I have just installed Ubuntu 14.04 LTS

It all started after I successfully installed Ubuntu on a XP laptop; it's cd/dvd player didn't work and because of the way Ubuntu installs (from boot up) I couldn't use an external dvd player; but had to make a bootable flash drive and tell Ubuntu help me installing (this meant that Ubuntu created a dos bat file telling where the software could be found). After that I could perform a total installation.

So being rather of an inquisitive nature, I just had to install Ubuntu onto one of my win7 learning pcs (it kindly comes with "Libra Office", "Firefox" and much more software, that I still haven't worked out how to use and access). I installed it as a dual-boot system; and found that Ubuntu is the controller of which environment to boot. There are 15 seconds to decide whether to boot Ubuntu or win7.

The choice is displayed on an Ubuntu coloured screen. Ubuntu is the norm and unless win7 is required this will be loaded; it's a matter of moving the cursor down to win7 & hit the [enter] key to load windows. Loading Ubuntu is way faster than loading win7.

I have managed to change the normal background to something grey and easy to look at. I have also managed to look at and use documents from my windows directory. That was easier than I had anticipated.

It was so easy to install my Wi-Fi Canon printer, way easier than onto a win7 pc

All I needed to do to access to my Dropbox was a quick installation and all my files are now available in Ubuntu. The same applied for Twitter; it was so easy and quick.

How to revive an old XP-PC to a useful PC

First you have to ask yourself if it's worth it — for instance:

1. has it got enough memory (2gb or more)
2. is the processor good enough (2mhz or better)
3. is there 6gb or more free disk space on your hard drive

If you answered "Yes" to all the above questions you can then safely install Ubuntu (Linux) onto your PC/Laptop.

You can install it either as the ONLY operating system on your PC or change your PC to become a dual boot system; where you have to answer (at boot time) which system to use (a Ubuntu screen where both Ubuntu and Windows are the choices).

By using dual boot you can then when you need to re-boot and use Windows for example for your scanner — that is — if you can't find the Linux driver for it.

Linux Ubuntu 14.04.3 LTS will automatically install:

1. Rhythmbox — Music Player
2. Shotwell — Photo Manager
3. GIMP — Image Editor
4. PiTiVi — Video Editor
5. FireFox — Web Browser
6. Thunderbird — Email reader
7. LibraOffice — similar to OpenOffice Word, Excel, PowerPoint …

Ubuntu offers thousands of apps available for download from the software center. Most are available for free and can be installed with just a few clicks.