



Einstein Magazine

& ALL MICRO NEWS

Number 105

Published for users of Einstein (and other) computers
by RPM Society.

Publisher and Secretary:-

**A E Adams, Ivy Cottage, Church road, New Romney,
KENT TN28 8TY**

This flour has been ground from
locally grown wheat by volunteer
members of the

**CRANBROOK WINDMILL
ASSOCIATION**

at

**UNION MILL, THE HILL
CRANBROOK, KENT**

using the restored machinery that
you may see during your visit
to the mill.

Like all flour made from the whole
untreated wheat grain it should
be kept in a cool dry place.

Best before end:

11 01



A note from Chris Coxall. The Internet address for the Einy site:

<http://members.lycos.co.uk/albertstc01>

The site has been hastily put up just to get something online so the process search engines used to locate and document them can get started. Yahoo takes about 3 to 6 months.

The site provider does not seem to have the best uploading software especially as my monitor hasn't the higher resolution that most Internet services expect surfers to have now. One page I tried to put up wouldn't be entertained by the host. I've put a link to another site I have and the page went in OK there.

General Ideas for the Site: All Einstein Computer related of course.

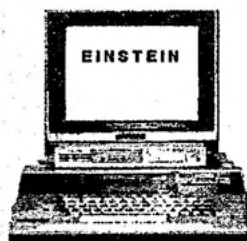
I want every thing that goes up there to be public domain. So that others, if they wish, can copy the pages onto there own site or create a mirror site. The idea being - that if unseen circumstances come along and stop me managing the site, and it closes - the content and information can still be found on the web. If there is an EM reader who wants to try their hand at a web site creation but not sure what put on it and also needs experience of up loading ready made pages please encourage them. They can download "albertstc01" pages for putting on their own site. Poaching from "albertstc01" is perfectly legitimate. Only proviso is that they give acknowledgement to authorship.

To support the Einstien Magazine I want to put the contents of the current mag. on the web site's front page. If an article is technically novel and a bit of a breakthrough, which would be of use to other 8 bit computer users, a more detailed description would be helpful.

Creating web pages and articles has a demand on my time especially as I'm learning as I go. This means I don't have the same time available to create hard copy out put for EM. Web page publishing doesn't quickly translate it's self to hard copy publishing. I have an idea that might sort this later.

Selling and giving away Einsteins: The ads. in EM are usually "free take away come and get it" or "buyer collect". OK if you're just around the corner, otherwise carriage is expensive.

Einy's 3" drives seem to last and last and they can with the right software be used on the PC to read Amstrad CPC6128, Spectrum+3 as well as Einstein 3" disks. So don't bin them advertise them. The same goes for bigger items - someone nearby may be in need.



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Editorial

I set out my stall at the very start of this editing business. One thing I would not entertain was a regular cajoling or mauling of the Einstein User Group (EUG) readership – seen in a few past publications – in the attempt to obtain content. However, after my comment to Tony on submitting last issue, that material he had sent me – CP/M info – had saved the day, he duly responded – see rear flysheet EM104.

There are several problems with this technique, as I see it: 1. It lowers the credited intelligence of the group – what is patently obvious need not be spelt out. 2. Those already doing something will often feel guilty of not doing enough. 3. It actually works! For a while, but once embarked upon must be oft' repeated – the readers come to expect it. What a waste of time space and energy.

So you see I've pasted myself into a corner over this. I bear a formed philosophy toward computing – therefore the magazine – even if the big boss doesn't seem to sometimes. No particular criticism of Tony intended – I notice ninety percent of directors don't have a strategy to see past the next day! What follows is merely to keep you up to speed with what I related to Tony since EM104 went out – it will at least give all a chance to misunderstand me from a more informed position.

I offered at the time of Ted's illness to ensure the continuation of EM – in case more-able persons failed to come forward – sensing Ted's quest was incomplete. From my editorials, you will have witnessed my belief in the future of TC01 computing, and endeavoured to promote as much. I also suggested people should write in about their current computing problems – presumably not TC01 – using EM as a forum to a self-help group.

Ted had given me names and addresses of about a dozen users whom he had correspondence. I took it on myself to personally inform them of taking on the editorship and hoping for there support. Of these, I had four replies wishing me well but

explaining they were no longer active with the TC01 - some I already guessed to be the case.

You will have seen within these pages over the last five years the regular contributors - a handful of names reoccurring. These folk are doing an exceptional job by contributing full-scale technical articles. To produce one of these once every couple of years is a major feat - anyone should try it, if merely to understand the checking over, involved. But here's the rub, besides these regulars there have been no reader's letters since I became involved as editor. I consider this a most serious state of affairs.

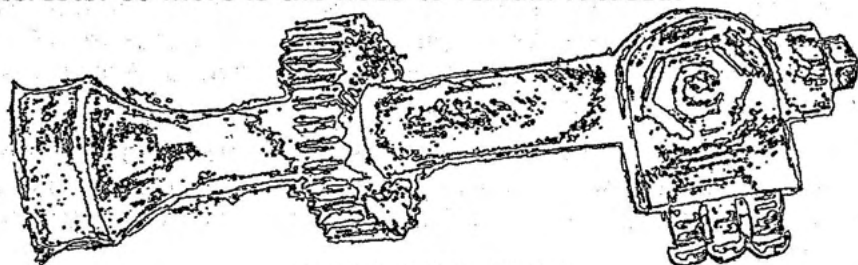
About ten years ago, I purchased a second-hand TC01 - to add to my collection of old micros. When I joined EUG my idea was to glean information from other users, probably more experienced, thereby gaining an in-depth understanding, and enjoyment of such satisfaction, from a microcomputer - having previously failed to do so with other machines. Current EMs and back numbers have done that job admirably, because of the participation within its pages of other members. Might I add, placing a few of my own, in pre-editor times.

Now that areas in computing outstripping TC01 have developed, I thought that perhaps related questions and experiences might be sent in, but no... why... I'll answer that with my experience using Word2000.

I thought it would be useful to write a series in EM about my experiences of this beast. I was stalled by the intuitive nature of the interface, the solutions to my struggles with it the first time around were long winded - and there was an answer in the help file after all - giving one that, silly not to have spotted it sooner, feeling. I could perhaps have put a different spin on things, but with such a complex package, how would I compete or add to the help files, Internet help, and a multitude of books on the subject, with my limited resources. The nature of modern computing is to keep working at it, and it will come right. The satisfaction of tips and tricks of the micro era has mostly gone. Some people do play with the Windows registry - mystery area, but for fun! I

don't think so. Choose an operating system like Linux, and get loads of help from other users through the Internet.

This type of thing, the 'sterility' in computing, has if anything consolidated my view on remaining a hardened Einsteinier, but if the users are no longer there, then what am I a member of and what is the catalyst for the EM? I could be much more useful to the half dozen or so known remaining users by expending my energies upon some of the unfinished projects and new things I have wanted to do with the TC01. When ready or needed, I can rattle off my findings plus any programs, on disc, their distribution among so few, being quite feasible. To make an analogy from the steam preservation scene: I would rather go out of my way to see one tank engine actually in steam, than ponder a dozen main line express locomotives, lined up in a museum as static exhibits. Why... Because life's too short - I have many interests: so more is the need to remain focused.



READER'S SURVEY

So to clear up this disparity, of me with no EUG letters, and Tony having to spend weeks printing, collating and dispatching this magazine, you are now taking part in a readers survey:

What are you doing in computing these days? Where does EUG fit into your out-look? Do you have a TC01, when was it last used? Opinions please... I wish to see EM content being informative, current and witty.

No reply will be taken as a no-vote - the silence is deafening. Remember, I'm flying blind - I don't know who this reaches, and won't ever... without input.

-----@ @ @-----

IN SEARCH OF COMPOSITE VIDEO

S.J. GIBBS - EUG 1158 - Feb 02

Some years ago, I wanted to pick up composite video from inside the Einstein. I took a lead from the composite video input to the modulator, which worked, but the output seemed at a low level.

About a year ago, I bought a machine with a green screen monitor, which came complete with a lead, that had a six-pin din plug on one end and a phono plug on the other. This works fine and is at a good level. The six-pin din plug has pin 2 (0 volts) and pin 5 that has Y + sync when in YUV mode and G (green) when in RGB mode connected to it. This is something I did not know about but found very useful. The composite video is available when the machine is in either mode.

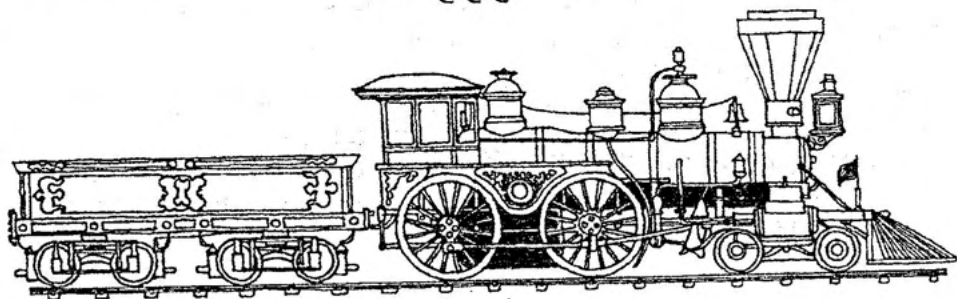
Now here is one further piece of information - regarding TASWORD. I wrote a letter and saved it but when I came to load it, only half the letter was there. I deleted some files and found the fault had cleared so the disc must have been full. I would have expected a DISC FULL message presented to warn me, but I will be more careful in future.

Hoping these points will be of use.

Stan Gibbs

Ed. The right stuff! Great to hear from Stan - tips from doing-it. Has anyone else had this experience with Tasword or can replicate it to confirm its behaviour.

----@@@----



Bekonscot – a Model of Control

The longer days are here, and hopefully some sunny weekends, the family call to go out for the day or merely lone wander lust, the dilemma of where to... presents itself. With this article, I suggest a solution to satisfy all. In particular, it will keep the average Einsteinian fascinated, unravelling the logic behind the model railway control system – detailed later in this piece on Bekonscot – while the rest... are out of your hair occupied with the scenery and ice-cream. Note also, one of the great unsung features of Bekonscot my folks have found, is the provision of several picnic shelters – should it begin to rain, the entrance fee has also always been very fair. Material was sourced from their web site, a Mitsubishi journal and an informed colleague; it is intended for promotion only.

Bekonscot started when Roland Callingham, a London Accountant bought a field in the growing town of Beaconsfield, during the 1920's. As a hobby and for friends and family to enjoy, he dug a pond and built a few miniature houses. His friend, James Shilcock, added a model railway to the site. Roland Callingham lived in Beaconsfield and James Shilcock lived in Ascot, so they decided to combine the names and call the village 'Bekonscot'.

The village first opened to the public in 1929, but no admission charge was made, the public being invited to put money in collection-boxes for charity if they wanted to. In 1932, however, the Bekonscot Model Railway & General Charitable Association was set up to administer the village and distribute surplus money to charity.

There has always been a strong connection with the Church Army, and in 1978, a company was set up, managed by the Church Army, which has continued to covenant the profits to charity. Well over a million pounds has been distributed to charity from Bekonscot since 1929 (at today's prices this would be worth in excess of £3 million). The Church Army is in evidence in the village; there's a mission caravan and an old people's home, representing two facets of its work.

Since 1929, the Village had evolved with the world around it, so by the 1980's there were model modern housing estates, an airport and even Inter-City trains! The decision was taken at this time to rebuild the village in a more traditional way, so now you see Bekonscot, as the world would have been in the 1930's. There are no electricity pylons, no motorways and certainly no Eurostar trains! Model steam trains meander through the countryside, sails on the windmill creak round slowly, and a brass band plays on the pier. You could say it's a perfect world.

Looking to the future, there's a lot going on. A brand new ride-on miniature railway, new workshops, hundreds of new models being planned, more moving objects, and further refinement to the gardens are just some of what's in store!

Enid Blyton, the well-known children's' author (who penned such classics as "Noddy", "Famous Five" and "The Secret Seven" series) lived in Beaconsfield in a house called "Green Hedges" which is depicted in the village. During the 1950's, Enid Blyton was a regular visitor and wrote a story about two children visiting Bekonscot called "The Enchanted Village". (A copy of this book is available to purchase from Bekonscot and a card of Green Hedges drawn by her illustrator, Marjorie Davies). The magic still exists today, and children can be giants in a wonderland of make-believe in the safe environment that is Bekonscot. Sadly, the original "real" house was demolished a few years ago, but her memory lives on in our model, (A full set of construction plans for Green Hedges is on display) and the naming of a nearby road as "Blyton Close". If you look closely when you find the house at Bekonscot, you might see Enid sitting with her typewriter in her back garden, no doubt writing another wonderful story! The Official Enid Blyton website is www.Blyton.com

Over the years, the gardens have developed into an outstanding feature of the model village. Due to the advances of modern techniques in cultivating miniature plants, the trees and shrubs planted over the last ten years will, when properly trimmed and pruned, be acceptable in scale in twenty and thirty year's time. Many years ago plants, particularly conifers, had to be moved constantly to prohibit their growth and keep them in scale. At

present the shrubs and conifers number well over 3,000, varying from the very tall *Cedrus atlantica* on the picnic area to the minute cypress trees around the village that blend with the scale of the buildings. The colours and shapes of the Japanese maples (*Acer palmatum* 'Dissectum Atropurpureum') are much admired. We are now introducing many more miniature varieties of plants, including willows, lilac and roses. Many of trees are of bonsai style, in scale with the models. They are however, not strictly "bonsai", merely skilfully cut-down and gradually reshaped standard garden plants. Bekonscot is a riot of colour during the summer, and bedding and herbaceous plants enhanced by the lovely stretch of lawn running almost the whole length of the village. This award-winning Broadwalk Lawn is the envy of many gardeners; originally part of the meadow from which Bekonscot was created. It has been mown, rolled and treated for nearly seventy years. It is known as Broadwalk Lawn because when Roland Callingham first built Bekonscot he would walk through the village twice daily on his way to the railway station and back. Several years ago a maze was introduced using the honeysuckle *Lonicera nitida* 'Baggesen's Gold'. The curator at Hampton Court kindly sent an outline of their maze, and this was used to create a copy in miniature for Bekonscot, which is situated near the small village of Hanton. We have therefore called our maze 'Hanton Court Maze'. Bekonscot model village covers an area of 40,000 square feet (3,715 sq m), and there is over 2,000 feet (609 m) of tarmac roadway. More than 200 tons (232 tonnes) of stone has been used for making up the rockeries alone.

We have many requests at Bekonscot to come into the workshops and control rooms. Sadly, this is not possible, because of the sheer numbers of people involved, insurance, and letting the staff get some proper work done! So, in response to this, we've created a "Behind the Scenes Tour" so you can see exactly what we do behind closed doors!

The picturesque Bekonscot miniature model railway at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire covers 3715 square metres of garden, makes it the largest G1 railway in the world.

After Roland Callingham started the village in the 1920's, his friend James Shilcock helped construct a sizeable model railway around the site, built to the then-popular scale of Gauge 1. This is about 1:32 scale, or 10mm = 1 foot. Not much information exists about the railway at this time, but it is known that much of the stock was built by the world-famous Bassett-Lowke Model Company; and ran on a route similar to the main line routes that exist today. It was a 3-rail system, in that there was an extra strip of rail between the running tracks, from which current was collected. As time progressed, so did the railway. Later additions to the layout included a long branch-line, over the "Sydney Harbour" bridge over Alexandria Lake, and another short goods line to the Southpool Docks. These were both cut back in the 1950's due to regular line floods, and a deviation of the branch was created, to encircle what is now the Evenlode Coal Mine. The stock also changed; and as "real-life" railways developed, new models appeared, reflecting the contemporary railways. Articulated coach sets, high-speed expresses, and eventually large diesel locos were built. The huge collection of stock was amassed in the old "Power House" - a shed where today's Maryloo Signal Box is. Some of this old stock exists today; a few locos have been overhauled and given new chassis, and are over 50 years old. Others are undergoing cosmetic restoration.

In about 1990, the decision was taken to revert to a 1930's image for Bekonscot (see Village History) and so the opportunity was taken to convert the 3-rail system to a more conventional 2-rail pickup (like a larger version of the Hornby railways). The track layout was expanded slightly with more interconnections of lines, so that more route combinations could be used. The old Power House was demolished, and a replica GWR style signal box was built at ground level. This houses the working ex-BR Purley Signal Box Lever Frame (or at least part of it) as well as the relays to control the circuits, and an ex-London Underground Lever Frame from South Ruislip. More about these can be found on the Operations page. With the 1930's image underway, it was found that the old stock depicting diesels and electrics, as well as container trains and HSTs, was unsuitable, so these were retired. Steam outline stock was retained and rebuilt, and some new

stock was added to supplement these. The mainstay of the coach fleet are about 20 BR style The railway is of Gauge 1 scale, but runs on G-gauge track; it is the same width of track as Gauge 1, but is coarser and more durable. The components for the track are Tenmille products, but the points are built on-site to fit individual situations. There are well over 400 metres (440 yards) of track, and the trains cover a staggering 2000 miles each year! They run in all weathers, from about 10am until 5pm, 7 days a week, from February to November, so it's easy to see how they manage to clock up such amazing mileages!

There are two main sections of the layout. There is the double track main lines plus a single-track branch line to the coalmine. All of the lines are interconnected by various junctions and points, and so the trains can be set on a limitless number of route combinations across the network. View a map of the railway by clicking this image. The layout is divided up into many short lengths of track (blocks) to which there is a power feed. As a train is powered up along one section, the system detects its presence, and powers up the section of track ahead of it. The powering-up of the blocks is linked to the relays and the miniature signals, so that if a signal on the layout shows stop, then the voltage will be powered down, and the train will stop. The basic principle is "block signalling", which is explained in more detail at www.thesignalbox.co.uk.

The early 1990s decision, by Bekonscot's engineering team, on a long-term strategy to expand and completely modernise the railway, including its whole control philosophy.

First stage of the automation plan was to develop the *Prime*-Signalling and Train Control system. The Bekonscot engineers decided to use a Mitsubishi AnSH high-speed modular based PLC, which now controls the smooth operation of the entire railway track network.

Signalling functions managed by this PLC prevent train collisions and maximise the rail network capacity and service. The Train Control manages the velocity of trains through each of the signal sections, obeying the signal status and, if required, additionally

stopping the trains at station platforms. It also manages the switching of 32 points and crossings over a choice of 40 routes, used by over 16 trains.

The system has four operation modes, two 'manual' and two 'automatic'.

The more traditional manual control solution – most basic manual mode – utilizes a genuine full-size 1950s Westinghouse Signal Lever Frame – this is a delight to view, through the signalbox windows at eye level. To be found halfway around the gardens: just follow the meandering footpaths.

In second manual mode, the signaller based at the Maryloo Signal Box can view the train locations on a computer monitor, starting and stopping the trains using the relay-controlling ex-BR Lever Frame. Most of the re-routing of trains occurs around Maryloo (the main station) and the junctions near it. The further away parts of the line (around the coal mine and around the windmill) are always controlled automatically, but there are manual overrides.

The manual system is facilitated by a Mitsubishi Electric SCADA system to monitor, configure and manually command train movement. The operator or signaller is shown a graphical representation of the track network, depicting which track zones are occupied and by what. By clicking a mouse button the signaller can select any desired route, and once a route has been chosen the *Prime* system controls the movement of the train.

First of the automatic running modes is known as the Automatic Routing Setting (ARS). The ARS looks at the position of each train, decides which routes are available, and how close to capacity in advance, areas of the network will become. Routes are then set for each train accordingly.

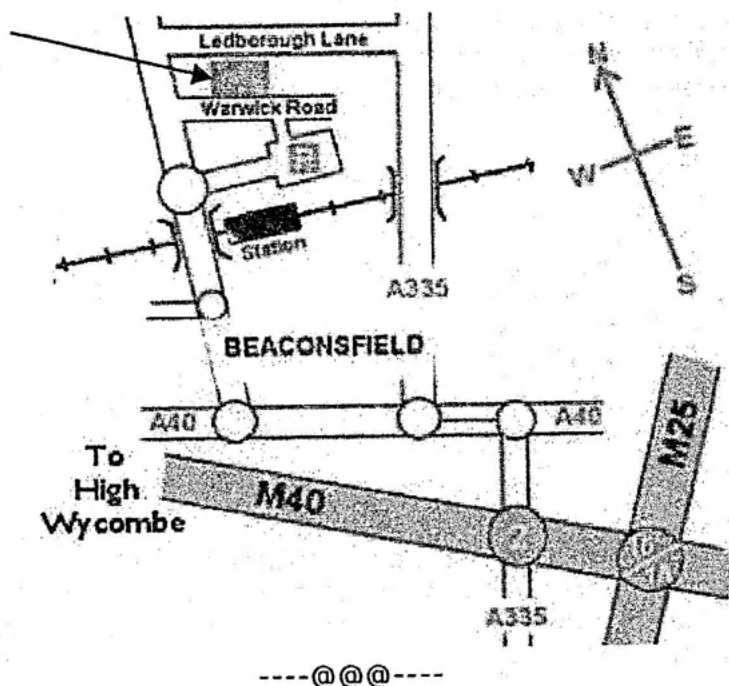
The most recent stage of development of the system has provided the other two operating modes. The "Extended Train Operator" system uses a Mitsubishi AnS series PLC; this is networked via Melsecnet B to the *Prime* system. Interfacing to

this PLC is the Westinghouse Signal Lever Frame – noted earlier – providing a more traditional manual control solution.

When the Signaller needs to break away from manual operation, he can switch the entire system to run itself – the final and second automatic train-operating mode. This is known as Coded Routing Setting (CRS) and is by far the most advanced mode. The CRS has the same basic control as the ARS but actually discriminates between each train to then select a predetermined route and station-stopping list. The computer takes over, detecting the presence of trains from current feedback from each block section, and routing the trains along logical paths. What you may not notice is that every loco and train has a barcode underneath it; which is scanned every time it passes through the Signal Box. This allows the CRS to identify them individually so the Signaller and the computer to know exactly where each train is. When in auto operation, the computer can send certain trains on certain routes. The barcode also tags what type of train it is; freight, fast/local passenger etc. i.e. the coal train to the mine, the Express train on a non-stop route, etc etc. This also enables routing conflicts to be resolved based upon a train's priority within the system. If a train is halted due to derailments (a common problem with young children so close to the trains), mechanical breakdowns, point failures etc. the CRS system is designed to re-route trains around the problem area in order to keep as many trains running as possible.

Yet, another enhancement, driven off the barcode information, is a unique audio feed for each train selected, which announces the arrivals and departures of trains up at Greenhally station. If you listen and watch carefully, you'll see that if the announcement says the train will stop only at certain stations, it definitely will! This final touch of realism utilizes a MP3 player, which has been added as an integral part of the CRS. Just like a full sized railway, announcements are made at the stations with the trains now being announced before they arrive and when they are leaving, stating their destination, route and at what stations they will call.

Thus, the finest outdoor Gauge 1 model railway open to the public in the UK has grown from humble beginnings, to one of the most technologically advanced in the world!



Reference to following article, Obsolescence - optional?

* The article by W.H. Powell on the TC01 RS232<>COM1 will appear next issue.

Ed. John sent this in as a printout, (Arial 12 pnt.) I scanned and OCR'ed it. Being so 'clean' it worked perfectly, except the very last line "DO IT!", was converted as 'corn', really... How it arrived at that I don't know! Perhaps that's what the computer thinks of the person just sitting there pontificating - as corny. I wonder if within the diodes, a greater intelligence is at work.

Obsolescence – optional?

John Marriott – February '02

Well, could our long suffering Publisher be warning us that either we've got to start sending in more (?) articles, letters, chit-chat – or suffer the ignominy of having to share our magazine with other lesser (?) computers . . . and by that lesser comment, I do mean the PC and its clones!

Come off it – what other computers are still around...? All the Amstrad, Spectrum, Commodore 64 and BBC magazines and groups have gone like the autumn mists. Even the 32-bit Amiga no longer appears desirable, yet will easily run PC386 emulators as good as, or even better than the "real" thing – even some Apple Mac emulators. And as for the Atari STe 1040 and its MIDI/music capability – where are they now?

Yet, the Einstein still staggers on thanks to the likes of Tony. But for how long, do you think? That is if "our" magazine starts being "diluted" with the PC.

Personally, I enjoy my TC01 – it's my level of programming. For the last few months I've been "disassembling" the MOS 1.21 ROM in an effort to reach for that *Holy Grail* – the 80 track, double sided boot disk – only to realise that I've still got to disassemble the Systems DOS – probably not as long time-wise, selective cheats?

What's in it for me? I've about 200+ 3" disks, most in good/new condition, spare drives – let alone about 1500 3.5" 720K disks which can easily be used as "boot" disks with a substitute 3.5" drive, countless 5.25" 360K disks with drives – so there is absolutely no need for me to reach for the Holy Grail. I have to 75 A4 pages of disassembly, hard work, in my quest . . . and should I find the answer – where will it be published? Why – in OUR magazine – at what cost? Why – just your subscription, perhaps even for the cost of a first class stamp alone – when you are in these pages. What value – yet how many of you just can't spend 10 minutes putting pen to paper – even constructive criticism on what you'd like to see in print, projects, ideas.

From my rather unofficial "Tech-help" I know that lots of ideas are bouncing around out there - somehow or other the "hard drive" project doesn't seem to have come to fruition - yet there is the idea of using cheap/dumped PC386's and their hard drive as a storage media to the TC01 - which of course means getting to grips with the RS232 C3 COM1 ports, handshaking, what have you - so whilst the major chunk of EM104 was dedicated to the CP/M System...

...makes sense? The PD program "Kermit" has more capability than the CP/M "Copy" or "Pip", there's even an Einstein configured version of "Kermit" in the Library.

With this article I've sent some photocopies (FAX printouts really) of an article by W.H. Powell* on the TC01 RS232 <> COM1 which also shows the required lead wiring/pin-outs. Somewhere or other I've the PC program "LapLink" and I've no doubt that a fair few of you out there have similar.

A couple of PC Shareware programs - "Disk22" and "Anadisk" could show the way of using a disk C3 disk transfer. Whilst I've spent some time trying, I must admit to having only limited success. Part of the problem encountered is building a "Definition Table" for the TC01 80T/DS Systems disk by "modifying" an existing "definition" in the "Disk22" data file, yet still keeping that file the same length (you don't expect Sybex to make things easy, do you?).

Now, Stan Gibbs raised a number of interesting points (hopefully we'll see his experiences/results in a future EM? Some of them already in this issue), the first being on the RGB/YUV monitor port, but mainly to do with the U portion of the YUV (monitors, colour and mono, for the use of) and printer troubles. Our late Ted had a fair share of those, some nifty ways of solving them too - and hereby lays the rub . . . modern printers are totally software driven from the PC - no DIP switches, no useful information in the manual, presumption made from its enclosed CD that you're running a CD drive (even 3.5" floppies are beginning to disappear from the latest "all singing, all dancing, bells & whistles" PC's!) - and even the later dot matrix printers expect

more signals out from the TC01 than the TC01 uses. Just look in your "pin out" Port information of the TC01 manual (and your printer one, if you've got it?) and the simple "paper out" line - where? My TC01's, BBC Compacts, Spectrum +3's and Amstrad CPC6128's are quite happy with a cut down Centronics lead of 24 wires - the last 12 defunct, to most of the old 9/24 pin and daisy wheel printers...

...but try anything later than a HP510 inkjet - forget it, for Today's Technology has well said goodbye to our Time. Bearing that in mind - make sure you have a cheap back-up printer which works on your TC01!

Hopefully, not to much of my annoyance leaked through - but as I said in one of my first articles to appear in EM (5-6 years ago?) about "...if you don't support your User Group - you lose it...", and personally I've no interest in seeing PC stuff appearing in EM unless it compliments and extends the TC01's use/life.

So come on - some of you must have little programming techniques, problems - and their solutions, things that you may think simple, not much point sending in, ideas to mull over - best of all, disagreements with the types of articles/content...

...if you think your language/writing skill is wanting, so what - just write it as you feel, rough sketches - you name it - but just don't sit there looking at the latest EM thinking "...what a load of rubbish, I could do better..." DO IT! -----@ @ @-----

John Marriott's Clearout List - All free (donations to our favourite charity welcome) but P&P/insurance a must

121 Hill Barton Road EXETER Devon EX1 3PP

61 off EPROMS 2708JL-45

2 off Spectrum 48K

1 off Spectrum 16K

1 off Spectrum +2

4 off Spectrum +3

2 off CPC6128

2 off BBC compacts

3 off Einstien TC01

1 off Amiga 1200/HD

1 off Amiga 600

3 off Amiga 500

1 off Atari STfm

1 off Atari Stfe

4000 off 3.5" 720K floppies

1000s+ 350K 5.25 floppies

Monitors and Printers

RAMBLINGS AND RUMBLINGS FROM NEW ROMNEY

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I suppose apologies are in order. To Bob, because it never occurred to me that he was feeling neglected and wasn't sure if there was actually anyone still left "out there", and also to all of you who responded to the "it's here if you want it" notices, and are still waiting for me to send it.

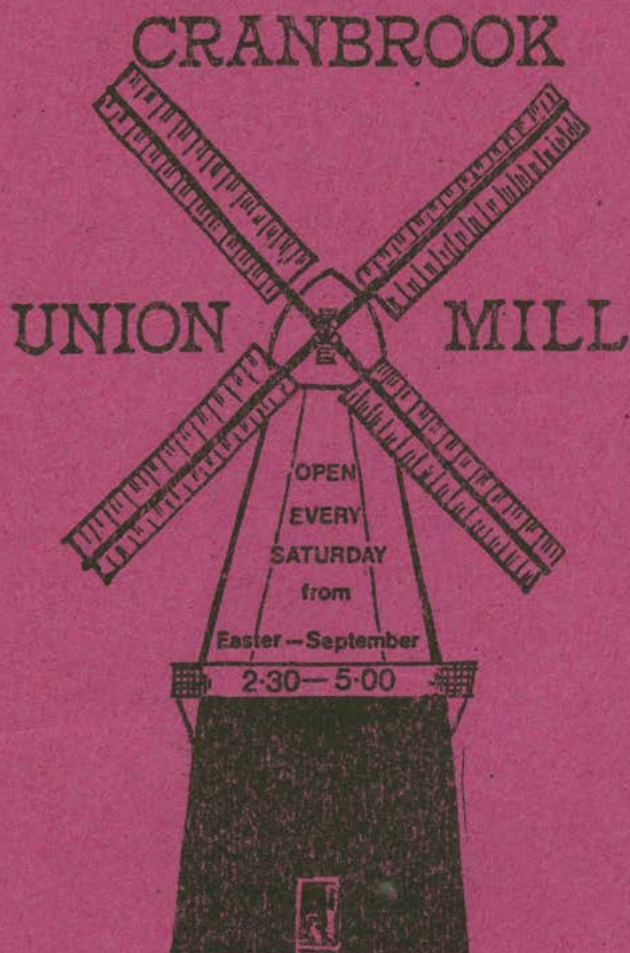
As to the latter, wearing one of my other hats I'm somewhat tied up with a listed building where the Council have served a "Do this or we take it away from you with a Compulsory Purchase Order" Repairs Notice demanding a Grand Restoration Scheme that goes far beyond what they are allowed to put in such a notice -- and which their own Chief Building Control Officer had said was unsound, unsafe and unacceptable under the Building Regulations anyway. Our lawyers are now on the case! So sorry if you are still waiting. Please be patient! And if you've not asked for it yet, please do. It's probably still available, though a few items are now in short supply.

Sorry I haven't written to you Bob, with a letter to publish in EM to get the ball rolling. Ted and I conducted a fast and furious correspondence, but you rarely write, and then only very briefly. I thought it was cos you had a busy life and had no time for idle chatter on paper -- maybe everyone else thought the same? You say you decided from the outset not to pester or cajole readers into submitting stuff to publish - but there's a very fine line between that and encouragement & persuasion. I wonder, with the very technoboffin content we've had so much of lately, if we've maybe inadvertently scared the average reader off contributing.

It may not be obvious, but forty years in small magazine publishing has taught me that almost every editor of such a mag does have to provide constant motivation/encouragement to get good intentions hatched out into actual submissions, and you can really only get this across by expressing it in your editorials in the form of constant subtle praise and encouragement, and by getting your Aunt Jane to write a lot of chatty letters as an Einey user. The Bekonscot article is a lovely change, because it doesn't actually require you to dismantle your Einey and climb inside its guts - which is a real delight for some, but not actually to everyone's taste.

Most letters I get at New Romney say "Sorry, I'm 98 and I can't see to use Einey or read the mag any more" or "I am now homeless and living in a friend's stair cupboard, so I'm not renewing as I had to give my Einey to a charity shop" -- but I'm not sure it would really encourage you all that much if I sent them on to you to publish in the magazine!





**STONEGROUND  
WHOLEMEAL FLOUR**

**1.5 kg**

**(3.31 lb)**