

CARLYLE GARDENS
TOWNSVILLE
COMPUTER CLUB
KEEPING YOU ON LINE
April 09

WHAT'S NEW?

President Clive and Wal recently headed up a working party formed following the *INFONITE* of 24 March and consisting of a number of volunteers from among the membership. They discussed the path the Club was taking and examined ways in which the Club might proceed in the future. With the membership now standing at 112, it is obvious that the Committee must look at ways to maintain interest among all members. It is obvious that we cannot please everybody at the same time, with such a wide variety of interests and needs to cater for. It was hoped that the Working Party might produce some direction in which the Club could proceed.

The net result was that things seem to be progressing pretty well as they are. However, some useful suggestions were forthcoming:

- To institute foundation tuition – getting back to basics. Some of the items for consideration included encouraging confidence in the use of computers (some beginners have concern that damage will result from experimentation), encouraging the asking of elementary questions at open sessions and in private, explaining the use of hardware/software, performing basic operations such as files and folders, data storage (addresses, personal documents, photos), using USB ports, back-up systems, photo transference from digital cameras, e-mailing, printing letters, envelopes, labels and photos and even offering advice on purchasing a new PC, upgrades and new software.
- To continue offering home service as well as tuition on a one to one basis in the Computer Centre. It must be re-emphasised that such services are already available (where possible) to members. There is a published list of tutors that was given to all then members some time ago. This list is still current – there is a copy on the notice board in the Computer Centre, spare copies can be made available.
- To establish a system for small group programmed learning in the Computer Centre, where a volunteer tutor would lead a small group through a topic, including a selection from those above.
- To continue *INFONITE* demonstrations in their present format, with a variety of suggestions for topics, most of which were already on the books. Some suggestions were made on how presentations could be enhanced.

The Committee has met to discuss these recommendations and is in the process of implementing them – watch this space. They all can't happen overnight, but all that is possible will be done.

INFONITES

As advertised earlier, the next *INFONITE* will be held at 7 pm on Tuesday, 5 May. The topic is *Genealogy and Family History – Is there a difference?* The Guest Presenter will be Paul Brown, Past-President of the Family History Association of NQ Inc. Paul will demonstrate the recording of genealogy – how to put information into the computer and what to get out of it, and will give a talk on Family History – why did people in the past do certain things that affected their lives? As a conclusion, he will set "Homework" which he guarantees you will want to do. Some "shorts" are planned to entertain attendees as well. Supper will be available after the session to enable you to socialise and perhaps chat with Paul.

The following *INFONITE* has been set tentatively for Tuesday 23 June, when it is hoped to have some people from the Townsville Library to demonstrate how the computer may be used in accessing printed material – more details in the next newsletter.

Attendance at *INFONITES* has been increasing from night to night, which is very gratifying to the Committee. The time may come when the Conference Room is not adequate for the meetings and we may have to seek admission to the Theatre. We will face that situation when it arises, but such a problem, if it really is one, is a welcome one, because more members and other residents are becoming involved.

BE PREPARED

The Committee is even at this early stage making quiet noises about the Annual General Meeting, which will be held on a date in August. It is very early days, but not too early to start thinking about your Management Committee for the next computer year. Very possibly, some of the incumbent members may not seek re-election and will need to be replaced, so start thinking and talking and be prepared to nominate people for positions. The future of the Club will be in the hands of members who, as in any organisation, get the committee they select and so deserve.

None of this is to say that the present Committee has been lacking in its duties. Its members have performed extremely well during the past months and will continue to do so.

For now, happy computing

