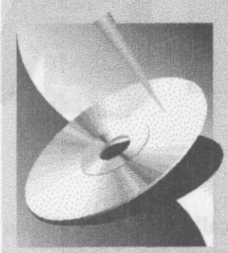
THE ISLE OF WIGHT PC USER GROUP



HOT KEY

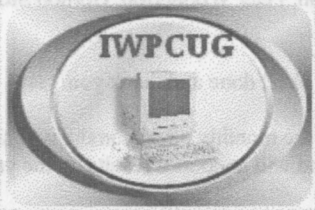
MONTHLY JOURNAL

Issue 142

September 2003

FUTURE MEETINGS

3rd September	Digital Photography	Roger Brown
17th September	Broadband	Dennis Linzmaier
1st October	Networking	Mike Collins
15th October	Hardware & Device Manager in WinXP	Dennis Linzmaier
5th November	Internet Services and Spam	Gwynn White
19th November	Show Organisation and Member's Displays	Cliff Maidment and David Groom
23rd November	The Annual Show	Cliff Maidment and David Groom



The Isle of Wight PC User Group welcomes all owners and users of IBM Compatible Personal Computers. It is a group which seeks to exchange ideas and new information. Our meetings are bi-monthly on **Wednesdays of each month at The Riverside Centre, Newport, 7.30 - 9.30 pm.**

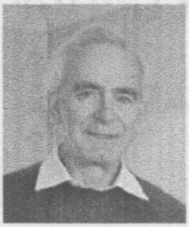
The first Wednesday has usually a formal talk whilst the third Wednesday is more informal, geared to the new user and aims to help out members with specific problems.

Membership is £12 per year.

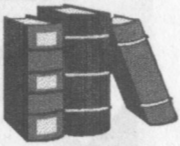
Visitors are welcome.

If you would like to know more about us, either come along to one of our meetings or contact one of our Committee Members listed on page 4.

Club's Website - http://www.iwpcug.org/



PRIZE PUZZLE CORNER
SEPTEMBER 2003
by David Broughton



The puzzle this month is on the Cover Disk as a computer program called MAZE3. (If you do not have the Cover Disk you can get a copy of the program from the web site. Go to:- **www.iwpcug.org/davidbro/puz0309.htm** where there is a link to the exe file. The program is quite short (52 kbytes) and does not require "installing" -- just run it under DOS or double click the Windows icon after you have downloaded it to your hard disk.)

This is a three-dimensional maze but because three-dimensional mazes are usually very difficult, this one uses only two levels or "floors". You swap the view between upstairs and the ground floor by pressing the space bar and you can see all the "stairways" (i.e. passages between the two floors) in one view (unlike a real maze, say in a building, where you would only see the passages around you).

When you have got out of the maze you will be given the secret code word to prove you did it. Send that code word to me (see August Hot Key page 3 for addresses) by 1st October to be entered into the prize draw.

SOLUTION TO THE JULY PUZZLE

This puzzle was to find the ages of five members of a family. From a mathematical point of view it was a problem of solving a set of simultaneous linear equations in five unknowns which is not trivial but because all the answers were whole numbers and had to be realistic to the ages of an actual family it was much easier. I had seven solutions from members, all correct. The answers were: Dad 27; Mum 23; Gerald 4; Fred 3 and Angela 1.

Solvers were Bill Maden, Michael Hodge, John Moxon, Peter Woollerton, Gordon Stonham, Peter Greenhalgh and Rob Web.

Michael Hodge won the draw and the £5 book token. Well done and thank you.

If the Hot Key fails to appear I shall continue placing the monthly puzzle on the web site in the "David Broughton's Puzzles and Programs" section and will announce results on the yahoo e-group as well as on the web site.

Hot Key is published on the first Wednesday of every month. This edition was compiled using Microsoft Publisher 2000 and reproduced on an Epson Stylus 880 inkjet printer.
The views and opinions expressed here are those of the contributors alone.
No responsibility can be accepted with respect to advice or suggestions made in this journal.

POSTER COMPETITION

Members are invited to produce a November Show Poster in A4 size to advertise the forthcoming Computer Show. The poster must contain the words: **COMPUTER SHOW - RIVERSIDE CENTRE - SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER, 10am to 4pm, Entrance £1 adults, children free**. It will be a competition for which a £10 book-token will be awarded and the posters will be displayed at a forthcoming meeting at the Riverside Centre, where the winning poster will be chosen.

Vacancy for a Hot Key Editor

The Committee Members are looking for a volunteer to edit and produce the monthly Hot Key journal.

This current edition, which is a shortened version, will be the last publication unless a member is willing and available to continue with the Hot Key publication.

Ed

Recommended Websites

Free Memory Diagnostic Tool

The free "Windows Memory Diagnostic" from Microsoft is actually a DOS-like low-level tool that runs on any system based on Intel Pentiums or Celerons; AMD K6s, Athlons, or Durons; and other "x86" compatible CPUs. The download file contains both the tool and a kind of installer application that lets you automatically create a special-purpose boot floppy, or an ISO image you can burn to a boot CD. You then boot from the floppy or CD, and the memory diagnostic tool will run automatically. The test can pinpoint the failure location, so you'll know exactly which RAM module is giving you trouble.

http://oca.microsoft.com/en/windiag.asp

PC Inspector

Here is a site that has a few freeware utilities. PC Inspector comes in many flavours, from file-recovery software to drive cloning software, and about half a dozen other variants as well. Worth a look!

http://www.pcinspector.de/file_recovery/uk/welcome.htm

Our thanks to Fred Langa's newsletter for the websites - **www.langa.com**

ISLE OF WIGHT PC USER GROUP
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Sylvia Farley

Secretary:
Christine Jenkins,

Treasurer:
Bob Groom,

Membership Secretary/Database Manager/Hot Key Distribution:
Ray Boote

Vice Chairman/Webmaster:
David Broughton,

Journal Editor:
Brian Sexton,

Computer Custodian/Cover Disk Producer:
Dennis Linzmaier,

Marketing
Derek Cox,

Show Organiser:
Cliff Maidment, 1

Committee Member:
David Groom, Bembric

Chairman - Computability Section
Roger Skidmore,

Disability Resources Co-ordinator:
Helen Edom