HURSTVILLE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

"keeping up with our grandchildren"

NEWS LETTER
July 2005

HSCC ELECTIONS 2005

The result of our first election on 29th April 1998 was –

President	George Thompson
Vice-President	Maxine Gray
Secretary	Alma Goesch
Assistant Secretary	May McDonald
Treasurer	Graeme Gavin
Committee	Bettie Hart
	Denis McDonald
	Doreen Chisholm
	Marie Thompson

Of that list, those still on the Committee are Maxine, Graeme and Marie.

Maxine, who has been President for two years, will not be standing because she is moving to the country. She will be missed.

Graeme finds he can no longer fit the job into his busy schedule and overseas trips, but will remain as Public Officer. His expertise will not be lost.

George has now retired as Newsletter Editor but, being a Life Member, is ineligible to stand for the Committee.

The only one who will be still standing for our eighth Annual Election on 31st August is Marie.

There may be other long standing committee members not standing which means we need some serious nominations for a number of jobs on the Committee. The Club does not run by itself – it needs an interested crew organising it. If you could volunteer to "do your bit", and join the committee with a job to do, please be ready to nominate at the meeting. At an election, all positions are declared vacant – from the President down to Committee Members.

Don't be concerned about being new at the job – the keen crew will welcome you and give you all the guidance you need. Your help will be much appreciated by the members.

To use the saying President Kennedy borrowed - "Ask not what your Club can do for you - ask what you can do for your Club".
Please think about it.   *G Thompson*

IN HOUSE

The next meeting is at 1.30 pm on Wednesday 27th July.

The guest speaker will be Peter Stanhope, training officer for ASCCA, who will be giving a talk on how to talk to your computer and make it answer back.

Last month Vjay gave a very interesting talk on his early life in Sri Lanka and his relocation in many different countries before finally settling in Sydney.

Our 10 minute speaker this month will be Peter Johnstone who will tell about his first introduction to computers

GUEST SPEAKERS

At the June meeting our guest speakers were Mahommed Aziz and Bill Ener from Telstra who spoke about the internet services provided by Telstra. They were accompanied by Darlene Byrnes. They answered many questions raised by the members and recommended that should any club member want information or have any problem, they visit the Telstra shop in Westfield Centre, Hurstville who may be able to assist. The shop number is 351.

NEXT MEETING   1.30pm Wednesday 27th July

ATTORNEY'S ADVICE - NO CHARGE
A corporate attorney sent the following out to the employees in his company.

1. The next time you order cheques have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your chequebook, they will not know if you sign your cheques with just your initials or your first name, but your bank will know how you sign your cheques

2. Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put "PHOTO ID REQUIRED".

3. When you are writing cheques to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your cheque as it passes through all the cheque processing channels won't have access to it.

4. Put your work phone number on your cheques instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box, use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a PO Box, use your work address. Never have your Centrelink Number printed on your cheques. You can add it if it is necessary, but if you have it printed, anyone can get it.

5. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides of each licence, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I also carry a photocopy of my passport when travelling either here or abroad. We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed on us in stealing a name, address, Social Security number, credit cards

Unfortunately I, an attorney, have first-hand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thieves ordered an expensive monthly mobile phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Dell computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information on-line, and more.
But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:

1. We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

3. But here's what is perhaps most important of all: (I never even thought to do this.)

Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name.

The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorise new credit.
By the time I was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away. This weekend someone handed it in. It seems to have stopped them dead in their tracks.

Now, here are the numbers you always need to contact when your wallet etc has been stolen:

1. Visa Card Australia 1800 621 199

2. Visa Card International 1800 450 346

3. Lost Travellers' Cheques 1800 127

4. MasterCard Australia (02) 9466 3700

5. MasterCard International 1800 120 113

6. ANZ FREECALL 1800 033 844

7. BankWest 131 718

8. Citibank 132 484

9. Tamworth Coles/Myer 2340 1300 306 397

10. Commonwealth 132 221

11. CUSCAL- MyCard 1300 135 538

12. GE Capital 1300 369 904

13. Members Equity 1300 654 998

14. National 132 265

15. St George 1800 028 208

16. Sydney Virgin 2000 1800 080 000

17. Westpac 1800 230 144

18. Woolworths Ezy Banking 137 288

19. Bankcard Australia (02) 9281 6633

20. Medicare 132 011

21. Centrelink Fraud 137 230

22. Seniors Card 1300 364 758

23. Passport 131 232

The Govt Dept of Education has released a video "Connecting with Computers". It is not a training programme but is an introductory video directed at those among us who have limited or no computer experience and gives an insight into what computers are all about.

If you have a member of family or a friend who may be interested in learning about computers but is nervous of them this may help to ally any fears and give them confidence to become involved with computers.

Connecting with Computers comes in both video and DVD and best of all is free.

To obtain your free copy phone 1300 363 079

E-BAY

This is the system of buying and selling on the Internet. It is becoming popular with many and varied items being traded – nothing is too small. You might be interested in selling the junk you have in the garage or buying more to add to it.

There will be a meeting at Queens Road -- 1.30pm on Monday 8th August to see if we can organise a group doing this.

Come along if you are interested.

INTERNET

There are lots of interesting sites on the NET these days, thanks to the enormous capacity of modern search engines. It is like having a multi volume encyclopædia at your fingertips. Most search engines act as thesauruses as well.

"GOOGLE" (Go ogle?) has a tremendous cache of images. It has been my favourite for a long time. I have it set up as my home page. If you are multilingual you can not go past GOOGLE. It has an unsurpassable support for umpteen languages.

Should you not find what you were looking for in one particular search engine, you can try another one. The likes of "ASK JEEVES" is good for academic searches. It has a special part dedicated to kids. It is called: Ask Jeeves for Kids. Just recently my wife bought fish fillets called BASA. Google did not find it. Mr Jeeves came up with the correct answer in no time at all. " Vietnamese Catfish by any other name"

Are you looking for a search engine with strong Australian flavour?

I can highly recommend WEBWOMBAT. Whatever you are looking for locally it is there. All Australian TV programmes, including pay TV, mornings afternoons, nights and, by the hour. All states are available.

"APC Start" is another excellent Australian search engine. You can read local newspapers, magazines, stock exchange news, your stars, etc. You name it, it's there. It lists a dozen different, rival search engines as well.

Depending on your taste, needs or whim you can make any search engine your home page. Home page is the rather nerdy expression for the opening page of your SEARCH ENGINE. Most SEARCH ENGINES offer you a free and easy way to have them as your home page.

You can do this yourself by doing the following:

Have your SEARCH ENGINE's home page displayed, click on TOOLS, navigate down to the bottom. "INTERNET OPTIONS" Here under the "General" tab you'll see an ADDRESS BAR with the current home page displayed (http:\\www.anysearch.com/au Click on the first button under the address bar, which is: Use current. Do not forget to click on APPLY- Bottom right corner- then OK. The next time you use your BROWSWER- IE, MOZILLA, OPERA 8, WHATEVER- your favourite search engine's home page will grace your desktop.

Some search engines will offer their very own tool bars. I just stick to the simplest, most user friendly version.

The Surfer

THE CLUB

The Hurstville Seniors Club was formed in April, 1998 to teach Seniors to use computers. Clubrooms are in premises provided by the Hurstville Council in the Hurstville Seniors Centre, and in an Annexe in the MacMahon St. building. Tuition is held during week days in an informal atmosphere - cost being a minimum. We are an entirely voluntary organisation, the aim being to help fellow Seniors.

Correspondence   Hurstville Seniors Computer Club Inc.
PO Box 173, HURSTVILLE BC1481

Telephone - Clubroom, 91 Queens Rd	9585 9184
Telephone - Annexe, 14 MacMahon St	9580 5233
Telephone - Senior Citizens Hall	9570 3297
Web Site -	www.hurstvillescc.org.au
E-Mail – Clubroom	clubroom@swiftdsl.com.au
E-Mail - Annexe	hscc2@swiftdsl.com.au

Monthly Meeting   Hurstville Seniors Centre
91 Queens Road, Hurstville
1.30pm, last Wednesday of the month   (except December)

Fees   Joining Fee $20
Annual Fee $15
Training Fee $4 per session
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PATRON	Mervyn Lynch
PRESIDENT	Maxine Gray
VICE-PRESIDENT	Peter Johnstone
SECRETARY	Pamela Samuel
TREASURER	Graeme Gavin

TUITION IS IN ONE HOUR SESSIONS

If you can't attend your booking, please let your Tutor know.

Mondays	Joyce Pickup
Tuesdays	Maxine Gray
Wednesdays	Marie Thompson
No lessons on meeting day	
Thursdays	Betty Saltmiras
Fridays	Shirley Boxhall
Technical - Advanced and Basic	Rob Mills
Mondays at the Annexe	
Digital Imaging Group	Ian Chesterfield
First Tuesday at the Annexe 1.30pm	
Genealogy	John Shortland
Second Wednesday at the Annexe	
Web Design Group	Fred Scott
First and Third Wednesday 1.30pm	
Internet	Frank Grosz
Thursdays at the Annexe	
Maintenance Crew - *Queens Rd*	Frank Grosz
	Vince Blayney
	Ted Barnett
Editor	Ian Chesterfield
imcpvc@aol.com 9529 3420	

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. If you change your address, phone number or e-mail, please inform the Treasurer.

BIRTHDAY BOYS AND GIRLS
Have a great day!!!

1-Aug	Dawn	Addison
2-Aug	Maria	Gonzalez
2-Aug	Jenny	Webster
3-Aug	Elsie	Elliott
3-Aug	Peggy	Napper
5-Aug	Don	Zerafa
6-Aug	Nola	Lyons
7-Aug	Anthony	Kay
8-Aug	Alf	Humphreys
8-Aug	Mary R	Ryan
8-Aug	Lionel	White
9-Aug	Nola	Suba
10-Aug	Maxine	Gray
10-Aug	Vivienne	Rice
14-Aug	Josephine	Hos
14-Aug	Leonard	Scaysbrook
16-Aug	Leila	Sinden
18-Aug	Beverley	Spring
19-Aug	Peter	Gravina
19-Aug	James	Thomas
20-Aug	Bernadette	Abbott
20-Aug	Brenda	Liebke
23-Aug	Mila	Vaughan
27-Aug	Ray	Sarchfield
27-Aug	George	Zelazowski
28-Aug	Carmel	Bollard
29-Aug	Lynn	Allerton
29-Aug	Frank	Tannous

FindMap
search.findmap.com.au

An innovative site that combines searching for places, streets and phone numbers from a single box. Type in queries using plain English such as "pizza in Strathfield" and the site lists results along with a street map.