HURSTVILLE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

NEWSLETTER
November 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This will be our last newsletter for the year so I would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. Please note that our first General Meeting will be on Wednesday 19th January a week ahead of our normal meeting due to the 26th being Australia Day. The committee, tutors and group leaders will certainly look forward to a little R&R and hopefully we will all return in the New Year refreshed, renewed and with great enthusiasm. May I take this opportunity to say a big thank you to our dedicated volunteers.

Please come to our November meeting on Wednesday 24th at 1.30pm and join in the fun of our Christmas meeting and party.

There will be lots of Fun, Door Prizes and an exhibition of prize winning members' photographs with your chance to be a judge in the Members Choice competiton, plus a show of Photostory creations and plenty to eat and drink !

Please note that there will be no lessons during the School holiday and Christmas season no matter how eager and enthusiastic our members usually are. Please contact your Tutor or class Coordinator for further details.

It is clear to all Tutors that our members thoroughly enjoyed lessons and learning new computer skills with enthusiasm and real enjoyment

The winners of the ASCCA photo competition will be announced on 19th of this month and we are awaiting most anxiously for the results which hopefully will, again, be positive for our club.

I'm not grouchy, I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, children or politicians.

If you give me your email address I'll put you on my mailing list for next year

NEWSLETTER NEWS

Those members who do not have email will continue to receive their copy of the newsletter by post. The matter of newsletter distribution will be reviewed some time next year when a final decision will be made.

CLASS NEWS

Much interesting and innovative work is done in the Monday **Technical** Group. Recently Frank Grosz and colleagues demonstrated the correct technique of installing Windows 7 on the Annexe computers.

Internet classes are going well. Frank Grosz plans to transfer the Internet Class to Queens Rd. on Monday afternoons commencing in February 2011.

Joyce Pickup will finish her last class at 1pm. and the Internet Class will commence at 1.30pm. Joyce will also initiate a new digital editing and enhancement class in the New Year. Joyce will teach a relatively new and user friendly programme called PhotoScape.

Maintenance of our computers still takes a considerable amount of time by our able volunteers

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OCTOBER MEETING

Paul Wallbank gave an interesting and critical talk on the introduction of fast internet and how it will personally affect us as senior users. It gave us a lot of food for thought

Thank you Tutor **Maurie Moroney**, for the demonstration of some computer teaching techniques which will be of benefit to both Tutors and students

In a quick survey of members present at the meeting is was found that the overwhelming majority are still using Windows XP while less than 25% have adopted Windows 7.

Tutors Mary ann Patterson and Maurice Moroney

Joyce Pickup presented a Photostory Slideshow (of the recent Ben Hur show) to demonstrate to members the potential and possibilities of the many photo programmes that members can use to enhance their photographs. Joyce will also introduce new courses next year covering PICASA and later PHOTOSCAPE.

Please enquire from Joyce for more details

our long serving members enjoying a cuppa

IMGBurn

When students burn a CD or DVD they usually use NERO which is often supplied with your DVD hardware and which can be somewhat bloated and not all that easy to use for those new to CD and DVD copying

IMGBurn is a piece of software which is highly recommend as a replacement for Nero, and is possible better than Nero for new computer users. Over the years I have used many burning products but I have found IMGBurn to be the most powerful of the free versions.

ImgBurn includes support for:
- every modern optical disc from CD to Blu-Ray
- more than 10 image formats
- authoring rewritable discs
- producing images from file compilations or discs
- building audio CDs from a variety of file types
- creating video discs on DVD, Blu-Ray, and HD-DVD

No other software comes close to its advanced features and options. I use it all the time
www.imgburn.com

But be warned – don't click either of the large DOWNLOAD buttons on the main page. Use the Download option on the horizontal menu at the top of the page.

Thank you Henri for all the research you have done throughout the year to provide me with content so I can build this very informative newsletter every month. Without your input there would be a lot of blank space! - Ed

TOP 10 TIPS FOR TAKING GREAT PHOTOGRAPHS

Do you wish you were a better photographer? All it takes is a little know-how and experience. Keep reading for some important picture-taking tips then grab your camera and start shooting your way to great pictures.

1. Direct eye contact can be as engaging in a picture as it is in real life. When taking a picture of someone, hold the camera at the person's eye level to unleash the power of those magnetic gazes and mesmerising smiles. For children, that means stooping to their level.

2. A plain background shows off the subject you are photographing.

3. Bright sun can create unattractive deep facial shadows. Eliminate the shadows by using your flash to lighten the face.

4. If your subject is smaller than a car, take a step or two closer before taking the picture and zoom in on your subject. Your goal is to fill the picture area with the subject you are photographing. Up close you can reveal telling details, like a sprinkle of freckles or an arched eyebrow. But don't get too close or your pictures will be blurry.

5. Centre-stage is a great place for a performer to be. However, the middle of your picture is not the best place for your subject. Bring your picture to life by simply moving your subject away from the middle of your picture.

6. If your subject is not in the centre of the picture, you need to lock the focus to create a sharp picture. Most auto-focus cameras focus on whatever is in the centre of the picture.

7. The number one flash mistake is taking pictures beyond the flash's range. Pictures taken beyond the maximum flash range will be too dark. For many cameras, the maximum flash range is less than 15 feet - about five steps away.

8. Light is very important - it affects the appearance of everything you photograph. Bright sunlight from the side can enhance wrinkles. But the soft light of a cloudy day can subdue those same wrinkles. For landscapes, try to take pictures early or late in the day when the light is orangish and rakes across the land.

9. Turn your camera sideways. All sorts of things look better in a vertical picture. From a lighthouse near a cliff to the Eiffel Tower to your four-year-old grand-daughter jumping in a puddle.

10. Take control of your picture taking and watch your photos dramatically improve. Don't be a passive picture taker - take charge. Pick the location, add props and move in close.

MICROSOFT SECURITY ESSENTIALS

AVG has, for many years, been very popular amongst our members mainly because of recommendation by Tutors.

Microsoft has recently released its own FREE Security Suite, called Security Essentials which can be downloaded from:

www.microsoft.com/security_essentials

The install is quick and easy, with three versions available for download. One is for 32-bit XP systems, the others are separate 32- and 64-bit releases for Vista and Windows 7. At just over 4MB, it takes less than a minute to download over a broadband connection.

Once installed it will automatically update to new versions as they come out, and then regularly download updated signature files as they become available from Microsoft Update.

When you're up and running, Security Essentials will download the most recent set of signatures and scan your PC for the first time. It's a good idea to change the scan schedule as soon as possible –. I recommend a daily quick scan at a time your PC is likely to be on.

Security Essentials works so unobtrusively that it's a good idea to keep an eye on its history, just to see what's been blocked, what's been quarantined, and what you've let into your PC.

MSE also offers real time scanning of files as you open them, and when you download them from the web.

We'd recommend changing the default scan time to something that's more suitable as soon as possible. It's also a good idea to see if MSE's default actions are what you want.

While MSE will update its malware definitions automatically, there's always the option to download the latest files, especially if you're aiming to scan a machine that you don't regularly use.

The warning dialog box is clear and descriptive, with links to additional online information. There's enough information to help even the most naive user decide what to do.

If a new piece of malware appears on the net, and if it's detected by MSE, then it'll report back to Microsoft, and the information used to help build a signature file that can be delivered to every MSE.

If you inadvertently attempt to download malware, MSE will warn you that you're doing something potentially unsafe, and blocks you from completing the action.

Read more at
www.microsoft.com/security/products/mse.aspx

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

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Telephone - Annexe, 14 MacMahon St   9580 5233
Telephone - Senior Citizens Hall   9570 3297
Web Site   **www.hurstvillescc.org.au**
E-Mail   **admin@hurstvillescc.org.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 OAM**
PRESIDENT   **Pamela Samuels**
VICE-PRESIDENT   **Frank Grosz**
SECRETARY   **Marie Thompson**
TREASURER   **Geoff Turton**

TUITION IS IN ONE HOUR SESSIONS
If you can't attend your booking, please let your Tutor know.

Mondays   **Joyce Pickup**

Tuesdays   **Margaret Butt**

Wednesdays   **Marie Thompson**
          No lessons on meeting day
Thursdays   **Betty Saltmiras**

Fridays   **Shirley Boxhall**

Technical - **Advanced and Basic**   **Ted Crichton**
          Mondays at the Annexe
Digital Imaging Group   **Ian Chesterfield**
          First Tuesday in the Clubroom 1.30pm
Genealogy   **John Shortland**
          Second Wednesday at the Annexe 1.30pm
Web Design Group   **Fred Scott**
          First and Third Wednesday 1.30pm
Internet   **Frank Grosz**
          Thursdays at the Annexe
Video Editing Group   **Bill Baker**
          Friday Annexe 9 - 10.30, 11 - 12.30
Maintenance Crew - *Queens Rd*   **Frank Grosz**
                                        Ted Barnett

Newsletter Editor   **Ian Chesterfield**
          editor@hurstvillescc.org.au   **9522 4658**

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

BIRTHDAY BOYS AND GIRLS
For December and January
Have a great day!

Frank	Grosz	1-Dec
Mieke	Eder	3-Dec
Rosemary	Amos	4-Dec
Shirley	Ellis	4-Dec
Denise	Morrison	5-Dec
Marlene	Ingram	6-Dec
Allan	Mayo	6-Dec
Stephen	Bunting	7-Dec
Bill	Finlayson	8-Dec
Valerie	Ede	9-Dec
Bruce	Peters	10-Dec
Sylvia	Moores	12-Dec
Kathleen	Howell	16-Dec
Fay	Leslie	18-Dec
Margaret	Arnold	19-Dec
Margaret	Butt	19-Dec
Margaret	Eamens	19-Dec
Mary	Gallagher	19-Dec
Hazel	Blair	21-Dec
Lorraine-Urania	Antony	27-Dec
Lyn	Smith	29-Dec
Tahereh	Amini-Amoli	30-Dec
Phyl	Damant	30-Dec
Marcia	McRae	2-Jan
Pamela	Samuels	3-Jan
Ailean	Nixon	4-Jan
Patricia	Beggs	8-Jan
Margaret	De La Garde	14-Jan
Henry	Basquil	15-Jan
Clyde	Bevan	15-Jan
Liliane	Arens	18-Jan
Kathleen	Doherty	18-Jan
Ruth	Smith	19-Jan
Rita	Whitbread	20-Jan
Brian	Mulvihill	22-Jan
Betty	Gault	25-Jan
Shirley	Boxhall	27-Jan
Jean	Day	28-Jan

For printing our monthly newsletters, we thank:

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LAWYERS

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