My Endeavour
On getting to know Arch Linux

Why switch?

- Many years of RPM distros (RedHat, SuSE)
- More years of Debian, Ubuntu, LinuxMint
- Played around with Manjaro for last meeting
- Time for a change! :-)
- The laptop needed a reinstall anyway...

What is EndeavourOS?

- Quotes from endeavouros.com
  - "A terminal-centric distro with a dynamic and friendly community in its core"
  - "install process with a friendly installer that will set up your system in a headache-free and swiftly manner"
  - "We offer a variety of eight Desktop Environments and one Window Manager"
  - "With the exception for our in-house developed reflector-auto, eos-welcome and the eos-update-notifier, all the packages are directly installed from the Arch repos or the AUR, so there are no customized or modified packages coming from our own repo. We want to stay as close to Archlinux as possible."

How did it go?

- Downloaded ISO, put on USB stick

- Booted from stick, started installer
  - Similar to many other graphical installers
  - Not as polished as Ubuntu, but worked just fine
  - Chose MATE desktop

- Watched slideshow of Endeavour Shuttle related pictures

- Done!

Impressions?

- The Good
  - Fast! Even on a spinning disk drive!
  - Really up to date (kernel 5.7.4 – latest from stable 5.7 branch!)
- The Bad
  - Stock standard MATE desktop, looks dated compare to Linux Mint
- The Ugly
  - Couldn't use wireless Brother printer (only .deb/.rpm)
  - Did not incorporate swap partition during install – ground to halt with Firefox and VirtualBox running in parallel (power off button!)

Building packages!

- Came across AUR packages

  https://aur.archlinux.org/packages/?O=250&K=brother

- Couldn't get it to work – newbie problem?

- How about building my own packages?

  https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/Packaging_Brother_printer_drivers

- And... that was my Sunday evening... ;-)

PKGBUILD

- Building packages with Arch seems straightforward: PKGBUILD – a bash script

- The link on previous slide has a template

- Started with that, but didn't work either

- Turns out, the Brother .deb packages run some scripts post-install!

PKGBUILD hooks

- PKGBUILD can link in an install script, eg:

  install=PKGBUILD.install

- Hook methods:

  pre_install, post_install, pre_upgrade, post_upgrade, pre_remove, post_remove

- PKGBUILD.install for the Brother cupswrapper

```
post_install() {

  /usr/local/Brother/Printer/mfc6490cw/cupswrapper/cupswrappermfc6490cw -i

}

pre_remove() {

  /usr/local/Brother/Printer/mfc6490cw/cupswrapper/cupswrappermfc6490cw -e

}
```

What next?

- ## Update the checksum

   updpkgsums PKGBUILD

- ## Build the package (-fc for clean/force)

   makepkg

- ## Install and test it

   pacman -U FILE.tar.xz

- ## If it doesn't work, remove it

   pacman -R NAME

Does it work?

- Printing? Yes

- Scanning? No

- Work in progress... ;-)

  github.com/fracpete/brother-mfc6490cw