

Tomb Raider III Mars Rising XPress printing tips Christmas list Icons – Son of Man Plus all the regular columns

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A quick guide to the new format.

This will bring up a dialog box listing all the articles in the current **–** issue. Choose the one you want and it will appear on screen. Click to scroll the article as you read.

Word search to find something specific.

Enlarges and reduces the viewing magnification.

Click red spot and set preference for 'Max "Fit Visible" Magnification:' to 200% (150% if you have monitor resolution less than 832x624)

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Justice, happiness and givin

There has been some criticism levelled at 1984 Online recently for what is seen as excessive Microsoft bashing. The fact that A) this criticism is written and read by Mac users and B) that the opinions of our writers could actually make any difference to Bill Gates' activity is laughable. We do, however, have the last laugh as the ruling by the DoJ in the United States has shown. Now whether they can make any difference is a much wider issue for concern. They have declared as fact Microsoft's monopolistic, bullying practices – something that was blatantly obvious to most Mac users but not to the general public, i.e. the millions of Windows/MSOffice users worldwide. What will be the outcome of all this? Personally I will leave all the speculation to the business pundits and legal commentators. Whatever happens Bill Gates won't be sleeping on the streets at the end of it. Come the end of the year he will have other concerns – whether he is going to get sued for failures of his non-year 2000 compliant software, and if the recent spate of Class Action cases will proceed.

On a slightly cynical note one does wonder about his recent philanthropic generosity. Is it to make him look like a good guy concerned about the welfare of the underprivileged, or a way to shift billions before his business is broken into pieces?

And what about the Freedom to Innovate network that is supported by and has its website within Microsoft's? Since when has Microsoft had an original idea? The browser idea, which started all their problems, they stole from Netscape/Mosiac – then tried to destroy them. As they say, "what goes around comes around".

On a happier note, I recently took delivery of a G4/350 PowerMac. I know there has been a lot of bitching about the lower spec for the price but even this basic model is screamingly fast and missing those 50Mhz doesn't really make that much difference. Sure, I'm not making Toy Story 3 or Matrix 2 on it, but even 604 machines were doing a lot of high end graphics work without too many problems. Once you move up to the new Sawtooth logic board you really notice a performance difference, but again does the 50Mhz really make that much difference? As for the price – you still get more computer for your money than you did with the G3. Same with the new iMacs – higher spec, lower price.

Steve Jobs' policy of not announcing machines until they're ready to ship certainly makes sense in situations like this. If he had announced the current, shipping range we would have been all happy with them, and then further rejoiced with the release of the 500Mhz.

On an even happier note Christmas is almost upon us again. We have included a list of gift ideas for all your Mac using friends or, if you prefer, a list to give to your friends and family – a surefire way to avoid socks and hankies. And to keep in with the seasonal feeling this month's Icon is one of the original Different Thinkers.

Chris Patmore, e-zine Editor (chrispatmore@innocent.com)



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By Lee Foster

Any one who has spoken to me about computers will know that I'll always defend the Mac above all other platforms whether I know of them or not. Yes, it's a blind, unresearched argument but if you have staunch religious beliefs, does that mean to defend your religion you have to know about all other religions? No. You make a choice in life and you go with it.

Although I'm furious that Apple considers Britain too insignificant to host an Expo, localise the Mac OS and has no desire to rush to attend to problems that arise with their products, I still defend the Mac.

Friends of mine who use PC's know of my rantings and advocacy of the Mac platform and it's one such friend, aged 70 something, who asked me to recommend a computer for him as he wanted more involvement in the internet. Not trying to bully him into a decision I simply said, "If you get a Mac, any problems you have I'll be able to pop round and sort it out for you. It'll save you a fortune too. If you get a Windows PC and it goes wrong then you're on your own". The troubled look in his eye told me he was going to be an easy convert, especially since he'd often come round to my office to see how his book and web site was progressing as I created it.

I would give him the ad supplements from my MacUser magazine to further indicate that the PC myth of poor Mac support was false. except the iMac. Worldwide shortage to blame! Two weeks later and still no sign. Another week and his patience was running out. I said that because the iMacs were so popular Apple couldn't build them quick enough. That seemed to reassure him. MacWarehouse phoned a couple of days later to apologise for the delay but stated they had plenty of the iMac DV in stock if he wanted to change his purchase. He bought it. It arrived the next day.

I went round to see it after work. After my initial fascination with the front loading DVD drive, we began setting it up. Unlike the iMac advert, out of the box and onto the internet was about 35 minutes because of settings problems and ISP's refusing to process accounts etc. But. he's online now and Happy as Larry with his new toy. I keep getting emails of his progress and all his friends have been round to see it. Jack being quite a well respected man (ex physics lecturer, engineer, mathematician etc) he has quite an influence. In other

words, if he's impressed with

his Mac, he'll recommend it.

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If he's impressed with his Mac, he'll recommend it

It was of no surprise when he eventually asked, "How do I get one?" Of course, being the age of the internet, we looked at various online sites and as I'd had a good deal from MacWarehouse, (www.macwarehouse.co.uk) we visited their site with his credit card. I ordered a basic Blueberry iMac, Zip drive, printer and Norton software. Everything came the next day







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Reasons to Buy an iMac (and Be Cheerful)

By Adam Shutes

Christmas is here again. It seems to arrive earlier each year, and sap more money from our pockets. Each year the shops complain that the consumer has not spent much, and each year after Christmas we hear about the bumper, record-breaking year the shops have had.

Plus ça change.

This Christmas is an important one. No, it's nothing to do with Robbie Williams, Boyzone, and god knows who else going for the last Number One of the Millennium. Neither is it to do with the Second Coming (it must be due soon I'd have thought). This Christmas is a big one for Apple.

Apple's stock has been on an upsurge for a while hitting the high-mid-nineties recently (I should have bought when they were \$17...). And generally, the company is regarded as having

dragged itself from the brink of destruction, into a situation where it has regained the ground it had previously lost, and is even beginning to make small inroads into new territories. Apple is on the brink again, but the brink of a successful future. The first iMac was a success in resurrecting Apple, now Apple needs to second iMac (and G4) to cement this step and push their customer boundaries further. These two computers, the iMac in particular, are crucial to the future of the company.

Failure means Apple will only be a niche player in the home computer market, and success means that Apple will at last have a more mainstream role to play.

The timing of iMac N° 2's announcement meant that it was clearly being geared up for the Christmas sales. This Christmas is possibly one of Apple's most important ever.

Apple must get exposure. They must have a good product, and the product must be in the shops.

Advertising and awareness of the Apple and Macintosh brand have become more important under Steve Jobs. I saw an iBook advert on ITV the other day, and they are continuously on VHI, Sky I and Sky Sports.

This is good.

The product? Well looking at the iMac, in my humble opinion, it's the best home computer that anyone can buy. On price, it may not be the cheapest. On performance, it may not be the fastest. But combined together, the price, of the USA. This is a big nono. Apple and Macintosh are well recognised in the US to Joe Public, but in the UK, you may not get a flicker of recognition at the mention of these names. Sure, the advertising spree is trying to change this, but this sort of exposure does not produce instant results. Apple UK needs to push extra hard now

This Christmas is possibly one of Apple's most important ever

performance and feature set outplay anything else around at the moment.

This is better.

In the shops? Is the iMac in the shops? The USA situation is different to the UK/Europe situation. A Store within a store, Best Buy and accessible AppleCenters, make buying a Mac (say for a first time user) quite simple. However, in the UK things are not so clear cut. In fact it's pretty difficult to find a Mac in retail, high street outlets.

I have read that the problem may stem from Steve Jobs believing that the UK and Europe are extensions to get the iMac into as many shops as possible, before Christmas. John Lewis and (a dead iMac in) PC World is not acceptable – for the Apple company, or us Macintosh users. They need to set aside their hint of arrogance and for this Christmas go for broke at the major computer or electric stores. Dixons and Currys being two which come to mind.

If the iMac can't crack the USA this Christmas, then Apple may be small fry forever. If they can't crack the UK and Europe to some degree, then ladies and gentlemen, Apple will have left the building.



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All I want for Christmas is...err

MacMuser

By Mark Tennent

There are some of us for whom a Mac has been a constant companion since the 1980's. Many of us have a more intimate knowledge of our computers than of our partners. So when Christmas approaches and the present-buying season starts in earnest, our thoughts inevitably turn to our silicone side-kicks. But like buying a little gift for your mother-in-law, just what do you get for the Mac that has everything?

Buying a present for a Mac has so many hidden depths that a chat-show psychologist could make a career of digging them out of their squirming "guests". Companionship with a Mac can become altogether too anthropomorphic as they become playmates and business colleagues. After all, without a Mac many of us could not earn our living and then, after the shop is shut, what can beat a quickie with Lara Croft? Macs have even become sexual partners for those sad bozo's whose libido lusts after digitised pornography. At least it keeps them off the streets, away from the influence of the more usual connotation of 'Dirty Mac'.

There are some presents that can become moneyearners – for example, my scanners have earned more money in the last decade than their total cost ten times over. When they first appeared, CD burners were a sure-fire way of generating extra income by supplying back-ups for Macs groaning under the stress of over-full hard disks. Epson's Stylus Pro XL A3-sized ink jet colour printers first hit the streets in the mid-1990's, their cost was over £1500. Adding a software Postscript RIP brought the total to near on £2000 and in reality the printer really needed a dedicated Mac to drive it. What mattered if selling the prints as digital proofs recouped the expenditure in the first 12 months?

Of course there is a danger of the present becoming obsolete on Boxing Day. Who could have predicted the demise of Syquest after their removable hard disks became ubiquitous at every design studio, printer and bureau throughout the world? Buying serious software might be a little premature if Mac OSX promptly makes it useless in the three months after Christmas when it will (hopefully) be released.

It is possible that the choice of a Christmas present might even remove some of the fun from the Mac. After years of playing games using the facilities of a mouse and all the function buttons on an extended keyboard, how does one fly a modern sophisticated fighter-bomber with only a joystick and a couple of fire buttons? Controlling Carmageddon with a game pad is on a par with reversing an articulated truck into a parking bay. It looks easy in theory but completely impossible without a lot of practice.

Perhaps the best path to follow is for gratification rather than need. Then at least if the gratification is fulfilled, albeit for a short time, obsolescence does not matter. There is a story about a guy who got delayed at an airport. Being a dedicated Mac user he took out his trusty PowerBook that he just happened to have with him. Ignoring the stares and dirty looks from his fellow passengers, he plugged into a handy power point normally used by the airport cleaning staff. What he did next is so Apple Macintosh it defines the Us and Them between Mac users and "vou know who". Instead of getting down to work on some boring spreadsheet or writing memos for his secretary, the guy plugged a video into his DVD and sat out the duration of his delay watching movies.

Now that is the sort of present to get a Mac. Most of the time it masquerades as a ordinary piece of hardware but when it is most needed it transforms into a complete entertainment centre.

But then, that just about sums up our Macs, anyway. So where shall I hang its













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Going it Alone...

By Cal Fearby

Well, folks here we are again, but this time something has changed...

...not only have a nearly missed another deadline but I'm now, what's known in "the trade" as a "Lone Wolf Agent of Death!"

So... what does this mean? Well - it means that up until recently I was a fully paid-up, card-carrying member of the fulltime employed statistic of the United Kingdom. Until recently...

My employers, not wishing to spend time or money doing software development properly have decided that it's more profitable to downsize the company than to create a proper software development environment... but hey, I guess that's all part of this wonderful game of life, no?

So... I'm here in my little room and I'm alone (well almost!) Some of you may know, but mostly not know, that I have an ickle, ickle company called Infinity on the go... and basically do anything I can do that pays the bills and keeps my Kitty fed and healthy!

With this recent redundancy thing, it means that I'm going to devote more time to my ickle company!

Now, no, this isn't a selfpromotional thing, although I have thought about going down that road, this won't turn into a selfless plug (unless I really have a cool product to plug! [*smiles*]).

Anyhoo, it's a big adventure really, going fulltime self-employed and I'm doing it with no clients or anything to start with... so... it's all a bit of hell on a stick... but fun I might add!

There must be a point here, and yes I will get to it. The point being that getting the shove was the best thing to happen to me in a long time!

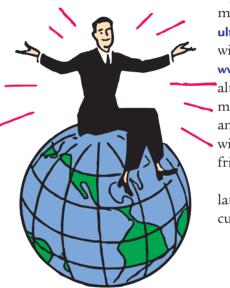
Not only have I had a great time spending the money said company gave me to leave P.D.Q - but I'm happier and feel liberated. I have extra bounce in my step now!

Don't get me wrong now, I left of great terms with said employer and recently poked my head around the door to say hi... and what a differece it makes not working in a huge nasty office!

I must admit I liked what I did, but the environment was awful and I'm glad I'm

away from it. Even though recently I've taken on doing a little temp work to pay some bills, which isn't bad, if you don't mind Data Entry and Scrubbing a Few Pans (I kid ve not).

What I will say is that changing jobs, no matter what circumstance you're in will be a hugely liberating



thing and I encourage you to take it upon yourself to have a bit of a change... enhance your lives and stuff!

Unless of course you really, really get a chubby from what you do!

As for me?

Well, I'll be doing stuff, of which I will no doubt be shamelessly promoting in and

around here, either subtly or not, depending on how much Mr. Editor lets me get away with, or how trigger happy he feels with the Command+X combination!

In closing, my fellow humans, I must bid you a fond farewell until next time or something or other... for those of you who really do want to say hi and stuff feel free to mail me on cai@infinityultra.com, and yes a web page will be up and running at www.infinity-ultra.com

although you won't find much at the moment. It'll get an update real, real soon within a week muh dear friends!

Well, chickens, see ya later... I have a date with a cup of Hot mocha!



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By Thomas Ash

When the US Department of Justice announced that, along with several state district attorneys, it would be taking Microsoft to court for monopolistic practices, many Mac users' hearts leapt. Finally a chance to prove to the world that Microsoft's operating system was not the only one in the world!

Just imagine (they thought) what could happen if the DoJ won. Well it's now fairly safe to say that Judge Thomas P. Jackson will soon announce that the Department of Justice has proved it's case and ask for remedies to be put before him. So, to ask the obvious question, what does this mean for us Mac users? (Assuming you're not some misdirected or curious user of another platform.)

You shouldn't assume that the judgement (whatever it is) will benefit the Mac. In fact it's hard to imagine a judgement which would be a boon to Apple in the short term. Apple is still not in a position where it will be supported by developers whatever happens. You don't have to go back far to find a time when even Mac staples like Microsoft and Adobe seemed to be less than 100% committed to the platform. Then Microsoft announced a symbolic \$150 million investment in Apple and a

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the Mac

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less symbolic commitment to making products for the Mac platform. While far from the only reason for Apple's continuing comeback, this went a long way in halting the downwards spiral in development and partially stemmed the tide of outrageously inaccurate reporting on the famously "beleaguered" company which only helped sales. So did Bill Gates do all this because he was suffering from a pang of guilt at having pilfered many of Apple's ideas?

No.

As a shrewd businessman, Gates saw that he only stood to benefit from his action. Apple was not in a position to start being a really serious competitor, but the case some US government body was developing was turning into a real worry. By showing that Microsoft could be trusted not to let its monopoly position in operating systems interfere with other product lines and drawing attention to a rival operating system



manufacturer, Gates hoped to undermine the government's case. Now that the trial is almost over, Microsoft has no motivation to continue with the deal

Aside from this short term fallout, what will happen in the long term? Again, there are no guarantees that an anti-Microsoft verdict would prove a boon. The fact is, the Mac cannot become the dominant operating system

Microsoft or no Microsoft. The installed base is too small and the prices too high

(simply because of economies of scale.) Apple cannot just keep on improving the software and hardware in its niche if it wishes to grow beyond it. It must do something radical and come at the market from a different angle. But that's for another article...

To be continued...



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All together now, "Duh!"

By Mark Warc

DOJ: Microsoft is a Monopoly; but is there a 'Get Out of Jail Free' Card?

The US Government now says Microsoft is a monopolist. All together now: "duh!"

Okay, next order of business: organizational triage: I personally like the idea of the operating systems business, networking business and applications business being separated. That would be wonderful.

Perhaps you are saying, "Mark, you're being too hard too early." Perhaps not hard enough others would say. Imagine the numerous products which could have succeeded had Microsoft's overbearing dominance been kept within more reasonable parameters: anyone remember WordPerfect? (Word competitor). What about Persuasion? (Powerpoint competitor). Gee, I know there are more. These products were squeezed out due, in large part, to Microsoft's predatory-like marketing skills and the overwhelming influence of Windows, thanks to shrewd partnerships between Microsoft and IBM, Gateway, Dell, Packard Bell and Compaq – just to name a few – over the years.

To be clear: I'm not trying to take anything away from the "genius" of Bill Gates, or the like. No. However, there is a

point reached when a single company can essentially dictate terms to the market – whether they ask for user input or not is irrelevant. Such a company holds the keys to all things and such a company is Microsoft.

So, now the other shoe is about to drop, the "fat lady" to sing or as we say in Texas, "it's all over but the cry'n." But is it really? In response to the DOJ announcement, Mr. Bill says, "We will try to settle out of court – doing what's right for innovation, Microsoft and most importantly the consumer" – hmmm sounds like he would rather take the likely financial hit in the form of a fine rather than go all the way.

Let's look at how Microsoft has benefited the consumer: we have a huge assortment of word processors to choose from right? Nope. Really only one: Microsoft Word. (*Nisus? – Ed*) What about spreadsheets? Must be several on the market by now. Nada: just Microsoft Excel. Presentation software? You guessed it: Microsoft Powerpoint.

That's Innovation? What Microsoft is really saying is what has been said before: "Any color you want as long as it's black." Or put another way, any critical software you need, so long as Microsoft makes it.

What does this mean to Apple and the rest of us? Ah, good question. I suspect, if Sun and Netscape (via AOL) have anything to say about it, like Apple, they will be calling for Bill's corporate head on a DOJ platter. Many believe the rendition of, "Oh Happy Day...")

The next 90 days will be the key. What will happen to Microsoft? Is this the time for Bill & the Billion Dollar Team to step down and get a life? Will Apple's stock continue to rocket? Hey, it's right at \$90 as I'm writing; if that is even a small tell-tale sign of the future for Apple,

This is the time to go for the kill, to take Microsoft down a notch or two.

handicapping of Microsoft will further empower Apple among other IT firms. This is the time to go for the kill, to take Microsoft down a notch or two. Imagine what Apple can do with a toothless Microsoft - imagine what deals Apple can make for shelf space for iMacs and G4's, or focus even more on its OS and its branding without being out paced, out-gunned and bullied by the Microsoft juggernaut. Vendors will no longer fear repercussions from Seattle! (if you listen close, you can almost hear a faint

the future looks bright indeed.

The US Government has said Microsoft is a monopolist; with any luck the next major announcement will read, "Microsoft is in pieces." Roll the dice Apple: you have a better shot now at "passing Go" than in a long long time.



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There, I said it! This is the first step into admitting that the G4 is the personal supercomputer you want. Yes I could of purchased an iMac, however my original iMac lasted me about a year and a few months. I still love my iMac, in fact it is in my Macintosh museum. I could have used iMac longer, however my tastes need speed! Lots of speed!

More speed than any Cray provides. (*Are those brothers still dealing in illicit substances? – Ed*) I meant IBM PC. The new Power Macintosh G4 is a PC, even a PSC (personal supercomputer). I would like to say I created the term personal supercomputer, however I feel Apple had this in mind but forgot to place the PSC on any of its literature on the Power Macintosh G4.

Using the G4

Setup of my G4 was as easy as my iMac. Plug the phone line in, the Ethernet cable in, the monitor in, the USB

keyboard and mouse in, any peripherals in and away you go. Press the power button and no problems, unless you call the sputtering IE 4.x causes a problem. I have been able to do things with my G4 that would task my iMac. I cannot express enough how I appreciate the efforts Apple has done to make the job of setup as easy as it is.

Apple recommends just putting it to sleep instead of shutting it down. This works great! The fan stops blowing air out as the processor is not really generating any heat. Cooler warm air blows from the back while the G4 is running. No worries about draining your life savings while your Mac is on. The little amount of power sleep mode draws is hardly anything at all. My electric bill has not increased since I have placed my G4 in sleep mode over shutdown mode. My iMac has hotter air rising up from the top of it. This probably is due to the monitor more than iMac's processor.

The inside expansion is as simple as the G3's. The model I purchased lets me have up to 1.5GB of RAM and the AirPort wireless option. Once I get that iBook in 3 years







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time, AirPort will be very useful to me.

I have had great success with current applications from my iMac with the G4. The only application that did not work as well as I have hoped is Internet Explorer. My scanner, printer and joystick worked once I moved the necessary software components into the System Folder. No fuss, a simple reboot and I am on my way. Mac OS 9 has caused a few of my applications to question their integrity. They insist that I must upgrade for them to work. I have applications which make me pay to use them again? For this simple reason I will stay with Mac OS 8.6 for the time being. I am looking forward to Mac OS X. The only real reason I would stay with Mac OS 9 is if I could not run Mac OS X.

SPEED

How fast is fast? After using a Performa 640CD DOS Compatible (68LC040 @ 66Mhz), my iMac (PPC 233Mhz) was fast. Now my PM G4 (450 w/ Sawtooth) is fast. Fast is a relative term.

For me it is how fast does the computer I am using seems fast until I get used to its speed. There has to be another way to benchmark fast. The trend I just described happens to most computer users at some time. How many times have you said to yourself, "Man! That Mac Plus is way too slow. My beige G₃ is ok, but that Plus crawls at the speed of a Pentium II!"? This is the enviable truth - no matter how fast

your computer is, there is always a faster

one.

Software developers are partly to blame. Why else would Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.x cause my G4 to stop multitasking every once in a while? IE is bloatware to the max! With my iMac I thought it was the iMac. I had to replace the CPU card in it due to a bad RAM slot. With a brand new G4 out of the box with no other software added, whenever I use IE, every once in a while, the G4's other processes will stop while IE is loading graphics. Not every time, and no other application does this. I have Adobe GoLive 4.0, PageMaker 6.5, ClarisWorks 5, MS Office 98, Outlook Express 5.0, Claris Emailer 2.0 and many games. Only IE 4.x does this. Changing the Mac OS to version 9 did not help much. Netscape Navigator does not do this weird "stop".

The only way to measure speed (in my opinion) is to use a benchmark of some sort. I have several at my disposal.

Norton SpeedInfo – a wonderful application which tells me my PM G4 450Mhz is really a PM G3 739Mhz in disguise. OK, the application is from NUM v.4 and it does not know about the G4 series, as it says I have a "unknown processor". It does show me my G4 is over twice as fast as my original iMac by Mhz alone.

Virtual PC – emulating a PC is not fast stuff. My iMac would crank away at roughly a Pentium 60Mhz speed while my G4 blazes away at a Pentium II 300Mhz. Having a comparable PC that runs at the speed you are testing, will show you the speed. I have a Pentium 60Mhz available to me (not mine), a Pentium I66Mhz (mine), a Pentium II 300Mhz available (not mine), as well as a Pentium III 450Mhz (not mine). By running a few applications (MS Office 2000, IE 5.0, Star Wars X-Wing Alliance, and FrontPage 2000) I can determine what speed these application run at. Not exactly scientific, however perception of work on a computer is a way

The idea of saying a supercomputer is in my house sounds nice.

to determine this. If it is not slow to me while I am doing my work, it is not too slow.

Seti@home – this Control Panel is a wonder to use as a benchmark tool. My G4 (450Mhz) can run any 330K of Seti@home data in 6ⁱ/₂ hours flat. NO tweaking of the system will provide this out of the box. A Pentium III 450Mhz takes 23³/₄ hours. This is definitely a way to determine speed. I have been learning that many people have their G4's down to under 5 hours by tweaking their system. I am investigating this.

The G4 loads my applications in 2 seconds flat. It is very responsiveness and has an overall quickness to it. The boot time is shorter letting me really not mind turning it off. I don't have to wait a minute for it to "warm up".

Now What?

Behind all of the specifications and technical documents saying this

personal supercomputer is very fast, is true. The idea of saying a supercomputer is in my house sounds nice. I like it. I don't mean to offend anyone, it seems to me that the Intel world thinks megahertz is the only measure of speed. Most PCs have used this as the benchmark. It is the time to also use the gigaflop benchmark as an indicator of speed. I have seen what a gigaflop can do. Without this gigaflop my G4 would be yet another 450Mhz computer. Nothing special, just a top of the line powerhouse. The new iMacs are perfect for their market, even without a gigaflop. They really don't need it, iMac would benefit from it.





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Upgradability

The main reason I spent the extra money on the G4 is longevity. The model I purchased is the middle of the road (450Mhz, DVD-RAM, 128MB of RAM, 20GB of HD). At the time the 500Mhz was king. I was fortunate to have survived the mass confusion, which resulted with every G4's megahertz being reduced by 50Mhz. I paid the price I wanted for the power I wanted. Yes there was a bit of a hassle with making many phone calls, however The Apple Store lived up to its promise and shipped my G₄ on time. I will recommend purchasing any Mac there again. After the stuff my local Apple dealer has done, the G4 incident is puny. I could go on for many more pages detailing my local Apple dealer.

I wanted slots, simple as that. The chance to plug a faster CPU card in to boost my perception of speed even further. If my iMac had one slot, I would not have my Silver and Graphite Mac today. This is the only area of the current iMacs I see would benefit them. The DVD-RAM capability to backup 2.6GB of data is nice, one other thing I needed with my iMac. I used my Color Classic II as a backup device through my AppleTalk network. It worked a bit slow as the CC II's Ethernet card was 10BaseT.

The end

I have my G4 and am willing to put it to the test. This is the perfect Macintosh for my needs. In fact, the color scheme matches my Oakland Raiders room motif perfectly!



Ten New Ways Apple is sliding into the same old crap By David Knoppler

I. APPLE PULL OUT OF MAC EXPO IN LONDON... for the third time...

One might be forgiven for calling on Steve Jobs to sack the UK CEO, except, astonishingly, this decision, it seems, came from the US and from the highest places. Looks like our iCEO is turning into a bit of an iGIL – An iGIL being vernacular for someone who practices a form of solo sexual stimulation I believe.

2. G4 PRICING FIASCO – On the off chance you missed it – this was the one where the 500 MHz chip turned out to be a mirage and the Apple solution was to sell us the next speed down for the price of the one we'd ordered.

3. AUDIO SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TOTALLY OVERLOOKED FOR **IBOOKS...** not even a mic socket – What a *faux pas* and what an opportunity missed for the educational market.

4. MP3: a format as ubiquitous as Word – can now only be played on Quick Time 4.0. Encoding MP3 has been removed, even though it was available on the Beta – explanations on a virtual postcard please. 5. MACOS 9.0 should have been called 8.7 because it boasts so few features. And the ones being marketed are steals from Windows 98 – talk about humiliating! And what saddo wants to voice activate a password? It's about as useful a gimmick as a wooly warmer for a TV remote. But then what saddo over the age of 15 would be seen dead with a bright tangerine laptop anyway?

6. STILL NO MULTI-TASKING in the MacOS

7. STILL NO MULTI-THREADING in the MacOS 8. SUPPORT FOR GAMERS STILL IFFY – Half Life initially much trumpeted as coming to the Mac has been cancelled.

9. PHOTOSHOP UPGRADE A RIP OFF – okay not Apple's fault – but it nevertheless contributes to the familiar feeling that the best thing about Apple Mac is its user base – i.e. us and that "the best thing" is about to be sorely tried again.

IO. WHAT DID I MISS? Nominate your own suggestion. I nominate Apple's intentional hobbling of the upgrade path making it impossible to upgrade a G3 chip for a G4 one. How about you?



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Apple Expo By Mac Wizard

DEAR DIARY

27/10/99

I thought I'd start with a few words about me. Unsurprisingly I am a Mac user, I have been since I first saw a IIci 4/40. I have worked on Macs for 6 years and apart from the odd Type 10 error, I have loved every minute. I debate and discuss all aspects of Apple; software, hardware, company politics and problems. You might think that sad and boring, but it's Apple that has given me the chance to sit down at a huge G4 Macintosh with all the toys and write this. It also pays for my Guinness ;-)

Apple Expo will be held in March 2000. This is because for the first time Apple are having a go at running it themselves. (I refuse to make any jokes about shipping late expos/products). I have attended an Apple show of one sort or another since 1995. (I even visited one of those 'Computer Shows' advertised on roundabouts thinking there might be some Macs or accessories there; there wasn't).

Most of these Apple Expos in the past weren't even organised by Apple. We can thank huge publishing companies like IPC and Dennis for organising these events. Unfortunately in 1998, due to Apple's poor business standing, the organisers decided to invite more PC based manufacturers and called it the Total Design Expo Creative Worktools Special Event type thing. When Apple discovered this they pulled their support and stand from the event. Leaving only companies like Adobe and Microsoft to promote the Mac. Scary to any anti-Microsoft people out there.

Working in the media, I was going anyway, and I was there to see Olympia split into 2 sections. The Mac resellers (who continue to invest the most in promoting Macintosh) and manufacturers of software and hardware on the right. On the left, companies like Heidelberg and Agfa showing off their wonderful new kit running oh so fast on cheap PC clones and NT. The saving grace of the entire show was the newly released iMac. Camelot (a large Mac-reseller based in London) had set

But why can't I find out anything about what is going to happen?

up a dozen or so iMacs running different games and made a fortune selling full setups and games. Perhaps if Apple had been there with other companies promoting the product we all adore so much, a few more machines and accessories might have been sold.

Which brings me to this (read next) year's expo. Apple has done yet another 'miracle turnaround' and increased profits, turnover and become a serious player in the global computer market once again. They are strong enough to launch an event themselves and they have enough support from 3rd party vendors to supply a computer, not just for the rest of us, but all of us.

But why can't I find out anything about what is going to happen? We can all guess that companies like Adobe, Microsoft and Quark will be there, but what about companies selling shareware that a 13 year old, whose parents bought him an iMac for his birthday, can afford? Apple are promoting the expo with a web site http://www.apple-expo.co.uk and a single press















advertisement running in Mac publications that will appeal to all Mac users, but what about the rest of the population who are buying PC's because they know no better? What about some press ads in newspapers to attract Joe Public?

I know I'm asking a lot of questions rather than giving a personal opinion based on careful research and previous knowledge of Apple, maybe with the odd witticism thrown in for good measure, but I have just shelled out £7.50 for a ticket. I called the Apple Expo hotline (Apple has contracted out all ticket sales to another company). They told me what was going to be at the show: Apple.

Maybe I am just edgy or nosy, and the show isn't for another 5 months, but if I give them my money I'd like something in return. Or is Apple going to do a 'G4' on us and drop the specification of the show, after it is announced and before it ships?

I have no idea what will be at the show. Will 'Big Steve' make it for the first time to the UK? Will we have some interesting keynotes from Apple Masters like Douglas Adams, Sir Chris Bonnington and Jarvis Cocker? Will there be anything that I, as a consumer rather than professional user, can buy/try or play with?

I, like most other UK based Mac Addicts, will be there come rain or shine. We have to. I just hope Apple can encourage the 'rest of us'.

3/11/99

I have just heard that Apple haved pulled out of the UK Apple Expo. I am too angry, disappointed and busy plotting revenge to add to this rant just yet. I would have heard earlier if more American news sites were interested in the UK market or daily news sites like http://www.macuser.co.uk were kept up to date (another rant, another time).

9/11/99

I am calmer now, but still not happy. I have discovered that they haven't taken any money for my ticket, but as we still have a few months there's still time for Apple to join and pull out again. As it has only just happened, there is still very little information, and what we knew from the start was limited. Companies like Microsoft and Adobe will be there anyway. They are dual platform and are happy dealing with everyone.

I am not going into the business or marketing repercussions regarding this decision, we will see that for ourselves and there are many highly informed journalists out there who love pontificating about Apple's business structure. My rant is purely based on me feeling hard done by.

I did compose a few emails. They were sent with anger and resentment behind every keystroke. I emailed the Editor of the **www.apple.com/uk/hotnews**. This is the man or woman who tells Europe what Apple is doing. I mentioned that I could be spamming Apple all over the board, I could quite easily and even enjoy sending large files with attachments to anyone at Apple asking why they have never been brilliant to the UK market, and why they are now shitting on us?

Apple doesn't have to run this show to make sales, or 'brand' themselves or use it as a marketing exercise. Apple HAVE to run this show to say thank you for the years of support from the UK market. We have stuck with Apple through thick and thin since they came over here and we feel very disappointed that they have just dumped on us.

I'm still waiting for any replies from about 35 emails I sent worldwide, but I do have another few email addresses and telephone numbers that I am still bugging people.

Not wishing to start any kind of revolution or riot, I would be 'impressed' if others also emailed their opinions to anyone, Apple, Adobe, Mac oriented publications; even email the big bad Bill Gates!

Whether Apple is there or not, whatever the show is called; I will be there. The next few months will decide whether I wear my Apple DogCow t-shirt or one I have just designed: "Apple Shat On Me".

Keep it sweet people

1/12/99

Apple Expo 2000 officially cancelled.

Apple HAVE



this show



thank you

for the years

of support

from the

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UK market.



Left to your own devices

Or - How to quit moaning, get with the programme and watch the future march past in all its technicolour glory.

By Michael Towshend

There is a chap in Boswednack, an acquaintance of mine, who uses his Mac IIci to keep a database of all the items in his Kinder Surprise toy collection.

He is unable to run the latest Mac OS and is petitioning the Imperial Ruler of the Universe, his Holiness Steve, to stop all further development of the operating system, and concentrate on all those people who have invested tens of pounds in older Mac equipment. He is imploring the IRotU not to abandon the Old Faithful – and while he's at it would this Holiness get manufacturers to stop making RAM over 32MB in size, as his Mac can't take them, so what's the point. This acquaintance, who for the sake of anonymity we shall call William, has plenty of time to write letters as his international mail order business based on BBC Model Bs and Sopwith Camels has recently gone into receivership.

I patiently tried to point out that we could only move forward by abandoning older technology – natural selection

and all that – but I don't think he really heard what I had to say, as he had his head buried into a Betamax, trying to fish out an old 8-track he had inadvertently put into it. There is no helping some people.

I guess, dear readers, that many of you are now shaking your heads at the stupendous ignorance of William. "Why", you implore, "don't you just upgrade. Have you not seen the wonderful deals now being offered on iMacs by our nations dealers?" I would also hazard a guess, that several of you are also among the denizens decrying the loss of SCSI, ADB and floppies from the latest Macs.

There is no doubt about it. that the loss of these standards is a bit of an inconvenience, but it is no more than that there is a simple and effective solution to each of the problems. Third party developers have been quick to fill the gaps left by Apple's decisions. But saying that Apple shouldn't abandon these technologies is, like William, a bit short-sighted. Should we all rip out our central heating and make a fire in the middle of our living rooms, simply because

some people think it's a bit expensive. Perhaps we should bring back leaded fuel; what's the odd case of leukemia if William can drive his 2 litre Cortina? As for colour TV with its exorbident licence fee...

You get the picture. We shouldn't hamstring a technology just so we can keep looking backwards. The first step in our rehabilitation from this scroogean conservatism is to stop seeing our computer purchases in the same light as our fridges and stereos. It isn't a one off purchase, the technology is developing at a rapid pace and as such constant investment is required to keep it up to date. Older systems still have their function, but we need to see them in context. Audio tapes are fine in their own right, but no one is upset that their CD player can't play them. They upgrade; they buy the CD.

To moan that you can't use your legacy SCSI devices on your new G4 is a bit disingenuous. You've just spent the best part of 2 grand, the £46 for a SCSI card is hardly going to break the bank. After all the majority of purchases by people with chains of SCSI devices and the need for new G4s are going to be professional users, not your average spotty 14 year old who has saved up his paper round money. Why should I pay more for my Mac to have a floppy, when most of my files won't fit on one? If they could, I'd just email them anyway. And in any case, the disks themselves are so unreliable, that I'd not trust them with data of any value.

This little outrage is going to seem pointless in two years' time when we are all using FireWire devices. Boy will we laugh when we remember how we used to have to wait nearly a whole two minutes for an A4 scan. We'll all giggle when we remember sending disks in the post – imagine having to wait a whole day for a file, and that's if it arrived in working order.

Those of you still not convinced, grab your ZX81, get on your horse and join William at his The Past Is Not What It Used To Be Club held every third Wednesday at the Boswednack Scout hut. Just wait a few months 'til he's out of the rest home – a minor explosion with his gas lighting.







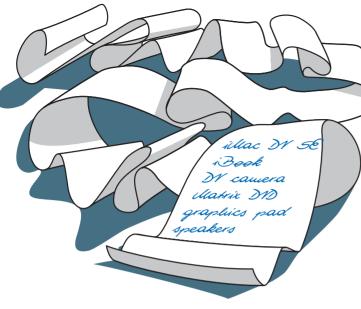
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Some gift ideas

With Christmas becoming even more of a consumer fest as the years pass we thought we would help with your buying decisions for your Mac using spouse, lover, child or friend or something from them to you. Without listing the obvious - who wouldn't like to find a iMac DV SE or an iBook under the tree? - I have tried to make suggestions that come in under £150.

Hardware

Global Village 33.6k Fax Modem (£25) For those with older 9 pin serial port Macs this is a real bargain. It gives reasonable internet performance and has great fax software. Only available

at this price from Jigasw (www.jigsaw24.com)



GlobalFax software (£25)Gives iMac, G3 or G4 internal modems the award winning fax software. (www.globalvillage.com)

SCSI card (from £40) Cards such as Adaptec's 2906 allow old peripherals to be connected to the new

G₃/G₄s. (www.adaptec.com)



USB mouse (from about £15) Can't get along with the hockey puck

mouse that comes with the new machines? There are plenty of replacements available such as Kensington Mouse-in-a-box.

(www.kensington.com)



USB keyboard (about £50)

If you need the extra F-keys or something more spacious for your fingers then a new keyboard (such as iKey from Macally www.macally.com) will make your life easier.



PCI USB adaptor (from £25) Gives older Macs

entrance into the ever expanding world of USB peripherals. Shown is Entrega 2 port card (www.entrega.com)



USB to serial adaptor (from £35) Lets old serial peripherals

connect to new machines. Not usually AppleTalk compliant.



InterView video capture (£90) Get video into a USB Mac. Includes Strata VideoShop 4.5 (www.interex.com)



Kritter video camera. Monitor top camera ideal for video

zip drive (from

conferencing and as a web camera. (www.irez.com)



£80) universal removal storage

format. Now up to 250Mb format (www.iomega.com)



Ink jet printer (from £110) Hewlett Packard and

Epson are the main suppliers of quality printers.

(www.hp.com www.epson.com)



Scanner (from £80)lots of different

options Umax, Agfa, Epson and Microtek all make excellent low priced scanners.

For the artists



Graphics tablet (from £80) No digital artist should be without one. Wacom's USB PenPartner comes bundled with Painter Classic

(www.wacom.com). Shop around and you may find CalComp ADB tablets at very good prices.

MetaCreations 3D bundle (£99) Poser 3, Bryce 3D and RayDream 3D in one bundle. Check your favourite mail order supplier. UK only.

sized packages. The 250,000

pack is great for £70 and

and Kai's Photo Soap.

comes with 1500 Agfa fonts

(www.novadevelopment.com)



Clip Art (from £30) Nova Development's Art Explosion offers various







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Games

That's really down to taste. Check out Games Pad in this and previous issues for some recommendations. Disney and Living Books CDs are great for kids and Myst/Riven is still a classic.



Game pad/ joystick (from £20) If you play games one of

these will really heighten the

playing experience. Shown is the Gravis GamePad Pro (www.gravis.com)

External speakers (from around £40 upwards). Enhance the pleasure of music, games and DVDs on your Mac.

Some other suggestions



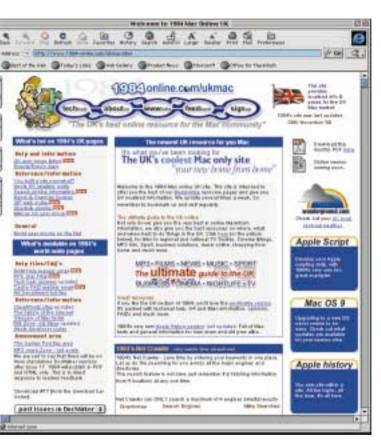
Mac OS9 -They'll either love you or hate you for this one.

Subscriptions to a Mac magazine. Most subscriptions come with a gift such as software. (www.macuser.co.uk www.macworld.co.uk www.digitmag.co.uk www.macformat.co.uk)

www.macformat.co.uk

Domain name registration (from £10) Lots of offers available. Check out the local Mac or Net magazines. DVD films. If you have a new iMAc DV or other DVD enabled Mac or PowerBook get yourself a film to fill in those quiet moments. I recommend The Matrix or, for the kids, A Bug's Life.

Elsewhere in this issue are some other suggestions and recommendations, such as books. I hope these ideas make your Christmas shopping easier and help you with hints to drop around relatives.



www.1984-online.com/ukmac

1984 Online has added a new section to its web site filled with information relevant to what's happening (or not) here in the UK.

All the great stuff you've come to expect from the 1984 team but completely localised for the UK. Links, guides and technical help for those who live in this green and pleasant land. We may not have an Apple Expo but we can keep you informed with the latest developments and rumours, plus our usual incisive, independent look at the latest releases. New sections will be added regularly so let us know what you want.



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Don Chambers





SoundJam MP 1.1.1

REVIEW KEEPING AN EYE ON

THE LATEST RELEASES

By David Knoppler

The Leading MPG Player and Encoder for the Mac It worries the record industry to death, but punters love it – the format is MPEG – offering up to 16 bit sample rates at 44.1Mhz and close to CD quality, this ubiquitous compression format for music has swept the Internet.

There are a bewildering variety of utilities and music software applications for the Mac - but for MPEG (or MP3 as it's more commonly known) Casady & Greene's new SoundJam MP is easily outstripping all oncomers for title of best new audio product. It offers not only playback but also fast smooth encoding together in one application, plus a quality Mac style, user interface and a very useful ten band graphic equalizer together with virtual pre-amp. These features aren't just window dressing either - they actually work rather well - I encoded a track at a significantly lower bit rate but was able to compensate with a couple of tweaks to the equalizer – this means smaller file sizes and faster easier duplication and transportability one of the key reasons why MPEG is giving the record industry sleepless nights. Even reducing the file size from 320 Kbps to 160 Kbps but tweaking the EQ I was able to deliver a far better sounding track by A/B comparison than the full 320 Kbps format in QuickTime - though such reduction is entirely optional.

SoundJam MP's sleek grey, brushed-aluminum interface, somewhat evocative of Apple's QuickTime Player, thanks to the equalizer, is actually somewhat more detailed, offering a variety of vertical rather than horizontal sliders though no Favorites drawer. However, curiously, my latest version of QuickTime 4 didn't recognize files converted by SoundJam to MP3 format. Odd.



effects that gloop around in time to the music.

In common with most other MP3 players, SoundJam MP can create a sequence of songs to store in a playlist. There is a choice of multiple playlists and you can even drag and drop songs from one playlist to another. More importantly SoundJam also plays live feeds from the growing number of Web sites that offer MP3 streaming. You can even include live streams in playlists. The bundled Arboretum Realizer plug-in is useful here.

The MP3 file format achieves it's impressive compression by, among other things, discarding certain frequencies so an MP3 file will never sound quite as good as an audio CD – however both the equalizer and the Realizer plug-in will to all intents and purposes recreate lost frequencies and improve the bass and stereo quality.

Encoding MP3 tracks from CD is as simple as Toast's drag and drop – insert an audio CD, a couple of clicks and your done. You can also connect to an Internet CD database and auto-retrieve by track and artist names. This is I believe the first Mac encoder that can encode directly from a CD without needing to first copy the CD to the hard drive. On my 300Mhz

PowerPC, SoundJam encoded at an average speed of 2.5x (two minutes of a audio took one minute to encode), significantly

QuickTime 4 Player



Sound Jam GUI

If the esthetics of the grey platinum design aren't to your liking – you can alter SoundJam MP's appearance by switching the "skins" provided – even converting MacAmp skins to work with SoundJam MP. It also comes with some interesting screen saver

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faster than MPecker Encoder. A full CD would take less than half an hour to encode. Unlike AudioCatalyst 2.0, SoundJam MP doesn't support variable-bit-rate (VBR) encoding, whose sound quality some MP3 specialists prefer. But SoundJam MP can play back VBR files, whereas Apple's QuickTime Player can't.

Please also note, for those interested in providing live broadcasts from their Server, significantly, this feature is not offered with SoundJam at present – nor it seems with any Mac product yet! – quite a large hole in the MP3 market and one Casady and Greene told me they might plug with a later version.

Windows servers offer several applications to address this – notably WinAmp which has a DSP plug in that can broadcast live – and of course Real Audio has streaming sound – the quality of which I would say suffers by comparison – though its smaller file sizes still make it online market leader for live streaming. At time of going to press I've not been able to discover the state of play vis a vis Unix servers and live streaming audio.

Macworld recently said "SoundJam MP is hands down the best MP3 player for the Mac" and I agree... it's a winner. I'm not alone in that view – a quick visit to the Maccentral.com/forum will reveal almost universal praise for this neat little application.

Test it for yourself by downloading a seven-day trial version. To purchase online you'll have to part with \$39.95 - which seems fair value for money.



UNDER



REVIEW KEEPING AN EYE ON THE LATEST RELEASES

Adobe Photoshop 5.5 To upgrade or not?

By David Knoppler

Call me old fashioned – but when I buy an expensive, major upgrade, I expect the new product to be better than the one I traded up from – that isn't really the case with the upgrade from Photoshop 4.0 to 5.5.

What you're really buying as far as I can see is new web functionality and that comes almost exclusively in the form of Image Ready 2.0 – a product no longer sold separately.

£149 plus tax seems steep for a few graphic refinements to make them web friendly, when there's adaquate shareware out there offering the same functionality for significantly less. Expect also to find a number of previously easily found items harder to locate and annoyingly the upgrade screws up



Phototools 3.0 – and the PS versions are inferior. This a problem professionals (for whom time is money) really don't need. The tutorial in the 5.5 CD, which I'd hoped might give me some "ooh ahh" value for money, looks for QT3.0

not QT 4.0 and when it incorrectly can't locate QuickTime on the HD, fails to run at all.

Photoshop remains my favourite application but I'm waiting to find a new feature to make me go "wow that's really neat!" – if you know of one perhaps you could write and tell me.

My recommendation: Unless money's no option stick with Photoshop 4.0







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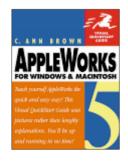
KEEPING AN EYE ON THE LATEST RELEASES

Buy the book **UNDER**

Bu Darren Edwards

Christmas is getting closer, the turkey is getting fatter and my hard drive is filling up. Top of any good Mac user's Xmas list is RAM and internal CPU upgrades, but as a present or general stocking filler there is nothing like a good reference book.

So here I am ready to aid the Christmas rush for presents, with a selection of books I have found full of facts and helpful information. I'd recommend checking out www.amazon.com or www.amazon.co.uk wherever you are in the world for price changes and bargains. In the past I have always found Amazon efficient and cost effective, go to their site or phone your local stockist and quote the ISBN number for service.



Title: Visual QuickStart Guide -AppleWorks 5 for Windows and Macintosh Author: C. Ann Brown Rating: A full 10 out of 10 **Publisher:** Peachpit Press Pages: 224 pages ISBN: 0201354039 Price: US \$15.95, UK £9.95 (@ Amazon)

True to the Mac

What Macintosh could be complete without a trusty copy of AppleWorks. It is a flexible word processor, spreadsheet, graphics, database and telecommunications program. Probably the best integrated solution for home office paperwork and computer text in general.

There are those who favour Microsoft Word and it is true to say if you need bells and whistles it is a good choice. But who

really needs to add 2-4Mb to their Extensions folder after installing Word?

Information packed

As with all Visual Quickstart Guide books you'll find this an essential buy. If you are new to AppleWorks, or still only using the word processing modules, this will release the true power and versatility of AppleWorks.

The book shows users how best to add cross platform capabilities, Internet and multimedia features, such as QuickTime to documents, adding flair and practicality to text, databases and drawing files.

To sum up

Over all a book packed with easy to follow instructions, tips and techniques. Backed up with clear illustrations and a well thought out approach. I found it easy on the eye to read and even picked up a few things I did not know AppleWorks could do!

Considering all Macs sold now come with an AppleWorks CD or pre-installed, this book is an invaluable addition to anyone's Christmas present list.



Title: Visual QuickStart Guide: Mac OS 9 Author: Maria Langer Rating: A bulging Santa's belly full 10/10 **Publisher:** Peachpit Press Pages: 376 pages **ISBN:** 0201700042 Price: US \$14.39, UK £9.95 (@ Amazon)

Release the power

I hate being consistent but Visual QuickStart Guides are just great books, you could not pay me to say anything bad about them. In general they are always well researched and in many ways much better than the 'Dummies' range of books from IDG.

It's all in here

The book is fantastic value with over 350 pages of information







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ready to save you time, energy and hair loss. Upgrading to a new OS is always slightly fraught with difficulties. Learning a new way to do things and finding the features you knew how to use are all part of the fun and pain associated with OS's.

The author has really added maximum effort to give the reader minimum hassles, all the pitfalls are covered and the benefits, short cuts and tricks of Mac OS 9 are covered one hundred percent.

Every new feature is explained simply and effectively, nothing is left to chance. You'll even find a trouble shooting section to help out if things just don't go your way.

If you purchase Mac OS9 this Christmas for yourself or a friend, make sure you buy this book as well, you'll not regret it.



Title: Macworld Mac Upgrade and **Repair Bible** Author: Todd Stauffer Rating: A bulging Santa's belly full 10/10 Publisher: IDG Books Pages: 940 pages plus a CD-ROM ISBN: 0764532170 Price: US \$31.99, UK £19.95 (@ Amazon)

Getting under the shell

If you are a first time buyer or just starting to collect Macs this *is* the only book you'll need to buy to keep you happy. Macworld books are famous for their practical approach to the Macintosh. Whatever your questions might be about upgrading options or digging out that old Mac to repair you'll find it in the pages of this book.

Information, information and information

From the front to the back cover you'll find the book enlightening and full of the things you want to know about saving money and time, by fitting the best suited option for your Mac rather than buying the latest and greatest craze.

Not only is this book full of helpful guides to making your Mac a powerhouse but it also covers how best to customise your Mac to your personal needs.

Whatever

your questions

you'll find it

might be...

in the pages

of this book.

It is worth it?

The cost of the book is guite hefty but in my humble opinion I'd buy it if I needed a bookshelf companion to keep my Mac in great shape. My only grumble was the CD-ROM. Most, if not all, of the information is available free on the Internet and without the addition of the CD the price could have been brought down.

What you get is very helpful advice, a consultant would probably cost ten times as much to give you half the information. It's definitely worth the cost if you are looking to upgrade your PPC, G₃ and iMacs in the near future. The advice is priceless as the book also covers troubleshooting and general maintenance of processor upgrades, SCSI (II and wide), IDE, FireWire, USB, RAM, Cache, removable/storage drives, networking, Internet access/modems, PowerBooks/mobile computing, serial, video, audio, 3D expansion cards, DVD and future technologies.

OK that was my main three, but here is a quick selection of other great books to keep you on top of the Christmas tree this year.



Title: The Macintosh Bible 7th edition Author: Sharon Zardetto Aker Publisher: Addison-Wesley. **ISBN:** 0201874830

The 7th edition of the popular "Bible" series is just as good as its predecessors and once again

packed with hints, tips and information on your Mac (with over 1,000 pages you'll expect that). From humble 16Mhz 68k Macs to present day speed demons it's all in here. An excellent present for any level of Mac user.



Title: Apple Confidential Author: Owen W. Linzmaver Publisher: No Starch Press. **ISBN:** 188641128X

A great read for any Mac fan. Step back in to Apple's shadowed history and see who learnt

and forgot the problems of the past. Just as good as 1984's own well documented FREE history pages:

http://www.1984-online.com/applehistory/history.html

















Title: Visual QuickStart Guide - Adobe GoLive 4 for Macintosh and Windows Author: Shelly Brisbin Publisher: Peachpit Press. **ISBN:** 0201354772

If you are serious about web design there is no better package on the market than Adobe GoLive 4. This book will make your ideas come to life online in no time at all, it'll also give you a few new ideas you never knew you could do.

Read this and you'll get the most out of GoLive, no doubt about it.



Title: Create Your First Mac Web Page in a Weekend (includes CD-ROM) Author: Steve Callihan **Publisher:** Prima Publishing **ISBN:** 0761521356

Once you've mastered your HTML design

application you'll need to understand the concepts of what looks good and where to put it. This book does just that.

You can again find all the information on the 'net written in this book, but I'll very much doubt if it is as highly polished or explained as well as Callihan has done it. A beginner's dream book to have - everything laid out simply and professionally, ready to get you started. This book really will get your web pages online in a weekend, guaranteed sleepless nights for all the right reasons!

There you go, my magnificent 7. Enjoy a happy and peaceful Christmas. I hope you and your Mac get what you want from Santa, but only after I get mine!



Tomb Raider III **Review and tips**

By Darren Edwards

She's back

If the question is "Was it worth the wait and does the lycra stretch enough?" frankly my answer would be yes.

I am no real fan of the Tomb Raider series, so I thought I'd make a pretty poor reviewer, but as it happens I liked this vision much more than the last two jaded installments. If you take it as a game and not just a jaunt with a girl looking like Dolly Parton packing too many weapons in all wrong departments, I found it challenging and surprisingly fun!

You'll also need a Mac with a bit of power, I suggest anything you can use with a Rage card and plenty of MHz.

So what is new?

The general game was worth the wait, there is no question about that. Faster graphics, slicker game play, improved Lara handling and a new gore setting that reduces or increases the blood spillage, to keep the game respectable for younger players.



The whole ambiance of the Tomb Raider experience is greatly boosted by many new and improved background effects, sounds and scenery. You'll also find your enemies much smarter and harder to kill, they'll not just stand there and be shot at, you'll have to chase and be chased.

The major benefit made plainly clear within a few

articles





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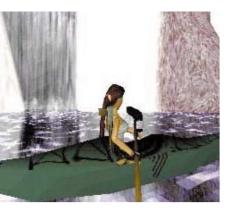




next







minutes of game play was a more agile Lara Croft could now out-maneuver the bad guys easier. I found all previous versions of Tomb Raider clumsy and at times uncontrollable.

Lara also gets a few new toys in this epic. The kayak and a quad bike have been added and are indeed a great addition to the game play and thankfully are quick to paddle and drive respectively.

Three new weapons, the Desert Eagle hand gun (instead of the Magnum from TRII), special forces semi-automatic MP5 H&K submachine and a deadly rocket launcher all add a more effective way of dealing with anything that should get in your way.

You'll have to battle your way through the continents, from London to the Nevada desert and even such diverse location as the Pacific to Antarctica,.

Know thy Enemy

I was going to spill the beans on the new and best ways to kill the bad guys but I think I'll leave that to you to find out for yourself. But saying that, take a look at Miss Croft running like a 100 metre sprinter from a pack of hungry T-Rexes out on a Sunday walk.

You'll find a few trusty old



enemies but plenty of new blood to keep your trigger finger happy.

Conclusion

Yup, damn it, I liked it. I can't believe I did but there you go. The developers promised and delivered a great PC/PlayStation port. All the improvements are noticeable from the start of game play.

Out just in time for Christmas this would make an excellent present for any Mac gamer.

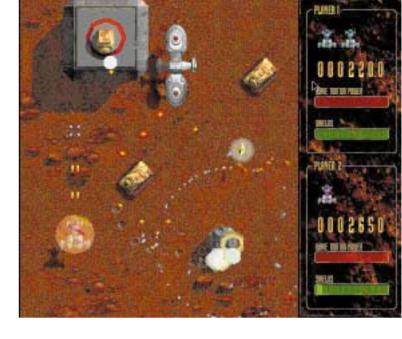
The game is not without fault, but you'll be hard pushed to find any to moan too long about. So put on the tight top, camouflage trousers and select your weapons, it's going to be a back flipping, slip-sliding, hop-stepping, monkey swinging New Year.

Publisher: Eidos Interactive www.tombraider.com Aspyr (www.aspyr.com)

Price: US\$44.95, approx £30

Rating: A nice gun blasting 9/10

System – minimum requirements: System 7.5.3 or later. Without hardware acceleration: PowerPC 603e at 180 MHz or faster. With hardware acceleration: PowerPC 603e at 150MHz or faster. At least 16MB RAM. QuickTime 4.0 – included in the install.



MARS RISING By Chrin Band

Mars Rising by Ambrosia Software continues the company's tradition of recreating some of the most popular classics for the Macintosh – with enhancements, of course.

Mars Rising follows the traditional top down shooter theme where the player sees the tops of everything in a 2D environment while controlling an aircraft that has the ability to fire lasers at air-borne targets, and drop bombs on surface enemies. Mars Rising's graphics lends itself to be a more enjoyable experience than the primitive ones found in many games of this genre, but at the same time they're nothing exceptional. The backgrounds are generally identical, changing only every few levels to another relatively generic theme.

The further you progress, the more enemies there are and









zoom out











previous



the more they seem to distance themselves from appearing as realistic simulations of what could be possible in the year 2084, though, Mars Rising's graphics are effective in their purpose – although some more exciting enemies would increase the enjoyability of the game.

If challenge is your game, then Mars Rising will appeal to all those who enjoy spending hours playing a game with no significant progress. In fact, the steep challenge curve ends up hurting Mars Rising by frustrating the player too early. A typical game for a beginner will last 5 minutes, for an experienced player, 10 or 15 minutes. I found that when I played the game on my Performa 6200 it was a lot easier than on my iMac. On the Performa I could get to at least level twenty, but on my iMac I can only get to

about level six before I die, due to the speed difference, so there is still a good use for that old mac tucked away in the corner!



If the vast number of enemies and turrets that fire at you weren't enough, dodging them is made even harder by the debris that scatters across the screen. Destroying an air-borne enemy, which make up the bulk of your opposition, sends pieces scattering across the screen which are similar in size to the projectiles fired by others. The result? When a wave of enemies approach, you're left virtually helpless amidst the many pieces of debris and projectiles whose colour camouflages them nicely into the background. It's not uncommon to be hit half a dozen times in such a situation.

Fortunately, though, Mars Rising supports 2 players simultaneously which means you and a buddy can jointly deal out destruction.

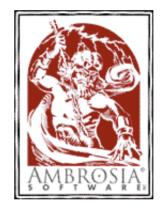
Don't get me wrong, I am not saying I don't like this game because I love it, I am just saying that it does have its down points.

Rising's greatest strength is its music which features a handful of well composed soundtracks filled with goodies like surround sound effects and more.You can even have Mars Rising play a MOD, or, for those who don't have the resources, one can pop their favourite CD in and have Mars Rising play from that which, unlike the built in tracks and MODs, won't affect the speed of the game.

Mars Rising represents a solid effort but it falls short in

the enjoyability factor when compared to other Ambrosia games. More power ups, less debris, and touched up graphics would greatly benefit this game. For die hard Raiden fans, Mars Rising is the best offering for the Mac platform.

www.AmbrosiaSW.com www.MarsRising.com























XPress tips and XTension news and reviews by Chris Patmore

Print, or be damned

et's face it – XPress is principally a print tool. Despite efforts by both Quark and the XTensions developers to create repurposing tools, the bulk of the work ends up as ink, or toner, on paper. I'll not go into a discourse on the advantages of paper over other media as an archival medium. Suffice to say that works such as the Dead Sea Scrolls would not have survived if it was not for paper. Technology is always going to suffer from the wiles of progress and become obsolete. They talk about CDs being stable for at least a hundred years, but will there still be CD readers then or will we be constantly transferring our archives to the most recent technology?

With this in mind I am going to look at some techniques and tools for optimising your print output from XPress, not just at the repro end but from your laser printer. We'll have a closer look at the higher end in another issue.

Just about every XPress user has some sort of desktop printer/output device, especially as they mostly cost a fraction of what the program does. To get the most out of XPress you need to use a PostScript printer, using anything else (such as an inkjet) will generally produce unsatisfactory results. Using ATM you can get reasonable type reproduction, but graphics, especially vector EPS files will just give a low resolution screen representation.

If you are working in a studio with multiple printers

(e.g. A₃/A₄ B/W lasers and a CLC with a Fiery RIP) on a network then you can save a lot of time by setting up print styles (under the Edit menu). Here you can set up the printer parameters, as you would in the normal Print set up, but they are saved and accessible in the Print dialog box. You may wish to save various alternatives such as A₃ portrait, centred on the page with crops and 10mm bleed, then another in Landscape, or another without crops. You can also save the print format for Acrobat Distiller as well. Now when you come to Print your document you just select the Printer Style from the pop up menu and there is no need to go through the rigmarole of

setting up every time.

A lot of the features and options in the Print dialog box are aimed at high end output and are best left alone. For example, the collate function – if you have a large printer that supports collation it can be very useful, especially on long runs, but for your average desktop laser you are much better collating by hand as each page needs to be downloaded and ripped each time. If it is a very simple text

file it maybe OK but once you add images you are in for a long wait, or a long lunch.

Another useful feature that was introduced in version 4 is the ability to print non-contigious pages. Apart from being able to

print any pages you select in a document, in any order you chose there are other uses. For example; you need differing quantities of pages from the one 8 page document, say 3 copies of page 2, two of page 5, four of page 8 and single copies of the other pages. In the Pages Dialog you enter; 1,2,2,2,3-4,5,5,6-7,8,8,8,8 (commas and hyphens being the default range separators). Another example would be a four page spread.

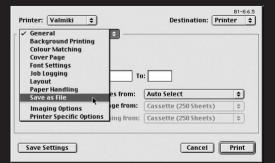
You want to print spreads but they won't all fit on the paper when you use the Spreads option. You can get two pages to a sheet and Manual tiling is not going to work so you leave Spreads checked and enter; 1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8.

Another useful thing to do is remove any obsolete PPDs

Print Styles	
Print Styles:	
Default	A
Acrobat	*
Printer Description: Apple LaserWriter Pro 600; Media: A4; Media Size: 209.903 mm × 297.039 mm; Scaling: 100%; Separations: Off; Tiling: Off	1
New Edit Duplicate Delete	
Import Export Cancel Save	

Creating Print Syles saves a lot of time in a multi printer network studio

Edit Print Style				
Name: New Print Style				
Document Setup Output Options				
Printer Description: Apple LaserWriter Pro 600 V				
Paper Size:	[A4▼]			
Paper Width:	209.903 mm	Paper Offset:		
Paper Height:	297.039 m 🔻	Page Gap:		
Reduce or Enlarge:	100%	🔲 Fit in Print Area		
Page Positioning:	🗸 Left Edge 📐	Orientation:		
	Centre ² Centre Horizontal			
	Centre Vertical	Cancel OK		



It is also important that the default settings for your printer and any customised settings, such as those for creating PS files or PDFs, are correct.



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(printer descriptions). It will reduce the amount of memory XPress needs and make it quicker to find the printer driver you need. This can be done from PPD Manager (under Utilities) or by simply removing them from the Printer Description folder inside the Extensions folder in your System. If you do this make sure you are throwing out the ones for which you have no printer.

For almost every function in XPress there is an XTension to enhance its capabilities and printing is no exception. Here are some that are affordable and extremely useful.

OX-Print

Print

Cancel

Options

Help

To:

Collate Back to Front

Include Images

🗌 Spreads 🛛 Thumbnail

Plate: All Plates

Restination

👻 🔍 🔍 Printer

OPI:

Calibrated Butout Print Colors as Graus

O File

rinter: "Enzo (LW 16/608) Spooler"

All O First from: Cassette

Normal

🗆 Include Blank Pages

Print Spot Colors as Process

QX-Print gives you XPress 4 print

1-3.5-12.14.17.22-

functions in XPress 3.3

110

Dn

Paper Source

Page Sequence: All

Output:

Tiling:

Ontions:

Separation Registration: Off

Print Range:

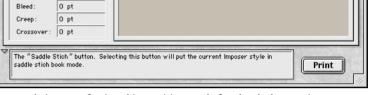
Copies: 1 Pages: 🖲 All 🔿 From:

If you are still using XPress 3.3 (and why not?) but would like the functionality of XPress 4's Print functions then get QX-Print, part of Extensis QX-Tools 2. This will allow you to print noncontigious pages using separators, as mentioned above. You can also select multiple plate separations (normally XPress 3.3 only allows either one or all plates). It will also let you automatically output all spot colours as process separations without altering your document. The other feature of this XTension is the facility to print or save as an EPS a selected area of a page. If you are using XPress 3.3 QX-Tools 2 is an essential purchase as it gives you many functions availble in XPress 4 and some that aren't. I reviewed QX-Tools back in issue 8 of 1984 Online but full details of the package can be found at www.extensis.com/qxtools/qxtools20.html where you can also download a demo or purchase it for US\$150

Imposer 2

Imposition is the preparation of films for platemaking so that indvidual pages are properly laid out in their signatures for trimming and binding. At the professional high end is INposition 2.5 from DK&A (www.dka.com). It has all the features for publishing house pre-press workflow, including the ability to work with PageMaker, PostScript and PDF files but at £2,000 it is not for casual use. There is also INposition Lite aimed at the smaller output bureau/print shop which offers reduced functions (maximum 4-up layout) for £250.

For my money Imposer 2 from alap (www.alap.com) is the best value. It takes your creative spreads and outputs them to



Imposer "England Dances programme"

2-Up

4-Up

Work & Turn

Imposer brings professional imposition tools for the desktop printer at an affordable price.

printer's spreads during the printing process, without altering your document. (There used to be an XTension for XPress 3 called PrinterSpreads that repositioned the pages in your document, but it was a nightmare when it came to making amends). From a single palette you can preview layouts, set up and save 'styles' for different output settings with controls over (here comes the science) margins, gaps, creep, bleed and crossover traps. Although it is limited to a maximum of 4-up layouts it is perfect for small print shops and even home use. I use it for printing out small theatre programmes and newsletters from my LaserWriter. At £125 (rrp) it is great value and can be bundled with alap's MarkIt (which gives a wider, professional choice of crop/registration marks) for just £169.

X rating: XXXX

Pros: Doesn't mess with your document. Price. Works with XPress 3.3. Cons: Limited to 4-up layout Requires: PostScript printer.

Price: £125

Preview Layout

0 mm

0 mm

0 mm

0 mm

0 pt

Margins

Top:

Left:

Bottom

Right

Vertical: Horizontal

Gans

Buy online from www.alap.com or www.xchangeuk.com. Demo available.



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Work & Tumble





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Print				
Print Style: Document 🔻	Printer: Valmiki			
Copies: 1 Pages: 1,1-2,3,3,4	Range Separators			
Document Setup Output Options Preview Printools				
Print: Document 🔻	Live Preview	1000 - 10000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1000 - 1		
Page Slug Extras—	Page/Spread: 1 V			
🛛 Owner Name 🛛 Emulsion	┌□ Page Border	+		
🗌 Machine Name 🛛 🖾 Bleed	Width: 0.5 pt			
🛛 Line Screen 🛛 🖾 Scaling	Color: Black 🔻			
🛛 Custom: Final proof	Style:			
Page Setup Printer Capture Settings Cancel Print				

Add new functions to your Print setup with Badia Printools, including vital additional information on the print media

Badia Printools XT 1

From the people who brought out my favourite XTension (FullMeasure XT 2) is a new XTension that enhances XPress's print palette with features too many to list in this review. Some of the enhancements include live preview, so you can see exactly how your page(s) will print. The ability to put a border around the page, for presentations, only at the time of printing. Additional page slugs - a really useful function for studios as it will allow you to put the name of the person who printed it (from the FileSharing info), Line Screen, Emulsion, Bleed, Scaling and a box to put your own info such as Revision number. In preview there is also interactive scaling and tiling. You can also preview thumbnails and interactively scale them as well to fit them to a page. From the Preferences you can get Printools to remember the number of copies and the page print range (as per PageMaker). It will also show the name of the printer in the Print window - very handy if you have several printers on a network. Nothing worse than finding you've sent 20 A4 b/w pages to the A3 colour printer, or vice versa. Printools will also print out lists of colour, font and image usage in a more readable format than XPress's own Collect report, or of other pre-flight software. There is alos a function that allows you to select certain items on a page and print them only. Great for copy checking where images aren't required.

All in all another excellent XTension from Badia Software. Highly functional, yet transparent in operation adding a host of features that will become indispensible for studios with networked printers.

X rating: XXXX Pros: Additional page slugs, interactive live previews, shows printer name, readable usage reports.
Cons: Needs XPress 4.03 and 17" monitor
Price: US\$49.99
Buy online from
www.badiasoftware.com
Demo available from site.

Free collection

With all the printing finished you may want to send your files out to a repro house for final output to film or digital output. To collect everything together using a dedicated preflight program can be expensive, especially if it is something you use only occasionally. Not using one can also be expensive, with wasted time and incorrect output.

There is no substitute for setting up a document properly in the first place, establishing good working practices and manually checking the files before collecting them. Running separations on your desktop laser is also a good way to check you will get only the plates you need. But sometimes things can get beyond your control and pre-flight tools are designed to catch those things you possibly missed. Here are a couple of free tools to help you with the process.

FlightCheck FREE from Markzware (www.markzware.com) is a cut down down version of their industry leading FlightCheck software. The main difference is that the free version will not collect the document. Once you've checked your file, and made any necessary corrections, you can use XPress's Collect for Output which will gather your document and its placed images into a single folder, unfortunately it won't collect the fonts.

If you use ATM Deluxe 4.5 you can drag and drop the 'Set', relevent to that job, onto the collected job folder/disk and all the fonts will be copied. Alternatively you can download the Font Collector XTension from Meadows (www.meadowsinfo.com). This will collect only the fonts used in the job, creating a suitcase with the job title (or any title you care to give it). It will also give a printable on screen report of the fonts collected. Another useful feature is the ability to embed fonts into an XPress EPS file.

If you purchase Badia Printools, reviewed in this issue, you get the facility to print out very clear, readable pages with colour, font and image usage to check against your collected files.

Updater

According to Quark's website the XPress 4.1 updater is in the post!









print







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Organising the Mac

l Wanna Get Physical

By Olafur Sindri

No, you can stop shouting, I am not going to talk about Olivia Newton-John in this month's .org. Rather, this headline refers to the fact that I'm stepping out of the virtual for a while, ready to share my thoughts on organising the physical world. More specifically, though, choosing a computer.

Oh, sure, you say, like there haven't been hundreds of articles before this one, touting the does and don'ts of computer buying and why one platform is better than the others. This isn't one of them. Firstly, I'm not going to talk about platforms, as this is a Mac e-zine, and Mac makes more sense anyway. Second, this is not just any computer buying tutorial. It's the story of the hell I have had to go through, and to which I see no end in sight.

Not that I have had a particularly bad time, choosing a computer, that is. It's just that Apple keeps pumping out those new products, each one better than the other, and I'm totally lost. What should I buy, and why? First I was happy, I was one of the first ones to pre-order an iBook. I realised, of

course, that it would take a few months to reach this tiny island of mine, so I sat down and waited. And there were temptations. Temptations like the PowerMac G4, that simply screamed at me "I'm a cheap supercomputer, come and get me!", but still I sat, and was beginning to feel happy with my humble decision of a cute little iBook. But then, just as the reports of iBooks shipping in the US came floating in, Satan decided to offer the last temptation (Now, I really don't look at Steve Jobs as Satan, but it fits the story better this way), the new Graphite iMac. And I tried, oh, how I tried. But still I couldn't convince myself that the iBook was better. What was I supposed to do with a portable anyway? Not when I could sit at home an watch A Bug's Life on DVD in its full glory on a whopping 15" screen and with a Harman/ Kardon sound system!

So that is my problem. What the heck am I supposed to do? As soon as you decide on spending a little money (or in this case, a lot) on something, you're faced with the problem of choosing. And in the computer industry, as elswhere, choosing is about trade-offs. Should I trade the DVD drive and all the other neat stuff for portability? These questions seem to go on forever, but in the end, you come to a conclusion, based on valuable facts. Most do, that is. I haven't.

But I'm leaning more and more towards the iMac; no need to buy any extras with it, I get all the RAM I need, the sound I want and some things I could only dream of. But then again, there will be no crowd forming around me at school while I play Bugdom on my translucent and blueberry jewel (unless of course I drag my iMac to school, but that's a story better suited for some health magazine. Just imagine the headlines: "Young man suffers serious back injuries from bragging"). So there you go; trade-offs everywhere.

I invite you to find out what exactly this article has to do with organising. I sure can't seem to find the relation. But it must be in there, somewhere. Mustn't it?





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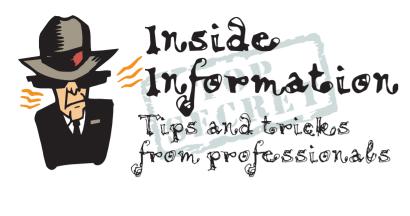






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Be Millennium Smug! By Darren Edwards

So as not to bore you to sleep until January 2ND 2000 I'll keep this short and sweet to give you a happy new year around the house and on your Mac with five points to think about or act upon at the end of this 1000 year cycle, just to be on the safe side.

I Your internal Mac clock is fine (it can cope with dates from 30,081 B.C. to 29,940 A.D.) BUT what about your software?, check all your date respective applications, such as databases and calender time management software. Vendors have sites or help lines to make sure your work will be safe. All hardware and software site now have a compliance notice and if a patch is needed it is ready for download, don't think about doing it do it! Count your email package in that too, if unsure check.

2 You'll not be paranoid if you back up all your files. You know your Mac is compliant but what about the local electricity supplier? Save your work, you never know what might happen.

I have lost data and machines from power surges, so it should always be a common place procedure to back up when you can.

3 Don't keep it to yourself. If your friends have not tested software because they are to lazy hassle them until they do. Yes that even means our Wintel counterparts who are still working out with their utilities what is what. It's never fun to watch ANY computer user suffer needlessly, so if you can help then do it!

4 Watch out for fraudsters. People are out there making thousands from unsuspecting companies and home users. Don't listen to them. Check with the company that supplied your computer or electrical appliance for confirmation of Y2K compliance. There are also many free utilities and information packs about helping with these issues, use them and save your money first.

5 Check other household items not just the computers. Video recorders, camcorders, fax machines and some date displaying digital TV's should be tested. Everything you bought this year should be fine and probably last year's too. Just phone where you bought it and ask or check the documentation that came with it, then you'll be certain. You won't have to take anything apart and you'll sleep easy.

Don't worry or listen to the doom merchants – your equipment will still work, even if it is not Y2K compliant. The only problem will be you'll see the wrong date and you won't throw out equipment just because of that.

Just take a little time to test a few things, make a few phone calls and back up a few files and you'll be prepared. It might just be pie in the sky, but it's better being prepared than being caught with your pants down.

Further reading:

http://www.year2000.com UK information: http://business.bug2000.co.uk

http://open.gov.uk/year2000

Y2K:

lt was

thinking

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that caused

the problem

in the

first place.

Don't forget to check the Use By date for all your chips







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By Marty Cortinas

The one thing Apple has guarded religiously over the years has been its user interface. The Finder has been the standard bearer for ease of use and the heart of the Mac OS experience. Cracks in Apple's resolve began to show earlier this year with the release of QuickTime 4, which featured a completely redesigned interface. Instead of the familiar Mac-style window, the player features a sleek, brushed-metal look without the usual title bar and scroll bars.

Apple was clearly aiming for a consumer device appearance similar to a VCR or a sound system. The problem is the interface also adopted controls similar to physical devices – controls that don't necessarily translate well to the computer interface.

The response to the interface has been largely negative. The most informative and cogent critique l've read is lsys

Information Architects' induction of QuickTime into the Interface Hall of Shame.

The negative reaction didn't slow down Apple. The metallic interface made its way into the new iMovie package (only available on DV iMacs for now) and in Sherlock 2, part of the recently released Mac OS 9. Now users are using another aspect of the Mac experience – customization – to tell Apple not to fix what's not broken.

Raul Gutierrez earlier this month released Sherlock II Window Fixer, a snazzy little patch that removes the metallic interface and restores Sherlock to a "normal" finder window. Gutierrez apparently has hit a nerve with Mac users: He said more than 20,000 people have downloaded the patch in the short time it's been available.

http://www.teamdraw.com/ raul/stuff/stuff2.3.html

I asked Gutierrez what drove him to create the patch.

"I found the lack of Windowshading (a feature that reduces a window to its title bar) on Sherlock 2 incredibly annoying", he said. "Also, Sherlock 2 breaks certain basic Mac HI (Human Interface)/ UI rules. So I 'fixed' as much as I could."



Cutting off your nodes to spite your interface?

Note that Gutierrez has nothing against Sherlock itself. In fact, that's what has made this patch so popular – a great tool has been saddled with a bad interface.

"I have no problem with interface advances," Gutierrez said. "In fact, I support them, but when they come at the loss of functionality, it's annoying."

Next on the hit list is QuickTime 4 and Gutierrez has a version in the works. He says he'll release it if he can fix all the kinks. In the meantime, he's busy fending off tons of requests for it.

I applaud Gutierrez's efforts, but he also made a good point: He shouldn't have to do this. Apple created this monster, and it should address the concerns of its customers. No one is holding their breath, however. It's evident that Apple has taken notice of the criticism and of Gutierrez's patch: About 300 people with apple.com addresses downloaded it. I hope the decision makers, if they don't dump the metallic interface altogether, at the very least give users the choice of using the classic interface.







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New releases,

updates,

downloads

and freebies

For current Mac news updates go to www.1984-online.com or http://welcome.to/nimug/

An Apple for the teacher

Despite recent claims by DELL that they had siezed the top spot in supplying to the US Education market, Apple have responded (backed by recent data from leading Education market research firms, including Quality Education Data (QED) and International Data Corp. (IDC). Dell's recent claims of being the Education sales leader rely upon vendor and channel surveys which do not fully account for Apple's large direct sales to the U.S. Education market.

That's a feature not a bug

Microsoft Public Relations has informed us of the following avenue by which a malicious attacker could harm an Outlook Express 5 user: "Microsoft has become aware of an issue with Outlook Express 5.0 for

Macintosh. Microsoft is taking this issue very seriously and is working diligently to provide a solution to this issue that will enable our customers to continue having a safe and easy computing experience.

The Scenario: Users may experience a Trojan Horse type security issue that makes it possible for a malicious sender to send an MHTML message to an OE 5 user that will automatically download a file to the user's default Download folder without the OE 5 user's knowledge. (The location of the default Download folder is set in IE or Internet Config.) The downloaded file can be anything, including an executable. This scenario is similar to malicious users sending out messages containing harmful attachments in that the user has to explicitly take action (opening the attachment, or in this case, opening the downloaded file) in order for any damage to occur - the file is NOT automatically opened or executed on the user's machine. Since the user is not aware that the file has been downloaded, the user may encounter the file later and open/launch it. Since the file can be an executable, launching it could cause damage to the user's machine. Users should NEVER open any file in the Downloads Folder unless they know where the file came from. Temporary User Action: Again, we are taking this issue very seriously and are working on a solution. In the meantime, OE 5 users should ensure they do NOT open any file in their Downloads Folder without knowing where the file came from. Please let us know if you have questions or would like to speak to a Microsoft representative to provide further clarification on this issue." Looks like Microsoft managed to find a way to reduce the reliability and security of a Mac. And that's a feature, not a bug, in their eyes.

G4 upgrade cards available

Sonnet announced immediately availability of its G4 upgrade cards for PCI Macs, noting that the cards ship with "superior AltiVec Enabling software, giving all applications access to the AltiVec processing engine", including MacsBug, Mac OS 9's Velocity Engine libraries and Photoshop's Altivec plug-ins. Prices are \$700 and \$1000 for 350-MHz and 400-MHz models respectively.

http://www.sonnettech.com/news/pr111199_g4_ship.html

Macintosh Server updates

Mac OS X Server 1.2 is expected to ship shortly as an update (or bundled with G4 servers) to the "heavy-duty server operating system that combines the strength of Unix with the simplicity of the Macintosh". The \$20 update, available on CD, is expected to support for new systems, bug fixes, and performance improvements not distributed in earlier patch releases. http://www.apple.com/powermac/server/osxindex.html

AppleShare IP 6.3 offers full compatibility with Mac OS 9, Mac OS Server Admin for remote or local server administration, the ability to administer multiple AppleShare IP 6.3 servers at once, support for sleep features on client computers, support for Network Services Location Manager (NSL), improved features of home directories, and setup guest access for each service. http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11541

iSynch v1.3 is an update that adds support for Maxum's Rumpus FTP server and compatibility with local folders on AppleShare volumes to the shareware FTP program for synchronizing local folders and remote Websites. http://www.bluedays.com/bluedays/isynch/index.shtml

Norton updates for Mac OS9

Symantec announced that its Norton Utilities for Mac 5.0 and Norton AntiVirus for Mac 6.0 are both Mac OS 9 compatible "Earlier versions... were developed prior to changes in the way Mac OS tracks open files and will not function properly with OS 9." Upgrade pricing is \$50 and \$100 for new users for NUM. NAV upgrade price is \$30, and it is \$70 for new users. www.Symantec.com/nu/nu_mac/ www.symantec.com/nav/nav_mac/

FileMaker updates

FileMaker announced that FileMaker Server 5 is expected to ship November 29 (Worldwide English version) and that customers may order the product for \$1000 (\$500upgrade) by calling 800-325-2747 in the US. The server version offers increased hosting of up to 250 simultaneous users and 125 open files as well as multi-threading and asynchronous disk I/O, automatic and centralized backups, and enhanced remote database administration functions. http://www.filemaker.com/products/fms_home.html

Max Ribuoli has posted a new beta of his shareware FileMaker Pro 4 plug-in, Mail Agent 1.3b10, that allows users to directly send email from within FileMaker Pro. He has provided no documentation for the new features. http://www30.pair.com/miele/

Microsoft has posted an updated Office 98 FileMaker Pro Importer 1.1, adding support for FileMaker Pro 5 and new extended functionality to the solution for integrating FileMaker Pro databases into existing Word and Excel files.

http://www.microsoft.com/mac/fmtools.htm







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Free Office software?

Several sources, both inside and outside Sun Microsystems, are reporting that the next release of the popular StarOffice will include a Mac version. StarOffice is an office application suite similar to (and totally interoperable with) Microsoft Office, but is available totally free over the Internet or for shipping/media cost on CD.

http://www.sun.com/products/staroffice/get.cgi

Evatac's freeware SimpleEdit 3.5 is a much more capable replacement for Apple's SimpleText, and "this version fixes some important bugs", including a Type 2 crash when opening documents on certain systems. http://www.evatac.com/products/SimpleEdit/

Network Associates has released PGPfreeware 6.5.2a, a new version of its freeware security software and says that Personal Privacy and Desktop Security versions will be released shortly. The new version provides compatibility with MacOS 9's Multiple Users feature, Windows 2000 IPSec interoperability, the ability to wipe free space on startup HFS Plus volumes and Outlook Express 5.0 support.

http://web.mit.edu/network/pgp.html

More game releases and updates

Military strategy game publisher Battlefront.com reports that a test demo version of Tac Ops 3.0 for the Mac is available for download (4,443K, Binhex). TacOps 3.0 is the latest version of the venerable turn-based military strategy game developed by Major I.L Holdridge, USMC (Ret.). Previous versions were published by Avalon Hill, but with that company's acquisition by Hasbro Interactive, the Major elected to publish the new version of the game through nascent online game publisher Battlefront.com.

ftp://ftp.battlefront.com/pub/demos/TacOps_3AI.hqx

IMG has posted the "exclusive release" of the Descent 3 Macintosh demo, the "next installment in the revolutionary Descent series that pioneered multiplayer gaming." The demo requires a video card that supports 3dfx's Glide or OpenGL (i.e., Rage Pro or better)

http://www.insidemacgames.com/downloads/demos/99/descent3/

Voodoo3 Macintosh OS 8.x Version: 1.0b7 (Beta7) have been released. So if you have a Voodoo3 2000/3000 Graphics Accelerator, go get this update. http://www.3dfxgamers.com/view.asp?IOID=30

A Sharp, LLC announced late last week that King of Dragon Pass, a new strategy role-playing game, is now shipping. The game, which was developed on the Macintosh, is available for sale direct from A Sharp. King of Dragon Pass is a game set in the kingdom of Glorantha, as found in the RuneQuest series of paper and dice-based role-playing games. http://www.a-sharp.com

Apple Web Help

If you have any questions about Apple Software Updates including all of the latest updates of Apple software, including most printer drivers, System Enablers, updates to utilities and networking and communication software. Currently, Apple Assistance posts Apple Software Updates to the following online services:

1) Internet: Apple World Wide Web and ftp sites: http://www.info.apple.com 2) ftp URL: ftp://ftp.info.apple.com

3) America Online (keyword: applecomputer)

INTERNET: APPLE WEB SITES

All Apple software updates are posted to ftp servers, but you can also get to the software updates collections from one of Apple's web sites:

http://www.apple.com/support - Apple Support Information - Apple's USA based web site. Choose Apple SW Updates from the pull-down menu to go to the Apple software updates collection, where you can browse for, search for, and download all US and Worldwide Apple SW Updates. Here are a few handy URLs: http://www.info.apple.com/ftp.newfiles.html - list of newly posted Apple software updates.

http://swupdates.info.apple.com/Architext/AT-SWupdates USquery.html -Search page for US Apple software updates.

http://swupdates.info.apple.com/Architext/AT-SWupdates Worldguery.html -Search page for Worldwide (localized) Apple software updates.

http://swupdates.info.apple.com/cgi-bin/lister.pl/Apple.Support.Area/ Apple.Software.Updates - Browsing page for all Apple software updates.

INTERNET: APPLE FTP SITES

You can use either an ftp client (such as Fetch or Anarchie) or a web browser to go our ftp sites directly:

ftp.info.apple.com (multiple servers, handles 15,000 concurrent users) When using a web browser, use the following URL: ftp://ftp.info.apple.com.

ftp.apple.com (multiple servers, handles 1000 concurrent users) When using a web browser, use the following URL: ftp://ftp.apple.com.

ftp.info.euro.apple.com (one server, handles 250 concurrent users) When using a web browser, use the following URL: ftp://ftp.info.euro.apple.com.







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This is an occasional series of articles about some of the people who appeared in Apple's award winning 'Think Different' advertising campaign. Although many of the faces are familiar why they were chosen will become clearer when we know a little more about them. If any of you, our readers, would like to do some research and write about any of these rebels, or can think of someone else who is deserving of a place in the 'Think Different' hall of fame, please e-mail me for some guidelines.

Jesus, the Son of Man

JAMES, THE SON OF ZEBEDEE On the Kingdoms of the World

Upon a day in the spring of the year Jesus stood in the marketplace of Jerusalem and He spoke to the multitudes of the kingdom of heaven.

And He accused the scribes and the Pharisees of setting snares and digging pitfalls in the path of those who long after the kingdom; and He denounced them.

Now amongst the crowd was a company of men who defended the Pharisees and the scribes, and they sought to lay hands upon Jesus and upon us also.

But He avoided them and turned aside from them, and walked towards the north gate of the city.

And He said to us, 'My hour has not yet come. Many are the things I have still to say unto you, and many are the deeds I shall yet perform ere I deliver myself up to the world. '

Then He said, and there was joy and laughter in His voice, 'Let us go into the North Country and meet the spring. Come with me to the hills, for winter is past and the snows of Lebanon are descending to the valleys to sing with the brooks.

'The fields and the vineyards have banished sleep and are awake to greet the sun with their green figs and tender grapes.' And He walked before us and we followed Him, that day and the next. And upon the afternoon of the third day we reached the summit of Mount Hermon, and there He stood looking down upon the cities of the plains.

And His face shone like a molten gold, and He outstretched His arms and He said to us, 'Behold the earth in her green raiment, and see how the streams have hemmed the edges of her garments with silver.

'In truth the earth is fair and all that is upon her is fair.

'But there is a kingdom beyond all that you behold, and therein I shall rule. And if it is your choice, and if it is indeed your desire, you too shall come and rule with me.

'My face and your faces shall not be masked; our hand shall hold neither sword nor sceptre, and our subjects shall love us in peace and shall not be in fear of us.'

Thus spoke Jesus, and unto all the kingdoms of the earth I was blinded, and unto all the cities of walls and towers; and it was in my heart to follow the Master to His kingdom.

Then just at that moment Judas of Iscariot stepped forth. And he walked close up to Jesus, and spoke and said, 'Behold, the kingdoms of the world are vast, and behold the cities of David and Solomon shall prevail against the Romans. If you will be the king of the Jews we shall stand beside you with sword and shield and we shall overcome the alien.'

But when Jesus heard this He turned upon Judas, and His face was filled with wrath. And He spoke in a voice terrible as the thunder of the sky and He said, 'Get you behind me, Satan. Think you that I came down the years to rule an anthill for a day?

'My throne is a throne beyond your vision. Shall he whose wings encircle the earth seek shelter in a nest abandoned and forgotten?

'Shall the living be honored and exalted by the wearer of shrouds?

'My kingdom is not of this earth, and my seat is not builded upon the skulls of your ancestors.

'If you seek aught save the kingdom of the spirit then it were better for you to leave me here, and go down to the caves of your dead, where the crowned heads of yore hold court in their tombs and may still be bestowing honors upon the bones of your forefathers. 'Dare you tempt me with a crown of dross, when my forehead seeks the Pleiades, or else your thorns?

'Were it not for a dream dreamed by a forgotten race I would not suffer your sun to rise upon my patience, nor your moon to throw my shadow across your path.

'Were it not for a mother's desire I would have stripped me of the swaddling-clothes and escaped back to space.

'And were it not for sorrow in all of you I would not have stayed to weep

'Who are you and what are you, Judas Iscariot? And why do you tempt me?

'Have you in truth weighed me in the scale and found me one to lead legions of pygmies, and to direct chariots of the shapeless against an enemy that encamps only in your hatred and marches nowhere but in your fear?

'Too many are the worms that crawl about my feet, and I will give them no battle. I am weary of the jest, and weary of pitying the creepers who deem me coward because I will not move among their guarded walls and towers.

'Pity it is that I must needs pity to the very end. Would that I could turn my steps towards a larger world where larger men dwell. But how shall l?

'Your priest and your emperor would have my blood. They shall be satisfied ere I go hence. I would not change the course of the law. And I would not govern folly.

'Let ignorance reproduce itself until it is weary of its own offspring.

'Let the blind lead the blind to the pitfall.

'And let the dead bury the dead till the earth be choked with its own bitter fruit.

'My kingdom is not of the earth. My kingdom shall be where two or three of you shall meet in love, and in wonder at the loveliness of life, and in good cheer, and in remembrance of me.'

Then of a sudden He turned to Judas, and He said, 'Get you behind me, man. Your kingdoms shall never be in my kingdom.'

And now it was twilight, and He turned to us and said, 'Let us go down. The night is upon us. Let us walk in light while the light is with us.'

My throne

is a throne

beyond

your vision.

Shall he

whose wings

encircle

the earth

seek shelter

in a nest

abandoned

and forgotten?



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EXIT

Then He went down from the hills and we followed Him. And Judas followed afar off.

And when we reached the lowland it was night.

And Thomas, the son of Diophanes, said unto Him, 'Master, it is dark now, and we can no longer see the way. If it is in your will, lead us to the lights of yonder village where we may find meat and shelter.'

And Jesus answered Thomas, and He said, 'I have led you to the heights when you were hungry, and I have brought you down to the plains with a greater hunger. But I cannot stay with you this night. I would be alone.'

Then Simon Peter stepped forth, and said: 'Master, suffer us not to go alone in the dark. Grant that we may stay with you even here on this byway. The night and the shadows of the





night will not linger, and the morning shall soon find us if you will but stay with us.'

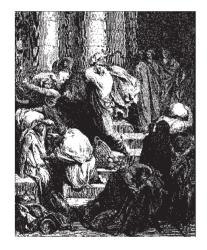
And Jesus answered, 'This night the foxes shall have their holes, and the birds of the air their nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere on earth to lay. And indeed I would now be alone. Should you desire me you will find me again by the lake where I found you.'

Then we walked away from Him with heavy hearts, for it was not in our will to leave Him.

Many times did we stop and turn our faces towards Him, and we saw Him in lonely majesty, moving westward.

The only man among us who did not turn to behold Him in His aloneness was Judas Iscariot.

And from that day Judas became sullen and distant. And methought there was danger in the sockets of his eyes.



NATHANIEL Jesus was not Meek

They say that Jesus of Nazareth was humble and meek.

They say that though He was a just man and righteous, He was a weakling, and was often confounded by the strong and the powerful; and that when He stood before men of authority He was but a lamb among lions.

But I say that Jesus had authority over men, and that He knew His power and proclaimed it among the hills of Galilee, and in the cities of Judea and Pheenicia.

What man yielding and soft would say, 'I am life, and I am the way to truth'?

What man unmindful of His own strength would say, 'He who believes not in me believes not in this life nor in the life everlasting' ?

What man uncertain of tomorrow would proclaim, 'Your

world shall pass away and be naught but scattered ashes ere my words shall pass away'?

Was He doubtful of Himself when He said to those who would confound Him with a harlot, 'He who is without sin, let him cast a stone'?

Did He fear authority when He drove the moneychangers from the court of the temple, though they were licensed by the priests?

Were His wings shorn when He cried aloud, 'My kingdom is above your earthly kingdoms'?

Was He seeking shelter in words when He repeated again and yet again, 'Destroy this temple and I will rebuild it in three days'?

Was it a coward who shook His hand in the face of the authorities and pronounced them 'liars, low, filthy, and degenerate' ?

Shall a man bold enough to say these things to those who ruled Judea be deemed meek and humble?

Nay. The eagle builds not his nest in the weeping willow. And the lion seeks not his den among the ferns.

I am sickened and the bowels within me stir and rise when I hear the faint-hearted call Jesus humble and meek, that they may justify their own faintheartedness; and when the downtrodden, for comfort and companionship, speak of Jesus as a worm shining by their side.

Yea, my heart is sickened by such men . It is the mighty hunter I would preach, and the mountainous spirit unconquerable.

MATTHEW

The Sermon on the Mount

One harvest day Jesus called us and His other friends to the hills. The earth was fragrant, and like the daughter of a king at her wedding-feast, she wore all her jewels. And the sky was her bridegroom.

When we reached the heights Jesus stood still in the grove of laurels, and He said, 'Rest here, quiet your mind and tune your heart, for I have much to tell you.'

Then we reclined on the grass, and the summer flowers were all about us, and Jesus sat in our midst.

What man

meek

and lowly

would say,



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and our God,

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is in me'?

the Father,

And Jesus said:

'Blessed are the serene in spirit.

'Blessed are they who are not held by possessions, for they shall be free.

'Blessed are they who remember their pain, and in their pain await their joy.

'Blessed are they who hunger after truth and beauty, for their humger shall bring bread, and their thirst cool water.

'Blessed are the kindly, for they shall be consoled by their own kindliness.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall be one with God. 'Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall be in their portion.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for their spirit shall dwell above the baule, and they shall turn the potter's field into a garden.

'Blessed are they who are hunted, for they shall be swift of foot and they shall be winged.

'Rejoice and be joyful, for you have found the kingdom of heaven within you. The singers of old were persecuted when they sang of that kingdom. You too shall be persecuted, and therein lies your honor, and therein your reward.

'You are the salt of the earth; should the salt lose its savor wherewith shall the food of man's heart be salted?

'You are the light of the world. Put not that light under a bushel. Let it shine rather from the summit, to those who seek the City of God.

'Think not I came to destroy the laws of the scribes and the Pharisees; for my days among you are numbered and my words are counted, and I have but hours in which to fulfil another law and reveal a new covenant.

'You have been told that you shall not kill, but I say unto you, you shall not be angry without a cause.

'You have been charged by the ancients to bring your calf and your lamb and your dove to the temple, and to slay them upon the altar, that the nostrils of God may feed upon the odor of their fat, and that you may be forgiven your failings.

'But I say unto you, would you give God that which was His own from the beginning; and would you appease Him whose throne is above the silent deep and whose arms encircle space?

'Rather, seek out your brother and be reconciled unto him

The singers

of old were

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when they

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ere you seek the temple; and be a loving giver unto your neighbour. For in the soul of these God has builded a temple that shall not be destroyed, and in their heart He has raised an altar that shall never perish.

'You have been told, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say unto you: Resist not evil, for resistance is food unto evil and makes it strong. And only the weak would revenge themselves. The strong of soul forgive, and it is honor in the injured to forgive.

'Only the fruitful tree is shaken or stoned for food.

'Be not heedful of the morrow, but rather gaze upon today, for sufficient for today is the miracle thereof.

'Be not over-mindful of yourself when you give but be mindful of the necessity. For every giver himself receives from the Father, and that much more abundantly.

'And give to each according to his need; for the Father gives not salt to the thirsty, nor a stone to the hungry, nor milk to the weaned.

'And give not that which is holy to dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine. For with such gifts you mock them; and they also shall mock your gift, and in their hate would fain destroy you.

'Lay not up for yourselves treasures that corrupt or that thieves may steal away. Lay up rather treasure which shall not corrupt nor be stolen, and whose loveliness increases when many eyes behold it. For where your treasure is, your heart is also.

'You have been told that the murderer shall be put to the sword, that the thief shall be crucified, and the harlot stoned. But I say unto you that you are not free from the wrongdoing of the murderer and the thief and the harlot, and when they are punished in the body your own spirit is darkened.

'Verily no crime is committed by one man or one woman. All crimes are committed by all. And he who pays the penalty may be breaking a link in the chain that hangs upon your own ankles. Perhaps he is paying with his sorrow the price for your passing joy. '

Thus spake Jesus, and it was in my desire to kneel down and worship Him, yet in my shyness I could not move nor speak a word.

But at last I spoke; and I said, 'I would pray this moment,



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yet my tongue is heavy. Teach me to pray.'

And Jesus said, 'When you would pray, let your longing pronounce the words. It is in my longing now to pray thus:

'Our Father in earth and heaven, sacred is Thy name.

Thy will be done with us, even as in space.

Give us of Thy bread sufficient for the day.

In Thy compassion forgive us and enlarge us to forgive one another.

Guide us towards Thee and stretch down Thy hand to us in darkness.

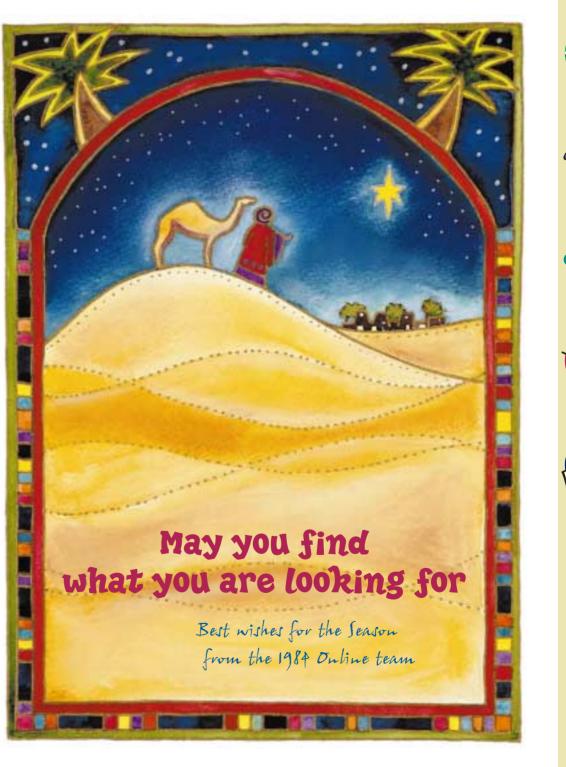
For Thine is the kingdom, and in Thee is our power and our fulfilment.'

And it was now evening, and Jesus walked down from the hills, and all of us followed Him. And as I followed I was repeating His prayer, and remembering all that He had said; for I knew that the words that had fallen like flakes that day must set and grow firm like crystals, and that the wing that had fluttered above our heads were to beat the earth like iron hoofs.

Extracted from Jesus the Son of Man by Kahlil Gibran Published by Penguin Arkana ISBN 0 14 01.9546 7 Available from your favourite bookshop or online book retailer.

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WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

Are you a Mac master with knowledge and wisdom to pass on? Have you just bought a new piece of software or game that's got you all excited and want to share the enthusiasm? Is there something that has got you all fired up and you just want to vent your spleen? 1984 Online is always on the lookout for new writers to join the team. We also welcome the contributions from guest writers with reviews or something to say. Read through the Writer's Kit for guidelines on how to contribute.

If you are working in the creative field (being a Mac user the chances are pretty high) and would like to showcase your work, or show a step by step of how it was created contact the editor with your idea. This is open to all creatives in 2D, 3D, music and video. We can offer no financial rewards for your efforts. The only reward is from reaching a large, appreciative, international Mac community.

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Writing for 1984 Online is an easy way to express yourself about all things Macintosh. Below are some guidelines to help you prepare your files. By following these you will be helping the Editor and increasing your chances of being published.

 Keep your articles concise. They should be well researched and accurate. Try to keep them positive. If something is really bad then the buying public should be warned but generally we prefer to encourage the use of Macs and Mac software. If giving web links make sure they are correct and active. Humourous and opinion pieces are always welcome. We try to have themed issues – e-mail us for latest info.

2. Ideally articles should be sent as word processor files. We

minimal memory and is available from www.nisus.com)

prefer Claris/AppleWorks but Word 5 files are acceptable.

You can also send text files or Nisus Compact files. (Nisus

Compact is a free feature laden word processor that runs in



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- 3. The basic rules for typing copy are; single space after punctuation; single carriage return at the end of a paragraph; run spell check when you've finished writing; the best thing is to leave it overnight and reread it, checking spelling and grammar. The most common mistake we get is with possessive apostrophes, especially its. The correct way is its (for possessive), it's is the abbreviation for it is, its' does not exist. Do as little formatting as possible.
- 4. Image files, such as screen grabs, should be included with the text files. Rather than insert them into the document put a marker such as "Insert picture <file name> Caption <caption text>. If the image files are large then save them as JPEGs. RGB is fine, preferred resolution is no more than 144 dpi depending on scaling.
- Send all your files as a single Stufflt .sea file to contributions@1984-online.com . Deadline is 18th of the month, but just keep sending stuff, we can always use it.

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