

# East SIG Report - September 2015

---

This month we welcome back M.C. Paul Woolard and George Skarbek.

The first session as always was Q&A and with George back on deck this month.

Q: If I use Acronis to copy my hard drive, will that transfer the operating system?

A: Absolutely, the full operating system and by default if you have a hidden factory reset partition that will copy as well. However if you are using an old version of Acronis from 2013 or earlier and you want to bring back Win 8 or 10, Acronis will not bring back the boot sector. In this case you should get the latest 2016 version.

Q: After making an Acronis image I wanted to test if the image would work so tried to transfer it to a second PC an old laptop. When I connected to the second PC I could see the image but could not install it. How do I transfer the image to the second PC?

A: You will need to create a rescue disk to boot from in your second PC. You may need to set the BIOS to boot from your optical drive first in the second PC for the rescue disk to load. The rescue disk loads a version of Linux and displays the Acronis menu.

You will most likely find that the second PC will then load Windows but in a very crippled mode, as the correct drivers for that machine are not loaded. For example it will load a VGA screen displaying only 16 colours and won't have any sound or internet. You will then have to download device drivers for the second PC and install them.

Q: I believe you need Acronis 2016 to backup Windows 10. The problem I've had is obtaining the password for Acronis from [www.ugr.com](http://www.ugr.com) to upgrade my 2015 version.

A: There is no password, it's the installation serial number you need. As an existing customer you should have a user ID and serial number. Go to the download section and when installing key in your serial number and you should then be right. Acronis 2016 has a few trivial improvements over the 2015 version but I believe the 2015 version of Acronis may work with Windows 10.

To download Acronis from [www.ugr.com](http://www.ugr.com) you need to indicate you are from MelbPC to enable you to buy Acronis at the discounted User Group rate of US\$25 or the family pack (3 licences) for US\$60.

Q: I wish to use a Bluetooth headphone and want to know whether any Bluetooth headphone will work? I tried once without success.

A: I would expect any Bluetooth headphones will pair but you will need to enter a password when pairing Bluetooth devices. This is usually 0000.

Our next presentation was by Stuart Bedford titled "Simple Movie Editing". Stuart had a 4 minute video taken with a mobile phone while on holidays that needed improving. High end video software was considered too complicated and expensive for this task. Windows Movie Maker is simple to use, is free and proved more than suitable for the job. If you upgrade to Windows 10 with Movie Maker already installed you should find it will work. If you download Movie Maker to a Windows 10 system some fiddling may be needed for it to work. Stuart's presentation demonstrated how to add a still picture to the start with a caption and music. He showed how to split and cut the video, insert an animated still photo, insert transitions and finish with a still image and rolling credits. Stuart noted care is needed when saving the file when selecting the correct format. The final video is a credit to Stuart and to the power of Windows Movie Maker.

The after break presentation was by Brian Heywood on Google Earth Pro. Google Earth Pro was previously sold for \$399 per year, but is now available for free to the public without purchasing a license key. Search for “gepfree” in Google and you should find it. If you have Google Earth already installed you will find the Pro version will install as a separate program. The Pro version is a different product and has many extra features. Many of these such as the GIS demographic data, parcel and traffic features are for the US only. Brian showed a number of excellent videos on Google Earth Pro in addition to his live demonstration. One of these YouTube videos titled “How to use Google Earth Pro for Beginners” may be of interest to readers not at this meeting. Some of the extra features included; advanced measurement (path, area, radius and circumference), high resolution printing, exporting your journeys as an HD movie, spreadsheet importing, additional layers in the Earth gallery section of Google earth, a Voyager layer, timelines and printing with titles are just some. If some of these extra features are of use to you then it’s worth upgrading to Google Earth Pro otherwise stick with Google Earth.

Neil Muller