

Meeting 10/12/2014

Agony Corner:

We spent some time reviewing the topics discussed last month (see last email) before moving on.....

1) 'emails....'

- Quite a few questions raised today including - why do I get large pictures in emails which are impossible to view, why are pictures there as attachment but also appear as attachments and how do I save them, etc etc.?
- These were all discussed in some detail before it was decided that this should be the specific topic for next month (see below).

2) 'PuPs' again!

- Still a major problem for many people but can, as discussed before, be effectively removed by ADW Cleaner and/or ADware Removal Tool.
- ADW Cleaner was the most popular programme downloaded by Computer Active readers in 2014, <http://tinyurl.com/la5w3ah>
- Noted that Avast 2015 Antivirus Free now has the ability to remove PuPs. Are any members using Avast 2015 as some web forums report a lot of problem with this programme (and are reverting to the 2014 version)?

3) 'What is the difference between 'Chrome' and 'Google'?

- 'Chrome' is a 'Browser' developed by the company, Google, whilst 'Google' is the eponymous search engine we all use.
- The Microsoft equivalents are 'Internet Explorer' and 'Bing'.
- Incidentally, whilst I predominately use 'Google maps' for exploration, I've discovered that 'Bing maps' also has the very useful option of an 'Ordnance Survey Map' view - not available in Goggle maps. Just click the 'Road' tab on the map then select 'Ordnance Survey Map' – very good for walkers!

Topic for the day:

Skype. We looked at Skype some time ago but since Microsoft took over in 2011 there have been several upgrades.

Skype is a telecommunications application software that specializes in providing video chat and voice calls from computers, tablets and mobile devices via the Internet to other devices or telephones/smartphones. Users can also send instant messages, exchange files and images, send video messages and create conference calls.

Several members brought their laptops (thanks to Wendy for logging us onto the wireless network). We looked at how to set up an account and then demonstrated by setting up audio/visual contact between us.

There is a very comprehensive guide to all things 'Skype' on our favourite learning site. Go to <http://www.gcflearnfree.org/socialmedia/skype> and work through all the modules - and make sure to view the videos!

We also looked at <https://appear.in/> which is a free online video conferencing site. When first accessed a random 'room' name is generated. The receiver logs on and enters that room and again we were able to

easily see and talk to each other. We did discover that for iPad users it was necessary to install the app before it would work.

Great fun was had by all!

Next meeting 14/01/2015

Email issues – commonly raised problems. After some discussion we decided that, although we had email as our topic a short while ago, we should revisit in January. Problems with emails constantly arise in our 'Agony Corner' and it's quite clear that even with all the detail we went into last time, we have still barely scratched the surface.

We know that there are many problems associated with attachments, how to add them, how to read them, why are some not accepted, with photos, how to attach them, what size should they be, how do I download them, where are they when I have downloaded them, etc. etc.? We will try address these, and more, at the January meeting.

Looking ahead:-

February – 'The Cloud'. What is it, what can I do with it, is it safe?

March – 'Security', an update on viruses, Trojans, phishing and the like, and how to deal with them.