We had 13 members (and 4 apologies) at our meeting on **10th February 2016.**

Agony Corner:

From the last meeting....

1) 'The iPad/ Wifi printer issue is related to a Canon rather than an Epson printer'..

- The Canon WiFi printer is an old design and is not AirPrint enabled.
- If the printer is connected by USB to the PC and the iPad is on the local network it should be possible to access the printer via this local network.
- An alternative suggestion was to upload the required document from the iPad to iCloud then download from the iCloud onto the PC then print from there.

Other items from last meeting now resolved.

2) 'Having been very happy with Win 10, I've had major problems after a recent Win 10 update. Machine would not go online so I restarted but the machine locked up completely and would not switch off until the power ran out. After a lot of messing around I eventually got the operating system back up but some of the many problems included screens without colour (just black and white), settings changed and loss of Excel functionality.'

- Further updates reported 'Critical Error'. Google searches show many problems with recent Win 10 updates. System restore did not solve the problem.
- Other members reported similar problems which have also been reported in Computer Active whilst others have had no issues at all.
- Experimentation on the day and with the help of another member, Excel functionality restored!

3) 'I bought a dongle (for mobile access to the internet) which worked fine for about half an hour but wouldn't work at all when I went back to it some time later'

- There several ways you can buy mobile WiFi e.g. by rolling contract (usually a fixed amount each 30 days), PAYGO any amount from 2 Gig to 12 Gig with expiry from 30 days up to 1 year. Dongles, SIM cards and MiFi (My Wifi devices) can be bought preloaded and or topped up as required.
- It's possible that you purchased a dongle with, say with 2 Gig data, used it for half an hour and consumed some but not all the data and then went back to use it after the 30 days expiry time.
- There's a useful PC World page which describes all the types/options available http://tinyurl.com/hcdhunt .

4) Dave Potter described how to add an SSD (fast hard drive) to a lap top using a cheap caddy which replaces the CD drive.

- This is a quick and easy process but too detailed to repeat here. Dave offered to lend the caddy to any one who wanted to, say, back up all their old data to a new SSD drive.
- I've found an American site which details the process in text and pictures http://tinyurl.com/j439oyh
- Please contact Dave if you need any further information, 01359 408 347.

Computer help for Absolute Beginners:

Update on the discussion at the last meeting....

- An invite was placed in the Winter Newsletter (see PDF attached in previous email).
- David agreed to be the initial telephone point of contact but unfortunately there has not been a single response to the invite, so we must assume that there is very little call in Stowmarket U3A for a new Absolute Beginners group.
- Dave's had one conversation with a lady who enquired at the monthly meeting and will probably call on her to give some one on one help.

Topic for the Day:

John Haseltine: 'An introduction to iTunes'

John gave us a personal view on the use of iTunes.

- Dating back to 2001, iTunes was originally a Mac OS 9 only application but quickly became the main source of music in the iPod and later the iPod Shuffle.
- The iTunes software can be used on Windows (just search for iTunes) as well as Apple devices but not on Android or Linux (without difficulty).
- It's not necessary to buy music from the iTunes store to actually used the iTunes programme.
- John primarily uses iTunes to house all his CDs. Each has been uploaded and (if available) the cover is added automatically via the internet. This means that he has full access to his CD collection wherever he goes.
- He demonstrated how to record from a CD. Individual tracks can be selected from any album.
- Dave mentioned that the very act of uploading your CDs identifies your ownership of that music and for the payment of a small annual fee iTunes will allow you to download tracks from the iStore where ever you are.
- We had an interesting discussion on how different members accessed their music and how often.
- iTunes can also be used to access films ant TV programmes as well as pod casts on every conceivable subject.

You can find a lot more about the history and capabilities of iTunes on this link
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITunes#History

Thanks very much to John for giving us this entertaining talk and an insight into a topic that some of us had little previous knowledge.

Next Meeting:

Date: Wednesday 9th March – 1.30 pm at Bacton Village Hall

Topic for the day: Whilst we had a session on 'Tablets' in June last year, we had a request to have another look. This led onto a discussion about the connectivity in general of tablets, Android and iPad and smart phones. What can be viewed on what device and what, e.g any software and/or hardware may be necessary?

Our next meeting, then will be on the topic of **'Tablets and Smart phones'** – how do we individually use them and how do we connect to other devices?

I would like to make this a truly interactive session so along with your questions/advice please bring along your tablet and smart phones together with any cable and gadgets you use on a regular basis. We can also have a discussion on other WiFi issues connected with e.g. Smart TVs.
In the mean time I will endeavour to put together the necessary kit to enable us to use a Chrome Cast (HDMI) on our antiquated projector (VGA).

Look forward to seeing you all next week.