

Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc

Supporting inexperienced users with local expertise

Be Connected

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



March 2018

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

Vol. 18
No. 3

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 Rd and
Main South Rd)

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.

Both novice and
experienced computer
users are warmly
welcomed



The Yardbroom Report March 2018



Our group have done it again!
Following the presentation by Trevor
on Apps and using a smart phone, a workshop on
the subject was scheduled for the following week.
The interest in this workshop exceeded all
expectations.

There was simply not enough time to deal with all
the concerns and sadly not all the questions were
answered. Another part of our learning curve – try
to determine the level of interest before the event.

The presentation in March will focus on travel
communications and the devices that can be used
to do this. Modern sophistication enables us to
“take it all” if we want to. Should we do so?
What devices work best in most situations? Is
there an ideal mix and match of devices? There is
no hard and fast answer so the presentation will
endeavour to give some pointers on possibilities.

Enjoy the evening

YB

Admiral “Amazing Grace” Hopper, pioneering computer programmer



United States Navy Admiral Grace Hopper (1906–1992) was one of the first programmers in the history of computers. Her belief that programming languages should be as easily understood as English was highly influential on the development of one of the first programming languages called COBOL. **It is largely due to Grace Hopper’s influence that programmers use “if/thens” instead of 1s and 0s today.**

From a young age, Grace had a curious and analytical mind. When she was seven, she decided she wanted to figure out how clocks worked. To find the answer, she took apart every single alarm clock in the house! When her mother found out, instead of scolding Grace, she limited her to taking apart only one alarm clock at a time.

Grace’s parents encouraged her curiosity in other ways, too. Her mother, Mary Campbell Van Horne Murray, had been very interested in math as a young woman, but hadn’t been able to study anything beyond geometry because it wasn’t considered proper for a lady at the time. She made sure to encourage Grace in her interests and not to limit her based on her gender. Grace’s father, Walter Fletcher Murray, wanted all of his children to be self-sufficient and made sure his two daughters had the same education and opportunities as his son, which was unusual for the early 20th century. With this encouragement, she went on to study maths and physics at Vassar and then Yale, earning her PhD in mathematics in 1931. After graduating, Grace stayed at Vassar to teach math for the next ten years before turning to the US Navy.

A ship in port is safe; but that is not what ships are built for. Sail out to sea and do new things. *Grace Hopper*

While women had been allowed to serve in the navy since the 1800s, they were limited to nursing and, starting with the turn of the century, some administrative duties. With the start of World War II the military became a little less particular about gender. In 1942, the Navy put together an all-female division called Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES), giving women the opportunity to do more for their country during a time of great need.

Grace Hopper took a leave of absence from teaching at Vassar to enlist in the US Navy Reserve in 1943, becoming a part of WAVES. She had to obtain an exemption in order to enlist since she weighed in at 15 lbs (about 7 kg or 1 stone) below the required weight of 120 lbs (about 54 kg or 8.5 stone). Despite what could have been a disadvantage, she graduated first in her class and was assigned the rank of lieutenant, junior grade. She was immediately assigned to the programming staff for the new Mark I computer (an electro-mechanical computer weighing over 10,000 lbs/4500 kg) at Harvard University.

After World War II ended in 1945, Grace requested a transfer to the regular Navy, but her request was denied due to her age — she was 38 at the time. She was now completely hooked on computer programming, turning down a full professorship offer from Vassar to continue to work at Harvard as a research fellow under a Navy contract.

It was in the 1940s that Grace Hopper's most famous anecdote occurred: Grace and her team of associates were having a hard time figuring out what was causing a glitch in the Mark II computer they were working with. Finally, they discovered the source of the issue: a live moth was stuck in one of the electrical switches controlling a circuit. **Grace loved to tell the story about how they “debugged” the early computer by removing the moth, bringing the obscure engineering term into popular use in computer science.**

In the 1950s, Grace started working for a company called Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corporation as the senior mathematician on the team developing a new computer called UNIVAC I (UNIVersal Automatic Computer I), which became the second commercial computer produced in the United States. It was at this position that she created what is called the “A compiler.” In computer programming, a compiler is a program that transforms source code written from one computer language into another, usually less complex language.

While compilers are indispensable to programmers today, they were revolutionary at a time when computers were mainly used, as their name implies, for performing computations: **“Nobody believed that,” she said. “I had a running compiler and nobody would touch it. They told me computers could only do arithmetic.”**

Eventually her work there was recognized and she was named the company's first director of automatic programming two years later.

FLOPS IN COMPUTER HISTORY

Windows ME



It was supposed to be the first operating system that would support Universal Plug and Play.

*(Many of the members of S.D.C.U.C.I. referred to universal Plug and Play as “**Plug and Pray**”)*

But Microsoft's Windows Millennium Edition (ME) was found to be less compatible than its predecessor Windows 98. Shortcomings in the OS meant that it needed to be constantly reinstalled - a process that was horrendously difficult - and led to derision for Bill Gates's company which was only matched when it launched Vista a few years later. There were huge instabilities within ME which meant that a series of drivers did not work and made it virtually unstable for all but the most experienced Windows user. A PC World article dubbed Windows Me the "Mistake Edition" and ranked it fourth in the "Worst Tech Products of All Time" feature.

When did Windows Me come out?

In **September 2000**, Microsoft released a successor to Windows 98 called Windows ME, short for "Millennium Edition". It was the last DOS-based operating system from Microsoft.

Failure is not an option. It comes bundled with your Microsoft product.

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.



LONG - TERM PARKING

Some people left their car in the long-term parking in the City. While away, someone broke into the car. Using the information on the car's registration in the glove compartment, they drove the car to the people's home and robbed it. So I guess if we are going to leave the car in long-term parking, we should NOT leave the registration/insurance cards in it, nor your remote garage door opener. This gives us something to think about with all our new electronic technology.

GPS

Someone had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen. The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents. Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it. Put a nearby address (like a store or gas station) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen. .



The box said 'Requires Windows 7 or better'. So I installed Linux

CELL PHONES:

I never thought of this! This lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her cell phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her cell phone, credit card, wallet, etc., was stolen. Twenty minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says, "I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago." When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen cell phone to text "hubby" in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

MORAL LESSON:

- 1 Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mom, etc.
2. And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, CONFIRM by calling back.
3. Also, when you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to call back to confirm that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very careful about going places to meet "family and friends" who text you.

PURSE IN THE GROCERY CART SCAM:

A lady went grocery-shopping at a local mall and left her purse sitting in the children's seat of the cart while she reached something off a shelf. Wait till you read the WHOLE story! Her wallet was stolen, and she reported it to the store personnel. After returning home, she received a phone call from the Mall Security to say that they had her wallet and that although there was no money in it, it did still hold her personal papers. She immediately went to pick up her wallet, only to be told by Mall Security that they had not called her. By the time she returned home again, her house had been broken into and burglarized. The thieves knew that by calling and saying they were Mall Security, they could lure her out of her house long enough for them to burglarize it.

February meeting

Smart phones and Tablets



Trevor Francis gave an historic presentation using a Smart Phone connected to our projector screens via a fairly new device called Chromecast. This was historic in that it was the first fully digital presentation that we had conducted from a Smart Phone. It commenced with a PowerPoint presentation as pre-meeting entertainment, followed by a further PowerPoint presentation of the basic elements of smart phones and tablets together with their rise in popularity. There is now estimated to be 2.1 billion smart phones in use in the world with expectations for this to rise to 2.5 billion by 2019.

Lastly, at the conclusion of the meeting he ran the monthly club raffle draw from the smart phone.

Trevor showed the February 1987 Newsletter from the Southern Districts Commodore Users Club – another piece of history - as it was the inaugural newsletter of the club. This dramatically showed the vastly different way we use our modern devices as compared with the 1987 usage. The 1987 newsletter showed how to program *basic* instructions to create printable address labels and similar. Today we simply purchase or obtain free already working program that do amazing things (as seen from the 1987 perspective).

The range of “apps” available to both smart phone and tablet users is humungous. Trevor showed a few of the more interesting ones he has on this device. These ranged from absolute essentials like “Settings” and apps that usually come with the phone at purchase and are pre-installed. Google Play store was highlighted as were several others of interest to members.

Overall it provided an expose on how to use these devices and how to gain satisfaction by installing apps to your own taste and desire.

Advert in the
AUSTRALIAN PERSONAL COMPUTER
Magazine **June 1998**
(Dell Laptops)

**DELL INSPIRON
3200 D233XT**

- LATEST Intel® Pentium® II Processor 233MHz
- 512KB L2 Pipeline Burst Cache
- 32MB SDRAM
- 3.2GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB Floppy Diskette Drive
- 128-bit Graphics Accelerator
- High-fidelity Audio SoundBlaster Compatible
- 24X CD-ROM Drive
- 13.3" XGA Colour TFT Display
- Microsoft® Windows® 95 and Internet Explorer
- Deluxe Carrying Case

\$4,559* inc tax

Upgrade to: 56K Data/Fax Modem,
Additional 64MB SDRAM

**DELL INSPIRON
3200 D266XT**

- LATEST Intel® Pentium® II Processor 266MHz
- 512KB L2 Pipeline Burst Cache
- 64MB SDRAM
- 4.0GB Ultra ATA Hard Drive
- 3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive
- 128-bit Graphics Accelerator
- High-fidelity Audio SoundBlaster Compatible
- 24X CD-ROM Drive
- 13.3" XGA Colour TFT Display
- Microsoft® Windows® 95 and Internet Explorer
- 56K Data/Fax Modem
- Deluxe Carrying Case

\$5,579* inc tax

Upgrade to: Port Replicator,
Leather Carrying Case

**On todays calculation \$5579 would be
about \$10000**

Based on Reserve Bank of Australia Inflation Calculator

<https://www.rba.gov.au/calculator/>

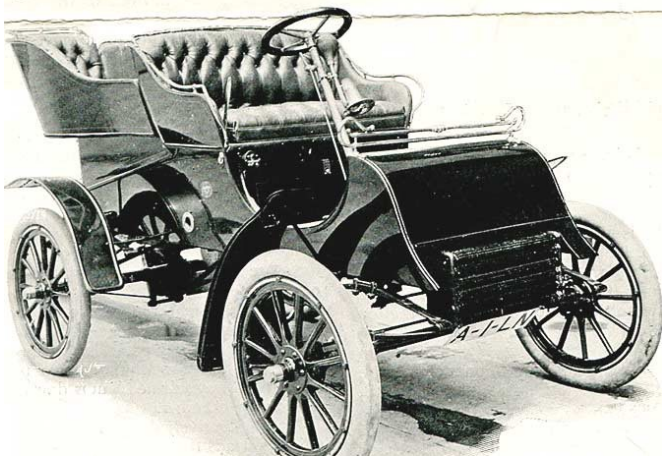
Did You Know

Braille, the tactile writing system used by the blind, is not as widespread in the blind community as you might imagine—less than 10 percent of blind adults in the United States are able to read Braille and the number of Braille-literate individuals has been declining for decades as assistive technologies, audio books, and other substitutes replace Braille texts.

Foolish Tech Predictions

1903: "The horse is here to stay but the automobile is only a novelty – a fad."

President of the Michigan Savings Bank advising Henry Ford's lawyer, Horace Rackham, not to invest in the Ford Motor Company.



Early predictions were that Henry Ford's horseless carriage was simply a "fad". (Image source: T. Whalebone via Wikimedia)



VCSWEB

Established 1991

VCSWEB.COM

HOSTING ● WEB DESIGN
DOMAIN NAMES
PROGRAMMING

E.COMMERCE ● ZEN CART
CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
WORD PRESS ● DRUPAL

IT SECURITY

NETWORK DESIGN & SETUP
TRAINING & TUITION
DISASTER RECOVERY PLANS
AS/NZS 4360 RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS
ASC133 NETWORK SECURITY PLANS

Rod Gasson

Adv Dip Network Security . Cert IV Programming
Cert IV Networking - Cert IV Training & Assessment
Police Clearance # 201355

Rod Gasson 0405 632 662

Gaelyne Gasson 0422 912 583
admin@vcsweb.com

VCSWEB 90 Hillier Road Reynella SA 5161

SAD NEWS JUST IN:

A man was killed today working in a betting office when he was pinned against a wall by boxes of betting slips, the ambulance crew tried to revive him but unfortunately the odds were stacked against him



Windows 10 Tip

Shake

This feature actually was first in Windows 7, but I've found a lot of people don't know about it or use it (but they should). If you have a display full of windows, you can clear the clutter by grabbing the top of the window you like and "shaking" it to minimize all the other windows. Suddenly having shaker's remorse? Shake again and the windows will come back.

There are 10 types of people in the world: those who understand binary code , and those who don't .

Thought for the month of March

“Our generation is becoming so busy trying to prove that women do what men can do, that women are losing their uniqueness.

Women weren't created to do everything a man can do. Women were created to do everything a man can't do.”

Key Board Short cut

Windows Key+M



This is the shortcut to keep in mind when you are at work doing anything but working—it allows you to minimize all of your open windows, leaving just the desktop left exposed. To restore the windows, hit **Windows Key+Shift+M**.

This is a handy shortcut to have around if you have a screen open you do not want your partner to see.

Tonight's Topic

HARDWARE DEVICES OVERSEAS

Travelling? What device should I take with me?

“Should I take a laptop, tablet or smartphone?”

A discussion on the pros and cons of taking each of the above devices while away on holiday.

Also, some very useful apps and hardware accessories are discussed.

[illegible]

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.

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?

New Computers

Repairs

Virus removal

New software & Upgrades

Peripheral units:

Wireless Keyboard Mouse

Sound Boards & Systems

External & Internal Hard Drives

Full Service Professional

Computer Repair

Home or Office

Networking



Tell IT & Computers
you are from
S.D.C.U.C.I.

S.D.C.U.C.I can
recommend the
customer service
offered by
IT&Computers