

The meeting on Monday 13th
June 2016 will be from 6pm at
The Sun Tavern,
66 Long Acre, London, WC2E 9JD

LMUG invites fans, enthusiasts and Apple watchers to come together and watch Apple unveil their latest products this June. Rumoured announcements include a radical changes to the MacBook line, new versions of Mac OS, watch and iOS and perhaps surprises around Siri and Apple Music.

The meeting on Monday 13th June 2016 will be a live stream of the keynote from Apple's Worldwide Developers Conference (WWDC). We have exclusively booked the top floor of the at The Sun Tavern, 66 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9JD to host this event.

The livestream is scheduled to start at 6 PM and we will be setting up from 5:30pm. The raffle prize will be a 38mm Apple Watch Sport and as usual we will host a keynote—bingo! Come along and enjoy the atmosphere!

The raffle prize will be an Apple Watch Sport. This will be ordered on the night in your chosen colour and strap. Upgrades OK if you pay the difference, if there is a new model announced you can choose to wait for it to ship. Try your luck!

Come and join us. It's much more fun than watching at home, or hunched over your workstation.



The Sun Tavern, 66 Long Acre

BBC Store

Have you found BBC Store yet? It is similar to the very well known BBC iPlayer but whereas in iPlayer you generally have 7 days to view the favourite programmes you missed or want to see again, in BBC Store you get to download from the enormous BBC library many of their very best programmes and you can keep them for ever! There is a cost involved but its very low with many programmes costing just £1.99 to £3.99. There is often a choice of viewing quality with more recent programmes. I think you are expected to register first through an iPad but once they are downloaded they become available to view on computers, laptops, iPads and iPhones that are linked through the Apple system and for me this solves the viewing problem on flights where I find films often so very disappointing on those back of the seats TV monitors. I have downloaded several David Attenborough programmes as well as Alan Bennet plays and some Yes Minister series.

BitTorrent Live Brings a Weird Selection of Free Content to Apple TV

I've complained before about the paucity of desirable apps on the Apple TV, but a surprise player has jumped in to help fill the gap: BitTorrent Inc., the company behind the peer-to-peer file-sharing protocol that's a favorite of copyright infringers. In recent years, BitTorrent has tried to find uses for its technology beyond file sharing, such as the BitTorrent Bleep chat client and the BitTorrent Sync file syncing tool (think Dropbox, without centralized servers). Now, BitTorrent Inc. is jumping into legitimate video streaming with BitTorrent Live, currently exclusive to the fourth-generation Apple TV but with clients for the Mac and iOS on the horizon.

Traditional video streaming works by downloading content from a remote server or, more typically, a "cloud" of remote servers. To avoid overloading the source servers, large streaming media providers like Netflix spread the load by relying on content delivery networks (CDNs), which take over the heavy lifting of delivering the content to end users.

CDNs work well, but they can be expensive. BitTorrent Inc. hopes to eliminate the need for them by making every viewer into a broadcaster as well, shifting resource usage from a fixed group of servers to the entire network.

The Apple TV app itself works as a "fully functioning peer in the swarm." In plain English, this means that as you stream a channel from the BitTorrent network, the app on your TV also streams that channel to other viewers. BitTorrent, Inc. says that leads to about an extra 20–30 percent of bandwidth usage versus regular HTTP video streaming, but that doesn't

count bandwidth saved by BitTorrent's inherent efficiency over HTTP. However, you needn't worry about your ISP confusing BitTorrent Live with a server, since it should appear to be a typical peer-to-peer app. Comcast has had a history of slowing down Internet connections that use BitTorrent, but I haven't seen any such problems with BitTorrent Live.

It's an interesting experiment, but the practical takeaway is that we now have a new Apple TV app with free, live content. That's the good news. The less good news is that BitTorrent Live's interface and channel lineup are both weird.

I found setup to be a pain. You have to create a free BitTorrent account and link it to the app, and that requires clicking a link in a confirmation email message. But I never got the confirmation message, even after multiple attempts to resend it! (Perhaps some spam filters are dubious of messages that mention BitTorrent.) Eventually, I tried signing up with a Gmail account, and that worked.

BitTorrent Live's interface is straightforward, if a touch odd. Press the Siri Remote touchpad to view the current show and swipe down to see the channel lineup. You're supposed to be able to view upcoming shows on the current channel, but the show lists display only the channel name, so it's not yet helpful. When you're done browsing, press Menu to return to the video. BitTorrent Live is purely live, so there's no pausing or scrubbing.

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/>

Please do not share this with non-members

Apple Mac: When your computer keeps switching itself off

Over the past couple of weeks I have been surprised on several occasions to find my iMac (Retina 5K, 27-inch, Late 2014) switched off. I normally leave it running, with power-saving enabled, so all I have to do is wake it. I didn't pay much attention at first,

at trendblog covers all bases, including battery-powered MacBooks and Pros. With battery-powered Macs there are extra steps, but for mains-powered iMacs, Mac Pros and minis the procedure is simple:

- Shut down your Mac
- Press the power button and then immediately >
- Press and hold Option-Command-P-R
- **Hold until you hear the startup sound twice**
- Release the buttons and let your Mac turn on normally

The bit about listening for the startup gong to



suspecting the possibility a brief power outage. But then it began to happen more frequently.

Yesterday, after my return from Bièvres, the iMac began to switch off frequently, too frequently for coincidence. Every time it restarted automatically but froze as the various start-up programs were loading. Eventually it was locking up almost immediately after starting up. As a Mac user for some 11 years, I had never experienced this behaviour before. I was fully prepared for a visit to the Genius Bar and, before you ask, I do have up-to-date backups so it would be no hardship if Apple wanted to trash the disk.

As a final resort, though, I decided to reset the PRAM or Parameter Random Access Memory. This controls a whole host of core stuff that you wouldn't normally want to mess with. But resetting the PRAM is often a way of overcoming unusual manifestations such as the one I've been experienced. The good news is that it worked.

Refresher course

Before doing this—after all it isn't something you do every day and I needed a refresher course—I checked the procedure. This article

sound twice is interesting. Other guides I've seen mention waiting for it to sound only once. I recollect that last time I reset the PRAM I waited only for one startup sound. Still, I held down the keys for a good minute after the gong sounded for the first time and, just when I was about to give up, it sounded again and the computer shut down. When I restarted the machine, all was working without any initial problems. It's business as normal and I'm glad I've been spared the unwelcome prospect of lugging the very heavy iMac to the nearest Genius Bar.

If ever you get unusual happenings with a Mac it is worth giving the reset PRAM routine a spin before taking more drastic action. According to the experts at trendblog this simple action can solve many annoying problems.

Note: Before resetting the PRAM or carrying out other investigations I recommend unmounting all external disks and USB connections other than the mouse and keyboard cables (if present).

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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Get to know your iOS 9 tweaks

After eight years of upgrades and interactions, we've come to expect certain things with iOS updates.

Each time around, Apple offers a few new apps, a couple marquee features, some fresh wallpaper, and a host of minor speed and usability improvements that give users plenty of reasons to seek out the upgrade button.

Apple's ridiculously high adoption rates aren't just a result of its handle on fragmentation; downloading a new iOS release can be just as exciting as peeling the plastic screen cover off a shiny new iPhone 6S or 6S Plus, breathing new life into old devices and offering at least one or two must-have apps and features.

iOS 9 slows things down a bit. While there are lots of new things to try out (particularly for iPad users), many of its changes are of an intuitive nature. iOS 9 is a so-called maintenance release, focusing on improving the foundation and making it smarter rather than rebuilding and adding to it.

There are far more noticeable little changes in iOS 9 than big ones - like, for example, using watchOS's San Francisco as the main system font - and while it doesn't smack you in the face with its newness like iOS 7 did, there's still a lot to absorb. In some ways, version 9 feels like something of a culmination of what Apple started with iOS 8, smoothing many of the rough edges and bringing a greater sense of coherence and navigation. In a former time, it might have been called iOS 8.5.

But even though you won't find very many revolutionary changes, the usability and accessibility tweaks throughout iOS 9 make it feel like a complete, polished operating system rather than a work in progress. And as always, if you've missed anything, we've got you covered with 62 tips and tricks.

Apple Pro Tips & Tricks

