



Newsgroups and Forums

Pulborough Computer Club

Potted History of the Internet

- 1957 – USSR launch Sputnik – ARPA in US
- 1969 – ARPANET commissioned in US
- 1972 – Email program for ARPANET created
- 1973 – 1st international connection to ARPANET
- 1975 – 1st ARPANET mailing group
- 1976 – Queen sends an email
- 1979 – USENET created
- 1980 – ARPANET suffers 1st virus
- 1984 – Moderated newsgroups created
- 1990 – 1st commercial internet access
- 1991 – Start of WWW

Newsgroups

- Newsgroups are worldwide discussion groups on almost any topic
- Each group has a unique name
- Groups are split into hierarchies

The Newsgroup Hierarchies

Hierarchy	Description	Hierarchy	Description
alt	Anything	misc	Misc
bionet	Biology	news	Usenet
bit	Misc Bitnet	rec	Recreation
biz	Business	sci	Technology
comp	Computers	soc	Social
humanities	Fine arts	talk	Debate
k12	Kids		

Internet Sources

- www.harley.com/usenet/
- A plain english list of usenet newsgroups
- <http://groups-beta.google.com/?sourceid=ghpp>
- Google groups

Newsreaders

- For general purposes use:
 - Outlook Express
 - Thunderbird
- Setting up Outlook Express
 - Goto: Tools, Accounts, News, Add and follow the instructions
 - Check the detailed settings on your ISP website

Internet Forums

- Forums are discussion groups based on the WWW rather than Usenet
- They tend to be more focussed
- They suffer from much less spam attack
- They are usually moderated
- Find them on Google

Some Forums

- ISP Discussion

- <http://www.the-scream.co.uk/forums/index.php?s=>

- General Windows Discussion

- <http://forum.osnn.net/index.php?>

- ATI Video cards

- <http://www.rage3d.com/board>

- General Help

- <http://www.pcpro.co.uk/phpbb/index.php>

- Arabian Lines

- http://www.arabianlines.com/forum1/default_new.asp