

Meeting notes from June 4th 2009.

Most of us are into the world of digital cameras and the editing of the images we capture. At times it seems that the initial images are only the prelude to the final result we print, send with e-mails or save on our hard drives. In between these stages are the rather wonderful programs we use to edit, compose, and store these images. It also appears that we all have our favourites in the editing programs and are able to defend them valiantly!!

This month Alice Hay presented her choice, Picasa to the group. The files she used for her demonstration had been loaded on to a flash drive and downloaded on to the Club's PC. There were many features available and most were recognizable to the audience from other programs they used.

The straighten tool was very easy; a matrix appeared on the image and a simple up or down key stroke correction achieved the desired result. The collage feature was different to other approaches - very intuitive and produced excellent results. Sending your image via e-mail worked easily as did the resize tool. The Picasa Help feature was on the Net, but easily available. As Picasa used the date on the image file it is essential to have the date on your camera correct, a easy task.

Another great factor in Picasa's favour was the fact that it is free from Google Earth!! This is always attractive to frugal, read cheap, people like myself. Even so, Alice showed us the many intuitive points of the program and gave us a most interesting evening. Many, many thanks.

Submitted by Alan Forrest