



March 2010 meeting

ClubMac held its March meeting in Merrion Cricket Club on Wednesday, March 3, 2010.

iDVD training

Our new trainer, Margaret Byrne, took a group of enthusiasts through iDVD, part of Apple's iLife suite of programmes that includes iPhoto and iMovie.

Web site

Tom Martin updated the attendance on the new front-end to ClubMac's web site which is designed to attract new members to the club.

ClubMac

The redesigned home page facilitates access to a collection of useful links and information areas, including the traditional forum page, which remains unchanged.

Technical Q&A

Questions dealt with under the guidance of ClubMac member, **Peter O'Reilly**, included:

- how to enlarge a partition holding Windows on a recent MacBook Pro running on Leopard — safest option is total reformat, in the meantime cloning the bootcamp partition for safekeeping to an external drive or CD with the help of freeware Winclone;
- advice sought on which Mac a switcher from Dell should choose — basic iMac if not a power user: consider a refurbished Mac from the Apple store or check out the discounts offered by Galmac Computer to club members on the Club web site;
- how to export audio language learning files held on iTunes to CD — first create a playlist of the files to transfer, then burn to CD;
- did Galmac offer the same options in relation to Mac configuration (i.e. extra RAM) as the Apple Store? Answer: yes;
- a system with 5 external hard disks had been configured not to display these on the Desktop but one disk persisted in appearing — problem could be differing format of the disk concerned, the set-up on the USB hub or even a faulty cable.

Reminder: Don't forget to post your problems and queries on the club's web forum — solutions will flow in!

What's new

Brian Greene, Committee member, reported::

- 10 billionth download from the iTunes music store;
- Aperture 3 release;
- iPad on the horizon;
- MacBook hard drive recall (5/06-12/07 models);
- RTE web site now offers an app allowing download of documentaries to iTunes;
- Ulster Bank offers a rugby game app;
- Rumours of coming goodies: HDMI on Mac Mini, MacBookPro updates likely soon;
- iPhone to launch on Vodafone on 25 March.

John Kelly notified the attendance of the current MacHeist sale:

MacHeist: <http://www.macheist.com/>

Guest presentation

Due to a family bereavement, the scheduled presentation by Ger Allen of Stream Solutions, an Apple distributor in Cork, had to be cancelled.

Margaret Byrne, who is currently running the training sessions at Club meetings, ran through the basics of setting up multiple accounts on Mail and reviewed the various optional settings offered by the programme.

Useful Utilities

Tom Martin introduced a total of 6,001 useful utilities!

- **JSMS**
This Irish-made freeware application makes it easy to send web texts from your Mac. It works with o2, Vodafone and Meteor.
<http://jsmsirl.sourceforge.net/JSMS/Download.html>
- **Add-ons for Firefox**
There are approximately 6,000 add-ons for the Firefox browser covering a range of headings such as download managers, bookmarks, reference, web development. Tom demonstrated one add-on, Web Developer, that he uses on a regular basis.
<http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/firefox.html>

Next meeting

The next meeting of ClubMac will take place on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, in Merrion Cricket Club. The guest speaker will be from Eric Paguin of Microsoft who will speak on new developments in the Mac Office suite.