



Iceni Newsletter April 2024

Coronavirus Impact Covid-19. We are continuing to hold our meetings online as this seems to suit everyone and saves travelling during the dark Winter months.

If you wish to join us just follow the link or paste into your browser:-
<https://meet.jit.si/IceniComputerClubMeeting> and follow instructions to allow camera and microphone access. There is nothing to download or install. We have found some problems with screen sharing on the Mac if using Firefox, but using Safari or Chrome is ok as is using Windows.

We still meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. via Jitsi.org Video conferencing..

Our Next Meeting : Wednesday 17th April 2024

Raspberry Pi and Arduino etc.

The Raspberry Pi has come in leaps and bounds since the last meeting we had on this subject and it will be interesting to see what people have made of it. I haven't had much time to devote to the Arduino project I had. Maybe other platforms can be included in this meeting.

Our Last Meeting: Wednesday 20th March 2024

Mac Evening IOS updates – Gareth.

Gareth gave his usual excellent coverage of the latest Mac IOS changes. The latest version being MacOS 14 “Sonoma” which runs on the M3 ARM based hierarchy. This hardware gives up to 18 hours of battery life faster since it consumes much less power than the Intel processor which

Peter is still using. The M3 chip is

The M3 Mac book Air 13.6 inch now selling for £1099 and the M2 from £999 . with 8 CPU cores with 256 GB SSD and 8 core GPU with 8 core 8 GB Unified Memory.

M3 MacBook Air 15.3 inch now selling for £1299.

Memory can go from 8GB to 24GB and storage from 256 GB to 2TB SSD.

MacBook Pro M3 is 14.2 inch and 16.2 inch. From £1599. Also available with the M3 Pro or M3 Max chip. Memory can go from 8GB to 128GB and storage from 512GB to 8TB SSD. All memory and storage options must be part of original order spec. ; you can't upgrade later. They come at a price and the top model 16 inch M3Max MacBook Pro costs £4099.

Other options include the iMac and the MacMini M1.

Much of the speed improvement of MacOS 14 Sonoma gives is down to the much faster performance of the M2 and M3 chips.

There are improvements to widgets and several improvements to the graphics performance and an increased clock speed. The Video Conference facility now allows the speaker to be superimposed on the shared graphics.

Generally each upgrade introduces much smaller changes and security updates. There is now more virtualisation software and Parallels is still used for VM.

There was nothing startlingly new in the software upgrades. There was some new functionality for webcam and iPhone. There are new emoji's added in the latest Mac OS14.4.1 version. It is getting quite complicated to sort out the best options if intending to buy. Personally I would want an M2 or M3 with 512 GB storage. Most of my use is for general use but photo and video editing would be the most intensive. I don't go in for gaming at the moment.

The M3 chip is 1.6x faster than the M1 and 13x faster than the intel based chips.

ICENI Future programme

17 April	Raspberry Pi and Arduino etc.	All
15 May	AGM + Extras TBA	All
19 June	Open	

This programme is open to changes as the year unfolds.

We shall need to have a committee meeting soon in order to define a new programme.

MEETINGS WILL NOW BE HELD ONLINE BUT STILL ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED..

Our Website and Email and Jitsi meetings

Our website URL is

<http://icenicomputerclub.org.uk>

Email to: iceni@woolridge.org.uk

The website is where you will find copies of the Newsletter from Previous years and also where you will find our Committee Members and future programme.

I am open to suggestions on what people would like to have included in the website.

JITSI Meetings

I am repeating this here from the top of the document.

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End