



Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc.

Supporting inexperienced users with local expertise

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SDCUCI NEWS

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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 supper

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



Brownpaddock Chatter

FROM A TEACHER:



Yesterday, I shut down class about 5 minutes early and told my students I wanted them to just sit and talk to one another. Several of them immediately opened their laptops and began navigating to their favorite computer game.

I said, "No, no laptops. I want you to have face-to-face conversations right now."

After a collective groan went up, I observed something both wonderful and alarming. For the next few minutes, a couple of tables came alive with conversation. They looked at each other in the eyes and talked with great enthusiasm and interest. It was beautiful to watch and listen to.

However, many students were deflated. They did not know what to do without some sort of entertainment from a device. A couple of them put their heads down and avoided eye contact with anyone. I went around the room to those students and tried to engage with them. Some of them mustered a few words, but most did not know what to do.

I share this story as a wakeup call for parents, grandparents, and guardians. It is tragic to me that a large percentage of today's youth do not know how to have real conversation, but it is not their fault. It is our responsibility as adults to lead by example and hold our kids accountable. Unplug every day, talk, and listen to your children. Getting lost in a device does not help them cope with and overcome the things they are going through mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. All it causes is isolation and depression. They need relationships; they need **you**.





The Hedy Lamar You Might not Know

Do you remember Hedy Lamar? As a film star, she played against

Victor Mature in *Sampson and Delilah* as well as in *Ziegfeld Girl* with James Stewart and *Algiers* with Charles Boyer, together with nearly 30 lesser known films.

A self-taught engineer, Lamar took up inventing to relieve her boredom as an actress. She helped invent a version of Wi-Fi that led to the creation of GPS, Bluetooth and wireless internet.

Born Hedwig Kiesler, Lamar grew up in Austria in the depths of World War I. After a brief stint as a German film star, she married an Austrian arms manufacturer and dealer: one of the country's richest men.

Hedy was just 18 at the time. Her new husband was extremely controlling and had ties to Hitler and Mussolini. After only a few years, Hedy fled from her husband, reputedly disguised as her maid. She went to Paris, where she met Louis B. Mayer, head of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) studio. He offered her a Hollywood movie contract and began promoting her as "the world's most beautiful woman". Thus began Lamar's illustrious career as a star of the big screen and being cast in a series of high-profile roles. But the work was not challenging enough for her.

Following the declaration of World War II, Lamar was asked to contribute to the war effort. In a show of great ingenuity, she invented an improved torpedo guidance system, devising a method of 'frequency hopping', whereby the signals being sent to guide the torpedo would 'hop' between different radio frequencies – this allowed the torpedo to avoid being spotted and sabotaged by the enemy.

Lamar's invention didn't just help the military, it also supported the invention of many of the subsequent technologies we rely on today, like Bluetooth, GPS and WiFi. After the war, Lamar quietly returned to acting, leaving behind a legacy of technology and innovation.




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Save Restartable Apps When Signing Out and Back In

You can set Windows 10 to automatically save your restartable apps when you sign out and restart them after you sign in, by undertaking the following steps:


1. Right-click on the Windows logo
2. Select Settings
3. Click “Open Accounts” or just “Accounts”
4. From the left side, select “Sign-in options”
5. Scroll down till you see the *Restart apps* setting

Toggle the *Automatically save your restartable apps when you sign out and restart them after you sign in* setting to “On”. When you sign back in, your restartable apps open again. To test, start one or more Universal Windows Platform (UWP) apps, such as Feedback Hub, then sign out and then back into Windows. Feedback Hub app should restart itself minimized. It makes sure that such apps do not take up all the resources slowing down the computer. 

My “Be Connected” Experience *Anne Leddra*

I first heard about “Be Connected” at a talk here at the Southern Districts Computer Club a few years ago. I was interested but did not follow it up until last year when I saw an advert about an Information Day and saw that they also helped with phones and tablets. I attended at Holly Cottage in Hackham and heard about the variety of courses, workshops, and individual sessions available to the public. Whilst not all the many courses available are of interest to me, I identified lots that would be of assistance.

Subsequently I made an appointment to speak with someone regarding my phone usage problems. This one-on-one session proved invaluable. Not only did I get the answers to my phone usage problems, I was given a lesson on all the shortcuts and useful things I could do on my phone. I learned that a phone can be anything you want it to be – it really can be a super useful tool.

Be Connected has a comprehensive website with free resources specifically designed to support older Australians to connect online safely and navigate the digital world confidently. It has an amazing number of online tutorials, videos, and printable instructions that you can browse through online. These range from the extremely basic, to enrolling in MyGov, internet banking and e/safety tips. I am now able to do all sorts of interesting and useful things on my phone – even make a phone call!! 

Be Connected

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



Adelaide Canoe Club members Kris Chong, Kimberley Wooning and Abelardo Pardo at the Onkaparinga River for Clean Up Australia Day. Picture: Emma Brasier

BID TO CLEAN UP COAST IS A SHOE-IN

CLARE PEDDIE

SHOES and thongs, plastic chairs and even an old horse blanket were found discarded on beaches in this year's Clean Up Australia Day.

Volunteers came out in force to help clean up public spaces, with organisers reporting a 20 per cent rise in

community registrations. Adelaide Canoe Club member Kimberley Wooning, of Port Noarlunga, said the condition of the Onkaparinga River had improved since last year's clean up, with less fishing tackle waste in the waterway.

"We always find unusual things. There was a horse

blanket, some old plastic chairs and a piece of treated pine, a hefty one," she said.

"Shoes and thongs, the list is endless. It's quite funny, that's often the more amusing part of the whole game, actually."

Meanwhile, volunteers from Save our Shores: Semaphore and Largs Bay cleaned up the dunes.

What Windows Version am I Using?

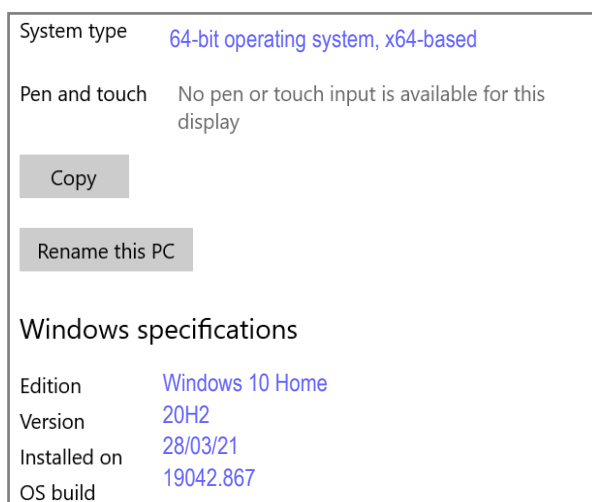
Every installation of Windows has a major version, a specific version, and a build number. Whilst you might never need to know the specific version or build number, it is important to know which major version of Windows your computer is using .

Future updates to Windows seem like they will be in the form of new Windows 10 *builds* every 6 months, such that future updates might perhaps be called “Windows 10 [Build Name]”. The latest Windows 10 version is 20H2, released in October 2020. The next versions in 2021 should be 21H1 and 21H2. This is logical as Microsoft moves from making money on licensing specific software versions to making their money on software as a service (SaaS) where your software subscription includes future updates. If this happens, you will need to know the build number and name of the version of Windows that you have installed on your computer, together with whether you are running on a 32 or a 64 bit system


Why will you need this information? With this information to hand, you will be fully prepared when it comes time to update your device drivers or determine what apps you can install on your computer. In addition, when you search for instructions for doing something specific on your computer, you can ensure that those instructions are tailored for your operating system.

The simple way to find this information is to:

1. Launch Windows File Explorer by pressing **Win+E** or by typing **File Explorer** in the Windows search bar and selecting the app.
2. Find **This PC** on the left. In older versions of Windows, look for **My Computer**.



3. Right-click on **This PC** (or **My Computer**) and Select **Properties**. You should see something like that shown left, except that the information almost certainly will be different and it will be in black, not blue print. I have highlighted in blue the information you need to look for in the Properties window. Incidentally, it may also be formatted somewhat differently in earlier versions of Windows.

Naturally, Microsoft recommends you “move to a Windows 10 PC” so they can automatically push security upgrades to your PC. That is fine if you have the necessary resources to get Windows 10, but if not, it is still useful to know what version of Windows you have. 



Internet Password Books are OK

By Christopher Boyd: April 1, 2021.

Boyd is the lead Malware Intelligence Analyst and a former Director of Research at FaceTime Security Labs. He has a very particular set of skills.

Passwords are a hot topic on social media at the moment, due to the re-emergence of a discussion about the management of good password practices.

There is a wealth of password management options available, some more desirable than others. The primary recommendation online is software-based management. Some include online syncing alongside web browser extensions. Others involve syncing passwords with services such as Dropbox. Then there is the notepad on desktop aficionados, or the time-honoured tradition of the Post-It note on the office monitor. Today, we are here to talk about perhaps the most controversial method of password storage — the big book of passwords

The one password management tool that experiences more than its fair share of derision — the oft-maligned Internet Password Book. These are physical books which are little more than empty notepads with “Internet Password Book” written on the front. Some allow owners to group logins by category, or add additional notes as they see fit. For various reasons, you will usually see them being rubbished on social media as the worst thing around for password management. It is a passionate debate, and one which comes back to life every six months or so. The most recent bi-annual flurry of excitement was kicked off by BBC technology reporter Zoe Kleinman:

One important aspect of whether these books should be used at all is a thing called a “threat model”. I am sure you would like a brief run down of what a threat model is, then great news...that’s just what we are going to do.

Threat Models

The best description I have seen of what threat modelling consists of, is in an article by Katie Nickels who says it is “*the process of figuring out what you have that adversaries care about*”.

We do not all face the same risks, and we do not all need to take the same precautions as a result. When you see the latest sophisticated nation state attack in the news, it is bad. Like most people, however, you can probably go on as if nothing has happened. That clever spearphishing attack is targeting no more than a dozen or so individuals worldwide.

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You will never see it, and you almost certainly will not receive messages from Google about it. It is not in your threat model.

My personal security concerns are based around what is important to me, what I want to secure, which bits I am not bothered about, and what is absolutely mission critical at all costs. That is my Threat Model.

Sizing up your adversary

You may not need to worry about nation state attacks, but you will almost certainly have something in place for the 600th fake tax return invoice landing in your mailbox. That is an aspect of your threat model you know your business is up against, you know what they are after, and you have put solutions in place to ward it off. It may or may not be the single most important threat your organisation faces ...or it might be mid-tier. It will differ from place to place, and that is fine.

What tends to happen when we see the infamous password book on display, is we apply a one-size-fits-all approach and dismiss it as silly or bad practice.

It could definitely be sub-optimal for someone working with sensitive data. There are far better ways for those individuals to secure their digital demands in ways that scale up to the likely threats they face. On the other hand, there are many people out there for whom those books will be a perfect fit: People who are simply unfamiliar or uncomfortable with computers.

Password managers

The two pillars of bad password practices are reuse, and poor password choice. Software-based password managers are excellent tools for dealing with both problems, which is why they are so widely recommended. They are great for creating increasingly complex passwords all gated behind a variety of secure login methods. Everything from 2 Factor Authentication (2FA), to regional login lockouts are yours for the taking. That's great! The more choice, the better. Even so, many people will never bother with password managers.

Maybe they are overwhelmed for choice, or the tools they know of do not meet specific operational requirements. Perhaps the tool they really want to use has no browser extension, or is only offline instead of syncing online. It is also possible they may just find the whole thing too fiddly or complicated, or simply not know they exist.

Depending on your Operating System (OS), type of device, and feature set, something that should be easy can very easily become a chore. From there, bad habits can start to set in, including the eventual removal of the password manager. It is then a short hop back to Password123.

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Password management books: what works and what does not

Some common objections to password books are as follows:

- If you lose the book while out and about, you have lost access to everything.
- Having to type in your passwords while reading them from a book, instead of having a password manager do it for you, could encourage people to use simple passwords instead of complex ones.

Books become a form of abandonware over time, with missing entries, torn pages, logins which have been changed online and not been updated, and other logins which never end up in the book at all.

The counters to these points are lengthy, so they get their own sections:

Loss or theft of a password book

Losing the book while outside the home is not that different from losing access to a password vault because of technical problems, forgotten master passwords, or other unforeseen happenings. In both cases, something has gone wrong. In the case of the book, it is likely to be kept at home and is reliant on multiple real-world layers of physical security.

That is much more reliable than when a password management tool has their database broken into by anonymous criminals, and there is nothing you can do about it. If your home is burgled, you have bigger fish to fry than worrying about your logins. Also, realistically, burglars are looking for expensive items they can take and then sell on. They do not care about the password book in your clothes draw.

Password books: encouraging simple passwords?

Could books encourage simple passwords? It is quite possible. Some may find it rather aggravating to hammer out dozens of complicated passwords from page to screen whenever they log in. In my experience, people writing passwords down tend to take more of an interest in making everything unique. Nobody is filling thirty pages of a password book with “password123”. What is the point? Sure, we could end up with a variety of password1234/5/6 instead, but it is still a bit more varied than the alternative.

I have also seen people write passwords only — not user names or service / website on the pages. What they do instead, is associate certain pages with certain services. This is a great defence against theft or loss, but I would be worried about forgetting the order. This is also a *major* negative if the book’s owner dies and family members need to attempt some form of data recovery. Where would you even begin?

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Abandonware in paper format?

Abandonware books, what a concept. I think there's some merit to this one, but I also think it offers a glimmer of hope. I know someone who did this, and what was happening was a slow transition to software password managers. If filling in some passwords in a book is the stepping-stone someone needs to feel more confident about moving logins to the PC,

more power to them. It is also possible some folks have typed out passwords from books so many times that they can remember the important ones anyway. This concludes my lengthy counterpoint section.

Maybe they're not the worst idea after all

The takeaway here is that we are dealing with an imperfect, messy solution for a messy, imperfect requirement to use our accounts. In situations where friends or relatives simply will not entertain a password manager, it could be a decent (if not the only!) alternative. It really depends on the individual and how safe it will be to drag their logins from screen to page. The password book will not work for everybody, but it will definitely work for somebody and I think that is perfectly fine. 🖥️

The table below illustrates the relative strength of the Paper Password Manager compared with other password management strategies.

		Threats			
		Easy for the attacker	More difficult for the attacker		
		Attacker compromises the password to one of the user's accounts	Attacker steals the file/media in which the user's passwords are stored	Attacker gains access to the password file and one account password	Attacker gains access to the password file and the key
Password management strategy	One password used everywhere	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED
	Unique passwords written on paper	Other accounts OK	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED
	Unique passwords saved in a file on the computer	Other accounts OK	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED
	Paper Password Manager	Other accounts OK	Other accounts OK	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED
	Electronic password manager	Other accounts OK	Other accounts OK	Other accounts OK	ALL ACCOUNTS COMPROMISED

Editorial

Welcome to your April newsletter. What a month it has been!

- ✎ All the kerfuffle with selling my house and starting to get the new place ready;
- ✎ Then there were all the preparations for my son's wedding;
- ✎ Taking over as Vice President in my Probus Club, and finally,

- ✎ The numerous medical appointments that seem to be concomitant with my increasing age!

I am fairly sure that those members who joined with President Jim to go to "Some Enchanted Evening" in the Hopgood theatre on Thursday 15th April had a most enjoyable afternoon. Sadly, for me, it was a bit of a flop as I could barely hear the performance due to my hearing problem. From the comments I heard afterwards, I think it was well received — it was certainly well attended.

I know I keep repeating myself, but I have had some exceptionally good **non-feedback** on the (albeit slight) change in format of your magazine. It really would help me and the Committee to know what you think.



Jest a Minute




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Goff
"I don't have time to learn any security protocols. All I want to know is how is it possible for anyone to steal 10 million user accounts from my laptop?"

~ April's Topic ~
“CARING FOR YOUR LAPTOP OR PC”
Presenter: PRESIDENT JIM


— *For Your Notes* —

Our May Members' Meeting

We can all look forward to Lindsay Chuck giving us the benefit of his knowledge and experience with “Cloud computing”, its pros and cons, and how we may benefit from using it. 

MEETING RULES

We are allowed to use the facilities at the Hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church, on the corner of Bains and Main South Roads, Morphet Vale in return for a small fee plus respect for their property. We ask for your co-operation in respect to the above.

Whilst we have no control over what our members do away from our Club meetings, piracy of copyright material cannot be condoned at our meetings. Please respect copyright laws at all times. 

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

IT & COMPUTERS

Shop 6, 76 Beach Road
Christies Beach 8186 2736

(Same block as Woolies on Beach Road)

Contact: Jamle or Ash

For all your computing needs
available locally

Need help with your computer?
Looking to purchase a new one?
Need additional peripherals?
Home site visits available !

Looking for excellent customer
and after sales service?

New Computers

Repairs

Virus removal

New software & Upgrades

Peripheral units:

Wireless Keyboard Mouse

Sound Boards & Systems

External & Internal Hard Drives



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