



In association with



WORKSHOP

Maintenance of Windows XP with David Boyes

How to look after your computer and keep it in top working order using the tools provided in Windows XP.

Wednesday 15 March from 9.45 am to 11.45 am.

Fee \$5.00 payable on the day.

Up to 25 people can be accepted.

A must for those of you who are comparatively new to computers although all are welcome.

To register call David Boyes phone 569 4942, or e-mail at dboyes@paradise.net.nz.

PENDING WORKSHOPS

Set up a free (We)Blog (diary, photos, family history etc) 29 March - Alan Royal

Move your vinyl records to a CD, 15 May - Don Picken

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WAIVER

From time to time some of our members voluntarily give help and advice to other members on matters relating to computers and associated equipment. This help or advice is taken solely at the recipient's risk and imposes no responsibility or liability of any kind, either on those providing such help or advice, or on SeniorNet Wellington.

Who is General Failure and why is he/she reading my hard disk?

Diary 2006
Monday 16 January – Wednesday 3 May

MONTH	DATES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
JANUARY	16 – 20					N/L Copy
	23 – 27	Anniversary Day		Exec.		
FEBRUARY	30 – 03			Q & A.	N/L Post-out	
	06 – 10	Waitangi Day		COG		
	13 – 17			Tutor Clinic		
	20 – 24	Term 1 starts	Digicam	Exec, COMG		
MARCH	27 – 03			Q & A		
	06 – 10			COG		
	13 – 17					
	20 – 24		Digicam	Exec, COMG		
	27 – 31					
APRIL	03 – 07			Q & A		N/L Copy
	10 – 14			COG		Good Friday
	17 – 21	Easter Monday	Digicam	Exec, COMG	N/L Post-out	Term 1 ends
	24 – 28		ANZAC Day	Tutor Clinic		
MAY	01 – 05			Q & A		

Q & A	Question and Answers Group	9.45-11.45 am
COG	Computer Owners' Group	10.00-11.45 am
COMG	Communications Group	12 noon-2.00 pm
DIGICAM	Digital Camera Group	10.00-11.45 am
PLEASE SUPPORT THESE GROUPS		

Old minds are like old horses; you must exercise them if you wish to keep them in working order.
John Adams, second president of the United States (1735-1826)

Message from the Chairman February 2006

I hope that you have had an enjoyable Christmas and holiday period. Whilst term one classes are not scheduled to commence until Monday 20 February the Executive Committee has already had its first monthly meeting for the year.

Keith Rumens and members of the technical team have been checking all the equipment for the start of the new term. The course management team will continue to be busy arranging classes and checking on the availability of tutors.

On Thursday 9 February we will be holding an Open Day between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon at the Centre. Advertisements will appear in local newspapers during the week ending 3 February. If you have friends who may be interested in finding out more about SeniorNet they are very welcome to attend.

So that SeniorNet Wellington will continue to be eligible for funding from Aoraki Polytechnic, it is necessary for members to complete an Aoraki Enrolment Form for 2006. Forms will be available at the first lessons held for all courses during term one. All students registering at a New Zealand polytechnic are required to provide evidence of either their New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency. This also applies to SeniorNet members. For most of you the most convenient form of verification would be your New Zealand passport. If you do not have a New Zealand passport you may use one of the following:

- New Zealand birth certificate
- Certificate of New Zealand Citizenship or letter of confirmation
- Overseas passport with residency stamp
- Marriage certificate (plus birth certificate)

Please remember to bring your passport or other form of verification to your first lesson in term one.

To get the maximum benefit of SeniorNet courses you are encouraged, if possible, to repeat lessons including the set exercises, at home. If as a result you have any questions your tutor will be more than happy to help you at the following class. Also, if for any reason you are absent from a class it is a very good idea trying to do the missed lesson at home before attending your next lesson.

Prior to the commencement of the first term in February we are offering revision lessons for those members who completed Introduction to Computing in the latter part of 2005 and have subsequently enrolled for Basic Word Processing. Members concerned will be contacted by telephone to see if they are interested to enrol for this new two-week revision course.

If your New Year resolution for 2006 is to improve your computer skills you are encouraged to enrol for a course being offered in term one.

- Revision of Basic Word Processing - if it is some time since you did a word processing course
- Management of Files and Folders - a course we highly recommend you consider if you have completed Basic Word Processing. As noted in the introduction to the manual, knowledge of management of files and folders is as basic to working with computers as knowing what to do to get a driver's licence. When you have finished the course you will have greatly increased your confidence in, and enjoyment of all aspects of computer activities. Having completed this course it is a good launching pad to do most other courses including Email and Internet and Intermediate Word Processing.
- Any one of the other courses listed in the application form included in this newsletter.

Finally I wish all members best wishes for 2006.

Derek Oldershaw

Politicians and diapers have one thing in common. They should both be changed regularly and for the same reason.

Course Management

Geoff Robinson - Phone 232 5702 - places members in the courses in the top block of the list in the Application Form.

Marion Ibbotson - Phone 388 8855 - places members in the courses in the bottom block of the list in the Application Form.

David Bennett - Phone 934 7343 - organises relieving Tutors as required.

Dorothy Jones - Phone 972 1837 - arranges the Timetables and places Tutors.

It would help in allocating members to classes if you could note on your application:

- If you plan to be away at any time prior to your required course starting date, together with an alternative phone contact number or email address.
- If there are any times or days during each week when you are not available.

We seek applications from members wanting to take courses in Term 1, 2006 which starts in the week beginning Monday 20 February. We are also keen to hear your ideas on new courses that you think we should run.

Gift Vouchers

\$20 Gift Vouchers for a one year membership of SeniorNet Wellington are now available from the office. Treat your friends to membership!

Be A Tutor!

We are in need of additional Assistant Tutors in order to cover our many courses. It is an easy and enjoyable way to extend and consolidate your knowledge. If you could be interested please contact Dorothy Jones on 972 1837 for details.

Power Point Course

If you are creative, look no further, Power Point is for you. I recently attended a four week course on this subject and was very impressed with its content. We were only able to touch the surface during the course, and I am eagerly looking forward to learning more about the programme. Now I feel confident to insert pictures, add titles to these pictures, and put borders round them. It was great being able to experiment with background colours and textures. What fun it was learning the art of animation and choosing the right sounds to go with these animations. The possibilities are endless. I can now enjoy creating Power Point presentations. I recently sent one, by email, to my granddaughter for her birthday. Her comments – ‘Grandma you are cool’!!

Betty Neyland

Thank you Betty – how about more suggestions and comment from other members - Ed

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

Musings from 'The Serviceman Who Tells'

-Trevor King

tc.koenig@xtra.co.nz

Episode Twenty-eight

The Hot Season

This Christmas and New Year season is no different from any other for Computers. They run hotter and the CRT monitors [what you look at] find this is the most inconvenient time of the year to become faulty. If you have one that has hitherto provided a clear crisp picture it is probably worth having it repaired by a specialist repair clinic. It will cost around \$100, not far below the cost of a replacement, but helps save the planet. As there can be around 25,000 volts present inside the case, even with the power disconnected, it is not a task for the do it yourselfer.

Power Supplies

All computers have them. The fans in the cheaper units gradually gunk up with dust and the sleeve bearings can become raucous at start-up. The life of the internal components and thereby the computer itself is shortened by a build up of heat inside the machine. I have two remedies; the first is to put additional cooling fans inside the case and this can lower the temperature by 5 degrees Celsius, the second is to obtain and fit a professional grade power supply. The power supplies I presently obtain have two quiet, low velocity, ball-bearing fans and are relatively costly. The improvement is startling.

Computers Get Noisier

This is somewhat of an exaggeration because it depends what you purchase.

The low-end machine needs less cooling and therefore requires less air movement.

Manufacturers can, and frequently do, use cheaper and smaller cooling fans.

My own machine is a bit up market, and despite having one of the good power supplies described here, additionally has a funnel to direct cool air onto the processor via a mighty fan. There is no acoustic remedy for this, except drastic measures such as big copper heat sinks or water coolers. Furthermore there is a large diameter extractor fan on the back wall of the case. The rush of air noise is quite pronounced and I have finally got round to closing the machine down before retiring to bed.

Something for Nothing

Sun Systems have now released 'Open Office Org Version 2'. It came on C D with recent issues of the NZ P C World Magazine and NetGuide. The download from the Internet takes forever, even with a high-speed connection. Open Office will handle PowerPoint presentations, Excel Spreadsheets, Word documents and Access databases (for any of us who do not have the latest versions of the aforementioned). Having had a look at it, it is pretty impressive and is a bargain at the price (free).

Church Anecdote:

A preacher was completing a temperance sermon: with great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

With even greater emphasis, he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

And then, finally, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." He sat down.

The song leader then stood very cautiously and announced with a pleasant smile, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn 365: 'Shall We Gather at the River' ".

SURFIN' THE WEB

Well here we are ready to whiz around the Internet again at the start of another year. My previous clutch of goodies included a helping hand for Scrabble fans. Now I am traveling down the same path with some sites which will assist aficionados of similar persuasions! Have a look at any that may interest you from the selection below.

ANAGRAMS

An anagram is a word or phrase formed by rearranging the letters of another word or phrase. For example, "Time Heals All Wounds" can be rearranged to form "Most Will Use A Handle". **The Internet Anagram Server** (aka "I, Rearrangement Servant") gives results in your browser, and has an advanced interface which allows you to include or exclude certain words, specify minimum or maximum numbers of letters per word and a few other tweaks at www.wordsmith.org/anagram. Anu Garg, creator of **The Internet Anagram Server**, also offers **A.Word.A.Day (AWAD)**, a newsletter for people who want to explore the world of words and share it with other word lovers. For details on **AWAD**, see www.wordsmith.org/awad. Also notable, illustrious and famed in the anagram arena is **Anagram Genius**, which you can find at www.anagramgenius.com. (**Anagram Genius** seems to be better at processing long input strings and generating phrase-like results. For example: "not over until the fat lady sings" = "Stringently deathful ovations."

CROSSWORD HELPERS

If you're having trouble getting a word in a crossword puzzle, then perhaps **OneAcross** can help. In addition to pattern dictionary searches, it can analyze the clue as well. **OneAcross** lets you enter either the length of the answer or an answer pattern, in which you use a question mark for unknown letters in the word. **OneAcross** also has a tool to help you solve cryptograms at www.oneacross.com

WORD TOOLS

At **Dictionary.com**, you can look up a word in either a dictionary or Roget's Thesaurus (to find synonyms and antonyms). The site also offers **Ask Doctor Dictionary** (for questions about words or grammar), the Word of the Day, daily crosswords & word search puzzles, a huge list of links to other online dictionaries, including hundreds of non-English ones at www.dictionary.com. **WordWeb Pro** is a downloadable program that I use all the time. It can be used to look up words from almost any Windows-based programme, showing definitions, synonyms and related words. The feature I like best is searching for words matching a pattern, such as "ab*ly" which will return abashedly, abjectly, abnormally, absolutely, absurdly, and a superfluity of others. See at wordweb.info. **The WriteExpress Online Rhyming Dictionary** is a helpful resource for poets and songwriters. You can find ending rhymes (blue/shoe), last syllable rhymes (timber/harbor), double rhymes (conviction/ prediction), beginning rhymes (physics/fizzle), or first syllable rhymes (carrot/caring) at www.rhymer.com. Need a synonym, antonym, or related word? Try this online tool at www.rhymezone.com.

Now before I close, here's a little bit of frivolity for you!

1. While sitting at your desk, lift your right foot off the floor and make clockwise circles.
2. Now, while doing this, draw the number "6" in the air with your right hand.

Your foot will change direction!

Until next issue John Cook (jcook@paradise.net.nz)

Tutors Please Note

If, for any reason, you are unable to attend a class please ring David Bennett 934 7343 to arrange a replacement. Also advise him if you arrange your own replacement.

Short Courses

Managing Files & Folders

In this four week course learn how to store information, make new folders, find lost folders and generally keep all your work in order.

Ziping & Unzipping

After you have completed the Managing Files & Folders course, learn how to compress and decompress your files. This is a one week course.

Revision of Word Processing

If you have updated to Windows XP and need some help, this two week course will be of help to you.

Other Short Courses

Include: Photo & Image Editing, Making Gift Tags, First Step in E-mail, Greeting Cards, Introduction to Microsoft Paint, Email Enhancement, JavaScript, and Power Point.

Maxims for the Internet Age

Home is where you hang your @
The E-mail of the species is more deadly than the mail.
A journey of a thousand sites begins with a single click.
You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.
Great groups from little icons grow.
Speak softly and carry a cellular phone.
C:\ is the root of all directories.
Don't put all your hypes in one home page.
Pentium wise; pen and paper foolish.
The modem is the message.
Too many clicks spoil the browse.
The geek shall inherit the earth.
A chat has nine lives.
Don't byte off more than you can view.
Fax is stranger than fiction.
What boots up must come down.
Windows will never cease.
In Gates we trust.
Virtual reality is its own reward.
Modulation in all things.
A user and his leisure time are soon parted.
Know what to expect before you connect.
Oh, what a tangled website we weave when first we practice.
Speed

thrills.

Gus's Tips

About tool bars in Microsoft applications:

You can "tear" off a tool bar and put it where you want.

Depending on the version of the application each tool bar has either a vertical grey or dotted bar near its left edge. Hover over that area and the cursor will change to a four headed arrow.

Click/hold and drag the toolbar to the area of the workspace or another toolbar you prefer.

Drawing toolbar

If you click once on a drawing or text tool, it will be in force for one entry. If you double click on the tool, you can use it repetitively. Just press *Esc* or click on the tool once again to de-activate it.

Change font-size

Select the text and use *Ctrl+Shift* to reduce its font by one point each tap of the < key. Using the > key instead increases size.

Handy too if you want to decrease or increase a blank line's line space.

PowerPoint - Creating a new and smaller presentation from a large one.

(Newsgroup member, Dr. Jay, contributed this gem.)

- Open PowerPoint and open your large presentation.
- Go to Slide Sorter.
- *Ctrl+click* the slides you want.
- Drag the selected slides to your desktop.
- On your desktop you will see a **Scrap** file - double click on it.
- It will open up in PowerPoint with just those slides with the same master.
- Save with a new filename.

Course Development

Two new four-week PowerPoint manuals have been written:

- ***Making Presentations Part A – The Basics and***
- ***Making Presentations Part B – Animation and Special Effects.***

They incorporate and rationalise current four, two and one week courses of PowerPoint topics.

The manuals are based on PowerPoint 2003 and Windows XP.

Part A deals with making a first presentation, adding backgrounds, borders and text, transition effects, creating an album and writing it to a CD, special layouts, layering of objects, the slide master, action buttons and writing on slides.

Part B deals with custom animations, incorporating sound and music, links, hyperlinks and triggers, creating menu controlled presentations, screentips, speaker notes and notes pages, printing hand-outs and how to incorporate a presentation into a stand-alone executable file.

Gus Porteners

**You can live to be a hundred if you give up all the things that make you want to live to be a hundred.
Woody Allen**

Product Warnings:

- "Caution: The contents of this bottle should not be fed to fish." -- *On a bottle of shampoo for dogs.*
- "For external use only!" -- *On a curling iron.*
- "Warning: This product can burn eyes." -- *On a curling iron.*
- "Do not use in shower." -- *On a hair dryer.*
- "Do not use while sleeping." -- *On a hair dryer.*
- "Do not use while sleeping or unconscious." -- *On a hand-held massaging device.*
- "Do not place this product into any electronic equipment." -- *On the case of a chocolate CD in a gift basket.*
- "Recycled flush water unsafe for drinking." -- *On a toilet at a public sports facility in Ann Arbor, Michigan.*
- "Shin pads cannot protect any part of the body they do not cover." -- *On a pair of shin guards made for bicyclists.*
- "This product not intended for use as a dental drill." -- *On an electric rotary tool.*
- "Caution: Do not spray in eyes." -- *On a container of underarm deodorant.*
- "Do not drive with sunshield in place." -- *On a cardboard sunshield that keeps the sun off the dashboard.*
- "Caution: This is not a safety protective device." -- *On a plastic toy helmet used as a container for popcorn.*
- "Do not use near fire, flame, or sparks." -- *On an "Aim-n-Flame" fireplace lighter.*
- "Battery may explore or leak." -- *On a battery. See at tinyurl.com/avr7 .*
- "Do not eat toner." -- *On a toner cartridge for a laser printer.*
- "Not intended for highway use." -- *On a 13-inch wheel on a wheelbarrow.*
- "This product is not to be used in bathrooms." -- *On a Holmes bathroom heater.*
- "May irritate eyes." -- *On a can of self-defense pepper spray.*
- "Eating rocks may lead to broken teeth." -- *On a novelty rock garden set called "Popcorn Rock."*
- "Caution! Contents hot!" -- *On a Domino's Pizza box.*
- "Caution: Hot beverages are hot!" -- *On a coffee cup.*
- "Warning: May contain small parts." -- *On a frisbee.*
- "Do not use orally." -- *On a toilet bowl cleaning brush.*
- "Please keep out of children." -- *On a butcher knife.*
- "Not suitable for children aged 36 months or less." -- *On a birthday card for a 1 year old.*
- "Do not recharge, put in backwards, or use." -- *On a battery.*

Backing Up Your Address Book In Outlook Express!

Your Address Book is a very important file. If you lose your Address Book, you could have a lot of trouble recovering it. You might never recover some of the addresses.

To backup your Address Book click the Address Book icon in the toolbar. This opens the address book box. Click File/Export/Address Book (WAB) and save the file where you want. To open the address book from where you filed it just click the file icon. You can also send messages from the opened box by clicking 'Action' in the toolbar.

Anglo-Centricism:

"If you understand English, press 1. If you do not understand English, press 2." -- From a recording on an Australian information line, which was set up to answer questions about the new Goods and Services Tax plan.

**Digital Data Preservation Program
CD and DVD Archiving
Quick Reference Guide for Care and Handling**

Do:

1. Handle discs by the outer edge or the center hole.
2. Use a non solvent-based felt-tip permanent marker to mark the label side of the disc.
3. Keep dirt or other foreign matter from the disc.
4. Store discs upright (book style) in plastic cases specified for CDs and DVDs.
5. Return discs to storage cases immediately after use.
6. Leave discs in their packaging (or cases) to minimize the effects of environmental changes.
7. Open a recordable disc package only when you are ready to record data on that disc.
8. Store in a cool, dry, dark environment in which the air is clean.
9. Remove dirt, foreign material, fingerprints, smudges, and liquids by wiping with a clean cotton fabric in a straight line from the center of the disc toward the outer edge.
10. Use CD/DVD cleaning detergent, isopropyl alcohol or methanol to remove stubborn dirt or material.
11. Check the disc surface before recording.

Do not:

1. Touch the surface of the disc.
2. Bend the disc
3. Use adhesive labels.
4. Store discs horizontally for a long time (years).
5. Open a recordable optical disc package if you are not ready to record.
6. Expose discs to extreme heat or high humidity.
7. Expose discs to extreme rapid temperature or humidity changes.
8. Expose recordable discs to prolonged sunlight or other sources of UV light.
9. Write or mark in the data area of the disc (area where the laser "reads").
10. Clean in a circular direction around the disc.

For CDs especially do not:

1. Scratch the label side of a CD.
2. Use a pen, pencil, or fine tip marker to write on the disc.
3. Write on the disc with markers that contain solvents.
4. Try to peel off or re-position a label.

General recommendation for long-term storage conditions

For archiving recordable (R) discs, it is recommended to use discs that have a gold metal reflective layer.

<i>Archival Storage Facility - Recommendation for storing CDs and DVDs together</i>		
Media	Temperature	Relative Humidity (RH)
CD, DVD	Less than 20°C (68°F) Greater than 4°C (39°F)	20% to 50% RH

A temperature of 18°C and 40% RH would be considered suitable for long-term storage.
A lower temperature and RH is recommended for extended-term storage.

Courtesy of NIST an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department's
Technology Administration

FREE PC WORLD PHOTO PRINTING GUIDE

Download at tinyurl.com/avoaw

The download is a 1.92 MB PDF file

Topics Include:

Great Photo Prints Without Breaking the Bank

Smart, Free Fixes for Your USB Hassles

Nine Quick Steps for Hassle-Free Printing

Print Your Own Photo Album

Printing on the Go

How to Pick the Perfect Photo Paper

Avoid Printing Problems

INTERESTED IN SUSHI?

Have a look at this site - tinyurl.com/ddhr5 - which tells you:

- All about Sushi - Sushi History and nutrition
- How to fillet fish
- How to cook sushi rice
- How to shape sushi
- Sushi Utensils & Condiments
- Topping for sushi

DISKEEPER LITE FREE WINDOWS DEFRAGGER

As you use your computer, files become fragmented on the drive, and bits become scattered physically over the disks. Too much fragmentation makes a drive unreliable, and can possibly slow it down. A defragger brings the files together again. Diskeeper Lite is a free utility intended to keep your PC humming by repairing fragmented files..

As with Windows' own bundled defragger utility, you run Diskeeper Lite by launching it and telling it to do its job. According to Executive Software, Diskeeper is faster and more thorough than the Windows' defragger. Test results from the National Software Testing Lab (commissioned by Executive Software) appear to support the point. Diskeeper Lite is based on the same technology and, according to Executive Software, will perform as well.

According to NSTL's tests, defragging boosts your PC's speed, and Diskeeper pushes it more than the Windows defragger. Down load at <http://tinyurl.com/6we8e> (note that it is 12.1MB).

I find this programme gets around the stalling and slowness of the Windows defragger. Once you have used it to defrag it does the job in minutes rather than hours – Ed.

Yes, its that magical time of year again when the *Darwin Awards* are bestowed, honouring the least evolved among us. With current talk of intelligent design, this may shed some light !

Here then is the glorious winner:

When his 38-caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.....

And now, the honorable mentions:

The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and, after a little hopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence, sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.

A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his Vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.

An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.

A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer...\$15. (If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, is a crime committed?)

Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.

As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."

The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at 5 a.m., flashed a gun, demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, now totally frustrated, walked away.

Lastly, a 5-star stupidity award winner!

When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges, saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had.

Courtesy Gus - see full new and past listings at www.darwinawards.com

SUDOKU

Our web surfer John Cook provides a really good letters and words article this month, but some of us are into the numbers game – see the website below!

A FREE SUDOKU PUZZLE MAKER AND SOLVER FOR WIN9X, WIN2000 & WINXP

Download at angusj.com/sudoku/index.php .

Simple Sudoku makes high quality puzzles that are symmetrical, have a single solution, and do not require trial & error to solve. The user can also choose between five levels of complexity - from Easy to Extreme. Each puzzle is generated randomly so there is an almost limitless selection.

Not only does **Simple Sudoku** make challenging puzzles, it also provides tools to help solve them - removing the drudgery but not the fun. Keeping track of possible values for blank cells (candidates), providing filters and color markers are just some of the tools available to make solving even those really tricky puzzles possible. Also, if you ever get really stuck, **Simple Sudoku** can get you started again with a discrete hint (without giving everything away).

Main Features:

- It's **free**, for private use.
- Creates challenging puzzles with 5 grades - from easy to extreme
- 'Candidates' automatically update when new values are entered
- Multi-cell selection to aid excluding candidates
- Filtering of candidates (almost essential to visualize advanced methods)
- Multi-level undo and redo (ie all the way back to the start)
- Save and load games (even partially completed ones)
- Paste games from the clipboard (useful if you frequent the sudoku.com forum)
- Extensive hints from logical methods (no guessing)
- Prints blank grids, partially and fully completed puzzles
- Puzzle can be resized according to preference.
- Multi-language support.
- Includes puzzle rules and solving hints

Other Recommended Sudoku Sites can be found at:

- **Sudoku.com Forum** at tinyurl.com/dv27m
- **Astraware Sudoku** at tinyurl.com/d962d
- **SadMan Software - Sudoku** at tinyurl.com/dh2eo

The mind boggles!

Have you noticed the recycling bins outside The Warehouse?

They are labeled "Customer recycling"!

Welcome to New Members

Baber	John	Mallinder	Donald
Beyer	Trevor	Mallinder	Elsie
Brown	Bryan	Mouat	Gordon
Cole	Margaret	Murray	Patricia
Devadatta	Prema	Ormrod	Isobel
Dungey	Frank	Quinn	Beverley
Edwards	May	Reed	Sheila
French	Beverley	Roberts	John
Garland	Ruth	Shaw	May
Green	Wayne	Thomson	Charlotte
Hamblin	Dennis	Verhoeven	Margaret
Henderson	Verree	Watt	Denise
Hill	Nita	White	Judith
Irving	Wilhelmina	Wilson	Tay
Kelleher	Patrick		

Computer Grandmas

The computer swallowed grandma,
Yes, honestly it's true,
She pressed 'control' and 'enter'
And disappeared from view.

It devoured her completely,
The thought just makes me squirm,
She must have caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind;
I've even used the internet,
But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Jeeves
My searches to refine,
The reply from him was negative,
Not a thing was found 'online'.

So, if inside your 'Inbox',
My Grandma you should see,
Please 'Copy'. 'Scan' and 'Paste' her
And send her back to me!

Contributed by Betty Neyland – thank you Betty.

