

ASCCA applauds the NSW Ageing Strategy

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The Launch of the NSW Government's Ageing Strategy - Peter O'Reilly and Jo Topfer, East Sydney Community College; Gabrielle Upton, MP, Member for Vaucluse; The Hon Andrew Constance, MP Minister for Ageing; Ian Day, CEO COTA; Nan Bosler, ASCCA President.

Our ASCCA President Nan Bosler was excited to be part of the NSW Minister for Ageing & Disability Services Andrew Constance's Press Conference to launch events for the **NSW Ageing Strategy** on 9th July. This strategy encompasses a whole-of-government approach to help seniors live healthy, active and socially connected lives.

Mr. Constance said; *"We need to capitalise on the opportunities that population ageing will bring. People who reach 65 today have the opportunity to enjoy more years of healthy, active living than any generation before them."*

"By up-skilling seniors on the latest technology, we can help them to become more connected with their families and friends and their local communities."

The Minister announced that part of the strategy includes \$500,000 to fund low cost training programs to help seniors become 'tech savvy'. Nan Bosler said; *"This funding provided to help seniors become Tech Savvy is exciting. It is imperative that the plans to disperse this welcome \$500,000*

be developed across a number of options because Seniors learn in different ways! ASCCA is well placed to provide senior friendly training at a cost that will not discriminate against those with limited fixed incomes. With more and more Government departments depending on their websites to disseminate and seek information from Australia's older residents we are keen to make sure that seniors are not disadvantaged because they haven't yet learned how to access the internet."

A new grants program will also be established as part of the Strategy to help local councils build age-friendly communities focusing on accessible town centres.

Mr. Constance said that an ageing community has big implications for health, transport and urban planning and that a whole-of-government approach would be taken in implementing the strategy.

This really does all sound very exciting! We Seniors know we have a lot to contribute. To read more look at the website www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/ageing

BOOK NOW
Free Seminar

iPads & Tablets;
Way to go; learn more!



Details
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ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

1 August - 31 August 2012 - Seniors Month Northern Territory * See information below.

2 August 2012 - 2.00 pm - ASCCA and Microsoft will be holding a special Cyber Security Session entitled "ThinkUKnow" at the Cooranbong Community Centre 614 Freemans Drive Cooranbong. The speaker will be a Senior Crime Prevention Officer from the Australian Federal Police. To attend this event, contact ASCCA board member, Annette Stuckey, westlake@bigpond.net.au

18 - 26 August 2012 - Seniors Week Queensland * See information below.

1 - 8 September 2012 - Adult Learners Week - Theme, "Literacy: Connecting and Learning through Technology" <http://adultlearnersweek.org/>

Monday, 3 September 2012- ASCCA Members' Forum to celebrate Adult Learners Week. This will be a half day Seminar called *iPads & Tablets; Way to go; learn more!*

3 September 2012 - ASCCA Competitions for 2012 close 4.00 pm.

1 October - 7 October 2012 - Seniors Week Tasmania

7 October - 14 October 2012 - Victorian Seniors Festival 30th Anniversary

11 November - 18 November 2012 - Seniors Week Western Australia

Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 November 2012 - 14th ASCCA Australian Computer Conference for Seniors at Rydges World Square, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW.

The ASCCA Annual General Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the first day of the Conference on Tuesday 13 November 2012. Competition Presentations will be made at the AGM.

August - an entire month to celebrate 'Positive Ageing' in the Northern Territory



There are so many exciting events planned by the Northern Territory Government for Seniors Month during August

that those of us who don't live there will be rather envious. www.seniors.nt.gov.au If you follow the links from this webpage you will discover the wonderful opportunities available in many locations for Senior Territorians to have fun, keep fit, try new things, meet people and celebrate the positive aspects of ageing. There will be opportunities to educate yourself in the

variety of financial assistance available to seniors, new technologies and the chance to try new pursuits like clay pigeon shooting that you may never even have imagined. If you do not have access to the Internet and would like a copy of the full program calendar you can phone the Office of Senior Territorians, Department of Health (08) 8999 2552 or perhaps you might prefer to email ost@nt.gov.au

Another useful Northern Territory Government website is available with special Seniors Links at www.supportingterritorians.nt.gov.au

'Living and loving life' in Queensland during Seniors Week 18 - 26 August



The Queensland Seniors Week theme for 2012 is "Living and loving life" and this theme is intended to help all

Queenslanders to join together and celebrate the valuable contribution of seniors who do play an important and active role in all aspects of the community.

It is intended this will enhance community connections and inter-general relationships and also forge strong links with those from diverse cultural backgrounds. The Queensland

Government is supporting community groups to hold more than 40 events across the state to celebrate "living and loving life" throughout Queensland during the week of 18th -26th August. For more details go to <http://www.qld.gov.au/seniors/recreation-staying-connected/seniors-week-about/>

The Queensland Government website has useful links to show what support is available to seniors and other Queenslanders. <http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/department-of-communities>

INVESTIGATE

before investing



Organised crime groups are targeting the retirement savings of elderly Australians with sophisticated [fraud operations](#).

Typically based overseas, the fraudsters initiate contact over the phone and use an array of persuasive techniques to build trust with victims, before enticing them to transfer funds into bogus investments.

Experienced and inexperienced investors alike

are at risk. Authorities confirm that more than 2,600 mainly elderly Australians have fallen victim to the fraud (as at June, 2012). The average individual loss is around \$42,348, but losses range from \$35,000 to \$4 million.

Total losses are believed to be higher than the reported \$113 million to date, because many victims are unwilling or too embarrassed to report their loss.

To combat the fraud, the [Australian Crime Commission Board](#) has established a high-level taskforce involving key Government agencies and police bodies.

For more information call 1300 300 630 or visit www.moneysmart.gov.au

WorkVentures launches "i.settle.with.IT" program

ASCCA Board Member Eric Whitehouse recently attended the launch of WorkVentures (Microsoft supported) [i.settle.with.IT! website](#) which has been established to offer migrants and refugees the IT tools and resources necessary to adapt to the Australian workplace. Senator the Hon. Kate Lundy, Minister for Sport, Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Minister Assisting for Industry and Innovation, launched this site at the Auburn Centre for Community on Saturday 14th July.

Eric was very impressed with the possibilities of this program which provides an innovative way for newly arrived migrants to acquire the skills needed to settle into the Australian way of life and be equipped to find work. At their own speed, students can use this site www.isettlewithit.com to learn the basic skills of computing while learning to write English as a second language - up to 3 levels of efficiency.

Eric says; "There are also some newly arrived

immigrant seniors in our communities who would dearly love to know how to use a computer. They want to access newspapers in their native language, but don't have the necessary skills. And their English is not good enough to learn how by attending our Seniors Computer Clubs. There is now a new way to achieve both - learn English and computing skills.

The program starts with the basics (how to use a mouse and a keyboard), and incorporates videos and games to enhance skills as the student progresses. **Have a look at it and see what you think. Introduce the site to someone you know who wants to benefit."**

Eric suggests that the computer part of the program is such that it could even help senior English speaking students who may be worried about their ability to use computers. He recommends it for any of our ASCCA members who meet refugees/immigrants with limited English and a desire to learn computing.

FREE help for seniors to save power and money

The New South Wales State Government has developed a [Home Power Saving Program](#) for NSW residents who have a Centrelink Pensioner Concession, Low Income Health Care, Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession or Veterans' Affairs (Gold or White) Repatriation Health card, or are renting government or community housing or are on a hardship assistance plan with their energy retailer. The intention of the program is to provide free help to 220,000 households on a lower income to reduce their electricity bills by June 2013.

If you think you or someone you know could benefit and would like to look into this program you can ring 1300 662 416 to book their FREE in-home power assessment or visit the website for more information. www.savepower.nsw.gov.au/freehelp



Website www.ascca.org.au

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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 organisations that recognise the value of computer technology for Seniors.

Cost of ASCCA membership Up to, and including, 40 members - \$110 Incl. GST Over 40 and up to 100 members - \$150 Incl. GST Over 100 members - \$250 Incl. 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 on the website.

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Newsletter Editor:
Joan Craymer, Email: thewhistlers@optusnet.com.au 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.

ASCCA Members' Forum for Adult Learners Week

ASCCA will mark its support of **Adult Learners Week**, which is an international celebration of lifelong and lifewide learning, by offering a free half day seminar called *iPads & Tablets; Way to go; learn more!* - as its next Members Forum.

This free event will be held on 3rd September 2012, between 10am and 12.30pm on level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Registration and tea and coffee will commence at 9.30am. You do need to register by ringing 02 9286 3871 or by emailing cdo@ascca.org.au It is not only an opportunity to explore more about this popular emerging topic but a great way to network with other clubs who will also be attending.

This year's Adult Learners Week theme is *'Digital Literacy: Connecting & Learning through Technology'*; so ASCCA is pleased that our seminar will focus on the ability of seniors to use digital technology which is now embracing devices such as computers, phones, tablets, the internet, and more recently televisions and other entertainment equipment.

Our half day seminar will be ideal for those who are thinking about purchasing an iPad or Tablet or for those who want to know more about the 'gadget' they already have. The seminar speakers will demonstrate **Apple and Android iPads and eReaders**. There will also be a **Question and Answer Panel** to address your queries.

Don't forget that ASCCA can offer training for tutors of our member clubs at minimum cost, so if you see a need for training among your tutors, look at the Training Programs for August and September on the ASCCA website at www.ascca.org.au

Training costs: ASCCA Club Members \$7 per hour; Senior Card Holders \$10; Non Members \$15 - all prices include GST and colour printed training notes.

The courses are held at: Level LG, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000 For Bookings phone: 02 9286 3871 or Email: office@ascca.org.au All courses are limited to 10 participants, but will need at least 5 before they can go ahead.

It's time to think about those ASCCA Competition entries!

Don't miss out on sending in your 2012 competition entries—remember they must reach us at ASCCA, Level LG, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000 by 4.00 pm on Monday 3rd September, 2012.

Winners will be announced at the ASCCA Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 13th November, 2011. ENTER—YOU COULD BE A WINNER!