**WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF THE WEB**

***What makes up the Internet?***

The simplest explanation is that it is a network of networks. University, military, government and commercial networks all over the world are linked to each other in a vast web, allowing users to exchange information and communicate with each other quickly and efficiently.

***What do you need?***

A computer is certainly an important requirement - don't laugh - often Internet service provider (ISP) support staff have to explain to eager customers that they need more than just a starter kit to get on the Net.

Next up are a modem and an account with an ISP. The ISP has a permanent, direct link to the Internet and the modem allows you to connect your computer to the Internet, via the ISP, using a normal telephone line.

You pay the ISP a monthly fee for access to the Internet. Most ISPs will also give you one or more e-mail addresses and some space on their server (a powerful computer) for your own homepage.