

SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President's Report

NEW PREMISES NEEDED! We all know that change is inevitable, last month I wrote about the changes in how people interact with the cyber world, this month I must write about changes that are being imposed on our club location. We have been located in our current premises for 13 years, and mostly pleased with the location and facilities. Our club has thrived. However, we now have to find new premises and quickly.

While we have known for some time this change was likely, it is only this last month that a definite time frame has been placed on it. The School Principal, Matthew, has informed us that due to increasing enrolment at the school he will need to use our room for school purposes from the beginning of the 2016 school year.

As yet we have no prospects, the avenues that we have enquiries with so far are; Department of Education - Asset Management, Newcastle City Council, Mayfield Industrial area and the TAFE. Other than the facilities of space, toilets, tea room and security, rental cost is of major consideration. Commercially rented space similar to what we have would cost \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year which is far beyond our budget. We need the all up cost of our premises to be less than \$5000 pa, we cannot even consider more.

Many of our members are bringing forward suggestions and I encourage all of you to think, ask questions and let us know of any prospective premises or of any line of enquiry you think might be helpful. The bottom line is that we need to be somewhere else by end January 2016.

Changing the subject; what a wonderful guest speaker we had at our morning tea on 19 October. The attendance was good and all those that were able to attend enjoyed a most informative address by Gil Gordon, yes Mitzi's son. Gil gave us plenty to think about in the area of estate planning and the "bun rush" on his little book and handout at the end said it all. If you missed the meeting or you want to see a little more of Gil then go to his website www.gilgordon.com.au There is a two minute video there and a free downloadable eBook.

As you might have realised I am preoccupied by our need to find new premises. It is the most important matter in regard to our club at present. I am looking for all the support that is available in finding premises that allow our members to continue to enjoy and benefit from our club and all the activities that go with it.

Your President

Lindsay

President



Lindsay Threadgate

Dates to Remember

Saturday 7th November:
Social Outing, Swansea

Thursday, 3rd December:
Christmas Lunch

Friday 4th December:
Next Enrolment Day

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SOCIAL NEWS

Important Notice - Event - Saturday, 7th November

Our final Social Outing for 2015 will be a late afternoon/ twilight visit to Swansea. Members should have received an email about this event.

Here, we will take in the sights (and some photos of the area if that is your 'thing') followed by dinner at the Swansea RSL Club, overlooking the entrance to Lake Macquarie.

For those who would like to enjoy the final light of sunset and the more serious photographers amongst us, we will be staying on a while to take advantage of the "Blue Hour" to brush up on our photographic skills . Details are as follows:

Meet: Swansea Rising Sun Anzac Memorial (near Swansea jetty)

Time & Date: 4.30pm Saturday 7th November

Activity: General sightseeing of the area / photography etc.

Dinner: Swansea RSL Club (Chalmers St. Brasserie) - *booked for 6.00pm*

Activity: Twilight photography

Parking is available in the Club carpark (3 or 4 sections) and in the streets nearby. Charge up your cameras, a tripod might be handy, and don't forget to bring a light jacket, as you never know, it may be cool by the water after sunset.

By clicking on www.swansearsclub.com and following the prompts, you will be able to view the menu for dinner if you wish.

For the usual reasons as well as *numbers for dinner (we have to advise the Club)*, please [click here](#) to download the attendance form, complete the details and submit.

Here's hoping for another fine day!



Note: Date to put in your diary *Thursday 3rd December—Christmas Lunch* - further details will be emailed to all members.

ComputerPals Mission

Our mission is to educate seniors in the use of computers as a way of enriching their lives and making them more self-reliant.

We bridge the generation gap and assist seniors to find ways to benefit the community through their collective experience and knowledge.

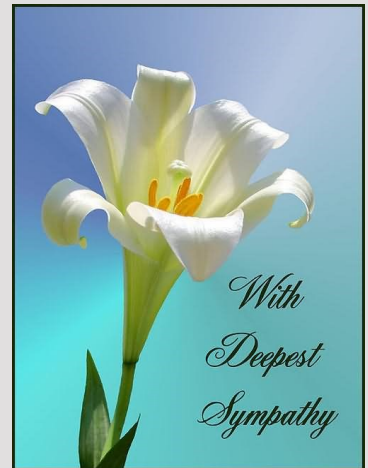
Best Wishes

For all our members who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries - hearty congratulations !



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

Condolences



To those of our members who have lost loved ones recently, please accept our sincere condolences. You are in our thoughts.

SOCIAL REPORT

Social Day Out - October



On Saturday 10th, 20 members and guests “signed on” to participate in the longest distance trip (for 16 of us anyway) for a fish and chips lunch.



Fine clear skies greeted the travellers as we proceeded by early train to Central and on to Circular Quay for a caffeine fix and comfort stop. Here, we were joined by immediate Past President Elaine Butler and hubby Barry, now resident in Sydney, and it was great to catch up with them.

After a confusing settle up of the bill but fully refreshed, we set off by high speed ferry for Watsons Bay. The harbour looked its usual splendid self, and many in the party ensured they would not go home without a few photographic mementoes of the day.



On arrival at Watsons Bay we were met by excited first time Grandparents, Barry and Sandra Keen who had come down by car the previous day to catch their first glimpse of a bouncing baby boy.

Once off the wharf, the party split to explore the area, some choosing to walk up to the famous “Gap” where many a tragedy had happened in times past. However, the scenery was magnificent, and a few good shots were taken under clear skies. The tummy bugs began to bite, so we returned to the famous Doyles On The Wharf to sample their seafood delights and we were not disappointed.

Finished off with ice cream, it was then time to return, with tall tales and photos swapped along the way.



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 pm. 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 pm in the clubroom.

Social Report—Morning Tea.

Monday 19th saw a pleasing increase in an attendance of 45 members for our Morning Tea/Guest Speaker. President Lindsay opened proceedings with an outline of the Club's immediate future which



rather tenuous at our current location. Following a brief update from various committee members regarding financial, technical, educational and social aspects, it was time to sample Audrey's typically delicious goodies for morning tea.

Our Guest Speaker, Mr. Gil Gordon (R.I. Financial Planning) then took to the floor, with some very interesting statistics regarding the transfer of wealth from our current generation to our children's generation, and the definite need to put in place legally our financial and material assets so as to best eliminate any messy, legal disputes that may possibly occur. The many questions asked and answered demonstrated proof of a successful session.



DigiPals Report

DigiPals next meeting will be held on Monday 16th November. Instead of meeting in the clubrooms at Islington, we have decided to be adventurous and have an outdoors meeting in Speers Point Park.

There, we can engage in photo exercises and try different scenes and settings. Take along your cameras, batteries fully charged, your manual, and a tripod, if you have one.

We will meet at 1 p.m. at Sal's by the Lake which is near the large fenced playground.

Tea / coffee and something to eat is available at Sal's.



Contact Us

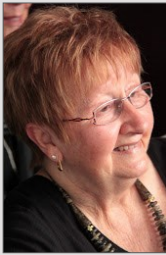


To contact
the Roster
Team or the
Treasurer
regarding

rosters or payments use:
islingtonpals@gmail.com

Roster Team

Judy
Wallace



Mitzi
Gordon

Camel
Smith



Wendy Cripps-
Clark

Fran
Chapman



Interesting Programs



Recently we conducted our first class on Pinterest. It was a lot of fun the students, who were surprised by the scope of this internet tool.

Pinterest is a visual bookmarking tool that helps you discover and save creative ideas. You can use it to help you make meals, plan travel, do home improvement projects, improve your photography, explore many crafts, learn about any number of subjects.

The experiences in this class are invaluable for those who are new to the internet because they align with using the internet for other activities.

This 3 hour class is enjoyable for everyone. One of our tutors said “I’m amazed at what this program has to offer!”

Podcasts If you listen to the radio you have probably heard the term Podcast. A podcast is an audio program you can listen to on your computer or mobile device. It is like having your own private radio station with only the shows you care about.

A Video Podcast or Vodcast refers to the distribution of video files in the same manner as podcasts.

You can also subscribe to podcasts, which means you get the latest episodes without any extra effort. Podcasts are usually free.

One of the simplest ways to get podcasts on your computer is through iTunes. A selection of podcasts and vodcasts from the ABC can be found at abc.net.au

PHOTO STORAGE Do you have numerous digital photo files stored on your computer? It is important to have those precious memories backed up. You can copy them onto an external hard drive, and, in addition you can also use an online photo storage site just to make sure!

There are many options for online storage but the following are worth considering:

Google Photos has unlimited free photo and video storage for uploads to 2048 pixels. If you are running out of space on your smartphone, you can set your phone to delete photos once they are safely backed up online.

Flickr is used widely by photographic enthusiasts. You receive a huge 1 terabyte of free storage so you can keep all your precious images at their original size.

Microsoft OneDrive allows you to upload all your important files—not just photos. OneDrive offers 15 GB of free storage.

At ComputerPals we offer classes in these programs. If you are interested please let us know by putting a suggestion in the suggestion box for the class to be conducted soon. Don't forget to add your name and contact details.

Funnybone . . .

Computer Technician: I was in a couple's home trying to fix their Internet connection. The husband called out to his wife and asked for the computer password. "Start with a capital S, then 123," she shouted back. We tried S123 several times, but it didn't work. So we called the wife in. As she input the password, she muttered, "I really don't know what's so difficult about typing **Start 123.**"

Help Desk:

While helping a client who couldn't send an email they interrupted asking, "Wait a minute, do I type @ in lowercase or uppercase?"

Flash Drive Failure:

At the library, when I plug my USB / flash drive into the computer, it doesn't show up. I keep trying, but nothing happens.

As an Information Technology graduate I know I can figure this out! So I spend 15 minutes changing settings and inserting and removing the flash drive.

Then a girl sitting next to me taps my shoulder and says, "You're plugging into my computer, not yours."

SMS:

A woman sent her husband an SMS on a cold winter evening.... "Windows frozen".

The husband sent an answer back... "Pour some warm water over them".

Some time later the husband receives an answer from his wife... "The computer is completely stuffed now".

Parental Control:

This is brilliant! In order to access the internet, the kids have to complete four chores before they are given the WiFi password...



Using Emoji: Those funny little pictures with meanings....

Translation:

You're bored

Quality observation

I just know you rather well

Well I would hope so

I'm nuts about you

I believe you

Don't you love me?

Do not go there

I'm appalled

