



UNITED AMSTRAD USER GROUP



1, MAGNOLIA CLOSE,
FAREHAM
HANTS PO14 1PX

NEWS SHEET

Editorial

Dear members, welcome to the first Newssheet. Sorry it has taken so long to reach you but we have been very busy lately, the response to our adverts has been much bigger than expected. Dont worry your membership hasent been wasted, as you will see from the item below, we are going to extend everyones membership so that they all start from 1st January 87.

You will notice that there are a few reviews included in this newsletter, I hope they are of some interest to you. If you own an Amstrad CPC you may find the Timatic Xrom review of particular interest.

This about wraps up the Editorial for this time, the first main 'Official' newsletter will be available in January so until then have a Happy Christmas.

News Letter

The first 'Official' Newsletter will be sent out on 1st January 87 and were hoping that it will be a big one, so if you want to submit any articles or letters for printing, could you please make sure they reach me by 20th December 86 so I will have time to include them.

Extended Membership

As a christmas treat we're going to extend everyones membership so they all start from 1st January, which means that it wont expire until 1st January 1988! You will find your membership card included with this Newssheet, dont worry if you have already received one, this membership card invalidates all the previous ones.

Reduced Software/Hardware

You will notice from the list included that we have obtained discounts from Durell Computers. We are trying all the time to get discounts from other software houses and by January we hope to have a full range of Software and Hardware on offer at a reduced price.

Public Domain Software

There are a few programs available now, mostly ones written by myself or my friend, or taken from magazines. We desperately need more programs for the library so please if you have any programs that you could submit, please send them in!

INTERPOOL
PO BOX 27
88475 SCHWENDI
GERMANY

LOVEBYTE



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H A R D W A R E R E V I E W S

Device: 'XROM' EPROM PROGRAMMER
Micro: 464/664/6128
Company: Timatic Systems
Price: £89.00

Eproms are really like Disc Drives in the way that if you havent got them you dont know what your missing, but at this price there is no excuse for anyone not to be without. The Timatic Xrom combines an Eprom Programmer with a four socket sideways ROM board, and it comes complete with Transformer and full instruction manual.

The Xrom only requires external power when programming Eproms, so if you only intend to use it as a sideways Rom card there is no need to connect the transformer. It can program both 2764 (8k) and 27128 (16k) Eproms, and there is a choice of programming speeds, either Fast or Slow. The slow speed will program a 16k Eprom in about 14 minutes whilst the fast speed only takes 5 minutes, but remember the speed to 'reload' programs on Eprom is only about 200 nanoseconds!

To program an Eprom the Transformer must be connected and the Eprom must be inserted into the ZIF socket. The program to be copied on to Eprom can then be loaded into the buffer from tape or disc, or even from another Eprom. Once the parameters for saving have been set the programming process starts by prompting for the 'Eprom Name', which is the name that the Eprom will be accessed by.

The Software which controls the programming process is included on an Eprom already inserted into one of the sockets, leaving three available. To access the software simply type ":E" or ":EPROM" and the warm up menu will be presented. The software is completely menu driven so programming Eproms is made almost fool proof.

The programmer is fitted with only a short length of ribbon cable so it has to go directly behind the computer, but there is a through socket for connecting other devices such as the disc drive. The Programmer doesnt look out of place hanging on the back of old Arnold because it is designed in a stylish black metal box, better than this cheap plastic rubbish!

Once a program has been put onto Eprom it can be accessed by typing ":name" where 'name' is the program name given at the time of programming. The software supplied also includes features such as memory edit, Rom probe and other neat little utilities.

The Verdict - It is worth buying because it includes both a programmer and a sideways rom card.

Usage: 90%
Presentation: 85%
Value: 82%
UAUG rating: 88%



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G A M E S R E V I E W S

Title: SABOTEUR
Micro: 464/664/6128
Company: Durell
RRP: £8.95
Offer: £5.50

You play the role of a Ninja mercenary and your task is to retrieve a disc which contains the names of all the rebel leaders. Your task is made more difficult by armed security guards and vicious dogs just waiting to take a bit at your heels. Once you have found the disc in the maze of rooms you must locate the time bomb and plant it in the computer centre. Finally you have to try to make your escape by the helicopter on the roof.

David - This game is appealing to both adventure and arcade players. The game will get very tedious once you start using your skills in higher levels because the objects become harder to find.

Gary - For the first couple of games it appears very interesting but it will soon become very frustrating on harder levels. Still worth buying at the club price though!

Graphics: 62%
Sound: 33%
Value: 60%
Playability: 70%
UAUG rating: 72%

=====

Title: COMBAT LYNX
Micro: 464/664/6128
Company: Durell
RRP: £8.95
Offer: £5.50

Dare I say it, another Specy conversion, but this time it was worth converting. You play the role of a Lynx helicopter pilot and you must protect your three ground bases from destruction. The screen shows the display from your cockpit and your instrument panel with several indicators and your weapon status. You can land at any ground base and reload with weapons and fuel, you can select what combinations of fuel/arms you use. The game is quite entertaining but be warned! there isn't much to shoot.

Graphics: 73%
Sound: 22%
Value: 90%
Playability: 90%
UAUG rating: 85%

AIMS AND COMMITMENTS

Aims - SAS (Software, Advice, Support)

1. To offer Software/Hardware to members at a reduced price
2. To offer Advice to members who are considering buying Soft/Hardware
3. To offer Support to members once they have brought the items

Commitments

1. To keep members informed of new products
2. To help members, if possible, with queries and problems
3. To give a realistic view of Software/Hardware
4. To run the user group in the most effective way, catering for all members interests and requirements
5. To obtain discounts on Software/Hardware so keeping the cost to the member down
6. To produce a Newsletter in which any member can air his/her views about a particular subject
7. To maintain a library of members own programs, so any member can have a copy for his/her own use
8. To keep on increasing the services and facilities of the user group

* ADVERTISING *

This page explains exactly how to submit an advert for printing. We will try to print the advert the next newsletter from the date the advert was received.

Advertising rates are based on lines of text on A4 size paper with 70 characters to each line. A single sheet of A4 paper can hold approximately 60 lines.

How to submit an Advert

If you would like to advertise in the newsletter please write your advert in block capitals or type it. On a separate piece of paper please state your name, address, membership number and the advertising rate you wish to be included under. If it is a charged rate then please include a cheque or postal order payable to UNITED AMSTRAD USER GROUP for the stated rate.

Advertising Rules

- 1 Please do not advertise pirated software, it is illegal.
- 2 Any unreadable advert will not be included.
- 3 No adverts written in bad taste will be included.
- 4 If we are unable to print the advert in the next news letter it will be printed in the following one.
- 5 We do not take responsibility for misprinted adverts or other mistakes concerning the adverts content.

Advertising rates

1	1-5 lines	Members: FREE Non-Members: £1.00
2	6-10 lines	Members: FREE Non-Members: £2.00
3	11-15 lines (quarter of a page)	Members: £1.00 Non-Members: £3.00
4	16-30 lines (half of a page)	Members: £2.50 Non-Members: £5.00
5	31-45 lines (three quarters of a page)	Members: £3.50 Non-Members: £7.00
6	46-60 lines (whole A4 page)	Members: £5.00 Non-members: £10.00

The above rates apply to private adverts only, companies and businesses should write to us giving details of the type of advert they wish to print and we will advise them of the advertising rate.



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SOFTWARE/HARDWARE LIST

AMSTRAD CPC 464/664/6128

Code	Description	Company	RRP	CLUB
G1001T	Combat Lynx	Durell	£8.95	£5.50
G1002T	Turbo Esprit	Durell	£8.95	£5.50
G1003T	Saboteur	Durell	£8.95	£5.50
G1004T	Critical Mass	Durell	£8.95	£5.50
G1005T	Death Pit	Durell	£8.95	£5.50
G1006T	Harrier Attack	Durell/Amsoft	£8.95	£5.50
G1007T	Spaces Hawks	Durell/Amsoft	£8.95	£5.50
G1008T	Roland goes Square Bashing	Durell/Amsoft	£8.95	£5.50

All prices include VAT and P&P. If you would like any of the above Software then please fill in an Order Form and send it with Payment to the above address.

By January we hope to have the whole range of Software/Hardware on offer.

PUBLIC DOMAIN SOFTWARE LIST

Code	Program Name	Programmer	Micro
U5001T/D	Sound Digitiser	G.Carter/Amstrad Action	464/664/6128
U5002T/D	Fast Tape	Amstrad Action	464
U5003T/D	Screen Crash	Unknown	464/664/6128
U5004T/D	Memory Search	G.Carter	464/664/6128
U5005T/D	Big Characters	Unknown	464/664/6128
U5006T/D	Graphics Demo	S.Delaney	464/664/6128
U5007T/D	Patterns	G.Carter	464/664/6128

 * UNITED AMSTRAD USER GROUP *

 * EPROM REQUEST FORM *

Please transfer the following program(s) onto an EPROM(s) :-

Filename	Length	Type (BIN,BAS, etc)
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----

[] I enclose the EPROM(s) of correct length and a cheque for the total of £..... (£1.00 per program).

or

[] Please supply the EPROM(s). I enclose a cheque for the value of £..... (£5.50 per program).

I own an Amstrad CPC computer.

Membership No.

Surname

Forename

 For official use only

Date received [] Date despatched []

Authorised []

R U L E S

1. All cheques and payments should be made payable to "United Amstrad User Group".
2. Any person who is resident of the United Kingdom or Eire can join the user group, regardless of age, colour or status, however applicants who are under 16 years of age should have parental consent.
3. The membership starts from any month to the same month the following year.
4. The user group reserves the right to refuse membership to any person without giving a reason.
5. Members can leave the user group at any time, but no refund of membership fee can be given.
6. A copy of the user group's accounts are available on request.
7. All money earned by what ever method must be re-cycled back in to the user group.
8. Only the chairman and secretary are authorised to write cheques on the user groups account.
9. Money earned by the user group can only be used to buy supplies and other items which are used directly by the group.
10. There is no limit to the number of members allowed.
11. The members personal details will not be disclosed at any time to any person without the written permission of the member.
12. Every member will receive a newsletter every two months of his/her membership.
13. Every member has the right to buy Software/Hardware offered by the group at the club price.
14. The user group reserves the right to alter membership fees and Software/Hardware prices without notice.
15. All members have access to the Public Domain Software Library and any program submitted for the library will not carry any copyright.
16. The user group reserves the right to refuse to rejoin any member after his/her membership has expired.
17. Once a member has left the user group he/she may rejoin at any time but a new application form will be necessary.
18. The user group reserves the right to Amend, Modify, Add or Delete rules from this list without notice.