

## Meeting 13/11/2013

### Agony Corner:

After a quick review of last month's problems which were answered on the day or in the follow up email, we moved on...

1) 'Suffolk Libraries, a few more questions.

- This is a popular topic that we've discussed at several recent meetings and quite a few of our members have tried it out. Here's the introductory page <http://suffolkreads.onesuffolk.net/elibrary/> .
- All that is require to join is your library card number and a PIN that you can get get on request from Stowmarket Library, plus the 'OverDrive' software for your laptop or tablet. The general lending policies can be read here, <http://tinyurl.com/o7lde7u>
- Loan time is 3 weeks, 3 weeks maximum number of books at a time.
- How do you renew a title if you haven't finished reading it? Three days before your expiry date you will se an 'Option to renew' message on your bookshelf. All the details can be found here <http://help.overdrive.com/article/0260/How-to-renew-digital-titles>

2) 'Has anyone any information on the Kindle Fire?' was a question last month and led on to an animated discussion on 'tablets' in general this time .....

- Another member has acquired a Kindle fire and is very happy with it although a little disappointed that it has only one, front facing camera. The new Nexus 7 has front and rear facing cameras but these are more likely to be found on the larger size tablets.
- Someone else has bought a Tesco Hudl but is having difficulty in connecting to his home WiFi. Suggested that he tries out the free WiFi at the Costa cafe in Stowmarket or the Community centre at Hillside.
- Coming up to Christmas, 'Tablets' are a hot topic at the moment. We discussed at lot about the merits or otherwise of iPad v Android and 7" v 8.9" and 10", too much to list here. There's much in the press but one of the best review web sites I've found is 'Tech Radar top 10 tablets' <http://tinyurl.com/ahzvxyq> , well worth a read.

3) 'I'm having trouble with the paper feed on my printer, is it due to the quality of the paper?'

- Possible, but it's always helpful to first fan out then reform your stack of paper. This reduces any static attraction and the paper should separate more easily.
- You could also try cleaning the paper transit roller(s) because extended use can provide them with a shiny coating with reduced grip.
- Switch the power off before starting. Locate the rollers and wipe down (paper towel or bud tip) with some sort of solvent, alcohol and the like.
- I've had a look around and it seems that most printer manufacturers have there own recommended methods for cleaning the rollers so it might be best to look there first.

4) 'I upgraded from XP to Windows 8 (now 8.1) and in the process got a message about a faulty driver then lost some of my programmes and emails. I've reinstalled the programmes but I can't find a way of recovering the emails...'

- The driver problem, perhaps, is not surprising since most devices would need new drivers when switching from XP to Win 8. (It may not be relevant to this problem, but Marian said that she had some instructions for clearing disc errors in XP and details are attached).

- If the emails have disappeared from Outlook then it may be worthwhile taking a look at the ISP web mail page. After emails have been downloaded they are deleted from the server, however you made find they are still there but in the 'trash' or 'bin' folder. Most ISPs have a web mail page even though you may never use it.

5) 'I'm generally happy with my conversion XP>Win 8, but I am having a problem in that in the Chrome browser I've lost the top bar and the Minimize button as has the Maximize and Close buttons?

- Other members have not had that problem but I've found a possible solution on the web...
- You do not have a touch screen but, apparently, by default when Chrome detects that it's being installed in Windows 8, it becomes an "app" by eliminating the usual ways to minimize or close itself. To correct this..
- Click the Menu button (the one at the far right of the address bar, represented by three horizontal lines), and then click 'Re-launch Chrome on the desktop'. Let us know if it works!

*Nothing to do with computing, but a **very important message**. Are you aware of the new NHS 'Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Programme.' This has now been rolled out nation wide and screening is available to any man aged 65 and over. AAA is a very dangerous condition if left undiagnosed. The test is quick and can be done locally. Here's the main link <http://aaa.screening.nhs.uk/> and a local contact email address is on this page <http://aaa.screening.nhs.uk/fiverivers> . Many thanks to John Haseltine for alerting us to this.*

## **Ebay, A New User's Guide**

This was our topic for the day. Helped by Zena (an experienced Ebayer) I gave a PowerPoint demonstration aimed primarily at those who had not so far ventured into the Ebay world. On a show of hands we had just a few who were regular Ebay users, some who'd tried it once or twice and several who had either not appreciated its potential to make/save money (selling/buying) or had been afraid to try because it was 'too difficult'. We worked through topics such as...

- Why use Ebay
- Is it easy?
- How do I join up?
- How do I receive/pay money (easiest by PayPal)
- The differences between an auction and 'Buy it Now'
- We watched all the stages of selling from taking the correct photos, deciding on the starting price we wanted, calculating the postage costs and finalising publishing the selling page.
- The items were posted for 5 days (finishing on a Sunday for maximum attention) and seeing what happens when the sale was confirmed.
- We showed some of the many items we have sold on Ebay over the years including all the bidding process on a set of built in wardrobes. The buyers paid cash on collection.
- Next was some detail on the buying process including last minute bids and 'sniping'.
- Plus some links where you can get a lot more information.
- There's really far too much detail to go into here so I've posted the full PowerPoint slide show in Dropbox, (*members received the link*). Just follow link and download it from there (Download button, top RHS) or it may even download automatically to your default 'download' directory. There is a link to a video (with sound) on our web site; make sure you click to view in full screen (icon on bottom RHS).

## **Next Meeting**

Will be on **Wednesday 11th December**, 1.30pm at Stowupland School.

**Topic for the day:** One of newest members, David Potter will be giving us a talk and demonstration on '**Computer Hardware**'. Have you ever wondered what does what inside your PC? If so, this is your opportunity to find out; all your questions will be welcomed.

Just a reminder, and for the benefit of our newer members, all Agony corner Q&As and the topics we've covered over the last 3 years are available on our web site. This link will take you straight there <http://u3astowmarket.org.uk/groups/stowmarket-u3a-computer-group/> . Just look for the 'here' link to read or download the report as a pdf.

Look forward to seeing you next week

Regards

Peter