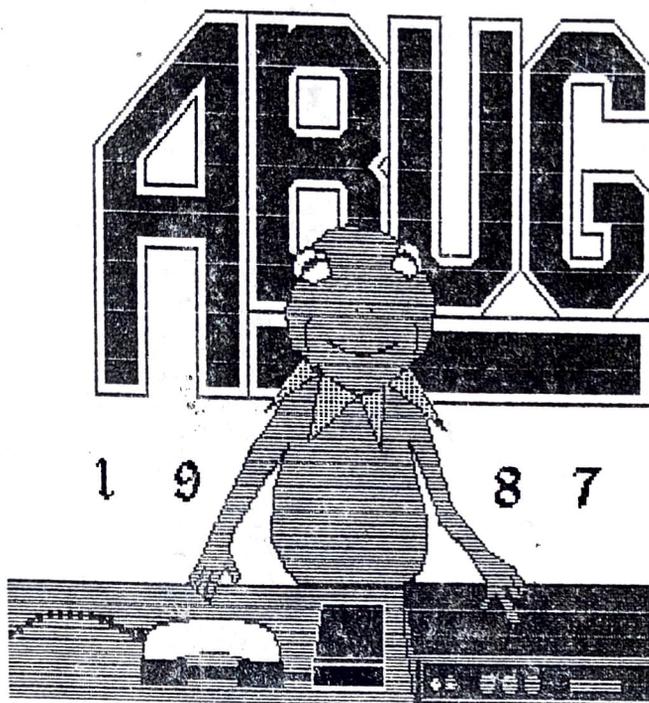


# Newsletter #43



JANUARY 1987

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## DIARY

The next few meetings will be held on:

4 February  
18 February  
4 March  
18 March

All meetings are held in the Shakespeare Hotel on Gibraltar Street, near Sheffield city centre.

## 1987 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Don't forget, this is your last opportunity to pay at the reduced rate:

Adult Membership	£10
Junior (under 16)	£3
Family Membership	£12

After this month, the full rates will apply:

Adult Membership	£12
Junior (under 16)	£4
Family Membership	£14

Remember, if you don't take out an annual membership, it now costs 60p (30p if you are under 16) per meeting attended.

## FREE GAMES DISC

This month's (Feb) A & B Computing has a 5.25 disc stuck on the cover, containing a copy of Logotron's new maze game called XOR.

It can be booted up three times, and the first five levels of the game are available. If the disc is booted a fourth time, a code number is given and the game cannot be played; quoting this number to Logotron, and paying them £9.95, will get you another number to type in, which unlocks the disc, and allows the entire game to be played. Doubtless the sales of A & B will be increased this month by would-be hackers trying to crack the protection!

## USER SHOW

The next Electron and BBC Micro User Show will be held in Manchester on 20 to 22 March. Yes, only six months after it was last there, the show returns to the Reynolds Building, UMIST in a couple of months' time. Entry is £3 for adults and £2 for children, but you can save £1 off each by ordering tickets in advance - there are coupons in this month's Micro User and Acorn User, or ring 061 480 0171 for credit card orders.

## TELETEXT

Morley Electronics claim in their latest advertisements that their Teletext adaptors are now compatible with the Advanced Teletext System (ATS) software that is now being broadcast by the BBC. Existing users have been experiencing some difficulty since the BBC started using the new system. The advert does not say anything about upgrading existing equipment - I should be interested to hear how any of our members with Morley kit get on about this. The adaptor costs £119.95, incl VAT, with p&p £3 extra.

Channel 4 are transmitting a test program for the Beeb, but neither myself nor Henry Brook have managed to download it so far with the Acorn adaptor, with either the original TFS or the ATS rom! Perhaps it works with the Morley! Channel 4 (4Tel) are supplying their own adaptor at £89.99, which they claim should download their own and the BBC's software. Has any member any experience of this adaptor?

This month, The Micro User is offering the Acorn adaptor for £69.95 with the TFS rom, or £74.95 with the new ATS rom. Both prices include VAT and p&p.

Dave Brown

## KERMIT

KERMIT is a file transfer system that enables files to be moved between micros and mainframes. It consists of programs running on both systems, setting the buffer sizes, baud rates, etc required by the two machines, and performing error checking of the data. It is freely available, as the following quote from the User Guide shows:

"KERMIT is a system, devised at the Center for Computing Activities at the University of Columbia in New York (CUCCA), to permit the simple and flexible transfer of data from a microcomputer to a mainframe or another microcomputer. CUCCA retain the copyright on KERMIT (the programs are not 'public domain'), but have published full information on it and permit anyone to implement it on their own machines, provided this is not done for commercial purposes and that copies are sent to them for distribution. The result is that KERMIT is now available on a very wide range of machines indeed: very few micros and mainframes do not have a KERMIT of some sort suitable for them, and the programs can be easily acquired from the Lancaster University KERMIT distribution service."

Lancaster University, the UK suppliers of KERMIT, also provide a 65C02 assembler, similar to ADE, which, they say, "can be used as an alternative to the ADE assembler to process the KERMIT sources; it can also be used for any other purpose and can be freely passed on to others under the same conditions as the BBC KERMIT files themselves"

If anyone is interested, I have the package, consisting of sideways rom images of KERMIT and the assembler, plus full documentation in the form of Wordwise files and spooled text for printing on an Epsom printer (all 200+ pages of it!) on three double-sided single density 80 track discs. I have also made an Inter-Word version of the KERMIT User Guide on a double-sided 80 track disc.

Dave Brown

#### WHAT'S IN THE MAGS?

A & B COMPUTING, Feb 1987, Vol 4, #2, 116pp + disc, £1.50

##### Features & Programs:

ADFS Menu - sideways ram & rom / 3D curves / Rondaxions (Galaxians-type game) / Program & screen design / Sideways ram utilities / Advice on upgrading from a Model B to a Compact / Guide to word processing

##### Reviews:

Technomatic's MultiForm Z80 second processor / Red Boxes / Watford's external rom box for the Plus / Mijas 6502 development system / Statistical packages (incl program) / The Domesday System / Minerva Systems' School Administrator / Commstar 2 / Plus the usual games reviews, incl Ravenskull

THE MICRO USER, Feb 1987, Vol 4 #12, 164 pp, £1.25

##### Features & Programs:

Machine code (assembler) course / Chinese wordprocessor / Machine code games (collision detection) / Arrays / Choosing a spreadsheet / Beeb for TV script production / Use of Beeb as an oscilloscope / Rhondo shooting gallery game / File date stamper (Master) / LIST hold / Wordwise+ index / Variable name compressor / Networks / Choice - educational program / Map grid reference program

##### Reviews:

MicroCodil language / Vine's matrix rom / Viglen's 27Mb hard disc / Emergency First Aid program / Folio wp / Plus the usual games & adventure reviews

ACORN USER, Feb 1987, #55, 186pp, £1.30

##### Features & Programs:

Co-ordinates / Assembler control with flags / Plotting programs linked to ViewSheet / Build an interface to control your Beeb by whistling / CAD program for embroidery / Tree of Pythagoras / Econet file transfer program

Reviews

Dataprobe educational db / Micro-Aid's Family History / 'The Software Business' by Meyer Solomon (book) / Clares' Artroom (Compact) / Printing utilities / Joysticks for the Compact / Plus the usual games, etc

Dave Brown

COVER

This month's cover was designed by Ian Brown. If you want to draw a cover or write an article for the Newsletter, please contact Dave Brown or Pete Frith.

WANTED

80 track disc drive - if you have one 'going spare', please contact John Fryer to haggle the price.