We had another good turnout in January, 15 members, and 5 apologies.

In spite of my best efforts since December, there was still no internet connection at the hall, but once again thanks go John Haseltine who was on hand with his Mi-Fi to get us line. There is good news, however, regarding the hall Wi-fi – I have now made contact with the people who installed the system. They are a local computer company who give their services free of charge and until recently had not been made aware of the problems we've been having (it's a long story!). They have investigated and found the fault, and I'm assured that everything is up and running now. They now know our meeting timetable and *I have them on speed dial on my phone in case of emergency!*

Matters Arising:

1) John gave us a quick teach-in on how to create a Wi-fi hotspot, using his Mi-fi device, which is essentially a mobile phone without the phone! The compact device is a carrier for a SIM card which can be topped up with a variety of DATA only packages (no contract), by day, 7 days, month etc. John's arrangement is with T Mobile (now EE) - whilst other providers are available, some do not have the range of tariffs or signal area is not as good. Top up is via his account on the web site; 1 day's data costs £2.00 and up to 8-10 devices can connect at the same time; we tested this to the limit today. Please ask John for more information if you need it.

2) We were impressed with the wildlife camera demonstrated at the last meeting and several members said they were likely to invest in the near future.

3) Following on from the BBC Art link which needs two web pages open, *http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04b0fk5* , we looked at a useful function in the Chrome web browser. Open the main site and start the playback.... you need to keep this playing whilst exploring the picture but if you click on the 'Zoom in on the Flower Painting' picture below the player, you will get the picture but lose the sound. To get around this hold down 'Ctrl' before clicking on the picture which will then open in a new window and leave the commentary running on the first tab.

If you would like to see the original as well as the picture, you can separate both tabs to view individually. Just click on the top of the new tab and drag it to the side. This works in any two or more Chrome tabs and works in the same way with the Firefox browser but not in Edge nor Internet Explorer.

4) We further reviewed the remaining items listed in the December Topic including a another look at the variety of magazines available on the https://issuu.com/ web site.

Agony Corner:

1) 'Does anyone have any experience of password managing software?'

- Bryan Hilton has talked to us in the past about 'Dashlane' and other well known ones are 'Last Pass' and 'Robo Form'. It seems that nobody else in the groups uses a password manager.
- At their most basic, every password manager will generate secure passwords in just a few clicks, and save them all in a database encrypted behind a "master password". And, if it's any good, it'll automatically enter them for you on all your favourite websites so you don't have to.
- Lass Pass is probable the brand leader (web based available from the Chrome web store http://tinyurl.com/oftqbgh), more so as recently it became totally free including premium functions which were previously chargeable, whilst Dashlane charges $39.99 / year for the premium version.
- A quick search on Google for 'password managing software' will tell you all you need to know.

2) 'I have a new HP printer which is Wi-fi enabled but my PC (which is also Wi-fi enabled) cannot 'see' it. I don't want to resort to using a USB connection..'

- We discussed this at length but were unable to come up with any valid reason.
- Suggest it might be worth trying – uninstalling then re-installing the printer software on the PC and/or consul the 'Connectivity' section of the printer manual for assistance.

3) 'I saw this useful information on the Action Fraud web site about fake emails purporting to be from Amazon....'

- Action Fraud has received several reports from victims who have been sent convincing looking emails claiming to be from Amazon. The spoofed emails from "service@amazon.co.uk" claim recipients have made an order online and mimic an automatic customer email notification.
- Please see the full article at http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/news/fake-amazon-emails-claim-you-have-placed-an-order-jan17

Topic for the Day:

TED Talks: We had a brief look at TED Talks at the last meeting. As a reminder, TED is a non-profit organisation devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less).

TED is a non-profit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where **T**echnology, **E**ntertainment and **D**esign converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues (see https://www.ted.com/topics). Meanwhile, independently run TEDx (on YouTube) events help share ideas in communities around the world.

As mentioned last time, I've often thought that TED talks could themselves become a U3A group, say with the members researching a particular talk in turn then presenting it to the group who would discuss it afterwards. Alternatively, TED talks could become an adjunct to established groups such as Discussion and Art Appreciation or even this Computing and Technology Group!

We viewed 3 relatively short Computing/Technology biased TED talks and had a lively discussion after each one.

- The first was an entertaining romp through some hints and tips entitled, **'10 Tech Basics You Think Everyone Knows (But They Don't!)**'. 10 simple, clever tips for computer, web, smartphone and camera users. And yes, you may know a few of these already — but there's probably at least one you don't.

  https://www.ted.com/talks/david_pogue_10_top_time_saving_tech_tips

- Then, '**We are all Cyborgs'** concerning wearable tech, phones and social media where many people today actually have two selves, the real one and the online one. Technology is evolving us as we become a screen-staring, button-clicking new version of homo sapiens. We now rely on "external brains" (cell phones and computers) to communicate, remember, even live out secondary lives. But will these machines ultimately connect or conquer us?
  https://www.ted.com/talks/amber_case_we_are_all_cyborgs_now
- The last video, '**The Future of Work'** looked at the development of artificial intelligence and it's impact on future job opportunities for human beings. Machine learning isn't just for simple tasks like assessing credit risk and sorting mail anymore — today, it's capable of far more complex applications, like grading essays and diagnosing diseases. With these advances comes an uneasy question: Will a robot do your job in the future?
  https://www.ted.com/talks/anthony_goldbloom_the_jobs_we_ll_lose_to_machines_and_the_ones_we_won_t
- There are hundreds of different topics and a good place to start looking is, https://www.ted.com/topics .
- Note, you can add subtitles if you wish and download the TED talks for viewing off-line.

We all enjoyed the interaction after seeing the videos and agreed that we should consider another a TED session later in the year.

Next Meeting:

It was suggested that we have another look at **'Google'** (closely allied with the Chrome browser) and it's vast potential to be more than just a search engine. We last looked at this in March 2012 (!) and, of course, there have been many enhancements since then. We'll look at hints and tips for getting the best out of it and, not the least, it's 'cloud' alternatives to Microsoft Office.

Date: Wednesday 8th February – **2.00 pm at Bacton Village Hall**