

Email report – meeting 10/10/2012 at Stowupland School

Apologies received from Peter Dakeyne and Jean Roche. There were 11 members at the October Meeting including 5 new/returning members. Welcome to Ann Croft, Hazel and Brian Field, Peter Filby and Yvonne Sear.

Thanks very much to Philip for hosting in my absence and Joyce for recording the proceedings.

Agony Corner:

1) UniBlue? What is it? Can I get rid of it?

- Philip happy with it. Checks for unused processes and services that are using up valuable resources and invalid registry entries that accumulate over time. There is a free download to check for all these but if you wish to fix them, it's £19.99 for a year's license.
- Problem in this case is possibly a partial download. Go to Add/remove programmes to remove it. Reinstall only if you wish. <http://www.uniblue.com/software/speedupmypc>

2) Windows 8 - Very low take up so far?

- Does not look as if it's going to be popular. Some people say wait for Win 9!
- To see the Computer Active review of Windows 8, follow this link <http://tinyurl.com/d6p25ld>

3) What's the best way to print a picture received by email?

- If the picture has been sent as a very small size (say less than 100kb) and at low resolution it's not really suitable for printing
- You should be able to get a reasonable 6x4 print with a file size of, say, 500+kb (modern cameras produce jpegs of 5-8Mb).
- If the picture is of middling quality it can be significantly improved by selecting 'Best' on the printer settings.
- This question prompted a lot of contributions about picture size and advice in general from around the table - too many to detail here.
- This is a topic we've covered in various forms at previous meetings but as we now have some new members I suggest we revisit it in the near future.

4) What's the correct way to get a picture from my scanner onto my computer?

- Again, many contributions from around the table. Most scanners of whatever brand are supplied with software which makes the process straight forward. Please see <http://tinyurl.com/scannerpanel> for a screen shot of the Epson control panel. Further options are given as the scan proceeds.
- As above, this will make an excellent topic for a future meeting.

My favourite/most useful website.

This was the topic for the day and, I'm informed, was enthusiastically explored by the group! I've given all the links and would encourage everyone to explore.

- <http://www.geograph.org.uk/>. The Geograph® Britain and Ireland project aims to collect geographically representative photographs and information for every square kilometre of Great Britain and Ireland. Anyone can take part.
The group chose Columbine Hall in Stowupland to look at.
Read a lot more on.....
- <http://www.geograph.org.uk/article/Geograph-or-supplemental---examples> and <http://www.geograph.org.uk/article/Geograph-or-supplemental>
- <http://www.flightradar24.com/> Flightradar24 shows live air traffic from around the world.
<http://www.flightradar24.com/faq>
Try the 'Cockpit view' it's quite amazing.
- <http://www.marinetraffic.com/ais/> . Works in a similar manner to the above. The group looked at live pictures of ships in Felixstow docks.
- <http://www.thenakedscientists.com/> Fantastic site. Can pick from many topics, Biology, Chemistry, medicine, nature, physics and others that don't fall into any of these categories. Can be read as text or listened to as mp3s. Can also search, just put in the topic and relevant results are shown.
- <http://www.192.com/people/>. Search for people, businesses and places in the UK. Some basic searches are free and can be very useful. For more detailed information, say Electoral Roll information a fee is charged to buy credit for a limited number of searches.
- <http://www.rightmove.co.uk/> . Whether you're selling buying or just browsing, this is one of the best site for checking house prices. Clicking the House Prices' tab and selecting a post code, prices of houses sold over the last 10 years or so can be viewed.
- <http://www.wattpad.com/> . This is a site where you can read many books on line for free and also post your own stories. Other sites mentioned where free books can be accessed included..
- http://s03.asusvibe.com/asus_vibe_web/ena03.php (books, music, games, magazines), <http://www.gutenberg.org/> , and for free Kindle books <http://www.ereaderiq.co.uk/free/>.
- <http://www.ntprints.com/> , pictures from the National Trust and <http://www.picturesofengland.com/> where the whole of England can be viewed in pictures submitted by the public.
- <http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/> for inside information on hotels, restaurants, holiday rentals etc all over the world. Has been criticised for not weeding out malicious untrue reviews.

Next Meeting:-

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 14th November**, 1.30pm at Stowupland High School.

Topic for the day: Earlier this year a suggestion was made that we could, perhaps, look at Genealogy. I'm pleased to say that **Marian Brown** has volunteered to give us a talk on the subject, specifically on the aspects of '**On line Genealogy**'.