

AMDATA

AUG

1988

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL CPC MACHINES

SPECIAL SUMMER BONANZA

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO RECEIVE 'SOMETHING FOR NOTHING' WHEN BUYING PRODUCTS THIS MONTH

This month we are giving you the golden opportunity to buy either single items or bulk products and in return receive something absolutely FREE for shopping with the User Club.

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Send only £84.95 and mark your order FD-1 promotion or ring Telesales.

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WHAT IS LAWLINE?

Lawline runs a 24 hour legal advisory service (365 days a year), which allows you immediate access by telephone, to a central team of experts, on any private or business problem. They will advise you on what to do immediately and pursue the matter further if necessary. You can consult the team as many times as you wish in total confidence: you need not even give your name.

*If you, suffered injury in an accident, would you know how to obtain compensation?.

*If you bought a faulty washing machine, or a car you felt was unsafe, and the retailer refused to do anything. What would you do?

*Your holiday hotel is overbooked despite firm confirmation from your Travel Agent. Alternative accommodation is not acceptable and there is no offer of compensation from the Tour Operator. What's your next move?.

*Your employer changes your Contract of Employment. You consider this to be tantamount to a fundamental charge amounting to dismissal. What's your best action?

RING LAWLINE

All this absolutely **FREE** to members this month!

Lawline is backed by the IRPC (Industrial and Personnel Consultants) and Cornhill Insurance.

** The 12-Pack contains the following games: X-Anagrams, Oh-Mummy, Fruit Machine, Harrier Attack, Bridge-It, The Galactic Plague, Easi-Amword, Roland in the Caves, *Sultans Maze, Roland on the Ropes, Animal, Vegetable and Mineral and Timeman One: and runs on the Amstrad 464 and 6128. (Although you will need a data recorder.)

* Will not work on the 6128 with data recorder.

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Having been asked many times by our customers for products which we do not carry as regular stock items, we feel it is time to offer you a totally new service You ask for it - we'll get it!

Simply write or telephone the User Club and ask our staff for any of the products you are hoping to buy, we will then do our utmost to locate these items and despatch them to you at the best possible prices available.

We will advise you however if we've already had adverse reports on any products or if Amstrad PLC disapprove of the product for use with their computers. In the main we are now able to supply you with all of your needs at the **BEST PRICES IN THE U.K. TODAY.** Order with confidence from;

THE OFFICIAL AMSTRAD USERS CLUBIT PAYS TO BELONG!

GREAT NEW PRODUCTS

EXTRA STOCK SHIPMENT JUST ARRIVED ON PREMISES!

Due to the overwhelming response we received regarding the fantastic charity game, The Race Against Time, our purchasing department have worked overtime to fulfil the desperate needs of our anxious members who want to help. Well, we struck gold, a shipment arrived on the premises last week.

Remember this game helps the children who are crippled by starvation. Do you want to help?

THE RACE AGAINST TIME SPORT AID '88 - FIGHTING THE HIDDEN CRISIS

The Race Against Time is just one of the Sport Aid '88 efforts to unite all 218 countries and inhabited territories in this program to help fight the "hidden crisis" of hunger, poverty and disease which kill nearly 15 million children every year. Worldwide Sport Aid '88 hopes to inspire millions of people to "sign up", get their own unique Global race Number and run The Race Against Time on Sunday, September 11th.

The Race Against Time

You play Omar Khalifa, the legendary Sudanese runner. Your task is to run around the world carrying the torch of Sport Aid '88 and getting people to join The Race Against Time. This is done by raising a flag and lighting a flame in a bowl on each of six continents.

The game has over one hundred locations, many of which feature famous landmarks such as the Pyramids of Giza, Buckingham Palace, Mount Rushmore, The Kremlin and Victoria Falls. See how many places you recognize while playing the game.

With the coding by the Oliver Twins, graphics by Stuart Del Ruecroft and music by Peter Gabriel, this game proves to be excellent value and remember all the profits are going to the starving, desperate children in need.

TAPE CODE: SPORT001 **Members £4.25**
Non-Members £4.99

BIONIC COMMANDO

Ten years have passed since the devastating war when the enemies secret Zargon missiles destroyed our civilization. The only hope we have of regaining our home world and rebuilding our lives, lies in the hands of the Elite force of BIONIC COMMANDOS. With their telescopic limbs, sophisticated weaponry and bionic power, they must infiltrate the enemy bases, destroy the deadly foe and neutralise their doomsday weapons. Your skill and their bionic powers are our only hope.

State of the Art gameplay and a pounding soundtrack combine to make Bionic Commando unique to the home computer.

CODE TAPE: BIONIC 001

Members £8.45 Non-Members £9.99

CODE DISC: BIONIC 001

Members £12.70 Non-Members £14.99

EVERYONES A WALLY

Wally is back, this time with his family in the first ever Multi Role Arcade Adventure. Not only does Wally appear fully animated, but also Wilma, Tom, Dick and Harry. The purpose of the game is to find the combination for the safe and then pay the gang's wages. The combination is split and can be found in different locations. Not only must the combinations be identified, but also the right items to collect the combinations must be used. The locations are many and varied and contain zany arcade sequences which must be completed to finish the adventure. Each character has specific abilities and it is up to the player to select which one will perform a particular task. The game starts with the whole gang in the Town Square by the fountain. You have control of Wally so the rest of the gang go off about their own business. As Wally cannot do everything himself, you will have to select one of the other characters (except for Herbert, he is totally uncontrollable) to perform the various tasks. While a character is not under control he or she may be carrying out other tasks which could help or hinder you.

CODE TAPE: WALLY001 **MEMBERS £1.70** NON-MEMBERS £1.99

BRAINSTORM

Brainstorm is an arcade strategy game. At the beginning of the game you will see one of the two balls bouncing around a coloured grid. The object of the game is to trap the ball(s) on a red area of the grid, since your score will depend on the time the ball spends travelling over each particular coloured area of the screen. Brainstorm is played over 26 screens, each presenting different problems for trapping the ball.

CODE TAPE: STORM01

MEMBERS £1.70 NON-MEMBERS £1.99.

RALLY DRIVER

To complete successfully in a car rally requires more than just fast driving. You must plan your route carefully taking many things into consideration: the weather, longest or shortest routes, which are 'fast' roads, which are 'slow' roads. Drive quickly, but carefully. You must always be on the look out in case spectators or farm animals have strayed onto the road! The rally takes place in 3 stages over 3 gruelling days or nights. To win a cup you have to come in the top three after the third and final stage. The competition is tough. Only the top seven competitors can proceed from Stage 1 to 2, and just the top five go through to Stage 3 from Stage 2.

Each stage contains a number of Time Controls (these are marked on the map which accompanies this program). You must drive through each Time Control in order to complete the stage. There are a number of different routes you could take to go through each Time Control. It is up to you to use your navigation skills to choose the best course.

CODE TAPE: RALLY001

MEMBERS £1.70 NON-MEMBERS £1.99.

POPEYE

Life's not all a bowl of spinach for Popeye as he hunts for hearts to win the love of Olive Oyl. His rival, the macho Bluto, is not amused. He thumps around making a pulp of Popeye.

Olive Oyl demands a never-ending supply of love!

Keep her sweet by collecting 25 scattered hearts and handing them over. Take care to check Olive's loveometer. When her love level starts to fade you must restore it by delivering some of the hearts you have collected.

The task is not easy. Hearts can be anywhere - up the lighthouse, on board the ship, under the ocean, locked in the house, on the roof, inside the fruit machine ...

Its not just the right door keys that Popeye needs to collect on his way.

The sailor man is not the only one seeking Olive Oyl's love. Bluto is his rival, pacing up and down outside Olive's house. Avoiding Bluto and all other moving objects - giant birds, flying witches, snoring dragons and gnashing sharks - as they have a habit of knocking Popeye for six. He'll survive if you have a tin of spinach in store for him, of course, but you can only carry eight things around with you - including the heart and keys as well as the tins of life-giving green stuff.

You score 1000 for each heart delivered, with a time bonus for delivering them all - and a special reward from Olive!

TAPE CODE: POPEYE 001 **members: £1.70** non-members: £1.99

YOGI BEAR

Grim tidings from Jellystone Park, folks! Yogi's little pal Boo-Boo has been bearnapped by a mean hunter, planning to make some loot by selling him to a circus. Boo-Boo is locked in a cage near the hunter's cabin... somewhere in Jellystone. Only Boo-Boo's fearless and faithful friend Yogi can save him. Step into Yogi's paws, scour Jellystone and snatch Boo-Boo from the clutches of the hunter. It won't be easy. Running around Jellystone is a tiring business and Yogi's energy is quickly sapped. The energy meter at the bottom left of the screen shows Yogi's 'go' going down. He'll need to find plenty of food along the way - especially delicious picnic baskets left lying around by careless campers. But if he finds some fisherman, he may be able to pinch a fish or three from their hooks. Time is running out for Boo-Boo. When Yogi starts his mission of mercy it's January. When December comes, Yogi has to hibernate and Boo-Boo will have to be rescued.

CODE TAPE: BEAR001 **MEMBERS £1.70** NON-MEMBERS £1.99.

BAD CAT

Its the year 1988 and Seoul for the Olympic Summer Games. The dignitaries and celebrities prepare their speeches and await the huge crowds expected to attend. Beware - there are still the straying City-Dweller Cats - despised by all. The infamous cats are well known for they are planning their own competitive games. Will Bad Cat live up to his name.

There are 4 venues in each level, you can only continue to the next once you have qualified by completing the tasks and overcoming the obstacles within the time allowed. The 4 venues are: The City Park, The Arena, The Sewer, and the Pub.

The games starts at the first venue. Upon finishing you have to proceed to the next venue by means of completing an interlude stage. As you progress, each venue is reached through an interlude. After your exciting adventure you may gain permanent recognition on the high score table.

With obstacles such as water jumps, swings, ball balancing, cradle across crossbars, and many more, skill, speed, and the will to win are essential to retain the name, BAD CAT.

CODE TAPE: BADCAT001

MEMBERS £6.50 NON-MEMBERS £9.99

CODE DISC: BADCAT001

MEMBERS £10.70 NON-MEMBERS £14.99

RASPUTIN

You, as a crusader of considerable valour and prowess must quell the source of the spirit of Rasputin, Master of Ultimate Evil. Use the magic power of your sword and shield and replenish this power before it is drained away and your life-force is sapped by the spirits of untold evil. You can pause the game by using the SPACE key and resume it again by using the ENTER/RETURN key.

The indicators at the bottom of the screen will help you to establish how much progress you have made and your current life status. The LIFE FORCE indicator is at the top of the indicator panel and shows your current state of health. The four eyeball icons represent the SPELL HARMONY INDICATORS while the level of power remaining in your sword and shield is shown in the MAGIC POWER INDICATORS at the bottom right of the screen.

CODE TAPE: RASPUT001 **MEMBERS £1.70** NON-MEMBERS £1.99.

STREET SPORT BASKETBALL

Jump Ball! Its play-off time in the back alley off

Oak Street. Vic and Bojo face-off on asphalt.

They leap... long arms stretch...the higher hand

smacks the ball to Magic... then a furious fast

break down the alley...Vic gets caught in the

hustle and does hard time on concrete... defence

slacks as Kevin slips on a slimy patch ...

Brad spots an opening to the basket and slams

it through. Check out those high fives! Blitz 'Em

Right Off The Street!: Create a team to terrorise

the neighbourhood. There are shooters and

slow dribblers, team play and show offs. Guys

that can pass on the run and find that big man

inside. Or help Joey pop 'em from the corners.

But don't let 'em dribble in oil slicks. Or trip in

pot holes. To be Number One in this neigh-

bourhood it takes as many mental leaps as

jumps.

There have never been this many obstacles to

proving you're the best. Then again, Street

Sports Basketball isn't like any basketball

you've ever played on a computer. But it's just

like any basketball you've played for real.

*** Play against a friend, or the computer.**

*** Choose your own teams, recruiting from 10**

neighbourhood players.

*** Four different courts: the schoolyard, the**

alley, the suburban backyard and the inner-

city parking lot.

*** Slam dunk. Steal the ball. Make a jump shot,**

or a hook. Then pass on the run to an open

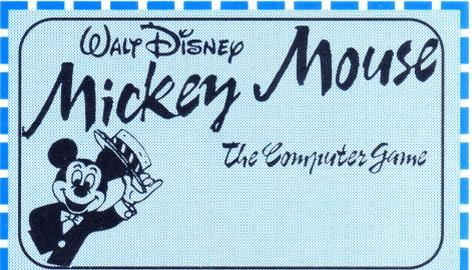
team mate for an easy score.

CODE: SSBASK 001

members: \$6.50 non-members: £9.99

CODE: SSBASK 0001

members: \$10.70 non-members: £14.99



Celebrate Mickey's birthday in style with this exclusive Walt Disney game. A spell has been cast over Disneyland by the Ogre King. The wand has been broken into four pieces and given to the four witches to guard in their towers. Mickey (the hero) has to retrieve all 4 pieces in order to break the spell.

Assisted only by the last flaggon of enchanted water, a water pistol and a mallet, set on your way to defend the castle! Squirt your water pistol at the witches, their evil guardians, ghosts and ghoulies. Club with your mallet the huge ogres to return Disneyland back to normal.

CODE TAPE: MICKEY 001

Members £8.49 Non-Members £9.99

CODE DISC: MICKEY 0001

Members £12.70 Non-Members £14.95

LAST MONTHS WINNER

Thanks for the great response to the competition. We have received hundreds of varied entries many of which were correct in their own form. The first entry to be pulled from the many in our cut down beer barrel was Mr. N. R. Elite of Irvine in Ayr. Well done sir, your £25 credit voucher is winging its way to you now.

The answer was of course:-

MR. SPARROW
MRS. JAY
MRS. WREN
MR. DRAKE
MISS FINCH
MISS MARTIN

SALES
RESEARCH
ACCOUNTING
PRODUCTION
PERSONNEL
PURCHASING

PENCIL
RED FELT-TIP
BLACK FELT-TIP
RED BIRO
FOUNTAIN PEN
BLACK BIRO

BLACK COFFEE
WHITE COFFEE+SUG
TEA
BLACK COFFEE+SUG
TEA+SUGAR
WHITE COFFEE

THIS MONTHS COMPETITION

This months block busting competition was sent to us by Mr. Boyd Neal of Cranbrook in Kent and is bound to test your programming skills. The first correct answer (with all the workings shown) to be pulled out of the barrel will receive a £25 credit voucher. Each answer will be typed into the computer and tested, so make sure all the lines and commands of your entry are correct.

Well here it is, **GOOD LUCK.**

Two spaceships (Appollo & Gemini) leave Earth and travel side by side towards a far off galaxy. Appollo has a crew of 50 and Gemini has a single pilot on board but has the capacity to carry 1 passenger. At a distance of 3,000,000 miles from Earth both ships are travelling at 10,000 mph. Appollo suddenly develops a computer fault and its speed starts increasing by 1 mph each hour. The Gemini Amstrad computer calculates that the fault cannot be corrected and that Appollo will collide with a White Dwarf in the far off galaxy in 77 years time. The Gemini pilot immediately takes one of the Appollo crew on board and heads for Earth. If the Gemini pilot continues to shuttle between Earth and the doomed Appollo at a constant speed of 100,000 mph how many men can be saved?

You may assume the position of Earth is static, the time required to land on Earth, refuel etc. is negligible and the time required for Gemini to dock with Appollo is also negligible.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAVE SOME CASH FOR YOUR HOLIDAYS?
SUPER SUMMER SAVINGS AVAILABLE HERE.

We have a super stock clearance for our members this summer. For a period of 4 weeks we are offering tremendous savings of selected lines until stocks last...

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MUTANT MONTY
CODE:SOFT 1922 Ret. Price £12.95
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JAMMIN
CODE:SOFT 1911 Ret. Price £12.95
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QUACK A JACK
CODE:SOFT 1181 Ret. Price £12.95
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THE SCOUT STEPS IN
CODE:SOFT 1988 Ret. Price £12.95
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ALEX HIGGINS POOL
CODE:SOFT 1964 Ret. Price
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SALE PRICE £2.95

PUNCHY CODE
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SALE PRICE £2.95

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MASTERFILE 464
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SALE PRICE £12.95

KNOCKDOWN

DISCS
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Return To Doom
Tas Word(6128)
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Giant Killer
Masterfile 111

CODE:TEXT 0003 Was £45.95 now £42.95
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Protex
Amsword Advanced
Tapper

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CODE:TEXT001 Was £16.95 now £14.95
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CODE:SOFT 06007 Was £8.45 now £6.95

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CPC 464 Firmware Specs
DD1 -1 Firmware Specs

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STOCK CLEARANCE

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Roland in the Caves
Questor
Activator
Master Chess
Xanagrams
Punchy
The Prize
Oh Mummy

CODE;SOFT 113
CODE;SOFT 112
CODE;SOFT 166
CODE;SOFT 196
CODE;SOFT06021
CODE;SOFT 06042
CODE;SOFT 929
CODE;SOFT 135
CODE;SOFT 934
CODE;SOFT 919
CODE;SOFT 149
CODE;SOFT 117
CODE;QUEST 001
CODE;ACTIVA 001
CODE;SOFT 125
CODE;OFFR 133
CODE;SOFT 150
CODE;OFFR 952
CODE;SOFT 115



Mr. D. Ferguson from Edinburgh writes,

Dear Sir,
Having taken up the challenge of computer programming and read various articles and books, I decided to set myself the task of writing a word processor (or more correctly, a text editor).. I thought it might be useful to be able to assign text strings to the function keys, but found that the main routine which checks each keypress to see if it is a special key (such as one of the function keys or a command) has slowed down, tremendously, the speed of the programs execution. The main routine reads something like as follows:

```
Get next key
If key is F1 do this
If key is F2 do that
If key is F3 do the other
..... and so on.
Is there any way to speed up the execution and shorten the code?
Please can you be of assistance.
```

Yours sincerely,
Mr. Ferguson.
Editor replies,
Yes, Mr. Ferguson, you can shorten the code! To do so simply include this in the subroutine that assigns the various strings.
(for F0) Key 0, string 0\$
(for F1) Key 1, string 1\$
.....and so on up to F9, where string 0\$, string 1\$ etc. are the strings to be assigned to each key. This makes the operating system do all the hard work and accordingly speeds up the execution. Best of luck with your program!

Kind Regards,
The Editor.
Mr. R. Inglehop from Buckinghamshire writes,
Dear Sir,
I have been using Protex on my CPC6128 for some time now. I would like to print out in German but I am unable to follow the instructions given in the manual. It tells you to press the Control and X keys and then press G. Could you please advise me.
Yours desperately,
Richard Inglehop.
Editor replies,
When you first go into Protex, at the command line, type "GERMAN" and then press return. If you then press escape it will take you back to the typing line where you can type in German.
Kind Regards,
The Editor.



AMSCAT

CF-2 COMPACT FLOPPY DISC

New users of a CPC6128 or CPC464 with DDI-1 may not be too familiar with the concept of a CF-2 compact Floppy disc.

Before you can actually start to use the disc, you must first of all format it.

Formatting gives the disc certain markers, these markers tell the disc drive where on the disc information is stored or where there is space available to store information.

Each side of the disc has 40 circular tracks going from track 0 on the outer edge to track 39 towards the centre. Each track is then split into 9 equal areas, called sectors, giving each sector within a track 512 bytes. Totalling all the tracks and sectors together gives a capacity of 180K of bytes per each side of a disc.

PROGRAM CODES?

Many members often write in complaining that their program code is long and repetitive. One common problem is to accept a keypress and execute a particular routine according to which key is pressed. Use of ON GOSUB in conjunction with the INSTRING function can make the code more efficient.

For example:
10 A\$ = "ABOFNXZ"
20 K\$ = INKEY\$: IF INKEYS = "" THEN 20
30 ON INSTRING (K\$,A\$) GOSUB 1000, 2000, 3000,7000

```
.....
1000 REM SUBROUTINE 1
.....
2000 REM SUBROUTINE 2
.....
3000 REM SUBROUTINE 3
.....
7000 REM SUBROUTINE 7
```

This sort of arrangement is often useful for making selections from a menu when it's not just a case of pressing 1 to 7.

GRAPHIC CHARACTER SYMBOLS

We have had a few queries about how to print the Graphic Character Symbols on the CPC6128. To obtain a full list of all the symbols on the screen type in the following program:

```
10 For n=32 to 255
20 Print n,CHR$(N);
30 Next N
Run
```

Once this has been typed you enter the number of the symbol you wish to print eg: Print CHR\$(number of the symbol).

Mr. C. West writes,
Dear Editor,
I have a CPC6128 and I'm using Supercalc 2 for business purposes. This involves the collection of data then feeding this into Supercalc and producing the results on a printed report. However I would like the results if possible to be represented graphically on bar charts. Is this possible with Supercalc 2 as I do know it is with Supercalc 3.21 on the Amstrad PC?
Yours sincerely,
Colin West.
Editor replies,
Dear Mr. West,
Well, Supercalc 2 itself cannot produce any graphics i.e. Bar Charts, however a Software Package called DR Graph is capable of taking Supercalc 2 files and producing Bar Charts and Pie Charts from the data. The package comes with a special manual for this purpose as well as the main manual explaining how the program works. You can obtain DR Graph from the User Club priced at £36.75 to members.
Kind Regards,
The Editor.

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