

East SIG Report – May 2018

The May meeting opened with **Paul Woolard** welcoming members, followed by Q&A conducted by **George Skarbek**.

Q: I have a Samsung Android phone that was originally owned by others. The SIM card in it was my wife's and is registered in her name. Before it was my wife's SIM card it was my son's. Google thinks it's his phone, so I get his messages and my wife's messages. I want to change it over to my phone, but I don't want to lose all my contacts and everything I've added to the phone. Does anybody know how I can save all my contacts and then save them back again? I don't have the passwords used by both my wife and son.

A: (Audience member responded): The best place to go is the Samsung booth at Westfield Doncaster. They patched up and solve a problem with my phone and gave fantastic free service.

(George) I'd insert a SD card and back up the phone to the card using the phones menu. Next return the phone to its Factory Settings then restore it from the backup. The backup will bring back all your programs, all contacts and calendar. As your contacts are in Outlook, wipe all the contacts from the phone and using your IP and password import your contacts from Outlook.

Another suggestion is to deregister the phone with Google, but you will need the passwords of earlier users for that.

Q: I have power of attorney for my sister and will need to operate her bank account at some time in the future. Recently I tried to view her bank details from my computer to check I could access her bank account. As the password came up as a series of dots, is there a way to determine the password?

A: The best approach is to visit the bank with all the relevant documents and seek their help.

Following Q&A **John Argall** described how he retrofitted a 10 kilowatt battery storage system to his existing rooftop solar panel array. In June 2014 John installed a 3 kilowatt array of twelve 250 watt north facing solar panels. The electrical DC power generated from these panels was connected to a single inverter. The inverter then converted the DC power generated from the panels to AC for use in the house. Any excess power generated by the panels was exported to the power grid. This was the standard and most economic connection method at that time. With string inverter systems like this, shading on any one panel reduces the generation of the whole array, not just the panel in shade. This was not a problem for John except in winter months when the sun is low causing some shading of his lower row of 6 panels

In December 2017 John decided to retrofit a battery storage and backup system to his existing solar array. John employed SolarEdge to retrofit 6 micro inverters (AP systems model YC500A) and an LG lithium battery system (LGchem 400V – 10 kilowatt) to store the excess power his system generated. Each micro inverter is connected to 2 solar panels rather than a micro inverter per panel, the latter deemed unnecessary in John's situation.

Converting the DC energy from the panels back to AC and then back again to store in the battery causes an energy loss. SolarEdge claim their technology reduces this energy loss.

John has observed that the battery drains to about 5 to 10% capacity before power for use in the house swaps back to the power grid.

System performance is monitored by logging into the SolarEdge website. The site provides John with a wealth of information, most in graphical form, although csv (comma separated value) data can also be downloaded and manipulated. John's electricity distributor United Energy also provides graphical performance data (time based electricity usage) via their Energy Easy link on their website. John presented a number of these graphs from both sources.

Performance over the first 3 months (over summer) was excellent, with John's power bill for that period showing a credit of \$15. This included distribution costs.

John recommended the Solar Choice website (<https://www.solarchoice.net.au/blog/category/solar-panel-products/>.) as a good source of information for anyone considering upgrading to solar.

After a short break **Dave Botherway** explained and demonstrated features in the latest update to Windows 10 (Version 1803) and some of Windows' confusing naming aspects

To begin with Dave gave a summary of the current situation in regards to Windows:

Windows Generations:

- Win XP (5% user base),
- Windows 7 (43%),
- Windows 8.1 (6%)
- Windows 10 (36%).

Windows 10 Editions: Home, Pro, Enterprise & Education.

Windows 10 Versions:

- July 2015 (Version 1507, initial release of Windows 10),
- Version 1511 (November Update),
- Version 1607 (Anniversary Update),
- Version 1703 (Creators Update),
- Version 1709 (Fall Creators Update)
- Version 1803 (April Update).

To determine which version of Windows you're using, select Settings → System → About.

The 1709 update gave enhanced security and performance improvements plus extra functions such as Paint 3D, mixed reality for headsets and adding URLs to the taskbar among other minor changes.

The 1803 update is currently being rolled out and should reach all 600 million Windows 10 PCs within 4 months. (i.e. before the 1809 upgrade is available). The major new features are Timelines, Nearby sharing (which uses Bluetooth or WiFi), Focus assist, plus upgrades to the Edge browser and Cortana. Contacts can now also be attached to the taskbar. HomeGroup has been taken out of this version, replaced with Nearby sharing. Sharing of files or folders is still available using the same technique as in previous versions of Windows, by right clicking on files or folders and selecting "Share".

Most users won't have any control over when their system will upgrade to the latest version. As the 1803 upgrade is a 3GB download, those wishing to hold off the download should set their internet connection to "metered" and tell Windows "Not to download over a metered connection". For those users wanting more control over when the update occurs, Windows has an App called "Media Creation Tool" that allows manual installation of the update. Using the

“Media Creation Tool” you can download the upgrade ISO file from the Windows website. The ISO file can then be burnt to a DVD or USB stick and used to install the upgrade on multiple Windows machines manually. This is Dave’s preferred method.

Dave and a few others in the audience who’ve updated their Windows 10 computers hadn’t experience any problems with the 1803 update. However Dave recommended users have a good backup just in case things go wrong. When using the ISO to update Windows, users have the option of keeping all existing programs and data or doing a clean install. Therefore care needs to be taken.

To finish, Dave demonstrated Timelines, Nearby Sharing and Cortana.

Neil Muller