



BROWSER NO 213

OCTOBER 2024

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The coffee mornings continue to be a success with people coming along for an hour or so to enjoy the company and get know each other and Busnet better. There is always a techie on hand but don't think you just need to talk computers or mobile phones. The next one will be in the Senior Citizens' dining room at 10.30am on the 8th October. The cost will be \$5 each for coffee or tea and scones, jam and cream.



The Busselton Constitution is available on the Busnet website at busnet.org.au. This is a very useful and interesting site with lots of up to date information about our Club.

Don't forget Busnet's very own sausage sizzle at Bunnings on Saturday, the 12th of Octonrt.
Even if you are not on roster to help out, please come along and support us. It looks certain to be a big fund-raising event for our club.



Table of contents:

- Notes from committee members
- General meeting minutes
- Roster
- Committee members
- Financial statemen
- Problems casting from Android device to TV
- 9 Alternative Uses for Your Android's Volume Keys
- The eSafety Guide
- How to Reverse Look Up a Phone Number
- Is my phone listening to me? Yes, here's why and how to stop it
- What Really Is A Browser (Computer Meaning)
- Examples of Artificial Intelligence in Everyday Life
- We Are Living In An AI World
- NewBook Shows How Computing Started In Australia
- Get the classic free Solitaire games for Windows

A huge thank you to Colin Hartley and everyone in the Busselton Lions Club for their support for Busnet. They have donated the very generous sum of \$1500 to us to enable us to keep going and to continue to provide assistance to our members and others in all aspects of computing, both in our club room and in members' homes where needed.



We Are Living In An AI World

<https://dayofaiaustralia.com/about-ai/>

Whether you're scrolling through social media, getting recommendations from your streaming services, shopping online, writing an email, searching for something on Google, or commuting, there are so many simple things we do each day that involve AI. Sometimes we don't even realise it.

Without AI you wouldn't be able to book an Uber, find the quickest route to your appointment, know when your bus or train is going to arrive, safely use online banking, unlock your devices with your face or fingerprint or even apply a background filter on Zoom.

As well as making our lives easier, AI is also helping to make our lives healthier and safer. To name just a few examples, AI technologies are being used to detect COVID-19 in the way people cough, predict the risk of having a heart attack and develop more effective emergency management strategies.

The Powers and Pitfalls of AI

AI has come a long way in recent years, but we've only scratched the surface of what we can do with it. AI will continue to transform the way we live, work, learn and play and the possibilities are truly endless. From increased productivity and better customer service to faster and safer transport to more personalised health diagnoses and treatments, the benefits are far-ranging. Most industries and professions will be impacted by advances in AI and more and more jobs will require AI and computer science knowledge and skills. Already, AI is playing a significant role in a range of industries from healthcare through to manufacturing, finance, and agriculture. At the same time, there are concerns about the potential downsides of such powerful technologies. This includes future job losses as AI becomes more and more advanced, and the risks of privacy and data breaches. To ensure AI makes our world better and stronger rather than weaker, it needs to be carefully and thoughtfully managed. That responsibility starts and ends with humans!

And that's why it's essential that school students and their teachers understand what AI is, how it works and how they can make the most of it in safe and ethical ways.

