

THE ADSTOCK SCIENCE CLUB



I start off with a cautionary tale, for all those out there who use USB memory sticks as their main method of saving and backing up their data, I have personally had experience of losing stuff I had taken the trouble to save on one of these devices. However, and more to the point, so have a couple of our members who spent time investigating, writing up and saving their presentations which they were intending to give, and in one case in about 2 hours, when without so much as a wave goodbye, their hard grafted PowerPoint presentations vanished from view.

Mark who had the first of these unpleasant surprises had just two hours to try and regain some semblance of his talk which was, by the way, on computer and video games. The second victim was luckier, John Foggitt lost most of his presentation, the Science of Sound, but as luck would have it, a few days before having to give it. He was therefore able to reproduce most of his work without a mad panic.

So be warned, don't save your life's work on one of these devices without taking extra precautions, it will ultimately fail you and probably at the worst possible moment.

Anyway, following these minor disasters some of us participated in our annual science quiz night at Sue Grensted's place. We had great fun, this years' winners comprised of Sue, my wife, Jennifer and John Foggitt. I do suspect however that most, if not all the answers came from one particular individual and just so that no one gets offended I shan't be mentioning his name.

During the past few weeks we have also been to a number of interesting talks at Buckingham University. The first one covered the probability that life began on another planet and was conveyed over to the Earth via a comet. The second was strictly speaking not science, Data Security - more technology but gave those who attended something to think about.

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