

Something to

# CROWABOUT

Newsletter of the

## Wagga Wagga Seniors' Computer Club

Member of ASCCA (Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association)

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### In This Issue:

About The Club	1
Annual Join Up Day	1
Booking A Training Session	2
Weekly Programme	2
Message From Editor	2
Living in 2010	2
Hints And Tips	3
The Crows Joke Page	4
Video Review	5
Some Truths About Growing Old	5
A Cup of Coffee	5
Members Profile	6
Important Notice	6
Optical Illusion	6
April Meeting Guest Speaker	6

### ABOUT THE CLUB

Through mutual help we assist members to develop or improve their computer skills, including using the internet. We do this in a relaxed environment where we also enjoy fellowship and exchange ideas. The work of the club is voluntary, operating on a minimum budget and depending on its members for its resources in management and training.

The computer club is a sub group of the Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens Club in common with other such sub groups as the indoor bowling, cards, craft, line dancing and sing-along groups. The advantage of this is that we are covered by our host club's insurance liabilities cover, an enormous cost saving. On paying a \$5.00 annual joining fee to the Senior Citizens Club all the facilities are available to members, including the Computer Club. We also have the added advantage of being an affiliate of the ASCCA, an Australian wide association of senior computer clubs.

### Wagga Wagga Seniors Club Annual Join up Day & Luncheon



Monday, 18th January was the annual luncheon and join up day for the coming year. At left Seniors Club Treasurer Joyce Redmund signs up a member whilst at bottom is part of the club membership enjoying their luncheon.



## Booking a Training Session

**Tutoring times** are Monday, Thursday, Friday—10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

**Contact person** for information and booking a training session is Paddy Adams on Ph: 0427654575

**Tutors** are: Judy Robertson, Paddy Adams, Dawn McDermott, Barry Williams, and Robert Stakenburg. Also Jim Weeden if available.

All tutors volunteer their time, so please, if you book a time and circumstances prevent you from keeping it let the club know.

Tutors are mostly just enthusiastic amateurs with varying degrees of computer knowledge. With this in mind it would be advisable to mention your own level of knowledge so that you can be matched with a combatable tutor.

As our members computer knowledge increase it is hoped that some in turn will volunteer their time to help other beginners.



## Wagga Wagga Senior Citizen's Club

Membership (\$5.00 per year) to over 50's

### Weekly Programme of Activities

Day	Activity	Time	Cost
Mon.	Computer Club	10.00 am to 3.00 pm	\$2.00 Per hr
1st Mon. Of Month	Public Meeting Day Guest Speaker	1.30 pm	\$1.00
2nd Mon. Of Month	Cards and Indoor Bowls	12.30 pm	\$1.00
3rd Mon. Of Month	Luncheon Day	12 noon	\$4.00
4th Mon. Of Month	Sing-along	1.30 pm	\$1.00
Thursday	Computer Club	10.00 am to 3.00 pm	\$2.00 Per hr
Thursday	500 Cards	1.00 pm	\$1.00
Thursday	Line Dancing	10.30 am	\$1.00
Thursday	Craft	1.00-3.00 pm	\$1.00
Friday	Computer Club	10.00 am to 3.00 pm	\$2.00 per hr
Friday	Euchre	1.00 pm	\$1.00
Friday	Indoor Bowls	1.00-3.00 pm	\$1.00

**Monthly Bus Trip:** Normally 3rd Wednesday of month, destination decided at monthly meeting and bookings taken that day with payment.

**Annual Bus Trip:** Normally in October for 5 days

## YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2010 WHEN...

1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen
8. Leaving the house without your mobile phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. : )
12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list!

## A Message from the Editor

I believe the computer club membership will gradually grow. After all we would like to try and keep up with the grandkids, wouldn't we? There was a list of about 36 people interested in joining at the end of last year. From the start of this year those people have the choice of paying their \$5.00 joining fee and becoming members. At the time of writing I know of at least three people who have decided not to join, stating that it was a bit too basic for them as they already had some computer knowledge. I would like to take this opportunity to point out that we are a new club and will probably be concentrating on the basics at first but that it is our desire to expand our knowledge base. One has to only log on to the ASCCA's web site at <http://www.ascca.org.au> and see what the other clubs are doing to gain some appreciation of what we may be able to do in the future.

# Hints & Tips

## Cleaning of DVDs or CDs

How often when you hire a DVD movie do you find the playing side of the disc is scratched and/or finger marked, maybe sticky with food and cause the DVD/CD to pixelate, skip, freeze etc when playing a movie, or playing your favourite music DVD, or a DVD or CD which refuses to burn information because of a dirty surface.

Handle a DVD/CD—by holding the rim and or the centre hole.

### “The Don'ts”

- Don't touch the surface of the DVD/CD with your fingers.
- Don't place a DVD/CD playing side down on an unclean or rough surface—slip it back into its cover.
- Don't use tissues to clean your DVD/CD. (Use a microfiber cloth).
- Don't clean in a circular motion, and
- Don't interfere with the label, if scratched or holed it could interfere with the playing of the disc.

### **Microfiber cloths are a quick way to clean a DVD.**

These are the same kind of cloths people use to clean eye-glasses, monitors, and laptop or LCD monitors. Because of microfiber's very tight weave and the synthetic materials used to make microfiber, dust and particles of dirt are attracted and lifted up into the microfiber, which prevents you from simply spreading the dust around and scratching the DVD further. Every serious DVD collector should have one of these and wash it regularly.

**Rubbing Alcohol (or vinegar and water) can be used to clean DVDs** and just about every sensitive piece of technology out there because it doesn't act like strong solvents do, and it evaporates quickly without leaving a residue. Usually a 1:1 mixture of 90%+ Isopropyl alcohol and water will do the trick.

Simply dab a small, clean cotton cloth into the mixture **and wipe in straight lines from the centre of the DVD to the outside edge.**

To dry the DVD, just let it sit for a moment or two in a vertical position.

## Emailing Photos

Photo files are large and can take a long time to send, particularly if you are sending more than a couple. Also, think of the recipient waiting for an overly long email to download. To reduce the time for emailing photos, WINDOWS users can follow these steps;

- 1) Open the file containing the photo or photos you wish to email. To select more than one photo or folder, hold down the Ctrl key while making your selection.
- 2) Right-click a photo you have selected and in the pop-up menu select 'Send To', then click on 'Mail Recipient'.

(continued right)

3) In the 'Send Picture via E-mail' wizard, you have two options, choose the option called 'Make all my pictures smaller'.

4) A new email with your photos attached will appear. There also numerous photo sharing (and on-line printing) websites, which you can use to upload your pictures and then send the URL (website address) to the recipient by email. The recipient can then log on to the website and download any photo they wish. To name just a few: [www.Shutterfly.com](http://www.Shutterfly.com) , [www.Flickr.com](http://www.Flickr.com) , [www.WebShots.com](http://www.WebShots.com) , [www.SnapFish.com](http://www.SnapFish.com)

## Avoid sending an e-mail accidentally.

Create your e-mail before you fill in the Subject Line and the Send To box. If you accidentally hit Send, it can't go anywhere; it will only remind you to fill in the blanks!

## Deleting Files (including e-mails)

Remember that when you delete a file (photo, word, etc.) it is not gone forever but has been sent to the recycle bin. If we do not periodically empty the recycle bin it will over time mount up, taking up precious space on the computers hard drive. The same applies to our e-mail messages, which when deleted still sit in the 'Deleted Items', 'Trash' or whatever your particular E-mail provider calls it. **Warning:** The same does **not** apply to files on flash/thumb drives; when they are deleted from a flash/thumb drive it is permanent.



## Calculations.

Need a calculator but don't have one? Did you realise there is one on your computer?

Click Start > Accessories > Calculator and you have it! Alternatively, if you are on the internet, go to Google and do the following;

- In the search box, type in the equation you want to calculate.
  - Click the Google Search button.
  - The results of the calculation are displayed.
- Google is particularly handy for converting units of measurements;
- In the search box, type the conversion you want to make. As an example, type 1 cup in ounces.
  - Click the Google Search button.
  - The results of the conversion are displayed.

## Print Screen Key

Have you ever wondered what the Print Screen (PrtScn) Key does?

This key is in the right-hand section of the Function keys (top row).

Pressing it will copy an image of the whole screen (desktop) to the clipboard. Then you open your program - usually Word - and take 'Paste' action.

Editors note: I have found this handy when trying to explain to my computer technician what the problem was and was able to show him a picture of what was on the screen at the time.



A man and his wife are doing gardening work. Husband says to wife, "Your backside is as wide as the BBQ." She ignores the remark.

A little later the husband takes his measuring tape and goes over to his wife while she is bending over working in a flower bed. He measures her rear end and gasps, "Geez, it IS as wide as the BBQ!"

Later that night while in bed her husband starts to feel frisky. She calmly responds, "If you think I'm going to fire up the BBQ for one little snag, you ARE mistaken."

A doctor examining a woman who had been rushed to the Emergency Room, took the husband aside, and said, 'I don't like the looks of your wife at all.' 'Me neither doc,' said the husband. 'But she's a great cook and really good with the kids.'

An old man was on his death bed, and wanted to be buried with his money. He called his priest, his doctor and his lawyer to his bedside. "Here's \$30,000 cash to be held by each of you. I trust you to put this in my coffin when I die so I can take all my money with me."

At the funeral, each man put an envelope in the coffin. Riding away in a limousine, the priest suddenly broke into tears and confessed, "I only put \$20,000 into the envelope because I needed \$10,000 to repair the roof of the church."

"Well, since we're confiding in each other," said the doctor, "I only put \$10,000 in the envelope because we needed a new X-ray machine for the paediatrics ward at the hospital which cost \$20,000."

The lawyer was aghast. "I'm ashamed of both of you," he exclaimed. "I want it known that when I put my envelope in that coffin, I enclosed a check for the full \$30,000."

Q. What do you get when you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?

A. A Hot Cross bunny.



Q. What did the bunny say when he only had thistles to eat?

A. Thistle have to do!

A woman walks into her local Centrelink office, trailed by 15 kids.

"WOW," the clerk exclaims, "are they all yours?"

"Yep they are all mine," the flustered mother sighs, having heard that question a thousand times before. She says, "Sit down Ashleigh." All the children rush to find seats. "Well," says the clerk, "then you must be here to sign up. I'll need all your childrens' names."

"Well, to keep it simple, the boys are all named Ashley and the girls are all named Ashleigh."

In disbelief, the case worker. "Are you serious?"

"They're ALL named Ashley?"

Their mother replied, "Well, yes-it makes it easier."

"When it's time to get them out of bed and ready for school, I yell, 'Ashley!' and' when it's time for dinner, I just yell 'Ashley!' and they all come a running. And if I need to stop the kid who's running into the street, I just yell 'Ashley' and all of them stop. It's the smartest idea I ever had, naming them all Ashley.'

The clerk thinks this over for a bit, then wrinkles her forehead and says tentatively, "But what if you just want ONE kid to come, and not the whole bunch?"

"Then I call them by their LAST names."

Husband and wife are waiting at the bus stop with their nine children. A blind man joins them after a few minutes. When the bus arrives, they find it overloaded and only the wife and the nine kids are able to fit onto the bus.

So the husband and the blind man decide to walk. After a while, the husband gets irritated by the ticking of the stick of the blind man as he taps it on the sidewalk and says to him, 'Why don't you put a piece of rubber at the end of your stick? That ticking sound is driving me crazy.'

The blind man replies, 'If you had put a rubber at the end of YOUR stick - we'd be riding the bus, so shut the hell up.'

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America .

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America ?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

## One Foot in The Grave-A Video Review

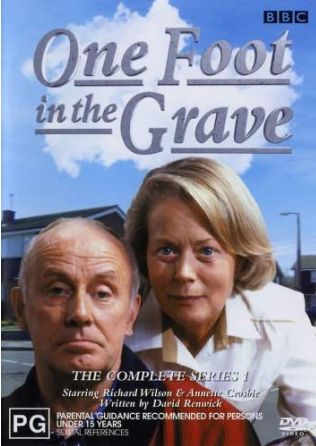
By Barry Williams

How a few years can change one's perspective on life! Some years ago now, I forget how many but well before I thought of retiring, I remember watching the BBC comedy sit-com "One Foot In The Grave". Recently I borrowed the DVD of this TV series from our City Library and had the pleasure of watching it again.

Basically, the story revolves around Victor Mildrew and his long suffering wife Margaret in their battle against the trials of modern life. After being forced to take involuntary early retirement, the series follows the protagonist's various efforts to keep himself busy, whilst encountering various misfortunes and misunderstandings.



Victor is ever the pessimist, as he says when faced with his early retirement: "I've been replaced by a box – its standard procedure apparently for a man my age. The next stage is to stick you in one". He tries to adjust to years of leisure with his wife Margaret, if only events, coincidences, misunderstandings, bureaucratic inefficiencies and sheer bad luck didn't conspire against him.



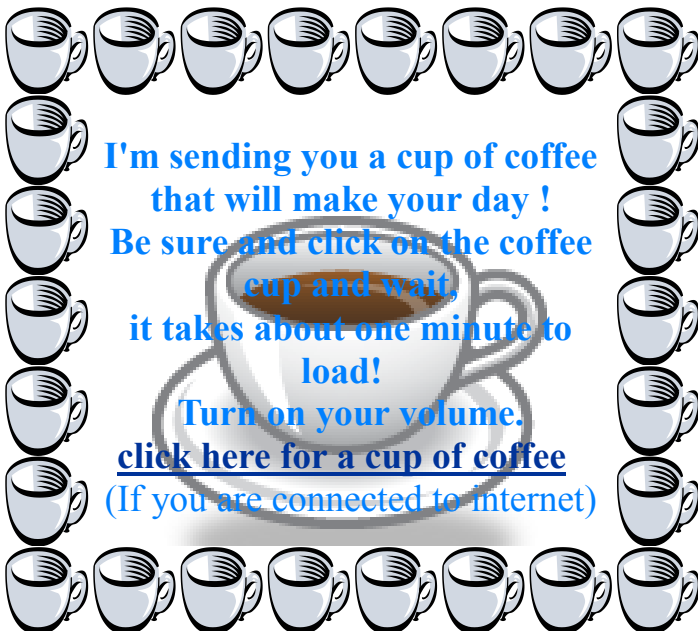
I thought it was hilarious when I watched it the first time, years ago, and time hasn't changed that. What has changed is my perspective on what the characters in the story were experiencing.

The second time I was much older and had much more empathy with Victor and Margaret. Victor's catch-phrase of "I don't believe it" will never be forgotten.

Anyway, if you're a senior and can laugh about your own stage of life, you might enjoy watching this sit-com again on DVD, available for loan from Wagga Wagga City Library.

### SOME TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD

- Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional
- Forget health food. Growing old, you need all the preservatives you can get.
- You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller-coaster.
- When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.



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**P 6971 7350**

With this edition we begin a series of profiles on committee members and tutors.



### Judy Robertson.

Judy is the Computer Club Chairperson and also gives her time as a tutor. She began her teaching career in New South Wales in High Schools in 1978. She trained as a Home Economics teacher, but later began to teach Computing Studies as well.

At first she was self taught but later attended Charles Sturt University as an external student where she obtained a Bachelor of Education.

Judy taught at Leeton High School, Orange High School, Albury High School and Griffith High School. She retired in 2008 and moved to Wagga Wagga to live.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

This issue of Crowabout is being emailed to everyone on the original list of “interested people”.

Unfortunately, if those on the list have not signed up as members by this time it must be taken as an indication that they no longer wish to remain on this list by becoming members of the Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens Computer Club and as a consequence this will be the last time they receive a copy.

If this is you we accept your decision not to join the activities of this club and wish you well. Should you decide to join please call into the Seniors Centre in Tarcutta Street any Monday, Thursday or Friday and pay the \$5.00 joining fee.

Please understand that the club is still finding its way and although initially offering basic tutoring will be offering more advanced tutoring in the future.

Optical Illusions

### Two Faces



It's easy to see the face behind the candlestick. Can you see the two faces looking at each other? Can you see the one face and the two faces at the same time?

Sorry, that is absolutely impossible ... can only move from one to the other.

### Wanted !!!

Your story or picture of interest. Although this is specifically the newsletter of the Computer Club we are a sub-group of the Senior Citizens Club and it is my intention to open up the content to cover aspects of the “Club” as a whole. With this new computer technology it is an opportunity to provide an account of club activities for now and as an archive of club life for the future. In future issues I hope to include a few stories of our members life experiences—Editor.

### APRIL MEETING GUEST SPEAKER.



We are happy to announce that Wagga City Librarian

Amy Heap will be our guest speaker at the Computer Club's April 12th meeting at 10.00am (Wagga Seniors Centre). Amy's subject on this occasion will be “Social Networking” - encompassing the likes of Facebook and other Internet driven com-

