

Radio Days – 2010-04-03

Tip of the Week – Scams Ahoy!

This week saw the release of information which shows that more and more people click on messages which tell them that their computers are infected with a virus. The click takes them to a website which insists that they pay money to download a program to kill the infection. What too many people do not realise is that the message **is** the virus and they are being scammed out of their hard-earned readyies.

Do not believe everything that you read on the internet!

The first step in keeping your computer safe is to install your own protection: you will find details in earlier cheat sheets. I suggest that you keep your bullshit meter set on high alert at all times when working on the internet. This is the best protection, and this is reinforced by a recent message from MailWasher that it refused to bounce a message because it contained 544 viruses! Is this number accurate? I do not know, but I bounced the message because it was an obvious fake.

Printing Large Photos in Emails

How to print large photos in emails is one of those questions which crops up over and over again. It always stumps the people who receive these emails, yet is so easy to do when you take the time to learn how.

The first step is to save the photos in a folder where you can find them again. Many websites suggest that you save everything to your desktop because you can always see your desktop. I prefer to create a folder on my desktop because it reduces the clutter: right-click an empty part of your desktop then select *New » Folder* from the menu which appears when you right-click. If you do not see a menu with the *New* option then you have not clicked in the correct place so please check these instructions with a knowledgeable person. This newly-created folder will be called *New Folder* so type a name that means something to you.

Now you have an easy to find storage area where you can save the photos from your email. Click on the email's paper clip and remember to save the photos in the folder which you have just created on your desktop. Now is the time to open these photos with your favourite program: my favourite program for this sort of work is Irfanview with Picasa a close second. Picasa is excellent for printing many photos on a single sheet of paper but Irfanview is easier to use. Play with both of them (they are both free) and see which one you prefer. As with so many things to do with computers it all boils down to your personal preference.

If you want to get really fancy, and you have the computer skills, you could create folders under your *My Pictures* folder to store your photos. This will keep all your photos together in a place which is easy to backup so that you have a spare copy if anything goes wrong. Please remember that there are only two types of computer users: those who have just lost photos and those who are just about to!

Websites

Picasa <http://picasa.google.com>
Irfanview <http://www.irfanview.com>