

Fascination for Atari computers common link



□ Phil Reeves and Bob Stuart with welcoming smiles for Atari fans.

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WHAT do 96FM's top-rating breakfast announcer Bob Stuart and computer buff Phil Reeves have in common?

The answer is a fascination for Atari computers.

In order to cope with their interest, the pair have decided to open the nation's newest all-Atari shop - Paragon Computers.

The two buffs met at Microbase when Bob was shopping around for a personal computer to assist him in his program preparation.

Bob said: "I was looking for a machine with the user-friendliness of a Macintosh, but I did not want to spend a lot of money.

"My search ended when I discovered the Atari 1040 ST. Its megabyte of RAM, fast operating-speed and low price won me over."

Last year Atari was still suffering from the image of being a games oriented company, said Phil.

"Serious software was in short supply at the time, but that situation has since been remedied," he said.

"Lately there has been a flood of superb business and graphics utilities which take advantage of the ST's power and speed."

Paragon will specialise in desktop publishing, business graphics and

music applications, as well as carry the latest in games software.

The new flagship of the Atari range - the Mega ST 2 (2Mb of RAM) and the Mega ST 4 (4Mb of RAM) - will be available in WA from the beginning of next month.

Teamed with the Atari 804 laser printer, high quality desktop publishing will be within the reach of small businesses for under \$7000, Bob said.

A laser printer will be available at Paragon Computers for Atari users and clients will be able to drop their disks off for high quality prints.

Tutorials for desktop publishing beginners can be arranged.

"We will carry a complete range of the latest software from overseas," said Bob.

"We're in touch with the leading software houses in the US and Europe and intend stocking up-to-date database packages, desktop publishing, wordprocessing, music composition and sequencing software packages.

"The computers in Atari's ST range are the only machines available with a built-in Midi as standard. This explains why they are favored for sequencing by European musicians."

The new store is in Piccadilly Square on the corner of Lord and Short streets, Perth.