

ARTS & CRAFTS



November 1989... Issue 03/01

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What's Happening??

As I have already informed you via letters, Scott Huxley has let me down and ran off with some of my software etc, and left me with nothing plus some angry members. I have done my best to put together a magazine to cover the November period, (This magazine was put together November 6th in 4 hours!), so I apologise for any re-occurring articles which have appeared in other magazines. The Group has now been fully set up, and the PD library is back up and running so if you would like to order PD software, feel free!

As you all know my mum and I are in full - time work, so if you have any articles, reviews, hints and tips etc please don't hesitate to send them in as they will all help to keep the group up and running.

If anyone has any hardware or software that they wish to sell, please give me a ring (I haven't even got an Einstein at the moment!)

Please Note, this is only a trial magazine, if you don't want to receive the magazine drop me a line so I can delete you off the subscription list.

I hope you enjoy this magazine.

Roy Prime (Chairman).

Wordprocessors

Tasword is one of the most well used and most well loved of wordprocessors for the Einstein, so I have decided to give you a quick review (for those of you that not bought it yet!!).

'Tasword' by Tasman Software (c) 1985

Available from B + H computers and Taurus Computer systems at about £15.95.

This word processor for the Einstein is one of the best I have seen for the price. It is what you might call a "what you see is what you get" type of wordprocessor. This means that what you see on the screen is what you get on the printer. I would suggest this type of word processor to all those people that cannot afford word processors like wordstar.

To get some idea of the quality look at the quality of the magazine because all of this was written on it!

Unfortunatly the word processor is a little small and a ten and a half page limit is imposed to those who use it, so for those of us that need the space given to us by Wordstar, you can forget it!

Tasword is a 40 column word processor and by good programming from Tasman Software they have reduced the character set down to 80 column size so it looks like an 80 column word processor!

Overall

It is a very good wordprocessor to have. It is cheap and reliable and if you have a printer with near letter quality you can even write magazines!

My ratings:

Ease of loading: 95%

Ease of use : 95%

Instructions : 65%

Overall : 85%

Starquake Reviewed

At last Starquake!. The program that was called program of the year by the Atari company.

Starquake by Merlin software under licence from Bubble Bus Software.

Starquake is a graphical adventure in which you play a character called 'BLOB'. He is a robot who has to save the galaxy from doing the gnab gib (the opposite to the big bang!). You generally have to go around and pick up several 'bits' to repair the core of a planet which is about to disintegrate and destroy the galaxy. Have you got the plot yet? Don't worry if you haven't I will start from the beginning. At the outer most regions of the galaxy a planet has just appeared out of a black hole. If the core of the planet isn't rebuilt then it will implode causing the whole universe and Blob to go Blip.

Starquake is priced at £14.95 which for me is a little expensive seeing as I had already bought it for my Atari for £2.99!

Overall

Starquake is a very zappy game so it will thrill all those buffs that spend all their time at home trying to get a better score than before. Also the the quiet people who like to lead people into thinking that they are harmless will I'm sure like blasting the Nasties off the edge of the screen. It is a program that is good for all ages, if you like adventures or not it will suit you!

My ratings:-

Sound	:95%
Graphics	:100%
Ease of loading:	100%
Instructions	:100%
Playability	:90%
Overall	:95%

The oldies revisited

Software for the Einstein is still a little bit scarce and if you walk into most software shops they will never have heard of 'Einstein Computers' or if they have had they will not have any software. So, if you want to know where the nearest one is to your area drop me a call on 0525 210868.

Reviews

'Elite' by Merlin (Under licence from Firebird)

£19.95 Shoot 'em up style

Elite is the Adventure / Shoot em up that was originally released by Acornsoft for the BBC micro. It is a classic which has just been released on the Amiga and St.

This program is not for you if you can't stay at a computer for about 6 hours at a time. I mean it!. It is one of the most challenging games I have played for a long time. It involves you getting rich by either trading (space trading from space station to space station) or shooting things out of the sky!. The aim of the game though is for you to become the Elite, the very best fighter / trader that has ever existed, this means that you need a good joystick and plenty of fingers!!

Overall

Overall I liked the game but I am sure that there are people with this software that will soon become very bored with it because it is so hard, so if you send an S.A.E to the address shown on the contents page with your Elite disk I will put an almost finished version on the disk for you free of any charge!

My ratings:-

Graphics	:40%
Sound	:15%
Playability	:30%
Instructions	:85%

Overall value:80%

If you know of any new computer shops in your area that are selling Einstein software drop me a line so I can put them in the magazine.Ta!

Hints and tips

Any computer gets quite hot when you use it and when you switch it off, condensation can occur, particularly if you are using the computer in a cold place. Obviously dampness in your computer can have a bad effect on some of the computer chips and the like. I would suggest that if you are using a computer in the kind of condition mentioned above then you should purchase a dust cover.

If you don't want to go to the expense of buying a dust cover (about £7.50) then you could use a packet of silica gel. That is the stuff you get in the box when you buy the computer or any other electrical equipment. What you do is open the computer up (after switching it off first!) and stick a small packet near the speaker (where condensation is likely to form) but do not stick it on where it will touch electrical parts. Use a good quality PVC tape to stick it on though, otherwise it might fall off!

During most of the year delivered goods can arrive quite well chilled and condensation will start forming when you bring them into the house. Immediate use of the disk (if it is a disk) could corrupt some of the data and it could quite badly damage your disk drive getting the read/write head damp. Let things acclimatise for an hour or two - read the instructions for once before you start using it. Ignoring that may damage your disk drive and you might lose some data from the disk. Take care with your disks!

As I have said before computers tend to get hot when used and as the computer gets hot it expands and as it gets cold it will shrink again. This problem is one of the biggest threats to computers. If your computer breaks down it is more likely to do with the expand/shrink factor than it is to do with "OVERHEATING" or "BAD TREATMENT" it is a fact that MOISTURE and the EXPAND/SHRINK factor kill more computers than anything else. It looks like a silica gel packet is needed again or you will have to splash out on a dust cover.

If you have something that you could put into this page put pen to paper (or printer to paper) and send it to the address on the contents page. I will look forward to reading about them!

Hardware Reviews

Many people have big hopes about building their small Einstein into a large and powerful computer that will let you write huge programs and use powerful programs such as some of the I.B.M software so, I have decided to write about some hardware that is available for the Einstein.

Monitors:

People make a lot of fuss over monitors and it is for some people the very first piece of hardware that they buy after getting the computer. There are a lot of monitors that are on the market at the moment so I have listed some of the best (price wise).

Ferguson Monitor:-Now I may be a little biased towards this monitor because I am at this present moment using one! It is one of the best little monitors I have seen for it's price range (£44.99). It has a special anti - glare faceplate and comes in two different kinds of colour screens. The green screen version is a little dull and can be a little hard to read from if in 80 column mode. The Yellow screen one I think is the best because it is so clear in 80 column mode.

Overall:-

It may seem a little cheap at the price but it is certainly worth buying one!

Disk drives:-

If you only have a single drive Einstein or Einstein 256 it may be worth you going out and getting yourself a second drive. This months disk drive is a 3" Double head drive. They are available from some of the Tatung suppliers around England. A 3" double head drive is almost exactly the same as a normal 3" drive except you don't have to turn the disk over. Normal 3" drives have a single head which means when you have filled one side you have to turn the disk over, with a double head drive you don't have to turn the disk over because the disk drive reads both of the sides at the same time. The most obvious advantage that it gives you is that you do not have to turn the disk over. The biggest disadvantage is that you need a different DOS to run it i.e SYSTEM 80 this is needed to format Double Head drives.

Help Needed!!

I have a problem that all User Groups have and that is a lack of help. I need anything from articles to software. If you send me software it has to be Uncopyrighted or an original disk. I will not accept any copies!

Software....Lovely software...

I'm looking for software. I don't mind about the quality that you think it is and I don't mind if all you did is typed it in!. Software (UNCOPYRIGHTED) is always wanted!

BITS

If anyone has any reviews or anything like that please send them in. Being a User Group and a magazine is hard work and I need constant articles, puzzles, cartoons, Computer (ish) jokes, software (Original.No copies!) and software that you have written (to be put in my PD library!)

The only way any User group can work is with a constant supply of articles.

Back copies. Back copies are charged at 50p each and they go back to the June 1988 (Issue 01/01).

WP 40 reviewed

I decided to buy 3S's WP40 word-processor in April simply because I couldn't figure out how to imbed printer control codes in the text from my own WP program. Since then, I have found it to be easy to use, versatile and invaluable for long documents.

After pressing CTRL+BREAK to load it, the first screen displays a disc directory and a file name to load. If you don't want to edit a file then just press enter for the main WP40 program. When you have done that you will see the main screen which is marked in lines and columns with a command line at the base. The main commands for entering text are:-

I(nsert)
or
C(hange)

Most of the commands are single key and all commands can be displayed by pressing H(elp). Most importantly, embedding control codes is quite easy.

My only criticisms of WP40 are about the manual, which is written for WP80 and is a little unclear in some cases. If, like me, you only have a 40 column monitor or TV as soon as the text reaches column 35, the screen flips over to display columns 30-64. This takes a couple of seconds during which time any letters typed are ignored, which can cause problems if you watch the keyboard while typing. All in all, though, I consider WP40 to be an excellent program and one that I'm using more and more frequently. A really good buy!

Price About £25 from Surrey Software (3S)

Ratings as follows:-

Ease of loading	:100%
Ease of use	:80%
Instructions	:30%
User friendly	:Yes but a very slow WP.

Reviews

Dragon's Lair: £14.95: From :Merlin Software (B+H)

Well another new game is thrust upon us by those brilliant lads from B+H. The only question to ask is:-
Was the wait justified?

Originally Dragon's Lair was planned for the Einstein 256 and was designed to have fantastic sound, brilliant graphics and the like however, as normal Einsteins out number the Einstein 256 they didn't bother. But enough of that, here is the review.

Dragons Lair is another one of those protected auto - boot programs that Merlin software have been very keen on recently. The packaging I will not say is very modest because the case it comes in (double cassette type case) is jammed full with info. Once you have found this disk under the mounds of info you can start to play the game.

The disk drive clunks for a few seconds and the title page comes up, great I thought. It is a full screen title page showing the Dragon, you and of course, the damsel in distress. After that the disk drive clunks again and you are shown a picture of a dark doorway.

The instructions sort of appear on one line on the bottom of the screen and unless you have read the instructions you won't know what to do because the one line which moves fairly swiftly away will not tell you. This for me is a total disaster because unless I'm forced to I won't bother to read the instructions.

The game

The game is quite good but on occasions it can get quite annoying when in one room you find that all of a sudden none of the keys work (Screen 2. If someone finds out how to do it then please tell me!).

Overall

Ease of loading	:100% (Merlin auto - boot)
Graphics	:95 % (Very nice!)
Sound	:0 % (What sound?)
Playability	:15 % (Controls sometimes vanish!)
Instructions	:20 % (Try reading the Oxford dictionary)
Overall	:65 % (Still worth buying for the graphics & the game!!!)

Jetset Willy + Manic Miner

This month I will show you budding hackers how to obtain an extra 3 games for FREE off your JETSET WILLY disc.

If you do a DIR of your JETSET master disc it only lists JETSET.COM as being on the disc.

Well this is not strictly true as on my version there are another 3 games but they are in their erased form. Now all we have to do is unerase them!

If you have a program to do this or you already know how to do it then please carry on! if not then do the following:-

Please note that the following will NOT work if you have saved any programs to your Jetset Willy disc.

Load DOS by pressing the reset button with your Jetset Willy disc in drive 0.

Type MOS <ENTER>

Type :- R800099FF0002 <ENTER>

Now we need to change the contents from E5 to 00 at the following memory locations.

8000, 8020, 8080, 80C0, 80E0.

To do this we use the MODIFY command of MOS. So here is how to change location 8000 hex.

M8000 <ENTER> Type M followed by the address to modify. Over type the E5's with 00's + full stop, then press <ENTER>

8000 E5

8000 00. <ENTER>

Repeat the above for the remaining memory locations. We must now save the modified parts. We do this by entering the following line:-

W800099FF0002 <ENTER>

Now return to DOS by pressing Control + Break.

Continued Next Page....

Jetset Willy + Manic Miner

Type DIR <ENTER>

This should appear :-

```
O:MANIC   .COM  O:JETSET  .COM
O:FASTMANI.COM  O:FASTJETS.COM
```

Now we have a new game MANIC MINER plus a faster version of JETSET WILLY & MANIC MINER.

We now need to modify the MANIC code to allow us to play the game, because if you try and run MANIC.COM it will ask you to enter a 4 digit code like in JETSET WILLY but I'm sorry to say it won't accept the code from the JETSET WILLY code book.

So, now let's make the game usable by modifying it to except any code we type in (Cheeky Eh?).

From DOS type : LOAD MANIC.COM

When loaded it should say 108 Block(s).

Now enter MOS. i.e MOS <ENTER>

Now change the code from CA hex at memory location 6AAC hex by using the modify command.

M6AAC <ENTER>

6AAC C3. <ENTER>

Press Control + Break to return to DOS.

Now SAVE the modified game as follows:-

From DOS type:- SAVE 108 MANIC.COM <ENTER>

Easy Eh?

If you want to do the same to JETSET to save looking up the code every time you want to play do the same as for MANIC but change memory location 6A86 from CA to C3. Also if you would like infinite lives on JETSET change location 6051 to 00

Top 10

The list of top 10 programs this month are as follows:-

Position:	Name of Program	:Rating
1.	N. Suspended	*****
2.	.3 . Zork III	****
3.	.3 . Theatre Europe	*****
4.	.4 . Starcross	*****
5.	.6 . Tournement Snooker	****
6.	.6 . Sorcerer	*****
7.	.7 . Attack of the Killer tomatoes	E
8.	.8 . Starquake	*****
9.	.9 . Soho	*
10.	.10. Oh Mummy!	**

Top 10 Business software

1.	.1 . Tasword	*****
2.	.2 . Tatung Invoicing	***
3.	.3 . Popup	***
4.	.4 . Genesis Word Processor	****
5.	.5 . Mouse Art	**
6.	.6 . The Cracker	***
7.	.9 . Super Writer	***
8.	.N . Tubes Version 4 + Side B software.	*****
9.	.7 . Mouse Tools	****
10.	.10. Tubes Version 4	****

Software and Hardware available

Key *Shand* = Second hand software / Hardware.

NEW = New pieces of software / Hardware.

Games

<u>Description</u>	<u>:Normal Price:Offer Price.</u>	
Zork II	:£27.95	:£10.00 **NEW**
Zork III	:£27.95	:£10.00 **NEW**
Starcross	:£27.95	:£15.00 **NEW**
Suspended	:£27.95	:£15.00 **NEW**
AM1 games and Utilities	:£10.99	:£6.99 **NEW**

Utilities

<u>Description</u>	<u>:Normal Price:Offer Price.</u>	
Apollo 2	:£20.00	:£12.95 *Shand*
Tubes Mouse software.	:£11.99	:£8.99 **NEW**
1 Side B utils.		
Tubes Ver 4 update	:£2.00	:£2.00 **NEW**

Small Business

<u>Description</u>	<u>:Normal Price:Offer Price.</u>	
The Cracker	:£17.95	:£11 *Shand*
Tasword	:£23.95	:£15 *Shand*

Hardware available

<u>Description</u>	<u>:Normal Price:Offer Price.</u>	
3" Internal Drive	:£34.95	:£30 **NEW**

Media ,Accessories and books

3" Disc head cleaner	:£4.50	:£3.50 **NEW**
DOS, Basic Reference and Introduction Manuals.	:£24.95	:£6.00 **NEW**

Please Note. All second hand software and hardware has been tried and tested, so to ensure that no problems are encountered by the user.

Please Phone before sending money. (See Back page for number)

Please make all cheques payable to R.Prime.

The Auction

For Sale

Texas Instruments (TI 99/4a) Speech device. Working, but a little tatty. £5 o.n.o.

1 box of 132 column fan - fold printer paper (80 column paper if you are good with a Stanley knife!).
£3 o.n.o.

Rolls of paper. Aprox 500 A4 sheets on a roll. £3 a roll.

All kinds of leads. Ideal for the an electrician. Includes printer leads, Tatung pipe leads and many others! No offers refused.

1 Keyboard. Is a very good quality. Has a long "D" plug connector to connect to either a micro computer or a dumb terminal. No offers refused (Above £1!).

If you want to offer me on any of these things, please give me a call on 0525 210868. (After 5.30pm)

For Sale. Newbury data Terminal NDR9500, consisting of 12" Green monitor and 100 key keyboard RS232 In & OUT and Printer (Serial) RS232 socket. £50 or offers.

Please phone Mr. P. Lumb on 0284-754318.

Wanted

WANTED. Tas-Sign. Will buy or swop. Have got Music Workshop, The Cracker, Tasword, BBCBASIC, Pascal, Assembly language and Terminal Emulator.

Phone Stephen Amos on :- 076727 (Biggleswade) 260.

Credits

I would like to thank for this publication, my mum for lending me her Einstein (Without that this would not have not appeared)

Please Note. All articles in this magazine are copyright (c) 1989 National Einstein User Group. If any other group would like to use an article, all you have to do is ask!

Help-Line

If you have any queries on the magazine, or software or the Einstein in general, here is a list of people that you can now contact.

Adventure Games, Pascal, Musical Applications.
Josef Karthauser, 17 Manor Close, Abbots Ann, Andover
Hants, SP1 7BJ.

Basic, Wordstar.
Jonathan Lloyd, 8 North View, Eastcote, Pinner,
Middlesex, HA15 1PE.

Forth.
Michael O'brien, 23 Freshwater Close, Luton, Beds

Structured Languages, DOS, Program installation.
Cecil Wallis, Tel. 055 663264.

WDPRO, Cracker
Peter Moon, 2 Greymouth Close, Stockton-on-Tees,
Cleveland, TS18 5LF.

Eprom Programming, RS232, Printers, Tasword, Tasprint
Kevin Mortimer-Hampson. Tel. 0526 43285 (6pm - 9pm)

Tas-Sign, Tasword and XBAS,
Roy Prime (See Backpage).

Backpage info

Alberts monthly is available by subscription only.

U.k £10 a year (12 issues) or £19 for 2 years (24)

Back issues are available from June 1988 (Issue 01/01) till June 1989 (Issue 02/01). These cost 50p each or 77p including Postage and packing. Please phone to ensure that I have got that month in stock.

Querys regarding the group, membership, articles, letters and Bargain Basement ads (And some Auction ads), should be sent to :-

Mr. R. Prime
National Einstein User Group,
17 Bury Rise,
Tilsworth,
Leighton Buzzard
Beds. LU7 9PR

All cheques for software, manuals, books etc from the bargain software page and auction page (Unless stated otherwise) should be made payable to R.Prime.

Correspondence regarding Public Domain software to:-

Mrs. C. Prime (Same address)

Please note. You can now send off for Public Domain software on the following format of discs.

3.5" DS 40 track. DS 80 track.
3 " SS 40 track.

Make all cheques for Public Domain software payable to Mrs. C. Prime.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above you may telephone 6pm to 9pm Monday to Friday and 5pm to 10pm weekends.

Roy Prime. 0525 210868.
Chris Prime . 0525 210868.

Adverts Form

You may advertise all your computer needs free in the magazine.

Simply fill out the form below, and send it to:-

ADVERTS,
Mr. R. Prime
17 Bury Rise
Tilsworth
Leighton Buzzard
Bedfordshire.

LU7 9PR.

Tear Here.

Tear Here.

Name.....
(Please use capitals throughout)

Address

Telephone Number and area code

Time to call from (AM/PM)
(Please cross out either Am or Pm)

Please enter the text of the advertisement in the gaps provided below.

[illegible]