

MANLY MOUSE

Newsletter of Computerpals for Seniors – Manly Inc.

February 2008

Let's Go and Enjoy Safe Internet Shopping

On 14 February at 2pm. in the Manly Library Meeting Room Jack Newton will show how to go shopping on the Internet. He will show how to make your computer secure and how to avoid unscrupulous sellers so that you can enjoy bidding on eBay and other sites for a vast range of items from a case of wine to a cheap second-hand fly screen door. He will tell you how you can buy from the increasing number of online stores. Shopping online for groceries at Coles or Woolies, or for a book on Amazon means you can go on a shopping expedition in, as the marketers say, 'the comfort of your own home!' Come along and find out about this fast growing Internet feature. There will be a hand-out and a question time following the talk. As usual afternoon tea and a chance to chat with fellow members and tutors will end the meeting.



Our 2007 Christmas Party

There were two innovations for our 2007 Christmas party and they both added to the fun and pleasure for the many Manly Computerpals members who attended. One innovation was that the food was provided for the party which was a change from our previous practice of everyone bringing a plate. There is no doubt that this change was successful and the party food was excellent thanks to Graham, Wendy, Lyn and Elaine.



The second innovation was that everyone was asked to bring a small gift which was then put in a bag. Santa Claus then distributed the gifts on a lucky dip basis so that everyone got a surprise present. (You may be able to spot Santa Claus in the pictures. Hint: he normally collects money and is not as well known in his give away mode.)



Happy 2008 and Happy Computing

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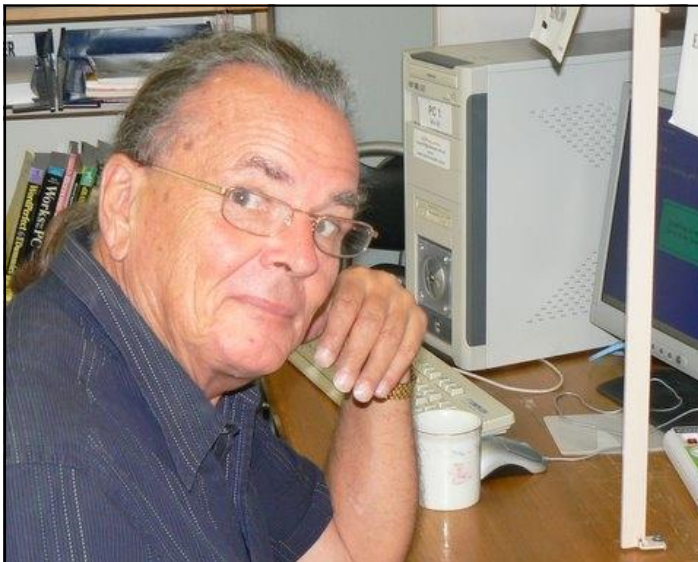


Your Committee has been Busy. During the Christmas break Bob, Jack, David and Ted have



spent a lot of time updating all the computers.

We are very lucky to have committee members with such expertise and the willingness to spend a great deal of their time working for the Club.



Thanks to a lot of hard work by a few of your committee the club PCs have all been updated with increased memory, a second hard drive and new video cards - and dual booted, so PC 2 - 4 all have XP and Vista!!!

PC 1 is currently being re-configured to see if we can maintain Windows 98 on it, but it has been playing up - so we will wait and see how it turns out.

Bob Bellini led and put in many hours on this update - ably assisted by Jack Newton, David McAdam and Ted Hulbert.

There are differences in some of the software on Vista and XP as some items were not Vista compatible.

Did you have a new computer for Christmas? You can avoid internet threats. You don't have to build moats, walls, fences or surround your computer with machine gun turrets. Don't be scared.

Common sense! It's your best defence. Never let your guard down never let common sense lapse! There are new scams, spyware, adware and worms finding their way onto the Internet everyday. Be wary. Be Smart. Make sure you have an anti-virus installed. Make sure you have at least two good anti-spyware programs installed. And, above all, keep them current. Don't let your updates lapse. Update frequently (at least twice a week). An anti-virus program that is not up-to-date can be worse than having no anti-virus at all. And anti-spyware programs can only be effective if you keep them updated. The miscreants who produce all the various adware and spyware are not stupid. They change names, file names, and installation tactics to try to stay a step ahead of the anti-spyware folks. So, a word to the wise: Update often.

Recommended Free Anti-Virus Programs (Never install more than one anti-virus program)

AVAST Anti-Virus (free version for personal/home use)
AVG Anti-Virus (free version for personal/home use)
AVG 7.5 version works in Windows Vista. Remember! No anti-virus can protect you if you do not keep it updated. Update your anti-virus at least twice a week or more. Install and use only one anti-virus program. Installing two does not give you twice the protection. On the contrary, installing two could result in reduced protection and many computer problems.

Also, it's very important that you keep your Windows updated with the latest patches, fixes, and updates from <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/> If you don't have Automatic Update turned on, you should visit the Windows Update site once per week.

Recommended Anti-Spyware

(install at least two anti-Spyware programs for the best protection)

Spybot Search & Destroy (freeware)

Lavasoft Ad Aware

NOTE: No anti-spyware program can protect you if you do not keep the spyware definitions updated. We recommend installing and using at least two anti-spyware programs. No one program can completely protect you from all the potential spyware and adware threats.

Always keep your common sense with you when you're on the Internet. Don't be lured into installing free software or signing up for a free service if it seems too good to be true. Read the privacy policy and/or Terms of Service or Licence Agreement of any free software or free service you're considering. As a rule of thumb, free products and free services which have extremely long, difficult-to-understand agreements filled with legal-speak are most often deceptive in nature. Be careful and stay informed - you'll be just fine. Despite all the hooligans that hide in the shadows of the 'Net, the Web is a wonderful place for us all to enjoy! (From CloudEight)



While You're Away All Users - All operating systems. If you access the Internet from a public place, such as an Internet café, hotel, or airport kiosk, don't log into private pages that need your personal passwords. It's not secure because even if you log in safely, you don't know what's installed on that public computer. There could be a keylogger installed - if so, someone could inspect and extract sensitive information from the browser cache. If you absolutely have to login to a private page (banking site, PayPal, or other sensitive financial site) here's a tip you can use that will help you minimize the risk of a keylogger capturing your passwords and user IDs:

When entering your log-in information on a public computer do this:

1. Type the beginning portion of, say, your password, and then place the mouse cursor over the empty space of a web page, and type something there. Of course no text will appear, but the keylogger would think this text was part of your secret phrase. The keylogger can't tell the difference between what you type on what part of the page, it just logs all keystrokes. Therefore, the keylogger will just record a succession of entries without knowing where the entries belong.
2. After typing a string of random characters in the empty space, switch back to your password field and continue entering valid information there.
3. Repeat the procedure a few more times so that the valid password becomes impossible to recognize.
4. Never type your password when on a public computer without at least attempting to defeat any keyloggers which may be installed. There might not be a keylogger installed, and there probably isn't one, but always assume there is - and you'll be making a smart move and protecting your passwords from theft if you follow the steps outlined in this tip anytime you're using a public computer.

Do you use Incredimail? You may have read that for a short time Google banned Incredimail from its AdSense program. What did Google catch Incredimail doing that was so nefarious that it took such drastic measures? If you're an Incredimail-lover don't get illogical and use the old David and Goliath comparison: Big, powerful Google picking on poor, little, innocent Incredimail. That's just so much illogical reasoning. Google had no reason to pick on Incredimail out of millions of



other companies and web sites who use AdSense.

Suggestions:

Fact #1: The free version of Incredimail is adware - Incredimail says it's not. Yet, it displays advertising in its user Interface and inserts an advertisement at the bottom of every email users send with it. Indeed the person sending the email cannot see the ad, but the recipient can.

Fact #2: Every person who installs Incredimail is bound by their privacy policy - including this clause:

"...CONSENT TO PROCESSING

Users, including without limitation, Users in the European Union, fully understand and unambiguously consent to the collection and processing of their personally identifiable and non-personally identifiable information, in the United States. ..."

What is "Personally identifiable" information? What type of processing is done with this personally identifiable information? If you're an Incredimail user, you should be asking this kind of question.

What really happened between Google and Incredimail? Incredimail isn't saying. Why doesn't Incredimail tell us? If they had nothing to hide don't you think they'd have made a statement of some kind by now?

A Few Tips

In Internet explorer if you press the CTRL key then the B key you can go right to organise favorites in Internet Explorer.

If you find a particular paragraph that you want to copy and paste, a quick "triple-clicking" inside the paragraph will highlight the whole paragraph.

If you're browsing the Web and want to see more of the page you're looking at hit the F11 key and your Internet Explorer window will completely fill the screen without any toolbars. To return your browser window to its previous size hit F11 again.

Are you tired of scrolling through your documents for just one file? Press the first letter of the file you seek, and it will take you straight to it, plus any file with the same starting letter.

If you have difficulty double clicking you can set options so only one click on a file will open it rather than the pre-set double click. Click Start ----> Control Panel ---> Appearance and Themes ---> Folder Options. Click the "General" tab, then: "Single click to open an item".



McAfee SiteAdvisor helps protect you from all kinds of Web-based security threats including spyware, adware, spam, viruses, browser exploits, and online scams. The automated testers continually patrol the Web to browse sites, download files, and sign-up for things with e-mail addresses. As you search, browse, download, or register online, SiteAdvisor's safety ratings help you stay safe and in control:
<http://www.siteadvisor.com/>

Download a free violin CD: Tasmin Little, The Naked Violin. Tasmin invites you to download or listen to works by J.S.Bach, Paul Patterson and Eugene Ysaye. All downloads are offered - FREE of CHARGE - and you are welcome to burn them to CD for your private use.

Recorded on 5th January 2008 at the Menuhin Hall, Yehudi Menuhin School, Surrey.

Several different audio files to choose from. It's all solo violin. She also has spoken introductions available, and has even provided art for the CD sleeve. (www.tasminlittle.org.uk).



Little said she disagrees with "the supposed high-class reputation that goes along with classical music" and hopes that, by offering her music for free on the net, she will remove some of the boundaries associated with the genre.

"Classical music has this reputation that you need a certain kind of education to listen to it, you need to be a certain colour or live in a certain place and I'm a bit fed up with that," she said. "I wanted to take away any possible barrier and see if it makes a difference."

Solio™ Universal Hybrid Charger: Award-winning, compact and versatile - Solio stores power from the sun or socket; freeing you to recharge your mobile phone, iPod and other handheld devices anywhere, anytime. A fully charged Solio provides up to 14 hours of additional power - one hour of sunshine gives about one hour of play time.



Corelli Jukebox <http://www.franco-corelli.nl/>

A great site for lovers of the Italian opera singer Franco Corelli. There's a lot to listen to and it's fun.



Smart cars will watch roads while drivers' minds drift.

Smart cars that pay attention to the roads while drivers' minds are elsewhere are on the automotive horizon at the world's largest consumer electronics show in Las Vegas.

Germany-based Continental Automotive Systems Continental promises that cars will be able to warn each other about hazards in a new-age variation on the way truckers use citizen band radios to spread word of trouble on roads.

Nearby was a Chevrolet Tahoe that Carnegie Mellon University students had converted into a self-driving vehicle that



won the US defence department's Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency Urban Challenge in November. The SUV had to manoeuvre without a driver along city streets and weave safely through traffic, and parallel park at one point.

"We are a decade out from having a car that drives itself," Carnegie Mellon director of technology Chris Urmson said while giving people a glimpse at the computer hardware packed into the Tahoe's passenger compartment. "We want to make it so you can get in to go to work, read the paper, drink your coffee and get there safely."

Continental's exhibit features cars that use radar to sense if traffic ahead is stopped or sluggish, then automatically apply the brakes to avoid rear-end collisions.

This story was found at: <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2008/01/09/1199554708383.html>

Little Tony was staying with his grandmother for a few days. He'd been playing outside with the other kids for a while when he came into the house and asked her, 'Grandma, what 's that called when two people sleep



in the same room and one is on top of the other?' She was a little taken aback, but she decided to tell him the truth. 'It's called sexual intercourse, darling' Little Tony said, 'Oh, OK,' and went back outside to play with the other kids. A few minutes later he came back in and

said angrily, 'Grandma, it isn't called sexual intercourse. It's called Bunk Beds. And Jimmy's Mum wants to talk to you.'

(Who sent this one?)



Stomach flu spread by keyboards.

The highly contagious norovirus, often called stomach flu, can be passed from one person to another through contact with commonly shared items such as computer keyboards and computer mice, U.S. health officials report. The virus, which is common in winter and is the most frequent cause of outbreaks of vomiting and diarrhea in the United States, is often contracted in schools, at work and on cruise ships.

All about Aunty in a click. The ABC's wealth of multimedia content is now available through one window under a revamp of the national broadcaster's online offerings (abc.net.au/now).

ABC Now is one of the first desktop applications of its kind, allowing audiences to access TV, radio and news content within a single application.

After downloading the application from abc.net.au/now, users can get the latest news headlines, listen to live radio from any ABC station, download podcasts, watch TV programs, download vodcasts and get sport and weather updates.

Content can be customised according to the user's location with a pop-up window for breaking news alerts.

New features will include full-screen video as well as a reminder service, to notify users when their favourite programs are on. Future releases will include software for hand-held devices such as mobile phones.

This story was found at: <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2007/12/05/1196530690553.html>



And it came to pass. Well, for all you smart people who tell stories about how the Internet started, here's the TRUE story.....:):)

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. And Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she had been called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband: "Why dost thou travel far from town to town with thy goods when thou can trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said: "How, dear?"

And Dot replied: "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale and they will reply telling you which hath the best

price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums.

And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever moving from his tent.

But this success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secrete (look it up, it means to hide) himself inside Abraham's drum and was accused of insider trading.

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Siderites, or NERDS for short. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to the drum maker, one Brother William of Gates, who bought up every drum company in the land. And indeed did insist on making drums that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say: "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others."

And as Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known, he said: "We need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied: "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "YAHOO," said Abraham.

And that is how it all began. Truly!

(From Alan Gill. Thank you, Alan.)



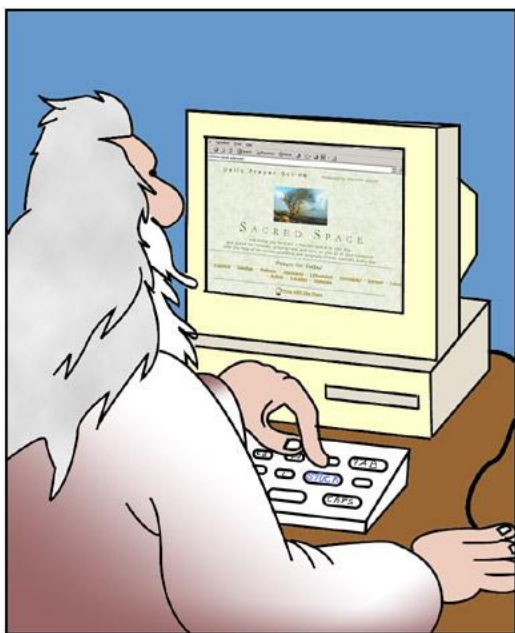


Dear Lord,
 Every single evening as I'm lying here in bed,
 This tiny little Prayer keeps running through my head:
 God bless all my family wherever they may be,
 Keep them warm and safe from harm for they're so close to me.
 And God, there is one more thing I wish that you could do;
 Hope you don't mind me asking, please bless my computer too.
 Now I know that it's unusual to bless a motherboard,
 But listen just a second while I explain it to you, Lord.
 You see, that little metal box holds more than odds and ends;
 Inside those small compartments rest so many of my friends.
 I know so much about them by the kindness that they give,
 And this little scrap of metal takes me in to where they live.
 By faith is how I know them much the same as you.
 We share in what life brings us and from that our friendships grew.
 Please take an extra minute from your duties up above,
 To bless those in my address book that's filled with so much love.
 Wherever else this prayer may reach to each and every friend,
 Bless each e-mail inbox and each person who hits 'send'

When you update your Heavenly list on your own Great CD-ROM,

Bless everyone who says this prayer sent up to GOD.Com

(From Brian Winter—Thank you Brian.)



Our Website:

www.manlycompals.org.au

Welcome to new members:

Barry ANSELL; Joe COX; Kevin COX; Alex CRAIGEN; Boulos DIAB; Jennifer HAMMOND; Judy HOWE; Beverley INGRAM; Albert LOUGHER; Margaret MACKIN; Mary ORAM; Lee PINKNEY; Pat SCHWEICKLE; Bruce SHARP; June SHAW-MAN; John SPROTT; Val SPROTT.
 If you are not listed here you will be next month.

Members are reminded that they are entitled to book ONE hour per week only. If any member desires additional lessons they can only book these by phoning the club room to find out if there are any vacancies on that particular day. If there are vacancies, they may then book an additional lesson. Under no circumstances are members to enter their name on the training roster more than once per week - other than by following the above procedure. Occasionally, we may need to contact you re your booked training session and this means all members must record their first and last names along with their phone number on the training roster sheets.

Tutors' Roster (subject to change)

Monday	9 am – 1 pm	Graham Clark & Lyn Nicholls
	1 pm – 5 pm	David McAdam & Arthur Johnson
Tuesday	9 am – 1 pm	Tony Van de Walle & Wally Gora
	1 pm – 5 pm	Lyall McNeish & Harry Brabin
Wednesday	9 am – 1 pm	Ted Hulbert & Philip Moss
	1 pm – 5 pm	Harry Agüero & Elaine Johns
Thursday	9 am – 1 pm	Jim Wade
	1 pm – 5 pm	Closed
Friday	9 am – 1 pm	Ern Cohen & Hugh Walker
	1 pm – 5 pm	Ron Peerless & Bob Bellini

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND A CLASS PLEASE PHONE THE CLUB 9976 0930 AND ADVISE THE DUTY TUTOR TO ALTER LIST.

The assistance provided by Manly Council to Manly Computerpals is gratefully acknowledged.

Disclaimers Members who bring equipment such as a laptop computer or digital camera to the Club, do so at their own risk and Computerpals accepts no responsibility for damages or loss.

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