The Expert User Club

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The expert user club Newsletter

137 Stonefall Avenue, HARROGATE HG2 7NS.

Hello and welcome to issue numbers 8-11. Well we've got lots o good and interesting news, cheats, announcements, and a rathe interesting proposition for all you would be hackers out there.

Oh yes, sorry for the delay in getting this issue out, but ther has been a bit of reorganisation and negotiation within the club t try to improve the service and the standard for you our subscribers Mainly the biggest change concerning the newsletter, is that of Taz You see, he as been lured away by this rather sleek and pretty littl thing, about whom I can only really say, that she has got a rathe enourmously huge pair of t*** (no not boobs) but twin drives. And thi little things name, Amiga. But he has promised to keep in touch.

Well I suppose that brings me to who the hell I am. My logo is Th Boffin, you know one of those idiot's who sit down all day thimkin HOW HE can improve the world in which we live, (namely the Commodorworld) to find that my latest masterpiece of brain power crashe in about 1.1 seconds. Well I hope not anyway. Right then lets get o with the rest of the mag then shall we.

-PROGRAMME SUBMISSIONS.

So you've written a program, or you've got a few cheats to send in have you, well if you have could you please, please try to follow the following format in future.

- 1) If you are sending in for software, membership of resubscription, then please send these type of enquires to the normal user club address.
- 2) If on the other hand you are sending in either enquires, cheats or programmes, which are for my attention then still send these to the same address but please enclose them on a seperate piece of paper from that of membership, software enquires or purchases. This is because the secretary can then forward your enquires and cheats ect, on to me, and it will give me a bit more time between newsletters to try them, and include them in the mag.

Oh yes also please at the top of any submission or enquiry which you think requires my attention put the words FOR THE BOFFIN, and put your name and address on it as well as some people do forget.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TOO

The Expert User Club.
137 Stonefall Avenue
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England.

Bye for now.

THE BOFFIN.

-NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

CAN ANYONE OUT THEIR HELP US "" If anyone out there knows who a certain individual is who calls himself the OMEGA MAN then please get him to contact TRILOGIC at his earliest possibble convienience. As they wish to negotiate something worth his while with him.

Out now version 1.10+. This version of the operating system is designed to work with the old Expert cartridge which uses one point software. People with Experts which use two point software should note that 1.10+ or any one ponit software will not work on their Expert cartridges. Also there as been a few enquires concerning software for a cartridge called a UPC1. Well TRILOGICS version 1.10+ will work perfectly well in this cartridge with a U15 module fitted.

(PLEASE NOTE TRILOGIC CANNOT ENTER INTO ANY CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING

THE UPC1 CARTRIDGE OR THE U19 AS IT IS NOT A TRILOGIC PRODUCT.)

But the U15 module will only allow the 1.10+ to run on a C64 or C64c and not on a C128. If users of the UPC1 require a U19 module which will allow all two point software to run on both a C64, C64c, and on a C128 in 64 mode then please contact:-

Mr K.A.Welsman 65 Ashmead House Barton Hill Bristol. Avon. BS15 9SU.

Price 5.95 for U19 module.

SOFTWARE 1.10+ Available only from TRILOGIC. (Disk users only). And it as got all the same functions as the 2.10. Prices 3.50 if you do not send a disk or 2.00 if you send a single notched good disk.

Also out now from Trilogic utility disk number 2 which is for cheats and transfering multi part tape games i.e. GUNSHIP to disk. Prices 5.95 for a new disk, or if you already have utility disk number one you can return it to Trilogic with 2.00 for an update, but please note it must be the original utility disk.

Club members 50p discount if you order through the club, but don't forget to include your membership number. Also Trilogic has told us that the utility disk is updated between every 2 - 3 weeks.

Sugar I nearly forgot all about this all to good to miss deal we've negotiated with Trilogic. If anyone out their writes multi-part tape disk transferes routines and sends them in to the EUC and we use them. then you will recieve 15 blank disks + 10. 00. Winners names will be printed in the following newsletter, so get writing and sending them in and if you see your name in the following newsletter, then you know your prize is on its way to you. Oh yes if we get more than one entrant for the same game then I 'll either decide on merit (say if one was smaller or provided better options) or I'll draw the winner from a hat.

Please supply a working copy of your routine on disk or tape, and if you wish for it to be returned include 50p p.p U.K. anyware else including Europe 2.00. and don't forget your name address.

Oh yes TRILOGIC also asked me to inform you that if anyone wants to upgrade their old Expert VI to Expert with built in E.S.M. then they can for 20.00. And Expert V2 witout built in E.S.M. to Expert with built in E.S.M. 15.00.

-MEMBERSHIP DETAILS AND BACK ISSUES

Membership costs 3.75 for 6 months (overseas incl Europe add 2.00 to cover airmail postage).

Expertise is sent either monthly or bi-monthly for double issues, but please note that the mag itself is done completely by volenteers who are both unpaid and not professionals, but we shall in future be endevering to make sure its out on time.

-BACK ISSUES

These are available at 65p each. The first was OCTOBER '86.

-HELP US TO HELP YOU

Right then so you've bought a new piece of software or hardware (not games please) and you think it's either brilliant or a load of rubbish Well why not write in and tell us about it so that we can pass it on to other readers, at least hopefully we should get a fair account of whats worth buying and what isn't, and at least we could all be sure thats now ones getting any backhanders saying that some thing is good when its a load of rubbish. (just take a look at some of the reviews in some of the Commodore mags).

-THE PHANTOM ROAD TESTED

Well it's 5 am and the phone rings with an early morning call, I drag me self out of bed after nearly telling the wide awake telephone operator what she could do with her phone call and proceeded to get up Right I think to myself today's the day I actually get to see the Phantom in operation. Anyway after quite a while on the road I finally reached Bradford, (it was quite easy to tell it was Bradford by all the curry houses) and found Trilogics shop. After having quite a nice discussion on how the club was doing and how both the club and Trilogic could work more closely in the future it was time to see what the PHANTOM could do.

For new members or people who have nt heard about the Phantom here is a quick explanation of what it is. Well as anyone will tell you the major trouble with the 1541 disk drive is A) Its slow, I mean Ive seen snails with messages written on their backs moving information faster. B) Commodore say it intelligent, well the Irish say that about themselves as well. C) To make just ordinary simple disk commands like reading the error channel needs either additional harware or software.

So whats the alternative, take speed for example the main reason the 1541 is so slow is because of its use of the serial port. I mean when ever you want to talk to the drive either loading or saving the information is being transfered at a rate of 1 bit at a time, and seeing 8 bits make a byte you can see why it is so slow.

Some of the ways this problem as been overcome is to speed up the rate of transfere to 2 bits at a time giving an increase of roughly 5 times normal. There as been a few attempts to speed this up even more through the serial bus, but to do this what is necessary is to remove all the error checking and retrying if the drive detects a slight error, and if an error does occure you will undoubtedly get a miss load. What the Phantom both is and does is quite simple. Firstly what it is, the Phantom is made up of two subassembly boards, one which fits inside your 1541, and one which fit's inside of your C64. The fitting procedures of which are extremely well documented in the operating manual supplied. I mean whilst I was at Trilogic they let me fit a Phantom in a drive and in about 10 minutes it was up and running perfectly. There is just one word of caution though, on some of the early C64s the kernal chip is soldered in and it does need to be removed and a chip base fitted in its place. (THIS IS BEST LEFT TO SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY ARE DOING, ALSO IF POSSIBLE ENSURE THAT THE CHIP BASE IS NOT WHAT IS CALLED A TURN PIN TYPE)

Now the benefits of the Phantom, remember what I said about the speed at which data is transfered, either 1 or 2 bits at a time, well the Phantom connects directly to the user port to allow Paralell communication between the drive and the computer, and that means that it can both transmit and receive 8 bits of information at one time, in other words 1 byte. This gives an average speed increase of between 25 to 60 times faster loading and saving depending on what other features of the Phantom board you have turned on.

Here are a few example times on both disk based software and standard files. (D/V = DISK-VERSION. P/F = PROG FILE)

TITLE	FILESIZE	PHANTOM TIME	
Law of the west	D/V	14 seconds	
Rock and Wrestle	P/F 244 BL	6.5 seconds.	
Silent sevice	D/V	50 seconds	
Uridium	P/F 198 BL	5 seconds'	

Some of the really nice things I like about the phantom are some of the new routines built into the DOS and additional things built into the new kernal. Firstly the DOS, just look at a few of the new commands below.

Q.N: Header.id+ - format 40 tracks

②3: Filename - Scratch a file - upto 5 filenames can be scratche once.

@ V:I - Validate & ignore read errors

@ V:L - Validate & learn read errors.

@ FL: - Lock file - upto 5 files can be locked at once

@ 1: - Loads from tape

@ Q: - Disable function keys.

@ WI: - Ignores write protect:

@WC: - Ignores write protect until disk change.

And the commands go on and on. Well I've only really just started scratching the surface of what the Phantom can do, you've got built in block read block write commands, and what must be about the most powerful built in drive monitor I've came across. Again which is accessible by very simple commands.

Well in all I must be honest and say that I was very impressed with what the Phantom can do, and it certainly turns the snail into a cheetah as far as speed is concerned. So if you've been considering buying a new Paralell operating system for your 1541 this as got to be the one.

Price £78.95

At the moment its only available for the 1541. NOT the 1541c or any other Commodoer drive. If you do wish to purchase one then contact Trilogic first as when I was there they had a 10 day delivery time on a Phantom.

-PEN PALS PAGE .

Well we're beginning to recieve a few names for the pen pals page so keep them coming in.

Robert Robinson, 30 Buxted Road, Southdene Kirkby, Liverpool, Merseyside, L32 6SQ, England.

Gary Fawcett, P.O. Box 21243, Henderson, Auckland 8, New Zealand.

Derek Whayman, 100 Long Ley, Harlow, Essex, England...

Peter Williams, Clun Road Bakery, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 9QS England.

Shu . 49 Onslow Gardens, South Woodford, London, E18 1ND, England.

-IMPORTANT NOTICE SO PLEASE READ

Well as you can imagine having taken over the editorial side of the mag, and not knowing which of your enquires have been answered either about technical or software questions; it will be a lot easier for me if you would resubmit your enquires. All you need to do is put to THE BOFFIN on the top of your enquiry and then I shall endeavour to answer your questions in the following issue.

-CHEATS CHEATS CHEATS

Here you are a wealth of cheats for you to try, some I've tride some I've just haven't had the time to try, so if some of them don't work don't worry as next time hopefully all the cheats will have been tested.

EAGLES HEWSON V2.9 or 10. To allow freezing and restarting type the following.

- 1) Stop game.
 2) Type F EBCD EBE6 60.
 3) Now you can either Z and save or R to restart

ALL THESE FOR EITHER INFINATE LIVES OR ENERGY.

ACTION BIKE .F 4104 4106 EA JET SET WILLY .F 3977 3978 EA HUNCHBACK .F 57F9 5FFB EA HUNCHBACK II .F 53BC 53BE EA. SPLAT .F 264F 2651 EA: BLACKWYCHE .F 1246 1248 EA BOULDERDASH I .F SAEB SAEC EA BOULDERDASH II .F B912 B913 EA HARD HAT MAC .F 41ED 41EF EA

Thanks for the above to Rick Astley, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

SENTINEL V2.10

F 16D9 16DA EA to stop the sentinel looking for you, and stop taking energy off you.

Thanks to Andy Grifo, Worsley, nr Manchester.

Thanks for all the below to Andrew Bond, West Monkseaton, Tyne & Wear

NEMESIS V 1.9/ 2.9 Allows you to fly through enemy bullets and most of the space craft, and you can still shoot all the aliens.

Type D 7494. Change to 7494 EA EA EA

LIGHTFORCE V1.9/2.9 Infinate lives.

Type F 2D1B 2D1B 05

SHADOWFIRE V1.9/ 2.9 Infinate time.

Type F 6264 6264 AD

ROCKET ROGER V1.9/2.9 To remove all the nasties from the game.

Type F 2200 2400 00 F 24CO 24D3 00 F 2600 3080 00 F 3200 37C0 00

Type F 532B 532B FO For 240 lives.

DELTA V2.10 Extra lives, and stop aliens shooting.

Type D1644. and change to read EE AB 11

Thanks to A.M. Fennell, Liverpool

AIRWOLF 2 Enable Successful transfere.

Type F CEC3 CEC3 01

Thanks to Taz

URIDIUM V2.10 Infinate lives

Type D OD7B. Change to read EA EA.

Thanks to Graham and Dave Cradley Heath.

DELTA V2.10 Yet another Delta cheat this time creating super fire one shot slices through complete squadrons of enemy ships.

Type D 2B6E. Change to read 8D 01 OF

Thanks to Ruwam Madurapperuna, Haddesdon, Herts.

TIGER MISSION V2.9 or 10. To allow successfull restarting.

- 1) Stop game.
- 2) Type F 036E 036F EA.
- 3) Z to save R to restart. Before you save turn your drive off and then on again. Phantom users Reset

ADDED BONUS stick any number in any location from \$0002 - \$0009 and see what happens.

Well that just about wraps this issue up there is just one thing I orgot to mention. If you do send in any software especially from abroad then please make sure that it is in an X-ray proof package.