

## Open Windows @ Epping



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

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## Time for A Chat about ...



Sometimes the topic for this monthly report pops into focus and demands attention and sometimes it just evolves as I sit down to fill this space and “chat” with our club members. However, more and more I realize that fewer and fewer of our members attend our monthly meetings and somehow the classes on offer don’t seem to attract the interest the volunteer tutors might expect. I must reluctantly admit that there are now many of you “out there” that I have never met or spoken with. In this club every member is invited to have a voice and join in every aspect of the club’s activities and in previous times when all people joined the club as members of “An Introduction to Computing Class” it was easy for me to pop in on the first day and welcome our new members and tell them a bit more about us. I really enjoyed this.

Like many other seniors computer clubs, our Epping Club is catering for more and more people who find that an iPad or android tablet suits their needs and they are not really interested in conventional computers or even laptops. Fortunately, this shift in interests and needs has been well accommodated by our more than

enthusiastic team of iPad tutors. But despite many pleas we have been unable to attract people who are able to enthuse and encourage android tablet users to set up a regular session where they can explore their devices in greater depth.

Arnold Burling and several other interested people have maintained a monthly Android Special Interest Group. At times I have witnessed very satisfied “customers” going off eager to explore and build on Arnold’s helpful ideas and suggestions. But it is likely that a regular group would attract the same level of enthusiasm as is present in the iPad group lessons.

I would like to make myself available to meet and talk with any of our club members old or new, to discuss your ideas or suggestions and explain anything you would like to ask about our club. Of course I hope that any other Committee Member or Tutor who is available will join me. There is so much help on offer if only we can encourage our members to take more of an interest in what is available and how it can help you to enjoy many aspects of the miracles that come to us in this time

**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**

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

**Special Interest Groups**

**Creative Writing**.....Joan Craymer                      **Photography**.....Patricia Beal

**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](http://www.ascca.org.au)**

of convenient “connectedness”. I will make a suitable date in consultation with the committee and let all our members know. It would be a great help as we look forward to a new “club year” and pay our 2017 annual fees and prepare to vote for a new committee at our Annual General Meeting to be held in August or September (yet to be confirmed).

This is **YOUR CLUB** and you do need to show significant interest if it is to continue as an enjoyable and successful enterprise that fulfils the needs of all the members and encourages new leadership and interests. Please also consider our need for an Honorary Auditor—the need is urgent so please think hard about anyone you know who could take on this role..

Well this perhaps sounds like a rather

dreary and repetitive report, but it is necessary to “speak” very plainly sometimes and this club is such a valuable part of our community it does need to be nurtured and valued by you all.

Thanks to Maureen McDonald who has prepared a Timetable for Term 3. Make sure you look it over and carefully consider the courses long or short, that could be of interest to you and add your name to the list. If you are unsure ask the tutor what will be covered and how the course might benefit you on your computer journey.

**Don't forget our Special Interest Groups! They provide a great opportunity for you each month! See dates and topics on the back page.**

Joan Craymer.

## Précis of Committee Meeting 1st June 2017



### SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT UPDATE:

Arnold Burling reported that the recently purchased Epson printer proved to be faulty and was returned and exchanged for a new one. All printers now working well for general colour printing.

### GENERAL MEETINGS:

Arrangements for speakers at coming Meetings were confirmed.

The Big Morning Tea at our May Meeting, raised \$640.00 donated by our members in aid of the Cancer Council.

### TRAINING:

Maureen McDonald presented a Timetable of classes to the Committee for Term 3. Along with the Enrolment book, this will be available for current classes and also at the June Meeting for members to take the opportunity to enrol.

Thanks were extended to Maureen for making contact with the tutors and also preparing the detailed information to be included in the timetable.

### SUPPLIES/REPLACEMENTS

All necessary supplies have been purchased. Barry McLeod now has access to the Officeworks Account but is still awaiting the petty cash float.

### MEMBERSHIP:

Maureen McDonald reported our membership is currently 235. This includes new members who have joined for Term 2.

### CLUB WEBSITE:

The Club website is up to date with the latest information.

### WELFARE REPORT:

Latest report not available.

### ASCCA:

The ASCCA Newsletter for June will be available shortly for viewing or downloading.

Lynton Bradford mentioned the monthly "Technical Information for Clubs" published by Mark Young and distributed to clubs each month. Lynton found this very useful with interesting topics and updated information.

### GENERAL BUSINESS:

- ◆ The Committee had preliminary discussions about the Budget for the forthcoming financial year.
- ◆ We are still urgently seeking an Auditor to conduct the audit of our financial records for the current financial year.
- ◆ The subscription envelopes are ready for the 2017/18 year commencing on 1st July and will be handed out at the June General Meeting. Annual membership remains at \$30.00. Gwen Bradford was thanked for preparing the subscription envelopes.

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



## **Today's Meeting**

The Speaker for this Meeting is  
**Andrew Rogers**  
speaking about his experience of  
**“Diving the Titanic”**

*Andrew Rogers is a Sydneysider and one of the few who have made the epic journey on board a submersible pod to the watery graveyard of the RMS Titanic. The chance competition win that took him to the infamous vessel 14 years ago unleashed an obsession with the Titanic and its remarkable stories.*



(See Page 5 for Titanic Exhibition in Sydney)

## **Meeting - 19th July**

### **Gai Hardman**

will be the Speaker at the July Meeting and the subject of her talk is under construction at the moment.....

**The North-West Rail Link.**

### **“Overview and Update on Sydney Metro”**

*Gai Hardman is the Manager Community Information Centre and Communication and Engagement, Sydney Metro.*



## **Annual Subscriptions**



Your Annual Membership Subscription of \$30.00 for 2017/18 falls due on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

**Subscription envelopes will be handed out at today's Meeting.**

Our Treasurer, Joan Tumminello, will receive renewals at our Meetings or you can hand in your sealed envelope with your \$30.00 enclosed, during weekly classes.

**Please Note: We are not able to give change, so please insert the correct money (or cheque) 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.

## **OUR ABMT!**

Our Biggest Morning Tea held at the May Meeting in aid of the Cancer Council (along with further amounts kindly donated later) raised \$640.00! THANK YOU to our very generous members who contributed to this fantastic amount.



Also thank you to our volunteer ladies who organised, produced and served the delicious morning tea we all enjoyed.

**Term 3 - 2017**  
**24<sup>th</sup> July to 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

At today's Meeting, a timetable is available for you to select your class for Term 3 along with the Enrolment book to enter your name in the class of your choice.



As well as our longer Courses, there will be 1 to 3 day short Courses starting at various dates during the term.

Names will be taken until the close of Term 2 on 30th June. After this date, for late enrolments or if you find you cannot attend the Course in which you have enrolled; please notify us **a.s.a.p.** by emailing the **special enrolment address below**.

**enrolcpe@gmail.com**

**ASCCA Competitions 2017**

Have you started on your entry in the 2017 ASCCA Competitions?

As a reminder, here are the categories...

***Creative Writing/Poetry***  
***Digital Photography***

The topics in each competition category along with the Rules and Conditions and Entry Forms, are on the ASCCA website for you to download. Just go to....

**<http://www.ascca.org.au>**

All entries must be received **prior to 4pm on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

**Note:** Digital Photographs must have been taken after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

If you have any queries, please contact Joan Craymer (Creative Writing) or Patricia Beal (Digital Photography).



**TITANIC EXHIBITION - 8th April to 22nd September 2017 at Moore Park**

“Journey into the heart of the Titanic and experience the world's largest and most comprehensive touring exhibition about this iconic ship. Immerse yourself in the moving tale of Titanic's first and final voyage and experience the sights, sounds and stories as if you were on the ship.

Visitors receive a boarding pass containing the details of an actual passenger, come face to face with an iceberg, experience spectacular recreations, including the grand

staircase, experience over 300 artefacts dating back over 100 years and memorabilia from the blockbuster film. The exhibition culminating in the Memorial Gallery, where visitors learn their chosen passenger's fate on the cold early morning of April 15, 1912”.

**Bookings now open for 1/7/17 - 22/9/17!!**

**For booking & ticket information go to.....**

**<https://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx?sh=TITANIC17>**

***(Information is also on other Google sites)***

# Creative Writing Report

Who would have guessed - our first writer on the topic; **"Trees/About A Tree"** began with a statement that stunned us all. *"I once wrote and published a book about trees. Olive trees to be exact."* After buying a farm to plant mangoes he lost all 400-500 trees. He had a dam dug out and the water was so full of salt; *"It would kill chickens and rust cars."* Olive trees were then suggested, so he became an olive farmer. His book was written to encourage and warn future olive farmers.

We all appreciated a letter written to Enid Blyton by a reader who was sorry about the shabby way this much loved children's author was treated. Our writer told of the continuing life influence and magic that *"The Children of Cherry Tree Farm"*, *"The Enchanted Wood"* and *"The Folk of the Faraway Tree"* and others, played in her love of nature. This rather touching letter of thanks and appreciation brought cheers and clapping from our little group of fans.

Among the list of *"Family Trees"* planted in the family garden of our next writer was a 10cm high jacaranda seedling that took more than 15 years to flower. So many family photos - three generations climbing the wide-spreading branches and smiling through the leaves or flowers. More photos showing children in their new winter clothes posing among the glorious autumn leaves of the liquid amber tree and many other *"family trees"* of note over 53 years.

Next came the sad story of the chain saws that turned a more than 100 year old oak tree into piles of firewood. A 100 year old neighbour had known it when there was

only a narrow bush track before a bitumen road began to turn Epping into a small shopping village. Our writer lamented that now chain saws and *"vandal developers"* are destroying stately homes and gardens full of mature trees which are being replaced by thousands of unsightly high rise characterless apartments.

A new tree was waiting to be planted, so when Sigmund the green budgie was discovered *"flat on his back with his legs pointing towards the heavens"* a dignified funeral was arranged. The parents helped the children to *"explore the concept and reality of death"* and the little green budgie was buried and the new tree planted. It was forever known as *"Sigmund's tree"*.

Unable to decide if the destruction of trees in Epping or the destruction of historical and family tree records were the worst crimes perpetrated in society, our next writer lamented the missing branch of her own family tree. Will she ever know the truth about her grandmother Lily?

Our last writer admits to a life-long *"fascination of the shape and texture and sheer beauty of trees"*. Her earliest memories are of walking to kindergarten classes in Heidenau Camp in Germany. These northern hemisphere trees were *"tall giants"* that lost all their leaves. She loved to collect some and take them to school.

**Next Meeting - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June.** The topic will be **"Moving House or Redecorating"**. We meet at 10.00 am in the Foyer Room and everyone is welcome

- Joan Craymer



Digital Photography Interest Group  
"Freddo"  
June Photo of the Month taken by Helen Gardner  
Topic: "Animals / Birds / Insects"

### **Avoid CryptoLocker and other Scams**

There are two actions all users should take. Firstly ensure you **backup** your valuable data, documents, spreadsheets, photos, audio etc, to separate media such as external hard drives, USB sticks etc.

Always **disconnect such devices** as soon as each backup is complete. Any device still attached, will be infected if the virus attacks.

Secondly, **never click on any suspect email or Internet link.**

*Did You Know?* Cameras that captured the Moon's surface for the first time were left there because of their weight.

The Moon serves as a cosmic graveyard for 12 Hasselblad cameras when astronauts abandoned them when leaving the Earth's satellite. These cameras shot iconic images of the Moon's surface and were left behind to allow for the 25kg of lunar rock samples to be carried back instead.

*Ref: Various Google sites on Camera facts.*

### **Our Club Welfare**

Helen Gardner is our Club Welfare Officer - so please let her know of any member who would welcome a card or a friendly phone call.  
Helen's details are on page 2 of this Newsletter.

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

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

**NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017 AT 10.00 AM**

**Come along - these Interest Groups are free and open to all members!**

### The following Meetings are held in the Foyer Room

#### Creative Writers' Group

**MONDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE at 10.00am**

Topic: ***"Moving House" or "Redecorating"***

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

#### Digital Photography Interest Group

**MONDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE AT 1.30pm**

Topic: ***"From a Different Point of View"***

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

***No Interest Groups in July due to the Term Break***

### These Meetings are held in the Training Room

#### iPads & iPhones Special Interest Group

**TUESDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2017 at 9.30am**

(Contact: Maureen McDonald)

#### Android Tablets & Android Phones Special Interest Group

**TUESDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2017 at 9.30am**

(Contact: Arnold Burling)

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