# SOUTHERN DISTRICTS COMPUTER USERS CLUB INC.



#### **DECEMBER 2005**



scucisdcuci@vcsweb.com



Christmas, 'is the time to be jolly, to be with friends and loved ones, to see the joy on the faces of the children and to be contented with the personal achievements we have made during the year.

No matter how small or how great the achievement has been, we all must have something to look back on and say "Gee, I'm glad I tried Judo", or whatever. It gives us a good feeling and cancels out the memories of the "not so good".

As a small club that is rapidly increasing in membership, I feel that we have had an exceptionally good year and am confident we have more good times to come. It amazes me that a club like ours attracts the attention of so many queries from our Website, thanks to our Patron and her husband, Gaylene and Rob. I get many calls about membership, topics we teach and from people with problems all initiated by way of the web.

We still have some of our members on the sick list and to them and their carers we offer our hopes that the New Year will see a change for the better and a definite improvement to their health.

Also we look forward to the return of our caravan nomads who have been seeing Australia Allover in their own particular way. From frequent communications I know they have not wasted their touring efforts and will certainly have enriched both their knowledge and appreciation of our wonderful country.

What have we in store for our club in the New Year?

I had hoped to be able to say we were fortunate in regards to a "Grant" we had applied for, but at the time of going to print, we haven't received that decision yet. (We're still in with a chance)

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President's page continued

Never the less we have got some good topics and interesting speakers to entertain us in the early months of 2006.

In closing, let me offer to all members "The Compliments Of The Season and a Safe and Happy New Year" from your Committee and myself and I look forward to seeing you all at our January meeting.

Ron Stephens President.

#### What's a Driver

A driver is the name given to the file or set of files that are used to control the behaviour of a piece of hardware. Windows XP comes with most of the drivers needed for hardware devices.

If you buy some other peripheral like a printer for example it will come with a CD containing the drivers for that particular device which you will need to install.

#### Slow Start Up in XP

A slow startup is often the result of too many applications set to start at the same time.

This can be fixed by checking what is set to open on the Start-Up configuration:-Click on Start, Run, type in "msconfig" then press enter.

Select the Start Up tab in the box which will appear where you will see what programmes are scheduled to be launched on boot-up.

You can prevent some of the unimportant ones from opening by un-checking the tick in the corresponding box.

Some of these you must leave alone for example, firewall and anti virus protection and anything you do not recognise.

Deadline for next News-Letter January 11th 2006.

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### CLUB NOTICES

#### S.D.C.U.C.I

MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of the Month, at The Christ Church O'Halloran Hill 1708 Main South Road O'Halloran Hill at 7:30pm Visitors most welcome.

Cost \$2 per family, which includes the Newsletter, coffee/tea & biscuits. Subscriptions per Club's Year \$18. (Oct. to Oct.)

#### Novice and experienced computer users will be warmly welcomed

For further information:Contact The Club President,
Ron Stephens, \$\infty\$8387 2814
Correspondence to
The Secretary
S.D.C.U.C.I.
Box 991
Morphett Vale 5162
Email to
scucisdcuci@vcsweb.com



#### **DECEMBER**

Jim Greenfield, 2nd Colin Martin, 12th Colin Campbell, 19th Roy Buckle, 20th Dean Howard, 21st



#### **MEETINGS**

#### **TOPICS**

December	21st	Club visit to Hillview Retirement Village.
January	18th	Epson Products Printers & Scanners etc

Nikki Young.

February 15th Mail Merge. Ron Stephens.

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PO Box 991 Morphett Vale SA 5162

## Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc.

Names of Committee Members. 19 October 2005.

President: Ron Stephens Vice President Dean Vice Secretary: Roy Buckle Treasurer: Monica Warren Committee Member: Colin Campbell Committee Member: Betty Dawson Committee Member: Gordon Heyer Committee Member: **Rob Moulding** 

Please respect the privacy of others, and only use the above information for your own personal use.

A small boy asked his Dad, "What's Christmas Dad?"
So Dad took him to a department store where he met Santa Claus and saw the toy department.

"That's Christmas son"

Little Isaac said to his father, Moishe, "What's "Christmas Dad?" Moishe took the lad to a vast and empty warehouse.

"That's Christmas, son!"

#### **MEETING RULES**

NO SMOKING NO DRINKING NO SWEARING

We are allowed to use the facilities at Christ Church, O'Halloran Hill in return of a small fee plus respect for their property. We ask for your co-operation in respect to the above. While we cannot control what our members do away from our club meetings, piracy of copyright material cannot be condoned at our meetings

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#### PEACE ON EARTH, AND MOBILE PHONES TO ALL

Mobile phones, mobile phones, I see them everywhere, People walking down the street, talking in mid air. Would a mobile phone for Christmas be a blessing or a curse? Well, I've thought a bit about it and I know things could be worse. Just imagine for a minute if mobile phones had been the go, When Christmas was invented, two thousand years ago.

On that road to Bethlehem, it was crowded as could be, There'd be Joseph, beside Mary (in late pregnancy).

Joseph looks at Mary, with Jesus in her womb, And he reaches for his mobile and books ahead a room.

So when they get to Bethlehem, the innkeeper would've said Yes, I've got your reservation here, it's wise to book ahead. So there could've been no manger, no ox or ass or crib;

Could you picture baby Jesus in some cosy double bed?

And then there were those shepherds, watching flocks by night, A mobile call from heaven, they wouldn't get a fright. Ring! Ring!...there goes the mobile:

Hello, Chief Shepherd here (Just a simple phone call, no trembling with fear). Hello yes, I see, a Savour!. I'll tell the other Shepherds and we'll set off straight away!

There would have been no glories, no Angels in the air.

It would have been so boring if mobile phones were there.

And last there were those wise men who lived way in the east,

Now they were most important men, VIP's to say the least.

As far as we can gather they spent time away from home,

So each of them I'm certain would've had a mobile phone.

The chances are, that special night they'd have had a hook-up call,
and would've been too busy to have seen that star at all.

So there would've been no camels or journeys in the night, No bearing gifts and following that blessed heavenly light. Perhaps a long time later, with their tents not even packed, They would've heard of Jesus, most likely on a fax.

So these days when I come across some lovely nativity scene, I think for just a moment, how things might have been.

Yes, mobile phones are here to stay, for better or for worse, but I feel really thankful that Jesus got here first.

Again many thanks to Dean for this one.

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#### Christ Church O'HALLORAN HILL

#### **OP SHOP**

A BARGAIN HERE CAN NOW BE FOUND SO COME ON IN AND BROWSE AROUND
WE'VE BRIC-A-BRAC AND CLOTHING TOO
SOMETHING HERE THAT'S JUST FOR YOU

Opening Hours 9.00 am to 12.00 Noon Monday:- Thursday:- Friday:-

#### HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

# Below are some Interesting links you may like to check out:

**Gaelyne's Home Suite Home** (http://gaelyne.com/index.php) The home page of our Club's Patron Gaelyne Gasson.

SPUG: (http://www.springnet1.com/spug/) Our Sister Club in Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A.

A lovely Web site of one of our members Margaret Winstanley. Do visit you will find a lot to keep you interested.

www.adam.com.au/mlwinstan/index.htm

Remember when checking links on the Internet, that sometimes they don't work, because a computer may be down, or there may be too much traffic on part of the Internet. So, if a link doesn't work, try it a few hours later, or the next day.



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#### Make Camera Batteries Last Longer.

OK, if you've been shooting your digital camera for more than a few hours you've probably noticed your camera thinks of your battery inventory as an all-you-can-eat buffet. So, here is some advice that will, hopefully, save you some money and make your batteries last longer:

- 1. Use rechargeable batteries. Check your owner's manual to see if you can use rechargeable batteries. If the answer is yes, then go out and buy some!
- 2. Keep extra batteries with you at all times. Don't you just hate it when you're about to snap a photo and the stupid battery quits? Usually they croak right when you're in the middle of shooting an exciting event. Always keep at least one spare set of batteries in your camera bag at all times.

If your camera uses its own proprietary battery, you may need to contact the manufacturer or go to their website to get extras. Probably not a bad idea to get several extras, especially since cameras get obsolete faster than last year's pop music. You don't want your original battery to wear out, only to find no more are available for your camera due to its age.

Oh, and if you're using sets of rechargeable batteries, try to keep those sets together. That way, they all "age" at the same rate.

- 3. Use *less* LCD monitor. LCD monitors are really great—they're one of the reasons digital photography is such fun. You just look at the LCD panel and snap when the image looks good. What could be easier? However, there is a downside. That little LCD monitor on the back of your camera is like a battery vampire. The more you use it, the faster the life gets sucked out of your batteries. If you want to conserve battery power, keep the LCD monitor use to a minimum. That optical view-finder on your camera will work just fine for most images, and can really stretch out your battery life.
- **4. Avoid excessive playback.** Yes, I'm going to be picking on the LCD monitor again here, since the playback feature can also eat a lot of battery juice. If you're running low on power, use playback only when absolutely necessary. If you really need to examine a photo you snapped a moment ago, that's fine. Just keep in mind that if you're showing a friend the last 200 photos you've taken of your pet Chihuahua, you may not have any power left the next time you need it.
- **5. Keep your batteries warm.** Cold weather is to batteries what RAID is to bugs—it kills 'em good.

If you're shooting in cold weather, keep your extra batteries in a warm pocket, wrapped in a zip-lock bag. (The zip-lock is to keep them from shorting out with other metal in your pockets—things get a little hot when that happens, trust me.)

You may be able to resuscitate cold batteries by removing them and warming them up in a pocket (again, I stress using a zip-lock bag).

**6. Keep 'em fresh.** It's been a long time since you've used your digital camera, but now you're going on vacation. As you pull it out and blow the dust off, you remember that you charged all your batteries before you put the camera away, so no need to worry, right?

Wrong. Rechargeable batteries can lose their charge over time, just by sitting. Not sure where all that power leaks out to (wasn't lying around on the floor), but it's gone nonetheless. So, before any trip, be sure to stick those batteries on a charger.

That's it! Happy shooting!

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Likewise no member of the committee or member of the Southern Districts Computer Users Club will accept any liability for any damage occurring to a computer or to any computer systems from following instructions given in this newsletter.

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## Christmas Crossword

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Cracking good fun!
- 3 Plenty on Christmas Cards but luckily not around here at this time of year!
- 5 The great mans first name
- 7 Christmas +++ is when all good children go to bed early!
- 9 Christmas is not Christmas without one.
- 10 Many will be eaten, watch those teeth!
- 13 Many are hoping for one!
- 15 Dont drink and +++++!
- 16 Traditional decoration
- 17 If you havent one you will have to make other arrangements or deliveries could be hampered!

#### **DOWN**

- 2 All eyes will ++++++ on Christmas Morning!
- 3 We hope it will be filled!
- 4 They decorate end also toll
- 6 Sung by many.
- 7 Close them tightly or he will never come!
- 8 Followed once, on the first Christmas
- 11 The time when poor mums and dads are wakened Christmas morning!
- 12 Many will be here for the day.
- 14 Playthings for Christmas
- 15 Dinner stuffing!
- 16 Another popular food at Christmas. For tea, usually

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#### Looks like NO FOOTY TIPS for 2006!!!

Prior Notice

It is likely that the AFL competition for 2006 will have to be cancelled.

Under the new Anti Terrorism Laws the Bombers are banned.

The new Industrial Relations legislation rules out the Dockers.

Asian flu epidemic is wreaking havoc with the Crows, Eagles, Hawks, Magpies and Swans.

Any transfers to the Kangaroos, Cats, Lions, Dogs and Tigers must now be quarantined for at least 12 months.

Religious vilification laws meanthat no one can legally barrack for the Demons or the Saints.

This only leaves the Power and the Blues who no one wants to barrack for anyway

Once again our thanks to Dean, where does he get them.



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