

# SHOALHAVEN PC USERS GROUP

June 2022

*Club Meeting scheduled for  
Friday, June 16 at 7.30pm*

*Special Interest Group Sunday 18 at 1.00 pm*



Richard has been busily responding ,with others during recent high-wind, rain and numerous problems in addition to his day job. Much additional advice is offered in the report on page two.

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I've had the pleasure of spending time with friends in Gerringong on a project in recent years

**There's no time like the present to explore the past.**

Visit the Gerringong District Historical Society's newly remodelled museum and exhibition gallery, adjacent to the library in the beautiful old Gerringong School of Arts building on Blackwood Street

I am a slow learner but realise one way to avoid missing deadlines is to start earlier.



This explains why I sit at the desk first day after the election to begin my June letter.

For those of you who venture as far as Gerringong, a remarkable Museum has risen from the demolition and stalled building site In Blackwood Street.

A dedicated team has been restoring connections to original settlers in our district in the times before roads, rail or even horse-drawn vehicles allowed became part of life in this part of the world..

*Frank*



Opening hours are Thursdays 5pm - 8pm, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 11am - 3pm.

## Notes from our General Meeting of May 20, 2022

### for the benefit of readers unable to attend



#### Questions and Answers:

Merle Schulz mentioned that although she normally deletes spam emails she was wondering if those she receives from Australia Post saying that she has won something might be legitimate as sometimes receipts received from Australia Post have an entry on them saying she is in a prize draw. Richard said that although it could be legitimate he would be very suspicious and he recommended ignoring such emails.

Richard discussed the program 'WinZip' but concluded the need for compression programs is much less these days. However, he considers it is a good idea to compress very large files if one is sending them as an email. He noted that Windows has a compression/decompression program available as part of the Windows system.

There was discussion about the use of storage media during which it was noted that all media have their limitations. DVDs were noted as not being particularly good for long-term storage. It was suggested that Solid State Drives (SSDs) are very resistant to damage but that they are limited by the number of read/write cycles they can handle. It was considered that traditional hard drives are better at preserving data but that they are prone to physical damage. David Page said he considers hard-drives to be more reliable than SSDs.

Jack Korten asked if anyone had ever used the 'ZX Spectrum' which led to a general discussion on old hardware (i.e. before the early 90's) during which those who had been in the industry in that period reminisced on their previous experiences.

Barbara asked about the setting 'Keep your location history'. Richard explained it was a feature in Google which is turned on by default and which he finds very useful as it allows him to check where he was at a given time during the day when he is working. He believes one should be able to turn it off by going into one's Google account and going to 'Settings'.

Barbara asked how she could help her neighbour make phone calls on the iPad she has just been given. Richard said one could use Face Book's 'Messenger' to call anyone who is listed as one of your Facebook 'Friends'. He went on to show Barbara how that is done. During the conversation it was noted that a SIM card in a cellular iPad cannot be used to make phone calls as it is only a connection to data and that she can use Facebook Messenger without a SIM card as long as she is connected to WiFi.

Barbara said she is having trouble with her WiFi. Richard said to phone her provider as it sounded like a problem her provider should fix.

Mick Rigg asked if anyone used Southern Phone as his daughter has been having troubles since AGL took over Southern Phone. Mick said that Southern Phone used to have access to parts of both the Optus and the Telstra networks but understood they now only use Optus. A discussion ensued about mobile phone access around the Shoalhaven.

#### Other:

Geoff Spencer then showed some videos. The first was a piece of classical music played on a harp. It was followed by a video of the construction of a bridge using precast segments put in place using a large piece of equipment that was able to carry the segments between the piers and put them in place. He then showed a video he had made of birds in the Shoalhaven with a focus on the Satin Bower Bird. The final video was of native animals in the Shoalhaven with a focus on the impact of the arrival of white people 200 years ago.

We thank Geoff for his informative and interesting presentation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:13pm

*Thanks Russell, we appreciate the monthly update.*



[After many years of debating](#), the European Parliament finally announced a provisional agreement establishing a single charging standard for electronic devices.



### How is this going to affect the industry?

We are unlikely to see any significant changes, and the new USB-C standard isn't expected to affect the price of products in any of the categories.

Many, if not all, manufacturers have switched over to using USB-C ports on their devices many years ago, and even laptop makers are using the port.

However, the standard doesn't always allow powerful gaming laptops to receive 160W+ power using a single cable, hence why proprietary chargers are still sometimes necessary for some high-end computers.

The most notable change we will see is when Apple releases an iPhone with a USB-C port, and when the company finally updates its entire lineup of products with the common charging port.

According to Apple, [there are more than 1 billion active iPhones globally](#), contributing to e-waste and forcing consumers to spend extra money on chargers and new lightning cables.

The lightning port was innovative and a great solution [when it was announced back in 2012 alongside the iPhone 5](#), but it has become outdated in just a few years after USB-C started to take off and become the new standard for all devices.

The new law will also prevent companies such as Nokia from introducing low-end devices with the fragile and outdated micro USB ports, making it easier to charge budget and affordable devices in the years to come.

**THERE IS NO SUCH THING  
AS A GROUCHY OLD  
PERSON. THE TRUTH IS,  
ONCE YOU GET OLD, YOU  
STOP BEING POLITE AND  
START BEING HONEST.**

kitbestartwithmy3books.com

The new law aims to reduce electronic waste and make consumers' lives easier. Charging devices with a common USB-C standard brings a lot of improvements not only to the charging speed but also many other benefits. We have a dedicated article [explaining all of the advantages of using USB-C](#).

Under the new [rules](#), consumers will be able to use a single USB-C cable to charge all of their devices, including "small and medium-sized portable electronic devices."

The list includes: "Mobile phones, tablets, e-readers, earbuds, digital cameras, headphones and headsets, handheld videogame consoles and portable speakers that are rechargeable via a wired cable will have to be equipped with a USB Type-C port."

Laptops will also have to comply with the new ruling 40 months after the law becomes effective. The law becomes compulsory for all manufacturers in the categories shown above by autumn 2024.

The new law will also allow consumers to save over €250 million a year on unnecessary charger purchases since users will be able to spend a single fee on buying a fast charger that should – in theory – support all of their devices for many years.

Removing the bundled chargers will also help reduce the estimated 11,000 tons of e-waste from the market.

The press release also mentions that wireless charging technologies are also likely to be governed by new future laws. "The European Commission will be empowered to develop so-called delegated acts, on the interoperability of charging solutions."

As of 2022, most manufacturers have already transitioned to USB-C, leaving only Apple the odd one out.

Apple is still using the Lightning port on its iPhones, the entry-level iPads, and nearly all peripherals, accessories and wearable devices, including AirPods and the Magic products. The new rules will force Apple to switch to USB-C on all of its products if it wants to sell them in the EU.

*This was a story from Lyall in the January 2015 edition of our Newsletter.*

*Recovered by Jack as he re-visited a moment in the journey we've shared.*

Down memory lane with Jack to the mid-1990s, I could not find a picture of Jack from 27 years back. Maybe he can.

## THE USB CONNECTION



The basic USB trident logo

This USB sign is on the head of a USB Cable

Universal Serial Bus (USB) is an industry standard developed in the mid-1990s that defines the connection, communication, and power supply between computers and electronic devices. A group of seven companies began the development of USB in 1994: Compaq, DEC, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, NEC, and Nortel. The goal was to make it fundamentally easier to connect external devices to PCs by replacing the multitude of connectors at the back of PCs.

Intel produced the first integrated circuits supporting USB in 1995.

USB has effectively replaced a variety of earlier interfaces, such as serial and parallel ports, as well as separate power chargers for portable devices.



Unlike other data cables (e.g. HDMI), each end of a USB cable uses a different kind of connector; an A-type or a B-type. A Standard-B plug, which has a square shape with bevelled exterior corners—typically plugs into an "upstream receptacle" on a device that uses a removable cable, e.g., a printer. This kind of design was chosen to prevent electrical

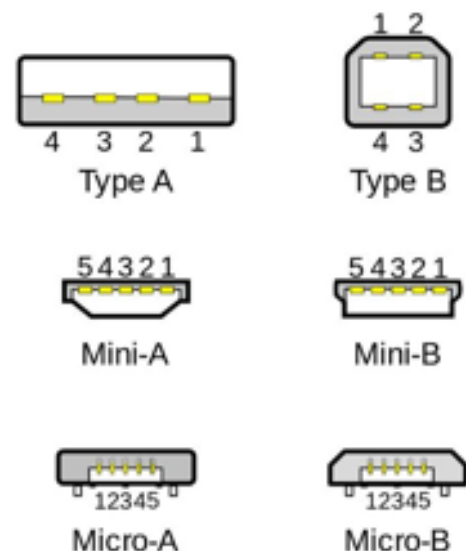
overloads and damaged equipment, as only the A-type socket provides power.

The Micro-USB connector was announced in January 2007. While many currently available devices and cables still use Mini plugs, the newer Micro connectors are presently the most widely used. The thinner micro connectors replace the Mini plugs in new devices including smartphones, personal digital assistants, and cameras.

Some manufacturers of electronic devices might not include a USB standard connector on their product for technical or marketing reasons. Some devices only use the USB connection for battery charging and do not implement any data transfer functions.

USB connections also come in four data transfer speeds: Low Speed, Full Speed, High Speed and SuperSpeed. SuperSpeed is supported only by USB 3.0 interfaces.

The original USB 1.0, which was introduced in January 1996, had transfer rates of 1.5 Mbit/s "Low Speed" and 12 Mbit/s "Full Speed".



The USB 2.0 specification, published in April 2000, achieved 480 Mbit/s, or 40-times faster than the original USB 1.1 specification.

The USB 3.0 specification was released in November 2008. It increased the data transfer rate up to 5 Gbit/s, decreasing power consumption at the same time. The first USB 3.0 equipped devices were presented in January 2010.

The cable displays the basic USB trident logo, followed by SS, for SuperSpeed, whilst the port is coloured blue.

USB 3.1 (SuperSpeed+) will be released in the not-too-distant future, with speeds twice as fast as version 3.0



USB 3.1 introduces a new cable and connector, which is designed to replace both full-sized USB, as well as micro-USB cables, thereby standardizing the port and cable types across devices. USB Type-C cables will also be reversible, allowing you to plug them in without fail, regardless of how you're holding and inserting the cable.

Needless to say, the plugs aren't compatible with anything you currently own.

The USB Implementers Forum is also working on a wireless networking standard. Wireless USB is intended as a cable-replacement technology, and uses ultra-wideband wireless technology for data rates of up to 480 Mbit/s.

I need to re-home a dog.  
It's a small terrier, and  
tends to bark a lot.  
If you're interested, let  
me know and I'll jump  
over my neighbor's  
fence and get it for you.

Once you understand  
why the pizza is made  
round,  
Packed in a square  
box,  
And eaten as a  
triangle..  
Then you will  
understand women

## World Population and Memory Loss!

### Earth's Population Statistics in Perspective



The population of Earth is around 7.8 Billion.

For most people, it is a large figure. However, if you condensed 7.8 billion into 100 persons and then into various percentage statistics, the resulting analysis is relatively much easier to comprehend.

Out of 100

60 are in Asia

15 are in Africa

11 are in Europe

9 are in South America

5 are in North America

51 live in cities

49 live in the countryside

75 have **mobile** phones

25 do not.

30 have internet access

70 do not have the availability to go online

7 received **university** education

93 did not attend **college**.

83 can read

17 are illiterate.

33 are Christians

22 are Muslims

14 are Hindus

7 are Buddhists

12 are other religions

12 have no religious beliefs.

26 live less than 14 years

66 died between 15 - 64 years of age

8 are over 65 years old.

If you have your own home,

Eat full meals & **drink** clean **water**,

Have a **mobile** phone,

Can surf the internet, and

have gone to **college**,

You are in the minuscule privileged lot.

(in the less than 7% category)

Amongst 100 persons in the world, only 8 live or exceed the age of 65.

If you are over 65 years old, be content & grateful. Cherish life, grasp the moment.

If you did not leave this world before the age of 64

like the 92 persons who have gone before you,

you are already the blessed amongst mankind.



3- Now find the N in the table below. Attention, it's a little more difficult!

MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMNMM  
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If you pass these three tests without problem:

- you can cancel your annual visit to the neurologist.
  - your brain is in perfect shape!
  - you are far from having any relationship with Alzheimer's.
- Share this with your over-60 friends; it can reassure them!

## Australia - Teaching Maths over the Years!

### 1. Teaching Maths In 1950s:

A logger sells a truckload of timber for \$100. His cost of production is  $\frac{4}{5}$  of the price. What is his profit?

### 2. Teaching Maths In 1970s:

A logger sells a truckload of timber for \$100. His cost of production is  $\frac{4}{5}$  of the price, or \$80. What is his profit?

### 3. Teaching Maths In 1980s:

A logger sells a truckload of timber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80. Did he make a profit? *Yes or No.?*

### 4. Teaching Maths In 1990s:

A logger sells a truckload of timber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80 and his profit is \$20. Your assignment: Underline the number 20.

### 5. Teaching Maths In 2000s:

A logger cuts down a beautiful forest because he is selfish and inconsiderate and cares nothing for the habitat of animals or the preservation of our woodlands.

He does this so he can make a profit of \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living?

**Topic for class participation after answering the question:**

How did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down their homes?

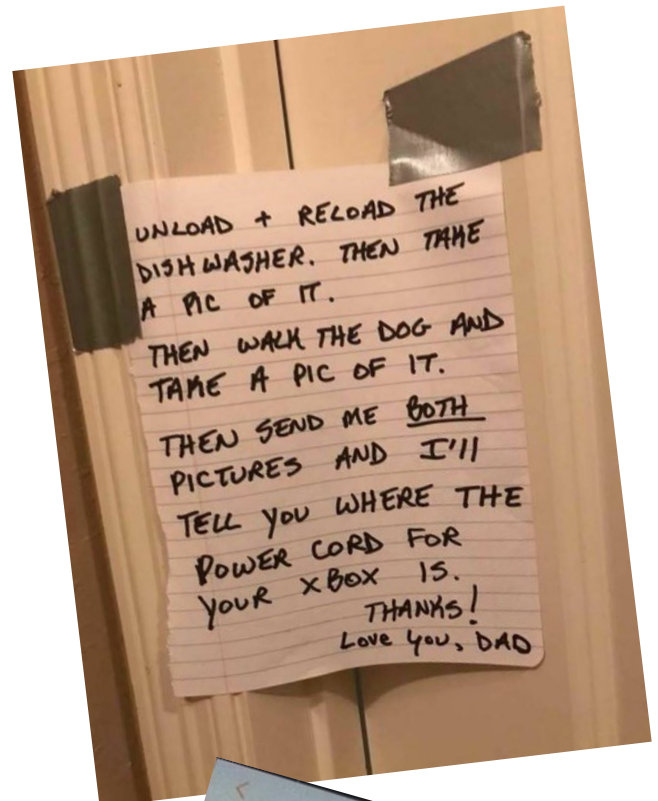
(There are no wrong answers, feel free to express your feelings).

e.g, anger, anxiety, inadequacy, helplessness etc.)

Should you require debriefing at conclusion of exam there are counsellors available to assist you adjust

back into the real world.

### 6. Teaching Maths In 2050: 年的数学教学





Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, my elderly neighbour and his wife were told there would be a 45 minute wait for a table.



"Young man, we're both 90 years old," the husband said. "We may not have 45 minutes."

They were seated immediately.

I was in the six item express lane at the store quietly fuming. Completely ignoring the sign, the woman ahead of me had slipped into the check-out line pushing a cart piled high with groceries. Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward looked into the cart and asked sweetly, "So which six items would you like to buy?" (Wouldn't it be great if that happened more often?)

The reason Politicians try so hard to get re-elected is that they would "hate" to have to make a living under the laws they have just passed.

**Today my daughter called me 'Birth Person.' I replied, 'Yes Financial Drain.'**



**Bomaderry Bowling Club  
Worth Going Out  
Of Your Way For**

The rest of jack's list...



14. A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab centre said: "Keep off the Grass".
15. The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
16. The soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.
17. A backward poet writes inverse.
18. In a democracy, it's your vote that counts. In feudalism, it's your count that votes.
19. When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.
20. If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you'd be in Seine.
21. A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir! Only one carrion allowed per passenger."
22. Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says "Dam!"
23. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
24. Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, "I've lost my electron". The other says "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive."
25. Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal: to transcend dental medication.
26. There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

*I might have used some of this before, but it still prompts a reminder that the more things change, the more they stay the same.*

***Thanks to all who shared stuff this month***



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