

# Western Australian Genealogical Society

## Computer Interest Group – Meeting Notes

Date 10 December 2011      Number attended 22      Donations at door      \$\$\$34.50

Chair: Mike Murray

Apologies: Richard O'Callaghan, Evadne Spickett, Joan Anderson, Diana Boxall

### Key topics discussed:

Topic	Outcome
WAGS business – there's a poll going on at the WAGS forum, please vote for your favourite software.	Current results have Legacy in the lead, with FTM, TMG, Reunion and PAF in the top 5 desktop programs (same as a few years ago). Online programs now ranked no. 4 with 9% users.
Scams and spams:	Nothing specific
Programs – Family Tree Maker for the Mac 2012 now released.	We discussed programs generally for a couple of new members

### Websites and sources for genealogy:

Web address	Comment
<a href="http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/">www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/</a>	Newly released, subscription £80/yr or shorter periods. Note that a lot of similar content available through the GALE collections, accessible with a State or National Library card,
<a href="http://www.familysearch.org">www.familysearch.org</a>	Batch number searching is now well supported – have a look at the blog
<a href="http://www.ancestry.com.au">www.ancestry.com.au</a>	Quick links are no longer accessible from each page – you need to go back to the home page. Annoying.
<a href="http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors.asp">http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors.asp</a>	Essex parish register images available for a fee. Subscribe for a year, or shorter periods. Make sure you check the images are available before you pay,

### Demos/presentations:

Mike gave a preview of a presentation of his Top Ten tips for finding your lost ancestors which will be presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Congress in Adelaide in March.

Alastair showed a few of the tools he uses to manipulate images he downloads, such as census and newspaper cuttings. He demonstrated faststone capture (V5.3 is free), [www.faststone.org](http://www.faststone.org), Lview pro [www.lview.com](http://www.lview.com), irfanview [www.irfanview.com](http://www.irfanview.com), and freeOCR [www.freeocr.net](http://www.freeocr.net)

Next meeting: Saturday February 11th, 11am – 1pm. A short AGM to elect convenor and committee, followed by the usual packed agenda.