

Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc



M a y 2 0 1 6

Club Web Site <http://sdcuci.com>
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Vol. 16
No. 05

**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.**

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



YARDBROOM REPORT 5/16

Tonight I am going to learn something new. Not something that I have vague knowledge of or have had brief exposure to. Something new! I sincerely hope the experience will be mutual.



All that VPN means to me is someone can't spell. However, a search on the net indicates that VPN is, and can be, a very useful tool. A worthy consideration.

Jake Maslin from Optus at Seaford will give us a rundown on what VPN means and how we can benefit from it. In addition to VPN, Jake will incorporate other up to date information on all the electronic communication toys that we find so hard to live without!

Join me in learning something new.
Enjoy the evening.

Lionel Leddra (President)



Our next meeting is scheduled for

Wednesday 15th June 2016 at 7.30 pm.

Topic: Foxit Phantom and TeamViewer

The Committee in 2015 / 2016

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MAY BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish

Anne Leddra

Lionel Leddra

John Rumac

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.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

What is VPN ?



There has been a change of plan for tonight's meeting.

We did intend to stretch the grey matter of Jim Greenfield and Trevor Francis into providing a talk on a couple of rather interesting programs called TeamViewer and Foxit Phantom but you will have to wait til next month for their pearls of wisdom.

Now we will be having a guest speaker from Optus. One of our worthy members recently asked what we knew about VPN. We could not explain it - so we contacted **Jake Maslin from Optus, Seaford** and Jake has agreed to lead us into the world of VPN (Virtual Private Networks).



In addition to VPN, Jake will incorporate other up to date information on various aspects of Apple / Android systems and the interactivity between Smart phones, iPhones, tablets and iPads.

The VPN conversation will (I suspect) be fairly new to us and as well as being interesting, could be useful in the way we interact with the Internet.

Saving photo, video or link from Facebook (using iPad)

Have you ever received a post with video and/or link attached and want to save it on your iPad without sharing, then, Click on the 'v' on top right hand corner of post. Choose 'Save Video'.

To retrieve this, Click on 'more' at bottom of your screen then select 'Saved'. This will take you to all your saved videos/links.

To save a **Photo** for future use, click on the photo then '...' on top right hand corner of photo. Click 'Save Photo' and it will be saved to your iPad photo storage.



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.

OUR APRIL MEETING

Last month we had 31 members, 3 life members and 2 visitors attend our meeting. We hope **Brenda Colliver** and **Trevor Browne** enjoyed our presentation.

Lionel thanked all who helped with our Bunnings Sausage Sizzle and announced a profit of \$1161. A special thankyou to Kay Martin who sliced 40kg of onions (her house still stinks of onions) and presented her with a thankyou gift - yes you guessed it : an onion!!

Lionel also discussed the results of the latest survey - the results were in last month's newsletter.

Jim Greenfield then took the floor and asked members who was using which version of Windows Office - he received varied responses.

He showed us an alternative - Free **Open Office**. Some points made:



- Open Office was started in the 60's by Linux during the Cold War in the hope it would cripple Microsoft.
- It is as close as possible to Windows Office without breaking copyright rules.
- A large % of users are from third world countries because it is free.
- Will run on all Windows computers including 2000 or 2003 and will run under Linux which runs better on Windows 7 or XP.
- There is more support for Microsoft Office, eg books, magazines, help desk.
- Similar to Office 2003 but without the ribbon and without the bells and whistles of Windows Office 2010.
- Open Office 4 may run a little slower.
- It will work well on Windows 10.



April meeting, con't.

- If you have an older file on Windows Office and you can't open it, Open Office will probably be able to.
- Both Office products are secure as long as updates are done regularly.
- If a breach in Open Office is found, they will advise you immediately, Windows may not..
- He then briefly demonstrated the Open Office *calc* (spreadsheet), *Text* (word) and *Presentation* (PowerPoint). All shortcuts are the same.

Bib Note: as a Windows Office user myself, Open Office appeared to be very similar.

Jim does not recommend removal of Windows Office, you can have both

Trevor Francis then came up to discuss different email programs. Some discussed are:

- **Thunderbird:** similar to Outlook Express. Trevor then download this from the internet onto the Club computer. It took a few minutes but when he entered the SDCUCI email address to set up, it found the emails quickly.
- **Firefox:** can also be downloaded straight from the internet. Trevor showed how to make Google the home page and what it can do.

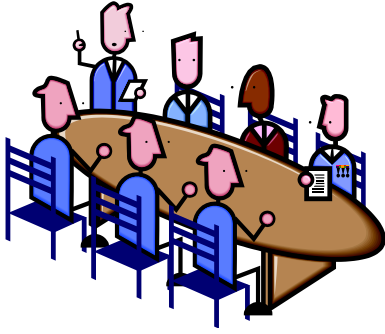


Congratulations to the winners of the raffle prizes.

Coffee, biscuits and a chat was hopefully enjoyed by all who stayed on.

Note: If you are interested in reading an article which expands the concept of the politics behind **open source computer programs**, then go to:

<http://www.ephemerajournal.org/contribution/open-source-open-government-critique-open-politics-0>



COMMITTEE CAPERS

This month's committee meeting was held on Monday 9th May.

Subjects up for discussion were:

- ◇ Plan B's - Jim has some video clips which can be used when our scheduled presenter is a 'no show'. They are to be put onto the Club computer and USB.
- ◇ Lindsay advised he received information that Gmail, Microsoft, Yahoo or Mail.ru has been hacked. See article on page 9.
- ◇ Jim and Trevor to update our Asset Register.
- ◇ Trevor to follow up members who have not attended meetings for a while to ensure all ok with them.
- ◇ Early discussions have commenced on our Christmas Dinner - decided to be in-house again. Committee members to put their thinking caps on for ideas.
- ◇ We have one member interested in doing a Windows 7 course. Other possible courses discussed.
- ◇ **Jim suggested we put all programs that are on our USB onto our spare laptops to lend to members for a month. Jim to set up a loan book and hopes to have the laptops available from our June meeting.**

WHO IS TURNING 70 THIS WEEK?

Yes, our Yardbroom President, **Lionel Leddra** is turning the **Big 70** this month.

We would like to wish him a very Happy
Birthday !
Enjoy your day!



6 QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR PHONE BATTERY

If you are the proud owner of a smart phone, the chances are good you have had a run in or two with its battery life. While our handsets have become increasingly more powerful, the batteries that power them seemingly haven't changed with less than a days worth of power commonplace for the heavy smartphone user.



Here's what you need to know to make the most of the battery life.

1. **Do I need to charge my battery when I first get my phone?** No. The older nickel based batteries had a memory effect which meant that they would maintain a certain capacity based on how they had been charged initially. Modern, lithium-ion batteries do not need to be charged or calibrated by running them all the way down before charging up for the first time.
2. **Does battery life get worse over time?** Yes. Unfortunately your battery loses power over time with most standard batteries having a couple of years of 'full power' before declining quite rapidly.
3. **Does leaving my phone on charge damage the battery?** Not usually. Modern battery systems don't get overloaded like their older counterparts and only top up a battery with the power that needs it.
4. **Should I wait until my phone battery has gone down before recharging it?** No, you should actually do the opposite. Modern lithium-ion batteries gain nothing from being powered down with long charging cycles actually being worse than short ones.
5. **Does turning off WiFi and Bluetooth improve battery life?** Not really. WiFi and Bluetooth are not as power hungry as they once were and keeping them on is unlikely to cause a huge drain in battery power.
6. **What is the best way to preserve battery life?** There are a few things you can do to reduce how much power your phone is using.
 - Turn down your screen brightness
 - Disable location and background app refresh for apps that don't need it.
 - Disabling push notifications for email, Twitter and Facebook.

USB LIBRARY

We have compiled a number of programs that you may need, or like to download to your computer. They are available on meeting nights as well as through the month. They will be updated periodically. Please see Jim or Trevor.



Google Chrome (search engine)



Dropbox (storage in the Cloud)



Firefox (search engine)



Internet Explorer II (upgrade)



Pstudio (simple photo editing)



Skype (video chat)



Install Flashplayer (sometimes needed to play videos or games)



MSE Install (Microsoft Security)



Spybotsd162 (cleaning malware etc)



Camtasia (takes snapshots of computer screen)



AVG Free (anti virus)



AVAST Free (anti virus)



Windows Essentials 54bit (suite of Microsoft programs. Eg Live Mail, Photo Gallery, MovieMaker etc)



Malwarebytes (finds and removes malware)



Ashampoo (recover deleted photos)



Calibre (program to use eReader)



FreeMake Download (download YouTube and clips)



iTunes (popular music manipulation/synchronisation)

This list will be updated when new programs become available.

A FEW SMS TEXT ACRONYMS

YOLO: You Only Live Once. Often said before you want to do something you wouldn't usually do.

ROFL: Rolling On the Floor Laughing. Used when someone has said something so funny LOL just will not suffice.

TMI: Too Much Information. When someone tells you something too personal or something you didn't really want to know.

SMH: Shaking My Head. Usually used when one is disappointed with someone or something.

CHANGE YOUR EMAIL PASSWORD

Your email password may have leaked !

If you have an email account with Google, Microsoft, Yahoo or Mail.ru then you should probably change your password sooner rather than later. This is because hundreds of millions of login details associated with email accounts have been circulating online among digital criminals.



According to Reuters, a company called **Hold Security** recently obtained a database of 272 million unique email addresses and passwords. The company claims a Russian hacker offered them the database in exchange for (bizarrely) just \$1. When Hold Security refused to pay, the hacker handed over the treasure trove for positive coverage on social media sites.

Around 57 million of the email/password combinations are for Mail.ru users, 40 million are for Yahoo Mail, 33 million are for Hotmail and 24 million are for Gmail. As well as email accounts, there are passwords associated with other websites which effectively means no one can be sure their credentials aren't included in this database.,

All of the affected email providers have been alerted to the discovery, and all will undoubtedly deal with it in their own way. The same goes for individual users, but we would recommend changing the password to your main email account just to be on the safe side. Especially if you use the same password across multiple websites.



SANDS COMPUTER GROUP & BROADBAND FOR SENIORS

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 2011

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DESTINATIONS ON GOOGLE

After a 50% increase in travel related questions last year, Google is introducing Destinations on Google. This will help you discover and plan your next vacation from Google Search. Search Google for the continent, country or state you want to travel to and add the word "destination". You can expect to see available flight and hotel prices, There's Flexible Dates filter to refine your results by month which allows you to see when fares and rates are lowest over multiple destinations.

UNINSTALL 'QUICK TIME'

Both Trend Micro and the US Department of Homeland Security are advising Windows users to uninstall this multimedia program due to 2 new critical vulnerabilities which may allow remote attackers to take over your system. Apple no longer releases updates for the product,

WINDOWS APPS FOR WiFi PROBLEMS.

These apps will help you troubleshoot your WiFi network so you can set up to get the most of it.

HeatMapper - Creates a heat map displaying the strength of WiFi coverage. You will have to run the program while walking around the area your network covers. However, it will help you position your router or computers where you can get the best results. W7,8 & 10.

Acrylic WiFi - Simpler than HeatMapper, it shows the signal strength and dead spots as you move around your network area.

Why use apps like this? With the increase in streaming services like Netflix Stan and Presto you will want to find the best spots to avoid glitches and delays while watching your favourite movies/series.

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.

Linguistic Competition



No English dictionary has been able to adequately explain the difference between these two words. In a recent linguistic competition held in London and attended by, supposedly, the best in the World, Samdar Balgobin, a Guyanese man, was the clear winner with a standing ovation which lasted over 5 minutes.

The final question was: **How do you explain the difference between Complete and Finished in a way that is easy to understand?** Some people say there is no difference between *complete* and *finished*.

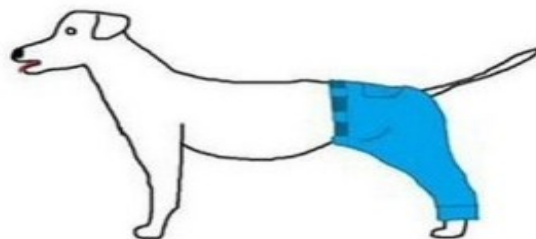
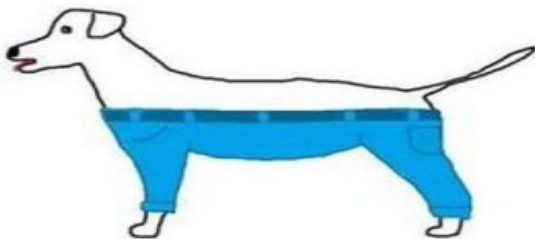
Here is his astute answer:

“ When you marry the right woman, you are COMPLETE. When you marry the wrong woman, you are FINISHED and when the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are COMPLETELY FINISHED!”



He won a trip around the world and a case of 25 year old Scotch.

If a dog wore pants would he wear them
like this or like this?



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



ONKAPARINGA

What am I ?

1. I have a mouth but I don't eat.
I have a bank but have no money
I have a bed but I don't sleep
I wave but have no hands.
What am I?
2. I have forests but no trees
I have lakes but no water
I have roads but no cars
What am I?
3. Simultaneously I go up and I go down
I go up towards the beautiful sky
And down toward the green ground
I am present tense
I am past tense too
Children love me
Who/what am I?



Answers on next page

LAWS NOT TAUGHT IN PHYSICS CLASS

Law of Gravity: Any tool, nut, bolt, screw when dropped will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

Variation Law: If you change supermarket lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are now in.

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.

HOW TO AVOID FACEBOOK SCAMS



If you are a Facebook user then the chances are good you have “seen” a Facebook scam in action. You have possibly even been unknowingly targeted. You know those posts that ask you to “Like” this post to win an all expenses paid holiday or share/repost this post to “be one of the lucky 1,000 users Mark Zuckerberg is giving \$4.5 million to?” **They are all scams!**

These seemingly innocuous posts are designed specifically to garner likes and shares. Once the fake page gets enough likes, the Facebook algorithm deems it to be valuable content and floats it to the top of millions of newsfeeds around the world. This is when the scammers swoop. They change the content of the posts to trick people to give out personal information, or coerce them into downloading malicious software. It is very simple and surprisingly effective.

While the old adage “if it seems too good to be true then it probably is” is a good way to view Facebook posts. Here are four other ways to protect yourself online.

1. Only “Like” posts from brands and people you know.
2. Be careful about giving permissions - always check what data is being asked for before clicking ‘accept’ especially for third party terms and conditions.
3. Review your likes - have a look through posts you have previously liked or shared. If the text/content appears different from what you originally clicked on, report it immediately to Facebook.
4. Watch out for multimedia - the most common scams are those based around viral videos and free giveaways. Avoid engaging with them.



Answers

- 1) A river
- 2) A map
- 3) A See saw

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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



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?

New Computers
Repairs

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New software & Upgrades

Peripheral units:

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