

## Age-Friendly Cities sign the Dublin Declaration

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ASCCA Conference  
Coming Soon  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> & Thu 17<sup>th</sup>  
November 2011

**BOOK  
ONLINE  
NOW**

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



... and ASCCA's President Nan Bosler was there to witness over 40 cities from across the world commit to making this idea a reality. Nan went to Ireland in September, primarily for the 4<sup>th</sup> BRAID (Bridging Research in Ageing and ICT Development) Workshop but was also a full delegate at the first (World Health Organisation) WHO International Conference on Age-Friendly Cities (AFC) which was held in Dublin on 28-30 September with 400 delegates from all over the world.

The two events in Ireland were run concurrently. BRAID had a session in the AFC conference and AFC delegates attended one of the BRAID events in Dundalk.

By signing the Dublin Declaration at an impressive ceremony at Dublin City Hall, these cities have declared they will work to meet actions based on the WHO Global Age-Friendly Cities Guide which calls for:

- Awareness of older people, their rights, their needs, their potentials.
- Developing citizen centered processes
- Develop urban and other public places that are inclusive.
- Include housing for older people that is of the highest quality.
- Public transport systems available to older people.

- Promote the participation of older people in social and cultural life.

- Promote and support the development of employment and volunteering opportunities.

- Ensure support and health services are available to older people.

A couple of quotes from the opening speech by Ambassador James A. Joseph, Emeritus Professor and Director—Southern Africa, Centre for Leadership and Public Values, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University very well show the aims and the feel of the conference. The Ambassador said; *"Far too many are asking what can we do about an ageing population, what can we do for older adults, when they should be asking what can we do together, how can we draw from the strengths of each generation."*

He went on to say: *"It is time that we see the ageing of society as an unprecedented triumph and not the economic burden some of our politicians make it seem. Blinded by the conversation about the economics of ageing, they fail to see the rich potential of older people in helping cope with political, economic and social institutions that are themselves ageing."* Wise thoughts indeed!

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## ASCCA NOTICE BOARD 2011

Wednesday, 16 & Thursday, 17 November 2011 - 13th Annual Computer Conference for Seniors to be held in Sydney at [Rydges World Square Hotel](#), 389 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Wednesday 16 November ASCCA Annual General Meeting & Competition Winners Announcement & Presentations - 3.00 pm –5.30 pm at Rydges World Square Hotel, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney. In response to suggestions and requests from many interstate and country NSW members who would like the opportunity to attend the AGM and Competition Presentations we have extended the first day of our Annual ASCCA Conference until 5.30 pm so they can be included.

Those ASCCA Members only wishing to attend the AGM and hear the announcements of the results for the five ASCCA Annual Competitions are invited to join Conference participants for afternoon tea at 3.00pm. There will be no cost for those arriving after 3.00 pm to attend the AGM, however, as usual, registration will be required to allow for catering and seating.

**All members whether coming to Conference or just to AGM please RSVP for AGM.**

The Tenth Annual General Meeting of  
Voting Members of the  
Australian Seniors Computer Clubs  
Association  
**ASCCA**

will be held at Rydges World Square,  
389 Pitt Street, Sydney  
on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 3.30pm

**Annual reports  
Election of Board Members**

**Announcement of  
ASCCA 2011 Competition Winners**

RSVP by 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011,  
giving name of Club and delegates attending,  
to 02 9286 3871 or [ascca@ascca.org.au](mailto:ascca@ascca.org.au)

All delegates attending the 13<sup>th</sup> Australian  
Computer Conference for Seniors  
are welcome to attend but must also RSVP.

## New Website Name Survey

Searching for a website about electricity and gas plans and energy use?

The Australian Energy Regulator (which is part of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission) is developing a new website to help consumers and small business compare gas and electricity offers from energy retailers.

Please complete this 5 minute survey to help name the site. There are 9 short questions.

**[Start the website name survey](#)**

## Will we see YOU at the 13th Annual ASCCA Computer Conference for Seniors?

**There are so many reasons you should come!**

Look at the list of **excellent speakers** on our website, specially if you have missed reading about them in previous newsletters.

There will be an Information Stand where **Microsoft Experts** will be available both days to answer all your computer questions.

**Work Ventures** will have a stand on Wednesday to tell you about their rebuilt computer deals, and **Centrelink** will be there too to tell you all about their online and other services available. **YOURLife Choices** will also be there to show you how you can receive their great Magazine or online eMagazine

On Thursday the **Australian Communications Consumer Action Network** (ACCAN) will be there to advise, as will the **Digital Switchover** Team. Find out if you are ready! Choice will also be there on Thursday to show off their **CHOICE Computer**, the magazine designed for beginner and intermediate computer users. The always popular **Take The Teacher Home** Stand will have their latest computer learning aids, and **Quantum RLV** will have a display of some of their wonderful vision aids. And more ...

**Then there will be the friends, the food and the fun - Don't miss out—BOOK NOW!**

**WE ARE EXPECTING YOU!**

## Continued from Page 1 **Age-Friendly Cities sign the Dublin Declaration**

The aim of the 4<sup>th</sup> BRAID Workshop was, *“To explore the issue of ageing well in an urban context, under the prism of assistive technologies and provide all participants with a unique opportunity to enjoy a first-hand experience of how assistive technologies and innovative concepts could better facilitate daily activities and increase overall quality of life for elderly citizens.”* To have the bonus of running the BRAID workshop in conjunction with the WHO Conference on Age-Friendly Cities, allowed the BRAID delegates to reach out to a larger audience by presenting their project as part of a concurrent workshop session, on issues of ICT, ageing, health and the quality of life for elderly citizens, to all 400 WHO Conference delegates.

Nan Bosler presented a detailed description of the present activities of ASCCA and is mentioned as one of the distinguished

international speakers in a report of the conference on the BRAID Website.

The Newsletter of the International Federation on Ageing summed up the Irish events very well in their editorial comment;

*“The starting point of age-friendly cities may be better places for older people, but the message from this conference has been that the result of improving cities for people in later life - whether it is transport, public places or participation in services - should be a city that improves quality of life for everyone.”*



## **Computer Pals for Seniors Concord Tenth Birthday**



**Bill Dawson, John Smith, Canada Bay Deputy Mayor Jeanette O'Hara, Roz Miller and Elaine Peterson cut the Birthday Cake.**

In June 2000 expressions of interest to form Computer Pals for Seniors—Concord Inc. were sought by the Aged Care Coordinator of Concord Council. Twenty people attended a meeting and a committee was formed.

Milton Krause who already had a computer school in the local Seventh Day Adventist Church closed his school for a term and generously offered the premises, the computers and his expertise to train the volunteer tutors for the new club.

Then Council offered a shared room in Concord Senior Citizen's Centre where Computer skills were taught by nine tutors to 70 students on

three days a week. In September 2000 the Club joined ASCCA and acknowledges it has been helped with grants, ongoing training and the Computer Conference and Seminars held each year. Through ASCCA the tutors attended a Computer Training course at TAFE where they could upgrade their computer skills.

It is with pride Concord Club can claim to have taught 523 students, with a steady membership of around 70 at any one time. Many of the early members are still active in the Club which now has 10 computers and one lap top and a projector for Powerpoint presentations in the auditorium. The number of tutors fluctuates between 10-20 and courses available at the moment include Excel, Word (Beginners and Advanced), Internet and Email, Digital Photography, Genealogy, Graphics and Photo Editing and Maintenance of a Computer.

An Open Day is held in Seniors Week every year and three Computer Club Members sit on a Council Committee to plan Seniors Week activities in the Canada Bay Council area. Two very successful full day Computer Seminars and three on Digital Photography have been held, with two of these being sponsored by Canada Bay Council.

**Congratulations on your contributions to the community in which you live and we know you will continue to inspire more seniors to learn and use technology.**

Thanks to Roz Miller for this information.

Website [www.ascca.org.au](http://www.ascca.org.au)

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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](http://www.ascca.org.au) or email [office@ascca.org.au](mailto: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.

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](http://www.ascca.org.au) You are welcome to copy items from this newsletter but acknowledgment of **ASCCA** is required.

### How Philip reinvented himself with online study



After 25 years in the IT industry 56 year old Philip Watkins, who lived in rural Victoria, was suddenly unemployed. Faced with this unexpected fork in the road, he chose to see it as an opportunity and head in an entirely different career direction to follow his dream of becoming a teacher.

Philip had the problem of his existing qualifications being insufficient to enable direct entry into a Diploma of Education so he would obviously have to go to university. With a child still at home and an enjoyable rural lifestyle, it seemed like the perfect solution when his wife suggested rather

than moving or commuting he should look into studying online through Open Universities Australia (OUA).

He discovered that OUA's flexibility and choice allows students to access over 1100 units and 130 qualifications from 20 leading universities and higher education providers. So two years on Philip has been able to continue to enjoy his comfortable rural lifestyle and do the study for his almost completed Bachelor of Technology with RMIT - at times and places of his choosing. He is aiming to apply for a Diploma of Education at the end of the year. Philip admits to being concerned at the beginning of his study but says that the support of fellow students and instructors soon gave him confidence that he could complete his degree online.

If you visit [www.open.edu.au](http://www.open.edu.au) or call 1300 363 652 you might discover this kind of lifelong learning would suit your lifestyle.

### Your story is important - fight age discrimination

As the newly appointed Age Discrimination Commissioner Susan Ryan AO is "Responsible for raising awareness of age discrimination, educating the community about the impact of age discrimination and monitoring and advocating for its elimination across all areas of public life." Susan Ryan is already working hard at this daunting goal of educating society about the magnificent contributions we senior Australians regularly, cheerfully and often unrecognised, make towards enhancing our communities.

So let's not sit back and complain we are not noticed or appreciated - here is our opportunity to record our stories and contribute to the overall true story of older people. Why not go to the new **Age Positive Page** on the Australian Human Rights Commission Website <http://humanrights.gov.au/age-positive/> to read and enjoy the stories that have already been shared? Your story is important too, so send a story and photo and the necessary permissions to be part of this significant project.