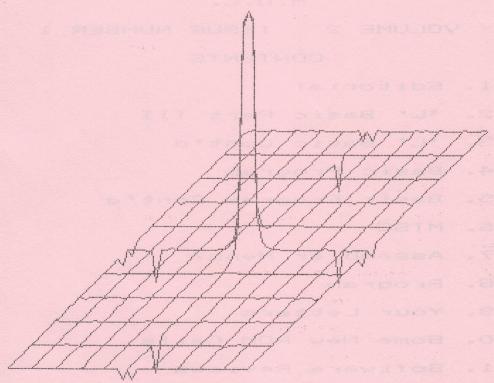
VOL. 2 ISSUE 1

MEMOTECH OWNERS CLUB



FEATURES:-

DBASE PARTIII

NEW ROM CALLS!!

BASIC PROG

CIRCA ... 200 ish

rd a Chata

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EDITORIAL

Phil Eyres 23 Denmead Road Harefield Southampton SO2 568

Well, as Summer draws to a close?, there's an Autumn 'nip' in the evening air?, the nights are drawing in and yet another computing season starts. Tee..Hee!! ...I'm only 'gee'ing you up about our fantastic summer, I can do this as I'm off to Tenerife for two weeks from the 8th. Oh! because of this there will be a slight delay in answering some of the mail.

On a 'not so good' note, our membership renewals have been a bit disappointing, out of 130 renewals we've had bear!y 60 so far, we decided to send out notes to those who have not renewed to prompt them into action, also a new drive will be launched to 'recruit' new members, although from experience this has proved to be a long process.

By the time you read this, we should have been on a visit to Memotech, as they have invited us to one of their 'dealer days'. We are hoping that this will be fruitful in that it will provide us with information as to their position in the British market. (We heard recently that they were trying hard to get a major chain store to accept the Memotech in time for Christmas).

This is a small note to everyone that has bought a Speech Synthesiser kit from us, one member has experienced a problem in that all he could get out of his SP was a continuous 'buzz' regardless of volume control, after investigation it was found that the kit required a voltage de-coupling capacitor extra to the components supplied, should anyone else having one of the early kits have this problem please get in contact with us and we will send on the necessary component. N.B. It's only a little electrolytic capacitor worth about 9p.

Thanks to everyone that has used our Hotline on Monday evenings between 6 & 7pm, remember we always look forward to hearing from you, the number to phone is Bursledon (042121) 5489. Ask for Rich!

If anyone would like back issues they are available for all past magazines for the small remittance of 80p.

It should be noted that all articles are the copyright of the sender and M.O.C., anyone wishing to have articles published elsewhere should inform us first. Richard Adams
18 Nightingale Rd
Pilands Estate
Bursledon
Southampton

Our first year is now complete and we think that it has been a success, although the club still owes £857 we are pleased that we have been able to make a significant repayment on the loan. We have been able to keep the cost of the magazine to the member the same as last year, this was mainly due to the change of print format, but we will have to keep the situation under review because of pending increases in postage and paper.

M.O.C. Accounts Ending 31-8-85

| Total Money from Membership etc | 2363.34 | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--|
| | | |
| Breakdown Of Income | | |
| Magazine Production Costs | 1071.64 | |
| Holding Account | 876.00 | |
| Current Account Money | 415.70 | |
| Tot | al 2363.34 | |
| Money Borrowed for Equipement | 1733.00 | |
| Money Paid Off Interest Free Loan | 876.00 | |
| Outstanding Loan Balance | 857.00 | |
| | | |
| Money Retained For Running Cost | 415.70 | |
| Interest From Holding Account | 5.68 | |
| Total Retaine | d 421.38 | |

For Sale

Dave West has the following equipement for sale :-

MTX 500

(All original packing, including Manual, Leads, Tapes etc)
Printer Cable, Obloids, Mission Alphatron, MTX Data File,
Brunword, 4 Tapes Home Recorded with various routines.
2 Books

Lots Of Printed Info From Memotech
Back Issues Of MOC (The BRILLIANT MOC Mag!!!)

Asking Price Only £130.00 o.n.o

Please contact Dave West on 0296 33020

L BASIC PART III

This month I have tackled the problem of Saving data to tape. Originally I thought that this was going to be a simple task, it has however turned out to be quite a challenge. I have made two routines to cover this, the first method is simple and barely covers the basics of data saving, using the only command available to the standard MTX. The second method is much more 'inline' with data manipulation techniques using cassette based systems, it does however require the use of data save and load utility on the MTX utilities tape.

The first version, version 1.0 will have to suffice for those who do not have the MTX utility, it works but has a definite limitation in that the program cannot be modified without the loss of the data in FILE\$. So until the other routines have been written the program cannot be used. Basically the routine is dependant on only one line, line 2110, this will save, not only the data in the arrays DIM'ed at the beginning of the program, but the whole program. The progam is infact saved whilst it is running, so when it is reloaded the program will continue at line 2120, with all the data intact!. This is ok, but it does take a while to save, especially for those with MTX512's who have made the FILE\$ array larger to fill up their memory. Because the program 'auto-runs' on reloading from cassette it is not necessary to have a data load routine for this method.

The second method, overleaf is much more inline with data save and load methods, although it is still resticted due to the use of a cassette as a magnetic data holding media. The method used for version 2 is infact technically called sequencial filing, that is, all the files are stored one after the other on cassette and are only retrievable in that precise order. So, it is necessary to make sure the order of data saving is well defined, it is also

necessary to save other data as well as FILE\$ to ensure the correct state of the program is returned to on data load. That is, the number of files stored 'REC(1)' must be saved, also the file FNAME\$ and the variable FIELD must be saved. For this to happen correctly, a couple of slight adjustments have to be made to the Open file routine, they are:

- 1. All references to REC must be changed to REC(1).
- 2. All references to FIELD must be changed to FIELD(1).

!!! This is not necessary for version 1 !!! Also, whilst on the point of modifying the Open file routine, two other little ideas for improvement have occurred to me, they are:-

- A check should be made to ensure a maximum of 100 FILE's can be entered. i.e.
- 3325 IF REC(1)=101 THEN CLS: CSR 5,3: PRINT "FILE NOW FULL: 60T0 3410
- 2. A couple of lines should be added at the beginning of the routine to clear the arrays FILE\$ and FNAME\$. I'll leave this to you as it is not too difficult!!

If anyone would like a listing of the program so far, please send a SAE stating which version you would like. Note, for version 2 you will require the MTX utility tape.

The state of the DIM'ed variables and arrays has been printed at the beginning of each listing for clarity.

You should now have a DBASE program with which you can input and store data. Next month I'll try and shine some light on displaying the data on your T.V./Monitor and printer.

1998 REM SAVE DATA TO TAPE

1999 REM-----

2000 CLS

2010 CSR 7,3: PRINT "!!!DATA SAVE ROUTINE!!!"

2020 CSR 7,4: PRINT " ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

2025 IF REC(1)<2 THEN CSR 13,7: PRINT "FILE EMPTY": PAUSE 3000: GOTO 2120 2027 CSR 7,15: PRINT "NAME OF FILE TO BE SAVED": CSR 12,17: INPUT FILNAME\$

2030 CSR 4,10: PRINT "START CASSETTE AND PRESS RETURN!";

2040 INPUT W\$

2050 IF W\$="" THEN GOTO 2100

2060 CSR 9,7: PRINT "!!! SAVE ABORTED !!!"

2070 PAUSE 3000

2080 RETURN

2100 CSR 12,7: PRINT "!!! SAVING !!!"

2110 SAVE FILNAME\$

2120 RETURN

```
5 REM-----
10 REM DBASE BY PHIL EYRES V2.0
20 REM-----
30 DIM FILE$(100,6,30)
40 DIM FNAME$(6,20),REC(1)
50 LET REC(1)=0
60 DIM FIELD(1), DUMMY$(1,30)
70 DIM Z$(30)
997 REM-----
998 REM INPUT DATA FROM CASSETTE
999 REM-----
1000 CLS
1010 CSR 7,3: PRINT "!!!DATA LOAD ROUTINE!!!"
1030 CSR 4,10: PRINT "START CASSETTE AND PRESS RETURN!";
1040 INPUT W$
1050 IF W$="" THEN GOTO 1100
1060 CSR 9,7: PRINT "!!! LOAD ABORTED !!!"
1070 PAUSE 3000
1080 RETURN
1100 DISC LOAD REC(1)
1110 DISC LOAD FIELD(1)
1120 FOR I=1 TO FIELD(1)
1130 DISC LOAD FNAME$(I)
1140 NEXT
1150 FOR I=1 TO REC(1)-1
1160 FOR P=1 TO FIELD(1)
1170 DISC LOAD Z$
1173 LET FILE\$(I,P)=Z\$
1180 NEXT P: NEXT I
1190 RETURN
1997 REM-----
1998 REM SAVE DATA TO TAPE
1999 REM-----
2000 CLS
2010 CSR 7,3: PRINT "!!!DATA SAVE ROUTINE!!!"
2030 IF REC(1)<2 THEN CSR 13,7: PRINT "FILE EMPTY": PAUSE 3000: RETURN
2040 CSR 7,15: PRINT REC(1)-1; " FILES BEING SAVED"
2050 CSR 4,10: PRINT "START CASSETTE AND PRESS RETURN!";
2060 INPUT W$
2070 IF W$="" THEN GOTO 2200
2080 CSR 9,7: PRINT "!!! SAVE ABORTED!!!"
2090 PAUSE 3000
2100 RETURN
2110 CSR 12,7: PRINT "!!! SAVING !!!"
2200 DISC SAVE REC(1)
2210 DISC SAVE FIELD(1)
2220 FOR I=1 TO FIELD(1)
2230 LET Z$=FNAME$(I): DISC SAVE FNAME$(I)
2240 NEXT
2250 FOR I=1 TO REC(1)-1
2260 FOR P=1 TO FIELD(1)
2265 PRINT FILE$(I,P)
2270 LET Z$=FILE$(I,F): DISC SAVE Z$
2280 NEXT P: NEXT I
2300 RETURN
```

```
2140 GENPAT 1,131,80,80,80,80,80,80,80,80,80
2150 GENPAT 1,132,10,10,10,10,10,10,10
2160 GENPAT 1,132,0,192,46,136,100,20,18,10
2170 GENPAT 1,134,0,0,0,0,192,32,144,80
2180 GENPAT 1,135,80,144,32,192,0,0,0,0
2190 GENPAT 1,136,10,18,20,100,136,48,192,0
2200 GENPAT 1,138,80,72,40,38,17,12,3,0
2210 GENPAT 1,138,80,72,40,38,17,12,3,0
2210 GENPAT 1,139,0,3,12,17,38,40,72,80
2230 GENPAT 1,140,0,0,0,3,4,9,10
2240 GENPAT 4,2,0,0,0,0,3,7,15,15
2250 GENPAT 5,2,15,15,7,3,0,0,0,0
2210 GENPAT 5,2,15,15,7,3,0,0,0,0
2220 GENPAT 7,2,176,208,224,192,0,0,0,0
2286 GENPAT 6,2,0,0,0,192,224,240,112
2270 GENPAT 7,2,176,208,224,192,0,0,0,0
2280 SPRITE 2,2,24,176,0,0,15; REM BALL
2290 GENPAT 1,141,3,12,48,64,112,76,35,32
2300 GENPAT 1,142,192,48,12,2,14,50,196,68
2310 GENPAT 1,143,32,16,25,22,8,8,12,3
2320 GENPAT 1,144,68,136,8,8,16,16,48,192
2330 GENPAT 5,3,14,15,7,3,0,0,0,0
2350 GENPAT 5,3,14,15,7,3,0,0,0,0
2350 GENPAT 6,3,0,0,0,0,192,224,240,240
2360 GENPAT 7,3,240,240,224,192,0,0,0,0
2350 GENPAT 1,141,15,7,3,0,0,0,0
2350 GENPAT 5,3,14,15,7,3,0,0,0,0
2350 GENPAT 6,3,0,10,0,0,10,10,10,10
2400 LET RDU=RDU+1
2700 LET RDU=RDU+1
 2600 LET SC=0: LET ROU=0: REM +++ SCORE & ROUND +++
2700 LET ROU=ROU+1
2705 IF ROUAS THEN LET WIDTH1=4: LET WIDTH2=8 ELSE LET WIDTH1=1: LET WIDTH2=14
2710 LET BAL=INT(RND*WIDTH2)+WIDTH1: REM BALL POSITION
2720 ADJSPR 2,2,16*BAL+8: ADJSPR 3,2,76
2725 REM +++ ADJUST II TO SUIT SKILL +++
2730 IF ROU=2 OR ROUJ4 THEN LET TI=900 ELSE LET TI=1000
2740 LET PIP=0: REM +++ PIPES USED +++
2750 CLS: CSR 11,0: PRINT "TIME =":TI
2760 ADJSPR 2,1,120: ADJSPR 3,168
2770 IF ROU=3 THEN LET SPACE=1 ELSE LET SPACE=0
2780 LET BUK=INT(RND*WIDTH2)+WIDTH1: REM +++ BUCKET POSITION +++
2820 GDT 100
2810 LET X=7: LET Y=1: REM +++ HAND COORDINATES +++
2820 GDT 100
3000 INK 4
3010 FOR X=1 TO 10
3020 FOR Y=WIDTH1 TO WIDTH2+WIDTH1-1
3030 IF Y=BUK OR Y=BAL THEN LET F=INT(RND*6) ELSE LET F=INT(RND*(6+SPACE))
3050 IF F=1 THEN LET B=131: LET C=132: LET D=131: LET E=132
3070 IF F=3 THEN LET B=135: LET C=132: LET D=131: LET E=132
3070 IF F=3 THEN LET B=135: LET C=132: LET D=131: LET E=132
3070 IF F=3 THEN LET B=135: LET C=132: LET D=131: LET E=132
3070 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=132
3070 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=5 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=6 THEN LET B=39: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=6 THEN LET B=139: LET C=129: LET D=131: LET E=130
3090 IF F=6 THEN LET B=139: LET C=32: LET D=32: LET E=32
3200 CSR 2*Y,2*X+1: PRINT CHR*(B);CHR*(E)
3210 CSR 2*Y,2*X+1: PRINT CHR*(B);CHR*(E)
3220 CSR 2*BUK,22: PRINT CHR*(141);CHR*(144);
3290 GSR 2*BUK,23: PRINT CHR*(144);CHR*(144);
           3290 INK 4
3900 RETURN
4000 INK 1: ADJSPR 2,1,0: ADJSPR 2,2,0
4010 CLS: CSR 11,1: PRINT "BALL FALL
4020 CSR 11,4: PRINT "Scorecard
4030 CSR 3,7: IF BUK=1 THEN PRINT "Ball in bucket = 3000 pts." ELSE PRINT "Ball missed buck
       4040 CSR 2,9: PRINT PIP;" pipes used =";PIP*100;" pts."
4045 LET F=(BUK*3000)+(PIP*100): REM ROUND SCORE
4050 CSR 3,11: PRINT "Round";ROU;" score =";F;" pts."
4060 CSR 3,13: PRINT "Previous rounds=";SC;" pts."
4070 LET SC=SC+F
4080 CSR 3,15: PRINT "New Score =";SC;" pts."
4090 CSR 3,19: PRINT "Today's Hiscore=";HISC;" pts."
4100 IF BUK=0 THEN GOTO 4200
4110 CSR 3,22: PRINT "Press any key for next round"
4120 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 4120 ELSE GOTO 2700
4200 CSR 11,17: PRINT "GAME OVER"
4210 IF SC>HISC THEN LET HISC=SC
4220 CSR 3,22: PRINT "Press any key for a new game"
4230 IF INKEY$="" THEN GOTO 4230 ELSE GOTO 2600
9999 SAVE "Ball Fall": RUN
```

"THE LATE LATE PAGET!

This page was set aside for an advert from the Micro Technology Support Centre, when in the final (Ed-) Late Late!) stages of printing they decided to withdraw their advert, when prompted for a reason, they said that they were no longer going to support the Memotech range because of the poor sales. This, all and all, has left us somewhat in the 'mire', we have no software advert and no time to get the latest titles and prices to print our own. So for this month all we can do is offer what we have in stock, next month we will try and make amends by finding some new titles.

| * | SOFTWARE | * |
|-----|--|-----|
| | SUMMER | .4. |
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SPEECH SYNTHESISER

Over the past month I have built and tested my Speech Synthesiser, I must say it is quite imppressive, the speech does actually sound like English!, I have utilised the internal port connector used for the LED kit so anyone with the connecting lead will only have to build and plug in. The connector is still available from us and as far as I know we are the only people supplying the lead ready built.

Why buy the speech synthesiser as a kit?, well apart from the saving in cost, building electronics projects is really a great hobby, this kit is fairly easy to build (a bit more of a challenge than the previous kit), and it will no doubt teach many something about electronic principles. It really is better value for money to actually build it yourself, all you will need is a soldering iron, smaller pair of wire cutters and some spare time.

I have a simple program that uses DATA strings to hold the data for the words and I am currently working on a better program that would allow DSI (Direct Screen Input) to make

and modify data. In the future I intend to build a small board that will allow data ROM's to be connected to the Synthesiser to save on time needed to build up speech data. (All I have to find is a supplier!!)

Anyway, I still need about a week to finalise the sheets needed for the project and to get hold of the necessary components, so if you would like a kit then send me your order at the beginning of July.

Interface price list

A full set of components and instructions for the LED kit
-->£6.95

A full set of components and instructions for the Speech Synthasiser kit -->£18.00

Connecting cable for the internal port (needed for both projects) -->£4.50

All prices are fully inclusive. Please allow 14 days for delivery and make checks payable to MOC.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU

By

C.J.Staniuszko

As a member of MOC, I feel that it's about time I stopped being just a receiver of information and started to contribute towards the contents of the magazine. Attempting to learn assembler, I decided to write a routine which would enable me to practice some techniques and become more familiar with the instructions. One of my BASIC programs requires a number of menus, so this seemed to be a reasonable place to begin, after all, throwing information onto the screen is fairly easy once you learn a couple of rules about the RST 10 instruction. After a period of typing lots of 'CP' instructions; - one for every option; it struck me that this was an incredibly inefficient way of testing for results.

After a cup or two of coffee, it struck me that it should be possible to produce a 'look up table' which I could then use to redirect the PC to different parts of a routine upon the results of a keypress. What didn't occur to me at the time of writing the routine was that it could also be used to simulate a sort of assembler 'ON 60TO' instruction, some minor alterations would no doubt produce an 'ON GOSUB' instruction.

```
; MENU/ON-GOTO ROUTINE By C.J.STANIUSZKO 7.7.85
                                                                        POP AF
   ; 'MENU' HOLDS THE CURRENT MENU ie.MAIN=0 MAINT=1
                                                                        EI
   ; 'TABLE1' HOLDS THE ASCII OF KEYS WHICH MAY BE
                                                                        RET
     PRESSED WHILE AT A MENU.
                                                                        NOP
                                                              START:
   ; 'TABLE2' HOLDS THE LOCATIONS TO BE JUMPED TO UPON
                                                                        PUSH AF
     THE TEST AGAINST 'TABLE1'.
                                                                        PUSH BC
   ; TABLES 1&2 MAY LATER BE ALTERED TO HOLD THE
                                                                        PUSH DE
     RESULTS OF CALCULATIONS AS LONG AS THESE HAVE
                                                                        PUSH HL
     THEIR OWN GROUP 'MENU' No.
                                                                        PHSH IX
   ; 'MOFFST' HOLDS THE ACTUAL LOCATION OF THE FIRST
                                                                        PHSH IY
     KEY TEST BYTE IN 'TABLE1' RE. THE CURRENT MENU.
                                                                        JP MAIN
   ; 'GOFFST' AS 'MOFFST' BUT FOR 'TABLE2'.
                                                              MAINT:
                                                                        NOP
                                                                        RST 10
MT1:
                        * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
                                                                        DB £6D, £BO, "MAINTENANCE MENU"
MT2:
                        THIS PROGRAM SHOULD BE ENTERED
                                                                        DB £A3,£OA,£OA,£DD,£AD,"F1 START FILE"
MT3:
          NOP
                        USING YOUR ASSEMBLER. (SEE
                                                                        DB £A2,£A0,£OD,£AE, "F2 ADD TO FILE"
MT4:
         NOP
                        MANUAL
                                  FOR INSTRUCTIONS)
                                                                        DB £A2,£0A,£0D,£AE,"F3 DELETE ITEM"
          JP INKEY
MT5:
                        MEMORY LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN
                                                                        DB £A2,£OA,£OD,£AE, "F4 INSERT ITEM"
MT6:
          JP MAIN
                       OMITTED FROM THE LEFT COLUMN
                                                                        DB £A2,£0A,£0D,£A7,"F5 SORT"
          NOP
M1:
                        AS THESE DIFFER BETWEEN MTX500
                                                                        DB £A2,£OA,£OD,£97,"SFB RETURN TO MAIN MENU"
M2:
         NOP
                        AND MTX512/R5128.
                                                                        LD HL. MENU
          JP INKEY
M3:
                        * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
                                                                                       :TELL THE PROGRAM WHICH MENU
                                                                        LD (HL),1
         JP MAINT
M4:
                                                                        JP OFFST
                                                                                       :SORT OUT DISPLACEMENTS
QUIT:
          JP END
                                                                        RST 10
                                                              MAIN:
MENU:
          DB 1
                                                                        DB £6D,£A9, "MAIN MENU"
MOFFST:
                    ;HOLDS ACTUAL POS. OF FIRST APPL. KEY
          DW 1
                                                                        DB &A3, £OD, £OA, £OA, £B2, "F1 EXTENDED REPORT"
                    ; " " " TABLE 2
GOFFST:
         DW 1
                                                                        DB £A2,£OD,£OA,£B4,"F2 COMPRESSED REPORT"
TABLE1:
          DB £80,£81,£82,£83,£8F,0,£80,£81,£82,£83,£84
                                                                        DB £A2,£OD,£OA,£B3,*F3 GRAPHICAL REPORT*
          DB £8F.0
                                                                        DB £A3,£OD,£OA,£OA,£B3,"F4 FILE MAINTENANCE"
TABLE2:
          DW M1, M2, M3, M4, QUIT, O, MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, MT5, MT6
                                                                        DB £A4,£OD,£OA,£OA,£OA,£88,"SF8 QUIT"
          NOP
END:
                    ; USE TO CLEAN UP
                                                                        LD HL, MENU
                                                                                       :TELL THE PROGRAM WHICH MENU
          POP IY
                                                                        LD (HL),0
                                                                                       ; IS IN USE MAIN MENU=0
          POP IX
                                                              OFFST:
                                                                                       ; OFFST - INKEY FINDS THE FIRST
                                                                        LD HL, MENU
          POP HL
                                                                                       ; APPL. DATA FOR EACH MENU
                                                                        LD B, (HL)
         POP DE
                                                                        LD HL. TABLE1
          POP BC
                                                                        LD A, B
```

| LOOP1: | OR A JP Z,SAVE LD A,(HL) OR A INC HL JR NZ,LOOP1 | ; IF MAIN MENU IS BEING USED | COMP: | JP 60 LD HL,MOFFST LD E,(HL) INC HL LD D,(HL) EX DE,HL | , |
|--------|---|---|--------|---|--|
| SAVE: | OR A JR NZ,LOOP1 EX DE,HL LD HL,MOFFST | ;DEC THE COUNT FROM MENU ;IS B=0? ;IF YES THEN THIS IS CORRECT DATA ;PUT THE ACTUAL POSITION OF ;FIRST ITEM IN MOFFST | | LD BC,O LD E,A LD A,(HL) OR A JR NZ,LOOP3 SCF RET | ;IF A=O THEN SET ZERD FLAG ;A<>O THEN GET NEXT BYTE ;SET CARRY FLAG |
| | LD (HL),D EX DE,HL LD DE,TABLE1 SBC HL,DE EX DE,HL LD HL,TABLE2 ADC HL,DE | ;PUT ACTUAL POSITION IN HL ;FIND OUT HOW FAR ALONG TABLE1 ;IS THE FIRST ITEM. ANS. IN DE ;ADD TWICE TO BEGINNING OF ;TABLE2 (16 BIT) ;DE HOLDS FIRST OFFSET VALUE | LOOP3: | RLC C RLC B ADD HL,BC LD B,(HL) | ;RESTORE KEY VALUE TO A ;TABLE VAL=KEY PRESSED? ;RETURN IF SO ;INCREMENT COUNT ;MOVE COUNTER ON ;LOOK AT NEXT VALUE ;REDIRECT PC ;POINT HL AT FIRST REDIRECTION ;DOUBLE INDEX ;OFFSET INTO TABLE ;GET ADDRESS LSB ON B |
| INKEY: | LD (HL),D CALL £79 | ;60FFST HOLDS ACTUAL ADDRESS OF ;FIRST 'JUMP TO' VALUE ;CALL KEYBOARD SCAN ;KEY PRESSED? ;CATCH THE INCORRECT KEYPRESS | | INC HL LD H, (HL) LD L, B JP (HL) REY | ;GET ADDRESS MSB IN H ;PUT LSB IN L ;DO ON-GOTO ADDRESS |

DESCRIPTION OF THE ROUTINE

It seemed pertinent to save all of the registers before entering the routine proper, and restore them upon leaving. (The EI is there just in case I had a brainstorm and stuck a DI somewhere-really infuriating). The first thing the routine proper does is throw the main menu onto the screen. It then places the value 0 in the variable 'MENU'. This acts as a counter for the next section which calculates the starting positions of each set of possible results for comparison (within TABLEI) and the equivelent locations to which jumps are required. After this, the routine goes to 'INKEY' and waits for a key to be pressed.

Once a key has been pressed, the routine calls 'COMP' which takes the ASCII value of the key and compares it against the table of possible results. If the key has not been allowed for, the carry flag is set, and the routine returns to the keyboard scan. If the key is one of those allowed for, the routine jumps to 'GO', which reads the equivelent value in 'TABLE2' to the keypress and redirects the program counter.

I have chosen to send the routine to an area of the program (MTI etc.) from where I redirect it again using JP instructions-purely for my own benefit while coding. At the moment all that the routine does is jump between two menus, but this serves to illustrate the principle.

If the routine was required only as an 'ON-GOTO' routine, the screen parts could, of course be ommitted, but each group of results would require it's own value for 'MENU'. Hence the routine, if taken to the extreme could cope with 255 groups of results, each group holding 255 different results.

Looking at the diagram, assuming that 'MENU' holds the value 1, the routine will take the value of any key pressed and test it gainst the first value after the first 0 in 'TABLE1' if it does not match, it is checked against the next value until it does match and the program then jumps to the location pointed at by the equivelent place in 'TABLE'. If no possible results match the value of the key, the 0 will be reached and the routine goes back to the 'INKEY' section.

YOUR LETTERS

*** Games High Score Table ***

TOADO 107549 N.GOODING BLOBBO 71233 T.PICKSTONE 11080 P.CRIGHTON OBLOIDS 60040 M.GELDER NEMO P.PETE 39630 A.DOBSON MISS.ALPH 43840 T.PICKSTONE KILOPEDE 33440 P.CRIGHTON GOLDMINE 6025 P. CRIGHTON CONT RAID 10810 M.GILL STAR COMM 90410 P.CRIGHTON 252830 M.6ILL TURBO M.GELDER MAXIMA 23030 00GO 2 138960* A.DOBSON ASTRO PAC 69390 A.DOBSON CORRA 5634* A.DOBSON SNAPPO 67100% A.DORSON T FIGHTER 2350 N.CRIGHTON S M/FIELD 829 P.CRIGHTON 1965 A.DOBSON ASTROMIL. 3070 A.DOBSON PHAID SON OF PETE 880 A.DOBSON F.DEEP 1290 A.DOBSON 17431 A.DOBSON S.SCANNER 7340* A.DOBSON ICEBERG KNUCKLES 488650 P.CRIGHTON 18450 T.PICKSTONE TAPEWORM 168515 A.DOBSON AT LEVEL 1 150500 A.DOBSON AT LEVEL 9 BOUNCING BILL 219,610* A.DOBSON LEVEL 1 BOUNCING BILL 158,334* A.DOBSON LEVEL 5 SNOUBALL 450 P.CRIGHTON AGROVATOR 61828* A.DOBSON

* Denotes new high score.

Hints & Tips

1. Ed-) Some time ago Tony Street of Hewelsfield, bought a Pothole Pete from the club, to his dismay (and ours) it seemed not to work, well it did, but really slowly. We promptly sent another copy, this time checking it before sending. (We sat back in confidence, ... a problem well solved?) It was funny though, the program loaded on our machhine!.

A week later, sure as 'eggs is eggs' we heard that it would not load. We sent a Son Of Pete, ..it still didn't work!.

Well, a Hardware problem was expected and a Hardware problem it turned out to be. The whole fiasco was caused by ...having a Pascal RDM fitted. So the word of warning is, if you have a ROM fitted, expect trouble with some of your software.

Questions And Answers

Ed-> I am always asking you to make suggestions for improving the magazine and club, so far I have had two sugestions, they are :-

Why do we not have a regular page of software for sale!, well, initially when Memotech first gave us a dealership, we included a list of software then available. We sold some software but we found that we ended up with amounts of stock that we could not get rid of. We therefore

decided to take an advert from MTSC, who's prices are probably the lowest around and they seem to stock just about everything!

We will however make an attempt in the future to find the 'best' software and sell that through the club.

The other suggestion read like this :"You asked for suggestions! Well here's one, keep going as
you are and you won't go far wrong."
Ed-> Many thanks to Alan Dobson for that inspiration!!

ROM Calls By Richard Dennis

After many hours spread over many months of wading through endless areas of ROM, I have found several useful ROM calls that may be of interest.

Using undocumented ROM calls (and most are undocumented!!) can cause problems due to the manufacturers changing the location of the ROM routines. However, in the absense of any direction from Memotech (will they remedy this in the future?) we are left to our own devices.

To illustrate the use of several of these calls I have written a short routine that illustrates what can be done. The actual program is not in itself anything special, but it will serve to give others an insight into what can be done.

LD DE.MESSAGE

CALL £28DC ; Get input from KBD buff
PUSH HL
POP DE ; DE=KBD buff address
RST 30 ; Convert Decimal to Hex
LD (ADDRESS), BC:Store Hex Number

LD A. "f"

CALL £CAB ;Send Reg A as ASCII
CALL £1B50 ;Send BC to scrn as Hex
RST 10
DB £19 ;Cursor forward 1 space

LD HL, (ADDRESS); Addr from I/P LD A, (HL); Get byte from memory

CALL £1855 ;Send Reg A to Screen

MESSAGE: DB £22, "ENTER DECIMAL ADDRESS ",£22,£FF,£FF ADDRESS: DS 2

20 REM Note this program does not check for incorrect entry

ROM CALLS

The two following routines were sent to me from a 'Hacking' member (Ed-> Sorry I've lost your name!), I think you may find them very handy if you're into assembler programming.

```
100 REM *******************
                                     110 REM * ROM MESSAGE PRINTING V2
                                    *
120 REM * Reg DE points to start of
130 REM * message, then call £02E8
140 REM *
                                     *
150 REM * Last byte of each message 160 REM * must be \pounds FF.
                                     *
                                     *
170 REM ********************
200 CODE
812F
             LD DE, STR1 ; String No. 1
8132
             CALL £02E8 ; Print it
             LD DE, STR2; String No. 2
8138
             CALL £02E8
813B
             RET
             DB "STRING PRINTING, AT ROM ADDRESS £02E8", £FF
813C STR1:
             DB 10,13 ; CRLF
8164
             DB "LAST BYTE OF STRING = £FF", £FF
817E
Symbols:
STR1 813C
                STR2
                        8162
100 REM ******************
110 REM * ROM INPUT ROUTINE £1885 *
120 REM * Characters input are stored*
130 REM * in the keyboard buffer. *
140 REM * System var. at £FA83 points*
150 REM * to start of keyboard buffer*
160 REM * On return from £1885 Reg C *
170 REM * = number of characters in * 180 REM * buffer, last entry = £FF *
190 REM ********************
200 CODE
8179
             LD DE, MESS1
817C
             CALL £02E8
817F
             CALL £1B85 ; Get input
8182
             LD DE, MESS2
             CALL £02E8 ; Print message 2
8185
8188
             LD DE,(£FA83) ; Address of buffer
818C
             CALL £02E8 ; Print input name.
             RET
818F
             DB "ENTER YOUR NAME ", £FF
8190 MESS1:
81A1 MESS2:
             DB 10,10,13
             DB "YOUR NAME IS ....", £FF
81A4
81B5
             RET
```

Symbols: MESS1 8190

MESS2

81A1

SOFTWARE REVIEWS

<u>ICEBURG</u>. Publisher SyntaxSoft Price (About) £4.95

Float around the sleepy lagoon merrily destroying iceburgs with this 'wet' version of the old classic 'Asteroids'.

This is a nice simple game for all ages, so don't expect too much, nothing shoots at you but you can be eliminated by touching an iceburg. (Be warned most of the iceburg is below the surface.)

The graphics are uncomplicated, only a two colour display. In the introduction you are warned to hurry before the blizzard arrives, but when it does nothing happens!!

A great feature of this game is the ability to switch off the sound, I wish more games featured this option. The sound, by the way, consists of bleeps, warbles and buzzes - you control the volume.

You also can select a slow game, but I think most players would not need this option. Both myself and my 4 year old daughter found it easier to play using joysticks.

This is not a game you would rush home each night to play but nevertheless nice to play now and again.

Playability =4 Lasting Interest =3 Graphics =2 Value for Money =3

Reviewed by Tony Street (& Co.!)

Bouncing Bill by Brian Rogers

This game is infuriatingly simple, but, be warned it can become an obsession. High scores must be possible, somehow I managed 19218 in just 10 minutes of play.

The game consists of 10 horizontal lines scrolling in both directions across the screen. Bill starts at the bottom and using the cursor keys must jump throu' gaps in successive lines to reach the top for a bonus score. Each time Bill manages to climb to the top, increasing numbers of white balls roll down the screen knocking poor Bill flat and causing him to fall throu' the gaps and, if he is really unlucky, right to the bottom to lose a life.

There are 5 levels of difficulty but I didn't find much difference between them. In common with 'Iceburg' the graphics are simple, colours limited and the sound bearable. I can recommend this game especially for those family computer evenings where you can share a laugh or two with others.

Rating
Playability - 4
Graphics - 2 Reviewed by Tony Street & Co.
VFM - 3
Lasting Interest - 3

Miner Dick Publisher: Xaviersine Price: £6.95 (I think!)

This review very nearly wasn't, as we had great difficulty in loading the game (we only managed to load it after adjusting the azimuth on the tape head). Once we had overcome this initial difficulty, it was pleasing to see a title picture instead of the usual blank screen on loading (although this does add to the overall loading time).

The game itself bears a "slight" resemblance to a game that was moderately popular on the Spectrum (sorry we had to mention it!) (Ed->Arrhhh!) a while back called "Manic Miner". The plot is identical, progressing through 20 screens by collecting all the keys and avoiding things such as the "sly spiders" then leaving through the flashing exit before the air runs out.

The graphics in this game are well above average, with many varied meanies, the sound is quite good too, with a catchy tune playing continously (although it can be turned off if desired). There are other features, such as a demo mode, 1 or 2 player option (using L and R joysticks) and the ability to start on any of the screens which have been completed.

There are a couple of bugs in this game, one being that his positioning is not quite correct giving him the ability to stand in mid air to the right of a block and fall through the left hand edge, although there are a couple of screens which are impossible without this. The other is that the rub-out on the name entry for the high score table does not work!

Conclusion

The game is fairly addictive although with only 20 screens the lasting appeal could be limited. The aforementioned bugs are not serious, but can be irritating until you get used to them.

Playability 4

Graphics 4+ Reviewed By Ian Heath

VFM ? & (The Hemel Hackers)
L Interest 3+ Sean Newman

SILICON DISC REVIEW

By Phil Eyres

Last month I took delivery of two 250k (formatted) Silicon discs, and as promised, I have reviewed them.

The Silicon board is a fairly large piece of hardware, measuring about 6" * 8", it is designed to fit into the card cage in the FDX main unit. Fitting is relatively simple, just remove the twelve screws holding the case together, this then reveals the card cage which is accessible by removing another couple of screws. If as in my case the necessary edge connectors are not present, then you will have to buy some and solder them in, this makes the task of fitting much more complicated as the main unit will have to be totally dismantied. This part alone took me 3+ hours and for most of the time my heart must have thought it was running a marathon!

Once they were physically installed inside the machine, it was all 'bolted' back together, ready now for the big switch on ...and my heart was going for it's second marathon! Power up did not infact change the machine in any way, as the system CONFIGuration had not been altered to inform the machine that I had these new Silicons present. This is all quite easy (when you read the manual!) and within half an hour I had the machine recognising two 5 1/4 floppies and a 512K Silicon disc. (Although I bought two 256K formatted discs, they are read as one 512K disc when inside the machine). Before I could use my new drive, designated drive F, I had to format it, so I did just that, I took about a second! ...Um! quite fast (I thought!). I then copied the contents of a Floppy onto it, even more surprised, it's data transfer rate was starting to impress me. I loaded my Pascal onto it and tried compiling a few large source files on it, great, it reduced compilation times to about 5% of what they are to compile to Floppies. Then I got a bit over confident!, I made a new program up and compiled it (a few times, just for the hell of it!), time was getting on ... well into the early hours!, by pure impulse I removed the Floppies and switched off. Arrrhhh!, No!, Dammit!!!, I forgot to copy the contents of the Silicon disc to a Floppy, thus in one easy movement I'd lost about 4 hours work!.

Anyway, speed was one reason for buying the Silicon discs, the manual described their use as a print spooler, that is, load them up with data to be printed out and the machine will take care of everything whilst I continue working on other documents, or at least that is the theory. To use it as a 'Spooler' you have to again change the System using Config, spooler is then invoked by typing

(believe it or not) "SPOOLER". All seemed well, so I loaded a text file into the silicon's memory, it started to printout, great (I thought), then it stopped!, half way through a printout, it just sat there for a few minutes while I thumbed through the manual for the umteenth time, when I pressed a few keys it would rather erratically print out another line of text, Well this is 'garbage' I thought, it would take all day just to print one letter. I loaded Neword in the hope that this would prove to be more fruitful, but it turned out even worse, it would print a couple of lines and then that was your lot, no more print what-so-ever came out. I am stil! rather disappointed about this side of it as it would have been very handy.

Another 'let-down' is that with the Silicon configuation present on the system tracks I cannot use Basic, the blue screen comes up but it is 'promptless' and stubbornly remains so regardless of how much I curse at it!. This means that I have to keep discs with my old system on them just to use Basic. (All rather Messy).

The manual also says that it is possible to upgrade the memory capacity by fitting 'larger' chips, say 256K chips instead of the 64K chips, I would like to see someone do this as the chips are soldered directly to the PCB and I would say that de-soldering that lot would be impossible!. I don't think that I shall worry about this too much as the 512K that I have is just about perfect for my needs.

The price of the Silicons is infact quite reasonable at £165 for the 256k version and £275 for the 512K version. (Note: These prices only apply through the club and are for a limited period of 2 months!).

Just a little note to fill a spare corner:Did you know that if you have one of the new single disc's
you loose the use of the Basic command USER. This seems a
bit of a shame as quite a few utilities I have use this.

PROGRAM LIBRARY

I must say that over the past month I have been totally overwhelmed with the response for software from the library, at a rough count, I reckon I've sent out over 50 tapes. I hope this months contribution of 5 new titles brings the same response. To obtain anything from the library send $\pounds 1$ per cassette, 2 programs per cassette, one on each side. As I will be on holiday for two weeks next month, deliveries will probably take a little longer than usual, but I will do my best to ensure the shortest possible delays.

Phil

1.Basic & Assembler Programs

- 1.Hex-Dec-Bin Convertions. (Binary Bit In Assembler)
- 2.CGEN Sprite Generator.
- 3.3D Drawing Board. Rotate a skeleton of a cup & saucer in 3D.
- 4.Whist. The Card Game
- 5. Memory Save. This Utility will Save a block of memory to tape and retrieve it.
- 6.MTX Drawing Board.
- 7.LOGO Drawing Board.
- 8.Simplex Tablaeux. Applications Program
- 9. Breakeven. Applications Program
- 10. Statistics Applications Program
- 11. An Unsolved Problem Applications Program
- 12. Radio Routines Applications Program
- 13.Light Cycles. Arcade Game
- 14. Hex/Dec Dec/Hex conversions using USER commands!
- 15.Renumber II Renumbers Including 60TO's etc
- 16.RELOC Relocs Assembler Properly!!
- 17.Character Editor
- 18.Quasimodo Excellent Arcade Game
- 19. Planner **New** YASS (Yet Another Sprite Generator)
- 20.Hanoi **New** Classic Puzzle (Brilliant simple use of
- 21.Noble **New** Simple Text Game
- 22.Hi-Lo ##New## Just like Bruce's Play Your Cards Right
- 23. Composer **New** Our First Sound Generator!!

3. Articles From Previous Magazines

- PANEL2 Utility. As above but updated to include a second feature.
- 2.Undocumented Neword dot commands.(Vol1 Iss.7)
- 3. Hisoft Pascal Review (vol1 Iss.8)
- 4.Neword Rom Review (Voll Iss.5)
- 5.RST10 Codes Explained (Vol1 Iss.3)
- 6.VDP Explained Using assembler (vol1 Iss4,5,6)
- 7.System Variables (Not Previously Published!!)

5.Program Reviews

Planner

This is I believe our third Sprite Generator, in it's own way it is the best, although I don't think it will be of much use to anyone without a printer!. Allows for Sprites up to 16*16, generates both sprite and Genpat codes at

printer. All usual features.

<u>Hanoi</u>

Well, I thought I had better load this and try it out,...am I glad I did!, it is absolutely brilliant. The screen layout is faultless, I challenge anyone to better it, for that matter the key press layout is so simple a four year old could 'handle it', also for a basic program the key de-bounce is perfect. If your'e looking for a program to impress computer illiterates and have a few hours fun with a couple of friends, then this is the one. Superbly simple graphics that are really smooth. You'll need to see it to believe it.

Noble

This is I suppose, a very simple text game, it is infact much like the Farmer program published by us a long time ago in one of our first mags. You, 'A Nobleman' are placed in several situations, your decisions controlling your outcome, ...usually hanging!!!.

HI-LO

Graphics)

This is a very good card game. It works on the principles of Bruce Forsyths T.V. game Play Your Cards Right. The graphics are nice and colourful and the action smooth. This one along with Whist and Hanoi make a good set of colourful graphics based Basic games.

Composer

This is our first Sound Composer program, infact I believe it is our first Sound program of any sort. It comes with Instruction and Explanation pages to help those who do not know the format of sound generation. The actual program allows up to 3 Sound channels to be exploited, all sounds can be tried out at the press of a button, sound is also cut off by the press of button. I found this quite an interesting program as I know only a little about programming Sound. I think that it would be a help to anyone wanting to learn a bit about the MTX sound commands.

www.primrosebank.net

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