Forest News

Our Web Address:	Our Email Address:
www.forestcompals.org.au	ForestCompals@forestcompals.org.au

Club Location
Memorial Hall,
3 Starkey St. Forestville
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Coming events
Committee

- Mar 9th, 1.45 pm

Forest Computer Pals thanks Warringah Council for its support

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING

Will be held on March 31, starting at 2 pm and, following afternoon tea, about 3 pm,

ROD DUCKWORTH

Of Hi-Speed, Killarney Heights,
Will tell us how to get a free and easy back-up system on the Internet. Those of you who have experienced a computer crash and lost data because of failure to back-up will appreciate this talk, as will those who do not back-up frequently.

Please also note that monthly meetings will be held on the Last Thursday of each month this year.

DO YOU THINK THE CLUB DOES A USEFUL JOB IN THE COMMUNITY?

If so, please invite your friends to come along and see for themselves how we can help them with letter-writing, family histories, e-mail communication and many other skills using the computer. **Satisfied members are our best advocates**!

But if you are dissatisfied for any reason please let us know, anonymously if you prefer.

Lost things in the bowels of your computer?

Perhaps Sandra Brophey can help you clean up the mess with documents, i-pods and pads, or Skype systems. Call her on 9939 7737 for further information.

LIBRARIES IN WINDOWS 7

A function is available in Windows 7 that enables you to manage files differently to older systems.   Ability to retrieve files can be a problem if one is not disciplined. (See preceding item). Libraries make the process much simpler. To learn more about Libraries, left click on the blue and yellow icon. Then click on Help and follow the prompts.

COMPRESSING & ZIPPING

To start with both terms mean the same. Documents (files in computer speak), folders and pictures can be compressed to save space on your computer. Compressed folders can be readily "un-compressed or de-compressed", or transferred to other computers.

For those with Windows 7 as their operating system, Microsoft provides a good website with even a video to explain how to compress and decompress. It is http://windows.microsoft.com/en-AU/windows7/Compress-and-uncompress-files-zip-files.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

President Colin opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

Joe Magno presented the accounts which were accepted and passed and our total assets are $21,179. Our current membership is 179. Joe showed us that we are gradually spending more than we receive.

Reg Flew has made an excellent new sign advertising our presence on the steps outside our club.

Colin gave many good hints that are worth a peek at www.forestcompals.org.au website and has put his freebies on a DVD or on the computer for downloading yourselves onto a DVD. Please do not borrow the original. A trainer will help you copy the DVD.

We had an excellent speaker, Trish Levido, from the Oral History Association. She gave us many hints about collecting oral histories. Interviews are best done by someone who does not know the person too well. The questions 'Who, What, Where, and How' on different parts of the interviewee's life elicit extraordinary detail. Grandchildren often enjoy doing this and are often surprised by the stories they uncover. It's wonderful to capture the voice and emotions of our loved ones rather than just have a written record and to have a ready reference when someone passes makes it so much easier.

You can record direct to computer if you have downloaded the free program – Audacity - or hire a recorder from the Oral History Association. Google ohaa nsw. There is a ten minute interview Trish did on Radio http://www.abc.net.au/rn/lifematters/stories/2011/3118439.htm . You can hold Control and click on this link and it should take you straight there. Trish generated much interest and we loved her enthusiasm.

Also we always enjoy Marie's afternoon tea!

March Meeting is the 5th Thursday, that is the 31st, (always the last Thursday of month now – Rod Duckworth on Drop Box).

HOW MUCH A YEAR DO YOU SPEND ON INK FOR YOUR PRINTER?

According to a survey run by CHOICE COMPUTER recently ("The real cost of ink", CHOICE COMPUTER, Jan/Feb, 2011), the cost of ink over a three year period may be 4 or 5 times the original cost of the printer itself!

Inks are a major operating cost for computer users, particularly when "original" inks are used.

There are several alternatives, such as buying generic inks, buying from specialist suppliers, installing a continuous ink system, refilling cartridges yourself, buying online from "Wholesalers", or even just buying a new printer! Not using original inks can cause problems if warranties are involved, but all the generic suppliers claim their inks will not cause printer problems.   You can often reduce ink consumption by choosing "Fast" or "Draft" in "Properties", and "Grayscale". This will print everything in black and shades of grey, using no coloured inks. And of course, you can choose to read documents on the screen and not print them at all! That saves ink and paper. (That's one of the reasons why we send the Newsletter to most members by email. Let us know if you'd like to get your copy by email.)

We recently discovered that Wholesale Toners Australia, based in Queensland, offer a very speedy postal ink service for both original and generic inks for most computers, but more usefully for club members, they offer a 10% discount on list prices for seniors. If you would like to try them out their website is www.WholesaleTone.com.au, or phone 1300 112 079. Don't forget to tell them you're a senior! Their Express Mail service is very prompt.

We would like to hear from members about their experiences with inks – whether they use originals, generics, or fill their own cartridges. If we get enough responses, we'll publish the consensus in the newsletter, without mentioning names of members of course, but we would consider naming good suppliers.

SENIORS WEEK MARCH 20 –26

Our club will be holding OPEN MORNINGS on Wednesday March 23 and Thursday March 24 from 10 am to noon each day to help celebrate Seniors Week.
Members are invited to bring their non-computer literate friends along to see for themselves how easy it is to have fun on a computer.
There will be many other events in Warringah district during the week—watch Manly Daily for precise details, or visit Warringah Council's website (www.warringah.nsw.gov.au).

TRAINERS AND COURSES

There are about 20 trainers assisting club members at present and their help is greatly appreciated. Trainers agree that teaching fellow members how to use computers is very rewarding, not only because they are helping others, but particularly because they learn so much more about computing. *Perhaps you would like to become a trainer? The club runs a special course to "train the trainer". Please contact any trainer or Darrell Hatch, our Training Coordinator, for more details.*

MICROSOFT WORD PROCESSING

Derek Rowland: Runs group training sessions in MS Word 2007 and Operating System Windows 7. Derek covers the full range of Word's capabilities, including WordArt, Graphics, Tables and Drawing features, as well as Word Processing. Notes are provided at each of the sessions. Please add your name to the list in the office, or ring him. Course limited to 14 participants max.

INTERNET COURSE

John Ray's course starts at 1 pm on Tuesdays and run for 3 weeks in three one hour sessions. Browsers, Email, Security and Settings will be covered. Please add your name to the list in the office for the next course, which will start on May 3.

INTRODUCTION TO OUR CLUB AND COMPUTER BASICS

Darrell Hatch: Darrell runs a basic course for newcomers on selected Saturdays, (usually the last Saturday in the month), from 9.30 to 1130 am. It's easy to follow and a good starting point. Please put your name on the list at the club office to register for attendance. Existing members welcome too!

MS EXCEL SPREADSHEETS

Malcolm Fell offers training in MS Excel on an appointment basis. Please Email him on mmfell@optusnet.com.au for more info.

COMPUTER MAINTENANCE

On Wednesday afternoons, you may bring your troublesome control tower or laptop to the office, when **Colin Ward** may be able to suggest a solution to your problem, or make an adjustment. Appointments are necessary for this often lengthy procedure.

GENEALOGY

Anna Karalus will help you get your family tree in shape, among other things. She trains on Thursday mornings

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

John Robinson: attends from 10 am to noon on Wednesdays (hourly sessions) to help you get your camera images into in Photo programs or to run Picasa.

DIGITAL PHOTO COURSE
PICASA 3 & PHOTOSTORY

Sandra Brophey: runs three week courses on digital photography on Thursday afternoons from 1 pm to 3 pm. To attend, add your name to the board list and Sandra will advise you when the next course will be held.

THE COURSE YOU WANT IS NOT ON THE LIST?

If there is a course you'd like us to supply, please tell Darrel Hatch and he'll see what can be done to meet your need.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Recording Your Attendance and Departure times

Most of us remember to **sign in** on arrival at the club office but sometimes some of us depart without recording our **time out** and our **signature**. It is important to record this in the attendance book please.

Subscription Reminder

The application fee for joining is $25 and the annual subscription is $70, or $25 if paid quarterly. The address label on mailed newsletters will advise when subs are due. If you receive your newsletter by email, reminders are emailed just before your subscription expires. When paying, please put your cheque or cash in an envelope with your name and number on it and hand it to a trainer or office assistant to put it in the diary and cashbox. Alternatively, post it (cheques only) to: The Treasurer, Forest Computer Pals for Seniors, PO Box 116, Forestville 2087, or make an EFT payment directly to Forest Computer Pals for Seniors Bank Account. For further information the Treasurer's email address is:- treasurer@forestcompals.org.au

Members Training/Appointment Calendar

Members are asked to print their **First** and **Family Names** on the appointment schedule so that, if a trainer needs to contact them for any reason, their identity will be clear.

Members may book ahead for tuition for two separate one hour sessions per week. However, if a member wishes to have extra tuition that member may, on the day they wish to attend, phone the club and if there is space available then, and only then, they may book extra time. (This requirement does not apply to Special Group courses as they are not listed on the booking sheets).

Would members who have booked time and cannot keep the appointment please phone as early as possible to allow others to utilise the vacant place.

ABOUT THE CLUB

Through mutual help we assist members to develop or improve their computer skills, including using the Internet. We do this in a relaxed environment where we also enjoy fellowship and exchange of ideas. We operate on a minimum budget and are very dependent on prompt payment of members' subscriptions to maintain this objective.

The club is a founding member of the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA). The work of the club is voluntary and depends mainly on its members for its resources in management and training.

APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP

Enquiries from prospective members are welcome. Please call the club office (9975 7762) or the Membership Coordinator (Reg Flew, 9971 0325) for more information.

Abstinence Lecture

A gentleman was teetering along the street in Manly recently at 1.30 am, when he was stopped by the police. "Where do you think you're going?", said the Sergeant. Drawing himself up to his full height the gentleman replied " I'm going to a lecture on the sins of alcohol". The policeman laughed and said "And who's giving the talk at this time of night?" The gentleman replied "Why my own dear little wife of course!"

"It's sad to grow old, but nice to ripen."

Attributed to Brigittte Bardot

TRAINER INFORMATION

Mon am	Jan van der Hilst Bruce Adams	9452 5475 9958 3685	Mon pm	Malcolm Fell Bob Brisebois Bruce White Joan Kohler	9451 6050 9451 4660 9451 9779 9905 5193
Tue am	Don Muir Graham Allan Shirley Palmer	9451 6548 9451 4336 9451 0158	Tue pm	Special courses: see Notice Board and Trainers & Courses, page 3	
Wed am	Dick Manuell Archie Macnaughton Gay Savage John Robinson (10-12)	9451 1578 9938 1971 9452 1937 9451 5977	Wed pm	Ian Parsons Ken Moorley Susan Howell Jack Wilson	9452 4249 9451 0494 9415 1167 9452 1148
Thu am	Len Johnson Richard Smith Anna Karalus	9450 2167 9451 5573	Thu pm	Specials—see notice board	
Fri am	John Ray Kate Holland Pam Perrin (10 am)	9451 9396 9810 2451 9449 2734	Fri pm	Derek Rowland MS Word groups	9451 3969

Committee for the year October 2010 to October 2011

Colin Ward President	9451 1000	Reg Flew Vice-President	9971 0325
Sandra Brophey Secretary	9939 7737	Joe Magno Treasurer	9451 0592
John Ray	9451 9396	Darrell Hatch Training Coordinator	9982 7139
Ken Moorley	9451 0494	Bruce White	9451 9779
Anna Karalus	9451 5573	Gerry Benjamin	9453 3255
Janece Burge-Lopez	9975 3465		

Ken Moorley

Supplied the following website for Freeware DVD Authoring.
Note that it is only applicable to Windows XP
www.ghacks.net/2011/02/19/winx-dvd-author-now-freeware/

CHARGES FOR PRINTING, COPYING, SCANNING, INTERNET AND PHONE USAGE

A review of the cost of Internet usage, ink and paper has resulted in minor changes to charges for printing, scanning, phone calls, Internet usage and copying. Effective immediately, charges are as follow:-

PRINTING: Black & white or colour: A4, first page free, subsequent pages 10c per page.

COPYING: (black & white only available) A4 pages, single-sided, 10 cents per page, A4 double-sided 20c; A3 pages single-sided, 15 cents per page, A3 double-sided 25c per page.

SCANNING: No charge.

FAX; Unavailable.

INTERNET: No charge.

PHONE CALLS: Local calls, 20c per call. No STD calls permitted from club.