

## **I.T. can be easy – July 2018** By Steven Dunwell

### **Don't lose you precious memories**

I am increasingly being asked if I can retrieve much loved photographs and other precious items that are stored on external storage devices like memory sticks and external hard disk drives. Whilst most of the time this is a good option for storing and backing up your documents, sadly just like other hardware these can fail too and sometimes the information is lost forever. An alternative (and the one I use) is to use one of the many online backup storage services, where your documents are kept remotely from your device on the cloud.

### **What is the cloud?**

Cloud storage is where your information is stored on remote storage servers accessed by you over the internet.

### **How does it work?**

It works the same way as using external storage devices but instead of saving and retrieving your documents from your external device you download it from secure servers over the internet.

Here is a list of three cloud storage providers that I have used. They all offer a limited amount of free storage for your documents or photos, but you can subscribe for a monthly fee (current prices shown) to increase this capacity.

#### **Dropbox - <https://www.dropbox.com/>**

Amount of initial free storage space for approx. 600 photos (2GB)

Pay €9.99/month for 1TB of storage.

#### **OneDrive - <https://www.onedrive.live.com/>**

Amount of initial free storage space for approx. 1500 photos (5GB)

Pay €9.99/month for 1TB of storage.

#### **Google Drive - <https://www.google.com/drive/>**

Amount of initial free space for approx. 4500 photos (15GB)

Pay €9.99/month for 1TB of storage.

Note: 1TB = 1000GB, that's space for approx. 300,000 photos!

If you have any questions about this topic, suggestions for future subjects or require assistance with any I.T. challenges, I am very happy help.

**Please contact me via email: [sdunwell@sky.com](mailto:sdunwell@sky.com)**

**Or call me on: 00351 936 387 512**

Have a great month, see you for another tip in August issue.