Inside this Issue

Members' Forum

25 September, 2019

10.00am—2.00pm

**Level 1,
280 Pitt Street
Sydney**

By request from clubs for ways to GROW your club

This is a forum so you will be able to voice your suggestions and questions!

Book to help with catering, office@ascca.org.au by 14 September

**Free,
with light lunch**

Sponsored by

Sydney **WATER**

SWADE NSW's Digital Mentoring project gets off to a great start

Congratulations to ASCCA Trainer Jean Martin who most successfully delivered the first session of teaching participants on the finer points of becoming Digital Mentors in the Be Connected program.

Jean is herself a Lead Digital Mentor, but the program was new to her and it required

considerable preparation in order to meet the requirements. The group of Digital Mentors who were trained mid August were Sydney University Students from various faculties, who were members of the newly formed group Square One Skills.

SOS has also registered as a not for profit group and a Be Connected Network Partner.

It is the intention of these young people to bridge the intergenerational gap and take their new found skills and qualifications out into the field, retirement villages and nursing homes to be precise, to provide mentoring to those residents who are desirous of learning the basics of digital technology in order to communicate with Government, family and friends and generally keep abreast of what's happening in the world today.

SOS has generously committed to providing 600 hours of volunteer time in this current project. ASCCA's own Nan Bosler and Director Ross Bell also added support on the day. I was there in spirit, and you are all to be commended for a most successful outcome.

Jennifer Willcox, Lead Digital Mentor, SWADE NSW Project

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

1-8	September	Adult Learners Week
25	September	Members' Forum - Ways forward for Clubs. SMSA Building, 280 Pitt St, Sydney 10:00am
9	October	Stay Smart Online Week, SMSA Building, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney, 10:00 am start
13-14	November	21st Australian Technology Conference for Seniors, Rydges World Square Hotel, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney

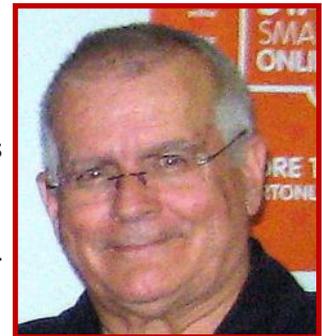**Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association ASCCA**

The President and Board of Directors wish to extend a warm welcome to another new Club - Darwin Men's Shed.

ASCCA welcomes two new Directors to the Board

Brett Levy is someone who specialises in all things digital. He has consulted, designed, planned, built and executed application design and development for companies all over the world.
He is the Managing Director of a Digital Solutions Consultancy based in Sydney called Beyond Intent (http://www.beyondintent.com.au).Brett has very strong experience in eCommerce and mCommerce and has worked with all the major banks in South Africa on various commerce projects. Brett holds a BComm in Marketing and is a Certified Practising Marketer (CPM) accredited by the Australian Marketing Institute (AMi).

After more than 20 years of teaching in small NSW Public Schools, **Ross Bell** returned to university for more study. In the years since, he has studied in universities in Newcastle, Wollongong, Melbourne and finally, Cambridge. His second career saw him work in the Public Health area with a strong emphasis on aged care where he continues to work part-time. Ross is passionate about ensuring that older Australians have the opportunity to participate in the digital world. In his view, the idea of digital literacy should include the ability of people to easily connect to those they love and for individuals to be able to find ways to satisfy their curiosity, participate in public conversations and debate and to be able to identify and use the Internet as a source of entertainment and pleasure. Much of Ross' recent work has concerned the effectiveness of working with people living with dementia and those who care for them. This has included working with music as therapy as well as movies and slow TV. Ross is also a trainer at Neutral Bay Seniors Club.

Be Connected Young Mentors

This intergenerational reverse-mentoring program for school aged children and older Australians. Not only does it facilitate essential digital learning for older Australians, it also gives young people the opportunity to develop valuable teaching, communication and leadership skills. Manly Computer Pals have launched the program at their club and President, Judy Elias, was asked to describe the first session of the new project.

WHAT A BUZZ! Never have you seen a clubroom with so much spark, enthusiasm, exchange and interest. Our club ran its very first intergenerational learning 1 on 1 session this afternoon, Monday 5 August 2019. Today's group, 10 out of the 40 participants couldn't wait to get started and were astounded how quickly their 1 hour flew. All the mentees said they learnt so much in such a short time and enjoyed their time also chatting to get to know their young mentor. There were smiles all round and the mentees and even the mentors took notes for homework preparing for when they return the same time and place next week for the next 9 weeks. I personally couldn't be happier with the success of today's session and could only put it down to the well planned and thought through program outlined by Be Connected and the wonderfully keen high school students from Northern Beaches Secondary College. My special thanks to Jessie for helping facilitate this first session of our Young Mentors Pilot Program.

![ASCCA - 21st Australian Technology Conference for Seniors]

Meet some of our speakers

Sam Dimarco is Head of Stakeholder Relations at NBN Co. He leads a team that is responsible for managing key stakeholder relationships across industry, business, special interest groups and regional Australia. Sam is also responsible for enabling the nbn™ local team in executing their comprehensive community engagement programs. He is a 25+ year veteran of the Australian Telecommunications scene. Having started his career designing and building networks to later focus on marketing, sales and communications, Sam developed a passion for customer experience and product evolution. When not in the office or on the road, Sam can be found dabbling on his farm in regional Australia with his family.

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Mike Murphy will talk to us about writing a memorable memoir. Mike was for several years the judge of ASCCA's annual writing competition. He enjoyed a 50 year career as a writer, including newspaper and magazine writer and editor and reporter for ABC and BBC television news. He has written books for mining companies, Government departments, corporations and speeches for politicians. His short stories have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies over many years and some have won prizes. In retirement he has written and published two novels and is working on another. He has written a comprehensive history of his own family and has given talks to many organisations on all aspects of writing, including writing memoirs.

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Rob Kalka is the Business Development Manager of Connecting Up Inc. What's a low tech guy like Rob Kalka doing in a high tech charity like Connecting Up? Whilst keeping up with technology is an ongoing challenge, Rob's strengths are in enabling growth and improvement in organisations bringing positive change to communities in need.
His career in Australia and South East Asia has included leadership roles in disability services, primary health care, village infrastructure and fair trade. Rob has a deep understanding of not-for-profit organisations. 'Connecting Up' describes what he does best. Connecting Up's purpose is to help other not-for-profits leverage the digital world to solve problems, save money and be more effective. Its relationships with tech companies provide NFP's with exclusive access to technology software, hardware, events and e-learning webinars at minimal cost.

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Wayne Hawkins is Director of Inclusion at the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN) and Andres Merlano is Accessible Telecoms Project Officer at ACCAN.
There has long been an information vacuum about telecommunications equipment and services suitable for people with disability in Australia.
In 2018 ACCAN received a grant from NDIA to develop a national disability telecommunications information and referral service. The service - Accessible Telecoms - is now providing up-to-date, independent information about mainstream and assistive communications equipment via website, web chat, free-call and SMS. The service is free and can be used by anyone. It provides a wealth of useful information for anyone who has difficulty using the telephone.

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Go to https://ascca.org.au/index.php/69-uncategorised/324-2019-conference-title-page
to find more information about the conference and its venue. Registration for this not to be missed conference is now open. Book now and look forward to yet another enjoyable learning opportunity as you meet with old friends and make new ones.

Bookings are now open!

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.

ASCCA membership rates :
1 - 20 members - Nil
21 - 40 members - $118
41 - 100 members - $180
Over 100 members - $310
All prices quoted include GST
Corporate Membership also welcome

If your club fits one of these 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.

Newsletter
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          Jenny Willcox
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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.

The Digital Mentor's Handbook

This handbook was developed by the Queensland University of Technology in 2018-19 with support from Australia Post, in close consultation with digital mentors working in community organisations, libraries and homes across Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

ASCCA organised the workshop to launch the handbook at Narrabeen. Mentors/trainers from Computer Clubs for Seniors from Avalon, Belrose & Terrey Hills, Manly, Northern Beaches (who hosted the event), and Forest participated. Nan Bosler and Ross Bell from ASCCA were also part of this initial workshop.

This handbook has been designed to provide Mentors with knowledge and resources to support their journey as a digital mentor. The information and suggested activities are backed by the latest research on digital mentoring, including national and international best practice.

Although mentoring is rewarding it can also have its challenges, which is why this handbook has been developed. It is hoped that it will help Mentors feel empowered with new skills, techniques and templates to support their learners and to make the most of their digital mentoring experience.

Australia Post has made sure that you won't miss out on this learning opportunity, send a request to **ascca@ascca.org.au** asking for hardcopies for your trainers, give number you require and postal address. Or for a pdf copy go to -

https://auspost.com.au/content/dam/auspost_corp/media/documents/ digital-mentors-handbook.pdf

ASCCA

13 & 14 November 2019, Rydges World Square, Sydney.   Mark your diary!

21st Australian Technology Conference for Seniors