The meeting on Monday 8th February 2016 will be at Covent Garden's Sun Tavern

Meeting Monday 8 February 2016

Newsbyte Martin Kelly Software Snapshot Slack vs WhatsApp by Tina Jacobs

Announcements Announce the AGM in March and ask if anyone would be interested in joining the committee or helping in anyway.

Ask how much interest there would be in a SIGs group on Facebook and social media.

Main Topic Security and Back up Martin Kelly– back up

Pietro – website security, email security Chris – government advice on security, passwords and wi-fi

Eoin – Content blocking, gives you options about what to block i.e. it might block types of java scripts, fonts, adverts, trackers etc.

Raffle Prize Nest Protect

Do Cool Things on the Command Line with Five Quick Recipes

y earliest experiences on the Internet (and, for that matter, my earliest experiences with Unix) were by way of a terminal emulator on a dial-up connection. Using nothing more than my keyboard and text commands, I was able to navigate servers, run remote programs, upload and download files, search for information, communicate with people around the world, and even make online purchases. It wasn't pretty, but I found it satisfying, and it certainly earned me a few geek bragging rights.

Nowadays, command-line interfaces seem quaint if not downright backwards; we



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William IV St 5

Covent
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The AGM of the LMUG will take palce on 8 March 2016

click, tap, swipe, and force-touch things to get stuff done. But OS X is a version of Unix, which means that you can still do things the old way if you want to — all it takes is a quick trip to the Terminal app (find it in /Applications/Utilities), which opens the world of the command line to any Mac user.

And the command line is worth knowing about, because even after all these years, there are plenty of activities a Mac user may want to perform that can't be done in OS X's graphical user interface. Sure, you can find third-party apps that expose some of these features to people who don't want to use Terminal, but as I explain in "Take Control of the Mac Command Line with

Terminal, Second Edition,"Terminal is nothing to be afraid of. If you can type words into a text editor, you can use Terminal. You just have to learn a few basic principles and memorize a handful of commands. Once you've done that, you'll have much greater power to customize your Mac and solve unusual problems.

To give you a taste of the cool things you can do in Terminal, here are 5 of the 50 recipes in the newly released version 2.1 of the book, which is designed to help you become comfortable working on the command line, starting with fundamentals and learning more advanced topics as you go. These recipes are particularly easy — anyone can open Terminal and type (or copy and paste) these commands, even without knowing all the ins and outs of how things work behind the scenes. These quick techniques are among my favorites, and I hope you find them useful.

Two hints. First, enter each command as a single, long line, even if it wraps in your browser or email program. Second, after entering a command in Terminal, be sure to press Return or Enter to execute it.

Press the Power Button to Show the Shutdown Dialog -- Prior to 10.9 Mavericks, pressing the power button (or key) on your Mac for a second or so displayed a dialog with Restart, Sleep, Cancel, and Shut Down buttons. Starting in Mavericks, Apple changed the behavior so that pressing that button (or key) for a second or so puts your Mac to sleep, while pressing Control-Eject brings up the shutdown dialog.

To restore the old behavior of displaying the shutdown dialog by pressing the power button (or key), enter this: defaults write com.apple.loginwindow

PowerButtonSleepsSystem -bool FALSE

If you change your mind later, you can undo this command by repeating it with TRUE in place of FALSE.

Stop the Help Viewer from Floating -- This may be my favorite "defaults" recipe of all time. In recent versions of OS X, the Help window (which appears when you choose most commands from any application's Help menu) floats above all other windows, no matter what you do. You can minimize it to the Dock to get it out of the way, but that makes it awkward for switching back and forth between the Help window and your app.

With this simple command, you can make the Help window act like any other window — it'll appear in front initially, but you can click another window to bring that window in front of the Help window. Here's the command: defaults write com.apple.helpviewer DevMode -bool TRUF

To return the Help window to its irritating always-float behavior, repeat this command with FALSE instead of TRUE.

Figure Out Why You Can't Unmount a Volume -- Have you ever tried to eject a CD, disk image, or network volume, only to see an error message saying the volume is in use? If so, the maddening part can be figuring out which process is using it so you can quit that process. So enter the following, substituting for VolumeName the name of the volume you can't unmount: Isof | grep /Volumes/VolumeName

This command shows you any processes you own that are currently using this volume; armed with this information, you can quit the program (using the kill command if necessary, which I discuss in the book). One frequent offender: the bash shell itself! If that's the case, you'll see some-

Continued on page 4

As a member of an official Apple User group, you can access special offers and discounts from software, hardware and other Apple service providers. Login into the private webpage using the password below (please do not share this with non-members)

Webpage: http://appleusergroupresources.com/special-offers-with-codes/

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iPhone 6 is just too good for Apple's own good

o Apple has had another bumper quarter, making the biggest profit in history. iPhone sales tickled 75 million, an all-time high. Yet analysts were disappointed and Wall Street gave Apple stock a drubbing. Much of this hysteria centres on Tim Cook's understandably conservative projection for iPhone sales in the coming quarter.

I fully expect iPhone sales for the first half of 2016 to be conservative but for very good reasons. Any lack of demand for the current model is mainly down to one factor: The iPhone 6 and 6 Plus were just too good for

evidence from many of my friends and acquaintances tells me that I am far from alone.

Why is it that the 6 Plus is a keeper for another year? For my money, the big advance in the 6 Plus was not so much the size of the screen, it was the enhanced battery life. Previous iPhone 3, 4 and 5 models were hard on their puny batteries and, after a year's use, they were running out of juice before the end of the day. After a year, it always seemed a good time to get the latest phone with a brand-new battery.

Upgrade frenzy

This year is different. My iPhone 6 Plus is still going strong in the battery department after 16 months' use and I realise that it will certainly still be more than adequate when it is time to



Apple's own good. For the first time since the introduction of the phone in 2007 there has been less reason to upgrade and more people are stretching their use to two years instead of one.

Pent-up demand

The performance in the first quarter of the current financial year (the final quarter of 2015) was all the more impressive in view of the iPhone 6 syndrome. Year-on-year sales could have been a lot worse simply because the iPhone 6 (and particularly the 6 Plus) has sold in record numbers. There was tremendous pentup demand for the 6 Plus when it reached the market in September 2014 and fans took the opportunity to jump on the phablet bandwagon.

Fast forward to the last quarter of 2015 and many regular upgraders decided that the iPhone 6 or 6 Plus was good for another year. I am among those who, in the past, religiously upgraded every twelve months. Yet anecdotal

order an iPhone 7 in the Autumn. For the time being I am more than happy with the 6 Plus. The added speed, the force touch and other improvements of the 6s are not sufficient temptation—for the first time ever—to encourage me to upgrade.

All this points to the biggest-ever upgrade frenzy this coming Autumn when the 7 arrives. We haven't seen anything like it yet and I predict rollicking sales. While the current 6s and 6s Plus are doing better than expected—particularly in view of the perceived longevity of the original 6 and 6 Plus—the iPhone 7 is going to put everything in the shade.

None of this seems to have been highlighted by the analysts who are focused on Apple's impending doom. They will be wrong, yet again.

All the articles on this page come from Michael Evans www.macfilos.com. These and many others are well worth reading.

SoundByte is the newsletter of the London Mac User Group. It is produced solely by, and for, LMUG members.

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thing like this:

bash 14384 jk cwd DIR 45,8 330 2/Volumes/Data If you've navigated to a directory on this volume in your shell, Mac OS X considers it "in use." The solution in this case is to exit the shell, or simply cd to another directory.

If this command doesn't tell you what you need to know, repeat it, preceded by sudo.

Reset the Launch Services Database -- Mac OS X's Launch Services database keeps track of which programs are used to open which files, among other things. If you find that the wrong app opens when you double-click a file, or that icons don't match up with the correct items, you may need to reset your Launch Services database. Do it like this (be sure to enter this command as a single, long line):

/System/Library/Frameworks/CoreServices.framework/Frameworks/LaunchServices.framework/ Support/Isregister -kill -r -domain local -domain system -domain user

Because this resets a lot of default mappings, your Mac may think you're launching applications for the first time and ask if it's OK. Agree to the alerts and you should be in good shape.

Disable Your Mac's Startup Chime -- If you're going to be turning on (or restarting) your Mac in a guiet environment where the startup chime would be distracting, you can turn it off with the following command: sudo nvram SvstemAudioVolume=%80

To re-enable it, you use a somewhat

different command:

sudo nvram -d SvstemAudioVolume

Take Control of the Mac Command Line with Terminal -- If you found any of these recipes helpful, note that there are 45 more in my freshly updated book. But that's not all. Even if you're a complete command-line newbie. I take you through everything from the very basics up through fairly advanced procedures that will bring joy to any propeller-head. The book covers navigation, working with programs, customizing Terminal (and the command-line interface itself) to your liking, dealing with permissions, and a long list of other topics.

The command line is dead; long live the command line!

