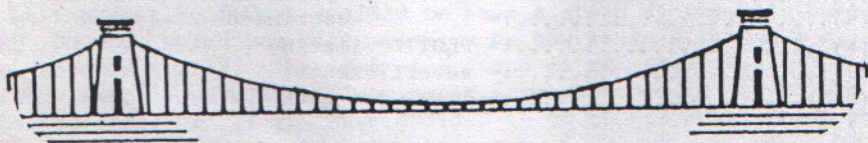


VOL. 2 No. 9

AVON



Einstein

USER

GROUP

NEWSLETTER

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Don't forget the next club meeting is on the 13th of OCTOBER

at the

BLACK HORSE, WEST STREET, OLD MARKET, BRISTOL.

PLEASE TRY AND COME

=====

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Send any articles, listings or comments to :-

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=====

Dear Members

First of all an apology for the non-appearance of the newsletter No.8, but as most of you will know that there has been a postal strike, so those members that could not attend the meeting on the 8th September will find that they have two newsletters to read, this leads me straight on to the next thing which is now that the post is back you can now send me all those articles that you have been writing !!!!

At the meeting it was decided to have a stand at the "ALTERNATIVE MICRO SHOW", which you will all know by now is in Birmingham on the 12th November 1988, the idea of a stand is to sell Public Domain software which hopefully will bring in some much needed money into the clubs coffers, so if you have decided to go to the show then don't forget to come to the stand and help out.

(DON'T LEAVE IT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO DO !!!)

+++++

I had a phonecall from one of the members who had received some discs from the library which did not have any DOS tracks on them and could not understand why they would not boot-up, so for all those who have a disc that is corrupted in this way I will reprint how to sort out this problem.

The DOS is the Disc Operating System, which is loaded into memory by the Einstein's ROM chip, when you turn on. If the DOS tracks are damaged in anyway (a power Glitch does it beautifully), then the disc will not boot-up. Being a simple soul, the Einstein will then assume that there is no disc in the drive and drop back into MOS. If this ever happens to you this is what you do.

- 1...Remove the bad disc from the drive.
- 2...Put a good disc into the drive and boot-up as usual.
- 3...When the Sign-On message has appeared and the 0: prompt comes up, type MOS (followed by enter)
- 4...Now type RE 100 FAFF (enter), This (R)eads the DOS from the good disc into the Einsteins Memory (starting at E100 up to FAFF in HEX)
- 5...With the good image of DOS in the memory, all we need to do is (W)rite it to our duff disc.
- 6...Insert the damaged disc into the drive, making sure that it is WRITE ENABLED. Now type WE 100 FAFF (enter).
- 7...The disc light will come on and the DOS image will be written to the disc, starting at Track Zero, Sector Zero, until all of the memory range is written to that disc.

The MENDED disc should now work (at least it will boot-up).

5 LINERS

Here are some five-liners for you to write in, if you have any one or five line programs then please send them to me.

REPRODUCED WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE U.K.E.U.G.

FLIGHT OF FANCY by Anthony Howard

```
1 GCOL6:BCOL7:FORI=1TO50:P=10*(25-I):ORIGIN P,100-I*5:CLS
2 DRAW60,95TO75,100TO135,100TO150,105TO160,105TO160,103TO155,103TO150,
  100TO135,90TO75,90TO60,95
3 DRAW60,95TO75,100TO135,100TO150,105TO160,105TO160,103TO155,103TO150,
  100TO135,90TO75,90TO60,95
4 DRAW130,100TO140,100TO140,95TO130,95TO130,100TO130,100TO140,100TO140,
  95TO130,95TO130,100:DRAW95,90TO97,93TO125,90
5 FORA=0TO50:NEXTA:NEXTI:GOTO1
```

SEE by Dave Gardner

```
1 CLS:BCOL0:X=0:A=0:B=192:FORI=1TO50:GCOLORND(15):DRAWX,YTOA,B:X=X+10:
  B=B-10:NEXT
2 A=240:B=192:X=240:Y=0:FORI=1TO50:GCOLORND(15):DRAWX,YTOA,B:X=X-10:
  B=B-10:NEXT
3 X=0:Y=0:A=0:B=192:FORI=1TO50:GCOLORND(15):DRAWX,YTOA,B:Y=Y+10:A=A+10:
  NEXT
4 X=240:Y=0:A=240:B=192:FORI=1TO50:GCOLORND(15):DRAWX,YTOA,B:Y=Y+10:
  A=A-10:NEXT
5 FORI=50TO25STEP-1:GCOL5:ELLIPSE120,96,I:NEXT:FILL60,96,15
```

PETER CARTER wrote this one to keep his grandchildren amused. Peter suggests you leave out line 30 for the really young ones.

```
10 CLS:S=0
20 FORG=1TO10:CLS:FORP=0TORND(8)+1:A=RND(37)+2:D=RND(22)+2:PRINT@A,D
  ;"*":NEXTP
30 FORT=0TO2000:NEXTT:CLS
40 PRINT@10,0;"HOW MANY DO YOU SEE?":N=INCH:IFN=P+48THENS=S+1:
  ELSEPRINT"NO THERE WERE:-"P:FORT=0TO2000:NEXTT
50 NEXTG:PRINT@14,10;"YOUR SCORE=":S:PRINT@0,21;"ANOTHER GO?":
  Z$=INCH$:IFZ$="Y"THENGOTO10:ELSEPRINT"GOODBYE"
```

EINSTEIN USERS DO IT WITH EASE

Would Monopoly, as a board game, be any more popular and entertaining if the houses and hotels looked more realistic, or the wheels on the little car rotated? Would not Chess be degraded rather than enhanced, by a version that allowed you to move articulated pieces round the board by remote control? Is not 'Mousetrap' despite its intricate, and initially amusing, set up, ultimately one of the most boring games known to man?

All the best, and most enduring, games are renowned for their material, if not intellectual, simplicity, and complications, and enhancements, only tend to detract from the enjoyment.

Ludo, played to the correct rules, can be one of the most enthralling, and tactically exciting, games known to man and yet, you could knock together all the bits and pieces you need to play it, out of card, in half an hour. And, played properly, you would have something to keep you amused for the rest of your life.

So what has all this got to do with Albert?

Simplicity! That's what.

Don't talk to me of upgrades - and expensive software. Games that are all show and very little substance. Or word processors that require week long courses and have indigestible books written about them. No! Give me the simple life. Every time.

There are those who thrive on complication. Good luck to them. There are those that enjoy spending vast amounts of money on things that are of very little use. There are even those

(children, and the weak-minded perhaps) who allow themselves to be swept along by fashion, in cars as much as computers, in computers as much as clothing. The gullible majority, on whom all modern commerce depends for its quick profit and instant riches.

My work brings me into contact with many machines, none of which are as versatile, or as easy to use, as the Einstein. Most computers, and a great deal of software, seem to have been developed by people too caught up in their own ideas to appreciate the obvious.

As I said, some people thrive on complication. To them it is just another part of the game puzzle of life to be played with. Their equivalent in the car world is the enthusiast who's Cortina is always lying about in pieces on his drive and rarely, if ever, goes anywhere. The rest of us just like to use our cars and our computers in a simpler, more conventional, sort of way.

And software, what about software. There's a tendency, especially in business circles, to think that if a thing isn't ultra-expensive, with an ultra-obscure manual then it isn't worth bothering about.

People tend to stick with what they know. Which often means what they have been trained to use, or what they came across first.

Thus people get stuck with Wordperfect, or Locoscript, or something else horrendously, and unnecessarily, complicated. Me, I was lucky. I accidentally acquired a copy of Tasword with a Spectrum I bought. When it came to buying a word-processor for the Einstein I had no hesitation. The only reason I can assume

that everybody else doesn't use Tasword is that they are involved in desk top publishing, or they have never come across it.

For a start, the manual is about 10 pages long - and almost totally unnecessary, all the details you need being contained on two, easily toggled, on board help screens. The whole thing is user definable, from print codes to formatting and, as far as I can see contains, or can have added, just about all the facilities that similar products, costing 10 or 20 times more, can offer.

The basic word-processor comes with word (and character) count, merge facilities and multi-print options plus all the more generally available facilities like word-wrap, justification, cut and paste, etc., etc., many of which are not available, or need to be acquired as extras, on much more expensive products. There is no built in spell-checker, but one is available, at a price that still keeps Tasword below that of its nearest competitors.

So, and no doubt this will upset countless people, I can only assume that, apart from extreme mental prowess, only intellectual and/or professional snobbery, or extreme misfortune have prevented people from finding peace, contentment and continuing fulfilment in the company of these two powerful, yet refreshingly simple companions, the mighty Einstein and his ever faithful companion, the unassuming Tasword. God prosper and increase their endeavours, forever.

PLOTTER

Here is a routine written by David Williams that may prove useful if you run a club or small business.

```

10 DIM A$(46):BG$=MUL$(" ",30)
20 BCOL2:TCOL1,0:CLS40:GCOL1,0
30 FOR A=1 TO 46:A$(A)="" :E=E+1
40 IF A=1 OR A=16 OR A=31 THEN CLS:PRINT@17,0;"PLOTTER"
50 IF A=1 OR A=16 OR A=31 THENE=1:PRINT@17,1;"11111111":
  REM GRAPH/1 BETWEEN QUOTES
60 IF A=46 THEN X=68:GOTO 100
70 TCOL1,3:PRINT@9,21;"Press key D to display":TCOL1,2
80 PRINT@9,E+3;"Input":A;"= ";
90 X$=INCH$:X=ASC(X$):IF X=13 THEN 160
100 IF X=68 OR X=100 THEN C=A:A=50:GOTO 160
110 IF X=47 OR X<46 OR X>57 THEN BEEP:GOTO 90
120 A$(A)=A$(A)+X$
130 IF A<10 THEN PRINT@19,E+3:A$(A);:GOTO 150
140 PRINT@20,E+3:A$(A);
150 IF X<>13 THEN GOTO 90
160 NEXT
170 B=VAL(A$(1))
180 FOR A=2 TO C-1:D=VAL(A$(A)):REM MAX
190 IF B<D THEN B=D:REM MAX
200 NEXT:REM MAX
210 CLS:PRINT@17,0;"PLOTTER"
220 PRINT@17,1;"11111111":REM GRAPH/1 BETWEEN QUOTES
230 DRAW 39,168 TO 223,168,2
240 DRAW 39,167 TO 39,63 TO 223,63
250 DRAW 39,168 TO 37,168
260 DRAW 39,141 TO 37,141
270 DRAW 39,115 TO 37,115
280 DRAW 39,89 TO 37,89
290 DRAW 39,63 TO 37,63
300 FOR A=39 TO 231 STEP 20
310 DRAW A,63 TO A,60:NEXT:TCOL1,11
320 FOR A=3 TO 15:PRINT@7,A;BG$
330 NEXT:IF B=0 THEN B=.000001
340 GCOL1,11
350 FOR A=1 TO C-1
360 Q=VAL(A$(A+1)):V=VAL(A$(A)):Y=104*V/B:R=104*Q/B:GCOL4,11
370 IF V=0 THEN Y=0
380 IF A=C-1 THEN 410
390 DRAW 39+4*A,63+Y TO 39+4*(A+1),63+R
400 NEXT
410 GCOL1,2:DRAW 39,63 TO 223,63:TCOL1,2
420 PRINT@6,17;"0      10      20      30      40"
430 IF B<.000001 THEN B=0
440 TCOL1,3:PRINT@6,21;"Max =":B
450 PRINT@27,21;"Again:"
460 IF A$="Y" OR A$="y" THEN RUN
470 IF A$="N" OR A$="n" THEN 510
480 PRINT@34,21;"Y":GOSUB 520
490 PRINT@34,21;"N":GOSUB 520
500 A$=KBD$:GOTO 460
510 RST:BCOL4:TCOL15,4:CLS:NEW
520 FOR A=1 TO 300:NEXT:RETURN

```

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