

# gadgets

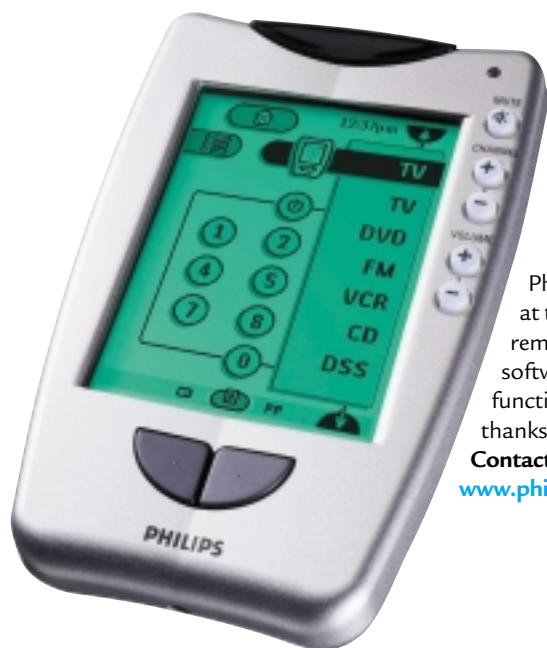
compiled by Niall Magennis

## KX-TR325

So are walkie-talkies set to take over now we've become a bit jaded about mobile phones? Well, Panasonic seems to think so and just to prove it, the company has introduced two units. Both devices work over a range of 3km and have 14 radio channels and 38 ID codes. The more expensive KX-TR325 (on the left in the picture) has a special private talk function that allows the unit to be held to the ear like a conventional mobile telephone. Prices start at around £80.

Contact: Panasonic 0990 357 357

[www.panasonic.com](http://www.panasonic.com)



## Philips Pronto

Philips recently picked up an outstanding design quality award at the CeBIT show in Germany for this cute programmable remote control, costing £200. You can use the Pronto Edit software to duplicate, edit, delete, mix configurations and functions and to store IR codes. It can even be used in the dark thanks to its back-lit screen.

Contact: Philips 020 8689 4444

[www.philips.com](http://www.philips.com)

## Razer Boomslang

It might look like a model mock-up of a *Star Wars* space ship, but what really sets this mouse apart is its extremely high accuracy. This is achieved by shining a laser onto the mouse ball and measuring the rotations from the reflection. It's available in 1,000 or 2,000dpi versions (£42.42 and £60 respectively, plus around £12 for shipping) and is native to the USB port, although a PS2 adaptor and special driver is included for those with older PCs.

Contact: käma

[www.razerzone.com](http://www.razerzone.com)



# Sony Glasstron Glasses

These neat specs from Sony simulate the feeling of watching a 52in television screen from just 6.5 feet away. Weighing in at just 99 grammes they're even relatively comfortable to wear. Sound is delivered via the integrated stereo headphones and the glasses can be connected to most video sources including VCRs, DVD players and games consoles. Unfortunately they are only available in the US at a cost of \$499.

Contact: Sony 0990 424 424

[www.sony.com](http://www.sony.com)



## BAA928U Weather Station

If you're one of those people who always finds themselves without a brolly when it starts to rain, then the Weather Station may be just what you need. Costing £100, it has a graphic weather forecast display that shows predictions for the next 12 to 24 hours. If you're more concerned with things closer to home, it'll even measure the temperature and humidity of your room to let you know when it's at maximum comfort level.

Contact: Oregon Scientific 01628 680424

[www.oregonscientific.co.uk](http://www.oregonscientific.co.uk)



## Keyspan Digital Media Remote

PCs are great for playing back MP3 files and DVD movies, but sometimes you just don't want to have to rely on your keyboard as the input device. Well, the Keyspan Digital Media Remote, costing £59 ex VAT, is the answer. It connects to your PC via the USB port and works by simulating keystrokes, so it can be trained to work with virtually any application.

Contact: A M Micro 01392 413424

[www.ammicro.co.uk/](http://www.ammicro.co.uk/)



## Cybiko

Mobile phones are the norm in playgrounds these days, so the most high-tech kids will be pleading with their parents to get a Cybiko. This digital, wireless, handheld entertainment and communications system combines instant messaging, interactive gaming and personal information applications in one compact device. Programs are available for free download at [www.cybiko.com](http://www.cybiko.com) and the company is committed to posting one new application or game per day on the website. Unfortunately the unit is currently only available in the US at a cost of \$149.

Contact: [www.cybiko.com](http://www.cybiko.com)

