

# SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP

April 2023

Meeting Friday 21 at 7.30pm

Special interest group Sunday 16 at 1.00 pm

*Users helping Users*



*Condolences to the young Paramedics'  
Family, Friends and Co Workers.*

*May he rest in peace*

*Thanks for your service.*

Being a member of multiple emergency service agencies, it hits home that this could be anyone of us serving the community.

We all, including the pc users group, go about our days without thinking tragedy can strike at any time.

We should live and help others to the extent that we are able.

Scammers are not the only people who can cause us to lose valuable personal data.

I recently handed my 'important' data hard drive over to a bloke, familiar with his system, could share information I was seeking.

In the process, all SPUG rough notes and work-in-progress were deleted...not noticed until I resumed work on our April newsletter.

A lesson learned, and a reason why format might look different when this issue is eventually mailed.

...Now here is the strange story for April... As I became aware of the mini-disaster mentioned above, a story from Gail arrived.

At our Sunsig meeting, Mick Rigg handed me a copy of the 10th Anniversary souvenir booklet.

## **Smile**

*By Spike Milligan*

Smiling is infectious  
You catch it like the flu.

When someone smiled at me today  
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner  
and someone saw my grin.

When he smiled I realised  
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile  
then realised it's worth.

A single smile just like mine  
Could travel around the earth.

So if you feel a smile begin,  
don't leave it undetected.

Let's start an epidemic quick  
and get the world infected



## Notes from the March meeting for the benefit of those unable to attend.

**Location:** Blue Gum Room, Bomaderry Bowling Club

Meeting opened by President Richard Findsen at 7:30pm

**Present:** Those present are listed by the 'Meet & Greet' committee member on the day and held on file by the Treasurer.

**Apologies:** Frank Tynan, Bev Hunt, Lyall Davis, Geoff Spencer, Norm & Merle Schulz, Gail Croft, David Page, Nicoline Vaughan and Dennis Collimore.



### Questions and Answers:

Richard reinforced his previous advice that one must be very careful about clicking on links received via email, SMS, etc. – don't do it unless you are very sure the link is correct. There was some discussion about the problem which developed into how personal details are being leaked or sold which in turn means that one can receive unsolicited phone calls, emails, texts, etc.

In response to a comment from Graeme Evans in which he said he uses Google 'Incognito' when using the Google search engine Richard pointed out the following. 'Incognito' is a method whereby one can ensure that no data relating to the use of Google for a particular session is left on the computer once one signs out from that session. It does not mean that Google doesn't collect any data from the session. It is mainly of benefit if one is using an Internet Cafe or someone else's device.

There was considerable discussion about the use of the phone (or watch) to pay bills using a credit card's details instead of using the physical card. Russell Field said his understanding is that the merchant does not get the card details, only the money. The end result of the discussion was that to find out what actually goes on one should contact the provider of the card to be sure of the process.

Russell Field gave an update on the problem he had had with connecting his printer to his computer (as described in item 6 of the minutes of 20-Jan-23 General Meeting). He said the problem appeared to be with his use of a Virtual Private Network (VPN). If his computer was turned off or there was a power failure he found that it was important to connect the printer to the computer before connecting to the VPN. This seems to have solved the problem, although he admitted to not being completely sure if that was the total solution.

Mick Rigg said he had recently installed Windows 11 and now can't get his favorite Icons on the Task Bar even though they can still be found as 'favorites'. He said that Windows 11 does not appear to allow him to drag and drop the icons from his favorites to the Task Bar. Richard confirmed that is the case and showed how it is now done.

Mick Rigg also asked how one could speed up the 'Start-up' process on a computer running Windows 11. Richard said it involved having only those apps starting up that one wants and removing those apps that one doesn't always want. He showed how it is done but said to be careful to only remove those apps that one knows what they do as one can cause problems if one removes apps Windows needs.

### Other:

Jack Korten expanded on his article in the latest Club Newsletter about batteries and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of lead-acid, nickel-cadmium, nickel metal-hydride, lithium-ion and lithium-polymer batteries.

Jack then went on to show the following: Photos taken of extremely fast objects taken with perfect timing such as of bullets leaving a gun, missiles taking off, etc.

Rare photos of celebrities, historical events over the last 100 years in Australia, and the National Geographic archives.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:40pm.

Our thanks to Jack for his informative and entertaining presentations.

*Down memory lane with Mick Rigg...*

### 10th Anniversary Publication

Shoalhaven P C Users Group March 1997

FOREWORD Ben Cauchi,

Ten years ago the technology and tools did not exist to allow a publication of this type by the home user. Indeed the home user was not a common species.

In just a few years, the change in technology has been very rapid. Mass production has brought powerful tools within the reach of many homes.

The learning curve of the members who make up the Desktop Publishing Special interest Group has been no less dramatic. In many cases they only started personal computing within the last couple of years

In that time they have each learnt many skills which, when pooled together, can produce a publication of which they-and all the members of the Shoalhaven P C Users Group Inc. can be very proud. But can everyone achieve this level?

*Not everyone!* These are a group of people with special qualities. They are keen to learn, they ask questions, they enjoy exploring new things, they enjoy what they do and, most importantly, they are willing and happy to share their knowledge and experience.

*Perhaps everyone!* Just look at the contributions we have in this 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary publication or glance at those contributed to our monthly newsletter. They display a wealth of knowledge, a wide cross-section of experience and they overflow with the sharing spirit.

*Yes everyone!* Certainly these are the ideals which describe what membership of SPCDUG is all about – Users Helping Users. We see them at each meeting, each demonstration and in each newsletter and they have been here since the first meeting of our group 10 years ago. It is up to you, the current members, to foster these ideas in the future.

Ben Cauchi, *Convenor*  
Desktop Publishing Special Interest Group

*Thanks Ben and your team for a job well done. Old age has come upon us but there is still the will to continue. Frank*

*Ten years later with Gail Croft...*

### THE DAY GRANDMA WENT TO THE GEEK CLUB

June 15, 2007

It was approximately 18 months ago now, and I was in Nowra shopping with my 2 daughters, granddaughter & grandson.

With 4 month old Oscar strapped to my chest and a back pack on my back and hands full of shopping bags I decided to break from the group and go for a visit to the Dymocks store.

I went straight to the computer section and was looking for a book that may help me understand how to use that oh so powerful but hard to use programme Photoshop.

I was just about to leave the shelves when I noticed hanging up a SPCUG newsletter. I thought to myself I will take that home and read that later. Out of the shop I went with Oscar and my \$120.00 purchase of 2 books.

It took me 2 days to get back to the newsletter but I sat down on the Saturday and read it from front to back. I then decided that I would go to the next meeting and see what this club is all about. The bad news was I had missed the meeting as it was the night before.

I had to wait a month but off I went and when I walked into the room at the club there was my friends from dog training Max and Bev. What a shock!!

I joined the next month and have only missed about three meetings (due to visitors). I told Dorothy about the computer club one night at dog training and now she comes also.

I have found the club to be very friendly and everyone is only willing to try and help with your problems. I love coming and get mad if I have to miss a meeting so if I get visitors on my computer club night look out as Gail is not happy.

My family think that it is funny that mum goes to computer club and have nick named it the GEEK CLUB!!

I say **thankyou** to everyone at the Geek Club for all your effort that you put in. You can be proud of the way the club operates.

Gail Croft Geek Club member!!! 15 June 2007

*I wonder if there are others who might like to see a hard copy of our letters at*

*Dymocks?*



This image from the 1997 Anniversary souvenir identifies members of the first desktop publishing group. My Photoshop skills have diminished through lack of use. I'll see if it can be enhanced and saved in club records

Several of them would be known to you... enlarged image so we can read their names.

Christine, Faye, Henry family memory lane stuff and story in the hands of David Wastie and his Special Group.



A fair dinkum confession offered in fine print which people never read.

I've just found the missing folder in my jumbled filing system.

Too late to go back and start again, but I am resolved to overhaul my system with the help of a granddaughter arriving this arvo for a few days.

Very relieved to sign off.

Frank

While searching for a story to complete this disorganised letter, I came across this...

The meaning and origin of the expression: Dressed to the nines

Nine is the most troublesome number in etymology. There are several phrases of uncertain parentage that include the word. Examples are, [cloud nine](#), [nine days' wonder](#) and the infamous [whole nine yards](#). We can add 'dressed to the nines' to that list.

<https://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/dressed-to-the-nines.html>

The search for the link between 'nines' and dress sense has unearthed no convincing candidates. Absence of evidence isn't evidence of absence, but I'll stick my neck out here and say, with this phrase and with the other 'nines' phrases, 'nine' doesn't refer to anything specific - it just means 'a lot'.



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