

Open Windows @ Epping



P.O. BOX 1558 MACQUARIE CENTRE. N.S.W. 2113

Visit us at



The Epping Creative Centre (ECC) may not be the most beautiful building to look at, but it is certainly a place with a history and it holds a firm place in the psyche of many of the local people.

The NSW Heritage website describes the Dence Park location as “a remnant indigenous forest setting” and notes the presence of “native species” which “include Smooth Bark Angophora, Gnarled Banksia, Sydney Peppermint Stringybark and Turpentine”. The site is further described as “clearly identified by a tall Bunya Pine (about 22m high) and a Stone Pine (10m high) nearby probably planted between 1910-20.” I must confess to being a little wary of the heritage Bunya Pine which drops heavy cones that are also serious trip hazards, but I love the idea of it having stood and watched over the area for so long.

When it comes to the ECC building, there are few clues to the skeleton of the elegant Victorian family home that remains hidden inside the hotchpotch of randomly added rooms that every day come alive

with the chatter and laughter of dozens of people who gather there for a variety of social, cultural and educational activities.

The ECC was opened in September 1989, originally in the back rooms of the Dence Park building, while the front was leased out as a restaurant. In 1999 Hornsby Council granted full use of the building for community activities, “with an emphasis on creative and educational leisure activities.”

On 29th March 2000 I was among the 170 people at our Computer Club’s inaugural meeting at the then rather dilapidated Hornsby Council owned ECC. The groups who rented these rooms in the early days were able to obtain credit towards the rent by volunteering in the refurbishing and routine maintenance of the building. We at Computer Pals had some very generous volunteers who made a huge contribution with their time and expertise.

With changes in government and council policies and the identification of Epping as a “residential intensification area” and the

CONTACT LIST
Elected Management Committee

Joan Craymer	President
Patricia Beal	Vice-President /Guest Speaker Co-ordinator
Elizabeth Barton	Secretary
Dave Wardell	Treasurer
Maureen McDonald	Membership Secretary
Arnold Burling	Equipment Officer
Lynton Bradford	Technical Officer/Webmaster

Standing Committee

Brian Kelly	Supplies Officer
Gwen Bradford	Newsletter Editor
Jeanette Masih	Website Editor
Barry McLeod	Assets Registrar

Special Interest Groups

Creative Writing.....Joan Craymer **Photography**.....Patricia Beal
Genealogy.....In recess until further notice

Contact for Welfare: Helen Gardner

Club email address: **cps.epping@gmail.com**

**Each member of Computer Pals for Seniors - Epping Inc. is also a member of
The Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA) www.ascca.org.au/**

impending amalgamation of local councils, there has been for some time an air of uncertainty surrounding the users of this fine and peacefully situated centre.

However, the transfer of ownership to the Council of the City of Parramatta, is now going forward very smoothly and members of the ECC Committee were able to meet with the Parramatta Administrator Amanda Chadwick onsite recently and found her very positive and well informed on all the issues surrounding the use and running of the whole Dence Park asset.

Some of the Committee members of our Computer Pals were very pleased to be invited to meet with two of the council's "Space Management Officers" this week, to discuss the matter of the shared lease

with the Train Group. They seemed interested and keen to listen to our stories of the importance of the whole "ECC Community". They could feel the value of this quiet oasis where people can come to socialize and renew themselves and they felt our passion and sense of "ownership" that stems from the hands-on contributions made towards the early development of the building and the "ECC Community".

I hope they can also see it may be hard for the "asset rich", but often "cash poor" older residents to accept the social isolation and incredible changes forced on them as they continue to live and move about in what was until a few years ago an elegant suburb with a lingering village atmosphere.

Joan Craymer

Précis of Committee Meeting 4th August 2016



SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT UPDATE:

Arnold Burling advised that all computers and printers are working well.

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Suggestions for speakers for the October and November Meetings were discussed with alternative speakers to be contacted if necessary. Patricia Beal to advise further.

TRAINING:

Several Courses for Term 3 had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. This resulted in no classes currently being held on Mondays or Tuesdays. We are hoping that other classes starting later in the term may attract extra students.

MEMBERSHIP:

Maureen McDonald reported our membership stands at 279.

WEBSITE:

There have been no problems with the website and it is up to date. Lynton Bradford advised that the fee for the Domain name has been renewed for the next two years.

SUPPLIES/REPLACEMENTS:

Various stationery supplies are to be ordered from Officeworks by Brian Kelly. He will arrange delivery for when classes are scheduled and the Club will be open.

WELFARE REPORT:

Thanks to Maureen McDonald who has been attending to the welfare of our members and sending Newsletters while Helen Gardner is on leave.

ASCCA:

The ASCCA Newsletter for August is online. Also members to be reminded about the 5th September deadline for entries in this year's ASCCA competition.

EPHING CREATIVE CENTRE:

Joan Craymer advised that the Parramatta Council Administrator has been touring Epping, particularly Hornsby Council-owned properties and sites. She and other Council members are keen to learn more about The Creative Centre.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- ◇ Management Committee:
- ◇ Maureen McDonald nominated Lynton Bradford as the replacement committee member (following the resignation of Ian Gemmell), seconded by Arnold Burling. All in favour.
- ◇ Open Day 29th October:
- ◇ This was discussed by the Committee who decided to participate in the Epping Creative Centre Open Day.
- ◇ Room Bookings 2017:
- ◇ The Room Booking Form for 2017 has been prepared and will be forwarded to Anne Moore.
- ◇ Annual General Meeting:
- ◇ The President expressed disappointment that to date, no members had taken nomination forms, volunteered or nominated other members for elected committee positions for the coming year. The cut off date for nominations is 4.00pm on September 14th.

*Précis - Gwen Bradford
from Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Barton*

Today's Meeting

Our Speaker at today's Meeting will be..

Patrick Dodd

**“The Governor's Travels -
Touring the colony with Lachlan
and Elizabeth Macquarie”**



The Governor was constantly on the move visiting NSW towns and even Tasmania, as well as many trips between the Government Houses in Sydney and Parramatta. In 2015 we celebrated the Governor's tour to Bathurst and the 'Newly Discovered Lands'. Join Patrick as he walks in the Governor's footsteps down the original Cox's Road from the top of Mt. York and across country to Glenroy Crossing.

Meeting - 21st September

**Annual General Meeting and
Election of the Management Committee
for 2016/17**

The Speaker at the September Meeting will be our President **Joan Craymer** with the fascinating topic.....

**“Share the Shoebox and take
your treasured Memories on a
Journey into the New Age”**



There are many creative ways you can save all those wonderful treasures hidden away in boxes, suitcases or old wardrobes, in the garage

or under the bed. Using modern technology you can take them on an exciting journey into the future so you will be able to bring joy to future generations with an amazing heirloom legacy for your family to treasure long after you are gone! Planning what to do with the unsorted treasures will be a joy to share with loved ones.

Annual Subscriptions



Thank you to those who have already paid their Annual Membership Subscription of \$30.00 for 2016/17. If you do not already have your subscription envelope they **are available to be collected at today's General Meeting.**

Our Treasurer, Dave Wardell, will receive renewals at the meeting today, or you can hand in your envelope during classes.

Please Note: We are not able to give change, so please insert the correct money and seal the envelope before handing to the Treasurer or when attending your class.

Alternatively please post your payment (cheque only) to...

Computer Pals for Seniors - Epping Inc.,
P.O. Box 1558,
Macquarie Centre. NSW. 2113.

Quote for the Month

“I have not failed. I've successfully discovered 10,000 things that won't work.”

.....Thomas Edison

Our Club Welfare



Just a reminder that Helen Gardner is our Welfare Officer. Please let Helen know of any member who would welcome a contact from our Club. Her details are on page 2 of this Newsletter.

ASCCA Competitions 2016

Hurry!! Time is running out.

**Creative Writing/Poetry
Digital Photography**

The topics for the above categories and entry forms can be found on the ASCCA website.

Just go to....<http://www.ascca.org.au>

All entries must be received by ASCCA
prior to 4pm on

Monday, 5th September 2016.

*Jean Barringham has kindly volunteered to collect your photography entries up to **2.30pm on Friday, 26th August** when she will be at the Computer club.*

For help about sending your entries, talk to Patricia Beal (Digital Photography) or Joan Craymer (Creative Writing).



A warm welcome to our newest
Computer Pals
who have joined our Club for Term 3.

Connie Cameron
Helen Cameron
Valerie DeBerquelle
Jan Grant
Jennifer Nutt
Phillip Pluck
Henry Rheinberger
Mary Rheinberger
Linda Silalahi
Tiopam Silalahi

Avoid Scams!

When dealing with uninvited contacts from people or businesses, whether it's over the phone, by mail, email, in person or on a social networking site, always consider the possibility that the approach may be a scam. Remember, if it looks too good to be true, it probably is!

Do not open suspicious texts, pop-up windows or emails – **delete them.** If unsure, verify the identity of the contact through an independent source such as a phone book or online search. **Don't use the contact details provided in the message sent to you.**

Beware of any requests for your details or money. Never send money or give credit card details, online account details or copies of personal documents to anyone you don't know or trust.



“The Conversation Cafe”??

Creative Writing Report

We often marvel at the diversity of our offerings but this month raised the bar. The topic was awful for most pen pushers. **“He / she carefully ran fingers along the ledge”**. This challenge was met somehow. One writer denied the basic premise that valued fingers would be run blindly along any ledge or edge and used the remainder of her article as a tribute to fingers. Those who remained faithful to the topic strayed into burglary, Myrtle the Turtle, The Queen Mary 2, classical music and a Fatzlioli piano, a Siberian labour camp, a health farm, erotica, movies, abseiling, the weather and finally one very wet cat!

Two valued members were absent, with one not feeling well and the other sending the latest chapter of his book by email. I doubt he could have read it out. A brave soul blushed reading about “two rounded cheeks and a flash from her red G-string” and of course, running his fingers along the “whatever”. He also solved a crime and enjoyed his honeymoon all in about 300 words!



A burglary – “the one my mother had been expecting for twenty years” – was followed by a few more and thus was lost one turtle, a bike, a coin jar, school lunches, a camera and a Volvo. “Hidden key is under the mat, Son”.

The movies mentioned – Spellbound, North by Northwest, The Thirty Nine Steps were thrillers and the darkness in them was captured by another writer’s description of a fierce storm complete with blackout, candles and torches with flat batteries - but no-one remembered Zimba the cat until she scared the daylight out of everyone.

A trivia moment – apparently Maria from The Sound of Music was terrified of escalators in later life and that led us to the wooden escalators at Wynyard which are soon to be up-graded and no longer will we be able to run our fingers along them with nostalgia.



The health farm and the abseiling came from our risk taker. She ran her fingers along the edge of the cliff, staring into the far horizon of the blue-blended hills and, serenely faced death perhaps, just before she jumped off backwards and floated like a bird. Contrast this experience with that of the labour camp where death was predictable but defied by camouflage from a steam train and fingers running along a ledge guiding the escapee to life. That was our writer’s father.

On a cultured note we ran our valued fingers along many pianos at the Olympics of piano competitions, where the prized Fatzlioli was presented as a classy seductress waiting to be tickled by experts. We valued learning about cadenzas and concertos. What a crazy morning!



Next Meeting Monday, 5th September - The topic for this meeting will be: **“I heard the unexpected and familiar voice.....”** Come along and find out the voice our storytellers choose to write about!

Many thanks to Sheila Gibson for filling in as reporter this month for Joan Craymer.



Digital Photography Interest Group
“A Long Way Down” (*Inside a tall Pagoda in Taiwan*)
August Photo of the Month taken by Patricia Beal
Topic: “Landscape (manmade)”

Windows 10 Update

Members should be aware that the latest Windows 10 update 1607 commenced on 2nd August. This update will progressively be applied over the next few weeks. It is a very large download and will take some time. Seek advice from the Club if you have any queries.

App of the Month - TV Guide Australia ON AIR by stanwood GmbH



This is an invaluable free APP to view and choose free to air TV programs. There are multiple ways to view “what’s on”. Be sure to select the **stanwood GmbH**.

NOW - views the programs being broadcast now, plus the next program, for all channels.

PRIME TIME - views the period 7pm to about 10 pm.

OVERVIEW - shows a moving display from the current time forward of all programs.

You can see details such as the actors, the basic content, the year, the country, whether there are closed captions and more.

Through the Menu you can select future days. Also set reminders and more. It is quick and easy to use, a very intuitive APP and so much easier than searching paper program listings. If you wish, you can remove the advertisements by paying \$7.85 for the pro version, (Android, iTunes may be dearer.)

Dates to Note in 2016.....add to your diary now

2016	Enrolments Open		Computer Class Dates	Weeks
	Start	Finish		
Term 3			Mon 18 Jul - Fri 16 Sep	9
Term 4	Mon 22 Aug	Fri 2 Sep	Mon 10 Oct - Fri 9 Dec	9

NEXT MEETING AGM ~ WEDNESDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 10.00 AM

Come along ~ these Interest Groups are open to all members

The following Meetings are held in the Foyer Room

Creative Writers' Group

MONDAY, 5th SEPTEMBER 2016 at 10.00am

Topic: *"I heard the unexpected and familiar voice....."*

You don't need a story, just come along to listen
(Contact: Joan Craymer)

Digital Photography Interest Group

MONDAY, 5th SEPTEMBER 2016 at 1.30pm

Topic: *"Animals/Birds/Insects"*

Please bring your photos on a flash drive
(Contact: Patricia Beal)

Genealogy Interest Group

The Genealogy Interest Group is in recess
until further notice.

These Meetings are held in the Training Room

iPads & iPhones

Special Interest Group

TUESDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER 2016 at 9.30am

(Contact: Dave Wardell)

Android Tablets & Android Phones

Special Interest Group

TUESDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER 2016 at 9.30am

(Contact: Arnold Burling)

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and subsequent use of its contents.

This month's Newsletter compiled and printed by Gwen Bradford & friends

