£££££££££RADIO DRAGON£££££££

New series - edition 5

Well, lads and lassies, I'm writing this on Friday night, and I have
to say that already I have the feeling that it may be a quickie this
week.

I have a horrible sensation that maybe, out there on the other end of
BT's crackly wires, the initial unbounded enthusiasm for the novelty
of Radio Dragon may be wearing off just a teeny bit.

Cleggers is sending me "nil desperandum" notes...but I dunno.

There's still lots of good will at this end, but accesses were well
down last week, I'm getting zilch feedback, and there's not too much
point in committing cruel and inhuman practices on a defunct equine,
is there?

Still, we'll take it a week at a time.

*****MONTHLY LIVES OK!********

Concern for Dragon Monthly was a little premature.

   The June issue dropped through my letter-box at the end of last
week, and Wayne tells me the only reason he hadn't been chasing me for
advertising was that he thought if I wanted space, it was up to me to
shout.

Fair enough! It's a new experience though - I tend to spend half my
day fighting off advertising salesmen.

One now-defunct magazine had a rule that advertising salesmen were
not allowed to replace the telephone on the cradle, except when they
had to visit the wotsit. Having made one call, they were only allowed
to push the cradle down with a finger, then immediately dial another
number.

Anyway, so much for reminiscences! Back to the point...the June
Dragon Monthly didn't appear until July because poor old Wayne didn't
have much to put in it, and he didn't like to short- change his
subscribers. Fortunately, no-one pays a penny for Radio Dragon, so
you'll just have to either write something yourslef, or put up with
whatever I feel like dishing up.

Wayne has an nice exclusive on an adventure writing program, due to be released by Cowen Software. Last year, I spent six months trying to contact a firm in the States to sort out a licence to convert the Tandy TAG, which would have been really something. I trailed them to three successive addresses, but after the final "Gone Away" message, I gave up.

There's the first exciting episode of a machine code tutor, a screen designer, a cheat for Shock Trooper, an adventure column and reviews.

To help promote Dragon Monthly, we've taken out several subscriptions so that we can offer individual copies on our list. With luck, someone who takes one out of curiosity and likes it will whip out his cheque book and send Wayne a subscription.

At 7.50 for a year, you can't really lose, can you?

Wayne's at 24 Coal Hill Green, Bramley, Leeds 13.

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DRAGON USER LATEST

A couple of weeks ago, I mentioned at lad in Somerset who was very distressed because he simply couldn't afford to fork out for a full year's subcription to Dragon User.

As you'll recall, I rang DU to ask if we could take out a number of subs, so that lads in this position could buy the magazine from us one month at a time. We're STILL waiting for the call back they promised for later that day.

In the meantime, Frank Allen has very kindly offered to send the youngster a spare copy of the July edition of DU.

Good on you, Frank!

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LIGHT SWITCH
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Pam D'Arcy of Pamcomms has now successfully converted the Trojan Light Pen software to run from Dragon-DOS.

Inquiries to Pam at 21 Wycombe Lane, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP10 0HD, tel 06285 26232.

Following Trojan's tiff with Microdeal, the pens are now being handled by....no, mustn't say — they get enough mentions on RD.

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ALL WILL BE REVEALED....
EVENTUALLY!

I now know why the Tandy pages have been pulled off Prestel, but as I have been reliably informed that Pete and Sandie will be sampling RD this week, I WON'T reveal all yet. There's nothing I hate more than someone spoiling a good story by telling me it's untrue.

Incidentally, our custom 32 column screen (well, 30 actually, to

accommodate a technical snag) hasn't put off the hackers.

We've been BBC'd and Amstraded to my knowledge. Everyone's welcome, of course, except for the clever clogs who called in the early hours last week and used some devious device to screw up the software.

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BYE BYE GOODIES

Despite the fact that I earn my living from flogging things, I can't help being saddened by the volume of Dragon goodies I'm exporting to Spain for use with El Dragono.

It's one thing to ship out gear which is still in production, but I grieve over those terrific potentiometer joysticks which Dragon Data produced when they finally got it right. (At the third attempt.)

I've got the lot now, but with several hundred pairs in the store-room and only 11 sold in Britain so far this month, there's not much point in sitting on them, is there?

On the other hand, no-one's going to set up a mass production line to produce NEW Dragon gear at a budget price, so what happens when they've all gone to paella-land?

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CLEGGERS CRACKS IT!
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Got a problem? MBX Martin
Cleghorn on 919992757 and
he'll have a crack at it.
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>HAVING sent Moon Cresta back a number of times, I still can't get it to work. How can I use the Tandy program on the flip side?—SM

<I can't help with Moon Cresta. Anyone else had problems? With machine code, converting from Tandy to Dragon is a case of disassembling the program and subbing all JSR commands to ROM for the correct Dragon address. A program to convert Tandy Basic to Dragonese, and vice-versa, was published in the December, 1984 edition of Dragon User, available at 1.00 from Peaksoft. Harry adds: Basic programs on the Tandy Co-Co or Dragon, if saved in ASCII format, will load and run on the other machine, although you will have to manually change any keyboard peeks, as the values differ. A couple of years ago, Elkan were planning to introduce a machine code converter program, but I don't think anything came of it.

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SNEAKY AD FROM HARRY

Anyone fancy one of those smart little Epson P-40 dot matrix thermal printers? (Dead quiet, so the missus doesn't know what you're up to if you want to dump a listing at midnight!)

It'll do large, condensed and emphasised, as well as dump graphics, and it purrs out the standard typeface at 45cps. 20 to 80 columns, depending on the type-face used.

As well as taking the genuine Epson roll paper, it will also use the
Alphacom stuff, which you can pick up over the counter at any computer
store.

A load of the P-40s have just appeared in my store room, for reasons
which I haven't completely figured out yet. 44.95, if you want one
before we start getting response from the mail shot. MBX 919992757.

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---------QUICK DUMP-----------
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We still receive quite a number of inquiries about hi- res screen
dumps. Some very clever ones, which turn the dump through 90 degrees,
or magnify sections of the screen, have been published, but the
shortest effective one I've ever seen appeared in Dragon User's
letters column.

If Dip Switch 2 on your printer is set to ON, omit line 10.

```
10 POKE155,80:POKE154,64:POKE   328,0:POKE330,2
20 ?#-2,CHR$(27);"A";CHR$(8)
30 FORI=0 TO31
40 ?#-2,CHR$(27);"K";CHR$   (192);CHR$(0);
50 K=&H600+I+191*32
60 FORJ=0 TO191:?#-2,CHR$   (PEEK(K));:K=K-32:NEXT
70 ?#-2:NEXT
80 ?#-2,CHR$(27);"A";CHR$(12)
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???????JULY COMPETITION???????
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We'll have another go at giving away a priceless "I LOVE MY DRAGON"
car sticker. Nice and easy this month....I think we'll be drawing the
winner out of a big hat.

Here's a series of "one-off" pokes which play tricks on Doris's
innards.

Unless you're one of the clever clogs who knows already, try each
one, then try to discover what you've achieved.

```
1 POKE 359,60 (disabled by  POKE 359,0)
2 POKE 383,158 (disabled by  POKE 383, 0)
3 POKE 25,6:NEW
4 POKE 65313,4
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Answers to MBX 636705230 by 31st July please.