

Christmas 2006

A light-hearted review of topical IT issues

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Belltech preferred products</i>	2
<i>The Broadband Debate</i>	3
<i>Special Offer</i>	3
<i>Witty Ditty</i>	4
<i>System Sales</i>	5
<i>Student Offer</i>	5
<i>Notebook Offer</i>	6
<i>Peripherals</i>	7

BELLtech provides:-

- Support for home computer user
- Support for small business computer users
- Support for Charities
- PC & peripheral Sales
- SOHO Networking
- Training on Windows and MS Office products at all levels.

BELLTECH WORLD

Christmas and New Year

First, I would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all that you would wish yourselves for the 2007.

Please note that we are closed between Christmas and the New Year and Emergency service only on 07810 652 594 until January 8th.

There have been many changes since the last Technology Update last August. These have been forced upon us by the changing face of IT supply in the UK and our efforts to continue to maintain a good service to our clients. We have split from our supplier of the last 13 years, Misco. The service and support from them continued to degenerate to an unacceptable level. More and more when equipment supplied by them is found to be faulty on arrival we are being referred to the manufacturer to sort out repair and/or replacement. With call centres now largely on the Indian Sub-continent this is a long and tiresome exercise with nobody willing to accept responsibility. This came to a head when they delivered a £600 Acer Laptop which was 'dead on arrival'. Neither Misco nor Acer would replace it - Misco refused to accept any responsibility and Acer wanted a 10 day repair window. Both quite unacceptable. After much argument we did eventually get a refund but Acer have lost sales of £10Kpa and our recommendation. We offered Misco a deal to retain our business - 7 days no-quibble replacement guarantee on all purchases - but our £40K pa account is not valuable enough for them.

We are now purchasing from three new sources and can achieve next day delivery and maintain our prices and high level of service. Furthermore we are building our own PCs again giving a much greater flexibility in components and specification. They are generally cheaper than the competition too.

We hope that we can continue to serve you in 2007.

Season's Best Wishes

Malcolm



BELLTECH PREFERRED PRODUCTS

PC's: Belltech are currently manufacturing our own desktops and are offering a stunning Core Duo system with 1Gb memory, 320Gb HDD, floppy with 7:1 card reader, Lightscribe DVD writer, Windows XP Pro etc for a competitive price of £510+delivery+VAT. It comes in a high quality black case that is almost silent. All systems come with a free Vista upgrade coupon. Desktops can be customised to meet any specification.

NOTEBOOK's: As stated earlier we have dropped our recommendation of Acer laptops due to the unacceptable warranty and support offered by Acer. We are currently recommending Samsung or Toshiba laptops and are pleased to advise and obtain best prices on request.

OPERATING SYSTEMS: We would still use Windows XP Pro as our preferred operating system on both PC's and notebooks. However on the latter we are governed largely by what the manufacturer provides. Both work well but the Pro version gives slightly better functionality and reliability. We are already working with the new VISTA operating system so that we are ready to offer support when the product is finally released by Microsoft.

SOFTWARE

OFFICE SOFTWARE: Microsoft Office 2003 is still the only real product worth considering, and the price is gradually falling. We now have good prices on the most popular version, the Small Business and the Academic (This version is for educational establishments and charities) and the Student version. Office 2007 is released in a Beta testing version which I have on my workshop PC—again so we are ready to offer support when it finally hits the market. I will give more information on this and Vista when we know the release dates.

ANTIVIRUS: There has been a shift in Antivirus software opinion of late. The main players—NORTON and McAfee—have both enhanced their products to try to cover everything and have as a result become far too obtrusive and demanding of resources. Some estimates suggest that they take as much as 25% out of a PC's processing power and require machines to have at least 512Mb of memory to perform to an acceptable standard. Certainly we have noticed a huge reduction of performance after loading these software products. BELLtech therefore recommend AVG antivirus, which is free for domestic users, is updated daily and works very well. For businesses, a licensed version is needed, but the cost is small.

ANTISPYWARE: Microsoft has an excellent product - WINDOWS DEFENDER - can be downloaded free from www.microsoft.com website. This is automatically updated sometime several times a day.

FIREWALL: If you are working behind a broadband router you do not need any additional firewall software - in all other cases then we recommend ZONEALARM, which again is free and can be downloaded from www.download.com.

“My doctor told me to stop having intimate dinners for four. Unless there are three other people.”

**Orson Welles
1915 - 1985)**

AVG ANTIVIRUS

You may be receiving a message from your AVG antivirus software that a replacement is need as they are discontinuing support for the older version in January. The offer a link to do the upgrade, but only to the 'BUY' version. If you need to upgrade please use the link below to down load the FREE version.

<http://free.grisoft.com/doc/5390/Ing/us/tpl/v5#avg-anti-virus-free> and install the file

[avg75free_432a861.exe](#)

It might be easier to enter 'AVG FREE' into Google and you will see the link.

Always remember to download the upgrades until you receive the message that your software is 'up-to-date'. From them on data file upgrades will

AN END TO CHARGING!!!!

I read of an interesting development recently that will bring an end to charging! Don't get too excited it won't reduce your bills but it will make life considerably easier in the future.

A company is developing a magnetic charging system that will work like this. You will have a single box plugged into the 240V ring main and this will emit magnetic radiation - totally silent, invisible and biologically safe. A transceiver in you mobile phone, iPod, MP3 player etc will received the magnetic energy and turn it into electricity to charge your batteries. You won't have to remember to plug them in or turn them on. Whenever your device comes in range it will start charging. It has been demonstrated as feasible and is under development.....and it isn't 1st April!

“Better to get up late and be wide awake than to get up early and be asleep all day.”

Anonymous

SPECIAL OFFERS

Visit our shop on eBay for current special offers.

1Gb flash drives for £19.99+VAT

Norton Antivirus 2007 £15.99+VAT

WITTY DITTIES

- ~ A child's greatest period of growth is the month after you've purchased new school clothes.
- ~ A company held a contest for kids with the theme: "The nicest thing My Father Ever Did For Me." One kid answered "He married my mother."
- ~ A doctor has a stethoscope up to a man's chest. The man asks, "Doc, how do I stand?" The doctor says, "That's what puzzles me!"
- ~ A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.
- ~ A laugh is a smile that bursts.
- ~ A mother can touch a whole generation just by loving her own child well.
- ~ A picture is worth a thousand words, but it uses up three thousand times the memory.
- ~ A prayer before you eat may be a reflection on the food.
- ~ All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- ~ Being "over the hill" is much better than being under it!
- ~ Bob to X-ray technician after swallowing some money: "Do you see any change in me?"
- ~ Can girls go on a BOYcott?
- ~ Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- ~ Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings.
- ~ Character is what you are. Reputation is what people think you are.
- ~ Children are natural mimics - they act like us in spite of all our attempts to teach them good manners.
- ~ Christians are like tea; their strength is drawn out by hot water.
- ~ Consciousness: That annoying time between naps.
- ~ Do not believe in miracles...rely on them.
- ~ Don't point a finger; hold out a hand.
- ~ Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- ~ Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.
- ~ How come it takes a properly prepared, primed surface for paint to stick to a wall, but if a drop lands on the floor, it's there for life?
- ~ How do they get deer to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?
- ~ I figured out why they call our language the "Mother Tongue." Fathers never get a chance to use much of it.
- ~ I started early teaching my kids the value of a dollar. From then on, they demanded their allowances in gold.
- ~ I went to the bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
- ~ If a minister runs out of bread during communion, is he having an 'out-of-the-Body' experience?
- ~ If evolution is true, why do mothers still only have one pair of hands?
- ~ If mother always knows best, what happens when two mothers disagree?
- ~ If nothing sticks to Teflon, how do they stick Teflon to the pan?
- ~ If only I could be respected without having to be respectable.
- ~ If only you used your powers for good instead of evil.
- ~ If psychics know the winning lottery numbers, why are they still working?
- ~ It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try and pass them.
- ~ It takes fewer muscles to smile than to frown, and fewer still to ignore someone completely

**“ Tradition is
a guide and
not a jailer.”**

**W. Somerset
Maugham
(1874 - 1965)**

BELLTECH SYSTEM SALES

TYPICAL ENTRY LEVEL PC

Intel Core2 Duo E6300 1.86GHz Processor
 ‘Silent’ Case With Power Supply
 1Gb Memory
 320GB Sata HDD
 3.5" Floppy with Card Reader
 Dual Layer LightscribeDVD-RW
 (With Nero Software)
 Optical Mouse and Keyboard
 Windows XP Professional with free
 Upgrade to Vista
 One year b-b warranty(on-site if local)



NEW!!

(Specification/Price may change to reflect supply.)

only £510 + VAT

*“All PC’s have
 a one year
 back-to-base
 warranty”*

BELLTECH - STUDENT OFFER

Toshiba Satellite Pro 120

Intel Centrino Core 2 Duo T5500 Processor 1.66
 512 MB DDRII-533MHz SDRAM
 60 GB Hard Drive
 DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive - To read DVDs and
 CDs and write CDs
 15.4" WXGA Widescreen TFT Display
 Intel 945GM 3.0 128 MB shared graphics
 Integrated wireless 802.11 a/b/g LAN - Call for a
 vice on Wireless networking
 Operating System: Windows XP Professional Edition
 - FREE Upgrade To Windows Vista
 1 year warranty - upgradeable to 3 years
 Case and Mouse



Microsoft Office 2003 Student Ed*
 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint & Outlook)
 SKYPE and other utilities FREE
 * (Upgrade to ‘Education Ed’ £40+VAT)

All for £629+ DEL+VAT

*“All notebooks
 are subject to
 the
 manufacturers
 warranty
 conditions”*

NOTEBOOK

Acer TravelMate 2424WXM
Intel Celeron M 370 1.5GHz
14.1" Widescreen
512MB Memory
60GB HDD
DVD DL
Wireless networking
XP Pro



only £457 + VAT

PERIPHERALS

19" TFT Monitors	From £120
17" TFT Monitors	From £105
Dual Layer DVDRW	From £35
Brother Laser Printer from	From £70
All-in One (Print, Copy, Fax, Scan)	From £71
Wireless ADSL MIMO Routers	From £90
External Hard Drives (USB2)	From £57



Printer cartridges	All makes
Keyboards	From £15
Microsoft Optical Mice	From £15
UK Domain names	£25 per 2 years
US domain names	£25 per annum
512K Broadband	£29.95 per month



*Why not
consider a
Laptop now
the prices
have fallen?*

*Combined
with a
wireless
network you
have a really
achieved
'armchair'
computing*

P.O.A

All prices +VAT