

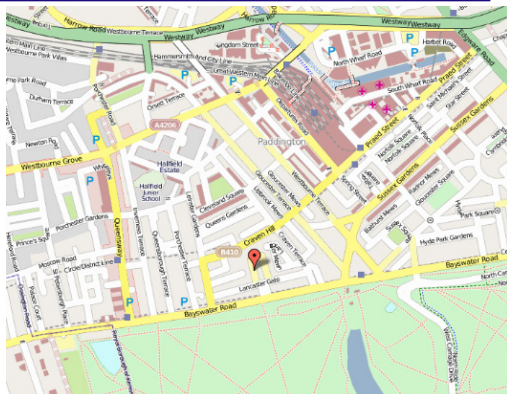
The meeting on Monday 10th July 2017 will be a photo walk from Lancaster Gate to Knightsbridge.

Instead of our normal Meetup in Marylebone, this month we'll be hosting a #ShotoniPhone Event. Join us from 6:30pm on Monday 10th July for our Photography Event. We shall be meeting outside Lancaster Gate tube station which is next to Hyde Park.

We will be exploring all aspects of photography from wide angle, macro to fisheye. As well as some Photo app recommendations. Bring your iPhone and explore how using angles, lines and symmetry can give a different take on traditional shots and locations.

Don't forget to wear comfortable shoes and a fully charged phone. The walk is approximately 2.5 miles and ends at 8:30pm where you can join us for a sit down and pint at the Star Tavern just around the corner from Knightsbridge tube station at the end of our walk.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Members Only Special Offers

Current special offers

- Special Offer - Boom 2 Volume Booster: 50% Discount
- Special Offer - EverWeb by RAGE Software: 50% Discount
- Special Offer - Third Annual Macstock: Extra-Special User Group Offer
- Special Offer - Teams ID, a Password Manager for Teams: 33% Discount
- Special Offer - Eltima Software: Up to 60% Off OS X Apps
- Special Offer - Opus J[Complete Collection: 25% Discount
- Special Offer - Joe On Tech Guides: 20% Discount on All Books
- Special Offer - Noteboom Tutorials: 33% Off Annual Memberships
- Special Offer - O'Reilly: 40-50% Discount
- Special Offer - Coming Soon: Prosoft Engineering: 20% Off
- Special Offer - Que Publishing Products: 35-45% Discount
- Special Offer - SlideShark iPad PowerPoint Viewer: Free App plus Offer
- Updated Offer - AgileBits 1Password 6 Subscription: 25% Discount
- Updated Offer - Coming Soon: TechTool Pro: 20% Discount

Swipe Left For Quick Access To Your iPhone Camera

Turn On The Grid Shoot In Burst Mode

Set Focus & Exposure

Lock Focus & Exposure With AE/AF Lock

Take HDR Photos

Shoot Live Photos

Take Photos With Volume Buttons

Take Photos With Your Apple Headphones

Get DSLR-Like Control Of Your iPhone Camera

iPhone after ten years: Defining the 21st Century?

Ten years ago today the first iPhone went on sale in the USA. It had been introduced in January of 2007 by Steve Jobs but was not received with universal acclaim, despite the hallmark Jobsian hyperbole. This first iteration was clunky, it worked only on 2G networks (when 3G was almost universal in Europe) and lacked basic features we now take for granted, most notably cut and paste. Surprisingly, from our 2017 perspective, the big hurdle the iPhone faced was the lack of a physical keyboard. Blackberry with its trademark keyboard was then riding high and had the business community sewn up. It was a given that a phone without a keyboard could not succeed.

iPhone No.1 — imperfect, clunky, slow. But it created a revolution in personal communications
iPhone No.1 — imperfect, clunky, slow. But it created a revolution in personal communications

Despite having drunk the Cupertino Kool-Aid a couple of years before — and being in full fanboy mode — I was not impressed. I liked the concept but I was not prepared to go back to slowcoach 2G after experiencing 3G on my Palm Treo. I sat on the fence until the following June, 2008, when the altogether more compelling iPhone 3G was announced.

The rest, as they say, is history. I have no doubt that the iPhone is the most significant mass-market product of the still youthful 21st Century. It ushered in the smartphone age and our relationship with gadgets in general has changed fundamentally.

To mark the occasion, Asymco has highlighted the story so far — the 1.16 billion iPhones sold in ten years, the one trillion of revenues that the phone will have generated within the next eighteen months (currently it stands at \$743 bn). These are massive figures. As Asymco says:

“The iPhone is the best selling product ever, making Apple perhaps the best business ever. Because of the iPhone, Apple has managed to survive to a relatively old age. Not only did it build a device base well over 1 billion it engendered loyalty and satisfaction described only by superlatives.”

For me, the purchase of my first iPhone 3G was a defining moment. Almost within hours it had become indispensable. It was so much more usable (and much more secure) than my previous HP/Compaq or Palm Treo PDAs (personal digital assistants). The making of the iPhone, though, was the later App Store and Apple's reliable and unobtrusive cloud services.

For the first time, everything was in sync without running clunky bridge applications and relying on local backups.

The 2017 iPhone is stronger than ever and the advance of the smartphone shows no sign of slowing. Kirk Burgess on Twitter defined the iPhone as “the Model T of our time” and who could argue? While the smartphone will evolve and, without doubt, be replaced by a completely different communications technology, it already



iPhone No.1 — imperfect, clunky, slow. But it created a revolution in personal communications

has its place in history.

Do you agree that the iPhone is the most significant electronic product of the century so far? What would you select in its place?

I agree the iPhone is the most significant electronic product of the century—it has almost replaced both the iPad and the conventional camera for me and this is the best article I have read for this important anniversary.—Ed

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

New Macs: Deciding between a desktop or a powerful portable

Oh, iMac, I've missed you. I thought I could replace you with a MacBook Pro with Touch Bar and 27-inch LG Ultrafine display," Dennis Sellers writes for Apple World Today. "Actually, I did for seven months, but the entire experience just wasn't as smooth. Plus, the Apple all-in-one's display is so much more elegant than LG's monitor."

I wrote at length last year over my never-ending dilemma whether to run two Macs — desktop and lightweight portable — or go for the compromise solution of one high-specified MacBook Pro with a monitor for use at the desk or a powerful iMac. I'm glad I sat on the sidelines at the time, not least because both the portables and the iMac have received upgrades this month, primarily to incorporate the new Kaby Lake family of Intel processors.

While still tempted to make do with one wonderful, all-bells-and-whistles MacBook Pro — specced up to the high heavens, of course — I am wavering. For one thing, I just cannot wean myself off the tiny and light MacBook for travelling. My original version has very definite speed problems and Lightroom processing, in particular, is a leisurely stroll when I am stuck in some hotel room far from home. But, on balance, I know I can put up with this in return for not having to carry around one heavier all-purpose laptop. In fact, the MacBook is so light and thin that I see it as a viable alternative to an iPad. It preserves my MacOS working environment (which I still prefer to iOS) and adds very little weight over the iPad. For carrying purposes it is much thinner than an iPad Pro and keyboard, therefore easier to handle.

Lurking in all its greyness, the new iMac Pro is a real powerhouse. But the lesser-spec Kaby Lake iMacs are more cost-effective. Nevertheless, the space-grey image of the iMac Pro will alone persuade many to pay the extra dosh.

Faster

The main deciding factor, however, is how Apple develops the iMac range. The latest updates to the iMac turn it into a great desktop computer. Faster, with a vastly improved screen, the new 27in iMac is now perfect for my desktop use. The desk is where I spend most of

my computing time, after all, so why not have the best? Interestingly, too, it is the newly announced iMac Pro, which will not arrive until the end of the year, that has sealed the deal for me. While I don't think I need this Pro version — although I wouldn't say no to its new space-grey body on a lesser iMac — a high-spec standard iMac from the new range is likely to be my choice. It's simply that the presence of the iMac Pro underlines Apple's commitment to the iMac range.

The decision, long in the making, has how been made. But I am not worrying too much at the moment. My late 2014 (gosh, is it that long ago?) 27in iMac is still going strong. I specced it highly at the time, so it is not as far behind as it could have been had I gone for the base model. But at least now I know that I have a firm upgrade policy. As an aside, I always believe in going for a high specification on a new computer, especially putting in as much RAM as possible, because I know that after three years or so it will still be a viable tool when base models from the same range will be decidedly past their shelf life.

On the portable front, it's a head and heart thing. Head says that a basic 13in MacBook Pro is a much better and more cost-effective solution than the expensive-for-what-it-is magical MacBook. I've read a number of articles making this point: Buy the MacBook Pro and enjoy all that extra performance and put up with the extra weight.

Of course, everyone's circumstances differ. Those who spend a lot of time away from the desk and need ultimate portable processing power will undoubtedly be happier with the MacBook Pro. But when size and weight are a major consideration, as they are with me, then I think the MacBook offers the better solution. I don't do as much travelling as I did even a year ago, so the MacBook is my choice. Again, though, as with the iMac I'm not rushing to update. I'll take my time and continue to enjoy the original MacBook for its main strengths, lightness and tiny footprint.

The new, more powerful Kaby Lake MacBooks cram a lot of power into the tiny footprint. If you need the power of MacOS and extreme portability, this is the obvious choice. It's thinner than an iPad with Smart Keyboard and not much bigger overall. It's easier to pack and carry around in the author's view

continued on page 4

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

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LMUG Committee 2017/18**

Chairman	Chris Mahon(chairman@lmug.org.uk)
Treasurer	Pietro Falcone (treasurer@lmug.org.uk)
Secretary	Tina Jacobs (secretary@lmug.org.uk)
Editor	Maurice Baker (soundbyte@lmug.org.uk)
Webmaster	Craig Jobbins (socialmedia@lmug.org.uk)
Membership Officer	Pietro Falcone (membership@lmug.org.uk)
Technical Officer	Eoin O'Cléirigh (technical@lmug.org.uk)
Communications Officer	(communications@lmug.org.uk)
Committee Members	Martin Kelly, Craig Jobbins, André Berger, Alastair Whitehouse, Kirsten Zverina
Ideas & Suggestions	suggestions@lmug.org.uk. Website: http://www.lmug.org.uk

Cloud convenience

This choice between using two computers or one — desktop and ultra portable or the all-in-one solution of a fast laptop and a monitor back at base — is something that can never be answered simply. There are personal preferences and circumstances to be taken into account, for one thing. From a practical point of view, also, there are pros and cons. Two computers means ensuring all your data is always fully up to date. This is now much easier than it used to be, with iCloud drive, synchronised desktops and a myriad of cloud solutions (did I mention Dropbox?). But you still need to keep your eye on things if you are not going to be caught out in foreign climes, perhaps missing some vital file or folder.

On the other hand, relying on just one computer brings other problems. If you lose your laptop or it gets stolen while you are travelling, there is no fall-back iMac on a desk back at the office or at home. These days, provided you have backup routines (which become ever more easy) losing a computer isn't as great a disaster as it once was. Just buy a new one, connect to your cloud services and, with luck, you will be at the status quo ante in a trice. With luck. And, of course, everything depends on how savvy you are in the backup department.

Extremely portable but modest in power, the MacBook is a great compromise.

Breakdown

There's also the possibility of breakdown causing mayhem if you have just one computer. A few months ago I had a nasty experience when my main iMac wouldn't boot up. I spent

a lot of time on the telephone with Apple Support and it took over a day to resolve the issue (actually, it just resolved itself in the end, and the unknown problem hasn't recurred).

“This is now much easier than it used to be, with iCloud drive, synchronised desktops and a myriad of cloud solutions”

On that day, though, my little MacBook was a lifesaver: I was able to continue working smoothly and, even if I had had to send the iMac away for repair, I could have managed.

For all these reasons, I have now come to the conclusion that the two-computer solution is both more efficient and much safer, all things considered. When you take the need for an expensive monitor into account, it isn't even that much more expensive. I've been harbouring such thoughts for a long time, but I was encouraged to read this article by Dennis Sellers at AppleWorld. Today. He has had exactly my dilemma but, unlike me, he actually made a decision. He bought the MacBook Pro with Touch Bar as his main computer, eschewing the iMac, and has had seven months to get used to the idea. Turns out he didn't like it and his conclusions are identical to mine. He's now sitting before a high-spec iMac which he describes as the best all-in-one yet, as well as the best Mac ever.