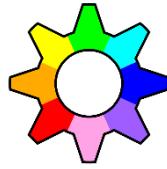**Subject:** Ensuring the Future of RISC OS – A Call for Support

To Whom it May Concern,

I hope this message finds you well.

I'm Steve Revill, formerly of Acorn Computers and now Managing Director of RISC OS Open Limited (ROOL). For nearly two decades, my colleagues and I have been dedicated to preserving, maintaining, and advancing RISC OS as an open-source project.

RISC OS, as you may know, was developed here in Cambridge alongside the original Arm architecture. I believe it remains an important part of British computing history, and since the launch of the Raspberry Pi, we've been proud to see renewed interest in its unique approach.

However, as the 40th anniversary of the first Arm chip approaches, RISC OS is facing an existential challenge: much of its core is written in hand-crafted 32-bit assembly language which relies on 32-bit processor modes. Now that all new Arm architectures, such as the one used on the Raspberry Pi 5, are 64-bit only designs this niche OS is at risk of becoming obsolete.

To ensure RISC OS remains viable, we must undertake a significant programme of modernisation. Our team at ROOL has estimated that this will require a dedicated group of developers working full-time over several years. Since ROOL started collecting donations in 2011, our community has generously contributed over £100,000 to support incremental improvements, however the scale of the challenge ahead requires a step-change in funding.

This is why I'm reaching out. We need the backing of individuals and organisations who recognise the significance of RISC OS and its place in computing history. If you or your network might be able to support this effort – whether through funding, expertise, or advocacy – I would love to explore possibilities with you.

You can find more details about our work at ROOL here. If you want to know more about me, find out more about me here.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further. Please do get in touch if you'd like to help shape the future of RISC OS.

Best regards,
Steve Revill
Managing Director
RISC OS Open Limited
https://www.riscosopen.org/

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