Nov 2019

PC MONITOR

Durham Personal Computer Users' Club Newsletter
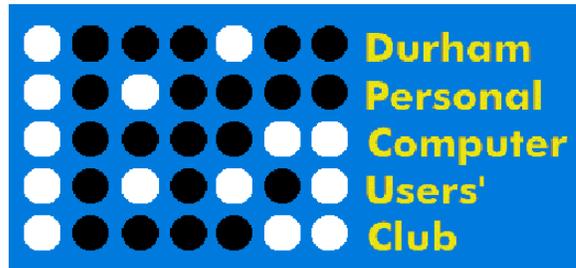
Oct Prize List

Glen Goslin	$11.00	John Alford	Tool Kit
Mark Hunter	$ 8.00	David Odynski	Picture Frame
		Roy Black	$200 Ampliphone Credit
			[Donated to Ann Delong]

Please visit the Club Web Page for all the latest links and information

http://www.durhampc-usersclub.on.ca/

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Next Meeting

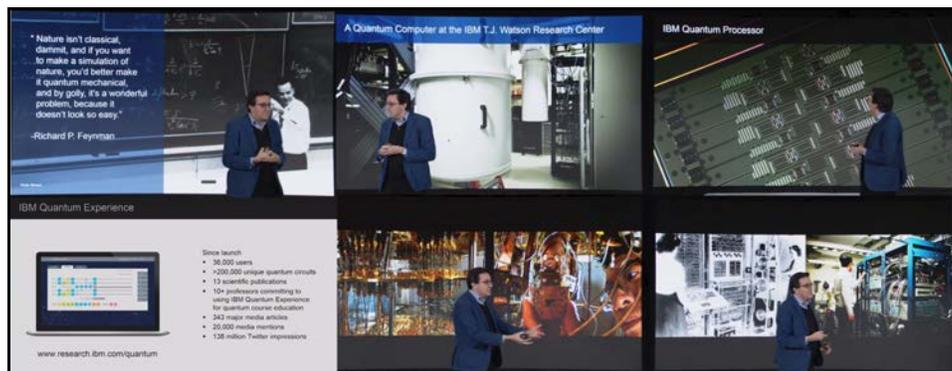### Block Chain & Cryptocurrency
By Ken Gardner

Faith United Church at 1778 Nash Road, Courtice

Thursday, November 14, 2019   7:00PM

FYI
- By Dan Delong

Quantum Computing – now and in the future

IBM provides free Cloud access to an experimental 16 qubit computer, for researchers who wish to test its performance and accuracy. As **Dario Gil**, IBM's research head, points out in his talk, conventional computers and quantum computers will always work in tandem, as "inputters" of data, and as "receivers" of the quantum computer's output. Google has built a larger 53 qubit device, "**Sycamore**", which has made some very fast, but inconsequential calculations, as proof of concept. Current quantum computing requires such extremely cold temperatures, that they are unlikely to appear in any home settings. At this time Quantum computers are quite large, as were the first, electronic computers, like the 1940s ENIAC that used glass tubes. https://youtu.be/yy6TV9Dntlw (~17minutes)
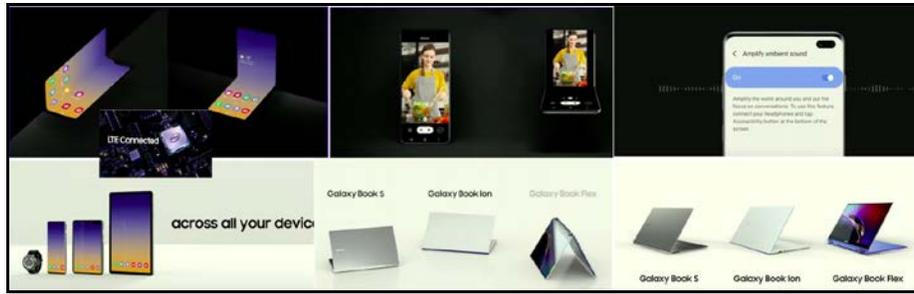
5G Now for UBC Campus

Rogers now supplies 100 times faster (potentially, 100GB per second) wireless, than 4G wireless, to the UBC campus. Ping latency is almost eliminated with 5G. Also, fetching speed is enhanced by placing Cloud services physically close to the towers. Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto are major cities next on the list for 5G. Bell has taken the lead in bringing buried fibre cabling to communities that may already have Cable Internet. Since Cable Internet can't meet the speeds offered by fibre, 5G wireless makes sense as the next competitive move for Rogers.
https://www.thestar.com/business/2019/11/05/5g-powered-smart-campus-unveiled-at-ubc.html

Samsung 2019

At a recent conference, Samsung touted these notable new features: - a) **One UI2**, b) vertical foldable devices, and c) three new laptops. **One UI2** involves changes to the previous user interface. This new update will affect all updatable Samsung devices, from their watches, to their phones, to tablets and the laptops. This new interface works on foldable screens, either the horizontal foldables or the new **vertical foldables**. Impressive new usability and view ability features include: - dark mode, high contrast for the visually impaired, audibility amplification mode for noisy places, screen real estate improvements, auto-light adjustments, and more. The new laptops are given Galaxy prefix titles: - **Galaxy BookS**, **Galaxy Book ION**, and **Galaxy Book Flex**. All are thin and light, with long lasting batteries. The **Flex** includes an S-pen and 360 degree flip, to become a tablet. I can see real advantages, when taking video and photos using a vertically folding phone, because the phone might be able to support itself (no need for a tripod). It might also be possible to hang an almost completely folded phone in a breast pocket, taking video, while walking around. In addition, a completely folded phone is better protected. *[Rumour has it that Motorola will make a folding Razr model.]*
https://youtu.be/bCwpGoybTwY

Philips Sleep and Wake-Up Lights

With the closing of so many factories in Durham, allowances for sleep adjustments, by shift workers, is less important. Still, sleep deprivation has other causes, including seasonal changes to/from daylight savings. Philips makes a lot of smart light bulbs; many are included in bedside devices aiming to help people fall asleep and wake up gently. This device- **the Smart Sleep and Wake-Up Light HF3650/60** – costs about $200 USD. (Some are less.) The translucent face is touch-sensitive in the areas needed for making settings for clock time and sleep times. Users can choose the rate of rise in brightness, along with some audio sleeping aids to accompany gradual sunset and gradual morning lighting. Although the base of the phone has phone charging ports, operation of this model does not require using a smart phone app.
https://www.usa.philips.com/c-p/HF3650_60/smartsleep-sleep-and-wake-up-light

Phonebook – Kickstarter

HP, Samsung, and Apple make proprietary cell phone "cloning" devices that allow their laptops to work with conventional input devices and larger monitors. Phonebook, however, allows a smart phone to work with a larger touch screen, larger speakers, a full-sized keyboard, and both a glide pad and a mouse. Phonebook's Kickstarter fund is already 5 times over the original goal, so this looks like a sure thing. An early bird price of $150 USD will most likely increase to $250 when in full production. Although all data and power travel through a USB cable, I could not discover if USB-C is required. What I could see of the connector, in the video, looked to be USB-C. By the way, the phone charges while connected to the Phonebook, and it connects to ALL smart phones.
https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1031149173/phonebook-turn-any-smartphone-into-a-laptop-computer/

Narbis Glasses

ADHD hinders attention, not just with respect to academic tasks, but for many other tasks as well. These glasses darken when attention fades; the lenses clear when the wearer is back on task. For example, a child who is reading a book will stay focussed despite distractions from television and siblings. Darkening of the lenses is not a punishment, in the view of the makers, but is, instead, a cue for the child to relax and focus again. An app records attention over time and shows the results graphically. At $590 USD, (and typically worn for short periods each day) such glasses might be of better value in an institutional setting. Furthermore, the makers caution buyers to consult with a child development professional before usage, especially if certain key behaviours are noticed, or if the child is on medication.
https://narbis.com/

Chrome Heavy Ad Intervention

Some ads, whether ingrained in websites, or fed to a browser after entering a website, take a lot of time to load (especially on slow connections); and may be further hampered by strain on a slow processor. Google already tries to remove malicious ads, and, as of the release **Chrome version 80**, will be turning on a flag to block resource heavy ads. The speedy growth in downloads of the Brave browser may have pushed Google ma have pushed Google to act. Furthermore, two zero-day vulnerabilities in Chrome have been fixed, as long as your version is at least **78.0.3904.87** or newer.
https://9to5google.com/2019/10/30/heavy-ad-blocker-chrome/

Internet Week at Popular Mechanics

The Internet Never Forgets | The 50 Greatest Moments in Internet History | 50 Tips for Better Interneting

The GIF Is Dead. Long Live the GIF. | What Would Happen If the Internet Just…Stopped? | How the Internet Works (in 7 Steps)

Popular Mechanics, now a rare find on newsstands, was my favourite magazine as a teen. I always enjoy visiting their web site (and the back issues on Google Books). A recent, regular, article *(Internet Week)* covers a potpourri of interesting topics: - **The Room Where It Happened**: the Internet, that is, **The Internet in 50 Years**, **Sites that Mean the Most to Us**, **Back to the 90s** and its **Most Cringe-Worthy Internet Guides**, **The Internet Never Forgets**, **How the Internet Works**, and many more…
https://www.popularmechanics.com/internet-week/

Google's G Suite with Gaggle –

Gaggle has been implemented in some U.S. schools, primarily in high schools. The result: - Gaggle oversees all transactions students make on the department of education's networks, including emails, documents, blogs, social media, and images. When Gaggle software spots a bad word or image, or any suggestion of self-harm or harm to others, it flags the most serious content for observation by humans, who are paid by Gaggle to make final decisions on what to do next. By following American baseball's cultural practice of '3 Strikes for an OUT', students are given three escalations/offences, before banishment. Since none of the students can opt out, such banishment also ends their academic evaluations. This initial ranking of students by demerit points is akin to China's Sesame protocol, limiting citizen privileges based on behavioural compliance to ideological demands of the government. At a cost of $12 thousand to $60 thousand, annually, per school, this is a huge drain on educational resources, unless the cost can be justified by ensuring school safety and by significant improvements in learning. If a high school or district has already degraded to the point that bullying, cheating, and that constant police presence is needed, then perhaps this is one way to clean things up. But, should it become permanent, without students ever learning self-control in the digital world? And, do we want businesses taking over so many aspects of education? Students are often unaware that they are being watched this way, until "found out" by the algorithm.
https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/carolinehaskins1/gaggle-school-surveillance-technology-education

Cicret – Five Years On

In 2014, rumours of the imminent release of a bracelet styled computer/tablet began. A prototype was demonstrated, along with a few amazing demonstration videos. About $700,000 dollars, raised (or claimed to have been raised) has gone into a start-up fund to develop a saleable product. Promotional videos show a slim band, responding to flicks of the wrist, projecting a graphical interface on forearm skin that also responds to multi-touch finger motions. The official **Cicret** web site (now blocked) and Facebook page may still offer investment choices, and yet a product has never been properly engineered or demonstrated in the wild. The secret is out! https://www.itbusiness.ca/news/the-cicret-is-out-this-futuristic-bracelet-doesnt-exist/52677

Linux in the News   **by Alex Morrison**

From: http://lxer.com/ & http://www.linuxtoday.com/ & http://www.linuxinsider.com/
http://www.topix.com/tech/linux https://fossbytes.com/

It's Official: Chromium-Based Microsoft Edge Web Browser Is Coming to Linux

- Softpedia News; By Marius Nestor (Posted by the_doctor on Nov 7, 2019 4:26 AM EDT)
- Story Type: News Story; Groups: Developer, Linux, Microsoft

Microsoft has confirmed during its Ignite 2019 conference that the forthcoming Chromium-Based Microsoft Edge web browser will also be available on the Linux platform.

- Full story
- Read more
- 0 threads and 0 posts

Sorry, Microsoft, but your Edge web browser will NEVER be installed on my Linux computer

(Nov 06, 2019, 08:00) (0 talkbacks)

betanews: To be honest, the company has a long history of abusing its power and negatively impacting the web

Is Difficult to Switch Operating System From Windows to Linux?

- Fosslicious (Posted by fosslicious on Nov 7, 2019 3:12 AM EDT)
- Story Type: Editorial; Groups: Community, Linux, Microsoft

I got this question on one of the Q&A sites. On the site, I also respond to this question that was asked of me. This time I want to discuss it in this post. So how do I respond to this question?

- Full story
- Read more
- 0 threads and 0 posts

4 Methods to Find Which Process is listening on a Specific Port

- Putorius.net; By Steven Vona (Posted by savona on Nov 7, 2019 2:00 PM EDT)
- Story Type: Tutorial; Groups: Linux

In this Linux quick tip we should you how to find which process is listening on a specific port. We use 4 different commands, each with it's own syntax and options.

- Full story
- Read more
- 0 threads and 0 posts

Articles wanted for the newsletter!

Write an article for the Newsletter and get an extra month free on your membership renewal.

Sudoku

Nov 2019   **by Alex Morrison**

A Trio of Puzzles again this month – Enjoy

EASY

				7				1
	3						8	
	9	5				4	2	
				8				
4		6		9				
			1		7	6		
	2	1		6				5
4								3
9		2	3	5				

Sudoku

The game boards on this page were produced using **Sudokuki** on PCLinuxOS 64 Bit running KDE 5 Plasma.

The objective is to fill in the missing numbers ensuring that every 3 X 3 grid has the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats and every full column or row has the numbers 1 through 9 again with no repeats.

 If you have troubles solving the puzzles send an email to me and I will send you the solution.

Have fun! Alex

MEDIUM

		4			9	1		
7	2			6				
		3						
	6			1			8	
				8	2	5	4	
	4			2				
				4	6	7		
		8	9					5
		1		2				

HARD

	4		7			3		
	2				8			
		9	1			5	4	
			2					
		3		4			6	
	1			9				
			5		4	9		
8			3			5		
	7							

IF you don't Like Sudoku puzzles – try these pages

https://www.boatloadpuzzles.com/playcrossword

http://www.freegames.net/puzzle-games.html

https://www.cryptograms.org/play.php

# Linux – NitroShare   **by Alex Morrison**

I mentioned this program in an earlier article but thought it might be worth another look as it has been updated.

NitroShare is a software program that is available on all systems. The software allows you to transfer files from any computer in your home network to any other [Windows, Mac or Linux].

The opening screen shows the first part of the settings.
Most options are self evident.
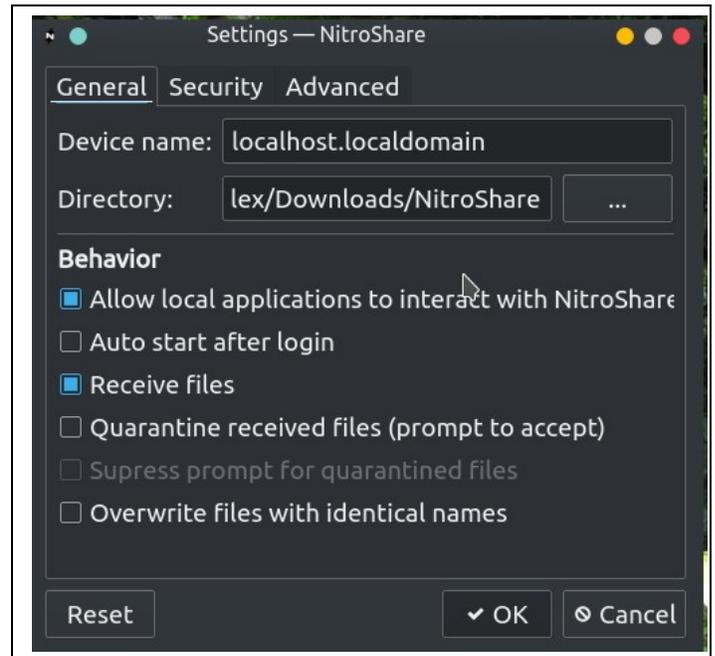
The next settings widow follows at the right.
In this area you can set security for the transfer files.
Security is not needed for local network use but in a
work environment you may wish to add security.
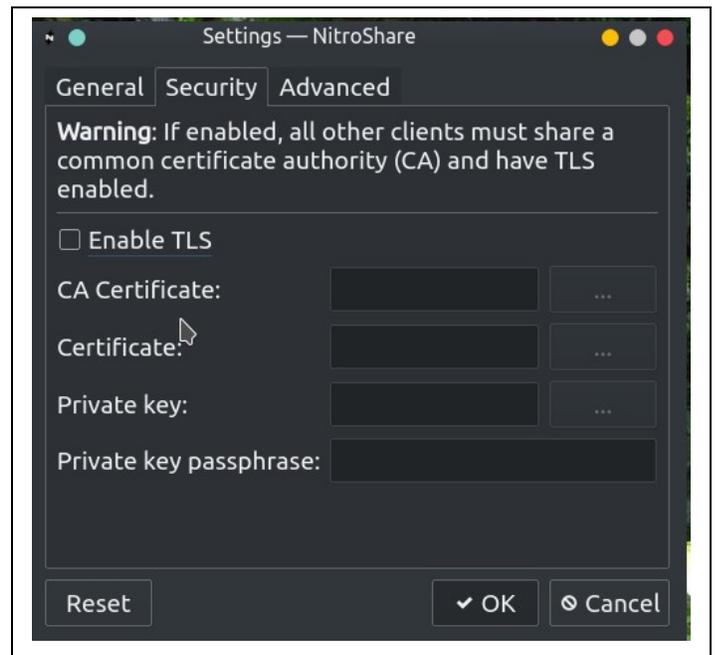
Here are port settings and transfer settings that again are
not needed for local network transfers.
Just leave the defaults settings as is.
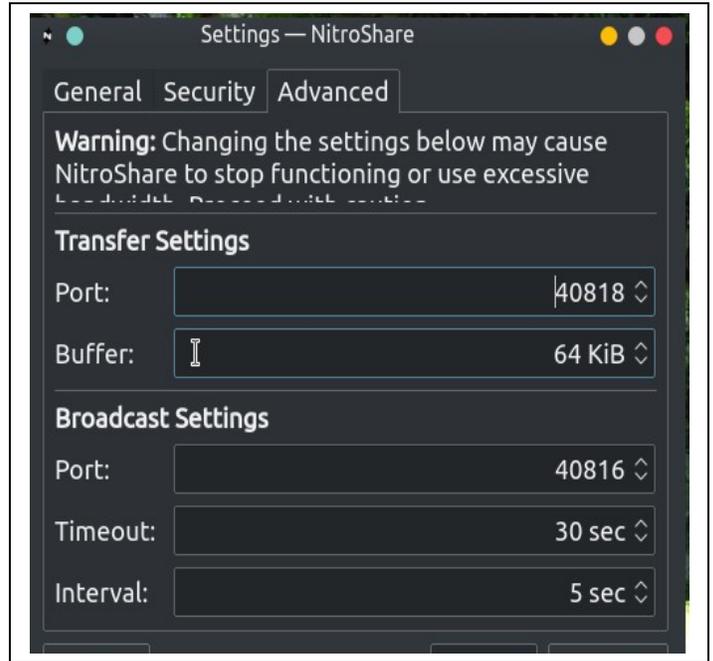
Nitro share resides on the taskbar on a Linux system.
A simple right mouse click allows activating a file transfer.
The image to the right pops up on my system.
It is a view of my home folders.
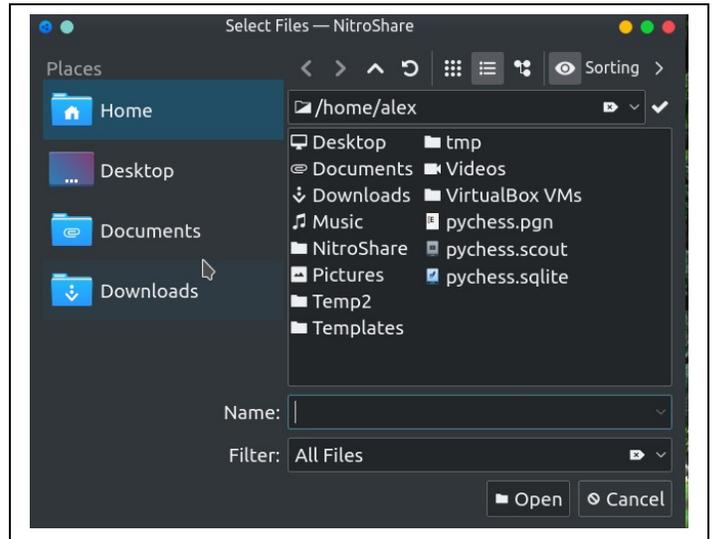
Here I can select a file to transfer.
Another option that appears when
I right mouse click on the taskbar is a directory transfer.

After selecting a file or directory folder for the transfer you will see the network computers that are connected.
Each computer to be seen must have NitroShare running.

 When I ran NitroShare on my laptop no other PC was active so the window is blank.

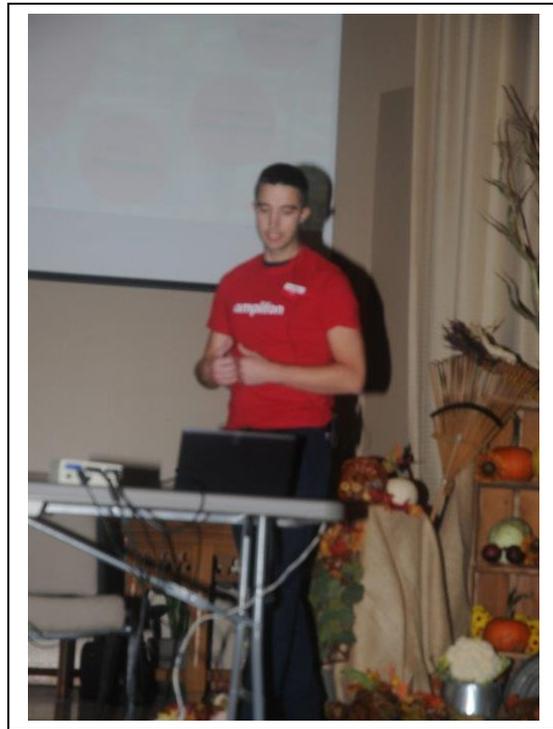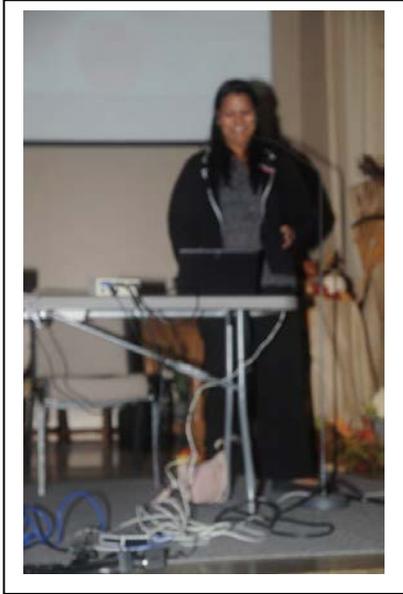If any other PC was active I could send a file or folder.

We will demo this program at the Linux meeting.

Download NitroShare here ---→ https://nitroshare.net/
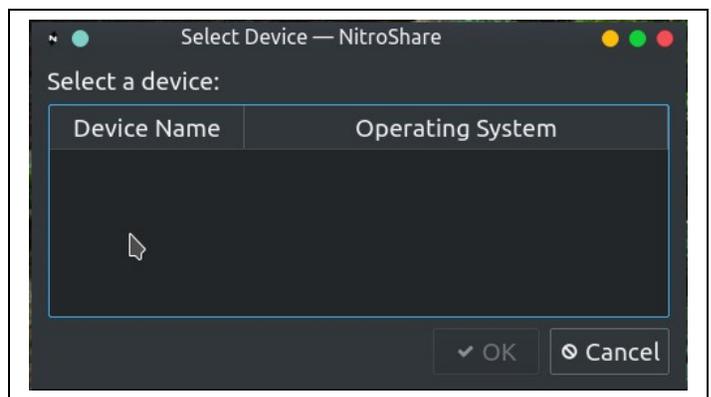
Presentation Photos   by   Farny LeGresley

October was an excellent presentation by a group from Amplifon all about hearing aid technology.

https://www.amplifon.com/ca

Special Interest Groups are for members only.

SIG's are really free monthly seminars with question and answer sessions following the presentation(s)

Members of SIG's enjoy a feeling of community and share common goals and interests.

Most SIG's are informal and members who attend them set the agenda for the meeting based on their own needs.

New ideas for SIG groups are welcome.

Special Interest Groups

Details

BEGINNER	**Co-ordinator: Ed Goudge**
	Location: Call for Location
	Telephone: 905-926-9003
	Date: 3rd Thursday of month 7:00 PM
LINUX	**Co-ordinator: Ed Goudge**
Durham Linux User Group	**Location: OSCC 43 John St W**
	Telephone: 905-926-9003
	Date: 1st Thursday of month 7:00 PM
Digital Camera Group	**Co-ordinator: Ed Goudge**
	Location: Call for Location
	Telephone: 905-926-9003
	Date: 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00PM
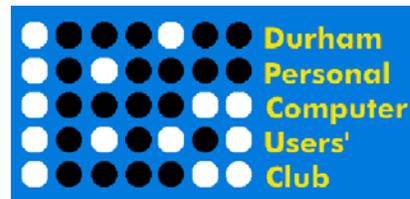
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2019-2020

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HOME PAGE   --- http://www.durhampc-usersclub.on.ca/

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The PC Monitor cannot be responsible for errors or inaccuracies in the content, although efforts will be made to publish information accurately.

The deadline for articles and information is 10 days following the monthly meeting. Late submissions may not be published due to tight schedules. Submit articles by email to the editor at alexmor@teksavvy.com
Articles should be submitted in Word Format using Times New Roman as the preferred Font.