# hands on

## contents

**A**re you looking for that next great operating system? It could be coming sooner than you think — that's if you reckon **NT 5.0** is going to be the answer to your prayers. In *Networks*, Bob Walder takes a look at Microsoft's latest timetable for releasing this much-hyped upgrade and examines some of the **main features** of the pre-release copies. On the other hand, perhaps you're quite happy with Windows 95 or 98 but have been following Chris Bidmead's *Unix* column. If you've always wanted to try out the "free" **Linux operating system** for yourself but didn't want to sacrifice your Microsoft installation, follow the first instalment of our three-part workshop on running it alongside Windows. Even Cliff Joseph gets in on the OS swapping act this month, **emulating the PCs** we know and love on his Mac.

With Christmas on the horizon, many *Hands On* writers hint at what they would like to find in their stockings, while Mark Whitehorn thinks about all of those **festive photos** — and the headache he's going to have trying to file them in a database.

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