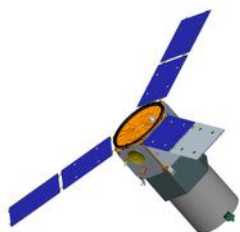


ASCCA congratulates Dr. Scott Hollier, Media Access Australia, ACCAN and VizAbility

Inside this Issue

ASCCA Notice Board	2
ASCCA Working for Seniors - Thanks David Num	2
Microsoft Seniors Week Workshops	2
ASCCA Let's Communicate Forum, Full Program	3
What else is on for NSW Seniors Festival	4



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"**

See Page 3 for the details and how to book information for ASCCA's **"Let's COMMUNICATE!"** FREE Forum on Thursday 9th March

At **ASCCA** we believe there are already many good reasons for encouraging and helping all seniors to learn how to use computer technologies and become comfortable with them as a "necessity" of their future. Experience shows that the best time to start is **NOW**.

While you do have the right to go through the rest of your life without looking at the amazing possibilities on offer - and it is important that to some degree society respects your decision - your health and circumstances can sometimes unexpectedly change your life and your needs.

Those of us who learn what we can before we acquire age or health related disabilities or impairments will be in a position to make good use of valuable accessibility features as they are needed, without the frustration of having to start from scratch and learn the basics.

If you can - or are learning to use a computer, tablet, or smartphone and are finding that you or someone you know needs extra help, take a look at the website for **The Affordable Access Project**. You will be thrilled by the wealth of information on low-cost and free software and devices that support the everyday needs of users with extra challenges.

<http://affordableaccess.com.au/>

The website explains that the extensive research was done by "**Dr Scott Hollier at Media Access Australia** and a research team from **VisAbility** who interviewed 50 people with disabilities in regards to their access requirements. The people interviewed had a variety of different needs and abilities, ensuring that the content can provide assistance based on type of product, type of disability and common life scenarios."

The project is an initiative of **Media Access Australia** and was put together with funding from our friends at the **Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN)** and research support from **VisAbility**.

ASCCA congratulates the always inspirational Dr. Scott Hollier, Media Access Australia, ACCAN, VizAbility and those who were interviewed. Their great team work has produced a fantastic resource you should explore.

It will always be important to include and work closely with the people that are in need of the help being planned by any group. Those enthusiastic and knowledgeable people who are necessary to any successful project will sometimes need to be reminded they must always remain within the limitations and needs of their end-users.

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

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 also on the ASCCA Website 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)

8 & 9 November, 2017 - 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.

ASCCA Working for Seniors - Thanks David Num

Earlier this month, **ASCCA Director, David Num** attended a **Consumer Health Forum** meeting which was looking at getting consumer reaction to digital health records. David found that, having been involved in this area when working, it was very interesting to see how carers are now using the Internet to share information and to assist their family members.

Australia is however, lagging behind other countries in this area, which is a problem because there are huge savings to be made in the cost of delivery of health services; plus all the benefits from having the best records available in emergencies.

A new agency has been set up to manage the transition to E-health. You can find information about "putting data and technology safely to work for patients, consumers and the healthcare professionals who look after them. They can help Australians live healthier, happier and more productive lives".

<https://conversation.digitalhealth.gov.au/>

A video on emerging trends from community consultation is also available.

Thanks David for letting us know about the research being undertaken on this important subject. As seniors we are often almost too careful about preserving our privacy and we each need to investigate what will be best for us so we don't make a poor or uninformed decision.

If you have several distinct and difficult medical issues, ask your doctor for advice. You may well find that your life could be saved in an emergency situation, just because the doctors treating you can have instant access to your records. Some of us find it hard to even keep up with the changes in medications that occur regularly as our doctors try to fine tune our treatments. In an emergency situation the wrong mixture of drugs could prove fatal or the time lost trying to track down all your personal records could be disastrous.

The Microsoft Store is providing special workshops during NSW Seniors Week

As well as providing ASCCA with a speaker for our Let's COMMUNICATE! Forum on Thursday 9th March, the Sydney Microsoft Store in the Pitt St Plaza in the Westfield Building, under the Westfield Tower, is doing workshops on special topics for Seniors.

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-au/store/locations/nsw/sydney/westfield-sydney-on-pitt-street-mall/store-1108?icid=CNavFindAStore>

Let's COMMUNICATE!



The **Let's COMMUNICATE! Forum** is ASCCA's event for **NSW Seniors Festival 2017**

This event is free due to the generous sponsorship from **Seniors Festival** and **NSW Family and Community Services**.

The Forum will be held on Thursday 9th March from 9.30am to 12.00 midday at Level 1, 280 Pitt St., Sydney and **BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**. *Please be considerate and think of others and CANCEL your Booking if your circumstances change and you are unable to come.*

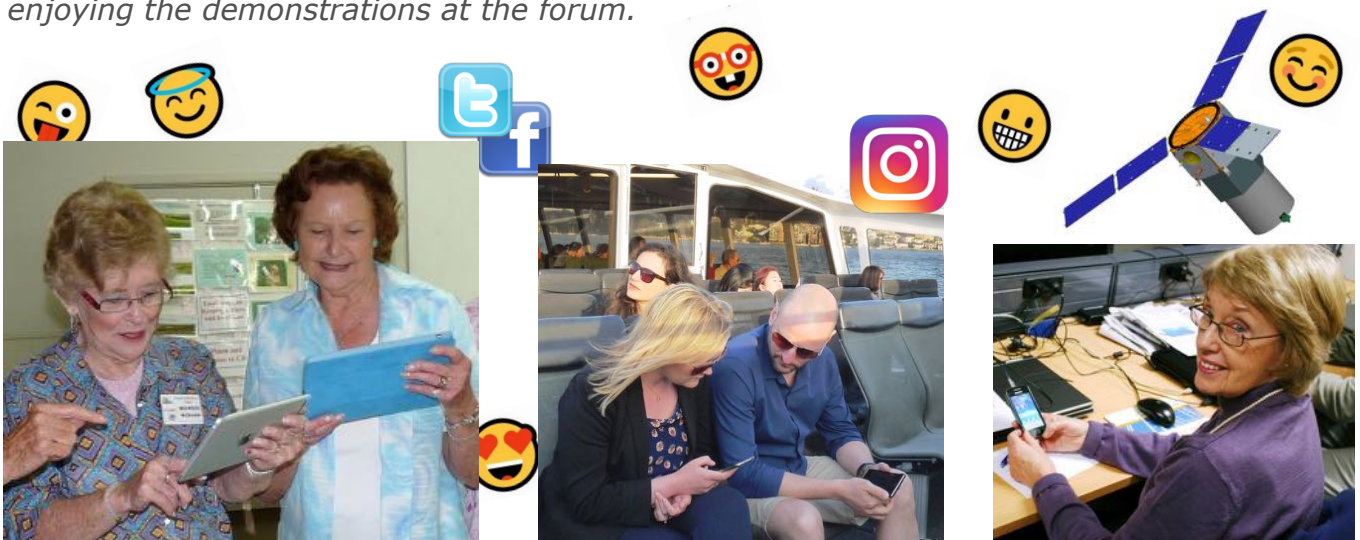
THE PROGRAM:

- 9.30 Registration, Tea and Coffee
- 10.00 **Introduction by Nan Bosler OAM - ASCCA President**
- 10.15 **Email with Windows 10 Mail** presented by **Mark Young** from **ASCCA**
- 10.35 **Nick de la Force** from **Microsoft**
- 10.55 **Learn about the popular mobile messaging apps** (*even if you don't use them yourself!*): Instagram, Twitter, Apple Messages, Skype, Facebook Messenger, Hangouts, Snapchat, Viber, WhatsApp, and other aspects like emojis, hashtags, photo sharing and enhancement. **Mark Young** from **ASCCA**
- 11.20 **Erik Henry** from **Google**
- 11.40 **Voice control and typing** with Siri and Google with comments on accessibility presented by **Raymond Hart** from **ASCCA**



You must book in by phone on (02) 9286 3871 **or email** office@ascca.org.au. Last year we reached our limit of 120 people, so put it in your diary and don't miss out!

Participants will be given an excellent "Let's Communicate!" book to take home, after enjoying the demonstrations at the forum.



Website www.ascca.org.au

Australian Seniors
Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

ABN 47 097 847 642

Working for Seniors

280 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Phone 02 9286 3871 Fax 02 9286 3876

office@ascca.org.au

- General Information: office@ascca.org.au
- Member Support: cdo@ascca.org.au
- New Club Support: cdo@ascca.org.au
- President: ascca@ascca.org.au

Page 4

ASCCA Newsletter
Volume 19 No 2
ISSN 1446-862X

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.

Newsletter Editor:

Joan Craymer, Email: ascca@ascca.org.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.

What else is on for the NSW Seniors Festival?



ASCCA is pleased to be a Community Partner once again for the NSW Seniors Festival. Our continued involvement in the largest celebration for people over sixty in the southern hemisphere, has this year provided the opportunity to introduce seniors to many different ways to communicate.

To find the details about other events that are of interest to you and within your locality visit the Festival Website at:

<http://www.nswseniorsfestival.com.au/events/find-your-event>

The NSW Government will present **The Premier's Gala Concerts** following a 34 year tradition. In 2017 the Concerts will be held at the

new International Convention Centre Theatre, Darling Harbour:
Tuesday 7 March - 11:00am
Tuesday 7 March - 2:15pm
Wednesday 8 March - 11:00am
Wednesday 8 March - 2:15pm
Tickets are available from participating NSW Ticketek outlets and by telephone on 1300 130 613 Online bookings: www.ticketek.com.au/nswseniorsweek

Right next door at the International Convention Centre, Exhibition Hall 4, 14 Darling Drive, Sydney the free **2017 NSW Seniors Festival Expo** will be held. The Expo will have up to 50 exhibitors (including **ASCCA**) and leaders in other areas of interest to seniors. There will be plenty of giveaways and show bargains, along with interactive sessions to inform and inspire you.

A NSW Seniors Card or another form of identification is a requirement of entry to the Expo which is open to all seniors on:

Tue 7 March 9.00am - 4.00pm
Wed 8 March 9.00am - 4.00pm

Never to OLD to have FUN