

Midway Raven #002

(‘cause if I get to 999 – I’ll be doing quite nicely) ☺

Originally Printed in **Aotearapa (NZ)** # 178(?) Circa late 2004.

The Rave.

Let no good deed go unpunished...

I was made aware that some friends of mine had needed to purchase a legal copy of Windows XP (as there was some question of the one they had if you follow my drift...). As I was considering purchasing a DVD-RW drive, I talked with them about our jointly purchasing our items which would mean we could purchase an OEM copy of W_XP Pro for some \$250.00 instead of \$450.00. (The DVD drive being a reasonable \$189.00). (1USD = 75¢ AU)

So I purchased the two items and delivered the W_XP to them. A time was arranged and I arrived with my box to ghost their drive before installing the registered version. The only problem was they had over 17 GIG of data which wasn’t going to fit onto one DVD in a ghost file! So I opened the two boxes up and removed their hard drive and installed it into my machine. (Being the quickest way to transfer some 15 GIG of data so that I could burn the non-essential data onto DVD(s).

The younger son of one of the pair was hovering the whole time trying to inspect the contents of my computer box muttering the specs off like a check list all the while I was setting the files to be transferred. Once the operation was under way, I went out of the room for a few minutes.

I was downstairs when both the son and his mother called out that they could smell something burning. Then the burning smell was identified as coming from my computer.

I raced upstairs to find the CPU fan had stopped and a cable was propped against it (the cause of the fan stopping). The monitor was displaying the “Blue Screen of Death” so I turned off the computer. After allowing the CPU to cool down (I could feel the heat from five feet away from the box) I tried in vain to restart the computer, but to no avail.

I took the Mother Board and CPU to the store that I purchased both from and the prognosis was the CPU was burnt out and the Mother Board was OK.

As I had purchased the Mother Board and CPU some 2½ years ago, the only CPU that would work would require me to flash the bios. So, home I go and cobble bits and pieces together from old systems (Any one wanna buy some old parts??) to get on line, collect the bios drivers and get things going. After much plugging, rebuilding and dismantling, I flicked the switch and heard beeps. Two, eight, two then one. Not knowing what the beeps were, I returned the box and all to the computer shop where it sat for some five days. When I phoned they hadn’t looked at it yet. Next day I get a phone call; “Was I aware that there was no video card in the computer?” the man on the phone was polite and told me that he put a video card in the box and now everything works.

I arrived right on closing time and collected the box – no charge. When I get the box home, there is my video card AND the other video card – a 64 Meg card (mine was a 4 Meg video card). The computer worked, curious, I removed the 64 Meg card and tried the old card and it works.

So after two weeks being off line, I am now up and running again (And hopefully will get this in close to time) ☺

A review of the Weekend of Dance at Bigriggen 20/03/2004.

The week-end of the 20th of March 2004 has been a welcome relax from the six day a week work that I do. On Saturday morning, I was up left at 7am to meet up with some others who were going to the third week-end of Dance at Bigriggen some two and a half hours drive South West of Brisbane.

We briefly stopped so that I could get a photograph of a Steam Train slowly shuffling past on the formerly closed Beaudesert Branch line. (The Steam Train runs every weekend). One of the other car loads of dancers drove past, but I hadn't spotted them in my keenness to get the photo.

In Beaudesert, we stopped for morning tea and to pick up some last minute supplies before the last 30mins of the drive. Not even the sign makers in the area seem to know how to spell Bigriggen with spaced and hyphenated versions all pointing the way to our final destination.

The Camping grounds are inside a private property, so there are the usual obstacles (narrow dirt road, cattle etc. before arriving at the Camp Grounds.

Bigriggen appears to be a left over of the 19th century's country musters – a precursor to modern day census taking. The camp-site is an area large enough to allow the people of the district to muster while a count was taken. Basically, an opportunity to meet and greet your neighbours in the district.

We arrived just in time for a late morning tea. Dancing had been under-way for a while and more and more dances had been added by request. A spot of photo taking was had as people quickly brought out cakes and sandwiches, tea and coffee was a help yourself affair and the kitchens large kettles were always being topped up to keep those wanting refreshments in supply. Dinner was a treat with a separate selection for the number of people there.

For most of the day the teaching was pretty straight forward, the dances weren't complex and were picked up without much trouble. There were mainly Playford, Scottish and the smattering of International Dances.

We even tackled Dutch Crossing (which we have tackled in the past) and on the second attempt at it, we succeeded! We are all very pleased with ourselves at this as it is a dance for 16 people (four rows of couples facing couples). Now that we have revisited it, there has been talk of videoing the performance so that we may be able to sit back and view our accomplishment.

In the evening, there was a *call and request* evening – some of us got dressed up, but not as elaborately as at the Ball. On the way home (As I wasn't staying for the whole week-end), we spotted another hall holding a dance. We weren't able to stop in, but it looked like they were having a great time.

On the whole, the weekend of dance is an enjoyable way for more serious dancers to get together over a weekend and either try out some new and more challenging dances, or to go over some less danced pieces. No doubt there will be a fourth weekend of dance next year.

The May Day Morris dance and the Playford ball are both just around the corner now.

Until next time, Warmest Wishes,

Andrew IVAMY.

Midway Raven #002

eFanzines contribution 003
28/05/2017

PO Box 1138 Milton BC Brisbane Qld Australia 4064

LoC: andrew.ivamy@sdqdesigns.com

[@Timelord2067](#)

Page 2 of 2