

Websites of interest

u3a iPads group 28th April 2023

Discoveries and Queries

John explained that if an iPad accessory stopped working after an iPadOS upgrade, some very similar devices may still work. Alternatively using an intermediate device may solve the problem.

Why are websites of interest?

Because they are a fast and cheap way for organisations to provide updated (or archival) info. Sometimes you may need to Register by providing your email and a new password.

Tips for using websites

1. **Navigation** e.g. to Sully iPad web pages. Google to find [Sully u3a](#) website then tap **Groups**. Scroll down and tap **iPads**, tap **2023 Notes**, tap **March** to see the notes. Tap **<** at top of screen to go back.

2. **Quick future access**. There are three ways of making any website easy to return to. While on the website tap the **Up Arrow box** then choose one of the following ways to create a link to this web page:

- icon on Home Screen,
- Bookmark,
- Reading list - item removed after next access.

For practice: make a Home Screen icon for the iPads programme. You can rename the icon by tapping the **X** in the Up Arrow box and typing. Then tap **Add**. Now drag it to a convenient place.

3. Capturing info from websites

- drag to select the information wanted, then copy & paste into an app - e.g. Notes or Pages.
- take a screen shot by swiping up from bottom left corner.

4. **Double check** info by comparing several websites because some websites may not be up to date and some may have fake info. For practice, see [Metofice.gov.uk](#) and [bbc.com/weather](#).

On BBC weather can keep worldwide locations handy: tap **magnifying glass** and type location, then tap **+** beside location name to save it. Flick up and down to move between locations. Tap this tick to remove location when no longer wanted.

5. **Closing old tabs**. Safari keeps 'tabs' on the websites you have visited. It is a good idea to shut these down every so often (e.g. monthly). There are 3 ways to do this after opening Safari:

- tap the **overlapping squares** at top right of screen then **tap the X** on each item to delete.
- tap the **X** in tabs above the open web page. These tabs can be resequenced by dragging.
- show the sidebar (tap top left 'book' icon) and **swipe left** on an item then tap **delete**.

Note, closed items may remain in your Safari **History** (access via sidebar) but you can **swipe left** on items listed there to delete, or tap **Clear** at foot of list to delete all.

6. **Cookies** are small software programs that record what you do online. Friendly websites make it easy for you to restrict their **cookies**. You do not have to Accept All. 'Legitimate interest' may be whatever they want it to be. If you cannot turn off a website's marketing/advertising cookies it may be best to walk away! It is not a good idea to reject all cookies via Settings (Settings > Safari > Block All Cookies) because then websites cannot remember you have registered and may not work properly.

7. **Privacy and Trackers**. There is useful info about Safari and privacy in **Settings > Safari > About Safari and Privacy**. Sometimes by 'privacy' Apple just means hiding info from others using your iPad, not thwarting invaders from afar. Check that your Safari settings are as you want them.

More websites

Newspapers, local authorities, museums, charities, shops, etc have websites - just Google. Today we will take a quick look at the websites listed below is. After the meeting Dai provided a list of some websites and apps that he uses. These are included at the end of these notes on p2.

- **Flood risk:** [naturalresources.wales](#) lets you enter a **postcode** for local info.
- **Local events:** [visitthevale.com](#) > **Events**
- **Coronations:** [wikipedia.org](#) > **Coronation**
- **Free webinars:** [u3a.org.uk/Learning](#) > **online learning events**. Get more from the u3a!
- **Safety online:** [thorpe bay u3a.org](#) > **Cyber Crime Alerts** in left hand menu > **Fraud Alerts**. Suggests the weakest link is the user's behaviour. Pause before clicking something when prompted by Curiosity (*More info*), Excitement (*Special offer*), Fear (*Unless you respond ...*).
- **Voices from the past:** [sounds.bl.uk](#) to hear Queen Victoria, Christabel Pankhurst, etc.
- **Health:** [nhs.wales](#), and [111.wales.nhs.uk](#), plus websites for your GP surgery and dentist.

Techie stuff

Internet = a global system of interconnected computer networks that enables the www and other communications, e.g. email.

www = World Wide Web. This is a **publicly accessible** global network of digital 'documents' (text, images, videos, etc) which are linked by hyperlinks, that you can tap to arrive at a destination. (A hyperlink links to info outside the present website whereas a link helps you move within a website.) Organisations may have private websites not on the www.

url = Uniform Resource Locator. This is tech speak for an internet address and is an internationally agreed format. When written in full for websites it begins https://www. but for many websites you only need to enter the info after the www into Safari. urls are written in lower case with no spaces. (Some other punctuation characters are also not permitted.)

Search engine = a website that **finds** other websites, e.g. Google. It has a huge database of search terms linked to urls. So tapping a search result, e.g. The Old School, you may get a link to its website.

Browser = software that **displays** web pages, videos and images, e.g. Safari, when you type a url in its search slot. But Safari now uses a version of Google's search engine. So browsers and search engines may combine to use each other.

https = Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure. This is the internationally agreed method for encrypting files for transfer over the internet. Beware websites that do not have the s (s = secure and is a more recent addition so may be missing from older websites).

Websites and Apps that Dai uses

| url | Usage |
|----------------------|--|
| BBC.co.uk/weather | Enter a town city or UK postcode |
| Yr.no | Norwegian weather service . . . more accurate than most available to us |
| metoffice.gov.uk | In the magnifying glass space put "Penarth Beach" or your town/village |
| Cruise.co.uk | Search for available cruises giving preferences for date, duration, port of departure, cruise line, destinations . . . Great service |
| Rolcruise.co.uk | Readers Offers Limited . . . similar to the above but with Tailor Made holidays too (Cruise and land tour for example) |
| Airlinequality.com | Reviews of airline service, seats, food, baggage handling, lounges |
| Seatguru.com | Provides maps of aircraft layout identifying good and poor seats to choose |
| Cardiffbus.com | Cardiff bus timetables (live if you want) Lists bus route timetables in numerical order |
| Rac.co.uk | At the top of the page offers Route Planner which picks the fastest route for you giving distance and journey time |
| Tidetimes.org.uk | Tide times for Barry |
| imdb.com | Search for films & actors . . . it gives cast lists and a summary of the story for films and TV series |
| Moneysupermarket.com | Comparison site to see quotes from insurance companies. Once they have all your details, they keep them for next time/year |
| GoCompare.com | Comparison site to see quotes from insurance companies. Once they have all your details, they keep them for next time/year |
| Confused.com | Comparison site to see quotes from insurance companies. Once they have all your details, they keep them for next time/year |
| Comparethemarket.com | Comparison site to see quotes from insurance companies. Once they have all your details, they keep them for next time/year |