

# QUANTA

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**Volume 23 ISSUE 1**  
**Feb/Mar 2006**

# Information on the Association

Membership of QUANTA, the independent QL user group, is by annual subscription. The Membership Secretary can supply full details. Copies of the association's constitution & annual accounts are available from the Secretary. There is an extensive software library. There are active national subgroups. Details are given in the Member's Guide and in this magazine.

## QUANTA Committee - 2005/2006

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**N**ews has just reached me of the sudden death by heart attack of Stephen Hall aged 50.

Some years ago, when I was about to move from Hamburg in Germany back to the UK, I put a letter in QUANTA asking if there were any QL users in Brighton. Steve responded to that and we met up soon after I arrived here. We became firm friends and remained so until his death. Steve was one of the pivotal figures, along with Keith Mitchell, in the resurrection of the Sussex QL Users Sub Group and was my partner in QBranch from the start. In fact, he gave the name to the company in a drive along the Worthing sea front to meet up with John Wakefield for an interview for a QL publication.

Steve was always a good person to spend time with and we had many enjoyable times together travelling to QL shows in the 90's. Although we were diametrically opposed politically we were always able to have good-natured and intelligent discussions which passed the time on the road enjoyably. As far as the QL went he was instrumental in getting Rich Mellor to write QRoute and in getting MasterSpy and some other programs available. Although his interest waned over the last few years we remained good friends and continued to stay in contact. He taught me a lot about the QL and, like everything else he did in his life, he approached every project with intelligence and understanding.

He leaves a wife and two teenage sons.

I, for one, will miss him.

**COPY DATE for APRIL/MAY 2006 ISSUE is:**

**5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2006**

Please ensure that your copy reaches the editor on or before that date.

Copy on Paper or Magnetic Media or by Email.

All Contributions are Welcome.

Copy on Microdrive or Floppy Disk or CD to be accompanied by hard copy printout.

Copy by Email to - [editor@quanta.org.uk](mailto:editor@quanta.org.uk)

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Annual General Meeting to be held at 3rd Davyhulme Scout Headquarters, Manchester on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

That meeting will include a second opportunity to view the Mini QL Exhibition designed and presented by Dilwyn Jones at “QL is 21”.

This issue contains, in the centre, the papers for that meeting. Please read them carefully.

If perchance you are unable to attend please use the enclosed proxy form to record your votes on the matters to be put.

If you are willing to take on one of the not covered jobs please feel free to ring or email me. I will be more than happy to answer your questions.

With this issue, you will receive QUANTA’S new Member’s Guide (formerly known as the “Welcome Guide”). This publication has been completely reworked - the first time in over 15 years and hopefully now contains all the latest information about QUANTA. It is hoped that we will be able to distribute updated copies of the Member’s Guide to all QUANTA Members on a regular basis.

## QUANTA Committee Précis

## Sarah Gilpin

---

There has been very little Committee business since the “QL is 21” show in Portsmouth

Email Meeting – Roy Wood made application for approval and financial support for a Workshop at Hove on 28th May 2006. The Committee approved both the date and the financial support.

The QUANTA Committee is steadily getting smaller, and the requirements of some important functions within the Committee remain vacant. There is an urgent need for both a Magazine Editor and an Ecomms/webmaster. John Gregory has decided to stand down at this year’s AGM.

There have been many occasions in the recent past where members and non members have criticised the Committee for a general lack of action. We hope that it is felt that the current Committee has shown more

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action this year. Such action is unlikely to continue indefinitely without new Committee members, and more importantly new ideas.

## **AGM 2006 and Workshop at Manchester**

As NEMQLUG has done in the past, the AGM will be held over 2 short days. This is to enable visitors to travel to Manchester on the Saturday morning and only spend one night there. It also enables NEMQLUG to invite you all to a Dinner. Despite the increase in the number of local hotels in the area, the accommodation available is in short supply due to the Manchester United V Arsenal football match that weekend. The venue is once more 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme Scout Headquarters, and offers easy access from the M60 ring road.

## **Précis of minutes of Committee meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> February 2006.**

There was a review of “QL is 21” to see whether any of the successes could be introduced to other workshops. It was agreed that the guest speakers programme arranged by Geoff Wicks had provided an interesting programme for visitors, and that QUANTA should consider inviting 2 or 3 speakers to each workshop. Favourable comments had been received from guests on the programme, the road signs to the hotel and the convenience of a one stop venue.

The Committee are looking to incorporate some of these features in a limited number of future workshops to encourage members to attend. It was agreed that the current practise of alternating the AGM between the south and the north of the country should be continued. It has been noted that some of the recent workshops have been very poorly attended. It was agreed that we should look at holding two major workshops per year (one being the AGM), which will have invited guest speakers. These major workshops would be two day events with emphasis on Trading on the Saturday, and on Demonstrations and lectures on the Sunday. As an inducement, QUANTA would offer to pay for Bed & Breakfast Accommodation for the invited guest speakers.

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts, which were approved by Committee. A report was received on current membership numbers, and ideas on how to make collecting membership fees from oversea's members easier.

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The Secretary reported that only four nominations had been received as follows:

Chairman	John Mason	Proposed J. Southern
Treasurer	John Gilpin	Proposed C. Grogan
Secretary	Sarah Gilpin	Proposed A. Wells
Member	Roy Brereton	Proposed J. Mason.

It was agreed that three guest speakers should be invited to make a presentation at the Manchester Workshop. All information for the Workshop and AGM will be in the magazine.

The workshop programme for 2006 is currently confirmed as follows:

Manchester	AGM 8 <sup>th</sup> /9 <sup>th</sup> April
Hove	28 <sup>th</sup> May
Eindhoven	25 <sup>th</sup> May

A report was made on the progress of updating the Welcome Guide, which will be renamed "The Member's Guide". There are still a few points to iron out before issuing it to all members.

The magazine layout and quality has received favourable comments from members. It was agreed that the list of subgroups should be moved towards the back of the magazine to give more prominence to news and articles.

It was agreed to maintain membership fees as for 2005 and the Committee expenses allowances as approved last year with variable mileage rates.

A letter of resignation was received from Geoff Wicks. The Committee would like to thank Geoff for all his work on the behalf of QUANTA over the last two years.

## **Secretary's Comment:**

I would welcome member's comments on the suggestions put forward by the Committee regarding 2-day workshops, their format and possible locations.

One of things that has been on my "must get around to doing it some day" list for almost 10 years has been an anagram program. Just type in someone's name and out will come a list of anagrams. One day when I preferred to play around doing nothing else, I starting to write it, I realised that one of my PC dictionary programs had an anagram option. All I had to do was type in a person's name as a complete word. So without further ado, let's destroy the reputations of some well known QLers:

Clive Sinclair:	Sir, call in vice
Tony Tebby:	not by byte
John Mason:	jam on nosh
Roy Brereton:	boney terror
John Gregory:	Herr joy gong
Sarah Gilpin:	gal in parish girlish nap largish pain

(Here there was a cornucopia of possibilities, but most were too impolite for the magazine.)

Tony Firshman:	shy informant mannish forty
Rich Mellor:	chiller ROM
Freddy Vachha:	had head fry CV
Stuart Honeyball:	blatantly US hero
Marcel Kilgus:	I glum slacker grimace skull
Per Witte:	wet tripe
Phoebus Dokos:	so do poke Bush
Dilwyn Jones:	lewd joy inns
Darren Branagh:	he ran drag barn

When I look at the last two I wonder why we are holding our next AGM in boring Manchester. The Celtic fringe sounds much more interesting.

*[ How about: Geoffrey T Wicks:                  Few of grey ticks*

*Any other contributions welcome ( in a plain brown email please) to editor@quanta.org.uk - Ed]*

# JOSHEN MERZ SOFTWARE

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## **SMSQ/E - New Prices!**

The cold, dark days are coming ... which means more time can be spent for computing. We cannot think of a better event than "QL is 21" to cut the prices of SMSQ/E, to help even more QLers switch to SMSQ/E - be it either with QPC2 on a PC or for existing systems.

QPC2 Version 3 with SMSQ/E ...	now only EUR 59,90
QPC2 Version 3 upgrade from Version 2 ...	only EUR 19,90
QPC2 Version 3 upgrade from Version 1 ...	only EUR 39,90
QPCPrint ...	still only EUR 39,90

SMSQ/E for ATARI or GoldCard or SuperGoldCard or QXL ...  
now only EUR 39,90

Colour drivers now included as standard for (Super)GoldCard versions

SMSQ/E (Super)GoldCard Aurora Upgrade ... only EUR 19,90

**Special X-Mas offer (valid 'til 24th of Dec, 2005):**

QPC2 Version 3 with QPCPrint ... only EUR 89,90

For shipping inside Europe, EUR 3,- will be added for postage and packaging.  
For shipping outside Europe, EUR 6,- will be added for p & p.

**If you wish to place your order via internet, please do not send your credit card details in an email!**  
**Please use the secure contact form on the SMSQ homepage: SMSQ.J-M-S.COM**  
**We accept VISA, MasterCard and Diners Club!**

**H**ow time flies! Six months ago I started writing this 'Teaching Arithmetic' series and we are already at Divisions... This keeps me on my toes!

Up until now the QL has held your hand through all the operations which were broken down to their basic elements. This time I will assume that you have sufficiently revised additions, subtractions and multiplications so as to be able to master them in mental arithmetic... So this time the divisions program will break down its tabulation operations into basic arithmetic elements which you will have to do mentally. This is easy enough with one-figure divisors, but becomes harder for two-digit ones, and diabolic for three-digit ones. Of course, you can choose which difficulty-level you wish at the start of the program, as usual.

The routine does not do decimal divisions. This is not a problem, as such divisions use the same basic method as whole-number fractional divisions. This saves me having to handle decimal point positions, and especially allows me to use integer DIV and MOD operators which simplify the programming.

When you RUN the program, you are given the choice of up to 8 digits for the divided number, 3 digits for the divisor, and up to 3 tries per operation, as in the other arithmetic routines. With large numbers, you very rapidly run out of space on the screen for partial results, so I repeat each subsequent division on the same lines, with a breakdown of the operations demanded printed on each line. This will act as a reminder of the sequence of operations required for a hand-written tabulation, so the program retains its full educational value.

As per usual, each operation will allow you between one and three tries, with the QL beeping in unison, so you can correct your mistakes and make progress, which is the whole justification for the program. Again, when you have assimilated the method, (which uses standard school practise), unleash your children on it. Children adore making progress on computers! And while you're at it, why not buy your youngsters their own QLs or Pac's and a year's subscription to QUANTA? You can then help them to learn Basic...(Try doing that on a PC with Vi\$ualBasic). QUANTA needs new blood and new programmers. At the moment I am still finding inspiration for new programs, but I doubt whether that will last forever. (Time will tell!).

Many thanks again to Bruno Coativy who beta-tested this program for us, finding one flaw which could cause confusion and which has

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therefore since been rectified.

If you enjoy challenges, why not write a decimal-point version which allows manipulation of colossal and minute numbers, (if you leave out the partial results on screen). I have written such a program so as to be able to investigate recurring decimal-point numbers. This is especially interesting if you use variable-base mathematics.

*[Steve has remarked that his previous listing submissions suffered from the narrower space character which is used by Windoze applications against the wider space character used by QDOS. I have attempted to correct this in the following listing. Ed]*

```
100 ::
110 REMark Divide_bas, by S. Poole, v6feb2006.
120 REMark LRUN under QDOS or EXEC under SMSQ/E.
130 REMark Hit ESC to Quit when answer shown.
140 :
150 REMark Configure windows for EXEC:
160 CLEAR: OPEN#1,con_90: WINDOW 512,256,0,0
170 BORDER 1,4: PAPER 2: STRIP 4: INK 7: CLS
180 :
190 REMark main divide loop:
200 REPEAT loop
210   WINDOW 512,206,0,0: CLS: CSIZE 3,1: RANDOMISE
220   :
230   REMark Initialise the Grid:
240   AT 1,0: INPUT ' Division Digits, (1 to 8) >';fig1$
250   CLS: fig1='0'&fig1$
260   SElect fig1=1 TO 8: =REMAINDER : GO TO 240
270   AT 2,0: INPUT 'Divisor digits, (1 to 3) >';fig2$
280   CLS: fig2='0'&fig2$
290   SElect fig2=1 TO 3: =REMAINDER : GO TO 270
300   AT 3,0: INPUT 'Number of tries, (1 to 3) >!'tries$
310   CLS: tries='0'&tries$
320   SElect tries:=1 TO 3: =REMAINDER : GO TO 300
330   er=0: try=0
340   :
350   REMark Prepare the Grid:
360   fig2$=fig2: len_fig2=fig2$
370   fig1$=fig1: len_fig1=fig1$: DIM n1$(len_fig1)
380   fig2$=fig2: len_fig2=fig2$: DIM n2$(len_fig2)
390   DIM num1$(len_fig1), num2$(len_fig2)
400   :
410   REMark Get the random numbers for the division:
420   FOR f=1 TO len_fig1
430     n1$(f)=RND(0 TO 9): num1$(f)=n1$(f)
440   END FOR f
450   FOR f=1 TO len_fig2
```

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```
460     n2$(f)=RND(0 TO 9): num2$(f)=n2$(f)
470 END FOR f
480 IF num2$='1': GO TO 450
490 :: REMark n1$='52763': n2$='27'
500 FOR f=1 TO len_fig1: AT 2,f: PRINT n1$(f)
510 FOR f=1 TO len_fig2: AT 0,f: PRINT n2$(f)
520 n1s=n1$(1 TO len_fig1): n2s=n2$(1 TO len_fig2)
530 IF n2s>n1s: GO TO 420
540 IF n2s=0: GO TO 450
550 div_ct=1: n_rem$='0': div_an$=""
560 :
570 REMark Calculate each result:
580 REPEAT loop2
590 :
600     REMark Partial divided number:
610     FOR f=div_ct TO len_fig1
620         j=f: n$=n1$(div_ct TO f): n$=n_rem$&n$
630         IF n2s=0: n2=0: ELSE n2=n$ DIV n2s
640         IF n2>=0: EXIT f: REMark ignore leading zeros
650     END FOR f
660     :
670     REMark Calculate partial results:
680     IF n2s=0: n_rem=0: ELSE n_rem=n$ MOD n2s
690     n_rem$=n_rem: len_rem=LEN(n_rem$)
700     n_2$=n2: div_an$=div_an$&n_2$: re$=n2s*n2
710     :
720     REMark Get division integer:
730     FOR f=3 TO 4: AT f,1: CLS 3: ct=0
740     AT 5,j: OVER 1: UNDER 0: PRINT ' '
750     UNDER 0: OVER 0: AT 5,10: CLS 4: try=try+1
760     PRINT 'Divisor!'n$;'/'n2s;'>': INPUT!i$
770     IF i$=n2 THEN
780         BEEP 12345,6
790     ELSE
800         BEEP 12345,67: ct=ct+1: er=er+1
810         IF ct<tries: GO TO 740
820     END IF
830     AT 5,10: CLS 4
840     AT 5,j: STRIP 2: PRINT ' ': STRIP 4
850     AT 1,j: PRINT n2: ct=0: jl=j-LEN(re$)+1
860     :
870     REMark Get Multiplication Result:
880     AT 3,jl: OVER 1: UNDER 1: PRINT' '
890     UNDER 0: OVER 0: AT 3,10: CLS 4: try=try+1
900     PRINT 'Multiply!'n2s;'*';n2!'>': INPUT!i$
910     IF i$=re$ THEN
920         BEEP 12345,6
930     ELSE
```

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```
940         BEEP 12345,67: ct=ct+1: er=er+1
950         IF ct<tries: GO TO 880
960     END IF
970     AT 3,j-LEN(re$)+1: CLS 3: PRINT re$
980     :
990     REMark Get Remainder:
1000        ct=0: jl=j-len_rem+1
1010        AT 4,jl: OVER 1: UNDER 1: PRINT ' '
1020        UNDER 0: OVER 0: AT 4,10: CLS 4: try=try+1
1030        PRINT 'Remainder!'n$;'-'re$;'>';: INPUT!i$
1040        IF i$=n_rem$ THEN
1050            BEEP 12345,6
1060        ELSE
1070            BEEP 12345,67: ct=ct+1: er=er+1
1080            IF ct<tries: GO TO 1010
1090        END IF
1100        AT 4,j-len_rem+1: CLS 3: PRINT n_rem$
1110        AT 7,1: CLS 3
1120        :
1130        REMark start a new cycle:
1140        IF div_ct=len_fig1: EXIT loop2
1150        div$=n_rem$&n1$(j+1): REMark Pull figure down.
1160        AT 5,j-len_rem+1: CLS 3: PRINT div$
1170        n1$(div_ct)=0: div_ct=div_ct+1
1180        i$=INKEY$(#1,50)
1190    END REPEAT loop2
1200    :
1210    CLS: AT 4,1: PRINT num1$(1 TO len_fig1);
1220    PRINT !/'!num2$(1 TO len_fig2)!='
1230    FOR f=1 TO LEN(div_an$)
1240        IF div_an$(f)=0: div_an$(f)=": ELSE EXIT f
1250    END FOR f
1260    AT 6,1: PRINT div_an$!'remainder!'n_rem$
1270    :
1280    score=(er*100)/try
1290    AT 8,1: PRINT 'Errors: ';INT(score)&'%'
1300    AT 2,1: PRINT 'Hit ESC to Quit'
1310    IF CODE(INKEY$(#1,-1))=27 THEN
1320        WINDOW 512,206,0,0: CLS: EXIT loop
1330    END IF
1340    :
1350    END REPEAT loop: CSIZE 0,0: STOP
1360    ::
```

End of Listing

**Quanta Magazine**  
**NOTICE CONVENING**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006**

**N**otice is hereby given that the Twenty-second Annual General Meeting of QUANTA will be held at Third Davyhulme Scout Headquarters, Conway Road, Davyhulme, Manchester on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2006 at 2 p.m. for the following purposes:

- 1. To receive the Annual Report of the Committee.**
- 2. To receive the Annual Accounts and Auditor's Report.**
- 3. To elect members of the Committee.**
- 4. To appoint an Auditor and authorise the Committee to fix his/her remuneration.**
- 5. To consider and vote on one Special Resolution as set out below:**

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION Number 1**

The practice of keeping a separate Library account has been discontinued over 5 years ago as membership contracted with that account reverting to the accounts kept by the Treasurer. Consequently references to Librarian and Sub Librarians are no longer appropriate.

Committee, therefore, recommend the AGM 2005 to approve –

Special Resolution No.1 – That –

a) The last sentence of Clause 7.4 be deleted – “The Librarian will sign for the Library account.”

AND

b) The whole of Clause 7.6 be deleted – “The Librarian and Sub Librarians will keep records of their receipts and payments. Sub Librarians will account direct to the Librarian who will account for all librarians to the Treasurer at three monthly intervals”.

By Order of the Committee

Sarah Gilpin, Secretary.

# Quanta Magazine



## QL Today

The magazine for all QDOS SMSQ users  
published 5 times a year.

Volume 10 issue 3 is Out Now

Issue 3 of Volume 10 was sent out to subscribers at the end of December. As usual it was packed with reviews and super features. It includes Part IV of the 'Start Here' series, a review of the QL is 21 show and three programming projects.

It also featured a free 'QL Today Insider CD' crammed full of documentation on QL Hardware and Software.

If you do not already get QL Today why not try it now ?

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**T**he aims for 2005/2006 were :-

- 1) To mark the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Launch of the Sinclair QL, and that of QUANTA with an International Workshop – “QL is 21”.
- 2) To improve the magazine and carry out trials of distributing it electronically.
- 3) To update the Welcome Guide and republish it.
- 4) To revitalise the QUANTA Web Site.

“QL is 21” went with a zing! The atmosphere was akin to that of QUANTA Workshops in the early 90's. All credit to Roy Brereton for coming up with the concept of a “One Stop Event” – workshop, bar, restaurant, and overnight accommodation all in one place - the Ibis Hotel, Portsmouth. All credit also to the Manager of the Ibis and his staff for the way in which they supported the event.

A big thank you to Roy as General Organiser, Geoff as Activities Organiser, Sarah as Guest Activity Organiser, the Committee for manning it, and to ALL who attended it.

Some 46 people turned up on the Saturday and 30 of these partook of the Celebratory Dinner. It was great pleasure to have present as QUANTA Guests - David Batty, Simon Goodwin, Stuart Honeyball, Leon Heller, and Dilwyn Jones. Unfortunately both Sid Humphreys and Phil Borman had to decline due to prior engagements.

The event also provided a good opportunity to formally present Roy Brereton with Honorary Membership of QUANTA for the services he has rendered over the years and the prizes to the lucky six winners in the 2004 Survey draw.

One of the meeting rooms was allocated to the five traders who attended, a Mini-QL History Exhibition devised by Dilwyn Jones, and the QL Hardware Quiz presented by Simon Godwin. Some may have felt that more space was desirable but other venues have been less commodious.

The second room was allocated for lectures, for which it was well suited. The lectures were well presented and well supported.

The magazine has passed through a rather mixed year with Roy Brereton resigning as Acting Editor on completing editing the April/May magazine, followed by Bruce Nicholls resigning as Sub-Editor on completing the August/September issue. Many thanks to them both for the all work they did on the magazine.

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There was a member in the wings willing to take on the job of Editor but unfortunately he became seriously ill.

Given this situation John Gilpin and I decided to see what we could do with the magazine commencing with the October/November issue.

Nevertheless the trial electronic distribution of the magazine to Committee members went ahead as planned with the December/January issue,. The results so far are encouraging but, as expected, more experimentation is needed before Committee will be happy that the new product is fit for offer to members.

Updating the Welcome Guide is complete, and will be distributed – rebadged as the “Members’ Guide” - with the February/March magazine.

During the year the quanta.org.uk Web Site and associated facilities have been updated several times. A “QL is 21” page was inserted complete with a link to web pages for “QL is 21” set up by Geoff Wicks on his own site. In the autumn Bruce Nicholls found himself unable to continue supporting the maintenance of the QUANTA Web Site due to other commitments. Thank you Bruce for setting up the site in the first place and for maintaining it for so long.

The new QUANTA Web Site, however, has not been able to proceed as hoped primarily due to the lack of response to the request for a member to take on the job of EComms/Webmaster. Can anybody help, please? In the event of there being no response Committee will need to consider employing a contractor to move this forward and he will need to be paid.

During the year in response to a Subgroup’s request for financial assistance with increased meeting room rental charges Committee reviewed the longstanding policy of making grants to Sub Groups who experience difficulty with funding meeting place rents, of up to £50 per year or half the rental charge which ever is the less, and decided to increase the maximum available grants to £100 for 2005, and £200 for 2006.

With regard to the Committee for 2006/2007 –

- a) John Gregory has decided not to stand for re-election. Thank you John for the eleven years you have served on Committee mainly as Software Editor, and the past year combining those duties with those of Librarian.
- b) Geoff Wicks resigned from Committee on 3 February 2006 for personal reasons.

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- c) Those persons apart, all the other members of the Committee have been duly proposed, seconded, and are willing to stand for re-election.
- d) People willing to take on the jobs of Editor and EComms/Webmaster are still needed but no other persons have been nominated to stand for election.

During the year I have responded to several members who have commented on specific points with an invitation to take on vacant jobs but so far none have been willing so to do.

For the first three years of its existence QUANTA functioned quite well with a Committee of three. It is quite capable of doing so again. However this does not mean that it would be not better able to deliver if it had separate people doing the jobs of Editor, Librarian, and EComms / Webmaster.

Whilst tidying up the Constitution section of the Guide it was realised that the practice of keeping a separate Library account had been discontinued over 5 years ago as membership contracted with that account reverting to the accounts kept by the Treasurer. Consequently references to Librarians and Sub Librarians are no longer appropriate.

Committee, therefore, recommend the AGM to approve –

### **Special Resolution No.1 – That –**

a) The last sentence of Clause 7.4 be deleted – “The Librarian will sign for the Library account.”

AND

b) The whole of Clause 7.6 be deleted – “The Librarian and Sub Librarians will keep records of their receipts and payments. Sub Librarians will account direct to the Librarian who will account for all librarians to the Treasurer at three monthly intervals.”

### **WHAT NEXT?**

Committee has reviewed Subscription rates for 2006/2007 and come to the conclusion that they should be maintained at the same rates as 2005.

Committee has discussed the holding of future QUANTA Workshops and has come to the view that –

- a) The policy of alternating the venue for Annual General Meetings between North and South should be continued.

## Quanta Magazine

- b) In addition to the AGM it is desirable to hold further Workshops each year.
- c) Two day Workshops offer scope for the emphasis on the Saturday being on trading and on the Sunday on lectures and demonstrations.
- d) To encourage Member attendance at same by providing bed and breakfast for 2 or 3 lecturers/demonstrators.
- e) To complete the magazine electronic distribution trials and offer this alternative to members.
- f) To complete refurbishing the Web Site and associated Committee contact facilities .

---

### Treasurer's Report 2005

John Gilpin

The obvious exceptional item in the QUANTA financial year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005 was the "QL is 21" celebratory workshop and dinner held at the IBIS Hotel, Portsmouth at the end of October 2005.

The ball-park estimate of £2,500 to £3,000 proved to be slightly light as the actual overall cost turned out to be £3,250.

However, by taking the surplus tee shirts and phone chairs into general saleable stock, this figure is reduced by £390 to £2,860 (which is well within the budget) and if this figure is deducted from the overall operating deficit shown on the Income and Expenditure account of £2,890, the resulting figure for the year (without "QL is 21") would have been about £30 (Excess of expenditure over income.)

Despite fluctuations in the Income and Expenditure Account details, once again, QUANTA has been able to operate within its income restraints and provide a break-even set of accounts while paying for the Twenty first Celebrations from its Accumulated Fund.

My personal question is: "How long can this situation continue?"

I know that QUANTA still has £13,000 in its Accumulated Fund and it would be nice to see some of that money put to use in some beneficial way, but my concern is, if QUANTA is to respond to member's and non-member's criticisms regarding the quality and quantity of the services it offers, it needs some real support. This can be provided in two ways. The first is by being able to rely on its membership to give freely of their time and expertise in providing the services required while the second method would involve buying in these services at some great expense (professional labour is not cheap in the twenty first century). This really is an opportunity for the membership to help themselves – think about it; what do **YOU** want? Speak to a Committee member to see how you could help.

## **TO ALL QUANTA MEMBERS**

**The Proxy Form which you will find on the next page is your chance to vote at the AGM on 9th April even if you can't be present on the day. It is purposely on the middle page so that you can remove it without damaging the rest of the magazine, fill it in and return it to:**

**Mrs. Sarah Gilpin,  
QUANTA Secretary,  
181, Urmston Lane,  
Stretford,  
Manchester.  
M32 9EH**

**To be received by her not later than 3rd April 2006**

**Remember, this is YOUR VOTE.**

**USE IT.**

# NEMQLUG INVITE YOU ALL TO JOIN US

## In MANCHESTER for a 2-day WORKSHOP and AGM

Venue: 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme Scout Headquarters, Conway Road,  
Davyhulme, Manchester

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 12.00pm – 5.00pm  
and  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am to 4.00pm

The AGM will be held at 2.00pm Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup> 2006

You are all invited to join us at a dinner on Saturday. Please book your place by sending a £10.00 deposit (payable to NEMQLUG) to **Mrs S Gilpin, 181, Urmston Lane, Stretford, Manchester M32 9EH** by 24<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

Hotel accommodation is in short supply that weekend as there is a Manchester United V Arsenal football match on Sunday.

Our usual hotels are already full.

There are vacancies at the Mersey Farm Premier Lodge in Sale,  
Tel No 08701 977 179

Directions to the venue:

By Road; From the M60, Leave at Lostock Junction 9, and take Lostock Road, towards Urmston. Pass the George H Carnall Sports Centre and take the next turn to the right, Conway Road. 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme HQ is at the bottom of the road on the right hand side.

We hope to arrange a programme of presentations and demonstrations for the Sunday before the AGM starts. If you have any topics that you would like to know more about, please let me know.

QUANTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 9TH. APRIL 2006 - PROXY FORM

I, (Block Caps)

Of (address)

.....  
.....  
.....  
..... **Postcode** .....

Hereby appoint :-

The Chairman of the Meeting or, failing him (see Note 1 below):

Of (address)

.....  
.....  
.....  
..... **Postcode** .....

as my proxy to attend and vote in my name and on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of QUANTA to be held on 9th April 2006 and at any adjournment thereof. Unless instructed to abstain, or vote for or against the resolutions (as set out in the notice convening the meeting) by placing an "X" in the box(es) below, the proxy will vote at his/her discretion.

**ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS**

**FOR**

**AGAINST**

**ABSTAIN**

1. To receive the Annual Report of the Committee.

2. To receive the Annual Accounts and Auditor's Report.

3. To elect members of the Committee:-

Chairman - John Mason

Secretary - Sarah Gilpin

Treasurer - John Gilpin

Librarian - Roy Brereton

4. To Appoint an Auditor and authorise the Committee to fix his/her remuneration

**SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

**FOR**

**AGAINST**

**ABSTAIN**

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION Number 1**

The practice of keeping a separate Library account has been discontinued over 5 years ago as membership contracted with that account reverting to the accounts kept by the Treasurer. Consequently references to Librarian and Sub Librarians are no longer appropriate.

Committee, therefore, recommend the AGM to approve –

Special Resolution No.1 – That –

a) The last sentence of Clause 7.4 be deleted – “The Librarian will sign for the Library account.”

AND

b) The whole of Clause 7.6 be deleted – “The Librarian and Sub Librarians will keep records of their receipts and payments. Sub Librarians will account direct to the Librarian who will account for all librarians to the Treasurer at three monthly intervals.

Dated this 16th February 2006

Signed: Sarah Gilpin - Secretary

**NOTES:**

1. If you wish to appoint as your proxy a person other than the Chairman of the meeting, delete “ The Chairman of the Meeting” and insert (in Capitals) the name and address of your desired proxy, who must be a member of QUANTA at the time of the meeting
2. This form must reach the Secretary, Mrs. Sarah Gilpin, 181 Urmston Lane, Stretford, Manchester, M32 9EH, United Kingdom, on or before the 3rd. April 2006.

# Quanta Magazine

## QUANTA Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st December 2005.

£	2004 £		2005 £
		<b>INCOME</b>	
	3,789	Subscriptions	3,426
	95	Sale of Goods to Members	22
	35	Credit Card Charges	8
	243	Advertising	220
	8	Library Receipts	29
	0	"QL is 21"	377
	<u>330</u>	Donations	<u>118</u>
	4,500		4,200
323		Interest Received	439
<u>13</u>		Less: Taxation (Plus refund)	<u>23</u>
	<u>310</u>		<u>416</u>
	<u>4,810</u>		<u>4,616</u>
		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
	1,453	Magazine Printing Costs	1,312
	756	Magazine Postage Costs	478
	39	Sundry Purchases	103
	0	"QL is 21" Purchases	460
	<u>94</u>	Less: Stock movement	<u>-293</u>
	<u>2,342</u>		<u>2,060</u>
		<b>OVERHEADS</b>	
	50	Subgroup Support	160
	379	AGM Costs	396
	448	Committee Meetings	728
	822	Workshop Costs	395
	807	Committee Member's Expenses	378
	41	Royalties Payable	-6
	100	Insurances	110
	0	"QL is 21"	3,167
	90	Accountancy & Audit	110
	<u>37</u>	Bank & Credit Card Charges	<u>8</u>
	<u>2,774</u>		<u>5,446</u>
	-306	SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	-2,890
	-306	To/(From) QUANTA Accumulated Fund	-2,890

John Gilpin (signed)  
Honorary Treasurer

# Quanta Magazine

## QUANTA Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2005.

2004		2005
£	£	£
	<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>	
1,075	Equipment at Cost	1,075
<u>-1,067</u>	Less: Depreciation	<u>-1,067</u>
8		8
	<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	
256	Stock of Goods for Resale	549
14	Prepayments and Debtors	57
	<b>Bank Accounts:-</b>	
5,684	Current Accounts	1,253
11,338	Deposit Account	11,689
150	Cash in Hand - J Shelton Float	150
<u>1</u>	Cash In Hand	<u>0</u>
17,443		13,698
	<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>	
1,518	Accrued Charges and Creditors	663
<u>1,518</u>		<u>663</u>
<u>15,925</u>	<b><u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	<u>13,035</u>
15,933	<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>	<u>13,043</u>
	<b><u>FINANCED BY ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u></b>	
16,239	Balance brought forward	15,933
<u>-306</u>	Surplus/(Deficit) of Income for the Year	<u>-2,890</u>
15,933		13,043

### AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF QUANTA:

I have examined the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 2005 and confirm that they are in accordance with the books and vouchers of the Association and the explanation and information provided.

Signed: Catherine Banks

Name & Address: ...Catherine Banks

2, Anchorage Road,  
Urmston,  
Manchester.  
M41 9WW

# Quanta Magazine

## MINUTES OF THE QUANTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2005

**VENUE:** PORTSLADE, near Hove

**DATE:** 17 April 2005

Meeting started – 14:02

**Present:** John Mason (Chairman), John Gregory, Geoff Wicks, John Gilpin (Treasurer), John Southern (Secretary). Bill Newell (Honorary member) and sixteen ordinary QUANTA members.

**Apologies:** Roy Brereton

**Minutes of AGM 2004** – Were received and adopted  
Proposed by – Sarah Gilpin  
Seconded by – Ken Bain

**Matters Arising** – None

**Annual Report** – John Mason reported that this year is both the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the QL launch and the 21<sup>st</sup> year of QUANTA. He was surprised, but pleasantly so that we were still here. During the year the QUANTA Committee were tasked with maintaining the group as well as finding out “where we are”. Committee duties were reviewed and a survey of members was carried out. Thanks were given to Tony Firshman for making an on-line version of the survey available.

From the floor a question was raised about whether all the games in the library could be tested to see if they would run from Floppy disk.

John Gregory replied that anyone could always contact the Librarian or the Helpline and particular programs can be checked.

John Mason explained that the subscription rates had been reviewed but the Committee felt it was inappropriate to vary them at this time and so they are to remain £14 per year (£17 overseas and £5 associate).

The Committee is in favour of supporting any hardware or software projects where necessary.

During the last eighteen months there has been a shortfall in the amount of material available for publication in the magazine. As a result the magazine is now only Bi-monthly. A request was made for members to write articles and send them to the QUANTA Editor.

Considering the cost of the magazine, the Committee have considered an electronic version of the magazine. This will initially be

# Quanta Magazine

tested by Committee members for feasibility.

From the floor, Per Witte asked if this would be via PDF format.

John Mason answered that the trial was to be in PDF format and A4 rather than A5 format hard copies was being considered. However problems still existed.

Geoff Wicks indicated that the file size was currently too large and at A4 format the problem would also include how to handle the advertisers.

From the floor, David Gilham asked if a link rather than an email attachment could be sent as this would enable those with small mailbox limits to still obtain the electronic version.

Bruce Nicholls said that QUANTA had a 10MB limit for web storage. Any saving would be in postage as the current printing is already the minimum cost.

Dilwyn Jones suggested that if the printing ever gets low enough we could consider just laser printing the required copies.

Per Witte asked if it was possible to send it out on floppy disk and searchable while David Gilham asked if it could be in HTML format.

The Committee is to try and solve as many of the technical problems as possible.

## Annual Accounts

Proposer        John Gregory  
Secunder        David Gilham  
Passed by a show of hands

## Auditors Report

Proposer        John Hall  
Secunder        David Gilham  
Passed by a show of hands

**Election of Chairman** – Both JM and GW made a short statement to the members and then withdrew while the vote was held.

Tellers

Bill Newell  
Sarah Gilpin

Votes	Geoff Wicks	7 postal + 12 members =	19
	John Mason	22 postal + 5 members =	27
	Spoilt	3 postal	
	Abstained	1 postal + 2 members	
	Proxy	4 not used	

# QUANTA



## Independent QL Users Group

**World-wide Membership is by subscription only,**

Offering the following benefits:

Bimonthly Newsletter - up to 40 pages

Massive Software Library - All Free!

Free Helpline and Workshops

Regional Sub-groups. One near you?

Advice on Software and Hardware problems

Subscription just £14 for UK members

Overseas subscription £17

Barclaycard: Visa: Access: MasterCard: Accepted

**\*Now in our Twenty Third Year\***

Further details from the Membership Secretary

**John Gilpin, 181, Urmston Lane  
Stretford, Manchester, M32 9EH (UK).**

**Tel. +44 (0) 161 865 2872**

Or

**Visit the Quanta Web Site**

**<http://www.quanta.org.uk>**

**Email: [membership@quanta.org.uk](mailto:membership@quanta.org.uk)**

### **Next QUANTA Sponsored Event**

**NEMQLUG MANCHESTER WORKSHOP & QUANTA AGM**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme Scout Headquarters,**

**“The Endeavour”, Conway Road,**

**DAVYHULME,**

**MANCHESTER.**

**Saturday & Sunday 8th /9th April 2006**

**From 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. daily. AGM at 2.00 p.m. Sunday.**

**Ring Sarah Gilpin on**

**0161-865 2872 for full details**

# Quanta Magazine

John Mason was elected Chairman.

**Election of Officers.** As QUANTA had received a single nomination for both Secretary (Sarah Gilpin) and Treasurer (John Gilpin), they were duly elected.

**Committee members.** As the number of nominations for election as Committee member was less than the number of positions to be filled, John Gregory was duly elected.

Catherine Banks was appointed as Auditor and the Committee was authorised fix her remuneration.

Proposer	John Gregory
Seconder	John Hall

## Special Resolution Number 1

For	26 postal + 13 members	= 39
Against	7 postal + 5 members	= 13
Abstain	1 postal + 3 members	= 4
Proxy	3 postal not used	

Special Resolution Number 1 was carried by a two thirds majority.

## Special Resolution Number 2

For	29 postal + 13 members	= 42
Against	4 postal + 1 member	= 5
Abstain	1 postal + 7 members	= 8
Proxy	3 postal not used	

Special Resolution Number 2 was carried by a two thirds majority.

John Mason then asked Geoff Wicks to speak on QL workshops. Geoff Wicks said that the Byfleet and London subgroups were hoping to hold a joint workshop on the 25<sup>th</sup> September. October 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> is the date for "QL is 21" in Portsmouth with two possible workshops not sponsored by QUANTA being 18<sup>th</sup> June Eindhoven and 4<sup>th</sup> June Spain. It is hoped that a USA show will be held 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> October as well.

Geoff then went on to explain how the date for the "QL is 21" show was chosen in consultation with the traders and to avoid Trafalgar Day. From the floor, David Gilham asked Dilwyn Jones if he could link his show calendar to Geoff's. Geoff and Dilwyn agreed to discuss the matter further.

John Mason commented on the possibility of using electronic communications to a greater extent for Committee matters. The

# Quanta Magazine

Committee met four times in the previous year, with the rest of its duties being carried out by email. When initial QUANTA email addresses were set up the amount of unsolicited mail became a drawback and so the system was moved over to Bruce Nicholls to control.

The QUANTA Web Site has not been updated as often as it could have been. There is an appeal for an Ecomms/webmaster to co-ordinate the site.

QUANTA are also looking at having a chat site with on-line conferences being explored.

David Gilham requested a dedicated chat room.

The Committee post of Software Editor is being combined with that of the Librarian. The post of Membership Secretary is being combined with that of Treasurer.

John Mason then gave thanks to all those attending and Roy Brereton and John Southern for their time on the Committee. He called for anyone to let the Committee know if anyone is willing to act as the magazine editor.

Meeting ended 15:47

In attendance:-

John Mason  
John Gregory  
Geoff Wicks  
John Gilpin  
John Southern  
Bill Newell  
Sarah Gilpin  
Bruce Nicholls  
John Hall  
Christopher Cave  
Gerard Phelan  
Keith Mitchell  
Per Witte  
David Gilham  
Ken Bain  
Dilwyn Jones  
Steve Walling  
Alex Wells  
4 other members

## RWAP Services NEWS!

### New Websites!

We are proud to present our new websites! Starting September, we have separated our business in three separate websites.

You can find them at:

<<http://www.rwapadventuregames.com/>> (Adventure Games)  
<<http://www.rwapgames.co.uk/>> (General Site) and  
<<http://www.rwapsoftware.co.uk/>> (Software)

### New Products!

**QWORD 1.0** NOW WITH DIGITAL SOUND ON CD-ROM

The wait is now over! Q-Word version 1 is finally available!

Platforms:  
QPC/QXL, Q4G/Q6G, Aurora (with SGC)

Prices:

All versions without P-Word £ 20.00p  
All versions with P-Word £ 30.00p

Notes:

Q-Word DOES NOT require SMSQ/W with GDI support (OR SMSQ/W at all on the Aurora or Q6G machines. It works on the highest colour depth supported regardless of Operating System).

The Aurora version is available on either HD or CD disk. For the latter add £1.50 to the price. ED version is uncompressed and can be run directly from the floppy. All other floppy versions are compressed. QPC/QXL version comes on CD. New CD versions DO NOW support digital sound on QPC2

## Quantum Leap ED Drives

After many years of unavailability, here they are again! These are high quality Mitsubishi constructed IBM badged drives with full warranty.

Unlike previously sold ED drives, these do not require FLIP\_JIGGLE and have no problems formatting 720K disks. However for the latter a switch is included with the cable.

ED Bare unit (no cable)	£ 29.99p
ED Boxed unit (complete with cable/PSU)	£ 98.99p
Single unit Cable (with switch)	£ 4.99p
Dual unit Cable (with two switches)	£ 6.99p

(More options available, contact us for details. Also available mass quantities of ED and QD disks)



for Windows

For QLEAs that run Windows or with incompatible hardware for Talent Games, we now have re-released these adventures so that they can run on your Windows-equipped PC. No Emulator, floppies, microdrive backups etc. required, just a one-click install! Of course the full QL line is still available! (See side column)

Talent Games for Windows ea. £ 10.00p  
(Each Game includes a runtime installation of QL462 by Jimmy Montefiore)

## RWAP Services

178 Newnham Road, Bodworth, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, CV12 5QN, United Kingdom. Tel: +44 2476 490818 (From the UK dial: 02476 490818)  
Website: <http://www.rwapsoftware.co.uk>

We accept:



(For PayPal please add 4% to the total price. Cheques in £ sterling made payable to R. Melfort)

## Old Favourites!

### Utilities

SideWriter v1.08	£ 10.00p
Landscape Printing (EPSON printers)	£ 10.00p
ImageD v1.03	£ 10.00p
3D object generator	£ 10.00p
C-Filep v1.06	£ 10.00p
Supersave On-Screen Help system	£ 5.00p
Q-Index v1.05	£ 5.00p
Keyboard-to-numeric Aardv	£ 8.00p
ProForma ESC/PS Drivers v1.04 for ProWinSx Printer Driver	£ 8.00p

### Applications

Flashback SE v2.03 (upgrade only)	£ 5.00p
Database	£ 5.00p
QL Cash Trader v3.7	£ 5.00p
Accounting/Finance	£ 5.00p
QL Payroll v3.5	£ 20.00p
Accounting/Finance	£ 20.00p
QL Genealogist v3.26	£ 5.00p
Genealogy	£ 5.00p
Genealogy for Windows	£ 25.00p
QL Genealogist to Windows version upgrade	£ 5.00p
QL Cosmos v2.04	£ 25.00p
Planefaction	£ 25.00p
Q-Route v2.00	£ 2.00p
Route Finding	£ 5.00p
Upgrade from v1.4x	£ 5.00p
Britain map v1.11	£ 5.00p
RD Britain map (roads 2000) v2.03	£ 2.00p
Various British Area maps (ask for details)	£ 5.00p
Ireland map v1.20	£ 3.00p
Belgium map v1.01	£ 3.00p
Costa Rica map v1.03	£ 3.00p
P-Word UK English Dictionary (500,000 words!) Dictionary	£ 15.00p

### Leisure

Return to Eden v3.08	£ 10.00p
Adventure	£ 8.00p
Narnia Mill v2.03	£ 8.00p
Adventure	£ 8.00p
The Tower v2.01	£ 8.00p
Adventure	£ 8.00p
HorrorDay v3.1	£ 5.00p
Adventure	£ 5.00p
West v2.00	£ 5.00p
Adventure	£ 5.00p
The Lost Kingdom of Zkai v2.01	£ 25.00p
Adventure	£ 10.00p
All 6 games above	£ 8.00p
D-Day Mill v3.04	£ 5.00p
Strategy/War Simulation	£ 5.00p
Grey Wolf v1.08	£ 8.00p
Graphic Adventure Simulation	£ 5.00p
War in the East Mill v1.24 (upgrade only)	£ 8.00p
Strategy/War Simulation	£ 5.00p
Open Golf v5.20	£ 5.00p
Sport Simulation	£ 5.00p
QuizMaster II v2.07	£ 5.00p
Quiz	£ 5.00p
Stone Raider II v2.00	£ 5.00p
Action Game	£ 5.00p
Hoverzone v1.2	£ 5.00p
Avada Game	£ 5.00p
Deathtrike v1.5	£ 10.00p
Avada Game	£ 10.00p
Flightdeck v1.0	£ 20.00p
Flight Simulation	£ 20.00p
All 6 games above (Open Golf, QuizMaster II Stone Raider II, Hoverzone, Deathtrike and Flightdeck)	£ 20.00p

### Notes on Software requirements

The following programs have a minimum SGC card requirement: P-Word, Dword, Big British MAP for Q-Route

# Quanta Magazine

## QUANTA Membership Secretary's Report for Year 2005

As at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006, the QUANTA Membership was made up as follows:

	UK	OS
Members	134	16
Associate Members	3	NIL
Honorary Members	3	1
Other Members	4	NIL
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	144	17
COMBINED TOTAL MEMBERSHIP		161

John Gilpin.  
Honorary Membership Secretary.

### **“QL 2000” followed by “QL is 21” followed by.....? Roy Brereton**

---

One of the subjects of conversation after “QL 2000” and “QL is 21” was the attendance figures. For “QL 2000” the workshop attendance was just over 100 with 53 for the sit down meal on the Saturday evening, while “QL is 21” attracted about 46 on the weekend with 30 at the Saturday evening meal. If my memory serves me correctly, the membership in 2000 was 480 approx which means that about 20% attended the weekend and near enough 11% attended the meal. 2005 had a current membership of circa 270 which approximated to 17% of the members attending “QL is 21” and just over 11% attending the meal on Saturday evening. This correlates quite happily with comments from Geoff Wicks and QL Today regarding their attendance at Eindhoven in 2004, since it would appear that as the membership has decreased there has not been a dramatic percentage drop in attendance at the more popular workshops, rather that the ‘hard core’ of attendees has remained fairly constant, albeit with a loss of attendance from members who probably visit a workshop occasionally.

So, where does this leave us?

“QL is 21” was notable for QUANTA using some of their assets to pay the overnight cost of invited “guests” which also included the evening meal. On the basis of comments received and the general attendance in the ‘talks’ room, I believe this policy was justified and should be continued

## Quanta Magazine

for further workshops. This in itself leads to the question, “how many workshops should we hold annually?” Running through GW’s event planner for 2006, Eindhoven (25/03/06), Manchester AGM (8-9/04/06) and Hove (28/05/06) are all certain starters for this year. Possibly more will have been added by now. Certainly there is a question for members to comment on to see if they are comfortable with QUANTA funds being used for ‘guests’ at workshop events, but the other thorny question is the number and location of workshops to be held in the UK.

From QUANTA’S perspective, the AGM is a fixture in April of most years and Hove is another fairly permanent workshop. Added to this (from 2005) is the London workshop, the Norwich event and Byfleet. Unfortunately, and only my personal view, this does not constitute a fair geographical spread for members especially Scotland! So what should we do? Up to now QUANTA has always been fortunate that there have been enough sub-groups or volunteers to do the donkey work for past workshops, but in the light of “QL is 21” which was essentially organised by Committee members of QUANTA, perhaps we should be more pro active in the location and organisation of workshops in the UK. Maybe we should have two events in the South and two in the North which could include Scotland maybe as a biennial event. No doubt Mr J Hall will take me to task over this statement claiming discrimination against Wales! The answer to this rather difficult question lies with the membership. Would you prefer a spread of events equally across north and south? If so, would you be happy for QUANTA to utilise some funds for Guest speakers at each event? If the answer was affirmative then QUANTA could fund and organise the event. On the other hand you might not agree with this proposal and prefer to leave things as they are with perhaps a “QL is 21” type show every other year or so. In my view that is not a satisfactory state of affairs as the attendance at workshops in Byfleet and London last year were a disappointment for their organisers, and for the traders.

Another point – if the attendances continue to fall then you can hardly expect our merry band of traders to travel and perhaps have an overnight stay at a workshop where they will not cover their costs. This scenario has a familiar ring about it lately (see QL Today) and we need to address the problem. I hope that some of the traders will reply to QUANTA with their thoughts in future issues of the newsletter.

However, on a brighter note, it was a pleasure to see some notable QL luminaries at “QL is 21”, in particular George Gwilt, Simon Goodwin, Stuart Honeyball and Leon Heller. I must confess that I have never attended talks by either George or Simon as I was convinced that I would not understand a word that they said! I now stand corrected as the talks were very interesting, and although I did not find everything easy, their

# Quanta Magazine

talks were well presented. The same goes for Dilwyn Jones and Geoff Wicks who are always entertaining and thought provoking in their presentations.

Although I was seen as Event organiser at Portsmouth, in truth I was indebted to Geoff Wicks, John Mason and John and Sarah Gilpin for their invaluable help in organising "QL is 21".

Also, the manager and staff at the Ibis did a great job for us and my thanks go to them for all their help.

To everyone who attended and helped to make a success at Portsmouth, my sincere thanks to you and let's do it again sometime soon!!

## **SUBGROUP MEETINGS**

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### **THE BIRMINGHAM BRANCH QL & 68000 User Group**

This long-running group has moved back to its previous venue, the Queens Head pub in the City Centre. Meetings remain open to Quanta members and non-members alike. The Queens Head is in Steelhouse Lane, Central Birmingham, four minutes walk from Snow Hill main-line railway station and has ample street parking nearby.

Meetings are usually on the first and third Monday of each month (but not on Bank holidays unless the previous one was cancelled for that reason). After your first meeting you're expected to pay £1 each time towards the organisation and monthly newsletter costs - except once a year when the group pays all those who attend a pound instead (We provide food twice a year for those who attend the AGM and the group's birthday party) and at meetings we discuss all sorts of things, QL-related and otherwise, usually from about 8:20pm onwards till 10:30 or later. The group owns QL hardware, a disk library and subscribes to relevant magazines. People can join the mailing list for £3.50 per year, even if they can't attend regularly.

The contact number remains Mike Bedford White's, on 0121 708 2560, anytime after 11 am.

### **QUANTA DORSET SUBGROUP**

Meetings are held, on the second Sunday of each month at the Merley Community Centre in Harrier Drive, Merley, just south of Wimborne Minster. Time: 2.00pm to 5.00pm. All are welcome.

John Meadows Tel: 01202 576189, or John Mason, 01425 275894.

(EEC) *W.N. Richardson & Co.*

Telephone & Fax: 01494-871319

Car Phone: 07808 576118

6, Ravensmead  
Chalfont St. Peter  
Buckinghamshire  
SL9 0NB

## SINCLAIR QL / Z88

BACKUP QL WITH P.S.U. JS ROM - £85 JM ROM - £70  
PART EXCHANGE ALLOWANCE - £15

WE DO REPAIRS< PART EXCHANGES AND BUY Z88's & PARTS

**NEW! CAMBRIDGE Z88 WITH OZ4+512k Internal Ram £150**

\* ALSO AVAILABLE, 512k RAMPACK £40 \*

3 Microvitec or similar monitors £40 each.

All usual Spares, Interfaces, Repairs, and  
Part Exchange QLs and Z88

I still need Spectrums and parts,  
Particularly interface ones.

### Z 88 SPECIALS

Eproms 32k, FIVE for £10 128k £10 each

Rams 512k £35 each

QL & PC COMPUTER USERS WILL FIND THE CAMBRIDGE Z88 ESPECIALLY USEFUL FOR WORK AWAY FROM THE DESK TOP. WITH TRANSFER PROGS DATA CAN BE SAFELY EXCHANGED WITH THEIR DESKTOP SYSTEM.

W.N. RICHARDSON & CO CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FULL SPARES AND SERVICES FOR SINCLAIR COMPUTERS, QL & THE CAMBRIDGE Z88

# Quanta Magazine

## EAST ANGLIAN QL USER GROUP

Meetings happen on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at Bramerton Village Hall. Bramerton is just south of Norwich. They start at 1pm and end at 5pm. There is free parking on site, and tea/coffee is also provided free. If you can, please bring your QL system, all welcome.

Tarquim Mills <speccyverse@ntlworld.com> or Tel:01603-470399

## LONDON QL AND QUANTA GROUP

Meetings are held in the School Room, which is the basement of the Borough Welsh Congregational Chapel, 90, Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1. This is almost opposite the junction with Marshalsea Road, at the other end of which, 5 minutes walk away, is the Borough Underground Station. Free parking is easily available in Southwark Bridge Road for road users, Cyclists are welcome.

Members currently each pay a subscription of £30 per year towards the cost of the hire of the hall and a small additional charge is made for tea/coffee - biscuits are then provided free.

Please bring your QL equipment if possible, all types welcome, e.g., PC portable running emulators. The Group has some systems stored at the venue for its use. In addition, there are lots of donated second user equipment, books, magazines, etc, available for purchase.

Time : 2.00pm to 6.00pm, on the second Sunday of the month.

No meetings are held in either December - winter break, or August - summer break. Giving 10 meetings a year.

Malcolm Cadman : Tel: 020 8691 5780; email: QL@mcad.demon.co.uk

## NEMQLUG - THE NORTH EAST MANCHESTER QL USER GROUP

Meetings are held at 181, Urmston Lane, Stretford, Manchester. M32 9EH (Near Junction 7 of M60 Motorway - Was Junction 7 M63 Motorway). Our informal meetings start at 7 p.m. and finish at 11p.m. All welcome.

Meets on the last Thursday of each month (except December).

# Q-Celt Computing

Specialists in QL specific CD's and DVD's, Hardware and Software.

c/o Darren Branagh, Gortnaclassa, Cong, Co.Mayo, Ireland.  
Tel: (+353)86-8100090. Email: dbranagh@cmsperipherals.com

## PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW POSTAL AND EMAIL ADDRESSES!!

And.....

Just to let you know, we are still very much alive!!  
We have been sadly missing from many of the recent  
shows due to family and work commitments – but  
we are still in business!! (honest!!)

So, if you are looking for the widest range of QL  
CD-ROM's, and DVD's, or some older hardware or  
software – then please contact us on any of the  
above methods – we don't bite!!

## **CALL OR EMAIL US TODAY!!**

We accept cheques made payable to D.Branagh, credit cards (by prior arrangement only) money orders, bank drafts, and even cash!! Due to stock levels and work commitments, please allow up to 14 days for delivery., though we will try to be at prompt as possible.

# Quanta Magazine

John/Sarah Gilpin 0161-865 2872 (gilpins@ic24.net)  
or John/Alison Southern 01625-850067. (tarragon@bigfoot.com)

## SCOTTISH QL USERS GROUP

SQLUG meets at George Gwilt's home every second Sunday in the month. Please contact George Gwilt before coming to get the location.

Geogwilt@aol.com

## SOLENT SUBGROUP

Meets at Botley Market Hall, all welcome. Park at the back and use side entrance.

1st Saturday of the month from 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

Graham Evans, Tel: 023 8040 3350.

## SURREY QUANTA SUBGROUP (SQSG)

Venue is St Giles Church Hall, Ashtead. (This is the other side, towards the downs, of the main Epsom - Leatherhead road, up Park Lane which is at the Epsom end of the town).

From 8.00 to 10.30 pm on the last Wednesday of each month, except December.

Ken Bain 01932 347 432 (to midnight), kenb@bcs.org.uk

## SUSSEX QL USER GROUP

Currently without a meeting place, anyone interested should contact Keith Mitchell or Roy Wood.

Roy Wood, 01273 386030 or Keith Mitchell, 01903 742263.

# Quanta Magazine

QUANTA AND OTHER QL SHOWS PROGRAMME				
	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
JANUARY 2006				
FEBRUARY 2006	Magazine Copy Date - 5th			
MARCH 2006				Eindhoven International - 25th
APRIL 2006	Magazine Copy Date - 5th	QUANTA AGM MANCHESTER - 8th/9th		
MAY 2006				QUANTA HOVE - 28th
JUNE 2006	Magazine Copy Date - 5th	Eindhoven Local - 17th		
JULY 2006				
AUGUST 2006	Magazine Copy Date - 5th			
SEPTEMBER 2006				
OCTOBER 2006	Magazine Copy Date - 5th	Eindhoven Local - 14th		
NOVEMBER 2006				
DECEMBER 2006	Magazine Copy Date - 5th			

# Quanta Magazine

Feeling out on a limb?

Reach out for QBranch.

Suppliers of computer solutions

Hardware and Software



Inv.No. Q11

## New Programs and Updates !

We have many new things available at the moment :

QDT - The QL Desktop £ 30.00 + P&P

New version available now. 'Drag and Drop' & improved icon editor. Price held till Feb 10th 2006

After that the price will rise to £41.50 - buy now and save £11.50 !!

EASYPTR parts 1&2 version 4 - high colour £ 41.00 on CD with manual in Adobe format

EASYPTR parts 1&2 upgrade £ 27.50 on CD (send master disk)

QPCPrint - print to any printer from QPC2 £ 27.50 on CD with manual in Adobe format

!!!!!! PRICE DROP !!!!!

QPC2 v 3.30 (SMSQ/E v3.10 needed for QPCPrint) was £ 65.00 ----- NOW £42.00

Upgrade from version 3.xx £ Free. Send Master disk and return envelope and postage

Upgrade from v2.xx £ 13.90

Upgrade from v 1.xx £ 34.00

Keyboard mebranes few left £ 17.50

New Super/Gold Card Batteries £ 10.00 + P&P

Aurora Motherboards - new £ 65.00

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Tel: +44 (0)1273 386030 Fax: +44 (0)1273 430501

email: sales@qbranch.demon.co.uk

skype: roqbranch

web: <http://www.qbranch.demon.co.uk>

# TF Services

## Compswitch

A UK 4-way trailing socket designed to switch off computer peripherals automatically when the computer is switched off, or (in the case of an ATX computer) when it auto-powers down. **Compswitch** has one control socket, and three switched sockets. Can be used with lights/hifi/monitors—ie a QL monitor can be used as a switch control.

Cost **£24**

## superHermes

A major hardware upgrade for the QL

All Hermes features (working ser1/2 at 19200, independent baud rates/de-bounced keyboard/keyclick) IBM AT kb4 DF // HIGH SPEED RS232 at 57600/ serial mouse port and 2 other RS232 inputs// 3 I/O lines // EEPROM

Cost (including manual/software) ..... **£90** (£92/£93)  
 IBM AT UK layout Keyboard..... **£11** (£13/£15)  
 Serial mouse..... **£8** (£8.50/£9)  
 Capslock/scrolllock LED ..... **£1** (£1.50/£1.50)  
 Keyboard or mouse lead ..... **£3** (£3.50/£3.50)  
 High speed serial (ser3) lead..... **£4** (£4.50/£4.50)

Hermes available for **£25** (£26/£27) Working ser1/2 and independent input, debounced keyboard.

**SuperHermes LITE:** All Hermes features (see above) + an IBM AT keyboard interface only.

Cost (incl keyboard lead)..... **£53** (£54/£55)

## QL REPAIRS (UK only)

Fixed price for unmodified QLs, excl microdrives. QLs tested with Thom-EMI sig and ROM software.

**£27 incl 6 month guarantee**

## Minerva

The ORIGINAL system operating system upgrade

OTHER FEATURES COMMON TO ALL VERSIONS

DEBUGGED operating system/ autoboot on reset of power failure/ Multiple Base/ faster scheduler- graphics (within 10% of lightning) - string handling/ WHEN ERROR/ 2nd screen/ TRACE/ non-English keyboard drivers/ "warm" fast reset. V1.97 with split OUTPUT baud rates (+Hermes) & built in Multibasic.

First upgrade free. Otherwise send £3 (+£5 for manual if reqd). Send disk plus SAE or two IRCs

MKI...£40 (£41/£43) MKII...£65 (£66/£67)

MINERVA RTC (MKII) + battery for 256 bytes ram. CRASHPROOF clock & FC bus for interfacing. Can autoboot from battery backed ram. Quick start-up.

## QL RomDisq

Up to 8 mbyte of flash memory for the QL. A small plug in circuit for the QL's ROM port (or Aurora) giving 2, 4 or 8 mbytes of permanent storage - it can be thought of as a portable hard disk on a card, and reads at some 2 mbytes per second.

Think of it - you could fully boot an expanded QL, including all drivers/SMSQ etc off **RomDisq** at hard disk speed with only a memory expansion needed.

2 mbytes RomDisq ..... **£39** (£40/£41)  
 4mbytes RomDisq ..... **£65** (£66/£67)  
 8 mbytes RomDisq ..... **£98** (£99/£100)  
 Aurora adaptor ..... **£3** (£3.50/£4)

## MPLANE

A low profile powered backplane with ROM port

A three expansion backplane with ROM port included for RomDisq etc. Aurora can be fitted in notebook case and powered off single 5V rail - contact QBranch for details. Two boards (eg Aurora and Gold Card/Super Gold Card/Goldfile fixed to base. Suitable for Aurora (ROM accessible from outside) & QL motherboard in tower case. Specify ROM facing IN towards boards, or OUT towards back of case.

Cost ..... **£34** (£35/£36)

## I2C INTERFACES

Connects to Minerva MKII and any Philips I<sup>2</sup>C bus

**Power Driver Interface** 16 DO lines with 12 of those with control 3 current carrying outputs (source and sink capable)

2 amp (for 3 relays, small motors) ..... **£40** (£43/£44)

4 amp total (for motors etc) ..... **£45** (£48/£50)

**Relays** (3 3a 12v 2-way mains relays (needs 2a power driver) ..... **£25** (£28/£29)

**Parallel Interface** Gives 16 input/output lines. Can be used wherever logic signals are required ..... **£25** (£27/£28)

**Analogue Interface** Gives eight 8 bit analogue to digital inputs (ADC) and two 8 bit digital to analogue outputs (DAC). Used for temp measurements, sound sampling (to 5 KHz), x/y plotting ..... **£30** (£31/£32)

**Temp probe** (-40°C to +125°C) ..... **£10** (£10.50/£11)

**Connector for four temp probes** ..... **£10** (£10.50/£11)

**Data sheet** ..... **£2** (£2.50/£3)

**Control software & manual (for all I/F)** ..... **£2** (£2.50/£3)

## QL SPARES

Keyboard membrane ..... **no longer on sale**  
 1377 PAL ..... **£37** (£3.50/£4)  
 Circuit diagrams ..... **£3** (£3.50/£4)  
 68008 cpu or 8049 IPC ..... **£8** (£8.50/£9)  
 8301/8302 or JM ROM or serial lead ..... **£10** (£10.50/£11)  
 Power supply (see mail overseas) ..... **£12** (£17/£21)  
 Other components (sockets etc) also available

Prices include postage and packing (Always where applicable) Prices are: UK (Europe/Rest of world) Exposed by charge drawn on 1st bill with UK address, postal order or CASH/ I can no longer accept cash payments as UK only have PDQ transaction. SAE or IRC for full list and details 31 Oct 92

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