Data is King

The all important part of computing is the personal element, our data. We like being able to save our work and media, to know it's safe. So it comes as no surprise that the hype at the moment is all about cloud computing. Big businesses now want to store your data for you. It can be very convenient to store your data up there but... You won't be able to access it without internet access. They could lose it, or it gets corrupted, or you're unable to log in to get at it. I am sure that people will only use this as a backup and the master data will remain on people's hard drives.

Here is a tip for keeping your data in an orderly way. Commit yourself to a rule of no more than 10 folders within a folder, perhaps files too unless they are well named. This means you can open a folder and see all the contents without scrolling. Try to keep file names short so you can see the full name without having to expand columns, abbreviate, e.g. grahams laptop backup becomes grmlptpbkp. Create folders called "Old", you'll be amazed how much can be chucked into these. Use the drag and drop method and all importantly make an entire copy of your data before you do this.

Mature PCHS

It's been a whole year since my last newsletter. Business has been quiet but I haven't been idle. I have been honing my skills in various aspects of computing. Following any path in the hope of a result has developed my skills further. My Website skills are improving, both the look and feel and search optimisation. The Mac conversions have required me to look deeper into the hardware and how it's driven. There's also been plenty of networking jobs like synchronising and backups, access from outside networks and viewing CCTV over the internet.

Also I have been looking at how I can get you all to use me more; and thus have frozen my prices and introduced a "Half Hour Fix" rate of £25. This also applies to those in villages but with a few pounds added for travel. www.pchsbanbury.co.uk/calloutprices

I used to shy away when people asked about training because I thought I would get bored. Now though I am keen and offer a rate of £30 per hour. The type of tutoring I envisage is the more advanced aspects like databases, web mastering and creative software.

New Website:

It's simple, intuitive and mildly amusing. www.pchsbanbury.co.uk

Testimonial: Carl Portman

I use the services of Stephen Hartley regularly and have absolute trust and confidence in his abilities. He offers a professional service for a very fair price with no 'surprises'. He can turn his hand to anything including setting up web sites (he did mine at www.carlsplanet.co.uk) and upgrading software to virus detection and eradication and other general maintenance tasks. Once you use Stephen's services you'll find that you won't require anyone else.

News:

Windows 7 is proving to be a good reliable and fast operating system.

Mac on a PC. If the hard drive is big enough have both windows and mac for ultimate power!

Coming Soon:

Wireless Touch Screen Monitors – full control of your computer.