Editor’s Column

Susan Small

Welcome to Issue Number 3 and thank you to those who responded to initiatives from the last issue.

This issue is the last that will appear under the Chairmanship of Sunil Das and I am grateful that he has found time, amidst preparing for his wedding to Hazel and marking examination papers, to bid a farewell in these pages. I am sure there will be many tributes to him over the next few months, and I would like to add my thanks to him for his continual support and friendship.

Lee McLoughlin, the UKUUG Archivist at Imperial College, has filed a report of his trip to Usenix - he made me feel guilty by e-mailing it to me at 4am, saying he was too tired to proof read it!

Mick Farmer, the Secretary, has filed a report on membership and details of the forthcoming membership drive.

Again, not a lot of news from the LUGs and unfortunately Cambridge is losing Jane Hills to a position in London. I gather, however, that the recent London meeting involving Bill Cheswick of Bell Labs (An Evening with Berferd in which a Hacker is Lured, Endured, and Studied) was a great success with nearly fifty people crowding into the meeting room.

Given that I hope to be touring around Green Spain for most of August, the September edition may appear a little late in the month - it may also be a bit thinner, unless you deluge with me articles in my absence.

Don’t forget that you can send me contributions by e-mail, snail-mail, telephone or fax. Contact addresses for people or organisations mentioned can be found on the back page.

Advertisements consisting of 2-3 column inches will be accepted from members at no cost. However, if you wish to insert an A4 flier for dispatch with the Newsletter this will cost £100. Full details of this service can be obtained from the UKUUG Secretariat.

Publication Dates

September 1992
November 1992
January 1993
Copy Deadlines

19 August 1992 for September
19 October 1992 for November
19 December 1992 for January 1993
19 February 1993 for March 1993
19 April 1993 for May 1993

Chairman’s Report

Sunil K Das

In September 1984, a University academic was elected chairman of a small group of UNIX enthusiasts, the UKUUG. Not, I suspect, due to an instantly recognisably brilliant business brain, nor because I was considered an exceptional computer talent, but because I was an enthusiast of UNIX who was naive enough to be prepared to take on the role!

That naivety has taken me all over the world. It has been demanding in the time it has consumed, but it repaid that time with friendships and experiences that could never be bought, and will never be forgotten. As Chairman and as a UNIX protagonist, I have visited many places. Almost all European countries, the Soviet Union (as was), mainland China, Taiwan, and other parts of Asia, Australia, and many parts of the USA. As far north as Trondheim (inside the Arctic Circle), as far south as Sydney, Australia, as far west as Berkeley, USA and as far east as Moscow, Russia.

The Chairmanship is an honorary position and it was an honour and pleasure to serve an active and forward-thinking organisation. The original UKUUG, formed way back in the 70s, started because a small number of enthusiasts of a little-known operating system called UNIX wanted to know more. New Jersey was a long way away then and the communications medium available were too expensive for the average UK UNIX individual. They could not find the forum they wanted to exchange information and ideas, and so they created their own, the United Kingdom Unix Users Group (UKUUG).

What they had not expected was that this small band of enthusiasts would be at the receiving end of membership enquiries from all over continental Europe. The EUUG was founded through this interest and the strong and influential organisation known to us today as EurOpen is the result. When I took over as Chairman, it was of the UKUUG which had been reformed as a National Group so that UK enthusiasts could still meet locally as well as having access to their friends in Europe.

Over the past decade UKUUG has had many successes. Local user groups meet, continuing the original ethos of an exchange of information and knowledge, both on UNIX and the best curry houses in town. On a wider level, regular workshops on topical issues are a continuing success and remain well attended. Nationally, such UNIX legends as Thompson, Ritchie and Kernighan, amongst others, have recognised the UK commitment by attending and speaking at our technically successful conferences. The UKUUG is, however, now faced with its greatest
After a decade of involvement, it is time to pass the mantle to some new blood. I have helped create a stable foundation: a new constitution, with a move from a three-person executive to a maximum six-person council; the UKUUG as a limited company; expansion of expertise, sharing of tasks and an assurance of as broad a view as possible taken for the future. Happily, I leave UKUUG in a financially stable position.

I wish good luck to my successor and want the community to know that my interest in UNIX and the UNIX fraternity has not diminished. I look forward to continuing those friendships in the future.

A fond farewell, but this is not goodbye.

**Secretary’s Report - Members and Services**

Mick Farmer

Most of you will have noticed that this issue of our newsletter is accompanied by a coloured brochure advertising the UKUUG and its services. This brochure is going to be used to launch a new initiative to attract more members to our group. As you can see from the graphs below, our membership has increased steadily since detailed records were kept in 1989. The steep increase in membership in 1990 was caused by the attractive offer made at the time of our London Conference entitled "UNIX - The Legend Evolves". However, since then, the increase in membership has been less dramatic.

User groups like ours are not immune from the current recession and our secretariat at Owles Hall are used to receiving membership invoices returned, marked "Gone into Receivership" or "Ceased trading". Having said that, we on the Council think that the computer industry is still relatively buoyant with many users coming to UNIX for the first time. It is these people that we want to attract to the UKUUG as a group, catering for their interests. We’ve sent you the advertising brochure for a number of reasons.

First, to ask for your reactions to it. Please send your comments and suggestions, preferably by e-mail, to Mick Farmer (whose address is given at the back of this newsletter). Second, to ask you to pass on the brochure to someone you know who isn’t a member of the UKUUG, but who might be interested in joining. Third, please give a thought to the services mentioned in the brochure and let us know what you think of the existing services, and what services we should provide in the future.
As the chart below shows, nearly three quarters of our members are classified as "commercial", a category that we intend to target in terms of new services.

The number of academic members increases slowly, but there are very few academic institutions left that haven't moved to UNIX over the last five years. Our individual members are often small computer companies, a group that has been particularly badly hit by the recession, but the number in this category continues to rise.

If you're an individual member reading this article, what services would you like to see provided by the UKUUG? Finally, we come to student members, a category only resurrected in 1990. We intend to do a special promotion attracting new student members sometime between October and December this year (when, hopefully, they've still got some grant money left :-). We consider student members to be especially important to the group as these are the corporate and individual members of the future.

Usenix Conference
Lee McLoughlin

Lee attended the recent Usenix Conference in San Antonio this June on behalf of the UKUUG. The following is his report.

This was my first chance to attend a Usenix conference - in fact my first trip to America.

Monday. Arrived at US immigration:

"Hello. Why are you coming to the US, business or a holiday?"

"Business. I'm here for a Unix conference."

(alarmed) "You're here for a Eunuchs conference!"

"No! You - Nix, its a major computer package!"

"Oh. Does it run on DOS then?"

At this point I was faced with something of a dilemma. Do I spend the next few hours explaining how Unix is the greatest operating system since John von Neuman first started diddling with circuits. Or do I bow to the inevitable, agree with them and get through to my connecting flight?

"Yeah, it runs on DOS"

In America for five minutes and already a turncoat. Now I know how Washington felt.

Arrived in San Antonio late Monday evening with some more of the IC Mafia, Jan-Simon Pendry (now at IBM, but ex-Imperial College) and Stuart McRobert (my boss - all praise to him). It was about 95 degrees. Even I was prompted to take my jumper off! Got to the hotel, it was air conditioned, put jumper back on. A few people milling around, but by now the registration desks had closed for the day. Didn't spot anyone I knew to gossip with so headed for the terminal room to catch
up on my e-mail. Somewhere between San Antonio and the UK a link was doing a pretty good yo-yo impression. Felt a bit tired and went to bed "early", 10pm San Antonio, but 4am UK. This was late even for your dedicated archivist!

**Tuesday.** Met up with Jan-Simon for breakfast. By the way don't ever try "grits"; it tasted like a strange cross between rice and porridge.

Wandered up (past the giant armadillo sitting at the player piano) and got registered. Got a bag-load of bumpf including the conference proceedings and a copy of most of the slides, which is useful as I hate taking notes during talks. Name badge came with an optional yellow ribbon with the banner "Newcomer" on it. Several other coloured ribbons were evident about the foyer: "Conference Organiser", "Chairperson", "Lame Duck" (not sure about that last one). The most useful item was the "Conference Directory". This was a 22 page colour brochure which gave details for just about everything. A who's who of Usenix, times and details of all the talks, BoF's, various maps of both the conference area of the hotel and its surrounding sites, local restaurants and local sights. What's more it fitted neatly into my back pocket.

As I wasn't attending any of the tutorials I tagged along with Pete Collinson (ex UKC, now of Hillside Systems), Jan-Simon and some others to an IMAX cinema to see "The Alamo". The real Alamo is just outside the hotel and probably explains the touristy feel of the area. IMAX cinemas are a real blast. 65 foot tall screens, amazingly loud speaker systems for a "total experience". After that toured around the real Alamo which was a bit disappointing. The main mission building had little to show and the "museum" was a gift shop. The best was "Long Gallery". Originally the barracks it now contains a lot of really interesting historical information.

I went to the Usenix booth in the registration area to get a conference tee shirt which had a picture of a cowboy trying to lasso an armadillo. None left in the size medium. Unix people, I was told, wore large, extra large and extra extra large. I mentioned this to Peter Salus (of the Sun User Group) over lunch. Peter was the editor of the daily /etc/motd/news-sheet. He kindly arranged to set aside one of the few mediums coming in the top-up stock the next day (thanks Peter).

Tuesday evening saw the start of the BoF's (Birds of a Feather). So many were planned that they had to be run in parallel. I attended an EFF and News Software BoF. The EFF are the Electronic Frontier Foundation and Jaff Kellem of the EFF was chairing this BoF. The EFF are involved in all sorts of activities to make networks freely available. Some of this involves helping people being prosecuted unfairly for network activities. Other activities involve trying to help convince telecoms companies that their network charges should be more reasonable. A lot of the talking was about some cases in the US and Canada where the respective governments seem to be using fairly draconian powers against people who were actively helping real network abuses! For those interested in following this area there are two Usenet newsgroups:

```
comp.org.eff.news and comp.org.eff.talk.
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For general information there is the e-mail address: eff@eff.org.

Only about 20 people attended this BoF so it was pretty informal.

The News Software BoF was very heavily attended with (I guess) a couple of hundred people there. Chairing it was Henry Spencer of the University of Toronto. He is probably best known as one the chief authors of C News, which is now the most widely used of the news software packages. A new "clean up" release is due out soon(ish).

I wasn’t able to attend the Free Software Foundation BoF. Which was a shame as it seemed to be the source of several badges that people were wearing the next day. "GnURU" was my favourite. If anyone has a spare I’d appreciate it.

**Wednesday.** Today the conference proper started. Rick Adams, of UUNET, introduced us to the event and to the keynote speaker, Stuart Feldman. If the name sounds familiar he is the author of Make, F77 and several other Unix utilities. This was a very amusing talk in two parts. In the first half he compared the history of Unix with that of architecture. This included such gems as a drawing of the "Tower of Joy" (Bill Joy was one of the original BSD crew), comparing Posix to a "Tribute to Vinyl Siding". For the future he put up a slide of the "Arch de Feat", an Arch de Triumph lying on its top with its legs in the air!

The second half he used a maturity scale from physics to guage the success of various computing concepts. The scale was: conception, use by you and friends, use by others, commercial viability, when you have to explain why you are not using it. Most progress along the scale, some stopped, others (like ADA) went backwards. He ended by using it on physics again to show Cold Fusion going from point one to four then back to one again! A serious note from this was that computing ideas seem to take about 15 years from conception to market dominance.

During the breaks between talks a variety of beverages and pastries were available in the wide corridors outside salons used to hold the talks. With a coke in hand I decided to see the vendor display. This was a small affair with only eighteen booths. Personally I was most interested in the bookshops, UUNET and BSDI (very cheap source BSD for 386/486 pc's). A forthcoming book was "The Whole Internet" from Nutshell Handbooks. This is a guide to all the useful services on the network and is due out in a couple of months.

The afternoon started with the talk that won the best student paper award. It was presented by Mary Baker of The University of California and was on "The Recovery Box". It described a way for programs to record their state in a special peice of memory so that after a system restart (or crash) they could restart quickly.

Also in the afternoon was a talk on InterNetNews by Rich Salz, of BBN. INN is an alternative to C News for those on the internet. Essentially it has a sinlge multi-threaded server that can handle multiple incoming feeds. This ensures that only one feed ever has to ship a new article over the network even if two feeds attempt to send the same article at almost the same time.

The evening's BoFs contained, for me,
some of the highlights of the conference.

The "International Obfuscated C Code Contents" pre-announced this year's winners. The real announcement will be posted to the net as usual. Landon Noll or Pyramid was in the chair. This included some real gems. A Mandlebrot generator whose source was in the shape of a Mandlebrot and whose #defines were in the shape of a Julia set! A program called "world" whose arguments were two numbers, it was only half a page long that could print a map of the world including showing the point at the latitude and longitude given! The most amazing was "adgrep" which if it was given its own source code as input would output a new program that was either grep, sleep or head depending on the pattern searched for!

Rob Kolstad of BSDI chaired their BoF. This was a very slick and highly amusing presentation about the Berkeley Software Design, Inc. operating system based around the BSD Networking 2 tape. He now carries around an ordinary laptop PC running this version of Unix (I'm sure I saw Dennis Ritchie enjoying himself having a play on this later). You can find out more info on their product by e-mailing bsd@hillside.co.uk.

This was followed by the 4.4 BSD BoF. This was presented by Kirk McKusick of the University of California, Berkeley and Mike Karels of BSDI. A release of 4.4 will be out in a month or so. This will be in two flavours: one requiring an Unix license (like 4.3BSD did) and 4.4 Lite (which contains no AT&T code). The money made on selling tapes of both kinds will fund them to the end of the year then, barring a miracle, the BSD effort will end. Kirk was obviously a bit upset about all this and explained that he has spent most of the last year trying to get funding and really cannot face that any more. At the end of his presentation the BSD crew were given a standing ovation from the whole audience! Well deserved too.

Thursday. Another gem of the conference was the talk by Doug McIlroy. He was billed as "Unix's first user". He was the head of the lab where Unix was born and contributed such useful things to it as pipes! His talk was a collection of reminiscences such as the day Dennis Ritchie and Ken Thompson added pipes to Unix. Being able to ring up the janitor to get him to reboot the system. Scaring the living daylights out of the janitor with one of the earliest speech synthesizers.

In the afternoon I attended a useful talk by Gary Aitken of Solbourne on X toolkits. Since Solbourne market a toolkit I had already guessed what the talk was leading up to. But it did detail all the problems and, surprised me (cynic that I am) by discussing the competition and its advantages. The Solbourne package sounds pretty useful being based on C++ classes, includes an interface builder and can dynamically select both Motif and OpenLook.

Went back to the hotel to prepare for the BoFs.

Disaster struck! My personal organiser commits hari-kiri and it's not even Japanese! Bang goes all my trip-report notes (so I'm writing this from memory), phone numbers, to-do list... Totally depressing.

Anyhow...

Self-Help on the Net was presented by Jeff Kellem from Beyond Dreams (and also the EFF). He gave a survey of all the useful...
internet services. From mailing lists to archie.

There was also an archivists’ BOF. The discussion was about a software registration form as a standard way of announcing and showing the availability of new packages. I also met up with Ed Vielmetti who ran comp.archives for a long time. We spent several hours chatting in the bar about archiving, networks, personal organisers.

The evening started with the Usenix Reception. As it had decided to drizzle rain it was held indoors in a large circular hall. Around the edge were different kinds of food. I enjoyed the strawberries and the taco’s (pitta bread with various spicy glob as filling). I tried something which looked like a small circle of raw meat in a bun. As it also tasted like raw meat in a bun I went to find more fruit. It was fun watching people have silhouettes cut. The main band was disco (yuck) but there were marimba bands as well.

**Friday.** Got up really late. I hasten to add that I don’t drink alcohol - but several pints of Coca-Cola can be pretty devastating!

Henry Spencer (of C News fame) and Geoff Collyer, Software Tools and Die presented a paper on "#ifdef Considered Harmful". It showed that the trend towards #ifdefs clusters (one per Unix) tends to end in unfathomable code.

Was really annoyed at missing "The Great USENIX Tool-Off". My Boss attended and it did sound like a good laugh. Various tasks were set and teams from different places tried to provide different solutions.

As the afternoon wore on more people drifted off. It’s a shame that there wasn’t a strong end paper or event.

I spent most of the evening and the following Saturday wandering around San Antonio. Some years ago they brought a loop of the San Antonio river through the busy part of the city and just past the hotel. This is surrounded by fountains, waterfalls, wide walkways and gardens. Shops, restaurants and "malls" all hang off this riverwalk. So even though a couple of stories up at street level it is roasting, you can walk in the shade by a cool river. The people were all very friendly.

Overall the conference was, I am told, a smaller event than usual. Personally I think that two parallel sessions is the maximum. I would have liked a larger vendor display. The highlights: Stu Feldman’s keynote talk and the standing ovation for the BSD team.

**LUGs**

The following is a round-up of information from those involved in organising local groups. If you feel that your neighbourhood is in need of a local group please let the Editor have details for inclusion in the Newsletter.
CAMBRIDGE (Jane Hills)

Good news and bad! I have a new job which will be London-based and will not therefore be able to organise the local Cambridge group. If there is anyone who would like to take this over, would they please contact me or the Editor.

LONDON (Andrew Findlay)

The next meeting is on the last Thursday in July at the usual venue in University College London. The speaker has not yet been finalised, but details will be available from Andrew. As tradition dictates, post-meeting discussions take place in the Fitzroy Tavern (Charlotte Street) at 8pm.

OXFORD (James Aldridge)

The Oxford Local Unix Users Group is gradually getting organised. Please contact James direct if you are interested, or ukuug-lug-oxford@uknet.ac.uk.

SIGs

There has been some interest shown in setting up various SIGs and this time I can report a willing contact for the MINIX SIG. See the contact list at the end of the Newsletter.

EurOpen News


Full payment with order please - Cheque made payable to EurOpen or VISA and ACCESS accepted.

OPENFORUM 92 CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

23 - 27 November 1992
Royal Dutch Fairgrounds, Utrecht, The Netherlands

EurOpen and UniForum are co-sponsoring the first pan-European Open Systems Exhibition and Conference. It combines:

- A strategy and business conference
- A high-level technical conference
- A set of tutorials and seminars
- An Open Systems products trade show

These themes will make OpenForum 92 the most outstanding European Open Systems event to date.

SPRING 1993 CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

3 - 7 May 1993
Seville, Spain

The UUES (Spanish UNIX User Group) will host the 24th EurOpen Conference and Exhibition in Seville, Spain. It will be preceded by two days of Tutorials on Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 May.
The theme of the Seville Conference is "Open Systems from the desktop to the machine room: the new challenge." The deadline for receipt of full papers, or extended abstracts, is 25 October 1992 - so send your submissions to the Programme Chair, horn@iona.ie, as soon as possible.

Sun UK User Group News

Our fellow User Group is holding a one-day meeting entitled "Wide Area Networking" on 15 July 1992. The topic will be electronic mail for beginners and will also include details of what ISDN and fax solutions can do for you. The venue is Sun's office in Sale, Cheshire. Further details are available from their Secretariat.

Reviews

The X Window System Training Series

The X Windows Training Series is being developed at the Computer Services of the University of Edinburgh. The project is supported by the Information Technology Training Initiative (ITTI).

The project aims to provide courseware material to the UK academic sector to aid with training in the X Windows area. This article contains information on the User Course, the Information Pack, and the Motif Course.

Master sets are now available. Order forms and further details on any of the below can be obtained from:

Bob McGonigle
Computing Services

The University of Edinburgh
Mayfield Road
Edinburgh EH9 3JZ

Details of User Course content

The user course contains 9 modules, which can be used either as a whole course covering introductory up to advanced material, or can be presented as two courses, one elementary and one advanced.

The elementary course would take users from the stage of no experience with X, and possibly no experience with windowing systems, up to competence at using X, with knowledge of the range of facilities available, a basic understanding of the client/server model, history and design strategy, and knowledge that configuration was possible.

The advanced course would cover the client/server model in more detail, methods of starting and closing an X session, function of the window manager, widgets, resources, dot files and configuration, security, bitmaps and colour.

Elementary modules

- What X can do

Introductory 15-minute talk explaining why the X window system was developed, its functionality, and what to expect when using it.

- Starting to use X

Introductory 3/4 hour practical teaching basic skills of starting X, using the mouse, manipulating windows, and starting xterms. Three versions are available, one for each of twm, mwm and olwm.
Using more of X

Intermediate ¾ hour practical building on the basic skills given in "Starting to use X". Includes cut and paste, use of common clients (e.g., xman, xedit), screendump facilities, and may include site-specific software. Not specific to any particular window manager.

Further information about X

Intermediate ½ hour lecture expanding the knowledge imparted during the two elementary practical sessions. Includes a simple explanation of the client/server model, a list of clients in the MIT distribution, hardware requirements, history, design strategy, function of the window manager, and an indication of configuration potential.

Advanced modules

Concepts behind X

Advanced ½ hour lecture, explaining why the X window system was developed, the client/server model, client I/O, location of server and client software, starting the server software, functions of the window manager, network transparency, and possibilities of configuration.

How to configure X

Advanced combined talk and practical. The ½ hour talk describes the concepts of widgets, classes, inheritance and resources, explains the different methods of starting X (xinit and xdm), how to load resources, and how to customise window managers. It includes an overview of dot files used. The one hour practical should follow immediately, and provides details of customisation which are not given in the lecture.

How to configure the window manager

Advanced ½ hour practical session covering details of window manager configuration, with examples. Three versions are available, one for each of twm, mwm and olwm. It is anticipated that the next revision of this course will include versions for other window managers, such as tvtwm.

Advanced uses of X

Advanced one hour practical covering clients started from remote machines, the DISPLAY variable, security and authorisation, and bitmap conversion utilities.

Programming and X

Advanced one hour talk detailing what is involved in writing an X application. It will bring out the links between the events that a user creates and how they are handled in a program. It will also show how resources are used.

Details of information pack

There are 4 volumes in the Information Pack

Manual pages for mit clients:

This volume contains information on clients found in the mit/clients directory.

Manual pages for contrib clients:

This volume contains information on clients found in the contrib/clients directory.
Other manual pages:

This volume contains information on the general manual pages, the games and demos, and, possibly, any local additions.

Bibliography, glossary and other information:

This volume contains a bibliography, glossary, and selected frequently asked questions.

Motif Course

This is a technical course, aimed at people who will program or port applications to use Motif and X, or people who need to know how to do that even if they will not be doing it themselves. The prerequisites for the course are familiarity with Unix, C programming and user experience of a WIMP interface.

Trainees will learn to write programs which can generate and control a display using most of the Motif widgets and can recognise and react to the user's inputs from the keyboard and mouse. They will be able to:

- use the X and Motif documentation; choose sensibly how to obtain any required effect (e.g., whether to use Motif, Xt, or Xlib); plan and advise on the general capabilities of Motif and X; and extend their knowledge and skills by further reading and experience.

The Motif course contains 16 modules, and is designed to take four days. The material provided might well occupy more time, depending on the audience and on the presenter's own style. In that case, sections can be skimmed through or skipped altogether, at the lecturer's discretion. The trainees' workbooks contain enough information to make them readable and useful in a self-teaching capacity. A separate glossary will also be provided.

The modules are:

- Introduction and background

One ½ hour talk introducing structure and components of X and Motif, and the essential concepts for Motif programming - the X client-server model, widgets, and the callback mechanism.

- Basic features of X and Motif Programming

One ¾ hour talk surveying the structure of a simple Motif program; introducing some basic Motif programming mechanisms; and discussing the callback mechanism in depth.

- Programming with widgets and callbacks

One ¾ hour practical exercise consolidating the skills needed for program development: familiarisation with environment and user interface; handling simple callbacks; changing resources of widgets; and programming simple dialogs.

- Widgets, resource files and callbacks

One ½ hour talk surveying widget classes, resource files, and more general methods of callback handling.

- Using resource files and some more widgets

Two hour practical exercise using: resource
clipping and clearing; and expose and resize callbacks, and associated data.

- Laying out child windows

One hour talk covering the DrawingArea, RowColumn, PanedWindow and BulletinBoard widgets.

- The Form widget

One ½ hour talk describing: attachments; OPPOSITE; multiple attachments; ATTACH_FORM; ATTACH_POSITION; offsets; rules for using Forms; relationship between geometry and attachments; ATTACH_NONE; attachments and gadgets; and resizing children.

- The Text widget

One ½ hour talk covering: simple uses; editing interface; important resources; sharing one text source between more than one text widgets; callbacks; and verification. It also introduces the TextField and ScrolledText widget classes.

- Focus and tab groups

One ¾ hour talk describing: pointer-driven and click-to-type policies; motif default behaviour; tab groups and keyboard navigation; and controlling the navigation order from a program.

- Form, Text, translations and tab groups

Three hour practical using the Form and Text widgets, and exploring translations and tab groups.

- Filling in more details

One ¾ hour talk including the topics:
Border; frame; highlight; margin; shadow; Font names; and your own widget classes.

Puzzle Corner

Yes, this very popular (previous) contribution to the EuroOpen Newsletter is being continued in your newsletter, news@UK! Why, you ask? The answer is because a number of you have contacted me about the column continuing in some form or other. Whatever your view, please let me know what you want to see in this newsletter, and what you don’t want to see.

Puzzle 1

Our first puzzle is a variation of one I set some time ago, namely a self-reproducing program. It’s an educational exercise to write such a program in a given language. This time I’m only accepting answers applicable to UNIX systems. In order to exclude trivial solutions I impose the following boundary conditions:

1. The empty program or single token program is not allowed.

2. References to external data or to the internal representation of the program are not allowed.

Earlier I asked for a solution in C. This time I’m asking for a solution in any one of the (standard) UNIX shells, e.g. Bourne shell, C shell, etc. Assuming your answer is in a Bourne shell file called my_answer then the command sequence

```sh
sh my_answer \;
```

diff - my_answer

should produce no output if the solution, my_answer, is correct. Similar command sequences can be used to check solutions in their own shells.

Solutions to ukuug-newsletter-puzzles@uknet.ac.uk. You might even win a prize!

Small Ads

Concerned about UNIX security?

Implement your own security policy with phLOGIN.

Control access by user, group, time, weekday, physical tty or network address, recent user/tty login history, system administrator’s status, ...

Full audit trails, progressive back off on failure, inactivity timeouts (may be configured to allow session restart with password revalidation), control equivalenced user names, full screen login.

Cost? About £30 per user.

Parliament Hill Computers Ltd
7 Prospect Street, Caversham
Berkshire RG4 8JB
Tel: 0734 461232
Fax: 0734 474194
Net: addw@phcomp.co.uk

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