

President's Report

Hello all, Each year our AGM 'spills n fills' the Committee that runs our Computer Club. While we mostly have continuing members, some of us, me in particular, are now learning 'on the run.' The big challenge is to keep the club facing up to the future as there are so many changes in technology and thus changes in member needs. We are considering the need to demonstrate things like Smart TVs & smart home fittings; how technology can be connected in new ways etc but not forgetting those that need the basics. While we are looking ahead, there is also the day-to-day running to be considered to make sure that members can be confident that we are providing the best support that we can. Our new club website is a particular example where we have spent a lot of time not just changing the appearance, but hopefully making it more useful to members. We will launch this in early December. I have a member survey coming too, where you all can help with feedback that we will be able to act on. There are more Gatehouse sessions planned for 2025 too, so hopefully something for everyone.

Brian McLauchlan
President ARVCC

ARVCC Committee

Mowll

Brian McLauchlan (President)
Neil Davidson (Vice President)
Ruth Bunn (Reception)
Geoff Litchfield (Membership)
Merilyn Davidson (Supplies)

Warrina

Clare Hamilton (Catering)
Chris Keay (Reception)
Melanie Rankine (Welfare)

Nuffield

Elizabeth Pedersen (Treasurer)
John Gaffey (Genealogy)

Hopetoun

Rita Berryman (Reception)

Glenhaven Green

Jan Andrews (Village Rep)
David Makin (Secretary)

Bradford Rooms Ground Floor Lober House Phone 88531810

Email: computer.club@anglicare.org.au

Website:
<https://www.arvcc.org/>

The Club is open:
Tuesdays 0900-12 noon
Thursdays 0900-12 noon

For sales of cards, badges and other items just come in

Editor: Brian McLauchlan

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Bits & Bytes

November 2024

Anglicare Retirement Villages
Computer Club Inc. Newsletter



Connecting Residents with
Technology

Four-Sight

Hello everyone,
Summer and Christmas are on the way with more outdoor leisure activities likely with friends and family. Why not get your mobile phone ready to help out if needed?

I am suggesting loading up **four** apps now in readiness for holiday season adventures. These apps have been selected to be useful for comfort, enjoyment, safety and health.

It might be mundane and a bit personal but if you are out and about, the free **Toilet Finder app** will find the nearest public toilet to your current location. Comfort!

If you are a Kindle ebook fan and regularly add books to your Kindle collection there are also free Kindle apps for computers and mobile phones that connect your collection to **all** your devices. You can load the **Kindle app** onto your mobile for free, log

in with your account details and then read your favourites on your way to or from that big day out (on public transport please, not while driving!)

And yes, the app will synchronise with whatever you are reading at present so that you don't have to remember your place in that interesting whodunnit as you change from Kindle to mobile phone and back again. Enjoy!

The **Emergency Plus app** is free and shows your current position from your mobile phone location service. If there is an emergency, you open the app, press the 000 button provided and advise the location information on your screen to emergency services. This way you don't have to waste time trying to understand the local area before you call police, ambulance or fire services for any incident. Stay safe!

(BTW Please do not try it out to check that it works! 000 is

already overloaded with trivial calls. Emergency only!)

St John ambulance has a **First Aid app** that has a neat list of injuries with a description of the best treatment in each case. It even shows how to move someone who has collapsed into the recovery position and the DRSABC process to help someone in an emergency situation without becoming a casualty yourself. Stay healthy!

These four apps are available on iPhone and Android so get ready now for a care-free summer.

Oooh Google

In mid September Google lost a case in the USA with its search business ruled 'an illegal monopoly'. At present penalties have not been handed down and Google will definitely appeal. They appear to have got off lightly at this stage too, as much potential evidence was unable to be considered as Google avoids recording many internal business procedures.

Google has long paid big money to the likes of Apple and others to have Google

search as the default on the browsers installed on mobile phones.

Google claims that people would choose their search engine anyway, as it is 'the best' and so they are just making it easier for people.

This is of course nonsense as so many do not realise that it is easy to change search engines. With Google being the default, no one gets exposed to an alternative.

Google makes billions from selling advertising based on recording everyone's search and web surfing data. Little wonder that they want to take every advantage they can. We all need to question if we can trust this tech giant in view of this identified illegal behaviour.

If you wish to try out alternatives to Google, get in touch with the Computer Club and we can show you how.

Computer Club Cards

You can find greeting cards for all occasions at Computer Club. There are many designs and are modestly priced. See the range at the Bradford Rooms in Lober House

The Lighter Side of Tech

If Apple made a car, would it have Windows?



Watch out for it! Member Survey coming soon!



Gatehouse Sessions

This Month:

Sat. Nov 2nd Tech Session
Sat. Nov 9th **Cancelled**

Be there at 10am for the session start.

Next Month

Saturday December 7th
Open Forum Q&A

Speaker: Brian McLauchlan

Saturday December 14th
New ARVCC Website

Speakers:
Brian McLauchlan
& Geoff Litchfield

Make sure you get to see the helpful features in the new ARVCC Website Dec 14th

Save these dates!

These are free technical presentations provided for members by Computer Club each month.

Gatehouse Sessions will resume in the new Year on 1st of February. More details in December Bits&Bytes.