

# MANLY MOUSE

Newsletter of Computerpals for Seniors – Manly Inc.

March 2008

**N**ow we Can Go and Enjoy Safe Internet Shopping. We were sorry that Jack Newton was unable to tell us all about Internet shopping last month but you will all be happy to know that he had a successful operation and is now recovering so well that he expects to give us the Internet Shopping demonstration on Thursday 13 March at 2 pm in the Manly Library Meeting Room. He 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.

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\*Source - Hitwise 2007, 2006



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**LENNOXX**

**L**ast month, although members were disappointed not to hear Jack talking about Internet Shopping they enjoyed the Q & A session put on in its place. After that Graham who was also busy seeing his doctors had prepared one of his challenging trivia quizzes which was led by Arthur Johnson. The winner was Milton Wheeler, 2nd Else Engles and 3rd Audrey Poskitt. *(Photos taken by Elaine)*



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## NSW Seniors Week 6—13 April 2008



For Seniors Week the club will have a special Open General Meeting for non members on 10 April in place of our usual members' meeting in order to demonstrate the wonders of the computer and especially the Internet. Members are welcome, of course, but we hope you will bring a friend. More next month.

### Turn Off or Hibernate?

As members who now have the new Windows Vista Operating System on their computers know, they have the option of hibernating their computers on shutdown. But Windows XP Home does not seem to give its users the choice. Instead Windows XP apparently only allows 'Standby', 'Turn Off' or 'Restart' as turn off options - 'Hibernate' just doesn't appear.

Does it matter? Well, yes, I think it does. Sometimes I have to shutdown my computer not because I've finished what I'm doing but because other matters are taking precedence. In this event if the computer was put into hibernation when it wakes up later it would be just as it was when it was hibernated. No more hunting around for the website I was on, or loading Word and then the required file or even worse, forgetting what I was doing when I shut it down (don't laugh unless you have a perfect memory).

But all is not lost as it is relatively simple to shut Windows XP down in the Hibernate mode if you just follow the following directions:

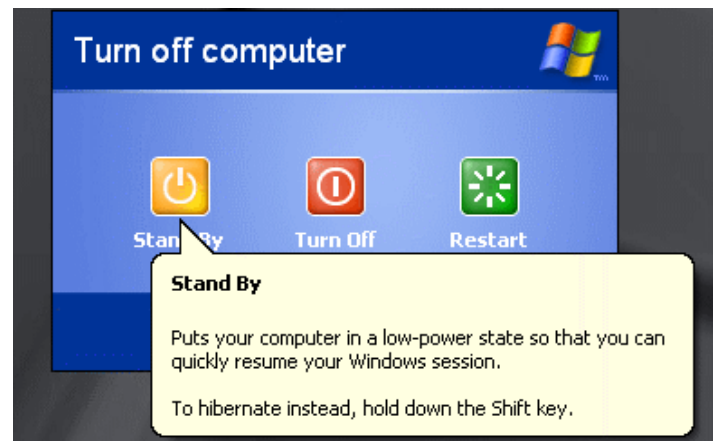
Firstly, check whether the Hibernate function is enabled on your computer as follows:

1. Click Start
2. Click Control panel
3. Click 'Power Options (on Classic Menu) or click Performance & Maintenance then Power Options (Category View)
4. Click Hibernate tab:
5. Ensure that the 'Enable Hibernate' box is checked (if it's not checked then check it by clicking in the box)
6. Click OK and exit Control Panel

Your computer is now able to be hibernated. So when you wish to shutdown your computer all you do is:

1. Click on Start
2. Click on Turn Off computer
3. Move cursor arrow onto Standby button
4. Press and hold down Shift key (Standby Key should turn to "Hibernate")

5. Click on Hibernate (Computer should go into hibernation)



For the more technologically savvy members there is a more elegant way to modify Windows XP shutdown screen. Microsoft will supply you with a hot fix which can be installed on your computer. After tweaking the registry, the Hibernate button will appear on your shutdown screen menu.

DO NOT attempt to edit Windows Registry unless you really know what you are doing or you may end up with a disastrously crashed computer which will not even boot. JN Feb 2008

**W**hat is the difference between a menu bar, a toolbar and a taskbar? A menu bar is the top most command bar in a window. Choices are usually File, Edit, View, etc. A toolbar is the second bar in a window, has icons to use for the commands, and varies with the program. For instance, in your browser, the toolbar has Back, Forward, etc., and in your Outlook Express the toolbar has Send/Receive, Create Mail, Reply, etc. The taskbar is the bar at the bottom of your screen and keeps track of open folders and running programs by listing their names. For example your Start button is in the taskbar.



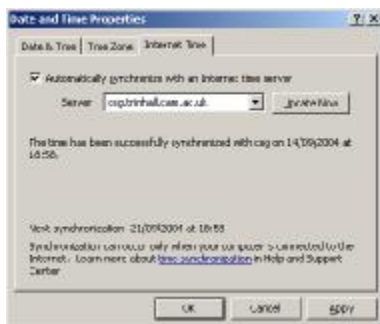
Using the scroll wheel to increase or decrease the size of the text on most web pages. By holding the CTRL key down and moving the scroll wheel up, the text gets larger and easier to read. This will not work on all Web sites but it will work on many, if not most sites. It also works with some applications like Microsoft Word for example. There are also two keyboard methods:

1. While viewing a page, hold your control key down and click your + key. You can vary the zoom all the way up to 400%. Just continue to hold the control key down and click + (plus) key. To reduce zoom level, hold your control key down and click your - (negative) key; again, continue holding down your control key and clicking - key will reduce the zoom level all the way down to 50%.

2. Look in the lower right hand corner of your browser for the little magnifying glass symbol with "100%" beside it. Now click the drop down arrow beside this and you can click to the zoom level of your choice. Take it a step further and define your zoom level with the custom control.

## The right time.

To make sure your Windows XP time is accurate, you can automatically set the time from an Internet server.



\* Double-click the time on the taskbar

\* Click Internet Time tab

\* Check Automatically synchronize with an Internet time server

\* Click on Update Now button

## Patched Firefox Still Vulnerable. Matthew Broersma, Techworld.

A patched version of Mozilla's Firefox browser released in February isn't quite as watertight as it should be, according to a security researcher. Shortly after Mozilla released a patch for a high-profile directory-traversal flaw - along with nine other patches - Dutch programmer Ronald van den Heetkamp posted proof-of-concept code which he claims shows that the bug is still exploitable. The original bug could be exploited when Firefox was running any of more than 600 add-ons to steal "session information, including session

cookies and session history," according to Mozilla, which ranked it as "high" severity. But the new patch only fixes 50 percent of the problem, according to van den Heetkamp. "I found another information leak that is very serious because we are able to read out all preferences set in Firefox, or just open or include about every file stored in the Mozilla program files directory, and this without any mandatory settings or plugins," he wrote in an advisory. He said the attack vector had only taken "a couple of minutes" to come up, and that other similar holes could remain. Among the 10 Firefox patches were three for critical vulnerabilities, which could allow an attacker to read sensitive information, bypass certain security restrictions, conduct spoofing attacks, or compromise a user's system, according to Mozilla. *PC World*

Playing chess and doing the daily crossword are ways to improve your memory. Here is a really easy way which should suit most seniors. Enjoy a catnap - the daytime snoozes favoured by Winston Churchill and Albert Einstein can boost your memory, scientists say. A study has shown that falling asleep does more than refresh the brain, it also improves recall. Dr Olaf Lahl at the University of Dusseldorf, Germany, who led the research, believes it is the process of nodding off, when recent events are replayed in the mind, that is beneficial, rather than the sleep itself. He asked students to memorise a list of words and tested their ability to recall them after an hour of playing the card game Solitaire. Some of the volunteers were allowed a five-minute catnap at the start of the experiment, the rest were asked to stay wide awake. The students who took a quick sleep remembered significantly more words than those who didn't, New Scientist magazine reports. "It seems much more is happening during the initialisation of sleep than we thought," said Dr Lahl, whose findings appear in the *Journal of Sleep Research*. "Maybe much of sleep's functional aspects are accomplished at its very beginning," he said. Just before sleep the brain replays recent events. "Crazy" thoughts are common and could help explain the benefit of the power nap, he said. Studies such as Dr Lahl's suggest it is this short period of "thought marshalling" that is crucial for good recall. So if you nod off during a meeting or lesson you can explain: "I was just improving my memory".





**H**oax or scam. There are several web sites you can use to check to see if something is a hoax or scam. First, you can always use Google to check out a hoax or scam. It's likely that the scam or hoax is either an old one just making the rounds again or it's a variation of an old one. Most scams and hoaxes have a name or key word you can search in Google. You'll get better results if you type in the name of the scam or hoax then use a + sign and "Hoax" or "Scam" after it. For example School Days+Scam.

Snopes: <http://www.snopes.com/snopes.asp> - This is probably the most well-known of all sites that offers valuable and mostly accurate information about a huge number of scams, rip-off, virus and other hoaxes. If you get a lot of hoax and scam emails from friends, you might want to bookmark Snopes and have your friends check out what they forward before they forward it. Educating people is a good way to stop these hoaxes and scams from circulating endlessly.

Truth Or Fiction - <http://www.truthorfiction.com/> This site deals with Internet rumours, email scams, some email hoaxes and other misinformation that is generally spread by email or Web sites.

FBI - Believe it or not, the U.S. Government runs a pretty good email anti-scam site that will help you detect scam emails and also give you a heads-up on what to be on the lookout for in the future. It's fairly well updated and full of information you might find useful. FBI Cyber Investigations- Email Scams site: <http://www.fbi.gov/cyberinvest/escams.htm> *Cloudeight*

## A mazing technology from Japan

You will not be able to know what's ahead of you, until you have seen at least 4 pictures and read the explanation of what they are, our future is here, incredible!! What an age we live in.



Look closely and guess what they could be...



Are they pens with cameras?



Any wild guesses? No clue yet?

Ladies and gentlemen... congratulations!

You've just looked into the future... yep that's right!

You've just seen something that will replace your PC in the near future.

Here is how it works:

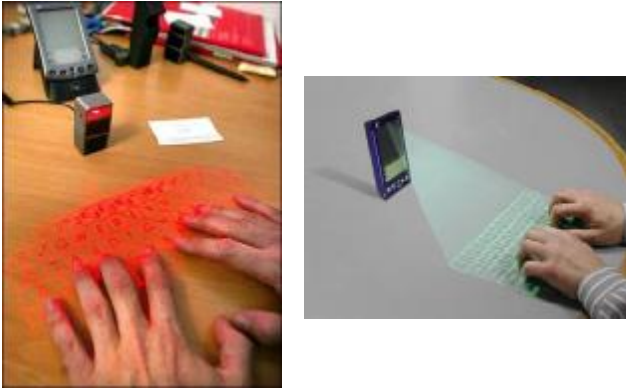


In the revolution of miniature computers, scientists have made great developments with bluetooth technology...

These are the forthcoming computers you can carry within your pockets



This 'pen sort of instrument' produces both the monitor as well as the keyboard on any flat surfaces from where you can carry out functions you would normally do on your desktop computer.



Can anyone say, 'Good Bye laptops!'  
Looks like our computers are out of date....again!!!  
(Thank you Brian Winter—now we understand)

**T**he power of human touch will soon be used to transmit data. Telecom giant Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) is planning a commercial launch of a system to enter rooms that frees users from the trouble of rummaging in their pockets or handbags for ID cards or keys. It uses technology to turn the surface of the human body itself into a means of data transmission. As data travels through the user's clothing, handbag or shoes, anyone carrying a special card can unlock the door simply by touching the knob or standing on a particular spot without taking the card out.

"In everyday life, you're always touching things. Even if you are standing, you are stepping on something," research engineer Mitsuru Shinagawa told AFP.

"These simple touches can result in communication," said Shinagawa, senior research engineer at the company's NTT Microsystem Integration Laboratories.

He said future applications could include a walk-through ticket gate, a cabinet that opens only to authorised people and a television control that automatically chooses favourite programs.

The system also improves security. It ensures that only drivers can open their cars by touching the doors if the keys are in their pockets, not people around them.

NTT has already developed technology that allows swapping data as heavy as motion pictures through a handshake, although it has not been put into commercial use.

NTT Electronics Corp, a group company, plans to start sales of the room-entry system in the coming months, said NTT business creation official Toshiaki Asahi. It will be the world's first commercial application of human body communication using electric fields, rather than sending electric currents into the human body, according to NTT.

"There is demand for hands-free entry as there are workplaces where you always have your hands occupied or can't touch things for hygiene or medical reasons. In some factories it's simply dangerous to dangle something from your neck," Asahi said. The price is yet to be announced but will be "a bit pricier" than the conventional IC card system, he

said, adding the group expects to start only with a limited market. An IC card system is comprised of a chip-embedded card and a reading device, with its user placing the card over an article for a data feed.

Other companies have focused on electric currents and required users to wear items on the outside of their bodies.

**A** doctor, a civil engineer, and a computer scientist were arguing about what was the oldest profession in the world. The doctor remarked "Well, in the Bible it says that God created Eve from a rib taken from Adam. This clearly required surgery so I can rightly claim that mine is the oldest profession in the world."

The civil engineer interrupted and said "But even earlier in the book of Genesis, it states that God created the order of the heavens and the earth from out of the chaos. This was the first and certainly the most spectacular application of civil engineering. Therefore, fair doctor, you are wrong; mine is the oldest profession in the world."

The computer scientist leaned back in his chair, smiled, and said confidently, "Ah, but who do you think created the chaos?"

**T**o friends who enjoy a glass of wine. and those who don't.

As Ben Franklin said: In wine there is wisdom, in beer there is freedom, in water there is bacteria.

In a number of carefully controlled trials, scientists have demonstrated that if we drink 1 litre of water each day, at the end of the year we would have absorbed more than 1 kilo of Escherichia coli, (E. coli) - bacteria found in faeces. In other words, we are consuming 1 kilo of poop.

However, we do NOT run that risk when drinking wine and beer (or tequila, rum, whiskey or other liquor) because alcohol has to go through a purification process of boiling, filtering and/or fermenting.

Remember: Water = Poop, Wine = Health

Therefore, it's better to drink wine and talk stupid, than to drink water and be full of shit. (Thanks Graham)



*'It's a naïve domestic Burgundy without any breeding, but I think you'll be amused by its presumption.'*



**F**or Sale The club has updated its notebook computer to one which can be dual booted with Windows XP and Vista. Consequently it is selling the Asus A4000 notebook computer that it bought around May 2005.



The computer is for sale to any interested club member who wishes to make an offer to buy it. The computer is being sold "as is".

*Note this computer is not suitable for Windows Vista.*  
The ASUS A4000 specification is:

<b><u>Hardware:</u></b>	<b><u>Software:</u></b>
Hard Disk: 40 GB	Windows XP Professional SP2
CPU: Celeron 2.8 MHz	Microsoft Works
RAM: 512 MB	Microsoft Money
DVD/CDRW	Microsoft Picture It
Screen size ca. 15" diagonal	Internet Explorer
USB Mouse	Adobe
Battery charger	AVG antivirus
Asus carrying case	Spybot
	AdAware
	Picasa

Offers to Manly Computerpals by email c/- Jack Newton at [johnn81624@hotmail.com](mailto:johnn81624@hotmail.com)

**M**embers 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.

Our Website is kept up to date by Graham and includes latest news and recent and former copies of The Manly Mouse

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

**W**elcome to new members:  
William CLARKE; Jill CONVERY;  
Des DOYLE; David GRAY;  
Molly HAMILL; Margaret MANHART;  
Dorothy MATTHEWS;  
Edna NEWELL; Jeanne O'KEEFE;  
Roslyn TESSEYMAN; Maree ZIZAN.  
If you are not listed here you will be next month.

The Thursday afternoon courses will begin again soon. There will be a Computer Basics course and a Digital Camera course. Details will be available shortly.

**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	Nor a Takats & Wally Gora
	1 pm – 5 pm	Lyll McNeish & Harry Brabin
Wednesday	9 am – 1 pm	Ted Hulbert & Philip Moss
	1 pm – 5 pm	Harry Aguero & 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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