

October 2024

Cyber Security Awareness Month

The incidents of serious breaches and cyber attacks continues to feature regularly in the news, with the usual suspects barely even bothered to conceal it. Each October, however, Europe and the US officially promote cyber security awareness, with a wealth of free events and resources.

If you are covered by our Cyber Security Service, you are in safe hands but you will find useful advice for your home security at the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) page:

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/ information-for/individuals-families

Farewell to Windows 10



On 14 October 2025, support for Windows 10 (9 yrs old now) will end, which means that Microsoft will no longer provide free software updates, technical assistance, or security fixes for Windows 10. Your PC will still work, but will become increasingly problematic, so we are recommend moving to Windows 11, which is the latest version (released 2021).

For clients that haven't moved over yet, an engineer (probably Danny) will be calling you over the next month, to discuss next steps.

Windows 11 has several new features and improvements over its predecessor, including a more modern and streamlined design, improved performance, better security, integration with Microsoft Teams, customisable Widgets, etc..

For more information, please read our blog: www.interfuture.co.uk/blog/2024/09/25/farewell-windows-10

Newsletter

Now the holiday season is well and truly over and summer has migrated east, we roll up our sleeves and get back to business, kicking off with Cyber Security Awareness month.

If you access work accounts from home, you could be creating a vulnerability if your home devices are not secure, so i've included here (again), sign posting to guidance for protecting your home devices.

There is a lot of awareness in October (maybe as a distraction from the change of season) and we ponder whether calamari should, or should not, be on the menu*!

"Not" if you've watched "My Octopus Teacher" highly recommended





Tips & Tricks

Excel - Import data from an image

If you have the excel app on your mobile device (free to download), this is a really useful function that can save you loads of time. Here's how:

- Open excel app on mobile device
- Open a new spreadsheet
- Click on any cell
- Click on (data from a photo) icon at bottom of screen
- Take photo (page must be placed portrait way up and fit in the screen). Ensure good light.
- Crop and align as needed then click Done
- Review and correct (now or later) highlighted areas
- Click Done, Insert, Save

What's Happening in October



Buckle up .. this is a very busy month - October is dedicated to **Black History**, **Breast Cancer**, cleaning up our rivers (**Unblocktober**) and pork (**Porktober** .. oh dear ...).

The month also kicks off with Vegetarian Week (vegans get a day next month ... I can hardly wait ...) and 3rd is Buy British Day. Obviously this would also have to be the month which celebrated the Octopus (on the 8th naturally), although quite how we are supposed to do that I'm not sure ... does eating some count? It would go nicely with a glass of bubbly on Global Champagne Day on 18th (luckily, a Friday).

Things take a darker turn on **27th** when the clocks go back, as **British Summer Time** officially ends. You may be surprised to learn that this is a fairly recent phenomenon having been introduced during World War I, in 1916, following Germany and Austria-Hungary's lead. The purpose being to make better use of daylight and conserve energy (sound familiar?).



In Praise of AI ..

There is a lot of fear around AI but there is also a lot to get excited about. The explosion in ai web/app tools is enabling people to do their job better, faster and with less effort. Each month we will review a collection and bring you those that seem most useful:

bowse.ai

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This is a data extraction and monitoring tool. By entering a website address and clicking 1 or 2 buttons, you can extract data from any website. Furthermore, you can set it up to monitor the website and notify you of any changes. A very useful tool and the first 50 credits p/m are free.