NesQWK

Doug Roberts

COLLABORATORS			
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NesQWK

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```
                        NesQWK Offline QWKMail Reader V1.04

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                    -------------- Registered user status --------------
        'Paid-up' registered users ........................ 0
        People who've e-mailed us ........................ 15
        ------------------------------------------------------
```

1.2 Introduction

```
            Introduction
```

Welcome to NesQWK, a QWKMail Compatible Offline Reader.
                Jim and Doug
                 hope
you find this program easy and simple to install and use.

This software is provided "AS IS", without warranty of any kind, either
expressed or implied. The author is not responsible for any damage or loss
of data due to use of this program, these are solely the users concern.

If you have any problems not sorted out by this documentation, then don't
forget to
                drop us a line
                !

Take a look at a the preview screen grab to see what NesQWK looks like.

                What is QWKMail?

                Why Should I Use NesQWK?

1.3   Why Should I Use NesQWK?

                Why Should I Use NesQWK

NesQWK was written because it was felt that the various other offline
readers were not quite as fully featured or easy to use as they could be.
They all seemed to have strange qwirks which could leave the user
fustrated and annoyed.

The idea behind NesQWK was to create a QWKmail reader that was easy to
use, and yet had all the features that you could possibly require in an
offline reader. We know that there are other OLR's available with more
features, but do you really want/need those features? (Let
                us
                 know if
you do!)

Features :

o Easy to
                install
                 and
                setup
                ,
o Fully font sensitive – conforms to the look that you want,
o Quick and easy to use – no messing around,
o
                Graphical button bar
                ,
o
                Tag–line
                 and

```
              signature
               support,
o Ease of

              skipping
               between sucessive message bundles.
o Automatically reformats reply messages to a suitable width, wrapping
  the text and taking quoted lines into consideration.

 See :
              Future features
```

1.4 Registration

```
Registration

NesQWK is SHAREWARE. That means, if you like it and use it
regularly, you should really think about registering it!

So, how much does it cost to register? Well, that's up to what you think
it's worth. A small cash donation (£10?) to help fund NesQWK and other
products that are in the pipeline, would be very gratefully accepted. If
you choose to support us in this way, we can either post you the latest
copy (without the 'unregistered' text), or send it to you electronically.
If you wish, we can e-mail you the latest versions as they come out.

Even if you decide not to register, please send us a short note to say
that you are actually using it. The same goes for magazines who want to
put NesQWK on a cover disk - just let us know!

Special prize to the first person to make a donation! After 4 months,
we still have yet to get one... :(

 Send registration stuff to :

  James Good,
  NoLimits (NesQWK Registration),
  15 The Meadway,
  Horley,
  Surrey,
  RH6 9AN
  UK
```

1.5 System Requirements

```
              System Requirements

NesQWK will run on any 680x0 processor based Amiga, with at least 1Mb of
RAM. A hard disk will certainly be an advantage, but is not necessary.

NesQWK requires that your Amiga has an operating system version of 2.04
or higher, and ReqTools. OS version 3.0 features will be taken advantage
of, if available, and is the preferred system.
```

An
archiver
such as LHA or ZIP is also required to extract mail bundles.

NesQWK will look at it's best on a 640*512 (or higher) screen, with a 8 or
more colours. It will, however, run on anything you ask it to, it just
won't bring the much nicer MagicWB style buttons and logo into play until
it's running on a 'hi-res interlace' style screen.

This documentation was written with an OS3.0+ system in mind; the following
differences will be noticed on OS2.04 systems :

  o The help system, including the InfoHint(tm) box,
  o NesQWK's list displays will not be as pretty, or as nice to use,
  o The archiver output window will not be displayed on NesQWK's public
    screen (see the 'Show output' option in the
                 General
                  settings window.
  o The button bar images will not be re-mapped to the host screen's
    palette.

1.6 Installation

                 Installation

To install NesQWK, simply run the 'Install NesQWK' installer program. This
will copy the relevent files to where you want to install NesQWK, as well
as asking a question or two about how you would like it configured. If you
indicate that you don't have MagicWB installed, NesQWK assumes you are
running on a non-interlace screen and installs a suitable font for NesQWK
use. If you have MagicWB installed, a sample config file with MagicWB
default fonts will be setup.

And that's it! No messy assigns or anything. Once you've done that you'll
need to
                 configure
                  the rest of the program to your settings, and then
you're ready to go...

1.7 configuration

                 Configuration

The following areas have to be configured before using NesQWK :

                 Directories

                 General

                 Display

                    Directories

                    Bundle Archivers

                    Save Settings
                    All configuration requesters have the following three buttons at ←
                        the
bottom :

Save   : This saves the options you have changed, and closes the
                 requester. Anything you do from now on will use those
                 settings. This does the same as selecting
                Save settings
                            from the 'Settings' menu.

Use   : This enables the settings you have changed (but does not
                 save them), then closes the requester. If you exit NesQWK
                 your changes will be lost. This enables you to test your
                 configuration without having to continually save your
                 configuration. If the changes look OK after testing them,
                 they can be saved by selecting
                Save Settings
                 from the menu.

Cancel   : This returns you to NesQWK, forgetting any changes that
                  you may have made to the requester. Use this if something
                  has gone horribly wrong!

Note that whenever the setup is saved, NesQWK will also save the positions
of all open windows on the screen.

Once you have configured everything, you should be able run NesQWK without
any
                problems
                . Before you can start to read and write mail, you first need
to
                download your first bundle
                 from your local BBS.

A sample bundle is included with NesQWK so that you can explore NesQWK's
features.

                    Using NesQWK

1.8 Usage

                    Usage

The following sections describe how NesQWK can be used.

                    Windows

```
                    Menus

                    Tool-bar buttons

                    Downloading mail bundles

                    Storing mail bundles

                    Reading your mail

                    Posting a new message/reply

                    Editing/deleting a reply

                    Finishing a session
```

1.9 Downloading Mail Bundles

```
                    Downloading Mail Bundles
```

The way that you download QWKMail bundles will vary from BBS to BBS.

For specific help on downloading a QWKMail bundle, ask your Sysop. He/she
should be able to guide you through the use of the specific BBS QWKMail
facility.

As a rough guide, however, the following should suffice :

o Turn on your amiga, and boot to the Workbench. (!)
o Start your comms package (Termite, Term, NComm etc)
o Logon to your local BBS, and enter the QWK door.
o Make sure you are configured to receive the correct conferences.
o Use the QWK door to export a mail bundle (alternatively named a
  mail packet).
o Download the exported mail bundle.
o Logoff from the BBS.
o Start NesQWK.
o Select the
              grab
               option.

You are then free to
              read
              /
              reply
               to your mail.
```

## 1.10  Storing Mail Bundles

```
                    Storing Mail Bundles
```

When starting out using NesQWK, it may be a sensible time to decide how
you want to store your mail bundles.

Some people simply store one bundle at a time, and delete it once they
have read it and generated their replies from it. This method is useful
if disk space is at a premium, or you are simply not interested in the
mail for later reference.

Another way, is to let all the bundles that you receive build up in
NesQWK's bundle directory. This way, they are always available to
refer back to them at a later date. To assist you in maintaining a
directory of mail bundles, NesQWK offers facilities to automatically copy
the bundles from your terminals download directory and
                    rename
                     them with
sensible, unique filenames that let you know where the bundle came from,
and the date it was downloaded. This process is activated by performing a

                    grab
                     .

1.11   Reading Mail

                    Reading Mail

Once a mail bundle has been successfully opened, the first message
contained within it will displayed in the
                    message viewer
                     . The message
that is displayed in the viewer will be referred to as the 'current'
message.

If the message text does not fit on screen in its entirety, you may use
the up and down cursor keys, or the scroll bar to the right of the window,
to scroll through it. Shift + the up and down cursor keys moves a page
at a time.

Once you have read the current message, the next message in the bundle can
be displayed by pressing the cursor right key, or pressing the
                    next message
                     button on the button bar. Similarly, the previous message can be ←↩
                        accessed
with either the cursor left key, or the
                    previous message
                     button.

Another convienient way to read through messages is to use the 'space bar'
and 'backspace' keys. 'Space' will move forwards through messages a page
at a time, automatically moving to the next message at the end of the
current one. 'Backspace' does the opposite of 'space'.

There are several ways that you can change to a different message
conference. Firstly, you may click on the
                    conference list window
                     button,

and select a new conference from the list of those available. Secondly,
the cursor right and left keys, when used with the 'alt' key, will move
to the next and previous conference.

See also :
                Searching your messages
                   .

1.12 Posting New Messages and Replies

                    Posting New Messages and Replies

First, a quick introduction to how NesQWK manages your replies and new
messages...

When you post (or add) a reply or new message, NesQWK will store it in
a special conference named 'Replies'. This conference can be read just
like any other in your message bundle, and you can keep on adding as many
messages into it as you wish.

When you come to close down the bundle, however, all the messages in this
conference will be taken out and placed into a special 'reply' file. This
reply file (also known as the reply bundle) is then automatically
compressed by NesQWK, using your specified archive utility (see

                Bundle archiver settings
). It is then in the correct form for uploading
onto your local BBS, allowing other Fidonet and QWK Mail users around the
world to read your messages.

If you want to know more about uploading the reply bundle onto the BBS,
chat to the BBS sysop. Sysops are normally very helpful in this area...

Back to NesQWK...

Replies and new messages are treated very much in the same way. The only
differences are that replies are automatically addressed back to the
person you are replying to, and a few options are only applicable to
replies.

To send a reply, make sure that the main screen is showing the message that
you wish to reply to, and then click on the 'reply' button on the toolbar,
or select 'Post reply...' from the message menu. To send a new message,
simply click on the 'new message' button on the toolbar, or select 'Post
new...' from the message menu. From here on, we will only describe the
reply operation - new messages (as said before) are treated very similarly.

The top left of the reply window contains the addressing information : Who
the message is to, your name and the subject matter. Also shown in the
name of the conference that the message is to be placed into. This can be
changed by clicking on the 'Set...' button, but defaults to the name of
the conference that the current message is in.

The send option check-boxes are located at the top right of the window.
The first tells NesQWK to make the message private or not. If you choose

to make it private, nobody but the person that you are sending the
message to will be able to read it. The next option ('Keep original')
applies only to reply messages, and indicates whether NesQWK should
include the senders message in your reply. 'Quote type' is the next
option, and only applies to reply messages that have the 'Keep original'
option turned on. When set to 'xx>', the message that you are replying
to will be
                quoted
                 with the senders initials :

  JG> This was the original senders message. It's
  JG> not a very long message, is it?

Setting it to 'x>' will only quote with the senders first initial, and
'None' will not change the original at all.

The bottom half of the window contains the
                header-text
                 and
                tag-line
                 selector.
The header-text can be changed by one of two ways. Firstly, clicking on
the set button to the right of the header-text string gadget will produce
a list-box which can be used to select a predefined header line from the
list. Secondly, you can type free-form text into the string gadget, and
that will be used as the header. Leaving the header-text empty will dis-
able the header-text feature.

The tag-line list shows all the tag-lines contained in the NesQWK.tagline
file, with the selected tag-line being shown in the input line below the
list. It is this selected tag-line that is appended to the bottom of the
message. When the window is first displayed, a tag-line will be randomly
selected for you, but you may select another by either clicking on a
different one in the list, or pressing the 'Random' button. This button
will randomly select a tag-line for you.

Once all the above has been filled in, click on the 'OK' button at the
bottom of the window, and the message will be posted into NesQWK's
reply conference ('NQ-Replies'), ready for archiving and uploading onto
your local BBS. Cancel will abort the message.

1.13 Editing/Deleting Replies

                Editing/Deleting Replies

To edit a reply message, select the message that you want to change (i.e.
make sure it is displayed in the main window), and select '
                Post reply
                 '
from the message menu, or click on 'reply' on the
                button bar
                 .

From here on, the procedure for editing a reply is the same as creating it
in the first place, except that all the details entered when the reply was

first generated are already filled in. See :
                    Posting replies
                            .

To delete a reply, so that it will not be included in the reply bundle,
select the message that you want to delete, and select '
                    Delete reply
                       from
the message menu. To prevent the reply message being accidentally deleted,
NesQWK will ask if you are sure first.

1.14   Finishing a session

Finishing a Session

When you have finished your NesQWK session, and are ready to quit the
program, simply click on the close gadget, or select 'quit' from the
menus. NesQWK will then close down all it's open windows, and unload
from your Amiga's memory. Don't forget to save any settings changes
before doing this!

If you have created or edited any replies or new messages, they will
automatically be saved away into a reply bundle.

1.15   NesQWK Bundle Naming Convention

                    NesQWK Bundle Naming Convention

When a bundle is
                grabbed
                  , it is placed into the bundle directory, and
and renamed. This renaming process will give the bundle a file name that
consists of the following information :

  A two character ID designating the source BBS,
  A minus sign,
  The date in the form DDMMMYY,
  and the extension of '.QWK'.

For example, a bundle from a BBS called
                'Little Green Men'
                   on 24th
December 1994 will become 'LG-24Dec94.QWK'.

This means each packet for each BBS on each day (phew!), will have a
unique file name. However, if you receive more than one bundle on
each day, an incrementing ASCII character (beginning with 'a') will be
added after the date.

So, the second bundle in the above situation will become 'LG-24Dec94a.QWK'.

See :

```
            Storing bundles
```

1.16   Little Green Men BBS

```
Little Green Men BBS
```

This BBS operates from a base in Smallfield, Surrey, near Gatwick airport
in the UK. It provides the main support base for NesQWK. Upgrades and
patches may be obtained from here, as well as a chance to talk to the
authors.

It is run by Doug Roberts, with a little help from Jim Good. These names
may be familiar to you ;-).

1.17   Windows

```
            Windows
```

The following windows are central to NesQWK's user interface :

```
            Main window

            Message list window

            Conference list window

            Search window
```

1.18   Main Window

```
            Main Window
```

The main window is where most of NesQWK's features are used from.

It consists of three main areas :

The message viewer.

The message viewer is the largest element of the window, and it is in this
area that the messages are displayed.

The message header panels.

The message header panels are located about the message viewer. These
panels contain information pertaining to the current message. Each item
is explained below :

```
 From : The name of the person who sent this message.
 To   : Whom the message is addressed to.
```

```
 Subj : The subject matter of the message.

 Conf : The name and number of the conference that the message belongs to.
 Date : Date and time that the message was sent.
 Msg  : The number of this message, and the number in this conference.
```

Also shown next to the 'Msg' item, is the private message indicator. If
the current message is marked as private for you, then the word 'private'
will appear here.

The button bar.
The button bar is located underneath the message viewer. It consists of a
number of buttons with graphical images in them, and they provide a quick
way of accessing NesQWK's more common functions. See :
                    Button bar

                        .

There is another area that optionally appears below the message viewer,
above the button bar. This is known as the InfoHint(tm) bar, and provides
help on what the various parts of the main window do. As you move the
mouse cursor over the buttons, and header area, a single line of text will
be displayed here describing the function of the area. The InfoHint(tm)
feature is enabled in the
                    general
                     config window.

1.19   Message List Window

                    Message List Window

 This window displays a list of all the messages in the current
 conference. The list has three headings that show the message
 subject, who the message is from, and who it is to.

 The current message (the message currently being displayed in the
 main window) is indicated by the highlighted bar. Any message in
 the list may be made the current message by double clicking.

 The window can be resized, and the three columns will grow and
 shrink as the size is changed.

 If the 'Auto msg list close' option is checked in the
                General
                    setup window, the window will automatically close when a message ←
                        is
 selected from the list.

1.20   Conference List Window

                    Conference List Window

 This window displays a list of all the conference areas present in the

current mail bundle.

Two 'special', NesQWK internal conferences also exist, both of which are
prefixed with the letters 'NQ'. The first (named 'NQ-Personal') is only
present if you have messages addressed to you, and contains all of your
that are present in the other conferences. It is useful when you need to
quickly scan through a bundle to check your personal mail. The other,
named 'NQ-Replies', is present when your have replies (or new messages)
waiting to be packed into a reply bundle.

When a conference is double clicked in this window, the first message
of that conference will be made the current message, and displayed in
the main window.

This window contains two columns in the list, the right hand column
showing the name of the conference, and the left hand one switching
between showing the conference number, and the message count within
the conference. To switch between the two values in the left column,
click on the little '*' button in the top right hand corner of the
window.

The window can be resized, and the three columns will grow and
shrink as the size is changed.

If the 'Auto conference list close' option is checked in the
                General
                   setup window, the window will automatically close when a ←
                      conference is
selected from the list.

1.21 Search Window

Search Window

Searching lets you scan through all the messages within the current bundle
(or through a smaller range) for given pieces of text. If a match is
found, that message is made current and displayed. If you searched for a
piece of text, the line that the text was found on is highlighted.

This window will multi-task with NesQWK whilst you are reading your
messages.

The four areas of the message that you can search in are shown and the top
of the window, along side four input lines into which you can enter the
text you wish to search for :

Sender   Enter the name of the person that you want to look for. Putting
           'GRAM PARSONS' in here will find messages sent by Gram Parsons.

Recipient Place the user name of the person that you want to look for.
           Entering 'MATTHEW SWEET' will find messages sent to Matthew Sweet.

Subject   Placing 'Who drank my beer?' here will search for messages with
           that subject title.

```
Message   Text entered here will be searched for within the message body
          text, i.e. the message contents.
```

The search options are located under the above input lines. The first
option ('Search range') is a cycle gadget that determines which messages
will be searched. 'All conferences', 'Current conference' and 'Current
message' are the self-explanatary choices you have. Next option is a
check-box labelled 'From start'. Checking this means that the search will
start at the very first message in the bundle, as opposed to the current
message. 'Exact match', the next check-box, tells NesQWK to make sure that
the text it finds exactly matches what you asked for. If this is not
checked, partial matching will be enabled. This can be useful, for
instance, if you are searching for a message from someone, but you are not
sure of their full-name, only their first name. Entering 'RICHARD' in the
'Sender' input line will find all the messages from people with 'RICHARD'
in their names. i.e. RICHARD GOOD, RICHARD JAMES or even KEEF RICHARDS.

The control buttons are located below the options. 'Search forwards' will
start the search process searching forwards towards the end of the bundle,
whilst 'Search backwards' will start the search process searching towards
the first message in the bundle. Close will close the window.

Bear in mind that searching a large mail bundle for text in the message-body
of messages in 'All conferences' can take some time...

1.22 Menus

```
                Menus
```

The following list details the options avaliable from NesQWK's menu bar :

Project

```
        Open bundle...

        Open last bundle...

        Close bundle...

        Next bundle...

        Previous bundle...

        Grab bundle

        Information...

        Erase bundle...

        Print

        Print as...

        About...
```

```
                       Quit
                        Message

                       Post new...

                       Post reply...

                       Delete reply

                       Search...

                       UUDecode file...

                       Steal tag-line...

                       Save text...
                        Window

                       Message list open

                       Conference list open
                        Settings

                       General...

                       Display...

                       Directories...

                       Bundle archivers...

                       Edit tag-lines...

                       Edit header-text...

                       Save Settings
```

1.23 Tool-Bar Buttons

```
         Tool-Bar Buttons
```

To make NesQWK quicker and easier to use, it has a graphical tool-bar
located at the bottom of the main window. This consists of a number of
buttons, which, when clicked upon, provide easy access to common menu
or keyboard operations.

If the NesQWK window is resized small enough, some of the buttons will
not physically fit into the window. When this happens, the buttons will
disappear from the left hand side. The most used buttons are to the right,
so this should cause as little inconvenience as possible.

From right to left the buttons are :

```
         Next message
```

Previous message

Next conference area

Previous conference area

Message list window toggle

Conference list window toggle

Post reply message

Post new message

Close bundle

Open bundle

Font toggle

Show search window

1.24 Open Bundle

Open Bundle

Selecting this will display a file requester showing the contents of
the bundle directory. After selecting a mail bundle file, and clicking
on 'OK', the bundle will be opened, and ready for use. Any bundle open
will automatically be closed.

Note : NesQWK can be made to automatically perform this operation on
       startup. See the 'Startup operation' in the
              General
               settings
       window.

1.25 Open Last Bundle

Open Last Bundle

This menu option will automatically re-open the mail bundle previously
in use. This can be useful when NesQWK has to be closed down in the
middle of a large mail reading session – simply re-start NesQWK, select
this option, and continue reading from the same bundle.

Note : NesQWK can be made to automatically perform this operation on
       startup. See the 'Startup operation' in the
              General
               settings
       window.

1.26 Close Bundle

```
Close Bundle
```

Selecting this will close a mail bundle. This involves packing any reply
messages and releasing the memory used to store the open mail bundle.

This will probably not be used that much due to the fact that all of
the 'open bundle' operations automatically close any open bundles, as
does the 'Quit' option.

1.27 Open Next/Previous Bundle

```
                 Open Next/Previous Bundle
```

If mail bundles are
                stored
                 in the 'bundle directory' (see
                directory settings
)
with the correct NesQWK
                bundle naming
                 convention, then this option can be
used to open the next/previous bundle in chronological order. The current
bundle will be automatically
                closed
                 first.

This can be useful when steping through several bundles in date order, for
example, when searching for a particular message.

1.28 Grab Bundle

```
                 Grab Bundle
```

This will look in your specified download directory for a mail bundle.
If one is present it will move it to the bundle directory, interrogate
it to find out the download date etc, and name the file accordingly.

The bundle is renamed using the
                NesQWK bundle naming convention
                 .

This facility provides a way to store and manage large collections of
mail. See :
                Storing bundles
                 .

1.29 Erase Bundle

```
Erase Bundle
```

```
Selecting this option will produce a file requester, allowing you to
choose the bundle that you wish to remove from your disk. Once selected,
click on OK, and confirm that you wish to proceed. NesQWK will now
remove the bundle file permanently.
```

```
Use this facility with care!
```

1.30   Next Message

```
Next Message
```

```
Display the next message in the current conference. If there are no more
messages in the current conference, the first message in the next
conference will display.
```

1.31   Previous Message

```
Previous Message
```

```
Display the previous message in the current bundle. If there are no more
messages in the current conference, the last message in the previous
conference will display.
```

1.32   Toggle Message List

```
              Toggle Message List
```

```
 If the
               message list window
                is open, this option will close it. If it's
closed, this will open it.
```

1.33   Post Reply Message

```
              Post Reply Message
```

```
Post a reply to the current message.
```

```
 See :
               Posting a new message/reply
```

1.34   Delete Reply Message

                    Delete Reply Message

Delete the current reply (or new) message.

 See :
                Editing/Deleting Replies

1.35   Next Conference

Next Conference

Moves to the first message in the next conference.

1.36   Previous Conference

Previous Conference

Moves to the previous conference in the bundle. If the current message is
not the first message in the conference then this will move to the first
one, and not change the conference.

1.37   Toggle Message Font

Toggle Message Font

Toggles between the two message fonts, specified in the 'Display Config'
window. Typically, this will be a proportional (i.e. XHelvetica) and a
non-proportional (i.e. Topaz) font.

1.38   Post New Message

                    Post New Message

Post a new message into the current conference. Once done, the new message
will appear in the 'Replies' conference, where it can be further edited or
deleted.

 See :
                Posting a new message/reply

1.39 Toggle Conference List Window

```
Toggle Conference List Window
```

```
If the message conference list window is open, this option will close it.
If it is not open, this will make it so.
```

1.40 Search

```
              Search
```

```
Open the search window.
```

```
See :
              Search window
```

1.41 UUDecode File

```
              UUDecode File
```

```
This option will extract files that have been attached to the message
using the UUEncode protocol. UUEncoded files can generally be identified
as looking something like the following :
```

```
begin 644 Close.iff
M1D]230'''>!)3$)-0DU(1''''!0'(''@''''''',,"''''''!86'H'"'$$--05'`^
M'''8JJ/''''_____:)*[F9F9N[N[NzJ9_[NJ1U]!0@'''''0`$''00T%-1P'`^
M'`0'"I'$0D]$60'''8''''''_____@'''''!U4'''!@'''''50'!'J''''!@'''"
M'&H'''!?___Y@''''%_____@__#_Y@'/''#_^?_A.z4[ID1:Q$$_]?_@_\*_Y_
M@'0'#_XO_A_*IE5@-4%_T'_@7'F!QB/W?;B!\'0/A*!O*IE?G-4%\'Po@5^
M/_V1BooN:[\#x7A*'^"Ie?w?4%\%T'@'?<6!G[ZZ>!]'a7@"(J*AG=U=6![\bk
M*G@'ow4!GW^Z^!T'1+@'0'(AG[_]v!R'b1@',!0AG\_kV!Q54A@'&'@AC^_wz
MR!!!pb!!@'#_'AG_'/v!p0"!@''''AB___R!p@!!H''''AE___t!Q''A@''''A-
MB___R!r''1H''''AD___t!p''!@''''AB___R!p''!H'___A@''''!\''!p''
M''''!@B(B(!____H''''!@''''!____p''''!@''''!____H''''!@''''!__/
F__P''''!@''''''''H''''!@'''''''59_____''''''''''!;
''
end
size 488
```

```
If you see something like this, selecting this option will decode the
file. The UUDecode utility must be setup correctly for this to work,
however. See :
              General Settings
                   .
```

1.42 Steal Tag Line

```
            Steal Tag Line
```

This option will attempt to locate a
               tag-line
                within the current
message. If one is found, NesQWK will ask for confirmation for putting the
line into the tag-line file. If you ask i.t to do this, the tag-line will
be available for use when replying or creating new messages.

Tag-lines are identified by one of the following pre-fixes to the line :

... Tag-lines aren't funny...

| AnyText | Taglines are funny...

This should allow to take tag-lines from most popular messaging programs.

1.43 Save Text

Save Text

This option will save the current message text out to a file. A file
requester will pop up before doing so, and ask you to supply the file name
of the file to place the message into.

If the file specified already exists, NesQWK will add the message onto the
end of the file that is already there.

1.44 Information

Information

This option displays a window containing information about the currently
open mail bundle, and the BBS that it came from. Simply click on the OK
button to close this window.

1.45 Print

```
            Print
```

Print the current message to your chosen print device. For more information,
see the
               print as
                page.

1.46   Print As...

                    Print As

Allows the printing options to be configured. The following settings are
available :

Printer device :

This is the path to which messages will be printed. This can be a true
device name such as 'PRT:', or a fully qualified path and file name,
allowing messages to be printed to disk files.

Print message information :

With this option selected, an information banner will be printed at the top
of each message. This banner shows useful reference information, such as
the name of the sender and recipient, what conference the message came from,
and what BBS the message came from.

There are also a series of buttons at the bottom of the window. Those to
the right hand side are identical in operation to the save, use and cancel
buttons in the standard
                    configuration
                     requesters. The 'print' button on the
left, however, will perform the same operation as the
                    Print
                     menu option –
namely print the current message with the current settings.

1.47   About

About

This gives you a bit of general info about your copy of NesQWK.

1.48   Quit

Quit

This will exit the program. If reply messages have been edited / created,
the reply bundle will be updated / generated automatically.

1.49   General Settings

                    General Settings

Message editor :

This is the path to your selected message editor. Use the SET gadget
to bring up a file requester. Find and select your chosen text
editor and press OK. Once you have selected the editor, command line
options may be added onto the end of the path/command line.

UUDecoder :
  This is the path/command line for your selected UUDecoder. This
  option is only relevent if you will be receiving encoded binary files
  within your mail bundles, and may be left alone if this does not
  apply to you. See :
                Attached files
                .

Signature file :
  The
                signature file
                 contains ASCII text, and is appended onto the bottom
  of all outgoing messages. If this facility is not required, leave this
  option empty, otherwise supply the path to your signature file using the
  'Set...' button. The 'Edit...' button can be used to edit the signature
  file using the editor detailed above.

Startup operation :
  When NesQWK is invoked, it will use the setting in this option to
  determine what action will be taken. The following options can be
  cycled through.

    o Nothing   – NesQWK will do nothing.

    o Bundle open requester – Allow you to select a bundle without
                              having to select open from the menu/
                              tool-bar.

    o Open last bundle   – Re-open the bundle in-use when NesQWK
                              was last exited.

Auto msg list close :
  With this box checked, the
                message list window
                 will be automatically
  closed when a message is selected by double-clicking it's entry in the
  list.

Auto conference list close :
  When checked, the
                conference list window
                 will automatically close itself
  when double-clicking a conference area.

Note : The above two options are useful if you prefer to have large list
       windows that cover most of the screen, as opposed to small lists
       that do not overlap the main window. Generally, users of lower-
       resolution monitors will have these options enabled.

Show output :
  This toggle button selects and deselects the display when unpacking mail
  bundles. When the output is turned off, the display is less cluttered,

but turning it on can help when trying to sort out problems with
unpacking mail bundles, because you can see any errors that the archiver
may display.

Show InfoHint(tm) box :
  The InfoHint(tm) box is located at the bottom of the main window and
  displays a brief description of each part of the main window when the
  mouse pointer is moved around.

  With this option turned off, the box is not displayed.

1.50 Display Settings

Display Settings

Display settings determine how NesQWK will appear visually.

All the fonts that NesQWK uses can be changed, as can the type of screen
that you want it to use.

Main font :
 This font is the main font used by NesQWK, and is used to render all of
 the buttons, lists, check boxes etc in the windows, as well as the
 information boxes in the main window. This can be either a fixed or
 proportionally spaced typeface.

Proportional scroller font :
 Used to display the message body text. This does not have to be
 proportional.

Fixed width scroller font :
 Similar to the above option, but we suggest setting it to a fixed
 width typeface.

List font :
 This font is used by all of the lists. For example, the message and
 conference lists. This can only be a proportional font.

 Note : When you change any of the above font settings, NesQWK will
        perform a quick check to make sure that the font is not too
        large for the current screen. If it is too large, the previous
        setting will be re-instated.

Custom screen :
 When checked, this checkbox will tell NesQWK to open onto it's own
 (custom) screen, as opposed to the Workbench (or default public) screen.
 It will display the screen mode name currently selected next to the
 checkbox. This screen mode can be changed by clicking on the 'Set...'
 button to the right of the mode name, and selecting a new mode from
 the list.

 Once created, the custom NesQWK screen is made public, with a name of
 'NesQWK'. Other programs can then open themselves on the NesQWK screen.

 When the box is not checked, NesQWK will open on the default public

screen, which is usually (but not always) the Workbench screen.

1.51   Directory Settings

                    Directory Settings

NesQWK needs to know where you store your mail, and where you comms
package puts its uploads and downloads.

To change any of the directories used by NesQWK click on the 'SET...'
button next to the relevent directory setting. This will bring up a file
requester. Select the directory you want to use for that option (they are
all explained below) and click on the OK button.

Work directory : (Default : 'Ram Disk:NesQWKTemp/')
 This is the directory NesQWK uses for its temporary work files as it opens
 and closes bundles. There should be enough room on this drive to store the
 complete uncompressed mail bundle. This may be as small as a 1K, or as
 large as several megabytes, so make sure there is sufficient space
 available.

Bundle directory : (Default : NesQWK program directory)
 This is the directory in which you store all your mail bundles. Some
 people keep just one bundle and delete it once read, others keep every
 single bundle they receive for reference. See :
                Storing bundles
                .

Reply directory : (Default : 'Ram Disk:')
 This is the directory you want to place your reply files. This will
 usually be set to the same location as your chosen comms package's upload
 directory.

Download directory : (Default : 'Ram Disk:')
 When you download a QWKmail bundle from the BBS your comms software
 places that file in its download directory. You should set this option to
 that directory. If downloaded QWKmail bundles are placed in this directory,
 the
                grab
                 option can be used to automatically copy them into your NesQWK
 bundle directory, renaming them in the process. See : operating principles.

Saved text directory : (Default : 'Ram Disk:')
 This is the directory messages will be placed in when you save them as
 text files.

1.52   Bundle Archiver Settings

Bundle Archiver Settings

The archiver settings are vital to the operation of NesQWK – without at
least one of the archiving types correctly setup, NesQWK will be unable to

take any messages out of message bundles.

NesQWK does not attempt to handle the archiving itself - it relies on
external utilites to do the work for it. It is in this settings window
that you tell it what commands to execute to use these external utilities.

The first step to take is to find out what archiving type you need to use.
Your BBS sysop should be able to help with this matter, but it will most
probably be LHA on most Amiga based BBS's, or Zip on PC based systems. To
further confuse the issue, most BBS's will let you select other archivers.

Each of the four archiving types (LHA, Zip and Arc) that NesQWK supports
has a 'Pack' and 'Unpack' string gadget, as shown below :

```
                       Pack                    Unpack
           LHA  ..................     ....................
           Zip  ..................     ....................
           Arc  ..................     ....................
           LZX  ..................     ....................
```

These gadgets must be filled in with the commands that NesQWK should
execute to perform the pack (extracting messages from the bundle) and
unpack (adding replies to a reply bundle) operations. Please note that
the full path to the command must given.

As an example, lets say that our BBS requires us to use the LHA method.
We know that the LHA utility resides in the 'SYS:Tools/' directory on our
hard disk. We also know that to add (pack) files into an archive, we need
to give the 'a' parameter to LHA. Similarly, an 'x' parameter is used to
remove (unpack) files from an archive. So, knowing these details, we can
enter the following into the settings window :

```
                       Pack                  Unpack
           LHA  SYS:Tools/LHA a....    SYS:Tools/LHA x....
           Zip  ..................     ...................
           Arc  ..................     ...................
           LZX  SYS:Tools/LZX -Xa a    SYS:Tools/LZX x....
```

On a more technical note, when packing a bundle, NesQWK will attempt to
add the name of the bundle followed by the name of the uncompressed .MSG
file to the pack command string. When unpacking, it will just add the
name of the bundle. This method of archiving should be compatible with
most archivers.

Note that LZX requires the '-Xa' option added to the pack command (before
the 'a') so that it doesn't append .lzx onto the reply file name. Check
this if you have problems reopening reply bundles with LZX.

1.53   Edit Tag-Lines

                    Edit Tag-Lines

This option will invoke your message editor to edit the 'NesQWK.taglines'
file (located in the NesQWK program directory), where all the
               tag-lines

```
                        are stored. This is a plain ASCII file, so all text-editors will  ←
                            be able
to cope with it (with a bit of luck!).
```

Obviously, for this option to function correctly, your message editor must
be properly configured in the
                        general settings
                         settings window.

1.54 Edit Header-Text

```
                        Edit Header-Text
```

This option will invoke your message editor to edit the 'NesQWK.headers'
file (located in the NesQWK program directory), where all the
                        header-texts
                         are stored. This is a plain ASCII file.

Obviously, for this option to function correctly, your message editor must
be properly configured in the
                        general settings
                         settings window.

In this file, any lines that are pre-fixed with a ';' character are taken
to be comment lines, and are not used at all by NesQWK. Comment lines can
be seen at the top of the supplied header-text file, explaining what the
various expansion macros do.

Expansion macros are used to tell NesQWK where in a header line to insert
the various bits of message information. For instance, the macro '%n' is
replaced with the full-name of the sender of the original message. The
following expansion macros are available :

```
  %n - Full name of sender,
  %r - Full name of recipient,
  %N - First name of sender,
  %R - First name of recipient,
  %s - Subject matter,
  %d - Date present on original message,
  %D - Todays date.
```


1.55 Save Settings

```
Save Settings
```

This operation will save the settings that are currently in use to a
file named 'NesQWK.config' in the program directory. Once this has been
done, NesQWK will use these settings everytime it is started up.

1.56 What is QWKMail?

What is QWKMail

QWKMail is an offline message format. Using QWKMail allows you to
call a BBS, collect all waiting messages, transfer them to your
computer, and read them after you have logged off of the BBS.

You can then read them with a QWK compatible message reader such
as NesQWK. New messages can be edited with your favourite text editor.
Some of the advantages of using QWKMail include:

  * Collecting all waiting messages into a QWKMail bundle usually
    takes only a fraction of the time it takes to read messages
    online, resulting in lower phone bills.

  * Since your replies are edited offline, you can take as much time
    as you need to enter and reply to messages. You also have the
    advantage of using tools that may not be available when using BBS
    editors, such as spelling and grammar checkers.

  * You can easily save or print messages for future reference.

The QWK format was created in 1987 by Mark 'Sparky' Herring. It is based
on Clark Development Corp.'s 'PC-Board' Version 12.0 BBS message base
format. The QWKMail format is now supported by most BBS programs either
internally or by an external 'door' program.

1.57 Header-Text

                   Header-Text

'Header-texts' are usually found in the first line of a reply message.
A typical header line would look something like this :

  On 08 Jul 95, James said the following to me, regarding NesQWK :

As can be seen from the above example, it provides a brief resume on
the message that this message is a response to.

NesQWK provides support for maintaining a selection of Header-texts in
a standard ASCII file, called NesQWK.headers. A few sample headers are
supplied, but you may easily add your own using the
                Edit Header-Text
                 option from the Settings menu.

1.58 Tag-Lines

Tag-Lines

Tag-lines are optionally added onto the end of a reply (or new) message.
Most people use witty sayings and statements, and they serve no-purpose
but to brighten up the message a bit.

NesQWK stores all it's tag-lines in a plain ASCII text file, and it allows
you to build up a library of them by 'stealing' from other peoples
messages. Only single line tag-lines are supported.

1.59 Signatures

Signatures

You will see that many people have a set signature that appears on all of
their mail. This often includes details such as their various mailing
addresses, BBSs they run, signatures made up of ASCII characters and
even miscellaneous quotes.

Large signatures are normally frowned upon, and can lead to some
unwelcome mail along the lines of "I'm fed up of continually downloading
50 megs worth of your signatures." Four lines or so seem to have become
the acceptable limit.

1.60 Quoting

Quoting

When following up to an article, many offline readers provide the facility
to quote the original article with each line prefixed by '> ', as in

    In article <1232@foo.bar.com>, sharon@foo.bar.com wrote:
    > I agree, I think that basketweaving's really catching on,
    > particularly in Pennsylvania. Here's a list of every person
    > in PA that currently engages in it publicly:

    : :e:tc : : :

This is a severe example (potentially a horribly long article), but proves
a point. When you quote another person, edit out whatever isn't directly
applicable to your reply.3 This gives the reader of the new article a better
idea of what points you were addressing. By including the entire article,
you'll only annoy those reading it. Also, signatures in the original aren't
necessary; the readers already know who wrote it (by the attribution).

1.61 Credits

            Credits

The NesQWK Offline QWKMail reader was created by NoLimits Software :

  James Good   Conceptual design and programming,
  Doug Roberts   Graphics and documentation.

 See :

Contacting us

.

We would also like to thank our team of highly experienced beta testers
for their help and support :

Graham Rockett   (Sorry Graham, couldn't get the brain encoded! May the V8
                 be with you! ;-))
Iain Guy   (For finding more bugs than anyone else! And for actually
                 asking to use NesQWK - we had to press-gang everyone
                 else!)
Genom   (Wow! 1500cps on IRC to Mexico! Thanks for the enforcer
                 help!)
Nick Loman   (It was your QWK door that prompted us to write NesQWK!)
Philip Vedovatti (For the most excellent NewIcon images... Ta!)
Pauli Vauhkonen (The first person outside of NoLimits software to run
                 NesQWK!)
Dougs Cat 'Git' (For knocking huge piles of disks off Dougs desk, and
                 walking over our keyboards as we tried to finish
                 NesQWK!)
Neil Young   (He didn't really have anything to do with NesQWK, but
                 his music was a great help, and it's cool to have his
                 name in these docs!)
Steve Coe   (The man who came up with the great name for this
                 product.)

So, all of you, 'Thanks very much!'...

And a big hello to Andrew H and Alison G!

The following software was used in NesQWK development :

HighSpeed Pascal 1.20 from Hisoft, D-House and Christen Fihl
   (The compiler + editor used to generate NesQWK code),
DPaint 4.5 by Electronic Arts
   (Used to draw the icons and logos),
Designer 1.51 by Ian OConner
   (For converting the IFF graphics into source code, and for pre-
   development mock-ups).

1.62 Problems

Problems and Trouble Shooting

Problem   : NesQWK won't start up.

Solutions : Well, there are quite a few reasons why this could happen.
            Firstly, check to see how much memory (RAM) is available in
            your Amiga. NesQWK only requires about 350 Kb to run, but
            more will be needed once you open a message bundle.

            If a window pops up saying that 'only one copy of NesQWK may
            be run at a time', and you definitely don't have another copy

```
                   lurking away in the background (press left Amiga-M to cycle
                   through all the screens open just to check), please check the
                   following. Using the CLI or a directory mananger such as
                   DirWork or DOpus, check to see if NesQWK's
                      work directory
                                    already exists. This may happen if another program  ←
                                        has locked
                   it (some text editors have a habit of doing this), and the
                   directory will need to be removed before NesQWK will start up.
                   A reboot is a sure-fire way of fixing this!
```

```
Problem    : NesQWK won't let me read any of my bundles.
```

```
Solutions : Check your
                archiver settings
                 ... This is probably the most
             common cause of failure in this area. Also check that you have
             enough available RAM, especially if your
                work directory
                 is
             located in a RAM disk. Don't forget that a large message
             bundle can easily be as large as 1.5 Mb. Try turning on the
             'Show output' option in the
                General
                 settings window.
```

```
Problem    : I replied that I didn't have MagicWB when installing NesQWK,
             and thought that I would see NesQWK's font in my font
             requester. Why do I not see it?
```

```
Solution   : Are you running a font list cache program? If so you will have
             to re-create the font list be running a utility that re-scans
             the font directory. See your font list cache programs
             documentation.
```

```
Problem    : NesQWK crashes your Amiga, or interferes with other programs.
```

```
Solutions : Really?! Lets us know about it, or it'll never be fixed!
             See :
                Contacting us
                 .
```

1.63 contact

```
                 Contacting NoLimits Software Corp.
```

```
Contact Jim at 'jim@amidev.demon.co.uk' or as JAMES GOOD in the Amiga
programming Fidonet echo, or 'Alfy' on IRC.
```

```
Contact Doug at 'doug@nolimits.demon.co.uk' or on the Little Green Men
BBS (he's the sysop). Doug also hangs on as 'Bizzmo' on IRC.
```

```
For our address, see the
                registration
                 page.
```

1.64   The Future

                    The Future of NesQWK

Well, this depends on you! Let
                us
                 know what you want in the package,
and we will do our best to oblige. Of course,
                registering
                 is a sure
way of securing NesQWK's future, but we don't want to keep on about it!

Here is a list of possible things for the next release :

o Implement a database of messages. When you download a message bundle, it
  will be added into this database – so that all your messages are in one
  place, not spread across many individual bundles.
o Copying of messages to the clipboard.
o Address book of names that are frequently used (complete with aliases).
o Twit lists.
o Much more comprehensive printing options.

Plus much more that we don't want to list incase 'a competitor' steals
the ideas before we get to use them!

1.65   NesQWK Revision History

Revision History

V1.05 (22/10/95)
Tidied up the search facility a little bit (although still more work could
be done – it now highlights the line where the match was found. Added the
archiver type used into the bundle information window. Fixed bug where
bundles could not be opened if they were located on 'ram disk:', thanks to
Dave Naylor for reporting that one. Fixed silly bug that crept in with
V1.04 where it would still ask for confirmation for deleting replies when
when editing reply messages. Added LZX archiver support. Fixed problem
with searching where it wouldn't search the current message if the scope
was set to anything other than current message. Not quite enough of the
message window was being scrolled – now fixed.

V1.04 (25/09/95)
Small fix to allow messages with lines over 255 chars long to be loaded.
Changed the way extracting bundles worked slightly – NesQWK now changes
the CD to the temporary directory before extracting replies, and no
longer adds the name of the dest dir (temp dir) to the end of the extract
cmd line. This allows NesQWK compatability with more archivers (namely
Unzip). When creating a new mesage, header text is now initially set to
nothing, since its not normally needed on new msgs. Changed the text

displayed in the conference field for the private and reply areas – it
now displays what area the message is in... Removed confusing 'P' in
header text, to the word 'private'. Header text in no longer applied when
editing replies. Fixed problem reported by Jacek Trzebunia whereby the
message list window tick in the menu got out of sync with the windows
state. Added an 'are you sure?' requester when deleteing replies.

V1.03 (02/07/95)

Fixed bug where keyboard activated gadgets in reply window would still be
active if a new message was being entered. Message scroll bar arrows now
sized according to screen aspect ratio. Added header text support. Added
message when unable to unarchive a bundle due to not being able to find
archiver. When reformatting the quoted reply message, NesQWK no-longer
outputs quote symbols on blank lines. Added bundle erase option to file
menu. Fixed arrows in open & close button images – you can stop bugging me
now, Doug!

V1.02 (28/06/95)

Fixed bug reported by Dale Frameli where NesQWK was getting stuck in a
loop whilst trying to read the message index from the MESSAGES.DAT file.
What was happening was that the 'Number of Blocks' field in the bundle
was not left justified – even though my docs said it would be. This
caused NesQWK to read the message as 0 blocks long, and get stuck in the
loop. I now strip all spaces from both sides of strings in the message
headers. Also fixed bug where public, non-read messages where being shown
to be private.

V1.01 (24/06/95)

Shortend the evaluation text line. Fixed a small bugette where changing
fonts caused the scroller to flick to the top, the next time you scrolled.
Added suggestion from Iain + Teijo Liiri – space bar to read thru msgs
page by page, and go to next msg at end of page. Also added backspace key
to do reverse of this. Fixed bug reported by Jure Vrhovnik where mail
bundles with spaces on the end of the conference numbers in CONTROL.DAT,
and null message records in the MESSAGES.DAT files caused gurus.

V1.00 (17/06/95)

Added pattern matching to file requester. First release to Aminet!