
ORICALL

AUGUST '84

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE
CLUB

WELL RECEIVED...

Oric Club has so far received a tremendous response. We are getting new members every day, we've been featured on several radio shows, we've had press coverage and things are looking good. It shows that there really has been a need for a well organized Oric club.

We launched at the Earl's Court Computer Fair. As it was so hot, we were glad we'd had a few Oric Club T-shirts printed up. They proved to be unexpectedly popular — so popular in fact that one on display disappeared one night! Anyway, we've had more printed up and you'll find them on offer to club members in this Oricall.

You'll also find a very good value for money joystick interface on offer. It is made by Altai and fully compatible with all PASE games. It comes with its own Machine Code software too, so you could incorporate the PASE joystick interface in any games you are writing.

Right now, we are working hard to set up the Oric database on Prestel. If you haven't got a modem, you'll find the Oric V23 modem in the shops soon. The database promises to be a very exciting venture, particularly if you are an Oric Club member.

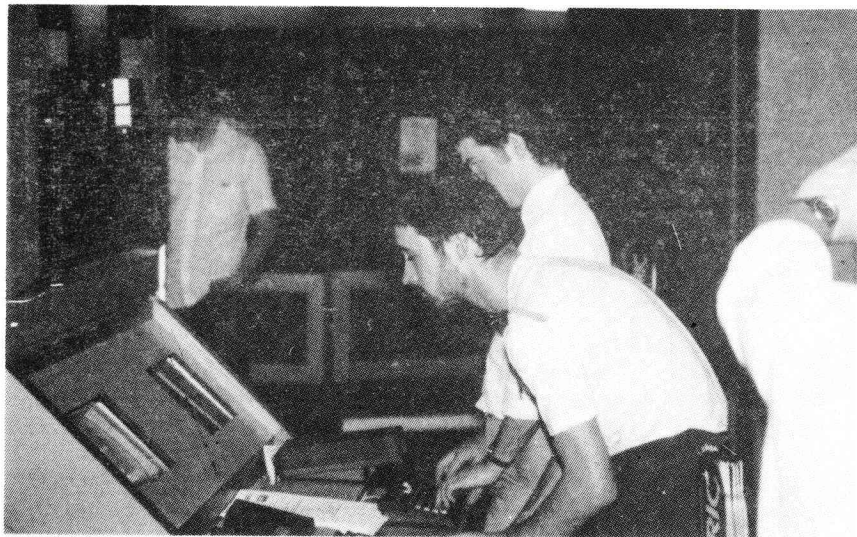
A service we want to offer in the next Oricall is a guide to what's been written in the press of interest to Oric owners. If any member would like to help compile a guide to published articles, contact us on the Clubline. You would be helping with a valuable service.

Remember, if you have any suggestions, comments or whatever, don't hesitate to ring or write to us. We're here to help you.

ORIC
CLUB



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FAIRLY EXCITING

Oric products and software were well to the fore at the Earl's Court Computer Fair. Oric Products had an impressive stand there, and Oric Club was officially launched.

The Oric stand had nothing brand new on show, other than the already seen Modem in a non-functioning state. They also had Oric Software on the stand.

On the software front, there was plenty of activity. The biggest news came from a French company, Innelec, trading under the **No Man's Land** brand. They were showing off a range of new titles, to be launched very soon on the British market.

Their catalogue lists no fewer than 26 new titles, covering arcade and adventure games, domestic, business and utility fields.

Categ-Oric is a strategy game in which you captain a cruiser, fighting planes and submarines. Concours Hippique is a horse racing simulation. Panic is a multi-level arcade game with six stages, while Fire Flash is an exciting space shootout.

With these and the many other titles, No Man's Land may soon be a major force in the Oric software field.

Quicksilver launched their first two Oric titles at the fair. *Velnor's Lair* is a text only adventure game, adapted from the Spectrum version. It is set in a network of caves and is far from easy. *Mined Out* already exists for other computers too. The Oric-1/Atmos version is now available. You have to thread your way across mine-fields in order to rescue Bill the Worm. It's a test of skill and nerve.

Lothlorien had new Atmos titles up and running. Spooky Mansion has seven screens of action, set in a haunted house. Survival is the name of the game.

Digger is another multi-level arcade game, with you trying to bury monsters as they chase you around a network of different levels. Lothlorien also announced that the graphic adventure, Special Operations, will shortly be available for the Oric Atmos. It is a wartime adventure set in Germany. Warlord is another of their titles scheduled for release soon. It is a strategy game set in medieval Japan.

Tansoft had a pre-released version of Harridges on show. The Manic Miner style game was well received.

On the peripherals side, **Kempston** announced plans for an Oric compatible joystick to be released in September. It is anticipated that it will sell for under £20, interface to the I/O port and possibly be styled in Atmos colours.

So, for Oric owners, the Computer Fair proved to be both entertaining and newsworthy.

A glitch has been found in the **Oric Microdisc DOS**. Microdisc owners have found that, with a printer connected, EDIT caused programs to disappear. To correct the fault, insert the following line in the BOOTUP.COM file.

DOKE #256, #2850: IF PEEK
(#FFF9) = 1 THEN CALL #C83E

SALES MAN



A new face in the Oric heirarchy is Dennis Anderson, UK Sales Manager for Oric Products International. He will handle the entire UK sales operation and merchandising. His previous experience has been with Toshiba, Grundig, Birds Eye and Heinz.

SALES UP

Oric are claiming that June has been a record month for sales. Large orders from France, Germany and Italy, coupled with the Prism distribution deal have boosted the June turnover to in excess of £2.5 million. In a month that has seen depressed sales all across the industry, that's good news.

Oric have also raised the price of the Atmos to £199.95, as the rising value of the dollar has increased component costs.



SOFTWARE TO COME

Mellowsoft are a new name on the Oric software scene. They are based in Telford and are launching with a range of seven educational titles for young children.

Can You Spell?, Play Maths and Spell-a-Rhyme are aimed at children from four years old. Tables Test is for any age, Picture Snap and Hangman are family games, while Catch-a-Key teaches keyboard familiarity. All programs cost just £3.95.

A sampler cassette, with screens from different games, is available for 50p, and that is refundable against an order.

Mellowsoft's address is 23 Dalford Court, Hollinswood, Telford, Shropshire TF3 2BP.



Remember the puzzle book Masquerade? It contained the clues for a buried treasure, in the shape of a jewel encrusted hare, worth over £20,000 when found by a man called Ken Thomas. Now a company called **Haresoft Ltd.** has purchased the hare, and are offering it as a prize for the first person to solve both parts of their Haresoft program. It is being released for most popular computers, at a price of £8.95.

The company have gone to great lengths to protect against piracy too. You'll find a special club price for the program in this Oricall, and further details are from Haresoft Ltd. on 01-388 2910.

Four new Atmos titles have been launched by **ABC Computers Limited**. Two are utilities, two are business packages, BASDIS is a disassembler, selling for £5.45. BASASM is an assembler, selling for £7.95. Both these utilities are available together for £11.95.

Mailer and Free Invoice are business packages, priced at £15.95. All these titles are available from ABC Computer, in Dunstable. The phone number is 0582 699640.



Superior Software, with an eye on the booming French market, have translated their titles into French editions. Details from Darkstar, 0532 450879.



Arcadia Software have translated their three Oric-1 titles — Pasta Blasta, Mushroom Mania and Invaders — to be Atmos compatible. Oric-1 versions of these games can be exchanged for Atmos versions at a cost of £1.50. Arcadia are on 0792 403363.



Dormere Software Ltd. have converted their Oric-1 titles to run on the Atmos. Their programs are Backgammon and Oricall Invaders. Dormere are on 0625 610378.



Stour Computing have a World War 2 fighter simulator available. It costs £6.95, from 16 Old Bridge Road, Bournemouth.

HELP

CLUB INSURANCE

In last month's Oricall we ran details of a discounted insurance scheme for club members. We have since negotiated a better deal with computer insurance specialists, Graham Brown & Co. Ltd. They will insure any item of computer equipment, with the exception of cassette recorders and television sets.

Items will be insured against damage, breakdown, theft (unless in transit) and even if used at school or college. It is as comprehensive a policy

as the computer enthusiast could wish for. What's more, Oric club members benefit from a ten per cent discount on the annual premium.

The size of the premium depends on the value of the equipment to be insured. At club rates, to insure a 48K Oric costs £8.78. Insuring a 48K Oric and MCP-40 printer costs £12.38, and £750 worth of equipment can be insured for £21.15. That's a small price to pay for peace of mind. Write or phone for a proposal form.

ORIC WEEKENDS

Bamboozled by BASIC? Mystified by Machine Code? Come to a weekend Oric School and learn to make sense of it all.

The schools are to be held in the picturesque Norfolk town of Heacham. They run from Saturday morning through to Sunday evening, with arrival on the Friday evening. Two night's accommodation and all meals are included in the course fee.

Course notes will be supplied at the end of each course.

There are three courses to choose from. Each will be limited to 12 students, but the course will be repeated at regular intervals.

The Absolute Beginner's course is aimed at newcomers to Oric computers. It sets out to introduce students to computing and the BASIC language.

By the end of the course, students should be able to write simple programs. They will also be given the chance to try out various peripherals and software packages.

Inside BASIC is a middle level course, for those wanting to improve their BASIC skills. It has more theory tackling Page 2 and ROM routines.

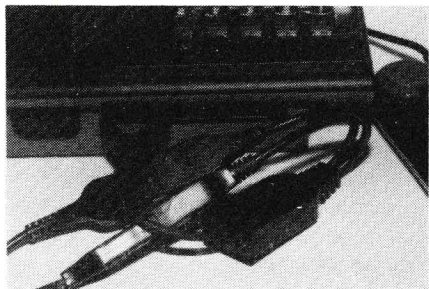
Those with some experience of BASIC will enjoy this course.

Assembly Language is a course for would-be Machine Code programmers. It will teach a modular approach, and how to incorporate Machine Code into BASIC.

Each course normally costs £75. Oric Club members get a £15 discount. Contact Oric Club for an application form and further details.

~~OFFERS~~

Savings on items of use to every owner



The Altai joystick interface is fully compatible with the PASE standard interface, and works with any Oric computer. It takes one or two Atari compatible joysticks and plugs into the printer port, so may affect the sound of some games.

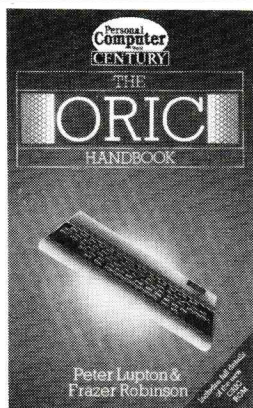
Supporting software is supplied and could be incorporated into your own games very easily.

The special club price is a mere £4.95. Compare that to the cost of other joystick interfaces.

Show your allegiance. Oric Club T-shirts are now available at a price of £3.50 each.

If you are proud to own an Oric, you won't want to be seen in anything else. Guaranteed to bug Spectrum owners!

Printed in red and black on white, they wear and wash well. Three sizes are available — Small, Medium and Large. Please specify your size when ordering.

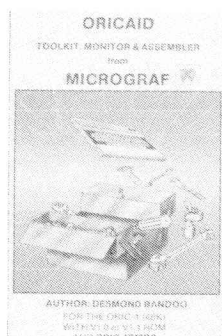


As books to accompany the manual go, *The Oric Handbook* is one of the better ones. It includes details of the V1.1 ROM, so is suitable for Atmos owners too.

Strengths are chapters on graphics, editing and program structure. Printed programs include an address file, drawing aid, a synthesiser and a Mastermind type of game. The usual price is £5.95. The club price is £4.95.

OFFERS

Save money on software from Durell, Arcadia, Tansoft, Micrograf and Haresoft. Two titles are for the Atmos, the rest are Oric-1 only.



Super Advanced Breakout — an excellent version of the popular arcade game, for 16K and 48K Oric-1 computers. Reduced from £6.90. **£1.95**

Harrier Attack — a best seller from Durell. You are the pilot of an airforce Harrier. For the Oric-1, reduced from £6.95. **£2.95**

Scuba Dive — Dive for sunken treasure, avoiding sharks, octopii and so on. For Oric-1 users, reduced from £6.95. **£2.95**

Invaders— Arcadia's version of the arcade classic, with fast, furious action for the Oric-1. Normally priced at £5.50. **£2.95**

Mushroom Mania — A version of Centipede, by Arcadia. The Oric-1 version is for 16K machines too, and was priced at £5.50. **£2.95**

Pasta Blasta — Protect tins of ravioli from pasta pinchers. Fun assured for Oric-1 owners, and the price is down from £5.50. **£2.95**

Oric Base — A versatile file and data handling program from Tansoft. Oric-1 version was £14.50, and full documentation is supplied. **£6.95**

Oric Mon — Explore the workings of Machine Code with Tansoft's monitor. This Oric-1 version includes assembler and was £15. **£6.95**

Hareraiser (Prelude) — Solve the puzzle on this and the follow up program and you might win a valuable prize. Save £1.00. **£7.95**

Oricaid — An excellent toolbox, monitor and assembler, from Micrograf and for all Orics. Save £2.00 on the usual price. **£9.95**

ORDERS

Item	Price	Number	Total
Software —Oric-1			
Super Advanced Breakout	£ 1.95		
Harrier Attack	£ 2.95		
Scuba Dive	£ 2.95		
Invaders	£ 2.95		
Mushroom Mania	£ 2.95		
Pasta Blasta	£ 2.95		
Oric Base	£ 6.95		
Oric Mon	£ 6.95		
Software — Atmos/Oric-1			
Hareraiser (Prelude)	£ 7.95		
Oricaid	£ 9.95		
Peripherals			
Altai joystick interface	£ 4.95		
Books			
The Oric Handbook	£ 4.95		
T-shirts			
Small	£ 3.50		
Medium	£ 3.50		
Large	£ 3.50		
TOTAL			

Complete the order form and send it to

Oric Club,
Unit 1,
Technopark,
Newmarket Road,
Cambridge CB5 8PB



Name

Address

.....

..... Postcode

Membership number

Amount enclosed £

Cheques must be payable to Oric Club.

Alternatively, ring the club on

02205 2264 and order by Access or

Diners.

Goods will be despatched within 28 days.