

2012 ASCCA Competitions Announced

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National Volunteer Week®
14-20 May 2012

ASCCA celebrates
with and
acknowledges all
the amazing
volunteers who
help us in our
mission to assist
clubs to educate
seniors in the use
of computers as a
way of enriching
their lives and
making them more
self-reliant.

We hope that you will be excited about the launch of the 2012 competitions and the topics selected for 2012. The Entry Forms, Rules & Conditions are all now available on our ASCCA website for you to download.

This year, in recognition of the technology changes that allow some cameras to manipulate images and perform corrections at the time of capture, the rules for the **Digital Photography Competition** have been changed to allow enhancements with the use of post-capture software in all categories. We have, with the encouragement of our generous volunteer judge Geoff Beatty, increased to seven, the number of categories you can enter. However, in some categories there are specific guidelines as to the spirit of the competition so you will need to read the rules and guidelines carefully. Good luck to all our enthusiastic amateur photographers in the topics of, "Photo Journalism", "Photo Travel", "People/Portrait", "Landscape/Seascape", "Landscape, Structural/Manmade", "Animal/s", and "Creative Photography/Extreme Manipulation." Please give a unique title to each of your photos.

We have also looked carefully at the changes in operating systems and the technicalities of playing back entries in the **Photo Slide Story** competition. We have considered both PC & Apple Mac users and hope more of you will be inspired to enter your creative three minute stories on the topics of "Travel", "Open Topic" and

"Event". Why not enter all three topics?

For **Creative Writing** the three topics chosen will provide unlimited scope for either your imagination or for life story writing, so we hope to see lots of entries. Our topics are, "The Box", "The Last Word" and "Time to Panic", but we are already wondering how you will interpret these and hoping you will give your own unique title to your stories and poems. You can enter three stories and three poems with the "Open Topic" for poetry allowing free expression.

We know that there are many excellent club newsletters all over Australia and while not all will comply with the rules and conditions, we would love to have a keenly contested competition for both club newsletter and club website in 2012. Editors and Webmasters make this the year you enter and just maybe the year you win!

It is really exciting when we have one person who excels in more than one of our competitions - so why don't you enter them all!

After the enthusiasm of our members for the holding of the ASCCA AGM and Competition Presentations at the conclusion of the first day of our 2011 Annual Conference we will do this again in 2012. How wonderful it would be if some of our interstate winners could be present to personally accept their awards on Tuesday 13th November 2012.

ASCCA NOTICE BOARD

14 - 20 May 2012 - National Volunteer Week

Tuesday 12 - Friday 15th June 2012 - National Cyber Security Awareness Week.

1 August - 31 August 2012 - Seniors Month Northern Territory

18-26 August 2012 - Seniors Week Queensland

3 September 2012 - ASCCA Competitions for 2012 close 4.00 pm.

1 October - 7 October 2012 - Seniors Week Tasmania

7 October - 14 October - Victorian Seniors Festival 30th Anniversary

11 November - 18 November 2012 - Seniors Week Western Australia

Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 November - 14th ASCCA Australian Computer Conference for Seniors at Rydges World Square, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW.



Lest we Forget

Today the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for memorials and cemeteries scattered throughout 150 countries, with 23,000 locations. These include the graves of more than 935,000 identified casualties and almost 212,000 unidentified individuals. The names of almost 760,000 people can be found on memorials to the missing.

The largest War Graves Commission cemetery in the world is Tyne Cot in Belgium. It holds almost 12,000 graves of which more than 8,300 are unknowns. To walk along the seemingly endless rows of tombstones bearing the sad "Known only to God" inscription brings the story of The Lost Soldiers of Fromelles (page 3) into focus as something of a modern miracle.

Spirits of Gallipoli Project - In October 2000 Sydney genealogist Kim Phillips visited Gallipoli for the first time and was overwhelmed by the atmosphere. Kim says; "You, who have visited, will know what I mean. There is a 'spirit' there that takes your breath away."

When Kim returned to Australia she wanted to learn more about Gallipoli and discovered, while there is no shortage of books available, it was very difficult to find the names of the men who were buried or commemorated there and it was hard to find their photos. How, she wondered,

did descendants of these men find information? Also, unless the Gallipoli story was passed down through a family, how would today's teenagers know if any of their ancestors died at Gallipoli? Would they know their grandmother's or great grandmother's maiden name to know if she had brothers, or relatives, who died there? Kim wanted to be able to help these people and so, **the Spirits of Gallipoli Project** was born.

The Project which is a work of love and dedication, aims to find as much information as possible about the 7,249 men of the AIF who are either buried, or commemorated at Gallipoli. The work has involved looking through newspapers, memorial books, contacting family and local history groups, photographing war memorials and honour boards all over the country, and overseas. Kim and her volunteers are locating the names of the men who died at Gallipoli, on memorials, and so far they have found over 3,000 of them. The Project currently has photographs of 4,395 of the men and some information on over 90% of them, and photographs of all the headstones and memorials. www.spirits-of-gallipoli.com

If you have any family members buried at Gallipoli, or, if you can help in any way, please contact Kim Phillips at: editor@spirits-of-gallipoli.com

"Ill conceived and ill planned" Battle of Fromelles resulted in over 1900 Australian soldiers losing their lives



To walk through the arch into the Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery in Northern France is indeed a very moving experience. This; the first new war cemetery to be built by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in fifty years, is not the only one at Fromelles to protect the remains of

our Australian soldiers who perished at the disastrous battle of Fromelles on 19th and 20th July 1916. Two kilometres north-west of the village of Fromelles is the V. C. Corner Cemetery where another 410 unidentified Australian soldiers who fell on the infamous battlefield are buried. When discovered after the Armistice, these unknown soldiers were reinterred at V. C. Corner in individual graves which are not marked by headstones; they are marked by two large concrete crosses laid face down in the grass and there is a Cross of Sacrifice and a memorial that commemorates over 1,200 Australian casualties.

Late in the 20th Century there was much speculation about the existence of yet more unmarked and forgotten mass graves of soldiers lost in the "Ill conceived and ill planned Battle of Fromelles". In this notorious, failed attack on the German Army lines, the as yet untested 5th Australian Division entered the first battle fought by the Australian Imperial Force on the Western Front. The Australians suffered 5,533 casualties and the 61st British Division 1,547, while German casualties were around 1,000.

Thanks to the research and determination of a small group of people, this peaceful new

Pheasant Wood Cemetery now lies in the shadow of the local church 120 metres from the place where the six mass graves were finally found in 2009. This is not only the final burial place for the 250 Australian and British soldiers laid to rest there on the 94th anniversary of the battle; it also represents a tribute to the commitment and dedication of Sir Fabian Ware. Sir Fabian, who was too old to enlist himself, was much affected by the magnitude of the war losses. Through his war work, as Commander of a mobile British Red Cross unit; he understood the terrible sacrifices of the soldiers and the needs of the sorrowing families. He and his unit began recording and caring for all the graves they found and by 1915 the work was recognised by the War Office and incorporated into the British Army, as the Graves Registration Commission.

As a result, the Imperial War Graves Commission (renamed Commonwealth War Graves Commission in 1960) was established by Royal Charter in May 1917 and owes its existence to the vision and determination of this man; a vision to ensure that the final resting places of the dead from World War 1 would be remembered in a true "spirit of Imperial cooperation". After the Armistice, the Commission's work to acquire land and record all the details that could be searched out; began in earnest. By 1918, 587,000 graves had been identified and 559,000 casualties were registered as having no known grave.

Although the speculation about "the lost soldiers of Fromelles" gained public interest, there was not a lot of official interest in the theories until a possible site was identified by an amateur Australian Historian and school teacher, Lambis Englezos whose dogged determination and excellent research identified a site of great

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"Ill conceived and ill planned" Battle of Fromelles resulted in over 1900 Australian soldiers losing their lives

**31ST BATTALION
555 PRIVATE
JOHN JOSEPH GOULDING
19TH JULY 1916**



**29TH BATTALION
1252 CORPORAL
ALFRED GEORGE TUCK
19TH JULY 1916**



**AN AUSTRALIAN
SOLDIER
OF THE GREAT WAR
19TH-20TH JULY 1916
KNOWN UNTO GOD**

interest at Pheasants Wood below the Fromelles Church.

His theories were supported by the meticulous work of the British historian Peter Barton who scoured the Red Cross and Bavarian archives for records to show that the Germans had interred Australian and British men in the pits by Pheasant Wood. In 2007 he presented a detailed (600 page) report, as Fromelles Project Historian and the Australian Government added their support to the project.

With British financial support an archaeological investigation was launched. By the end of March 2012 - 119 of the Australian soldiers exhumed during this search had been identified. Although the Joint Identification Board provides the experts to test DNA and scientific evidence to allow positive identifications; the descendants to provide the DNA samples were found and identified thanks to enthusiastic people like Lambis Englezos, Peter Barton and West Australian Genealogist Sandra Playle and Victorian Policeman Tim Lycett. Lambis Englezos also provided expert onsite assistance on the details of the battle and the burial site to the archaeological teams and was made a Member of the Order of Australia in June 2009 in recognition of his work.

None of these people named - and others who helped - left it to chance to find the descendants of the soldiers listed by the Australian and British authorities as those possibly buried in the newly discovered graves. They combined their considerable talents and worked tirelessly and passionately to give identities to these long forgotten soldiers. The task was like attempting to assemble a gigantic jigsaw with most of the pieces either hidden or missing and without the convenience of a box with a nice coloured picture to compare and

assess progress, to put the puzzle all neatly back together.

The Military Archives are bulging with poignant letters from parents, wives and sweethearts seeking information about their missing loved ones. Mrs. Goulding, the mother of John Joseph wrote several sad and pleading letters and in 1920 she was told; *"Concerning your son ... An intensive search is now being made with a view to locating unregistered graves, and should the grave of your son be discovered you would be notified through this office."* The poor lady died on 19th July 1922 - perhaps she died of a broken heart on the sixth anniversary of her son's death. Sadly, it took another 90 years for the promise to be fulfilled.

On 20th July 2012, during the annual commemoration of the Battle of Fromelles, nine new headstones, including those of Private J. J. Goulding and Corporal A. G. Tuck will be dedicated. Alfred Tuck was one of ten men from his generation of the Tuck family to enlist. Three of his cousins also died, two at Gallipoli and one at Armentiers.

Thanks to all those who have been willing to examine mountains of military papers and each man's service record to find next of kin, check birth, marriage and death records and patiently extract the facts. The wonderful DNA techniques would have been useless without the lists of interested family members, who were tracked down, identified and donated DNA samples to the project. These 119 men have now been returned to their families.

Should you check your family tree and family stories and contact this web address to help identify the remaining 92 Australian soldiers? <http://www.army.gov.au/Our-work/Unrecovered-War-Casualties>

Congratulations to Norma Thorburn of Kogarah, NSW



NORMA THORBURN, President and Founder of Kogarah Seniors Computer Club was honoured by Kogarah Council on Australia Day, 2012 with the award for "SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR".

Norma Thorburn received the Kogarah Council "SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR" Award earlier this year for her continued voluntary work for the Municipality over a very long period in various areas and particularly in the last 12 years teaching computer skills to senior citizens. Norma has always had a particular consideration for her volunteers when she was in the workplace (Meals on Wheels Co-ordinator) and continues with this compassion with her students - she has a wonderful ability to transfer knowledge - which she does five days a week at Kogarah Seniors Computer Club.

In May 1999 Norma approached Kogarah Council with the idea of obtaining some funding for starting a computer club for seniors in the Kogarah Municipality. The sum of \$600 was granted but with the help of the Member for Kogarah, Cherie Burton, she obtained a grant of \$5,000 from the NSW Government. Next flyers were prepared and distributed with contact being made with every seniors group Norma could think

of, to spread the news of a meeting for the creation of a Computer Club for Seniors. So it came about that on 10th August, 1999 around 100 people attended a the meeting and the Kogarah Seniors Computer Club was formed. With a group of enthusiastic people to form a committee and prepared to be tutors, they were on the way under Norma's guidance.

In January 2000 Kogarah Council agreed to the use of a room at the School of Arts building at Kogarah and Norma obtained seven donated computers. By the time all the other equipment was purchased it was 7th February 2000 and the first lessons were held.

Of course without all the other wonderful volunteers who have tutored, held committee positions and given their time and support in thousands of ways over that time, the thriving club which now exists would not have continued to evolve and give so much to the community.

Thanks to Joan Roach for telling us about Norma and the well-deserved Award.

Digital Switchover Update - are you ready?

On 5th June 2012, analog TV signals will be switched off for good across the Southern and Central NSW, ACT and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area switchover region. From that date all free-to-air TV will be broadcast in digital only.

Are you ready?

If you can receive any of the digital-only channels from ABC, SBS and the commercial broadcasters such as, ABC2, ABC3, ABC News 24, SBS TWO, GO!, Gem, 7TWO, 7mate, ONE HD and Eleven then you are already watching digital TV.

If you can't, there are a number of easy steps you can take to ensure you are ready for digital

television by visiting [How do I switch?](#) on the Digital Ready website.

At [mySwith](#) you will find out what digital TV services you can expect to receive when analog is being switched off in your area and advice on how to get the best digital TV reception at your address. There are links to information about your local transmitter and links to the nearest Australian Government endorsed antenna installers and retailers participating in the Retail Advisor Scheme.

Note: The early switch to digital TV scheduled for Oberon on 4 April 2012 has been postponed until late May.

mySwitch



www.digitalready.gov.au

Website www.ascca.org.au

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ASCCA Newsletter
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Pass on this issue of the ASCCA newsletter by printing copies for distribution, or make a list of all your club members with email addresses and forward it to them. It is of interest to each member of every club, not just Committee members.

The newsletter can also be read and/or downloaded from our website: - www.ascca.org.au You are welcome to copy items from this newsletter but acknowledgment of ASCCA is required.

Membership of ASCCA is open to all Seniors Computer Clubs, Organisations with a membership including Seniors, and those Organisations that recognise the value of computer technology for Seniors. Cost of ASCCA membership is \$110 per year, including GST. Corporate Membership also welcome.

If you fit one of those categories and are interested in joining ASCCA please go to our website www.ascca.org.au or email office@ascca.org.au to find out how to start a club or read some of the advantages of joining ASCCA if you are an existing club.

An Application Form is available to download.

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Contributions are welcome. Remember this is YOUR NEWSLETTER. Please take special note clubs outside Sydney and NSW. Please forward contributions by email to the editor.



Don't keep quiet about Silent Tweets!

Imagine you're sitting at an airport gate waiting to catch your flight and suddenly everyone around you starts moving from the gate. You wonder "what have I missed? Is it a gate change? Is the flight delayed or cancelled?" You can now get a "Silent Tweet" application for either your iPhone or Android Smartphone to keep you informed with the latest developments or news and you can also view and post messages which are geographically targeted and time specific.

This innovative application which provides free community broadcasting for people who are deaf and hearing impaired was developed by Australian Communication Exchange (ACE). The 2012 Australian Deaf Games in Geelong in January where around 1,500 people were able to download and use the app to receive sports results and important program changes was chosen by ACE to launch their new product.

This free broadcasting system will be used throughout Australia to communicate emergency messages such as bushfire alerts, power outages, weather and traffic reports, gate or platform changes for airports or train stations, and notifications at sport stadiums.

If you, or someone you know would benefit from this clever invention go to the website for more information. www.silenttweets.com.au

Age Discrimination & the Internet - The Hon. Susan Ryan AO

Speaking at the recent Australian Competition and Consumer Commission/Choice **Silver Jubilee Ruby Hutchison Memorial Lecture**, Age Discrimination Minister, the Hon. Susan Ryan AO said, "My responsibilities at the Australian Human Rights Commission are to advocate for equal rights to employment, education, finance and goods and services regardless of age, and to pursue changes in those policies, laws and societal attitudes that discriminate unfairly on the basis of age."

"It appears to me ... that the current obstacles in this area for older people constitute internet age discrimination." The Minister elaborated on the negative social, economic and service consequences, of excluding older people who missed out on formal education about digital technology. "This can leave a previously literate generation of Australians at a serious disadvantage as consumers of goods and services; not to mention being denied access to entertainment, information and social relationship." she added.