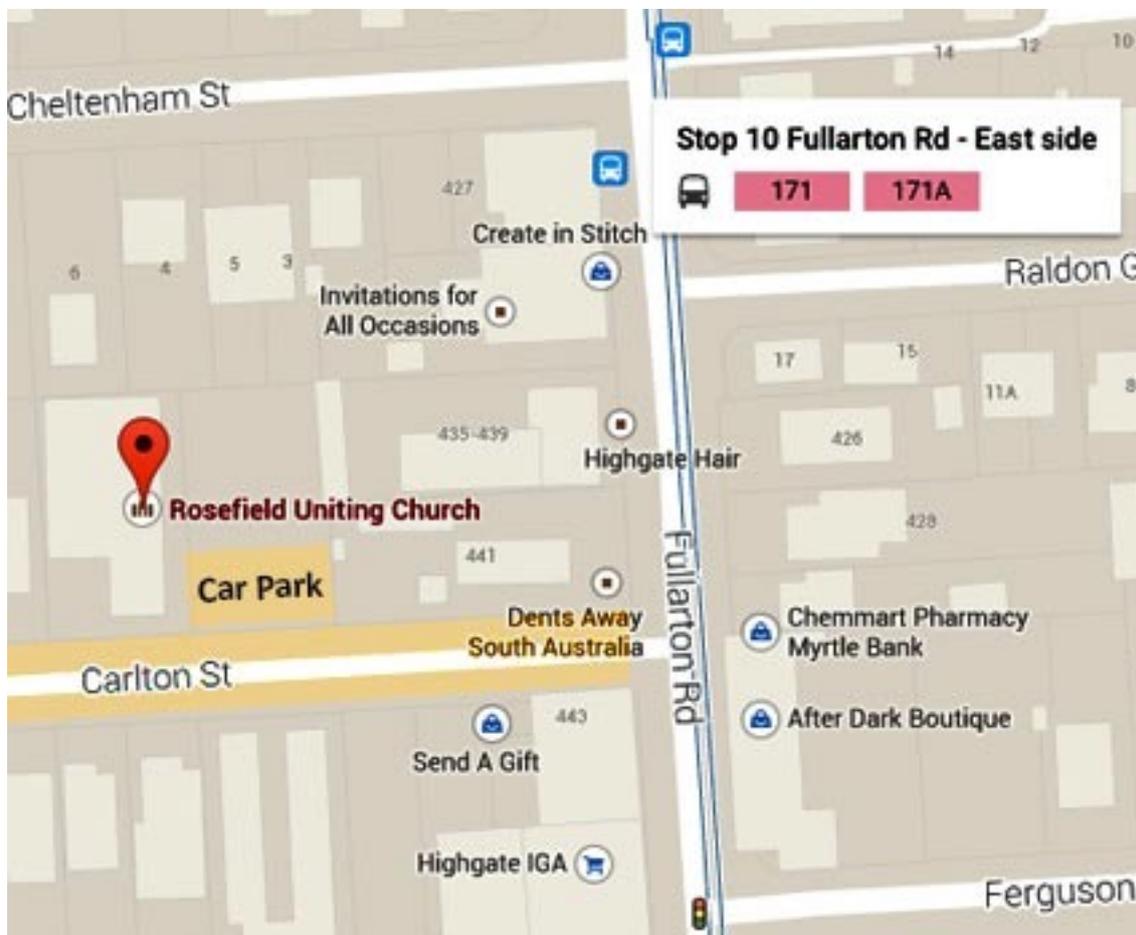


Meetings:

Friday 2nd December @ 7:30pm

(doors open @ 7:00pm)

Breakup for 2016



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

Street View <<https://www.google.com.au/maps/@-34.960106,138.624922,3a,90y,357.08h,90.59t/data=!3m4!1e1!3m2!1sbqkyXXNQ39xIB7LKVM0QyQ!2e0!6m1!1e1>>

Door prizes for those attending and there will be a draw for all members (attending or not) of 12 Months membership.

Christmas Raffle

This year we will not hold our own raffle but encourage members to support the AUSOM Christmas Raffle. As their advertisement shows, they have greater prizes than we could offer.

THE AUSOM
CHRISTMAS
2016
RAFFLE

FIRST PRIZE
APPLE
IPAD PRO

- Gold edition
- 12.9 inch
- 256 GB
- Wi-Fi
- Cellular
- Valued at \$1,949

SECOND PRIZE
APPLE
GIFT CARD

- Gold edition
- Valued at \$500

THIRD PRIZE
APPLE
TV

- 4th Generation
- 64 GB
- Includes HDMI cable
- Valued at \$378

FOURTH PRIZE
TEAC
2-IN-1

- Plays 33/45/78 RPM records, CDs, AM/FM radio
- Plays and encodes MP3s from your iDevice
- Valued at \$199

TICKETS
\$5.00

on sale at all AUSOM Meetings from 3 September to 12 noon on 3 December, 2016.
Tickets may also be purchased online at:
www.ausom.net.au/raffle
or contact:
raffle@ausom.net.au

VOGR Permit No: 47862 3000 tickets authorized. Prize draw at AUSOM Main meeting: 3 December 2016 at 3 pm, NewHope Baptist Church, 37 Springfield Rd, Blackburn North 3130. Winners notified by phone or email on day of draw. Results published: www.ausom.net.au and AUSOM News Magazine

Tickets available on-line;

[<http://ausom.net.au/2016-christmas-raffle-ticket-order-form/>](http://ausom.net.au/2016-christmas-raffle-ticket-order-form/)

From our President

Leading up to Christmas is an opportunity to set aside our troubles, both international, local and personal, and enter into the spirit and happiness that the season brings. Our final meeting of the year offers the opportunity to come together, to celebrate and share the things we have enjoyed and learnt this past year, to just relax and enjoy the company of likeminded friends. Do come and join in with us on Friday, 2nd December - there will be door prizes, entertainment provided by the members and refreshments provided by the Committee.

I join with the Committee in wishing you all a very happy and special Christmas.

Regards

Marie

3D Printer Demo

At our November meeting, John Bohmer gave an excellent presentation about 3D printing and treated us to a demo of his own machine.

If you missed out and would like to know more, John has made his Keynote show available for download, it includes many videos which explains the nearly 100GB file size.

<<http://www.saauc.org.au/bohmer.html>>

John's NBN presentation and a PowerPoint version of the 3D Printer Presentation are also available at this page.



Thanks John

John encouraged us to view some general background information prior to the meeting that explains the various types of 3D printers and the mediums used to build 3D objects.

See <<http://au.pcmag.com/printer-reviews/25115/guide/the-best-3d-printers-of-2016>>

Industrial 3D printers now reproduce many components for prototyping, for direct use in manufacturing or to produce moulds for castings.

There are even 3D printed foods, however, it is not magic, food has to be used as the print media to make the objects edible.

Mike's Musings



Do You Know Your -A, -B, -C?

Or, more specifically, your USB-A, USB-B and, now, USB-C?

These names designate the *shape* and *style* of the hardware of the port or plug. The “flattish” port on Macs and PCs and the same-sized plug on one end of cables and flash drives that you plug into that style of port is a **USB-A** type. On the other end of such cables is a different style of plug—the most common is a **USB-B** type (10 x 10 mm, sloping in at the top) found on printers and scanners; there are also **mini-** and **micro-USB** plugs for smaller peripherals. (Both these types can only be plugged in “one way up”, unlike Apple’s “either way up” cables for *Lightning* and *MagSafe* connections.)

USB-A and -B cables are only used for connections using the *USB* protocol. The original iMac ran *USB 1.0*, a very slow speed OK for printers but painfully slow for external hard drives! The later *USB 2.0* was faster—passable for hard drives, quite OK for printers. Recently-introduced *USB 3.x* is much faster (even slightly faster than *FireWire 800* for backups I do).

Plugs on **USB-C** cables are reversible, as *Lightning* and *MagSafe* cables are. The specifications for a USB-C port call for it to handle not just the USB protocols but *Thunderbolt* and *DisplayPort* signals, also power, audio and video. From the one USB-C port on your MacBook Pro with an adapter or dock with the right ports on it, you could drive an external monitor via HDMI and a printer or external drive via USB 3, while recharging the computer! (There may be power limitations!)

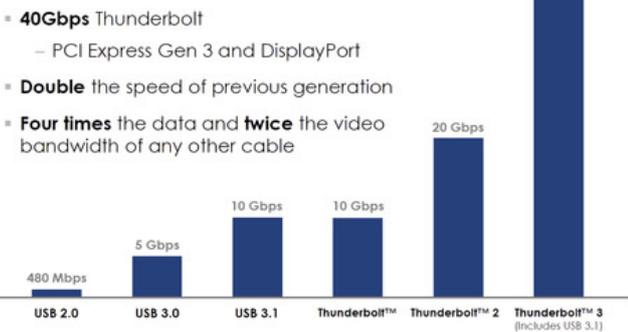
I guess that, for the next couple of years, there will be plenty of USB-C adapters and docks sold, until peripheral makers equip their gear with USB-C connections.

(You can read a more detailed—and more technical—description of USB-C here:

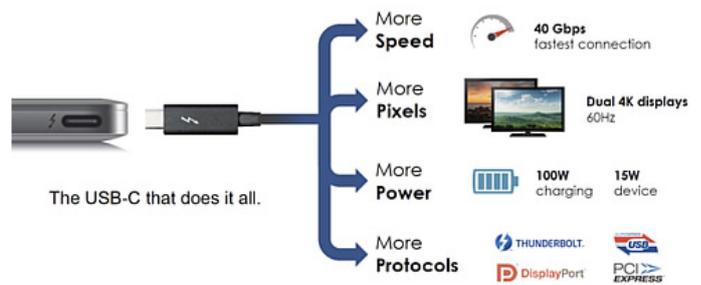
<http://tidbits.com/article/16870>)

Mike Millard

More Speed



Thunderbolt™ 3 brings Thunderbolt to USB-C

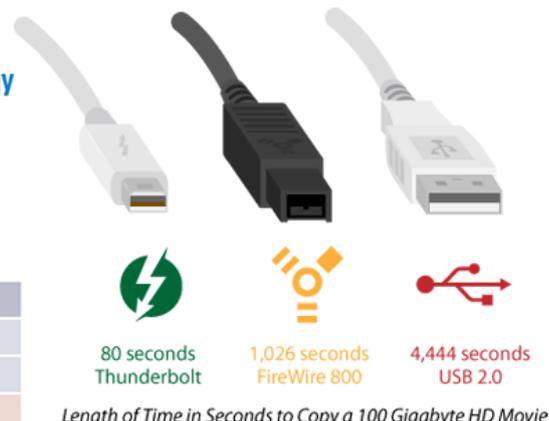


Transferring Large Files quickly: USB 3.0 (SuperSpeed™) technology

Super Fast File Transfer Rate

- 10X faster than USB 2.0 (480Mbps vs. 5Gbps)
- 25Gbytes can transfer in 70 seconds versus 14 minutes with USB 2.0
- Faster Sync-and-Go

Typical File Sizes	1GB	6GB	16GB	25GB
USB 1.1	22 mins.	2.2 hours	5.9 hours	9.3 hours
USB 2.0	33 secs.	3.3 mins.	8.9 mins.	14 mins.
USB 3.0	3 secs.	20 secs.	53 secs.	70 secs.



Some bandwidth and transfer speed comparisons

Editor's extra:

The **USB-A** plug can connect all USB 1.1 to 3.0 devices, however, the speed of connection will be at the slowest version of USB connected (Computer or peripheral).

Some USB 1.1 devices may not be recognised by some USB 3.0 or later hardware.

The rating /capability of the cable used for connecting may also limit transfer speeds, especially for faster USB/Thunderbolt versions.

<<http://blog.macsales.com/38541-thunderbolt-3-usb-c-cables-not-all-cables-are-created-equally>>

Apple Announces New Apple Book

Responding to complaints about the new MacBook Pro line, Apple has announced a new product that features unlimited battery life, a higher-resolution display than any other Apple product, and silver gilding. Even better is its price: only \$199 for the small version and \$299 for the large. Unfortunately, it performs just one function: showing off current and previous Apple products.

That's right, "Designed by Apple in California" is an actual book that chronicles 20 years of Apple's design work through 450 photographs of Apple gear, from the iMac to the Apple Pencil. It also documents the materials and techniques used by Apple's design team. To justify the eye-watering price, Apple says the linen-bound hardcover volume is "printed on specially milled, custom-dyed paper with gilded matte silver edges, using eight colour separations and low-ghost ink." No mention was made about upgrades.

Apple's announcement, with more details about the new Book, can be seen her:

<<https://www.apple.com/pr/library/2016/11/15-Designed-by-Apple-in-California-Chronicles-20-Years-of-Apple-Design.html>>

Video of book with actual products <<https://youtu.be/avj7mYRxVjo>>

Designed by Apple in California - The Book (Full Walkthrough) <<https://youtu.be/9zEcGE4umuc>>

No More Airports?

The headlines first appeared on November 21st.

MacRumors said: "*Apple Ceases Development of 'AirPort' Wireless Routers as Engineers Reassigned to Other Products*"

Appleinsider said: "*Apple axes Wi-Fi router division, apparently signalling the end of AirPort*"

The reports suggest that staff working in the Airport project have been gradually moved to others areas over the last year or so. Apple say they are doing this to concentrate on making products that return the most profit. The *Airport Extreme* and *Time Capsule* work to the latest *801.11ac* Wi-Fi standard, but were last updated in 2013. The smaller *Airport Express* is still back on the earlier *801.22n* standard.

I was sorry to hear this, as I've been using a Time Capsule and two Expresses for some years. These models are more than capable Wi-Fi routers—the Time Capsule has a 2 TB hard drive in it, to which we back up two Macs via Time Machine; my two Expresses not only extend our home network around the whole house, but each feeds a stereo receiver. (This last set-up lets me listen to music stored in iTunes on my iMac on a decent audio set-up.)

To configure an Airport router, you use Apple's *Airport Utility* from either a Mac or an iOS device. I've usually found this pretty straightforward. To set up other makes of router you usually use a Web-browser. On the few occasions I've had to do this, it's been pretty fiddly. (OK, my inexperience didn't help ...)

All models of Apple's routers still seem to be on sale in the Apple stores, but they may not be there for too much longer. (Interesting that, so far, there's been no word from the Mother Corp about this.)

Mike Millard



Apple Odds & Ends

Donald Trump talks to Tim Cook about manufacturing iPhones in the US

<<https://www.cnet.com/news/donald-trump-tim-cook-apple-incentives-iphones-us/>>

Thinking about buying a new MacBook Pro?

Try out the TouchBar with your old Mac (and an iPad) <<https://www.cnet.com/how-to/how-to-get-a-touch-bar-on-your-old-mac/>>

Campus 2 – Latest Video

<<https://9to5mac.com/2016/11/26/apple-campus-2-solar/>>

3rd Party Mac Pro Rack Mount (2014)

When the revolutionary Mac Pro was introduced, it was hailed as an amazing feat of engineering, however, many Pro users were not happy about the lack of expansion within the case.

Industry specific cards etc., had to be connected externally creating cable and peripheral clutter. (And incurring extra cost.)

The rack mounted, server versions were also discontinued so in one sense, Apple appeared to be abandoning many of those who needed to use their most powerful Mac's.

Sonnet, saw the opportunity and came up with a rack mountable case that incorporates a Mac Pro and flexible expansion areas connected via the Mac Pro's Thunderbolt 2 ports.

Watch the video about the xMac Pro Server at <<http://www.sonnettech.com/>>
<<http://www.audioexpress.com/article/Sonnet-xMac-Pro-Server-Now-Available>>

This unit has been available since late 2014 but as we are not in the market for such devices, I have only discovered it now, it is good to see that people like Sonnet are assisting Pro users to stick with the Mac platform. (Apple should be happy too.)

One More Thing

EmDrive

The web is buzzing with the news about this new form of electric propulsion engine, it is so unusual that opinions about its authenticity vary greatly.

Rather than try to explain, I will just share these links.

<<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2132671/star-trek-technology-could-work-according-to-leaked-nasa-paper-on-the-internet/>> (see video interview with inventor)

<<http://www.snopes.com/2016/11/25/results-of-impossible-emdrive-propulsion-experiment-published-in-peer-reviewed-journal/>>



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