

60p

YOUR COMPUTER

MAY 1982

Vol.2 No.5

Aerial photographs interpreted

Joysticks on the Sinclair

BBC graphics

Vic tank battle

ZX cassettes tested



**Win a Micro Gen
joystick for the ZX-81**

Teach yourself electronics

SUPERKIT is designed to teach beginners the basics of digital electronics. The kit, which costs £19.90 including post and packing from Cambridge Learning Ltd, contains an instruction manual, seven LS TTL integrated circuits, a EuroBreadBoard and various light-emitting diodes, resistors and capacitors. No soldering is involved, but the user must provide a 4.5V battery or a stabilised 5V power supply.

The kit is supported by Cambridge Learning's courses in digital computer logic, and electronics and digital design. The beginner has the chance to learn about fault-finding, improvisation and subsystem checking as well as Boolean logic, gating, shift registers and ripple counters.

Cambridge Learning is based at Rivermill Lodge, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE17 4EP. Telephone 0480-67446.

Nascom toolkit

EXTENSION BASIC is a new software utility for the Nascom range of microcomputers. This program adds 30 additional statements to standard Microsoft 4.7 ROM Basic and includes extra program editing commands, debugging facilities and structured programming. It is fully compatible with standard Basic and can be used as an interpreter or as a toolkit.

Extension Basic is supplied with a 25-page manual, a relocater program and a demonstration program which includes the games Sweeper and Demon Driver. It is available on cassette for £15 or in ROM for £25 from Level 9 Computing, 229 Hughenden Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP13 5PG. Telephone 0494-26871.

Datron Micro Centre's "Triple-Vision" multi-screen microcomputer display system allows you to run up to 12 different monitors from a Sharp MZ-80K or MZ-80B. The monitors will display high- or low-resolution graphics and computer-generated sound. The system can be used to display scores during chess or other tournaments, or to provide other information during conferences and lectures. A lower-cost Multi-Vision unit provides video and audio output for up to 12 different monitors fitted with audio play-back facilities. Triple-Vision costs £79 plus VAT while Multi-Vision costs £39 plus VAT. Both systems are available from Sharp Dealers and from the Datron Micro Centre, 2 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield, S7 1FD. Telephone 0742-585490.



Commodore's £1,500 competition

COMMODORE HAS launched a £1,500 software competition for the Vic-20 and Pet 4000 series microcomputers. First prize consists of a Vic single-drive floppy-disc unit, printer and programmers' aid cartridge. Second prize is a disc drive and programmers' aid cartridge while the third prize is a printer and an aid cartridge. Runners-up will receive books, magazines and composite discs of the winning entries.

The competition is open to all individuals and schools resident in the U.K. and Ireland. To enter the competition, write a program for the Vic-20 or Pet 4000 series, using up to 32K RAM, and send it to Commodore Software Competition, Department YC, 35 Garway Road, London W2 4QD, by June 30, 1982. Multiple entries on cassette or disc are permissible.

Commodore is looking for programs which are both inventive and educational and that can be used in either primary, secondary or special schools, or in the home. Typical entries will range from physics and chemistry packages to gardening diaries and recipe files. Games programs can also be submitted, but preference will be given to programs that have some educational or practical use.

The judges will include Commodore's technical manager, and educational computer consultant and Mike Todd, chairman of the Vic users' group. The winners will be presented with



their prizes at a formal ceremony in August.

Competition entrants will also be given the chance to benefit from their programs. Commodore plans to market some of the winning programs in association with the authors.

Will the real ZX-82 please step forward

CLIVE SINCLAIR'S new micro-computer is due to be launched this autumn, according to a recent article

in *The Sunday Times*. It claimed that the new computer would cost around £170 and would include colour graphics and a conventional typewriter keyboard. In addition, the computer would probably have a 32K memory and would be marketed under the name of Spectrum.

Clive Sinclair declined to comment on the article other than to say that *The Sunday Times* had the facts wrong: "I do not know where these rumours start", he said. Sinclair refused even to admit to the existence of a new microcomputer.

Speculation had been rife concerning a successor to Sinclair's enormously successful ZX-81. Some stories have hinted at a microcomputer incorporating Sinclair's flat-screen TV, due to be released later this year. Another possibility is a business-orientated microcomputer.

The exact format of the new microcomputer is uncertain. Only Sinclair knows for sure and he is not talking.

Vic Panic

LINE-UP 4 and **Panic Driver** are the first two games for the unexpanded Vic-20 to be released by Terminal Software, 28 Church Lane, Prestwich, Manchester, M25 5AJ. Telephone 061-773 9313. The two games are available on cassette for £4.99 including post and packing.

Terminal Software is planning to release more software for the Vic-20, including **Reversi** and **Scramble**.

TUG launch

THE TANGERINE Users' Group has launched two additional software packages for the Microtan 65. **Forth** is another version of an advanced language while **Columbia** is a business-orientated word-processing package. Columbia can be used with the Epson printer range and includes facilities for mail shots, mail merge and word-wrap.

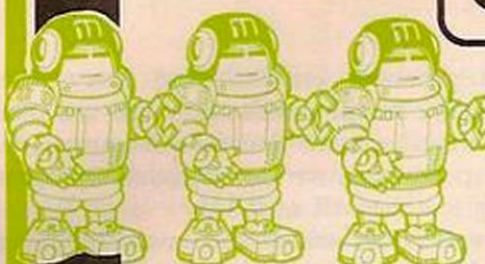
Other software releases include **Galaxians** and a multi-purpose record files package. More details from the Tangerine Users' Group, 16 Iddesleigh Road, Charminster, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH3 7JR. Telephone 0202-294393.

Tangerine move

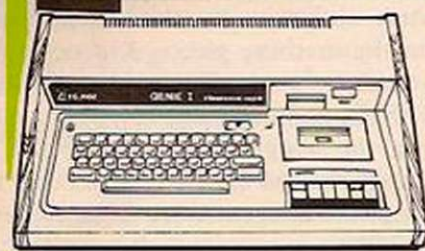
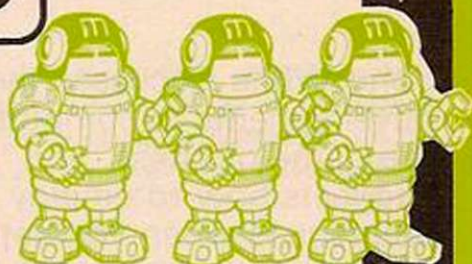
TANGERINE Computer Systems Ltd has moved from its Forchill Works base in Ely. The company's new address is The Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 4BH. Telephone 0223-60422.

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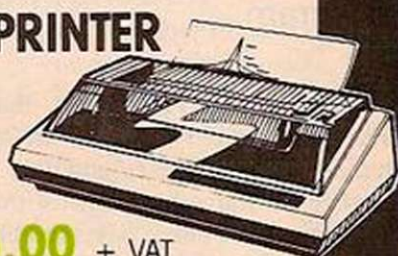


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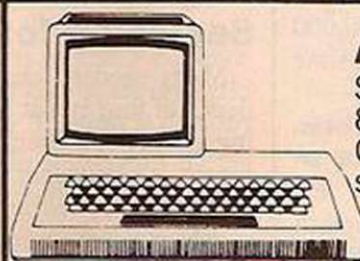
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