

Issue 8 : April : 1988 : 55p : Edited by R.Cook.

I'm afraid that the competition for Excaliber is off this month, see the news for details of Excaliber being canceled. But we do plan to still hold a competition for readers for OUM releases, in a month or two. Reviews this month are Fly For Your Life & Tri-athlon. The adventure review is Grail, by Severn. I've had many 'views' results, the full results will be printed next month. Next month the adventure reviews will be given a miss, and I will be printing reviews of strategy and simulation programs. I've had many more tips this month, thanks readers. Due to lack of space I've cut the reviews to the top 10, I think that 10 is enough, eh ?

Arcade Action.

Game: Fly For Your Life  
Supplier: FGC  
Price: £ 6.95

In this game you must fly your Orica II bi-plane over barns & telegraph poles and dodge or shoot helicopters, you cannot land because your wheels have fallen off.

There isn't much to say about the game, it's pretty dismal. The graphics are mainly low quality, although your plane is quite decent. The sound effects are also poor, and the game is not very addictive. There is an average title screen describing this 'game', but no matter what I say, this game is terrible, and at nearly £7 it's way overpriced.

Graphics: 4      Sound: 3      Addictiveness: 3      Overall: 3

Please help to compile the charts by sending us your list of top 3 games and the game that you don't like.

FOR SALE : Oric Atmos, only £ 35.00, with some software. Enquiries to John McKay c/o OUM, for reasons we will pass on the enquiry, unopened.

Apologies for this months late issue, but late news and printing wasn't expected.

Centipide: Tip by D.Ale

On screen 2, shoot away all the centipides segments except 1 part, then destroy all the mushrooms, carefully not killing the centipide. If the centipide gets to the bottom of the screen he'll grow another segment, you can shoot this extra part. Now you can score thousands of points shooting the spider, without the mushrooms or centipide bothering the progress.

If you've any comments, tips, problems, etc. then please write up to us.

Issue 9 costs 55p with an A5 s.a.e, or 90p without P&P, (first-class).  
5 month subscriptions cost £2.75 with 5 A5 s.a.e's or £ 4.50 without.  
Ayears subscription without P&P can be bought for only £10.00, normally costing £ 10.80.

Back issues are 60p each, or £1.00 for two.

OUM could expand to 8 pages, for only 70p. Please think about it.

Game: Triathlon  
Supplier: Ere Informatique  
Price: £ 7.95

This game is one of the few professionally written sports simulations for the Oric/Atmos. As the title suggests, this game includes 3 events to compete in.

Sport 1 is...Archery. You must wait until the target is in line with your crossbow then fire, the longer the fire button/space bar is held down determines the height of your shot. You get 6 attempts to reach a score of 360. This isn't too difficult after practice, and qualifies you for sport 2. This next event is rowing, and is great fun. You must move the joystick left and right, or press alternate keys, to move the oars faster.

You race a computer controlled rower who is hard to beat, their is a brilliant scrolling background of ice-topped mountains.

Sport 3 is weightlifting, you must hammer the spacebar/fire button as fast as possible to lift the weight, I found this last sport exhausting and impossible. Overall, the game features some brilliant graphics and after the events you see the winner standing on his stand, with the other two standing nearby. Up to 4 people can play, 2 at a time in the rowing. I enjoyed rowing the best, but all 3 are good fun. This is a program well produced.

Graphics: 9      Sound: 7      Addictiveness: 8      Overall: 9

Correction: Issue 6: Page 5 : Line 310 should read : 310    V\$ = KEY\$

Tips & hints.

A View To A Kill : S.Wheeler

Something not in the instructions is the ability to jump left & right, which is faster than walking. When walking, press the space bar. You will then jump in the direction of movement. If you press the space bar without walking, you will activate the action 'duck-shoot'.

Ratsplat : Robert Bray

- i) CLOAD the 2nd machine code file and then enter POKE 10117,9 for 9 lives or POKE 11240 for infinite lives.
- ii) Type CALL#5FD (Atmos) to start the game.

Xenon 1 : David Ale

On stage 3 move to the right-hand side of the screen and then stay their, now 90% of the missiles will miss you, but watch out ! Some may still come near you.

Thanks to everyone sent in tips, more later.

Charts: Compiled by readers

1)	Xenon 3	IJK	£ 8.50 p	
2)	Defence Force	Tansoft	6.95	
3)	The Hellion	Orpheus	6.95	
4)	Zorgons Revenge	IJK	7.95	
5)	Damsel In Distress	IJK	7.95	Prices may vary.
6)	Karate (F)	Gazoline	7.95	
7)	Maze Rally	FGC	6.95	
8)	Fireflash	No mans land	8.50	(F)=French software
9)	Classic rading	Salammander	8.95	
10)	Xenon 1	IJK	7.95	

Comment: Not much change this month, but Zorgons Revenge takes a fall. Note that Lone Raider rose fast, by a few places and just missed the top ten.

Tips & Hints

Knight Rider : M.Renker

Don't go to fast when refueling/repairing as you jump the chasm. At high speeds it's difficult to jump in time, use the turbo boost at an average speed.

S.A.G.A : M.Renker

Don't attempt to land on planets, lots of alien craft will track you down.

League Champions : Gary Britton

This works on 'most' versions, some versions seem immune to this cheat.

- i) Load the game as normal, and start to play as normal.
- ii) When you get a load (or often, when you pay back owed money) when it asks 'how much?', enter a minus number; example : - 45545.
- iii) Your current ammount of cash should now be a mixed up hexadecimal figure, such as : £ 3EF41B2. You should now be able to buy any players.

Attack Of The Cybermen: By G.Britton

Don't fight the enemy at first, but get out of danger then :

- i) Circle the enemy until they clump together.
- ii) Get far away, then fire into the group of Cybermen, the enemy should now fall into the line of fire.
- iii) Note: The bouncy creature may cause trouble, so kill him when possible

How many reviews do you want ? One ? Two ? More ? OUM is written to please readers, so what do you want ? Please write to me on this point.

Game: Grail  
Supplier: Severn  
Price: £ 6.95 (cass) / £ 10.95 (disk)

This game is more of a Dungeons and Dragons adventure than most others. To start, you read loads of instructions, but you can read these on the inlay card. Then you enter your name and wait for a while, which is a bit too long. Your mission is to search rooms of a number of castle levels, there are at least fifty rooms on each level ! You have to find the Holy Grail.

The level is displayed as many small squares representing each room, then you must enter N,S,E or W (for the compass directions) to move. If there is a monster in the room then you can retreat (R) or Fight (A/F). You might win and if so then you get some gold, useful for later. If you lose then you add one point to the hits number, ten hits and you're dead. Strength is also important, you lose a couple of these points when you move, and fight.

When fighting an Orc, Goblin, Dragon, Wolf or other monster, then you can lose a weapon or armour (they can be smashed) that you may have found on the way, these help in the fights.

If you find a strength potion then this helps quite a bit, you can also find gold and gems. If you meet a trader then you can ignore him (I) or trade with him (T). He will buy gems off you, for up to 100 gold pieces. When you've got all the required gold then you can buy wound salves for strength, or healing for the 'hits' points to go down, I usually have the hits at -5 or -6. You might walk into a warp, which places you on a random room, at a random level which could be dangerous if you land on a Wolf.

You can go up & down levels via stairs if they're found, or you actually might find the Holy Grail before dieing !

I first read the instruction whilst loading the game and was looking forward to playing it, but it doesn't have anything to it I'm afraid to say. The game sounds very good, but ends up as a run-of-the-mill adventure. But all that put aside, it did hold me for about 1/2 an hour.

Graphics: 3      Atmosphere: 5      Vocabulary: N/A      Overall: 5

Can anyone help S.Wheeler to go into the tent with light in Circus by Channel 8's Mysterious Adventures.

Golden Baton is getting Mr K.Leyard angry, he cannot get past the 'stupid crab' Answer: I know this solution already, luck eh ? You must get the snails and the salt. Then type FEED SNAILS and they will shrivel up, then go to the crab and then type FEED CRAB which will make him happy and leave you alone.

The competition on the next page has one winner, the first drawn out. Please send all entries in by the 21st of April, and that goes for magazine orders too.

FGC still has a couple of software titles, phone them for details.

Backpage.

News: If you wish to see Oric remain in the world of computers, then don't read this page, Oric is on it's way down, again.  
When will Eureka resume sales ? Well they might not, they've moved to cheaper offices on the outskirts of Paris, France.  
If Eureka start to sell Oric products again, then we'll let you know.  
I've been told by Phildata that they're to stop selling Oric products, this is news that just missed last months issue so readers may know it already.  
Phildata used to sell software bought from FGC Mailorder, but when FGC closed down they just stopped, but will continue with business elsewhere, apart from the Oric field.

Your Oric magazine is to close down after about 3 more issues, due to lack of interest. This is sad news, Your Oric has been a great magazine for nearly a year now, and I know that Oric owners will be sad to see it go.

Oric User Monthly software releases have been greatly held up. Excalibur and Soccer Boss were expected to be released this month. But.....

Excalibur : This 100% machine-code adventure game WAS finished, but the programmer found bugs and had spent four months producing it. When he couldn't solve the problem, he gave up. Packaging, inlay cards, instructions, advertising, etc. was prepared, for a waste of time.

Soccer Boss: The programmer has other things on at the moment, so the game will be late, but it WILL be released.

Sports Day : This has been cancelled.

Turbo : This has also been cancelled, due to low quality.

A programmer is working on Craxon 1, and another on Dungeon Of Hell. Dungeon Of Hell should be released soon, if possible it will be released next month, after nearly a year of programming & coding. Prices should be £ 1.99 - £ 2.99, or if a planned theory works, 50p !!!!!

If you've written any software, or plan to then please let us know.

The interest in Oric is rapidly declining, WE (Software) will soon stop supporting the Oric micro, as sales are very low indeed. The manager of WE (Software)'s exact word were :

" You now have to face facts, Oric is dead. "

Oric User Monthly would like to carry on forever (at least 2 more years) but we may have to close down earlier, unless more interest is shown. But hopefully, it won't come to that.

Next Month: 'View' results, news, reviews, strategy, simulation, OUM releases, tip & hints, more.....OUM May '88, be there.