

Open Windows @ Epping



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

Visit us at



In our Australian climate we can never expect to have a real white Christmas with the snow thick on the ground and the fir trees heavy with snow like it is in Bing Crosby's annually revived song, *"I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas"*. This much loved song was first publicly performed on Christmas Day 1941.

My Australian version of a white Christmas is a precious white and gold covered photo album which has me "dreaming" whenever I lift it from the shelf and open up the pages. I know I am certain to have tears in my eyes as I replace it after a nostalgic journey through the life of my family.

When Alan and I recorded the first Christmas of our oldest daughter in 1968, coloured photography was still a real luxury – far beyond the everyday means of a young couple with a mortgage, a baby and one income. A roll of coloured film was a once a year luxury and each photo was very special, so the roll of film had to last through for birthdays and other special

days well into the new year. I remember waiting patiently for many months for the roll of film to be finished, developed and printed. I can vividly recall the joy - and sometimes the sadness - of those precious coloured photos when they were eventually seen.

In 1985 we said goodbye to Granny and at Christmas as she sat in a huge armchair looking lost - it was clear that in a way she had already left us - and it was very sad. In the way it recorded Granny's last Christmas, the family Christmas album followed the growth and ageing of us and our children and recorded the "departure" and "arrival" of many much loved family members.

By 1987 coloured photography had become affordable and the shops were offering deals with two prints for the price of one to encourage even more "snapping". So that year we could boast 17 Christmas photos to put into the white Christmas album. Fiancés, who soon



CONTACT LIST
Elected Management Committee

Joan Craymer	President
Patricia Beal	Vice-President /Guest Speaker Co-ordinator
Brenda Horne	Secretary
Joan Tumminello	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**

became sons in law, were welcomed into the family and appeared in the precious album; and next came the joys of welcoming our grandchildren.

Digital photography has certainly changed the way we record and save our photos, but sometimes I worry if the instant availability of new images will affect the preservation of such precious family memories. Do the current generations who have always been able to “see” their photos immediately, really understand the dangers presented by changes in technology and lapses in backing up digital image files. I suspect they don’t!

Because of the convenience and affordability of digital photography, my “White Christmas Album” has not been

updated for many years, but I have made collages and written stories which include photos - and these I share with family in the hope they will be appreciated and “saved”. I believe that the preservation of our treasures can only be achieved by giving the following generations a reason to keep them and pass them on.

As I write this report I am thinking of those of us who will be missing dear ones this Christmas - and sadly, this includes a number of our friends (club members) who have died during 2016.

To all our members I send best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a new year filled with family, friends and good health. I look forward to seeing you all in 2017.

Joan Craymer.

Précis of Committee Meeting 1st December 2016



SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT UPDATE:

A few problems have been encountered with the Windows 10 software after the anniversary update. All the computers will be cleaned and updated during the coming term break. Colin Maskill to return Club laptops for possible use in classes.

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Speakers arranged up until May 2017. Patricia Beal is to confirm the topic with the February speaker.

TRAINING:

Enrolments are coming in for Term 1 2017. The enrolment book will be at the Christmas Luncheon for members to add their name to the classes.

A proposal was put forward that the class fee for a combined eBay and Shopping-online course should be \$10, as most members do both classes. This was agreed to by the Committee.

SUPPLIES/REPLACEMENTS

Stationery and other supplies are all in hand.

MEMBERSHIP:

Maureen McDonald reported the membership figure was 211 with the recent addition of two new members.

WEBSITE:

There are a few items to be added. Thanks to Jeanette Masih for keeping the website up to date.

WELFARE REPORT:

Helen Gardner looks after the welfare of our members and her caring messages and phone calls are always much appreciated.

ASCCA:

The ASCCA December Newsletter is available for downloading from their website. Following the recent ASCCA Conference, all the winners of the 2016 competitions will be included in this edition. Congratulations to our successful Club members, Patricia Beal and Beverley Barnett for Digital Photography and Malcolm Barnett for Creative Writing.

EPPING CREATIVE CENTRE:

A Committee has been elected for the formation of an incorporated body to manage the ECC.

Disappointment was expressed that our Club has no representatives on this Committee at this time.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- ◆ Coryn O’Nians, who is using the Club’s new Android tablet will be having lessons at ASCCA with costs paid by the Epping Club.
- ◆ Christmas Luncheon - Joan Craymer, Lynton Bradford and Patricia Beal to organise the drinks and ice. The catering ladies will be asked to check the current catering items to see if extra supplies are needed.

*Précis - Gwen Bradford
from Minutes prepared by Brenda Horne*





**Digital Photography
Interest Group**

“A Tight Squeeze”

**December Photo of the
Month**

**Photo taken by Malcolm
Barnett**

Topic: “Open”

**Term 1 2017
6th February to 7th April 2016**

Class enrolments are still being taken for Term 1 2017, **so please check the Enrolment Book at today’s Christmas Luncheon and put your name down for a class.** There are short courses and these may be taken as well as another course if you wish. Also check our website (www.cpepping.net.au) for the Term 1 timetable and course descriptions.

After 14th December (i.e. at today’s Luncheon) all late enrolments or enquiries about availability of classes **must be directed to our enrolment site....**

enrolcpe@gmail.com

Meeting 15th February 2017

The Speaker for the our first Meeting of the year will be

Graham Sims

Topic:

Graham will be talking to us about

“The Eternity Man”

Arthur Stace

“A Great and Inspiring Story”

Eternity

Our Club Welfare



Helen Gardner is our Welfare Officer. If you know of any member who is unwell, or for any reason would welcome a card or friendly phone call from our Club, Helen’s details are on page 2 of this Newsletter.



“Peace on Earth, goodwill toward men?
There’s an App for that!”

Creative Writing Report



Malcolm (missing Dave), Deborah and Judith (Parramatta visitors), Joan, Elizabeth, Catherine, Olga, Sheila, Cheryl, Maureen (playing Mother) and Sandy having a happy and successful final meeting for 2016. If you want to join us in 2017 the first meeting is at 10.00 am on Monday 6th February and as you can see a couple more male members would be good company for Malcolm.

“Looking Ahead” seemed an appropriate topic for our Creative Writing Group as we welcomed Deborah Martin and Judith Joyce from Parramatta Computer Pals to join us at our meeting; with a view to their club starting a Creative Writing Group in 2017.

After we each read our stories and enjoyed the usual discussions it was obvious that most of us thought we would prefer to look back and enjoy reliving our rich life experiences rather than look forward to a “dubious” future. It was also obvious our writing is great fun as we chase away negative thoughts about our tomorrows.

One writer admitted to listening for the sound of “*The Last Lap Bell*”, another noted after telling the sad tale of her computer “*eating her homework*” that, “*the road into the future could well be paved with deadly*

dilemmas”. We heard an up-beat tale of one writer’s journey towards “*The Exotic Marigold Hotel*”. She told us, “*if you are not there yet, you should continue to look forward!*” Dave emailed his story and he is “*looking forward to painting and buying a tinnie to go fishing on the lake*” outside his window in New Zealand. One lady is “*kind of looking forward to going to a New Year Ball*” - the first Ball ever with her husband. The question, “*Are our town planners and developers looking ahead, or are they rubbing their Faganised hands together?*” was asked with despair tinged with humour.

Next Meeting Monday 6th February - when you will have the opportunity to make “**A Snap Decision**” or keep your New Year Resolution and come along and join us.

- Joan Craymer

ASCCA 18th Annual Conference & AGM - 2016 Competition Results



Our 2nd place Grand Champion Photographer Patricia Beal photographed with Geoff Beatty, the judge of the competition.



Beverley Barnett receiving her 3rd place Photography Award from judge, Geoff Beatty.

*Creative Writing
Congratulations - Malcolm Barnett
2nd Place - My Favourite Ancestor
"Emily"*



Vice-President and President of ASCCA
Joan Craymer and Nan Bosler.



Joan and Alan taking a break during the
Conference.

***Congratulations to our successful Digital Photography entrants
Patricia Beal and Beverley Barnett
with Four Award Winning Photographs in the Competition!
Patricia Beal awarded 2nd Place - Grand Champion Photographer***



Patricia Beal
2nd Place - Photo Journalism
"Anzac Girl"



Patricia Beal
2nd Place - Landscape/Manmade
"A Long Way Down"



Patricia Beal
Highly Commended - Animals
"Jacana Take Off"



Beverley Barnett
3rd Place - Photo Travel
"I Did It!"



Audience at the 18th ASCCA Annual Conference listening to Speaker, Peter Blasina.
Will we see you there for the 19th ASCCA Annual Conference in 2017?

Dates to Note in 2017.....add to your diary now

2017	Enrolments Open		Computer Class Dates	Weeks
	Start	Finish		
Term 1	Mon 14 Nov	TBA	Mon 6 Feb - Fri 7 Apr	9
Term 2	TBA		Mon 1 May - Fri 30 Jun	9
Term 3	TBA		Mon 24 Jul - Fri 22 Sep	9
Term 4	TBA		Mon 9 Oct - Fri 8 Dec	9

NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY 2017 AT 10.00 AM



Come along and join one of these Interest Groups in 2017!



The following Meetings are held in the Foyer Room

Creative Writers' Group

MONDAY, 6th FEBRUARY 2017 at 10.00am

Topic: ***"A Snap Decision"***

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

Digital Photography Interest Group

MONDAY, 6th FEBRUARY 2017 at 1.30pm

Topic: ***"My Sydney"***

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, 7th FEBRUARY 2017 at 9.30am

(Contact: Maureen McDonald)

**Android Tablets & Android Phones
Special Interest Group**

TUESDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2017 at 9.30am

(Contact: Arnold Burling)

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