

SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP NEWS October 2020

*'NORMAL' Club Meetings will resume
Friday, October 16 at 7.30pm*

Special Interest Group Sunday 20 at 1.00pm



President's Piece.

Greeting friends not seen for months at our last meeting was a challenge as we needed to use elbows instead of handshakes.

Social distancing was also a challenge but somehow it all came together with 19 members attending.

One of the digital issues common at the moment is related to resetting Telstra passwords; we might discuss it this week if you need to know more.

Minutes of the meeting have been circulated thanks to Gail and Russell.

The light at the end of the tunnel is a reflection of work done by many of our members as they toiled in isolation and still need feedback as they test our new procedures, website, reporting, meetings etc.

There is still much work and testing required for the website. Have you provided feedback for David?

It's pleasing to see the emerging life of our group as it adjusts to the extraordinary events we've seen and experienced in 2020.

Hope to see you Friday.

Richard.

Kids returning to school after Corona.



Editorial Comment



Our September meeting was a reunion in the true sense of the word.

2020 was the first year in the history of our group that it was illegal for us to gather under one roof. We are now on parole.

One might have expected few people would show up after such a long separation. 80% attendance is not a bad effort.

The imposed requirement on us to stay away from others is discussed by many so-called experts in traditional and social media as they try to influence our thoughts and actions.

I hope this occasional letter to our small group does not add to the conflicting messages. One way communication with an audience will perhaps be of interest to some and even annoy others.

Guessing what is likely to interest the reader is a gamble. Some are shy about offering their thoughts but if prompted, will 'play the game' and share a comment or two. We have come to know them but others also help to keep the show on the road and do give a wink or a nod when given the chance.

Digital devices and the systems are increasingly complex. What does excite me, is what we can do with what we have. Learning to chart and enjoy the virtual journey available to us is something only the great minds have been able to do in isolation over the years.

There is yet so much we can do.

Frank

If a bacterial cell divides once every minute and takes 60 minutes to fill a cup, how much time it will take to fill half the cup?

Thanks Jack for this additional information dealing with Wi-Fi and the **2.4 GHz Wi-Fi vs 5 GHz Wi-Fi frequencies.**



Wi-Fi



In 1971, ALOHAnet connected the Hawaiian Islands with a UHF wireless packet network. ALOHAnet and the ALOHA protocol were early forerunners to Ethernet, and later the IEEE 802.11 protocols, respectively. Vic Hayes started work on Wi-Fi in 1974 when he joined NCR Corp., now part of semiconductor components maker Agere Systems.

Dr. John O'Sullivan, an Australian engineer, is credited with leading the team of inventors who developed WiFi technology. O'Sullivan made his revolutionary invention while working in the Netherlands' Dwingeloo Radio Observatory in 1977.

A 1985 ruling by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission released the ISM (Industrial Scientific Medical) band for unlicensed use – these are frequencies in the 2.4GHz band.

In 1991, NCR Corporation with AT&T Corporation invented the precursor to 802.11, intended for use in cashier systems. The first wireless products were under the name WaveLAN.

The first version of the 802.11 protocol was released in 1997, and provided up to 2 Mbit/s link speeds. This was updated in 1999 with 802.11b to permit 11 Mbit/s link speeds, and this proved to be popular.

The Wi-Fi Brand and Trademark

In 1999, the Wi-Fi Alliance formed as a trade association to hold the Wi-Fi trademark under which most products are sold. The WiFi Alliance is an organization based in Austin, Texas

The name Wi-Fi, commercially used at least as early as August 1999, was coined by the brand-consulting firm Interbrand. Phil Belanger, a founding member of the Wi-Fi Alliance who presided over the selection of the name “Wi-Fi,” has stated that Interbrand invented Wi-Fi as a pun upon the word hi-fi. Interbrand also created the Wi-Fi logo.



The yin-yang Wi-Fi logo indicates the certification of a product for interoperability.

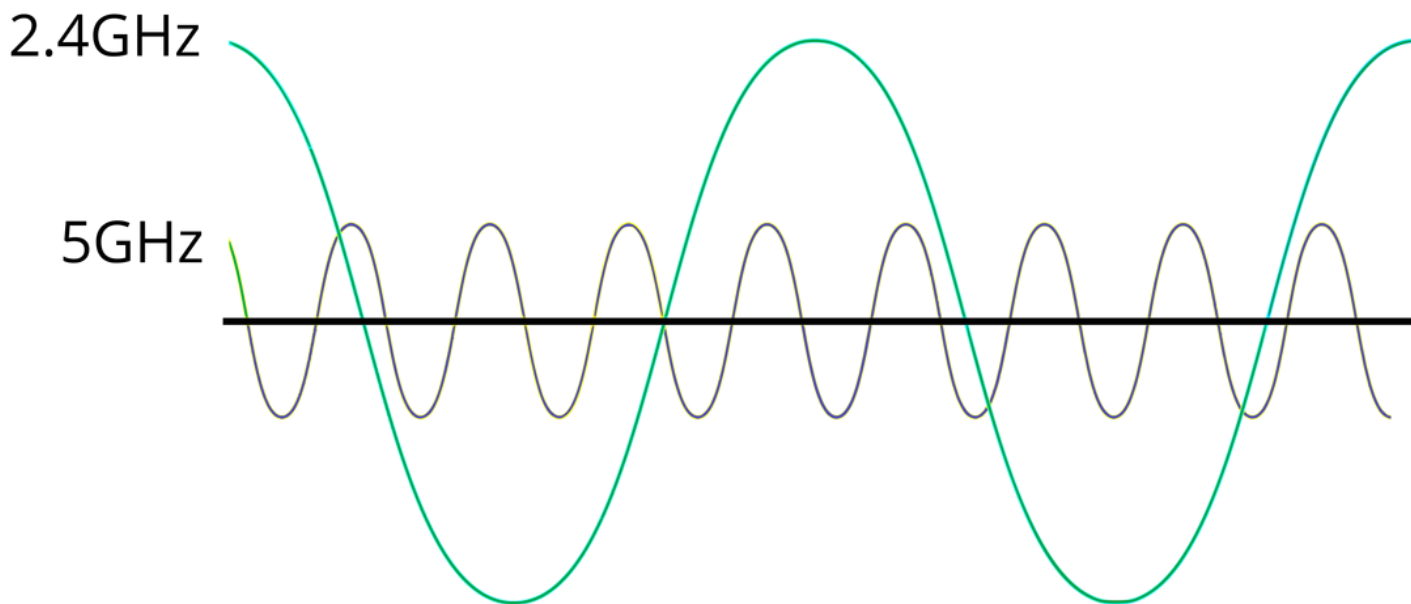
Bluetooth vs. Wi-Fi

Bluetooth is a standard for short-range linking of devices to facilitate communication.

Wi-Fi, on the other hand, allows users to connect, not to other devices, but to the internet from any location. Bluetooth requires less power and is more secure due to the short range of connection. But Wi-Fi operates a lot faster and connects entire networks.

Wi-Fi users can conveniently access networks from virtually any location using multiple devices. Public wireless networks are available in many public spaces, allowing users to access the internet. Wi-Fi networks, unlike their cabled counterparts, can accommodate an influx of users without any modifications. For cabled networks, you would need additional wiring.

It is much easier to set up a Wi-Fi network than a cabled one, simply requiring an access point or router.



2.4 GHz WiFi vs 5 GHz WiFi

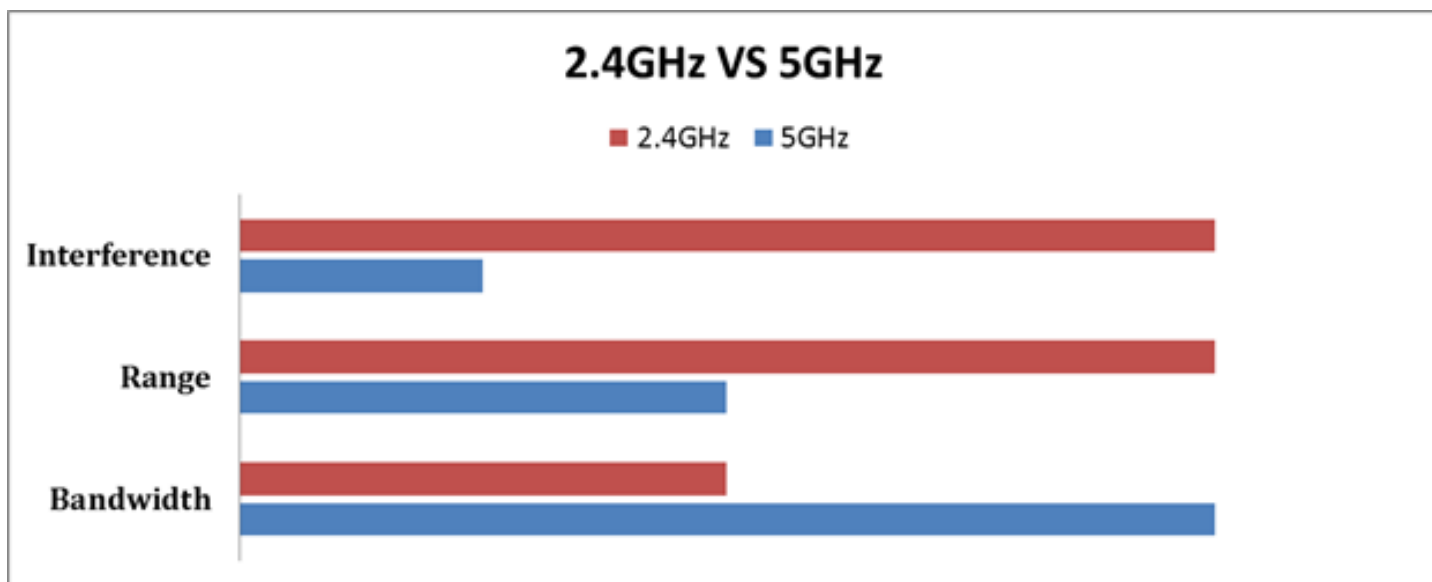
The 5GHz frequency can support up to 1Gbps of throughput whereas 2.4GHz supports up to 600Mbps. These are potential speeds based on lab rather than real-world speeds which may vary depending on a number of factors such as the size of your home, the networking hardware in your devices, the number of devices connected and the speed of your internet connection.

So if you're working from home, or have more people on your network, then a 5GHz connection is likely to be more reliable.

The 5GHz frequency is also less prone to interference than 2.4GHz.

However, while 5GHz may be the faster of the two WiFi frequencies, 2.4GHz has a longer range. This doesn't just mean that 2.4GHz WiFi can cover a wider area, the longer waves are better at penetrating solid matter, like walls and doors.

Basically, each frequency has its pros and cons. The good news is, all but the cheapest modems and routers these days support both 2.4GHz and 5GHz WiFi.



Obraz Zivola sculpteur sur bois



It's more than a little fascinating to see the outer reaches of human talent .

Life is good!!

If you have any interest in this wonderful work, visit:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_8_79D3Mdo



I found this in long-forgotten files while searching for inspiration today.

How many of you remember when our meetings were like this?



USERS HELPING USERS

I'll miss the mail if I don't finish now.

By the way what's the answer to the question on page one?

Frank

And remember...



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Worth Going Out
Of Your Way For



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