

September 2022



"Seniors helping seniors use computers and the internet"

**SeniorNet  
Association Inc.**

[www.seniornet.com.au](http://www.seniornet.com.au)



Cutting the Cake

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### Social Events



### Lunches

**September** - Raceview Tavern; Friday 16<sup>th</sup> @ 12; seniors buffet \$19

**October** - Casa Mia (Country Club Motel); Friday 21<sup>st</sup> @ 12 meals from \$15

**Please ring Ken on 33892950 or [email](#) if you plan to come**

## President's View

Are you concerned about identity theft and cybercrimes; if so you are welcome to come to the Coffee and Chat this Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 10am in Norths Football Club at 29 Pelican Street, North Ipswich. An ID Care Representative will discuss what to do when impacted by scams (there are further details overleaf).

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September the Management committee will meet and after they are done there will be a Trainers Meeting to finalise our October and November programme. Please send us any suggestions to be discussed at either meeting; we always welcome ideas from our members.

It has been our practice to organise a Christmas breakup party early in December (pandemics permitting). It is likely to be at the PA Hotel where we held our successful 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party but your input would be appreciated.

Contact [Barbara](#), who is already onto it.

Our annual meeting is on the horizon for early next year and a couple of our executive committee members have indicated they will not be seeking re-election. This is your opportunity to step up and join SeniorNet's management committee.

John McVeigh

### Lunch Coordination

To ensure that we book for the appropriate number of members we have appointed a coordinator. You should contact the coordinator if you plan to attend. Most venues will handle extra walk-ins, so you can still turn up if you forgot. For the moment the coordinator is the editor (see below).

### Just Friends Social Group

#### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September

Lunch at Commercial Hotel, Redbank. Members \$12.50.

#### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September

Lunch at Redbank Plains Tavern. Feast buffet \$20

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September

##### Coach trip to Bribie Island

Visit the Butterfly House and the Museum and BYO lunch at Bribie Island RSL. Cost with entry \$50. Pickup Redbank Plaza 8.00am

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October

##### Coach Trip to Gold Coast Broadwater Cruise

Including a light lunch on the boat \$50. Pickup Redbank Plaza 8.00am

*Just Friends is not affiliated to SeniorNet. The Editor organises group activities. Ring on 3389 2950 for information*

Sponsors: The University of Southern Queensland, Ipswich City Council, the Queensland Government and Microsoft.

**SeniorNet Workshop Programme: September—October 2022**

Boilerhouse Training Room, University of Southern Queensland, Ipswich

**Workshop Times** 9-11am; however the Boilerhouse is booked for the whole morning and this allows continued use of the facility if subject matter or participant interest requires it

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 <sup>th</sup> August	30 <sup>th</sup> August	31 <sup>st</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> September Intro USQ & Computers 7 <i>John McVeigh</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> September Coffee and Chat <i>IDCARE see below</i>
5 <sup>th</sup> September Facebook Users Group <i>Esmae Mander</i>	6 <sup>th</sup> September Digital Photog- raphy 2 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	7 <sup>th</sup> September Excel Basic 1 <i>John McVeigh</i>	8 <sup>th</sup> September	9 <sup>th</sup> September DNA Interest Group <i>Bette Fritz</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> September	13 <sup>th</sup> September Photo Editing Step 1 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	14 <sup>th</sup> September Excel Basic 2 <i>John McVeigh</i>	15 <sup>th</sup> September	16 <sup>th</sup> September Social Lunch <i>Raceview Tavern</i>
19 <sup>th</sup> September	20 <sup>th</sup> September Photo Editing Step 2 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	21 <sup>st</sup> September Excel Basic 3 <i>John McVeigh</i>	22 <sup>nd</sup> September	23 <sup>rd</sup> September Trove: The Sim- ple Search <i>Bette Fritz</i>
26 <sup>th</sup> September Family History: Paper Trails <i>Esmae Mander</i>	27 <sup>th</sup> September Photo Editing Step 3 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	28 <sup>th</sup> September Excel Basic 4 <i>John McVeigh</i>	29 <sup>th</sup> September	30 <sup>th</sup> September

IDCARE are Australia and New Zealand's free identity and cyber support service. Find out in this presentation what to do if you click on a dangerous link, lose your wallet, or fall victim to any other scam.

## October Provisional Planning

Tuesdays - Continuation of **Photo Editing** for four sessions

Wednesday 12th October - "**Introduction to the iPad**" - first of a monthly series on Apple devices

Friday 14th October - DNAInterest Group

Friday 28th October - Trove (topic TBA)

Note that there will be a Trainers' Meeting on 12th September to define all classes until the end of our teaching year in November; the October issue will contain the final programme.

**NOTE:** All Workshops are subject to change if Trainers are unavailable due to illness or other commitments. If possible changes will be listed on the SeniorNet Web Site or you can contact John McVeigh—Training Coordinator – ph **07 3281 8548** – email [training@seniornet.com.au](mailto:training@seniornet.com.au) to confirm workshops are as listed. It is not necessary to make bookings for Workshops.

Please bring your USB drive with you as it is helpful in many lessons.

\* For courses and workshops involving tablets (iPads and Androids) please make sure your device is charged, that you have your cable with you and bring your USQ username and password with you (for Eduroam access)

## Workshop Topics Described

### Digital Photography 2

This class is intended to show you the choices you can make in selecting digital cameras (including in mobile devices) and to put forward ideas on how you may improve your expertise as a photographer.

### DNA Interest Group

Have you done a DNA test or considering doing one and don't know where to go next? Come along!! Through sharing what we know and listening to others I'm sure we will make our journeys much more enjoyable and a lot less frustrating. The field of DNA is HUGE and needs to be tackled the same way as eating an elephant.....one bite at a time! There is so much more to DNA than the ethnicity that is promoted to entice you in.

### Excel Basic 1

Excel interface and simple data entry

### Excel Basic 2

Formatting columns, rows and cells

### Excel Basic 3

Simple calculations and formulas in Excel

### Excel Basic 4

Charts in Excel

### Facebook Users Group

Would you like to join Facebook but find the challenge daunting?

Feel free to attend our group & we'll try to help you with your concerns/problems. Facebook groups are a great way of furthering your knowledge on your favourite interest/pastime. If you are remotely interested in subjects such as: animals, health, sport, fitness, arts, entertainment, hobbies, food, humour, business, vehicles, home, garden, recycling, tech & science, travel, DIY, outdoors, books, literature, games & education you will be pleasantly surprised at how many varied & diverse Facebook groups exist. There will be just the right Facebook speciality group for you & all we have to do is find just the one.

Of course, you may wish to follow your friends and family's photos and exploits and that's a good thing. But be assured there is so much more that can be enjoyed on Facebook whilst still being safe & secure. Want to 'talk' to your friends/family quicker and easier than email? Come and learn to use Facebook 'Messenger'.

### Family History: Paper Trails

Do you have hard copies & pieces of paper amongst your family files? The two most important questions are, how do you store them & file them? Paper trails come in all sizes, shapes & forms. Some can be documents in the not so old 'foolscap' size eg Birth, Marriage and Death certificates which today won't fit into A4 plastic slips. Some are just scraps of paper albeit important scraps with information recently gleaned from your distant relatives or Great Aunt Mary. If you have a prized collection of all the above and more then it's most important to know how to conserve each item

### Intro USQ & Computers 7

Completion of email access and Q & A session

### Photo Editing Step 1

This series uses the free program Paint.net for editing your images. This step introduces you to the interface and editing process in Paint.net

### Photo Editing Step 2

This series uses the free program Paint.net for editing your images. This step uses Paint.net to make a range of simple corrections to photos.

### Photo Editing Step 3

This series uses the free program Paint.net for editing your images. This Step will discover how to use Selection to enable editing of specific portions of an image.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Trove: The Simple Search

Trove is a very interesting and entertaining website run by the National Library of Australia. It covers many different resources, one of them being Australian Newspapers which have been digitised up to 1954. There are a few different ways of going about your search and this time we will be looking at the “Simple Search” option for looking for a specific topic/name/event etc. as opposed to doing an Advanced Search or reading a full page or newspaper at a time.

# Welcome New Members



## Tech Talk

*The first item was originally prepared by Phil Buchanan for the 25th Anniversary show.*  
Your computer in 1997

In 1997 approximately 36% of Australian households had a computer. This compared to 33% in the United Kingdom and 37% in the United States of America (source: Australian Bureau of Statistics).

The top three computer companies were IBM, Dell and Hewlett-Packard. Some other company names from that period were Gateway, Compaq and Osborne as well as a number of local builders. Apple were not a significant player in the home market although the release of the colourful, all-in-one iMac a year later would see this increase.

Laptops were starting to appear on the scene but they were expensive, bulky and had very poor screens. They were something used in business and not really the choice for a home user.

Microsoft had released Windows 95 a couple of years earlier and this was becoming dominant on home computers (replacing Windows 3.1). This meant that memory and storage requirements were increasing but still only measured in megabytes compared to today's gigabytes (memory) and terabytes (storage). Windows 95 introduced many of today's Windows features such as Start Menu and TaskBar. It also had Solitaire which introduced many seniors to the computer.

The monitor was likely a 14 inch television-type display – big and bulky. It had a resolution of 640 x 480 or 800 x 600 and could display between 256 and 64 000 colours. Compare this with today's monitors which commonly have 1920 x 1080 resolution and can display millions of colours (as well as being much lighter, thinner and less power hungry).

The use of the Internet in the home was growing. At the beginning of 1996 approximately 4% of households had access growing to 19% by the end of 1998 (source: Australian Bureau of Statistics). Ipswich City Council had

launched the Global Info-Links initiative in 1995 which saw a higher uptake in Ipswich households and schools and the establishment of SeniorNet.

To connect to the Internet you would use a dial-up modem. This required disconnection of the home phone (the modem was 'talking' on the phone so you could not make or receive phone calls) and dialling into an Internet provider. Often there was not enough capacity at the provider end and you would need to dial-in multiple times before establishing a connection. Once connected you would have a connect speed of 28.8 kilobits per second (or if you were really lucky with a good connection and a more expensive modem – 33.6). To put that in perspective, a single 2-3 minute song would take 20 – 30 minutes to download. Today's broadband connections are more than 1000 times faster.

Google wasn't founded until 1998 so if you were looking for information, you would have used AltaVista or Yahoo. Microsoft had launched Internet Explorer with Windows 95 but Netscape Navigator was still the dominant web browser.

Software was distributed on 3.5 inch disks (and 5.25 'floppy' disks were still common). For some large programs there were sometimes a dozen or so disks in the box. CD-ROMs were becoming more common and many people upgraded their computer to install a CD Reader. It is important to note that this was a reader only. Burners were still very expensive. If you wanted to create your own CDs you needed to pay close to \$1000 for the privilege.

Some computer magazines had a disk or CD on their cover and this was a good source of free and shareware software. Downloading software from the Internet was not practical due to the speed and unreliability of the dial-up connections.

## Resolving a printing issue

For what should be a simple task, printing is often frustrating. Running out of ink or ink blockages and paper jams are common problems. Sometimes the printer just refuses to cooperate with the computer giving messages such as *Printer offline* or *Printer not turned on*. Assuming you have checked that the printer is connected and turned on, there are a couple of other things to try.

Go to **Settings**→**Update & Security**→**Troubleshoot**. Click on *Additional troubleshooters*. Click on *Printer* and run the troubleshooter. If the problem lies in the computer (perhaps with the Print Spooler service, for example), the troubleshooter may be able to fix. If the problem lies with communication between the computer and printer it will probably not help.

By default Windows tries to manage your default printer (the one you usually print to). This works well enough if you have one printer but if you have multiple printers or you have replaced your printer and the old one is still on your system, it can get confused.

Go to **Settings**→**Devices**→**Printers & scanners**. You should see a list of printers recognised on your system. Some of these are installed by Windows (such as *Microsoft Print to PDF*) but you should see your printer model(s) and any older printers which are still installed on your system.

Scroll down the list and click on the check box beside *Allow windows to manage my default printer* to remove the tick. Now click on the printer you normally use and then click the *Manage* button. Click the *Set as default* button. The *Printer status* line should now show *Default*. Click the left arrow at the top left of the window to go back one screen.

Have a look at the list for any old printers you no longer have connected. These are just taking up space and can lead to confusion. Click on any printer you no longer use and then click the *Remove device* button.

Now when you go to the Print dialog in an application, you should see your default printer (the one you selected) as the device to print to. If you have another printer connected to your system that you occasionally print to, click on the printer name and a box should open with other print options. Select the different printer for this job. Your application should reset to the default printer next time you go to print.

There can be several causes of printer problems. If you have tried these suggestions, checked for paper jams, checked status of ink or toner, checked the connection and still have problems, it is probably time to seek professional help.

Phil Buchanan

## Options for an older laptop with problems

As computers get older, the chance of something breaking increases. In the case of a laptop this can be problematic since they are more difficult to repair. With an older laptop the cost of repair (particularly labour charges) makes it uneconomic. If you are not concerned with portability there are some work arounds that prolong the life and useability of the laptop.

A non-functioning keyboard is a common problem. The keyboard can be replaced but if that is not an economic option, you can plug in a USB keyboard. It would be best to see if you can borrow one initially to make sure it will work. An external USB keyboard should just work – no need to install any software. If you are concerned about losing another USB port, consider a wireless keyboard/mouse combination. This will only use one USB port for the wireless dongle.

Another common problem is no wireless. The antenna for the wireless is housed in the laptop monitor. Over time, with the opening and closing of the laptop, the antenna wires can become detached or broken. A USB wireless dongle can solve the problem. These are relatively cheap (some less than \$20). Some of these dongles are quite small and unobtrusive (although they may not have the range of larger dongles). You will need to install software for the dongle and change the settings on your laptop to use the dongle rather than the internal wireless.

A less common problem but one that can be the most expensive to fix, is a broken monitor. The LCD screen on a laptop can be damaged or cracked and the cost of replacement can be far more than the worth of the laptop. Most laptops have a port for an external monitor. This might be VGA or HDMI. An external monitor plugged into this port can make the laptop useable again. You also get the advantage of a much larger monitor. You may need to adjust your settings to make the external monitor the main screen.

These options may introduce some inconvenience, particularly if you need to move the laptop regularly but they will extend the life of an aging laptop until the budget allows replacement.

Phil Buchanan

## Computer locks itself automatically

Another interesting one: Windows 11 laptop which would, seemingly, lock itself at random. Sometimes laptop would run fine, other times it would lock (revert to the Sign-in screen).

One of the features of Windows 10 and 11 is called *Dynamic Lock*. This will lock the computer when a Bluetooth device paired to the computer is out of range (for example a mobile phone).

The owner had paired his mobile phone to the laptop. Sometimes he would have this in his pocket when at the laptop and other times it would be left in another part of the house.

Dynamic Lock is normally turned off but at some time it had been turned on so whenever the laptop could not communicate with the phone, the laptop would lock.

If you have a Bluetooth device paired with your laptop, this could cause a similar problem. Check the setting by going to **Settings**→**Accounts**→**Sign-in** options. Then go down to the *Dynamic Lock* heading. If there is a tick in the box, click the box to remove. This should stop the locking if the Bluetooth device is out of range. Of course if you want to use this security feature and realise what it does, tick the box to activate Dynamic Lock.

Phil Buchanan

## Potty History

### Salman Rushdie Trial

{reprint of a section of the Wikipedia entry on “The Satanic Verses controversy”

The Guardian newspaper published on 14 September 2012 a series of recollections of various British people involved in the controversy. Lisa Appignanesi, ex-president of English PEN, observed "Intransigence is never so great as when it feels it has a god on its side." One of the lawyers involved, Geoffrey Robertson QC, rehearsed the arguments and replies made when 13 Muslim barristers had lodged a formal indictment against Rushdie for the crime of blasphemous libel: it was said that God was described in the book as "the Destroyer of Man", yet he is described as such in the Old Testament and the Book of Revelation, especially of men who are unbelievers or enemies of the Jews; that the book contained criticisms of the prophet Abraham, yet the Islamic, Christian and Jewish traditions themselves see Abraham as not without fault and deserving of criticism; that Rushdie referred to Mohammed as "Mahound", a conjurer, a magician and a false prophet, yet these remarks are made by a drunken apostate, a character with whom neither reader nor author has any sympathy; that the book insults the wives of the Prophet by having whores use their names, yet the wives are explicitly said to be chaste and the adoption of their names by whores is to symbolise the corruption of the city then being described (perhaps symbolising Mecca in its pre-Islamic state); that the book vilified the companions of the Prophet, calling them "bums from Persia" and "clowns", yet the character saying this is a hack poet hired to write propaganda against the Prophet and does not reflect the author's beliefs; that the book criticised Islam for having too many rules and seeking to control every aspect of life, yet while characters in the book do make such remarks these cannot constitute blasphemy since they do not vilify God or the Prophet.}

After the news of the attack on Salman Rushdie on 12<sup>th</sup> August I decided to follow up how the fatwa on the author could be justified. At the time of publication of his “Satanic Verses” I was still teaching at QUT so did not think about the book’s contents. This occasion led me to Wikipedia whence, as stated, I have extracted the defence in his trial for blasphemy (the complainants had not even read the book, it seems).

I trust that my world-wide following will not be too offended, especially given that I am even older than Salman. And hopefully anyone who takes offence will aim first for fellow Australian Geoffrey Robertson QC, who is some ten years younger than me

Ken Curwen

## Humour

### Zsa Zsa Gabor quotations

For those who do not remember her, this is my summary of what Wikipedia says:

She died only six years ago when she was just short of her hundredth birthday. She was a Hollywood legend, and landed herself nine husbands, including Conrad Hilton. She was Hungarian and being of Jewish lineage made the wise decision to decamp to the USA in 1938 when the Nazis annexed Austria (her mother got away in 1941, incidentally). Post war, as stated above, she was a legend with starring roles in films from the early '50s to the early '90s. A couple of plaudits:

Author Gerold Frank, who helped Gabor write her autobiography in 1960, described his impressions of her:

*“Zsa Zsa is unique. She’s a woman from the court of Louis XV who has somehow managed to live in the 20th century, undamaged by the PTA ... She says she wants to be all the Pompadours and Du Barrys of history rolled into one, but she also says, “I always goof. I pay all my own bills. ... I want to choose the man. I do not permit men to choose me.”*

In his autobiography, television host Merv Griffin, who was known to spend time with Gabor's younger sister Eva socially, wrote of the Gabor sisters' arrival in New York and Hollywood:

*All these years later, it's hard to describe the phenomenon of the three glamorous Gabor girls and their ubiquitous mother. They burst onto the society pages and into the gossip columns so suddenly, and with such force, it was as if they'd been dropped out of the sky.*

And the quotations:

"I am a marvellous housekeeper. Every time I leave a man, I keep his house."

"I want a man who's kind and understanding. Is that too much to ask of a millionaire?"

"How many husbands have I had? You mean apart from my own?"

"I don't remember anybody's name. How do you think the 'dahling' thing got started?"

"I never hated a man enough to give him his diamonds back."

"I know nothing about sex, because I was always married."

"Getting divorced just because you don't love a man is almost as silly as getting married just because you do."

"Being jealous of a beautiful woman is not going to make you beautiful."

"A man in love is incomplete until he is married. Then he is finished."

"To a smart girl men are no problem — they're the answer."

"To be loved is a strength. To love is a weakness."

"I believe in large families: Every woman should have at least three husbands."

"The women's movement hasn't changed my sex life. It wouldn't dare."

"I love to put on diamonds and beautiful evening gowns and make my girlfriends upset."

"One of my theories is that men love with their eyes; women love with their ears."

**And finally two recommendations to watch on You Tube**

Just click on the links

[Julia Louis-Dreyfus Acceptance Speech](#) for the 2018 Mark Twain Prize (13 minutes)

["Paper Houses"](#) sketch by Armando Iannucci (just over two minutes)

## Further Information

### SeniorNet Committee

The listing of the 2021-2022 committee can be found [here](#).

### Computer Repairs

A listing of repairers who our members have found satisfactory can be found [here](#).

**Disclaimer:** While we have made every effort to give accurate information and tips in this Newsletter, we cannot guarantee that their use will provide the desired results in all circumstances. In no event will the Editor or SeniorNet be liable for direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use of URLs and tips given in this newsletter. *We recommend members verify details before acting on information or suggestions contained herein.* The Editor would appreciate being informed of any erroneous information so that it may be corrected.

Ken Curwen. Newsletter Editor.