

The

Southern Highlands Computer Users Group Inc.

Assisting all members to explore and enjoy the benefits of Information Technology.

Monthly Newsletter

Keyword

November 2020



2020 Committee

Vice President

Peter Jackson

Secretary

Sue Ticehurst

Phone 4872-4173

Treasurer

John Oprey

Phone 4862-1584

Public Officer

Ron Hampton

Phone 4871-1532

Committee member

Philip Reay

Mail-out Officer

Lynette Reay

Editor Keyword & Webmaster

Martina Oprey

Phone 4862-1584



Please note: We are not computer professionals and our expertise is limited.

Scott Hall

Our weekly meeting place for activities for PC and Apple users.



HarbisonCare, 2 Charlotte St, Burradoo, 2576, NSW.

www.shcug.org.au

How to join SHCUG.

You can join us at one of our weekly “Monday help sessions” and collect an application form. Payment can be made in cash or by cheque and handed to a tutor. Annual fee is \$40 single or \$60 couple. Alternatively use EFTPOS transaction IMB Bank: BSB number is: 641 800 and the account number is. 200456000, or send the application form and cheque, made out to SHCUG, to the following address: The Treasurer, SHCUG, c/- HarbisonCare, 6/2 Charlotte St, Burradoo, NSW, 2576.

Renewing memberships.

Renewal forms are sent out each year in early December to all current members by email, with all the relevant information needed to renew membership for the upcoming year.

Correspondence: Letters to the committee can be addressed to shcugcontact@gmail.com

Our Weekly ‘Members Helping Members’ sessions are held in Scott Hall , all members welcome.

Please note

Due to social distancing rules, members attending our Monday help sessions must have booked a place in one of our time slots, which are as follows; 10 am to 12 noon, 12 noon to 2 pm and 2 pm to 4 pm. A maximum of 10 members are allowed in any session. Email your preferred time slot to: shcugcontact@gmail.com

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By your committee
By Martina Oprey
By Martina Oprey
By Brian Graham
By John Sutanto
By Martina Oprey

From your committee,

Your committee met on Friday, 2 November. It was a short meeting as there was little on the agenda. Our finances have changed little from the previous months. We added 4 more members to our members list. The weekly attendance has been steady with all time slots fully booked. So, what can we say, apart from that SHCUG is sailing along nicely.

A member recently asked “will we have a Christmas party this year”. Your committee discussed this and all agreed that, due to the present situation of restricted numbers in the Hall, we should organise something outside in the form of a pick-nick. A number of places were suggested and the Old market place at Berrima was chosen as the most suitable place. There are lots of tables and seats there, all under cover. We have chosen the last Monday before Christmas to hold this event, being 21 December, starting at 10 am. So, put this date in your dairy.

Joseph Pearcey recently did a repair on a 2013 iMac, which is not for the faint hearted. See page 4 how this was done.

Need to replace an old device but don't know what is the best replacement to get? See page 5 for a summery on how to make the right choice.

Brian Graham and John Sutanto sent in articles about the new Window 10 update, version 20H2 and the changes PC users will have to get used to (see pages 6 and 7).

Your committee.

Not for the faint hearted!

Installing a new Solid State Drive (SSD) in a 2013 iMac.

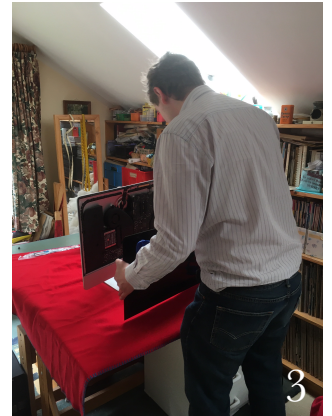
It finally happened. After seeing the dreaded spinning beach ball after every click of the mouse, I finally called in the expert, Joseph Percy. He came by and did a diagnostic and confirmed my suspicion that the hard drive had had its days and needed to be replaced. Not an easy job on an iMac! Joseph was keen to do the job though and so got him some additional tools he needed.



The first thing to do was to cut the glue that holds the glass/screen in place (1). Working with a special cutter, it took a bit of time. To lift the glass/screen from the iMac's case, suction caps were clamped to the top corners of the glass/screen (2).



When sure the glue was loose all around, the glass/screen was pulled forward so that Joseph could disconnect the cables of the camera and speakers, whilst holding onto the glass/screen. When that was done, the glass/screen was lifted away from the main body and put aside (3).



Now we could have a good look inside and first cleaned out a bit of dust from the fan. Next step was to remove the old hard drive. This too was not so easy done as everything is so tightly packed into the case of the iMac (4).



Joseph had been able to get an SSD that was the same size as the old hard drive and therefore fitted perfectly in the rubbers that had previously held the old drive. Getting the cable of the SSD back into its slot proved again a challenge but after a few attempts it clicked into place (5).



Before the glass/screen was put back, Joseph did a test to see if the new SSD was working whilst holding the glass/screen in front of the body. It booted up straight away, so all was fine.

Now it was time to glue the glass/screen back into place. This was done with double sided tape. We had bought a set on line that would fit the 2013 iMac. There were several strips, all numbered, as each side is different. Last step was to place and hold the glass/screen in place whilst reconnecting the camera and speaker cables, then dropping the glass/screen in place (6).



Once the glass/screen is dropped onto the body of the computer, the glue will grip, allowing no more adjusting. After checking the edges we found it was perfectly in place. Final step was putting it back on my desk, press the power button and see it boot up within seconds (7). What a difference the new SSD has made, it is so fast now.

My thanks to Joseph for a difficult job done well!

Martina Oprey



How to choose a device that is right for you?

By Martina Oprey

We all have had a PC or Apple device “die” on us at one time or another. To then decide on a replacement is often not as simple as it seems. As we get older our needs do change and this will reflect on how we use a new device. Find below some useful information which might help in deciding which device is right for you.

Smartphones

Smartphones (iPhones or Android operating systems) are very portable and can be carried in a purse or pocket. But the small screen and keyboard make them difficult to use for some older people. They are not ideal for long emails or reading documents, yet excellent for “staying in touch” by making phone calls, taking photos and responding to messages, with a simple reply. The devices are fitted with a camera, speaker and microphone.

Network Coverage

The mobile phone is only useful if it has network coverage. Some mobile phones do work better in low signal areas. Telstra rate their mobile phones – they assign a blue-tick for phones that work in low signal areas. You can also buy a blue-tick phone and use it on the Optus or Vodafone network. There are only 3 mobile networks in Australia – Telstra, Optus and Vodafone. There are other suppliers, but they are reselling one of the three services.

Tablets and iPads

Tablets (iPads or Tablets) are really large smartphones with a 7-10-13 inch diameter screen. For reading emails and documents they are pretty good, but typing on the touchscreen keyboard might need a bit of practice but easier than typing on a smartphone touchscreen keyboard. These devices are also fitted with a camera, speaker and microphone.

Laptops

Laptops are “transportable” and can be used in various locations, including parks or in a car using the battery which typically lasts 6-12 hours. The ergonomics of these devices can be a bit poor because the screen and keyboard are generally fixed in relation to each other. If you need to work away from home, laptops are pretty convenient. Most laptops nowadays do come with a speaker, microphone and camera. Laptops usually have a shorter life span than a desktop. In order to minimise obsolescence, it's best to choose a laptop with a solid state hard drive (SSD). The drive should be 256 gigabytes minimum.

Desktops

Desktops aren't portable or easily transportable. They have the best ergonomics and can be set up to meet your ideal physical arrangements. The screens are larger and the keyboard, mouse or external trackpad are very easy to use. They are generally more powerful and ideal for making complex documents and for the production of complicated graphics. iMacs and most other one-in-all desktops are all fitted with a camera, speakers and microphone but some desktops (screen and tower) might still require an external camera and speakers. PC towers can be upgraded easily, iMacs (depending on the model) are not that easy to upgrade. However Apple does support the OS of its desktops for up to 9 years.

If you are thinking of buying a new device, have a thought about the above information. At SHCUG we have tutors who can also help you choosing wisely. Some tutors have PC's running Microsoft Windows, others have Apple devices, but all are willing to demonstrate what their devices are capable of. Should you be in need of some advice, come and see us on any Monday (between 10am to 5pm) in Scott Hall, HarbisonCare, Burradoo.



What's New in Windows 10 Version 20H2

By Brian Graham

It seems like Microsoft only recently released Windows 10 Version 2004, but the software giant should release its successor about late October. So, what is new in Windows 10 version 20H2?

Not much in the way of major new features, which is a relief. As with last year's Windows 10 version 1909 release, Windows 10 version 20H2 is a minor refinement of its predecessor, with six additional months of bug and security fixes and just a handful of functional improvements.

Here are a few of the improvements that are worth of calling out.

Branding.

With Windows version 20H2, Microsoft is switching from the year/month-based branding of all previous Windows 10 versions to a new branding scheme based on year/half-year. So Windows 10 version 20H2 is “the Windows 10 version released in the second half of 2020,” whereas its predecessor, Windows 10 version 2004 is “the Windows 10 version released in the first half of 2020.” This is only temporarily confusing as future Windows 10 versions will use the H1/H2 branding.

New Edge installed by default.

Windows 10 version 20H2 is the first Windows 10 version to actually include the new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge by default. Previous releases came with legacy Edge, though Microsoft has been automatically upgrading them to the new Edge via Windows Update for the past several months.

New Alt + Tab behaviour.

This is, perhaps, this Windows 10 version's most controversial new feature. Today, Alt + Tab lets you switch between all running applications and open windows, but with 20H2, Windows 10 will, by default, switch between all running applications and open windows *and* the 3 most recent tabs in the new Edge. If you don't like this change you can disable it by opening Settings and navigating to System > Multitasking > Alt + Tab. Or you can even configure it to let Alt + Tab access the 5 most recent Edge tabs or, *all* tabs.

Start menu.

There is a very slight visual change to the Start menu in Windows 10 version 20H2, and it's only obvious when you're using Light app mode: The live tiles are now more subtly shaded when compared to the Start menu background, losing a bit of definition, and the icons in the All Apps list no longer appear inside a small tile box.

Your Phone.

If you provide your cell phone number during OOBE (the out of box experience) during the initial setup of Windows 10 version 20H2, the Your Phone app will be automatically added to your taskbar.

Xbox.

If you have a gaming PC, Microsoft will automatically add a shortcut to the Xbox app to the taskbar on first sign-in as well.

A summary of what is new in windows 10, version 20H2

by John Sutanto.

New Windows 10 20H2 features summary.

Windows 10 20H2 (October 2020 Update) introduces new Start menu design.

Taskbar comes with a more personalized layout for new accounts.

Notifications are now less intrusive.

New refresh rate settings are now available in Display.

Windows 10 20H2 lets you copy device info in About settings page.

Tablet mode no longer shows notification to select mode when detaching keyboard.

Windows 10 20H2, October 2020 Update, will be the tenth major update since the original release, and the second semi-annual update of the year, and Microsoft is expected to release it on October 20, 2020.

However, the company is planning to use the same “major” and “minor” schedule like the updates released in 2019. This means that during 2020, the Windows 10 2004 is the update considered “major,” and the Windows 10 20H2 will be the update considered “minor” that is expected to rollout similar to a cumulative update with fixes, improvements, and a very small set of features.

When the Windows 10 20H2 becomes available for your device, you’ll receive a “Feature update to Windows 10, version 20H2” notification to download it manually through Windows Update. If you are a “seeker,” you can force the upgrade by clicking the Check for updates button in the Windows Update settings, and then clicking the Download and install button. Alternatively, you can also install the October 2020 Update using the Media Creation Tool to perform a clean install or in-place upgrade. In addition, you can use the “Update Assistant” or you can even download the ISO file to create a USB bootable media to proceed with the upgrade. You can also follow this guide to complete the installation without problems. If you are not ready to upgrade, this guide will help you to prevent Windows 10 from installing version 20H2 on your device.

My brief comment:

- Suitable for a small PC or a small laptop of low RAM e.g.32GB.
- Best to connect your mobile phone directly and/or via OneDrive cloud.
- The "Search box" on the Task Bar becomes more powerful with historical features.
- Any problem with low storage, the following steps can be tried such as reconfigure the restore point and the low storage sense.



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4862 2089

Cnr Bowral &
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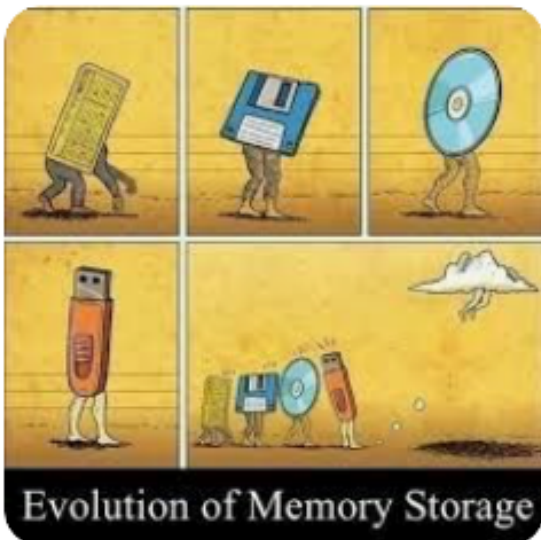
Have you got an article that you wish to publish in Keyword.

Or you might have a suggestion for an article.

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