

## Email Report, Meeting 13/03/2013

Please note: Due to the School Easter Holidays, the next meeting will be held at Woodfield Bowls Club, Monday 08 April, 10.00 for 10.30 start

### Agony Corner:

A couple of things arising from the last meeting....

1) Setting up a tablet computer to easily access all the files and programmes on a PC.....

- A member has tried the procedures as explained at the last meeting but was unsuccessful.
- Further attempts will be made and discussed again at the next meeting.

2) 'I have hand held scanner (Skypix) which is very useful but the instructions are in Chinese'.

- This issue is now resolved.

3) 'I have the 'SoftMaker' alternative to Microsoft Office. Have been supplied with a CD which includes the Android set up file, but cannot run a CD on my tablet...'

- SoftMaker make a big thing about being the only MS Office clone to work on Android.
- There are 3 possible ways to get around this problem. Firstly, USB CD drives are available (about £25 on Amazon) - there is much on the internet about connecting a CD/DVD drive to a tablet via USB but I can't find any manufacturer explicitly saying that their product is compatible. Caveat emptor!
- If it is definitely an Android version on the CD, it should be possible to copy the set up file onto a USB and launch on the tablet from there.
- Finally, I note that SoftMaker Office Mobile for Android is available as a free download onto the tablet, 30 day trial. Just search 'Softmaker' in the Android Apps shop and download from there. If you decide to buy, the components are £5.99 each.

4) 'Several of my contacts have reported to me that they've received an email from me asking for financial help because 'I'm stranded in Manila!!'

- Your Yahoo account contacts have been hacked. We have discussed this kind of scam in the past but, I think, this is the first time anyone in the group has experienced it.
- The giveaway is the poor English/grammar and the sender email address is subtly changed so as to appear genuine. These messages should never be replied to and always be deleted.
- The standard advice is to change the password on the account that's been hacked or change it altogether.

5) On a similar basis, I received an email purporting to come from 'Wonga' asking me to reconfirm my contact/security details..

- This is another common scam. I don't have and would never consider having an account with Wonga.
- The return address had Wonga in it but was otherwise obscure, thus obviously phony.
- I forwarded the email to a correct email address from Wonga for their attention, (but didn't receive a reply) then deleted it.

6) 'Why am I getting several "MAILER-DAEMON" email failures every day of messages which I have not sent?' This is related to the two points above..

- It looks as if your email address has been spoofed and some spammer is using it to send out mass emails in your name. The usual advice is to change your email password which, apparently, sometimes works.
- Looking at a BT users' forum it seems that there has been quite a spate of this amongst BT broadband customers of late, but BT themselves have no coherent answers.
- Here's one of the most concise answers that I've found to try to resolve the problem .  
You need to do all of the following and it should stop it 99% of the time  
1 - change your email password  
2 - run full scans for both viruses and malware. A virus scan alone is not enough. You need to run an antimalware program like **Malwarebytes** which you can download for free. Then delete all infected files  
3 - after running the scans, delete your browsing history and cookies and empty your cache  
4 - restart your computer
- Also tell your contacts that your account has been compromised and not to click on any links in emails being sent by you. If they click on the link in the email, it will infect their computer and all of their contacts will get spammed out of their account.
- Member followed this advice and removed 1 Trojan and 1 Malware by using **Malwarebytes**. However there were still problems and a BT technician who took control of the computer discovered that Windows Live Mail had been compromised.
- He sorted this out and advised a full computer scan. A further full scan using **Microsoft Security Essentials** revealed nothing but a further full scan using **Malwarebytes** picked up 2 Adware Agents. Everything now appears to be clear working OK!
- What this shows is that neither Microsoft Security Essentials nor any other virus protection software can be guaranteed to detect every threat (eg MSE may pick up treats that AVG doesn't and vis versa). As shown at last year's 'Computer Security' session, a regular check up with such programmes as Malwarebytes and Spybot Search & Destroy should be made. (To be clear, you only need one virus checker - more than one they will conflict - but Malwarebytes etc work in a different way and are launched on demand).

#### Topic for the day:-

I gave a presentation based on 'A behind the scenes look at [www.u3astowmarket.org.uk](http://www.u3astowmarket.org.uk), and an introduction to Wordpress'.

In brief, we first explored the web site in detail and along the way I explained how were able to use our own web domain rather than purely the Wordpress default name.

We looked at some interesting statistics which showed that the number of 'hits' on the site has risen from 3,3780 in 2008 to 11,555 in 2012.

However it was noticed, sadly, that about 49% of the hits per year were from people around the world searching for 'Scrabble' related pages, and an analysis of the remainder suggests that not enough of our own members are making any regular use of the site! Encouraging, though, in the last 12 months some 73 people clicked through to the application form and many of these resulted in us gaining new members.

Several other topics were covered, including how to set up a Wordpress account, the difference between a 'Blog' and a 'Page', how easy it is to update pages (with a couple of videos recording the methods), the use of text compared to html coding, plus links to may online help pages and videos.

If you'd like to view it the full presentation can be downloaded in a zip file from Dropbox via <http://db.tt/pfabvl7Q>

#### **Next Meeting:-**

As highlighted above, the next meeting will be on **Monday 8th April, 2013, 10.00am for 10.30am at the Woodfields Bowls Club.**

#### **Topic for the day:-**

We will start off with our normal 'Agony Corner' discussion for ½ hour or so. For our topic, *and by popular demand*, we will be revisiting our October 2012 session, '**My favourite/most useful website**'.

As there is normally no internet access at the Bowls Club, **John Haseltine** has kindly volunteered to bring along his lap top and **T Mobile 'Pointer'** device. This provides a MiFi connection to the internet and in theory can connect with up to 5 laptops or tablets, so I'm sure he won't mind if you want to bring yours to try this out.

His laptop will be connected to the projector so we can all enjoy your choices of web sites. The October session was very interesting and entertaining so to hopefully repeat the experience I would like us to look at a *fresh set of sites this time*. So we don't repeat and just to remind you, the previous ones were:-

<http://www.geograph.org.uk/>

<http://www.flightradar24.com/>

<http://www.marinetraffic.com/ais/>

<http://www.thenakedscientists.com/>

<http://www.192.com/people/>.

<http://www.rightmove.co.uk/> .

<http://www.wattpad.com/> .

[http://s03.asusvibe.com/asus\\_vibe\\_web/ena03.php](http://s03.asusvibe.com/asus_vibe_web/ena03.php) (For ASUS only)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/> <http://www.ereaderiq.co.uk/free/>.

<http://www.ntprints.com/> <http://www.picturesofengland.com/>

<http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/>