



November 2008

NEWSLETTER



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Christine Jackson President
Vince Owen Treasurer
Sarien De Beer Secretary

Home of Peel Seniorsnet

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Monday October 27th. 2008

President Christine Jackson opened the AGM and welcomed all. Special welcome to new members, Bertram & Adrienne Johnston. We then continued with the official part of the meeting. The AGM minutes were read By Sarien de Beer.



Secretary Sarien and President Christine

The President read her report which consisted of congratulating the committee for their efforts during the past year, plus commenting on the achievements that have been evident, such as the Australia Day and the Community Award and the strides made in the learning programs. These have been greatly assisted by joining the Australia Seniors Computer group ASCCA. We also were lucky enough to receive a Grant which helped in procuring the services of a professional to hold a learning session in the computer room on Digital Photography. The Treasurer then read the Annual Financial report. Both reports appear on our Web Site.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2008-2009.

Christine then stood aside inviting Merv Brindley as returning officer to chair the meeting. There was one only position left to fill, that of Vice President . This was voted upon and agreed to by Arthur Turvey.

President	Christine Jackson
Vice President	Artur Turvey
Secretary	Sarien De Beer
Treasurer	Vince Owens

Committree persons

Tom Hoffman	Bill Robinson
Fran Williams	Alvin Counsel

Sub-Committee

Lesley Little	Lillian Bridewell
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Club News

The Seniors Expo 31st Oct. and 1st Nov. is the biggest news of the month and we are all looking forward to that .

Training, Tom Hoffman

The new training schedule is in place for next year's Sessions in the computer room on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday's of each month. It will be sent out to all members shortly and already appears on the Web site.

Tom Hoffman our Trainer and Web Master is now back on deck and pictured addressing the meeting.



Social Diary, Alvin Counsel



Oct. morning tea at Ninos

Social outings on track with Alvin Council.

Next month there is a Social morning tea at Brightwater Café on Wednesday 12th November cost is \$5.00 which Alvin Council has arranged.

On Wednesday 10th December he has also arranged Lunch at Abingdon Village cost \$18 to finish off this year. Next years functions already in the pipeline!

The speaker for 27 October -- Steve Johnson, from J-Line Computers

Steve commenced his presentation by giving some insight into Vista firstly remarking that the program is a glorified version of XP ! He then asked for questions from members. He explained to one member that to use email was pretty well the same as with XP to operate. What about non compatibility with XP ? It seems that office 2007 is ok but if going back to the old program then there is a problem.



(Just for interest I have found that if I copy my XP files on to a memory stick or disk then they can be downloaded into Vista 2007)
Steve himself does still prefer XP professional ! He advised that if you buy a new computer with Vista then just use it in the normal way. It's a question of learning new ways to get to programs.

He was asked how to speed a computer up a bit. He said get rid of unwanted programs. Many people let programs sit on their computer which are never used .
Keep your machine clean with an anti virus program and 'C cleaner' program. (Crap cleaner) which works well when cleaning a register program.
In Steve's opinion AVG is the best anti virus program.
Torrent programs that contain games children especially like, can contain viruses.
Laptops and wireless was also discussed. An external card is needed to use wireless on a desk pc. Wireless is very quick to operate which is an asset.
An interesting program invented by a Danish man is in the market that is in the form of a disk that can be just inserted into a pc which does everything !
A bit frightening for Microsoft !
Steve advised us to up grade the lap top that we are using . Apparently Microsoft will give advice on this at no cost.
In regard to other good programs Steve said both Fire Fox and Godzilla are very good.
Vista has a program called Windows Defender which is geared to question everything you want to run .
Unfortunately the afternoon was drawing to a close so we had to call a halt to the questions for the moment. There is so much to learn!
Steve was thanked warmly and then awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.

He then very kindly drew the raffle
The winner of the raffle was Ray Hunter. Congratulations.

November 24th date for next General Meeting.

David Templeman will be our speaker. This is a bit special and a great way to finish the year!

HINTS & TIPS

Do you enter a lot of special data into MS Excel, such as zip codes, phone numbers or social security numbers?

Ever find yourself wishing the parenthesis and/or dashes would just fill themselves into the correct locations? I mean, wouldn't it be faster if you could just key 5551234567 in for a phone number and have (555) 123-4567 appear in the cell after you hit the Enter key?

I like that idea ! First, you'll need to highlight the cells you're going to work with and then navigate to the Format Cell dialogue window.

For those of you using **older versions of Excel**, you'll go to the **Format** menu, **Cells** choice

In **Excel 2007**, you can get there from the **Home tab** on the ribbon under the **Number section**. **Click on the little down arrow** in the bottom right hand corner or choose "**More Number Formats**" from the bottom of the Number Format drop down list.

Also, for all versions, **Ctrl + 1** or a **right click** and the **Format Cells** choice works too.

With the Format Cells dialogue window open, you're looking for the **Number tab**.

Toward the bottom of the Categories list, you're looking for the **Special** choice.

Take a look at the choices offered on the right hand side.

See them?

All you have to do is **choose one of the listed formats** (double check that the location choice below is correct, so you'll get the formatting you expect) and click **OK**. When you return to the worksheet, you'll find that any data entered without the dashes or parenthesis has been transformed. In addition, any new data entered into the cells will not require formatting. Just enter in the digits and let Excel do the extra work for you!

Cheers Christine