

*Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc.*

*Supporting inexperienced users with local expertise*

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**January 2021**

## **SDCUCI NEWS**

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**M**eetings 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**



#### **Noarlunga forecast for Saturday 38° - Sunday 39°**

<http://www.bom.gov.au/sa/forecasts/noarlunga.shtml>

Don't leave your electronics sitting in the sun or in a hot car. If you do, let them cool in the shade or air conditioning before you use them.

Ambient temperatures really can make a difference to your electronic devices and may send your phone right into panic mode. (OK, panic mode isn't an official phone mode.)

But if your phone gets so hot it shuts itself off, you may have missed the warning signs. If you start losing battery power faster than normal, your phone may be straining under the heat. Turn it off to give it a break, and let it cool down before you start it back up.

The same advice holds if you simply notice your phone is hot. If it's noticeably warm to the touch, it's also working too hard. Give it a break by turning it off until it cools down.


Taking your phone inside, fanning it, or holding it near an air conditioning vent can help cool it down quicker. If you miss the warning signs and your phone shuts off on its own, remember it's trying its best to protect the sensitive electronics inside. Cool it down to regular room temperature before you try to turn it back on.

**Keep an eye on your phone and keep it out of direct sunlight to make sure it's cool whenever possible.**

*James Brownpaddock*

## Mobile Phone Use

Below, I have put together a few tips for using your mobile phone.

1. Don't cover the microphone with your thumb. Whilst this one may sound obvious, it has caught a few people out over the years. Most smartphones and tablets have the microphone somewhere along the bottom edge. It makes sense if you're using them as a normal voice phone – you hold the top bit to your ear and your mouth down near the microphone, and your hand is well out of the way. When making a video call, you hold the phone differently with the consequence that it is very easy to end up covering the little microphone hole on the bottom (especially if your phone's in a case).
2. Also, don't cover the camera lens with your thumb but it's a bit more obvious if you've done that.
3. If you sit with a bright light behind you, that is partly covered by your head or body, your camera will try to compensate, but every time you move the light level will change
4. Did you know that microwave ovens, baby monitors and suchlike can cause interference that plays havoc with your wi-fi if they are switched on when you are making a call;?
5. Don't have more than one device on the same call in the same room.
6. Don't hold the phone or tablet in your lap. It can make you appear to “loom” into the camera, which is a bit alarming for the person on the other end of the call. 

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## Anti-ransomware Task Force

This task force will create a standardized procedure to deal with various ransomware attacks worldwide, regardless of their breadth and intensity.



Expert teams from 19 different companies will be part of this task force.

Some of the entities involved in the Ransomware Task Force include Aspen Digital, the Cyber Threat Alliance, the Institute for Security and Technology, Resilience, SecurityScorecard, Team Cymru,

and Venable LLP.

It is purposely a diverse group consisting of policymaker groups, cyber-insurance providers, security firms, think tanks, and risk management teams that cater to domestic and international customers. Experts from these entities will work together to form a standardized framework that illustrates a Standard Operating Procedure for dealing with ransomware attacks, among other things.

Once the commissioned works are finished, there will be one effective way to address matters before, during, and after ransomware attacks.

Stakeholders intend to launch the Ransomware Task Force's official website in January 2021. It is proposed that the site would offer information on ransomware attacks and membership options. Security firms and other enterprises would also have an opportunity to engage in the defence shield against ransomware attacks, that are gaining momentum at the present.

The entire team propose working in full swing for two to three months so that the Task Force can catch up with the updates from the cybersecurity world.

During this time, the team expect to conduct in-depth research to identify and explore new problems with how enterprises currently handle ransomware attacks. The Task Force expects to give close consideration to the best elements from the various cybersecurity experts' advice on handling individual ransomware attacks.

Experts note that the Task Force is a defensive measure in that ransomware attacks are not the most damage-causing events so far as enterprises are concerned.

Considering the potential data loss a ransomware attack can incur, it will always be better to have a Standard Operating Procedure that can be relied upon and updated as and when required.



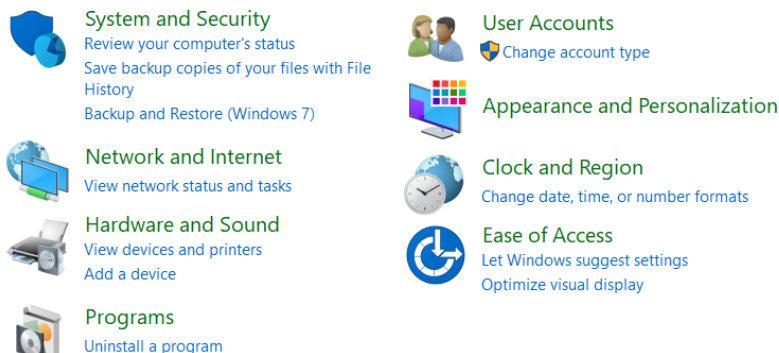
# The Control Panel

I know several of you have yet to upgrade to Windows 10 in which the Control Panel is almost hidden away in lieu of Microsoft's preference for "Settings".

On the other hand, the Control Panel still has plenty of utilities that are not available under "Settings". So, what I am about to tell you applies to most

Adjust your computer's settings

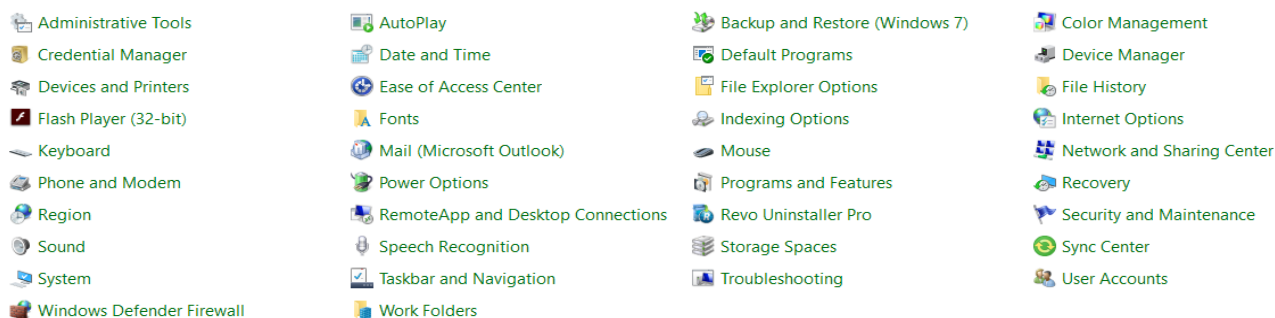
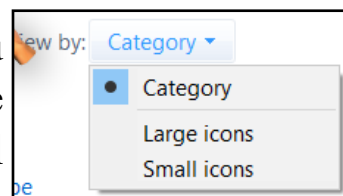
View by: Category ▾



recent iterations of Windows possibly back to XP. Even in earlier versions of Windows, not everything was upfront in the Control Panel. For example, in Win10 the Control Panel is presented looking like the diagram to the left:

If you

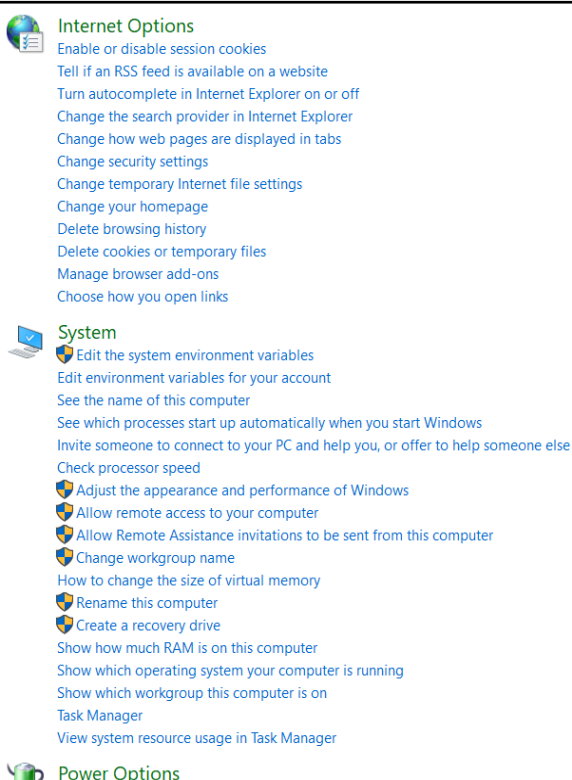
Click on the "View by category" (circled in red) or the little arrow alongside, the call-out box to the right will appear.



If you then select "small icons", you will be presented with the screen above or something similar:

The most common letter in the English language is "e"; did you know that?

Key the letter "e" into the Control Panel "Search" panel and see what comes up. To the left are just a few of the options based on the "e" search. There are, in fact, several screenfuls of options under the respective headings. Many of them are repeats resulting from a normal right click on a particular entry but there are also quite a few that are not. Try it out for yourself.





## **“Temporary Files” — Deleting**

Most recent iterations of Windows, including Win10, create all sorts of temporary files as you use your computer. These could be anything from cached system and application data, error reports, update files, to browsing data. Temporary files not only help speed things up, but some of them also play a role when troubleshooting system-related issues.

***It is always prudent to create a system restore point before you clean out even a small quantity of files — JUST IN CASE! If there are no problems after a week or two, you can delete it.***

However, most temporary file types linger around for a long time and can end up eating a hefty chunk of your storage. If you are short on free space on your computer, you should consider deleting some of this bloat on a regular basis.

Depending on the version of Windows that you are using, you can delete temporary files on your computer in a number of ways. **In Windows 10**, you can either use the Settings app, the Disk Cleanup tool, or File Explorer.

Additionally, you can utilize a built-in functionality called Storage Sense to automate the procedure.

On my Win10 computer, of the 241 GB of used storage space, 202GB of that consists of various types of “Temporary Files”, despite me cleaning the disk every couple of months or so! However, be aware that not all temporary files should be deleted as your system may still need them.

A good and safe starting point is to empty the “Recycle Bin. This quite often holds several GB of files.

If you are using **Win 8.1**, press Windows Key + W and type **Free up**. You will see a few options. We are going to run "Free up disk space on this PC" which runs full screen as a "modern app."

**In WinVista**, to run **Disk Cleanup**, click **Start>All Programs Accessories>System Tools>Disk Cleanup** and carefully select the files you want to delete, then click **Delete**.

**In Win7**, just run “Disc Cleanup” for a fairly, but not a totally, thorough clean.

**In WinXP**, the user should click **Start>Control Panel>Performance and Maintenance>Free-up space** on your hard disk to remove the files that are no longer being used. When the **Select Drive** dialogue box appears, click in the **Drives:** bar, and then select the drive to cleanup and click **OK**. When the **Disk Cleanup for (C:)** dialogue box appears, select the checkbox corresponding to the files to delete in **Files to delete** in the **Disk Cleanup** tab, and then click **OK**.





## Adobe Flash Rides Into the Sunset

Adobe scheduled the end of support for its famous Flash software on December 31st, 2020.

While Adobe won't start blocking Flash content until 12 January, major browsers will shut it all down on 1 January, 2021 and Microsoft will block it in most versions of Windows. It's sad but it's over.

Flash enjoyed huge cultural relevance and looms large in web history, which might be why its funeral procession has lasted for years. Browsers started showing Flash the door early in the last decade, and in 2015, Adobe asked developers to move on to HTML5. Things became official in 2017, when Adobe announced it would end support.

While Adobe is finally (mercifully) letting Flash go, it will live on in many historical artifacts. The Internet Archive is preserving Flash Games and Animations, including well-known hits like "Peanut Butter Jelly Time."

Vale, Adobe Flash. 

## Google Aggregates TikTok and Instagram Short Videos

Google is testing a new feature that will surface Instagram and TikTok videos in their own dedicated carousel in the Google app for mobile devices — a move that could help the company

retain users in search of social video entertainment from leaving Google's platform. The feature itself expands on a test launched earlier, where Google first introduced a carousel of "Short Videos" within Google Discover — the personalized feed found in Google's mobile app and to the left of the home screen on some Android devices.



This "Short Videos" carousel is different from Google's Stories, which rolled out in October 2020 to the Google Search app for iOS and Android. Those "Stories" — previously known as "AMP Stories" — consist of short-form video content created by Google's online publishing partners like Forbes, USA Today, Vice, Now This, Bustle, Thrillist and others.

Meanwhile, the "Short Videos" carousel had been focused on aggregating social video from other platforms, including Google's own short-form video project Tangi, Indian TikTok competitor Trell, as well as Google's own video platform, YouTube — which has also been experimenting with short form content as of late.

The expansion to include Instagram and TikTok content in this carousel was first reported by Search Engine Roundtable some time ago. 

## Internet Explorer 11 & Edge Legacy to End Next Year

Microsoft will officially pull the plug on Internet Explorer 11 and Edge Legacy this year. According to the company roadmap, Microsoft Edge Legacy will reach the end of life on **March 9, 2021**. Similarly, Microsoft 365 apps and services will no longer support Internet Explorer 11 on **August 17, 2021**. On **November 30, 2020**, Microsoft Teams will stop supporting IE 11.

Microsoft is replacing Edge Legacy with the new Chromium-based Edge, although the company needs to ensure that the existing set of users are not affected. In due course, Microsoft wants users to upgrade to the new Chromium Edge so that all their apps and services will remain functional. Addressing compatibility issues, Microsoft said:

*“While we know this change will be difficult for some customers, we believe that customers will get the most out of Microsoft 365 when using the new Microsoft Edge. We are committed to helping make this transition as smooth as possible.”*

Microsoft intends to follow the above-mentioned end of life roadmap concerning IE 11 and Edge Legacy. This will mean that, if you continue to use IE 11 and Edge Legacy after the above dates, you will have to endure a degraded experience. The chances are that you will be unable to connect to Microsoft 365 apps and services on IE 11. Compatibility is not the only concern here.

Using outdated products and services is prone to security risks. After the above-mentioned dates, IE 11 and Edge Legacy will stop receiving security updates. So, using IE 11 and Edge Legacy will be less secure in the future. Accordingly, you will need to upgrade to Chromium Edge on your Windows 10 computer.

After the deadlines, certain Microsoft 365 apps and services’ features will not be available or will simply cease to work on IE 11.

Microsoft stated:

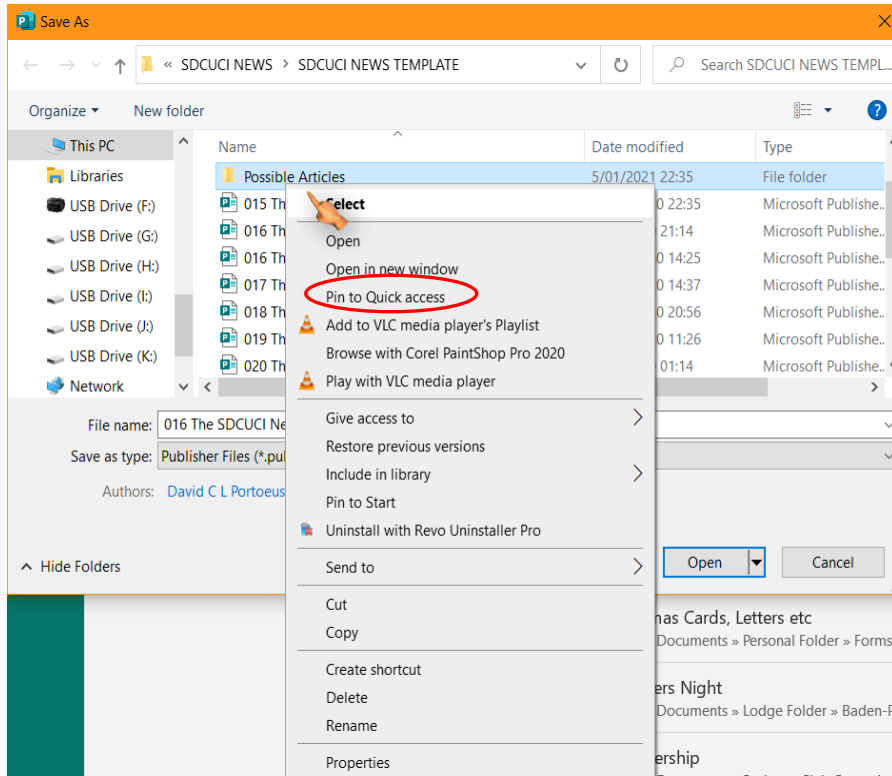
*“We believe that Microsoft 365 subscribers, in both consumer and commercial contexts, will be well served with this change through faster and more responsive web access to greater sets of features in everyday toolsets like Outlook, Teams, SharePoint, and more.”*

Last but not least, Microsoft is also ending support for the Microsoft Edge Legacy desktop app on March 9, 2021.



# Save Word, Excel, PowerPoint Files Using Pinned Folders

Microsoft is rolling out a new feature for Office users — pin your folders in the Save dialog. This way, Office users can more easily save their Word, Excel and PowerPoint files. It enables more control over the list of available folders as the save file destinations, courtesy of a move that brings the pinned folder support in the Save dialog. Those over at Microsoft Office already offer pinned folder support in the Backstage.



Existing pinned folders appear when users save an Office file. They can pin or unpin folders right from the Save dialog, further removing the need for navigating to the Backstage. Pinned folders stick near the top of the folder list. Thus, users can quickly select them on their next save.

When you create a new file and save it, pinned folders and the options to

pin and unpin folders are automatically on. All you need to do is > Click the Save button or press CTRL+S > then, click the Choose a location arrow and press the **Pin** and **Unpin** buttons on the folders visible.

In his recent blog post, Bill Saez, Senior Program Manager at Microsoft Office, wrote:

*“We received feedback that users want more control over the folders available when a new file is saved. The same pinned folder support we offer in the Backstage is now available in the Save dialog.”*

Interestingly, the Save dialog shows your OneDrive, pinned, default, and recent locations. However, if you are looking to pin a location that you have not recently saved to or, if the desired location is not already visible in the visible list of options, you can simply navigate to File > Save As. This way, you will see a longer list of locations that you can pin.

Until recently, this feature was limited to Microsoft 365 users who were using Office for Windows on Insider Fast Version 2006 (Build 12825.1000) and later. Meanwhile, Microsoft has been rolling out this feature far more widely.





## **Making Microsoft Defender the Best Antivirus**

**Microsoft** has been trying its best to make its Defender the best antivirus for users in the Office 365 and Microsoft ecosystem, including end-point devices. As part of this, the company had said that it would be adding more features to the antivirus suite for Windows.



### **Defender Gets Remediation actions and Enhancements**

As promised, Microsoft has released the first part of these updates. This update is bringing remediation options to Microsoft Defender for Office 365. With these additional options at its disposal, Microsoft Defender can now diagnose potential threats and take remedial actions to prevent them in future.


For instance, the updated Microsoft Defender for Windows would find malicious emails that may harm the system and also take actions to prevent similar threats in the future. In the first step, remedial options would be dealing with email security only, but Microsoft says it would broaden the domain quite soon.

In addition to ‘additional remediation actions’, Microsoft has also included ‘remediation enhancements’ in its plans. These will be included in the second phase of updates and will bring features that make things easier for IT admins to handle potential threats. The company has explained a few more additions in the roadmap.

In the later parts of the upgrade, Microsoft proposes to introduce further changes to the action center. All these changes are designed to allow the network admins to manage potential threats with better efficiency. For instance, the company proposes increasing the export limit of mail submission records to 100,000.

Similarly, there will be an option to understand how the organization has addressed the past remediation entries. In short, the upgrades are planned to allow network administrators to keep track of the issues and the proposed solutions from a unified User Interface.

All these options are currently under development, and we should see a gradual rollout from Microsoft. It may be a few months or years before we see Microsoft Defender in a form that reflects all abilities that Microsoft has imagined.

Considering the rising number of threats, including Solorigate and others, it is good to see that Microsoft is keeping up with its promises on the roadmap. 



## Editorial

A Happy New Year to all our very special Readers and welcome to a somewhat different format of the Club's monthly magazine.

OK, so the Editorial page has a new logo but that is not all — in fact not at all, all!

Having spoken to a few members, together with some suggestions from the Committee, we will be including more articles (hopefully of interest to Readers), and somewhat less "How to's"!

On the other hand, as I have said many times before, albeit I think to deaf ears, if any Reader would like an article on a particular subject, you have but to ask.

On the other hand, I have had (am having) my own share of computer problems. Yes, I have more than one! Firstly and worst of all, my internet keeps dropping out for no apparent reason then coming back on — also for no apparent reason. I have spent many hours with my provider who are nearly always able to fixit — BUT as soon as they hang up ( or shortly afterwards) it drops out again. Also, for some unknown reason I am unable to send emails. That has also not yet been sorted out. Sometimes I feel like the guy below!



## Jest a Minute



My feelings  
exactly!  
Lucky I don't  
have a gun!

**This ~ MONTH's Topic ~**  
**“QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS”**

**Presenter: ALL THOSE WITH QUESTIONS**

*— For Your Notes —*


**Our February Members' Meeting**

**It's a load of old Rubbish.**

**The Onkaparinga Council will talk us through the ins and outs of “what can go where”. Your questions answered!!**

**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.



**Disclaimer:** The information herein is of a general nature. Always do your own research and seek advice before proceeding on information you don't understand.

# IT & COMPUTERS

Shop 6, 76 Beach Road  
Christies Beach 8186 2736

(Same block as Woolies on Beach Road)

Contact: Jamle or Ash

For all your computing needs  
available locally

Need help with your computer?  
Looking to purchase a new one?  
Need additional peripherals?  
Home site visits available !

Looking for excellent customer  
and after sales service?

New Computers

Repairs

Virus removal

New software & Upgrades

Peripheral units:

Wireless Keyboard Mouse

Sound Boards & Systems

External & Internal Hard Drives



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