



Vol.: — **19**

No : — **04**

APRIL, 2019

Contacts:

Web Site: — <http://sdcuci.com>

E-mail: — sdcucinc@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: David Porteous — daibhidhp@aussiebb.com.au

Meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday at 7.30 pm, in the hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church on the Corner of Bains and Main South Roads, Morphett Vale

Cost \$3.00 per person per meeting. This includes a copy of our Newsletter, plus coffee/tea and biscuits

Visitors are most welcome

After 3 visits, you are requested to become members

Annual Subscription:
Single — \$20.00
Family — \$30.00

Both Novice and Experienced computer users will be most warmly welcomed



The Yardbroom Report — 4/19

Welcome to the April meeting of our Club.

It is pleasing to note that the post presentation activity, (i.e. more social activity and less frenetic pack up and cleaning activity) is well received. It makes a difference to be able to chat and interact over a cup of tea and something to eat.

Observant readers may notice that the newsletter now has a name. "SDCUCI News" is the new moniker.

The Club has been successful in its application for a community grant. It is likely that the funds will be used to upgrade our aging printing facilities. A final decision will be made later.

The Committee discussed at length the age old problem of subjects for presentation at meetings. Thinking "outside the box" identified some unusual, but relevant, topics. The task now is to secure people to actually present the topics. That is ongoing. The next few months should be interesting.

A number of issues with the present Club Website were identified. Selected Committee members have taken on the task of improving the timeliness and content of the website.

There will be no YB report next month as I will be interstate for most of the month.

Have a good evening. YB



Disclaimer: The information contained herein is of a general nature. Always do your own research and seek advice before proceeding on information you don't understand.

Adobe Shockwave to be Discontinued for Windows

If you grew up with the Internet, I am sure you will know about **Adobe Shockwave**. It was a plugin that we all had installed at some point to play multimedia applications and video games. Would you believe, it was released by Macromedia way back in 1995, but, subsequently, it was acquired by Adobe.



The platform is now all set to see its end of life. In the past few years, Adobe has retired many of its other products such as Adobe Director, and Shockwave player for MacOS in 2017.

Adobe has officially declared the discontinuation for both the platform and the Shockwave player for Windows which no longer will be available for download after 9 April, this year. However, Adobe will continue to support existing Enterprise licences until the end of their current contracts. Also, customers with EULA distribution licensing will continue to receive support until the end of their one year contract.

This announcement has been waiting to happen for quite some time. I am sure that you are aware that all interactive content nowadays uses HTML5 Canvas, WebGL, Flash/Adobe AIR, and others.

The way forward is to choose alternate, and more up-to-date technology. Whilst the download will still be available for a while, if you don't want your saved multimedia files to stop working, keep a copy. No doubt, your favourite application eventually will be migrated to current technology. When that happens, you will no longer need Shockwave anymore. 

Index

Subject	Issue	Page No.
Adobe Shockwave to be Retired	04/2019	2
Don't Become a Scam Victim — some useful tips	04/2019	4
Keeping your PC Clean	04/2019	6
Pirated Windows 10 — why not to use	04/2019	3
When Choosing a New App, Should I Choose the Portable One?	04/2019	9
Windows 10 v.1809 — Broad Deployment	04/2019	6
Windows 7 — End of Life	04/2019	5
Yardbroom	04/2019	1

Why NOT to use a Pirated Windows 10



Despite its previous strictness, Microsoft went soft on pirated copies by offering everyone a free upgrade to Windows 10. So, everyone could manage to get a free upgrade. The non-genuine, however, continue to remain non-genuine. With the free offer gone, consumers have re-started looking for Windows 10 with a crack (pirated) activation code. Here's why it's not a good idea to use a Pirated copy of Windows 10.

Legality

It's illegal. No one should use a pirated copy of Windows. While consumers may escape, businesses have no excuse if caught.

Perhaps someone gave you a Windows Key cheap. It could be genuine. However, depending on the type of key, your Windows could get deactivated in a couple of months or, if the key was a general key and not legit, your Windows will eventually deactivate.

Crippled Windows 10 Updates

When Microsoft servers recognize your copy of Windows is not genuine, the updates could be crippled or you may not get them at all, especially security updates. Updates make sure your computer is safe from viruses, ransomware and other programs which can steal data from you. It's better to use Windows 10 without Activation, you may not get some features, but getting Windows Updates will not be a problem.

Pirated Windows can be Harmful

Certain shops offering preinstalled Windows 10 present a possibility that these copies are preloaded with software that can track every key stroke or mouse movement — a real danger! These PCs may get fake updates further compromising both computer and data. The likelihood of malware is very high!

Some Apps & Services will not work

When a non-genuine version is found, Microsoft may block access to their services. Your Microsoft account can get into trouble too. Microsoft will actively look for pirated software and disable it. It's part of their licence agreement.

No Microsoft Support

Microsoft offers support for Windows, but if they find out that your copy of Windows 10 is not genuine, you will no longer get any help. Always buy genuine Windows or just run it without activation. Download the Windows 10 ISO, and install it on your computer. But never let anybody install a pirated copy of Windows 10 on your computer. 

Don't Become a Scam Victim: Useful Tips

Yes, I know, you have heard it all before — but have you **actually done anything about it?** It's tax time and the scammers are having a ball — don't be the one to get caught! (Pun intended). If you haven't already taken the APPROPRIATE ACTION, **DO IT NOW.**

- Hang up when someone you don't know calls;
- Immediately delete e-mails from people you don't know, and from agencies or businesses that you didn't agree to receive e-mails from;
- Don't click on links in iffy e-mails, resource the a link from an independent source;
- Never send money online to someone you don't know;
- If in doubt, contact the government agency from a phone number or website that you have located and were not directed to;
- The ATO will never request payment of a debt via iTunes or Google Play cards;
- Never give your personal credit card or online account details over the phone unless you made the call and the phone number came from a trusted source;
- If you think you have provided your bank account details to a scammer, contact your bank or financial institution **immediately**;
- **Never, ever, ever give an unsolicited person or organization remote access to your computer.** You may compromise the security of your device and your personal information;
- Ensure your computer is protected with regularly updated anti-virus and anti-spyware software.



Share this information — and discuss the prevalence of these type of scams with people in your circle who may be less savvy about this type of technology or scam activity.

To report a scam or for further information visit

www.scamwatch.gov.au



Why not register for

Be Connected

<https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/>

Windows 7 Reaches End of Life

Quite a number of our members are still using Windows 7 (Win7). This is scheduled to reach its end of life on 14 January, 2020. What actually happens at that point in time? What **doesn't happen** is that Win7 stops working. The most significant thing is that there will be no further patches for new virus or security issues or updates and, probably no support.

You will be able to use Win7 for as long as you want — but just because you **can** doesn't mean you **should**. However, if you are determined to continue using Win7, it is **imperative** that you have a good and up-to-date anti-malware suite. If a large number of people continue to use Win7, it could be a big incentive to malicious users to target viruses and other nasties at Win7 users.

Plan now for what happens after 14-01-20. You have several options:

1. Upgrade to Win10 — the sooner the better; The **basic** requirements for your computer are a 1 gigahertz or faster processor; 1 gigabyte of RAM for a 32 bit system or 2 gigabytes for a 64 bit system; **preferably** you should have a 2 gigahertz dual core processor, at least 4 gigabytes of RAM (preferably 8) and a 160 gigabyte hard drive to ensure that Win10 runs well, with support for PAE, NX, and SSE2 . If your specs don't match the preferred, it may be better to get a new PC. PCs don't last forever and what you have **not** upgraded may well cause your machine to drop dead anyway, sooner rather than later. The beauty of buying a new PC is that Win10 will already be installed. It is quite easy to move your files etc from your backup (YOU DO HAVE ONE, **DON'T YOU?**) to your new computer. Don't be tempted to upgrade to Win8 or 8.1 as they too have only a limited life nor “Win10 **S**” which has serious limitations. (See our newsletter Vol. 18 No.7 page 6 for details).
2. Another alternative is to switch platforms altogether from Windows to Linux. There are lots of variations (called “Distros”) available; one of the most popular is Ubuntu, another is Linux Mint. It has a similar user interface to Win7. You will also get all the necessary tools with it when you install it. On the other hand, there are a number of disadvantages to swapping to Linux. Being a completely different system to Windows, some or even several of your old programmes may not work on Linux.
3. Yet another alternative is to swap to a Mac. It is a brilliant system but it is notoriously expensive and there are only a few programmes to support it and they, too, are not cheap and, again, your old programs may not work.

Don't leave your decision until 14-01-20. Let me know what you are going to do and, if I can, I will write an article to help you. 

Windows 10 v1809 has Transitioned to Broad Deployment

March 29, 2019

Microsoft has designated Windows 10 v1809 ready for deployment for all. Originally released October 2018, the version was abruptly pulled back by Microsoft because of numerous bugs that caused users to lose their data and encounter issues involving ZIP compressed files.

The update was cautiously re-released in mid-November, 2018, to mainstream users. It was so unpopular that less than 30% of Windows 10 devices adopted it, with 50% of users swearing `to never update to this version.

The Company seems in a hurry to advise the Windows 10 community that build 1809 is now fixed and ready for broad deployment. Whether this version is ready is difficult to say because, whilst Microsoft resolved the initial bugs, the most recent update for Win10 build 1809 still has five known issues:

1. Internet Explorer 11 authentication issue
2. Audio output issues with a machine having multiple devices
3. MSXML6 causing applications to stop responding.
4. Custom URI Schemes for Application Protocol handlers may not start the relevant application for local intranet and trusted sites on Internet Explorer
5. Issues using the Preboot Execution Environment (PXE) to start a device from a Windows Deployment Services (WDS) server configured to use Variable Window Extension Preboot execution environment issues.

The reason that Microsoft has designated Windows 10 v1809 as a ready product for deployment for all may be that the company is shortly looking to announce the arrival of Windows 10 version 1903. It would not have looked that good to release a new version without confirming to its Enterprise and business customers that Windows 10 version 1809 was not ready for deployment.

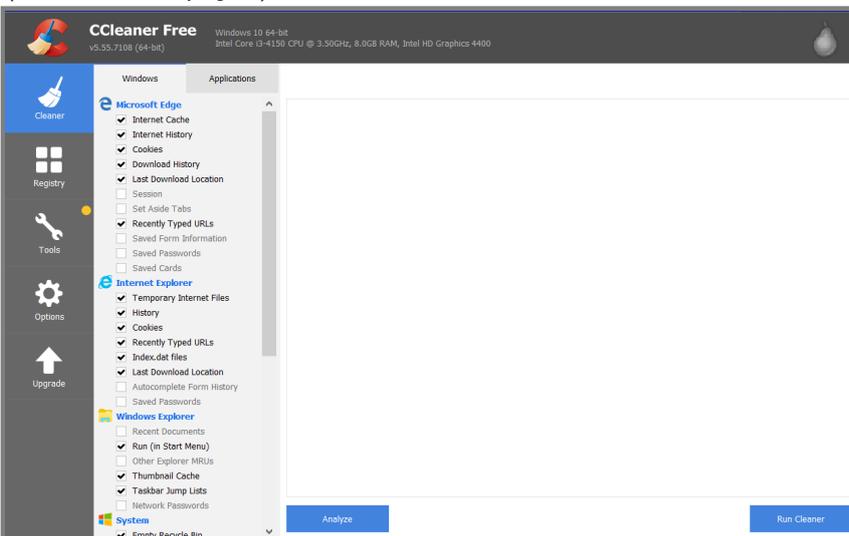
[Microsoft](#) has already completed Windows 10 April 2019 Update with the last Preview Build expected to be released soon. 

Keeping Your PC Clean

Have you noticed that your PC is slowly but surely getting slower and slower? It happens to all of us and is usually contributed to by all sorts of spurious files clogging up the works!

Never fear, CCleaner is here. CC stands for “Crap Cleaner”, and that is exactly what it does and does it very well — cleans all the “crap” from you computer. If you don’t already have it, get it from <https://www.ccleaner.com/ccleaner?> There are two principal versions: Free and Pro. The pro version costs \$19.95.

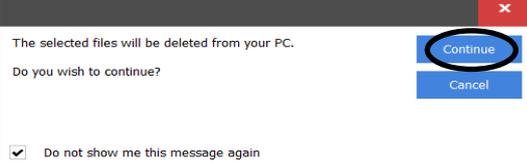
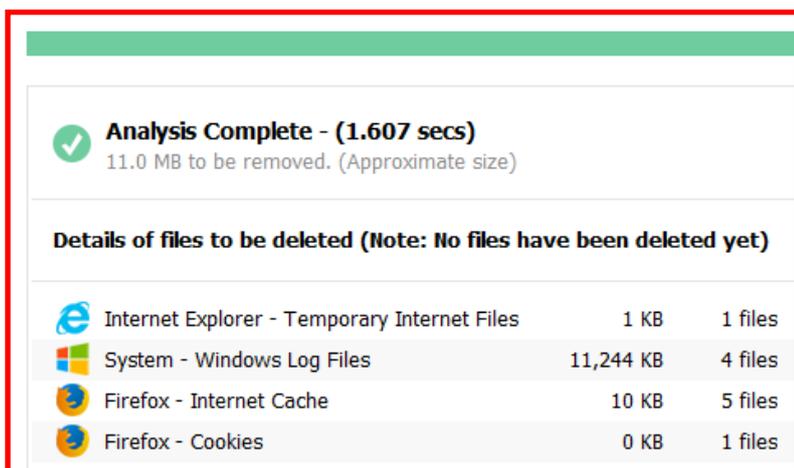
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The latter's main advantages are "Realtime Monitoring, Scheduled Cleaning, Automatic Updates and Premium Support". Having used both, I have found the free version quite sufficient, but the choice is yours.

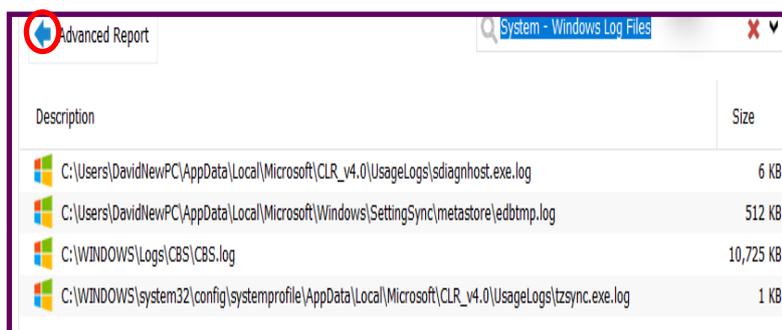
1. Download and install the programme;

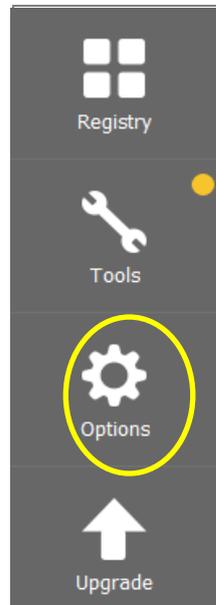
2. Select what you want to scan. The cleaner component comes with certain settings pre-selected (above).
3. Review these thoroughly, unticking any you don't want to lose and ticking those you would like to clean. If in doubt, clear it or leave it clear.
4. Click "Analyze" (sic). CCleaner will do a limited scan.
5. To see what it has found (outlined in red, right), "Right Click", one at a time, on each of the items and select "Analyze" (sic).
6. "Right Click" specific files to exclude them from future scans.
7. To go back to the original report, Click "Advanced Report".



8. When you are ready, Click "Run Cleaner". A warning will come up (left). This is your last chance to abort or add or remove a file.

9. If you're happy or have made your changes, Click "Continue" (highlighted in black, above). CCleaner will go through its machinations. When it has finished cleaning, Click "Advanced Report" to reveal the report below. Click the back arrow (right) and again on "Run CCleaner" to further clean out those files.





10. To manage the files that you have excluded, Click “Options” on the main menu (highlighted in yellow, left).

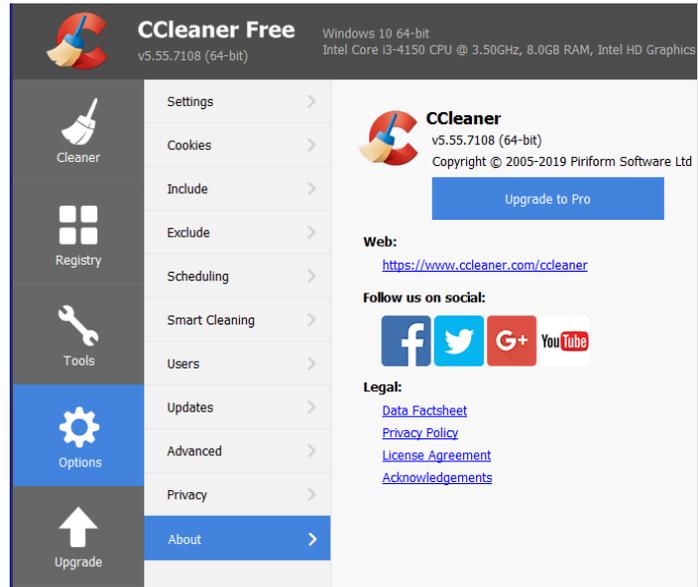
11. This opens up a new range of options (right).

12. Click on each item in turn “Settings”, “Cookies” etc. and set your options.

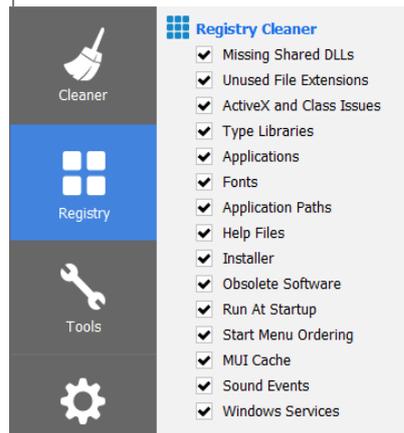
13. To remove files that you have previously excluded from being scanned, Click “Options” then

“Control Click” those files to select them, then Click “Remove”.

In future, those files will again be scanned.



CCleaner has a number of other functions.



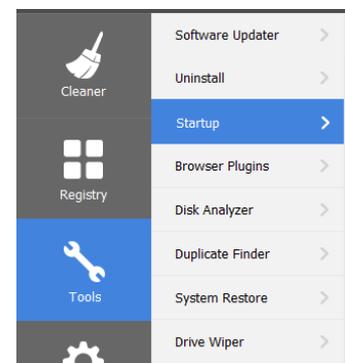
“Registry” will seek out problems with the Registry under your selected options (see left). Click

“Analyze” (sic) to find what if anything needs fixing. If there are some, **untick** any you don’t want fixed, then Click “Fix Issues”. CCleaner will then offer an option to back up the Registry before it fixes the issues you have selected. **Always do this** and save the backup to a location where you can find it — JUST IN CASE! Repeat “Analysing” and “Fixing” the issues until CCleaner

can find no more. Back up each time, and save the backup to the same location. Each backup will be given a separate identifier.

“Tools” (right) provides a number of useful services. “Software Updater” will only work if you have the “Pro” version of CCleaner, but you can utilise all the others.

“Startup” is a particularly useful tool. If you Click on it, it will list all the programs on your Startup Menu. You can allow them to start when you boot or disable those you don’t need to start when you boot. The disabled ones will still appear on the list when you click in the bottom left of your screen. Alternatively, you can delete programs entirely from the Start Menu; they will not appear on that list. If you use them occasionally, Right Click them and Click “Pin to Task Bar”.

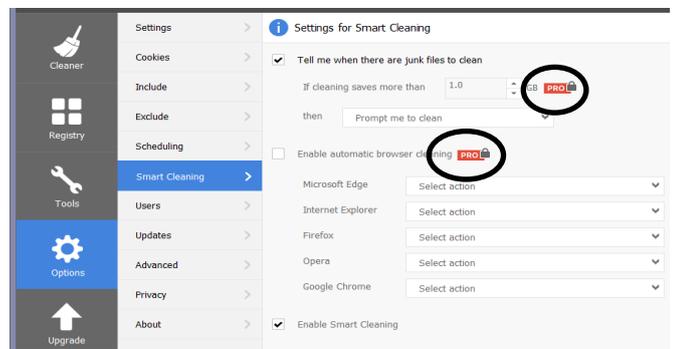


“Browser Plugins” lists all your plugins under the four most

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Popular browsers. Clicking on each one in turn allows you to Accept, Disable, or Delete each plugin. “Disabling” still allows you manually to invoke the program as required.



The effect of each of the remaining four tools is included at the top of each tool’s page when you select it.

Some of the “Options” or parts of them are only available to “Pro” users. Each relevant “Option” is identified (highlighted in black above).

The one tool I do not recommend is “Uninstall”. A far better option for uninstalling a program is “REVO UNINSTALLER”. A free and a Pro. version, is available from www.revouninstaller.com/revo_uninstaller_free_download.html.

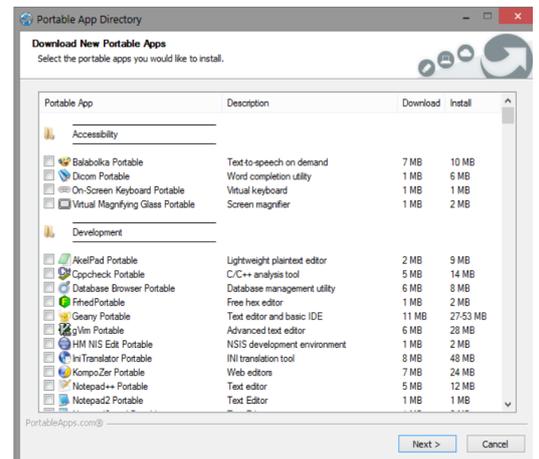
The free version does an excellent job of clearing out all the left-over files from a standard uninstallation. In the “Mode”, Click on “Advanced”. Tick for deletion only the **highlighted** entries. After ensuring you haven’t ticked any unhighlighted entries, when asked, Click the “Delete” button. Do the same again on the last page.



When Choosing a New App, Should I Pick the Portable Version?

Nowadays, many apps come with a choice of a “Portable Version”. So which should I choose and why?

When you install a non-portable app on your computer, it scatters (fragments) itself all over your hard drive and takes up valuable space in the Registry. On the other hand, Portable Apps restrict themselves to a single folder. Everything they need to run can be found in that one folder. Starting to get the gist? Another thing is that to remove the app, all you have to do is delete the folder. EVERYTHING relating to that app is gone — no left-overs.



There is another benefit, you don’t need to even have them loaded on your computer’s hard drive at all. They will run just as easily from a thumb drive or similar. This can be a really big benefit. If you have to reinstall Windows from scratch, the portable apps and your settings will be untouched.

A good place to start your collection of portable apps is Portable Apps.com from [www.https://portableapps.com/](https://portableapps.com/). Download it and start creating your own directory of portable apps (see above right).





Feedback from our last Members' meeting has been most encouraging. Its theme has been — forget computers — let's have more of those delicious brownies. Several members have asked for the recipe. Simple, really, buy yourself a packet of Betty Crocker's "Triple Chocolate Brownie Mix". I use the vegetable

(olive) oil and water alternative. The biggest secret is, eat them whilst they are fresh. Whilst I do love cooking, I have yet to find a brownie mix that comes close to Betty Crocker's. There! The cat is out of the bag.

Feedback at the meeting on the possibility of a Master Index of our magazine on an upgraded web site was most positive. I will propose a sub-committee to look at what we want from our website and how we'll achieve that. In the mean time, I will start by initiating and maintaining up-to-date, a Master Index in anticipation.

If there is a program, function, or whatever, you would like to know something about, please don't hesitate to let me know and I will see what can be done.

A Driving Tip: I have learned, very painfully, keep your thumbs **outside** the steering wheel "hole" and at a 9/3 position rather than a 10/2 position as we were originally taught. See the diagram (right) for the correct hand and thumb position.



Jest a Minute



A ragged tramp stopped a Club Local on his way home from a meeting and asked him for money for food. "I'll do better than that!" said the Local. "Come into the pub, and I'll buy you a drink!"

"Thank you!" said the beggar, "but I've never drunk and I never will!"

"Well, let me buy you some cigarettes then!" said the Local.

"No, thanks!" said the tramp, "I've never smoked and I never will!"

"Okay", said the Local. "Come back to the hall with me and I'll see you get a meal!"

"No, thanks", said the man. "I've never entered an RSL hall and I never will!"

"Right, then", said the Local, "please come home with me and meet my wife!"

"Why?" asked the tramp.

"Well", said the Local. "I just want her to see what happens to a guy who doesn't drink, doesn't smoke and hasn't joined the local Club!"



IT & COMPUTERS

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(Same block as Woolies on Beach Road)

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