

SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP

NEWS January 2020

***Our next Friday meeting is January 17
It begins at 7.30 pm and Visitors are welcome***

Special Interest Group Sunday, Jan 19, 1.00 pm

January 12 **President's piece.**



Condolences to Bill's Family, Friends
and Brigade -

We thank you for your service Sir.

A man killed while battling a blaze in Victoria's Alpine region has been identified as a 40-year veteran firefighter. Wonthaggi father-of-two. Bill Slade, 60, was working the edge of a fire at Angers Rest, near Omeo, when he was struck by a tree on Saturday; One of several killed in recent weeks.

He has been remembered for his legacy as one of the community's longest-serving and fittest firefighters, and as a mentor.

Mr Slade's death is a significant loss for the forest firefighting family and the whole community, Forest Fire Management Victoria chief Chris Hardman said Sunday morning.

He is survived by wife Carol and children Steph and Ethan. FFMV and Parks Victoria have sent staff to support Mr Slade's family and colleagues.

"Although we do have enormous experience in identifying hazardous trees, sometimes these tree failures can't be predicted," Mr Hardman said.

"It would have been a traumatic experience for everybody on that taskforce."

Mr Slade had worked on major fire incidents in the past including the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires. His 40 years service was recognised by Parks Victoria chief Matt Jackson in November.

He is one of many who have fought or given their lives in defence of fellow Australians, regardless of their political or social affiliation.

The Official message remains, in all States .

"We have to be out there ... it's a long time before the risks around these fires are over,"

January 3, 2020.

This letter begins as fires threaten and have already destroyed vast areas of the Australian landscape, people's homes and caused tragic loss of life.

How does one express the feeling of hopelessness as we watch it happen?

At this moment, several of our members are facing catastrophic fires; fires that cannot be contained.

Family members and friends are welcome to seek our shelter but we are unable to stem the inevitable firestorm that will be faced by many tomorrow and for weeks ahead.

January 13

Cooler weather, light rain in several areas, perhaps a week or so to survey the damage as agencies begin the task of assisting thousands in desperate need.

There is no shortage of advice from the broader community to confuse those in charge of preventing such catastrophic events in the future. Let us hope focus remains on addressing cause; not on blame.

Computer related news has been subdued over the last month or so; But Information Technology did give us the most amazing coverage of events as they occurred.

If you were writing this brief letter, the words might flow a little easier. I've come to realise how little influence we have on the world around us and am grateful to be in this little part of the planet.

I hope to see you on Friday or Saturday. The group will have much to discuss. In the meantime, Geoff suggested we should consider this:

**In the end,
Its not the years in your life
its the life in your years**

-Abraham Lincoln

10-year-old boy with autism writes a poem for homework, his teacher is at a loss for words



*I am odd, I am new
 I wonder if you are too
 I hear voices in the air
 I see you don't, and that's not fair
 I want to not feel blue
 I am odd, I am new
 I pretend that you are too
 I feel like a boy in outer space
 I touch the stars and feel out of place
 I worry what others might think
 I cry when people laugh, it makes me
 shrink
 I am odd, I am new
 I understand now that so are you
 I say I, "feel like a castaway"
 I dream of a day that that's okay
 I try to fit in
 I hope that someday I do
 I am odd, I am new.*

An insight to one of many worlds those around us inhabit, The one thing we all have in common is;
 We are all different

Benjamin Giroux, a 10-year-old from Plattsburgh, New York, has Asperger's disorder – a type of chemical imbalance.

As opposed to something that simply rhymed, he set aside the effort to 'share his world'.

He wanted individuals to recognize what it resembled to live with mental imbalance and Asperger.

He was as of late given a school task where he was approached to compose a lyric titled "I Am."

He was given the initial two words in each sentence. From that point, the remainder of the lyric was up to him.

While he might not be one to express much emotion, Benjamin was excited for his latest assignment. He sat at at the family kitchen table and didn't look up until he was finished.

When he showed the poem to his parents and his teacher, they were overwhelmed with emotion. Read Benjamin's poem below:

Benjamin had always felt different because he was autistic and at times, it made him stand out from the other children. His poem, "I Am," portrays his emotions in such an amazing way.

Since he wrote it, the poem has gone viral and even the National Autism Association highlighted and shared it with others.

And to Benjamin: thank you for explaining in such simple but powerful terms..

I also wondered what the town of Plattsburgh might be like.

Are you curious?

<https://www.townofplattsburgh.com/>

Asperger's is often considered a 'high-functioning' form of autism because children with the disorder are able to develop cognitive abilities that match or exceed those of healthy children. However, their social skills may be impaired, affecting their ability to interact with others.

A token reference to Tablet technology

You might have noticed the drift from computer technical discussion over time in my letters. One reason for the shift would be my declared novice status in such matters. Another would be the well-informed readers to whom the letter is addressed. We no longer focus on incremental changes in the hardware and software but discuss operational issues and applications in our meetings.

This chart is an extract from
<https://au.pcmag.com/>

I suggest you go to their site for a more complete story on tablets and other devices.

You might also indicate your preference on subject matter in the letters.

Product	Dell XPS 13 (7390)	Dell XPS 13 2-in-1 (7390)	Lenovo ThinkPad X390	HP Elite Dragonfly	Microsoft Surface Pro 7	Asus ZenBook Pro Duo	HP Spectre x360 13 (Late 2019)	HP Spectre x360 15 (2019, AMOLED)	Lenovo ThinkPad X1 Yoga Gen 4 (2019)	Microsoft Surface Laptop 3 (15-Inch)
Lowest Price	A\$2,042.46 Dell	\$979.99 Dell	\$1,049.88 Amazon	A\$3,469.00 HP	\$749.00 Microsoft	\$2,374.31 Amazon	\$849.99 HP	\$1,649.99 HP	\$1,334.85 Amazon	\$1,199.00 Microsoft
Editors' Rating	SEE IT ●●●●● EDITORS' CHOICE	SEE IT ●●●●● EDITORS' CHOICE	SEE IT ●●●●● EDITORS' CHOICE	SEE IT ●●●●○ EDITORS' CHOICE	SEE IT ●●●●○ EDITORS' CHOICE	SEE IT ●●●●○	SEE IT ●●●●○	SEE IT ●●●●○	SEE IT ●●●●○	SEE IT ●●●●○
Best For	Style-Conscious Power Users	Style-Conscious Frequent Travelers	Heavy-Typing Business Travelers	Executives, Frequent Travelers	Style-Conscious Frequent Travelers	Creative Professionals	Style-Conscious Frequent Travelers	Power Users, Creative Professionals	On-the-Go Professionals	Content Creators, Casual Gamers
Platform	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10	Windows 10

Did you know?

A younger (just one generation) university student shared this with me today. Given the reputation such sources (universities and YouTube) have for accuracy, one might challenge specific numbers but cannot ignore that things will never be the same.

Her comment reads: 'we are doing technology this week in sociology and thought you might find this YouTube clip interesting.'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u06BXgWbGvA>

We are bombarded with conflicting 'news' on a daily basis and could be forgiven if we believe it's due to modern technology, social media, 'power of the press' etc.

We in this fair country are not the first to seek and hope that justice not only *appears to be done*.

If you seek interesting reading on the subject, Google The Dreyfus Affair Wikipedia

Once again, I've allowed my mind to wander down any and many paths while putting these few words on record.



If your interests are in other places, tell me and we might explore them together.

I hope to see you at one of our meetings this month and welcome any discussion you might share on the subject. At times, I find letters written a century or more in the past that surface in digitised records on Trove and wonder if anyone responded.

Einstein tells us "The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once."

Frank

**Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority,
it is time to pause and reflect.**

Mark Twain

That Question

The wedding ceremony came to the point where the Minister asked if anyone had anything to say concerning the union of the bride and groom. It was their time to stand up and talk, or forever hold their peace.

The moment of utter silence was broken by a beautiful young woman carrying her baby son.

She stood up and started walking slowly towards the pastor.

The congregation was aghast as the penny dropped.

The Groom's jaw dropped. He stared disbelievably at the approaching young woman and child.

Chaos ensued.

The bride threw the bouquet in the air and burst out crying. Then the groom's mother fainted.

The Best Men started giving each other looks and wondering how best to help save the situation.

The Minister asked the woman, "Can you tell us, why you came forward? What do you have to say?"

There was absolute silence in the church.

The woman replied, "We can't hear at the back."

Thanks Faye.



Things Confucius did not say; but wishes he did:

Man who wants pretty nurse must be patient.

Lady who goes camping with man must beware of evil intent.

Man who leaps off cliff jumps to conclusion.

Man who runs in front of car gets tired, but man who runs behind car gets exhausted.

Man who eats many prunes get good run for money.

War does not determine who is right; it determines who is left.

Man who fights with wife all day get no piece at night.

Man who drives like hell is bound to get there.

Man who stands on toilet is high on pot.

Wise man does not keep sledge hammer and slow computer in same room.

Man who lives in glass house should change clothes in basement.

And, Confucius Did Not Say. . .
"A lion will not cheat on his wife, but Tiger Wood!"

Thanks Jack

That's about it folks, Frank



Bomaderry Bowling Club
Worth Going Out
Of Your Way For

We meet at Bomaderry
Bowling Club
each month
on the third Friday at 7.30 pm
and
the third Sunday at 1.00pm
Visitors welcome