

**P.S.N. A.G.M AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2013-2014.**



**President: Kate Orr**

**Vice President: Cora Mallet**

**Secretary:**

**Treasurer: Muriel Ming**

**Committee:**

**Jim Thomson, Joyce Thomson, Sarien de Beer, Sheila van Vliet, Pat Pillings**

**Communications: John Macmahon**

**Web Master: Steve Nelson**

**Newsletter: Joyce Thomson**

**Social Events: Sarien de Beer**

**Consumables: Margaret Green**

**President's Report of activities 2012/2013**

I take pleasure in reporting that over the past year the committee has been privileged to present programmes that reflect the diversity of Peel SeniorNet's Constitution. PSN strives to achieve major objectives and continues to highlight the many changes in computer technology.

We live in an age of technological wizardry. Over the past sixty years there have been incredible advances in electronic technology and the growth continues at an exponential pace. Our grandparents still looked at the moon as a smiley face while we have witnessed the astronauts walking on the moon – way out there in space.



*Courtesy ABC*



*Interpretation of Man in the Moon N. Hemisphere*

The silicon chip is now in nearly every apparatus or product that we use today. I often hypothesise what chaos society would be in, short or long term, if the “chip” were no longer available.

However the chip is an everyday ‘got to have’ requirement. Science and medicine now revolve around technology.



*Genetic engineering of Gluten Free Crops. ABC*

Even international sporting events are overseen by electronic “eyes” the ‘Snicko’ in cricket and ‘Hawkeye’ in tennis.



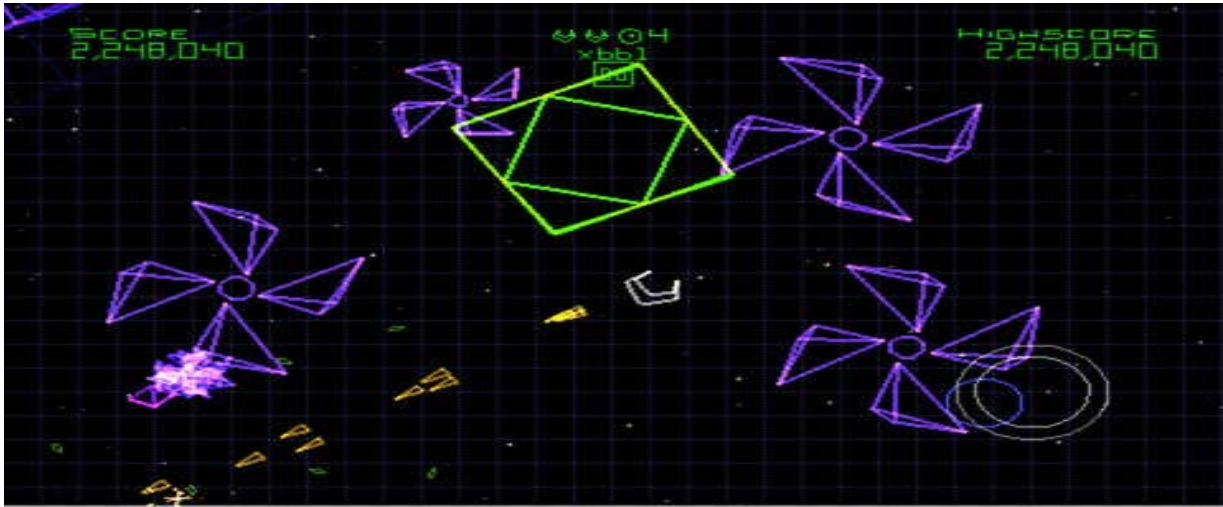
*1<sup>st</sup> Hopman Cup at Entertainment Centre 2013. K.Orr*



And Aerial Drones are used for surveillance and in warfare. An **unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)**, colloquially known as a **drone**, is an aircraft without a human pilot on board. Its flight is controlled either autonomously by computers in the vehicle or under the remote control of a pilot on the ground or in another vehicle. The typical launch and recovery method or "Pop and Stop" of an unmanned aircraft is by the function of an

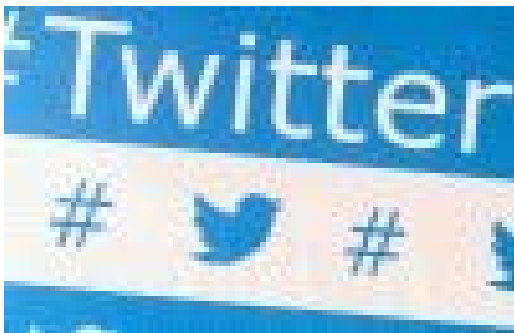
automatic system or an external operator on the ground. There are a wide variety of UAV shapes, configurations, and characteristics.

*Courtesy Wikipedia*



*Games using geometric shapes. ABC*

This revolution that we are living through, is powered by thousands of technical and marketing gurus all sitting at computers doing individual tasks and creating new technology output every day. Young adolescents across the world are designing programs which multi national companies are buying for millions of dollars, and we have several Australian and Western Australian multi millionaires who are computer entrepreneurs. As an example, Michael Malone of inet. Inet is now the largest ISP provider in the southern hemisphere. Let us not forget to mention Facebook and Twitter in the USA.



When thinking about what it used to be like and what your life is now, take time out to consider what the world of computing has opened up for you. Forget the frowns, forget the excuses, forget the hard work to conquer problems and remember that it's not just hardware or software that makes it all possible, it is the commitment of dedicated people who are willing to help others gain enjoyment from the new technologies. (And that sums up in a nutshell, the focus of Peel SeniorsNet Computing).

You, the members are some of the dedicated people who have helped us by attending PSN's many and varied events, together with informed speakers who have been organised by the committee of Peel SeniorNet Association Inc. across 2012-2013. And we thank you.



Any organisation's success depends on the dedication and expertise of its Committee. And I sincerely thank my team for their commitment and help in running this very active Seniors computing group. The team contributes to running meetings and training classes, organising social events. They write copy for newsletters, keep the website up to date, disseminate e-mail information, to mention just a few chores of organisation. And I again thank my team most sincerely.

**PEEL SENIORNET INC.** [www.peelseniors.net](http://www.peelseniors.net) *Love you all*

The committee has seen some familiar faces disappear from Committee while we have welcomed new faces who bring with them a wealth of expertise.

I thank Robert Stewart who acted as Returning Officer at the October Annual General meeting for the election of Officers and was overseer of voting-in of the new committee.

Following the announcement in November 2011 that the Peel region would be one of the first areas in Australia to be granted the National Broadband Network facility. N.B.N CO. INSTALLATIONS have been busy in the Mandurah area.

The region has become familiar with the digging up of lawns to lay down the fibre optic cabling. (Not to mention the cable cutting with the ensuing inconvenience). The end product of a fast internet service has been somewhat negated by the inability of anyone to give a reasonable indication of cost to the consumer to "get up" and "keep running".

As in previous years, all members were encouraged to submit their photographic images, or poetry or prose to the annual ASCCA - Australian Seniors Computing competition.

Unfortunately, despite the extremely high quality of entries, we were not in the running for prizes in 2013. ASCCA is the National Peak body assisting clubs to educate Seniors in the use of computer technology as a way of enriching their lives.

**Australian Seniors**  
*Computer Clubs Association* **ASCCA**

[www.ascca.org](http://www.ascca.org)

At the General meeting for November – David Templeman aka ‘ Lance Boil of the Family of Boils’ was guest speaker. David, as well as giving an overview of the way things were when he was a boy, as local MLA, he invites from time to time, senior students from local Mandurah High Schools to visit Parliament House. The students always bring a plethora of new ideas and gadgets with them. And it is then, that we more worldly wise persons begin to think: “What would the kids of today do without their mobile aids to living?”



Internet M/S.

It is interesting to contemplate, just who is teaching who? Proceeds from the annual concert which features the Boil Family is donated to the talented performers who live in the Peel Area and who need financial assistance to further their careers.



Windows 8 screen

Our March guest speaker was Mr. Jurgen Steinert from Lasar Computers. Jurgen was invited to tell us all about the new operating system Windows 8. This program has a radical new look introducing apps. on to the desk top. One of the most disquieting attributes of this new Microsoft product is that it has no start button. Therefore the old and particularly the new user finds it most disconcerting – to be confronted by their new computer or tablet and being unable to use it (at least in the first instance.) The operating system of Windows 8 (when you get into it, is very similar to Win.7. with just a few more advantages which have been added). We are thankful to Jurgen who took time out from his business to share with PSN members.





*President, Neil and Mayor. Mandurah Mail*

Our special guest speaker for the month of April was Mr. Neil Hoddinett. Neil is the chair of RDA Moreton Bay and former president of Caboolture Seniors Computing Club. Neil presented a superb power point presentation on the NBN and I am sure that anyone who did not fully understand the workings of the NBN went away, knowing ALL about it.

He also offered successful ways that Caboolture Club had initiated training and new knowledge pathways for their members. He was very supportive of both his own and our clubs. Neil only stayed a few days and it was off home to Queensland. He invited us all to pop in and say G'day when visiting in the Moreton Bay area.

May was the month for Mandurah Muscateers to be our special guest speaker. Mr. Phil Grey represented this band of dedicated computer restorers, who work in a charity capacity, restoring pre loved computers for Seniors and needy others in the Community, so that they are able to purchase or have donated to them, computers to allow them to participate in the technology world.

June, our first month of winter, when members of PSN demonstrated their talents in the annual photography competition, judged by Mr. Peter Taylor, of Camera House, Mandurah..

This year we added an extra segment namely an overview of all photographs taken for entry into the monthly photographic critique.

Portrait      1<sup>st</sup> prize      Joan Dodd      “A beautiful granddaughter”

Landscape    1<sup>st</sup> Prize      Aileen Drage    “ Waterfall ”

Animals      1<sup>st</sup> Prize      Chris Cooper    “ Goanna”

Best photo that did not win a prize; Judge's prize – Rob Waugh

Photo Critique monthly entries– Overall winner by popular vote was Kate Orr's “Sunset”.



*Chris. Cooper's Goanna*

An excellent number of entries were received with each of such a high standard. Congratulations to all for such a brilliant collection of images. We thank Mr. Peter Taylor and Mandurah Camera House for their donation of both time and the wonderful prizes awarded to section winners

## Welcome to **eHealth.gov.au**

July's invited guest speaker was Ms. Vanessa Cryer who demonstrated all about e-Health. E-Health is a personally controlled eHealth record and is a secure online summary of your health information. You control what goes into it, and who is allowed to access it.

Your eHealth record allows you and your doctors, hospitals and other healthcare providers to view and share your health information to provide you with the best possible care, when required. The low Internet access at this meeting made viewing difficult for her presentation. More information is available: <http://www.ehealth.gov.au>

In August we were fortunate to view a wonderful DVD produced by the Island Probus Club of Mandurah who taped their guest speaker David M. Cook, Senior Lecturer in I.T at Edith Cowan University at Mt. Lawley Campus. David spoke about being careful on the Internet. He made special reference to Banking, Health, Holidays and the payment of fines online.

He brought up examples of the hazards that many of us have experienced. "Be wary of scammers" was David's message. David also mentioned that Senior Citizens were the 21<sup>st</sup> century targets of choice for cyber criminals.

Here in the Peel region alone, millions of dollars are being scammed from Seniors- mainly criminals working on deceit and focussing often on Seniors loneliness. One woman who went to Africa to meet the love of her life, lost not only her money but her life. Beware, we seniors are known in the research literature as G.B.B's Golden Baby Boomers.

He urged that Cyber security is vital. 2 step engineering needs consideration. And passwords are essential. Our thanks to Lillian for sourcing and introducing the DVD.

August 27<sup>th</sup> Debate: "The Pros and cons of the Cloud". An excellent debate conducted by the Year 12 debating team of M.C.C senior students. As with last year's outcome, it

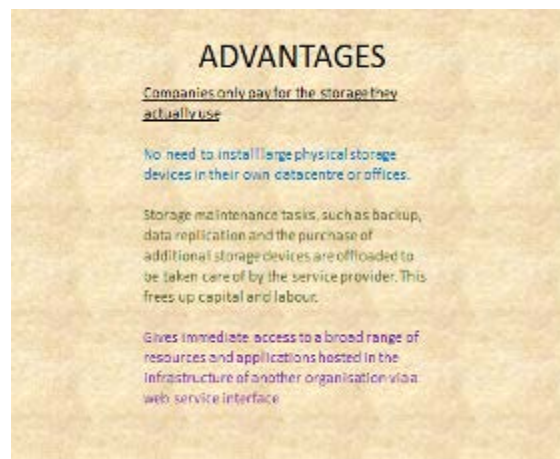
was difficult to ascertain who offered the more powerful argument, those for the CLOUD or those who posed the questions against the CLOUD.



*Cloud cluster. K.Orr*

Both the pro team and the opposition were convincing. In summary, this writer thinks the contra team convinced us that the CLOUD may not be reliable. Are we ready for change and at what cost? as well, it was suggested from some research that it may be intrusive. However, we are not forced to use it at this time and thus individuals have a choice whether they use it or not. It is considered that by 2015 most data will be in the cloud where we can access it quickly and cheaply. Even offering a service to care for our digital afterlife.

Cloud storage is believed to have been invented by Joseph Carl Robnett Licklider in the 1960's. Because the Internet only started to offer significant bandwidth in the Cloudcomputing for the masses has been a late developer.



Following the mind blowing DVD of Scams and Things, Mr. David Cook , Lecturer in Security at Edith Cowan University, was invited and drove down to Mandurah to personally inform Seniors, the most targeted group on the Internet– on how to take steps to protect their computers from rogues and criminals.

What an enlightening overview attended by 14 members who heard first hand all about Spam, how irritating it is and how you get harvested: Then watch the increase in your Spam.





OBJ

David spoke about Worms and Cookies. Their disadvantages - but he urged us to beware of Trojans because like the Trojans of History, computer Trojans are strong and destructive, like the ancients.

He also spoke of the ways of Internet Banking, and to beware of the e-mails from both banks and others asking for your personal details and your numbers or passwords. Interestingly he warned that those using Windows XP were no longer supported by Microsoft (1<sup>st</sup> January 2013) (since extended April 2014) and that if you are still using XP and you use Internet Banking, then you are at higher risk for getting “done!”

We have celebrated the First Birthday for our revamped Web Site: As mentioned earlier, individual members have preferences in receiving information with regard to their clubs and organisations. The committee continue to work untiringly to assist in the upkeep of the PSN website. We urge you to familiarise yourself with access to the website for all your information about meetings, socials, training, history of PSN and a monthly competition. Please put in your entries each month.

An inaugural Web Competition was announced - and is available each month on the website. Announcing the 1<sup>st</sup> Winner -. Gina Nissen who submitted the first correct entry of Marilyn Monroe’s Baptismal Name. (Norma Jeane Baker).



*Cicerello's Mandurah. K.Orr*

**Socials:** Sarien organised successful functions throughout the year, with a loyal and happy group who enjoy coffee and cake regularly at well-known venues including Cicerellos on the Boardwalk. Redcliffe on the Murray. Luncheon at "M" on the Point. Café Pronto, Spill the Beans etc.

PSN's Communications outreach conducted by John Macmahon have been exceptional. His constant identification of Viral attacks and Trojans and many other nasties has kept many member's computers safe.

**Buddies:** The committee has worked with the Buddies to encourage those generous volunteers to continue to offer their time and knowledge to help fellow members. Members, please utilise the services of our valued Buddies. Please see our 'Buddies' on the Website.

During the year PSN lodged submissions to funding pools. Three applications were successful. Lotteries West funding allowed us to redesign and update the PSN website.

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous affairs FHCSIA grant enabled us to purchase Windows8, a printer/scanner and training for Tutors in Photoshop.

And the City of Mandurah Community grant enabled us to purchase some refurbished laptop computers from Mandurah Muscateers plus software. We are now able to offer tutoring in Windows 7. which we were unable to do previously, because of obsolete software on the Ac-cent machines, which at this time, for internal reasons, the City is not updating their computers.

We are thrilled and most grateful to Lotteries West, FHCSIA and the City of Mandurah for providing us with funding to progress our outreach to Seniors. As you all know in these economic times, there are no free lunches, but we have been able to retain our teaching sessions at \$5.00 per session per person.

The future? To continue to offer, an up to date service to fellow Seniors to achieve I.T, independence through knowledge. Thus encouraging Seniors to access and continue excellent communication with friends and family across distance and time and financial restraints.

I extend my best wishes to all members at the conclusion of this very busy working year. And sincerely hope that abundance filters into every aspect of your life. I

especially want to thank those able bodied and generous people who assisted with set up and dismantling our equipment while Mathew Fenlon was out of action with a damaged shoulder.

This report would be neglectful if it did not mention our late esteemed Treasurer, Mr. Vince Owens for his wisdom, his enthusiasm, his work ethos, his humour. Vale Vince.

Again I thank PSN's wonderful volunteer committee and our Buddies who continue to give so generously to Seniors and in doing so, create and maintain a much needed practical community service.

Finally a large thank you to the team at Ac-cent who ALWAYS help us with our mantra.



*Spider Grevillea. K. Orr*

Thankyou.

*Kate Orr, President 2013*