

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
APPLE USERS' CLUB



SAAUCery

Surprise and shine.

September 2026

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

Our next SAAUC (Zoom) meeting is...
Friday 4th September, 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 4th September, SAAUC meeting
More on AI

Wednesday 9th September: Unley Library
-10-12

Wednesday 9th September: Apple's
'Surprise and Shine' event.

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

Apple's big annual event, apart from WWDC, is always held in September to usually announce the latest iPhone. This year is no different and the special event, labelled 'Surprise and Shine', will take place at Apple Park campus in Cupertino, California, on Wednesday 9th September at 10am. If you want to follow it live you would need to be up at 2:30am, Thursday morning.

The title usually hints at what to expect. We always expect Apple to shine but will there be a surprise 🤔 Apple is very good at keeping secrets but there have been many rumours circulating for months about what to expect. A foldable iPhone, probably called an Ultra is the most keenly awaited. No doubt they will fly off the shelves though there must be many, like me, who will be sceptical about carting around a bulky device let alone parting with many \$\$\$\$ to buy one. Do you remember when Nokia released their tiny mobile phones - you were the coolest if you had the smallest! The original mobile phones were referred to as 'bricks'. Are we really wanting to go back to 'big'?

The event is always worth watching later in the day at a more convenient time. Tim Cook hands over to John Ternus on 1st September so I expect John Ternus will be presenting for the first time as CEO. Big job he's taking on.

Regards

Marie

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.

What's coming

Apple's "Surprise and Shine" event on September 9, 2026, is expected to feature the debut of premium iPhone 18 Pro models, Apple Watch Series 12, and the company's first foldable device, the iPhone Ultra.

Expected Product Announcements

- **iPhone 18 Pro & Pro Max:** Upgraded camera systems, better battery life, and a new dark or deep red colour option.
- **iPhone Ultra:** Apple's first long-rumoured foldable smartphone with a redesigned interface and hardware.
- **Apple Watch Series 12 & Ultra 4:** Next-generation smartwatches with iterative feature and performance updates.
- **New Accessories:** Potential updates to HomePods, Apple TV, or AI-focused audio gear.

What Will Be Missing

- **Standard Base Models:** The entry-level standard iPhone 18 and other lower-end variants are reportedly delayed until spring 2027.

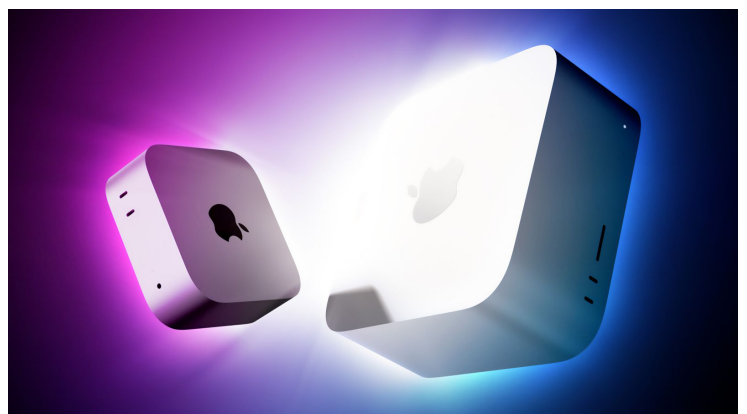
Event Details

- **Date & Time:** Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 10:00 AM Pacific Time (10:30 PM India Standard Time / 2:30 AM ACST on Sept 10 for local Adelaide viewers).
- **Location:** In-person at the Steve Jobs Theatre in Apple Park, Cupertino, with online streaming via Apple Official Website, YouTube, and the Apple TV app.
- **Significance:** This serves as the first major product showcase led by John Ternus as Apple's CEO.

Already announced

Apple this week announced the next-generation **Mac mini**, which can be configured with an all-new M6 chip or the M5 Pro chip released earlier this year.

A new **Mac Studio** was also announced which will ship with Apple's most powerful chip ever.



Managing iCloud

A difficult issue arose at my last session at the Unley Library with a lady who had switched from a PC to a Mac. When she bought the MacBook Air it was 'kindly' set up for her. However, everything is in iCloud and she wanted to keep files on the MacBook Air. It was /is a difficult issue to get your head around. It's great to have files synced across devices and backed up to iCloud but , if everything is only in iCloud, you have a problem if you want to access your files when the computer has no internet connection. It's a good idea to keep your Documents on your Mac.

To keep files stored locally on your Mac while also syncing them to iCloud, use iCloud Drive without enabling the Optimise Mac Storage feature.

Turn off Optimise Mac Storage

By default, macOS might remove local copies of older files to save disk space. You can turn this off to force your Mac to keep every file locally.

1. Click the Apple menu and select **System Settings**.
2. Click your name (Apple ID) at the top of the sidebar, then click **iCloud**.
3. Click **iCloud Drive**.
4. Turn off **Optimise Mac Storage**.

Pin Specific Files or Folders

If you want to make sure specific files or folders inside iCloud Drive are always downloaded on your Mac:

1. Open Finder and click on **iCloud Drive** in the sidebar.
2. Control-click (or right-click) the file or folder you want to keep.
3. Select **Keep Downloaded**.

Sync Desktop and Documents

To have your main user folders automatically mirror to iCloud and remain accessible locally (as long as you have enough hard drive space):

1. Go to **System Settings > [Your Name] > iCloud > iCloud Drive**.
2. Turn on **Desktop & Documents Folders**.
3. Click **Done**.

Little new features in OS26

Handy New iOS Features

- **Message Scheduling:** You can write a text in the Messages app and set a specific time for it to send automatically later.
- **Lock Screen Shortcut Swaps:** You can finally replace the default flashlight and camera buttons on your lock screen with other preferred utility controls.
- **Independent Alarm Volume:** The Clock app now lets you set an alarm volume completely separate from your overall system ringer and alert volume.
- **Clean Home Screen Layouts:** You can arrange your app icons anywhere on the grid and even hide text labels underneath them for a minimalist look.

Useful New macOS Features

- **Built-in Window Tiling:** Dragging a window to the edge of your Mac screen now automatically suggests a clean snap-grid position, similar to window management on Windows PCs.
- **Resizable iPhone Mirroring:** When using iPhone mirroring on your Mac, you can freely click-and-drag to resize the virtual phone window to better fit your workflow.
- **Dedicated Passwords App:** A centralised, standalone app now securely tracks your logins, Wi-Fi keys, and verification codes across all your synced devices.
- **Automatic Subtitle Rewind:** Hitting the rewind button in the [Apple TV app](#) or media player temporarily toggles on subtitles for 10 seconds so you can catch missed dialogue without asking Siri.

Recent tweaks to iPadOS

Little tweaks to iPadOS 26 includes several subtle quality-of-life additions available through recent updates.

Media and Music Tweaks

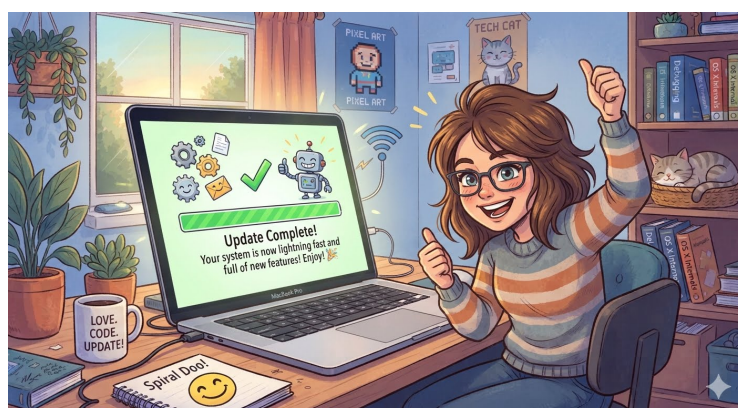
- **MiniPlayer Swipes:** Swipe left or right on the Apple Music MiniPlayer to skip tracks or go back.
- **AutoMix over AirPlay:** Enjoy automated smooth transitions when casting Apple Music via AirPlay.
- **Ambient Music Widget:** Add new curated soundscapes for sleep, productivity, or chilling directly to your Home Screen.

Lock Screen and Interface Adjustments

- **Liquid Glass Tinting:** Choose a tinted style alongside the clear look to adjust the opacity of app backgrounds and lock screen notifications.
- **Camera Swipe Toggle:** Turn off or on the shortcut that opens the camera by swiping left on the Lock Screen.
- **Slide Over Return:** Manage side-screen tasks more flexibly with the reintroduced and updated Slide Over windowing option.

Productivity and Organisation

- **Urgent Reminders:** Mark specific tasks as urgent right from the Quick Toolbar and filter them inside Smart Lists.
- **Better Audio Quality:** Experience clearer FaceTime audio during poor network connections.



One Last Thing

There is always change in the air at this time of the year. End of the football season, Spring rains changing the face of the state to one covered in blossom, wattle and green, and sunny days beckoning us outdoors...

Huge change on the tech front driven by AI and the considerations which will need to be given to the benefits and and possible disadvantages and drawbacks - ying and yang.

Let's see how Apple can pull it all together this month with the new products and OS. Can they Surprise and Shine?





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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