

The Computer Club

# InfoBytes



Issue 18 - October 1999

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NEWSLETTER © 1999 THE COMPUTER CLUB

# Adrian's Ramblings

Hello again, and welcome to another issue of InfoBytes (at least I think that's what it is going to be called). As you can see, I am still here, and the club is still going, though there have been some radical changes over the last few months. Before we go any further I must do two things, firstly apologise for this issue being late, this is directly connected to the second item, which is to welcome Gwen Hoskins to the role of newsletter editor! This is the first issue of the magazine that I have not edited myself (I have produced all the previous 17 almost single handed). All the full members of the club will know Gwen as one of the original club members, postal members may recall some of her previous articles – the one that sticks in my mind being "The PCW and the Moris Minor" several years ago. The change-over is the main cause of the delay in getting this issue out (along with me being ever more pressed for time), and I hope that you will all bear with us as we try this new way of working! There has already been one big change, at the meeting held last night (this tells you when I am writing this doesn't it!) Gwen was complaining that I hadn't sent her any article yet – so hopefully under Gwen's control the magazine will be a bit more punctual!

There are several other things that need to be mentioned this month – these will be covered in the separate sections through the magazine. The only other thing I want to do here is to thank all of the new members (for

those who don't know the club has been re-launched) for coming along, and considering membership – I hope this will not be the last time you read some of my ramblings! Several months ago I said I may have to give up the club, as I did not have very much time available any longer – the outcry this produced was not what I expected, as the thing most people were worried about was being without the ramblings to read. Sorry I haven't rambled too much this time. See you next time.

## — LOGO COMPETITION —

As the club has been re-launched, with a new name, and a slightly different emphasis, I feel it is time to update the logo, to reflect the changes. As I do not have time to fiddle around with ideas myself, I thought I would throw it open to the club members to come up with a new logo.

The logo can just be sketched on paper, sent on disc (3.5" please – the 3" PCW has finally given up!) as either a MicroDesign 3 file or in some sort of PC file (eg BMP, WMF, TIFF, JPEG, EMF, CGM etc.) – or e-mail it to me!

The design of the logo is totally up to you, all I ask is that it contains the club name (The Computer Club) somewhere in it – and either a picture of a computer, or space for me to add one myself.

There will be a prize for the winning entry, as well as the fame involved! As to what the prize will be – that is being kept as a surprise for later.

The closing date for the competition is the 1<sup>st</sup> January – so hopefully entries will not have any problems with the "Millenium" Bug



## Gwen's Corner

Yes, you've guessed it – I've taken over as Editor of this Newsletter. (Well, no one could mistake the lady on the front cover for Adrian now, could they?) But when I rashly agreed to this, I didn't fully realise what I was letting myself in for! I am not a natural computer buff like Adrian and Mike. In fact I only graduated from my faithful, old PCW last December, and most of what I know I have learnt through this club. Therefore, if this edition is not as perfectly polished as Adrian's publications I hope you will forgive me. However, they say practise makes perfect, so we'll keep our fingers crossed. I must admit that undertaking a project like this is a very good method of finding your way around your computer.

As members of the Computer Club, this is, of course, *your* Newsletter. So please feel free to contribute any queries, tips, articles or snippets – serious or comic – even a bit of clip art – to keep it going, and I should like to take this opportunity to thank Ian Taylor for his contribution. After all, why should Adrian and I do all the work? It will go a long way towards making the Newsletter an interesting read. (Send them to Adrian or myself by Disc, hardcopy or E-mail) It will also help me to make a success of my new position as Editor.

I read the other day that 'The English think optimism is an eye disease'. What a cheek! Are they implying that we are never optimistic? Do you agree with them? I don't – or I wouldn't be attempting this Newsletter. In fact, the reason why this club exists is because we are all optimistic about improving our computer knowledge. So, through the coming year, let's prove these critics wrong and continue to make this club a flourishing success.

Happy computing - Gwen

## CLUB NEWS

Again there is quite a lot to mention here, I have decided to use a type of list:

1. I have stepped down from the post of Secretary – I am now only the Chairperson
2. Mike Bath has taken on the role of Secretary to go with his existing Treasurer's position.
3. Gwen Hoskins has taken over the role of newsletter editor
4. Philip Jackson has agreed to help with the planning of meetings
5. Ian Taylor has offered to be the clubs unofficial publicity officer
6. The club has changed it's name, from RADSTOCK .PCW to THE COMPUTER CLUB
7. The club is now open to owners of ANY types of computer – not just PCWs but PCs, Macs etc.
8. The club has been re-launched.

All of the changes will be highlighted in the AGM report which will be sent to members as soon as I get enough time to finish writing it.

The club had to re-launch in a slightly different manner following the gradual membership decline over the last year. As it had reached the point of there only being a few full members left it was felt that it was time to do something – I can report that at the meeting last night (18 October) there was a turnout of 23 people – of which only 7 were members! I also have the names of another 16 people who are currently interested.

But please, if you are a PCW user (and don't currently need a PC) do not think you have been deserted. Most of the information that we can give out at the club is general

