

AMDATA

FEBRUARY 1988

THE OFFICIAL AMSTRAD USER CLUB NEWSLETTER

AMSTRAD SUPER SHOW ARRIVES AT THE ALEXANDRA PALACE

Yes, we're giving our members their final reminder that the Super Amstrad Computer Show will be staged on the 4-6th February at the Alexandra Palace Muswell Hill, North London. It's easily accessible by Tube, overground, and bus; and it has acres of car parking, its own slip roads and all other amenities, making it an ideal venue for this sort of exhibition. A mini map of the local roads is shown below.

Anyone who's anyone in the **AMSTRAD** world will be there, and we understand that there will be many new exhibitors, with some innovative products, and exciting new developments.

The Club will be on stand **C2** (see layout below) and our stand will be right next to the main Amstrad Stand.

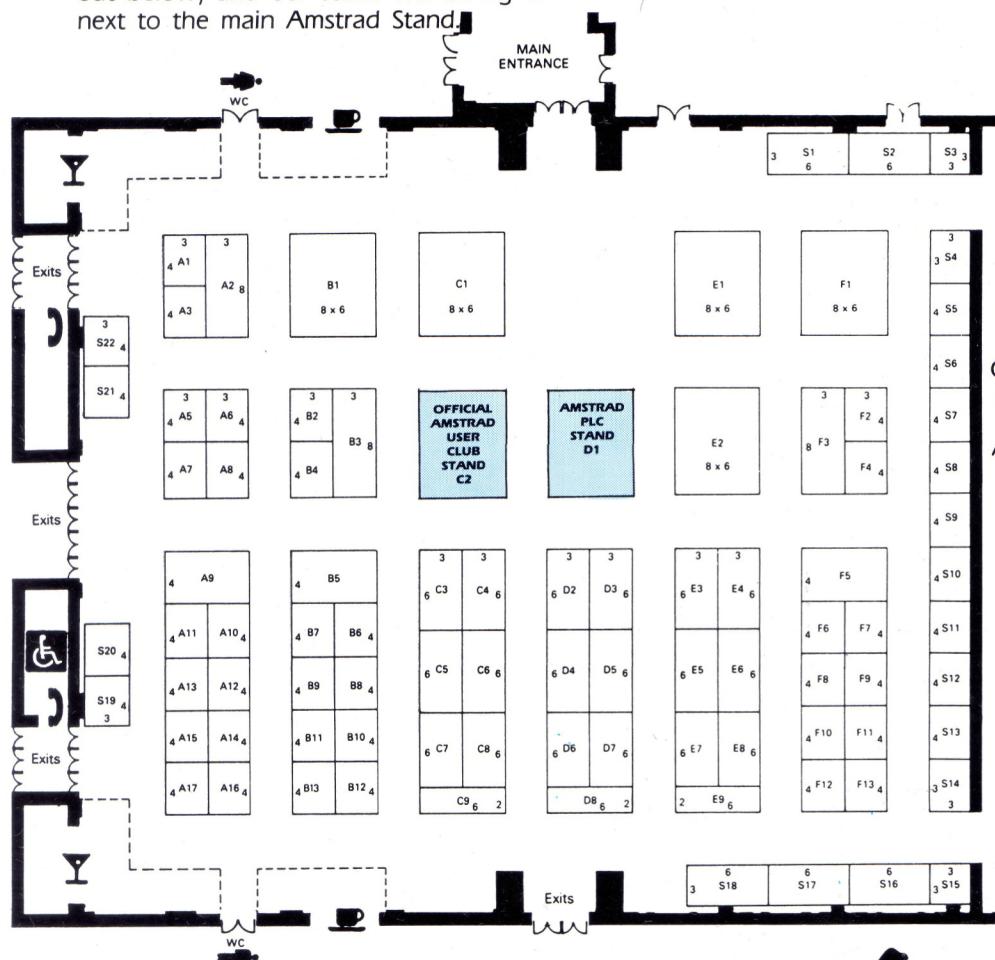
February 4-6 1988

**AMSTRAD
COMPUTER
SHOW**

We are dividing our stand into four areas for CPC, PCW, PC and Training and we will have staff on the stand who are able to answer all of your questions. Naturally we have arranged dozens of show offers for every type of Amstrad Computer so there'll be plenty of super offers especially for you!

We'll have every **AMSTRAD** computer up and running and we'll happily demonstrate any packages you're interested in purchasing.

Please make every effort to come along and head straight for stand 'C2' (The User Clubs) and 'D1' (Amstrads) we're looking forward to meeting you.



▲ TO BOUNDS GREEN

◀ TO
COLNEY
HATCH
LANE
AND A1



▼ TO MUSWELL HILL

PRICES SLASHED!

**PLEASE READ INSIDE FOR AMSTRAD'S
KNOCK DOWN PRICES FOR CPC OWNERS!**



SUPER KNOCK DOWN PRICES DIRECT FROM AMSTRAD

Ring Telesales on
091 - 510 8787 or post your order di-
rect to the User Club and **save £££'s.**

BUDGET S

**TWO GAMES ON DISC
FOR ONLY £5.95**

**to MEMBERS AND
£6.99 TO NON-
MEMBERS**

HARVEY HEADBANGER AND WILLOW PATTERN

HARVEY HEADBANGER.
Harvey Headbanger and Hamish Highball battle it out with fat
bellies and hard heads for domination of the Cocktail Cabinet.
WILLOW PATTERN.
Enter the Mandarin's palace and seek out the princess from
amongst the oriental maze.

CODE HARVEY 2000:
members £5.95 non-members £6.99

GUNSTAR AND ULTIMA RATIO

GUNSTAR.
Join the Gunstar Fleet and fly your Pulse Fighter against the alien hordes.
ULTIMA RATIO.
Pay a visit to the nine space platforms of Ultima Ratio and kill everything.

CODE GUN 2000:
members £5.95 non-members £6.99

REBELSTAR AND PNEUMATIC HAMMERS

REBELSTAR.
Guns ablaze, the Rebels burst into the Base taking the Defenders
quite by surprise! A gripping strategy game for 1 or 2 players.
PNEUMATIC
It's a race against time to find the gold, cast a hidden lever and
save the research base.

CODE REBEL 2000:
members £5.95 non-members £6.99

SPACED OUT AND REALM

SPACED OUT.
Tread carefully and you may 'space out' a computer. A game re-
quiring stealth and strategy.
REALM.
Enter a world of possibilities, problems and puzzles in an en-
deavour to sort out the solar system.

CODE SPACE 2000:
members £5.95 non-members £6.99

THUNDERSTONE AND THINK

THUNDERSTONE.
Cut out the evil Zicrons and save the Flavious V Planet system.
THINK.
So you can Think, but can you THINK, SPEED THINK or even BLITZ
THINK?
Here's your chance to prove it.

CODE THUNDE 2000:
members £5.95 non-members £6.99

CPC464/664/6128 GUIDE TO LOGO

Logo is not a new language, it has been around for a
long time. It is only fairly recently that Logo has be-
come available in microcomputers, and Dr. Logo from
Digital Research has been around since 1984.
You have available on your CPC464/664 a language, Dr.
Logo, which is far more powerful than any micro-
computer Basic. If you know anything of Logo at all, it
is probably related to the fact that Logo is a graphics
system for children. Whilst some Logo's are only
graphics systems, such varieties are not 'real' Logo's -
they are toy Logo's - whereas Dr. Logo is a powerful
system, which can take you far.
I start my guide to Logo with turtle graphics, possibly
the most famous aspect of Logo, but my final applica-
tion is a data base system with similarities to Prolog the
'fifth generation' computer language. On the way, I
hope to give a feel for the extensiveness of the lan-
guage - Logo is a language designed to broaden the
users horizons.

CODE: SOFT 160
Non-members price: £9.95
Normal members price: £8.45
Special Knockdown members price: £6.95

GENUINE 3" BLANK DISCS

AT THE BEST PRICES IN THE INDUSTRY

At the time when competitors are out of stock on 3"
Blank Discs, Amstrad are offering an unrepeatable price on
3" Amsoft discs in packs of ten. We would advise you to
buy now because we are anticipating a price rise.

PACK OF TEN DISCS
Normal retail price £29.90 (for 10)
Normal members price £23.00 (for 10)
NEW USER CLUB OFFER PRICE TO MEMBERS
ONLY £19.90 FOR 10

CPC464/664/6128 Firmware Guide

This manual describes the firmware of the Amstrad CPC 464/664/
6128 Microcomputers. It also describes the disc operating sys-
tems (CP/M and AMSDOS). It does not describe either the Basic
Language supplied with the system or CP/M. The manual does
describe certain aspects of the Basic where these affect other
programs and it uses Basic in certain example programs when
describing some features of the firmware. It also describes how
to call the firmware from CP/M.
Three versions of the firmware are described. V1.0 (on CPC464),
V1.1 (on CPC664) and V1.2 (on CPC6128). Apart from support
from bank switching V1.1 and V1.2 are identical and are referred
to as V1.1 throughout this manual. It may be necessary for a pro-
gram to deduce which firmware is fitted in a computer, and this
can be achieved by inspecting the on-board ROMs version number
(as described in section 10.2) using KL ROM PROBE. This will
return a 0, 1 or 2 depending on the version of firmware.

CODE: SOFT 968
Non-members price: £19.95
Normal members price: £16.95
Special Knockdown members price:
£11.95

Masterfile II

- * File merge, i.e. joining two or more files together
- * Totally menu driven
- * Fully machine-coded for speed and compactness
- * Can access/process the file from user's BASIC

File capacity of the 128k version is 64k - 1,000 names and address
for example. The 64k version has about 33k capacity. Up to 50 fields
per record, up to 240 characters per field are allowed. Up to 50
screen formats can be created per file, although 5 are usually ample.
The data-sharing facility means that Masterfile II is a relational data-
base quite unique in a program of less than £100.
Applications include:
Address lists/label printing, stock control, music/book indexing, insur-
ance inventory, sales ledger, recipes, genealogy, bibliography, phi-
lately, club membership/subscription list, prices index. Just about any
card-index application can be brought into the computer age with
Masterfile II.

CODE: Disk SOFT 07060
non-members price: £33.00
Normal members price: £28.05
Special Knockdown members
price: £16.95

Amstrad V21/23 Modem

One of the major growth areas in the field of computers is in com-
puter communications - the ability to connect two or more comput-
ers together over considerable distances to exchange or access infor-
mation using a standard public telephone line. Unfortunately, as al-
ways, several standards have evolved. Help is however at hand in the
shape of the Amstrad V21/23 modem, this will enable you to
connect your Amstrad computer to a British Telecom type 600 soc-
ket*. It offers full V21/23 protocol and a range of receiving and
transmitting baud rates to enable connection to all the standard
Databases and information services, such as Prestel, B.T.Gold, BLAISE
and Micronet.

CODE: V21/23
non-members price: £99.95
Normal members price: £84.95
Special Knockdown members price: £79.95

Amstrad through their own
User Club have decided to offer
their members the following list
of products at
**REDICULOUSLY LOW,
UNBEATABLE PRICES.**
We assure you that stocks are
limited, and they will sell fast!!!

CONCISE BASIC SPECIFICATION

Amstrad Basic
The Complete Technical Specification.

CODE: SOFT 157
Non-members price: £19.95
Normal members price: £16.95
SPECIAL KNOCKDOWN MEMBERS PRICE
£10.95

464 Operating System Specification For CPC 464 Only

A complete technical reference for all machine code
programmers that describes all the firmware routines,
the associated parameters and conditions.

Over 450 pages of details of the extensive ROM
routines make this one of the most comprehensive
technical publications ever offered at the launch of a
home computer.

Keyboard scanning, screen writing, sound handling
etc., are all covered in precise detail. Expansion Rom
philosophy, 10 techniques and all aspects of the
hardware/software interface. Supplied with ring binder
and library slip case.

CODE: SOFT 158
Non-members price: £19.95
Normal members price: £16.95
Special Knockdown members price: £10.95

DDI-1 FIRMWARE SPECIFICATION

DDI-1 Firmware is an appendix to Soft 158, de-
scribing the CPC464 Disc interface, Rom routines
and explanations.

CODE: SOFT 158A
Non-members price: £9.95
Normal members price: £8.45
Special Knockdown members price: £5.95

Amsword Word Processor

The word processor. A complete low cost word processing pro-
gram featuring a 'What you see is what you get' display, many fea-
tures for manipulating and printing text and a very easy to use
system of help messages.

Simply press a single key to get a complete list of the available
facilities and the keystroke sequences required to activate them.
Press another return to exact point at which you left the text. Or
you can view the help page by scrolling the window at the top of
the screen.

CODE: Tape SOFT 164
non-members price: £19.95
members price: £16.95
Special Knockdown members price: £9.95

CODE: Disc SOFT 1164
Non-members price: £23.95
Normal members price: £20.35
Special Knockdown members price: £12.95

SOFTWARE

Mission Genocide and Bombscare

MISSION GENOCIDE.

Grab those weapons and Zap the Bad Star Empire before they Zap you!

BOMBS CARE.
A tense race against time in this superb 3D graphics adventure, prepare to be glued to the edge of your seat.

CODE MISS 2000:

members £5.95 non-members £6.99

THRUST AND NINJA MASTER

THRUST.

A brilliant gripping arcade game requiring precision dexterity, and a cool, calculating mind. Can you beat it?

NINJA MASTER

Smash your way from Novice to Black Belt and then win this oriental challenge.

CODE THRUST 2000:

members £5.95 non-members £6.99

PARABOLA AND THRUST II

PARABOLA.

Use your skill and dexterity to bounce across the Parabola squares and complete the grid.

THRUST II

If your friends had Thrust I why don't you get Thrust II? Graphics are better, gameplay is better and it's harder to win!

CODE PARA 2000:

members £5.95 non-members £6.99

GREAT NEW PRODUCTS

New Products for the Amstrad CPC

ALTERNATIVE WORLD GAMES

Why be serious when there is so much fun in taking an alternative view to things? This ingenious but hilarious spoof will have you in stitches, not to mention the river, canal, back.....

You'll be racing in Naples, Boot Throwing at the Colosseum, Pole Climbing in Verona and Running up Walls in Venice! If you can still stand the pace, try your hand at Balancing Plates, Jumping Rivers, Pogo and Pillow Fighting. Recapture the very essence of competitive spirit of this comical collection of 'Alternative World Games'!

CODE Tape ALTERN 001:

members £8.49 non-members £9.99

CODE Disc ALTERN 0001:

members £12.75 non-members £14.99

FOUR SMASH HITS

This brilliant game is a compilation of four of the best arcade games ever.

Zynaps: This is the battle to end all battles, through asteroid storms in the search for the secret alien stronghold. Across three game chapters, with most exciting graphics yet.

Rana-Rama: Dungeons and Warlocks - Mervyn the Frog, discover the magic, reverse the spell, do battle with wizards and warlocks.

Exolon: Top space-play hit with exploding birth pods, landmines, shattering grenades and rampaging rocket guns - you'll need all your wits for this smash hit.

Uridium: The classic 'game of the year' hit from Hewson. Stunning graphics and heart-stopping action needing cool control in the face of thunderous rocketry and shattering cannons.

CODE Tape SMASH 400:

members £8.45 non-members £9.95

CODE Disc SMASH 4000:

members £12.70 non-members £14.95

Knight Orc - CPC Tape & Disc

A humorous tale of revenge. This super game is set in three parts. It casts you as an oppressed Orc in a magical world where all is not as it seems. For generations humans have been persecuting Orc's and now it's time for the Orc's to fight back. Each character leads its own life in the game, and their actions can affect the outcome of the adventure.

Tape Version

CODE: KNIGHT 001

members £12.70
non-members £14.95

Disc Version

CODE: KNIGHT 0001

members £16.95
non-members £19.95

Jewels of Darkness - CPC Tape/Disc

You control the destiny of determined characters with tasks to perform in the Land of Demon Lord. Use your skills of logical thought and mental dexterity to solve these intricate puzzles and deftly contrived problems that you must face the forces of evil. Features huge 1000 word vocabulary. Multi-command Sentences. High quality 64 page Novella. Over 600 locations.

CODE Tape: JEWELS 001
members £12.70
non-members £14.95

CODE Disc: JEWELS 0001
members £16.95
non-members £19.95

Jinxter - CPC Disc

The powerful good luck charm bracelet of Turani has been cast asunder by the coven of Green Witches, its charm dispersed, its luck fast disappearing. This is the world of the Jinxter, a bewitching and humorous tale of mischief pitted against good fortune. Teasing and ingenious puzzles, quirky, atmospheric descriptions, a super-intelligent parser, and vivid illustrations. But with one unusual difference, you can't die!

CODE: JINX 0001

members £16.95
non-members £19.95

New Products for the CPC 6128 lankey Crash Course in Typing

This course is designed to teach the modern computer user the basics of touch typing in the shortest possible time (3-4 hours to cover the entire keyboard). A range of unique features gives you instant feedback on how well you are doing and keeps you interested and eager. Provides plenty of interesting practice exercises for continuing to build speed and accuracy to 40+ wpm. Uses colour if available.

CODE LANKEY 0001:

members £21.20 non-members £24.95

lankey 'Two Fingers' To Touch Type Conversion Course

The lankey 'Two Fingers' Typing Conversion Course is designed to help the experienced but two-fingered typist to convert fast and accurate touch typing; includes all the unique features of lankey Crash Course. It weans you gently from bad habits, in the course of your everyday use of the computer. Uses colour if available.

CODE Disc LANKEY 0002:

members £21.20 non-members £24.95

AMSCHAT



DISC HEAD CLEANERS

Many of our customers have recently bought the disc head cleaner for 3" disc drives. The instructions on the disc itself are clear enough but don't actually tell the user how to make the cleaning cloth rotate inside the drive cleaning the heads. After applying the fluid to the cloth as instructed enter the disc and type Run "DISC" the computer will access the disc looking for the file called DISC thus the cloth will rotate and clean the drive heads.

BASIL ^{NOT} FAULTY

After the Christmas period a lot of our customers are returning the disc version of 'Basil the Great Mouse Detective' as being faulty, when trying to load they get the message 'Read Fail', to load this game press the SHIFT and @ keys together and then type CPM directly after it, then press ENTER or RETURN, this procedure applies to many of the new games software.

MICROFILE/MICROWORD

Members who have the program Microfile/Microword seem to be having some problems with Microword, when trying to set up a Printer Function Control Code. e.g. to print italics, the method is Press the Control Key the letter P and then the letter N.

Many people are missing out the P and therefore the code is not working. The P must be used with all Printer Function Control Codes, or the function will not operate.

FOR THE AMSTRAD CPC Guild of Thieves - CPC Disc

Why buy this game when you can steal it? Except you can't! Not yet. An amateur like you! If you were a fully paid up member of the notorious Guild of Thieves, things would be different... Mind you, its not easy. You may find yourself ditched on a remote jetty by the Guildmaster. You might find that the Guild expect you to ransack a well guarded mansion. Or maybe if they're doubtful of your abilities - everything at once.

CODE: GUILD 0001

members £16.95
non-members £19.95

COMpetition

THIS MONTHS COMPETITION

This months puzzle was kindly sent in by Kath Nicol and we think it's a cracker, thank you for your time consuming effort and we've despatched you a gift as a reward. The first correct entry from the cut-down beer barrel may choose **any two** of the new products in this newsletter.

Kath writes:-

In this problem all the whole numbers from 1 - 26 (inclusive) have been allocated at random to the letters of the alphabet. The letter values of words have been added together to give word values. (e.g. If P was given the value of 8, then C + W would equal 7, and if C had the value of 3, then W would equal 4). From the following list of words it is possible by means of analysis, deduction, substitution and the use of logic to determine the value of every letter of the alphabet. **WHAT IS THE VALUE OF Q?**

AMDATA	150	AMSOFT	100	AMSTRAD	167
ASCII	69	COPY	21	DISC	58
EXIT	51	FILE	23	FOOTER	53
FORMAT	99	HEADER	85	JOYCE	32
JOYSTICK	101	LOAD	62	LOCOMAIL	90
LOCOSCRIPT	104	MEMORY	86	MENUS	76
MOUSE	71	PASTE	79	PCW	15
PROGRAM	119	RELAY	71	REVERSE	88
SCREEN	61	SOFTWARE	105	WORD	52
STYLE	70	SUBSCRIPT	138	SUPERSCRIPT	153
ZERO	43				

Hint: Analysis of the word

AMSTRAD will give the value of 'A' and the limits of the other letters in the word.

LAST MONTHS COMPETITION

Well done **ROY LYNCH** from **GLENROTHES, FIFE in SCOTLAND**. Not only did you send the first correct entry which was drawn out of our cut-down beer barrel but you also sent us two different programmes to help your knight travel from one corner, then around every square on the board and finish in one of the opposite corners. It's a pity the programmes were a little long to print. His correct entry read as follows:-

My solution to the competition is:-

I found the solution using a recursive routine in Hi-soft Pascal. This took 34 hours to run to completion. As a bit of fun I thought I would have a go at using the same algorithm in machine code using pyradev. This time it took only 1½ hours. I have enclosed listings of both routines for your amusement. **Well done Mr. Lynch, your free gifts are on their way to you.**

1	60	39	34	31	18	9	64
38	35	32	61	10	63	30	17
59	2	37	40	33	28	19	8
36	49	42	27	62	11	16	29
43	58	3	50	41	24	7	20
48	51	46	55	26	21	12	15
57	44	53	4	23	14	25	6
52	47	56	45	54	5	22	13

**FOR SALE
&
WANTED**

FOR SALE

SSA-1 Speech Synthesiser (464 only)	£15.00
LP-1 Light Pen	£6.50
Laser Basic (Disc)	£10.00
Laser Basic Compiler (Disc)	£12.50
Graphical Adventure Creator (Disc)	£14.00
Shadowfire (Disc)	£7.50
Alien Highway (Disc)	£7.00
Discovery + (Disc)	£7.50
Teach Yourself Amstrad Basic 1 & 2	£10.00
464 Operating System Firmware Manual	£10.00
DDI-1 Firmware Manual	£5.00
Introducing Amstrad CPC464 Machine Code	£4.50
Add 50p per item for p&p.	

Contact: Mr. M. Nellist, 20 Tunstall Road,
Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland
TS18 5LX. Tel: 0642 581397.



LAMP POST

Mr. Smith of Bakersfield in Nottingham writes,

Dear Sirs,

A few months ago I purchased Amstrad Word Processor for my Amstrad CPC 6128. I am pleased with Amstrad but I have a few questions for you, I hope you are able to answer them. Firstly is there any way of getting the letters on the screen any bigger e.g. Mode 1?

The second question is when you want to print a Text File is there any way of changing the print style from 'Standard' print when you first switch the DMP 2000 Printer on, to, for e.g. NLQ-Standard (this is 'Standard' print from first switching the printer on.) Hope you can help me.

Yours thankfully, R.J. Smith.

Editor Replies,

Mr. Smith you can not get a bigger print on the screen, but you can when printing out. Use the Printer Control Character L to get enlarged text on the printer, this will not appear large on the screen.

To get your printer to print NLQ-Standard from switch on, the DIP Switches at the back of the printer need to be changed.

Chapter 7 page 5 of the DMP 2000 manual explains the DIP Switch settings.

DS1-8 needs to be set to the ON position for the NLQ-Standard.

Kind Regards, The Editor.

Mr. S. Riley of Plymouth in Devon writes,

Dear Sirs,

I have purchased from yourselves a DMP 3160 printer for use on my CPC 6128, I have also purchased a PL1 printer lead as instructed in the printer manual. When trying to print from Mini Office or any other software, there is no response from the printer, can you please help.

Yours sincerely, Stuart Riley.

Editor's Reply,

Mr. Riley, I am pleased to say that the answer to your problem is as follows. THE CONFIGURATION OF THE DIP Switches needs to be changed to the following settings. So switch your machine off and flick the switches to the following positions. On bank 1 Switch 3 should be ON all the others should be OFF.

On bank 2 Switches 3, 4, 5, 6 should be ON and the others OFF.

DIP Switch 5 on the second bank is the important switch that configures your printer for use on a CPC machine.

Kind Regards, The Editor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All prices correct at time of going to press - all prices include V.A.T.

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