

# New computers, security and new product news

November and December are the months when many people are thinking about new computers. So it's a good time to mention another important point and that's security. Customers who already have Eset installed will be pleased to know that their product is transferable. And if you haven't already upgraded to Internet Security, now is the time to do that. And if you haven't already upgraded to Internet Security, now is the time to do that. And for anyone who hasn't tried Eset yet, don't just take my word what an excellent product it is, go to the website <https://www.eset.com/uk/home/free-trial/> and download a free one month trial! Just make sure you uninstall any existing anti virus you may have, even if it has expired. For prices, upgrades and licences – just give us a call.

**For honest, unbiased advice & pricing on a new PC call RDM on 875666**

**Wi-Fi security** - The big news recently, of course, is the newly-found security hole in WPA2 - the security standard used by modern Wi-Fi to keep your sensitive information encrypted. At the time of writing, major manufacturers and software companies were aware of this new threat and were going about issuing patches and security fixes as necessary. Although home users probably don't have to worry unduly about this as they are less likely to be targeted, do look out for possible news of software upgrades for your WIFI router.

**London cyber-crime court opens as experts warn of increased threats.** The City of London has updated its court system with an 18-courtroom building in Fleet Street  
**HMRC Tax refund scam.** Lots of people have received scam emails saying they are due a tax refund, so HMRC have published updated information here: <http://bit.ly/2irHP6T>  
**CTRL+ALT+DEL** – we've probably all used this curious combination of keys in Windows many times to try and get out of trouble (or even to log in on some systems). Well it's interesting that after all these years of blaming Microsoft for

making us do this, that its founder Bill Gates has come out and pinned the blame fairly and squarely at the door of IBM who of course developed the original Personal Computer.

**Make RDM your first call for home computer support – call us on: 875666**

**Closing iPad apps** – When using your iPad (or iPhone), every time you open an app whether it be email, messaging, weather etc., it stays running in the background. This can use up memory and battery power, so every now and then it is a good idea to close them all down. All you have to do is double press (quickly) the round home button, and this will cascade all your open apps and you can swipe up each app to close it. When you've finished just press the home button once to return to the home screen.

**An overseas internet cable that is fast enough to stream over 71m high-definition movies** at the same time has just been laid by Microsoft and Facebook. The 160-terabits-per-second pipeline that stretches 4,000 miles under the Atlantic Ocean is the highest capacity subsea cable to cross the body of water and runs from Virginia in the United States to Bilbao in Spain. Using eight pairs of fibre optic cable Marea (which is Spanish for 'Tide') will carry the enormous amounts of data between the US and Europe as the demand for data flow, especially the demand for video content continues to increase.

**KCom Lightstream** – If you haven't upgraded to it yet now is the time. KCom say that by December this year 75% of their network will have access the superfast broadband service. You can normally expect speeds of around five to ten times normal broadband, and it may not cost more than you are already paying. It's not just about speed, by using fibre-optic cabling right to your home it provides much better stability of service.

**Amazon has launched an all-new waterproof Kindle Oasis E-reader** with 7" High-Resolution Display (300 ppi), Built-In Audible, 8 GB Wi-Fi.

**Microsoft retires Windows Phone** after failing to gain the expected foothold in the mobile market.

**Amazon's Echo voice assistant (aka Alexa)** is to get lots of new features including Echo Connect, which will turn your Echo into a voice-controlled speakerphone. In other words you'll just say 'hey Alexa call my Mum' and she will. Coming Early 2018

**Malwarebytes – a new program version has recently been released**, so whether you have the Premium or free version you can safely update it. If your free trial has expired, you have the option to purchase it from [www.malwarebytes.org](http://www.malwarebytes.org) or to keep it free but it won't offer live protection.

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**Telephone scam – yes, I must mention this again as I have many times before.** There has been another spate of unsolicited calls to computer users in this area purporting to be from Microsoft (which they are not) offering to fix problems with your computer (which they won't) and then fraudulently taking money for their (non-existent) services. If you get such calls, and they can be very persistent, tell them you are not interested, or that you have a local computer specialist, or that you don't have a computer!

**Remember to look on my website for copies of the current and previous two articles where they can be read, downloaded or printed. And if you are considering investing a new computer you will also find on there my popular article on 'things to consider when buying a new computer. Or if you would like a copy sent by email, just drop me line.**

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