

# Cyber Security: Hacks, Attacks and Abuse

CIPFA NW Audit Risk & Governance Group - Autumn  
Seminar

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# Cyber: New threat or rising tide?

**1903 - demonstration of Marconi's purportedly secure wireless telegraphy technology, disrupted by Morse code messages through the auditorium's projector**

**1940 - Alan Turing and team break the enigma code**

1980 - the FBI investigates a breach of computer security at NCSS

**1986 - first recorded conviction for hacking in the UK but later overturned**

1989 - first politically motivated attack recorded

1999 - first coordinated attacks on a state by "Legion of the Underground"

**2000 - the "I Love You" worm infects millions of computers world wide**

**2001 - first significant denial of service attacks (against Microsoft) and release of the Anna Kournikova virus**

2002 - Gary McKinnon accused of hacking NASA, his extradition to the USA was eventually blocked in 2012

2003 - Anonymous formed

**2007 - first high profile spear phishing attack**

2009 - Conflicker worm released infecting millions of pc's worldwide

**2010 - Stuxnet identified - worm targeting Iranian nuclear facilities allegedly created by US & Israeli military**

**2011 - Sony's PlayStation network attacked exposing details of 77m accounts**

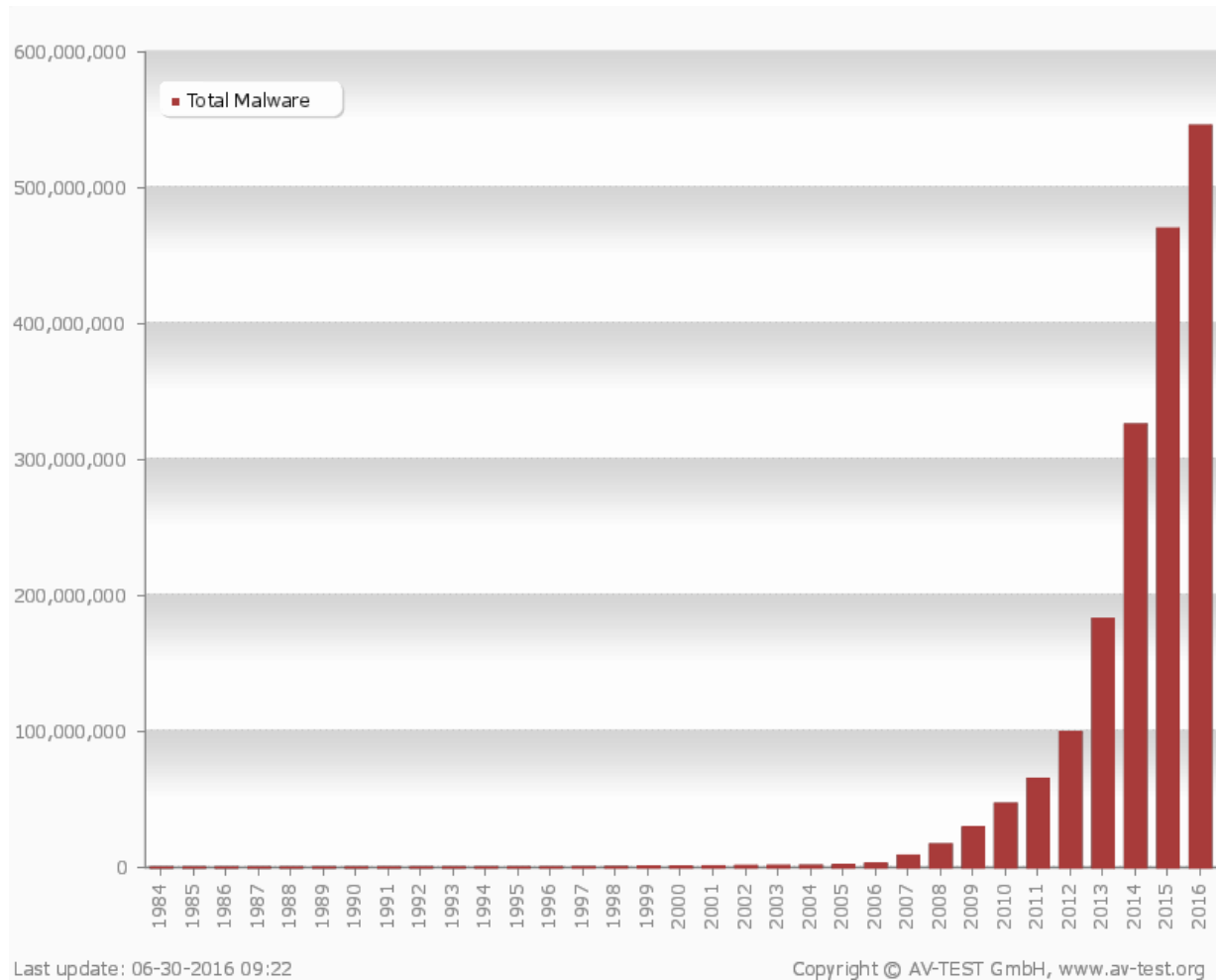
2012 - Julian Assange goes in to exile to prevent extradition to the USA over WikiLeaks

**2013 - Yahoo hacked, 500m account details exposed - not acknowledged publicly until 2016**

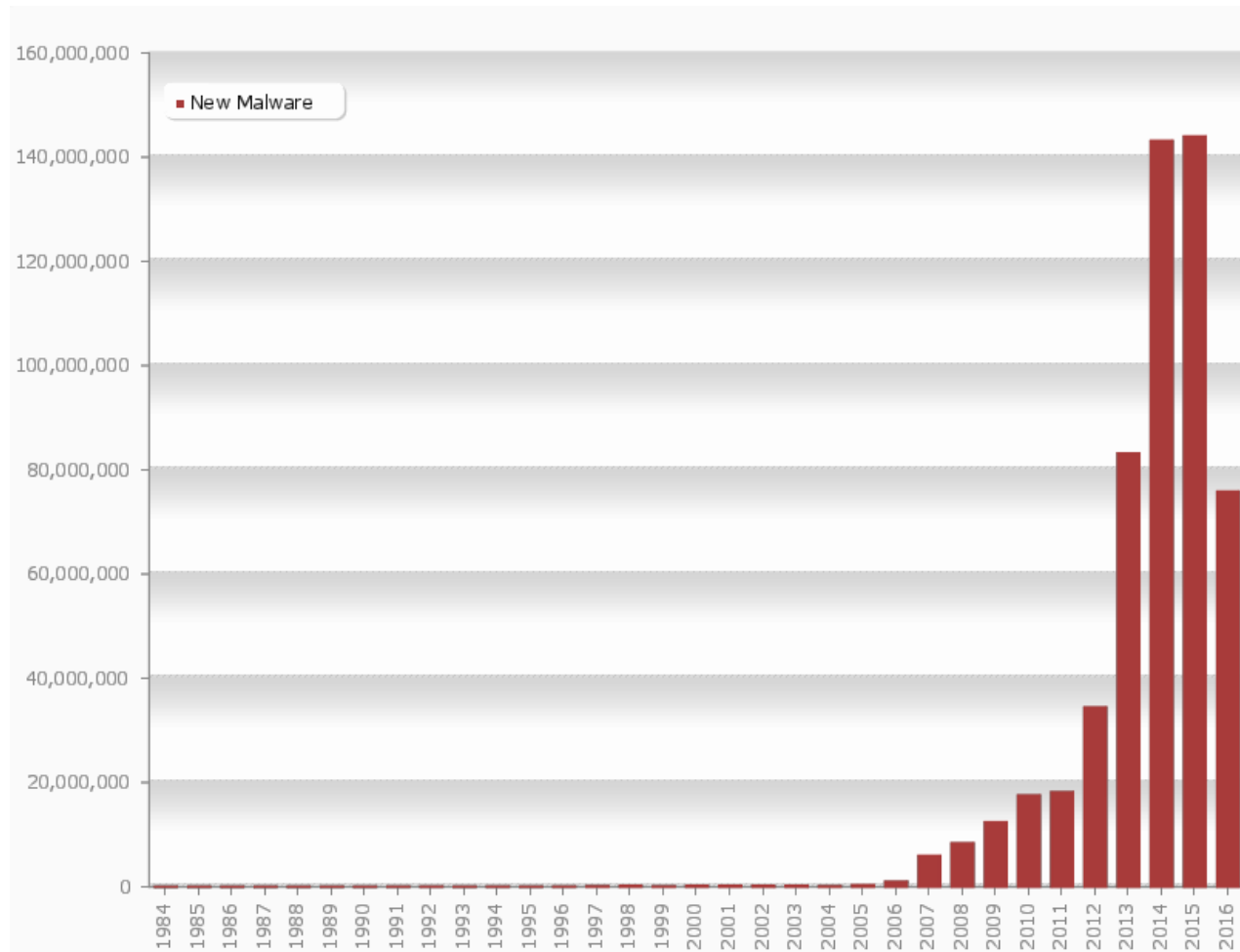
**2013 - Edward Snowden goes in to hiding having extracted and released sensitive information from the NSA**

**2015 - TalkTalk attacked**

# Cyber: But it is on the increase



# Cyber: But it is on the increase



Last update: 06-30-2016 09:22

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# Cyber: The Top 13

1. Yahoo 2012 - 500m
2. MySpace 2016 - 359m
3. LinkedIn - 164m
4. Adobe 2013 - 152m
5. Badoo 2015 - 112m
6. VK 2012 - 93m
7. Sony 2011 - 77m
8. Dropbox 2013 - 68m
9. tumblr 2013 - 65m
10. iMesh 2013 - 49m
11. Fling 2011 - 40m
12. Last.fm 2012 - 37m
13. Ashley Madison 2015 - 32m

Talk Talk 2015 - 157k

# Cyber: Live



## Cyber: Why?

- To disrupt
- To obtain commercial or state secrets
- Political or moral motivation
- For financial gain (sale or extortion)
- For notoriety
- For fun
- Just because I can

# Cyber: Types of attacks

- Brute force – running password crackers on web facing applications
- DDOS – using multiple infected computers to send traffic and overwhelm web facing servers
- Exploiting known vulnerabilities in systems and applications
- Rogue updates to get users to run malicious script
- Phishing to acquire credentials or introduce malware (spearing, whaling, cold calling etc)



# Cyber: What's the payload

- System unavailability
- Data extraction
- Encryption (eg Ransomware like cryptolocker)
- Botnets
- Remote access (RATs)

# Cyber: Phishing

- +200bn emails are sent every day
- 39% of attachments contain some form of malicious code
- 34% of links embedded in emails are malicious
- 77% of malware is installed via email
- 23% of people receiving a phishing email will click on the link or the attachment

# Cyber: Man-in-the-middle (1)

Innocent individual goes  
into Starbucks with PC  
(other coffee shops are available)



Turns on PC and sees  
"Starbucks Free WiFi".  
Makes connection



Browses internet while  
sipping skinny latte

# Cyber: Man-in-the-middle (1)

Innocent individual goes into Starbucks with PC  
(other coffee shops are available)

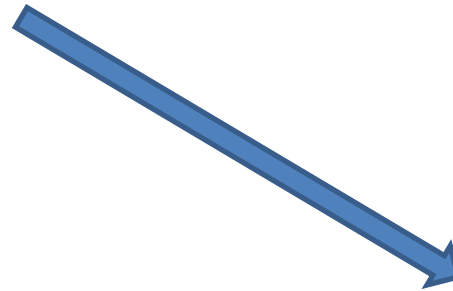


Turns on PC and sees "Starbucks Free WiFi".  
Makes connection

Hacker goes into Starbucks with PC  
(other coffee shops still available)



Turns on PC and access point. Sees "Starbucks Free WiFi" and creates a stronger access point to mimic the original.



Happily watches user traffic while allowing pass through to internet

# Cyber: Man-in-the-middle (2)

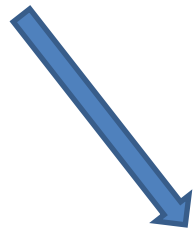
Innocent individual goes into Starbucks  
(other coffee shops are available)



Leaves phone in handbag while reading paper and sipping skinny latte



Phone connects because it thinks its at home



Hacker watches as phone polls gmail etc  
Harvests passwords and has "an in"

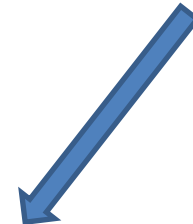
Hacker goes into Starbucks with PC  
(other coffee shops still available)



Scans coffee shop to identify networks that devices have connected to.



Sets up dummy network



## Cyber: Who?

- State sponsored?
- Hacktivist groups (Anonymous etc)?
- Commercial competitors?
- Criminals?
- Kids?

# Cyber: Surely not the NHS though?

- Absolutely yes
- NHS websites have been hacked
- NHS pc's and servers have been infected
- NHS systems have been ransomware
- NHS Digital now operating CareCERT to promoted good practice, monitor traffic and disseminate alerts.

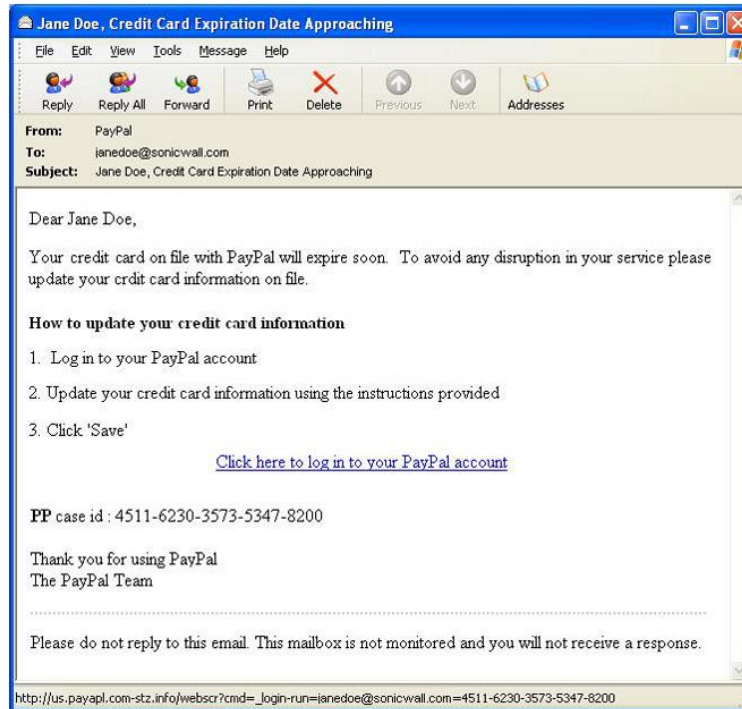
# Cyber: An exercise





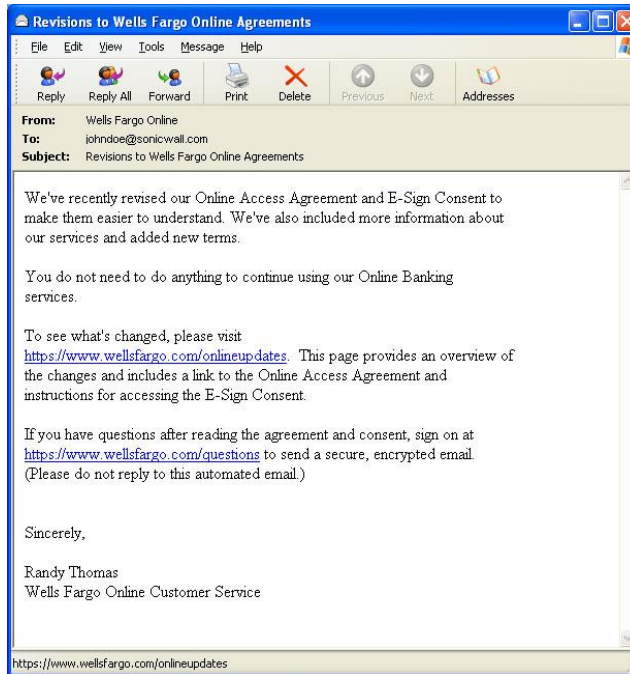
# Cyber: Exercise answers (1)

Phish



- Acquiring and using your name is easy so no guarantee of legitimacy
- “Credit” is misspelt
- PayPal don't include log in links
- The website at the bottom isn't actually PayPal

# Cyber: Exercise answers (2)

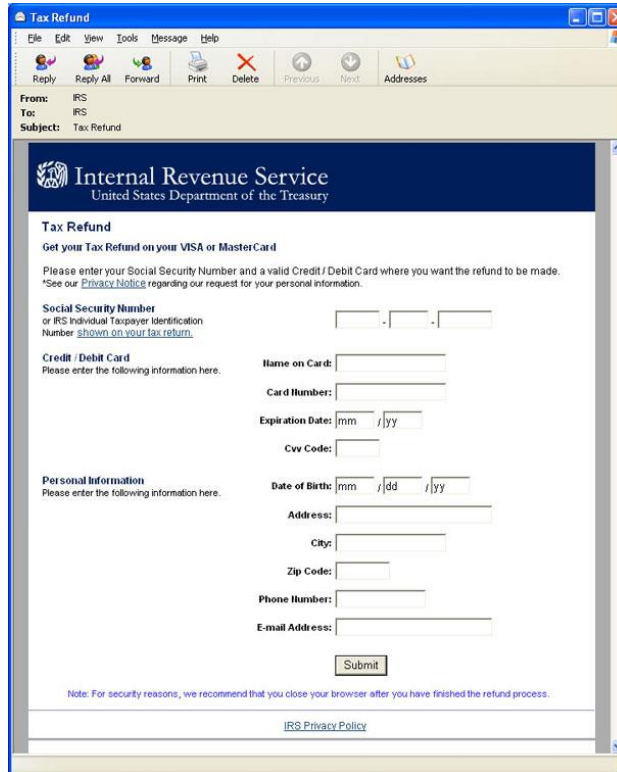


## Legitimate

- The email isn't asking you to do anything
- The website is legitimate
- But still beware of link and unsolicited mail

# Cyber: Exercise answers (3)

Phish



The screenshot shows an email window titled "Tax Refund" with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Tools, Message, Help) and a toolbar (Reply, Reply All, Forward, Print, Delete, Previous, Next, Addresses). The email header indicates it is from "IRS" with the subject "Tax Refund". The main content features the IRS logo and the text "Internal Revenue Service United States Department of the Treasury". Below this, it says "Tax Refund" and "Get your Tax Refund on your VISA or MasterCard". A warning message states: "Please enter your Social Security Number and a valid Credit / Debit Card where you want the refund to be made. \*See our [Privacy Notice](#) regarding our request for your personal information." The form includes fields for "Social Security Number" (with a placeholder "Number shown on your tax return"), "Credit / Debit Card" (Name on Card, Card Number, Expiration Date, Cvv Code), and "Personal Information" (Date of Birth, Address, City, Zip Code, Phone Number, E-mail Address). A "Submit" button is at the bottom. A note at the bottom reads: "Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished the refund process." and a link for "IRS Privacy Policy" is provided.

- IRS/HMRC etc would not request such personal information
- A CVV code is only needed for purchases not refunds
- This is a clear attempt at identity theft and credit card abuse

# Cyber: Exercise answers (4)



**Phish**

## **Your Personal Internet Banking Service has been suspended**

We noticed you haven't logged on to your Personal Internet Banking. For security reasons we have suspended your online access. Please click on the option below to continue using Personal Internet Banking.

[Click Here to Continue](#)

Else, access to your online access will automatically be cancelled.

Please note it is important to keep your account active by regularly logging on. By doing so you can easily detect suspicious activity and minimize the risk of your online account becoming dormant or cancelled.

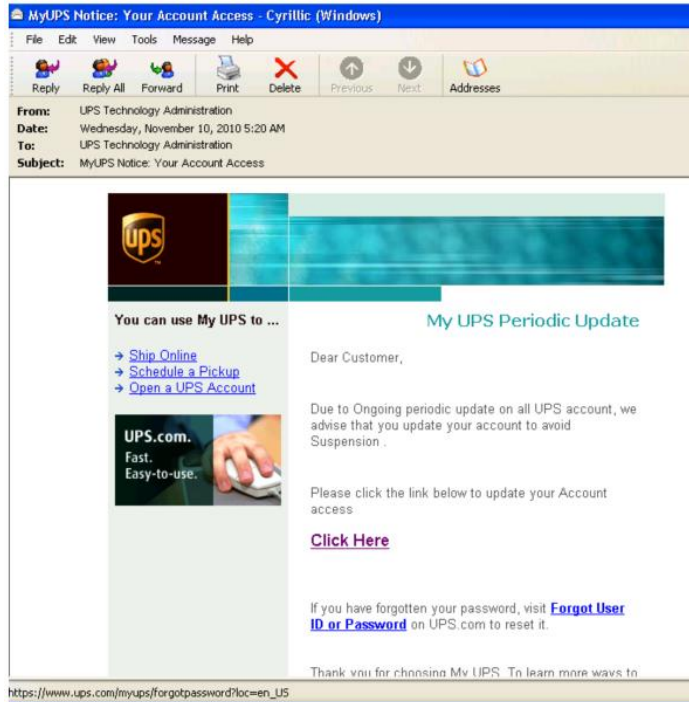
Thank you for choosing Cayman National.  
Cayman National Security Team

<http://videotodd.com/media/3things.html>

- Notice the spelling of “else”
- The web address that the link points to is not the bank's

# Cyber: Exercise answers (5)

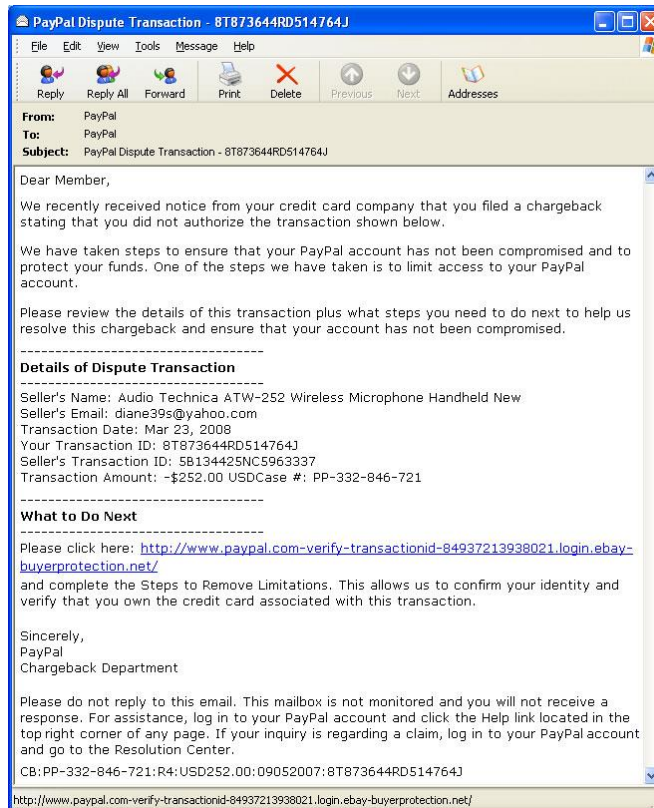
Phish



- Wrong use of case on “suspension”
- The link for forgotten password is not a legitimate ups site – it should be “one-to-one” not “myups”

# Cyber: Exercise answers (6)

Phish



- PayPal will always use your member name
- PayPal will always put cut and paste links in their emails
- The link isn't to PayPal but to ebay-buyerprotection.net – an illegitimate site.

# Cyber: How do we prevent an attack?

- You can't – it's when not if.

## **There are three types of individuals /organisations**

- Those who have been hacked/attacked and know it
- Those who have been hacked/attacked and don't know it
- Those who will be hacked/attacked

# Cyber: Defence in depth

- **Protect against the known knowns and the known unknowns**
  - Take the Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) role seriously
  - Make asset ownership (IAOs) an accountable role
  - Have robust and comprehensive policies and procedures
  - Manage the perimeter with firewalls and IPS/IDS
  - Manage user access, especially admin level
  - Build resilience and recovery



# Cyber: Defence in depth

- **Protect against the unknown unknowns**
  - Effectively and robustly risk assess assets
  - Manage patches and don't use unsupported software (XP!!!)
  - Have robust up to date anti-virus
  - Keep abreast of security advisories
  - Educate, educate, educate

# Cyber: And be assured

- Third party certified standards (Cyber Essentials, ISO27001 etc)
- Clarity on assurance frameworks and reporting on information assets through SIRO/IAO channels
- Ensuring that internal audit plans cover cyber risk
- Regular penetration testing and vulnerability assessment.
- Social engineering and phishing exercises.

# Cyber: MIAA services and support

## Protecting the core

- Security architecture design
- Security mgt assessment
- Information risk assessments
- Asset mgt documentation
- ISO27001 compliance

## Protecting the perimeter

- Cyber Essentials
- Vulnerability assessment programmes
- Firewall rule ase assessment

## Test, probe, assure

- Penetration testing
- Social engineering & phishing
- Web application testing
- Remote and mobile access testing
- Infrastructure reviews

## Protecting the perimeter

- Real time monitoring
- Incident response
- Digital forensics



Cyber: Questions or concerns?

**Watch out for the  
phish**

**I've got your  
email addresses!!!**