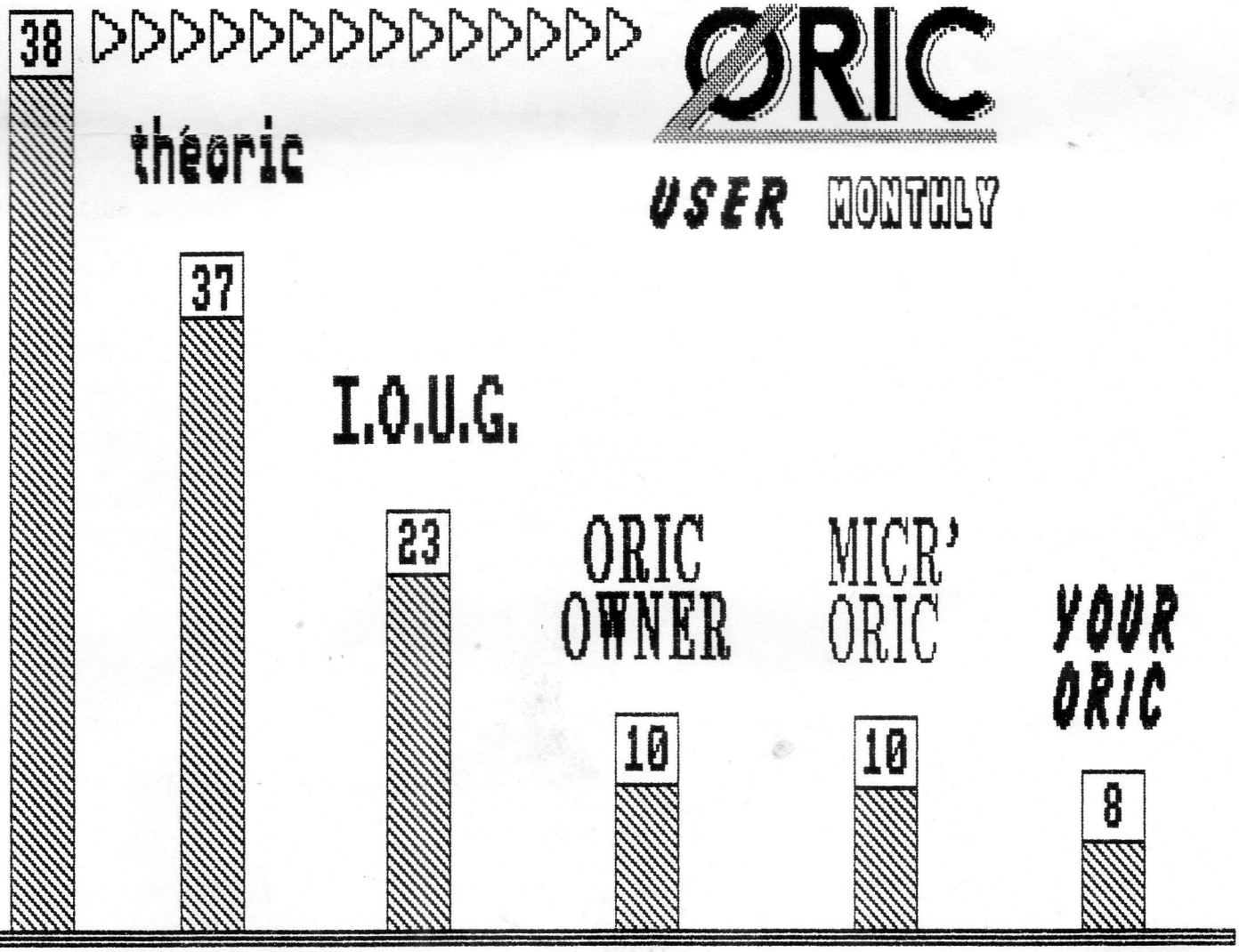
# ORIC USER MONTHLY

*Europe's longest running Oric magazine*

## Number 38 October 1990

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## THE EDITORIAL

HELLO AND WELCOME,
to this the 38th. issue of 'ORIC USER MONTHLY'. This is quite a milestone as we are now the longest running publication for the ORIC.
Our machine has been kept alive thanks to the hard work of many within the user group. A very special thank you to Robert Cook who founded our publication some 3 years ago and is now active in running 'MIRAGE SOFTWARE". A special mention also to Jon Haworth whose articles and involvement with Public Domain and Club Europe Oric have kept the interest going. Thanks to Alistair Way for keeping new software flowing. A special mention to David Wilkin, whose technical knowledge has allowed us to start an ORIC repair service. Thanks to everyone for donating articles and listings etc. Many thanks to our friends in Norway,Germany,Eire,Sweden and France for adding an international dimension to the ORIC club. Most of all;a very big thank you to every subscriber whether you involve yourselves in the running of the club or just pay your dues and glean information from our publication. We need each and every one of you. You are all important to the future of the ORIC. Out of our readership of about 600; I have calculated that at least 30 have donated articles/letters/listings/reviews etc. over the last couple of months. A Percentage to be Proud of. FOREVER ONWARDS.

## ISSUE 38

This issue contains many items,which should be of interest to one and all.
There is Plenty of news;some good and some not so good.
Also included with this issue is a separate set of listings for you to type in and try out.
The 'MAIL ORDER' section has Proved extremely successful. So successful in fact that we ran out of certain items and had to re-order. All orders should of been fulfilled by now. Enclosed is the latest 'MAIL ORDER' list for your Perusal and I urge you to order quickly if you require software or 'DKTRONICS' Joystick interfaces as stocks are now low on these items.

## ERRATA

A couple of errors crept into the ads. in the last issue - Apologies.
Ian Hutchins also has the Tansoft 'FORTH' Package c/w manual for sale.

Also note that the correct telephone number for Ian is 0299 271851.

## CONTACT LIST

On the contact list sent out to attendees of the 'ORIC MEET'; the Postcode of Bob Kidby should read: RM1 1XW. The Postcode Printed was for Blackpool.
Bob has now moved onto a BBC 'B', but his Grandson will continue with the ATMOS.

# "ORIC MACHINE CODE"

We continue Stan Ellisons look at machine code. Last month we got as far as preparing the program and now we are ready to enter and run it.

## Entering and Running

In order to run the program we must put this sequence of numbers into the memory. Where is not too important. 38000 upwards looks fairly safe. So:

```
10 HIMEM37999
20 FORM=38000TO38005
30 READD:POKEM,D:NEXTM
40 DATA#A9,65,#8D,102,189,#60
```

This will enter the program into the memory. A good habit to get into with machine code routines is to save it before running.When it is saved use the CALL command to run it. Type 'CALL 38000' and press RETURN, or add a line to the program:

```
50 CALL 38000
```

You can try altering the number 65 to change what appears on the screen. Numbers 16 to 23 produce background colours. You can change their position by altering the numbers 170,187. They can change up to 224,191 before leaving the screen part of memory.
This might seem a long winded alternative to POKE 48042,65 but try this:

```
FORA=48040TO49120:POKEA,32:NEXTA:PING
```

This takes quite a few seconds to complete. Compare it with:

```
CLS:PING
```

This is the machine code version.Much faster.This increase in speed is what makes all the mind bashing worthwhile.
This is,of course,only the sketchiest of introductions to what is a very complicated subject. There is far more to the CPU than just an accumulator. There are X and Y registers,a status register,a Stack,a program counter and more.
This example has used only three instructions. There are 56 different instructions and over 150 ways of giving then. You need a book on the subject to take you through the complexities of addressing modes, OP codes, flags, tests etc.
I recommend Rodnay Zaks 'PROGRAMMING THE 6502'. It is very thorough and methodical in its approach and it contains an excellent reference section that you will come back to time after time.
One other item you may wish to use is an assembler. Assembly language is a way of simplifying the writing and entering of M/code programs. Personally I have never used one. I do most of my stuff by hand on paper. First a very careful flow chart,then what amounts to a memory map of the program showing mnemonics,data and addresses. I then convert the mnemonics into code,convert the addresses into 8 bit numbers and then enter that into the machine. I enter the instructions in Hex and the data and addresses in decimal and tis is usually enough for me to find my way around the program when checking or correcting. I've noticed that people who use an assembler tend to fall about with hysterical laughter when I describe my system . but it works well enough for me.
What I would really like to know is what would you use ROR or ROL for?

THANKS STAN. HAVE WE SOMEONE OUT THERE WHO WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE THIS TEACH-IN?

# INTERVIEW WITH VINCENT TALVAS - PT.2

NOW TO THE CONCLUDING PART OF MY RECENT INTERVIEW WITH VINCENT. A BIG THANK YOU TO HIM FOR TAKING THE TIME TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS AND SOME BRITISH LAMB IS ON IT'S WAY TO HIM.

QUESTION 11 IN YOUR OPINION,WHAT WERE THE MAIN REASONS FOR THE COLLAPSE OF THE ORIC IN THE FRENCH MARKET?

ANSWER Several reasons can be given and I think they are all Partly true.
The first is that the French company was not Professional enough:a great number of machines broke down within a month of Purcahase; a lot of software and PeriPherals were announced and most of them did not see the light of day. They sold the 'Telestrat' before having finished the Basic....it wasn't very serious,was it not?
The second reason was that they did not take notice of the market: selling Programs like 'Chenille infernale' for £15 and the 'Telestrat' for £399, when an Amstrad 6128 at the same Price included a colour monitor. It was Pure suicide;even if we know that Telestrat was devoted to the Professionals.
The third reason stems from that fact. The actual sales were way below the exPected sales.
At the beginning,ORIC/EUREKA had 100 licensed shoPs in France. Two years later and there were less than 20. Oric ,however had a lot of trumP cards; they were the official suPPlier of monitors to the schools and the Telestrat began entering the schools. The Telestrat Product could have been excellent but all was slaP-dash. What a Pity!

QUESTION 12 WHAT IS THE ALL-TIME FAVOURITE SOFTWARE OF THE FRENCH, AND HOW MANY COPIES DID IT SELL?

ANSWER I think I rePresent the whole French community when I say that the Programs we like most are: Zorgon's Revenge,L'aigle D'or,Le Secret du Tombeau,Chess III (I,J,K),Roland Garros,Cobra Pinball, Mission Delta and Xenon I. Titles are numerous,but it seems to me that IJK and Loriciels are the best software houses for the Oric.
I'm afraid I can't tell how many coPies of each were sold.

QUESTION 13 HOW MANY COPIES OF 'WILLY' AND 'TETRIS' HAVE BEEN SOLD IN FRANCE.?

ANSWER I cannot answer exactly. Between 20 and 30 coPies of 'WILLY' were sold. The sales of 'TETRIS' have so far been disaPPointing. Although the Prices were very low,most of the Oric owners do not Purchase our software in great quantities. French buyers tend to wait for the special offers.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

QUESTION 14 -- WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL TOP THREE's IN ARCADE,ADVENTURES, STRATEGY and UTILITIES?

ANSWER

ARCADE - 1) ROLAND GARROS ( I Play it every day), 2) INSECT INSANITY, 3) XENON III
ADVENTURE - 1) SECRET DU TOMBEAU, 2) L'AIGLE D'OR, 3) DIAMANT DE L'ILE MAUDITE
STRATEGY - 1) TETRIS, 2) BUSINESSMAN, 3) THE BOSS
UTILITIES - 1) VORTEX, 2) D.A.O. (from Blue Ciel), 3) SPREADSHEET ( from a listing in the "THE'ORIC" magazine.

QUESTION 15 -- WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS RELATING TO THE WORLD OF "ORIC"?

ANSWER

Ideas and Projects must not be missed. There are Plenty of them, try to obtain the software rights from Loriciels,Ere Informatique,No Mans Land etc. We also Plan, as said before, to have lots of contacts in eastern europe and in India where the Oric was manufactured under the British license. if we want to realise our aims and want the Oric to survive, we have to join our forces and to work together in the same way. That is the reason why all the Oric users will be welcome if they want to collaborate in finding new subscribers,in writing articles and Programs.
The outcome of the ORIC doesn't depend only on others, but on YOU !

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

PLEASE DO NOT JUST READ VINCENT's THOUGHTS AND FORGET THEM. DIGEST THEM AND THINK ABOUT THEM. AFTER ALL, AND I QUOTE:
" T H E OUTCOME OF THE O R I C DEPENDS ON Y O U !
"

++++++++++++++++++++++++++

"CLUB EUROPE ORIC"

The latest JEO from the C.E.O is tremendous. The disc version includes: Roland Garros,Cheops,Programs from 'Micr'oric', as well as many fascinating articles. Well done to the French. Their latest newsletter features an article on the 'Aylesbury Oric Meet' as well as Photographs from the event.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Lots of new Programs added to Jon's Public Domain library recently. Jon informs me that he has now sent out about 250 copies. Some work involved there Jon - Well done.
Latest additions to the library include: THE BUSINESS - a game taken by David Goodrum from the on-line games area on CYCLONE BB's. Also donated by David is a RANDOS Program which utilises the Random Access Filing System.
Best of luck to David at Bristol Polytechnic.

# RAMBLING IN THE ROM - 19

## Poking in the library

I'll leave all the celebrations to Dave and dive straight into a smashing new batch of programs I've added to the P.D. Library. Many thanks to those who have taken the message to heart and sent in programs, the results speak for themselves. Keep them coming!

There are no less than nine new programs:

CPD-38 - CANNON 8k 40p

With quite simple graphics, this is an enjoyable test of your ability to aim and fire a cannon accurately. The program incorporates accurate ballistics calculations.

CPD-39 - SCRIVENER 13k 50p

What can I say? Each new word processor seems an improvement on the last, and that's certainly true of of Scrivener. You have a choice of 40 or 60 column screen, and when you print out you are asked for the printer column width - the document is then reformatted in memory, including word-wrap, to produce a neat document. All the usual features are there, plus an on-screen help page listing all the available commands. These are accessed within a document using the FUNCT key (CTRL on Oric-1). What is more, you can call up your own in-built Basic program from the document screen, for example to perform repetitive calculations. If I sound enthusiastic, I am!

CPD-40 - HYPERBALL 11k 50p

A Breakout clone with a difference. First of all, it's extremely fast. Secondly you can control not only the bat, but also the flight of the ball. And thirdly, there's an obnoxious character in the middle of the screen whom you can knock out with a couple of well aimed wallops. All in all, an excellent program.

CPD-41 - BUSINESS 12k 50p

The first of three programs from the pen of Dave Goodrum. This is a simulation of the running of a computer manufacturing company, with weekly decisions required as to staffing, stock levels and production quotas. It's not easy to succeed, and the general presentation is very well done. Well worth seeing!

CPD-42 - CONVERTER 2k 10p

A quickie from Dave, which converts almost anything into anything else! Not only metric to imperial and vice versa, but cups to pints (?) and many others. Again very nicely presented.

CPD-43 - SOFTINDEX 10k 50p

Dave's tour de force, a fully implemented program to keep a record of your software. Multiple search criteria, record addition and amendment, and screen and printer display options. This could readily be altered to suit any subject-matter (send your own versions in!). It is inevitably DISC ONLY, running under RANDOS. Don't let that put you off, it is fully boot-compatible with all Oric DOS's.

CPD-44 - TAROT 32k 50p

Written by Judy Simms, this specialist program assists you in making Tarot card readings. You need your own cards, but the program does the rest, guiding you through the reading and giving detailed predictions at the end. Fascinating!

CPD-45 - HIND 18k 18k

A highly individual program. You play the role of Sir Francis Drake during the 16th century. Text only, the program is historically very detailed and accurate, presenting you with decisions to be made, and comparing your choice with what actually happened. You start with 99%, and if you get everything wrong you find yourself on 0% before the end of the story! Very enjoyable.

CPD-46 - PATIENCE 6k 30p

The classic card game, nicely implemented by Judy Simms. I've spent hours playing this!

As usual, orders to me at 3, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EE, with £2.50 for a 3" disc, £1.50 for 3½", and 50p for a cassette, plus 50p post & packing.

So there we are, nine programmes of real quality in one month. Who said there was no new software? The library is proving a real success - I've now sent out over 230 copies of programs, so keep the orders and the new material flowing in.

Tail-ender

The PD Library top ten:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | CPD-16 | Scrabble | 14k | 50p |
| 2. | CPD-8 | Monopoli | 33k | 50p |
| 3. | CPD-4 | Superwin | 6k | 30p |
| 4. | CPD-31 | 3D Graph | 11k | 50p |
| 5. | CPD-22 | W.S.L. | 19k | 50p |
| 6. | CPD-7 | Prbuffer | 1k | 5p |
| 7. | CPD-5 | Pinball | 7k | 35p |
| 8. | CPD-2 | Crusher | 5k | 25p |
| 9. | CPD-3 | Dataplus | 2k | 10p |
| 10 | CPD-9 | Design | 2k | 10p |

Cheers

Jon Haworth

## 'SEDORIC'

With many disc users now exPlorin9 the SEDORIC DOS; I thou9ht it time to Pass on a few tiPs which mi9ht helP you to find your way around it. When I first try Sedoric,I was Puzzled by it. It was only by askin9 9uestions and some trial and error,that I've 9ot as far as I have with it. Thou9h,I am the first to admit that i have a lot to learn. PerhaPs some of my jottin9s may Prove time savin9 to others.
One of the features of Sedoric is the use of the 'FUNCT' key. You can Pro9ram this for yourself in much the same way as 'ONE KEY BASIC' allowed you to on cassette. On the other hand , you mi9ht like to utilise the set-uP that is already on your master disc.
Set out below is a brief summary of what certain keys do when held down with the 'FUNCT' key.

```
FUNCT  & ri9ht s9uare bracket = Directory + Return
FUNCT P = PEEK
FUNCT W = PATTERN
FUNCT : = ?HEX$(DEEK(#
FUNCT D = DEEK
FUNCT B = PAPER
FUNCT ? = TRON
FUNCT & uP cursor = EDIT
FUNCT @ or FUNCT ri9ht cursor = LIST
FUNCT RETURN = 100 (Then 110,then 120 in stePs for line numberin9)
FUNCT ESC = OLD + RETURN
FUNCT + = RUN
FUNCT 2 = PAPER 0:INK 7
FUNCT 4 = DOKE #245,#EE22 + RETURN
```

Well there you are. Next month another look into Sedoric. Just let me know if you want any Part covered. -- D.D.

## A MENU

THE LISTING SET OUT BELOW WILL WORK FOR SEDORIC USERS ON DISC AND I SEE NO REASON WHY IT WILL NOT WORK ON OTHER DOS's.
LINE 140 IS JUST ANY TITLE THAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO CALL THE DISC. THOUGH THE PROGRAM IS IN BASIC, IT IS BEST TO FRETEND ON SEDORIC THAT IT IS A 'COM' FILE AS YOU CAN THEN LOAD WITH A STRAIGHTFORWARD ! AND DO NOT NEED TO INCLUDE THE EXTENSION. THEREFORE SAVE THE FILE WITH e.9. !SAVE"HELLO.COM", AUTO.
ONE OF THE MESSAGES DISPLAYED WHEN FORMATTING A SEDORIC DISC IS 'INIT STATEMENT (Y/N)?'. IN THIS INSTANCE AT THAT POINT IN THE FORMAT,YOU WOULD ENTER ~ !HELLO.
DURING OTHER TIMES THAT YOU FORMAT A DISC,YOU NEED JUST PRESS 'RETURN' AT THE 'INIT' MESSAGE OR ALTERNATELY TYPE ~ !DIR ,SO THAT THE DIRECTORY IS DISPLAYED.
NOW FOR THAT LISTING,WHICH OF COURSE YOU COULD EASILY ADAPT AND PUT AT THE FRONT OF ONE OF YOUR C60 COMPILATIONS ON CASSETTE.

```
    100 CLS
110 IF PEEK(#FFFE)=40THENR$="ATMOS"ELSER$="ORIC1"
120 PRINT      130 PRINT CHR$(4)CHR$(27)"J";
140PRINT"FRENCH TRANSLATIONS"     150PRINT CHR$(4)    160PRINT
170PRINT:PRINT   180PRINT"(1) TALISMAN"   190PRINT"(2) FRELON"
200PRINT"(3) HYPERBALL"    260PRINT
290PRINT"(0) Return to basic"   310PRINT"TyPe your choice
320GETA$   330IFA$="1"THEN!TALISMAN   340IFA$="2"THEN!FRELON
350IFA$="3"THEN!LOAD"HYPER.BAS"     450CLS:NEW
```

NOT PAGE THREE

Disassembly of Page Two (continued)

Page Two (continued)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 25A | | 1.1 | JOIN flag, 0 when off |
| | 1.0 | | Unused |
| 25B | | 1.1 | VERIFY/LOAD flag (0=LOAD) |
| | 1.0 | | Unused |
| 25C-25D | | 1.1 | Verify error counter |
| | 1.0 | | Unused |
| 25E | | 1.1 | Program type (B,C,I,S,R) |
| | 1.0 | | Unused |
| 25F | | 1.1 | End of program type data chain |
| | 1.0 | | Unused |
| 260 | | 1.1 | If 1, memory exhausted |
| | 1.0 | | Unused |
| 261-262 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Address of CTRL characters routine |
| 263-264 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Workspace for calculating line address |
| 265 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Cursor indicator, 0=off, 1=on |
| 266-267 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Unused |
| 268 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Text cursor line (row) number |
| 269 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Text cursor column number |
| 26A | 1.0 | 1.1 | Flag byte : Bit 0 Cursor on/off<br>1 Screen enabled<br>2 Unused<br>3 Keyclick on/off<br>4 ESC printed<br>5 Screen cols 0 & 1 protected<br>6 Double height characters<br>7 Unused |
| 26B | 1.0 | 1.1 | Column 0 value, PAPER colour (+16) |
| 26C | 1.0 | 1.1 | Column 1 value, INK colour |
| 26D-26 | 1.0 | | Screen memory start address (#BB80/#BF40 Text/Hires) |
| | | 1.1 | Unused |
| 26F | 1.0 | | Number of text screen lines for scrolling |
| | | 1.1 | Unused |
| 270 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Cursor on/off flag |
| 271 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Cursor inversion flag |
| 272-273 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Timer 1 (keyboard) |
| 274-275 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Timer 2 (cursor flash) |
| 276-277 | 1.0 | 1.1 | Timer 3 (for user/WAIT, printer in V1.0) |

(to be continued)

# N E W S  N E W S  N E W S

## TETRIX

TETRIX from Germany is virtually finished. I recently recieved the latest version from Andre; and only the Hi-Score table has to be done. MIRAGE will release it shortly on cassette shortly at £3.99 and O.U.M will distribute both this and the disc version.
It really is very impressive and different enough from the 'TETRIS' of France to warrant having both in your collection.

## KRYSTAL WORLDS

I have been asked to point out that 'KRYSTAL WORLDS' will in fact run on the ORIC 1 as well as the ATMOS.
Don't forget that 'GRENDEL' will also run on both machines.

## 'M.R.S'

Last issue we printed the phone number of 'M.R.S' who will repair your ORIC for £23. We now have the address. It is:

47 MUNGO PARK WAY
ORPINGTON
KENT

From deep in my memory, I recall Orpington as being a LIBERAL Party victory back in the 70's.

## ORIC REPAIRS

Thanks to some great effort on David Wilkin's Part; we are now able to offer our very own repair service for your sick ORIC 1 and ATMOS. We can also modify your machine to have hard and soft reset button. We wanted to make it a fast service. This we hope to achieve.
The services offered are as follows:

OPTION 1: Send your faulty P.C.B, which we will take in Part exchange for a working board. ----- This is the quickie service and will cost between £15 and £20.

OPTION 2: If you do not want to take the machine apart yourself; Just send the whole machine and we will again replace the P.C.B. ----- This is again a quickie service and will cost between £16 and £20.

OPTION 3: You may of course Particularly want to keep your own P.C.B if you have done any mods to it. In this instance the service will obviously be somewhat slower and the Price will be £21 , which like all options includes Postage back to you.

OPTION 4: You may require a keyboard repaired or may require a keyboard that functions correctly. In this instance you will recieve a quote,which will obviously be a lot cheaper than that for a full repair.

In all instances Please send a £3 deposit to cover return Postage and this will be deducted from the final Price.
You can telephone me here at 'O.U.M' on 0296 26050 between the following times:

MON,TUES,WEDnesday - 12 Noon to 10 P.m.
THURS,FRIDAY - 12 Noon to 3 P.M and 9 P.M to 10 P.M.
SAT,SUNDAY - 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.

NOTE: SEE MAIL ORDER SHEET FOR RESET BUTTONS.

## NEWS - AND THERE's MORE !!!

Remember when sending an machines to Pack well and get a certificate of Posting. If you have not heard from me within 2 weeks ; then ring or write, so that I can confirm receipt of your Package.
These Prices do not apply to overseas users - write for separate quote.

## 'ALTAI JOYSTICK INTERFACE'

Some of the 'ALTAI' interfaces that we Purchased did not have the addendum to alter the interface to work with an ATMOS as oPPosed to an ORIC 1. I have hand written these instructions in some instances. If you did not get the modification;Please let us know. In the separate listing sheets is a Program which may Prove useful to 'ALTAI' owners.

## 4th. ALTERNATIVE MICRO SHOW

The 4th. 'AMS' takes Place on SAT. NOV. 10th between 10 a.m. & 5 P.m. The venue is : BINGLEY HALL, STAFFORDSHIRE SHOW CENTRE. This is just off the M6 between Junctions 13 & 14. A free bus shuttle will oPerate from the railway station. See comPuter Press for more details are contact the organisers,who are : SHARWARD SERVICES. They reside at : ENTERPRISE HOUSE, UNIT 15, RIVERSIDE INDUSTRIAL PARK, WHERSTEAD ROAD, IPSWICH. IP2 8JX.
Alternately ring them on : 0473 602460 or FAX on : 0473 602410

Alan Whitaker,ProPrietor of H.G.C (Mailorder) will have a stand there. Also with stands are 'MIRAGE SOFTWARE', CLUB EUROPE ORIC, PUBLIC DOMAIN and ORIC USER MONTHLY.
So make a date in your diary to come along and meet uP with Alan,Robert Cook and Jon Haworth.
I am not certain if I can make the show; therefore I am looking for a volunteer to front the stand. PLEASE droP me a line if you want to get involved.

## H.G.C H.G.C H.G.C

Alan Whitaker at H.G.C (MAILORDER) has decided to cease trading under the H.G.C banner in the near future.
By using a comPany name, PeoPle tend to think of it as a full time business. This is not the case. No one can live off the ORIC. Alan took over the stock of Ken Smalldon's 'F.G.C' a couPle of years ago and has since greatly imProved the ranges of software/hardware and services available to the ORIC fraternity.
Alan , like most of us, has to work 5 days a week in his chosen Profession and therefore has limited free time to give to the ORIC. Like any married man ; he also likes to sPend time with his family and doing other things. Those of us that know Alan, realise that we will not always get an instantaneous resPonse to our order or query. We do ,however, know that in the end our demands will be satisfied;and this we aPPreciate. Some PeoPle,however, look uPon H.G.C as a 24 hour a day business. With this in mind,couPled with the fact that Alan would like to get more involved with PeriPherals for the ORIC; Alan has decided to close down the software side. This does not mean that Alan will forsake the ORIC. He will use the user groups to keeP us informed of what is haPPening.
At the 4th Alternative Micro Show; Alan will be selling software at knock-down Prices. It is hoPed that after this, 'O.U.M' can get involved with the software side more vigorously if that service is still required.
On behalf of all ORIC owners, I would like to thank Alan for the service he has Provided us with. We have been sPoilt and have all gained from Alan's involvement. We look forward to hearing more from Alan as he turns his efforts to the many PeriPherals that we are looking for.

## REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW

This issue I have seconded Pete Weisner as a reviewer. Pete did ORIC reviews in 'HOME COMPUTER WEEKLY' many moons ago.
Thanks Pete and off we go!!!

TITLE: ROBINSON CRUSOE OUTLET: CLUB EUROPE ORIC
PRICE: TO BE ADVISED AVAILABILITY: NOW to C.E.O members.

TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH TO ENGLISH BY JON HAWORTH.

Robinson Crusoe is marooned on a desert island. Clearly he must escape to freedom - but how? Whichever way he turns,he sees a different landscape and maybe a different hazard. There are things to help and things to hinder him;but eventually he realises which is which and starts making slow Progress through his island Prison. He soon realises that he must make a careful map - a map slightly different in layout than those he has made in Previous adventures. Armed with a weapon (which one?) he overcomes the dangers and discovers the final clue needed to reach the last location and freedom.
I found this graphic adventure quite enjoyable with some interesting technical features. The scenes are of limited detail and there are no really cryptic clues to solve. However, I must admit to a bit of cheating to allow myself to complet the adventure and Put this review together. In fact,solving the Problem in that way can be quite intriguing.
There are about 20 verbs and nouns in the game's vocabulary,and about 30 different locations. However,since a different view is given when facing each way,there is a larger number of different scenes.
As ORIC adventures go,this Probably falls into the 'simpler-to-solve' category, but knowing it can be done should set you a challenge.

PETE WEISNER

## 'O.U.M SALES'

Latest number of copies sold is as follows:
ISSUE 33 - 44 copies ISSUE 34 - 45 copies
ISSUE 35 - 58 copies ISSUE 36 - 62 copies
Let's hope that the trend continues. The more you contribute the more there will be of interest.

Articles etc. for inclusion in ISSUE 39 should reach me by OCT.20th.

## MESSAGE FROM 'MIRAGE'

Robert Cook at 'MIRAGE SOFTWARE' wishes to apologise to customers who have had a long wait for their software. This was due to a Problem with the duPlication Process and by now all should be back to normal.
Also from 'MIRAGE' comes news that a mailing list is to be set uP to inform you direct of all new software releases etc. To be included on th mailing list; Please write to 'MIRAGE SOFTWARE', ROBERT COOK, 10 THOMSON AVE; KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM. B38 8YD
If readers are interested in a 'HINTS & TIPS' booklet for ORIC games; would they Please write to Robert. Expected cost will be between £2 and £4.

NOW AVAILABLE
--- ---------- from Mirage is 'MIRRAGE MAGIC'. NO! it's not an L.P featuring the Supremes,Commodores,Isley's and 4 TOPS. It's a compilation cassette,and contains Galactosmash,Insect Insanity, and Grendel - all for £8.95 - direct from Robert.For disc compilation see 'O.U.M MAILORDER' sheet.

WELL ! WELL ! WELL! - THAT IS 12 PAGES PLUS SOME LISTINGS

## YES - THAT's RIGHT

Well to celebrate this the 38th issue; I am 9oin9 to sPoil you with a Pa9e 13 and if time Permits a Pa9e 14. Lucky you!!

## COMPETITION

YES FOLKS - it's win a Prize time. This month win a £5 software voucher kindly donated by 'MIRAGE'. Send the answers to the follow in9 2 9uestions to reach us hear at O.U.M by OCT.20th.

Q1 - What was the title of O.U.M's first ever Planned release (an adventure),which never 9ot released?

Q2 - What is the french word for 'FIRE' as used in a Piece of arcade software?

## ADVERTS

FOR SALE

ORIC ATMOS,PSU,MANUAL,PROGRAMMING BOOK and DATACORDER
Offers to: BOB WILLIAMS, 8 HILLDEVILL,WARMINSTER,WILTSHIRE or Phone 0985 40865

FOR SALE

MCP 40 PLOTTER - offers to IAN ROBERTSON at BLACKHILL FARM, BLACKHILL,PETERHEAD,ABERDEENSHIRE. AB42 7LP

FOR SALE

128K BBC 'B' + c/w 9reen monitor,twin 5.25" drive double sided Plus 5.25" sin9le master drive, Plinth,2 joysticks and interface, educational & business software and manuals. - £300 o.n.o May sell sin9le drive seParately.

RePly to: Les CroPley, 215 Trin9 Road, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 1JH or rin9 him on 0296 21227 (evenin9s).

## HINTS & TIPS

NOT MUCH COMING TO ME RECENTLY IN THE WAY OF POKES AND DOKES; SO HERE ARE SOME OLDER ONES INTERMINGLED WITH SOME NEWIES.

NOTE

FOR £ SIGN, TYPE IN THE 'HASH' SIGN.

UNLIMITED LIVES

'HOPPER' - POKE £794,255
'XENON III - POKE £7139,127
'3D MUNCH' - DOKE £68DC,£EAEA:POKE £68DE,£EAEA

TO SLOW DOWN THE KEYBOARD: DOKE £306,x (where x = 2000 TO 65535)
TO REMOVE THE 'Ready' PROMPT: POKE 27,205
TO RESTORE THE 'Ready' PROMPT: POKE 27,176

'GRENDEL'

TO STOP BULLETS KILLING YOU. -- PLAY FIRST GAME AS NORMAL. WHEN FINISHED,YOU ARE ASKED TO PRESS ANY KEY TO PLAY AGAIN. NOW PRESS: 'CTRL +' and you won't die from bein9 shot.

MIZAR

DURING SCREEN ONE,YOU HAVE TO GET INTO YOUR HELICOPTER BY UTILISING THE LEFT AND DOWN CURSOR KEYS FOR MOVEMENT. WHEN IN HELICOPTER,WAIT FOR MESSAGES TO FINISH. THEN HOLD DOWN 'F' KEY TO START ENGINE AND TURN BLADES. AFTER YOU'VE GOT TURNING,TAKE FINGER OFF 'F' KEY AND PRESS 'UP CURSOR' TO LIFT OFF. NEAR TOP OF SCREEN GO BACK TO 'F' KEY TO BOOST POWER AND THEN TO 'RIGHT CURSOR' TO FLY TO NEXT SCREENS. BON VOYAGE!

## THE CHARTS

Better response this month to my request for your favourite software. Therefore by using reader's favs, the favs of the French and sales figures from 'Mirage', I have come up with the 'GALLUP' charts for the ORIC.

### ARCADE

1 - INSECT INSANITY  2 - ZORGON'S REVENGE
3 - ROLAND GARROS  4 - D.F.T.L.Q
5 - XENON III  6 - THE ULTRA
7 - GRENDEL  8 - WILLY
9 - PASTA BLASTA  10 - COBRA PINBALL

Comment - a truly mixed bag with 3 newer titles and 3 from FRANCE. GALACTOSMASH JUST MISSES OUT.

### ADVENTURE

1 - THE HOBBIT  2 - L'AIGLE D'OR  3 - SECRET DU TOMBEAU
4 - ILE DIAMANT MAUDITE  Jt.5 - LAST WARRIOR & LAND OF ILLUSION

Comment - Close between the top 3.

### STRATEGY

1 - TETRIS  2 - IJK CHESS  3 - BUSINESSMAN
4 - CLASSIC RACING  5 - THE BOSS

Comment - TETRIS wins it hands down.

### WORD PROCESSORS

1 - VORTEX  2 - EASYTEXT  3- WORDWORTH

Comment - The top 2 were both french and polled similar votes.

### OTHER UTILITIES

1 - THE QUILL  2 - BD DISK  3 - NIBBLE

Comment - close at the top, with the adventure writing aid just coming out on top.

### OVERALL COMMENT

Others to poll good support included : TROUBLE IN STORE, DAMSEL IN DISTRESS, GRAND PRIX, FER D'AMNIKOR, CAPTAIN'S LOG, OTHELLO REVERSI, THE BUSINESS, SPECIAL OPS, D.A.O and MEGABASE.

## WHAT'S IT MEAN

With the influx of French software including WILLY, CHEOPS, TETRIS, ROLAND GARROS etc. into a software collections; I thought it time to start a little teach-in to help you around in adventures and arcade games.
The first word or phrase is the French and the second is the English equivalent.

APPUYEZ SUR UNE TOUCHE - PRESS ANY KEY.  GAUCHE - LEFT
DROITE - RIGHT  SAUTE - JUMP  MONTE -UP  BAS - DOWN
TIR - FIRE  JEU or JOEUR - PLAY  AIDE - HELP  OUI = YES
NON - NO  VOTRE NOM - YOUR NAME  SUIVANT - NEXT  MORTE - DEAD
ESPACE - SPACE  ARRET - STOP  DESSIN - DRAWING  VENT - WIND
DESCENDRE - TO GO DOWN  ASCENDANT - UPWARD  ARBRE - TREE
NORD - NORTH  SUD - SOUTH  OUEST - WEST  EST - EAST
SAUVEGARDER - SAVE  CHARGEMENT - LOAD  SIGNE - SIGN
DEPARTIR - TO DEPART FROM  FRELON - HORNET  HUBLOT - PORTHOLE
PRENDRE - TO TAKE  REGARDER - TO LOOK AT  TRAVERSER - TO CROSS
TITRE - TITLE  PUB - ADVERTISING  FINIR - TO FINISH

And that is where we finish until the next lesson.