

Significant Bits

Journal of Brisbug PC User Group Inc.



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Meeting Timetable

Mitchelton Library Helios Parade Mitchelton

9:30am	Q&A	Keith
11pm	Back up demo on the options	Fred
	Lunch -- GM - Report to the Club	Keith
1:00pm	Continue with back up demo	Fred

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



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Journal of Brisbug PC User Group Inc.

SIGNIFICANT BITS

the Journal of
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PC-type computers*
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CLUB NOTICES

Notice is given for the
Club's AGM to be held on the
20th of September

All positions are open for
nomination
Nomination forms will be in
the August edition of the
magazine or from the
Secretary.

CLUB INFORMATION LINES

Info Line (07) 3353 3121

The Members' Web Page

Meeting Days

16 August 2026
20 September 2026
18 October 2026
15 November 2026
20 December 2026

Magazine

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Please use e-mail if possible

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Hi All,

Well we are coming up for our AGM and will need to elect a committee for the next year.

Nomination are needed for the following positions, President; Secretary; Treasurer. Minimum requirement to maintain our incorporation.

As previously advised Microsoft has extended the support for Windows 10 to October 2027.

Need to set out our continuing interest in Linux and if the workshop process is, a useful hands on learning process for the club.

I came face to face on the cost of chips. I was looking for an me SSD for a computer and just wanted a 250Gb to replace a 125Gb drive that is just on the small size for the computer.

Well the cost have reached \$120 for a no name brand \$250 for something with a recognised brand. RAM 8Gb of DDR4 \$115. I have seen the reports on the supply of chips but this brought home what that meant.

AI along with its unknown impacts on civilisation as it grows, already seeing the vast number of jobs being lost and the transfer on more jobs off shore but now also the cost of the demands for the AI infrastructure it is demanding.

I have some personal fears for civilisation.

All for now.

Cheers

Keith

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and · membership · number · in · the ·
comment · field**

Reports

Presentation and Education

9L30am: Q&A

11am Presentation: Through the day Fred isto demo the backup and recovery for Linux and even for Microsoft.

Lunch and Club Report following.

12:30pm: continue on with demo.

Membership Report - Gary Woodforth

We had 9 members attended along with 1 visitor, at the June meeting.

Treasurer's Report

July 2026

Opening Balance at 1/7/26	1925.65
Income	
New Member	0.0
Total Income	0.0
Expenses	
	0.00
Total Expenses	
Month's loss or gain	0.00
Balance at 31/7/26	1925.65

Eric Maronese

Treasurer

BRISBUG PC USERS GROUP INC

NOMINATION

Nominations are called for the following positions comprising the Committee of Management of the Brisbug PC Users Group Inc. for financial year 2026/2027.

President

Secretary

Treasurer

- ❖ Nominations must be on the Nomination Form available from this Newsletter (Page 7) or from the Secretary.
- ❖ Nominations must be lodged with the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the AGM. Closing on Friday the **4th September**.
- ❖ The nomination Form is on page 7 of this magazine.



Q&A – July Meeting

Hi, with John on sick leave I am having difficulty in covering the Q&A session forgetting just what we cover.

Turning an image into a circle is solved

You might recall that I put in a bit on how to do this but it was not pretty, following a help call from Bev.

Well at the last meeting, we looked at it again and Bev had indeed a better fix.

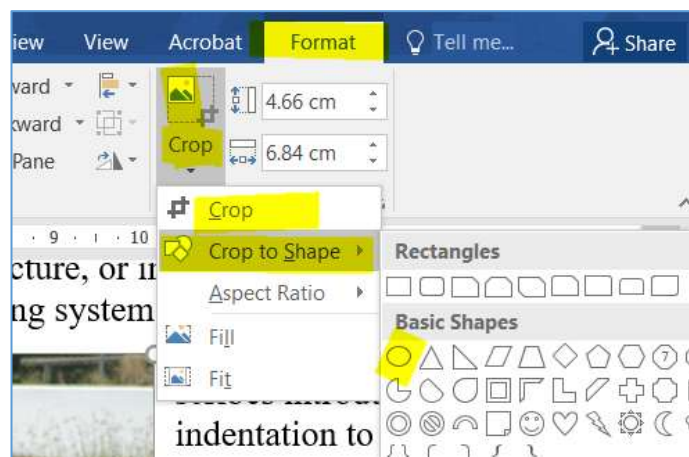
So the need was to insert an image into a document and wrap the text around it. As shown here.



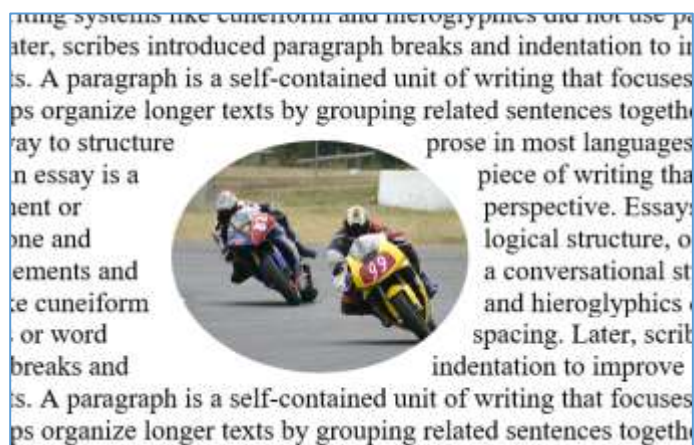
What was wanted was to turn the image into a round shape and insert that with a close wrap around it.

We can do that by selecting the image and the click on the format option in the menu.

Select Crop and then Crop to Shape to create the round image to be inserted.



This has formed the round shape.



Copy then round image and past into the text and select the warp to tight and through.

The actual look is dependent on the text as it wraps around the shape.

Thanks Bev.

That is it Keith

APCUG ARTICLES

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THIS IS THE LINUX DISTRO THAT CONVINCED ME TO FINALLY UNINSTALL WINDOWS. Written by Nick Lewis, How-To Geek editor.

For nearly 10 years, I dual-booted Linux and Windows. I had a Windows partition to ensure compatibility with popular applications and a Linux distro for my personal use, but I could never quite bring myself to fully commit to Linux. There was always a nagging “what if” hanging around over my head.

Simultaneously, Microsoft’s development of Windows has felt almost a little *hostile*—forced AI integration, buggy updates that break core features, unnecessary hardware requirements, and a bloated base OS all pushed me away from the operating system.

Kubuntu, a spin on Ubuntu, finally convinced me to make the shift permanent. Read more at [This is the Linux distro that convinced me to finally uninstall Windows](#)

FREE AND OPEN-SOURCE (FOSS) APPS THAT ARE BETTER THAN PAID

ALTERNATIVES. Written by Dibakar Ghosh, How-To Geek tech journalist.

Are monthly software subscriptions draining your wallet? Wondering whether you can replace your premium tools with free alternatives? Well, here are five free, open-source apps that don’t just match their paid counterparts—they often surpass them. FOSS (Free and Open-Source Software) has evolved far beyond the “good enough” alternatives of the past. Today’s FOSS apps include professional-grade tools used by Oscar-winning filmmakers, millions of content creators, and security-conscious professionals who refuse to compromise on quality—all with zero subscription fees, complete transparency, and no vendor lock-in. Read more at [5 free and open-source \(FOSS\) apps that are better than paid alternatives](#)

THIS LINUX STORAGE FEATURE FEELS LIKE CHEATING ONCE YOU UNDERSTAND IT. Written by Umair Khurshid, technology writer for How-To Geek.

Storage is one of those parts of Linux that most people only think about when something breaks. You pick a file system during install, trust it with your files, and then forget it exists. It sits under everything: your OS, your home folder, your logs, your downloads, your work, and all the small mistakes you make while changing things. For years, that mostly means one thing: when a file changes, the old data is overwritten by the new data, and you move on.

Copy-on-write (CoW) changes that bargain in a way that almost feels like cheating. Instead of overwriting old blocks, a CoW file system writes the changed data elsewhere and then updates its map. That simple shift is what makes snapshots, cheap clones, rollbacks, and smarter backups possible. Learn how to use CoW at

[This Linux storage feature feels like cheating once you understand it](#)

SICK OF AI SLOP, FORMER MICROSOFT ENGINEER BUILT A NEW, AI-LESS

NOTEPAD. Written by [Sourav Rudra](#), IT’SFOSS Microsoft has spent the last few years stuffing Notepad with AI tools, Markdown support, and cloud-tied credits, [chipping away](#) at the simple, local text editor it used to be. Basic editing still works without signing in, but the AI features don’t. A former Microsoft engineer who was behind Task Manager has built a fully working, 2.5KB Notepad clone that doesn’t ship with slop. Read more at <https://itsfoss.com/news/tinyretropad-notepad-clone/>

THE TRADEMARK SCAM THAT COULD HAVE HANDED LINUX TO A STRANGER DEMANDING 10% ROYALTIES. Written by

Rob LeFebvre, editor and writer for MakeUseOf When Linus Torvalds built the Linux kernel as a hobby project and announced it on Usenet with his typical understatement in 1991, he licensed it in a way that let anyone use and modify the code. What he didn’t do was trademark the name. That oversight nearly handed the entire Linux ecosystem to an unscrupulous Boston attorney whom no one had ever heard of. Read more at <https://www.makeuseof.com/someone-trademarked-linux-and-demanded-10-in-royalties/>

THIS LINUX DISTRO LOOKS SO MUCH LIKE WINDOWS 11 THAT IT'S

UNSETTLING. Written by [Yadullah Abidi](#), MakeUseOf staff writer

The first time you boot into AnduinOS, something will feel off, but in the best possible way. The centered taskbar, the frosted glass Start menu that pops up in the middle of the screen, the weather widget in the corner, and the familiar system tray icons. To the untrained eye, this might start looking a lot like Windows. Strip away the cosmetics, and you'll find a lean, Ubuntu-based distribution running under the GNOME desktop environment. All AnduinOS does is layer a carefully curated set of GNOME extensions and themes onto a vanilla Ubuntu to recreate the Windows 11 experience. Extensions like Dash to Panel merge the top bar and dock into a single Windows-style taskbar, while Arc menu delivers a Start menu clone that's responsive and surprisingly tweakable. Read more at <https://www.makeuseof.com/linux-distro-looks-like-windows-11-unsettling/>

YOU'VE BEEN USING THE WRONG COMMAND FOR YEARS: WHY PRINTF BEATS ECHO IN YOUR LINUX SCRIPTS

by **Zunaid Ali, How-To Geek** – One of the first commands new Linux users learn is echo. Need to print some text or debug a script? Add an echo statement. However, from my usage, I've found printf to be far more powerful. Once you understand its basics, it becomes a safer default for printing output in scripts. Learn more at [Why printf is superior to echo in Linux scripts](#)

NEW TO LINUX? 5 MUST-HAVE APPS TO INSTALL ON DAY ONE by **Dibakar Ghosh, How-To Geek** – Wondering where to start—unsure of what they need for a smooth, functional system. To remove that guesswork, learn about the five essential Linux apps you should install on day one: [New to Linux? 5 must-have apps to install on day one](#)

I MADE LINUX MINT LOOK LIKE MACOS WITH THESE TWEAKS by **Dibakar Ghosh, How-To Geek** – Linux Mint is famous for offering a familiar Windows-like desktop experience, but did you know it's also one of the most customizable distros—with learn how Dibakar Ghosh, How To Geek, used built-in tools to tweak its look and feel? To give you an idea of what's possible, here's how

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he made Linux Mint Cinnamon Edition look like macOS.

[How to customize Linux Mint to look like macOS](#)

I USED A THERMAL CAMERA ON MY PHONE AND FOUND OUT WHY MY BILLS WERE SO HIGH

by **Brandon Miniman, MakeUseOf** – My house is drafty when the cold wind of winter begins blowing here in Philadelphia, starting in November. These drafts cause us to turn up the heat, use more hot water, and, overall, incur higher energy costs as we use more natural gas to power our heating appliances. What if I told you that in addition to [optimizing your thermostat](#) and [fixing cold spots](#), there's a phone accessory that you can buy that uses infrared to "see" temperature and that lets you walk around your house and find every air leak, so that you can take steps to seal out cold air? Using this method, I've drastically reduced the draftiness in my house, and as a result, I've been able to turn down my thermostat and use less heat. Read more at

[I used a thermal camera on my phone and found out why my bills were so high](#)

CLEARING COOKIES IS USELESS — HERE'S THE REAL WAY TO STOP TRACKING

by **Gavin Phillips, Make Use Of** – For years, clearing your browser cookies felt like a small but meaningful privacy reset. You'd nuke your data, reload a site, and feel like you'd shaken off the trackers following you around the web. That advice used to make sense. Today, it's simply not enough as a single privacy protection. Modern tracking has moved on. Cookies are just one part of how websites identify you, serve you ads, and track you around the internet. So, while removing cookies doesn't really create problems, if you want to reduce online tracking, you need to stop chasing cookies and start limiting the data your browser leaks in the first place. Read more at [Clearing cookies is useless — here's the real way to stop tracking](#)

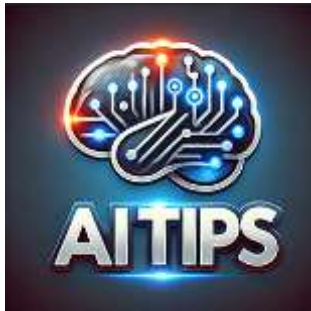
GNUCASH 5.14 OPEN-SOURCE ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE ADDS SUPPORT FOR US BONDS

by **Marcus Nextor, 9to5Linux** – [GnuCash](#) 5.14 has recently been released as the latest stable version of this open-source, free, and cross-platform double-entry accounting software for GNU/Linux, macOS, and

Windows systems. Read more at:



Artificial Intelligence (AI)



JULY 2026 —

I JUST TRIED DUCKDUCKGO'S NEW ANONYMOUS AI PHOTO EDITOR AND IT'S A GAME CHANGER,

written by David Crookes, tom's guide contributor. Over the years, [DuckDuckGo](#) has built a strong reputation for prioritizing user privacy, allowing you to search with greater peace of mind. These protections now extend to AI image generation and, more recently, to AI image editing. By using DuckDuckGo's AI assistant, [Duck.ai](#), you can upload photos without creating an account. These images are stripped of their metadata, and the user's IP address is removed before they are sent to [OpenAI](#), which powers Duck.ai's model. Read more at [I just tried DuckDuckGo's new anonymous AI photo editor and it's a game changer | Tom's Guide](#)

OPENAI'S FREE GPT-5.5 MODEL MAKES CHATGPT BETTER AT UNDERSTANDING CONTEXT,

written by Mariella Moon, Engadget freelance journalist. The model has been upgraded to be more capable of identifying the underlying goal of a task or question and carrying context across multiple back-and-forths as you talk to it. GPT-5.5 Instant is now also better at processing complex questions and is more likely to answer the multiple points you want it to address. Read more

at <https://www.engadget.com/2201255/openai-gpt-5-5-instant-chatgpt-upgrade/>

I TRIED CHATGPT ON APPLE CARPLAY, AND NOW I'M ABSOLUTELY SPOILED, written by Shimul Sood, MakeUseOf writer.

I don't need much convincing to [try something new on Apple CarPlay](#), so when the ChatGPT app icon appeared on my car's infotainment screen, ignoring it was never really an option. I was instantly curious to see how it would actually hold up during a drive. A few drives later, I can say this with complete honesty: I got used to it far quicker than I expected. ChatGPT gently reminds you to be a responsible adult. The first thing ChatGPT did was ask for access to my iPhone's microphone, then paused to remind me to unlock my phone when I'm not driving. It wasn't trying to rush me in; it was making sure I was doing this the right way. Read more at <https://www.makeuseof.com/i-tried-chatgpt-on-apple-carplay-and-now-im-absolutely-spoiled/>

OPENAI SIGNS DEAL TO SHOW GETTY'S IMAGES IN CHATGPT RESULTS, written by

Sarah Fielding, journalist for Engadget. Getty Images has announced a multi-year partnership with OpenAI that will bring its licensed content libraries to the AI company. The agreement means Getty's content will appear in OpenAI search and ChatGPT. Getty has a similar deal with Perplexity.

Read more at <https://www.engadget.com/2198633/openai-signs-deal-with-getty-to-show-images-in-chatgpt-results/>

FACEBOOK'S NEW AI TOOLS OFFER MORE OF THE SAME, WITH PHOTO-EDITING AND QUESTION-ANSWERING CAPABILITIES,

Written by Lawrence Bonk, tech writer for Engadget. On June 15, Meta announced a suite of AI tools for Facebook users. Nothing here looks especially new, but availability on Facebook could be useful to certain power users.

First up, there's the simply-named AI Mode. This is a standard chatbot that answers questions, with Meta using the example everyone uses when rolling out one of these tools. The company highlights a person asking the chatbot for nearby summer vacation spots. Read more

at <https://www.engadget.com/2194509/facebook-s-new-ai-tools-offer-more-of-the-same-with-photo-editing-and-question-answering-capabilities/>

Windows OneDrive The Good, the Bad, the Ugly – and the Real Ugly

By Ken Pyzik, Contributing Member Sun City Summerlin Computer Club [https://www.scscc.club/pyz01\(at\)outlook.com](https://www.scscc.club/pyz01(at)outlook.com)

Has this happened to you on your Windows 11 machine? You save a file. You know you saved it; it's in your Documents folder. You go back later to open it ... and it's gone! Not moved. Not renamed. Just gone. You're staring at the screen thinking, "I'm not crazy. I put it right here."

Or how about this? You spend an hour editing a document. You save it. You take a break. You come back, open what you think is the same file ... and none of your changes are there. Not one. Suddenly you're questioning your memory, your sanity, and whether you've entered some kind of digital Twilight Zone. What is going on?

Welcome to Windows OneDrive, the "helpful" assistant that was supposed to protect your files but instead leaves you wondering if you're losing your mind.

The Evolution of OneDrive: From Optional Tool to Windows Enforcer

Windows OneDrive began life in 2007 as SkyDrive, a simple, optional cloud-storage service. You signed in if you wanted it. You chose what to upload. You controlled what lived in the cloud. It was a straightforward, user-driven backup tool — nothing more.

But as Windows shifted toward a cloud-centric model — and as large corporations demanded tighter control over local files (they didn't want branch offices storing "important documents" on random C:\ drives) — Microsoft slowly reshaped OneDrive into something far more aggressive.

Fast-forward to Windows 11:

- OneDrive is preinstalled.
- OneDrive is auto-launched.
- OneDrive redirects Desktop, Documents, and Pictures into the cloud.
- And unless you explicitly stop it, it assumes ownership of your user folders.

Yes, you can avoid this... but Microsoft has made the opt-out path so convoluted that most people never realize they "opted in" in the first place!

So, does that make Microsoft and OneDrive some kind of villain? Not exactly. It's more like Microsoft is trying to satisfy its biggest customers — enterprise IT departments — by giving them maximum control over user data.

But for everyday Windows users? That's where the story gets a little more complicated. So, let's break it down honestly and clearly: what's good, what's bad, what's ugly... and what's really ugly.

OneDrive – The GOOD Stuff

Let's be fair: OneDrive does have strengths, and when it works the way Microsoft originally intended, it does one thing extremely well; it protects your files.

If you accidentally delete something, OneDrive has your back. A copy is sitting safely in the cloud, ready to restore. That alone has saved countless people from losing school papers, work documents, family photos, and everything in between.

And sharing? That's where OneDrive genuinely shines.

You can share documents, photos, spreadsheets, and entire folders with friends, family members, coworkers, committees, peer groups, club members and any other social club.

You choose what to share, and you control who can see it. For collaboration, it's simple, clean, and effective. In other words: As a cloud backup and sharing tool, OneDrive is genuinely good. If that's all it did, this article wouldn't need a "Bad," "Ugly," or "Real Ugly" section.

OneDrive – The BAD Stuff

But here's where things start to go sideways. Microsoft got ... let's call it ambitious. They didn't want OneDrive to be something you chose to use. They wanted it to be something you couldn't avoid. So, they slowly shifted it from an optional cloud tool into something that feels "almost mandatory."

They took away your ability to choose.

If you want OneDrive? Great! It installs itself, launches itself, and happily takes over your user folders. But if you don't want OneDrive? Now you're in trouble. You have to dodge it during setup. You have to decline it in multiple places. You have to know exactly which screens to avoid. And most

people don't, so they end up with OneDrive whether they wanted it or not.

Then Microsoft added a little psychological pressure: "If you don't enable OneDrive, you might break Windows. Your files won't be safe. You're doing something risky."

And once it's installed? Good luck removing it. Even if you uninstall it, disable it, and rip out every hook you can find... Windows updates have a habit of quietly resurrecting it. Suddenly it's back, running in the background, reclaiming control of your folders, and acting like it never left. This isn't "helpful." This is persistent and "pushy". And it's the beginning of why OneDrive goes from "bad" to "ugly" very quickly.

OneDrive – The UGLY Stuff

Today, when installed, OneDrive stops being merely "pushy" and starts taking over parts of your computer that most people assume are sacred. Microsoft has designed OneDrive to seize control of three of the most important locations on your system: your Documents folder, your Desktop and your Pictures folder. Why those three? Because that's where almost everyone stores almost everything. Think about your own computer: Where do your letters, spreadsheets, tax files, photos, screenshots, and personal documents live? Right there in those three folders.

OneDrive doesn't just back up those locations. It redirects them. It takes command of those folders and forces everything inside them to be synced to the cloud. And here's where things get truly unsettling. To "save space" (and to give Microsoft more control), OneDrive doesn't simply copy your files to the cloud, it often moves them there. Your local machine is left with tiny placeholder icons that look like files but aren't real files! You think your files are on your computer.

You think they're safe and local. But in reality, they may exist only in the cloud, and you're just seeing pointers that pretend to be files.

This is the moment where people start losing work, losing track of where their data lives, and losing confidence in their own memory. The system is no longer behaving like a normal computer; It's behaving like a cloud terminal attached to Microsoft's cloud environment. You are not

controlling your documents anymore – Microsoft is. And that's not just bad. That's ugly.

OneDrive – The Real UGLY Stuff

So, after all the confusion, after all the disappearing files, and after finally discovering that your "local" documents are actually living in the cloud, Microsoft then delivers the final blow: Cloud storage limits.

Because here's the truth: Microsoft can't store everyone's files forever. They can't give unlimited space to millions of users. So, they do what every cloud company eventually does: they cap your storage. You get 5 GB of cloud storage and 15 GB of email storage for free. That sounds generous ... until you realize what's actually being stored there.

Remember:

OneDrive has taken over your Documents.

- OneDrive has taken over your Desktop.
- OneDrive has taken over your Pictures.
- OneDrive is syncing everything you touch.
- And if you use Microsoft 365's Outlook, your email is also eating into that same quota.

Add in: backups, autosaves, version histories, attachments, photos, screenshots, and every file you didn't even know was being redirected, and suddenly that "free" storage evaporates. Then comes the message: "You're out of OneDrive storage. To keep syncing your files, you need more space." And guess what? 1 TB more space costs \$10 a month (\$100/year).

Not because you chose to store your files in the cloud.

Not because you intentionally uploaded anything. But because OneDrive quietly moved your files there, filled up your quota, and now holds your own data hostage. This isn't convenience anymore. This isn't safety anymore. This is a business model — and you end up paying for something you never really wanted in the first place.

OneDrive – The Moral of the Story

I don't want you to think I hate OneDrive (though to be honest, I really do). To each their own. Some people genuinely love the convenience of the collaboration features, the file sharing, the automatic backups, the ability to access documents from

anywhere. And for those people, OneDrive is fantastic.

But here's what you need to remember. OneDrive is no longer the simple, optional backup tool it started out to be. It used to be a nice little add-on — something you could choose to use if you wanted a safe place to store or share files.

Today, OneDrive has morphed into something very different: intrusive, controlling, deeply embedded into the system, confusing for novices and nearly impossible to avoid.

Microsoft didn't evolve OneDrive out of kindness. Maybe in the beginning it was a helpful bonus. But now? OneDrive is a core part of Microsoft's cloud-centric business model — a model that guarantees future revenue from users who never intended to store their entire digital life in the cloud. And that's the real moral of the story:

OneDrive isn't just a tool anymore. It's a strategy. And unless you understand how it works, you're the one being managed — not your files. A limited number of makes and models of smartphones so these too are not yet a universal solution.

At US \$149, the Pinephone 64 (<https://pine64.org/devices/pinephone/>) is the least-expensive option among recently-released Linux phones. However, the utility of this phone is hampered by outdated hardware with, for example, the main processor being more than 10-years old. A second version, the Pinephone Pro, featured updated hardware components and a consequent higher price (US \$399) but sales were slow and this device was discontinued in August, 2025.

Purism (<https://puri.sm>) has a premium range of Linux phones, from the Librem 5 (US \$799) to the Liberty Phone (US \$1999+). Even so, these devices are based on hardware components that are now more than five years old. The Furi Labs FLX1s (<https://furilabs.com>) is a mid-range (US \$499) Linux phone with modern hardware. A number of current phones are also available, from international or crowd-sourced developers. These include the Volla Phone (Germany), Jolla Phone (Finland), Fairphone (The Netherlands), and BraX3 (United States).

One interesting aspect of Linux phones is that many are positioned as convergence devices, with docking

stations included with the initial purchase or at least available as an optional accessory. These docks typically feature USB, HDMI, and Ethernet ports so that the phone can be connected to a keyboard, mouse, and monitor to function as a lightweight PC.

A related but different option is illustrated by the NexPhone (<https://nexphone.com>) which runs Nex OS, a multi-boot operating system that can launch Linux (Debian), Android, or Windows 11. Currently offered in pre-sale mode at US \$549 (\$199 deposit with a \$350 balance), the phone will include a five-port USB-C hub when it ships later this year.

The most well-known Linux distro that can be installed on existing Android-based smartphones is Ubuntu Touch (<https://www.ubuntu-touch.io>). Originally developed by Canonical as a companion to Ubuntu Linux, the company's goal was to create a single operating system that could be used across all devices. The project was eventually cancelled in 2017 due to low user demand and a lack of partnerships with equipment manufacturers. The project was subsequently adopted by the community with the UBports Foundation being established in 2019. Open-source developers extended support to additional devices but even so only 31 phones are supported.

This lack of hardware support is a feature of many mobile Linux distros. For example, the website for Mobian (<https://mobian-project.org>), a derivative of the widely-adopted Debian distribution, lists only a dozen supported phones. Other distros with similar limitations include Sailfish OS (Volla) and PureOS (Purism).

Much broader coverage is offered by postmarketOS (<https://postmarketos.org>), a distro that is based on Alpine Linux. This distro lists more than 700 devices as having some degree of support available. The distro features Stable (point release) and Edge (rolling release) channels, and offers a number of user interfaces including Phosh and KDE Plasma. Main and Community devices are generally well supported with pre-built, ready-to-install images being available. Other devices, in the Testing or Downstream categories, require users to build installable images using software tools with source code that is specific to their devices.

One major limitation for this latter methodology is that open source drivers for certain hardware

components are not always available such that critical user features, e.g. the ability to place telephone calls and to send and receive text messages, may not be functional. This is recognized in the introductory material provided by postmarketOS that states “In its current stage, postmarketOS is for Linux enthusiasts... If you are looking for an OS that is as usable as iOS or Android, this project is currently not for you”

A recent announcement by the Open Software Foundation (<https://librephone.org>) aims to fill the software gap by reverse engineering the proprietary binary code that controls phone hardware components, such as modems and cameras, and provide open-source equivalents. Rob Savoye, a developer who previously worked on Gnash and OpenStreetMap, is the lead for the LibrePhone project. Initially the scope of the project will be limited to one or two devices that need the least amount of work. Nevertheless, it is anticipated that this will be a long-term project.

The current state of Linux phones is less than satisfactory with many reviewers finding the associated hardware and software to be somewhat lacking in terms of using these devices as daily drivers. Almost all of the devices and distros are noted as being suitable for those interested in tinkering with Linux on phones with requests for assistance in their future development.

Notwithstanding such limitations, Linux on smartphones has come a long way and no doubt even more progress will occur over time. I will certainly be following the developments - and may even try tinkering a little in the interim!

BRISBUG PC USER GROUP INC
4 Bacall Place Stafford Heights , QLD 4053
NOMINATION FORM

Please return completed form to "The General Secretary" at the above address

NOMINEE I,hereby accept nomination to serve on the Management Committee of **BRISBUG PC USER GROUP INC** for the term commencing from the next Annual General Meeting of that group and ending at the Annual General of the following year. I understand that this nomination will only be valid if I am a "fully paid-up" financial member of BRISBUG (as defined in its Constitution) PRIOR to the official commencement of the Annual General Meeting, at which the vote for election to the position for which I am nominating is taken.

POSITION FOR WHICH I AM BEING NOMINATED

NOMINEE'S SIGNATUREDATE

NOMINATOR

I, hereby nominate the above-named for election to the requested position on the Management Committee of BRISBUG for the term indicated. I acknowledge this nomination will be void if it is found that I am not a "fully paid-up" financial member of BRISBUG as at the closing date for acceptance of written nominations in accordance with the BRISBUG constitution.

NOMINATOR'S SIGNATUREDATE

SECONDER

I, hereby second the above nomination for election to the requested position on the Management Committee of BRISBUG for the term indicated. I acknowledge this nomination will be void if it is found that I am not a "fully paid-up" financial member of BRISBUG as at the closing date for acceptance of written nominations in accordance with the BRISBUG constitution.

SECONDER'S SIGNATURE.....DATE

NOTE: Persons nominating for a position who have not had their membership formally accepted at a BRISBUG Management Committee Meeting shall be deemed to have had their application for membership formally accepted should they be elected to the position for which they have nominated.

OFFICE USE ONLY

MEMBERSHIP STATUS NAME	MEMBERSHIP NO	FEES PAID TO	RECEIPT NO
NOMINEE			
NOMINATOR			
SECONDER			