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RCC | Redcliffe Computer Club

NEWSLETTER June 2021

Vice Presidents Report

Our trusted President has taken leave and found a place somewhere in the bush conveniently with no phone signal, hence my report. He does deserve a break.

Not-for-profit organisations like ours provide a crucial role in the community, consequently I will concentrate on a cruel decision by the State Government to cut funding to one of our longest serving groups. We support each other so I implore you to support the below Petition to the State Government by clicking on the E-Petition link below.

- Only one MP is supporting reinstatement of funding so far being the Hon Mark Ryan MP, Morayfield (ALP).
- I have contacted the Hon Yvette D'Ath MP, State Member for Redcliffe (ALP) and have been told *her staff will look into it*.
- I also contacted the Hon Luke Howarth MP, Federal Member for Petrie (LNP) and have been told *his staff will look into it*.

You can also help by applying pressure on your local State Member given how unfairly funds have been allocated to questionable projects. This group offers free legal advice to people who can not afford a lawyer.

Peter Emmerson

Dear Members,

The Moreton Bay Community Legal Service has recently been advised that it has lost its funding. We are writing to you as you have been a past client of the service. We kindly ask for your assistance in completing the below E-Petition. Your response to this petition may enable us to continue providing the services that we have to the community, over the past 26 years.

Click this link to open the E-Petition:

<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/petition-details?id=3546>.

Thank you kindly for your assistance.

Yours faithfully

Laurence (Laurie) McMahon

CEO and Principal Solicitor

Address: 9 George Street, Caboolture Qld 4510

Website: www.mbrcls.org.au

Facebook: MBRCLS

Moreton Bay Regional Community Legal Service

Safely Save Usernames & Passwords*

Around the world major cyber-attacks are more frequent than ever and it will only get worse. Most are a result of poor security or employees allowing access to these systems, some by mistake, others not.

If these huge companies and Governments with large resources to protect their systems fail, what hope for us. Well it may surprise you but as individuals we have a greater ability to protect our information than these companies & Governments. One reason is that these organisations must allow access to their systems by thousands or millions of users. You can restrict your system to just one, you.

Saving your access information to online or cloud storage (data centres) is better than writing them down, which can be lost, or saving on your device which is useless if you can't login to retrieve them.

- Have access to them anytime without writing them down or saving them to your devices.
- Without them you could lose all your photos, emails, documents & files etc...
- Apple users in particular will be affected if they forget their Apple ID, Password or PASSCODE.
- Don't use Password Managers included in programs and web browsers.
- Don't use the same username/passwords for multiple accounts.
- Setup a unique login username/passwords account for social media accounts, these are dangerous accounts so avoid using your Google, Gmail, or Yahoo details to login.

My personal preference is DropBox for online/cloud storage of my password file and other important stuff.

- DropBox provides a free 2gb storage account. Create a simple text file of all your details and do not encrypt it.
- DropBox is a data centre and was formed in 2007 by MIT students and is blocked in China which is a positive.
- Don't allow integration of DropBox with Facebook or MS Office. This option is available and promoted by both.
- DropBox operates on all platforms like Windows, Mac, Android, Linux etc.

So, the obvious question is:

"I will need a username and password to access my online storage where all my login details are stored, how do I save this securely?"

The answer to this will be in our next Newsletter so don't forget to check it out, and in the meantime setup your online storage.

Peter Emmerson

**It is important to note that this information is advice only, based on our tutors' own experiences and the Redcliffe Computer Club takes no responsibility for any loss of data and or financial loss resulting from the use of the contained advice.*

Losses to Car Ad Scams Climbing

Australians have already lost over \$288,000 to vehicle scams in the first quarter of this year, more than all losses reported to Scamwatch in 2019, and scammers have now begun impersonating defence personnel to con their victims.

In a vehicle scam, scammers post fake online listings offering to sell in-demand cars at well below market value to lure potential buyers looking for a second hand vehicle. Scammers seek payment to secure the car for the buyer but never deliver the vehicle.

Vehicle scams are commonly hosted on sites such as Facebook Marketplace, Autotrader, Car Sales, Cars Guide and Gumtree.

"As second hand car sales increased during the pandemic, unfortunately so did vehicle scams. If current trends continue, Australians could lose much more to vehicle scams this year than the \$1 million lost in 2020," ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said.

"We want to raise awareness of these scams to reduce the number of people who may be vulnerable to them."

A new technique we are seeing is scammers pretending to be defence personnel. In 97 per cent of reports received this year, the scammer claimed to be in the military (navy, army and air force), or to work for the Department of Defence, and said they wanted to sell their vehicle before deployment. This sought to create a sense of urgency with buyers and explained the unusually low listing price of the vehicles and why buyers could not inspect them prior to payment.

Email addresses that do not bear the legitimate the defence email format of @defence.gov.au may be an indication of a scam, but even the correct email format does not guarantee the car ad is not a scam, as scammers are able to spoof email addresses. It is best to look for all warning signs to avoid being scammed.

"A price that is too good to be true should be a warning sign for potential buyers. If a classified ad offers a vehicle at a very low price, the ad might not be legitimate. For example, one Scamwatch report noted a listing that advertised a car for nearly \$10,000 below its market value to entice buyers looking for a bargain."

supposed to 'hold' the money from the buyer until goods are received, before releasing the funds to the seller. Other commonly requested payment methods include eBay, direct bank transfer or international money transfers.

"If the seller claims to be unavailable and insists on payment before meeting the buyer or allowing them to pick up their new car, this should raise suspicions," Ms Rickard said.

"It is relatively common for scammers to claim that they are travelling or moving away to avoid meeting buyers before payment."

"Always try to inspect the vehicle before purchase and avoid unusual payment methods. If you have any doubts, do not go ahead with the deal," Ms Rickard said.

In addition to losing money to vehicle scams, around 20 per cent of consumers who reported vehicle scams have lost personal information, after providing their address, phone number and copies of their driver's license to the scammer. To protect your identity, never provide your personal details to someone you have only met online.

"Fortunately, over 80 per cent of people who reported vehicle scams to us managed to avoid losing money by identifying the scam early. We encourage consumers to trust their instincts. If something seems too good to be true, it probably is," Ms Rickard said.

Click this Link to [Scamwatch article and further information](#).

Work on the Redcliffe Council Buildings Main Entrance

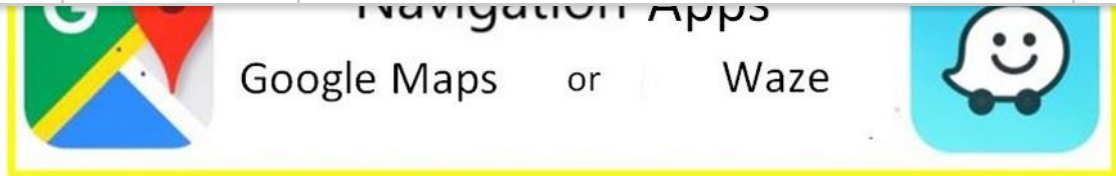
We have been advised by the council that there are upcoming works on the front entrance of the council building, and that there will be no access through the eastern building entrance during working hours (6.30am to 4pm weekdays).

Access will be: through the main Customer Service Entrance via the Council carpark (off Irene Street)

Proposed Dates of Works: 5/7/2021 to 13/8/2021

We will confirm these dates closer to the time.

THERE'S an APP for THAT

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Today I would like to talk about a Navigation App called Waze.

Waze is built entirely for drivers. Google Maps offers more features, providing detailed information for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Waze has a distinct focus, one aimed at being the best companion for people getting from point A to point B in a car.

It's the app I use when I need to brave the Pacific highway to travel to the Gold Coast and beyond. It is more likely to give detailed information on traffic incidents, including cars stopped on the shoulder, speed cameras and traffic holdups.

Waze is owned by Google who purchased the app in 2013, Google doesn't want two apps that do entirely the same thing, so Waze provides someone driving with directions, whereas Google Maps is full of extras like 'Live View,' street view and much more.

The Wave app is a free download from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, and both versions offer similar features.

**This link includes written instructions and a video [How to use Waze](#)
This link is a [Waze YouTube Video Tutorial](#) also showing how to use Waze**

Kathy Butler

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