

Discoveries and Queries:

- Current iPad OS is 17.3

Google Maps

*Wikipedia has interesting info on the history and development of Google maps.
Before starting, check in [Settings](#) > [Maps](#) that the map settings are as you want them*

A. Overview. Maps uses 3 main screen layouts:

- Home screen** - shows a map view. This lets you visually explore an area or start a search from its search slot. If the Search slot is missing, tap **Explore** at foot of screen.
- Destination** - after a search you see a scrollable left-hand panel giving info about the destination. A light tap on the map will hide the left panel; another tap brings it back.
- Directions** - seen after tapping in the LH panel either on **Directions** or on the **arrow in blue circle** at foot. Now selectable routes are shown on the map and the LH panel shows instructions and thumbnail photos. Tapping a photo takes you to Street View where you can 'drive' along the route.
 - NB. The **< arrow** at top left of screen lets you move back through these different screens.

B. Visit somewhere 'historic'

- If you Google search on **Dyffryn House** and then tap **Directions** it opens Google maps, but for today's practice **open Google Maps**. (If you see the last screen you viewed, tap **<** in top left once or twice to get to the Home screen.) Tap in the Search slot to see a list of your previous destinations. There is a sliding row of buttons under the Search slot and other buttons at the foot of the screen (more on these later). Tap the white circle at top right of screen and explore different views, but return to **Satellite** view for today.
- Search.** In the Search box type **Dyffryn Gardens** and tap **Return** on keyboard. (Today please ignore the mic.) Alternatively if you want to tap your destination on the map instead of typing, tap the **arrow in the blue circle** at bottom right of Home screen, in the panel tap **Choose Destination**, tap **Choose on map** then slide the map under the red pin until pin is on destination and finally tap **OK** at foot of screen.
- Zooming.** On the map you can **Pinch** to zoom out, or **Unpinch** (spread 2 fingers) to zoom in, and with one finger you can **drag** the map on the screen. For practice, zoom in on the gardens, then zoom out and drag the map to see the houses in St Nicholas, then zoom in far enough to see house numbers on the map (handy for finding a house in a long road). Lightly tap the map to show the left panel.
- Save.** On the Destinations screen tap a **Save** button. There is one at both the top and bottom of the panel.
- Navigation.** Tap **Directions** in the left panel and see a choice of routes on the map with estimated times. Panel shows fuel efficiency info. As you tap each route, the info in the panel changes.
 - Tap the magnifying glass at top right of map if you want to select options (cafe, petrol, etc) on your route.
 - Tap the **3 dots** at top of left panel to see route options such as avoiding tolls.

Caution: Tap the **final instruction** in the panel and see that the route unfortunately ignores Dyffryn's car parks and wrongly assumes you can drive to the front door! Occasionally errors have been more serious. (Wikipedia)

Tip: *Do not press Start unless you are going to move because the app gets muddled keeping track of your location in the real world and on the map when these are different. You can use this as a Sat Nav if you turn Sound on and actually move.*

C. Visit somewhere 'geographic'

- On the Home screen, in the search slot type **Dunraven Bay**, then scroll down the left panel to see questions asked by others - e.g. are dogs allowed? Tap **Directions** and choose a route (e.g. via Cowbridge).
- To Add Stops** on your route, tap the 3 dots at top of panel. Tap **Add Stop**, then either type or tap map where stop wanted. Finally in panel's route synopsis at top of panel, drag the Stop to be in the correct sequence on the route. To remove an added Stop, tap the X alongside the place in the route synopsis.
- Street View.** Scroll and tap the **penultimate** thumbnail photo. The screen divides showing both the road and the map. You can tap the street arrows to 'drive' forward and zoom to read the signpost, and wiggle 2 fingers to change your viewing direction. The blue circled arrow on the map stays in sync with your 'driving'. Tap the **< arrow** at top left to return to Directions. Now tap the **bottom** photo and 'drive' round to see the car park. Note there are seldom people in view, so privacy is preserved.
- Labels.** Adding a label to a destination (e.g. Billy's birthday) can be helpful when you have forgotten where you went. To create a label from the **Destination** screen, slide the panel's top buttons, tap **Add label** and type then tap **Done**. Map now shows a red 'pin' with your label. To see labels another time, from Maps' Home screen tap **Saved**, then tap **Labelled**. You can also save a **link** from a route: **3 dots** > **Share** > **Copy** and then paste this link into another app - e.g. an email to a friend or Notes for future access.
- Destinations** can be world-wide but the Street View 'drive' option may be limited in some countries..

D. Other useful map apps

- What three words.** Pinpoints locations within a one metre square. Used by many emergency services.
- OS maps.** The Ordnance Survey provides several free online maps via the App Store. Need to create an account with OS but they only want name, email and a password.
- Traffic Wales.** You can Google on **Traffic Wales News** for updates on road problems.

The next iPads meeting is at 2pm on Friday 23rd February 2024
