



<https://www.saauc.org.au> - <https://www.facebook.com/saauc>

Our next SAAUC (Zoom) meeting is...
Thursday 2nd October, 2025 from 7:30pm
Connect from wherever you have internet access
and the zoom.us app

(Details will be sent to members via email)

Dates to remember:

*2nd October, Thursday Zoom :
 Workshop on OS 26*

*Sunday 11 December 12:30pm
 SAAUC Xmas Lunch
 Kensington Hotel,
 23 Regent St Kensington*

February	7
March (AGM)	7
April	4
May	2
June	5
July	3
August	7
September	4
October	2
November	6
December	4





A word from our President

As usual, all the OS updates arrived before the new iPhones and this time they are huge. Quite apart from the file size, which took hours to download to all devices, there are so many changes it is hard to grasp everything. Best to work through with the basics and gradually to get around to the more refined later on. Our October meeting will be an opportunity to get to know some of the basics for iPhone, iPad and Mac, so join in and share your experiences.

These days Apple's flagship device is the iPhone and their launch date no doubt expects the iPhones to figure largely in Xmas stockings. It will be interesting to see how popular the different models are received, especially the super slim iPhone 17 Air.

Xmas will be upon us before you know it and this year we will be gathering at the Kensington Hotel for our end of year face to face lunch. Make sure you let us know if you can join us.

Regards

Marie Good

Apple
At Unley Library.
Marie is a
volunteer at Unley
Library and will be
assisting with
Macs and Apple
devices once a
month on the 2nd
Wednesday of
each month from
10 to midday.

iPhone 17

When the first iPhone 3G reached our shores in 2008 it came in black or white and storage of 8GB or 16GB. Mine was white and 16GB and I was so over the moon. Ten years later it was the X - face recognition was a revelation, choice of space grey or silver and between 64GB and 256GB storage. Come 2025 and there are so many models it is mind boggling.



iPhone 17

- 📱 6.3" OLED display
- 👆 120Hz refresh rate
-
-
- 🔧 Aluminum + glass
- 📏 7.8 mm thick
- 📱 A19 chip
- 📱 8GB RAM
- 📷 24MP front cam
- 📷 48MP Fusion
- 12MP Ultra Wide
-
- 🔍 2x optical zoom
- 📺 4K video recording
- 🔋 3,600mAh+
- 🔌 25W MagSafe charging
-
-
- 📅 September 2025
- 📧 128/256/512/1TB

from A\$1,399



iPhone 17 Air

- 📱 6.6" OLED display
- 👆 120Hz ProMotion
- 👁️ Always-On display
-
- 🔧 Titanium + glass body
- 📏 5.5 mm thick
- 📱 A19 Pro chip
- 📱 12GB RAM
- 📷 24MP front cam
- 📷 48MP Fusion
-
-
- 🔍 2x optical zoom
- 📺 4K video recording
- 🔋 2,900 mAh
- 🔌 25W MagSafe charging
- 📱 Apple C1 modem
-
-
- 📅 September 2025
- 📧 256/512/1TB

from A\$1,799



iPhone 17 Pro

- 📱 6.3" OLED display
- 👆 120Hz ProMotion
- 👁️ Always-On display
- 🕶️ Anti-reflective display
- 🔧 Aluminum + glass
- 📏 8.7 mm thick
- 📱 A19 Pro chip
- 📱 12GB RAM
- 📷 24MP front cam
- 📷 48MP Fusion
- 48MP Ultra Wide
- 48MP Telephoto
- 🔍 8x optical zoom
- 📺 8K video recording
- 🔋 3,600mAh+
- 🔌 25W MagSafe charging
-
- 🌡️ Vapor chamber cooling
- 📅 September 2025
- 📧 256/512/1TB/2TB

from A\$1,999



iPhone 17 Pro Max

- 📱 6.9" display
- 👆 120Hz ProMotion
- 👁️ Always-On display
- 🕶️ Anti-reflective display
- 🔧 Aluminum + glass
- 📏 8.7 mm thick
- 📱 A19 Pro chip
- 📱 12GB RAM
- 📷 24MP front cam
- 📷 48MP Fusion
- 48MP Ultra Wide
- 48MP Telephoto
- 🔍 8x optical zoom
- 📺 8K video recording
- 🔋 ~5,000mAh
- 🔌 25W MagSafe charging
-
- 🌡️ Vapor chamber cooling
- 📅 September 2025
- 📧 256/512/1TB/2TB

from A\$2,199

Apart from the iPhone 17 range there is also iPhone 16e released in February this year and iPhone 16 and 16 Plus from last year's lineup. Take your pick.

While a foldable phone isn't on offer there is supposedly one in the pipeline. Not something that I am remotely interested in but apparently there are those who are hanging out for one. I can't help thinking of the earliest mobile phones, fondly remembered as the 'brick' and how thrilled we were when the phones got tiny - I had a dainty little Nokia, yellow I think, and later a small flip phone, much smaller than my Apple mouse. I have reached the point where the Max is too big and have chosen the smaller Pro with 6.3" screen. The 16e and 16 models have the smallest screen size of 6.1".

It will be interesting to see how popular the new kid on the block, iPhone 17 Air, will be. Is slim what people crave in a phone? For an extra \$200 and 31grams weight you get a bigger battery, a fabulous camera system... 🤔



TIM COOK INTRODUCES IPHONE 17 AIR

iPad OS26

More major changes with iPad OS26. It is said that iPad is becoming more Mac like. Apple has always aspired for their devices to look beautiful and premium. The choice available with the Liquid Glass designs is somewhat overwhelming - translucency, fluid layered visuals, more expressive animations across sidebars, widgets, tab bars, controls, etc.

Powerful Windowing System: iPadOS 26 introduces a highly flexible windowing system, similar to macOS, that allows for multiple windows to be resized, stacked, and arranged in various layouts (e.g., quarters, three columns). Stoplight-like controls in the corners of windows offer quick options for minimising, maximising, and tiling, making multitasking feel more like a desktop experience.

Native Preview App: The iPad now has a dedicated Preview app, bringing the familiar functionality for viewing, editing, and managing PDFs and images directly on the device. Features like Apple Pencil markup, form filling, and integration with the AutoFill feature are included.

Supercharged Files App: The Files app receives major upgrades with customisable views, including list view with resizable columns and collapsible folders. Users can now set default apps for specific file types, easily assign folders to the Dock for quicker access, and use column view to navigate deeply nested folders, mimicking the Mac Finder experience.

Background Task Capabilities: iPadOS 26 enables more robust background tasks, allowing processes like large file exports, video rendering, and audio syncing to continue in the background without requiring the user to stay in that app.

Phone App on iPad: For the first time, the Phone app is available on iPadOS, providing a dedicated way to make and receive phone calls directly from the tablet.



iOS 26

Like iPad OS 26 and macOS 26, the new iOS 26 for iPhone features the major visual Liquid Glass Redesign which can be modified to individual taste.

Call Screening / Spam Call Defense

If you are like most people these days who won't answer their phone if they don't recognise the number, this feature is a godsend to deal with spam or unknown callers: the system can prompt unknown callers to state their reason for calling (via voice), transcribe that, then let you decide whether to pick up. Also improvements in filtering or silencing unknown numbers.

Live Translation & Apple Intelligence Enhancements

iOS 26 boosts Apple's AI / intelligence features. You can translate text or speech in Messages, Phone or FaceTime in real time. Also, Visual Intelligence (think "Google Lens" style) works with screenshots now, allowing you to take action on what you see (e.g. translate, get more info, etc.). Unfortunately this may discourage us to make the effort to learn other languages - Duolingo may become obsolete.

Messages Improvements

Fun & practical updates: custom backgrounds for individual chats, polls in group chats, typing indicators in groups, etc. Makes messaging more expressive. Somewhat superlative to our needs, but it is fun and very expressive.

Adaptive Power Mode automatically extends your iPhone's battery life by making performance adjustments when battery usage is higher than normal, such as lowering screen brightness or limiting background activity



macOS 26

Liquid Glass Redesign

Like iPad OS 26 and iOS 26, Tahoe introduces the major visual overhaul called *Liquid Glass*. It brings translucency, more expressive UI elements, refined Dock, sidebars, toolbars; the menu bar is now fully transparent. App icons have light/dark tint modes, folder icons can be coloured or even customised with emoji/symbols. A lot of personalisation to make the Mac feel more unique and visual.

Biggest Spotlight Update Ever

Spotlight gets a big upgrade: better search result ranking, unified results (apps, files, messages, etc.) all in one place. More powerful filtering; results now include content stored on third-party cloud drives. You can use Spotlight to invoke actions directly — send an email, create a note, play a podcast, etc. Also supports *quick keys* (short commands) and integrates with *App Intents*, which means apps (including third-party) can expose functions that are directly callable from Spotlight.

Expanded Apple Intelligence

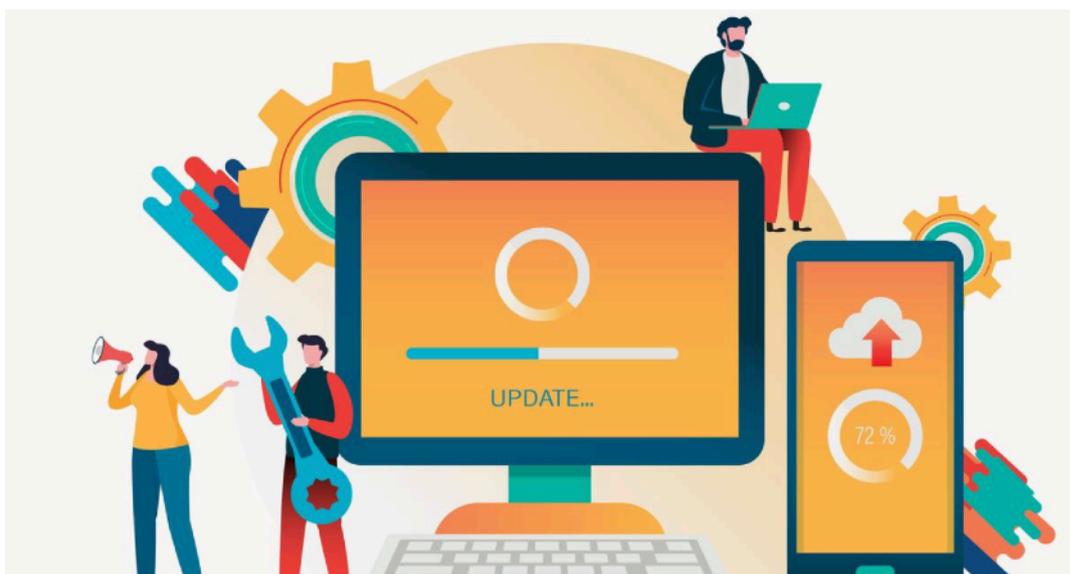
Tahoe strengthens on-device intelligence:

- Live translation across apps — in Messages, FaceTime, and Phone (voice/text) so you can communicate more naturally in different languages.
- Smart Shortcuts: shortcuts can now use Apple's intelligence/ML models (on-device or via private cloud) to do things like summarising text, integrating with ChatGPT styles, etc.
- Enhanced Reminders: automatically finding action items in content; categorising reminders into more useful groupings.

New and Improved Continuity / Phone Integration

Tahoe adds a built-in **Phone app** on the Mac that works via Continuity: if your iPhone is nearby, you can relay cellular calls, see recent calls, voicemails, favourites. Also includes features like call screening and hold assist.

Additionally, **Live Activities** from your iPhone (e.g. rideshare status, deliveries, workout progress) can show up in the menu bar on Mac.



One Last Thing

It is important to remember that the features about OS 26 in this Newsletter are only a fraction of the changes that have been made or added to the devices you are using and it will take some time to get to know them all, if you ever do, because there will be another major update this time next year.

Updates contain security updates which keep your data safe and that is an increasing concern for a lot of people. So don't hold back from doing it. but, make sure you back up before you do.



The other thing to remember is that everyone uses their computers, iPhones and iPads differently - 'what floats your boat'. Enjoy the process.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
APPLE USERS' CLUB



SAAUC Meetings are held online using

zoom

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<http://www.saauc.org.au> - <https://www.facebook.com/saauc>

Editor: Marie Good

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