

COMPUTER PALS FOR SENIORS GALSTON AND DISTRICT INC.

January 2005

P O Box 43 Galston
2159

Newslette
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The President's Desk

A Happy New Year to Everyone!!

I hope that 2005 will be a year of "easy learning & understanding" for all of us trying to learn more about computers, software programs and computerized gadgets.

Yes! The process of learning continues for each of us as the world around us changes and we decide to pursue new interests.

I hope Santa Claus was kind to you and bought you all those new computerized gadgets you have been hoping to have one day. Maybe it was a new computer, printer, scanner, digital camera, DVD player, Plasma TV (the flat wall mounted ones) or a broadband internet connection. What ever new toy we receive will bring with it a new learning experience and some new names for features and things we have never heard of before. We may be able to help you through your "hour of need" as you come to grips with your new exciting toy. We may have members who have become quite knowledgeable about a toy similar to the one you got this Christmas.



The Wise Old Owl

New Year Resolutions!

Or as I prefer to call them. **Goals to achieve this year!**

The club will continue to upgrade our computers and software when ever the opportunity presents its self. **My goal is to upgrade the two computers which have not been upgraded, which will enable them to run the newer software programs.**

If you are learning how to use a particular program, which most of us are, **an excellent goal would be;** A commitment to put in at least 3 or 4 hours of serious practice, on the program. (in addition to the weekly 1 hour lesson with your tutor).

Or

Make a goal to send an article, question, joke or comment of interest, to our newsletter editor, by a particular day each month. You set the dates and you make the commitment to send the article. You decide what sort of article!

Or

A goal to create greeting cards for the family birthdays or events on your computer.

Or

Organize your digital photos into folders and organize all your Picture and Document folders on your computer.

Or

Start a serious project using your computer, for example; Genealogy, your accounts, write your memoirs. There are many more worth while projects you may prefer.

ADSL Connection News. (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line)

Late in November 2004, I received news that the north Kenthurst telephone exchange is now able provide ADSL broadband internet connections. This is welcome news to our members, including yours truly, who are serviced by this exchange. I hope everyone wishing to be connected to this type of internet connection was successful.

I would like to think that the letters and emails which we sent from Computer Pals to our federal M.P. and the minister in Canberra helped in some way to have this service provided to the community. The fact it was an election year and the wireless broad band system licensing, has now been extended to the greater part of the Sydney Metropolitan area, may have been issues to hasten the provision of ADSL to this area.

Lindsay McIntyre

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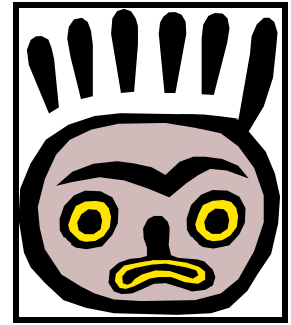
REMINDER

FROM THE SECRETARY

It was excellent to see so many of our members at the Christmas Morning Tea. I would like to thank all the people who brought a plate which helped make such a lovely spread and also thank you to those who washed the cups and cleaned the kitchen.

I am still waiting for more items for the News Letter. It would certainly stop me from tearing my hair out thinking up something that may or may not interest you all.

Our next meeting, which all members are eligible to attend, is on **Friday 4th February at 10.30 am at the History Cottage** on Galston Road, Dural. At this meeting your Editor will attempt to demonstrate how to produce a birthday card in Microsoft Publisher.



Rosemary

Thinking of buying a Digital Camera !

What is ?

CCD (Charge Coupled Device). This is the name given to the main sensor in a digital still or video camera that captures light and turns it into digital data.

FireWire. Officially known as IEEE 1394, this is a fast interface for connecting external devices, such as digital video cameras, to a computer. Your computer must have the appropriate socket connection for a FireWire connection.

Megapixel (MP) One million pixels, the unit of measuring digital image resolution.

SD (SecureDigital) Card. A common small removable storage card that uses 'flash memory' technology ("flash memory, you can delete the content and use the available memory space again & again"). These cards are used by various devices, but most notably digital cameras, to store photos. Sony's **Memory Stick** is a similar type of card.

CF (CompactFlash) is another similar card used in some cameras. These memory cards are specific to the design of the individual camera, being quite different in shape and size, you can only use the type of card designed for the camera.

USB (Universal Serial Bus) Now the most common connection standard for connecting devices such as printers Scanners and digital cameras to a **PC (Personal Computer)**

Word Tips

1. To increase the size of selected text, press CTRL +] or decrease the size of selected text, press CTRL + [.
2. You can save the file you are working with in another name by pressing F12
3. To go to the beginning of a line press HOME and to go to the end of a line press END

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ADDRESS BOOK

As you may know, when/if a **worm virus** gets into your computer it heads straight for your e-mail address book, and sends itself to everyone in there, thus infecting all your friends and associates. This trick won't keep the virus from getting into your computer, but it will stop it from using your address book to spread further, AND it will alert you to the fact that the worm has gotten into your system !!

Here's what you do; first, **open your address book** and click on "**new contact**", just as you would do if you were adding a new friend to your list of e-mail addresses. In the window where you would type your friend's first name, type in **AAAAAAA**. Also use address **AAAAAAA@a.aaa**.



Now here's what you've done, and why it works:

The name **AAAAAAA** will be placed at the top of your address book as **entry #1**. This will be where the worm will start in an effort to send itself to all your friends. But, when it tries to send itself to **AAAAAAA**, it will be **UNDELIVERABLE** because of the phoney e-mail address you entered.

Normally, If the first attempt fails (which it will because of the phoney address), the worm goes no further and your friends will not be infected.

Here's the **SECOND great advantage** of this method: If an e-mail cannot be delivered, you will be notified of this in your **IN BOX** almost immediately! Hence, if you ever get an e-mail telling you that an e-mail addressed to **AAAAAAA** could not be delivered, you know right away that you have the worm virus in your system. You can then take steps to get rid of it! Pretty slick, huh?

If everybody you know does this then you need not ever worry about opening mail from friends. Pass this on to all your friends.

E-mail Tip A quick way to send out a file as an attachment is to drag it to the Inbox. A new message appears with the file attached ready for you to address it.

Internet Tips

1. To stop downloading a page, press **ESC**.
2. To change your home-page to the page you have open, click **Tools**, click **Internet Options**, and then click **Use Current**.

General Tip Right clicking an object will bring up most of the commands used to work with that object.



Some Help with Computer Jargon

Boot, or boot up

Usually used to mean "start up the computer". Literally, the process of loading up the operating system and getting the computer ready for use

Browser

A program used for viewing World Wide Web pages on the Internet. The most widely used is Microsoft's Internet Explorer

CD Burner

A CD drive that can create ("burn") CDs

Default

A default setting is one you haven't changed - what a program will do (or use) if you don't tell it any different. "Accept the defaults" means leave any settings as they are.

http

(HyperText Transfer Protocol) The protocol or "language" computers use to send web pages over the internet. Almost every WWW address starts "http://", though many browsers understand if you omit it.

Hung

If a computer (or sometimes just a program) gets completely stuck and refuses to do anything, it has hung.

URL

(Universal Resource Locator) An address used to locate something on the internet, most often a web page. All web addresses are URLs.

WIN A PRIZE

About Your Newsletter

Questions to all Members.

1. Is this Newsletter of interest to you?
2. Do you take the time to read it?
3. When you receive your newsletter by email, do you print a copy?
4. What would you like to see in the next issue?
5. Do you keep the news letter for future reference?

Please email your answers to the editor:
E-mail gransy@tpg.com.au

All replies received will go into a "lucky draw" for a new **Optical 3D Mouse!**

If you do not have email and receive your newsletter by post you can telephone or reply by post to the Secretary Rosemary Ansley, 504 Galston Road Dural 2158

REMINDER

The **Next Meeting** of Computer Pals for Seniors,
Galston & District Inc
Will be at **History Cottage**
412 Galston Road, Galston

Date:

Friday 4th February, 2005

Time 10.30 am



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