

Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc.
Computer Group Meeting – Minutes
Saturday 10 July 2010

Meeting started at 11:00, and went a little over time finishing at 13:15
Chris welcomed 27 attendees, as well as 3 new members attending for the first time.
Special tanks to Lee-Ann for sharing her expertise in Convict research, especially in Tasmania.

Apologies: Mike Murray, Lesley Silvester.

1. WAGS/CIG Business:

- **WAGS AGM** – New Committee Elected -
President - Liana Fitzpatrick; Vice President - Jeanette Robertson; Secretary - Pauline Pryer; Treasurer - Neil Bradley; Liaison Officer - Ray Smith; Property Officer - Lawrence Doran; Publications Officer - Lyn Watt; Committee Member - Ian Barnes; Committee Member - Ian Lister; Committee Member - Jennifer Lydon; Committee Member - Margaret Pike. **Vacancies exist for Projects Officer & 1 Vice President.**
- Liana advised that there is a new “Social Committee”, who will be looking at arranging social events for WAGS members to attend.
- WAGS Open Day is on Sunday, 8 August – details shown on the Website in the Events Calendar, with a downloadable PDF brochure.
- Call for volunteers from the Computer group was answered by a couple who were willing to help.. more needed so please let Mike know if you are able to assist.
Email Mike from here: <http://wags.org.au/o/sig-contacts/computer-group.html>

2. Items of General Interest from the Computer world:

- **Ubuntu** – New release (10.04, Lucid-Lynx) – Looks nice, works well. Worth a look if you are into alternate OS, download ISO (disk image) file (716,230Kb) burn a CD and have a play or install, download from: <http://www.ubuntu.com/>
- **Alternative Browsers** – we had a quick look at “other” browsers worthy of note:
Firefox – <http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/personal.html>
Has some handy extensions and add-ons, such as: ip identifiers (WorldIP), YouTube downloader, Screen Shots (FireShot), Site Information tools, and much more: <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/>
Google Chrome – Fast and efficient: <http://www.google.com/chrome>
Opera – Very innovative and add-ons available: <http://www.opera.com/>
Safari – Fast and integrates with Apple products: <http://www.apple.com/safari/download/>
Sea Monkey – Based on Firefox engine with useful built-ins: <http://www.seamonkey-project.org/>
- **Secure Password Generator** – Make our own
Using your PC’s Character Map – See under >All programs > Accessories > Systems Tools > Character Map.
Use a password that has combination of at least 8 characters, using lower case, uppercase, numbers & other characters. Double click each character you want to use, copy to the clipboard & paste into wherever you want it. Keep it along with others in an obscure place on your PC, with a file name that only you would know. Best to copy and paste passwords into the respective places on a website, rather than typing them.

3. Keeping your PC healthy:

- In addition to the usual Virus checks, scans & driver updates these tips will help in keeping your PC healthy
 1. Blow (or Vacuum) out your PC six monthly – don’t use your domestic vacuum cleaner
 2. Clean the monitor (Screen & vents) – Use a special cloth for the screen & vacuum the vents
 3. Listen to your PC, especially the hard drive (don’t forget to backup) – funny noises need attention
 4. Maintain your mouse – give it a clean now and again
 5. Clean your keyboard – Coffee & biscuits, Scotch & Coke, tend to play havoc when spilt on keyboards

4. Genealogy programs:

- One of our new attendees asked about printing a chart with a split (dual marriage) family, where the children were not printing in correct chronological order. Various suggestions were forthcoming.
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5. Genealogy Sources:

- Quick look at the AWM War Diaries, great resource for WWI, WWII, Korea & South East Asian Conflicts. http://www.awm.gov.au/collection/war_diaries/
Details vary from item to item, but include such things as Battlefield diagrams, Patrol reports, casualty reports (generally not names of ordinary soldiers, but may have NCO’s and Officer names), troop movements, mentions in dispatches, battle outcomes, etc. Documents are in PDF image format, so not readily searchable. If you know the Btn, and the dates, searching can yield great results.

6. Demo:

We had a look at web sites for Convicts, UK, Ireland, NSW, Tas, & NSW

- Go to the WAGS Website Genealogy Links: <http://wags.org.au/o/links-table.html> and select "Convicts" from the "Category" drop down box – there are 56 links to specific convict sites. Also, reset the filters and type "Convict" in the "Title" box, which will bring up other sites which have some convict content.
WAGS Convicts SIG: <http://wags.org.au/o/wags-special-interest-groups/convict/>
AJCP Convict details: http://wags.org.au/c/wags/pub/stories/documents/connews/con_ajcp.pdf
- We looked at – Tasmanian Archives site – State Library of Tasmania – The Old Bailey – Jenny Fawcett's Convict History & Genealogy – Claim a Convict – Irish Convicts to NSW (Peter Mayberry's site) – Ireland Australia Convict Database – NLA Newspapers search (for mention of Convict Women) – Devon Convicts to Australia (Genuki), and touched on a few others including Ancestry.com, and Port Arthur as sources.

7. Other business:

- Do you use a photo printing service centre, such as BigW – beware of the potential for Virus infection, have a look at: <http://risky.biz/big-wirus> (Thanks to Ian for sending us these links)
- Planning on getting a new iPhone, and using the sim card in your iPad, think again: <http://www.gadgetguy.com.au/ipad-and-iphone-4-micro-sim-won-t-be-interchangeable-article-9606-8.html>
- Dublin is counted by some historian as being founded on this day in 988 on the banks of the Liffey, after Mael Sechnaill mac Domnaill led the Irish conquest of Dublin. Although the village had existed since before the Roman invasion apx 1,000 years prior.
- Today, members of the Noongar community gathered for a private funeral ceremony in Belhus, Upper Swan to pay respect to Yagan, Noongar warrior and activist. The final remains of Yagan were returned to what is believed to be his burial site. WA Premier Colin Barnett and Minister for Indigenous Affairs Dr Kim Hames officially opened the Yagan Memorial Park, which represents a new beginning in acknowledgement and understanding of the Noongar people.
http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/now_showing/first_australians/resistance/yagan/
<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/wa/7563246/nyoongar-warrior-yagans-head-reburied/>

8. Next Meeting:

- Saturday 8 August 2010 @ 11:00 – WAGS Meeting Room, Unit 4, 48 May St, Bayswater, WA.
Topic TBA – check the WAGS Website