OVER 50 GAMES REVIEWED $\&$ PREVIEWED INCIUDING: AVENGEP DRAGONS LAIR-STREET HAWI-TRAIBBLAZEP- MARBLE MADNESS Pracurse poster map-aliens-ThIS TIME IT'S THE COMPO

## 



## 

ID OF THEIR TIME

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- The Witch Hunter/Pocket Moncy Software



Curse those Pyras! Hewson's megagame mapped!

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PROGS
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## Program Power Pull Out

Planet Proton - beef up your Speccy with plenty of proton.

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Avenger - Way Of The Tiger II
Some people just never stop ninjing.
SCREENSHOTS


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- Street Hawk/Ocean - Galvan/lmagine
- Dragon's Lair/Software Projects - Thrust/Firebird - Trailblazer/Gremlin
- Asterix And The Magic Cauldron/Melbourne House
- Phantomas/Codemastors
- Black Hawk/Sparkjers
- Pub Games/Aligata
- Conquestador/Melbourne House - Druld/Firebird - Cyrus II/Aligata
- Ice Temple/Bubble Bus Software - Marble Madness Construction KIU Melboume House
- Firelord/Hewson
- Vampire/Codemasters
- Captain Kelly/Quicksilva - Gyron Arena/Firebird
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- Buccaneer/Firebird
- Storm/Mastertronic
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## $01-6311433$

EDITOR Kevin Cox
pUBLISHER Roger Munford
SUBSCRIPTION Surie Mattkews ADVERTISEMENT ENQUIRIES 01-580 0504/631 1433
Mark Salmon, Jullan Harriott
Your Sinclair, Sportscene
Specialist Press Ltd., 14
Rathbone Place, London W1P
1DE.
Cover Illustration:David A. Elliott




New from Ocean - the Spectrum version of Top Gun. Girls go all gooey over the stor of the film, Tom Cruise... hmm... d'yo think they'd go all gooey over you if you bought the game? Ooh, talking of games, which we were, watch out for T'zer's Movie Special next month (popcorn optional).

Nyeah.. wot's up, doc? We'll tell yo what's up. Trixie Trinian (that saucy little minxi) of St. Brides School for Rich Young Lodies (with a penchant for gin and adventure gaming) has iust delivered a copy of her new game, Bugsy for CRL. (Gush) Simperi) Bugsy Maroon is a rabbit bosed not so loosely on a famous cortoon rodent of a similar name, who hops his way through the streets of 1920's Chicogo, on his woy to the top of the Mob. He's gotta start smoll, though Potty crime, protection rackets. carrot cake $£ 7,95$ (warren offer) gets you your piece of the hare raising oction. That's all folks!


Pis is a run-doun areaiof town.

Ficratioynotion \%

Coming soon from Odin.. The Plot Remember remember... trouble is brewing under the Palace of Westminster... HP Sauce anyone? Heh heh heh... His name is Fawkes, Guy Fawkes, and he's on a very short fuse... what a funny guyl Heh heh heh... gotta run... byeeee! Sssssssssssssss sss... B0000000000000 MMM ммммм!! ${ }^{\text {м }}$ !!

4


What a jolly nice chap David "Spellbound/ Knight Tyme" Jones is! Not content with giving all at YS a Magic Knight T-shirt each (Hke the one he's wearing) at the PCW Show, he'd like catch, though. In order to obtain this fab freebie, you must find the answer to this crucial (get downt) question:
Which David Jones is now a Thin White Duke?
Send your Iabyrinthine answers to: Will The You


Frontlines - first for hot news. Yes, Frontlines was there with the rumour that there was to be an EastEnders game way back in the July issue. Well you can now consider it a fact 'cos Macsen is to bring out the very same - an EastEnders game. And best of alt it means we can print another picture of Dirty Den. Yummy!

Once bitten - Twice Shy, Or at least Jonathan Derry was when he suddenly came into possession of some cassetle tapes and found himself face-lo-face with the heavy mob in Mosaic's new adventure - Dick Francis's Twice Shy,

You, as Jonathan, must try and discover the purpose of the tapes. But you're not on your own - a few shady characlers from the horserocing underworld will stop at nothing to get their dirty hands on 'em. Steer clear of the mob and you may get the chance to visit the race course and have a little flutter in the Twice Shy racing simulation game. You could well be backing a winner with this one.


What's that behind the Green Door? Must be a Red Box. And it's waiting for an intruder. Here's one now. POWII! Bells ring! Lights flash!! Your Teasmade furns onft!


Red Box isan hey confrof Iystem from GIS that you program with your very own spocey. ©loyer hoy? Then Reateade) (hifty name) פifs in a compor of gerden elfictrle-socket talking lo its quxiliong unit tid your lhouse's ringethoin.
As youre able 10 run amaimost linfinite number ol slaves (don chig lust lurve that copcept? and sph fors the possibilifes are limitless.

We'va been expertmenting with Red Box and cfioyld bereporing in full next mopin. Till then we've wired it to the Ed's chair (Safety note - don't try this one for yourselves, children, it could be dangerous!) and every time he tries to sit down for a kip, three million, zillion volts jolt him back to work! (I'm shocked! Ed).


Sob.... sob... sound of tears trickling down cheek... We announce a bereavement...
The esteemed Art Editor, Martin Dixon is being put out to pasture - sorry leaving for pastures new. And it is with deep regret that the team at VS would like to present him with this little epitaph as we'll always remember him.
There mas a young lad called Martin With such sweet sorrow was partin'
A man of design
He was partial to wine
Which was why he was always breaking wind (ahem)

## PRINTER OF THE MONTH AWARD



Gollyl A printer that fells the fime? Could be. Cifizen MSP. IOE and MSP. 15E precision dot motrix printers have been designed and built with the attention to detail you would expect from the world's leading watch manufocturer.. Huh?


Out in the mists of spoce (which there aren't 'cos it's a vacuum) jounts jolly Randolph the Spaceman, combing the platforms of some netherworld (clogs'n'tulips?) in search of a Damsel in Distress, well, some dress or other. She's in the clutches of Spegbott the Terrible (or botty to his pals) who has designs on her body, and we don't mean he's a tattooistl Out soon from those naughty Nippers, Gremlin Graphics. Ah, bless 'eml
$D^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$
GEEZR
If Frontlines isn't mistaken it's the Ed giving Gwyn a spot of GBH of the lug holes over his latest game review. Well, okay Frontlines is mistaken. It's actually Lever and Jones (the dirt says hot, the label says not), the programmers of Melbourne House's latest release Dodgy Geezers. A right pair of villaynes!

Coming soon to a cinema near you: Attack Of The Killer Ergonomically Designed Joysticks (Cert PG), starring Wyn Holloway as Professor Pipebender and introducing the Konix Speed King joystick as a £12.95 contender for the best joystick of all time in a supporting role.


Loch aye the noo.
Well, raise my sporran, what have we here? Mirrorsoff new release Ferror O) The Deep that's what! Hideous moasters have beea sighted surfacing at night loy an eccentric Scottish engliteer - fingh. Wee Nessic has heen hlamed. But the engineer has summoned you to his deathbed to find ouf more by searching the depths of


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A passing policeman comments: On no account listen to the rumours that this pome is collad Wibson and it's from A'n't. Eipecially the one obout the title being a joke on the Yorkshire bitter. Wobsters'cos only someone hop-ping Wobiters cos only someone hop-ping
mod and out of their head could've mad and out of heir head could ve
thought of anything to dippy. And that' hought of anything so dippy. And that's a foct.


Futt licensed Breakthru from Doto Eabt and judging by the screenshot it's gonno be pretty good. You're located 400 miles behind enemy lines and your mission is to retrieve the PK430 secret fighter plane stolen from your country and return it. But of course there's the usual assortment of enemies to contend with - choppers, tonks, jeeps, soldiers, landmines and flame throwers. Fortunately, you've got the world's most sophisticaled armoured vehicle to get you through the five different enemy strongholds of mountains, bridges, proiries, cities and airfields though - Frontlines never knew beoch buggies wtre so usefull
Breakhthu


D'you know they call me Trooper? You dol D'you know why thoughi No, if's not 'cos | bi"\$y swear like one. Tm a new game and thar's my name - They Call Me Trooper.

So you went to know what Ym obout, oh? Well, it's 2108 AD and we're on planet Therop. Here the annual planet Therop. Here the annual
conference discussing planetary peace is
toking ploce. Boocoooogg9gglillilleeeee And that's the sound of the broin droin which oll the members hove been put through by the Therop. They're deadly exterminotors and you, os Mojor RA Trooper, are the only one whose broin's undrained. Con you escope from the plonet Therop - olive?
Coming in a smidgin of time from CRLI


Splutter . . . splutter . . . hork . . . hork. Sonry, ivit deoring the of tubes. No need to wrinkle up your snout. Frontlines is clearing the hyperspecial wireways (wire tubes) in Electric Dreams' new game Tempest, These wireway ore infested by aliens and you, or a sort of flipper (is there a porpoies to this? Dolphin sol, muss flip around the outuide blatting the aliens as you go to thop them advancing up the tubes. With 99 levela it's going to be protty Tempert-uout
 I was 1985 and a young unknown Swede colled Bo wrote a game. He colled it Foirlight ond it went on to be one of the yeor's best sellen - a reol turnip for the books. Now there's Fairfight II - A Trail Of Darkness where you, as a slave, start the second port of your quent having mode a bit of a Bo Bo and given the Book Of Light to the Lord Of Doriness. Another real life true atory from Your Sinclair.
There ore some ploces in the uniresie you don't go olone - and we don't mean the toilet. Repley, ogainst her better iudgement, has been drogooned (yet ogoin) into bottle Gith those forchiogin' mucus spilin'/ oced blecdin' chenterotin'/ eool fixion' Alient S. the scene in set for tlectric Dreans' next biggy - Aliem. The simy litile beggars hove intested a space stotion inhabited by rcientist. Repley ond a crew of five must tid the station of these pests unce Rentotil doesn' I mate apoce call. You con swith control betwen the rix choroctirs frem the comfort of your ormourded car aince you con we wrighing your troops aro up to through the eyes of comeros mounted on their head With 255 locotions, scrolliog window ond stroboscopic light effects its not puta game -aswar


Farlgty
$\frac{25}{3}$


Porridge. Yummy, yummy, yummy. Speciolly with lots of honey. Oh miwundertood ogoin - thot kind of porridgel Where all the inhobitionts weer pyiomas with antipodean polm Irees on and keep the Pout Office in letter socks Woll, this is Pricon Planet and the leoder of a gong of criminols is doing time - but
 hove declded to hapry bovil and hove decided to spring him. Boing! You control the four criminols and here to mostermind the iob. But you're up agbinst 100 different types of alien and agoinst 100 different types of alien and then, John, that eoch member of the gang (Come bock Gary - oll is forgiven) has a particular tolent thartl help you get through. Choose whichever perversion tokes your fancy - clinging to the ceiling. bouncing, wolking up walls or iust ploin flying. There are 512 screens and if's going to be a reol islommer of a gamel Out soon (geddit?) from Mastertronic:

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Ha! The Ed thinks there are no letters this month. Little does he know that I've decided it's about time I took over this section and stopped all his nit-picking, parentheses (brackets to the rest of us) and flippant comments. After ali, I do the rest of the mag!
So enough of all you moaning minnies - in the words of A Lang (address witheld 'cos he didn't send it) here's your Thought For The Day: If people moan so much about your mag then why the
$0_{0}^{* *} \& \omega \%$ ! ${ }^{* * *}$ buy it! So from now on all the letters will only be about nice things and what better place to start than here....

## T'ZER FAN CLUB

PS 1 think Tzer is terrific and could you give away a life size poster free!
Paul Curnow
Sheffield, S. Yorks
...T'zer, youre the best thing in the magazine... pleeecase, pleceease, pleecease could I have a piecy of Tzer for my personal keeping. Craig Hoggart
Kendat, Cumbria
PPS My brother is in love with Tzer, so can you send a signed photo please.
Philtip Saddington
Hull, Humberside
PPPS Tzer is fab and tell the Ed that if she can't be on page 3, how about the classified ads?
Mark Hanrahan
Wateriord, Ireland
Unfortunately, there just isn't enough room to print all your letters! But don't let that put you off sending them. T'zer.

## SOFT TOUCH

I'm a 13 year old computer maniac and I recently wrote letters to various software publishers. But why? (Why indeed. T'zer) Simply to find out how good the companies really are. I wrole to ten companies asking for general information on their products and here are the results:


Nelbourne Reply ofter 42 House days
Domark Zilch
Firebird Zilch
Mirrorsoft even sent catalogues and posters and will be sending me regular updates on its products.

## Robert McSherry

Kilburn, Derbyshire
It's good to see software companies providing a good customer service. Obviously they get a vast amount of enquiries and it sometimes takes time to sort through them all and send out the relevant information. But it's always better to wait for an answer

## BOTTOMS UP TO WILLY'S

I thought you might like to see this advert from the local 'news' paper, The Wells Journal. Does Miner Willy know about this I wonder? Yours in awe of the excellence of Your Sinclair (compared with
than not to get one at all. Hats off to Mirrorsoft for its speedy and friendly service. T'zer

## CAT-A-TONIC

I have totally forgotten what I was going to say in this letter. But I hope it lays to rest the myth that most arcade shoof 'em up players are stupid.

## Lee Ayers

Crewe, Cheshire
PS Did you know that cats can actually smell colours? Pity there's no way of proving this!
Did you know that the Ed is an extremely good writer? Pity there's no way of proving this! T'zer

## T'ZER PLEADER

Dear Ed oko The Great One, Please, please, please print another (colour) pic of T'zer (pantl pant!) in your oh-sowonderful mag as I missed the August issue. I'm sure lots of fellas would love to see her once more.

## Adrian Matthews

Lurgan, Northern Ireland PS Sorry about the toilet paper but it was the only thing available.
I'm sorry but only the select few get to see my 'once more' and we're certainly not going to print any full colour pictures. What d'you think this is, Points Of View? T'zer.

Sugar User, Crush and Computer and Vegetable Games).
Paul King
Wells, Somerset

Does this mean the house beer is called Willy Warmer? T'zer

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## CHECKMATE

I can't tell you how pleased I was to see that both Colossus 4 and Psi Chess were reviewed in the October ish. But I was rather disoppointed to find that the reviews were made by Gwyn who was honest enough to admit she was no chess player.

Do you think it would be possible to get your reviews done by people who at least have a reasonable knowledge of what they're reviewing. I'm quite sure you could have found some very willing chess reviewers from your local chess club.

## Simon Strange

 Hassocks, West SussexRachael would be very surprised to find that Gwyn is in fact a girll it would be nigh on impossible to get reviewers who're experts on every game's content. How many Spectrum users are qualified pilots, gold medalists, Ninja warriors, Mermaids, members of the SAS? And if you can find the right person to review Scooby Doo then you're a befter man than I, well woman actually. On second thoughts don't answer that. T'zer

## CHOPSTUCKS

I recently purchased a copy of US Gold's Kung Fu Master and to be quite frank my first impression of it was unprintable. After a few thousand games I got quite fond of it - until I came face to face with the Guardian on the 4th floor. I had no option but to swing my leg landing a well-placed kick in the midregion of the body - but to my complete horror his energy didn't deplete at all. Even worse another Guardian appeared at the rear and no amount of punching and kicking would shift them.

## Stephen Martin

Glasgow, Scotland
Perhaps you should try a less violent approach. Talk to them. Try to understand their problems... help them come to terms with... (snip) T'zer Put the boot in, that's what I say. Troubleshootin' Pete to find there weren't any and that I'd cut my finger on the cracked cassette case. So for my $£ 7.95$ I bought a naffed game and a large doctor's bill! Apart from that the game is very good and enjoyable to play. You can wake up now I've finished.
Yours frustratingly.

## Philip Miller

Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire
Zzzzzzzzzzzzz... sorry did
someone say something? $\mathbf{T}^{\prime}$ zer

## CHEAP/N'CHEERFUI

YS brings me new hope. Apart from being one of the cheapes! mags it is by far the best. I admit to buying other magazines but YS really takes the cake (as long as it isn't one of my mums - yeuurch!). YS is very colourful as well - nol exactly a sunglasses job but it does calch the eye. And I like the POKEs - I'm not saying I cheat or anything but I wouldn't have completed half the games without them. Keep it up - the good work I mean.

## D J Morgan

Barnstable, Devon
You say the nicest things.
T'zer

GETTING SOME STICK
At last you managed to get away from the 'comic look' no more weighty wrestlers, batly Batmen or gruesome Goblins. The September issue actually looked quite adult-ish but then I saw them... Yes, you guessed it - the stickers! Were these seven lousy stickers supposed to increase sales? And if so, did they? I reckon they were more of a deterrent to older people - no one wants to buy a magazine that appears childish. I must admit felt a bit of a wally (Which particular bit of a wally did you feel and did he mind?
T'zer) buying your magazine so how would older people feel? If the stickers were not intended to boost soles and were simply a gift to the readers, I'm sure there's something more relevant to the world of computers you could give oway.

In short, nice mag, shame about the freebies.

## Ernie Ackers

Amersham, Lancashire
You don't think you're being a teensy-weensy bit stuck-up about this? The stickers were just meant to be a bit of freebie fun - if everything about computing had to be
"serious" there wouldn't be much room left for most computer games and no-one would buy YS. And anyway, they were extremely relevant to computers. The only things holding our Speccy together now are the stickers on it. And while we're on the subject, I reckon a YS sticker spot would be a good idea. What's the oddest place you've seen a YS sticker? Oh, and the Ed doesn't count, odd as he is! $\mathbf{T}^{\prime}$ zer

## DEER ED

My big uncal anthony sed i shud rite yoo an tell yoo ow nasstee an crool an uglee an reely nawly yoo arr. Yoo is wikked coz yoo arr hallways pikin on a teeza an she shud get yoar gob, sowwee i meen job. Yoo have allsow gott me verry verry angree bye polootin hexes gollum width nawty pichas of nawly gerlees.

## Sinned,

Wily Mayers (aged 6 :) Wrecsam, Clwyd
I am nott afraed of the bigg bad Ed. But yoove got a poynt - i fink i shud get his job coz i am a muc gooder riter an i woodnt poot in pichas of nowty gerlees - i wud hov nawly bois insted. T'zer

boys, l've got another program prinfout megagame - never seen anything like it - you fly this plane from right to left across the screen, and drop
bombs on some buildings. You only need to press one key and it's all done in under 16 K : Rest Of The Gang: Oh no0000000000000 ....

## Trainspotter awards are on their way to Pete Lee of St Neots, Cambridgeshire and to Charlie Brooker of Wallingford..

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LETTERS
thousand feet above it. Big plane that tanker! And to cap it all there's the dreaded Lenslok with absolutely no instructions. I eventually took the game back in disgust:
Yours forever T'zer,

## The Ace Himself

Portsmouth, Hants
You've put your finger on it without realising. Oooh, it's quite nice tool "Climbing is like swimming in treacle," you say. And what does Max do in his spare time? Need I say more? T'zer Not Max

## DEMOLITION MAN

Where does ZZKI get his name from? Read The Demolished Man, a sci-fi book by someone whose name l've forgotten (I lost the book) and you'll see that the baddie Ben Reich has a code. In the code the letters ZZKJ mean confidential.

## John Lawless

Dublin, Ireland
ZZKJ a demolished man? Course you're right but he makes absolutely no secret about it. T'zer

## NO BILL PRIZE

It is my considered opinion, (I'm 'Oirish so I should know) that the entire staff of YS have a combined IQ equal to that of an emply milk bottle without the milk.

But for this unique altribute

among magazine staff 1 reckon you wouldn't have the best compo mag around. Count yourself lucky!
Yours in a nutshell,

## Bill Campbell

## Dun Laoghaire, Dublin

If it's all the same to you bill l'd rather not have mine in a nutshell thankyou. What I want to know is exactly what the difference in IQ is between an empty milk bottle and an empty milk bottle without the milk.
Where did you say you came
from? T'zer

## SIMON SAYS...

I've been reading your mag for some months now and enjoy it immensely. Nothing strange in that I hear you say (I'm using my imagination for this bit 'cos my hearing's not that goodl), but I have never owned a Sinclair computer. I do have a Commodore but before you shoot me down in flames let me explain.
I have a voracious appetite for computer mags and read a number of other mags on a variety of computers. Computers are not a fad they are important. And don't listen to boring encyclopediowielding Anoraks. Playing games is fun and reason enough for owning a compuler. Although gamesplaying isn't going to make you a highly paid business programmer it does at least make people feel comfortable in the vicinity of a compuler and this 'some day computers will rule the world', 'the police have a computer thatll arrest a man and hang him in less than eight seconds' attitude will fade.
That's it! Apart from, if you enjoy producing the mag half as much as I do reading it then it must be one hell of a place to work!

## Simon Sleightholm

 NorthumberlandIt's certainly hell alright! T'zer

## GORDON BENNETT...

Well done, well done, well done, give away a bundle of T-shirts just as winter's coming up. Whoever thought it up should be given the 'Berk Of The Month' Award.
Anyway I thought I'd try my hand - if I won I could awoys wear the whole lot together. So, I cut out the coupon, stuck it to the back of a postcard and sent it off. Next morning I awoke to find... the postcard on my doormat. What is Castle Rathbone up to '' thought. So I stuck on yet another stamp and posted it again. A few days later what do I find on my doormat, no not a bundle of T-shirts but the
postcardll Helpl I can't get rid of it. What's up with the postman today? Why are they reading the back of postcards?

Not to be outdone I put another stamp on the card and tried a different postbox. So far so good but I can tell you I really dread looking at the doormat just in case it returns...

## E Bennett

## London SW 11

Your postcord is winging it's way back to you right now. T'zer

## WE ARE NOT AMUSED

The 'Devlin' has just seen Craig Gallacher's pathetic letter and I'm not amused. How can you publish such guff? He states that I should be in a loony-bin when he, surprise, surprise, wears a Transformer watch and puke, puke, cords with, wait for it, flares! How mental can you get?

## Yours disgusted,

## Mark Devlin

## Ayrshire, Scotland

How can we publish such guff? Easyl We've just done it. Anyway, I rather like Transformer watches and the Ed always wears flared cords. Me reckons they go with his anorak! T'zer

## JUST WILLAM

Having read T'zer's hilarious list of Willy games I've decided to send you a few more: One Man And His Willy,
Neverending Willy, Journey To The Centre Of Eddie Smith's Wi... (Rip... Really! T'zer)

## Mark Barnwell

## Torpoint, Cornwall

Very kind of you I'm sure Mark but l've got all the Willies I can handle at the moment. T'zer

## SMALL PRINT

PS Is this the stor letter???

## Ralf Kurbitz

## West Germany

I think you can work that one out for yourself T'zer

Could I purchase from you a drinking mug with Your Sinclair printed on it?
Royston Davidson
Birmingham, West Midlands
I think there are quite enough mugs in this office already. T'zer

Would you be so kind as to publish this letter in a condensed form.
Craig Shaw
Universal ZX Club
1 Swiss Walk, Batley, West Yorks
Consider it done Craig. T'zer
PS If this ain't printed could you please put a nole in the magazine telling me so.

## Gareth Burge

Glasgow, Scotland
Just a little note to say your letter hasn't been printed this month. T'zer


## "GAMES AT THE Speed of Lchti..

SHOCKW AY RIDERS are the pick of the street gangs - ATHLETIC, AGGRESSIVE \& ARROGANT - as they cruise along the triple-speed moving walkways that circle the great MEGACITYS of the 21st Century. THE ULTIMATE AIM OF EVERY RIDER is to go "FULL CIRCLE" - to do that, he must fight off the Block Boys, the Cops and the Vigilantes - as well as negotiating the Speed Traps and Rider Ramps erected by the angry local residents! SHOCKWAY RIDER is the most original arcade gamé of the yearTHE ULTIMATE FUTURE SHOCK!!

## LIGHTFORCE is for VENGEANCE............

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LIGHTFORCE - at the speed of Light from FTL.

## YS AND HEWSON COMPO <br> $\mathfrak{f}$EAVYMABTAA WIN A GHETTOBLASTER <br> AND 30

§riends, trainspotters and $Y S$ readers. bend me your ears. You may not know that Uridium is the name of a little known heavy metal. You may not know that, 'cos it's not true. It's also not the name of a heavy metal band whose lead singer headbanged himself so hard that his brain burst out - and no-one noticed. But fortunately these few "facts" haven't stopped Hewson from offering the winner of this month's compo something that's both heavy and metal. It's an amazing stereo ghettoblaster with more tweeters and woofers than a cage full of canaries at Battersea Dogs' Home. A Panasonic RX-FM15L stereo radio cassette recorder, actually. Now you can blast the wax out of your ears while you're blasting aliens in Hewson's latest megagame. Which, as it happens, is called Uridium and that's a fact!

You can read the full review of the game in this issue, but just to whet your appetite, here are a few facts about it. 1) it's brilliant. 2) It's brilliant despite being a conversion from a Commie originat. 3) It's a scrotling shoot'em up that's more addictive than those little orange soft-centered ones in a bag of Revels. 4) There is no number 4 5) It's brilliant.

But Im not hanging around here all day when I could be having just one more go at a spot of mindless annihilation. All you have to do before you win a copy of your own, or the portable stereo, is look at the picture. Done that? Now fook at it again and you'll see that there are the names of a number of metals subtly secreted within it. In fact, there are ten in alt and you just have to tell us which they are. To get you started, that women is a platinum blonde, so your first metal is platinum. Elementary. ain'tit?
Now fill in the coupon with your ten metals and post it off to That Really Heavy Uridium Compo, Your Sinclair, 14 Rathbone Place. London W1P 1DE.

## REALLY HEAVY RULES

Stereo fules okay. Employees of Sportscene Specialist Press and Hewson may nof enter the compo. Employees of Sportscene Specialist Press and Hewson may not enter the compo.
The Ed's decision is final and if you try to enter into any correspondence hell blast more than your ghettos
Uridium person if you don't get your entry in before the last day of 1986.




A Panasonic RX-FM15L stereo radio cassette recorder, actually


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Talk about tons of new entries! Obviously the Christmas rush is starting already, with the software companies bringing out games by the bucketful. Top of the heap this month is Software Projects' Dragon's Lair, while Virgin's Dan Dare shoots in at number two. Ocean has two driving games in the top twenty, Nightmare Rally and the long awaited (though not long enough, according to the reviews) Knight Rider. The only two games that aren't new entries in the top ten this month are hanging on bravely - ACE from Cascade and Ghosts ' $n$ ' Goblins from Elite. There'll be even more games for Chrissie next month should be a great chart!

## 12 MONTHSAGO

| Position | Titie/Publisher |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Wey Of The Exploding Fist/ Melbourne House |
| 2 | Nightahode/UTimale |
| 3 | Frank Bruno's Boxing/Elite |
| 4 | Now Gomes/Vigin |
|  | Hypersports/lmogine |
|  | Highwoy Encounter/Vortex |
| 7 | Fronkie Goes To Hollywood Oceon |
| - | Southern Belle/Hewson |
|  | Action Bike/Mestertronic |
| + | Dambusterz/US Gold |

This chart is based on the MicroScope chart as complled by Galfup.

## MicroScope

 GALLUP[^0]
[Last Month] Chort
Title/Publisher
1 NE 1 Dragons Lair/ Software Projects

| 2 NE | 1 | Dan Dare/Virgin | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{3 N E}$ | 1 | Kai Temple/Firebird | 6 |
| 4 NE | 1 | Nightmare Rally/ | 9 |


| $\mathbf{5}(1)$ | 9 | ACE/Cascade | 8 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{6 N E}$ | 1 | Olli and Lissa/ <br> Firebird | 9 |
| $\mathbf{7 N E}$ | 1 | Bump Set Spike/ <br> Mastertronic | 4 |


| + 8 NE | 1 | Heartland/Odin |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\star 9 \mathrm{NE}$ | 1 | Knight Rider/ |  |

Ocean

| $\mathbf{1 0}(6)$ | 15 | Ghosts'n'Goblins/Elite | 9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1 1}(7)$ | 5 | Full Throttle/ | 8 |
|  |  | 2.99 Classics |  |

12 (13) 15 Molecule Man/ Mastertronic
13 NE 1 Head Coach/Addictive 8
14 NE 1 TT Racer/ 9

Digital Integration

| 15 (3) | 5 | Video Olympics/ <br> Mastertronic | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

16 NE 1 Dynamite Dan II Mirrorsoff
17 (4) 13 Jack The Nipper/ Gremlin Graphics

| $\mathbf{7 8}$ (2) | 18 | Ninja Master/Firebird | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\boldsymbol{\star}$ NE | 1 | Skool Daze/ <br> 2.99 Classics | $\mathbf{8}$ |


| 720 (16) | 5 | Universal Hero/ <br> Mastertronic |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |



0ur castaway this month is Greg Holmes of Gremlin, the creator and programmer of that terrible toddler, Jack The Nipper. Since then, he's worked on Avenger and is planning more naughtiness in the follow-up to Nipper. Take it away, Greg...
Manie Miner/BugByte
The hours I spent on this one. It was the firat real game Id played on the speccy and Is'pose the one that got me into writing games.
Android 2 Vortex
Okay, it's not technically brilliant and the ID's a bit simplistic but at the time I was stunned. I rate all Costa Panayi's gamen, though I haven't seen Revolution yet.
Dark Star/Design Design Her-illiant! Don't you just lurve Vector graphics and Simon Brattel's run so fast.
Lunar Jetman/ Ultimate Another classic. Everyone thought it was much too difficult when it came out but I could really play it. Monty Mole/Gremlin Well. I've got to get a plug in for Giremlin sometime. This was like Manic Miner only with more puzzies. By the way, I wasn't at Gremlin at the time!

Grumpy Gumphrey/Gremlin Oh look, another one from Gremlin. Hope someone takes this into account in my next pay rise. Shaun's coding's just great. No attribute clash and a great game to play. Grumpy had an enormous influence on the way that Jack The Nipper turned out.
Elite/Firehird
This is just so immense. And yes, I made Elite status - but I cheated.
Dynamite Dan II/Mirrursoft I loved DD but it was too hard. DDII is the only game I've spent any time on thin year. And the music. just right for Desert Island Disks.

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FItffbbbbrmer! Weeeooool Hey. Im feeling so froolly loday. I dunno why, I should be depressed, what with it being my birthday next month. Another year down the woosher, more grey wires on me circuit board. . . What? You didn' know computer generated people could have birthdays? Huh, and I thought you were intellectual. I s'pose you stal inink digital watches are a pretty neat idea. (Raspl) Nah, only kidding.

## SPELLBOUND

This is bound to please. . (yuk yuk) the complete guide to the Spellbound Universe, bound up by David Roberts and Christopher King. Take it away, my litte Magic Knights.
"Here's an invaluable table, inc. tablecioth (chortie), of objects and their uses in the Spellbound Universe:
Uses of all objects on all floors, from left to right.

## ROOF

Four leaf clover - Part of Candelium

Bottle of Liquid - Give it to Florin and take it back again to restore your energy.
Wand of Command - Obviously, you can command people to do things!
FOURTM FLOOR
Red Crystal - Part of Crystallium
Spectralis spell.
Ancient Scroll - Read it for a big clue.
Green Crystal - Part of Crystallum Spectralis spell.
Javlin - Give this to Samsun and tell him to help when at the Pit.

## THIRD FLOOR

Engraved Candle - The other bit of the Candelium llluminatum. You must have the shield before you can cast the spell!
Teleport key - You must have this to use the Teleport pad.
Red Herring - Part of Fumaticus Protecticum spell.
Teleport pad - Must be on the floor before you use it. Keep it in the lift. Glowing bottle - Used to pass the bottle rooms. Drop it to release the Banshee.

## SECOND FLOOR

Book of Shadows - Give this to Orik
Gold bar - Give this to Florin. Lumps of brickwork - Drop these one on top of the other to climb the Tower.
White gold ring - Part of Crystallium Spectralis.
Blue Crystal - Part of Crystallium Spectralis.

## FIRST FLOOR

Tube of glue - Give this to Florin.
Trumpet - Give this to Elrand.
Summon him, using Eif Horn, to the wall on the Second Floor and command him to help.
GROUND FLOOR
Shield - Use this when casting
Candelium lliuminatum.
Strange Liquid - Stand on it and
cast Amouris Photonicus.
Pocket Laser - Summon Rosmar, give this to her and command her to help.
Broken Talisman - Give this to Florin if he has the Gold bar and glue. Command him to help.

## BASEMENT

Power-pong plant - Part of
Fumaticus Protecticum spell.
In àddition, Samsun carried an Elf Horn, which you blow to summon characters, and Elrand has Miolnir, Thor's Hammer.

## SPELLS

Crystallium Spectralls
Go to the Most Magic Room (Ground Floor). Drop the three crystals on the floor. Summon Orik, and give him the crystal ball. You must be carrying the White Gold Ring and the Wand Of Command. Cast the spell and throw the crystals at Gimbal to free him.

## Candelium Illuminatum

 Drop four-leaf clover. To cast the spell safely you must carry the shield. When this is done, cast the spell and the candle will be lit.
## Armouris Photonicus

This makes your armour shiny. Stand on Strange Liquid (on Ground Floor) and cast the spell.

## Fumaticus Profecticum

To cast this, carry the Red Herring and the Power Pong Plant.

## Project Physical Body

 The Broken Talisman (repaired by Florin) and the crystal ball are needed to cast.
## Release Spell

You must have the White Gold Ring and gimbal must be free. Once this has been cast, summoning the character is in the right order completes the game. The order is the same as the pictures in the Gallery on the Second Floor, with Gimbal last.

## LAP OF THE GODS

Hmm. I was gonna make a joke answer about being a lap-god. . . but I couldn't think of a good enough question. dammit' Stil, the solution to this megagame should more than compensate for the loss. (Sob) David Poulson reports.
"First collect the effigies in the first two mazes (called DARWAIN and PRIMEOUS) to get Yellow Slab Acid, Blue Block Digger, and Hover Power.

## HEXS HEROES

Click bzzzzzzt. Yoooool Nippy-noo-naas! Here we go again, on the old treadmill again (tromp tromp) with those super little mittens. .. (snipl) the stupendous Hex's heroesi (Tootle)).

First, in a flurry and prance of Sir Fredrick Mercury impersonations, comes Duggie Kay of Edinburgh, with some exciting news on Kane by Mastertronic. 7 have finished Kane, with a super-cool score of 10,510 after having it for a mere day. PS. Am I the first to do so?" Dunno, but you're the first to tell me about it, chuckie.
Next on the heap (an' that's a heap-big heap) is Nightmare Rally Hexpert Les Ayers of Cheshire. With a might trumpet, he joins last month's AJS as the second YS pale grey pachyderm. He has 254,720 on Nightmare Rally. . . what I want to know is how did he actually get into the car?
(Ssssshhhhhhhhhhhhooco00wwwwwwwhhhhhhhoocoosssshhhhhhhhili) Wowl What was that? Hey it's my old friend and jet fighter Ariya Priyasantha (say what?) of Bury, lancs. Looks like he wants to say something. . . what? WHAT? Sorry, old spoon bender, can't hear you over the jet noise. . What? Jack the what? Dipperl?! Oh, Nipper! Jack The Nipperl What score? 99\%! Flippin' Heck, you littie Nipper, youl And with that we flew off in a cloud of soot! (Parp) Click Bzzmzzzz...


Duggie Kug
Kane/10,510


Les Ayers Nightmare Rally/254,720


Ariya Priyasantha Jack The Nipper/99\%

With these it should be possible to go round the other mazes and just keep digging until you find the crystals. I think the idea is to collect them in order, le. first PRIMEOUS, then SECONDUS, etc. When you have finished the game, the playing window goes olack and white and scrolls upward. You are then asked for your name for the hi-score table, but the name gets changed to CHEAT. Next game there is a cheat mode built in, accessible by pressing FIRE. David Poulson, Hack Free Zone, Gravesend, Kent, very damp, totally and utterly p. . (Snipl)" Enough of these News At Ten type brown paper and string jokes. Im the only one allowed to be stupid around here. . . er. . . yeah, right. (?)

## RIPTOFF

All you lucky folks who picked up a copy of the September 66 Dig'T Tape containing Riptoff are in for a treat. Kevin Marshall of Northumberland and Andrew Lea of Ormskirk have ripped through the game and now provide you, and indeed me, with the secret passwords to ALL levels. No, I'm not going to tell you. Look, it won't be a blimmin' secret if you go round telling everyonel Hmmm. Okay, you talked me into it, you silvery tongued litte repton, yout

| 1. GALLOSNO | 8. KANGIS BLO |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. KIT KAT | 9. SPAF OX9 |
| 3. GEEZAHAND | 10. HARLEQUIN |
| 4. FLOSONUMF | 11. BASGUILLAI |
| 5. SNUQDIFILO | 12. SAWQ BHURD |
| 6. FAR2TUFF | 13. TRICLASBO |
| 7. PUDDLE GLUM | 14. BIASNO KLA |
|  |  |
|  | 15. CIRK ROHE |

Well now, aint that a puh-retty thang? (What are you talking about?)

## QUAZATRON

Wassis? It's white, two dimensional, rectangular and it's got writing all over it. . . must be a letter, I guess. Unless somebody wrote on Gwyn and put him through the mangle . . . nah, who'd do a thing like thar? (Tee hee. Tzer.) No, it's definitely a letter. It's a teeny twinkly tipette from a flutfy little pair of slippers called Johnathan Wingfield. He has this to add to Tumer Compton's Quazatron hints: "To gain extra pulsars (the little wedges you use in the grapple game) you must first grapple weak droids, like f'rinstance B7, B8 or B9, and if you win you gain two or three pulsars. When you grapple Commander droids and win you gain a lot because you get the amount of pulsars your opponent had. You go back to pulsars when your interfaced parts burn out." Oooh, yeah, I know just how they feel. You would make so light of it if it's happened to youl Thanks matey.

Sococo0, that's about the size of it. (Yep, it was huge last month, but I washed it and if shrunk!) And let that be a lesson to you. Some bright spark reminded me that I've stopped mentioning my favourite games, so here's a quick NB on that question, goodbuddies. Fave games: Room 10, Dragon's Lair, Nightmare Rally, TT Racer and of course the inimitable Thrust. hey, which arcade game was this based on? Any ideas?

Right thassit! Im offl
Click Bzzzmzz.

Cones are pretty handy. No, not ice cream cones, traffic cones. Contrary to what you might think, it's better to hilt them, it you can, without missing a gate. You scorea lidy litile sum in points for every one that you bilit.

In order to jump waterways and other sorts of obstructions, aim your car at the centre of the mound at fult speed. If you hit the centre of it, youll jump gracetully over the obstruction. If you hit it slightly to the side. you'll lip right over out of control.


- Why have all the levels got such distinctive (v. diplomatic of you) names, then? II you enter the name of the level when asked for "Name'? you'll find yourself magically transported to the start line of the level in question!

Try to avoid these monoliths it you can, because you stop dead when you hit them, causing you to tose time reversing and approaching them from a different angle. Steer well clear or take the consequences.

Portals (and these aren't the kind of windows you get on ships) are pretty weird. When you steer through them you get a random amount of bonus points, and sometimes you even get spirited away to another pari of the levell Cort


You don't have to barrel along at top whip all the time to get a winning score, yknow. And it might come in handy il you do slow. down occasionally, especially on the tighter bends, or to make il through : portal. Take it sasy!

Kunc-Fu Mester
A lot of Fuey by James Slater

At the and of asch lovel yourli find a Guardian. These must be defeated before you can advance to the next level. To kill them ir's sasier if you usea combination of moves as thisll confuse them.

Dwarves are also out to get you, so watch out for them as well as the henchmen and inite throwers. When a dwarf comes towards you, try and jump over him belore he jumps on you. The dwarves appear on levels $2,3,4$, and 5 .


As wall as the unakes which roduce your energy, you occasionally (on level three mainly) encounter the savage Bees. (Anyone remember Swarm?) They too reduce your energy, and are best avoided. Bee warnedl (grome).

Herc's a henchman. To defeat them, and of course the knife throwers, if's best to use a squatting kick, bectuse this knocks them down before they get too noar you. The henchmen and knife throwers appear on all five levels!

This grey box is riding on top of the little whirty thing when you first bounce into the screen. What you must do Is put them out scresn. What you must do is put them out boxes and set your bounces to two.

While youre bouncing here, the whirty thing and the grey bor will hit you. Because youre at quite a low levol, the bor will carry
y youre at quite a low loved, the bou wilt carry you sarlier putting it out of sync, and giving you access to the box.

Here's the other liftle devil you have to get. Once you've put the other one out of sync with the whirfy thing, switch off your bounce and roll carafully over to this one in the far corner of the platiorm.


Having got here without falling over the edge, bring your bounces up again, and bounce back over to the flying box. You had better be accurate though, because youve only got two or three bounces to get to it.

Watch you don't clip this plattorm in your haste to get back to the flying box. This littie spiky harold mili burst you if you touch at so make sure you go over him at maximum bounce.

##  <br> G A



COMMODORE SCREEN
There are some places in the universe you don't go alone.


# No trusty Steed, no poutatious Purdy, but you can Gambit all away on Gremlin's Avenger. Tommy Nash, YS's Tiger nut, cracks it open . . . 

$\downarrow 1$hle is tmore like it. A game with a realistic storyline we can all relate to (man). Yaemon, Grandmaster of Flame, (light my fire baby) has bumped off Naiiishi (not the car manufacturer), your foster father, and stolen the Scrolls of Kettsuin (no dead easy scrolls these) which you have sworn to the Great God Kwon you will recover. To that end, you now stand outside the Quench Heart Keep ready to slay all who stand in your way, including Yaemon's henchmen, Manse the death mage and Honoric, keeper of the magic sword. Eat your heart out, Eastenders.
Of course, you've guessed by now that we're in for another bout of judo what. And guess whose martial parts are on the line! But if you're one of those people who have to order your kung fu moves according to the numbers down the side of the menu, then Avenger's just your cup of China tea. It lets you batter your opponents' prawn balls without first mastering a Kama Sutra full of joystick positions. Usually one chop sticks, thought you will find other weapons tike shuriken and an iron fist as you explore. But is this a game to take-away? Well, like all Oriental fare, it left me feeling full at first but hungry for another go ten minutes later. So as Confucius say, let's take a wok on the wild side.

## King Kung

Dumped outside the Great Keep, your first task is to locate the keys so you aren't kept out any longer. Once inside, your next job appears as a message on the screen, a sort of celestial teletype from the great god, Kwon. But you're just as likely to miss it on your first few goes, what with fighting off the fiends and mapping the maze of the castie. I shouldn't worry - you've probably dropped your remaining keys down one of the holes or forgotten to replenish your energy by now. This task is done by calling on Kwon as soon as your inner force fades. He'll then recharge your kung fuel. Of course, I could say that he adds a new move to the Kung Fu repertoire - the Kwon tum leap. But I won't

The castle corridors are patrolled by a proper assortment of shady characters but except for the big nobs, they'll all succumb to a spot of reasoned argument - provided your fist's on the other end of it. But worst of all, the game's full of bugs - huge black spiders that appear from the holes to harry you. (Fortunately, there are no lice, flied or otherwise.)

## Run the Gauntlet

Okay, I heard you at the back. Yes, it looks like Gauntlet. Yes, it scrolls and yes, it's set in a multi-level castie full of nasties. And yes, the action's viewed from above. But really the similarity ends there. It just shows that the programmers can spot a good idea when they see one and know how to adapt if for an equally good but

very different game. Avenger isn't just about fighting off hordes of horrors to reach the final screen. You don't complete it by following a particular path - you can wander at will all over the castie. Plus it has a strong plot that'll take some working out before you kill off the terrible trio and collect the Scrolls. And anyway, it's a one player game so you can tell your mates to push off!
But it is big. 298 screens that scroll rather strangely. The map is split up into nine screen units that character scroll very smoothly and very quickly. But when you reach the edge of a nine screen block you jump into the next one. At first it seems
odd but you soon grow accustomed to it. All in all, I reckon Tiger II burns as brightly as ever.




# HACKNG AWAY 

## W you're in need of a POKE, ziKd is the man to turn to....

Hark the Herald Hackers Sing. Okay so it isn't quite right. But it's Christmas, well the December issue anyway, so who cares! So, putting print-head to paper....

## NEXOR

Mr Wild (guess his first name - yes, that's right it's Chris) and associates S (I assume that's not Spy) Hunter and S Clapman from Shaw have sent in a jab for Nexor. All together now - "Just type it in, RUN it, and play the game tape from the start".

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10. REM NEXOR HACK NC. W
ILD CHEAD 65535t FCOR nw?
320 CLEAP 65535t FOR nw?
KE n, at, NEXI, 
    3e RANDOHIZE USR 23296
    40 FOR n=63916 T0 63922
    READ as POKEE n,a! NEXI
    50 RANDOMIZE USF 63744
66 DATA 62,295,55,221,23
7e DATA 48,243,33,172,2
49,34, 112, 249,201. 175,50,116,141.
195,0,120
```


## ELITE 128K

The Federation strikes back! Just when you thought it was safe to go back into Witch space, Firebird comes out with the long awaited 128K Spectrum compatible Elite. But, that's all it is 128 compatible. Absolutely no extra features. However, not only do you now have to put up with the normal Spectrum character set, but Firebird has done a dirty and made the character files non-compatible with the normal Spectrum Elite ones. Fear not however, for where there's a pain there's a POKE!

[^1]

There are three other points of interest:

- The 'bug' whereby you could start off as Elite will no longer work - in fact, if


## HACK OF THE MONTH

## DAN DARE

Good old Andy Brown without sidekick Chris (aargh that name again!!) Boland has come up trumps with a short'n'sweet little hack for Dan Dare. Just type it in, RUN it, and play the game tape from the start. If you don't want a
you try it you'll end up with nothing!

- The escape pod no longer cleans your legal status but periods of Thargoid bashing in Witch space still does the trick.
- The most curious point is that the bug that let you hyperspace while docking to get straight to another space station still works but in a completely different way!
the character designer of two issues ago can be made to work without any modification. The only extra thing required is one of the special lines in the hacking program. These special lines are 270, 280, and 290. Line 270 enables you to load old format characters (from the designer, or SAVE'd out of the original Elite), and use them. You can also save them out in the 128 format. Line 280 lets you load 128 format characters, and save them out in the old format for loading into the original Elite. Line 290 enables you to save and load characters of the old format effectively negating Firebird's dirty trick. Note that you can only use one of the three lines at a time.


The hacking program is used in just the same way as the original Elite hack two issues ago. But remember that those of you with 128K Spectrums must put them into 48 K mode first, because 128 K mode will crash as soon as you run the program.
Even though the character files are incompatible,

Any more, and unpredictable results will occur when SAVEing or LOADing characters.

## ELITE 48K

The Thargoids' revenge! Those Thargoids never let it rest! Being somewhat annoyed at my popularisation of the 'sport' of Thargoid bashing - they decided to gang up and attack my original Elite article during its journey through Castle Rathbone. So here's the corrections:

- In the hacking program, line 170 has migrated from the main program box to the infinite energy box. This doesn't cause problems until you don't want infinite energy. Line 170 should never be deleted, and only line 200 should be deleted if you don't want infinite energy.
- A textual mistake in line 350 which says that the E.C.M. Jammer destroys all missiles on the scanner. Well, it doesn't. What it does do is stop enemies from destroying your



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OVERSEAS: add f1 Furope, $f^{2}$ others for each product SAE for anquiri ALL OUR PROGRAMS CARRY A MONEY BACK GUARANTEE (not updates).

LERM, DEPT YS, 11 BEACONSFIELD CLOSE
WHITLEY BAY, TYNE AND WEAR NE 25 gUW

## HACKING AWAY

missiles. The only E.C.M. System that'll destroy missiles with the E.C.M. Jammer present, is your own.

- In the 'Think Of A Number' section, it says that the Max credits (as opposed to Headroom) is '655355999.9', when it should've said '65535999.0'. Because the Spectrum's maths only goes to 8 digits, you can only have a whole number of credits. It also failed to say that to enter 0 for a number, you just press Enter in the numeric input stage.
- The Character designer listing. A reprint of the shot-up lines is provided for those of you who are not psychically gifted.

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## PYRACURSE

Up to Kelso now for a Pyracurse hack from Graeme Wain. It'll give you infinite energy for your currently selected character. Play the game tape from the start after typing in and RUNning his program.

## 10 REM PYRACURSE HACK 9. WAIN CODE CLEAR CODE 33296 POKE 23325,2011 PAND OMIZE USR 23325,2011 RAND OMIZE USE $\frac{33650}{2960}$

## STAINLESS STEEL

## All is now revealed! Pete Parry of Virginia Water keeps the rust off Ricky with his infinite lives and infinite shields cheat mode. Just hold down the keys 'LOIS' when you start playing the game, say the magic word 'Pyjamaramaramarama' and you'll now stay at the 99\% success probability. Just for good measure, you can hit the shield key as often as you like! That should block them baddies good'n'proper.

Well, I hope that lot sorts you out. I'm off into Witch space to beat up a few Thargoids and make a few readies. It's a hard life being a hacker. Oh, and before I go don't forget to keep sending in all your hacks to me, ZZKJ at Hacking Away, YS, 14 Rathbone Place WIP 1DE.

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YSMakesitBIG
\(S B P B G\)

Three months ago, Black Mist, a band from Manchester, sent YS a deme tape containing songs they'd made using a SpecDrum. Impressed? Not half. But could the Spectrum catapult a band to fame and fortune? And could you, with the use of your favourite computer, use the Ram Electronics Music Machine, Cheetah SpecDrum and Sound Sampler, and the DataSkip Video Digitiser to put fogether a total package that would impress a record company? Only one way to find out. So, one day last month a Black Mist descended on YS. Resident muso, Phill South, reports. Photos by Tony Sleep.

08.30am I arrive at Castle Rathbone and slap myself awake. Spot two shady looking figures dressed in black, silhouetted against the wall. They're carrying guitars and are accompanied by an evil looking smurf must be the band. I take a hard swallow and approach them. Black Mist introduce themselves as Mike and Kay. The smurf says nothing, and I leave him to it. They seem friendly enough, though. We work our way down into the dungeon and put the coffee on.

09.02am A couple of cuppas later I'm feeling more human, and Black Mist are looking more chipper too. The smurf doesn't have any, so he's looking as miserable as ever.

(7)9.25am A phone call to our local friendly Turnkey Shop, in Percy Street, secures the loan of a 4track recorder for the day. Phewl I leave


\title{
WE'VE GOTA SPECTRUM*
}

"and we're gonna use it!

Mike setting up the gear (and Kay searching for some paracetamol 'cos she's got a headache) and nip round to Turnkey. The 4 -track's a brand spanking (ow) new Yamaha MT1X tape recoraer. Sounds technical? Not really. If you can use a Spectrum, you can use a 4-track tape deck. I sign in blood and leg it back.

\(\bigcirc\)9.28am After more coffee we connect the 4 -track into the setup and turn the power on. Good start Nothing blows up. Okay, let's boot up the Speccy. We resolve to try the Ram Electronics Music Machine first, plugging it into the user port and loading the driving software. It doesn't take long, and soon we're listening to the demo tune. Mike listens closely to the drum sounds. He's a veteran SpecDrum owner, and looks
suitably impressed. "That's not bad. I like that. Can we program it?" I select the Drum Editor screen and tap a few pads experimentally. Mike taps in one of his own rhythms and we listen to the bar over and over again.t sounds good so we resolve that it'd make a good start for our tape. By now it's after ten so we have a sound check and prepare to lay down the first track.
10.12am We begin to record the first sounds, the drums from the Ram Music Machine, onto track 1 of the 4 -track. Mike programs a rhythm that has a lot of cowbell in it. "Hmm. Why do sampled cowbells always sound like saucepans being hit with a wooden spoon?" he says, wincing. So, we decide to sample a sound and incorporate it with the sequence. After much experimentation, we settle on the sound we get from tapping the TV screen with the tip of a pair of scissors. It takes a few seconds to set up the Music Machine to sample the sound. Then, with a bit of judicious editing a new cowbell is born, and not a vet in sight.

(1)
11.00am Mike wants a special drum effect (called a 'fill-in' in the trade, 'cos it fills a gap). He's going to do this fill using the SpecDrum, so

\section*{Multitrack?}

If you're not familiar with multitrack recording. lot me explain. On a storeo tape recorder you have two tracks running side by side, one for each speaker, But some bright spark reasoned that if you made a recording head with four pickups instead of two, you could make an elementary multitrack tape recorder, tike a scaled down version of the 24 track machines in pro recording studios. The upshot of all this is that you can record a volice for instance on one track, on the next track a guitar, on the next a bass, and on the fast track a drum kit. Then you can play them back simultaneously, making it sound tike they're alf ptaying togethert Brilliant oh? Especially it you don't actually have a band at your disposal. Recording atf the parts yourself, you can then hoar them carefully blended fogether.


The Yamaha MT 1X 4-Track in petulant mood
he sets up the pattern he wants, using a specially edited kit from the Kit Editor, and triggers it at the appropriate beat. The speed of the two drum patterns is easily synchronised by matching the beats per minute figure, in this case 140. Then when the end of the bar comes áround again, press the button and 'brrrum buh bum bum ba bup bup bup b-b-b-b-b', instant

\section*{LOVE MACHINE}


4he Ram Electronics Music Machine is less of a sound sampler, more a way of life. At least, that's what it feels like after you've used it for a while. It's more of a MIDI equipped Sound Sampling Sequencer, actually. You can sample sounds and sequence them, at normal pitch like drums, or sequence them in a plece of music, on a musical stave. All the facilities are very easy to use, and have a lot of potential for musicians, as well as complete novice users.

All the functions are accessed by single key presses, indicated by the Main Menu. There's a superb editing facility whereby you can cut the sounds to fit your memory and reverse or fine edit them via the zoom function. The Tune Editor allows you to write music on a stave, and play it back using one of the sounds in memory. The Drum Editor enables you to make drum patterns on a sixteen beat bar, just like professional drumboxes. Sampling is easy, with a visual display of the sound as you're sampling it, removing the possibility of overloading and distorting the sample. Mike: 1 liked the on-board drum sounds, but what I might do when I remix the track is sample some of my friend's drum kit instead. That sort of
'thumbs aloft worra nice geezer' Phil Collins!

(4)11.52 am in the absence of a bass guitar, we decide to do the bass line on the Casio CZ-101. Nice little synthesiser the CZ-101; digital, cheap at £300, and lovely sound, what more do you need? We thumb the preset buttons and select a bass sound. Hmm. not quite right. I change the sound a little to make it more percussive and thumpy, like a guitar, In the mix it sounds just like the real thing. I play the riff through the entire track just to try it out, and record it so we can hear it back. It sounds so neat (breathe on fingernails and polish on shirt) Mike decides to leave it in

©12.30pm Kay's been working on a lyric all this time, with the title of 'Too Late Mary'. She writes her lyrics as poems, with no thought of scanning the words to fit specific lines, preferring to mate the words to the music as she sings it.

1.45pm We break for lunch. It's been a long morning, and Kay and Mike's pasties have been crushed to debris (by a fat lady on the bus).

(5)2.30pm Much refreshed, we troop back into the studio and link Mike's guitar into the system. A few experimental wangy twangs later, we have it sounding right in the headphones, and Mike's left strumming his guitar white I steal Kay away to the video room. We're going to lace together images from the digitiser to make a video to
thing's very easy to do, too. Being able to play the keys on the Speccy like drum pads is fun, although they're a bit close together for really fast playing. Oh, and I don't like the fact that you have to type a long line of 1 's if you want pattern 1 to repeat over and over again!
Kay: Being able to play the sounds from a MIDi keyboard would be great fun, but we couldn't get it to go. 1 haven't got a synth anyway, but I might like one in future, so it's very nice to have it there. It's a good all round machine. For fifty quid you can't go wrong. Brilliant.


Here's the editing screen from the Music Machine. On it you can view your samples, chop the back and fronts to make them neat, reverse them and zoom in to study their intimate little particles. A very user friendly and clear display, as are all the Ram screens, making control and editing of sounds a simple and painless process.

accompany the music; some stuff from old horror movies, Frankenstein and King Kong, plus some magazine pictures.

3.15pm Mike has recorded the guitar track and we sit and listen to the finished 'backing track' (a track without the vocals and twiddly bits on) with looks of awe. It's amazing how different a piece of music sounds when you've put all the different parts in it.


5he Cheetah range grows by the minute, first the SpecDrum, now the Sound Sampler and MIDI Interface. The SpecDrum was the first cheap digital drumbox on the entire Earth, and has cleaned up in both the financial and critical acclaim stakes. You can sequence real drum sounds, playing them up to three at a time, In any pattern you like. As well as the


Having nodded approvingly at the quality. we commence the 'mixdown'. This is where you mix a track down in stereo onto another tape, and then play it back in stereo onto two tracks of the 4 -track. You then have two tracks of the 4 -track playing all the music you just had on four, leaving two tracks free for extra 'overdubs'.


\(\bigcirc\)4.10pm Vocals time! Kay clears her throat and carefully positions the headphone strap into her hair. (Fashion hint: v. trendy pop stars use headphones upside down, so as not to ruffle their quiffs!) The searing vocal is fed, via the Ram Echo function to provide some 'slapback' echo, into the first of the spare tracks. Was Mary too late? Was it all her fault? Is she to blame? I dunno, but it sounds brilliant.

©5.00pm Mixdown! The final act in a recording session is to mix down your tape in stereo onto a 'master' tape. Mike looks worried. "I dunno, it sounds a bit rough to me." Maybe it's the 4 -track, were not used to it? "Possibly. I might have to redo it on my own 4-track." Well you could take the 4-

They're mean, they're moody, they're dressed in black! Kay and Mike look pretty serious too.

\section*{RANDOM SAMPING}
sounds you get with the SpecDrum, Cheetah regularly releases new 'kits' of different drum sounds; currently there are two, the Latin/African set and the new Electro (Simmons style) kit.
At the PCW show it released the Sound Sampler. Although you can't sequence your sounds, or play them through MIDI (because you can't have MIDI and quality sampling in a Z80) the quality of the sounds you get is quite good. Although not as versatile as the Ram Music Machine, when Cheetah has worked out the bugs in the system it should be a fine little sampler. The bandwidth is a startling 17.5 Khz , which considering that a Compact Disc player has a bandwidth of 22 Khz , is pretty good quality. Also included are a number of useful sound processing programs like Echo, Harmoniser, Fuzz, Reverb, Chopper and Bubbleiser. Mike: Hmm . Yeah . . . very nice . . . It's very good quality, but what can you do with it? Not very well thought out as a musicians tool, I'd say. You can sample
a sound. Fine. It sounds pretty good. Great. You can play it up and down the rubber keyboard of the Speccy. Yeah. But what do you do then? There's no retrig so it's unusable as a 'keyboard' instrument. You can't MIDI it so you can't sequence it either, not even in conjunction with the SpecDrum, which is a real shame, 'cos it's such a brilliant drumbox.


Kay: I expected better from Cheetah, but no, I don't like it. Just a sampling engine, really, and definitely for fun use only. The Utilities program is really funny. Most of the sounds are like a helicopter taking off in your amplifier. Good for fun 1 s'pose. I liked the Electro Kit for the SpecDrum though. Just like a Simmons Kit, although I'm probably not allowed to say that. (No you're not Ed).

\section*{FAXBOX}

Device .. Sound Sampler and SpecDrum Price - \(\quad\). 44.95 and C29.95 Contact Cheetah Marketing Ltd, 1, Willowbrook Science Park,
Crickhowell Road, St. Mellons, Cardift

\section*{4 Wow, its the confligure sound screen} (edit) function on the Sound Sampler. You must confligure every sound with trigger, sustain, begin and end points before you can do anything else which can be a little tiresome. The sampling Isn't very interactive - you can't see the sound you're sampling which makes it a slightly hit and miss affair.
track tape and the stuff and remix it, Paul Hardcastle style? Mike grins. He reckons it'd be a good idea.

©5.55pm A few piccies later, l'm helping Black Mist get their gear together. (Sniff) I even wave my hanky as they run up the street to get the bus!
- If you want to hear how the Black Mist megamix turned out, you can hear it on this issue's Digi'T'ape. Their own demos, containing six of their hits including Dead Mouse, Shade Shade and Hurry Along Timmy can be obtained by sending a measly \(£ 1.25\) (inc p\&p) to Black Mist, Flat 3, 28 Catterick Road, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 OHJ. Cheap at hall the price!


\section*{On The Record}

Having written the next Number 1, what then? How do you approach a record company with your product? What do they want to see? We asked an A'n'R Man (talent spotter to you).
It's a common mistake for bands to send three songs which are all different, to sort of show off how versatile they are. This isn't what your average Artists and Repetoire Man wants to hear. He wants three songs which show the band can produce a recognisable style time after time. He will also, before he lets any band near a contract, want to hear them play live, even if it's just a rehearsal. A video is an asset, because it demonstrates that the band have an image they want to project. and can do so. Build up a relationship with one record company and, if you can blag your way through the receptionist, ask to see the A'n'R man personally. Most will agree to see you."

\section*{- What receptionists say to put you off speaking to \(A^{\prime} n^{\prime} \mathbf{R}\) men:}
"He's in a meeting . . ." (He's not. Try again.)
"He's on the other line at the moment (They haven't got one.)
"Can he call you back?" (He won't You call him.)
"He's gone to lunch . . . (He has. Phone back.)
"What was it concerning?" (Don't tell her. Say youll call again.)
"Could you send your tape to us?" (You might as well bin it.)
"We like your stuff, please keep in touch "(You're amateur.)
"Can I take a message?" (No, you'll call back.)


\section*{DOUBLEDUTCH}


Double Dutch was a popular skipping dance craze, and Data-Skip is a Dutch firm who makes video digitisers. The version we recelved was a prototype model, but the only difference between that and the finished one will be the casing. The software is well errortrapped and the thing practically runs itself. A digitiser scans a TV picture, or image gathered from a TV camera, and puts the resultant data into a computer screen. The product of the process is a saveable SCREENS which you can use in the same way as any other screen, as a title/loading screen, as a part of any movable graphic in a game (like T'zer's picture in Strike Force Cobra or Sam Fox Strip Poker), or as an image source for another medium, in this case video. The digitised pictures can then be treated and coloured with a painting program like Rainbird's Art Studio.
Mike: I think this is brilliant. Very clever. And it makes the picture from the telly

\section*{How To Make A Video}

In order to make a video using graphics from your Spectrum you must connect the output from the Speccy to the BNC (Video In) bayonet style plug at the back of the video recorder, taking the video signa! from the user port, not the RF output which usually goes to the TV. (See diagram).


The images were moved by two methods: 1 Using Andrew Pennell's Movin 'h' A groovin' program from Your Spectrum (Issue 19), and 2, a specially written program by Max Phillips which flips four screens. The resultant sequences were videoed on a Ferguson Hi-Fi video recorder, and the track dubbed onto the soundtrack in Dolby stereo
look so good. They all come out in black and white, and you can adjust the tones of grey produced by turning the knob on the top. Really good fun.
Kay: Very simple to use and a lot of fun. I chose the images for our video from the old black and white movies, 'cos that's more in keeping with our music than a story video or pictures of us playing. I want one!


King Kong pouts seductively for the Data-Skip (from the \(\mathbf{1 9 3 3}\) original) in Black Mist's computer generated video. Fay Wray scream your heart out!
\begin{tabular}{|l|r|}
\hline FAX BOX & Data-Skip Video Digitiser \\
Device & E69 \\
Price & Data-Skip, Lange \\
Contact & Willemsteeg 10, 2801 WCGouda, \\
& Holland. \\
& \\
&
\end{tabular}


Names Michael Jones
Names Kay Ann Heler
Age: 20
Place of Birth:
Cardiff
When did you get your Speccy: January 86 in an effo to give up smoking. (No luck)
Musical
Influences: The Cure, Birthday Party Big Flame, Three Johns.
Why you use
computers: Because there aren't many drummers in Cardiff and it's quieter to use a drumbox

Jones
Age: 21
Place of Birth: Cardiff
Musical Influence: Musical influence:
The Cure, Siouxie and The Cure, Siouxie an
the Banshees, Echo and the Bunnymen. Cocteau Twins. When did you get married: One yoar last August.
What do you think about sampling: We must play the machine. not the other way around.
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{} \\
\hline 4-Track & Tape recorder which can record on four tracks & Mix & \begin{tabular}{l}
already recorded track. \\
To blend the tracks together
\end{tabular} \\
\hline Demo & Demonstration, especially of a & Remix & Re-blend already mixed track \\
\hline & band's fought tapes. & & th new sounds. \\
\hline Sound Check & Quick test to see everything's working. & Mixdown & Mixing the four tracks into finished stereo tape. \\
\hline Lay Down & To record an instrument on a & Riff & Any musical phrase. \\
\hline & track & Digitiser & Scans TV picture and \\
\hline Track & recorder or a song. & Overdub & reproduces it as SCREENS.
Record something whilst \\
\hline Sample & To digitally record a sound into & & hearing previous track. \\
\hline & the computer. & Slapback & Strong echo with audible heavy \\
\hline Fill-in & A beat on the drums that fills a & & repeats. \\
\hline Drop-in & \begin{tabular}{l}
boring space. \\
Add a short section to an
\end{tabular} & Retrig & Retrigger; sound restarts when key pressed again. \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{THE SACRED ARMOUR OF}




\section*{YS AND CRL COMPO}

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\section*{WIN A BRIGHT RED ROBOTIC PHONE AND 50 COPIES OF CRL'S NEW GAME,} DR WHAT. WHO? NO, WHAT!


1 WHAT was the name of Doctor Who's metallic lap dog?
a. Conine \(\square\)
b. Rover \(\square\)
c. K9 \(\square\)

2 WHO was the dinky little robot in Star Wars?
a. R2D2 \(\square\)
b. RT Choke \(\square\)
c. C3PO \(\square\)

3 WHY is Marvin from Hitchhiker's Guide known as the paranoid android?
a. 'Cos he was \(\square\)
b. 'Cos he thought he was \(\square\)
c. 'Cos he thought everyone else was \(\square\)

4 WHERE would you find Huey, Duwey and Luey?
a. Silent Night \(\square\)
b. Silent Running \(\square\)
c. Blade Runner

\section*{WHAT'S UP DOC?}

Now I know the whys and wherefores, here's my name and number.

\section*{Name.}

Address.

This is just what the doctor ordered. A compo with a really unusual prize - a pillar box red robotic phone. It's a foot tall and whistles and bleeps at you. But then you can unplug it if it gets really uppily. Plus there are fifty copies of Dr What, the new game from CRL. Dr What? Who can they mean?

\section*{WHAT?}

Dr What is a Time-Lord who has travelled back in time to take a butchers of the Big Bang in a burger bar at the start of the universe. With him are three of his chronological chums, Doctors Why, Where and When. But the party went with a bigger bang than any of them had expected. The four of them got completely plastered on the local home brew, the Four-Dimensional-Neuron Blaster, a marginally stronger sup than you'll find in your local MacDonalds. Which is a bit of a burger really 'cos they all became separated in the space time continuum. It's your job to reunite the sozzled spaced-out docs before the day of Judgement.

\section*{WHY?}

There's only one reason why you should enter this compo - your very own robot with a phone in his noddle plus a free copy of this great new game. And what you hove to do is just as simple. Just answer

these what, why, where and when questions on some very well known robols. What? No, Whol Simply fell us whether you think the answer to each brain teaser is \(\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}\) or c and fill in the coupon below.

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You have until the last day of the year to tell us the what, why, where and whens, tear out the page and post it off to:

\section*{WHERE?}

Questions, Questions, Questions Compo, Your Sinclair, 14 Rathbone Place, London WIP 1DE.

\section*{WHAT RULES?}

If you work for Sportscene Specialist Press or CRL you should be far too busy to enter this compo - and it won't be accepted anyway.

Even a Time-Lord's entry is ineligible if it arrives after December 31st, 1986.

The Ed's decision is final and not even the Big Bang will persuade him to enter intc correspondence.


8I recently bought a \(Z X\) printer which was in perfect working order. For some reason it's now started printing out everything at double height, can you help me?
B M Trescidern, Basildon, Essex
:Ö: Yes, this sounds like a common problem. One of the two wire stylii is not touching the paper - you'll have to open it up and put it back on the knob of the plastic belt inside.

\section*{I upgraded to a ZX} Spectrum with a Sinclair kit but now the Currah MicroSpeech has gone all funny - it's okay on a normal Spectrum +1 Andrew Beale, Tolworth, Surrey
it is probably badly fitted on the expansion port and wobbles! Check the connections on your ZX Spectrum +

Help, I'm extremely distressed! My Spectrum loses its comma and most of the bottom right row of keys after about 20 minutes of use. Basic programs seem to be alright but machine code programs are affected.
Allan Nicholles,
Macclesfield, Cheshire Q: It would appear that the ULA is faulty. Check that it's not loose and that it's well into its socket, especially at the near end of the keyboard. If not, get it looked at.

I haven't got a problem
Iㅏㅂ but I thought this tip may be useful to other Speccy users. If your cartridge keeps failing try this: Format the cartridge several times as usual and then POKE 23791,255 before saving. This'll record your program as many times as possible over the cartridge. You should be able to load it everytime!
Arthur Robinson, Sale, Manchester
© Arthur any other readers out there with a few microdriving tips?

8The sales assistant at Boots told me that my HR5 printer and Speccy are incompatible because the Speccy is serial and the printer Centronics. What should I do?

\section*{J Murphy, Chester}

Tell the assistant that he/ 'she is an idiot - on second thoughts if you're planning to go back into Boots, don't. The HR5 has both serial and Centronics ports - use the Interface 1 to connect up the printer to your Speccy.

8Have you the cure for a very ill issue 2 Speccy? It won't run games like Rasputin and Elite. I recently had it repaired and they replaced various bits and bobs. Most other software works fine. M S Ehrlich, Leeds

I'm no doctor but because the games you mention use their own scanning routines, I reckon your ULA needs changing. Go back to the repair company and ask them to change it - there's usually a three month guarantee period.

8Please can you save me and my Speccy. My Spectrum Plus just won't save and l've no idea why. Nicholas Clement,
Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan Check the leads first by swopping them. Leave just one lead in the tape recorder at a time. Otherwise seek a Spectrum specialist!

D'you know why my work for about 10 minutes and then crash. I then can't load any more games. I've a feeling it could be the power pack but I'm loathe to lose my Spectrum for some weeks since the shops here don't sell them.
P Beardall, Aylesbury, Bucks
power pack (uniess wriggling the lead crashes it). It's more likely to be a ROM or ULA fautt and you'll have to take it for repair - you'll find a list of repair centres in the classified ads at the back of the mag.

Why on earth am I having problems with my Turbo interface? It prints fives across the screen even when the joystick is not plugged in!
J Marlow, Bridlington, East Yorks
\(\ddot{\text { it }}\) It sounds like your Turbo interface is holding down the data line D4 every time the interface is addressed. You'll have to return it to them for repair.

\section*{The screen image} produced by my Spectrum + is not central to the screen, the border on the left is much bigger. Is there any adjustment I can make or is it a professional job?
Percy Webber, Salisbury, Wiltshire

This is completely normal and helps the TV to frame the screen properly. You don't need to have it repaired at all.


\section*{Join Steve Adams for a drop of the hard stuff.}

Help! I can't use the Kempston pro-interface on the back of a Timex 2040 with the Interface 1. Is there a cheap way around the problem?
Andrew Cousins, Twickenham

The Timex only has 23 connections - try using a Currah Microslot to connect them both together.

Can I use EPROM's on the Interface 2's socket? If so, what are the pins? P Offord, Watford, Herts You can but you can only use 16 K EPROMS and they have to replace the Spectrum ROM.

\section*{VOUNCINC Aivi 44RATROMENAE nhicie LODCNWPIPIE}


Ailletters wina \(\mathrm{r} s\) badge

8Hope I'm not being greedy but l've got a few questions I'd like you to help me with. How can I move pixels instead of blocks? How do I get 64 column text? How can I change the Baud rates on the VTX5000? Graham McDonald, Aberdeen, Scotland

Use point to find the colour of the point onscreen and move it to the new position with plot. 64 column text is achieved by printing only 4 bits per character and requires a new character set and printing software. And finally, the Baud rates can be changed by straps inside the interface board or by altering the lowest two bits of the set-up byte (to divide by 16 instead of 64 ), but the modem cannot change speed.

I wonder if you can throw some light on a strange phenomenon. Sometimes when I'm playing games my microdrive starts up all of its own accord. Why?
David Wilkinson,
Skegness, Lincs.
This is because the Interface 1 keeps crashing. Make sure you've got a firm connection to the Spectrum

8After my microdrive packed up I tried twisting the cable and for a while that sorted it out. Now it's given up the ghost completely. Mark Conner, Clasgow : It sounds like you've got a dodgy cable to me. Try replacing the cable between the drive and the Interface 1 .

8I'm using a ZX81 buffer board for my Speccy. How do I connect up pins 1 and 19 on 74LS245? Marcel Houweling, Huybergen, Holland Pin 19 should be connected to 0 volts as this allows the chip to work. Pin 1 chooses the direction and should be connected to 0 volts for outputs on pins 11 to 18. Hope that sorts you out.

Okay, this may seem rather divvy to you but I've just obtained a Trend printer 800 but l've no idea how to connect it to the Speccy.
FG Newberry, England \(\because\) I assume it's an RS232 : since there are loads of Centronics interlaces about. The best method is to get an Interface 1 and buy the RS232 lead that goes with it. Connect pins 5,6 and 8 together inside the plug to guarantee it works.


\section*{Melbourne House/£8.95}

Phil Wow' At last
something even those rarified air type Amiga owners want but cannot have . . . a blistering bolt from the sky blue sky . . Atari and Melbourne House link hands and swan dive into your Spectrum with a Marble Madness game creator! Idon't believe itll (t's truel) Okay, I'll take it seriously if you will.
What a brilliant gamel Not only can you build a megasuperb and straight-up Marble Madness game of your very own, but you can play it tool Unlike so many game creation programs this is a very playable game, making even Gyroscope (itself a very addictive and tricky MM clone) look as exciting as a drawing pin spinning on the table.
MM has the look of it's coinup original with all your favourite baddies; green worms, acid slime, goals, red catapults, vacuum cleaners, all ready to chase you around the Marble Madness terrain. The baddies are all preprogrammed to react to whatever
circumstances you care to put them in, and will surprise you if the amount of movement and intelligence they're capable of. You might think you can put them out of the way and cheat by positioning them so they can't get you, but they'll find a way!

The Editor (No, not Ed, the MM Editorl') is a dream to use. You simply position items, like floor sections, baddies and extra points, using a pointer and press the fire button to place them. Any position you choose isn't final, as you can reposition and erase any section whenever you feel like it. You can also alter the colour schemes, and although the choice is limited to two colours (as indlviduat items are the same colour as the background), having different colour schemes for successive screens is very offective. The most useful thing in the Editor's repetoire is the Free Ram indicator. This tells you how much memory you've got left for screens and other data. Having put 15 screens in and still having mounds of memory left, I can see that the possibilities truly are endless! After you've finished designing your worst MM nightmare, the

Speccy computes the movements for you and the baddies, plus it also fills in the tight and shade on the side of the platforms.

Is this the definitive Marble Madness on the Speccy? It's tough, it's changeable, it's addictive, it's cheap (it could
have been \(£ 15\) and still be value for moneyl), and you'd better buy it, or you'll never

\section*{forgive yoursett}
[ou



Here's the editor screen. Using your fancy pointer (expensive 68000 computers eat your mouse!) you indicate the function you want, and place the game efement on the screen. Just cfick the pointer on the picture of the thing you want and position whatever it is where you want it. (Psst! You can even change the size of your ball. Now there's a thing you don't see every day!]


Having designed your mega-amazing screen, you then have the (dubious) pleasure of playing your own design. Beware! Even if you think you've made it easy for yourself, the game components (baddies to you) will find a way to get you. And don't be so sure that you've made it easy on the positioning of platforms, either. You'll discover that in most cases you've still painted yourself into a corner.




Rachael Smith and the lads (Gwyn Hughes, Troubleshootin' Pete, Tommy Nash, Chris Palmer, Rick Robson and Phil South) bring you more game reviews than Heinz has varieties (well, almost...)


Advance/E7.95
Rick Yee-hah! The American sporting invasion continues with Advance's simulation of the all American basebail Personally I wouldn't know a silly bunt from a good screwball and my idea of baseball is mega rounders played by hunky chaps in pyjamas. Schulz headgear and radar dishes on their hands. A pitcher's what you hang on the wall and Hardball - well, I hope there's a cure!

Basebalf's unfamiliarity to the average gamer is this game's main drawback - it just hasn't received the same publicity that's made Pro-Football popular and understood. And since Hardball, like Football Manager, is essentially a management game where players have to be preselected and substituted according to their abilities you're going to end up in difficulties if you think Home Base is a Sainsbury's sideline.

You have the option of playing against the computer
or another player. Many of the pre-game selections are purely cosmetic - home or away, Champ or All Star. Screen two is make your mind up time where you have to decide who you're going to pick from your squads with the player information provided.

Get on to screen 3 and you'll see the pitch simulation that gives you a choice of delivery, whilst a sub-screen shows the base positions of your team mates. Like many cricket simulations this looks a hell of a lot better than it plays which is a pity since the graphics are truly amazing. The amount of control you have seems questionable since it's more of a case of wind it up and let it go. But as each game lasts nine innings you'll have plenty of time to work it out and suss the variations. Better than watching Arsenal. Just.


Mastertronic/£1.99
Rick Now we're really getting down to basics. Double Volleyball is a vertitable dinosaur amongst Speccy games and despite its title this is an unsubtle development of the original telly table tennis.

The whole crux of the game is to get the ball over the net without giving your opponent a chance to retrieve it. The 'clever bit' (unlike doubles table tennis) is that you can pass to your partner before shooting. Points are scored only when you're serving, as in badminton. Actual volley ball tactics such as bumping and spiking are only cosmetically reproduced.

Catching the ball is the tricky part - the keyboard equivalent of learning chopsticks. You have to anticipate where a mystery X is going - this is the final position of the ball after it's been smashed. Suss this and you've sussed the game.

Your two men, I assume they're men - it's not easy to tell l'm afraid - have forward, back and lateral movements, otherwise Mastertronic have spared all expense. There's only one screen, no progression of difficulty, absolutely zilch special effects (apart from the Morris dancing by the players when they've won) and you're left to define your own keys.

Wee ones might enjoy this on a wintry night when there's little elle to do but if you're really into reflex honing reaction games, then it's probably worth paying the extra for Imagine's Ping
 Pong or CRL's Room 10.


\section*{Mirrorsoft/E7.95}

Phil (Slurpl) Ahhhhh! Nothing like a nice drop of Zythum between meals to perk up your unknown powers. Only trouble is, it's a bit hard to get hold of these days. None of yer 'Oh, I'll just nip down Waitrose and pick up a carton of Zythum for when Mr and Mrs Merlin come to dinner. No, sirree. You have to slog yerself to shredded wheat across the four hostile territories, avoiding the fiendish Custodians who attempt to stop you fetching your brew. And all this with only eight minutes a territory to reach your objective. Cor, the things some folks will do for a free beer, eh?

At first glance,this appears to be quite an original concept, but strip away the wizard and custodian sprites and replace them with a spaceship and
aliens and what have you got? A poor version of the mighty Defender perchance? Sure looks that way.

The graphics on this game are a little simplistic, as in blue line drawings on white paper. It plays a bit like a biro drawing too. The Custodians lurch towards you in v. scuzzy twopart animation (if that's not too strong a word), and are about as threatening as a smurf with a butter knife. The gameplay is challenging at first, but once you get used to it, it's a real doddle. As a budget game this would've been good value and a charming little shoot-up, but the charm tarnishes when it's going out at a little under eight quid.




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\section*{CRL/59.95}

Phil So you completed your training, eh? You thought that was tough, wait till you see what Galcorp have got lined up for you this semester, wiseguy! Four tough scenarios to be going on with, plus another 16 or so to come in a multi load format, CRL's leading game is going from strength to strength.

You play the part of an ace skimmer piltot, who's legendary skill as a fighter has landed him in the unenviable position of being a sort of intergalactic troubleshooter. Since he was so successful in clearing up the Tau Ceti problem, he's now been sent to trouble spots all over the universe, to zap the offending aliens on whatever planet he happens to be despatched to. To assist him, he has a choice of the best skimmers available to Gaicorp. plus the opportunity to design his own if he feels they're not up to scratch.

Just when you thought it was safe to hop back into your
skimmer, summink like this comes along. As if the Tau Cet universe wasn't large enough aiready, they have to go and add 20 new planets (with all their attendant problems) to it. Redesigning and naming your own ships is a lot of fun. IVe fust made two new ships, sublly blended 10 my own taste, the so-so GCS SINCLAIR and the mighty GCS FRANTIK. You can select the equipment on the ship and (the best bit) design the control panel, arranging the sexy little dials and displays so you've got room to hang your furry dice up.
Supplied with the master program are missions that are very tough indeed and considering there's four of them, it's gonna take you a real long time to master them all. Enough of a challenge to keep you in sleepless nights (if that's what you crave, pervy) until the data for the remaining 16 mega tough assignments becomes available. Although this was a pre-release copy, I've seen enough to make me think that Tau Ceti II, as well as being an honest to god hit, is going to make Tau Ceti I look like a pleasure cruise.



Here's where you face the action, in the cockpit of your homebrewed skimmer. This is one of my own humble designs, the very hunky GCS FRARTIK, seen here thrashing it's way through the 'If it Moves. ' scenario. It's nice to be able to lay out all the instruments where you can use them. Yup, frantic really is the word for it:


What's on the menu? A little shake-up on Sirlus, by the look of it. On all the scenarios you get a report to look at which outtines all the problems you'll face. You have a page of text containing details of your mission (should you decide to accept it), plus a lot of info on the system (avec un yummy little pic of the planet). Fortunately you don't have to eat the telly when you've read it.

\section*{Mastertronic/E1.99}

Rick Who on earth would want to try and top Sam Fox's Strip Poker? Certainly not Mastertronic which keeps to a poker simulation without the stimulation in this little number. Sure, it's good, clean family fun - and dead boring with it. If you're a fan of the Cincinnati Kid rather than kinky underwear you'll still be disappointed. Video Poker's similarity to the saloon bar game is simply superficial. All it actually does is copy one-armed bandit poker games and as such has all the average skill quotient of a fruit machine.

There's only one screen and unfortunately you can only play against the Speccy - a real cheat if ever I knew one. All bets are made blind (you start with twenty coins), thus cutting out any chances for bluff, double bluff and upping your stakes - in other words no Blind Man's Bluff!

You can hoid any of the five cards dealt and there's one re-deal for an exchange. As in card poker you're looking for all the classic hands, from pairs (and we're not tatking Sam Fox here) to Royat Flushes. Each winning hand has set odds - a pair is evens, two pairs 2-1 and, if you're lucky enough to get one, a Royal Flush is 250-1. Odds, of course, favour the house but your best bet is still to dive right in there with the big stakes as you won't get a chance to change your mind once you're playing. Your kitty is appropriately adjusted with each hand played.

Video Poker has no frills, or thrills, unless you're an ardent addict of the one-armed bandit - and there's no nudges or big knobs to play with here! If you are it might save you a few 50 p 's are it might save you a few 50 p's 「 Tonen, otherwise you'd be better off buying a pack of Sam Fox , movery
 playing cards.

\section*{Cundine}


Melbourne House/Y7.95
Pete it is the whim of nearly every reviewer I know these days to slag off any platform game that comes within 3/ miles of them saying that was done two years ago, and this dea came from that game and so on. But sometimes you can stumble across a real gem and it doesn't matter if the idea isn't totally original - the game is just an improvement on all its inspiration

In this latest Melbourne House rave, you play the part of a Spanish Knight hunting round a mysterious castle in search of three jewels. As usual your way is blocked by nasties, in this case they're Wizards and Guards and the like, who all have this tendancy to want to kill you with their bows and arrows. Luckily. you've got a bow and arrow too, plus scattered throughout the castle youll find treasure chests, some which hold extra weapon-type goodies, and some which hold potions. My first encounter with the potions turned me into an odd-looking creature with a big nose. which didn't seem to do me a lot of good. so I take that to be one
of the bad ones
Although this is a platform game and most would consider platform games to be a little long in the footh. Conquestador succeeds where others have faled by tearning from its mistakes. The graphics aren 1 smail and fiddly like JSW. but then they're not grossly outsized like Popeye. The altributes have been dealt with so neatly that you can hardly notice any colour clash at all and the sound is quite simply unbelievable for a Specirum while playing a fast moving arcade game.

But the one thing that I did find enjoyable with this game was that I could get a litile further each time I played it, not too much as to give the whole thing away, but just enough to make me have just one more go

Really the only bad thing I can say about the whole program is that Melbourne House has used a very brave fast loader. It took me several attempts with a high quality computer cassette recorder to get it in. I hope it's changed slighily for the commercially avaitabte version.

And all I can say after that strange outburst of deep meaningful prose from a usually more sedate TP is that I ve been beaten by Conquestador - buy it!

\section*{Codemasters/£1. 99}

Tommy What d'you get if you cross Jet Set Willy with Daley Thompsoris Decathlon? You get what? Leave this page at once, that's positively disgusting! Of course, you get Phantomas, one of the first releases from a new software house called Codemasters. And for an opener that won't rock your pocket, it's not at all bad.

Yes, its JSW only the sprites are a bit bigger. Plenty of nasties going up and down, plenty more going from right to left and plenty of platforms so that you can avoid them. Only one life though, but you can replenish your energy by
picking up the little coloured squares that are scattered around the screens. And there are plenty of screens

You play the thief,
Phantomas, out to 'alf-inch the jewels hidden on the planet. But first you have to get hold of the strongbox they're kept in by switching 36 separate levers. So, it's jump, dodge, switch on, swan out. Like all good platform games, it comes down to timing - in this case, have I got time for just one more go? But why? There's nothing really remarkable about the game. On a scale of one to ten it scores minus four for originality. Even some of the sprites are stolen straight from


Imagine/E7.95
Pete Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the arcades, Ocean has gone and signed up another arcade deal with Nitchibutsu, and no. I don't know how to pronounce that either.

Okey-cokey, so what does one have to do in this 'ere program? Well, In a nutshell, as the last surviving member of the Cosmo Police you have to neutralise all the defences of the Cynep and eventually knock the Cynep's evil rule on the 'ed. To do this you have a number of weapons at your disposal, the only trouble is that you've got to find them first. And even then, keeping them aint particularly easy, 'cos as your power is drained through combat your weapons are whisked away leaving you completely 'arm-less, Now yourre only lett with your bare hands to fight with.

Once you've got through one level of nasties then you have
to fight a Giant Demon. This Demon is multi headed and each bit that fires at you must be killed seperately. Not an easy task at the best of times.

The play area looks something like Domark's A View To A Kill and with most of the fighting going on with fists, the complex structure which imagine has tried to generate deteriorates into nothing more than a Karate punch-up.

The graphics aren't particutarly wonderful for imagine, nor is the sound and I cant say I was thrilled to bits to play the game.

Personally I reckon that if you want to start fighting multiheaded beings then your time would be better employed Witting threatening fotters to the Ed.

\(J S W\). But it's fun with a capital Ph. And it's full of good things Like the music. One of those tunes that you end up humming weeks later. Like Phantomas, a real nobody of a computer character. No body, just a head on a pair of feet. Like the variety of screens. Each one holds the promise of a surprise. And yes, like Daley Thompson. On one of the screens you're whisked away in a helicopter and deposited on a planet surface with yet another switch. Throw it and you're told that to run you need the keys \(V\) and B. Now run. If you don't you're squashed flat by a large rolling boulder. No body, no head, no game.

This is one of the best arguments l've seep for still comparing budget games with the full-price stuff. There's a couple of days solid playing here at a quarter of the price. Sure, if you're heartily sick of Willy clones, steer clear Otherwise, give it a spin. It doesn't rate a megagame; not nearly original enough. And it has a few annoying faults that would've been ironed out of a full-price game (I hope).
But 'll play Phantomas again. Phor the sheer phun of it!


N \(\square\) \(\square\)

\section*{Software Projecte/E7.95}

Phil A laserdisk game on the Speccy? You're pulling my dirk. No it's definitely no joke, this really is Dragon's Lair on the Spectrum. Q. How on earth do you compact 10 miltion megabytes of graphics and sound, a Walt Disney cartoon and orchestra, onto the small (yet v. humble) Spectrum? A. You don't. You take the scenarios and multiload simplified versions of each. Ah! But does It work, this megagame in a micro machine? Nope, I'm afraid not, but then you can't have everything.

Dirk's adventures in the Dragon's gaff are too hard, basically. I suppose you could say it's an accurate representation of the originat in that respect. Oh yes, it's exactly like the coln-op version in another respect too. Your control over the hapless Dirk seems limited to merely guiding his progress, rather than actually having any real control over him. I find this aspect particularly annoying! if you make a game so hard that it doesn't allow anyone but the writers past the first level, there's little point in drawing any other levels, is there? They could be the most brilliant screens in the world, with the most scintillating gameplays, but unless some poor berk can have a fair shot at getting to them, you might as well forget it. The graphics on the bits you can see look really good, but have the feel of straining to appear sophisticated when they're really not doing that much.

If you can be fagged to persist, P'm sure you'll prove me wrong, by discovering the hidden depths to the gameplay and the glory of the final graphic effect. But frankly I think it was a bad idea to attempt a conversion of this magnilude, untess you were sure to produce a workable game. Shame.


\section*{FLRELORD \\ Hewson/28.95}

Gwyn Ultimate has a lot to answer for. By being so good, its programs spawned a whole new genre . . . Imitate - Plagiarise the Game. Firelord isn't a 3D clone, thank Knight Lore, but goes back further to the savage days of Sabre Wuif.

For those without long memories, that means that if's a multiscreen maze game. Very 'multi, with 500 plus screens, a host of meanies and lots to pick up in your perambulations. And the one thing that makes this deja-play tolerable is that it's written by Stove Crow, who seems to have a knack when it comes to imitating the Ashby crew.

Plot-wise, Firelord sets Sir Galaheart on a mission to seek out the sacred Firestone (though why he should want a holy car tyre I have no ldea) and return it to the dragon. This moans hedd better get a move on and though he's already got his drag on, he needs a weapon, which he'll find lying around the medieval highways and by-ways.

Life in the Middle Ages was nasty, brutish and short (rather like the Ed) but at least it was pretty too, and as you wander the country lanes, or stroll into town, you'll benefit from some attractive scenery.

But the hottest thing about Firelord is its trading element. You can walk into some houses and sit down for a bit of bartering with the occupant. Of course they may not want to sell their magic supplies or information for the half eaten ham sarnie that you're offoring, but you can always try a little light fingered theft

Life in medieval Britain obviously progressed at a more gentle pace, and though I quite enjoyed this, my feelings are that it's pleasant rather than powerhouse. It has an olde worlde charm that could soon wear off, unless you're really into the game type. In that case, it's got some novel twists, but personally lid have preferred something rather






Now tor something completely different You are an insudious lettie Woamie being chased through a mucro electronic labytinth (you givened it a Sinciar Spectrum') by GREEPERS in SPUT NIKS ane CRAWLERS on foot (teots?) Defend yourselt by shooung BURPER SPARKIES ot the CRAWLERS and BLASTER SPARKIES to take out the SPUTNIKS Youll see the computer board in a smooth seroling 30 vigwed from obove fown whivn fust another bit of mego programming) as you craw) aroind in warch of a DISK DRive on which to CLONE yourseit First you li need to find fitty SPINDLES to eat which wil teplenish your supply of SPARKIES to shoot at the 8UGS How lone can you craw rowna DAT A GUS Fitd out how refreting ot BuGGER fgos when yourgstock in Spectrum and
CRUCIAL MAN

\title{
Available October 20th Trade enquiries to Centresoft on 0213563388
}




\title{
PLAMETPROTON
}

\section*{by Mark Rawson}

\section*{The Game Planet，Proton，is once again the scene of the} Tournament．The favourite game is，as always，the Gold Rush scenario，a strategy game for 2－4 players where the players burrow underground in suits equipped with powerdrill gloves．The powerdrills don＇t allow the player much control，mind you．You can just specify the direction you want to go in and off you blast，in a straight line through the soil until you hit the sides of the arena，or an opponent＇s tunnel．Although you get points for any tunnel you drill，it＇s handy if you can pick up a few gems along the way，as these are worth many more points．And you get to keep them！

\section*{Graphics Key}
\[
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{A}=\mathrm{C}=\boldsymbol{A} \quad \mathrm{E}=\text { © } \\
& B=\quad D=\psi^{*} \quad F=\frac{3}{2}
\end{aligned}
\]

\section*{Loader Program}

Type this in and save it first on your tape as SAVE＂PLANET＂LINE 1．This loads the character set and then the main program．
```

20 CLEAR 63999
30 LOAD "'"CODE 64000
40 POKE 23607, INT (64000/256) -
50 POKE 23606,64000-256*INT '\&
4300,256)
60 LOAD

```

\section*{Hex Loader}

Oh boy，another General Hex Loader program！（Well，I s＇pose if you missed it in the Bubble Trouble issue you could use this one instead！）Type it in and save it to a different tape for future use．Then run it and type in the Hex Dump．

1 REM General Hex Loader
1 REM Gener al
2 POKE 23658,8
2 POKE 2365日，
3 INPUT＂Start Address＂\(\ddagger\) star \(t\)

4 POKE USR＂\(a\)＂，INT istart／256 ）：POKE USR＂\(a\)＂+1 ，start－ 256 ＊INT （start／256）

5 CLEAR start－1
6 LET star \(\mathrm{t}=256\)＊PEEK USR \(" \mathrm{a}\)＂+ PEEK（USR＂\(a\)＂+1 ）

7 INPUT＂Length＂；length
B INPUT＂File Name＂\(; f\) f
10 FOR i＝start TO start＋length STEP 8
20 LET CS＝0
30 PRINT AT 0,0 ；＂Address＂ 12 40 INPUT＂Hex 日 Bytes＂，LINE a \(+\)

60 IF LEN a＊\(\langle>16\) THEN GO TO 1 000

BO LET \(f=0\) ：FOR \(j=1\) TO 16
90 IF（as（j）＜＂O＂OR af（j）＞＂و＂） AND（ \(a *(j)<" A "\) OR a＊（j）＞＂F＂）TH EN LET \(f=1\)
100 NEXT \(j\)
105 IF \(f=1\) THEN GO TO 1000 110 FQR \(\mathrm{n}=0\) TO 7
120 LET \(y=\) CODE a＊（1）－48：IF \(y>9\) THEN LET \(y=y-7\)
130 LET \(z=\) CODE a＊\((2)-48\) ；IF \(z>9\) THEN LET \(z=z=7\)
140 LET \(\vee a=16 * y+z\)
150 LET es＝cstva

160 POKE i＋n，va
165 PRINT AT \(2, n * 3 ; a *(\) TO 2） 170 LET a＊＝at（3 TO）
180 NEXT \(n\)
183 INPUT＂Checksum＂；LINE as
184 PRINT AT 2,25 ；as
185 IF VAL a＊\(\langle>\) CS THEN GO TO 1 000
187 CL．S
190 NEXT 1
200 CLS ：PRINT＂SAVE CODE AFTE R BASIC LGADER．＂．＂＂REMOVE EAR LE \(A^{\prime \prime}\)
210 SAVE fsCODE start，length 220 CLS ：PRINT＂VERIFYING＂ 230 VERIFY＂＂CODE
240 CLS ：PRINT＂ALL OK＂：STOP 1000 PRINT AT 15，0；＂ERROR＂：GO T 020

\section*{Hex Dump}

Tap this Hex Code into your Hex Loader and save the resultant block of machine code next on your tape as SAVE＂FACE＂CODE 31774，768． And yes，I know the program above loads it at 64000 ，but that＇s the way it works．Trust me．
31744 ：00日0日0000000日000＝0 \(31752: 0003101010002000=88\) 31760 ：0012240000000000 \(=54\)
31768：00127F2424FE4800＝543 31776：00043F283E0A7E10＝321 31784 ：0062640810264600＝330 31792 ： 001828102 A 447 A00 \(=312\) \(31800: 0008100000000000=24\)
\(31808: 0006080898080 c 00=50\)
\(31816: 0030101010106000=208\)
31824 ： \(000016033 E 083400=152\)
\(31832: 000004083 \mathrm{E081000}=98\)
\(31840: 0000000000080830=64\)
\(31848: 000000003 \mathrm{E} 000000=62\)
31856： \(000000000181800=48\)
31864：0000020408102000＝62
\(31872: 003 E 464\) R5 \(2627000=510\)
\(31880: 001 \mathrm{C} 280810107 \mathrm{E00}=234\) 3186B：003E42023C40FE00＝508 31896：003E420c02447800＝330 31904：00041828487E1000＝282 31912：003F407C02427C00＝443 31920：Ø03E407C42427C00＝506 31928：003F020408102000＝125 31936 ： \(003 E 423 C 42427 C 00=444\) 31944 ： \(003 E 42423 E 047800=380\) 31952 ： \(0000000800001000=24\)
31960 ： \(0000080000101020=72\)

\(31968: 0002040810080402=4.4\) 31976：0000003F007E0000＝189 31984 ： \(0020100804081020=116\) 31992 ： \(003 E 420408001000=156\) \(32000: 003 E 4\) A5 \(250407 C 00=498\) 32008：003E42427E428400＝518 32016：003E427C4242FC0日＝636 32024 ：003E424040427C00＝446 32032： \(003 C 44424244 \mathrm{FB} 00=576\) \(32040: 003 F 407 C 4040 \mathrm{FCO}=631\) \(32048: 003 F 407 C 4040300 \theta=507\) 32056：003E42404E427C00＝460 32064： \(0021427 E 42428400=489\) 32072：001F040808107C00＝191 32080： \(0001020242427000=261\) \(32088: 0026487048448400=494\) 32096： \(002040404040 \mathrm{FCO}=540\) 32104：0021665A42428400＝489 32112： \(002162524 \mathrm{R} 468400=489\) 32120：003E424242427C00＝450 32128：003E42427C408000＝510 32136：ण03E4242524A7C02 \(=476\) 32144 ： \(003 E 42427 C 448400=518\) 32152：003E403C02C23C00＝442 \(32160: 007 F 101010102000=223\) 32168 ： \(0 \emptyset 1424242427 C 0 \theta=421\) \(32176: 0021424242243800=323\) 32184：00214242425月6C00＝429 32192 ： \(002324181624 \mathrm{C} 400=351\) 32200：0043442810102000＝239 32208：003F04081020FC00＝375 32216：000Fの8ض日 \(10101 \mathrm{C} 0=91\) 32224 ：0020201010080800＝112 32232： \(007808081010 \mathrm{~F} 000=408\) \(32240: 0008385410102000=212\) 32248：00000000000000FF \(=255\) 32256：001E22782020FC00＝500 32264 ：00001C043C447500＝280 32272：0010203022227000＝300 \(32280: 00001 \mathrm{E} 220203 \mathrm{C00}=186\) 32288 ： \(0002043 C 44447 C 00=326\) \(32296: 00003 C 4478407800=432\) 32304 ：000E101810102000 \(=118\) 32312：0ø003E44443C0478＝382 32320 ： \(0020407844448800=488\) \(32328: 0008003010107000=200\) 32336 ： \(0002000404042438=106\) \(32344: 0010203030284800=268\) \(32352: 0008101010101800=96\) 32360：000020545454R800＝464 32368 ： \(00003 C 4444448800=400\)
\(32376: 00003 C 4444447800=384\) 32384 : 00003C4444784080 \(=508\) \(32392: 00003 E 444430080 \mathrm{C}=270\) 32400 : \(00001 \mathrm{E} 2020204.000=190\) 32408 : \(00003 \mathrm{C} 403804 \mathrm{~F} 800=432\) 32416 : \(0008381010101800=136\) \(32424: 0000224444447800=358\) \(32432: 0000224428233000=230\) \(32440: 000025454547000=410\) \(32448: 000026281028 c 800=334\) \(32456: 00002244443 C 0478=354\) 32464 : \(00003 \mathrm{E} 081020 \mathrm{~F} 800=365\) \(32472: 000 E 083010101 C 00=130\) \(32480: 0008080808080800=48\) \(32488: 0038080 c 10107000=220\) \(32496: 0014280000000000=60\) 32504 : 3E429DR1A189427C=982 \(32512: 0000000000000000=0\) sTop

Basic Program
This is the guts of the program itself (urgh!) containing all the necessary operations for the game, UDGs and so on. Thrash it in and save it last on your tape as SAVE "PROTON" LINE 1.

10 BORDER - PAPER O: INK 7 :
BRIGHT 1: POKE 23650.6 : CLS
20.60 SUS 160

30 GO SUE 250
40 GO SUB 360
SO BORDER
60 CLS
70.90 SUB 390

30 GO SUB 430
90 GO SUE 610
100 GO SUB 690
110 GO SUE 730
120 GO SUB 770
130 GO SUB 610
14060 5U5 690
150 60 TO 970
160 PRINT AT 0,9: INK 6; INUERS E 1;"PLANET PROTON
170 PRINT AT 3,\(3 ;\) "A Gane For a To 4 players"...TAB 7; "8 Mark Rav son 19a6"
180 PRINT ". Collect As Many cry stals as you can, Avoiding block ing yourself into a tight corner

190 PRINT "As you collect the \(s\) cystals, youmake hotes which can not be crossed over.
200 PRINT INK 6: FLASH 1; "GOIde n"; FLASH 0; INK 7; gens are wo th the wost": PRINT "points BuT greed is not the object of this game, STRATEGY is.
210 PRINT "T CY to block your of ponents intoa simall area whitst kesping a large area to yourse \(\overline{1}\).
220 PRINT ". TAB 10: FLASH 1:"HA PPY MINING
230 PAUSE 200
240 RETURN
ase FOR i =USR "a" TO USR " \(t "+7\) 260 READ a
270 POKE 1.A
ase HEXT
290 RETURW
300 INPUT "No. Of Players (2/4) LINE ns
310 IF ns ("a" OR n s)"4" THEN 00 то 300
320 LeT \(n=\) UAL \(n s\)
330 IF \(n\) (2 OR \(n>4\) THEN 00 TO 30 -
340 DIM \(s(n):\) DIM \(x(n)\), DIM y ir OIM \(q(n)\) : LET \((p=\) INT (RND \(n\) )
350 FOR is1 TO \(n\)
360 LET \(s(i)=0\) : LET \(Q(i)=0\)
370 NEXT 1
380 RETURN
390 FOR \(i=1\) TO 20

400 PRINT AT 1,1 ; INK \(1 ; " * * 0040\)
- + + \(+*+*+4+4+\) + +

410 NEXT
4 aق RETURN
430 FOR I=5 TO 21
440 PRINT AT I, 22:
450 NEXT I
460 PLOT 255,120
470 DRAU \(-72,6\)
480 DRRU \(0,-(N+32)\)
490 DRAU 72,0
500 DRAU \(0,(n+32)\)
510 PLOT 0.0
520 DRAU 175.0
530 DRAU 0,175
540 DRAU -175.0
550 DRAU 0, 0175
560 FOR \(i=128\) TO (128-(n+32)) 5 TER -32
570 PLOT 255,1
S8e DRAW -72,0
590 NEXT i
609 RETURN
610 PAPER 2: INK 7
620 PRINT AT 0,25;"1 2 3"
630 PRINT AT 1,25;
640 PRINT AT 2,\(25 ; " 4-+-6\) "
650 PRINT AT 3 , 25; " \(;\)
660 PRINT AT 4,25;"7 8 9"
670 PAPER © INK ?
S8日 RETURN
690 FOR \(i=0\) TO \((n-1)\)
700 PRINT AT \(5+(1+4), 23 ;\) INK \(\{1\)
*3) ; "Player "; (i+1)
716 NEXT i
720 RETURN
730 FOR ita TO \((n-1)\)
740 PRINT AT \(6+((i+4)+1), 23\); IN
K \((i+3)\); "score \(\quad\) : : CHRs \((146+i)\)
750 NEXT i
750 RETURN
770 FOR \(i=0\) TO \((n-1)\)
780 PRINT AT \(6+(\{i+4)+2), 23 ;\) IN
K \((i+3) ; " \emptyset\)
798 NEXT
see RETURN
810 RANDOHIZE
Ba0 LET \(g=I N T(R N D+(N+3))+N\) 830 FOR \(i=1\) TO \(g\)
e40 LET \(\quad(n x=I N T \quad(R N D+20)+1\)
\(8 s 0\) LET \(\mathrm{r} \cap y=\) INT (RND +20 ) +1
860 PRINT AT inx,rny; INK 6; ER
IGHT Q:CHRS 145
870 NEXT i
sse RETURN
890 FOR \(i=1\) TO \(n\)
900 LET \(r(x=\) INT (RND +20\()+1\)
910 LET \(r C y=I N T\) (RND +20) +1
920 PRINT AT \(\mathrm{C} C \times, \mathrm{CCY}\); INK \((i+2)\)
CHRS \(\{145+1\}\)
930 LET \(\times(i)=r(x\)
940 LET \(y(i)=r C Y\)
950 NEXT i
960 RETURN
970 LET \(1 * 1\)
98Q TF i) TH THEH 90 TO 970

F quit in THEN GO TO 980
100060 SUB 1410
1010 IF check =9 THEN LET Check = \(\theta\)
LET \(i=i+1\) : GO TO 980
\(102 \theta\) LET \(i=i+C P\) LET \(C P=0\)
1030 BEEP . \(1,(10 * i)\)
1040 INPUT "Player "; (i);" Direc
tion ". LINE ds
2050 IF ds ("1" OR ds>"9* OR ds=
5" THEN 90 TO \(104 \theta\)
1050 LET \(d=\) UAL \(d s\)
1070 IF \(d<1\) QR d) OR \(d=5\) THEN \(Q\)
- TO 1040

1080 SO SU日 \((1140+(d-1)+10)\)
1890 LET move = 0
1100 GO SUE 1230
1110 IF moveag THEN PRINT a@; FL
AsH 1; "You Can "t Move In That Di rection" BEEP \(1.2,-6\) : GO TO 103 o

1120 LET \(i=i+1\)
1130 GO TO 980
1146 LET \(d x=-1\) : LET \(d y=-1\) : RETUR

1159 LET \(d x=-1\) : LET \(d y=0\) RETURN

1160 LET \(d x=-1\) LET \(d y=1\) RETUR+1 1170 LET \(d x=0\) : LET \(d y=-1\), RETURN 1150 FEH
1190 LET \(d x=0\) : LET \(d y=1\) : RETURN
1200 LET \(d x=1\) : LET \(d y=-1\) : RETURN
1210 LET \(d x=1\) : LET \(d y=0\) RETURN 12a0 LET \(d x=1\) : LET \(d y=1\) : RETURN
1230 If ATTR \((x(i)+d x, y(i)+d y)=6\)
THEN LET \& (i) as (i) +50: BEEP 1 ,
321 00 TO 1250
1240 If RTTR \((x(i)+d x, y(i)+d y)\) \& 65 THEN RETURN
1250 LET \(x(i)=x(i)+d x\)
1250 LET y(i) my (if) +dy
1270 GO SUE 1340
1280 GO SUB 1360
1290 PRINT AT \(x(i), y(i) ;\) INKK \(i+2\)
, CHRS ( \(145+1\) )
1300 LET \(s(i)=3(i)+10\)
1310 LET move =move +1
1320 GO 5UB 1390
1330 GO TO 1230
1040 PRINT RT \(x(i)-d x, y(1)-d y ; C M\)
Rs 32
1350 RETURN
1360 EEEP . \(005 \times(1)\)
1370 EEEP . 005 , \(y\) (i)
1300 RETURN
1390 PRINT AT \(4+((i+4))\), 23; INK
(i +2) ; 3 (i)
1460 RETURN
1410 LET Check=0
1420 FOR \(d=1\) TO 9
1430 SO SUB \((1140+(d-1)+10)\)
1440 IF SCREENS \((x(i)+d x, y(i)+d y\)
\(\mathrm{m}^{\prime \prime}=\) OR ATTR \((x(i)+d x, y(i)+d y)\),
, 65 AND ATTR \((x(i)+d x, y(i)+d y)(s)\)
6 THEN LET Check = check +1
1450 NEXT d
1460 IF ChECK=9 THEN GO SUE 1480
1470 RETURN
1400 BEEP . \(4,-4\) BEEP . \(4,-6\)
1490 PRINT \#0;TAB 7; FLASH 2;"P1
ayer "..; Is Trapped
1500 LET \(Q(1)=1\)
1510 PRUSE 100
152000 sub 1850
1530 INPUT
2540 RETURN
1550 LET quiti=0
1560 FOR \(6=1\) TO n
1570 IF \(q(c)=1\) THEN LET Quitequi
t+1
150 IF quit=(n-1) THEN OO TO 15 10
1890 NEXT \&
1600 RETURN
1610 LET hs =0
1620 FOR is1 TO \(n\)
1630 IF s (i) shs THEN LET hases (i)
LET Plaverai
2640 NEXT i
1680 INPUT
1850 PRINT \#®; AT 1,\(0 ;\) FLASH 1;"P
laver "iplayer;" has Won"
1570 FOR i=0 TO 10
1600 BEEP , 05, (i*4)
1890 NEXT ।
1700 PAUSE 100
1710 INPUT "Another Game? (Y/N) LINE as
1720 IF as="n" OR a\&m"N" THEN \(Q O\) TO 1630
1730 INPUT "same Players? (Y/N) LINE as
1740 IT as="n" OR a tw"N" THEN 00 sus 3ee
\(1750 \quad 90\) SUB 340
1760 00 ro 70
1770 DATA \(24,60,126,255,126,60,2\) 4.0

1780 DRTA \(24,36,90,265,90,36,24\), \(\stackrel{1}{8}\)
1790 DATA \(60,60,24,255,24,36,36\), 102
1800 DATA \(153,189,126,60,60,126\) 183,129
1810 DATA \(60,126,218,255,189,66\), 126,60
1020 DATA \(60,60,24,125,60,50,24\) 50

\title{
ROCK＇N＇ROLL TLNER
}
by Sai Ming Wong
What a triffic game Rock＇\(N^{\prime}\) Roll was！ On these very pages，a megagame was born．Hex Loader has got hints and tips on it，we＇ve had maps and POKEs and complete solutions． Worra man Neil Balharrie is，eh？And now，you can design your own screens with this unique and exclusive＇Rock＇N＇Roll Tuner program．
You can load screens into the program and edit them，making a whole new Rock＇N＇Roll universe to explore．Make the game as hard or as easy（cheat！）as you like，and put yourself in the hi－score tables with the rest of them．

Rock＇N＇Roll Tuner
－Typing time： 1 thr 40 mins （inc． Custom and Demo）
－Loading time：23secs（Tuner）
－Serves：48／128K

\section*{Graphics Key}

Here＇s the UDG key，an invaluable guide to the keys you need to fondle to get the graphics on the screen．
\[
\begin{array}{ll}
A=\square & D=0 \\
B=2 ; & E=\text { I } \\
C=\varnothing & F=天
\end{array}
\]

\section*{Rock＇N＇Roll Custom Loader} This is a bit like the＇Rock＇N＇Roll loader program except that it allows the loading of your own screens on start－up．Type it in and save it as SAVE＂ROCKNROLL＂LINE 1．Use it instead of the Basic loader on your ＇Rock＇N＇Roll game．



 PUT Screen Fitenane＂．is LOAD fSCODE 31056
9998 PRINT USR 32755
9999 SAUE＂ROCKNROLL
LINE 0
Basic Tuner Program Here is the Tuner program（And remember，you can tune
＇Rock＇N＇Roll，but you can＇t tuna fish！）．Simply type it in and save the little beggar as SAVE＂TUNER＂LINE 1.

1 DIM（ \((11,16)\)
5 BORDER 5
10－FOR \(n=U S R\)＂a＂TO USR
20 READ a ：POKE \(n, a\) ：NEXT
25 LET as \(\boldsymbol{w}^{\prime \prime}\)－os天央
30 CLS GO SUB 9000
35 LET \(\operatorname{manx}=0\) ：LET many \(=0\) ：LET
\(d i a=0\)
40 INPUT＂Uhich Option（1－4）
opt
Se IF \(O P T<1\) OR OPT＞4 THEN \(Q 0\)
040
60 IF OPt＝1 THEN INPUT＂Fi lena me to load
LOAD f SCODE 01056，2472
70 IF OP \(1=2\) THEN INPUT＂Filsena we to save
SAVE ISCODE 31056，1472
BO IF OP \(=3\) THEN GO TO 1000
90 IF OP \(=4\) THEN \(Q O\) TO SB日e
100 GO TO 30
999 REM tinsert screent
1000 INPUT＂Uhich screen \((1-16)\)
1010 IF \(S C(1\) OR \(I C>16\) THFN GO TO 1000
1015 PRINT AT 12,\(0 ;\)＂screen＂\(" s 6\)
1018 LET \(\operatorname{man} x=0\) ：LET many \(=0\) ：LET \(d i a=0\)
1020 LET s tart＝31056＋（sc－1）＋92
1030 LET fin＝start＋87
1035 LET \(x<=0\) LET \(y c=0\)
1040 FOR \(f=3\) tart TO fin
1050 LET peek＝PEEK ！
1060 LET \(a=\) INT（peek／16）
1070 LET bwpeek－a＋16
1071 LET \(t(y c+1, x c+1)=a\)
1072 LET \(\quad(y c+1, x c+2)=b\)
1075 IF \(a=0\) THEN LET \(a=6\)
1076 IF \(\mathrm{b}=0\) THEN LET \(\mathrm{b}=6\)
\(10 B 0\) PRINT RT \(Y C, \times c\) ；as（a）；AT YC
（c＋1；as（b）
1039 LET \(\times<=\times c+2\) IF \(\times c=16\) THEN LET \(x<=0\) ：LET \(y c=y c+1\)
1090 NEXT
1100 GO TO 40


4999 REM tedit，
5000 LET \(c x=0\) ：LET \(\angle Y=0\) ；PRINT \(O\) UER 1：RT \(C y, C x ; * * *\)
5001 PRINT AT 14,\(0 ; " 1=7\) Grass＂．．． \(2=\) © Bulder＂．．．．3＝0 veue t＂．＂ 4 m玉 Br ick＂＊＂5＝A Man＂，＂Q＝Up AaDoun＂＂
＂ \(6=\)（space）\(", " O=\) Left P＝Right＂，，＂ QuFinish
5005 LET \(O C x=C X\) ：LET \(O C y=c y\)
5010 LET \(C Y=C Y-1\) INKEY \(s=" q\)＂AND \(y>0)+(\) INKEY \(\$=\)＂a＂AND Cy（10）
5020 LET \(c x=c X-(\) INKEY \(S=\)＂O＂AND \(x>0)+(\) INKEYs \(=\)＂\(p\)＂AND \((x<15)\) 5030 LET is \(s=\) INKEYs：IF is \(s>={ }^{\prime \prime} 1 " A\) ND is \(\langle=" 6 "\) THEN PRINT AT \(c y, c x\) ；a
 \(6^{-}\)THEN LET \(t(c y+1, c x+1)=0\) 5040 IF INKEY \(s=" 9 "\) THEN PRINT \(O U\) ER 1；AT \(C y, c x ; \cdots * \cdots\) GO TO 6000 5930 PRINT OUER i ；AT \(C Y, C X ;{ }^{*}\)＊＊ 5940 PRINT OUER 1；RT OCY，OCX；＊＋ 5950 GO TO 5095
5999 RETURN
s000 INPUT＂set into which scree \(n(1-16)^{*}\) isc
6010 IF SC\＆1 OR SC＞ 16 THEN GO TO 6000
6020 PRINT AT 12,\(0 ;\)＂Screen＂；sc；
6030 PRINT FLASH 1；AT 13,0 ；＂PLEA SE UAIT＂
6035 LET manx＝0：LET many＝0：LET dia＝0
6040 LET start \(=31056+(5 \mathrm{c}-1)+92\)
6070 FOR \(P=1\) TO 11
5080 FOR \(0=1\) TO 16 STEP a
6085 LET \(10 \mathrm{t}=0\)
6090 LET tot \(=t \circ t+t(P, 0+1)+16+t(p\)
6091 IF \(t(p, 0)=5\) THEN LET Rany ap －1：LET Ban \(x=0-1\)
6092 IF \(t(P, 0+1)=5\) THEN LET many
\(=p-1\) LET san \(x=0\)
6093 IF \(t(P, O)=3\) THEN LET diamedi \(3+1\)
6994 IF \(t(p, 0+1)=3\) THEN LET \(d i a=\) dis +1
6095 LET \(~(~(P, 0+1)=0\) ：LET \(t(p, 0)=\)
61
tart +1
6120 NEXT
6120 NEXT
6130 POKE stact，dia
6140 POKE start +1 ，sanx
6150 POKE start +2 ，many
6999 Q0 TO 30
9000 FOR \(y=0\) TO 10
9020 PRINT AT \(y, 0\) ；＂पातापाता ［1＂
9040 NEXT Y
9060 PRINT INK 1；AT 0，19；＂NNPNE
＊WNNMNM
9070 PRINT INK 1；AT 1．19；＂＊ROCK
N＇ROLL＊＊
9080 PRINT INK 1；AT 2，19；＂N TU NER＂\(\quad\)＂
9090 PRINT INKK 1；AT 3，19；＂0
9100 PRINT INK 1；AT 4,\(19 ;\)＂\％Sai Ming＊
9110 PRINT INK 1；AT 5，19；＂\(=\) ong
9120 PRINT INK 1；AT 6，19；＂NNMRN ＊NENM
9130 PRINT INK 1；AT 10 ，22；＂OPTIO NS＂；OUER 1；AT 10，22；＂ \(\qquad\) 9140 PRINT INK 1；AT 12,\(27 ;{ }^{2} 1\) LOA d screens＂：TAB（17），＂2 save scre． ens＂；TAB（17）；＂3 Insert Screen＂
TAB（27）；＂4 Edit Screen
9200 RETURN
9300 DATA 266，129，129，129，129，12 9，129，255
9310 DATA \(0,80,2,16,0,40,2,0\)
9320 DATA \(0,63,126,255,255,126,6\) 0,0
9330 DATA \(0,6,20,34,34,20,6,0\)
9340 DATA \(0,255,0,15,240,16,255\)
－
9350 DATA 0，26，28，8，62，8，20，34



\section*{"Plan the Robbery of a Lifetime!"}

\section*{Alligata/E11.95}

Gwyn There are two ways of reviewing chess programs. The hardened player will settle for nothing less than a head on comparative test. with a line of Speccies overheating as they play each other.

That's one method. But the YS solution is to sit good old Gwyn down in front of the computer and see if he can last more than ten moves. This doesn't result in the definitive statement of strengths and weaknesses . . . . but it does provide a subjective summing up from a mere chess mortal.
After tast month's brace of board busters, Cyrus If looks rather plain. No natty 3D graphics here - just a standard plan. But is that a serious omission? Possibly not, because the squares fill the screen and the cursor movement system is simple to use. What is less satistying is the bilious yollow and green colour scheme which means that white pieces all but vanish on the primrose squares.

Variables can be changed via a second screen, which also contains a record of moves. Alterations are easy to make, using menus and single key commands. There's no problem changing levels, sides, turning the board through 180 degrees, taking back moves or requesting help. It you want you can also play both sides, or play a human opponent, or your Speccy can even play with itself. Setting up positions and problem solving, with mate in anything up to five moves, are also catered for.

As 1 said, 1 can't reatly comment on the grand master shattering potential of Cyrus, but for many people the fact that it plays a good game will be enough. It's also fun to take on providing you can cope with its lemon and lime playing area. Yuk!


\section*{ICE TEMPLE}

Bubble Bus Software/£7.95
Phil 'Brrr. Razor's the name, Nick Razor. . . What am I doing here? Well, it was bad enough that some little squirter pinched my Space Cruiser and hyperspaced off with it, but did they have to leave it on this godforsaken ice planet? Jeez, it's cold. Oh why did I have to stumble on the aliens' plan to destroy the Earth? Now I've got to stay here until I can sabotage their evil plot. And there's anicicle on the end of my laser pistol
Nick never really wanted to be a hero. But if he doesn't stop the aliens, who will? He's got to find and destroy the nuclear elements buried deep within the ice caves. Do you remember a game called The Covenant, or maybe one called Lunar Jetman? Betore your time, eh? Well, okay, the principle is that you have a man in a fetpack, and it's his sotemin đuty frothing to sinite about, this jetpacking) to collect the eight pleces of the reactor and dump them down refuse chutes. To do this he must find his little space ship, and explore the 900 rooms of the ice Palace . . . yes, I said 900 . Using toleports to get to inaccessable portions of the maze. he has to destroy all the aliens and robots that attack him, 'cos if his forecefield gets depleted, his suit will explode. (Urgh! Red walipaper looks so tackyl)

It's funny really, but it doesn't matter how many different versions of this game I have to play, I still think they're triffic fun. And with 900 rooms to visit, and lots of things to kill, I think you will tool

Codemasters/E1.99
Pete It is a bird? Is it a plane? It is Superman? No, it's Brok the Brave doing the old two footed jumps and flying through the air as if he was on sky hooks.

You play the unfortunate Brok the Brave, who, apart from his ability to jump proportionally higher than a flea, hasn't got a lot going for him. For poor old Brok was trapped within the high security planet Hawkland until some bright spark offered him this job. So off he was packed to Earth where his task was to free the planet from the terrors of Dracula. A strange mixmatch, methinks. Still, we'll give them the benefit of the doubt, huh?

Okay, so you've got to find three keys while avoiding the nasties. Hang on, hang on, before you go any further - haven't we covered this plot somewhere else? You also get the standard bonus points for collecting anything and everything that flashes. Corny, I know, but if it flashes the masses know what's going on. Well, compared to other platform games it matches up quite well, and it's difficult enough to keep interest going. The only thing it really lacks is
 any new creative ideas

\section*{VAMPIRE}

\section*{}

\section*{Ocean/F7.95}

Gwyn Help! A robbery! But
never fear, here's . . . (ra-ta-ta-ta-ta-ta-taaall!) . . . Here's . (ra-ta-ta-taa?) Here . . . oh, never mindl

If you'd been looking down a shotgun, waiting for Street Hawk to save you, you might well have decided to hand over the money affer all. It was obviously such a nice day that Street Pigeon decided to walk Of course Street Budgie put in an abortive appearance last year, but this was so dire it flew out almost immediately it had flown in.
Twelve months later and cue Street Cuckoo - version two swooping in with all the grace of an ostrich wearing wellies. If I was Ocean I'd have let this one fly south for the winter. It's a real Street Dodo.
So what's il all about?
Screen one and you're astride that throbbing monstrosity, Street Sparrow, racing to a heist. Seen from above, it's a case of dodge the innocent Sunday drivers and shoot up the criminals' cars, which calls for little skill and offers less
excitement. It plays so siowly you'll soon understand why Street Penguin took so long to arrive.
Atter dicing with death in that section - and I do mean death . . have you ever fallen asleep while driving a
motorbike? - you have to shoot the baddles as they run from the scene of the crime. Criminal is certainly a term that comes to mind. Shooting fish in a barrel is another.
After that well, just reread the last paragraph but one. In its favour. Street Peacock looks pretty good, but it's as threatening as a three day old chick. And it isn't even particularly well programmed. Even when you've received maximum damage and can't do anything it continues to urge you on
Really, if I want some two wheel action, Id prefer Paperboy's BMX. Never has a game been more aptly titled than Street Turkey



The thrilling traffic jam game. Accelerate, swerve, shoot and even jump, while at the bottom of the screen messages keep exhorting you to 'Go to it, Jesse.' Listen, I don't like anybody calling me a Jesse - especially a computer!



Mastertronic/E1.99
Chris Storm is an attempt to implement a Gauntlet style game on the good old Speccy - yes another one. Unfortunately, whilst I admire the sentiment, the game itself falls decidedly short of the mark. Briefly, the idea of the game is to penetrate an underground labyrinth and rescue Storm's wife. The game can be played by either one or two players. If two players are playing then both Agravain the Undead and Storm can be used simultaneously, each being controlled by different parts of the keyboard.
The game is fairly standard aracade adventure format with items to find and baddies to kitl. Unfortunately the action is viewed from above and the graphics are a bit too chunky to make the game special.

Overall, a nice idea but poorly implemented.

\section*{Firebird/\&1.99}

Chris Sideways scrolling shoot 'em ups may be flavour of the month again, but this re-released cheapie didn't get my raspberries rippling. I scream every time I see it now.
This game doesn't even warrant a budget status as all it consists of is a ship which you can move up or down the left side of the screen and wave after wave of pretty boring aliens to zap. As far as playing goes, I found that you could kill most of the waves by just sitting in one place with the fire button down. Yawn!



Any three criminals and you win a cuddly toy. These shady characters run the length of the screen to reach their van. Good thing your cross-hairs always return to just below the door. Wouldn't want to make it too difficult now, would we?


Firebird/E1.99
Chris You could say this is something like a software industry version of a 12 inch remix of a remix. You could... but I won't. It's basically the competition version of the original Gyron game that was used to put the Gyron competitors through their paces at the final showdown. The winner apparently finished the game in 18 minutes - an amazing feat since I found it hard to stay alive for that long let alone complete the thing.

The gameplay is exactly the same as in the original - you wander round a maze shooting at towers. It's just the area of play that's been changed there's still the smoothly moving vector style graphics which show your view down the trenches. And the cute little

spinning status displays on the right of the screen. Also included on one side of the tape is an easy to follow graphic tutorial that shows you how to control the craft and what to look for in the maze. It's difficult to know how to judge Gyron Arena - if you didn't like the original there's no reason why you should get off on this. However if you were addicted to the original here's your chance to see whether or not you would have stood a chance of winning the Porsche. And if you missed out first time round, then this is still a really good buy at £1.99.
 roamin' among the Romans as Astie and Obbo go walkabout. Let's start with the obvious. Asterix And The MC looks good. Big, bright, colourfut graphics. Just like the cartoon itself. And it's all suitably ancient, if not positively prehistoric.

For starters, there's a long pause as each element of the picture appears. It's rather like watching a haunted copy of that venerable graphics package, Melbourne Draw, at work.

Then there's the question of attributes. Like I said, ancient Gaul is poster-coloured to the point of psychedelia. Asterix and Obelix, on the other hand, haven't been eating their
Melbourne House/28.95 Rachael At last a game featuring our own beloved Ed. (What - as a loveable, wiry, little hero called Asterix? Ed) No, as a big, blundering, blob called Obelix.
Seems like Ed... Obelix, sorry, has kicked the cauldron which houses the first century equivalent of 6 X , and if he doesn't Superglue it back together the villagers will very likely kick the can. So it's more
 little sound effect bubbles. But,
in the words of the bard, all that FX and fury signifies nowt.

Eventually you may stumble upon the occupying Eye-ties, sip a potion, sock a centurion, spend the night in jail and emerge into the arena... and the forty locations will last forever as they laboriously draw themselves.

Somewhere in here is a potentially good game. If only they could have put all those groovy graphics on a solid framework it might have been worth playing. As it is, it's a classic case of licensing a character then merely producing a load of old Gauls.


\section*{Firebird/E7. 95}

Rachael An owl calis in the night. The mistletoe twines around an old oak in the clearing. Suddenly a prolonged shriek cuts the Celtic mist! Rachael is loading her Spectrum again!
While were all currently gaunt-less, everyone is throwing down the gauntiet and producing multi-player games. Everyone, it seems, except Firebird, who doesnt appear to think that we Spectral types have friends. But more of that in a minute Meanwhile, back in the clearing
Dressed in her white robes, bewitching Rachael takes charge of Dafyd the daffy Druid and guides him through the labyrinthine woods in search of mystic caskets. A-maze-d at the fact that the trees form such sharply detined passages, there's little time to think as ghosts, ghouls and crawlies of the creepiest kind bamboozle our bearded bard

Lwekily our holy man is armed with an arsenal of elemental spells. This is a real pain in the arsenal for the supernaturals who can only hover around sapping strength and getting zapped.

But it takes a little science to survive as a druid. Some spells are better suited to certain foes

than others, so if you don't want to waste time and energy. find out what swots what.
Our be-robed Pambo doesn't
pack an endless supply of magic either, but by searching cut a well-stacked chest he can replenish his three missile
spells or stock up on specialities, such as Key or Chaos.
This is where the second player comes in. One spell is for Gotem, a blog dumb wandering brute who acts as minder to our hero. Big and dumb . . . oi, Gwyn, c'm 'ere! But hang on ...the two player option isn't a vailable on the Spectrum. You can only control Golem in the auto mode, with Wait, Follow and Send commands. Better Send boyo away and struggle on.
Nope, it just don't workt Ive seen this on the Amstrad and it's a lot of fun with a friend bopping the beasties, but playing with yourself just isn't as salisfying. For one thing. you've not got time to order Golem into a suitably offensive position. It's all rather Gauntlet . . but without the -let.
Quite why Firebird failed to include the two player option I have no idea. Perhaps now it's seen that the Plus Two includes two joystick ports it'll think about updating it Because until it does, I don't wish to be ruid, but Druid lacks any sort of magic.


\section*{Alligata/£9.95}

Rick Honest hofficer, (hic!) ish like thish (prar-ar-p), i've been researching the background to Alligata's new Pub Games. You don't know the hell l've been through (brudd-dup). Ive had to check the accu-, accura-, make sure they're like the real thing.

See, Alligata has got all these games on the one tape, - Idon't mean toff wine bar games like wet \(t\)-shirt compos and get the top off Grolsch bottles, but classic Brit games like what you'd play down the Rovers or Queen Vic - darts bar billiards, dominoes, table footie, pontoon, poker and skittles. You can play them as individual games or run your total together for an aggregate score measured in pounds

(green drinking vouchers to you, tosh). You can play on your tod, or with muckers, (though it don't say nothing about bears), repeatedly on practice mode or in full competition. Ish great! (Brrpppp).

The darts is 501 straight start, best of three, (d'you really spell Oche like that?) It's easy enough to move yer arrer over the target, but there's a built-in wobble (bit like in my legs) which means more than a little skill is required. The bar billiards is brill - you have to adjust your cue ball position, cue angle and power to make a decent break, and just like in the real thing, the bar drops after ten minutes, (but it never closes. Geddit? Oh, never mind).
The dominoes is boring (that's my theory) but you can cheat like hell, which livens it up a bit. The table footie is a high speed reaction and reflex game, (Don Howe just wouldn't understand) where the secret is all in the wrist action. Them guys wiv the waistcoats on and aces up their holes, should enjoy the pontoon and poker. My mate Robbie B. says the pontoon is unbelievably accurate, with stakes kept to a


fiver so you can keep enough for when you're next in the chair. The poker's a bit bland (and some of the hands keep repeating themselves, just like me) with no chance of betting, but then the high odds hands come up pretty frequently so that adds to the glam.
An' it's all wrapped up by skittles which is a bit of a come down after the others - you just line the ball up and let it go. The pins fall down more often than me. It don't 'alf make you jump 'cos out of the blue
some bloke shouts 'Strikel', It's a shame actually, 'cos that's about all this game lacks decent sound effects. That, and soup in a basket.
Accompany you to the station offisher! I do not require a train. Can't stay here with my head against this nice cosy kerb. Please?




Quickuliva/58.95
Chris Has anybody here seen Kelly? K,E,LL, Y... well never mind, I remember the song anyway. And on the subject of Quicksilva's new release Captain Kelly - I wish I hadn't seen itt

You play the part of an interstellar delivery driver who's got to pick up spaceships from one part of the galaxy and drop them off somewhere else, presumably hitching a ride back to cash in on expenses.

On this particular job, though, the ship you have to deliver has a few things wrong with it such as marauding homicidal robots and the like. It's up to you to rid each of the seven levels on the ship of rampaging robots and regain control.

All the action is seen in plan view and pretty uninspiring it is too. As far as I could see it looked rather similar to the tanks game on the original Atari VCS, except that it doesn't have bendy bullets. The basic shoot 'em up theme is jazzed up a bit by the fact that you have to keep rushing round the ship in a wild frenzy to try and recharge your laser and your energy. But even this does nothing to add to the excitement any.

Unfortunately Captain Kelly isn't even saved by the graphics or sound. All I can say is take it away Capt'n 'cos I certainly don't want


\section*{US Gold/ז8.99}

Rachael Remember the blizzard of winter sports games early this year (Blizzard' Two of them? - Ed) What's wrong with a bit of poetic license? Well, this was the good one and its expansion to 128 K has done no harm either.
I actually have a sneaking regard for Winter Games, because on the whole it avoids the sitippery slope (geddit?) of pure joystick liggling and goes instead for timing. And as we all know, it's not just how fast you quiver your Quickshot that counts.
Even the speed skating is less a question of wild waggling. calling for a more rhythmic pace. White noise swooshes as you shoot the curves in your bobsled (Well mine's called Bob - what do you call yours?) And when it comes to creating your own free skating displays - move over Torville and Dean, Rachael's comin' thru.
As well as packing all of this activity into one load, US Gold has improved the music. There's a Jaws style pulse before you set off down the ski slope and a bit of Bach as you glide around the ice, perform a triple axel, a double lutz and a singular klutz that leaves you flat on your back.

Maybe sports simulations are last year's thing and it won't be cool to be seen with Winter Games, but if you've just availed yourself of one of Uncle Alan's Plus Twos, get piste. (And it he ever brings out the Plus Four, buy yourself a golf simulation too!).


Sparklers/E1.99
Rick The game with more padding than an LA Raider Wagnerian music, five screens of intelligence reports, memos from strategic planning centre - and none of it helps you play the game. Don't you get nostalgic for the goge old whizz
bang day of Shac Invader bang days of Spac Invader
when all you hat to do was
prang the abb ge rates o prang the labt ge rrates of
of the cosmas? of the cosmos?
 Black Ha thin a s ound
shoot 'em up, shoot em \(p\),
the adren carnage,
 and no littleistraterio pormead Black Haw sophistice all time, its hain being its 0 systems. destroy er launching the ultima targ being the you'll only get this far with the successful completion of the previous seven.
So if you don't want to be left wallying about on level one you have to successfully employ both your attack and defence screens. During the former you can attack crucial stationary
targets with your missiles but you must also zap moving targets (wot can also zap you). Let any of these pass by and out the bottom of the screen and you'll go on to the defence screen where you'll have to use your cannon. Although you can defenayou threflives nothing ar pitaled will count toward you o of po argret percent hostile targets while on attack node. The -ifler the OTPF fil re agpy of the better w po y yul pe given and so a greate chatre of victory. Youcan geranyoung from The o ormons, tolitvigs
 up there with the Fly Boys.
All in all a pretty good shoot 'em up that's well worth the price.

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\section*{Нен Нен Нен}


Haylp! Hayip! Faw thuh last tahm. Haylp!
Heh heh heh!
Why are you being so cru-el, you foul cur! Unhand me, sir, set me free, you cad!
You have no choice but to pay me the Four Pounds and Ninety-five New Pence you owe me for the YS Binder
I cayn't!
Oh yes you can, Sweet Caroline. Let me ripple your raspbernes
Haylp! Leave mah ice cream out of this, you swine. You Pee-ug!
Heh heh heh. Let me peach your melbas
(diddle-liddle-um, diddle-little-um . . .)
Ooooo00000, do thayt again . . . Oooo0, okay, you've convinced me . . .
(sigh)

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Videg V aut

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COMMODORE SPARES

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Firebird/E1.99
Rachael Have you ever been picked up by the fuzz? No, but I've been swung around by the pods.
The resistance is about to launch an attack almost as offensive as that last joke, and though they've captured the all powerful battle-grade starships, they've not got the all important Kylstron Pods... which is why they walk that way!

What resistance, you ask? Well, the plot inside the packaging fails to fill you in on that minor detail, but this is a budget game so you can't have everything. Just presume that they're good guys and take on the mission.
What little you can winkle out of these muscle-bound clams is that there are limpet guns that rock the pool, so don't be

shell-fish about the crustaceous puns... you sea, they shore are relevant.

There are batteries of blasters protecting the planets, but you're every ready to take them on. Or maybe you'd rather wreak havoc with their power supplies. Shoot the reactors and you knock them out for a while, but too many hits only lead to a Cher-noble sacrifice as the atomic piles go up in smoke, which is a real pain in the posterior.

So here goes nothing as you let fly with the lead shot until you can safely hover over a pod and make like a farmer with your tractor beam. Then it's time to leg it for a few feet as you pay out your toe rope and up, up and away into space. Deal the death blow to the reactor as you go for a mass destruction bonus.


Level after level it continues... getting harder and harder as you thrust away, penetrating the planets' caves, spurting laser death at the domed defences. And there's only one thing about this game that is an ant-climax. It's bugged!!!

Yes, Thrust fails to get a megagame rating because pressing too many keys at once causes it to crash, and the high score table doesn't always work. Still, Firebird seems to like the odd bug, even in its full price releases... remember Elite? So, if you promise to be careful where you put your fingers, all I can say to you is, More thrust, Spotty?




COMING SOON ON
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\section*{YS/ELECTRIC DREAMS COMPETITION}


\section*{30 really yeeurchy Aliens \(\mathbf{T}\)-shirts and games are bursting out all over!}


Darkness descends as you stumble through the desolate spoce station, the dank smell of burning flesh filling your nostrils until you gasp for breath. Sweat trickles down your brow as you wind your way through the mucus dripping. caverns


Bloody Hell!
in suffocating heat. Suddenly you hear the noise of scrabbling claws and feel a drip of hot gooey saliva run down the back of your neck. Then it starts.
You writhe in agony, your body convulsed in pain and terror as your stomach begins to move rhythmically with a life all of its own. You thrash wildly, unable to scream when suddenly . . you realise you really shouldn't have eaten that fifth quarter pounder at lunchtime.
Everyone remembers that really, really disgusting bit in the film Alien where the Kentucky fried chicken bursts out of crew member Kane's stomach as he writhes in agony, his entrails spurting out blood. If you thought that was bad you want to go and see the new sequel, Aliens - yeeurch! Or even better get your hands on a copy of Electric Dreams' new game that's bosed on the film. And if that isn't revolting enough for you what about an Aliens Tshirt with a real life alien bursting bloodily from the stomach - gory or what?

And you don't even have to blast an alien to bits to win one of these spinechilling prizes! No, as usual we've made it dead easy for you - all you've gol to do is fill in the bubble on the picture taken from the film Aliens. But make sure it's either witty, wacky or wild. When you've done that just filt in the coupon and tet rip with the page, or a photocopy and send it to The Most Disgusting, Revolting And Gruesome Compo Ever, Your Sinclair, 14 Rathbone Place, London WIP IDE.

\section*{RULES}

Aliens from Sportscene Specialist Press (have you seen the Ed?) and Electric Dreams are not permitted to enter this competition.

Get those entries in by 31 st December or you won't have a chance of being seen dead in an Aliens T-shirt.

You'll need more than guts if you're gonno get into a ruck with the Ed.
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{3}{*}{Address \(\qquad\)}} \\
\hline & \\
\hline & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}


I seems about six million readers are stuck at the start of The Boggit, unable to get out of Bimbo's door, which more or less limits you to going to the toilet, which can get a bit boring after a while. So, for everyone who wrote in about that, here goes: it looks like a lot of you are failing first of all to simply examine the door, which reveals that it has a combination lock. Obviously you need a combination to open it. If you TSEHC BMILC you'll find something which has lots of dates in it. Doesn't take a genius to work out that one of these might be useful, so simply try them in turn, entering the numbers in one go (for example, 51265 if the date is \(5 / 12 / 65\) ). Once you've learned the right combination, you can just type it in at the start of the game without going through the rigmarole of examining the door and finding the object again.

From Bimbo to Bilbo and Jonathan Winfield of Bedford who recently started playing The Hobbit again after re-reading the book. Trouble is, he can't get into the barrel in the Elvenking's cellar. even after the butler's drunk the wine. It should be a simple LERRAB OTNI BMILC. Jonathan. Anyone know any reason why that might not work?

A complaint from Pete Erskine of Colchester who couldn't get anywhere with John Wilson's Digi'T'ape adventure, The Secret Of Little Hodcome. He said he'd tried about 500 inputs and has so far discovered just two locations. His final input was NAILJOHN WILSON'S NOSTRILS TO THE GATE, and then he gave up. He reckons there'll be severe trouble next time he and his Kawasaki are passing through Little Hodcome. Anyone with similar feelings should contact the author himself at 26 Spotland Tops, Cutgate, Rochdale, Lancs OL12 7NX. And it's Mr Wilson who provides me with this month's example of an impossible input. In Claws Of Despairto pass the Fire Room you have to DISBELIEVE ILLUSION.

Several readers have obviously bought the rereleased Valkyric 17, the commonest question being how to pay the hotel bill in order to get out. The answer to that for everyone who's asked: TNOD OUY. It's the old WODNIW EHT FO TU0 STEEHS DETTONK routine, but don't jump to conclusions as to which WODNIW it is.
Malcolm Bennie of Glasgow says that the commonest problem he sees asked about Ground Zero is to do with finding the cupboard in the hall just outside the living-room. Though it doesn't appear in the description, in this location you OPEN CUPBOARD to find something extremely useful indeed.

Adrian Kennelly of Huddersfield is stuck in Urban Upstart - almost literally, as he keeps sinking in the mud on the building site. He also wonders where the airport is, and how to get into the deserted house. Well, concentrate on the house as in there you'll find something to help you with the mud, and that'll than help you locate the airport. To get into the house? Before you try to open the door you need KLIM KNIRD DNA DOOF TAE.
Just up the road from Adrian in Leeds is Peter Bates, who's trying to set up a helpline club though so far he's only managed to round up three members. Well, there's a lot of competition. Peter. Maybe starting a local adventure club might be easier, but anyone interested contact Peter at 21 Bedford Gardens. Tinshill, Leeds LS16 6DH. Meanwhile he suggests a few things you can try typing in Delta 4 adventures. In Bord Of The Rings there's FERGUS, MANDY, JUDITH, JON and CHRIS, and in Robin Of Sherlock there's MENTIONS in part one and MENTIONS, JUDITH, FERGUS and MANDY in part
tree. I'm thinking of writing another adventure about Robin, in which he falls into a vat of varmish. It'll be called Robin Of Shellac. (Groan! Ed) Graham Carling from Peterborough wants to hnow what he's trying to establish in Robin Of Sherlock, and the easy answer to that is to send an see for my freebie on that adventure. In Robin Of Shencood he wants to know where to find the thief. SEHSUB HCRAES south of Leaford Grange, and if Marian is with you you should find a new location, in which you'll discover a thieftype person. Finally, Graham asks where is the finalobject, Grimnir, in Valhalla. I like these easy questions! To give a simple answer, it's in Estacy, not a million miles from the location shere you start the game.
Lee Hodgson of 54 Church Street, Tewksbury, Glos. GL20 5RZ couldn't wait to win a GAC in our compo so he bought one. Now he thinks he'sreasonably proficient in using it, but is not so good at coming up with adventure ideas and stonylines. He'd like to hear from anyone who is good with stories but not so good with GAC, with a view to collaborating. Contact Lee if you're interested, especially if you live near him. And thanks for the V. Big Cate clues, Lee.
On the subject of Very Big CaveI've been asked it's possible to complete the text version of Spac Inuaders. Not only is it possible, it's essentinl Keep plugging away at the LEFT-RIGHTFIRE routine till you get somewhere. A few readers have also asked what the hairy figure in part two wants, and the answer is a round black disc with a hole in the middle. Is this a record? Andrew Sawyer from Winsley wants to know bow to open the clam (MALC YMMEJ), how to contribute to the plate (ETALP FO ECEIP A EYIG) and use the utility belt (ETANOBRACIB LAID/TAUQARAP LAID). He also asks if you can we the sponge for anything (WONK TNOD I). Ken Hansen says that if you think the swearword routine in part one is funny, try swearing zgrin in part two.
Help also needed by Bill of no surname from Dunleary, Co. Dublin, who's stuck in The Mural from Fourmost Adventures. First question is how to get the coupon from the New Ore Times. Make sure you're carrying the scissors and type TUO NOPUOC. Where is the paint and brush? Just the brush will do, I think, for which you need to EPOLEVNE TSOP. You might also try getting into the bucket and the postbox.
An anonymous reader writes from 2 Longridge Avenue, Lambton, Washington, Tyne and Wear, just begring to be a Kind Soul. Maybe next month. Meanwhile, your horse trouble in Sinbad can be dealt with if you ESROH OOSSAL then ESROHEDIR. In Zzzzyou get the bucket by digging and lifting and digging and getting. To catch the bus you need to NGIS TCERE then SUB POTS.
Matthew Hunter from Wisbech asks lots of questions, including wanting to know what use the genie has in Sinbad. At the start of part two, EXA HTIW PMAL TIH when the genie appears. How to get through the doors in Se -Kaa of Assiah?ROOD EDILS. How to make the chicken lay an egg in Seabase Delta? MUG HTIW ELBBUB woLB.
Arthur Simons reports that he received lots of help after appearing as a Lost Soul, and thanks for sending me the help sheet on Barsak The Dwarf, Arthur. Or ler, as he prefers.
Finally the perfect example of how to get on my wrong side. Philip Hendry writes asking for a freebie without enclosing an sae, and to add to the cheek he calls me Death's Door! However, I'll forgive him as he comes up with the interesting infornation that if you type WHY in The Boggit you get the answer ' 42 '. And why not indeed?

Nothing adventured, nothing gained. Mike Gerrard's your man.

This month a letter arrived in a BBC envelope. What could it be? An invitation to appear on Wogan? Dirty Den stuck in the Goblins' Dungeon? No, 'fraid not, just news of the "Adventure SOS" column recently launched on Ceefax in the computer section, Next, on page 266. You might wish to twiddle your remote control and tune in, though as it's updated only every three weeks there are quicker ways of getting your questions answered...so be sure to stay tuned to \(V S\) as well.

I\(n\) order to publicise its adventure-ish game based on The Archers, Mosaic took a sheep to the PCW Show in September. Makes a change from the usual turkeys. Eddie Gnundy and Jack Wooley also made an appearance, two of the characters who feature in the game, along with Nelson Gabriel and Elizabeth Archer. You take the part of the story editor, and your decisions affect the development of the plot. Will you cope with the memos from the Controller of Radio 1? Can you make Eddie Gnundy have an affair with Nelson Gabriel? Who gets to play the part of the sheep? All this and less will be revealed when the game is actually neleased.

Several letters of complaint came in during the summer from readers about The Adventurers' Club Ltd, who'd sent out no dossiers since April, and were no longer answering the phone or replying to letters. One reader was also waiting for the arrival of some software hed ordered. Honorary President Pete Austin of Level 9 then wrote to disassociate himself from the club, and it certainly looked like we'd seen the last of our dossiers and subscriptions. Latest news is a letter from MD Henry Mueller in September, with talk of lengthy take-over battles that makes the club sound like ICI or IBM. It promised, however, that normal service would be resumed at the end of October, with the next dos-
sier due out then. It's up to the club now to prove to existing members that it's on the level, before Id recommend anyone sending any more money its way.

The Secret Of St Bride's, incidentally, is about to be translated into German. For sale in Germany, that is. The English version has done so well that a translation is being done by Manfred Kleimann

CRL is also releasing The Adventure Builder on its new budget range called Alpha-Omega. Games will be on the Omega label, utilities on the Alpha one. The Adventure Builder is therefore Alpha, and costs \(£ 4.95\). It's written by faithful YS reader Tom Frost, who marketed it himself for a while, till CRL made him an offer he couldn't refuse. So it'll be yachts, villas in Mustique, Rolls Royces and dancing girls for Tom from now on. The program has a graphics facility incorporated and is more of a programmer's aid than the reasonably user-friendly \(G A C\) and Quill. It enables you to construct adventures mainly in Basic, but they'll run almost as efficiently and quickly as machine code games.

Afler its \(r\)-launch of the Level 9 Middle Earth trilogy as Jewels Of Darkness Rainbird is now working on bringing us Silicon Dreams. Thisll bring together Snowball, Return To Eden and Worm In Paradise, so if you're thinking of buying any of those tittes hold on to your pennies a little longer, as this trilogy is still 'under development': Tre seen a picture of the box, though you probably need a Lenslok before you're allowed to open it.


\section*{Ysedhemptrares}

\section*{ADVENTURERS INTERNATIONAL}

m
fivi feter frum a Maliescr! Its, from) silvio Abela, 72 Hal-Bajjada str, Rabat Malta, and he asks me to print some of lis letter to prove that I answer ecey av, Not guike sure hus it dhas that but never mind, Sivio's asking for help on Esplomagk /sland
which I can't kive lim: bow to communicate with the native woman, where to go when you 've killed the guard and what does the kraffiti on the table means. He's also having trouble with The Hobbit, getting rolling drunk in the cellar and killing Gandalf, Thoris and Elrond when they all refused to help him. I've suggested he start belhaving himself if he wants to get any where with tha

Paulo Mendes wrote from Portugal with an assort ment of queries. In Sherrak, to open Basil's safe without being killed sou must: THGINDAM KEFTA LLIT TLAW To get out of the dungeon at the stant of Rokin Of Sher rood is a real headactie, and Pm going to print that one onwards ( just get these reckless urges sometimes TAND ON PRISONER. EXAAIINE GRATING, GRAI LEG, STRANGLE GUARD, EXAMINE GUARD, GET SWORD, UNIOO BOLT. OPEN GRATING, GO OHT Sometimes you fall, but if you do just STAND ON PRIS ONER again. In Redol Panat the swer cowd you reiry ing to get off might not be the right one. ENOHP OTN
KSID TRESNI to discover another then TOTCVKTL.E. ESU on that one.
Two lellers froin Holland, one frum Peler Pijnacker asking for freebies, and I mention that just because I like his name, the other from Ben Maas thanking ma for a previous mention which resulted in him making three new Sinclair friends in Holland and a few in Eny land too. Thanks for the solution to Eyc Of Baim, Bee and as to your questions un Trmple Of Vhanny sugas? and as to your questions un Trmpir of hanniy sumas?
tions are: get an axe, chop a tree, get a club, kill a wan and hit a door
Slowly heading north through Europe we reach Bjom Holmgren of Topasvagen 32, 24021 Loddekupinte Sweden. Bjorn offers help on The ArocrEnding Stan Urain Upstart. The Hobbif and Eumiku, all of which he' solved, and needs help in return. In Red Moun, how :
 soss the red line: TUOTTBUR. In Coddon Batinh how to
sail the lake: DEDEEN TFAR. In Gramins how to cut he mailbox: TSRIF THGILHSMLF EHT TSOR:
Karsten Weldingh of Denmark mentions a buy rete already had on The Prier Of Maxik. but worth a repeat (well the BBC does it all the time). If you're killed In a monstruus fight, enter RESTORE to so into the Lenslok routine and input three wrong codes. This puts ou back where goa were but with higth stamina points. only mention this out of interest, Im sure none of ny fine upstanding honest trustwurly readers would try doing that....would you:
Finally to the frozen north itself, and Bjarki K Petersson of Skerjabraut 9, 170 Seljamames, loeland. Bjarki, whose address looks like its already writ land. Bjarki, whose address looks lake its aiready wni-
ten backwards, asked for help on The Hem. - what to ten backwards, asked for belp on Thr Rcm - what to
do with the Psyak (HCROT ENIHS) and with the Griffin EPFWOLB ESU') and he atso sent in a cartoon showing my steaming reaction to being asked for help on an arcade adventure. Apart from not quite capturing my handsome features to perfection, it was very good. And If lknew the leclandic for Th muchly, squire Pd smy it

\section*{KIND SOULS}

1this month, so there's room for a bumper collection of kind-hearted creatures, but III have to repeat yet again that you should always send an sae if you're writine to any Kind Souf offering help. Some readers still aren't bothering, and while you mipht think it's okay 'cos you're only sending one letter, think of the person at the other end who might be recefiving dozens of requests for help. I don't want my Kind Soals becoming Poor Souls, so never forget that sae, and overseas readers an International Reply Coupon.
You can still be a Kind Souleven if you're only offering help on otte adventure, like Richard Baker of 16 Leckwith Rd, Canton, Cardiff CF1 8HL, who's solved The NererEnding Story and will help on that. How he finds time to play adventures will all those TV programmes to introduce IIl never know.
Another adventurer who admits to modest successes, but is still willing to share them with others, is Wren Bull of Ty Loch, Llanddarog Rd, Carmarthen, Dyfed SB32 8BP. Write to Wren if you'restuck in Shep Of Doom or Mountains Of Ket.
Now let's make use of this extra space by mentioning those who've polished off tons of titles, and are taking their lives in their hands by offering to help readers on any of then. Like Philip Hancock, 144 Charlemont Road, East Ham, London E6 4HE, who at the last count

Tiner Markiner. 10 Lidle Indians, Amper Of Drath I. Cir cas. Wizand Of Ahyz, Fousihility Exprnment, Waxionks. Howhit. Ait Thlag, (inmelms. frrinille foland, fotemo Kithan ('potart. Birnal Or The Rines, Ey Or Rain, Harmp
 Stail, Suas (h) Bivid, The condon Apple, Kobin Of Sher \& II. Timnnuolinas, Messuse Fhum Audrominda, Sub

I don't know how Harvey Lodder finds time to write adventures when he's so bosy solvieg them - watch out for a nevew of his excellent (or should that be egs sellent) Quost Far the Goldon Eigrup But the ones he has sellent, Quert Rer in covien figrup Bue ine ones henas Bend Of The Rints, Esphumet flland, Howne't Leir, The Thumpsun Twins Adfentar, Smeadall, Ked Mewn, Thr Hulk, Manet of Death, Incu Carse, Wawnorks, Horbert's (humuy Rum, Ifampstrud, 1.D. Super Spy. Systom 15000
Eevrouns: A Wally, Pramanama, Shodowing. Eniome Fore, Mar Headrom, The Sorurer, Subsurk, Mindten der, Staff Of Zananal, Spyplane, The Curse, Markic Castle der, Stath Of Zanana, Spyplane, The Curse, Magic Castic, Gandens, Torrumutinus, Lond Of The Ringe (tape 1) and Gurst For the Giddrn Eigerup. What's that last one again?? Well I should lwope yous heree solved your own adventure. Hancy: But amyone stuck in it, or in any of the others, write to 35 Shelley Avenue, Bullbrook Brakknoss. Thrks KG12 2RP
Finally, Twe had a ketter from a lony. Well he must be
 to him asking for hetp, wo can I do sumething abeut it by priating a list of all the adventures he' solved? So I hope vall do your best to help me keep this nutter quet (for If (ex पtches at (eatel) by writins to James Elliott. 26th Canserew. Tullibody. Allas FK10 2SU if you'se any problems on: The Hulk, Spiderman, Robin Of Shenwood. Gremlins, Sorcenr Of Clamorgue Castle, Adventurdand,

 Robin OfSheriock, Tower Oj Dospair, The Fourth Protocol Shaduefing, Enumar Fimm. Sirdernn's Shadow. Lonils of Miduicht, Awimdark's Rcowns: Rumistam, Subsunk.
 Of Ket, Tample Or Vran, The Fimal Missien, Hebbit, Lerd If The Kimes, Shrrock. Hampotrad, Temmenalisos, Dan Natack. Ilruyy On Thr Masick. Urtan Upstart. Sysirn 1500e), Joeds (y) Labytom, Homax of Kam, Warlard. korest At Wherld's End, Mersett Fhom Andrumeds Mindshodow and Vallkgir 17.
As you can sec. Janes isn'? neally a very yond advenurer, so if you can offer him any tips as weil when you vrite F'm sure hed apprectates

\section*{LOST SOULS}

Fewer LostSouls this month, and the first onc, Mark Thomas, isn't even totally lost, it's just that he's completed 95\% of Mafia Contract I/ and wonders where the remaining 5's comes from. Any Mafios Put there to tell him, at 47 El
Penny (no surname) is going off her rocker at 1 Larc Close, Whoodingdean, Briyhton, East Sussex BN2 6TT. Before she's separated from her rocker completely does anyone know how to open the hourglass in Ruo Of Zondas? I know what kind of adventure that is, but I' always bend a rule to help a lady
A bit of grovelling from Stephen Folly to get himself in these pases, wondering how to get past the enchanted door and past the rabid rats in Sorcercr if Claymargur Castle Clues to 11 Hatch Lane, Harmond sworth, Middlesex. Paul Dixon's tired and desperate he reckons, being a beginner at adventure games and unable to get very far with them. Amongst Paul's problem games are Spiderman and Holy Grail, for which I can provide solutions in exchanse for an sae, and The Shriestury Kís in which heं's sluck al the stant beslde the 22.30 train (CLIMB ABOARD, Paul). But if anyone can tell him to get out of St Bride's, write to Paul at 9 Somerset Road, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland Son 2ND
Ricardo Mapp seems to appear in this section se often that I'm thinking of charging him rent. This month's problems are in Moron thow to get the periny and escape the escape room) and Return To Ithaca (how to remove the sword from the fire). Send your Mapp-Aid to Ricardo at 10 Chaffinch Drive, Chelmsley Wood, Bir mingham B36 DGH.
And finally I'm relieved to see there's a Scotsman who's actually stuck in an adventure, . . well, in several which is even better. And there / was beginning to think they were all superhuman adventurers. Gary Collins is human like the rest of us, and stuck in Souls of Darkon (how to get the crystal after zapping the robot), Zacarom Mystory (how to get the rabbit) and Zerz (stuck all over the place). De-stick Gary at 14 Deanpark Square, Bal emo, Eidinburgh EH14 7LN

'EIEY GUYS! \{ ZOK!! I GOT ME A REAL
Live Bug




What's more trendy than Tina Turner, more stylish than Paul Weller, more flexible than Rolf Harris's didgeridoo, more colourful than Madonna's make-up, more washable than Simon le Bon, more hip than Shakin' Stevens, got more coverage than Freddie Mercury's toupée? Well, it's not this lot for sure. It's the YS TShirt!

A\(t\) last, after all your requests, here's what you've been waiting for. A full-colour piccy of the YS team? Nope. Better than that - it's the brand new YS T-shirt. Now you can look just like this Mötley Crüe - though fortunately, it's not obligatory.
You can forget your C\&A M\&S, BHS, DMs and all the rest. The only letters that stand for fashion this year are YS. Fully washable, 100 per cent cotfon, hi-style YS T-shirts will be covering all the best bodies from Paris to Penge, from Milan to Morecambe Bay.

And they're not only the hippest things with four holes but they have a hundred and one uses too. You can wear them, hang them in your wardrobe, fold them up and keep them in a drawer. Well, that's three uses to start you off.
But best of all, they only cost \(£ 4.50\) each including post and packing, so you can afford to wear nothing else. Well. perhaps you'd better wear a pair of trousers if you don't want to get arrestedl




Nichibutsu's arsade hosshot on your
home compute
If you haven't already played it in the arcades then you're in for a real surprise - if you have then you'll be going Mag Max to load it into your micro. Mag Max could be a mean machine if you've got what it takes to put EPAPGit? him together. Build him up and his fire-power increases of the game you'll need it! - believe it

\section*{}

Aaargh. Something just woke you trom a cryogenic sleep right in the middle of your favourite dream.
Your ship has dropped out of warp and you are forced to make a glide-in landing on a very strange looking jungle. planet. Equipped with jet pack for flying, navigation and weapons systems, fight your way through the jungle taking onit's strange and none-too-pleasant inhabitants. Only by linding vital parts stripped in your ship's unscheduled descent can you ever hope to escape.
Explorer is huge. There are literally billions of views and an enormous scrolling map.

If you ever wanted to get lost in a simulation this is the one to do it in.

\section*{FEATURES}
- 4 way scrolling landscape
- 40 billion graphic locations
- Inertial navigation system

Rotovision" animated landscape
- 360 degree views AVAILABLE ON:
2X Spectrum 48K128K + cassette... 57.99 Coming soom for Amstrad and Commodore home computers


Seems to me that there's someone writing a Spectrum adventure in every house in the land, and eventually they'll all end up in my in-tray. The adventures, that is, not the people. Actually the in-tray's a cardboard box but it's still stuffed up with jiffy bags and l've decided it's time to do something about it, even if each odventure only gets a quick once-over.

First out of the box is -Dome
Trooper, £2.95 from Matand Software, 29 Moorland Road, Mickleover, Derby DE3 5FX. It's got a well thought-out storyline set in a future where most people live in domed cifies, except for rebels who live in the vast deserts around them. Instead of being on the side of the rebels and out to infiltrate the city, you're a dome trooper - your job is to find what the rebels are doing and stop them doing itl

There's a nice use of graphics, and I especially liked the cute robot and the buildings with flashing Coca-Cola signs. Even so, it's a pity the pictures are so constiantly re-drawn, and the numerous spelling mistakes don't help either.

Just inside the city walls there's a transporter disk to take you to any of the city's six levels, each with different functions, the most interesting and dangerous being level 4 where the people live. As a dome frooper you're not very welcome there, and you'll have to decide what to do with the various characters you'll meet.

If you prefer your adventures to be a bit more light-hearted try The Quest For The Golden Eggcup, written by Harvey Lodder and Paul Cook and available for £1.99 from Harvey at 35 Shelley Avenue, Bullbrook, Bracknell, Berks RG12 2RP. Some people try to be funny and fail dismally, but not in this adventure. Though it's got lots of in-jokes and characters like Dandalf and Thoron wandering around, it's all wittily and originally done.

You've been mown down by a Pink Panther driving a pink C5, and you awake in a Golden Temple to be greeted by God, no less. He promises to reincarnate you if you bring him back his Golden Eggcup, which it seems someone has poached. As you move about, God reappears from time to time, and even sits down and starts singing about gold. The game is Quill'd, though you'd never guess it with the pleasant cyan background and neat white block of location description at the top of the screen.

Make a thorough search of the heavenly areas (don't forget the rubber duck) before you climb down the beanstalk fo more mundane places - a sign at the bottom of the beanstalk gives the opening hours of God's Temple (closed Sundays, half-day Wednesdays) and you're unlikely to be able to get back up again. I like the highpowered beans, which have quite an effect so watch who you give them to, and the swear-word routine is very nicely done. Just when you think it's safe to swear and you know how to get out of the dungeon, the routine changes. Enough to make you swear again. Worth every penny of its £1.99, this one.


So many adventures, so little space to review them in. 'Bout time we caught up on the backlog then. So, out with the magnifying glass and on with the show ...

Wish I could say the same for Shrewsbury Key from Players at the same price. Your aim here is to travel from York to Shrewsbury and find the jeweltrimmed treasure chest hidden in the abbey church. You begin outside York stafion and must first do exciting things like examine a rubbish bin and buy a ticket, the major problem initially being the fussy vocabulary. Finding yourself with a train to catch, what command would you enter? GET TRAIN, CATCH TRAIN, ENTER TRAIN, GO TRAIN, ENTER CARRIAGE, ENTER DOOR... something along those lines? No, what the program wants is CLIMB ABOARD, which took me quite a bit of finding. The train's about to leave, but if you type WAIT before you SIT DOWN you fall over and break your neck as it moves out. Ho-ho-ho, end of game. Football hooligans climb aboard and you all get flung off ot Huddersfield, and from there you should be able to get to Oldham, Stockport and Manchester. The game comes across as a pale imitation of Urban Upstart, and even a British Rail train journey's got more excitement than this adventure.
Better by for from the budget chappies is Moron, not from outer space but from Atlantis, also \(£ 1.99\). Can you teleport aboard a Moron spaceship, find the three missing Pillars of Time and teleport back to earth again? You've a RAMSAVE facility to help you, graphics (which are generally good) can be on or off, and even the HELP command occasionally works. Once you've activated the teleport and reached the ship's flight deck, you find a variety of coloured buttons, that perform different functions... Okay, so one of them's bound to self-destruct the ship, but with RAMSAVE that's not too annoying. The ship itself has three levels, each of them fairly large, and as your oxygen and forch batteries don't last very long you have to make sure you locate the replacements for each as you explore. Finding the fuse to fix the lighting system would help as well. You'll encounter friendly robots and cuddly
droids, also not-so-cuddly wolves, though goodness knows how they got on board. No matter, the whole thing gives you plenty of exploring and plenty of fun.

All manner of creatures rear their ugly heads in Futurezoo from Clwyd Adventure Software, 14 Snowdon Avenue, Bryn-y-Bool, Nr Mold, Clwyd CH7 6SZ. At \(£ 7.95\). it's a bit pricey because there's lots of good budget stuff around, but it does come with a booklet and is a fwo-part game, though it's fext only. The text is good, though, with detailed descriptions of the various life-forms in this 22 nd century Whipsnade. Most of them could do with a bit more supervision, however, as they all seem out to make you extinct before you can get on with your task of tracking down the Great Seal of Senisso, for reasons it would take pages to explain. The Great Seal of Senissa is not the type that swallows fish by the bucketful; rather it is a 'revered artefact', or so it says here. This game would be quite buyable if nothing special at \(£ 1.99\), but as it is I'll look forward to future releases at cheoper prices from the Welsh adventurers.

Are the Welsh taking over from the Scottish in these adventure pages? Last of this month's bumper bundle is an adventure based on the TV series The Prisoner, from the episode entitled The Girl Who Was Death. Hope the author's got copyright permission to do it. This one's £5.50 from Stephen Preston at 5 Ty Mawr Estate, Priory Lane, Holyhead, Gwynedd LL65 2DN, and this time I reckon it's worth the asking price.

The sfory involves Professor Schnipps, the crazy scientist, who has spent the last 26 years building a super-rocket to destroy London. He obviously doesn't believe in rushing things, and I believe he's now in charge of sending out the cheques from YSI (He was sacked for being too prompt. Ed) Be that as it may, you've got to stop him and also watch out for his foll blonde daughter. I certainly will, thank you very much. Oh, it seems this is the one known as the girl of death. Maybe she's not my type after all.

You begin in a cricket field holding a bomb disguised as a cricket ball, and with one fairly obvious command to enfer before you become not so much an adventure game, more a jigsaw puzzle. Down in fown, Benny's Turkish baths are closed, and. a hanky with a message written on it promises a rendevous af the local hostelry, whose beer sadly cannot be recommended. Neither does Doris the barmaid fancy you, while in the fairground there isn't even a boat to take you into the tunnel-of-love. Oh woe is me, the hapless adventurer. And Number Two no doubt watching all the time, while Number Six plods on. Definitely not a plod of an adventure, though and I recommend you take a look.

And now at last the in-tray is empty, the iiffy bags have been recycled and I can put my feet up and get back to playing a few of my favourite adventures... what... what's that... oh no, it's the second post just arrived, the poor postie staggering under 16 Quill'd adventures, 13 GAC'd ones and three originals. Aaarrggggghhhhhh.....
 WIICH HIVITR 4.95! A bit pricey for pocket money software, but then it does include a blank cassette to store your saved games on. My review copy came without an inlay, so I had to settle for the rather gruesome animated loading screen to give me some idea of what to expect. More animation and a burst of music when the game had finished loading, and side B of the tape includes a program containing a map of Dral, the land where the adventure takes place. The Quilld and Illustrator'd game includes the now usual RAMSAVE and load features, as well as graphics off. though the pictures aren't too bad at all.

You start off in the Valley of Dral, with the Mountains of the Moon far away in the distance. To the east is a cave and by your feet is a spell. In the cave is a statue, and you can make out the word VOLTAC, while if you go to the west your quest is revealed to you, as indeed is a charred body on the floor. You, apparently, are Thallus, and Ashmeard is dead. Maybe that's him on the floor. You must travel to the Mountains of the Moon and kill the witch Ella, who has the scroll of Voltac. All this, incidentally, was imparted to me by an old owl with the name of Wise, though I don't know if his first name was Emie. (I hope there's no MORE tehere that COMES from! Ed).
Before heading for the mountains I naturally had a nose around and found several trees to climb, one of which had a noose hanging from it. Elsewhere, in a burnt-out area, there was the smell of flesh. Ugh! The RAMSAVE feature came in useful as there are a few sudden death routines (quicksand and drowning), which regular readers will know always tend to put me off a game. Nevertheless, I liked The Witch Hunter despite that. Plenty to explore early on, problems slowly becoming apparent, although the vocabulary was a little fussy in places. I'd be happier recommending this if it was at a more genuinely pocket money price, £1.99, say, but as a mid-price game it's still okay.

FAX BOX
Title The Witch Hunter Publisher Pocket Money Software

\section*{JOURNEY TO THE CENTR OF MENTHIND \\ Who is Eddie Smith? And why should you want to get to the centre of} his head? Perhaps it's something to do with the bomb that Eddie's threatening to blow up the world with, and it must be some bomb! Why do we first encounter Eddie in his laboratory in the company of a Teddy Bear, who says "Leave Eddie alone" if you try to either GET EDDIE or GET TEDDY? Who put the trampoline under the window ledge so, if you're foolhardy enough to jump, you just bounce right back again? And why does the coffee taste so awful? And who's that with the pointy beard clutching a condensor?

The answers to these and other questions may or may not lie in the depths of this adventure, where you have to defuse Eddie's bomb. Eddie is one of the country's top physicists who's unfortunately gone raving bonkers having bumped his head on a

\section*{Fiw EAFthaturace

}
nuclear reactor.
One of the early problems you face is finding something to drink so you don't expire after the first 69 moves. Having found a coffee machine that responded to a bit of violence, I obtained a cup of coffee. I drank the coffee, and the program said OK, but the coffee tasted awful and my Inventory still showed the coffee. I drank it again, same result, but despite this never-ending supply of coffee I still died of dehydration! I later found a friendly hostelry, the Green Potato Inn, but could I get a drink out of the landlord? I know I only had 50 p but you'd think he'd have sold me something. I got the annoying feeling that it was the unfriendly vocabulary that was preventing me quenching my thirst.

And yet in spite of these faults in the program, which are usually the kiss of death as far as I'm concerned, I found myself enjoying the journey into Eddie's head - the chemist selling arsenic, the short-sighted optician, the butcher and his sausages, the building site brick and the tempting jeweller's shop window. I'd have welcomed a GRAPHICS OFF command, as the pictures are pretty duff stuff - you wouldn't catch me sitting on that toilet, I can tell you! You might catch me playing this adventure again, though. Give it a try.


\section*{SOULS OF \\ DARKON nother re-release from the new}

Abudget Bug-Byte stable, Souls Of Darkon will already have been seen by lots of you so I'll keep the comments short. Darkon is the baddy in the land of Megron, where you've just landed with the faithful robotic friend Komputa, who hovers around you wherever you go. Destroying Darkon is obviously the mission, and while the adventure is not likely to be the hardest you'll ever come across, it's beautifully presented with plenty of simple but good graphics screens and a very friendly vocabulary. In fact typing in VOCAB prints out a list of the verbs that the program recognises, saving those occasional frustrations, while there's plenty around to EXAMINE.
With coins, swords, crystal fountains and blacksmiths, there's nothing very original in the early stages of the game, but that doesn't matter as the whole thing is well presented. I just hope no hardline adventurers allow themselves to be put
off by a program which includes ZAP in its word list!


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If you need more convincing (yes, it's a lot of money - but for that picture??) send for more details.


\section*{YSA dhemptanes}

0ne thing's for sure, 8 th Day won't be getting its MBE this year! But it won't be worrying too much as I'm sure it'll be getting lots of orders for this regal romp to compensate. found it a hoot, from start to... well, as far as I got. Another Wednesday morning dawns, and you rip open your giro cheque as per usual. What's not as per usual is the name and amount on the cheque. A quarter of a million... payable to Queen Elizabeth? Is this the local pub? No, it's a DHSS cock-up and a half... or should that be a cock-and-a-half up? No matter. Down you go to the Post Office and you notice Princess Di queueing behind you to claim the Family Allowance. Prince William zooms about wearing a pair of falsies... false ears, that is. I bet he's been watching Spitting Image again. Well he must be getting bad habits from somewhere, as he kicks you in the leg and half-inches the giro. Can you recover it and get it back to the Palace before the Queen has to pawn the corgis? This is the adventurer's task.

In a call-box nearby you hear a scandalous message concerning Prince Andrew and a certain Cynthia (which I advise you to remember and
pass on), while at the Dancing Kebab Greek restaurant Prince Philip is reminding Edward that you only smash the plates after you've eaten the food.
Can you have the necessary chats with Charles, can you catch Di in the bath and flog the photos to Fleet Street, and where does the moussaka fit in? Presumably not in the naughty knickers. There are some intriguing problems early on, and full use has been made of The Quill and The Patch, though not so The Illustratoras graphics are few and far between, and pretty poor when you find them. I like the regular London bus service, like the tube trains in Sherlock, and the number of seemingly independent characters that appear to have been crammed in is impressive. Someone at 8 th Day certainly knows their way round The Quill, and whether they soon also know their way round the dungeons at the Tower of London remains to be seen. H.R.H. might not get the royal seal of approval, but it gets mine.


\section*{H \\ R.H}


\section*{AFTERSHOCK}

Aftershock may not quite be a shock, but it certainly comes as a surprise if you've been
following the Interceptor adventures from Banner \& Greer. And it's a pleasant surprise in some ways, though I certainly don't include the price in that. At £9.99 it's unbelievably high for what seems to be a pretty conventional adventure.

Dave Banner's text has never exactly been in danger of filling the screen. His ideas of atmosphere is, 'You are in a green room'rather than, 'You are in a room'. That's all changed now, though. What's this we read in the first location? A shattered city...distorted shapes... fires blazing out of control. sirens... and so on for a screen's worth. Not bad at all.

The reason for the fires and sirens? A series of earthquakes, perhaps prompted by underground nuclear tests. You are the bod who helped design the local nuclear power plant that's in danger of exploding thanks to a fault in the couoling system. Where are the plant's loyal and faithful staff? Buggered off at the speed of light, that's where. So who has to fix the fault? Got it in one.

Your first problem is how to get out of your office, as there's been a power failure in the lift system and the stairs are blocked by flames. Well, the text might be longer but it seems to be the fussy old Interceptor parser we know and don't love. In your office there's a pen on your desk. GET PEN. 'Try another command. 'TAKE PEN. 'Okay' Come on chaps - even with

Greer's greedy graphics there must be room for both GET and TAKE. Search the lift and you discover a panel in the ceiling, too high to reach but a nearby chair can be dragged over to assist. Having removed the panel, the text doesn't tell you what's revealed. Is it a hole, a passage or what? I sat for several yonks typing GO HOLE, JUMP UP, CLIMB UP. GO PASSAGE, ENTER PASSAGE, LEAVE LIFT before hitting the right combination of words. As I've passed on the solution to a few friends unable to get beyond this point, I think it fair to tell you that the right phrase is: TFIL FO TVO BMILC. Easy when you know it, but it takes a long time to find.

Thankfully, the adventure then opens out, as you roam around the city streets, down the flooded underground, into the storm drain and the maze of sewers, walking cautiously round the zoo.
The graphics I've seen have proved to be a mite disappointing from the usual impeccable pen of my hero Terence Greer. They concentrate more on detail than effects, but this is definitely one of those adventures I'll plug away at, rather than put away after reviewing. Pity 'bout the price, though.


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\section*{ADJUDGED JOINT NUMBER ONE SOCCER SIMULATION FOR ALL HOME COMPUTERS.}

The June and July issues of COMPUTER GAMER magazine reviewed 16 soccer simulations, including Ocean's MATCHDAY and INTERNATIONAL MATCHDAY ( 128 K SP), Addictives FOOTBALL MANAGER, Artic's WORLD CUP and WORLD CUP 2, US Gold's WORLD CUP CARNIVAL, Virgin's FA CUP, etc etc. MEXICO ' 86 was given a NOVA overall rating and 5 "planets" from 5 for Value for Money. Only one other game could equal this, Commodore's classic INTERNATIONAL SOCCER.

ARE YOU STILL PLAYING THE SECOND RATERS?

\section*{TAPE 1 QUALIFIERS}

\section*{MEXICO \({ }^{\prime} 86^{\circ}\)}

TAPE 2
FINALS

\section*{A WORLD CUP MANAGEMENT SIMULATION}

On June 22 nd, 1986, England's bid to become World Champions for the next four years came to an end in the Azteca stadium, Mexico City How well did Bobby Robson do? Can YOU outperform him? MEXICO ' 86 gives YOU charge of the England team two years before the start of the Mexico finals. You must experiment with a demoralised squad who failed to qualify for the European Nations" Cup, drafting in players as you see fit, and nurse the team through the Qualifying stages of the World Cup. If you qualify, you must choose your squad for Mexico, play through Phase 1, the groups of four, into the last 16. Can you now take England two stages further than Bobby Robson and then win the big one? It takes a thorough understanding of International Football to win in MEXICO ' 86.

\section*{ENGLAND'S GAMES: FULLPITCH, 22 MAN, 3D GRAPHICS \& SOUND EFFECTS}

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\section*{IBET SHE USES YS MEGABASIC...}

- 50 New Commands Nomed Procedures On-Screen Windows 64 Column Text Full Screen Editor Smooth Moving Sprites - Programmable Function Keys Machine Code Monitor Multi-tasking Subroutines Background Sound Line Number Tracing - AUTO Line Numbering © REPEAT . . UNTIL Loops © DELETE Line Range F Full Machine Code CALLs Double-Length POKE Break Key Control Three Fonts User-Defined Character Sizes Downwards Printing Character Stipples Attribute SWAP, FADE and CHANGE Window PAN, SCROLL and INVERT Improved Line Editor . . . And 22 K User Memory and of course everything that's in ZX Basicl - PLUS FREE Sprite Designer

\section*{On routa for your \\ SDन CFATUM}

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SCROLL \\
\hline 0 ON
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Suddenly scrolling shoot 'em ups are back in style, so we shot off to our very own stylish lovebirds and asked Gwyn Mughes and Rachael Smith whether they've got the scrolls, or If they always walk like that?
rom the depths of
space they come...
and they want our
minerals. With a cry
of Land - minel
they prepare to plumb the planetary depths in search of metals, precious and otherwise. They are . . . the interplanetary scrap merchants!!!
They put their rag and bone carts into orbit round each of the planets of our solar system. But these aren't fleabitten horses dragging Steptoe wagons. These aren't even interstellar skips. These are sooper-dooper Dreadnoughts. And they're bi-i-i-g!!

This is obviously the sort of situation that calls for a hero. And you are the sort of person who volunteers to fly a low level mission in a teensy weensy Manta fighter, against a huge, heavily defended hulk aren't you? Stop trying to hide behind that potted palm - I can see you!

Strapped into your cockpit - to stop you running away - you set off on what will be the flight of your life. The last flight of your life. So long. suicide jockey. It's been good to know ya!

Or to put it another way Uridium, the Commodore (boo) smash hit, has found its

Take off if it's blue it must be Zinc, the elementary level of the game. Not too much trouble from this first flight of fighters olther. Best strategy is to do a U-furn then chase them into space because they don't follow their noses - they let their missiles go first.

\begin{abstract}
\(\square\)As you'd expect, interstellar miners have mines. Only these aren't holes in the ground but the ballistic type, like the one at the boffom that's closing in. The secret of duffing up the doughnuts is to walt for them to go into their victory dance, then pick them off.
\end{abstract}


Martech/\&7.95


AR - what is it
good for?
Absolutely
nothing -
except your Spectrum. A shot in the dark, but this shoot 'em up is going to be a biggie, even though we've only seen a preview version.
WAR bears several similarities to Uridium, including its graphics style. But while there's a basic unity to Hewson's galactic scrapships, the facets of WAR's mechanical world are wildly different. From rusting planes to almost organic gullies, you'll be making a scenic tour that's a real blast Martech hasn't used a horizontal scroll, but it's placed the action in a narrow window, centre screen, which
gives you a good view of
what's ahead, even if the spacecraft are a bit small. The major innovation here is the addition of a trading element. This clever facility lets you swop points for extra features on your ship. You can buy multi-lasers, rear lasers, side photons and, of course, 'go-faster' stripes and fluffy dice.
There's lots to shoot at as the enemy swoops down around you, and a fair bit to dodge too. Plus the game's blurb promises that, 'actions at an early stage can make later levels easier - or downright murderous'. So if you're feeling even vaguely psychotic, hold onto your hat and we'll give this a full review when it appears!

way onto the Spectrum, and it's difficult to imagine a faster blast everything up. It's one of those rare, perfectly balanced games. One that'll keep you up into the early hours unable to pull the plug because next time you might just make the next level.

So what makes Uridium the megagame, it undoubtedly is? Could it be the turn-on-two-and-a-hall-new-pence handing of your Manta, as it twists, turns and spins through space? Perhaps! Not only is the manoeuvrability of the fittle ship a joy to behold, it soon becomes second nature as you wrench the joystick round for another 180 degree turn. Youre really in touch with the on-screen action.

Then theres the strategy element. Of course you can plough on in, taking pot shots at anything and everything. but if you do you'll soon be just another entry in an alien junk man's inventory. This calls for a little subtlety, see.
For one thing you need to know your way round the behemoths, because their surfaces are covered in aerials, fortifications and even the odd outside loo (for your convenience). If you don't want to wrap yoursell round one of these obstacles you'll need a fairly close knowledge of th best path ... particularly since you'll be flying fast!

Second trick is to learn what class of fighter's going to make your life a misery next. Some are fairly easy.
flying a nice neat pattern, but others cause more of a problem. You'll have to decide whether there's a chink in their strategy or just to avoid them.

Eventually you'll beat a behemoth and see that welcoming message flashing at the top of the screen. telling you it's time to land But not to relax. Never relax! Within seconds you'll be spacebound again, battling against a new foe, with a whole new flight path to tearn.

The most obvious omission. compared to the Commie original, is the colour. Hewson has sensibly opted for monochrome backgrounds, though the stars still sparkle most colourfully. This sometimes
causes problems if youre trying to spot small bombs against a textured surface. But the horizontal scrolling. never easy on the Speccy, is supertast and smooth.

Uridium has to be the ulimate shooting match. So remember - in space nobody can hear you scream
but your tolks will tell you to shut up every time your ship gets shot to smithereens'

\begin{tabular}{|lr|}
\hline FAX Box & \\
Game & Uridium \\
Publisher & Hewson \\
Pnce & £8.95 \\
\hline
\end{tabular} Pice
Koys 8.95
K.left z-Lert Shitt-Down; Enter-Fire
Joystick Enter-Fire
Kempston


8Tricky, this one. There's one of those nice mine launchers below the wall and the fighter flypast is a particularly tricky problem. Seems like the ideal time to pick off a blt of the scenery as you'll score points for pointless vandalism.


At last, a neat little landing - but watch out for yet more mines. Usually you'll have to fly around in the dreadnought's walce, dodging waves of warriors until you get the message 'Come in 26, your time is up.' Don't get shot up on your home run - \(\mathrm{h}^{\prime}\) 's most depressing.

FTL/£7.95


Imagine's Arcadia? Well, this is the same thing three years on, with the addition of vertical scrolling and superlarge characters.

You start the game in an asteroid shower, which should warn you that things can only get worse. Your simple choice is to dodge them or blast them. The way to survive is a combination of these two, which should get you through to the first alien craft. You then have to score multiple hits on its control chambers if you want an extra life.

But, of course, the enemy is well protected, with craft that drop down - only you can't blast these! And things have hardly started to get
difficult yet, because the enemy fighters perform elaborate little dances. Before you can say Red Arrows, they're weaving all over the place dropping bombs on you. Nobody could deny that Lightforce looks nice, and you'd expect nothing less of a Gargoyle game. But it doesn't quite seem to have captured the elements that make a shoot 'em up totally addictive. Instead it becomes frustrating and though the graphics move fast for their size, they seem rather sluggish onscreen. So though it's definitely not a 40 watt bulb on a snail, it's not Faster Than Light either.
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{3}{*}{}} \\
\hline & \\
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\end{tabular}


\title{
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}

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 COH: 22 DID YOU SEE THE NUTS ON SSK, GET: \(\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { THE NUTS TEE? } \\ \text { GAELT QUTE } \\ \text { YOU! } \\ \text { FAINT! }\end{array}\right]\) HARK \(=-25,4\) HARK安


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\section*{Howe}


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RED OWe is a micro-processar controled 13 amp mains outter working under the supenision of Red Leader With Red One at a socket jou have power over domestic applances and loghts connected to that outlet.

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Communication is a vital aspegrol our Red Boxes system. Controlers are not isolated from one another - they are gonnected with each other, through the mans bome system and so communitate wth each other and with Red Leadee If Red Two sends a message to Red lecier indicating an intuder Red Leader responds by teling a switch unit to actiagte the alam.

It you operate two home computers they can communicate with each other through the system, enabing you to set them more complex tats. And because Peed Buoses hare integral mitio computers, this leaves your home micro free for nommal use outside Red Boxes programming.

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Radid
Andy himself on Micronet.
Very briefly, when IM2 is selected, the computer takes the number in the Interrupt register (every time there's an interrupt) and combines it with the number currently on the Data bus in order to make a two byte address. It then looks at this particular address and starts executing code at the address found at that, and the next byte
Right, now that should be as clear as mud! So what's the problem again? Well the Kempston joystick sometimes leaves a value on the Data bus and since you don't know what that value is, it's difficult to cope with things as the machine can jump at random to any one of 256 addresses Worse still, you don't even know if it'll jump to an odd numbered or even numbered byte! If you knew that it always goes to an odd numbered byte, you could construct a table with the address of your actual code in it, repeated 256 times.

Give up? No! You construct a table with both bytes the same - you can use any values as long as it's in memory. The trouble with that, is that you have to use a load of memory (257 bytes) just to make up a table. This is where Andy's trick comes in.

In the ROM, there's an area containing a whole load of bytes with FF (255), so Andy uses that as the table! So what happens? Every interrupt, the machine gets the address in the table (FFFF) and starts to run code there!

Trouble with that is, there isn't a lot of room, before it runs out of space and continues with the code in the ROM, and that's the code to do a complete reset! However, there is room just to put a single instruction at FFFF and if you choose the right one, it can be made to work out alright.

At 0000, there's a byte of 243. Now if we put the instruction JR at FFFF the computer knows it has to do a jump and so looks at the next memory location to see whether to jump backwards or forwards and how far to jump. The next byte in this case is at 0000 and the value of 243 is taken to be an instruction to jump
backwards 12 bytes! If we put a little bit of code at 65524 to make the machine jump to our real interrupt service routine, we are home and dry. Surely?

No? Now what? One little thing, what if we have

Interface 1 connected? As this routine is serviced 50 times a second, we can't be sure whether the interface 1 is paged in or not, can we? If you look at the first byte in IF1, it holds a different value to the first byte in the normal ROMI Which is? 227. This will be interpreted as a command to jump back 28 bytes, so all we have to do is to put the same jump at 65508 as we put at 65524 and now we really have cracked it! Let's turn all that into a program. I'll call the start of the real interrupt service routine 'START' and will make it 60000 for the sake of example, though you could alter that to any value you like. Here goes then.
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 0000 & g\%ent & rou & \$0000 & \\
\hline dalo & Jumir & kou & 24 & \\
\hline 0020 & Jumir & (cas) & 195 & \\
\hline coso. & & ore & 65400 & \\
\hline 0040 & & 18 &  & \\
\hline oose & & (10) & (65525), 41 & \\
\hline 0060 & & 18 & (65*O9, 4 & \\
\hline cove & & 10 & 48, 6 ¢5s5 & \\
\hline 0000 & & 12 & (18). 36 & \\
\hline 9070 & 1 & & -That's & **1 \\
\hline ther & tmi & vriter & [iSt-a & *-s \\
\hline instr & raction & \(n\) or 1 & FFF\% & \\
\hline 0100. & & L0 & A, turir & \\
\hline O1 10
Sta & & in & cosyoes) if & \\
\hline 0120
0130 & & L. \({ }^{\text {a }}\) & (69524), 4 & \\
\hline Inz & & & & \\
\hline 6140 & & LD & A, 87 & \\
\hline 0190 & & 10 & 1,4 & \\
\hline 0160 & & 1 m & 2 & \\
\hline 0170 & & 6 & & \\
\hline 9100 & & E57 & & \\
\hline 0190. & & 800 & & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

I know it's a bit complicated. But if you read through it a couple of times, you should understand exactly how to use IM2 and also if you wish to have just the set up routine as a library file, you can use it to produce a working IM2 routine whenever you like. And it'll work even with a Kempston type joystick and with an Interface 1 connected. Not bad for a morning's work! Well done Jonty and congratulations to

\section*{Andy Glaister}

As you may know, I'm a Micronet subscriber and one of my fellow 'Netters', Del has sent in a nifty bit of code to help with joysticks. I'II leave it to him to explain. "I wanted to make the software work with both keys and joystick, without having to ask what the user wanted. Easy - just check for both, you might say. Not so, cos fm sure you know what happens If you read the Kempston port if there is no interface connected. That's right. Crash! So I wrote this shor bit of code to find out."


This doesn't have an ORG address as it's designed purely as a fragment to five with other code programs. To use the information, you'd have a little routine like this:


Very neat Del and thanks. Del also points out that DE doesn't have to contain 2000 hex as a loop counter, but he guarantees it'll work a number that large! Now have a look at this routine also from Del. Try and work out what it does


20 PKiNT ise is PAPGR is -reur
Sincteir it etcx.........
30 paitht is boepre of moenese o
houspes is mokpers is gow pre is


Quite a boy that Del!
Whoopsie! Due to a slight cock-up in the October issue we omitted to print the program sent in by Tycho Pandelar from Holland. To refresh your memory Tycho's routine generates an italic character set. Once you've run the program you can save the code on it's own with SAVE 31571,3251131572 and reload it to any convenient address. Don't forget that you'll need to POKE 23607 so that the ROM knows where to find new characters!
```

10 firm 3tattit tim a-317m? 1

```
10 firm 3tattit tim a-317m? 1
30 etran
32711
30119
```

30 etran
32711
30119

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to Retr "ert, ent tert:

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to Retr "ert, ent tert:

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foe sinelatr Cherset"

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foe sinelatr Cherset"
100 mettit At 1,01 -ngit \#107, 12
100 mettit At 1,01 -ngit \#107, 12
For Palike Eharint:
For Palike Eharint:
110 FBiNT AT \(2,01^{\text {"Frest }}\) doy kry*
110 FBiNT AT \(2,01^{\text {"Frest }}\) doy kry*
120 paytit
130 New
```

120 paytit
130 New

```

That's the lot for this month. Remember to let me have your routines, problems and comments. Send them to Task Force, Your Sinclair, 14 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE

> ALI LATIETS WHA YS BADE:

We asked you to tell us YOUTODUS:

Way back in YS6 we asked you to tell us a bit about yourselves and what you thought of Your Sinclair. And you dild, you did. In fact, from the deluge we received it seemed like mearly all of you didd. Even more surprising, the replies weren't that rude, well not all of them, well there was the one about . (Oh, get on with int Ed)

So. what are you like? Well, you're mostly male and mostly in your teens. Though plenty of you are neither. (And we even had a couple of aliens from outer space writing in.) You ve mostly got Spectrums, surprise surprise, though there were more than a few 128 s and OLs in there. And you've nearly all got joysticks so we weren't too surprised when you toid us that you spend most of your time playing arcade games. That activity was way out in front with programming and adventure playing coming in second and third.

And now for the bad news. It has come to our notice through the readers' survey that some of you - and we won't name names this time but let it be a warning to you - yes, some of you have the audacity, the sheer barefaced cheek, indeed the bare-cheeked face to read other magazines. Some of you may even buy them. Well say no more about it for now but be warned - we have primed a series of exploding newsagents up n'down the country whoil go off when one of these other magazines is requested. Then youll go out with a bang and a crash .

Reading non-computer magazines is just about forgivabie, spose. Smash Hits got a fair fow mentions and as for the comics, the Beano and 2000AD did all right, oh, and Kerrang! But we don't want to upset Raymond Smith of Fife who buys Kerrang but says about Ys that he's put off buying it and most other mags by the comic-like covers. Very embarrassing." Course, sitting on the bus reading a mag with a piccy of Ozzy Osbourne decapitating an entire farmyard with his teeth is okay. Funny lot in Fifel And then there were all those Men Only, Penthouse and Playboy readers. And funnily enough, they were all about twelve. Presumably they have to stand on each other's shoulders to reach the top shelf.
And so for your favourite (and least favourite) articles. Trouble is, every one of you plumped for a different thing, For every one who hated Letters, two more people loved it. (They know what's good for them. Ed) All those of you who want to pull the plug on Hex Loader would have to deal with the readers who want him to take over the magazine. Course, he just wants to take over the world) And you seem fairly evenly divided between those who wouldn't even use Program Power to wipe their shoes ... . and those who wanted the pull-out to be even larger.

Youre a bit more decided about some things though. The new-look YS Adventure is a hit. Fronstines ditto. But head and shoulders above the rest. specially now her head's swollen so much. stands T'zers. Acclaimed throughout the land and universally loved. (Don' start her offl Ed)

So, all that's left are your comments on the mag thousands of them.
Just a shame that the Ed had to get his hands on them first

OH GOODY! HERE ARE THE WINNERS Yes, here are the names of the ten lucky \(Y\) r readers wholl al take away a YS goody bag inctuding a £10 Virgin voucher fust cos they took the troubie to til in the survey. Oh, and cos they were first out of the Ed's hat
Mark Phillps of Manchestor, Mathew Beavis of Norwich Mark Phillps of Manchestor, Mathew Beavis of Norwich,
Caroine Rocertson of Sirlingshire.S Alen of South Ruisip, Gary
 Roinerham, John Jenkins of Glasgow, Mark Cole of Charlleld and Gary Waiter of Bygin Hill.

STOP PRESS


Sack the Editort And get a better onel (Oh, thar's a nice one to start u: off EOt
Keith D Whitmore, Basildon Where did you get your Ed. He must fruly be the best editor there is. (Thar's better. Ed)
tan Fleming, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear
Take out some of the corny adverts Ben Cowdall, Cirencester, Clos
Why have you got adverts in your excelient computer magazine? (SO you dont have to pay a liver an issue/ Ed
Bryan Prakel, Coleford, Qlos Get nd of the advertisements.
Stephen Bayne, FHe Stephen Bayne, Fife Coudd wo have a nude piccy of Rachaer or even a date. ( \(10 / 4 / 1953\)
Ed) Gwyn Jon
Ne got a crush on Clare Hirsch at Ave got a crush on Clare Hirsch of Ed). Why does Tim Hartnell look lise he's just puling up his fly. What was he jusi puaing up his ty. What was Mark S Narper, Motherham I would live more program pint-outs i would
T Noble, Milton Keynes

\section*{Couid you he}

John Riddoch, Byhuntly,
Aberdeenshire
Koep up the good workill Tel the Ed not to be so sarky. (Who, me? Ed) Peter Mendry, Kempston; Bedford
Your magazine is ace, wish it was a bit ruder ('SMa'Y Ed)
Shaun wiliams
Please dont put so much swearing in - Mum might stop me from eading YS
Andrew Usher, Selby, N

\section*{Yorke}

Get rid of inat damned Ftogram Power rubbishi Bigger adventure column. More swoaring in reviews. Gregor Young, Inverness Please please ler the Ed put more hinge in brackets. it realy makes me laugh.
Tim Thempson,
Qainsborough, Lincs
Someone ploase tale the Eds brackats away,
Andrew Norris, Cullingworth Can we pioase have more pictures Whe the one at the bottom of page 6, of the June issue.
Peter Turner, Cambridge Hive a pin-up of saxy Tzer in your mag
Justin Fuller, Telford, Shrops My Sinclair 128 keeps untuning itsedt from the TV, is there a remedy for his problem? (Yes, write to Sieve Adams! Ed
Paul Edwards, Frome,
Somerset
Why do different computer mags say itferent things about each pame. Who do we believe? ( \(\mathrm{r} s\), of course) Ch)
Christopher Evans, Chandlers Ford, Mants
fell the Art Ed that his front cover for the magarine is bril. Your reviews re always right
pui Mong Chu, Kirkby-InAshfleld, Notts.
Please get rid of OL. News. Who is Tzer? What is a trainsponer award rmacel Wayne
Lincs.
My son thinks this is my comic because of the covers/ Any chance improvement. Sorry, I tod you it was old!
en, Ot Missenden, Bucke.
For Godfs sake drop listings and tacking Awly - Rubbich However. the rest of YS is pust about okay
more posters?
David Wathdins, Blandford, Dorset
" poseible some kind of quality hould see the anes ( dont print Pd Verallo, Cardeft - Von' print Ed Verailo, Cardirt You print some roely, reely, reely: eally stupid letters (Fevourhe artcle: Haxing Away) (Theres somesting very fisty about your Graham E B
Etiors often stupid EJ, Oldham Lethers oftien stucid. Eds comments James Bolton, South Ceve, East Yorks

It look me wo hours to suss cut how 10 fold this.
Phillip Elden, Farnborough, Mants
The Ed is secrebly working for Anstrad (hushl) as an undercover secret agent!
Cralg Jones, Cardiff
Why do you have to put the poster map behind the program pul-out (1) don't do programs).
Dorek Doig, Kirkealdy, Fife Ever thought of taking up writing pardening mags? (Oooh-arl Ed) Name and address not supplied
I wish you would review games as socn as they are launched. completed Rambo belore I ever siax a review. (We do review games as soon as we recelve them but we usually see them at about the same bime as they amve in the shops. To get round the problem, thats why we do previews. Ed
Donald Qilchrist, Pitiochry, Tayside
Ploase dont lell my mum about question 8 (Or my dad come to think of it) (And the answer to which noncomputer mags do you readf Escon and Razziel Car mapazines by any chance? Ed
Name and address withheld to protect the guilty
Please give us more pervy cartoons. a Campbell, Dariington, Ce Durham
I want your plastic pacman from your Fab'n'Goar in YSS please: Ian Howell, Great Walsingham, Norfolk IS T.P. a slave? ( \(1 \mathrm{am}, 1 \mathrm{am} /\) T.P) Show a piccy of all the YS toam or else!
Mark Walton, Rotherham, S Yorks
Vary good on the whole. Keop up the comments Ed. Love the extra b previews.

\section*{Surrey}

Why can't we have more tree domo casseties (like Rasputin on issue 1) (Mosty maney but jou never know what the tuture holts, he says. enigmaticalfy. EOt
Andrew Palne, Keighley, W Yorks
the the humour in YS. (The Ed seems a funny bloke in more than one sense)
Alan McOregor, Kilinn,
Scottand
Why not have a foop of the monti and send the pubishers a can of raspberries

\section*{Noel Wall}

London
What about a Your Sinclijr megatiop as well as a mogagame?
Steven Hanrahan,
Brentwood, Essex
I am really a smal groen man with three eyes, eght foer and three ears. left, poht and wild front-ear. Martin Whale, Ruistlip, Middlesex
I lhink your mag is ace but can we. have more POKEs and tips and maps? And how about letting me win a compo for a change Alistair Fulcher, Goole, North Humberside
Your magazine is just a kds comic snd a poor one at that as it isn't ecucationaly based. I buy it on the market surpies stal. At tul price I wonder you soll any except to children.
Name and address not suppllied. (Age: 68. Computer: \(\alpha\).) Great laugh
T.S. Hearne, Newport, L.O.W. There's too much cheap 'humour and not enough of what you are supposed to be doing James Kennedy, Cramilington,
Worthumberland
Wol, ifs llike this - my parents' have Uut te-done my bedroom and I haven't got any money. Hacking Away is good but ifs all about new games.
Joanne Ryall, Axcminster, Devon
IIfe in a small vilage in Holand and every month I can buy YS - ifs an wonder. Phoase send YS also in 1987.

S Nuyten, Heinkenszand, Molland
Can you show a piccy of the Ed.I Olen Ollehriet board
Gien Qllchriet, Raglan, Owent Ploase shoot the Ed Michaol Flddy, Canvey Island,
Essex
thought YS MogaBasic was well worth the money
D R Overy, Winchester, Mants Please idently the dark-hairod young lady who has appeared in several of your photos - could she be the fatied Miss Smith? (Nope. As jet Rachael is protecting her identty - and can you blame her? Ed) A Sutton, Congleton,
Cheshire
Goltum was a Dane!t
Bo Ramsing, Tonder,
Denmark
Ban the Batman lingo and of the usty robot (Holy erm something or others. Ed)
James Curtin, Southdene,
Kirichy
Send me a photo of Tzer otherwise Mr Fint another mag.
Mr Fisher, London NW10 d bether win the Paperboy compo
cos 7 m one. And Im now getting cos Im one. And Im now geting (Avthough good artwork)
S Andrew, Tonypandy, Mid SAndrew, T
I Sack the Ant Ed for his umbled, ISack the Art Edior his jumbiod,
mesey pages. 2 Stiop wasting paper and trees on puerle lethers. Cart Dodds, Erdington, Birmingham
I think YS is bril, tab, wow, smacko. heavy, ace, cool, trendy, groovy, and hoavy, ace, cook,
Christopher Shotter,
Weymouth, Dorset
I think the mag is fabl And I will got it ordered repularly. Oraeme Hughes
Bromborough, WIrral This magauine is too childish and is poor in grammar. (Groat vocabular though (Ed
Kevin Mooney, Banhridge,
Co. Down
You should have a new release list and the dates the games wall hat the street. Okin! (Good Ioes. Wey ry to nolude a revease dirte on al: previews in future. Ed)
Peter Johnston, Belfast Cant you say Spectum instead of Speccyl (Spect . . Spictr Richard Marding, Whitchurch, Bristol
Whar's the point of previewing a game if it isn't finished? More seriou articles ploase and less childish witing eg trainspoter, megagame and lattors pagos.
\(J\) Clarke, Dudley, W Midlands Koep on writngl Beogum Bibes Ben Mandlum, S.H.A.P.E. Belgium
An excellent al round mag, plenty of humour and down to earth info. How about a pic of Tzer's legs?
Tony Blaver, Colchester, Essex
The price of YS ought to be rounded up to R1. About time. (Here we are prodicing the cheapest Spectrum mag on the macket and you want us to put the price upl You might not be \(t 00\) popular with the rest of the

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Sterling Road. Sattingbourne, Kent ME10

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tam interested in sport, music and Somputers Wote Stanmere, Middleser HA7 4HR

\section*{BACK \\  \\  \\ }

acklash believe-it-ornot; some kind inmate of Weston-SuperMare has just opened a pub called "Jet Set Willy's". Weird or what?
So okay, you might not have a clue where the game got its name but it doesn't half sound like fun. It's better than sitting in the Jet Set Willy night after night and still not knowing where in tarnation it got its name from.

And even if you know it's one of the all-fime Speccy greats, you still don't know quite where Miner Willy got his name from in the first place.

After all, he isn't much of a hero. Sylvester Stallone hos never donned a top hat and played him in a film. Willy's
games ever. A name everyone knows. A cult that most programmers would give their hex loader to have created themselves. For a while, Willy's programmer was a star too.

We've had our Wallies and Sabre-men since but there's not been anything quite like him.

How do you take a bockstreet boy like Willy and make him into the ultimate working class hero? An almost completely brand-new type of game? Or superb
programming, great graphics and sound? Maybe just a silly sense of humour. None of

They cost money. . . lots of it. Around \(£ 7.95\) a hit. And because you're paying for the name not just the game, that's a lot of pennies just for a pretty title screen and some words about someone who might be as famous as Sigue Sigue Sputnik in two weeks time.
What matfers more is gameplay. New games and better games. More playable versions of really boring oldies - even Master Mind and Battleships. Or cruddy first attempts at a whole new style of game.

\section*{"I'm a Doodah"}
them are things that really ought to be that difficult to do again. And again and again.

Yet no-one's trying, Instead, your average software house is into buying ready-made heroes. They're expensive but you get guaranteed success and stardom insiantly. Just add a programmer and stir. .
We've got film tie-ins, TV fieins, pop tie-ins, comic tie-ins, cartoon fie-ins, book fie-ins, arcade fie-ins, tie tie-ins. . . you name it, and a software house is looking to buy the rights, parcel it up, hype it up and cream it off.

Not that tie-in games are all that bad. Most of them have got the latest in superb graphics and sound. Most of 'em are pretty and will take you some time to finish. Most of 'em have a few tricks that make it worth playing them. Most - but not all.

And even the better ones are pushing their luck. Change the name and photo on the box, alter the sprites, move a few things around and it could just as well be a different game about a different hero.

\section*{"Just add a programmer and stir. . ."}
never hosted a chat-show, sung on the Band-Aid record, ridden an ultra-fast nuclear powered motorbike or strolled into EastEnders.
But in the Speccy world, he's not only a hero, he's an idol. Star of two of the biggest

So while it might be pretty neat to see yourself as one of The Young Ones, as Dirly Den, Cobra, Rambo, Scooby or any of a hundred others, it's not really enough to cover up for the real problem with tie-in games.

No-one could say that Elite was the most original of games - two golden oldies bolted together into one superb fantasy that's as famous and successful on other machines as it is on the Speccy. And while Automata's Deus Ex Machina may have been the mosi simple of games or New Wave's ID the most uninteresting, both tried new things and both were worth a go.
Me, I got hooked on o cheapie from Americana by the name of 'Thingy And The Doodahs'. What kind of a name is that? Who'd even want to admit they'd heard of it? Let alone wear a T-shirt with 'I'm a Doodah' on it. People don't even believe that it's called that - they think you've just forgotten what it's called.

But I spent a decent sunny weekend going blind hobbling my way through it. Not at all original, not very funny. Graphics just about okay? But absolutely brilliant fun to play and utterly addictive.

What we need is less of the imported heroes and some more of our own. If TV, films, pop, books, comics and everyone else in the world can produce their own stars, why can't Speccy games?

After all, it's about time more than just the innocent bystanders in Weston-SuperMare got to hear about the Speccy.

Anyone pay good money to go see Jet Set Willy at the flicks?

\footnotetext{
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