Meeting Timetable

Mitchelton Library Helios Parade Mitchelton

9:30am	Q&A	John Tacey
11pm	Start up workshop	
	Lunch -- GM - Report to the Club	Keith
1:00pm	Linux workshop	Fred / Keith All

If you have a question that may need a bit of a look up, let me know before the meeting

SIGNIFICANT BITS

the Journal of
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A Computer Club for users of
PC-type computers
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CLUB NOTICES

CLUB INFORMATION LINES

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The Members' Web Page

Meeting Days

19 April 2026

17 May 2026

21 June 2026

19 July 2026

16 August 2026

20 September 2026

18 October 2026

15 November 2026

20 December 2026

Magazine

Editor
Chris Haydock

Proof-reader
John Tacey

Please use e-mail if possible

Hi All,

At the meeting I noted that my previous advice that my desktop had locked at Windows 23H2 and would not update to 25H2; Windows had made the computer redundant and there was no support for Windows 11 as of last November. No talk about extensions similar to the Windows 10 close off.

Recently I went to the manufacturer's site to see if they had any updates. Nothing.

I then looked at the BIOS setting, ran backwards and forwards to see if there was any settings that would work.

I then checked the BIOS and found there was a later version. So, I downloaded it and holding my breath I run the update.

HOWEVER, there was no change and windows would not update any further.

Low and Behold, some months later out of the blue there was an update available for Windows 11 24H2. I ran it and it updated the computer to the later version. I tried another update check but none available. 2 days later I again checked for updates and there ir was an update to 25H2 the latest version. I ran it, it updated, and no issues.

I have no explanation other than the BIOS maybe did updated the TMP or some other setting???

Talk is now around on Windows 12. Specifically that with Win 10 finished in October the forward view is Windows 12 and the hardware is up, so new computers all around. This also looks like Win 11 computers may be caught up in the additional hardware requirements.

Cheers

Keith

Reports

Presentation and Education

9:30am: Q&A

11am: Morning Presentation: Fred's New Computer and set up.

12 noon Lunch and Club Report.

1pm Afternoon Presentation: Linux and Linux Work Shop

Membership Report - Gary Woodforth

We had 10 members at the February meeting.

Treasurer's Report

February 2026

Opening Balance at 1/2/26	**2033.16**
Income	
Total Income	**0.00**
Expenses	
	0.00
	0.00
Month's Gain	**00.00**
Balance at 28/2/26	**2033.16**

Eric Maronese

Treasurer

John's Jots
By John Tacey

Q&A - February meeting

Device Batteries

There was a time when devices had replaceable batteries.

Not so now, in fact some have a battery, which consists of a number of modules installed on various locations on the PCB.

If you can access the inside of the device replacement of the battery will not be easy, assuming that a replacement module/modules can be bought.

We really need Right to Repair and Reparability legislation from the federal Government.

Should a device be left out of use for some time and won't start the battery is probably discharged/flat, in some cases connecting the charger is of no immediate benefit as it may be necessary to wait for sufficient charge to accumulate before starting is possible.

Phones, Tablets etc. never actually turn off, they go into Standby mode and there is a small constant drain on the battery from the clock etc.

Avoid leaving anything with a battery in a hot location. It is detrimental for the battery and with a lithium one is likely to cause thermal runaway which can lead to fire releasing noxious gas which can be hard to extinguish.

Ex Quicken XLS Missing Qty Numerals

I stopped using Quicken because my copy had an undocumented time bomb in it. After ten years it would no longer work and the Australianised Version was no longer available.

I was able to run it by changing the system date. The data was exported in three formats (PDF, TXT and XLS) as it was uncertain as to which format would be required for import into a replacement.

Recent reading of the XLS files revealed that the first line of the quantity parameter was corrupt - only the first numeral of the number had been recorded.

Fortunately the other file formats were OK so the XLS files could be corrected.

In similar situations verify the output by proof reading.

Browsers Advert. Control - Brave and Firefox

Brave is a free and open-source web browser that focuses on privacy and security by blocking ads and trackers by default. It also features a built-in cryptocurrency rewards system and integrates with the Tor network for private browsing.

https://brave.com download
https://brave.com/linux/

Mozilla Firefox is a free and open-source web browser developed by the Mozilla Foundation and its subsidiary, the Mozilla Corporation. It uses the Gecko rendering engine to display web pages, which implements current and anticipated web standards. The software is available for Windows, macOS, and Linux systems, with unofficial ports for other platforms, as well as a mobile version for Android and iOS. Firefox is the spiritual successor of Netscape Navigator, as the Mozilla community was created by Netscape in 1998, before Netscape's acquisition by AOL ...

https://www.firefox.com/en-US/download/all/?redirect_source=mozilla-org

Note: This record of the Q&A session topics relies on my biological volatile memory (a.k.a. the 'forgettory').

Gleanings from e-newsletters and other sources.

Reviews

The Top 100 Best Budget Buys: Tested Tech Recommended by Our Experts

We test and review more than a thousand tech products and services every year so we know a deal when we see one. Our value-focused mega-guide, updated monthly, serves up the best cost-conscious picks across 15 key categories.

https://mail.yahoo.com/d/folders/1/messages/18624?reason=invalid_cred&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9sb2dpbi55YWhvby5jb20v&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAABWC5GUbWfbKLF2s_zAR4FVlw5GBVncUBE-K4_JkYfr60KowLrDV4CizTj1Lc3okIsX-uaLXLhJc5zjgicSDrRY1idMFuBALsy0znhcp2qVUNOGD7VlIBKUYMEoNBydDmP3OEp8aYnjQeQGJXG3E5SAQYcTGZaMSSHDv0Fj9xYy5

New Releases

Glary Utilities 6

License: Freeware

Release Date:

File Name: Glary_Utilities_v 6.38.0.42.exe

File Size: 27.20 MB

Platform: Windows 8, 7, 2000, XP, Vista. 32/64bit version.

Publisher: Glarysoft Ltd

Languages: 44 Languages   [Help Translate]

URL: http://www.glaryutilities.com/

Release Notes:

Optimized Disk Cleaner: added support for 'Corel VideoStudio Pro x9' and 'SketchUp Make 2014'

Optimized Tracks Eraser: added support for 'Corel VideoStudio Pro x9' and 'SketchUp Make 2014'

Optimized Software Update: optimized the version comparison algorithm, and increase the comparison speed by 30%

Optimized Empty Folders Finder: add folder delete validation to prevent accidentally deletion of non-empty folder

Minor GUI improvements; Minor bug fixes

Glary Utilities is a freeware with registry and disk cleaning, privacy protection, performance accelerator and amazing multifunctional tools. It can fix dogged registry errors, wipe off clutters, optimise Internet speed, safeguard confidential files and maintain maximum performance.

It is designed for both novice and professionals. User-friendly interface shows clear & detailed directions. For novice, all work can be done with just 1 or 2 clicks, while for professionals, abundant options are available.

Key features:

Optimise, clean and boost the speed of your Windows.

Protect your privacy and security.

Block spyware, trojans, adware, etc.

Fix certain application errors.

Simple, fast and user friendly interface.

For private use only.

URL: http://www.glaryutilities.com/

Google Chrome (32bit)   145.0.7632.110

License: Free

File name: ChromeSetup.exe

File Size: 10.25 MB   O/S: Windows

Publisher: Google

URL: https://www.google.com/chrome/

Mozilla Firefox

License: Freeware

File   name: Mozilla_Firefox_(32bit)_v147.0.4.exe Update

File Size: 71.25 MB   O/S: Windows 7 to 11

Publisher: Mozilla Corporation

Comments:-

To force a manual update:-

Menu Button > ? Button > 'About Firefox'

URL: https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/

Mozilla Thunderbird

License: Freeware

File name: Thunderbird Setup 147.0.2(GB).exe

File Size: 71.05 MB   O/S: Windows XP SP2 to 10

Publisher: Mozilla Corporation

URL: http://www.mozilla.org/en-GB/thunderbird/

NotePad++ (32bit)

License: Freeware

File name: NotePad_v8.9.2.exe

File Size: 6.42 MB   O/S: Windows

Publisher: Notepad++

URL: https://notepad-plus-plus.org/

Want more? See the New Releases list:

http://ct.com.com/

Tips etc.

Warning: Facebook Ads for Free Windows 11 Upgrade Will Infect PCs With Malware

Updated Feb 24, 2026

Michael Kan

Senior Reporter

Scammers are preying on Windows 10 users who haven't moved to Windows 11 with ads that urge you to 'Upgrade to Win 11 Pro Today,' antivirus provider Malwarebytes reports.

https://au.pcmag.com/security/116070/warning-facebook-ads-for-free-windows-11-upgrade-will-infect-pcs-with-malware

Is Your PC Running Slow? 14 Quick Fixes to Instantly Speed Up Windows 11

Updated Feb 20, 2026

Michael Muchmore

Principal Writer, Software

Follow my expert advice to make your Windows 11 PC faster, regardless of its age or specs, without compromising the appearance and functionality of the OS.

https://au.pcmag.com/migrated-15175-windows-10/5180/12-simple-tweaks-to-speed-up-windows-10

Microsoft Pulls the Plug on Publisher This Fall. 8 Alternatives You Should Try Now

Updated Feb 25, 2026

Shelby Putnam Tupper

Microsoft is getting rid of Publisher later this year, so now's the time to find a replacement. I detail your best options, from novice-friendly creative apps to professional-level design suites.

https://au.pcmag.com/graphic-design/115948/microsoft-pulls-the-plug-on-publisher-this-fall-8-alternatives-you-should-try-now

Getting Rid of Your Windows PC? Remember to Wipe the Drive First

Updated Feb 12, 2026

Lance Whitney

Contributor

Here's how to make sure all the personal files and other data on your storage drive are erased and unrecoverable, whether you're running Windows 11, 10, 8.1, or 7.

https://au.pcmag.com/how-to/47146/how-to-wipe-your-hard-drive

Anthropic Slams China for AI Theft, But Critics Say the Outrage Is Hypocritical

Updated Feb 24, 2026

The San Francisco lab calls out Chinese AI developers for using 'sprawling networks of fraudulent accounts' to extract Claude's secrets. But is this the pot calling the kettle black?

https://au.pcmag.com/ai/116081/anthropic-slams-china-for-ai-theft-but-critics-say-the-outrage-is-hypocritical

Don't Trade Your Face for Convenience. Why You Should Still Say No to Face Scanning

Updated Feb 21, 2026

Jill Duffy

Contributor

When companies and governments expand data collection in the name of security, sometimes the only way you can object is to opt out. And with facial recognition, the time to object is now.

https://au.pcmag.com/security/116038/dont-trade-your-face-for-convenience-why-you-should-still-say-no-to-face-scanning

Is It Legal to Browse the Dark Web? Myths, Facts, and How to Access It Safely

Updated Feb 23, 2026

Kim Key

Senior Writer, Security

You've probably heard of the dark web, but what's actually on it? These 5 tips can help you explore the dark web using Tails, Tor, and a VPN, assuming you actually want to go see.

https://au.pcmag.com/security/109388/what-is-the-dark-web-heres-how-to-access-it-safely-and-what-youll-find

I Want to Love AI Agents, But I'm Tired of Their Shortcomings

Updated Feb 26, 2026

AI agents claim to be able to do any task for you, but in practice, they are buggy, slow privacy nightmares. Here's everything you need to know about them and how they fall short.

https://au.pcmag.com/ai/116121/i-want-to-love-ai-agents-but-im-tired-of-their-shortcomings

Is Someone Secretly Recording You With Their Glasses? Look for These Clues

Updated Feb 24, 2026

Will Greenwald

Principal Writer, Consumer Electronics

Smart glasses with cameras like the Ray-Ban Meta are being used to record women without their consent. Here's how to tell if someone is using them while talking to you.

https://au.pcmag.com/smart-glasses/116076/is-someone-secretly-recording-you-with-their-glasses-look-for-these-clues

Stop Overpaying: Here's How Much Internet Speed You Really Need

Updated January 13, 2026

Eric Griffith

Senior Editor, Features

Don't automatically sign up for your ISP's fastest tier. Follow our simple tips to find the perfect balance of throughput and cost.

https://www.pcmag.com/explainers/how-much-internet-speed-you-really-need?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=tipstrickshowto&zdee=gAAAAABjNL8ST42l80nl07cPB3qfRUi6ntgUgOTESELeSDlZFhs8z4qnmoLs_AknqwLVhZpQWW_ldjjcVkNAoSBZ5eIt2gM0-Tu64aKwciwXzXGx5QU6ZfE%3D&lctg=24359534815

Your Phone's Best Defense Against Scam Texts Might Be Turned Off By Default. Do This to Fix It

Updated Feb 25, 2026

Kim Key

Senior Writer, Security

Tired of spam texts that just won't stop? Your phone comes with built-in protection, but it might be turned off by default. Here's how to fix that on both iPhone and Android.

https://au.pcmag.com/security/115287/one-simple-setting-can-block-most-scam-texts-are-you-using-it

Your Antivirus Could Be Spying on You. Here's What It Really Knows

Updated Jan 10, 2026

Neil J. Rubenking

Principal Writer, Security

Antivirus software is supposed to keep you safe, but lab tests reveal that many apps collect far more data than you might expect. Here's what your security program sees, shares, and stores about you.

https://au.pcmag.com/antivirus/109568/is-your-antivirus-spying-on-you-yes-and-some-are-worse-than-others

Here Endeth John's Jots

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