

Review by a New Linux User

As a new member of Cardigan U3A I read, with interest, the computer article in the last U3A newsletter.

I decided to try changing the Windows operating system (OS) on my pc to the LINUX Mint operating system, as recommended by Godfrey Green.

I was fed up with long and time consuming Windows updates and patches and the effort needed to keep antispam, antivirus, and other malware programmes up to date. I checked the internet for reviews about the LINUX Mint OS and found excellent feedback and positive reviews by professionals and ordinary users alike.

LINUX Mint looks like a Windows 7 desktop, is user friendly and seems easy to install using a disc. After help from Godfrey I was able to install the software myself. It gives clear instructions on the disc and is quite intuitive. Just remember to correctly type in and CHECK any passwords you use!!

The amazing thing is LINUX Mint is free to download from their website! Godfrey helped to allay my fears and reticence to change from what I was comfortable with to a better system.

I now have a quicker load up time for my pc, faster operation and I trust a more safe and secure system.

The desktop is easy to use, and the package comes with Firefox web browser, Thunderbird email client, and Libre Office suite (MS Office equivalents). Other useful programmes are accessible including Skype for video phone calls and Picasa for photos etc, to name a few.

In summary, the LINUX Mint operating system really is a gem..... easy to use, great graphics, and no more fiddling about with multiple updates and having to deal with antispam, antivirus etc.

So, what are you waiting for ? Why not give it a try? I am no expert and had not seen or used the system before, yet with guidance was able to install it in about an hour.....and did I mention?it's **Free!**

Time will tell, but this could be my discovery of 2013!

Chris Bacon.