

HURSTVILLE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

www.hurstvillesc.org.au

"keeping up with our grandchildren"

NEWSLETTER

September 2011

Member of ASCCA.

Australian Seniors
Computer Clubs
Association



YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE



President
Pamela
Samuels



**Vice
President**
Frank Grosz



Secretary
Marie
Thompson



Treasurer
Geoff Turton

COMMITTEE



Clyde Bevan



Shirley
Boxhall



Margaret Butt



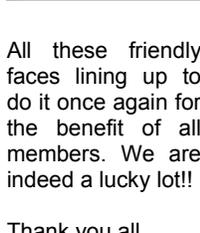
Ted Crichton



Henry Joubert



Irene Ramsay



Joyce Pickup

All these friendly faces lining up to do it once again for the benefit of all members. We are indeed a lucky lot!!

Thank you all.

AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting commenced with a demonstration by **Diane Webster** and **Thanh Bo** of the Hurstville Library of iPods and Kindle ebook readers which can be borrowed from the library. Contact Hurstville Library for more details.

This was followed by the Annual General Meeting, ably chaired by our patron **Merv Lynch** who conducted the election of officer bearers for the next twelve months. It is pleasing to report that your club has a strong future with the new committee at the helm.

NEXT MEETING

We are very pleased to have **Mr Anthony Samuel** of the Commonwealth Bank Hurstville as our Guest Speaker for the September meeting.

Mr Samuel will demonstrate the value and use of INTERNET BANKING which is unfamiliar to many of our members. On the whole, senior citizens are somewhat conservative and careful with their investments and are generally wary of such innovations. Considering the many stories and rumours that appear from time to time in newspapers seniors are justifiably careful about using these facilities.

GENEALOGY GROUP NEWS

John Shortland plans to run a PAF (Personal Ancestral File) class in the near future, provided there is sufficient interest

PAF is a family genealogy program freely available from the FamilySearch website for recording all your family genealogy data.

Should you be interested in this class please contact John as soon as possible.

PAF is free-of-cost genealogy software provided by FamilySearch, a website operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. PAF allows users to enter names, dates, citations and source information into a database, and then to sort and search the genealogical data, print forms and charts, and share files with others. PAF can also link images and other media files to individual records

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As our 13th year has now come to a close it gives me pleasure to now present to you the President's Report for the year 2010/2011

Once again I would like to thank our Patron, Merv Lynch, for being with us today to conduct the election. Thank you Merv for being available and for your support and interest in the club.

Also Hurstville City Council staff David Linden, Manager, Community Services and Brenda Eggleton, Community Development Officer, for the Disabled and Aged, thank you for your help and continued support throughout the year. May I say that your support has been a feature of our success with Council being involved with our club from our very first meeting.

Hurstville City Council will be 125 years old next year and will again be running Hurstville Seniors Week in March and will be offering their usual excellent, entertaining and informative programme. Our club will be contributing to this event so please attend and volunteer to help if needed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank ASCCA, our parent body, for their support, Owen Hodge, lawyers, for their assistance and the printing of our newsletter, and also Step One Technology for their continued help during the year.

During the past year the waiting list has been significantly reduced and we have accommodated many new applicants. We now have 279 members currently financial to 30th September 2011 and 9 new members who have joined since July. We have no one on the waiting list at the moment.

Thank you to Geoff Turton, Treasurer for an exceptional job looking after our finances and also to Graeme Gavin for taking on the responsible job of auditing our books.

We are always looking forward with interest to computer relevant Guest Speakers at our monthly meetings and Henri certainly looks after us in this department. Thank you Henri for spending your valuable time in organising and arranging a variety of speakers to be available at our meetings. As well as Guest Speakers, we have had numerous members of the club passing on their knowledge as ten minute speakers, and they have been fantastic introducing us to gmail, how to buy and sell on Ebay, Pay Pal, Google Maps, Virtual Magnifying Glass, etc

Our special interest groups are exceptional and I would like to thank the group leaders for their time and knowledge which is so freely given either weekly or monthly as the case may be. It is clear to the group leaders that the members thoroughly enjoy learning new computer skills.

Marie has done a tremendous job as secretary as well as co-ordinator for lessons and has now joined the technical team working with Frank and the team.

Computer maintenance is an arduous and time consuming task and an extraordinary amount of personal time and effort is given in carrying out this work. Thank you to Frank and his team for maintaining the computers at Queens Road and thank you to Graeme, Ted and the volunteers at the Annexe. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Ian Chesterfield and the Newsletter Team for the time consuming work involved in getting the monthly Newsletter out and always on time. Also thank you to Henri for all the research he has done to provide content for the newsletter enabling Ian to make our monthly newsletter so informative.

During the year we had a major change to our Web Page. The page was completely redesigned by Geoff Turton. Thank you to Fred Scott for his expertise and the Web Page Team for the skills they have attained under the guidance of Fred.

Our Christmas Afternoon Tea was well attended and a very entertaining afternoon with lots of fun and laughter. Certificates were awarded to all the volunteers who are responsible for making possible the successful operation of the club. It was very encouraging to recognize the services of so many dedicated people and to present them with a certificate of appreciation acknowledging the many years they have supported the club.

We also had an exhibition of photographs from the Digital Imaging Group and the opportunity for members to vote for their favourite pictures.

A highlight of our Christmas Party was the presence of Mr. Sunny Liang who generously donated two door prizes, a Flat Screen Monitor and a 500 GB external hard drive. These prizes were won by Nancy Soan and Don Heap respectively. Many thanks to Step One Technology for these gifts.

Although we have lost our title as the most outstanding club under the ASCCA umbrella, we

were still successful in the Digital Imaging Competition. Highly commended awards went to Shirley Payne and Jean McCormick. May I suggest you have a look at the creative digital photography of our members on our website. Congratulations ladies.

We were also successful in the Photo Story competition with Marilyn Richardson taking out first place in the Travel category and Margaret Barnett a third also for Travel. We now have Val Osborne a new member who also entered this competition and took out a first, second and third prize in three different categories and was named Champion Photo Story Videomaker 2011. Well done.

May I take this opportunity to thank all members who volunteered with the many duties and tasks needed to run the club such as putting out the chairs, folding and posting the newsletter, collecting the projector, setting up the tables, meeting and greeting, creating and laminating certificates, catering, reserving a car space for our guest speakers and all who helped in so many ways in running the club.

The Committee and tutors do a selfless job with great enthusiasm and pleasure. May I extend my personal thanks to the committee and the tutors for their dedication.

May our fourteenth year be a very successful computing year, and let us hope that we will learn new technologies, new techniques and improve our computer abilities.

Pamela Samuels (President)

WHAT IS AN EBOOK

Ebook is short for electronic book, which is a book-length publication in digital form, consisting of text, images, or both, and can be read on computers or other electronic devices called ebook readers.

Prices for ebook readers vary wildly from about 76 dollars to well over 250 dollars, depending on functions and configurations, and are readily available from the major retailers. Many have wireless internet and play most ebook formats.

Prices for downloading ebooks range from about five dollars for a vast variety of fiction and non fiction books. Amazon has a catalogue of 950,000 books.

Generally books out of copyright are free to be downloaded.

Ebook readers are easy to purchase and ebooks are easily downloaded through the Internet. It is exactly like purchasing any other product. They are also available from the Hurstville Library.

(This image illustrates the number of books which can be stored on an average ebook reader)



Ebook readers have many benefits and advantages, which can be summarized as follows.

1. Ebook readers take up little space and can store hundreds of ebooks
2. Most ebook readers come loaded with some fiction and non fiction books
3. You can download additional books and start reading them within minutes. You don't have to go to a bookstore to buy them.
4. When you need certain information, you can get it immediately, by downloading an ebook.
5. Many ebooks are sold with bonuses, which you usually do not get with a printed book. This adds value to your purchase.
6. Ebooks are portable. You can carry a whole library of books with you, if not on a reader then on a CD, in a laptop or notebook
7. With today's technology you can read ebooks anywhere, on the bus, train, aeroplane or while standing in line.
8. Ebooks can show links, for easy access to more information and related websites.
9. Ebooks are searchable. You can easily search for any information in an ebook, instead of turning page after page.
10. Ebooks can be interactive and contain audio, video and animations, which can enhance the message that the author is trying to convey.
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12. Fonts in ebooks can be resized, making them easier to read for people with disabilities. With additional software it is possible to turn some of the ebooks into audio books.



Almost every other week, a new reader is released, Even Aldi sells them. A recent perusal of catalogues indicated at least 12 different ebook readers on the market.

So there are many models to choose from but they look and feel pretty much the same, with similar style and function. Almost all the ebook readers available are paperback-sized and they come with numerous books pre-loaded.

