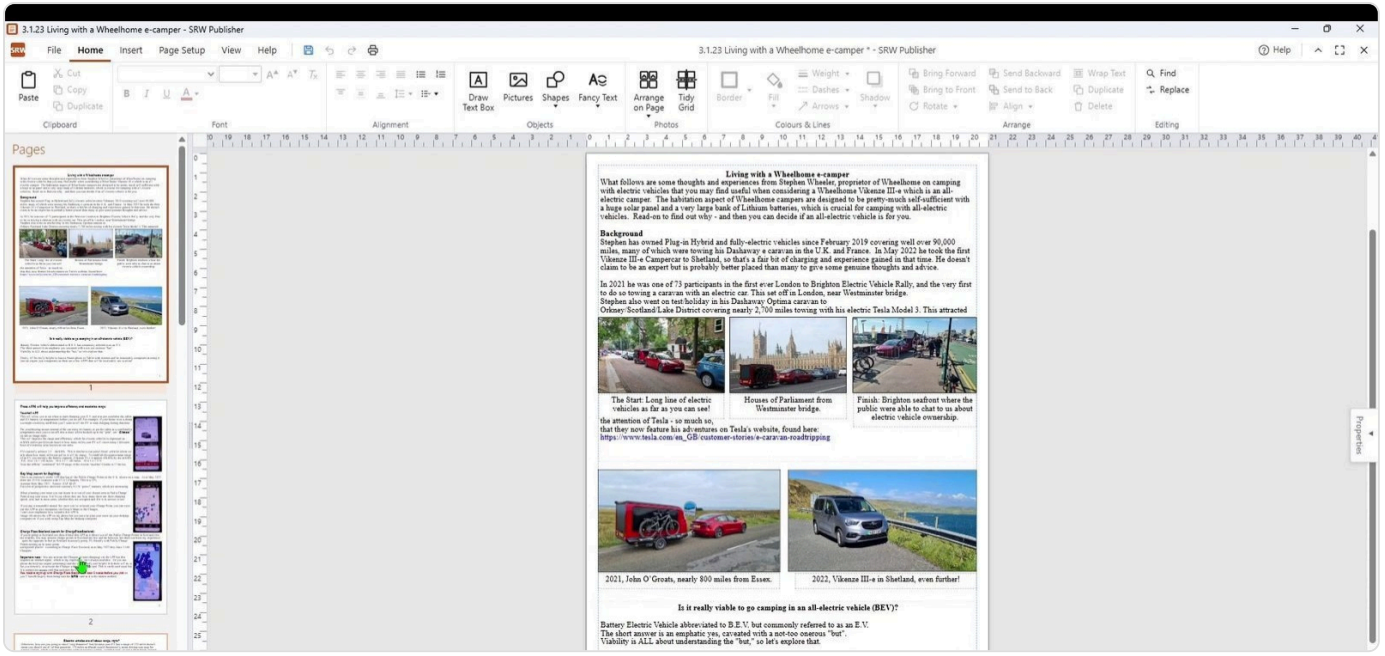
New Windows program opens retired Microsoft Publisher files as editable pages

SRW Publisher brings old .pub newsletters, brochures and price lists back to life, and keeps improving from the files its users send in.



An eight-page Publisher (.pub) file opened in SRW Publisher: 28 pictures and 38 text boxes, each ready to edit.

Brentwood, Essex, UK, 14 November 2026. Microsoft removed Publisher from Microsoft 365 on 1 October 2026, leaving years of people's .pub files that can no longer be opened or edited. SRW Publisher, a page layout program for Windows 10 and 11 now on the Microsoft Store, opens those files directly as normal, editable pages, with no Publisher or Microsoft 365 needed. It works the way Publisher users expect, so there's no steep learning curve.

THE PROBLEM

For more than 30 years, Publisher was how churches, clubs, schools, charities and small businesses made their newsletters, flyers, menus and price lists. Since 1 October 2026, Microsoft 365 users can no longer open those files in Publisher, and the .pub format was never widely supported by other programs.
Microsoft's own advice is to save each file as a PDF or rebuild it in Word. For someone with hundreds of files, or a monthly magazine to get out, neither is practical.

OPENING OLD FILES PROPERLY, NOT JUST ROUGHLY

SRW Publisher opens a .pub file with its photos, text boxes, tables, lines and shapes as separate pieces that can be moved and changed, laid out as they were. The original file is never altered.

Getting a file to open roughly was not the aim. Getting it to open ready to use, without an hour of tweaking, was. The import has been refined release by release against many real Publisher files, including Stephen's own and those sent in by users, so that text, fonts, tables and pictures land where they belong. It also opens PDFs and Word documents as editable pages.

Photos can be touched up where they sit on the page. A number plate, a face or an address can be blurred or pixelated in a couple of clicks, colours corrected and unwanted objects erased, without saving the photo out to a separate editing program and bringing it back in. The original photo is kept, so any change can be taken off again.

"We've been producing our church magazine for over 20 years... With SRW Publisher, our November issue is printed, all 430 copies, and out with our volunteer delivery team."

Doreen, church magazine editor

Press contact: Stephen Wheeler · stephen@srwpublisher.co.uk

BUILT WITH ITS USERS

Anyone whose .pub file doesn't come through properly can email it in. Every file is looked at, and fixes go into the next Store update, so the import gets better for everyone. Files are used only to fix the problem and are deleted afterwards. Suggestions arrive by email or through Help, Send a Suggestion in the program, and every one is read.

Added at users' request, October–November 2026

- Link to another box: articles flow from one column or page to the next, newspaper style
- Paragraph spacing
- Columns inside a single text box
- Pictures that sit in the line of text and move with the words
- A see-through colour for pictures, to remove a plain background
- Address label printing on A4 label sheets
- Banner and poster printing across several sheets, with cut marks
- Double and triple-line borders
- A5 booklet printing on A4 paper, and a two-page spread view
- Saving a page as a JPEG, to email an invitation as a picture

"The new text-flow functionality is exactly what I was hoping for. It will make an enormous difference to producing multi-column newsletters and publications."

Daniel, newsletter producer, who asked for linked text boxes



"I wasn't satisfied with old files opening fairly well and then needing a lot of tweaking," said Stephen Wheeler, who made SRW Publisher. "I've used Publisher for over 30 years and had more than 8,800 .pub files of my own, so I know what people need. When someone sends me a file that doesn't open properly, or an idea for something that would help, I act on it. Every problem fixed makes SRW Publisher better for everyone."

"I bought SRW Publisher a couple of days ago and am very pleased with it. Thanks for saving us from a total lack of Publisher!"

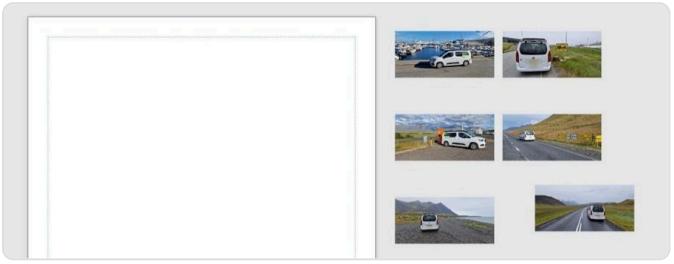
Joyce

PRICE AND AVAILABILITY

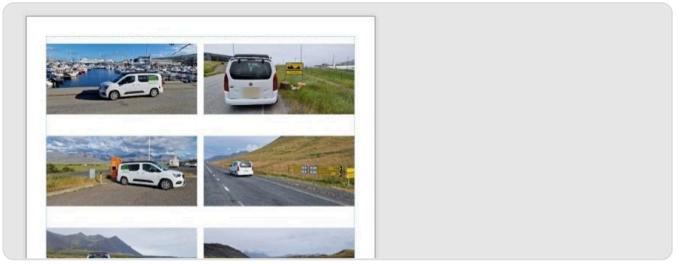
SRW Publisher is available now from the Microsoft Store for Windows 10 and 11, with a free 15-day trial of the full program. After that it is a one-off purchase: no subscription, no account, and free updates throughout version 1. The launch price of £24.99 runs until 30 November 2026, then £29.99.

KEY FEATURES

- Opens Publisher (.pub), PDF and Word (.docx) files as editable pages
- Familiar layout: ribbon, page list, page in the middle
- Text flows from page to page and wraps round photos
- Photo crop, borders, rounded corners and shadows
- Tidy Grid lines up a batch of photos in one click
- Touch-up on the page: blur or pixelate, correct colours, erase objects, with no second program
- Tables, 130+ shapes and arrows, 400+ icons, guides, snapping
- Two-page spread view, as in Publisher
- Save your preferred settings as your own defaults
- Print, save as PDF, or save a page or picture for the web
- Works offline, spell checker included
- Documents never leave the computer



Photos added to the page...



...and one click of Tidy Grid lines them up.

Website and video: srwpublisher.co.uk
Microsoft Store: apps.microsoft.com/detail/9p7rhnr0rqp6
Press contact: Stephen Wheeler · stephen@srwpublisher.co.uk

Notes for editors: the free 15-day trial is the full program. Review copies to keep are available as Microsoft Store codes, with sample .pub files to test the import. Screenshots and a demonstration video on request.

SRW Publisher is made in Brentwood, Essex, UK by SRW Software (Stephen Wheeler). It is an independent product and is not made by, or connected with, Microsoft. Microsoft, Windows and Publisher are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation.