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News & Info from ...



Newsletter: Vol. 13, Issue 3 - June 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

- WELCOME!
- Tech Talk - Support for Windows XP Ending
- Convert Fave Blogs into Podcasts
- Clever Dropbox Tricks
- From the Archives

WELCOME!

Welcome to our new subscribers. My head is spinning! It's June already!

Tax time in Australia - don't forget if you use a bookkeeper to look after your tax they need to be registered with a professional body like the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers and all tax and BAS agents need to have insurance.

It's been a very busy few months as my focus was primarily on a private project - starting up Warwick Wildlife Care & Rescue and the mountain of paperwork and compliance that involved! You can [check out the site](#) I created which I'm very proud of - given it was one of my first forays into more advanced WordPress!

We also became the proud owners of 73 acres west of town and hope to build out there when the market improves!

And I also again presented at this year's 8th [Online International VA Convention](#). Busy times!

This newsletter we cover Windows XP support ending, how to convert your fave blogs into podcasts, and clever Dropbox tricks. Plus the usual links to blog articles, podcasts and our **What's App** section.

Till next time have a great couple of months!

Virtually yours

Lyn PB

PS: Don't forget: [Click here to be unsubscribed immediately](#) if you have received our newsletter in error. You can also [click here to view this email online](#).

Tech Talk - Support for Windows XP Ending

If you're using Windows XP take note of this date: **April 8, 2014**. That's D Day - when Microsoft will end tech support for the platform. That means no more security updates for you. And we all know how important THEY are! And if you still don't care, here are some reasons given [at the Windows blog](#) for why you might consider upgrading.

Primary among them is that new hardware options will likely not support the Windows XP operating system.

I'm not overly concerned myself and for some info on what features have been removed from XP in Windows 7 [see this article](#).

For features that have been removed in Windows Vista [see this article](#).

The Australian Tax Office says it will be transitioning some 22000 users over to the new platform in November this year. Personally I think this might be a perfect opportunity to switch my PC for a Mac and stop being beholden to a company who insists on releasing software with known bugs and who then holds customers and users to ransom with constant updates and paid tech support. That's fine and that's their business model ... but I don't have to subscribe to it.

QUOTE

"How did it get so late so soon?"

- Dr Seuss

WHAT'S APP?

[Genius Scan](#) - turns your Android device into a pocket scanner. It enables you to quickly scan documents on the go and email the scans as JPEG or PDF. Also available for your [iDevice!](#)

EVENTS

Check here for upcoming online events, webinars and other interesting happenings!

Webinars/Events:

July 8-9: [Cert 1 Virtual Business Admin](#), Brisbane

July 24-25: [NAB National Small Business Summit](#), Brisbane

Missed an A4VB event? Recordings available [from here](#).

BLOG

What's been happening at the blog? Latest articles:

- [Putting the 'Social' Back into Social Media](#)
- [Comment Spam](#)
- [OIVAC 2013](#)
- [Social Media Love Seekers](#)

PODCAST

Prefer to get your info via podcasts in the car or while walking/working out? Then check out the Virtual Business Show!

- [Knowing When to Leave](#)
- [What do I Charge?](#)
- [A Question of Ethics](#)
- [Carbon Tax - Small Business Has a Voice](#)
- [Multi-VA Practices](#)

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Convert Fave Blogs into Podcasts

Okay this is not going to be brilliant but if you're one of those people who struggles to read everything online **Podcastomatic** might be useful to you. It has shortcomings - as in it uses standard text-to-speech tech so sounds a bit robotic. But if you can get over that, apparently it works effectively and is quick. Simply type in the URL of the blog you want converted, and Podcastomatic automatically creates audio files for each blog entry.

[Check it out here.](#)

Clever Dropbox Tricks

Do you use Dropbox? If not you should check out this file syncing program. It's not the only one in the cloud but it's one of the most popular.

If you're new to Dropbox - and even if you aren't - here's a [great article from Business IT](#) that I found recently that is quite in-depth covering not only the basics, but increasing security, working with teams, and writing apps.

And if you're not on Dropbox - why not give it a go. [Sign up here.](#)

From the Archives

What were we talking about in June and July in previous years?

July 2006:
[What's a VA do?](#)

June 2007:
[VAs Misrepresented](#)

June 2009:
[What's in a Name?](#)

July 2009:
[Business Peaks and Troughs](#)

[immediately](#)

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