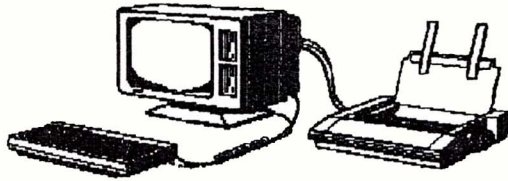


MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 95

HEADS OF THE VALLEYS PCW USERS GROUP



Club meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 7.30pm at the address below-

BIRCHACRE
CROES BYCHAN
LLWYDCOED
ABERDARE
MID. GLAM.
CF44 0EJ.

Tel. 01685-874972

Further details can be obtained by contacting either ROY UNDERWOOD on ABERDARE 01685-874972 or ANTHONY HILL on CARDIFF 01222-618012

The aim of the club is to further the knowledge of PCW users, so that they can derive the full benefit from their computer.

Help and advice can be given on most software, this includes such programmes as LocoScript, Masterfile, MicroDesign, ProScan, SuperCalc, Mini Office, Comms. The club also has a large library of Public Domain files.

A file transfer facility is available, i.e. copy files from 3" disk onto a 3.5" disk, also CP/M files can be copied to MS-DOS formatted disk's, and MS-DOS files copied to CP/M formatted disk's.

EDITORIAL

On Wednesday 17 January 1996 at 7.00pm the Hereford Computer Club (HCC) is presenting a free demonstration of computer voice control. This will be a full evenings professional demonstration of "Dragon Dictate for Windows" the ultimate in computer voice control, dictate your letters, speak your commands directly into your PC. This is the very latest innovation in computer control. The demonstration will be at The Meeting Room, NFU Building, Beech Business Park, Three Elms, Hereford. All club members are welcome.

By the time you read this newsletter you should all have received your "Club Pen". There are approximately twenty of these pens left for sale. If you would like to purchase an extra pen(s) please contact Roy. The remaining twenty pens will be sold first come first served, with the proceeds going back into club funds.

As you will have noticed by now the newsletter has shrunk. This is due to the lack of articles submitted by members. I cannot be expected to find material for the newsletter continuously without help, so if you want the newsletter to continue please try and contribute an article (or two, or even three).

ALL FORMATS COMPUTER FAIRS

17 December National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham.

AUCTIONS

16 December National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham.

Next meeting 5 January 1996 7.30pm.

MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

VDE

This is a full screen program editor installed for the PCW range of machines. The status line at the top gives information concerning the current file.

To invoke VDE type VDE FILENAME.DOC (or whatever the name of your file is) at the command line (A> M> B>), alternatively simply type VDE which will put you straight into the editor. Normally the editor, (in common with most other program editors) uses a subset of the Wordstar command set. If you don't like these - and as Jerry Pournelle said, Wordstar is everybody's second favourite editor - then run the SETKEYS utility with the VDEKEY.FIL key file. This will make the editor work with the cursor keys and some of the named keys.

A help screen can be invoked by altering the level of help the editor is currently set for. To do this use [Alt][J][H] and you will be asked to choose a level of help.

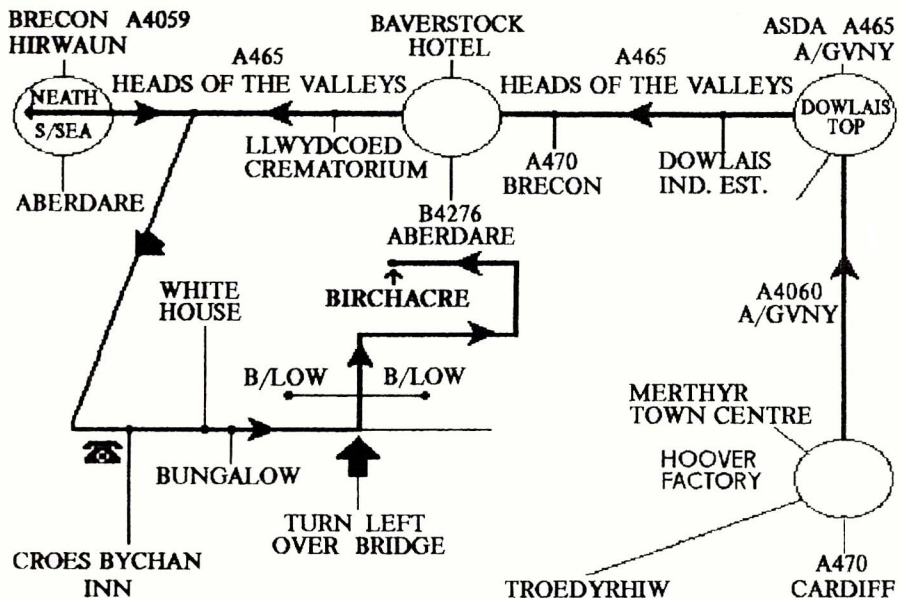
It is worth printing out the HELPFILE.VDE reference if you are unfamiliar with Wordstar. If you make a mistake the program will clear the screen and ask you to press [ESCAPE], this is the [EXIT] key on the PCW. The program will return you to the text. This program is extremely robust, you will not be able to crash it easily, if at all.

When printing the program works from the current position of the cursor, so if it is at the end of the file nothing will happen.

All files generated by the editor are purest ascii. This editor can thus be used for Basic files, machine code files, letters to mother or text for transmission down a comms link. Indeed, it is in constant use for these and other tasks being extremely small and very fast.

Like all programs the easiest way to become familiar with it is to actually use it.

VDE is on Side B of the "CLUB DISK".



Go to the last roundabout on the A470 Merthyr/Cardiff road and take the third turning left A4060/Abergavenny. Follow this road for approx. three miles to the roundabout on the A465 Heads of the Valleys road, take the 2nd turning left A465 Neath/Swansea road. Follow this road for approx. 6 miles until you come to the Baverstock Hotel on your right hand side, the next turn on the left (opp. hotel) is the B4276/Aberdare, ignore this turn. 100 yards further on is another left turn sign-posted Llwylcoed Crematorium, ignore this turn also. Carry on for another mile until you come to chevrons painted on the road indicating a right and left turn. Turn left here and [*] follow the road for 300yds. you will come to a pub on your left and a telephone box on your right (the pub is called the CROES BYCHAN INN) next to the pub is a large white house , then a bungalow, turn left after the bungalow across a small river bridge into a lane. Follow this lane for 30yds. (ignore the turnings into the bungalows on your left and right) until you come to a "T" junction in the lane, turn right here and follow this lane for 200yds. This will bring you into BIRCHACRE. If you get lost, phone (874972) from phone box opposite the pub, and someone will come and meet you.

The distance from the Dowlais Top roundabout to the turn off the Heads of the Valleys road is about 8 miles.

From Neath/Swansea take the A465/Abergavenny road for half a mile until you come to the chevrons painted on the road, turn right (sign-posted Llwylcoed) follow as from [*] above.