

iPPIG meeting, by Colin Hooker

We started the June 16th meeting with a quick look at Apple's recent announcement on new model iPhones, iPads and a new Siri loudspeaker, HomePad. Then we watched an amusing video about Siri and an instructive video on iMessage.

Maureen then told us about WhatsApp. This is a free app that can be used for messaging, audio calls and video calls between devices of all types, unlike FaceTime which can only be used between Apple products. The calls are free in a wifi area but will use the data allowance if used in the cellphone network.

Sandra introduced us to Google Photos, a cloud-based storage system for photos taken on your iPad and phone, as well as those stored on your laptop. Storage is unlimited and is free, unlike iCloud and others which charge a monthly fee for large amounts of data.

Then we had a look at Airdrop, a great way of sharing photos and other documents with friends nearby. We had a lot of fun sharing photos with each other.

Two interesting apps were demonstrated to us: Shirley introduced a new app, NelsonApp, which contains a huge amount of detail about Nelson, what's on, places of interest, where to stay, etc, and has links to other relevant websites.

And finally Sandra showed us an app to help people who find it hard to get to sleep, My Sleep Button. This used "cognitive shuffle", presenting words and short phrases for the brain to visualise, and in so doing, driving out niggling thoughts like what has to be done tomorrow. Then we all woke up again and went home!