



**Running a Camp or
Caravan site and
need a way of
tracking business?**

**Caravan Club
Warden by Keith
Pirie has the
answer!**

As I write this rather odd column, MoonClock running on my 5mx tells me tonight is a moonless night, a smugglers moon! This has no connection to what follows, I just mention it in passing. Anyway back to the Curiosity Shop!

For issue three, if any reader has a nomination for software for the Curiosity Shop I would love to hear it! One of the marvelous things about a Psion is that anyone can easily write (via a proper keyboard), compile and then publish their own software without touching a PC (try that on a P800!). This has led to thousands of applications available on the most diverse subjects.

So, on to this issue's Curiosity: Caravan Club Warden.

Club (to shorten its title) is a Series 3 application written for the Campsite / Caravan Site owner wishing to run their business from a Psion!

Club will run perfectly on a 3 a/c/mx as is, although the author includes his source code, so it can be easily compiled for a more modern graphical look. Just a note, if you do install it, remember to put Charges.odt in your Psion's OPD folder.

As with 'Cupid', the subject of Issue One's Curiosity Shop, a great deal of the charm of 'amateur' software lies in the Readme file;

"Welcome to Caravan Club Warden for the Psion Series 3. This program was written during a very wet caravan week in the Marragowan Club Site at Killin, Perthshire."

"No guarantee can be given to the accuracy of any program so amend-

ed but, in its original state, the program is accurate on all calculations carried out on the aforesaid wet week at Killin.

Finally, thanks to my very patient wife, Janelle, who put up with my silences, my outbursts, my "in a second I'm at a complicated bit's and for endless testing of my code to make sure it works and gave accurate returns."

Isn't it lovely! Straight out of Carry On Camping or Carry On Behind! I pity the poor wife!

The author, Keith Pirie, gives the Caravan / Campsite Manager two example files to work with; 194.odt and 794.odt. Reading the helpfile; "Every month a new file is created automatically by the "Club" program, into which it deposits its data. The file is named to show the month number followed by the year." So we have January 1994 and July 1994 data to hand. 10 years ago!

Let's now put Club into a real world situation:

Sid and Bernie walk up to our camp site gate and ask us, Mr. Fiddler, if they can stop (see Carry On Camping for further details), we whip out our Psion and ask; number of adults, number of children, how many nights, electric hook-up et cetera...

Once entered and money taken (pound), as the evening progresses and Sid & Bernie have set up their tent, we can run a report from the Series 3 on the days or months business in our camp-hut over a glass of wine.

That's about it really, perfect for its application and at its time a lot cheaper and more convenient than a PC, actually that could be said of present day.

Anyway, I've got attached to the idea of sitting in my Camp Hut with my Series 3 and a glass of wine, whilst Sid & Bernie wrestle with their tent against the storm that is battling against the hut's windows.

Heaven!

Please email me will@psioncomputer.com if you have trouble getting hold of Caravan Club Warden.