

GET YOUR GEEK ON

tech smart®

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SAMSUNG S4 ZOOM

Phone camera or
camera phone?



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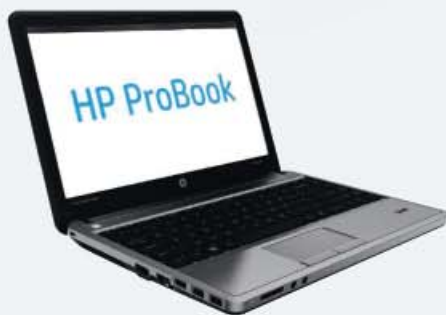
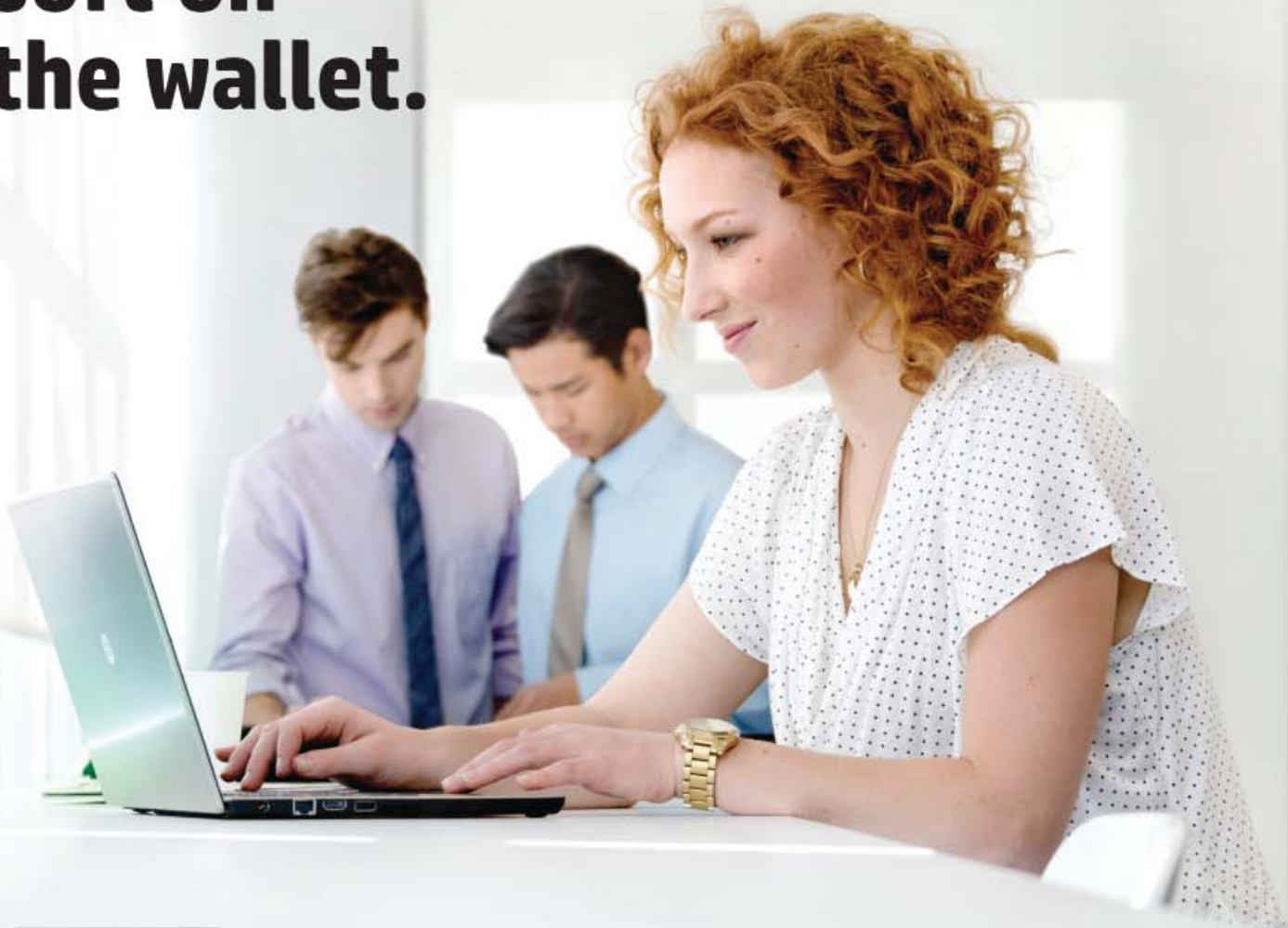


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Getting our GEEK ON

After 11 years and 120 issues providing the best (free) tech news and reviews, it's time for TechSmart to turn over a new leaf. You are holding in your hand what we hope would be a little bundle of joy for geeks everywhere. New and improved, bigger and better, and with a brand new formula, TechSmart is now all about getting your geek on.

Although tech news and reviews will always be at our core, we now also focus on those things that we believe are important for geeks everywhere – awesome movies (p44), hot rides (p30), SCIENCE! (p38), comics (p47), books (p49), craft beer (p46) and even a splash of style (p40). We've got some biting remarks from Deep Fried Man on the new iPhone, and gamers' favourite Pippa Tshabalala talks about falling in love (with your favourite game). There's even fitness gear onboard (p43) since we feel that the stereotypical image of the geek stuck in front of his/her PC/Xbox/PS3 is outdated and does not reflect the whole picture (give or take a few lost weekends recently spent with GTA V).

So in these interesting tech times where one cannot rest on one's laurels (just ask Nokia and BlackBerry), we believe this new TechSmart will now become even more important reading material each month.

May the Force be with you,
Mike (michael@techsmart.co.za)

P.S. Although a lot of people put some serious effort into this issue, I need to thank awesome photographer and all-round nice guy, Basil Koufos, for his excellent work on shooting TechSmart's first original cover. Go and have a look at more of his work over at www.bk-photography.com.



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WATCH NICOLE'S COVER SHOOT VIDEO HERE:

www.youtube.com/techsmartmag



Q+A with TechSmart cover model Nicole Reyneke

Q: How long have you been modelling?

A: Two years.

Q: What are you currently studying?

A: Fine Arts at Tuks.

Q: Favourite comic book movie?

A: Captain America!

Console or PC?

A: Console.

Q: Favourite video games?

A: I prefer sporting games compared to violent shooting ones, so definitely FIFA.

Q: What gadgets do you use?

A: My Samsung S4 is probably the best phone I've ever had in my entire life. I also have a camera since I love photography, and that's about it.



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It's not just your computer anymore, hackers in future are coming for your ride too.

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Money, money, money – the top 3 SA cybercrimes that raised the most eyebrows.

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NEW RELEASES

SAMSUNG GALAXY GEAR

Is wrist-based computing the next frontier, or just a pipedream from the past? Here is what the Samsung Galaxy Gear smartwatch has going for it.

At present the Gear can only pair with the Galaxy Note 3, and act as a second display.

Beneath the hood resides an 800 MHz processor, 512 MB of memory and 4 GB of internal storage.

It will be released this month in SA.



As to battery life, the 315 mAh Li-ion battery will get users through a full day of work, but not much else.

With its 1.6" Super AMOLED the main purpose of the watch is to offer easier access to notifications, such as incoming calls, incoming emails and SMS's and Twitter updates.

Thanks to two microphones and a built-in speaker, the Gear also enables users to make calls from it.

WATCH OUT!

The Cookoo

The Cookoo smartwatch does things a little differently, offering up a more traditional analogue watch face, that notifies you – either by a pop-up icon, vibration or a sound – of events on your smartphone. While it requires an app to be installed on your smartphone or tablet, this is currently available for iOS and select Android devices.



Sony SmartWatch 2

The SmartWatch 2 is already Sony's second entry in the smartwatch race, this a 48 g device sports a 1.6" screen with a resolution of 220 x 176 pixels and runs off Android 4.0. It similarly relies on Bluetooth to pair with Android smartphones to receive notifications, and the company has promised more than 200 unique apps for it.



The Pebble

Another smartwatch worth watching out for is the Kickstarter funded Pebble. It's being touted as being the sportsperson's new best friend, with apps that cater particularly to cyclists, runners and golfers. Additionally, it will boast customisable watchfaces, a 144 x 168 pixel display and will 'play nice' with iOS and Android devices.



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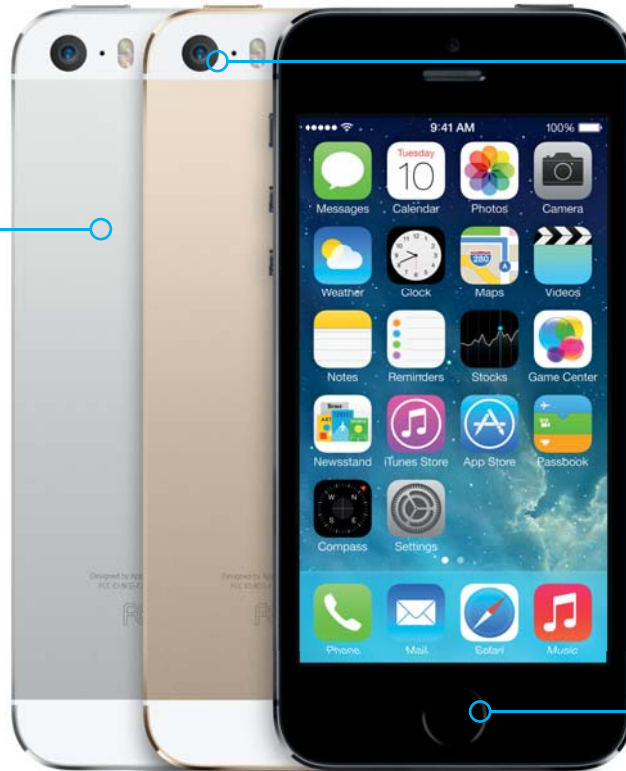
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NEW RELEASES

The new iPhone 5s and a cheaper 5c have been unveiled. Are they hot stuff or simply more of the same?

THE IPHONE 5S



Beneath the gracefully ageing exterior housing of the iPhone 5s resides Apple's 64-bit A7 CPU, offering double the performance of the iPhone 5's A6 chip.

Apple's new iSight camera may not offer more megapixels but does take better photos in low light and records slow-motion video at 120 fps.

Passwords are so passe thanks to the iPhone 5s' new home button that integrates a fingerprint scanner, allowing users to unlock their device and purchase content with the touch of a finger.

THE IPHONE 5C

Contrasting the hard glossy plastic body of the iPhone 5c is the soft matte cases available for the smartphone, which sport holes in them to let the body colour of your phone shine through.

iPhone 5c buyers can colour their friends impressed by opting for any one of five colours for the polycarbonate body of their iPhone 5c, namely blue, green, pink, yellow or white.



Thanks to the new 1.2 MP FaceTime HD front-facing snapper the iPhone 5c enables users to capture selfies like a boss.

IOS7: THE LOWDOWN

- You do not need an iPhone 5s or 5c to experience iOS 7 since it is a free software update, already available for the iPhone 4 and up, iPad 2 and later, iPad mini as well as iPod touch (fifth generation).
- iOS 7 packs a radically overhauled user interface to bring the platform more in line with modern spiffier looking operating systems.
- Our pick: iTunes Radio, a free internet radio service that features more than 200 stations, along with a large catalogue of music from Apple's iTunes Store. Just like Nokia's Mix Radio service, iTunes Radio has the potential to become a personalised service.

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Car Hacking:

Your future car is

In the upcoming open-world action title *Watch Dogs*, a vigilante is able to hack into any piece of electronic equipment within futuristic Chicago, including cars. This may seem like the premise of a good piece of fiction, but the facts are that hackers are already able to take control of your vehicle.

As technology continues to develop and permeate every sector of human activity, the humble car has not been left behind when it comes to progress. Luxury saloons have always been at the forefront of technological development and this segment introduced the concept of the in-vehicle infotainment system back in 2001 when BMW unveiled the first generation of its iDrive system.

In-vehicle infotainment systems allows the driver to control the main features of the car, including climate control, the audio system, satellite navigation, and Bluetooth-based hands-free calling. It unfortunately also offers a point of access to hackers. And since these type of systems are no longer limited to expensive executive cars and have started to make their way onto more common vehicles such as Ford's passenger cars, there are more targets available.

Modern cars further employ a plethora of electrical and electronic components for commonly utilised car functions the likes of accelerating, braking, opening or closing the windows.

Where there's an exploit, there's a hacker

During May of this year, the US Department of Homeland Security issued a security advisory warning motorists that certain flaws within the wireless Bluetooth systems integrated in their cars could be exploited by hackers. According to the department, hackers might be able to assume control over some of the functions of cars. This includes causing your fuel gauge to indicate full when your car is



next



Security experts Charlie Miller and Chris Valasek

actually very nearly empty, or, more alarmingly, disabling the brakes whilst you are cruising down the highway.

This warning was not without reason, since in July, two Stateside-based security experts, Charlie Miller and Chris Valasek, proved just how vulnerable modern cars are, when they managed to hack two of the most popular vehicles in the US. After receiving a research grant from the US government, the pair developed methods of attacking critical systems in the Toyota Prius and Ford Escape SUV.

The pair employed an analogue hacking method, whereby they connected their laptop into a port on the cars, which is the same port vehicle mechanics use to check the condition of your car when it goes in for a service. They went on to release the detailed blueprints of their techniques at the 2013 Def Con hacking convention in Las Vegas during August, making this info public record.

Autonomous cars leave door open to control by outside forces

Of greater concern is that hackers don't need to break into your vehicle to hack it. Instead they will exploit your reliance on mobile devices by attacking the vehicle's Bluetooth connections, CD-equipped sound system or even safety tech the likes of the tire pressure monitoring system.

A case for this point was made by Australian hacker, Zoz, at the 2013

Defcon convention. Zoz asserted that the hacking of autonomous cars in particular was an unavoidable security threat of the future. Autonomous cars such as Google's self-driving car and Mercedes-Benz's S500 Intelligent Drive make use of a wealth of sensors in order to act like a virtual chauffeur by driving themselves without requiring any input from passengers.

THE HACKING OF AUTONOMOUS CARS IN PARTICULAR IS AN UNAVOIDABLE SECURITY THREAT OF THE FUTURE.

According to Zoz, hackers could theoretically assume control of these kinds of cars over a wireless network, overriding their sensors while getting the vehicle's infotainment system to display false info to the passengers. This would suggest that criminals can hack into a self-driving car to deliver the powerless victim to their doorstep.

To the point

Despite the seriousness of the threat of modern cars being vulnerable to hacking attacks, the issue is not being given much attention by car manufacturers as criminals have not begun to capitalise on these exploits. However, given that the methods of Miller, Valasek, and Zoz have been published and are accessible to hackers from all around the globe, that may very well soon change. Consider yourself duly warned. [HD] **ts**



SA's **3** most eyebrow raising

Cybercrimes

We've been hearing for quite some time about the very real threat of cybercrime globally, and if you still think that the southern tip of Africa is exempt, think again. Ryan Noik investigates three audacious local cybercrimes.

1 > 15 million reasons to beware

One of the more recent cybercrimes saw a syndicate comprising of 54 individuals hauled into court last month, on charges of fraud, money laundering, racketeering and theft. The group had apparently been running an extensive phishing scam to gain access to people's banking details, while also utilising SIM swaps and identity theft to rob its victims.

The syndicate subsequently opened fake store accounts using the information, and also used cloned identities to access credit facilities. On one occasion they managed to siphon off almost R7 million from 21 accounts in a mere 24 hours. On a separate occasion, 30 accounts were compromised to the tune of an additional R3.1 million.

2 > Going postal

One of the largest and most audacious cybercrimes committed locally involved a whopping R42 million stolen from the Post Bank. The theft was committed at the beginning of last year by a syndicate with inside knowledge of the Post Office's IT system, and culminated in three of the perpetrators being arrested (two of which worked for the Post Office).

Those involved apparently opened up numerous Postbank accounts throughout South Africa towards the end of 2011. They then took advantage of the holiday season to access another Post Office employee's computer and deposit money from legitimate accounts into these newly created ones, all while dramatically increasing the limits on the accounts. The thieves then treated ATM's across the country like slot machines, to withdraw their ill-gotten gains.

3 > Security? Don't bank on it

It may be the oldest cybercrime trick in the book, but it doesn't mean people don't still fall for a well baited phishing attack. According to the ombudsman for banking services, Clive Pillay, one client was conned out of R165 000 by way of an email informing him that he had won an international lottery and he needed to pay 'administration fees' to collect his winnings.

Sadly, he did not recognize this as a scam, but instead paid R126 000 into the account held by one bank, and an additional R39 000 into that of another bank. Not only were the 'winnings' non-existent, but the ridiculously exorbitant administration fees proved to be an expensive lesson indeed. [RN] **ts**

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A new addition to the Samsung GALAXY S4 family.

The Samsung GALAXY S4 Mini has full smartphone capabilities, and it fits perfectly into your pocket. Packed with features like Group Play, Smart Stay and many, many more, the only thing small about the S4 Mini is its size. Smarter just got smaller.

*Not an actual device, for display purposes only.

GALAXY S4 mini



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SAMSUNG

TOP 5 MIDRANGE SMARTPHONES

Progress within the smartphone industry is matching Usain Bolt for pace, with yesterday's top tier smartphones having to tap out to today's midrange offerings in benchmark tests. Here are our top 5 midrange smartphone choices.

01

Huawei Ascend P6

Thanks to its eye catching design and appealing spec muscles, Chinese manufacturer Huawei's P6, uhm, Ascends to the top of our mid-range list.

Our top pick's claim to fame is not just its super-thin 6.18 mm profile, but also that it offers top-end specs and design for a midrange (R5 000) pricetag.

Users navigate Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean on a large 4.7" (720 x 1280 pixels; 312 ppi pixel density) IPS+ LCD capacitive touchscreen



Super-thin 6.18 mm profile

Huawei K3V2 chipset that incorporates a quad-core processor clocked at 1.5 GHz per core, paired with a class-leading 2 GB of RAM

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Samsung Galaxy S4 Mini

The baby brother to the top of the range Galaxy S4 boasts a 4.3" (540 x 960; 256 ppi pixel density) Super AMOLED display whilst navigation of the Android 4.2.2 is kept smooth thanks to its dual-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor running at 1.7 GHz per core. This CPU is coupled with a curious, but excellent 1.5 GB of RAM. For an RRP of R5 700, buyers also get an 8 megapixel rear-facing camera and 8 GB internal storage, but not all the functionality featured on the S4.

R5 700 | Android



Sony Xperia V

Besides being one of the best looking midrange smartphones on the market, Sony's Xperia V is also dust- and waterproof. Sony opted for a middle of the road 4.3" (720 x 1280; 342 ppi) display size, for users who find the 4" screen on offer on the iPhone 5 too little, but 5" smartphones just too large. Also onboard is a snappy dual-core Qualcomm Snapdragon S4 Plus CPU running at 1.5 GHz per core, 1 GB of RAM, and 8 GB of onboard storage. It is also the only unit here that is LTE-enabled for speedy internet.

R5 500 | Android



Nokia Lumia 720

Users looking for a different user experience to Android can check out the Windows Phone-based Lumia 720, which boasts a 4.3" (480 x 800 resolution; 217 ppi pixel density) display in a classy polycarbonate frame. The biggest notch on the Lumia 720's feature belt is its 6.7 MP autofocus camera that sports Carl Zeiss optics, BSI (backside illumination), and larger (f1.9) aperture to keep photo quality impressive during low-light conditions.

R5 400 | Windows



LG Optimus L7 II

LG's second generation Optimus L7 offers plenty of feature bang for its affordable R2 600 pricetag. For starters, Qualcomm's Snapdragon MSM8225 chipset, incorporating of a dual-core Cortex-A5 CPU clocked at 1 GHz, powers this smartphone. Unfortunately this CPU is coupled with a mere 768 MB of RAM, which hinders the multitasking performance a bit in the memory-hogging Android 4.1.2 (Jelly Bean). **ts**

R2 600 | Android

SHAUN DURANDT

GM, NOKIA SOUTH AFRICA

With Microsoft's recent acquisition of Nokia's Devices & Services Division, we thought it a good a time as any to sit down with Shaun Durandt, Nokia South Africa's newly appointed GM, to discuss upcoming changes and the impact of Windows Phone devices on the local market.

TechSmart (TS): Microsoft is acquiring Nokia's Devices & Services business, including the Lumia smartphone and Asha feature phone brands. What does this mean for local Nokia fans going forward?

Shaun Durandt (SD): Firstly, it is important to note that the proposed deal for Microsoft to acquire Nokia's Devices and Services business won't be concluded until early next year. Our focus for the next six months is firmly business as usual. We have a number of new devices, support elements and apps in the pipeline and execution on this will continue.

Secondly, the teams who design, produce and support Nokia phones would transfer to Microsoft. All of this said, Nokia will continue to produce great devices, apps and software updates as a result.

TS: Google Play offers more than 800 000 applications whilst Apple's App Store houses more than 900 000. Microsoft's Windows Phone Store clocks above 160 000. To what extent is this app gap impacting Lumia sales?

SD: It is clear that the number of apps is no longer the defining factor, it is more about ensuring that you have the apps most relevant to peoples' needs. Working closely with Microsoft, we are closing that gap very quickly. If one looks at the US for example, we have 48 of the top 50 apps for the two platforms that you mention, and we are working to make sure that is true of markets like South Africa as well.

TS: The Nokia Lumia 520 is doing well locally and within other developing markets such as China and India. Will we see Lumia smartphones priced below R1 500 in future to compete with entry-level Android phones?

SD: The Nokia Lumia 520 has been an enormous success for us and we are delighted that consumers are taking to it as strongly as they have in South Africa. It's extremely important to stress though that the momentum doesn't stop with the 520 and we are seeing a tremendous response to devices across our Lumia range, this includes the massively anticipated Lumia 625 and Lumia 925. Regarding future devices, we will have to wait and see on that front.

TS: Do you think the latest Lumia range is at a marketing disadvantage compared to similarly priced Android rivals, which offer flashier spec levels such as quad-core processors and full HD displays?

SD: Something that is resonating with consumers and that they are making very clear is that this is not just about the 'larger numbers' and 'speeds and feeds' tech jargon, it is more about real world benefits. If one looks at Lumia in particular, and the close collaboration with partners like Qualcomm on processors and Microsoft on platform, you will see that we are getting superior performance on our devices without compromising battery life. This is why the Lumia 520 is such a compelling proposition.

In the high end, the press have been very vocal that the Lumia 925 offers one of the best screens ever seen on a smartphone, with real world consumer benefits like best outdoor visibility and super sensitive touch. **ts**

For the full interview, visit bit.ly/shaunnok



Shaun Durandt
Managing Director
Nokia South Africa



Finally, a tablet with a work ethic.

Introducing the HP ElitePad 900. Works in all the ways you do. The tablet made for business and compatible with Windows 8 Pro¹, powered by Intel Inside[®]. Now, mobility meets versatility thanks to a suite of productivity-enhancing accessories like Smart Jackets, that let you expand into a productive desktop experience when you're in the office or a nimble and light business ready tablet when you're working anywhere else. Authorised service providers can access and replace the battery², plus the enterprise-level security your company demands including HP Client Security and TMP 2.0. Enable your workforce now at www.waltons.co.za



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¹This system is Windows 8 certified and supports the new Windows UI. The integrated display resolution is below the threshold for Snap, a Windows UI feature that allows two Windows Store apps to be viewed simultaneously. This feature may be enabled by attaching an external 1366 x 768 or higher resolution display. Not all features are available in all editions of Windows 8. Systems may require upgraded and/or separately purchased hardware, drivers and/or software to take full advantage of Windows 8 functionality. See microsoft.com

²Requires purchase of HP service tool. For customers located in the United States and Canada, visit this link to find out more about our self-maintainer program: hp.com/partners/SMprogram. For customers in Latin America, EMEA and Asia Pacific, please work directly with your sales account representative to understand what self-repair program options may be available for you.

³Optional accessories. Sold separately. Various availability dates from February 2013. Please check with your local reseller for details. Ultrabook, Celeron, Celeron Inside, Core Inside, Intel, Intel Logo, Intel Atom, Intel Atom Inside, Intel Core, Intel Inside, Intel Inside Logo, Intel vPro, Itanium, Itanium Inside, Pentium, Pentium Inside, vPro Inside, Xeon, Xeon Phi, and Xeon Inside are trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries.



SMARTPHONE NEWS

Last month was a bumper month on the smartphone side with not just the IFA 2013 consumer electronics show but also Apple's unveiling of not one but two new iPhones.

New flagship for Sony

We've reviewed some hot Sony smartphones (Z, V) during the past year, and now the Japanese company is back with a new flagship. Its Z1 is actually a bit thicker (8.5 mm vs 7.9 mm) and heavier (169 g vs 146 g) than the Xperia Z it replaces, also opting for a 5" full HD screen. Sony continues on its water- and dust proof (IP55 and IP58) quest, also including Qualcomm's Snapdragon 800 quad-core processor running at 2.2 GHz per core under the hood.

Much like Nokia, Sony is opting for more megapixels, with the Z1 boasting a 20.7 megapixel camera. More specs you say? How about 2 GB of RAM, 16 GB of storage with a microSD slot, a 3000 mAh battery, and LTE connectivity. The Z1 should be in SA during the course of this month, with no pricing info available at the time of going to print.



Display	Performance	RAM
5" full HD	Qualcomm's Snapdragon 800 quad-core processor (2.2 GHz)	2 GB



Eight cores for Samsung

After suffering the indignity of having the quad-core Snapdragon 800 give its eight-core Exynos 5 Octa some serious stick, Samsung opted to turn up the heat in its SoC kitchen. Thanks to the company's heterogeneous multiprocessing (HMP) solution for the Exynos 5 Octa that launches in Q4 2013, the processor range can utilise all of its four high-performance Cortex-A15 cores and four low energy Cortex-A7 cores at the same time. The CPU ball is in your court Qualcomm.



Sweet new version of Android

Following in the sugar-filled heels of Android 4.3 Jelly Bean is not Key Lime Pie as many (including us) expected, but rather Android 4.4 KitKat, which has been named after Nestlé's popular chocolate and wafer confectionery. Google has not revealed any of the new features that KitKat will be bringing to the mobile device table, but this should change at the end of October when the company is expected to showcase the platform and a Nexus 5 smartphone. Special KitKats will be produced for the occasion.



BB Z10 on steroids?

Despite the worrying state of mobile affairs in BlackBerry land, the company is sticking to its mobile guns. Its new Z30 flagship smartphone boasts a 5" AMOLED touchscreen, snappier 1.7 GHz SoC that sports quad-core graphics (probably Qualcomm's Snapdragon S4 Pro), a larger 2880 mAh battery, enhanced stereo audio and improved antenna technology for better reception and snappier downloads. The Z30 is already available in the UK and Middle East and should hit local shores in time to fit into your Xmas stocking. **ts**

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GALAXY Note 3 + Gear

Introducing a perfect partnership.

The new Samsung GALAXY Note 3 + Gear work together to create an ideal business tool. Calls to your Note 3 can be answered with a simple motion of your wrist, and the conversation can be had via the GALAXY Gear. The Smart Search feature automatically categorises similar files, helping you to quickly find what you're looking for. Amazing starts now.



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TABLETS AND PHABLETS NEWS

BACK TO THE PAST

Galaxy Note 10.1 (2014 edition)

Display 5.7" full HD Super AMOLED	Camera 8 to 13 megapixels	Memory & Storage 3 GB RAM 32 GB or 64 GB
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One tablet getting a revisit and an upgrade is 2012's Galaxy Note 10.1. This boasts a 2560 x 1600 resolution, 1.9 GHz Octa-core processor and 3 GB of memory. The tablet also brings the suite of Action Memo, Scrapbook, Screen Write, S Finder and Pen Window apps to the table. The tablet is slated for release globally in the month ahead, and will come in three connectivity options: Wi-Fi Only, Wi-Fi and 3G and Wi-Fi and LTE. As with the previous iteration, it too will be available in white or black, with storage capacities of 16 GB, 32 GB and 64 GB.



ANDROID TABLETS MAY BOAST PC-LIKE STORAGE SOON

Android tablets that boast PC-like storage capacities may be on the way, at least if Seagate has its way. The company has unveiled a tiny hard drive specifically aimed at Android tablets, boasting a capacity of 500 GB. The company asserted that its latest innovation will bring PC-like storage capacity to future thin and light tablet designs, while retaining the power, performance and reliability of a flash drive. The drive is expected to make its way into manufacturers' hands soon.



HAT IN THE RING

LG G Pad

Coming to the 8" plus-sized tablet party is LG, and this time it is their new G Pad following in tow. Unlike its competitors, LG's new tablet tops the 8" range, boasting an 8.3" screen with a eyebrow raising resolution of 1920 x 1200 (273 ppi). The specs seem promising as well, with Qualcomm's quad-core 1.7 GHz Snapdragon 600 processor doing duty, along with 2 GB of memory. Users can also expect to find Android 4.2.2 (Jelly Bean), 16 GB of storage and a promising 4600 mAh battery when the tablet arrives towards the end of the year.



FAB PHABLET

Galaxy Note 3

Samsung's newly announced Galaxy Note 3 boasts a wider (5.7") full HD Super AMOLED display with 381 ppi, yet slimmer (8.3 mm) and lighter (168 g) design. Also receiving a bump is the battery up to 3 200 mAh, and the rear camera, from 8 to 13 megapixels. Apparently there will be two versions, one with a 2.3 GHz Snapdragon 800 and a second with an Exynos Octa-core SoC processor, clocked at 1.9 GHz. Both though, will boast 3 GB of memory, and be available with either 32 GB or 64 GB of storage, expandable via microSD. R9 000.



BOON TO THE BUDGET

Asus MeMO Pad 8

Asus is also bringing a new 8" tablet to the fore, which has been billed as a budget offering, although specific pricing has yet to be detailed. The tablet will apparently boast a 1.6 GHz quad core processor, 1280 x 800 resolution display, 5 megapixel camera and thankfully, a microSD card slot to bolster the otherwise measly onboard 8 GB of storage space. Asus has claimed that the 350 g device will pack nine hours of battery life. Hopefully it can follow in the Nexus 7's footsteps. **ts**

CAMERA NEWS

OLYMPUS comes in for the kill

Display	Sensor	Viewfinder
2.36 million dots LCD panel	16.3 megapixels	1.48x (35mm equivalent of .74x) EVF

If we were pressed, we would say that Olympus' OM-D E-M5 might just be our favourite compact system camera yet. So, when the top of the line E-M1 was revealed, it was difficult not to get giddy. This Micro Four Thirds camera promises even better autofocus with on-chip phase detection on the 16.3 MP Live MOS sensor. For many professional shooters, small viewfinders are a no-go, not to even mention electronic viewfinders (EVF). But the E-M5 might just change this mindset since it has a 1.48x (35mm equivalent of .74x) EVF with a massive 2.36 million dots LCD panel. This beast of a machine hits local shores at the end of October, and if its \$1 400 Stateside body only price is anything to go by, it won't be cheap.



NIKON P7800 goes electronic



After Canon's recent G16 announcement must come a new P-7xxx competitor from Nikon. The compact Coolpix P7800 includes a 12.2 megapixel CMOS sensor, f2.0 lens with 7.1x zoom, Wi-Fi and 3" vari-angle screen. Instead of sticking with the rather useless optical viewfinder, Nikon is including an electronic one with a solid 921 000 dots resolution.

Also interesting is the yellow logo's new AW1 camera in their mirrorless 1 range. They bill it as the world's first waterproof and shockproof interchangeable lens camera, although the AW1 retains a very stylish body. Unfortunately the AW1 will not see local shores, while the P7800 hits the shelves at the end of October. No RRP yet.



SANDISK'S 4K friendly monster

For many photographers, the high capacity and fast transfer speeds of CompactFlash cards put it in a league above SD cards, with Sandisk once again raising the stakes. Its new Extreme Pro boasts a massive 256 GB worth of storage and the company believes it offers "sustained write speeds of 65 MB/s, optimised to capture 4K and Full HD video." This should make it a boon for videographers. No RRP yet.



SONY QX100 & QX10 give your smartphone zoom

If you don't want the extra thickness associated with the Samsung S4 Zoom, but still need a smartphone camera with some extra reach, Sony has a solution. Although the QX100 and QX10 look like lenses, they are actually stand-alone Cyber-shot cameras that connect via Wi-Fi to your Android smartphone. With 3.6x and 10x optical zooms respectively, they come with adaptors to attach them to your phone. They should arrive in Q4, with no official price yet. **ts**

DON'T FORGET

THE ANNUAL PHOTO AND FILM EXPO starts at the Coca-Cola Dome on 31st October. Tickets range from R40-R80.

Samsung Galaxy S4 Zoom



It's no secret that smartphones are making life tough for compact cameras. The S4 Zoom comes to kick them while they are down.

Samsung has been one of Android's biggest fans (or is that the other way around?). With its Galaxy range of smartphones, the Korean company is Android's best selling manufacturer by miles. This while Samsung was also one of the first to feature Android on a compact camera (the Galaxy Camera) and now a mirrorless camera (the Galaxy NX camera). The S4 Zoom returns the focus (excuse the pun) to Samsung's smartphone range, offering some cool enhancements to the camera.

Just zoom in

The S4 Zoom's biggest improvement, but also its downfall (more about that later) is the 10x optical zoom found at the back of this smartphone. It's a manual zoom, meaning you actually turn the lens zoom ring to zoom in or out. It works a charm, with the 10x zoom range actually longer

than that on offer on many compact cameras. Another benefit the S4 Zoom offers to photo fundis is the large 4.3" (a so-so 256 ppi) AMOLED screen. It makes playback a breeze, while the ability to simply touch to focus and snap is another plus it has over its compact brethren without touchscreens. By turning the zoom ring at the back while the camera is off, you are able to select the picture mode (sport, portrait, auto, etc.), but we did not use this much. Instead,

THE 10X ZOOM IS THE S4 ZOOM'S BIGGEST BENEFIT – BUT ALSO ITS DOWNFALL.

we were more fond of this ring's ability to zoom webpages in or out – it helps a lot when the text or images are simply too small.

The bulk though

The biggest problem with adding a 10x optical zoom is a very obvious one – the bulk it presents. For one, the S4 Zoom is about 15.4 mm at its thickest (the S4 mini is 8.9 mm), while it also carries an extra bulge for the grip at the bottom. This makes it very difficult to quickly slip out of your jeans, while at 208 g it certainly isn't the lightest phone available.

To the point

If you are addicted to Instagram, photo sharing or simply love taking photos, the 10x optical zoom available on Samsung's S4 Zoom comes in very handy. It is a give-and-take though – for us the extra bulk associated with it was simply just too much, and when the time came to switch back to the S4 mini we breathed a sigh of relief. [MJ] **ts**

QUICK SPECS

Processor
1.5 GHz Cortex A9 dual-core processor

Memory & Storage
1.5 GB RAM | 8 GB storage with microSD

Display
4.3" AMOLED screen, 256 ppi

Operating System
Android v4.2.2 (Jelly Bean)

SAMSUNG GALAXY S4 MINI

Samsung's Galaxy S4 mini is a more compact, less flashy version of the range-topping S4 flagship, but is it good enough to ascend to the summit of our mid-range best buys list?

The baby brother to the Galaxy S4 has taken a shrinking pill to bring its dimensions down to a level iPhone users should be comfortable with, and boasts a 4.3" (540 x 960; 256 ppi pixel density) Super AMOLED. As you can expect, the pixel quality on this non-HD screen is not as sharp as on the S4's full HD panel, but we still found this resolution to be more than suitable for most tasks, with the screen also offering excellent viewing angles and colour saturation.

CPU and optics

Don't make the mistake of thinking the S4 mini contains the same specs as its bigger brother - actually only the styling is the same.

Powering the Android 4.2.2 running smartphone is a dual-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor running at 1.7 GHz per core. This CPU is coupled with 1.5 GB RAM to deliver a smooth and snappy performance during daily usage. In terms of optics, users get an eight megapixel rear-facing camera as well as a 1.9 megapixel HD front-facing camera, with picture quality and camera performance being on par with that of the Galaxy S3.

DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE OF THINKING THE S4 MINI CONTAINS THE SAME SPECS AS ITS BIGGER BROTHER - ACTUALLY ONLY THE STYLING IS THE SAME.

At the top of the S4 mini resides an IR (infrared) blaster, enabling the device to serve as a universal remote control for compatible electronic devices.



To the point

Samsung's Galaxy S4 mini packs a great deal of performance, eye-catching (albeit an all plastic one) design, and a handy IR blaster function into an excellent overall midrange package that costs R5 700 at Vodacom outlets around the country. It manages to snuff out all rivals except for our midrange smartphone of choice, Huawei's Ascend P6, which costs R700 less but packs a quad-core processor, more RAM (2 GB), and larger 4.7" IPS+ touchscreen. [HD] **ts**



BLACKBERRY Q5

QWERTY fans and BlackBerry loyalists who prefer the touch-and-type user experience of the Q10, but find its R9 000 pricetag a little too aspirational, can opt for the Q5.

BlackBerry's Q5 (120 x 66 x 10.8 mm; 120 g) couples the typing convenience of a physical QWERTY keyboard with easy touch-based OS navigation via a 3.1" (720 x 720 pixels; 328 ppi pixel density) IPS LCD capacitive touchscreen. Although colours are not as vibrant as on the Super AMOLED screen of the Q10, viewing angles remain excellent.

This LTE (4G) enabled smartphone boasts a unibody construction which means you cannot remove the 2180 mAh Li-Ion battery. On the good side, it has to be noted that this battery averaged around 12 and a half hours of usage from a single charge. Users will find the microSD card slot (supports cards up to 32 GB in size) and microSIM slot on the left side of the device via a rather flimsy plastic flap.

Hardware and software

Powering the Q5 is Qualcomm's Snapdragon S4 dual-core CPU running at 1.2 GHz per core, coupled with a very good 2 GB worth of multitask-accommodating RAM. The Q5 offers a 2 MP snapper at the front, whilst the back houses a 5 MP camera that produced average-looking photos in good lighting conditions and paltry pics at night. Users have access to 8 GB worth of internal storage, but can expand upon this via the microSD card slot.

IF YOU CANNOT USE A SMARTPHONE WITHOUT A QWERTY KEYBOARD, THE Q5 IS THE ONE TO GET.

In our opinion, BlackBerry 10 is a much more rounded mobile operating system compared to Windows Phone 8. The Q5 offers the latest version, namely BlackBerry 10.1, straight out the box, but the achilles heel of the platform remains the limited app selection in BlackBerry World.

To the point

BlackBerry's Q5 boasts enough hardware and software punch to deliver the same touch-and-type experience that can be found on the Q10. If you are just looking for an excellent mid-range smartphone costing in the region of R5 000, then there are plenty of full touch, similarly specced devices available that offer way more applications. That dwindling smartphone user population who cannot use a device sans a QWERTY keyboard will have most of their smartphone needs met by the Q5. [HD] **ts**

Win the BlackBerry Q5 on p21!

Acer Iconia A1

With the A1 a solid mid-range tablet enters the market. What does Acer offer with this Iconia?

The tablet race is far from over and a number of new devices are entering the market to compete at a different price-points. The Acer Iconia A1 comes in at just below R4 000 for a 7.9" unit. These 8" or below tablets seem to have hit the sweet spot, offering a device large enough for easy browsing, gaming and reading, but small enough to handle with one hand. The Acer A1 is no different, providing an 11.1 mm thick unit that does pretty much what is expected of it.

All onboard

For many, Apple's excellent iPad mini has become the standard for sub 8" tablets.

The A1 is not as sleek as the mini, with its mostly plastic design not winning any awards in the look and feel department. It does share the same screen size and resolution as Apple's small one (768 x 1024, a so-so 162 ppi) while offering good viewing angles thanks to IPS technology. Although we watched movies on the device it could definitely have delivered louder audio quality. Onboard is a MediaTek (MTK 8125) quad-core processor running at 1.2 GHz per core, while making use of 1 GB of RAM. It keeps things flowing smoothly, with the device delivering decent performance across the board.

Two nice features that might find appeal are Touch WakeApp and an interesting photo display option. Touch WakeApp allows you to wake up your A1 from sleep directly into your favourite app by pressing either five fingers or two thumbs on the screen. You can also use your A1 as a digital photo frame, since it can be set to display photos when it is charging (stand not included).

The Acer Iconia A1 offers a solid mid-range option in an increasingly crowded 8" tablet space.

To the point

The Acer Iconia A1 offers a solid mid-range option in an increasingly crowded 8" tablet space. This quad-core unit gets the job done in most cases, although we would have loved a bit of metal in the design and better quality speakers. For R4 000 for the 16 GB version without 3G it competes directly against the iPad mini, which will make life very tough for the A1. [MJ] **ts**

**The A1 was received as a seeding unit.*



Dell Inspiron 14z

It has been a while since a small to medium sized ultrabook has landed on our desk for review, but Dell's 14z is just that, along with a few surprising inclusions.

To start with, the 14" ultrabook is actually lighter than it looks at 1.87 kg, if a bit heavier than the excellent Dell XPS 13 (1.3 kg), which impressed us no end when ultrabooks first became de rigueur.

This one though, was also well built and attractively designed, combining black, silver and a gunmetal gray aesthetic to create a chassis that is both modern and smart looking. While solid hinges held the screen firmly in place, the notebook's base felt similarly sturdy to the touch and proved free of creaking; the screen, however, did exhibit some flex under pressure.

Sweet spots

We have long suspected that as with tablets, there is a size sweet spot for notebooks for those who intend it occupying their lap for long periods of time. To our minds, as the 14z confirmed, 14" seems to claim this honour.

The Inspiron 14z turned out to be quite an all-rounder with regards to usage.

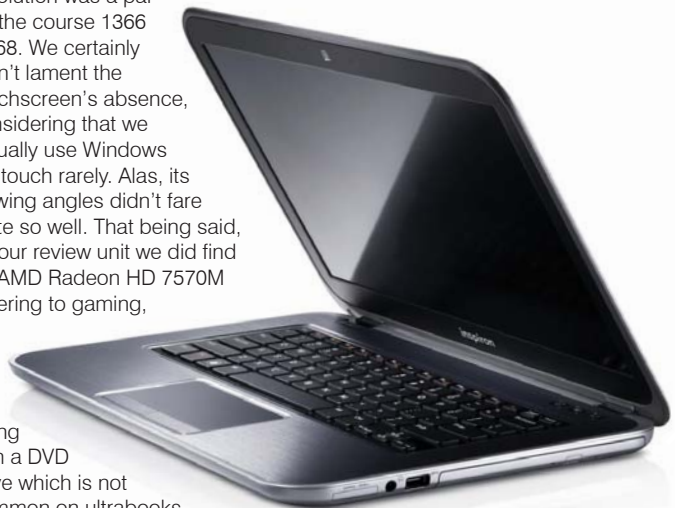
Moving on though, proportions and design aren't the only things we found to like about the notebook. Its non-touchscreen was also bright (400 nits) and offered rich, saturated colours, although its resolution was a par for the course 1366 x 768. We certainly didn't lament the touchscreen's absence, considering that we actually use Windows 8's touch rarely. Alas, its viewing angles didn't fare quite so well. That being said, on our review unit we did find an AMD Radeon HD 7570M catering to gaming,

along with a DVD drive which is not common on ultrabooks.

This also accompanied other noteworthy upper-midrange specs, including the ever faithful Core i5 (3317U) CPU, clocking in at 1.7 GHz, and a nice, above average dollop of 6 GB memory.

Final analysis

Not surprisingly, these delivered very good performance across the board, with the Inspiron 14z turning out to be quite an all-rounder with regards to usage. In short, the Inspiron 14z is certainly a capable and competent Windows 8 ultrabook. It has a RRP of R11 000. [RN] **ts**



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ADVERTORIAL

VIVID smartphone: LOCAL COMPANY NARROWS THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Xperien believes they can address the digital divide with their new R2 999 smartphone.

Over the years many have tried to bridge the digital divide - the difference between technology access in emerging economies compared to the west. There have been promises of the \$100 laptop for Africa and 'fair price broadband for all', but unfortunately we are still waiting. Now there is a brazen attempt to deliver the latest quad-core technology in a smartphone that is more affordable to all.

The VIVID offers the latest quad-core technology in a smartphone that is more affordable to all.

Alvin Peacock, CEO of XPmobile, believes his company is ready to address this ever widening technology gap with their VIVID smartphone. "This has been done before with our CRS brand, while we have also sold over a million desktop computer systems since 1999. We will do an even better job with mobile" he notes.

Quad-core aboard

The 5.5" VIVID is not short on features, sporting amongst others a quad-core processor, and retails at a very aggressive price point: R2 999 without contract. By the time it goes on sales on

the 1st of October it will be the most competitive high-end smartphone on the market.

Peacock says that they are able to deliver this attractive device at a truly competitive price due to the fact that marketing costs are kept down thanks to pre-launch orders exceeding 2000 units. "VIVID was designed and developed here in South Africa and we stay true to our core values of adding value to the customers in order to deliver affordable technology at a fair price," he notes.

To the point

With a number of big players asking enormous amounts for new smartphones at the expense of the customer in this market, high-end smartphones can cost more than one is likely to pay for a high-end notebook. That can't be right, so XPmobile has the right idea with VIVID smartphone offering a 5.5" screen and quad-core performance packed into a stylish device. It offers

tremendous value at a fair price and will have a lasting effect on the local smartphone landscape. For more information contact XPmobile (www.xpmobile.co.za) on 011-462 8806. **ts**



Withings Blood Pressure Monitor

Need accurate readings of your blood pressure from the comfort of your home? There's an app (and monitor) for that.

With an increase in so called mobile health solutions, it is becoming clear that the connectivity that cellular technology provides can help in monitoring health and well-being. With a recent \$30 million investment into its coffers, French connected health company, Withings, has a range of health solutions available. The Withings Blood Pressure Monitor is one such product, with others being a Smart Body Analyser that measure not only your weight but also body composition, heart rate and air quality.



The big benefit

With an accuracy of ± 3 mmHG or 2% of the reading, the Blood Pressure Monitor provides an easy way for individuals to keep track of their heart rate. The benefits of the Withings are twofold. Firstly, it's dead easy to setup and works directly off an iPhone, iPad, or iPod, with measurements taking place electronically via the cuff oscillometric method.

The process is easy and the app uses graphs to show your blood pressure trends over time.

Users wrap the monitor around their arm, connect the Withings to their device and start the app. Measurement is done with a little motor that starts inflating the strap tied around one's arm up until the pressure sensor can take a reading. This process doesn't take more than a few minutes and is painless.

The second important part is what happens after measurement has taken place. All readings are automatically captured on your device and can be easily sent to a doctor via email through the app. It is also saved online to be accessed via the web, while the app uses graphs to show your blood pressure over time, making it easy to spot trends. Readings in the morning and evening are also viewed separately. In case more than one member of the family uses the monitor on the same device, users can set up individual profiles not to get mixed up.

To the point

With a retail price of R2 550 on <http://store.orange.com> the Withings Blood Pressure Monitor is certainly not cheap but also not a massive investment if you need accurate readings and trends over time. [MJ] **ts**



Canon PowerShot SX 270 HS

Despite the fact that many turn to their smartphones to snap a quick shot, holding a solid, dedicated and feature-rich compact camera in one's hand for many is still unbeatable. Case in point – the PowerShot SX 270 HS.

Canon's more recent entry into the PowerShot fold is certainly a pleasure to hold, and felt to us a bit like a much smaller DSLR in a way. The reason for this is a couple of interesting design choices when it comes to the controls. To start with, just beneath your thumb you can find a reassuringly familiar mode dial. In practice, this makes switching between aperture priority, shutter priority, full manual and other modes highly accessible. This, quite literally, is a nice touch for photographers who like wielding their basic controls for creative effect. Adding to the tiny-DSLR feel is the small thumbwheel just beneath this mode dial, which evoked fond allusions to the larger version found on bigger DSLRs, and offered a familiar ease of use.

Onboard is Canon's latest DIGIC 6 processor, which means that general operation is as smooth as butter.

So much to like

The 20x zoom offering may not get you as up close and personal as the larger SX 50 HS's 50x superzoom, but its 25-500mm 35 mm equivalent range is nothing to sniff at either. Additionally, Canon has seen fit to stock the camera with its latest DIGIC 6 processor, which means that general operation is as smooth as butter.

However, ultimately a camera lives and dies by its image quality, and on this front, we weren't at all surprised to find that it was excellent. We were also particularly pleased to see how well the 3" LCD (460 k dot) screen stood up to bright, even direct, sunlight. Also catching our eye was the innovative Hybrid Auto mode, which records four seconds preceding a shot, and then merges these clips into a 'story' of the day.

To the point

The PowerShot SX 270 HS' appeal and capability is undeniable, as well as showing just how very far the category has come. RRP: R2 800. [RN] **ts**

Corel Painter X3

Amongst enthusiasts and professionals engaged in graphics and digital imaging, there are certain programs that stand out as must-have's to add to their creative toolbox. One of these is Corel's Painter.

It is for this reason that we immediately perked up when Corel announced the latest version of the program, in Painter X3. For the uninitiated who haven't yet experienced Painter, the program deftly imitates a variety of artistic media, giving one a dazzling array of brushes and artistic media from which to choose. This essentially gives you an art studio in your PC or notebook, especially when the program is paired with a graphics tablet such as the Wacom Intuos 5. Everything from acrylics, oils, chalk and crayons, to charcoal, pastels and even watercolour that realistically drips down and dries on the digital canvas can be found here.

Highlights and Enhancements

One of the most notable – and useful – new

additions is an enhanced stroke preview panel. This shows what each stroke will look like as you mouse over it before you actually apply it to your canvas, a feature we found immensely useful for previsualising and planning in which direction we wanted to take our painting. Additionally, also on offer is a new brush search feature, which makes it easier to search for and find the right brush by text input (handy, given that there are so many), and a reference image panel. This enables users to dock an inspirational image or photo you may be working from, in its own panel.

Corel Painter X3 essentially gives you an art studio in your PC or notebook.

Better yet, you can also sample colours from the image or photo for your own use.



It seems that Painter X3 does prefer more RAM than its predecessor to run at its optimum, consider above its minimum requirement of 2 GB best.

To the point

Nonetheless, this iteration is the most intuitive Painter yet, and there are promises of a patch to come shortly. RRP: R4 800 or R2 700 as an upgrade. [RN] **ts**

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Jays v-Jays headphones



Swedish headset maker Jays' v-Jays headset manages to squeeze a surprising amount of audio performance from its highly portable (weighs less than 60 g) frame. By default, the v-Jays use a 60 cm audio cable that is way too short for our liking, but you do get a 70 cm extension for this cable in the retail package. You do not get any fancy inline music playback controls or a mic to handle incoming calls, meaning that the sole focus of the earphones is music playback. Luckily the v-Jays pack a surprisingly loud sound courtesy of its 40 mm speaker drivers, with undistorted tunes at medium volume. We did wish for a bit more bass oomph though and when you crank the music all the way up, distortion and tinniness quickly creep into the produced sound.

Jays' v-Jays headset ticks nearly all the right portability requirement boxes thanks to its lightweight design and stellar audio quality at moderate volumes. RRP: R600 exclusively from Musica. **ts**

Fujifilm XF1

If Q were to outfit James Bond with a compact camera, no doubt this would be the one. To start with Fujifilm's XF1 camera has to get top marks for being stylish and distinctive, boasting an aluminium body and synthetic leather exterior. Its distinctively retro looks are also backed up by a twist on its functionality.

Instead of a power button, the 12 megapixel camera requires you to twist the manually zoomable 25-100mm (4x) lens open to power it up (much like the X20). Also worth a nod here is the extremely fast f/1.8 lens, combining with a no less impressive maximum ISO of 12 800. Together, these functions give darkness an ice cold stare, intimidating shadows into submission.

For those planning on shooting video, rather than enemy spies or rogue agents, the XF1 can also do full HD (1920x1080) video at 30 fps. Why this camera may appeal is hardly a mystery, also declassified for those who can't claim to be on her Majesty's payroll, is its price – an expensive R5 000. **ts**



REVIEW

Razer Ferox

mobile gaming and music speakers



The Ferox are highly portable speakers that can fit into the palm of your hand and travelers will be glad to note they can be carried along with them in the provided pouch.

Audio performance

Razer forgoes the traditional stereo speaker route to deliver 360° omnidirectional sound.

When you use the Ferox with your notebook or plug it into your tablet, the dual 3W speakers deliver enhanced audio compared to the tinny sound emanating from standard notebook speakers. You still get stereo sound, but the benefit of the omnidirectional sound is that you can place the speakers anywhere as opposed to being forced to have them face you.

The clearest, most undistorted sound is available at mid volumes, with the Ferox doing a much better job of keeping distortion at bay than the shoX duo portable speakers, which we expected since the shoX sets you back just over half the price (R350) of the Ferox (R600). We found that the Ferox suited our audio needs more whilst gaming and watching movies, rather than listening to music.

Razer aims to solve bad notebook and tablet sound with its Ferox mobile gaming and music speakers.

To the point

Razer's Ferox are very portable, offer an enhanced audio experience on-the-go, and come with a convenient travel bag. We just crave any sort of bass kick for a more rounded listening experience. It goes for an RRP of R600. [HD] **ts**

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Web: www.3d-printer.co.za

XPmobile Vivid dual-sim smartphone

With its dual-SIM capabilities the Vivid smartphone adds even more value to solid specs.

XPmobile's Vivid boasts two SIM slots, allowing you to employ a single device for calls coming to your business and personal numbers, or empowering users to utilise one SIM from an operator offering the best data rates and another for the cheapest voice costs.

Beyond its dual-SIM functionality the Vivid also offers a very decent media consumption experience on-the-go, thanks to packing a 5.5" 720p touchscreen. Demanding 3D games, such as Blitz Brigade and Dead Trigger, play fluently due to the phone's 1.5 GHz quad-core Mediatek MTK6589T chipset and 1 GB of RAM.

Also onboard the Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean device is Wi-Fi 802.11 n, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G HSDPA connectivity, plus an 8 MP autofocus main camera and 2 megapixel front-facing one. As far as battery life is concerned it manages a working day, despite a relatively small 1700 mAh battery.

You can get the Vivid smartphone for a very good R2 999 from XPmobile (www.xpmobile.co.za) on 011-462-8806. **ts**



Mini-F500 Dash-cam

Traversing the road, at least in South Africa, can be fraught with dangers, some of which include reckless drivers, hijackers, smash and grab thieves, and police with a penchant for extortion. It is with all of these in mind that The Mini-F500 dash-cam (dashboard camera) comes into its own, as the camera can record in high-quality video, all the travails that a company's driver faces.

The Mini-F500 dash-cam in particular has a host of useful features. Most importantly, the camera, which has a 120 degree viewing angle, can begin recording automatically when the vehicle starts. Along with being durable and easy to install, the dash-cam further boasts automatic file management. This means that there is no need to tinker with clearing the device's memory card.

Thanks to the inclusion of a gravity sensor, the dash-cam detects when there has been a significant accident and prevents these video files from being erased, preserving them for later use. Visit www.dash-cam.co.za or call 011-469-5165. **ts**



Goodies for Geeks



NOKIA LUMIA 925



The Lumia 925 is the best Windows Phone smartphone on the market (at least until the Lumia 1020 arrives early next month). It reduces the bulky 920's all-poly-carbonate frame (10.7 mm; 185 g) to a much more manageable (8.5 mm; 139 g). The mobile's 8.7 MP PureView camera with six Carl Zeiss lenses captures better photos than a lot of its 13 MP camera boasting rivals. RRP: R9 000

E-STYLE REAL LEATHER CASE



Cases for phones are a dime a dozen, but what about something more stylish? E-style's shell for the iPhone 5/5s is made of real leather which looks a lot better than the regular plastic. R300 from 021-552-3488.

FIFA 14 (PS 3)



The difference between PES and FIFA can be described with the following metaphor: PES is like a behind-close-doors game between Real Madrid and Manchester United (impressive gameplay, underwhelming presentation), with FIFA being like a UEFA Champions League final between Paris Saint-Germain and AFC Ajax (not the best gameplay but a palpable sense of realism). FIFA 14 manages to alter this perception via gameplay changes like Pure Shot and Protect The Ball. RRP: R700

LOGITECH G500s GAMING MOUSE



Logitech have been impressing us no end with their gaming keyboards of late, now it is their mice' turn. The G500s is certainly no pipsqueak, sporting up to 8200 dpi, the capacity to process up to 12 megapixels/second, and more buttons than you could shake a stick at. Its build is also top notch and clearly aimed at the hardcore, while still being ergonomic. RRP: R900. **ts**

IBABY MONITOR

Unlike stationary monitors, the iBaby camera lens follows your little one with a quick up/down, left/right swipe of your iPod touch, iPhone, iPad or click of your PC mouse. If baby moves out of the camera eye, easily reposition the iBaby monitor from anywhere your mobile device or PC can connect. Enjoy peace of mind knowing that your baby's movement or cry activates an alert to you, while 2-way audio capability carries your soothing voice when it's needed most, wherever you happen to be. Infrared night vision lets you keep a watchful eye without disturbing baby's sleep, and you can take unlimited pictures using your iOS device's existing camera.



iHEALTH WIRELESS BLOOD PRESSURE MONITOR

With no plugs or connections to manage, our Wireless Blood Pressure Monitor makes it easy to check your own blood pressure, anytime and anywhere. Using our free iHealth mobile app, measure and track your systolic/diastolic numbers, heart rate, pulse wave and measurement time. Then share your results instantly.



GALAXY S4 WIRELESS CHARGING KIT

With the Wireless Charging Cover attached, simply put your Galaxy S4 onto the Wireless Charging Pad - and that's it - charging made simple. Put the pad on your desk, in the kitchen or anywhere in the house or office so anyone with a Galaxy S4 and wireless charging back cover can charge their handset. No more bad connections and desperately trying to unplug the handset when it rings, just pick it up and answer. Now you're truly free!



STARTMONKEY 400

The startmonkey400 is a compact, jump-start system suitable for use on both standard cars and larger vehicles such as small commercial vans, 4x4s, etc that have 12Volt batteries (CCA up to 1200A). The startmonkey400 delivers a jump-start current of 12Volts at 400Amps and is packed with high-tech features to give you total peace of mind.



QUIRKY GRILL WRANGLER & SLIDERS

Make your cookouts a knockout success! GRILL WRANGLER is a 3-in-1 BBQ tool. With a simple slide-n-lock mechanism it transforms to tongs to spatula to grilling fork! SLIDERS is a set of 4 double prong skewers that keep food securely on while grilling and it guides food easily when you're ready to eat.



RUBIKS CUBE 3X3

The original 3x3 Rubik's Cube. This incredibly addictive, multi-dimensional challenge has fascinated puzzlers since the creator Erno Rubik brought it to the world in 1980. More than three decades later the Rubik's Cube is still the best selling puzzle. With "43 Quintillion" possible moves and only "ONE" solution. Nearly one in every five people in the world has twisted, jumbled and enjoyed this immensely popular puzzle.



HARMAN KARDON BTA10

Not every entertainment system was born with Bluetooth® connectivity. But that shouldn't stop you from wirelessly streaming your favorite music to your system from your smartphone or tablet. The Harman Kardon® BTA 10 external Bluetooth adapter enables you to stream audio wirelessly to the system from any Bluetooth-equipped portable device. HARMAN TrueStream™ technology means that the wireless audio connection will be the highest quality possible.



EUROLUX PLASMA BALL

This fascinating lighting effect that puts the power of lightning at your fingertips will have you cackling like a mad scientist in no time! Just the word plasma makes you think of going boldly where no-one has gone before. However, the beauty of this awesome 7" plasma ball is that you don't have to wrestle Klingon's in the outer regions of space to play with it. When plugged into the included mains power supply this 7 inch glass ball produces streaks of lightning that react to your touch. Just move your fingers along the outside of the glass and watch as the lightning follows your movements.



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Durban, George, Polokwane

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- PTA – Woodlands (012) 997-0450
- PTA – Kolonnade (012) 548-5380
- JHB – Sandton City (011) 783 8173
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THE JOLT BUGZAPPER

This extremely effective tool kills all types of mosquitoes. The JOLT bug zapping racket, more formally known as a hand held electronic insect-control system allows you to Zap and Kill without using chemicals of any kind. The electronic circuit has been tested to exceed 100'000 operations. The JOLT bugzapper racket is not a toy for children but we cannot deny that zapping a mosquito in mid-flight is fun for all ages.



RIDE: THE LATEST CAR NEWS



SMOOTH PETROL-SAVING GERMAN OPERATOR

Mercedes-Benz lifted the lid on its new S500 plug-in-hybrid at the 2013 Frankfurt Motor Show, illustrating how first-class opulence and sportiness can go hand-in-hand with eco-efficiency. Beneath the bonnet of the Merc resides a 3-litre V6 turbocharged engine (245 kW; 480 Nm of torque) and electric powerplant (80 kW; 340 Nm), which rockets the big Merc to 100 km/h in 5.5 seconds while the top speed is limited to 250 km/h. More impressive though is the claimed combine-cycle fuel usage figure of 3 litres per 100 km and 69 g of CO₂ per km, less than half that of the VW's Polo Vivo (147 g of CO₂ per km).



Curvy crossover concept from Lexus

Crossovers and hybrids are hot car market segments right now and Lexus is looking to kill two birds via one concept stone in the LF-NX. The car is powered by Lexus' hybrid powertrain technology to deliver the best mixture of power and economy. Lexus did not divulge any performance figures though, which is fine by us seeing that it is the design of the concept that will deliver the most headlines. According to Lexus, this concept reflects the evolution of its L-finesse design language, showcasing highly sculpted exterior panels, signature Lexus spindle grille, and arrow-head independent Daytime Running Lights.



BMW finally unveils i8 in full styling glory

BMW finally showed off its sublimely styled i8 plug-in hybrid four seater sports car, which is powered by a 1.5 litre three-cylinder petrol engine (170 kW; 320 Nm of torque) and hybrid synchronous electric motor (96 kW; 250 Nm). This sees the all-wheel-drive i8 bring up 100 km/h on the speedo in just 4.4 seconds, whilst being capable of delivering a combined-cycle fuel economy figure of 2.5 litres per 100 km. Drivers will be able to select between five driving modes, one of which is an all-electric mode with a driving range of up to 35 km and a top speed of 120 km/h. No official release date has been set yet.



Ferrari unveils a hotter 458

The newest Italian Stallion to gallop out of Ferrari's thoroughbred supercar stable is the 458 Speciale. Ferrari reduced the 458 Italia's weight by 90 kg, increased the power output of its 4.5 litre V8 engine from 419 kW to 445 kW at a glorious 9000 RPM, and equipped the car with active aerodynamics. The end result? A quicker 0-100 km acceleration time of 3 seconds (compared to 3.4 in the 458 Italia), and top speed of more than 325 km/h. No pricing info is available yet, but expect it to make the R3.49 million pricetag of the 458 Italia seem cheap. **ts**

Hyper-supercars offer the cream of the crop when it comes to mind-blowing performance and breathtaking looks. Here are our top 5.

Top 5

HYPER CARS



5. Lamborghini Veneno

552 kW; 720 Nm of torque



The Veneno happens to be the most exclusive vehicle in this illustrious comparison. Only three models were created and have been sold for the princely sum of [3.57 million (around R49.26 million) each. This Italian Stallion can rocket to 100 km/h in around 3 seconds onto a terminal velocity of 356 km/h. While the Veneno's design can be called many things - alien, futuristic, stealthy even unique. Our favourite adjective would rather be: butt-ugly.



4. Koenigsegg Agera S Hundra

768 kW; 1100 Nm

The Agera S comes from Koenigsegg, the Swedish company that only manufactures hypercars. Beneath the bonnet of this supermodel resides a twin-turbocharged 5 litre V8 that blasts the Agera S from standstill to 100 km/h in just 2.9 seconds, from 0 to 200 km/h in less than 8 seconds, and from standstill to 300 km/h in around 22 seconds. Terminal velocity for the Agera S is a faster than Flash 420 km/h. \$5.3 million (approximately R52.73 million) should knock your budget a bit. We are sure to buy one for the office come next year.



3. Porsche 918 Spyder

661 kW; 1275 Nm

Porsche's 918 Spyder is powered by a 4.6 litre V8 petrol engine and two electric motors. This sees the Porsche bring up 100 km/h on the speedo in just 2.8 seconds, 200 km/h in 7.9 seconds, and 300 km/h in 23 seconds, only stopping acceleration at its top end of 360 km/h. Equally impressive is the claimed fuel usage in Hybrid mode of 3.3 litres per 100 km on a combined cycle. Only 918 cars will be produced by Porsche with pricing starting at a bargain basement \$845 000 (a mere R8.7 million) Stateside - the cheapest in this comparison.



2. McLaren P1

673 kW; 900 Nm

There is no question that the P1 is the Gisele Bundchen of supercars, only rivalled by the sublime LaFerrari for head-turning appeal. The P1 is blasted forward by a heavily revised version of the 3.8 litre twin-turbo V8 petrol engine that does duty in the MP4-12C, supplemented by a lightweight electric motor. McLaren's P1 takes less than three seconds to hit 100 km/h from standstill and can reach 300 km/h in just 17 seconds - six seconds faster than the Porsche. Only 375 examples of the P1 will be made for a low-low £866 000 (R13.87 million) at least in the UK, where the hypercar is expected to be released during 2014.



1. Ferrari LaFerrari

718 kW; 900+ Nm

The LaFerrari is arguably the belle of the hypercar ball, sporting a design that acts like a black hole for your eyeballs. Under that delectably sculpted body resides a HY-KERS powerplant system incorporates an electric motor and 6262 cc V12 that provides enough grunt to 100 km/h in under 3 seconds; hit 200 km/h from standstill in under 7 seconds; and achieve a top end of more than 350 km/h. The LaFerrari delivers a 15 seconds 0-300 km/h acceleration time, which is how long a Toyota Yaris 1.0 takes to go from 0-100 km/h. Ferrari will only be making 499 LaFerraris, with the hypercar sporting a super price tag of \$1.7 million (R17.02 million) early in 2014. [HD] **ts**



Crossing over:



Subaru is looking to broaden its market appeal by entering the crossover* segment with its new XV. All-wheel-drive and the best-in-class ride height are some of the features that distinguishes the XV from rivals like the Nissan Qashqai and Kia Sportage.

With its XV, Subaru opted not to rock the established design boat too much to the extent that Nissan did with its unique looking Juke. Instead, the Japanese carmaker went for the station wagon on stilts design, resulting in a vehicle that looks capable of tackling the great outdoors thanks to its raised ride height, and toughened exterior elements the likes of chunkier bumpers and plastic extenders for the wheel arches.

Helping our test car to get noticed is its bright orange colour, highlighted even further due to the contrast between the body colour and the two-tone 17" aluminium wheels. These mags feature silver spokes and black surrounds, imparting the XV with a sporty appearance when parked.

On the interior, things look and feel very sturdy and well screwed together, with the XV offering plenty of interior head- and legroom for both front as well as rear passengers. There are a number of creature comforts included as standard equipment, such as a 6 speaker audio system that boasts an aux- and USB input; Bluetooth hands-free calling; as well as hill start assist that prevents you from rolling backwards when stopping on an incline. The boot offers a generous 310 litres of loading space, which you can expand to 771 litres when the rear seats are folded down.

The Subaru XV is perfectly suited for people living in areas without paved roads and those drivers that like to vacation in the country.

Although the feature list is up to par with its rivals, we weren't fans of the outdated radio unit mounted in the XV, which reminds one of the system found in the 2001 Nissan Sentra. The satellite controls on the steering wheel also feels a bit plasticky and cheap.



Subaru XV 2.0i Lineartronic CVT

A crossover game changer

Unlike most crossover cars at this pricepoint such as Ford's EcoSport, Subaru did not opt for front-wheel-drive but rather equipped the XV with its tried-and-tested symmetrical all-wheel drive system. This system, together with the car's 220 mm of class leading ground clearance, helps make the XV more competent when taken off the beaten path compared to your run-of-the-mill SUV or crossover.

Under the bonnet of the XV resides a 2.0-litre four-cylinder normally-aspirated Subaru Boxer petrol engine that churns out 110 kW and 196 Nm of torque. Our test car was fitted with Lineartronic continuously variable transmission (CVT), which also allow drivers to change gears manually via the paddle shifters behind the steering wheel.

At comfortable cruising speed within the city limits, the CVT box performed admirably, however, whenever we ventured onto the highway the CVT and boxer engine showed their performance achilles heel. If you want to overtake a car or drive faster, you floor the accelerator pedal, the CVT drops a gear and the rev counter climbs to above 4500 RPM. Unfortunately the performance bite of the engine does not match the noisy bark it delivers, since the speedometer barely moves at all.

The only way we circumvented this lack of performance was to slot the gear lever to the right, putting the car in manual mode and dropping two gears down via the paddle shifters and then slotting it back left to put the car back in automatic mode, once we successfully overtook a car or made it over the steep incline.

To the point

Subaru's XV is capable of light offroading thanks to its high ground clearance and its all-wheel-drive system,

making it perfectly suited for people living in areas without paved roads and those drivers that like to vacation in the country. The car further offers a practical, feature rich interior, and a large boot. Where it falls short is with its bland interior and constrained exterior styling, with our test unit only pulling in the looks due to its audacious colour scheme. However, it is the lethargic response of the CVT and powerplant to our accelerator input that prevents the XV from climbing to the top of our most wanted crossover hill.

The XV goes for a recommended retail price of R309 000, which nets buyers a maintenance plan of 3 years or 75 000 kms. This makes the XV noticeably cheaper (R322 500) compared to the Nissan Juke 1.6 DIG-T Tekna AWD CVT, but we have to say that the Juke offers the superior CVT experience out of the two. [HD] **ts**

*A CROSS WHAT?

A crossover vehicle is a car that boasts the design elements of a sport utility vehicle (SUV) such as the higher ride height and improved all round visibility. It blends these with the features from an estate car (station wagon) or hatchback, resulting in a vehicle that can appeal to a much broader range of car buyers.

Some of the most popular crossover cars includes BMW's X1, Volvo's XC60, the Kia Sportage, as well as Nissan's Juke.



Keeping you,

and your car, **SAFE**

Even though instances of carjacking have been reduced by 37.6% over the last 4 years*, it remains a far too common crime on local roads. We look at some of the technology available to car owners to help with vehicle recovery and theft deterrent.

1. Tracking your car from up high

Stolen vehicle recovery systems have been tried and tested locally. Companies such as Altech Netstar, Cartrack, and Tracker fit vehicles with difficult-to-detect devices that allows them to trace hijacked vehicles, working with the SAPS to recover stolen cars. Some solutions even have the ability to remotely kill the ignition, shutting the engine off completely so that its criminal occupants can be more easily arrested.

The pricing for these solutions usually work on a once-off cash price basis, with users paying a monthly subscription for the trace and recovery services. Customers can also sign a contract to have the device installation done for free, but then pay a higher monthly subscription over the duration of the service contract.

2. Making identification easier via Micro Dot technology

Micro Dot or Micro Tag technology does not prevent hijackings, but does make it substantially easier to identify a car or parts thereof as stolen. It sees a unique number on the Micro Tag being associated with a registered car owner. The number is kept in the database of the company offering the

Micro Dot service (such as Recoveri), but is circulated globally to ensure that the car and all its parts can be easily identified as stolen property should your car cross the border or end up in a chopshop.

These Micro Tags are virtually impossible to remove without damaging the components on which they have been placed, with tens of thousands of dots spanning the length and breadth of your car.

3. Curtailing smash and grab occurrences

Besides hijacking and car theft, South African motorists also have to contend with the prevailing threat of smash and grabs. A number of windscreen installers and tinters are offering smash and grab safety film installation for car windows. These prevent the window from shattering when hit by the assailant, and reduce the likelihood of the driver or front passenger getting cut by falling pieces of glass. Make sure to ask the service provider what thickness of film would be best suited.

4. Carjacking prevention skills

When it comes to carjacking, knowledge, as with most things in life, is power. Possessing the right skills to react to a hijack situation and the situational awareness to avoid possible instances of its occurrence can prove invaluable. A number of carmakers actually teach carjack prevention skills, either as an added option to- or as part of- their advanced driver training courses. These include BMW and the VW Driving Academy. [HD] **ts**

* According to the South African Police Service's crime statistics overview 2012/2013
Image: www.leslieperalda.wordpress.com.



HAVE YOU TAGGED YOUR VALUABLES YET?

FORTUNATELY WE USE ADVANCED MICRODOT TECHNOLOGY

Recoveri Dot provides an advanced on line asset registration and tracing solution through innovative technology and microdot integration. Valuable assets can now be tagged with permanent and nearly invisible microdots that can be read physically with a Recoveri Microscope fitted with ultra violet light for ease of detection. Assets are registered in a secure online database where ownership of goods can be traced locally and internationally. The HOTDOT® feature provides quick feedback on stolen assets, which has made it popular with Police and law enforcement agencies.

Recoveri products are water based and non-toxic making it safe for the environment and possess unlimited shelf life properties prior to application. Upon application the Recoveri microdots and adhesive becomes a permanent fixture on the assets which cannot be removed without damaging the asset itself. The Vehicle Dots system integrates into the eNaTIS system in SA. Recoveri's attention to quality and its TUV Rheinland ISO 9001 accreditation and SABS product approval, provides additional confidence in the products reliability and robust design.

Recoveri products have been approved by SA Department of Transport, law enforcement agencies, insurance companies and Business Against Crime and Recoveri is committed to providing you with these advanced enhanced asset protection solutions.

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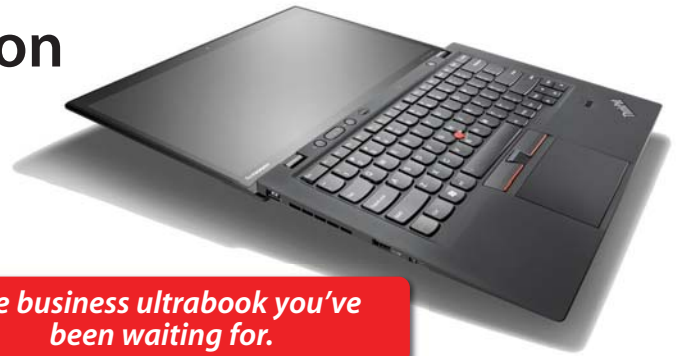
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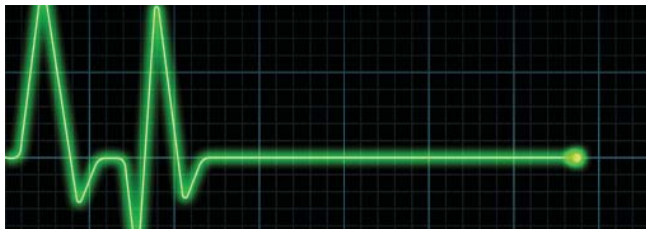
SCIENCE PIC OF THE MONTH



Astronomers have discovered enormous arms of hot gas in the Coma cluster of galaxies. With a minimum span of half a million light years, these arms provide insight into how the Coma cluster has grown by merging smaller groups and clusters of galaxies to turn into one of the largest structures in the universe held together by gravity. This composite image, with Chandra data in pink and Sloan Digital Sky Survey optical data appearing in white and blue, features these spectacular arms. (Image: NASA)

SMART ANSWERS

Life is full of clever questions that need smart answers. Linda Pretorius provides a few.



NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES

Has science crossed the (flat)line?

So to speak, yes. Neuroscientists found that brain activity in rats briefly surged 30 seconds after their hearts stopped beating. The same pattern was seen whether death was due to a heart attack or suffocation.

But perhaps it was just a glitch?

It's unlikely. The EEG patterns showed highly synchronised neural activity, similar to that of an awake, active brain.

What could have caused the heightened activity?

It's not quite sure, but the researchers believe that reduced oxygen and glucose supply to the brain spurred high-level neural processing.

So near-death experiences are real?

It could well be for some people. And the well-organised brain activity patterns seen in the current study seem to offer some scientific explanation for the 'realer than real' perceptions about 20% of heart attack survivors reported in previous research.



THE STUFF OF LIFE

So has the mystery of the origin of life on Earth been solved?

Well, at least one more piece of the puzzle fell in place. Scientists recently found that icy comets crashing into Earth may have blasted life into the planet.

So, life on Earth came from outer space?

The ingredients for life, yes. Comets typically consist of an icy mix of water, carbon dioxide, ammonia and methanol. Experiments showed that when such a mix was shock compressed, several different amino acids, which are the building blocks of proteins, formed. This suggests that comets brought the ingredients for life, while the impact with early Earth provided the necessary energy to make it happen.

Does this mean there could be life elsewhere too?

It certainly ups the odds. In fact, one of Saturn's moons also consists of frozen water and organic molecules. A high-speed comet crash could well provide enough energy to let complex organic molecules such as amino acids form. **ts**

Scientists recently announced that Voyager 1 has moved beyond the plasma bubble surrounding our sun. Interstellar space, as this region is known, is uncharted territory. The space probe's entry into interstellar space is regarded as one of the greatest exploration achievements of humankind, on par with circumnavigating the globe and taking a step on the Moon. And all of this with technology dating from the late 1970s.

To infinity and beyond!

150 million km

The distance from the sun to the Earth.

About 19 billion km

The distance of Voyager 1 from the sun, or just over 11 million trips between Joburg and Cape Town.

400 W: The amount of power needed to run the electronics and heaters on board Voyager 1.

115 images and 55 languages: Recorded on the Golden Records as a message from Earth to other life in outer space.

13 000 km/ℓ: Fuel efficiency of a Voyager spacecraft.

About 70 kb: The memory capacity of Voyager 1. A current-generation smartphone typically has 240 000 times as much memory.

5 trillion bits: The total amount of data sent to Earth by the two Voyager spacecrafts.

17 hours: The time it takes for a signal from Voyager 1 to reach Earth. Data is sent to Earth at about 160 bits/second.

30 000 years:

The time it will take Voyager 1 to reach the outer edge of the Oort cloud, regarded as the official edge of our solar system.

35 years:

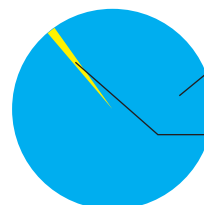
The time it took Voyager 1 to reach interstellar space.

8 years:

The estimated remaining time before the last instrument onboard Voyager 1 will be switched off. This means Voyager 1 will have been sending data to Earth for 44 years, way longer than originally expected. [LP] **ts**

65 000: The number of parts used to build Voyager 1.

2 000: The approximate number of parts in a colour TV.



STYLE VOLT: ATTIRE

by Mynhardt van Pietsen

Dressing for spring is both awesome and awesomely difficult. So what's our goal for this month's section? Showing you 12 to 15 items that can easily be assembled into three or more looks, all which can be seamlessly transitioned between being socially savvy and taking care of business like a boss. Spring? We've got you sorted.



Slim-fit trucker denim jacket
Levis Factory Outlet R400

Ecko Unltd graphic printed tee
Stuttafords R300

Skinny cotton shorts
Jay Jays R189

THE SHIRT

It's finally that time of year to break out the legendary t-shirt. Go for a v-neck graphic printed option, and avoid anything with 'bro', 'beer' or 'babe' in the slogan. You can even sport some great long sleeved checked button-downs to up your level of sophistication. They go great with jeans, chinos or shorts. Mr. Price offers both range and affordability, so get a couple of good ones to vary your look. Look out for checks in blue, red, green or grey and try to avoid pastels, pinks, and textured fabrics. Remember, you should be interesting, not your shirt.



Oakley Wayfarer sunglasses
Sunglass Hut R189



Canvas messenger bag
Fossil R1500

Nike Pegasus Suede
Sportscene R899



THE SHOES

Tie everything together with one of only three sets of treads: something classy, something sporty, and a good quality sandal.



Leather thong sandals
Trenery R499

- For the classy option we prefer a full-leather upper brogue. The tan and dark brown colours are much more spring-ish than the stark black ones, and you can wear them with everything.
- With 'sporty' we don't mean your running takkies or your hiking boots, put them wherever you chucked your cargo shorts. The freshly released suede Pegasus series from Nike is useful for hanging at the coffee shop or racing for a good seat at the game.
- Plastic, velcro and rubber do to sandals more or less what a 'no service' message does to your iPhone - it instantly becomes useful only for throwing at your mate or being chewed by the dogs. Get leather thongs for those über relaxed weekend outings.

Checked button down shirt
Mr Price **R120**



Charcoal single breasted blazer
Woolworths **R775**



THE JACKET

Since we are not yet sizzling in the scorching heat that is the sub-Saharan summer, a light jacket is still in order. While we're not going full Harvey Spector here, adding a charcoal or navy blazer to your combination will quickly elevate your business negotiation leverage. On your softer side, the denim trucker jacket will give you just the right amount of excuse to keep her warm on those chilly after-date car park walks. A word of caution though, do all you can to avoid a denim-on-denim type of situation here. You're not the Central Texan bull riding and rodeo champ, and if it worked for Burt Reynolds it may not necessarily work for you. Stay classy.

THE ACCESSORIES

Let's just be honest for a moment, we're not talking metro man junk over here, but the right amount of burly accessories can kick up your style appeal a significant couple of clicks. We'd advise against anything that you can picture as part of the Mr. T brochure of bling. The point here is style, not swag. Instead, invest in a good quality leather strapped chronograph watch, stylish retro sunglasses, and the ever useful messenger bag with canvas and leather details. Swatch, Oakley and Fossil are brands you're bound not to go wrong with. Tell 'em we sent ya.

Chronograph watch with leather strap
Swatch **R1699**



Brown leather belt
Fossil **R899**



Docker khaki chinos
Stuttafords **R699**



Levis 511 slim-fit jeans
Levis Factory Outlet **R350**



THE PANTS

Since your goal is to look good everyday, not different everyday, you only need a couple of good quality options here.

- When it comes to jeans, remember these wholesome pointers: slim fit, dark colours, and turned-up cuffs. The 511 from Levis is pretty much your best bet here, and as yourself, can quickly make the move from the meeting to the meet-up.
- Chinos is a must for country outings, lazy picnics or mall strolling. Khaki is the most versatile option to work with the rest of your ensemble.
- If you've still got the baggies, the cargo's, the boardshort or the rugby kortbroek as your go to option, man – are we glad you're reading this. Slim fit, plain and pinstriped shorts from Jay-Jays will catapult you into the now. Wear them with a belt. Always. **ts**

Caterpillar lace-up brogues
Cape Union Mart **R899**



SHAVEN!

PREPPING

Gone are the days when our forefathers scraped over-sized hunting knives over their bare skin, lubricated only by sweat and the tears of their enemies. Finding a good way to soften and prepare your skin before subjecting it to the business end of your blade, can be the difference between a silky smooth shave and looking like you should be admitted for third degree burns.



DisChem
R95

Traditional Shaving Brush

Schick Quattro Titantium

Clicks
R70

SHAVING

We know that the weapon of choice when it comes to your beard-be-gone endeavours might be a very personal matter. So let us be the first to say that if you've found something that works, feel free to stick with it.

On the disposable front, choose a product that has at least three to five rows of blades. When opting for permanent fixed-blade razors, make sure you get the brand whose refill blades will always be locally available.

When going electric on your face, save up for something that not only delivers a tug-free ride, but can also handle both wet and dry conditions. Just don't leave them lying around the bathroom - lady shaving is a great way to ruin a good electric shaver.

Clicks
R800

Philips AquaTouch



Clicks
R47

Bic Comfort 4



Gillette Mach 3

Clicks
R90

CALMING

Once you've prepped and shaved in all the proper ways, your skin is in desperate need for some TLC. Although you might be tempted to slap some form of sweet smelling substance on, rather opt for calming balms with active healing ingredients like aloe, vitamin E and anti-UV elements. This will make sure that your skin not only feels amazing for the rest of the day, but might also keep your face from leathering up before you hit the big four-o. [MVP] **ts**



Clicks
R50

Gillette Fusion Manual

Nivea Shaving and Skin Care Range

Clicks
POA



TECH SPORT

Fitness Gear

**Adidas hits the gym**

If the gym is your second home, you might be interested in Adidas' newly updated adiPURE 360 trainers. We've spend some time with these recently and if it's a low-weight, highly flexible trainer you are after, then this is it. They are comfortable, easy to slip on and come with a mono-tongue construction so that the tongue doesn't slide to the side. We're slightly concerned about the Techfit plastic print on the body since it seems like it can wear off easily, while those looking to hit the road afterwards should also browse elsewhere, since these adiPURE 360s are not built for running. But if you're weight training or squeezing in a Twentyfour session, the new 360 is a good choice. RRP: R1 000.

TomTom goes tracking

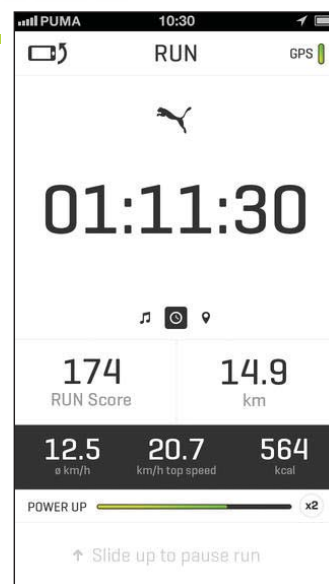
We enjoyed running with the TomTom Nike+ SportWatch, but now TomTom is going solo with its new Runner and Multi-Sport GPS watches. Both the Runner and Multi-Sport feature a thin 11.5 mm design and one button control that makes it easier to scroll through the menus while sweating on the road. The Multi-Sport further breaks out a cadence sensor, altimeter and a dedicated bike mount. Available for R2 000 and R2 900 mid-October.

**Puma now in app game too**

With Nike and Adidas having solid apps available to runners for a while now, Puma is playing catch-up with its new Pumatrack app. Puma believes that the app is "designed to motivate athletes to get out the door and discover ways to get the most out of a workout," although from what we've seen it hasn't got the legs to compete against Nike+ or Runkeeper. It's available for Apple devices only, with Android being in development.

**iSport Victory for monster training sessions**

Monster's range of iSport earphones are now available locally, competing against the excellent Sennheiser sport range for audiophile athletes' attention. The iSport Victory is the top of the range, with SportClip earhooks to keep it from slipping out and OmniTip buds to make it fit snugly. Monster notes that the Victory boasts total noise isolation, which might not be the best idea while hitting a busy road when out training. R2 000 bags you a pair of these. **ts**



Top 5 movies

that make you wish you were a super hero



THE AVENGERS

Geek rating: 5 Joss Whedons + 1 real one

Hulk SMASH! Geek god Joss Whedon did the unthinkable when he managed to contain The Hulk and Tony Stark's ego in the same film. As if one superhero wasn't enough to save the world, *The Avengers* managed to mesh several superhero franchises together as if this was a completely natural thing to do.

Epic seems like an understatement, as the movie gave us the chance to live vicariously through each of Marvel's most-loved superheroes. Whether you're unleashing The Hulk, powering up as Iron Man, star-spangling your enemies as Captain America or getting some much-needed hammer time as Thor — *The Avengers* made it all seem possible.



IRON MAN

Geek rating: 4 Joss Whedons

Robert Downey Jr. and Jon Favreau didn't exactly set the world alight when they were announced as the title star and director for *Iron Man*. However, when *Iron Man* blasted his way onto screen to the sound of AC/DC, sheer exhilaration seemed appropriate.

Robert Downey Jr.'s devil-may-care attitude and x-factor have turned the one-man army that is Iron Man into a superstar. Who wouldn't want to be "a genius, billionaire, playboy, and philanthropist"? Women love him, men want to be him... Iron Man is self-made superhero heaven.



THE MATRIX

Geek rating: 4 Joss Whedons

We'll forever be indebted to The Wachowski Bros. (now The Wachowski Starship) for *The Matrix*. Not only did they give hackers some serious street cred, they made us re-evaluate our existence by choosing between the blue and red pill.

Neo's journey brought us into direct contact with downloadable martial arts, slow-motion bullet-time, mind-over-matter superpowers and the leather-clad, Scorpion-kicking Trinity. Thanks to *The Matrix* dodging bullets, wearing sunglasses upside down, and that blonde in the red dress, is only a phone call away.



THE DARK KNIGHT

Geek rating: 5 Joss Whedons

Batman is basically James Bond with more money, better toys and home ground advantage. *The Dark Knight* continued to build on Christopher Nolan's foundational work in *Batman Begins*, creating a crime epic with certainly one of the best interpretation of The Joker ever.

Based on the backlash to the casting of Ben Affleck, it's clear that Christian Bale is the quintessential Batman. But it was Heath Ledger that stole the show, creating a Joker so unhinged, calculated and brutal that he puts Jack Nicholson's interpretation to shame. Pencil disappearing tricks anyone?



SPIDERMAN

Geek rating: 4 Joss Whedons

With a massive collection of over 25 000 comic books, Sam Riami was no stranger to world of the web-slinger when he took the job as director. Raimi gave every geek the power to win over their high school sweetheart and finish a fist fight in style. The original *Spider-Man* immersed us in the world of Peter Parker, with a sharp performance from Tobey Maguire, as he went from zero to hero.

Spinning webs, catching thieves like flies, radioactive blood, swinging from threads, crawling walls, hanging from ceilings, swinging through the city, upside down kisses and making headlines as a masked vigilante all in the name of neighbourhood watch... priceless! [SA] **ts**

NEW ON SCREEN



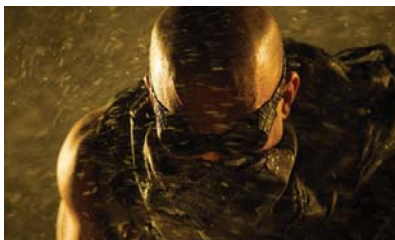
▲ RUSH 4 October

Rush is a biographical action film about the 1976 Formula One season, starring Chris Hemsworth, Daniel Brühl and the beautiful Olivia Wilde. Ron Howard demonstrates yet again that he's one of the most versatile directors in Hollywood. 'Thormula' One jokes aside, this one's all about the intense rivalry between Niki Lauda and James Hunt and will definitely rev your engine, even if you're not a fan of chequered flag sports.



▲ PRISONERS 11 October

Hugh Jackman, Jake Gyllenhaal, Maria Bello, Viola Davis, Terrence Howard, Paul Dano and Melissa Leo... If this critically-acclaimed cast doesn't sell this crime thriller to you, you'll have to see it for the gripping, intense and emotional story at the core of *Prisoners*. A father takes matters into his own hands after his daughter and her friend go missing. Move over Liam Neeson, Hugh Jackman's got this one and it's not for the faint-hearted.



▲ THIS IS THE END 11 October

We saw what happened when a party got disrupted in *Cloverfield*, but what if those people were James Franco, Jay Baruchel, Seth Rogen and friends... and what if instead of a sea monster, they were facing the apocalypse? Stoner comedy meets the rapture as celebrity actors play fictional versions of themselves. *This Is the End* is a recipe for repulsive and hilarious disaster.



▲ GRAVITY 18 October

For many of us, being lost in space with Sandra Bullock or George Clooney, would be quite doable. However, after seeing *Gravity* you may think twice before booking a return ticket on Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic. *Gravity* zooms in on a medical engineer and an astronaut as they try to survive an accident in deep space. According to James Cameron, this breathtakingly mesmerising 3D sci-fi drama is the "best space film ever done".

▲ RIDDICK 25 October

When Vin Diesel isn't Dom Toretto, he's Riddick... another guy who likes to feel 'wanted'. The A-list action man owes a lot to the *Riddick* franchise, which helped launch his career. This time he reteamed with *Pitch Black* and *Chronicles of Riddick* writer-director, David Twohy, to reprise his role as the anti-hero fugitive. After being betrayed and left for dead on a sun-scorched planet, Riddick fights for survival against alien predators and bounty hunters. This gritty, old school sci-fi actioner gets back-to-basics with *Pitch Black* appeal and more 'Riddick-ulous' action. It had to be said.

New releases:

Movies & DVDs

NEW ON DVD



▲ STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS

Hailed as Steven Spielberg's successor, now entrusted with two of Hollywood's biggest franchises (*Star Trek* and *Star Wars*), J. J. Abrams has successfully landed a sequel every bit as enthralling as the series reboot. *Star Trek Into Darkness* packs a punch with a scene-stealing Benedict Cumberbatch as Khan, a smart allegory for the War on Terror and a budding bromance between Chris Pine and Zachary Quinto as Kirk and Spock. This one's a must-see.



▲ MAN OF STEEL

Henry Cavill is the picture perfect Superman, an actor destined to don the iconic red cape. *Man of Steel* is a spectacular sci-if actioner that every fan boy can appreciate for its epic interplanetary story, vivid special effects, solid cast and city-levelling soundtrack. Zack Snyder and Christopher Nolan's vision may not have the same charm as the Superman played by Christopher Reeve, but it rewrites *Superman Returns*, and kicks ass with Michael Shannon as General Zod. [SA] **ts**

Don't WING it, SPRING it!

For awesome movie news and insightful reviews visit: spring.co.za | springmovies.mobi | spring.mobi



Top 5 South African Craft Beers

Choosing five favourite beers from the ever-expanding menu available in South Africa is a tough challenge. Of course, that being said, everyone has their go-to beers – here are the top choices for five pleasing pints around the country.

By Lucy Corne –
The Brew Mistress and author of African Brew



Devil's Peak King's Blockhouse IPA

devilspeakbrewing.co.za

The prominent bitterness of this highly-hopped beer might not be to everyone's taste initially, but for the seasoned beer drinker, Cape Town-based Devil's Peak's American-style India Pale Ale is the holy grail of South African brews. Sip it with spicy food and strong cheeses – stinky blue or gruyere are two top picks.



Darling Brew Bone Crusher

darlingbrew.co.za

With added coriander and orange peel, this Belgian-style witbier is full-flavoured but utterly refreshing. Don't let people tell you that beer for breakfast is bad – a bottle of witbier shared over scrambled eggs and smoked salmon is just as good of a breakfast buddy as any bottle of sparkling wine.



Cape Brewing Company Amber Weiss

capebrewing.co.za

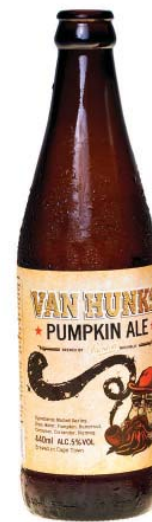
Hands-down the best hefeweizen in the country is brewed on the Spice Route Wine estate outside Paarl. Full of the banana aromas indicative of the style (but no, there's no banana added), it's a creamy pint that works just as well for food-free afternoon sipping as it does with a light lunch such as seafood or salad.



Cockpit Brewhouse Black Forest Stout

thecockpitbrewhouse.co.za

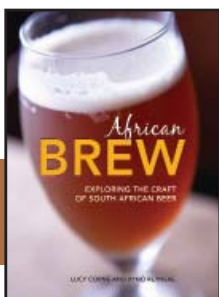
OK, so this limited edition beer – a robust stout with added chocolate and cherries – is not available year-round, but it's an indicator of the liquid loveliness you'll always find on tap at the Cockpit Brewhouse in Cullinan. Brewer André de Beer likes to experiment and there's always a seasonal 'big beer' (something full flavoured and often potent) on tap alongside his staple ales.



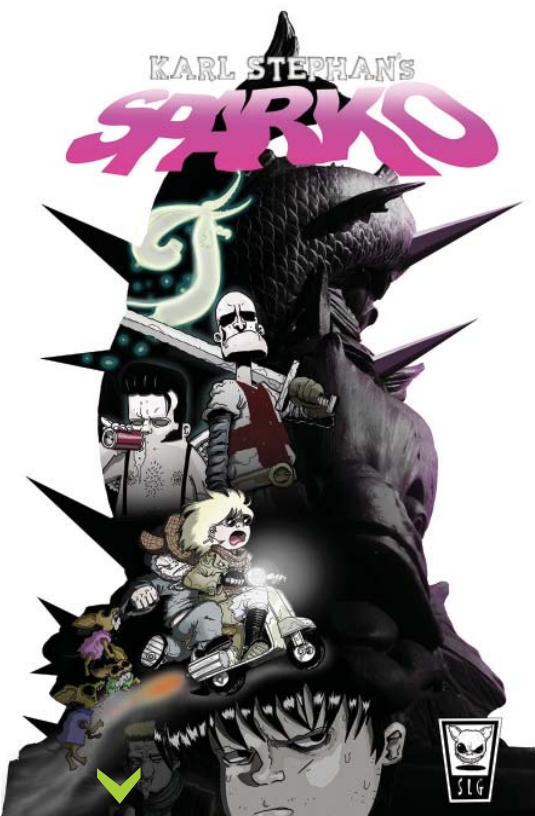
Boston Breweries Van Hunks Pumpkin Ale

bostonbreweries.co.za

Although flavours can vary from batch to batch, when this spiced ale is on, it's really on. With added butternut, cinnamon and nutmeg, it's like a liquid pumpkin pie with a smack of beer about it, but that doesn't mean Van Hunks pairs only with sweet treats. In fact, it's a superlative food beer whose best match is perhaps the sweet and spicy profile of Cape Malay cuisine. **ts**



Lucy's *African Brew* is available at bookstores nationwide, including Exclusive Books and Kalahari.com. Also pick it up at micro-breweries countrywide. Check her blog at bit.ly/brewm.



SPARKO

Karl Stephan
Published by **Slave Labor**
Sparkonaut.com and
karlstephan.co.uk

Norman gets stabbed, thrown in the Thames and ends up being chased through the nightmare world underneath the skin of everyday London by strange and somewhat dead creatures, killer chihuahuas and slightly emo goblins. Fortunately our hero meets Belle, a young pickpocket who has the smarts to guide him through the subterranean urban jungle and put him on the path to facing the truth about his girlfriend's death.

Why buy?

Not your regular warm and fuzzy feel-good story, Sparko is an offbeat urban fantasy, nightmarish ride through the collective unconscious of the world's glummiest city, sprinkled with moments of dark humour.

Karl Stephan, an old Bellville boy now living in London, beautifully conceptualised a world that is fully-realised, and an immersive, strange and funny place, underpinned by a much bigger mystery.

Available at:

bit.ly/sparkos R166 ; bit.ly/sparkot \$1 (R10)

Comic book connoisseur and Open Book Comics Fest coordinator, Moray Rhoda, gives the reason why these three SA comic books are must-read stuff.

MUST-read

SA comics



NERO: GENESIS

Luke Molver
Self-published
<http://lukemolver.com>

Nero is an underweight, pigeon-chested, club-footed, half-blind wetware engineer. He's also a hustler and genius living in a future sci-fi version of Durban and content with getting by and hanging out with his friends, Skuif and Arani.

That is until the day he decided to build a super-computer using outlawed technology that could destroy the human race. Now he is on the run from the corporation killers who want him dead and the technology for themselves.

Why buy?

Nero's world is a dystopian vision of a future South African city, with plenty of clever local references and language that creates a grounded and grim reality one can identify with. It's a well-written, disturbing and imaginative sci-fi tale brimming with complex ideas and interesting characters and some ultra-violence to move the plot along.

Available at:

Readers Den specialty comic shop (R90) and Clarke's Bookshop.



DUNGEON QUEST

Joe Daly
Published by **Fantagraphics**
www.fantagraphics.com

Dungeon Quest is a self-aware look at fantasy roleplaying tropes that starts off in a strange, off-kilter, almost-recognisable pseudo-SA suburb. Our protagonist, Millennium Boy, rebels against the mind-numbingly mundane existence of his suburb and starts gathering a band of would-be adventurers to accompany him on an adventure quest. As the story develops, the ridiculous nature of fantasy role-playing is exposed, as the characters level up and loot the corpses of their fallen foes (while commenting on their feelings about both).

Why buy?

Dungeon Quest is a smartly-written, well-paced story filled with laugh out loud stoner humour and moments that make you question your preconceived notions of the predictability of fantasy stories. The storytelling is elevated by grounded dialogue that shines with authenticity in even the most ridiculous moments, and readers will easily identify with the characters. **ts**

Available at:

bit.ly/dqjdaly \$11. Also at Readers Den (R175) and Outer Limits specialty comic shops.

STAND A CHANCE TO WIN a BlackBerry Q5 hamper worth R6 000!

HOW TO WIN?



Simply tweet the following:
I want to win the BlackBerry Q5 with @techsmartmag
[#Q5TS](http://bit.ly/q5comp)

BlackBerry's Q5 is a new youthful and fun BlackBerry 10 smartphone. It features a QWERTY keyboard with discrete keys in a stunning youthful design that is confident, fun, and bold. Every feature, every part of the BlackBerry Q5 has been built to provide a fast, effortless experience that flows and moves with you to help you explore, create, and share while on the go.












Create the perfect shot with BlackBerry Time Shift mode and Story Maker

Create the picture perfect shot with BlackBerry Time Shift mode, then create and share your story, weaving together your photos, videos and music into a movie with BlackBerry Story Maker.

Share and be seen with BBM Video with Screen Share

Instantly switch your BBM (BlackBerry Messenger) chat to a BBM Video conversation and catch up face-to-face. You can even share your screen, whether it's a photo, a page in the browser, an idea, or a view from your camera.

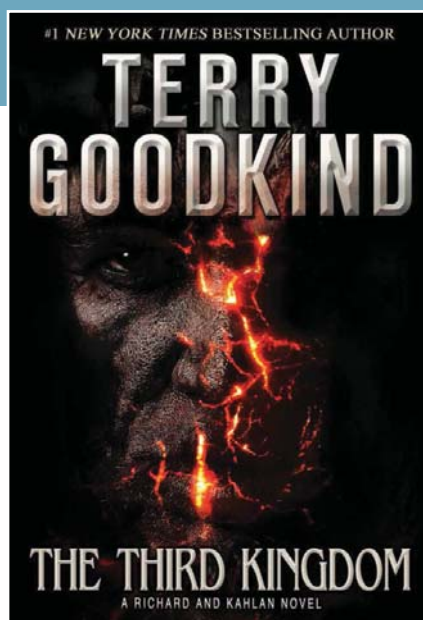
TOP Tweets!

- 
Becky K. @Becky_Kos
 "Just let me finish this mission" - The words every girl is already sick of hearing! haha #GTAV #ThingsBoysSay
- 
Awkward Jim @AwkwardJim
 Sometimes I'm amazed at how much stupidity can be conveyed in 140 characters..
- 
Not Will Ferrell @itsWillyFerrell
 They call me Macklemore in math class because im like what what what what what what what what what what what what.
- 
Deep Fried Man @DeepFriedMan
 There is a special place in hell reserved for those who watch the finales of TV series before I do and then tweet what happens.
- 
Shai in the disco. @ShaiArctic
 If you put a Wakaberry cup to your ear, you can hear a white girl asking her friend which instagram filter she should use.
- 
Gus Silber @gussilber
 Once again, as with so many big breaking news stories, Al Jazeera & Twitter are the only channels you need to get the story.
- 
Nick @NickBossRoss
 Apple's unnecessary change to which direction you have to swipe to delete things will be mentioned extensively in my obituary.
- 
MajorFlakes @MajorFlakes
 Always a bridesmaid, never a flying saucer
- 
Grumpy Cat @__GrumpyCat
 You say smiling is contagious? Don't worry I'm vaccinated

- 
Neil deGrasse Tyson @neiltyson
 I've never understood those who assert that killing people with chemicals is worse than blowing them to bits with a bomb.
- 
tsholo @nthutuko
 So disappointed @TechSmartMag September edition has no writing down spine...super disappointed
- 
Dean Oelschig @DeanOelschig
 5.... 4.... 3.... 2..... 1..... skip ad.
- 
Trevor Noah @Trevornoah
 They're going to ban alcohol adverts? Why? Castle ads are the last place Bafana is still winning matches. #sad
- 
Chester Missing @chestermissing
 Matter of time before BlackBerry tries to make BBM available on landlines.
- 
Jerm @mynamelsjerm
 In which program do rappers type their lyrics? Word.
- 
RollingStone @thapedict
 Catching up on some @TechSmartMag and I have to say the hard copy feels so much better than the digital, and my eyes are lovin' it!
- 
Mabine Seabe II @Mabine_Seabe
 These SMSes telling you that you've 'won' money, need the attention of ICASA, SAPS and the Communications Department. We're under seige!
- 
Renier Stoop @123Renier456
 @TechSmartMag is an amazing Magazine ! I am a tech lover and everything I need,i get out of this Magazing go there !!techsmart.co.za
 from Centurion, Gauteng
- 
Bill Murray @BillMurray
 I live for two reasons. 1) I was born. 2) I haven't died yet.

Pixel pages: Great reads

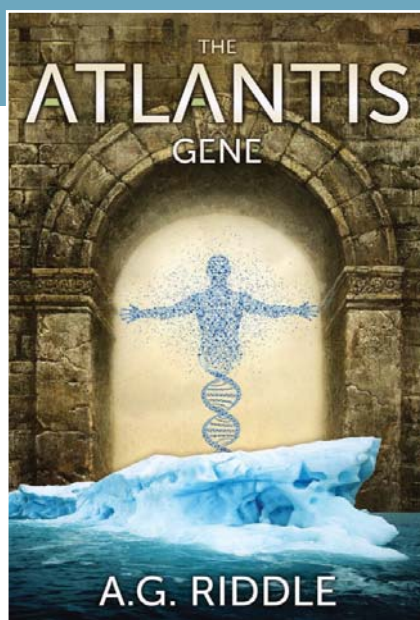
If you want further reassurance of the continued validity of reading as pastime, read on for a pick of some of the outstanding sci-fi and fantasy offerings that have been claiming a space on our Kindle and tablets of late.



THE THIRD KINGDOM

Terry Goodkind

One of the heavyweights of the fantasy genre, Goodkind returns to the protagonists from *The Sword of Truth* series, Richard and Kahlan, in his latest offering, the sequel to *The Omen Machine*. Goodkind wastes no time thrusting readers into brutal but absorbing action, with both Richard and Kahlan finding themselves in dire straights. While having to contend with a new danger in the Dark Lands, Richard also has to deal with a conspiracy, and the lack of his power as a war wizard, as Kahlan's life hangs in the balance. Granted, familiarity with *The Sword of Truth* series is recommended, but for those who have been patiently waiting to return to *The Sword of Truth*'s world, this is the fantasy title to pick up. \$12 (R117) on Amazon for Kindle edition.

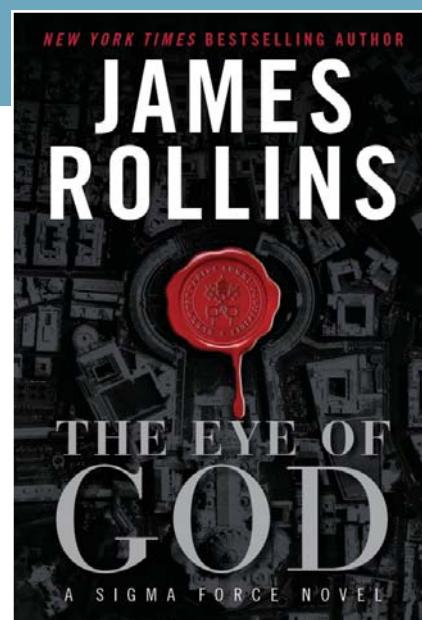


THE ATLANTIS GENE

A.G. Riddle

The first book in *The Origin Mystery* series seemingly has all the elements to entice lovers of science fiction, adventure and mystery. The technothriller's premise is certainly alluring, involving the next stage of human evolution and genetic experimentation, a discovery of a mystery deep in Antarctica, a global conspiracy and a race of people with sinister ulterior motives.

The premise echoes Michael Crichton's and James Rollins' work; great news for fans of those two literary titans. Add to this believable characters in the form of geneticist Kate Warner and dedicated agent David Vale, and you have a recipe for a highly recommended yarn. All this for a budget-beating \$5 (R50) on Amazon for the Kindle edition.



THE EYE OF GOD

James Rollins

Another perennial and old time favourite, Rollins' latest is a tour de force of action, suspense, smart science and future Armageddon prophecy, all tied in with some historic context that goes back to Attila the Hun and Genghis Kahn. In *The Eye of God*, just prior to crashing, a satellite tasked with studying dark energy sends out a disturbing image of the Eastern seaboard of the US having been completely devastated - in the near future.

The novel blurs the boundaries between fiction and the realms of what could be, with Rollins opening by questioning the nature of reality, and referencing cutting edge, quantum physics thought, while mixing in some gripping action. All this makes for a compelling read. *The Eye of God* is Rollins at his finest. \$12 (R117) on Amazon for Kindle edition. [RN] **ts**

APPS OF THE MONTH



BlackBerry APPS OF THE MONTH



Deezer

With Deezer on Windows Phone 8, it's not just the Nokia editorial teams who get to share their favourite tunes. The new app allows you to share the tracks and playlists you love, so you can recommend your own hot new pick to millions of other music fans around the world. In addition to music discovery, the app also gives you immediate access to your favourite tracks through the Windows Phone tiles. The app is free.

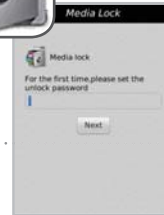


Media Lock Free



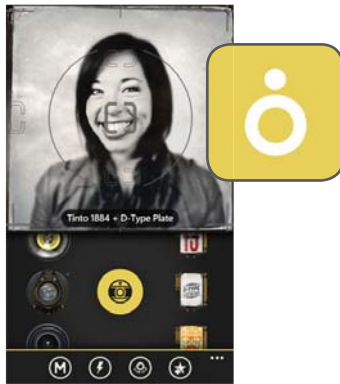
If you are tired of people accessing items in your gallery without your consent then have a look at this free application by Glorious Mobile. Media Lock Free allows you to add password functionality to your BlackBerry's gallery.

This means you can now protect images, videos, music or other files that your gallery may contain. Keep the files on your phone for your eyes and ears only thanks to Media Lock Free.



Hipstamatic Oggl

Image editing apps are a dime a dozen these days, but what really sets Hipstamatic Oggl apart is both its built-in social features and extensive collection of creative effects. The filters come in two categories: lenses and films, which you can apply to your photos in different combinations to create images that are moody, whimsical and retro. With a number of new Windows Phones coming with good cameras this app is very welcome addition.



N.O.V.A 3

Fans of Halo should definitely have a look at this R8 side scroller or first person shooter depending on the device you own. Picking up from where N.O.V.A 2 ended it is your job to save earth from the Volterities. Features include impressive sound effects and graphics along with a lengthy campaign. It should be noted that there was performance drops on older BlackBerry devices which became a nuisance especially during combat. Save humanity with N.O.V.A 3, or at least yourself from boredom.



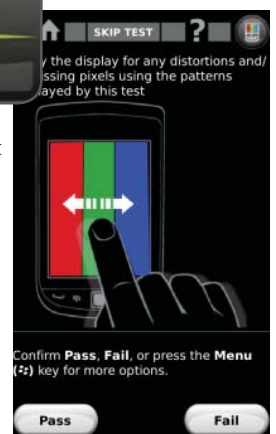
Polyhegrams

Polyhegrams is a little peculiar and a little bit addictive. Spin multi-sided 3D shapes (polyhegrams) and spell out words, either answering clues, or Boggle-style: finding as many words as you can out of the limited letters. You can play single-player, multi-player or head-to-head (online or with a local pal via Wi-Fi). While it's as compelling as the likes of Wordament if you like puzzles, it's also got a crazy backstory (think aliens). Polyhegrams is available from the Windows Store for R12.



BlackBerry Virtual Expert

This free application by Research In Motion Limited allows you to diagnose the condition of your BlackBerry device. Besides offering a detailed walkthrough, you can also test out the condition of your hardware systems such as speaker, USB, and screen, just to name a few. Even though the tests are limited to hardware aspects of your device it's still worthy download. Save time and money with BlackBerry Virtual Expert. [IF]



Free space

In order to free space you can remove languages on your BlackBerry device. Go to 'setup', select 'languages', and choose the languages you want to delete. After that scroll down and click on 'update'. Do note that this differs per OS.

BLACKBERRY TOP TIP

WINDOWS TOP TIP

It's a no brainer that every smartphone can also be used as a calculator but can they be used to handle advanced calculations? With Windows Phone simply open your calculator app and rotate your handset to the left and soon after your plain-old calculator becomes a scientific calculator. This comes in pretty handy when you need to solve a physics equation or, for some reason, want to practice trigonometry in your spare time.



**ANDROID
TOP TIP**

PopBoardz

PopBoardz, which bills itself as an alternative to PowerPoint, quite niftily enables you to stick a myriad of content, including text notes, PDFs, websites, images and video, on one screen. Thus it handily presents an idea or concept with numerous supporting examples. Each board can support up to 16 tiles, each of which is editable, able to sport its own logo and background, and can be rearranged as desired. It's Free.



Spyglass

This rather sophisticated augmented reality navigation and compass app is one of the more feature rich we have found our way to. It offers a gyro-compass, which can access your device's camera and offer up directional information as an overlay, along with one's current GPS coordinates in both geodesic and grid formats. Also on offers is a speedometer, altimeter, coordinate converter, sextant and inclinometer. The app further allows you to save and share your position and waypoints, very useful for when you take a wrong turn in the bowels of Sandton City while your significant other is shopping. R40.



The Guardian of Imagination

If you're looking for something a little bit enchanting, somewhat whimsical and overall, brilliantly produced, take a look at this app. The family friendly Guardian of Imagination is an interactive story with morals, which has you opening boxes to unlock captured dreams. Doing so not only reveals minigames and keys to the next box, it also enables you to bring colour back to the game's world. Captivating and free with optional in-app purchases.



What with privacy becoming an increasingly rare, and dare we say precious commodity nowadays, here is another way to protect a little bit more of yours, at least when it comes to your web browsing habits on your iOS device. If you happen to use Safari, you can enable a Privacy Browsing feature, by going to Settings, and under Safari, sliding Private Browsing to on. Then, you can lend your device to your friend or family member for a short time with a little more piece of mind.

**APPLE
TOP TIP**

**Enhancing
browsing experience**

If you struggle to read text whilst browsing websites on your smartphone or tablet, you can set the text size larger by accessing the browser's 'Settings' and then selecting 'Accessibility'. Next, users simply needs to set the 'Text scaling' percentage higher to see bigger fonts whilst surfing the web.



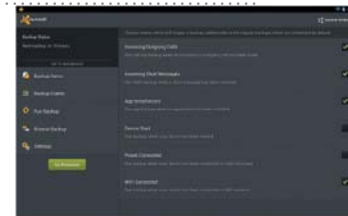
Twisty Launcher

Gesture-based controls are quickly making their way onto flagship smartphones such as Motorola's Moto X. The Twisty Launcher application allows you to bring this type of functionality to your device as well by performing hand gestures to launch your favourite app. You can hold your smartphone upright with the display facing you and flick your wrist left twice to launch the camera for instance. Users get one gesture for free and can buy two more for around R10 a pop.



Avast! Mobile Backup

Avast! might be best known for their antivirus software, but it also offers a backup application that takes the hassle out of keeping your important data saved to the cloud, ready to be restored when you purchase a new device. This free Avast! Mobile Backup app saves a user's contacts, SMS log, call log, and photos for free, but if you upgrade to the premium version (costs R20 per month or R150 per year), you can also keep your music, videos, and apps backed up.



Leisure Suit Larry: Reloaded

Leisure Suit Larry: Reloaded is an updated version of the classic 1987 adventure game. This enhanced version of the game boasts high-res graphics, a more modern touch-based user interface, the expected bucket loads of risqué humor, and fully voiced characters. Players fill the shoes of lovable loser Larry Laffer, a 40-year-old virgin in pursuit of... uhm, human connection. We recommend connecting to Wi-Fi when downloading this game, since it's a beefy 416 MB download. **ts**



Canon

PROMISES BEST EXPO YET

The Canon South Africa Expo is now less than two months away, and the company has assured that some familiar staples as well as a couple of new features will be making an appearance.

The expo has been confirmed as running from 10 am to 6 pm on the 29th of November to the 1st of December at the Sandton Convention centre. As with previous years, Canon confirmed that entry to the three day event will be free, and the company has promised products at discounted prices for the duration of the event, with specific specials to be announced closer to the time.

Along with being able to interact with Canon experts and products, the expo will similarly offer a lineup of professional photographers who will conduct two speaker sessions that will run simultaneously throughout the day from Friday to Sunday.



And now for something completely new

According to the company, two new highlights will also make their debut this year. The first of these, interactive displays, will showcase the features of select products. Also new this year is the introduction of live training sessions hosted by industry experts. These sessions will be presented daily and will accommodate up to 20 people at a time. Visitors will also be encouraged to ask any related questions they might have with regards to using their photographic equipment. Attendees interested in these training sessions are advised to bring along their own equipment.

Enticing photographers to test their skills, the expo will once again be accompanied by a photographic competition. Aspiring photographers will be invited to enter one or more of the competition categories for a chance of winning prizes.

To the point

While Canon has not yet announced who the speakers this year will be, if they are the same calibre as last year then we should certainly have much to look forward to. Indeed, last year's expo was a highlight of the photographic calendar, at least for us. For more information visit www.csaexpo.co.za. **ts**

Game your way to rAge

2013

One of the annual highlights of local gamers' calendars, rAge is upon us, and the organisers have promised to deliver the goods.



The expo, which is once again running at the Coca-Cola Dome in Northgate, will open its doors from the 4th to the 6th of this month. The technology and gaming expo, which can rightly be called a geek-fest, will showcase computer and console gaming hardware, along with games across the various platforms. Some of these include Batman: Arkham Origins, Assassin's Creed 4: Black Flag and Watch Dogs.

Also fanning the fires of creativity and all things geek, the expo will play host to comic books, figurines, anime, cosplay, board games and competitive collectible card games. Furthermore, the expo will host the LegionInk Artists Alley, in which visitors will be

able to interact with some of SA's respected art designers, inkers and image artists.

Wishful winnings

Perhaps though, the only things gamers enjoy more than playing is winning, and thus the expo has come to the fore with a number of competitions and chance to score a noteworthy prize.

For example, attendees can also look forward to the chance to win a R30 000 gaming rig from Matrix Warehouse, as well as ten seats at one of Boston Media House's animation courses, to the value of R70 000. Apparently, Amazon Web Services will also be seeking talented individuals to add to their team.

For those eyeing the new PS4, the show organisers have assured that Sony's next gen console (arriving officially on the 6th of December) will be unveiled at Sony's stand, along with the likes of Beyond: Two Souls, Invizimals, and Tearaway. Finally, as also become a rAge tradition, the expo will once again feature a 52 hour NAG LAN event, in which some 2 000 players will participate.

To the point

TechSmart will also be present, with readers being able to have their pictures taken with some of our cover girls. Catch us at stand 28. Entry tickets will cost R70 per person or R120 for a weekend pass. **ts**



CCD adds Point of Sale to its repertoire

Hearing all about the latest and greatest technologies available is one thing, but actually having a go-to distributor to avail oneself of needed components is quite another.

To this end, Computer Component Distributors (CCD) aims to enable businesses to easily source the technologies they require. The company provides an array of products, including workstations, networking components, computing accessories, LCD monitors, as well as notebooks, all from leading brands. Brands represented across the board include Samsung, HP, Asus, LG, Gigabyte, Netgear, Acer, Philips and BenQ. Towards the end of last year CCD also became a distributor of Toshiba's notebook range as well.



Pedigree of professionalism

The company, which has a 17-year strong legacy and is based in Bloemfontein, has endeavored to be customer specific, rather than product specific, which means it can more easily offer a variety of technology solutions according to customers' needs and preferences. Additionally CCD, which serves resellers, can further source products and brands as required. Adding to its versatility is the fact that the company also offers an extensive range of Point of Sale (POS) devices,

with a particular emphasis on the growing mobile computing for POS sector, along with POS terminals and POS peripherals. With regards to the latter, CCD can also offer devices such as a receipt printer, programmable keyboard, barcode printers, scanners and a customer display, all of which only make POS devices that much more capable in a business setting.

Efficiency, expanded

POS products have an extensive range of use in a variety of markets, but what is common no matter how they are used is the increased efficiency, and speeding up of business processes, that utilising these devices can deliver. Additionally, thanks to open architecture and modular designs, POS products can also be plugged into other equipment, such as kitchen displays and hand scanners, only extending their usefulness. Now, businesses have a go to-source for availing themselves off all the benefits POS can bring.



The company's website <http://www.ccdbloem.co.za> contains a full breakdown of the extensive products on offer, while its sales team can be reached on 051-447-4706. **ts**



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AnonIT Solutions: **TAILORED IT SOLUTIONS FOR SMEs**

AnonIT Solutions is an IT support and service specialist that has been active in the information industry since January 2010. Besides IT consultancy, the company also specialises in the maintenance and service of SME PC networks (0-350 computers).

Rather than offering generic and overly complex IT solutions to clients, AnonIT Solutions tailors their offerings around the client's requirements, to deliver products and services that will fit companies' individual needs and budgetary requirements. Amongst other services, AnonIT Solutions offers hardware as well as software sales, infrastructure cabling, data backup solutions, hosted services, and IT security solutions the likes of firewall installations.

Although the company is based in Alberton, it provides services as well as support nationally (Durban/Cape Town/Johannesburg). It recently opened up an additional branch in Heidelberg to provide services to the outer parts of the city.

Visit www.anonit.co.za or call 011-869-1420 to find out how they can provide a personalised solution for your business. **ts**

TRENDnet offers **ULTIMATE** wireless experience

To start with, the AC1750 dual band wireless router's claim to fame is that it accommodates the AC standard, which is considerably faster than the older, but still popular, 802.11n standard.

More particularly, the router (model number TEW-812DRU) offers users who value instantaneous connectivity and loathe waiting, gigabit wireless speeds. Furthermore, the device also enables users to manage two wireless networks, with the 1300 Mbps Wireless AC band affording the fastest wireless connection, while the 450 Mbps Wireless N band caters to common wireless devices. It received a 4½ out of 5 star rating in PC Mag.

Features galore

Making the router yet more appealing is its ability to handle the demands of multiple HD streams in a busy connected home or office. This is ideal for scenarios where multiple users are streaming videos to their television sets, notebooks or tablets. If that wasn't enough to entice, the TEW-812DRU can also accommodate a USB flash or NAS server, from which HD videos and music can then be shared across the network, while gigabit ports on the back of the router cater to high speed wired connections. Enhancing the device's flexibility is the fact that users can create a secure isolated guest network for guests who wish to have internet access.

TRENDnet's vision is to build innovative, easy to use, and reliable networks people trust. TRENDnet solutions network the countless devices which enable your connected lifestyle and workplace. Building award winning networking solutions since 1990, TRENDnet connects you with what you value most.

Where connectivity is concerned, speed is all too frequently prized above all else. To this end, TRENDnet has revealed its new generation wireless router.

For more information on TRENDnet products visit www.trendnet.com. TRENDnet products are distributed by Phoenix Distribution on 011-592-9200 or via www.phoenixdistribution.co.za. **ts**

COMPETITION!

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Is it possible to link a NAS server to the TRENDnet AC Router?



Send your answer to acrouter@homenetworks.co.za and you might be lucky!



FOSCAM FI9805W HD OUTDOOR WIRELESS IP CAMERA

Indoor surveillance is all well and good, but what about when it comes to keeping an electronic eye on the outdoor perimeter of one's property?

This is a question that Foscam's HD Outdoor Wireless IP Camera seeks to definitively and reassuringly answer. The 1.3 megapixel internet protocol (IP) camera is well equipped with 36 infrared LED's, which provide a night vision visibility up to 30 metres. Additionally, the camera provides footage in the H.264 format and is also waterproof. This means it won't stop when the rains start, no doubt reassuring, particularly as users head into the summer months.

Furthermore, the IP camera can also alert users via email when a motion detection alarm is triggered, while supporting two way audio along with the IEEE 802.11n wireless protocol.

However, the camera's feature set isn't limited to the device itself. It also works with a dedicated app on iOS, Android and BlackBerry smartphones, while video can alternatively be viewed on any internet browser, anywhere in the world. It has a RRP of R1 800 and is available from www.foscam.co.za.



HONEYWELL DIGITAL DVM R500

Monitoring large spaces and keeping track of multiple cameras, as found in the likes of factories, where security is critical, can be a daunting task. The good news is that even this challenge has a solution, namely Honeywell's Digital Video Manager Release 500 (DVM R500).

The digital closed-circuit surveillance system boasts a number of features that help in ensuring that security management is both swift and efficient, when dealing with multiple cameras. Boasting an intuitive user interface, the system also offers multi-camera views, synchronised instant playback and motion. More specifically, the DVM R500 enables users to display multiple cameras in a single drag-and-drop operation, which increases the efficiency of its operator.

Also onboard is a multi-level camera tree, built-in filter search capability and rapid access to recently used cameras. This allows businesses to respond in a more timely manner to security incidents, where, typically, every minute counts.

Furthermore, the DVM R500 allows recorded video to be shown in a scrollable timeline, enabling flexible video playback with single or multiple cameras. The system is available from Honeywell. **ts**



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This magnifying lamp is designed as an aid for all kinds of precision applications from health care to precision engineering. It's also ideal for home applications. It comes with a 5-dioptre lens (magnification 2.25 x). A well-balanced, universally jointed arm makes for maximum adjustment. Light is provided by a circular fluorescent tube of 22W that encircles the glass. Mount the device on a table with the clamp.



R791

SUPER STEREO EAR

Build-it-yourself kit: Stereo audio amplifier boosts sound 50 times. Great for the hearing impaired (e.g. when watching TV), as a gadget, science project, with volume control and on/off switch.



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Clock-Watcher's Office Games Desktop Bowling

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Spy Watch

This product is the first watch with high-definition video recording function and built-in memory, also named "watch camera". It may take both photo and video. With simple operation, elegant design and small size, it is easy to carry. It is really a good tool of business, education, security, media, justice, tourism, medical care and so on.



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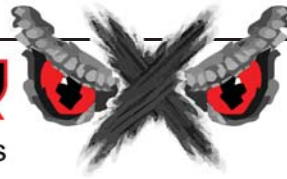
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GAMING NEWS

Valve goes full Steam(Box) ahead

Along with announcing its own free Linux-based SteamOS, Valve continued firing another salvo at living room entertainment, officially confirming the much rumoured SteamBox and presenting an innovative, touch-friendly controller. Apparently hundreds of the 3 000 games currently on Steam are already natively supported. While for the time being, only 300 SteamBoxes are being sent to a lucky few hardware beta testers, when they do ship next year, Valve confirmed the machines would come in a variety of sizes and at several price points when they become widely available next year.



Grand Theft Auto V hits \$800 million on its first day

It may not have come as the biggest surprise, but Grand Theft Auto V (GTA V) had a formidably good first day. The game managed to rake in just \$200 million shy of a billion dollars for an overall global tally of \$800 million in the first day of its release, beating the previous first day sales record set by Call of Duty: Black Ops II.



Sony releases new PS Vita 2000

Sony unveiled new PS Vita in a renewed bid to capture the portable market alongside the launch of the PS4. The new Vita 2000 is considerably thinner and lighter than its predecessor, boasts 1 GB of internal memory, an extra hour of battery life, and will come in a range of colours. There's no luscious OLED screen, instead it sports an LCD one. No word on local availability or price.



Microsoft may bring back Family Sharing after all

Amid the debacle that was the Xbox One launch, and then Microsoft's subsequent backtrack on issues like DRM enforcement, the Family Sharing feature fell by the wayside. With this, Microsoft proposed enabling players to share their digital games library with up to ten other people, and also trade and loan digital games with their friends. Word from Redmond is that all is not lost, and that this forward thinking feature may be re-introduced at a later date on the Xbox One. **ts**



GAMES FOR OCTOBER


4th

 NBA 2K14
(PS3, Xbox 360)

9th

 Beyond:
Two Souls
(PS3)

11th

 The Elder
Scrolls
Anthology
(PC)

18th

 Invizimals:
The Lost
Kingdom
(PS3)

25th

 Armed Core Verdict Day
(PS3, Xbox 360)
Batman Arkham: Origins
(PS3, Xbox 360)
Naruto Shippuden Ultimate Ninja Storm
3 Full Burst (PS3, Xbox 360)

THE LOVE AFFAIR

By Pippa Tshabalala Photo: Mike Joubert

Gamers are a funny breed, and their relationship with their games is in many ways akin to a love affair, something a non-gamer will never truly understand. They are passionate about so many things, often to the point of blindness when hearing anything negative about their gaming obsession. And yet, they will point out flaws in another game in an effort to justify why their fixation is somehow more acceptable.

"You play COD? Why would you, BF3 is way better!"

"PES? FIFA is by far the better game!"

Even though we know it ultimately comes down to personal preference, I can't even distance myself from this argument – I am completely and utterly obsessed with a handful of franchises, and even though objectively I might be able to look at certain games and admit that a specific feature isn't that good, I'll defend it against critics regardless.

I think all gamers have that game. Whether it's Skyrim, GTA, FIFA, COD – if you put enough hours into it, ultimately you become emotionally attached not just to the characters, but to the construction of the game itself. You know every nuance of the controller without having to look, as well as every flaw, but you love it anyway because in your eyes it's perfect.

IF YOU PUT ENOUGH HOURS INTO IT, ULTIMATELY YOU BECOME EMOTIONALLY ATTACHED.

You remember the first time you were introduced. Perhaps it was given to you as a gift, a blind date so to speak, or perhaps you went out with the intention to make it yours. Either way you didn't know each other very well to begin with, but ultimately you began to find common ground. You discovered your game's strengths, its weaknesses. You sat back and watched its cinematics in awe, you got involved in the story and perhaps even made up your own as you lived and breathed the universe. You put hours of love and effort into your relationship, building up your strongholds, strengthening them,

discussing tactics, collecting items. You built a life together.

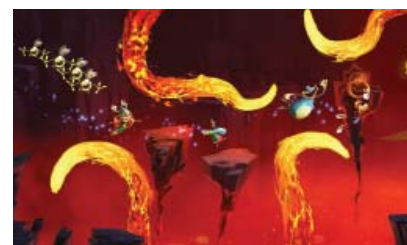
Then along comes the a**hole who dares to point out that your love actually hasn't really aged so well. They don't look as sleek as they used to, they don't move quite so nimbly as they once did. How dare they? How dare they point out the flaws you knew existed but didn't care about because there was something that just drew you to that game, something intangible that grabbed your heart and kept you coming back for more. Sure there's a more recent model, but does that newer, shinier model really understand you as well?

You know that one day you'll retire your favourite game. It will become the game you reminisce about while playing whatever the latest and greatest title is right now. Perhaps one day you'll put it back in the machine and will be faced with one of two reactions that both boil down to one thing – rose-tinted glasses. Either they'll have been removed and you'll face the crushing realisation that the game you once loved is no longer as young as it once was, and you'll discard it, disappointed that it didn't live up to your memories. Or you'll see the flaws, recognize that it was cutting edge at its peak, and love it even more because of the experiences you had together.

I sincerely hope it's the latter. **S**

Do we look at our most-loved
GAMES THROUGH
ROSE-TINTED
GLASSES?
LOVER OF GAMES,
PIPPA TSHABALALA,
BELIEVES THIS
MIGHT BE THE CASE.





Rayman: Legends

Rayman: Legends may just be one of the best platformers, certainly of the 2D scrolling variety, that we have played in quite some time.

Legends' story is easy enough to jump into, as it finds our titular hero and his companions taking a very long and overly extended nap, courtesy of a sleeping spell. In the meantime, all sorts of dark nastiness escapes into the Glade of Dreams, necessitating Rayman to be woken from his slumber, deal with the monsters that are polluting the land and rescue the magical Teensies.

Rayman: Legends is an artistic tour-de-force.

This though, really just sets the stage to encounter an array of worlds, accessed through paintings, in a main gallery. Within each world, there

are a number of levels to race through and explore. These though, are refreshingly distinctive from each, and range from escaping a fire breathing dragon, to one in which you are transformed into a duck and have to make your way through re-constituting cake.

Music to our ears

Adding complexity is a sprite like creature Murphy who helps you by accessing levers and tickling enemies into distraction, amongst other things. While the game's graphics are magnificent, music is also a large part of the game's appeal. Indeed, the score soars, rumbles, pulsates and, above all, entices in equal measure. The highlight, and genius, of each is a musical themed level which is timed according to the barriers you break through and jumps you succeed at.

To the point

Rayman: Legends is an artistic tour-de-force offering up beautiful, extensively varied levels and an array of ideas that keep the game fresh and surprising. Most importantly, it is an absolute delight and blast to experience. Play it. It has a RRP of R500. [RN] **ts**



Grand Theft Auto Five for newbs

New to the Grand Theft Auto franchise? Here are the top reasons to start your life of crime in Los Santos.

1 Extremely well realised world

The metropolis in which GTA V is set is extremely well realised and exquisitely detailed. So much so, that it would be easy to imagine Los Santos as being a confused love child, born out of wedlock as a result of torrid relations between Los Angeles, Joburg and the seamy underbelly of Las Vegas. What this means is that it is quite easy to lose oneself in exploring all Los Santos has to offer, and become immersed in its vast, beautiful and sordid embrace. This includes engaging in daring heists, risky recreational outlets and everything in between.

2. So good, it's criminal

Common to all three cities of course, is the criminal element, and GTA V has that in spades. In fact, the game tells three different criminals' stories,

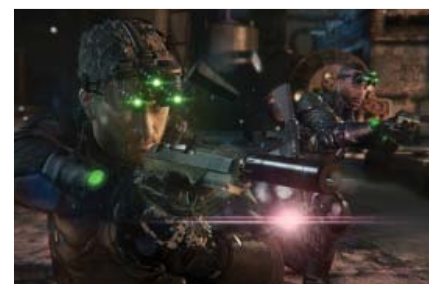
with none being your cardboard cutout bad guys either. Granted, you wouldn't want to emulate any of them in real life, but Franklin, Michael and Trevor are each a blast to play in their own way.

3. Cutting satirical humour

We love satire, and the more biting, the better. GTA V lampoons modern society, celebrity culture and very relatable societal dysfunctions and obsessions masterfully; leaving one both laughing and shaking one's head in agreement. Apart from complimenting a very interesting narrative, these touches of irony (such as a criminal shouting career advice to a cop) made the game sparkle and all the more memorable.

To the point

Packed with content, sharp, crude and ultimately immensely immersive, GTA V is a game that no amount of reviewing can do justice – it's simply one title you must experience for yourself. We would not be at all surprised to see GTA V vying for and even walking away with Game of the Year. RRP: R700 [RN] **ts**



Splinter Cell: Blacklist

Sam Fisher is back, and after emerging from the development shadows, it's clear that the long wait has been well worth it.

While not everyone, particularly longtime fans of the Splinter Cell series, may have always agreed with the direction in which the more recent entries have headed (Splinter Cell: Conviction, for example), we suspect there will be little argument that Blacklist is a slickly produced game that is certainly compelling. The game starts with a group calling themselves The Engineers setting off a brutal attack on America, and promising more to come. Enter Fisher and a quickly comprised Fourth Echelon team to thwart the impending danger.

Play our way

To its credit, while the game wears its stealth credentials proudly on its sleeve, it does offer you a choice of three playstyles. Those opting to be a virtual ghost can approach missions with the aim of remaining consistently invisible (there is still something thrilling about hiding in the shadows practically under your opponent's nose while they are none the wiser). Playing as a Panther (our favourite), enables you to be as deadly as an assassin, killing lights and emerging from the shadows only to

strike and dispatch your enemies, before melting back into the comforting dark. Players who prefer a more direct approach to missions can instead opt for the no holds barred Assault (shooting first and never asking questions). Playing according to these styles awards you with points and cash, which can be spent on upgrading your exhaustive arsenal of gear.

THE GAME WEARS ITS STEALTH CREDENTIALS PROUDLY ON ITS SLEEVE.

Along with an array of destinations to infiltrate and missions to undertake, Fisher and co's base of operations is a feature in its own. This military aircraft called the Paladin, packs enough tech and gear to make Tony Stark drool with envy.

To the point

Ultimately, Splinter Cell: Blacklist show just how long a way the series has come since 2002, but we ended up being most pleased that the latest entry has stepped into the light. It's well worth skulking or rushing into a retail store, or sneaking online, to pick up. R500. [RN] **ts**

The Magical S



Apple is deservedly known for a variety of technological innovations, but by far the most impressive concept it has ever come up with is the magical S. It is an S so powerful that you can place it next to the model of a phone, causing millions of people around the world to go out and buy said device regardless of whether or not it is a significant improvement on the last one, which is now completely obsolete on account of having no magical S.

Other strokes of genius on the part of Apple include successfully suing Samsung for copying them even though they themselves developed the original Mac by copying Xerox. Also, inventing a portable music player with so much more sex appeal than any other portable music player that almost every single person in the world bought one, only to find it worthless a few years later when Apple went on to invent a phone that could do the exact same thing. Apple, above all else; have gotten people to worship their product in a similar manner to how graven idols were worshiped prior to the popularization of monotheism.

But now I just sound like the chairman of the Gauteng Apple Haters association. I've hated on Apple so much in the previous two paragraphs that those reading this will no doubt be surprised to learn that I am typing this on a MacBook Pro with an iPhone 5 lying next to it, buzzing occasionally because I've been too lazy to work out how to disable Twitter alerts. I am not an Apple hater. Just someone who thinks they should chill out a bit on the planned obsolescence.

While Steve Wozniack spent his time in basements, tinkering with circuit boards, drinking Mountain Dew and attempting to create actual technology, the

They innovate with tech,

**BUT THE REAL
GENIUSES AT
APPLE ARE IN
THE MARKETING
DEPARTMENT,**

writes Deep Fried Man.

real geniuses at Apple, like Steve Jobs, didn't do much tinkering at all. Their true genius is realising that the right kind of marketing, the right logo, the right packaging and the right amount of sex appeal are worth a million actual technological innovations.

IT REALLY IS NOT GOING TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE BECAUSE IT'S JUST A PHONE.

Consider the iPhone 5s's marketing spiel: "iPhone 5s is purposefully imagined. Meticulously considered. Precision crafted. It's not just a product of what's technologically possible. But what's technologically useful. It's not just what's next. But what should be next." Here is my more truthful version: "The iPhone 5s is a phone. Just like the iPhone 5 was. It has some new features, including a fancier camera, a 64-bit processor, and yes, a really cool fingerprint sensor, but other than that it really is not going to change your life because it's JUST A PHONE."

I'm pretty sure that while I was typing this Apple came up with a release date for the iPhone 6. So it may be worth restraining oneself from succumbing to the power of the magical S for a little while longer, and holding out for iPhone 6 instead. The only problem is that soon after, there will most probably, be an iPhone 6s, complete with three new features and marketing so brilliant that you will throw your iPhone 6 out of the window the second you hear about it.

If you'll excuse me, I'm off to perform my new show, 'Deep Fried Man S'. It's extremely different from my last show, with up to one and a half new songs and, most importantly of all, a magical S. Many thanks to Apple Inc. and the ghost of Steve Jobs for coming up with the concept. Please don't sue me. **ts**

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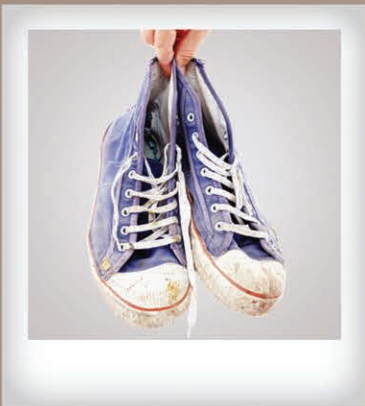
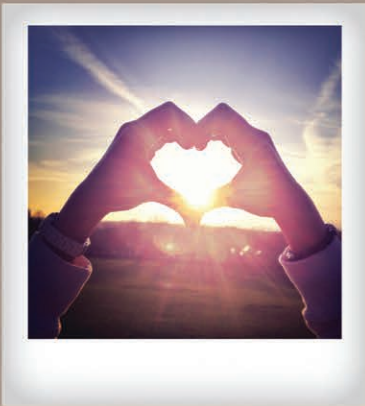
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