Probus Association of Victoria Inc.
Reg. No. AOOO9835H ABN 51 370 595 374



Hello, Probus Victoria Members! This edition of Tech Talk is a bumper issue, and for a very good reason. I have included a personal story from one of our Probus members who recently fell victim to a scam. When you read their account, I think you will begin to understand just how easily and convincingly someone can be caught out. I would like to sincerely thank this member for their courage and generosity in allowing me to share their experience. By telling their story, they may help prevent someone else from going through the same ordeal. **I have one favour to ask:** Please don't keep this Tech Talk to yourself! Share it with your fellow club members, pass it around at your meetings, and encourage others to read it. The more we share our knowledge, the better equipped we will all be to recognise scams and stay safe in today's digital world. Remember, a little knowledge can save a lot of heartache! "The more we share our knowledge, the safer we all become." I also have included a page on "Traveling with Technology".
Happy Computing!

If you are looking for new fonts for your newsletter this is the best place and they are completely free. No sign up needed.
www.1001freefonts.com/

How Google Lens for iPhone Works

This is a great tool to have on your mobile phone, you will be surprised how often you use it.
Google Lens is accessible from Google apps. To use Google Lens to recognize physical objects, locations, text, and faces, open the Google Photos app and select a photo you've taken.
Here are a few options available to you, depending on the image you select:

- **Concert poster: Google will offer to add the date to your calendar.**
- **Identify plants: Google Lens can also identify the names of plants, telling you if that is Poison Ivy growing in your yard or just a different harmless weed.**
- **Name historic landmarks: If Lens sees any historic landmarks, Google will give you fast facts and trivia. Lens can identify buildings, works of art, and sculptures.**
- **Copy and paste text: Google Lens can also be used to copy and paste text in hard-to-reach areas, like the serial number inside your refrigerator, which you need whenever you contact service or order parts.**
- **Shopping: Point the app at pictures of furniture, dresses, shoes, appliances, gadgets, and décor, and Google will not only pull up shopping locations and pricing but also reviews for similar items.**

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HOW TO MAKE DESKTOP ICONS BIGGER OR SMALLER IN WINDOWS 11.

Need to resize the desktop icons? You can switch between several sizes, depending on the method you pick. For example, if you use the scroll wheel, you can cycle through up to 28 sizes. Other methods aren't as detailed, but they're good if you want to stick to one standard size. Let me show you below! **VIA SCROLL WHEEL.** This old trick has been around since Windows 7 at the very least, and it still works. All you need to do is hold the Ctrl key and roll the scroll wheel on your mouse up and down. Up makes icons larger, and down makes them smaller. Let go of Ctrl when you find the size you like. You can quickly scroll through extra-small to extra-large icons. **VIA THE RIGHT-CLICK CONTEXT MENU.** Or, you can right-click an empty spot on the desktop and select View. The menu will expand, and you can click on **LARGE ICONS**, **MEDIUM ICONS**, OR **SMALL ICONS**. That's it! If only changing the desktop icon spacing was that easy. Via keyboard shortcut.
Alternatively, you can use keyboard shortcuts:
Ctrl + Shift + 1 - for extra-large icons
Ctrl + Shift + 2 - for large icons
Ctrl + Shift + 3 - for medium icons
Ctrl + Shift + 4 - for small icons. Just make sure you're on the desktop before trying these.
Additionally, if you want to customize things further, you can change the taskbar size and position right from the settings in Windows 11



UNDO ANYTHING, ANYWHERE

One of our favourite computer tips is being able to 'undo' pretty much anything, anywhere! The undo function is handy even outside of Microsoft word, you know. On your keyboard, press **CTRL + Z or Cmd + Z on a Mac** to undo your latest action. You can undo all kinds of actions; from the last thing you typed to that important file you accidentally just deleted! Plus, here's a bonus round: you can redo your undo by **CTRL + Y or Cmd+Y on Mac)**

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Scammer and Probus





Recently (as the Newsletter person for our club) I was preparing to compile the latest batch of incoming reports. When our President's name appeared in my Inbox, I wasn't surprised as he emails his report to me – however this time he was asking for my help.

"*I am planning to recognize several of our top-performing staff members this week with a small token of appreciation for their hard work and contributions.*
As this is intended to be a surprise, please keep the details confidential for the time being.
I'll need you to pick up the things I have in place or it could be delivered to you.
Thank you for your assistance and discretion. Your help is greatly appreciated"

He wanted to get a box of 6 bottles of wine delivered to my place, plus he wanted me to buy three Apple gift cards. He stated that one bottle of wine was for me. I had no problem with him delivering the wine to my place – although I thought it odd that he didn't double check my address. I had to wait a day or so before I could help him out. However, he also knew we had a meeting later in the week - hence the sense of urgency.

I headed to JB Hi-FI where the cashier mentioned that gift card scams were on the increase – did I know who was asking me to buy them? Could I trust them? I answered yes to both questions (I had no reason not to).

Back home I reported success and shared a picture of the front and back of two sealed cards. Plus the receipt. Shortly afterwards (9 emails in 23 minutes) he asked that I rip them open and send him pictures of the codes (for his records). It was only then that I suspected something wasn't right. Why would I hand over torn gift cards to people? I rang the real person who stated he hadn't asked me to go buy gift cards. It was shortly after this that I emailed the scammer back and in a very unladylike way told him to go away.

So, what made me think he was legitimate?

- The email came in at the right time
- There was nothing wrong with his language (apparently scammers have taken to using AI for written scams, plus the are learning to use our voices to scam people over the phone)
- "Giving" me a bottle of wine appealed to my sense of worth/vanity
- The email had the President's name as the sender
- He knew we had a meeting later that week

What eventually made me suspicious of him?

- He asked me to rip open all three gift cards so he could record the numbers for his records (I've never received a gift card so have no idea how it works)
- I had 20 emails come in over two days in two very compacted sessions – I got hammered with them!
- When I expanded his email I could see that while the user name was a bit similar, the email provider for the real person was @bigpond – the scammer was @gmail
- He was talking six bottles of wine and three gift cards – and we have thirteen people on the committee! So four were going to miss out despite everyone being hard working.
- The real person would never have said staff – he would have said committee

I realised that the scammer accessed the information – and the links – from the club's newsletters posted on our Probus micro-site. My email address, who the President was – and when our committee meeting was. Also the scammer contacted at least two other people in our club using the same idea – but they didn't take the bait.

The club hasn't posted home addresses (for events) in the newsletter – and several of us have had concerns about phone numbers and email addresses being posted publicly. We have now removed all newsletters on the microsite and only uploaded the most recent one. This newsletter has no mobile phone numbers listed and the only email address is the generic club one to the secretary. When members get their newsletter, they have the phone numbers and email addresses – but home addresses are never included. That can only be found on the signup sheets.

I consider myself computer and internet savvy – but I still almost got caught. I was also very fortunate in that the scammer didn't get the gift card numbers to redeem the cards.

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Find Your Wi-Fi Password

How often do you forget your Wi-Fi password? Here is a trick to find it easily. Go to Network and Sharing Center and right-click on the Wi-Fi network connection icon > Wireless Properties. Under the Security tab, you should see a password box with dots in it—click the Show Characters box to see the password appear in plain text.

Apple's macOS stores Wi-Fi passwords in its keychain, which you can view by opening the Keychain Access app. Press Command + Space to open the Spotlight search dialog, search for "Keychain Access," and open the app. Use the search bar on the Keychain Access to search for your Wi-Fi network name in the list of saved credentials, then double-click on it to see its password entry. You'll need to check the Show Password box at the bottom to see the password in plain text

TO USE CLIPBOARD HISTORY

Press Win + V and enable Clipboard History. It stores multiple copied items instead of just one. This is a huge time saver. On Mac ⌘ + Spacebar or later Mac ⌘ + 4

OTHER HELPFUL SHORTCUTS

Here are a couple of shortcut keys which are always handy to know and remember;

Ctrl + A = Select all text
Ctrl + B = Change selected text to be Bold
Ctrl + I = Change selected text to be in Italics
Ctrl + U = Change selected text to be Underlined
Ctrl + S = Save current document file.
Ctrl + C = Copy selected item.
Ctrl + V = Paste

When I was putting together the piece on "TO USE CLIPBOARD HISTTORY" I need this Mac symbol ⌘ which was not available to me on my Windows computer. Being somebody that always thinks there must be a work around. After many hours I went to AI and it gave me this. **Method 1: The "Insert Symbol" Menu (Safest Native Way)** Since the Alt + X and Alt codes aren't cooperating, you can pull it directly from Publisher's built-in symbol map: Click into your text box where you want the symbol Go to the top ribbon and click **Insert** > **Symbol** > **More Symbols** In the window that pops up, change the **Font** dropdown to **Segoe UI Symbol**. Change the **Subset** dropdown (on the top right) to **Miscellaneous Technical**. Scroll slightly until you see the ⌘ symbol. Double-click it to insert

Quick Tip for Training Manuals

If you have to type "⌘" dozens of times throughout your training manual, manual insertion will get tiring. Once you successfully paste ⌘ into your document once: Highlight it and copy it (Ctrl + C). Go to **File** > **Options** > **Proofing** > **AutoCorrect Options**. In the **Replace** box, type a shortcut like *cmd. In the **With** box, paste the ⌘ symbol. Click **Add**. Now, every time you type *cmd in Publisher and hit space, it will instantly transform into ⌘!. I have lots of things that I need to insert that are for Mac. It will make it much easer for me now that I know. To set it up. Learning something new puts a smile on my face. Also works in Word

Top Windows 11 Update Features

Point in Time Restore: Allows you to roll back your entire PC - including apps, settings, and personal files - to a recent automatic restore point if an update or error causes issues. **How to:** Open the Start menu, click on Settings, Select Systems, then Recovery. Look for and select Point-in-time restore, then click View or edit.

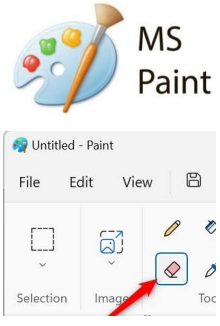
Enhanced Windows Update Control: Adds a calendar-based setting to pause updates for up to 35 days, with the ability to repeat the pause, and reduces monthly reboots by aligning driver and quality update schedules. **How to:** Click on the Start button, Settings, Windows Update, Check or Updates after this is finished. Click on Advanced options, then on Optional updates, you will find updates that windows does not download automatically.

Bluetooth & Device Upgrades: Significant enhancements to call quality, faster pairing with devices like AirPods, and greater reliability when using USB-4 docks. **How to:** Press Windows + I, Select Bluetooth & Devices (Switch between Default & Advanced to see hidden devices. Right click your Bluetooth adapter and choose Update Drivers > Search Automatically for drivers.

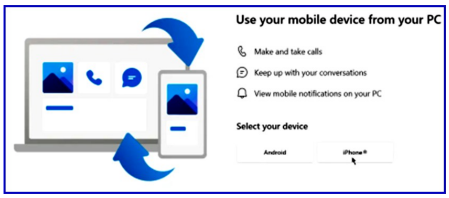
Snipping Tool: Easily capture and edit screenshots with **Snipping Tool.** In Windows 11, Snipping Tool can detect text in screenshots, letting you copy or redact text effortlessly. You can also use it to screen record a specific moment or motion. How to: Click Start button, All apps, Scroll down to S to find **Snipping Tool.**

How to use Microsoft Generative Erase

Open your image: Open image you want to edit in MS Paint
Select Erase: From the editing tools, choose **Erase**.
Use the Brush Tool: Brush over the area containing the object you wish to remove. As you make individual brush strokes, Generative Erase will apply the effect.
Refine and Apply: If you need to select a more refined area before applying the **Generative Erase** effect for more precise results, first, set **Auto-apply** to **Off**, and then use the brush tool to select the area containing the object you wish to remove, using the **Add to mask** or **Remove from mask** modes as needed to modify the selected area. When you are done, select **Apply**, and **Generative Erase** will apply the effect to the selected area.



Pair your Android or iPhone smartphone with your Windows computer to make calls and send and receive text messages on your computer. To enable this feature click Start and type **phone link then press enter**. In the *Phone Link* window select if you have an Android or iPhone and follow the remaining steps in the connection wizard.





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TRAVELING WITH TECHNOLOGY

Traveling overseas: Travel safety, stolen phones, and luggage tracking
Preparedness is key to travel safety, so it's important to discuss what happens in the event something goes wrong. Everything in this article just takes a little time before the trip to stay on top of things. this is all about what to do to mitigate risk. **What if your phone is lost or stolen overseas?** We're all reliant on our phones for travel for maps, wallet tasks, and our connection back to home. That's why losing it could be one of the biggest events of your whole trip. There are a few things you can do to help mitigate the risk if your device goes missing.

Before you go

1. Confirm your device tracking is active. Find My for Apple devices, Find Hub for Android devices, and SmartThings Find for Samsung devices are helpful if you need to track your phone.
2. Record your IMEI and serial number somewhere that's not in your phone. This can help with a police report and insurance as a unique identifier.
3. Consider setting a SIM PIN so your SIM card data stays safe. This way a thief can't transfer your physical SIM to another device to intercept calls and messages.
4. Enable Stolen Device Protection where available.
5. Back up your device before you leave. This way you won't have to worry about losing absolutely everything if you decide to remotely wipe it.

If your phone goes missing

1. Retrace your steps, ring the phone, and check with venues you've visited. Many missing phones are simply misplaced.
2. Track the phone from another device and put it in Lost Mode where available. If it's showing somewhere unfamiliar, report it to the police rather than retrieving it yourself.
3. Contact your telco to suspend the service, blocking calls and data charges and SIM swap attempts.
4. Remotely wipe the device as a last resort. Once you erase the device, you will no longer be able to track it.
5. Get a police report for insurance purposes, and notify your travel insurer.
6. Change your passwords for sensitive accounts.

Trackers: A cheap insurance policy
It's not just your devices that are trackable. You can also add trackers like AirTags, Moto Tag, and SmartTag to your luggage, passport wallet, and more, helping you find them easily if misplaced. Most trackers today have precision detection that helps you pinpoint them to within a few metres, reducing the need to rummage through everything in the room to find your keys. AirTags have saved me time and stress on more than one occasion. If you're shopping for one, the best option matches your phone's ecosystem. AirTags work best if you have an Apple device, while if you're on Android you're better off choosing one in Google's Find Hub network. Coin cell trackers are generally permitted in checked luggage, unlike Li-ion devices. Rechargeable GPS trackers with bigger batteries are often restricted, so be sure to check with your airline. Some airlines are integrating with Find Hub and Apple Find My tracking. For example, Apple's Share Item Location allows you to send a temporary tracking link to the airline when your bag goes missing. It currently spans over 30 airlines including Qantas.

What to track:

1. Checked luggage is out of your sight for most of the flight, and it's often the one that goes missing. If you can only track one item, I'd probably pick checked luggage.
2. Daypack or carry-on is handy to track and can help if you misplace it at a venue.
3.Passport wallets are one of the most catastrophic items to lose, and small enough that precision tracking can help save you from turning over your hotel room.

Rental cars
Companies often try to claim on pre-existing damage that the lessee can't disprove. Minor scratches and dings often go overlooked and come with an inflated repair quote. Before you drive off, take a slow video around the entire car, plus close-up photos of every existing mark on the paint, windscreen, wheels and tyres, and the interior, plus the odometer and fuel gauge. Before you return the car, you may want to take another video. If a claim comes through anyway, make them prove it. A company should produce photos of the specific damage, proof it wasn't pre-existing, and an actual repair invoice rather than a quote. If they can't, try disputing the charge with your card issuer. Continuous footage of the condition is harder to accuse of being selective, but you'll want to be sure the quality is good enough that you pick everything up.

Hotels and accommodation
On arrival, you may want to photograph or video existing damage, stains, and broken fixtures, either emailing them to the hotel or noting them in the booking app. The timestamp is a key piece of the puzzle. On departure, a quick video or photo of the room can quell any post-checkout cleaning fees or damage claims, which we've heard are increasingly common.

Luggage and insurance
A photo of your packed bag and its exterior can help with insurance claims that may dispute what was inside the bag, and it can help provide a visual in case your checked bag goes missing with the airline.

Staying Safe Overseas
A little preparation ahead of time can save a lot of hassle in the long run. A simple photo snap or a stashed tracking device can be the difference between a ruined holiday and a close call.

What Travel tech, power bank rules, and deciding what's necessary Going overseas is an exciting time, and bringing the right travel tech with you can help make the journey even smoother. Noise cancelling headphones can increase your comfort on the flight, and power banks keep your devices charged and ready. Here's my advice around travelling with power banks.

Power bank flight rules A power bank is an essential tool to help keep your devices topped up overseas. We're all prone to leaning on our phones a bit more when travelling for taking photos, constant navigation, and more. New rules that came into effect in December 2025 mean there's more to consider when bringing a power bank with you on board an aircraft.

The rules around power banks on airlines. Since December 2025, Qantas, Jetstar and Virgin Australia all prohibit power bank usage on board, and power banks must be stored with the passenger in the seat pocket or under the seat in front. Power banks must never be placed in checked luggage. Carriage limits also apply depending on the airline. Generally passengers may carry two power banks capped at 100Wh each, or seek approval for banks up to 160Wh. Check with your airline for exact guidance. Power banks must also display the capacity in watt-hours so that crew can verify compliance at a glance. The above rules aren't just limited to Australian airlines, but are becoming global standards. Singapore Airlines, Emirates, EVA Air, and Lufthansa all restrict in-flight power bank use. As always, check with your airline for accurate guidance. **Power banks: practical advice Charge up beforehand**. On short domestic hops, the aircraft may not have in-seat power, so you could find yourself running low mid-flight. **Bring a USB-A cable**. Many aircraft have not yet made the switch to USB-C. A USB-A to USB-C cable or adapter can keep you covered on older aircraft when you can't use your power bank in-flight. **Pack it at the top, not the bottom**. Power banks have to stay with you, so if it's buried in your bag, you'll have to dig around when you reach your seat. This can also speed up security screening.

Other important Technology to take.
Power and Charging Essentials
Universal Travel Adapter: A compact all-in-one GaN (Gallium Nitride) adapter covers multiple plug types (such as US, EU, UK, and Australian Type I pins) and includes built-in USB-C port

- **Multi-Port Wall Charger:** A high-wattage multi-port charger (like a 67W or 160W GaN charger) lets you charge your phone, tablet, and earbuds simultaneously from a single wall outlet.

Extra-Long Charging Cable: A 2mt USB-C cable helps when hotel room or airport outlets are far from where you want to sit

Connectivity
eSIM or International Data Plan: Set up a digital eSIM via an app before you land so you have mobile data immediately upon arrival without hunting for a physical SIM card. **Audio and Entertainment**
Active Noise-Cancelling (ANC) Headphones or Earbuds: Devices like the SONY WH-1000XM5 or AirPods Pro block out engine roar and cabin chatter.
Wireless Audio Transmitter **(e.g., Twelve South AirFly):** Plugs into the aircraft's headphone jack so you can use your own Bluetooth wireless earbuds with the seatback screen. **E-Reader or Tablet:** An e-ink reader like a Kindle gives you access to books or travel guides for days on a single battery charge without eye strain from bright LCD screens.