

ComputerPals - Newcastle

Where Seniors master technology

SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President

**Sandra Keen**

Dates to Remember

Friday, 4th August:
Enrolment / Open Day
9:30–11:30 am

Friday 18th August:
AGM - 11:30 am
at Cardiff RSL

In This Issue

Tech Talk Page 2

Funnybone Page 3

Special Interest Groups
Page 4

Stay Safe Page 5

Australian Seniors
Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

President's Report

This two week break from classes is giving our Tutors time to “catch their breath” ready for the next term which starts on 18th July. While some are enjoying holidays or family duties, others are preparing new courses or revising current notes to include any updates in the ever-changing digital world. Take a look at next term's classes on our website by using the ‘Courses / Timetables’ tab at the top and following the prompts.

At our June Meeting and Morning Tea the new club fee structure was passed unanimously. Members were sent an email outlining the details and copies are displayed in the clubroom. It was great to see so many interested members at the meeting and from feedback received those present enjoyed the “Road Safety for Older Road Users” presentation by Wendy Birrell from the RMS.

You may already know that Microsoft released the next big update for Windows 10 in April this year. It is called ‘Creators Update’ and is being rolled out progressively to Windows 10 computers worldwide. It may be a few months before all Windows 10 computers receive the update. It is a very large update (about 3Gb in total) so may cause some problems for those on limited download Internet plans. You can read all about the new features on the Windows Blog at this web address:

<https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2017/04/11/whats-new-in-the-windows-10-creators-update/>

and here:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-au/windows/upcoming-features>

Our next big event on the calendar at ComputerPals is the **Annual General Meeting and Lunch** which will be held on **Friday 18th August at Cardiff RSL Club**. Note: this is a week later than shown on the original 2017 Calendar! We would love as many members as possible to join us - more details soon. It is also the time when we seek out volunteers to join the happy band of tutors, assistant tutors, tech team, etc. If you feel this is for you please contact me.

Finally, if there is something you are not happy about at Computerpals, please tell the lead Tutor or send us an email. We aim to please! If you enjoy learning at ComputerPals Newcastle spread the word among your friends and acquaintances.

Sandra Keen

President



Tech Talk

ATTENTION ONE AND ALL

We cannot emphasise enough the dangers of being scammed. Below is just one of the ways these parasites try to get you. It comes by way of an email although I received a phone text a week ago with a similar message. If you read the message carefully you will notice grammatical and spelling errors indicating this is a scam - I have underlined some. The Ref Code gives it a nice official look as does the softly maternalistic signatory, and the inclusion of the Rev as the contact reference. (Name changed in case you were tempted to try it!!!!)

Message body

Dear Beneficiary,

I refer to the letter I posted to your address but did not hear from you and decided to email you once again to inform you that, we happily announce to you the draw of the Arcus Foundation Welfare Support Scheme. Is an Online sweepstakes International program held on the 10th JUNE, 2017. Your online email account has been picked as a one of the lucky winner of \$850,000.00 (Eight Hundred and Fifty Thousand United State Dollar) by Arcus Foundation Welfare. Your fund we be loaded into an ATM Visa Debit Card and deliver to you through express Courier service.

NOTE: You are to contact our zonal payment coordinator immediately on his email: (derekcottier5@gmail.com) Rev. Derek Cottier, with your details for delivery of your ATM Visa Card to you through express courier services.

Your Ref: Code is AFWSS-DMP-3999-VOL10X-16.

Best Regards,

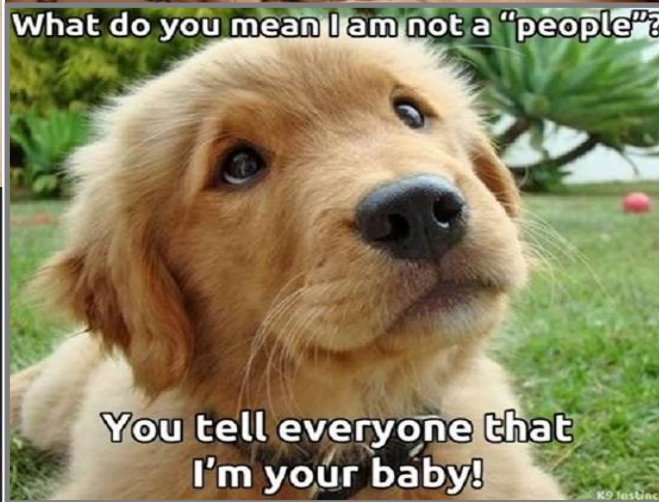
Mrs. Stephanie Myers

Payments Committee - European Commission

IF IT SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE—DELETE.

- ◆ A lot of being safe online is just good old common sense.
- ◆ If you don't buy a ticket, chances are you won't win a lottery or art union.
- ◆ If you get an email from a friend 'stranded overseas and requesting money to get back home - pick up the phone and check before you empty your bank account.
- ◆ Every computer has a delete button - USE IT
- ◆ Every phone has a hang-up button - USE IT
- ◆ A phone call stating that someone from your address has been involved in an accident can cause momentary panic - take a deep breath and call for information.
- ◆ These parasites will use everything they can to get to you. Be safe!

Funnybone—



WHY ENGLISH IS SO HARD

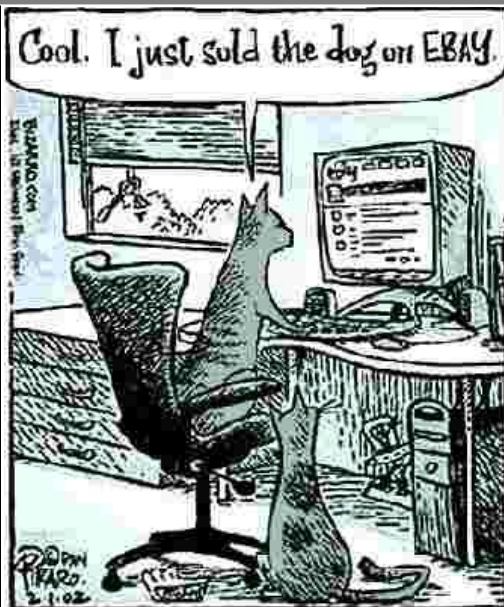
We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
 But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
 One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
 Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
 You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
 Yet the plural of house is houses, not hices.

If the plural of man is always called men,
 Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
 If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
 And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
 If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
 Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that, and three would be those,
 Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
 And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
 We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
 But though we say mother, we never say methren.
 Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
 But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!

/grammarly

-ANONYMOUS

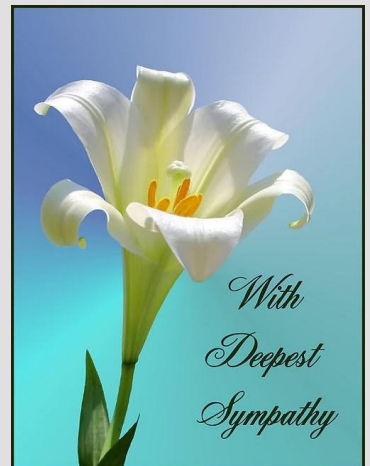


Best Wishes

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.

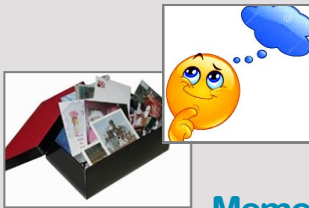


Condolences

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



Special Interest Groups



MemoryPals

Our new group meets on **first Monday** of each month at **1:00pm** in the clubroom. Reminisce about your childhood memories and learn how to preserve them.

WriterPals

Our Creative Writing group is for enthusiasts, not experts. We meet on the **second Monday of each month** at 15 Hubbard Street, Islington. 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 **Apple devices** at **11 a.m.**, **Android** at **1pm** in the clubroom.

MemoryPals

At the **MemoryPals meeting** on the **3rd July** we enjoyed hearing about Helen's great uncle and learning how to work out family relationships—first cousins, second cousins compared with cousins 'once or twice removed'.

Some of us are at the very start of recording our family history and the task seems enormous when one has myriads of paperwork about their ancestors. Remember the old question, "How do you eat an elephant?" and answer "One bite at a time!" My suggestion is to choose one relative, type up their story, save it as a file with their name and save that in a folder identifying it with the family name. Scanned documents, photos, etc can be added to the folder. Then move on to the next person. You can add more information to each folder as you do more research, but you have made a start!

WriterPals

Greetings everyone. Time is getting short for completing your ASCCA competition entries. The competition closes on 4th September and that is just around the corner.

Since we missed our June meeting because of the public holiday and the very inclement weather that was forecast (but didn't happen!) we met on Monday 10th July.

I hope you all have an anecdote or 3 jotted down that you can expand into a story. Remember - just as every journey begins with a single step, so every story begins with a single sentence

Give it a try—you might just surprise yourself.

DigiPals

Digipals group meets on the **3rd Monday** of the month at **1 pm** (next meeting 17th July).

Everyone is welcome to come along to Digipals. It is a Q&A chance to discuss issues with your camera or photography. Periodically we go out locally and do a photo shoot then come back upload the photos to computer and talk about the results. We also go out—usually monthly to a likely location with potential photo opportunities. Watch your inbox for an email advising time and location of our next outing.

TabPals

Tabpals is mentioned quite often in our regular computer classes by people who have attended and been surprised at how helpful they found working in the group to be.

The next TabPals is on 28th July. Everyone welcome!

Apple users—tablets and phones—meet at 11 am

Android users—tablets and phones—meet at 1pm

Bring your device fully charged.

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.

Contact Us



To contact the Roster Team or the Treasurer regarding rosters or payments use:

islingtonpals@gmail.com

Roster Team

Barry Keen



Mitzi Gordon

Camel Smith



Wendy Cripps-Clark

These people are all volunteers who also teach classes at Computerpals. We ask that you take this into consideration when your phone call is not answered immediately.

Stay Safe—Telstra Scams

There have been reports of a new wave of technical support scams impersonating Telstra. These scams may also be known as ‘Remote Access scams’ or ‘Impersonation scams’.

Victims are contacted by callers pretending to be representatives from Telstra reporting some kind of problem. (One recent scam, for example, claims that the lights blinking in a particular pattern on a modem or router indicates an issue).

These callers may either request remote access to your computer and/or ask for credit card details in order to charge a fake support fee or fix a false payment processing issue.

What to do now

If you are contacted unexpectedly by someone claiming to be from Telstra and they either ask you to verify your payment details or claim that there is a problem with your internet connection - **hang up**.

If unsure, verify their identity by contacting Telstra using the phone number printed on your bill, or use the contact details on <https://www.telstra.com.au>.

If you think you have given your credit card details to a scammer, contact your bank or financial institution immediately.

We also encourage you to report scams to the ACCC’s SCAMWatch and ACORN (Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network).

If you think your computer’s security has been compromised, or you have given remote access to an unauthorised user, uninstall any remote access software you were asked to install, run a full scan with your anti-virus software and seek reputable technical support. Seriously consider restoring your computer from a previous back-up.

If you accessed any online accounts or services (such as online banking, social media or email) after giving a scammer remote access, you will need to update your credentials for these services. Log in to any services or accounts that may have been accessed - from a different, clean computer - and change your passwords. Learn more about using strong passwords.

Details

Technical support and impersonation scams are not new and continue to be a problem so it is important to remain alert to things that don’t seem right.

These types of scams attempt to take advantage of a victim’s lack of knowledge or anxiety around technical issues. Scammers may use overtly technical language or play on user’s fears of malware or other security threats to gain remote access to the victim’s computer or steal their credit card details.

More information: Stay Smart Online has more information on technical support scams.