

The meeting on Monday 12th  
September 2016 will be at 7pm the  
St. John Balcome  
(formerly The Hobgoblin, nee The Wood)  
21 Balcombe Street, London  
NW1 6HE

**T**his month we'll focus on our Special Interest Groups, another chance to deep dive into questions, issues and skills that matter to our members.

6pm-9pm - Special Interest Groups

- Mac Beginners - ask questions and learn the basics
- Technical Table - talk about apps, complex issues and iOS development

- Photos - this month: please bring photos on a memory stick for review, critique and edit, we're particularly looking for photos from the photo walk at our August meetup.

7pm - Newsbyte

Our Raffle Prize this month will be a choice of a super-fast solid state hard drive or a rugged Bluetooth Speaker, great prizes!

--STOP PRESS - Apple Keynote on September 7th: new iPhones and more!--

LMUG invites fans, enthusiasts and Apple watchers to come together and watch Apple unveil their latest products this September. This is the BIG one! Rumoured announcements include the iPhone 7, a new Apple Watch and new MacBooks.

Our additional meeting on Wednesday 7 September 2016 will be a live stream of The Apple Special Event. We have exclusively booked the basement of the St. John Balcome, 21 Balcombe Street, London, NW1 6HE to host this event.



Sir John Balcome 21 Balcombe Street NW1 6HE

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'll host a keynote bingo. Come along and enjoy the atmosphere!

## Members Only Special Offers

As a member of an official Apple User group, you can take advantage of huge discounts from Apple Developers and service providers. The details on how to claim these special offers, available only to members, can be found in the Soundbyte email that delivered this newsletters.

- Special Offer – Eltima Software Multimedia products: 20% Discount
- Special Offer – Nisus Writer Pro: 25% Discount
- Special Offer – EverWeb by RAGE Software: 50% Discount
- Special Offer – Take Control Books: 30% Discount on all eBooks
- Special Offer – Opus ][ Complete Collection: 25% Discount
- Special Offer – Joe On Tech Guides: 20% Discount on All Books
- Special Offer – AgileBits 1Password 5 and more: 25% Discount
- Special Offer – From the makers of TechTool Pro: 20% Discount
- Special Offer – Noteboom Tutorials: 33% Off Annual Memberships
- Special Offer – Update – O'Reilly: 40-50% Discount
- Special Offer – Prosoft Engineering: 25% Off
- Special Offer – Que Publishing Products: 35-45% Discount
- Special Offer – SlideShark iPad PowerPoint Viewer: Free App plus Offer

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<http://amzn.to/29Z1Ux6>

## New Parallels Desktop 12 Improves Speed, Gains Take Control Book

Ten years ago, Apple began putting Intel processors in Macs, making it possible to run Windows on a Mac using either Boot Camp (which requires rebooting to switch operating systems) or a virtualization app (which lets Windows run side by side with OS X). Although earlier (and much slower) emulation apps existed, including Virtual PC, Parallels Desktop was the first true virtualization app for OS X, and it's still going strong. Version 12 has just been released, with improved performance and unique new features. The new version has something else going for it, too: my new book, "Take Control of Parallels Desktop 12."

Parallels Desktop 12 improves performance in several specific areas, including access to shared folders, suspending virtual machines, and taking snapshots, all while extending battery life on notebook Macs. The new version has been optimized for macOS 10.12 Sierra as both host and guest (with full, official support planned for an update soon after Sierra ships). Although Parallels Desktop can run versions of OS X as old as 10.5 Leopard Server in a virtual machine, the Mac you use to run Parallels Desktop itself must now have 10.10 Yosemite or later installed; version 12 drops support for 10.9 Mavericks as a host operating system.

A number of the changes in the new version involve display support. For example, virtual machines can now use Split View in 10.11 El Capitan and later; Parallels added a gaming-specific full-screen option, and virtual machines running OS X as a guest operating system now support Retina resolutions. If you have multiple displays, Parallels Desktop 12 can now use a different resolution for each one. In addition, for Macs with Retina displays, a new Native (or "Best for External Displays") mode lets Windows manage each display's pixel density.

Parallels Desktop 12 includes a set of utilities called Parallels Toolbox — a

bunch of handy, single-purpose Mac utilities, most of which can be used either in your virtual machine or in OS X (even if Parallels Desktop itself is not running). You can access these tools either in a system-wide menu or in the /Applications/Parallels Toolbox Tools folder. Among the 20 tools offered initially are apps for screenshots and screen recording (in both cases, by area, window, or full screen), archiving and unarchiving, a timer and stopwatch, video conversion for iOS devices, a video downloader (for YouTube and the like), and an audio recorder. Parallels plans to add more tools to the collection periodically.

In case you don't already have a backup app you're happy with (and that can handle gigantic virtual machine files gracefully), you can install Acronis True Image from within Parallels Desktop 12 and take advantage of a free, one-year subscription, which includes 500 GB of online storage. (The offer takes effect on 23 August 2016.)

- Among many other smaller changes, Parallels Desktop 12 also does the following:
- Supports Optimized Storage in Sierra
- Uses the OS X Keychain for storing passwords from Windows, Internet Explorer, and Microsoft Edge
- Lets you schedule daily maintenance tasks (such as running Windows Update) at convenient times
- Automatically pauses Windows virtual machines when they're in the background and idle
- Lets you vary resource usage settings (including CPU and disk I/O) and enable or disable RealTime Virtual Disk Optimization individually for each virtual machine
- Enables you to save your virtual machine's state when restoring a snapshot

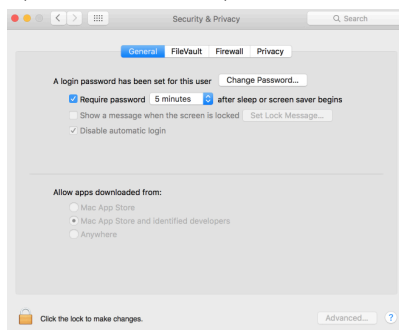
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## Macs and Malware: Do you really need virus protection on your Mac?

Apple's computers are very popular with photographers. In fact, most of my friends run Macs in preference to Windows computers. I suppose it's something to do with Apple's historic advantage in the design world. Or, perhaps, it's that the Mac OS is seen to be safer. Historically, Macs occupied a niche market and, apart from having inherently stronger resistance to malware to start with, they were not top of the list in criminals' priorities. The pickings were much more lucrative, and the mayhem much more satisfying, by concentrating on the Windows world.

But things change. Apple is now mainstream and has a big presence in the higher end of the computer market. Professionals and discerning private buyers flock to Macs and, without doubt, they can be identified as potential targets worth bothering with. The question remains, however: Do you need virus protection on your Mac?

I've thought about it often. A few years ago I installed a system—I've forgotten what it was by now—and disabled it after a few weeks. It slowed down the system and nagged me too much. It created too much hassle. Since then I have been sailing along serenely, but always there is a nagging worry at the back of my mind. I've been lucky.



One of the easiest way to infect your computer is to click on unknown attachments which then instal malware. That's where Apple's Gatekeeper comes in. Introduced in Mountain Lion and version 10.7.5 of Lion, the Gatekeeper is a first line of defence. It can be disabled and

you may have deliberately switched it off for a transient reason and forgotten to re-enable it. Gateway, which is enabled by default, restricts the source of application downloads. I have mine set as shown above, for Mac App Store and identified developers. The safest option, to allow only Mac App Store downloads, can be a bit restrictive and it's up to you whether you can live with that. If most of your software is supplied by the App Store, then it is a good idea to put this restriction in place.

I use several applications which are downloaded direct from developers' sites and, provided I keep an eye on things, the centre option is acceptable. The one option you do not want to allow is to accept downloads from anywhere. It is possible that in the past you had to make this selection in order to buy a particular known application; but it is essential to untick the box as soon as the download is complete. This informative article on Cult of Mac explains why you should never disable Gatekeeper.

I am also content to keep the Mac's built-in Firewall switched on. It causes no problems and I cannot remember when I last had to disable it because of conflicts. Again, if you do disable it for any reason make sure that you switch it back on as soon as possible.

So far these simple precautions have worked for me. But is it now time to consider installing virus protection software? This article in Tutsplus explains everything you need to know about virus protection on the Mac and whether you need it or not. it is interesting for me that, while the author, Harry Guinness, recommends a virus protection system (such as the free Sophos application) he suggests you should not leave it active all the time in order to avoid slowing the machine. Instead, he says, keep it available and run a scan periodically to check that the system is clean.

All this said, in the eleven years I have been using Macs I have not experienced the same sort of problems that were commonplace during my Windows-owning years. Virus protection was then a fact of life and I had to put up with the many inconveniences and speed penalties which resulted.

With a bit of care and an intelligent appreciation of potential threats, Macs still offer a safer computing environment for a majority of users.

All the articles on this page come from Michael Evans [www.macfilos.com](http://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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## Be productive on your new Mac Numbers

Every Mac comes with a collection of great apps for things you do every day, including creating documents with Pages, making spreadsheets with Numbers, and preparing presentations with Keynote.

Pages, Numbers, and Keynote are the best ways to be productive on a Mac or iOS device, and they also work with Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint files. Review, edit, and share your files from anywhere with your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch, Mac, and even from the web at iCloud.com.

### Pages



Use Pages to create professional documents from scratch, or use templates as a starting point for creative flyers, cards, and newsletters.



Use Numbers to create sophisticated spreadsheets and add interactive charts, tables, and images to your reports or budgets.

### Keynote



Use Keynote to create and deliver presentations with powerful graphics tools, cinematic slide effects, and clear presenter tools.

You can learn more on all of these three Apple Apps by going to the support.  
[apple.com](http://apple.com) website