

What does amber have to do with electricity?

Inside this Issue

ASCCA Notice Board	2
Safer Internet Day	2
Parramatta Senior Citizen 2017	2
ASCCA Let's Communicate Forum	3
ASCCA Working for Seniors	3
Nan Bosler's Virtual Trip around the World	4

Have you taken the time to look at the excellent courses ASCCA is offering at the Pitt Street Training Centre in February & March.

There are plenty of new ideas to interest ASCCA Club Trainers so that they can go back to their own club with exciting plans to refresh their local club training program.

Courses are held at: Level LG, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW.
For Bookings phone: 02 9286 3871 or Email: training@ascca.org.au
or Online Booking Form.
For details visit the ASCCA website at www.ascca.org.au

Englishman **William Gilbert** was elected to the Royal College of Physicians in 1573 and he later became the personal physician to Queen Elizabeth 1 and James VI. He is remembered as the "father" of the science of electricity and magnetism and not long before he died in 1603 (probably from Bubonic Plague) William Gilbert wrote a book which was printed in Latin and contained the details of his extensive research and experiments carried out over more than 20 years.

In his book he used the terms, electric force, magnetic pole and electric attraction. He described his "new" science with a new word - "electricity" coined by him from the Greek word for amber.

Prior to Gilbert, the phenomena of what we call static electricity had been observed and noted by other scientific spectators. As early as 600 B.C. Thales of Miletus wrote about amber becoming charged by rubbing and these magnetic properties displayed by amber, jet and other stones continued to be of interest.

While not previously properly understood, developments had seen magnetic compasses for navigation already in use, but first explained by Gilbert's experiments. He invented an

electrical measuring instrument, called an electroscope and he showed that the earth rotated and the stars were not fixed to a celestial sphere but were at different large distances away from the earth.

Do you ever spend a spare hour (or more) using **Google Search** to go on a journey of discovery trying to understand the history and development of something amazing that people today generally accept without the sense of wonder it really deserves?

It can be very rewarding when you find a website like the one below which inspired this article based upon information from this "Timeline of Electronics" by Mary Bellis, which gives links to the various strands of an amazing story in small 'bites' that can be really appreciated by everyone regardless of the depth of their technical interest.

http://inventors.about.com/od/timelines/a/electricity_timeline.htm

Then the journey of discovery can be extended via **Youtube** with easy to follow movies that would be perfect for discussions with younger people. This TED type talk takes the viewer through an **Electric Vocabulary**. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBRTR2dlwvA> **Great Fun!**

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

7 February, 2017 - International Safer Internet Day - Join the global celebration and embrace the theme of "Be the change: Unite for a better Internet". The Australian Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner has a number of resources for the whole community to use <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

3–12 March 2017 - NSW Seniors Festival will have the theme "Let's do more together"

9 March 2017 - On Thursday 9th ASCCA is planning a free, "Let's COMMUNICATE" Forum - see more on page 3 and watch out for more details at <http://www.ascca.org.au/>

8-14 May, 2017 - National Volunteer Week - an annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contributions of our nation's volunteers - watch for details <http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/>

3rd Week in May 2017 - Privacy Awareness Week will be held between 14-20 May - more news and details later

15 June 2017 - United Nations World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)

Early November, 2017 - (Date to be confirmed) The 19th Australian Computer Conference for Seniors will take place at the Rydges World Square Hotel, Sydney - with the ASCCA AGM to take place at 3.30 pm at the conclusion of the first day of the Conference

NOW IS THE TIME TO PUT THESE DATES INTO YOUR NEW 2017 DIARY

Please help by letting ASCCA know if you have news of an event that will be of interest or benefit to our ASCCA Members from other States in Australia, please share the details with us at ASCCA. It is not easy for us to discover details of Australia wide seniors festivals or other events and we cannot alert our members to them unless YOU send us the information and report on the outcomes. We are interested in news about ASCCA Clubs throughout Australia.

INTERNATIONAL SAFER INTERNET DAY

As part of **Safer Internet Day** which will be celebrated in more than 100 countries on Tuesday 7 February 2017, you are being

reminded to watch out for online scams and to **#askoutloud** if something seems off: **#SID2017**.

#ASKOUTLOUD

STAYSMARTONLINE

STAYSMARTONLINE.GOV.AU

- If you receive a message that seems out of the ordinary, or doesn't look right, get a second opinion from a friend before responding or opening a link.
- Talking through your concerns out loud with a friend or colleague can reassure you and help you to identify messages as fake.

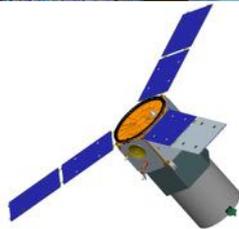
Online security is a top priority at ASCCA. This **#SaferInternetDay**, we're working with **Stay Smart Online** to remind Australians to watch out for common online scams.

<https://www.staysmartonline.gov.au>

PARRAMATTA SENIOR CITIZEN FOR 2017 IS DEBORAH MARTIN

Congratulations to Deborah Martin, President of Parramatta Computer Pals for Seniors who has been recognised for her community service in several fields. She is also the **Finance Coordinator for the Circular Keys Chorus** and heads the **WIRES North West Branch**. Deborah's kindness and compassion extends to teaching and entertaining people and saving wildlife. Somehow she always manages to find time to greet everyone with the same cheer.

ASCCA - "Let's COMMUNICATE!" Forum



NSW SENIORS FESTIVAL FORUM Thursday 9th March
9.30 - 12 noon Bookings essential, 9286 3871

The **2017 NSW Seniors Festival** will run for ten days from **Friday 3rd March - Sunday 12th March**, with the theme for this year, **"Let's do more together"**

ASCCA is excited to announce the presentation of special **"Let's Communicate" Forum** as part of the NSW Seniors Festival. The Forum will be held on **Thursday 9th March** in the **Mitchell Theatre, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW**.

The Forum will explore the fun possibilities of communication across the world and will inform and enthuse participants about possibilities they may not yet have considered.

Visitors will be welcomed with morning tea then our presenters will cover topics such as:

- * Messaging (Viber, What's App, Messenger, Snapchat)
- * Facebook * Twitter * Instagram * Email *Cyber Safety
- * Accessibility Features (particularly free tools for those who are vision impaired)
- * Instagram *Sharing photographs

Participants will be given an excellent **"How To"** handout, after enjoying the demonstrations at the forum. **See the March ASCCA Newsletter or check with our website www.ascca.org.au** for more details as they become available. **Booking will be essential** as numbers will be limited.

ASCCA WORKING FOR SENIORS

THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS WHO RESPONDED TO A REQUEST FOR HELP

In December, ASCCA received a request from the **Department of Health** for six members to go to Canberra to participate in some usability testing of the **My Aged Care Client Portal and service finder functionality**. Two people were required for three testing dates on the 8th, 9th and 16th December. The call was answered by Lillian O'Brien from Hurstville, John Lee and Josip Zamboni from Parramatta, Barry Keen from Newcastle, and two ASCCA Directors, Allan Mikkelsen and Nan Bosler. Thanks to all these volunteers who offered their time and experience.

Maria Filardo, Aged Care Access and Quality Division of the Department of Health, wrote, *"The consumer representatives organised by the ASCCA were all really great – they participated fully and raised many good points that we have taken back to the team to consider."*

Website www.ascca.org.au

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Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

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Page 4

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 - \$160 Incl. GST Over 100 members - \$275 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.

DISCLAIMER: This newsletter is provided "As Is" without warranty of any kind. Each reader of the **ASCCA** newsletter assumes complete risk as to the accuracy and subsequent use of its contents.

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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.

Nan Bosler's "Virtual Trip around the World"

Those people lucky enough to attend the 18th Annual ASCCA Computer Conference for Seniors in November 2016 will remember the enthusiasm of **Moira Allan**, co-founder of the Pass it on Network, who was the first speaker of the Conference. Moira is based in Paris and had already been in contact with our President Nan Bosler OAM and shared stories of ASCCA and our clubs with both French and Spanish seniors.

Recently Moira invited Nan to participate in an **"Age Without Borders Virtual Summit"** which ran for seven days as a *"Series of intimate, inspiring and engaging 30-minute video-based lectures, with nearly 50 of the world's most influential experts in the aging revolution ... to show you how to stay mentally and physically healthy, join the encore entrepreneur boom, re-think your paradigms about aging and get tech savvy."*

We like Moira Allan's description of Retirement as representing a "Second adulthood of possibility."



What would ASCCA do without **Mark Young**, who stepped up and managed the technical side of things for Nan's virtual world tour? Thanks Mark for all your patience and problem solving skills.

What would ASCCA do without the generous commitment from **Nan Bosler**, our extraordinary Volunteer President who gives so much of herself to promoting ASCCA and the access to life long learning and technology which are the most suitable for Australian Seniors and she also often provides direction for seniors in other countries?