## SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP NEWS August 2019

# Our next meeting is Friday, August 16. It begins at 7.30 pm and Visitors are welcome

### Sunday Special Interest Group Sunday, August 18, 1.00 pm



#### A few words from the President

Our July meeting was well attended and after our Question and Answer session we settled down to a special birthday evening for Frank.

It was one of those rare occasions where no one had let the secret out. It was a genuine surprise!

Jack entertained all of us with an excellent series of video and thoughtful material for the occasion as we were told 'Don't let the Old Man in'. Well done Jack and all concerned!

We have developed into a genuinely interactive team, perhaps a little unconventional but ready to assist others if able. For many reasons, some folks we know are not members of our group but would benefit from day-time involvement in a computer 'user helping user' a couple of time a month.

'Berry Computer for Seniors' meets in Berry on the first and third Wednesdays each month at 9.00 am. If you know anyone who might be in need of support or encouragement to use their phone, tablet or other digital device, put them in touch with David Wastie.

One of his many roles is as President of that group and they welcome all ages seeking to improve their skills and use of tablet, phone, laptop or maybe a drone.

#### Editor's comment:

This last week has kept SES and other volunteer groups very busy. Modern communication and state of the art equipment make their work more effective but spare a thought for the characters who set time aside for training and emergency response to keep many of us out of harm's way. We have many volunteers in our group with less visible roles who are 'users helping users' in the community.

#### IS IT JUST ABOUT LIFE CYCLES?



Will our focus on new technology move to the task of adding value to waste as a business opportunity?

Where there's muck there's money!

Australia has limited local markets for household recyclables like paper, plastics and glass, so we rely heavily on overseas markets like China to buy and reprocess the waste. Losing the market for a third of our paper and plastics — as have many other industrialised countries — has sent shockwaves through the global recycling market

Australia will move to stop exporting recyclable waste as Scott Morrison declares "it's our waste and it's our responsibility" following a growing backlash from Asian countries over dumping.

The Prime Minister clinched a deal with the states at yesterday's Council of Australian Governments meeting in Cairns to nut out a timetable for an exports ban and also pledged to build the local industry's capacity to generate high-value recycled commodities and associated demand.

A committee is unlikely to do it but an entrepreneur with support from technology teams will do it.





The picture of an 'Indian train' in the July newsletter brought back some memories of the time we made use of the train service in India as third-class passengers in 1971.

I had completed a journey across Africa in 1968 with Bill Bolt, a New Zealand friend whom I met whilst staying at the YMCA in Pretoria. He made a point of visiting my folks in the Netherlands before heading for Wellington, New Zealand. I promised Bill that I would visit him in New Zealand sometime in the future.

After Rhona and I had spent a few years in Hamburg, Germany, we thought that that time had arrived. We bought a station wagon and left Europe towards the end of 1970.

We entered Asia via Turkey and continued to Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. In India we visited the Corbett National Park, north of Delhi. The park is named after Jim Corbett a British hunter and author who hunted a number of man-eating tigers in India. The park is well-known for its Bengal tigers. From there we drove north to Kathmandu in Nepal, where we sold our vehicle. Because of the ongoing war situation in East Pakistan (now called Bangladesh), our journey could

not be continued by car, so we decided to sell the vehicle, an exercise which proved to be not at all easy. It involved endless wheeling and dealing

We left Kathmandu by bus early in the morning, together with 280 kilos of luggage, comprising four steel trunks, two suitcases and a whole lot of camera and recording equipment. We arrived at the Indian border after nine hours.

At the border I enquired whether the particulars concerning our luggage should be entered into our passports.

The answer was a simple: "No". It looked as if they were too busy drinking tea.

At a later stage we experienced a lot of trouble with officialdom because there was no mention of our luggage in our passports. We were transported to the Raxoul railway station by means of a horse and cart.

We bought third class tickets and left Raxoul that evening. We changed trains at Sagauli after one hour of travel. Before we reached the next place, the train came to a halt in the middle of nowhere. Some custom officials asked for our passports and pointed out that there was no mention of our luggage. I was asked to take the heavy trunks off the train for inspection It could well be that they were looking for illegal drugs – we shall never know.

Travelling on a train in India as a third-class passenger is quite an experience. Above our heads, which is normally reserved for hand luggage, a turban wearing Indian was fast asleep, whilst under our seats two small children had made themselves comfortable. Their parents were seated opposite us. Whenever nature called, this was done in the compartment, luckily only by the very small ones.

There were some toilets on the train in the form of a secluded area with a hole in the floor. Because of the rail irregularities there was a lot of shaking going on and that hole was often missed.

We changed trains in Muzaffarpur, Samastipur and Baruni. We arrived in Calcutta (now Kolkata) at 4:00 a.m., after 45 hours of travel. We were supposed to have arrived the night before, but because of the luggage inspection, the train had been delayed by six hours. We stayed the night at the station in the 'Retiring Room'. We did not sleep much. The mosquitoes were very active and the supplied mosquito net was broken in many places, so that the mosquitoes had an easy entry.

After having shipped most of our luggage from Calcutta to Wellington, New Zealand, we continued our journey to Rangoon (Yangon), Burma (Myanmar) by plane.

Then to Bangkok by plane and to Kuala Lumpur and Singapore by train. From there we went as deck passengers on a cargo boat to Djakarta. From Djakarta by bus and ferry to Bali.

We wanted to continue via Timor but this was not possible, because the relevant airline had failed to pay the landing fees. We flew from Bali to Sydney and a few days later we boarded a plane to Wellington, New Zealand, thereby ending our six-months Asian trip.

We had no valid visas for New Zealand. Our first call was the Dutch Consulate where we were told that we would be sent back to the Netherlands. It so happened that New Zealand was preparing to change from black & white to colour TV and technical staff were badly needed. So, I applied for employment at the National Film Unit in Wellington and they negotiated with the Emigration Department on our behalf. It took two years to get permanent residence in New Zealand, where we stayed five years.

Jack Korten



#### There can often be more than one way to reach the top if you go about it the right way.



My apology for the late arrival of the August issue.

I took my feet off the pedals this last few weeks and managed to miss a couple of deadlines including the newsletter. Thanks for making a fuss about my Birthday.

David has a couple of interesting computer-related items to share at our meetings this week and with input from others on the subject of NBN scams and other challenges to safe use of your chosen digital device, we're in good shape.

Jack was kind enough to check his journal of the journey to this part of the world by car, train and other means and to share it with us. This might well prompt a question or two this week. Thanks Jack!

Digital Devices in their many forms are numerous and comment on new applications is likely to come from you as a user or from someone with a new toy.

Don't be shy about showing or telling if we miss a new development or opportunity to better make use of the gear we rely on.

Navigation is the big challenge for me as recent updates and upgrades have changed the layout, colour and location of almost everything on the screen of the ageing laptop. Up-to date versions are worth the effort but I feel like a learner much to the time.

## The Atlassian Team Playbook

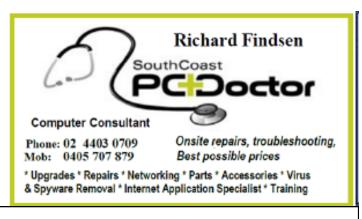
Can you imagine being part of this team?

In a nutshell, it is a software company which builds platforms and tools for businesses.

It counts some of the biggest companies in the world as its clients, including NASA, Toyota, Netflix and, yes, Facebook and Twitter.

If you have any interest in the culture that breeds the players, visit: <a href="https://twitter.com/Atlassian/status/1161438557292175361?ref\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Etweet">https://twitter.com/Atlassian/status/1161438557292175361?ref\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Etweet</a>

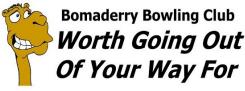
That's about it folks Frank Tynan











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