

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

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May 2015

EDITORIAL

April 2015 probably won't go down as one of the best months for OPEN and its members.

Sad news arrived of the passing of Bert Hazzlewood, a Life Member and husband of one of our founding members. June Hazzlewood. Our thoughts are with you, June.

There have also been some members on the sick list, including our Webmaster and regular tutor, Tom. We wish all those affected by illness a speedy and long-lasting recovery.

On the brighter side we welcome back some long-standing members who have regained their health, and others who have re-joined OPEN to learn how to 'do battle' with some of the new-technology equipment that they have acquired.

I'd also like to welcome a new tutor, Juan Cordona, who can usually be found at the club on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

SCAMS? Members are advised to be wary of anyone calling them by telephone to offer miracle solutions to improve the performance of their computers. Yes, we'd all like our computers to be a bit quicker but I'm dubious as to how someone on the other end of a telephone line can be aware of my computer's performance.

If you have the slightest doubt about the authenticity of a call say "NO" and then contact the club for advice.

Dennis Murray, Editor

★ **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.)** ★

JUNE 2015 MEETINGS

**OPEN's next monthly meeting will be held on
Wednesday June 3, 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 conduct its
next monthly meeting on the AFTERNOON of June
3rd at 2:30 pm—following the OPEN meeting.**

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**The next issue of the Newsletter will be for June
2015, and should be published on or about May 28,
2015. (but don't hold your breath!)**

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

Editor's Contact email address
open.msgs@gmail.com

Correspondence

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Membership

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

Printed & Posted Newsletter \$20 extra

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OPEN-LCG NEWSLETTER — MAY 2015

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR WINDOWS UPDATES

Microsoft has a tendency to want to have complete control of all **your** computer operations. In doing so it makes certain assumptions.

For instance, in the case of most Windows 8 and 8.1 computers there is an assumption that everyone in the world wants to back up their information to that mystical location known as "The Cloud". So when you go to save your new Word document you may find that instead of directing the file to the Documents Library it may well be pointed to the cloud-based "One Drive".

One of the more down-to-earth procedures most of us will perform is Windows Updates, and the majority will probably have their computer set to 'Automatically Download and Install Updates' - usually at 3 am!

The assumption here is that every computer user will have Internet access with a monthly download quota of a couple of 'squigga-bytes'. Not all of us do!

So it's quite likely that a user with a low-download plan might find that their monthly quota is consumed entirely by Automatic Updates in a very short time.

My preferred setting is "Check for Updates but let ME choose when to Install". This enables the user to check how many updates there are and how many Megabytes they will consume.

You don't necessarily need to make a judgement on **which** Updates to install but **when**.

As an example consider the case of one of our members who discovered that there were around 800 MB of updates to be downloaded and installed. That amount would have wiped out most of her monthly prepaid quota **and** would have taken several hours to accomplish.

Continued in the next column

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR WINDOWS UPDATES (*continued*)

So we did the job at OPEN and manually selected about 400 MB of the updates. You can do this by sorting the updates based on their size and ticking the boxes one at a time—you don't even need to do the maths—Windows will keep a running total.

The other reason to tackle Updates manually is the time factor—I wouldn't like to try and guess how many club members have tried to Shut Down their laptops at the end of a session only to be greeted with a message telling them that they have to wait for a bucket-load of updates to be installed. You can just about bet that this will happen when you have an appointment 10 minutes after the end of a class session.

Scenarios such as the one above is one of the reasons I try to prevent club computers from being set to 'Automatically Install Updates'.

I can tell you I was not a 'happy chappy' recently when I went turn off OPEN 4 and found that it was doing the 140th of 204 updates! I wonder if the person who set this process in motion would have liked to remain at the club for another 2—3 hours **of their time** while the job completed???

In conclusion I would also like to point out that the 'sky is unlikely to fall' if Automatic Updates aren't installed as soon as they are available.

The computer that I am writing this article on was **last updated on May 20th, 2012** and doesn't appear to have suffered any ill effects. But perhaps you shouldn't try that at home.

Dennis

NOTE If you are still using Windows XP you should be aware that Microsoft stopped providing updates in April 2014, so there is no point in having Automatic Updates turned on. Just ignore the 'warning' that may still appear.

FAMILY HISTORY RESOURCES

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

FAMILY HISTORY 2015 MAY CLASSES

Wednesday May 13
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

and

Wednesday May 25th, 2015
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 be 'on deck' to conduct these informative sessions.

LEVEL 1, 2 & 3 GRAPHICS

With Paint Shop Pro 7 and 8
Wednesday May 11th, 2015

10:00 am to 12:00 noon

ADVANCED GRAPHICS

With Paint Shop Pro XI
Wednesday May 25th, 2015

PROTECTION FROM VIRUSES AND MALWARE

Wednesday May 6th,
10 am to 12 noon

Bruce Dineen will conduct an informative session on some of the latest methods of keeping your computers protected from Internet nasties.

Ther session will include a demonstration of a program called Spyhunter.

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FACEBOOK BOOK CLASS CANCELLED

Wednesday May 20th 10:00 am to 12 noon

Due to another commitment that has arisen Rob will be unable to conduct the scheduled class.

ANDROID TRAINING SESSION

Wednesday, May 20th
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Regular attendees of the Android classes should have already received an email notification about the May session.

New members who are not yet on Bruce's mailing list can contact one of the senior tutors at the club to arrange a copy of the information.

If any particular Android technique is causing you difficulty please write it down and seek the answer from Bruce during this session.

COMING UP IN JUNE and JULY

June 3rd (morning) Multi Media with Bruce D

June 17th (morning) PowerPoint Level 3 with Rob T

June 17th (afternoon) Android Training with Bruce

July 1st (morn) Computer Maintenance with Bruce

July 15th (morning) PowerPoint 'Project' with Rob T

July 15th (afternoon) Android Training with Bruce

"E BOOK SESSION"

Many members download e-Books to their tablet computers or specialised devices such as Kindles.

But do you know how e-Books are created?

On the morning of July 29 Alex Bell will be demonstrate how to go about creating your own e-Book.

EXPLAINING 'AUTOPLAY'

Autoplay is the facility used by Windows operating systems to control what your computer should do when external media devices are attached to the computer.

The most common forms of 'external media' that our members will encounter are :

CDs and DVDs USB Flash Drives External Hard Drives
Digital Camera Cards Floppy Disk Drives (not often)

Typical Autoplay instructions that we might expect a computer to perform could be :

Music CD? Play the songs with Windows Media Player

Video DVD? Play the movie with Media Player or an appropriate movie player such as Cyberlink

Software CD? Run an installation process or give the user the option to select an action.

For most other **Mixed Contents** forms of media the most appropriate option is **Open Folder To View Files** which will allow the user to determine the best course of action.

Many of you will know that I have an array of USB flash drives hanging around my neck that contain a range of free programs and utilities that I regularly install on members computers. It is really annoying then when someone else's computer 'decides' that it will start downloading all the sample pictures from my flash drive.

Similarly, when I have written a tutorial to advise members how to transfer photos from their digital camera I would expect Autoplay to offer them a set of options **and not** open a single photo in Windows Photo Gallery! An unexpected Autoplay 'reaction' can be confusing to users.

How do you set the Autoplay actions? Go to the Control Panel and find Autoplay. Double-click and you should see the various forms of media listed, each with a drop-down menu that will allow the appropriate Autoplay action to be set.
Dennis Murray

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 & Beginners
Friday	10 am –12	General & Beginners
	1 pm – 3 pm	Beginners Class including Windows 8

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SPECIAL WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

Please register on the sheets – numbers may be limited

Date			
Wednesday May 6	10:00 am to 12 noon	PC Protection With Bruce Dineen	Bruce will outline the programs and procedures you will need to protect your computer from Viruses & Malware
	1:00 pm onwards	OPEN Monthly Meeting	General business, financial reports and a general discussion on computing topics will be discussed.
	NO LCG MEETING THIS MONTH		Next meeting will be at 2:30 pm on Wednesday June 3rd. PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME
Wednesday May 13	10:00 am to 12 noon	Level 2 and 3 Graphics	Level 1,2 and 3 Graphics
	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Family History	Judy, Margaret G and Sandra V help you trace you family's origins
Wednesday May 20	10:00 am to 12 noon	TUTORS MEETING	The Tutors Meeting will held in place of the Facebook session that Rob Tierney has had to cancel.
	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 May 27	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 June 3	10:00 am to 12 noon	Computer Maintenance	Bruce Dineen will inform you on what you need to do to keep your PC in good shape.
	1:00 pm onwards	OPEN Monthly Meeting	General business, financial reports and a general discussion on computing topics will be discussed.

THIS GO WITH THIS, AND THIS GOES WITH THAT? (MAYBE AT SUSSAN'S BUT NOT ON COMPUTERS!)

In the year 2015 we could be forgiven for thinking that communication between devices of different 'flavours' would be simple and straight-forward.

For instance if we have a smart-phone that is equipped with the Bluetooth communication facility (*and most are*) it should be a simple exercise to send a photo image from it to a computer that is also equipped with Bluetooth.

But as I have found out in recent times it isn't always the case. Why is it for instance that two devices can detect each other, 'pair' with each other, but not be able to exchange photos? Some times it will work in one direction but not the other, and at some times it won't work at all.

And why is it that some smart-phones can be detected by a PC or laptop through a simple USB cable connection while others need to have software installed on the host computer before detection is assured?

Apple devices seem have their own particular mysteries to overcome.

A few weeks ago a member wanted to transfer several hundred photos from her iPhone to her laptop but the iPhone wasn't detected as an external device through Windows Explorer.

Ah-Hah, thought I, iTunes will do the trick for us, but although music, movies and every other type of content on the iPhone was shown, the photos were not. We were informed that there were 2 GB-plus of photos on the phone but we couldn't view them.

A flash of inspiration ... I'll make a short trip to OPEN's 'Dark Side' and fire up one of the iMacs. The iPhone was not initially detected as an external storage device but by using the iPhoto program we were able to import the photos from the phone to the iMac—more than 900 of them!

From there I thought it would be a simple matter to transfer the photos to an external hard-drive, but 'No' I had to export them to a folder on the desktop first.

Now it should be just a simple Drag-and-Drop operation to get them from the iMac desktop to the external hard-drive? No way! Because the external drive was a USB3 device the iMac wouldn't play ball, so we had to use a standard flash-drive.

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A NEW KIND OF E-MAIL SCAM

The scans to the right of this column are of emails sent to our club's e-mail address and are typical of what I call **"The Indignation Scam"**.

It goes like this ...

You receive an email from a person or organisation that you've probably never heard of. The subject line and the opening text indicate that you are being sued for some indiscretion or non-payment of an account or fine.

Then comes the 'hook' - you are informed that the details are in an attachment that comes with the email. You are so infuriated that someone is pursuing you for a matter of which you have no knowledge that you are tempted to open the attachment—and that's probably when your troubles would really start.

I say 'probably' because I haven't yet opened one of these attachments, I'm not likely to and I hope that you wouldn't either.

What are the warning signs?

Both e-mails appear to originate from overseas, the first containing the letters **'uk'** in the email address while the second includes **'it'**, presumably indicating it is from Italy.

And both emails have an attachment that is a 'zip' file. Any attempt to 'unzip' or extract the contents of the file could result in some form of rogue software being installed on your computer.

One of our members has also been receiving dubious e-mails with the letters **'ICT'** in the subject line and relate to an alleged increase in your e-mail storage—a **'click here'** link supposedly will provide details of your new **'qouta'**. **NOTE the misspelling of the word 'quota'.**

The e-mails supposedly originate from educational institutions as the letters **'edu'** appear in the addresses. Would you trust an organisation that can't spell 'quota'?

opencomputing

From: "District Court" <wayne.cooley@bed-11.uk.clara.net>
To: <opencomputing@bigpond.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 8 April 2015 9:58 AM
Attach: Court_Notification_00000884030.zip
Subject: Notice to Appear
Notice to Appear,

You have to appear in the Court on the April 12.
Please, do not forget to bring all the documents related to the case.
Note: If you do not come, the case will be heard in your absence.

You can find the Court Notice is in the attachment.

Kind regards,
Wayne Cooley,
Clerk of Court.

opencomputing

From: "E-ZPass Manager" <ian.england@godzilla.unina.it>
To: <opencomputing@bigpond.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 April 2015 7:37 PM
Attach: E-ZPass_Invoice_0000805593.zip
Subject: Indebted for driving on toll road #0000805593
Notice to Appear,

You have not paid for driving on a toll road.
Please service your debt in the shortest possible time.

The copy of the invoice is attached to this email.

Regards,
Ian England,
E-ZPass Support.

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