



# hands on

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**T**his month sees the start of a 10-part countdown to the millennium. Some doom merchants may be calling this the 'Final Countdown' with the world poised on the verge of a total shutdown when the clocks strike midnight on 1st January, 2000. But whatever the outcome you'd better be prepared, so how better than to gather some top tips from our *Hands On* contributors. This month, Roger Gann outlines the hardware-related Y2K issues, suggesting various utilities designed to check compliancy, and offering his expert advice on overcoming potential problems. Part 2 of Nik Rawlinson's *Web Authoring Workshop* continues in the May issue but this month Jason Finch shows how some simple JavaScript can spice up your home page. The Linux revolution gathers pace with Cliff Joseph's Mac column taking a peek, and Benjamin Woolley praising two Linux-bundled 3D graphics packages. As always, the contents of our *Hands On* columns are really down to you, the reader, so please feel free to send comments and suggestions to the contributors, or direct to myself.

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### YEAR 2000

**NEW!**

#### 221 Hardware

First off for this new, ten-part series is Roger Gann advising on hardware compliancy issues.

### WORKSHOPS

#### 212 Web Sites

Jason Finch shows you how to entertain visitors to your web site with a JavaScript slide puzzle.

#### 216 Remote Access

Connect to your PC or LAN from afar. Bob Walder implements a simple remote access connection.

### OPERATING SYSTEMS

#### 226 Windows

A word in your ear — audio standards and an unusual music player grab Tim Nott's attention.

#### 231 16-Bit

Roger Gann adds a bit of colour to the dark realms of DOS.

#### 233 Windows NT

Andrew Ward sets up TCP/IP the easy way, on a small network.

#### 245 Unix

Chris Bidmead dips into the Office Suite 99 bundle — a great way to get started with Linux.

#### 248 OS/2

Terence Green downloads the latest Star Office bundle and shines a light on version 5.0.

#### 273 Mac

Cliff Joseph explores MkLinux, from Unix, as an alternative OS.

### APPLICATIONS

#### 250 Word Processing

Tim Nott chooses menus *à la carte* as a Good Thing in Office 2000.

#### 252 Spreadsheets

The secret of summary sheets and the mystery of Easter is revealed at the hands of Stephen Wells.

#### 254 Databases

Mark Whitehorn demonstrates a stock control database solution.

#### 259 Sound

Mixing audio with ten EQ tips supplied by Steve Helstrip, to add shape and control to your tunes.

#### 262 Graphics & DTP

There's a treat in store for font designers; Multiple Masters surveyed by Ken McMahon.

#### 264 3D Graphics

Benjamin Woolley looks at two powerful, bundled 3D graphics packages.

### PROGRAMMING

#### 267 Visual Programming

With a little help from your friends: Tim Anderson checks out HTML Help and a new Delphi tutorial.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### 221 Internet

With the expectations afforded to ADSL, Nigel Whitfield highlights other areas which need attention.

#### 238 PDAs

Mark Whitehorn continues his mini-series on programming with OPL and makes some noise with his PDA.

#### 256 Hardware

Roger Gann champions the wireless PC with a respected look at infra-red data transfer.

#### 270 Networks

Putting your own IP network on the net? Bob Walder explains how routers transport data packets.

## PCW Hands On on CD-ROM

Now it's easy to find that *Hands On* tip, trick, advice or review again — there's a whole year's worth of columns on our monthly PCW CD-ROM. So if that handy hint is on the tip of your tongue, don't sit and sweat: the answer is at your fingertips.