

Annotating pictures with XnViewMP

Installing the software

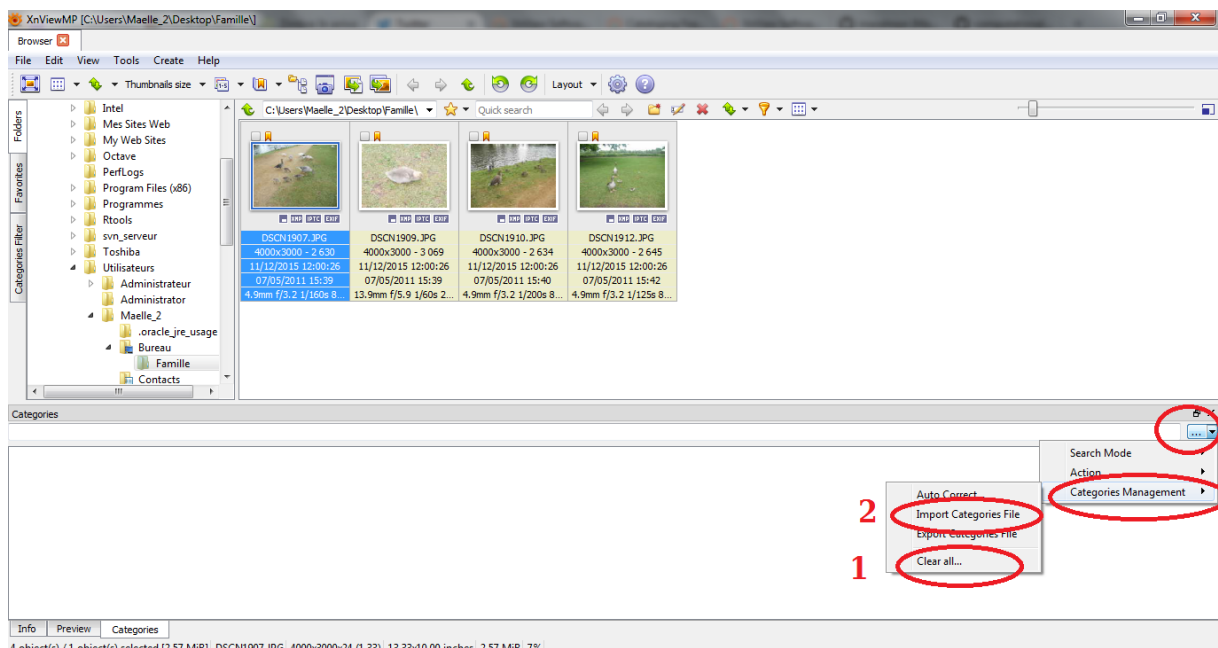
XnViewMP is a freeware for non commercial use. One can download it from

<http://www.xnview.com/en/xnviewmp/#downloads>

Setting the software up

Importing the list of codes

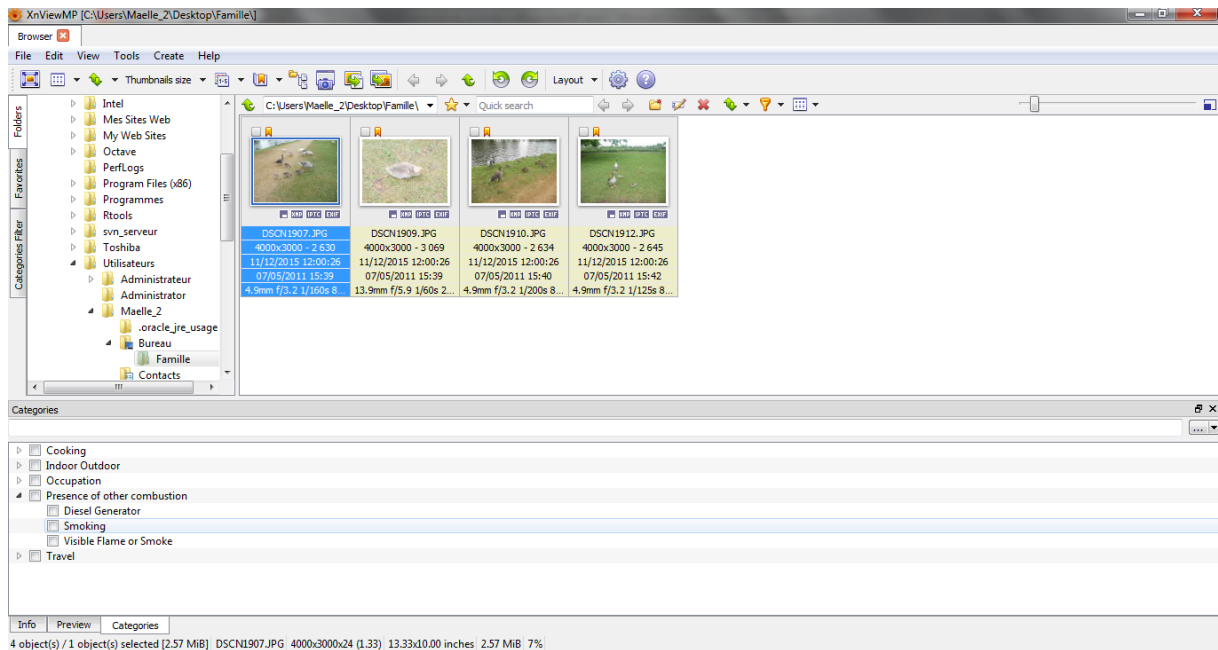
This has to be done in the “categories” pane.



You have to click on the arrow, then on “Categories Management” and

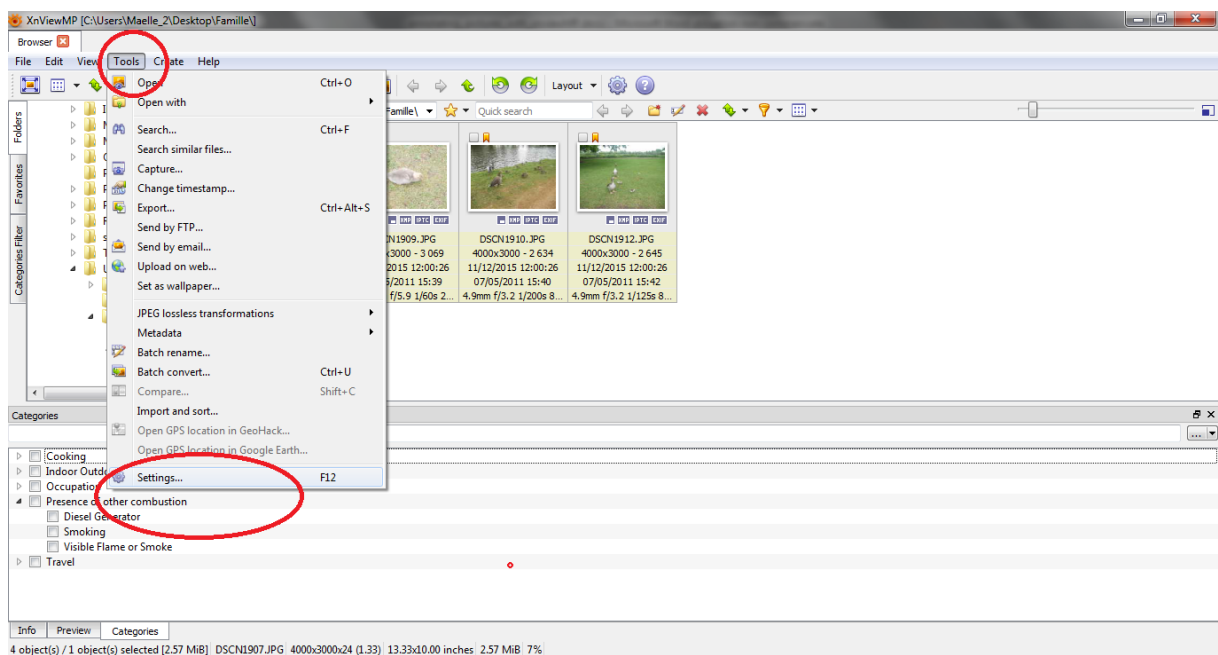
- 1) Clear all so that all existing categories are erased.
- 2) Import categories file which is the file I also send you with all codes.

You should now see the categories with codes. Please check I have not forgotten any of them!

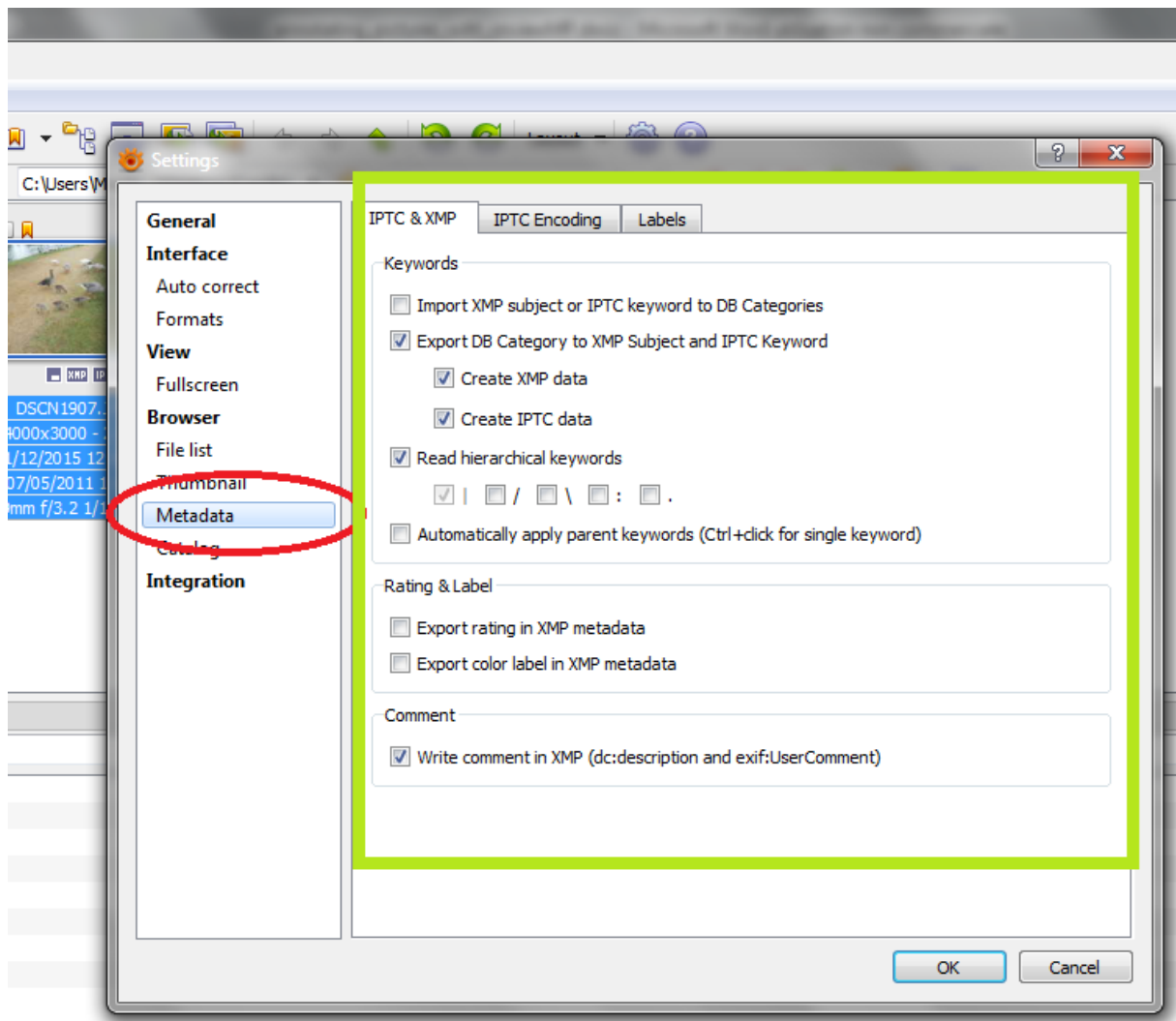


Adding category information to metadata export

Go to Tools/Settings.



Then in the Metadata pane of the settings please check and uncheck the boxes so that it becomes exactly:



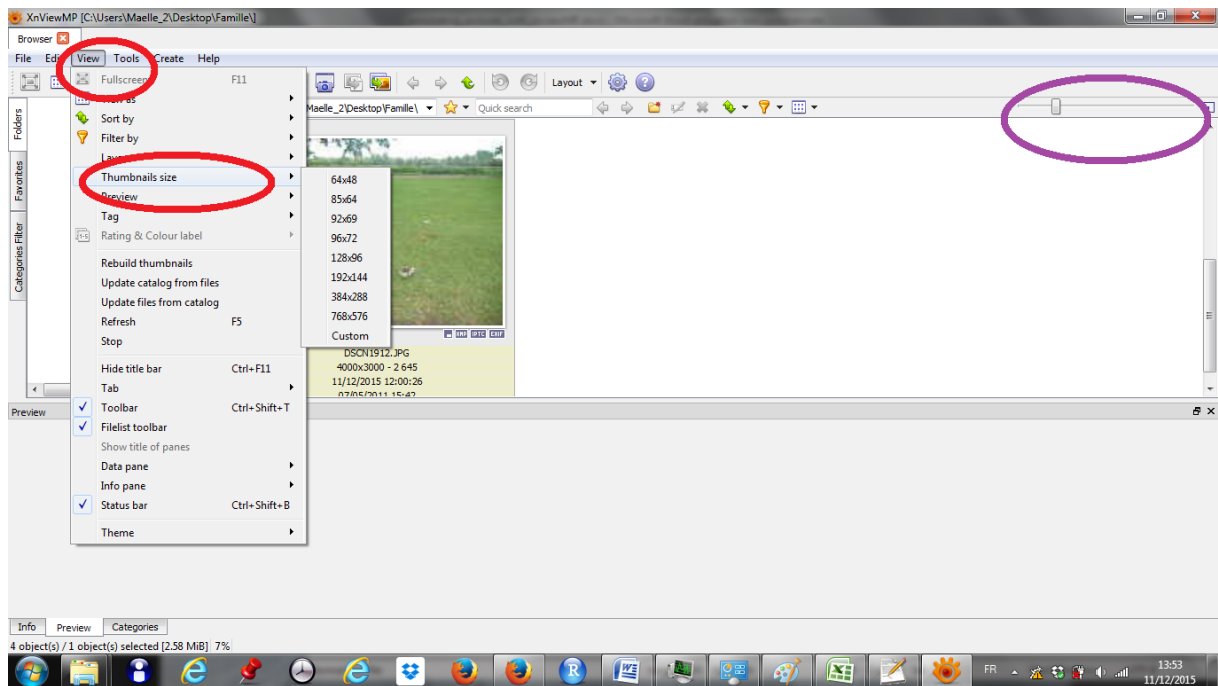
This means you have to check: “Export DB Category to XMP Subject and IPTC Keyword” and “Create XMP data” and “Create IPTC data” and “Read hierarchical keywords”.

You have to UNCHECK “Automatically apply parent keywords”.

Changing the layout

When coding, you’ll need to use the category pane, the previewer pane (because the thumbnails might be too small) and the pane with the thumbnails. Under View/Layout, and also by moving the panes manually, you can change the layout and get the one that works best for you. It’s worth to take time setting it up, since it can improve your user experience.

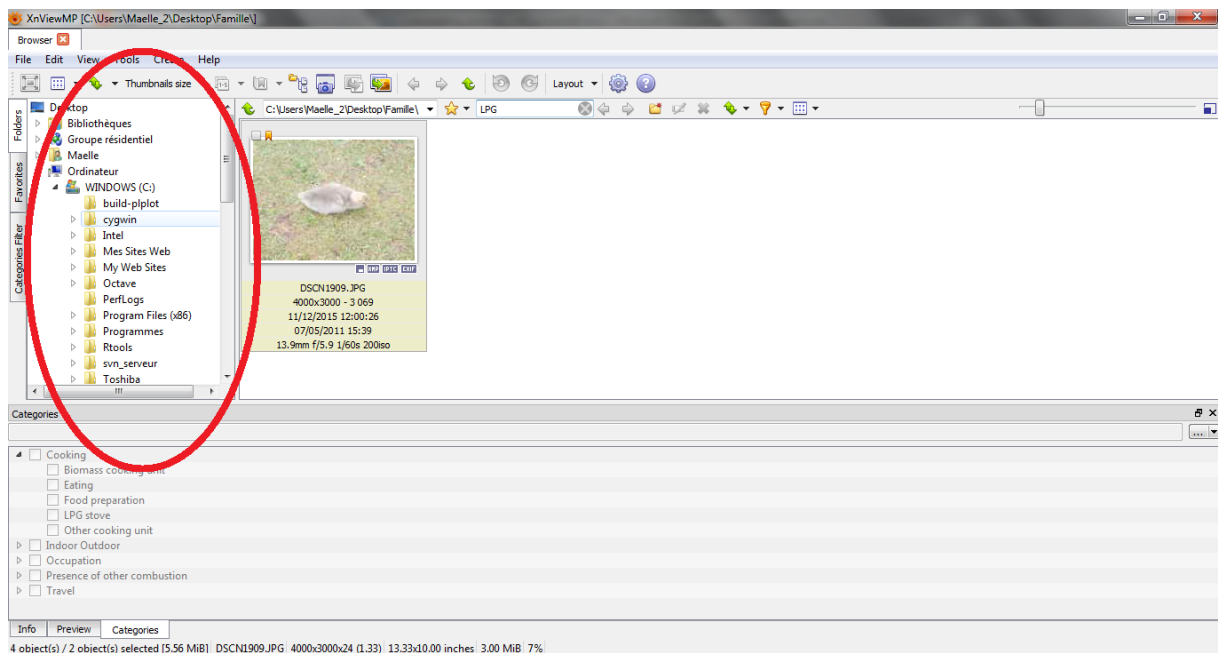
You can also change the size of the thumbnails, see below (red for changing the size, purple for the zoom).



Afterwards, please close the software and open it again. Otherwise, the settings do not apply (at least in my experience).

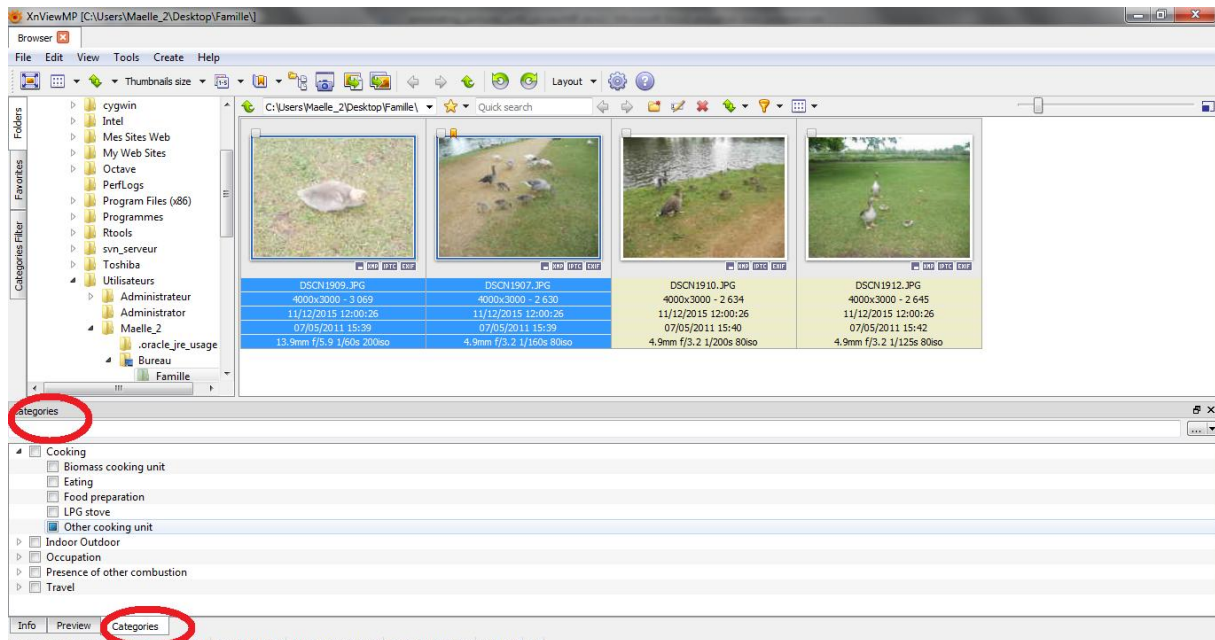
Coding

Open the software again. Please work in a folder with a COPY of the pictures, so that you keep the original pictures in another folder. Use the folder structure on the left to open the folder containing the pictures to be annotated:

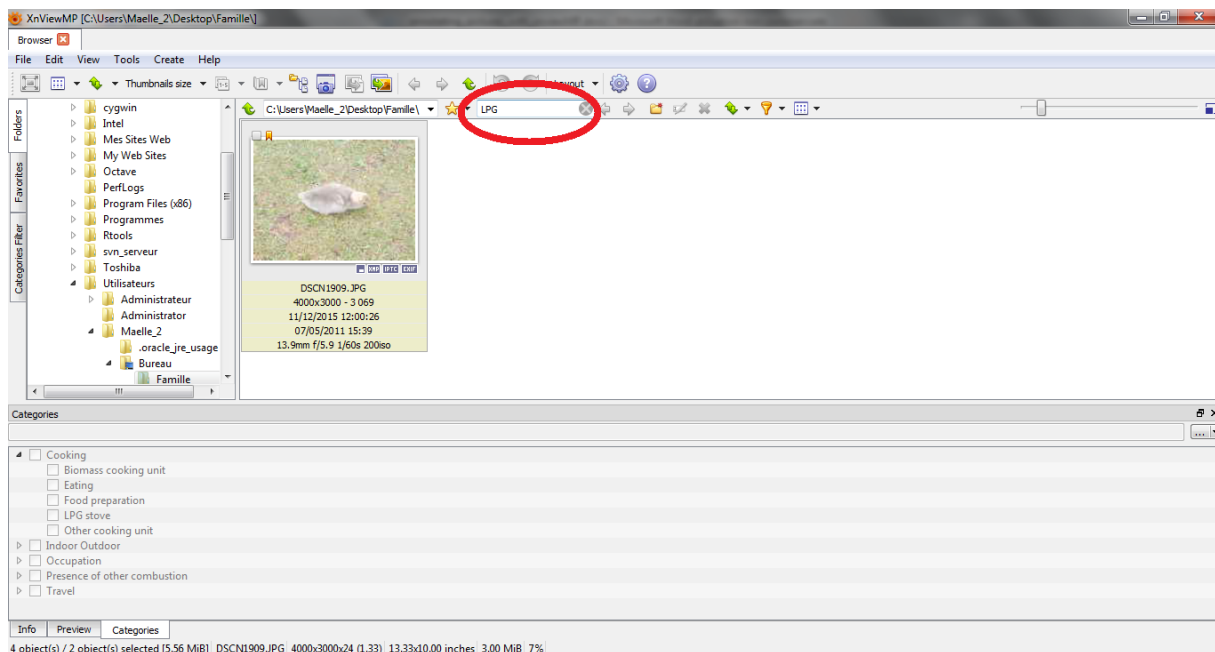


Adding annotations

You can select one or several pictures, and then in the categories tab you can check the boxes corresponding to the code you wish to add. Please do not check the category one (i.e. do not check cooking, only check the codes of cooking that apply to the picture(s)).



Do this for all the codes you want. Once you're done you can filter pictures according to a code and look at the pictures that have this code.

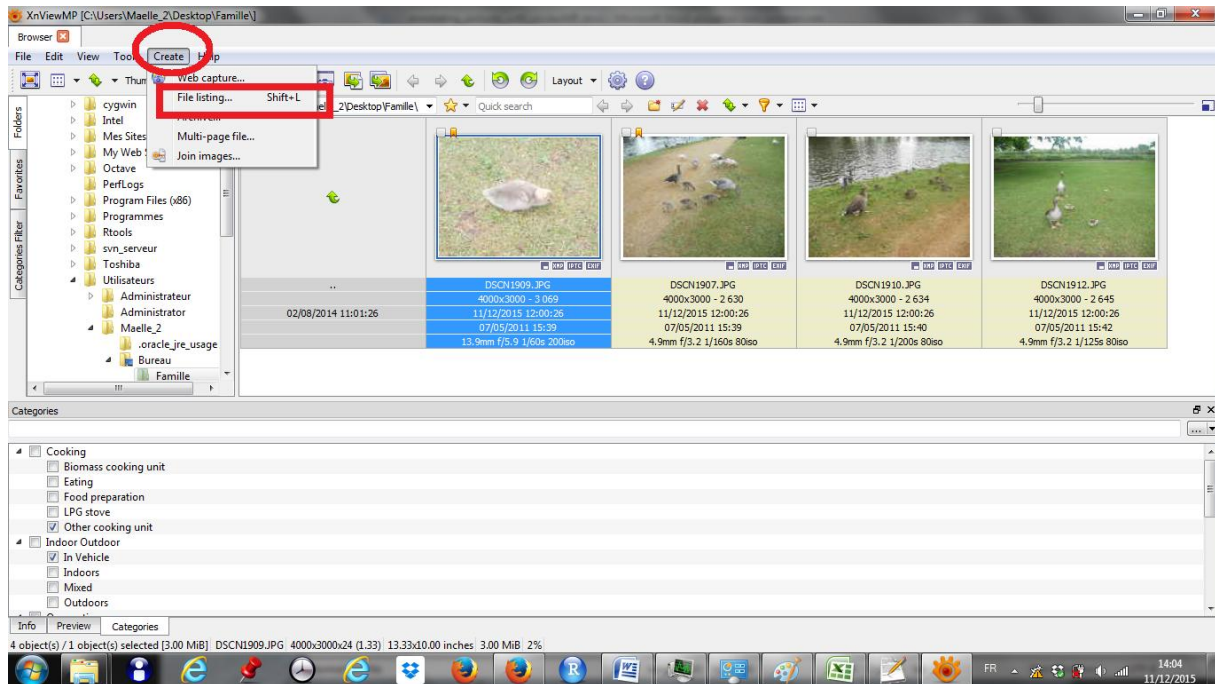


Exporting the annotations

There seems to be a database so if there is a power cut, the codes would not be lost. However, at the end of a coding session you need to export the image-level annotations.

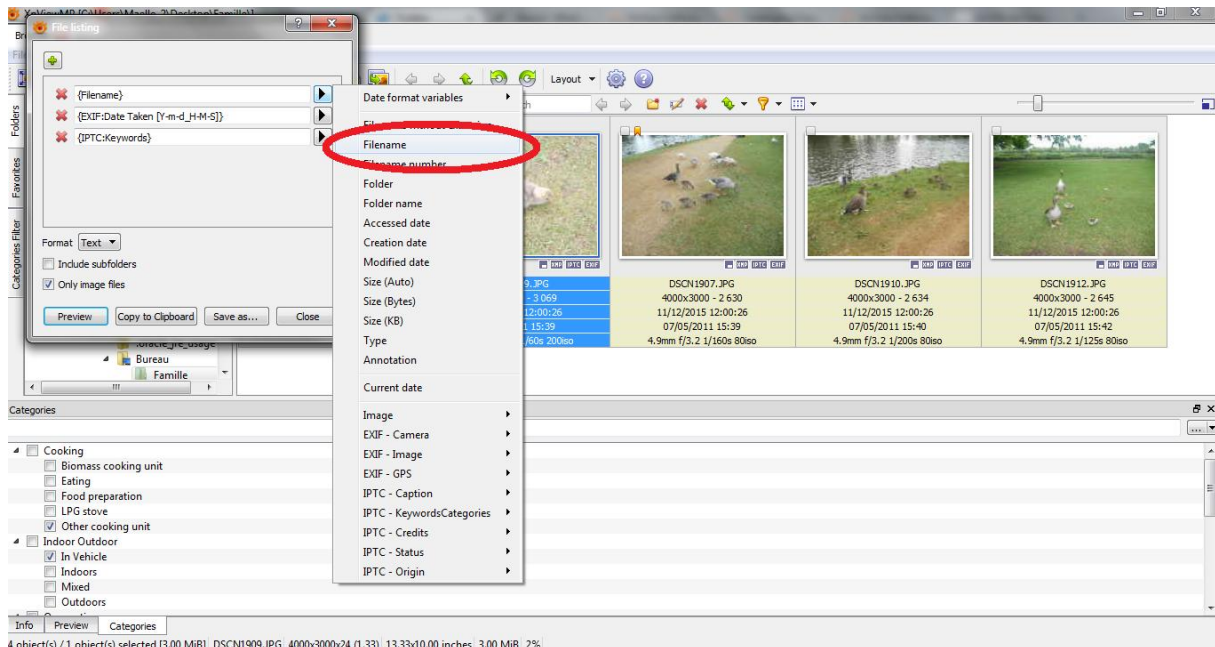
FIRST SELECT ALL PICTURES!!!

Then click on Create/File listing

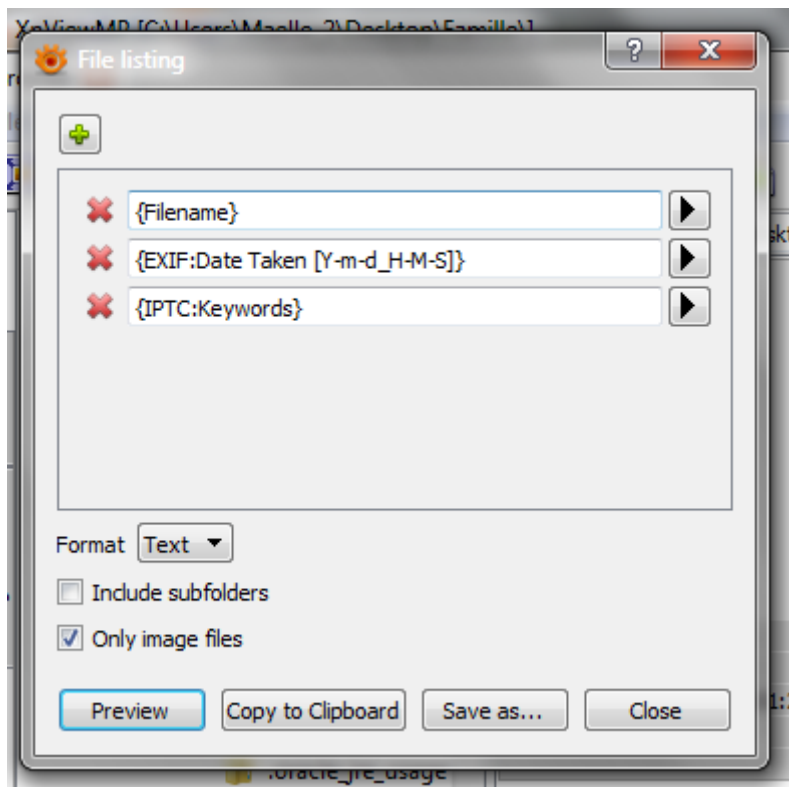


We'll need three variables in the export.

First select filename so that we get the filename of each picture.



Then we need the creation date.



And then save it with a name respecting the naming convention we still need to create.

Open the file to check all codes are there and that it looks good.