



JULY 2011

Well, hello there - It seems like ages since I've been in touch.

I'd like to welcome all the new subscribers, I hope you enjoy this newsletter – which is running waaaay late.

We're now in the second half of the year – and it's an awfully cold and wet part this year! Amazingly our dams are now 59% full. I remember when we had an article a couple of years ago, where we looked at our dam's levels – and they were at 22%!! Here is the link to that government site, in case you're interested in looking at it today.

[http://www.melbournewater.com.au/content/water\\_storages/water\\_report/water\\_report.asp](http://www.melbournewater.com.au/content/water_storages/water_report/water_report.asp)

We've recently had the school holidays in Victoria, where I took a couple of weeks off work to spend time with my boys. They are growing up so quickly, and I know most of you will understand just how that feels.

So here we are at the end of July, and it's hard to believe there's another huge tragedy over in Norway – where most people would never think a horror story could emerge – and that's just what it was horror for the people involved and the entire nation.

Now on to happier news - our wonderful new sporting hero Cadel Evan won the Tour de France. Did you stay up to watch the event?

I often watch the race, but this year I was glued to the TV for the last couple of days. So now after more than 100 years an Australian has won it!



Truly amazing effort.

In this newsletter we're going to look at:

- WOW News
- Online shopping bargains.
- Humour: That's When the Fight Started.

## WOW NEWS

We've had a busy couple of months seeing people in their homes, helping them to figure out how to use their computer. Once people become more confident with the basics, then they're often ready to move on to other areas of interest. One of these is very often **family history**. And that is something we can help you with.

Well more accurately, our team member, Shirley Harris can help with that.

Shirley is very experienced, and has a keen interest in family history, and can also help if you'd like to **write your life story**, or help you with your **digital photos** – transferring them to your computer, making albums and sharing them with your friends. It's much easier than you think!! .

If you're interested in investigating and documenting your family history please let me know. We can book a two-hour session, where Shirley can help you discover the news (or maybe some secrets) of your family.

**Computer technicians** If ever your computer gives you trouble, I can highly recommend technicians in your area.

We have Mike Robison, who services the Mount Eliza and Peninsula areas. Mike can be contacted on: **0417 533 211**. [www.mjr.net.au](http://www.mjr.net.au)

We are delighted to be able to also recommend NerdAssist, who service the Brighton and Bayside areas. Their number is: **1300 63 73 63** . [www.nerdassis.com.au](http://www.nerdassis.com.au)

For all other areas – including Sydney and Brisbane we recommend itsfixed.com. They are on: **1300 600 670**. [www.itsfixed.com.au](http://www.itsfixed.com.au)

Here's what David had to say a couple of weeks ago, when Marc helped him out when his computer played up:

..... As some of you know my computer broke down last Wed morning the 6th. Turned it on & it took 1hr & 50min to start up. When the desktop came up it took another 30min for all the icons to come up. Tried to click on icons - nothing. Therefore cannot get into programs to identify the problem. I immediately rang Vivienne (God bless her) to recommend a good tech to help me. She put me onto a co. called 'Itsfixed". The bloke was over the next day & spent 4 1/2 hours with me. He identified the problem as hardware failure. Called Hewlett Packard tech support & spent about an hour on the phone with him & he verified the diagnosis..... packed it up, offered to take it to the post office & lent me a computer to use until I get mine back. All this at no extra cost. This has to be the best co. I have ever dealt with.....

So please call any of the above companies if you run into technical troubles. And don't forget to tell them I've recommended them – they are all great anyway, but they'll definitely look after you.

**iPad Classes.** We are delighted to let you know that the iPad Classes will continue in Term Three at Brighton Grammar School.

We have now included a Level One class. This is for people who are really unfamiliar with computers and technology, or those who have not yet bought their iPad. This is an 'Introduction to the iPad and Technology' class, and runs for one night. Suitable for absolute beginners.

Then we have our two-night level two class – 'Using Your iPad'. This class shows how to actually use the iPad, join and download purchases from iTunes, covers Apps, such as iBooks and many other Apps that are popular right now. Give me a call if you're interested and I'll fill you in.


## SITE TO SEE

### Online Shopping Vouchers

Have you noticed ads on the television for websites such as Cudo.com and Deals.com?

There are certainly bargains to be had - if you're quick off the mark.

The way they work is: you enter your City and maybe a few other basic details, then Subscribe to their list.



The screenshot shows the Cudo.com website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Previous Deals, About Cudo, How Does it Work, Help, and Gift Certificates. A search bar prompts users to "Send me daily deals in my city" with fields for "Enter your email address" and "Postcode", and a "Sign Up" button. The user's location is set to "Melbourne". The main feature is a "Today's offer" for a "5 night Vanuatu escape for 2 at Iririki Island Resort". The offer details include: "Don't pay \$1645! Today it's \$699! Only minutes from Port Vila & attractions". A countdown timer shows "Time left to buy" as 60 hours, 09 minutes, and 52 seconds. It also indicates "9 offers sold" and "41 more to launch!". The value is listed as \$1645, with a saving of \$946, resulting in a "Now only" price of \$699, which is a 58% discount. A "BUY NOW!" button is prominently displayed. Below the offer, there are social sharing options for Twitter, Facebook, and Email, and a "Send as a gift" button. The bottom of the offer card includes links for "The Offer", "Locations", and "Terms & Conditions".

That means every day you'll receive an email with their daily deal. Most times, you'll skim over it and decide that you're not interested in that particular offer – maybe it's a

round of golf, but it's at a golf course too far away. Or maybe it's for some super discounted wine – and you don't drink. But every now and again, there is something that really is worthwhile.

For example, I recently bought a voucher for a colour, cut and blow wave, plus a couple of extra things, for only \$69. Normally that would be worth \$231. It was available at a salon in Mornington – so I grabbed it! My husband bought a really nice suit, shirt, tie and cufflinks – all for \$99.

Another one I almost got, was a fantastic holiday for 2 adults, 2 children to a resort in Vietnam – for \$999 total. We are still kicking ourselves that we didn't grab it but I'm keeping my eyes peeled for a similar offer.

When you see an offer that you like, you click on the Buy button, and make your purchase.

Now if the minimum number of sales is reached before the deadline – the offer goes ahead. They need to set a minimum to be sure that it's worthwhile for the seller. There is a set time on the offers – and that is on the screen – you'll generally see a clock or timer of some sort that counts down the time left available for the offer. Once the time is up and the number required is met, you'll get an email confirming the deal, and providing you with a voucher.

You simply print the voucher, phone or email the company making the offer to make arrangements to get your goods, or book your appointment.

Now I know that there are some in our group who will not buy anything online, either because they don't have a credit card, or feel unsafe about buying online.

Remember that all Gold and Platinum members, as part of your membership, I can make a purchase for you, if you see something online that you'd like to buy . Just call or email and we can arrange that.

Oh, and if you'd like to see what one of the emails looks like, before you Subscribe, let me know and I'll forward one to you.

Here are a few sites you might like to investigate:

[www.cudo.com.au](http://www.cudo.com.au)

[www.stardeals.com.au](http://www.stardeals.com.au)

[www.deals.com.au](http://www.deals.com.au)

## HUMOUR



These little snippets are sent to us by Terry, one of our long time members. Thanks Terry, some of these are hilarious!

### HOW TO START A FIGHT

One year, I decided to buy my mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift... The next year, I didn't buy her a gift.

When she asked me why, I replied, "Well, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

And that's how the fight started.....

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My wife and I were watching Who Wants To Be A Millionaire while we were in bed.

I turned to her and said, 'Do you want to have sex?'

'No,' she answered. I then said, 'Is that your final answer?'

She didn't even look at me this time, simply saying, 'Yes..'

So I said, "Then I'd like to phone a friend."

And that's when the fight started...

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I took my wife to a restaurant.

The waiter, for some reason, took my order first.

"I'll have the rump steak, rare, please."

He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?"

"Nah, she can order for herself."

And that's when the fight started.....

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My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table.

I asked her, "Do you know him?" "Yes", she sighed, "He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

And then the fight started...

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When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer.. Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.

When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

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My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels.

She asked, "What's on TV?"

I said, "Dust."

And then the fight started...

Saturday morning I got up early, quietly dressed, made my lunch, and slipped quietly into the garage. I hooked up the boat up to the van and proceeded to back out into a torrential downpour. The wind was blowing 50mph, so I pulled back into the garage, turned on the radio, and discovered that the weather would be bad all day.

I went back into the house, quietly undressed, and slipped back into bed. I cuddled up to my wife's back; now with a different anticipation, and whispered, "The weather out there is terrible."

My loving wife of 5 years replied, "And, can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in that?"

And that's how the fight started...

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My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary.

She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds."

I bought her a bathroom scale.

And then the fight started.....

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After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for Social Security.

The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's License to verify my age.

I looked in my pockets and realized I had left my wallet at home. I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later.

The woman said, 'Unbutton your shirt'. So I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair.

She said, 'That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me' and she processed my Social Security application.

When I got home, I excitedly told my wife about my experience at the Social Security office. She said, 'You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability too.'

And then the fight started...

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My wife was standing nude, looking in the bedroom mirror.

She was not happy with what she saw and said to me,

"I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.'

I replied, "Your eyesight's damn near perfect."

And then the fight started.....

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I rear-ended a car this morning...the start of a REALLY bad day!

The driver got out of the other car, and he was a DWARF!!

He looked up at me and said 'I am NOT Happy!'

So I said, 'Well, which one ARE you then?'

That's how the fight started.

And this video might be amusing, especially if you have grandchildren. It's the Muppets singing a Beastie Boys song.

<http://www.thewebonwheels.com.au/2011/07/the-muppets-mashed-with-the-beastie-boys/>

Till next time,

Smiles and best wishes,

Viv ☺