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Welcome to the Broadband for Senior's monthly news bulletin- February edition. This is our 3rd publication to date and every month we aim to provide you with more up to date information and resources, to better support your efforts to bring computer technology and the internet to Senior Australians. If you have something in particular you would like us to include in future News bulletins ranging from good news stories, general information you would like to share with the Broadband for Senior's community or even pictures we could feature in an up and coming editions, please write to us: uploads@necseniors.net.au, we would love to hear from you

BROADBAND FOR SENIORS

Funded by the Australian Government

THANK YOU FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

The Broadband for Seniors Team at the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) is very excited to see many kiosk hosts signing up for another two years with the Broadband for Seniors initiative. We are equally appreciative of the many valuable tutors who continue to support older Australians to build their confidence in using computers and the internet. FaHCSIA is pleased to continue to work in partnership with NEC Australia, Adult Learning Australia, the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association and U3A Online to deliver this initiative.
Mary Laughlin,
Branch Manager, Community Investment

Online Blackboard Collaborate Session for BFS Tutors and BFS Host Administrators ....

Adult Learning Australia INC
Lifelong and Lifewide Learning for All Australians

Why Connect?
Whetting a Seniors Internet Appetite'
Date: Wednesday, 14th March
When: 1.00pm – 2.30pm AEDT
Presenters: Keith Harvey, Muswellbrook Seniors Computer Club and Woodrising Neighbourhood Centre BFS Kiosks.

In this session Keith will explain and show some websites and programs that he has found interest seniors enough to want to connect and use the Internet. These are sites that offer real practical benefits to seniors such as:

- Easy communication with relatives and friends,
- Easy and practical usage of Public Transport
- Google Maps and Street view and its practical uses
- How to sell stuff free before the rellies get it
- The all important weather
- If time permits then other items that will be touched on are TV programs, health, free books, retirement village sites etc.

He is also very keen to know of, and share, other sites that you have found that light the fires of enthusiasm in seniors. Keith is an experienced computer tutor. Before retirement, his background included time giving industrial training and Toastmasters. Register your interest in attending this session with Adult Learning Australia (ALA) using the appropriate link in the 'Events' section at the bottom of this webpage http://ala.asn.au/broadband-for-seniors.

A helpful link from the Australian Government 'Stay Smart Online blog- check it out: http://blog.staysmartonline.gov.au/
The Stay Smart Online team will use this blog to connect with Australians and the international cyber security community.
The topics that they are covering include:

- **How can schools and families help children stay safe online?**
- **Safe banking tips over the holidays**

An Australian Government Initiative
Stay Smart Online

STAY SMART ONLINE blog:

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GEMS for enquiring minds

Thanks Bob Rankin for the following three **GEMs**

Should You Buy Discount Ink Cartridges?
http://tinyurl.com/7mt6bbm
Many schools, non-profits, and government offices have dumped Word in favour of Docs. What are the pros and cons?
http://tinyurl.com/6odussb
How long will your hard drive last? Is it giving you subtle signs that a data disaster is looming? How will you know when it's time to buy a new hard drive?
http://tinyurl.com/74f3yrj

The Australian Government's cyber security website provides information for internet users on the simple steps they can take to protect their personal and financial information online
http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/

*Thanks Data Doctors for the following three **GEMs***

For many people their phone is also their primary camera. Here are 11 tips on how to make your phone photos look great http://tinyurl.com/73nwy9y

Thinking of buying a tablet? This end-of-2011 review of 16 current contenders is a must-read first http://tinyurl.com/73qd96c

Need to help a parent/friend with a computer problem, or log in from afar to your own computer? Try the free version of LogMeIn http://tinyurl.com/22o48z

Would you like to set up your own free website but don't really know how to go about it? Why not download the free illustrated guide on the U3A Online Google Site demonstration page
https://sites.google.com/site/u3asitedemo/

Gizmos

Thanks Gizmos Best Freeware for the following four **GEMs**

- The 5 Tips Gizmo Readers Liked Most in 2011 http://tinyurl.com/6ngp5je
- Microsoft Security Essentials was voted best Freeware product for 2011 by Gizmo readers plus two. Other's you might like to review http://tinyurl.com/6whvgpd
- Most average PC users will learn a lot by reading one or more of these plain English mini-tutorials http://tinyurl.com/8ygcebe
- More than 300 how-to articles in many different categories (not just technology) in The Wired How to Wiki http://howto.wired.com

Have a happy and safe holiday

More than a third of people book holidays online. The increased use of the internet for bookings and reservations has highlighted the importance of online security and how to best support Australians to explore online travel options safely and confidently. The Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy provides some simple tips for Australians planning holiday online.

1. Be wary of travel websites that look suspicious, unprofessional or make unrealistic promises
2. Read all the fine print when making flight bookings, including refund and cancellation policies
3. Make bookings via secure websites beginning with 'https' and look for a locked padlock in the browser
4. Check the currency for international bookings and be aware of any additional charges
5. Use a secure payment method for reservations
6. Avoid money transfers and direct debit, and never provide your bank details via email
7. Always print and keep a copy of any receipts for flight bookings or accommodation.

If you want the ASCCA newsletter sent directly to your inbox just send an email to nanboz@bigpond.net.au and ask to be added to the ASCCA newsletter list. Nan Bosler, ASCCA, www.ascca.org.au

National Seniors Week

NSW and the ACT have their annual **'National Seniors Week'** coming up in March. Look out for Broadband for seniors flyers and spread the word about this great initiative! For more info visit:

NSW: 18-25th March
http://www.nswseniorsweek.com.au/
ACT: 19-23rd March
http://www.cotaact.org.au/?s=seniors+week

A few quick tips from ASCCA.....

Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association ASCCA

1. Passwords are case sensitive so you must be careful how you use capitals and small letters. If your password is *iam21again* it won't work if you type IAM21AGAIN. Check to see if your CAPS LOCK is on or off before you type in your password

2. If you want to **add a link to a web page in an email** you are writing, go to that website and right click in the address bar and choose copy. Then just paste it in your email. It is far less likely that you will make a mistake typing in the URL.

3. Did you know that if you type a phrase into a **search engine** a search is actually made for each individual word? If you put the phrase in quotes, it will search for the actual phrase and give you better results.

Need a quick word definition? Go to Google and type "define" (without the quotes) followed by the word. If you want to know what a keyboard is, just type in "**define keyboard**" (again, without quotes) and hit the Search Button. Alright I'll tell you the answer but the next one you will have to search for yourself! This is the simplest definition that I found. *On most computers, a **keyboard** is the primary text input device.*

U3A online www.u3aonline.org.au

U3A now has 43 courses all freely available to members all year, covering fields as diverse as science, religion, politics, history, genealogy, writing. There are no exams, awards or prerequisites. Learn for the joy of learning when you want to. Membership costs only $25 per year. Please spread the word to your BFS clients.

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