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Is there a club near where I live?



This was the question frequently asked at the NSW Seniors Festival Expo. It was estimated that 1,200 flyers were given out and about half of them had the name of a club written on the back in answer to that question.

*Launch of the 2018 Tech Savvy Seniors
Regional Road Show*

The Tech Savvy Seniors Road Show began at Sutherland Shire Library on 16 April. The Road Show has now visited the Shoalhaven area, Bega Valley, Broken Hill, Orange, Mudgee, Gulgong, Kandos and will finish up at Tamworth City Library on 1 & 2 May.

Tech Savvy Seniors provides low cost training to help seniors learn to use computers, tablets and smartphones. Developing the confidence and skills to use technology and participate in the digital community and economy has never been more important. Tech Savvy Seniors is a NSW Government initiative delivered in partnership with Telstra.

Members of interested NSW ASCCA Clubs will now have the opportunity to participate in a Tech Savvy Seniors training module.



L-r: Cr Tom Croucher; Lee Evans MP; The Hon Tanya Davies, Minister for Ageing; Nan Bosler President ASCCA; Cr Carmelo Pesce, Mayor Sutherland Shire Council; Tricia Wilson, Telstra Area General Manager.

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

21 - 25 May 2018 - ACCC's National Scams Awareness Week 2018

21—27 May 2018 - National Volunteer Week

30 -31 October 2018 - 20th Australian Technology Conference for Seniors, Rydges World Square Hotel, Sydney.

Congratulations Peter Blasina



Peter Blasina has been respected, admired and welcomed to ASCCA events since last century!

We are thrilled to let you know that he has just been awarded the industry's highest honour—the inaugural IT Media Pioneer award at the 2018 Australian Computer Society IT Journalism Awards—the Lizzies.

His career after teaching saw him dazzling us with his Hawaiian shirts and becoming a technology reviewer, writer, publisher, media commentator, corporate speaker and founder of GadgetGuy.com.au. He also became a valued friend to ASCCA.

He has been a regular contributor at the ASCCA conferences and in 2004 even accepted our invitation to join us at a residential Digital Photography Workshop held in Mittagong

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week will be celebrated 21-27 May and this is the perfect opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful ASCCA volunteers. The ASCCA Team of Directors and those who keep the office running; the members of the club management committees and the trainers who give their time and share their experiences and skills to help seniors across Australia explore the benefits and satisfaction of using technology - these people are the very backbone of the ASCCA network.

They are valued, they are needed and we applaud their dedication.

"We know people that volunteer are likely to be happier, healthier and proud members who participate on behalf their community," Minister responsible for Volunteering, Ray Williams, said. *"In NSW there are 2.1 million volunteers who contribute 240 million hours of service each year, adding \$5 billion of value to local communities across the State."* The Daily Telegraph, January 30, 2018

Volunteers are not a quick and cheap fix. Volunteers need and expect good management. Just as volunteers have responsibilities and need to be reliable and productive; management has those same responsibilities. Before management takes on a volunteer they need to know just what that person is going to be doing. When that person arrives for the first time there must be enough time allocated to show the person around, introduce them, let them know clearly what they are going to be doing, who they relate to, hours etc.

Our community is greatly enriched by volunteers. Thank you all!

Happy 25th Birthday Forest Computer Pals for Seniors Inc.

Forest Computer Pals for Seniors held its 25th anniversary party on 10 April. The club was established through the initiative of Malcom Beazley AM in late 1992 when he persuaded the Warringah Council to support the idea of a local computer club for seniors. Council was agreeable and provided a \$4000 grant to purchase essential equipment. Val Brown, then the Council's Community Development Officer, adopted the idea enthusiastically, arranging office space for the club in the Memorial Hall at a modest rent and organising several meetings which resulted in a small working group who made, or acquired, furniture for the *Compals* office. The focus of the club was to link seniors as pen pals with high school students. But, the members of this new club wanted to learn more about using computers.

The grand opening of the club was held on 30 March 1993. Over the years membership kept growing and several relocations were necessary within the hall. The club was incorporated in 1996 as a not-for-profit association with dedicated members providing club management and computer training as volunteers.



Irima Kirk, Club Secretary was MC for the anniversary party. Club Patron, Mayor Michael Regan of Northern Beaches Council, Julie Sutton, former Patron, Nan Bosler, ASCCA President and representatives of other Computer Clubs from the peninsula were special guests. Dick Manual, spoke of the club's history and John Turner the first president cut the cake. Colin Ward, the club's current president thanked those who had attended. Forest was one of the inaugural members of ASCCA and Colin Ward was ASCCA's first vice president.



Is this for Real?

National Scams Awareness Week runs from 21-25 May 2018 and we are urging Australians to be on the lookout for threat-based impersonation scams by taking a moment to ask 'is this for real?'

These scams are very common and often very believable.

Anyone can say they are from the government or a company. If you're contacted unexpectedly by someone demanding payment or asking for information they should already have, contact the company via the number on their website & check if they really did contact you.



Always ask yourself *Is This For Real?* For more tips www.staysmartonline.gov.au/scams

Website www.ascca.org.au

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ASCCA Newsletter
Volume 20 No 4
ISSN 1446-862X

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
1 - 20 members - \$55 Incl. GST;
21 - 40 members - \$115 Incl. GST;
41 - 100 members - \$175 Incl. GST;
Over 100 members - \$300 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.

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.



Be Connected

Every Australian online.

SWADE
SENIORS WEST AUSTRALIAN DIGITAL EXPANSION

ASCCA
Australian Seniors
Computer Clubs Association

Natika and Jenny report the SWADE project has entered Phase 2 with a survey having been emailed to all Neighbourhood Centres throughout WA, resulting in a good response rate of expressions of interest in taking up the Be Connected program. In addition Natika followed up with a live workshop at Linkwest in Perth, in support of Neighbourhood Centre Week, that was attended by Linkwest member groups in person and several via video link. During her time in Perth she visited the Loftus Learning Centre to discuss in person delivery of the program.

Be Connected held two Workshops in Perth on Monday 23rd April and in support of these, Jen and Tik provided a recorded video conference outlining where ASCCA-SWADE fits in to the Be Connected program. The workshops were aimed at organisations outside the defined SWADE catchment groups of CRCs, NHCs and LGAs. The fact that quality video conferencing, as used by SWADE with such ease, gives rise to acceptance that Train the Trainer and InfoSessions can be taken part as a Guest even if no account exists at the other end. All that is required is a half decent internet connection and laptop. This way SWADE is able to cover the entire State of WA which far outweighs any other method of communication, delivery and support - all in real time. Distance, as the image shows locations of Tik in Kununurra and Jen in Walpole, means very little to us with our digital delivery!.

Local Government Authorities - in particular their Libraries, Community Centres and Seniors Centres will be the focus of SWADE's Phase 3 for which Jen and Tik are currently refining the intro survey. They have found that an initial survey of the ilk they prepare is a great way for both parties to know about the other and provide an easy way to begin establishing partnerships and securing learners.

We have been working with Good Things Foundation to determine numbers of registered learners from our CRCs, and after a few hiccups they are coming through. However, we're following up with CRCs to hear how they're going firsthand.

Jenny and Natika