

Report from Anton Petre.

A small turnout for the Mac Group meeting on April 27, but still a lot of useful questions and hints. We looked at problems you may have with flash drives, the dangers of the Adobe Flash computer program — there is a new bit of malware based on it that's appeared — and some of the things you did not know you could do with cut and paste. Then we looked ways to use the built-in Spotlight program to load a web site really quickly, and we had a fairly extensive examination of private browsing in Safari and Opera, checking, searching and deleting your web browsing history, and whether Google's Incognito is really as private as it may appear (it isn't). This also led to a brief discussion on Virtual Private Networks (VPNs), one of which is built into the Opera browser, and revealing the sad news that it still will not let you access the BBC player, although apparently some paid-for VPNs will.

Sorting out minor problems with mice and trackpads showed that as with so many things on the Mac, a close examination of System Preferences pays dividends, as it allows users to tailor so many features of their computer.

Finally we reminded people to take the time to check through the Applications that come with their Mac, because there are lots of useful things hiding there that you never even knew you had. There is, in fact not much extra you really need to get.

And would you believe that most users do not realise there is a really excellent chess game supplied with each Mac?