

HURSTVILLE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB

www.hurstvillesc.org.au

“keeping up with our grandchildren”

NEWSLETTER

November 2011

Member of ASCCA.

Australian Seniors
Computer Clubs
Association



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Lessons will cease at the end of this month so please check with your head tutors or group leaders for further details I know our group leaders and tutors will be looking forward to taking a well deserved break as will our Tech Crews at the Annexe and Queens. We must not forget to thank our volunteers so may I take this opportunity to say a BIG THANK YOU to all our volunteers who have given up their valuable time to be available when needed during this past year.

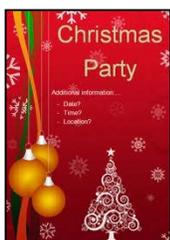
I look forward to seeing you at our Meeting on Wednesday 30th November commencing at 1.00p.m. We will also be celebrating with a Christmas Afternoon Tea Party so please come along and join in the festivities.

Please note that our first meeting in the New Year will fall on the last Wednesday in January which is the 25th. Hopefully you will return in the New Year refreshed and eager to learn many new computer techniques.

This is the last Newsletter for 2011 and, on behalf of the Committee, I wish all members a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

President Pamela

CHRISTMAS MEETING



Our November meeting on Wednesday 30th at 1.00 pm will have something SPECIAL FOR OUR MEMBERS.

Please come along and join in the fun at our Christmas meeting and party.

There will be lots of Fun, Door Prizes and an exhibition of members' photographs with your chance to be a judge in the Members Choice competitions, presentation of diplomas AND plenty to eat and drink! (juices only)

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 as to the end and beginning of your program of lessons. We will miss you all.

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

****Reminder**:** Our November meeting will be a combined session. Head Tutors, Tutors and heads of the Special Interest Groups are asked to attend. In view of the Christmas Party arrangements lunch will not be served at this combined meeting.

HSCC MEMBERS WIN ASCCA AWARDS

In the ASCCA Photo Slide Story Competition 2011, **Marilyn Richardson's** entry, entitled "African Safari", in the Travel category was awarded 2nd Prize.



The following HSCC members won awards in the 2011 ASCCA Digital Photography Competition:

Marilyn Richardson -
3rd in People (Enhanced) and Highly Commended in People (Not Enhanced).

Geoff Turton -
3rd in Landscape (Not Enhanced).

Barry Porter -
Highly Commended in General (Enhanced).

We appreciate very much the work done by the Digital Camera Group and specifically Ian Chesterfield and his team of enthusiasts to promote the artistic and creative use of the ubiquitous digital camera.

TEN THINGS TO DO DURING THE SUMMER BREAK

1. Clean the computer. Get rid of all your gunk and dust which can damage your computer by, amongst other things, overheating.
2. Use CCleaner and REVO uninstaller programs to clear out all that junk and unused programs in your computer.
3. Learn to SKYPE. If you can email you can SKYPE.
4. Learn to use your digital camera more creatively. Refer to "Digital Photography for DUMMIES".
5. Learn Facebook to keep in touch with family, friends and acquaintances. It's Fun.
6. Learn cloud computing. It is the future of computers. Microsoft LIVE is a good start.
7. Explore Google, especially the videos, books, blogs and the many other facilities offered by Google.
8. Improve your keyboard skills and practice the many keyboard shortcuts.
9. Become more efficient with Microsoft Office, specifically WORD.
10. Have some FUN. There are plenty of free games for adults (not that sort) on the internet.

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

ALL-IN-ONE PRINTERS: BUYING TIPS

It's Christmas shopping time and the mind somehow goes to what to get for my computer.



How about an all in one printer ?

Let's start with the benefits of all-in-one, or multifunction printers. Obviously you save a lot of space with an all-in-one printer. Not so obvious is the fact that you save electricity by having just one machine powered on all the time and there are fewer power and network cables to worry about.

Supplies are used more efficiently because you don't need idle paper, ink, toner, etc., in four machines. Oh, and of course you don't have to BUY and service all four machines. It's like saving on the cost of baskets by putting all of your eggs in one.

But that leads me to a downside of multifunction printers, too. If a critical component such as the print head or power adapter fails on an all-in-one printer, all your functions are gone until it's repaired. An all-in-one printer doesn't get as much rest as four separate machines, so it may tend to fail sooner, depending on your usage.

When shopping for an all-in-one printer, up-front cost is actually the least important factor. Over the long term, the cost of supplies and consumable parts makes the biggest difference in total cost of ownership.

So pay close attention to the number of prints/copies/faxes you can make before buying more ink; the cost of ink in both colour and black; the availability of refilled ink cartridges for a given model; and the replacement costs of drums, scanner lasers, print heads, etc.

For more information you can browse the manufacturers' websites, independent review sites and the many price comparison sites specifically for Australian suppliers.

Be warned, however, that some "all-in-one" printers coming on the market now don't have the ability to send a fax. Faxing is a fading feature, especially in "all-in-one" printers designed for home use.

WHAT IS ROGUE SOFTWARE?

"Rogue security software is a form of computer malware that deceives or misleads users into paying for the fake or simulated removal of malware, or that installs other malware." (Wikipedia)

There is plenty of Rogue software out there.

Do not click on advertisements (the blinking things on the top of the page that says "you have won" or "lose 10 pounds today") unless you want to visit that website.

Watch out for websites that may, for example, display a fictitious warning dialog stating that your machine is infected with a computer virus, and encourage you through persuasion and manipulation to install or purchase scareware in the belief that you are purchasing genuine antivirus software. These are NOT genuine software products so do not accept "CLICK HERE TO INSTALL"

Never give out Credit Card information on these websites.

Most of these sites have a Trojan horse component, which you are misled into installing. It is destructive, malicious.

What can rogue software do?

It can Spam your computer, retrieve your password, steal your password information and can download or upload harmful files.

Additionally, it can modify or destroy files on your computer, log your keystrokes and cause your computer to crash.

The moral of the dire warnings?

KEEP YOUR ANTI VIRUS AND ANTI MALWEAR PROGRAMMES UP TO DATE AND RUN THEM REGULARLY. THERE ARE MANY SUCH PROGRAMS AVAILABLE INCLUDING AVAST, MICROSOFT SECURITY ESSENTIALS, AVIRA ANTIVIRUS, THE POPULAR AVG, AND MALWAREBYTES.

(These provide an essential layer of protection from a multitude of virus, trojan, worm, spyware, adware, dialer, keylogger and rootkit infections)

THE FUTURE

Considering the rapid advances in computer technology, and the future demands of the seniors in this community, there has been some speculation as to where our computer club and the issue of teaching computer skills to Seniors are headed.

It may be a case of "adapt or die".

Our club has, over the years, developed into a well-oiled, stable and generally innovative organization which has reached an equilibrium, a stage of comfortable stability, and the call is sometimes made "Don't rock the boat unnecessarily"

Our club activity is in an area of human endeavour where there are rapid changes in technology and very soon we will have to examine our teaching philosophy in order to determine where we need to be in years to come. Furthermore, the demands of the senior members of this community, in terms of computer learning and usage, are also changing, although the basic needs, such as to improve the quality of life, to improve mental and physical health and to provide seniors the opportunity to creatively enjoy life, remain the same.

It is generally considered to be a mistake to try to improve something that works - "if it ain't broke, don't fix it".

However, tutors have seen how the priorities, demands and needs of our Senior students have changed over the years and how the emphasis on technology has changed as well.

Moreover, we know that computing technology changes drastically every two or so years. This is a well-documented fact (referred to as "Moore's Law"). and changes will inevitably be forced upon our group.

The digital revolution is transforming almost every aspect of human existence and we need to be an instrument in such changes.

(Henri)

And a Ho Ho Ho
and a
Happy and
Healthy New Year
To you all
Ed



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.

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Monthly Meeting Hurstville Seniors Centre
91 Queens Road, Hurstville
1.00pm, last Wednesday of the month (except December)

Fees Joining Fee \$20
 Annual Fee \$15
 Training Fee \$4 per session

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
	<i>No lessons on meeting day</i>
Thursdays	Betty Saltmiras
Fridays	Shirley Boxhall
Technical - Advanced and Basic	Ted Crichton
<i>Mondays at the Annexe</i>	
Digital Imaging Group	Ian Chesterfield
<i>First Tuesday in the Clubroom 1.30pm</i>	
Genealogy	John Shortland
<i>Second Wednesday at the Annexe 1.00pm</i>	
Web Design Group	Fred Scott
<i>First and Third Wednesday 1.30pm</i>	
Internet	Frank Grosz
<i>Thursday 10 - 12.15 Annexe, 12.45 - 1.45 Clubroom</i>	
Video Editing Group	Bill Baker
<i>Friday Annexe 9 - 10.30, 11 - 12.30</i>	
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 & January

Have a great day!

Frank	Grosz	1-Dec
Mieke	Eder	3-Dec
Rosemary	Amos	4-Dec
Shirley	Ellis	4-Dec
Allan	Mayo	6-Dec
Roslyn	Holden	7-Dec
Bill	Finlayson	8-Dec
Valerie	Ede	9-Dec
Bruce	Peters	10-Dec
Sylvia	Moore	12-Dec
Kathleen	Howell	16-Dec
Agnes	Yong	17-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
Marcia	McRae	2-Jan
Pamela	Samuels	3-Jan
Ailean	Nixon	4-Jan
Patricia	Beggs	8-Jan
Joan	Townsend	10-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
Ralph	Cole	24-Jan
Betty	Gault	25-Jan
Shirley	Boxhall	27-Jan
Jean	Day	28-Jan

The Hurstville Seniors Computer Club Inc. takes no responsibility for the views expressed in articles, extracts thereof or advertisements. The newsletters are intended to relay information only, not give specific advice or recommendations.