Congratulations on National Volunteer Award to Annette & Alan Stuckey from Westlakes Club

Inside this Issue

get READY for digital TV

Did you know there are a series of video tutorials that step through many of the common queries Australians have about how to switch to digital TV. The videos can be accessed from **Info Centre** on the **digital ready** website or can be ordered in DVD format free of charge from the Digital Ready Information Line on 1800 20 10 13.

Those of us who are volunteers already know about the importance of teamwork and a generosity of spirit which gives us such pleasure in helping other people. It is exciting when there is recognition for such enthusiastic volunteers as Annette and Alan Stuckey from Westlakes Seniors Computer Club who have recently received a joint National Volunteer Award. They have been working as part of the team which has seen this active ASCCA club grow to a total of 370 members since it began with their enthusiastic support at the inaugural meeting in January 2000.

Annette describes how, "A few locals went down to Gosford in Seniors Week 2009 and saw a table set up by the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association" and how "They decided on the train trip home to Morisset to set up their own Seniors Computer Club." Since the club started about 2,000 people have been introduced to computing in a happy and well organised environment helped by volunteers like Annette and Alan.

In May 2000 Annette officially took over as Secretary and started sending out an informative electronic newsletter which has been prepared weekly since 2001. She is also a "club buddy" offering support to members in her area. She also tutors workshops on "Sounds of Music", Picasa, Photostory, Skype, Upgrading to Windows 7 and Live Mail.

Since April 2000 Alan has been doing workshops called "inside Your Computer" on how to take a computer apart and clean it (and put it back together) and how to add extra memory or hard drives. He has also been a part of the Westlakes Technical Group and cheerfully helps members with their computer hardware problems and takes them to Computer Fairs to help them find the right equipment. He became Treasurer in 2008.

Congratulations on your well deserved National Volunteer Award Annette and Alan.

We at ASCCA are proud to also have Annette as one of our hard working Volunteer Directors.

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

5 February 2012 - Launch of Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) National Awareness Campaign about consumer guarantees and rights and obligations for consumers and businesses. See more details in item below.

7 February - Safer Internet Day 2012 with the theme, *Connecting Generations and Educating each other.* Coordinated by Australian Communications & Media Authority. http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Safer%20Internet%20Day%202012/Safer%20Internet%20Day%202012%20-%20Actions%20for%20Grandparents.aspx

NSW Seniors Week 18-25 March 2012 - "A Library in the Sky" Free EXPO 280 Pitt Street - Wednesday 21st March. Also free introductory 'taster' sessions. Details later.

19 - 25 March - National Consumer Fraud Week with the theme *Slam Scams*!

4 - 8 June 2012 - National Cyber Security Awareness Week

NEWS FLASH! Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 November - 14th ASCCA Australian Computer Conference for Seniors at Rydges World Square, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW.

Mark these dates in your new 2012 Diary so you don't miss out!

ASCCA
COMPUTER TRAINING
FOR THE MATURE AGED

Gift Certificate

This certificate entitles **Mary Jones**

to   ASCCA Products & Services to the value of **$50**

Authorised by: *John Smith*

Number: A1234567890

Lower Ground Level
280 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Ph: 9286 3871
E-mail:
office@ascca.org.au
Internet: www.ascca.org.au

Not redeemable for cash.
Redeemable value not to exceed course value.

Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

Did you know? You can now buy an ASCCA Gift Certificate for a face value of $20, $30 or $50. The Gift Certificates can be redeemed by the recipient for our training workshops which are held on level B, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney - or for any of our ASCCA Products or Services.

You could even ask your family for Gift Certificates to pay for your visit to our 2012 Annual Conference.

To Purchase Gift Certificates just ring the ASCCA office to discuss details.

New national consumer guarantees rights and obligations for consumers and businesses

Research reveals many consumers and businesses are confused about warranties and rights to a refund, repair or replacement when products or services are faulty or do not operate as intended or described. It was estimated that Australian consumers as a collective spend approximately $14.2 billion each year to deal with consumer problems. These losses include things like paying for repairs or replacement products. In January 2011 the Australian Consumer Law introduced new national consumer guarantees rights and obligations for consumers and businesses. You can visit the ACCC Website for all the details. http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/958709/fromItemId/ACCC#h3_78

Could this be YOU?

The search for two **Cyber Security Awareness Ambassadors** will close at 5pm Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time on 14 February 2012. The chosen duo will star in the Stay Smart Online video series and be lead spokespeople supporting National Cyber Security Awareness Week in June 2012. It will be their task as **Stay Smart Online Agents** to spread the word about being safe online – and to be the faces and voices of **National Cyber Security Awareness Week 2012**. The link to the website with all the details is www.staysmartonline.gov.au/agents. It is really easy to do; the search is just looking for a short video describing why you think you are Australia's most cyber secure or cyber safe person. **If you don't think it is you, perhaps you could help a friend with their video!**

A Magnificent Man and his Flying Machine

Let me introduce you to an intrepid ninety-one year old would-be flier - and his flying machine; because I believe each invokes an interest of equal value. It is a story, a true story, of a man and how he handled the loss of his lifetime companion; a story of perseverance, of experiences and of dedication to a purpose. It is of necessity not brief; otherwise it could not clearly reveal his background and his achievements. It is a story of what can be done when your world seems to fall apart; and what may subsequently be achieved, regardless of one's age. It is a chronicle that warrants telling. Hopefully, some might draw inspiration from its telling.

Born David John Robinson Archer on the 15th July 1920 at Mascot NSW, he was the youngest of seven siblings. As last of the litter, his fiery nature was probably good naturedly tolerated, earning him the pseudonym of *Dick* (being an abbreviation of *Richard the Lion Heart*). After all these years, some family members continue to call him *Dick*. Perhaps, we of recent acquaintance could also adopt this appropriate alias, because he is still wont to display the same fiery response on occasions.

His early schooling years demonstrated a basic academic brilliance, until a letter he wrote to his father was ridiculed by an older brother. From that point David abandoned academic achievement, skipping attendance when and wherever he could. So, when he left school at age fourteen he was almost illiterate.

After completing two year stints at each of three machining workshop career-less jobs, David, having a new found religious faith, managed to score a scholarship at Moore Theological College. Here he studied with enthusiasm, equally endeavouring to enhance his then limited command of the three Rs.

Unfortunately, the hiatus of war disrupted this new found blissful career when David enlisted in the RAAF in April 1943. He wanted to be a pilot, but deteriorating hearing delegated his dream to that of instrument artificer on Sunderland flying boats, until he was demobbed in 1945.

Then, having married his life-long partner Connie Standfield back in 1943 and planning for their two children, David turned his mind to a more substantive income activity of watchmaking. He established his own business and studiously attended night classes for the next four years in order to expand his skills and trade knowledge.

After residing in Mascot for approximately ten years, David and Connie took up residency in Campbelltown for the next forty years, before accepting "retirement" at Carrington Village in 1994.

Between de-mob and Carrington, David's life brushed an eclectic palette comprising industrial arts teacher with the NSW Education Department, Field Commissioner for the Boy Scouts movement, missionary work together with Connie in Papua New Guinea and licenced diocesan reader of the Anglican church. During this period he found time for four years of instruction to pursue the love of his life – flying.

When they moved to Carrington David continued his ministering by establishing an on-site Sunday morning church service. Not satisfied with that, he almost single-handedly laboured many an hour, indeed day, in an arboreal beautification programme of natural bushland within the village, involving the planting of some 6,000 native trees and shrubs. Today, a pathway meandering through this regenerated area is sign-posted *Archer Way*.

Well into these latter years David's audible capacity had diminished to an extent that flying was now out of the question. So he and Connie just substituted caravanning!

It was on the eve of one such gypsy-like jaunt in March 2005; David's sixty two year partnership with Connie suddenly reached its conclusion. While seated at their lunch table

A Magnificent Man and his Flying Machine

prior to commencing a vanning holiday, she gave a short cough, fell forward, her spirit departed in the instant.

Completely bereft, David's family wisely perceived the need to engage him in an activity that might fully occupy his mind, at the same time offer challenge – something David had always been willing to accept. The solution; introduce him to the idea of completing construction of a light recreational aircraft currently owned by a relative. David readily "gobbled the bait". Carrington management, also recognising the mental and physical stimulus such an enterprise would provide for one of their flock so obviously in a state of deep shock, generously allocated space and services for the undertaking.

So it came to pass; an aeroplane was being built in a retirement village by an elderly gent, who by normal village standards might be expected to continue the balance of life reclining in a comfortable chair in the sun. Not David! Having been thrown down the gauntlet, he laboured incessantly at completing that tiny aircraft.

However, he never completed the task. Someone, about a year or so later, visited his workshop and expressed a desire to purchase it; just as it was. Perhaps it was a blessing, as one gains the impression David had by then began to let his mind wander towards the idea of a slightly larger, more stable and more powerful machine. Whatever the reason, the offer was accepted, even though the buyer didn't have the wherewithal to seal the deal. Typically, David accepted time payment.

Within weeks, David discovered and purchased a recreational aircraft plan for a model seemingly superior to his initial unit. Unfortunately, as he progressed with construction, shortcomings in design surfaced to an extent that not only was David building a new aircraft, he was continually redesigning its original plan and at the same time introducing additional features that he and his aircraft engineering colleagues felt necessary for it to become a viable and reliable light aircraft.

Many supply and construction setbacks over the following four odd years taxed David's physical capacity, calling upon a lifetime of experiences with which to resolve problems. But his determination never waned!

Helpfully, Carrington management and many interested residents, continued to support his ongoing labours.

Those who are devotees of ABC television may have recently witnessed a documentary created here at Carrington featuring David and his endeavours.

Now, four and a half years and thousands of painstaking construction hours later, the project is rapidly nearing completion. With a bit of luck and a "prevailing wind" it is anticipated aircraft *Archer Diamond*, registered as VH-DCA, will have completed its ground and flying tests in the first quarter of 2012, almost seven years since the concept first saw the light of day.

However, it's one thing to spend most of your waking hours building an aeroplane; it's another thing to fly it. David had the necessary skills to do so but he could no longer hear. And by now, due to his deteriorating hearing he had not flown for some time, so his pilot's licence was no longer current – and to gain re-endorsement he had to be able to hear.

What's the use of building an aeroplane if you are not allowed to fly it?

Not a problem; just another opportunity. If he could hear, he could fly! So off David went to seek cochlear ear implants which overall, has occupied about two years of his busy schedule by way of surgery, testing and fine tuning. In fact the fine tuning is still in progress. Shortly, David expects his licence to be endorsed, after which the sky's the limit.

So if one day you happen to look skyward and note a completely white apparition skimming by, it could well be our David enjoying the fruition of his labours, and equally, his dreams. David John Robinson Archer (*Dick*), we salute you! ***Friend and fellow resident, Lango.***

Thanks to Les Langston for this wonderful account of David's inspiring achievements and the photos of David & *Archer Diamond*

Carrington Computer Club Celebrates a Decade of Volunteer Service

The attractive and tasty Anniversary cake was made in the Carrington kitchens.

Left to right - Bill Reilly Carrington Computer Club Vice President, Joan Craymer ASCCA Vice President, Jim Cook Carrington Computer Club President and Raad RichardsCEO Carrington Village.

Mary Sell (left) and Amber Wales with the impressive display by the Carrington Card Making Group.

On the 5th December 2011, Carrington Computer Club treated available members to a luncheon to celebrate ten successive years of providing computer training for Macarthur community.

Conceived in July 2001, with an unusual gestation of only one month, the Club was born on 6th August 2001, in the presence of ASCCA long-term president, Nan Bosler.   Its conception was possible due to the unsolicited practical support of Carrington Retirement Village management; that continues to this very day.

Membership comprised 43 hardy souls, 40 residing at Carrington Retirement Village.   After registering 700+ members since then, current membership stands at 223.   Initially, with one discarded computer and little else, a small band of "trainers" battled to satisfy the demand for knowledge.   A short time later, a "leap of faith" caused Carrington's Fair Committee to grant funds for two new computers, enabling a commensurate jump in capability.

It was not until we gained a substantial NSW Government grant could we commence a structured training programme operating from a dedicated facility.   Since then, some 400 training courses, between 12 and 24 hours duration have been conducted, comprising a total of at least 43,000 training hours.

With actual presentation hours, related preparation work and a massive administration work load, approximately 50 members have contributed more than 45,000 volunteer hours towards the

Club's successful operation.

President Jim Cook opened celebration proceedings by welcoming guests and members, at the same time noting some of the Club's achievements.

We were fortunate to have Federal, State and Local Government representatives, the CEO of Carrington and ASCCA Vice-president in attendance. ASCCA's Joan Craymer applauded the Club's performance over the years, noting that it was the first senior's computer club to be supported by a retirement village whilst offering membership to seniors from the surrounding community.   Joan concluded her speech by cutting a large appropriately decorated birthday cake.

Chris Patterson, ex Camden Mayor now State MP, Russell Matherson, Federal MP, Fred Anderson, Camden Councillor and prior Mayor, Raad Richards, Carrington CEO, Geoff Corrigan, former State MP, all offered their congratulations on our contribution to the community's seniors, with a promise of their future support.

Les Langston, who coordinated the function, thanked our guests for their words of praise and for their undertaking for further support.   He particularly applauded Geoff Corrigan for his successful past continued personal involvement in pursuing grant applications on our behalf — in excess of $60,000.

Thanks to Les Langston for this account of a very happy day of celebration at Camden, NSW.

At the AUSOM Club Meeting in Melbourne in December 2011 a presentation of the many winning certificates from the 2011 ASCCA Competitions was arranged. Pictured (l to r) Barbara Moriarty. Susan Jensen (President), Tuck Leong, Sue Searls, Pam Doughty, Judy Young, Rob Calder, Tim Gurrie and Chris MCQuillen.

Congratulations to the AUSOM Club

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.

Welcome to new clubs at Port Douglas, Qld. & Katanning, WA

We extend a warm ASCCA welcome to the **Katanning Community Resource Centre** which provides the local community in the heart of the Great Southern Region of Western Australia with all those IT and community services so important to an isolated country town. Although isolated Katanning is well situated for major regional centres like Albany (2 hours), Bunbury (2¼ hours) and Perth (3 hours) and also has the benefit of proximity to many popular tourist destinations such as the beautiful Stirling Ranges (1½ hours) and the Mt Barker wine country (1½ hours). One of the latest innovations of the Centre is a Seniors Computer Club to encourage the senior people of the Katanning Shire to remain connected and involved.

The arrival of the railway line at the end of the nineteenth century brought permanent settlers to the area and a large mill was established giving Katanning a reliable secondary industry and bringing prosperity. Secondary industry is still important, with a large meatworks now employing many people. All this – and for we frustrated city dwellers – Katanning boasts the wonderful bonus of having just one roundabout and no traffic lights!

We are also excited to welcome the newly formed **Douglas Computer Club Association** from Mossman in tropical North Queensland. Their admirable goals are, "To encourage and promote the use of computers by members and to entice members to be more conversant in technology." We really look forward to helping in these goals and sharing our experiences.

As the home of the Mossman Central Sugar Mill, Mossman is a busy and friendly town offering hospitality to many tourists who can use it as a base to explore the beautiful Mossman Gorge in the World Heritage listed Daintree National Park.

In 1873 the Mossman River was "discovered" and named during a search for a suitable port for the busy Palmer River Goldfields and the next year a group of 8 men led by Dan Hart from Jamaica cut 40,000 super feet of cedar timber. This led to the gradual opening up of the area with selections being taken up to supply food for the teamsters. Dan Hart was also the first to plant sugar cane at Mossman around 1878. At the end of 1897 the first sugar mill was opened and by 1900 the population in the area was around 6,000. By contrast, the census of 2001 showed a much declined population of close to 2,000.