



JEAN EASTON AND NORA DIMES STANDING ON TOP OF MT. LINDESAY, MARCH 1931, PICTURE QUEENSLAND, STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND, NEGATIVE NUMBER 145609

TAGGING ALONG WITH THE CROWD

Maurie and Lyn Mulcahy like fixing mistakes. In fact, it's become a rather time-consuming hobby for the retired Queensland couple from Manly West.

They are two of about 3,000 volunteers enlisted by the National Library of Australia to correct errors made when historic newspapers are scanned and stored digitally.

So far they have corrected 214,997 lines of text on the Australian Newspapers Online website, which provides access to Australian newspapers published between 1803 and 1954.

Not only are the Mulcahys ranked in the top five text correctors in the country they organise their holidays around their new passion, this allows them to fix the 5,000 lines of text a month that secures their place in the text correctors Hall of Fame. In January their volunteer work for the digitisation program was honoured with a special Australia Day award for services to the community.

"It is fascinating to read about Australian (and world) history firsthand from the newspapers, and to see how much some things have changed, and also how some things have stayed the same, like the farmers in the 1800s complaining about the weather in exactly the same way they are now," Laurie said.

About 1.8 million newspaper pages have been scanned by the National Library's special optical character recognition (OCR) software. It is 98 percent accurate, but it takes the human eye to spot a misreading of the text.

Crowd tagging and correcting is one of the exciting features of social networking or Web 2.0 technologies that many people, including libraries, have embraced.

The crowd is everyone and anyone, and tags are words or phrases that are added to web pages and records in the library catalogue.

The tags can be used to help describe the item in the catalogue, to correct any mistakes and to help in the location of items in the future.

Tags and corrections can be added to

photographs, newspapers, books, stories and films, helping future users to find collection items.

The State Library's catalogue One Search also encourages tagging and comments, with more than 1,300 already submitted.

Digitised photographs also generate much discussion. Information is added or corrected and the names of places, towns and people are supplied by the online community.

Mrs Nancy Hodge provided some valuable feedback on an image from our catalogue of two unidentified girls pictured in the bush during a bushwalking expedition.

"This is a significant photo – the first two ladies to climb Mt Lindesay in March 1931. The caption could be: Jean Easton (L) and Nora Dimes (R) on top of Mt Lindesay, 15 March 1931. The first women to climb Mt Lindesay. Photo taken by A. A. (Bert) Salmon. The late N M Dimes was my aunt. There are more photos of that 15 March 1931 trip," Mrs Hodge wrote.

Tagging and commenting is not limited to State Library's website. The global community tags State Library photographs and videos made available on Flickr and YouTube. Tags have been added to Flickr in a variety of languages reflecting the international community.

A digital story from Townsville on the Legend of the Saint (on Castle Hill) prompted YouTube reminiscences about the infamous graffiti mark from the 1960s.

"The original question mark was painted on the night of 24.4.1961 by a team of 8 (guys and girls) as a comm. week prank for the newly opened Uni. College and viewed by ANZAC parade next morning. One guy lowered over on a 13mm rope while others held other end. EXTREMELY dangerous."

WORKSHOPS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS

Enquiries for these sessions learning@slq.qld.gov.au

BLOGGING AND TWITTER FOR BEGINNERS

Learn how to design and maintain your own blog with user-friendly editing tools. Connect with friends, family or the entire world through regular diary-style entries and commentary. Twitter is micro-blogging and 'everyone' is using it.

PREREQUISITES BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS, WEB-BASED EMAIL ACCOUNT (SUCH AS GMAIL OR HOTMAIL)

WHEN THU 27 MAY 10AM TO 12PM

WHERE TRAINING ROOM, LEVEL 1

TICKETS \$10 INCLUDES A COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL

BOOKINGS QTX.COM.AU OR 136 246

GOOGLE IT

There's more to Google than you imagine. Come along and learn how to use Google to search, communicate and share. Staff will demonstrate searching strategies, show you how to create a personalised Google home page, and show you how to use Google Maps.

PREREQUISITES BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS

WHEN FRI 26 MAR & MON 7 JUN 10AM TO 12PM

WHERE TRAINING ROOM, LEVEL 1

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GOOGLE IT MORE

Another Google session (no need to have come to the first one). Come along and learn more tips on using Google to search, create your own documents without having to purchase software and organise yourself with Google Calendar.

PREREQUISITES BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS

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Come to the third in our Google sessions (no need to have come to the others). Find out more about searching, finding places using Google Earth, organising yourself and more. Learn what's new from Google.

PREREQUISITES BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS

WHEN THU 8 APR 10AM TO 12PM

WHERE TRAINING ROOM, LEVEL 1

TICKETS \$10 INCLUDES A COMPREHENSIVE MANUAL

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INTERNET SAFETY

Want to know more about internet safety? Come along to this session where library staff will discuss some of the dangers of the internet and how you can protect yourself and others. The session includes tips on making your computer safe and information about cyber bullying.

WHEN TUE 20 APR 10:30AM TO 12PM

WHERE SLQ AUDITORIUM 2, LEVEL 2

TICKETS FREE, BOOKINGS REQUIRED

BOOKINGS QTX.COM.AU OR 136 246

ADVANCED BLOGGING

Already know how to blog and have your own blogger account? This session will show you some advanced blogging techniques. Our experienced staff will show you how to post videos to your blog, post from an email, add a widget and more.

PREREQUISITES BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS, BLOGGER ACCOUNT

WHEN TUE 16 MAR, 10AM TO 12PM

WHERE TRAINING ROOM, LEVEL 1

TICKETS \$20/\$10 CONC.

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