

The Journal of the Launceston Computer
Group Inc
ABN 41 451 764 376

Volume 13 Issue 2
March 2015

EDITORIAL

As a result of the elections at our Annual General Meeting on February 4 there been changes of office-bearers in some positions.

These can be checked out in the listing on Page 6.

In just a few weeks it will be Easter, with Good Friday falling on April 3rd. Check the notice on this page for details of our holiday arrangements.

Dennis Murray, Editor

APRIL 2015 MEETINGS

**OPEN's next monthly meeting will be held on
Wednesday April 1st, 2015 at 1:00 pm.**

**I will remind you that our Club is operated and
administered solely by club members so it is in
your interest to contribute to the running of the
club.**

**The Launceston Computer Group will also conduct
its next monthly meeting on the AFTERNOON of
April 1st at 2:30 pm—following the OPEN meeting.**

★ **VICTOR PHONE NUMBER 0408 174 235** ★
★ **Contact the Coordinator Rob Tierney for** ★
★ **assistance with computer problems at home** ★
★ **(Bookings are subject to availability of tutors.)** ★

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

EASTER 2015

**The club will be closed for the Easter Holiday break
from Good Friday, April 3rd, up to and including
Easter Tuesday, April 7th 2015.
We wish all our members, tutors and volunteers a
safe and peaceful Easter.**

**The next issue of the Newsletter will be for April
2015, and should be published on or about March
28, 2015.**

**Apologies to all members for the late publishing of
this March newsletter.**

CLUB-ROOM TELEPHONE NUMBER

The club telephone is available during class hours.

******* 6343 4928 *******

Members and tutors can be contacted at the
clubrooms **during class hours** by telephoning the num-
ber shown above.

Monday to Friday 10am – 3pm

Tuesday evenings 7pm—9 pm

Newstream Articles

Deadline : 10 Days before Meeting

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Membership

**Single \$20, Family \$30 (Includes Email edition
Newstream)**

Printed & Posted Newsletter \$20 extra

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ASCCA CONFERENCE 2014

REPORT BY IRIS MEEK

Dr Cullen Hayashida Ph.D. Director, Kupuna (Elder) Education Center, Kapiolani Community College, University of Hawaii spoke for almost half an hour on the problems facing the elderly in Hawaii.

Some of his suggestions for improvement followed the lines of our own Federal Government in as much as they are looking to extend the working age of their citizens as it is, like ours, an aging community. The suggestions were not very palatable, but it is hoped the idea gathers momentum as older people realise their own potential in this digital age.

As most of those in the room were of pension age, it was an interesting discussion point.

One point brought up at the ASCCA meeting was the suggestion we have time for questions and answers following each speaker.

Nan Bosler was not sure they could allow for this as she likes to fit in a wide range of subjects for the conference, as shown by arrangement of having three separate rooms for the afternoon sessions where members have to choose which subject they prefer.

Stefan Avqustakis is a security architect with Cisco Australia and concentrated his presentation on Internet Security.

He had some scary figures to emphasise his talk. Internet traffic is now doubling every year, and exponentially the Internet will have to change to accommodate this. A child aged 3 now will not recognise our Internet when 15 years of age. fact, students are right now, learning about things that will not exist in 20 years.

The projected number of users in 2034 will top 50,000,000,000 (50 billion??).

continued

ASCCA CONFERENCE 2014 (cont)

Barcelona is considered a "smart" city, inventing interesting products with built-in security.

LIFX is Australian...working now on "wearable security" in undergarments.

Stefan also warned that as fast as these companies invented a new security system, HACKERS would be at work, even outpacing users.

A prediction for the future: 14.4 trillion or 99% of the worlds population will still NOT be connected. (This seemed to me to contradict his earlier prediction on the number of users.)

Iris

Editors Note.

As Iris has commented some of the figures quoted by Stefan Avqustakis are confusing e.g. will there be 50 billion people on the planet in 2034, and will there be 14.4 trillion people at any point in the future???

Sign in attempt details

Date & Time: Wednesday, February 11, 6:36 AM GMT

Location: Australia

If this wasn't you

Please review your Account Activity page at <https://security.google.com/settings/security/activity> to see if anything looks suspicious. Whoever tried to sign in to your account knows your password; we recommend that you change it right away.

If this was you

You can switch to an app made by Google such as Gmail to access your account (recommended) or change your settings at <https://www.google.com/settings/security/lesssecureapps> so that your account is no longer protected by modern security standards.

To learn more, see <https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/6010255>.

WHOSE E-MAIL IS IT, ANYWAY?

I've just about had it with major computer companies thinking that they know what's best for their users.

One of our members was unable to get e-mails through to her tower for more than a month. She had spent countless hours on the phone to her ISP who made the absurd judgement that her e-mail program, Vista's Windows Mail, had a 'bug' in it.

After taking 'remote control' of her computer they changed the account settings in Windows Mail to make it inoperable and directed her to use Webmail to obtain her e-mails.

The real problem? In my opinion the 'customer service operators' of her ISP are not equipped to handle queries that involve earlier Windows operating systems.

Eventually our member was able to seek assistance from another member who rectified the problem with 30 minutes.

An acquaintance at Westbury was most annoyed when his ISP decided to close down their email services virtually overnight. He then set up a Gmail account that he wished to integrate into his Microsoft Outlook E-Mail program, and obtained all the necessary settings that Google provided.

However the user-name and password that he used to access his Gmail 'on the Net' was rejected when he tried to use them in Outlook.

As I was using a similar set-up to integrate one of our club Gmail accounts into Outlook on our server I advised my acquaintance that I would check all the settings at OPEN and contact him the following day.

Imagine my surprise when the Outlook account I had been using for months rejected my user-name and password. Going to the Gmail account via the Internet I found the **message which appears at the left.**

Google had locked me out of my own Outlook e-mail account because of its judgement that Outlook was a 'less secure app'. What a nerve!

After I ticked a box acknowledging that I was prepared to use the 'less secure app' I was able to access my Outlook account.

Dennis

NEW FAMILY HISTORY RESOURCE

Released in 2014 this new resource is a collection of all the information from the archives web-site but now includes digital images of each record, including the following :

Births	Marriages	Deaths
Wills	Arrivals and Departures	
Census records	Convict records	Inquests

More information will be added over time.

Your convict record will take you to the immediate record without spending an hour sifting through a book or names. If at first you do not find the correct record try clicking on the next page or two.

The web address for this resource is very difficult to remember so I suggest you try the following procedure to access the site.

Type '**Tasmania Names Index**' into Google and when the search-list appears click on :

LINC Tasmania Online—Name Indexes

Scroll down the left-hand side panel and click :

Tasmania Names Index

Type in a surname and select records-type or year-range to refine your search, or enter a full-name in the following format : **smith, john**

Happy Searching!

NEW WAR RECORDS WHICH YOU CAN EDIT AND UPDATE.

"Discovering Anzacs"

<http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au/>

Be aware that misinformation may have been provided by others.

Judy Hall

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FAMILY HISTORY 2015

MARCH CLASSES

Wednesday March 11
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

and

Wednesday March 25
10:00 am to 12:00 noon

As demonstrated in the column to the left new information is being added to our resources on an on-going basis to help you trace your family's origins.

Contact the club for more information.

Classes limited to 8 people.

Judy Hall, Margaret G and Sandra V will return in 2015 to conduct these informative sessions.

LEVEL 1, 2 & 3 GRAPHICS

With Paint Shop Pro 7 and 8

Wednesday March 11
10:00 am to 12:00 noon

ADVANCED GRAPHICS

With Paint Shop Pro XI

Including Beginners
Wednesday March 25
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

POWERPOINT WITH ROB TIERNEY

Wednesday March 18th

10:00 am to 12 noon

"The Basics"

This session will be the beginning of a new series of lessons for 2015.

Beginners are welcome to learn the tools and techniques that are used to create a computerised SlideShow.

WINDOWS 8 REVIEW and WINDOWS 10 PREVIEW

Wednesday, March 18th

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

This presentation will look back at the original Windows 8, then discuss the benefits emanating from the '8.1 Upgrade' and will conclude with a preview of the Microsoft's next operating system, Windows 10, that will be released later this year.

Class participants are welcome to pose questions on difficulties they may be having with Windows 8.

The tutor will be Dennis Murray.

COMING UP IN APRIL

April 1st (morning) Editing your LPs and Cassette tapes with Judy Hall.

April 15th (morning) PowerPoint Level 2 with Rob Tierney.

April 15th (afternoon) Android Tablets with Bruce Dineen.

April 29th (morning) Staying Safe OnLine with Rob

April 29th (afternoon) MS Publisher with Dennis M

OPEN Session Times

At Studioworks, 1 Pipeworks Rd, L'ton

Standard Sessions \$6.00

[Some special tutorial materials may incur additional charges]

Monday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm – 3 pm	Basics and Beyond
	2:00— 4:00 pm	Beginners Class
Tuesday	10 am –12	O-Learn & Beginners [all day]
	1 pm – 3 pm	Mac [all day]
	7 pm—9 pm	Basics (Night Class)
Wednesday		Special sessions or Meetings
		As for mornings (see rosters)
Thursday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm – 3 pm	General &
Friday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm – 3 pm	Beginners Class

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SPECIAL WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

Please register on the sheets – numbers may be limited

Date			
Wednesday March 11	10:00 am to 12 noon	Level 2 and 3 Graphics	First Graphic class for 2015
	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Family History	Judy, Margaret G and Sandra V return to help you trace you family's origins
Wednesday March 18	10:00 am to 12 noon	Facebook session with Rob Tierney	Rob will provide you with information on how best to use Facebook including the recent policy changes.
	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Android Tablets and Smartphones	Bruce Dineen will continue his series of information sessions on how to get the best from Android devices.
Wednesday March 25	10:00 am to 12 noon	Family History	Use our extensive range of resources to help you compile your Family History project.
	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Advanced Graphics	Use Paint Shop Pro XI to enhance your photos and scanned images.
Wednesday April 1	10:00 am to 12 noon	Editing Music recorded from LPs and Cassettes	The March session showed how to record music. This session will move to the next step, editing the files.
	1:00 pm onwards	OPEN Monthly Meeting	General business, financial reports and a general discussion on computing topics will be on the agenda.
	2:30 pm onwards	LCG Meeting	This month's LCG meeting will be held in the afternoon to see if the time is more suitable.
Friday April 3	To Tuesday April 7	Easter Holiday Break	The last class session prior to Easter will be on Thursday afternoon, April 2nd
			Classes will resume at 10:00 am on Wednesday April 7th.

WI-FI—WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

One of the drawbacks of the computer industry is that some of us fall into the habit of using jargon that we expect everybody else to understand, but it's not always the case.

The term 'WI-FI' is one such term that I am often asked to explain and I must confess that it can be misleading.

If we cast our minds back a few decades most of you will have heard the term **HI FI (Hi Fidelity)** that was used in relation to audio equipment.

If you bought a Hi-Fi record-player or 'stereogram' the expectation was that it would provide better sound to the music you played.

However, the term Wi-Fi as applied to **wireless communication** between computers and associated equipment does not necessarily mean that the quality of communication will be of greater quality, or faster. It just means that the various pieces of equipment will not be joined by wires or cables.

Why should you consider Wi-Fi as an option for your home networking or Internet services? The most simple of scenarios is one where you may wish to use a laptop computer in the warmth and comfort of your lounge-room rather than in a the 'back room' of the house where the modem and your printer are situated.

Almost every laptop computer built in the last 7-8 years will have a 'wireless network card' installed so if you also have a wireless modem then you can access Internet services etc without running a long Ethernet cable from that back room to the lounge-room.

In the last few years we have seen the arrival of tablet computers such as Androids and iPads that are capable of connecting to the Internet, but because these devices do not have an Ethernet port installed it means that wireless communication is the only option.

Our OPEN-CFS wireless network is a prime example of the benefits of 'Wi-Fi', with members being able to connect their laptops, tablets, smart-phones and even book-readers to the Internet and our club printers, wirelessly. **cont'd**

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WI-FI—WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT? (cont'd)

A Wi-Fi Internet service that can provide shared access for more than one computer device **should** enable the user to save money.

I stress the word **should** because recently I encountered an acquaintance who had purchased a 'Wi-Fi' service from a major ISP at great additional expense but in reality she had not received any benefit.

Her tower computer was still connected to the Internet by a network cable but she was still paying a separate monthly internet charge for her tablet device instead of accessing the internet from the Wi-Fi modem.

What about Portable Wireless Broadband?

I am astounded that many retailers are still selling their customers Prepaid Wireless modems (sometimes called dongles) that attach to customers' laptops via a USB port.

There are three main drawbacks :

1. Many late-model laptops have very few USB ports installed so using one for a 'dongle' limits the amount of USB devices that can be attached.
2. 'Dongles' protruding from the side of a laptop are prone to being bumped and that might risk damage to the 'dongle' or the laptop itself.
3. USB dongles usually only provide Internet access for one device and cannot be used for tablets.

A much better choice is to buy a 'stand-alone' Portable modem that can be accessed by a many as ten (10) devices and can be recharged from a PC or from an AC mains power adaptor.

For those who already have a 'wired' internet connection at home, converting to 'Wi-Fi' should simply be a matter of upgrading your modem to one that has wireless capability. If your existing modem has been in place for several years your ISP **should** provide the new modem free of charge.

PLEASE RESPECT OUR CLUB EQUIPMENT!

With a lot of members bringing their own laptops and tablets to OPEN classes there are times when club equipment such as keyboards and 'mice' will need to be moved aside to make room for laptops.

Please do this carefully in order to prevent damage to the equipment. I was most disappointed recently to find that someone had shoved our newest scanner up against the wall, vertically, on its edge.

'Flat-bed' scanners have delicate mechanisms inside them that move back and forth to create the computer images that users want to create. Scanners are meant to sit flat, not vertical, and should not have other articles stacked on top of them.

Please make sure that any equipment you move is returned to its usual position when you finish your session.

AND if you need to unplug a piece of club equipment in order to have a power connection for your laptop please check with a tutor that you are not unplugging a piece of network equipment—such as our network server! **Dennis**

THIS MONTH'S HANDY DEVICE

The digital card readers in older PCs may only be able to read camera cards up to 4 Gigabytes capacity. However I have obtained a small number card readers that have USB **and** micro-USB connectors that can handle larger capacities and may even be able to attach to your tablet

TURN YOUR TOWER INTO A WIRELESS DEVICE

Most modems supplied by the major 'telcos' these days are wireless, but only the latest towers have a wireless network card built in to them.

If you want to dispense with network cables entirely you can give your tower wireless capability by purchasing a \$20 USB wireless network adaptor. **Dennis**

LCG Committee 2015/16

President: Janet Headlam

Vice President: Ivan Turmine

Secretary: Iris Meek

Treasurer: Dennis Murray

Ass. Treasurer: Laraine Rist

PC Librarian: Vacant

Mac Librarian: Vacant

Newstream Editor: Dennis Murray <mailto:editor@lcg.org.au>

Public Officer: Judy Hall

Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen <mailto:webmaster@lcg.org.au>

Auditor: Ron Baker

Publicity Officer: Iris Meek

"V.I.C.T.O.R." Co-Ordinator: Robert Tierney

LCG Committee: Glenn Gilpin, Reinhard von Samorzewski, Ron Baker, Bruce Dineen

OPEN Committee 2015/16

O.P.E.N. Co-ordinator: Karia Wicks

Responsible for the smooth running of the Centre on a daily basis

O.P.E.N. Chairperson: Laraine Rist.

Chair all meetings of OPEN and ensure that they run smoothly

O.P.E.N. Assistant Chairperson: Eleanor Horder

Chair meeting when the Chairperson is unavailable.

O.P.E.N. Minute Secretary: Heather Loffel.

Handles all incoming and outgoing communications

Responsible for the documentation and distribution of all meeting minutes

Treasurer: Dennis Murray.

Responsible for all monies and banking

Assistant Treasurer: Laraine Rist.

Help the Treasurer where necessary.

Newsletter Editor: Dennis Murray.

Publicity Officer: Iris Meek.

Responsible for all advertising

Membership Co-ordinator: Sandra Viney

Keep Membership database up to date.

Tutor Co-ordinator: Laraine Rist, Dennis Murray, Karia Wicks.

Keep regular contact with Tutors to bring ideas and concerns to meetings

Maintenance Co-ordinators: Dennis Murray.

Responsible for the maintenance and repairs to all computer equipment

"V.I.C.T.O.R." Co-ordinator: Robert Tierney.

Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen. <mailto:webmaster@lcg.org.au>

OPEN Committee: Janet Headlam, Margo Housego, Irmgard Rosenfeldt, Bruce Dineen, Kay Dawson