

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

**Our next SAAUC (Zoom) meeting is...
 Friday 6th February, 2026 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:

*Friday 6th February, Zoom Meeting :
 Reminders App and other items of interest.*

SAAUC AGM

Friday 6th March 7:30pm

SAAUC Meetings 2026	
Fridays @ 7:30pm	
February	6
March (AGM)	6
April	10
May	1
June	5
July	3
August	7
September	4
October	2
November	6
December	4

April meeting changed to after Easter





A word from our President

The new year is well and truly with us now. Sadly there are many challenges facing many both here and abroad - we can only do what we can to look after each other and be kind to people we meet.

This month's newsletter banner includes a photo of 'Smellanie', the Titan arum, also known as the 'corpse flower', which flowered briefly during January in the Adelaide Botanic Gardens, and an image of Apple's newly bundled group of apps titled Creator Studio.

2026 looks to be an interesting year for Apple - a possible change of leadership, new devices, creativity possibilities and, always, Siri and AI. Don't forget to update OS26, now up to 26.2.

Regards

Marie Good

P.S. Please note that we have gone back to first Friday of the month evening meetings.

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.

Creator Studio

Launched in late January 2026, Creator Studio is a subscription-based, all-in-one suite of professional creative applications for Mac and iPad. It brings together Apple's video, audio, image, and productivity tools with AI-driven features designed for seamless, multi-platform workflows. Here is a breakdown of the ins and outs of the service:

What's Included (The "Ins")

The subscription bundles six major professional applications, offering a comprehensive suite for content creation:

- Video: Final Cut Pro (Mac & iPad) and Compressor.
- Audio: Logic Pro (Mac & iPad) and MainStage (Mac).
- Imaging: Pixelmator Pro (Mac & iPad).
- Productivity: Premium features, templates, and AI tools for Keynote, Pages, and Numbers (with Freeform coming later).



Note: The app icons' appearances are different to the apps already downloaded prior to the subscription release of Creator Studio.

Key Features & New Tools

- **AI-Powered Editing:** Final Cut Pro includes "Beat Detection" for syncing cuts to music, "Transcript Search" to find audio clips by text, and "Visual Search" to find objects in footage.
- **iPad Focus:** Pixelmator Pro brings full, touch-optimized, professional-grade image editing to the iPad, including Apple Pencil support.
- **Montage Maker:** A new AI tool in Final Cut Pro for iPad that automatically assembles and edits video highlights.
- **Advanced Audio:** Logic Pro includes "Synth Player" and "Chord ID" for AI-powered music creation and transcription.
- **Content Hub:** A new library of licensed photos, graphics, and templates within productivity apps.
- **Family Sharing:** Up to six family members can access the subscription.

Pricing & Accessibility

- **Standard Plan:** A\$19.99/month or A\$199/year.
- **Education Plan:** A\$4.99/month or A\$49/year for students and educators.
- **Free Trial:** A one-month free trial is available.
- **Bundle Value:** The bundle offers significant savings—roughly \$700 cheaper than purchasing all individual apps outright.

The "Outs" and Considerations

- **Subscription-Only Features:** While you can still buy apps individually as one-time purchases (e.g., Final Cut Pro for A\$499.99), certain AI features, new content, and cross-platform (iPad) capabilities are exclusive to the Creator Studio subscription.
- **Hardware Requirements:** Some advanced AI features (like Transcript Search) require Apple silicon and specific macOS/iPadOS versions.
- **Usage Limits:** Some AI features utilise third-party models and may have usage restrictions.

- **Intel Mac Limits:** While many apps work on Intel Macs, some new features are restricted to Apple Silicon.

Target Audience

Apple Creator Studio is designed for a broad range of users:

- **Professional Content Creators:** Editors, musicians, and artists needing a unified suite.
- **Influencers/ Social Media Managers:** Those needing quick, AI-assisted tools for creating vertical video and high-quality visuals.
- **Students/ Educators:** Users seeking professional tools at a discounted rate.



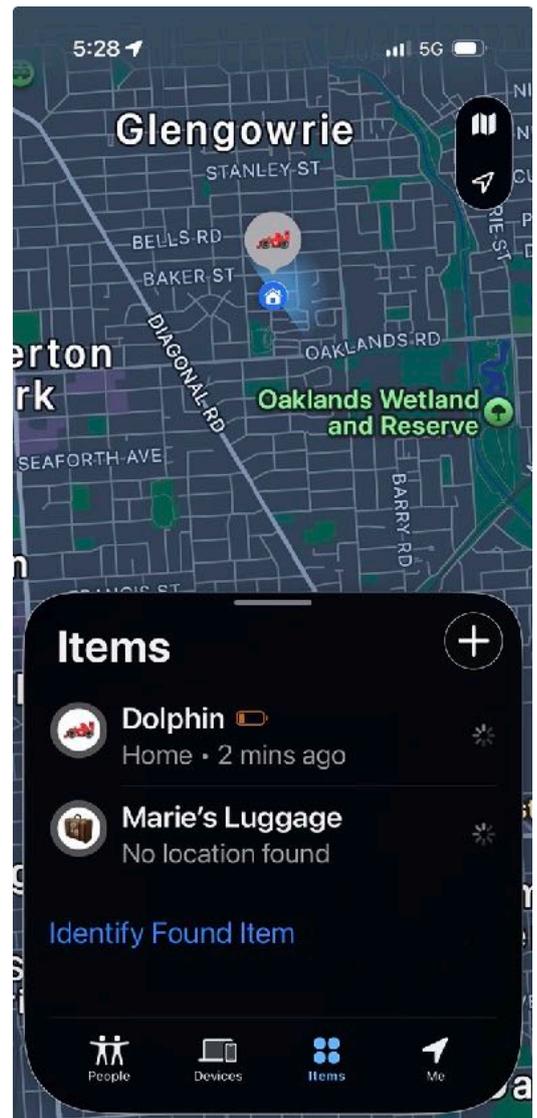
In summary, Apple Creator Studio is a high-value move for users already in the Apple ecosystem who want to use multiple, interconnected professional apps for a lower upfront cost than buying them individually, while also gaining exclusive AI tools.

AirTag 2

As it has been expected for some time, Apple has unveiled the new AirTag.

External dimensions are unchanged and still runs on the same button battery. The difference is with its updated internal design. The new AirTag is 50 per cent louder than the previous generation, enabling users to hear their AirTag from up to 2x further than before. Paired with its enhanced Precision Finding capabilities and distinctive new chime, AirTag now makes it easier for users to find their important items, such as keys hidden deep in between lounge cushions, or a wallet as they head out the door.

I see 🗿 that the AirTag in my car is running low on battery and the one in my bag must be flat since I know it's in the house.



Memento from Vancouver

We were sad to learn of Mike Millard's death last year in Canada - he was a dear member and friend of our club. His great mate, Nick Batistic, contacted me before Xmas to ask for my postal address and in due course a memento arrived in the post. Nick framed a photo of Mike. I emailed Nick and this was his reply:

'Marie, thank you for confirming receipt, and am so pleased you like it!

It's a nice way of remembering Mike, and he figured in a lot of my woodworking. At different times I made his wife Jane a bench seat for her loom, and for him a kangaroo in White Ash, and a couple of whimsical moose. I hope they stayed within the family, and I'm sure I'll eventually find out.

The making of Mike's momentos started with a scrap of wood, and a drill press. My prototype was pretty rough, but I liked the direction. And since I had some hobby resin on hand, it seemed sensible to protect the photo. How it will last I'm not sure, because as Mike's brother commented on his own account, it won't be long before I too fall off the perch!

*Happy memories,
Kind regards,*

Nick '



One Last Thing

At the Consumer Electronics Show 2026 in Las Vegas, January 6 - 9 the most amazing announcement was made by a small company, Donut Lab, that they would be providing the first Solid State Battery in the Verge Electric Motor Bike to be released in March this year. **This would be the holy grail of batteries.** The company has acquired the expertise of the Finnish company Nordic Nano and has all the current battery makers protesting that their claims are impossible.

Donut Lab claims their battery delivers

- extremely high energy density
- longer range
- lighter structures
- recharge in full in five minutes - without limit to 80%.
- supports full discharge safely, repeatedly and reliably.
- design life of up to 100,000 cycles
- eliminated the root causes to battery fires.
- will perform under extreme temperature condition between -30C to 200C
- made from abundant, affordable and geopolitically safe materials, does not rely on rare or sensitive elements, and demonstrates a lower cost than lithium-ion.
- can be produced in custom sizes, voltages and geometries, enabling structural integration and non-traditional formats like serving as the body of a drone or a vehicle chassis.



We need to wait till the end of March to learn how accurate are their claims. It could be global shattering if they are true.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
APPLE USERS' CLUB



SAAUC Meetings are held online using

zoom

**SAAUCery is the monthly newsletter of
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<http://www.saauc.org.au> - <https://www.facebook.com/saauc>

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