

Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

ABN 47 097 847 642

NEWSLETTER MAY 2006

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Digital Photography and Family History

Registration form available on new website

<http://www.seniorcomputing.org/kiama2006/Registration.html>

also see details about the workshop and accommodation

**ASCCA's 2006 residential workshop
to be held at Kiama Leagues Club
on the NSW south coast
8th & 9th May 2006**

Bookings are going well for the Kiama Workshop and there are just a few vacancies.

Why not organise a group of club friends and travel together.

It is pleasing to see that most of those who have booked early have attended previous residential workshops!

This workshop is open to all seniors, see website for cost.

Grant to conduct a Telecommunications Survey

ASCCA, as a member of the Telstra Consumer Consultative Council has received funding for a Consumer Issues project. We have sought this grant so that we can conduct a survey through our member clubs to establish a profile of just what seniors want when they connect to the Internet, and to find out what other telecommunications issues concern and interest them.

It is important that we get as many responses to our survey as possible so that we can draw a realistic picture of what we want from telecommunications. It will also allow you to have a say in formulating the responses that ASCCA can make to Government Departments and Telcos on your behalf. There are more than 20,000 members of seniors computer clubs in Australia and we are all consumers who want to be able to speak with a powerful voice and say "Seniors WANT Seniors NEED....." The more responses to this survey the louder our voice will be heard!

As the responses come in we will be able to get an indication of the topics you would like to see covered as part of our Members Meeting on 14 June. Many clubs are located too far away from Sydney to attend that meeting so a report will be prepared and distributed. The report will include the results of the survey and articles or papers dealing with all of the important issues identified in the survey. Survey forms have been sent to all clubs, please complete and return by 21 May, if you need another copy go to <http://www.seniorcomputing.org/memberslogin/membonly.html>

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NSW Seniors Week Achievement Awards 2006

David Leonard from Nundle was a recipient of a Community Service/Volunteering Award for Seniors Week 2006. ASCCA is working with David to establish a Community Hub at Hanging Rock.

David Leonard's involvement in the community extends to a range of organisations, from the Nundle and District Australia Day Committee to the Nundle Bowling Club and the local State Emergency Service. His leadership, enthusiasm and dedication to his community are reflected in his role as founder of the Nundle Bushwalkers group and leader of the Hanging Rock/ Nundle Older Mens' Group.

Congratulations!

Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms are mandatory in all residential accommodation from 1 May 2006. They will be compulsory in all buildings where people sleep—houses, flats and units, boarding houses, motels, hospitals, nursing homes and relocatable homes. While this new law relates to New South Wales it makes sense for all of us to observe this new rule which has been brought in as a means of protection.

Emoticons

Are you using free Emoticons. They are the number one cause of spyware on your computer. Here is a definition for Spyware and Adware that Westlakes found on the Internet.

Definitions of Spyware

Any software that covertly gathers user information through the user's Internet connection without his or her knowledge, usually for advertising purposes. Spyware applications are typically bundled as a hidden component of freeware or shareware programs that can be downloaded from the Internet. Once installed, the spyware monitors user activity on the Internet and transmits that information in the background to someone else. ...

Definitions of Adware

Adware can do a number of different things to your system. It can monitor and profile your web usage and direct pop up ads based on your surfing habits. Most peer-to-peer file sharing programs come bundled with Adware and the user is only notified of this in the fine print of the End User License Agreement. Adware is not as dangerous as other infections, but it can be incredibly annoying. (Don't confuse Adware with Ad-Aware!)

If you do have Emoticons on your computer, please run 'Ad-Aware' or similar program once you have come off the net.

An end to nuisance calls - A National Do Not Call Register

A national, legislated Do Not Call register will be created to protect consumers from nuisance telemarketing phone calls, the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Helen Coonan, announced last month.

CTN welcomes the Do Not Call Register Go to: <http://www.ctn.org.au/content.cfm?ContentType=Content&ContentID=200>

Where is the nearest Payphone?

To find the nearest payphone to suit your needs go to the Payphone Locator <http://envinsaonline.mapinfo.com.au/ppol/welcome.do;jsessionid=31911EE0B1C40D955890FD979C436E83>

Payphones are found in busy city streets, in residential suburbs, shopping centres, universities, transport terminals, regional towns and villages, along highways and in some of the most remote areas of Australia.

This important community service began over 110 years ago on March 8, 1893, when Sydney's first public telephone was installed at the GPO.

Here you will find information on the criteria Telstra uses in deciding whether to install a public payphone, as well as how to apply for a payphone in your area.

For more payphone Information go to

<http://www.telstra.com.au/payphoneservices/index.htm>

Older People and the Law

Seniors, unaware of their legal rights can be vulnerable to neglect, age discrimination abuse and financial exploitation. A new handbook, *Older People and the Law*, will help ensure that seniors are properly informed.

The handbook, which is free, addresses the often complex legal issues facing seniors, offering practical information, in plain English, about aspects of the law most relevant to older people.

The book has been written by the Pro Bono and Community Services Taskforce of NSW Young Lawyers, a division of the Law Society of NSW. You can download either the full publication, or selected chapters, from www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au or email ylpublications@lawsocnsws.asn.au for a copy.

Justices of the Peace in New South Wales please note!

The Attorney General's Dept has changed the cut off date for Application for Reappointment forms.

According to an update on the AG website made on 29 March 2006, all Application for Reappointment forms will have to be received by the Attorney Generals Dept before 31 August 2006 to allow time for processing before 8 December 2006.

If you do not send the Application for Re Appointment form before the 31 August 2006, you will only be a current Justice of the Peace until 8 December 2006. After that date, there will no recognition of your previous years as a JP. If you then decide to continue as a JP you will have to apply as a new applicant, which has a cost involved.

If you do not wish to continue to be a Justice of the Peace after the 8 December 2006, there is no need to do anything, your name will drop from the Attorney General's Dept JP Records on that date and you will no longer be a JP. The life time appointment for JP's was abolished by an Act of Parliament in June 2002.

Thanks to Bodo Schwarz for the updated information.

Remember Dick Tracey?

A wireless computer small enough to be worn on the wrist has been developed with emergency and maintenance workers in mind. Eurotech's Wrist-Worn Personal Computer offers built in global positioning, a secure digital memory slot, audio speakers, video with touch-screen etc. Eurotech did not specify the processor used (or the cost) but said it booted from 32Mb of Flash memory, had 64Mb of SDRAM and storage could be expanding up to 1Gb through the SD slot. Dick would be envious. www.eurotech.com
From Tom Pillans, Manly Daily

Pass on this Newsletter

Pass on this issue of the ASCCA newsletter by printing copies for distribution, or make a list of all your club members with email addresses and forwarding it.

The newsletter can also be read and/or downloaded from our website, www.seniorcomputing.org

You are welcome to copy items from this newsletter but acknowledgment of ASCCA is required.

Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

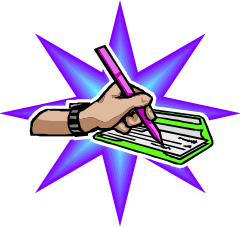
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DIARY



- 7 - 9 May** Digital Photography & Family History Workshop—Kiama on the South coast of NSW. There are only a few vacancies, go to <http://www.seniorcomputing.org/kiama2006/Registration.html> for full details and a registration form
- 31 May** "Hardship Policies by Telcos". How effective are they?" Free public information seminar, Pilgrim Centre, 12 Flinders St, Adelaide. 1.00—4.30 pm. Organised by Telecommunications Consumer Group SA Inc. Registration or details available from ian67@bigpond.net.au
- 14 June** Members Meeting, 10.00 am, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. The results of the Telecommunications Survey conducted through Seniors Computer Clubs will be presented
- 5—6 Sept** 8th Computer Conference for Seniors, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney
- 9 Nov** ASCCA Annual General Meeting

Trivia

On Thursday, 4th May, at two minutes and three seconds after one am the time and date will be :
01:02:03 04/05/06 Thanks Westlakes

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK Monday-Sunday, 15-21 May 2006

The theme for this year's National Volunteer Week is Change Your World. The focus is on what we can each do within our own lives and spheres of influence, which in turn, will influence and change others.

Membership of **ASCCA** is open to all Seniors Computer Clubs, Organisations with a membership including Seniors, and Organisations that recognise the value of computer technology for Seniors. Cost of membership is \$100 per year. Corporate Membership is also welcome.

If you fit one of those categories and are interested in joining **ASCCA** please go to our website www.seniorcomputing.org or email office@seniorcomputing.org to find out how to start a club or read some of the advantages of joining **ASCCA** if you are an existing club. You can download an Application Form.

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