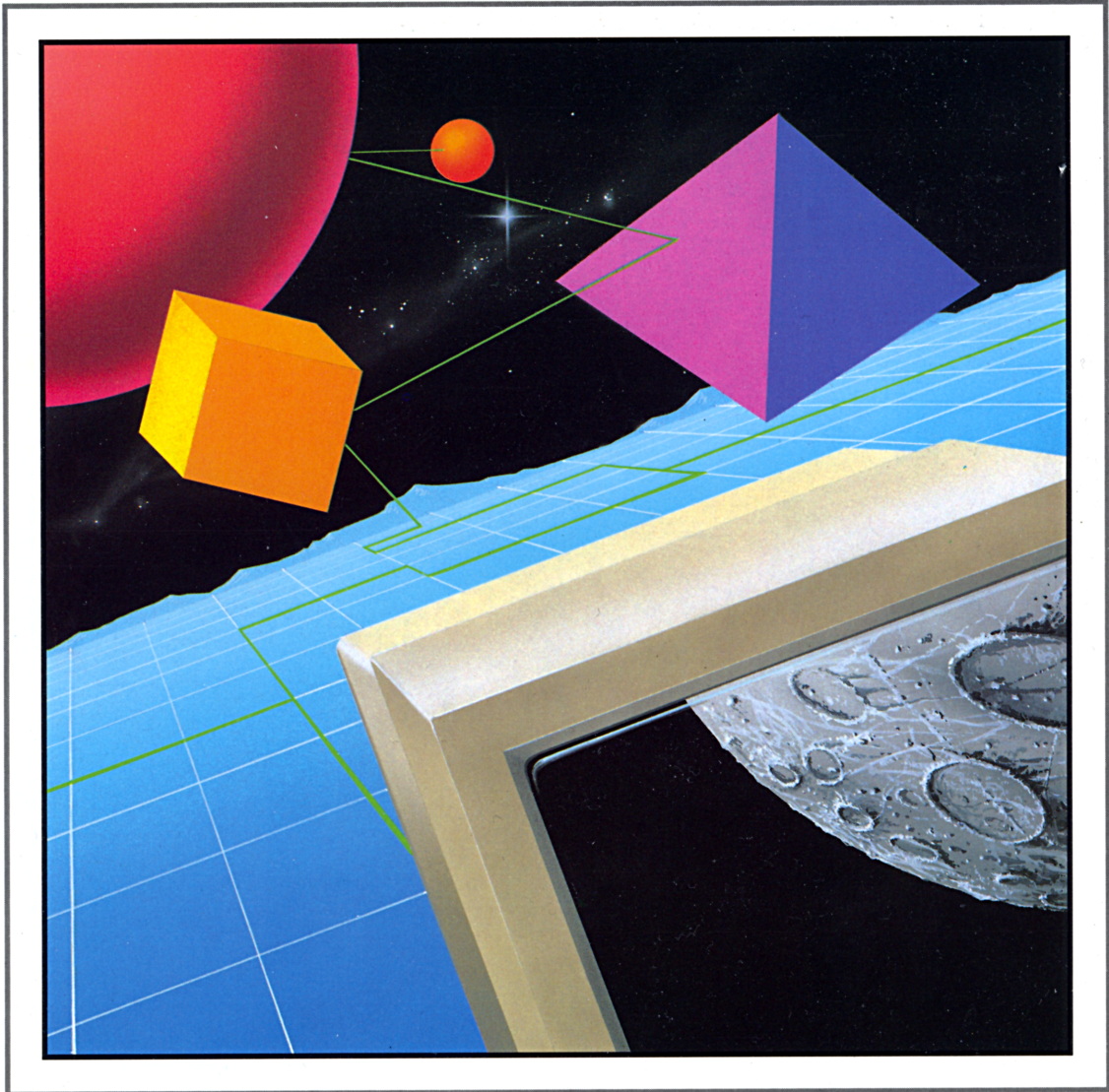
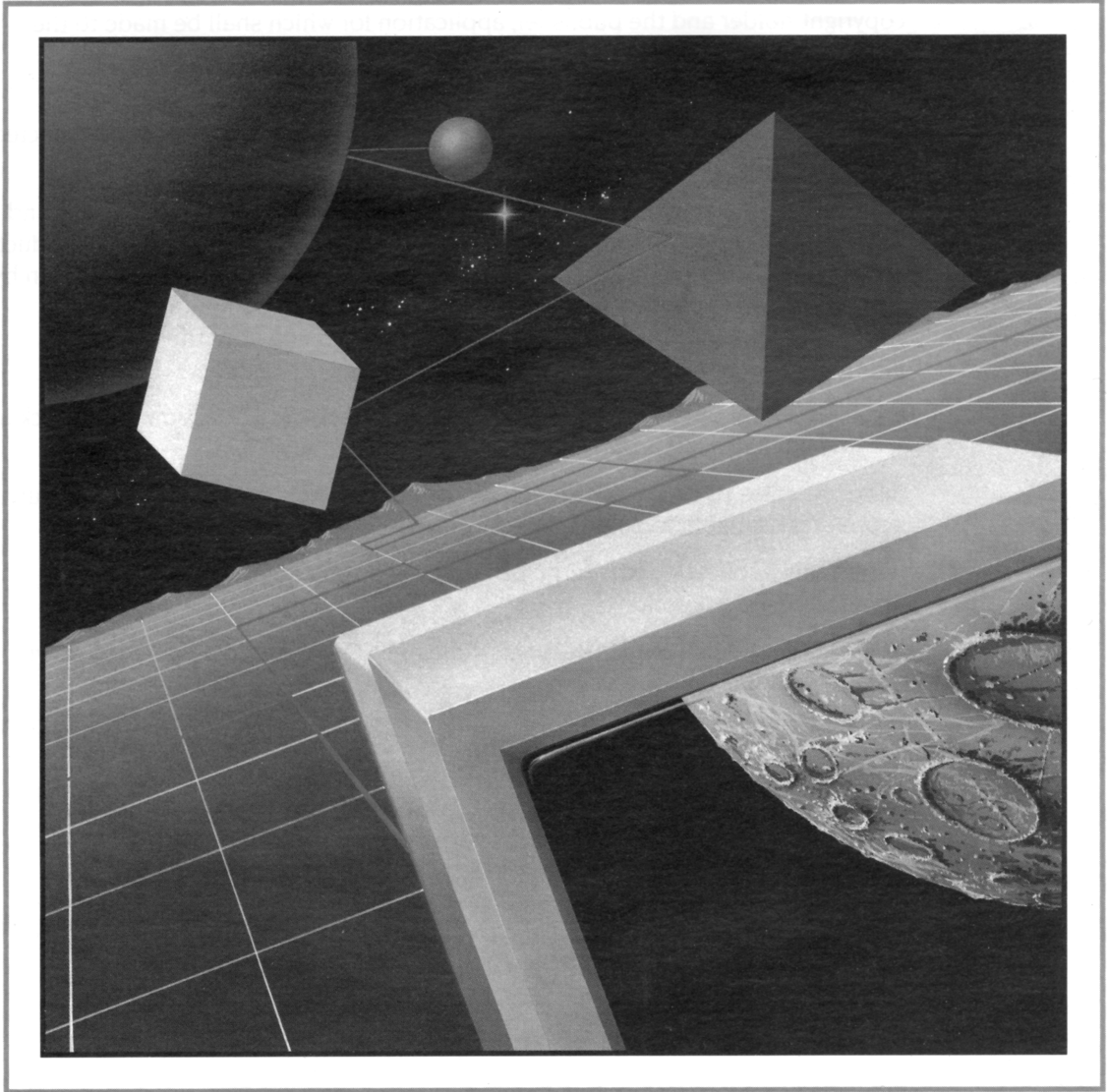


# Acorn InterTalk User Guide





# Acorn InterTalk User Guide



---

Copyright © 1995 Acorn Computers Limited. All rights reserved.

Published by Acorn Computers Technical Publications Department.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, or stored in any retrieval system of any nature, without the written permission of the copyright holder and the publisher, application for which shall be made to the publisher.

The product described in this manual is not intended for use as a critical component in life support devices or any system in which failure could be expected to result in personal injury.

The product described in this manual is subject to continuous development and improvement. All information of a technical nature and particulars of the product and its use (including the information and particulars in this manual) are given by Acorn Computers Limited in good faith. However, Acorn Computers Limited cannot accept any liability for any loss or damage arising from the use of any information or particulars in this manual.

If you have any comments on this manual, please complete the form at the back of the manual and send it to the address given there.

Acorn supplies its products through an international distribution network. Your supplier is available to help resolve any queries you might have.

Within this publication, the term 'BBC' is used as an abbreviation for 'British Broadcasting Corporation'.

ACORN, the ACORN logo, ARCHIMEDES and ECONET are trademarks of Acorn Computers Limited.

All other trademarks are acknowledged.

Published by Acorn Computers Limited  
Part number 0484,854  
Issue 1, March 1995

---

# Contents

---

## **Chapter 1: Introduction 1**

- Packing list 1
- Background 1

## **Chapter 2: Setting up 9**

- Network requirements 9
- Single-user and network versions of InterTalk 9
- Setting up the server 10
- Installing Internet 10
- Enabling your copy of !MailServ for network use 14

## **Chapter 3: Configuring the mail server 17**

- Setting up communications functions 17
- Creating (and deleting) user groups 21
- Managing email 24
- Managing newsgroups 26
- Mail statistics 29
- Displaying the server log 30
- Disconnecting from (and reconnecting to) mail and news 30
- Quitting MailServ 30

## **Chapter 4: Configuring !Mail 31**

- Installing !Mail 31
- Setting the Post\_In and Post\_Out directories 31

## **Chapter 5: Using Mail 33**

- Starting !MailServ (network manager) 33
- Connecting with the mail system 33
- Sending mail 34
- Reading mail 35
- Replying to a mail message 36
- Forwarding a mail message 37
- Deleting a mail message 38
- Saving a mail message 38

**Chapter 6: Using news 39**

- Reading news 39
- Forwarding an article by email 41
- Following up an article 42
- Replying to an article (by email) 42
- Saving an article 43
- Starting a new thread 43

---

# 1 Introduction

---

Acorn InterTalk is a combined Internet electronic mail (email) and news application for Acorn computers running RISC OS 3, version 3.1 or later.

It is available in two versions: a single-user version and a network version designed specifically for use in schools. The network version makes local email and news services possible, as well as access to the Internet outside.

Acorn InterTalk is easy to install, configure and to use. Great emphasis has been placed on control and observation, to ensure that users have access only to approved newsgroups and email addresses. There is only one connection point to the Internet, and this is controlled by a mail server which can be used to monitor and limit access, and which can itself be placed in a secure environment.

Acorn InterTalk also helps you control telephone line costs, with frequency and length of connection being fully configurable. Reports on connect times, news and email volume are available to the user or network manager at any time.

## Packing list

The Acorn InterTalk pack consists of the following components:

- An envelope containing a software disc (two discs in the network version)
- A Release Note
- An Owner Registration Form
- A voucher entitling you to a free upgrade including a World Wide Web browser
- This guide.

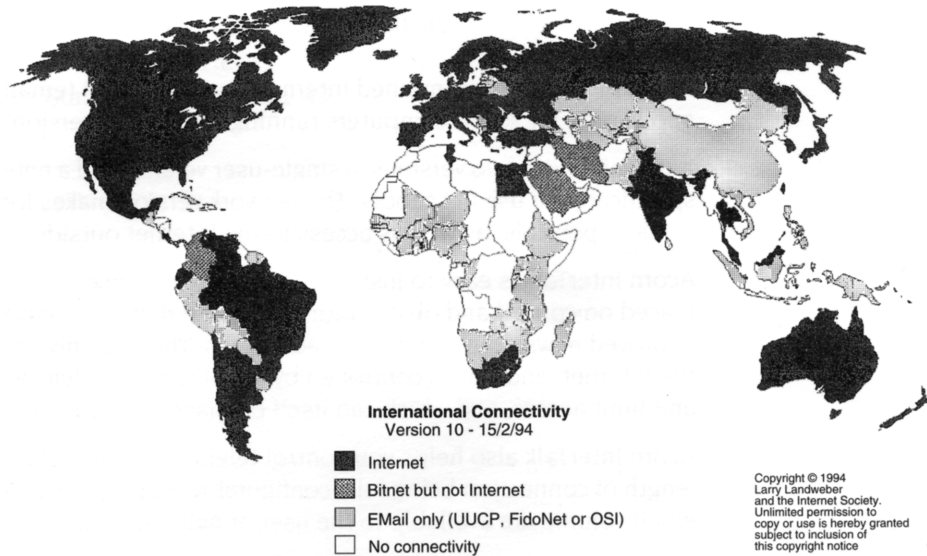
If any of these is missing or damaged, please contact your supplier without delay.

## Background

### What is the Internet?

The Internet is the world's largest computer network, with tens of millions of users worldwide. It covers a wide range of services – electronic mail, bulletin boards, newsgroups, file transfer, remote logon and World Wide Web (a hypertext-linked

information server system which can handle text, pictures and even audio). Of these, Acorn InterTalk provides mail and news, while World Wide Web is expected to be added soon.



The origins of Internet go back to the mid-seventies, out of a need to connect together the US Defense Department ARPAnet and various other radio and satellite networks. It had to be as tolerant of network breakdowns as possible, so was set up as a 'peer-to-peer' network – each computer communicating with every other one as an equal. Data was sent in Internet Protocol (IP) packets, addressed to the destination machine.

The same IP networking software came with Berkeley UNIX workstations, which proliferated in Local Area Networks in the eighties. It soon became clear that these local networks could be connected to the ARPAnet, so that every workstation on a site could access ARPAnet facilities.

In the late eighties, the National Science Foundation (NSF) set up five supercomputer centres in the United States, and every university was connected to these centres via its own regional network. This NSFNET provided the basis of the present-day Internet network in the US, to which networks in the United Kingdom and other countries are connected. NSFNET, NASA Science Internet and other US federal agency networks recently joined forces to form the National Research and Education Network (NREN).



The Internet was originally used by universities, research establishments, companies and government departments to communicate with each other and share resources. Increasingly, though, private subscribers are joining, via a growing number of service providers.

The core of the Internet is a TCP/IP network, but many other non-IP networks (such as Acorn Econet, BITNET and DECnet) have found ways to connect to it. This means that almost anyone with a computer can join it, either via a gateway between their own network and the Internet, or by leasing an account on a computer with a full connection to the Internet, and communicating via that computer, using a modem and telephone line. 'The Internet' has therefore come to mean not just the original TCP/IP network, but the global community of disparate interconnected computers.

### **Who controls the Internet?**

The Internet is not run by one company, although some corporate networks that form part of it may be. There is a voluntary body, called the Internet Society (or ISOC), which appoints a council of elders responsible for the technical management and direction of the Internet. But generally speaking the Internet is an informal, self-governing community. As in any social group, if members behave badly, the others shun them or let them know what they think about it.

Your company or school may have its own Internet rules. Find out what they are, and be sure to follow them.

There are a few general rules, however, that you should be aware of:

#### **Commercial use**

When you join the Internet, you may be asked if your intended use is Commercial, or Research and Education. If the latter, your calls may be routed in the US over subsidised federal NSFNET routes, rather than more expensive commercial ones. Research and Education users, therefore, should not subsequently engage in commercial activities over the Internet<sup>†</sup>.

Even amongst company users, there is still a lot of feeling against blatant commercialism on the Internet. The ability to find out about commercial products is a good thing, and World Wide Web pages are particularly useful for this purpose, but most users do not want to be bombarded with unsolicited promotions.

<sup>†</sup>. The 'General Principle' of the NSFNET Backbone Services Acceptable Use Policy (June 1992) is that "NSFNET Backbone services are provided to support open research and education in and among US research and instructional institutions, plus research arms of for-profit firms when engaged in open scholarly communication and research. Use for other purposes is not acceptable". The Policy specifically excludes use for "for-profit activities" and "extensive use for private or personal business".

### **Legal issues**

Through the Internet you can have access to information and products which are the result of personal, public or commercial research and development. Before you use these for your own purposes, make sure that you obtain any necessary permissions to do so.

The Internet is international, so anything you send could go anywhere in the world. Sending data to another country is considered to be exporting. Exporting any restricted information or product, or granting access to a supercomputer or sensitive database over the Internet may require an export licence. Usually, information that is available to the general public is not considered to be restricted, but information available in universities, government departments and companies may be. If in doubt, seek legal advice.

### **Network ethics and 'Netiquette'**

Because the Internet is so open and comparatively unfettered, it is also open to abuse. The main threats to the Internet are

- excessive use for unintended purposes
- political pressures.

The two are linked. If your employer or school is paying for your Internet connection, they will not take kindly to you participating in an all-day multi-user computer game over the Internet. Even if you are paying for your own connection, parts of the Internet (NSFNET, for example) are state-subsidised, and should not be abused in this way. If they are, there will be political pressure to cut the subsidy.

The same goes for personal attacks and rude and antisocial behaviour, and making obscene files available over the Internet. If this happens too often, those who pay for Internet will either withdraw funding, or impose restrictive controls on the network which reduce its effectiveness and ease of use.

If these very reasonable restrictions are borne in mind, the Internet is a very liberal environment, where individualism and self-expression are encouraged.

Once you are connected to the Internet, you can get some useful guidance on Internet behaviour from the newsgroup `news.announce.newusers`, including Frequently-Asked Questions (FAQs).

### **Acronyms**

FAQs bring us onto to acronyms, which are widely used over the Internet in order to save typing time. There is no official list of acronyms, but here are some of the more widely used ones:

---

AFAIK	As Far As I Know
AFAICT	As Far As I Can Tell
BTW	By The Way
FWIW	For What It's Worth
FYI	For Your Information
IAE	In Any Event
IANAL	I Am Not A Lawyer
IMO	In My Opinion
IMHO	In My Humble Opinion
IMNSHO	In My Not So Humble Opinion
IMCO	In My Considered Opinion
IOW	In Other Words
ISTR	I Seem To Remember
L8R	Later
NRN	No Reply Necessary
OTOH	On The Other Hand
ROFL	Rolling On Floor, Laughing
ROTFL	Rolling On The Floor Laughing
ROTM	Right On The Money
RSN	Real Soon Now [which may be a long time coming]
RTFM	Consult The Documentation
SITD	Still In The Dark
SO	Significant Other (i.e. partner)
SysOp	System Operator
TIA	Thanks In Advance
TIC	Tongue In Cheek
TLA	Three Letter Acronym (such as this)
TSR	Terminate and Stay Resident program
WIT	Wordsmith In Training
WYSIWYG	What You See Is What You Get
YMMV	Your Mileage May Vary (Your experience may differ)
YKYBHTLW	You know you've been hacking too long when...

### Smilies

Because of the limitations of written communication, where the tone of voice is not available to the reader, there is widespread use of 'smilies' in postings. The most common of these is :- ) (a smiling face – look at it sideways). This is meant to show that the writer is smiling when she writes, and no offence is intended. The international Internet audience covers a wide range of cultures and familiarities with the English language, so opportunities for misunderstandings to arise are frequent – Anglo-Saxon irony is one such pitfall – so smilies can be useful.

Other smilies are:

- ; - ) Winky smiley. User just made a flirtatious and/or sarcastic remark. More of a "don't hit me for what I just said" smiley.
- : - ( Frowning smiley. User did not like that last statement or is upset or depressed about something.
- : - I Indifferent smiley. Better than a frowning smiley but not quite as good as a happy smiley.
- = : - O Scary.
- : - P Sticking tongue out.

Here are some somewhat less common smilies:

- % - ) User has been staring at a green screen for 15 hours straight.
- : \* ) User is drunk.
- 8 - ) User is wearing sunglasses.
- B : - ) Sunglasses on head.
- : : - ) User wears normal glasses.
- B - ) User wears horn-rimmed glasses.
- { : - ) User wears a toupee.
- } : - ( Toupee in an updraft.
- : ' - ( User is crying.
- : ' - ) User is so happy, she is crying.
- : - @ User is screaming.
- : - # User wears braces (US English – i.e. on her teeth).

### **How do I get an Internet connection?**

You should contact one of the Internet service providers. For a fee (usually a monthly payment) they provide a connection to the Internet, via a UK telephone number which your computer dials up using a modem. Many of the service providers offer local rate calls in major cities, so that you can communicate over Internet anywhere in the world, and still pay local charges.

---

When you are connected to the Internet, you can send and receive electronic mail and access news on bulletin boards.

### **Internet service providers**

These are some of the best-known service providers for the home and education user at the time of writing:

BBC Networking Club

Telephone: 0181 576 7799

Local access in London, Edinburgh, Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester and Cambridge.

Email address: info@bbcnc.org.uk

Demon Internet

Telephone: 0181 349 0063

Local access in London, Manchester, Liverpool, Warrington and Edinburgh.

Email address: internet@demon.net

Pipex

Telephone: 01223 250120

Local access in London, Cambridge and Edinburgh.

Email address: sales@pipex.net

Zynet

Telephone: 01392 426160

Local access in Exeter.

Email address: zynet@zynet.net

Many of these organisations are growing, and may have more access points ('points of presence') by the time you read this.

### **What you should get**

The service provider will give you

- the telephone number which your modem should dial
- the Internet address of their gateway
- the Internet address for your server, if it is fixed.

They may also give you guidelines for creating your node name, which you will agree with them, along with your password. The node name, or Internet address people will use to send mail to you, takes the form of

*username@nodename.service\_provider\_address*

for example:

plug@bashstrt.demon.co.uk  
user   node name   service provider

When you first dialled the Internet, you can certainly receive electronic mail and access news or bulletin boards.

### Internet service providers

There are some of the best-known names of Internet service providers and locations at the time of writing. For example, the UK's first Internet service provider, BSC Networks, is based in London. Other well-known providers include British Telecom, which has a large network of servers across the country, and the Manchester-based local access in London, Manchester, Bristol, and Edinburgh.

### Prison Internet

Telephone 0181 330130. Local access in London, Manchester, Bristol, and Edinburgh. E-mail address: [prison@prison.gov.uk](mailto:prison@prison.gov.uk)

### Trax

Telephone 01223 350130. Local access in London, Cambridge and Edinburgh. E-mail address: [trax@trax.gov.uk](mailto:trax@trax.gov.uk)

### Yard

Telephone 01992 430130. Local access in Exeter. E-mail address: [yard@yard.gov.uk](mailto:yard@yard.gov.uk)

Many of these providers offer local access to their services.

### What you should get

The Internet provides a wide range of services. Some of the most popular are:

- The Internet provides a wide range of services. Some of the most popular are:
- E-mail: This is the most common service used on the Internet. It allows you to send and receive messages from other users.
- File Transfer Protocol (FTP): This service allows you to transfer files between your computer and a remote server.
- World Wide Web (WWW): This is the most popular service on the Internet. It allows you to view and interact with web pages.
- Usenet: This is a system of discussion groups. It allows you to participate in conversations with other users.
- Newsgroups: These are groups of related messages. They are often used for news, sports, and other topics.
- Mailing Lists: These are lists of e-mail addresses. They are used to send messages to a group of people.
- Remote Access: This service allows you to connect to a remote computer. It is often used for troubleshooting and system administration.
- Anonymous FTP: This service allows you to access files on a remote server without providing a username and password.
- Anonymous Usenet: This service allows you to access Usenet newsgroups without providing a username and password.
- Anonymous WWW: This service allows you to access web pages without providing a username and password.

For example, you can use the Internet to find out the latest news, to chat with friends, to download software, and to participate in online games.

---

## 2

# Setting up

---

### Network requirements

InterTalk runs on any Acorn network system – Level 4, Access or NFS. There must be a machine on the network to act as mail server, and this will be connected to the Internet via a modem and a telephone line. !Post\_In (the directory from which users will receive incoming mail) and !Post\_Out (the directory to which they will send outgoing mail) should ideally be installed on this machine (although they can be installed elsewhere), requiring at least 10MB of free disc space for this purpose.

The single-user version of InterTalk, of course, can be installed on a stand-alone computer (also with at least 10MB spare disc space).

### Choosing and setting up a modem

Modems should operate V.32 bis or V34 protocols, at a minimum rate of 14,400 baud.

Slower, older, modems will prove expensive to run, as the time taken to transfer data will be longer, and your telephone bill correspondingly higher.

There is a list of modems in the Release Note which have been tested with Acorn InterTalk. This list is not intended to be exhaustive, nor is inclusion in it intended to imply approval by Acorn.

The modem connects with the serial port of the Acorn computer you will be using as the mail server. The Risc PC uses a standard PC modem cable, while your supplier will tell you which cable to use for earlier Acorn computers. The telephone connection for the modem plugs into the normal telephone wall socket.

You should be able to use the factory settings on the modem. Check the Release Note for any particular items to note when operating modems.

### Single-user and network versions of InterTalk

There are two versions of InterTalk – the single-user version for the user with her own individual connection to the Internet, and the network version for a group of users on a site, linked by a local area network to a mail server connected to the

Internet. The latter will normally have a network manager who will set up the server and help users configure their client stations, while the single user will do this work herself.

The same Software disc is provided for both the single-user and the network versions of InterTalk, but an additional disc (the Network disc) is included in the network pack, providing the additional facilities required for network use.

The software comes in two halves:

**!MailServ**, concerned with maintaining the link via the modem to the Internet and moving mail and news around as necessary.

**!Mail**, used for reading and sending mail and news articles.

These two applications communicate with each other via **!Post\_In** and **!Post\_Out**, described in *Network requirements* on page 9.

## Setting up the server

The mail server will need to be

- located near a telephone wall socket. The computer is connected to a modem via a serial cable. The modem is then connected to the 'phone socket.
- a hard disc machine with at least 10MB spare capacity (unless the !Post\_In directory is on another computer, in which case the other computer will require this amount of storage).
- connected to an Acorn local area network in the case of the network version.

## Installing Internet

Both versions of the software require an Internet software module to be running on the machine that is acting as the mail server. A copy of this is loaded by the application !Internet that is supplied as part of the product. However, when the InterTalk software is used with a local area network there is a minor complication, which is explained below.

Ethernet cards supplied before the middle of 1995 have a cut-down version of Internet called InternetA, loaded from the Ethernet card (or from the system ROM in the case of the Risc PC). This version does not support the protocols required to communicate with the outside world, and therefore must not be run, but replaced by the one supplied with InterTalk.

In addition, early versions of the Internet and InternetA software modules are known as DCI2 compatible, whereas later versions are the more sophisticated DCI4. You can tell what version of Internet you are running by going to the



command line (press F12) and typing `help modules`. If the version quoted for `!Internet` is `2.xx (<date>)`, then you have the early version and you will need to replace your copy with the new version supplied.

### Single user use

If you are not running the software on a networked machine, then there is no setting up required. Simply copy the version of `!Internet` supplied onto your hard disc, along with the `!MailServ`, `!Mail`, `!Post_In` and `!Post_Out` applications, so the `!Internet` is 'seen' before you attempt to run `!MailServ`. You may wish to add some lines to your Boot file like

```
Run ADFS::4.$.!Internet
Run ADFS::4.$.!MailServ
```

if you wish the application to start automatically on power up.

### Network use

Copy `!Internet` onto the mail server; you may wish to place it in the same directory as `!MailServ`, which should also be copied across. Note that it is not necessary to copy `!Internet` onto any other machines in the network.

If your machine is connected to a network, you need to make a small change to the `!Internet.!Configure` file.

To do this, open the `!Internet` application directory (Shift-double-click on its icon) and load the `!Configure` file into Edit (Shift-double-click on it). Alter the line

```
set Inet$EtherIPAddr ""
```

to

```
set Inet$EtherIPAddr <Inet$HostName>
```

and save the file.

Now look at the hosts file `!Internet.files.hosts`. You will see a line

```
1.0.128.55 MailServer
```

Change the number 55 to the Econet station number of that machine and save the file.

Slightly different approaches are now needed, depending on whether you have

- a network card with DCI4 modules inside
- a network card with DCI2 modules
- an Acorn Access card with DCI2 modules
- a full TCP/IP network with or without Level4 access as well.

Each case is discussed below – check which situation is yours and then follow the appropriate instructions.

When you have completed the instructions given in the section which applies to you, move on to *Running !Bootnet* on page 13.

#### **A DCI4 Ethernet network card (Level4 and/or Acorn Access)**

This is the simplest case, as a compatible Ethernet driver is loaded from the Ethernet card or system ROM. You only need to configure Bootnet off – in other words, go the command line (press F12) and type

```
Configure Bootnet off
```

Ensure the line in the file !Internet.!Configure is set to

```
set Inet$EtherDevice " "
```

Following this, you will need to run the !Internet application and then the !Bootnet application which is described below.

#### **AUN Level 4 DCI2 card**

Configure Bootnet off (see the section above), and then ensure the copy of !Internet is run. As a new driver is required to be run, set the line in the file !Internet.!Configure to:

```
set Inet$EtherDevice Ether3
```

if an Ethernet 3 card is being used.

Change this to `EtherB` if it is a Risc PC Ethernet card from Acorn or ANT, or `EtherH` if it is from i-cubed. This will ensure the correct new driver is loaded.

#### **Acorn Access Ethernet card (DCI2 version)**

On these cards it is necessary to kill the Access software, then load !Internet as above, then reinitialise the Access software. You will need to add these lines to your Bootfile, or append them to the file !Boot.Choice.Boot.Predesktop:

```
RMKill InternetA
RMKill ShareFS
RMKill Freeway
RMKill AccMsgs
Run ADFS::4.$.!Internet.!Run
RMReinit AccMsgs
RMReinit Freeway
RMReinit ShareFS
Run ADFS::4.$.!Bootnet (If you are using Level 4 as well)
```

### A full TCP/IP network

If you already have a working DCI4 full TCP/IP network up and running, you only need to copy the SLIP driver from !Internet.drivers.SLIP into the same place on your established copy of !Internet. You will also need to copy the lines from the supplied !Internet.files.hosts file into your hosts file.

### Running !Bootnet

Once the Internet module has been loaded correctly, if you wish to communicate with a Level 4 network, you will need to run a copy of !Bootnet. This is supplied with the Level 4 software. It is important that the copy of !Bootnet does not reload an old Ethernet driver on your now working DCI4 system, so ensure the line in !Bootnet.Configure reads

```
set Net$Device ""
```

and not, for example

```
set Net$Device Ether3
```

The only other change you should make to !Bootnet is to the file !Bootnet.Files.Addmap.

This requires a line for each network on the site, corresponding to the network numbers defined by the !Gateway software.

Thus on a simple AUN network with no gateways, you must have the line

```
AddMap 1.0.128.0 128
```

and an additional line such as

```
AddMap 1.0.129.0 129
```

where appropriate.

### AUN Level 4 networks with gateways

If you have a Level 4 network with a gateway machine (Running !Gateway), there are two additional changes which must be made to the copy of !Internet on the server machine:

- 1 Shift-double-click on !Internet and then on the application !Configure you will find inside. Change the line

```
set Inet$EtherIPMask 0xff000000
```

to

```
set Inet$EtherIPMask 0xffff0000
```

- 2 To tell the computer where to find the gateway machine to which it is directly connected, add a line to !Internet.files.Startup, of the form

```
IF "<Inet$Error>" = "" THEN route -e add net  
1.2.129.0 1.1.128.210 1
```

This tells the computer that network 1.2.129.0 can be accessed via the gateway address 1.1.128.210. To find out what the first of these numbers is in your case, go to any machine on the other side of the gateway, and type `netstat -a` at the command line (press F12). The number you want is the Full address. To find out the gateway address, type the same command from the gateway machine. The files are commented with examples to assist you.

## Enabling your copy of !MailServ for network use

The copy of !MailServ on the Software disc is for a single user only. However, on the Network disc, there is a partial copy of the !MailServ application, which, when copied over the single user version, enables the network features.

If you will be running InterTalk over a network, after you have copied the !MailServ application from the floppy disc to its destination on the mail server machine, copy the !MailServ application from the network disc onto this copy.

### !MailServ on networks

If you are running a Level 4 network, it is recommended that you dedicate a machine to run the !MailServ application, although you will need to run Level 4 !Server on this machine as well (see *Setting up a Level 4 network* on page 14).

If you are running Acorn Access, then you can just share a directory containing the !Mail application and the !Post\_In and !Post\_Out directories (see *Setting up an Access network* on page 15).

!Post\_Out needs to be written to by the !Mail application, and therefore needs public **write** access. On Level 4 this means that the directory needs to be 'owned' by the user. Therefore set up a user on the Level 4 called 'Post' for example, and ensure that there is a directory called Post that contains the !Post\_Out directory on the server.

!Post\_In only needs public **read** access, and should not be placed in the same directory as !Post\_In on a Level 4 system because that would enable users to delete mail and news items that belonged to other users. Note that encryption of messages means that no one can read messages that are not for that user.

### Setting up a Level 4 network

Run a copy of the Level 4 !Server on the mail server machine, giving it a server disc name of 'Mailserver' for example:

- 1 Ensure there is a user called 'Mail' or 'Post' with a URD (user root directory) of the same name.
- 2 Place !Post\_Out in this directory.
- 3 Place !Post\_In in another directory (or in the root).
- 4 Set up !MailServ to point to these two (see *Setting up communications functions* on page 17); for example:  
Post\_Out ADFS::4.\$Mail. !Post\_Out  
Post\_In ADFS::4.\$ !Post\_In
- 5 Set up !Mail on each machine to point to these directories too (see *Setting up !Post\_In and !Post\_Out directories* on page 19); for example:  
Post\_Out Net::Mailserver.&. !Post\_Out  
Post\_In Net::Mailserver.\$ !Post\_In

### Setting up an Access network

Share the disc containing the mail directories as a protected disc. You may then place both !Post\_In and !Post\_Out (and the !Mail application for users to use, if you wish), but ensure that !Post\_Out has public attributes for read and write (i.e. WR/wr) and !Post\_In has only public read set (i.e. WR/r).



---

# 3

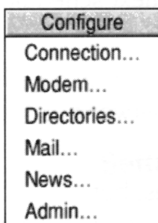
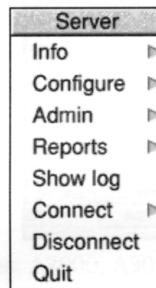
## Configuring the mail server

---

When you have installed the software and tailored it to your particular system, you have to set a number of user options to suit your own requirements before you can start accessing email and news services.

### Setting up communications functions

Double-click on !MailServ to load it. Press Menu over its icon on the icon bar and the !MailServ menu will be displayed:



Use the **Configure** sub-menu to set up

- 1 the telephone line **connection**
- 2 the **modem** interface
- 3 the !Post\_In and !Post\_Out directories
- 4 the **mail** address and disc space
- 5 the **news** address and disc space
- 6 **administration** – local monitoring and control of mail and news services.

## Setting up the telephone connection

When set up, InterTalk will periodically dial up the service provider to send and receive email and news articles. !MailServ allows you to control your connection with the email and news service provider – where, when and how often to dial up to send or receive messages.

- Choose the service provider you are using (Choose one or else enter their details)
- The location of the service provider
- Their telephone number
- Gateway (service provider's Internet address)
- Your node name
- Password to log on to service provider
- Internet address of your mail server (normally leave as auto)
- Set cheap rate times (from your telephone company). If Start time is less than or equal to End time, the next day is assumed
- Set the values which suit your usage

If an attempt to connect fails (because the line is busy, for example), the InterTalk server will retry five times before giving up and waiting until the next scheduled time.

Trial and error will be necessary for you to set the telephone connection details to suit your own needs. It is a question of getting the best balance between call costs and response times.

Clearly, it is cheaper to use the telephone line at cheap rate times, but communication will be slow if you wait until the evening to send and receive mail – you won't get a reply until the next day (or even later, if addressees wait until their cheap rate too). There is also likely to be heavy line usage at the start of the cheap rate, which may delay connection.

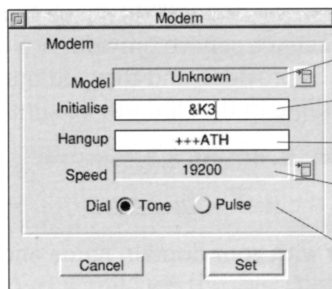
Similarly, if response times are important to you, you should set a low number of messages threshold, for more frequent connection, but at higher cost.

## Modem configuration

The **Configure/Modem** option sets the computer to talk to the modem in a way the modem expects – it does not configure the modem itself.



Enter new values or accept the defaults provided in the **Modem Connection** dialogue box:



- Choose the type of modem you are using – either one listed, or a compatible
- The characters the modem requires to initialise (start) it (see modem handbook)
- The characters the modem requires to hang up (stop) (see modem handbook)
- Modem operation speed (see modem handbook). Set the fastest serial line speed your computer can support (see below).
- Choose the type of dialling your phone system uses – **Tone** or old-fashioned **Pulse** dialling. Lift up your phone and press a dial button – if it plays a note you have Tone, otherwise Pulse.

Compression techniques mean that the nominal modem – modem data rate can be greatly exceeded between the modem and the computer, provided that the modem and the computer can support such higher speeds. The following serial line speeds are suggested for use in the **Modem** dialogue box for different Acorn computer models:

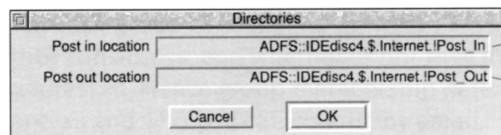
- A310, A440, A400/1 series, A3000, A3010, A3020: **9600**
- A5000: **19200**
- Risc PC: **38400**

When you have completed the dialogue box, click on **Set** to confirm your settings (or **Cancel** to leave settings unaltered).

### Setting up !Post\_In and !Post\_Out directories

!Post\_In is the directory on the server **from** which email messages and news articles received from the Internet are despatched to users.

!Post\_Out is similarly the directory **to** which users send email messages and news articles for internal circulation and for despatch to the Internet. This directory should ideally be on the server machine, but it can be located on a remote computer.



- Drag the !Post\_In application icon to this box
- Drag the !Post\_Out application icon to this box

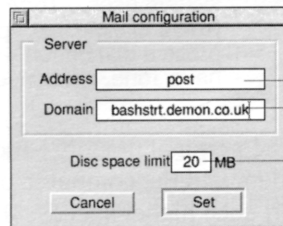
## Entering your mail address and mail disc space

The mail address is entered automatically for you if you choose a service provider from the menu icon on the Connection dialogue box (see *Setting up the telephone connection* on page 18). If you are using a service provider not listed, you will be given a mail address by the service provider, and this you must enter in the file !Internet.files.hosts. The relevant line in that file will be similar to

```
158.152.1.72 post.demon.co.uk
```

In this particular case, `post` is the mail address.

Now enter this address, together with your domain name and disc space, in the **Configure/Mail...** dialogue box:



— Your mail address (from your service provider)

— Your local domain name (node name + service provider's address)

— The maximum disc space available for mail

You should set the disc space to the maximum you can spare to contain email messages to be received and waiting to be sent. When this limit is reached, no more incoming or outgoing mail will be accepted.

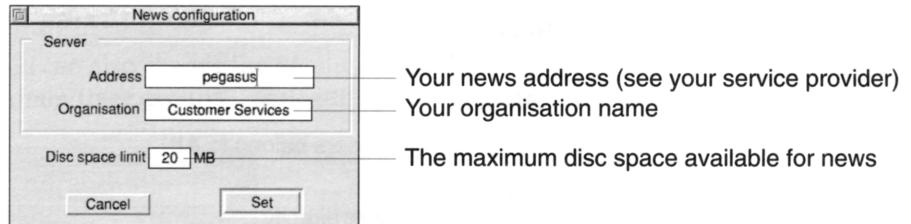
## Entering your news address and disc space

The news address is similarly entered automatically for you if you choose a service provider listed in the Connection dialogue box (see *Setting up the telephone connection* on page 18). If you are using one not listed, you will be given a news address by the service provider, and this you must enter in the file !Internet.files.hosts. The relevant line in that file will be similar to

```
158.152.1.83 news.demon.co.uk
```

In this particular case, `news` is the news address.

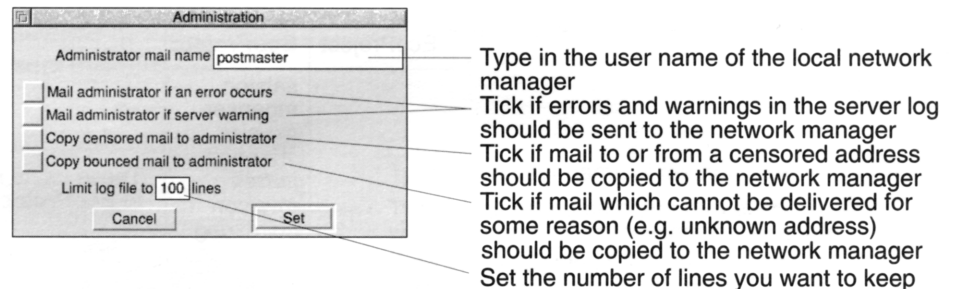
Now enter this address, together with your organisation name in the **News...** configuration dialogue box:



You should set the disc space to the maximum you can spare to be taken up by news. When the limit is reached, new news items will replace old, and a warning will be displayed in the server log.

## Configuring administration options

Clicking on **Admin...** will display a dialogue box from which you can set a number of system management functions:



## Creating (and deleting) user groups

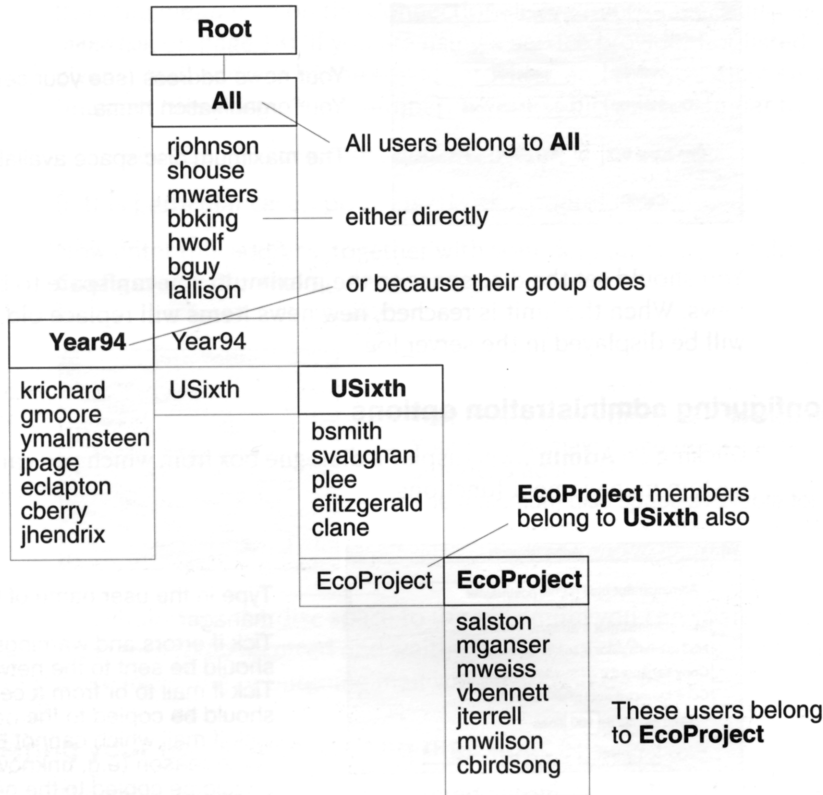
It is important to set up user groups, as it is by this mechanism that you can control access to particular newsgroups and email to and from specific locations.

Every user should be a member of a group, and of one group only. In this respect user groups are different from mail distribution lists, as users can belong to more than one distribution list.

For each group of users, the network manager can determine which newsgroups they can access, and whether or not they may communicate with particular email addresses. Hence group membership determines which newsgroups you can access and who you can contact by email.

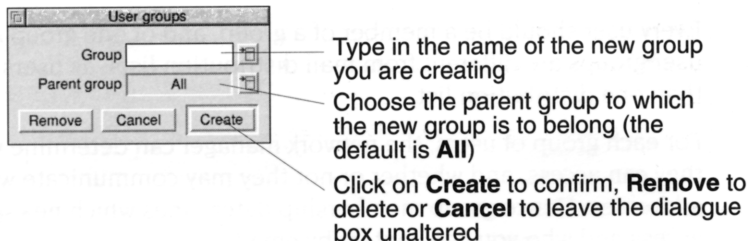
You cannot, of course, set user groups on the single-user version of InterTalk.

Groups can be any size, and can in their turn be members of another (parent) group. A structure might be:



### Creating (and Removing) a user group

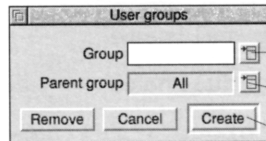
To create or remove a user group, click on **Admin/User groups...**; the **User groups** dialogue box will be displayed:



Groups inherit the access attributes of the parent group to which they are assigned, unless specifically modified.

## Changing parent groups

You can also change the parent of a particular group at any time, using the **Admin/User groups...** dialogue box:

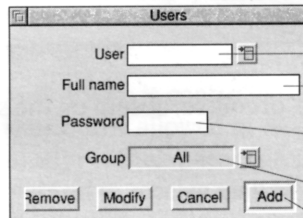


- Display the group by clicking on the menu icon
- Choose the new parent group to which the group is to belong
- Click on **Create** to confirm, or **Remove** to delete a user group

You could, for example, change the parent of the group **EcoProject** in the diagram on page 21 to **All**, so that it no longer enjoyed the access rights of the group **USixth**.

## Allocating users to groups

You enter new user names by choosing **Admin/Users...**, which will display the **Users** dialogue box:



- Type in the user name of the new user
- Type in the full name of the new user, which will appear on messages they send
- Type in the password the user should enter to log on to the mail system
- Choose which group the new user is to belong to
- Click on **Add** to confirm, **Modify** to change, **Remove** to delete names or passwords, or **Cancel** to leave the dialogue box unaltered

User names can be up to 19 characters long, passwords 10 characters. They should use only alpha and numeric characters. They are not case-sensitive (i.e., **t** works the same as **T**). For maximum security passwords should not be words found in the dictionary, and should include numbers as well as letters.

You can save time entering a large number of users by first listing their names in a plain text or CSV (Comma Separated Value) file, then saving the text file into the **Users** dialogue box. You may already have such a list of users on your school administration system. Even DOS programs can often provide plain ASCII CSV data files, and your Acorn computer can read DOS floppy discs.

The format of the text file to **add** users can be any one of the following (to **remove** users, prefix the line with a minus instead of a plus):

```
+emailname password group fullname  
+emailname,password,group,fullname  
+"emailname","password","group","fullname"
```

For example:

Enter users to be included in the group 'all'

```
+rjohnson xroads all Robert Johnson  
+cherry jonnybg00d all Charles Berry etc  
or  
+jpage,5stairway,all,James Page etc
```

Remove a user from the group 'USixth'

```
-"efitzgerald","manhattan","USixth","Ella Fitzgerald"
```

The password and group details are, of course, absent on the single-user version of InterTalk.

## Managing email

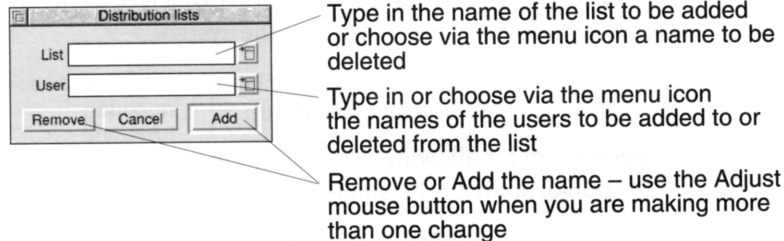
A couple of tools are available to the network manager for controlling the despatch and receipt of email:

- Distribution lists
- Mail address censorship.

### Setting up distribution lists

Distribution lists are groupings of users established for the purpose of mail delivery, and are set up in a similar way to user groups. The main difference between user groups and mail distribution lists is that a user can appear on more than one distribution list.

To set up or modify a mail distribution list, choose **Admin/Distribution lists...** from the !MailServ icon bar menu:



Distribution lists can include both internal and external users, provided that an external user's mail address does not exceed the limit of 19 characters.

You can save time entering a large number of users by first entering the name of the list in the dialogue box just mentioned, then dropping a text file of all the users to be in that list, separated by newlines, onto the dialogue box.

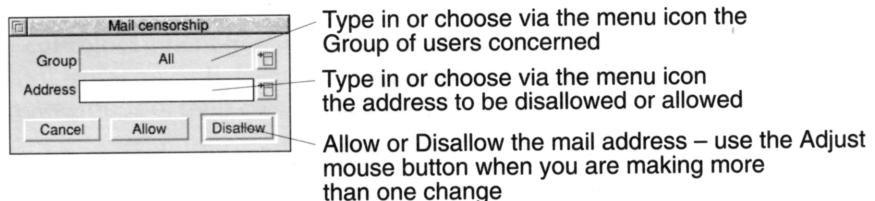
You cannot add or subtract users as you can with user groups – you must drop in the complete distribution list each time.

## Censoring mail addresses

Network managers may wish to prevent mail being sent to or received from certain **external** email addresses. Which these might be can only be determined by experience!

Mail access is controlled on a group-by-group basis. A group can have addresses specifically allowed or disallowed for them, otherwise they inherit the restrictions (if any) of their parent group. At the top of the tree, as it were, the group **All** is allowed to receive mail from and send it to all email addresses, unless otherwise disallowed.

Choose **Admin/Censorship...** for the dialogue box which allows you to control access to and from specified email addresses.



You can use \* as a wild card in the censored mail address: \*sttrins.demon.co.uk, for example, would censor all users from the sttrins.demon.co.uk domain.

## Managing newsgroups

The network manager can control which newsgroups users can access. Some newsgroups can contain material which is explicit or weird, and may be considered inappropriate for the level of user on the system.

All members of a group will be able to access the same newsgroups, so make sure that users are placed in a suitable group.

The mechanism for allowing and disallowing newsgroups to groups of users does not, of course, apply to the single-user version of InterTalk.

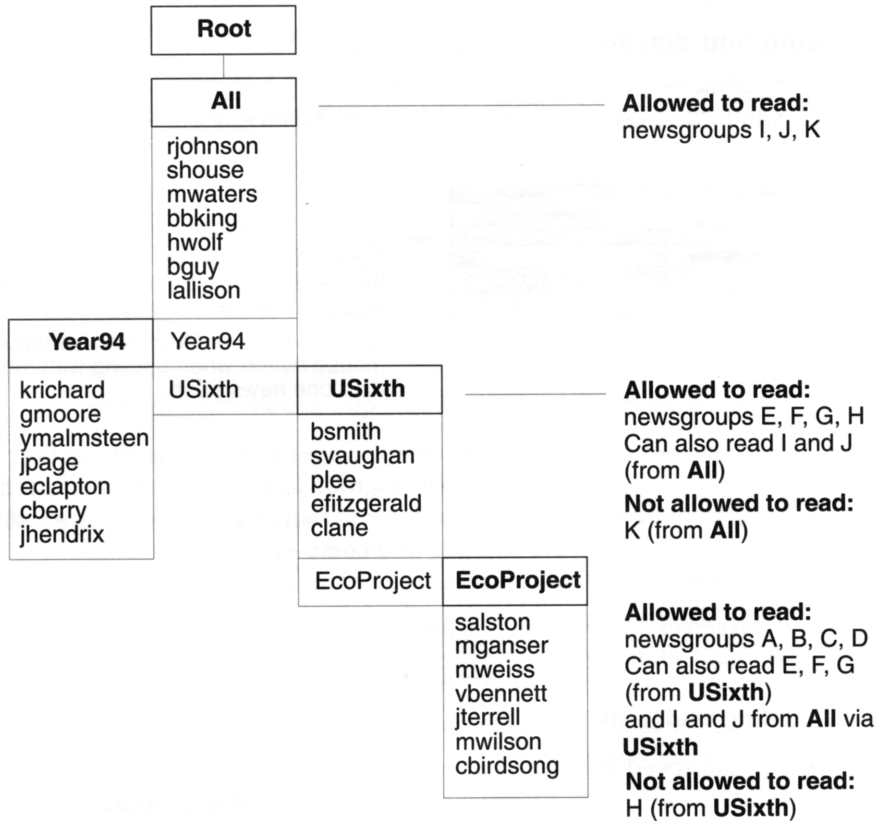
Before set-up, no member of any user group can access any newsgroup. The network manager first sets the newsgroups everyone can access (i.e. allowed to the group **All**), then specifies the newsgroups each other user group in turn can access.

Users in a particular group can only read newsgroups which have been either

- specifically allowed to their group, or
- specifically allowed to their parent group (i.e. **All**, or any group which they are under), unless specifically disallowed to them.



A diagram will make this clearer. Taking the structure we have used before as an example:



In this example, **All** are allowed to access newsgroups I, J and K.

It follows that **USixth** are also allowed access to these groups. However, one of them (K) has been disallowed to this group, so that is not available. **USixth** are also allowed four groups of their own (E, F, G and H).

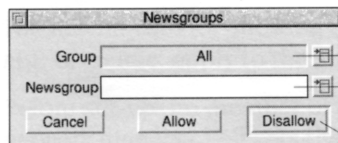
**EcoProject** inherit from **USixth** what is left of the **All** groups (I and J), plus **USixth's** own newsgroups E, F and G (H being disallowed to them). They also have four newsgroups of their own (A, B, C and D).

In this example, the group furthest down the tree (**EcoProject**) can access the most newsgroups. This does not always follow – any group can be given access to as many or as few newsgroups as you wish.

When you subsequently change newsgroup access to a group of users, this may affect the access of groups below them in the hierarchy.

## Allowing and disallowing newsgroups

To allow or disallow a newsgroup to a particular group of users, choose **Admin/Newsgroups...** The following dialogue box will be displayed:



Choose the group

Type in or choose via the menu icon the newsgroup to be allowed or disallowed. You can use wildcards (see below)

Click on Allow or Disallow. Use the Adjust mouse button when dealing with more than one newsgroup.

The menu which lists available newsgroups has a writable line at the top where you can enter the first letters of the newsgroup in which you are interested. The list will scroll to bring you progressively closer to that newsgroup as you enter more letters. For example, if you are trying to find **comp.sys.acorn**, 'c' will list the **ca.** groups, while 'co' will narrow it down to the **comp.** groups.

If the server does not find the file 'Newsgroups' inside the !MailServ' application, it will load a full list from the service provider.

### Using wildcards

You can speed up the process of allowing **and disallowing** newsgroups by using wildcards when you specify newsgroups. This is useful because there are so many of them. Wildcards are (usually) single characters which stand in for several characters of a similar type. Two wildcards are available for describing newsgroups:

- \* meaning any number and type of letter
- <string> where *string* is any sequence of characters.

So, `comp.*` would mean all the newsgroups which start `comp.`, such as `comp.sys.acorn` for example.

`<cultur>` would signify all newsgroups with `cultur` anywhere in their title (such as `culture` and `cultural`).

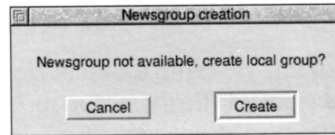
`<politic>` would cover all newsgroups with `politic` anywhere in their title (such as `politics`, `politicians` and `political`).

`<sex>` could be used to disallow all newsgroups with `sex` anywhere in their title.

## Setting up a new newsgroup

Local newsgroups are very useful for disseminating information and discussing topics of local interest.

You can set up a new newsgroup, for local distribution, just by typing in a new name in the **Admin/Newsgroups...** dialogue box. You will be asked to confirm this:



When you have created this new newsgroup, you can control its distribution just like any other newsgroup (see *Allowing and disallowing newsgroups* on page 28).

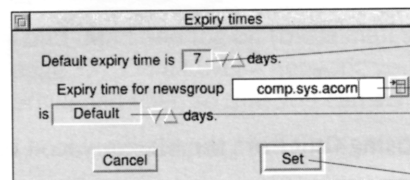
You can delete a newsgroup by disallowing it to **All**.

## Newsgroup expiry times

The network manager can configure how long news articles remain accessible.

Obviously, very old articles lose their topicality and need to be deleted to make room for new ones. The default life for a news article is seven days, but this may be changed using **Admin/Expiry times...**

Newsgroups with a high volume of traffic might be set to keep their articles a shorter time than those with a low volume, for example, to avoid the hard disc filling up too quickly.



Set the default expiry time for the system

For specific newsgroups set individual expiry times. You can use wildcards

Confirm or cancel your choice

## Mail statistics

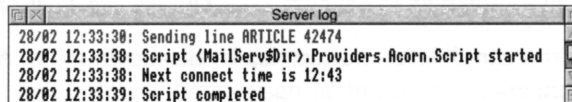
A number of mail reports are available to the network manager to help judge the performance of the system, how much it is being used, and by whom. These reports are available from the menu option **Reports/Statistics**, and are largely self-explanatory:

- **Allowed groups** (allowed newsgroups, by user, group and total). **Subscribed groups** in the case of the single-user version of InterTalk.
- **Connect times** (a list of recent connection times)
- **Disc usage** (by user, group and total)
- **Censorship** (a list of disallowed addresses by user group).

Each of these subjects leads to a Save dialogue box – drag the textfile icon to !Edit to view the report, or to a printer to print it out.

## Displaying the server log

You can display the InterTalk mail server communications log by choosing **Show log** from the MailServ main menu:



```
Server log
28/02 12:33:30: Sending line ARTICLE 42474
28/02 12:33:38: Script (MailServ$Dir),Providers.Acorn.Script started
28/02 12:33:38: Next connect time is 12:43
28/02 12:33:39: Script completed
```

The server log tracks the activities of the server as they occur. This is useful for network management and tracing problems.

When you quit MailServ, the current log is saved inside the application as the file Log.

## Disconnecting from (and reconnecting to) mail and news

You can disconnect at any time from mail and news feeds by choosing **Disconnect** from the MailServ main menu. Choose **Connect/Mail only** and **/Mail and news** to reconnect.

## Quitting MailServ

Exit from MailServ by choosing **Quit** from the MailServ icon bar menu.

# 4

# Configuring !Mail

## Installing !Mail

!Mail is the application by which users access email and news.

Copy the application !Mail into a directory suitable for each user, so that it can be loaded when required, or automatically by means of a boot file.

### Network users

If users are on a network with their own local hard discs where they will keep their copy of !Mail, you can speed up this procedure as follows:

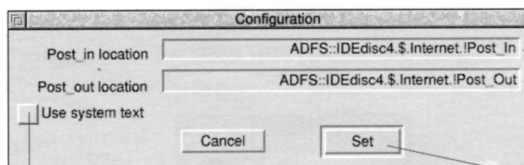
- 1 Make a copy of !Mail on a floppy disc and copy it onto the first user's computer
- 2 Load !Mail and configure it for the first user, as described below
- 3 Copy the configured !Mail back onto the floppy disc and dismount it
- 4 Go to the next computer and copy the configured !Mail straight on its hard disc as it is.

Set the access to !Mail to be **public write** until you have completed setting up. Once the configuration has been completed and saved, however, set it to **public read only**, so that it can be read, but not altered or deleted by users.

## Setting the Post\_In and Post\_Out directories

Load !Mail and log on to the mail system (see *Connecting with the mail system* on page 33). On a Level 4 network, you should log on to the Level 4 server as a privileged user, so that you can set the configuration.

Choose **Configure...** from the !Mail icon bar menu:



Drag the !Post\_In application icon to the box

Drag the !Post\_Out application icon to the box

Click on **Set** to confirm your entry or **Cancel** to leave the dialogue box unaltered

Choose System text to save memory and for display on low-resolution screens

# Configuring Mail

## Installing Mail

### Network users

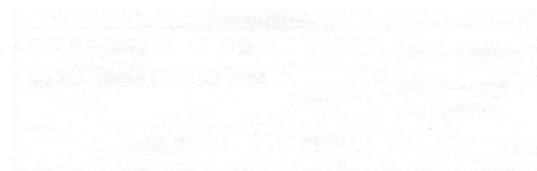
1. If users are on a network with their own mail boxes, you will be a little bit of Mail. In the Users on the Network dialog box, click the **Network** radio button. Then click **OK**.
2. Mail and configure it for the first user. In the Mailbox dialog box, click **OK**.
3. Go to the next computer and copy the Mailbox dialog box to the next computer.
4. Go to the next computer and copy the Mailbox dialog box to the next computer.

... to Mail to be public while until you have completed the installation. The Mailbox dialog box has been changed, and you must give the user a name.

## Setting the Post Office

... Mail and let ... mail system for. Contact with the mail system. For a level 4 network, you should look for ... and ...

Drop the Post Office icon into the box.  
Drop the Post Office icon into the box.



... to get to contain your entry. ... to leave the message box displayed.

Choose System text to edit manually and for display on low-resolution screens.

---

# 5

## Using Mail

---

First ensure that both the mail server and the client application have been installed and correctly configured (see *Setting up, Configuring the mail server* and *Configuring !Mail*).

The server should be switched on and (except in the case of the single-user version) the network operating.

### Starting !MailServ (network manager)

- Check that the modem is connected both to the telephone wall socket and to the serial port of the server, then switch it on.
- Make sure that the server has 'seen' a copy of !Internet.
- Double-click on !MailServ.

Alternatively, you can start the server automatically when you boot the server by including lines similar to the following in your boot file:

```
Filer_Boot adfs::4.$Mail.!Internet
Filer_Run adfs::4.$Mail.!MailServ
```

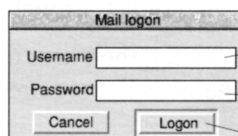
(This assumes the applications are stored in a directory entitled Mail in the root of your hard disc.)

Users can now use the mail system from their own machines.

### Connecting with the mail system

If you are using mail over a network, you must first be logged on to the network, or be able to access the shared disc.

Double-click on the !Mail icon and the Logon dialogue box will appear on your screen (except for the single-user version of InterTalk):

A dialog box titled "Mail logon" with a light gray background. It contains two text input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below the "Password" field are two buttons: "Cancel" on the left and "Logon" on the right. The dialog box has a thin border and a title bar.

Type in your user name (your network manager will tell you what this is)

Type in your password (your network manager will tell you what this is)

Click on **Logon** to log on, **Cancel** to quit

The Mail icon will appear on your icon bar, grey at first, then red once your logon has been authenticated:



When there is mail waiting for you, it will appear like this:



If Post\_In and Post\_Out have not been set (see *Setting up !Post\_In and !Post\_Out directories* on page 19), or if the network is down, or mail server machine not switched on, the postbox icon will appear with a question mark, like this:



## Sending mail

To send mail, you must first write the text of your mail message in Edit. Don't worry about addresses – just start at "Hi Bob," (or whatever) and end at "Regards, Chuck". Save this Edit file onto the InterTalk icon (on the icon bar). The mail window will be displayed:

Your name  
(entered automatically)

Type in the destination  
name and address  
(if more than one name,  
separate by a comma).  
You can use distribution  
lists, too

Anyone to be copied

Fill in the Subject

Click if you want  
acknowledgement  
of receipt

Your message

Click to send

Drop any attachments you want to send here

The text of your message will be displayed in the message area, and your name will be filled in automatically.

All you have to do is to fill in the name and address of the person you are sending the message to, (optionally) anyone to be sent a copy (**CC** – stands for carbon copy, using an old analogy!) and the **Subject** field. Take care with the name and address of the recipient – they are often long and obscure and easy to get wrong: if you make a mistake, however small, the mail will not get through.

For local email (to other users on the same site), their user name alone is enough to send them a message. The user group name is not required.



Drag any attachments you also want to send, such as other text files or pictures, for example, to the bar at the bottom of the window; these will accompany your message when it is sent, as long as the destination machine understands RISC OS and the standard MIME email format. If InterTalk is running at both ends, attachments will arrive as posted.

If you want to change the message, or any of the attachments, at this stage, click on the **Cancel** icon, and start again.

When you are happy with your message, click on **Send**, and it will head off towards its destination.

### Acknowledgements

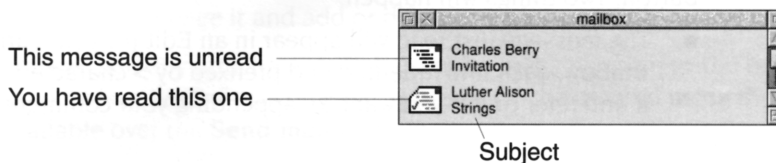
You can make reasonably sure that the message you send has been delivered and/or read by its addressee, by choosing **Acknowledge**. For remote mail a check is made that it has been written to the recipient's mail server; local machines check that the message has been opened on the addressee's computer.

## Reading mail

When your mail icon looks like this:



you have a mail message waiting. To read it, click on the mail icon; your current mail folder will appear:

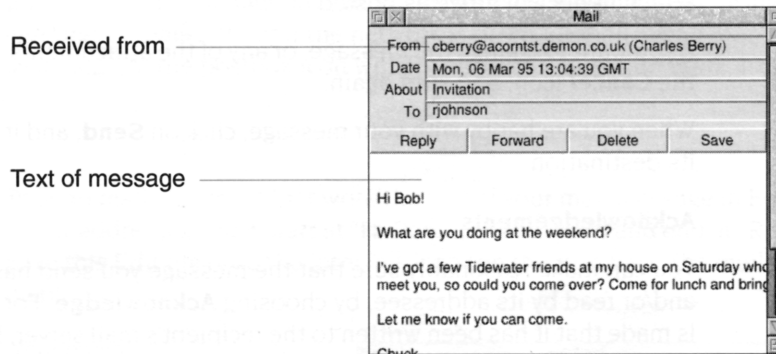


### Changing the way mail is sorted

Press Menu over the mail folder and choose **Display/Sort by date**, to display the most recent messages first, or **Display/Sort by name**, to rearrange your messages in alphabetical order, based on the name of the sender.

## To read a mail message

To read a mail message, double-click on it, and it will be displayed in a message window:



Any attachments enclosed can be run by double-clicking on them, or they can be dragged and saved in another location.

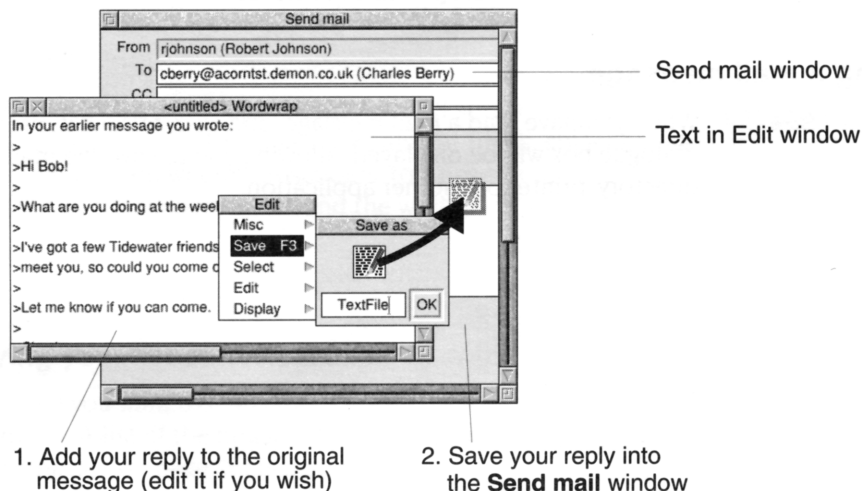
## Replying to a mail message

Reply

To reply to a message which you have just read (see above), click on the **Reply** button. Two things will happen:

- The message just read will appear in an Edit (or your current text-editor) window, each line indented and prefixed by > characters, so that you can edit it and refer to it if you want to, appending your comments in reply.

- A **Send mail** window will also be opened



Edit the read message as you want to (or delete it altogether) and insert your reply text.

Save the reply into the **Send mail** window. The reply destination is already filled in, but you can change it and add or delete CC addressees if you want to.

You can add any attachments to be sent by dragging them to the bottom of the window (see *Sending mail* on page 34). They can be deleted using the Menu option available over the **Send mail** window.

Click on **Send**, naturally enough, to dispatch the email.

## Forwarding a mail message

### Forward

Forwarding a mail message works very much like replying to one.

Click on the **Forward** button in the Mail window when you have read a message.

The message is repeated in an Edit window, in case you want to add anything to it. To forward the message, you save it into the Send mail window, but this time you have to add the name of the addressee as well.

## Deleting a mail message

Delete

When you have read a mail message, and do not wish to keep it, press the **Delete** button and the message will be removed.

## Saving a mail message

Save

When you have read a mail message, and wish to save it, press Save and a **Save** dialogue box will be displayed, allowing you to save the mail message to a directory, printer or another application.

---

# 6 Using news

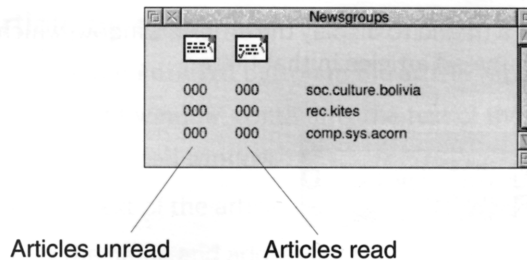
---

A newsgroup is a silent forum where all sorts of things are discussed – opinions aired, advice sought, souls bared and, at times, spleens vented. It is like a global bulletin board where ‘subscribers’ to a newsgroup ‘post’ articles which can then be seen by subscribers all around the world.

## Reading news

### Displaying your list of newsgroups

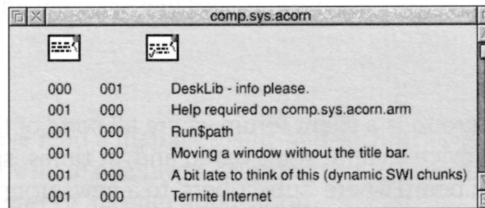
When you want to read news, choose the **News...** option from the InterTalk icon bar menu. A list of the newsgroups to which you currently subscribe (see *Managing newsgroups* on page 26) is displayed:



### Displaying the list of threads

A thread is a line of discussion running in a newsgroup – someone posts an opinion, perhaps, then a number of subscribers comment on it. The original poster then responds, and so on. Threads can be as short as one article, or may go on for days or even weeks.

Double-click on the newsgroup you want to look at, and a list of current threads in that group is displayed:



Articles unread

Articles read

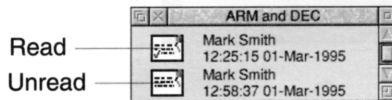
### Hiding read articles



If you have read many of the threads, you may wish to save time and screen space by displaying only those you have **not** read – press Menu over the threads window and choose **Unread only**.

### Displaying the list of articles

Double-click on a thread to display the articles window, which contains the current list of read and unread articles in that thread:



## Displaying an article

Double-clicking on a particular article will display it in a window similar to the mail window:

Click here to read next article

Click here to read previous article



## Forwarding an article by email

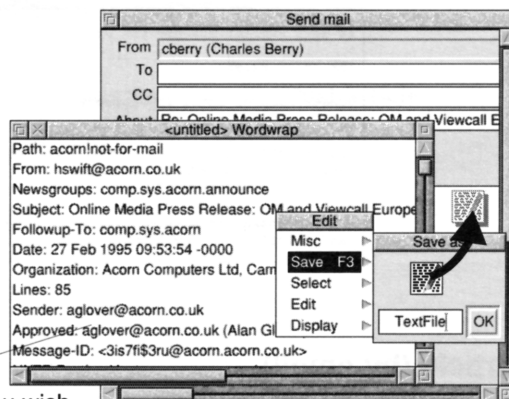
### Forward

Click on the **Forward** button in the article window. Two windows will be displayed:

- An Edit window, containing the text of the original article
- A Send mail window.

Edit the text of the article if you want to, then save it into the Send mail window.

Enter the name and address of the person you are forwarding the article to, and click on **Send**.



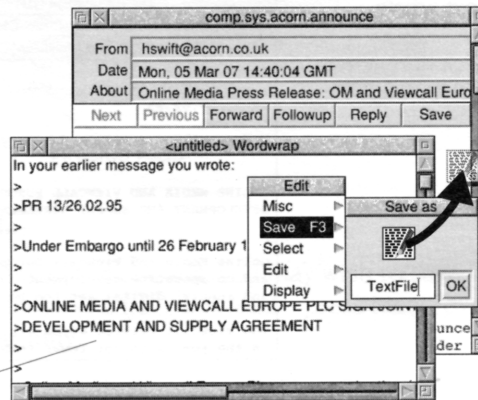
1. Edit article if you wish

2. Then save it into the Send mail window

## Following up an article

**Followup**

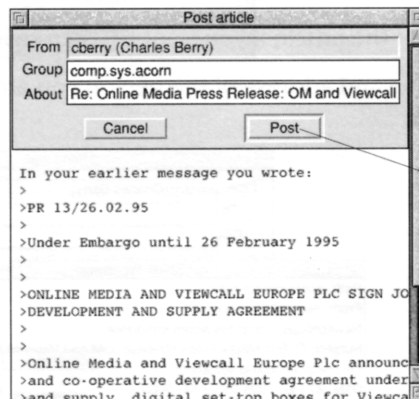
If you want to join in a thread (your contribution will be posted for all subscribers to read), click on **Followup** and an Edit window will open. The article to which you are responding will be included, indented and marked with a >, ready for you to edit it if you wish and to add your own posting.



2. Then save it into the original window

1. Add your own posting

Save your posting back into its original window. The Post article window will display your posting, and give you the chance to change the newsgroup name and subject line if you wish, before you press **Post** to despatch your new article.



Press to send

## Replying to an article (by email)

**Reply**

Sometimes you may wish to reply to the poster of an article by email, rather than by posting to the whole group.



To do this, press **Reply**. As with Followup, the original posting is displayed in an Edit window, for you to edit and add your own contribution.

Save this Edit file into the Send mail window displayed. Alter the addressee, CC and subject lines if you wish, the press **Send** to send the email.

## Saving an article

Save

When you have read an article, if you want to save a copy, press Save and a **Save** dialogue box will be displayed, allowing you to save the article to a directory, printer or another application.



## Starting a new thread

If you wish to respond to an article you have read, use the procedure described in *Following up an article* on page 42.

Otherwise, to start a new thread

- 1 write your article in Edit
- 2 save it into the threads window – the **Post article** window will be displayed
- 3 fill in the subject field
- 4 click on **Post** to send the posting off.

Your article will be posted to the newsgroup.

## Posting a new article

1. Click on the **Post a new article** link in the top right corner of the page.

2. Fill in the **Title** and **Text** fields. You can also add a **Category** and **Tags** to your article.

3. Click on the **Post** button to publish your article.

## Editing an article

1. Click on the **My articles** link in the top right corner of the page.

2. Find the article you want to edit and click on the **Edit** link next to it.

3. Make the necessary changes and click on the **Save** button.

## Deleting an article

1. Click on the **My articles** link in the top right corner of the page.

2. Find the article you want to delete and click on the **Delete** link next to it.

3. Confirm the deletion by clicking on the **Yes** button.

## Starting a new thread

1. Click on the **Start a new thread** link in the top right corner of the page.

2. Fill in the **Title** and **Text** fields.

3. Click on the **Post** button to create the thread.

## Replying to an article (by email)

1. Click on the **Reply by email** link in the top right corner of the page.

2. Fill in the **Subject** and **Text** fields.

3. Click on the **Send** button to receive the article via email.

## Replying to an article (on the site)

1. Click on the **Reply** link in the top right corner of the article page.

2. Fill in the **Text** field.

3. Click on the **Post** button to post your reply.

## Managing your profile

1. Click on the **My profile** link in the top right corner of the page.

2. Edit your **Profile information**, **Avatar**, and **Settings**.

3. Click on the **Save** button to update your profile.

---

# Reader's Comment Form

Acorn InterTalk User Guide  
Part number 0484,854

We would greatly appreciate your comments about this Manual, which will be taken into account for the next issue:

**Did you find the information you wanted?**

**Do you like the way the information is presented?**

**General comments:**

If there is not enough room for your comments, please continue overleaf

How would you classify your experience with computers?

**First-time user**

**Used computers before**

**Experienced User**

**Programmer**

*Cut out (or photocopy) and post to:*  
Dept RC, Technical Publications  
Acorn Computers Limited  
Acorn House, Vision Park  
Histon, Cambridge CB4 4AE  
England

**Your name and address:**

This information will only be used to get in touch with you in case we wish to explore your comments further



# Notes

Acorn UserTalk User Guide  
Part number: UAG1 374

We would greatly appreciate your comments about this Manual, which will be taken into account for the next issue.

Did you find the information you wanted?

Do you like the way the information is presented?

Control comments:

If there is a problem with your comments, please contact Customer

How would you classify your experience with computers?

First-time user    Used computer before    Experienced user    Programmer

Your name and address:

Contact (in plaintext) and mail to:  
Acorn Computers Limited  
1100, The Old Cambridge Centre  
100 Brookline Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
USA

The information will only be used to help us improve our products and services. We will not give your name or address to any other person without your consent.

---

## Notes

---

## Notes



