

31 March 2020

Welcome to the Virtual IT Club!

The IT Club is normally held in the Old Town Hall at 2pm on the last Tuesday of each month so the virtual club will be at the same time, every week. But without the tea and biscuits (unless you provide them yourselves!).

I hope you are all well and surviving the hibernation. My wife and I have had the symptoms, albeit quite mild (apart from the loss of smell which really spoils a glass of wine!) so we have been self isolating for a week with another week to go. Looking forward to actually leaving the house next week!

Information

Here are the links I posted last time:

Government advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Age UK: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/coronavirus/>

The NHS has lots of information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

News

I think the BBC is as good as any news site: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

The newspapers websites tend to have a subscription model (they have to make money somehow) or, in my opinion, they can be a little hysterical. There are, of course, hundreds of websites claiming to be news websites but be very careful of them. They make money from the number of visitors they get - the more they get the more advertising revenue they make. Therefore they may promote headline grabbing stories with little regard to the truth.

For example there were stories being circulated about garlic protecting against the virus. How do you know if its true?

A good place to go is Snopes:

<https://www.snopes.com/50-hottest-urban-legends/>

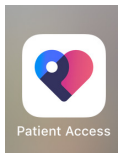
Snopes replied to the garlic story here:

<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/garlic-cure-coronavirus/>

Another useful site is Hoax Slayer:

<https://www.hoax-slayer.net>

Health



Patient Access App is downloadable to your app ipad, android tablet and phone and is free!

It is supported by the local health professionals. After you have downloaded it from the Apple App Store or from Google Play you will be asked to register. You are then able to request repeat prescriptions, make non-urgent appointments, send messages to your doctor. However different practices do not offer services. I use it for repeat medication (its so easy) and non-urgent appointments (although these appear to be suspended at the moment).

Here is an introductory video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4U4LXwFuzjw>

It is well worth investigating, for the future if not for now. If anyone uses it, or downloads and registers, let us know!

Games

Scrabble

I have been playing Scrabble HD for some years but I see it has disappeared from the store. The replacement is Scrabble Go which is OK underneath the garish graphics. What I want is the ability to play against other people online but Scrabble Go appears to require Facebook. Further investigations are required.

Scams

Here is an email I received this week. Not a very good one to be honest! Not even addressed to me. They want me to click on the [confirm subscription](#), which, of course I didnt.

info@support.com

Your tvlicense Customer Care Team

To: d.slight@ntlworld.com

Dear Mr/Ms,

This email confirms the tv license subscription:

Product Name: TV License
License Number: F5701515DF
Receipt Date: 3/23/2020
Membership Price: £154.50

To confirm your subscriptions, click below.

Confirm your tv license [Confirm Subscription](#) IDB91D7E1 >>

Finally



If you have any ideas, comments, suggestions please email them to me at steven.p.dow@me.com

See you next week!