



Carindale Writers' Group Meeting

14 October 2010

Start 9:30

Well, this will be a bit of a different newsletter today, and while it may be shorter than usual, it's definitely not from lack of news. Celebrating Queensland Writers Week, our last meeting was home for the much awaited launch of our book; Allsorts of Allshorts, as well as a Critical Response Workshop run by Rebekah with the assistance of Dorothy. We had a fantastic turn out with a packed room and book sales reaching 125 copies in just a few short hours. From these sales alone, it looks like we're already in a position to be giving a donation of over \$1,000 to The Pyjama Foundation, something that I'm sure Bev will discuss more at the next meeting. Well done everyone!

Next, a big thanks to everyone who came along; everyone who helped on the day and of course everyone who bought a book. The morning tea was delicious and plentiful; the speeches succinct and engaging and the general atmosphere warm and inviting. You'll be able to see in the photos I've included below just how engrossed everyone was as they held the final product in their hot little hands. Thanks on the day also went out to the Carindale Library, The Pyjama Foundation, the publishing team, all our CWG contributors and of course Chip's wife, Lily, who provided the artwork on the cover of the book as well as the gorgeous Ikebana flower display featured at the launch. You can see more of her work at her website www.artislily.com.

If you couldn't make it along to the launch, you haven't missed out, there are still plenty more books available. They'll be on sale again at the next meeting and at only \$15 per copy they make a great Christmas present (I can't believe I'm talking about Christmas already!).

Here are a couple of pictures from the day courtesy of Chip



A packed room eagerly digests their goodies



After the launch we had a break for morning tea and then moved onto Rebekah's Critical Response Workshop. Quite a few people from the launch chose to stay for the workshop and hear Dorothy read from her novel, *The Byrds*. Well done to both girls for representing CWG with such professionalism. I think all in all it was a very successful and educational morning.

Next Meeting's exercise: As Bev mentioned in her email last week, feel free to bring along a page or two of whatever you're currently writing to get instant feedback.

Feature Reader for next meeting: Leslee-Anne

**Until next time... happy writing everyone,
Naomi**

P.s. Don't stop here, Chips computer tips are right over the page....

Now for Chip's Computer Tips

Updating Drivers

Drivers are the software programs that allow you to run your PC's hardware devices—printers, fax machines, monitors, scanners and plug-ins such as your digital camera and mobile phone.

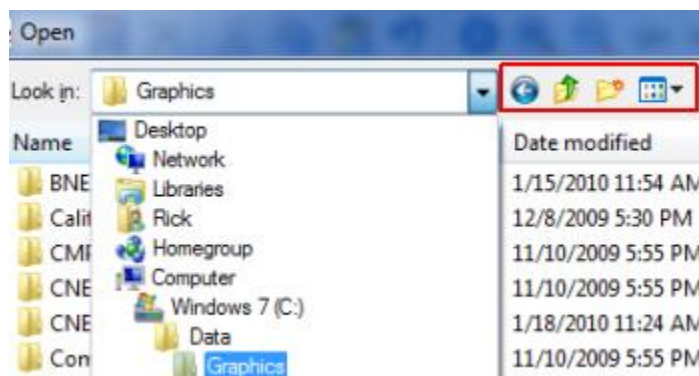
You may have a new PC (or MAC), but have kept your other hardware devices. If you have, you should get new drivers for these devices even if they do work. But even if you have an older PC (or MAC), you need to check periodically for new drivers. Hardware manufacturers are constantly updating their drivers. They make them more compatible with your PC or add new capabilities or make their devices run faster.

Where do you get them? Go to the manufacturer's website. Write down the model number of your device. Let's say it is a printer—Epson, Brother, HP or Samsung. On the website you will find Search and Product buttons. First go to the products, for example printers. Write in the model number and the word Driver. For example, if it is a Brother printer, write in HL2040 driver. It will take you to the web page with the drivers listed.

You needn't be concerned about installing the driver. The driver program is set up to install itself automatically. Where it lists your printer's driver and says download drivers, just click on the listing. A box will appear and will say: 'Do you wish to Run or Save this program. Click on Run and the program will install automatically. Usually, when it has finished the installation, it will say 'installation finished, restart your computer. That's it—easy. So now go and check for driver updates.

In Windows: Four Icons You Need to Know

See these four icons, the ones in the red box?



They're downright ubiquitous in Windows programs, but I'll wager there are plenty of users who don't know what the icons do or when and why to use them. In this post and the next few, I'm

going to help novices "raise their Windows IQ," to learn some operating-system basics many of us take for granted.

You've probably seen these four icons a thousand times. They appear in the *Open* and *Save* boxes for countless programs, right alongside the *Look In* field that designates where on your PC you're going to open or save something.

From left to right, the icons function as follows:

Go To Last Folder Visited: If you've been hopping around from one folder to another in search of, say, a particular document, clicking this takes you back to the folder you viewed most recently--not the one that's one up in the folder hierarchy. This icon will appear grayed out if you haven't yet switched to a different folder.

Up One Level: Clicking this takes you "up" a folder in whatever set of sub-folders you happen to be viewing. (If you're not familiar with how folder hierarchies work, don't worry: I'll cover that in an upcoming post.)

Create New Folder: Used primarily when you're saving a file, this creates a new folder--a sub-folder, really--within the current folder. Upon clicking, you'll immediately need to type a name for the new folder. Press *Enter* when you're done. You'll then need to double-click that new folder to open it and save your file there.

View Menu: Clicking this produces a drop-down menu with various choices for how you want to view the various files and folders you're seeing. I'm not going to explain them all--your best bet is to experiment and see which view you like best. Don't worry: You're not modifying or rearranging anything, only changing the presentation.