SDCUCI

SDCUCI NEWS

Meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday at 7.30 pm, in the hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church on the Corner of Bains and Main South Roads, Morphett Vale

Cost $3.00 per person per meeting. This includes a copy of our Newsletter, plus coffee/tea and supper

Visitors are most welcome

After 3 visits, you are requested to become members

**Annual Subscription:
Single — $20.00
Family — $30.00**

Both Novice and Experienced computer users will be most warmly welcomed

The Brownpaddock Chatter

Disappointingly our July meeting was cancelled at short notice due to covid restrictions. Covid has changed our lifestyle and we will need to adapt to changes at short notice. Depending on the topic and presentation, and with enough notice we may be able to switch to a zoom meeting.

The Committee reviewed future topics at our recent meeting and rescheduled the July topic ie BIOS and Linux to the November meeting. In January we will revisit Digital Estate planning and take a look at how technology changes are impacting this topic.

The Secretary has mentioned the approaching Annual General Meeting and nominations for the Committee.

David regularly asks for suggestions on what you would like to see in the newsletter. If you have had an experience or an article that would be of interest to members please send it to the Editor.
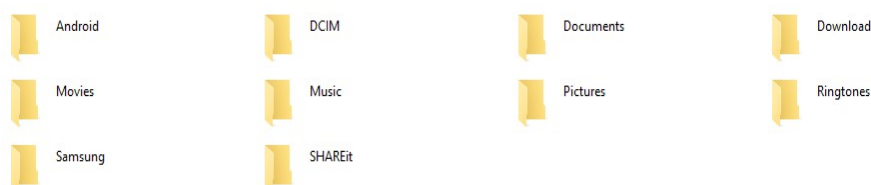
Transferring Files between an Android Phone and a Laptop/Desktop Computer—Lindsay Chuck

What I like about Android phones is how easy it is to transfer files from an Android phone to a Laptop/Desktop computer and vice versa. Whether it is a PDF, music (MP3) or photos (jpg) it is as easy as copy and paste. Recently I purchased a new Android phone and decided to test transferring a PDF and music file from my laptop. Using the phone power cable to connect the phone to the laptop, I touched *allow* on the phone and the folders below displayed on the laptop. I then copy and pasted the files from the laptop to the phone.

This method can be used to;

- backup your phone photos to a laptop or USB and
- remove the documents/music/photos when your phone storage becomes a problem.

If you would like a demonstration, or a walk through the process, let me know and this can be arranged prior to our monthly meeting.

Android	DCIM	Documents	Download
Movies	Music	Pictures	Ringtones
Samsung	SHAREit		

Why not register for

Be Connected

https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/

Reasons to Use VPN Software

This is a bit of an update and extension of an article I ran last July.

VPNs or Virtual Private Network solutions provide individuals with the ability to browse the internet with a secured and encrypted connection. Using a VPN is optimal for those seeking anonymity while browsing the web, using social media, or even communicating with others. Using VPN software for your new or existing Windows PC can help you keep your computer and internet history safe and private at all times.

What Does a VPN Do?

Whenever you browse the internet, you share all of the data collected by your web browser with your current Internet Service Provider (ISP). Today, many websites and social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, also collect, use, and may even sell your data in some instances. Any website you visit online may collect data using web cookies. These may then be sold to other third-parties, advertisers, and marketers. As technology becomes increasingly intrusive and personal, many internet users are turning to VPNs to help reinstate a level of privacy they are comfortable with whenever they are online.

VPN software provides users with an anonymous and randomly generated IP address each time they access the internet, providing the ability to browse freely without sharing their history and the websites they visit. By using a VPN, your internet connection becomes even more encrypted, considerably increasing your online security.

What Does a VPN Hide?

Understanding just what a VPN can hide and how it can help you in your use of the internet is essential to find VPN software or a VPN service solution that is optimal for you and your browsing habits.

Your IP Address

One of the biggest draws of VPN software is the ability to hide or "mask" your computer's IP address. Traditionally, each time you boot up your computer and access the internet, you are doing so with a set and assigned IP address directly from your current ISP. This IP address can easily link all web traffic to you or other individuals in your household or who may have access to your internet connection.

Each time you use VPN software to browse the internet, a new and anonymous address is generated, typically freeing you from data

constraints, monitoring, and potential data harvesting.

Your Internet History

VPN software helps to protect your browsing habits as well as your internet history, keeping it encrypted and away from the eyes of your ISP as well as your neighbours or potential hackers.

Your Habits, Preferences, and Other Personal Details

Keep your product preferences, music tastes, and brand choices out of the hands of third parties and other websites that collect data on all users with the use of a VPN in place.

Advantages of Using a VPN

Using a VPN each time you access the internet, provides many benefits not possible with an unsecured or default connection. Whether you frequently travel for work or business or simply prefer to keep your data private from tech companies and third-parties, there are many reasons why so many internet users are turning to VPNs today.

Encrypted and Secured Connection

Accessing the internet using hotspots, free Wi-Fi locations, and even your own home can leave you vulnerable, especially if you are potentially being monitored or targeted by online thieves, hackers, and other nefarious organizations. With the use of a VPN, you can free yourself from the restraints of tracking and data harvesting with an encrypted and secured connection. Using a VPN essentially helps to create a "virtual" network that still allows users to access public websites without sharing all of their information including their IP address with their ISP and even the general public. To maximize your online security and safety, doing so is simple with VPN software and services.

Browse Anonymously

The rise of targeted marketing, hyper-aware social media platforms, and invasive advertising has caused many users to seek alternative ways to enjoy some semblance of privacy wherever they are online or searching for information on the internet. If you feel that companies, social media conglomerates, or even your own email providers have become too invasive and personal, a VPN can help. VPN software is ideal for anyone who wants to simply browse the internet anonymously without sharing their information, their web history, or even search terms they have entered

4

when researching products or learning something new.

As the rise of big brother and invasive marketing continues, more internet users (including casual users) than ever are turning to VPN solutions. Even if you are browsing an online magazine's website or a website dedicated to your favorite movie, there is still a risk that your tracking data and cookies are being stored, used, analyzed, and even possibly sold. With the increasingly invasive nature of online advertising and marketing, it is no wonder that individuals in all demographics are turning to VPN solutions to help provide them with an extra layer and sense of security.

Unlock Content Abroad

One of the biggest reasons VPNs became extremely popular and even geared toward a mainstream audience is the ability to travel the world and access websites from anywhere. Many websites today are accessible to users based on geographic location. This can quickly become frustrating for anyone who is in an extremely restrictive country or region. With the use of VPN software, you can bypass any geographic restrictions and limitations put in place to quickly gain access to the websites and content you are interested in.

Those in say, the US interested in watching a streaming show only available in Ireland, can unlock and gain access to the content with the use of a VPN. Most VPN software solutions provide users with the option of setting their choice of IP address origin country, allowing even more options for unlocking content and media streaming services from around the globe.

For those who travel internationally on vacation or even abroad for work, using VPN software is key to prevent potential accessibility issues arising. If you are travelling abroad or even working with a client who is international, it is important to have the ability to access and browse websites, media, or content without encountering blocks and restrictions during the process. VPN software is ideal whether you intend to use it for personal or business use while travelling abroad and exploring the world.

It is important to note that individuals who currently reside in countries with strict governments or dictators may not be protected when browsing the internet, even with the use of well-known VPN software. Individuals living in countries with hostile or restrictive governments should keep in mind that they may or may not be permitted to use VPN software under any circumstances.

eCommerce stores online now use geo-targeting when setting prices and even launching promotions or sales? With the use of a VPN in place, you can choose which country you would like your IP address to originate from, allowing you to participate in eCommerce when researching

sales and promotions from all over the world. If an online store is currently hosting a sale that is only available for individuals from a specific region or country, you can instantly generate an IP address to gain proper access to potential deals and discounts.

You Can Use VPNs on Multiple Devices

Whether you prefer to browse the internet from a traditional desktop computer or would rather use your smartphone or even a tablet, once you have selected VPN software that is right for you, you can implement the software on nearly all devices, including both iOS, Android, and Windows operating systems as on well as many others.

VPN Software and Services Are Affordable

Using VPN software is generally extremely affordable. Most VPN software solutions run at just few dollars each month, which for most, is extremely cheap considering a VPN is referred to as invaluable by those who recognize the need for increased security and privacy online.

Tips for Selecting VPN Software for your new Windows PC

When you are looking for a new VPN solution or VPN software for your own computer, devices, and even your entire household, it is important to keep a few tips in mind to ensure you select a solution that meets your needs.

➢ Research and read reviews and testimonials from real customers and clients who have used the VPN you are interested in to gain valuable insight into features as well as overall performance;

➢ Compare features of different VPN software to determine whether or not whether it is right for you, whether you intend to use it strictly for communication, personal browsing, or even business communications and file-sharing;

➢ Compare configuration and software requirements, especially if you are new to VPNs;

➢ Seek out VPN software that is easy to use and all-encompassing if you do not consider yourself tech-savvy or if you are seeking a simple VPN program to get started right away.
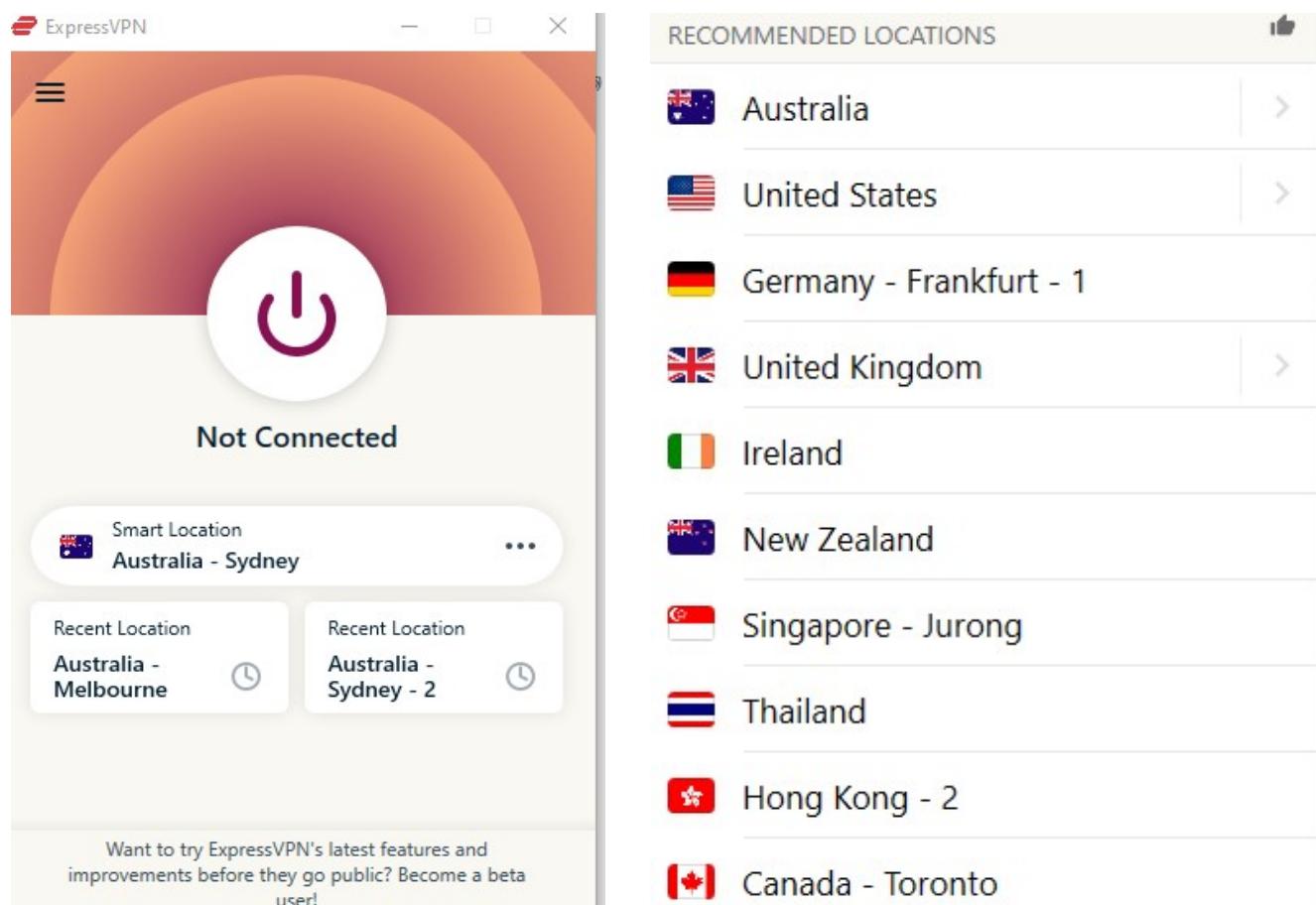
When you are familiar with VPN software and how VPN services are helping to provide individuals with the privacy they are looking for, it is much easier to find good VPN software that is optimal for your needs. If you enjoy browsing the internet at your local cafe using a free Wi-Fi connection or if you are seeking a way to encrypt your online conversations with friends and business colleagues, a VPN may be just the right solution for you.

Using a VPN—My experience - Lindsay Chuck

I have been using a VPN for over twelve months and I would recommend using one. I had been considering a VPN for sometime before I finally decided to subscribe to ExpressVPN. The annual subscription is around A$133.64 however the subscription is in American dollars so the price will vary depending on the exchange rate. ExpressVPN is not the cheapest VPN on the market, but good reviews and a global presence of over 3000 servers in 160 server locations in 94 countries convinced me to go with this company. Claimed to be one of the fastest VPNs on the market, it is available for Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS and Android. You can even have it installed on your router. Browser extensions are available via Chrome and Mozilla Firefox and it can be installed on up to 5 devices. 24/7 support is also offered. The two locations in Australia are Sydney and Melbourne and I use one of these most of the time.

Why did I decide to use a VPN? Privacy and security.

Have I had any problems? Yes. But I believe the issues were due to not understanding how the VPN works. You should review the settings. The VPN can be setup to start when Windows starts. One of the settings stops the internet when the VPN disconnects unexpectedly. I haven't had any problems since. Below are a few screenshots of the Express VPN

Using Styles in LibreOffice?

Styles in LibreOffice comes with several predefined styles you can use, or you can create and modify the built-in styles with ease. Styles are formats users can apply to selected pages, frames, texts, and other elements within their documents to quickly alter their appearance. Whenever a style is applied, it usually means applying an entire group of formats all at the same time.

Most people tend to manually format tables, page layouts, format paragraphs, words, and other sections of their document without ever looking at the Styles. However, Using styles improves the document consistency, and making major format changes, the job becomes much easier.

Looking at the various Styles is very easy and users should quickly understand the process.

1] The Styles menu

The easiest ways to take advantage of Styles in "LibreOffice Writer", for example, is to position the cursor in the right section of the document, click on Styles via the menu (left), then select the required style. Select the style you like for changes to happen immediately.

2] The Styles deck

Using the Styles deck, called Styles and Formatting in older installations of Libra, will provide little problem learning how to use it. This section contains all the different tools for styles, so have a look for one you like.

To choose it, press **F11**, or **View** > **Styles or Style** > **Manage Styles**. You can also select the Styles tab from the sidebar by going to **View** > **Sidebar**.

4] The fill format mode

One feature in the Styles section is called Fill Format. The Fill Format option allows the user to apply styles to several different sections in a document quickly without having to revert back to the Style deck each time.

Open the Style deck, then choose the style needed for your document. You should now see the Fill Format button. Select it to see what it does.

Your can now apply a paragraph, page, or frame style. Hover the mouse over the paragraph, page, or frame and click it. To apply a character style, hold the mouse button down while selecting the characters. Clicking a word applies the character style for that word.
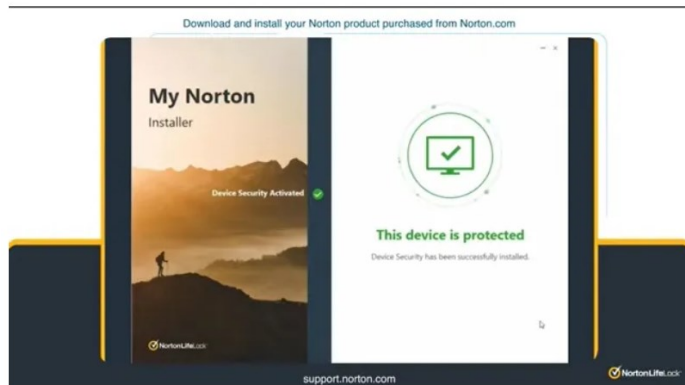
To quit Fill Format Mode, press the Escape key.

You can see from this that it is not all that different from the process in Microsoft Word.

Norton and Avast Complete Massive Merger

Quartered in Prague, with this change; Avast stockholders are likely to receive bountiful cash and shares of value ranging between $8.1 billion to $8.6 billion. Here's more news about **Norton and Avast**.

In pursuing a global consumer security powerhouse, the American cyber-security firm, Norton Lifelock, has struck a merger deal with its rival Avast, Head.

Earlier, the two cyber-security giants were in an advanced stage of discussions regarding a possible merger. With negotiations between them now done, the security group wants to focus on developing the next generation of cybersecurity experts to educate people to help them stay safe online.

Norton believes Avasts's acquisition will help it expand the cyber safety net furthermore and make it available to millions of more users. Besides, it will also accelerate innovation to transform and boost cyber security mechanisms as it is critical for both consumers and businesses.

> "*The boards of NortonLifeLock and Avast are pleased to announce that they have reached agreement on the terms of a recommended merger of Avast with NortonLifeLock, in the form of a recommended offer by Nitro Bidco Limited ("Bidco"), a wholly owned subsidiary of NortonLifeLock, for the entire issued and to be issued ordinary share capital of the Company (the "Merger"), mentioned in a document.*
>
> "*The boards of NortonLifeLock and Avast both believe the Merger has compelling strategic logic and represents an attractive opportunity to create a new, industry leading consumer Cyber Safety business, it further added.*"

Honestly, the availability of Windows Defender with every genuine copy of Windows, at no extra cost, avoids the requirement of dedicated security software. So, it will be challenging to see if the recent merger will enhance the financial profile of the combined company in any way or not.

Having said that, getting talented teams onboard will create better Opportunities to innovate and develop products, with improved capabilities.

Source – [Businesswire](#).

Editorial

This issue has been one almighty rush to get it out on time. Since moving into my new home on 1 July, life has been just one rush — make my home liveable. I undertook a fair proportion of the physical moving myself with the result that I had cardboard boxes of all shapes and sizes all over the place with little room to move. I also had great difficulty finding anything. At last that is all changing and my residence is starting to look more like a home rather than just somewhere to plant my old bones!

I know I ran an article about Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) as recently as July last year, but with all that is going on the world, they are a very simple, cheap and useful tool to enable one to maintain some modicum of privacy in one's everyday life.

The article regarding Avast and Norton is a bit of an eye-opener when you think of the size of each of those organisations and their desire to amalgamate.

Importantly, each of us little fish need to ensure that we stay safe and live as healthy lives as we are able.

Jest a Minute

Everybody's ears after they wear facemasks for months.

— For Your Notes —

Our September Members' Meeting

Powerpoint is a slide show presentation program that has been and continues to be used at our monthly meetings to present topics. It is also used at funerals. John Kirby will take us through the basics of the program and if you have th a Microsoft account a free version is available.

MEETING RULES

We are allowed to use the facilities at the Hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church, on the corner of Bains and Main South Roads, Morphett Vale in return for a small fee plus respect for their property. We ask for your co-operation in respect to the above.

Whilst we have no control over what our members do away from our Club meetings, piracy of copyright material cannot be condoned at our meetings. Please respect copyright laws at all times.