Forest News

Editor: Dick Manuell

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Contents

Coming events
Committee
March meeting 14th

Monthly meeting 29th
Speaker Kerry Moore, our
new Webmaster

Forest Computer Pals
thanks Warringah Council
for its support

Warringah Council

NEW TRAINERS

We are delighted to welcome two new trainers, - **Lynne Johannes**, who will train on Tuesday mornings, and **Steve Richards,** who will also train on Tuesday mornings. Thanks to you both and we wish you quick solutions to all the problems you encounter!

If anyone else feels like trying their hand at training please see Darrell Hatch, our Training Coordinator.

IMPORTANT ASCCA DATES TO NOTE

NSW Seniors Week 18-25 March 2012 - "A Library in the Sky"
Free EXPO 280 Pitt Street –Wednesday 21st March. Also free introductory 'taster' sessions.
19 - 25 March - National Consumer Fraud Week with the theme *Slam Scams*!
4 - 8 June 2012 - National Cyber Security Awareness Week.

Our club will not run any programs for Seniors' Week and encourages members to attend these, and other, ASCCA functions.

My Living Will

Last night, my kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them,

'I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.'

They got up, unplugged the computer and threw out my wine!!

The little bastards.

This delightful Valentine's Day message was sent to the editor by our thoughtful President. We thought readers deserved to see it too, despite it being past Valentine's Day!

APOLOGY

The February Forest Computer Pals Monthly Meeting was cancelled due to council work in Memorial Hall. Apologies for the inconvenience. Please let anybody you know who comes to our meetings that the NEXT MEETING WILL BE 29 MARCH 2012
Colin Ward, President

MEET THE TRAINERS.

Continuing our series on meeting our trainers, this month we introduce a trainer who really needs no introduction!

DARRELL HATCH

Since he joined Forest Computer Pals in 1997, Darrell has been a star performer, cheerfully undertaking tasks when others have shrunk back. He has built, painted, or repaired furniture around the office, organised the Annual helpers' dinner (With Margot's aid recently and many others in the days when we held it in the Memorial Hall), organised Seniors' Week events, served as a trainer, still runs the introductory Saturday morning session for newcomers, serves on the committee and most importantly, is the Training Coordinator. We would be in deep trouble without this obliging man. So we met up with him recently and asked him a few questions about himself. Here are our questions and his answers.

Captain Hatch at work

Q. *What enticed you to go to sea?*
  I always wanted to go to sea. The ocean has never been far away from our homes. I was at sea at the outbreak of World War 2 as a very young passenger on a ship named Bingera, travelling from Townsville to Brisbane. The owners of the Bingera were the Australian United Steam Navigation Co. with whom I commenced my Apprenticeship in 1952 aged 16.

Q. *When did you become a Master Mariner?*
  I obtained my Certificate of Competency as a Master Mariner in 1960 at the tender age of 25. The examinations required about 3 months cramming at the Sydney Technical College at Ultimo, now the University of Technology.

Q. *What did Margot do while you were scudding about the oceans?*
  I sent her off to work. We actually first met at a weekly dance night run by a group of ladies for the benefit of Officers from merchant ships in port. The dances were held in the Royal Blind Society's hall in William Street, Sydney. At that time, Margot was working at the Mitchell Library, Macquarie Street Sydney. These days she operates the Large Print Library at the War Vets and I carry the books.

Q. *What did you do after leaving the sea?*
  In 1963 I retired as a merchant ship's officer, having sailed as Third, Second and First Mate, to be Master of the Manly ferry "South Steyne". In the sixties, the Port Jackson & Manly Steamship Company operated an excursion trip on Sundays in summer to Broken Bay as far as Cottage Point and this required an ocean going master. Later I spent 2 years stevedoring and 19 years on shift work operating the port control tower where we co-ordinated and advised shipping in Sydney and Botany Bays. (This tower was nick-named the pill as it was said to control all the berths in Sydney). One of the highlights while working there was the 1988 Bi-centenary parade of ships - an unforgettable experience. Having had my fill of shift work, I downgraded to being a General Assistant at a high school, where I cut the grass and kept the grounds groomed and generally maintained the school.

Q*. Why did you join Computer Pals?*
  When working at the port control tower, computers were in their infancy and one was sent up to the tower for us to learn what we could from it. All the instruction books were supplied, but we could not master the machine. Eventually I managed to get the machine working. It had no hard drive so you inserted a floppy disc to boot it up and another for word processing. Computers were being introduced to schools too and occasionally I became involved with setting them up. When I retired I joined FCPFS as a member to up-date my computer skills and quickly became a trainer.

Q. *How do you get new trainers?*
With great difficulty! It is the best way to learn computing. You most certainly do not need to be an expert to train and help others. We have been quite short of trainers, but fortunately, two new members recently decided to give it a go.

Q. *What hobbies do you have besides Computer Pals?*
Tennis 2 to 3 times per week. Three granddaughters, in their teens now, living at Shellharbour, where we visit frequently. Since moving to the "War Vets" Retirement Village, I've become involved in many activities, such as helping residents with their computing and other volunteer work where computer skills play a large part.

(*Comment from Margot:- Darrell has been a trainer for 15 years and in that time he has gained as much from Computer Pals as any help he has provided. It has certainly provided an excellent interest for a retiree.* Thanks Margot)

Thank you Darrell for all you do to help Computer Pals run so well. Ed.

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.*

Derek Rowland: Every Friday, from 1.00 to 4.00 pm
Derek teaches in one hour segments, on a one to one (or more) basis, the basics of the following programs:

- Word processing programs such as Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or similar.

- Basic photographic enhancement programs such as, Picasa 3, Photo Story 3, Microsoft Publisher and Windows Photo Gallery.

Internet - introduction to Windows Live Mail and Skype. Please add your name to the list in the office.

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. Next talk is on Feb 11. All welcome.

MS EXCEL SPREADSHEETS

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

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. Anna 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 computer topic you'd like us to teach, please tell Darrel Hatch and he'll see what can be done to meet your need.

DISCLAIMER: *All information in our newsletters is provided in good faith, but we cannot accept responsibility for its veracity. Members need to satisfy themselves whether or not they should use that information.*

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 Joining fee is $25, with quarterly subscriptions of $25.00, payable in advance for the periods Jan-Mar, Apr–Jun, Jul-Sep and Oct-Dec; or an Annual Fee of $70.00, for a 12 months period, commencing at the beginning of any of the quarterly periods mentioned. 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 record it in the diary and put it in the 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 one hour session each 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 our club is voluntary and it 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.

TRAINER INFORMATION

Mon am	Jan van der Hilst Bruce Adams Richard Crighton	9452 5475 9958 3685 9972 0429	Mon pm	Malcolm Fell Bob Brisebois Bruce White Joan Kohler	9451 6050 9451 4660 9451 9779 9905 5193
Tue am	Graham Allan Steve Richards Lynne Johannes	9451 4336	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	Richard Smith Anna Karalus	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 Word processing etc	9451 3969

Committee for the year October 2011 to October 2012

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		

MALWARE

Malware is an expression used to describe a host of hostile programs, which, if allowed entry to one's computer can cause a variety of problems for the computer owner.

These problems may range from irritation, through theft of all your addresses, or identity and banking data, to a complete destruction of all your data and operating systems.

At every monthly meeting, president Colin implores members and guests to ensure they have good protection programs installed on their computers and that those programs are kept current. Despite his encouragement, Malware still invades some computers and indeed, new species of malware appear regularly, necessitating the analysis of the new malware by experts and the improvement of protection programs as soon as possible.

If you would like to understand more about Malware, there are several websites that are worth visiting. Merely Googling malware and entering the Wikipedia site will provide a good account of just what malware is.

Microsoft is active in developing strong systems to protect your computer. Their program *(next col)*

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING

KERRIE MOORE, our new WEBMASTER, will be the speaker at the March Monthly Meeting, to be held in Meeting Room 3 in the Memorial Hall, from 2 pm to 4 pm. on Thursday, March 29. Kerry will speak at 3 pm after afternoon tea.

Just in case Kerrie intends to test you all on your website skills, perhaps you should visit the club website (Address is on the front page of the newsletter every month!) so you can be familiar with it before the meeting. She didn't confide in me about what she will be doing , other than to say she'll be talking about WEBSITES!

Malware cont.

Microsoft Security Essentials ver 2, available free, is one of many free good protection programs. When Microsoft releases the next version of Windows, which will probably be named Windows 8, MSE will be included in the Operating System and will be automatically up dated regularly. Visit website www.microsoft.com/security/portal/default (http://tiny.cc/97ulx) for more information. If you would like to see a video, visit website http://technet.microsoft.com.en-us/edge/microsoft-r.(http://tiny.cc/wmicr)

Using the Tiny URL address is less prone to errors. More details can be found in last months online newsletter.