

# MANLY MOUSE

Newsletter of Computerpals for Seniors – Manly Inc.

September 2008

\* 11th Annual General Meeting 9 October 2008 \*



**O**ur next monthly meeting will commence 2 pm Thursday 11 September in Manly Library Meeting Room. This meeting will be all about Internet Security and Graham Clark will be showing you some of the excellent 'Freebies' available to help keep your computer secure whenever you are using the internet. Keeping your computer & data safe from outside in-

terference is vital for all of us and whilst there are many excellent commercial programs for sale which will do this, we will primarily be looking at free programs (but will also discuss some of the commercial programs as well). The programs we will look at are proven to be beneficial, are readily available, and many of them are Free and easy to use. The emphasis on this presentation is to help you Stay Smart On-Line by making you aware of the dangers and providing you with the information about how to protect yourself and your computer from security breaches and, in most cases, do it for FREE. A printed handout will be available so as to save you taking copious notes and questions will be invited from the floor. Following the meeting there will be a chance to chat with fellow members and committee over afternoon tea.

Stay  
Smart  
Online

**I**t was full house at our August meeting when the Manly Computer twins, Jack Newton & Bob Bellini gave us their expected amusing vaudeville act whilst demonstrating the useful Picasa 2 program for editing pictures. They announced that the Club will be running Thursday afternoon Picasa training courses over the next few months. The first and second ones are already booked out. However, you may still be able to put down your name on the list in the Club Room for the third course. The four sessions, each of 3 hours will cost \$10. This includes a CD containing the course notes and sample pictures and clipart.



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## Any Questions?

If you are puzzled about how to do something in particular with your computer or want to know what a computer term you have come across means there are bound to be other members needing an answer to the same question. So, send in any question to [gwyneth@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gwyneth@bigpond.net.au) and we will endeavour to give the answer in the next month's Manly Mouse.

## Outlook Express Address Book backup

The first thing to do, to make it simpler for you, is to create a folder on your hard drive (in My Documents, or Desktop) called Address Book Backups (or whatever you like). This will make it easier to save the backup and then copy it to your external media in the final step below.

1. On the Outlook Express toolbar, click Export, and then click Address Book.
2. Click Text File (Comma Separated Values), and then click Export.
3. Click Browse.
4. Find the folder you created for your Address Book backups
5. In the File Name box, type address book backup, and then click Save.
6. Click Next.
7. Click to select the check boxes for the fields that you want to export, and then click Finish.
8. Click OK and then click Close.

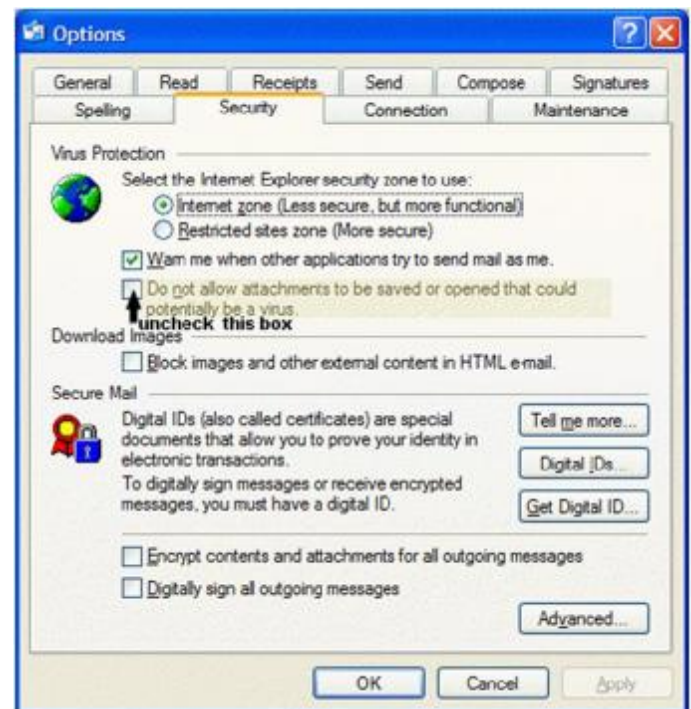
After you've saved the Address Book Backup, put a writable CD or DVD into your DVD/CD drive, right-click on the folder containing your backup, choose "Copy to" from the menu and choose your CD/DVD drive. You can, if you choose (although there is no reason to do so) use your CD-ROM/DVD burning software.

Alternatively, don't use CD or DVD to backup your Address Book. The file is very small, normally under one megabyte. Buy a USB flash drive and save your backup there. You can use the flash drive for other things too and use it keep your address book backup up-to-date, by simply overwriting the old backup with a newer one - thus saving space and eliminating the confusion having multiple backups of the Address Book which you don't need. The newest backup is the only one you should keep.

**Email Attachments** (Outlook Express and also applies to Windows Mail) Be careful about opening email attachments directly from an email. It's a good idea to save the attachment to your desktop and scan it with your Anti-Virus program before you open it (for instructions on how to scan an attachment with your Anti-Virus program, consult its help section). Remember it

doesn't matter if the sender of the attachment is your dearest friend, they may not be aware they're sending it. Remember to update your anti-virus program often. Consult you anti-virus software manufacturer for update procedures. In order to prevent Outlook Express from deleting all attachments, you must change the setting in the security dialog. Here's how to do that

1. From the Main Outlook Express program window click on tools
2. Now click on "Options"
3. Now click on the "Security" tab at the Top (see the screenshot below)



4. Remove the checkmark from the second box as shown above) where text says "Do not allow attachments to be saved or opened that could potentially be a virus." Outlook Express and Windows Mail consider everything to be a potential virus, so they effectively prohibit you from receiving attachments.

5. Click The Apply/OK buttons and you're done.

**Weather Tracker** is a desktop weather widget with live local weather conditions and 7 day forecasts for over 580 Australian locations. Features include live warnings, custom alerts, radar and satellite images. The Weather Tracker widget is available as a free download for Windows and Mac platforms. Download at <http://www.weatherzone.com.au/weathertracker/>





## Quantum Computing

*"Well, I never heard it before, but it sounds uncommon nonsense", said the Mock Turtle*

*"I don't believe there's an atom of meaning in it", Alice added.*

Professor Robert Clark of the University of NSW has won a 2008 Australian Museum Eureka Prize for his research on quantum computers.

Now you and I are bright enough to realise that computers although lightning fast can only do simple addition and even that's limited to adding one and one because that's all that the geek-speak binary system amounts to.

Apart from believing that one of the main functions of computers is to keep Bill Gates rich, we senior citizens have some idea how computers work. But quantum computing is a horse of a different colour.

Let me tell you of what a research team headed by Prof. Mordehai Heiblum, at the Weizmann Institute of Science said about quantum mechanics:

*...When a quantum "observer" is watching, quantum mechanics states that particles can also behave as waves... When behaving as waves, they can simultaneously pass through several openings in a barrier and then meet again at the other side of the barrier. This "meeting" is known as interference.*

*Strange as it may sound, interference can only occur when no one is watching. Once an observer begins to watch the particles going through the openings, the picture changes dramatically: if a particle can be seen going through one opening, then it's clear it didn't go through another. In other words, when under observation, electrons are being "forced" to behave like particles and not like waves. Thus the mere act of observation affects the experimental findings...*

Is all that clear? If it's not then we are not the only ones to be puzzled as the quantum itself can't make up its mind whether it's a wave or a particle unless it's being watched.

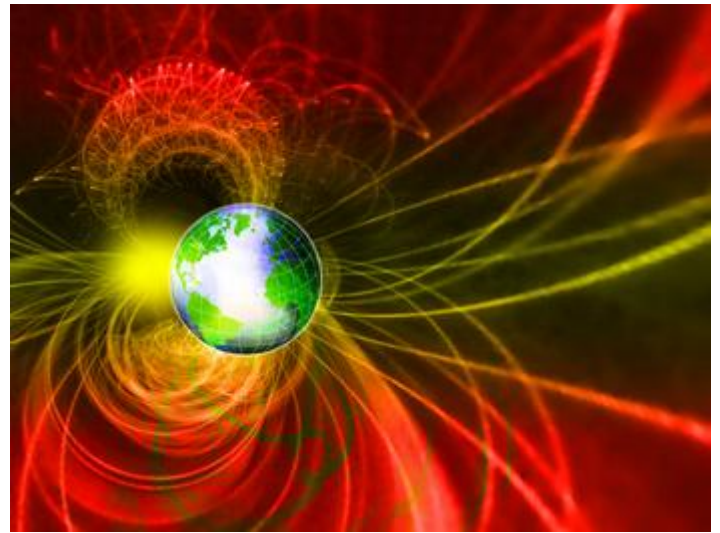
"Look at me! Look at me!" shouts the quantum waving madly but when you look it stops waving. Avert your gaze and it's waving again - does it suffer from Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity disorder?

Isn't it enough that we have RAMs, CPUs, HDDs, not to mention Vista thrust upon us but in the future it looks as if we will have quantum computers which misbehave very time you turn your back on them?

IT experts will include psychiatrists to treat what can only be described as the quantum's neurotic behaviour.

As if computers were not too complex already... Can I have medication, please?


JN Aug 2008





*"Quantum computers have the potential to solve problems that would take a classical computer longer than the age of the universe." Steve Jurvetson: AI, Nanotech and the Future of the Human Species.*

*'Alice laughed. "There's no use trying", she said. "One can't believe impossible things". "I dare say you haven't had as much practice", said the Queen. "When I was your age I did it for half an hour a day. Why sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast".' Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking-Glass*

## A comparison between Mac, PC and Linux

Using a Mac is like living in a downtown pent-house. You have everything done for you and it all looks very slick, but you pay a high price. You have a doorman to pamper you and somebody else takes care of the maintenance, but you can't make a lot of changes to the property. 

Using Windows is like living in the suburbs. You get more square feet for your dollar but you have to mow your own lawn and when something goes wrong, you have to fix it yourself or pay someone extra to do it. You can make changes to your property but you might have to deal with deed restrictions or council regulations or home unit rules. 

Using Linux is like living out in the country. Compared to the other options, property is dirt cheap and you can do whatever you want to it without having to follow codes and get inspections. But you'll probably have to do a lot more of the work yourself and you need a lot of building expertise or else you may get yourself into big trouble and find your house falling down all around you because you didn't do it correctly. (BB) 



## Dragon Naturally Speaking (Letter to David Pogue, NYT)

My wife and I discovered Dragon NaturallySpeaking about 8 years ago, and have been using it successfully ever since-- not for dictation, but as a communication aid. My wife is deaf; her hearing loss began about 25 years ago (we are in our late 60s) and she has become a skilful lip reader to compensate. That works pretty well in face-to-face communication, but is not helpful in many other situations, such as when we are driving. When I drive, I give her a side view, which isn't clear enough.

I've made brackets to hold a laptop both in our car and motor home. I use a lapel mike to speak; NaturallySpeaking transcribes what I say. She reads what I'm saying, and then responds by voice. When we got this working, it was the first time in 15 years that we could converse on the road. We are now using version 9, having upgraded several times, and based on your report, we will watch for version 11!

Reply: Holy cow. That is truly an ingenious solution! Congratulations, and best wishes to you both!

Visit David Pogue on the Web at [DavidPogue.com](http://DavidPogue.com)

For more about Dragon NaturallySpeaking see [http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/07/technology/personaltech/07pogue.html?\\_r=2&ref=personaltech&pagewanted=print&oref=slogin&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/08/07/technology/personaltech/07pogue.html?_r=2&ref=personaltech&pagewanted=print&oref=slogin&oref=slogin)

With Dragon™NaturallySpeaking®Standard, you can talk to your computer and watch your spoken words instantly appear in documents, email and instant messages. You can even surf the web just by speaking! Fast, easy and up to 99% accurate, this revolutionary and easy-to use product gives you everything you need to get started, including a free, high-quality headset microphone with noise-cancelling technology.



## Deactivating Pesky Alerts in Vista

Windows Vista is designed to thwart malicious programs, but it often annoys experienced users with constant alerts about needing permission to continue when installing software or changing settings. To deactivate the warnings, go to Control Panel, then to User Accounts, and remove the check on the box next to "Use User Account Control (UAC) to help protect your computer." Just make sure your PC's security software is up to date. *J. D. Biersdofer NYT*

## Finding AutoText and Autocorrect in Word 2007.

You can find the equivalent of AutoText under Insert, Quick Parts, Building Blocks Organizer. Autocorrect can be found under Microsoft Office Button, Word Options and Proofing .

## Quick Tip for Outlook Express and Windows Mail

Windows XP (all versions) and Windows Vista (all versions) When you compose an email and need to add an attachment you can Drag-n-Drop them.

Outlook Express and Windows Mail let you easily attach a file from your desktop (or any other folder) by dragging it right into the message area of your e-mail. It will be automatically inserted as a file attachment. Conversely you can drag file attachments from received mail to your desktop or any other folder.

## Alert over air ticketing scam

Consumers are being warned of a ticketing scam which causes malicious software to be downloaded to their computers.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has received a number of complaints about a bogus email claiming to be from an airline company.

The email, which has a bogus ticket and receipt attached, advises consumers they have been charged about \$500.

Opening the attachment runs the risk of activating malicious software, which could infect the computer, the commission said.

Scammers use malicious software programs to retrieve personal details including online banking passwords or personal records stored on a computer's hard drive.

If consumers receive such emails, they should delete them straight away or contact the airline by phone to confirm the purchase, the commission said.

AAP August 2008

## It was many years since the embarrassing day when

a young woman, with a baby in her arms, entered his butcher shop and confronted him with the news that the baby was his and asked what was he going to do about it Finally he offered to provide her with free meat until the boy was 16.

She agreed.

He had been counting the years off on his calendar, and one day the teenager, who had been collecting the meat each week, came into the shop and said, "I'll be 16 tomorrow."

"I know," said the butcher with a smile, "I've been counting too, tell your mother, when you take this parcel of meat home, that it is the last free meat she'll get, and watch the expression on her face."

When the boy arrived home he told his mother.

The woman nodded and said, "Son, go back to the butcher and tell him I have also had free bread, free milk, and free groceries for the last 16 years and watch the expression on his face!" RM



# 11th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will be held on Thursday 9 October at 2 pm in the Manly Library Meeting Room

## Agenda (please bring to October meeting)

1. President's welcome.
2. Apologies.
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM of 11 October 2007.
4. Business arising from the Minutes.
5. President's report.
6. Other Officers' Reports
7. Receive and adopt the Financial Statements for the financial year to 30 June, 2008 and the reports thereon.
8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee in accordance with our Rule 14(8)
9. Appoint an Auditor.
10. Confirm the Committee's recommendation that the existing membership and subscription fees be retained

**NO BUSINESS OTHER THAN THAT ADVISED IN THIS AGENDA WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE MEETING**

## Election of Officers and Committee

At the Annual General Meeting on 9 October 2008, there will be an election of office bearers and committee members in accordance with the rules of the Club.

Rule 14.8 An election of half the committee members shall take place annually at each Annual General Meeting, according to 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 meeting on 9 October 2008, Group A must stand down. It comprises the Vice-President, Secretary, and three committee members. The following positions are to be filled at the Meeting.

President	1 position	Graham Clark is required to stand down and is eligible for re-election
Treasurer	1 position	Noel McKee is required to stand down and is eligible for re-election
Committee	3 positions	Elaine Clarke is required to stand down and is eligible for re-election
		Bob Bellini is required to stand down and is eligible for re-election
		David McAdam is required to stand down and is eligible for re-election

## 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 nominations 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 new members:  
 Maureen Ryan and Christine Henriksen  
 If you are not listed here you will be next month.



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

**Tutors' Roster (subject to change)**

Monday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Graham Clark & Lyn Nicholls David McAdam & Jan Schoot
Tuesday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Tony Van der Walle & Wally Gora Lya'll McNeish & Harry Brabin
Wednesday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Ted Hulbert & Bridget Mahoney Harry Aguero & Elaine Johns
Thursday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Jim Wade & Dorothy Peters Picasa Course
Friday	9 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 5 pm	Ern Cohen & Hugh Walker Bob Bellini & Ron Peerless

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

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

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

**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.

**NOMINATION FORM**

I nominate..... for the position of.....

Signed....., Nominator. Date.....

Signed....., Seconder Date.....

I accept the nomination for the position of.....

Signed..... Date.....

The proposer, seconder and the nominated person must all be financial full members of the club

Nominations are to be returned to the club's premises at the Manly Seniors Centre 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. Additional copies available at club.