

Training Session 8 – Macintosh System Preferences Part 3 – Internet and Wireless – Ian Stringer

In this Training Session, we continue to explore the **System Preferences**, which allow us to set the way our computer looks and operates. Open **System Preferences** which is in the **Dock** and also under the **Apple** menu. We look at the third row of icons.

Internet & Wireless:

MobileMe is no longer available and is being replaced by **iCloud**, which is designed to allow you to keep multiple devices synchronised. The website says: “**iCloud** is Apple’s new **cloud** service, which stores your music, photos, apps, calendars, and documents and wirelessly pushes them to all your devices. **iCloud** integrates seamlessly with your apps, so everything happens automatically. **iCloud** will be free for **iOS 5** and **OS X Lion** users”. I do not have a need for these. Click on **Show All** to return to **System Preferences**.

Network

Click on **Network** to open its pane. It displays your network connections. My **Location:** is set to **Automatic** with other options revealed when the up-down arrows are pressed. The left-hand panel lists your connection options; there should be **AirPort**, **Ethernet**, maybe **Firewire** and others. Some of you may use an **Ethernet** cable to your router at home. At the Club we use **Airport**. In the right-hand panel, **Status:** will show if you are **Connected** or **Off**, depending if **AirPort** is on or off, with the **Network Name:** displayed. If **Airport** is selected, you should have the **Show AirPort status in menu bar** box ticked so you can turn **AirPort** on and off from there. **Advanced...** opens a new pane which contains a lot of technical information (this is where I get lost). Click **OK**. Note the **padlock** in the lower left-hand corner. When this is clicked it will lock and prevent any changes being made to the left-hand pane. It will need the **Administrator’s Password** to unlock and allow changes. You can still turn **AirPort** on and off, however. I suspect we will mostly use **Airport** to go on the internet, although there are other options. Click on **Show All**.

Bluetooth

Click on **Bluetooth**. This displays information about your **Bluetooth** usage. I have an **Apple Wireless**

Control	^
Option	⌥
Command	⌘
Shift	⇧
Caps Lock	⇧
Escape	⌫
Eject	⏏
Delete	⌫
Apple	🍏

Keyboard, Ian Stringer’s Trackpad as well as **Ian Stringer’s iPhone**, all connectable to my **iMac**. They are **On** and **Discoverable**. The **Bluetooth** icon is also in my **menu bar**. **Sharing Setup...** will allow computers to share their local network using **Bluetooth**. Once again, this is technical, although my **iMac** found my keyboard and trackpad without my needing to do anything. **Advanced...** opens a new pane to manage your **Bluetooth** devices. Click **OK** then **Show All**.

Sharing

Click on **Sharing** to open its pane. **Computer Name:** should be the name of your **home folder** (**ianstringer**). If not, click the **Edit...** button and type in your home folder name (it will be followed by **.local**), click **OK**. This is where you can set up sharing with a number of options, most popular is **Printer Sharing**. I set up **Screen Sharing** and **File Sharing** between between my **iMac** and **MacBook**. This allowed me to transfer files between the two computers as well as allowing the **iMac** to control the operation of the **MacBook**. It is somewhat advanced and needs two computers. This **Sharing** can be done using an **Ethernet** cable between the two computers (they need to be relatively close, depending on the length of the Ethernet cable), or the use of **AirPort/Internet** (which incurs upload and download, but the distance between the computers is not critical). If there is interest, I can prepare a **Training Session** on this.

Note, there is extensive **Help** available in all these panes; just click on the button with a ? in it.

Training Session 8 - Macintosh System Preferences Part 3 - Internet & Wireless © Ian Stringer 9 September 2011



Note from the Editor

There is no article by Bill Maxwell in this edition of Bits'N'Bytes, it will be included as usual next month.

Thank you to those members who contributed articles for Bits'N'Bytes.