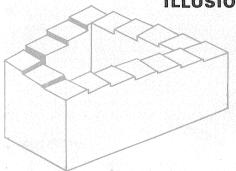
BEEBUG FOR THE BBC MICRO

ILLUSIONS

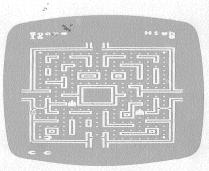
Vol 2 No 5 October 1983





ACORN ELECTRON REVIEWED

DRAWING 3D SURFACES



MUNCHMAN

PLUS

- * DISC STRING SEARCH
- * TELETEXT MODE
- * CUSTOMISING JOYSTICKS
- * COMPILERS & INTERPRETERS
- * SPEECH SYNTHISER
- * GAMES REVIEWED
- * PRINTERS REVIEWED
- * TAPE RECORDERS REVIEWED

BRITAIN'S LARGEST COMPUTER USER GROUP MEMBERSHIP EXCEEDS 20.000

EDITORIAL

ELECTRON ORBIT

The new Acorn Electron will soon be appearing in the shops, and we have taken the opportunity of reviewing it in this issue, though we will not be carrying items for the Electron in future issues. As you will be aware, the Electron is essentially a whittled down Model B. It is however a first class machine in its own right, and we have launched a separate user group and magazine called ORBIT to cover this micro. One advantage of this, as we see it, is that we will not be forced to fill the magazine with explanations of how to modify each program to run on the Electron, and we will not be tempted to let mode 7 fall into disuse just for the sake of downward compatibility (the Electron has no mode 7).

PCW SHOW TICKETS

We have been threatened with a delivery of 20000 "£1 off" tickets for the PCW show, allowing entry for £2.00 instead of £3.00; and if they arrive, you will receive one with this magazine. The show is to be held in the Barbican centre from 29 Sept to 2 Oct.

MAGAZINE CASSETTES

This month's magazine cassette contains all the programs from this issue plus two extras: a 3 part harmonisation of Bach's Prelude XII and a machine code screen dump for the NEC 80 printer. One or two members have written regretting our inclusion of additional items on the magazine cassette. These items are things which we have not had room for in the magazine, and often they particularly lend themselves to cassette distribution. In this latest case for example the Bach Prelude is an exremely long listing, but can be placed on the magazine cassette at no extra cost.

However, for those members who require a particular "extra" item on the magazine cassette, but who do not wish to purchase the whole tape, we are instigating a trial photocopy service. Send 50p per item required, plus sae to: Photocopies, BEEBUG, PO Box 50, St Albans, Herts. Please give your membership number.

David Graham.

TICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOAR

HINT WINNERS

This month's hint winners are N.Kelly & B.Knott who share the £10 prize and J.P.Carnell who wins the £5 prize.

ORBIT FOR THE ACORN ELECTRON

For further details of our new monthly magazine for the ACORN ELECTRON, see this month's supplement.

MAGAZINE CASSETTE - EXTRA ITEMS

This month's magazine cassette contains two extra items:

PRELUDE XII by J.S. Bach encoded by D.R. Piercy - A three minute Bach prelude in 3 part harmony with visual representation.

NEC 80 SCREEN DUMP by Simon Ainsworth - A useful machine code screen dump (OS 0.1 and 1.2) for all graphics modes of the Beeb, and with two alternative size printouts.

BEEBUG POST

BEEBUG requires a young technical assistant with software expertise on the Beeb. See the supplement for \det



EBUG MAGAZINE

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Simplifying Character Definitions

ASCII Codes in Function-Keys

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Abbreviation for Colour

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ELECTRON LAUNCH AT ACORN USER SHOW

The official launch of the Electron occurred on 23rd August as a prelude to the Acorn User Show. For the occasion, Quentin Bell (Acorn's new Advertising Agency) put on a splendid show fronted by TV personalties, Wendy Craig and Cliff Michelmore. To complete event, there was a green Electron Fizz cocktail, and rock with the "Acorn Electron" written all through it. There were also some Electrons on show! These had a variety of Acornsoft games - some of which like Snapper and Monsters were running noticably slower (see Electron review elsewhere). The interesting thing was that you could use SHIFT-BREAK to load the display machines through an undisclosed and hidden 'file-server', joined through the rear connector.

Unlike the Beeb, the Electron will not be sold on mail order, and dealers are expecting supplies any day now. W.H.Smith, for example, are to sell the Electron in some 200 of their retail outlets. The retail price of the Electron will be £199 inc VAT, though it is suggested that there is room for a downward movement in price to meet competition.

WINCHESTER HARD DISKS FOR THE BEEB

Both GSL and Pace have announced 5.25 inch Winchester hard disc systems for the Beeb. These will allow up to 20 Megabytes and more, of storage on a single disc. Demonstration units were

on show at the Acorn User Exhibition at the end of August, and the units will soon be on sale. The price tag is around £2000, which puts it well outside the budget of most home users!

Further details from:

Pace Supplies Ltd. 0274-729306

GSL Ltd. Ø264-58744

ADVANCED USER GUIDE

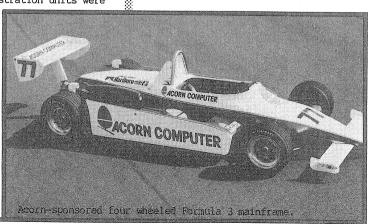
This 500 page manual is published in a similar format to the BBC User quide, costs £12.95. Ιt has independently produced by the Cambridge Microcomputer Centre, though it has Acorn's approval even to the extent of contaning an authorised circuit diagram for the Beeb. From our assessments the book appears to be an invaluable guide covering mainly the operating system, the programmable hardware (ie 6845, video ULA etc) and the assembler. It also contains the most complete list of FX calls that we have seen.

Further details on 0223-355404

DOUBLE DENSITY DISCS

LVL Microsystems and Microware Ltd have announced double density disc controller boards. These boards plug into the socket used by the 8271 disc controller chip, to give a true double facility. density This effectively doubles the on-line capacity of most disc drives, by doubling the number of sectors in each track of a disc. One further advantage is that the scarce 8271 chip, which does not double density, is replaced by more readily available controller chips.

Further details from: LVL on 0602-394000 Microware on 01-272-6237



PRODUCT NEWS PRODUCT NEWS PRODUCT NEWS PRODUCT



NEW 3 INCH DISC UNIT

the interesting One of most developments for some time is the new 3 inch disc unit from AMS. The new unit is very small and compact as might be expected. Each disc is contained in a rigid plastic case, and a sprung metal read/write window cover over the complete provides protection mishandling. The discs should certainly be robust and will be easy to store in this form. Although the disc drives are providing single sided units standard 100k bytes of online disc storage, the discs themselves with A and B sides just double sided,

like a cassette. Each side can store 100k bytes and is inserted with the A or B side uppermost as required. This gives a total storage capacity per disc of 200k bytes. Initial tests by us would indicate that the units reliable in operation and that they are comparable with other disc units for the BBC Micro.

The one problem that we foresee with drives is that compatibility. It is likely to be some considerable time before software houses offer their products on three inch disks, and until then AMS users have to purchase software on cassette, much of which may not be easily transferrable to disc.

The new disc units cost £225 for a single drive and £399 for a double drive, including VAT and delivery in both cases. The price also includes cables, manual and utilities. Discs cost £4.95 each or £22.50 for a pack of

The disc units can be ordered direct from Advanced Memory Systems Woodside Technology Centre, Green Lane, Appleton, Warrington, Cheshire WA4 5NG.

of five character security code.

SECURITY DEVICE FOR YOUR BEEB

You can now fit an EPROM in your BBC Micro which will prevent unauthorised persons from tampering with the machine and will also identify it if it is lost or stolen. The customized EPROM is programmed with your name and address, and also your telephone number, and the machine's serial number if you wish. This information is displayed on the screen when you switch the micro on. Unless you can then type in your personal code the EPROM prevents any further use of the machine. There is of course nothing to prevent the EPROM from being unplugged from the circuit board, but that takes a certain level of know-how, and the time to remove the lid and keyboard. A security conscious owner could always solder in the EPROM. The device costs £15 from Software Services, 65 South Mossley Hill Road, Allerton, Liverpool L19 9BG. You will need to send the full details to be included in your EPROM plus your choice of five character security code.

**MEM OPERATING SYSTEM FROM KENDA*

Kenda Software Services Ltd have produced an alternative disc filing system for the BBC Micro known as the Mighty Oak DMFS. This is quite different in structure from the Acorn DFS, being much more like CP/M, an operating system much used on other microcomputers. Disc storage is allocated dynamically so that both data files and directory can grow as and when required. There are no problems in extending files, as additional disc blocks are allocated from wherever they are available. A further plus point with the Kenda system is that it contains its own 2k bytes of internal RAM and does not require any extra memory space within the micro, unlike the Acorn DFS. We hope to review this in a future issue. The Mighty Oak DMFS is available from Kenda at Nutsey Lane, Totton, Southampton SO4 3NB and costs £79.95 plus VAT.

THE TELETEXT MODE

by Mike Williams

Teletext mode or mode 7 on the Beeb is often overlooked by newcomers, and indeed, by many more expert users. But what other mode offers text and graphics, all sixteen colours, single and double height text and uses only 1k of memory to support the screen image? We begin here a series on how to get the most from mode 7. This first article starts from square one, and covers some of the ground covered in our brief article in Vol.2 No.1. The series will soon progress beyond that point.

When you switch on the BBC micro you are by default in mode 7. It is different from the other 7 modes in many respects. It does not have high resolution graphics capability, or user defined graphics characters, and instructions like MOVE, DRAW, PLOT, COLOUR and GCOL do not apply. However, full colour is available, as is a limited set of pre-defined graphics characters. It may also surprise you to know that the text window facility (see User Guide p.387) functions in mode 7.

COLOURED FOREGROUND

A mode 7 screen consists of 25 lines of 40 characters, numbered 0 to 39 across the screen, and 0 to 24 from top to bottom. If you enter mode 7 (either by switching on the machine, or pressing Break, or typing MODE 7 <return>) any text entered from the keyboard will appear in white on a black background.

Generating coloured text is easy. Type the following instruction into the machine:

PRINT CHR\$129 "BEEBUG" <return>

If you do this you will see the word BEEBUG displayed on the screen in red. Other numbers instead of 129 will produce BEEBUG in different colours as follows:

Value	Colour
129	red
130	green
131	yellow
132	blue
133	magenta
134	cyan
135	white

Try the same instruction with different colours. Now just type in PRINT "BEEBUG"

The word will now appear in white, the default colour for text, but there is a further and important difference between them. The coloured version starts one character in from the left hand side of the screen compared with the last version. This is because the first character position contains a Teletext control character (CHR\$129 etc) which controls the colour of the following text. All the effects that can be produced in mode 7 are defined by these control characters. They each occupy one position on the screen, and can be copied like any other character using the COPY key. Try an experiment. Use the cursor and copy keys to copy one of the coloured versions of the word "BEEBUG". If you start copying from the first letter "B" the word will be copied in white, because you will not have copied the control character. If you move the cursor to apparently blank position preceding that letter and copy that as well as "BEEBUG", then "BEEBUG" will appear in the colour you are copying. You can, of course copy the control character from position and the letters from another. Experimenting like this will help you to understand how the control characters work. Once a character has been placed on a line of the screen, it will affect all further until either another control character or the end of the line is reached. Try typing in the following after clearing the screen with CLS: PRINT CHR\$129"BEEBUG"CHR\$130"MAGAZINE"

On the 1.2 Operating System, you can generate the colour codes by simultaneously pressing Shift and one of the function keys.



Here is a list of effects:

Press Shift and

- fl RED text
- f2 GREEN text
- f3 YELLOW text
- f4 BLUE text
- f5 MAGENTA text
- f6 CYAN text
- f7 WHITE text
- f8 FLASHING text ON
- f9 FLASHING text OFF

Mode 7 provides an easy way to create coloured backgrounds for strings of text. This is achieved using control code 157. The effect of this is to produce a background (one character high) in the current foreground text colour. To illustrate this try the following:

PRINT CHR\$129; CHR\$157; CHR\$132" Blue text on a red background"

The first code generates the colour red, the second makes that the background colour, and the third makes the following text blue. To terminate the background colour after the printed text, add ;CHR\$156. this returns the background to black.

COLOURED SCREEN

Here is a short program which produces a colourful result on the screen:

100 REM Program BEEBUG1

11Ø MODE 7

120 FOR X=0 TO 28 STEP 7

13Ø FOR Y=Ø TO 6

140 PRINT TAB(X,Y)CHR\$(129+Y)"BEEBUG"

15Ø NEXT Y

160 NEXT X

170 END

The (129+Y) in line 140 selects a different colour each time the loop is repeated. Change the step size in line 120 to 5 and rerun the program. Each successive column of words overlaps the previous one but because of the control character at the start of each word there is an apparent space between one column and the next.

Now we know how to produce coloured text, we will look at how we can produce double height text. The control code for this has value 141. Try typing

the following line: PRINT CHR\$141 "BEEBUG" 'CHR\$141 "BEEBUG"

We have "BEEBUG" displayed on the screen in double height characters. It is necessary to print the line of text twice, on both lines to produce double height text. In fact the first printing produces the top half of the double height characters, and the second printing, the bottom half. Double height text can of course be coloured. PRINT CHR\$141 CHR\$129 "BEEBUG" 'CHR\$141 CHR\$129 "BEEBUG"

The top and bottom halves of the double height text can also be in different colours. Try changing the CHR\$129 (in one position only) to a different colour value.

We will now rewrite our program BEEBUG1 to produce double height characters. Here is the new program called BEEBUG2:

100 REM Program BEEBUG2

110 MODE 7

120 FOR X=0 TO 32 STEP 8

13Ø FOR Y=Ø TO 6

14Ø PRINT TAB(X,2*Y)CHR\$141CHR\$(129+Y)"BEEBUG"

145 PRINT TAB(X,2*Y+1)CHR\$141CHR\$(129 +Y)"BEEBUG"

15Ø NEXT Y

160 NEXT X

17Ø END

Each time "BEEBUG" appears, it is preceded on the screen by two blank characters, because of the two control characters, one for double height and one for the colour. This is why line 120 has had to be changed, as the letters of "BEEBUG" plus the two control characters add up to 8. If you change the step size in line 130 from 6 to 5 and the 129 in line 145 to 130 and rerun the program, the top and bottom halves of the double height characters will now be in different colours.

Finally, here is a short program which allows you to list any program in coloured text on the screen.

100 REM Program BEEBUG3

110 MODE 7

12Ø FOR Y=Ø TO 24

130 PRINT TAB(0,Y)CHR\$129;

140 NEXT Y

150 VDU28,1,24,39,0,30

16Ø END

in line 130 could be replaced by any of the colour codes before. The colour control character is placed at the start of every line on the screen and then the text area of the screen is redefined in line 150 to protect the control codes (see user quide). Type the program, run it and then list the program. It will appear in whatever colour you have chosen in line 130. This can also be programmed into a function key.

100 REM Program BEEBUG4 110 *KEYØMO.7:F.Y=ØTO24:P.TAB(Ø,Y)CHR \$129;:N.:V.28,1,24,39,0,30|M 12Ø END

In this program, if you replace the 129 in line 110 by (129+Y MOD 6) you will get rainbow listings.

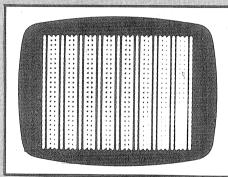
Next month we will look at Teletext graphics. Meanwhile you may like to try codes 136 and 137. These initiate and cancel flashing text (not background).

Tested on O.S. 0.1 and 1.2 and on Basics I and II

FABRIC PATTERNS (16k/32k)

by D J Allom

This short program builds up interesting fabric patterns on the screen. As written, it runs in mode 2 and requires a 32k machine, although by changing to MODE 5 in line 150 and changing the start of line 170 to GCOL3, RND(3), it can be made to run on a 16k machine. Pressing any key while a new pattern is being produced will cause the program to pause when that pattern is complete. Pressing any key a second time will cause the program to continue, changing the pattern yet again.



100 REM Program FABRICS Version 1A

110 REM Author D.J.Allom

120 REM BEEBUG October 1983

130 REM PRESS ANY KEY TO HOLD PATTERN

140 REM THEN ANY KEY TO CONTINUE

150 MODE2: VDU23; 8202; 0; 0; 0;

160 REPEAT

170 GCOL3, RND(7): A%=RND(4)*4

18Ø FORB%=256 TO 1Ø24 STEPRND(4)*8

190 FORC%=224 TO 800STEPA%

200 PLOT69, B%, C%

210 NEXT C% 220 NEXT B%

230 IF NOT INKEY(0) X=GET

240 UNTIL FALSE

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

RECOVERING POORLY RECORDED WORDWISE FILES - P.Ells

If you suffer from cassette problems then you should always save files twice. If this is done then you can recover a difficult program by loading most of it from one copy and the difficult blocks from the other one. This is rather tedious but more interesting than re-typing a big file.

Unfortunately Wordwise does not allow these 're-tries' with cassettes as it stops loading whenever there is an error. To get around this use *LOAD "" E00 to load *the file (from Basic). Get the file in memory properly and then re-save it with *SAVE "name" E00 +length, length being given as a 4 digit hex number after the last block of the load. This gives another copy of the file to attempt to load into Wordwise.

LOCAL ARRAY ELEMENTS - N.Kelly and B.Knott

To use arrays locally in a procedure define the array globally and use a FOR NEXT loop to declare each individual element LOCAL.

ested on Basics I and II III 456789

A VERSATILE RENUMBER PROGRAM (16k/32k)

by G & L Pettit

G.& L.Pettit describe a useful utility program which allows selective renumbering of Basic programs. It will work on a model A or B, but on a model A the length of the program to be renumbered is resticted to around 4k.

The RENUMBER command in BBC Basic is limited in its usefulness when falls into one of several common categories - for instance, when using procedure or subroutine libraries as an addition to a master program. These master programs will inevitably be of different lengths and, if the RENUMBER command is used on resulting total programs, the line numbers of the procedures will differ from one program to the next. This makes recognition of the procedures difficult; if subroutine libraries are used, when a subroutine is known only by a line number and not by name, recognition is impossible Also, many program renumbering. standards require that each program include initial REMs containing dates, author's name, peripherals required, algorithms employed, etc. Since no two programs will have identical REMs, the main program will start at different line numbers if blanket renumbering is used.

It is to cater for these and other situations, where selective renumbering is to the programmer's and end-user's advantage, that the Selective Renumber program has been written. It allows renumbering of the leading statements only, of a portion of the middle of the coding, or of the end statements only. The new starting line number and the increment (applied to renumbered lines only) are specified by the user and the program will inform him if there is any overlap between existing line numbers and the new ones BEFORE renumbering takes place. The user may therefore withdraw from an overlap situation and re-specify the before any confusion parameters, occurs.

Although line numbers in REMs are not altered, line numbers in all other

statements will be changed, including calls from the non-renumbered statements. Thus if subroutines are being renumbered, calls from the main program are changed to match, or if only a part of the main program is being renumbered, the GOTOS or RESTORES in the rest of the main program will be changed if necessary.

PROGRAM OPERATION

First type in the selective renumber program and SAVE on disc or cassette in the usual way. To use the program, load the Basic program to be renumbered, as normal, then type

PAGE=TOP+&100 LOAD"RENUM" RUN

This procedure will prevent the renumber program over-writing the user's program, assuming this is already resident in memory at &EØØ (if using tape) or at &1900 (if using discs). The value TOP+&100 has been chosen so that the renumber program is loaded in at the next page in memory, thus giving the maximum space for work.

When Selective Renumber is run, the program will first check that the user's program has been loaded. If not, an error message is displayed and the Renumber program will stop, to allow the user to reset PAGE to &E00 (or &1900), to load his program and to reset PAGE again to TOP+%100. When RUN is typed, a message requests the range of line numbers to be renumbered. This may be answered by

, nnn for all lines up to nnn,
mmm , nnn for all lines between mmm
and nnn inclusive, or
mmm , for all lines from mmm
onwards.

The program will next request the new initial line number and new increment, for the section to be renumbered. If the resulting line numbers would conflict unchanged numbers, a message will ask the user if he wants to abandon renumbering. Ιf he abandons, his program will be unaltered, otherwise the renumbering will be carried out without further messages. At the of the run, the user must return PAGE its original value by typing PAGE=&E00 (tape) or PAGE=&1900 (disc) before listing his program.

Finally, when running the program, please note that it takes appreciable time to renumber even a small part of a long program. Don't be impatient, just be thankful you're not having to edit all the line numbers on the screen - and go and file your letters or read BEEBUG. while your micro does the job for you. You won't use this program every few minutes, but when you get in a tight corner with line numbers, and you can't use the BBC RENUMBER command, this may get you back into production again.

VARIABLES USED

The array E% contains the line numbers of the original program, and the array F% contains the equivalent line numbers in the renumbered portion of the program. Initially, all elements of F% are set to -1 and this is used as an indication of the renumbered range.

N% is PAGE for the program to be renumbered

L% is the total no. of lines in the program.

G% is the first line to be renumbered. H% is the last line to be renumbered.

D% is the new starting line number of the renumbered part.

M% is the increment of the line numbers in the renumbered part.

P% counts the lines as they are renumbered.

```
100 REM Program RENUM Version 1A
```

- 110 REM Authors G & L Pettit
- TIV KEN AUCHOLS G & L PECCIC
- 120 REM BEEBUG October 1983 170 N%=&E00:REM This is for tape. For
- disc, N%=&1900
- 180 MODE7:PRINTTAB(6,2)"SELECTIVE REN UMBER PROGRAM"
 - 190 PROClines
 - 200 DIME% (L%) ,F% (L%)
 - 210 PROColdlines
 - 220 PROCnewlines
 - 230 PROCtest 240 PROCline ren
 - 250 PROCINGII
 - 260 PRINT"Time = "TIME DIV100" secs"
 - 27Ø END
 - 28Ø :
 - 290 DEFPROClines
 - 300 finish=FALSE:L%=0:C%=N%
 - 310 REPEAT
 - 32Ø IF?(C%+1)=&FF finish=TRUE:GOTO34Ø
 - 330 C%=?(C%+3)+C%:L%=L%+1
 - 340 UNTILfinish
 - 35Ø ENDPROC
 - 36Ø:
 - 370 DEFPROColdlines
 - 38Ø C%=N%
 - 390 FORI%=1TOL%
 - 400 E%(I%)=(?(C%+1))*256+?(C%+2)
 - 410 C%=C%+? (C%+3)
 - 420 NEXT
 - 43Ø ENDPROC

440 :

- 450 DEFPROCnewlines
- 46Ø FORI%=|TOL%:F%(I%)=-|:NEXT
- 470 N\$="***Must be numbers***"

480 PRINT'"Give line numbers of first and last"'"lines to be renumbered."''"
Use the format e.g. 100,250"

490 INPUT" or $\,$,250 (renumbers up to line 250)"" or $100\,$, (ditto from lin

e 250 to end) "',G\$,H\$

500 IFASCG\$=-1 G%=0:GOTO520

510 G%=VALG\$:IFG%=0ANDG\$<>"0"PRINT"N\$:GOTO480

- 520 IFASCH\$=-1 H%=E%(L%):GOTO540
- 530 H%=VALH\$:IFH%=0PRINT'N\$:GOTO480
- 540 INPUT'"Give new line number for first line and increments (e.g.200,10) "D\$.M\$
- 550 D%=VALD\$:M%=VALM\$:IFD%=0ORM%=0PRINT'N\$:GOTO540
 - 560 P%=0:TIME=0
 - 570 PRINT'"Delay for processing"
 - 58Ø FORI%=1TOL%
 - 590 IFG%>E%(I%) THENY%=E%(I%):GOTO630
 - 600 IFH%<E%(I%)GOTO630
 - 61Ø Z%=I%
 - 62Ø F%(I%)=D%+M%*P%:P%=P%+1
 - 630 NEXT
 - 64Ø P%=D%+M%*(P%-1)
 - 65Ø ENDPROC
 - 66Ø :
 - 670 DEFPROCtest

```
1080 IF ?(C%+1)=&FF finish=TRUE:GOTO11
 680 clash=FALSE
 69Ø FORI%=1TOL%
                                             1090 C%=C%+4
  700 Q%=F%(I%):IFQ%=-1GOTO750
                                             1100 UNTIL finish
  710 FORJ%=1TOL%
                                             1110 ENDPROC
  72Ø IFQ%<E%(J%) J%=L%:GOTO74Ø
  730 IFQ%=E%(J%) PROCclash
                                             1120:
                                             1130 DEFPROCsub
  740 NEXT
                                             1140 C%=C%+1:B%=?C%:IFB%=&20 ORB%=&E5
  75Ø NEXT
  760 IF(Z%+1)>L% Z%=L%-1
                                            GOTO1140
  770 IFD%<=Y% PRINT""Your ranges overl
                                              115Ø IFB%<>&8DGOTO135Ø
                                              1160 C%=C%+1:U%=0
ap!":clash=TRUE
  78Ø IF(Z%+1)>L% OR D%>E%(L%) GOTO8ØØ
                                              117Ø R%=?C%:S%=?(C%+1):T%=?(C%+2)
  790 IFP%>=E%(Z%+1) PRINT'"Your ranges
                                              118Ø S%=S%-&4Ø
                                              1190 T%=(T%-&40)*256
 overlap!":clash=TRUE
  800 IF clash INPUT'"Do you want to go
                                              1200 IFR%MOD&10=0 U%=16384:R%=R%+&4
 on (Y or N) "A$:IFA$<>"Y"ANDA$<>"y" EN
                                              1210 IFR%=&54 R%=0:GOTO1250
D
                                              1220 IFR%=&44 R%=64:GOTO1250
  810 ENDPROC
                                              123Ø IFR%=&74 R%=128:GOTO125Ø
  820 :
                                              1240 TFR%=&64 R%=192
  830 DEFPROCclash
                                              1250 O%=U%+R%+S%+T%
  840 IFO%<G% OR Q%>H% PRINT"Clash in 1
                                              1260 FORI%=1TOL%
ine ";Q%:clash=TRUE
                                              127Ø IFE%(I%)<>0%GOTO131Ø
  850 ENDPROC
                                              1280 IFF%(I%)=-1:GOTO1300
  860:
                                              1290 PROCinsert
                                              1300 I%=L%
  870 DEFPROCline ren
                                              131Ø NEXT
  880 C%=N%
  890 FORI%=1TOL%:F%=F%(I%)
                                              132Ø C%=C%+2
  900 IFF%=-1GOTO930
                                              1330 B%=?(C%+1):IFB%=&20 C%=C%+1:GOTO1
  91Ø ?(C%+1)=F%DIV256
                                              1340 IFB%=&2C C%=C%+1:GOTO1140
  92Ø ?(C%+2)=F%MOD256
  930 C%=C%+?(C%+3)
                                              135Ø ENDPROC
  940 NEXT
                                              1360 :
  95Ø ENDPROC
                                              137Ø DEFPROCinsert
  960:
                                              138Ø U%=F%(I%)
  970 DEFPROCinfill
                                              1390 V%=U% DIV&4000
  980 finish=FALSE
                                              1400 W%=U% MOD&4000
  99Ø C%=N%
                                              1410 S%=W% MOD64+&40
                                              1420 T%=W% DIV256+&40
 1000 REPEAT
                                              143Ø U%=W% MOD256
  1010 B%=?C%:IFB%=&20 C%=C%+1:GOTO1010
 1020 IFB%=13GOTO1080
                                              1440 W%=U% DIV64
  1030 IFB%=&22REPEATC%=C%+1:B%=?C%:UNTI
                                              1450 IFW%=1 W%=-&10:GOTO1480
                                              1460 IFW%=2 W%=&20:GOTO1480
LB%=&22:C%=C%+1:GOTO1Ø1Ø
                                              1470 IFW%=3 W%=&10
  1040 IFB%<&8B GOTO1060
  1050 IFB%=&8B OR B%=&8C OR B%=&E4 OR B
                                              1480 R%=W%+&54-4*V%
 %=&E5 OR B%=&F7 PROCsub
                                              149Ø ?C%=R%:?(C%+1)=S%:?(C%+2)=T%
  1060 C%=C%+1:GOTO1100
                                              1500 ENDPROC
  1070 PRINT~R%,~S%,~T%
```

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

AUTO VERSION NUMBERING - J.P. Carnell

When developing a program it makes sense to save each new version of it under a new filename. This can be achieved automatically as follows.

First, let $Z\$=\emptyset$, then program $f\emptyset$: *KEY0,Z\$=Z\$+1|MSAVE"PROG"+STR\$(Z\$)|M When you wish to save the new version press $f\emptyset$. This will save it as PROG1, PROG2 etc, with each subsequent depression of $f\emptyset$. The resident integer variables must be used for this purpose as they are retained during program editing. Take care also not to use the variable Z\$ anywhere in the program.



THE ACORN ELECTRON REVIEWED

by David Graham

The Acorn Electron has been officially launched, and indications are that it will prove to be a popular machine. As we suggest in our editorial, we shall not be covering the Electron in BEEBUG Magazine — We have begun a separate user group for that machine, with its own dedicated magazine ORBIT. However, we feel that BBC users will be interested to hear how the Electron measures up to the Beeb.

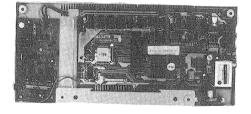


introduces fully structured programming right from the start. In the first chapter it introduces the PRINT statement alongside PROC and ENDPROC. Procedures are fundamental to structured Basic, and it is nice to see them being introduced in this way. My one serious reservation about this book is again its lack of index in the release version.

First of all, it looks as though the supply difficulties encountered by early BBC users will not be repeated with the Electron. Our review machine was a production model, and this is a sign, it suggests that as production lines have been gearing up since well before the launch. In other ways too, Acorn have learned from their experiences with the Beeb. packaging has been packaging has been well thought through, and the documentation is far better than that received by early Beeb owners.

ELECTRON PACK

Apart from the machine itself, the pack contains a large moulded plug with built-in transformer, a UHF TV lead, a 'Welcome' cassette, and two books. One of these is a manual, very similar in size to the Beeb manual. This is well planned, with a detailed list contents. A strong minus point is its lack of index, and we would urge Acorn to append an index to the release version of the manual. The second book 'Start Programming with the Electron' Masoud Yazdani (published Addison-Wesley) is an admirable introductory text. What is impressive about it is that



MACHINE HARDWARE

The machine is well constructed, and has a good feel to it. It has a compressed BBC keyboard (56 keys). There are no red function keys, but the user-defined keys are still implemented (press FUNC and one of the number keys simultaneously). When used with the alpha keys, the FUNC key allows direct entry of most Basic keywords. This is a useful facility implemented by the Electron's operating system.

One way in which the Electron contrasts sharply with the Beeb is that it has only six connections with the outside world, whereas the model B positively bristles with connectors of various kinds. Somewhat unexpectedly, three of the Electron's sockets are for

the visual display (UHF, video and RGB). This leaves the power input socket, a cassette socket (with motor control), and an edge connector to be used with external interfaces.

Acorn have a number of planned add-ons to upgrade the Electron to almost a model B and beyond, but these will not be available for several months.

INNARDS

Internally the Electron has a higher discrete component count than might be expected in a budget machine. There are two printed circuit boards - the power supply circuitry is separate from the main board, as on the BBC. The main is dominated by a large board square-format ULA chip, and alongside this a 6502A, a Basic ROM (the same as the Beeb's Basic II), a 16k Eprom containing the operating system, and four 64k bit dynamic memory chips. The Electron uses these as if they were eight 32 bit memories, though there is some loss of speed involved in the process. The Electron thus has 32k of RAM, and since PAGE is set to &E00 (as on the BBC micro) the user is left with 17.75k of free memory in mode 6. In mode 2 this falls to a very small 5.75k (as with the Beeb), leaving precious little memory for program storage, and no immediate hope of an add-on second processor to improve things.

MISSING PARTS

Severe economies have been made in whittling the model B down to Electron, yet these economies have been intelligently made, with only limited loss of facilities. Thus although there is no 6845 video controller chip, many of its functions are carried out in software. What the software cannot achieve is the very fast hardware scrolling on the Beeb, and together with the hardware sideways scroll have disappeared. Similarly with and ENVELOPE commands; the SOUND software has taken over some of the functions carried out in hardware, sound channels and one two envelope are available on the Electron, and the envelope lacks the last six parameters.

The most noticeable 'missing part' of the Beeb is the Teletext mode hardware. The Electron has no mode 7. Modes \emptyset to 6 are all implemented exactly as on the Beeb, and calling MODE 7 defaults to mode 6, the start-up mode. The loss of mode 7 is a great pity for a number of reasons. It is both an economical and interesting mode, and moreover brings compatibility with viewdata systems. Its exclusion on financial grounds is fully appreciated of course. Without mode 7, the most economical mode is 6, but this takes 7k more memory than mode 7, and does not allow multicolour screens. We would add that one of the advantages of not covering the Electron in BEEBUG is that we can continue fully to support the use of mode 7 in our programs; without the disincentive of having to alternative versions each time that we carry a program using mode 7.

SPEED LOSS

Generally speaking the Electron makes up for missing hardware incorporating extra software routines in the operating system to perform the function. The inevitable consequence of this approach is loss of speed. This is most noticeable in the Electron's screen handling in higher resolution graphics modes. it is not only the act of changing the display which is time intensive, even supporting the display takes extra For example, if the program TIMETEST is run on a BBC, the printed result is 476 (representing a time of 4.76 seconds to perform the calculation of the sine two hundred times). This timing is, as we would expect, quite independent of the screen mode in use.

10 REM TIME TEST
20 TIME=0
30 FOR A%=1 TO 200
40 X=SIN(12)
50 NEXT
60 PRINT TIME

Running the same program on the Electron gives a result of 558 when the screen is in mode 6, and a massive 1176 in mode 0. This single test suggests that the Electron can approach the calculating speed of the Beeb providing that the central processor (6502) is

not given too much other work to Programs which make use of the higher modes will have to get around this in other ways. In some cases it may be possible to do the bul k of processing while in mode 6, and then change to a higher mode to display the Machine code action games results. using mode 2 for example will need a certain amount of rewriting to speed them up.

THE COMPETITION

This review has been presented in of a comparison between the Electron and the BBC micro. Potential purchasers of the Electron generally not be making comparisons because the two machines are in quite different price brackets even more so since the phasing out of the model A. The Electron's competition will be from machines such as the Spectrum, the Dragon and the VIC-20.

Broadly speaking the Electron compares extremely favourably with offering a combination of excellent text and graphics, two-channel sound, and a full typewriter keyboard. The promised add-ons should prove to be a further incentive in favour of this well designed successor the the BBC micro.

The Electron lacks the following features of a model B: Printer port RS 423 Analogue port User port 1 MHz bus Tube Paged ROM sockets Mode 7 Full SOUND and ENVELOPE (reduced implementation only)

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

CHARACTER SET DEFINITIONS - P.R. Eggleton, Andrew Armstrong, Matthew Rapier Redefining characters other than those above the normal character set has some very strange effects. There is only room to store 1 block of 32 characters as soft characters at any one time. The first character you define appears to set which block of 32 characters is to be the re-definable one, and this works well, copying the existing character definitions into the soft space and re-defining as required. The problems come when you define a character in a different block. This results in all the characters in that block being copied into the soft space and the character being re-defined, but the ASCII codes which generate these characters are the ones the first definition. This is not really a bug as you are not supposed to try and define characters in different 32 byte blocks.

The correct method which does actually work is to use *FX20,n where 'n' number of 32 character blocks which you wish to use for soft character definitions. Thus *FX20,1 allows one any of the characters in one 32 character block to be re-defined, and *FX20,3 allows characters in any three 32 character blocks to be re-defined. For maximum flexibility set *FX20,7 which allows all printable characters to be re-defined.

Whenever *FX20 is issued all previously defined characters are re-set to their default values - recovering from wrong definitions. It is necessary to increase PAGE when using Basic programs to allow for the extra memory used by the soft character definitions. OSHWM is reset as needed.

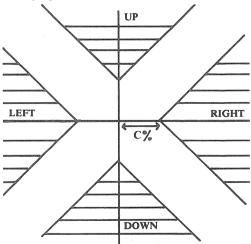
A simple method for setting PAGE correctly is to type: *FX20,n *BASIC



Tested on Basics 1 and 11.2 by D H Moncur and D Earlam

Joysticks are not normally consistent in their responses, that is; the position where you suddenly change from level flight to a nose dive is generally not the same on every joystick.

This program allows you to choose where the positions left, right, up and down are recognised, and so control the sensitivity of movement in a particular direction. This can then compensate for any tendency to e.g. veer left, and also provides a means of using joysticks with any program requiring non-proportional directional control.



You can also, of course, disorientate other players by swapping the directions from their logical North, South, East, West = Up, Down, Right, Left convention.

RUNNING THE PROGRAM

Setting up the joystick entails first moving the lever to the centre position and signifying this with the FIRE button. You will then have to move the lever in each of the four prompted directions and press the FIRE button at the point from where you wish that direction to be sensed. When all four directions are set up, the program will print the direction of the joystick, as

it is moved, until the space bar is hit. S% gives a perpendicular tolerance either side of each direction. This may be altered.

To use these routines in your own programs first call PROCsetupjoystick and then call FNjoystickposition each time you wish to determine the state of the joystick. If FNjoystickposition = "RIGHT" then it is to the right, and so on. Your program must of course contain those definitions listed at line 1000 onwards.

- 10 REM CUSTOMIZE JOYSTICK
- 20 REM version 1A
- 30 REM D.H.Moncur and D.Earlam
- 40 MODE 7
- 50 VDU23;8202;0;0;0;
- 60 PROCsetupjoystick
- 70 REPEAT
- 80 PRINTTAB(16,12) FNjoystickposition
- 90 UNTIL INKEY-99
- 100 END
- 11Ø:
- 1000 DEF PROCsetupjoystick
- 1010 DIM X(5),Y(5)
- 1020 PRINT"CENTRE?"
- 1030 REPEAT: CENTX=ADVAL(1): CENTY=ADVAL
- (2):UNTIL (ADVAL(\emptyset) AND 3)=1
- 1040 FOR DIR=1 TO 4
- 1050 FORQ=1 TO 1000:NEXT
- 1060 IF DIR=1 DS="UP"
- 1070 IF DIR=2 D\$="DOWN"
- 1080 IF DIR=3 D\$="LEFT"
- 1090 IF DIR=4 DS="RIGHT"
- 1100 PRINTD\$"?"
- 1110 REPEAT:X(DIR)=ADVAL(1):Y(DIR)=ADV
- $AL(2):UNTIL(ADVAL(\emptyset) AND 3)=1$
 - 1120 NEXT:CLS
 - 113Ø ENDPROC
 - 114Ø:
- 1150 DEF FNjoystickposition
- 1160 JP\$="CENTRE":S%=10000
- 1170 X=ADVAL(1):Y=ADVAL(2)
- 1180 IF X<=X(4) AND ABS(CENTY-Y)<S%°JP \$="RIGHT"
- 1190 IF X>=X(3) AND ABS(CENTY-Y)<S% JP S="LEFT"
- 1200 IF Y>=Y(1) AND ABS(CENTX-X)<S% JP
- \$="UP "
 1210 IF Y<=Y(2) AND ABS(CENTX-X)<S% JP
 \$="DOWN "
- 1220 =JP\$

COMPILERS AND INTERPRETERS EXPLAINED

by Sheridan Williams

Why is machine code faster than Basic? What is the difference between a Basic Interpreter and a Basic Compiler? - Sheridan explains.

A program written on the Beeb in Basic runs very slowly compared with a program that performs an identical task written in machine code. This should easier to understand once you realise that the computer's natural language is a succession of binary codes - or machine code. The computer needs to look up each Basic keyword in a table to find the address of the machine code to execute. Algebraic expressions need to be 'parsed' to the order in which each determine performed. operation can be example, in 2*(3+4) the '+' must be executed before the '*'. A good analogy can be made by assuming that you (a person who only speaks English) are given a set of instructions written entirely in French. It will take you to carry out those longer instructions because you have to find interpreter to translate You could instructions for you. perform the translation yourself if you had a French-English dictionary, and a on French grammar. When the book computer translates from Basic into machine code it too needs a dictionary and a set of rules. The computer's dictionary and rules come in two forms - an 'Interpreter' or a 'Compiler'. The Beeb's Basic Interpreter is already built in, and when you type RUN the majority of time that the computer is working, it is actually looking up the Basic keywords in a table and parsing expressions.

One of the time consuming things about an interpreter is that it interprets every statement each time it encounters it, so if the program is in a loop it may repeat the interpretation dozens of times. Returning to our

analogy, if we need to use our instructions on several occasions, it will be much quicker to have them translated into English once and for all (like a compiler) rather than to use an interpreter each time. One of the advantages, however, is that it does not require much spare memory to carry out the process, as it only needs to remember the line currently being worked on. An interpreter also makes the language easy to use interactively, as changes to the program are easily made and tested.

A 'Compiler' on the other hand will take the whole program and translate it into machine code in one go before the program is run. This means that the compiling process can be performed separately from the running of the program, and need not detract from the running time. However, a compiler needs a relatively large amount of memory, or a disc system to perform the compilation, so that it can hold both 'source' program (the original Basic program) and also the 'object' program (the equivalent machine code program). The great advantage of a compiler is the speed of execution of the resulting machine code program. This could be as much as 30 times faster than an interpreted program, though a program written directly in machine code might be twice as fast again, if well written. The source program is no longer needed for running purposes, and does not need to reside the computer. This offers the advantage of protection for the author, as the machine code is unintelligible to most people, but the disadvantage is that changes require not only editing, but re-compilation as well.

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

SINGLE KEY PROGRAM SAVING - Anthony Stone
Use *KEYØ, SAVE \$ (PAGE+5) | M

This requires the first line of the program to contain 10REMNAME where NAME is the program name.

Thus the function key will save the program under the name given as its first line. 📟

THE RUSTON COMPILER REVIEWED

by Sheridan Williams

Product: Instant BBC Machine Code

By: Jeremy Ruston

Supplier: INTERFACE, 44-46 Earls Court

Rd, London, W8 6EJ

Price: £34.95 inc VAT

This review is based on tests of the compiler carried out at BEEBUG, but also includes the comments sent in by several members who have purchased the compiler. In particular I would like to thank Philip Morris, Koenraad Rutgers and Trevor Baker.

This compiler is written in Basic, and is unusual, compared with others that I have used, in that it only supports a limited subset of BBC Basic. The instructions supported are: LET CLS CLG COLOUR MODE DRAW MOVE END GCOL GOTO GOSUB IF...THEN...[ELSE] OFF PLOT PRINT REM RETURN SOUND VDU FOR...NEXT REPEAT...UNTIL INPUT *FX CALL.

The functions supported are: ADVAL INKEY RND TAB(x_iy).

Operators are: + * - AND, OR, # (meaning not equal to), and the square brackets.

Variables allowed are A%-Z% (or A-Z) and only integer arithmetic is supported. You should also be aware that some of the instructions are used in slightly different ways to normal.

Ruston also says that programs should be written with the compiler in mind, rather than developing them in ordinary BBC Basic and then converting them for compilation afterwards. is sound advice in this case, but only because of the limitations of It is true that most Basic compiler. compilers require a few changes to be to the program that runs in interpreted mode, but using compiler, programs require a major This could probably rewrite. tolerated in a compiler costing less than £10.

Ruston's compiler, although missing many of BBC Basic's standard features, has a feature called "Sprites": to quote from the book:

"These new statements only work in MODE 4.... Sprites are objects defined on an 8x8 grid - exactly like the user-defined graphics you are used to. The difference being that sprites can be moved around the screen without disturbing what is on the screen already." This could be useful in a games context.

The compiler uses large amounts of memory, (which is understandable,) and makes compiling programs in memory impossible for all but the shortest. In reality compilation must be done from disc/cassette. The compiler is a "three pass" compiler, and requires the file to be read three times, on disc this is no problem, but from cassette it requires rewinding the cassette three times.

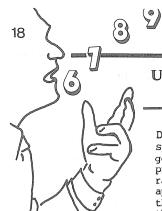
The manual is cheaply produced using print from a matrix printer, it is accurate and fairly easy to follow. There is also a listing of the compiler; using this it is possible to reduce the length of the compiler (by removing redundant lines, REMs, and unnecessary spaces). This makes it possible to compile far larger programs in memory.

CONCLUSION

The compiler works well and produces quite fast running object code, which typically runs between 5 and 8 times faster. On the whole it is a rather expensive piece of software, the price means that it is for specialists only; and my impression is that it is far too expensive for the limited subset of BBC Basic that it supports.

We should also point out that Interface require royalties on any program developed using this compiler.

[This sounds rather like a piano maker wanting a royalty on every piece of music composed on his pianos! - Ed.]



USING THE SPEECH SYNTHESISER (16k)

by David Graham

David Graham describes two routines for calling the speech synthesizer from Basic. The first is a simple method of generating a string of spoken words. The second is a set of procedures which can produce spoken numerical output in the range -999999 to +999999. This latter task, which has applications in speaking clocks, spoken games scores and in the educational field is not as easy as it might first be thought.

SPEAKING PHRASES

As suggested in our review of the Acorn speech upgrade (BEEBUG Vol.2 No.3 P.14), the speech synthesiser can be called up either from machine code (using OSBYTE and OSWORD calls) or direct from Basic using variants of the SOUND command. The simplest Basic call takes the form:

SOUND -1,N,Ø,Ø

The -| indicates that the call is to the speech synthesiser, and that the vocabulary is in PHROM A (ie PHrase ROM A). The manual details this more fully.

If you want to produce a string of words - or a number of strings, then a routine of the following kind may prove to be useful. This one speaks the words: "Press any key to start".

100 READ T

110 FOR A = 1 TO T

120 READ N

130 SOUND -1,N,0,0

140 NEXT

150 DATA 5,246,168,212,50,260

The word codes for the words to be spoken (obtained from the speech system user guide) are held in the data statement at the end. The first item (read in as T) is the total number of words that are to be spoken together. Any combination of words and numbers can be strung together in this way, and you can insert a pause with Data of the value 127.

SPEAKING NUMBERS

Making the speech unit count, or speak numbers chosen at will, is somewhat more difficult. The problem arises because a routine is required to recreate any given number in exactly the way in which it is spoken. for example the number 21119. It is fairly easy to make the machine give the number as Two One One One Nine. But this is somewhat uninspiring, all the facilities exist to speak the number as we normally speak it. To routine would be achieve this а required to add the following pieces together: TWEN TY ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND NINE TEEN.

The series of procedures below from line 1000 onward achieves this for numbers between -999999 and + The main procedure PROCspeaknumber (N) is used conjunction with a set of other procedures which handle the ranges of numbers indicated in their procedure names. If a number is out of range, you will be told so verbally. present there is no facility treating decimals, but this would be an easy addition, since these are spoken as a series of straight digits (eg - say to yourself 118.118).

As an example of its use the procedures are preceded by a 5 line program which repeatedly calls the procedure PROCspeaknumber to count from Ø to 999999. As you can see, PROCspeaknumber is called with a single parameter (N). This is the number to be spoken.

1210 RESTORE: FORA=1 TO 5 In more interesting applications, 1220 READ word the Beeb's TIME function could be used 1230 PROCspeak (word) а speaking clock, or 1240 NEXT PROCspeaknumber could be called to give 125Ø ENDPROC scores in a game or to set and answer 1260: arithmetic problems in an educational 1270 DATA 229,127,143,127,214 program. 1280 : 1290 DEFPROCunits(N) 10 REM COUNTING ALOUD 1300 PROCspeak (N+48) 20 REM Version 1.1A 131Ø ENDPROC 30 REM David Graham 1320 : 40 REM THE 5 LINES BELOW 1330 DEFPROCtentotwelve(N) 5Ø REM DEMONSTRATE THE 1340 IF N=10 N=264 60 REM PROCEDURE 1350 IF N=11 N=190 70 : 1360 IF N=12 N=273 80 FORN=1 TO 1000000 1370 PROCspeak(N) 90 PROCspeaknumber(N) 138Ø ENDPROC 100 PROCspeak (127) 1390: 110 NEXT 1400 DEFPROCteens(N) 12Ø END 1410 PROCspeak (2*N+120) 130 : 1420 PROCspeak (135) 1000 DEFPROCspeaknumber (N) 143Ø ENDPROC 1010 IF N<0 PROCnegative(N):N=ABS(N) 1440 : 1020 IF N<10 PROCunits(N) 1450 DEFPROCtens(N) 1030 IF N>=10 AND N<13 PROCtentotwelve 1460 PROCspeak ((N DIV 10) *2+140) (N) 1470 PROCspeak (137) 1040 IF N>=13 AND N<20 PROCteens(N) 1480 IF N MOD 10>0 PROCunits(N MOD 10) 1050 IF N>=20 AND N<100 PROCtens(N) 1490 ENDPROC 1060 IF N>=100 AND N<1000 PROChundreds 1500: 1510 DEFPROChundreds(N) 1070 IF N>=1000 AND N<1E6 PROCthousand 1520 PROCunits(N DIV 100) s(N) 1530 PROCspeak (140) 1080 IF N>=1E6 PROCoutofrange 1540 IF N MOD 100<>0 THEN PROCspeak(97) 1090 ENDPROC 1550 IF N MOD 100<>0 PROCspeaknumber(N 1100: MOD 100) 1110 DEFPROCSpeak(P) 156Ø ENDPROC 1120 SOUND-1,P,0,0 157Ø: 1130 ENDPROC 1580 DEFPROCthousands(N) 1140: 1590 PROCspeaknumber (N DIV 1000) 1150 DEFPROChegative(N) 1600 PROCspeak (44) 1160 PROCspeak (219) 1610 IF N MOD 1000>0 AND N MOD 1000<10 1170 PROCspeak (127) Ø PROCspeak (97) 1180 ENDPROC 1620 IF N MOD 1000<>0 PROCspeaknumber(1190: N MOD 1000)

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

163Ø ENDPROC

A VISUAL VERIFY - R.D. Smith

1200 DEFPROCoutofrange

Rather than use the *LOAD "" 8000 to verify a program or data file, ar interesting alternative is

MODE 1

*LOAD "" 4400

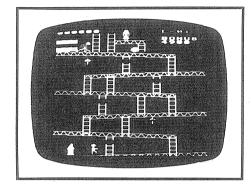
(Note that when using discs the quotes should contain the appropriate file name.) The result is colourful, and gives a visual indication of the file length.



Alan Webster reviews a new batch of games, and finds them all to be above average.

Name : Killer Gorilla Supplier: Program Power Price : £7.95 inc. VAT

Rating : ****



Killer Gorilla is a very well written version of the arcade game Krazy Kong. Having only watched the arcade game and not played it, I found the game both compelling and difficult.

The game revolves around trying to rescue a maiden from the reaches of a gorilla, and to do this you have to negotiate a series of ladders, conveyor belts and walkways whilst trying to avoid the fireballs, barrels and many other objects.

There are four different screens in all, and after completing the fourth screen the game restarts but is a little different than before.

As an avid games player I would strongly recommend this game to anyone (although the key layout requires 3 hands!) because at its low price it is certainly excellent value for money.

Name : Swoop

Supplier: Program Power Price : £7.95 inc. VAT

Rating : ***

Swoop is yet another cross-version of Space Invaders / Galaxians, but better than most versions around. Rolling two games into one always seems a good idea, but very rarely pays off.

In Swoop you have to shoot the aliens who move across the screen Invaders style. Then one breaks off and 'Swoops' down to bombard your base. If the alien misses, it plants an 'egg' which restricts the movement of your base as you cannot cross over these eggs. After a short time the eggs explode.

Although not one of the most exciting games, it is certainly hard, and good value for money.

Name : Android Attack Supplier: Computer Concepts Price : £8.95 inc. VAT

Rating : ****

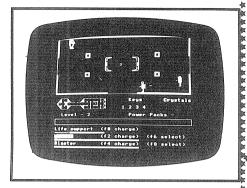
Android Attack is an very well written game and is very difficult to play. It requires great dexterity and quick thought and must be ranked amongst the hardest games around, especially at skill level 19. There are so many different features of this game that there is just not enough space to describe them all, and the number of different characters to be found in the game (I don't know if I even found them all) is quite astonishing.

The game involves the player's man (and it looks realistic) running around a maze shooting at different types of android, whose graphic representation is stunning. The player must shoot or blow up the androids to stand any chance of winning. A high quality game worthy of any games library.



Name : Space Adventure Supplier: Virgin Games Price : £7.95 inc. VAT

Rating : ****



This is an 87 room adventure with a difference. It is entirely in animated graphics. The game involves you trying to find four crystals inside a deserted space ship. These crystals are hidden behind four locked doors, the keys to which are strewn around the ship.

Your progress is repeatedly hampered by androids who shoot to kill you. If you are not careful your life support system will become drained and you will die. You can however shoot back at the androids with blasters and phasers, but these too have a limited supply of power.

Randomly positioned around the ship are power-packs which can be used to re-charge either your life support system, your blaster or your phaser.

Overall, an excellent game, with the smoothest graphics I have ever seen; and a very good cassette from this new software company, a subsidury of Virgin Records.

Name : Moonraider Supplier: Program Power Price : £7.95 inc. VAT

Rating : ****

At last, a comparable 'Scramble' game to that of Acornsoft's Rocket Raid. Moonraider has some good colourful graphics, and is a smooth, fast free-flowing game. Unlike Rocket Raid, you can choose which section of the game to start on, and you can also choose the difficulty. A nice touch is added at the end with the inclusion of a smiling face. Because the game is inexpensive and very good, I might be tempted to place this above Rocket Raid as the top Scramble game.

Name : Starship Command Supplier: Acornsoft Price : £9.95 inc. VAT

Rating : ****

Starship Command is a 'Star-Trek' type game with a difference. It is also a full graphics game in which you have to pilot a succession of spaceships through space in order to obtain points. You collect points by killing enemy ships which hover around you menacingly. The game is one of the best 'non-arcade' style games that Acornsoft produce, and is well worth buying, as the graphics, speed, and on-screen presentation are very near perfect.

The only drawback (there has to be one!) is that there are more controls than you have fingers.

SPECIAL OFFER

We have been able to arrange special offers for members on the best of the above games reviewed in this issue. Details of the offer will be found elsewhere in the magazine. We hope to make this a regular feature of software reviewed by BEEBUG.

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

AT.

COUNT - Peter Lusmore

The COUNT value is only incremented when Basic is used to print. If output is occurring from machine code through OSWRCH directly then the value of COUNT will be incorrect. To allow for this you can increment count directly. It is stored at &IE. Note that this location can be modified directly on a tube system as this is part of Basic workspace and so can be modified as normal memory in the tube memory space. This address is correct for Basic I and Basic II, though later releases may use a different location.

INVISIBLE ALARM

by Gordon Weston

The Alarm program listed below will sit invisibly in your machine and produce a beep after a predefined delay. This can be anything from a fraction of a second to several hundred years (though this latter has not been tested - yet). The alarm is not affected by the running of Basic or machine code programs provided Break is not pressed or the memory used is not overwritten.

When you run the program it asks for a time in seconds. Just enter this, and sit and wait. If you require delays greater than a year and a third, then you should alter the FF in line 80.

If you wish to execute your own section of code after this time delay, rather than generate a beep, then delete lines $5\emptyset$ and $6\emptyset$ and $13\emptyset$ to $2\emptyset\emptyset$, and set lines $9\emptyset$ and $10\emptyset$ to point to the low and high bytes (currently 7D and \emptyset) respectively of the start address of your code.

Explanation:

The time is set as 5 bytes in lines 70 and 80, the counter scanning upwards

1Ø	REM Invisible Ala	rm	
20	INPUT "No. of sec	onds"n	
3Ø	n=n*100		
40	*FX14,5	130	P%=&7D
5Ø	1&7Ø=&FFF10001	140	[OPT3
60	!&74=&001400C8	150	LDX#&70
70	!&78=-n	160	LDY#Ø
8Ø	?&7C=&FF	170	LDA#&7
90	?&22Ø=&7D	180	JSR&FFF
100	?&221=0	190	RTS
110	A%=4:X%=&78:Y%=Ø	200]
120	CALL &FFF1	210	END

from the negative value given to zero. &7C contains the high byte and &78 the 4 low bytes.

Line 40 enables the interval timer crossing zero event. Lines 50 and 60 set up a control block in memory (&70 to &77). This control block defines the sound parameters to be used. Lines 90 and 100 set the indirect vector to &007D. Line 110 sets up the OSWORD parameters with A=4 (see User Guide page 460). Line 120 calls OSWORD. The assembly language at lines 140 to 200 set the pointers to the control block and call OSWORD, producing the beep.

ANSWERS TO THE BEEBUG CROSSWORD

Published in the August Issue Vol.2 No.4

			L par na	41.OSFILE
	ACROSS	38.OPT	DOWN	
	1.COMPUTER	40.COUNT	1.CAPSLOCK	46.TILDES
	4.ATN	42.MODES	2.MOS	49.ECONET
	7.HARDWARE	43.PRINT	3.UNCOMMITTED LOGIC ARRAY	51.LIST
	11.ADVAL	44.CR	4.ADD	53.INC
	12.POS	45.IF	5.TV	55.VAL
	13.CLS	47.NO	6.NAK	58.OSCLI
	15.OFF	48.OR	8.DEFAULT LOGICAL COLOURS	60.NOT
	17.DIV	50.PLING	9.AND	61.RUN
	18.ON	52.LOCAL	10.ENVELOPE	63.POUND
	22.FA	54.JIM	14.LN	65.OLD
	23.LOMEM	56.CYAN	16.FF	67.ACS
	25.ARGUMENTS	57.AUTO	19.SGN	69.NEW
	27.UNTIL	58.ONE	20.AMPLITUDE	
	29.MOD	59.CONTROL	21.RND	
	30.ERL	62.EXP	24.MAP	
	31.CMP	64.ERROR	25.ADDRESSING	
	32.ULA	66.TAN	26.SERIAL PORT	
	33.PLP	68.INPUT	28.TOP	
	34.REM	70.INKEY	35.MACHINE	
	36.NMI	71.GOSUB	36.NETWORK	
1	37.EXT	72.SOUND	39.ESCAPE	

THREE PRINTERS REVIEWED The Shinwa-CTI, Star DP840 and the NEC PC-8023B-C

Shinwa-CTI CP-80 Printer Reviewed by Charles R.W. Lyne

Price: £332 inc VAT. Supplier: Key Computer Centres Ltd., Enterprise House, Terrace Road, Walton-on-Thames.



The CP-80 is made by a Japanese firm (Creative Technology C.T.I. International Inc.), and seems to have been designed as a drop in replacement for the MX-80 in almost all situations.

To this end, all the many software features are identical in operation to the Epson, making it very convenient for those who have programs and word processors already set up for Epson.

The hardware is outwardly similar to the Epson, being $377(W) \times 295(D) \times$ 125(H) millimetres in size, and 5.3 Kg. in weight. The paper feed knob is on the left, but the switches/indicators are, familiarly on the front right corner. The controls are:-

Line Feed On/Off Line Form Feed

feed switches are two operative when the printer is "Off Line").

Indicators:-

Power On On Line Ready Paper Out

Maximum print speed is the same as the Epson, at 80 c.p.s. (the new Epsons and it has the normal are faster), character standard print width, 80 though the characters are slightly smaller, so the eighty characters take less of the paper's width. also allows the compressed feature character format to have up to 142 The double width characters columns. are still limited to 40 columns. Unlike the standard Epson, the paper feed mechanism has options for tractor feed (sprocketed paper) and friction feed (single sheets) at no extra cost.

Interface options are nominally the same as in the Epson, i.e. parallel (Centronics) built in, and a variety of RS232 interface boards by Epson and other manufacturers are supposed to be directly compatible. There does appear to be a problem at present though with the design of the printer electronics, which are not fully compatible with standard Epson interface boards. In fact, the printer will be damaged if a standard RS 232 interface is connected! This of course is less likely to affect! BBC "B" users who have the parallel interface available standard. It is worth noting that the effective baud rate of the parallel interface is up to about 40,000 baud, the data transfer part of the printing operation is faster than on an unbuffered RS 232 interface.

Other facilities of note are, the italic characters, compressed

Printers previously reviewed

BEEBUG Vol. 1 No. 10 Seikosha GP 100 A Epson MX80/100 Olivetti Praxis 35 Tandy CGP-115

BEEBUG Vol.2 No.3 Epson RX80 and FX80 Seikosha GP 250 X

characters, emphasized characters. double printed characters, and combinations of these options.

The CP-80 also has superscript, for mathematical formulae and subscript, chemical formulae and applications.

This printer does not have the international character sets. selectable under software control, as the Epson does, but the £ sign is character number 129, which is of course, easily defined from Wordwise using the "DP129" command, or in Basic

NEC PC-8023B-C Printer Reviewed by Mike Williams

Price: £368 inc VAT (see note after review). Supplier: Technomatic Ltd 17 Burnley Road, London NW]Ø 1ED.



This NEC dot matrix printer is an attractive and compact model. The main on/off switch is at the side with the other main switches and warning lights at the front. Unlike some printers, when first switched on the printer is not on-line and has to be selected by means of the SEL switch. The front panel switches, when the printer is deselected, provide Line Feed and Top of Form functions. The printer has a standard parallel interface connection to the BBC Micro.

printer will take either friction fed or sprocket fed paper. The cover is in three parts which are removed for paper and ribbon changing and for access to the DIP switches. The

"CHR\$(129)"。 There is also command for continuous underlining and a useful range of graphics characters is provided. There is also a hardware option for producing slashed zeros.

The mechanical and electronic construction appears to be very sound, but the design of the case leaves a little to be desired concerning access internal switches. the conclusion, a good printer which compares favourably with the many other 80 column printers, but at the same price as the Epson printers, personally would buy an Epson.

> hinged perspex paper cutter has a very coarse serrated edge and a lot of flexing occurred in the cover when refastening the paper cutter. Apart from this both friction and sprocket feed worked well.

> The DIP switches are unusually, inside and at the bottom of the machine. There are two switches covered by a clear plastic strip which clearly labels the two switches. However, access to the switches means reaching through the the wires which the print head backwards and forwards, and this was quite awkward. say the least. One interesting feature is that any of 5 different sets can be selected character including UK, German and Swedish. The European character sets also include the Greek alphabet as standard which could be useful for scientists and mathematicians.

> Printing speed is normally 100 cps and the printer produces quite a variety of whining noises while working (indeed some ingenious programmer might tempted to make it play music!).

> The printer is able to print Pica (10 cpi. 80 ch. per line) and Elite (12 cpi. 96 ch. per line) characters and to print both of these condensed and enlarged. In addition, proportional spacing can also be selected and characters can be enhanced underlined. You can set up to 16 horizontal tab positions and up to 6 vertical tab positions, useful for printing standard formats. As well as the normal character set, the printer will produce dot mode graphics, though apparently not compatible with that of

Epson printers. The printer also has an internal graphics character set which includes the symbols for the card suits (hearts, clubs, diamonds and spades) and various other shapes. Teletext graphics characters are not available nor can characters be defined by the user.

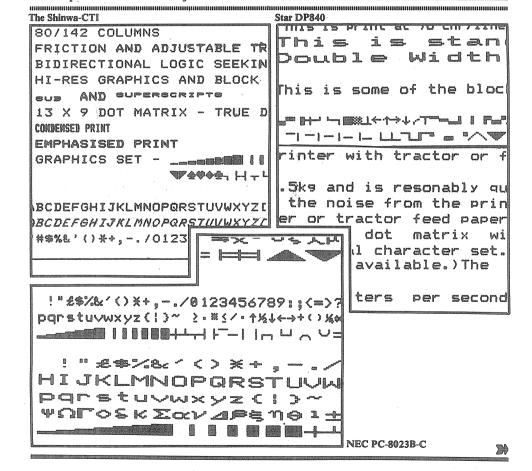
The handbook supplied with the printer is quite comprehensive but could be improved. Elementary things, like how to remove the top cover are missing and the general layout makes it difficult to locate specific pieces of information quickly.

All in all this is a very reasonable printer for the price. It looks well made and provides a full printing specification as one would expect at this price. There are just a few

niggles as mentioned above that could have been avoided by slightly better design and construction.

SPECIAL OFFER

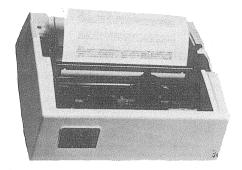
We are very grateful to Technomatic for loaning us a printer for review and their good co-operation at other times. Technomatic will sell the NEC printer to BEEBUG members at the special price of £358 inc VAT plus £8 for carriage until the end of October. Send your order direct to Technomatic and quote your BEEBUG membership number, referring directly to this review. Technomatic do, of course, supply many other types of printer.



STAR DP840 Printer Reviewed by Ian Gilbert

Cost: £276 inc VAT.

Supplier: CJE Microcomputers, Worthing.



This is a dot matrix printer with tractor and friction feed, weighing a sturdy 8.5kg and reasonably quiet in operation - the plastic cover reducing the noise from the print head. It is easy to use with A4 sheets of paper or tractor feed paper. (Sizes from 3" up to 10"). Printing is by a 9 by 7 dot with all characters, block graphics and an international character (A high resolution graphics option for screen dumps is available).

The printer does not have lower case decenders.

> Printing speed is fast at 80 per second and is bi-directional with logical seeking. This combines to give rapid printing of large programs and documents, characters being very clear readble. The print ribbon is contained on two standard typewriter reels.

> It prints at 80, 96 characters per line and has a double width printing option. Although the print is condensed at 132 chrs/line it is still clear and useful for producing large tables of information.

> Centronics or RS232 interfaces are available for direct connection to the Micro. The hiah resolution graphics are available by changing the printers character ROM. This ROM is produced by CJE Microcomputers Worthing (Tel 0903 213900) who can also supply the printer with the ROM and lead for around £260 incl. delivery.

I have been using this printer for nine months and have found it aid to programming. invaluable produces clear and rapid print and although it does not have lower case decenders it is good value for money. 🚃

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS

USING AN OKI 80 WITH WORDWISE - L.Schapira

this printer with Wordwise it is necessary to execute *FX6,13. This solves problems of generating spaces between parts of the text.

NMI and &DØØ - C.Marshall

On O.S. 1.2 the NMI (non-maskable interrupt) routine is put at &D00. Because of this the O.S. puts an RTI instruction there as its first action on Break, and the DFS will write its own NMI routine there as well. Thus code put at &D00 will corrupted when Break is pressed. Writing to anywhere in the &D00 block with any filing system ROM present could destroy memory or crash the filing system. Not only is the 'NMI routine in this block but also an extended vector space and pointers to the beginning of private work space areas.

COLOURED VIEW DISPLAY - S. Fagg

The usual way to change the colour of the display in modes other than 7 would be to use the VDU command, however VIEW does not support this. To get at the colours you must use the control characters more directly e.g. *KEYØ, |S|A|B|@|@|@|M etc.

This will give green text on a black background when $f\emptyset$ is pressed in command mode. While in text mode the function keys are disabled, they may be re-enabled with *FX225,1.

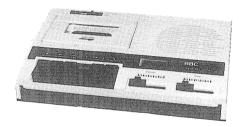
TWO TAPE RECORDERS REVIEWED

By Mathew Rapier

We reviewed four tape recorders for the BBC Micro in BEEBUG Vol.2 No.1. (The CCR800 model from W.H.Smith reviewed then is still available and remains a good buy.) We now review the new Acorn Data Recorder, which replaces the previous Ferguson model, and a rather more expensive recorder from Marantz.

THE BBC MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEM DATA RECORDER

SUPPLIER: Vector Marketing COST : £29.90 inc VAT



This new recorder replaces 3T07 recorder supplied by Ferguson Acorn. It is not, contrary to rumour, a recorder. The name RECORDER does not appear to signify any radically new design. Externally the BBC recorder is coloured to match the computer and is reasonably presented with all the controls at the front together with the easily readable VU meter. The tape counter, however, is behind the tape and is rather small and hard to read. On the review machine the finish is already coming off giving a rather battered look despite only a small amount of use. All the standard controls are present including pause. It is unfortunately not possible to "cue"; i.e. have play and fast forward down at the same time, a facility which would greatly speed up searching for programs.

Being designed for use with the BBC micro, this cassette recorder has only a single 7 pin din socket. The record and playback levels are fixed so that you cannot set them incorrectly. The

result of this is that the user has no control whatsoever on the levels used by the recorder. The volume and tone controls only affect the speaker output so that you can listen to your program loading quietly. The machine has motor control, working through the 7 pin connector. Unfortunately there is no override on this so that you are forced to use the computer's motor control commands to rewind the tape. This can very inconvenient. Most recorders have the motor control on a separate plug which can be easilv removed.

The Welcome tape supplied with the micro loaded first time, but a program recorded on this tape recorder was NOT reliable, one block needing a second attempt. One of my own tapes would also not load at all, having difficulty even getting the name of the file correct. I found this very surprising, but I could probably have got the tapes to load if there had been some control over the Ιt is recorder's output. tape inevitable that there will be some between BBC micros and variations between the tape recorders themselves and, with no control at all, these variations cannot be compensated for. It is a pity that a tape recorder specially produced for use with the BBC micro is not more reliable in use. could probably be used for music quite successfully as the sound quality is reasonable, though the lack of a microphone limits its use in other areas.

THE MARANTZ SUPERSCOPE C190

SUPPLIER: Comet

COST : £42.90 inc VAT

This tape recorder is the top of a range of Superscope machines. It is well built with a tough finish. My own Superscope is two and a half years old and is still in good condition. All the

standard controls including pause are there, and a "cue and review" facility. The latter is the ability to fast forward or rewind whilst in play mode, which considerably eases the finding of programs in the middle of a tape. A standard set of jack sockets and a DIN socket are present, and the machine works reliably with both. There are also recording level and variable playback speed controls. The tape counter is large but in the wrong place to be read easily.



The user has complete control over recording and playback levels. The volume and tone controls both affect the output level to both types of connector and these settings can be varied for different tapes, though they are not particularly critical. The manual recording level is very useful as automatic level controls are usually

confused by computer output. A setting of +1 dB on the VU meter gives very reliable operation. When using the DIN output the noise also goes to the speaker. This requires the use of a BBC User Guide on top to keep it down to a reasonable volume. If the jack outputs are used then there is no noise output from the speaker, but the sound of the program loading can prove very useful when trying to find a program. On recording there is silence, just the movement of the meter showing that data is coming in.

This tape recorder appears to be able to load anything. With creative use of the volume, tone and variable playback speed even the most appalling tapes can be read. I have found the variable speed extremely useful on some commercial tapes. In use, for recording programs as well, complete reliability is the norm. I quote a letter from Mr. T.Bromilow - "I can report that after 12 months quite heavy use, I have never lost, to my knowledge, single-bit - and I've never cleaned the heads". My own experience with the Superscope and that of people I know who use it with other computers is exactly the same. This machine can be strongly recommended, though it is expensive at around £40. Unfortunately, it is absolutely useless for music reproduction as it sounds dreadful, but don't be put off. I have never encountered a file that could not be loaded with this machine.

POINTS ARISING

Cassette programs to disc - Vol.2 No.4

We must apologise for an editorial error in this article. In attempting to clarify things(!) we have confused the file length with the load address in two statements. To get it right, replace both occurrences of the expression:

FILENAME 05 0585 FFFF1111 FFFFeeee

with

FILENAME Ø5 1111 FFFFxxxx FFFFeeee

Utility Editor - Vol.2 No.1

There is a problem with this program when the line number falls between 3328 and 3583 (&DØØ and &DFF). The problem is that one byte is equal to 13, the code for Return. To solve this problem type in the following line:

900 FORJ%=1%-1 TO 1%-254 STEP-1:IF ?(J%-2)=13 AND ?(J%-3)<>13 AND ?(J%-4)<>13 PRINT AST\$;?J%+?(J%-1)*256,;:J%=1%-254:IF DISP%X%=1%+K%:PRINT" ";:REPEAT:Y%=?X%:PRINT CHR\$(Y%);:X%=X%+1:UNTIL Y%=13 OR Y%=58 OR Y%=61:PRINT

Thanks to M Wood for pointing this out.

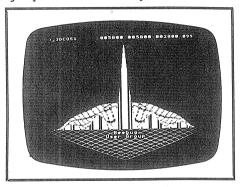
Tested on Or Braices Indiana

DRAWING 3D SURFACES (16k/32k)

by Derek Chown

Displaying 3D surfaces on the screen is interesting, but complicated to work out. Derek Chown has done all the hard work and presents you with a program for projecting a "picture" onto a 3D surface.

Essentially this program draws a completely flat (2D) surface with a grid superimposed on it. Text may then be written onto the grid. A second phase of the program creates a 3D projection of the grid, in such a way that any lettering is raised and shaped against the contours. The screen shots give some idea of what the program can do. The next three paragraphs give a slightly more technical explanation.



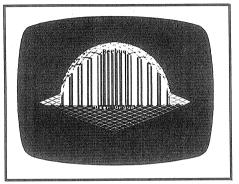
The 3D plot is achieved by placing the pixel of the "picture" with coordinates (x,y) at a height z, calculated from x and y.

That is z = f(x,y).

This particular method of plotting surfaces to opaque represented, covered with a grid to give the picture depth. The method is a little cunning. First an isometric view of a grid is drawn to represent the plane of x and y, and at each pixel within the grid a "match-stick" is erected whose length is z. Match-sticks which stand on the grid lines are drawn in black, and matches that between the grid lines are drawn in white. In this way the grid lines are effectively drawn on the surface by the visible tips of the black match-stick.

Drawing of the match-sticks begins at the point furthest from view, and

progresses towards the foreground. The foreground match-sticks therefore obscure all or part of the match-sticks behind them. This is what makes the completed surface opaque.



A call to a suitable screen dump could be inserted at line 610 where indicated by the REM statement. Remember that if you use a screen dump routine the printer image will be the reverse of that on the screen (black changes to white, and vice-versa).

It is amusing to insert into the program a statement or two to place words in the grid before the plotting begins. The match-sticks erected in the letters of the words will be in black, and will produce distorted printing as if scraped on the surface. (Rather in the nature of the Cern Giant drawn in chalk on the hillside!). Strictly, though, these are not drawn accurately, because the originals were not drawn in the same isometric projection as the grid lines.

Unfortunately, this program takes a long time to run, especially in the high resolution modes, so I have provided a means of producing a very crude impression of the final outcome for scaling purposes, etc. This is done by plotting z at, say, every fifth pixel. The "speed factor" (sf%), as I

```
have called it, controls this feature.
                                                 390 TN=D%/W%
A speed factor of 1 gives the most
                                                 400 SN=ATN (TN)
detailed (and slowest) picture; higher
                                                 410 CS=COS(SN)
values giving progressively cruder but
                                                 420 SN=SIN(SN)
faster images.
                                                 430 M%=C%*SQR(2)+.5
                                                 440 FOR BT%=D% TO Ø STEP -4*sf%:REM MO
                                               DES Ø,1,2,4,5
   It is quite possible that some of
                                                 450 T=ABS(B%-BT%)/TN
the trigonometrical calculations in the
                                                 460 L1%=T-3.5
program are inefficient, so perhaps
                                                 47Ø L2%=W%-T+3.5
there are rewards of speed for those
                                                 480 FOR CT%=L1% TO L2% STEP 4*sf%:REM
willing to tinker with the various
                                               MODES 1,4
projections. For my own part, it is the
                                                 490 REM FOR CT%=L1% TO L2% STEP 8*sf%:
fact that these mathematical pictures
                                               REM MODES 2,5
           easilv
                   created with such
                                                 500 REM FOR CT%=L1% TO L2% STEP 2*sf%:
startling
            precision
                         that
                                is
                                               REM MODE Ø
fascinating.
                                                 510 PROCXY(CT%,BT%): REM CONVERT PIXEL
                                               ADDRESS TO (X%,Y%)
                                                 520 PROCPT(X%,Y%): REM CALC Z%
   The 3D surface itself is specified
in lines 750 and 760. The program as
                                                 53Ø GX%=(X%+4) DIV8
                                                 54Ø GY%=(Y%+4)DIV8
listed specifies a hemisphere. Here are
                                                 550 GCOLØ, POINT (CT%, BT%) EOR1
two other surfaces to try:
                                                 560 PLOT69, CT%, BT%
Surface 2: 1/cos^2
                                                 570 PLOT5, CT%, SY%
750 S=SQR((X%-M% DIV 2)^2 + (Y%-M% DIV
                                                 58Ø NEXT CT%
                                                 590 NEXT BT%
2) ^2) *4*PI/M%
                                                 600
760 S=(COS(S)/(S+2))^2*3000
                                                 610 REM Call screen dump here
Surface 3: Discontinuity
                                                 620
750 S=((((M%-X%)*Y%)MOD
                                                 63Ø END
160000) * (M%-Y%) * (M%-X%))
                                                 640
                                                 650 DEFPROCPT(X%,Y%)
760 S=S/300000000
                                                 660 LOCAL P.R.S
100 REM Program 3DPLOT Version 1A
                                                 670
                                                 68Ø REM***************
  110 REM Author Derek Chown
  120 REM BEEBUG October 1983
                                                 69Ø
  130 ON ERROR GOTO 150
                                                 700
  14Ø GOTO 19Ø
                                                 710 REM RE-CODE THIS SECTION FOR ANY O
  15Ø ON ERROR OFF
                                               THER FUNCTIONS YOU CAN THINK OF
  160 VDU3:MODE7:REPORT
                                                 720
  170 PRINT" at line "; ERL: END
                                                 73Ø REM
                                                          HEMISPHERE
                                                 740
  19Ø MODE7
                                               . 750 R%=(X%-M%/2)^2+(Y%-M%/2)^2:S%=M%/2
                                                 760 IF R%>=S%*S% S=0 ELSE S=SQR(M%*(X%
  200 PRINT': INPUT"Enter speed factor: "
sf&
                                               +Y%)-S%*S%-X%*X%-Y%*Y%)
  210 MODE4: VDU23; 8202; 0; 0; 0;
                                                 77Ø
  22Ø D%=5ØØ
                                                 78Ø
  23Ø W%=128Ø
                                                 790 REM**************
  24Ø C%=(W%+1)DIV2
                                                 800
  25Ø B%=(D%+1)DIV2
                                                 810 Z%=S+.5:REM THIS VALUE IS PLOTTED
  26Ø CS=W%/32
                                                 820 P=.7854-ATN((Y%+1E-10)/(X%+1E-20))
 27Ø SN=D%/32
                                                 83Ø R=SQR(X%^2+Y%^2)
  280 FOR L1%=0 TO 16:REM DRAW GRID
                                                 840 SX%=C%-R*SIN(P)+.5
 290 GX%=CS*L1%+.5
                                                 850 SY%=D%-R*COS(P)*SN+S*CS+.5
                                                 86Ø ENDPROC
  300 X%=CS*(16-L1%)+.5
  310 GY%=SN*L1%+.5
                                                 870 DEF PROCXY (SX%, SY%)
  320 Y%=SN*(16-L1%)+.5
                                                 880 LOCAL P,R
 330 PLOT 4,C%+GX%-1,B%+Y%
                                                 890 P=TAN(.7854-ATN((C%-SX%)/(D%-SY%+1
  340 PLOT 5,C%-X%,B%-GY%
                                              E-2Ø) *SN))
 350 PLOT 4,C%-GX%,B%+Y%
                                                 900 R=(C%-SX%)^2+((D%-SY%)/SN)^2
```

370 NEXT L1%

360 PLOT 5, C%+X%-1, B%-GY%

380 PRINTTAB(17,24) "Beebug" TAB(15,25)

910 R=SQR(R/(1+P^2))

920 X%=R+.5 930 Y%=P*R+.5

940 ENDPROC

Tested on II

DISC SECTOR STRING SEARCH (32k)

by Colin Opie

Colin describes a program that will help you find a file on disc after it has been deleted from the disc directory.

In the July issue, Vol.2 No.3, we described an extremely useful general purpose 'Disc Sector Editor' amongst other things, could be used to which restore files have accidently deleted from a disc. Clearly task of file restoration is relatively easy if a current '*INFO' listing exists of the disc in question, but what if this isn't available? With an 80 track disc you could end up 800 sectors to find the searching beginning of your file! We now describe a search program which can be used to search for a string of characters on a specified disc. Using this program approximately 2.5 sectors can be checked every second giving a scan rate of around 1.5 minutes for a 40 track disc. This is an immense saving in time compared to a manual check. IIt is interesting to note that the program takes twice as long to run on our Torch Disc Pack due to the 'head & motor'/'head & select' access mechanism outlined in our Torch review in BEEBUG Vol.2 No.1 and in 'Postbag' in BEEBUG Vol.2 No.3. Ed.]

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

The program is listed at the end of this article and consists of a mixture of Basic and Assembler. The assembler part is the string search procedure, hence providing a good search speed. (Using a Basic string search procedure, this takes three times as long).

It is possible to obtain a listing of the assembled code by setting the appropriate boolean variable 'listasm' in line 150. If this variable is set to 'TRUE' then a listing will be given each time the program is run. Setting it to 'FALSE' stops the listing from occurring. Usually the listing will only be required for debugging any typing-in errors or for obtaining a printed copy, (set VDU2 first). During normal use of the utility the listing would sensibly be switched out.

Checks are constantly made for disc errors and a display of the current track and sector being searched is maintained continuously. Results are displayed in the same order and manner as would be required for entry in the Disc Sector Editor (i.e. 'track/sector' in decimal, and 'relative sector' in hexadecimal). this way it is very easy to take the results and use them in conjunction with the editor in order to locate the lost program.

USING THE PROGRAM

On running the utility a series of questions are presented:

- Drive: Enter the drive number (Ø to 3) of the disc which you want to be searched.
- 2) String: Give the string (maximum 80 characters - though only 8 will be sensibly displayed) which is to be searched for. Basic tokens cannot be included in this string.
- 3) Printer: Typing 'Y' in reply to this will enable the results, showing the location(s) of the specified string, to be sent to a printer as well as to the screen. The printer must previously have been initialised using the normal *FX commands as necessary. Typing 'N' will send the results to the screen only.

All three replies require a <return>
to terminate them. Once they have been
entered the search program will check
the specified disc to see if it is
formatted. If it is, then the number of
tracks on that disc will be displayed
in the top right-hand corner of the
screen, otherwise an error report will
be given and the program will stop.
Assuming all is well, a display will
also be initialised giving the current
track and sector being searched.

Whenever the specified string is found, 'track/sector' location (in decimal) is displayed along with 'relative sector' version hexadecimal). All results are displayed in the lower part of the screen in a scrolling page. In this way the top half of the screen showing the initial inputs, the track and sector count, and the headings for the results, will remain throughout the search. If a printer is not being used it will be necessary to jot down the results they get scrolled off the before screen.

When the program has finished, it reports the fact, and the track and sector count will be found to be the last ones available for the specified disc, (on a 40 track disc this will be 'track 39', 'sector 9'). Now the Disc Sector Editor can be loaded and run. Entering either form of the result(s) obtained from the search program will enable the appropriate sectors to be displayed by the editor. You can use these displayed sectors to help in locating the start and end of the deleted program, and therefore obtain the required parameters to enable the program to be restored on the disc

```
46Ø END
                                              470
                                              480 DEFPROCassemble
catalogue.
                                           sm:P%=code%
  100 REM Program DSERCH Version 1A
                                              500 [OPT pass%
  110 REM DISC SECTOR STRING SEARCH
                                              510 .search
  120 REM C.N.OPIE BEEBUG October 83
                                              520 LDY blklen%
  13Ø REM
                                              530 INY
  140 ON ERROR GOTO 420
                                              540 .s2
  150 listasm=FALSE:listasm=3+NOT(lista
                                              55Ø LDX #Ø
                                              560 LDA str%,X
                                                                 \Found Start?
  160 MODE7:@%=2:tmp1=&70:tmp2=&71:tmpy
                                              570 CMP blc%,Y
=&72
                                              580 BEQ check
  170 DIM blc% 256,blk% 12,str% 80,code
                                              59Ø INY
2 100
                                              600 CPY bchklen%
                                                                 \End of buffer?
  180 DIM flag% 1,blklen% 1,tlen% 1,bch
                                              61Ø BEO s3
klen% 1
                                              620 BCS s3
  190 blk%!1=blc%:blk%?5=3:blk%?9=&21
                                              630 JMP s2
                                                                 \No-keep looking
  200 vert%=0:printer=FALSE
                                              640 .s3
  21Ø
                                              650 LDA #0
  220 PROCassemble:PROCtitle:PROCcollec
                                              660 STA flag%
                                              67Ø RTS
                                                                 \and finish.
  230 rcd%=0:blk%?6=&53:blk%?7=0:blk%?8
                                              68Ø \---
                                              690 .check
  24Ø X%=blk%MOD256:Y%=blk%DIV256:A%=&7
                                              700 LDA #1
F:CALL &FFF1:rcd%=blk%?10
                                              710 STA tmp1
  250 IF rcd%<>0 THEN SOUND1,-15,10,20:
                                           hed
PRINT"Disc error ":GOTO400
                                              720 STA tmp2
  260 IF blc%?7<>&90 AND blc%?7<>&20 TH
EN SOUND1,-15,10,20:PRINT "Unknown Disc
```

270 IF blc%?7=&90 THEN tr%=40 ELSE tr

Format":GOTO400

t

740 .cl 750 CMP tlen% \Match? 760 BEQ found \Got it!! 760 INC tmp1 \Keep looking 780 INY 790 INX 800 LDA str%,X 810 CMP blo%,Y 820 BNE c2 \No match! 840 JMP c1 850 .c2 860 LDY tmpy \Restore buffer in dex 870 INY 880 JMP s2 890 .found 900 LDA #1 \Set found flag 910 STA flag% 920 STY blklen% \update buffer index 930 RTS \and return. 940 J 950 NEXT pass%:CLS:ENDPROC 970 DEFPROCreport 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 990 %*=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);" (10*TRK%+SCT%) 1080 PRINTTAB(1,2);"Drive :";:INPUT"" D%:D%=D%MOD4:Pblk%=D% 1060 PRINTTAB(1,2);"Drive::";:INPUT"" 1080 PRINTTAB(1,2);"Drive::";:INPUT"" 1080 PRINTTAB(1,3);"Setor String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,0);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, CHR\$152) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sect or (Dec) Rel.Sector (Hex)"	Ballion of the second s		
760 BEQ found	740 .cl		1020 ENDPROC
1050 PRINTTAB(1,2); "Drive :";:INPUT"" 780 INY	750 CMP tlen%	\Match?	1030
780 INY 790 INX 800 LDA str*,X 810 CMP blc*,Y 820 BNE c2	760 BEQ found	\Got it!!	1040 DEFPROCcollect
780 INY 790 INX 800 LDA str*,X 810 CMP blc*,Y 820 BNE c2	77Ø INC tmpl	\Keep looking	1050 PRINTTAB(1,2); "Drive :";: INPUT""
\$\text{800} LDA str\(^8, X\) 810 CMP blc\(^8, Y\) 820 BNE c2	78Ø INY		
\$00 LDA str*,X 810 CMP blc*,Y 820 BNE c2	79Ø INX		1060 PRINTTAB(1,3); "String: :::INPUT""
810 CMP blc%,Y 820 BNE c2	800 LDA str%,X		\$str%:K%=LEN(\$str%):?tlen%=K%:?bchklen%
830 LDA tmp1 840 JMP c1 850 .c2 850 lDY tmpy	810 CMP blc%,Y		
830 LDA tmp1 840 JMP c1 850 .c2 860 LDY tmpy	820 BNE c2	\No match!	1070 PRINTTAB(1,4); "Printer(Y/N):";:IN
### THEN printer=TRUE ###	830 LDA tmp1		PUTP\$
860 LDY tmpy	840 JMP c1		
dex			" THEN printer=TRUE
870 INY 880 JMP s2 890 .found 900 LDA #1		\Restore buffer in	
880 JMP s2 890 .found 900 LDA #1			1100 PRINTTAB(8,4);":ON";:IF NOT print
890 .found 900 LDA #1			
900 LDA #1 Set found flag 1130 DEFPROCtitle 1140 VDU23;11,0;0;0;0 920 STY blklen% Update buffer index 930 RTS And return. 940] 1150 PRINT TAB(4,0);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, CHR\$172) 1180 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$134;"Track/Sector (Dec) Rel.Sector(Hex)"			
910 STA flag% 920 STY blklen% \update buffer index 930 RTS \and return. 940] 950 NEXT pass%:CLS:ENDPROC 960 970 DEFPROCreport 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 990 @%=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1140 VDU23;11,0;0;0;0;0 1150 PRINT TAB(4,0);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, CHR\$172) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sector (Dec) Rel.Sector(Hex)"			· · — —
920 STY blklen% \update buffer index 930 RTS \and return. 940] 950 NEXT pass%:CLS:ENDPROC 960 970 DEFPROCreport 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 990 @%=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1000 VDU3 1150 PRINT TAB(4,0);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$131;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\Set found flag	
930 RTS \and return. 940] 950 NEXT pass%:CLS:ENDPROC 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$131;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; 970 DEFPROCreport CHR\$156 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, 0);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sector (Dec) Rel.Sector (Hex)"			
940] 950 NEXT pass%:CLS:ENDPROC 960		\update buffer index	
950 NEXT pass%:CLS:ENDPROC 960 970 DEFPROCreport 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 990 @%=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);"(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1000 VDU3 1160 PRINT TAB(4,1);CHR\$141;CHR\$132;CH R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, CHR\$172) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sector (Dec) Rel.Sector (Hex)"		\and return.	
960 R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; 970 DEFPROCreport CHR\$156 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 990 @%=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1000 VDU3 R\$157;CHR\$131;"Sector String Search "; CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, CHR\$172) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sector (Dec) Rel.Sector(Hex)"			
970 DEFPROCreport 980 IF printer THEN VDU2 990 @%=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1000 VDU3 CHR\$156 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5);CHR\$146;STRING\$(38, CHR\$172) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sect or (Dec) Rel.Sector(Hex)"	-	LS: ENDPROC	
980 IF printer THEN VDU2 1170 PRINTTAB(0,5); CHR\$146; STRING\$(38, 990 0%=2: PRINTTAB(5, vert%); TRK%; TAB(3); ", ";SCT%; TAB(24); ~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6); CHR\$134; "Track/Sect or (Dec) Rel.Sector(Hex)"			
990 0%=2:PRINTTAB(5,vert%);TRK%;TAB(3);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%) 1180 PRINTTAB(2,6);CHR\$134;"Track/Sect or (Dec) Rel.Sector(Hex)"			
);", ";SCT%;TAB(24);~(10*TRK%+SCT%)			
1000 VDU3 or (Dec) Rel.Sector (Hex)"			
);~(1Ø*TRK%+SCT%)	
1010 SOUND1,-15,150,1:vert%=VPOS 1190 ENDPROC	1010 SOUND1,-15,1	50,1:vert%=VPOS	1190 ENDPROC

HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINT

LOCKING FILES WITHIN A PROGRAM - Trevor White

The following procedure allows a file to be locked from within a program by using a call to OSCLI. Users with Basic II can simplify the routine considerably.

For Basic I use:
5DIM buf% 20
10DEF PROClock(name\$)
20\$buf%="ACCESS "+name\$" L"
30X%=buf%:Y%=buf% DIV 256
40CALL &FFF7
50ENDPROC

For Basic II use:
10DEF PROClock(name\$)
20OSCLI"ACCESS "+name\$+" L"
30ENDPROC

VDU 1 - B. Tennent

B.Tennent reminds us that control codes sent to a printer must always be preceded by VDU 1 (and also by VDU 2 on the new O.S.). Thus to generate the codes 27,70, use the following:
VDU 2,1,27,1,70

VDU 1 sends the next character to the printer only and so does not intercept the codes as it does when control codes are used normally.

ASCII CODES IN FUNCTION-KEYS - Tim Renouf | gives 127 - delete | !! | gives 255



POSTBAG POSTBAG POSTBAG POSTBAG POSTBAG

DISC STORES TOO LARGE!

We note references that the BBC ar Sir, omputer will not support the full torage capacity of some disc drives. or example the Mitsubishi 1Mbyte (400k

This presumably has some reference n BBC) . to the point made in the Disc Review in BEEBUG Vol.1 No.8 page 7 where it says these large drives are capable nolding more than the BBC can handle.

reason elaborated please? What is the limiting factor? On the face of it the 100k of the BBC drive is more than the computer can handle but usually broken up into a number of short programs.

Tom Ward

Reply: Disc storage is always divided up into a large number of relatively small (typically 256 bytes) units of storage which we will call blocks. Each block is referenced by the micro by means of an address which identifies the exact physical location of a block on the disc. It is thus the hardware in the micro, in the form of the disc interface, together with operating system, in this case DFS, which actually determines how much disc storage can be used, rather than the physical storage capacity of the disc itself. The BBC micro uses a disc controller chip (8271) which is only able to handle single density (1Ø sectors per track) discs. A double would controller disc double the potential density storage capacity, but this would also need a modified version of DFS.

Ward's letter also raises a second point. Of course nearly any disc can store, in total, far more information than can be held in a computer's memory. However, no program stored on disc can sensibly be larger than the micro's memory (32k for the Beeb less graphics and work space).

CHOICE OF 40 OR 80 TRACK DISCS Dear Sir,

I wonder if you could explain why discs designed to run on 40 track drives cannot be read by 80 track drives. It seems to me that one should buy one of each to gain the best of all

Malcolm Waters

Reply: 40 track discs CAN be read on 80 track drives by writing a routine which doubles the step rate of the disc heads. Watford Electronics have built this into their own DFS and can be called up by a simple *FX command. See 'Watford DFS review' in BEEBUG Vol.2 No.4. A similar effect can also be achieved in the disc drive hardware, and some 80 track drives are supplied with a switch allowing them to read and write 40 track discs. Both Cumana and Microware supply switched drives. You should note however that when an 80 track drive is used to read a 40 track disc it is only using half of the track width. This will not generally be as reliable as reading a 40 track disc with a 40 track head mechanism.

Dear Sir,

I have beaten the high score in hedgehog. My score was 3080. I like your magazine because it has lots of

C.Eberhardt (aged 8)

Reply: Nice try, but J. Davis has beaten you to it. See high scores table in this issue.

DISC SECTOR EDITOR

Dear Sir,
re. your Disc Sector Editor (BEEBUG

Vol.2 No.3).

Thanks for a useful program. The magazine arrived the same day I corrupted the catalogue of one of my discs. Using the program, I was able to recover all the programs on the disc.

I did find a small problem, however. I did find a small problem, however. If a filename is used to indicate the sector to be edited, the file will not be found if it is locked. The reason be found if it is locked. The reason for this is that the top bit of the directory letter is set for a locked file. The remedy is to ignore the top bit when testing the filename, viz

1170 IF F\$=fnt\$ AND DIR\$=CHR\$(svd AND127) THEN off=I%-dir%:I%=99999

I hope this is of use to someone.

Michael Smith

A COMPUTER WIDOW'S LAMENT!

Our Computer
The pest in our house is not a mouse,
But a machine with which you play
Each and every single day.
You switch it on and press a button
Onto the screen they come astrutting
People and dragons, spiders and things
In and out of dungeons in Winter and
Spring
Bleeping and buzzing, whirring around
Making such an awful sound.
One of these days I suppose I shall see
The point in all this machinery.
W.C. Beckley
(wife)

WOULD YOUR BEEB PASS O LEVEL ARITHMETIC?

Try running the following program:

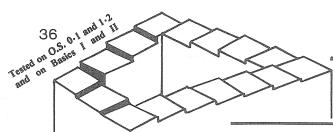
10 FOR N=0 TO 1 STEP 0.001 20 PRINT N*1000 30 NEXT N

This should print integers 0 to 999 (i.e. $0.001 \times 1000 = 1$, $0.002 \times 1000 = 2$, etc.). Try running the program and see what you get!

My 0.S. 1.2, BASIC II machine only scored 10.5% in this maths test, so I shan't enter it for the O level exam.

A.J.S. McMillan

Reply: Eric Bramley has also written to us making the same correspondents are of course quite correct in pointing out inaccuracies in arithmetic on the BBC micro. This is true of all digital computers, and results from the fact that the computer stores all numbers in binary and not in decimal. Now as long as you deal only in whole (or integer) numbers, then no problems arise, as these can always be exactly represented in binary. Where numbers involving a fractional part are involved the situation is different. Many decimal fractions when converted to binary become recurring fractions and have to be rounded to the number of bits (digits) allowed by the micro for such numbers. For example the decimal fraction 0.2 when converted to binary becomes 0.00110011001100.... inaccuracy is built in Furthermore, arithmetic operations can often magnify the inaccuracy sufficiently to affect the running of the program. The problem cannot be avoided. Either confine such critical sections to using integer numbers only or adjust the values



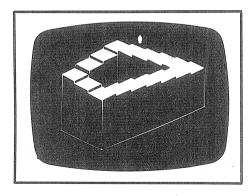
ILLUSIONS (32k)

by M Inglis

This program illustrates an optical and an auditory illusion. It is based on the well known Escher drawing of a never-ending staircase. This version is animated with a figure continually spiralling up the staircase to the accompaniment of musical chords which appear to go higher and higher - indefinitely.

The program requires no participation, and can be terminated by pressing any key. The user can change some of the variables declared at the of the program, to give a different number of steps, and different speed for the figure, but only make slight adjustments to these and only change them one at a time otherwise invalid combinations might be obtained.

Acknowledgements: L.S & R. Penrose; Brit.J.Psych. Vol.49,31.



```
10 REM Program name : Illusions
```

30 REM Version I A

40

50 ON ERROR GOTO 1670

60 REM-Number of steps on each side

7Ø i%=3:j%=4:k%=6:1%=7

80 REM-Height of each step

90 h%=20

100 REM-Height of jump

110 kht%=80

120 REM-Number of points in jump trajectory (affects speed of mannikin)

130 div%=10

140 REM-Perspective angle

150 theta=1.15

160 REM-Colours of mannikin and stair case

170 CM%=3:CS%=2

180 REM-Median sound pitch

19Ø PØ%=62

200 REM-End of preset variables

210

220 MODE1

23Ø P2%=PØ%:P3%=PØ%+16:P1%=PØ%-2Ø

240 GCOL 0,2:VDU19,2,CS%;0;19,3,CM%;0;19,1,CM%;0;

25Ø d%=(1%-1)*h%+3ØØ

260 VDU23,224,60,60,60,24,255,255,255

,255

270 VDU23,225,255,189,189,60,60,60,60

28Ø steps%=i%+j%+k%+l%-4

290 DIM centres%(1,steps%-1)

300 centindex%=0

310 sinth=SIN(theta):costh=COS(theta)

320 sinfi=(i%-l%)*sinth/(i%-k%)

330 cosfi=COS(ASN(sinfi))

340 a%=h%*steps%/((1%-j%)*costh+(k%-i%)*cosfi)

350 asinfi=a%*sinfi:acosfi=a%*cosfi

360 asinth=a%*sinth:acosth=a%*costh

370 halfx%=(asinth+asinfi)/2

380 halfy%=(acosth-acosfi)/2 390 by%=d%+(i%-1)*h%+i%*acosfi

400 MOVE 0,by%

410 DRAW 0,i%*acosfi

420 fx%=i%*asinfi

430 DRAW fx%,0

440 DRAW fx%,d%

450 MOVE fx%,0

460 DRAW fx%+1%*asinth,1%*acosth

470 PLOT 1,0,d%-(1%-1)*h%

480 x%=0:y%=by%

490 MOVE 0, by%

5øø

510 FOR m%=1 TO j%-1

520 x%=x%+asinth:y%=y%+h%+acosth

530 MOVE x%, V%

540 PROCrhomb(1,4)

550 NEXT

560 FOR m%=1 TO k%-1

570 x%=x%+asinfi:y%=y%+h%-acosfi

580 IF m%=1 THEN vx%=x%:vy%=y%

590 MOVE x%,y%

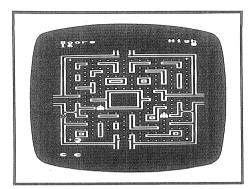
²⁰ REM Author : M. Inglis

TENTANI PINI PINI PINI		Marine Ma	
600	PROCrhomb(Ø,Ø)	1190	LOCAL corner%,pl%,p2%
	NEXT		corner%=0
62Ø			p1%=1:p2%=81
63Ø	FOR m%=1 TO 1%-1		centres%(0,centindex%)=x%+halfx%
	x%=x%-asinth:y%=y%+h%-acosth		centres%(1,centindex%)=y%+halfy%
	MOVE x%,y%		REPEAT
	PROCrhomb(-1,Ø)		PROCdrop
	NEXT		PLOT pl%, asinth, acosth
68Ø			PROCdrop
690	FOR m%=1 TO i%-1		PLOT p2%, asinfi, -acosfi
	x%=x%-asinfi:y%=y%+h%+acosfi	1290	PROCdrop
	MOVE x%,y%		PLOT pl%,-asinth,-acosth
72Ø	PROCrhomb(3,4)		PROCdrop: IF a%=-1 THEN PROCblack(
73Ø	NEXT	asint	$h_{r}\emptyset$
740	MOVE vx%,vy%:vy%=vy%-3*h%	132Ø	PLOT p2%,-asinfi,acosfi
	PLOT 21, vx%, vy%		IF a%=0 THEN PROCblack(0,-acosfi)
76ø	REPEAT		p1%=p1%+2:p2%=3
	vy%=vy%-h%:PLOT 21,vx%,vy%	135Ø	UNTIL p1%>3
78Ø	UNTIL POINT(vx%,vy%-5)<>Ø	1360	centindex%=centindex%+1
790		137Ø	ENDPROC
800	centindex%=0	1380	
810	notfirst%=FALSE	139Ø	DEF PROCdrop
82Ø	T=TIME: VDU5	1400	IF p1%<>3 THEN 1430
830	REPEAT		corner%=corner%+1
840	oldx=centres%(Ø,centindex%)	1420	IF (a%=corner%) OR(b%=corner%) THE
850	oldy=centres%(1,centindex%)	N PLO	T 1,0,-h%:PLOT 0,0,h%
	centindex%=centindex%+1		ENDPROC
87Ø	IF centindex%=steps% THEN centind	1440	
ex%=0			DEF PROCblack(xd,yd)
	newx%=centres%(0,centindex%)	1460	IF p1%<>3 THEN 1480
	newy%=centres%(1,centindex%)	147Ø	PLOT 83,xd,yd:PLOT 0,-xd,-yd
	difx%=oldx-newx%	148Ø	ENDPROC
	a=-4*kht%/(difx%*difx%)	149ø	
	b=(oldy-newy%)/difx% - a*(oldx+newx%)	1500	DEF PROCplonk
	c=oldy-oldx*(a*oldx+b)	151Ø	IF ABS(P0%-P3%)>19 THEN TMP%=P3%:
	incrx=-difx%/div% D=(TIME-T)/5		2%:P2%=P1%:P1%=TMP%-48
	PROCplonk	152Ø	P1%=P1%+4:P2%=P2%+4:P3%=P3%+4
	T=TIME	153Ø	A1%=FNAMP(P1%):A2%=FNAMP(P2%):A3
	FORi%=1TOdiv%	ร=FNAI	MP(P3%)
	oldx=oldx+incrx	1540	ENVELOPE1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,127,-10,-
	oldy=a*oldx*oldx + b*oldx +c	1,-12	7,A1%,A1%
	PROCblot(oldx,oldy)		ENVELOPE2,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,127,-10,-
1020			7,A2%,A2%
1030			ENVELOPE3,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,127,-10,-
1040	UNTILINKEY(1)>Ø		7,A3%,A3%
	VDU4:MODE7		SOUND &201,1,P1%,D
1060			SOUND &202,2,P2%,D
1070			SOUND &203,3,P3%,D
1Ø8Ø	DEF PROCblot(x,y)		ENDPROC
1090	LOCAL dx%,dy%	161Ø	
1100	dx%=x:dy%=y+64		DEF FNAMP(PITCH%)
111Ø	IF notfirst% THEN MOVE vx%,vy%:GC		LOCAL exp
OL2,2:	VDU224,8,10,225		exp=(ABS(P0%-PITCH%-2)/25)
1120	MOVE dx%,dy%		=126*(1-exp*exp)
1130	GCOL 1,1:VDU224,8,10,225	1660	
	vx%=dx%:vy%=dy%		ON ERROR OFF
	notfirst%=TRUE		MODE 7
	ENDPROC	1690	IF ERR<>17 REPORT:PRINT" at line
117Ø		";ERL	This is a second of the second
1180	DEF PROCrhomb(a%,b%)	1700	END

Tested on O.S. 0.1 and 1.2 and on Basics I and II

MUNCH-MAN (32k)

by Andrew Hynes



Munch-Man is a very well written version of the popular arcade game PAC-MAN. The game, although written in Basic, is quite fast and enjoyable. You yellow take the part of a little 'mouth' scurrying around a maze eating dots to score points. There are three ghosts that chase you and try to kill you. These ghosts move through walls, thus making it harder for you. To combat these ghosts you can eat a power pill, situated in the 4 corners of the maze, and these cause the ghosts to turn blue and run away. While the ghosts are blue you can eat them to gain massive bonus points.

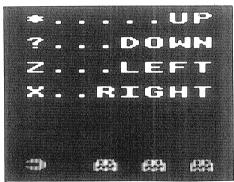
Once you have cleared a sheet, the dots are replaced and you carry on, until you lose three lives. Happy eating!

The best strategy for this game is to make use of the power pills, and the tunnels - because in this implementation the ghosts do not chase you through the tunnels.

The program is in two parts. The first is called "Munch" and sets up the user-defined graphics for use in the main program. It then CHAINs the main program which is called "Munch2". So type in the first program and save it as "Munch", then type in the main program and save it as "Munch2". To load Munch-Man, CHAIN in "Munch2". and this should run and auto-load "Munch2"

If you are using a disc system, you will need to use the move-down routine given below to relocate the main program at &EDO. Simply add these following lines to the start of "Munch2":

- Ø REM///Move down for Munch-Man
- 1 IF PAGE=&EØØ GOTO 10
- 2 *KEYØ *T.|MFORI%=Ø TO TOP-PAGE STEP4: I%!&EØØ=I%!&1900:
- N.|MPAGE=&EØØ|MOLD|MG.10|M
- 3 *FX138,0,128
- 4 END



- 10 REM Munch (Munch-Man Header)
- 20 REM Version 1A
- 30 REM by Andrew Hynes
- 40 50 VDU23,224,102,102,102,102,102,102
- ,102,102 60 VDU23,225,0,255,255,0,0,255,255,0 70 VDU23,226,0,127,127,96,96,103,103
- ,102 80 VDU23,227,0,254,254,6,6,230,230,1
- 02 90 VDU23,245,0,0,0,255,255,0,0,0
- 100 VDU23,246,60,126,255,255,255,255,126,60
- 110 VDU23,228,102,103,103,96,96,127,1 27,0
- 120 VDU23,229,102,230,230,6,6,254,254
- 130 VDU23,230,102,102,102,102,102,126,126,0

```
150 VDU23,232,0,254,254,6,6,254,254,0
                                              250 IFTIME>1500/sheet% ANDEAT=1:EAT=0
  160 VDU23,233,0,127,127,96,96,127,127
                                              260 UNTIL tot%=187 OR KILL=1
,Ø
                                              27Ø IF tot%=187:GOTO 15Ø
  170 VDU23,234,102,230,230,6,6,230,230
                                              280 PROCkilled: IF lives%>0:GOTO 170
                                              290 PROCend: UNTIL FALSE
,102
                                              300
  18Ø VDU23,235,102,231,231,0,0,255,255
                                              310 DEFFNcalcX(X)
,Ø
                                              320 IF X>19:X=0
  190 VDU23,236,102,103,103,96,96,103,1
                                              330 IF X<0:X=19
Ø3,1Ø2
  200 VDU23, 237, 60, 126, 255, 224, 224, 255,
                                              340 = X
                                              350
126,60
  210 VDU23,238,60,126,255,7,7,255,126,
                                              360 DEFFNcalcY(Y)
                                              370 IF Y>24:Y=0
60
  220 VDU23, 239, 36, 102, 231, 231, 231, 255,
                                              38Ø IF Y<Ø:Y=24
                                              39Ø =Y
  230 VDU23,240,60,126,255,231,231,231,
                                              400
                                              410 DEFPROCtime (T)
102,36
                                              420 TM=TIME: REPEAT UNTIL TIME>TM+T
  240 VDU23,241,0,0,42,0,34,0,42,0
  250 VDU23,242,8,73,42,0,99,0,42,73
                                               430 ENDPROC
  260 VDU23,243,126,90,219,255,213,171,
                                               440
255,219
                                               450 DEFPROCprint score(S%)
  27Ø VDU23,244,198,56,108,222,190,222,
                                               460 score%=score%+S%
108,56
                                               47Ø COLOUR7:PRINTTAB(1,1);score%
  280
                                               48Ø ENDPROC
  290 CLEAR: CHAIN "Munch2"
                                               490
500 DEFPROCpacman
    10 REM Munch2
                                               510 OX%=pacX%:OY%=pacY%:SC=score%:IF
    20 REM Version 1A
                                            pac$<>CHR$246:OP$=pac$
    30 REM By Andrew Hynes
                                               520 dir$=INKEY$(0)
    40 *TV255
                                               530 IF dir$=":" pac$=CHR$239:pacY%=pa
    50 *FX 11,1
                                             cY%-1
    60 *FX 12,1
                                               540 IF dir$="/" pac$=CHR$240:pacY%=pa
    7Ø ON ERROR GOTO 212Ø
                                             CY8+1
    8Ø MODE2: VDU23; 82Ø2; Ø; Ø; Ø;
                                               550 IF dir$="Z" pac$=CHR$238:pacX%=pa
    9Ø ENVELOPE 1,1,4,-4,4,10,20,10,127,
                                             cX%-1
 \emptyset, \emptyset, -5, 126, 126
                                               560 IF dir$="X" pac$=CHR$237:pacX%=pa
   100 H%=0:DIM maze$(19,24),ghost(2,2)
                                             cX%+1
   110 REPEAT
                                               570 pacY%=FNcalcY(pacY%):pacX%=FNcalc
   120 PRINTTAB(5,2) "MUNCHMAN" TAB(6,9) "*
                                             X(pacX%)
 .....UP"TAB(6,11)"?...DOWN"TAB(6,13)"Z.
                                               580 IF dir$="" AND pac$=CHR$246 THEN
 ..LEFT"TAB(6,15)"X..RIGHT"
                                              pac$=OP$ ELSE IF dir$="" pac$=CHR$246
   13Ø VDU17,3,31,6,21,238,17,6,32,32,24
                                               590 A$=maze$(pacX%,pacY%)
 3,32,243,32,243:PROCspace
                                               600 IF A$=".":PROCprint score(2):SOUN
   140 lives%=3:score%=0:sheet%=0:ghost=
                                             D1,1,60,1:tot%=tot%+1
 Ø:dir$=" "
                                               610 IF A$=CHR$244:PROCprint score(100
   150 PROCsetup maze:TIME=0:fruit=0:EAT
                                             ):PROCno fruit:SOUND1,1,150,2
                                               620 IF A$="+":PROCprint score(50):EAT
   160 COLOUR7: PRINTTAB(1,0) "Score" TAB(1
                                             =1:TIME=0:SOUND1,1,100,2
 4) "High"
                                               630 IF SC=score% AND A$<>" ":pacX%=OX
   170 PROCprint score(0):PRINTTAB(19-LE
                                             %:pacY%=OY%
 N(STR$(H%)),1);H%:COLOUR3:PRINTTAB(1,29
                                               64Ø VDU17,3,31,OX%,OY%+3,32
 )STRING$(lives%-1,CHR$237+" ")" "
                                               650 PRINTTAB(pacX%,pacY%+3);pac$
   18Ø REPEAT: *FX 15,0
                                               660 maze$(pacX%,pacY%)=" "
   190 ghost=ghost+1:IF ghost=3:ghost=0
                                               67Ø ENDPROC
   200 PROCpacman: PROCcheck
                                               680
   210 IF EAT=1:SOUND1,-14,150,1
                                               69Ø DEFPROCrub out ghost(G%):COLOUR4
   220 IFTIME>2000ANDfruit=0ANDtot%<150:
                                               700 M$=maze$(q\overline{host}(G%,1),qhost(G%,2))
 PROCfruit
                                               710 IF MS="." OR MS="+":COLOUR2
   230 IFRND(1)>.9:PROCdoor
                                               720 IF M$=CHR$244:COLOUR1
   240 IFfruit=1ANDTIME>3000/sheet%:PROC
                                               73Ø IF M$=CHR$245:COLOUR5
 no fruit
```

The state of the s	TO ASSEND USE OF A STREET AND ASSENDED.
740 PRINTTAB(ghost(G%,1),ghost(G%,2)+	1240 IF EAT=1:PROCprint_score(250):SOU
3) mazes (ghost (G%, 1), ghost (G%, 2))	ND1,1,250,1:PROCsetup ghosts (G%) ELSE K
75Ø ENDPROC	ILL=1
760	1250 NEXT
770 DEFPROCghost(G%):C=0	1260 ENDPROC
780 PROCrub_out_ghost(G%)	1270
79Ø IF EAT=T:COLOUR4 ELSE COLOURghost	1280 DEFPROCkilled:COLOUR3
(G_{θ},\emptyset)	1290 FOR C=237 TO 242
800 IFEAT=0:DX%=1:DY%=1 ELSE DX%=-1:D	1300 VDU31,pacX%,pacY%+3,C
Y%=-1	1310 SOUND1,1,C/2,1:PROCtime(20)
810 IFG%=0:PROCvert:IFC=0:PROChoriz	1320 NEXT
820 IFG%=1:PROChoriz:IFC=0:PROCvert	1330 VDU31,pacX%,pacY%+3,32
83Ø IFG%=2:PROChoriz:PROCvert	1340 FOR G%=0 TO 2
840 PRINTTAB(ghost(G%,1),ghost(G%,2)+	1350 PROCrub_out_ghost(G%)
3) CHR\$243	1360 PROCsetup_ghosts(G%)
85Ø ENDPROC 86Ø	1370 NEXT
	1380 PROCpac:lives%=lives%-l
870 DEFPROCVERT	139Ø ENDPROC
880 A=FNcalcY(ghost(G%,2)+DY%) 890 B=FNcalcY(ghost(G%,2)-DY%)	1400 1410 DEFPROCend
900 IFpacY%>ghost(G%,2)=A	
:C=]	1420 IF score%>H%:H%=score%
910 IFpacY% <ghost(g%,2):ghost(g%,2)=b< td=""><td>1430 COLOUR7: PRINTTAB(19-LEN(STR\$(H%)), 1); H%</td></ghost(g%,2):ghost(g%,2)=b<>	1430 COLOUR7: PRINTTAB(19-LEN(STR\$(H%)), 1); H%
:C=1	1440 PROCspace
92Ø ENDPROC	145Ø ENDPROC
930	1460
940 DEFPROChoriz	1470 DEFPROCspace:*FX 15,0
950 A=FNcalcX(ghost(G%,1)+DX%)	1480 VDU17,15,31,1,30:PRINT"SPACE BAR
960 B=FNcalcX(ghost(G%,1)-DX%)	TO START"
970 IFpacX%>ghost(G%,1):ghost(G%,1)=A	1490 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32:VDU12,17,7
:C=1	1500 ENDPROC
980 IFpacX% <ghost(g%,1):ghost(g%,1)=b< td=""><td>1510</td></ghost(g%,1):ghost(g%,1)=b<>	1510
:C=1	1520 DEFPROCsetup_ghosts(G%)
990 ENDPROC	1530 RESTORE 1840
1000	1540 FOR D%=0 TO G%: READ COL, X: NEXT
1010 DEFPROCdoor	1550 ghost(G%,1)=X
1020 D%=RND(4):RESTORE1850	156Ø ghost(G%,2)=12
1030 FORF%=1 TO D%:READX,Y:NEXT	1570 ghost(G%,0)=COL
1040 IF X=pacX% AND Y=pacY%:GOTO 1020 1050 IF maze\$(X,Y)=" ":maze\$(X,Y)=CHR\$	158Ø ENDPROC
245 ELSE maze\$ (X,Y) =" "	1590
1060 VDU17,5,31,X,Y+3,ASC(maze\$(X,Y))	1600 DEFPROCPAC
1070 ENDPROC	1610 pacX%=9:pacY%=20:pac\$=CHR\$237 1620 ENDPROC
1080	163Ø
1090 DEFPROCfruit	1640 DEFPROCsetup_maze
1100 VDU17,1,31,9,18,244	1650 FORG%=OTO2:PROCsetup_ghosts(G%):N
lllØ fruit=1:TIME=Ø	EXT
112Ø maze\$(9,15)=CHR\$244	1660 PROCpac:tot%=0:sheet%=sheet%+1
113Ø ENDPROC	167Ø COLOUR128:RESTORE 186Ø
1140	168Ø FOR D%=3 TO 27
1150 DEFPROCno_fruit	1690 READ maze\$
1160 VDU31,9,18,32:fruit=0	1700 FOR E%=0 TO 19
117Ø maze\$(9,15)=" "	1710 A\$=MID\$(maze\$,E%+1,1)
118Ø ENDPROC	1720 IF A\$>="A" AND A\$<="M":M\$=CHR\$(AS
1190	C(A\$)+159):COLOUR4 ELSE M\$=A\$:COLOUR2
1200 DEFPROCCheck:KILL=0	1730 PRINTTAB(E%,D%)M\$
1210 FOR G%=0 TO 2	1740 maze\$(E%,D%-3)=M\$
1220 IF G%=ghost:PROCghost(G%)	1750 NEXT
123Ø IF ghost(G%,1) <>pacX% OR ghost(G%	1760 NEXT
,2)<>pacY%:GOTO 1250	1770 VDU19,2,9,0,0,0,19,4,14,0,0,0

```
1780 FOR D%=1 TO 21
                                        1970 DATA"BLBI...A
                                                            A. . MBBBLB"
179Ø SOUND 2,-15,D%*2,1
                                        1980 DATA" ...JBK
                                                           MI.G... "
1800 SOUND 1,-15,D%*3,1
                                        1990 DATA"BD.H...A
                                                            A....H.CB"
                                        2000 DATA" A.MBI.EBBBF.CI.A.A "
1810 NEXT: VDU20
1820 ENDPROC
                                        2010 DATA" M K.... ... A.. M K "
                                        2020 DATA" A.EI.JBI.H.CK.JF.A "
1830
1840 DATA 1,1,5,9,6,18
                                        2040 DATA" MBBI.H.H.A....JBBK "
1850 DATA 9,1,9,22,2,15,17,15
1860 DATA"
                                        2050 DATA" A....A.G.EBBI....A "
                AA
1870 DATA" CBBBBBBL LBBBBBBBD "
                                        2060 DATA" A.CD.A.. .....CD.A "
1880 DATA" A+.....+A "
                                        2070 DATA" A.EF.G.H.H.JBBLF.A "
1890 DATA" A.CI.JBD.CBI.JBD.A "
                                        2080 DATA" A+....M K.....+A "
1900 DATA" A.G....A.A.....G.A
                                        2090 DATA" EBBBBBBK MBBBBBBBF "
1910 DATA" A...CI.G.G.JBD...A "
                                        2100 DATA"
                                                         AA
1920 DATA" A.H.G.....A.H.A "
                                        2110
1930 DATA" A.G...CBD.CD.A.A.A "
                                        2120 ON ERROR OFF
1940 DATA" A...H.EBF.EF.G.A.A "
                                        213Ø MODE 7: *FX12
2140 REPORT: PRINT" at line "; ERL
1960 DATA" A...G.CBBBD.JD...A "
                                        2150 END
```

BRAIN TEASER

by Gareth Sugget

REVERSI COUNTING

Many readers will be familiar with the game of Reversi (or Othello). is played on an 8 x 8 board, of which initially the central four squares are occupied by two counters of each colour (black and white). Each move consists of a player placing a counter on the board adjacent to a piece of opposite colour, trapping at least line of opposing counters between the man just placed and another of the same All such lines are then colour. 'reversed' in colour. If no such move is available, play passes

If neither player can move opponent. the game is over.

In programming this game I wanted to set up an array which would, at each stage of the game, store a list of the moves available to the player. To save memory I wanted to keep the dimension of this array as small as possible. How large does it need to be ? In other words what is the largest number of moves that can be available to a player ? Another question connected with this game is "What is the shortest possible game ?".

<u>HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS HINTS</u>

SIMPLIFYING CHARACTER DEFINITIONS - Alan Baker

When using VDU 23 it is much easier to use hex numbers as this splits the problem up into adding up 4 bit nibbles rather than 8 bit decimal numbers. eq.

VDU23, 224,60,126,219,255,126,60,36,66

can be replaced by:

VDU23,224,&3C,&7E,&DB,&FF,&7E,&3C,&24,&42

This can then be shortened to:

VDU23,224,&7E3C;&FFDB;&3C7E;&4224;

With a saving of three bytes.

ABBREVIATION FOR COLOUR - N.Sharma

N.Sharma reminds us that the abbreviation for colour is C. For a full list abbreviations see the user guide, page 484 or the BEEBUG reference card page 4.



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BEEBUG (c) October 1983.

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Speech count; Munchyman; Stairs; Fabrics; Invisible alarm; Teletext programs; Joystick initialisation; Prelude XII by Bach and an NEC printer dump.
For ordering information see

BEEBUGSOFT advertisement at the back of this month's magazine supplement.

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