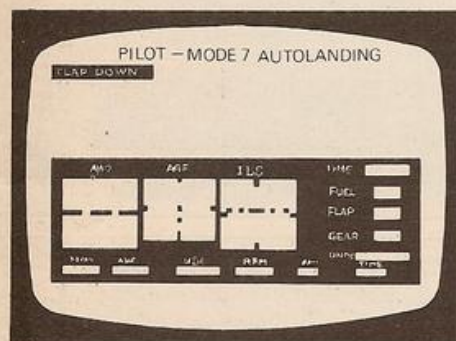
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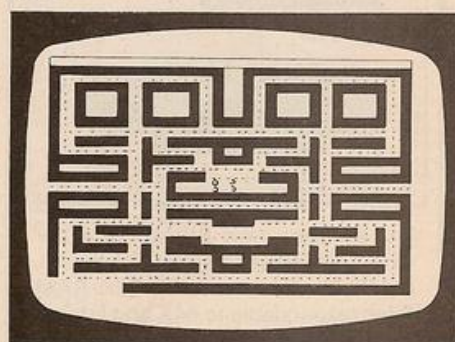
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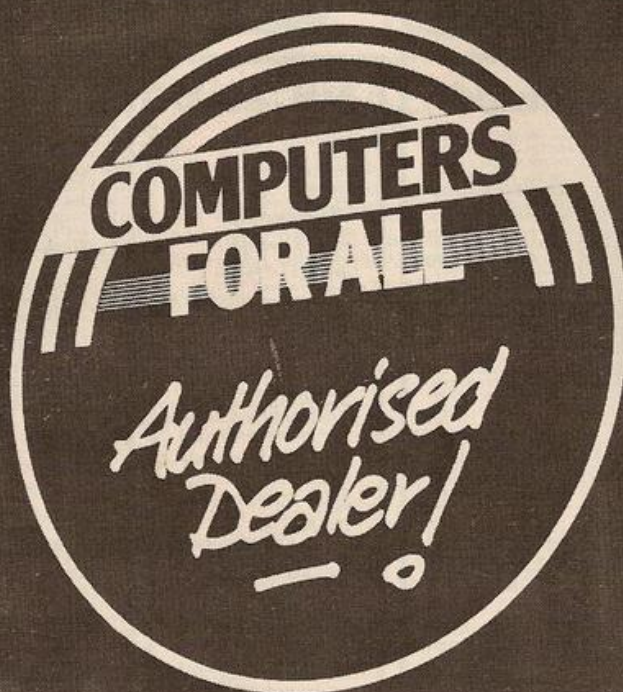
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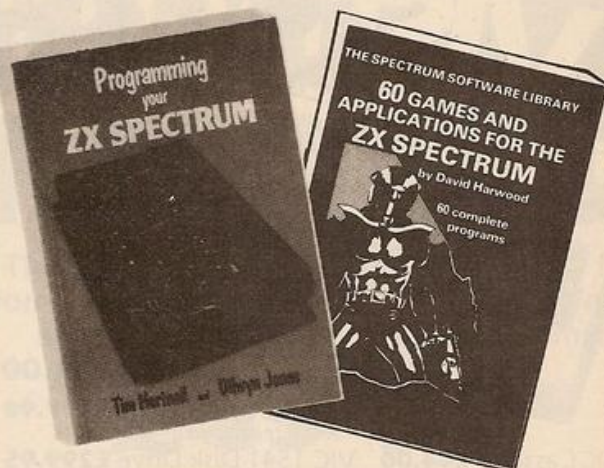
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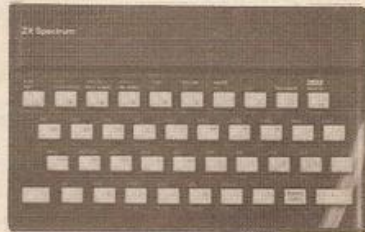
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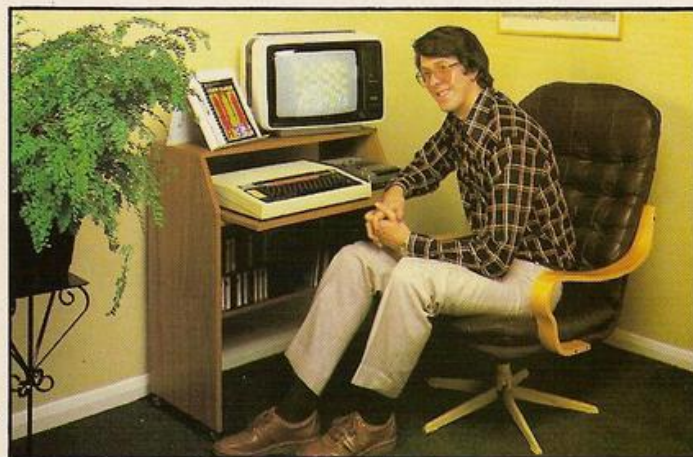


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Three out of every four computers going into schools are BBC Micros.

Is there a lesson to be learned by every user?

As part of the current government subsidised scheme aimed at introducing micros to schools, the Department of Industry undertook a survey of machines available and made recommendations to education authorities all over the country.

The BBC Micro met their priorities exactly: it is economical yet fast and powerful, and it can justify the investment involved, through its capability to grow with the needs of the user and with the rapid changes in technology.

Teachers and education authorities agreed, and today it represents over three-quarters of all micros being ordered for schools across the country under the DOI scheme.

The BBC's choice too.

In choosing a machine to put their name to for their massive Computer Literacy Project, the BBC had the same set of priorities as the DOI. The BBC Micro is now an integral part of that project, which includes books, software, courses and a number of major television series, one of which, "Making the Most of the Micro" is now being broadcast.

All this for only £399.

The BBC Micro is light and compact. It generates high resolution colour graphics, and is capable of synthesising music and speech using its own internal speaker. The keyboard uses a conventional layout and typewriter feel.

The most sophisticated version (called

Model B) is available for only £399. (There is also a basic model available, the Model A, at £299.)

Designed to grow.

Last year the magazine "Which Micro?" said that the most attractive and exciting feature of the BBC Microcomputer was its 'enormous potential for expansion'.

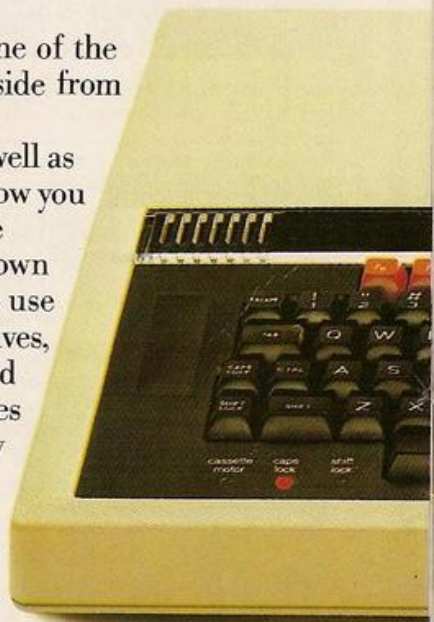
This is indeed one of the features that sets it aside from the competition.

For example, as well as interface sockets to allow you to connect to a cassette recorder, and to your own television, you can also use video monitors, disc drives, printers (dot matrix and daisy wheel) and paddles for games or laboratory use.

You can also plug in ROM cartridges containing games with specialist application programs.

The Tube. A unique feature.

The Tube, which is unique to the BBC Micro, provides for the addition of a second processor via a high speed data channel. The possibilities are enormous. For example, the addition of a second



3MHz 6502 processor with 64K of RAM doubles processing speed. While a Z80 with 64K of RAM opens the door to a fully CP/M* compatible operating system, with all the benefits for business applications.

Linking up with other computers.

The BBC Micro also offers a facility of immense potential value to schools, colleges and businesses. It's called Econet® – a system which uses telephone cable to link with other BBC Micros. A number of machines can then share the use of expensive disc drive and printer facilities.

Make full use of Prestel & Teletext.

With special adaptors you will not only be able to turn your TV set into a Prestel terminal and Teletext receiver, but you can also take data and programs direct from these services. (The programs, which are known as telesoftware, are already being broadcast by BBC's Ceefax service.) This is another first for the BBC Micro.

BASIC plus.

A sophisticated version of BASIC has been chosen for the BBC Micro, which incorporates features normally found only in more advanced high level languages. However, there is also a facility allowing access through a simple command to another language – for example, PASCAL, FORTH and LISP.

*Trademark of Digital Research.



A full range of software.

Applications software for the BBC Micro already cover a very wide field. Packages covering games, education and business applications are available on cassette. All developed to the same high standards set by the hardware.

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Your BBC Micro comes with the backing of the BBC and an extensive dealer and service network.

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Advanced space games, including the sophisticated 'Omega Race'.

Learn subjects as diverse as English Language, programming, and biology.

And 'home' software ranges from IQ tests to Robert Carrier menus.

In addition, there is a range of VIC software, like programmers' aids and graphics packages—



to add to your understanding and enjoyment of computers and computing.

There's even a special 'VicSoft' Club for VIC 20 enthusiasts, with many advantages including special offers to club members.



VIC software will expand your horizons. And your mind.



commodore
VIC 20

For the best hardware, the best software.

The BBC Microcomputer system is generally regarded to be the best micro in its price range you can lay your hands on. So, if you're thinking of buying one or already own one, you'll want to know about the software that's been specially designed for it.

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Further education for everyone.

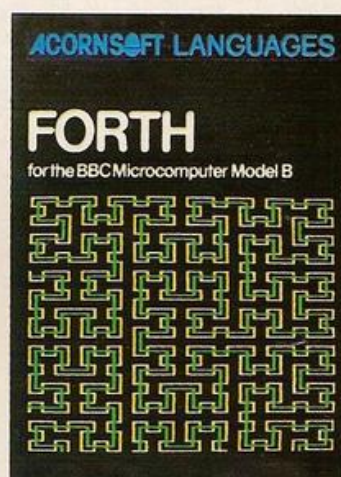
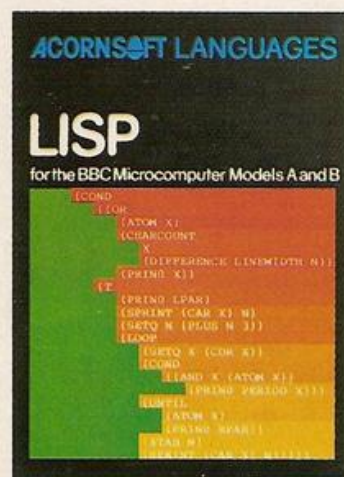
Creative Graphics, which includes the book 'Creative Graphics on the BBC Microcomputer' (price £17.45), provides 36 programs on cassette producing a spectacular range of pictures and patterns in full colour, including animated pictures, recursively-defined curves and three dimensional shapes.

Word Sequencing (price £11.90) contains three word sequencing programs on cassette. Each program presents a series of jumbled words which must be arranged on screen to form

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Learn more languages.

LISP (price £24.35) is the fundamental language of artificial intelligence research.

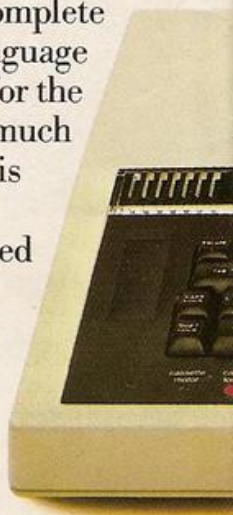
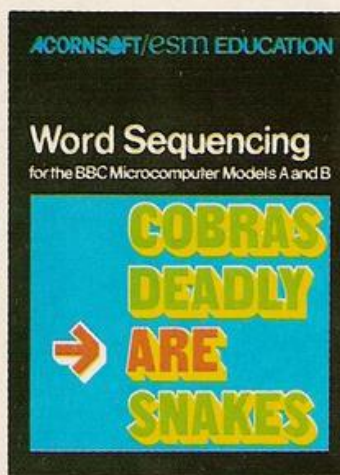
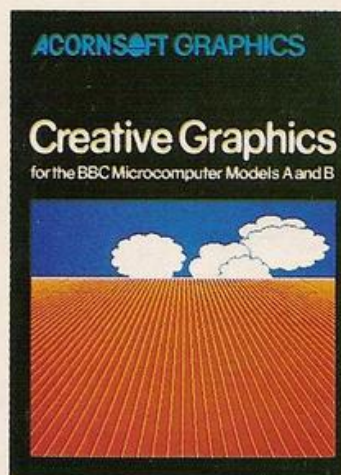


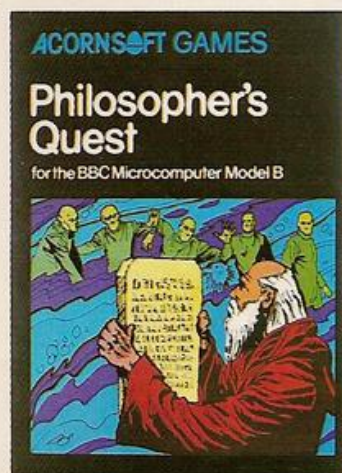
It consists of 5.5K of machine code interpreter, plus 3K of initialised LISP work-space containing utilities and constants. It comes complete with a book that introduces you to programming in LISP, as well as some fascinating applications.

FORTH (price £24.35) is a complete implementation of the FORTH language to the 1979 standard specification for the BBC Microcomputer Model B. This much acclaimed programming language is also accompanied by a specially written book explaining all you need to know.

Mind-boggling games.

Philosopher's Quest (price £9.95) is an advanced adventure in which you tell the computer what you want to do and it





describes back in plain English your progress through a fascinating world of fiendish puzzles to be solved.

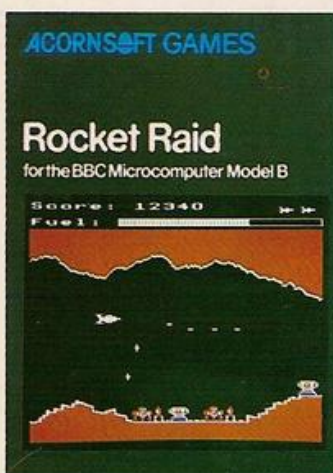
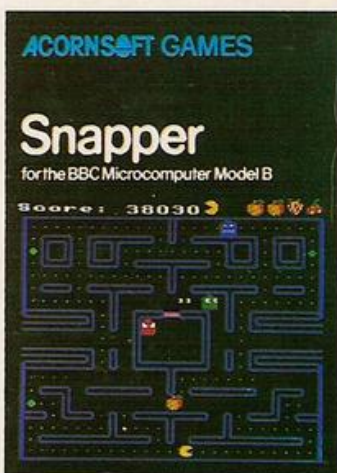
Snapper (price £9.95) is a colourful game where you guide your 'snapper' through the maze, eating dots and fruit and avoiding the creatures that chase you. Complete with full sound effects, score and a ladder of high scores.

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Increase your business acumen.

Desk Diary (price £9.95) is an indispensable program that can hold a file of several hundred names, addresses and telephone numbers.

And View, a program that enables your machine, together with a printer, to operate as a fully operational word processor. (The program is in ROM, but can easily be fitted to most BBC Micros by your local dealer.) You can find out



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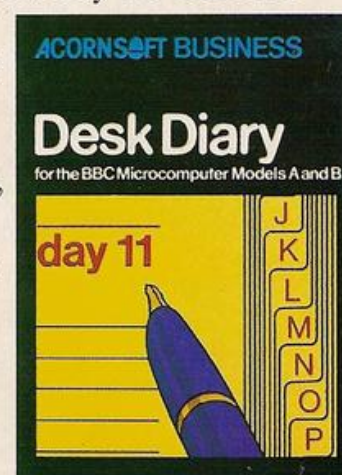
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Philosophers Quest	£9.95			(SBC01)
Snapper	£9.95			(SBC04)
Rocket Raid	£9.95			(SBC05)
Desk Diary	£9.95			(SBB01)

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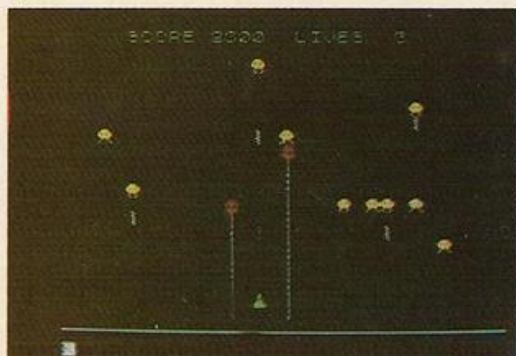
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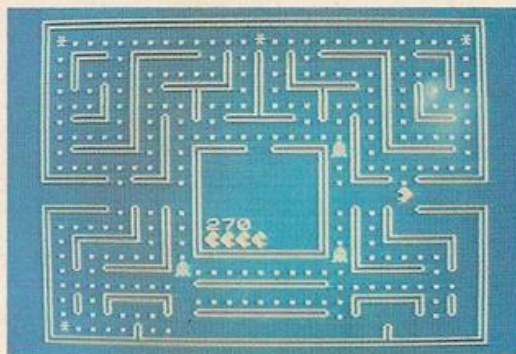
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ZX Spectrum SOFTWARE



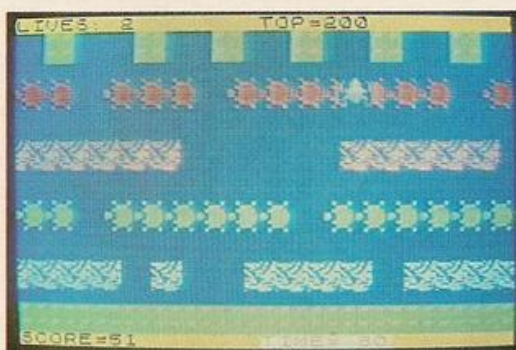
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FROGGER AND SPECMAN, two excellent games for the price of one! **SPECMAN** is probably the best version of it's type with great machine code graphics and sound effects with 3 to 5 ghosts, power pills and a real munchie man who munches away in all directions unlike cheaper versions!
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CENTIPEDE AND PAINTER

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Centipede is a full colour machine code arcade game where the object is to defend yourself with your Laser against a fast moving centipede which weaves in and out of the mushroom patch. There are other versions of this game but we think you'll prefer ours because we always strive for an extra dimension of realism, which makes all the difference!
Painter, is another well loved Arcade game here you must paint in between the numbers on a multicoloured screen before you have to overlap.
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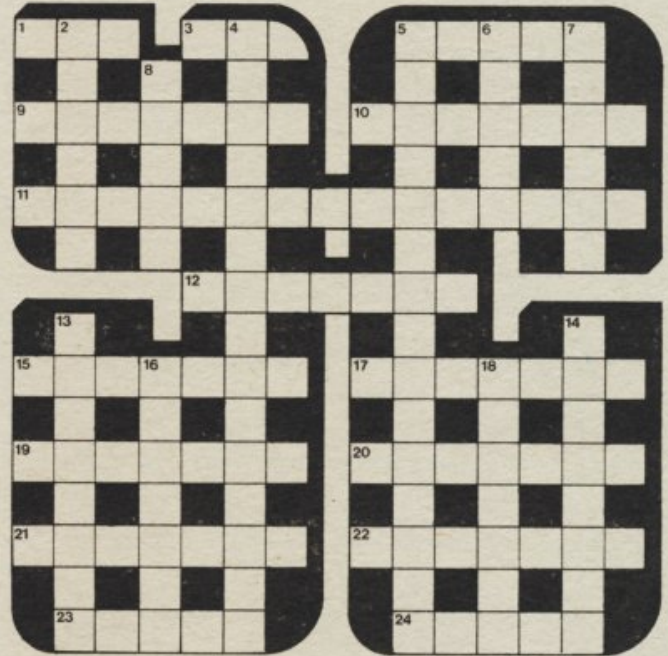
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Complete this sentence in 12 words or fewer. "A Lynx would bring out the animal in me because . . ."

Your Computer Lynx competition

ACROSS

- 3, 1 There's hope for a snake with anger (6)
- 5 Puzzle to make out (5)
- 9 Use micro to act in the theatre (7)
- 10 Jail store (3, 4)
- 11 One who wrote 12A for a simple TV show, right? (5, 10)
- 12 For X = Y to Z: Gosub 100: Next X (7)
- 15 Relax and rock — basically, the reading will start at the beginning (7)
- 17 It's at the heart of the CPU's start-up (7)
- 19 I see Tim compiling list (7)
- 20 Separate from one who goes beneath the surface, before returning, for example (7)
- 21 The President delves in coal in a sunny atmosphere (7)
- 22 Crash — about zero-fifty to the student (7)
- 23 Let it change the name (5)
- 24 'e went on 'orseback and ate away (5)

DOWN

- 2 12A again! (6)
- 4 Initialise a disc and prepare to keep nothing (3, 2, 5, 5)
- 5 Clear cheque and stir up the Greeks's old problem (6, 3, 6)
- 6 Member of the United Nations without weapons? (5)
- 7 Peeping-Tom holding a plea (6)
- 8 Tail, about right to drag along (5)
- 13 Leave the majority of A\$ when A\$ = CHR\$ (VAL (B\$)) (8)
- 14 Meaningful words come forth, for example (8)
- 16 Stop the clock for a period away from home (4, 3)
- 18 A strange lot — more of a varied pitch (7)

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- Entries to the competition cannot be acknowledged.
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YOUR LETTERS

SCHIZOPHRENIA: DIVIDED VIEWS

I was rather surprised at the pompous and totally unhelpful reply to Bradd France in Response Frame in January's issue of *Your Computer*. Coming from a magazine that publishes advertising for a computer known not to be available for months on end, that is, the Spectrum, a high moral tone does not seem entirely appropriate.

What right has Tim Hartnell to assume that someone wanting to stop an auto-run machine-code program must be also wanting to contravene copyright? There have been a couple of occasions when I have unthinkingly made a machine-code program with a bug in it an auto-run version, and then Saved it to be safe. A lot of typing would have been avoided by having an ability to stop execution and rescue the item. Secondly I have found it a very valuable way of learning programming techniques in machine code. I do hope that Tim Hartnell is not proposing to have the copyright laws changed to make even study illegal.

If the user of a stopper program does in fact intend to infringe copyright, then what business is it of yours anyway? However, if you do feel that "it would be highly irresponsible to publish" a program intended to break into machine code then perhaps you would care to explain why you did publish one in the December Software File? Gino Gracin's very useful "list self starter" was just what Mr France needs, but as I imagine that your curiously-mixed morals will prevent you publishing this to let him know then I can only hope that he found it for himself.

While I am at it can I suggest that your contributor to Response Frame sticks to answering questions about computing — which he is evidently competent to deal with. I have in past issues seen some entertaining replies to TV and tape recorder queries.

A Jaques, Urmston, Manchester.

BUG SPOTTER

You only do it to annoy, because you know it teases! All those errors in published machine-code programs. Three recent corrections, which may be helpful to your other readers, are as follows: first, Hopper, January 1983, addresses 16854 to 7 were left out and should be 22 D3 40. 16974 should contain B3, and 16975,6 should read 20 FB.

Second, Snake, February 1983 Software File, addresses 16574 to 16581 omitted, putting all subsequent addresses out by eight bytes. These addresses should contain 01 12 13 11 01 00 18 16.

Third Maze Chase as listed, also February Software File, gives a set of bars but no maze. Address 16564 should contain 00. All the above codes are hexadecimal numbers. I know it is good for us to debug machine-code programs, but this can take longer than entering them.

*J R G Nash,
Botley,
Oxfordshire.*

RAM WRINKLE

When the BBC Basic conversion board is fitted to an Acorn Atom, it disables the Atom's bus buffers for addresses in the range 4000-7FFF. This is sensible when in BBC mode, as this area of memory is then used for I/O, the utility ROM, and the graphics RAM. But when in Atom Basic mode, this area could otherwise be used by external RAM to extend the text space.

Luckily, a simple modification to the BBC Basic conversion board will enable the bus buffers for this

address range when in Atom mode. It involves bending pin 11 of IC14 up so that it no longer makes contact with the socket, then connecting this pin to pin 12 of IC 12.

Readers may also be interested to note that with the extra 2K bytes of RAM provided on the BBC Basic conversion board, the total RAM in the system becomes in the BBC mode:

8K from 0000 to 1FFF
6K (graphics) 4000 to 57FF
and in the Atom mode
1K from 0000 to 03FF
7K from 2000 to 3BFF
6K (graphics) 8000 to 97FF

*Mike Lord,
Basildon,
Essex.*

FAST SLIDE

Stewart Stallworthy obviously went to a great deal of trouble to prepare the Z-80 Slide Show code — Software File, January 1983. The essence of the job can be done with the single instruction LDir, and roughly three times faster, as follows:

Code	Assembly	Comment
21 A4 9C	LD HL,40100	first byte of saved display, the same as the published example.
11 00 40	LD DE,16384	first byte of display file proper
01 00 1B	LD BC,6912	byte count
ED B0		LDIR block transfer until BC = 0
C9	RET	

12 bytes of code, versus Stewart's 48, and relocatable! The whole thing really does operate with astonishing speed; it takes about six milliseconds to execute the whole routine once on my Spectrum. Try alternating between two Saved displays — it is enough to make your eyes water!

Incidentally, I detected a bug in Stewart's listing; address 40029 should contain 239, not 238 as shown. Fortunately it does not matter; the JR points to the last byte of LD HL,nn at 40010 which decodes as LD B,B.

*D W Albery
Fleet,
Hampshire.*

BUZZING

ZX-81 users may be interested to know that one reason for loading problems may be the close proximity of TV set and tape recorder. Check by running the recorder on play without a cassette or with a blank tape and with the volume turned up high. When placed near a working TV set, particularly at either side, a harsh buzz will be heard. If a ZX-81 set to Load is then connected, a pattern of bright bands reminiscent of correct loading but closer and narrower will be seen even though no program is being played. Previous to this discovery I had to strike a balance between too little volume and too much. Too much volume was really interference from the scan coil in the TV. Now with a cassette player two to three feet distant, I can use full volume and get perfect loading.

A second discovery is that an edge connector with the trade mark UECL has a contact design which I consider gives much more positive contact with the ZX-81 circuit

board. I have also carefully removed the thick layer of solder from the ZX-81 contacts. I can now deliberately rock my home-made memory board back and forth without losing memory; previously even a slight vibration could cause a maddening crash.

Could I suggest that computer reviews be aimed rather more towards the user like myself who has little interest in games. For example, a computer without Arc Sine and Arc Cos is an anachronism to me. Accuracy of working can be of interest since 8 figures is sometimes insufficient for one of my interests, astronomical calculations. A point which I have never seen mentioned is the resetting of variables — that is, data to zero — if a program line is altered. This is most frustrating when debugging a program, but with my ZX-81 I can go along happily editing and restarting at the corrected line.

*B Manning,
Stakenbridge,
Worcestershire.*

1K CHESS

The code presented for the three articles on chess is correct. If you are having problems then I'm afraid an incorrect number has been typed in and you are finding out first-hand the pleasures of machine-code programming.

I did omit to tell you of two Pokes prior to saving the 1K working game which provide the moved King or Queen's pawn. Prior to typing RAND USR 18542 type
POKE 17241,0
POKE 17252,53

These move the King's pawn forward then

RAND USR 18542

STRANGE DISSERTATION

Time is envisaged by some thinkers as particulate. That is to say, time is composed of discrete particles. These particles are known as chronons, and being particles they must have mass. Since they have mass it follows that they must occupy space.

The rate of flow of time is demonstrably the same in all parts of the universe — except when very high speeds are considered — so much is common knowledge.

I am convinced that this state of affairs does not apply to the space in the vicinity of microcomputers and their associated paraphernalia. My theory is that microcomputers interfere with the space-time continuum in such a way that the density per unit area of chronons in the vicinity of these objects is very much reduced: it can be seen that in a volume of space where there are few chronons, the amount or quantity of time will be less than in a normal volume of space.

A few minutes near a microcomputer may be equivalent to an hour or more in a normal atmosphere, so that when your wife/husband/girlfriend/boyfriend calls you away from your computer, and you reply, "five more minutes", is it surprising that an hour or more of normal time passes?

This theory also explains the 28 days phenomenon. For example, it is not widely known that Clive Sinclair is convinced that the whole world is playing an immense practical joke on him — he believes that all his computers were delivered within 28 days. What he is unaware of is that the 28 days were measured in the rarified chronon atmosphere surrounding his computer factory.

Dominic Purdue, North Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

and Save this on to tape or type:

POKE 17242,128
POKE 17253,53

moves Queen's pawn forward.

These Pokes move Queen's pawn forward then:

RAND USR 18542

and Save on to tape.

If you give up, but still would like the game, you can probably obtain a 1K chess by either Artic or Sinclair from your local supplier. If in difficulties write to me enclosing £3 and I will return a tape of the playing program.

David Horne,
Crowborough,
Sussex.

CREEPY LIFE

Some errors crept into my ZX-81 life program in the January 1983 issue of *Your Computer*. In the machine-code list, figure 1, the code at location 16603 should read 6,32. Also in the Basic listing, line 135 should read Goto 40.

P J Whittle,
Chobham,
Surrey.

ZX RAND

The Rand statement on the ZX-81 and the ZX Spectrum is very useful. It is used to call a lot of machine-code routines in the form:

20 RAND USR 16514

However, the Rand statement can be used for a lot more. When Rand is used, the number following the Rand statement is placed in locations 16434 and 16435 — see page 178 in the ZX-81 manual. On the ZX-81 these locations can be used to pass numbers to machine-code routines or for a quick conversion routine.

Suppose you wanted to Poke N into locations 16514 and 16515, normally the program

```
10 REM XX
20 INPUT N
30 POKE 16514,N-INT(N/256)*256
40 POKE 16515,INT(N/256)
```

would be used, using Rand the following could be:

```
10 REM XX
20 INPUT N
30 RAND N
40 POKE 16514,PEEK 16434
50 POKE 16515,PEEK 16435
```

This saves 13 bytes on the original and takes about half the time to execute. One word of warning. Having N=0 will not work as unpredictable results will be put into locations 16434 and 16435. The same technique can be used on the Spectrum but the locations that Randomise sets will need to be looked up.

Finally a four-line program to set RAMtop. The RAM size is held in N that is N=1 for 1K

```
10 RAND 1024*(16+N)
20 POKE 16388,PEEK 16434
30 POKE 16389,PEEK 16435
40 NEW
```

Each line can be entered as a direct command.

Tim Griffith,
Coventry,
Warwickshire.

WHEN THE finely-worded comparison tables of the micro-makers trawl for new buyers, only the computing-wise slip through the net. They make sure that when they are eventually caught it is because they wanted to be: they know how to read between the lines. The rest of us swim blindly into those grids which compare the features offered by the new wonder micro with its competition. Naturally, only the advertised machine has a tick in every box.

Occasionally we may wonder about the importance of the green plastic securing screws which the table tells us only the touted micro can boast. But usually we swallow claims for speed, memory and resolution hook, line and sinker.

Of course, these claims are rarely untrue, but they are often only relative facts and depend largely on the knowledge of the would-be buyer for correct interpretation. You might not be hugely impressed by a car whose adverts major on the fact that it features a complete internal combustion engine. On the other hand, a total newcomer to computing might be awed by the promise of a silicon-wafer central processor.

Sometimes the glossy brochures can be unhelpfully obscure. Just how many beginners really needed to know that the ZX-81 offered a full 26 For-Next loops?

Against that, facts which are genuinely useful are frequently omitted. The amount of RAM remaining after the operating system and high-resolution graphics have helped themselves is the kind of information that can sway a buying decision.

This is because it is the type of fact that can reduce the 48K Lynx to an 11K machine, and the 32K BBC Micro to an 8K one. The £50 Microdrive

promised in the Spectrum adverts seems to offer mass storage at a micro price, but for the last six months there has been no reference to the £30 interface you will need to drive it.

The modern buyer must also be a student of relativity to be able to understand the "high" in high resolution, the "low" in low cost, or the "fast" without which Basic would no longer seem complete.

Although "advanced" in the context of graphics presumably means user-defined, a smattering of semantics comes in handy when trying to decide what "professional" means when applied to a plastic-capped rubber keyboard. Descriptions of sound and colour facilities contain the same sort of ambiguities — ambiguous, at least, for the beginner. One of the solutions to these problems is increased computer literacy. With a buying public as well informed as in the car market, the home-computer manufacturers will be obliged to be even more precise in their publicity machinery. It will also mean that the buyer will recognise which features are common to all micros and which are specific to the one advertised. Being told that Basic is resident in ROM does not have quite the same glamour if you know that this is the rule rather than the exception.

After years of complaints about the misleading claims of motor companies for their cars' petrol consumption, legislation was needed before independently-assessed mileage figures were introduced.

Unless the industry can come up with a set of mutually acceptable standards by which micros can be judged, it may find similar measures forced upon it.

How to write for Your Computer

We called this magazine *Your Computer* precisely because we welcome your views, tips and hints and even your criticism of machines and software in general. If you would like to see your name in print, whether on a Software File program or a full-blooded article, here is how to go about it. Ideally, all articles should be typed double-spaced on one side only of uniform sheets of paper. If listings can be dumped directly from a printer — you can always use a friend's or user group's — this minimises the risk of error. In a perfect world a cassette would accompany the article. That considerably speeds up the checking process. Not only do you get to air your own discoveries and opinions, but we will even pay you for the privilege. We pay £35 per published page — that's as it appears in the magazine and includes illustrations.

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Your Computer, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.

Subscriptions: U.K. £8 for 12 issues.

Typesetting by In-Step Ltd, London EC1.

Printed by Riverside Press Ltd, Whitstable, Kent.

Published by IPC Electrical-Electronic Press Ltd, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS. Tel: 01-661 3500 Telex/grams: 892084 BIPRESG. ISSN 0263-0885



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£99 Creativision is one up on rival computers

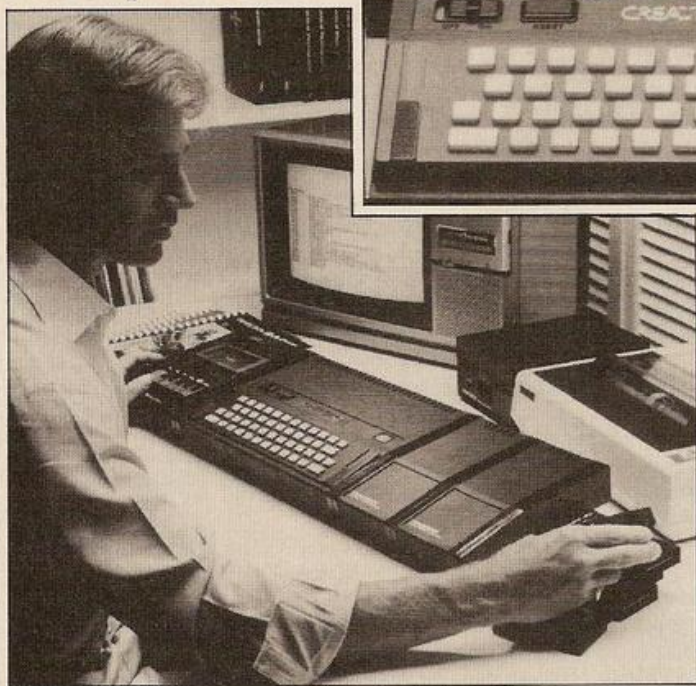
COLOUR, SOUND, and 16K for £99 is rapidly becoming an industry standard, but the Creativision goes one better — literally — it has 17K of RAM.

Although the standard Personal Computer unit looks more like a video game than a home micro, the unit contains a 6502 processor as found in the BBC Micro, the Vic and the Oric and is capable of being expanded to 64K RAM. Resolution is 256 by 192 with 16 colours three sound channels and a noise channel. The 12K ROM includes a Microsoft Basic.

The standard keyboard combines the idiosyncratic layout of the MZ-80K with the feel of a ZX-81 with the cunning innovation of a half-inch gap splitting the board in half so that the two joysticks can be lifted off the front panel.

The optional keyboard — illustrated — is at normal typewriter pitch but it still lacks a full-size spacebar. The screen display is 28 columns of 24 characters each composed from a five-by-seven font.

A purpose-built cassette recorder,



Forth of Firth first for BBC

R Q FORTH, written by Roger Q Firth for Level 9 Computing, is a Forth compiler for the BBC Micro. It fits into the model A's 16K, leaving space for about 200 lines of user program. Major features include a full screen editor, 260 predefined Forth words, and an unusual provision for using recursion.

Firth Forth programs run up to 10 times faster than BBC Basic — itself probably the fastest version of Basic on any home micro.

The compiler comes on cassette together with a 70-page manual and costs £15 inclusive. To go with it, Level 9 Computing supplies a Forth toolkit which adds a further 200 new functions and includes such utilities as a 6502 assembler, turtle graphics and five decompiler routines. This too is accompanied by a full manual and costs £10.

memory expansion units and Centronics and RS-232 interfaces can be plugged into the side of the standard unit. Every 16K of additional memory costs £39 as does each interface.

A Modem and a disc drive will also be available when the machine goes

on sale in June, along with printers and acoustic couplers.

ROM cartridges will offer Extended Microsoft Basic and games ranging from old arcade standards such as Sonic Invader and Crazy Chicken to the intriguingly named Police Jump.

YOUR COMPUTER TOP 20

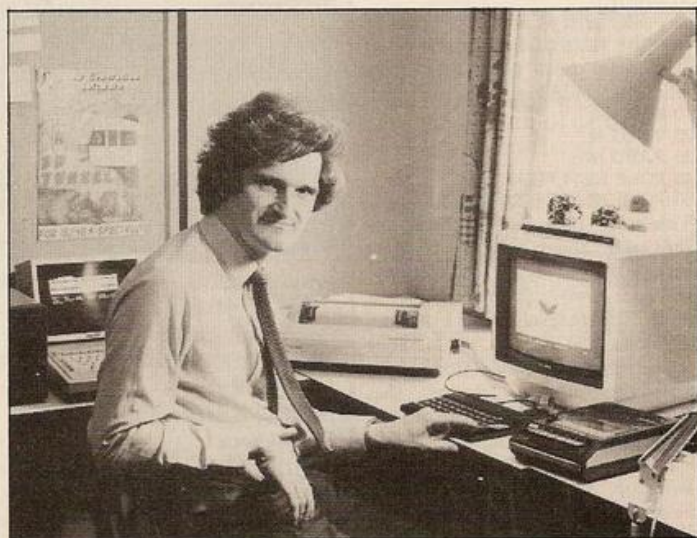
Game	Company	Machine
■Hobbit	Melbourne House	Spectrum
■Black Crystal	Carnell Software	ZX-81
■Spectral Invaders	Bug Byte Software	Spectrum
■Krazy Kong	City	Vic-20
■Frogger	D J L Software	ZX-81
■Moons of Jupiter	Romit	Vic-20
■Orbiter	Silversoft	Spectrum
■Martian Raiders	Audiogenic	Vic-20
■Defender	Atari	Atari
■Jelly Monsters	Commodore	Vic-20
■Timegate	Quicksilver	Spectrum
■Flight Simulation	Psion	ZX-81
■Star Raiders	Atari	Atari
■Ground Attack	Silversoft	Spectrum
■Penetrator	Melbourne House	Spectrum
■Gauntlet	Colour-matic	ZX-81
■3D Defender	J K Greye	ZX-81
■Space Pirates	Bug Byte	BBC
■Planetoids	Acornsoft	BBC
■Hoppit	Commodore	Vic-20

Light at the end of the Tunnel for Evans the Top 20 games writer

WITH MORE AND MORE of the sales of home computer games concentrated in the hands of a few large software companies it is unusual to find a highly successful company run by a staff of two. Malcolm Evans writes the programs for New Generation Software and, assisted by his wife, also handles production and marketing.

All his games have sold in large numbers and he has even had the distinction of having two hit programs in *Your Computer's Top Twenty* at the same time. 14,000 people have bought his Spectrum program, *Escape*, and his latest release, *3D Tunnel*, looks set to have the same success; already WH Smith has ordered 10,000 copies of the game.

He wrote his programs for the ZX-81 — *3D Defender*, *3D Monster Maze* and *Full Screen Breakout* — for J K Greye Software. At the time he was employed by Sperry in Bristol as head of the Micro-processor Applications Group. When Sperry offered him the choice of moving elsewhere or redundancy he decided to strike out on his own



with New Generation Software.

3D Tunnel took Malcolm Evans three months to complete. He developed the program on a Sharp MZ-80B before downloading the machine code into the Spectrum.

Like *Escape*, *3D Tunnel* follows an original idea and is not just

another version of an arcade favourite. The player has to pass through five stages, destroying bats, rats, toads and spiders before meeting the final obstacle, a London underground train. The game costs £5.95 and will run on both the 16K and 48K Spectrums.



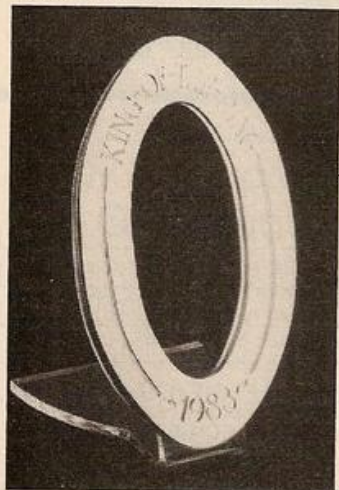
Texas TI-99/2: a new frontier

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS has now released details of the TI-99/2 described in last month's news item. It will be launched in September for around £75. The screen display is monochrome but with the same text format and pixel resolution as the TI-99/4A — that is, 24 by 32 and 192 by 256.

In addition Texas is introducing new low-cost peripherals and software for the TI-99/2 that will also work with the TI-99/4A. These will be on the market in May this year and include a four-colour printer/plotter for £150 and a £120 digital tape drive with a data transfer rate of 8,000 baud.

Most peripherals for the new system will plug into a Hex-bus, a peripheral interface connector, at the back of the machine. At the initial launch 20 programs will be available.

This £700 silver ring — the first prize along with £1500 worth of Acorn hardware and software in the Your Computer/Acornsoft Castle of Riddles competition — is still looking for an owner. Early-birds received their cassettes in the post on the morning of February 16. Acornsoft's managing director claims that the Castle of Riddles adventure game is extremely difficult and that people entering the competition a few weeks after the opening date would probably still be in the running. A winner must be found by March 31.



Tomy the toy-maker's 16-bit micro is not just a Japanese plaything



TOY TOWN has already moved into games machines and is now heading in to home computer land. Tomy, the Japanese toy manufacturer, is launching the 16-bit Grandstand Computer with 16K ROM and 16K RAM for around £170.

The standard machine offers only 19 Basic commands and its main strength lies in its graphics facilities. A built-in character generator allows the user to define a character on an eight-by-eight grid in the lower part of the screen and then position the character with the cursor in the main display.

16 colours are available in a resolution of 256 by 192. Up to four sprites can also be designed and moved by program commands or under joystick control.

Games cartridges can be plugged in and there is provision for further ROM cartridges to extend the Basic and to handle a printer and a floppy disc. The Grandstand Computer has a full 56-key keyboard and will be supplied with two games paddles.



Quicksilver fast to spot new software talent

QUICKSILVER IS AMAZED at the number of new programmers out there just waiting to be discovered. A series of advertisements for new talent drew such a good response that it was able to commission new programs for the whole range of home computers.

As a result new Vic and Atari games have now been released along with new titles for the Spectrum and ZX-81. Coming shortly are games for the Dragon, BBC Micro and Lynx.

Quicksilver has also taken on the marketing of the Pixel range of games for the Vic-20 and ZX-81. Production director, Mark Eyles, says that the company seems to be turning into more of a publishing house than a software company.

He added that Quicksilver felt that programmers were very important and should be given the same credit for their programs, in advertisements and on the packaging, as authors receive for their books. Enthusiasts who enjoy a particular program could then look out for the

author's next release.

Quicksilver now has distributors all round the world. Mark Eyles jokes that if the company continues to expand at its present rate it would achieve multinational status and "we will all be tax exiles before long."

The Spectrum Desk Console is designed to house a Spectrum and all its peripherals. There is room for a printer, a cassette recorder and the power unit as well as an RS-232 interface and up to two Microdrives. Made from heavy-gauge ABS plastic, it is available from Traffic Technology, PO Box 2, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 7QX, for £42.18 inclusive.



£49 Modem widens net

MICRONET 800, the Prestel database for personal computers, was technically opened on February 21. Networking interfaces are being offered to the first 10,000 subscribers for £49. These include all the hardware and software needed to link the computer up to Prestel via the public telephone system — an acoustic Modem, powerpack, cables and the necessary software.

Adaptors are now ready for the BBC, and Tandy Colour Computer with the necessary software supplied on tape or disc. The Spectrum and Dragon adaptors which should be released in March will be in the form of plug-in cartridges and contain the software in ROM.

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COMPUTER MODEL COMPUTER RAM

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Mattel's new age dawns with Aquarius — the 16-colour micro

AT LAST the big American games-machine makers have realised that people prefer to play games on proper computers that they can use for other purposes. Mattel — which makes the Intellivision — is no exception. Not only has the company now launched the Aquarius computer in the States — Britain will have to wait until September — but it has also launched an upgrade kit for the Intellivision.

At less than £100 the 4K, 16-colour Aquarius will be a strong rival to the Timex 2000 in America but the planned £120 British price tag will not frighten Sinclair or Oric. The rubber keyboard does not have a full-size spacebar but a keyboard overlay allows you to make use of a single-key entry option.

The British version will probably have three sound channels and the screen will have 320 by 192 resolution. The Z-80A based machine will run Microsoft Basic.

In America an extra £150 will buy you a tape recorder, thermal printer, joysticks and an expander. A similar package will be available here though the price will be higher.

A built-in RS-232 should encourage Aquarius buyers to consider the Modems and floppy disc drives which Mattel will also be supplying. Mattel claims that the Aquarius will be able to run CP/M.

Meanwhile, anyone who thinks



their Intellivision is not too bright will welcome the Intellivision Computer Adaptor. This plug-in keyboard also boosts the machine's memory by 2K and makes Microsoft Extended Basic available along with a six-channel sound generator. The price will be around £80. An £80

piano-style 49-key keyboard incorporating a synthesiser also plugs into the adaptor.

Both the Aquarius and the brighter Intellivisions will be able to run a Logo cartridge, a Basic teaching package, and games based on Scooby-Doo and the Flintstones.

Texas boldly goes to school

COMPUTER literacy is big business in the United States and the new Texas TI-99/2 is aimed squarely at this market. No colour, no sound, but a 16-bit computer whose programs and peripherals are compatible with the established TI-99/4A.

It comes with 4.2K of RAM and 24K ROM and is available in the States for around £60 — for U.K. details see page 31. Expandable to 32K RAM with a rubber keyboard and full-sized spacebar, this is a very real competitor to the American ZX-81, the Timex 1000.

Japan's JR steps in for Panasonic and NEC launches PC-6001

THE JAPANESE have entered the U.S. micro arena. Panasonic's £150 machine boasts 32K of RAM and

16K of ROM, with 2K separate video RAM and 2K character RAM. It has a full-size spacebar and

separate cursor control keys. The CPU is a Panasonic chip — the MN-1800A — which is equivalent to the 6802, not a chip that many will be familiar with.

The JR-2000U, which employs its own brand of Microsoft-type Basic, has a choice of eight colours, RGB and TV outputs. Where Panasonic's new baby may be at a disadvantage is in its relatively low resolution of 64 by 48 in the graphics mode.

NEC has also launched its PC-6001 which sells for around £200. It has a rubber keyboard, 16K RAM, 16K ROM, and can be expanded up to 48K. Nine colours are usable and text and graphics can be freely mixed.

Spectra Video's new micro — below — costs around £250 and claims to be CP/M compatible. It has 32K RAM and 32K ROM, offers 16 colours, sprite graphics and pixel-addressable colour. RAM can be expanded to 144K ROM to 96K. It has rubber keys, full spacebar and a joystick on the console.



PC-6001



Low U.S. price for Spectrum

THE TIMEX Sinclair 2000 — alias the American Spectrum — sells over there at around £95 for the 16K version and £125 for 48K. Air vents on the back, a different ROM, a three-voice sound chip and provision for two joysticks are new features, plus a more rugged printer. Do the U.S. prices hint at future U.K. prices?



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Computer Club is here to encourage you to start your own local computer club or, if one already exists, to join it and become involved. We would like to hear of anything which has made your club a success, or of any projects or programs you are developing.

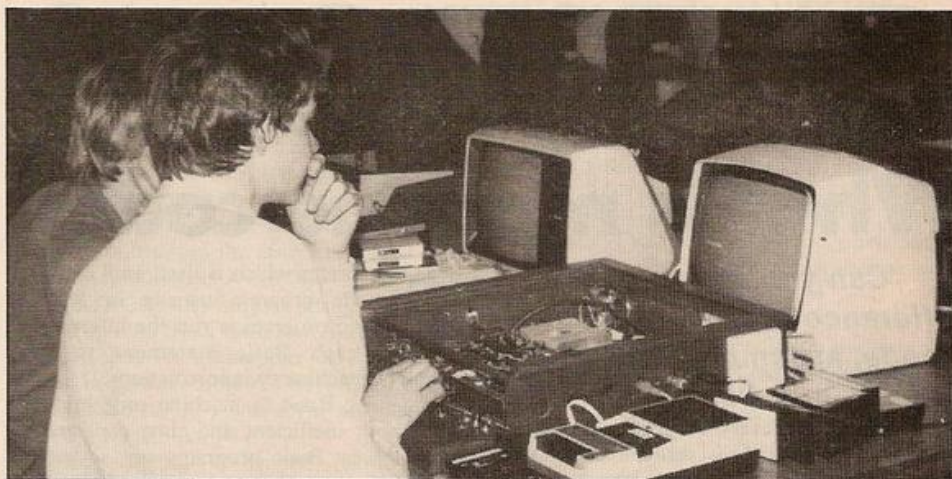
Simon Beesley encounters the micro generation gap and a naked Nascom at the West Midlands Amateur Computer Club.

A NEWCOMER to computing who wandered into one of the West Midlands Amateur Computer Club meetings would probably be struck by the number of machines present which have long since been out of the spotlight. In this respect the West Midlands Club is typical of most computer clubs of several years' standing.

Until recently the Nascom and other kit-based computers such as the UK101 held sway in computer clubland. Although the Nascom was, and is still, available ready-assembled, most owners preferred to build it up from a kit. In the process they needed to develop a greater level of hardware and software expertise than is required if you buy, say, a Vic across the counter. The Nascom is designed for expansion and dedicated owners often end up running CP/M and twin disc drives on their machine.

When the ZX-80 appeared, as the Model T of home computing it introduced a new type of enthusiast to computer clubs. Whereas the kit builder had to be prepared to wield a soldering iron, a Vic or Spectrum owner is unlikely to want to dabble inside the machine.

A fully-fledged Nascom, circuit boards and wiring exposed to view, can be an unnerving sight to the owner of a sealed and packaged mass-produced micro. Many of the new members at computer clubs are now more interested in software than hardware and particularly in games.



Nostalgia versus the new microcomputers

Both camps are well represented at the WMACC. The club has been running for five years and has over 150 members. These include 40 Nascom owners as well as a host of Vic, Spectrum and ZX-81 owners. A further 35 members own Pets. As treasurer Malcolm Sparrow explained, the club rarely organises talks or demonstrations but prefers to let members follow their own pursuits.

Naturally interests and activities are diverse. Chris Kitson moved from Nascoms 1 and 2 to a Gemini board. He has written programs to display fast-moving three-dimensional perspective views at 512 by 512 resolution by linking the Gemini up with a graphics-display processor.

In common with most clubs many of the

members are interested in exchanging and copying programs. One of the hazards of visiting computer clubs for a magazine is that the visitor is confronted with the magazine's readers. David Hardwick made a vehement but good-humoured attack on computer magazines in general for publishing error-ridden listings. He appeared to be pacified however by the news that *Your Computer* is setting up an even more rigorous checking procedure.

The club meets twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays at Elmfield School, Love Lane, Stourbridge. Full membership costs £4 a year and as an unusual facility, members are offered cheap insurance rates on equipment brought along to meetings.

Local society news

London Computer Fair

THE ASSOCIATION of London Computer Clubs promises fun for all the family at its 4th London Computer Fair on April 14-16. After three years at the North London Polytechnic, the Fair has now moved to Central Hall Westminster. The admission fee is £1.50 for adults and 75p for children. Bargain hunters should attend the bring-and-buy sale held on Saturday only.

Gravesend computing

GRAVESEND Computer Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the School Room of the Extra Tuition Centre, 39 The Terrace, Gravesend, Kent. For more details ring Steve Janday on 0474-50677.

BBCs in Wales

WALES, first BBC Microcomputer club has

been formed in Cardiff. Meetings are held on alternate Wednesdays in the Applied Science Lecture Theatre of University College, Newport Road, Cardiff. Available facilities include four 24in. elevated monitors and full audio-visual equipment. The club has more than 60 members and also runs a Beginner's Corner. Further information from Geoff Barker on Penarth 701023.

The New Mills boom

IN JUST three months the New Mills and District Personal Computer Club has outgrown its existing premises at the New Mills Youth Centre and now meets at New Mills school on the fourth Monday of the month. Members' machines include most makes of home computer. Games enthusiasts are well catered for and competitions are held to develop programming skills. Further details from John Eary on New Mills 43870.



Starting out in home computing? First Bytes is for you. Just write to *Your Computer* with any hardware or software problems, no matter how small or simple.

QUESTIONS

What is machine code?

'Can you tell me the difference between machine code, assembly language and Basic?'

AT THE HEART of every microcomputer is a microprocessor, which is really a computer inside the computer. The only language the microprocessor understands is machine code instructions. Each instruction takes up one byte — a set of eight bits of ones or zeros. Since a machine-code program just consists of a list of numbers, writing a program in machine code itself is tedious.

Assemblers are designed to make the programmer's task easier by allowing you to enter mnemonics rather than the numbers themselves. A mnemonic both stands for a machine code instruction and serves to indicate what it does. For example the code 248 in 6502 machine code tells the processor to increase one of its storage locations, the Y register, by one; the mnemonic for this in assembly language is INY.

Disassemblers convert machine code to mnemonics and can be used if you want to examine a machine code program already in the computer.

Whereas assembly and machine code are low level languages Basic is a high level language and needs to be converted to machine code by a Basic interpreter or compiler. Most micros

use an interpreter which is itself an 8 or 16K machine code program usually in ROM. When a Basic program is run the interpreter translates each Basic statement to the equivalent machine code instructions.

Converting Basic to machine code line by line is both inefficient and time consuming which is why Basic programs run so much more slowly than programs written directly in machine code.

Which computer d

'Should I buy a computer with a large memory, and which is the best micro for games?'

IT IS DIFFICULT to give any one feature priority over another without knowing your interests. Obviously, if you are interested in graphics you will rate a high screen resolution above an extensive version of Basic or a powerful sound generator. Like cars, some home computers undoubtedly offer better performance all round but cost proportionately more.

As a beginner it is unlikely that you will

need more than 16,000 bytes of memory — 16K RAM — unless you want to store a large amount of data. Most of the best games programs fit into 16K. But figures for the amount of memory a computer offers can be deceptive. An advertised 16K of RAM rarely means that 16K is available for programs.

Every home computer has an operating system. This is the machine code program which — as the term suggests — co-ordinates and runs operations such as printing to the screen, or reading in instructions from the keyboard. Although the operating system is permanently embedded in ROM it needs variables in RAM to keep track of what is happening. Consequently it reserves space in

STRING

THOSE DOLLAR SIGNS which litter Basic programs represent strings. A string is a line of characters which the computer will treat as



BEATING THE BUGS

HOW TO CHECK ERRORS

FEW PEOPLE can key in a long program without making any errors. Run the program after an hour or two's hard typing and it invariably crashes. However, you can save yourself a good deal of frustration if you interpret the error messages correctly.

Although the message indicates an error at a particular line usually the fault lies elsewhere in the program. One of the most common error reports occurs when a variable has not been assigned a value. The exact wording of the message varies from computer to computer but it will probably read something like "undefined variable".

The problem here is that you cannot use a variable without having given it a value

beforehand. If, for example, a line such as

```
100 LET A=B
```

throws up an error report it means that B has not been set earlier. Look through the listing and check that you have correctly typed in every occurrence of B in the rest of the program.

Another likely message is

```
OUT OF DATA
```

which will be reported at a line with a Read statement in it. Again the error is usually to be found somewhere else in the program. It indicates that the computer has not found enough items in a data statement. Either you have left out an item or you have missed a comma between them.

Syntax errors are not difficult to spot. Sinclair owners are fortunate that the computer checks each line for syntax as it is entered: on other machines it is usually sufficient to retype the line checking for missed colons or spaces. Most Basics will accept a program line without any spaces but there are a few exceptions and, of course, spaces greatly improve the legibility of a listing.

These are just some of the most frequent problems. Other bugs are more subtle and harder to detect. But if you understand the cause of an error message it is usually possible to track down the error without poring over the entire listing line by line.

S AND THINGS

single unit, or string, unless it is told otherwise. If you input

```
A$="FIRST BYTES"
```

and then ask it to print A\$ it will print
FIRST BYTES

Many useful things can be done with strings, but string manipulation often results in knotty problems for the novice, so here is a quick explanation of string functions and their uses.

LEN(A\$) gives the length — number of characters — in a string. This is useful when you need to look at each part of a string in turn by means of a

```
FOR N=1 TO LEN(A$):NEXT N
```

loop, or want to add something to the end of the string.

VAL(A\$) converts the character representing a number into that number, that is, it converts a string into a numeric variable. This is particularly useful when INKEY\$ has been

used for input, as INKEY\$ always produces a string. Note the VAL of anything other than a number is 0.

```
10 A$=INKEY$:IF A$="" THEN 10
20 A=VAL(A$):IF A<1 THEN 10
```

This rejects anything other than a number from one to nine. ASC(A\$) gives the ASCII code of the first character in the string. This can be used to select a group of adjacent characters, such as the numbers one to five.

```
20 A=ASC(A$):IF A<49 OR A>53 THEN 10
STRING$(N,A) forms a string of length N made up entirely of character A. A may be the ASCII code for a character or the character itself in quotes. Both STRING$(10,65) and STRING$(10,"A") will form a string made up of 10 letter As.
```

String slicing is carried out by three functions: LEFT\$(A\$,N) gives the first N characters, RIGHT\$(A\$,N) gives the last N

characters, and MID\$(A\$,M,N) gives the middle N characters, starting from character number M. If

```
A$="THIS IS A LONG STRING"
then LEFT$(A$,4)="THIS", RIGHT$(A$,4)="RING", and MID$(A$,11,4)="LONG". The line
```

```
FOR N=1 TO LEN(A$):B$=MID$(A$,N,1):NEXT N
```

will make B\$ = each character of A\$ in turn. When adding strings the second string is always put after the first string.

```
A$="LONG":B$="STRING":C$=B$+A$
```

will make C\$="STRINGLONG" and not "LONGSTRING". Note that when adding strings you often need to add spaces as well.

```
C$+A$+" "+B$
```

gives "LONG STRING".

STR\$(A) is used to convert a numeric variable into a string which can then be added like any other string.

```
A=1:D$=STR$(A)+C$
```

gives "1 LONG STRING".

To insert into a string it must first be divided into left and right portions at the appropriate point, and the various pieces added back together in the correct order.

```
E$="VERY":F$=LEFT$(D$,2)+E$+" " + RIGHT$(D$,11)
```

will now give "1 VERY LONG STRING". This type of string manipulation is important in text editing, and also often in sound and graphic functions which are handled as strings.

String searching is carried out by INSTR(N,A\$,B\$) which will search A\$ for B\$, starting from character N. If B\$ is not found the result is 0, otherwise the position at which B\$ starts is returned.

One of the most straightforward uses of INSTR is in checking for valid entries. All valid keys are included in G\$, and each INKEY\$ value is compared with this.

```
10 G$="ABCDEFGH"
20 H$=INKEY$:IF INSTR(1,G$,H$)=1 THEN 10
```

o I need?

RAM and uses it as its own storage area.

On the BBC the O/S takes up 3.5K RAM and even the unexpanded ZX-81 has to surrender a hundred bytes to the O/S.

The screen memory also consumes RAM. Most computers map the display on to a section of RAM. Generally there is a trade-off between RAM and resolution: the greater the graphics resolution and the more colours on screen, the less memory available.

A 16K RAMpack for the ZX-81 does indeed offer a full 16K user RAM but the ZX-81 does not provide high-resolution graphics.

The best computers for games at the moment are probably the Atari and the BBC Model B. Features like graphics and sound make some computers more suitable for games programs than others. But just as important a factor is how long the machine has been around and how much software has been developed for it.

Neither the Spectrum nor the Vic can match the BBC or the Atari in their hardware specifications, yet the games for these machines are almost as good and far more varied.

It takes programmers time to discover how to make the best use of a computer — the quality of software for the ZX-81 is still improving.

The Dragon 32 arrived shortly after the Spectrum but there is a flood of programs being produced for the Spectrum and only a trickle, as yet, for the Dragon. One of the reasons for this is that it was easy for the software houses which had been concentrating on the ZX-81 to move on to the Spectrum, since it uses the same processor — Z-80 — and was assured of a large market.

Most home computers are suitable for playing games on, but buyers of new machines should expect to wait some months before the appropriate software appears.

I could do that....

Travel agents' windows often feature a moving advertising display. First Byters can win £15 by sending us a program moving up to 10 characters across and down the screen, starting at the top, passing left to right, feeding into the line below, then scrolling backwards and up to the top. We are looking for simplicity and elegance.

ASCII CODES

EVERY CHARACTER on the keyboard is represented by a code and when the computer stores a character, it stores the code in a single byte. Almost all computers adopt the same set of codes — the ASCII set — pronounced askey, as in Arthur Askey. A notable exception is the ZX-81, which uses its own set of Sinclair codes.

Since one byte can hold a number from 0 to 255 the set can contain up to 256 codes but only those for the keyboard characters are standard. The other codes are usually specific to each computer and could be used for user-defined characters or predefined graphic characters or as control codes.

If you type in and run the program you can see which codes stand for which characters, on your computer. The Basic keyword CHR\$ generates a character from its numerical code.

```
10 FOR N=32 TO 255
20 PRINT N, CHR$(N)
30 NEXT N
```

You will notice that the For-Next loop starts at 32. This is because codes 0 to 31 are usually

reserved for control characters. When the computer encounters one of these instead of printing a character it carries out an instruction. Control codes can be used to tell the computer to do such things as move the cursor up, clear the screen or change the colour.

Using CHR\$ with control codes can be very useful for printing a number of characters to the screen quickly — enabling you to speed up games written in Basic considerably. For example, if 8 is the code for cursor left and 9 the code for cursor down,

```
PRINT "EE";CHR$(9);CHR$(8);"E"
```

would print one "E" on top of the other. But it is more useful to insert control codes in a string first, as in:

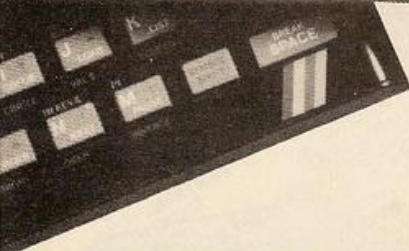
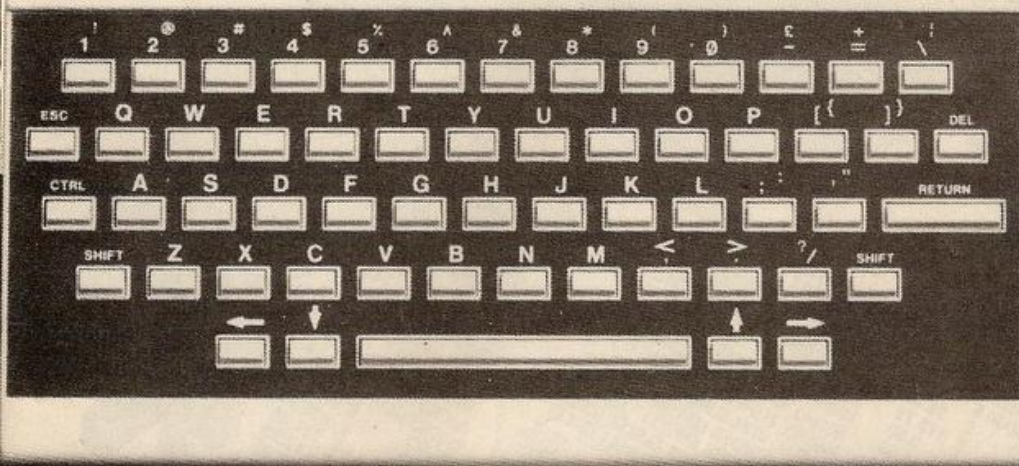
```
A$="E"+CHR$(9)+CHR$(8)+"E"
```

followed by PRINT A\$.

This is a rather simple example. To discover what further uses control codes can be put to look them up in the ASCII table in your manual and try experimenting with PRINT and CHR\$.

SHOOT-OUT: V. SPECTRUM

ORIC-1



Spectrum spaces the text for easy interpretation with an excellent line syntax checker may be crucial. If, however, you have already mastered the fundamentals of programming, then you may prefer the additional potential of the Oric.

Relatively bug-free

It is worth bearing in mind that Spectrum Basic was developed on the ZX-80 and is now relatively bug-free. Even the IBM Personal Computer had some errors. The Oric may suffer in so far as it is a substantial step away

from Microtan Basic, Tangerine's old Basic.

The Oric limits the length of a line of Basic code to 77 characters. At 75 characters, the first of three warning Pings is emitted, on the 78th character the line is deleted. There is no line-length limit on the Spectrum.

Oric's editor is worse than the Spectrum's. Edit X brings line X to the bottom of the screen. Typing Control A over characters in the line writes the characters into a duplicate line which on pressing return replaces the original line. Cursor keys delete characters, while typing a character then backspace cursor inserts characters. Unfortunately the amended line is not visible while changes are being made.

Saving and loading

Saving and loading is not without problems. The Spectrum has a printer which is a low-quality, low-cost machine and will produce screen dumps and listings very quickly.

The Oric uses a Centronics interface which operates with Strobe and Acknowledge only. This should allow you to use a wide range of printers but it has not provided satisfactory results with the printer I used.

The Sinclair manuals have been gradually refined and are now very good. The latest Oric manual is a vast improvement on the provisional offerings sent out in December and January but is still not as comprehensive as the Spectrum manual.

Last summer some micro enthusiasts had to wait 20 weeks before the Spectrums they had ordered were delivered. It is early days yet but if demand is high as Oric has stated, I wonder what delivery time scales will be achieved.

and does mean that the Oric memory requirements are smaller and that more can be packaged into a Basic program. I suggest you look at the program listings carefully; if you are new to home computing, the fact that the

CONCLUSIONS

■ When comparing machines, it is always assumed that any innovative or exceptional function of one machine shows up as an inadequacy in the other. This is not the case, both of these machines are or will be excellent value for money. If you have £125 to spend, then the Spectrum is perhaps ideal for the beginner or someone who has outgrown his ZX-81 or ZX-80 and wants a machine now. The Oric is likely to be of more use to somebody

who already knows a little about computing and who will be able to break the syntax barrier.

■ There appear to be many problems still remaining with the Oric's ROM, and perhaps the interface control. It is too early to talk about an extended version of Oric Basic when this particular ROM has not yet been fully debugged. It is a great pity as the potential of the Oric is far greater than that of the Spectrum, and this will obviously appeal to the more technically adventurous micro enthusiast.


■ Missing commands include ACS — Arcosine — and ASN — Arcsine. They can be evaluated using Cos Sin and Arctan. Other useful commands not implemented include Copy, Verify, Merge, Flash and Double: these can be simulated using control characters. There are no disc file-handling commands which may mean a new ROM required à la BBC.

■ It is important the Oric replaces the EPROMs in the early machines delivered as soon as possible and free of charge. ■

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TANDY'S NEW four-pen Colour Graphic Printer could have the same dramatic effect on printing as the change from black and white to colour screen displays has had on computing. It is a direct descendent of the CE-150 2.25in. colour printer produced by Sharp for the PC-1500.

The printer, complete with RS-232 and Centronics interfaces, costs £149 including VAT but not including any connecting cables. It comes with a power supply, operation manual, three black pens, one each of blue, green and red, and a roll of plain paper 4.5in. wide and 180ft. long. The machine is a healthy 8.5in. square by 3in. high and weighs 1.75lb. It is coloured silver-grey, with a black top cover which is raised to gain access to the pens and their holders.

The printer can print either 80 or 40 characters per line. The ASCII character set from code 32 to code 127 is implemented, although unfortunately there is no pound sign. A switch marked special characters provides for Japanese script.

The characters are not produced by a dot matrix or burnt into aluminised paper. In either case, present technology would not permit 80 characters within a space of a little over 3.75in. The characters are formed in the machine's internal ROM and written on to the paper using ink pens. The effect is similar to high-quality type-written text. Except for the lack of proportional spacing of characters, and paper width, the performance is as good as many professional printers.

The printer has two modes of operation, text and graphics. The Graphics mode permits character size to be varied from 80 characters per line to one character per line, in 63 steps retained on return to text mode. Characters can also be rotated in 90° steps. Also available is the facility to draw 15 different types of dashed line. Colour can be changed and a return to text initiated with very simple commands.

Axes are specified in terms of X or Y with a defined step and interval. The step is a multiple of 0.008in. between 1 and 999, positive and negative, and the interval, the number of repetitions of the step, is between 1 and 255.

The effective X-axis resolution of 480 steps and equivalent vertical resolution draws convincing circles, without annoying steps on the edge.

The printing speed is a slow 12 characters per second. At present screen dumps of graphics are not possible.

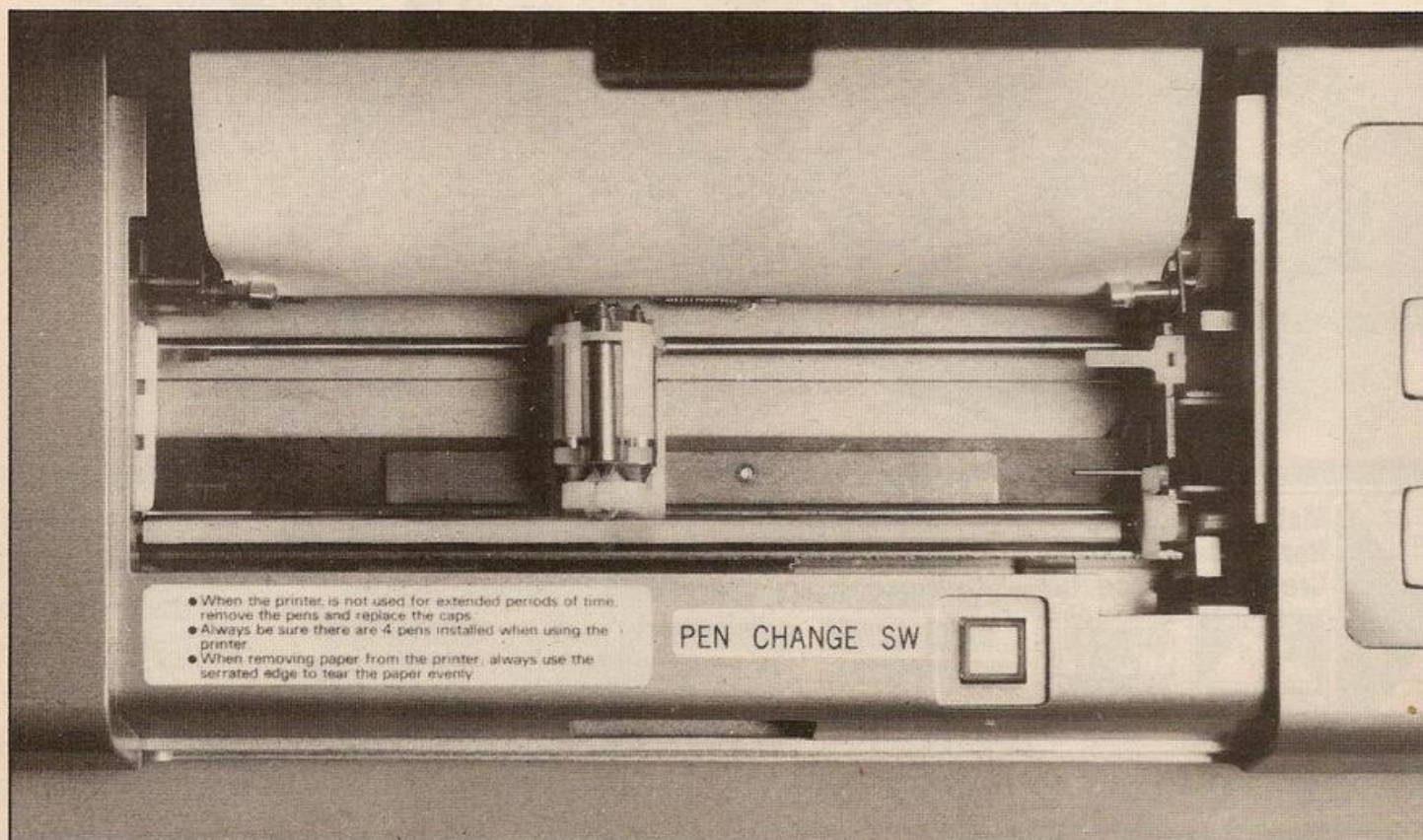
The machine is opened by undoing five screws in the base and releasing four locking tabs to release the top moulding. The base holds the print and feed mechanism at the front. The paper drive is friction-fed by a full-length rubber compound roller and side pressure rollers which also prick the edge of the paper at 0.156in. steps. This gives the effect of tractor drive and has the advantage of providing the Y axis with a quoted accuracy of one percent coupled, with a repetition accuracy of 0.008in.

The PCB is screened from interference and the major integrated circuit components are encased in a screened box shaped around the parallel input/output socket — very professional. There is a large heat sink down the right-hand side at the rear.

The top moulding of the unit houses the power switch, serial input/output socket, and power socket at the rear. A small PCB houses the power indicator lamp, the paper-feed and colour-select push buttons. Finally, housed under the mechanism cover is the manual pen-change switch. The top cover lifts to expose instruction labels, one concerning pen



CGP-115 LISTS IN



REVIEW

If your listings are listless and your printouts are plain, the CGP-115 could be what you are looking for. Kathleen Peel checks it out.



replacement and the other noting how to look after your printer.

The 50-page manual is well laid out and clear, but there are some omissions. The appendices provide some Basic programs which produce pie charts, sine and cosine curves.

It is surprising that there is no indication of the connections on the four-way DIN socket masquerading as an RS-232 interface. Only pins 2, 3 and 4 are wired. Table 1 gives the connections. The serial interface operates at 600 baud with no parity and two stop bits.

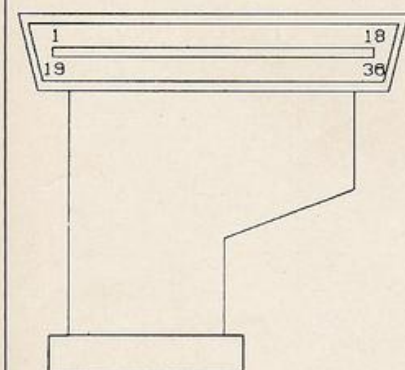
The parallel interface is via a Centronics-type plug but the only connections used are busy — Pin 11, strobe — Pin 1 acknowledge — Pin 10 and the data lines.

Loading the paper was initially a bit of a problem. A protrusion in the centre prevented the paper from being entered into its loading slot completely, and so take up, by pressing the paper-feed button, could not take place. The answer was to cut a strip of paper 6in. long by 1in. wide and load this into the slot close to one edge, such that it could be fed through by hand. The strip was then slid across into a central position and the full paper width loaded over the top of the strip. As soon as take up was established the strip was removed. I only used this procedure twice as, whatever the obstruction was, it disappeared. Loading the pens was straightforward if a little fiddly. Neither operation is likely to be required very often.

(continued on page 48)

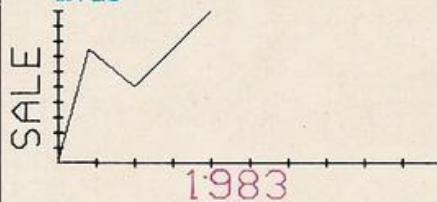
COLOUR

ORIC--TANDY CGP-115
Centronics Interface



SPEEDBLOC CABLE RS 467-289
MOUNTING SOCKET 20-WAY
Above: sample Oric/CGP-115 printout.

```
30 LPRINT"R00,-200":REM MAKE ROOM
40 LPRINT"1":REM
50 LPRINT"X0,10,10":REM VERT AXIS
60 LPRINT"X0,25,10":REM HORIZ AXIS
70 LPRINT"S2":REM CHAR SIZE
75 LPRINT"C3":REM IN RED
80 LPRINT"C3":REM WRITE LEFT SIDE
90 LPRINT"M-10,10":REM POS PEN
92 LPRINT"PSALE":REM WRITE VERT
94 LPRINT"110,-40":REM POS PEN
96 LPRINT"00":REM WRITE RIGHT WAY
97 LPRINT"C2":REM IN GREEN
98 LPRINT"P 1983":REM TITLE
100 LPRINT"C1"
120 LPRINT"10,0"
130 LPRINT"D20,75"
200 LPRINT"D50,50"
210 LPRINT"D100,100"
250 LPRINT"C0"
253 LPRINT"S0"
260 LPRINT"C0"
261 FORX=1TO8:LPRINTL0:INEXTX
262 LLIST
264 END
```



Above: typical 80-character printout.

Pin	Function
1	Not connected
2	Busy
3	Earth
4	Data

Table 1. Four-pin socket terminations.

	Printout	
	Length/£	Sq. ft./£
Sinclair	27.2	9.1
Amber	129.4	24.3
CGP-115	112.8	42.3

Table 3. Paper usage running costs.

```
10 REM LINE SAMPLE PROGRAM
20 PRINT,CHR$(18)
30PRINT,"L3"
40PRINT,"J480,0"
50PRINT,"A"
60 END
```

Sample BBC/CGP-115 printout.

```
!"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJ
KLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_`abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{|}~
```

Auto-test character set.



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YC3

(continued from page 45)

When the printer is switched on, the pen carrier traverses to the left-hand edge and rotates the pens to ensure that holder number one is in the top working position. The printer then draws four boxes produced sequentially by the pens in holders 1, 2, 3 and 4. This is to ensure that the user is aware of any dried-up pens.

Pressing the paper-feed button at switch on sets in motion a self-test procedure that also prints the character set in the four loaded pen colours.

CONCLUSIONS

■ Tandy's new printer will transform data presentation and allow the computer to interpret results fully, for ease of reading, varying colour, indentation, and print size as necessary.

■ The graphics capability provides for considerably better resolution than available to the majority of micros. The lack of a screen-dump facility is likely to be temporary as users will soon develop software to produce screen dumps in colour.

■ This high-quality printer can only be faulted on paper width, and slow speed which may make it unsuitable for word processing.

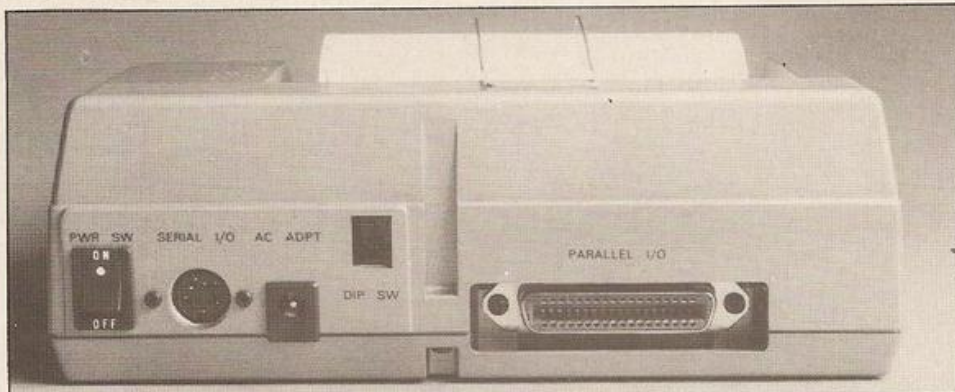


Table 2. Comparison of machines.

	Colours	Characters		Paper			Printer Size in.	Basic Cost £	Accessories		
		line	sec	Type	Width in.	Length ft.			Paper	Ribbons	life
Sinclair Printer	1	32	50	Metal-ised	4	65	5.5 × 2.9 × 1.9	59.95	11.95 for 5		
Amber 2400	1	24	17	Plain	2.25	88	6.3 × 6.3 × 3.1	89.70	3.40 for 5	2.00 Ribbon	3 × 88ft. rolls
Tandy CGP-115	4	80 to 1in. 63 steps	12	Plain	4.5	150	8.4 × 8.6 × 3	149	3.99 for 3	1.69 for 3 pens	825ft. each pen

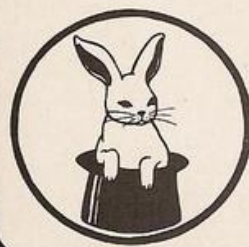
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CREATIVE
GRAPHICS



SOFTWARE FOR the BBC Micro is still pouring down like invading aliens in a video game. Most of it is improving rapidly in presentation, if not originality. Nearly all the games reviewed here have good graphics and sound, and nearly all are the close relatives of a standard arcade game. Like racehorses, arcade games produce many offspring; "by Defender out of Invaders". Unfortunately not all of these games are thoroughbreds.

Superior Software has produced several games, all based on old favourites. The most interesting on offer is Centipede, apparently the only available version of this popular game. You have to try and destroy a fast-moving and very unfriendly centipede which snakes down from the top of the screen. There are other hostile creepy-crawlies, including a spider which menacingly bounces up and down above or on you. Visually this game compares well with the arcade version, being colourful and clear. Unfortunately, it is not possible to fire as rapidly and this can lead to many an untimely death.

Invaders and Galaxians are also produced by Superior Software. These two games, as their names suggest, are standard issue. Both, though, are well-produced, with colourful graphics, responsive controls and the usual bunch of extra-terrestrials.

Space Fighter, from the same company, is advertised as a mixture of Defender and Scramble. However, it is not as exciting or as complex as either of these games. There is a curious effect to the display; you seem to be underwater spearing fish rather than blasting baryons and mutants in the lonely sky.

Alien Dropout, again, from Superior Software, has nothing to do with spaced-out hippies. Instead, in another variation of the Invaders and Galaxians theme, you are attacked by killer moths. Do not be fooled by their placid purple appearance — these moths are out to get more than the clothes in your wardrobe.

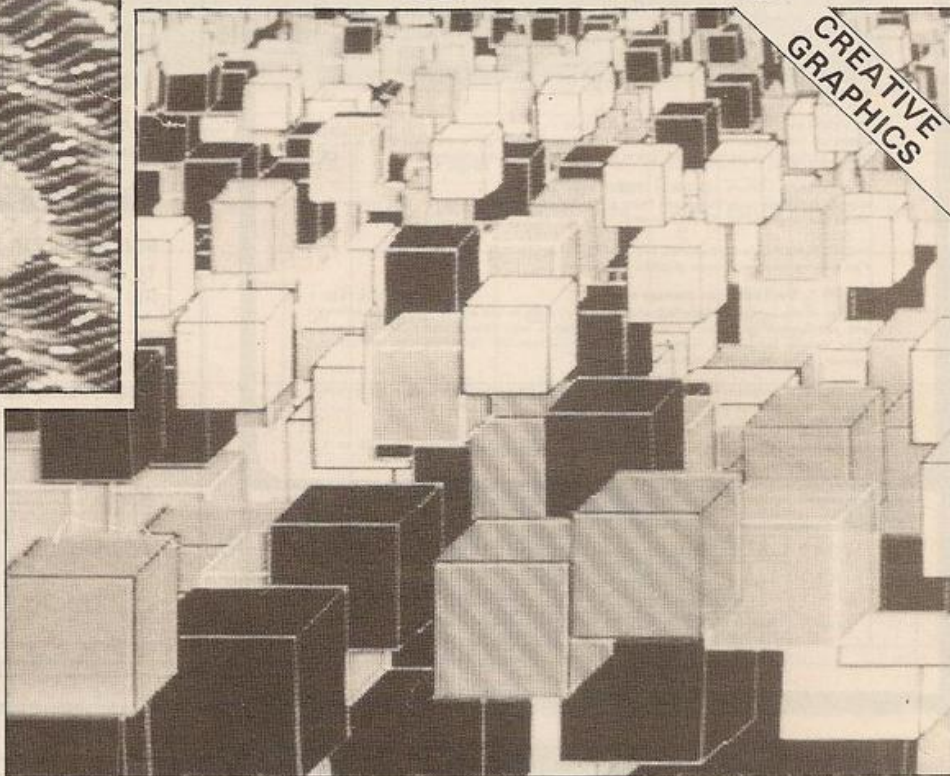
Alien Dropout is not as fast or as furious as Invaders or Galaxians, but it does have a certain homely charm.

The last program under review from Superior Software is Fruit Machine. This gives you a fruit machine on your screen. You can nudge or hold, collect or gamble. It is just like the real thing — except, of course, that there is no money. The program generously gives you a credit of 20 to begin, and when it has cleaned you out you can start all over again. It is difficult to image who this program will appeal to; are there fruit machine addicts who play for the sheer fun of it? If so, then this is their program. The graphics are

If you are all at sea when it comes to choosing programs for your BBC Micro don't gamble — consult Peter Connor's software guide.

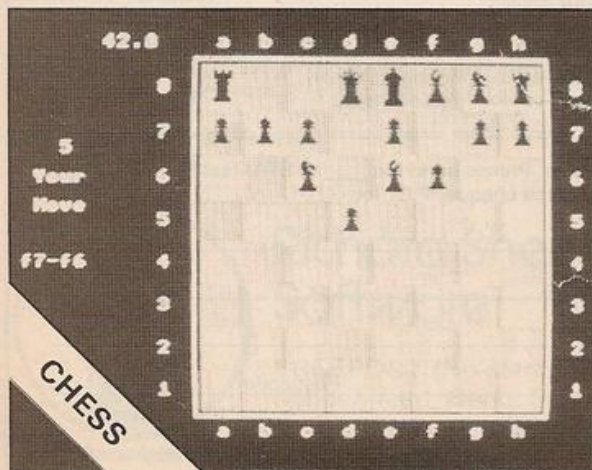
BBC SOFT

CREATIVE
GRAPHICS

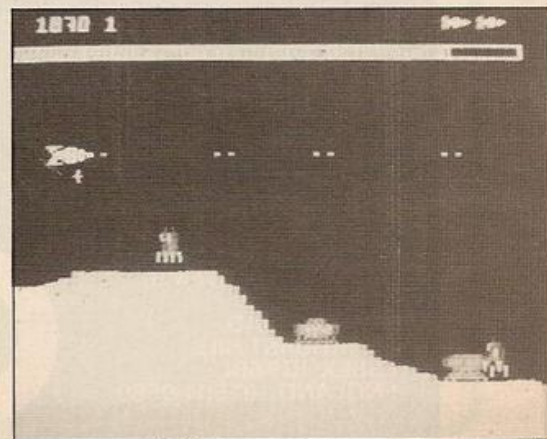


very good and with a little imagination you might be able to convince yourself you are in Las Vegas. Perhaps it will help to wean compulsive gamblers.

From Program Power come Alien Destroyer and Laser. Both have good, colourful graphics and a range of skill levels. The first is an Invader-style game with a variety of bombs and attackers. An engaging detail is the little yellow man who leads you back to the starting position when you have been destroyed. Another bonus for connoisseurs is the Battle Report you receive after each game; percentage of hits, number of torpedoes fired, and so on. Laser is a version of Missile Command, and quite a good one. All the familiar features are there and the player has a



CHES



SURVEY WARE

wide range of options — perhaps too many unless you are as familiar with the keyboard as a touch-typist.

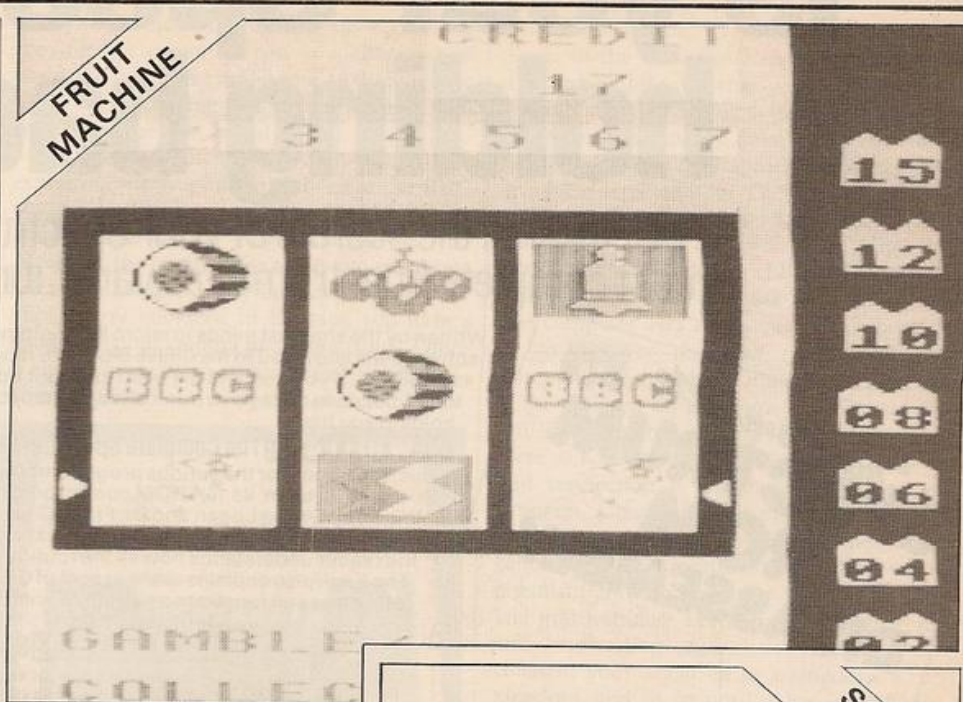
The new version of Chess by Program Power is a great improvement, mainly because it is now in colour. The board is very clear — in bright red and green — and the pieces are well-defined. It plays a vigorous attacking game at level 2 and makes its moves very quickly. It is prone to commit a computer's version of human error — that is, losing its queen — but obviously plays a more thoughtful game at the higher levels.

In contrast to games of death and destruction, BBC Software have produced a tape called Games of Strategy. If there's anything left of your brain after a few hours of Galaxians you might like to try Galaxy, Gomoku, Masterbrain or Reversi.

In Masterbrain you have to discover a four-figure digit the computer is "thinking" of, and it has to discover yours. Reversi and Gomoku are both well-known territorial possession board games. Galaxy is another territorial game, pitting you — on board the starship *Endeavour* — against the invading Kryons. By plotting co-ordinates on the screen you can destroy the invaders by firing phasers and photon torpedoes. None of these games is particularly interesting graphically, but that's not the point. If you like board games or logical games, you might enjoy them.

Acornsoft's version of Galaxians is called Arcadians and is written by someone calling himself Orlando. Perhaps he really is called Orlando. Pseudonymously or not, Orlando has written a very good program; definitely the best available Galaxians-style game for the BBC. A jolly little tune announces the beginning, after which you are rapidly destroyed. But you soon get the hang of it, and the game improves as you proceed through the pages.

Although not written by Orlando, Acornsoft's Super Invaders is also the best of its kind for the BBC. It has three levels of difficulty. The first two, A Mild Encounter and An

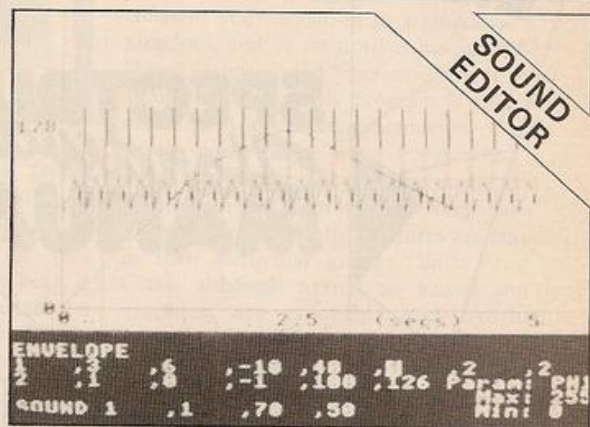


Uncomfortable Situation, are in the traditional mould with the invaders and their missiles encroaching more quickly on your position. In the third level, rather exaggeratedly called A Terrifying Experience, the invaders' bombs float down and home in on you. They do not often miss. This is an exciting and well-executed version of a game which had almost lost its interest.

Better than both these games, though, is Rocket Raid, Acornsoft's answer to Scramble.

You must pilot your ship over jagged landscape, bombing the fuel dumps and blasting the rockets. The controls are similar to the ones used in Defender but are more conveniently positioned on the keyboard. This first stage is deceptively simple.

No sooner have you successfully negotiated these paltry obstacles than you are confronted by one of the most awesome sights in home computer games; the cavern. Grown men have screamed in anguish as, time after time, their ships has been destroyed by the viciously oscillating green yo-yos called phizzers. Eventually of course, you get through, only to be confronted by the meteorites — approaching at different altitudes, they cannot be destroyed but must be avoided. With your



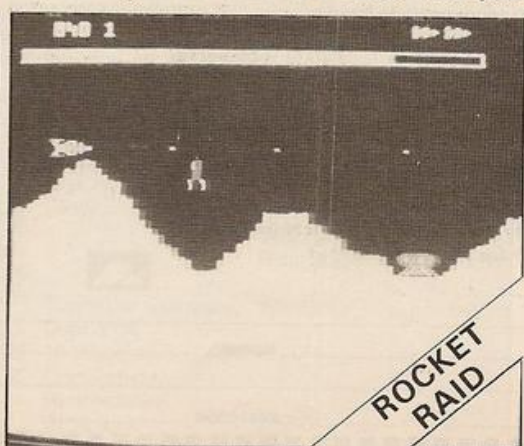
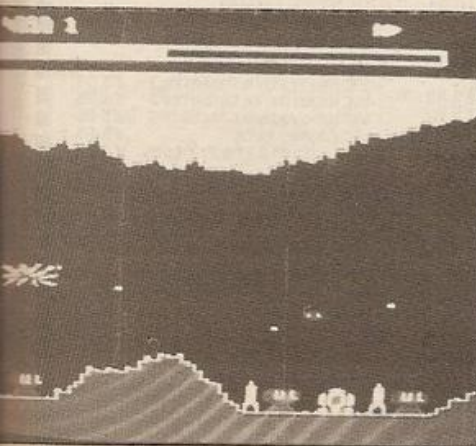
nerves shot to pieces by the ordeal of the Cavern you do not last long here. So you go back, to the beginning, to the Cavern and the phizzers and . . . When you have flown about a hundred missions you might get through to the skyscrapers, or the maze, or even the fabled deserted city. Then you can start all over again.

All three games have excellent graphics and sound quality and are probably worth the extra money as they are definitely the best on the market.

Level 9 have produced two adventure games; Adventure Quest and Dungeon Adventure. These two programs seem to be an attempt to exploit the vogue for fantasy and role-playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons. Add a touch of Tolkien and just a hint of *Conan The Barbarian* and you have the scenario; quaintly-yclept wizards and knights encounter evil and violence — but no sex — in steaming primeval forests and war-ravaged wastelands.

Beneath the odd vocabulary and exotic props they are, of course, ordinary adventure games. As such, they are as good as any other. You are an apprentice wizard who, in order to save Middle Earth has to seek out and destroy the evil Lord Agaliarept in his dark tower. When I was an apprentice wizard I was quickly eaten by ravenous wolves but the program kindly resurrected me and I received the blessing of Typo, God of Adventures. It

(continued on page 53)



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(continued from page 51)

did not do me much good, and for all I know the Middle Earth is still waiting to be saved by a brave and ingenious adventure game fan.

Dungeon Adventure is related to the previous game; now you must find the dead demon lord's treasure in his black tower. Both these programs have a Save facility and come with an explanatory booklet. Enclosed is a stamped addressed envelope which entitles you to one clue from Level 9.

It was encouraging to see that software houses are now producing more programs of a practical or educational intent. Program Power offer Constellation, which enables the user to view the stars from any point on the Earth's surface, on any date and at any time. You enter latitude and longitude, date and time and telescope elevation; and, behold, on the screen is displayed a map of the heavens!

You can zoom in or out, thus allowing you to have a close-up of one particular constellation or a broad view of the whole area. This program will probably appeal mainly to budding astronomers as an easy method of finding their way about the stars before going on to the real thing.

If you are more interested in money than the mysteries of the cosmos, then Compute-a-draw from Davansoft will be more to your taste. Its manufacturers claim that by using it carefully you can predict draws with about 20-30 percent more success than picking them with a pin. They do not promise you a fortune; only the opportunity of winning several smaller dividends each season.

This program comes in two parts; the prediction program, £4.95, and the database, £13.50. The latter is, obviously, essential and the work that has gone into it justifies the price. It contains the results from about 6,650 matches over the last three seasons, up to January 15 of this year. If you do buy this program, then you will have to be prepared for a fair amount of work; adding information to the database, running the program before making selections, reading the copious explanatory notes.

Perhaps the most difficult commands to master in the BBC Micro's repertoire are the Sound and Envelope commands with their 18 parameters. Davansoft's Sound Editor is designed to make them easier to use. It draws the graphs of the pitch and amplitude envelopes over the same axes; the parameters

are printed below and can be easily entered by moving the cursor. When you alter one of them the program enables you to discover the effect by redrawing the envelope shape and producing the new sound.

BBC Software has produced two programs exploiting the graphic capabilities of the BBC computer; Painting and Drawing, both by Brian Smith of the Royal College of Art. Although the controls for these two programs are rather complex, they both come with clear explanatory booklets. In Painting you have a good variety of colours to choose from. There is also a choice between brush and airbrush — which "paints" in a cluster of dots. Other



options are to vary the width of brush, use hatching or vary background colours. Drawing allows you to create circles, polygons and other shapes with different sizes and effects. In both of these programs brush or line movement is controlled by the cursor keys; it is thus rather difficult to draw, for instance, a curve. If you want to explore the BBC's graphics these programs could be useful. If you want to learn how to draw then you should buy pencil and paper.

Anyone who is interested in making the most of the BBC Micro's graphics might be better advised to take a look at Acornsoft's Creative Graphics. Best described as a compendium of graphics techniques and ideas, the tape contains 36 Basic programs which produce a variety of pictures and patterns. These include rotating 3D shapes, animated pictures and elaborate and constantly-changing designs.

One of the most impressive things about this collection is how short the programs are. Few of them would take long to key in; yet they achieve the sort of effects that are only available with machine code, if at all, on most

other home micros. This reflects both on the scope of the BBC Basic and the ingenuity of the author, John Cownie.

To extract maximum benefit from these programs the aspiring computer artist should buy the Creative Graphics book, which is available separately for £7.50.

Acornsoft's Tree of Knowledge is an educational game in two parts. The first, Fruit, is intended for children of primary school age. Either they ask the computer, or the computer asks them, questions whose aim is to discover the fruit thought of. The computer might ask "is it a citrus fruit?" and if the children do not know what this is they will find out, thus placing citrus fruits on the Tree of Knowledge. This idea of classification and connection is continued in the second program, Class, which is meant to increase a knowledge and understanding of the classification of living creatures. You think of an organism and the computer asks "is it green and multicellular?" From your answer to this and succeeding questions the computer consigns your organism to a kingdom, a sub-kingdom, and so on until it has identified it. When it has found your creature it gives a smug "Ho-ho". This program is specifically aimed at A-level biology students — a point driven home to me when I was asked if my organism was diploblastic, coelomate and had a notocord. For them it will be very useful as a means of learning why creatures are classified in their particular groups. Both Fruit and Class, although having no sound and few graphics, are enjoyable and worthwhile educational games.

Wordwise, a word processor on a ROM chip from Computer Concepts, is considerably more sophisticated than most of the word processors available on tape.

The advantage of having software in ROM is that it can occupy the memory space that would otherwise be filled by the Basic interpreter and so does not take up any user RAM. This means that there is room for 24,560 characters to be stored — about 4,500 words. Wordwise, incidentally, keeps a count of the number of words typed in, which it displays in a status line at the top of the screen.

Another bonus is that a program in ROM is instantly accessible. To switch from Basic to Wordwise you simply type in *Wordwise, and *Basic to switch back.

On some word processors the screen can be horizontally scrolled over a much wider page of text. With Wordwise text must be entered and edited in Teletext mode. It can then be viewed in a formatted state at 80 characters to the line.

There is an extensive range of editing facilities most of which are easy to use. Sections of text can be readily deleted, shifted and copied; previously-Saved text can also be inserted from tape or disc. A search option allows you to replace every occurrence of specified string of characters by an alternative string.

These are just some of the features Wordwise offers. At the moment it is probably the most useful word processor on the market and is the only one on a chip. It will be interesting to see how Acornsoft's View — which will also be in ROM — compares.

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1 Delapoe Drive,	Sound Editor	£5.95	Chipperfield,		
Haverfordwest,			Hertfordshire		
Dyfed SA61 1HX.			WD4 9JJ.		

MOZART LIVES

YOU CAN COMPOSE instant Mozart with a little known opus called the *Dice Waltz*. In effect, this was an automatic generator of minuets. This claim holds true in spite of the fact that Wolfgang Amadeus never heard most of the theoretically possible 4.6E16 variations! It was constructed in this manner: Mozart assembled 176 musical bars of two types, suitable for the two parts into which each "minuet" would be divided. The two groups of 88 bars were arranged into tables of eight columns and 11 rows, each element of a column representing a single, three-eighth bar.

In each column the bars were written or selected such that any bar in one column could be played after any bar taken from the column to its left, and before any bar taken from the column to its right. In the first table, a sequence of bars selected in order from the first to the eighth columns would combine to form a minuet beginning in the key of the tonic, and modulating by the last bar to the dominant — for example C to G. Providing the normal symmetry, though not that of the traditional AABA minuet, the second table contributes bars opening on the dominant and working their way back to the tonic. Each half would of course be repeated, giving a total of 32 bars per minuet.

As the title of Mozart's work suggests, the bars to be played were chosen by throwing a pair of dice. The range of numbers possible from a pair of dice is two to 12, and so the rows of the two tables were labelled accordingly, 16 throws in all generating the required bars in a hopefully random fashion. Loaded dice would definitely have been a disadvantage in this context.

In practice, Mozart compiled three tables. The first two were organised in the manner just described, each cell containing a number from one to 176, pointing to one of the bars written out on full double staves in the third table. One cannot help feeling that he conceived the whole thing with computers in mind; the manuscript table of the bars was a serial table, and so presumably, if a sequence

was to be played through on the piano or clavichord with any comfort, the bars would have to be transcribed in full on to a separate sheet of manuscript.

Our program attempts to preserve the flavour of the original. The user actually throws the dice, which tumble across the screen to reveal the desired numbers on their top faces. And to complete the charade, appropriate numbers appear on the other two visible faces. A count of the number of throws made is displayed, and on completing 16 throws, a tabular record of the dice numbers is provided. Next, the manuscript of the music generated by the dice sequence may be printed on the screen in two sections, representing parts one and two of the minuet. After each part is printed, like the original, in three voices and on two staves, the option is given to Save the manuscript. This will be as hard copy if a printer is connected, or on tape as a named Screen if not. Then, after prompts for volume and tempo, and in one of two keys, the music will be played through in three-part harmony, and of course, may be repeated if desired. Other refinements are included, such as the ability to fix the dice, and so generate a predetermined sequence of bars.

By now the astute reader will have realised the *raison d'être* of the hardware. Valiant though it is, the Spectrum beeper cannot cope with more than one voice at a time. A General Instruments chip, the AY-3-8910 provides not only the three sound channels needed for our purpose, but also two entirely independent and bi-directional I/O ports, each of eight bits. Moreover, the chip is simplicity itself to program for most purposes, either in machine code or Basic, and equally convenient to drive in hardware terms. The spare appearance of the PSGIO board — Programmable Sound Generator and Input/Output — will bear the latter out.

Having said that the Spectrum beeper is not man enough to handle full-blooded, three-part Mozart, some readers will no doubt be relieved to hear that the software can be largely proved using the beeper before any hardware is actually connected. In fact, the program will automatically detect the lack of the interface and default to beeper. It must be stressed however, that the beeper routine gives only a very crude foretaste of the real thing.



Figure 6. Sample stave.

MINUETZ
PART 1



The circuit of the PSGIO board is very straightforward, using only the AY-3-8910, two cheap 14-pin LS TTL integrated circuits, a common eight-pin audio amplifier chip and a small handful of discrete components.

It lays out naturally on 0.1in. pitch Vero board, with very little in the way of track-cutting or wiring involved. A ZX-81 type connector should be used, since this allows the simultaneous use of a ZX Printer. This connector has 23 pins per side, as opposed to the 28 boasted by the Spectrum; the shell of the printer extender will only admit a 23-way

SPECTRUM

Roll those dice and set Mozart spinning in his grave. Rod Hopkins applies the power of a Spectrum to the *Dice Waltz* to compose millions of genuine Mozart minuets that the maestro never heard.

orientated. In practice, this means that the programmer first tells the chip which register he wishes to alter or read, and then sends or retrieves the relevant data to or from the register specified. All functions are controlled internally by the PSG, and may persist thus while the controlling program is busy with other matters. To perform these functions, the PSG makes use of the data programmed into its register array, numbered 0-15. Table 1 summarises the signal requirements of the two control pins of the 8910 that are used.

Table 1.

BDir	BC1	
0	0	Inactive
0	1	Read from PSG
1	0	Write to PSG
1	1	Latch PSG Register Address

They are met by decoding two I/O addresses — that is, eight-bit addresses combined with the CPU signal IORQ — to talk to the chip, namely 221 and 223. The former address plays a dual role: OUT 221,X will prepare the PSG for a data transfer involving register X. On the other hand, IN 221 will have as its result the contents of the register last pointed to by an OUT 221 instruction: for example, PRINT IN 221 will print those contents. The other I/O address used, 223, is the output data destination address, if you like. OUT 223,Y writes the value Y into the register last referred to by an OUT 221 instruction.

All of the PSG registers are eight-bit registers, although some of them are handled as pairs. Note that Bit 0 is the least significant bit — LSB — while Bit 7 is the most significant — MSB. If two registers are combined, the register with the higher address — number — constitutes the most significant byte, the summed value of their contents being the low-register value plus 256 times the high-register value.

The value of each register bit, of course, can only be either a logic 1 or a logic 0; but, in their proper positions, the bits collectively form a binary number whose decimal

equivalent can be calculated by adding together the weighted values of any bits set to 1, thus:

BIT	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	= 255
128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1		
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1		= 179
128	0	32	16	0	0	2	1		

If, for instance, a register contained zero, all bits would be reset, that is logic zero. And, to set a particular bit to logic 1, simply write into the register the decimal value of that bit, plus those of any other bits required set. Conversely, if a register were to contain 255, that is, all bits set to 1, and the need were to reset to zero bits 0,1 and 2, it would be necessary to write into the register: (255-4-2-1)=248

Now to move on to the PSG registers. Remember first of all that the chip has three sound channels, referred to as A,B and C; and note further that the two highest registers, 14 and 15, are used to transmit and receive data via the two I/O ports available. The PSG registers are utilised as follows:

Register

- 0 } Set Channel A Tone Period
- 1 }
- 2 } Set Channel B Tone Period
- 3 }
- 4 } Set Channel C Tone Period
- 5 }
- 6 Set random noise period on all channels.
- 7 Enable noise and/or tone on all channels. Control direction of I/O transfers for both ports.
- 8 Set Channel A amplitude
- 9 Set Channel B amplitude
- 10 Set Channel C amplitude
- 11
- 12 } Set Envelope period and shape
- 13 } according to same pattern.
- 14 I/O Port A data
- 15 I/O Port B data

Channel tones are set by writing values into registers 0-5, each voice using two registers.

(continued on page 57)

Figure 1. The Basic program.

"MINUETZ"

R.K. HOPKINS & H.J. LAURTY 1983

```

1 CLEAR VAL "28929": LOAD ""C
ODE: GO TO VAL "3"
2 SAVE "A" "SCREEN$
RETURN
3 LET B=VAL "1": LET A=B-B: L
ET C=B+B: LET D=C+B: LET E=D+B:
LET F=E+C: LET G=D+C: LET H=E+
B)/F: LET A=VAL "221": LET R=A+
C: LET LD=VAL "32159": LET RD=LD
+B: LET DT=VAL "31518": LET DI=V
AL "31998": LET UT=VAL "32161":
LET BU=VAL "32291": LET RN=VAL "
32281": LET SORT=VAL "32275": LE
T RNDT=VAL "32283"
4 OUT A,A: OUT R,F: LET PL=V
AL "32358"+137*(IN R)/F: IF PEE
K 31416<>146 THEN LET KY=B/KY
35 LET Q=VAL "256": LET L=RND*
0: RANDOMIZE L+0: LET KY=B/KY: B
ORDER A: PAPER A: INK E+D: CLS
LET AU=A: LET CU=A: POKE VAL "2
3658",F+F: PLOT E+F,40: DRAW A,1
20: DRAW 220,A: DRAW A,-120: DRA
W -220,A: OVER B: PRINT AT D,E:
DO YOU WISH TO "AT F,E:" 1. GA
MBLE WITH THE DICE? 0.
"AT F+E," 2. PREDICT THE FAL
L OF "AT F+E,e," 3. COMPOSE AUTOMA
TICALLY?" INPUT "ENTER 1,2 OR
3":A$: IF A$="3" THEN LET AU=B:
GO SUB 9930: GO TO 207
38 OVER A: IF A$="2" THEN LET
CO=B

```

```

40 INVERSE A: DIH H(18): FOR Q
=A TO 15: PRINT AT 21,A,"THROW I
ENTER J": PAUSE VAL "4E4"
41 LET M=INT (RND*F)+B: RANDOM
IZE RND*SE4: LET L=INT (RND*F)+B
42 IF C0 THEN INPUT "No. ON LE
FT DICE?":M: IF M<B OR M>F THEN
GO TO 42
43 IF C0 THEN INPUT "No. ON RI
GHT DICE?":L: IF L<B OR L>F THEN
N GO TO 43
14 POKE LD,M: POKE RD,L: POKE
RNDT+0,L+M-C: LET H(0+B)=L+M
50 DATA 235,160,180,185,170,12
5,217,110
60 CLS: RESTORE 50: FOR J=10
TO -17 STEP -27: FOR N=B TO C: R
EAD X,Y: GO SUB 9000: NEXT A: CL
S: NEXT J
200 PRINT AT A,A: RANDOMIZE US
R DI: PLOT E,171: DRAW 22,A: DRA
W A,-14: DRAW -22,A: DRAW A,14:
PRINT AT B,B: INVERSE B:O+B: INV
ERSE A: NEXT Q: INPUT "ENTER" T
O CONTINUE":A$:
205 FOR N=B TO 22: RANDOMIZE US
R 3582: POKE 23692,-B: PRINT "00
0000": NEXT N
207 GO SUB VAL "9990" DIH H(13)
: IF AU THEN GO TO 0-F
210 LET P1=B: INPUT "Manuscript 1
?(Y/N)":A$: IF A$<>"Y" THEN GO
TO 0-F
220 POKE RN,209: GO SUB VAL "99
16": PRINT AT A,A,"PART "P1: PO
KE RN,209: P1=B+1: GO SUB 3500:
INPUT "SAVE Manuscript?(Y/N)":
A$: IF A$<>"Y" THEN GO TO 230
222 INPUT "TITLE?":A$: IF LEN
A$>F+E THEN LET A$=A$(1 TO F+E)
224 IF IN 251=0-B THEN FOR N=B

```

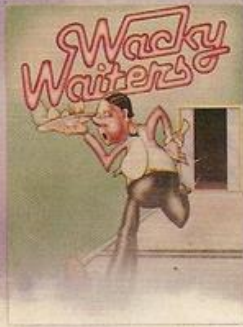
(listing continued on page 57)

connector. Taking this course also has the advantage that the board might be used with a ZX-81.

It is recommended that the connector be mounted on the board itself, and the whole plugged directly on to the Spectrum or printer connector without intervening wiring. The Spectrum is frustratingly sensitive to the loading caused by even the shortest of cables.

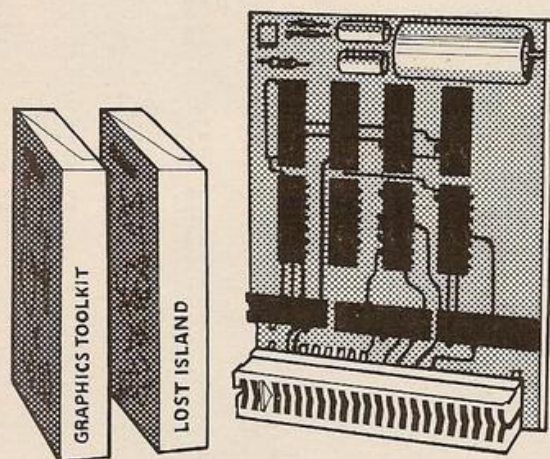
All of the components used in the circuit are readily available from the majority of suppliers advertising in the electronics monthlies.

Communication with the PSG is register-



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(continued from page 57)

the beginning of a tape by typing:
SAVE "MINUETZ"LINE 1

This allows it to AutoRun on loading, Line 1 fetching the tables and machine code from their final position on the tape immediately following the Basic.

Second, the bar table, figure 2, embodies the main data bank of the program, holding Mozart's 176 bars. 18 bytes of RAM are used to store the information for one bar. Since all of them are in three-eighth time, and since the shortest note used was a semiquaver, the obvious time-slot of a sixth of a bar was chosen as the building block of the music. There is, in fact, one byte per channel per time slot. Figure 2 reveals something of the identity of the data by grouping them in bar "dominoes", with one time slot occupying a single domino row.

Using ASCII characters to represent the bytes has allowed a very compact table with a meaningful appearance and easy points of entry. Use the routine given at the end of figure 2 to enter the data. It mimics the printed listing on the screen as the bytes — in the form of strings — are entered, and allows you to start at any row of dominoes. If you wish to save the code at some stage prior to having entered it completely, type:

SAVE "MINUETZCODE"CODE 28930,3642

Before entering any code at all, always type Clear 28929. To continue with a half-entered table, type Clear 28929, Load in the code from tape, and again use the routine at the foot of figure 2, returning the appropriate bar to the prompt.

Third the machine-code routines and tables — figure 3. Having completed the bar table and Saved it on tape, type in the little loader at the end of figure 3. Type Clear 28929, and Load in the bar table, since the material in figure 3 will be part of the same 3,642-byte block of RAM. Run the figure 3 loader, and enter each block in turn, making sure you get the start address right, and of course, the number of bytes. The start address is the first address given under each block and the number of bytes is clearly marked.

Follow the same procedure used for figure 2 to save intermediate stages. Note that the figure 3 loader also mimics the layout of the printout on the screen to make checking of entries easier.

In the Basic program, lines 36-200 encompass the dice loop, generating the random numbers for the dice and drawing the dice themselves in their first two positions. But as you might imagine, there is a fair amount of work involved in drawing the dice. This could be handled only with the aid of machine code, which had the added advantage of economising on rapidly shrinking text-space. It may be of interest to point out that the final dice are drawn initially in "invisible" ink; this avoids flicker since the operation of converting the ink colour is a lot quicker than that of performing the calculations and drawing the dice with dots. Machine-code routines used are Dicemain, Drawdice and Prtdots, with their associated tables. Another subterfuge used for reasons of speed is that the monitor Circle routine is avoided.

Line 9890 — this short subroutine is called after the dice have been thrown to convert the

(listing continued from page 57)

```

H11 L7: F11 J11 A-0 E15
H11 L7: F11 J11 A-0 E15
HE. J1. K13 FA. H1. H1.
HE. R1. H13 FA. H1. H1.
LH. O10 C13 K13 H1. H1.
LH. H10 C13 K13 H1. H1.
OL. O15 E15 K13 H1. H1.
OL. L15 E15 K13 H1. H1.
M0- F52 E11 J1. F52. H0.
M0- A52 E11 J1. F52. H0.
M0- J52 E11 J1. F52. H0.
E11 M11 C11 C11 F11 H1.
A11 M11 C11 C11 F11 H1.
M0- H15 H1- H05 F52. H0.
L0- H14 H1- H05 F52. H0.
M0- A10 H1- H05 F52. H0.
H0- A10 H1- H05 F52. H0.
E11 A1- A11 E11 J1. H1.
A11 A1- A11 E11 J1. H1.
J1. E5) K13 A2. J15 M0-
H10 F5) C13 A5. F15 M0-
H10 H5) C13 F2. E15 M0-
C15 K-5 E15 J5. H1. H-0
L15 H-5 H15 J5. H1. H-0

```

ENTER THE ABOVE TABLE USING THE FOLLOWING ROUTINE. NOTE THAT EACH DOMINO OF CHARACTERS REPRESENTS ONE BAR, AND THAT THE CHARACTERS ARE ENTERED AS 6, THREE-CHARACTER STRINGS, TAKEN FROM ROWS 1 TO 6 OF THE DOMINO IN TURN. N.B., IF INVERTED COMMAS APPEAR IN A STRING, SIMPLY TYPE THEM TWICE, & THE COMPUTER WILL READ IT AS ONE SET

```

2 POKE 23658,12:CLS:INPUT
"STARTING BAR?":SB:LET P=28921
2+SB*18
4 FOR N=SB TO 133 STEP 6: PRI
NT INVERSE 1,N:FOR B=0 TO 5: F
OR R=0 TO 5
6 INPUT "3-CHAR STRING":A$
IF LEN A$<3 THEN INPUT FLASH 1:
"ERROR:PRESS ENTER":A$=GO TO 6
8 FOR K=0 TO 2:POKE P+K+R*3+
B*18,CODE A$(K+1)-33:NEXT K:PR
INT AT 0+R,4+B*5,A$
10 NEXT R:NEXT B:INPUT "NEXT
SET OF 6 BARS (Y/N)?:A$:IF A$
#1 THEN LET P=P+108:CLS:NE
XT N
12 STOP

```

Figure 3.

NOTETABLE (104 BYTES)

```

31414 0 0 145 6 42 6
31420 210 0 126 6 192 6
31426 230 4 120 4 192 4
31432 230 4 120 4 192 4
31438 116 3 65 3 21 1
31444 233 2 101 2 152 2
31450 114 2 79 2 46 2
31456 15 2 241 1 219 1
31462 177 1 162 1 139 1
31468 116 1 96 1 76 1
31474 7 1 46 1 23 1
31480 7 1 240 0 235 0
31486 221 0 209 0 197 0
31492 166 0 176 0 166 0
31498 157 0 148 0 140 0
31504 132 0 126 0 117 0
31510 111 0 105 0 99 0
31516 93 0

```

DICETABLES (176 BYTES)

```

31518 21 6 62 36 66 85
31524 39 96 34 36 12 31
31530 6 62 16 66 85 38
31536 47 112 7 17 11 12
31542 123 91 127 134 95 12
31548 38 129 10 37 56 13
31554 73 41 131 49 46 182
31560 54 84 86 115 119 126
31566 51 120 81 110 67 107
31572 265 99 42 56 22 30
31578 175 105 74 124 43 30
31584 11 106 90 102 67 55
31590 200 133 55 116 67 55
31596 29 5 29 5 29 5
31602 29 5 29 5 29 5
31608 59 78 23 108 15 97
31614 58 83 31 98 35 109
31620 138 113 64 121 76 69
31626 4 19 24 191 14 7
31632 57 118 45 44 18 28
31638 66 9 51 104 30 106
31644 27 137 130 72 128 79
31650 45 136 54 68 66 82
31656 39 47 32 53 12 45
31662 17 52 125 62 82 43
31668 47 34 55 62 69 43
31674 114 48 1 22 77 65
31680 117 135 40 6 8 70
31686 8 8 8 70 70
31692 70 8

```

DRAUIDICDATA1 (252 BYTES)

```

31694 17 26 16 31 18 21
31700 16 31 17 26 18 21
31706 16 31 20 27 18 21
31712 14 25 16 31 20 27
31718 18 21 14 25 17 26
31724 16 31 18 20 27 18
31730 16 31 18 20 27 18
31736 16 31 18 20 27 18
31742 16 31 18 20 27 18
31748 16 31 18 20 27 18
31754 7 10 10 10 10 10
31760 11 10 10 10 10 10
31766 11 10 10 10 10 10
31772 11 10 10 10 10 10
31778 12 22 6 24 16 20
31784 8 24 16 20 12 22

```

```

31790 8 24 12 24 16 20
31796 8 24 12 24 16 20
31802 8 24 12 24 16 20
31808 8 24 12 24 16 20
31814 16 14 9 14 15 10
31820 16 14 9 14 15 10
31826 16 14 9 14 15 10
31832 16 14 9 14 15 10
31838 16 14 9 14 15 10
31844 16 14 9 14 15 10
31850 16 14 9 14 15 10
31856 16 14 9 14 15 10
31862 16 14 9 14 15 10
31868 16 14 9 14 15 10
31874 16 14 9 14 15 10
31880 16 14 9 14 15 10
31886 16 14 9 14 15 10
31892 16 14 9 14 15 10
31898 16 14 9 14 15 10
31904 16 14 9 14 15 10
31910 16 14 9 14 15 10
31916 16 14 9 14 15 10
31922 16 14 9 14 15 10
31928 16 14 9 14 15 10
31934 16 14 9 14 15 10
31940 16 14 9 14 15 10

```

DRAUIDICDATA2 (12 BYTES)

```

31946 5 4 5 3 6 5
31952 5 4 5 3 6 5

```

DRAUIDICDATA3 (40 BYTES)

```

31958 47 45 1 1 65 22
31964 1 255 47 47 255 55
31970 65 255 47 47 255 55
31976 0 255 65 25 1 0
31982 0 255 65 25 1 0
31988 0 255 65 25 1 0
31994 0 255 65 25 1 0

```

DICEMAIN (102 BYTES)

```

31998 253 54 85 0 33 205
32004 123 159 159 123 205
32010 123 159 159 123 205
32016 123 159 159 123 205
32022 123 159 159 123 205
32028 123 159 159 123 205
32034 123 159 159 123 205
32040 123 159 159 123 205
32046 123 159 159 123 205
32052 123 159 159 123 205
32058 123 159 159 123 205
32064 123 159 159 123 205
32070 123 159 159 123 205
32076 123 159 159 123 205
32082 123 159 159 123 205
32088 123 159 159 123 205
32094 123 159 159 123 205

```

DRAUIDICE (29 BYTES)

```

32100 217 229 217 5 18 33
32106 214 124 197 76 55 70
32112 35 94 95 66 35 225
32118 205 186 36 225 125 16
32124 239 217 225 217 201

```

PRTDOTS (30 BYTES)

```

32129 71 197 175 87 95 131
32135 28 28 16 251 95 25
32141 193 197 76 35 78 66
32147 229 205 217 13 62 111
32153 215 225 193 16 240 201

```

NATTABLE (51 BYTES)

```

32225 1 1 2 2 5 4
32231 1 1 2 2 5 4
32237 1 1 2 2 5 4
32243 1 1 2 2 5 4
32249 1 1 2 2 5 4
32255 1 1 2 2 5 4
32261 1 1 2 2 5 4
32267 1 1 2 2 5 4
32273 1 1 2 2 5 4

```

NOTESORT (74 BYTES)

```

32275 17 161 125 213 33 209
32281 125 125 6 197 70 35
32287 125 125 6 197 70 35
32293 125 125 6 197 70 35
32299 125 125 6 197 70 35
32305 125 125 6 197 70 35
32311 125 125 6 197 70 35
32317 125 125 6 197 70 35
32323 125 125 6 197 70 35
32329 125 125 6 197 70 35
32335 125 125 6 197 70 35
32341 125 125 6 197 70 35
32347 125 125 6 197 70 35
32353 125 125 6 197 70 35
32359 125 125 6 197 70 35
32365 125 125 6 197 70 35
32371 125 125 6 197 70 35
32377 125 125 6 197 70 35
32383 125 125 6 197 70 35
32389 125 125 6 197 70 35
32395 125 125 6 197 70 35
32401 125 125 6 197 70 35
32407 125 125 6 197 70 35
32413 125 125 6 197 70 35
32419 125 125 6 197 70 35
32425 125 125 6 197 70 35
32431 125 125 6 197 70 35
32437 125 125 6 197 70 35
32443 125 125 6 197 70 35
32449 125 125 6 197 70 35
32455 125 125 6 197 70 35
32461 125 125 6 197 70 35
32467 125 125 6 197 70 35
32473 125 125 6 197 70 35
32479 125 125 6 197 70 35
32485 125 125 6 197 70 35
32491 125 125 6 197 70 35
32497 125 125 6 197 70 35
32503 125 125 6 197 70 35
32509 125 125 6 197 70 35
32515 125 125 6 197 70 35
32521 125 125 6 197 70 35
32527 125 125 6 197 70 35
32533 125 125 6 197 70 35
32539 125 125 6 197 70 35
32545 125 125 6 197 70 35
32551 125 125 6 197 70 35
32557 125 125 6 197 70 35
32563 125 125 6 197 70 35
32569 125 125 6 197 70 35
32575 125 125 6 197 70 35
32581 125 125 6 197 70 35
32587 125 125 6 197 70 35
32593 125 125 6 197 70 35
32599 125 125 6 197 70 35
32605 125 125 6 197 70 35
32611 125 125 6 197 70 35
32617 125 125 6 197 70 35
32623 125 125 6 197 70 35
32629 125 125 6 197 70 35
32635 125 125 6 197 70 35
32641 125 125 6 197 70 35
32647 125 125 6 197 70 35
32653 125 125 6 197 70 35
32659 125 125 6 197 70 35
32665 125 125 6 197 70 35
32671 125 125 6 197 70 35
32677 125 125 6 197 70 35
32683 125 125 6 197 70 35
32689 125 125 6 197 70 35
32695 125 125 6 197 70 35
32701 125 125 6 197 70 35
32707 125 125 6 197 70 35
32713 125 125 6 197 70 35
32719 125 125 6 197 70 35
32725 125 125 6 197 70 35
32731 125 125 6 197 70 35
32737 125 125 6 197 70 35
32743 125 125 6 197 70 35
32749 125 125 6 197 70 35
32755 125 125 6 197 70 35
32761 125 125 6 197 70 35
32767 125 125 6 197 70 35
32773 125 125 6 197 70 35
32779 125 125 6 197 70 35
32785 125 125 6 197 70 35
32791 125 125 6 197 70 35
32797 125 125 6 197 70 35
32803 125 125 6 197 70 35
32809 125 125 6 197 70 35
32815 125 125 6 197 70 35
32821 125 125 6 197 70 35
32827 125 125 6 197 70 35
32833 125 125 6 197 70 35
32839 125 125 6 197 70 35
32845 125 125 6 197 70 35
32851 125 125 6 197 70 35
32857 125 125 6 197 70 35
32863 125 125 6 197 70 35
32869 125 125 6 197 70 35
32875 125 125 6 197 70 35
32881 125 125 6 197 70 35
32887 125 125 6 197 70 35
32893 125 125 6 197 70 35
32899 125 125 6 197 70 35
32905 125 125 6 197 70 35
32911 125 125 6 197 70 35
32917 125 125 6 197 70 35
32923 125 125 6 197 70 35
32929 125 125 6 197 70 35
32935 125 125 6 197 70 35
32941 125 125 6 197 70 35
32947 125 125 6 197 70 35
32953 125 125 6 197 70 35
32959 125 125 6 197 70 35
32965 125 125 6 197 70 35
32971 125 125 6 197 70 35
32977 125 125 6 197 70 35
32983 125 125 6 197 70 35
32989 125 125 6 197 70 35
32995 125 125 6 197 70 35
33001 125 125 6 197 70 35
33007 125 125 6 197 70 35
33013 125 125 6 197 70 35
33019 125 125 6 197 70 35
33025 125 125 6 197 70 35
33031 125 125 6 197 70 35
33037 125 125 6 197 70 35
33043 125 125 6 197 70 35
33049 125 125 6 197 70 35
33055 125 125 6 197 70 35
33061 125 125 6 197 70 35
33067 125 125 6 197 70 35
33073 125 125 6 197 70 35
33079 125 125 6 197 70 35
33085 125 125 6 197 70 35
33091 125 125 6 197 70 35
33097 125 125 6 197 70 35
33103 125 125 6 197 70 35
33109 125 125 6 197 70 35
33115 125 125 6 197 70 35
33121 125 125 6 197 70 35
33127 125 125 6 197 70 35
33133 125 125 6 197 70 35
33139 125 125 6 197 70 35
33145 125 125 6 197 70 35
33151 125 125 6 197 70 35
33157 125 125 6 197 70 35
33163 125 125 6 197 70 35
33169 125 125 6 197 70 35
33175 125 125 6 197 70 35
33181 125 125 6 197 70 35
33187 125 125 6 197 70 35
33193 125 125 6 197 70 35
33199 125 125 6 197 70 35
33205 125 125 6 197 70 35
33211 125 125 6 197 70 35
33217 125 125 6 197 70 35
33223 125 125 6 197 70 35
33229 125 125 6 197 70 35
33235 125 125 6 197 70 35
33241 125 125 6 197 70 35
33247 125 125 6 197 70 35
33253 125 125 6 197 70 35
33259 125 125 6 197 70 35
33265 125 125 6 197 70 35
33271 125 125 6 197 70 35
33277 125 125 6 197 70 35
33283 125 125 6 197 70 35
33289 125 125 6 197 70 35
33295 125 125 6 197 70 35
33301 125 125 6 197 70 35
33307 125 125 6 197 70 35
33313 125 125 6 197 70 35
33319 125 125 6 197 70 35
33325 125 125 6 197 70 35
33331 125 125 6 197 70 35
33337 125 125 6 197 70 35
33343 125 125 6 197 70 35
33349 125 125 6 197 70 35
33355 125 125 6 197 70 35
33361 125 125 6 197 70 35
33367 125 125 6 197 70 35
33373 125 125 6 197 70 35
33379 125 125 6 197 70 35
33385 125 125 6 197 70 35
33391 125 125 6 197 70 35
33397 125 125 6 197 70 35
33403 125 125 6 197 70 35
33409 125 125 6 197 70 35
33415 125 125 6 197 70 35
33421 125 125 6 197 70 35
33427 125 125 6 197 70 35
33433 125 125 6 197 70 35
33439 125 125 6 197 70 35
33445 125 125 6 197 70 35
33451 125 125 6 197 70 35
33457 125 125 6 197 70 35
33463 125 125 6 197 70 35
33469 125 125 6 197 70 35
33475 125 125 6 197 70 35
33481 125 125 6 197 70 35
33487 125 125 6 197 70 35
33493 125 125 6 197 70 35
33499 125 125 6 197 70 35
33505 125 125 6 197 70 35
33511 125 125 6 197 70 35
33517 125 125 6 197 70 35
33523 125 125 6 197 70 35
33529 125 125 6 197 70 35
33535 125 125 6 197 70 35
33541 125 125 6 197 70 35
33547 125 125 6 197 70 35
33553 125 125 6 197 70 35
33559 125 125 6 197 70 35
33565 125 125 6 197 70 35
33571 125 125 6 197 70 35
33577 125 125 6 197 70 35
33583 125 125 6 197 70 35
33589 125 125 6 197 70 35
33595 125 125 6 197 70 35
33601 125 125 6 197 70 35
33607 125 125 6 197 70 35
33613 125 125 6 197 70 35
33619 125 125 6 197 70 35
33625 125 125 6 197 70 35
33631 125 125 6 197 70 35
33637 125 125 6 197 70 35
33643 125 125 6 197 70 35
33649 125 125 6 197 70 35
33655 125 125 6 197 70 35
33661 125 125 6 197 70 35
33667 125 125 6 197 70 35
33673 125 125 6 197 70 35
33679 125 125 6 197 70 35
33685 125 125 6 197 70 35
33691 125 125 6 197 70 35
33697 125 125 6 197 70 35
33703 125 125 6 197 70 35
33709 125
```


(continued from previous page)

dice numbers into equivalent bar numbers. Lines 9916-9925 draw the blank manuscript, and lines 8530-8775 — see figure 6 — actually print out the music. Each voice is printed out in full before moving on to the next voice. The appropriate data is fetched from the bar table by the machine-code routine Notesort. Lines 8771-8775 actually print the notes, U being a flag to determine the direction in which the tails are drawn, Z being another flag indicating whether ledger lines are required.

Line 9900 is a subroutine to print out the record of dice numbers.

Lines 9800-9835 play the music. The PSG is initialised in Basic before calling the machine code which actually outputs the music. The first entry point to the subroutine is at line 9830, the routine re-entering itself from line 9800 if a repeat is desired. Which machine-code routines are called depends on whether a PSGIO board is connected. If it is then Playmain is called, which in turn uses Playslot and Out. If no soundboard is detected then Musicbox is called, which simulates a musical box playing through the top voice only; even the clicks of the wards are included. Seriously though, the Musicbox routines — including Part and Beepout — are really only intended to verify the software as a whole if you have not yet got hold of a PSGIO board, and though fun, is no substitute for the real, three-voice original. On the PSGIO board, an output socket is provided to allow you to plug into the Aux input of your amplifier: this arrangement really does justice to the music.

Lines 207-253 call the manuscript drawing and play subroutines when required, and handle Saving of manuscript, as well as setting up volume and tempo variables.

Line 253 changes key each cycle, according to the factor KY.

Finally, a note on I/O: the two registers, 14 and 15 in the PSG give 16 bits of TTL-compatible I/O capability to the PSGIO circuit. As pointed out earlier, the ports can be driven completely independently of the sound generation; while sound is being output, I/O operations can be performed. The ports are bidirectional. Bits 6 and 7 of register 7 are used to dictate which direction is operational for each port; if either is set to one then the corresponding port is in output mode, if a zero setting, then the port is in input mode. The possibilities are endless.

There is nothing to stop anyone substituting his own bars for the Mozart using the information given in the text, and with the limitations that with the current arrangement only triple-time music can be accommodated.

Those familiar with machine code should find it relatively easy to cope with duple times by changing the number of slots and the cycle counters which handle them.

Some programmers will be unwilling or unable to deal with the effort of punching in the whole of Minuet2, or building the programmable sound generator and input/output board. If they wish, they may write to Rod Hopkins at 5 Greenside, Leslie, Fife KY6 3DD for a copy of the program at £3.25, or the fully-built PSGIO board together with the program for £19.75. Both prices include postage and packing.

(listing continued from previous page)

```
32477 60 211 221 245 197 6
32483 1 16 254 201
MUSICBOX (25 BYTES)
32487 6 2 197 62 225 167
32493 214 3 15 220 25
32499 126 205 0 193 16
32505 239 62 209 50 25 126
32511 201
PART (23 BYTES)
32512 33 59 126 54 201 229
32518 205 20 126 205 23 127
32524 6 255 16 254 205 23
32530 127 225 54 6 201
BEEPOUT (36 BYTES)
32535 33 161 125 6 48 197
32541 229 239 52 126 47 0
32547 0 20 55 226 126 35
32553 254 0 32 2 62 69
32559 229 205 40 45 205 246
32565 3 225 193 16 226 201
```

ENTER EACH OF THE ABOVE DUMPS IN
TURN USING THE FOLLOWING ROUT-
INE, IN EACH CASE THE START
ADDRESS IS THE FIRST ADDRESS
SHOWN FOR THAT DUMP

```
2 INPUT "NUMBER OF BYTES ? ";
B: INPUT "START ADDRESS ? "; S
4 FOR N=5 TO S+B-1 STEP 5: PR
INT N; FOR K=0 TO 5
6 INPUT "NEXT BYTE ? "; A: POK
E N+K,A: PRINT TAB 6+K*4,A; IF
N+K=S+B-1 THEN GO TO 10
8 NEXT K: PRINT : NEXT N
10 STOP
```

Figure 4.

MACHINE CODE DISSASSEMBLY

"DICEMAIN"

```
INKOFF LD (ATT-T),0
LD HL,DATA1
LD A,(LHNDICENO)
LD B,DICE COUNT
```

```
NXTDICE PUSH BC
PUSH HL
PUSH AF
PRTOPFACE CALL PRTDOTS
LD DE,FACESTEP
POP HL
ADD HL,DE
PUSH HL
LD DE,DATA2-2
INC DE
INC DE
DEC A
JRNZ VALIDNUM
LD A,(DE)
PUSH DE
PRTLHFACE CALL PRTDOTS
POP DE
INC DE
LD A,(DE)
LD DE,FACESTEP
POP HL
ADD HL,DE
PUSH HL
PUSH DE
CALL PRTDOTS
POP DE
POP HL
ADD HL,DE
LD A,(LHNDICENO)
POP BC
DJNZ NXTDICE
LD HL,RHPLTCORDS
LD (PLOTXY),HL
CALL DRAUDICE
LD HL,LHPLTCORDS
LD (PLOTXY),HL
CALL DRAUDICE
LD (ATT-T),7
LD HL,ATT-FILE
LD BC,SCRNSIZE
LD A,(HL)
CP INK0
JRNZ DONE?
LD (HL),INK?
DEC BC
INC HL
LD A,B
OR C
JRNZ NXTPOSN
RET
```

```
VALIDNUM LD A,(DE)
PUSH DE
PRTLHFACE CALL PRTDOTS
POP DE
INC DE
LD A,(DE)
LD DE,FACESTEP
POP HL
ADD HL,DE
PUSH HL
PUSH DE
CALL PRTDOTS
POP DE
POP HL
ADD HL,DE
LD A,(LHNDICENO)
POP BC
DJNZ NXTDICE
LD HL,RHPLTCORDS
LD (PLOTXY),HL
CALL DRAUDICE
LD HL,LHPLTCORDS
LD (PLOTXY),HL
CALL DRAUDICE
LD (ATT-T),7
LD HL,ATT-FILE
LD BC,SCRNSIZE
LD A,(HL)
CP INK0
JRNZ DONE?
LD (HL),INK?
DEC BC
INC HL
LD A,B
OR C
JRNZ NXTPOSN
RET
```

```
DRAUCUBES LD HL,RHPLTCORDS
LD (PLOTXY),HL
CALL DRAUDICE
LD HL,LHPLTCORDS
LD (PLOTXY),HL
CALL DRAUDICE
LD (ATT-T),7
LD HL,ATT-FILE
LD BC,SCRNSIZE
LD A,(HL)
CP INK0
JRNZ DONE?
LD (HL),INK?
DEC BC
INC HL
LD A,B
OR C
JRNZ NXTPOSN
RET
```

```
INKON LD (ATT-T),7
LD HL,ATT-FILE
LD BC,SCRNSIZE
LD A,(HL)
CP INK0
JRNZ DONE?
LD (HL),INK?
DEC BC
INC HL
LD A,B
OR C
JRNZ NXTPOSN
RET
```

```
DONE? LD A,B
OR C
JRNZ NXTPOSN
RET
```

```
"DRAUDICE"
```

```
SAVERET EXX
PUSH HL
EXX
LD B,SIDECOUNT
LD HL,DATA3
PUSH BC
LD C,(HL)
INC HL
LD B,(HL)
INC HL
LD E,(HL)
INC HL
LD D,(HL)
INC HL
PUSH HL
CALL DRAW
POP HL
POP BC
DJNZ NXTSIDE
EXX
POP HL
EXX
RET
```

```
NXTSIDE LD C,(HL)
INC HL
LD B,(HL)
INC HL
LD E,(HL)
INC HL
LD D,(HL)
INC HL
PUSH HL
CALL DRAW
POP HL
POP BC
DJNZ NXTSIDE
EXX
POP HL
EXX
RET
```

```
UNSTKRET EXX
POP HL
EXX
RET
```

"PRTDOTS"

```
GETNUM LD B,A
PUSH BC
XOR A
LD D,A
LD E,A
ADD A,E
INC E
INC E
DJNZ GETDOTPAT
LD E,A
ADD HL,DE
POP BC
PUSH BC
LD B,(HL)
INC HL
LD C,(HL)
INC HL
PUSH HL
CALL SETPRTP05
LD A,CODE "0"
RST 10H
POP HL
POP BC
DJNZ NXTDOT
RET
```

"NOTESORT"

```
LD DE,VOICESTO
PUSH DE
LD HL,RNDTABLE
LD B,BARCOUNT
PUSH BC
LD B,(HL)
INC HL
PUSH HL
PUSH DE
LD HL,BARTABLE-18
LD DE,BARSTEP
ADD HL,DE
DJNZ GETBAR
POP DE
LD B,SLOTCount
LD A,(HL)
INC HL
INC HL
INC HL
LD (DE),A
INC DE
DJNZ NXTSLOT
POP HL
POP BC
DJNZ NXTBAR
POP HL
LD B,BARS*SLOTS
PUSH BC
LD A,(HL)
LD B,TOPNOTE
CP B
JRNZ NATEQUIV
DJNZ NOTE?
LD A,B
LD (HL),A
JR PTNXTSLOT
LD DE,NATTABLE-1
INC DE
DJNZ CALCNAT
LD A,(DE)
LD (HL),A
DEC DE
LD A,(DE)
CP (HL)
JRNZ PTNXTSLOT
SET 7,(HL)
PTNXTSLOT INC HL
POP BC
DJNZ NXTSLOT
RET
```

"PLAYMAIN"

```
LD B,PARTCOUNT
PUSH BC
PUSH BC
LD B,BARCOUNT
LD DE,RNDTABLE
PUSH BC
LD A,(DE)
INC DE
PUSH DE
LD B,A
LD HL,0
LD DE,18
ADD HL,DE
DJNZ CALCBAR
LD BC,BARTABLE-18
AND A
ADD HL,BC
LD B,SLOTCount
PUSH BC
CALL PLAYSLOT
LD B,COUNT1
LD C,COUNT2
DEC C
JRNZ LOOP2
DJNZ LOOP1
POP BC
DJNZ NXTSLOT
POP DE
POP BC
DJNZ NXTBAR
LD B,COUNT1
LD C,COUNT2
DEC C
JRNZ LOOP4
DJNZ LOOP3
POP BC
DJNZ REPEAT
LD HL,RNDTABPOINT
LD (HL),PART2POINT
POP BC
DJNZ REPEAT2
LD (HL),PART1POINT
RET
REPEAT2 PUSH BC
INC B
JR REPEAT
```

"PLAYSLOT"

```
NXTVOICE XOR A
PUSH AF
OUT REGADDR,A
XOR A
CP (HL)
JRNZ GETNOTE
CALL OUT
XOR A
JR HIOUT
LD B,(HL)
```


NXT5L

```
LD HL, VOICESTO
LD B, SLOTS
PUSH BC
PUSH HL
```

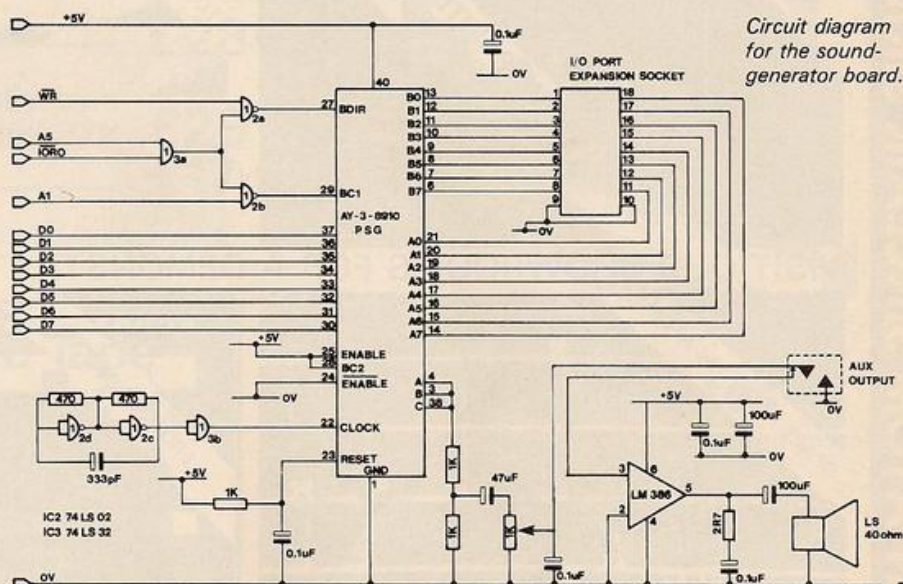
```

PUSH HL
CALL STKACC
CALL ROMBEEP
POP HL
POP BC
DJNZ NXT5LOT
RET

```

28930-31413
31414-31517
31518-31693
31694-31997
31998-32099
32100-32128
32129-32158
32159-32158
32161-32208
32209-32224
32225-32275
32276-32349
32350-32425
32427-32454
32455-32486
32487-32511
32512-32534
32535-32570

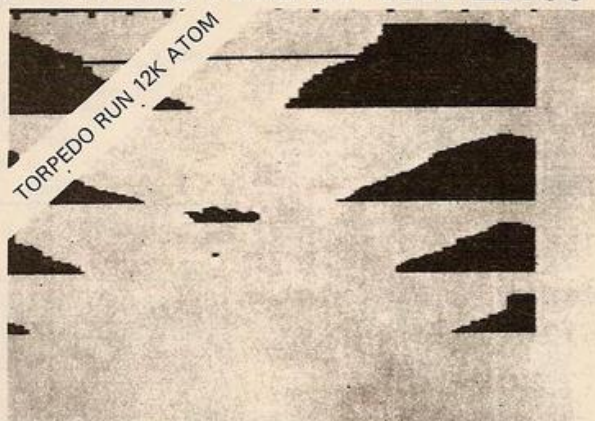
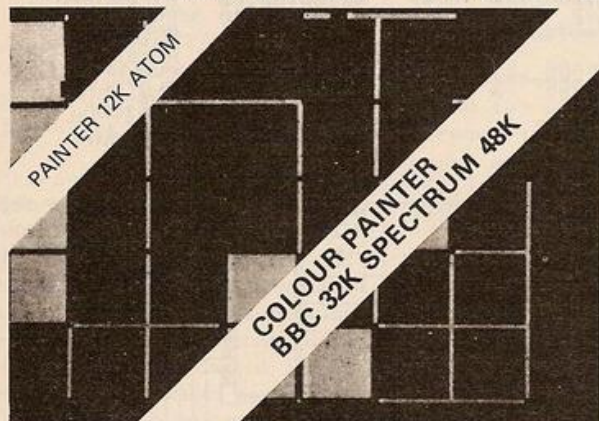
BARTABLE
NOTETABLE
DICETABLES
DRAWDICEDATA
DICEMAIN
DRAUDICE
PRDPTS
DICENOSTO
VOICESTO
RNDTAB
NATTABLE
NOTESORT
PLAYMAIN
PLAYSLOT
OUT
MUSICBOX
PART
REFPOUT



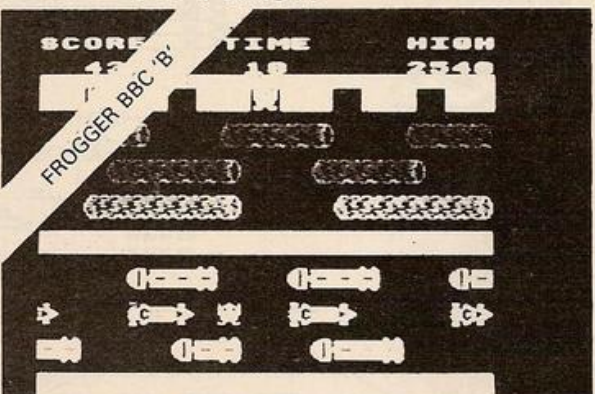
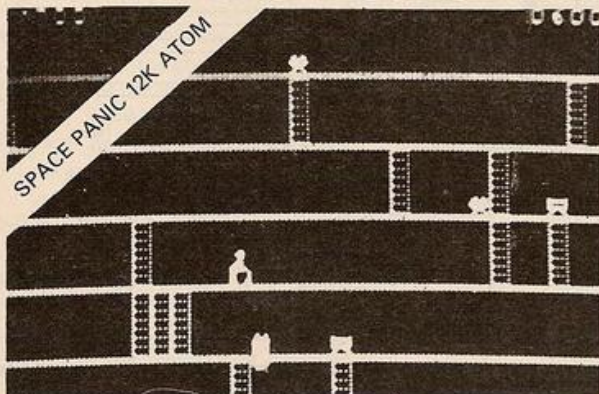
Circuit diagram for the sound-generator board.

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```

10 REM MAGGOTS (C) M. PERCY JAN '83
20 CLEAR 2000: X=128: Y=96: I=128: O=96
30 SM=RND(4): SC=0: ML=10
40 CLS: PRINT@200, "maggots"
50 INPUT "FAST OR SLOW(F/S)"; S#
60 IF S#="F" THEN POKE &HFFD7, 0
70 CLS: PRINT "READY!!";
80 PLAY "Y30T1003L6CL302GGL2EEL1CC": CLS
90 REM DRAW SCREEN
100 PMODE1, 1: SCREEN1, 0: PCLS2: COLOR4, 2
110 DRAW "BM6, 6: C4: R243D180L243U180"
120 PAINT(0, 0), 4, 4
130 GOSUB 150: GOTO 220
140 REM PUT FOOD IN RANDOM POSITION
150 A=RND(240)+8: D=RND(178)+8
160 FOR M=1 TO RND(4)
170 IF PPOINT(A+M, D+M)=4 THEN 150
180 PSET(A+M, D+M, 1)
190 SOUND 100, 1
200 NEXT M
210 RETURN
220 REM MOVEMENT
230 ON SM GOTO 290, 360, 430, 500

```

Fast and tricky, M Percy's Maggots will soon have you wriggling at the keyboard.

THIS ADDICTIVE high-resolution game for the Dragon 32 does wonders for the reflexes and gets away from the era of laborious games with a ready-set maze.

Due to the amazing speed with which the Dragon works in Basic, this game — in which a red maggot runs around the screen and searches for food — can be very hard. A speed option is offered: this is done by setting the internal timer to a running speed of 1.8 MHz instead of the default of 0.9 MHz.

The idea is to move the maggot — which starts off in a random direction, but always from the centre position — round the screen, to the clumps of food which are represented by green dots. Movement is achieved by the use of the arrow keys. When a clump of food is eaten the maggot increases by a length or two.

Turning should be kept to a minimum because the maggot sloughs its skin. If the maggot hits this or the border then the game is lost. As more and more corners are turned the screen fills up with red lines. The bigger the maggot the longer the barricade of dead skin will be.

When the maggot has reached a length of 40 the game stops for five seconds. The screen then clears and play starts again, but instead of starting off 10 segments long, it starts with two so that more epithelia will be discarded, making the game harder than before. When three sets have been cleared the internal timer is set to Fast mode so that the game, if started

in Slow, will now be fast. The game then continues with a new set appearing each time the maggot attains a length of 40 units.

Due to the way the end of the maggot is preset to keep it at the length specified by ML and the variables I and O a skin or skin segment immediately behind the maggot may disappear. This will only happen when turning and may be used to an advantage to reach food which was inaccessible — but be careful that the food is not erased as well.

Lines 20-30 clear room for the strings and set all necessary variables; lines 50-60 determine speed; and lines 70-120 set display.

In line 130, the Gosub moves to the food routine: the Goto is for starting the game.

Lines 150-200 place a clump of food in a random position with line 170 checking to see if the point is already set to read, and if so starts the routine again. Up to four blocks of food may appear in one clump or as little as one — variable M determines this. Line 150 places the food in the yellow area of the screen only. Line 230 starts the maggot moving in the appropriate random direction by the variable SM, and goes to the appropriate line number; lines 240-280 send control to the appropriate line number, and line 290 checks to see if any of the arrow keys have been depressed.

If none has been depressed or if the reverse key has been pressed, then the maggot carries on moving in the same direction or else goes



back to lines 240-280 for the next direction.

Line 300 checks to see if the next point to be PSet is red and if so moves the losing routine at 580. Line 310 checks to see if the next point is food and if so goes to the appropriate routine.

Lines 330-350 subtract the length of the maggot from the PSet position and preset these points so that the maggot does not appear as one continuous line.

Line 590 speeds the routine up and 700 slows it back down. Lines 790-850 search for food in an area of three by three around the maggot's head and for each little block found five points are added to the score. Line 840 then presets these points so that no food is left in that area. Line 860 goes to the routine for placing some more food in another random position. Line 870 adds two to the length of the maggot. Line 880 checks to see if it is 40 in length and if so goes to the routine at 900.

Lines 900-950 clear the screen and add 1 to the amount of sets cleared. Line 940 makes the game fast if a fourth set is reached. Line 950 gives the maggot a length of two and continues the game. Variable ML can be changed in line 880 to make the game easier or harder.

(continued from facing page)

```

240 IF B#=CHR$(94) THEN 290
250 IF B#=CHR$(10) THEN 360
260 IF B#=CHR$(8) THEN 430
270 IF B#=CHR$(9) THEN 500
280 GOTO 240
290 B#=INKEY$: IF B#=CHR$(10) OR B#="" THEN Y=Y-2 ELSE 240
300 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=4 THEN 580
310 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=1 THEN GOSUB 780
320 PSET(X,Y,4)
330 I=X:O=Y+ML: IF O>184 THEN O=184
340 PRESET(I,O)
350 GOTO 290
360 B#=INKEY$: IF B#=CHR$(94) OR B#="" THEN Y=Y+2 ELSE 240
370 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=4 THEN 580
380 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=1 THEN GOSUB 780
390 PSET(X,Y,4)
400 I=X:O=Y-ML: IF O<8 THEN O=8
410 PRESET(I,O)
420 GOTO 360
430 B#=INKEY$: IF B#=CHR$(9) OR B#="" THEN X=X-2 ELSE 240
440 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=4 THEN 580
450 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=1 THEN GOSUB 780
460 PSET(X,Y,4)
470 I=X+ML:O=Y: IF I>242 THEN I=242
480 PRESET(I,O)
490 GOTO 430
500 B#=INKEY$: IF B#=CHR$(8) OR B#="" THEN X=X+2 ELSE 240
510 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=4 THEN 580
520 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=1 THEN GOSUB 780
530 PSET(X,Y,4)
540 I=X-ML:O=Y: IF I<8 THEN I=8
550 PRESET(I,O)
560 GOTO 500
570 REM PRINT SCORES
580 FOR Z=0 TO 250: NEXT Z
590 POKE &HFFD6,0
600 FOR C=1 TO 4
610 PLAY"V31T20001CDECDECDE"
620 DRAW"C"+STR$(C)
630 DRAW"BM120,100;S8;R5U5L5U5R5"
640 DRAW"BM137,100;S8;U10R5D5L5"
650 DRAW"BM152,100;S8;NR5U10"
660 DRAW"BM166,100;S8;U10R5D10U5L5"
670 DRAW"BM180,100;S8;BR5U10NL5R5"
680 NEXT C
690 SOUND 1,20
700 POKE &HFFD6,0
710 FOR Z=0 TO 100: NEXT Z
720 CLS:PRINT"YOUR BODY WAS";ML;"CMS LONG,"
730 PRINT"AND YOU SCORED";S;"POINTS."
740 PRINT"AND CLEARED";SC;"SETS"
750 INPUT"ANOTHER GO(Y/N)";B#
760 IF B#="N" THEN END
770 RUN
780 REM SEARCH FOR FOOD
790 FOR B=-2 TO 2
800 FOR V=-2 TO 2
810 IF PPOINT(B+X,V+Y)=1 THEN 820 ELSE 850
820 SOUND 230,1
830 S=S+5
840 PRESET(B+X,V+Y,2)
850 NEXT V,B
860 GOSUB 150
870 ML=ML+2
880 IF ML=40 THEN 900
890 RETURN
900 FOR Z=0 TO 600: NEXT Z
910 CLS:PRINT"ANOTHER SET COMING UP"
920 PLAY"V3101DDD02CDEFG02CDEFG"
930 SC=SC+1
940 IF SC=3 THEN POKE &HFFD7,0
950 ML=2:GOTO 100

```

TS

AT

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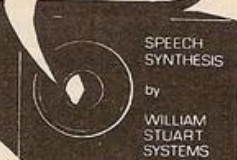
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WITH FORTH now available for home computers and the release of the Jupiter Ace, users suddenly have a machine and a language ideally structured to games that are fast, involved and without the relative complexity of machine code. Forth's compact programming means one can develop and test each of the elements of the whole program as one builds it up.

The disadvantage of not being able to code from the top down, as in Basic, is overcome easily by either flowcharting the proposed program or doing a simple logical list of its component parts.

The Jupiter Ace I used for this program has an actual memory availability for user Forth words of less than 1K. This may seem very little but it gives one sufficient space to create versions of popular arcade games that contain the main features of the originals and run very close to their speeds. In fact, I found that Pac-Man written in Forth actually runs faster than the game played at the local amusement centre. As it is one of the more popular games and contains many of the building blocks one would use in other games I chose it as the example for this article.

I have included all the main points of the arcade version, except for the power pills which would take up an extra 500 bytes at a rough estimate.

I have assumed that you understand the basic words used in the Ace but include an explanation of the specific techniques involved. To conserve memory the variables and words used have short names but I comment on each separately.

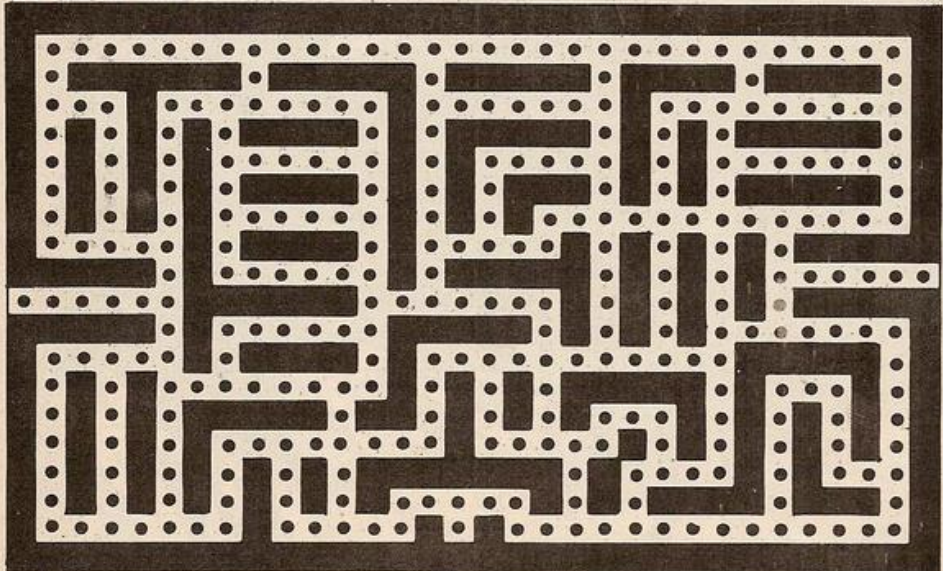
The sequence for the game is as follows. First, the graphics used for the man, ghosts, dots and wall are defined and the screen created. Next the variables are initialised and the man and ghosts placed in their starting positions.

The way the man moves is broken down into the following steps. First, a check to see if an appropriate key has been pressed, and the program continues with this sequence if it has.

The Inkey function on the Ace returns to the stack the ASCII value of the key pressed.

The maze display: snappers and guplers thrive in this sort of environment.

: Z INVIS CLS



FORTH: ACE

This has to be converted into a number giving the change in position in the display file. The Ace display file is laid out in 24 rows of 32 columns, each at addresses 9216 to 9984. An up or down movement changes the memory location by 32 and a left or right movement changes it by 1. I have used these numbers to give the new location of the man.

Next the program checks to make sure the man does not bump into a wall and continues only if there is no risk of this.

Then a space is put in the man's last position, and the new position is checked to see whether or not it contains a dot. If it does, the score is incremented. If this score means that all the available dots have been eaten, the screen is refilled.

Now the man is moved to his new position which is stored in the appropriate variable. The ghost-moving section comes next. I found that this was most easily done by having a separate variable for each ghost's position which is put into the variable used by the subroutine as each ghost is moved.

The sequence for each ghost starts by checking whether the ghost should move up or down or neither according to the relative position of the man, and then makes sure that it does not hit a wall. A random generator is used to allow the ghost only limited movement — the game would be impossible if the ghost was always correct, and boring if its movement were fully predictable. When a ghost moves, the space it leaves is replaced with a space or dot as appropriate. This is done by a method which is explained fully in the actual coding. The same procedure is used for left and right movement of the ghost. If the man now occupies the same position as one of the ghosts the game ends.

Obviously all these procedures need additional subroutines to generate the random



Ralph Hilton gets his teeth into Forth games. Have an Ace munch.

numbers and refill the screen with dots when required.

The game is loaded in three sections to make full use of the memory but no reloading is necessary to replay.

First, the graphics section is prepared. I have assigned user graphics for the wall and dots as this makes it far easier to type in the screen itself. The graphics are placed into a section of RAM which is calculated as starting at 11264 plus the ASCII code of the character one is defining multiplied by 8. As typing in a list of binary digits is tedious I have converted all the values to decimal.

Here is the listing for the graphics section:

: NM 36 126 219 90 126 255 126 36 ;

This word puts the values used for the ghost on to the stack. It is a separate word because it is needed several times.

: GR 8 * 11263 + DUP

8 +

DO

i CI -1

+ LOOP ;

This word takes nine numbers from the stack; the first eight define the character and the ninth is the ASCII value of the character. It makes a loop, using as its limits the sections of memory at the beginning and end of the space we want to fill. It then puts each of the numbers into its appropriate place. It is taken from the Ace manual.

: A 85 170 85 170 85 170 1 GR

Wall

0 0 0 24 24 0 0 0 2 GR

Dot

28 20 8 127 8 20 34 65 3 GR

Man

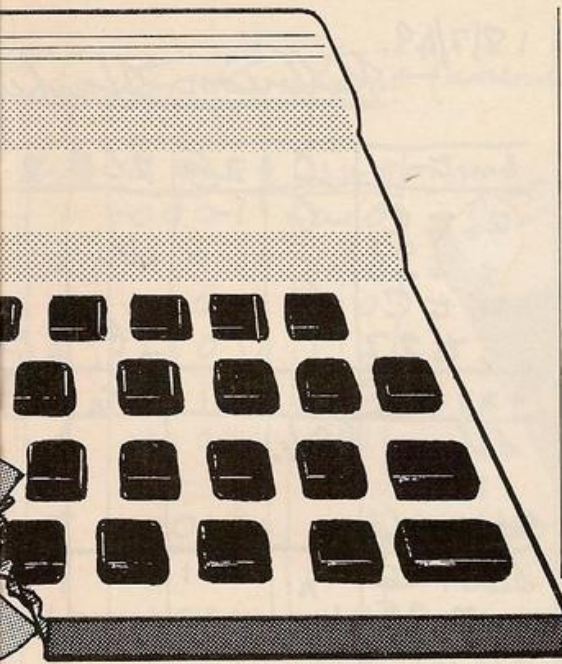
NM 5 GR

NM 35 GR ;

When you have typed this in, A will run the routine and store the characters appropriately. This section should then be saved on tape by starting the tape player then entering

SAVE GRAPHICS

FOR GAMES



You can then verify it as explained in the manual and delete it from memory using
FORGET NM

to leave space for the next section, the game itself.

For this section first enter the variables;

0 variable A The score.
0 variable X The man's position.
0 variable W Used for the position of the ghost being moved. Y and Z are moved to W as needed.
0 variable Y The positions of the two
0 variable Z ghosts.

Only two ghosts have been used — a third would fit in the memory but with the speed at which the program runs would make it almost impossible to win.

0 variable SD This holds the random number.
0 variable K This sets the difficulty level.

The subroutines used by the main words need to go in next so that the compiler recognises them when called from the upper words.

: B This fills the screen with dots wherever there is no wall and is used whenever the dots are all eaten.

9856 9216

DO Sets a loop to go over the whole screen.

i c@ 1 = 0 = Checks that the space does not contain a wall.

IF

2 i c! Puts a dot there if it does not.

THEN

LOOP

5 Y @ c! 5 Z @ c! Puts the ghosts back on the screen.

Y @ Z @ = IF 8 Y @ c! THEN

When a ghost leaves a position then 3 is subtracted from the ASCII value of the character so that it is left as it was; dots use 2 and spaces 32 so the ghost is given values 5 and 35, and 3 is added to the ASCII when the ghost is moved there. Here if the two ghosts

are in the same place when all the dots are eaten then 2 + 3 + 3 has to go in that space giving a dot when they both leave.

K @ DUP 2 > IF 1- THEN K ! Increases the difficulty level if it is not at maximum;

: RND This is taken from the Ace manual and covered there.

SD @ 75 u* 75 0 D +
OVER OVER u< - - 1-
DUP SD!

u* SWAP DROP ;

: CPS

This is used to add 3 to the position that the ghost moves into and add 253 when it leaves. Adding 253 achieves the same as taking away 3 as one is using a single byte.

SWAP OVER c@ + SWAP c! ;

Next the main routines are typed in. M is the routine for moving the man complete with associated checks and score changing. The comments could be typed into the machine but would take up valuable memory and so should be omitted.

: M

INKEY DUP DUP

52 > SWAP 57 < AND

This checks that the key is one of the cursor control keys 5 to 8; these have ASCII values 53 through 56.

IF

52 - DUP Puts the number into the range 1 to 4

4 MOD 1 > 31 * 1 + MOD gives the remainder after dividing by the preceding number so cursor keys 6 and 7 will leave 32 on the stack while keys 5 and 8 leave 1 on the stack.

SWAP 3 < - 2 * 1 + * This multiplies the 32 or 1 obtained by -1 if keys 5 or 6 were pressed.

X @ + DUP c@ DUP Leaves on the stack the new value of X and two copies of what X currently contains.

1 = 0 =

IF Continue only if one will not collide with a wall.

32 X @ c! Put a space in the old position of the man.

2 =

IF Check if the man is eating a dot.

A @ 1+ DUP DUP A ! 21 0 AT .

326 MOD 0 = IF B THEN Add 1 to the score; print the score; check whether all the dots have been eaten and refill screen if more left.

THEN

3 OVER c! X ! Put the man in the new position and store the value of X.

99 40 BEEP

ELSE

DROP DROP Removes unused numbers from stack.

THEN

ELSE

DROP

THEN ;

The routines G and H are used together. H is used twice by G to actually move the ghost. H should be typed in before G.

: G W @ DUP X @ 16 - < 32 * Compares the values of X and W to see whether or not the ghost should move down. It puts 32 on the stack if it should.

SWAP X @ 16 + > - 32 * + H puts - 32 on the stack if the ghost should move up, and then uses H to move it appropriately.

W @ 32 MOD X @ 32 MOD > - 2 * 1 + H Puts 1 or -1 on the stack after comparing the horizontal positions of X and W to move ghost left or right.

: H W @ + DUP c@ Finds the new position of the ghost.

1 = 0 = Makes sure that it is not in a wall.
K @ RND 0 = AND Uses the difficulty variable K and RND to limit the probability of the ghost's movement.

IF

253 W @ CPS Puts a space or dot where the ghost was.

3 OVER CPS Puts the ghost on the screen.

W ! Stores the new position of the ghost

ELSE

DROP

THEN ;

The routines are now linked together by the program word which is Run.

: RUN FAST

9249 X ! 9339 Y ! 9479 Z ! Sets initial positions of man and ghosts.

0 A ! Zeros score. 6 K ! Sets initial difficulty.

B Fills the screen with dots.

3 9249 c! Puts the man on the screen. B

; B puts on the ghosts.

BEGIN The main control loop.

M Move man.

Z @ W ! G W @ Z ! Moves the ghost Z by putting its value into W which is used by H.

Y @ W ! G W @ Y ! Does the same for Y.

X @ DUP Y @ = SWAP Z @ = OR

UNTIL Compares X to Z and Y. If either equal X then the procedure ends otherwise it goes back to Begin.

SLOW

999 999 BEEP :

The game is stored entering
SAVE RUN

The screen is created and, then saved as a series of bytes. Enter

: Z INVIS CLS."

leaving enough space between the CLS and ." so that there is only one space left at the end of the line. Use Shift 9 to put the Ace in graphics mode then, using A for the wall and B for the dots, type in the 20 lines of screen per the attached diagram. On the next line type " ;

Entering Z will now give you the screen in the correct position and it can be saved on to tape by entering

8192 768 BSAVE screen

Start the tape and press enter.

Clear the memory with

FORGET Z

The program is now loaded with
LOAD GRAPHICS

A

FORGET NM

Enter these three together and then start the tape. Stop the tape when you see the cursor.

INVIS LOAD RUN 0 0 BLOAD SCREEN

Enter this and then restart the tape. Stop it when the screen is full. You can now play the game by entering Run.

If you have queries about the program I can answer them. Write to me with stamped, addressed envelope at 23 Grimston Avenue, Folkestone, Kent.

IF YOU ARE buying an Oric 1 computer, you are acquiring a piece of microelectronic equipment that is the state of the art in home computers. Inside the Oric case is a 6502A central processor unit, CPU; two 2764 read-only memory — ROM — chips; a 6522 versatile interface adaptor, VIA; and eight 4164 dynamic random access memory — RAM — chips as well as a number of other integrated circuits.

All these circuits are mounted on a printed-circuit board and there are inputs and outputs to connect the computer to the outside world. That hardware specification produces a computer that will calculate using one or more high-level languages, control a printer or some other peripheral piece of equipment, interface with a Modem for communicating via British Telecom telephone lines or store and retrieve information from a mass-storage unit called a floppy disc. The Oric computer must contain nearly one million transistors and uses perhaps five watts of power.

You may be forgiven for having a blasé attitude towards "the chip". Although home computers continue to develop at breakneck pace, a number of small machines with a built-in Basic interpreter have been available for three or four years in this country.

But compare, for a moment, the Oric with the Mark 1 computer built at Manchester University in 1948. Like the Oric the Mark 1 used dynamic memory. Flip-flops, the electronic circuit at the heart of static memory

INCREDIBLE

devices, had to be constructed out of EF-50 pentode valves and the quantities that would have been necessary were simply not a practical proposition.

So Professor Williams, the head of the development team, invented a way of storing binary numbers using a 12in. diameter cathode ray tube, CRT, roughly similar to the tube in a portable television. He found that it was possible to detect the presence or absence of a pulse by the charge generated in a plate held against the front of the CRT — where the picture would normally be displayed. The charge decayed in about 0.2 seconds but if it was refreshed within that time, it was possible to store 2,048 bits for a period of several hours.

The memory for a stored-program electronic computer was the most troublesome problem at that time. Other groups worked on the development of memory storage using mercury delay lines in which a vibration, or sound wave, was put into one end of a trough of mercury and recovered some time later at the other end.

This technique was also dynamic because

19/7/48 — Kilburn High

Instruction	C	25	26	27
-24 to C	-G ₁	-	-	-
c to 26			-G ₁	
-26 to C	G ₁			
c to 27			-G ₁	
-23 to C	a	T _{n-1}	-G _n	b
Sub 27	a - G _n			
Test				
Add 20 to G ₁				
Sub. 26	T _n			
c to 25		T _n		
-25 to C				
Test				
Stop	0	0	-G _n	b
-26 to C	G _n	T _n	-G _n	b
Sub. 21	G _{n-1}			
c to 27	G _{n+1}			G _n
-27 to C	-G _{n+1}			
c to 26			-G _{n-1}	
22 to G ₁		T _n	-G _{n-1}	G _n

20	-3	10111 etc
21	1	10000
22	4	00100

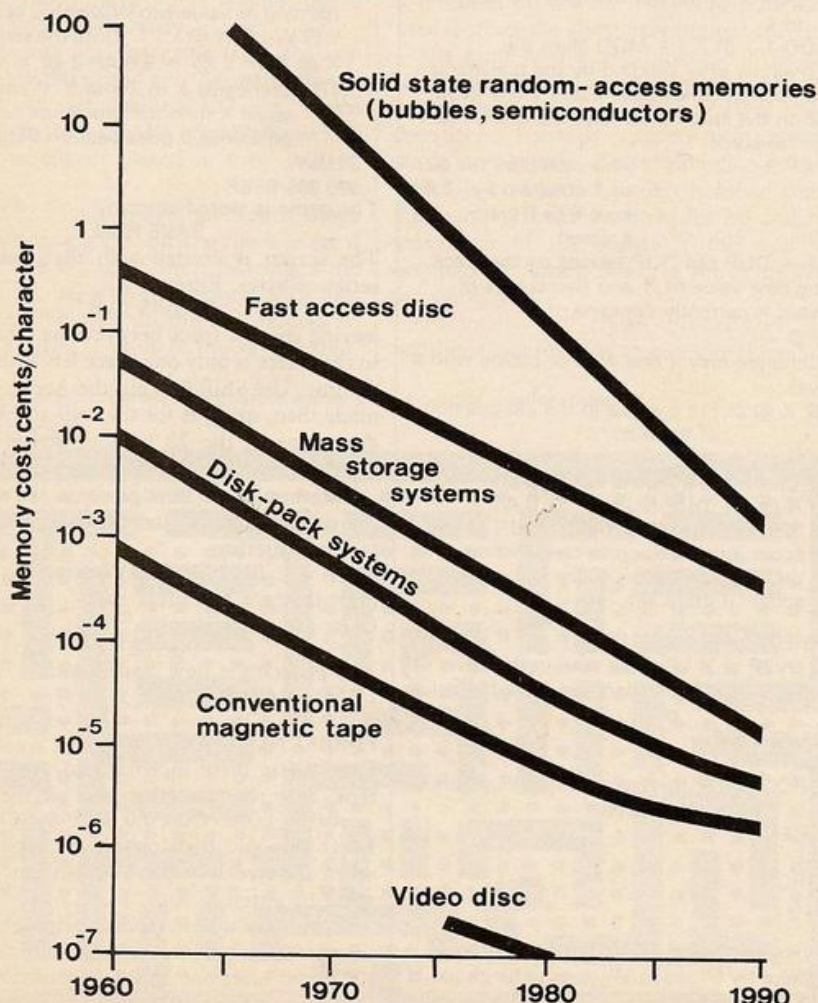
Figure 2. The first computer program.

or 101

the impulse had to be recirculated constantly if the information was not to be lost. One advantage of the Williams tube over the mercury delay line was that it allowed random access, while the mercury store was a serial device where one bit chased another down the trough.

The Mark 1 computer had a 32-bit word length compared to the eight-bit bytes that are now standard in the Oric and other home computers. The main store of the machine consisted of a single Williams tube storing 32 words, and — as far as one can make any comparison — that is matched by the 48,000 bytes available in the full Oric.

Figure 3. Memory circuits get cheaper.



SHRINKING

Factor Routine (amended) -

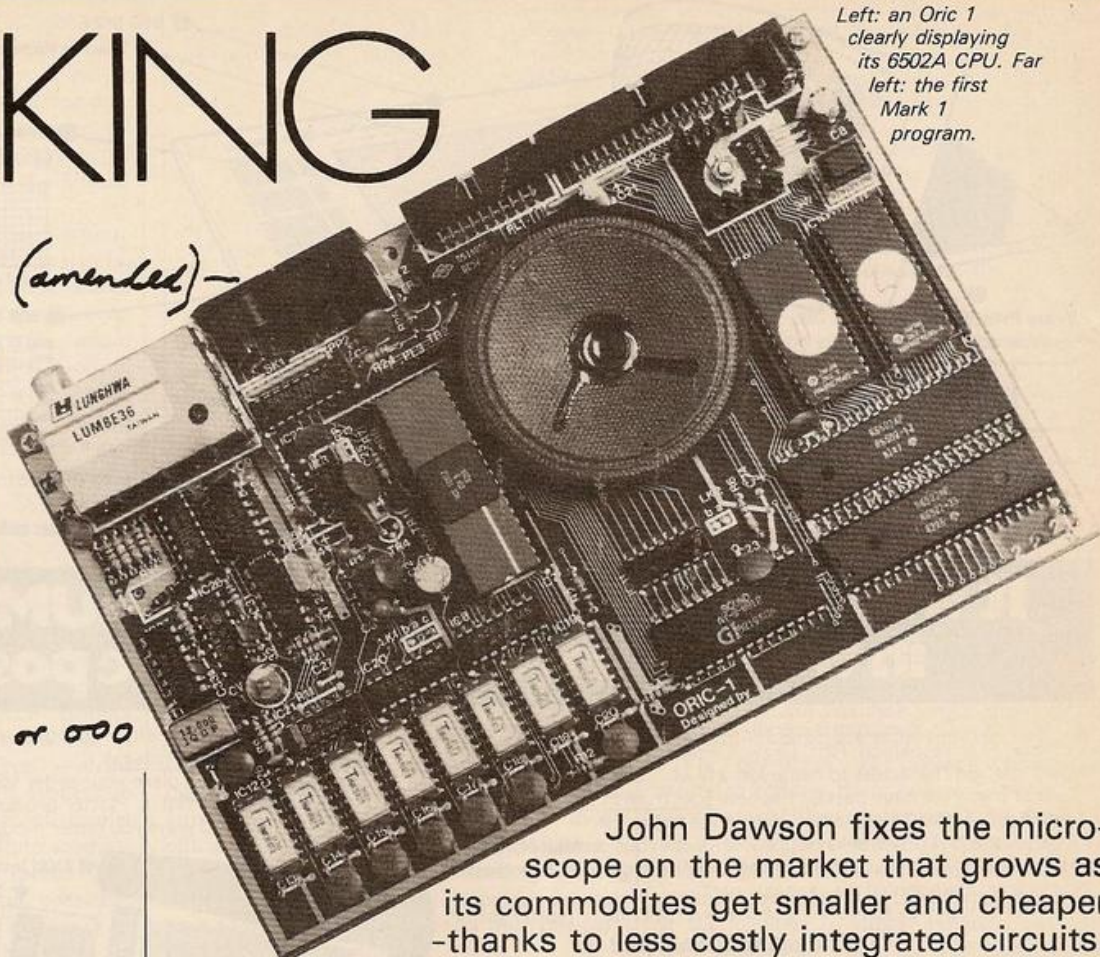
Line	0	1	2	3	4	5	13	14	15
1	0	0	0	1	1		0	1	0
2	0	1	0	1	1		1	1	0
3	0	1	0	1	1		0	1	0
4	1	1	0	1	1		1	1	0
5	1	1	1	0	1		0	1	0
6	1	1	0	1	1		0	0	1
7	—						0	1	1
8	0	0	1	0	1		1	0	0
9	0	1	0	1	1		0	0	1
10	1	0	0	1	1		1	1	0
11	1	0	0	1	1		0	1	0
12	—						0	1	1
13							1	1	1
14	0	1	0	1	1		0	1	0
15	1	0	1	0	1		0	0	1
16	1	1	0	1	1		1	1	0
17	1	1	0	1	1		0	1	0
18	0	1	0	1	1		1	1	0
19	0	1	1	0	1		0	0	0

	init.	final
25	—	$r_N(50)$
26	—	$-G_N$
27	—	G_N

The arithmetic logic unit, ALU, simply a part of the CPU in the Oric, consisted of a subtractor built from valves and an accumulator and was made — once again to save cost — out of a Williams tube. The Mark 1 took 1.2ms. to carry out each instruction — about 800 instructions per second.

Figure 1 is taken from *History of Manchester Computers*, National Computing Centre, and shows the instruction set for the Manchester Mark 1 — the world's first stored-program electronic computer. Figure 2, from the same publication, shows a revised version of the first computer program, the first program actually ran in June 1948.

Some 18 months later an enlarged version of the Mark 1 was doing useful work for the University and IBM was negotiating for the use of the Williams tube under licence in its 701 series computer.



Left: an Oric 1 clearly displaying its 6502A CPU. Far left: the first Mark 1 program.

John Dawson fixes the microscope on the market that grows as its commodities get smaller and cheaper — thanks to less costly integrated circuits.

COMPUTERS

Magnetic drums were built to increase the quantity of information that could be stored during a program's execution, and Ferranti marketed its Mark 1 computer, based on the Manchester design, with a drum backing store that would hold 3,750 words. The drum store could be extended to hold 15,000 words.

Remember that this was a computer that was sold both in this country and abroad and which provided a "computing power far in excess of the University's own requirements". Hardware was an accurate term for these machines. The weight of the valves and other components meant that rigid metal frames were required to support the circuit boards.

As one small part of the whole machine, a computer of the late sixties using a ferrite core store with a capacity of 4,000 bits would have a frame about the size of a single-bed mattress with driver amplifiers and read circuits to store and recover the state of each core in the small block in the centre of the chassis. Contrast also the 25 kilowatts consumed by the early Manchester computers with the power requirements of the Oric.

Later, in 1959, Manchester started the design and construction of Atlas, which was to be the world's largest computer. The Manchester Atlas was formally brought into service in December 1962. The machine had a 48-bit word, 16K of main store and 8K of read-only store. Interrupt handling, which you

now take for granted, was a notable feature of the machine and allowed the connection of up to 512 peripherals. An Atlas computer was used at the SRC laboratory at Chilton until 1974.

The development of the transistor around 1947 took some time to percolate through into the design and construction of computers. Early point-contact transistors certainly saved power when compared to valves, but had rather unstable operating characteristics. Nevertheless computers were the ideal market for transistors and for the solid-state integrated circuits that followed.

The reason for the success of the transistor in computer circuits is that digital designs require large numbers of active devices in comparison to the analogue designs used for communications equipment and the entertainment market. A six-transistor radio was an advanced piece of equipment in the early sixties and if it had a radio-frequency amplifier employing another transistor, it was definitely upmarket and advertised as such.

On the other hand, a central processor unit such as the 8085, marketed by Intel uses about 6,200 transistors and that takes no account of the memory for the computer or the other control circuits.

It would be comforting to think that the development of microelectronics for the

(continued on page 73)

(continued from page 71)

computer market came about because of the opportunities for enhancing the lives of individuals or even for commercial reasons. Not so — microelectronics was spawned by missile and satellite programs and promoted by military and space agencies in the United States.

Integrated circuits became possible only after someone conceived that transistors, resistors, diodes, and so on, could be separated by insulation on the same piece of silicon rather than the physical separation which previously had been the rule. In 1964, Gordon Moore, the director of research at Fairchild, predicted that integrated circuits would continue to double in complexity every year. In 1977 some circuits that were commercially available contained more than 260,000 elements and Moore's law has continued to hold true.

The cost of integrated circuits has declined consistently. Figure 3 illustrates the downward trend for memory circuits. Changes in technology have helped to keep the trend running according to Moore's prediction. X-ray lithography is a form of contact lithography which allows the production of integrated circuits with finer "wires" — strips of metal that connect one circuit element to another — than was possible with ultraviolet or visible light lithography. Gallium arsenide offers much higher switching speeds than silicon and the Josephson Junction, operating at temperatures close to absolute zero, may be the fundamental component of the future.

We may have swapped the expensive, heavy,

Decimal value of function bits	An early notation s, C	Modern mnemonic	Explanation of operation
0		JMP S	Absolute indirect unconditional jump: set the control register equal to the contents of address S.
1	c+s, C	JRP S	Relative indirect unconditional jump: add the contents of address S to the control register.
2	-s, A	LDN S	Load negative: set the accumulator equal to the negated contents of address S.
3	a, S	STO S	Store: copy the contents of the accumulator to address S.
4 or 5	a-s, A	SUB S	Subtract: set the new value of the accumulator equal to the former contents minus the contents of address S.
6	Test	CMP	Compare against zero: the value in the accumulator is tested. If it is less than zero, one is added to the control register thus causing the next sequential instruction to be skipped.
7	Stop	STP	Stop: cease automatic mode, and await manual commands from the operator's keyboard.

Figure 1. The Manchester Mark 1 instruction set.

power-consuming, air conditioning of the past for a similar refrigeration plant in the future to allow a few cubic inches of silicon to run at BIPS speeds. BIPS? — billions of instructions per second, of course. A few cubic inches? Well, the speed of light starts to slow a computer down when different parts of the machine are some distance apart. Josephson Junction machines will operate most efficiently if the computer can be kept within a total dimension of a few inches in any direction so that electrical impulses do not have to travel even a few metres from one part of the micro to another.

How does all of this reflect on the little Oric

— the state-of-the-art machine? The Oric uses essentially the same architecture as the first Manchester machine. John von Neumann set out the principle of a computer in which the instructions are combined with the data, the Harvard architecture separated the two.

The beginners' all-purpose symbolic instruction code — Basic — high-level language supplied with the Oric is beyond the dreams of the first pioneers in the North of England. After all, it was those connected with the earliest computers who thought, as they gazed at the machine in almost religious awe, that four computers would be sufficient for the world's computing needs.

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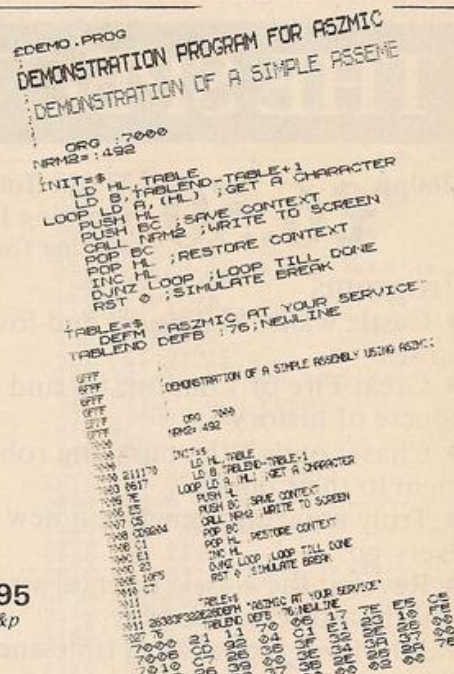
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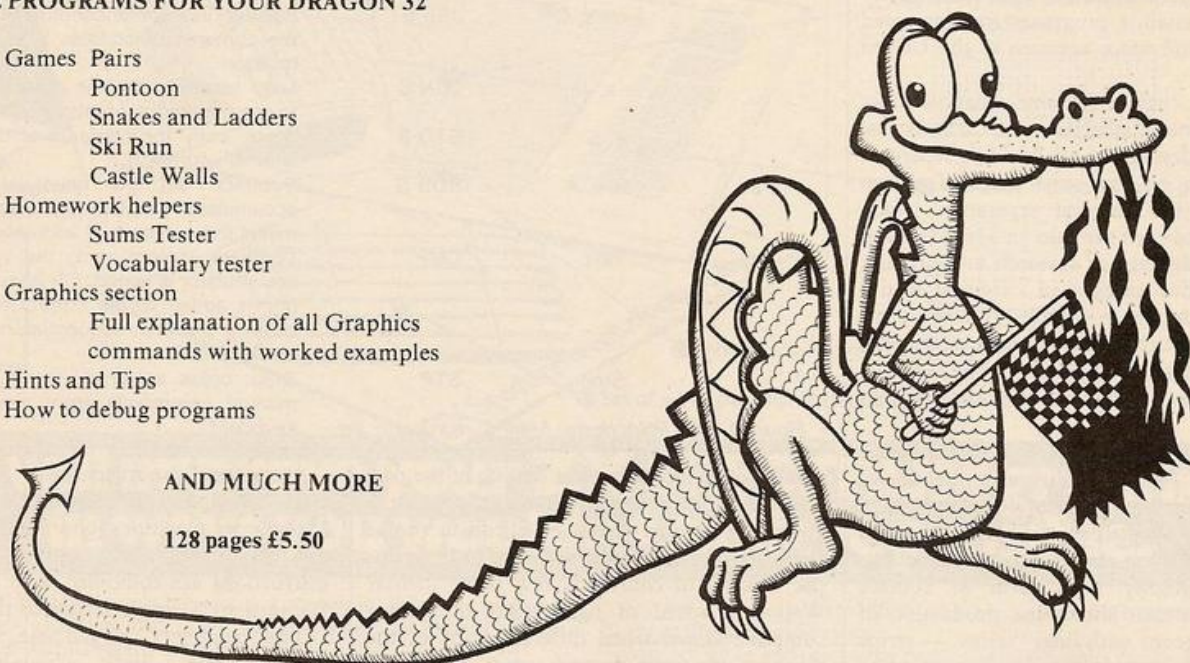
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ZX-81 EDITOR

MANY machine-code routines suffer, in my opinion, from some deficiency, typically not disassembling all Z-80 instructions; not dealing correctly with RST 08 and RST 28 instructions; not easily allowing the loading of other programs while the routines are in memory; not providing facilities for expansion; not being particularly user-friendly.

These routines have been written in an attempt to overcome these difficulties. The first three routines and operating system occupy just under 2K of memory and present a formidable task to input and get working in one go. I would therefore suggest that the program is broken down into several stages.

The machine-code utility program is intended to provide routines that are particularly user-friendly. The routines are tucked away in memory so that their presence is not noticed until they are actually required.

Figure 1 details the Basic program which is loaded into the computer in the normal manner. Once loaded the program runs automatically placing the machine-code routines — initially held in a string in the variables area — at the top end of RAM. A reduced value for RAMtop is then automatically set and the program commits hari-kari by executing New. This brings into operation the revised value of RAMtop so protecting the machine code, and wipes out the loading program, giving what appears to be a completely empty RAM.

Any other program on which you may want to use the routines can then be loaded in the normal way. To access the routines the following lines of Basic are added to the program: 9996 STOP
9997 POKE 16417, 0
9998 RAND USER 32598
9999 GOTO 9996

The menu is displayed by Run 9999. You will see from figure 2 that the menu has been designed to accommodate up to 16 routines. The program now waits for you to select a particular routine by input of the appropriate hexadecimal digit. The digit is displayed and once checked the routine may be executed by Newline.

This first routine is a disassembler routine which deals correctly with all the Z-80 instructions as used on the ZX-81. In particular it recognises that the instruction RST 08 is required to be followed by one data byte and that RST 28 may be followed by any number of data bytes terminated by 34. When executed you are asked for the start address, finish address and dump details, one to printer — any other hexadecimal digit to screen.

Figure 3 illustrates the format used whenever input is required: a prompt message followed by a question mark.

The routines have been designed to protect the user as far as possible. For example if the routine is requesting an address it will only

accept hex digits and these have to be of exactly the right length.

Once you have input the data, the question mark will remain until you confirm it is correct by typing Newline. Should you make a typing error this may be corrected, as in Basic, by using the Rubout key — Shift 0.

In this, and any of the other routines, whenever input is being requested the routine may be terminated by using the Break key.

The bottom section, figure 5, is a typical output from the disassembler. The first column gives the start address of the instructions, the second the instruction code and third the mnemonic.

Since this is a one-pass disassembler, labels are not included, therefore all jump-relative instructions give, as part of the mnemonic, the absolute jump address.

If the output is to the screen then Screen Fill will generate the usual message — report code 5. Display may be continued, as in Basic, by use of Cont.

The features detailed for the previous routine apply to the Print Data routine. The output is now data rather than instructions.

This Write routine enables code or data to be Input. The start address is requested and then code or data may be input. It is intended that each line of input should correspond to one instruction so the maximum number of bytes that will be accepted is 4. The program knows that each byte occupies two hex digits, so it will not allow an odd number of digits to be input.

Figure 4 lists a suitable Hex loader. Run 100 to list code, Run 300 to write code, and Run 500 to execute code.

As it stands the code in the line 1 Rem statement — figure 5 — will wipe out the Loader program so the following modification is necessary during development.

Change byte 40A7 to C9. This is the Ret instruction code and will stop the routine executing New. Now while you are developing the program you will have to manually set the reduced value for RAMtop each time the computer is switched on and before loading the partially completed program. This can be done by direct commands:

```
POKE 16389, 116
NEW.
```

The menu operating system, first three routines and data occupy just under 2K of memory and the string variable has been set to make the top 3K of RAM available. Therefore 1K is spare for further routines, but the program may be easily modified to make more memory available if necessary.

The machine-code listings have been taken directly from the program using the disassembler and therefore should contain no errors but be careful not to confuse 8,B 6,5 and so on.

If you do not relish writing such a large machine-code program then I can supply a tape and full loading instructions for £3. They may be obtained from Trevor Hill, 1 Highcroft Close, Yardley Gobion, Northants.

(for listings, see page 77)

Figure 1.

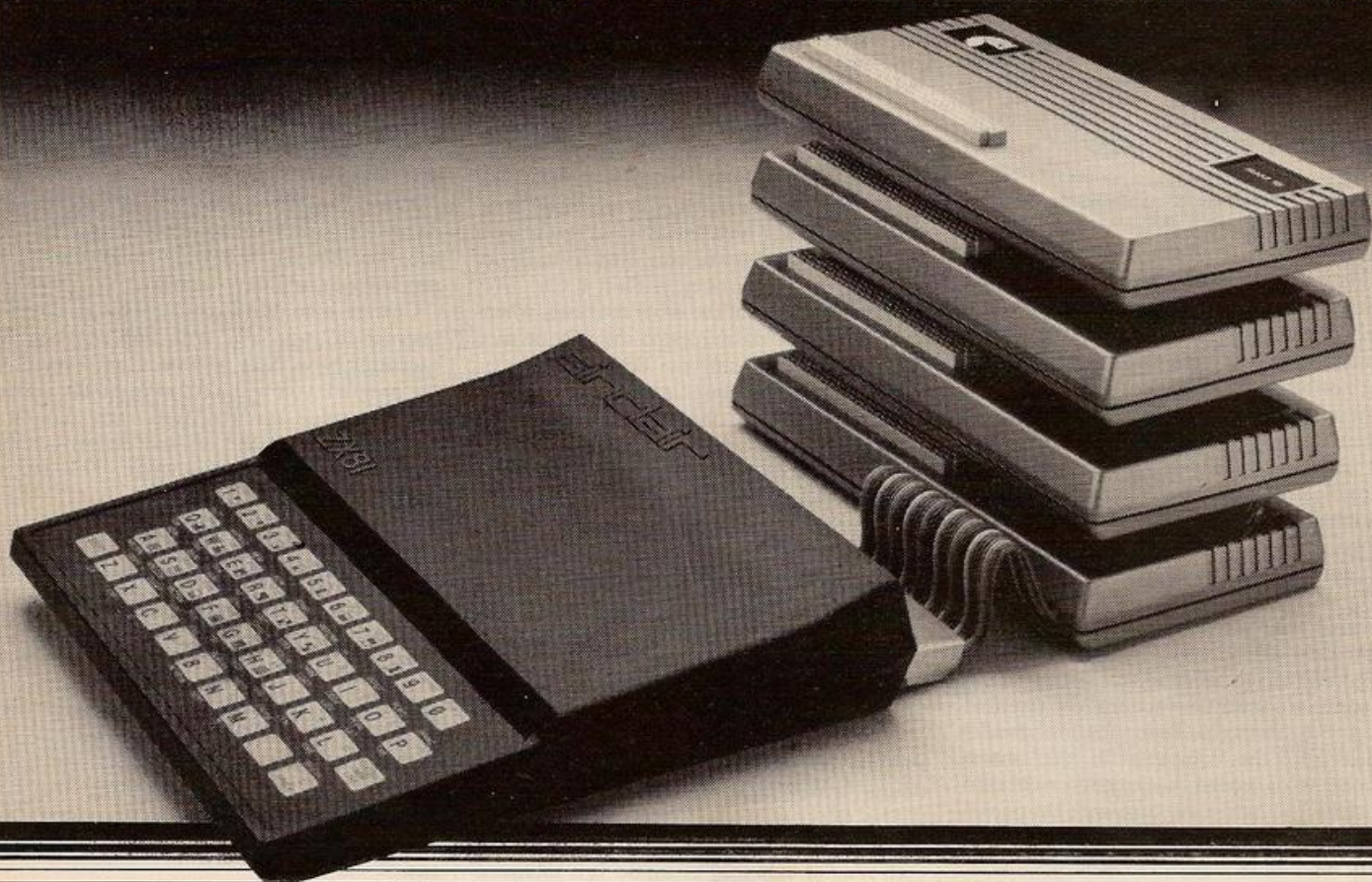
```
REM 40 CHARACTERS TO BE
REPLACED BY M/C
10 DIM M$(3040)
20 RAND USR 16514
30 SAVE "ROUTINES"
40 RAND USR 16531
```

Figure 2.

```

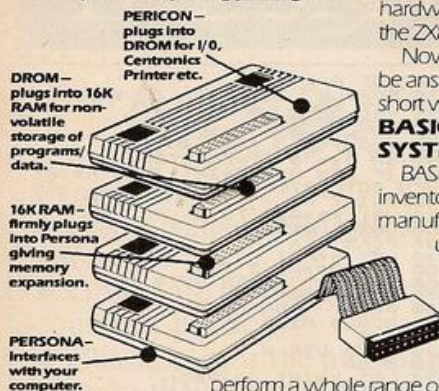
      MENU
      ====
      0 PRINT CODE
      1 PRINT DATA
      2 WRITE
      3 INSERT
      4 DELETE
      5 TRANSFER
      6 SEARCH
      7 REPLACE
      8 RUN CODE
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HOW TO GROW UP TO A REAL COMPUTER



If you're enthusiastic about microcomputing, sooner or later you'll ask yourself the question... "where do I go from here?"

How BASICARE build into a complete computing package.



This is particularly true if you own a micro with limited expansion and hardware peripheral options... like the ZX81.

Now your question can be answered in three short words:

BASICARE MICRO SYSTEMS

BASICARE are the inventors, developers and manufacturers of a totally unique microcomputing upgrade system.

It's the sort of system others have dreamed about... a series of separate modules that

perform a whole range of microcomputing functions that simply (and firmly) stack together.

If you're confused... don't be... you only have to think of it in terms of the way Hi-Fi equipment has evolved.

You buy the hardware you want and add to the system! Each module may have a separate function or integrate functions. And when you want more... you add more!

In short you can develop a whole range of hardware options that fit together to form a complete package... "Computing" in the real sense of the word!

And what a package!

Apart from its good looks and stability under working conditions, BASICARE MICRO SYSTEMS offers a fantastic range of micro options for ZX81 users.

Of course, such a system needs a starting point from which to expand. The heart of BASICARE'S system is a unique computer interface which we call PERSONA.

This one unit simply plugs into your ZX81 without modification and acts as the "brains" of the whole operation.

Thereafter you choose how you want to expand your micro by simply plugging-in more modules.

Look at the choice you have:

PERSONA - An interface module to enable an ORGANIC MICRO to grow on the ZX81.

MINIMAP - A memory mapping device to extend the address space of the ZX81 from 64K bytes to 1M bytes.

RAM 08 - A low cost, low power memory expandable from 2K to 8K.

RAM 16 - 16K Add on memory at remarkably low cost.

RAM 64 - A TRUE 64K Add on memory.

DROM - Ultra low power memory backed by rechargeable battery for non-volatile storage of programs and data.

TOOLKIT - A module fully socketed to take up to 8K bytes of utilities in EPROM/ROM.

PERICON a - A general purpose, user programmable device providing 24 lines of input/output.

PERICON b - 24 lines of heavy duty output to access and control the outside world.

PERICON c - A module to drive 80 column printer with Centronics type parallel interface.

USERFONT option - User definable characters available for RAM 08, DROM and TOOLKIT.

Of course, there's lots more BASICARE Modules under development including joysticks, EPROM Programmer, Floppy Disc Controller and much more.

BASICARE is the sort of system that GROWS when you grow... and remember, when you change your micro, you will be able to change to a PERSONA unit to suit your new equipment!

In short, BASICARE will serve you forever... no matter how big you want to grow!

"As space is limited to describe BASICARE products, we have produced a fully documented brochure... send for it today (enclosing stamp please)."



BASICARE MICRO SYSTEMS are available by mail simply by sending today together with cheque/PO/Access of Barclaycard No. Please indicate clearly your exact requirements.

Name: _____

Address: _____

PERSONA @ £30.25	DROM(2K) @ £39.50
MINIMAP @ £35.95	TOOLKIT @ £22.20
RAM8 (2K) @ £24.50	PERICON A @ £27.90
RAM16 @ £26.75	PERICON B @ £33.75
RAM64 @ £76.25	PERICON C @ £41.75

Options: USERFONT @ £8.00,
Add 2K for RAMB @ £6.50, Add 1.2K for DROM @ £7.50

All prices include VAT, postage and packing in the U.K. (Overseas allow at least 15% for surface mail).

Post today to: BASICARE MICROSYSTEMS LTD., Dept Y
5 Dryden Court, London SE11 4NH or Phone: 01-735 6408.



**BASICARE
MICRO
SYSTEM**

Machine-code listing.

70000	A7A8A9AA	DEFB
70004	ADB10CA6	DEFB
70008	A6C1A610	DEFB
7000C	43911045	DEFB
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700CC	5E1AD8E9	DEFB
700D0	E9E0E8E8	DEFB
700D4	E8A6A6AE	DEFB
700D8	B78080AE	DEFB
700DC	A92EB729	DEFB
700E0	B7C02385	DEFB
700E4	E2033489	DEFB
700E8	3334B5CB	DEFB
700EC	292F33BF	DEFB
700F0	D1D1D1D1	DEFB
700F4	D1202531	DEFB
700F8	B9452BA7	DEFB
700FC	181DA927	DEFB
70000	9FA6C9B3	DEFB
70004	AE8B9D86	DEFB
70008	C68D612E	DEFB
7000C	BD2EBE10	DEFB
70010	41911041	DEFB
70014	152A2791	DEFB
70018	CDD3D9DF	DEFB
7001C	3CE6EBEE	DEFB
70020	F3F3F3F3	DEFB
70024	9161895D	DEFB
70028	6AF9763A	DEFB
7002C	709CA176	DEFB
70030	A4AAADFC	DEFB
70034	B396B6B6	DEFB
70038	C1C7871B	DEFB
7003C	61A1E47F	DEFB
70040	0F095C27	DEFB
70044	A829AA37	DEFB
70048	B137B72A	DEFB
7004C	BD31A926	DEFB
70050	982FA873	DEFB

7523	CD0F078	CALL	78FD	7081	21787A
7524	CD0979	CALL	7909	7084	3668
7525	1805	LD	7E33	7085	33
7526	13	LD	7E33	7086	367A
7527	CD0537E	CALL	7853	7089	0E04
7528	CD06178	CALL	7861	7090	CD9C7
7529	1805	LD	NC, 783A	7091	FE34
7530	AF	XOR	A	7092	FE34
7531	CD22140	LD	(4021), A	7093	CD337
7532	1805	LD	A	7094	CD337
7533	17B40A	LD	HL, 4078	7095	18F7
7534	CD3630	LD	(HL), 30	7096	7827
7535	7E3F	LD	HL, 73	7097	78CA
7536	3678	LD	(HL), 73	7098	CD878
7537	CD0727A	CALL	782E	7099	CD901
7538	1805	LD	782E	7100	7827
7539	7E76	LD	A	7101	7827
7540	2008	LD	NZ, 7855	7102	7827
7541	1F57C	LD	HL, 7CFS	7103	2AF67
7542	CD447A	CALL	78A	7104	7827
7543	1805	LD	782E	7105	7827
7544	1805	LD	782E	7106	7827
7545	1805	LD	782E	7107	7827
7546	1805	LD	782E	7108	7827
7547	1805	LD	782E	7109	7827
7548	1805	LD	782E	7110	7827
7549	1805	LD	782E	7111	7827
7550	1805	LD	782E	7112	7827
7551	1805	LD	782E	7113	7827
7552	1805	LD	782E	7114	7827
7553	1805	LD	782E	7115	7827
7554	1805	LD	782E	7116	7827
7555	1805	LD	782E	7117	7827
7556	1805	LD	782E	7118	7827
7557	1805	LD	782E	7119	7827
7558	1805	LD	782E	7120	7827
7559	1805	LD	782E	7121	7827
7560	1805	LD	782E	7122	7827
7561	1805	LD	782E	7123	7827
7562	1805	LD	782E	7124	7827
7563	1805	LD	782E	7125	7827
7564	1805	LD	782E	7126	7827
7565	1805	LD	782E	7127	7827
7566	1805	LD	782E	7128	7827
7567	1805	LD	782E	7129	7827
7568	1805	LD	782E	7130	7827
7569	1805	LD	782E	7131	7827
7570	1805	LD	782E	7132	7827
7571	1805	LD	782E	7133	7827
7572	1805	LD	782E	7134	7827
7573	1805	LD	782E	7135	7827
7574	1805	LD	782E	7136	7827
7575	1805	LD	782E	7137	7827
7576	1805	LD	782E	7138	7827
7577	1805	LD	782E	7139	7827
7578	1805	LD	782E	7140	7827
7579	1805	LD	782E	7141	7827
7580	1805	LD	782E	7142	7827
7581	1805	LD	782E	7143	7827
7582	1805	LD	782E	7144	7827
7583	1805	LD	782E	7145	7827
7584	1805	LD	782E	7146	7827
7585	1805	LD	782E	7147	7827
7586	1805	LD	782E	7148	7827
7587	1805	LD	782E	7149	7827
7588	1805	LD	782E	7150	7827
7589	1805	LD	782E	7151	7827
7590	1805	LD	782E	7152	7827
7591	1805	LD	782E	7153	7827
7592	1805	LD	782E	7154	7827
7593	1805	LD	782E	7155	7827
7594	1805	LD	782E	7156	7827
7595	1805	LD	782E	7157	

LD	HL, 407B	7A0D	F1	POP	AF
LD	(HL), 65	7A0E	F5	PUSH	AF
LNC		7A0F	CB77	BIT	0, A
LD	(HL), 7A	7A10	CB80	LD	Z, 7AF0
CALL	C834	7A13	2A3E7D	LD	HL, (7D3E)
CALL	C834	7A15	CB85	LD	BIT
CALL	A, D	7A16	18149B	LD	HL, (00)
CALL	Z	7A1A	CB	INC	HL
CALL	Z, 9933	7A1D	28F9	LD	Z, 7AE6
CALL	79BE	7A1E	223E7D	LD	(7D3E), HL
CALL	7A72	7A1F	8E38	AND	38
XOR	7	7A23	0F	AND	
BIT	Z, 79D0	7A24	CB8F	RARC	A
LD		7A25	2E8C	RARC	Z, 7E94
LD	C, B	7A26	11347B	PUSH	HL, 7B04
LD	8, A	7A2B	08	LD	HL
LD	ML, (7FF5)	7A2D	2670	LD	H, 7D
LD	HL, BC	7A2F	5F	LD	L, A
LD	DE, HL	7A30	5F	LD	(HL)
LD	HL, 7D00	7A31	267A	LD	H, 7A
LD	R, E	7A33	59	LD	(HL)
LD	7B89	7A35	CB7F	LD	POP
LD	HL	7A36	18C9	LD	BIT
LD	A, D	7A37	00	LD	NZ
LD	7B89	7A38	18C9	LD	7AD4
LD	HL	7A39	CB	LD	PUSH
LD	(HL)	7A3A	CB	LD	BC, L
LD	7A04	7A3B	2EE0	LD	L, E0
LD	7A72	7A3D	0F	LD	
LD	7A04	7A3E	47	RARC	
LD	7A04	7A3F	CD8C7B	LD	7B8C
LD	7A72	7A40	00	LD	(HL)
LD	79FD	7A41	23	CALL	HL, 7B8C
LD	7A07	7A42	00	LD	HL
LD	7B44	7A43	10C	LD	A, C
LD	HL, 7C00	7A44	12	LD	(DE), A
LD	7B44	7A45	13	LD	DE
LD	HL, 7D00	7A46	13	LD	INC
LD	7A75	7A47	10F3	LD	DJNZ
LD	7B44	7A48	00	LD	BC
LD	7A75	7A49	00	LD	RET
LD	7B44	7A4A	00	LD	PUSH
LD	7A75	7A4B	00	LD	BC, 02
LD	7B44	7A4C	00	LD	DEC
LD	7A75	7A4D	00	LD	C, (HL)
LD	7B44	7A4E	00	LD	ADD
LD	7A75	7A4F	00	LD	SUB
LD	7B44	7A50	00	LD	(DE), A
LD	7A75	7A51	00	LD	DE
LD	7B44	7A52	00	LD	INC
LD	7A75	7A53	00	LD	DJNZ
LD	7B44	7A54	00	LD	BC
LD	7A75	7A55	00	LD	RET
LD	7B44	7A56	00	LD	DE, 10EF
LD	7A75	7A57	00	LD	CALL
LD	7B44	7A58	00	LD	HL, 7E
LD	7A75	7A59	00	LD	A, (BC)
LD	7B44	7A5A	00	LD	HL, 7E9F
LD	7A75	7A5B	00	LD	INC
LD	7B44	7A5C	00	LD	A, (BC)
LD	7A75	7A5D	00	LD	HL, A
LD	7B44	7A5E	00	LD	INC
LD	7A75	7A5F	00	LD	HL, 7B44
LD	7B44	7A60	00	LD	CALL
LD	7A75	7A61	00	LD	7B53
LD	7B44	7A62	00	LD	7FA5
LD	7A75	7A63	00	LD	RET
LD	7B44	7A64	00	LD	PUSH
LD	7A75	7A65	00	LD	PUSH
LD	7B44	7A66	00	LD	BC
LD	7A75	7A67	00	LD	DE, (IY+21)
LD	7B44	7A68	00	LD	Z, 7B64
LD	7A75	7A69	00	LD	BC, (4039)
LD	7B44	7A6A	00	LD	C, 0
LD	7A75	7A6B	00	LD	CALL
LD	7B44	7A6C	00	LD	0, (IY+21)
LD	7A75	7A6D	00	LD	Z, 7B64
LD	7B44	7A6E	00	LD	BC, (7D3E)
LD	7A75	7A6F	00	LD	BC, 00
LD	7B44	7A70	00	LD	DE, C
LD	7A75	7A71	00	LD	SUB
LD	7B44	7A72	00	LD	E, 0</

(listing continued on next page)

7D54	3AB928A6	DEFB
7D58	26A91AC1	DEFB
7D5C	38B526AB	DEFB
7D60	1AE92EB3	DEFB
7D64	E9EFF4FA	DEFB

7D68	8FC7FA17	DEFB
7D6C	00E01713	DEFB
7D70	7A45008A	DEFB
7D74	C500F559	DEFB

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7D76	3E137777A	DEFB
7D7C	450092C5	DEFB
7D80	9E584513	DEFB
7D84	15A8C56A	DEFB
7D88	13724506	DEFB
7D8C	07B2C507	DEFB
7D90	0B7FE882	DEFB
7D94	67C6625C	DEFB
7D98	2F906866	DEFB
7DA0	7FA67E81	DEFB
7DA4	00FAGE86	DEFB
7DA8	7A436692	DEFB
7DAC	C56AFF5F	DEFB
7DAE	6A7A3B86	DEFB
7DB0	92C56A7F	DEFB
7DB4	467FE829E	DEFB
7DB8	CF92007A	DEFB
7DBE	A12F8AC5	DEFB
7DC0	007AA42F	DEFB
7DC4	6AC5007A	DEFB
7DC6	A72F8AC5	DEFB
7DCC	067A6300	DEFB
7DD0	92C5AA52	DEFB
7DD4	62A8BA05	DEFB
7DD6	0050B215	DEFB
7DDC	A2C5136A	DEFB
7DE0	4511139A	DEFB
7DE4	C5131100	DEFB
7DE8	6A3EB0FA	DEFB
7DEC	666B57F6C	DEFB
7DF0	C467D5B9	DEFB
7DF4	E1D76CE2	DEFB
7DF6	D7FA1900	DEFB
7DFC	D837136A	DEFB
7E00	00000000	DEFB
7E04	322A0308A	DEFB
7E08	00000000	DEFB
7E0C	14141494	DEFB
7E10	1C003537	DEFB
7E14	2E333900	DEFB
7E18	283429AA	DEFB
7E1C	10003537	DEFB
7E20	2E333900	DEFB
7E24	292639A6	DEFB
7E28	1E003037	DEFB
7E2C	2E39AA1F	DEFB
7E30	002EE3338	DEFB
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7E40	00393726	DEFB
7E44	33382B2A	DEFB
7E48	B7220838	DEFB
7E4C	2A263728	DEFB
7E50	AD230037	DEFB
7E54	2A353126	DEFB
7E58	28AA2400	DEFB
7E5C	073A3300	DEFB
7E60	283429AA	DEFB
7E64	25802680	DEFB
7E68	27802680	DEFB
7E6C	29802680	DEFB
7E70	2B802680	DEFB
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7ED4	B937343A	DEFB
7ED8	991D332A	DEFB
7EDC	80383926	DEFB
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7EEC	2E332E38	DEFB
7EF0	2D801D00	DEFB
7EF4	2B343760	DEFB
7EF8	35372E33	DEFB
7EFC	392A3760	DEFB
7F00	23782079	DEFB
7F04	53792376	DEFB
7F08	23782376	DEFB
7F0C	23782376	DEFB
7F10	23782376	DEFB
7F14	23782376	DEFB
7F18	23782376	DEFB
7F1C	23782376	DEFB

7F30	D5	PUSH	DE	7F59	CB7E	BIT	HL, 0021	7FA0	3E7E	LD	A, 7E
7F31	D5	PUSH	DE	7F5B	2E04	JR	Z, 7F61	7FA1	70	LD	RST 10
7F32	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F5D	0A7E40	JR	Z, 7F61	7FA2	D7	LD	RST 10
7F33	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F5E	59	JP	(HL)	7FA3	C7	LD	RST 10
7F34	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F61	21007E	LD	HL, 7E00	7FA4	70	LD	A, 01
7F35	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F62	1114	LD	HL, 7E00	7FA5	70	LD	(4022), A
7F36	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F63	3E03	LD	A, 03	7FA6	70	LD	HL, 7FE8
7F37	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F64	322148	LD	(4021), A	7FA7	70	LD	(4022), A
7F38	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F65	1114	LD	HL, 7E00	7FA8	70	LD	HL, 7FE8
7F39	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F66	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FA9	70	LD	(HL), 0F
7F40	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F67	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FAB	70	LD	7FC0
7F41	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F68	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FAC	70	LD	7FC0
7F42	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F69	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FAD	70	LD	7FC0
7F43	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F70	10F6	0JNZ	7FE6	7FBE	70	LD	7FC0
7F44	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F71	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FBB	70	LD	7FC0
7F45	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F72	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FBC	70	LD	7FC0
7F46	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F73	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FBD	70	LD	7FC0
7F47	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F74	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FBE	70	LD	7FC0
7F48	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F75	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FBF	70	LD	7FC0
7F49	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F76	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC0	70	LD	7FC0
7F50	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F77	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC1	70	LD	7FC0
7F51	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F78	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC2	70	LD	7FC0
7F52	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F79	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC3	70	LD	7FC0
7F53	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F80	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC4	70	LD	7FC0
7F54	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F81	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC5	70	LD	7FC0
7F55	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F82	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC6	70	LD	7FC0
7F56	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F83	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC7	70	LD	7FC0
7F57	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F84	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC8	70	LD	7FC0
7F58	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F85	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FC9	70	LD	7FC0
7F59	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F86	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FCA	70	LD	7FC0
7F60	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F87	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FCB	70	LD	7FC0
7F61	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F88	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FCC	70	LD	7FC0
7F62	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F89	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FCD	70	LD	7FC0
7F63	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F90	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FCE	70	LD	7FC0
7F64	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F91	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FCF	70	LD	7FC0
7F65	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F92	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FD0	70	LD	7FC0
7F66	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F93	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FD1	70	LD	7FC0
7F67	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F94	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FD2	70	LD	7FC0
7F68	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F95	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FD3	70	LD	7FC0
7F69	D5	PUSH	HL, (4025)	7F96	0C097B	CALL	7B9F	7FD4	70	LD	7FC0

Address	Mnemonic	Comments
07BD	Decode	Finds keyboard character code; ROM.
0A2A	Cls	Clears screen; ROM.
0B6B	Print Str\$	Prints mnemonic string; ROM
0C0E	Scroll	Moves display up on line; ROM.
4021	Flag Y	Bit 0-change print position; Bit 1-Print Newline Bit 2-dump to printer; Bit 7-change restart address.
407B	Restart	Contains restart address following full screen and cont command.
7400		Spare
7822		bytes
7823	Routine 0	Disassembler
78E7		Spare
78FC		bytes
78FD	Start/finish addresses	Print request for input and then call input address routine.
7902	A addresses	Print request for the number of addresses specified by register A then call input address.
7909	Check printer	Sets Bit 1 of FLAGS — 4001 — if printer required.
7920	Routine 1	Prints data.
7953	Routine 2	Write.
7983	DEFB	prints data associated with RST 08 and RSt 28 instructions.
79C7	Data	Calculates absolute address for JR instructions and adds number and addresses to mnemonic.
7A14	Input address	Input one address and store in memory.
7A2E	Initial	Sets data at commencement of disassembling each instruction.
7A3D	Next address	Prints next address in Hex.
7A4F	Octal	Converts binary number to octal.
7A62	Cont RST	Called if screen full during decoding of RST 08 or RST 28
7A72	Next byte	prints a byte of instruction.
7A9D	Offsets	Various routines to find mnemonic data. Called from control.
7AD4	Control	Master routine in disassembler.
7B0B	Transfer	Moves data around memory.
7B53	Print string	Main print routine.
7B81	Check finish	Used to determine end of routine.
7B93		Data for input prompt messages.
7B9E		
7B9F	Add String	A number of routines to built up mnemonic.
7C00		Data for mnemonics.
7CFF		
7D00		Data and data pointers for disassembler.
7DFF		
7E00		Print data for menu and routines
7EFF		
7F00		Addresses of routines
7F1F		
7F20	keyboard	Reads keyboard.
7F56	menu	
7FA5	input string	heart of all input routines.
7FE0	mnemonic string	holds instruction mnemonic as it is built up.
7FEF		
7FF0		Spare
7FF7		bytes.
7FF8	next	Contains next address for routine.
7FFA	finish	Contains finish address for routine.
7FFC		Spare
7FFF		bytes

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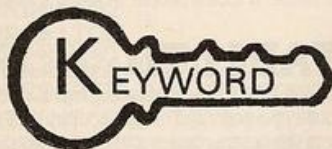
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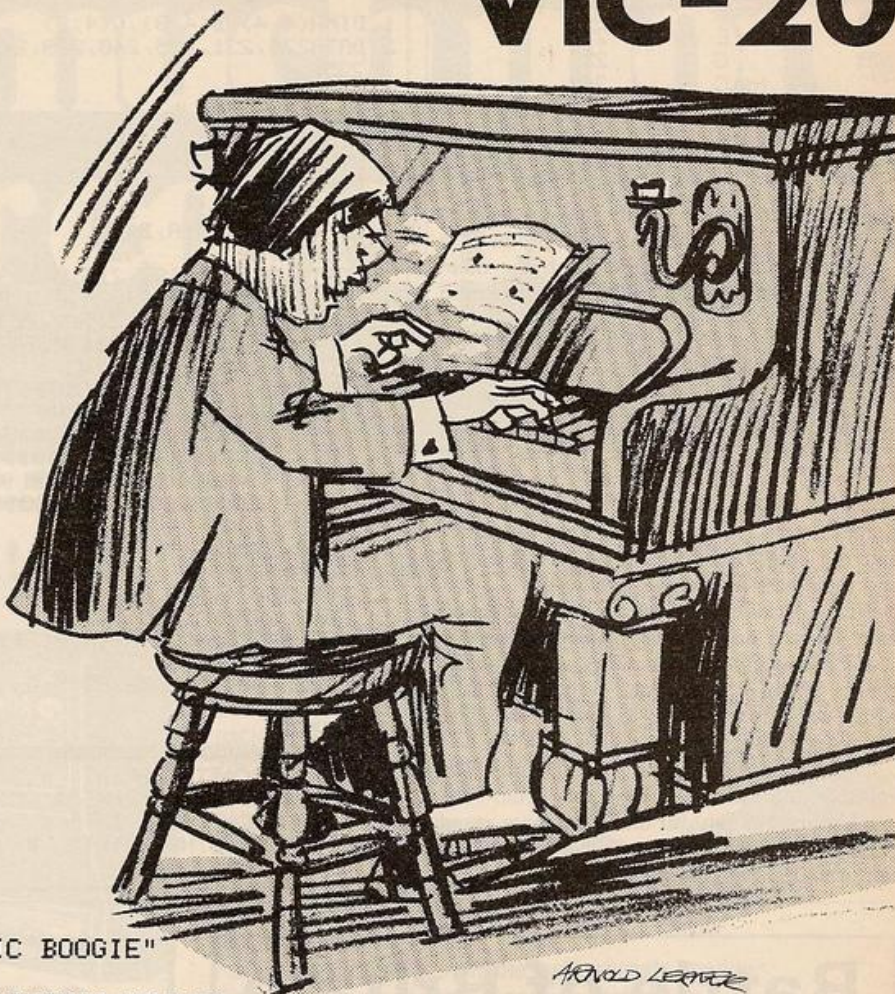
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```

0 GOSUB40
1 DATA225,231,235,240,
  209,219,225,232,225,231,235,
  240,215,223,228,235:RESTORE
2 FORA=1TO4
3 FORB=1TO4
4 READB(A,B)
5 NEXTB,A
9 POKE36878,15
10 DIMC(4,4),D(4,4)
20 DATA195,215,195,219,195,
  221,195,219
21 DATA209,225,209,228,209,
  229,209,228
22 DATA195,215,195,219,195,
  221,195,219
23 DATA175,201,175,207,175,
  209,175,207
24 REM*****
25 FORA=1TO4
26 FORB=1TO4
27 READC(A,B),D(A,B)
28 NEXTB,A
29 DEL=220
30 FORA=1TO4
31 FORB=1TO2
32 FORC=1TO4
33 POKE36874,C(A,C)
34 POKE36875,D(A,C):POKE36876,
  B(A,INT(RND(TI)*4+1)):GOSUB70
35 FORD=1TODEL:NEXT:POKE36874,
  0:POKE36875,0
36 NEXTC,B,A
37 GOT030
40 POKE36879,8:PRINT"THE VIC BOOGIE"
50 PRINT"
60 PRINT"BY:"PRINT"MACIELINSKI":PRINT"
  *****":RETURN
70 PRINT"*****";
71 IFC=1THENPRINT" 0001/2 0001 0001 1 1";
72 IFC=2THENPRINT" 0001 12 0001 0001 \\";
73 IFC=3THENPRINT" 0001 2 0001 0001 1 1";
74 IFC=4THENPRINT" 0001 12 0001 0001 \\";
75 PRINT"TTTTTTTT";
76 IFC=1THENPRINT" 0001/2 0001 2 0001 \\\\";
77 IFC=2THENPRINT" 0001 0 0001 12 0001 2 0001 1 1";
78 IFC=3THENPRINT" 0001/2 0001 2 0001 \\\\";
79 IFC=4THENPRINT" 0001 0 0001 12 0001 2 0001 1 1";
80 RETURN

```



These driving barrelhouse boogies, penned by Adam Macielinski, take you for a stomp through the Vic's three music channels and show you how to orchestrate a full polyphonic sound to suit your musical tastes.

PLAY THAT BOOGIE

THE VIC has three sound generators: one bass, one tenor, and one soprano. Each generator can be used independently or together. Most of the time, only one, or even two generators are used. One good example of two sound generators working together is in Bug-Byte's Vicmen.

Here we shall delve in to the art of using three sound generators at the same time without creating discords. People with a musical ear should understand the method used very clearly. The method adopted is to set up a fixed left-hand section of the keyboard using the bass and tenor sound generators.

The notes for the left-hand voices are stored

10 HERE ARE SOME OF THE GRAPHICS AND CONTROL
20 CHARACTERS USED IN THE PROGRAM
30 "M" - CURSOR DOWN
40 "U" - CURSOR UP
50 "R" - CURSOR RIGHT
60 "L" - CURSOR LEFT
70 "H" - CURSOR HOME
77 "C" - CLR
78 "B" - REVERSE ON (CTRL + KEY9)
79 "O" - REVERSE OFF (CTRL + KEY8)
80 "W" - WHITE (CTRL + 2)
90 "B" - BLACK (CTRL + 1)
100 "G" - GREEN (CTRL + 5)
110 "Y" - YELLOW (CTRL + 6)
120 "C" - COMMODORE LOGO + KEY A
130 "S" - COMMODORE LOGO + KEY D
140 "I" - COMMODORE + KEY L
150 "M" - COMMODORE + KEY M
160 "T" - COMMODORE + KEY T
170 "O" - COMMODORE + KEY O
180 "N" - SHIFT + N
190 "M" - SHIFT + M
200 "O" - SHIFT + Q

in a Dim statement. To make the left-hand less boring and monotonous three different keys have been used, but the chord played is still the same. Therefore a total of 12 different notes will be stored. In the first demonstration program — which includes a humorous animation — the set of chords is played twice and the third chord is in the same key as the first chord.

With each key played, four notes may be played to accompany the left-hand chords. In the key of C-major the notes for the right-hand are as follows — the right-hand column gives the value in the Vic manual.

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Note	Value
C	225
E	231
G	235
top C	240

In both demonstration programs the right-hand notes are handled by a Dim statement and are played randomly by using

$\text{INT}(\text{RND}(\text{TI}) * 4) + 1$

The TI ensures that a totally random number is produced. This method then produces a totally random tune together with the main left-hand chords, using all three sound generators.

The second demonstration program uses a more complicated set of chords which produces a mixture of two or three sound generators going on at once. This is because the first four notes in the left-hand Dim statement were all more than 0, whereas the rest of the Dim contained half 0s and half proper notes. This creates an interesting effect and the contrast between two-part harmony and three-part harmony shows well.

With a lot of experimentation — unless you have a piano or a similar instrument — you could produce your own tunes and left-hand chords. Perhaps you could even add a little white noise to the tune to give it an alien, sinister quality.

I would advise against turning up the volume too far: quite apart from the neighbours, the faithful old TV cannot stand the wear and tear that multi-harmony tunes can produce. So just remember to play it cool.

The second demonstration program.

```

1 DIMA(4,4),B(4,8),C(4,8)
2 DATA225,231,235,240,209,219,225,232,225,231,235,240,215,223,228,
  235
3 FORA=1TO4
4 FORB=1TO4
5 READA(A,B)
6 NEXTB,A
7 FORA=1TO4
8 FORB=1TO8
9 READB(A,B),C(A,B)
10 NEXTB,A
11 DATA195,215,195,215,0,203,0,207,0,215,0,215,0,203,0,207
12 DATA209,225,209,225,0,217,0,219,0,225,0,225,0,217,0,219
13 DATA195,215,195,215,0,203,0,207,0,215,0,215,0,203,0,207
14 DATA175,201,175,201,0,187,0,191,0,201,0,201,0,187,0,191
20 POKE36879,8:PRINT"VIC BOOGIE II":PRINT"
21 PRINT"MOBY":PRINT"MACIELINSKI":POKE36878,15:DEL=150
22 PRINT"
23 PRINT"
24 PRINT"
25 PRINT"
26 PRINT"
30 FORA=1TO4
31 FORB=1TO2
32 FORC=1TO8
33 POKE36874,B(A,C)
34 POKE36875,C(A,C)
35 POKE36876,A(A,INT(RND(TI)*4+1)):GOSUB40
36 FORF=1TODEL:NEXT
37 POKE36874,0:POKE36875,0
38 NEXTC,B,A
39 GOTO30
40 PRINT"
41 IFC=1ORC=5THENPRINT"
42 IFC=2ORC=6THENPRINT"
43 IFC=3ORC=7THENPRINT"
44 IFC=4ORC=8THENPRINT"
45 RETURN
  
```

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Figure 1. A listing of routines used in the machine code with the Start addresses. The machine code is in the form of a decimal dump in blocks of six bytes with the Start address of each block given.

Start address	Routine
29666	Check and accept 0-255 and Print keys pressed in Input lines.
29859	Pause until key pressed. Uses Halt command.
29871	Check last key press.
29900	Check number selected with menu options 1, 3 and 6.
29951	Main typewriter calls for un-shifted and single shifted keys.
29971	Double-shifted key calls.
29978	Print 8 x and 1 x size redefined characters.
30076	Print Spectrum and "new" redefined characters.
30157	Print "decimal-number" prompt.
30182	Print screen format for Redefine Mode.
30364	Print instructions routines.
30774	Data for sub-menu.
30821	Restore character mode in use.
30831	Print sub-menu.
30855	Data for menu.
30986	Print menu.
31013	Set screen and input lines bright.
31027	Erase-a-page start.
31038	Next page.
31067	Data for double-shift alternative character set.
31083	Store character mode in use.
31097	Normal and single-shifted key calls double-shifted key check and calls.
31177	Justify.
31214	Justify.
31242	Erase part of a page.
31293	Find cursor.
31316	Rubout.
31350	Justify subroutine.
31493/4/5	Spare.
31496	Data for Justify.
31500	Insert/delete.
31599	Spare.
31600	Find page.
31624	Erase a complete page.
31636	Print a page.
31664	Squeek.
31684	Buzz.
31710/11	Spare.
31712	New character set codes.
32481	Set parameters of page to be printed and call print page.
32489	Spare.
32490	Tap.
32500	Check character to be plotted.
32534	Plot character.
32573	Set Spectrum character mode.
32580	Set new character mode
32587-91	Spare.
32592	Set Over 1 for cursor.
32600	Plot cursor.
32651	Data for cursor position X,Y top left = 1,1.
32653	Cursor handling for Newline, Space, and put character plotted into x\$ array.
32692-32767	Cursor keys check and move as required. Uses In function to read keys being pressed instead of Peek-ing Last Key 23560.
Data	
31616	Page number in use.
32501	Character code of key to be Plotted.
31529	Number of characters to be inserted or deleted.

THIS PROGRAM for the 16K Spectrum started out as a straightforward typewriter program in Basic with approximately 30 bytes of machine code to plot characters on to the screen in such a way as to give 42 characters per line. But the program was slow and used too much RAM, leaving little free for data storage.

The solution was to convert all the routines into machine code and maintain a minimum of four pages of data with 42 characters per line, this being the equivalent of five and a quarter pages of text if the normal 32 characters per line were used.

Up to this point I had been using the Spectrum character set, but the upper-case letters were touching each other and making the text illegible. I added a new character set with all the characters redefined on a six-by-eight pixel format. This created the option of using the Spectrum set or the new typewriter-mode set.

The program starts with the main Menu, which has six options.

The Start option takes you into the typewriter mode. It begins by asking for the page required and printing the selected page. This is done to avoid accidental overtyping of an existing page of text. A cursor is placed in the first character position at the top left of the screen, and can be moved to any position by means of Caps Shift and cursor controls: keys 5-8.

The cursor always indicates the position of the next character to be typed. If the cursor is moved over existing typing the character will change to white Ink and show through the cursor. If a character is overtyped, then it will be printed on top of the existing character, but the last character typed is held in the memory of the computer.

All Spectrum characters are available, using Shift keys as necessary, and all but the double-shifted ones are auto-repeat.

Incorrect entries can be quickly erased by the use of Caps Shift and Delete. This will erase the character behind the cursor and backspace the cursor over the deleted

character. At the start of a line it will erase the last character on the previous line and backspace on to that line. This function is also auto-repeat.

A Newline is obtained by pressing Enter, and this function will also auto-repeat. If the cursor is on line 22 then Enter will move the cursor to the end of line 22 where it is split into two, bracketing the last line, to indicate that the end of the page has been reached.

This method is used to erase the last character on a page, the cursor being in effect after the last character. There are several options available in this mode and, as a guide, these are indicated on line 24, with the keys necessary for each option shown in inverse video. The next options require both Shift keys to be pressed before the option letter. First, n(ext) will scroll the page off the screen and replace it with a copy of the next page. This can be used after finishing typing a page or to read through the pages. If you are on page 4 then the next page will be page 1. Second, m(enu) will take you back to the main Menu. Third, z is the copy key and, as it suggests it will copy the page on the screen to the printer.

A further facility is the Edit mode. This is accessed by Caps Shift and Edit, and when selected will give you five options. These will be printed on line 24 of the screen with the key presses for each option shown in inverse.

Insert — when selecting this option the cursor must be over the first character in the block to be Shifted right. You will be asked how many characters you require to be inserted; this must be in the range 0-255. The decimal number can be entered either with leading zeros like 032 or 006, in which case the Spectrum will automatically accept the number without the need for Enter, or as a "normal" number, that is, 32 or 6, in which case, if it is less than 100, the use of Enter is required. Each key press is checked, a buzz will sound if the entry is not valid and three questionmarks will be printed. A zero entry will skip this routine.

The Basic program.

```

10 POKE 23606,1: RANDOMIZE USR
31013: DIM x$(4,924): LET x=0:
LET i=250: LET v=23560: LET s=9000
0: GO TO 0
50 RANDOMIZE USR 31083: INPUT
INKEY$: PRINT #x;"Page (";PEEK 3
1610:); "Menu:Ext:Copy"
50 RANDOMIZE USR 30821:
60 RANDOMIZE USR 29951
140 IF PEEK v=7 AND PEEK 32651<
>43 THEN GO TO 700
150 IF PEEK v<14 THEN GO TO 60
180 RANDOMIZE USR 29971
230 IF PEEK v=CODE "n" THEN RAN
DOMIZE USR 31038: GO TO 1
250 IF PEEK v=CODE "a" THEN GO
TO 0
270 GO TO 60
540 RANDOMIZE USR 31083: INPUT
INKEY$: PRINT #x;"HOW MANY Chrs.
?
570 RANDOMIZE USR 29565: RAN
DOMIZE USR 30821: IF PEEK 29854=x T
HEN GO TO 700
600 RANDOMIZE USR 31500: GO TO
1
700 RANDOMIZE USR 32592
710 RANDOMIZE USR 31083: INPUT
INKEY$: PRINT #x;"Insert:Delete:
Backspace:Justify"
730 RANDOMIZE USR 30821: PAUSE
x: IF PEEK v=CODE "i" THEN POKE
31544,10: GO TO 540
740 IF PEEK v=CODE "d" THEN POK
E 31544,x: GO TO 540
750 IF PEEK v=CODE "e" THEN RAN
DOMIZE USR 31242: GO TO 700
760 IF PEEK v=CODE "l" THEN POK
E 31412,79: GO TO 8000
770 IF PEEK v=CODE "r" THEN POK
E 31412,x: GO TO 8000
780 RANDOMIZE USR 32592: GO TO
1
1000 RANDOMIZE USR 29900: GO TO
1
3000 RANDOMIZE USR 30434: STOP
3010 GO TO 0
3000 RANDOMIZE USR 29915

```

```

3020 IF PEEK v>CODE "4" THEN GO
TO 0
3050 RANDOMIZE USR 30545: GO TO
5020
4000 RANDOMIZE USR 30615: INPUT
i$
4010 PRINT AT 11,x;"SAVING: """;
i$;" DATA x$(i)": SAVE i$ DATA
x$(i): GO TO 5020
5000 RANDOMIZE USR 30674: INPUT
i$
5010 RANDOMIZE USR 30720: PAUSE
x: LOAD i$ DATA x$(i)
5020 RANDOMIZE USR 30756: PAUSE
x: GO TO 0
5000 RANDOMIZE USR 29927
6030 IF PEEK v=CODE "1" THEN RAN
DOMIZE USR 32573: GO TO 0
6050 IF PEEK v=CODE "2" THEN RAN
DOMIZE USR 32580: GO TO 0
6055 RANDOMIZE USR 30200
6080 INPUT i$
6080 IF LEN i$>1 OR i$<" " OR i$
>"0" THEN RANDOMIZE USR 31684: G
O TO 6060
6085 POKE 30177,CODE i$
6090 RANDOMIZE USR 30076
6100 FOR b=1 TO 8
6110 RANDOMIZE USR 30157
6140 RANDOMIZE USR 29565: RAN
DOMIZE USR 29978: NEXT b
6150 PRINT #x;"O.K. ? Repeat:
Line:Key:Menu:Randomize USR
30821: PAUSE x: IF INKEY$="r" TH
EN CLS: GO TO 6055
6200 GO TO 0
8000 RANDOMIZE USR 31083: INPUT
INKEY$: PRINT #x;"Page OR Cursor
line?"
8020 RANDOMIZE USR 30821: PAUSE
x: IF PEEK v=CODE "c" THEN RAN
DOMIZE USR 31214: GO TO 1
8030 IF PEEK v=CODE "p" THEN RAN
DOMIZE USR 31225: GO TO 1
8040 GO TO 780
9000 RANDOMIZE USR 29939: GO TO
1030 (PEEK v-48)
9000 CLEAR 29565: LOAD ""CODE 29
565: GO TO 10
9900 SAVE "type" LINE 9800: SAVE
""CODE 29565,3102

```


The maximum number of characters that can be inserted is one less than the number of characters from the cursor to the end of the page if this is less than 255.

Any character pushed off the page by this routine will be lost. After a number has been accepted the page will scroll off the screen and be replaced instantly with the modified page and the cursor, still in its original position, so that the required information can be typed in.

Delete — this option is similar to Insert in that the cursor is placed over the first character in the block to be deleted, and you will be asked how many characters you require deleting before the page is scrolled off the screen and reprinted with the correction made.

The Erase option will erase part of a page reaching from the end of the page to the line below the cursor. So the cursor must be placed on the last line of typing that you wish to keep before this option is called. The erased part of the page will scroll up and off the screen; the retained part stays in position.

Justify — there are two Justify options, with both you have a further choice of justifying the whole page or the cursor line only. So if only the cursor line is required, be sure to place the cursor anywhere on the required line before this mode is selected. Justify left will scroll the

page off the screen and reprint it with the line or page shifted to the left-hand margin. Justify left/right will scroll the page off the screen and reprint it with the line or page shifted left and the space between words padded out so that the last letter of the last word in each line is at the right-hand margin.

These last options can be skipped if the Edit mode is accidentally selected by pressing any other key. The Edit mode cannot be selected with the cursor at the end of the page.

The Stop command stops the program with the usual report and a message that "Continue will restart at Menu". If the program is broken then Goto 9000 will also restart at the menu. If Run is used then all existing typing will be erased.

Now's the time to tackle that long-deferred oeuvre with Stuart Nicholls' fast machine-code word processor

The Erase-a-page option will ask which page is to be deleted. Any choice other than 1-4 will take you back to the menu. The page selected will be instantly erased.

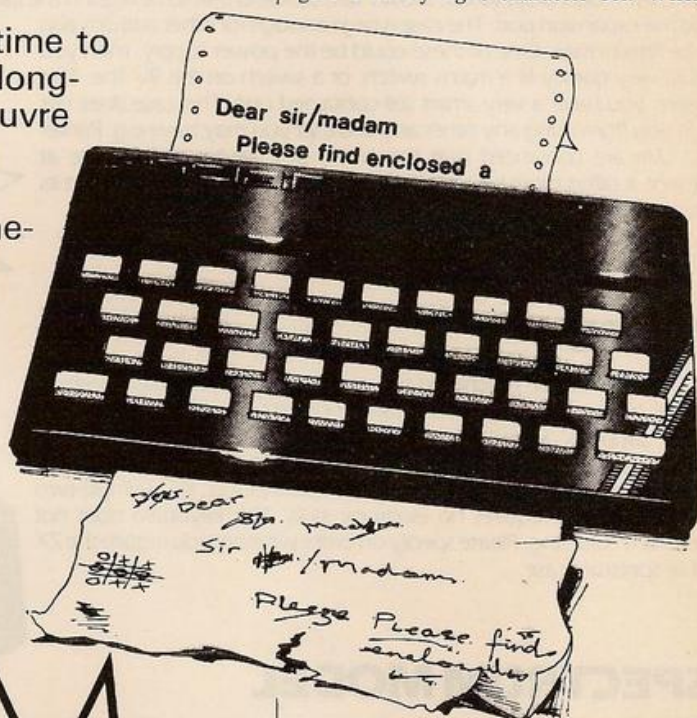
Pages can be Loaded and Saved on tape with appropriate options. You will be asked to name the pages when Loading and Saving; the usual rule of 10 characters maximum applies.

The Change-typeface option will give you three options: Normal, New and Redefine.

Normal gives typing with the Spectrum characters, but because of the squashed look of the eight-by-eight pixel format, certain characters will look odd.

New: because of the problems outlined above, a new keyboard has been defined to give a six-by-eight character set. When this

WORDS ON THE SPECTRUM



mode is selected, all typing on the Spectrum will use the new characters, the program listing may be shown in the new characters, but instructions and menus will still use the Spectrum set.

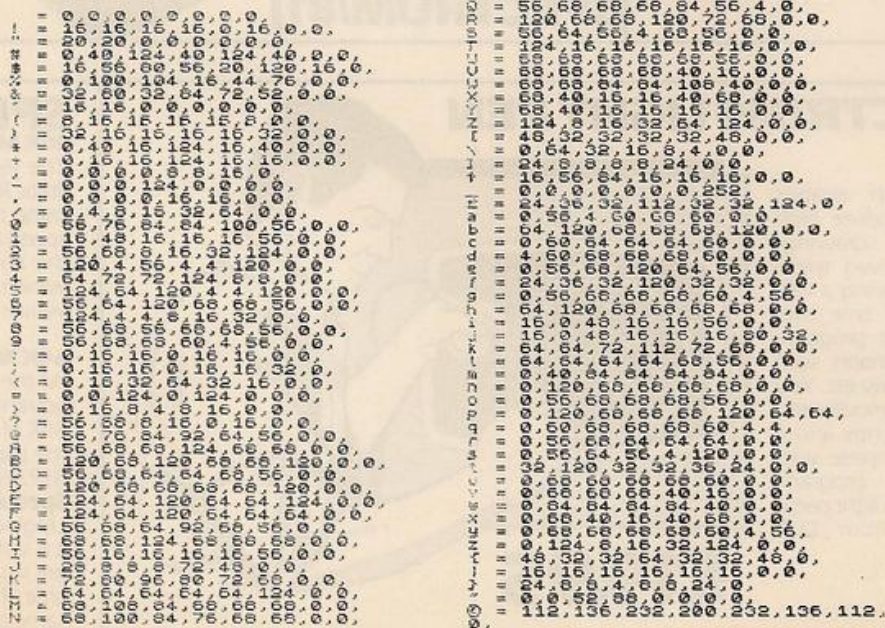
Redefine: any character in the new set can be redefined with this option. The Spectrum will require the character to be redefined and the decimal number of lines 1-8 of the new character. A display will be given showing the Spectrum character selected with the new character beside it; above this will be a grid with lines 1 to 8 and columns a to f indicated. As each decimal number is entered the character will be shown magnified on this grid and the actual size character will alter its shape accordingly.

The character grid is in two colours, yellow and green; the yellow area indicates six columns a to f, and any redefined character should stay within this area as it is only this part of the character that is plotted on the screen.

With this routine the whole keyboard could be redefined to suit your needs. If you want to retain your redefined keyboard then the word processor program will need to be reSaved with the command Goto 9900.

The Spectrum will either buzz if an
(continued on page 88)

Figure 2.



D.K. Electronics

ZX KEYBOARD FOR USE WITH 80/81 SPECTRUM

Our new cased keyboard has 52 keys, 12 of these are used for the numeric pad. The numeric pad offers some useful features, you can cursor with one hand and it will be a boon for anyone who enters a lot of numeric data. The pad is a repeat of the 1-9 keys plus it has a full stop and a shift key. The numeric pad keys are coloured in red, the normal keyboard keys are grey, with the case being black which makes the whole thing very attractive. The case measures 15 x 9 x 2½. The computer (either 80/81 or spectrum) fits neatly inside. You will have to remove the computer from its original case, it is then screwed to the base of the case. The case had all the bosses already fitted and the screw holes are marked. Also fitted inside the case is a mother board (81 model only) which allows 16K, 32K and 64K to be fitted in the case. All the connections are at the rear of the case i.e. Power, Mic, Ear, T.V. and the expansion port. The case is large enough for other add-ons also to be fitted inside. One of these could be the power supply, then you could very quickly fit a mains switch, or a switch on the 9V line. This means you have a very smart self-contained unit. This case does not stop you from using any other add-ons that you may have e.g. Printer etc. We are convinced that this is the best keyboard available at present. It offers more keys and features than any other keyboard in its price range.

£45

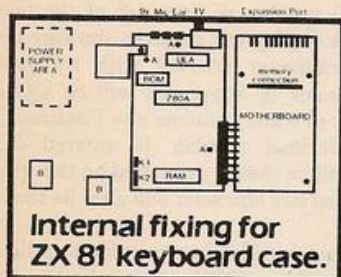
NOTE

The case can be purchased separately with the keyboard aperture uncut, so if you have one of our early uncased keyboards, or in fact any other suppliers' keyboards, these could be fitted. The keyboard is connected to your computer by a ribbon cable and this has connectors fitted which simply push into the Sinclair connectors. It is a simple two minute job and requires no electronic skills. This keyboard does not need any soldering. Please specify on order whether you require the ZX 81 or Spectrum case.

SPECTRUM MODEL

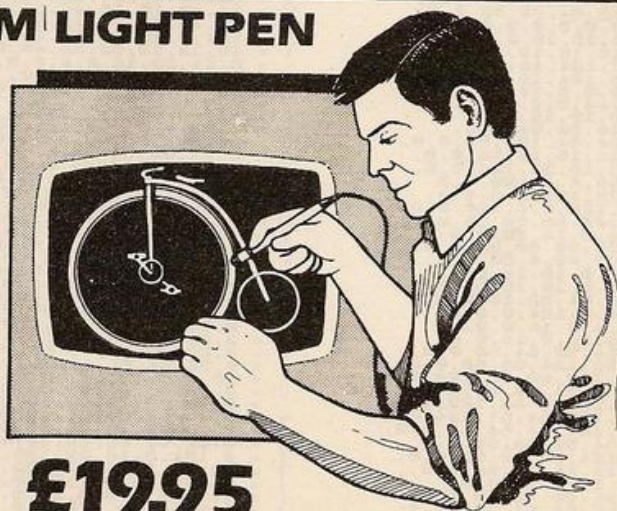
This is supplied with spectrum legends, and a slightly different base for fitting the spectrum inside, again all the connectors are at the rear of the case and there is plenty of room for the power supply (and other add-ons). Should you want to change, we can supply both the Spectrum legends and details of updating your case which will enable modification from the ZX 81 to spectrum. PLEASE specify on your order whether you require the ZX 81 or spectrum case.

**KEYBOARD
(SPECTRUM/81)**



SPECTRUM LIGHT PEN

The pen enables you to produce high resolution drawings on your own television set, saving a vast amount of time over using basic programming statements, such as Plot, Draw etc. You can erase, modify and save drawings and it comes complete with software program. The superb light pen is available from D.K. Electronics.



SPECTRUM

16K Memory Expansion

The 16K uses 4116 Static Ram and occupies using the Static Ram speed low power Ram the computer. All the which comes to you where. Position in n

64K Memory Expansion

All the above information advantage lies in the 56K of usable memory the use of other add 8192-65536. The Blo Spectrum Memory Upgrade your Spectr it is simply slipped in are supplied, and th time. The fitting requ same as Sinclair's up

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(continued from page 85)

incorrect option is chosen, or repeat the prompt, or skip the routine being called. A squeak will sound each time a menu option is chosen and valid entry made. In the Typewriter mode a key tap will sound with each key press.

To load the program Enter the Basic program and Save it by Goto 9900; this will auto-run the program when complete. Stop the tape at the second Start tape prompt and Verify the Basic before Newing it.

Enter your favourite machine-code loader, Clear 29665 and enter the machine code. Save this immediately after the Basic program using
SAVE "spc."CODE 29666,3102
and Verify.

Rewind to the start of the Basic program and Load "type". This will then load the Basic, the machine code and auto-run. The first thing

to appear on the screen will be the main menu.

If any section of the program fails to run, then, using the list of routines and addresses, you should be able to check the machine code. I have purposely kept some of the program in Basic so that you may follow it more easily. It would be a simple task to convert all of option 1 and option 6 to machine code.

The routine starting at 29666 shows how to clear the Input lines 23 and 24 and which channel to open so that printing can be displayed on these lines. The Basic input Inkey\$ can be replaced by a call to the ROM routine to clear the input lines, and the Basic PRINT # x;"*****"

can be replaced by Open Channel and Print String ROM calls. The rest of option 1 is then a straightforward case of checking which keys are being pressed by Peeking the variable Last Key at address 23560 and making the

necessary jumps, and calls. For example, line 230:

LD A, (23560)
CP "n"
JR NZ, NEXT
CALL 31038
JR LINE 50
CP "m"
RET Z
JR LINE 60

The only time a Ret to Basic would be made is when the Menu option is chosen, so line 1000 would become;

```
1000 RANDOMIZE USR 'START ADDRESS' :  
GO TO m
```

and lines 50 to 780 and 8000 to 8040 could then be deleted. This would also have the benefit of making the Break key inoperable in the typewriter mode which can be annoying if Caps Shift and Space are pressed by mistake.

The machine-code dump.

999999	442	134	992	34	159	116
999998	442	133	992	34	161	116
999997	442	133	992	34	161	116
999996	442	133	992	34	161	116
999995	442	133	992	34	161	116
999994	442	133	992	34	161	116
999993	442	133	992	34	161	116
999992	442	133	992	34	161	116
999991	442	133	992	34	161	116
999990	442	133	992	34	161	116
999989	442	133	992	34	161	116
999988	442	133	992	34	161	116
999987	442	133	992	34	161	116
999986	442	133	992	34	161	116
999985	442	133	992	34	161	116
999984	442	133	992	34	161	116
999983	442	133	992	34	161	116
999982	442	133	992	34	161	116
999981	442	133	992	34	161	116
999980	442	133	992	34	161	116
999979	442	133	992	34	161	116
999978	442	133	992	34	161	116
999977	442	133	992	34	161	116
999976	442	133	992	34	161	116
999975	442	133	992	34	161	116
999974	442	133	992	34	161	116
999973	442	133	992	34	161	116
999972	442	133	992	34	161	116
999971	442	133	992	34	161	116
999970	442	133	992	34	161	116
999969	442	133	992	34	161	116
999968	442	133	992	34	161	116
999967	442	133	992	34	161	116
999966	442	133	992	34	161	116
999965	442	133	992	34	161	116
999964	442	133	992	34	161	116
999963	442	133	992	34	161	116
999962	442	133	992	34	161	116
999961	442	133	992	34	161	116
999960	442	133	992	34	161	116
999959	442	133	992	34	161	116
999958	442	133	992	34	161	116
999957	442	133	992	34	161	116
999956	442	133	992	34	161	116
999955	442	133	992	34	161	116
999954	442	133	992	34	161	116
999953	442	133	992	34	161	116
999952	442	133	992	34	161	116
999951	442	133	992	34	161	116
999950	442	133	992	34	161	116
999949	442	133	992	34	161	116
999948	442	133	992	34	161	116
999947	442	133	992	34	161	116
999946	442	133	992	34	161	116
999945	442	133	992	34	161	116
999944	442	133	992	34	161	116
999943	442	133	992	34	161	116
999942	442	133	992	34	161	116
999941	442	133	992	34	161	116
999940	442	133	992	34	161	116
999939	442	133	992	34	161	116
999938	442	133	992	34	161	116
999937	442	133	992	34	161	116
999936	442	133	992	34	161	116
999935	442	133	992	34	161	116
999934	442	133	992	34	161	116

30278	77	32	32	37	72	32	42
30279	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30280	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30281	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30282	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30283	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30284	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30285	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30286	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30287	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30288	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30289	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30290	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30291	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30292	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30293	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30294	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30295	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30296	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30297	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30298	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30299	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30300	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30301	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30302	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30303	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30304	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30305	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30306	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30307	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30308	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30309	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30310	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30311	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30312	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30313	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30314	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30315	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30316	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30317	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30318	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30319	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30320	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30321	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30322	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30323	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30324	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30325	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30326	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30327	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30328	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30329	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30330	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30331	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30332	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30333	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30334	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30335	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30336	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30337	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30338	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30339	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30340	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30341	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
30342	32	32	32	32	32	32	32

00914	71	59	83	22	19	5
00923	53	41	33	28	70	65
00932	68	32	50	65	71	69
00936	83	32	12	5	54	41
00939	32	57	72	65	78	71
00944	69	62	84	69	69	69
00950	79	105	97	43	57	56
00956	5	32	33	116	117	97
00962	50	33	33	75	109	99
00968	114	115	108	108	115	108
00974	104	111	108	108	108	108
00980	114	108	108	108	108	108
00986	205	107	121	62	23	205
00992	1	32	7	24	205	68
00998	14	17	135	120	1	131
01004	0	205	32	32	13	0
01018	72	32	201	69	20	30
01024	2	32	1	127	201	58
01030	245	205	14	48	50	131
01036	123	123	136	123	50	6
01040	9	123	50	52	53	131
01046	123	1	54	131	123	205
01052	62	1	54	131	123	205
01058	89	123	33	1	34	34
01064	139	127	201	1	91	117
01070	93	127	127	91	126	115
01076	124	42	34	92	34	176
01082	5	33	69	69	34	54
01088	92	33	69	69	34	54
01094	92	33	69	69	34	54
01100	92	33	69	69	34	54
01106	92	33	69	69	34	54
01112	92	33	69	69	34	54
01118	92	33	69	69	34	54
01124	254	32	32	245	153	153
01130	127	201	514	32	56	205
01136	205	135	58	145	92	205
01142	205	135	58	145	92	205
01148	205	135	58	145	92	205
01154	199	305	145	92	205	146
01160	127	1	58	245	126	254
01166	127	1	58	245	126	254
01172	201	205	180	127	201	58
01178	139	127	254	43	200	58
01184	8	33	33	91	121	1
01190	16	0	207	177	120	177
01196	40	4	126	345	176	176
01202	24	191	59	9	120	120
01208	122	192	205	172	14	201
01214	58	140	127	50	125	122
01220	205	110	122	24	10	62
01226	1	105	25	32	32	245
01232	1	105	25	32	32	245
01238	205	173	201	205	112	112
01244	123	123	123	62	237	237
01250	75	127	127	17	40	0
01256	82	126	127	22	225	237
01262	82	126	127	22	225	237
01268	54	32	27	122	179	32
01274	248	139	139	127	62	23
01280	148	14	193	12	197	205
01286	201	14	193	12	197	205
01292	201	14	193	12	197	205
01298	201	14	193	12	197	205
01304	42	8	25	16	253	237
01310	32	35	13	32	252	201
01316	42	139	127	45	32	33
01322	4	1	34	33	139	127
01328	61	122	54	32	58	145
01334	201	125	125	105	145	92
01340	2					

MONITOR

If you want to make the most of your BBC you will have to do battle with machine code. Richard Harris's monitor which tucks into just 2K of RAM yet includes a full disassembler should even up the odds.

WHY MIGHT you need a machine-code monitor? It could be that you want to investigate the machine-operating system, to see how programs and data are stored, or to test and change machine-code programs. Perhaps you wish to investigate screen layout, or even to recover corrupted Basic programs.

Whether you want to explore the workings of the BBC Micro or develop your own machine-code programs, this BBC monitor will fit most of the features of a good monitor into less than 2K, including a disassembler which — since it is written in machine code — runs a lot faster than some of the BBC disassemblers available commercially.

Six facilities

The monitor offers six facilities. It allows you to: display and change the contents of memory; display a block of memory; move a block of memory; run a section of machine code; disassemble code; and set the values of 6502 registers, run a subroutine and display the values of the registers on exit.

The published listing contains the assembly program which assembles the machine code for the monitor. It is not necessary, of course, to type in the comments and the preceding backslash.

Before running the program you must decide where you want the machine code to be assembled. Two of the most useful locations are below Page or above Himem. The version given here takes the first option and locates the monitor at 3600 — E10 in hex. To prevent it

overwriting the assembly program, you need to move the start of the Basic program area. Once you have saved the program as listed, type in:

```
PAGE=&1500
NEW
LOAD "MONITOR"
RUN
```

You can now enter the monitor with
CALL &E10

If you prefer to store the monitor above Himem in Mode 7, set P% in line 30 to &6000 and type

```
HIMEM=&5FFF
LOAD "MONITOR"
RUN
CALL &6000
```

After the assembly program has been run the machine code can be saved as follows:

```
*SAVE "MON1" E10 1500 or *SAVE "MON1"
6000 6700
```

and loaded with

```
*LOAD "MON1"
```

Once in the monitor the screen should show

```
0000 FF 255 ?
hex hex and decimal prompt
address values
```

How to command

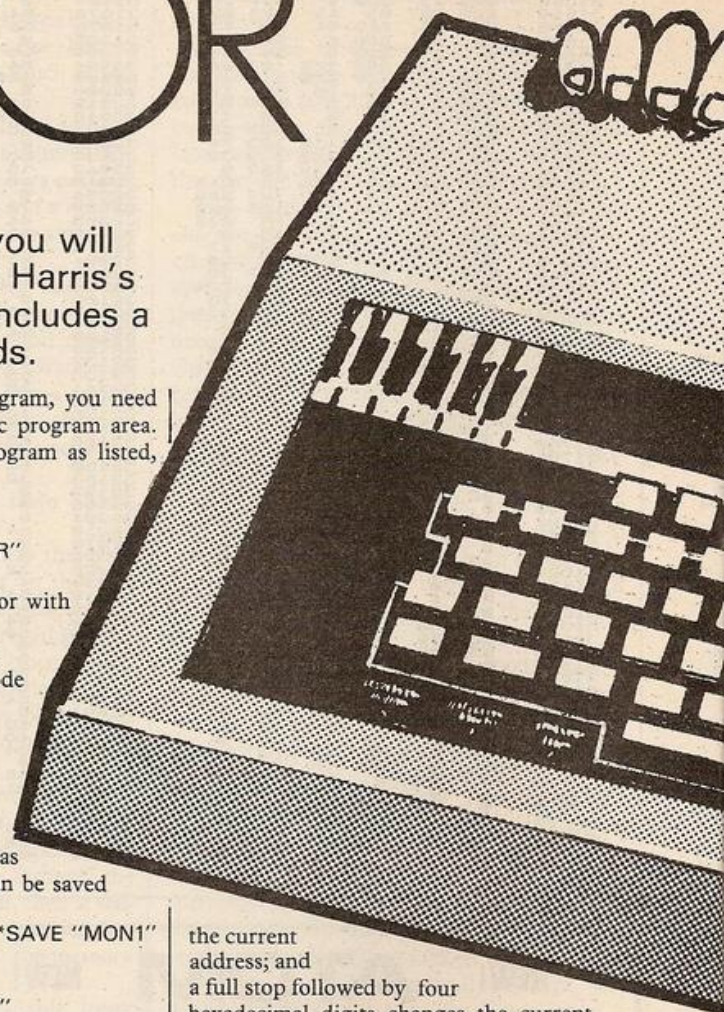
The monitor accepts the following commands: pressing the space bar increases the current address by one, and Return decreases it by one.

Entering two hex digits alters the value of

the current address; and

a full stop followed by four hexadecimal digits changes the current address. Entering the letter G displays an eight-by-eight block of data and addresses; entering R runs machine code from the current address; Z returns to Basic; and P enters the disassembler with the option of printer output. Press the space bar to continue disassembly and Return to leave it.

M moves a block of machine code. It expects three addresses in the form of four hex digits each — the Start and End address of the block to be moved, and the Start of the new block.



```
10REM MONITOR by R.W.Harris.
20FORM=1T02
30P%=&E10
40data1=P%+955: data2=P%+1110: data3=P%+1265
50mess=P%+1420: XYmess=P%+1635: Pmess=P%+1670
60data4=P%+1675: sptab=P%+1745 REM set base addresses of data
70EOPT0
80
90
100
110
120.start LDA #0
130STA &80: STA &81: STA &82
140LDA #100: STA &8B
150LDA #10: STA &8A
160LDA #12
170JSR &FFEE
180.f JSR newlin
190.v JSR totalPrint
200.a JSR &FFED
210CMP #&2E
220BEQ addr
230CMP #32
240BEQ next
250CMP #13
260BEQ back
270CMP #&5A
280BNE 1
290RTS
300.l CMP #&47
310BNE m
320JMP block
330.m CMP #&52
340BNE n
REM set base address of code
REM set base addresses of data
\ of byte value, as used by screen, etc
\ binary is actual byte value
\ msb is bits 4-7 lsb is bits 0-3
\ A,X,Y,P refer to 6502 registers
\ initialize variables, set current
\ address (CR) to &8000
\ clear screen
\ reentry for most routines, CR, LF
\ Print CR and value in hex and decimal
\ get ASCII value of key Press
\ if "." change CR
\ if "space" increment CR
\ if "return" decrement CR
\ if "Z" return to BASIC
\ if "G" display block of hex values
```

```
350JMP (&8000)
360.n CMP #&4D
370BNE 11
380JMP move
390.1 CMP #&50
400BNE 12
410JMP diss
420.2 CMP #&53
430BNE 0
440JMP subr
450.o JSR check
460CPX #0: BEQ a
470JSR upper
480JSR get
490JSR lower
500LDY #0
510STA (&80): Y
520JMP v8
530.addr
540LDY #2
550.a JSR keysin
560STA &807F: Y
570DEY
580BNE a
590BEQ ff
600.next
610INC &80
620BNE ff
630INC &81
640JMP ff
650DEC &80
660LDA &80
670CMP #&FF
680BNE ff
\ if "R" run machine code from CR
\ if "M" move block of data to new address
\ if "P" goto disassembler
\ if "S" goto subroutine set-up
\ if none of above, check hex key Press
\ if not get new key Press
\ if hex convert to msb
\ get second hex key Press
\ convert to lsb, combine with msb in A
\ change value in CR
\ to reentry
\ routine to change CR
\ get and display 2 key Presses for high
\ byte, and 2 for low and store as CR
\ routine to increment CR by 1
\ inc. high byte when low &FF ^ &80
```


BBC



After the first two addresses have been entered, the monitor prints a greater-than symbol as a prompt character. Entering S allows a subroutine, starting at the current address, to be tested — so long as it ends in RTS. It requires the A,X and Y registers to be set and provides the option of setting the

(continued on page 94)

```

690DEC &B1          \ dec. high byte when low &B0 ^ &FF
700JMP ff
710.get
720JSR &FF00        \ gets hex key Press
730JSR check
740CPX #0           \ 7 hex
750BEQ get          \ if not hex get another
760RTS              \ if hex return, value in A
770.upper
780CMP #&3A         \ with "lower" converts hex to binary
790BCC cc
800SBC #7
810.cc SEC:SBC #&30 \ subtract 7 if &A-&F
820ASL A:ASL A:ASL A:ASL A \ subtract &30 0-9 and &A-&F
830STX &B2          \ rotate to msb
840RTS              \ and save
850.lower
860CMP #&3A
870BCC bb
880SBC #7
890.bb SEC:SBC #&30 \ convert hex to lsb
900CLC/ADC &B2      \ add to msb, return with value in A
910RTS
920.block
930LDA #8           \ display 8x8 block of hex
940STX &B2
950LDY #0
960.cd LDX #0
970STX &B3
980JSR newlin
990JSR addrPr
1000.bc LDA (&B0),Y \ with address at start of each line
1010JSR Print
1020LDY #2

```

```

1030JSR space
1040INC &B0          \ inc. CR
1050BNE &B1
1060INC &B1
1070.ab DEC &B3
1080BNE bc
1090DEC &B2
1100BNE cd
1110JMP ff
1120.move
1130LDY #6          \ routine to move block of data
1140JSR newlin
1150.9h JSR keysin  \ Get 12 key Presses, store as start and
1160STX &B0B2,Y     \ end addresses of block, and start of
1170DEY             \ new block
1180BEQ de
1190CPY #4
1200BNE ef
1210LDA #&2C
1220JSR &FFEE       \ Prompt with " ,"
1230.ef CPY #2
1240BNE 9h
1250LDA #&3E
1260JSR &FFEE       \ Prompt with ">"
1270JMP 9h          \ XXXX.YYYY>ZZZZ displayed
1280.de JSR escape  \ OK to Proceed?
1290INC &B5
1300BNE tv
1310INC &B6
1320.tv LDA &B3:STX &B0 \ inc. end of block, else last byte missed
1330LDA &B4:STX &B1
1340DEX
1350.td LDA (&B7,X) \ start of new block = new CR
1360STX (&B3,X)    \ X= 1 on exit of JSR escape
1370INC &B3          \ do move
1380BNE km
1390INC &B4
1400.km INC &B7
1410BNE hi
1420INC &B8
1430.hi LDA &B7
1440CMP &B5
1450BNE td
1460LDA &B8
1470CMP &B6
1480BNE td
1490JMP ff
1500.addrPr
1510LDA &B1
1520JSR Print
1530LDA &B0
1540JSR Print
1550LDY #2          \ Print CR in hex
1560JSR space:RTS   \ + 2 spaces
1570.check
1580LDX #0          \ 7 is value in A hex
1590CMP #&30
1600BCC e
1610CMP #&3A        \ ie ASCII 0-9
1620BCC f
1630CMP #&41
1640BCC e
1650CMP #&47        \ ie ASCII A-F
1660BCC e
1670.f LDX #1
1680.e RTS
1690.totalPrint
1700LDA #13
1710JSR &FFEE       \ CR
1720JSR addrPr      \ CR
1730LDA (&B0),Y
1740JSR Print
1750LDY #4          \ hex value in CR
1760JSR space
1770LDA (&B0),Y
1780JSR dec
1790LDY #4          \ 4 spaces
1800JSR space
1810LDA #&3F
1820JSR &FFEE       \ decimal value in CR
1830RTS
1840.Print
1850TAX
1860AND #&F0
1870LSR A:LSR A:LSR A:LSR A \ "7" Prompt
1880JSR Prout
1890TXA
1900AND #&F
1910JSR Prout
1920RTS
1930.Prout
1940CMP #&A
1950BCC z
1960CLC/ADC #7
1970.z ADC #&30
1980JSR &FFEE       \ Print binary value in A as hex
1990RTS             \ save value in X
2000
2010LDA #32
2020.x JSR &FFEE     \ mask msb
2030DEY
2040BNE x
2050RTS
2060.dec
2070LDX #2:STX &B0 \ rotate to lsb
2080.kx LDY #&30    \ Print
2090.ky CMP &B9,X   \ restore value
2100BCC kz          \ mask lsb
2110INY
2120SBC &B9,X
2130BCS ky
2140.kz CPY #&30
2150BNE ku
2160CPY &B0
2170BNE ku
2180LDY #32
2190DEC &B0
2200.ku PHR
2210TYA
2220JSR &FFEE       \ Print

```

(listing continued on page 93)

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(listing continued from page 91)

```

2230PLR          \ restore remainder
2240DEX
2250BNE KX      *
2260RDC #L30    \ when units left convert to hex and Print
2270JSR &FFEE
2280RTS
2290message     \ Prints "message"
2300LDR mess-1,Y \ Y holds starting Point in "message data"
2310JSR &FFEE    \ X holds length
2320DEY DEX
2330BNE message
2340RTS
2350YorN        \ Gets either "Y" (yes)
2360JSR &FFEE    \ or "N" (no) key Press
2370CMP #L59
2380BEQ L3
2390CMP #L4E
2400BNE YorN
2410LDM #0,RTS  \ if no, X=0, if yes X=1
2420L3 LDX #1,RTS
2430newlin      \ does 2 CR/LF
2440JSR &FFEE7,JSR &FFEE7,RTS
2450keysin      \ Gets and displays 2 hex key Presses
2460JSR get
2470JSR &FFEE
2480JSR upper
2490JSR get
2500JSR &FFEE
2510JSR lower   \ converts to binary, in A on exit
2520RTS
2530disas       \ disassembler -starts at CR
2540JSR newlin
2550LDY #101
2560LDX #13
2570JSR message \ ? output to Printer
2580JSR YorN
2590BEQ L4
2600LDY #198
2610LDX #7
2620JSR message \ if yes initialize Printer
2630L4 LDR #L14  \ values given for Microline 88
2640STA L83      \ counter for lines of output
2650L4 JSR &FFEE7
2660LDY #0
2670LDR (L80),Y \ Get value in CR
2680LDX #L97
2690L4 CMP data3,X \ check if opcode
2700BEQ L7       \ if is,branch
2710DEX
2720BNE L6       \ if not -
2730JSR addrPr   \ Print CR
2740LDR (L80),Y \ and contents
2750JSR Print
2760LDY #10
2770JSR sPace    \ 10 sPaces
2780LDY #191
2790LDX #10
2800JSR message \ NOT OPCODE message
2810L9 INC L80
2820BNE L8
2830INC L81
2840L9 DEC L83
2850BNE L5
2860L9 JSR &FFEE \ repeat till required number of lines
2870CMP #L20     \ Get key Press
2880BEQ L4
2890CMP #L20     \ if "space" continue disassembly
2900BNE L1
2910LDY #203
2920LDX #5
2930JSR message \ turning off Printer
2940JMP ff
2950L9 LDR data2,X \ if value is opcode, X is Pointer to
2960STA L84       \ Get Pointer to "name" in message data
2970LDR data1,X   \ Get Pointer to "address type" data
2980STA L85
2990TAX
3000LDR data4,X   \ use this Pointer
3010STA L86       \ to Get number of bytes from
3020JSR addrPr    \ "address type" data
3030LDR (L80),Y   \ Print CR
3040JSR Print
3050LDX L86
3060BEQ L2
3070L3 INC L80
3080BNE L4
3090INC L81
3100L4 LDR #L32
3110JSR &FFEE
3120LDR (L80),Y
3130STA L87,X
3140STX L87
3150JSR Print
3160LDX L87
3170DEX
3180BNE L3
3190LDX L86
3200L2 LDY sPtab+1,X \ Get number of sPaces from table
3210JSR sPace    \ and Print to keep output aligned
3220LDX #3
3230LDY L84
3240JSR message \ Print opcode name
3250LDR #L32
3260JSR &FFEE
3270LDY L85
3280BEQ L5
3290INY
3300L6 LDR data4,Y \ and sPace
3310BEQ L7       \ address type Pointer
3320CMP #1       \ branch if "relative"
3330BEQ L7       \ skip "no. of bytes" data
3340CMP #LFE     \ Get byte from "address type data"
3350BNE L8
3360LDX L85
3370BEQ L9
3380JMP L9
3390L9 JMP L8
3400L7 TAX
3410LDR L88,X
3420JSR Print
3430INY
3440BNE L6
3450L8 JSR &FFEE \ if not 0,1,FE Print ASCII equiv
3460INY
3470BNE L6
3480L8 LDR L88
3490TAX
3500INC L80
3510BNE L1
3520INC L81
3530L1 CLC
3540RDC L80
3550STA L89
3560LDY L81
3570TAX
3580BPL L2
3590BCS L3
3600DEY
3610L2 BCC L3
3620INY
3630L3 STY L88
3640LDY L7
3650BNE L6
3660L2 STX L85
3670JSR keysin
3680LDX L85
3690STA L85,X
3700DEX
3710DEY
3720BNE L1
3730subr        \ subroutine set-up
3740JSR newlin
3750LDY #33
3760LDX #3
3770L1 LDR XYmess-1,Y \ Get data for message
3780BEQ L2       \ branch if 0 (3 times) for input
3790JSR &FFEE    \ else Print ASCII equiv
3800DEY
3810BNE L1
3820STY L84
3830JSR YorN
3840BEQ L3
3850JSR newlin
3860LDY L4
3870STY L84
3880L4 LDR Pmess-1,Y \ if yes reset flag
3890JSR &FFEE    \ Print Pm
3900DEY
3910BNE L4
3920JSR keysin \ Get key Press input
3930STA L89
3940L3 LDR #L40
3950STA L7F
3960JSR escape
3970JSR newlin \ save binary
3980LDX L88
3990LDY L87
4000LDR L86
4010PHR
4020LDR L84
4030BEQ L5
4040LDR L89
4050PHR
4060PLP
4070L5 PLA
4080JSR L807F
4090STX L89
4100STY L87
4110STA L86
4120PHR
4130PLA
4140STA L89
4150LDY #33
4160LDX #3
4170L6 LDR XYmess-1,Y \ Put JMP opcode before CR
4180BEQ L7       \ OK to Proceed?
4190JSR &FFEE
4200DEY
4210CPY #15
4220BNE L6
4230LDY #3
4240L8 LDR Pmess-1,Y \ Print "P=" message
4250JSR &FFEE
4260DEY
4270BNE L8
4280LDR L89
4290JSR Print
4300JMP ff
4310L7 LDR L85,X
4320STX L85
4330JSR Print
4340LDX L85
4350DEX
4360DEY
4370BNE L6
4380L8 escape
4390JSR newlin \ OK to Proceed routine
4400LDY #210,LDX #7
4410JSR message \ Print message
4420JSR YorN    \ Get yes or no response
4430BNE L4
4440PLA,PLA
4450JMP ff
4460L4 RTS
4470J, NEXT M
4480
4490
4500
4510
4520
4530Pmess="P "
4540
4550XYmess="7N/Y sutatS teS "+CHR(L8)+ "R "+CHR(L8)+ "Y
"+CHR(L8)+ "N"
4560
4570MESS="DNACDLSAKRBLPBIMBOEBENBCVBSVBCBCSTIBYPCNCPMCDLCLCC
LCLVLCROEDNDCEDYNICNIXNIPMJSJADLXLDYDLRLPONARORHPALPPPLP
RCLORSTRITRCS"
4580MESS="MESS"+KTSYTSATSCIESDESXATXATYATYXTSTXT 7N/Y RETNIRP
EDOCOFOON"
4590FORJ=1TO12/READS

```

(listing continued on next page)

(continued from page 91)

status register. On return from the subroutine it displays the contents of the registers. This is very useful in exploring *FX and other operating system calls.

The program listing is well annotated which should make it relatively easy to follow for those who want to understand exactly how it functions. One improvement they could try is to insert a routine into the disassembler to print out the ASCII characters for each bytes.

To put the monitor through its paces, you might like to try the following procedures. Enter the monitor with Call &E10 and then change the current address to &E10 by pressing the full stop key and typing OE10.

Viewing versions

Remember that the monitor only accepts four-figure hexadecimal entries. If you now press P you will see the same disassembled version of the monitor that you keyed in earlier.

Press M and then enter OE10, 1500 and 4000. This will copy the monitor to &4000 and if you press R it will call itself.

Finally you could try the facility for testing a subroutine by calling OSASCI. This is the operating system routine which writes a character from the Accumulator to the screen.

First change the current address to &FFE3 and press S. Set the X and Y registers to zero and the A register to 72, the ASCII code in hex for lower-case R. When run OSASCI will print a lower-case letter R to the screen in front of a display of the contents of the X register.

(listing continued from previous page)

```
4600MESS0=MESS0+CHR(9):NEXT
4610DATA2,30,1,66,1,27,1,65,1,27,1,3
4620MESS0=MESS0+"?N/Y KO"
4630MESS0=MESS0
4640
4650FOR JX=1 TO 3:READS%
4660$Ftab7JX=S%:NEXT
4670DATA10,7,4
4680
4690FOR JX=0 TO 68:READS%
4700data47JX=S%:NEXT
4710DATA1,1,&23,&26,0,&FE,2,&26,0,1,&FE,2,&26,0,1,&2C,&58,&FE,2,&26,0,1,&2C,&59
,&FE,1,&26,0,&FE,1,&26,0,&2C,&58
4720DATA&FE,1,&26,0,&2C,&59,&FE,1,&28,&26,0,&29,&2C,&59,&FE,1,&28,&26,0,&2C,&58
,&29,&FE,2,&28,&26,0,1,&29,&FE,0,&41,&FE,0,&FE
4730
4740FOR JX=1 TO 151:READS%
4750data17JX=S%:NEXT
4760DATA67,49,25,25,67,1,64,6,6,0,41,29,29,67,18,11,11,6,49,25,25,25,67,1,64,6,
6,6,0,41,29,29,67,18,11,11
4770DATA67,49,25,25,67,1,64,6,6,0,41,29,29,67,18,11,11,67,49,25,25,67,1,64,57
,6,6,0,41,29,29,67,18,11,11,49,25,25,25,67,67,6,6,0,41,29,29,35,67,18,67,11
4780DATA1,49,1,25,25,25,67,1,67,6,6,0,41,29,29,35,67,18,67,11,11,18,1,49,25,2
5,25,67,1,67,6,6,0,41,29,29,67,18,11,11,1,49,25,25,25,67,1,67,6,6,0,41,29,29
,67,18,11,11
4790
4800FOR JX=1 TO 151:READS%
4810data27JX=S%:NEXT
4820DATA12,105,105,9,114,105,9,105,9,15,105,105,9,57,105,105,9,87,3,39,3,123,11
7,3,123,39,3,123,18,3,3,123,144,3,3
4830DATA123,129,63,63,99,108,63,99,84,63,99,27,63,63,99,54,63,63,99,126,6,6,120
,111,6,120,84,6,120,30,6,120,147,6,6,120
4840DATA141,138,141,135,66,156,138,141,135,33,141,138,141,135,162,141,168,141,9
6,90,93,96,90,93,159,90,153,96,90,93,36,90,96,90,93,60,90,165,96,90,93
4850DATA42,48,42,48,72,75,48,69,42,48,72,24,48,48,72,51,48,48,72,45,132,45,132,
78,81,132,102,45,132,78,21,132,132,78,150,132,132,78
4860
4870FOR JX=1 TO 151:READS%
4880data37JX=S%:NEXT
4890DATA0,1,5,6,8,9,&A,&D,&E,&10,&11,&15,&16,&18,&19,&1D,&1E,&20,&21,&24,&25,&2
6,&28,&29,&2A,&2C,&2D,&2E,&30,&31,&35,&36,&38,&39,&3D,&3E
4900DATA&40,&41,&45,&46,&48,&49,&4A,&4C,&4D,&4E,&50,&51,&55,&56,&58,&59,&5D,&5E
,&60,&61,&65,&66,&68,&69,&6A,&6C,&6D,&6E,&70,&71,&75,&76,&78,&79,&7D,&7E
4910DATA&81,&84,&85,&86,&88,&8A,&8C,&8D,&8E,&90,&91,&94,&95,&96,&98,&99,&9A,&9D
,&A0,&A1,&A2,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A8,&A9,&AA,&AC,&AD,&AE
4920DATA&B0,&B1,&B4,&B5,&B6,&B8,&B9,&BA,&BC,&BD,&BE,&C0,&C1,&C4,&C5,&C6,&C8,&C9
,&CA,&CC,&CD,&CE,&D0,&D1,&D5,&D6,&D8,&D9,&DD,&DE
4930DATA&E0,&E1,&E4,&E5,&E6,&E8,&E9,&EA,&EC,&ED,&EE,&F0,&F1,&F5,&F6,&F8,&F9,&FD
,&FE
```



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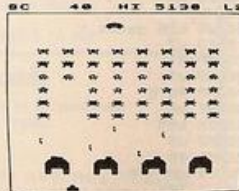
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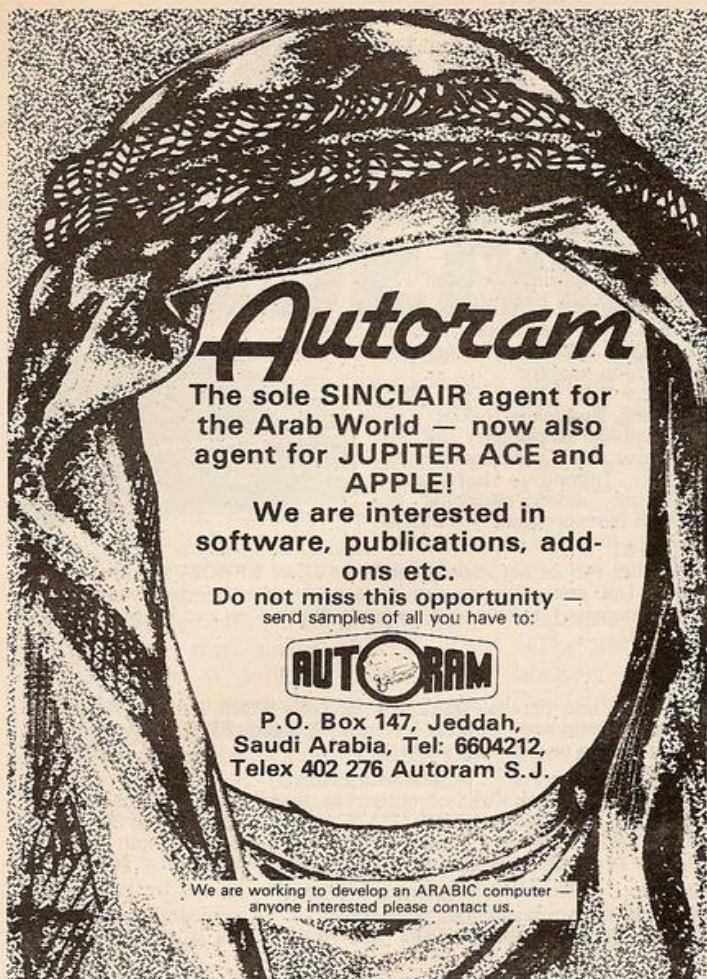
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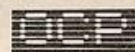
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BBC

You can always tell a good assembler by its range of pseudo-ops codes. Chris Melville looks at the BBC's resident assembler.

ASSEMBLER

IN MORE ADVANCED assemblers we expect to see a wide range of pseudo-ops that could be used in our programs at assembly time. Figure 1 gives examples.

One should remember that all pseudo-ops are merely instructions to the assembler and in no way affect the machine code produced when it is eventually run.

The BBC assembler is part and parcel of the BBC Basic interpreter. As such it has access to the expression evaluator used in BBC Basic which means that almost any sensible expression that is valid in BBC Basic, providing it has a numerical result can be used inside an assembly language program. This in turn means that a lot of the functions and variables available in Basic can be used, including your own as defined by Def Fn, as long as the results they produce are compatible with where they are used. For example, all of the following would assemble as the same thing:

```
LDA# SIN(RAD(90))* 30 + 5
LDA# 35
LDA# &23
LDA# ASC"#"
LDA# A%
```

has the ASCII value 35, A% has previously been assigned as 35 and ampersand indicates hexadecimal value in BBC Basic.

Any expression resulting in a floating point result will merely be truncated to the next lowest integer.

The Basic interpreter is suspended and the assembler brought in at any time by using the Basic statement [. Similarly the assembler returns control immediately to the interpreter on encountering]. Upon leaving the assembler, executing some Basic and then returning again to assembler, all assembly pointers such as the location pointer remain unchanged. This facility allows Basic and assembly language to be freely mixed and we will shortly see that mixing the odd Basic statement with the assembly language can provide a simple way of implementing all of the properties/pseudo-ops given in figure 1.

It is important to remember that when the assembler is called by [, all that happens is the conversion of the mnemonics into absolute binary machine code which is sequentially stored. The routines will not actually be executed until you call them using the Basic statements Call and Upr. This is shown simply in figure 2.

The Dim statement in BBC Basic will look for a continuous block of free memory, the amount depending on its argument, and return the address of the start of this block into a variable. To reserve a block of 200 bytes and assign the starting address to the variable start% use Dim start% 199.

This should be used, before entering the

assembler, to bag some memory space for your assembled program unless you want it to be placed at some particular address onwards, which is fine if you are not bothered about it working across the Tube. So if your program is n bytes long — or less — then you need:

Dim space% n : P% = space%

This form of the Dim statement is not to be confused with Dim space%(n) which would declare an integer array called space%, n elements long.

The BBC assembler supports the use of labels in assembly language programs and these are handled as if they were Basic variables. Therefore they must start with a letter and not a reserved word. When labels are first defined they must be preceded with a full stop, and finish with RTS. When they are referred to, the full stop can be omitted, and needless to say they should not be multiply defined.

Since the assembler starts off at the beginning of an assembly language program and proceeds sequentially through it, problems arise when program segments include instructions referring to a label ahead before it is defined to the assembler.

This problem is overcome by making the assembler pass through the program twice, firstly taking note of all the labels and their values, which are stored in the Basic variable space in RAM and performing crude assembly of the mnemonics, translating the op-code and addressing mode, but not the address unless it is known, and substituting in any addresses it failed to find first time. If the assembly listing were examined in between these two passes, it would be seen that any instructions where

forward reference occurred would have their address fields pointing to themselves. This two-pass process does not occur automatically on the BBC computer. It is necessary to force it to happen by enclosing the whole assembly language section in a For-To-Next loop which will be done twice. Of course this is unnecessary when there are no forward references in the program.

The choice of value of control variable in the loop is determined by what you want the assembler to output and how you want it to react to the presence of errors caused by forward referencing. This is explained now as we deal with the BBC assembler's only pseudo-op, OPT.

The usual state of affairs is that we require different assembler output on each pass of the assembler, and the most common occurs like this. On Pass 1, assembler errors are suppressed so that the process is not interrupted should forward references be present. There will be no assembly listing since the process will not be complete. On Pass 2, assembler errors are given — there are no unresolved forward references for this pass so we wish to be informed if any real errors are present.

We either see no listing at all or a full assembly listing of locations, hex code, mnemonics and labels.

We control this by using the "OPT n" pseudo-op straight after the opening square bracket. The possibilities are OPT 0 for error suppression and no listing, OPT 1 for error suppression and a listing, OPT 2 for error reporting and no listing OPT 3 for error reporting and a listing. This is incorporated into the For-Next loop of the last section.

For pass% = a To b step b-a

[opt pass%]

Next pass%

The "a" is the OPT value required in the first pass and b is the one for the second. Normally, a=0, b=2 or 3. The OPT pseudo-op obviously generates no machine code of its own.

The resident integer variable P% is the location pointer for the BBC assembler, that

(continued on next page)

ADC	add with carry	INY	inc. y	Table 1. The 6502 instruction set.	
AND	logical and	JMP	jump		
ASL	arithmetic shift left	JSR	call subroutine		
BBC	branch if carry clear	LDA	load accumulator		
BCC	branch if carry set	LDX	load x	TXA	transfer x to a
BEQ	branch if equal	LDY	load y	TXS	transfer x to sp
BIT	test bit	LSR	logical shift right	TYA	transfer y to acc
BMI	branch if minus	NOP	no-operation	The 6502 registers:	
BNE	b. not equal	ORA	logical or	accumulator (A) 8 bits	
BPL	b. if plus	PHA	push accumulator	x,y index registers (x,y) 8 bits	
BRK	break	PHP	push processor status	processor status register nvbdizc 8 bits	
BVC	b. overflow clear	PLA	pull into accumulator	program counter 16 bits	
BVS	b. b. overflow set	PLP	pull processor status	stack pointer 8 bits	
CLC	clear carry	ROL	rotate left	6502 addressing modes	
CLD	clear decimal mode	ROR	rotate right	Name	Example
CLI	clear interrupt disable	RTI	return from interrupt	Immediate	LDX # 23
CLV	clear overflow	RTS	return from subroutine	Zero page	LDY &32
CMP	compare to accumulator	SBC	subtract with carry	Absolute	JMP &FFF3
CPX	compare to x	SEC	set carry	Accumulator	ASL A
CPY	compare to y	SED	set decimal	Relative	BEQ &23E3
DEC	decrement memory	SEI	set interrupt disable	Indirect	LDA (&2345)
DEX	decrement x	STA	store accumulator	Implied	PHA
DEY	decrement y	STX	store x	Zero page x	STA 55,x
EOR	exclusive or	STY	store y	Absolute x	JMP &FFF0,x
INC	increment memory	TAX	transfer a to x	Pre-indexed direct	LDA (9,x)
INX	inc. x	TAY	transfer a to y	Post indexed direct	LDA (34),y
		TSX	transfer sp to x	Zero page with y	STA 22,y
				index	

(continued from previous page)

is, it always holds the value of the address where the next encountered assembly instruction will be assembled to. Thus if we wanted a particular program to be assembled starting at location &A00 we would put, immediately after the For-To loop start; P%=&A00.

Alternatively, with the memory allocating system as previously described;

```
DIM space% PROGRAMSIZE
P% = space%
```

If one wants to leave a few spare bytes in memory in the middle of the machine code program, say for workspace or constant storage, then another alternative to the Dim method described earlier would be to leave the assembler and increment P% by the number of bytes you want. You could also use the byte indirection operators to initialise this memory, e.g., ?P%=. Then record the starting address of for example spare bytes, room=P% before you increment P%. Re-enter assembler and continue, using instructions such as LDA room to access your bytes. Issue I Basic/assembler does not allow the assembly of numerical constants straight into memory. To place constants in memory one should therefore use one of the methods already described. Issue II Basic/assembler does have the necessary pseudo-ops. These are EQU, EQUW, EQU and EQUQ.

These all take a single argument and put its value into the assembly code.

```
.message EQU "hello"
```

would store at ASCII code of "h" at message, "e" at message +1 and so on.

Unfortunately, there is no easy way that macros can be implemented with the assembler contained in Issue I Basic. However, the EQU pseudo-op present in the Issue II Basic assembler can be used along with the Def Fn statement to implement macros of sorts.

A subroutine call to location &FFF4 in the operating system is known as an OSByte call. This call uses the processors X,Y,Acc registers to pass information to the operating system; Acc defines the operation to be carried out such as clear input buffer or alter flash rate or anything else that can be done as an FX call. X,Y contain the parameters. We could set up a macro which would take these three quantities as parameters, load them into the respective processor registers and call the OSByte routine. The macro itself would be defined in Basic as a function:

```
DEF FNOSBYTE (A,X,Y)
IF A>127 THEN [ OPT pass% : LDY # Y]
[OPT pass%: LDX # X : LDA # A: JSR &FFF4:]
(dummy null string result)
```

Only OSByte calls with numbers over 12 need a Y parameter. Then, when writing an assembly program if we wanted to do an OSByte call we would do the following:

```
EQU FNOSBYTE (&87,5,5) reads the
character at text (5,5)
EQU FNOSBYTE (2,1,0) gets characters
from RS423
```

Whenever the assembler encounters the

above syntax the result will be the normal OSByte code sequence inserted into the assembly process, no string is actually inserted anywhere as the EQU is fed with a null string by the function FNOSByte which also manages to do a little assembling before it gives this null result.

The ability to freely alternate between Basic and assembler makes conditional assembly a simple problem to solve. First leave Basic, use the control structures of Basic to examine the condition — use If-Then-Else, On-Goto/Gosub, and assemble the appropriate sections of code upon the result. If you want the assembler to choose between keyboard or joystick input in pseudo-Basic:

```
assemble ..... ] ; IF joystickconnected
THEN PROCassemblejoystickcode ELSE
PROCassemblekeycode [ .....assembler
```

The two given procedures do exactly what they say.

Repeated assembly is easy to achieve because of the easy interaction between the assembler and the Basic interpreter proper. There are two kinds of loops into which we can put the assembly language that we want copying.

Deterministic loops continue copying out the instructions until some condition is satisfied. We would use a repeat-until loop in the Basic part:

```
assemble) : REPEAT
[ : (insert whatever is to be repeated here.
it may involve the control variable, and
there should be an OPT to control
assembler output.) : ]
```

There could be some Basic instructions here which would effect the loop control condition.

```
UNTIL condition
[ : OPT pass% : .....assemble.
```

Non-deterministic loops repeat the assembly mnemonics a fixed number of times. For this we would use a For-To loop:

```
...(assembler) : FOR I% = startno. TO finishno.
[ : OPT pass% : ..... assemble
instructions, could involve the control
variable I% if required. ....:]
NEXT I%
[ : OPT pass% : .....(back to assembler)
```

Diagram summarising assembly process

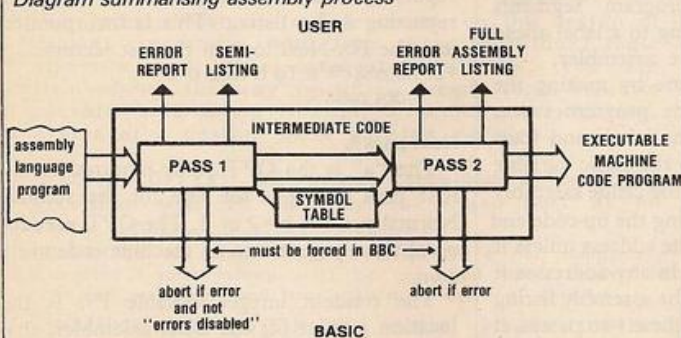


Figure 2. Calling routines.

```
10 PRINT "hello"
20 PRINT "now
entering assembler"
30 DIM P% 100
40 enter assembler
50 .start PHA:TAX:
CMP # &33 (more
arbitrary assembly
language)
100 RTS:
110 PRINT "back in
Basic"
120 CALL start
```

Figure 1. Properties and pseudo-operating instructions.

■ The ability to reserve blocks of memory space for data, or even the program itself.

■ The allowing of symbolic labels and a multi-pass system, usually two occasionally three. This includes the automatic calculation of relative jumps.

■ The ability to reference the location pointer, a pointer to the next byte that will store machine code produced by the assembler, so that it is possible to use relative jumps in programs. For instance:

```
JMP .-5
```

allows you to jump back to the instruction five bytes further back in memory. The full point indicates the value of the location pointer.

The location in memory where the next instruction is to be assembled can be specified by a statement such as:

```
= 3200
```

■ User output — an assembly listing should be given, in both hex and mnemonics, errors should be reported and — preferably — there should be a symbol table output.

■ The assembler should be able to assemble numerical constants, or the result of a numerical expression, directly into memory, as well as mnemonics. For example:

```
label 32
label +1 19-5
```

should result in the constant 32 stored in the location given by label, and 14 stored in label+1

■ It should also be able to evaluate simple numerical expressions elsewhere, so that

```
LDA # 7*2-2/2
```

would assemble as

```
LDA # 13
```

■ There should be a facility for the creation and use of macros. A macro is a set of instructions that does a particular job, similar to a subroutine in that respect, and given a specific name. Then, whenever the assembler comes across that name in a program it substitutes it with the set of instructions to which the name refers. Some assemblers allow macros to use parameter-passing also.

■ Conditional assembly — this facility allows the assembler to choose one of several

program segments to assemble depending on the result of some specified test which is specified by the programmer and carried out at assembly time.

■ Repeated assembly — if a group of assembly language instructions are listed over and over in a program then it would be handy if it was necessary to write them only once and tell the assembler how many times to repeat them in a row. This is repeated assembly, for example:

```
REPEAT 10 LDA somevalue
ENDREPEAT STA somewhere
```

This might tell the assembler to write out the two instructions 10 times in a row and then assemble them. In some cases it might be possible for the values somevalue and somewhere to change each time the instruction pair is copied. Also, it may be possible for the number of copies to depend upon some condition rather than a fixed number, the difference between a For-To loop and a Repeat-Until loop in Basic illustrates this.

■ The assembler should recognise all 6502 mnemonics and addressing modes.

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* Reviewed in ZX Computing Aug/Sept 1982 and Popular Computing Weekly 22/7/82.

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Dear Sir,
I received a copy of your Football Manager, Spectrum 48K game a couple of weeks ago and felt I must just write and congratulate you on such an "addictive game".

I started on the beginners skill level with Ipswich Town in the Fourth Division. After having played six seasons I am now into the first division having won the F.A. Cup whilst in the second division. All of which took about nine hours of being glued to the screen.

Since reaching the first division I have increased my skill level and am now sixth in the table after ten seasons and about 15 hours!

The reason I am surprised that I have played this game more than any other in my library over the last two weeks, is because I don't really like watching football on television. I don't even support a team. The structure of your game is such that anyone can play it.

P. A. HACKMAN,
BURY ST. EDMUNDS
ORIGINALS CAN BE SEEN ON REQUEST

ONCE UPON a time when most people still thought that a microprocessor was some fancy kitchen gadget, breakfast was continually disturbed by the rhythmic chant of children trying to learn their French vocabulary for school that morning. When we acquired a ZX-81 we therefore set about using this so that our 'snap, crackle and pop' would not be disturbed.

The very limited memory of the basic 1K unit was a severe problem, but with care 20 words — each 12 characters long, in each of two languages, could be stored for knowledge testing. Two separate programs needed to be used. The Word-loader program dimensions three arrays and requests 20 consecutive word inputs in each language. These are stored in arrays A and B.

When all words have been entered this program must be altered to the Word-testing program before Saving on to cassette by Goto200. Of course, the ZX-81 saves variables with the program but, whatever you do, you must not Run this program, as this will clear the arrays. When the program is reloaded it automatically starts, and when all words have been tested the program begins again.

It is essential that C\$ is dimensioned — so that its length is fixed at 12 characters — the same as B\$(N), as otherwise it will be impossible for it to be equal to B\$(N).

Score is kept as X, which is incremented when line 150 is true. To conserve memory only the top two lines of the screen are used to display:

```
TEST WORD      SCORE
YOUR TRY      ANSWER
```

Pause is used instead of a For-Next timing loop and the program entirely fills 1K.

Only 20 words could be included in this initial program, but different versions could be made containing different words. For storage of more words more memory is essential — hence the development of the Vocab 16K program which not only stores 220 words or phrases, each 25 characters long, but also includes a range of useful options: adding words, testing yourself, learning and dictionary. One of the most perplexing problems was arranging for the facility to swap the two languages around, whilst ensuring that the arrays did not become garbled.

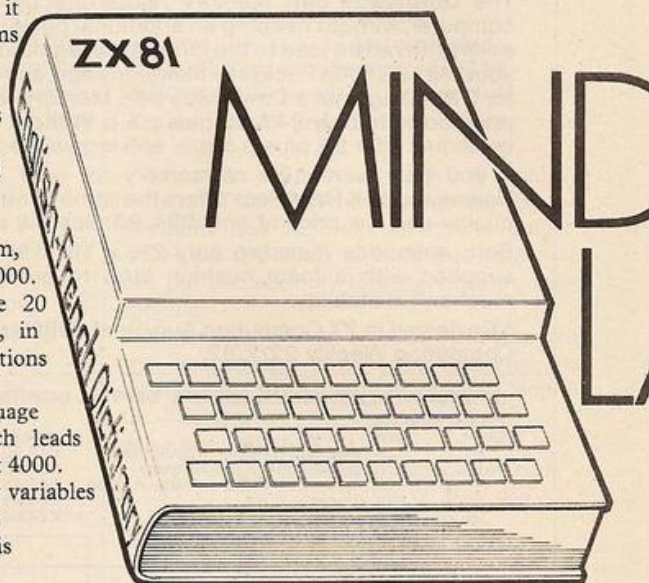
To initialise the program when it is first used, Run 8000 which Dims the arrays and sets up the other variables, before requesting the languages to be used. This was not included in the menu to avoid disastrous accidents to filled arrays. Do not forget you must never Run the program if you use Break to stop it. To save the program, plus variables, at any point Goto 9000.

The user-friendly menu at line 20 first prints the selected languages, in the order entered, and then the options available.

If you want to reverse the language order you simply input X, which leads to the language-swap subroutine at 4000. This swaps M\$ and N\$ via dummy variables K\$ and L\$. At the same time the language-swap status variable, T, is swapped between 0 and 1 so

that the swap status is always indicated. If Add-words is selected the screen is cleared at line 3000 and the word select subroutine at line 6000 called. This asks where in the main arrays to start and end addition, prompting you with the current start and end numbers. To delete words simply overwrite them.

Lines 6010-6040 and 6080-6100 reject anything other than numbers. As the numbers often exceed nine this has to be done via string slicing, and the final strings must therefore be converted to simple variables by the Val function — 6050 and 6110. This subroutine is used by both Add-word and Test routines. On return the word display routine is called —



The 16K ZX-81 language program.

```
RAIS REM VOCAB COPYRIGH K + S E
0100 REM MENU
0110 CLS
0120 PRINT M$.N$. "VOCABULARY"
0130 PRINT "AT 5,0; AT 7,0; TO TEST YOURS
0140 ULT DICTIONARY INPUT "A"; AT 3
0150 "TO ADD WORDS INPUT "A"; AT
0160 "TO LEARN INPUT "A"; AT
0170 PRINT AT 20,0; "TO REVERSE"
0180 REM MENU SELECTION
0190 INPUT O$
0200 IF O$="T" THEN GOTO 1000
0210 IF O$="D" THEN GOTO 2000
0220 IF O$="A" THEN GOTO 3000
0230 IF O$="L" THEN GOTO 7000
0240 IF O$="X" THEN GOSUB 4000
0250 IF O$="?" THEN GOTO 10
0260 GOTO 50
0270 REM TEST
0280 CLS
0290 PRINT "TEST"
0300 PRINT AT 5,0; "FOR RANDOM WO
0310 RD$ INPUT "A"; AT 7,0; "FOR PAR
0320 TULAR WORDS INPUT "P"; AT 10
0330 REM RANDOM OR PARTICULAR
0340 INPUT P$
0350 IF P$="P" THEN GOSUB 5000
0360 IF P$="P" THEN GOTO 5000
0370 IF P$="R" THEN GOTO 1100
0380 GOTO 1040
0390 PRINT AT 9,0; "HOW MANY WORD
0400 INPUT W$
0410 FOR N=1 TO LEN W$
0420 IF CODE W$(N) (28 OR CODE W$
0430 (N)) > 37 THEN GOTO 1110
0440 NEXT N
0450 LET U=VAL W$
0460 PRINT AT 9,20; U
0470 REM RANDOM START
0480 LET H=INT (RND*4)+1
0490 REM VALID START ELSE HALVE
0500 IF H+U>Y THEN LET H=H/2
0510 IF H+U<Y THEN GOTO 1180
0520 IF H<1 THEN LET H=1
0530 LET X$=H
0540 LET Y$=H+U-1
0550 GOTO 5000
0560 REM DICTIONARY
0570 CLS
0580 PRINT M$.N$. "DICTIONARY"; AT
0590 5,5; "INPUT UNKNOWN WORD"; AT 20,
0600 0; "INPUT "A"; AT 20,0; "REVERSE"
0610 INPUT D$
0620 IF D$(1)="X" THEN GOSUB 400
0630 IF D$(1)="?" THEN GOTO 400
0640 IF D$(1)="X" THEN GOTO 2000
0650 IF D$(1)="?" THEN GOTO 10
0660 PRINT AT 7,1; D$
0670 REM SEARCH ARRAY
0680 FOR N=X TO Y
0690 IF T=0 THEN GOSUB 4100
0700 IF D$(N) THEN GOTO 2130
0710 IF T=0 THEN GOSUB 4100
0720 NEXT N
0730 REM NO MATCH
0740 PRINT AT 10,5; "NO MATCH"
```

```
3120 GOTO 2140
3130 REM MATCH
3140 PRINT AT 10,1; A$(N)
3150 IF T=0 THEN GOSUB 4100
3160 SLOW
3170 FOR N=1 TO 50
3180 NEXT N
3190 GOTO 2000
3200 CLS
3210 GOSUB 6000
3220 GOSUB 5000
3230 IF T=0 THEN GOSUB 4100
3240 RETURN
3250 REM LANGUAGE SWAP
3260 LET K=M$
3270 LET L=N$
3280 LET M$=N$
3290 LET N$=K$
3300 LET T=T
3310 LET F=F
3320 LET E=E
3330 RETURN
3340 REM ARRAY SWAP
3350 LET C$(1)=A$(N)
3360 LET A$(N)=B$(N)
3370 LET B$(N)=C$(1)
3380 LET C$(1)=B$(N)
3390 RETURN
3400 REM WORD DISPLAY
3410 FOR N=X TO Y
3420 IF T=0 THEN GOSUB 4100
3430 CLS
3440 PRINT AT 5,5; M$
3450 REM TEST BRANCH 1
3460 IF O$="A" THEN GOTO 5060
3470 INPUT B$(N)
3480 PRINT AT 7,1; B$(N); AT 10,5;
3490 N$
3500 REM TEST BRANCH 2
3510 IF O$="A" THEN GOTO 5130
3520 INPUT A$(N)
3530 PRINT AT 12,1; A$(N)
3540 FOR M=1 TO 50
3550 NEXT M
3560 LET Y$=A$
3570 GOTO 5175
3580 INPUT C$(1)
3590 PRINT AT 12,1; C$(1); AT 14,1
3600 A$(N)
3610 FOR M=1 TO 50
3620 NEXT M
3630 REM CHECK MATCH
3640 IF C$(1)=A$(N) THEN LET Z=Z
3650 +1
3660 IF T=0 THEN GOSUB 4100
3670 NEXT N
3680 IF O$="A" THEN GOTO 10
3690 REM SCORE
3700 PRINT AT 20,5; "SCORE = "; Z
3710 FOR M=1 TO 70
3720 NEXT M
3730 LET Z=0
3740 GOTO 10
3750 REM WORD SELECT
3760 PRINT AT 9,0; "START WORD NU
3770 MBER"; AT 11,0; "END WORD NUMBER?";
3780 "AT 15,0; "PAUSE 100"
3790 INPUT X$
3800 FOR N=1 TO LEN X$
3810 IF CODE X$(N) (28 OR CODE X$
3820 (N)) > 37 THEN GOTO 6010
3830 NEXT N
```

```
6050 LET X$=VAL X$
6060 PRINT AT 9,22; X$
6070 INPUT X$
6080 FOR N=1 TO LEN X$
6090 IF CODE X$(N) (28 OR CODE X$
6100 (N)) > 37 THEN GOTO 6070
6110 NEXT N
6120 LET Y$=VAL X$
6130 PRINT AT 11,22; Y$
6140 RETURN
6150 REM LEARN
6160 CLS
6170 LET XX=0
6180 FOR N=X TO Y
6190 LET XX=XX+1
6200 PRINT A$(N); B$(N);
6210 IF XX=7 THEN GOTO 7090
6220 NEXT N
6230 INPUT O$
6240 GOTO 10
6250 INPUT O$
6260 LET XX=0
6270 NEXT N
6280 REM INITIALISE
6290 DIM A$(220,25)
6300 DIM B$(220,25)
6310 DIM C$(1,25)
6320 DIM D$(25)
6330 PRINT AT 5,0; "FIRST LANGUAGE
6340 INPUT M$
6350 PRINT AT 7,5; M$
6360 PRINT AT 9,0; "SECOND LANGUA
6370 INPUT N$
6380 PRINT AT 11,5; N$
6390 LET T=0
6400 LET F=1
6410 LET P=1
6420 LET E=0
6430 LET X=1
6440 LET Y=1
6450 LET Z=0
6460 GOTO 10
6470 SAVE "VOCAB 16K"
6480 GOTO 10
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16K WORD LOADER PROGRAM

```
10 DIM A$(20,12)
20 DIM B$(20,12)
30 DIM C$(1,12)
40 FOR N=1 TO 20
50 CLS
60 INPUT A$(N)
70 PRINT A$(N)
80 INPUT B$(N)
90 PRINT B$(N)
100 PRINT C$(N)
110 PAUSE 100
120 NEXT N
130
140
150
160
170
180
190
200
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```

16K WORD TESTING PROGRAM

```
100 LET X=0
110 FOR N=1 TO 20
120 CLS
130 PRINT A$(N)
140 INPUT C$(1)
150 LET X=X+NOT C$(1) (<> B$(N)
160 PRINT C$(1); X; CHR$(24); N; B$(N)
170 PAUSE 100
180 NEXT N
190 GOTO 100
200 SAVE "U16K"
210 GOTO 100
```


5000. This is also used by both Add and Test routines, but with different branches. It cycles through the arrays from the selected start to the selected end — 5000, after checking the status — T — of the languages M\$ and N\$ — this is done at line 5010.

If these have been swapped then the word-swap subroutine at 4100 is next called. This swaps A\$(N) and B\$(N) via dummy variables. The first language is printed and, if Add was selected — Q\$ = "A" — an input — B\$(N) — is requested and printed, followed by the second language, and a second input request — A\$(N). After a delay — 5100 — the word end counter, Y, is reset to the new end-word number — 5120, and if the languages have been reversed from their original order, then

matching word is printed, otherwise the "word not found" message comes up. This subroutine is run in Fast mode to speed it up but, if you prefer waiting a little longer to watching the screen flash then delete lines 2065 and 2140.

This 16K ZX-81 program is obviously more useful than the 1K version, and any additional memory available can be utilised simply by changing the Dim statements in lines 8000 and 8010.

When a Dragon 32 was purchased and conversion of the ZX-81 program was considered, it was soon apparent that the Dragon had a number of distinct advantages in this learning

A new cassette Load-Save routine is included — Line 8000. Selection of Save — 8010 — requests File-name, Start and End positions. The cassette motor is turned on to allow you to position the data tape and when you are ready a data file is opened and the languages (M\$, N\$), swap status (T) and array contents saved. Selection of Load also requests filename, Start and End positions. These need not be the same as those used when these words were Saved, but can be offset so that words can be moved around the arrays. Languages — M\$ and N\$ — swap status, T, and words are then read in 8030.

The Audio routines — 9000 — allow Saving and Loading of both data and voice, 9030. If Save is selected a data file is opened and loaded as before, line 9060. When Saving is complete, instructions are given to alter the cassette leads at line 9080. Each selected word is now displayed — Line 9100 — and, when a tone sounds, the recorder is automatically turned on and you speak the word. After a short delay, the next word is displayed and the cycle continues until all selected words have been dealt with. In this way, a spoken-word file follows immediately behind the word data file. When Play is selected, the data file is read back — line 9120 — and speech playback only, or speech and display can then be chosen.

If the display and speech option is chosen, the first language and first word are displayed, and the recorder automatically plays the first spoken word through the

TV speaker.

The program as described so far is excellent as long as neither of the languages uses accents, but even this difficulty can be solved if the characters are drawn on the hi-res screen instead of being printed — see *Your Computer*, February 1983.

This approach requires addition of appropriate character-drawing lines — 31-90 — and handling routines. The little-used upper case #, \$, %, and & have been replaced by ^, ^, ^ and ^, for French text but any keys can be modified in this way. We have stuck labels on to the front edge of these keys to show their new functions.

Line 20 checks that a character is valid and, if so, line 30 selects the appropriate Draw subroutine. Two different types of the hi-res display are needed — 100 — according to whether an existing string is to be read or an Input is to be made. These are indicated as MD=1 and MD=2.

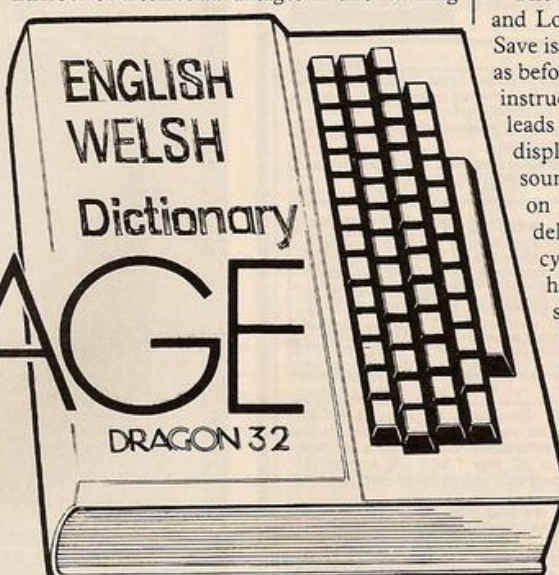
If MD=2, line 300, a string — R\$ — is simply sliced and each character drawn in turn. If an Input is required, life is more difficult. Only Inkey\$ can be used without losing the hi-res display. If the Inkey\$ character is Enter and any character has already been loaded, this is read as the same as a normal Enter and Input mode is left. If Inkey\$ is not backspace — left cursor — the equivalent character is displayed, and then added on to the end of TMS — a temporary storage string.

If backspace is used, the previous character is erased from the screen. Once the handling

(continued on page 103)

YOUR LANGUAGE

Keith and Steven Brain's ZX-81 and Dragon routines help you and your micro become multilingual.



A\$(N) and B\$(N) are swapped back — 5175. When all words have been added the program returns to the menu.

If Test is now selected the choice subroutine — 1000 — allows selection of particular or random words. If particular words are required, the appropriate Start and End number are selected as before — 6000. The random option asks the number of words required, W, and selects a random start position H at line 1170. If H+W is greater than the total number of words currently in the array, Y, then H is halved — 1180 — and this is repeated — 1190 — until H+W is less than Y, when the program passes to the word-display routine — 5000. Whether random or particular words are selected this subroutine operates as for adding words, except that the sequence is: Print first language, line 5030; Print A\$(N); Input C\$(1); Print C\$(1); print A\$(N), the correct answer, line 5140. If your try was correct the score — Z — is incremented — 5170 — and when all words have been tested your final score is displayed.

The Learn subroutine at line 7000 prints the first seven pairs of words and then waits for an input. If there were only seven words or less in the file then any input leads back to the menu. If there were more than seven words any input displays the next seven pairs of words.

The final option is the Dictionary, line 2000, which prints the languages and requests input of the unknown word. Languages can be swapped by X as before and Newline alone returns to the menu. When an unknown word is entered, it is compared with the contents of the appropriate array. If a match is found the

application. The first of these was the ability to store data files on cassette separate from the program, so that the relatively short master program could be used for any number of different data files containing different words or languages.

The second difference was in the Basic array-handling routines. Whereas in the ZX-81, array elements must be of fixed length, Microsoft supports variable length array elements. In practice, this means that memory is saved as space is not wasted on blanks completing unused array points. This allowed the program to be more flexible and the length of phrases to be up to 255 characters.

The third point was the ability to control a cassette recorder and TV sound with the Motor and Audio commands, making inclusion of a speech track possible. The fourth point was the high-resolution graphics which allowed display of non-standard characters such as accents.

Finally, multiple-statement lines make complex programming easier and sound and colour can be used to liven up the proceedings.

The same outline skeleton was used, but with certain additions. As the data is loaded separately, the program always initialises the arrays and other variables and requests the languages — line 11000. The menu, line 1030, is left via Inkey\$, line 1050, rather than Input, and the ASC value of Inkey\$ is used to sound a note to remind you of your choice. Where lower-case letters, which are inverse on-screen are used, unsightly gaps between words are avoided by using BLS\$, which is set to CHR\$(128), instead of a space between words.

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(continued from page 101)

routines have been set up, those program lines which are to display accented words must be modified.

The modifications have the following form:

Select mode: (if MD=2 then fill RS); set Screen position: GOSUB100 and repeat.

Screen position is set by drawing a line of

length (zero) at the appropriate point on the screen. Addition of this accent facility considerably enhances the value of the program.

Vocab 32.

```
999 'INTRODUCTION
1000 CLS:PRINT75,"VOCAB 32";PRINT194,"A VERSATILE LANGUAGE-LEARNING";PRINT2
230,"PROGRAM FOR THE DRAGON";PRINT396,"COPYRIGHT K & S BRAIN 100183";SCREEN0
1:FORN=1TO255STEP5:SOUNDN,1:NEXT:SCREEN0,0:GOTO1000
1005 'LANGUAGE SWAP
1010 SOUNDSC(0),2:K0=H0:L0=H0:M0=L0:N0=K0:T=F:P=E:F=P:E=T:RETURN
1015 'ARRAY SWAP
1020 C0(1)=A0(N):E0=B0(N):A0(N)=E0:B0(N)=C0(1):RETURN
1025 'MENU
1030 CLS:PRINTM0,N0:PRINT42,"vocabulary";PRINT98,"TO TEST YOURSELF PRESS 'T'";
PRINT160,"TO CONSULT DICTIONARY PRESS 'D'";PRINT220,"TO ADD WORDS PRESS 'A'";P
RINT234,"TO LEARN PRESS 'L'";PRINT400,"to",BL0,"reverse",BL0,"languages",BL0,"
Press 'X'";
1040 PRINT357,"TO SAVE/LOAD PRESS 'S'";PRINT410,"TO USE AUDIO TAPE PRESS 'U'";
1045 'MENU SELECTION
1050 Q0=INKEY$:IFQ0="T"THEN2000ELSEIFQ0="D"THEN3000ELSEIFQ0="A"THEN4000ELSEIFQ0=
"L"THEN7000ELSEIFQ0="S"THEN8000ELSEIFQ0="X"THEN9000ELSEIFQ0="X"THENGOSUB1010:GOT
01030:ELSE1050
1999 'TEST
2000 SOUNDSC(0),5:CLS2:PRINT13,"test";PRINT299,"FOR RANDOM WORDS PRESS 'R'";
PRINT161,"FOR PARTICULAR WORDS PRESS 'P'";SCREEN0,1
2005 'RANDOM OR PARTICULAR
2010 P0=INKEY$:IFP0="R"THENPRINT293,"HOW MANY WORDS? ";INPUTH0:ELSEIFP0="P"THE
NGOSUB6000:GOTO5000:ELSE2010
2015 'RANDOM START
2020 H=INT(RND(Y))+1
2025 'VALID START ELSE HALVE
2030 IF(H+1)>Y THEN H=H/2
2040 IF(H+1)>Y THEN 2030ELSEIFH<1THEN H=1
2050 W0=H:Y0=H+1:CLS5:GOTO5000
2999 'DICTIONARY
3000 SOUNDSC(0),5:CLS3:PRINTM0,N0:PRINT274,"dictionary";PRINT453,"for",BL0,"
menu",BL0,"Press",BL0,"enter";INPUTU0:INPUTU0:PRINT224,"";INP
UTD0:IFD0=" "THEN1030ELSEIFD0="X"THENGOSUB1010:GOTO3000
3005 'SEARCH ARRAY
3010 FORN=1TOY:IFT=0THENGOSUB1020ELSEIFD0=B0(N)THEN3050ELSEIFT=0THENGOSUB1020
3020 IFD0=B0(N)THEN3050ELSEIFT=0THENGOSUB1020
3030 NEXTN
3035 'NO MATCH
3040 PRINT352,"word";BL0,"not";BL0,"found";GOTO3060
3045 'MATCH
3050 PRINT352,A0(N):IFT=0THENGOSUB1020
3060 FORN=1TO1000:NEXT:GOTO3000
3999 'ADD WORDS
4000 SOUNDSC(0),5:CLS0:GOSUB6000:GOSUB5000:IFT=0THENGOSUB1020
4010 RETURN
4999 'WORD DISPLAY
5000 FORN=1TOY:CLS:IFT=0THENGOSUB1020
5005 'TEST BRANCH 1
5010 PRINT32,M0,IFQ0("A"THEN5020ELSEPRINT64,"");INPUTB0(N)
5020 PRINT64,B0(N):PRINT256,N0
5025 'TEST BRANCH 2
5030 IFQ0("A"THEN5040ELSEPRINT208,"");INPUTA0(N):PRINT208,A0(N):FORM=1TO500:N
EXTH0:GOTO5050
5035 'CHECK WORDS
5040 PRINT208,"";INPUTC0:PRINT304,A0(N):FORM=1TO500:NEXT:IFC0=A0(N)THEN Z=Z+
1:ROUND150,1:ELSEOUND1,5
5050 IFT=0THENGOSUB1020
5055 'SCORE
5060 NEXTN:IFQ0="A"THENGOTO1030ELSEPRINT490,"score = ";Z:FORM=1TO500:NEXTH0:Z=0
:GOTO1030
5999 'WORD SELECT
6000 PRINT320,"FILE ENDS AT",Y:INPUT"START WORD NUMBER":XA:INPUT"END WORD NUMBE
R":Y:RETURN
6999 'LEARN
7000 SOUNDSC(0),5:CLS6:X0=X0:FORM=X TO Y:XX=X0+1:PRINTA0(N),B0(N),,IFX0=5TH
EN7010ELSENEXTN:INPUTD0:GOTO1030
7010 INPUTD0:X0=X0:CLS:NEXTN:GOTO1030
7999 'CASSETTE LOAD/SAVE
8000 SOUNDSC(0),5:CLS4:PRINT35,"cassette";BL0,"file";BL0,"routine";PRINT234,"
TO LOAD WORD FILE PRESS 'L'";PRINT266,"TO SAVE WORD FILE PRESS 'S'";
8005 'LOAD OR SAVE?
8010 C0=INKEY$:IFC0="L"THEN8020ELSEIFC0="S"THEN8050ELSE8010
8015 'LOAD
8020 PRINT134,"load";PRINT166,"FILE NAME";INPUTU0:PRINT230,"START WORD NUMB
ER ";PRINT262,"CURRENT START IS ";X:PRINT250,"";INPUTF0:PRINT294,"END WO
RD NUMBER ";PRINT326,"CURRENT END IS ";Y:PRINT314,"";INPUTF0
8030 MOTORON:PRINT304,"WHEN TAPE READY PRESS 'ENTER'";INPUTZ0:MOTOROFF:INPUTZ0
:OPEN"1",0,1:INPUT#1,U0,M0,N0,T:FORM#1TOFE:IFEOF(1)THEN8040ELSEINPUT#1,A0(N),B0(N):NEXTN
8040 CLOSE#1:Y=Y+FE:PRINT450,"file",BL0,"loaded";SOUND50,50:Y=FE:GOTO1030
8045 'SAVE
8050 PRINT134,"save";PRINT166,"FILE NAME";INPUTU0:PRINT230,"START WORD NUMB
ER ";PRINT262,"CURRENT START IS ";X:PRINT250,"";INPUTF0:PRINT294,"END WO
RD NUMBER ";PRINT326,"CURRENT END IS ";Y:PRINT314,"";INPUTF0
8060 MOTORON:PRINT304,"WHEN TAPE READY PRESS 'ENTER'";INPUTZ0:MOTOROFF:INPUTZ0
:OPEN"1",0,1:INPUT#1,U0,M0,N0,T:FORM#1TOFE:PRINT#1,A0(N),B0(N):NEXTN:CLO
SE#1:PRINT450,"saved";SOUND200,50:GOTO1030
8999 'AUDIO
9000 SOUNDSC(0),5:CLS7:PRINTM0,"audio";BL0,"routine";PRINT264,"THIS ENABLES YO
U TO INCLUDE AN AUDIO TRACK WITH THE PROGRAM";
9010 CLS3:PRINT33,"CONNECT DRAGON CASSETTE LEADS";PRINT72,"TO THE RECORDER";
GOTO9020
9020 PRINT262,"TO RECORD PRESS 'R'";PRINT327,"TO PLAY PRESS 'P'";
9025 'RECORD OR PLAY?
9030 Z0=INKEY$:IFZ0="R"THEN9040ELSEIFZ0="P"THEN9100ELSE9030
9035 'AUDIO RECORDING
9040 CLS4:PRINT80,"audio";BL0,"record";GOSUB10000
9050 MOTORON:PRINT34,"WHEN TAPE AT CORRECT POINT";PRINT870,"PRESS 'ENTER'";IN
PUTZ0:MOTOROFF:PRINT37,"PRESS 'RECORD' THEN 'ENTER'";INPUTZ0
9060 OPEN"0",0,1:"AUDIO";PRINT#1,Z0,M0,N0,T,RE,AS:FORM#1TORE:PRINT#1,A0(N),
B0(N):NEXTN:CLOSE#1:PRINT360,"word";BL0,"file";BL0,"saved";
9070 PRINT410,"VOICE TRACK CAN NOW BE ADDED";PRINT483,"WHEN READY PRESS 'ENTE
R'";INPUTZ0
9080 CLS4:PRINT33,"UNPLUG DRAGON MICROPHONE LEAD";PRINT266,"REPLACE WITH M
ICROPHONE";PRINT162,"EACH WORD WILL BE DISPLAYED";PRINT197,"ON THE SCREEN IN
TURN";PRINT250,"WHEN TONE SOUNDS SPEAK WORD";PRINT307,"TO START PRESS 'ENTE
R'";INPUTZ0
9090 'WORD DISPLAY
9095 FORN=1TOY:CLS2:IFT=0THENGOSUB1020ELSEG0=B0(N)
9100 PRINT165,"";PRINT370,"";SOUND200,2:MOTORON:FORM=1TO1000:NEXTH0:MOTOROFF:P
RINT370,"";NEXTN:PRINT425,"all",BL0,"words",BL0,"entered";SOUND200,10:GOTO10
30
9105 'AUDIO PLAYBACK
9110 CLS3:PRINT80,"audio";BL0,"playback";GOSUB10000
9120 PRINT265,"WHEN READY PRESS 'ENTER'";INPUTZ0:OPEN"1",0,1:"AUDIO";INPUT#1,Z
0,M0,N0,T,RE,AS:FORM#1TORE:IFEOF(1)THEN9130:INPUT#1,A0(N),B0(N):NEXTN:PRINT
2660,"word";BL0,"file";BL0,"loaded";
9130 CLOSE#1:PRINT2417,"VOICE TRACK CAN NOW BE REPLAYED";PRINT483,"WHEN READY
PRESS 'ENTER'";INPUTZ0
9135 'WORDS AND/OR SOUND?
9140 CLS2:PRINT128,"FOR SOUND TRACK ONLY INPUT 'S'";PRINT192,"FOR SOUND + SCR
EEN INPUT 'B'";INPUTZ0
9150 CLS4:PRINT80,"";CLS4:IFT=0THENGOSUB1020
9160 PRINT"Press",BL0,"enter",BL0,"to",BL0,"stop",BL0,"tape";PRINT32,IFZ0="B"
THENPRINTB0(N)
9170 MOTORON:AUDIOON:PRINT326,"";INPUTZ0:MOTOROFF:AUDIOOFF:PRINT265,N0:PRINT
2208,"";INPUTC0:PRINT304,A0(N):FORM=1TO500:NEXTH0:IFC0=A0(N)THENGOSUB1020:ELSE
SOUND1,5
9180 IFT=0THENGOSUB1020
9190 NEXTN:GOTO1030
9999 'WORD SELECT 2
10000 PRINT164,"START WORD NUMBER";PRINT156,"FILE START IS ";X:PRINT104,"";
INPUTA0:PRINT260,"END WORD NUMBER";PRINT252,"FILE END IS ";Y:PRINT208,""
```

```
INPUTRE:RETURN
10999 'INITIALISE
11000 PCLERR4:DMA0(500):DMA0(500):DMA0(1):DMA0(F=1:P=1:X=1:Y=1:BL0=CHR0(120)
:CLS2:PRINT32,"enter",BL0,"languages",BL0,"to",BL0,"be",BL0,"used";PRINT128,"
FIRST LANGUAGE";INPUTM0:SOUND20,1:PRINT224,"SECOND LANGUAGE";INPUTM0:SOUND50,
1:GOTO1030
```

Additional lines for accent capability.

```
1 'CLEAR 10000 PCLS
2 'JUMP DRAW ROUTINES
3 GOTO1000
4 'VALID CHARACTER?
5 CC=ASC(C0):IFCC<32ORCC>90THENRETURN
6 'SELECT CHR LINE
7 ON CC-31 GOSUB32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,
83,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79
80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90:RETURN
91 'DRAW CHR ROUTINES
92 DRAW"BM"+0,"0" RETURN
93 RETURN
94 DRAW"BM"+0,"-6BM+2,+8BM+4,+6" RETURN
95 DRAW"BM"+0,"-7E3BM+4,+10" RETURN
96 DRAW"BM"+0,"-7H3BM+7,+10" RETURN RETURN
97 DRAW"BM"+0,"-7E2F2BM+4,+7" RETURN
98 DRAW"BM"+0,"-10GBM+7,-3" RETURN
99 DRAW"BM"+0,"-6BM+4,+5" RETURN
100 DRAW"BM"+0,"-8H4EBM+4,+6" RETURN
101 DRAW"BM"+0,"-8E2U4BM+5,+6" RETURN
102 DRAW"BM"+0,"-1E4BM+0,+4H4BM+8,+5" RETURN
103 DRAW"BM"+0,"-3R4L2U20BM+5,+1" RETURN
104 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8GBM+4,-2" RETURN
105 DRAW"BM"+0,"-3R4BM+4,+3" RETURN
106 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8BM+4,+1" RETURN
107 DRAW"BM"+0,"-1E4BM+4,+5" RETURN
108 DRAW"BM"+0,"-1F2E2U4L20G4BM+8,+1" RETURN
109 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8GBM+7,+5" RETURN
110 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8L4U2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
111 DRAW"BM"+0,"-1F2E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
112 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8GBM+4,+3" RETURN
113 DRAW"BM"+0,"-1F2E2U4L2GBM+4,+6" RETURN
114 DRAW"BM"+0,"-2E2F2DGL2H4ER2F2BM+4,+5" RETURN
115 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U2L2U4BM+8,+6" RETURN
116 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8R2E2U4L2H2ER2F2DGL2GBM+7,+0" RETURN
117 DRAW"BM"+0,"-1F2E2U4L2GDFR3BM+4,+3" RETURN
118 DRAW"BM"+0,"-3GBM+0,+2GBM+4,+1" RETURN
119 DRAW"BM"+0,"-5GBM+0,+2GBM+5,+0" RETURN
120 RETURN
121 DRAW"BM"+0,"-2R4BM+0,-2L4BM+8,+4" RETURN
122 RETURN
123 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8BM+0,-1URE2U4LGBM+7,+5" RETURN
124 RETURN
125 DRAW"USER2F2DGL3UR3BM+5,+3" RETURN
126 DRAW"USER2F2DGL3UR3BM+5,+3" RETURN
127 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8H4ER2F2H2G4FR2BM+4,+1" RETURN
128 DRAW"UR3F2DGL3BM+8,+0" RETURN
129 DRAW"R4L4U3R4L4U3R4BM+4,+6" RETURN
130 DRAW"UR3R4L4U3R4BM+4,+6" RETURN
131 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
132 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
133 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
134 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
135 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
136 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
137 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
138 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
139 DRAW"BM"+0,"+8E2U4L2R2E2U2L2GBM+8,+5" RETURN
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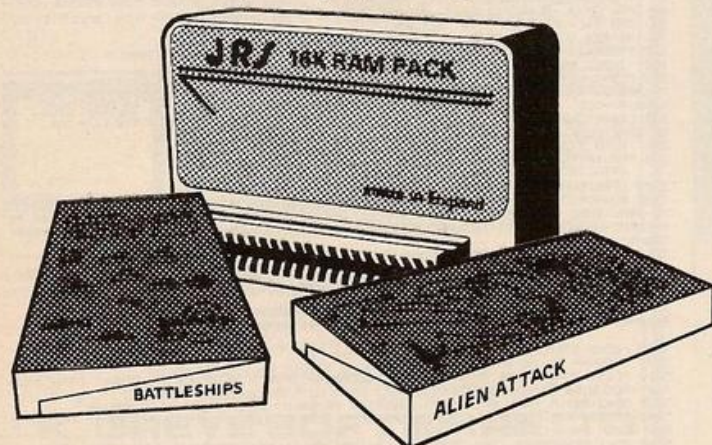
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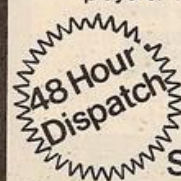
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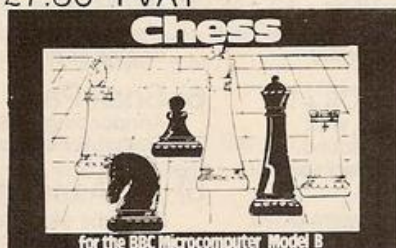
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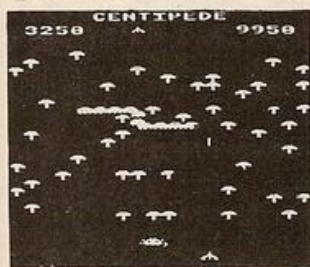


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EASY ATOM CODES

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PUTTING IT KINDLY, the error codes provided by the Acorn Atom's standard error handler can be rather unhelpful at times. Just what is error 191? Newcomers to the machine need a little more encouragement if they are not to be put off by their inevitable mistakes. Even the more experienced Atom user can save himself the frustration of checking on the meanings of the less frequent error codes.

The short machine-code program — listing 2 — alleviates the problem by providing an English language error-message handler in place of the standard error routine. For maximum utility, the normal error codes and Basic line number references are still provided. Total memory requirements, for the machine code and error-message data table, are in the order of 1.25K, though this will vary depending on the length and number of the error messages stored.

Before we can print the English messages for each error, we first need a convenient means of entering them into the machine. The Basic program in listing 1 facilitates the required data entry. As you can see from the short sample run in figure 1, the entry program prompts the user for an error code, which must be between 0 and 255 inclusive, and then its associated error message is requested.

As a helpful starting point, a list of all the operating system errors, and their respective translations into English, can be found in the Atom user manual, *Atomic Theory and Practice*, on pages 205 to 209. The meaning of each error can be typed in verbatim, if desired. There is, however, nothing to stop you modifying these messages — shortened lengthened, rephrased or typed in Swahili — to suit your own particular requirements.

To terminate data entry, type 999 in response to the Error number? prompt. Alternatively, the program will terminate automatically if there is insufficient memory to store another error message — see lines 340 to 360, listing 1.

When data entry is completed, the program

returns the number of messages stored, and prints a suitable COS command to save the entire message table for future use. The lazier ones amongst you, who wish to avoid retyping, can enter this command by using the cursor-control and Copy keys.

Once the data table has been created and stored, the Basic program is no longer required. It can safely be overwritten by your current program or application. Remember that if you wish to use mode 4, the highest resolution graphics, you will need to store the machine-code routine and the data table in lower text space, say, at #3700 onwards, as in the program examples. If mode 4 is not required, then anywhere in the upper 3K of graphics RAM — #8C00 to #97FF — can be used.

Figure 2 shows how the messages are stored in the data table. Each entry consists of an error number, followed by a message in ASCII. Both upper- and lower-case ASCII characters are permitted. Note, however, that the byte containing the first character in each ASCII string has its top bit set to 1. This gives the new error routine a convenient means of detecting the end of any message string — it need only look for a byte with a negative value.

The end of the message table is marked by two consecutive bytes of value zero. You may perhaps wonder why two bytes were necessary, as opposed to just one, since there is no Basic error with a number of 0. The reason is that the value zero could itself be a valid error code — as could any eight-bit value — if the routine were to be used by machine-code programs. Since no restriction has been placed

on the order of error numbers during data entry, it follows that an error code of zero could occur anywhere in the message table. A double-byte end-of-table marker avoids any such potential confusion.

Listing 2 details the modified error-handling routine. The Break vector at #202, #203 is modified so that whenever a 6502 BRK instruction is executed — for example during the normal trapping of a Basic error — processing is rerouted via this program. The routine scans through the user-defined error message table until a match is found for the current error number stored on the processor stack. As soon as a match is found, the appropriate message string is printed. This is followed by the standard Atom error output, so that you can isolate the offending Basic line.

If no match for the error code can be found, the program jumps straight into the normal Atom error routine.

In testing this routine, I hit upon what appears to be a little-known fact about the Acorn Atom. The BRK vector — BRKVEC at #202, #203 — unlike the other operating system vectors, cannot be changed by Basic in direct mode. To demonstrate this, try entering the following directly — that is, without line numbers:

```
?# 204 = # AB; ?# 205 = # CD change IRQ vector
```

```
P.&?# 204,&?# 205 should give AB,CD — that is, vector changed
```

```
Press Break to restore the IRQ vector's original contents, #A000. However:
```

```
?# 202 = # AB; ?# 203 = # CD change BRK vector
```

(continued on page 109)

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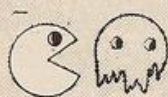


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*P.Ê,Ë still gives D8,C9 — that is,
vector not changed

As far as our new routine is concerned, the effects of this are twofold. Firstly, any program which uses the new error handler must immediately alter the BRK vector to the new start address. Secondly, the new messages will not be displayed for Basic errors caused by a direct-mode line, unless the same Basic line redirects the BRK vector first. In practice, this second point is no real problem. Any direct-mode error will obviously be due to the line just entered and should, therefore, be relatively easy to identify.

Now that you have entered or loaded your message table and modified error routine, how do you use it? Figure 3 shows a simple Basic program which causes the new error handler to be executed. Note that the very first thing the program does is to change the BRK vector — we assume that the machine code has been stored at address # 3700 onwards.

Once this is done, you may enter your Basic program as normal. You have the added assurance that when run, your program will be able to identify any errors in as precise and as meaningful a way as you choose — see the sample run in figure 3.

Machine-code programs may also use the error handler to good effect. As an example, consider the program in figure 4. The routine adds #40 to the value stored at address #0090. If the byte at this address is #3F or less, then the sum of the addition is stored at

address #0091, as in Sample run A. If the byte is # or greater, then the addition will set the processor's overflow flag. When such an overflow occurs, a suitable error message can be displayed by invoking the new error handler via a BRK instruction — see Sample run B.

The value of the error code generated by any BRK instruction is calculated by adding 2 to the BRK instruction's address, and shedding the high byte of the result. In the example in figure 4, the BRK will be located at #3614, which generates an error number of $\#3614 + 2 = \#3616$ = a low byte of #16 or 22 decimal. If a suitable error message is added to the message table for this error number, then it will be displayed whenever the overflow occurs.

Note that, like its Basic counterpart, the machine-code program firstly redirects the BRK vector. This must always be done, unless the machine code is being called from a Basic program which itself modifies the vector.

The more adventurous may like to modify the data-entry program so that control characters may be easily embedded within the error-message strings. This could for example enable you to clear the screen before displaying certain error messages.

In addition, the size of the message table could be reduced to some extent through the use of text compression techniques, with text expansion routine in the new error handler. Concise message phrasing also helps.

```

10 REM *****
20 REM ENHANCED ERROR HANDLER FOR ACRON ATOM.
30 REM ALLOWS STANDARD ERROR CODES TO BE PRECEDED BY A
40 REM USER-SUPPLIED ENGLISH (OR ANY OTHER) LANGUAGE ERROR
50 REM MESSAGE.
60 REM (C) V. FOJUT, 1982.
70 REM *****
80 REM
90 DIM LL(10)
100 FOR N%=0 TO 10: LL(N%)-=-1: NEXT N
110 P%#00, Z%#02: REM ZERO-PAGE MEMORY USED BY ROUTINE
120 INPUT "ASSEMBLER FROM (HEX)?" H
130 INPUT "START ADDRESS OF MESSAGE TABLE (HEX)?" T
140 FOR N%=1 TO Z: P%#H
150E
160 LL8 STR Z 'save
170 STR Z+1 'registers.
180 STR Z+2
190 LDR @T/256 'set
200 STR H+1 'up
210 LDR @T/256 'table
220 STR H 'pointer.
230 TSK
240 LDY @0 'initialise Y.
250 LL1 LDR (M),Y 'current error
260 LL2 CMP #102,X 'in table?
270 BEQ LL4 'branch if so.
280 LL3 JSR LL7 'get next char.
290 BPL LL3 'until end of mess. string
300 JSR LL7 'get next err.no.
310 BNE LL2 'if not zero.
320 JSR LL7 'end of table?
330 BEQ LL6 'branch if so
340 TYA 'else
350 BNE LL3 'check
360 DEC H+1 'table
370 LL5 DEY 'for
380 BCC LL1 'error
390 'code.
400E
410E entry found for current error - print message
420E
430 LL4 JSR #FFED 'CR/LF
440 LL5 JSR LL7 'get next char.
450 PHA 'save char.
460 AND #97F 'mask out top bit.
470 JSR #FFFF 'print char.
480 PLA 'restore char.
490 BPL LL5 'continue if more.
500E
510E end of string

```

```

3000- 45 (BR3IC Floating-Point error number)

3001- 49 6C 6C 65 67 61 61 6C 20 46 44 49 40 20 73 74 61 74 65 60 65 6E F4
I n t e r p o l a t i o n F D M s t a b i l i t y t e s t +000

3017- 16 (Machine code error number - see Figure 4)

3018- 53 67 65 65 64 20 61 72 63 74 68 60 45 74 69 63
S i g n e d A r i t h m e t i c

3029- 20 6F 76 65 72 66 6C 6F F7
o v e r f l o w +000

3032- 5B (BR3IC error number)

3033- 4E 6F 20 68 65 78 61 64 65 63 69 60 61 6C
N o h e x a d e c i m a l

3041- 20 6E 76 60 62 65 72 20 61 66 74 65 72 20 22 23 F2
n u m b e r a f t e r " " +000

3052- 0 0 (End of Table marker)

```

```

10 DIM LL(1)
20 FOR N=0 TO 1: LL(N)=1: NEXT N
30 FOR N=1 TO 2: P=#3600
40 C
50:LL0 LDA @0 \set up
60 STA #202 \vector
70 LDA @#37 \for new
80 STA #203 \err. routine
90 \start address
100 \of #3700 assumed)
110 LDA #90
120 CLC
130 ADC @#40
140 BVS LL1 \overflow?
150 STA #91
160 RTS
170:LL1 BRK \IRQ to err.
180 \handler.
190]
200 NEXT N: END

--- < "RUN" to assemble machine code ---
- Sample run A - (no error)
>?#90=#3F
>LINK#3600
>P.&?#91 '
7F
- Sample run B - (overflow)
>?#90=#40
>LINK#3600

Signed arithmetic overflow
ERROR 22

```

```

10 REM *****
20 REM ERROR MESSAGE ENTRY PROGRAM FOR ACORN RTM.
30 REM STORES AN ASSOCIATED MESSAGE FOR EACH ERROR CODE ENTERED
40 REM (C) V. FOJUT, 1982.
50 REM
60 REM INSTRUCTIONS *****
70 PRINT "WHEN PROMPTED, ENTER AN ERROR"
80 PRINT "NO. FOLLOWED BY AN ASSOCIATED 'ERROR MESSAGE OF "
90 PRINT "YOUR CHOICE."
100 PRINT "TO TERMINATE, ENTER AN ERROR NO. OF '999'"
110 REM
120 INPUT "START ADDRESS OF MESSAGE TABLE (HEX) : " M
130 T=1: REM SAVE TABLE ADDRESS
140 T=0: REM FLAG T = "FALSE"
150 N=0: REM NO. OF ENTRIES
160 REM
170 DO
180 PRINT
190 DO
200 INPUT "ERROR NUMBER" E
210 UNTIL (E=0 AND E<256) OR E=999
220 IF E=999 THEN T=1: GOTO X: REM CHECK FOR TERMINATION.
230 T=ME: REM PUT ERROR CODE IN TABLE
240 T=1: REM INCREMENT POINTER.
250 DO
260 PRINT "ENTER MESSAGE"
270 INPUT M$
280 UNTIL LEN(M$)>0
290 N=N+1: REM INCREMENT NO. OF ENTRIES
300 M=LEN(M$): REM POINT TO NEXT FREE BYTE
310 M=M+LEN(M$): REM FIRST END OF MESSAGE
320 M7=1+M7-1+8*0: REM SET TOP BIT OF LAST
330 REM CHAR. IN MESSAGE.
340 M766=055: REM CHECK IF ENOUGH MEMORY
350 IF M766<0 THEN PRINT "OUT OF MEMORY!" T=1
360 T=1: REM "TRUE"
370 UNTIL T: REM I.E. UNTIL FLAG T="TRUE"
380 REM
390 I=M:0: REM END OF TABLE MARKER
400 0=1
410 PRINT "NUMBER OF ENTRIES = " N
420 PRINT "SAVE""ERRTAB""&Z""&M+2"
430 END

```

```

10 ?#202=0;?#203=#37; REM SET UP VECTOR FOR NEW ERR. ROUTINE
20 REM (START ADDRESS OF #3700 ASSUMED)
30 A=#7F
40 B=#T REM THIS MONTH'S DELIBERATE MISTAKE!
50 C=A+B
60 PRINT C
70 END

>RUN

No hexadecimal number after "#"
ERROR 91 LINE 40

```

```

>RUN

WHEN PROMPTED, ENTER AN ERROR
NO., FOLLOWED BY AN ASSOCIATED
ERROR MESSAGE OF YOUR CHOICE.
TO TERMINATE, ENTER AN ERROR NO.
  OF '999'

START ADDRESS OF MESSAGE TABLE (HEX) ?#3800

ERROR NUMBER?69
ENTER MESSAGE
?Illegal FDIM statement

ERROR NUMBER?22
ENTER MESSAGE
?Signed arithmetic overflow

ERROR NUMBER?91
ENTER MESSAGE
?No hexadecimal number after "#"

ERROR NUMBER?999

NUMBER OF ENTRIES = 3

*SAVE"ERRTAB"3800 3854

```


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BASIC DICTIONARY

This dictionary, compiled by Tony Edwards, will explain the function of common Basic words as used in popular machines, enabling you to work out your own machine's equivalent. A useful complement to our recent series on Basic dialect translation.

BASIC DICTIONARY

PROC A reserved word which starts a user-declared numeric procedure on the BBC Micro.

PTR An unusual statement pair used by the BBC Microcomputer to allow selection of the next byte to be transferred between program and file, giving random type access.

R

R. The TRS-80, level 1, and Palo Tiny Basic abbreviation for the RUN command.

RAD A function which converts degrees to radians.

RANDOM A statement which resets the seed to be used for the random number generator. Its use — usually without argument — allows different pseudo-random series to be generated each run.

RANDOMISE The standard ANSI word — though little used — for the RANDOM functions.

REA The PDP-80E abbreviation for READ. The same abbreviation followed by a full stop is used in TRS-80 level 1 and Palo Alto Tiny Basic.

READ A standard ANSI statement which causes data to be read from a Data line elsewhere in the program. The read data are assigned to variables.

RECALL The Apple II function which causes the computer to input data from a cassette drive.

RENAME The statement used to rename a current file. It requires two arguments, the old name and the new name.

REM A standard ANSI word used to indicate that the interpreter should ignore the following line or part of a line.

REMARK The same statement as REM.

RENUM The Microsoft abbreviation for RENUMBER.

RENUMBER The command which renumbers the lines of a resident Basic program and simultaneously adjusts the addresses to Jump commands to maintain program logic.

REPEAT UNTIL A BBC Micro statement. It produces a loop which is repeated until the specified condition is true. A single REPEAT may have multiple UNTILs. This statement is not often available in Basic but can be simulated — see *Your Computer*, June 1982 page 44.

RES The PDP-8E abbreviation for RESTORE.

RESET The TRS-80 statement which switches off a specified pixel.

REST. The TRS-80, level 1, abbreviation for RESTORE.

RESTORE A standard ANSI word which causes the DATA pointer to be reset. This has the effect of causing the next READ statement to operate on the first of a program's data. In some machines a partial RESTORE is possible.

RESUME The statement used as a target of an ON ERROR GOTO routine. It directs the computer to continue execution from the line named in the argument.

RET The PDP-8E abbreviation for the RETURN statement. The TRS-80 level 1 and Palo Alto Tiny Basic use the same abbreviation followed by a full stop.

RETURN The standard ANSI statement used to complete a GOSUB routine.

RIGHT- A function which isolates a specified number of string characters starting from the right-most character. It is sometimes used with a "\$" appended.

RND A standard ANSI function which returns a random number. Its use is non-standard in some Basics and details are given in *Your Computer*, August 1982, page 59. The statement RND (-X) when used on the Apple II is equivalent to RANDOM.

RU An abbreviation for RUN.

RUN A command which causes a computer to start executing the program resident in its memory.

S

S. The TRS-80 level 1 and Palo Alto Tiny Basic abbreviation for STEP.

SAVE A widely-used command which causes a program, resident in the memory, to be copied on to a cassette, or in some cases on to disc.

SCRN A special function used on the Apple II which returns a value identifying the colour of a specified graphics block.

SET The statement used in TRS-80 Microsoft Basic which turns on a graphics block specified by its arguments.

SGN A logical function which returns -1, 0 or +1 depending respectively on the argument being negative, zero or positive.

SIN An ANSI standard function which returns the sine of its argument. The argument should usually be started in radians.

SLEEP A statement used to cause the suspension of program execution for the number of tenths of a second specified by the argument.

BASIC DICTIONARY

SPACE A function used to print a number of spaces in an output. The number being specified by the argument. Sometimes a \$ is appended to this word.

SPC Similar function to SPACE. In the case of the BBC Micro the number of spaces inserted is argument module 256.

SQR The ANSI standard word for the function which returns the square root of a positive number.

SQRT The same as SQR.

ST An abbreviation for the STEP function.

ST. The TRS-80 level 1 abbreviation for STOP.

STEP A standard ANSI word used as part of a FOR . . . TO . . . STEP function which indicates the size of the increment by its argument which can usually be positive, negative, or non-integer.

STO An abbreviation for STOP.

STOP A statement which halts the execution of a program and puts the computer in the ready mode. A standard ANSI word.

STR\$ A useful function which converts a numerical value into its string equivalent.

STRING\$ A function which prints a ASCII character a specific number of times. The character code and the number of repeats being the arguments. In some computers the actual character, in quotes, can be the argument.

STUFF A statement used on Opus 1 and 2 machines to place integer values between 0 and 256 in specified memory addresses.

SYS An abbreviation for SYSTEM.

SYSTEM A command and a statement which places the computer into the monitor mode to handle machine-language programs directly.

T

T. This abbreviation is used in TRS-80 level 1 Basic to mean both THEN or TAB. The interpreter recognises the TAB meaning if it is followed by a numeral in parenthesis. For example,

means	T.(10)
	TAB 10
and	
means	T.10
	THEN 10

TAB A standard ANSI word which is used in conjunction with PRINT statements. It causes the cursor, or printer carriage, to move to a position corresponding to the number used as an argument from the left-hand edge of the line. ■

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SPLIT SCREEN

■ I wish to write a program on my Spectrum, part of which involves scrolling the top half of the screen up and down, and the top left-hand and right-hand quarters of the screen to left and right individually. Please could you explain how this could be done?

Peter Rutt, Luton, Bedfordshire.

THE EASIEST WAY to do this is to hold the contents of each segment of the screen in a long string. You then print the string in segments, using Print At. For example, to print the left-hand corner, you could use a sequence such as:
PRINT AT 0,0; A\$(TO 7); AT 1,0; A\$(8 TO 16); AT 2,0; A\$(17 TO 25)
and so on.

SOLDER JOY

■ Following the article in *Your Computer* on converting Atari joysticks for use on a Sinclair ZX-81, I would like to know if machine-code programs which use the arrow keys for movement will automatically run using the joystick. Also, is it worth the trouble of soldering the chips, or would I be better off buying a ready-made Sinclair joystick?

S Ray, Ipswich, Suffolk.

UNFORTUNATELY, machine programs using the cursor keys will not automatically run using joystick. Programs have to be tailored very carefully to the actual joystick used. Whether or not it is worth making conversions for yourself, for joysticks or other peripherals, depends largely on your confidence in working with electrical components. If you have any doubts, I would suggest you would be better off buying a unit ready-made.

MOD TROUBLE

■ I have come across a program in a book which uses the Mod command. Could you tell me how to make this program run on my computer, which does not have Mod?

Martin James, Notting Hill, London W11.

DAVID LIEN'S *Basic Handbook*, published by Compusoft, California, points out that the Mod command which prints the remainder of a division — Print 23 Mod 4 will give 3, the remainder when 23 is divided

by 4 — can be emulated as follows. The form of the command generally is X Mod Y. To make A equal to X Mod Y, when your computer does not have Mod, include the line
A = INT(Y*(X/Y)) + .001

You will find that Lien's book is an invaluable aid when trying to convert programs from foreign Basics into the dialect used by your own computer.

CAT PEOPLE

■ I have been the proud owner of a large ginger cat for over four months. I realise the limitations of my cat, but I was wondering if you could help me with one particular problem. I also own a ZX-81 which has been damaged by my ginger cat, who pushed it off the edge of the table. The computer will now no longer load programs which I once taped, and if I try to save programs, there is a fluctuating whistle with a very much reduced program signal. I would be very grateful if you could tell me what the fault is, and how it can be corrected.

F Floor, Hampton, Middlesex.

I MUST admit I was not sure what you were going to ask when you started talking about your cat, but once you mentioned the computer being knocked to the floor I realised the letter was not a joke, as I had at first feared. Despite all that, I am afraid I can not help you. Diagnosis of hardware faults by letter is a notoriously thankless task. I am afraid you will have to send your computer back to Sinclair Research for repair. It is very unlikely that Sinclair will also be able to do something about your cat.

PERICLES RULES

■ I am waiting delivery of my BBC model A. In the meantime, I am writing some programs for it. I would be pleased if you could tell me if the following statement, in immediate mode, MODE 7, PRINT CHR\$(130); "PERICLES"; CHR\$(132); "PERICLES" will print the name in two different colours? That is, is it possible to have more than one foreground colour in the same line?

P J Isahageas, Attica, Greece.

THERE IS NO restriction on the use of different foreground colours on a single line mode 7 on the BBC

computer, except for the fact that each colour control character — that is, the CHR\$(130) or whatever — takes up a single space, so a blank appears every time there is a control character. If blanks do not bother you, you could have the different letters of your name chosen randomly. The following program would do this.

```
10 GOSUB 100
20 PRINT "P"; GOSUB 100
30 PRINT "E"; GOSUB 100
90 GOTO 10
100 PRINT CHR$(128 + RND(6));
110 RETURN
```

TIME BOMB

Recently I acquired a copy of a certain program from a friend. When I list the program, there is a line 6411 in between lines 877 and 1010. It reads

6411 cursor STRUCTIONS

in inverse. When I run the program, and try and input something, I obtain error code C/6411. I wonder if you could tell me why this happens — it runs on my friend's computer.

Stephen Richards, Billingshurst, West Sussex.

IN THE FIRST place, copying commercial software is robbing the programmer of his or her royalties, so I am afraid I can have little sympathy for you if you have copied a program which your friend bought. It is quite possible that the company which made the software has set a time bomb such as you describe to stop illegal copies from running. The way to remove the odd line is to Poke the exact address where the line is held. Determining such an address is not easy to do. If the program you are copying is not a commercial program, it seems that either your computer has corrupted the program, or it was corrupted by your friend's computer when Saving it. Sometimes an electrical discharge, like an electrical appliance starting up in the house during the Saving process, can put a corrupting "blip" on the program, producing similar results to those you describe.

KEY FEELINGS

■ I am considering buying an Atari 400 computer because of the vast amount of software available for it. I was wondering if you could tell me of an easy way to put a real keyboard on the Atari when I receive it.

Andrew Know, Edinburgh.

FIRST, I WOULD suggest you do not judge the Atari 400 keyboard too harshly until you have tried it. After the frustration of working on membrane keyboards like the ZX-81, you could be forgiven for believing the Atari 400 would also be annoying to program, but you may not find it so. I find the 400 a pleasant computer to work with, because the keys have little raised edges, which make for a much more

positive feel than the smooth membrane keyboards like the ZX-81. As well as this, the keyboard gives a positive bleep every time you hit a key, and this audio feedback makes typing easy. There is at least one company selling add-on keyboards for the 400, but I would work with the computer before deciding that one of these is vital.

THE STORK TEST

Is there any way of checking that my Sinclair Spectrum 48K is, in fact, a 48K model? There seems to be no external distinguishing feature to identify the two different models.

C Browning, Hampton, Middlesex.

IF YOU LOOK through the hole in the back of the computer, where the Printer plugs in, you will see a number of circular brown objects on a 48K model. These are not present on the 16K version. If you enter
DIM A\$(40,000)

as a direct command on your computer, and you obtain an out-of-memory report code, you have a 16K machine.

SHOP AROUND

■ As a new reader, in need of some advice, I wish to buy a home computer, mainly for good quality education and games program. I am contemplating buying a Dragon 32, as it seems to have some good specification at a budget price. Could you tell me if I would be restricted to buying only the software supplied by the manufacturer of the computer? I am very keen to buy some Acornsoft items, such as Snapper, Monsters and Defender, and I need to know whether or not these would be compatible. Also, would I need to buy any accessories, such as a tape unit extended RAM, or whatever?

P Wilson, Lancaster Road, London W11.

ALTHOUGH YOU are not restricted to software produced by the manufacturer or distributor of the particular computer you buy, you are restricted to software which is written for the computer which you have bought. Acorn software, whether for the Atom or the BBC Microcomputer, will not run on the Dragon. If you like this software so much, it may be well worth considering buying an Acorn computer. Unless you buy a disc unit for your computer — and many of the cheaper computers do not, as a rule, support discs — you will have to obtain a cassette tape player to be able to load software into your computer. Exceptions to this include the Texas TI-99/4A which accepts plug-in cartridges for programs. You cannot, however, save your own programs on to cartridges. A tape or disc unit is needed for this.

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FINGERTIPS

(continued from previous page)

```
160 NEXT X
170 GOTO "C"
190 INPUT "INIT. NUMBER.
(0 TO 1)."; P: Z = (P + Z)/2
200 = (Z + π)/5
210 Z = Z - INT Z
220 J = INT(Z*8): RETURN
250 P = K - INT(K/10)*10
260 K = INT(K/10): RETURN
```

Mark Vince of Halesowen has written an intriguing little program which will output exactly the factorial of any number between 1! and 237!. I await the flood of letters informing me of a quicker method. Mark uses a Casio fx-602P.

This program calculates all digits of n! for any n between 1 and 237. The program calculates all digits and displays the first few digits; successive presses of Exe then display blocks of seven digits at a time. When all digits are exhausted the letter E is displayed to signify End. Long execution times must be expected for large values of n.

Finally a program for the TI-57 from B Maddocks of Sheffield. It will calculate the area of any

polygonal shape — a great improvement on Simpson's Rule. This program will give the area of any shape or cross-section from the co-ordinates of that shape based on:

$$A = \sum_{i=2}^N (X_1 - X_i)(Y_{i+1} - Y_{i-1})$$

when $Y_n + 1 = 1$

See figure 1.

PRESS	RST	DISPLAY
"	4	0
"	R/S	4
"	3	0
"	R/S	3
"	1	0
"	+/-	1
"	R/S	-1
"	2	0
"	+/-	2
"	R/S	-2
"	3	0
"	+/-	3
"	R/S	-3
"	2	0
"	+/-	2
"	R/S	-2
"	5	0
"	R/S	5
"	SBR 4	33

Mark Vince's factorial program.

```
MODE.67 MODE 2
PO"#!=" MAC+/-MIN00 1 MIN01 MIN3F 7 10 MIN 1F
LBL0 1 MIN 4F 0MINF LBL5 0MIN2F
LBL1 1 M+M MRF X MR00+/- + MR2F = IND MINF - MR1F=>0
GOTO 2 GOTO 3
LBL2 IND MRF - MR1F - INT MIN 2F=>MR1F=IND MINF GOTO 1
LBL3 MRF-MR4F=>0M+4F MR4F-MR3F=>0 GOTO 4 GOTO 5
LBL4 M+3F ISZ GOTO0 MR3F MIN 00 IND MR00 LOG INT MIN 1F
LBL6 IND MR00 MR1F 10 FRAC IND MIN 00 = ":#" MR1F 10 X IND
MR00=IND MIN00 1 M-1F MR1F X 0 GOTO 6 6 MIN1F " " HLT" DSZ
GOTO6 "E"
```

Figure 1. Area by co-ordinates

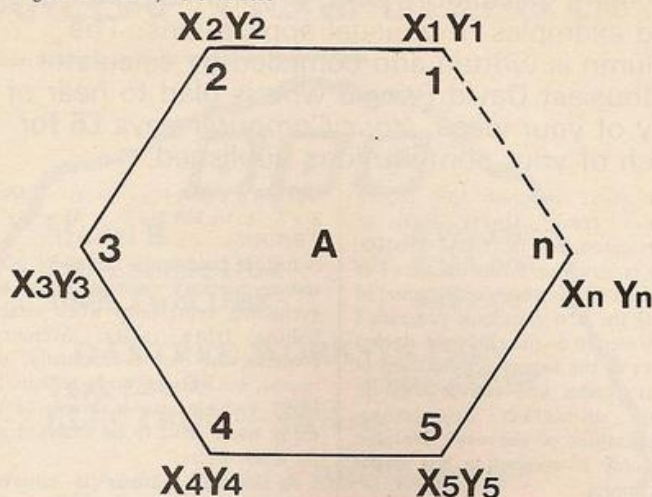
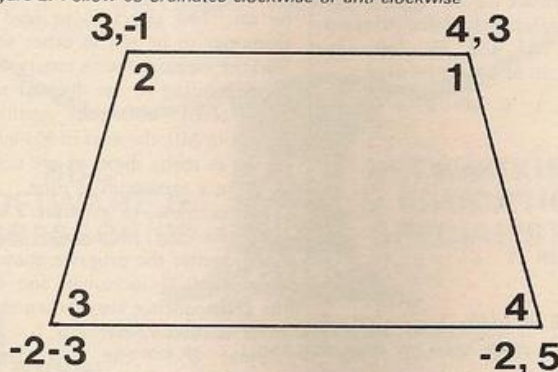


Figure 2. Follow co-ordinates clockwise or anti-clockwise



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ZX Spectrum



Sinclair ZX Spectrum

**16K or 48K RAM...
full-size moving-
key keyboard...
colour and sound...
high-resolution
graphics...**

**From only
£125!**

First, there was the world-beating Sinclair ZX80. The first personal computer for under £100.

Then, the ZX81. With up to 16K RAM available, and the ZX Printer. Giving more power and more flexibility. Together, they've sold over 500,000 so far, to make Sinclair world leaders in personal computing. And the ZX81 remains the ideal low-cost introduction to computing.

Now there's the ZX Spectrum! With up to 48K of RAM. A full-size moving-key keyboard. Vivid colour and sound. High-resolution graphics. And a low price that's unrivalled.

Professional power— personal computer price!

The ZX Spectrum incorporates all the proven features of the ZX81. But its new 16K BASIC ROM dramatically increases your computing power.

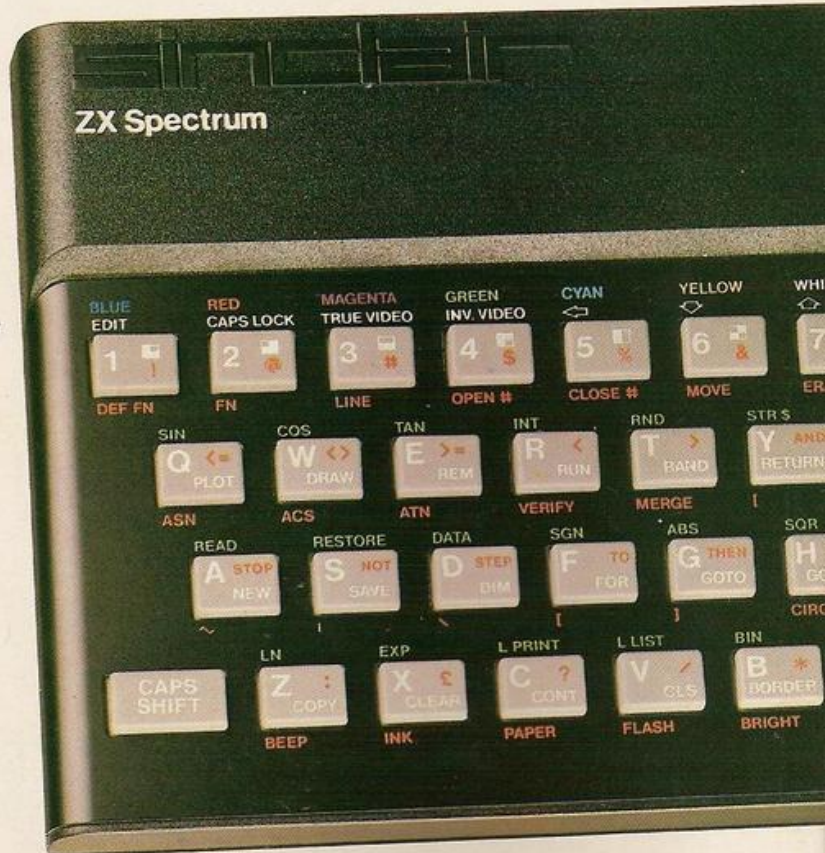
You have access to a range of 8 colours for foreground, background and border, together with a sound generator and high-resolution graphics.

You have the facility to support separate data files.

You have a choice of storage capacities (governed by the amount of RAM). 16K of RAM (which you can uprate later to 48K of RAM) or a massive 48K of RAM.

Yet the price of the Spectrum 16K is an amazing £125! Even the popular 48K version costs only £175!

You may decide to begin with the 16K version. If so, you can still return it later for an upgrade. The cost? Around £60.



Ready to use today, easy to expand tomorrow

Your ZX Spectrum comes with a mains adaptor and all the necessary leads to connect to most cassette recorders and TVs (colour or black and white).

Employing Sinclair BASIC (now used in over 500,000 computers worldwide) the ZX Spectrum comes complete with two manuals which together represent a detailed course in BASIC programming. Whether you're a beginner or a competent programmer, you'll find them both of immense help. Depending on your computer experience, you'll quickly be moving into the colourful world of ZX Spectrum professional-level computing.

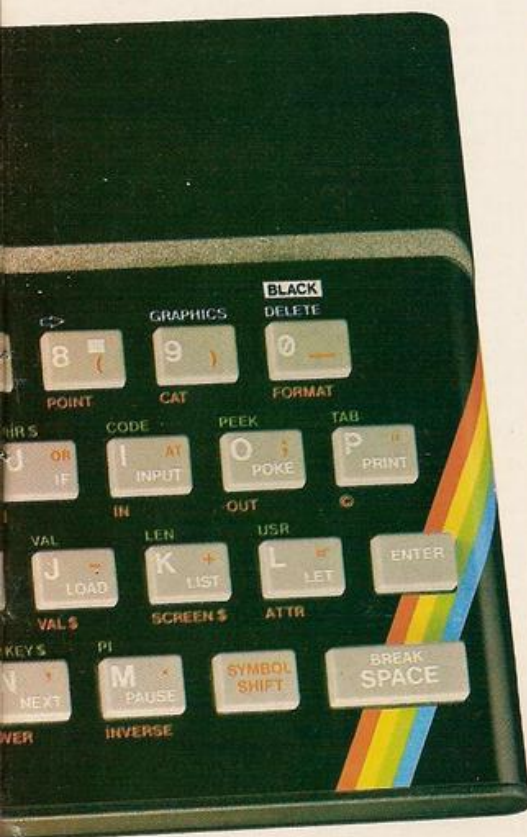
There's no need to stop there. The ZX Printer—available now—is fully compatible with the ZX Spectrum. And later this year there will be Microdrives for massive amounts of extra on-line storage, plus an RS232 / network interface board.



Key features of the Sinclair ZX Spectrum

- Full colour—8 colours each for foreground, background and border, plus flashing and brightness-intensity control.
- Sound—BEEP command with variable pitch and duration.
- Massive RAM—16K or 48K.
- Full-size moving-key keyboard—all keys at normal typewriter pitch, with repeat facility on each key.
- High-resolution—256 dots horizontally x 192 vertically, each individually addressable for true high-resolution graphics.
- ASCII character set—with upper- and lower-case characters.
- Teletext-compatible—user software can generate 40 characters per line or other settings.
- High speed LOAD & SAVE—16K in 100 seconds via cassette, with VERIFY & MERGE for programs and separate data files.
- Sinclair 16K extended BASIC—incorporating unique 'one-touch' keyword entry, syntax check, and report codes.

um

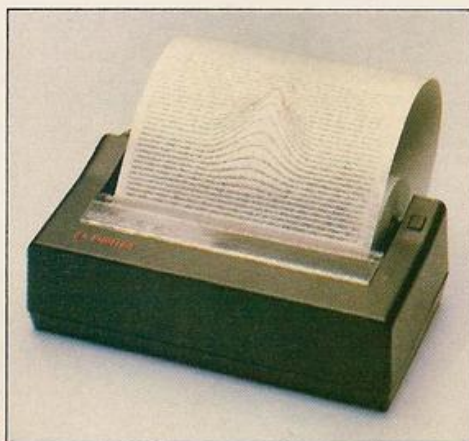


The ZX Printer—available now

Designed exclusively for use with the Sinclair ZX range of computers, the printer offers ZX Spectrum owners the full ASCII character set—including lower-case characters and high-resolution graphics.

A special feature is COPY which prints out exactly what is on the whole TV screen without the need for further instructions. Printing speed is 50 characters per second, with 32 characters per line and 9 lines per vertical inch.

The ZX Printer connects to the rear of your ZX Spectrum. A roll of paper (65ft long and 4in wide) is supplied, along with full instructions. Further supplies of paper are available in packs of five rolls.



The ZX Microdrive—coming soon

The new Microdrives, designed especially for the ZX Spectrum, are set to change the face of personal computing by providing mass on-line storage.

Each Microdrive can hold up to 100K bytes using a single interchangeable storage medium.

The transfer rate is 16K bytes per second, with an average access time of 3.5 seconds. And you'll be able to connect up to 8 Microdrives to your Spectrum via the ZX Expansion Module.

A remarkable breakthrough at a remarkable price. The Microdrives will be available in the early part of 1983 for around £50.



ZX Spectrum software on cassettes—available now

The Spectrum software library is growing every day. Subjects include games, education, and business/household management. Flight Simulation...Chess...Planetoids...History...Inventions...VU-CALC...VU-3D...Club Record Controller...there is something for everyone. And they all make full use of the Spectrum's colour, sound, and graphics capabilities. You'll receive a detailed catalogue with your Spectrum.

ZX Expansion Module

This module incorporates the three functions of Microdrive controller, local area network, and RS232 interface. Connect it to your Spectrum and you can control up to eight Microdrives, communicate with other computers, and drive a wide range of printers.

The potential is enormous, and the module will be available in the early part of 1983 for around £30.

sinclair

Sinclair Research Ltd, Stanhope Road,
Camberley, Surrey GU15 3PS.
Tel: Camberley (0276) 685311.

How to order your ZX Spectrum

BY PHONE—Access, Barclaycard or Trustcard holders can call 01-200 0200 for personal attention 24 hours a day, every day. BY FREEPOST—use the no-stamp needed coupon below. You can pay by cheque, postal order, Barclaycard,

Access or Trustcard.

EITHER WAY—please allow up to 28 days for delivery. And there's a 14-day money-back option, of course. We want you to be satisfied beyond doubt—and we have no doubt that you will be.

To: Sinclair Research, FREEPOST, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3BR.

Order

Qty	Item	Code	Item Price £	Total £
	Sinclair ZX Spectrum—16K RAM version	100	125.00	
	Sinclair ZX Spectrum—48K RAM version	101	175.00	
	Sinclair ZX Printer	27	59.95	
	Printer paper (pack of 5 rolls)	16	11.95	
	Postage and packing: orders under £100	28	2.95	
	orders over £100	29	4.95	
			Total £	

Please tick if you require a VAT receipt ☐

*I enclose a cheque/postal order payable to Sinclair Research Ltd for £

*Please charge to my Access/Barclaycard/Trustcard account no.

*Please delete/complete as applicable

Signature

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

YOC 903

FREEPOST—no stamp needed. Prices apply to UK only. Export prices on application.

Sinclair ZX Spectrum-technical data.

Dimensions

Width 233 mm
Depth 144 mm
Height 30 mm

CPU/memory

Z80A microprocessor running at 3.5 MHz.
16K-byte ROM containing BASIC interpreter and operating system.

16K-byte RAM (plus optional 32K-byte RAM on internal expansion board) or 48K-byte RAM.

Keyboard

40-moving-key keyboard with full upper and lower case with capitals lock feature. All BASIC words obtained by single keys, plus 16 graphics characters, 22 colour control codes, and 21 user-definable graphics characters. All keys have auto repeat.

Display

Memory-mapped display of 256 pixels x 192 pixels; plus one attributes byte per character square, defining one of eight foreground colours, one of eight background colours, normal or extra brightness and flashing or steady. Screen border colour also settable to one of eight colours. Will drive a PAL UHF colour TV set, or black and white set (which will give a scale of grey), on channel 36.

Sound

Internal loudspeaker can be operated over more than 10 octaves (actually 130 semitones) via basic BEEP command. Jack sockets at the rear of computer allow connections to external amplifier/speaker.

Graphics

Point, line, circle and arc drawing commands in high-resolution graphics.
16 pre-defined graphics characters plus 21 user-definable graphics characters. Also functions to yield character at a given position, attribute at a given position (colours, brightness and flash) and whether a given pixel is set. Text may be written on the screen on 24 lines of 32 characters. Text and graphics may be freely mixed.

Colours

Foreground and background colours, brightness and flashing are set by BASIC INK, PAPER, BRIGHT and FLASH commands. OVER may also be set, which performs an exclusive-or operation to overwrite any printing or plotting that is already on the screen. INVERSE will give inverse video printing. These six commands may be set globally to cover all further PRINT, PLOT, DRAW or CIRCLE commands, or locally within these commands to cover only the results of that command. They may also be set locally to cover text printed by an INPUT statement. Colour-control codes, which may be accessed from the keyboard, may be inserted into text or program listing, and when displayed will override the globally set colours until another control code is encountered. Brightness and flashing codes may be inserted into program or text, similarly. Colour-control codes in a program listing have no effect on its execution. Border colour is set by a BORDER command. The eight colours available are black, blue, red,

magenta, green, cyan, yellow and white. All eight colours may be present on the screen at once, with some areas flashing and others steady, and any area may be highlighted extra bright.

Screen

The screen is divided into two sections. The top section – normally the first 22 lines – displays the program listing or the results of program or command execution. The bottom section – normally the last 2 lines – shows the command or program line currently being entered, or the program line currently being edited. It also shows the report messages. Full editing facilities of cursor left, cursor right, insert and delete (with auto-repeat facility) are available over this line. The bottom section will expand to accept a current line of up to 22 lines.

Mathematical operations and functions

Arithmetic operations of +, -, X, ÷, and raise to a power. Mathematical functions of sine, cosine, tangent and their inverses; natural logs and exponentials; sign function, absolute value function, and integer function; square root function, random number generator, and pi.

Numbers are stored as five bytes of floating point binary – giving a range of $+3 \times 10^{-39}$ to $+7 \times 10^{38}$ accurate to $9\frac{1}{2}$ decimal digits.

Binary numbers may be entered directly with the BIN function. =, >, <, >=, <= and <> may be used to compare string or arithmetic values or variables to yield 0 (false) or 1 (true). Logical operators AND, OR and NOT yield boolean results but will accept 0 (false) and any number (true).

User-definable functions are defined using DEF FN, and called using FN. They may take up to 26 numeric and 26 string arguments, and may yield string or numeric results.

There is a full DATA mechanism, using the commands READ, DATA and RESTORE.

A real-time clock is obtainable.

String operations and functions

Strings can be concatenated with +. String variables or values may be compared with =, >, <, >=, <=, <> to give boolean results. String functions are VAL, VAL\$, STR\$ and LEN. CHR\$ and CODE convert numbers to characters and vice versa, using the ASCII code.

A very powerful string slicing mechanism exists, using the form a\$(x TO y).

Variable names

Numeric – any string starting with a letter (upper and lower case are not distinguished between, and spaces are ignored).
String – A\$ to Z\$.

FOR-NEXT loops – A-Z.

Numeric arrays – A-Z.

String arrays – A\$ to Z\$.

Simple variables and arrays with the same name are allowed and distinguished between.

Arrays

Arrays may be multi-dimensional, with subscripts starting at 1. String arrays, technically character arrays, may have their last subscript omitted, yielding a string.

Expression evaluator

A full expression evaluator is called during program execution whenever an expression, constant or variable is encountered. This allows the use of expressions as arguments to GOTO, GOSUB, etc.

It also operates on commands allowing the ZX Spectrum to operate as a calculator.

Cassette interface

The ZX Spectrum incorporates an advanced cassette interface. A tone leader is recorded before the information to overcome the automatic recording level fluctuations of some tape recorders, and a Schmitt trigger is used to remove noise on playback.

All saved information is started with a header containing information as to its type, title, length and address information. Program, screens, blocks of memory, string and character arrays may all be saved separately.

Programs, blocks of memory and arrays may be verified after saving to confirm successful saving.

Programs and arrays may be merged from tape to combine them with the existing contents of memory. Where two line numbers or variables names coincide, the old one is overwritten.

Programs may be saved with a line number, where execution will start immediately on loading.

The cassette interface runs at 1500 baud, through two 3.5 mm jack plugs.

Expansion port

This has the full data, address and control busses from the Z80A, and is used to interface to the ZX Printer, the RS232 and NET interfaces and the ZX Microdrives.

IN and OUT commands give the I/O port equivalents of PEEK and POKE.

ZX81 compatibility

ZX81 BASIC is essentially a subset of ZX Spectrum BASIC. The differences are as follows.

FAST and SLOW: the ZX Spectrum operates at the speed of the ZX81 in FAST mode with the steady display of SLOW mode, and does not include these commands.

SCROLL: the ZX Spectrum scrolls automatically, asking the operator "scroll?" every time a screen is filled.

UNPLOT: the ZX Spectrum can unplot a pixel using PLOT OVER, and thus achieves unplot.

Character set: the ZX Spectrum uses the ASCII character set, as opposed to the ZX81 non-standard set.

ZX81 programs may be typed into the ZX Spectrum with very little change, but may of course now be considerably improved. The ZX Spectrum is fully compatible with the ZX Printer, which can now print out a full upper and lower case character set, and the high resolution graphics; using LLIST, LPRINT and COPY. ZX81 software cassettes and the ZX 16K RAM pack will not operate with the ZX Spectrum.

Sinclair ZX Spectrum

SOFTWARE FILE

Software File gives you the opportunity to have your programs, ideas and discoveries published. We will accept contributions for any home computer provided they are submitted to *Your Computer* exclusively. Please double-check your programs and specify the memory they require before sending them, preferably on cassette. We pay between £6 and £36 for contributions published.

Turbo

David Green,
Ashford,
Kent.

ZX-81

HERE IS A machine-code arcade-type game written for the 16K ZX-81. It will not work on a computer will less than 3.5K as the down-scroll routine, adapted from Munir Zaman's program in the January 1983 *Your Computer*, crashes if used with a minimum display file. The game itself is relatively simple involving the player controlling a car driving along a road avoiding the edges of the road and any other cars, but the incredible speed of machine code makes it enjoyable and challenging.

To enter the program, first type in a Rem statement containing 305 characters, made up of nine full lines plus 17, as the first line of the program. If you then use the direct command Poke 16510,0. This will give the first line a line number of 0, so that you cannot accidentally erase it. Next type in and run this now well-known hexadecimal loader:

```
1 REM ...305 characters...
10 LET X=16524
20 LET A$=""
30 IF A$=A$ THEN INPUT A$
40 SCROLL
50 PRINT X,A$(TO 2)
60 POKE X,16*CODE A$+CODE A$(2)-476
70 LET X=X+1
80 LET A$=A$(3 TO)
```

90 GOTO 30
Notice that the actual program in machine code starts at 16524, the first 10 bytes being data.

Enter the hexadecimal numbers shown in the machine-code listing: if you do not understand machine code, then these are numbers in base 16 which allow you to represent any number from 0 to 255 in just two digits — see the Sinclair manual. This loader allows you to enter as many codes as you like before pressing Newline. If you think that you have made a mistake then type S and Newline, and when the error report 3/50 appears then type Let X=an address which you know is correct, followed by Goto 20.

When you have entered the last code C9 at 16818 type S to stop, and then enter the second Basic program which prints the instructions and activates the machine code. Save the resulting program on tape as any error in the machine code could cause a system crash and the loss of your program.

Turbo: machine-code listing

```
16524: 16604: 7E ED 4B 84 40
01 0B 00 2A 88 40 FE 00 89
ED 43 84 40 3E EF C2 9F 41 4F
C5 DB FE 3E 26 CD F5 08
CD F5 08 F5 D7 3E 2D
C1 CB 47 16686: D7
3E 80 20 07 ED 4B 84 40 16757:
D7 25 0C 2A 86 40
AF 7C 3A 34 40 ED 5B 88 40
D7 FE 00 CB 47 5A
D7 20 01 28 02 16 00
D7 24 0D 2B
D7 F1 0D 7C
D7 CB 4F 79 B5
3E 80 20 07 FE FF CA AF 41
D7 24 20 01 1B
04 7C 0C 7A
78 FE 15 FE 1A B3
FE 16 20 01 20 01 20 F5
20 E9 25 0D 22 86 40
21 0E 15 22 88 40 ED 43 84 40 16781:
22 82 40 16638: CD F5 08 2A 88 40
21 00 05 2A 0C 40 3E 80 2B
22 86 40 01 B4 02 D7 7C
21 00 14 09 AF B5
22 88 40 E5 D7 20 FB
21 00 00 01 21 00 D7 2A 8A 40
22 8A 40 09 D7 23
16578: EB D7 22 8A 40
ED 4B 82 40 E1 D7 C3 C2 40
```

```
3E F7 01 B5 02 3E 80 16799:
DB FE ED B8 D7 01 00 40
CB 67 2A 0C 40 16730: 36 3D
20 01 06 20 3A 34 40 0B
0D AF E6 07 78
3E EF 23 FE 07 36 BD
DB FE 77 20 12 B1
CB 57 10 FC 3A 35 40 20 F7
20 01 ED 4B 82 40 E6 03 01 FF FF
0C CD F5 08 3C C9
ED 43 82 40 2A 0E 40 16815:
01 00 00
C9
end 16818
```

Turbo: Basic listing

```
0 REM ... (machine code) ...
10 CLS
20 PRINT TAB 10;"TURBO";TAB 10;
   "■■■■■"
30 PRINT TAB 8;"(C)D.GREEN"
40 PRINT
50 PRINT "YOU HAVE TO DRIVE YOUR
   CAR ALONG THE ROAD AS FAR
   AS POSSIBLE IN A LIMITED
   AMOUNT OF TIME, AVOIDING
   THE ROADSIDES AND ANY
   OTHER CARS THAT YOU MAY
   COME ACROSS."
60 PRINT
70 PRINT "THE FASTER YOU GO, THE
   GREATER THE DISTANCE THAT
   YOU CAN TRAVEL IN THE TIME."
80 PRINT
90 PRINT "CONTROLS ARE:"
100 PRINT "(5)-MOVE LEFT", "(8)-MOVE
   RIGHT", "(0)-ACCELERATE",
   "(9)-DECELERATE"
110 FOR N=1 TO 200
120 NEXT N
130 PRINT AT 20,2;
   "PRESS ANY KEY TO START"
   (inverse video)
140 PRINT AT 20,2;"PRESS ANY KEY TO
   START"
150 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 130
160 CLS
170 LET X=USR 16524
180 IF X THEN PRINT AT 1,8;"YOU HAVE
   CRASHED"
190 IF NOT X THEN PRINT AT 1,12;"TIME
   UP"
200 PRINT AT 3,12;"SCORE:";PEEK
   16522+256*PEEK 16523
210 IF INKEY$<>"" THEN GOTO 210
220 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 220
230 GOTO 160
240 SAVE "TURBO"
250 RUN
```

Corridors of fear

Colin Carruthers,
Edinburgh.

SPECTRUM

THE THREE-DIMENSIONAL view that confronts you when you play this game shows the corridors within a maze from which you must escape within a given time. Your current x-y co-ordinate is displayed along with your orientation and the x-y co-ordinate of the way out.

Movement around the maze is by means of the cursor control keys: 7 moves one space forward — unless there is a wall directly in front — and 5 and 8 turn the player through 90° to the left or right.

At the end of the game, a plan of the maze is drawn so the player can see where he took the wrong turning. The game consists of a short machine-code routine and a larger Basic program.

The machine-code routine clears the first 22 columns of the display file and is best entered using the short Basic program. Run it, save it on tape and test the routine by typing

LET x=USR 23760

Assuming all is well, delete lines 10-40 by typing their line numbers. Type in the main program, using:

LIST 2

instead of just List to avoid listing the machine-code. The graphics characters in line 5025 are graphic ABCD and the inverse characters in 5786 say "Hit any key to being".

Each maze used in random, generated from four out of eight possible segments, each five by five units giving a final maze of 10 by 10 units.

```
1 REM aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
   aaaaaaaaaa
10 DATA 5,192,17,10,0,33,0,64,1
197,5,22,54,0,35,16,251,237,90,1
93,16,243,201
20 FOR X=23760 TO 23781
30 READ V: POKE X,V
40 NEXT X
50 RANDOMIZE : BORDER 0: PAPER
   0: INK 7
10 CLS : PRINT AT 5,7;"M A Z E
   "AT 10,2;"© Colin Carruthers";A
T 12,8;"1982"
20 GO SUB 5000
45 GO SUB 3000: PRINT AT 21,23
.d$(f)
```

```
50 GO SUB 1000
60 LET Z$=INKEY$
61 LET I=INT ((256+PEEK 23673+
   PEEK 23672)/50)
62 INK 0: PLOT 240,time-t+8: D
   RAW 7,0: DRAW 0,1: DRAW -7,0: DR
   AW 0,1: DRAW 7,0: INK 7
63 IF I=time THEN LET Z$="TIM
   E UP 1: FOR 2=10 TO -15 STEP 2
   : BEEP .2: NEXT 2: GO TO 7000
64 IF Z$<>"5" AND Z$<>"8" AND
   Z$<>"7" THEN GO TO 60
65 IF Z$="7" THEN LET X=X+(X
   AND 8)*X/2: IF (X AND 8)
66 IF X=255 THEN LET X=0
   95="FREE !": GO TO 7000
```

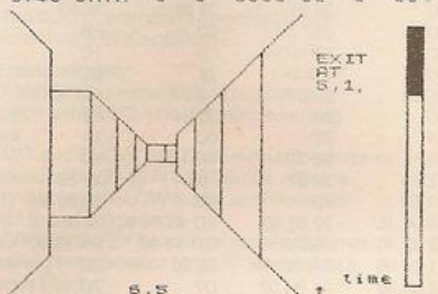
```
67 IF Z$="7" THEN LET Y=Y+(Y
   AND 8)*(X/2) IF (Y AND 8)
68 IF Y=255 OR Y=0 THEN LET
   95="FREE !": GO TO 7000
70 IF Z$="5" THEN GO SUB 4000
80 IF Z$="8" THEN GO SUB 4100
85 GO SUB 3000: PRINT AT 21,23
.d$(f)
90 GO TO 50
1000 LET X=X: LET Y=Y: LET 95
   =2000
1015 GO SUB 3000
1019 LET 95=USR 23760: PRINT AT 2
   1,9,X,Y
```

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```

2510 PLOT 93,93: DRAW -4,-4: DRAW
2520 IF y3=0: DRAW 4,-4: DRAW 0,11
2530 RETURN
2540 PLOT 95,95: DRAW 3,0: DRAW
2550 IF y3=0: DRAW -3,0: DRAW 0,3
2560 RETURN
2570 PLOT 97,97: DRAW 4,0: DRAW
2580 IF y3=0: DRAW -4,0: DRAW 0,4
2590 RETURN
2600 IF y3=1 THEN LET f=1: LET l
2610 IF f=3: RETURN
2620 IF y3=-1 THEN LET f=4: LET
2630 IF f=1: RETURN
2640 IF x3=1 THEN LET f=3: LET
2650 IF f=1: RETURN
2660 IF f=2: LET l=4: LET f=1:
2670 RETURN
2680 IF y3=-1 THEN LET y3=0: LET
2690 x3=1: RETURN
2700 IF y3=1 THEN LET y3=0: LET
2710 x3=-1: RETURN
2720 IF x3=1 THEN LET x3=0: LET
2730 y3=1: RETURN
2740 LET x3=0: LET y3=1: RETURN
2750 DIM x$(10,10,4): LET xmax=1
2760 LET ymax=10
2770 LET d$="(x,y)"
2780 POKE USR "a",255: POKE USR
2790 "d",255
2800 FOR x=1 TO 7: POKE USR "a"+
2810 x,0: POKE USR "d"+x-1,0: NEXT x
2820 FOR y=1 TO 7: POKE USR "b"+
2830 y,0: POKE USR "d"+x-1,1: NEXT y
2840 DIM y$(4): LET y3=1
2850 PLOT 239,7: DRAW 0,0: DRAW
2860 IF y3=0: DRAW -8,0: DRAW 0,-161
2870 FOR x=20 TO 1 STEP -1: PRIN
2880 T x,30: PAPER 4,"": BEEP .01
2890 NEXT x
2900 PRINT AT 20,25:"time"
2910 LET x3=1: LET y3=0
2920 LET xs=y3: LET xs=1: LET z=(
2930 RND(.49)+100: RESTORE 8000+z: G
2940 O SUB 5800
2950 LET xs=y3: LET z=(RND(.49)+1
2960 00: RESTORE 8000+z: GO SUB 5800
2970 LET z=RND
2980 LET ye=1*(z<=.33)+10*(z>.67)
2990 IF NOT ye THEN LET ye=INT (
3000 RND(.49)+1)
3010 IF ye=1 OR ye=10 THEN LET x
3020 =INT (RND+10)+1: GO TO 5770
3030 LET xe=1+(9*(RND+.49))
3040 IF xe=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3050 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3060 IF xe=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3070 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3080 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3090 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3100 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3110 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3120 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3130 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3140 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3150 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3160 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3170 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3180 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3190 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3200 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3210 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3220 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
3230 IF ye=1 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
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4860 IF ye=10 THEN LET m$(xe,ye)
487
```

[illegible]

DRAGON

```

25 IF I>9 OR I<1 THEN RUN
115 DRAW "C8;BM118,255;E10;F10"
550 FOR R = 1 TO I + 2
555 LINE (130,150)-(x2,y2),PSET
556 LINE (130,150)-(x2,y2),PRESET
560 CIRCLE (x2,y2),R,7
570 NEXT R
575 IF PPOINT (x,y) = 7 THEN SCORE =
    SCORE + 5.
RUNIM

```

122 YOUR COMPUTER, MARCH 1983

SOFTWARE FILE

```

200 F=F+1:G=G+3
210 PSET(F,G,6)
220 PSET(X,Y,6):PSET(X1,Y1,6)
230 IF SCORE>60 THEN 240 ELSE 260
240 T=T+1:Q=Q+4
250 PSET(T,Q,6)
260 IF Y=151 OR Y1=151 THEN 60
270 IF X1<4 THEN X1=X1+2
280 IF G=150 THEN BASE=BASE+1
290 IF G=153 THEN 60
300 IF Q=148 THEN BASE=BASE+1
310 IF Q=152 THEN 60
320 IF A=1 THEN X1=X1+2
330 IF A=2 THEN X=X-2
340 J=JOYSTK(0):JJ=JOYSTK(1)
350 PRESET(X2,Y2)
360 P=PEEK(65280)
370 PRESET(F,G):PRESET(T,Q)
380 IF J<10 THEN X2=X2-3
390 IF J>50 THEN X2=X2+3
400 IF JJ>50 THEN Y2=Y2+3
410 IF JJ<10 THEN Y2=Y2-3
420 IF Y2=>145 THEN Y2=Y2-3
430 IF X2=<3 THEN X2=X2+3
440 IF X2=3 THEN PSET(X2,Y2,5)
450 IF Y2=145 THEN PSET(X2,Y2,5)
460 IF Y2=<3 THEN Y2=Y2+3
470 IF Y2=3 THEN PSET(X2,Y2,5)
480 PSET(X2,Y2,7)
490 IF BASE>=1 THEN PSET(44,174,7)
500 IF BASE>=2 THEN PSET(85,174,7)
510 IF BASE>=3 THEN PSET(168,174,7)
520 IF BASE>=4 THEN PSET(216,174,7)
530 IF BASE=4 THEN GOTO 730
540 IF P=126 THEN 550 ELSE 690
550 FOR R=1 TO I+2
560 CIRCLE(X2,Y2),R,7
570 NEXT R
580 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=7 THEN SOUND 5,10:IF PPOINT(X,Y)=7 THEN Y=0:
IF PPOINT(X,Y)=7 THEN SCORE=SCORE+5
590 IF PPOINT(F,G)=7 OR PPOINT(T,Q)=7 THEN SCORE=SCORE+10
600 IF PPOINT(F,G)=7 OR PPOINT(T,Q)=7 THEN SOUND 15,1
610 IF PPOINT(T,Q)=7 THEN T=128:IF T=128 THEN Q=0
620 IF PPOINT(F,G)=7 THEN F=33:IF F=33 THEN G=0
630 IF PPOINT(X1,Y1)=7 THEN SCORE=SCORE+5
640 IF PPOINT(X1,Y1)=7 THEN SOUND 22,10
650 IF PPOINT(X1,Y1)=7 THEN Y1=0
660 FOR Q=1 TO I+2
670 CIRCLE(X2,Y2),Q,5
680 NEXT Q
690 IF PPOINT(X,Y)=8 OR PPOINT(X1,Y1)=8 THEN BASE=BASE+1
700 GOTO 160
710 FOR D=1 TO 5:
720 CLSC:SOUND D,3:NEXT D
730 CLS4:PRINT@12,"end of game";
740 PRINT@44,"SCORE=";SCORE;
750 PRINT@290,"ANOTHER(Y OR N)";:INPUT A#
760 IF A#="Y" THEN RUN:END
770 C=RND(8)

```

Tank killer

Peter Wales,
Hereford.

VIC-20

USING MULTICOLOUR mode graphics on the unexpanded Vic-20, you can create this bombing game. The objective is to blow up a tank by dropping a bomb from your supersonic jet while avoiding the tank's return of fire. There are 10 skill levels in the game. These determine the rate at which the tank's missiles home in on you and the speed of the tank.

To obtain multicolour graphics for text,

Poke 646,12 then use Print. To use this mode for graphics, Poke the colour memory map with 12 for the position of your object. To achieve horizontal bars in the graphics use Poke 36878,16. To turn them off use Poke 36878,0. This is the volume location. This is used to flash the plane and create good graphic explosions in the game.

Main program lines

```

10-80   INITIALISATION
300-395 MAIN SUBROUTINE
5000-5090 YOUR SHOT ROUTINE
8000-8135 YOUR WIN ROUTINE
8140-8440 TITLE INSTRUCTIONS
9000-9080 ROUTINE TO ANIMATE TANK
9910-9970 TANK-SHOOTING ROUTINE

```

10000-10100 YOU LOSE ROUTINE
30000-30060 SKILL LEVEL ROUTINE

Main variables

P = POSITION OF JET
TB = POSITION OF TANK
M = POSITION OF BOMB
TM = POSITION OF MISSILE
SN = SOUND LOCATION
VN = VOLUME, GRAPHICS LOCATION
SK = SKILL LEVEL
GS = TIME
AS = KEYBOARD INPUT

To make the game more difficult change line 5075 to:

5075 IF PEEK(H+22+I) = 30 THEN 8000

Now you have to hit the tank in the dead centre.

```

3 REM *C* PETER WALES *
4 REM * A TWO TONE *
5 REM * GRAPHICS GAME *
6 REM *****
10 PRINT "Q";CHR$(8):POKE36878,14:POKE36878,15:POKE650,255:POKE198,0:H1#="999999"
20 FORN=8186TO8230:POKEH,32:NEXT VN=36878:SN=36874
30 GOTO8140
40 T1#="000000":POKE646,10:PRINT "Q":TB=INT(RND(1)*18)
50 F=7000+48
300 REM
301 POKEVN,FL:POKEH,F/35
302 FL=16-FL:GETA#

```

```

320 IFAS="W"THENP=P-22
330 IFAS="Z"THENP=P+22
333 IFPC7702THENP=P+22
334 IFP>8011THENP=P-22
340 IFAS="P"ANDF=0THENGSUB5080:GOTO355
341 PRINT "TIME "T1#
345 IFP=1THENGSUB5080
346 GOSUB9080
355 CP=39400+P-7680
356 POKECP,12:POKECP-1,18:POKECP-2,18:POKECP-24,18:POKECP+20,10
360 POKEP,62:POKEP-1,60:POKEP-2,35:POKEP-24,77:POKEP+20,78
390 POKEP-3,32:POKEP-25,32:POKEP+19,32:POKEP+41,32:POKEP-47,32:POKEP+21,32:POKEP-23,32

```

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```

391 IFTF=1THENIFPEEK(TN)032THEN10000
395 P=F+1:POKEVN,0:GOTO300
5000 IFF=1THEN5030
5010 IFF=0THENF=1:H=P
5030 POKEH,P:POKEH+38400-7680,12:POKEH-22-1,32:POKEH-23-1,32
5031 H=H+22+1:IFH>7680+500THENF=22:I=0:GOTO5037
5035 IFH>7680+200THENF=15:I=5:GOTO5037
5036 P=4:I=1
5037 REM
5070 IFH>8186THENF=0:POKEH-22-1,32
5075 IFPEEK(H+1)032THEN8000
5090 RETURN
8000 G=TI$:FORP=1TO12:FORN=1TO14:POKE36879,N:NEXTN:P
8001 POKE646,14:PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX":TAB(TB);"*****"
8005 POKEH-22,32
8006 F=0:TF=0
8010 FORN=130TO240:POKESN,N:FORV=20TO8STEP-2:POKEVN,V
8020 NEXTV,N
8030 PRINT"Q"POKE646,14
8040 PRINT"WELL DONE"
8050 PRINT"XIN "G;" SECONDS"
8060 FORN=1TO10
8070 POKEVN,19:FORN=1TO150:NEXT
8080 POKEVN,0:FORN=1TO100:NEXT
8090 NEXT
8100 PRINT"XWELL DONE"
8110 PRINT"XIN "G;" SECONDS"
8120 FORN=1TO1000:NEXT
8130 IFG<418THENPRINT"XTHAT WAS A GOOD RUN"HI=G
8135 FORN=1TO2000:NEXT
8140 D=0:PRINT"X"
8141 PRINT"X"
8142 PRINT"X"
8143 PRINT"X"
8144 PRINT"X"
8145 POKE646,14
8147 F=0:TF=0
8200 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXYOU MUST BOMB THE TANK":PRINT"USING YOUR SUPER JET."
8210 PRINT"YOU MAY ONLY DROP ONE BOMB AT A TIME":PRINT"WATCH OUT FOR THE TAN
K"
8220 PRINT"IT SHOOTS TOO!"
8230 PRINT"XZ=UP XZ=DOWN XZ=FIRE"POKE646,12
8250 FORA=0TO17
8260 PRINTD:TAB(A);" \
8270 PRINTTAB(A);" #>"
8280 PRINTTAB(A);" /"
8290 FORN=1TO100:POKEVN,0:GETA:IFA=0THENNEXTN:NEXTA
8300 PRINT"X"
8400 PRINT"XWOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY":PRINT"XXXXXXXXX"
8405 PRINT"X"
8410 GETA:IFA=0THEN8410
8420 IFA="Y"OR"Y"THEN8410
8430 IFA="N"THENPRINT"OK. BYE. BYE."END
8435 GOTO8410
8440 END
8959 REM TANK
9000 POKE646,12:PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX":TAB(TB);" />";"XXXXXXXX"
9010 TT=P-7680:TD=INT((P-7680)/22):TA=TT-(TD*22)
9015 POKEVN,15:POKESN,128+(4*TB)
9020 IF(TB+TENTHENTB=TB+SK:TN=TN+SK
9030 IF(TB+TENTHENTB=TB+SK:TN=TN+SK
9035 POKESN,0
9040 IF(TB+TENTHENTB=18
9050 IF(TB+TENTHENTB=0:PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX":TAB(17);"
9060 IFTF=1THEN9910
9070 IFTF=0ANDRND(1)>.6THEN9910
9080 RETURN
9910 IFTF=0THENF=1:TN=8100+TB
9915 POKETM,30:POKETM+30720,14
9920 TM=TN-22
9950 IF(TM+702)THENF=0:POKETM+22,32:REMPOKETM-21,32:POKETM-23,32
9960 POKETM+44,32:POKETM+43,32:POKETM+45,32
9970 GOTO9030
10000 FORN=220TO128STEP-2
10005 POKE36879,N-116
10010 POKESN,N
10020 FORV=1TO20:POKEVN,V:NEXT
10030 NEXTN
10040 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXBAD!"
10050 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXYOU GOT HIT!"
10060 PRINT"XXXXXXXXXXTIME "T;"T:"
10070 POKEVN,0:POKESN,0
10080 PRINT"X"
10085 POKE136,0
10090 WAIT195,1:GETA:
10100 GOTO8141
30000 PRINT"X"
30010 PRINT"X"
30030 PRINT"X"
30040 IFA=0ORRND(1)0THEN30000
30045 SK=INT(A)/10
30050 GOTO40

```

Psychic asteroids

J P Riggs,
Gosport,
Hampshire.

BBC

WRITING GAMES on a home computer can pose many problems, the main one being where do I start? You can start designing things like the layout of the screen, special characters and sound effects. If the game is of the type where you are playing the computer the program must contain the logic to handle this. Once the program has been written you will want to improve it by speeding it up and having better presentation and a more exciting game.

In this program the ship can be rotated and the relevant positions must be calculated many times a second to give the effect of the craft spinning, therefore sine and cosine tables are set up before the games commences. Other ways of speeding up are a program to remove any routines which are wasting time, spaces and superfluous text. Simplifying the equations before the computer evaluates them can save a great deal of time.

If you have moving graphics you need them to move smoothly across the screen without disturbing features such as the scores and visual information. This can be achieved on the BBC by setting up separate graphics and text windows, using VDU24 for graphics window and VDU28 for text windows — see page 386 of the manual.

To make the game more exciting, better graphics and sounds can be developed. The graphics are fairly easy to achieve using the wide variety of commands such as Move, Draw and Plot available on the BBC. The sounds are not so easy to create because the

Envelope command takes time to master. The sounds in this program were created using the Envelope-defining program published in the November 1982 issue of *Your Computer*.

The program is a space asteroids game with a difference. Where normal asteroids just amble across the screen these contain homing devices and high explosives. Just dodging

them is not enough: you have to blow them out of the ether using quick reflexes and your laser cannon. Your craft can be moved through 360° and propelled using the thruster.

The control keys are: F0 left turn; F1 right turn; F2 a quick 180° turn; F3, F4, F5 hyperspace; F6 thrust; F7 fire.

```

>L.
1 REM BY J.P.RIGGS 1983
2 REM GOSPORT,HANTS
10 ONERROR RUN
20 MODE7:PROCOFF:FX16,0
30 DIMSI(90),CO(90):FORAZ=0TO360STEP4:PRINTTAB(12,12);INT((360-AZ)/36);" ";S
I(AZ/4)=SINRAD(AZ):CO(AZ/4)=COSRAD(AZ):NEXTAZ
40 *KEY10"OLD:MRUN:M"
50 PROCOFF:VDU23,224,24,24,60,60,126,126,231,231,23,225,60,69,153,165,165,153
,69,60:NUS=" "+CHR$224:FX16,0
60 PRINTCHR$12:TAB(0,0);STRING$(40,"*");TAB(0,1)*P S Y C H I C A S T E
R O I D S *;TAB(0,2);STRING$(40,"*"):FX15,0
70 PRINT""Do you want background noises (Y/N) ":ggg=GET:FX9,5
80 ONERROR GOTO160
90 ENVELOPE1,1,-10,10,100,200,10,200,120,-100,-4,-1,120,127:FX10,5
100 FORX=100TO128:SOUND1,1,X,1:SOUND2,1,(255-X),1:NEXTX=X=INKEY(20)
110 HIGHSCORE=550:HIGHSCORER$="J.RIGGS":A$=" ":HS=550:MF=1.5
120 ENVELOPE1,0,-8,-3,122,227,245,194,123,-76,-1,-6,126,126:ENVELOPE2,129,2,4,
6,28,14,7,0,0,0,-80,80,80
130 ENVELOPE4,1,1,2,0,0,123,1,-110,0,-1,-20,125,70:ENVELOPE3,1,12,1,3,1,2,12,-
1,1,-1,1,126,126
140 XXZ=RND(90)*4:STZ=640:RTX=512:A$="W":Y0Z=RTX:X1Z=STZ
150 SCORE=0:NOLEFT=3:JJZ=20:PROCstartit:TV255,2
160 MODE4:VDU19,0,1,0,0,0:PROCscore:PROCcalc:PROCstars(400):PROCdraw
170 VDU24,800,800,800,800,&FF,&04,&BA,&03
180 REPEAT PROCcontrol:PROCasteroid:UNTIL NOLEFT=0:PROCend:GOTO140
190 DEFPROCcontrol:REM Change ?236 TO ?215 AND DELETE BZ=?237 and ORBZ= for 05
0.1
200 AZ=?236:BZ=?237:IFAZ=160 OR BZ=160:XXZ=XXZ+8*RND(2):PROCdraw:PROCtest(aZ,b
Z,c):IF RND(3)=1 GOTO200
210 AZ=?236:IFAZ=241 OR BZ=241:XXZ=XXZ+8*RND(2):PROCdraw:PROCtest(aZ,bZ,c):IF
RND(3)=1 GOTO210
220 IFAZ=242 ORBZ=242:XXZ=XXZ+180:PROCdraw:PROCtest(aZ,bZ,c):PROCasteroid
230 IFAZ=245 ORBZ=245:PROCdistance:IF JJZ(255c) PROCthrust(70):PROCasteroid
240 IFAZ=148 OR AZ=243 OR AZ=244 A$="HYPERSPACE":PROCdraw:PROCtest(aZ,bZ,c)
250 IFAZ=148 OR AZ=243 OR AZ=244:IF RND(3)=1 NOLEFT=NOLEFT-1:VDU7:PROCscore
260 IFAZ=150 ORBZ=150 AND RND(1)>.35 PROCdistance:IF JJZ>40PROCfire:PROCaster
oid
270 ENDPROC
280 DEFPROCcalc:XXZ=(360+(XXZ<0)*ABS(XXZ)-(XXZ>0)*ABS(XXZ))MOD 360:X1=(XXZ+18
0)MOD 360:X2=(XXZ+215)MOD 360:X3=(XXZ+145)MOD 360
290 IF RTZ>945 RTZ=5:STZ=(1280-STZ) ELSE IF RTZ<0 RTZ=940:STZ=(1280-STZ):GOTO3
10
300 IF STZ>1280 STZ=5:RTZ=(1024-RTZ) ELSE IF STZ<0 STZ=1275:RTZ=(1024-RTZ)
310 YZ=SI(XXZ/4)*38+RTZ:Y0Z=SI(X3/4)*42+RTZ:YTZ=SI(X2/4)*42+RTZ
320 X0Z=CO(XXZ/4)*38+STZ:X1Z=CO(X3/4)*42+STZ:XTZ=CO(X2/4)*42+STZ

```

(continued on page 129)

SILVERSOFT

ORBITER

A fast and furious arcade action game for the ZX Spectrum, Orbiter is written entirely in m/c code with full arcade features including scanners, reverse, hyper-space, continuous scoring, sound effects and humanoids.

GROUND ATTACK

Survival is the name of the game in this exciting scramble-type arcade game. Fast machine code action with full arcade features.

NEW

MUNCHER

Fruiteatingmonsterbeatingmazemunching creaturecrunchingghostchasingfastamazing Muncher! Fast machine code, maze, race and chase game.

NEW

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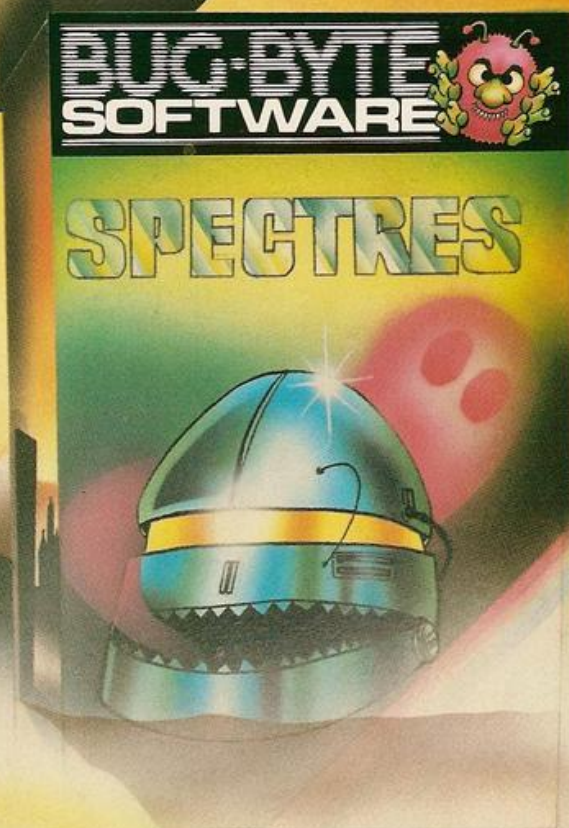
BUG-BYTE SOFTWARE, MORE THAN A GAME

All about me was darkness. Tens of thousands of screens stared blankly into space. Minds drifted aimlessly, dulled by lack of stimulation. The world was grey, drab, lacking . . .

Then suddenly it happened. First one, then another, then tens, hundreds, thousands of tired screens felt a surge of power and flickered back into life. They were much as I had seen on my own planet's microcomputers – the ZX 81, ZX Spectrum, Vic 20, BBC Micro and ORIC-1.

The minds paused to take stock. They clustered round the screens, their nimble fingers excitedly flicking the controls back and forth. At last they had found a challenge . . . action and adventure with cunning tests of dexterity and reaction. Everywhere, conversation was of Asteroids, Mazogs, Panic, Another Vic in the Wall.

Unable to resist, I too had a closer look. There before me was vivid colour, high resolution graphics. I could practically feel the spine-tingling



...IT'S A DOOR TO ANOTHER DIMENSION !

sound effects as whole battle fleets of Cosmiads swarmed out of nowhere and attacked. I should have known. As my fingers raced over the controls, and I prepared to stand and fight with only a single laser bolt for protection, I realised I was trapped!

Too late now, I remembered this was no ordinary software. I'd been warned, as I now warn anyone buying from Laskys, W.H. Smith, Currys Micro C, Spectrum and larger

branches of Boots, and a nationwide network of dealers stocking Bug-Byte. Because Bug-Byte is more than a game, it's a door to another dimension. One that I had opened.

**BUG-BYTE
SOFTWARE**



100 The Albany, Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 3AB

How Epson beats the competition.

What competition?



The amazing HX-20.
The most complete portable computer available today.

The HX-20 is a portable computer with a full size typewriter keyboard, LCD Virtual Screen, printer and microcassette facility actually built in. A computer with a rechargeable power source that's large enough for writing programs and manipulating data virtually anywhere, yet small enough to carry in a briefcase.

But don't let the size fool you. The HX-20 is not a gimmicky toy or an excuse for a calculator. It's a precision machine using a full extended version of Microsoft BASIC with 16k RAM, optionally expandable to 32k and 32k ROM expandable to 64k, RS-232C and Serial interfaces. The ASCII typewriter keyboard and five programmable keys brings ten separate program functions to your fingertips.

Power to your elbow.

The HX-20 runs on its own power supply for over 50 hours and can be easily recharged overnight, or whilst in use, with the ability to retain its memory in RAM even when switched off.

Keeping you in the picture.

The LCD screen is unique - showing any 20 characters by 4 lines at a time - enabling you to carry out word processing or data entry as if you are using a large screen.

HX-20

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Print Out. Built In.

The 24 column dot matrix impact microprinter offers 42 LPM in a crisp, precise 5 x 7 matrix for perfect hard copies. Every time. And you can choose from a wide range of peripherals from bar code readers to acoustic couplers for total capability.

Epson. Reliability through Research.

You'll find our name on a highly successful range of computer printers. So you can be assured of the same quality and reliability through an extensive research programme prior to the launch of any Epson product.

Write or call us for further details and the name of your local stockist (because seeing really is believing).

Just take a glance at the competition and you'll soon realise that the HX-20 is the most portable computer available today.

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Freefone: 2730. Telex: 8814169

EPSON

**Extraordinary product.
Exceptional quality.**

Interrupt-intercept

(continued from page 124)

```

330 CXZ=CO((X(1)/4)*11+STZ:CYZ=SI((X(1)/4)*11+RTZ:ENDPROC
340 DEFPROCdraw:IF RND(3)=1 AND AS<>"HYPERSPACE" PROCasteroid
350 MOVEXOZ,YZ:PLOT7,X1Z,YOZ:PLOT7,CXZ,CYZ:PLOT7,XTZ,YTZ:PLOT7,XOZ,YZ
360 IF A$="HYPERSPACE" RTZ=RND(950):STZ=RND(1280):XXZ=RND(360)
370 A$="X":PROCcalc:MOVEXOZ,YZ:DRAWX1Z,YOZ:DRAWCXZ,CYZ:DRAWXTZ,YTZ:DRAWXOZ,YZ:
ENDPROC
380 DEFPROCthrust(BOZ):SOUND0,-15,100,8:RTZ=RTZ+SI(XXZ/4)*BOZ:STZ=STZ+CO(XXZ/4)
)*BOZ:PROCdraw:ENDPROC
390 DEFPROCfire:SOUND1,1,1,10:VDU5
400 FYZ=YX+SI(XXZ/4)*JJZ:FXZ=CO(XXZ/4)*JJZ+XOZ
410 FORNN=0TO1:GCOL0,1:MOVEOXOZ,YZ:DRAWFXZ,FYZ:PLOT0,0,16:PRINTCHR$225
420 GCOL0,0:MOVEXOZ,YZ:DRAWFXZ,FYZ:PLOT0,0,16:PRINTCHR$225
430 NEXT:VDU4:PROCoff:GCOL0,1:IF SQR((FXZ-aZ)^2+(FYZ-bZ)^2)<25*c PROCastest
440 ENDPROC
450 DEFPROCasteroid:IF RND(3)=1 PROCdiff
460 IF ggg=89 AND RND(4)=1 SOUNDNRND(3),3,RND(255),2
470 PROCEAT:2:aZ=aZ+KTZ:bZ=bZ+JTZ:c=MF:MF=1/MF:MOVE(aZ-10*c),(bZ-10*c)
480 DRAW(aZ+20*c),(bZ-5*c):DRAW(aZ+25*c),(bZ+25*c):DRAW(aZ+5*c),(bZ+30*c)
490 DRAW(aZ-10*c),(bZ-10*c):PROCTest(aZ,bZ,c)
500 IFAZ>1280 OR bZ>1024 OR aZ<0 OR bZ<0 PROCTest2:PROCastinit
510 ENDPROC
520 DEFPROCstars(N0)
530 FORX=0TO N0:JZ=RND(1280):KZ=RND(1024):MOVEJZ,KZ:PLOT69,JZ,KZ:NEXT:ENDPROC
540 DEFPROCscore:PROCoFF:IFSCORE>HS HS=SCORE
550 IF NOLEFT<0 ENDPROC
560 PRINTCHR$30;" SCORE=";SCORE;" HIGH SCORE=";HS;TAB(25,1);STRING$(NOLEFT,
NUS);" "
570 ENDPROC
580 DEFPROCdestroy:VDU19,0,0,0,0,0:NLEFT=NLEFT-1:PROCscore:FX15,0
590 SOUND0,-15,5,50:FORSZ=1TO5:FORXPRZ=1TO20 STEP2:D=INKEY(2):VDU23;13,XPRZ,0;
0;0;NEXT:FORXPRZ=20 TO0STEP-2:D=INKEY(2):VDU23;13,XPRZ,0;0;0;NEXT:A$="HYPERSP
ACE":PROCdraw:SOUND0,-15,6,12:A$="":VDU19,0,1,0,0,0:ENDPROC
600 DEFPROCend:SOUND2,0,0,0,0
610 VDU5:MOVE352,525:PRINT"G A M E O V E R":VDU4:*FX15,0
620 O0=INKEY(1000):*FX15,0
630 VDU22,7:PRINT""Your score is ";SCORE;" points""
640 PRINT"High score is ";HIGHSCORE;" points by";CHR$129;HIGHSCORER$""
650 IF SCORE>HIGHSCORE HIGHSCORE=SCORE:PRINT"Yours is the highest score":IN
PUT"Please enter initials ",HIGHSCORER$""
660 HIGHSCORER$=LEFT$(HIGHSCORER$,4):INPUT"PRESS RETURN"A:HS=HIGHSCORE:ENDPR
OC
670 DEFPROCastinit:RANDOM=RND(-TIME)
680 c=(RND(30)+10)* (3E-2)
690 REPEAT:PosZ=RND(4):aZ=RND(1280)*(-1)*(PosZ=2 OR PosZ=4)-1280*(PosZ=3)
700 bZ=RND(960)*(-1)*(PosZ=1 OR PosZ=3)-950*(PosZ=2):UNTILABS(STZ-aZ)>40
710 PROCdiff:ENDPROC
720 DEFPROCdiff:DIFFxZ=(STZ-aZ):DIFFyZ=(RTZ-bZ):IFDIFFyZ=0 OR DIFFxZ=0 ENDPR
OC
730 DX=DIFFxZ/ABS(DIFFxZ):DY=DIFFyZ/ABS(DIFFyZ)
740 IF ABS(DIFFxZ)>20 KTZ=(RND(5)+8)*DX:JTZ=DIFFyZ/DIFFxZ*KTZ:ENDPROC
750 IF ABS(DIFFyZ)>20 JTZ=(RND(5)+8)*DY:KTZ=DIFFxZ/DIFFyZ*JTZ:ENDPROC
760 KTZ=10*DX:JTZ=10*DY:ENDPROC
770 DEFPROCcastest:PROCTest2:SC=INT((SCORE+150-INT(50*c))/10)*10
780 PROCextra:SCORE=SC:PROCscore:PROCExplosion(aZ,bZ,65,2,2):PROCastinit:PRO
Casteroid:ENDPROC
790 DEFPROCtest2:MOVE(aZ-10*c),(bZ-10*c):PLOT7,(aZ+20*c),(bZ-5*c):PLOT7,(aZ+
25*c),(bZ+25*c)
800 PLOT7,(aZ+5*c),(bZ+30*c):PLOT7,(aZ-10*c),(bZ-10*c):ENDPROC
810 DEFPROCdistance:IF RND(3)=1 FF=2 ELSE FF=1
820 JPZ=SQR((aZ-XOZ)^2+(bZ-YOZ)^2):IF JPZ<500 THEN JJZ=JPZ/FF ELSE JJZ=JPZ/2
830 ENDPROC
840 DEFPROCexplosion(XXX,YYY,ZZZ,WWW):IF C<0.7 VDU19,1,15,0,0,0,19,0,11,0,0,
0:JKK=67 ELSE JKK=69
850 FORD=-ZZZ TO 0:IF D>-46 PPZ=D/3 ELSE PPZ=-15
860 SOUND0,PPZ,6,1:T=(150+D)*WWW:PLOTJKK,RND(T)-T/2+XXX,RND(T)-T/2+YYY:NEX
T:VDU19,0,1,0,0,0,19,1,7,0,0,0:ENDPROC
870 DEFPROCextra:QP=(SC DIV 5000)*5000:IF SCORE>QP ENDPROC ELSE NOLEFT=NOLE
FT+1:VDU7:ENDPROC
880 DEFPROCtest(Q,W,E)
890 PROCdistance:IF JPZ<48 PROCdestroy:PROCTest2:PROCastinit:PROCasteroid
900 ENDPROC
910 DEFPROCoff:VDU23,1;0;0;0;0:ENDPROC REM Change to VDU23,820;0;0;0; for
OS 0.1

```

This program is specifically for the BBC model B but could be squeezed into a model A with a few changes: in line 160 change Mode4 to Mode5; in line 170 change the VDU24 to accommodate the new Mode; in line 560 the printing will have to be changed to make it neat; as there are four colours in Mode5 rather than two in Mode4 you can be more adventurous with the colours.

*Simon Liston,
Walthamstow,
London.*

SPECTRUM

THE ZX SPECTRUM produces an interrupt every 0.02 seconds. The Spectrum ROM uses this interrupt to increment the Frames system variable and also to see if any keys are being pressed. This short machine-code program causes the micro to Call address 63479 on each of these interrupts. I have written a real-time clock to illustrate one possible use of this facility.

First, reserve some memory; type Clear 63400. Next, Poke the 23 bytes of the interrupt-intercept into locations 65040-65062. Now, Poke the machine code for the real-time clock into locations 63479-63665. Check what you have Poked with the listing, then Save the code you have entered. Next, Enter Rand USR 65040.

You should now have a random time displayed in the top right-hand corner of the screen. Hours, minutes and seconds are stored in packed-bcd format. Their respective addresses are: 63667, 63668 and 63669.

Setting the time, for example, 11:44:13 is done as follows:

POKE 63667, 1*16+1
POKE 63668, 4*16+4
POKE 63669, 1*16+3

Note that you must have a self-contained machine-code program at locations 63479-64760, that is, unless you know exactly what you are doing, you should Save all the registers and do not alter any system variables.

It is a good idea to end your routine not with `ei; ret` but with `JP 5610`, this causes control to be passed to the usual interrupt routine.

The clock program given will keep good time so long as Load, Save, Beep, Copy or the printer are not used. Some other ideas: on every interrupt, Print the value of the system variable PPC to show you the line number being interpreted. This provides a simple trace mechanism. Or set SCR CT to 255 on every interrupt, this will stop the Scroll? function being erased. Why not have a delay loop on every interrupt? This will slow down program execution — if it is not slow enough already.

```

53484 F5      push hl
53485 3D00      ld a,(Real)
53486 3D00      ddc
53487 3D00      ld (Real),a
53488 3D00      jp nz,Ptime
53489 3E32      ld a,50
53490      ;
53491      ;
53492      ;
53493      ;
53494 3332      ld (Real),a
53495 3332      ld a,(Secs)
53496 3D00      and a
53497 3D00      adc a,1
53498 3D00      daa
53499 3332      ld (Secs),a
53500 3332      cp 96
53501 3332      jp nz,Ptime
53502 3332      xor a
53503 3332      ld (Secs),a
53504 3332      ld a,(Mins)
53505 3332      and a
53506 3332      adc a,1
53507 3332      daa
53508 3332      ld (Mins),a
53509 3332      cp 96
53510 3332      jp nz,Ptime
53511 3332      xor a
53512 3332      ld (Mins),a
53513 3332      ld a,Inouis,
53514 3332      ld a,Inouis,
53515 3332      and a
53516 3332      adc a,1
53517 3332      daa
53518 3332      ld (Hours),a
53519 3332      cp 10
53520 3332      jp nz,Ptime
53521 3332      ld a,1
53522 3332      ld (Hours),a
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(continued on page 131)

[illegible]

SPECTRUM 48K : ZX81 16K SIX PART ADVENTURE



BLACK CRYSTAL THE QUEST IS ABOUT TO BEGIN

The ultimate role-playing adventure for the SPECTRUM/ZX81. You can become a warrior, elf or wizard on a quest to find and use the rings of creation: to destroy the Black Crystal and defeat the Lords of Chaos. Held within six programs lies a land of fabulous treasures and mythical monsters. Journey through the land of Beroth, explore the castle of shadows, descend into the Shaggoths lair, search for diamonds in the sea of sand but beware of sand sharks! Confront the fire demon in his temple, battle against the Lords of Chaos and win your way to the Black Crystal.

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ADVENTURE**



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Please send me: Black Crystal for my,

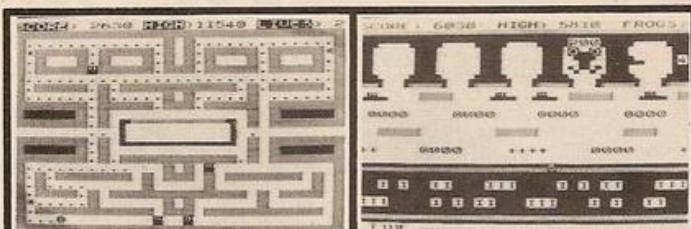
☐ Spectrum 48K..... £7.50
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I enclose a cheque/postal order (payable to Carnell Software) for £

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THE ZON X
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★ No power packs, batteries, leads or other extras.*

★ Manual Volume Control on panel — ample volume from built-in loud-speaker.

★ Standard Sinclair — 16K Rampack or printer can be plugged into ZON X Sound Unit without affecting normal computer operation.

★ Huge range of possible sounds for Games, Music, Helicopters, Sci-Fi, Space Invaders, Explosions, Gun-shots, Drums, Planes, Lasers, Organs, Bells, Tunes, Chords, etc., or whatever you devise!

★ 8 full octaves. Uses 3-Channel sound chip giving programme control of pitch, volume of tones and noises, all with envelope control.

★ Easily added to existing games or programmes using a few simple "BASIC" lines or machine code.

★ No memory addresses used — I.O. mapped.

FULL instructions with many examples of how to obtain effects and the programmes, supplied, fully guaranteed. British Made.

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Export orders — Bank Cheque, International Money Order, U.S. \$ or £ Sterling.



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63A, High Street,
Ware, Herts.



Access & VISA accepted
Ring 0920 3182 for
immediate despatch

(continued from page 129)

```

53355 00 21 18 58 ld hl,22552
53356 00 00 00 ld b,0
53357 00 00 00 ld (hl),199
53358 00 00 00 inc hl
53359 00 00 00 djnz hl
53360 00 00 00 pop hl
53361 00 00 00 pop bc
53362 00 00 00 pop af
53363 00 00 00 pop ix
53364 00 00 00 jp 56

```

```

pdec 53360 00 F5
53361 00 00 00 push af
53362 00 00 00 srl a
53363 00 00 00 srl a
53364 00 00 00 srl a
53365 00 00 00 cal Pch
53366 00 00 00 pop af
53367 00 00 00 and 15
53368 00 00 00 cal Pch
53369 00 00 00 ret
53370 00 00 00 push ix
53371 00 00 00 ld hl,(23605)
53372 00 00 00 ld de,384
53373 00 00 00 add hl,de
53374 00 00 00 ex de,hl
53375 00 00 00 ld hl,0
53376 00 00 00 add hl,hl
53377 00 00 00 add hl,hl
53378 00 00 00 add hl,hl
53379 00 00 00 add hl,hl
53380 00 00 00 add hl,de

```

```

53645 11 00 01 ld de,255
53646 05 08 ld b,8
53650 7E FF 00 ld a,(hl)
53651 00 00 00 xor 255
53652 00 00 00 ld (ix+0),a
53653 00 00 00 inc hl
53654 00 00 00 add ix,de
53655 00 00 00 djnz ur
53656 00 00 00 pop ix
53657 00 00 00 inc ix
53658 00 00 00 ret
53659 00 00 00 nop

```

Chords

Bernard Dembowski,
Feltham,
Middlesex.

ACE

THREE TYPES of chord are described by this program: major, minor and seventh. Each chord consists of eight notes played in rapid succession, similar to the banjo cross-picking style. A bar — four beats — requires 16 notes. Within the confines of this Forth program, if

one chord lasts the length of the bar, you enter it twice. In other words, one chord entry equals two beats.

Now for the program. First enter a variable, T; this is the length of each note in milliseconds. This governs the tempo of your tune. Next, define the word Chord, then define the chords you need for your tune. The Jupiter Ace's memory is not sufficient to store all the chords shown, so just define the chords you need. Unfortunately, this method is not suitable for waltzes, that is, anything in three-

four time. In the example the chords are written out exactly as you would enter them into the Ace.

Michael, row the boat ashore
150 T!

D D D D G G D D F# m F# m Em Em D A7 D D

House of the Rising Sun
200 T!

Dm F G Bb Dm F A7 A7 Dm F
G Bb Dm A7 Dm F Dm F G
Bb Dm F A7 A7 Dm F G Bb
Dm A7 Dm Dm

```

100 VARIABLE T
: CHORD 8 0 DO T @ BEEP LOOP ;

( MAJOR )
: C 319 379 239 319 379 239 319 379 CHORD ;
: F 179 358 284 179 358 284 179 358 CHORD ;
: G 319 426 253 319 426 253 319 426 CHORD ;
: B 338 426 284 338 426 284 338 426 CHORD ;
: A 284 379 451 284 379 451 284 379 CHORD ;
: E 301 379 253 301 379 253 301 379 CHORD ;
: Bb 358 426 268 358 426 268 358 426 CHORD ;
: Eb 319 402 268 319 402 268 319 402 CHORD ;
: Ab 301 402 478 301 402 478 301 402 CHORD ;
: Db 301 358 451 301 358 451 301 358 CHORD ;
: Gb(F*) 268 338 451 268 338 451 268 338 CHORD ;
: B 253 338 402 253 338 402 253 338 CHORD ;

( MINOR )
: Cm 402 319 239 402 319 239 402 319 CHORD ;
: Fm 358 301 239 358 301 239 358 301 CHORD ;
: Gm 426 319 268 426 319 268 426 319 CHORD ;

: Dm 426 358 284 426 358 284 426 358 CHORD ;
: Am 379 284 239 379 284 239 379 284 CHORD ;
: Em 379 319 253 379 319 253 379 319 CHORD ;
: Bbm 358 451 268 358 451 268 358 451 CHORD ;
: Ebm 338 268 402 338 268 402 338 268 CHORD ;
: Abm 402 301 253 402 301 253 402 301 CHORD ;
: Dbm 379 301 451 379 301 451 379 301 CHORD ;
: Gbm(F*#) 338 284 451 338 284 451 338 284 CHORD ;
: Dm 426 338 253 426 338 253 426 338 CHORD ;

( SEVENTH )
: C7 379 319 268 379 319 268 379 319 CHORD ;
: F7 402 358 239 402 358 239 402 358 CHORD ;
: G7 426 358 253 426 358 253 426 358 CHORD ;
: B7 426 338 239 426 338 239 426 338 CHORD ;
: A7 379 319 451 379 319 451 379 319 CHORD ;
: E7 426 379 253 426 379 253 426 379 CHORD ;
: Bb7 358 301 426 358 301 426 358 301 CHORD ;
: Eb7 402 319 451 402 319 451 402 319 CHORD ;
: Ab7 402 338 239 402 338 239 402 338 CHORD ;
: Db7 358 301 253 358 301 253 358 301 CHORD ;
: Gb7(F*7) 338 379 451 338 379 451 338 379 CHORD ;
: B7 338 284 402 338 284 402 338 284 CHORD ;

```

Stuntman

C Szponjnarowicz,
Hounslow,
Middlesex.

ATOM

STUNTMAN uses high-resolution graphics, and creates realistic motor bike sound effects. The program fits into 2.5K but high-resolution is also needed.

The basic idea is that the motorcyclist has to jump as many buses possible. To acquire the correct speed, press Control to accelerate, Shift to decelerate, and Repeat to jump. The correct speed is equal to the number of buses multiplied by 10.

The exact speed would be too difficult to get, so at the start of the program the skill level is asked for. Now the speed to successfully jump all the buses is greater than the number of buses, but less than the number of buses

combined with the current skill level.

There are two starting roads before the final road, where the correct speed has to be attained. If you travel too fast, the bike crashes into the ramps. If you travel too slowly, the bike will not generate enough speed and will fall killing your man. If you attempt to jump before the third road, the bike crashes, losing one of your three lives.

When the roads have been drawn, and the

(continued on page 133)

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(continued from page 131)

bike appears at the top of the screen, press any key to start. This happens each time the bike is positioned at the top left-hand corner of the screen.

The first line, retains the high score — value of H — even if Break has been hit, but set the

value to 0 when the program is first loaded.

In some places — for example, 8000-8300 and 9000-9300 the Plot statement has been used instead of Move and Draw. This is for ease in typing. For example once lines 8000-8300 have been typed, it is a simple matter of editing these lines, changing the line

number to 9000, 9200 and 9300 and changing the Plot 13 to Plot 15.

Line 8100 does not have to be edited because it is used to delete remnants of the bike before the ramp. This editing can also be used for lines 270 converted to 307 — remembering to delete the Goto variable i.

>L.

```

1IFH<0 H=0;REM STUNT MAN
5P.$12" STUNT MAN"" BY C.SZPOJNARONICZ 1/1/83""
6P."THE OBJECT OF THE GAME IS TO ""JUMP AS MANY BUSES AS""
7P." POSSIBLE.""THE CONTROLS ARE"" CTRL-ACCELERATE""
8P." SHIFT-DECELERATE"" REPT-JUMP""
10P." ""SKILL LEVEL""
11IN."1 IMPOSSIBLE TO 1000 EASY""J
13L=0;S=10;A=150;X=50;Y=30;U=2;I=151;Z=1;V=110;W=30
14G=-1;K=V-X-40;T=50;N=50;M=30;F=J
150CLEAR4
200AF.Q=0T0256 S.2;PLOT13,Q,(A-1);N.Q
210F.Q=1T0257 S.2;PLOT13,Q,(A-2);N.Q
220F.Q=0T0256 S.2;PLOT13,Q,(A-3);N.Q
230A=A-60;IF A>10 G.a;A=30
250REM DRAW RAMP
270PLOT15,V,W;PLOT7,(V-19),(W+10);PLOT7,(V-19),W;PLOT7,V,W
275V=V+10
300REM BIKE
301SPLOT13,X,Y;PLOT5,(X+19),(Y+10);PLOT5,(X+19),Y;PLOT5,X,Y
302IF T<100 G.z
303P.S=10XZ;U=2;I=151;Z=1;X=50;Y=30
306PLOT13,X,Y;PLOT5,(X+19),(Y+10);PLOT5,(X+19),Y;PLOT5,X,Y
307PLOT13,V,W;PLOT5,(V-19),(W+10);PLOT5,(V-19),W;PLOT 5,V,W
308PLOT13,U,I
309LI.FFEF3
310SPLOT15,U,I;U=U+Z;PLOT13,U,I
312IFI=31 AND U>(X+20) G.d
313IFI=31 PLOT15,(X-3),(Y+1);PLOT7,(X-1),(Y+1)
315?EB002=5;?EB003=4
330IFU>256 I=I-60
335IFU>256 U=0
340IFZ<1 Z=1
350IF?EB001&E40=0 Z=Z+1
360IF?EB002<128 Z=Z-1
370IF?EB002&E40=0 G.c
400 G.b
2000cIF I<>31 G.d
2010S=10XZ;K=V-X-40
2030IFU<(X-1) G.b
2040IF?EB002&E40=0 AND U>(X-10) U=X
2050IFU>(X+1) G.d
3000REM JUMP
3020IFS<K G.t
3025IFS>(K+J) G.d
3027G.e
3030IFS<K G.t
3031IFS>(K+J) G.d
3032PLOT15,U,I;U=U+2;I=I+1;PLOT13,U,I
3033?EB002=5;?EB003=4
3034WAIT;WAIT;WAIT;WAIT;IFU<64+(K/2) G.t
3035PLOT15,U,I;I=I-1;U=U+2;?EB002=5;?EB003=4;PLOT13,U,I
3036WAIT;WAIT;WAIT;WAIT;IFI>41 G.r
3037G.d
3040IF S>(K+J) G.d

```

```

3045G.e
3090G.300
5000PLOT15,U,I;U=U+2;I=I+1
5005PLOT13,U,I
5006WAIT;WAIT
5007?EB002=5;?EB003=4
5008IFU>(X+19)+(K/2) G.f
5010G.e
6000PLOT15,U,I;U=U+2;I=I-1;PLOT13,U,I
6002?EB002=5;?EB003=4
6003WAIT;WAIT;WAIT
6004IFI>31 G.f
6100I=31
6105PLOT15,U,I;U=U+1;PLOT13,U,I
6110?EB002=5;?EB003=4;WAIT;WAIT
6120IFU<V+20G.6100
6122F=F-(F/3)
6123T=50;Z=1
6127PLOT15,U,I;G.i
6130G.270
7000U=IFK=20 K=0
7005D=(K/10)
7010 P.$12"YOU HAVE KILLED 3 MEN ""YOU JUMPED""
7050P.D" BUSES""
7100P."YOUR SCORE WAS"K
7130IFK>H H=K
7140P." ""AT SKILL LEVEL""J
7150P."THE HIGH SCORE IS"H
7250IN."WOULD YOU LIKE ANOTHER GO ""T.
7300 IF?T.=CH"N" E.
7350IN."WOULD YOU LIKE INSTRUCTIONS ""T.
7360IF?T.=CH"N"G.10
7370G.5
7400E.
8000PLOT13,(U+2),(I+2);PLOT5,(U-2),(I-2)
8100PLOT15,(U-2),I;PLOT 7,(U+2),I
8200PLOT13,(U-2),(I+2);PLOT5,(U+2),(I-2)
8300PLOT13,U,(I+2);PLOT5,U,(I-2)
8350F.Q=0T0400;?EB002=U;N.Q;Z=1;PLOT15,U,I;L=L+1
8560IF L=3 G.u
9000PLOT15,(U+2),(I+2);PLOT7,(U-2),(I-2)
9200PLOT15,(U-2),(I+2);PLOT7,(U+2),(I-2)
9300PLOT15,U,(I+2);PLOT7,U,(I-2)
9350T=100
9400G.5
9500PLOT13,(N+21),M;PLOT5,(N+22),M
9510PLOT13,(N+27),M ;PLOT5,(N+28),M;M=M+1;IF M<32 G.z
9520PLOT13,(N+21),M;PLOT5,(N+28),M;M=M+1;IF M<40 G.w
9525M=30
9527MOVE(N+22),(M+10);DRAW(N+27),(M+10)
9530PLOT15,(N+23),(M+8);PLOT7,(N+26),(M+8)
9532PLOT15,(N+23),(M+7);PLOT7,(N+26),(M+7)
9533N=N+10
9535G=G+1;IF G<(K/10) G.z
9540G.p

```

Hi-res mover

Jan Erik Lundberg,
Solna,
Sweden.

SPECTRUM

IMPRESSED BY THE SMOOTH action of the hi-res graphics in Psion's Planetoids for the Spectrum I just had to have a go at writing a

machine-code subroutine that could do a similar job. I hope that it will be useful for the readers who want to write their own programs using moving graphics.

Overcomplicated Basic programs would be too slow but perhaps a compiled version would be better.

The demonstration driver program is only intended to show how to use the routine and

demonstrate its good and bad features.

See what happens when you change the mode — 0 to 3. The subroutine writes or erases the user-defined graphic in high-res — 172x256. You can expand them from 21 to 32. It is position-independent coded, PIC, and you should start to load it 600 bytes lower than the UDG pointer. Perhaps it is easier to load it directly from the memory dump.

```

1 REM HIRES MOVER SUB
2 CLEAR 31000
3 POKE 23600,30
10 RESTORE 3000
15 FOR a=32000 TO 32335
20 READ n: POKE a,n
30 NEXT a
40 RESTORE 55
45 FOR s=32600 TO 32800
50 READ n: POKE a,n
55 DATA 60,126,126,126,126,60
60 NEXT a
65 LET x=23728
66 LET y=x+1
67 LET ch=23677
68 LET m0=ch+1
70 REM 0<Y<192 0<X<255
71 REM ch=ink+8*(code-144)
144<code=164 (could be
expanded to max 31 by
lowering ludge) 60 bytes)
72 REM m0=1 colour change dis-
sable, m0=2 no restoring
80 LET x=100
85 LET y=32
86 BORDER 6: INK 1: PAPER 6
89 LET x=1: LET y=1
90 PRINT AT 0,0: INK 1: ""
91 PRINT AT 21,0: INK 5: ""
92 FOR i=1 TO 20: PRINT AT i,0

```

```

INK 2: ""
93 FOR i=1 TO 20: PRINT AT AND
*20+5,RND*30+5: ""
95 POKE m0,a,2: REM "eat" mode
96 POKE ch,a,2: REM write red #
100 POKE y,y
101 POKE x,x
105 LET l=USA 32004: REM write
106 IF l=1 THEN PRINT AT 2,20,"
HIT": BEEP .2,50
109 IF l=0 THEN PRINT AT 2,20,"
111 IF INKEY$="S" THEN LET x=-
112 IF INKEY$="8" THEN LET x=3
113 IF INKEY$="7" THEN LET y=1
114 IF INKEY$="6" THEN LET y=-
115 LET x=x+xf
117 LET y=y+yf
119 LET l=USA 32004: REM erase
120 GO TO 100
1999 STOP
3000 REM finds moverpointer IX
write erase flag (in a) clears
25678 for later use as hit and
colour change flags
3010 DATA 175,55,24,1,175,71,8,3
3,126,92,126,230,7,119,45,126,23
0,248,92,126,230,7,45,143,87,25
,230,248,176,119,221,42,123,52,2

```

```

21,9,17,139,255,221,25
3050 REM sets attpointer accord-
ing to Y, pushes it on stack AND
leaves with a=y mod 192
3060 DATA 33,224,90,14,32,58,177
,92,214,192,48,2,196,192,95,22,5
,167,237,66,146,48,251,130,9,229
3100 REM sets picpointer HL acco-
rding to y and leaves D with lin-
es left in row, E with 1 if row=
0 (warning for bankshift)
3110 DATA 33,224,87,58,14,32,58,9
,29,237,66,146,48,250,130,8,184,
40,5,21,37,61,32,251
3150 REM adjust pointers for x
and push attpointer on stack
crest in x, b=8 lines to scan
3160 DATA 56,176,92,184,48,12,15
9,35,3,214,8,48,250,198,8,43,11,
197,79,6,6
3300 REM main line scan loop
writes or erases the dots, sets
up the flag register for later
use in colour part
3305 REM adjusts all data for re-
set in x
3310 DATA 197,213,229,121,221,70
,124,14,0,86,35,94,221,102,132,1

```

(continued on page 135)

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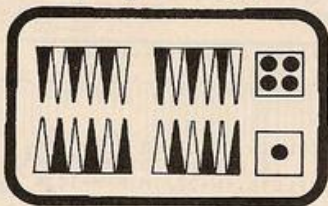
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YOUR COMPUTER, MARCH 1983 135

(continued from previous page)

```
280 ? "Designs can be planned on graph paper, adding each bit to obtain the decimal"
290 ? "number for each byte, but Mode 2 of this program saves you this trouble"
300 ? "Mode 1 allows you to enter decimal data and see the resulting character"
310 ? "In the case of a Player, you can see the effects of increasing its width"
320 ? "to double or quadruple size as allowed by Player-Missile Graphics."
330 ?
340 ? R#;
350 Z=PEEK(LKP):IF Z<>WHI THEN 350
360 POKE LKP,BM
370 GRAPHICS 20:POKE CR2,BLU:POKE CR1,WHI
380 ? "DESIGNING PLAYERS/CHARACTERS":
390 ? "IN BINARY DIGITS."
400 Z=PEEK(LKP):IF Z<>30 AND Z<>31 THEN
410 POKE LKP,BM:IF Z=30 THEN GOTO 6R3
420 ? CHR$(CS);"HOW MANY LINES?";INPUT L
430 ? CHR$(CS)
440 ? "ENTER ";L; " NUMBERS (0 TO 255)":?
450 DIM X(L)
460 FOR A=C1 TO L: ? A; " ":INPUT B:X(A)=B:NEXT A
470 ? "WIDTH (1,2 or 4)":INPUT R:IF
```

```
R<C1 OR R>2 AND R<>4 THEN 470
480 POKE LM,15-R#C3
490 GRAPHICS 20:POKE CR1,C2:POKE CR2,WHI
500 FOR A=C1 TO L
510 N=X(A):M=X(A)
520 Z=128:C=20
530 C=C+1:IF C=9 THEN GOTO 560
539 REM THE * IN THE NEXT LINE IS AN INVERSE SPACE:
540 IF M=2 THEN FOR P=C1 TO R: "*" :NEXT P:M=R-2:Z=Z/C2:GOTO 530
550 FOR P=C1 TO R: ? " ":NEXT P:Z=Z/C2:GOTO 530
560 ? " " :N
570 NEXT A:
580 ? "CHANGE WIDTH (1,2 or 4)":
590 Z=PEEK(LKP):IF Z<>24 AND Z<>30 AND Z<>31 THEN 590
600 POKE LKP,BM:IF Z=31 THEN R=C1
610 IF Z=30 THEN R=C2
620 IF Z=26 THEN R=C3
630 IF Z=24 THEN R=4
640 GOTO MARSET
650 GRAPHICS C3:POKE CR0,22:POKE CR1,WHI
660 POKE CR2,BLU:POKE CR4,200
670 COLOR C1:PLOT 15,20:DRAWTO 24,20:DRAWTO 24,17:DRAWTO 15,17:DRAWTO 15,20
680 COLOR C2:FOR A=C1 TO 16:PLOT 16,A:DRAWTO 23,A:NEXT A
690 POKE LM,C1: ? "DRAW YOUR DESIGN IN THE SPACE, USING ARROWS, SPACE, DELETE & RETURN."
690 POKE CR,C1: ? "(No Shifts needed). WHEN YOUR DESIGN IS COMPLETE, PRESS START FOR READOUT."
700 X=16:Y=C1
```

```
710 IF PEEK(53279)=C6 THEN GOTO CLS
720 Z=PEEK(LKP):IF Z<>C6 AND Z<>7 AND Z<>14 AND Z<>15 AND Z<>WHI AND Z<>33 AND Z<>52 THEN GOTO CHST
730 POKE 53279,20
740 IF Z=WHI THEN X=16:Y=Y+1:IF Y>16 THEN Y=16
750 IF Z=C6 THEN X=X-C1:IF X<C16 THEN X=C16
760 IF Z=7 THEN X=X+C1:IF X>23 THEN X=23
770 IF Z=14 THEN Y=Y-C1:IF Y<C1 THEN Y=C1
780 IF Z=15 THEN Y=Y+C1:IF Y>16 THEN Y=16
790 IF Z=33 THEN COLOR C3:PLOT X,Y
800 IF Z=52 THEN COLOR C2:PLOT X,Y
810 FOR H=C1 TO 20:NEXT H
820 IF PEEK(53279)=6 THEN GOTO CLS
830 POKE LKP,BM:GOTO CHST
840 ? CHR$(CS)
850 DIM X(16)
860 J=128:K=C16
870 FOR A=C1 TO 16:X(A)=20:J=128
880 FOR K=C16 TO 23
890 LOCATE K,A:P:IF P=C3 THEN X(A)=X(A)+J:J=J/C2
900 IF P=C2 THEN J=J/C2
910 NEXT K
920 NEXT A
930 ? "THE DATA FOR THIS DESIGN:"
940 FOR A=C1 TO 16: ? X(A); " ":NEXT A:
950 ? R#;
960 Z=PEEK(LKP):IF Z<>WHI THEN 960
970 POKE LKP,BM:R=C1:L=16:GRAPHICS 20:POKE CR1,C2:POKE CR2,WHI:GOTO MARSET
```

Auto-list

S M Russell,
Lee,
London.

BBC

IT IS SOMETIMES useful to list part of a program automatically under the control of that program. For example, a program could give the option of changing the contents of its Data statements, and then list the relevant lines for alteration. Unfortunately, BBC Basic does not allow the use of the List command

within a program. These subroutines overcome the problem.

ProcList scans the program in memory and, when it finds the required lines, sends each line number, its position in memory, and the line length to ProcDecode. ProcDecode first prints the line number, and then sends each byte of the line to a resident routine — located at &B53A — to be translated into a keyword if a token, or into ASCII if not. The result is then printed.

There is one limitation that ProcDecode does not translate the line numbers associated

with Goto and GOSUB correctly, because these use a special code.

When calling ProcList, the two parameters in brackets after the procedure name specify the first and last lines to be listed. If only one line is required, then set both parameters to that value. Line 10020 gives a demonstration.

These procedures may also be used in error-trapping routines, to display the offending line automatically; for example:

```
10 ON ERROR GOTO 10035
10035 MODE 7:REPORT:PRINT:PROClist
(ERL,ERL):END
```

```
10000 REM SUBROUTINE TO LIST FROM WITHIN A PROGRAM (C) S.M.Russell 1983
10010 REM DEMO
10020 PROClist(10040,10120)
10030 END
10040 DEF PROClist(n1,n2)
10050 LOCAL length%,line_no%,start%
10060 start%=PAGE:0%=5
10070 REPEAT
10080   line_no%=start%?1*256+start%?2:length%=start%?3
10090   IF line_no%>n1 AND line_no%<=n2 THEN PROCdecode(line_no%,start%,length%)
10100   start%=start%+length%
10110   UNTIL start%?1=&FF:0%=&A0A
10120 ENDPROC
10130 DEF PROCdecode(line_no%,start%,length%)
10140 LOCAL A%,I%
10150 DECODE=&B53A:I%=4
10160 PRINTline_no%;
10170 REPEAT:A%=start%?I%:CALL DECODE
10180   I%=I%+1:UNTIL I%=length%:PRINT
10190 ENDPROC
```

Status

Colin Carruthers,
Edinburgh.

SPECTRUM

THIS PROGRAM was written on a 16K machine and will run in either 16K or 48K. It is a short three-line program which I called Status. When executed it returns a number of useful pieces of information about the general status of the machine — program size, variable space and free space. I use it while developing other programs.

```
1 DEF FN p(n)=PEEK n+256*PEEK
(n+1)
9999 CLS : DRAW 255,0 : DRAW 0,17
5: DRAW -255,0 : DRAW 0,-175: PLO
T 40,158: DRAW 127,0: PRINT AT 1
5:"Machine Status...":AT 4,2:"To
tal RAM :";FN p(23732)-163
83)/1024;" K":AT 6,2:"Microdrive
Maps :";FN p(23631)-23734;" byte
s":FN p(23627)-FN p(23635);" by
tes":AT 9,2:"Variables :";FN
N p(23641)-FN p(23627)-1;" bytes
":AT 11,2:"Free Space :";FN
p(23730)-FN p(23641);" bytes":AT
19,2:"UDG:ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPQRSTU
9999 PRINT AT 14,2:"Up Time
":INT ((FN p(23672)+65536*FE
EK 23674)/50);" seconds": GO TO
9999
```

Machine Status...

Total RAM	:48 K
Microdrive Maps:	0 bytes
BASIC program	:3977 bytes
Variables	:73 bytes
Free Space	:36024 bytes
Up Time	:189 seconds

UDG: AB44EFGHIJKLMNOPQRABU

The wall

Robert O'Donnell,
Stockport,
Cheshire.

ZX-81

THE OBJECT of the game, which takes under 16K of RAM, is to catch 10 of the apples that are being thrown over the orchard wall. You steer the basket at the bottom of the screen using keys 5 and 8.

20 16 graphics shift A
50 16 inverse L
80 inverse L; graphics shift 8; two inverse spaces; graphics shift 5; inverse L
90 inverse L; four graphics shift 6; inverse L
3000 inverse L
3020 inverse star
9610 as line 9600 but inverse.

```

10 FOR I=1 TO 10
20 PRINT "*****";
30 NEXT I
40 FOR I=1 TO 34
50 PRINT "*****";
60 NEXT I
81 POKE 16418,1
82 PRINT "SCORE 0"
70 LET BAT=15
80 LET AS="L"
90 LET SCORE=0
100 LET APPLES=0
130 GOSUB 2030
140 GOTO 9000
1000 PRINT AT 20,BAT,AS;AT 21,BA
T,AS
1010 LET BAT=BAT+(INKEY$="8")-(I
NKEY$="5")
1020 LET BAT=BAT-(BAT=27)+(BAT=-
1)
1030 RETURN
2000 LET APPLEY=APPELY+1
2010 IF APPLEY<20 THEN RETURN
2020 IF APPLEY=BAT+3 OR APPLEY=B
AT+2 THEN LET SCORE=SCORE+1
2030 LET APPLEX=INT (RND*28+2)
2040 LET APPLEY=5
2045 PRINT AT 22,8;SCORE
2047 IF SCORE=10 THEN GOTO 9500
2048 LET APPLES=APPLES+1
2049 PRINT AT 22,15;"NUMBER: ";A
PPLES
2050 RETURN
3000 PRINT AT APPELY,APPELY;" "
3010 GOSUB 2000
3020 PRINT AT APPELY,APPELY;" "
3030 RETURN
9000 GOSUB 1000
9010 GOSUB 3000
9020 GOTO 9000
9500 LET AS="WELL DONE, YOU HAVE
CAUGHT TEN."
9510 FOR I=1 TO 32
9520 FOR J=0 TO 4
9530 PRINT AT J,I-1;AS(I)
9540 NEXT J
9550 NEXT I
9560 LET AS=" HOWEVER YOU WASTED
+STR$(APPLES-10)+ " APPLES "
9570 DIM B$(LEN AS)
9580 LET X=15-LEN AS/2
9590 PRINT AT 11,X;B$;AT 13,X;B$
;AT 12,X;AS
9600 PRINT AT 22,0;"PRESS NEWLIN
E FOR ANOTHER GAME."
9610 PRINT AT 22,0;"PRESS NEWLIN
E FOR ANOTHER GAME."
9620 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 9600
9630 CLS
9640 RUN
    
```

From the screen

Nigel Beasley,
Exeter,
Devon.

BBC

THIS PROGRAM is an assembly language program for a Model B BBC Micro with a printer interface and Epson MX-80 F/T 3 printer or similar. The final routine occupies about 250 bytes and is located at 10000 in the memory. Alterations may have to be made for other printers. This program takes about two minutes to print the entire screen, much faster than any Basic program.

In this way, graphics and text

can be reproduced at the same time.

To use the program, type it in exactly as shown, leaving out any comments, if you wish. Comments follow an oblique sign. Run the program. If you are sure that no errors have occurred then type:

*SAVE"DUMP" 2710 2803 (Return)

This saves the area of memory where the program occurs. Also save the assembly language program as usual:

SAVE"ASSEMBL" (Return)

To use the routine in your programs simply use the Basic command:

CALL 10000

10000 is the memory location where the routine starts. When using the program it

must be ensured that you do not overwrite it with a Basic program: Top must be below 10000. To reload the routine into memory having saved it under a particular filename use the command

*LOAD"DUMP" 2710

When reloading the program it will not disrupt any program already in memory, so it can be loaded into memory from a Basic program, using the aforementioned command.

To use with another printer: it must be a dot-matrix printer with bit image printing capabilities. The areas where specific commands for the Epson are shown and the commands for your printer can be inserted here.

```

10 REM Assembly language program to dump screen onto printer
20 REM For EPSON MX-80 F/T 3
30 REM (c) N.Beasley 23/1/83
40 CLS
50 OSWORD=&FFF1
60 OSWRCH=&FFEE
70 P% = 10000: REM Sets program counter **DO NOT CHANGE !!!**
80 C
90 LDA E2:JSR OSWRCH \ Turns on printer
100 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH \ Sets the line spacing to 1/32 inch
110 LDA E27:JSR OSWRCH \ on an Epson
120 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH
130 LDA E51:JSR OSWRCH
140 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH
150 LDA E24:JSR OSWRCH
160 LDA E&1F \ Initialises Y value
170 STA &77
180 LDA E4
190 STA &78
200 CLC \ Start of main loop
210 LDA &77 \ Subtracts 32 from Y value
220 SBC E31
230 STA &77
240 LDA &78
250 SBC E0
260 STA &78
270 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH \ Puts the Epson printer into
280 LDA E27:JSR OSWRCH \ 'Bit image printing' mode
290 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH
300 LDA E76:JSR OSWRCH
310 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH
320 LDA E128:JSR OSWRCH
330 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH
340 LDA E2:JSR OSWRCH
350 LDA E&FF \ Initialises X value
360 STA &70
370 LDA E&FF
380 STA &71
390 .XC00D \ Start of Xcoord loop
400 CLC
410 LDA &70 \ Adds 2 to X value
420 ADC E2
430 STA &70
440 LDA &71
450 ADC E0
460 STA &71
470 LDA E252 \ Initiates Y movement value
480 STA &75
    
```

```

490 LDA E0 \ Initialises memory location to receive 'bit image'
500 STA &79
510 .YCOORD \ Start of search
520 CLC
530 LDA &75 \ Adds 2 to Y search value
540 ADC E4
550 STA &75
560 LDA &77 \ Put actual Ycoord value into position ready for call
570 SBC &75
580 STA &72
590 LDA &78
600 SBC E0
610 STA &73
620 LDA E9 \ Sets A=9 for OSWORD call
630 LDY E&70 \ Points to location of memory where coords are held
640 LDY E0
650 JSR OSWORD
660 CLC
670 LDA &79 \ Takes present 'Bit image'
680 ROL A \ Rotates it left
690 ADC &74 \ Adds result of OSWORD call
700 STA &79 \ Stores result
710 LDA E27 \ Branches back if not finished
720 CMP &75
730 BPL YCOORD
740 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH \ Sends result to printer
750 LDA &79:JSR OSWRCH
760 LDA E&FF \ Branches back to increase X value if not 1279
770 CMP &70
780 BNE XC00D
790 LDA E4
800 CMP &71
810 BNE XC00D
820 LDA E1:JSR OSWRCH \ Sends linefeed to printer
830 LDA E10:JSR OSWRCH
840 LDA &78 \ Branches back to decrease Y value if not 0
850 BNE &2800
860 LDA E31
870 CMP &77
880 BNE &2800
890 LDA E3 \ Turns off printer
900 JSR OSWRCH
910 RTS
920 J
930 P%=&2800
940 C
950 JMP &273B
960 J
    
```

Decimal liner

K W Hall,
Catterick Garrison,
North Yorkshire.

VIC-20

THIS USEFUL subroutine was written for the Vic-20 but can easily be modified for other

micros. Anyone who writes programs and requires their outputs listed in columns will know that Basic does not line up decimal points. The following subroutine does just that. The subroutine expects the variables to be processed in X: the output is in X\$.

8000 A\$=RIGHT\$(" " + STR\$(INT(X)),4)

8030 B\$=LEFT\$(MID\$(STR\$(INT((X-INT(X)) *100+.005))+ "00",2),2)

8040 C\$="":X\$=A\$+C\$+B\$:RETURN

X string can now be Printed in a normal For loop Print routine. The spaces in line 8000 can be increased to adjust the position of the output on the screen.

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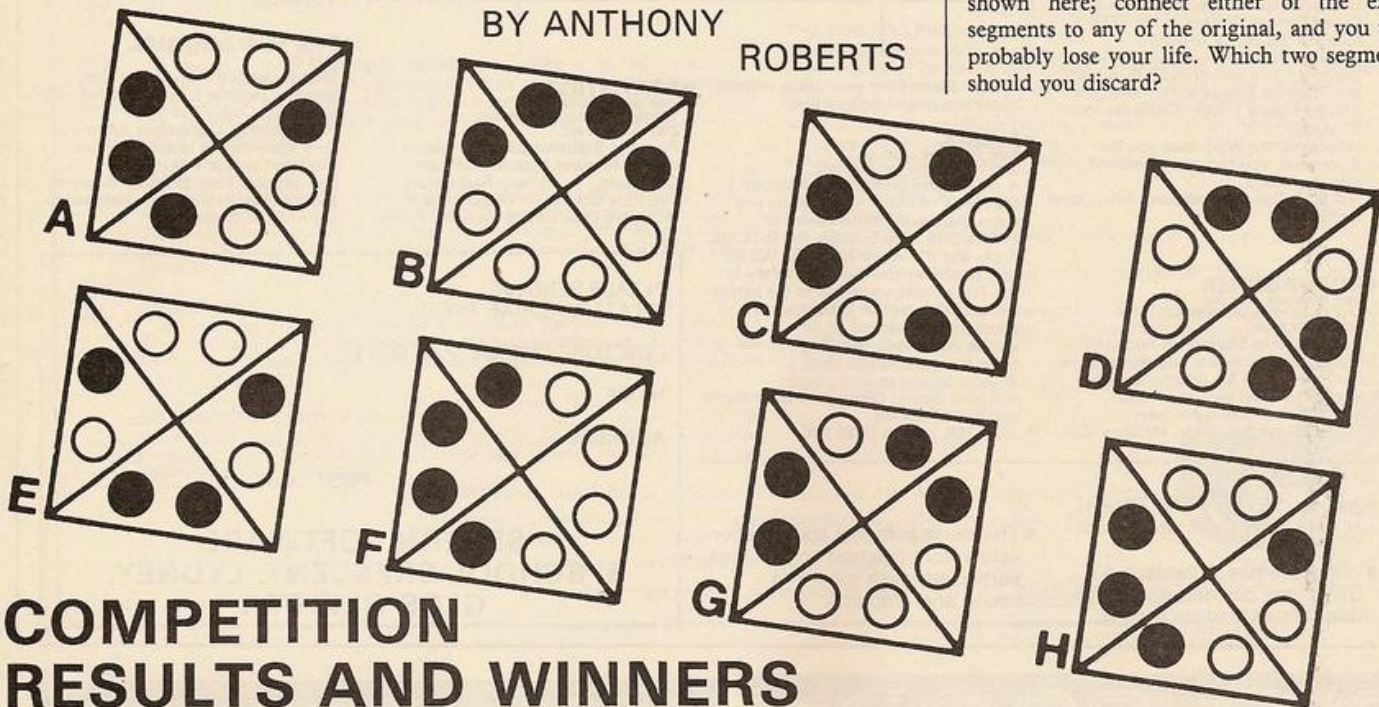
COMPETITION CORNER

A £15 book token will be awarded to the first correct solution drawn from the competition bag. All entries must be at the *Your Computer* offices by the last working day in March. The name of the winner, the solution, and a competition report will be published in the May, 1983 issue of *Your Computer*.

If you want to set a competition for Competition Corner, remember that the simplest solution should be calculable by a short program rather than by any other form of reckoning.

TELEPATHIC DANGERS

BY ANTHONY ROBERTS



YOU HAVE found the fabulous cube of On'ey! However, as you approach, a careless thought triggers a circuit, and the cube tumbles apart into six regular square-based pyramids, and you know that you have just minutes to reconstruct it before the segments crumble to dust. Each segment connects to its neighbouring segments via a set of four lugs and four holes, two to each triangular face — each lug must match a hole on the next segment. As you gather the segments you notice that there are in fact the eight segments shown here; connect either of the extra segments to any of the original, and you will probably lose your life. Which two segments should you discard?

COMPETITION RESULTS AND WINNERS

JANUARY'S COMPETITION to win an Oric asked contestants to complete the crossword and the sentence, "My New Year should start with an Oric because . . .". If the number of entries for our competitions is any indication of how popular a new computer will be, the Oric should do well; but not as well perhaps as its closest rival, the Spectrum, which drew several hundred more entries last July.

The winning entry was a rather off-beat one from J Elliot, 1 Saint Mary's Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, who wrote "I got those ZX-81 — 16K — RAM-pack — wobble blues!". Unlike the ZX-81 the Oric, of course, keeps its memory tucked away inside the case. The ZX-81 also came in for a bit of stick from R Booth who said that "the Alsatian keeps mistaking my ZX-81 for a dog biscuit".

Quite a few readers showed their learning by making a play on the line from Hamlet, "Alas poor Yorick. . .". The best of these was P Douthwaite's "Alas poor Oric, I'd use him well, a computer of infinite jest". This is the one quote, incidentally, that everyone gets wrong. Look up your Hamlet and you will see that Hamlet says not, "I knew him well" but "I knew him Horatio". Neither version, however, is particularly relevant to the Oric.

N Dickason claimed optimistically that "with my Oric promotion will be meteoric", while S Yeo revealed "my wife has run off with the Sinclair". From A Cutler came "it would provide the Basic necessities for life . . . and many other games".

Finally, G Towner's entry raised the big

question hanging over Oric International — can it deliver? He pointed out that his New year should start with an Oric because "it will be over 28 days since I ordered one".

A number of correct solutions were sent in for the Star Stone competition but few were accompanied by a program. Admittedly the problem did not lend itself to a short program solution. To find the answer you needed to

work out that there are only three faces on the Stella Octangular which cannot form part of a closed loop. Between them they contain one tetrahedroid crystal, three pan-metallic hypercubes and five spheroid diamonds.

The £15 book token goes to the first correct entry picked from the bag which was from P Carlotti, Hope Paint House, Granville Road, Kingsdown, Deal, Kent.

The solution to January's crossword when a prize of an Oric 1 was at stake. Although swarms of aspiring Oric owners came forward, the level of entries failed to match last July's competition with its prize of a Spectrum.



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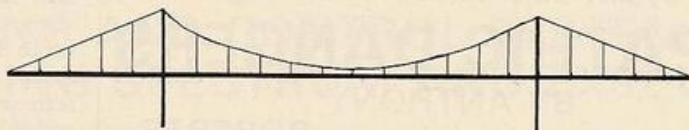
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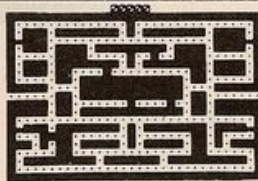
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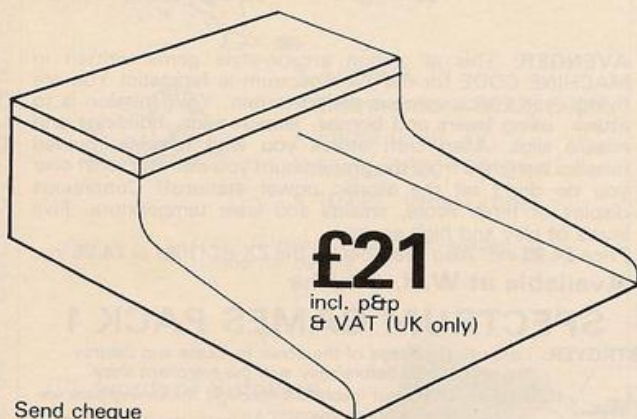
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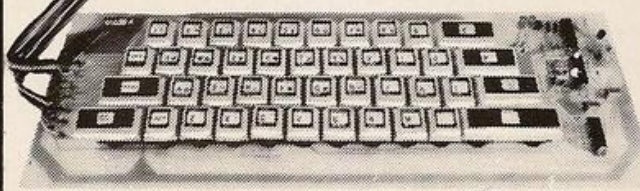
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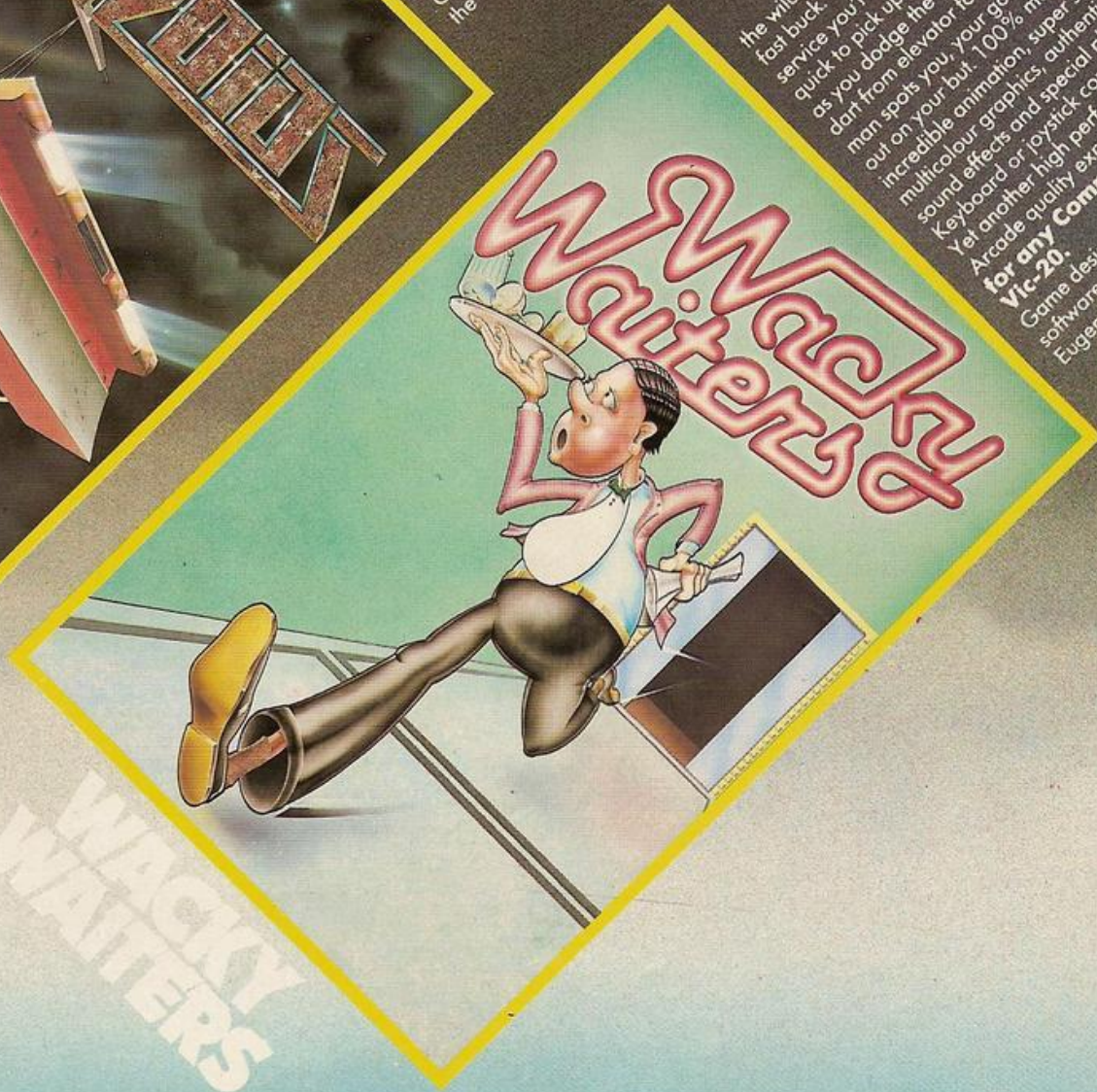
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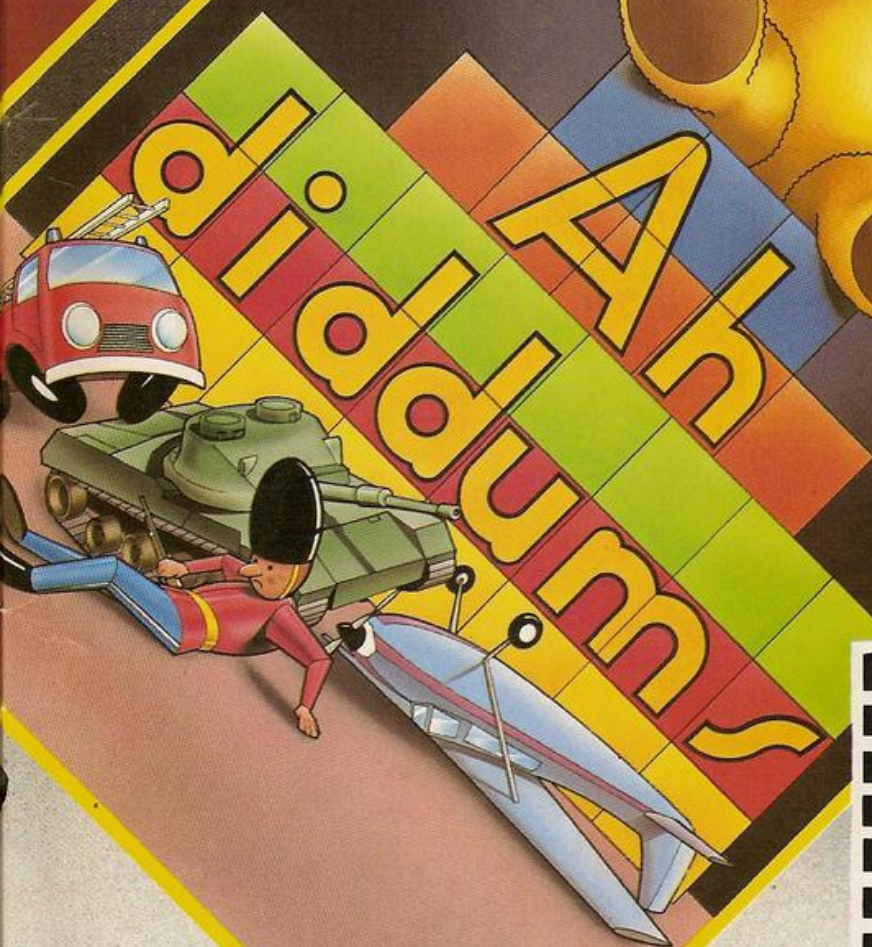
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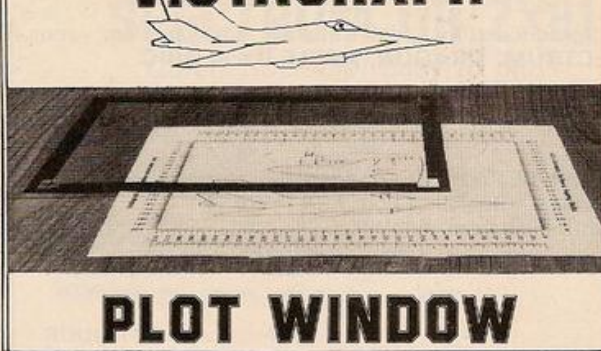
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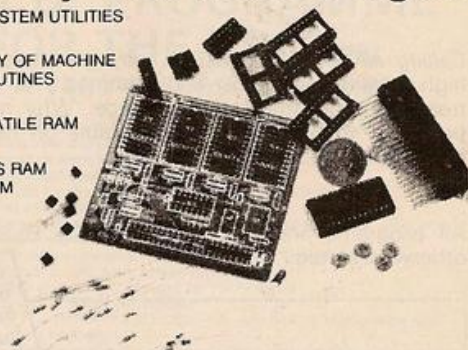
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INTRODUCTION

This memory board is designed to fill the transparent 8K block of memory (from 8 to 16K) in a ZX81-16K system. This area of memory is an ideal place to store, either permanently or temporarily, machine language routines or data which are to be used by the BASIC system. Such routines could be, for example:

- fast graphics routines
- custom mathematical or statistical functions
- Sinclair code/ASCII conversion tables
- octal/decimal/hex conversion routines
- interrupt servicing routines
- I/O servicing routines for control applications
- a disc operating (DOS) or other development system
- speech synthesis routines
- additional BASIC commands
- EPROM programming and verify routines

A sample rapid display routine and procedures for storing utilities on tape are included with the kit.

The use of HM6116P 2K CMOS RAM memory IC's with their own reserve power supply means that routines stored in the RAM are non-volatile — the RAM retains its memory even when the ZX81 is switched off or reset. Moreover, being RAM, the routines you store in the memory are easily modified. The lithium cell supplied with the board will maintain sufficient reserve power for about ten months for 2K or for about two months for a fully populated board. A connector is made available for an alternative external supply.

With this board it's no longer necessary to place your machine language routines in REM statements, in string variables, or beyond RAMTOP. You can build up a resident library of machine utilities for use by your BASIC system.

Once your system utilities and other machine language routines are established you can, if you wish, replace the 6116P CMOS RAM's with 2716 or 2732 EPROM's.

OTHER OPTIONS

The board can be jumper programmed to occupy any one of the four 8K blocks of memory in the first 32K. You can, for example, modify the SINCLAIR operating system. Alternatively the board can be used as system/user RAM.

ASSEMBLY

Complete step-by-step instructions in a 16 page manual make assembly of the board easy. Construction takes between one and two hours. The kit (pictured above) is complete with a silkscreened solder-masked printed circuit board, all capacitors, resistors, transistors, sockets, connectors, integrated circuits, and the lithium cell. The board is supplied with one 2K CMOS 6116P-3 RAM — it will accommodate three more for a total of 8K.

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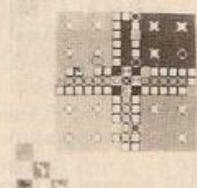
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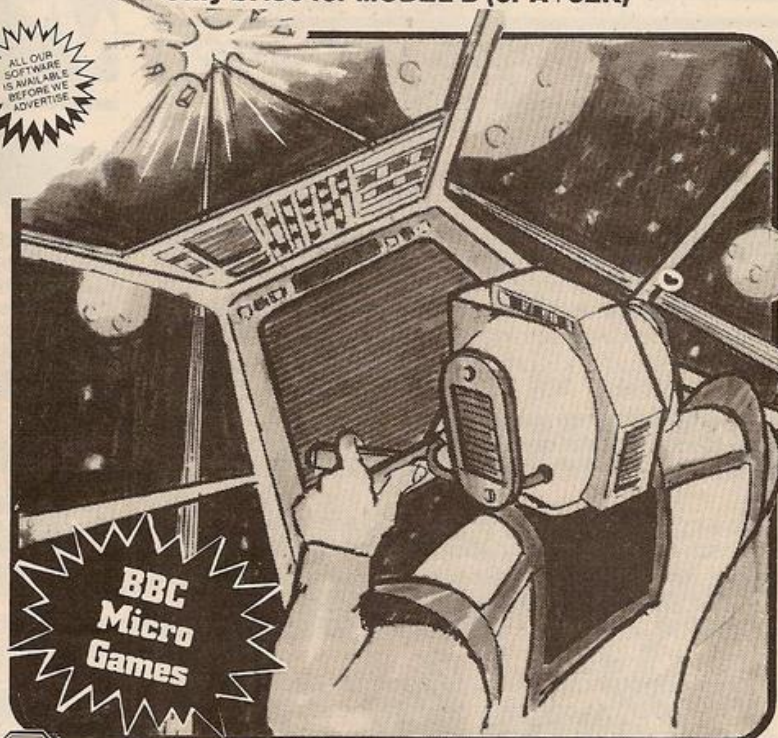
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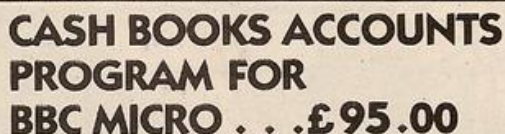
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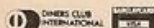
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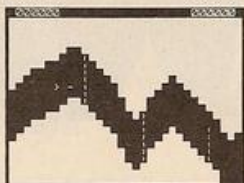
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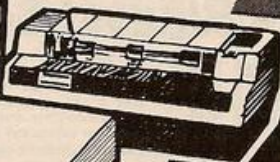
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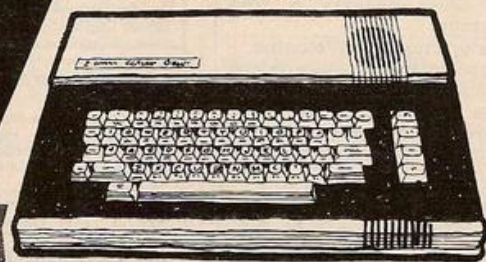


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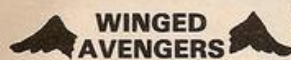
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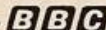
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43/1

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12/2

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26/2

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20/1

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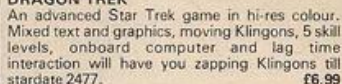
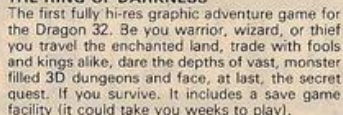
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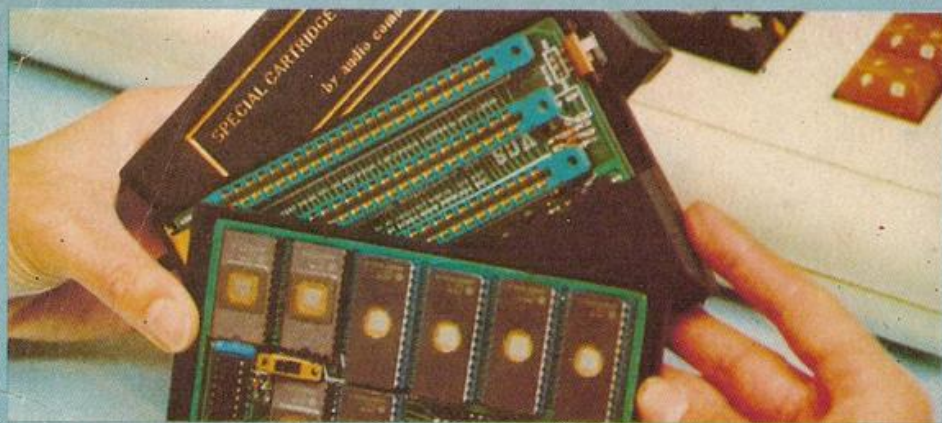
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Fig. 1



Fig. 2

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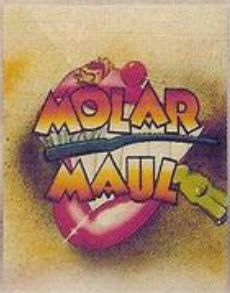
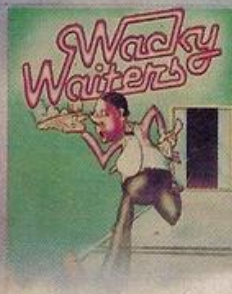
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