

## The New King of the Empire



Steve Ballmer is still settling in to his new role as CEO of Microsoft—our Lords & Masters. He even has a catchphrase: “Are you licensed for that?!”

## iPhone Goes Orange



Orange has won a lucrative contract with Apple to offer its service exclusively on all iPhones in the emerging markets of Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa. We won't be seeing the back of O2 over here though...

## Green Intel



Intel recently announced that its 'core' line of chips have saved approximately \$2bn of power (or 20TW for those in the know).

It's new 'Atom' range of processors designed for mobile devices (such as the Asus Eee PC) promises further savings

## Linux Bites Back

Rarely do we see a machine quite as unexpected as this. The Asus Eee PC has taken the technology world by storm, and yet it is quite possibly the most unlikely best seller this year. Asus, who usually build components rather than complete systems built an ultra-portable laptop the size of two DVD cases stuck together running Xandros Linux at a ridiculously low price—under £200 for the 2G model! This laptop packs in 512MB RAM, an Intel Celeron M processor, and 2GB flash memory (it may not seem like much, but as an 8GB SD card you can add on costs under £20...). For £50 more you can up that to 4GB of flash memory—but again, SD cards will provide better value. The one thing that has been

remarked upon is the size of the device. The picture to the right shows it's size in relation to a standard laptop which has a 17" screen—it really is amazingly small, and is against the trend in computing terms, as “really large” and “really small” usually means “really expensive”. Most people buy the Asus Eee PC with the idea of installing Windows XP on it (Vista really won't run it at all—I assure you!), but users have found that the pre-built OS is so easy to use that they've simply stuck with it, which is great news for Linux. It's found



a niche market, and Microsoft seriously want to squash it. However, Asus has acknowledged a few fallacies, and has released the Asus Eee PC 900, with 1GB RAM, 20GB HD (12GB if you run XP) and a much larger screen, but that comes at a premium! Millions have sold worldwide, but competitors are on it's tail already, such as the Acer Aspire One, the Advent 4211 and the HP Mininote 2133. The latest Asus Eee PC 901 uses an Intel Atom processor.

The industry has finally woken up to what users really want—and has forced Microsoft to extend the lifespan of Windows XP.

## Windows Vienna 7 Announced (Again?)

Initially called 'Windows Vienna', Windows 7 has been rebranded and it's release date brought forward. The official word is it's moved from 2012 to 2010 (though there are unofficial rumors that it may be released as soon as next year).

As you can see from the logo, they've borrowed from the Austin Mini Metro (that's a car by the way, not some technical

jargon!) and decided to replace the 'v' in 'seven' with an actual '7' to make 'se7en'. Let's hope that unlike the car (or Vista) it is not a complete lemon!



# Windows Se7en

There's not really an awful lot of information around at the moment about Windows 7. As far as we know it will have full support for pen-gestures and touch-screen, an updated Win-

dows Media Centre and yet another code rewrite. Even Microsoft Paint is going to have an Office 2007-style ribbon.

If there's one thing Microsoft should have learned from Vista, it should

have been not to chew up too much horsepower and not to overcomplicate things. Looking at the current beta, I certainly have my reservations. Ubuntu Linux anyone?

## Office 2007 Isn't The Only Option...

The more eagle-eyed of you will have spotted a package named 'OpenOffice 2.4' in the Start > Computing & IT menu. This offers a familiar Office 2003-like office suite which can open (and if you choose) save Office 2003 documents. Those of you happy using the old formats can use this package (which is available to download off

the internet for free) and rest assured that you can still use your files in Microsoft Office.



Look out for the latest OpenOffice.org. The next version will include support for Office 2007 files and (for those of you who use them) VBA Macros. If all goes well and it is installed on the college network, then you won't need to use Office 2007 at all if it still bugs you!

# Answers

## Office 2007 Master Class

In an unprecedented move, Microsoft has completely changed Microsoft Office's interface. The only app left unscathed is Publisher, but that's set to get the ribbon treatment next release.

With the introduction of Office 2007 to college, my inbox has never been so full! Thanks for all your emails. As a result, I'm dedicating an entire page to solving all (or at least some...) of your Office 2007 woes... keep them coming at the usual address.

### "Where's the File Menu Gone?"

Just look at the picture on the right (FIG1)! That odd-looking circle is where your file menu has disappeared to!

### "Why Can't I Open My College Work at Home?"

That would be because you're using Office 2003 at home! Office 2007 uses a new format by default which Office 2003 is incompatible with without a plugin. The easiest way to remedy this is to open all your college work at college, and head to (file?)>Save and choose 'Office 97-2003' file. It will still work in Office 2007, and you can now do some work at home!

### "What Are Ribbons?"

That large area above your word document which used to have toolbars is what is referred to as a 'ribbon'. If you click on a tab then you move onto another 'ribbon'. It's an elegant way of displaying otherwise hidden functionality, but it makes life harder for Office 2003 users.

### "Why Won't My Image Paste



### "Outside Office 2007?"

Office 2007 saves certain files to its own area of memory. This means that copying and pasting between office apps is a lot quicker, but it means you can't copy and paste an image into another app such as say, Dreamweaver. The easiest solution to this problem is to copy and paste into Microsoft Paint. Then press ctrl + A followed by ctrl + c. You should now be able to paste the image wherever you please.

FIG1  
now be able to paste the image wherever you please.

### "Where Has My Toolbar Gone?"

As I said, you're using ribbons now! Just click on one of those tabs and you'll find the one you lost!

### "How Do I Turn My Page Landscape?"

In Word, simply click the 'Page Layout' ribbon, then click on 'Orientation'. A drop-down should appear, and you just need to click on 'Landscape'.

### "Where Has 'Autoshapes' Gone?"

It's not called that any more! Head to the 'Insert' tab, then

click on 'Shapes'. You'll get a drop-down list of all kinds of shapes, lines, connectors, etc.

### "How Do You Create a Text Box?"

Head to the 'Insert' tab, then click on the 'Textbox' button. It will appear automatically on the page with an interesting 'thing' (there's no better word for it!) within it. Just click the 'thing' and press 'delete', and you're ready to go.

### "Why Does Office 2007 Keep Crashing? It Runs Really Slow Too."

That's because you're running low to mid end hardware. Office 2007 isn't overly demanding but still expects you to find a spare 512MB RAM space. I would recommend at least 1GB RAM if you're running XP or at least 2GB if you're running Vista. You'll need more if you like to surf the internet in the background.

### "Where Has Document Protection Gone?"

Head to the 'Review' tab and click 'Protect Document'. You'll find a drop-down menu which provides you with some interesting options you haven't come across before! I've answered your question of where it is—my next article should cover how to use it!

### "Why Won't Speech Recognition Work?"

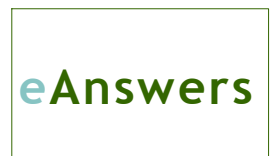
No one's asked this question for a while, but it's important. Windows XP (unlike Vista) has no speech recognition. Office 2007 (unlike Office 2003) has no speech recognition because Microsoft expects you to use it on Vista. I pity disabled people who actually NEED this technology.

## FOR iPHONE FANS!



The Motorola DynaTAC 8500XL was its equivalent 20 years ago—but these days we'd probably use it as a door-stop or a draft excluder these days...!

## More Answers!



Next Issue We Have the Following Lineup:

- An Outlook 2007 tutorial
- Document Security
- More Questions Answered! [This may change depending on responses]

## GET INVOLVED!

Do you have a tech problems that needs solving? Do you have any suggestions for future workshops or articles?

EMAIL BOB MOSS ON THE COLLEGE NETWORK

## GET INTERACTIVE!

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