

# HURSTVILLE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

www.hurstvillesc.org.au



“keeping up with our grandchildren”

## NEWSLETTER

February 2011

Member of ASCCA.

Australian Seniors  
Computer Clubs  
Association

### CLUB NEWS

“Keep practicing and don't give up! Computers are like a second language and it takes time to learn!”

“I attend the weekly computer classes with much enthusiasm, increasing my computer skills such as email, as it is a social outing to meet some very friendly people.” – Joan, a student of many years.

A record number of members attended the January meeting which augurs well for the coming year.

Classes have commenced for this year and most are well attended, including the Special Interest Groups, which once again shows the enthusiasm of our Seniors for all things computing. Read some of the comments below referring to Special Interest Groups. They are efficiently and professionally organised and well worth joining.

### JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting was highlighted by an interesting talk and demonstration by **Rachana Chea** of the Macular Degeneration Foundation. Rachana's talk was extremely well received. It was followed by numerous questions which clearly showed the relevance of this talk.



We thank Rachana and the Foundation.

### FEBRUARY MEETING

Our Guest Speaker for February will be **David Bennett**, Family History Researcher, Computer Tutor and executive member of our peak body ASCCA. His topic will be *World War One - Tracing War Graves in Europe*.

This subject should be of interest to many members and especially to those researching their family history.

David will demonstrate internet resources available to explore this subject. If two or three

members would like to submit the surname and initial of an ancestor known to have died in Europe during World War 1, David will use those names in his presentation.

David's presentation, including question time, can occupy 45-60 minutes.

**LIVE LIFE - Hurstville Seniors Week:** will be celebrated from Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, with a variety of activities geared to Seniors.

These include events such as Basic Computer Skills, Internet classes, new technologies such as the Kindle and a variety of “FUN” sessions including scrapbooking, movies and family history seminars. Our club will be participating and contributing in some of these activities.

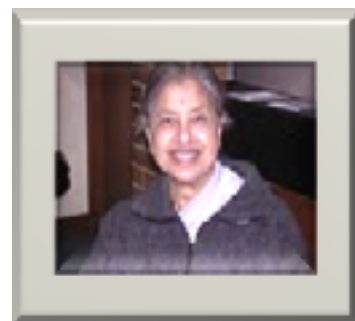
Watch out for flyers and brochures and we strongly recommend that you attend one or more of the many events.



### A SAD FAREWELL

One of our popular and dedicated members, **Sashi Balachandran**, will be leaving the Club this month to move to sunny Queensland to be with her family.

Sashi, and her late husband Vijay, joined our Club eight years ago and soon became very involved with teaching and other Club activities. Sashi was also a member of our Committee, and we shall miss her expertise and help dearly.



For many years Sashi tutored on Wednesdays, and ultimately joined the “Queens Maintenance Group”.

Sashi's fellow tutors and her devoted pupils will miss her very much and we wish her well for the future.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

THE MONDAY TECHNICAL GROUP, which had a more than successful 2010, is looking forward to a successful new year under the able leadership of **Ted Crichton**.



The Group's knowledge and expertise is very much appreciated by members as demonstrated by the fact that the classes are usually FULL.

Enquire about our other Special Interest Groups such as the Digital Photography, Family History and Genealogy, Video Editing, Web Page Design.

They are a helpful and friendly group of people.

## UPGRADE YOUR SOFTWARE

Our students should become acquainted with Office 2010 and Windows 7 as this software will be installed on many computers soon.

Support for some versions of Windows has ended or is about to end, which means that security updates will no longer be available. Already affected is Windows XP with Service Pack 2 (SP2) while support for Vista with Service Pack 1 (SP1) will cease this year.

If you want to stay with XP then you should get the free upgrade to SP3, or SP2 for Vista. See

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/help/end-support>

All the club computers have been upgraded.

## HOW IS YOUR MEMORY?

How often have you heard "my computer has slowed down" or "you need more memory"?

The cost of memory has in fact become so cheap that you should consider installing some more.

Upgrading your computer's memory is one of the easiest ways to boost its overall performance. At about \$45 per gigabyte it is very affordable.

But don't make the mistake of confusing "computer memory" (RAM – Random Access Memory) with "hard drive space."

RAM refers to the working memory that your computer uses to run programs and manipulate files. When you turn off the computer, everything in RAM is gone. Only the files that are saved on your hard drive remain permanently stored. RAM memory is what this article is concerned with.

The design of RAM circuits changes rapidly, leaving several incompatible designs on the market. Designs called SRAM, DRAM, and DDR3 are the most common, with the latter being the latest and fastest form of RAM.



You can't just buy "latest and fastest" though. You must determine what type of RAM your computer and motherboard will support.

Or you can just ignore the technospeak and take your computer to Sunny (at StepOne Technology, 2 Woodville St, Hurstville) and have more RAM installed.

There is a maximum amount of RAM that a computer can support, so you must consider what amount to buy before upgrading. Finally, any additional RAM must match the existing memory.

If you are in any doubt, speak to an expert like Sunny.

## VIRTUAL MUSEUMS

Explore art museums around the world with the Google Art Project. This is an amazing site for those interested in all aspects of the arts.

[www.googleartproject.com](http://www.googleartproject.com)

There are sixteen art galleries in all including many famous ones such as

- National Gallery, London
- Museo Thyssen, Bornemisza, Madrid
- Palace of Versailles, France
- Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam
- The State Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg

Art lovers will truly enjoy this site - the many works online bring the art to you without needing to travel to each museum. :)

The site can be explored with Google's Street View technology (choose Explore the museum from the menu) and using the Artwork view (choose View Artwork from the menu). You can also create your own collections.

Site navigation is fairly straightforward using directional arrows, drop down menus and side bars.

You can also visit the Art Project's YouTube Channel [www.youtube.com/googleartproject](http://www.youtube.com/googleartproject). It's an amazing collaboration, well worth a visit if you like artwork. It's easy to lose a lot of time at this site.

From time to time, while I was visiting it, the site would load a bit slowly. It could be site traffic, a slow connection or the high resolution images loading. If you're on a dial up connection I would visit the site to see how it loads for you.

You'll need a Flash enabled browser to view the site.

Enjoy.

### FAMILY HISTORY TIP

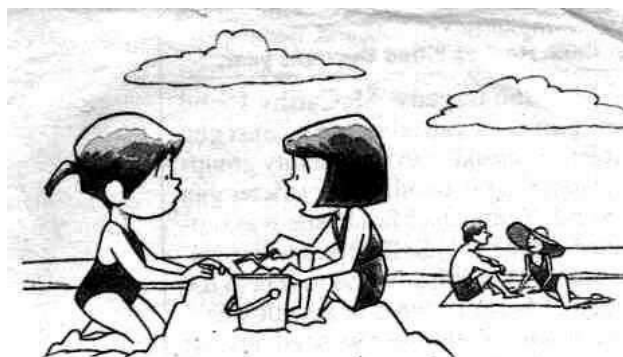
I have been doing some family history research and found great use for the Ryerson Index, a listing of contemporary death notices and obituaries published in Australian newspapers.

If you can't find information about a death it is well worth trying this website:

[www.ryersonindex.org](http://www.ryersonindex.org)

Not all newspapers feature in the index but the major ones are there and many interstate papers are included. It is particularly useful for deaths in the last few decades.

If you search the Register of Births Deaths and Marriages you will find that records after 1980 are not available, but the Ryerson Index may give you the lead you need.



I'm never having any kids. I hear they take 9 months to download!

### BEST BYTES NOV 2010

NAN BOSLER

Spellbound by words

If you are using Microsoft Word with spell checker turned on, any word you misspell will show a wiggly red line under it.

If you right-click that word a list of words you might have meant to use pops up.

You can then decide to click on the word you meant to type. The misspelt word is quickly replaced by the word you have chosen.

If the word with the red line under it is actually a new (correct) word you want to add to your dictionary you click Add to Dictionary.

It is easy to add a new word to the dictionary but you should also know how to remove a word from your list of words.

(Don't forget, Microsoft is not the last word on words.)

First, open Microsoft Word and go up to Tools, left-click on Tools, then left-click on Options.

After you click on Options, a multi tabbed box pops up.

Look for the tab that says Spelling and Grammar and left-click on that tab. About halfway down the box there is a Custom Dictionaries button; left-click on it.

Another box will pop up. You will see a list of Custom Dictionaries (although most people only have one).

Depending on what version of Word you have, left-click on Edit or Modify.

After you click on Modify a list of the words in your Custom Dictionary appears.

Left-click on the word you want to remove to highlight it, left-click on Delete, and then left-click on OK.

You will have to close the boxes you have been using. The Custom Dictionary box will now be on your screen; left-click.

### PERKS OF BEING OVER 60

You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.

Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to payoff.

## THE CLUB

The Hurstville Seniors Computer 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](http://www.hurstvillescc.org.au)  
E-Mail [admin@hurstvillescc.org.au](mailto: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

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>PATRON</b>	<b>Mervyn Lynch OAM</b>
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Pamela Samuels</b>
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Frank Grosz</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Marie Thompson</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Geoff Turton</b>

TUITION IS IN ONE HOUR SESSIONS

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

<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Joyce Pickup</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Margaret Butt</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Marie Thompson</b>
<i>No lessons on meeting day</i>	
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Betty Saltmiras</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>Shirley Boxhall</b>
<b>Technical - Advanced and Basic</b>	<b>Ted Crichton</b>
<i>Mondays at the Annexe</i>	
<b>Digital Imaging Group</b>	<b>Ian Chesterfield</b>
<i>First Tuesday in the Clubroom 1.30pm</i>	
<b>Genealogy</b>	<b>John Shortland</b>
<i>Second Wednesday at the Annexe 1.30pm</i>	
<b>Web Design Group</b>	<b>Fred Scott</b>
<i>First and Third Wednesday 1.30pm</i>	
<b>Internet</b>	<b>Frank Grosz</b>
<i>Monday in the Clubroom 1.30pm &amp; 2.45pm</i>	
<b>Video Editing Group</b>	<b>Bill Baker</b>
<i>Friday Annexe 9 - 10.30, 11 - 12.30</i>	
<b>Maintenance Crew - Queens Rd</b>	<b>Frank Grosz</b> <b>Ted Barnett</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Ian Chesterfield</b>
<a href="mailto:editor@hurstvillescc.org.au">editor@hurstvillescc.org.au</a>	<b>9522 4658</b>

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



### BIRTHDAY BOYS AND GIRLS For March - Have a great day!

Elaine	Earle	1-Mar
Peter	Miners	2-Mar
Lois	Burns	4-Mar
Robert	Green	4-Mar
Robin	Bevan	6-Mar
Ilma	Bishop	9-Mar
Therese	Cardinali	10-Mar
Allan	Gault	11-Mar
Graeme	Gavin	13-Mar
Judy	Carr	14-Mar
Vince	Blayney	16-Mar
Ludwig	Grassmayr	16-Mar
Joyce	Pickup	27-Mar
Francis	Brown	28-Mar
Ted	Barnett	30-Mar
Teresa	Wall	30-Mar



For printing our monthly newsletters,  
we thank:

OWEN HODGE



LAWYERS

**WILLS  
POWERS OF ATTORNEY  
SENIORS LAW AND ESTATE**

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