**Watch out for IT scam callers who know *more than they should…***

Many of us are familiar with unwanted calls from a long way away, perhaps the Indian subcontinent. The caller is called Robert or Janet and works for "Microsoft Technical Centre" and claims that your computer is or has been attacked or hacked from the Internet.  Well, here's a new and sinister twist. Last month one of our editors changed broadband supplier and an OpenReach engineer came to install a new line.  Within *one hour*, he received a call from Bill or Janet, purporting to work for BT OpenReach.  Disturbingly, they knew that an OpenReach engineer had just visited and they now *needed to test the new broadband.*  The "test" began by asking our editor to run 'tracert 8.8.8' on his computer.  This trace command reveals the details of your connection to the internet and is the first step in hacking into your computer, (for example to install software to capture your passwords etc.) Our editor did not complete the "test".  The caller called back twice.  This attack has been reported to BT OpenReach who passed the matter to their security department.  The moral is: never let a stranger tell you what to type into your computer unless you are absolutely certain who they are!