

MANLY MOUSE

Newsletter of Computerpals for Seniors - Manly Inc.

October 2011

October Monthly Meeting: The 14th Annual General Meeting of Computerpals for Seniors—Manly Inc. will be held on Thursday 13 October 2011 at 2 pm in the Manly Library Meeting Room. This is an important meeting for members. We have to vote for a new President and Vice President, Secretary, committee members and also to accept the proposed new Constitution.

We have nominations for:

Secretary

Committee

Committee

Committee



Lyn



Ted



Robin



Gwyneth

We need more committee members and hope there will be some nominations from the floor. You can nominate yourself or someone else who agrees.

Following the more serious business of the AGM Graham Clark will amuse us with a bit of light-heartedness by presenting some humorous collections he has found on the internet. Members just need a sense of humour and they are sure to be entertained. There will be door prizes and then the usual cup of tea or coffee with biscuits.





September Meeting: We had a very interesting and helpful talk about Online Shopping given by Jack Newton who has been shopping online since it first became possible. He praised it for its convenience, for the wide choice of things to buy and for cheaper prices in many cases. It is sensible, he said, to shop around for price comparisons and bargains. He gave us useful warnings, e.g., to go for brand names and watch for counterfeits, to check warranties – returns could be difficult and, most importantly for electrical goods, is it OK for Australia? US mains voltage, its plugs and sockets and TV system are all different from Australia's. He gave some suggestions about what to buy: Books, amazon.com; Holidays, Wotif; Houses, realestate.com; Cars, car-sales.com; Groceries, Woolworths or Coles; Airline tickets, webjet.com; Clothes, try ezibuy. He suggested paying by PayPal which is easy and safe. When paying always check for https and padlock security.



Winners of the door prizes were Lyn Nicholls, Ron Carter and Ilona Watson.

You could win a prize too if you send a photo you have taken to The Manly Mouse (gwyneth@bigpond.net.au). The Committee will judge the best. Later we will ask for pictures of Manly but to get started just send in your favourite picture. Here's one which Graham took last week at Ben Boyd Lookout, Ben Boyd National Park, Eden.



Here's the letter sent by Hugh Walker in August:

I am much better with all bones fixed and starting to do exercise to regain my fitness. I have always known how important fitness is but this was reinforced to me when the doctors in casualty related this to me and were able to discharge me earlier than expected. Also learned how easily and quickly fitness is lost when laid up as I was.

The body is a marvellous thing in that it prioritises the order in which it fixes broken bones when there are multiples to fix. I imagine the body can only make a certain amount of calcium over time and broken bones must wait their turn in the order the body decides. Some of mine only started to mend three months after the event.



Also in this time we have sold our family home of 46 years and recently moved to a retirement village, the WarVets at Narrabeen. It is now open to the general public. Packing up and moving is hard enough but the downsizing is very difficult for a hoarder like me. This was made difficult because our children each still had their bedrooms intact, even though they all left home over twenty years ago, when one son is as big a hoarder as me.

I still do not have my computer setup here as I require. I will need a little more time and I will be back to Computer Pals. Regards Hugh

Now see what Hugh has been doing:

Being laid up has given me some time to learn more things of what can be done with my computers. Even though I broke bones and almost my head, the main thing I'd like to think is I didn't break my brain. I accept that is debatable.

The www.futistic.com web site I finally have is what I originally intended it to be, an interactive site. Far from perfect, but this is the general direction of my intent. I have retained the original design concept and as with most things in life, and hindsight, if I started today the layout would



be somewhat different.

I finished this and got it on line over the weekend. No; it is not finished, as that is the intent; its intent is an interactive ever involving site.

As you can see it includes the Wiki software engine that drives a hell of a lot of the internet including the well known Wikipedia, Wikileaks etc.

I started to try to design my own database based interactive site and was left sure my brain was broken. Then common sense prevailed to not reinvent the wheel. I tried probably most the Content Management Systems for interactive site construction such as Drupal, Joomla, WordPress and the like. This TikiWiki as the basis of Futistic is not the easiest to use with many comments to this effect, but I see it is the most complete.

As you can see it contains the provision for anyone to submit ----Articles, such as newspaper articles, ---Wikis such as Wikipedia where collaboration and input by anyone can contribute to the Wiki philosophy. -----Blogs. -----Comments. -----Surveys and Poles, and much more.

I am also currently working on other site design ideas that are also community interest interactive based.

Regards Hugh (19 Sep 11)



Aussie tech price 'rip-offs' go under the microscope.

Technology companies are under pressure to reduce the yawning gaps in prices between Australia and the US, as the government has asked treasury officials and the Productivity Commission to investigate the issue.

Price discrimination around gadgets, software and media is increasingly catching the ire of politicians, businesses and consumers as the Australian dollar has been valued above the US dollar for some time yet prices haven't dropped to reflect this. [*not up to date now!*]

Australians pay hundreds of dollars more for laptops, phones and other gadgets while software, which is now often delivered over the internet, is commonly 60-80 per cent more expensive in Australia despite companies facing no significant additional costs to distribute it here.

Labor MP Ed Husic, the member for Chifley, has raised the issue in parliament several times, claiming Australians are being "ripped off".

It's not clear what, if anything, the government could do to regulate prices. Husic said the public pressure might be enough to resolve the issue.

Husic welcomed the move by government to draw more attention to the issue and said Australian consumers and businesses were shouldering an "unfair pricing burden". Tech company justifications had been either non-existent or flaky. "I'm urging consumers and businesses to have their say, provide their examples and ensure the Productivity Commission gets a clear picture of how the issue impacts people here in Australia." *Asher Moses*

This story was found at: <http://www.smh.com.au/executive-style/gadgets/aussie-tech-price-ripoffs-go-under-the-microscope-20110922-1kmk3.html>

A tip for those of you using Gmail in your email program.

When you have Gmail configured as POP3 in your email client, the messages in the spam folder are never downloaded. So in order to make sure you're not missing any important email, you need to log into your Gmail account with your Web browser and check the spam folder every week or so.

Gmail, when it's set up in POP3, never downloads the emails in the spam folder – and there are no settings that allow you to download the mail from the spam folder. The only way you can check to see that there isn't any important email in your spam folder by mistake, is to login to your account on the Web. If you find a "good" email, mistakenly labelled as spam, just mark it "Not spam" and it will be moved to the Gmail Inbox. When it has been moved to your Gmail Inbox, it will be retrieved by your email client the next time you check mail.

Don't ever assume because you've got Gmail set up in your email program, you're downloading all your email. You're never downloading anything from the spam folder. This is what makes using a Gmail account in your Email program a good way to fight spam - especially if you have Gmail gather your messages from your other accounts. But still, Gmail's spam filtering isn't perfect. No spam filtering is. We happen to think it's the best spam filtering available right now. Gmail's spam filtering is very good, but it is not perfect.

So if you've have your Gmail account set-up in your email program, make sure you login to your Gmail account every week or so and go through your spam folder to make sure you're not missing any important emails. If you don't check your spam folder, Gmail will automatically delete its contents at intervals of its choosing and if there are any important emails in the spam folder, they'll be gone with the spam. However, this can also be solved by using an IMAP account. Also the Mac Mail program always uses IMAP when setting up a local account to retrieve mail from a Gmail account, so this is not an issue for Mac users.





14th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Thursday 13 October 2011 at 2 pm in the Manly Library Meeting Room.

AGENDA: (please bring to the meeting)

1. President's welcome
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM of 14 October 2010
4. Business arising from the minutes
5. President's Report
6. Other Officers' Reports
7. Receive & Adopt the Financial Statements for the financial year to 30 June 2011 and reports thereon.
8. Election of Office Bearers & Committee in accordance with Rule 14(8)
9. Appoint an Auditor
10. Confirm the Committee's recommendation that the existing membership and subscription fees be retained.
11. Consider and vote on Special Resolution re new Constitution. The following Special Resolution is proposed for acceptance by financial full members present at this Annual General meeting: "In Compliance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 No 7 which commenced 1/7/2010, the attached CONSTITUTION is accepted to replace the current old-styled RULES which are hereby cancelled."

NO BUSINESS OTHER THAN ON THIS AGENDA WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE MEETING.

Election of Officers and Committee:

During this Annual General Meeting of 13 October 2011, there will be an election of office bearers and committee members in accordance with the following rules of the club:

Rule 14. (8) An election of half of the committee members shall take place annually at each Annual General meeting in accordance with the following pattern:

- a The committee shall consist of two groups of either equal numbers, or with one group having a majority of one.
- b The first group (Group A) shall include the President, Treasurer, and half (or as near half as practical) of any other office bearers and half (or as near half as practical) of the ordinary committee members.
- c The second group (Group B) shall include the Vice President, the Secretary and the balance of office bearers and ordinary committee members.

At the AGM on 13 October 2011, Group B must stand down. This group comprises the Vice President, the Secretary and half of the committee.

The following positions are to be filled at this meeting:

President	Vacancy due to resignation of Bob Bellini
Vice President	Position vacant
Secretary	Lyn Nicholls is required to stand down, and is eligible for re-election
Committee	Ted Hulbert is required to stand down, and is eligible for re-election
Committee	Gwyneth Crawford is required to stand down, and is eligible for re-election
Committee	Robin George is required to stand down, and is eligible for re-election
Committee	3 vacant positions

NOMINATION FORMS for Office Bearers & Committee are available in our club room.

If you wish to nominate yourself or others for any of the above positions, such nomination must be made on the official forms and the proposer, seconder and the nominated person must all be financial members of the club. Nominations **MUST** be returned to the club's premises (either placed in President's Mail slot) - OR posted to The Secretary, Computerpals for Seniors Manly Inc, PO Box 1128 Manly NSW 1655 so as to arrive at least 7 days prior to the meeting.



Welcome to our new member:
Neville Cochrane
 If you are not listed here you will be next month.

Tutors' Roster (subject to change)		
Monday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Graham Clark & Lyn Nicholls Arthur Johnson & David McAdam
Tuesday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Philip Bratel & Wally Gore Lyll McNeish & Tony Wu
Wednesday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Ted Hulbert & Dorothy Peters Harry Aguero & Elaine Johns
Thursday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Bridget Mahoney & Judith Timpson
Friday	9 am - 1 pm 9 am - 5 pm	Ern Cohen John Brooks Bob Bellini Mac only

A Police STOP at 2 AM!
 An elderly man is stopped by the police



around 2 am and is asked where he is going at this time of night.

The man replies, "I am on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer then asks, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man replies, "That would be my wife".

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

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.
 This newsletter is provided "As Is" without warranty of any kind. Each reader of the Manly Mouse newsletter assumes complete risk as to the accuracy and subsequent use of its contents.

Future Monthly Meetings:
November 10th. Nutritionist Mara Bond will be talking about Health and Nutrition in the Senior Community - Aging Healthily. Don't miss this useful and enjoyable talk.
December 8th Christmas Party. We'll see you all then for our fun afternoon.

The assistance provided by Manly Council to Manly Computer Pals is gratefully acknowledged.



The Editor apologises for omitting the time of the September meeting in last month's Manly Mouse.

Our Website is kept up to date by Graham and includes photos, latest news and recent and earlier copies of the Manly Mouse.

www.manlycompals.org.au