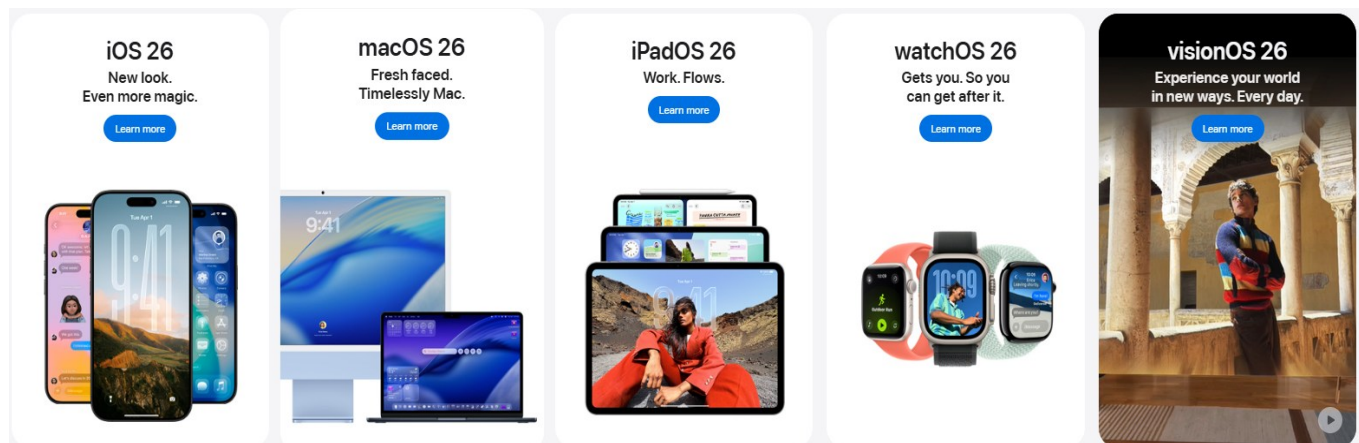


Sands Tech Group

July 2025

Newsletter



Apple's World Wide Developers Conference 2025

Reference: Techradar/Cnet/Mashable

New features across all platforms are available at apple.com

This 17 minute video on the new updates is on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nAx5gAJ4njI>

- * The biggest visual change to Apple's software for a decade. Called "Liquid Glass"
- * **Farewell** to iOS19, iPadOS19, tvOS, watchOS12, macOS16 and **hello** iOS 26, iPadOS 26, tvOS 26, watchOS 26, macOS 26 Tahoe.
- * iOS 26 will only be available on iPhone 11 models or newer. Older phones will be limited to iOS18.
- * Apple music receives new features—Lyrics translation, Lyrics pronunciation, AutoMix, Music Pins.
- * AI useful upgrades—Live translations are integrated into Messages, Facetime and other core apps.
- * iPadOS receives a new windowing system to improve multitasking. A grab handle to resize full screen apps to windows.

Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc
<https://sdcuci.com>

In This Newsletter

- ⇒ Apple's World Wide Developers Conference 2025
- ⇒ Everything—search
- ⇒ More programs no longer support Windows 7, 8, 8.1
- ⇒ Pinback—Pinterest backup
- ⇒ Raindrop—bookmark manager
- ⇒ Facebook Passkeys are HERE
- ⇒ Open library—free online library
- ⇒ Thorium—browser
- ⇒ Signal Blocks Windows 11 Recall
- ⇒ Vert—File converter
- ⇒ Google new features—Inbox & Agentic
- ⇒ Insurers feed members' data to AI
- ⇒ Beconnected—Medicare Express Plus App
- ⇒ Microsoft Authenticator
- ⇒ Arc (Browser) closes
- ⇒ More Firefox services close

Topic:	QR codes
Presenter:	Lindsay Chuck
Date:	Wednesday 16th July 2025 at 7.30pm
St Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Cnr South and Bains Roads, Morphett Vale	
Entry \$3 per person includes super	

Having trouble finding files?

<https://www.voidtools.com/>

Reference: Chris at Windows Intelligence

Here's a program that will search everything on your computer.

Available for Windows 10 and Windows 11.

Searching everything can be an issue, however you can narrow the search by;

Launching Everything > Click Tools > Options > click "NTFS" under indexes

For Windows (C:) drive > uncheck "Include in database" > Click "Folders" add each folder you want to search i.e. Documents, Downloads and Pictures > OK.

In addition to the normal download you can download a portable version or a Lite version.

More programs no longer support Windows 7, 8, 8.1

Reference: Chris at Windows Intelligence

If you have a computer still using these Windows versions be aware of the diminishing support.

LibreOffice 25.8 no longer supports the above versions and Firefox is planning to end support in September 2025.

If you want to keep using LibreOffice don't update to version 25.8.

Chris mentions in his article the same will apply to Windows 10. It won't happen on day after Microsoft stops support, but developers will gradually discontinue support.

Pinback — Fan of Pinterest?

<https://pinbackit.github.io/>

This free simple bookmarklet can backup and export your Pinterest data to your computer as a HTML file.



RAINDROP^{IO}

Reference: Chris at Windows Intelligence

<https://raindrop.io/>

All in one bookmark manager for your browser.

- Collect links, images, videos and books and save anything you like while browsing, or upload from a device.
- Tag and organise items into collections (uses AI)
- Free— A paid Pro yearly plan is available.
- Desktop app —Windows 10 or later, Linux (any Linux distro), macOS (intel) or macOS (Apple silicon), macOS Mojave 10.14 or later.
- Apps—iPhone & iPad. Android 7.0 or later.
- Browser extensions available.
- This program is over 10 years old.



Facebook Passkeys are HERE and for Messenger its coming

Reference: MSPowerUser

Android and iOS Facebook users can now log in using Fingerprint, Face ID or device PIN. These new options started rolling out on the 18 June with support coming to Messenger in the coming months.

Create and manage your passkey inside settings, and importantly Meta will not be able to see your biometric data. No more typing passwords.



There's probably a few programs/apps you may not have heard of in this newsletter, so if you think they may help you check them out.

Be aware of programs/apps discontinuing their features or support. In some cases not updating to a later version of the program may suit you, especially if you use those features.

Lindsay

E: sandslifestylebfs@outlook.com

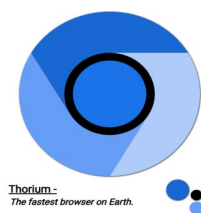


<https://openlibrary.org/>

LOOKING FOR AN EBOOK TO READ

Open Library is a free online library and a project of the Internet Archive, providing millions of eBooks to browse, read, and borrow.

You will be required to create an account to give you access.



Thorium

<https://thorium.rocks/>

Reference: Daily Tec

Claims to be the fastest browser on earth

Available for Chromium fork for Linux, Windows, MacOS, Android, and Raspberry Pi. The above versions are available for download at the above link.

Google I/O 2025 Developer Conference

Reference: ZNet by Sabrina

New Features coming to Google

Inbox cleanup

This may be a useful feature if you have heaps of emails and you need more space. Simply ask Gemini to clean your inbox by saying "Delete all my unread emails from *subject of email* from last year"

Agentic shopping

Do you like a good price? This 'buy for me' feature may help. How it works—In AI Mode—set the amount you want to spend—select the product—select the 'buy for me' option—when the product falls to the price you have set—it can place an order using Google Play. Useful for birthdays, holidays, and sales.

Signal Blocks Windows 11 Recall

Reference: TechRepublic

Microsoft reintroduced Windows 11 Recall in April 2025 after removing it in 2024 when concerns were raised about users data.

Recall works by doing a snapshot of your screen roughly every three seconds. The feature records and indexes user activity stored in a searchable local database. You now need to opt in to use it.

Signal messenger has rolled out a new security feature that uses screen protection text to block the Recall tool from capturing message content because of concerns about privacy and security.

Privacy experts are still concerned with sensitive information being captured and the database can be decrypted with Windows authentication i.e. a PIN.

VERT

Reference: Chris at Windows Intelligence

<https://vert.sh/about/>

There are times when you need to convert a file or files

into a different format. Try VERT.

All non video files are converted completely on your device, while video files get uploaded to the Vert server and remain for an hour, or until after they are converted.

The file converter you'll love.

All image, audio, and document processing is done on your device. Videos are converted on our lightning-fast servers. No file size limit, no ads, and completely open source.

Insurers feed members' data to AI models

Reference: InformationAGE

It probably shouldn't be a surprise to learn Australian insurers have been adding clauses to their privacy policies to inform customers their data has been fed into AI models.

NobleOak, Australian Unity, Rest, Hesta, Pet Circle, Resolution Life Australasia and the local branch of AXA XL are examples of companies using AI.

BeConnected

Medicare Express Plus App

<https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/>

An Online course is available on the Beconnected website on downloading the Medicare Express Plus app to your device so you can access your personal health information, like checking out your claims, access your Medicare card, find your vaccination history and process a Medicare claim.

Microsoft Authenticator

[Changes to Microsoft Authenticator autofill - Microsoft Support](#)

Are you using this app? Starting July 2025 the autofill feature will stop working and from August 2025 passwords will no longer be accessible in Authenticator. Passkeys will be supported.

Famous Chef Boasts That He's Using AI to Invent New Recipes If You Thought Facebook Was Toxic Already, Now It's Replacing Its Human Moderators with AI

PAST SANDS TECH GROUP NEWSLETTERS can be found at this link. <https://sandslifestylebfs.wixsite.com/scgbfs>

Disclaimer:

The information contained in this newsletter is of a general nature. Always do your own research and seek advice before acting on the information provided.

Arc (browser) closes

Reference: Make use of Yadullah Abidi

The Browser Company (TBC) built Arc and will not be providing any new features. Support for bug fixes, patches for security and Chromium updates will continue.

TBC announced it is working on a new browser called Dia.

The macOS version has more features than the Windows version and the lack of features likely contributed to its demise.

More Firefox services close

Reference: Neowin

Services closing or have closed include;

Pocket—the read it later.

Fakespot—helped you spot garbage product reviews.

Deep Fake Detector

The company whose 'AI' was actually 700 humans in India

Red faces and recriminations are flying thick and fast after revelations that UK AI company [builder.ai](#) has been tricking customers and investors for eight years – selling an advanced code-writing AI that, it turns out, is actually an Indian softwa...