ANGLICARE RETIREMENT VILLAGES

COMPUTER CLUB Inc
(previously- Anglican RV COMPUTER CLUB)

HISTORY OF THE CLUB

1999 to 2023

Rod Roberts
Lynton Bradford
Alan Hopper

Dedication

This book is dedicated to the extraordinary group of individuals who selflessly dedicated their time and unwavering commitment to building and nurturing our ARV Computer Club at Castle Hill.

Their tireless efforts transformed our spaces into a thriving hub of digital discovery, where knowledge blossomed and friendships flourished. Through their unwavering dedication, they empowered many residents to embrace technology, overcome barriers, and unlock a world of limitless possibilities.

They patiently guided novices through the labyrinth of computers, answered countless questions, and instilled confidence in the hearts of those who believed they were too old or too inexperienced to learn.

They created a nurturing community, fostering connections, camaraderie, and an indomitable spirit of lifelong learning. The laughter, the shared triumphs, and the support that permeates the Club are testaments to their dedication.

The selflessness of others has empowered us to bridge generational gaps, embrace the digital age, and dispel the notion that technology is an insurmountable barrier. Our lives have been enriched, inspiring us to continually adapt, grow, and explore the ever-evolving landscape of technology.

Acknowledgements

Rod Roberts was Club Secretary from 2000 - 2021 and is a Life Member of the ARV Computer Club. Throughout his distinguished service to the Computer Club, Rod's professional eye for detail, enabled precise records to be kept of Computer Club activities and events. In 2023, Rod is currently a Committee member of the Club.

Lynton Bradford began his residency in ARV Castle Hill volunteering to drive buses, in particular for Aged Care residents. He joined the Computer Club (CC) in 2005 and was President from 2007 – 2020. He is a Life Member of the ARV Computer Club. Throughout his years of service to the Computer Club, Lynton ably managed the move from Hermon Slade location to Lober House. Lynton's excellent presentations to members on all things technical were outstanding. There is no doubt, the now vibrant Computer Club would not have progressed without his skills, talents and interests. Lynton was awarded an OAM in 2014 for his services to the community. Throughout his years as President, Lynton was ably assisted by wife Gwen. They were a formidable team. He is currently Vice-President of the Club.

Alan Hopper was a Computer Club Committee member from 2002 – 2015 and is a Life Member of the Club. Initially the Club Operations Manager, Alan wrote instruction manuals and offered advice regarding computer purchases. Instrumental as an organiser and presenter, Alan resigned from the Committee in 2015, following major contributions over 17 years. He was a member of the Club until 2022.

Editor: Merilyn Davidson July 2023

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Introduction

As the 20th Century drew to a close, it was evident the Information Technology (I/T) Revolution was in full swing. It was not surprising a resident of Mowll Village would make inquiries about I/T in the Village.

That person was Allen Parker.

Allen approached Ken Barber, Executive Director Finance of Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV), requesting a computer club be formed. Ken, receptive to the idea, arranged for letters to 60 residents giving notice of a meeting to establish a computer club on the Castle Hill site.

This meeting was held on October 13, 1998. The Minutes of that meeting record *'a computer club be formed and that it be called ARV Computer Club'.*

In order to proceed with the formalities required to establish the ARV Computer Club, an ad hoc committee was elected. The members of that committee were Alan Hopper, Chad Fydler, Rod Bligh, Elaine Mort, Bill Pedersen and Allen Parker.

Year 1999

The first meeting of the Club was held on February 2 1999, in Barton Hall. An election of office-bearers followed – President - Allen Parker, Secretary - Bill Pedersen and Operations Manager - Alan Hopper.

Elaine Mort spoke on training progress. She announced the computers donated by TAD (Technical Aid to the Disabled), were to be installed at No. 9 Western Road, a cottage Ken Barber had arranged for the Club to use.

A meeting was held on November 8, attended by Ken Barber and other senior ARV management staff involved with the Club's activities. The meeting decided the cost of subs be $5 joining and $5 membership per annum. Allen Parker thanked the Village Councils of Nuffield and Hopetoun for their donations of $500 each.

A speaker at the meeting was Nan Bosler, National President of Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA). Nan gave a very motivational talk on where computers were heading and how they would affect people's lives in the future. Becoming familiar with computers was strongly stressed.

Following this meeting, the Club accepted the invitation of ASCCA to become a member at $100pa. The meeting also adopted ASCCA's objectives to develop training resources for use by computer clubs. This included providing awareness about Cyber Security, to broaden the vision and understanding of available technology and what is possible, to help educate seniors about accessing information, particularly government services and communications via the Internet.

Ken Barber not only arranged for the Club to be given the use of the cottage at 9 Western Road, he also provided two second hand computers.

The Club was on its way!

Number 9 became a place of great camaraderie, learning and fun. It welded the villages on the Castle Hill site as never before.

In the early days, Alan Hopper wrote the original instruction book for training as well as presenting lectures. June Foxall, Margaret Shand, Peter Edmondson and Dorothy Rigby-Knight were also helpful. June was particularly enthusiastic about making greeting cards and soon had a group devoted to making cards to assist finances.

The group also developed the making of badges, which were then offered throughout the villages. The enterprise, initiated and originally run by June Foxall, developed into a major income earner for the Club.

A visit was made to TAD Australia to seek equipment. There were rooms full of computers and equipment but not enough people to overhaul, reprogram and train the recipients. The Club offered to work on any computers being supplied to ARV village residents and in return TAD gave the Club six

computers. The task of overhauling these computers was undertaken by Maurie Gilbert.

At this time Dorothy Eastoe joined the Club, taking over as training coordinator and organising the myriad of duties required for smooth running of the Club. Dorothy will be forever remembered for her great contributions.

In the early years, those in charge of training were Alan Hopper and Elaine Mort, while other trainers were Dorothy Eastoe and Charles Jones. David Hewetson wrote and printed a Club bulletin.

Ken Barber orchestrated the Club to be part of the Information Technology (I/T) section of ARV and then Manager, Mark Smith, delegated Lisa Jaffar (a trainer from the I/T Department) to assist with training. Lisa proved to be a boon for the Club. Mark eventually left and was replaced by Rob Binskin who also gave a lot of assistance.

At the monthly meeting on December 7, Mr Michael Richardson M.P. spoke on the topic *'Technology in the Community'*.

Year 2000

ARV website launch

Anglican Retirement Villages' Website Launch
Held on 17th February 2000, Castle Hill
Pictured left to right
His Excellency the Honorable Gordon Samuels AC, Governor of NSW,
Mr Jim Longley,
Chief Executive Officer ARV
and Mr Allen Parker,
President of ARV's Computer Club.

At the monthly meeting on February 1, Alan Hopper, John Dennett, Bill Pederson, Len Gates, Peter Edmonds, Don MacKay, Dorothy Eastoe and Allen Parker were elected to the Club Committee.

Karen Vissers of ARV Marketing gave a talk at a monthly meeting on *'Desk Top Publishing'*.

Alan Hopper advised new members he was available to help anyone who intended to purchase their own PC. He advised the approximate cost of an average new computer with printer was $1750.

The Club had 12 PCs specifically set up for training. Alan Hopper reported that all the new TAD machines would have Windows 95 and Office 97, so older machines were upgraded. Four PC's were donated to the Club from an anonymous source.

The Guest Speaker at another monthly meeting was Geoff Hegarty of IBM, whose subject was *'How IBM will help put the Olympics together'*.

Alan Hopper and Dorothy Rigby-Knight produced a book to better inform members about the basic operations when using computers e.g.: setting up filing systems, backing up work. These books were available at a cost of $6 - $10 per copy.

Peter Edmonds visited St John's Village Glebe to help residents set up a similar club. ARV Computer Club provided two printers, which Peter installed.

Year 2001

In late 2001, the Club moved their premises when ARV upgraded the area of Western Road.

The Club Entrance to Leumeah

The move to the lower ground floor of Leumeah in October 2001, was undertaken with team assistance from IT and Jim Holgate's department. Jim, General Manager of the Castle Hill site, was a wonderful supporter of the Club.

Lisa Jaffar set up a training service for the Club. Notable early members were Graham Atkin, Sibil and Peter Jones, Doreen Garner and Anne Jones. The Club also gained support from John Dent, who had been Wing Commander in charge of the Flight Simulator in the RAAF. John set up a computer simulator and gave many lessons using the device. The Club initiated weekly Saturday morning training talks and lecture sessions, in which Alan Hopper featured regularly. As well, the Club looked to the overall welfare of all members.

Leumeah provided considerably more space, so the Club could now offer a reception area, work rooms, a kitchen, dining room, training room, 3 work rooms and a storage room. The bus stop was at the front door.

Leumeah became a social club, with many BBQs and well attended evening meetings. Special parties were organised for Melbourne Cup Days and New Year's Eve Celebrations with Betty Parker in charge of party games.

The Castle Hill Club helped several other ARV villages to set up their own clubs. These included Penrith, Dapto, Forestville, Woollahra and Glebe. It also assisted Kirrawee from inception and supported a new branch at Glenhaven Green (later to merge with Castle Hill site).

By the end of 2001, Club objectives were changing. Many new members, particularly in Warrina Village, were more computer literate. This resulted in a change of attitude, policies and directions for the Club.

Year 2002

The first formalised committee of the Club comprised Allen Parker (President), Alan Hopper, Chad Fydler, Rod Bligh, Elaine Mort, Bill Pedersen, Len Gates and Maurie Gilbert.

Apart from computer related activities, a social aspect became a noteworthy part of the Club's overall development and operations. In particular, it enabled the Club to extend an electronic hand of friendship to residents of nine other ARV villages.

The Club's entry fee was $10 and the annual subscription $15.

The number of operational computers remained at 15, thanks to the efforts of the Club *'computer doctors'*. PCs, peripherals and software were upgraded, rejuvenated and/or replaced. This upgrading process also enabled the Club to pass on computer units to external villages who were setting up their own computer clubs.

Improved computer facilities allowed the Club to provide members with a wider range of computer activities and interests. Email facilities for members and residents proved to be invaluable in several emergency situations, one being the Bali bombing emergency.

Alan Hopper

During the year, a Saturday morning clinic was run by Alan Hopper, open to all members with the aim of encouraging questions and or dealing with computer problems. Presentations on specific topics and general information proved popular.

In 2002, the Club was fortunate to receive two grants along with donations of equipment, desks, several pre-loved computers and stationery from various sources. The Club also received a grant of $2000 from the Mowll Memorial Village Fair Committee, which was used to acquire 14 new Dell monitors from a special assignment made available from TAD.

The satisfactory financial status of the Club owed much to the production and sale of greeting cards, bookmarks etc. This was due to the extraordinary efforts of June Foxall, Dorothy Eastoe and their helpers, plus the continued support of ARV management.

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Dorothy Eastoe   June Foxall

Year 2003

Contacts and exchange visits with external villages continued to be an interesting extension of operations. Varying outcomes depended mainly on available resources, the number of members and their initiative. The support of village managers was greatly appreciated.

The Club possessed 15 computers for training. Two were Pentium computers with the majority running Windows XP and Office 2000, while the remainder ran Windows 98 and Office 97. In addition, the Club now had several scanners, CD burners, colour printers, a digital camera, broadband connections for email/internet and a recently acquired new digital projector available for members to learn from and use.

One pleasing result of the interchange between the Castle Hill Club and other villages was that several St Stephen's Village members, regularly attended Lisa's IT sessions and the Club's monthly meetings.

During 2003, Lisa Jaffar conducted monthly sessions from March to October. Three sessions were devoted to Word, two to Publisher, two to

Excel and one to special interests such as accessibility options, getting to know your computer, the internet, making labels and managing files.

Again, the Club's satisfactory financial status was due to the production and sales generated by members who produced greeting cards etc. A badge making machine was purchased with various villages ordering badges for their residents, adding further to the Club's income. The activity group of June Foxall, Dorothy Eastoe, Kathleen Roberts, Ron Brett and others utilised Club scanners, colour printers, broadband internet access for clip art and digital photographs in producing the badges.

The importance of donations, gifts and grants cannot be overstated. Donations of used computers and accessories, printers, workstations, books, computer manuals and magazines were received throughout the year. The Club was particularly appreciative of a $3000 grant from Mowll Memorial Village Fair. This enabled the purchase of a Sony digital projector which proved a most valuable aid for presentations by guest speakers.

During 2003, the Club was saddened by the deaths of Len Gates and Dorothy Rigby-Knight, both foundation and committee members.

Having been without a Secretary for 18 months, the Club's new Secretary Kathleen Roberts, was proving her worth. A relocation of ARV's administration to Norwest Business Park in March, had implications and consequences for the Club. It was hoped these concerns would lead to satisfactory solutions.

Year 2004

The year commenced with an attack on Norton Anti-Virus through the Blaster Worm. This affected ARV Management IT and the Club.

Following the move of ARV Administration to Norwest, Lisa Jaffar nurtured the Club through adjustments. Lisa began a *'Keep in Touch'* morning at Leumeah for members to discuss problems. Rob Binskin, the new IT Manager, made a good impression when he provided upbeat prospects for the Club in 2005.

The Training Room

Lisa Jaffar continued to conduct her scheduled monthly lessons in Herman Slade House, covering the basic range of programs in the Microsoft Office suite.

Three licensed program suites were received from Microsoft through the Unlimited Potential (UP) program, made available to members of ASCCA. A major purchase was a new computer set aside for flight simulation and the conversion of vinyl records/ tapes to CD. A laser printer provided by IT proved particularly useful for printing the Club's newsletter '*Bits and Bytes'* and other booklets.

Throughout the year, the Club gratefully received many donations of pre-loved computers and other equipment.

Enjoyable social activities and fundraiser functions proved popular. Graham Atkin drove the village bus for outings to restaurants and places of interest. Fun Crazy Whist parties were organised by Doreen Garner. Doreen also won a 'Guess the Baby' competition and courageously boarded a light aircraft flight, donated by pilot Bob Conrow. Speakers at the Club's monthly meetings in Barton Hall were varied and interesting. Most popular were the *PowerPoint* presentations by Geoff Chappell on '*Bees'*, Jim Holgate on '*Can a Tractor be Driven by a Computer?'* and Judy Hallinan (Alan Hopper's daughter) with various live pets and '*Rescue Birds and Bats'.*

A special meeting of ARV computer clubs was held at Leumeah. This provided a forum for all clubs under the umbrella of the ARV IT Department and a helpful review of IT technical and training information. Rob Binskin, the new Manager of IT and Lisa Jaffar (IT Support Service) reiterated continuing commitment to all ARV computer clubs.

Onsite, the Club was indebted to ARV Management for the use of Leumeah's facilities and the ongoing support of Hopetoun Village Manager for the use of Barton Hall for Club monthly meetings

Year 2005

Monthly speakers:

Graham and Shirley Chamber	- *Digging Up the Past*
John Goulding	- *Computers to The Rescue*
Rob Binskin	- *Spams and Scams*
Ann Cowan and Amanda Hancox	- *Sensory Loss*
Alan Hopper	- *The Role Played by the Club in Setting up Aids for Farrer Brown Hostel*
Denis Overton	- *Elizabeth Your House is On Fire*
Peter Stanhope	- *Dragon Software*

The ARV IT Department's excellent training program, designed and conducted by Lisa Jaffar was the envy of non-ARV computer clubs. Lisa upgraded the programs to XP for members still using Windows 97. These lessons were on file and could be borrowed. Copies of Lisa's training programs were available on discs and on flashcards for those who weren't able to attend sessions due to personal disabilities.

Dorothy Eastoe co-ordinated training, voluntary helpers, timetables and much more. Voluntary helpers, taught the basics to beginners and also gave guidance on the one computer with Windows 97.

Alan Hopper's Saturday morning clinics were a popular drawcard. The 1st Saturday of each month was devoted to digital photography. Alan set up a photography lab in the Club Foyer and Alan, Ken Andrew and Bill Hurditch took turns on Tuesdays, demonstrating and instructing in digital photography when requested.

The Club's ongoing aid to the Solomon Islands continued for as long as ophthalmic surgeon Dr Geoffrey Painter and his Foresight Group indicated support was needed. The Club passed on out-of-date computers and their peripherals, computer books, clothes and spectacles.

Committee members were encouraged to advise of a member's critical illness or loss of a family member, so that an appropriate card could be sent.

Thanks to a $7000 grant from the Aged Care Department, the Club was able to purchase 10 new replacement PCs, a 19" LED screen, a workstation, transmitter and lapel microphone, Nero 6 and Corel Draw. The committee expressed their gratitude to CEO Ken Barber, Manager Jim Holgate and Nancy Potent for the very useful grant at a special afternoon tea in Leumeah.

Thanks to the ongoing support from ARV, it was not necessary to raise membership fees during 2005. Sales of cards, bookmarks and badges helped finances considerably. Photographs taken at social events and processed in the new photographic laboratory were a recent fund-raiser.

Doreen Garner held the new position of social secretary and arranged some enjoyable lunch outings with Graham Atkin driving a village bus. New Year's Eve was Doreen's first major event. Real haggis was cooked by Margaret Shand and a wee bit sampled by a few *courageous* members!

During the year, David Hewetson retired as the Editor of Bits and Bytes. June Foxall moved from assistant editor to editor until family commitments forced her to resign too. Sybil Jones agreed to be the new editor.

Memory sticks were becoming popular in the new computers. Four memory sticks were purchased for Club use. Also acquired was a scanner for the laptop used in demonstrations.

News of Castle Hill Club's success continued to spread and Club members visited other ARV sites to help in establishment of their computer clubs. Clubs were commenced at St Stephens Penrith, St David's Forestville, Mary Andrews South Hurstville. St Johns Glebe, Goodwin Woollahra, Rohini Turramurra, St Luke's Dapto, Woolooware Shores Taren Point and Donald Robinson Kirrawee. The latter two developed separately with ARV assistance.

Yearly combined meetings had commenced at Castle Hill and continued in rotation at other villages.

Year 2006

Much had changed since the inception of the Club. Technical advances in the availability of hardware and software, coupled with internet communications and the ARV organisation, resulted in significant changes.

The ARV's expansion program saw an inflow of new residents, leading to a significant increase in Club membership. The new Warrina Village accounted for most of the increase and was now the dominant village in membership and activities. The six villages on the Castle Hill site were represented on the Committee by one or more members. All ARV resident computer clubs came under the umbrella of ARV's IT Manager, Rob Binskin.

Lisa Jaffar's Annual Survey was undertaken in October and provided the basis for IT training programs for the following year. The 2006 survey showed that 10% of members were still using Windows 97 and 98.

Internet/email was now accessed by 94% of members while an increasing preference for laptops led the Club to introduce a *Help and Advice* session.

The Club now provided a photography lab, a music lab, a flight simulator, opportunities for surfing the web, live chats with friends, researching family history, the production of greeting cards and the sale of gadgets & widgets.

The production team generated significant funds. As an outcome of their outstanding efforts, 14 LED flat screens were acquired to replace the outmoded CRT monitors. 16 desktop PCs and two laptops were fully operational and assigned specific activities. In addition, expenditure was always incurred on the upgrading/maintenance of computers, peripherals and software.

The Club continued to receive donations during the year with pre-loved monitors, peripherals and equipment. ARV IT's donation of a surplus colour laser printer was greatly appreciated as it was a welcome contributor to the production team's efficiency in card production.

The Club continued to use the Leumeah facilities and was grateful to ARV management for use of the amenities, which included Barton Hall for monthly meetings. The ongoing support from the village manager and assistance from volunteers July Stuart, Tony Hutson and David Prentice was greatly valued.

Year 2007

Early in the year, Allen Parker stepped down after 8 ½ years as the Foundation President. Allen had been instrumental in the establishment of the Club and in guiding the Club through it's growing years. He had built rapport with ARV and village managements, an essential component in the success of the Club. Allen willingly agreed to continue as Vice President and as a liaison officer between the Club, ARV Management and village managers.

Lynton Bradford was elected President.

A very successful Open Day was held on May 10, when over 100 interested people visited the Club rooms. Various displays were on show and members were there to answer questions. A low-cost computer, considered to be of good value, was purchased from businessman John Adler in Castle Hill. John conducted discussions with individual members who bought computers from his business and had additional programs later installed by the Club. Copies of Paint Shop Pro 8 were purchased at a discounted price - $10 for disc and $20 for disc and manual. Five discs were purchased for lucky door prizes.

A Cross Loop program was purchased and was soon up and running. This enabled a technician giving assistance to take control of a member's computer at home, without the member having to visit the Club. It involved free screen sharing software with remote access solutions. In support, affordable technical and computer help was available.

The inter-village *help* group continued with over 20 members.

At the second combined clubs meeting for the year, there were several speaker presentations. In particular, a presentation by Don Mackay, a blind member, spoke on sight impairment. He suggested the Club purchase a Monomouse for $850, for use by sight-impaired members, to evaluate the possibility of personal use. It was agreed to advise The Foundation for Aged Care of this purchase, and seek assistance with further (such as keyboard) purchases if needed.

Bruce Myers of Kirrawee Club, advised he had found a server, Ezylink, which charged $49 per month and which provided broadband for 30 members. The Club would go on to charge members $20 per year for this broadband access.

Rob Binskin - ARV IT Manager

Barbara Ward - ARV Foundation for Aged Care Manager,

both strongly supportive of the Club

Year 2008

At the AGM in August, the following were elected to the Committee.

Graham Atkin, Gwen Bradford, Lynton Bradford, Bob Conrow, Dorothy Eastoe, Bob Hooke, Allen Parker, Allan Hopper, Kathleen Roberts, Elaine Donald, Sybil Jones, Rod Roberts, Anita Featherstone, John Wheeler, Bill Hurditch, Mary Morrison, Doreen Garner, Margaret Morris, Anne Jones.

Executive:

President – Lynton Bradford; Vice President – Allen Parker;

Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Bob Conrow

During 2008 the Club acquired the following:

Several 'Internet Kiosks' from the ARV IT Department

Large screen computers to assist sight impaired residents

A phone for the blind

Five new computers @ $4450 (part of the replacement program)

A 'Virtual Computer System' which connected one computer with five others, each having screen, keyboard and mouse

Program 'Dragon Naturally Speaking', which enabled access to computers by face recognition.

Two refurbished computers from Work Ventures for the Rohini Club

At monthly meetings the Club enjoyed the following speakers:

Tam Ho	-*Macular Degeneration*
Lynton Bradford	-*What's New in Computers?*
Rob Drummond	-*Software and Products for the Vision Impaired*
Steve Macready	-*Work Ventures on Reuse and Recycling*
Bill Allen	-*Ferries of the Parramatta River*
Rob Binskin	-*Social Networking on the Internet*
Bob Delahunty	-*Restoring Australia's Aviation Heritage*

Saturday Interest sessions

Saturday Interest Meetings were held in the Sisson Health Centre.

This accommodated 50+ members compared to 17 in the Leumeah Club.

Speakers offered the following topics:

Lynton Bradford   - *Getting Started with PowerPoint*

Kathleen Roberts and Alan Hopper - *Old Sydney*

                     with images provided by Henry Spencer

Bill Greenhalgh   -*The Convict Doctor of the Castle Hill Asylum*

Lynton Bradford- *Useful Databases*

Bill Hurditch   - *Email*

Dorothy Eastoe   - *Interesting Things on Word*

Various speakers   - *What's Behind the Computer?*

Alan Hopper   - *Using the Digital Camera*

Bill Hurditch   - *Using the Clipboard*

                     questions/answers and new things

Malcolm Squire and David White - *Fascinating Graphics*

At monthly meetings in Barton Hall, the Club provided speakers
on IT topics and general interest topics. The Macular Degeneration topic
resulted in the highest attendance.

Bill Hurditch presenting

The Club saw a growing interest in Saturday morning presentations.
It was rewarding to see member attendance grow steadily from 16/20 in
early 2007 to 40 + in 2008. The increase in attendees saw use of the
Sisson Clinic Meeting Room become a permanent fixture.

Formal Club guidelines

Following considerable deliberation by the Club Committee and after
seeking advice from ARV Management, a set of ARVCC Guidelines was
adopted in February for operation by the Club. One of the key factors in
drawing up these guidelines was the acknowledgement that members were
covered by ARV general insurance. Availability of the Club's Leumeah

rooms, the Sisson Clinic Meeting Room and Barton Hall along with ARV insurance was a major saving in Club costs.

Club funding

The continued production of greeting, birthday cards and personal badges also added to funds. The Club continued to provide 'in home' technical assistance with computer malfunctions. It became obvious there was an urgent need for members with technical skills to carry out this work.

A major objective of the ARVCC was (and still is) to encourage residents in the use of computers to enhance their lifestyle. Those with physical impairments such as sight, hearing or mobility disabilities were particularly targeted. The 2008 survey results highlighted the residents' needs to maintain communication with friends and relatives using emails, and to explore personal interests throughout the internet.

To assist residents with impairment and those restricted to in-home activity, the Club investigated computer-related aids such as large character keyboards, a foot operated mouse and speech recognition narration. A large screen monitor was purchased while the Club also offered the copying of VCRs to CDs and DVDs.

The Committee considered the future cost of providing equipment, replacements and additions. In its early days, the Club had been fortunate in receiving large monetary donations from ARV management, The Foundation for Aged Care and Mowll Village Fairs. There had been the provision of several major items of equipment from the ARV/IT Department.

The update cost of computer equipment was now assessed at just over $37,000. It was decided to set aside the term deposit fund as an equipment

sinking fund. A 5 Year forecast of replacements was estimated at just over $21,000, based on replacement over 5 years and 60% of the original cost. This allowed for the steadily reducing cost of new computer equipment.

From an earlier survey and recent developments, the Club was aware of the growth of notebook computer use, then numbering 55. The Club helped members with advice on purchases and setting up notebooks with appropriate software. However, the Club did caution against haste in purchase of new equipment, particularly notebooks. It recommended members seek advice from within the Club, to be confident of their needs.

The new Residential Care Facility, Brian King Gardens, was completed in 2008. It was believed there could be some extension of membership from this facility.

ARV and the Foundation for Aged Care donation

The 10th anniversary meeting of the Club was held in October. It was a very happy and successful occasion. Sincere thanks were expressed to those who continued to support and build the Club. In particular, Ken Barber for his personal assistance and that of the Anglican Retirement Villages management.

The Committee and members were especially thrilled and surprised when Ken presented a $10,000 cheque from the Foundation for Aged Care.

Ken Barber presenting the donation

Lynton Bradford, Ken Barber, Barbara Ward and Allen Parker

Internet kiosks

About this time, the Federal Government introduced a program called *'Internet Kiosks',* available gratis to organisations similar to the Club. Interactive kiosks were to be set up at computer clubs, featuring specialised hardware and software, providing access to information and applications for communication, commerce, entertainment or education.

Eric Aldegeur set up an internet cafe in Brian King Gardens. The Club offered to assist residents when required. Club members offering help were Ken Andrews, Dorothy Eastoe, Elaine Mort, Bob Conrow, David Hewetson, Doreen Garner and Rod Roberts.

Assistance to residents in Aged Care

Lynton Bradford suggested hostel assistance - an hour or so every 2/3 months. The Club started with Warrina Hostel and Rod Roberts, Alan Hopper covered Hopetoun and Anita Featherstonhaugh offered help at Donald Coburn.

In response to requests from hostel diversional therapists, the Club produced other programs to benefit residents. Warrina's very active therapist Raelene Blackledge, was keen to put forward such schemes. Her requests were followed by similar from other villages. ARV assisted in appointing a staff member, Kris Rice.

Residents with sight impairment from Warrina Hostel called for help, asking if the Club might be of assistance. Rob Binskin provided a contact in the Royal Blind Society, while the Club purchased several items of equipment such as a computer with large screen and a special phone for the blind. It was discovered many aids were available from the Quantum Group and at the website coolgadget.com.au.

Rohini Village Turramurra

Two refurbished computers were purchased by the Club from Work Ventures for the Rohini Village Club. Arrangements were made for visits by their members for tuition. Rob Binskin sent 50 copies of Office 2007 and windows 7 Upgrade, to go to other individual clubs, not members.

Combined club meetings

Further support continued with the yearly meeting held in June 2008, to exchange ideas and information across ARV computer clubs. The meeting was held at Kirrawee with 24 representatives from Castle Hill, Forestville, Penrith, Woolooware, Turramurra, South Hurstville and Woollahra in

attendance. Alan Waters, General Manager, Southern Region gave a presentation on *Technology in Care Management* and Rob Binskin IT Manager, on *Social Networking*. Many topics of general interest were discussed; support for residents in assisted care, use of the internet for banking, WIFI and updating equipment.

During 2008, Lynton and Gwen Bradford installed a Microsoft Works database to record membership and organise distribution of monthly newsletters. The database was also a great help in yearly membership renewals.

To the end of 2008, Club activities and interests included the Saturday morning interest sessions, training in groups, one-on-one advice in choosing equipment and software, in home support, production of greeting cards, badges and personal business cards. Some social events were offered.

Year 2009

Elected to the Committee were:

Graham Atkin, Gwen Bradford, Lynton Bradford, Dorothy Eastoe, Bob Hooke, Allen Parker, Alan Hopper, Kathleen Roberts, Elaine Donald, Sybil Jones, Rod Roberts, Anita Featherstonhaugh, John Wheeler, Bill Hurditch, Mary Morrison, Doreen Garner, Margaret Morris and Anne Jones. A brief meeting of the new committee followed and the Executive was elected:

President – Lynton Bradford

Vice President – Allen Parker; Secretary –Rod Roberts;

Treasurer- Mary Morrison

Equipment acquired

High speed colour laser printer

19" monitor

Computer and slide scanner for Forestville

4 LCD monitors and a computer for Penrith

Monthly meetings

Bill Allen	- *Ferries of the Parramatta River*
Rob Binskin	- *Social Networking on the Internet*
Bob Delahunty	- *Restoring Australia's Aviation Heritage*
Chris Johnson	- *Analogue to Digital*
Bill Hurditch Jnr	- *Working in New Guinea*
Christopher Hales	- *General Astronomy and the BLU Satellite*
Rob Binskin	- *Windows 7*
Bill Hurditch Jnr	- *PNG, Timor & Poverty Alleviation Through Economic Development*
Chris Johnson	- *Digital TV and Related Topics*
Christopher Hales and	- *General Astronomy, The Square Kilometre Array and The Blue Satellite*

Arthur Barnes and Andrew Kirkwood - *Sydney Water - Climate Change*

Bill Allen	- *Sydney Ferries*
Pat Moran	- *History, Current Practice and Future of Credit Cards*
Stephen Jackson	- *The Sahara Marathon*

Saturday interest sessions

Alan Hopper	- *Across the Simpson Desert*
Bill Hurditch	- *Trees Around the Village*

Dorothy Eastoe and Alan Hopper - *Using Outlook Express*

Anita Featherstonhaugh - *Joadja Creek*

Dorothy Eastoe & Alan Hopper - *Using Outlook Express*

Anita Featherstonhaugh - *Joadja Creek*

Dorothy and Alan Hopper - *Further on with Outlook Express*

Margaret Mason	- *Joadja Creek- Another view*
Alan Hopper	- *Basic Windows*
Lynton Bradford	- *CD/DVD Players & Burners. Irfanview. Internet Issues. Skype and Others*
ARV Physio	- *Nintendo, Wifi and Wisports*
Bill Hurditch	- *Backing Up*
Dorothy Eastoe	- *Did You Know?*
Alan Hopper	- *More Computer Basic - Facebook Discussion*
-	- *Life at Sea*
Lynton Bradford	- *Browsing the Internet*
Laurie Facer	- *Sierra Leone*
Dorothy Eastoe	- *Computer Accessories*
Allan Hopper	- *Excel*
The Team	- *The Keyboard*
Dorothy Eastoe	- *More Windows Accessories, including Internet - Banking*
Alan Hopper	- *Digital Photo Enhancements*
Lynton Bradford	- *Internet Searching*

Away from computers, members enjoyed some social activities such as Hawkesbury cruising. There were two visits to the ABC New Inventors Program, where members formed part of the audience. Open Days and Melbourne Cup activities in lieu of usual monthly meetings were welcomed. The New Year's Eve party was a great success, where the big screen allowed members to join in Sydney's celebrations and the countdown to midnight.

Cruising fun

CEO Ken Barber retires

At a specially convened meeting on August 4, members farewelled Ken Barber ARV CEO. Lynton Bradford briefly covered Ken's involvement in forming the Club with Allen Parker 11 years previously. Dorothy Eastoe, Allen Parker and Alan Hopper made a presentation of a card (signed by members) and a basket of fruit.

In his response, Ken thanked Allen Parker, for his efforts in establishing the Club. He spoke enthusiastically of how he had always followed the Club's progress. He was amazed at how the Club had grown and the large attendance at his retirement gathering. Ken praised the Club for continued interest and support of other ARV computer clubs.

The 3G Wireless Broadband Service with CommSec was purchased. This allowed members to borrow the notebook computer and modem for a trial period at home.

Results of the 2009 Club Survey revealed laptops were increasing. Windows XP and MS Office 2003 were still the most popular system and software, while the use of Broadband was increasing. Club President, Lynton Bradford reported from the ASCCA conference that Seniors were the fastest growing group on Facebook. There was significant research being undertaken into a more natural human interface with computers – the use of touch screens, hand gestures, head movements and a new Virtual computer system ($750) which connected one computer & screen to 5 other screens that only had a keyboard and mouse. He also advised there were cheap computers and laptops on sale at Muirfield High School's Sunday market. They appeared to be of good value.

Assistance with Genealogy research

Dorothy Eastoe reported from the recent DPS *(Dead Persons Society of NSW)*, meeting about a new program called **ancestry.com***.* The year's subscription was $230 and the meeting decided it should be purchased for the benefit of members researching family history. The Club also purchased examples of new computing equipment to enable members to try before buying. These included the 'All in One' touch screen computer, an iPad, a 'Pen Friend' label reader and a large screen monitor for the sight impaired.

The Club had various types of equipment in use, such as the Wireless Broadband purchased in 2008, frequently used for testing 'in home' reception and other mobile uses. The Hopetoun library computer was replaced, while Microsoft Office 2007 was installed on the Barton Hall notebook.

Combined villages yearly meeting

In 2009, the meeting was hosted by ARV Head Office Norwest and held in June to exchange ideas and information. Representatives from Castle Hill villages, Glenhaven Green, Kirrawee, Woollahra and Glebe were in attendance. They were welcomed by Rob Freeman, CEO of ARV. At this meeting, Rhys McKendrick IT Infrastructure Team Leader, provided an update on ARV information & technology, reporting on the installation of iCare for managing nursing home medical functions. He also explained that internet kiosks for seniors had been installed across 15 villages. They were intended to enable seniors to learn how to communicate by email and search the internet. ARV was hopeful of more positive interest among residents.

The Federal Government would extend support for kiosk computers for another 4 years. The NEC allowed administrators access to these computers for requirement modification, in the hope they would increase effectiveness and use of computers by residents.

Computer interests at Castle Hill Club covered a wide range of interests and needs – emailing, internet browsing, genealogy, converting music and videos, scanning photos and slides, photo correction and enhancement, internet phone calls, researching special interests, word processing, spreadsheets, on-line banking and finance, on-line shopping, games, mobile phones and more.

The *Bits and Bytes* monthly newsletter, thanks to Sybil and Peter Jones, continued to keep members in touch with activities and computer interests, particularly those who had limited mobility. In 2008, the newsletter was printed in full colour, thanks to the Club's new laser printer.

There was continued support for the Saturday morning computer sessions in the Sisson Clinic meeting room. While there was an ongoing challenge to plan interesting presentations on a weekly basis, it was rewarding to see a regular attendance of 30-50, with 65 on one occasion. As proposed in 2008, the Club installed a projector permanently on the ceiling of the Sisson Clinic meeting room, avoiding removal of the projector after each presentation and making it available to all who used the room.

Dorothy Eastoe continued to provide the majority of training, assisted by a few volunteers who had the skills to train others. In 2009, the Club provided help sessions for 172 members. Sessions included Excel, IrfanView photo enhancement, files and folders, PowerPoint as well as many individual lessons each week. Monthly meetings in Barton Hall continued with a variety of speakers and topics, thanks to organiser John Wheeler.

Additional income

The production of greeting cards and birthday cards continued as a major contributor to funds. In 2009, income from these items was $4,814. The Club remained grateful to the production team and village managers for their orders of badges and cards, as well as orders from offsite.

Russ Weekly volunteers his assistance

The Club was fortunate to have outside volunteer Russ Weekley, attend the Club and offer technical assistance. Russ worked for seven hours each week to assist at the Club and in-home visits for computer and software malfunctions. Together with member volunteers, there were 150+ in-home visits in 2009, as well as email and phone help responses.

Few members with the necessary technical skills to solve significant technical problems however, were available. The Committee hoped there

would be more members and volunteers who would come forward to assist. The use of notebook computers continued to rise, primarily due to space saving aspects. It was suggested members who were considering notebooks, also consider the All in One type as an alternative.

The availability of Leumeah Club rooms, the Sisson Clinic meeting room and Barton Hall, as well as insurance and financial assistance were significant benefits for the Club. Many other senior computer clubs were not fortunate in such support.

Social occasions were still highly enjoyable. A very successful Open Day was held in October with displays of programs, new equipment and computer devices. The Club provided a sausage sizzle lunch which was very popular. All donations from the day went to The Foundation for Aged Care. In November, the Club combined with *Mowll Village Entertainment* for a Melbourne Cup afternoon tea.

The ARV Computer Club was a member of the Australian Senior Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA) which had some 160 Clubs. Major suppliers such as Microsoft, Telstra and others were involved. Gwen and Lynton Bradford attended the two-day September conference in Sydney each year and also the AGM in November.

The Dead Persons Society met regularly every second month at the Club. Researching ancestors was a common interest among members and this was a popular group, providing support and advice. The Club had a considerable number of *references* to support the group. The Club library was constantly being updated to keep pace with new hardware and programmes. Books and user guides were available for loan to members.

A new project – burning CDs

Lynton Bradford, Graham Atkin and Bill Hurditch offered their assistance to Raelene Blackledge, diversional therapist at Warrina Hostel, in burning 100 CDs for sale of the *'Mixed Nuts'* performance. Club President, Lynton envisaged future income could be generated by converting VCRs to DVDs. It was suggested this work be undertaken by volunteers manning the front desk.

The Mixed Nuts -- *a cut from a video*
Raelene Blackledge Men's' Singing Group

The Mixed Nuts singing group travelled to many venues to be greeted with rapturise applause. Venues ranged from the Darling Harbour Star Casino to as far as the Blue Mountains. They also appeared twice on television.

Equipment provided to outside ARV villages

A major Committee decision for 2010 was the allocation and spending of the 2009 Foundation Grant of $10,000. As the cheque had specifically identified assistance to other ARV computer clubs, it was decided as follows:

-to purchase a colour printer (approx.$2000) to replace the Laser B&W which would go to another village

-to purchase 3 LCD monitors for Penrith Club and perhaps Forestville

-to temporarily place $5,000 in a term deposit, the length of the term to be determined by the Treasurer

-to investigate the purchase of a Zoom Text Reader to be set up in the Club rooms as a demonstration model for members to use in their own homes.

Year 2010

Elected to the Club Committee were: Graham Atkin, Gwen Bradford, Lynton Bradford, Dorothy Eastoe, Bob Hooke, Allen Parker, Alan Hopper, Kathleen Roberts, Elaine Donald, Sybil Jones, Rod Roberts, Anita Feather-stone, John Wheeler, Bill Hurditch, Mary Morrison, Doreen Garner, Margaret Morris, Anne Jones, Stephen Heap, David White

Executive: President - Lynton Bradford ; Vice-President - Allen Parker

Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Mary Morrison

Equipment acquired during 2010

Two Acer computers @$900 each.

Five new computers @$4460 each as part of planned replacement

Two refurbished computers from Work Ventures for Rohini Village.

Copy of the program Dragon Naturally Speaking for $200.

All-in-one computers – one @ $600 and one @ $1,000.

Kindle e Reader with leather case @$210.

iPad colour reader with case $285.

Six N computing devices.

New external hard drive @ $97.

A VHS to DVD converter.

Pen pal device (for use by visually impaired).

Monthly meetings

Barton Hall 2010

Monthly meetings at Barton Hall

Speakers at monthly meetings

Raelene Blackledge   - *Past, Present and Future*

What's going on at ARV?

Sue Field   - *The Elder Law Website and its Use by Seniors*.

Ken Bock   - *Radio 2RPH*.

Bill Hurditch Jnr   - *PNG, Timor & Poverty Alleviation*.

David Brown   - *Creating Websites*

Bill Greenhalgh   - *Use of GPS in Planning Land Use*.

Ken Driver   - *Apple Computers*.

Castle Hill Librarian - *What's Online etc in the Library*?

Rob Binskin   - *Windows 7.*

Saturday interest sessions

Regular Saturday morning sessions were held in the **Sisson Clinic meeting rooms**, an improvement to the Leumeah room which only catered for about 16 people. The Sisson room was very popular and filled to capacity with about 50 each meeting.

Lynton Bradford   *-IrfanView - Planning Travel on the Internet-*

- Error Messages.

Alan Hopper   *- The Picture Taskbar*

Dorothy Eastoe   *- Scanning Slides and Photos - Emails*

Graham Atkin   *- Introduction to Office 2007*

Malcolm Squire   *- Yates Farm Story at Castle Hill*

Bill Greenhalgh   *-Buying a Computer*

John Adler   *- Inserting Pictures into Stories*

Dorothy Eastoe   *- Dragon Naturally Speaking- Emails*

Lynton Bradford   *- More of Office 2007*

- Creative Publishing - Computer Accessories

Joan Craymer   *- What's Happening with Mobile Phones?*

Dorothy Eastoe   *- Questions, Answers & New Things- Google Earth*

Lynton Bradford *- iPads and Other Tablet Computers*

Graham Smalley/Lynton Bradford*-History of the Internet*

Dorothy Eastoe   *- What Do You Do When…? Using Mailwasher Free*

Bill Hurditch /Lynton Bradford *- Online Safety*

Kate Reynolds   *- Using Flash Drives*

Rod Roberts   *- Replacing Adobe with Foxit Reader*

Graham Atkin   *- More of Office 2007*

Lynton Bradford   *- Easy ways to Manage and Use Passwords*

- Backing up Your Files

Michael Lockwood   *- Exploring Windows Explorer*

Alan Hopper   *- Publisher*

Joan Craymer   *- Back to the Depression and Bread & Dripping,*

Rod Roberts   *- Photo Story 3*

-More on trains

Graham Atkin   *- Demonstration of New Equipment*

- Meteorological   Calendar

Bill Hurditch   *- Excel - Making Calendars - Publisher*

2010 happenings

Eric Aldegeur set up an Internet Café in Brian King Gardens and the Club arranged a schedule of members to assist.

Lynda Kings suggested the Mitchell Youth Forum Committee's students undertake community service work in the village. It was suggested there was a need for carpet cleaning in Club rooms.

Rohini Village needed help to set up a new club with equipment. In response, ARRVCC provided Rohini with a Work Ventures computer.

Rob Freeman became the new ARV CEO replacing Ken Barber.

Lynton Bradford reported on the Australian Seniors Computer Club Association (ASCCA) Conference which he and wife Gwen had attended. They were impressed with a session on *Better Balance to Avoid Falls as we Age*.

Dorothy Eastoe (& Lynton Bradford) were awarded Certificates of Appreciation by Rob Freeman.

The Club was advised to retain Windows XP and Office 2003 on its computers. Members were advised not to upgrade to Windows 7 and Office 2007. New computers being purchased by members of course had Windows 7 and Office 2007 installed.

Open Day – 2010

An Open Day was held in October to hi-light and demonstrate Club facilities. It was a very successful day attended by Club members, other village residents and managment.

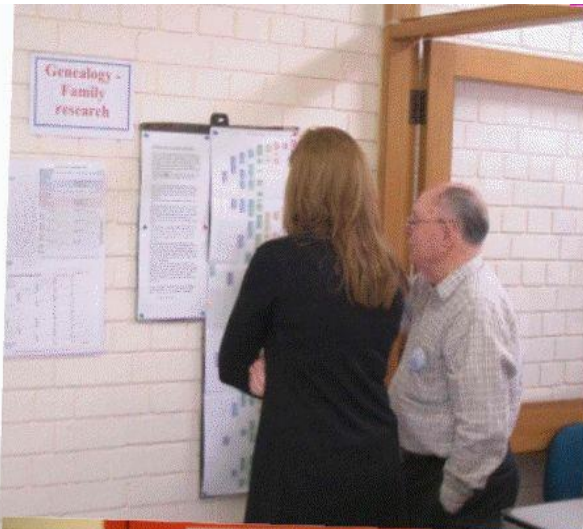A number of Anglican Retirement Senior staff came from Norwest Head Quarters.

They also arranged for an ARV photographer to record the event.
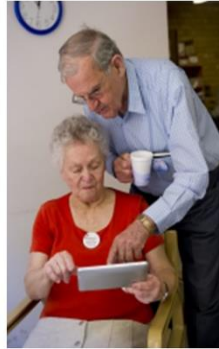
Open Day

Leumeah

2010

New electronic devices

Lynton Bradford reported the combined clubs meeting at Penrith was successful with new pieces of equipment receiving special attention.

An All-in-One Computer, a Kindle eBook reader, and a new device from Apple – called an iPad. Lynton demonstrated a cheaper Chinese model of the iPad.

Year 2011

Members elected to the Committee:

Graham Atkin, Gwen Bradford, Lynton Bradford, Dorothy Eastoe, Bob Hooke, Allen Parker, Alan Hopper, Kathleen Roberts, Elaine Donald, Sybil Jones, Rod Roberts, Anita Featherstonhaugh, John Wheeler, Bill Hurditch, Alex McIntyre, Mary Morrison, Doreen Garner, Margaret Morris, Anne Jones, Graham Smalley, Bill Warren.

President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – Graham Smalley
Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Mary Morrison.

The Club's main focus in 2011 was the forthcoming move to temporary premises in the Hermon Slade Building. It was expected this space would be occupied for about 4 years while the ARV Project of **Lober Square** was undertaken. ARV planned to restore the heritage of Lober House, making it a facility all residents could enjoy. New premises for Wills Cafe, Sisson Clinic, the Therapy Centre, St James Church/Dover Hall, shops and a meeting room were planned. 5 new multi-story blocks of residential units were included while Hermon Slade House, Leumeah, Fairfax House and many older Mowll Village houses were to be demolished.

The temporary area at Hermon Slade location was about 30% smaller than the Leumeah premises but did provide a far more useable area. On the positive side, Hermon Slade was much cleaner than Leumeah which suffered from mould and damp after intermittent flooding. Not the best for computers!

Monthly meetings

2011 Speakers:

Nhung Nguyen — *More about Eyes*

Bill Hurditch Jnr — *Water Use in Australia*

Rev Dr David Claydon — *Understanding Islam*

Castle Hill Library IT — *What Is Online in the Library?*

Colin Stewart (Glenhaven Green) - *Risk Management*

Detective Superintendent Debbie Wallace - *My Life of Crime*

Mark Lees — *TAD.*

Colin Seaton — *Graphic Design*

Rob Freeman ARV CEO — *The Inside Story*

Saturday interest sessions

The Sisson Clinic Quarters were to be moved as part of the Lober Square development, so Saturday morning meetings were moved to the Round House. The Club would later move permanently to the refurbished Gatehouse.

Round House Meetings

2011 Speakers

Lynton Bradford   - *YouTube for Seniors*

Det. Sgt, Nigel Warren - *Chat Sites and Kids*

Eric Aldegeur   - *Managing the ARV Castle Hill Campus*

Dorothy Eastoe   - *Introduction to Publisher*

Graham Smalley   - *Roboform*

Lynton Bradford   - *Photostory*

Alice Collins   - *Coping with Low Vision*

Lynton Bradford   - *Other Uses for Mobile Phones*

Raelene Blackledge   -*The Exciting Challenges in ARV*

Peter Kettle   - *Exploring Genealogy*

Lynton Bradford   - *Cameras, Photos & Computers*

Don Cameron   - *How Random Breath Testing Came to Australia*

Ron Patfield   - *Mustard Gas*

Equipment acquired during the year

VHS to DVD converter.

Pen pal device for use by the visually impaired

A high- quality OKI printer with wax impregnated toners

iPad and E Pad.

Professional edition of Serif Webplus X4, which enabled the Club to create a website jointly developed by Lynton Bradford and Barry Cook.

New computers for - production room, music room & Glenhaven Green.

Cyber safety

Lynton Bradford reported on cyber safety and recommended two web sites already disseminated to members - the *free* antivirus program Microsoft Security Essentials.

The Club was advised, Rob Binskin Manager ARV IT Department, was to resign. A *thank-you* morning tea was organised. At this gathering Club President Lynton, also expressed special thanks to Dorothy Eastoe, who had continued to administer the Club's facilities as well as providing daily training and general help to members for over 14 years. This was an extraordinary effort, which benefited all the Club membership.

The trusty printer used exclusively for greeting card production finally reached end of life and was replaced by a high-quality OKI printer with wax impregnated toners. The new premises permitted examples of the latest equipment available for loan or purchase to be prominently displayed.

Yearly combined meeting.

A combined villages meeting was held in July to exchange ideas and information. This meeting was again hosted by CEO Rob Freeman at ARV

Head Office Norwest. Representatives attended from Castle Hill Villages, Glenhaven Green, Kirrawee, Penrith and Glebe. Raelene Blackledge spoke on the proposed development of an ARV radio facility. The new IT Manager Rob Mashiah, spoke on developments in the ARV I/T Department, internet conferencing and the National Broadband Network.

Kingerlee sub branch

At the suggestion of Alan Hopper, a Kingerlee sub branch of the Club was established. In the refurbishment of Kingerlee (Nuffield Village), a new computer room was provided and large meeting room made available. Thanks to Alan's work this sub branch gave assistance to residents in the 3 apartment blocks.

The Club library was constantly being updated to keep pace with new programs, systems and hardware. Books and user guides were available on loan to members. Publications older than 2000 were no longer relevant and so were discarded. From time to time there were book reviews included in the Bits & Bytes newsletter.

Lynton Bradford reported on the recent ASCCA conference, mentioning particularly the NBN roll-out. There was to be no additional charge for residents who didn't own computers and a dial-up was not available. At that time most Club members were using ADSL internet service. Lynton also reported on positive progress with the trial website and the professional edition of Serif Webplus X4 purchased.

Pleasingly, there was increasing support from Glenhaven Green members, both on committee and in general club activities. The village was expanding rapidly as new retirement homes were being constructed.

Graham Smalley was approached regarding the vacant vice-presidency position and expressed a willingness. On a motion from John Wheeler/Alan Hopper, Graham Smalley was appointed vice-president.

Old computers were being replaced. One each in the training room, production room and music room. At the same time, a computer was obtained for Glenhaven Green. Each time the Club purchased computers, models tended to change but a very similar model to the last replacements was achieved, avoiding significantly differing models. While no longer able to get a roll back version from Win 7 to XP, the Club could have Windows 7 Professional with XP mode. Four Acer computers with 10 USB ports were purchased.

Anita Featherstonhaugh advised of a good deal for replacement printer inks by going to www.inkjetwholesale.com.au and then to the appropriate link for Epson, Canon etc. As a result, inks were delivered free and the purchase worked most satisfactorily.

A sub-committee of Lynton Bradford, Dorothy Eastoe and Rod Roberts met and a submission outlining the Club's requirements for premises in the proposed Lober Square Development, was forwarded to Eric Aldeguer.

Year 2012

Members elected to the Committee were:

Graham Atkin (Mowll), Dorothy Eastoe (Mowll), Bob Hooke (Mowll), Graham Smalley (Mowll), Alan Hopper (Nuffield), Neroli Labalaba (Nuffield), Sybil Jones (Hopetoun), Peter Jones (Hopetoun), Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina),

Rod Roberts (Warrina), John Wheeler (Warrina), Margaret Morris (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Jones (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green).

President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – Graham Smalley

Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Alex McIntyre.

Following the AGM elections Lynton spoke highly of the work done over many years by retiring committee member, Bill Hurditch.

Monthly meetings
Speakers:

Peter Tomlinson	- *ARV Catering* …with afternoon tea.
Faye Yarroll	- *The Gift of Hearing, Cochlear Implants*.
Lynton and Rod Roberts	- *Cruising On the High Seas, A Better Way to Go*!
Darrell Hart, Manager	-*Galloway Environmental Waste Management*.
John Gaeth	- *Adapting Computers for Disabilities*.
Sue Keevers	-*Commercial Photography.*
	It's not too late to develop photography skills.
Mark Aros	- *iCare System* in ARV,
	Development & Use, Potential & Limitations

Equipment acquired during year
Aldi Android Tablet for $249

Books for the library - The Ultimate Digital Music Guide

Two books on Windows 7.

Saturday interest sessions

Joan Craymer — *Blogging and Calendars,*

— *Writing and Publishing Tips and Hints*

Alan Hopper — *Dabbling with Photographs*

Dorothy Eastoe — *Skype Demonstration*

Graham Smalley — *iPads*

Raelene Blackledge— *Retirement Village in Cambodia*

Rebecca Dean — *The Foundation*

Jim Holgate — *A Glimpse into the Future of ARV*

Diana McLellan — *Publishing*

Alan Hopper — *At Sea*

David McLellan — *Facing up to Facebook*

Laurie Facer — *University On-line, a Personal Experience*

Lynton Bradford — *Backing Up*

— *BPAY and PayPal*

— *Interesting Internet Searches*

Lynton Bradford & Graham Smalley— *WIFI and Wireless Broadband*

Lynton Bradford — *Openoffice & Tips and Hints for Word Processing*

Lynton Bradford — *Windows 7*

— *Gmail*

The use of tablet computers surged ahead. Three years earlier tablet computers and eReaders were non-existent in the villages. Responses to the 2012 survey, showed 27 of the new small computer devices were in use from 95 responses. As a result of this surge, the Club planned to provide training and workshops. It was also decided equipment available for members to borrow would be published as a separate sheet in the monthly *Bits & Bytes* newsletter.

Hermon Slade

The move to Hermon Slade

Many meetings between Club President, Lynton Bradford and the chief planning engineer occurred during the first half of 2012. ARV engineers made major changes, including better lighting, power and phone access, replacement of suitable furnishings and a specially designed large reception desk. With such positive response, the Club was able to design a space more mutually beneficial to all. The beautiful surroundings enabled the Club to hold successful Open Days, with BBQs and outside gatherings.

Rod Roberts spoke of the enormous amount of skilful work Lynton Bradford had put into negotiations with ARV management and the planning and drafting for the new premises in Hermon Slade House.

Ground floor layout

The Club was allocated 6 segments of the 12 on the ground floor, plus a central area, an entrance and rear access. It was however, only 2/3 of the Leumeah area.

The ARV IT department had 4 segments, including storage.

The main ARV Internet Server was included.

The ARV History Department had 1

The last segment was a combined kitchen storage.

The location was very attractive with trees, lawn and parking for 6 cars.

Final plan of Hermon Slade
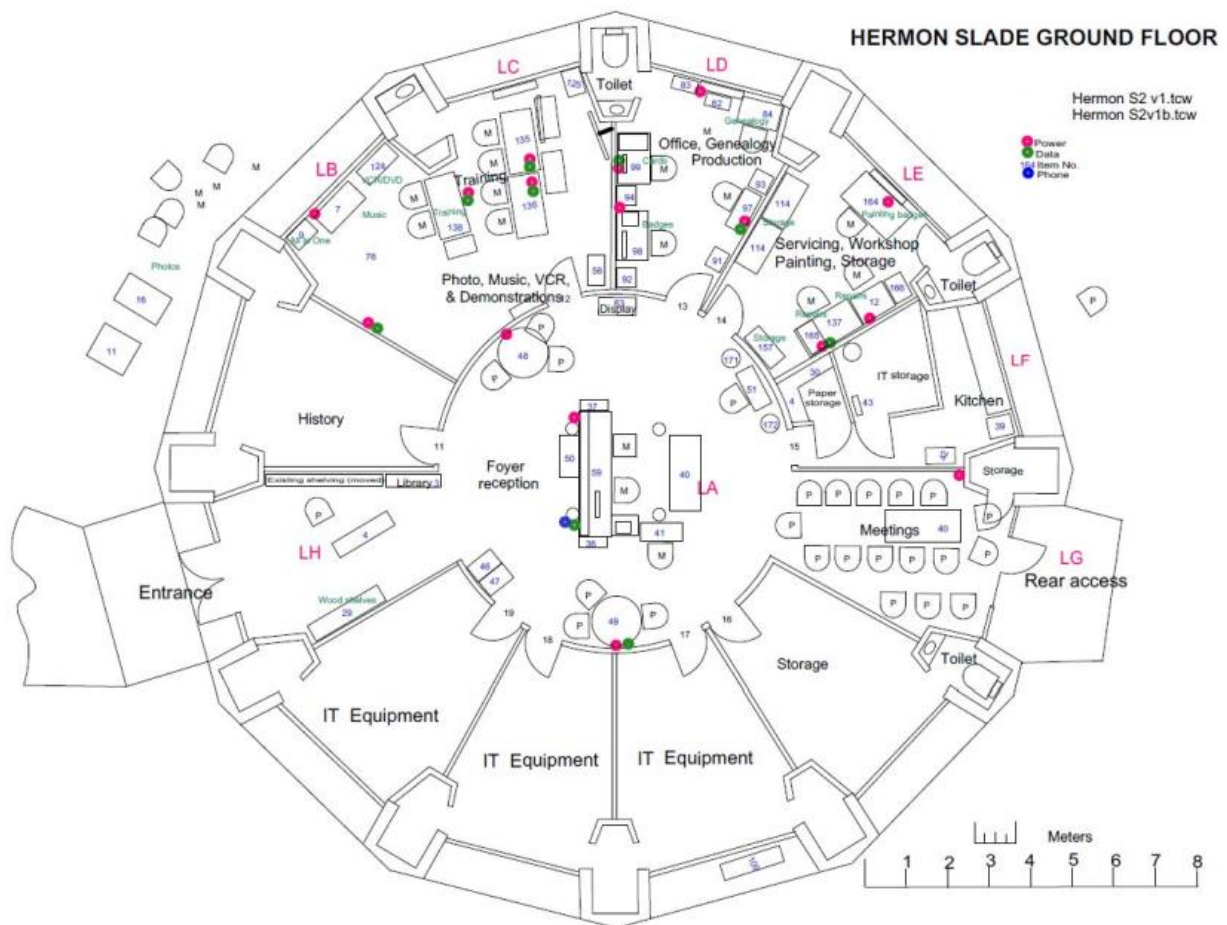
Lynton Bradford CAD program

The move.

The move to new Club rooms was undertaken with few problems, and a *Come and See Day* a great success. It was acknowledged, Club rooms were wonderful and members very grateful to ARV management.

Come and See Day
our opening at Hermon Slade

Come and See Day
our opening at Hermon Slade
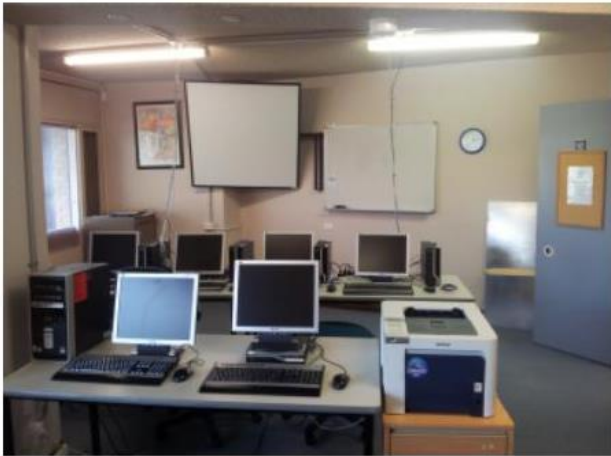
Come and See Day
our opening at Hermon Slade

Our first Committee Christmas party in Hermon Slade - 2012

Last combined meeting

CEO Rob Freeman opened the meeting and complimented all 19 members from 7 clubs on the important work they were doing. Assistance was offered if required. A common feature with all clubs was the huge increase in the use of iPads, Epads, tablets and smartphones. ARV I/T Manager Rob Mashiah gave an update on ARV I/T and also spoke about communications innovation (including the NBN), technology innovation and webinars (web conferencing).

Raelene Blackledge spoke about the ARV radio station which would go to air 24/7. Raelene was relying on computer clubs for considerable support. 2012 was to be the last combined meeting of ARV computer clubs, as members were now finding attendance at meetings more difficult.

Russ Weekley awarded membership

At a meeting in August, Club President Lynton announced Honorary Membership for Russ Weekley in appreciation of Russ' dedicated volunteering time and technical assistance.

Cutting back on Saturday meetings

Secretary Rod Roberts, spoke of the enormous amount of work undertaken by Lynton and Gwen Bradford and Dorothy Eastoe, and the need to ease their workload. Saturday sessions would now be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month.

A very comprehensive report was tabled on the results of the recent member survey. 126 members had returned surveys. It was noted, members with desktops and laptops were decreasing while 30% were now using tablets/ereaders/smartphones. While emailing and the internet were the main interests of members, the survey showed banking and shopping had increased significantly.

Lynton reported on the great work being done by Marcia Bryant, Helen Rose and Anne Anderson. In one month, sales of cards had amounted to $1,565.

Reporting on his ASCCA attendance, Lynton Bradford advised he was particularly impressed with the program *Finerday*. The Committee was also advised the ARV radio station room set up by Raelene Blackledge was now fully equipped and ready for testing. It was noted, Committee man Jim Holgate was to 'retire' at the end of December, so a message was sent thanking Jim for Club support over many years.

Club's final location
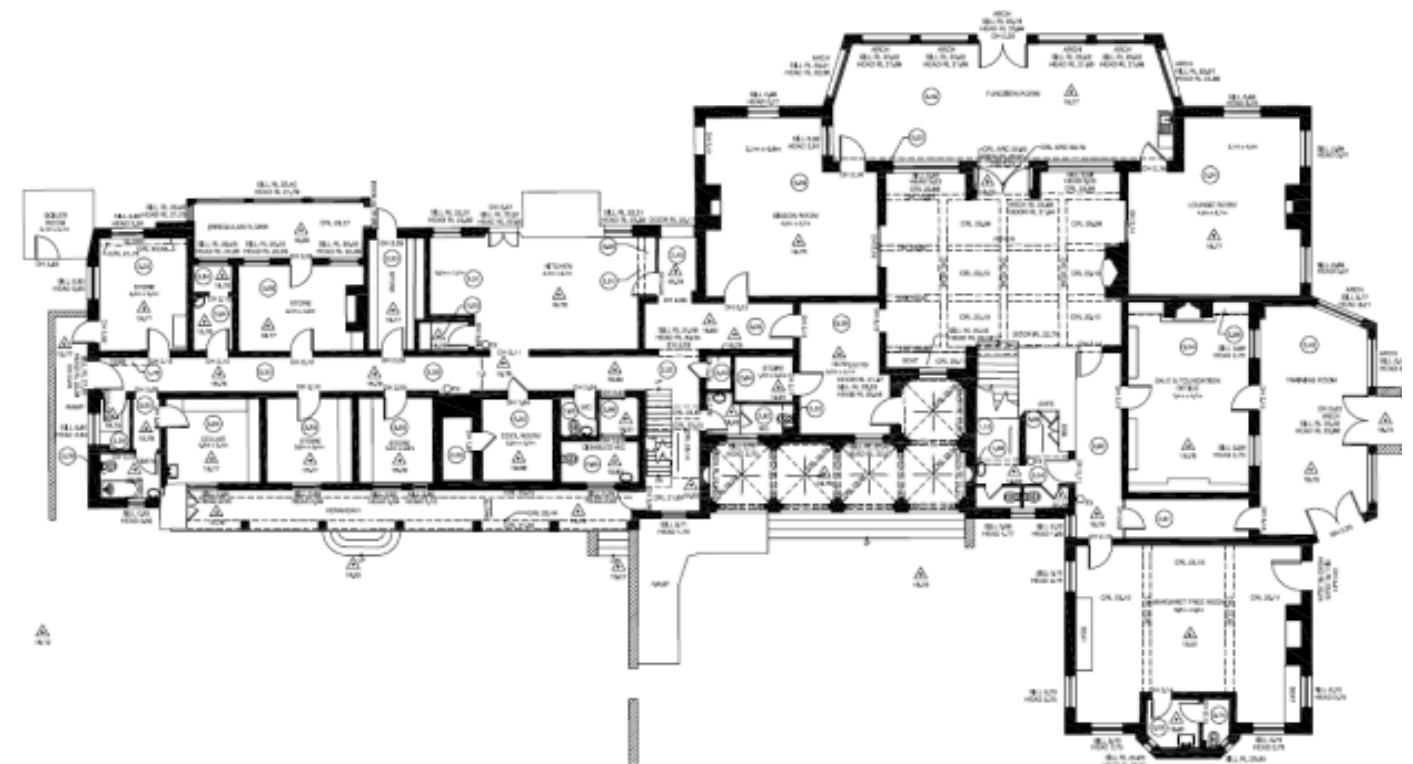
In late 2012, the Club was given some indication of their final move.

The Club would have rooms on the second floor of Lober House.

Lynton Bradford objected, commenting the CC should have ground floor rooms for better access, especially by disabled members. It was then proposed rooms in the old servant's quarters would be offered and a plan of the ground floor provided. These rooms were very small so major alterations were expected………and so began, a long drawn out process to satisfaction!

Our Activities -----
Sisson meeting room, Saturday meetings

Training
room

Alpaca
Farm

Year 2013

The following members were elected:

Graham Atkin (Mowll), Dorothy Eastoe (Mowll), Bob Hooke (Mowll), Graham Smalley (Mowll), Alan Hopper (Nuffield), Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Neroli Labalaba (Nuffield), Sybil Jones (Hopetoun), Peter Jones (Hopetoun), Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina).
John Wheeler (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Jones (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green).

President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – Graham Smalley

Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Alex McIntyre.

Monthly meetings
Speakers:

Graham Bunn	- *ARV Maintenance Archibus Program*.
Jim Holgate	- *Antarctica*
Derek Austin	- *Dragon Voice Recognition*
Michael Ryan	- *Concrete Boots? Not quite*
Dr Greg De Moore	-*Tom Nash, Founder of NFL Football*
Jim Holgate	-*The Atacama Desert*
Colin Seton	- *More on Graphic Design.*
Paul Brunton	- *What-ifs?*

Saturday interest sessions

Lynton Bradford	- *ASCCA Highlights*
Graham Smalley	- *Cloud Computing*
Lynton Bradford	- *Smartphones and Tablets*
Di McLellan	- *Photobooks*

Lynton Bradford	- *Back to Basics with Word*.
	-*The NBN*
	- *Google Docs*
	- *Gmail and Drive*
	-*Using Free on-line Tutorials*
Graham Smalley	- *Emails and the Internet*
Barry Cook	- *Apple Macs*
Lynton Bradford	- *Introduction to Windows 8*
Alexander McIntyre	-*eHealth & Your Medical Records*
Barry Cook	- *Voice over IP*
	- *Webinar for Villages*

Equipment acquired during the year

Membership of *Ancestry.com* at a cost of $240pa.

All in one Office 2003.

Two large screens, one for the main club and one for Kingerlee.

Logitech BCC equipment for video conferencing.

Three books on making videos, music and Androids.

Two new books in the library, one on iPads and Mawson

 Antarctica by Fitzsimons(donated by Jim Holgate)

 Laptop at a cost of $800 for the sole use of running the website

Three copies of the Page Plus6X Website program at $99 each

5" Android Smartphones for $299.

Two computers at a cost of $420 each for Kingerlee.

iPad air at a cost of $598.

Wireless router at a cost of $49

TeamViewer at a cost of $1,500

Flip-Pal portable scanner

Old computers, equipment (printers etc) and TVs were collected for $193. Costs were covered by Stephen Hawkins and Rod Ward for ARV management.

Membership

During 2013, long term member and wonderful Club contributor, Dorothy Eastoe, gave notice of her resignation. Club President Lynton Bradford wrote to Dorothy, paying tribute to her and expressing the Club's appreciation for her years of incredible contribution. Later when the framed tribute to Dorothy Eastoe was ready to hang, the Club held a morning tea celebrating the unveiling of Dorothy's tribute now hanging in the Bradford Rooms.

Margaret Morris resigned from the Club committee and the Club welcomed Clare Hamilton. Clare offered skills as a trainer and was appointed to the committee.

Club actions

Video conferencing companies were identified at $19 to $50 per month. The Club did experiment with these, thinking there could be opportunities for holding not only annual meetings but occasional discussions or presentations. A problem occurred with one of the Club's business computers.

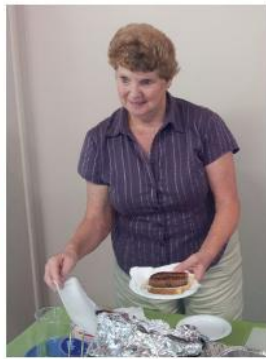**Life Membership was awarded to June Foxall for her exceptional work.**

June's knowledge of card production and her enthusiasm (and pleasant personality) led to her leading a group making cards, with their sale becoming a major income earner for the Club.

OPEN DAY at Hermon Slade

Open
Day
2013

Barton Hall – new sound/video system

Club President Lynton, described the monthly meeting held in the newly refurbished Barton Hall as a "disaster". The sound system and projector were not working and the screen faced the wrongway. Lynton suggested the Club hold future monthly meetings in the refurbished Gatehouse.

Club website

Approval was given to purchase a laptop at a cost of $800 for the sole use of running the website, also three copies of the WebPlus 6X Website program at $99 each.

Membership

Courtesy membership was offered to one member from each of the outside clubs e.g. Penrith Club.

It was decided that when couples were members but only one was *active with technology,* associate membership would be offered to the inactive partner @ $10 a year.

Graham Smalley resigned as Vice President due to ill health.

Anne Anderson was asked to take up the position of Vice President.

Bob Hooke, a committee member for many years and leader of the genealogy group sadly passed.

Club actions in 2013

Lynton Bradford accepted one of 20 places at a *Training for Seniors* day offered by Google ("Getting online with Google"). The one-on-one sessions were very good and Channel 10 made a recording of the proceedings.

ARV gave the Club our own internet port which enabled the Club to proceed with video conferencing.

Arrangements were made to have cartridges/toners picked up – free. Members and organisations were encouraged to bring old equipment to the Club. Stocked batteries were offered for sale to members.

Bits and Bytes

After many years as editors/printers of the monthly *Bits and Bytes*, Sybil and Peter Jones stepped down. Their skilful work both at home and at the Club, in preparing and printing so many editions over 6 years, was very much appreciated. Gwen Bradford volunteered to take up this position, offering experience as editor of *Computer Pals for Seniors Epping* and *Ladies Probus Group Carlingford*.

The ASCCA Conference

Lynton and Gwen Bradford attended the Annual ASSCA Conference. Of most interest to the Club was *Video Conferencing* and a program *TeamViewer.* A free copy was trialled with success and the Club purchased *TeamViewer* for $1,500.

On display was a program called *Flip-Pal* portable scanner for scanning photographs, documents etc. The Club purchased one for $249.

Year 2014

Committee: Graham Atkin (Mowll), Alan Hopper (Nuffield), Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Neroli Labalaba (Nuffield), Sybil Jones (Hopetoun), Peter Jones (Hopetoun), Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), John Wheeler (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Jones (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green).

Executives: President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – Anne Anderson; Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Alex McIntyre.

Monthly meeting speakers

Lisa Marshall, Lober Square Liaison Officer

- *From the ground up Technology in Lober Square.*

Stephen Young   *Easy Tricks for Windows, Word and Calendars*

Dr Roger Lindsay   - *Changes in Dentistry over 35 years*

Speaker from Macquarie Uni   - *Audiology*

Lauren Reeves, ARV Nutritionist - *Good Nutrition for Computer Users*

Amanda Cooke, Annette Smith   - *Physiotherapy at ARV*

Andrew Semple   - *Celebrating Governor Phillip*

Robin Wood   - *History of ARV Castle Hill*

Bill Hurditch Jnr   - *Modern Day Slavery*

Colin Seton   - *North Connex*

Saturday interest sessions

Lynton Bradford   - *Windows Shopping on the Internet.*

Bill Greenhalgh   - *Up the Garden Path with Climate Change*

- *Installing Google Chrome, Firefox and Thunderbird*

Valerie Coupland   - *Some Dos & Don't when Using Your Computer*

Lynton Bradford, Valerie Coupland. Bill Greenhalgh   - *Skype*

Lynton Bradford   - *Introduction to Smartphones and Tablets*

- *Use of Smart Phones and Tablets for Pictures*

- *Moving to a New Computer*

ITAC ARV Aged Care   - *Mobility in Healthcare*

Valerie Coupland   *-Tapping into Interesting Events with Facebook*

   - Internet Security

Saturday Meetings at the Gatehouse

Equipment acquired during 2014

Face microphone $378.

Galaxy Notepad 10.1 at a cost of $539.

TV for training demonstration. $569.

Drum and toners for a printer at a cost of $920.

One 24" Kogan TV (cost $135 + delivery).

One 28" Kogan TV (cost $175 + delivery).

Three card display stands at a cost of $300.

Club actions

Lynton and Rod Roberts visited Warriewood *Help Group* of 12 members which met monthly. Lynton gave a *PowerPoint* presentation followed by Rod providing literature and handouts explaining aspects of our Club. The members seemed very interested in the presentation, but the main obstacle for Warriewood residents was – no club room!

The HP printer required a service call to replace a Fuzer assembly costing $462. The Club printing total had now reached over 60,000 pages!

A number of members purchased the Work Ventures computer which was installed by Russ Weekley.

Alan Hopper was having problems with Kingerlee's printer. It was decided to purchase a new printer and hub.

It was considerably cheaper to purchase TVs than computer monitors so one 24" Kogan TV was purchased for $175 (+ delivery).

The new Club website was now well underway with Barry Cooke and Lynton Bradford registering the site as **arvrcc.org**.

Sales of cards were outstanding. Helen Rose, Marcia Bryant and June Murray were to be congratulated on the enormous amount of work they had done.

Lynton Bradford attended the ITAC conference in Hobart at the invitation of Rob Mashiah, ARV I/T Manager.

A Dorothy Mowll Court resident of Sri Lankan background, was involved in sending refurbished- computers to needy people in Sri Lanka. It was agreed the Club would support where possible.

Club members

Member Vera Abell, was honoured in the 2014 Australia Day Honours. Club Secretary Rod Roberts, sent a letter of congratulations.

Sadly, the Club noted the passing of Dorothy Eastoe and Rob Hooke, two long-serving hard-working members of the committee. Both had made wonderful contributions to the prosperity and activity of the Club.

Gwen Bradford took over the Membership Co-ordinator role.

John Gaffey was invited to join the Committee, and he accepted.

Alan Hopper advised that supervising the Kingerlee Branch was becoming too burdensome for him. Neroli Labalaba agreed to take over this role.

Helen Rose was invited to join the Committee.

OAM Lynton Bradford

The Committee was delighted to learn Lynton Bradford had been awarded the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 2014.

This was a most deserving honour and the Club was hugely proud of Lynton. A friendly, humble, dedicated man with unparalleled technical expertise and enormous energy had displayed untiring efforts and enriched the lives of so many. The Committee also recognised that Lynton's wife Gwen, was an enormous tower of strength in working alongside Lynton.

A presentation photo was displayed in the Club rooms.

Lynton, Gwen and daughter Wendy at Government House

Lober House planning

In preparation for the move to Lober House, the Club started to downsize equipment. A small planning & support sub-committee was formed to investigate and make recommendations.

Lynton and Anne Anderson held discussions with ARV representative Ian Searle and Project Manager Caroline Skene. Unfortunately, discussions were very disappointing. Those involved in the discussions did not really understand Club requirements.

The proposed area was only 55% of existing Club rooms, with no open attractive entrance for good access and space provision for open days etc. The Club was informed, all these requirements were no longer available in the plans, and there were restrictions by the Heritage Council who were over-seeing the development.

Year 2015

The Committee:

Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Marcia Bryant (Warrina)

Executive: President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – Anne Anderson; Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Alex McIntyre;

Membership Co-ordinator – Gwen Bradford.

Monthly meetings

Speakers:

Rob Mashiah, ARV Manager IT

Joan Craymer, VP ASCCA   - *One Family's War 1914-18 and Beyond*

Kirsty Coxon   -*Traffic Driving for the Over 70's*

Russell Clark   - *What is This Ageing Process?*

Prof Andrew Hopkins   - *The Australian Astronomical Observatory*

Saturday interest sessions

Speakers:

Barry Cook   - *Our Club Website & The Latest Scams*

Lynton Bradford   - *Family History, Mystery, Tragedy and Triumph*

       - *Photography using Tablets and Phones*

       - *Smartphones*

Valerie Coupland   - *Using Attachments with your Email*

Barry Cook   - *The Role of the ISP*

Emily New, Manager Sisson Clinic - *Changes in Aged Care*

Peter Tomlinson, ARV Laundry Services Manager.

       -*Dirty Laundry and Clean Technology*

Don Mayfield   - *Introduction to Windows 10*

Valerie Coupland   - *Africa, a Journey of a Lifetime*

Equipment acquired during the year

5.5" Timmy Android smartphone (cheapest and largest phone) for $124

Lenova K3 Smartphone at a cost of $255. Windows Surface tablet.

Club actions in 2015

Three refurbished computers were sent and delivered to Sri Lanka. They were gratefully received by needy residents.

A Dorothy Eastoe memorial plaque was organised and the family advised.

Barry Cook continued work on the Club webpage, encouraging members to use it as well as inviting ideas for improvement.

A CD was received from ASCCA with a number of carefully documented lessons for a variety of topics. They were used as a guide in learning sessions and for handouts.

Anne Anderson and Bill Warren arranged with the Hornsby Shire Council Depot at Thornleigh to receive used batteries.

In the light of the Club's healthy financial situation, it was suggested a donation of $5,000 be made to *The Foundation of Aged Care*.

The 2015 Open Day was a great success with over 100 people attending.

Members

Sandra Mayhew accepted an invitation to join the committee to replace Anne Jones who had previously organised the Saturday sessions.

Elaine Donald and Jeanette Westley accepted invitations to become Committee members replacing Sybil and Peter Jones who represented Hopetoun Village.

Gwen Bradford continued to produce *Bits & Bytes* with Jo Wickens relieving editor.

Alan Hopper resigns

Long serving member Alan Hopper (17 years) resigned from the Committee.

Lynton Bradford thanked him for his extensive work in orchestrating the initial development of the Club from 1998 and his ongoing support.

Welcome Don Mayfield

Don Mayfield joined Russ Weekley as a Club volunteer, providing technical assistance to members through home visits and attention in the Club rooms. Don was a very welcome addition to the Club team.

Monthly meetings

Concerns were raised as to the congestion experienced at a recent monthly meeting and the lack of parking space at the Gatehouse. It was decided future monthly meetings would be held in the Menzies Room.

Lynton Bradford and Alex McIntyre reported on a recent genealogy (DPS) meeting. The use of the Club rooms for meetings was greatly appreciated. 20 had attended the meeting. Alex accepted the job of meetings coordinator.

Lober House move

President Lynton reported on the proposed accommodation in Lober House.

He referred to an updated plan, a full listing of furnishings, desks, tables, chairs etc and a pictorial catalogue of these items. It was decided to purchase one mesh training chair, one mobile rack and five foldable and height adjustable tables at a total cost of $498.

Some matters still required resolution, such as the access doorway between the main rooms, provision of a ramp to the main doorway, parking, deliveries, storage and pickup of recyclables.

Later in 2015, Lynton advised that he, wife Gwen and Anne Anderson had viewed a preliminary inspection of the Club's new accommodation. He reported that most of the Club requirements had been met. The production room was good but there were some disappointments;

i)   furnishings

ii)   the air conditioning in the floor, meant that the placement of furniture was affected and resulted in uncomfortable hot or cold air on member legs.

iii)   limited space restricted activities.

iv)   access was difficult for members with mobility loss.

Year 2016

Committee: Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton),Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Marcia Bryant (Warrina), Helen Rose (Mowll), John Wheeler (Warrina).

Executives: President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-president – Helen Rose; Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Alex McIntyre; Membership Co-ordinator – Gwen Bradford.

Monthly meetings
Speakers during the year:

Jim Holgate, *Buen Cavino*   - *Walking in Wine (western Spain).*

Lendlease Bouyges   - *Undercutting Pennant Hills Road*.

Laureen Reeves   - *ARV Nutritionist*

Vijay Varadiharajan   - *Trends in Cyber Security*

Lauren Reeves   - *Some Nutritional Issues for Retirees*

Elise Edmonds, State Library   - *Digitising WW1 Diaries*

Saturday Interest Sessions

Speakers

Lynton Bradford *- Backing up Computers for Safety*

- Changes in Computers

-Answering Your Questions

-Word Processing

Valerie Coupland *- Windows 10...Q & A*

Valerie Coupland *- Namibia, Land of Surprises*

Gai Hardman (Manager Community Information Centre).

- Update on Sydney Metro Northwest

Lynton Bradford *- Settings and Tips for Windows 10*

Rosalind Gibson *- Experiences and Characters I have*

met within the Justice System

Valerie Coupland *- Report on ASCCA Conference*

Lynton Bradford *- NBN is here, Your options for Internet and Phone*

Equipment acquired during the year

Microsoft Office Professional Pus 2016 at a cost of $370 + $20 for USB backup. A *Pay as You Go Plan* from ALDI for $5 for the SIM card and added a $30 expiry limit. This was installed on one of the Club's Timmy phones.

Club actions

Saturday interest sessions would only be held monthly (every second Saturday).

Lober House Planning

Lynton Bradford tabled his final plan of the new premises in Lober House. He listed pluses and minuses for the new premises. He concluded that over all the Club had done well with what it was given. Plans for moving were outlined.

Rod Roberts spoke of the enormous amount of work Lynton had put into this project, ably assisted by Gwen Bradford. The committee carried their thanks by acclamation.

The designated rooms were only about 70% of the area at Hermon Slade.

The Club had hoped for a doorway directly through to the Wills Cafe side but the alternative access was via the old hot water room. This involved cutting a second doorway.
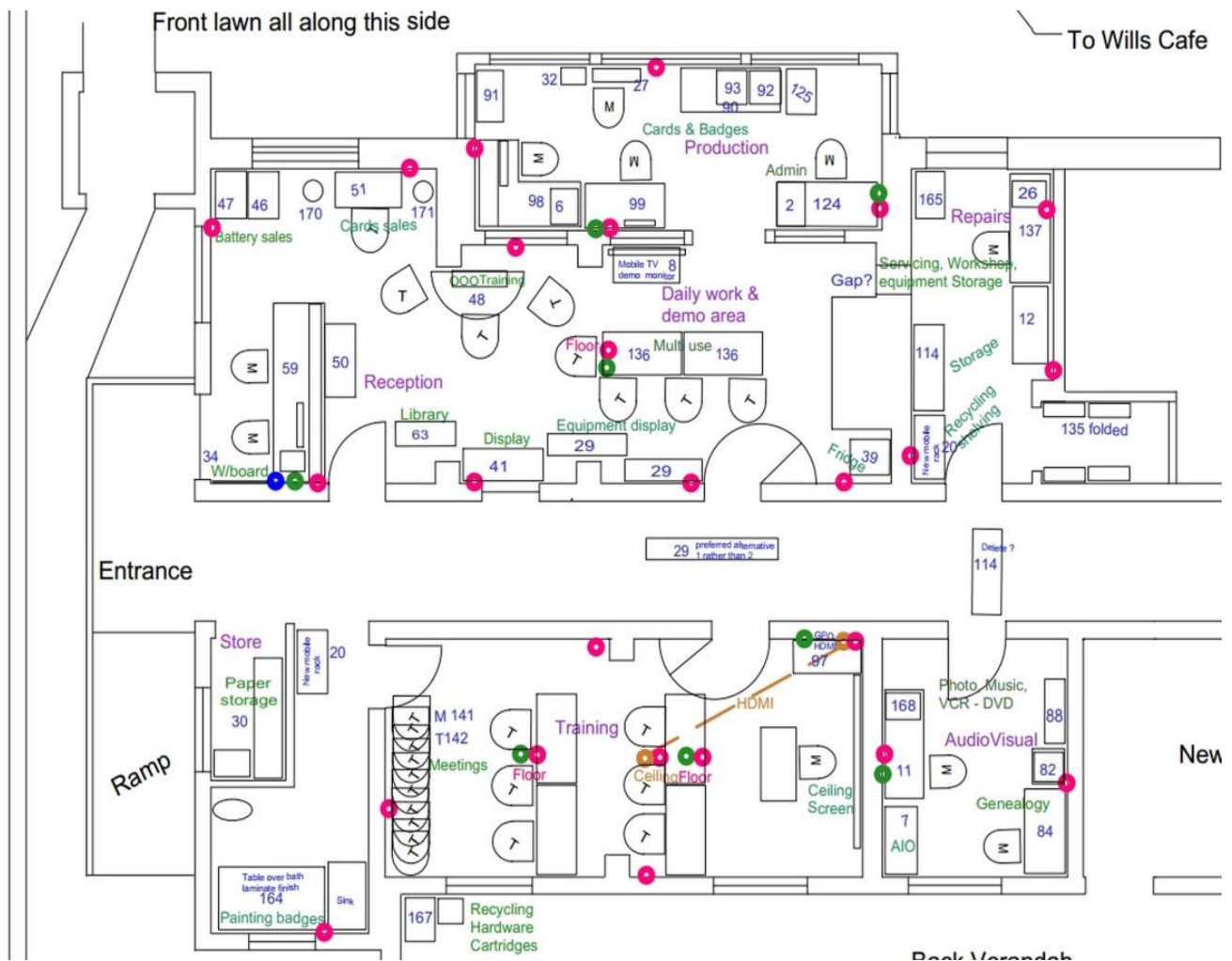
Lynton's final plan

Most of the desks and some large office chairs were supplied by ARV. Lynton cut down the reception desk '59' from Hermon Slade and found side stacking chairs 'T'. These enabled greater versatility with the different layouts needed for lesson sessions, meetings, open days etc.

Establishing electronic payments

In order to set up electronic payments, it was necessary to apply for incorporation of the Club and to alter our guidelines, converting them to a constitution. This was an action in progress.

In order to apply for an ABN number, it was necessary to first apply for reservation of a Name. ARV was approached to accept our recommendation of **Anglicare Retirement Villages Computer Club Inc.**

Honorary Membership for Don Mayfield

At a ceremony in the Club rooms Lynton Bradford awarded Life Membership to Don Mayfield, in recognition of his volunteer contribution and commitment to the Club.

Year 2017

Committee: Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Marcia Bryant (Warrina), John Wheeler (Warrina).

Executive: President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-president – *to be appointed by the committee* Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Alex McIntyre, Membership Co-ordinator – Gwen Bradford.

Monthly meetings

Speakers:

Lauren Reeves	- *Some Nutritional Issues of Retirees*
Dr Bob Elliott	- *Computer Programs in a large*
	Medical Practice.
Dr Oliver Cvekus	- *Oral Health and General Health Issues*
Rev Canon Dr David Claydon	*The History of Islam*
Allan Waters, General Manager	- *Innovation and Technologies,*
	- *Anglicare Technology Plan.*
Robyn Pogany,	- *Bird Life in ARV Castle Hill*

Geoff Roberts, Deputy Chief Commissioner, Greater Sydney Commission

- *Badgerys Creek Airport*.

Valerie Coupland   - *Report on ASCCA Conference*

Julie Beadle and Michael Spikmans (Western Sydney University)
- *Ageing & Communication*
Developments in Speech Perception, Hearing & Understanding Emotions.

Jim Gibbons -   (Retirement Villages Residents' Association, RVRA)
Rights and Responsibilities for Residents and Management
in Retirement Living.

Saturday Interest Sessions

Speakers:

Lynton Bradford   - *NBN is here! Your Options for Internet and Phone*
- *Photography with Smartphones*
- *Exploring and Understanding Websites*
- *Computing for your Health*
- *Exciting New Devices*

- Choosing and Using Mobile Phones

Lauren Reeves, - Anglicare Care Project Coordinator Nutrition

- Keeping Healthy over Christmas

Equipment acquired during the year

Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2016 @ $370.

Book Photography for Dummies.

4 Dell 9020 computer @ $579- $2316.

2 HP 600 pro computers @ $1135

4 HP E242 monitors @ $353

Blue-ray DVD player @ $148.

Club actions

Lynton Bradford advised, the first parallel trial of proposed *Superfast IPOS* worked well.

A successful Open Day with interesting displays, was held with students from Oakhill College.

The latest virus, *CryptoLocker*, was identified and members were strongly advised to always back up their devices.

A comprehensive report reviewing equipment currently in use was tabled.

A well - received presentation, was given by President Lynton at Glenhaven Green.

Janet Bonser, invited Lynton Bradford to give a Smartphones talk at Glebe Village Computer Club. A successful visit was reported.

In September, Rod Roberts was appointed Public Officer.

Lynton Bradford was thanked for his wonderful presentation on the NBN. 140 residents attended. Later, Lynton reported there was still some confusion

among members re the NBN, with many reporting low speeds. The NBN was contacted again in an attempt to clarify the situation.

The Monday Committee meetings following monthly meetings, were considered unnecessary and it was decided to hold all Committee meetings the second Monday of the month.

The Club took up an offer from Cartridge World Castle Hill, to supply an HP printer for $150 with a $50 reduction on the Club's next purchase. There was also an offer to deliver any cartridges that members ordered. At the time, Cartridge World offered a special deal for residents to purchase inks and toners with 10% of all sales being donated to the Club.

The Club received advice in September – that approval for registration had been granted. The Club was now registered as -

Anglicare Retirement Villages Computer Club Inc

Member actions

Jean Barringham was welcomed to the Committee and agreed to give training in Windows10.

Ron Wilson offered to assist with Apple computers.

A family history group was formed, led by Peter Salter.

A photography group started under the leadership of Morrin Grigg with nine members present.

Neil Davidson was appointed as a committee member to replace John Wheeler who retired due to ill-health. Neil offered to be Speakers Coordinator which the Committee gladly accepted.

New member, Graham Ormond, was appointed to the Committee.

Valerie Coupland and Neil Davidson attended the Annual Conference of ASCCA. Neil reported on 'a wonderful conference', and made mention of topics - the digital economy, grants to clubs, seniors video games.

Passing of the inaugural President

Foundation President, Allen Parker, passed away in August. The Club owed much to Allen for having the foresight to see the need for residents to learn more of *this new technology*.

Year 2018

Committee:

Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilviniton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), Alex McIntyre (Glenhaven Green), Bill Warren (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Marcia Bryant (Warrina), Elizabeth Pedersen (Nuffield), John Wheeler (Warrina).

Executive: President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – to be appointed by the Committee; Secretary – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Elizabeth Pedersen; Membership Co-ordinator – Gwen Bradford.

Lynton Bradford made special mention of Alex McIntyre, who was leaving the Committee. He thanked Alex for his untiring efforts to maintain accurate financial records over a period of seven years.

Monthly meetings:

Speakers

Dr Affie Adagio   -*Personality Types and Communication*

Stories from a life coach, family therapist and social ecologist.

Mark Anderson (Beecroft Rotary)   -*Polio Eradication Around the World.*

Hugh Mackay   - *Reimagining Australia*

Katherine Greiner   -RV Ambassador NSW

Joanna Nell   *The Single Ladies of Jacaranda Retirement Village*

A GP re women's health and care of the elderly - latest book

Assoc. Professor Munjed Al Muderis   *Wheel of Fortune from Iraq to Australia*

Innovative Surgery – Osseointegration, Humanitarian Work.

Saturday interest sessions

Speakers

Lynton Bradford   - *Useful Tools and Tips for Internet Browsing*

Valerie Coupland   - *Google Photos*

Lynton Bradford   - *How We Communicate and Our Greatest Tools*

Club membership

The President welcomed Elizabeth Pedersen to the Committee. Elizabeth became Treasurer following Alex McIntyre's retirement.

Anita Featherstonhaugh was appointed to the Committee, and requested continuance as email broadcast and welfare coordinator.

Trevor Arnett was also appointed to the Committee.

Afternoon tea organisers Helen and Terry Whiting, retired. The Club expressed thanks. Clare Hamilton and Sandra Mayhew offered to do the job.

Alan Hopper contributed a *History of the Club* to 2005.

Equipment acquired during the year

A donation of $500 was made to Libra Office (which relied on donations) for their free and powerful *office suite.*

Club actions Instead of training sessions on mobile phones, it was decided there be a focus on individual problems. The newly purchased *Guide to Android* supported this approach.

The Club 20th Anniversary luncheon was held in November and organised by Anglicare's Karen Ingram. A heartfelt thanks was expressed and Karen's daughter received $60 for her assistance at the luncheon.

Lynton Bradford gave a *Powerpoint* presentation of a recent Presidents and Secretaries meeting, while also urging members not to opt out of their *My Health Record.*

Lynton Bradford - Life membership

on 9th April 2018, Life Membership was announced for Lynton Bradford. Lynton's high intelligence, knowledge of computers and technology understanding amazed everyone. Admirably, Lynton had always been willing to share his skills and talents with members. The Club also recognised the incredible amount of time Lynton and wife Gwen devoted to the Club, it's actions

and activities. Life Member Alan Hopper presented the Life Membership plaque to Lynton. The inscription read……

Life Membership Awarded to Lynton Bradford. In appreciation for your extraordinary contribution and outstanding service to the Anglicare Retirement Villages Computer Club as President 2007-2018. 8th March 2018".

Year 2019

Committee: Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilviniton), Stephen Heap (Kilvinton),Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun),Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Marcia Bryant (Warrina), Elizabeth Pedersen (Nuffield), Trevor Arnett (Mowll).

President – Lynton Bradford; Vice-President – Neil Davidson; Secretary –Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Elizabeth Pedersen; Membership Co-ordinator – Gwen Bradford.

Monthly meetings:

Speakers:

Clive Small (Former NSW Deputy Police Commissioner) -*The Ivan Milat Case*

Kathryn Gene (Beyond Blue) -*Seniors Mental Health*

David Rosenberg   - *Pine Gap*

The Inside Story of NSA (US-National Security Agency) in Australia.

Joanne Boik   - *Arthritis and Osteoporosis.*

Brendon Nelson - *Achievements and Hopes for the Australian War Memorial*
Reflections on politics, mental health in defence force personnel and civilians.

Stephanie Dartnall, Acting Coordinator, Department of Communities and Justice, Families and Friends of missing persons unit.

- Supporting Families of Missing People

Rick McCosker, Catholic Chaplain for Port of Newcastle, former Test Cricketer

-International Cricket & the Mission for Seafarers Newcastle

Noel Braun   *- Walking the Camino Trail at 77 and 86*

Heather Lee   The NSW Senior of the Year 2019

- Life's Passions and Interests.

Marie Palmer   *- Rediscovering our Sydney Harbour Gems.*

Saturday interest sessions:

Speakers:

Lynton Bradford   *Exploring Global Warming, Solar & Wind Energy*

Games for Your Computer or Mobile Phone

Your Mobile Number is Your Gold Key, How to Manage and Protect it!

Keeping the Lights on - can power supplies meet the demand of an

increasing population?

Housing Construction and the Likely Hottest Summer This Year?

Word Processing Basics – Hints and Tips

Valerie Coupland   *Why I Should Consider Gmail for My Email*

Photos – Sending, Sharing and Storing

ASCCA Conference Wrap-up

Equipment acquired during the year:

Two microphones. Two laptops. Apple tablet.

Lynton and Neil Davidson recommended the Club purchase two face micro-phones for the Menzies Room and the Gatehouse.

Ann Anderson of Glenhaven Green advised two grants totalling $3,000 were received, and three computers + other equipment purchased

Club actions

Lynton Bradford gave a **Powerpoint** presentation at Glenhaven Green

Are you paying too much for your NBN or mobile service?

Club's 20 Year Celebration

The Club was inaugurated in September 1998.

For the 20th anniversary, a special luncheon was held in the Menzies Room. ARV's **Karen Ingram,** prepared, managed and hosted the event.

Karen spent a huge effort to make this special event a huge success, person-ally preparing every table with individual decorations, different paper cup colour for each table, organising the food, with she and one other helper serving the food.

Club's 20th Anniversary

Our marvellous Host - Karen

Gwen Bradford Life Membership

Andrew Longhurst, Anglicare General Manager Information Technology Anglicare bestowed Life Membership on Gwen Bradford. Daughter Wendy attended the meeting. The Life Membership plaque read……

In appreciation for your extraordinary contribution in performing meritorious and outstanding service to the Anglicare Retirement Villages Computer Club as Membership Coordinator and Bits and Bytes Editor for many years.

Andrew Longhurst awarding Gwen Life Membership

Lynton Bradford retires from the Presidency

In October, after some 14 years as President of the Club, Lynton Bradford announced his retirement. Secretary Rod Roberts paid tribute to Lynton who had taken over the President's role from Inaugural President, Allen Parker. The membership had risen from 200 - 415 under Lynton's leadership. Lynton had developed great rapport with ARV management and as result, management were very supportive of the Club during his term of office.

Year 2020

Committee:

Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Marcia Bryant (Warrina), Elizabeth Pedersen (Nuffield), John Wheeler (Warrina).

Executive: President – Neil Davidson; Vice-President – Lynton Bradford Secretary and Public Officer – Rod Roberts; Treasurer – Elizabeth Pedersen; Membership Co-ordinator – Gwen Bradford.

Monthly meetings:

Speakers:

Kathryn Greiner AO   *- Retirement Living Act 2019*

Dr Suzanne Packer   *- 2019 Senior Australian of the Year*

Speaker from the Maritime Museum - ZOOM SESSION

                                        - History of the Quarantine Statio

Club members

Steven Heap resigned from Library coordination after 7 years.

Rod Roberts retired after many years as Club Treasurer and Public Officer.

Club actions

Vice-President Neil Davidson assumed the Presidency with Lynton happily endorsing and continuing as Vice-President.

ARV Staff Member Ian Searle, took voluntary retirement. A letter of 'best wishes' was sent to Ian, wishing him well and expressing the Club's gratitude.

After considerable discussion with Club Executives and Anglicare Senior Staff, it was decided to seek permission from Anglicare to rename the main Club Rooms in Lober House -*The Bradford Rooms.* This was in recognition of the dedicated teamwork exhibited by Lynton and Gwen Bradford and their devotion over many years to the goals of the ARVCC.

A special morning tea with refreshments, flowers and congratulatory words from Scott Wheeler, Manager Mowll & Warrina Villages, was held in Lober House. Both Lynton and Gwen accepted the dedication with some emotion and expressed significant appreciation. It was a recognition of great achievements!

Following an extensive application process and suitable prior research, **ARVCC Inc** now had an ABN. This allowed the Club to apply for grants, apply for cashless processing capabilities for handling money in the Club Rooms, and to issue invoices to payees.

The Club experienced Gmail broadcast problems. Neil Davidson met with Andrew Longhurst, Head of the IT Department and Sam Michalef. They could not suggest a solution to the problems so a new email account within the Anglicare server was set up. Lynton Bradford imported all the membership contacts into this account and set up the broadcast labels. A test email to the committee label resulted in 100% response. It was then ready for a test broadcast to all members.

Covid 19 onset and after

Following several months of closure, the Club was permitted to reopen with specific Covid related regulations to follow. A Services NSW QR code was organised for the ARVCC and the Anglicare COVID Safety procedures of 1.5 distance applied. Members were required to use the QR code upon entry to Club Rooms, along with wearing a mask.

There were significant changes to the website in adapting to the COVID-19 situation. Website Manager Lynton Bradford, hoped to offer considerable support for members confined to their homes. He spoke of a desire to support member access to YouTube, the professional version costing $23 per month. The Committee decided to take out a subscription for YouTube.

Cartridge World was now delivering inks and cartridges to the Castle Hill site (via Bradford home) and then passaged to members.

Reopening after 'Covid closure'

In October, permission was granted for the Club to reopen.

Member bookings were essential for assistance and repairs. The Club could cater for a maximum of three member appointments at a time. Observant of Covid Rules and the necessity for members to keep their distance, separation

side screens were installed at Club desks. These provided a protective shield and allowed side by side instruction and technical assistance to occur.

The Club reopened its doors on Tuesday and Thursday mornings (9-12), aiming to provide equipment repair, maintain member contact and give guidance in online access. The most common assistance sought by members was access to medical resources, banking/financial operation, emails, ordering supplies, internet access, computer knowledge, mobile phone and tablet help.

As an outcome of the Covid pandemic and its easy transmission through the air, Club volunteers and members were requested to wear masks in the Club rooms. This ruling continued well into 2021.

As the Club had been closed for some months, it was decided in November 2020 that all membership fees would be waived for the year, except for members who had joined during 2020/2021 after the Club's re-opening

Year 2021

The committee: Clare Hamilton (Warrina}, Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilviniton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Elaine Barker (Mowll), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Elizabeth Pedersen (Nuffield), Norm Connellan (Glenhaven Green), Jan Andrews (Glenhaven Green).

Executive: President – Neil Davidson; Vice-President – Lynton Bradford Secretary and Public Officer – Norm Connellan; Treasurer – Elizabeth Pedersen; Membership Coordinators– Lynton and Gwen Bradford, Training – Clare

Hamilton, Genealogy – John Gaffey, Guest Speakers – Neil Davidson, Editors *Bits & Bytes* – Merilyn and Neil Davidson, Welfare – Rod Roberts.

Monthly meetings:

Speakers: (during COVID-19 restrictions, *zoom* meetings were introduced for speakers)

Dr Petrina Barson *(Zoom to homes)*   - *Compassion Mediations*

Greg Jackson & Pam Rodgers (*Zoom to homes*)

           - *Australian National Maritime Museum.*

Dr Kate Van Doore *(Zoom)*   -*Orphanage Trafficking & Modern Slavery.*

Dr Judy Christian (COTA – *Zoom*)   - *Navigating My Aged Care.*

Barbara Ward   - *Deputy Mayor, Kur-ring-gai Council*

Senior Constable Jon Wilson   - *Vulnerable Community Officer.*

KISA *(Zoom to homes & Menzies)*   - *Special Mobiles for Elderly Australians.*

Dr Suzanne Packer *(Zoom to Homes)*   - *2019 Senior Australian of the Year.*

Michelle Goswinkle   - *Wills, Power of Attorneys, Enduring Guardianship & Elder Abuse*

Lynton Bradford   - *Our Essential Sydney Water Supply The Hawkesbury River & Warragamba Dam: The Flood March 2021*

Club members

Sandra Mayhew and Doreen Garner tendered their resignations, which were accepted. Neil spoke of the contributions Sandra and Doreen had made to the committee, particularly social and catering.

The President welcomed Jan Andrews (Glenhaven Green), Sharron Crump (Flinders) and Fred Wilkins (Flinders), and each was then appointed to the committee.

Following the resignation of Helen Rose from the Committee, Merilyn Davidson took on Card production with Elaine Barker assisting.

Jan Andrews reported that at Glenhaven Green, her technical group had assisted all residents in the village to install the Federal Government's MyGov.

Jeanette Westley resigned from her reception role, and Neil thanked her for her long service in the position.

Neil Davidson welcomed Elaine Barker to the September meeting and she was duly elected to the Committee.

Equipment acquired during the year:

Badge machine for $151.55

Paper creasing machine for $92.60.

Club actions

A volunteers' insurance fact sheet was tabled and noted. Discussion related to *cut off* for volunteers' insurance after 90 years of age. However, public liability insurance was still available from the time leaving directly for work to time arriving directly home from work for people over 90 years.

A members' survey was planned, drafted and circulated. There was much discussion about the format and types of questions. It was suggested that such a survey should cover all Castle Hill residents. Anglicare was requested to undertake and finance the survey. It was also decided that the member needs survey should precede finalisation of strategic goals.

President Neil tabled a *Pot Pouri of Retirement Living in 2021*. This document was used at a meeting with ARV HO Senior Staff, regarding greater focus and action by Anglicare to support residents and their ever-increasing digital needs.

Neil recommended that the Club should lobby Anglicare for free WiFi access in certain locations and for free computer and printer facilities in all villages.

Life Membership Rod Roberts

The Vice President advised the March meeting, he believed it was time Life Membership was bestowed on Rod Roberts. Rob Freeman (Immediate Past CEO of ARV) presented Rod with the membership plaque, the inscription reading….

 Life Membership Awarded to ROD ROBERTS In appreciation for your extraordinary contribution and outstanding service to the Anglicare Retirement Villages Computer Club as Secretary 2007-2021. 8th March 2021.

Rod thanked Rob Freeman and the Committee. He also thanked Karen Ingram and his own family Helen, Geoffrey and Stephen for their presence. He remarked *what a privilege it had been to serve as Secretary and that he had enjoyed working with a group of like-minded people*

Lynton and Gwen Bradford believed Honorary Membership should be bestowed on the remaining inaugural members, plus two joining several months later and who have served many years on the Committee: namely David Hewetson, Elizabeth McAlpin, Alan McMahon, Eileen Williams, Doreen Garner, and Graham Atkin. All Committee members agreed, and action taken.

Neil advised that Rod Roberts and Lynton were writing the *Club History*. Work was progressing with the text while Lynton was undertaking a search of photographs.

Discussions took place regarding members who were reluctant to sign up for a session because they were unfamiliar with the process of signing in. There was also discussion as to whether The Club should broaden its audience to the wider Anglicare community in the Castle Hill and Glenhaven sites.

Year 2022

The Committee: Clare Hamilton (Warrina), Anita Featherstonhaugh (Kilvinton), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Elaine Barker (Mowll), Doreen Garner (Flinders), Anne Anderson (Glenhaven Green), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), Sandra Mayhew (Flinders), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Elizabeth Pedersen (Nuffield), Norm Connellan (Glenhaven Green), Jan Andrews (Glenhaven Green).

Executive: President – Neil Davidson; Vice-President – Lynton Bradford Secretary and Public Officer – Norm Connellan; Treasurer – Elizabeth Pedersen; Membership Coordinators– Lynton and Gwen Bradford, Clare Hamilton -Training; Genealogy – John Gaffey; Guest Speakers – Neil Davidson; Editors Bits & Bytes – Merilyn and Neil Davidson; Welfare – Rod Roberts.

Monthly meetings
Speakers
Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley, AC QC, Governor of NSW & Mr Dennis Wilson

Aaron Malouf, Head of Anglicare Corporate Communications organised a media team to record the event and officially welcome the Vice-Regal couple. ARVCC volunteers Rod Roberts (Life Member), Elizabeth Pedersen (Treasurer), Norm Connellan (Secretary) and Don Mayfield (Technician) were presented to the Governor and Mr Wilson.

Jaroslav Duma OAM, Honorary Consul of Ukraine Sydney

- The War in Ukraine

Simon Miller (CEO Anglicare)   *- Artificial Intelligence*

Presentation of ARVCC key members to The Honourable Margaret Beazley, QC AM, Governor of NSW and Mr Dennis Wilson, 3ʳᵈ May 2022.

Left to right: Dr Neil Davidson, the Vice-Regal couple, Elizabeth Pedersen, Norm Connellan, Rod Roberts, and Don Mayfield

Club membership

Anne Anderson advised of her resignation from the Committee which was accepted with regret. The President commented Anne's contribution over many years had been significant. He expressed sincere appreciation for her many accomplishments and happy disposition.

Neil Davidson indicated that after 6 years he wished to stepdown from the role of Guest Speaker Organiser. He hoped another member or members would indicate an interest and take up the challenge.

Chris Keay was welcomed and elected to the Committee, representing Warrina

Equipment acquired during the year:

One Dell all-in-one computer and face masks.

Club actions

Neil Davidson tabled a document ARV COMPUTER CLUB OVERVIEW which set out the relationships and responsibilities for sections of the Club. This overview was distributed to assist members in accessing services.

The ARVCC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with LEEP NGO (now *Digital Literacy Foundation*) with Dr Anne Wiggins, Executive Chair, following 6 months of conversations. The Digital Literacy Foundation would provide the Club with *Tech Mates* to assist the Club's 2 experienced *Technicians*, Russ Weekley & Don Mayfield.

A Grant application for $5000 was made to Federal Member Julian Lesser for purchase of Del computer, coffee machine; volunteer to train for Website Management and for travel expenses for volunteer Tech Mates. The Grant outcome will be advised in June 2023.

Newly revised Computer Club brochure was circulated to all Villages for inclusion in all new resident and marketing packs.

The President attended the monthly Australian Seniors Computer Club Association Zoom meeting and found it very informative and as an opportunity to market the Computer Club.

It was determined that meetings should be by-monthly from 2023 (February, April, June, August, October and December).

In November 2022 the Committee decided to increase the joining fee to $15.

Year 2023

The Committee:

Clare Hamilton (Warrina), Gwen Bradford (Warrina), Lynton Bradford (Warrina), Rod Roberts (Warrina), Elaine Barker (Mowll), June Murray (Hopetoun), Jeanette Westley (Hopetoun), John Gaffey (Nuffield), Neil Davidson (Mowll), Elizabeth Pedersen (Nuffield), Jan Andrews (Glenhaven Green); Chris Keay (Mowll), and Melanie Rankine (Warrina).

Executive: President – Neil Davidson; Vice-President – Lynton Bradford; Secretary and Public Officer – Melanie Rankine; Treasurer – Elizabeth Pedersen; Membership Coordinator– Lynton Bradford; Training - Clare Hamilton; Genealogy – John Gaffey; Editor Bits & Bytes – Merilyn Davidson; Welfare – Rod Roberts.

Club Actions

Early in 2023 it was recognised the Club has made a major contribution to the Castle Hill site. The Computer Club has saved Anglicare resident members $1.6 million in technical help fees, since 1999. Rather than paying $150/hour minimum for each visit by a commercial company to fix a digital issue, members only paid/pay a $15 join fee & $25 annual fee, for unlimited support.

Almost a third of all Residential Living residents on the Castle Hill site belong to the Club, making it one of the largest Seniors Computer Clubs in Australia and the Club, one of the biggest users of Lober House.

The ARVCC now uses **6 excellent Tech Mates from the Digital Literacy Foundation (DLF)** to support our Senior Technicians Russ & Don.

A productive meeting was held with Simon Miller CEO Anglicare, Cassandra Mathews, Chief Executive, Anglicare Seniors Living Business Unit, Dr Anne Wiggins, Executive Chair - DLF, Dr Neil Davidson and Lynton Bradford. The meeting purpose was to plan for the use of the DLF Tech Mates in other Anglicare Retirement Villages, given their success with the ARVCC.

New furniture was acquired for Club Rooms from the Kilvinton site, prior to demolition commencing.

The sale of the 2023 ARVCC Calendar was a great success, selling 160 copies. Resident Ken Bansgrove provided excellent photography.

A new IP phone was installed at the Club, with 3 cordless IP Panasonic stations, courtesy of Anglicare.

The Club welcomed two new Receptionists Rita Berryman and outside Volunteer Peta Paton.

Di Weekley also joined the production team for badges and cards.

Geoff Litchfield took over the Membership Management from Lynton Bradford, significantly streamlining the database, membership subscriptions process and invoicing systems.

During National Volunteering Week, 15-21 May, the ARVCC held special morning teas to acknowledge our 24 volunteers.

Later in 2023 or early 2024, a special event will be held to celebrate the ARVCC's 25 years of operation and the launch of the Club's History publication.

Conclusion

As we reflect on the remarkable journey of the ARV Computer Club over the past 25 years, it is clear that its impact extends far beyond the realm of technology. It has been an empowering force, enabling members to embrace the digital age, stay connected with loved ones, pursue their interests, and actively participate in the modern world. The Club's commitment to providing accessible, affordable, and personalized support has been instrumental in transforming the lives of many members, enriching their experiences and enhancing their quality of life.

Looking towards the future, the ARV Computer Club will continue its mission of serving and empowering members. With the ever-evolving landscape of technology, the Club's dedication to keeping up with advancements will ensure that its members receive the best possible support. The invaluable contributions of volunteers, along with the unwavering support of members, will undoubtedly pave the way for another 25 years of success and meaningful impact.

The ARVCC's history is a testament to the transformative power of community, dedication, and the pursuit of knowledge. Through tireless efforts, the Club's volunteers have not only saved members in the region of $1.6M but have also instilled confidence, independence, and a sense of belonging in a rapidly changing digital world. The Computer Club's legacy will forever be etched in the hearts and minds of those whose lives it has touched, reminding us of the extraordinary potential that lies within the spirit of volunteerism, support, and lifelong learning.