

Come to the 13th Annual ASCCA Computer Conference for Seniors to learn and be inspired!

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**Deeps De Silva,
Windows Product
Manager, Microsoft**



Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy, Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy will deliver the Official Opening Address at our 13th Annual Conference to be held at the **Rydges World Square Hotel**, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th November 2011.

We feel sure our members will be pleased to share a beautiful buffet lunch sitting at tables in the elegant Sphere Restaurant which is the 2010 winner of the National Restaurant & Catering Awards in the category of the best Restaurant in a Metropolitan Hotel.

Again this year Microsoft, will be lending great support and sending expert presenters who will bring us up to date on a number of topics of great interest. **Deeps De Silva** who is the Windows Product Manager will be offering some tips and tricks to give us an easy transition from Windows XP

to Windows 7. Even those of us who are not yet ready to make this move on our own computers will find this useful so we can understand the needs of our club members. Deeps has been with Microsoft for eight years and is currently responsible for Windows Marketing for Australian consumers.

Gianpaolo Carraro who is Senior Director, Developer Division, for Microsoft emerging technologies and innovation programs, as well as relationships with Australian developers, IT professionals, startups and venture capitalists has a solid background as leader of Microsoft Corporate's cloud architecture strategy team for five years and was previously the Founder and CEO of a venture backed Cloud startup company. What a wonderful opportunity for us to discover which way everything is really heading and where our computing future lies.

Natalie Brook who is Windows Live Product Manager will be

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD 2011

Wednesday, 16 & Thursday, 17 November 2011 - 13th Annual Computer Conference for Seniors to be held in Sydney at [Rydges World Square Hotel](#), 389 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Wednesday 16 November ASCCA Annual General Meeting & Competition Winners Announcement & Presentations - 3.00 pm –5.30 pm at Rydges World Square Hotel, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney. In response to suggestions and requests from many interstate and country NSW members who would like the opportunity to attend the AGM and Competition Presentations we have extended the first day of our Annual ASCCA Conference until 5.30 pm so they can be included.

Those ASCCA Members only wishing to attend the AGM and hear the announcements of the results for the five ASCCA Annual Competitions are invited to join Conference participants for afternoon tea at 3.00pm. There will be no cost for those arriving after 3.00 pm to attend the AGM, however, as usual, registration will be required to allow for catering and seating.

All members whether coming to Conference or just to AGM please RSVP for AGM.

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John Blades at the Walkley Awards in December 2010



Read the quotes (right) from John Blades whose tenacity has inspired many people and whose ABC National Radio Interview, "The Too Hard Basket" in 2009 has received great acclaim all over the world and won national and international awards in 2010. These included the prestigious Walkley award for Australian journalism in the social equity category.

telling us all about internet communications products for online and mobile. Through her experience with Windows Live services - including consumer cloud storage offering SkyDrive, and Windows Live mobile products she will be able to answer all those questions we have about some of these things we have only heard about and don't yet understand.

Tim Connel, Managing Director, Quantum: Reading Learning Vision has been involved with Assistive Technology for over 25 years and regularly speaks at national and international conferences and has generously included ASCCA in his busy schedule. A great opportunity for us to find out about the latest help available in this field.

We will also hear from several old favourites, including Pete Blasina, the ever entertaining and informative Gadget Guy, and Paul Wallbank, broadcaster, writer and CEO of business advisory Netsmarts, who is a leading authority on how the digital economy is changing our community and society.

As you can see from these cameo profiles we have gathered an exciting group of speakers to enrich your enjoyment and understanding of computer technology and demonstrate the

benefits to all who have the will to embrace changes in technology.

John Blades says, "Live life to the fullest, there is plenty of life to be lived from the neck up." He also celebrates the way his life was transformed by the discovery of adaptive computer technology and the Internet in 2002.

John says, "I love my computer, but because reading and other activities are so important to me I try to restrict my computer usage to three or four hours per day. I have many diverse interests (music, art, current affairs, television, radio and film) and have found the Internet to be a whole world of information which I previously did not have access to. My e-mailing allows me to stay in touch with people all over the world. There is absolutely no need to fear computers or the technology, take it from me I have been totally transformed and use the computer as a tool. It provides me with independence and freedom."

Yes, John perhaps it does, but your will and determination to enjoy life and overcome the severe and increasing physical restrictions imposed by the progress of Multiple Sclerosis certainly inspire us to try harder.

Notice Of ASCCA Annual General Meeting

The Tenth Annual General Meeting of voting Members of the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association, ASCCA, will be held at Rydges World Square, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney on Wednesday, 16th November 2011 at 3.30pm

Annual reports
Election of Board Members

Announcement of
ASCCA 2011 Competition Winners

RSVP by 11th November 2011, giving name of Club and delegates attending, to 02 9286 3871 or ascca@ascca.org.au

Only financial member clubs can vote



Afternoon tea will be served at 3.00pm
and the AGM will commence at 3.30pm.
It is estimated that the meeting will close at 5.30pm.

There is no cost to attend the AGM and the announcement of winners of the various ASCCA 2011 Competitions but an RSVP must be sent so that we know the numbers attending.

All delegates attending the 13th Australian Computer Conference for Seniors are welcome to attend but must also RSVP.

Who will win this year? Now the hard decisions are over to our judges!



Geoff Beatty



Kaye Fallick

This year we are very excited about the prospect of being able to personally present some of our interstate and country winners with their Competition Awards at the first Annual General Meeting to be held in combination with the Annual ASCCA Computer Conference.

Our Digital Photography Judge, Geoff Beatty from Still Photography and our Creative Writing Judge Kaye Fallick from About Seniors have confirmed they are expecting to be able to make their presentations in person this year. We are also hopeful that our PhotoStory Judge, Paul Clark from Microsoft and Rick Maloney from Centrelink who is our Judge for Club Newsletter and Club Website will be in attendance.

The competitions have once again had a very good response with 461 digital photographs, 72 stories and poems and 24 photo stories

for our judges to ponder over and choose the winners. As the standard of the entries is very good Geoff, Kaye, Paul and Rick are facing a difficult and time consuming task and we are very grateful to these busy experts for their generosity in donating their time and proficiency once again.

The responses for Best Club Newsletter and Best Club Website were a little disappointing this year especially when we have so many clubs from all over Australia who do have excellent newsletters and websites that could have been entered. **There is always 2012!**



Paul Clark

ASCCA Members support and encourage the people of Japan

Here in Australia most people were very distressed about the plight of so many Japanese people who were either directly; or indirectly through family and friends, involved in the disastrous earthquakes on the 11th March in the Tohoku area of Japan.

So it is exciting to hear that thousands of "Active Seniors" who are members of various Senior Net Clubs in Japan have taken on the task of proving to the world Japan is "staying alive after '3/11'". These seniors are now using their insights through a "Photo Event" established by Freetime LLP which exists to provide information for inbound tourists to Japan via free magazines, web and FM radio.

Of course the tourist industry has suffered terribly after the earthquake disaster and this event is to show that, *"Japanese people are staying alive with their passion and commitment to reconstruct Japan in these very difficult times. There is sadness and pain amongst Japanese people after the disaster, but the season turns to the tender green of springtime and there are hopes for recovery. The photos will show the world that Japanese people live strong in the beauty of springtime, even now."*

The contest will run on the Photo Event Web site in both English and Chinese from June to

the end of October. Paste URL into browser to visit http://photogallery.phj.jp/docroot/view/top/id/freetime_photoevent/lang/2/

The winners of the Photo Event will be announced during a Global Senior Net Online Forum in Tokyo on Friday 1st November and ASCCA has been invited to join in the forum and send messages of encouragement to the Japanese people. The purpose of this Forum is a sharing of the Senior's experience and useful information with young engineers, researchers and policy makers.

Nan Bosler our ASCCA President and all the members of our 156 Seniors' Computer Clubs throughout Australia send our greetings and kindest thoughts and wish you success in all your endeavours.



Tell us about the strategies your club has in place to find trainers

If your club has developed a strategy to find trainers please share it with the rest of us! The best three will be asked to present at the Conference and receive free registration for one of the two days.

Over the last few years the final session of our Annual Conference has been turned over to our members for very useful discussions on various aspects of the way their different clubs are run to obtain the best results for all their members. We have all learned a lot from each other during these helpful and lively exchanges.

This year at our final session we will ask the important question about *"How we get Trainers"*. Nan Bosler has invited **YOUR** club to contact her at ascca@ascca.org.au to tell her of the ways you deal with this very issue at your club. From these ideas three club trainers will be invited to do a presentation of 10 minutes on this topic. There will then be a time for questions and comments.

In the past we have all enjoyed and benefited from these discussions and left the Conference on an optimistic high note - so why don't you give it a go!



You can now check for the latest news on the Conference Program and Speaker details on the ASCCA Website which currently has a live Conference Link as well as a link to easily Register online.

The World in Miniature



Yes—it is indeed hard to believe the world has been 'captured' to fit in something so tiny!



Try to visualise the world as it appeared when our parents were children. Europe and America would just have been pictures and words in an atlas, history books or some newspaper articles. There was little chance of visiting those places. Then came the two World wars that brought it all closer, thousands of men and women were transported to the other side of the world to fight. The war even came to Australia. Suddenly the world was much smaller and real.

Now we tend to take it all for granted, but occasionally something occurs which makes us realise the vast resources available to us.

My three year old GPS car navigator is a vital tool for me, especially when driving a Village bus to an unfamiliar location or trying to navigate road and lane changes in the city and surrounds, so I decided to update and browsed eBay. I found a Chinese offer of a very large screen GPS with lifetime Australian map updates; worth a risk at \$110. It arrived promptly but the screen was in Russian! A bit of exploring found - "Languages" - "English" and I was in business.

I have been very pleased with its accuracy and effectiveness. The guidance voices are in "Australian English", the maps, speed

cameras, speed limit signs and warnings are all correct and dated 2010.

More surprising is the amount of detail in the "Points of Interest" available for each location. Several hundred around ARV, including all the businesses such as Oakhill shops, Pizza Cutters, and the Dry Cleaners, over 300 businesses, parks etc. I wonder if these businesses realise they are listed in Chinese manufactured GPSs?

So I tried Bourke, NSW – some 75 "Points of Interest" right down to a toilet 600 metres from town centre!

Then I proceeded to update to the 2011 map from the Internet. To my surprise, I discovered my GPS also had maps and points of interest for Britain, France, Russia and other countries in Europe, also Canada, 27 in total.

All this information in a Micro SD card the size of a finger nail! Even then it was not half full.

The world has really shrunk!



Thanks to Lynton Bradford for permission to reprint his article from the August 2011 "Bits & Bytes - THE ARV RESIDENTS' COMPUTER CLUB NEWSLETTER"

NSW State Archives 50th Anniversary Open Day on Friday 28th October

If you can travel to Western Sydney and if you just love history, or if you are interested in Family History Research here is a wonderful opportunity for you to discover just what treasures are available at the NSW State Archives.

To celebrate their 50th anniversary the doors at the Western Sydney Records Centre, 143 O'Connell Street, Kingswood will be thrown open to the public from 10:00 am on Friday 28 October. "The Archives are Alive" will be the theme for the day which promises talks, behind-the-scenes tours, hands-on activities, expert conservation advice, film screenings, and a free sausage sizzle! You are advised to **BOOK NOW** as there will be strict limits on numbers for these special activities for which booking is essential. Further information and the online booking form are available at the website: <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/open-day>
ENQUIRIES: Emily Hanna or Gail Davis (02) 9673 1788

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ASCCA Newsletter
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Pass on this issue of the ASCCA newsletter by printing copies for distribution, or make a list of all your club members with email addresses and forward it to them. It is of interest to each member of every club, not just Committee members.

The newsletter can also be read and/or downloaded from our website: - www.ascca.org.au You are welcome to copy items from this newsletter but acknowledgment of ASCCA is required.

Membership of ASCCA is open to all Seniors Computer Clubs, Organisations with a membership including Seniors, and those Organisations that recognise the value of computer technology for Seniors. Cost of ASCCA membership is \$110 per year, including GST. Corporate Membership also welcome.

If you fit one of those categories and are interested in joining ASCCA please go to our website www.ascca.org.au or email office@ascca.org.au to find out how to start a club or read some of the advantages of joining ASCCA if you are an existing club. An Application Form is available to download.

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Contributions are welcome. Remember this is YOUR NEWSLETTER. Please take special note clubs outside Sydney and NSW. Please forward contributions by email to the editor.

Welcome to Probus Club of Breakfast Point Inc. NSW

Breakfast Point has an interesting place in the history of Sydney as the spot where one of the earliest recorded meetings of European explorers and the Native Wangal Clan, whose territory extended from Sydney Cove to Rosehill along the southern shore of the Parramatta River, took place. It is also the site of extensive industrial holdings and operations for the Australian Gas Light Company for more than 100 years.

Most recently, with the building of over 1,300 homes and apartments in just over a decade, it has become one of the largest urban renewal projects in Sydney and this has resulted in the need for new opportunities for social interaction and activities.

In 2008 the Breakfast Point Rotary Club was formed and this group sponsored the Foundation Meeting of the newly formed Probus Club of Breakfast Point on 14th April 2011. In the first three months the membership grew to 157 and a number of special interest groups were formed within the Club. The first meeting of the Computer Group took place in the Breakfast Point Community Hall (pictured) on 29th August 2011 and at that meeting it was decided to seek membership of ASCCA. A very warm welcome is extended to all your members.



It is said that in 1788 Captain Hunter was leading a small group in the exploration of the Parramatta River when he stopped for breakfast and hence the spot was named "Breakfast Point". Captain Hunter's Journal describes the meeting at that time with the aboriginal people as friendly. It is interesting to note it is believed it was from this same clan that the notable Bennelong was captured in November 1789 as part of Governor Phillip's plan to learn the language and customs of the local people.

The area was known as Mortlake in 1883 when the Australian Gas Light Company purchased a large area of land and opened the Gas Works in 1886. It was an area that had unlimited space for expansion - where the land was cheap - and it was convenient for colliers from Newcastle to deliver the coal up the river to the gasworks site until late 1971. From then until the final closure of the Gas Works in 1990, natural gas from the interior of Australia was piped to Mortlake for distribution to consumers throughout the Sydney area. This AGL area has undergone remediation and redevelopment to transform it into the new suburb of Breakfast Point with its modern harmonious residential development.