East SIG

Simple Tab Groups

-

Declutter your browser tab bar
&

organise your tabs into Groups

Neil Muller, February 2021
muller@melbpc.org.au

Simple Tab Groups
- Declutter your browser tab bar

- Summary
  - Why I needed a program like Simple Tab Groups?
  - Brief introduction & installation of Simple Tab Groups
  - View video by Percy Jules
  - Worked example for the Typical Firefox user like myself
  - Program Features
  - My setup
  - Other browsers

Simple Tab Groups
- Declutter your browser tab bar

- My Web browsing with Firefox

  - Long term Firefox user, still use other browsers

  - I had too many tabs open & it was taking too long to find websites I had open on the tab bar.

  - I wasn't using the Firefox Bookmark Manager except for a few bookmarks saved to the Bookmark Toolbar.

  - I needed to get more organised

  - Started searched the web for a better Bookmark Manager

  - While searching I heard about grouping tabs so then started searching for those.

  - Viewed a YouTube video on "Simple Tab Groups"

  - I was impressed and thought I'd give STG a try.

  - I also looked at how other browsers were implementing tab groupings

  - Installed STG about 3-4 months ago and haven't looked back

Set Firefox to "Restore previous session"

Step 1 – Select 3 bars

Step 3 – Tick Check Box

Step 2 – Select "Settings"

What is Simple Tab Groups?

- Simple Tab Groups is an add-on for Firefox that creates & modifies tab groups

- Simple Tab Groups is an easy way to declutter your browser and organize your tabs

- STG is easy to use and very convenient

- STG closes tabs rather than hides them like similar programs.

- Has become my default Bookmark manager. Although I still use the Bookmark Toolbar.

- With STG I'm now much more organised than I was previously

- Firefox has not yet implemented tab groupings.

- Other Chromium based browsers are beginning to incorporate tab groupings as a feature within their browsers. Time permitting I hope to show those. In my opinion none are as good as STGs.

Installing "Simple Tab Groups" Add-on
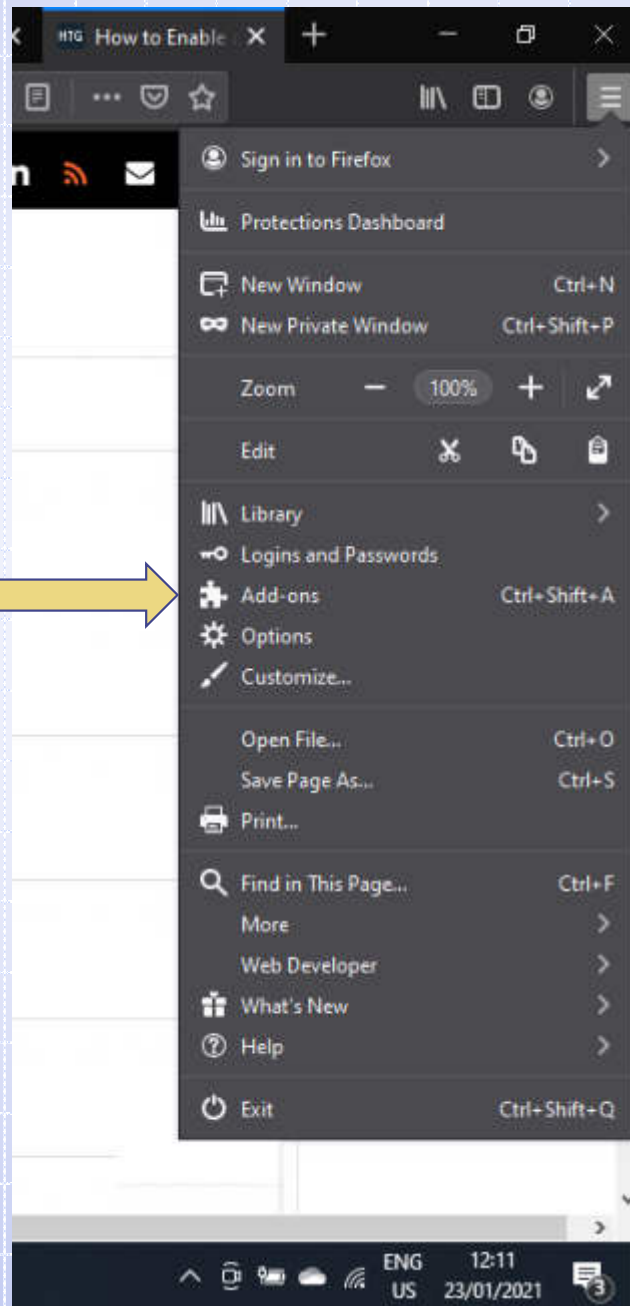
Step 1

Step 2

Installing Simple Tab Groups in Firefox

Installing Simple Tab Groups in Firefox

Installing Simple Tab Groups in Firefox

Installing Simple Tab Groups in Firefox

Step 6

Installing Simple Tab Groups in Firefox

Please enable "Restore previous session" in browser settings.
This is necessary to maintain communication between the group and the tab,
otherwise the tabs will not open when the browser starts and will be lost from the addo
the addon will stop working.

Simple Tab Groups has been added to Firefox.
Manage your add-ons by clicking 🧩 in the ☰ menu.

☐ Allow this extension to run in Private Windows

Okay, Got It

Step 7

Options

Nightly | about:preferences

🔍 Find in Options

⚙ General

🏠 Home

🔍 Search

🔒 Privacy & Security

🔄 Sync

🧩 Extensions & Themes

❓ Nightly Support

General

Startup

☐ Restore previous session

☐ Warn you when quitting the browser

☐ Always check if Nightly is your default browser

🔵 **Nightly is not your default browser**   Make Default...

Tabs

✓ Ctrl+Tab cycles through tabs in recently used order

✓ Open links in tabs instead of new windows

Installing Simple Tab Groups in Firefox

Step 8

Video

"Simple Tab Groups
My new favorite Firefox addon…?"
by Percy Jules

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6m09F312soQ

Typical Firefox User

- So far:

    - I've described Simple Tab Groups and why I needed it

    - Shown how to installed STG

    - Looked at a video giving a good introduction to using STG.

- However most users like me will have a large number of tabs already open which they wish to keep

- The process for us is slightly different to that shown in the video.

- Step 1 - Write down a list of topic names for your Tab Groups.
  e.g. MelbPC, Holidays, Technology, Photography, Software, Home, Android, Music, Video, Health, Office procedures etc.
  More tabs can be added along the way.

Using Simple Tab Groups - Continued

- The next step is to create your first Tab Group by clicking the STG toolbar icon and select "create new group"
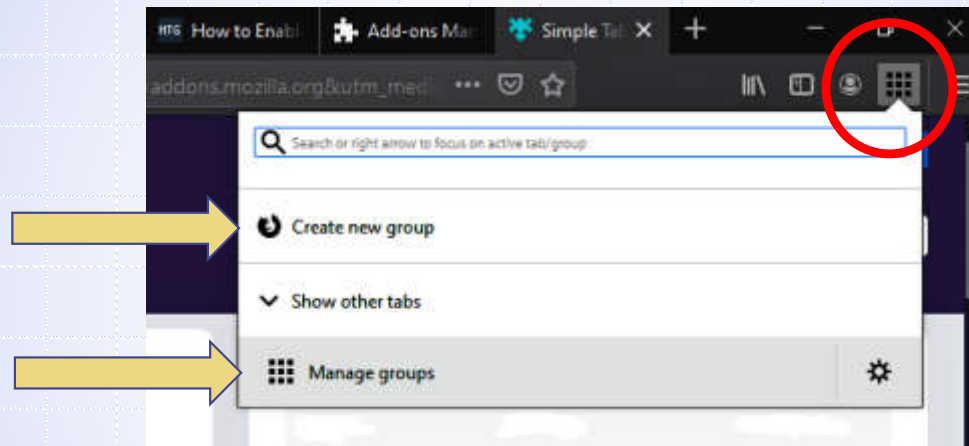
- The first group created will include all open tabs. This group doesn't have a name.

- Create groups for each of the topics listed earlier

- Drag each tab into the appropriate group using Manage Groups icon

- Demonstration: Existing Firefox user with multiple tabs already open.

Step 1: Create the first Tab Group

Step 1: Creating the first Tab Group – Group 1

Tab Group 1 created, displaying all open tabs
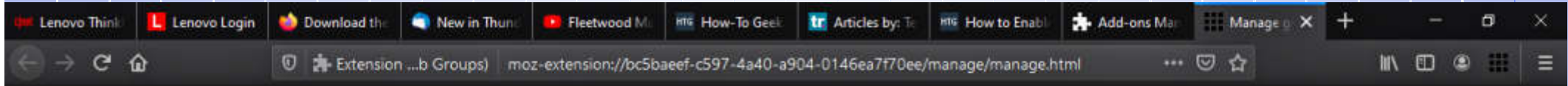
Create a new Tab Group

Create Music Tab Group & Drag any music tabs in
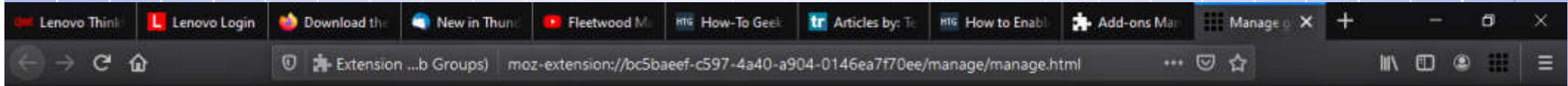
Lenovo Think | L Lenovo Login | Download the | New in Thun | Fleetwood M | HTG How-To Geek | tr Articles by: T | HTG How to Enab | Add-ons Ma | Manage g ✕ | +

Extension ...b Groups)   moz-extension://bc5baeef-c597-4a40-a904-0146ea7f70ee/manage/manage.html

Simple Tab Groups - Manage groups

☐ Show tabs with thumbnails in "Manage groups" page
☐ Show archived groups

🔍 Search

| Music | 0/0 tabs active ⚙ 🗑 |

🖥 Open new tab

Show other tabs   1/10 tabs active

Lenovo ThinkPad G560 Specs - CNET

L Lenovo Login

Download the Firefox Browser on your Mobile for iOS and Android

New in Thunderbird 78 — Thunderbird

Fleetwood Mac - Tusk (Official Music Video) - YouTube

HTG How-To Geek - We Explain Technology

tr Articles by: TechRadar Australia | TechRadar   ✕

HTG How to Enable and Use Collections in Microsoft Edge

Add-ons Manager

⊞ ○ STG Manage Groups

Drag tab into Music
Tab Group

Create new group

ENG 14:43
US 23/01/2021

Create first named Tab Group - Music

Create "Hardware Group" and Drag associate tabs into that Group.

Simple Tab Groups - Manage groups

☐ Show tabs with thumbnails in "Manage groups" page
☐ Show archived groups

🔍 Search

	Music	0/1 tabs active ⚙ 🗑

▶ Fleetwood Mac - Tusk (Official Music Video) - YouTube

🖥 Open new tab

	Hardware	0/0 tabs active ⚙ 🗑

🖥 Open new tab

Drag tabs into
Hardware Tab Group

Show other tabs   1/9 tabs active

▪ Lenovo ThinkPad G560 Specs - CNET
L Lenovo Login
🦊 Download the Firefox Browser on your Mobile for iOS and Android
🐦 New in Thunderbird 78 — Thunderbird
HTG How-To Geek - We Explain Technology
tr Articles by: TechRadar Australia | TechRadar
HTG How to Enable and Use Collections in Microsoft Edge
🖥 Add-ons Manager
⊞ O Manage groups

Create new group

Continue by creating "Internet" & "Tech Articles" Groups and Drag tabs into those Groups.

Setting up Tab Groups

Setting up Tab Groups

Having setup our tab groups we'll now look at STG features

Slide 25

NM1   N Muller, 8/02/2021

Features - Show all Tab Groups

Features - Display Options

Features - Create new Tab Group

Features - Open new tab options

Features - Inactive & Active Tabs

Features - Search box

Features – Display active Tab Group 1
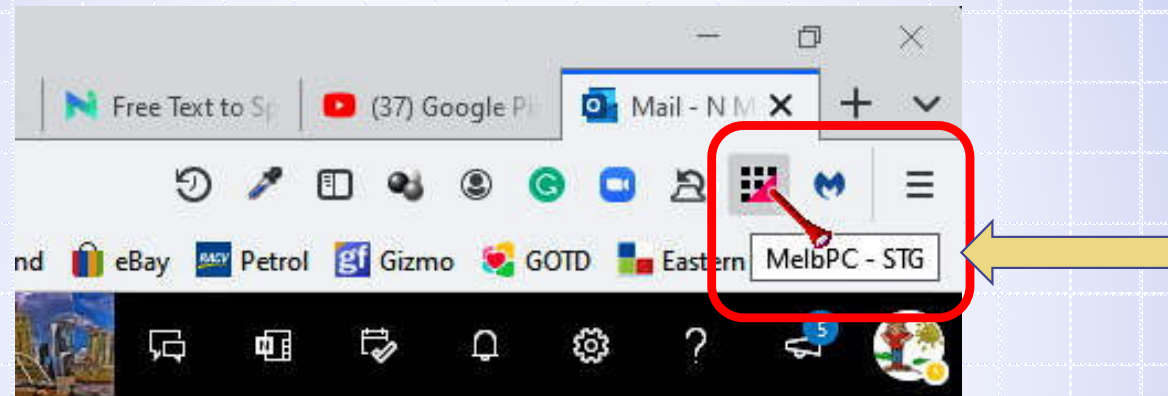
Hover mouse pointer over the STG icon
to show currently displayed Tab Group
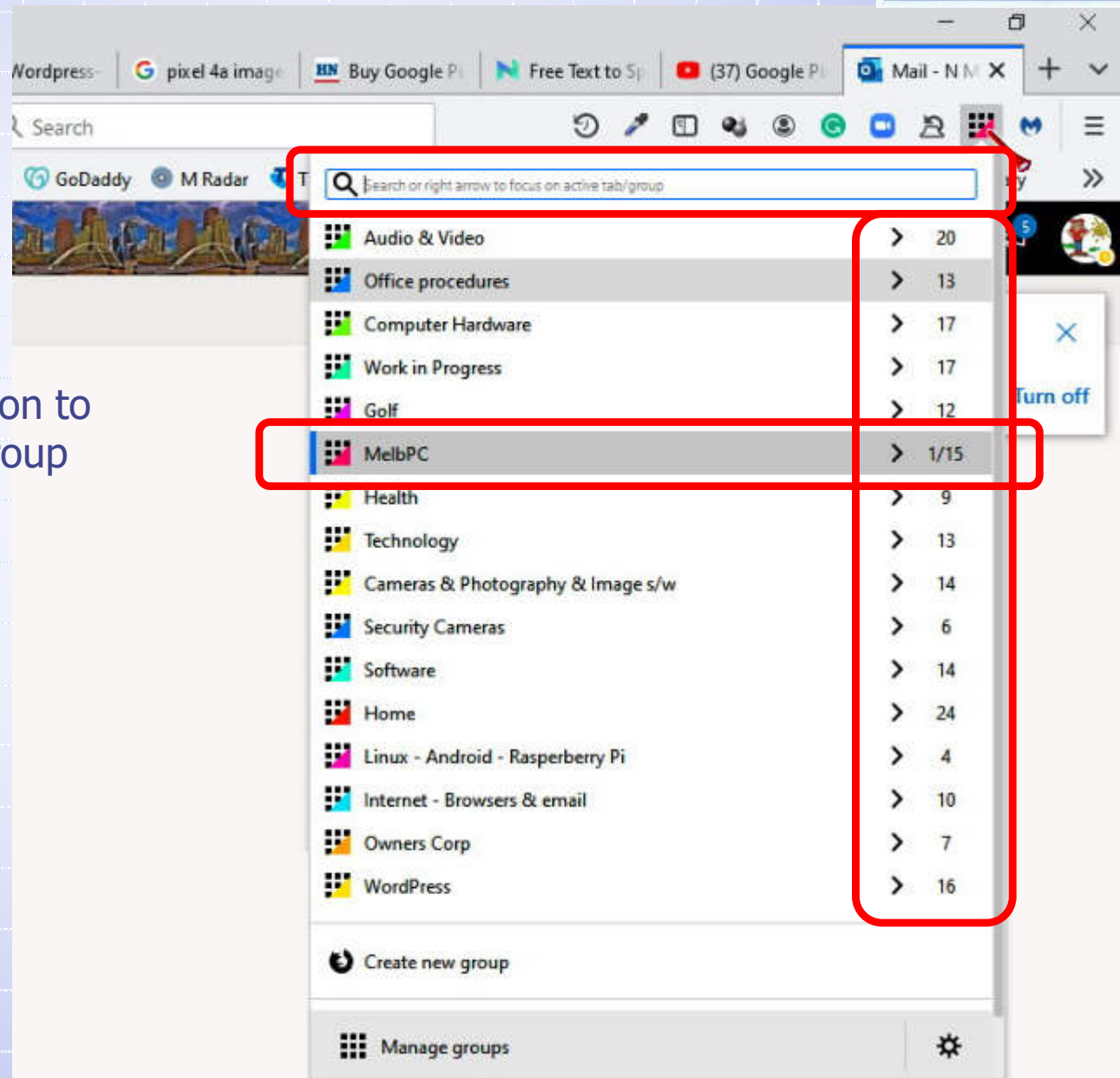
Select the STG icon to
display all Tab Group

Wordpress   G pixel 4a image   HN Buy Google P: N Free Text to Sp   ▶ (37) Google P: Q Mail - N M ✕   +   ⌄

Search

GoDaddy   ● M Radar

Search or right arrow to focus on active tab/group

Audio & Video	>	20
Office procedures	>	13
Computer Hardware	>	17
Work in Progress	>	17
Golf	>	12
MelbPC	>	1/15
Health	>	9
Technology	>	13
Cameras & Photography & Image s/w	>	14
Security Cameras	>	6
Software	>	14
Home	>	24
Linux - Android - Rasperberry Pi	>	4
Internet - Browsers & email	>	10
Owners Corp	>	7
WordPress	>	16

🦊 Create new group

⋮⋮⋮ Manage groups   ⚙

Features - Tab Group menu 2

Hover mouse cursor over 3/15
on the MelbPC Tab Group to
display its contents.

Open tabs display an "O" for
open or active.

Features - Tab Group menu 3 – Audio playing
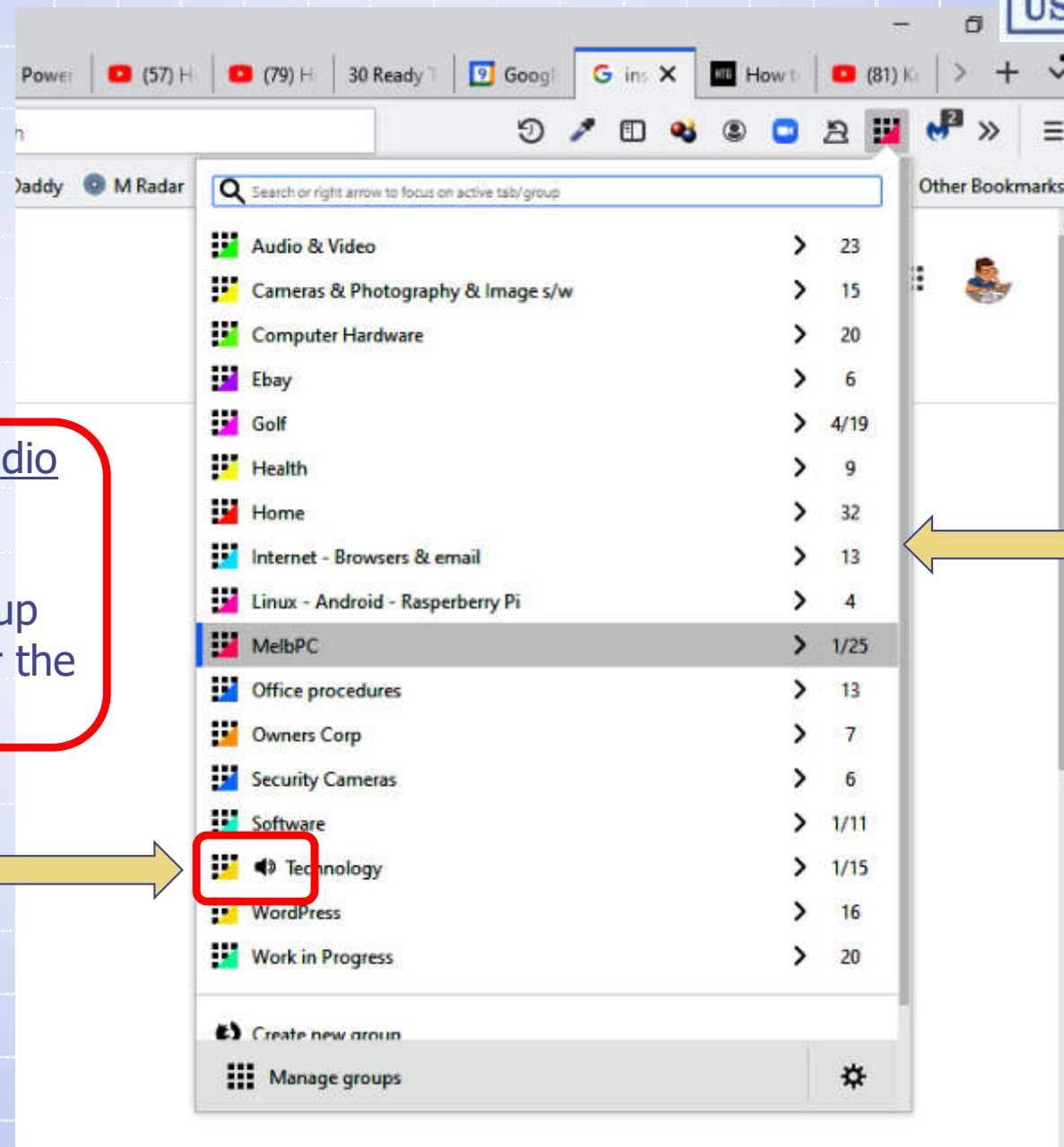
Which Group is audio playing from?

Open the Tab Group menu and look for the speaker icon.

Features - Tab Group menu 4 – Audio playing

Which tab in that group is
playing audio?

Move to "Technology Group"

Hover mouse cursor over
3/15 to display contents of
the group playing audio.

Open tabs display an "O" for
open or active.
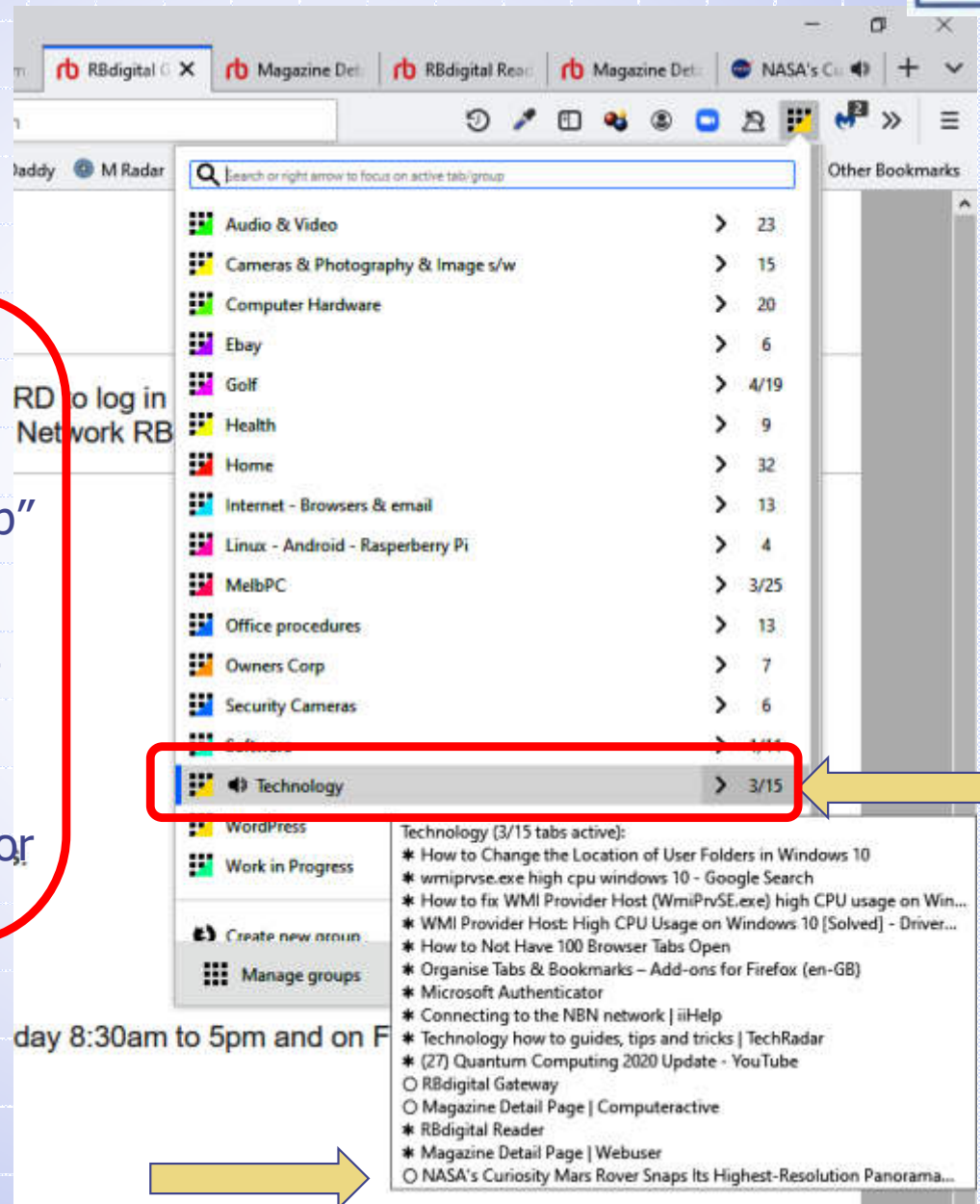
Features - Manage group settings
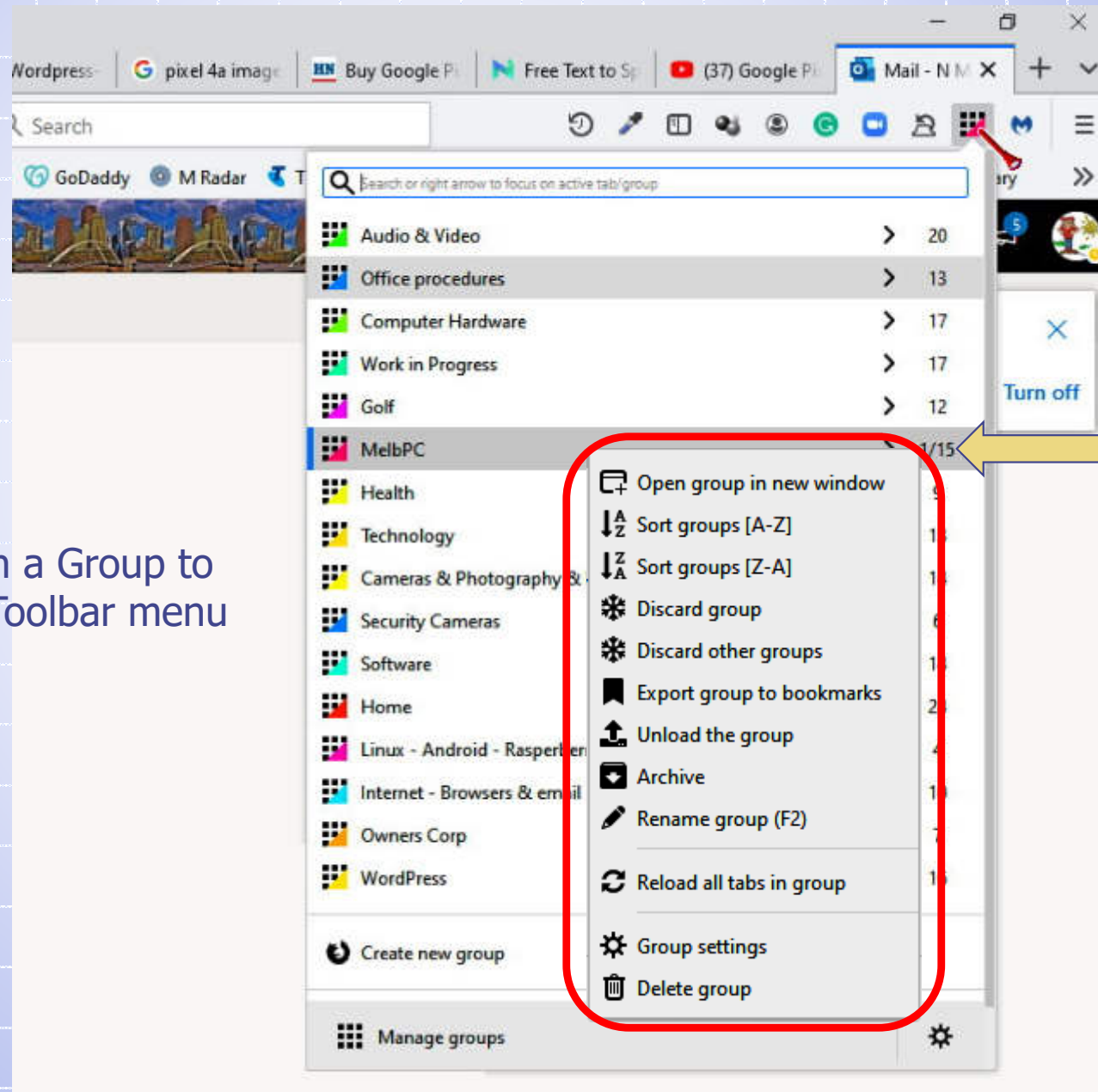
Right Click on a Group to
display the Toolbar menu

Features - Manage group settings
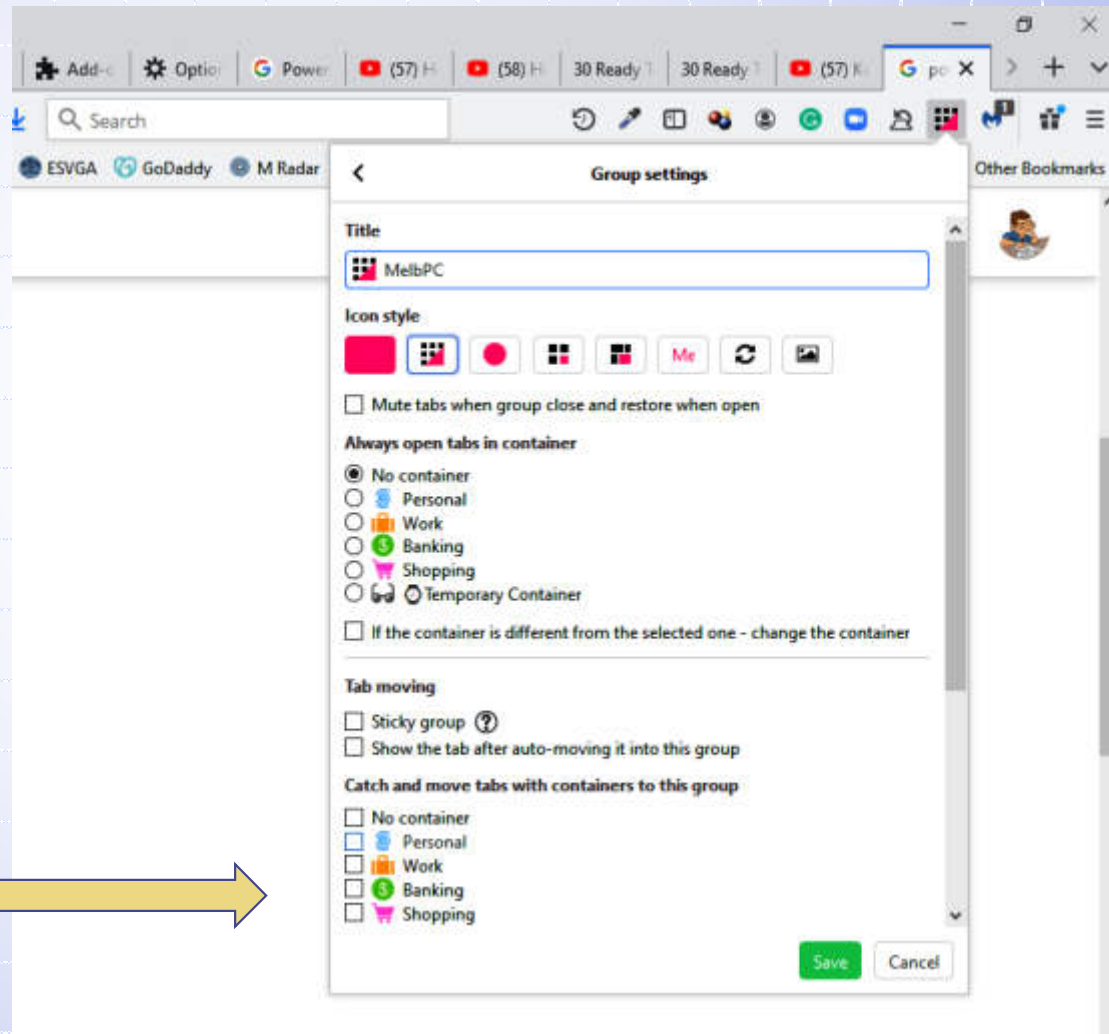
Right click menu

Group settings menu

Features - Manage group settings
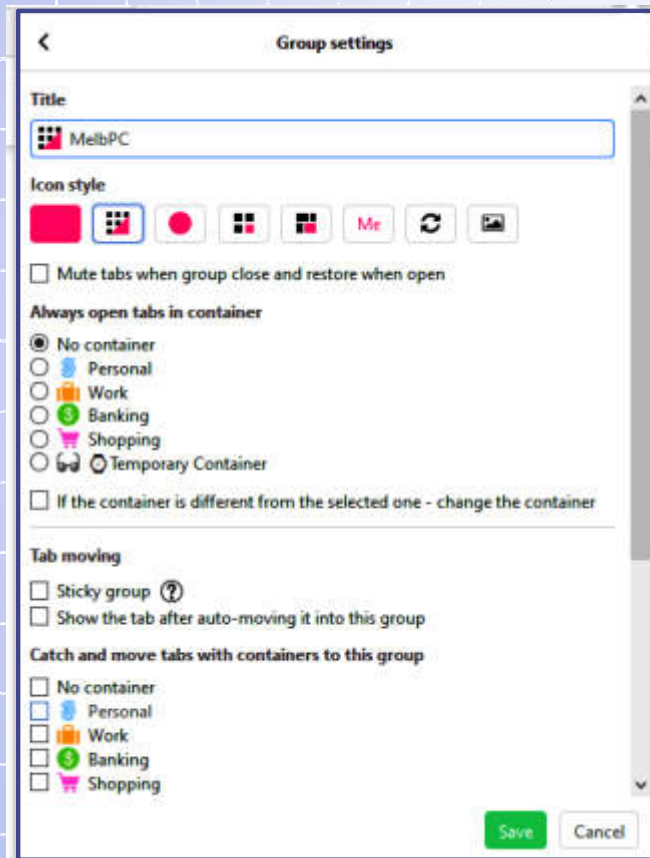
Group settings menu options:
- Rename a group
- Change a groups icon style & colour shown on the Firefox tab bar.
- Mute tabs when a group is closed/restored
- Make a sticky group (tabs that are never moved from the group)
- Show/discard tabs after moving
- Simple Tab Groups works with Firefox Containers, and can be configured to automatically move specific containers to a particular group. For e.g. If you have a container for shopping websites, and you have created a Tab Group called shopping, it may be a good idea to move the tabs in the Shopping container to the group.

Features – Tab Options (Right Click menu)
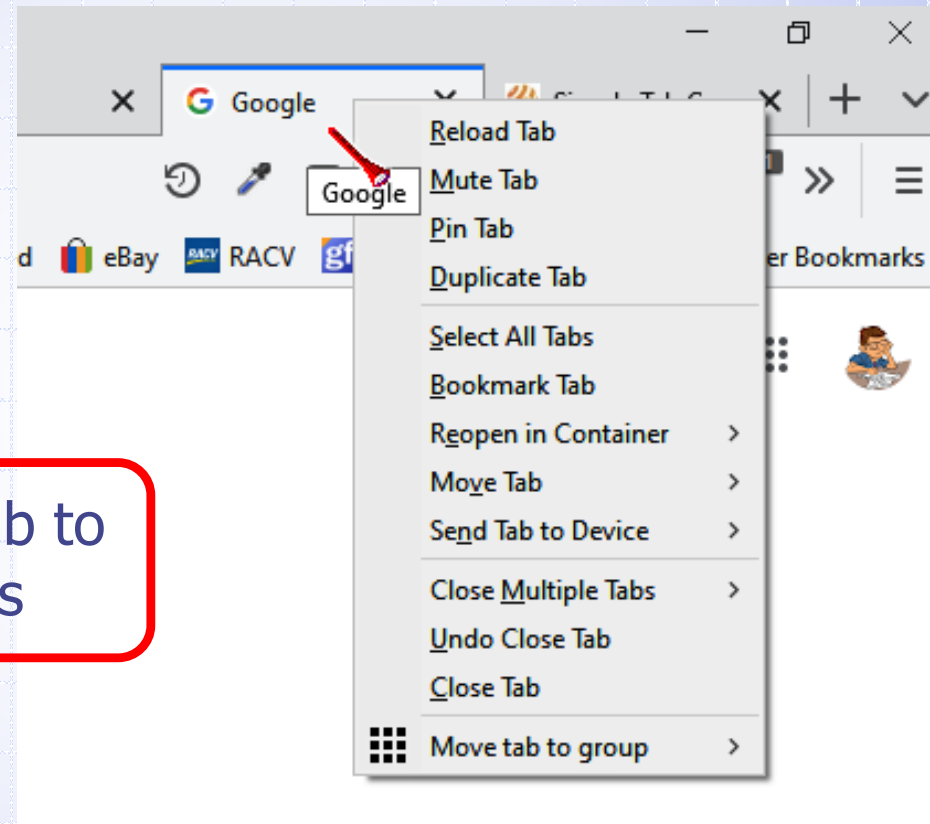
Right click on a tab to display tab options

Features – Moving Tabs to new group

Click "Move tab to group" then select group

Features – Gear Icon → General settings

Click Gear icon to display the ad-on's options

Features – Gear Icon → General settings

	General	Hotkeys	Backup your Simple Tab Groups

✓ Allow access to bookmarks

Default bookmark folder location

🔖 Bookmarks Toolbar ⌄

✓ Export groups to 'STG bookmarks' bookmark folder

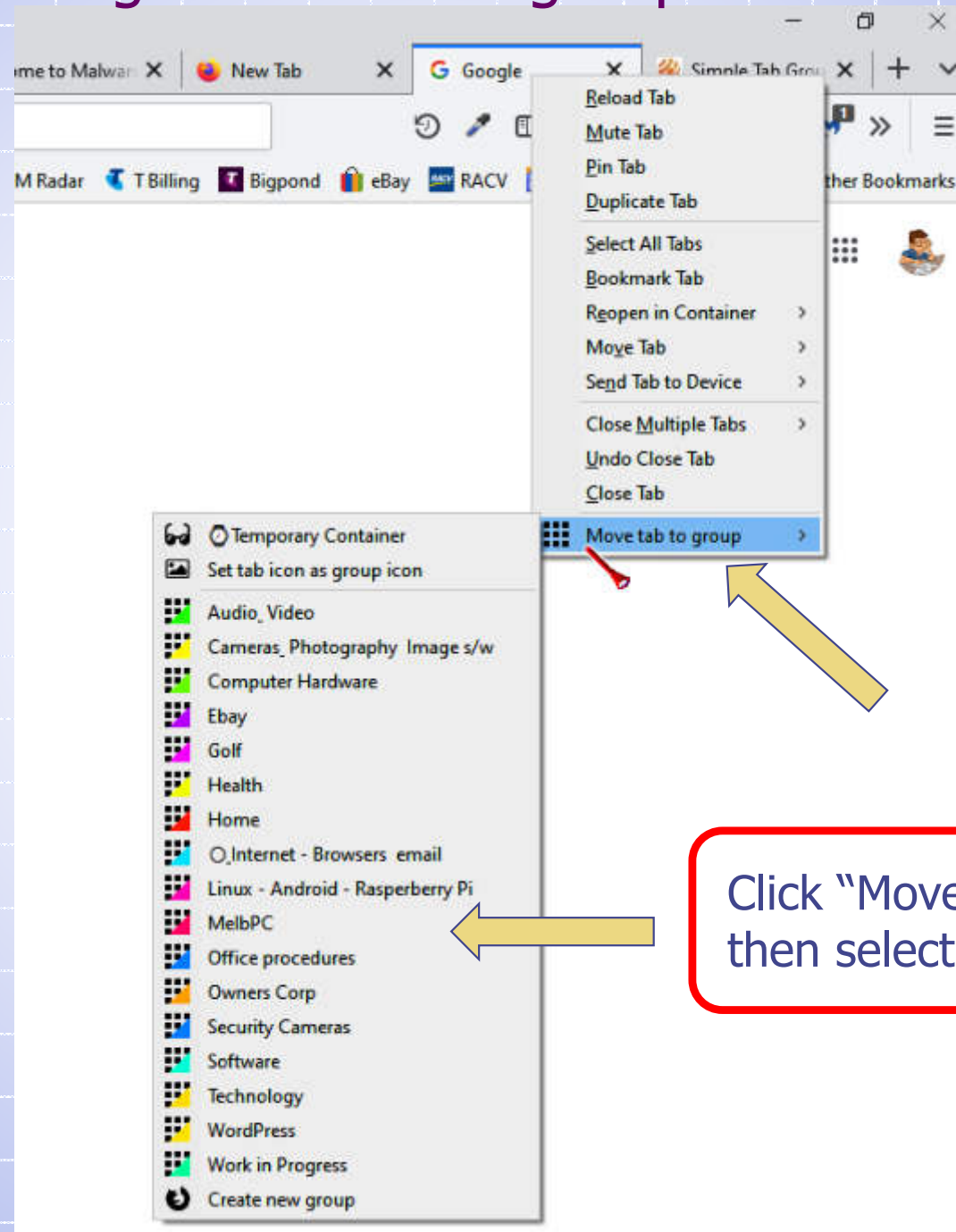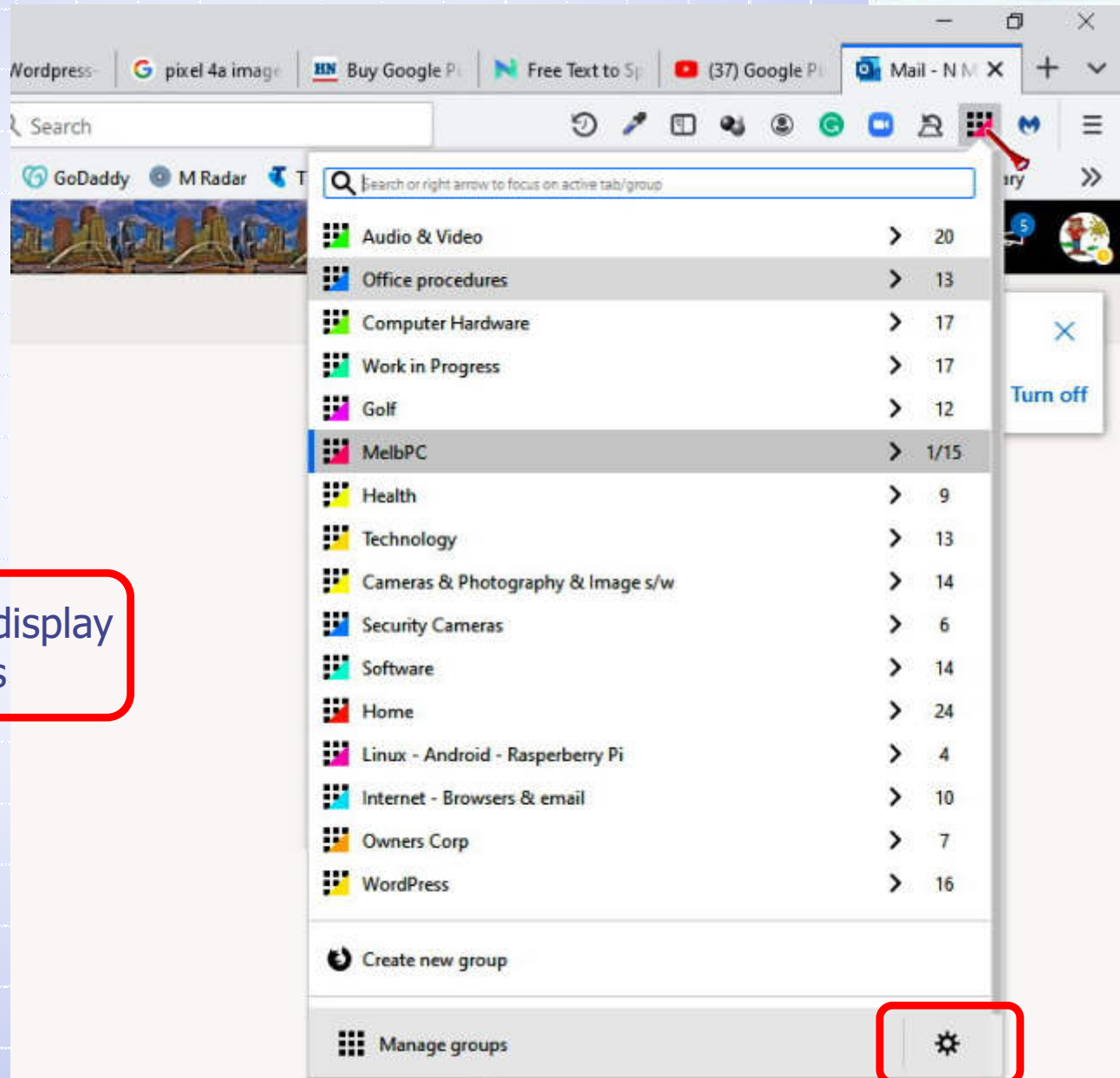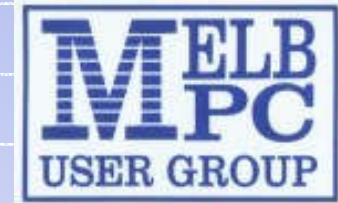☐ Leave bookmarks of closed tabs (bookmarks will separate the separator)

✓ Show context menu on tabs

✓ Show context menu on links

✓ Close popup after changing group

☐ Use full popup width

☐ Open group after changing to it

☐ Create a new group when opening a new window

☐ Show active tabs in groups popup

✓ Always ask for a new group name

☐ Prepend group title to window title

☐ Discard tabs after hide (this will save the RAM)

✓ Open "Manage Groups" in new tab

✓ Show confirmation dialog before deleting the group

✓ Show confirmation dialog before archiving the group

✓ Show notification after group delete

✓ Show notification when a tab is moved to another group

☐ Show tabs with thumbnails in "Manage groups" page

Prefix of the temporary container title

⊙ Temporary Container
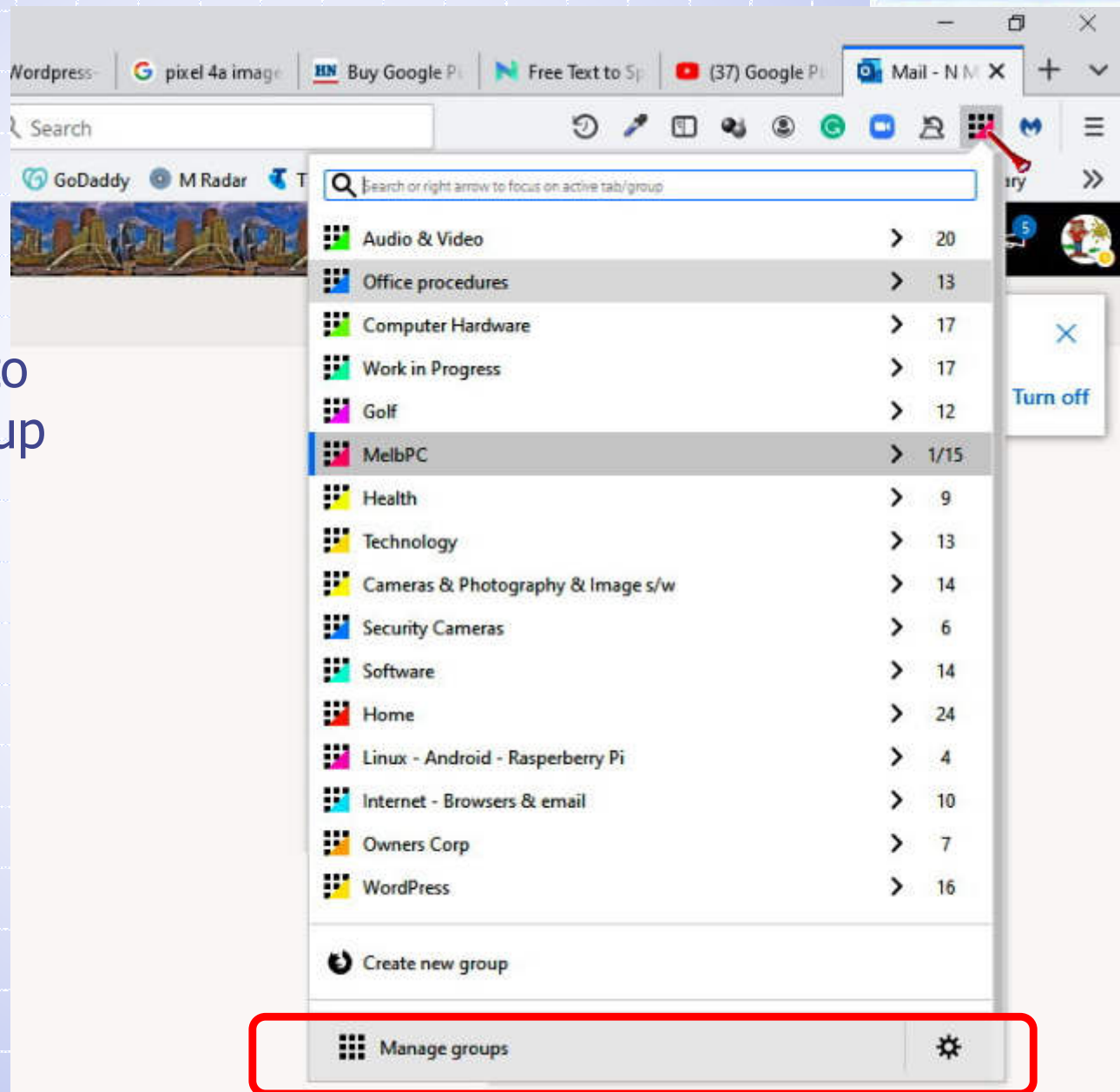
☐ Enable dark theme

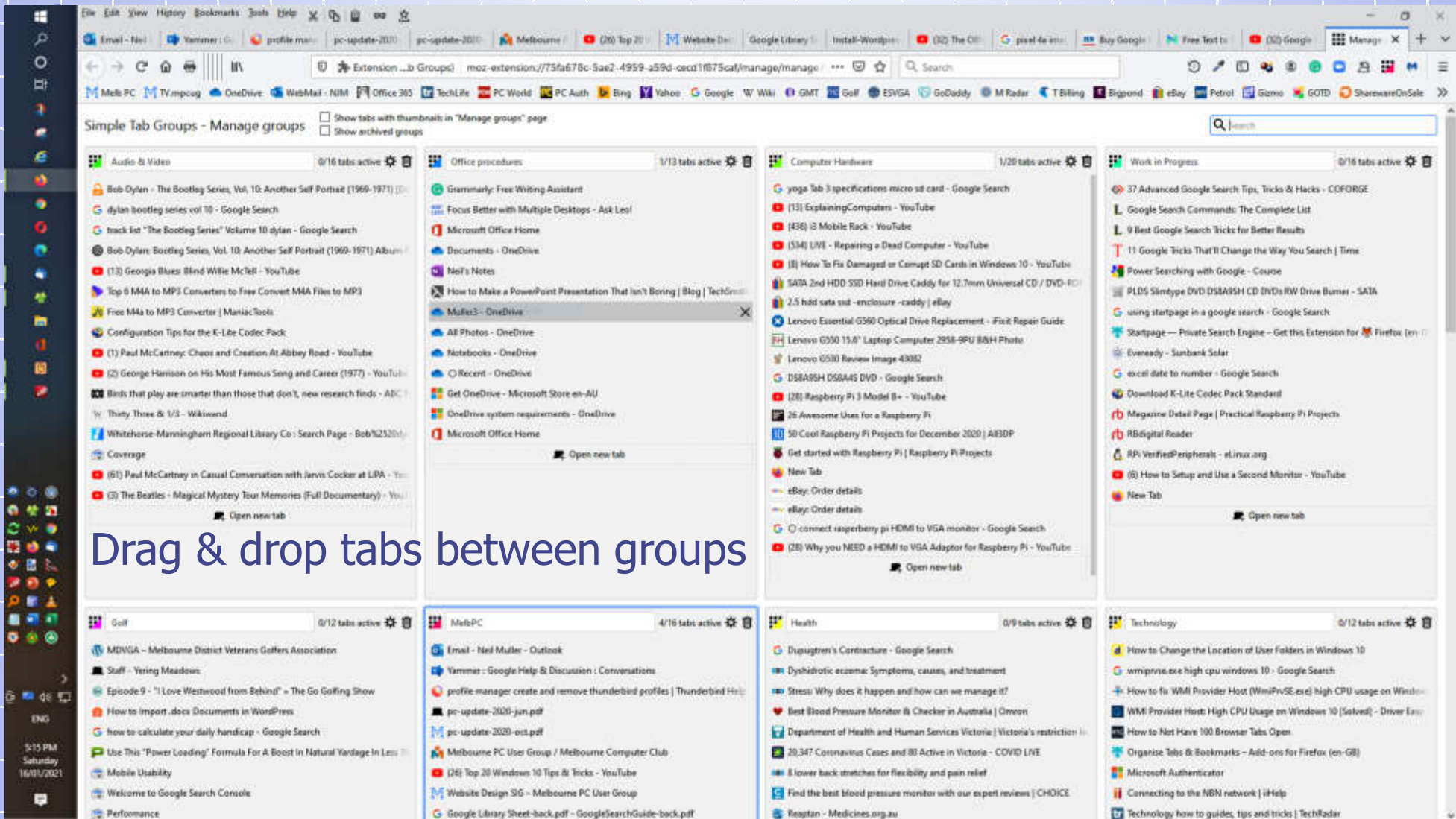**Icon style for a new group**

╲ ⊞ ● ▪▪ ▪▪ Titl

Features - Managing groups

Click on STG icon to
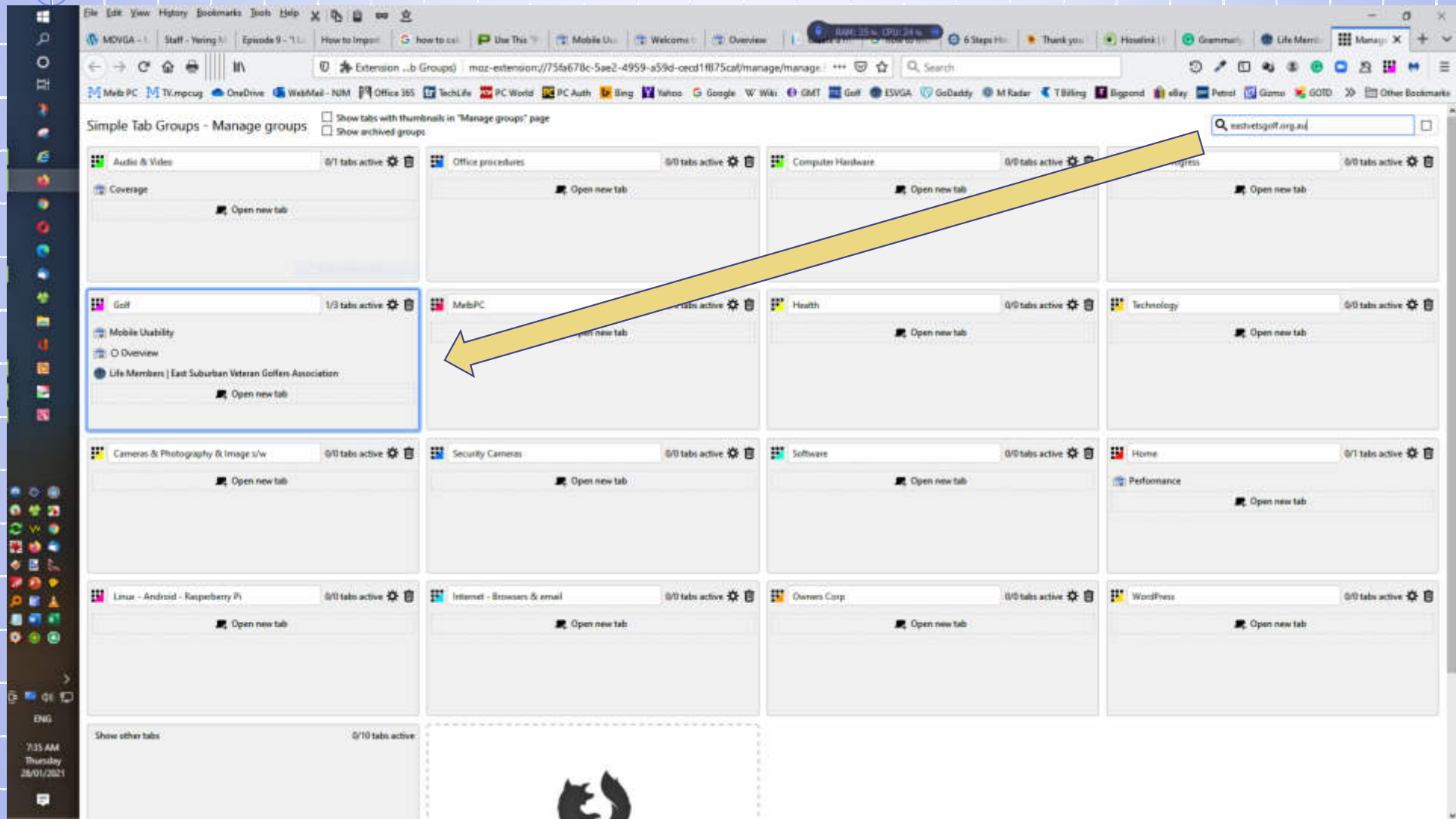display all Tab Group

Features - Manage groups – Full screen capture

Drag & drop tabs between groups

Features - Searching under Manage groups

Negatives

- Initial sorting of tabs into groups is time consuming

- Opening internet links from an email, newsletter, other website etc opens tab in the current tab group. The new tab then needs to be dragged to the collect group.

- STG does not load instantaneously & takes a short time to load when Firefox is first started

- A tab may belong to two or more groups making searching for it later more difficult.
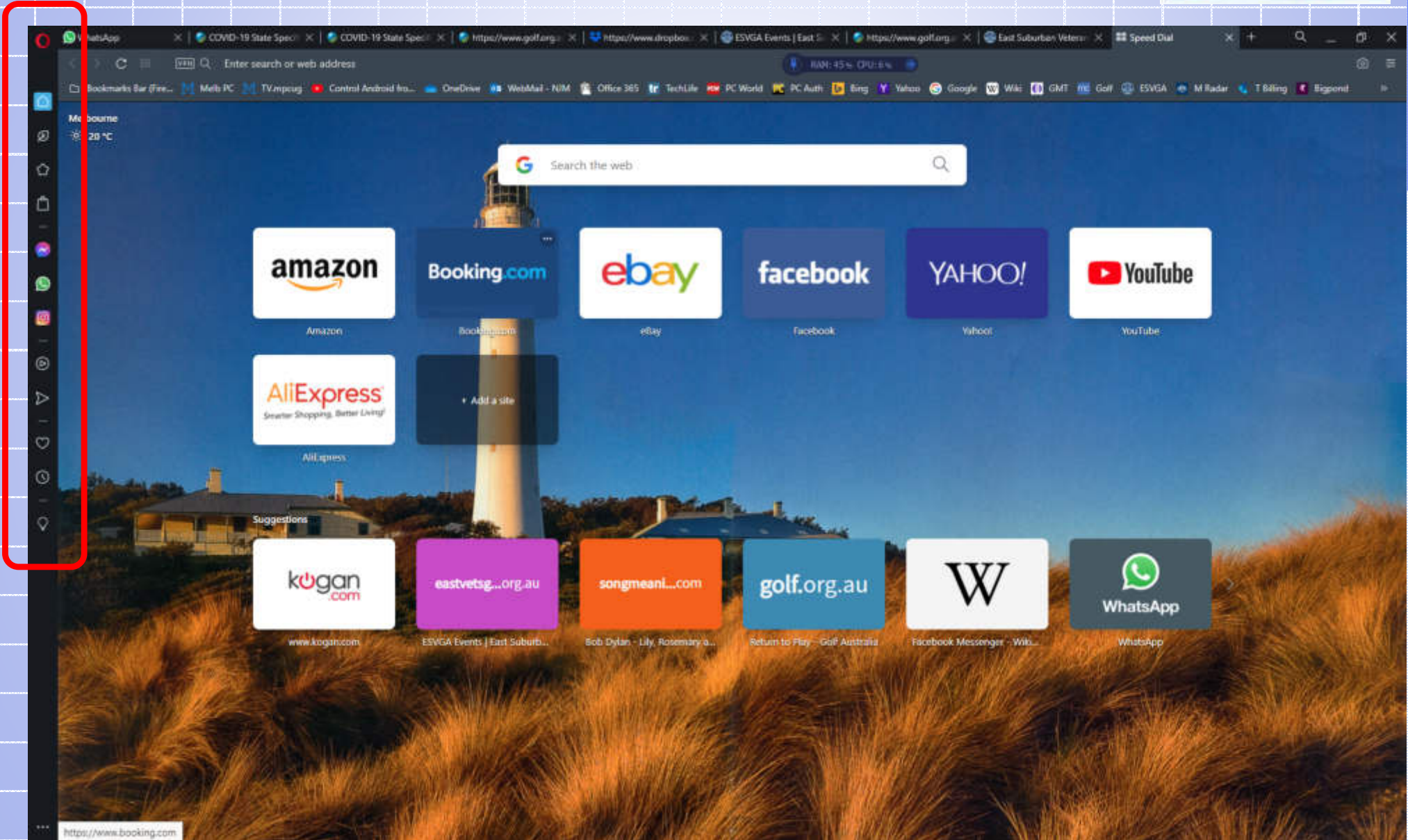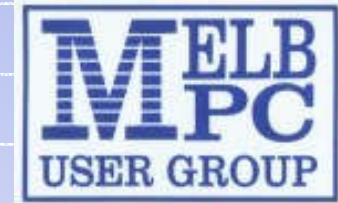
- Too many tabs open, easy to get lazy again.
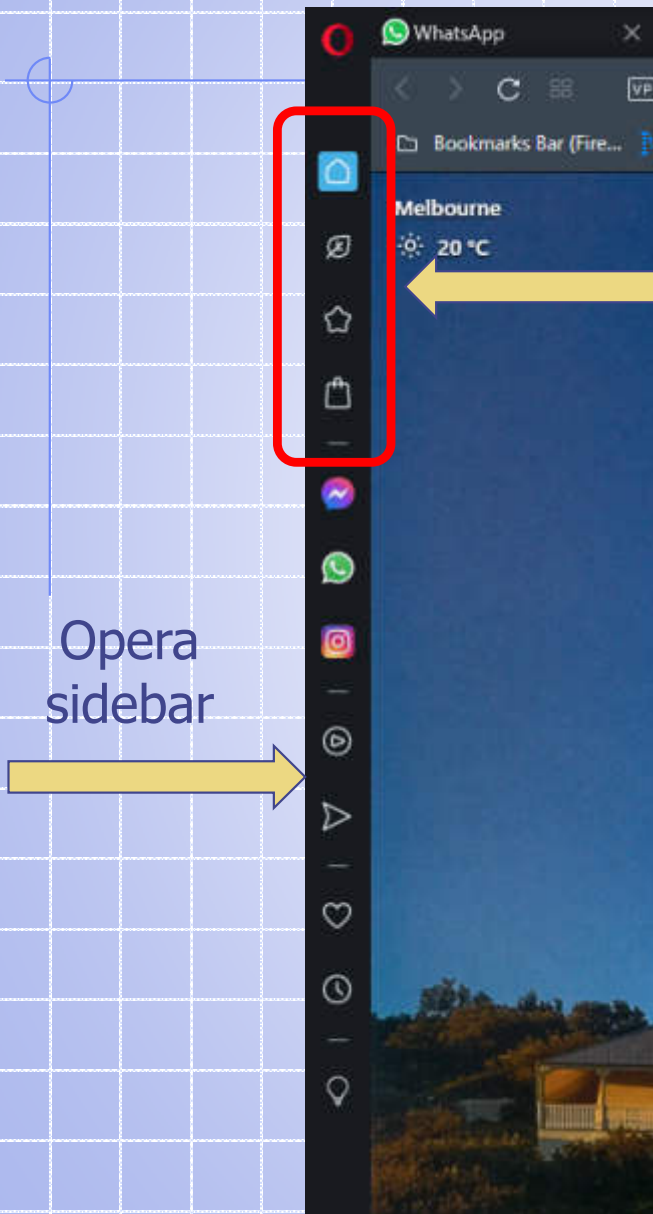
Live demonstration

Chromium based browsers

- Implementation on Chromium based browsers
  - Opera – Workspaces
  - Edge – Collections
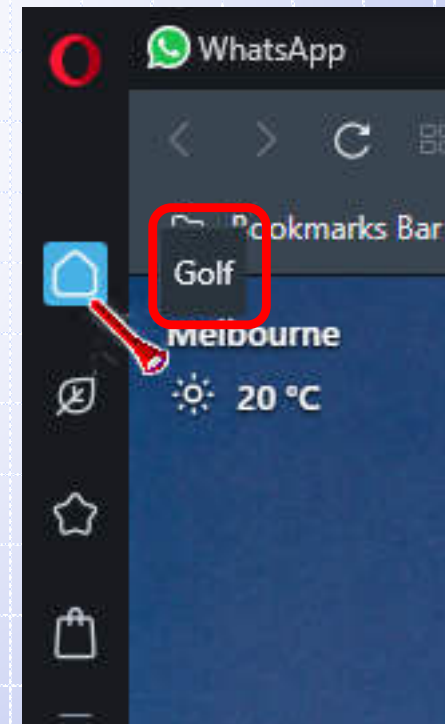 - Chrome – Experimental feature "Tab Groups Collapse"
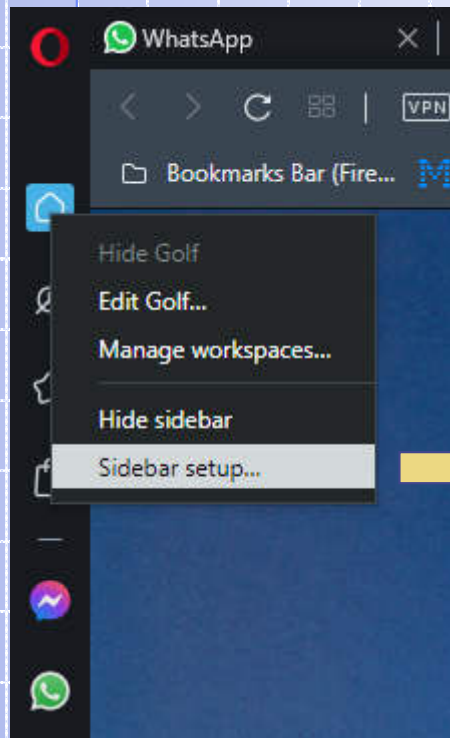
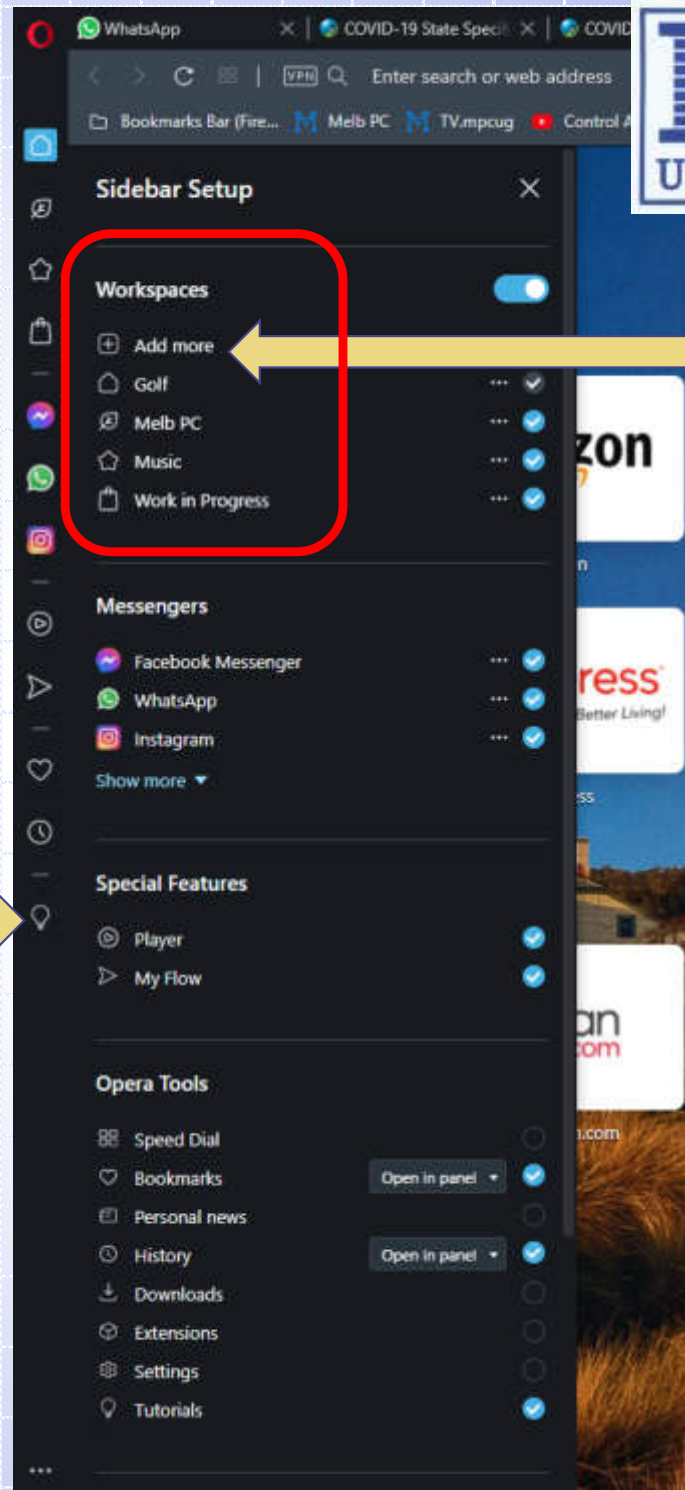# Opera - Workspaces

Opera - Workspaces

Workspace icons (4)

Opera sidebar

Hover cursor over Workspace icon to reveal its title.

Golf

Opera - Workspaces

Right mouse click on the Workspace icon for options menu.

Add more Workspaces.

Sidebar Setup ✕

Workspaces

- ⊕ Add more
- ○ Golf
- Melb PC
- ○ Music
- Work in Progress

Messengers

- Facebook Messenger
- WhatsApp
- Instagram

Show more ▼

Special Features

- ⊙ Player
- ▷ My Flow

Opera Tools

- ⊞ Speed Dial
- ♡ Bookmarks — Open in panel ▾
- Personal news
- ⊙ History — Open in panel ▾
- ↓ Downloads
- Extensions
- Settings
- ⚲ Tutorials

WhatsApp ✕

Hide Golf
Edit Golf...
Manage workspaces...

Hide sidebar
Sidebar setup...

Select Sidebar setup… to display more options.

MELB PC USER GROUP

Google Chrome – Tab Groups Collapse

Google Chrome – Tab Groups Collapse

Right click open tab.

New tab to the right

Add tab to group

Remove from group

Move tab to new window

Reload   Ctrl+R

Duplicate

Pin

Mute site

Send to your devices

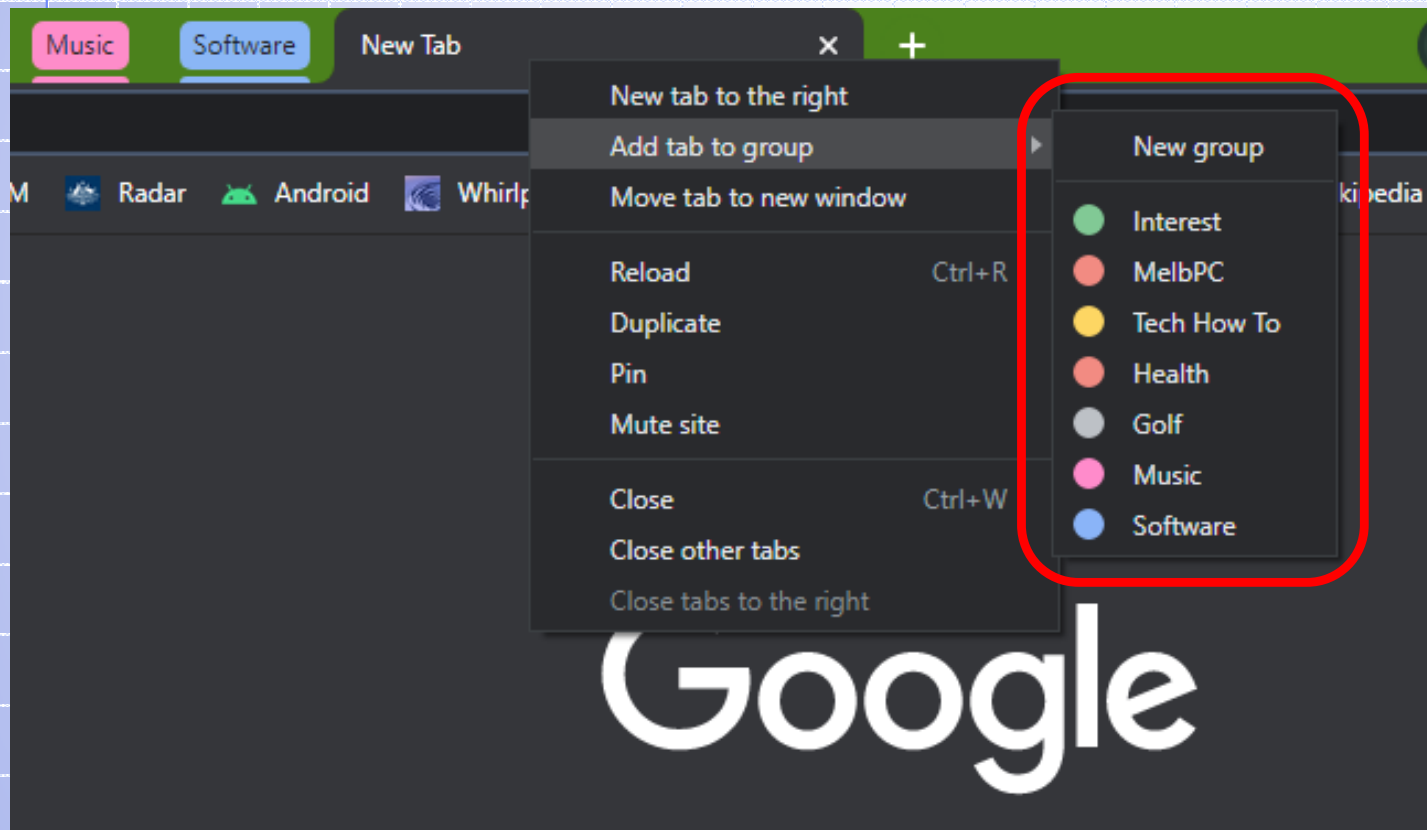Close   Ctrl+W

Close other tabs

Close tabs to the right
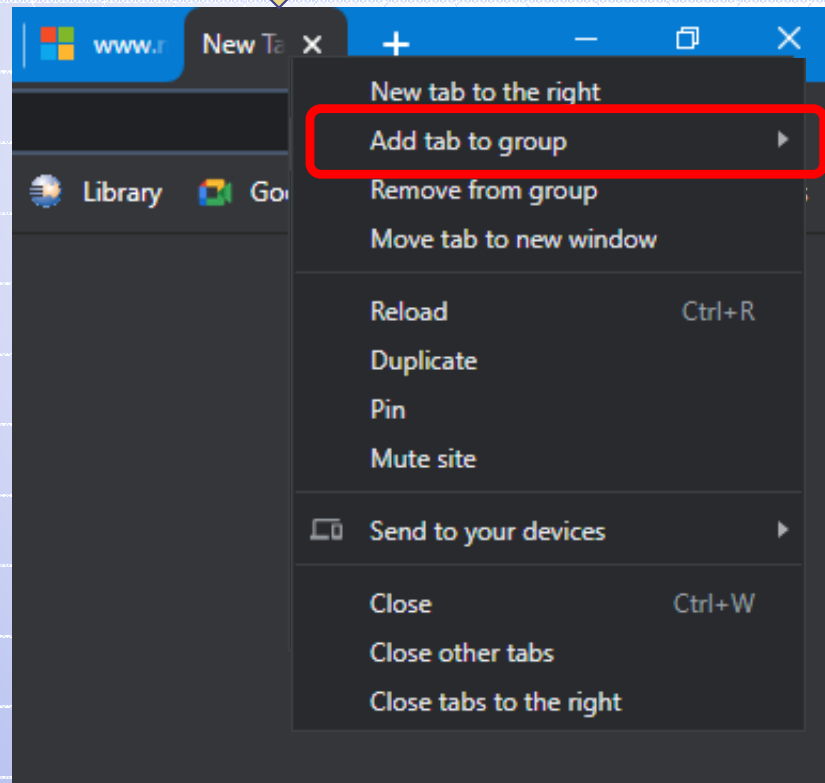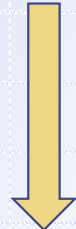
Add to group

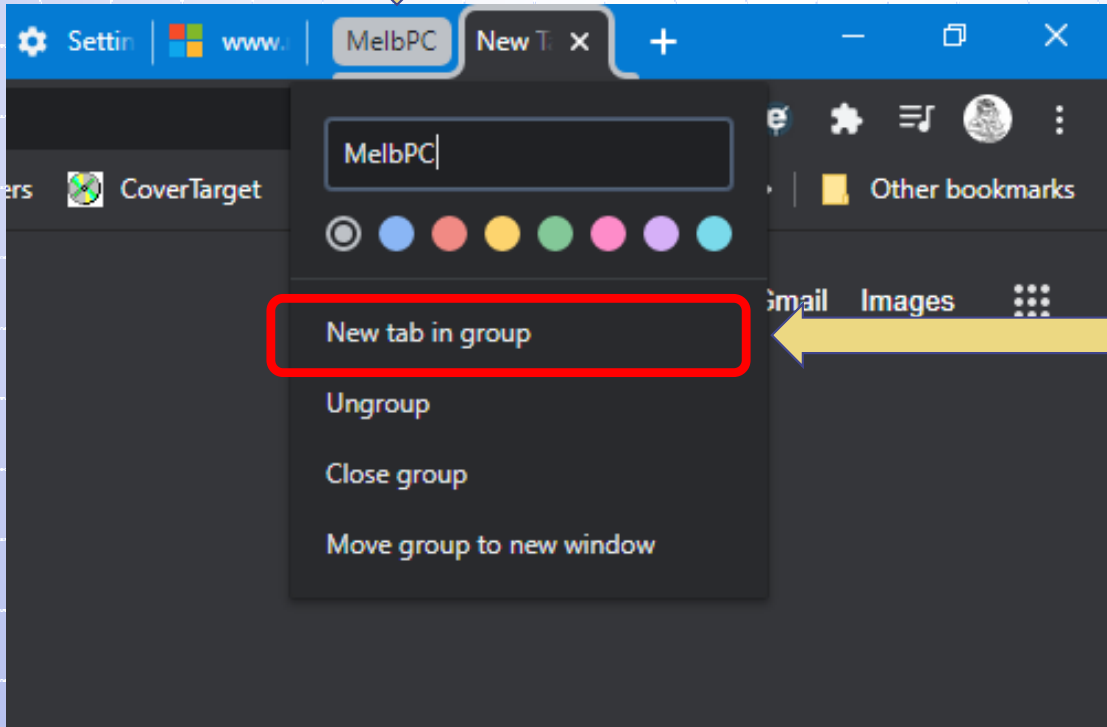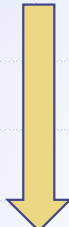# Google Chrome – Tab Groups Collapse

Add to group
options menu
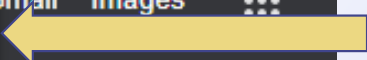
Google Chrome – Tab Groups Collapse

Right click tab heading

Select to open a
new tab in group

MelbPC

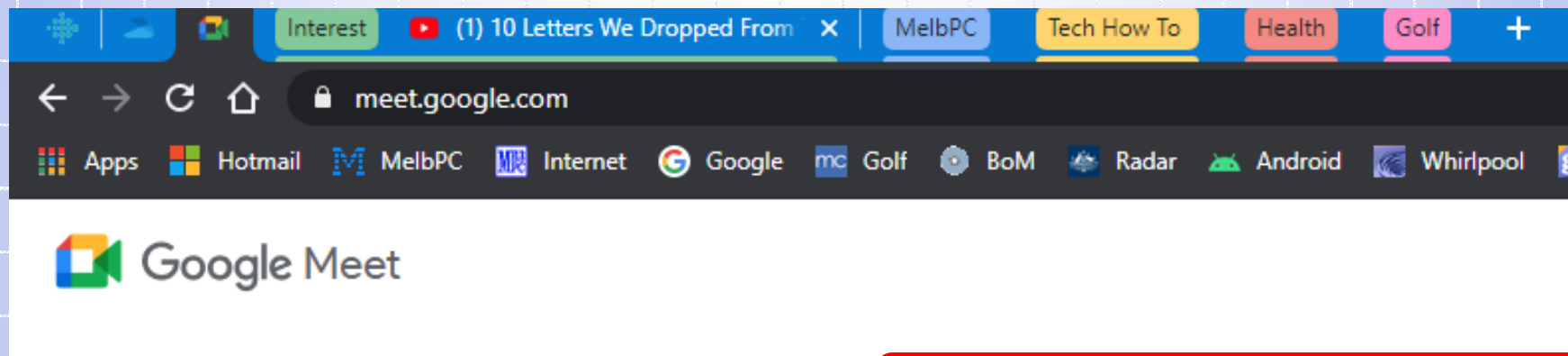Other bookmarks

MelbPC

New tab in group

Ungroup

Close group
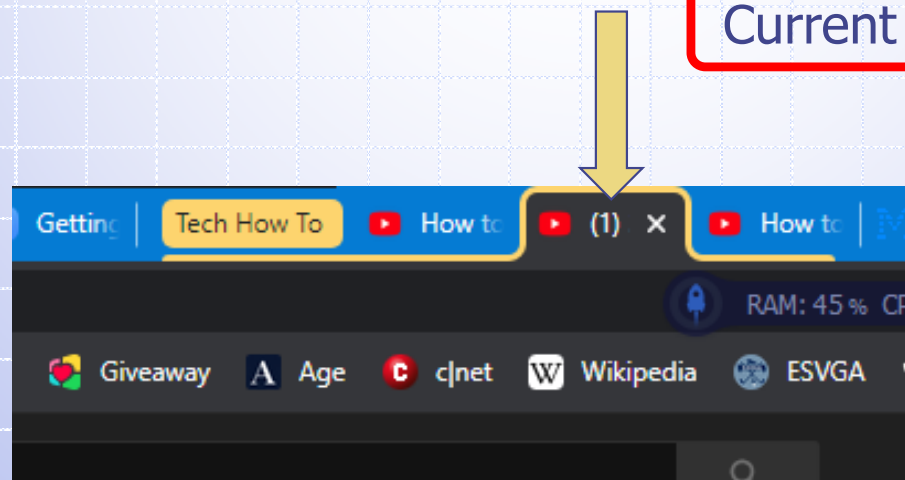
Move group to new window

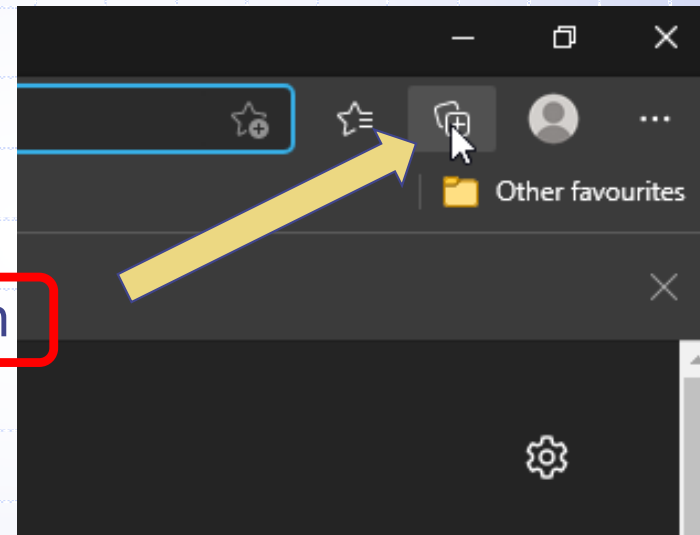# Google Chrome – Tab Groups Collapse
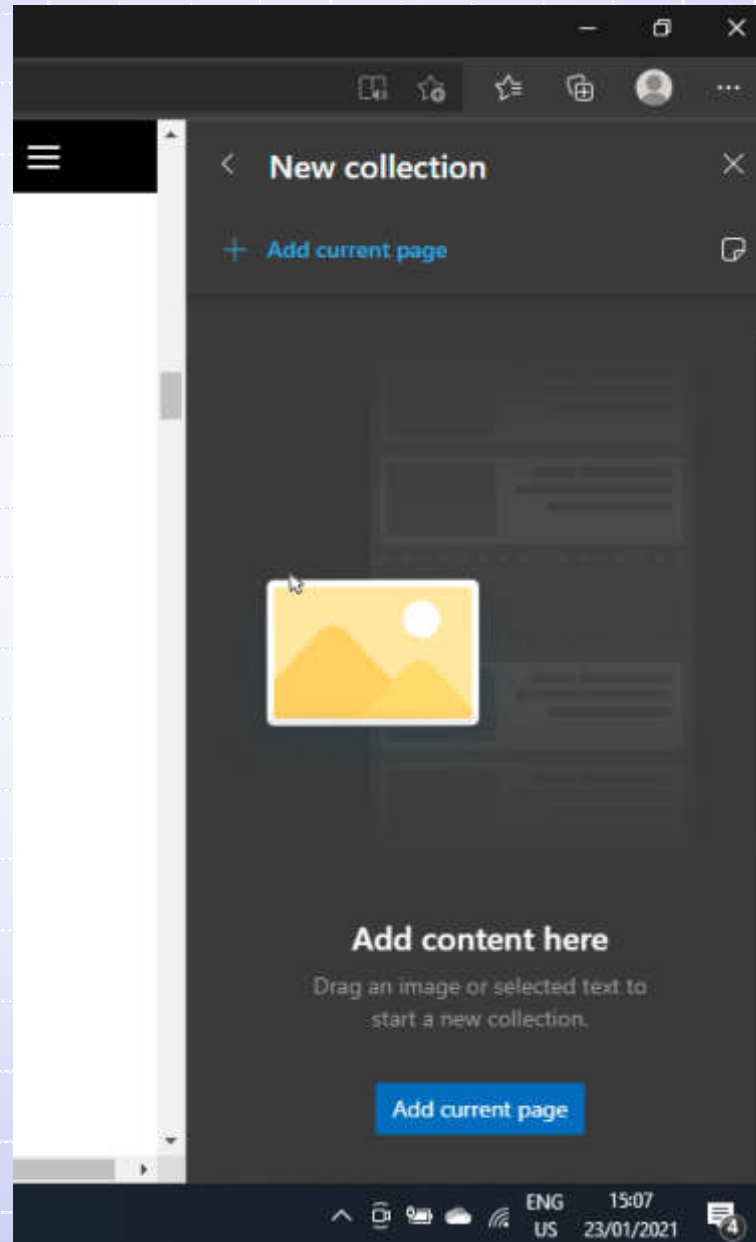
Chrome Tab Bar

Current webpage being viewed
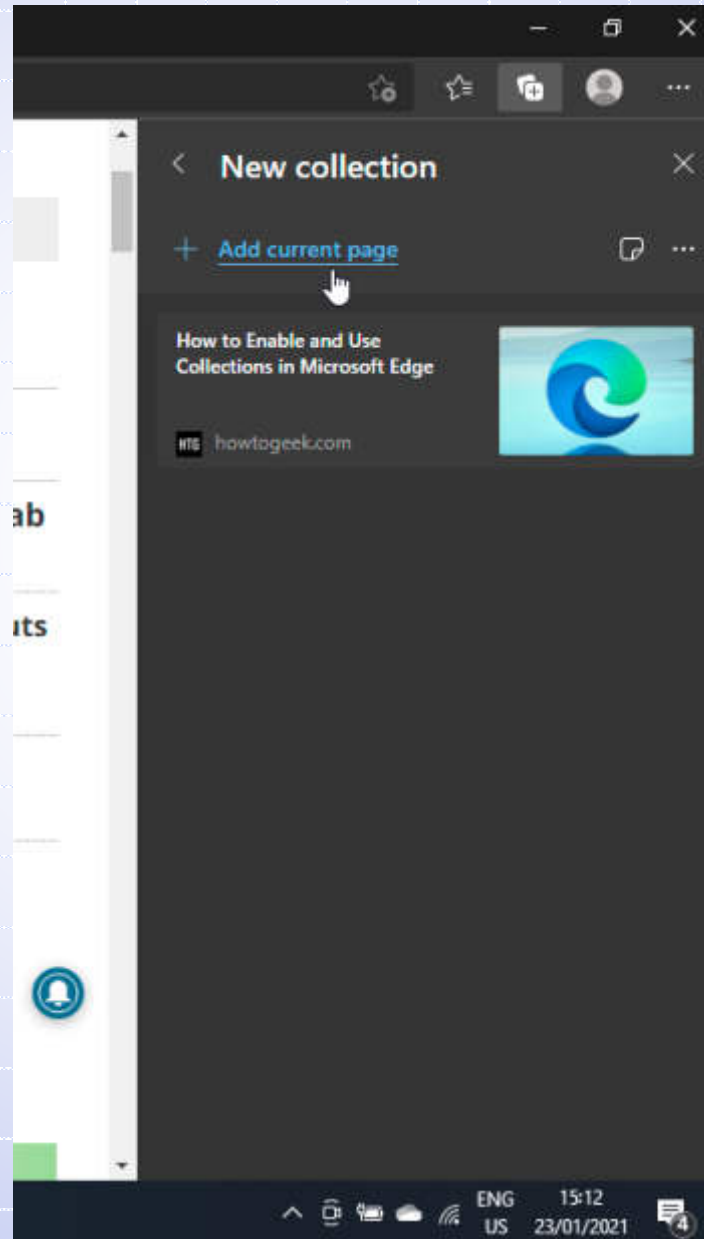
Microsoft Edge - Collections
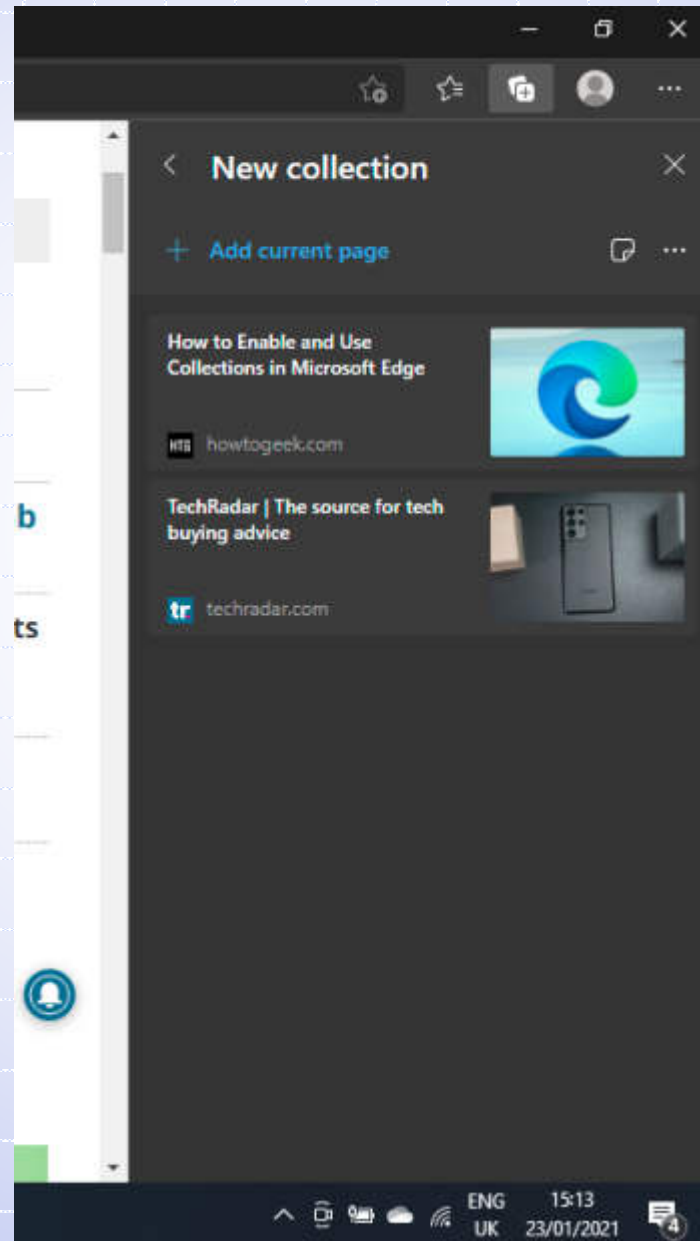

Collections Icon
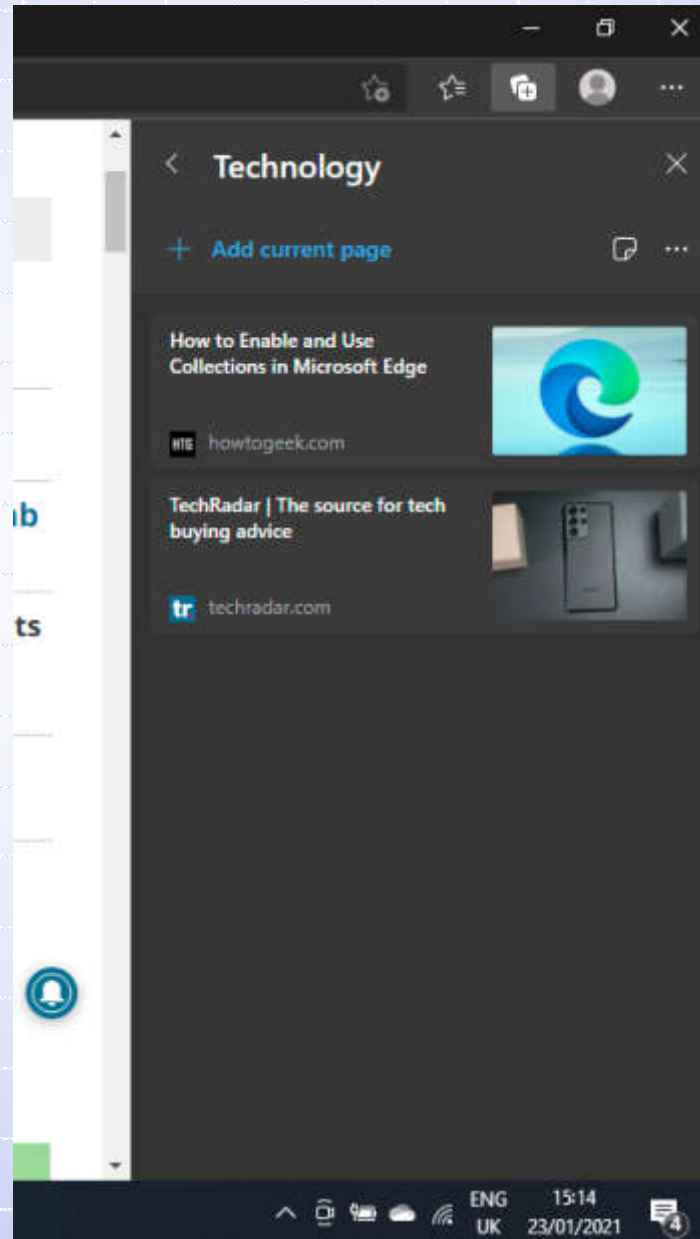
Microsoft Edge - Collections

Microsoft Edge - Collections

Microsoft Edge - Collections

Microsoft Edge - Collections

Questions?