



# SWITCHED ON SENIORS

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## President’s Report

### April - Easter and School Holidays

I hope that you have enjoyed the last of the Session 2 lessons.

Recharge your batteries over the Easter break and come back ready for Session 3 and the very interesting classes we have planned. If there is a class that you would like to do and we have not catered for your needs, please put a suggestion in the box, email or ring the Roster Team. If you just mutter to yourself and talk about it to your family or friends and don't let us know, then you are depriving us of being able to help you. Also, if there is something that you are unhappy about in the club, please have a quiet word to one of the committee or tutors. We don't bite!

At the Seniors' Week morning Tea a proposal was put to those attending that we raise the lesson fee to \$7 per 1 ½ hours. This will be voted on at the AGM to be held in August when we also vote in the new President, Secretary and committee. Really think about who you would like to represent you at our club. I definitely will not be available as my husband and I are moving back to Sydney.

Some of us went to the Diggers Restaurant, Hanbury Street, Mayfield to check it out as a venue for our Christmas Party in December. What we do for the club!! It was given a very favourable review.

The committee, Tech Team, Roster Team, Education Team and Tutors are a dedicated group of volunteers, who work for the betterment of our club. I am so lucky to work with such a group of supportive, friendly and sincere people.

*Agapé, Elaine Butler*

*President*

*Elaine*

*Butler*



### *Dates to Remember*

*Friday 3rd April Easter and School Holidays ComputerPals Newcastle short break until ...*  
*Monday 19th April Session 3*

*Saturday 11th April: Social Outing to Maitland Gaol*

*Friday 1st May: Enrolment Day*

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## Contact Us



To contact the Roster Team or

the Treasurer regarding rosters or payments use:

[islingtonpals@gmail.com](mailto:islingtonpals@gmail.com)

## Roster Team



Judy Wallace

Camel Smith



Wendy Cripps-Clark



Fran Chapman



Elaine Butler

## Social Report

Our **Social Day Out** on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March saw an excellent rollup of 32 enthusiastic participants (including visitors from WA no less!) turn out for a visit to the **Barramundi Farm** along Marsh Road at Bobs Farm.



After car pooling and conveying, morning tea at the Cookabarra Restaurant was readily appreciated, with fresh scones accompanying the usual liquid refreshments.

Our Tour Guide then proceeded to give us an insight into this fascinating venture, with some interesting statistics involved. We were then shown through the shed containing the various breeding tanks, and a running commentary given of different stages these fish go through prior to availability for market.



While it was warming up outside, conditions were nothing like the humidity experienced in the temperature-controlled shed, and a number of members were quite glad when the tour progressed out in the open again.

Next we moved to the area where hydroponic vegetables

(various lettuce and similar plants) are grown in waste water from the fish breeding venture – an excellent method of recycling waste product.

Lunch at the restaurant beckoned for some of the attendees while the rest had some interesting thoughts to ponder on their way home. We are sure this outing was enjoyed by all concerned.



**Best Wishes**



*For our members who are celebrating birth-days and anniversaries - congratulations!*

*To those who are ill our best wishes for a speedy recovery.*



**Condolences**

*To all of our members who have lost loved ones recently, please accept our sincere condolences.*

**Reminder**

The next Computer-Pals **Enrolment Day** is **Friday, 1st May** from 9:00 am. to 11:30 am. in the Clubrooms at Islington Public School.

New courses are being developed as needed. Come along and see what is available.

**Morning Tea / Information Day Seniors Week Event**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> was our Morning Tea and Information Day, a chance for prospective new members to learn a little of the Club's activities and share a cuppa and a yarn with the current members.



Some 40 attendees (including some possible 'newbies') listened intently to an explanation of the various aspects of the Club and Sub-Clubs, followed by a very interesting presentation on our 'Digital Heritage' from our guest speaker, Ms. Natalie Darcy.

Later, the prospective members were invited to view the Club's "engine room" where they were given a chance to experience the surroundings and ask any questions regarding courses, options etc.



**April Social Outing - Straight to GAOL- Do NOT Pass GO!**

Our next excursion will be to **Maitland Gaol** at East Maitland on **Saturday 11th April**. This alteration to our usual 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month is due to Easter.

Our Timetable (to be confirmed) will be as follows:

**Meet:** Blackbird Artisan Bakery, Maitland Gaol, John Street, East Maitland

**Time:** 10:00 am

**Morning Tea:** 10:00—10:45 a.m. (own selection and cost)

**Guided Tour:** 11:00am —12:30pm - **Cost \$25.00 per person**

For full details and to **register attendance** please visit our website from this link—[Click Here](#)



## Special Interest Groups



### GeneaPals

*This is our Family History group. We have allocated the **first Monday** afternoon of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the clubrooms at Islington Public School (except school holidays).*

### WriterPals

*Our Creative Writing group is for enthusiasts, not experts. We meet on the **second Monday** of each month at the Islington clubroom. Meetings are from 1:00 p.m. until we go home!*



### DigiPals

*DigiPals is an active group of ComputerPals members who meet on the **third Monday** of each month at 1 p.m. in the Islington clubroom to explore digital photography.*



### TabPals

*If you have a portable device; iPad, Android tablet we have a special interest group called TabPals. **The fourth Friday** of the month is our regular meeting day, at 1 p.m. in the clubroom.*



## Writerpals March 2015

Well, our March meeting brought out some very interesting results – please go to our website and have a read. [Click Here](#). You will find all our stories and challenges there for your enjoyment.

Our creativity is limited only by our imagination and wow – imagination shone in the stories for March. They ranged from conversations with loved ones from the past to a conversation with one's inner self complete with very invigorating pep talk about the task in hand. We are a small group, but the talent is prodigious.

Topics for our next meeting, suggested by those present, are as follows:

1. My New Red Shoes (Is your name Dorothy???)



2. My Magic Boots (remember the story of the 7 League Boots???)

3. A Memorable Family Pet (What century or Age did you live in with your pet....???)



4. If I could be a ..... I would ..... (Turn your imagination loose, give it free rein, and enjoy the ride it takes you on.)

We meet on the second Monday of each month at 1 o'clock in the clubroom and all are welcome - with or without stories. Due to the school holidays in April **our next meeting will be Monday, 11th-May**.

Come see what we do, you might find yourself interested and inspired enough to want to write your own family stories.

Cheers & blessings

Carmel

## Tutors

Our Tutors and their assistants are also Seniors and conduct the courses in a relaxed atmosphere.

Your questions are welcome during the classes and there is no need to feel embarrassed if you need to ask for something to be repeated.

The classroom is fitted with a **hearing loop** for those people who wear hearing aids.

## Government Websites

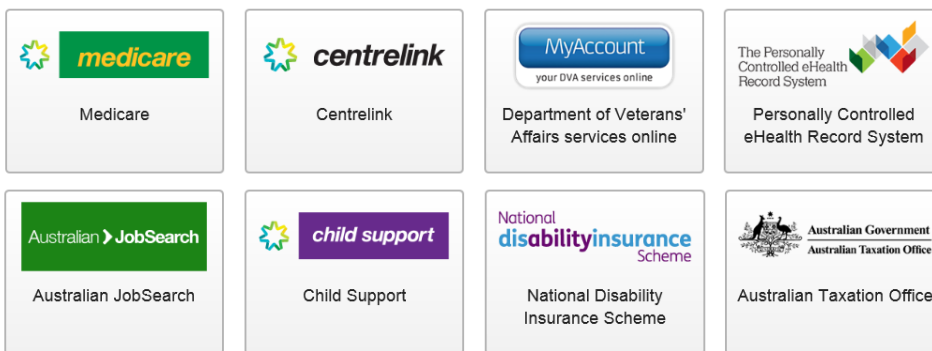


The government website **myGov** will soon be the only online access to Centrelink, Medicare and other government agencies such as the Australian Taxation Office.

Anyone with an existing Medicare and Centrelink account will be required to open a **myGov** account and link their existing accounts. The **australia.gov.au** account has changed to **myGov**. You can use your *australia.gov.au* ID to sign in to myGov.

If you don't have an *australia.gov.au* ID you will need to create a new myGov account with the User Name (Australian gov. ID) which is sent to your email when you register. You also need to create a password and security questions which you need to remember and produce exactly as when you set up each time you log in to the myGov account.

**myGov** allows you to link the following services:



To link each service you will need some extra identification, e.g for Centrelink this involves your Customer Access number and either details of the bank account attached to your Centrelink account or other information held by you.

## ComputerPals Membership

Your ComputerPals membership entitles to a discount in the **technology department at the Domayne Store at Kotara.**

You need to show your **membership card** in order to receive the discount.

We have noted that there are many membership cards left in the container near the sign-in book in the clubroom. Please take your membership card when you are next at ComputerPals so you can avail yourself of discounts.

## Funnybone

