

SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP

May 2021

*Club Meeting scheduled for
Friday, May 21 at 7.30pm*

Special Interest Group Sunday was May 18

Note arrangements for both meetings to comply with current Covid19 protocol.



For those who are unaware,
Frank Weatherall's wife Norma
passed away recently.

On behalf of the club we organised
flowers to be sent to Frank's home.

I know you will all join me in offering condolences
to Frank and Family and friends over this period.

I thank everyone concerned for their support with
club activities and for those who have given time to
organise presentations.

We have versatile and adaptable members who
prepare and adjust their presentations to fit the
sometimes unplanned changes in timing due to
group discussion going beyond the time allotted.

We must remember this at each meeting.

Do you ever feel inclined to provide some feedback
on the work done?

Perhaps you would also like to prepare a brief
presentation on a topic of your choice.

Hope to see you at Friday's meeting, *Richard*

David has resolved problems he had with a new
smart phone and will discuss what he learned in the
process. There is always something to learn with
these devices

Russell has circulated minutes from the April
meeting and I've included an extract for the benefit
of those readers who are not members but have an
interest in what we are about.

Do you ever pause and wonder what members a
generation or so back would think of us?

We are no smarter than them but the ever-changing
nature of devices we wear, carry in a pocket or see
in screens on almost every wall, have changed what
we regard as normal.

It's a challenge to focus on a human interface in
personal conversation without a digital device
distraction. Are we missing something?



Sitting in the waiting room for your name
to be called for a 'jab', a blood test, or
some treatment that helps us adjust to the
life that characters like us experience, do
you spare a thought for those unable to be
sitting with us?

We are privileged to live in a secure and reasonably
stable environment. .

This is not the first time a pandemic has ravaged the
world, or warring nations have engaged in bloody
battles. 2020/2021 has given us a taste of what
those before us had to deal with.

They lacked the Technology, Scientific know-how,
mobility and social standards that we enjoy but
somehow managed to give birth and nurture us.

I hope to attend the 85th Birthday family gathering
on Saturday for one of my sisters at which time we
will share time with great grandchildren I barely
know.

Some of them will probably have families of their
own and might gather about this time in 2106 to
celebrate a surviving family member achieving the
same milestone.

Whatever the future holds, it's great to be involved
with friends and curious about discoveries that
allow us to better understand the world around us.

I think earlier generations have been just as clever
but lacked the resources now available.

It's a great time to be here!

Frank

Due for an eye test?

A Polish immigrant went to the DMV to apply for a
driver's license. First, of course, he had to take an eye
sight test.

The optician showed him a card with the letters
'C Z W I X N O S T A C Z.'

Can you read this?' the optician asked.

'Read it?' the Polish guy replied, 'I know the guy.'

From our April meeting Russell has provided these notes.

1. Richard Findsen noted that there had been an increase in scams in recent weeks. He noted that one should only permit someone to remotely log onto one's computer if one had initiated the call and considered the remote access to be beneficial to one's cause.
2. Richard Findsen demonstrated the use of the radio app 'Zello' which one can download onto one's phone and then, with a bluetooth connected device, use the device as if it were a citizen band radio. He noted it only works where there is adequate 4G coverage.

Russell Field asked if the Zello app would be appropriate for use when travelling in a caravan. Richard said it would only be of use in a convoy where those in the convoy also had the app. They would also have to be in an area with 4G coverage. What one really needs when travelling is contact with others such as truck drivers – he said one really needs a UHF-CB radio in such circumstances (i.e. Ultra High Frequency Citizen Band radio).

3. Jack Korten asked about the C-Cleaner browser. Richard Findsen advised that it is one of many browsers and that it is up to the individual as to what browser they use.
4. Ron Lukin told us of a problem he is having with three Windows 10 computers he has at home when using Gmail. If he leaves a computer with Gmail open but walks away for some time, when he comes back the Gmail app is still open but is now frozen. It is happening on all three of the computers. He noted that by clicking on the WiFi button and then 'Properties' the app would start working again. The app would also restart if it was closed and then opened again. There was no definitive answer given at the meeting as to what caused the problem although there was considerable discussion about the use of proxies.
5. Barbara Baker asked how long a thumb drive could be expected to last. Richard said that thumb-drives do have a general limit of read-writes but that most individuals would probably not reach that limit in their lifetimes (a figure of 100,000 was suggested).
6. David Page asked if anyone had seen the trail of Elon Musk's 'Starlink' satellites crossing the sky. They can be seen in the sky about ½ an hour after sunset or ½ an hour before dawn. Richard noted he uses an app called 'Satellites' to track satellites.

1. Jack Korten showed various videos and images, some serious and some amusing. He finished with two videos of the William Tell overture, the first showing it being played by an orchestra and the second with fireworks that were prepared for the opening of the Olympic Games in Japan that were postponed. Evidently the fireworks had to be used as they could have deteriorated. Altogether Jack gave a most interesting presentation and we thank him for it.

*Thanks Russel for this summary and the reminder
that May SUNSIG meeting occurred before Friday.
I had forgotten.*

Some years ago, when I was head of AGFA PHOTO in South Africa, one of my staff members came to complain to me about his office. "My office has no windows" he complained. I managed to get a quick solution. I organised a computer for him and asked an IT guy to install Microsoft WINDOWS.

Problem solved.

Regards,

Jack.



Birdwatchers might be interested to know the duck in this exhibit is a *Cucurbita maxima*, more commonly known as a Golden Hubbard Squash, grown with many of the produce by Henry. Given his experience and skill, one might believe the shape was deliberate and the artist did the rest



Henry was given the Certificate of Appreciation for 63 years working on the Southern District Exhibit. He has not missed a year growing produce, working on the deck, and now selection the produce to put up on the show bench, the gentleman with Henry is David Davidson the district organizer for out court.

Faye has worked on the district exhibit for 59 years supporting Henry, and with other volunteers, takes great pleasure in planning and developing the exhibit.

Work on the 2022 exhibit is well advanced.

It's remarkable to see what they achieve even during drought, flood or personal health issues.

In addition to the exhibit, a number of ceramic paintings done during the year was submitted with success.

Some of Faye's awards, for 2021 appear on the next page.



Hi Frank, not sure what Crissy has sent you, the wagon is in the paddock Jaspers Brush and belongs to Paul Camillerie, it is under a tree by the Highway I think it was a wool wagon or grain it is very old.



Note for those travelling south from Berry, you will see it near the fence in long grass and growing older



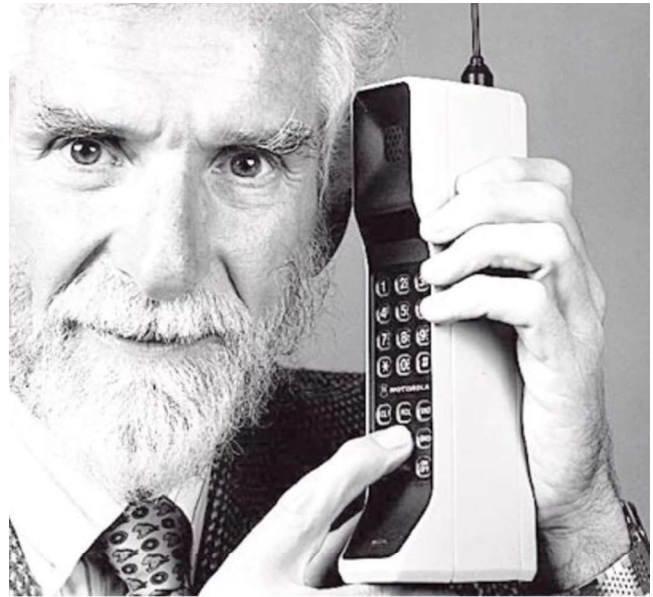
The wolf is from a National Geo magazine I had and I like the look in his eye.



This painting was in the Standard of Excellence

The Portrait is from a photo taken by Geoffrey Parsons, his name is Uncle Tom he is a wreck bay elder I just love the facial features[true full blood] Hope this is what you wanted. Faye

Do you remember?



You might not fully realise it, but it's been more than 45 years since Martin Cooper, a Motorola researcher and executive, made the first call on a handheld mobile phone to his rival, Joel S. Engel of Bell Labs, from a street corner in New York.

"As I walked down the street while talking on the phone, sophisticated New Yorkers gaped at the sight of someone actually moving around while making a phone call," Cooper is reported to have said. "Remember that in 1973, there weren't cordless telephones or cellular phones.

"I made numerous calls, including one where I crossed the street while talking to a New York radio reporter – probably one of the more dangerous things I have ever done in my life."

He used the Motorola DynaTAC for that fateful call, a "mobile" phone that weighed more than a kilogram. Today's phones weigh a tenth of that, and are far more powerful.

It has been a long and arduous journey to get from the back-breaking, heavy shoulder-strapped behemoths to the paper-thin smartphones of today. Pocket-lint takes a look at some of the more iconic handsets that have marked the path along the way.

For a trip down memory lane, go to...

<https://fortyblocks.com/the-most-iconic-mobile->

Over a fifth of PC users continue to operate Windows 7

Turns out not everyone heeded the call to upgrade.

Leon Spencer 05 May, 2021



Globally, 22 per cent of PC users continue to run the outdated Windows 7 operating system, according to cyber security firm Kaspersky.

Microsoft ended Windows 7 support on 14 January 2020 as the 10-year period for which it promised to provide support for the operating system, which was released in October 2009, came to an end.

The move to cease support meant that technical assistance and software updates from Windows Update that help protect PCs were no longer available for the product.

“Microsoft strongly recommends that you move to Windows 10 to avoid a situation where you need service or support that is no longer available,” the vendor said at the time.

Turns out not everyone heeded the call to upgrade.

Kaspersky, which conducted a study based on anonymised OS metadata provided by consenting Kaspersky Security Network users, found that almost one quarter – 22 per cent – of PC users were still using Windows 7.

Indeed, Kaspersky’s research suggested that consumers, small- and medium-sized businesses and very small businesses globally occupied almost the same share – 22 per cent each.

Kaspersky’s findings also showed that only a small percentage – less than 1 per cent – of people and businesses still use even older operating systems, such as Windows XP and Vista, for which support ended in 2014 and 2017, respectively.

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Overall, roughly 24 per cent of users were still running a Windows OS without mainstream support.

On the other hand, about 72 per cent of users surveyed said they were using Windows 10, the latest version of the Windows OS.



Google will “fully support” Chrome on Windows 7 for at least 18 more months

The good news for those still operating Windows 7 is that, in the lead up to the end-of-life date, Microsoft bowed to the reality that enterprises wouldn’t realistically purge Windows 7 by its January 2020 retirement, announced it would sell extended support for three years past that deadline. And so, individuals and businesses can rely on Windows 7 Extended Security Updates (ESU) for a price, but only up until the expected end date of January 2023.

This looming end-of-support date is something that typically gives cyber security firms like Kaspersky heart palpitations, or perhaps, more importantly, an opening for new commercial opportunities.

With this in mind, it should come as little surprise that the cyber security firm is warning those still using Windows 7 about the vulnerabilities that could remain without update patches to resolve issues, providing cyber attackers with potential ways to gain access to a system.

Kaspersky senior product marketing manager Oleg Gorobets stressed that businesses should update their OS sooner rather than later.

“OS updates are not just there just to fix errors, or to enable the newest interface. The procedure introduces fixes for those bugs that can open a gaping door for cybercriminals to enter.

“Even if you think you are vigilant and protected while online, updating your OS is an essential element of security that should not be overlooked, regardless of any third-party security solution’s presence.

If [an] OS is obsolete, it can no longer receive these critical updates. If your house is old and crumbling, there is no point to install a new door.

“It makes more sense to find a new home, sooner rather than later. The same attitude is needed when it comes to ensuring the security of the operating system you trust with your valuable data every day,” he added.

Thanks Jack

Medical experts in Canberra today were asked if it is time to ease the COVID lockdowns.



Allergists were in favor of scratching it, but Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.

Gastroenterologists had a sort of a gut feeling about it, but Neurologists thought the government had a lot of nerve.

Obstetricians felt certain everyone was laboring under a misconception, while Ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted.

Many Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while Pediatricians said, "Oh, grow up!"

Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while Radiologists could see right through it.

Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing and Pharmacists claimed it would be a bitter pill to swallow.

Plastic Surgeons opined that this proposal would "put a whole new face on the matter."

Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but Urologists were p***ed off by the whole idea.

Anesthetists thought the whole idea was a gas, and Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the a**holes in politics.

WHY:

Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

BECAUSE:

When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since

WHY:

Why do ships and aircraft use 'mayday' as their call for help?

BECAUSE:

This comes from the French word m'aidez - meaning 'help me' and is pronounced, approximately, 'mayday'

WHY:

Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

BECAUSE:

In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfil obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous

WHY:

In golf, where did the term 'Caddie' come from?

BECAUSE:


When Mary Queen of Scots went to France as a young girl, Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scots game 'golf.' He had the first course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her. Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word cadet is pronounced 'ca-day' and the Scots changed it into caddie.

That's about it for this month folks

Thanks to all concerned...Stay safe

Frank



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