

Getting faster

Steve Withers keeps readers up-to-date with new and faster bulletin boards in the festival state.

Things are moving in South Australia! Not content with those fast cars flying round Adelaide, the state hosts the country's fastest bulletin board. Actually, that's not quite true — although The Electronic Oracle has acquired a new multi-speed modem that will work up to 2400 baud full-duplex, there are still a few teething problems to be sorted out.

Other new features dropped into place more smoothly. The Electronic Oracle was the first Australian system to carry the Bytenet Listings. Some months ago, Byte magazine stopped publishing full program listings, making them available electronically instead. That was fine in principle, but it made life difficult for overseas readers — and few would doubt that Byte is the world's premier personal computing magazine.

Fortunately, Byte was prepared to provide the listings on diskette to bulletin boards, and this offer has been taken up by many operators around the world. If other Australian operators would like to carry Bytenet Listings, they may have a message for the system operator of The Electronic Oracle on (08) 280 6686.

The Electronic Oracle allows 10 minute limited access to visitors, but full access is only available to subscribers (\$10 for 3 months, or \$35 per year). To

make it easier to sign up — and less painful — the system now has Bankcard, Mastercard, and Visa facilities. Another first?

Microtex 666

We've often felt that the indexes to the Microtex 666 telesoftware library left a lot to be desired, especially when flipping through pages of old titles in order to reach the new items. Well, things have improved with new alphabetical indexes and a special "what's new" section. It's a good job that these changes have been made, because the library itself continues to grow at a surprising rate.

"Point Reports" is a new section that features up-to-date news items from the computing industry. "Point Reports" are written by Computing Australia staff.

If your looking for some light relief, a couple of quiz games have popped up in the Games and Gametalk department.

Corrections and Updates

MicroDesign Lab Citadel. (02) 663 0150 and (02) 663 0151. P. Stephen Jolly. 24 hours daily.

Computers Galore IBBS. Permanently closed.

Trash II. (09) 478 1163. 8pm-7am daily. Commodore 64.

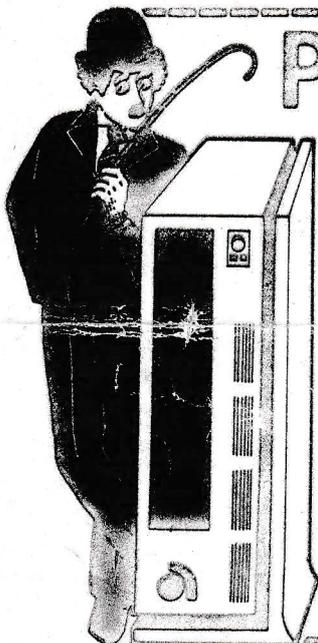
Information Wanted

Sydney Public Access RCPM
Software Tools RCPM
Coco-Line
NZ Micro Club RBBS

The above systems have either changed phone numbers, or shut down completely. If anyone can fill us in, we would appreciate it.

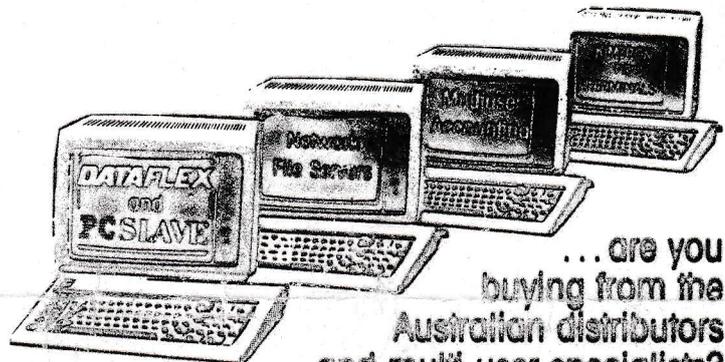
We would also be grateful for details of the operating hours of two Queensland systems, ED-RCPM and Hotline.

All details provided in this column are believed to be correct, but we welcome new information. Please mention whether you have first hand knowledge of the systems you tell us about, or are simply passing on information from another source. Viatel users can send messages to Mailbox 063000030, users of RUNX and other systems on ACSnet can mail to stephenw@murdu, and letters may be addressed to Steve Withers, C/- Computer Publications, 77 Glenhuntly Rd, Elwood, Victoria 3184.



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