

## AV (Audio-Visual) Presentations

The following information was derived from details provided by Ian Brash and Tom Dunne, following their presentation on Monday 9 February 2009, entitled "Four Ways To Digital AV".

A series of short AV projections, using digital methods, were shown and Ian explained that four different types of software were used to produce these. For the benefit of members, these software products are listed below.



**PowerPoint** – This is one of the components in the Microsoft Office suite of programs. If you already have it installed on your computer (some new PCs come with the suite already installed) then this is a cost-effective way to experiment with AV. PowerPoint was originally planned to provide an alternative to the overhead projection slides used in lectures. However, it has since progressed to be a much more capable product, with a vast range of visual transitions and image trickery, together with the ability to combine sound.

**Roxio** – I don't know which version of Roxio software was used by Ian, but the current product is called Roxio Creator 2009. Details of this can be found on the web-site [www.roxio.co.uk](http://www.roxio.co.uk). There are versions for PC and Apple Mac. Amongst the information on this site there is a video that gives an overview of the capabilities of this package, that extends well beyond the handling of still images and sound.

**Photodex Pro Show Gold** – This is another very comprehensive software package. Details can be found on the web-site [www.photodex.com](http://www.photodex.com). There is a video that shows some of the features. There is also an offer for a free download of the software that provides a 15-day trial period.

**PX Pictures to XE** – This was the software used by Tom Dunne for his AV entitled 'Tales From The River Bank' as well as the award-winning 'Auschwitz' by Mike Dale and 'Houses In Between' by Peter Brice. This software is much favoured by the group of people producing these AV presentations. There is a free download available from this site – [www.wnsoft.com](http://www.wnsoft.com). Whilst this is reckoned to be more than adequate as a starting point, there is a more powerful version available for a modest charge. As yet this product is not available to run on Apple Mac.

**Note** : This is not intended as a comprehensive overview of the software available to produce AV presentations, but merely as starter advice on the sorts of products with this capability. It is based on the

information provided by Ian and Tom, together with some research that I have conducted on the internet.

**Important** : Before you purchase software, or download any trial version, make sure that it will work with your own operating system. Very often it will be found that new releases of software will only work with the most up-to-date Microsoft OS version. All the products listed are available on PCs with MS OS, but not always on Apple Mac. If there are any Unix users out there, you'll need to do your own research!

Peter Flower 11 February 2009

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