

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



The Brownpaddock Chatter



Linux has been discussed at many of our meetings. Its is an operating system and we know it can be used to help fix computer problems.

We also know that it's an operating system that doesn't have to be installed on your Windows or Mac computer because it can run from a disk or USB.

This feature is useful if as a Windows 7 user you have not been able to upgrade to Windows 10 due to your computer specifications.

Linux is not for everybody. There are times it can be frustrating just like Windows.

Are you interested in being part of a Linux Users Group?

There doesn't appear to be a local group so the idea is to have a group as part of our club.



Internet Explorer 11 to retire in 2022




Microsoft has abandoned Internet Explorer for the last two or so years, in favour of Microsoft Edge, its modern browser.

Microsoft is to retire the desktop app on June 15, 2022. This means the it will not provide support for the application after this date. On the other hand, Microsoft has asked customers to make the necessary shift to Microsoft Edge.

The reasons Microsoft has is shifting from Internet Explorer to Edge, is that Edge offers more features like ActiveX controls over its support for legacy Explorer and modern websites. The modern browser has better productivity than Internet Explorer, especially regarding resource use and content organization. Edge claims to be a secure browser thanks to programs such as Microsoft Defender SmartScreen and Password Monitor. Microsoft also adds that Microsoft Edge now works better with the needs of organizations, claiming that Edge is more secure than Chrome for businesses using the Windows 10 platform.

In the blog post, Microsoft states that Internet Explorer was the go-to choice of Windows 10 users for years, but we know that is not true. For several years, IE has been used as a conduit for downloading third-party web browsers like Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox.

Microsoft should have acknowledged much sooner than this that the future of Internet Explorer on Windows 10 is in Microsoft Edge. In any case, the company has added documentation that should help organizations make a smooth transition to Microsoft Edge from Internet Explorer before June 15, 2022. Notwithstanding, consumers can easily download Edge from <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/edge>. 

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What is CMOS and what is it used for?

The CMOS

The CMOS or Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor is a small amount of memory on the motherboard of your computer used to store BIOS settings. It consists of both N-type and P-type transistors and that are used in an

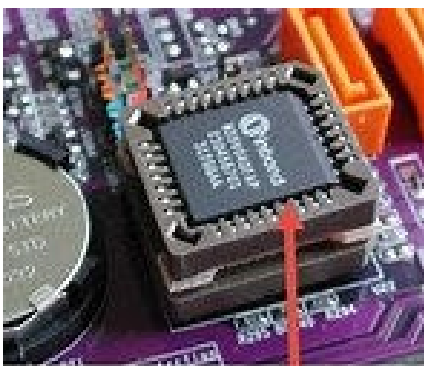
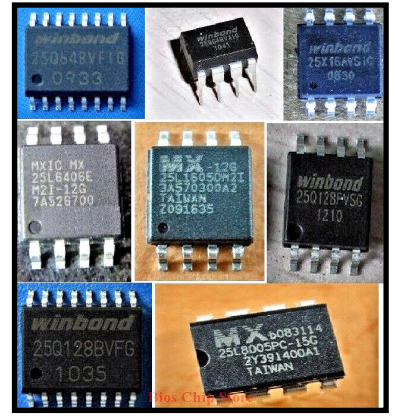
opposite configuration. Thus, a signal that turns ON one type of transistor turns OFF the other one. This way, a logic device is designed without the need for a pull-up resistor. These very important settings store system files that keep track of your date and time and some hardware settings.

The CMOS has high speed, high noise margin, low power dissipation, and can operate on a wide range of input voltages.

The CMOS is widely used in different chips such as the Microprocessor, Microcontroller, Static RAM, etc. In computers, it is used on the Motherboard in conjunction with the BIOS as well as On the RAM .

On the RAM of your computer's Motherboard, a CMOS chip is present where it would inherit one of the characteristics of RAM, deleting the computer's setting when you turn your computer off. However, with the help of a CMOS Battery, the chip can be powered constantly, hence, your computer's setting will not get deleted. When you turn ON your computer, the CMOS chip will provide the necessary information to the BIOS to boot your computer.

A CMOS sensor is used for many other things such as in a digital camera to convert images into digital data but in your computer, it is used to store BIOS settings.



BIOS Chip

What is the difference between BIOS and CMOS?

The BIOS or Basic Input Output system is a program that takes care of your computer from the time it starts up to the time the Operating System takes control. The CMOS is a place where BIOS stores the date, time, and other system configurations.

So, the CMOS and the BIOS are related but one is a physical chip and another one is a firmware used to

boot up your system.

Hopefully, this article has helped you in getting a grasp of the CMOS and what is it used for on your computer.



Our May meeting looked at Cloud Computing

Below is a summary of that talk:

What is Cloud computing? It is the delivery of different services through the internet. Resources include; tools and applications like data storage, servers, databases, networking and software. Examples are Microsoft (Office 365) which includes OneDrive, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneNote, Skype, etc. Google also utilizes products like Google Drive, YouTube, Photos, Docs, Sheets, Slides. Accounting services like MYOB and Zero also employ the Cloud. All these products and services and many more utilize the Cloud through the Internet.


One popular service is Cloud Storage. **What are the advantages?** You can backup your files offsite, sync your files, share your files across different devices, different platforms and with different people. You can collaborate with others and the risk of losing important files is reduced. It also saves space on your computer, tablet and smartphone. **What are the disadvantages?** Privacy, security – hackers are a risk, Technical problems with the service may mean you can not access your files when you want to, speed may be an issue due to your ISP or equipment, data usage and cost may be an issue depending on the plan you have. **Selecting a service** – Questions to consider - Is it trustworthy? (check out reviews). Is it free? What size storage is offered? Can you share files with other people? Can the files be edited by other people? Can you sync your files? Popular data storage services which many people and businesses use are Google Drive, OneDrive, iCloud, Dropbox but there are many others. So, when you have selected your service – be comfortable with your decision. If you are worried or have a concern DON'T USE IT. Don't store sensitive information in the cloud or encrypt it if you do. If sharing a folder editable by others remember who you shared it with. Be aware of the limitations (re terms and conditions). Some services only allow personal use. Also consider the limitation on file types.

Many businesses and people use the internet to back up their data. However, a recent overseas case highlights the importance of not totally relying on cloud storage. A catastrophic fire in March 2021 at an OVHcloud data centre, one of Europe's largest cloud providers, burnt one data centre and smoke damaged another. Customers who purchased off-site backup and disaster recovery services from OVHcloud were able to resume their operations, whilst others lost all their data.

Two encryption programs to consider using are Duplicati — <https://www.duplicati.com/download> and Cryptomator — <https://cryptomator.org/>

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(continued from page 4) The future – Google has 3.5 billion searches every day and 4.3 million videos are watched on YouTube. Facebook has 350 million photos uploaded every day and it is estimated that 463 exabytes (a million trillion) will be created each day globally and about 40% of the world's population isn't online yet. As current storage solutions are not environmentally friendly, scientists and technology companies have started research into using DNA as a data storage solution. One gram of DNA could potentially hold 455 exabytes of data storage solution.

Microsoft is moving closer to launching a Cloud PC service and has also released Microsoft Mesh to developers. Microsoft Mesh hands-on demo | Mixed Reality | Channel 9 (msdn.com). This will lead you to Microsoft's "Azure" project. 

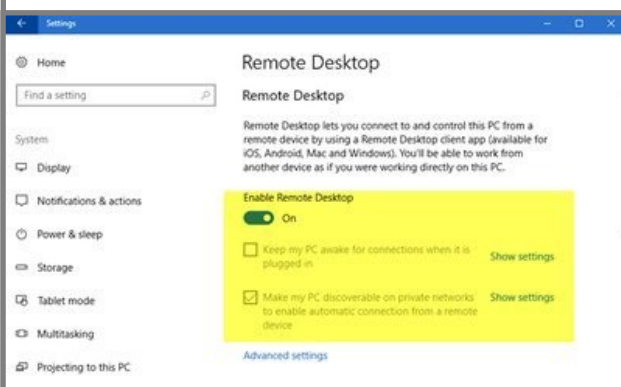
Running Windows programs on a Mac

Both **Windows PC** and **Mac** have certain captivating features that makes choosing between the two very hard for users. If you have been a Window user for a long time switching to Mac is never easy. Mac may take the edge when it comes to aesthetics, but Windows is way ahead in how it handles software and games. Die-hard fans of Windows who have switched to Mac, may, occasionally, have to face a few inconveniences. Mac does not support running Windows exclusive apps, conversely, if you have programs on your Mac that are compatible only with Windows, you may have to find a way to run Windows programs on your Mac.

Fortunately, there are solutions that allow you to run Windows-only programs on a Mac, thanks to options such as Remote Access, Wine Bottler, Boot Camp, and Virtual machines – all of which allow you to run Windows-only apps and software on a Mac for free.

Run Windows Programs on Mac

Below there is an overview the different ways to run Windows software on a Mac.



1.Remote Access

If you have both Mac and Windows machine, you can make use of remote desktop to access files, software and other apps on Windows PC from your Mac. There are many free tools like TeamViewer and Remote desktop for Mac that would allow you to access Windows machine from your Mac. Additionally, if you are Chrome user, you can access (continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5) Windows PC having Chrome from your Mac's Chrome using Chrome Remote Desktop. These remote access tools allow you to easily set up

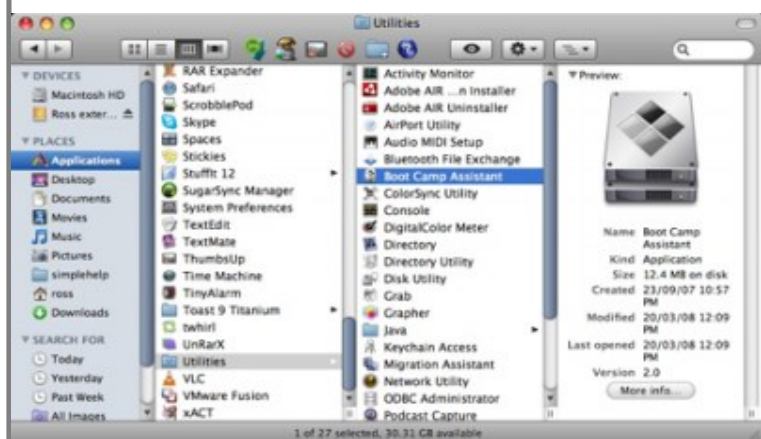


remote access to your Windows PC. To use this, all you need to do is configure the remote desktop on both your machines and sign-in to your accounts to connect both the PCs whenever you desire.

2. Wine

Wine is helpful if you have a small number of Windows

programs to run on a Mac. It is a free tool that allows you to run small programs easily on a Mac with a single click. It does not require any installation. Wine is an open-source program, and it does not require any Windows license to run Windows apps on the different operating system. To use this tool simply download .exe files and open it with Wine tool to run the programs directly on Mac. The tool rewrites the code to allow applications to run on different operating systems. Hence it may not work for all the software. The tool is not ideal for some Windows software, but it is useful if as some apps may crash, but it does work perfectly



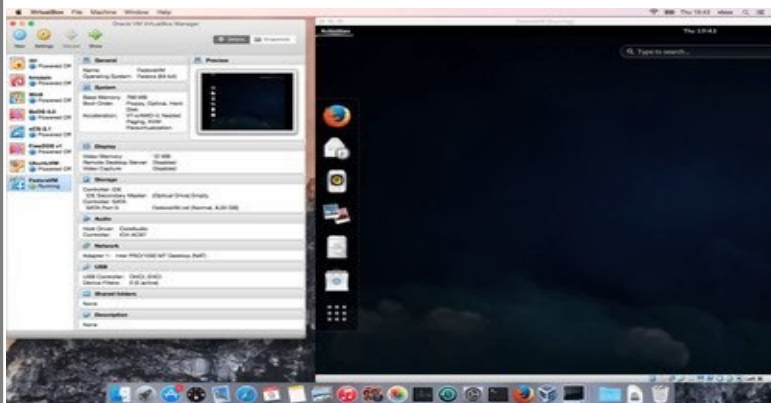
well for few applications. Wine is mostly used with third-party tools like Wine Bottler or Wineskin to build a convenience interface. Get this tool from <https://winebottler.kronenberg.org>.

3. Boot Camp

If your work requires you to switch between Mac and Windows, Apple's Boot Camp comes in handy. Boot Camp allows you to install Windows on your Mac machine. This is similar to dual-booting Linux on Windows machine. Apple's Boot Camp lets you run Windows and Mac side by side on a single machine. Boot Camp partitions your hard drive so that you can install Windows and reboot it whenever needed. Boot Camp doesn't allow you to run both the Windows and Mac programs simultaneously. You need to restart your current program in order to reboot the other. That is why Boot Camp is ideal for running Windows PC games or other software as the Windows can utilize the entire machine resources. However, it doesn't allow you to run Windows and Mac OS applications side by side simultaneously.

4. Virtual Machine

Unlike Bootcamp, Virtual machine allows you to run both Windows programs and Mac programs side by side at the same time without rebooting your



machine. It is one of the popular ways to run Windows programs on a Mac, and it enables one to install the Windows OS on your Mac desktop. To run Windows as a Virtual OS, you will need a Windows license to install

Windows on a Virtual machine. Windows users who already have a product key can install the Windows installation media for free and use it in a Virtual machine program. Mac offers Parallels, Virtual Box, and VMware Fusion as virtual machine programs. One downside of a Virtual Machine is that it consumes a lot of resources to keep the Virtual Machine running without difficulty.



Password Manager

By member Gaelyne Gasson

Our next meeting on Wednesday 16 June, will be looking at password managers. Gaelyne, who is the author of the Club's website, has submitted this article about something she has come to consider extremely important in many different ways.

In the April issue, there was an article about Password books and why they are not a good idea. No arguments from me on that! I'm here to extol the virtues of using Password Management software such as LastPass, RoboForm, 1Pass, or Dashlane. They all make computer life so much easier even in ways you might not have realised. Most of these work on every platform — PC, Mac, or Linux, plus they have apps for both iOS and Android so you can use the same app on your phone or tablet. With so many apps that have Desktop versions (ie on your computer) or on the web, you can also look up passwords for an app, copy it and paste it into your Desktop version.

To the core of my argument for using a password manager, especially if you are the one that deals with the online banking, paying the bills or even taking care of your car rego. Do you deal with your insurance company online now? What happens if something happens to you and your spouse or kids have to sort things out with any of these things? Will they be able to reliably get information or be able login to the various places online you have used, and deal with things like name changes, billing details, etc? This could have been a nightmare for me, and honestly after Rod passed away,

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(continued from page 7) I'm not sure how I would have coped if we both had not set things up with a password manager years before he became ill. When we started using LastPass, there was an option to give emergency access to someone that you trusted. We both set up our individual accounts and selected each other as the emergency contact. The other thing we did was make sure we each had the other's password for our respective LastPass accounts.

When the time came, I was able to request emergency access to his account. Then on his computer, in his LastPass account, I granted access to myself for his details as if he had pressed the button for that himself. Within moments, back on my computer in my LastPass account, there appeared a new folder with all his passwords. This was a real godsend and also a slight annoyance for a little while with things we both had individual accounts with, but once I was able to work out which were my passwords and which were Rod's, I renamed the titles of his or deleted those password entries as I closed his accounts. This was not something that got done quickly. It was over the course of several months. I still have not closed any of his Email accounts as mail still continues to trickle in and occasionally it is important.

We also had a short paper list of what he considered important passwords to know or procedures dealing with his software named "Ozpost". One was his computer password, which was important for me to know and one I needed to use often from the list at first. But two things neither of us thought about (and should have) were his tablet and phone passwords. Fortunately, I was able to work it out and eventually those two items were cleared, photos saved, and both restored to factory settings. His computer is still running behind me as I write this. I know there are some things it runs for the household and it also handles the connection to the Internet and some techie networking things like a DHCP server (this lets us name our devices and give them their own IP addresses — I know how to edit the file and I can sort of work out how to stop and start that server, but I haven't figured out how to set up the same on my Mac). So, until I have lots of other little and big things figured out, I'll let that computer keep on running and handling the Internet things.

Lastly, the only other thing that made it as smooth a transition as this kind of situation can be, is not computer related. After we married, Rod insisted on everything being in both of our names. Because of this, I had no problems with the bank and was able to access our funds. The bank took care of removing his name from the accounts and where needed created a new one for me with all the same information, except it was only in my name. This also helped with all of the utilities and insurance companies. There was only one utility that presented a problem where I had to go in personally to have things sorted out. When the bank removed his name from one of the


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(continued from page 8) the accounts, our car rego failed the next time a payment was due. I could log in to the SA Service site with no difficulty, but because payment was due within a specific time frame, they required that I go to the nearest Service SA with all the paperwork so the title of the car and registration could be changed. Although I was listed as a driver, the vehicle was in his name only which surprised me. I was reassured by the clerk that it was only in his name because only ONE name is allowed on the current SA car title. The woman I dealt with at Service SA was amazing. She was the one that I talked to at the front desk when I came in, and once she was able, she then called my number and personally and extremely sensitively took me through the whole process. There are some really wonderfully helpful people in this State.

To sum up, both you and your spouse should use a password manager, if not your spouse, then a son or daughter or a trusted friend. Be sure to set up the Emergency access so your designated person can gain access to your passwords in case something happens to you.

Next time I write, I have something completely different for you that you might enjoy. It will be about photos and fun stuff. Promise!

*Ed. I am not sure whether or not this totally negates the idea of a **password book** (covered in the April Magazine), but she makes two very strong points indeed:*

1. *ALWAYS make sure that both you and your spouse know how and where to find ALL of each other's passwords; and*
2. *Wherever possible and practical, hold all your assets, including your bank accounts, in both of your names.* 

Why not register for

Be Connected

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

Editorial



GollEEEE! What a month it has been. I have been working on my new shed almost every spare moment I have been able to find. The floor is finished and I am now starting to install tools and storage cupboards etc. Also, finally, they have started on the upgrade. All the carpets and kitchen built-ins have been stripped and they have started to install the new built-ins. These are all semi-pre-constructed off site and just have to be joined together. I guess the painting will be next followed by the carpets ——

then ME!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It will be nice to get my life back to normal again. By the time you read the next issue of this journal, I hope to be thoroughly moved in.

I really like to be a month ahead with the preparation of this journal, but I am scratching just to keep up to date. Incidentally, still no feed-back! But wasn't last month's meeting, presented by Lindsay Chuck, a real stunner. I prevailed upon Lindsay to write a short summary for this magazine. Many thanks Linds.

I apologise for the joke below but it seems that everything we hear and read about the Covid 19 is gloom and doom, so I thought something a little bit humorous might lighten the atmosphere a bit.



Jest a Minute

**DURING THE MIDDLE
AGES THEY CELEBRATED
THE END OF THE PLAGUE
WITH WINE AND ORGIES
DOES ANYONE KNOW IF
THEY HAVE ANYTHING
LIKE THAT PLANNED
WHEN THIS ONE ENDS?**


(ASKING FOR A FRIEND)



June's Topic ~
“PASSWORD MANAGER”
Presenter: TIM MATHIE


— For Your Notes —

Our July Members' Meeting

At our July meeting, President Jim will tell us all about encrypting our files and how to decrypt them. Jim will also cover the importance of the BIOS. In addition, there will be some information about Function Keys” and there use together with a memory jogger hand out as well. 

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

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Virus removal

New software & Upgrades

Peripheral units:

Wireless Keyboard Mouse

Sound Boards & Systems

External & Internal Hard Drives



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