

iPPIG REPORT 17th May by Colin Hooker

As usual we started the meeting with a couple of videos, the first being 10 useful tips for the iPad and the second a humorous way to deal with email spam. Colin mentioned that there was a recent update of the operating system to iOS 12.3, one of the new features being the Apple TV app which is a very large library from which one can rent or buy videos. Following on from that, John told us about a recent update to WhatsApp - this eliminated a bug which enabled a third party to spy on the user. The update prevents malware being installed.

Peter spoke about an article on phishing that was published in the British newspaper The Guardian. Someone had received an email that claimed they had a video of them watching porn movies and said it would be sent to everyone on their Contacts list unless a sum of money was paid. Of course it was a false claim and could be ignored. Peter added that often the blackmailer will claim they have access to your computer; this can be checked by going to the website "haveibeenpwned".

Colin then mentioned some of the ways that spam or phishing emails can be recognised. The main ones are by checking the email address of the sender - a message appearing to come from your bank won't be sent by joebloggs@gmail.com, for example. Another way is from the grammatical or spelling errors in the email; a recent email Colin received about security measures being taken by the email provider said "Sorry for any inconvenience caused by our security measurements." Colin said that the volume of spam received in one's inbox can be reduced by marking these emails as spam in one's account in webmail, ie on the email provider's website.

Sandra spoke about an interesting app, BBC Civilisations, which enabled museum exhibits from around the world to be looked at from different angles as if one was walking around the exhibit in the museum. Jim shared with us a nostalgic memory of his early life in an English village using Google Earth. Helen showed us a little gadget that she had bought recently - a ring that was stuck onto the back of her phone that she could put her finger through so that she kept a firm grip on the phone. And finally Trish mentioned a tiny electronic tile, monitored by an iPhone, that could be fixed to articles to prevent them getting mislaid.