

# Switched On Seniors

Newsletter of ComputerPals for Seniors – Newcastle Inc.

Volume 13 - June, 2013

## President's Report



We will be beginning Session 4 on the 4th June. Nearly half way through the year!

Also on the 17th June we will be holding a Morning Tea starting at 9.30am. At this stage the guest speaker is a mystery, so come a long and be surprised.

We will be putting out a survey soon, asking questions to try and find out what you want from your club and how we can improve your experience of computing and social interaction. We will be very grateful for your input.

There are also some changes in the pipeline. At long last we should soon have our lease in place with the NSW Education Department. This will be a yearly lease and it looks as though our rent, at least, will be doubling. Also we have been given permission to put a sink in the lunch room and a toilet in the building, funded by us! So you will not be surprised that we are looking at our membership and course fees. This will be on the agenda at the AGM to be held in August. Matthew Bradley, the Principle, has plans for maintenance work on the building, but this should not cause us too much inconvenience.

A group of us looked at TVs, but because of the building costs taking top priority, the purchase might just have to be delayed for the time being.

We have been experimenting with 3 hour and 2 x 3 hour courses, instead of the usual 5 week courses on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There are still

some courses that need to be run for 5 weeks. We would appreciate your thoughts on these changes.

We will soon have Windows 8 installed on our computers. The Tech team are always hard at work to keep our computers running smoothly. When we have a problem (like the printers causing chaos in the Publisher Course) they worked hard to solve the problem.



DigiPals, GeneaPals and WriterPals are popular. We are also thinking of starting a PortaPals for those interested in iPad and Android Tablets. Anyone interested?

We are still looking for a Treasurer. Please see one of the committee if you are interested in contributing to the club in this way. We have a very friendly and hard working committee, with some very talented people. Remember your yearly membership is due, still only \$20.

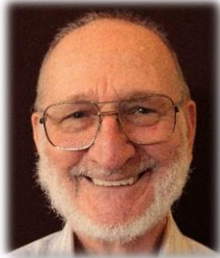
Enjoy your computing in Session 4, then we have school holidays, returning for Sessions 5 starting 15th July.

Agapé,  
Elaine Butler

**PRIVACY STATEMENT :** Information contained in this Newsletter is only for the members of the ComputerPals Newcastle Inc.

## Social Report

Barry Keen (Social Secretary)



Our walking day along the Glenrock Yuelarbah Trail was another successful day out. Once again the weather was kind to us being neither too hot or too cold. The company was great and I'm sure everyone enjoyed their walk. The company split up

into those fitter who walked all the way to the beach and those who took it steadier and went to the lookout. On completion we adjourned to the Kahibah Bowling Club where we enjoyed a nice 'cold one'.



Thank you to our DigiPals trekkers who contributed these shots of the journey.



## June Outing

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June is the next outing by car to Stroud where we'll be met by Harold Franks' brother Keith who will be our local guide to show us around the historical town. We will aim to arrive in town by 10am and meet at the hotel (same place we will have lunch).

## WriterPals Report

Carmel Smith (Organiser)



Since we are just a small group we have to keep the talent level right up there - and that is exactly what happens.

This month we were a smaller group than usual though as some were working, some were playing and some were at home battling germs - get well soon. Those nasties are not good.

Our topics for May were

O My God! Look what I've done!

I created a monster

I met an angel

As usual, the quality was excellent – Fred, I think you have been here before though. How else can your stories come from very old times and sound as though you were actually on site???? Maybe we should have a B.C. topic!

The stories will be on the website – thank you Lindsay – for your enjoyment and suggestions for future topics are welcome.

Topics for June are

Unclaimed Treasure

If I were a Politician.....

My young self came to visit.....

As always – DO NOT let truth, fact, history or any kind of realism get in the way of a good yarn. Set your imagination free and fly with it.

Next meeting will be on Monday 10th June @ 1pm. At a venue to be decided (and members notified) as that date falls on the Queen's birthday holiday. Wherever we end up I hope to see you there.

Australian Seniors  
Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

Below is a summary of what is required for the Writing Competition. Go to the ASCCA Site at <http://www.ascca.org.au/> for complete details

### Prose – You can enter one story only for each of the three topics

1. The Hat - School Hats, rain hats, hard hats, baby hats, party hats, dunce's hats, berets, boaters, sun hats, swimming hats, army hats? This is a topic to take you to any time or place of your choosing in just 1,000 words or less - as long as there is a hat involved somewhere.
2. Too Good to Use - Great scope for imagination or reminiscences here! Most people have considered some possessions too good to use – yet in the end would the enjoyment have been greater to use, than to just look and perhaps worry? For this topic you can write 1,000 words or less.
3. Out of the Blue! - This is a real short story challenge. Can you write a really short but complete story in just 500 words? Try this challenge and test your skills in editing and tightening your story to make every word count.

### Poetry – You can enter one poem only for each of the three topics

4. Try writing a poem without rhyme – by using metaphors and similes, as well as rhythms you can explore the “music” of what some consider true poetry and what could perhaps become the words to a song. Just 300 words or less for this poem on any topic of your choice
5. A Poem about an event or incident – using no more than 300 words.
6. A Poem about a particular location – using no more than 300 words.

## ComputerPals Web Site

Our website contains the latest information related to the club. In particular the social outings, long courses and short courses are updated regularly.



Visit Us at [www.computerpals.org.au](http://www.computerpals.org.au)

### Morning Tea Invitation

17<sup>th</sup> June, 2013

9:30am

Islington Public School Hall, Hubbard St,  
ISLINGTON



*We currently have 469 members, come on, and fill the hall.*

*Morning Tea & Refreshments provided to all.*

*At the morning tea the rostering team will be available for members who wish to pay for and enrol in classes.*

*Anyone who has not paid for their membership, may also do so at this time.*

**Reminder: Next Enrolment Day 21st June - 9:30-11.30am**

**PLEASE NOTE :** We need a replacement Treasurer for the August AGM.

Our current Treasurer will not be standing. This position must be filled.

## ComputerPals Mission

Our mission is to assist clubs 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.

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## Tutors

The 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.

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## Best Wishes

For our members who are celebrating birthdays and Anniversaries - congratulations! To those who are ill our best wishes for a speedy recovery

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## Condolences

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



ASCCA is the Australian Seniors Computer Club Association.

ASCCA exists to support and encourage seniors to take advantage of modern information technology to meet their individual needs and to provide further challenges. ASCCA's Newsletter and its informative items can be accessed on the web site at [www.ascca.org.au](http://www.ascca.org.au)

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### *Important Committee Members of Your Club*

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**Immediate Past President :**  
Lindsay Threadgate.



**Tutor Roster :** Mitzi Gordon



**Technical Officer :** Neville Clifton



**Education Officer :** Bruce Deitz



**Rosters :** Judy Wallace



## Technology Information



*These articles are excerpts to illustrate changes on the way for software delivery, toward more subscription based services. At this stage Photoshop Elements it IS NOT proposed to become subscription based.*

### **Adobe kills packaged software, bets on cloud alone**

LIA TIMSON

Adobe Systems has announced upgrades for its flagship software packages, including Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign, will now be available only through online subscriptions.

Adobe is the latest traditional software company to make a big bet on the cloud-based subscription model pioneered by companies such as Salesforce.com and NetSuite and now common place in the anti-virus and office software markets.

Subscription models bring in less money upfront as payment is spread over the entire period of use unlike traditional packaged software, but typically ensure more predictable recurring revenue. They also allow for product upgrades and new features to be delivered on a shorter cycle and as needed.

Upgrades will be available only through online subscriptions from June according to Paul Robson, Adobe's managing director for Australia and New Zealand. "We will no longer do a major Creative Suite release every couple of years, but will announce them in Creative Cloud when they are ready to come to market," Mr Robson told Fairfax Media.

Creative Suite 6, launched in May 2012, combines Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Flash and Dreamweaver software applications used by professional photographers and designers. Creative Cloud, the online platform for the packages, helps customers access them through online subscriptions. "With the fast pace of innovation, our customers are asking us to release as we go. Now we will release improvements and enhancements all the time through Creative Cloud.

Robson said customers who already owned a licence to the packaged Creative Suite would be encouraged to move to the cloud at a promotional price for a year - \$29 per month instead of \$49 per month for new customers. Single application subscriptions will cost \$19 per month.

### **YouTube planning paid subscription channels**

BRIAN WOMACK AND ANDY FIXMER

Google's YouTube plans to offer paid subscription channels in the next few weeks, sources with knowledge of the matter said, in a move that gives the world's biggest video service a new revenue source beyond ads. The channels will cost about \$US1.99 a month, said one of the people, who sought anonymity because the plans aren't public yet.

"We have nothing to announce at this time," YouTube said in a statement. "We're looking into creating a subscription platform that could bring even more great content to YouTube for our users to enjoy and provide our partners with another vehicle to generate revenue from their content, beyond the rental and ad-supported models we offer."

*These articles are from the Sydney Morning Herald, 8th May 2013*