

NATGUG *NEWS*

Volume 7

Issue 4 October 1985

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
National TRS-80
& Genie Users
Group.

INFORMATION ON THE GROUP

Membership of the Group is by subscription to the Newsletter, which is published monthly. Membership details are obtainable from the Group Secretary. Membership of the Group is open to anyone with an interest in the TRS-80 range of microcomputers, and compatible systems such as the Video Genie.

Details of the Group accounts, and the constitution of the Group, are obtainable from the Secretary.

Members requiring assistance with problems related to the TRS-80/Video Genie may call the Secretary. An attempt will be made to put them in touch with a member who can help with the problem.

Workshops are arranged from time to time in various parts of the country.

Sub-groups exist in many areas. A list is provided in the Newsletter from time to time.

The Group maintains two software libraries (Models I and II) which are free to members. Library lists are obtainable from the Secretary.

For confidentiality reasons, the membership list is not generally available, but members may ask the Secretary for a list of members in their area, and mailshots to all members may be arranged.

Back numbers of the Newsletter are available from the Secretary.

Please send all contributions for the Newsletter to the Editor.

Chairman and Newsletter
Editor:-

Leon Heller,
8 Morris Walk,
Newport Pagnell,
Bucks. MK16 8QD.
Tel: (0908) 613004

Secretary and Newsletter
Publisher:-

Brian Pain,
24 Oxford Street,
Stony Stratford,
Bucks. MK11 1JU.
Tel: (0908) 564271

CONTENTS

2. Information on the Group
3. Editorial
4. Members' letters
5. Oggy Oggy Oggy
6. Labelmaker
7. Disk novice notes
10. TRSDOS 1.3: more useful info.
13. Kiss me back!...
15. For sale and wanted
16. Keep - hard disk utility
17. Keepscan - hard disk utility

EDITORIAL

Tandy are now selling the Amstrad machines in their shops, and it looks as though the Model 4 is going to be dropped. The Model 1000 has been reduced in price, and is probably worth considering by members wanting to upgrade. Apricot (formerly ACT) have launched a new machine rejoicing in the name of Zen, and seem to be pulling out of the low-end of the market, so I don't know what will become of the Computerworld stores they set up with Tandy.

The Swindon workshop looks as though it will be a success. Bob Sparling told me that the hotel had received 30 or so bookings at the beginning of October.

Now that the C language is getting more popular, I feel there is a need for a UK C Users' Group. I've decided to organise such a group, along the same lines as NATGUG and QUANTA. Please send me an S.A.E. if you are interested. I envisage a bi-monthly newsletter initially, and a software library. The library will be quite comprehensive from the start, as we'll be able to get the entire library from the US C Users Group. One important group activity will be the translation of the US library, which is mostly written for the BDS C compiler, into something acceptable to the more Unix-compatible compilers (like C/80 and Lattice C) that are more popular in the UK.

Leon Heller

TRS-80 and a VAX.

At the college where I work we now have VAX. The old PDP has gone. Members are invited to log into my account and play. The Phone number is 0582-411842 (24hrs), the protocol is 300 baud, disable, 8 bit word and 1 stop bit. The prompts are USER, two returns, BPain and Password 566660. Mailbox is available but called MAIL, BASIC is no problem and leaving BASIC use EXIT; leaving the system is LOGOFF. Can you try leaving a VISICALC file on BOSWORTH-password PLUMBING as one or two of us would like to transfer spreadsheet data over the Phone. Another idea is to ring in your electricity and gas meter readings for comparison with others. BASIC programs are transferred using the ASCII format and are saveable on the VAX. Just type NEW and send the file across; this is then SAVED. To prove the file exists EXIT, type DIR and then return to BASIC. Type OLD FRED and then LIST the program and that is how easy it is. Best of luck.

Brian Pain

MEMBERS' LETTERS

Another request for assistance from someone who finds his Model 1 still the ultimate in home and office technology. (A very minor windfall may allow me to look at secondhand Model 4s around Christmas time!) If any one could suggest a relatively simple method of transferring Visicalc files from double density Newdos80 disks to double or single density SmallDOS disks I would be most grateful. I should like to take advantage of the PRF facility on Visicalc if the word processor W4W + I have on SmallDOS can operate with such files.

If anyone has LDOS, Sole, any accounts packages or a print buffer for sale, please do give me a ring.

Chris Oldman
38 Clifton Gardens
LONDON W9 1AU
01-286 3755

Firstly I would like to thank the member who telephoned me about a month or so ago with the answer to my problem of changing SCRIPSIT's default for paragraph indent: great! Now I don't have to type "`<BREAK>I=0<ENTER>`" each time I start up.

I have just come up with a possible answer to a problem which he put to me at the same time, but unfortunately I cannot remember who it was, so I'll have to tell it here and hope he knows who he is!

The problem involves getting a sheet-feeder to operate from SCRIPSIT, the problem being that it required a "hard" formfeed character. My solution presupposes that he is using LDOS and one of the modified versions of SCRIPSIT which allow you to send printer codes directly.

Before going into SCRIPSIT, invoke the LDOS Printer Driver with the "FFHARD" Parameter. This will make sure that any formfeeds sent are sent to the printer as such and not as a string of linefeeds as is usual. Now, to make your document send a formfeed character at the end of each page, first set up a footer which begins with a number of blank lines equal to the difference between Bottom Margin and Page Length, and then follow this with the special command that sends a printer code, and send `X'0C'` (12 decimal). Now, change Bottom Margin to equal Page length (because the bottom margin is now being done by the footer), and everything should work. My printer (Microline 80) doesn't have a formfeed capability, so I can't test it.

Now a couple of points from the August issue. "Anon" mentions that when booting Multiplan on the 4P "...the silly box tries to load the ROM image". In the April 80Micro a letter under the heading "Fast Boot" gives the solution: "Boot up any working TRSDOS 6.X disk and copy the BOOT/SYS.LSIDOS file from your working system disk onto the Multiplan disk using the Copy command". I wonder why Multiplan does this? It would be interesting to find out if only copy-protected disks do it, and if so, is copy-protection removed when BOOT/SYS is copied? I don't possess Model 4 or 4P so I cannot say if the method actually works. If you have SU+ I strongly recommend you do as "Anon" did and copy the Multiplan disk first.

Vernan Blackmore may be interested to know that his directory program

will also work on Model-III LDOS if the EQUates are changed to suit, but it will not work with TRSDOS. Model I TRSDOS 2.3 doesn't possess a module for displaying the directory except for the library command itself, while Model-III TRSDOS 1.3 only has this module on system disks and it is a bit difficult to copy or remove system files due to their non-entry in the directory. However, I have done an investigation on TRSDOS 1.3 system modules and you should see an article, hopefully in this issue, which describes them. If you want to try and convert Vernan's routine for TRSDOS, you will need *10 on the disk, and also *4 because it will be called from the directory module if there's an error. You will also need *2 and *3 for opening, closing and killing files, you might get away without *1 (the command interpreter), and I'm not sure about *0 (the resident part of DOS, equivalent to SYS0) because it appears to include the BOOT sector as well, I suspect that some zapping and sector copying may be required to get rid of *0.

Finally, Vernan's program will run into problems if the disk being read is a write-protected disk and you are using it on a one-drive system, because it will try to use SYS4 to display the "Write Protected Disk" message. It will be necessary to have SYS4 resident or have it on each of the "abridged" disks.

R. P. Sainsbury.

Park Farm Nurseries,
Landford,
Salisbury,
Wilts. SP5 2BE.

OGGY OGGY OGGY

I write this month still reeling from the shock of finding that Tandy no longer list the Model 4 in their catalogue - better close ranks chaps, we are an endangered species after all! The main thing is not to panic - after all, how long ago did the good old Model I cease production, and how many are still working hard? As long as software continues to be available, and updated, then we've still got many years ahead yet. One thing I will say is that I would consider that NATGUG could have an even more important role to play now and I hope that those people in conflict can find ways to achieve unity. 'Divided we fall much quicker' etc, etc. Leon, don't you dare even hint at a 'told you so' !!!

The increased interest in CP/M has been questioned by many members recently, largely because in many eyes it is an obsolete system. Yes, compared to something like NEWDOS80 then CP/M is very slow - but you can't have true ND80 on a Model 4, and compared to Eldose then CP/M ain't so slow after all! The things that appeal to me as a Model 4 user about CP/M are that software seems to be pretty bomb-proof, and that there is plenty of it in quite good quality. Take time at Swindon (you ARE coming, aren't you?) to take a hard look at CP/M software in operation.

On the subject of CP/M, I picked up a book allegedly introducing the subject the other day. It was priced @ £10.95, applied to all machines, and I quickly put it down again; may I please propose a vote of GREAT THANKS to Dave Holman for his very excellent series which came to an end last month. Well done, Sir!

I see that Super-Utility is now sold fully UNPROTECTED - whatever are the copy-anything whizz-kids going to spend their energies on now ?

Well that's about it this month. Just think, last week I went to Shepton Mallet to see a 'Rare Breeds Show' - next month at Swindon I'll be one of a rare breed, a TRS-80 exhibitor!

See you there !

David Washford, 6 Houston Way, FROME, Somerset BA11 3EU. (0373) 72739

L A B E L M A K E R

I would agree with David Roberts (Natgug July 1984 p23) that the Labelmaker (available from Molimerx) is a very useful programme. Being American in origin, it short-sightedly does not have the £ sign. I have thus replaced the '\$' symbol in the machine-code programme 'GRAFCHAR' by a reasonably acceptable £ and the change I made in the second sector is shown below. I should add that one has to choose a character which is sufficiently wide to enable one to design a £: I first chose '#' for replacement, but this was somewhat too narrow.

There must be a number of programs which enable one to enter lines of text of any chosen number of characters (not limited to the 13 as in the Labelmaker) in 'JUMBO' characters. I should be glad to hear from members who have a program of this kind.

Bill Cowhig 21 Priory Road SALE M33 2BS Manchester 061-973-3604

£ 4 1 . 6 3 NATGUG NEWS

```
£ G00£5555 5555 55FE FFFF C7C7 FFFF FE0D 550F£UUUUU££££££££.U.
HEX R10 1F3F 7F7F 7FFE FCF8 F8F8 FCFF FF7F 3F1F££££££££.
DRV A20 0F55 5555 5555 550D FFFF FFFF FFFF FFFF£.UUUUUU.££££££££
1 F30 7C7C 7C7C 7C55 5555 5555 5555 5555 5555£!!!!UUUUUUUUUUUU
TRK C40 550D FFFF FFFF FFFF FFFF 1F1F 1F1F 1F1F££££££££.....
12 H50 1F1F 1F1F 1F1F 1F3F 3F3F 3E0D 0103 06FE£.....??>>....£
TRU A60£FCF0 F00D 5555 5555 5555 550D 5555 5555£££££.UUUUUUUU.UUUU
12 R70£5555 550D 030F 1F3F 7F78 F0F0 E00D FFFF£UUU...££££.££
SEC 80£FFFF F£55 5555 550D C0F0 F8FC FE1E 0F0F££££UUUU.£££££...
01 90£070D E0F0 F078 7F3F 1F0F 030D 5555 5555££££??...UUUU
STD A0£FFFF FFFF FF0D 070F 0F1E FEFC F8F0 C00D£££££££££££££££.
ODD B0£0303 C3C3 F3F3 3F3F 0F0F 3F3F F3F3££££??£££££££££££££££
FPDE C0£C3C3 0303 0D55 550C 0C3C 3CF0 F0C0 C0C0£££££.UU.<<£££££
RSEC D0£C0F0 F03C 3C0C 0C55 550D 5555 5555 5555£££££££££££££££
0001 E0£5555 5555 5555 5555 5555 5555 5555 5555£UUUUUUUUUUUUUU.U
+00 -F0£5555 5555 5555 0303 0303 0355 5555 5555£UUUUUUU....UUUUU
```

XX

DISK NOVICE NOTES

Same novice, different novitiate. 2 years ago I had the cassette situation pretty well in hand, but I couldn't have told you which side of a disk was up. Today, by dint of rummaging in rubbish bins, I have accumulated some 2.5 Tandy systems, to wit:

- Mimi (Mighty Micro), my 4-year-old faithful, now rejoicing in twin drives and 48K;

- Bibi (Big Brother), a Model 4 with twin drives and 128K, faithful so far (just running SIR) except for one horrific screw-up (seemingly caused by a power spike) that set me back a week; and

- Sicki, a twin of Mimi which as far as disk operation is concerned has hitherto defied the best Tandy brains I know on this island north or south.

Once a year around this time I say to myself, "Where would I be without NATGUG?", and write to the *News* about it. This time I want to say a few words about some software horizons opened up for me by disk.

VISICALC

Not being a businessman, I needed a spreadsheet least. This one came as part of a package, and handles all the accounting I ever expect to do. I am also using it for purposes that have nothing to do with accounts or even with money. It's where most of my number-crunching gets done.

SCRIPTSIT

In my word-processing I could hardly wait to get the printing versatility promised by the Scriptsit enhancements Scriptsit-Plus and Powerscript. From

what I have seen of the former, it is slick and speedy. However, I have so far really used only Powerscript -- firstly because I got it first, secondly because it runs with TRSDOS, and thirdly because its commonest format commands seem more streamlined. Of course, if I could put my mind to them, maybe GEOFF SMITH's Scripsit-Plus macros could do even more for me. But in any case I can say that Powerscript and its upgrade have been more than worth to me what I had to shell out to Molimerx for them.

DOTWRITER

But of course it was Dotwriter that really fulfilled many of my printing dreams. For a start, if I see this piece in the Newsletter it will fulfil a dream -- of getting something in there that won't make anyone reach for a magnifying glass!

I am amazed that I haven't read more about Dotwriter, that magic wand that gives almost unlimited versatility to the humble Epson MX-80. Being put on the track of Dotwriter is among the several things for which I have to thank ARIELA TAYLOR and DON BANNISTER.

SIR

In database management my co-workers and I have done some heavy work with Selective Information Retrieval -- a periodical index, a library catalogue, various personnel files. I am grateful for what I have learned about this program from pieces in the Newsletter by DEREK TRAYLER and JOHN ARTHUR. I am still trying to figure out a lot of little quirks I find in it. Meanwhile I must mention here just one lesson I have learned from it for my own benefit that may be of benefit to others.

It is good to keep sortable columns short.

Any increase in the speed of sorting is the least of the benefits of this.

More important is the fact that, if you need a long column, by splitting it into a short sortable column and a non-sortable extension, you can use all the characters on the keyboard in the extension, not only alphanumerics, blanks, and full stops. That obviously matters with bibliographical references.

But more important still is the fact that, if you need to get as many records as possible (say, 2,000) into one file, you can get the whole of any sortable column from that file into the available 33K or so of RAM for sorting *only by keeping the longest sortable column as short as possible* (say, 10 bytes). You need room for those 10 bytes, plus 4 for the record number, all multiplied by 2,000, plus a bit of spare memory.

AND BEYOND TANDY?

I am now preparing to use PFS:File, which with hard disk and true Model 4 mode can handle 32,000 records and 4 megabytes. There is so much I can still do with my Model T machines. I am not yet ready to return them to the rubbish bin.

Moreover, before I do so, I must name names in connection with what I have described above as "the best Tandy brains I know on this island". I give you DON BANNISTER, who dazzled me with the cleverest bit of diagnosis-by-letter I have yet seen. I give you TREVOR HUTCHINSON, who has time to spare to help even on his wedding anniversary. Before the TRS-80 passes into history, let history record that there were giants in its days.

Pariq Digan, Dalgan, Navan, Ireland

TRSDOS 1.3: MORE USEFUL INFO.

=====

PAUSE FOR A PATCH.

Hypathetical situation: You've just typed in the command to DD a BUILD file which will patch a program, and it is displaying something like "PAUSE Modifies PROGRAM in drive 1", with the request to "Press (ENTER) to continue" below. Suddenly you realise that you don't know which disk it's on. Now, with LDOS, you could just hit BREAK, and abort back to LDOS Ready, and check your directories, but TRSDOS 1.3 will just ignore you - you'll have to reboot to abort. What's needed is a patch for the PAUSE routine that will response to BREAK - and here it is!

PATCH *6 (ADD=60D7, FIND=FD4CB7200EC50601, CHG=4036CB572007CB47)

PATCH *6 (ADD=60DF, FIND=21, CHG=28)

PATCH *6 (ADD=60E0, FIND=0000CD400038F6, CHG=F5E1AFC93AFD4C)

PATCH *6 (ADD=60E7, FIND=C1E1C9CDEF60E1C9, CHG=B7CA30402A154422)

PATCH *6 (ADD=60EF, FIND=3A4038FE0120F9, CHG=1144213040E3E5)

PATCH *6 (ADD=60F6, FIND=AFC9, CHG=18C6)

Don't be tempted to combine the 2nd line with the 3rd despite the fact that it "looks" possible, because PATCH will not cross sector boundaries - I know, I tried and got "String NOT Found" and a half-patched program! For those inquisitive people who want to know how this works, execute "LIB", then execute your machine-code monitor (which must reside above 7000H - I use MON5), and start disassembling from 60CFH.

PAGING ALL FILES....

If you have been following the two "Patch Work" articles in 80Micro, You will be aware that they include patches to change the scrolling DIRectory into a page-by-page display. The latter of these (Patch 20) uses the PAUSE routine to display the "Press (ENTER)...." message at the bottom of each page. there is a slight flaw in these routines in that, if the number of files to be displayed is one less than the number which forces a pause, the top filename gets pushed off the top of the listing by "...Free Granules" Etc. To fix this, change the "CHG" part of the line which patches address 616DH so that the "80" that follows "3A" is changed to "40". With this modification, you do not then need the line in Patch 20 which changes address 6111H, because this just stops the message from scrolling, which now doesn't matter. If you have added my patch for PAUSE, you also get the added benefit of being able to BREAK out of a long directory listing when you've found the file you want.

HELP WITH LIST.

One of the other patches supplied in "Patch Work II" is one to reverse the operation of LIST so that it defaults to an ASCII listing unless you use the new HEX parameter. Since one tends to forget it has been done and start head-scratching when you get ERROR 11, I added this patch to modify the HELP file. You could add this onto Patch 15 from 80Micro so that the whole shooting-match is done at one hit:-

PATCH *8 (ADD=57A1, FIND=46535045432058, CHG=20465350454320)

PATCH *8 (ADD=57A8, FIND=285B4153434949, CHG=205B285B484558)

PATCH *8 (ADD=57EE, FIND=4153434949203D, CHG=484558203D2048)

PATCH *8 (ADD=57F5, FIND=20417363E96920, CHG=6578206C697374)

PATCH *8 (ADD=57FC, FIND=546578742C, CHG=696E672020)

OH! NO SYSTEM!

Attempting to use TRSDOS to back up a data disk formatted with Super Utility is a bit of a disaster - after formatting the blank disk in drive 1 it just aborts with "0 NS" at the top of the screen. "0 NS" is TRSDOS's way of telling you that drive zero doesn't contain the system module it's looking for, which is pretty obvious because we are trying to backup a data disk from it! If you try a single-drive backup in drive 1, or from drive 1 onto a system disk in drive 0, you'll then see that it aborted because it thinks that you are trying to backup an earlier version, which it cannot do.

The reason for this state of affairs is the BOOT sector. This sector is the same on system and data disks, and ALWAYS expects a program to load, starting at sector 2. On system disks it is of course the resident DOS system, on data disks it is a short program that occupies a small part of sector 2, to tell you you've booted a non-system disk. When SU+ formats a data disk, the BOOT sector it puts on is just the short routine to print the message, leaving sector 2 blank.

Now is where the fun begins! On the TRSDOS BOOT sector, byte FEH holds a BCD representation of the DOS version number while byte FFH holds "28H", which equals 40 decimal, so is probably intended as the number of tracks. This is not contained on our disk's "short" BOOT, hence TRSDOS's reluctance to accept it! It would of course be possible to zap these two bytes, but that only gives us another problem. Byte 22H is a "limited backups counter" (see my article in NATGUG June '84), and this is slap-bang in the middle of the message on the "rogue" disk! So now, TRSDOS will copy the thing, but it treats it as a limited-copy disk which cannot be write-protected while being backed-up, and whose boot message (and those of it's copies) changes with every backup!

Of course, you can use Super Utility to make backups of the disk, but it is a bit silly to have to load SU+ just for this purpose. The solution is fortunately simpler than the explanation of the problem! All you have to do is to copy sectors 1 and 2 of track 0 from a data disk formatted by TRSDOS, (NOT a system disk!), and it's now copy just fine!

SERIAL NUMBER PLEASE.

During my investigations for the above, I also found out that bytes F4 thru' FB hold the serial number TRSDOS displays when booted. This is held as BCD, reading from left to right with leading zero's suppressed in the bootup display. If you want to number your disks, zapping these bytes to form a suitable number is one way to do it, but there is one caveat - DON'T DO IT on disks which have had the SU+ "Repair BOOT" put on, because this doesn't support the serial number (which is why it displays a rubbish jumble after it has been used), and doing so with crash the boot process. You can always copy a good BOOT from another disk if you want to modify the serial number on such disks.

GIMME MORE SPACE, TRSDOS!

The directory entries for TRSDOS 1.3 system files are stored in the last 32 bytes of the HIT sector (track 17, sector 2). Each file is represented by 2 bytes, with the first pair corresponding to *0, the next pair to *1, and so forth up to *14, with the last pair containing FFFF to indicate a "non-allocated" file. Remembering that we are talking in HEX, each pair decodes as

follows: The leftmost digit, when divided by 2, indicates the starting granule of the file, ranging from 0 to 5. The starting sector is calculated as "Starting Sector=Starting Gran*3+1". The second digit holds the number of granules occupied by the file, so multiplying by 3 gives the number of sectors. All system files can only have one extent. The final pair of digits hold the track number where the file begins. Killed files (as on a data disk) are indicated by FFFF. It appears that it is quite easy to delete any unwanted system modules to get more space. The method to use is described below, but remember that it is a bit experimental, so try it out on backups first.

1. Using Super Utility, display Track 17 sector 2.
2. Do a screendump so you can put things right if you muck it up!
3. Go into modify mode, and move the cursor to byte E0H.
4. Now, counting the bytes in pairs from the cursor, (which represents the position for *0), move the cursor until you are over the one you want to kill.
5. Replace this pair with FFFF. CHECK IT! Press (ENTER) and U, to update the sector.
6. Now go to one of the "Disk Directory" displays and check in the list of system file numbers that the one you wanted to delete is not there. If you've deleted the wrong one, you can use the screendump I know you did in step 2 (!) to get it back. (Don't for goodness' sake copy the HIT from another disk as a "shortcut", because you'll render other files inaccessible!).
7. If it's right, do a "Repair GAT" to recover the space.
8. BOOT the disk and check that the deleted module, when called, causes "0 NS" to appear instead. For instance, if you deleted *12, then calling "NAME" from BASIC does this.

You can recover the killed system file(s) ONLY until you've done a write to the disk, using the screendump to zap the original numbers back into place and re-running "Repair GAT" to reallocate the space.

Ignoring *0 - *4 (which should never be deleted!), the functions of the modules is as follows: (courtesy of a listing from SNAPPWare):

- *5 Debug (3 Grans)
- *6 Append, Attrib, Auto, Build, Clear, Clock, Create, Date, Dir, Do, Dump, Error, Free, Lib, Load, Pause, Prot, Rename, Time. (6 Grans)
- *7 Backup and Format (6 Grans)
- *8 Help (6 Grans)
- *9 Copy, Dual, Forms, Kill, Master, Patch, Relo, Route, Setcom, WP. (5 Grans)
- *10 BASIC's error messages and \$DSPDIR routine (2 Grans)
- *11 List, Purge, Tape. (4 Grans)
- *12 BASIC's overlay for NAME and CMD"C" (2 Grans)
- *13 BASIC's overlay for CMD"J", CMD"D", & CMD"X" (2 Grans)
- *14 \$FILPTR & \$RAMDIR routines. (1 Gran)

If you try this you may notice that you appear to gain 2 more Grans than you should have! This is because all TRSDOS 1.3 system disks seem to have two "locked-out" granules which aren't allocated to a system file, and SU+ releases these whenever it does a "Repair GAT" operation, or any operation which adds or deletes files.

USEFUL ADDRESSES.

Here are some useful undocumented addresses within TRSDOS 1.3:

4203 Cassette Abort Vector: Jumps here if BREAK hit during tape read. Goes to 4030 in DOS, changed in BASIC.
4212 Cassette asterisk flash counter: useful bolt-hole for temporary storage if tape not being used.
42AE Break key enable: C9=on, C#=off.
42B1 Saves keyboard vector during DO.
42B3 Master drive: 0-3 (0 is default).
42B4 If 55H, causes memory from 5200-HIMEM to be wiped on return to TRSDOS Ready.
4413 Highest drive in system: 0-3, set during BOOT.
4415 Saves HIMEM during DO.
4454 Routine to scan parameters on command line.
4457 4-byte table of directory tracks for each drive.
4CFD Do Active Flag: FF=Active, 0=Normal.
4F58 Software Write-Protect drive: 0-3 or FF if none.

Roy P. Sainsbury, Park Farm Nurseries, Landford, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 2BE. Telephone: Romsey (0794) 390319 after 6pm.

KISS ME BACK!.....

Having grown with Tandy from the original 4K model with bouncing keyboard and the amazing(!) upgrade to lowercase then on to 16 k Level 2 and even further by persuading them to exchange for the new keyboard, I never could afford the quantum leap to disks due to the cost of the interface. However 16k lasted me a long time and I kept it, but always being in the spearhead of technology bought in succession a Dragon for the colour, then a Colour Genie, a Newbrain because I thought it was portable. It was with a great battery pack that lasted an hour, then the Model 100. Finally after much debate I obtained the BBC a good machine and with 32K (until you start using it and as usual find this memory has shrunk.) Still I went mad at the time and bought a disk and found myself in a different world.

So the Tandy I went to a friend as a backup for him, which he uses in business. The Dragon and Genie went leaving me with the BBC and the 100 so I thought NATGUG no longer had an interest for me and my sub lapsed last December.

Suddenly out of the blue, another friend(?) persuaded me to buy a single disk Model 16 at a giveaway price and I could not resist it, so I am now back in the fold and renewed my sub from last January (having ditched my back issues of the newsletter.)

Three manuals, Scripsit 2, Visicalc and Profile Plus and Forms and I was overwhelmed. (I still am) and once again I am having the love hate relationship with Tandy renewed.

64K is a lot when you have been used to 16k or a funny 32k and the disk contents unbelievable.

However here we go again...the manual says that you cannot format or backup a double sided disk for TRSDOS, but you CAN although only one side. Something you cannot appear to do is format/backup a TRSDOS 2 4.1 TRSDOS 16 4.1. Now this seems incredible that a computer could be put out without being able to produce disks. Maybe I am missing something. The friend I bought it from has now a double disk Model 16 so in the event I can get him to make backups, but if I was on my own....

Scripsit I notice gets some stick over the years, but having come back to it from View on the BBC it seems wonderful.

I believe in doing things the easy way if possible that is the meaning behind the heading KISS Keep It Simple Stupid and in many ways computing can go over the top unnecessarily. The simpler things are, the less bugs. In this mood I offer the following short programme, Typist, which I find useful for a quick note or envelope instead of getting into Scripsit. A cheap and cheerful typing method. No sophistication but handy and newer members(and longer standing) may find it of use.

The line width is eighty characters ,but can be changed of course, corrections can be done as normal by backspacing and retyping within the line, but on pressing enter the line is sent to the printer so make sure that it is correct first.

Double etc line spacing by pressing enter and when finished type in END. You are then able to take as many copies as you like by answering the prompts.

You are able to also send printer codes for different lines by typing , STOP, and typing LPRINT CHR\$(etc . The codes shown are for the EPSON MX 80.

Give it a try ,it is something a little bit low tech but will no doubt appeal to some members who like me are not into machine/assembler.

There seems to be a lot of comment ,some in NATGUG news and also in a number of recent mags , one Computer Age, the re-incarnated Electronics and Computing, extolling almost drooling over the virtues of the MC68000 processor, that it is the chip of the future. Once again, am I missing something or more to the point are Tandy as the Model 16/Model 6000 has a MC68000 and no one seems to even notice this although it has been about for some time now. Ah well, as we all know Tandy is like that. One of the dissapointing things that they did do was to cut out the Monthly Newsletter, even though they started to sell it,it was worth it for the corrections(!) to the bugs and other information which it is now so difficult to get hold of. It may be fine for the States where they are serviced by several mags but here where the only one appears to be Micro80 and that has cut out the Model 100 and Model 16 articles now.

Scripsit allows you to dribble on a bit but I hope that these meanderings of a longtime Tandy fan(!) have not been too tedious. By the way, now that most of the Tandy Computer Centres have closed, are the ACT centres dealing with Tandy goods? Whenever I look through the window I see no evidence of this, and Tandy sources appears to have buttoned up.

As an aside I had to break off as the neighbour came to the door to say she had just arrived home from a ten mile drive and found a cat in the engine compartment!!! So I have just taken it back to the area none the worse for its hot ride.

Ray Cox, Leicester, 708097

```
100 '***** TYPIST ***** R.F.COX 1st SEPTEMBER 1985 *****
110 ' FOR USE ON MODEL 2 AND 16...WILL BE OF USE ON OTHERS IF
120 'PARAMETERS ARE CHANGED....IE PRINT @
130 '+++++INITIALISING+++++
140 X=0
150 '
160 CLEAR 2000
170 DIM A$(40)
180 '+++++INFUT ROUTINE+++++
190 CLS
200 PRINT"THIS IS LINE ";X+1;" INCLUDING BLANK LINES."
210 PRINT
220 '
230 PRINT TAB(30),"TYPE IN LINE UP TO 80 CHARS.";
```

```

240 PRINT
250 PRINT "      TO END TYPE IN  END  "
260 PRINT "  TO SEND PRINTER CODES  STOP  "
270 'NEXT LINES MARK END OF PAPER(80 CHARS) AND TAB MARKS
280 PRINT @ 400, "<START":PRINT @ 440," ";
290 PRINT @ 456,"^":PRINT @ 476, "END  "
300 PRINT
310 X=X+1'      LINE COUNT
320 '
330 LINE INPUT A$(X)
340 IF A$(X)="END" OR A$(X)="end" THEN 380 ELSE 350
350 IF A$(X)="STOP" OR A$(X)="stop" THEN GOSUB 480
360 LPRINT A$(X)' PRINT OUT OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
370 GOTO 190
380 '+++++ADDITIONAL COPIES SUB-ROUTINE+++++
390 CLS:PRINT
400 PRINT"PRINT OUT OF COPIES"
410 PRINT
420 PRINT "IS PAPER SET IN PRINTER??? YES PRESS ENTER ":INPUT Z$
430 FOR Z=1 TO X-1
440 LPRINT A$(Z)
450 NEXT Z
460 PRINT"Do you want another copy??? ": INPUT Z$
470 IF LEFT$(Z$,1)="Y" OR LEFT$(Z$,1)="y" THEN      ELSE 140
480 '+++++PRINTER CODE SUB-ROUTINE+++++
490 PRINT" THE DOUBLE QUOTES BELOW SHOULD BE TYPED IN AS DOUBLES"
500 PRINT" WHEN USING THE PROGRAMME"
510 A$(X)=""
520 PRINT"TYPE IN THE CODE REQUIRED AS , "
530 PRINT" LPRINT CHR$(nn), ENTER, THEN  CONT  "
540 ' NOTE THAT SINGLE QUOTES BELOW SHOULD BE TYPED AS DOUBLE
550 PRINT:PRINT"ENLARGED  CHR$(27);'W';CHR$(1);"
560 PRINT "CANCEL WITH CHR$(27);CHR$'@';"
570 PRINT
580 PRINT"ITALIC      CHR$(27);'4';          CANCEL WITH  CHR$(27);'5'
590 PRINT
600 PRINT"ELITE CONDENSED  CHR$(27);'M';CHR$(15);"
610 PRINT " CANCEL WITH CHR$(27);'P';CHR$(18);"
620 STOP
630 RETURN

```

FOR SALE AND WANTED

* * W A N T E D * *

80-Micro, April 1984 issue. Will pay
Equiv. cover price if good condish.
Alternatively, photocopy of the article
"Bugs from Outer Space" and the related
program listing, or loan of mag. to copy
article.

Contact Roy Sainsbury, Park Farm Nurseries,
Landford, SALISBURY, Wilts. SP5 2BE.
Phone (0794) 390319 after 6pm.

**WANTED **

Model I monitor (hardware not software)

David Hedges
Leicester 884474

```
=====
REV 1.1      : UTILITY                      TITLE : KEEP
=====
SUMMARY      : Create a keeplist file of individual files
                requiring backup.
-----
DESCRIPTION  :

Program used to assist maintenance of hard disk.
Although LDOS provides a modify flag on directories, there
is difficulty scanning a large hard drive if it is
partitioned into pseudo drives. This facility allows a
list to be created of files requiring backup.

-----
SYNTAX       :

lbasic run"keep"

PROMPTS      :
    File to keep : ?    <- name of file to be kept
    Diskname     : ?    <- name of hard drive partition
-----
NOTES        : Advanced facility for Hard Disk users.
                The keeplist produced can be scanned using
                a further program, if required to create
                automatic JCL.
-----
EXAMPLES     :

run lbasic "keep"

File to keep :? ANYFILE/CMD
Diskname     :? ALDOS162/DSK
-----
COMPONENTS   : KEEP/BAS
-----
AUTHOR       : Edward Rashbrooke           : 12 Mar 85
=====
```

```
10 'keep : keep list of files to be backed up
20 'Created : Edward Rashbrooke 11 Mar 85
30 '
40 CLEAR 1000:DEFINT A-Z
50 OPEN"EO",1,"keeplist/txt"
60 LINEINPUT"File to keep: ";A$
62 IF A$="" THEN GOTO100
65 LINEINPUT"Disk name   : ";B$
70 L$=LEFT$(A$+"          ",14)
75 L$=L$+LEFT$(B$+"          ",9)
76 L$=L$+MID$(TIMES,7,2)+ "/" +MID$(TIMES,1,5)+MID$(TIMES,9)
80 PRINTL$
81 PRINT#1,L$
90 GOTO 60
100 CLOSE
110 CMD"s
```

keep/bas	hard1	85/03/11 01:23:42
aldos005/dsk	hard1	85/03/11 02:08:39
move/asm	hard1	85/03/11 02:08:52
aldos024/dsk	hard1	85/03/11 02:14:14

```
aldos040/dsk hard1 85/03/11 00:07:43
aldos062/dsk hard1 85/03/11 00:07:35
hcat01/cat aldos072 85/03/11 00:09:49
aldos061/dsk hard1 85/03/11 00:27:51
aldos075 hard1 85/03/11 00:30:50
aldos082/dsk hard1 85/03/11 00:34:09
mx80/bt aldos083 85/03/11 00:35:40
aldos090/dsk hard1 85/03/11 00:36:36
aldos096/dsk hard1 85/03/11 00:40:00
```

```
=====
REV 1.1      : UTILITY                               TITLE : KEEPSCAN
=====
```

```
SUMMARY      : Scan a keeplist file to identify files
                requiring backup.
```

DESCRIPTION :

Program used to assist maintenance of hard disk.
This facility allows a list of files created by KEEP/BAS
to be scanned, so that appropriate BACKUP action can be
taken.
The file will have been created using KEEP/BAS.
For each file requiring backup, it is possible to execute
the required commands to perform the backup operation.
It is then necessary to confirm that the backup has been
successfully performed.

SYNTAX :

lbasic run"keepsan"

PROMPTS :

```
CMD> ?          <- Any LDOS utility command
                  (Can perform as many as required)
File backed up (Y/N)? <- Asks whether required file
                        has been backed up.
```

NOTES : Advanced facility mainly for Hard Disk users.
 Once the file has been backed up, it will no
 longer appear on the KEEPSCAN listing, although
 it will still be stored in KEEPLIST/TXT.

EXAMPLES :

run lbasic "keepsan"

Screen shows :

```
ANYFILE/CMD      ALDOS162/DSK 85/03/12 17:42:16
CMD>
```

Enter a command :

```
Backup ANYFILE/CMD:2 :7
```

Next Prompt :

```
CMD>
```

Specify <enter> to show no further commands required

```
File Backed up (y/n) ?y
```

(Action for this file now completed, next file shown)

COMPONENTS : KEEPSCAN/BAS KEEPLIST/TXT

AUTHOR : Edward Rashbrooke : 12 Mar 85
=====

```

20 'keepscan : scan keeplist entries
30 'Created : Edward Rashbrooke 10 Jun 83
40 CLEAR 2000:DEFINT A-Z
60 OPEN"i",1,"keeplist/txt"
80 OPEN"o",2,"keeplist/new"
100 GOSUB 300
120 FOR I=1 TO 30000
140 GOSUB 400
160 GOSUB 300
180 NEXT
200 '
220 CLOSE
240 CMD"copy keeplist/txt keeplist/old"
260 CMD"copy keeplist/new keeplist/txt"
280 STOP
290 CMD"s
300 'read keeplist record
320 IF EOF(1) THEN I=30000:RETURN
340 LINEINPUT#1,A$
360 RETURN
380 '
400 IF LEFT$(A$,1)="*" THEN PRINT#2,A$:RETURN
420 CLS
440 PRINT"KEEPCAN : Keep list scan utility "
460 PRINTSTRING$(64,95)
480 PRINT"Filename      Disk      Added to Keeplist"
500 PRINTA$
520 PRINT@13*64,STRING$(64,95);
540 PRINT@14*64,"CMD>";
560 LINEINPUTCD$
580 IF CD$="" THEN GOSUB 660:RETURN
600 ON ERROR GOTO 800
610 IF LEN(CD$)=1 THEN GOTO 400
620 CMDCD$
640 GOTO 400
660 'write new record away
680 PRINT@14*64,"Backed up (Y/N): ";
700 LINEINPUTAN$:IF AN$=""THEN680
720 AN=INSTR("yn",AN$):ON AN GOTO 740,760
740 A$="*"+MID$(A$,2)+" "+MID$(TIME$,7,2)+"/"+MID$(TIME$,1,5)
760 PRINT#2,A$
780 RETURN
800 RESUME 400

```

*keep/bas	hard1	85/03/11	01:23:42	85/03/15
*aldos005/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	02:08:39	85/03/15
*move/asm	hard1	85/03/11	02:08:52	85/03/15
*aldos024/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	02:14:14	85/03/15
*aldos040/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	00:07:43	85/03/15
*aldos062/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	00:07:35	85/03/15
*hcat01/cat	aldos072	85/03/11	00:09:49	85/03/15
*aldos061/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	00:27:51	85/03/15
*aldos075	hard1	85/03/11	00:30:50	85/03/15
*aldos082/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	00:34:09	85/03/15
*mx80/but	aldos083	85/03/11	00:35:40	85/03/15
*aldos090/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	00:36:36	85/03/15
*aldos096/dsk	hard1	85/03/11	00:40:00	85/03/15
aldos026/dsk	hard1	85/03/15	00:25:11	
aldos005/dsk	hard1	85/03/15	00:35:40	
aldos040/dsk	hard1	85/03/15	00:46:10	