

# Contents

Welcome to Issue 227

## Highlights

### 08 Ludicrous laptops

With Asus' latest laptops topping out at 240W power consumption, Richard Swinburne asks if there's a market for such beastly machines.

### 10 Fantasy football franchises

With EA and FIFA no longer playing ball, Tracy King ponders what's next for the world of football games.

### 16 Radeon revisions

AMD's two latest GPUs, the Radeon RX 6950 XT and RX 6750 XT, are put through their paces via two top-end Sapphire cards.

### 22 NZXT N7 Z690

NZXT's latest motherboard retains its signature black or white colour scheme, but is it any good?

### 32 Asus ROG Swift PG279QM

With its rare combination of a 240Hz refresh rate and a 2,560 x 1,440 resolution, Asus' latest gaming display is quite the powerhouse.

### 36 Asus TUF Gaming M4

Super-light or wireless, Asus' latest gaming mouse is available in two distinct options, but which is best?

### 50 CPU Labs

Antony Leather puts 12 of the latest processors from Intel and AMD through the works in our massive CPU group test.

### 74 Ghostwire Tokyo

A stunning depiction of Tokyo city centre makes for an incredible



backdrop to this entertaining supernatural adventure.

### 80 Home comforts

Finding your home desk setup leaves you sore and frustrated after a long day? Edward Chester explores your options for improving your desk ergonomics.

### 88 Response time investigated

Gaming monitors live and die by how quickly they can respond. Learn what the figures mean and how our new testing will now account for this crucial factor.

### 92 Hobby tech

Gareth Halfacree checks out Nvidia's latest Jetson AHX Orin, an AI computer aimed at powering robots, drones and other autonomous machines, as well as a new miniature Amiga recreation, TheA500 Mini.

### 100 Water-cool your graphics card

Antony Leather guides you through the process of water-cooling an Nvidia GeForce RTX 3080 Ti Founders Edition and an AMD Radeon RX 6900 XT.

### 106 Retro tech

Rick Lane looks back on the days when computer games came not as downloads but in boxes, and big ones at that.

### 110 Readers' drives

David Wieland's brain-in-a-jar inspired computer is a steampunk creation of beauty.

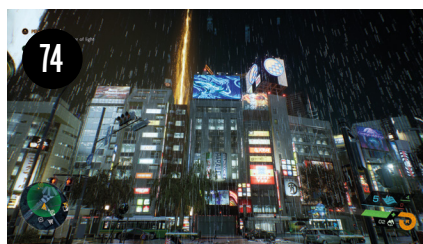
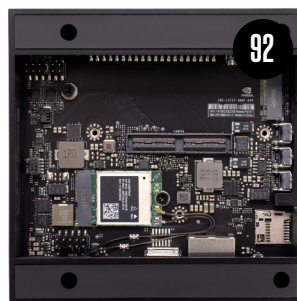


## Cover guide



## Regulars

- 3 From the editor
- 8 Richard Swinburne
- 10 Tracy King
- 12 Incoming
- 14 Letters
- 44 Custom kit
- 46 How we test
- 66 Elite products
- 72 Inverse look
- 78 Reality check
- 92 Hobby tech
- 97 For the win
- 98 Customised PC
- 100 How to guides
- 106 Retro tech
- 110 Readers' drives
- 114 James Gorbald



## Reviewed

38  
PRODUCTS  
REVIEWED

### GRAPHICS CARDS

- 16 Sapphire Nitro+ Radeon RX 6750 XT
- 18 Sapphire Nitro+ Pure Radeon RX 6950 XT

### MOTHERBOARDS

- 22 NZXT N7 Z690

### CASES

- 26 Cooler Master MasterBox 500

### CPU COOLERS

- 28 Cooler Master MasterLiquid PL240 Flux
- 30 Antec Symphony 240

### MONITORS

- 32 Asus ROG Swift PG279QM
- 33 MSI Optix MPG321UR-QD

### MICE

- 34 Logitech Lift
- 36 Asus TUF Gaming M4 Air and Wireless

### LAPTOPS

- 38 Alienware x17 R2
- 40 Asus ROG Strix Scar 15 G533ZW

### PC SYSTEMS

- 42 OcUK Spectra Gaming Celeste

## Custom kit

- 44 KBL Reflect Flow Pro
- 44 Nanoleaf Lines Skin
- 44 Rugd Rhino Power
- 45 SanDisk Extreme Pro SSD
- 45 Brainwavz Treo

## CPU Labs

- 51 Intel Core i5-12400F
- 52 AMD Ryzen 5 5600
- 53 AMD Ryzen 5 5600X
- 54 AMD Ryzen 7 5700X
- 56 Intel Core i5-12600K
- 57 AMD Ryzen 7 5800X
- 58 AMD Ryzen 9 5900X
- 59 Intel Core i7-12700K
- 60 AMD Ryzen 7 5800X3D
- 61 AMD Ryzen 9 5950X
- 62 Intel Core i9-12900K
- 63 Intel Core i9-12900KS

## Games

- 73 Tiny Tina's Wonderlands
- 74 Ghostwire Tokyo
- 76 Nightmare Reaper
- 77 Weird West
- 78 Tentacular

## Hobby tech

- 92 Nvidia Jetson AGX Orin
- 94 TheA500 Mini
- 96 Amazon Smart Air Quality Monitor