



Friday 7th July @ 7:30pm

(doors open @ 7:00pm)



WWDC & OS upgrades

Snippets of videos and discussions about upgrading the Operating System on your devices.

See location map below.

From our President

Possibly Steve Job's greatest gift was his ability to know what people wanted before they thought of it themselves. Ten years ago he demonstrated that when he stood on the stage and held up the first iPhone. I was in the queue the following year to get one of the first of the 3G iPhones to arrive in Australia, a white one of course. My love affair with the iPhone continues and I am as excited as anyone to see what this year's model will bring. When I travel overseas, I look at what smart phones other travellers are carrying and am pleased to see that it is mostly iPhones. The iPhone has become so important in the Apple lineup that everything else seems to be less important which is probably why Apple devote the annual WWDC to the more traditional computer products of iMacs, iPads and MacBook and leave iPhone to a separate event in September. I like to watch the full WWDC Keynote because there are so many little details which aren't always covered in a condensed summary, such as Mike Millard's article below. If you have the time, use the link to watch the full Keynote. There has been an explosion of technology in the past ten years but, for me, the most important and exciting is the iPhone.

Regards

Marie

Rob's bit...

Someone I know had a need of some new Mac's and wanted to buy them before the EOFY. As it worked out, Myer had \$200 off iMacs and \$100 of other Mac's.

They bought a Macbook for lightness and portability plus a top "off the shelf" spec iMac 27" for more demanding desktop work.

In both cases, the improved screens are really noticeable when compared to the previous Mac's bought a few years ago.

Although the top of the range 27" iMac has a premium price, the extra cost over the mid range model bought some important improvements.

As well as the slightly faster CPU, the 2TB Fusion Drive has a much larger Flash memory component and the better Graphics card has double the RAM. These differences may not be noticeable for many users but they are not items you can upgrade easily so for business use (including graphics editing), better to buy the better model if the budget allows.

I am still puzzled though that the top machine is not the i7 version, especially when HP, Dell etc., sell many laptops with the i7 chip making them appear superior.

If possible, next issue I will share what Intel have to say about their chips and show some comparisons.

On a personal note, Thanks to Marie & Rick for the last 2 SAAUCery editions and thanks to all of you who have supported me in my sickness, last week, complications led to a procedure going wrong and 5 nights in the ICU to recover.

A nurse told me that it's called ICU because the hospital gowns you have to wear (due to all the connected tubes and monitoring wires) often stay open at the back!



Mike's Musings



What Apple Wrought at WWDC, June 2017

Apple usually announces details of the next major release of its operating systems at its annual World Wide Developers' Conference in June.

It did so this year, but also, rather unexpectedly, announced upgraded MacBook Pros, iMacs and iPads and a new "Siri speaker".

This is a somewhat rambling summary of what came about ...

Hardware (expected):

– All MacBook and MacBook Pro models get faster processors and graphic gear.(+)

- A new 10.5-inch iPad Pro is now in the line-up.(+)
- An Apple “Smart Speaker” (called the *HomePod*) was shown.(-)

Hardware (unexpected):

- The traditional 9.7-inch iPad Pro is no longer in the product line.
- The regular iMac models all get faster processors and graphic gear.(+)
- A new model, the iMac Pro, with definite “Pro” specs was announced.(-)
- There is now a “wire-less” (Bluetooth) “Magic Keyboard with Numeric Keypad”.

(+) All these models are available for order “today”.

(-) These models will be released around the end of the year.

Hardware (Surprise):

- Upgraded iMacs were rumoured to not appear until late this year.
- Nothing earlier to suggest that the 9.7-inch iPad Pro would be dropped completely.

OS's:

- MacOS (10.13, I think) will be called *High Sierra* <duh!>.
- iOS turns 11.
- watchOS is now 4.

The HomePod ...

... is round, about 20 cms high and maybe 12 cms in diameter. First off, it is an audio speaker with no controls on it, fed by AirPlay (possibly Bluetooth). Second off, you can speak through it to Siri; Siri will answer and (hopefully) obey. And you can control any devices in the home based on Apple's HomeKit protocol.

There were so many details of what is new and changed in the OSes that I couldn't remember much. A couple of things, though:

- In MacOS High Sierra, I think they are introducing the new APFS file system that came to the iPad/Phone in iOS 10.3.
- In iOS 11, there is a new “Drag & Drop” facility possible in many areas. Also “Files”, which I think is some sort of file system that many people may welcome. (I missed many details on that one.) The iOS App Store has been revamped significantly.

Now, an apology: many will recognise the above as what I posted in the Club Google Groups earlier in June. (I'm sorry! Mike.)

About the iPads:

Apple dropped the 9.7-inch iPad Pro (but there is still the lower-spec'ed—but rather lower-priced—9.7-inch *iPad*, and the *iPad mini 4*). In its place is a model with a 10.5-inch display but physically the unit is the same size as the old 9.7 model. But the new display has a record 120 Hz refresh rate that make motion and scrolling on the screen much more fluid than before. Its reduced latency should make using the Apple Pencil nicer to use. This model uses the new A10X processor, and has improved cameras front and back.

Specs for the 12.9-inch model has been upgraded to be comparable with those of the 10.5-inch model. Both new models are already on sale.

About the Macs:

MacBook Pros have faster *Kaby Lake* processors and improved graphics processing. RAM in the *MacBook* now maxes out at 16GB, with a faster SSD. The *MacBook Air* gets a slightly faster processor.

iMacs still come in three models: a 21.5-inch non-Retina, 21.5-inch 4K Retina and 27-inch 5K Retina. They also now have the faster *Kaby Lake* processors, with the Retina models getting improved graphic processors. They sport two *Thunderbird 3* and four traditional *USB 3.0* ports.

There was a “One More Thing—but not yet!” moment about the *iMacs*. Apple will introduce a very powerful *iMac Pro* line of 27-inch machines at the end of this year. They would offer “workstation performance within the *iMac* line”, featuring Intel *Xeon* multi-core processors and a powerful graphics processor. RAM will be configurable up to 64 GB. *iMac pros* will come in a “Space Grey” colour, with peripherals colour co-ordinated! They will have four Thunderbolt 3 ports. No price was mentioned ...

Peripherally, Apple now offers the *Magic Keyboard with Numeric Keypad* (Bluetooth, cable-less, like other *Magic* peripherals).

All *MacBooks* models and regular *iMacs* are available in stores now.

About the HomePod:

There is a very good website that gives much more detail than I can about this creature, at <www.apple.com/homepod>. It will be shipped in December, initially to the U.S., the U.K. and ... Australia! pricing in he U.S. will be \$349 USD. (\$??? AUD?) But not in Canada:-)!

About the Ones:

Googleing *iOS 11* and *macOS High Sierra* to take you many websites with plenty of information about the next OSes for *Macs* and all the *iDevices*.

“One.More.Thing”:

Have you noticed how the Intel micro-processors in recent and current *Macs* are named? The one in the *MacBooks* released in later 2016 is called *Skylake*, while the faster, more powerful one in the *MacBooks* just released is called *Kaby Lake*.

My Secret Sauces—er, Sources—tell me that Intel has been influenced by culture for an upcoming design. Its execution will be quite slow compared to other recent *lakes*, but will do it all oh, so gracefully. It will be called *Swan Lake* ...

The whole Keynote is viewable via the Apple site, a 7 minute roundup video is at: <<https://www.macrumors.com/2017/06/05/recap-everything-apple-announced-at-wwdc/>>

Apple Press Releases are found at: <<https://www.apple.com/newsroom/archive/>>

And Following the WWDC ...

I have been using a 20-inch iMac running, under macOS *El Capitan* (10.11.6), for eight years. It has served me very nicely, but with the release of macOS *Sierra* (10.12), my machine could not take this new version. Not necessarily a bad thing in itself, but it did create a few irritations for me. For a start, new versions of Pages, Numbers and Keynote were announced a little while ago, but they would only run under Sierra! Then, around WWDC time, an update to Pages restored the ability to *Export to RTF* (Rich Text Format) and to have text flow from one text box to another, features they took out with the update from *iWork '09* to *iWork '11* about a year ago. I had relied heavily on both these capabilities when I was editor of the ApplesBC club newsletter here in Vancouver.

Earlier this year the rumour mill suggested that upgraded iMacs would be coming, but likely not until very late in the year. That was disappointing but I decided I could wait. So I was very pleased to see new iMacs announced— **and** available—at the time of the WWDC, and bought one—a 21.5-inch “4K/Retina” model with a Magic TrackPad 2, and the new Magic Keyboard with the numeric keypad. I was very pleased to see this last item, as I enter quite a lot of numbers. The icing on the cake was the aforementioned update to *Pages*.

So far, I am enjoying using the new machine. It seems somewhat faster than my old one. The screen seems brighter, and text seems “crisper” to read. Periodic backups to an external hard drive are somewhat faster over USB 3 than the FireWire 800 I had to use on the old machine. Although the new iMac has two Thunderbolt 3 ports, which means one can use USB-C peripherals, I’m glad it still has four “traditional” USB 3 ports, so I can use existing peripherals. I haven’t delved very deeply into new capabilities of Sierra yet.

Mike Millard

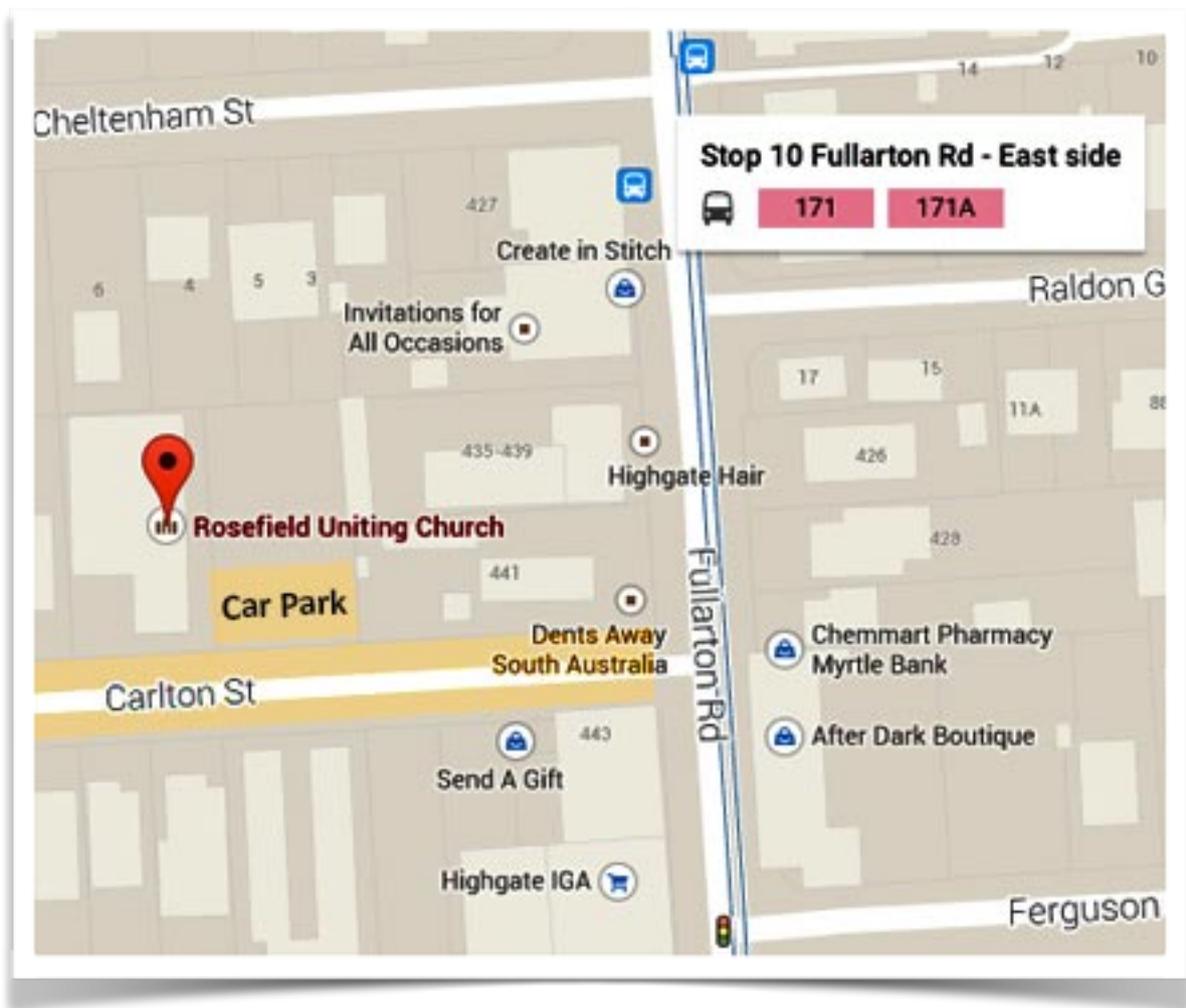
Oh, One Last Thing ...

... which was announce at WWDC, but not very loudly.

For years, if you wanted *AppleCare* for your brand new Mac, you had **up to one year** to buy it.

At WWDC, they announced that you must buy *AppleCare+* **within 60 days** of buying your new Mac or iPhone/iPad.





Meetings at Rosefield UC 2 Carlton Street Highgate – off Fullarton Rd between Fisher Street & Cross Road

Street View <<https://goo.gl/maps/3Zj4RFTpSHk>>

Meeting dates for 2017

July 7, August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3, December 1

SA School Holidays, Public Holidays and Observances

<<http://www.calendar-australia.com/school-calendars/south-australia/2017/1/0/1/1/>>

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