Creating a new user

As mentioned, it's a good idea to get rid of the default 'pi' user just to make it harder for anyone who might try to hack you (and there are automated methods that might find you and try it, especially as the Pi itself becomes more popular and the default account details remain the same for each one). Going into detail on how Linux controls access rights and permissions for users is beyond the scope of this article, but suffice to say it has a concept of "users" and "groups" – users can belong to any number of groups, and groups are used to control permissions and access to files, directories, etc. It's through this system that Linux machines are administered. We want to get a list of groups that the default Pi user belongs to, so that we can create a new user which belongs to all the same groups – and therefor can do everything that the default Pi user can do. Belonging to all the same groups as the 'pi' user is not strictly necessary (and *can* be a bad idea if you're determined to be as secure as possible), but it can be useful if you want do other stuff with your Pi later. It also keeps this post simpler because being more restrictive would require more knowledge of Linux administration. You can figure that out later if you feel you want to. In the Bash prompt type:

```
groups
```

You will see a list output similar to the one below – yours may be different to mine (this article will become old and out of date) so pay attention to your list and not mine!

```
pi adm dialout cdrom sudo audio video plugdev games users netdev
input
```

Now we can create a new user. Type the following into the command prompt but remember to use your list of groups (minus the first 'pi' item) and replace USERNAME with the username you want to create. Make sure you type it all on one line (if you're seeing the line wrap here that's just the WordPress theme being stupid and re-formatting 'preformatted' text – which it shouldn't do).

```
sudo useradd -m -G
adm,dialout,cdrom,sudo,audio,video,plugdev,games,users,netdev,inp
ut USERNAME
```

Next we set a password for the new user:

```
sudo passwd USERNAME
```

Complete the prompts as they appear. Now shutdown the Pi:

```
sudo shutdown -h now
```

The Pi will turn itself off. Un-plug the power, plug in the network cable, then plug the power back in. The Pi will boot up and leave you in a Bash shell asking for a login name: Log-in with your newly created user's details (i.e., don't log in as 'pi').

Deleting the default 'pi' user

Type:

```
sudo deluser --remove-all-files pi
```

This will take a little while and spit out a lot of lines of text – eventually it will say 'Done'. The 'pi' user and it's associated files are now removed from the system.