

July 2024



"Seniors helping seniors use computers and the internet"

**SeniorNet
Association Inc.**

www.seniornet.com.au

President's View

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Social Events



It is nice to see Ken back at his desk producing newsletters and workshops.

July will be a very busy month with Management and Training meetings on Monday 8th. These will be looking at SeniorNet activities through to our Christmas break. Any good ideas or suggestions will be appreciated.

The next Coffee & Chat will be Friday 5th July with audiologist Tausif Junaid; see the invitation below.

Our ever-popular Christmas in July occurs on Friday 19th July at the PA Hotel ; see the invitation on page 4.

Norths have made some changes to their WIFI. You should come a little earlier to your next Workshop to check out your access.

Regards
John McVeigh

Lunches

July

Friday 19th July - Christmas in July - see page 4

August

Friday 16th August at 12 noon.
Punjab Curry Club, Limestone Street, Ipswich. Lunches \$13.

Coffee n Chat

Guest speaker Audiologist, Tausif Junaid,
info on managing your hearing concerns and aids.
on
Friday 5th July 2024 at 10.00am
at
29 Pelican Street, North Ipswich

We would love to see you and friends there.
Please bring a plate to share.

Sunday 14th July

Lunch at Springfield Garden Restaurant (Chinese). Lunch specials from \$13

Sunday 21st July

Lunch at Commercial Hotel, Redbank.
Meet 12 noon. Lunch specials \$16.

Just Friends Social Group

Sunday 28th July

Coach trip to the Emu Farm and Bunjuren Vinyard

The Emu Farm at Colyville will open for us for a guided tour. Then buy lunch at Dugendan Hotel and finally tour Bunjuren before returning home. Cost including entries \$50. Pickup Redbank Plaza 8.20am.

Sunday 25th August

Coach trip to Bli Bli Castle and Ginger Factory

Look around the walls of the castle – which for safety reasons is closed for attractions – then go to the Buderim Ginger Factory where you can buy lunch and visit the Nut Factory across the road. Cost including entries \$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: Ipswich City Council, the Queensland Government and Microsoft.

SeniorNet Workshop Programme: July—August 2024

Norths Leagues Club, 29 Pelican Street, North Ipswich

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

Summaries of the workshop topics start on the next page

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 st July	3 rd July	4 th July Intro to Computing 6 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	5 th July Coffee and Chat <i>Tausif Junaid</i>
9 th July	10 th July Word Step-by-Step 4 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	11 th July Intro to Computing 7 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	12 th July DNA Interest Group <i>Bette Fritz</i>
15 th July	17 th July iPad/iPhone: Email * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	18 th July Intro to Computing 8 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	19 th July Family History: Life and Times #1 <i>Esmae Mander</i>
22 nd July	24 th July Word Step-by-Step 5 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	25 th July	26 th July Trove: Introduction <i>Bette Fritz</i>
29 th July	31 st July iPad/iPhone: Using the Internet * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	1 st August	2 nd August Coffee and Chat <i>TBA</i>
5 th August	7 th August Word Step-by-Step 6 <i>Ken Curwen</i>	8 th August	9 th August DNA Interest Group <i>Bette Fritz</i>
12 th August	14 th August iPad/iPhone: Notes & Docs – Text & Typing * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	15 th August	16 th August Organising Files 1 <i>Esmae Mander</i>
19 th August	21 st August Cloud Storage <i>Ken Curwen</i>	22 nd August	23 rd August Organising Files 2 <i>Esmae Mander</i>
26 th August	28 th August iPad/iPhone: Communication * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	29 th August	30 th August Trove <i>Bette Fritz</i>

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 Website or you can contact John McVeigh—Training Coordinator – ph 07 3281 8548 – email 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 mobile devices (iPads and Androids) please make sure your device is charged and that you have your cable with you.

Workshop Topics Described

Cloud Storage

Cloud storage refers to the method of uploading your files to a storage site on the Internet. There are a range of such services and they enable access to your files from anywhere. Files can be kept private or shared with friends and family. OneDrive is managed by Microsoft which is now integrated into Windows 11. Come and find out the benefits of saving to the cloud.

One Drive has rivals from other providers – find out about them as well.

To get the best results from this workshop please bring with you your Microsoft (or other) account name and password.

DNA Interest Group

Have you done a DNA test, or are 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. There is so much more to DNA than the ethnicity that is promoted to entice you in.

Family History: Life & Times

Enjoy a light-hearted & easy way to 'put your knowledge down'. With this simplified method, you will create & record some historical knowledge of your family. You can work from birth, death, marriage certs, shipping lists, title deeds etc which are your 'Primary' sources. Trove snippets and the like are 'Secondary' information sources, and they are valued as well. Most importantly, your own knowledge will be of beneficial for this workshop.

Necessities for Life & Times #1 - close and distant ancestors names, their life dates, Emigration date (if known), any or all the above mentioned etc but most importantly your own knowledge. What is unknown, you could search on the web.

Family History: Organising Files #1

During this workshop we will discuss how to develop a well organised collection of your ancestral documents. A slideshow will be shown about how to create a simple and easily understood method. We will show how to create folders & files for each family which makes for easier searching later.

Family History: Organising Files #2

A follow-up 'step by step' practical workshop today whereby you will create your family folders & files from the previous #1 workshop.

Intro to Computing 6

Learn how to use email and about managing the emails once you have read them

Intro to Computing 7

Rework of previous sessions 1-6

Intro to Computing 8

Final revision and Questions and Answers

iPad/ iPhone: Communication

iPads/iPhones can keep you in touch with family and friends in many ways, from simple messages to group video chats. We will look at the methods I am familiar with

iPad/iPhone: email

This workshop will cover the basics of using an iPad or iPhone to send, receive and generally deal with your email.

iPad/iPhone: Notes & Docs – Text & Typing

Your device comes with apps which deal with text; and you can add further apps, such as Microsoft Word. We will look at the basics of using your device to create documents.

iPad/iPhone: Using the Internet

We use the Internet for so many purposes these days. In this workshop we will look at ways to make it easier to access the information we require from the internet.

(Continued on page 4)

Trove

Trove is an incredibly massive website and an invaluable source of information for all researchers. It is a repository for over 366,458,886 Australian online resources for Australian historic newspapers, books, magazines, maps, music, diaries and letters, etc.

Trove: Introduction

What is Trove?

Do you want to find out what Trove is, how to access it, and how to read newspapers and magazines from our past? We can show you, step by step, how to do this and open up a whole new world for you.

Word Step-by-Step 4

This Step will develop the formatting of paragraphs; the use of styles; document layout; and editing the content of a document.

Word Step-by-Step 5

This Step will show you how to add and modify images (photos or clip art) in your document; how to amalgamate your document with another one; and finally how to review (check spelling) in your document.

Word Step-by-Step 6

Have you had problems with any of the exercises in the Word workshops? Is there any supplementary information you require? Your instructor will try to resolve any queries.

Welcome New Members



CHRISTMAS IN JULY

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Date:- Friday 19th July 2024 at 11.30am

Venue:- Char'd, Prince Alfred Hotel, 170 Brisbane St., Booval

**Cost:- \$24.00 p.p. Please transfer to SeniorNet Association Inc, Bendigo Bank
BSB 633000 Account 129070264. Include your SURNAME by 16th July.
(Bendigo Branchs – Riverlink (near RACQ) and(Brassall Shopping Centre).**

**Bookings essential for catering purposes.
Please advise any dietary requirmens**

**R.S.V.P. by 16th July2024, Email Social Co-ordinator
Snsocial.co.ord74@gmail.com**

Tech Talk

Microsoft walks away from failed security update

In January, Microsoft released a security update for Windows 10. It had a catalogue number of KB5034441. This has been failing to install on most Windows 10 computers because the Recovery Partition (a section of your hard drive/SSD that is normally invisible) is too small on a standard Windows 10 install. Microsoft offered advice on increasing the size of this partition but also promised a fix to the problem. They have now walked away from a fix:

Automatic resolution of this issue won't be available in a future Windows update. Manual steps are necessary to complete the installation of this update on devices which are experiencing this error.

See the blurb [here](#)

Thankfully this is not a vital security update for most people (see April newsletter for more detail). The best advice is just ignore it rather than attempting to adjust partition sizes manually.

If you wish to hide the update, you can download the Show/Hide Updates troubleshoot tool from Microsoft. This website also has a download link and a video on how to use the tool

Phil Buchanan

Windows 10. Going ... going...

Windows 10 will go end of life 14 October 2025. After that it will no longer be supported by Microsoft and will not receive any further updates. Many older computers running Windows 10 are not supported by Microsoft for an upgrade to Windows 11. If this applies to you, what are your options?

(A little reality check here: computers from around 2018 on should be compatible with Windows 11. If yours is not then it is older which means that, by 2025, it is likely to be edging close to 10 years old or older.)

Buy a new computer

The first option is obvious. If your computer is getting close to 10 years old or even older, it is time it was replaced. A new computer will come with Windows 11 and likely be faster and more reliable. However there is the matter of purchase cost and the drama of moving all your data and applications from the old computer. For the former, it is a good time to start planning the budget and for the latter time to consult with knowledgeable friends or technical people (backup, anyone?).

Run Windows 11 on unsupported hardware

Microsoft have published a hack which will enable a Windows 11 update on unsupported hardware. This comes with caveats and a warning that future updates may not work. This is not something you would likely want to do but if you have access to good technical support it might be an option. Explaining Computers has a good [video](#) on this process.

Personally I do not think this is a valid option. I have installed Windows 11 on older hardware and it does work fine. But if you have an old computer, trying to prolong its life may not be worth it. As it gets older it is going to be less reliable. Add to that no guarantees that a future Windows 11 update will support your computer (this has already happened with really old processors).

Try Linux

Linux is a free, popular operating system. It comes in several distributions (called 'distros') and has many of the applications you may already be using on Windows, including Thunderbird, Firefox, Chrome and LibreOffice. It is not Windows so there will be a learning curve while you become comfortable with the new operating system and it is important you have access to good technical support if/when things go wrong.

Ditch the computer?

An important question to ask yourself is: do you still need a computer? Many people make very light demands on their computer – checking email and Facebook, web browsing, online shopping. All these things can be easily done on a tablet. Many people who already own a tablet find they use it more than they use the computer.

All of these are valid options depending on your circumstances. It is important to take the time available to consider what is best for you. The good news is that for the immediate term, you don't need to do anything. But do keep October 2025 in mind and begin your planning sooner rather than leave it to the last minute.

Phil Buchanan

Ken's Tip 1 - Printer Consumables

Printer manufacturers have a mean attitude to toner and ink cartridges. They tend to tell you it is time to buy a new cartridge based on the number of pages printed – regardless of colour content. If you don't replace the cartridge the printer may refuse to proceed.

However, it is an open secret that you can reset the page counter using combinations of control panel commands. This allows you to continue with the same cartridge until it has run out of ink/toner.

But this backfired on me recently – the printer suddenly started putting tracks of magenta down the page and no amount of cleaning would fix the problem. Realising it was quite a while since that cartridge had been replaced I put in a new one. Magic – the printer ran like a new one.

Ken's Tip 2 - Software Updates

It is important to update any computer (PC, laptop, tablet or phone) AND the apps that run on them. This not only unlocks new features but also corrects any security problems within the software. However, updates may not happen automatically; the default setting is that updates only download (and subsequently install) if the device is connected to Wi Fi. This avoids possible data charges if the (comparatively) large update files are updated via your mobile network.

However, for most providers, the data allowance is very large (50GB and up) which is far greater than a typical update file (700MB). It is thus worth going through settings to find the one that bars updates via mobile and removing the bar. I personally have run into this problem when teaching, as my laptop realises it is on Wi Fi at Norths and promptly goes missing in action for ten minutes as it updates (I usually leave it switched off at home, where I also have Wi Fi).

Ken Curwen

Potty History

Thomas-Alexandre Dumas

A well-known author, Alexandre Dumas, wrote the novels "The Three Musketeers" – the adventures of Athos, Porthos, Aramis and D'Artagnan in the high politics of 17th century France - and "The Count of Monte Christo" – set after the fall of Napoleon, in which an unjustly imprisoned sailor escapes an impregnable fortress after fifteen years of incarceration, finds a fortune in hidden treasure, and uses it to reward friends and punish enemies.

It turns out that many of the events in the books were inspired by Dumas' father, Thomas-Alexandre who was a tough-as-nails French cavalry officer so die-hard that his enemies referred to him as "The Black Devil".

He was a war hero who enlisted in the military as a private and rose through the ranks to become not only France's first black General, but also the only black military commander in history to serve as the overall commander of a predominantly-white Army-sized force until Colin Powell took over the American military nearly 250 years after Dumas's death. He was big, tough, possessed almost superhuman strength, was unbeatable in hand-to-hand combat, fought sword fighting duels in Paris, and once single-handedly held a bridge against over a dozen Austrian dragoons while dismounted and armed with nothing but a sabre.

Thomas-Alexandre's father was Alexandre-Antoine Davy, the French Marquis de la Pailleterie; his mother was Marie-Cessette Dumas, an enslaved woman of African descent. He was born into slavery because of his mother's status, but when she died his father took him to France in 1776 when Alexandre was 14. His father sold the boy for 800 French livres in Port-au-Prince, officially to Lieutenant Jacques-Louis Roussel (but unofficially to Captain Langlois). This sale (with the right of redemption) provided both a legal way to have Alexandre taken to France with Langlois and a temporary loan to pay for his father's passage. Once safe on French soil his father bought him back and freed him. Slavery had been illegal in metropolitan France since 1315 and thus any slave would be freed de facto by being in France.

Flush with cash from the sale of his family estate, Davy de la Pailleterie for many years spent lavishly on Dumas. From age 15 to 24, thanks to his father's wealth and generosity, Dumas lived a life of considerable leisure. However, as will become evident, this did not adversely affect his character.

He grew to be six-foot-two, which was huge for a man in the 18th century, and he was also insanely strong – it's said that he could stick four fingers on his hand into four musket barrels and then lift all four muskets, holding them in a perfect T-pose without wavering. He also learned swordsmanship from the Chevalier de Saint-Georges (see below), another mixed-race man from the French Caribbean.

His life of luxury at his father's expense ended in 1786 when the 70-something Marquis decided he was going to marry the 19-year-old housemaid. Thomas decided to take advantage of his physique and martial skills and enlist in the army as a private (although his ancestry would have met the rules for office entry the facts that he was born of a slave and a Creole closed off that option). His father then insisted that he cease to keep the family name Davy, so he took his mother's name and was Dumas thereafter.

Dumas spent his first years in the Queen's Dragoons in the provincial town of Laon, Picardy, close to the border with the Austrian Netherlands. On 15 August 1789, following the beginning of the French Revolution, his unit was sent to the small town of Villers-Cotterêts. The town's newly formed National Guard leader, innkeeper Claude Labouret, had called for them to come in response to a wave of rural violence known as the Great Fear. Dumas lodged at the Labourers Hôtel de l'Ecu for four months, during which time he became engaged to Claude Labouret's daughter Marie-Louise.

Dumas's regiment was in Paris on 17 July 1791, where they served as riot police along with National Guard units under the Marquis de Lafayette during the Champ de Mars Massacre of the French Revolution. Troops killed between 12 and 50 people when a large crowd gathered to sign a petition calling for the French King's removal. Two years later, when someone denounced Dumas to the Committee of Public Safety, he claimed that intervention in the conflict saved as many as 2,000 people.

A corporal by 1792, Dumas had his first combat experience in a French attack on the Austrian Netherlands in April of that year. He was one of 10,000 men under the command of the General Biron. Stationed on the Belgian frontier in the town of Maulde, on 11 August 1792 Dumas captured 12 enemy soldiers while leading a small scouting party of four to eight horsemen.

In October 1792, Dumas accepted a commission as a lieutenant colonel in (and second-in-command of) the Légion franche des Américains et du Midi, founded a month earlier by Julien Raimond. This was a "free legion" (i.e., formed separately from the regular army) composed of free men of colour. It was called the "American Legion", "Black Legion", or Saint-Georges Legion, after its commanding officer, the Chevalier de Saint-Georges. Dumas frequently commanded the legion, as Saint-Georges was often absent. In April 1793, General Dumouriez attempted a coup d'état; Saint-Georges and Dumas refused to join it and defended the city of Lille from coup supporters. In the summer of 1793, Saint-Georges was accused of misusing government funds, and the Legion disbanded.

[to be continued]

Note: I was surprised to find the Chevalier de Saint-Georges teaching swordsmanship; I had only heard that he was a brilliant violinist and composer. I will tell his story in a future History.

Humour

A husband borrows \$2500 from his wife; and a week later, another \$2500.

When he asked her how much he owed her she replied \$41000.

“How do you get that figure?”

“Well, I just added it up, like this”

$$\begin{array}{r} 2\ 5\ 0\ 0 \\ +\ 2\ 5\ 0\ 0 \\ \hline 4\ 10\ 0\ 0 \end{array}$$

The husband is still searching for her maths teacher

My friend: “look at this nice picture of Wales”

Me: “actually those are sheep”



Further Information

SeniorNet Committee

The listing of the 2022-2023 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.