Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc

J a n u a r y 2 0 1 6

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Club Web Site http://sdcuci.com
Email Address: sdcucinc@gmail.com

MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm, in the Hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church Morphett Vale. (Corner Bains Road and Main South Road)

Visitors most welcome.
After three visits, visitors will be requested to become members.

Cost $3 per person, which includes the Newsletter, plus coffee/ tea and biscuits.
Subscriptions for twelve months
Single $20
Family membership $30

Novice and experienced computer users will be warmly welcomed

Our next meeting is scheduled for

Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 7.30 pm.

WikiCamps, Overseas Touring and travel apps

The Committee in 2015 / 2016

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish

John Bell

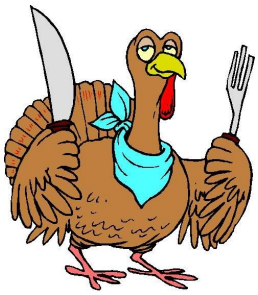
Joan Catt

Kay Martin

a very Happy Birthday

Editors: Our apologies if we missed your birthday this month but if you haven't given us your birthday month, please see Bib or Bub or someone at the desk.

2015 CHRISTMAS DINNER



Again, we all had a wonderful night - good food, good company and a wonderfully funny skit put on by some of the committee members.

A great big thankyou to all who helped on the night, the cooking, the setup, the cleaning up and a great big thankyou to **Cheryl** who organised the night - well done!

Here are some photos taken on the night. (see page 8 for more photos)

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

8 SIGNS YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO HACKERS

The internet has become so ingrained into our day to day living, we don't fully appreciate the risks involved. According to OverSixty, we need to be aware of the fact that hackers still represent a huge security threat.

1. **You are receiving fake antivirus messages -** While not nearly as prevalent as they used to be, fake antivirus warning is a sign your system has been compromised. By the time the fake message appears, the damage has often already been done.
2. **Unwanted browser toolbars -** If you have noticed your browser now has multiple toolbars that you haven't installed, that's probably not a good thing. Names may seem to indicate legitimate sources, but unless you have installed the additional toolbars yourself, you may have been exposed to malicious computer hackers.
3. **Redirected internet searches -** Hackers make a living out of redirecting people's browsers to places they don't want to go. Usually these redirected internet searches are well hidden from users from additional proxies, but if you type common words into most search engines and scan the results, you should know if something is up.
4. **Frequent random popups -** Frequent random popups are probably the most obvious (and annoying) sign that your computer has been exposed. If you are getting random browser popups that websites don't normally generate, then your system has been compromised.
5. **Friends receive fake emails -** While this form of hacker attack is by no means as popular as it used to be, malware programs and hackers can still pull email addresses and contact lists from social media sites. Often the bogus emails won't have your address as the sender, but they may use your name.
6. **On-line passwords suddenly change -** Obviously, if your password changed and you don't remember doing it, this is a cause for concern. Often this happens when someone has responded to an authentic looking phish mail that collects login information.
7. **Unexpected software installs -** Most malware programs these days like Trojan viruses, and worms typically install themselves the same way as legitimate programs. So if you have noticed some unexpected software appearing in your Download folder, then you are in a bit of strife.
8. **Mouse pointer moves itself -** While it may look like your computer has suddenly become possessed by a poltergeist; if your computer mouse pointer is moving on its own volution, there could be some hackers at play. Hackers have been known to log into idle computers, break into your bank account and steal your money,.

This Month's meeting - Cloud Storage

Presented by Lindsay Chuck

Our January meeting will look at Cloud Storage. What it is, how it can be used, and in particular, how the presenter uses it.

Terms associated with Cloud Storage include: Google Drive, One Drive, iCloud, Dropbox, sharing, syncing, backup, photos, music, documents and settings.

You probably already know about Cloud Storage, certainly if you have a tablet or smart phone, you may already be using it. For instance, have you turned on backup in the settings area of your tablet or smart phone? Are you accessing data across your different devices?

Tip: know the amount of Cloud Storage you have and monitor the usage of it.

In addition to the above terms, the type of apps you use can save you valuable space on your smart phone/tablet and/or computer. I will comment on an app named Pocket during the presentation that uses the Cloud.

Cloud storage can be free depending on how much storage you use.

Tip: Consider how you use your tablet/smart phone, and have a plan for backing up and storing your data.

As an example, I assisted a user who used their tablet to take photos and videos while on holiday. The experience used most of their tablet storage resulting in an urgent need to free up disk space.

Using multiple storage options is a consideration, and if you have an iPad, you can use storage other than iCloud. Consider Google Drive, Dropbox or one of the other many cloud options.

Tip: know where your data is stored and how to access it.

In conclusion, Cloud storage may not be the option for you, however, when considering your backup or storage strategy, it is an option that should not be ruled out.

The benefits and accessibility of the cloud while using your tablet or smart phone for photos while on holiday may mean the difference between having photos and not having photos, especially if your phone/tablet is lost or stolen.

SAFE BROWSING FOR ANDROID DEVICES

Google is looking to keep people safer by enabling safe browsing by default for Android devices. The main aim is to prevent users visiting malware infected websites.

The feature has been available in its desktop browser and could be turned on when users switched on Google's optional data compression service.

Good news if you have an android device.

CORTANA

As you know, Cortana is Microsoft's answer to Apple's Siri and is now available for iOS and Android phones. Microsoft have released Cortana as a free app.

WHAT APPS DRAIN YOUR ANDROID BATTERY?

AVG technologies has released a report on apps that drain your battery and also use your data and storage. For Android smart phones and tablets, this is an interesting list.

The apps - **Kakao talk**, **WhatsApp**, **Facebook** and **Instagram**. In addition, watch out for **Wechat** which starts consuming resources as soon as your device is turned on. **Microsoft Outlook** has made it into the top 10 resource drainers. **Clash of Clans** is a battery draining game while **My Talking Tom Free** and **My Talking Angela Free** drain resources too.

If your device is running out of battery or data, you can turn off notifications and data consuming functions so it will last a little longer.

AVAST FREE ANTIVIRUS 2016

We normally suggest Avast when we get asked about a free antivirus program so it was interesting reading about the 2016 release of this program. Offers an included password manager which generates strong passwords, stores and fills them locally, syncing with free iOS and Android apps. Network security scanner detects more router vulnerabilities and displays details. Scanning allows you to review results and fix what the program has found.

SANDS COMPUTER GROUP

& BROADBAND FOR SENIORS

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 2011

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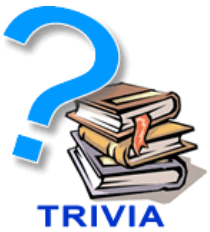
A BIT OF TRIVIA FROM THE 1500's



Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "*It's raining cats and dogs".*.

There was nothing to stop things falling from the roof into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed, Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying "*dirt poor".* The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance way. Hence: *a thresh hold*.

Computer Courses for 2016.

We are hoping to organise a course on *Email / Internet* for early this year. Please advise a committee member if you are interested.

If you wish to attend any Course, please contact a Committee Member

If you have a special request regarding a program, eg Word, Publisher, Excel etc, please let a committee member know. We may be able to schedule a course to suit, sometime in the future.

Southern Districts Computer Users Club wishes to acknowledge the assistance of the Council of the City of Onkaparinga for their generous support.

CITY OF ONKAPARINGA

ONKAPARINGA

A FEW MORE PHOTOS FROM OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our raffle prizes

Our prize winners

Our wonderful actors

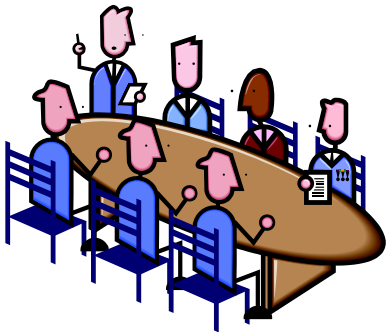
Actors in action

"Our dingalings"

Some things Man was never meant to know.
For everything else, there is Google!.

MEETING RULES

We are allowed to use the facilities at the Hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church Morphett Vale. (Corner Bains Road and Main South Road) in return of a small fee plus respect for their property. We ask for your co-operation in respect to the above. While we can not control what our members do away from our club meetings, Piracy of copyright material can not be condoned at our meetings.



COMMITTEE CAPERS

This month's committee meeting was held on Monday 11th January.

Subjects up for discussion were:

- Received notification of increase in cost to hire the Hall plus COTA annual subs are due. Approved for payment.

- **PC & Tech** magazine was approved for renewal for a further 12 months.

- A small profit was made from the **Christmas Dinner.** It was agreed all had a wonderful time and we are to put our thinking caps on for this year's 'skit'. A very successful evening.

- **Jo Berkin** and **Linda Kirby** were welcomed to their first committee meetings.

- The final purchase of funds from the **Council Grant** has been made - **Phantom PDF software**. Final paperwork can now be forwarded to Council.

- The **eNewsletter** format and future printed newsletters was discussed. Will wait a few months to see how many are to be printed each month.

- The **Linux workshop** is to be held Wednesday 13th January. All organised. (at time of printing, the workshop has come and gone and all went well.)

- Last month we discussed **Dropbox vs OneDrive**. It was decided to setup OneDrive for committee members.

- February meeting and presenters was discussed in detail.

- We hope to organise an **Email/Web Course** soon and a long discussion was held as to ways to tackle this as we do not know what browsers members are using. It was suggested we hold a members survey.

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Ph: 8384 6440
Mobile: 0407 794 357
Email: craig@woodform.com.au
www.woodform.com.au

If anyone would like to learn how to make cards (Christmas Cards, Birthday Cards, Easter Cards, etc) using Publisher, please contact Lorraine Loader (see email address on page 2).

USB LIBRARY

As our list of programs available on the USB Library is growing each month, we have decided to just advise you of the new ones added.

The complete list of programs will be displayed at the front desk each meeting, or see Jim or a committee member.

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From the Editors

To ensure the standard of the newsletter is maintained, and the articles remain of interest, contributions from all members will be welcomed. Forward to Bib or Bub.

NOTES

IT & COMPUTERS

Shop 6, 76 Beach Road
Christies Beach 8186 2736
(Same block as Woolies on Beach Road)
Contact: Jamie 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?

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