

EINSTEIN USER MAGAZINES



Volume 1, Number 1 an independent quarterly magazine November 1984

Relatively speaking

A news diary by Bert Stone

Our intrepid diarist seeks high and low for the newest news, including how to celebrate Christmas electronically ... a severe case of coals to Newcastle ... the enhancements he found at the PCW show ... and how to get your updates.

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Languages on the clean machine

Only a few months old and already it can speak in tongues

Would you believe Xtal Basic, CIS Cebol, BBC Basic, Forth, Pascal, DR Logo ... with C and Fortran distinct future possibilities.

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Gameplay

Games programs reviewed

6

Software in depth

ZEN assembler reviewed

Machine language is tough, Basic is easy, and assembler is ... sort of ... not so tough but not so easy, either. We unveil the secrets of Kuma's samurai secret.

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Father of the pride

Dr Roy Clarke tells of Einstein's parentage in an interview

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Inside the Einstein

What makes the CPU tick

Including an exclusive pull-out centre spread that gives 'em the works!

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DR Logo - a user-friendly language comes of age

Gary Kindall and David Thornburg unveil a free goody

It's been called the nearest thing to artificial intelligence this side of the Fifth Generation - and Einstein owners are going to get it free! The President of Digital Research and the author of 'Discovering Apple Logo' collaborate to let you into the language's secrets.

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A sprite editor program

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Your Einstein dealer

The top people's computer shop

We talk to the man at Harrods, one of the first to sell the Einstein to the discerning micro-user.

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Hints and tips

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Free market

You can advertise your wants FREE

Also: subscription form, and membership of Einstein User Club.

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Cover Gameplay

Introducing Time Trap

Our games pundits tell us this is the most exciting and addictive arcade-style game ever, and who are we to argue? Plus, reviews of the bargain Super Six pack being bundled for new purchasers of the computer, and a selection of the 37 programs available from Solo Software.

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Logistics

A regular column for users of DR Logo

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Einstein BBCBasic

How it compares with the Beeb's own

We gave a copy of the new language for the clean machine to expert BBC programmer Janice Chapman, who got a bit tangled up trying to use it without reading the manual. But her more considered judgement is that it's pretty compatible and should be a winner. We cannot disagree!

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What is a database?

Dr Mike Bayliss, the man who heads up Tatung's Einsoft operation, gets to grips with the knotty problem of how to manipulate data files. The first article in a series.

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Upgrading

Our man with the bloody thumb tries fitting a second disk drive and an 80-column card (essential if you are thinking of getting any of the professional CP/M programs).

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Vertical software

Or specialist packages for garages, pub licensees, chemists' shops. Plus an unusual word processor that thinks it's a spreadsheet.

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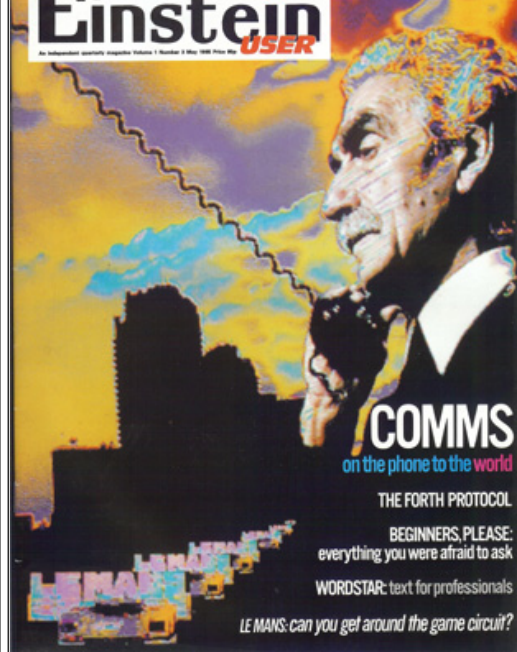
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Vertical software

Or specialist packages for garages, pub licensees, chemists' shops. Plus an unusual word processor that thinks it's a spreadsheet.

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Wordstar

A word processing program that separates the men from the boys, they say, and the real computers from the Mickey Mouse toys. It's available for the Einstein, and we take a look at what's made it the best-selling word processor of all time.

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Gameplay: Le Mans

A race game that exploits the superb graphics of the Einstein and the newly-available Sure Shot joystick, too. We run it round the track, and everyone salutes.

6

Relatively speaking

News diary columnist Bert Stone has been looking at a new computer that's been worshipping his fellow hacks and what d'you know? It's got built-in disk drives and (sort of) CP/M capability, just like the Einstein. He also records what another computer writer said in comparing the two.

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Beginners, please

By special request, all those things that you always wanted to know about computers but were afraid to ask.

8

Understanding Einstein's display

Dr Roy Clarke takes a closer look at the Einstein screen, and why it looks the way it does.

11

COMMS

No, not the things Arthur Askey used to wear, but a shorthand way of saying communications, or how to join the wired society, explaining things like modems, baud rates, parity, stop bits, and getting one computer talking to another. Including a simple case history. The first of a series.

14

Letters

One of the most important parts of the magazine (for the other, see page 30)... because you wrote it.

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The Forth Protocol

Another of our special looks at a special language. This time it's Forth, which has been described by some as the programmer's friend but the user's enemy. Peter Arney, author of the Einstein version, explains what makes it different from standard fig-Forth, while still compatible with the standard.

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Smart Footwork: A Database Program

Down from the isle of Orinney comes a program that a user has written to help him run his chiropody clinic, which is why it includes such unusual matters as the time of a plane and ship departures (for when he's visiting his mainland patients, stoopid!)

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What better companion than the second instalment of our guide for beginners?

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Dear Dr Clarke

The questions you ask... and the answers you get.

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Hints and Tips

More wrinkles from Julian Rangley.

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Free market

Want to make money from that program you've written? ... want to meet fellow users? ... want to check up your biorhythms? This is the page for you.

32

New Products

An upgrade for Einstein DOS and Basic... 80/40-column monitor switches... new games... a wrist terminal... and a whole lot more brand new goodies for Albert to chew on.

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Gameplay

Flight simulator... snooker... plus an adventure gamer's special introduction to ZORK!

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Printer Special

Tasword/Tasprint:

A word processor with six special display typefaces.

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Alphacom:

A printer for less than £80 (that's £75 inc VAT and P&P). Is it any good? We think so.

10

Graphics screen-dump:

At last, a short machine-code routine for hard-copy print-out of what's on the screen.

12

MCALS: The secrets of Einstein's ROM

Six pages of machine-code calls which will enable you to utilise all the hidden secrets of the Einstein chips, including sound and graphics. An EU special.

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Comms-2

The second instalment of our introduction to the wired society. RS232 and Kuma's two COMMS software packages, with a first look at bulletin boards (more on them next issue).

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More answers to readers' queries.

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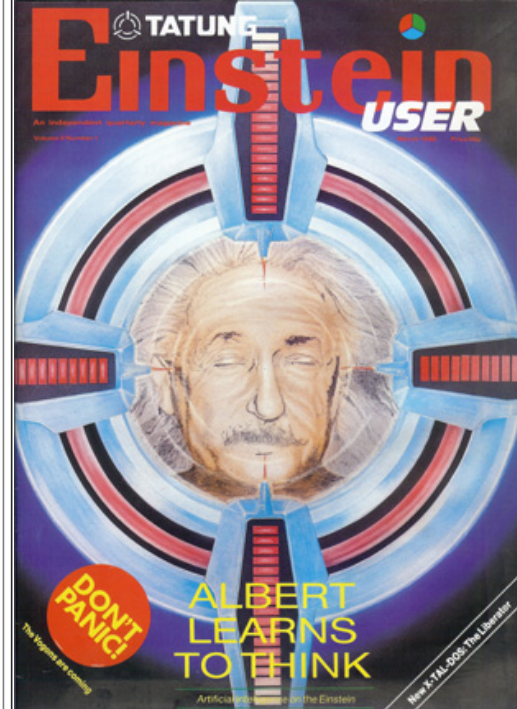
Hold it

D.R. Coomber's guide to the HOLD and MGE commands.

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Free Market, Subscriptions, Dealer Boxes

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Now you can run Spectrum games on the Einstein... join a new users' club for businessmen... protect your computer and printer with dust covers... transfer .COM files to any CP/M machine... get the most sophisticated, lowest-priced modem yet... and lots more.

Gameplay 3

A round-up of the best of the rest of the games.

Gameplay special: Don't Panic 5

Yes, you're right! At long last Douglas Adams' "Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy" has made it on to the Einstein and it's another superlative Infocom game. We give you a few hints 'n' tips on how to get out of the bedroom and into the Vargon invader fleet (much good may it do you!)

Program listing: Attack! 8

Continuing on the games theme, here's a neat space invader game you can type in yourself.

Xtal System 5: The Liberator! 11

Our editor reckons this is the essential add-on, an upgrade for Einstein DOS which fixes a few bugs, extends Xtal Basic to 80-columns (giving floating point accuracy to 16 places), plus an assembler (which we'll be reviewing in detail next issue).

Albert Learns To Think 15

First of a new series on artificial intelligence on your micro, starting with why all Scotsmen like haggis the first time round (in Basic) and then going into some of Logo's thinking capabilities.

COMMS: The Dr Clarke guide to Bulletin Boards 19

Concluding our series on COMMS, the dear Doctor takes time off from planning the future to tell you of the BBSs you can access with your Einstein, today.

A Database Program in BBC Basic 21

Concluding our series on databases, here's a working program, and as a bonus to all those folks who've got used to talking with Access at school, it's in BBC. It's been written in such a way that it can also be typed in under Xtal Basic, with only a few modifications.

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Including a special on DR Logo on the Einstein.

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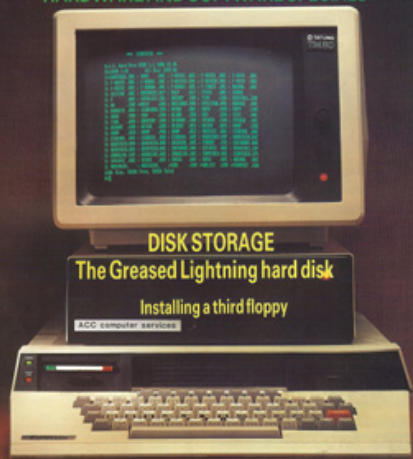
Talking Senior Development Engineer, Mark Bailey, unveils the mysteries of how the Einstein communicates with printers, modems, etc. Including a full table of BAUD commands.

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TATUNG Einstein USER

An independent quarterly magazine
Volume 2 Number 2 July 1986 Price 95p

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE SPECIALS



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Installing a third floppy

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Free software source

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the Canon PW1080A

Graphics Dump
Printer code variables

SATORI -
A line editor for Zen

Gameplay 2

The latest in games action for the best colour machine around.

CP/M Special 3-8

As everyone probably knows, one of the advantages of Einstein's XtalDOS is that it can run a lot of CP/M programs - and until the IBM PC came along, there was more CP/M software than for any other single operating system. So what is CP/M, how does it compare with XtalDOS and how can you get hold of it?

CP/M - Is it worth it? 3

Since XtalDOS can fool most CP/M programs into thinking it's as close to CP/M as makes no difference, the news that Digital Research have released the original might be thought exciting, or it might not. Our reviewer is among the unimpressed.

Free software for the Einstein 6

With an Einstein, just about any simple comms software, and a modem, you can get all manner of CP/M software that ought to run on your computer... and it's FREE, all thanks to the niceness of a guy called Rod Smith who runs the Public Domain Software Bulletin Board. We give it a try and report to you.

Printer special 9-14

An easy way with printer codes 9

Like many others, Tatung's TP100 dot matrix printer is more or less Epson compatible, which means that it uses similar commands to produce bold, underlining, expanded and condensed type, and so on. The problem is that when you need it, you can never find the manual (and the TP100 manual is a bit hard to get into, in the grand Tatung tradition). However, with a simple Basic routine you can call the printing functions you need with easily memorable mnemonics, like COINDS for condensed. We show you how it works.

He chose a Canon 11

An Einstein user explains why he chose one of the most popular printers on the market.

A graphics dump 13

There's no easy way to get graphics from the screen on to the printed page, but Force 4 have produced a handy utility to do just that - and in a choice of sizes, what's more.

Disk special 15-19

The ACC hard disk 15

How would you like to be able to store over a million bytes of data, programs and other stuff and get at in milliseconds? Well, it'll cost you more than £1000 for the new ACC hard disk, but we reckon it's money well spent. Alternatively, we tell you how to convert your second disk internal drive to 80-tracks, giving you more storage space than an IBM PC.

Fitting an external disk drive 18

With the new Xtal System 5 and either a new \$25in drive or one of the cheap second-hand ones you can find in shops all over the country, you can vastly increase your disk capacity for a very small outlay. We take you through the basics.

Satori - a line editor for ZEN 21

Not for the faint-hearted, this assembly language program remedies an omission in the very popular Kuma software, reviewed in one of our earlier issues.

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A Basic program to keep track of your finances - including credit card balances, bank overdrafts, interests and such.



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**VOLUME 2 NUMBER 3
SEPTEMBER 1986**

Editors
Roy Clarke, David Bell

Editorial Co-ordination
Gloria Campbell

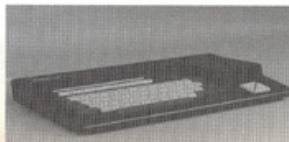
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**VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4
DECEMBER 1986**

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Roy Clarke, David Bell

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- AND THAT'S ENOUGH CONTENTS FOR NOW. I'M OFF ON ME HOLS...**

TATUNG Einstein USER

ENTER THE DRAGON'S LAIR

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 1 MARCH 1987

LAUNCHING INTO GRAPHICS WITH APOLLO II

PETER'S UTILITIES PROGRAM
GETTING ONLINE WITH THE PRISM 2000 MODEM

Reviews, Listings, Technical Tips and Hints

It's a special welcome to new EINHSTEIN owners, with the event of the Oscars and Comet deals for EINHSTEIN. Names have been substituted with new user registrations. This means that the processing of registrations is taking longer than usual.

It was a very pleasant experience to put faces to some names at the UK Einstein User Group's exhibition in Birmingham last November. About two thousand people turned up, and the event was an outstanding success. Most of the traders completely sold out of goodies, leaving them wishing they had brought more with them. Einstein User was there selling T-Shirts, back issues of magazines and taking subscription renewals. Staff were on hand to pass out technical advice, facts and tips and generally chat to visitors.

It's with great regret that we have to say goodbye to David Bell, Co-Editor. He has taken up a new post with a Birmingham-based software company. We wish him every success in his new venture.

There are still some T-Shirts left. These can be bought for £3.95 plus 50 pence post and packing.

And finally, the winner of December's competition is Mr J Jones from Birmingham who won the EINHSTEIN dust cover donated by **JOANNE WISSE**.

**VOLUME 3 NUMBER 1
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TATUNG Einstein USER

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIAL

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 2 JUNE 1987

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LUNACY REUNITED WITH JET SET WILLY
ELITE ADVENTURE
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TATUNG Einstein USER

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 1

System 5 plus review
ART FOR ART'S SAKE
MOUSE ART REVIEW
Adding a 3 1/2" Disk Drive
Club Spot
Program Listings

TATUNG Einstein USER

DOWN LOAD

This issue sees not only the start of a new volume of Einstein User, but also the beginning of a revised basis for the publication.

It has always, as the case suggests, been a USER magazine, but the emphasis now, since it is no longer also a manufacturer's promotional vehicle, will be more strongly towards the "for the users, FOR the users" concept.

In other words, it will now bear a greater resemblance to a user group activity, as also will regular subscriber benefits we hope to introduce in the coming months. One consequence of this is that, to remain true to our aims, we need considerable input from YOU. Never imagine that you are simply a subscriber - you are, more accurately, a member of an international special interest group which we support and encourage with this publication.

A much wider range of topics will be covered, and the content will reflect your interests as long as you make them known, not primarily what "Sales & Marketing" have on top of their list! Of course, there will still be new product news and reviews - we don't believe you would want these left out. Advertisements are also an important & essential ingredient in the provision of the service, **START COPY & GO!**

You're truly far one of those splendidly narcissistic signs on the wall - "This is a Non-Profit Organisation" reads the lower headline, and underneath its smaller type - "It was't intended to be - it's the way it turned out". May a true word, etc....

"The place it's set to 'Please do not call for credit', as a Patch is the 'Mouth of the' ahead".

So, let's have those articles, Program Listings & Letters - please do address them to 'The Editor, Einstein User' etc., and DO give yourself credit in BBN's or Listings - we will assume you don't want them if they're not there. Articles & Programs submitted on disk are **very** much preferred, and your disk ID's always be returned (sometimes with something added).

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VOLUME 4 NUMBER 1

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TATUNG Einstein USER

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 2

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE COURSE
Wordstar & Inforter
SIMPLEX ACCOUNTS
Designer Sprites

Editorial

I suppose it's almost inevitable - start a new venture, all good intentions and big ideas - then everything you thought **COULD** go wrong **DOES** go wrong. **PULL** the things that never occurred to you (like the P.C. strike which held up our bulk mailing for 2 months!).

Anyway, we are sorry that the last issue was lower than it should have been, for all the various reasons.

During the last few weeks we've given some extra thought to the general strategy of publishing Einstein User. Perhaps the most radical (and sensible) conclusion reached was that it would be relatively easy to churn out just any old junk to a fixed publication date - it would sometimes take a bit longer though, to ensure that every issue contained as much variety and interest as we, and you, would expect to see.

Since your subscription is for **FOUR ISSUES**, this latter policy was decided upon in the interests of all concerned.

As we've said before, Einstein User is a group activity - it's not us and you - it's **ALL OF US!** We need input from YOU. If you leave it to us to write, you won't see much in the way of reader's articles and letters. More important, you will get a lot of what we think you like, rather than what you show or tell us you enjoy. If you say nothing (in writing), don't blame us for thinking we're probably perfect!

We make no apologies for raising the subject of Wordstar again, in this issue. It's now become such an incredible bargain that everyone who is not a 100% games player should grab a copy while they last.

I am indebted to Mr John I. Brown of South Okendon for his comments on our "Wet Idea" (our expression, not his) regarding Silica Gel sachets, detailed in the catalogue introduction. He quite rightly states that

they are fine for sealed packaging (exports etc.), but soon become sclerotized & require de-hydration if left in normal atmosphere. As Mr Brown says, the only really practical solution relies upon a reasonably stable environment being maintained. Ah well, it's the thought that counts.....!

The comprehensive index to Einstein User, included in this issue, should be a useful point of reference to our readers. It does in fact contain information right up to the last (V.4.1) issue, and the main text has been ported across many machines from the original database. This has resulted in what are (I hope) some uncharacteristic typographical errors and a few small spelling mistakes going through to the printers with my knowledge. Look out for the "continuous stationary".

Finally, I do hope you fared well in the "Christmas Sakes", or at least better than I did - having expressed a desire for a BMW and a Simba, I wound up with a BMW and a Bomb!

Oops!



We were totally mortified to discover that a typographical error had crept into the listing for the Bell 'Snakes' modification in the last issue (p.30). The offending part is in the changed line 1240, where

IF ADC(0)>200 THEN D=0
 - not D=3, as stated. **Sorry!**

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ALL AT
B & H COMPUTERS
WISH YOU A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS

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TATUNG Einstein USER

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