

WikiClubWest

The role of meetups in the evolution
Of wiki clubs, chapters and localised groups

Using the example of a group
From Perth, Western Australia

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Wikimania 2023 in Singapore

“I wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land the Group has had meetings on, the Whadjuk (Perth region) people. I wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.”

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Please note that the opinions here are of the author and in no way reflect that of the WikiClubWest group or that of the parent body the Wikimedia Australia chapter - any errors or mistakes are of the author

Found as:

Local Wikipedia Groups - history, context and place
<https://pretalx.com/wm2023/me/submission/CQSRE/>

With Abstract as:

The largest sub national 'state' in the world. The discussion is an overview of the issues arising from the long term experience of an editing community, and the challenges that are involved in sustaining involvement and interest.

Introductory text was:

WikiClubWest is the name of the Western Australian branch of the Wikimedia Australia Chapter. It has met more or less continually since 2007. This overview looks at the various activities that have occurred over time, and the issues that arise. <s>Where possible formal members/ participants Will have their anecdotes and stories related, as well as current individuals. The review of the 'place' of wiki clubs/editing groups will also be discussed as well as considering specific involvements that occurred during larger scope events.</s>

Explanation of modification:

The concentration of major themes of where meetups evolve over time
Into more organised and systematic sub projects has been examined
Have precluded the intended collection of anecdotes and stories.

Also understanding that a detailed narrative history of the fate of wikipedia in Western Australia has not been collated at this stage, but is planned in the near future

WikiClubWest (WCW) or the Western Australian branch of the Australian Wikimedia Chapter (WMAU) has evolved from meetups that have occurred in Perth, Western Australia since 2007.

The WCW has had events and organised projects, as well individuals from the community evolve a range of important products and activities of some significance beyond the localised results in English Wikipedia.

Significant events in the WCW timeline include:

Jimbo Wales visit in 2007

Wiki Towns establishments: -

Freopedia

(Including the involvement of the late Craig Franklin)

Toodyaypedia

Noongarpedia

Rater assessment for the wider English Wikipedia

Wikitakes events in Perth, Fremantle and other locations

Australian Archivist Conference involvement

(Including the involvement of the late Lise Summers)

Wikidata tours by Andy Mabbett

Project wise - organisation of the State of Western Australia (WA) into the administrative components of 'regions' of WA

Incorporation of Open Street Map information relevant to WA into the English Wikipedia, Commons and Wikidata

The regular meetups since 2007 being the longest regular social meetups of any Australian community meeting as recorded on English wikipedia

Some aspects of the 16 years of meetups and activities of WikiClub West

- * Diversity and collaboration - utilising connections and collaboration
 With interested groups and organisations
- * Focus upon social meetup rather than formalised 'training' or 'instruction'
- * Adaptability to events and situations
- * Patience with high level of anonymous editors in the scope area
- * Provision of safe space/UCOC context to meetings
- * Meetings held within restrictions such as COVID restrictions
- * Irregular 'events' celebrating anniversaries of
 Wikipedia birthdays
 WMAU events
- * Visits to Wikitowns, and wikitakes
- * Talks to organisations/groups about wikipedia and how it works

Notes: This presentation has a listing that is by no means complete, and does not provide a comprehensive narrative of the how WCW fits into larger WMAU events, or WMF world wide events - it is merely an introduction and sample only.

A view of the range of links relating to meetups

English Wikipedia

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Meetup>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Wikipedia_meetups_in_Australia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:WikiProject_Western_Australia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:WikiProject_Perth

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Wikipedia_meetups_in_Perth

Commons

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/
Category:Wikimedia_Australia_in_Western_Australia](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Wikimedia_Australia_in_Western_Australia)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/
Category:Wikimedia_Australia_events_in_Western_Australia](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Wikimedia_Australia_events_in_Western_Australia)

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/WikiClubWest>

See also: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Wikipedia:WikiProject_Western_Australia#Outreach_projects](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Western_Australia#Outreach_projects)

First meeting of Wikimedia meeting at Perth, Western Australia 1st February 2007



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:WA_meetup_010207.jpg

Image:WA meetup 010207.jpg|Wikipedians at the WA meetup on 1st February 2007

Photograph by <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:SeanMack>



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Visit of Perth by Jimbo Wales to Perth, Western Australia



24 April 2007 during the visit of Jimbo Wales to Perth, Western Australia at Kings Park

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Perth_meetup_24apr07.jpg

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Launch of Freopedia in 2013



The late Craig Franklin (right) at the Launch of Freopedia in Fremantle, Western Australia in 2013

26 May 2013

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Freopedia_8_gnangarra.JPG

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Launch_of_Freopedia

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Visitors in April 2017



April 2017 during visit of Leia from WMF and friends as well as Pru from Melbourne
The late Lise Summers fourth from the left

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WMAU_Perth_Branch_meetup_meeting_07_04_2017.jpg

See also: - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Meetup/Perth/35>

Attribution requirement;

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Meetup in August 2021



August 2021 meetup

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WikiClubWest_in_August_2021_in_Perth.jpg

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<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Meetup/Perth/70>

See also: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WikiClubWest_meetup_at_Shoe.jpg