# FOREST NEWS

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**Dates to watch;**

**Committee meeting on Mar 6
Monthly meeting on Mar 28**

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Forest Computer Pals thanks Warringah Council for its assistance



Warringah Council

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## MARCH MONTHLY MEETING (28TH)

**Kerrie Moore,** our own Webmaster, will talk to us after the business meeting about using the latest I-phones efficiently.

The business meeting starts at 2 pm, with tea/coffee and Marie's fruit cake about 2.30, and Kerrie will address us about 3 pm.

Members and their guests are very welcome

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## MINUTES FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

**President** Colin opened the meeting at 2 pm and welcomed visitors, guests and members. The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

**Marie Bailey** reported 30 people present, including 1 visitor. There were 2 apologies.

**Secretary** Sandra thanked Warringah Council for the new air-conditioner. It was agreed to send council a formal thank you letter. Sandra related some unfortunate incidents involving Dell and reminded us to check out alternative options when seeking new equipment or corrections to existing equipment. Trainers were reminded of the special Windows 8 tutorial to be conducted by Ken Moorley on March 7 in the club office. Mayor Regan will attend the March monthly meeting.

**Treasurer** Joe walked us through the finances. Our current assets are $12,970, the lowest they have been for some time because of essential purchase such as new computers and a new copier. Income for YTD was $10,210 and Expenses $ 13,341, resulting in a shortfall of $3,131.

**President's report.** The same bout of excessive heat that put the A/C out of business also damaged the club server. Both items are now functional again. Members were reminded to access the club website for information, or asking questions. The "members only" section was still in preparation. Colin had prepared a club DVD with 86 useful programs on it. Members may make copies if they have a blank DVD. See a trainer for further details.

Security continues to be a major pitfall for the unwary and Colin provided websites for good, free programs. These may be viewed on the President's section of the club website. It is imperative that members maintain strong security on their computers. Many of the recommended programs are on the 2013 Club DVD.

**General Business.** Joan Kohler reported that Bob Brisbois was ill and that she would send him a get well card soon. Questions concerning Windows 8 were deferred until after afternoon tea/coffee, served courtesy of Marie.

**Speaker.** Our busy president spoke on **Preparing for Windows 8**

Colin presented a closely detailed procedure for preparing for and installation of Windows 8, which has some departures from previous Operating Systems. His talk focussed on getting properly ready for Windows 8, rather than using Windows 8. Key points included the need for a HotMail a/c and careful backing up before starting out on the upgrade.

Space prevents the full account of his talk in this newsletter, but his PDF notes for the talk may be accessed on the President's section of the club website. Websites useful for the process are included.

He also reminded members of the 2013 club DVD, containing some 86 good programs, other than Windows 8.

There was considerable discussion after his talk and trainers will learn more on March 7, when Ken Moorley will run a tutorial on using Windows 8 (specifically for trainers).

## ODDBALL BITS ABOUT THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Skiing** is the only word in English with consecutive "i"s.

"**e**" is the most used letter

"**q**" is the least used letter

The little dot above the letter I has a name– it's "**tittle**"

Doctor Samuel Johnson devised the first **dictionary** in 1755 ( some people wish he had never started on it)

In that dictionary the definition of **Oats** was " a grain fed to horses in England, but apparently to people in Scotland."

**Jobbernowl** was a blockhead, or stupid person (It's still in my Oxford Dictionary)

**Bookkeeper and bookkeeping** are the only two words with three consecutive double vowels

The most commonly used word in English conversation is "**I**"

**Almost** is the longest word with all letters in alphabetical order.

There are four words in English that end in "**dous".** Three of those words are: **tremendous, horrendous** and **hazardous.**  What is the other one?  Email your answer to me and the first correct one wins a bottle of wine.

## A TIP FOR MS OUTLOOK USERS.

If you haven't cleaned out your Inbox for a while, here's a simple way to get rid of the really old stuff: In Microsoft Outlook, open Tools, then Mailbox Cleanout.  From the next window choose what mail you wish to review and then delete unwanted mail. Of course, if you find mail you thought you had lost, you can reinstate it somewhere that you can remember!

There may be similar cleaners in other programs so have a look around your mail programs.
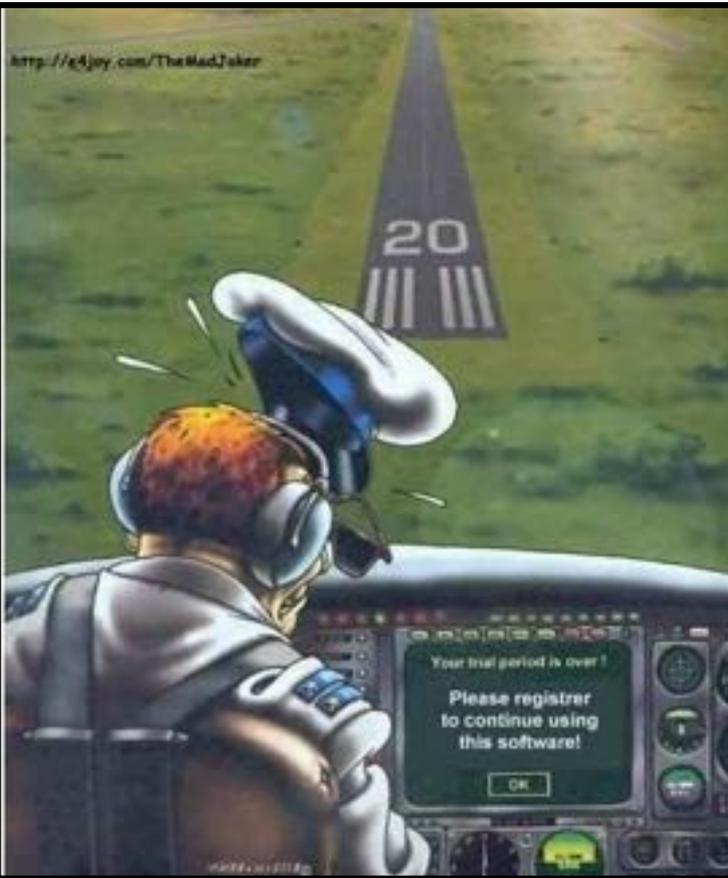
## SUGGESTION FROM KEN MOORLEY

This interesting site has some good information on malware protection:

[http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2013/01/yes-that-pc-cleanup-app-you-saw-on-cable-tv-at-3am-is-a-scam/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+arstechnica%2Findex+%28Ars+Technica+-+All+content%29](http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2013/01/yes-that-pc-cleanup-app-you-saw-on-cable-tv-at-3am-is-a-scam/)

MalawareBytes has been recommended by President Colin.  It's also the longest website address your editor has ever seen.  He hopes he got it right!

## TRAVELLED BY AIR LATELY?

If you are about to fly somewhere, perhaps you shouldn't look as this cartoon. (Thanks Pamela!)



## OUR ANSWERING MACHINE

Our answering machine has to cope with a lot of background noise, often making it difficult to hear recorded messages.

When you leave a message, please tell us slowly and clearly, your name, telephone number and your membership number if you know it, before stating your actual message.  Thank you from the Office denizens.

## IS THE TEXT ON YOUR WINDOWS 7 OR 8 SCREEN CLEAR, OR LARGE ENOUGH?

Clear type text (CTTT) is a process that may make text on your LCD monitor more sharply defined.

Here's how to use it. Open the Computer icon, then Control Panel, then, in Windows 7, Appearance and Personalisation, find Fonts, and click on adjust CTTT, then follow the prompts through several alternative screen shots until you are satisfied with the clarity.

In Windows 8, go to Computer, Control Panel, Appearance and Personalisation, then Control Panel Home, and in Fonts, Choose Adjust Clear Type text.  Turn on Clear Text, then follow prompts as for Windows 7.

You will need to study each choice carefully, as the differences may be quite small between each successive screen.

While in that section, if you would like a larger font size, stop off at Control Panel Home and enter Change Font Size and choose the setting you prefer.

## Looking for a new Printer?

The March issue of  Choice Computer  lists 53 printers recently tested by Choice technicians, both lasers and ink-jets, not only for price, but also ink and annual running costs.  Worth a look.

## CAN'T FIND THE PROGRAM YOU SEEK?

Ask Darrell Hatch, our Training Coordinator and he'll see what can be done to help you.

We have about 20 Trainers, but we need more. Most trainers will tell you that they learned more about computing by becoming a trainer than by any other means.

If you'd like to consider becoming a trainer, talk to any trainer, or Darrell about it. We can provide training for you.

### TRAINER INFORMATION

This table shows at which times trainers attend the Club. To check which programs Trainers can offer, check the list above the booking boards.

| Mon am | Jan van der Hilst<br>Bruce Adams<br>Richard Crighton | 9452 5475<br>9958 3685<br>9972 0429 | Mon pm | Malcolm Fell<br>(Bob Brisebois, off ill)<br>Bruce White<br>Joan Kohler | 9451 6050<br>9451 4660<br>9451 9779<br>9905 5193 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tue am | Graham Allan<br>Steve Richards<br>Lynne Johannes | 9451 4336 | Tue pm | Special courses: see Notice Board and Trainers & Courses, page 3 | |
| Wed am | Dick Manuell<br>Archie Macnaughton<br>Gay Savage<br>John Robinson (10-1 pm) | 9451 1578<br>9938 1971<br>9452 1937<br>9451 5977 | Wed pm | Ian Parsons<br>Ken Moorley<br>Susan Howell<br>Jack Wilson | 9452 4249<br>9451 0494<br>9415 1167<br>9452 1148 |
| Thu am | Richard Smith<br>Anna Karalus | 9451 5573 | Thu pm | Specials—see notice board | |
| Fri am | John Ray<br>Kate Holland<br>Pam Perrin (10 am) | 9451 9396<br>9810 2451<br>9449 2734 | Fri pm | Derek Rowland | 9451 3969 |

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS OCT 2012-OCT 2013

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Colin Ward<br>President | 9451 1000 | Reg Flew<br>Vice-president | 9971 0325 |
| Sandra Brophey<br>Secretary | 9939 7737 | Joe Magno<br>Treasurer | 9451 0592 |
| John Ray | 9451 9396 | Darrell Hatch<br>Training Coordinator | 9982 7139 |
| Ken Moorley | 9451 0494 | Bruce White | 9451 0494 |
| Anna Karalus | 9451 5573 | Lynne Johannes | 9451 4455 |
| Richard Smith | | | |

## GOT SOME NEWS FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Your editor appreciates items for the N/L or requests for particular topics to be published as well as feedback in general.

His hide is tough so be as direct as you wish!
Please communicate with him via email:

**rman77@bigpond.net.au**

## WATCHING OUT FOR YOUR CREDIT, AND YOUR MONEY

https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/borrowing-and-credit/borrowing-basics/credit-reports-credit-repair?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=

Is a very useful site! If you have ever sought credit, there will be a copy of your individual credit report accessible via this site. Operated by ASIC (Australian Securities and investment Commission), a reliable federal government agency, it also offers other useful suggestions. For Instance, if after perusing your credit report you become suspicious about any entry, you can go to the **Identity Fraud** sub-site and report apparent frauds to ASIC.

The site also offers excellent advice on protecting your computer from unauthorised access, complementing the advice President Colin gives us every meeting about ensuring we have good, well maintained anti-virus and anti-scam programs installed on our home computers.

Despite all the warnings, many Australians are caught every year by nasty scammers, who defraud them of millions of dollars in total. Make sure you are not one of them! Never respond to email requests purporting to come from your bank etc. seeking personal information. Always be the Initiator, not the Respondent for supplying such data when it is needed.

## KLUDGE

**Kludge** (alternative spelling KLUGE) is a word sometimes encountered in Information Technology literature. These days it means something like: "A quick, clumsy, solution to a computing problem that more or less works, without necessarily revealing how it works".

Oddly it is not a new word devised by a computer buff. It probably dates from the 16th century, when Dutch drainers arrived in Eastern England to help reclaim land from tidal estuaries, when kluging probably meant a quick, clever solution to a problem.

Kludging is not restricted to computing, as the French illustration below indicates. One wonders how many failed Tour de France cycles went into this fence!



### Sayings from the Famous

**Eileen Shanahan**, (1901—1979) an Irish poet, is alleged to have said

"*The length of a meeting rises with the square of the number of people present.*"

**George Bernard Shaw**, (1856—1950), not Malcolm Fraser, said, in Back to Methuselah,

"*Life is not meant to be easy, my child, but take courage, it can be beautiful.*"

## NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN!

In the ASCCA Newsletter for March, there's a stimulating story about "our Nan", (President of ASCCA), who has continued her academic studies into her senior life with great success, with no less than five tertiary qualifications so far!

The Manly Daily reported recently that she has been appointed one of twelve Ambassadors for Seniors Week, (which will run from March17 to 24—yes! An 8 day week if you like). Nan aims to challenge seniors during the week to do more with their lives.

If you'd like to follow her example, or accept her challenge, there is plenty to be found in On-line Education these days, thanks to the Internet.

Before you set out on a new educational journey, make sure your computer has plenty of storage space for downloading stuff you'll need and that you have plenty of memory. If you may want to participate in online tutorials, consider installing a webcam so you can see others in the tutorial group.

Then have a look at **training.gov.au** and **open.edu.au** for information on courses.

Of course, you will remember to not sign or pay anything until you are completely satisfied you want to proceed with a selected course.

**Don't put it off until tomorrow!**

## 3D PRINTING, or ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING

Many years ago, your editor worked in the oil industry as an Occupational Hygienist. In that role, he visited every part of the operation, from exploration sites, through offshore platforms, production sites to delivery terminals.

One of the more fascinating sections was the department where seismic information print-outs from deep below the surface of the earth were converted from wriggly lines into depictions of the underground structures which could be viewed from any desired angle, enabling geologists to develop a three dimensional understanding of a hopefully productive oil field.

Depicting items on paper in two dimensions is easy, but adding a third dimension is altogether another field. Or so it was until comparatively recently. Today, one can buy printers that can generate 3D items before your eyes. Using an STL format (STereo Lithography, or Standard Tessellation Language), 3D printers build up a series of 2D layered images into a 3D model, using special "inks" (really plastics) that solidify and adhere to lower layers, resulting in a solid model of whatever the program intended. The system grew out the CAD (Computer Aided Design), the program that meant the near demise of draughtsmen in general. It allows designers to send information to remote engineers etc which enables them to have an actual prototype before them for possible manufacture in a very short time.

3d printers are available now for hobbyists to make replicas of various things, but the editor hasn't been able to discover the costs of making models this way.

Now, if you disbelieve this story, Google "3D printers" and have a look at what that leads you to.