

# HURSTVILLE SENIORS COMPUTER CLUB



[www.hurstvillesc.org.au](http://www.hurstvillesc.org.au)

“keeping up with our grandchildren”

## NEWSLETTER

October 2014

Member of ASCCA

Australian Seniors  
Computer Clubs  
Association

### CLUB NEWS

All tutors are invited to attend this month's Committee Meeting at 10:00 am on Wednesday 29 October 2014.

The Club has been progressively expanding its range of services for members. While continuing to provide one-on-one tutoring for members, where resources permit, new and existing members have recently been able to attend short courses on Computer Basics, Using Gmail, Surfing the Internet, Managing Digital Photos, and Transition to Windows 8.1. We thank the tutors who have volunteered their time to develop and present these courses.

Members would also like to learn about Facebook, eBay, Skype, YouTube, Digital Image Editing and Apple and Android tablets and phones. If you are a regular user of any of these services or devices, you might like to share your knowledge by developing and presenting a short course to two or three members. We'll find a volunteer to assist with your presentation.

Managing the list of people waiting to attend various short courses is an administrative challenge. Thanks to Irene Ramsay and Marilyn Richardson for undertaking this necessary task.

*Attendees at a recent Computer Basics course run by Marilyn Richardson and Vince Blayney.*



*Back: R. Wilson, M. Richardson, J. Martinez  
Front: A. Calleja, B. McLachlan, G. Thomson*

### GUEST SPEAKERS

**Dr Yatin Mahajan**, with PhD student **Simone Simonetti**, from the MARCS Institute at the University of Western Sydney, will make a return visit as our guest speakers in October.

Following on from his visit in July, Yatin will talk more about hearing problems in seniors and Simone will share some results of her exciting new research into emotion perception in the elderly. Come along and hear about their fascinating exploration into areas that will affect us all.

**Mark Young**, ASCCA's technical officer, trainer and webmaster, was our guest speaker in September.



Mark highlighted that while 90% of desktop and laptop computers used Windows operating systems, Microsoft was slow in moving into the rapidly growing operating system market for mobile computing devices. Windows 8 was its response.

New Microsoft operating system computers purchased since October 2012 have come with Windows 8, which experienced much user resistance. Microsoft attempted to address this by upgrading Windows 8 to Windows 8.1. However, adoption of Windows 8.1 is still slow.

In conclusion, Mark mentioned some of the predictions circulating in the technical press about the next Windows operating system, possibly to be known as Windows 9.

(Note: On 30 September 2014, Microsoft revealed that their next operating system would be called Windows 10).

## FAMILY TREE MAKER WORKSHOP

The next Family Tree Maker workshop will be held on Wednesday 5 November at 1:00pm in the Annexe, which is entered via the Function Rooms door to the left of the Civic Theatre entrance in McMahon Street. Proceed up the stairway and the computer room is on the left after the second flight of stairs. Laptops will be welcome but not essential.

This workshop is aimed at owners of Family Tree Maker who wish to learn more about the program, or for anyone who is seriously considering the purchase of same. It will **NOT** explore ways to conduct family research. John Shortland's Genealogy Interest Group is the appropriate place for this.

## FAKE AUSPOST PHISHING EMAILS

Phishing emails pretending to be from Australia Post as well as other well-known organisations have been targeting Australians with crypto-malware (also known as ransomware).

Australia Post has published a warning about the emails (<http://tinyurl.com/lebricz>), which claim to advise that a 'courier was unable to deliver a parcel'. Australia Post's warning also includes a list of possible sender email addresses used for the scam.

Australia Post stresses it does not send messages of this kind. Similar phishing emails may also appear to originate from other courier companies such as FedEx and UPS. If you receive a message you suspect of being a phishing or a scam email, you should delete it.

Source: <https://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/>

## STAYING SAFE

- Prevention is the best antidote to ransomware and other malware attacks.
- Use spam filters and be cautious when opening emails, especially if there are attachments.
- Make sure you are using a reputable security product.
- Make sure it is up-to-date and switched on.
- Make sure your operating system and applications are up-to-date and fully patched.
- Run a full scan of your computer—regularly.

- Set and use strong and unique passwords.
- Set passwords on all your hardware devices (modems and routers).
- Back up your data.
- Keep a backup copy of your data in a safe place, disconnected from your computer and the internet.
- Only visit reputable websites and online services.

## WINDOWS 10

On 30 September 2014, Microsoft announced that the next major step in the evolution of its Windows operating systems will be known as Windows 10 and this is scheduled for release in 2015.

Windows 10 features will include:

- Return of the familiar Start menu,
- Associating tiles with the Start menu,
- Return of search on the Start menu,
- Windows Store apps appearing more like traditional desktop programs, and
- More multitasking flexibility.



In the meantime, Microsoft is offering a Windows 10 technical preview version for those interested in trying it out and offering feedback during the development phase, at

<http://tinyurl.com/p3d8psk>

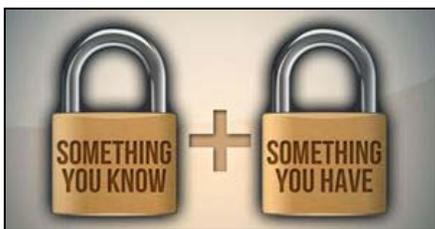
If you have a spare computer and would like to explore Microsoft's next operating system, WindowsSecrets.com provides a good description of how to install Windows 10 technical preview at

<http://tinyurl.com/oitt3qo>

## TWO FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

**Two factor authentication** is a mechanism for verifying identity that relies on two different types of things, both of which must be correct, in order to allow access.

Traditionally authentication has been in the form of **something you know**: i.e. a password, and perhaps the accompanying answers to a set of security questions. Since this is simply based on knowledge (if you know your password you must be authorized to access this account) it's easily transferred from one person to another – intentionally or otherwise.



The most common form of two-factor authentication adds **something you have** to the requirements – you must prove that you are in position of something specific, something that is completely unique to you and of which there is only one.

A popular implementation of this are smartphone applications such as Google Authenticator which presents a 6 digit number that changes every 30 seconds. That 6 digit number is generated by a cryptographic algorithm and is tied to your account in such a way that **only your device** has the correct number for your account at any point in time. Because the algorithm used to generate the number is based on a form of cryptography it's not possible to predict the numbers that would be displayed without the secret keys held by the authentication system.

You then simply “prove” you have your phone by entering the number displayed on it when requested.

Another factor that can be used is **something you are**, which typically boils down to facial recognition, fingerprint scanning or other biometric measurement.

While each can be used in isolation – something you know, something you have or something you are – as the very common “single factor authentication”, requiring more than one increases security dramatically. While two-factor authentication naturally requires two, it's actually a subset of “multi-factor authentication” which can require two or more.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/ko92q2h>

## COMPUTING IN OCTOBER

On **23 October 2001**, Apple ventured into the handheld and music entertainment markets with the introduction of the iPod. The original iPod was equipped with a miniature hard disk, but future iterations featured flash memory. Apple billed the iPod as letting users “put 1,000 songs in your pocket,” a dramatic increase over competing players. Although it was not the first handheld player for digital music, the iPod, in tandem with the iTunes music store, radically altered the way people bought, stored, shared, and listened to music.



On **25 October 2001**, Microsoft released Windows XP, the extremely successful family of 32-bit and 64-bit operating systems produced for use on personal computers. The name “XP” stands for “Experience.” The successor to both Windows 2000 Professional and Windows ME, Windows XP was the first consumer-oriented operating system Microsoft built on the Windows NT kernel and architecture. Over 400 million copies were in use by January 2006, according to an International Data Corporation analyst. It



was succeeded by Windows Vista, which was released to the general public in January 2007. Support for Windows XP officially ended on 8 April 2014.

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### Points to Ponder

- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis...
  - A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large.
  - A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
  - A lot of money is tainted – It taint yours and it taint mine.
  - In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes.
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