



"Seniors helping seniors use computers and the internet"

**SeniorNet
Association Inc.**

www.seniornet.com.au

President's View

On Other Pages

[Training Programme](#) page 2

[Tech Talk](#) page 5

[Potty History](#) page 7

[Humour](#) page 7

[Further Information](#) page 8

Social Events



Lunches

August

Friday 16th CSI, North Ipswich.

Meet at noon. Lunch specials \$15.

September

20th Mi Hi Tavern, Brassall. Meet

at 12 noon. Meals from \$22.

July has been very busy for the Management Committee with meetings and organising the Christmas in July Party.

The door prize vouchers, donated by Jim Madden and Prince Alfred Hotel Management, were won by Desley, Gailene and Michael.

Our next milestone will be the end of year activity, your suggestions please.

We welcome back Judith, our Secretary, fresh from her whirlwind trip around the globe.

Margaret will soon be on leave for a couple of weeks.

The next Coffee & Chat will be on Friday 2nd August (see [page 4](#)) at Norths 29 Pelican Street North Ipswich. Our guest speaker will be from Ipswich Hospital Museum.

The current ever popular Introduction to computing winds up on Thursday 8th August, covering voice recording apps and converting voice to text as a communication tool.

A new series will begin on Thursday 15 August. The topic is "Beginning our Digital Journey: an introduction to the computer"

John McVeigh

Just Friends Social Group

Sunday 11th August

Lunch at Little M Coffee Club, St Ives centre, Goodna. Meet at 12 noon.

Lunches from \$18.

Sunday 18th August

Lunch at Punjab Curry House, Redbank Plains. Meet at 12 noon.

Lunches \$15.

Sunday 25th August

Coach trip to Bli Bli Castle and Ginger Factory

Look around the walls of the castle 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

Sunday 29th September

Bus Trip to Roma Street Parkland and Fort Lytton

Explore the gardens, lunch at the Queensport Tavern, and view the defences at the mouth of the Brisbane River. Cost including lunch \$60. Pickup Redbank Plaza 8.00am

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

SeniorNet Workshop Programme: August—September 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

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5th August	7th August Android Q & A <i>Ken Curwen</i>	8th August Introduction to Computing 10 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	9th August DNA Interest Group <i>Bette Fritz</i>
12th August	14th August iPad/iPhone: Notes & Docs – Text & Typing * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	15th August Introduction to Computing 11 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	16th August Family History: Organising Files 1 <i>Esmae Mander</i>
19th August	21st August Android: Voice Commands <i>Ken Curwen</i>	22nd August Introduction to Computing 1 <i>John McVeigh</i>	23rd August Family History: Organising Files 2 <i>Esmae Mander</i>
26th August	28th August iPad/iPhone: Communication * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	29th August Introduction to Computing 2 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	30th August Trove: Searching Old Newspapers <i>Bette Fritz</i>
2nd September	4th September Cloud Storage <i>Ken Curwen</i>	5th September Introduction to Computing 3 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	6th September Coffee & Chat <i>Presenter</i>
9th September Meetings	11th September iPhone/iPad: Brain Games * <i>Joan McKenzie</i>	12th September Introduction to Computing 4 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	13th September DNA Interest Group <i>Bette Fritz</i>
16th September	18th September	19th September Introduction to Computing 5 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	20th September
23rd September	25th September	26th September Introduction to Computing 6 <i>Margaret Jensen</i>	27th September Family History: Life & Times 2 <i>Esmae Mander</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

Android: Q&A

This workshop is open for general Questions and Answers on any Android related subject. It will be of general interest to all Android users. You need to bring your own Android tablet and cable with you. And if you are still getting to terms with a new Android device I can help set it up. Please make sure your Android device is charged. Make sure you know any passwords you need for your device

Android: Voice Commands

OK Google allows you to control your Android device just by speaking to it – like Spock did on Star Trek. And just as Spock used structured commands, starting “Computer”, OK Google requires structured commands. These commands will be explained and tested.

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 2

Continue with a light-hearted & easy way to 'put your knowledge down'. With this simplified method, you will create & record some historical knowledge of your family. Most importantly, your own knowledge will be of beneficial for this workshop.

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.

Introduction to Computers 1

If you are new to using a computer or are not confident around computers, come and find out about the basics including what you see on the screen, what all those keys on the keyboard do and how to make good use of the mouse

Introduction to Computers 2

Practice using the keyboard and mouse. Explore the ease of access features of Windows 10 and 11.

Introduction to Computers 3

Find out how to manage the files you have stored on your computer

Introduction to Computers 4

Find out how to manage the files you have stored on your computer

Introduction to Computers 5

Learn how to research the internet using web browsers and then how to store your results

(Continued on page 4)

Introduction to Computers 6

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

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: Brain Games

Playing brain games on your device is apparently a good way to keep your brain active. I will demonstrate some I play, and will welcome your suggestions.

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.

Trove: Introduction

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: Searching Old Newspapers

Thanks to the National Library of Australia digitising a vast number of newspapers, gazettes, magazines, maps and more, we are able to access these for free online, much to the envy of the rest of the world as in most countries they have to pay for such a wonderful resource. We can show you how to get the best results when searching these old newspapers, up until approximately 1954, and what you can do with that information once you have found it.

Come along with members and friends to our

August Coffee n Chat

and hear our

Guest Speaker from Ipswich Hospital Museum

with General Information on the museum

on Friday 2nd August 2024 at 10.00am
29 Pelican Street, North Ipswich

Please bring a plate to share

Tech Talk

Google is not on your computer

I was talking to someone the other day and asked them what sort of car they had. They replied “Woolworths”. Why would you say that, I asked. Because that is where it takes me, was the reply.

A strange conversation – and one I just made up. It would be kind of ridiculous if someone replied that way. But in a similar vein, whenever I ask someone what web browser they are using, they almost always reply “Google”.

In my made-up conversation, the car was the means to get to a destination (Woolworths or Coles or the chemist or wherever). This single means could go to a myriad of destinations. In computer terms, a web browser is a program on your computer which can be used to go to many destinations on the Internet. It is the *means* and the Internet location is the *destination*. You use a web browser (Chrome, Edge, Firefox, Safari are common ones) as the *means* to go to Google (the *destination*) but Google is not on your computer – it is a destination on the Internet.

I understand how the confusion can arise. Many people have their web browser configured to open Google as their Home Page (the first thing you see when open the browser). But Google is not the program you started on your computer.

Does it really matter? Yes, it does if you are seeking technical support. If you are having an Internet issue, one of the first questions you will likely be asked is “What web browser are you using?” If you can’t answer that, you are making life difficult for your technical support person.

Phil Buchanan

What is Windows S Mode?

Microsoft introduced a special version of Windows called S mode. The S stands for Secure and it has features which restrict what a user can do and thus limiting the potential for the installation of malware. The original intent was that Windows S Mode would be made available on lower end computers (mainly laptops) that would likely be purchased by students and institutions.

In Windows S Mode, a user can only install applications from the Microsoft Store. This limits the potential for the installation of ‘nasties’ but is also restrictive. If your favourite application is not available in the Microsoft Store, you will not be able to install it. Even if it is available, you may be in for a surprise: applications which you could download for free from their own websites will now cost a fee (eg LibreOffice and Paint.NET). Other applications may have limitations (eg VLC Media Player from the Microsoft Store is unable to play DVDs). Microsoft 365 can only be installed from the Microsoft Store. You cannot source a cheaper licence – you are committed to whatever charge Microsoft sets. If your printer manufacturer does not make drivers available on the Microsoft Store, you will be unable to install your printer.

The good news is that it is relatively straightforward to get out of S Mode. Microsoft provides [an information page for Windows 10 and 11](#).

You will need a Microsoft account and the switch out of S Mode is permanent. There is no way to reinstall S Mode.

Microsoft licences S Mode to manufacturers for less than the full-blown versions of Windows. This is another reason why it was usually seen on lower cost computers. Recently, however, I have seen Windows S Mode on higher end computers (around \$1000 mark): three equivalently specced laptops, 2 had Windows 11 in S Mode and 1 had Windows 11 Home. All were the same price: \$888. While there is no real drama with removing S Mode, I think if I was going to pay the same anyway, I would go for the full Windows version.

Phil Buchanan

Windows 10 Extended Security Updates

Microsoft released Windows 11 in 2021 and has announced that Windows 10 will go end of life in October 2025. After that time, Microsoft will no longer support Windows 10 with security updates. While Windows and your computer will continue to work after October 2025, with no essential updates from Microsoft, using the computer will become increasingly risky.

Unfortunately, with the new hardware requirements for Windows 11, many older computers are not supported by Windows 11. There is a free upgrade from Windows 10 to Windows 11 but this is not available for many of the computers people are using.

Microsoft has recently announced an Extended Security Update plan for Windows 10 beyond October 2025. They previously made this available to business users for Windows 7 but this time they are extending the plan to home users. The bad news is there will be a cost. The price is still to be confirmed but is expected to be USD\$61 per computer for the first year. In the second year the cost will double to (USD\$122). In the third year the cost will double again (USD\$244). There will be no support beyond the third year. Unless there is a very good reason you must hang on to your Windows 10 computer (as there can be in business for specialist purposes), this sort of cost does not make a lot of sense.

The clock is ticking. There is no urgency but it is time to consider your options. If your computer cannot be updated to Windows 11 (and you can check in **Settings→Update & Security**) you should be making some preparation for what you will do next year.

Phil Buchanan

Potty History

Thomas-Alexandre Dumas (continued)

As mentioned near the end of part 1 of this History, Thomas-Alexandre had only served as a soldier for three years prior to the start of the French Revolution on 14th July 1789; but by this time he was rising through the ranks rapidly and in 1792, when King Louis XVI was deposed and executed, he was a general and in the following year was appointed commander of the Army of the Alps, overseeing a force of 53,000 fighting men, and earned more fame and glory for his daring manoeuvres that helped capture two critical mountain passes through the Alps against heavy Austrian and Prussian opposition.

The Army then took the offensive in northern Italy fighting their way towards Austria. But in the summer of 1794 Dumas was called back to Paris to face capital charges related to his pre-revolutionary military actions, exacerbated by his supposed aristocratic upbringing. Luckily for him Robespierre's Committee of Public Safety lost power (Robespierre and most of the Committee were guillotined) and Dumas was freed and could go back to the battlefield.

General Dumas joined the Army of Italy in Milan in November 1796, serving under the orders of commander-in-chief Napoleon Bonaparte. Tension between the two generals began as Dumas resisted Napoleon's policy of allowing French troops to expropriate local property. In December 1796, Dumas was in charge of a division besieging Austrian troops at the city of Mantua. By Christmas, he intercepted a spy carrying a message to the Austrian commander with important tactical information. On 16 January 1797, Dumas and his division halted an Austrian attempt to break out of the besieged city and prevented Austrian reinforcements from reaching Mantua. The French were thereby able to maintain the siege until French reinforcements could arrive, leading to the city's capitulation on 2 February 1797.

His greatest exploit came in Italy around 1796, while he was serving as a Divisional commander under General Napoleon Bonaparte. Ordered to take the city of Klausen (on the road to the Brenner Pass into Austria) against heavy Austrian resistance, Dumas personally led a cavalry charge at the head of the elite French Fifth Dragoons Regiment. He charged the Austrians, routing them in a melee, capturing the city, and taking over 1500 enemy POWs. But then, as he was mopping-up the remaining resistance around the town, he fell into a trap – as soon as his skirmishers crossed a bridge they were ambushed by a detachment of about twenty Austrian cavalry. The Austrians routed the French cavalry and shot Dumas's horse out from under him, but he refused to go down without a fight. Using his dead horse as cover from musket fire Dumas drew his sabre and stared down the charging enemy. Dumas's second-in-command said it best when he said, "I saw the General lift his sabre as a thresher lifts his flail, and every time that the sabre came down a man fell."

Even after taking a slash to the arm, a stab to the thigh, and a whack so hard to his skull that it cracked his steel helmet, Dumas continued to fight, lashing out with his sword in all directions. "I lay there astounded," said the second-in-command, who had been wounded and was lying there mostly incapacitated. "The General had killed seven or eight men and wounded double that number."

Finally French reinforcements showed up to save their General. The Austrians bolted. When approached about earning a medal, Dumas just said he was going to need a new sword, since he'd dented the old one up pretty thoroughly in the fight. Napoleon personally issued him a with new blade, dubbing it a "Sabre of Honor".

Dumas was ordered to report to Toulon, France, in March 1798 for an unspecified assignment. He joined an enormous French armada in preparation for departure to a secret destination. The armada departed on 10 May 1798, destination still unannounced. It was only on 23 June, after the fleet had conquered Malta, that Napoleon announced the mission's main purpose: to conquer Egypt. Dumas commanded Napoleon's cavalry during the Egypt campaign, famously capturing the Grand Mosque during the Battle of the Pyramids.

But after a British fleet under Lord Nelson destroyed the French Navy at the Battle of the Nile Dumas criticised Napoleon for leaving the fleet unprotected. As a result, Dumas was sent home from Egypt on an unsound vessel, which was forced to run aground in the Italian Kingdom of Naples, where he was taken prisoner and thrown into a dungeon. Dumas's fellow General Joachim Murat eventually defeated the Neapolitan army and secured Dumas's release in March 1801.

On return to Paris Dumas was not awarded "the pension normally allocated to the widows of generals" by the French government, and he struggled to support his family. He repeatedly wrote to Napoleon, seeking back-pay for his time lost in Taranto and a new commission in the military. He died of stomach cancer in 1806 when his son Alexandre was three years old. The boy, his sister, and his widowed mother were plunged into deeper poverty. Marie-Louise Dumas worked in a tobacconist's shop to make ends meet. For lack of funds, the young Alexandre Dumas was unable to get even a basic secondary education but became a famous author, nonetheless. Marie-Louise and the young Alexandre blamed Napoleon Bonaparte's "implacable hatred" for their poverty.

Ken Curwen, with thanks to Ben (Badass of the Week) and Wikipedia

Matched Contradictory Sayings

I was thinking about the first on this list, and realised there are lots of them. Thanks, Google ed.

Many hands make light work / Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Look before you leap / Those who hesitate are lost.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again / Don't beat your head against a stone wall.

Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today. / Don't cross the bridge until you come to it.

Two heads are better than one / Paddle your own canoe.

You're never too old to learn / You can't teach an old dog new tricks.

It's better to be safe than sorry / Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Don't look a gift horse in the mouth. / Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.

The squeaking wheel gets the grease / Silence is golden.

A stitch in time saves nine / If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread. / Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

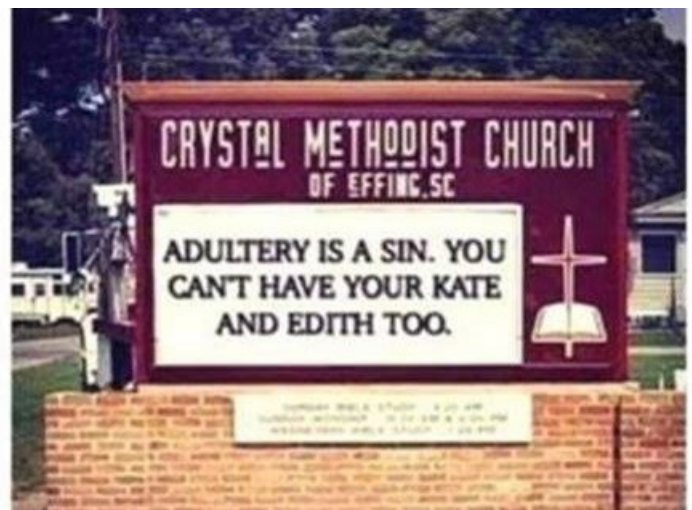
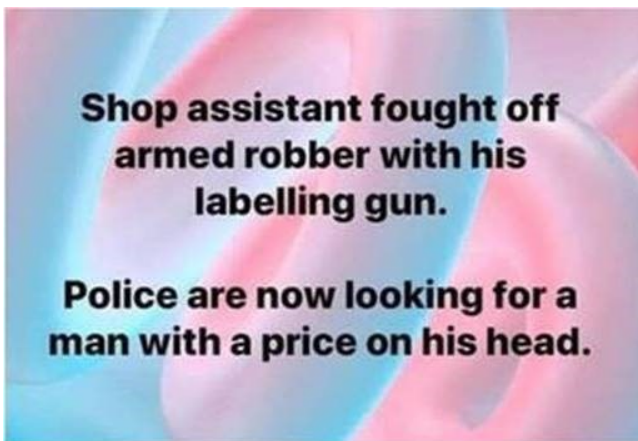
Seek and ye shall find / Curiosity killed the cat.

Save for a rainy day / Tomorrow will take care of itself.

Life is what we make it / What will be, will be.

Opposites attract / Birds of a feather flock together.

Two is company, three is a crowd / The more, the merrier.



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.