

I.O.U.

The voice of the Independent Oric Users' Group

ISSUE No. 3 - early July 1985

EDITORIAL

First things first. Some of you received rather tatty issue 2's. Please accept my apologies. Due to the pressure of exams I was not able to prevent this but I'm sure that you'll agree that issue 3 is up to scratch.

Since the publication of my 'letter' in issue 114 of Home Computing Weekly the I.O.U.G. has gone from strength to strength, gaining new and enthusiastic members. This issue is the first to reach the standards that I had hoped for. As you will see it contains varied contributions from a variety of users.

The news from Eureka Imformatique seems very promising especially the prospect of the production of the Stratos/IQ64. A sophisticated machine such as this provides the only real hope of an Oric revival in the Home Computer market and the chance of an upgrade would be welcome.

The apparent liquidation of Tansoft is very disappointing as they were supposed to be entirely separate from Oric. This coupled with a not very competitive market for Oric software should have led to a successful, stable Tansoft as the 'official' supplier. Tansoft has transferred its stock to O.P.E.L. (Oric Products Export Ltd.) but not its debts to its customers. This has led to some of you being left out of pocket and is therefore extremely annoying.

Finally there are a couple of points that I would like to clear up:- 1) the 's' in s.a.e. stands for stamped.

2) since I have the same initials as my mother cheques/P.O.'s should be made payable to Mr G.Ramsay or to Gary Ramsay. Please note the spelling of my name.

If your contribution has not been used this issue then it has been held over for future use so please keep them coming.

G.Ramsay

NEWSFLASH

The current name of Oric's purchaser is Eureka Imformatique. They have voluntarily undertaken to support the Oric's in the U.K. via a repair service and by encouraging software support. In France they are going to market the Atmos with their own monitor and cassette system. The aim is to offer a complete system whilst undercutting Amstrad, the market leader. They are also continuing development of the Stratos and the I.B.M. compatible business machine. Their address is:-

Eureka Imformatique, 39-41 Rue Victor Masse, 75009 Paris, France.

I wrote to Severn*and IJK. Only IJK replied, in fact they sent their reply the day that they got my letter. They sent me their full range of colour leaflets and a list of their dealer rates. I was going to offer to act as buyer for the I.O.U.G. to obtain discounts. However I then got a phone call from Ken Smalldon of FGC...

My lengthy conversation with Mr Smalldon revealed many points of interest. FGC as well as selling Oric software, hardware and books is involved in the purchase of the copyright/U.K. marketing rights for Oric software so not all the programs from bankrupt software houses are lost. FGC also sells in Europe, making it a much stronger company in my opinion. Mr Smalldon has a full-time job so he does not rely on FGC for his 'daily bread'. This enables him to operate a very fair system of mark up. He fixes the percentage mark up and therefore passes on any discounts to the customer. The discounts that he can obtain for bulk buying in the case of IJK software enable FGC to supply it at a price at the most equivalent to the lowest price that I could get for you and also more quickly.

I have had nothing but good reports on FGC from other users. They comment on the speed with which their orders are met and the willingness to provide information about any product. On this basis FGC is now officially recommended by the I.O.U.G. . I have recently received the summer price list and I can tell you that the prices are very good. In fact I will be buying some things myself. For the latest list send an s.a.e to:-

FGC (mailorder), 20 Meadowcroft, Euxton, Chorley, Lancashire.
PR7 6BU

If you want to ring for information then phone (02572) 70088 outside office hours.

