CPC South West

Amstrad Users Group

✳ HEADLINE NEWS ✳

Richard Fairhurst and the BTL team are
arrestred, read all about it in our CPC
South West Exclusive....

✳ CPC SW CONVENTION ✳

You wanted to meet us, we wanted to
meet you. Find out the WHERE and WHEN
inside this issue....

✳ NEW PD LIB IN SW ✳

CPC South West has it's very own
Public Domain Library, see back
cover for more details....

✳ COMPO'S ✳

ROUTEPLANNER up for
grabs in this
issue. But who won
last month's como ?
Was it YOU ? Look
inside to find out.

Post & Packaging

FREE CD
Software With
Every Issue !

NOT NO CD ?

Send a blank disc to the
ED and he'll sort you
out, and he wont charge
you a penny.

LEGAL ACTION
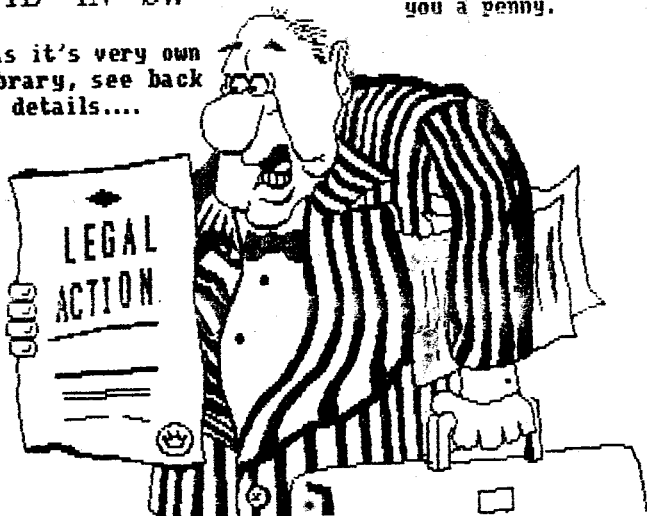
Inside This Issue: Editorial, NSWP, BIG Formats, Music Tutorial, Dave's Year, Your Letters, D.M.S. Reviews, Jamie Explains All ? And Lots More...

MEMBERS
HELP - LINES

HELP LINES ARE PROVIDED ON
A VOLUNTARY BASIS.

Please phone after 6 pm or as
stated. if sending a letter or a
Disc / Tape, dont forget an
SAE for the return. TA!

TAPE TO DISC or
DISC TO DISC.
PETER CURGENVEN
0841-520875.

ART WORK AND
GRAPHICS
JOHN REILLY
15 NORTH GREEN
FORCHES EST.
BARNSTAPLE
EX 32 8EA

MUSIC FOR YOUR
PROGRAMS
SIMON CRUMP
01823
0844-32761
AFTER 7PM PLEASE.

EPROM BLOWING
HARDWARE AND
ELECTRONICS (+).
IAN NEILL
01926-337708.

BASIC PROGRAM'S
JAMIE COOPER
01752-351101.

DISCOUNTS-HELP
PD SOFTWARE.
GENERAL MATTER
AND I DO LIKE
TO TALK.
USER GROUP INFO
DAVE STITSON
01752-254404.

TECHNICAL ADVICE
HARDWARE,AND CPC
REPAIRS TUES & WED 7-11PM
THUR - MON 9-11PM
NIGEL CALLCUTT
01664 - 68738
3.5" DISC DRIVE'S FOR SALE.

Take a look at
the next to the
last page.

YES IT'S ON
THE CONVENTION
THAT YOU HAVE
ASKED FOR.

THE DATE TO
REMEMBER IS THE
25th.NOVEMBER 95.
10-30am TO 3-30pm

On your behalf. I have commited my
self to paying in advance for the
use of the MAIN HALL at the
VIRGINIA HOUSE SETTLEMENT.
Please support the event and meet
other CPCSW members.I have also
extended a warm and friendly
welcome to any WACCI member who
lives within easy travelling
distance of PLYMOUTH.
The offer has also gone out to the
CORNWALL PCW CLUB,as many of their
members also own a CPC.

I have sent invatations to
companies such as CAMPURSOFT.
O.J.SOFTWARE.MERLIN SERVE.
SD.MICROSYSTEMS
BONZO NEWS LETTER
OTHER PD.LIBRARIES.

Please let me know if you are
willing to bring along your
computer etc.
I will have my 6128 + colour
monitor.Rombox.Multiface and all
the PD in the library for you to
try out.
DAVE))) ....

On Sunday the 24th September 95. Brian Furse. John Reilly. Peter Curgenven. and my self travelled to WALSAW to the WACCI convention. Was the trip worth it ?. YES it was,we met our IAN NEILL.DAVE CALENO.ANGIE SINCLAIRE from the group together with a lot of other WACCI members of whom we have all had dealings with at some time or other. So is our convention or get together on ?. YES IT WILL BE. Sometime in NOVEMBER this year. I am just awaiting conformation of VENUE's and the cost's, as soon as I have this information, I will contact you all to see if you want a ticket.

I have already written to the companies to see if they are interested in attending , hopefully they will attend with their wares for you to purchase, I have also thought that we could also invite WACCI members from this part of the world. What do you say about it ?.

Please let me know if you can bring your computer with you,it would be nice to have a few machines up and running to let you try out PD.(hich I would bring along.plus my 6128 with a ROM BOX and a MULTIFACE and second drive 3.5").and if Campursoft does turn up,(Peter Campbell said he would be interested),you could also try out his commercial programs. We might be able to persuade Peter to bring his 464 etc, has anyone got a 664 ?.or a plus machine ?,that they would be willing to bring along.

Now that the weather has changed and the nights are drawing out,no doubt you will be spending more time at the keyboard, so get typing with articles etc,see 'DEAR DAVE'S' this month. NIGEL wants to start up an adventure series or a games pokes section,what would you like ?.

You will be pleased to know that I have sorted out the problem I had with the copier skewing the paper as it went through. New rubber rollers to keep the paper straight, so perhaps now the old faithful machine will carry on much longer.

 To those of you have written in this month,many thanks for your contribution, and as the competitions seem so popular, there are more in this issue with more goodies for you to win,my thanks go out to those who have donated the prizes.

Well that's enough of my waffleing, have a good read and I hope we can all meet in NOVEMBER.

                    DAVE)))...................

Reader's Letters
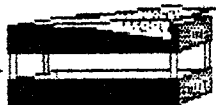
DEAR DAVE

FROM ARTHUR who say's he is ssshhh 75, the group's grandad
Having received my first copy of the magazine, I was impressed, and
so impressed that I have subscribed for further issue's.

I have only had my computer for 18 months, still a beginer and still
learning as to what the 6128 can do. It is a challenge but great
fun.
My SON has one of the latest computers with megabytes that go on
for ever. Even the software can cost you an Arm and a Leg. But may
          I say. KEEP THE CPC GOING, and I hope that I can help.
I must echo Mr.Owens letter as I shall need a lot of HELP from the
TEAM PLEASE. (*That's what the group is all about Arthur-DAVE)))*...

FROM NORMAN (POWYS) . Thanks for the quick reply to my request
for your PD list, and to sending me your groups trial magazine.
Please find enclosed my subscription for 6 issue's.
I am new to computers. less than a year since I started to use any
computer on a IT Course for the unemployed. I joined WACCI. UAUG
and soon discovered that the CPC world is a very tight-knit where
the same names keep cropping up. It looks as if these long term
verterans of the CPC will accept me as an absolute beginer
after all the HELP I HAVE RECEIVED.
My own investment has gradually crept up and I have a panickly
feeling that I must hurry up and get a good / large base of
software so I can grow with the CPC.
Enough of the pessimism. I actually like the CPC scene. It is small
enough to be civilised and helpful. I wont let anyone tell me that
the CPC's are pathetic little'adding machines'. After I experienced
using a PC . Running Windows at such a slow rate. I am often
tempted to go and put on the kettle while waiting for the programs
to load, or catch up with my commands ! (OK ., it was a shoe string
training course for the Unemployed, but the slowest of those
machines would cost more than I ever intend to spend on computers
in the next couple of years).
I think the CPC is a great little machine,and I hope people like you
and the members of the group keep going for a long time. Oh by the
way !,it was the Amstrad Action from whom I obtained your name
from. GD.PD AND CPC SOUTH WEST where highly recomended. I am glad I
took their advice.   Norman...
                    we all intend to keep going NORMAN -Dave)))...

Reader's Letters

Dear Dave's cotinued

From DAVID (no not ME - HIM) from Manchester.
Thanks for my first issue of the magazine. It is a very committed
and enjoyable read, (apart from the Mindbending Section)
(CPCARTOGRAPHY). Sorry Jamie but all I got from your article was a
Bloody Headache.

The main reason for me writting to you,is that most (UN)popular of
all subjects. The AMSTRAD ACTION CLOSURE.....NO ! Don't turn the
page. I am not going to waffle and winge about it ! (Just Waffle)

Despite Amstrad Action deserting us all in our hour of need, we
must not forget. That. But for Amstrad Action our CPC'S would have
been long forgotten !.
A.A. is a complete encyclopedic guid to the CPC. should anyone have
a complete set of AA's,you must consider your self lucky and reread
them to gather all the information that you can. All this
information can be put to use in such groups as our's to keep the
CPC alive !. Amstrad Action has served us well, so let us all stop
whineing,salute it, and may it rest in peace..........

Thanks for your comments David, my personal gripes about Amstrad
Action is that I think they could have issued just one FINAL issue
and left more gracefully.
   Dave)))....

A quicky from JAMES

To all CPCSW members, being a new member to the group, I just want
to say I think the magazine is great, and a nice feel of friendship
about it, and I like the way members have an imput,as soon as I
have had about 3 more issues, I am sure I shall write in,but don't
expect anything to technicial,everything I know I have read in the
late Amstrad Action, but I am very glad that I decided to join your
user group, the one and only group I have belonged to,and what
inspired me to write to Dave was a piece in Amstrad Action who
recomended someone to contact CPCSW. To Amstrad Action. I say thank
you for introducing me to CPCSW.

        thank you for your letter James,I look forward to your letter
                              Dave))) ....

Reader's Letters
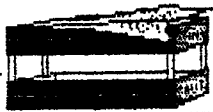
NIGEL would like to see an ADVENTURES PAGE in the magazine. Also he would appreciate some GAME POKES. So how about it from you ADVENTURE bods and who's good at GAME POKES ?

PAUL wants more PD . (in the magazine Paul ?)

BRIAN wants MEETINGS or a CONVENTION. Convention or a get together seems favourite.

CHRISTINE say's that she really do enjoy her read and thinks we are covering a good assortment of articles.

IAN wants a staple in the spine of the magazine. I have already said that IAN is now going to proof read for us.

PETER also wants a GET TOGETHER.

ANGIE would prefer the printing to go across the page (like this) and not in columns.

JOHN will be pleased to know that I have used up all the re-cycled paper.

HOW DID THE MAGAZINE SCORE ?   FROM 20 RETURNS

	MAXIMUM	SCORE
PRESENTATION	200	160
INFORMATION	"	180
FRIENDLINESS	"	185
CONTENT	"	164
HOMOUR	"	154
VALUE	"	158

The above are some of the remarks that where on the SURVEY returns,this is a sample taken from 20 returns out of the 45 returned.
Most marked each section out of 10. and the results for each section are shown above out of 200 maximum per section.

For your information. The youngest member is 15 years old. and the granddaddy of us all is 75 years old. The Total magazines sent out for AUGUST 95 was 65. There are a few members who has'nt renewed their subscription for the August issue as yet.

I hope the above information is of use to those who wanted to know how we faired in the survey.
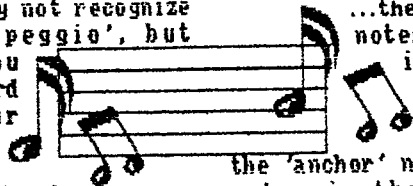
                         DAVE)))...

PART - 3. ARPEGGIO.

Many of you may not recognize the name 'Arpeggio', but doubtless you will have heard some on your C.P.C at some time. So, to link the Sound to the Name, please load up 'P3ARPG1' from the cover disc into the Sound Channel Tracer

You should have heard a string of notes being played faster & faster. Once at full speed the familiar Arpeggio sound is heard. Restart it by pressing F4 in the Tracer

Its theory time again folks, so get your brain in gear (that includes you dave!) By the way all the Arpeggios and explanations are based on SoundTrakker v1.1. When the string of notes was played very fast the string of notes disapeared, to our ears and all the notes blended in with each other. Which I hope you'll agree sounds quite nice

Arpeggios are 'note size pitch changes' superimposed onto an instruments playing note. So think of the note which the instrument is playing at as the 'anchor' for the arpeggio. Basically, using arpeggios to play 3 notes very quickly after each other produces the audio illusion of a chord. If you have a guitar or piano etc you could work

...the 3 most prominent notes of a cord, then include them in a arpeggio.

But make sure the 'anchor' note is one of the notes in the chord, or the arpeggio -may- sound a bit sickly! With a little work, using arpeggios in this way can make the tune sound much 'fuller' and nice/somber depending if you for example Major/Minor chords

But arpeggios can be used for other effects, as well as cherring up a tune with chords. I personally have used arpeggios of one form or another, in most of my tunes. But I'll save some of these other uses for the 'Trick & Tips' tutorial part

Some of you may be asking 'whats the difference between an arpeggio and a tone envelope?' .... Well not a lot really, exept that arpeggios have whole note changes and also only change the note temporily. If you have a value of 0 in the arpeggio's data list the sound pitch will always return to the 'anchor' original note

...continued.

There are 11 one note steps per octave, so 12 notes + or - wil bring us to the same 'anchor' note an octave above or below the original note. See fig1

```
STEPS    | 1 | 2 | 3 |
         -------------
         | 0 | +7 |+12|  <+or-  NOTE
         |-- |-- |--- |         STEPS
         |E-4|B-5|E-5 |  <E4 is the
                          ANCHOR NOTE
```

D4,D#4,E4,F4,F#4,G4,G#4,A5,A#5,B5,
C5,C#5,D5,D#5,E5...

So with an anchor note of E 4, if our (simplified) arpeggio contained 3 steps see fig2. and/or fig1

```
Steps   |  1  |  2  |  3 |
        -------------  | 0 |+7
|+12|  <--  + or - note steps
   | - - - | - - - | - - - |
|E-4|B-5|E-5|  <-- E 4 is the
anchor note, +7= B-5 and +12=
E-%.        -------------
```

Hopefully you've grasped the findamentals of arpeggios. But having worked out some three note chords, there are 2 basic ways to play the arpeggio. Please load into the tracer 'P3ARPG2' - arpeggios with normal instruments ... and then 'P3ARPG3' - arpeggios with repeating instruments

So you've heard 2 tunes one with arpeggios playing with normal instruments. And the other with repeating instruments. Yep these are the two basic choices of instruments. The standard 32 position format. Or you could use a repeating instrument. O.K. O.K. I can hear most of you from hear! 'Whats a repeating instrument?!'

Well, in SoundTrakker, after the 32 positions in the nstrument have been played, the instrument has finished! End of story? ... Yes. Unless you have a repeating instrument. A repeating instrument needs a little care when seting up. Basically a Loop 'starting position' is defined, and also a loop 'length'. When the last position in the loop is reached (loop length) the instrument plays from the start of the loop again. But the loop only starts after the whole instrument has been played through once first

Some care is needed when setting up the loop start and loop length, maybe te match volume or noise levels up (ie no sudden jumps). And most importantly lining up for arpeggios (not too difficult) but the arpeggios string of notes need to be carried on cleanly. For example 0,+7,+12,0,+7,+12 ...... and not 0,+7,+12,0,0,+7,+12 or 0,+7,+12,+12,0,+7,+12 etc. The join can be heard

Well that's it for this issue,if you have any probs,give me a bell.

SIMON............
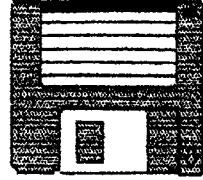
PETER'S TECHY
"B" DRIVE FORMAT

For those of you who are not fortunate to own PARADOS. Getting files from the "A" drive to the "B" drive big format disc's. It can be a nightmare. Using RAMDOS to get from DATA to a BIG 'D' format is so slow. And other utilities such as NIRVANA, BONZO etc. Just do not recognize a large format disc in the "B" drive. So what can we do about it ?.

For a long time we have had a program called NSWP, short for NEW SWEEP. The program works witin CPM. So any BIG format that works within CPM, can work with the NSWP program. Before the 'GODSEND' of PARADOS.NSWP was the only and quickest way that I could get my 3" disc's to the large D20 3.5" disc using a different USER AREA for my files.

To use the program NSWP, you have to boot up CPM. At the A)(prompt).type in NSWP and you get a header. NSWP will then tell you how many files are on the disc, and free space left on the disc.You put a 3" disc in drive"A" that you want to transfer from, and a 3.5" disc in your "B" drive.By pressing 'L'.you are then requested to log in the disc to transfer from, you then type in the drive and the user area you wish to transfer to.

A quick way to transfer a disc to disc ia as follows :

Press 'W' you are asked "TAG WHAT".Press *.*, NSWP will then tag all the files. By pressing 'M'(move), NSWP will ask you for the drive USER area required. If you type in 'B1', All the files will be transfered to the "B" drive into USER AREA (1).*NOTE* NSWP will not copy the same user and drive, so it wont copy from 'A0 TO A0'.

There is a HELP file,and you can access it by pressing (?).You will have a menu of options :-,

A.Retag files
B.Squeeze/ Unsqueeze tag files
C.Copy file
D.Delete file
E.Erase T/U files
F.Find file
L.Lod new disc/user
M.Mass copy file
P.Print file
X.Exit to CPM
Q.Squeeze/Unsqueeze tag files
R.Renam files
S.Check remaining space
T.Tag file for transfer
U.Untage file
V.View file
W.Wild card tad of files
Y.set status
?.Display this HELP MENU
CR.SP.Forward one file.

You can see from the list above.NSWP can do a lot of useful things just by tagging. PARADOS user's will know what I mean.

NEXT PAGE PLEASE.

PETE'S TECHY

One of the utilities NSWP has got that PARADOS does'nt have is th 'Squeeze/Unsqueeze' option. And some time you can get files that have been squeezed from PD Libraries.

It is always best to get the file from the "B" drive to the "A" drive by unsqueezing it on the "A" drive.. NSWP does this very well. *NOTE* a squeezed file on the "B" drive is about 5K,when unsqueezed to the "A" drive it will come out as a 17K file. Try it out your self on the 'Picture-Graphics'files,you will be please at the result.

To use NSWP with RAMDOS,it has to be loaded as follows:
Boot up CPM,insert your RAMDOS system disc.Type in RAMDOS+ at the A)(prompt),you will be asked for the "B" drive format you wish to use,press the right key for either D1.D1Ø.D2Ø etc. At the A.) again. Type in NSWP and off you go.

Here is how you set your RAMDOS disc for the format you require.

RUN"FORMATS. and your menu of the different formats will appear on the screen.By pressing the numeric key for'CONFIGURE'select what format you want.RAMDOS will then configure your "B" drive. Now RUN"RAMDOS.BIN and it will automatically set your "B" drive to your required format.

Let us now look at different USER AREAS.Did you know that you have the option to arrange your files on the disc to other USER AREAS ?. NO.tut tut.

The advantage of using different USER areas is for example:.Splitting up Text Files from a UTILITY file on the same disc.

PARADOS will let you see other user areas automatically,but if you have'nt got PARADOS,it is a trial and error exercise for you. Just try (!USER n, (n=1-15) then catalogue the disc,you can find all sorts of programs on the disc if it has been organized this way. A lot of PD LIBRARY'S organize their disc this way. If you have BONZO.look at USER 7. and see all the headers.

If you are using BONZO and looking at the files that have been hid from prying eye's. Use the 'DELETE' option and save to another user area,if you dont know how to do this,then let me know.

You may be wondering as to why this article is NOT fully instructive. I have done this deliberately, as I feel you can learn better by trying it out by your self with a few instructions. BUT PLEASE dont be affraid to ask me if you are having problems,no matter how small the problem is.DONT sit in front of ARNALD-IDIOT-or y o u r B I G IDIOT.(464-664-6128)suffering remember we are all here to HELP YOU.THAT'S WHAT THE HELP LINE IS FOR.

PETER CURGENUEN.......

By the way Pete,I have had a feed back on your switch progects from BRIAN,they work OK for him.

DAVE)))....

FROM THE PAST

On this page I want to look back over the last 12 months of our group's magazine. I will re-run some of the articles/stories of earlier times.
The first couple of issue's were put together with a cut and paste affair,that was because I did'nt have any DTP software.That is behind us now (I hope).So here are a few snipits from the past.

In issue 1. JAMIE Alias 'Whispering Death',wanted to hear from anyone who was interested in FANTASY ROLL PLAYING on the cumputer. (are you still interested Jamie ?).
ISSUE 2.I (Dave)was offering type-ins for WAR GAMES for the Amstrad 464 664 6128,(Warning) the listings are long,and they are for the following.:
1.JUNGLE ATTACK:set on a pacific island.
2.NASEBY:re-create the famious battle of the English Cival War.
3.OMDURMAN:set in the Sudan,Kitchner's final battle.
These type-ins are still available,just send a "A4"SAE + 50p if you are interested.
ISSUE 3. PETER from Padstow sent in an article on 'EXXOR':
To load your disc,type in KCPM,you will now have a window menu.To explore the menu's,press (F) and play with the menu's,but what does XEXOR do (I asked Peter).It has all the usual functions of any Disc/File Management faciliity,But it does the job Better and Faster. It combines all the Disc/File Management on one Disc,and it has a Manual plus a print out facility. So why did Peter get XEXOR ?.because it will back up all his HEXAGON PROTECTED disc 's onto the "B" drive 3.S",now he has a backup of games he could NEVER COPY BEFORE.:Peter gives a WARNING (Never try to copy XEXOR,as it will blow up your DOS rom,Ask Arthur Cook of King Arthurs PD Domain).
JOHN from Barnstaple produced his first cover page for the magazine. He also sent in articles on.POWERPAGE (DTP).PROTEXT DEMO.ISPELL.THESAURS. for his POCKET MONEY SOFTWARE article.John followed up on an article about WRITING AN ADVENTURE GAME.
The basic idea or the plot has not got to be original,there are 3 types of adventure games
1.A love story-find a friend (a very very good friend)
2.Search-find an object
3.The big fight-kill the enemy.
John has put a game together that uses all the above topics and called it:
GO2HELL: I am not an adventure freak.but I did find it amusing (Dave)...Well that's it for this issue folks . More of FROM THE PAST in the next issue.

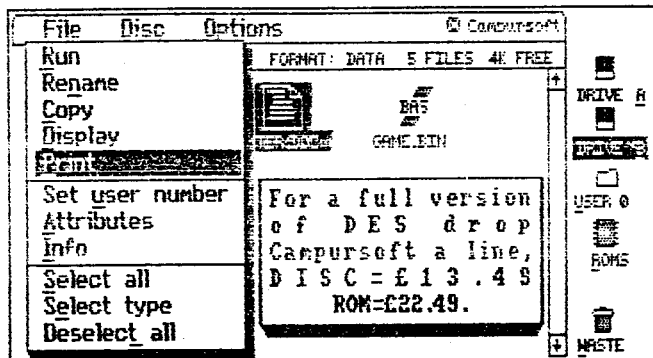   Dave))) ....

D.E.S. on CD
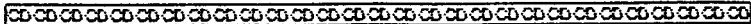
How's that for a catchy headline ? Well strictly speaking it's not really true but it sounds good doesn't it. Apart from a few other odds and sodds you'll find the PD version of D.E.S. on this months cover disc. Along with the front end Peter Campbell of Campursoft also let us have some D.E.S. applications, thanks a lot Peter.

As I'm writing this I don't know if Dave has mentioned the WACCI meeting, well Brian Furse was kind enough to give Dave and I a lift to the meeting (thanks again Brian). As you can imagine, three keen CPC'ers on the road for three hours we had quite a bit to talk about. It made a pleasant change to talk to someone who shares the same obsession with this old beast. One of the subjects which came up was D.E.S. after all there's been a lot of hype about it, especially the ROM version. Now Dave being Dave volunteered me to write a review on the subject, between me and you I had other things in mind. After all Peter was going to be at the meeting and if I worded it right I'd be able to con him into allowing us to pass it on via the CD. Also with a lot of luck and a bit of persuasion get a couple extra applications thrown in at the same time, so those who were able to transfer the Amstrad Action cover tapes to disc would have something new to play around with as well.

Incidentally one of the things we talked about on the journey was not being able to get a cat' print of a large capacity disc, this can now be done with Richard Widley's Hardcat application. Thanks Richard you've solved one of my biggest headaches, I can now print out all my clip art.

ALSO AVAILABLE ON CD

Along with DES you will also find a mixture of PD programs, a few games true but we think there will be something for everyone. If there is a certain type of software you would like to see on the Cover Disc, please let us know okay.

Freebies on the disc:
BORDPUB (DEMO), AI (GAME)
FANTASTIC ADVENTURE (TEXT ADV),
INVADERS (SPACE INVADERS) and
IQTEST (silly questions, beat 138 that's all I got).

File   Disc   Options   © Campursoft

Run
Rename
Copy
Display
Print
Set user number
Attributes
Info
Select all
Select type
Deselect all

FORMAT: DATA   5 FILES   4K FREE

DRIVE A
USER 0
ROMS
WASTE

BAS
GAME.BIN

For a full version of DES drop Campursoft a line,
DISC = £13.49
ROM=£22.49.

COMPETITION TIME

YES, IT'S BACK AGAIN. AND THE
PRIZE FOR THIS COMPETITION IS
MINI-OFFICE 2 ON A 3" DISC +
MANUAL - BOXED.

EYE'S DOWN.

1. ENGINE AND TRUCKS (S-5).................
2. FOOT-LEVER (5)...................
3. EVENLY BALANCED (5).................
4. MILITARY TRAINING (5)...................
5. GUEST (7)...................
6. NOT TRANSPARENT (6)..............
7. REVOKE (6)..................
8. SATISFY ONE'S DESIRES (7).........CLEAN ANSWERS PLEASE

ENTRIES TO BE IN BY THE 10TH NOVEMBER 95.WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE
DRAWN BY ER-IN-DOORS,RUNNER/S UP'S WILL HAVE 3 FREE SELECTIONS
FROM THE GROUPS PD.LISTINGS.......

THE FOLLOWING BOOKS HAVE BEEN DONATED FOR THIS COMPETITION.

THE AMSTRAD CP/M PLUS. AMSTRADS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND
POWERFUL PROGRAMMING FOR YOUR AMSTRAD CPC 464 / 664 / 6128.

FIND THE WORD THAT MATCHES.
1.BACK - COAT - LIGHT................... (4)
2.CUBICLE - CURTAIN - GEL.............. (6)
3.FLAG - STONE - TIGHT................. (6)
4.BIT - FOLD - STEP.................... (3)
5.AGENCY - HOARDING - SLOGAN...........(11)
6.BOY - COLLEGE - VICE................. (9)

ENTRIES ONCE AGAIN TO BE IN BY 10TH NOVEMBER, WINNING ENTRIES
WILL AGAIN BE DRAWN BY ER-IN-DOORS.TWO SELECTIONS OF PD FOR THE
RUNNER'S UP.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR FURTHER COMPETITIONS .PLEASE HELP TO KEEP THIS SECTION GOING, AS IT HAS PROVED VERY POPULAR.

DAVE)))....

THE CONVENTION

Peter Campbell has said he regrets that due to the distance and other commitments. He wont be able to attend, but has offerd to send one item of each of his software. (Holding me (DAVE) responsible) for me to show on the day and for members to try out. And if purchased on the day for which I would take orders for Peter. He has offerd a wacking 25 % discount.
To Peter of CAMPURSOFT. Many Thanks from CPCSW.

DONT WASTE YOUR TIME ON SIREN SOFTWARE ! They have written to me in reply to my letter inviting them to our convention. They returned a COMPLIMENT SLIP stating THAT THEY NO LONGER SUPPLY CPC PRODUCTS.

SD.MICROSYSTEMS replied to me with regrets that they wont and dont attend get-gethers ,it is hoped that they will send something for the event to either sell or reffle.

MERLIN SERVE (Angela and Arthur Cook) have some other function to attend on that day, but if things change, Angela say's they will be down, Angela has become a CPCSW member so expect some articles from her in the future (I hope so Angela - Dave)))...)

ANGELA WANTS a GAME CALLED (Intergalactic Stunt Parrot) do you have a copy that Angela could get her hands on,if so please send a copy to Angela Please. (sorry Angela, it is no longer in the GD.PD Library,in fact I dont think it was ever in the library that I took over from Dave Lawson).

If you run a PD Library or have PD that you think other members may like to have, then why dont you bring it along with you on the day. Or if you want to sell some Hardware , then have it on display with a FOR SALE LABEL,and be prepared to barter over the sale price.

I look forward to meeting those of you whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting with, also I am sure there are a lot of you who will want to meet other members, lets make it a day to remember for the group,Please order your tickets by sending the cash for the ticket's NOW.

Seeya on the 25th November 95 Dave)))....

SORRY PAGE

This and the other centre page were ment for Jamies Article

or Ian's, but it is with regrets that Jamie hasn't finnished his
yet, Jamie did send me in some type-in's,but they have got lost in
my filing system somewhere,(sorry Jamie).

Ian has been busy attending college, and with the Baby, Ian has
little time to spare just yet, But the good news is that IAN WILL
BE BACK with more articles, rumer has it that he has built a ROM
BOX with only a couple of ROM'S with many programs on them,I look
forward to hearing more about that Ian.

You will note on the Cover it states a NEW PD LIBRARY in the SW.
well what I have done is to drop the name GD.PD.SOFTWARE.you may
remember I took over the running of GD.PD SOFTWARE, but as AMSTRAD
ACTION has closed it's doors on us, there is no need to continue
with that name, So the library has moved into the GROUP'S NAME CPC
SOUTH WEST.The same QUALITY of service is maintained,(even though
I say it my self).
Outside of the group, I am still known as GD.PD.SOFTWARE,but any
orders for PD I have informed the CPCeer that the name ONLY has
changed, the other thing that has happened is that the PCW CLUB OF
CORNWALL hasn't a PD library,and as all the 3.1 CP/M software runs
on a Amstrad PCW, I have offered to fullfill that roll for them.

AND FINALLY TO FILL UP THE PAGE

Due to me having to sit a course at work,and all these extra hours
that I am working (I dont here anyone saying AH !). I wanted to
get this issue out to you befor the end of the month, which means
that this issue didn't find it's way to IAN'S for proof reading, so
if there any mistooks, blame me and not Ian for missing them,sorry
but there just wasn't any time to spare this month.

I think you will agree that the new rollers in the copier has done
the trick and kept the paper straight going through the machine
which gives a much better appearance,therefore any mistooks can be
forgiven I hope.

Please try to attend the Convention.

seeya there . Dave)))....

COMPETITION TIME

Here is another competition for
you. And the PRIZE is :
" ROUTE PLANNER "

BY RICHARD FAIRHURST.

CLUMSY FOOL   (3)   ROUTE PLANNER COMES WITH A 3" DISC
PUT BACK   (7)   AND A USER GUIDE.
SIGN UP   (6)   VERY KINDLY DONATED TO CPCSW BY
WEAR OUT   (4)   RICHARD FAIRHURST FOR A COMPETITION
CIPHER   (4)   A FULL NAVIGATION SYSTEM FOR THE
HOLD BACK   (6)   128 K DISC BASED CPC.
WAVER   (6)
WONDER   (3)

MAXIDOS / PROCOPY 2ND TRY .

1.PIXIE (3).....   4.SWEET POTATO (3).......
2.GROUP OF 8 (5)......   5.COLOURED (4).......
3.PUBLIC SCHOOL (4)....   6.PERFORMS (4).......

As Maxidos / Procopy was'nt won in the last issue,here is another
try at winning this usefull Utility.

COMPO - WINNERS   AUGUST ISSUE.

NO ONE WON THE MAXIDOS / PROCOPY OR GOT NEAR IT, SO YOU CAN HAVE
ANOTHER GO IN THIS ISSUE.

THE 2 X 3" DISC'S WITH PD.AGAIN NO WINNERS .TRY AGAIN SOON.
MAXAM
THERE WHERE 2 WINNERS,AND THE NAME DRAWN OUT OF THE HAT WAS
DAVID HALL AND PETER CURGENVEN WAS THE RUNNER'S UP.

MICRODESIGN
THERE WAS ONE OUTRIGHT WINNING ENTRY AND THAT CAME FROM.

PETER CURGENVEN.

YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED YOUR PRIZES BY NOW. AND TO THOSE WHO SENT
AN ENTRY, THANKS FOR ENTERING THE COMPETITIONS, PLEASE TRY AGAIN
WITH THE COMPETITIONS IN THIS ISSUE. DONT GIVE UP , MOST OF YOU
WHERE REALY CLOSE.
ONE ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION ONLY ACCEPTED.SOME OF YOU ARE SENDING
IN 2 TO 3 SELECTIONS PER ANSWER.I WILL MARK THAT ANSWER AS
WRONG,SO YOU COULD BE LOOSING OUT BY TRYING TO CHEAT.

                        DAVE))) ....

Pocket Money Software

£5.00 MAX

Antoine of POW!

When you've got over a hundred PD discs packed into an eighty capacity disc box, some of which are backups of backups then its time to get organised.

There's a few draw backs with this one so I'll point them out first so you can make up your mind whether it's worth getting or not.

1) Works best with two drives, but doesn't most things.
2) Doesn't look for hidden files or those stored in user areas other than zero.
3) Will not touch funny formats, DATA format only.
4) When crunching whole disc sides B to A or visa versa you can only do one side at a time, even though there's plenty of room on the destination disc.
5) Programs can not be run when they have been squeezed unlike with Turbo Imploder.

If the above doesn't put you off and there's no real reason why they should as you can easily get around those minor problems. Then we can have a look at the plus points.

Space Archiver is very easy to use and reliable, so far I haven't come across a single program which didn't run after being expanded. On top of that you can transfer a whole disc side or a complete program under a single filename, no worries when it comes to silly file extensions and that sort of thing. As for saving disc space, SA cuts it roughly in half. 178K down to about 90K.

Which means with large format discs (me, I used Romdos D20 via Parados) you can fit eight discs sides onto a single big one. Great news if you've got loads of discs or you're a PD swapper.

Overall 72%

BETTER THAN LIFE 2

R. Fairhurst & Co - ROBOT PD

At the crown court Richard Fairhurst and his gang of ruffians stand in the stocks charged with numerous offences. These range from indecent exposure to corrupting innocent children, with slander and using obscene language somewhere in the middle.

You can see by their faces that they are all guilty as hell but still they plead 'not guilty'. Presiding over the case is Judge Fudge, the dreaded hanging judge, whose verdict makes hardened criminals shake in their boots. (After they've swung to the left and a jerk to right of course.... Dave)

The prosecution stands and addresses the court "Members of the jury, this would have been an open and shut case, we would have had evidence in abundance but the print-out option included with this package doesn't work. These scum bags..."
"He can't call us that" objects Richard Fairhurst.
"Yes he can, now sit down before I hold you in contempt of court" demands the judge.
"As I was saying, the defendants are admired by impressionable young children, releasing BETTER THAN LIFE upon the masses has corrupted our youth. The defence will argue that the odd swear word emphasises the meaning behind a statement, but surely the public don't need to be bombarded like this."
"What ever happened to FREE SPEECH ?" screams the BTL team in unison.
"It'll cost you in my court, that'll be £20" says the judge.
"But we as journalist demand the right to FREE SPEECH" says Richard Fairhurst.
"Fourty pounds" says the judge, banging his mallet like a madman.
Fairhurst being a quick learner only had to fork out a hundred quid to get his point across.
As his first witness the prosecution called Derek Hyland to the witness stand. Once seated he kept repeating 'nineteen and three quarters' over and over again while scratching his head. When asked what was wrong he replied "A bloke outside asked me how to baffle a fool, the answer is nineteen and three quarters".
"Enough of this Tom Foolery,

I've already decided the verdict" says the judge.
"Who made you judge, jury and executioner ?" asks Dr FEGG.
"That's another story, which we'll keep secret for now shall we" replies the judge.

THE VERDICT

"After reading through BETTER THAN LIFE three times I have come to the conclusion that you are all guilty. Why didn't you make BTL like all the others ? Dull and boring, EXECUTIONER hang 'em high"

Presentation - Obviously it's in overscan and has some nice little tunes like most other disczines, but there's no rasters or screen effects so you can actually read the articles, which makes a change from the foreign stuff.
Userbility - Even though it's simple to use there's an idiots guide so Hylander can read it.
Grabability - These guys could teach the Monty Python team a thing or two, if you want a good laugh read the Routeplanner complaints.

Overall 95%

STREET WARRIORS - Penguin
Marcus Kasumba

Street Warriors has got to be the biggest PD game ever written (if you know different let me know) it takes up a massive 324K, so it goes without saying that SW will set you back a small fortune.
As you would guess from the title this is a beat 'em up, now me not being the violent type and having

P.M.S Continued...

the choice of six different warriors (including two females) I'll choose the Ninja every time. After all this guy is a trained assassin, armed with a double bladed knuckle duster he makes the rest look like wimps.

The tournaments are set in different parts of the world, after selecting your champion you nip (no pun intended) across to the first venue. On the off chance that you beat him/her you carry on till you've bumped off all your rivals to become supreme champion.

Street Warriors has got a little bug, nothing drastic though. When both fighters take up the same space you get a horrible mixture of colours, but apart from that the game is smooth and well designed. One of the reasons the game is so big is because Marcus goes all the way on the presentation front, each venue has it's own background picture. The British one is The Houses Of Parliament as viewed from London Bridge.

If there's one thing which lets Street Warriors down it is not being realistic, when in combat you can only fight in one direction, and there isn't very many moves. There's more kicks and punches than indicated in the instructions but my ninja in real life would sneak up behind his enemy and stab him in the back. Instead of a tune Marcus has gone for digitized sound effects, the intro is good but what I like is the noises like Bruce Lee used to make and your opponent's laugh when he wins, great stuff.

PRESENTATION – Nice backgrounds and neat little sound effects.
USERBILITY – Get yourself a decent joystick, waggle it around and constantly fire to find new moves.
GRABABILITY – With Practice and Go For It modes AND each fighter having a special move (flame throwers etc) this game will keep you going for ages.

Overall 75%

As SW is so big save it onto a BIG disc or you'll do a lot of disc swapping.

DISK PD
LOWER DEXBEER
HOLSWORTHY
DEVON
EX22 7LA

GDPD
4 CONNAUGHT AVENUE
MUTLEY
PLYMOUTH
PL4 7BX

KING ARTHUR'S DOMAIN
BRYMPTON COTTAGE
BRUNSWICK ROAD
WORTHING
SUSSEX
BN11 3NQ

PD FUN
FOLLY FARM
COLD ASHTON
CHIPPENHAM
WILTSHIRE
SN14 8JR

PENGUIN SOFTWARE
62 NURSEY ROAD
KNAPHILL
WOKING
SURREY
GU21 2NW

ROBOT PD
2 TRENT ROAD
OAKHAM
RUTLAND
LE15 6HF

TYPE-IN'S

DONAL wrote and asked me for a MENU type-in that is simple for a beginner to use for up to 6 programs on a DISC SIDE. This little program was one of the first that I used when tidying up my files.

MENU

```
10 CLS:PRINT "MENU BY your own name here":PRINT
20 PRINT "1 - filename":PRINT
30 PRINT "2 - filename":PRINT
40 PRINT "3 - filename":PRINT
50 PRINT "4 - filename":PRINT
60 PRINT "5 - filename":PRINT
70 PRINT "6 - filename":PRINT
80 INPUT "ENTER YOUR SELECTION";n
90 ON n GOTO 110,120,130,140,150,160
100 GOTO 10
110 n=(1):run"filename
120 n=(2):run"filename
130 n=(3):run"filename
140 n=(4):run"filename
150 n=(5):run"filename
160 n=(6):run"filename
```
SAVE"MENU - press ruturn and this little program will be saved on your disc. And run each time by typing in RUN"MENU.

Here is a little proggy that use to drive me daft Doodleing on the screen.

```
10 REM PROGRAM - DOODLE
20 MODE 0
30 ORIGN 320,200
40 c=1
50 WHILE 1=1
60 DX=(INKEY(8)=0) - (INKEY(1)=0)
70 DY=(INKEY(2)=0) - (INKEY(0)-0)
80 DRAW DX,DY
90 WEND
```

HERE'S WHAT IT DOES
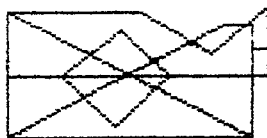
SAVE"DOODLE -press return and this little proggy will be saved on to your disc and run by typing RUN"DOODLE.

DO YOU HAVE ANY LITTLE TYPE-IN'S THAT OTHER MEMBERS COULD FIND USEFUL ?. IF SO. WHY NOT SEND THEM IN. PLEASE MAKE THEM SMALL AND SIMPLE.

DAVE))) ......

WHERE TO GO NOW!

CAMPURSOFT

10 Macintosh court.Wellpark.
GLASGOW. G31 2HW. Tel:0141 - 554 - 4735

10 % discount to CPCSW MEMBERS

OJ SOFTWARE

273 Mossy Lea Road.Wrightington
Nr.WIGAN.Lancs.WN6 9RN

Tel: 01257 - 421915

10 % discount to CPCSW MEMBERS

MERLIN CPC SERVICE

Angela/Arthur COOK
Brympton Cottage.Brunswick Road
WORTHING.SUSSEX.BN11 3NQ

CPC spares willing to DO A DEAL.

GOLDMARK SYSTEMS .contact BRIAN BARTON

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HERTS. AL8 7QW

10 % discount to CPCSW MEMBERS

TOTAL COMPUTING. Tel:01202-717001

Dept.8BM.16 STATION ROAD.
PARKSTONE.POOLE.DORSET.BH14 8UB

RIBBONS FOR YOUR DOT MATRIX PRINTERS ALSO RE-INK KITS
send for a catalogue.

SD MICROSYSTEMS Tel:01953 - 483750

Dept Z. PO BOX 24. ATTEBOROUGH
NORFOLK. NR17 1HL

Send a SAE for current catalogue stating Computer/Disc size.

Please mention CPCSW when ordering any goods from either of the above

Dave >>>...

DAVID HALL'S GAMES — REVIEWS — BY DAVE THE ED:

DAVID HALL is a new member to the group and he sent me a Disc to review. All the programs on the Disc have been written by David and I must say I found all the games quite good. It seems that we have a GAMES programmer in the group.

The Disc contains a program called ' XENOMORPHS ', this game is NOT Public Domain, but also on the Disc are 13 other Public Domain games. You can only obtain this Disc from David,normally the cost of the Disc is £2-00 + an SAE, but David is offering CPCSW members the discount price of just £1-00. Is it good value for your hard earned cash ? ,If I was a games person I would say YES I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE DISC IN MY COLLECTION.

The game ' XENOMORPHS ' kept me amused for quite a while trying to better my score each time. Also the selection of PD games are as good as I have seen around, so I say to you game bods, go for it you wont be disappointed.

SEND £1-00 + DISC + SAE to

DAVID HALL
280 Derbyshire Lane West
Stretford
MANCHESTER
M32 9LU   SCORE   85 %

BANNER MANIA

If you like wasting lot's and lot's of paper, then this program is just for you. Because wasting paper is the name of the game.

As the title sugests Banner Mania is a program which you can use to create nice long Banner's with anything you want scribbled on them. Yes you will need a Printer and a lot of tractor feed paper. Then and only then can you start to make up your Banners.

You can print your text upto 8 different sizes in the few fonts provided. The largest is about 8 inches high. Not recomended as if you are using a Dot Matrix printer, have a spare ribbon handy. Oh ! I almost forgot,the program prints out vertically, that is the reason that you need Tractor feed paper, but the print out is quite good even on a Dot Matrix.

SCORE   70 %.

FOR-SALE

DAVE HAS FOR SALE.

1 ROMBOX 8-SLOT   NO ROMS.

£17-00 to include P&P.

DAVE'S 2ND FOR SALE.
4-SLOT
ROM BOARD
NO ROM'S
PLUG IN
AND GO.
CAN USE
BANKS 0-7
OR 8-15
UNCASED BUT WORKS WELL

ROM BOARD.
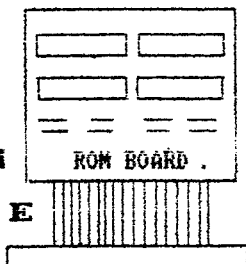
£10-00 to include P&P.

SIMON . STILL HAS FOR SALE SEVERAL CPC ITEMS-GAMES-ETC.INCLUDING 6128 + MONITOR. AND SEVERAL GAMES.
TEL: 01884-32761
GIVE SIMON A RING TO FIND OUT WHAT'S ON OFFER. YOU CAN SAVE YOUR SELF POUNDS £££££££££££'S.

KEVEN HEYWOOD IS OFFERING HIS CPC GOODIES AT KNOCK DOWN PRICES. 6128. MAGAZINES. GAMES ON DISC'S.THESE DISC'S ARE FULL OF GAMES WITH CHEATS-POKES-ETC.

RUMOUR HAS IT.IF YOU OFFER ABOUT 80 GREEN BACKS. YOU CAN HAVE THE LOT. THAT CANT BE BAD.
KEVIN HEYWOOD
18 SINCLAIR AVENUE.
BAMBURY.
OXON
OX16 7DW.   TEL: 01295 - 263654

TO ADVERTISE YOUR WANTS. SALE. EXCHANGE.JUST WRITE IN TO DAVE.

Bonzo's Scrapyard

Bonzo's Scrapyard, the tape to disc transfer information newsletter, using the Bonzo suite of programs, published quarterly, is available now from the above address. To receive a copy, send an A5 or A4 sized SSAE, plus an additional first class stamp.

The Bonzo programs are now on sale again

The following Bonzo related programs, which between them transfer over 1400 programs from tape to disc, are available exclusively from Bonzo's Scrapyard:

1 Bonzo Super Meddler and Hackpack

2 Bonzo Blitz (for Speedlock programs) and 4 adventure games written by Colin Harris

3 Bonzo's Flashpack (Flash Basic Utilities and Demos)

4 Bonzo's Big Batch (Database, Pools Predictor, Sprite/Screen Designer

5 Maxidos and CPC Procopy

All the above are on 3 inch disc and cost £8.50 per disc, including P&P.

Also available is the MS800 big format program, this is supplied on 3.5 inch disc and costs £6.50, including P&P.

All the above programs available from the end of September 1995, please make cheques etc. payable to Mr D. A. Caleno.

'IT'S ON'
THE CONVENTION
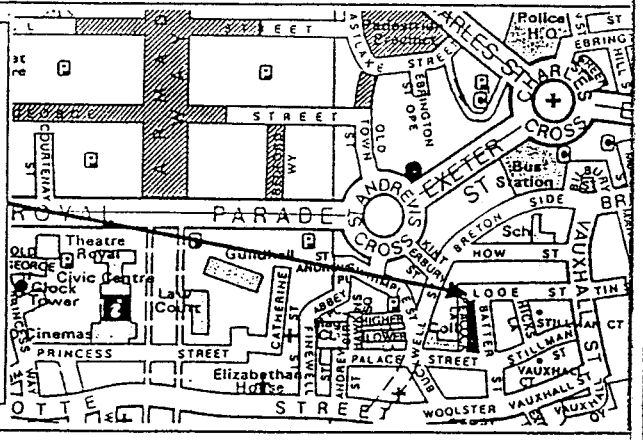# CPC SOUTH WEST

AMSTRAD CPC USER GROUP
SATURDAY 25th. NOVEMBER 95.
AT
VIRGINIA HOUSE SETTLEMENT
PLYMOUTH.
10-30am   TO   3-30Ppm.
ADMISSION £1-50 (ADMIT - 2)

BOOK YOUR TICKET NOW
FROM DAVE.

THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO VIRGINIA HOUSE SETTLEMENT IS TO BE FOUND ON LOOE STREET, NEXT TO PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE