



FOREST NEWS

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For your calendar

Next Committee
meeting July 9
Next Monthly meet-
ing July 30

July 30th. Speaker of the Month is Scott Vallender

Bank Manager, Frenchs Forest

Scott may look young but he has some great tips for our members. Including, options for overseas travel, hoax and scams and the best banking packages for us.



Come armed with questions of your concerns or experiences with any bank not only the club's Westpac bank.

2 to 4pm afternoon tea/coffee including Lucky Door Prizes
(Item from Anna Karalus).

HOW LONG IS IT SINCE YOU CHANGED YOUR PASSWORDS?

They should be changed periodically, using a variety of upper and lower case characters, numbers and symbols (*, # ^ for instance, but not / or %, and Underscores (_) can be tricky, so avoid them. Good passwords are about 8 characters or longer and do not include your pet's names and the like. We know it's a bore, but security is essential.

KeePass (<http://keepass.info/>) is a freeware password manager that will store and generate secure passwords for you storing the passwords in a secure file that you can carry on a USB stick or store on cloud storage sites to be used with any computer. You only need to create one secure master password to remember and KeePass does the rest.

JULY MEETING

Will be on the 30th, starting at 2 pm. Friends of members welcome. Do bring your problems and discoveries along for discussion.

After a tea/coffee break, our Speaker will be:

**Scott Vallender,
of the Westpac Bank**

See above item for details

LIFE QUESTIONS

People once thought that the so-called Industrial Age, which started somewhere about 1860 or so according to economic historians, would bring happiness and wealth to the world. It did; for a few. People are now saying that the computer generated Information Technology Explosion will bring knowledge to the world and with it, more happiness. Sceptics prophesy that it will mainly increase the disparity between "Haves" and "Have-nots", resulting in an even less just world and increasing tension between those two groups.

A Computer club newsletter is probably the wrong place in which to raise philosophical questions about life and purpose, but two recent events reminded the author of an event that influenced him in 1935.

On a recent SBS program, Richard Dawkins, the renowned author on topics concerned with the influence of genes on evolution in general and more recently, a philosopher at large, asked a wide range of people round the world the question "*Why do you get up in the morning?*" Most of the answers were predictable and varied in accordance with the cultures of those who answered. For the present essay, the question is more important than the answer.

The second event was a statement by author Matt Dumas at the 2015 Sydney Writers Festival in his 26 worded "*Reasons to stay Alive*". It was:

- How to stop time: *kiss*
- How to travel in time: *read*
- How to escape time: *music*
- How to feel time: *write*
- How to release time: *breathe*.

Those two approaches to life and purpose reminded me of a little anecdote my Sunday school teacher, Miss Rackham, told her class of young boys one Sunday morning in 1935. It was about a visitor to an English stone quarry in the late 18th century where stone-masons were hard at work. Each man was doing exactly the same thing – shaping the rocks with a mallet and chisel. The visitor said to the first stone mason "What are you doing, my good man?" Without looking up and continuing to ply his mallet and chisel, the man gruffly said "I'm dressing this lump of rock into a building stone". The second mason's response to the same question was "I'm earning a living so my wife and children can eat". The third man responded "Why, I'm helping to build a cathedral".

Each of us will have a different understanding about those three situations. But before you settle on your interpretation, please read them through again and then get on with wherever your life is taking you. Or, perhaps, consider some changes?

The photo below has nothing to do with the item above! Not all men are born to be leaders. But some like to hold the whip hand nonetheless. Thanks to Janece for this gem.



CYBERGEDDON

Credit card fraud cost Australians \$387 million in 2014. Arthur Katsogiannis, Head of the NSW Fraud and Cyber Squad of the NSW police, offers two tips to help prevent those nasty people ripping you off:

Firstly, Never reveal your precise age to anyone you can't trust, or publish it online, because date of birth provides a good start to stealing personal identity.

Secondly, Avoid completing surveys at check-outs as that info may be sent overseas to unknown recipients.

SECRETARY (Message from treasurer/acting secretary Joe Magno)

We seek a new committee nomination at the AGM to take on the role of Secretary. The Treasurer Joe has been filling in as Acting Secretary and would appreciate someone taking this responsibility off his hands. Joe says It is not a difficult role but one that needs attention to detail. Joe will gladly assist to make the transition a simple task.

PREFIXES

We have run this information before, but since there is some confusion about big numbers, their prefixes and symbols now that we are in the multi-terabyte range, here it is again.

As the demand for computer storage space expands exponentially, the addition of new prefixes grows likewise. (Seems that international finance and space exploration also need larger and larger numbers too!) The table below sets out all the prefixes we know of.

A reminder that a "power" (superscript) following the number 10 indicates the number of zeros after the fraction: for example 10^6 =1 million, or 10^{-2} =1 millimetre. So 10^6 bytes =1 Mbyte or 1MB ("B" being the usual computer symbol for byte)

FRACTION	PREFIX	SYMBOL
10^{-18}	atto	a
10^{-15}	femto	f
10^{-12}	pico	p
10^{-9}	nano	n
10^{-6}	micro	μ
10^{-3}	milli	m
10^{-2}	centi	c
10^{-1}	deci	d
10	deca	da
10^2	hecto	h
10^3	kilo	k
10^6	mega	M
10^9	giga	G
10^{12}	tera	T
10^{15}	peta	P
10^{18}	exa	E
10^{21}	zella	Z
10^{24}	Yotta	Y
10^{27}	hella	H

REAMS OF MEMES

Making Memes can be fun. They're little ideas transmuted into cartoons or other illustrations used to convey messages or frivolous thoughts to decorate your documents.

If you Google "meme", you'll find oodles of websites offering to help you make your own memes, or providing many existing memes to choose from if you can't be bothered making your own.

I used www.memegenerator.net to make this stupid meme



There are many other meme generators around. Why not have some fun and make some of your own? If you think you've made a really good one, email it to me (rman77@bigpond.net.au) and if it's legal and nearly politically correct, we might pop it in the next Newsletter with a credit to its creator.

If there are enough entries, there'll be a little prize for the most original entry, to be presented at a monthly meeting!

Plato, the Greek philosopher, born about 426 BC, never posted anything on Facebook or Twitter, but he said some challenging things nonetheless, such as:

"Sensible men speak because they have something to say, fools speak because they have to say something."



2014/5 COMMITTEE

NAME	POSITION	PHONE	NAME	POSITION	PHONE
Colin Ward	President	9451 1000	Ken Moorley	Vice-president	9451 0494
	Secretary		Joe Magno	Treasurer	9451 0592
Darrell Hatch	Committee.	9982 7139	Janece Burge-Lopez	Committee	9975 3465
Anna Karalus	Committee	9451 5573	Reg Flew	Committee	9971 0325
John Ray	Committee	9451 9396	Marie Nicholls	Committee	9402 4558
Susan Howell	Committee	9415 1167			

THE TABLE BELOW INDICATES ON WHICH DAYS THE VARIOUS TRAINERS ATTEND THE CLUB. TO FIND WHICH PROGRAMS THEY CAN TEACH, PLEASE REFER TO THE CHART ABOVE THE BOOKING SHEETS AT THE CLUB OFFICE.

We have about 15 trainers at present, but would like to have a few more. Most trainers will tell you they have learned more about computing by becoming a trainer than by any other means. They'll also agree it's good fun and rewarding. If you are interested in becoming a trainer, please contact Darrell Hatch, our Training Coordinator.

DAY	TRAINERS AM	CONTACT NUMBER	TRAINERS PM	CONTACT NUMBER
MONDAY	Derek Rowland 9 am—1 pm	9451 3969	Jan van der Hilst Joan Kohler 1—4 pm	9452 5475 9905 5193
TUESDAY	Graham Allen Steve Richard 9 am—1 pm	9451 4336	Trainers Training with Ken Moorely Booking essential	9451 0494
WEDNESDAY	Gay Savage Dick Manuell 10 am—1 pm	9452 1937 9451 1578	Susan Howell Jack Wilson Colin Ward (by appointment) 1—4 pm	9415 1167 9450 2114 9451 1000
THURSDAY	Richard Smith Anna Karalus Detlef Volmer 9 am—1 pm	9451 5573	Special Courses As notified on notice board (Experimental writers course underway)	
FRIDAY	Kate Holland Pam Perrin John Ray 9 am—noon	9810 2451 9449 2734 9451 9396	(Club closed until enough members request lessons on Friday afternoons)	

Trainers specialising in i-Pads, Androids etc

TRAINER	I-PADS & TIME AT CLUB	ANDROIDS, ETC & TIME AT CLUB
Ian Parsons	Wednesday PM	(Not at present—Ian is recuperating)
Derek Rowland	Monday AM	
Detlef Volkmer	Thursday AM	
Janece Burge-Lopez	Wednesday AM (Thursdays by appointment)	
Colin Ward	Wednesday PM	Wednesday PM
Graham Allan	Thursday AM	



News of members

We got off to a bad start last month! Reg Flew's phone number should be **9457 8981**. Sorry, everyone.

Joan Kohler is recuperating after a short spell in Manly hospital, but will be back with us soon. Go well Joan!

Members are invited to send info about themselves or other members (with their permission of course) for this little column to Dick: rman77@bigpond.net.au