

SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President



Lindsay Threadgate

Dates to Remember

Friday, 4th March:

Enrolment Day

Saturday, 5th March:

Social Outing, Heritage Walk, Lambton

Monday, 4th April:

Seniors Week Morning Tea

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President's Report

Hello to all you ComputerPals, the members of our Newcastle club and anyone else who reads our Newsletter. We have now completed a month in our new venue. Are we settled in? I think the room is, in overall terms, very good. Of course there are some differences. We do not have as much space and we would like the acoustics to be better. I think the ambience of the venue is top notch and we are getting on and enjoying our new facilities. I am pleased with the level of participation and we have quite a few new members. You may have noticed the tinting we have had applied to the windows and door. We debated at length what we should do about the glare in the mornings and I think we found a good solution.

We are continuing with our interaction with the Newcastle Council and had a photo shoot in the room by a professional photographer for the Council. The aim is for us to feature in the Newcastle City Council Seniors Festival brochure. Keep an eye out for it and our Seniors Festival activities, the Festival starts on Friday 1 April through to Sunday 10 April. We have events during the week.

When I sit down to write my monthly report I reflect on what has presented any technology challenges to me personally.

I have just finished tutoring a Windows 10 course for the first time. I have been saying "it is not much different" and it is not, it still does the same basic things, but it has a different interface. YES, fundamentally it does the same things. In teaching it, and with a few good questions from the class, I realise how much has changed and there are quite some challenges to get across all the changes.

The other thing occupying my thoughts is the change to NBN. A little while ago it was a long way off and there was no real need to think about the implications. Now after a few letter box drops by providers and receiving the NBN Connection Kit in the mail, (not everything comes online), suddenly it is on my doorstep so to speak. It is NOW AVAILABLE, in my case FTTN (fibre to the node) not FTTP (fibre to the premises). There is a whole lot of jargon, what does it all mean. FTTN means that when I move to NBN the lines that now deliver phone and internet will be part of the NBN. YES, you will have to move to the NBN unless you run completely wirelessly (or is that fibrelessly). The old system goes including your landline phone.

Those of you who have participated in lessons will know that we are interested in feedback and have asked you to fill out a little feedback form. Now don't jump on me, I too am driven mad by surveys. However it is very important to us to know how we can best provide what you need in relation to the technology challenges that face us all. We may have retired from the workforce but we cannot retire from life and using all the technology that is piled upon us does present challenges. Please tell us what you need and we will do our best to meet those needs.

Your President
Lindsay

Social Events

Computerpals February Social Outing was to Sydney for a visit to the Powerhouse Museum.



Following the train trip to Central, we proceeded under the train platforms in a long pedestrian corridor, following the path of the old goods railway line from Central to Darling Harbour. Evidence of the tracks and some infrastructure remains today, and are incorporated in this space.

The grandeur of the old Powerhouse was evident from the start. Divided into various sections, negotiating around the many partitions and levels opened up some amazing exhibits, with everything from steam and transport to technology and fashion - indeed something to interest all those present. Lunch in the museum cafe was followed by further exploration, including a demonstration of the workings of the model Strasburg Clock.



A short walk past the massive building works currently happening in the Ultimo/Darling Harbour precinct saw us board the Light Rail back to Central and on home from there.

Next Excursion

Our next excursion will be a Heritage Walk around Lambton, inspecting many old, preserved buildings and, for the photographers, practising our photographic skills for discussion at the following Digipals meeting.

When: Saturday 5th March

How: Own arrangements (car or public bus)

Arrive: 10:30 a.m. Assemble at Lambton Park Gates in Morehead Street, Lambton.

Proceedings: Walk and photographic experience, ending in the Lambton CBD in Elder Street where cafés are available for lunch if desired.

Note: There is parking available in Morehead and Elder Streets. An amenities block is located near the Lambton Park Gates. Remember—comfortable walking shoes, hat, sunscreen and a water bottle plus your camera.

Please [click here](#) to open the attendance form, complete it and click 'send' to ensure you are expected at the Assembly Point.

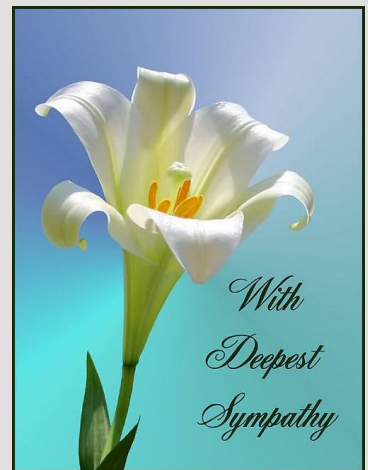
Best Wishes

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.





GROW YOUNG



Computerpals Newcastle Seniors Week Events

Visitors Welcome to All Events

NOTE: All Events are Free

Monday, 4th April, 2016:

Computerpals Seniors Week Morning Tea

Venue: Islington Public School Hall, Hubbard Street, Islington

10:00 am to 12 noon: ‘How Digital Technology can Improve Health and Wellbeing’

Morning Tea will be served

Followed by Guest Speaker: Pamela Glover talking on Physical Activity - Strength, Flexibility, Balance and Fitness

Pamela Glover is an Advanced Exercise Professional who provides Fitness and Exercise Training sessions specialising in Older Adults Training. Pamela regularly instructs Aquatic and Land Group exercise sessions such as the ‘Zest For Life Active Over 50s Exercise Program’.

Monday, 4th April, 2016

12 noon to 3:00 pm: Clubroom Open for Visitors - 15 Hubbard Street, Islington

Computers will be set up for hands-on experience and demonstrations.

Visitors will be able to investigate technology with the tutors’ help.

Wednesday, 6th April, 2016

12:15 to 3:30 pm: Digital Literacy and You (Question and Answer Session)

Venue: 15 Hubbard Street, Islington

Unravel the jargon of computer technology!

What the various terms and symbols mean.

Important! Please book in for this session—due to limited space

Friday, 8th April, 2016

9:30 to 11:30 am: Enrolment Open Day

Venue: 15 Hubbard Street, Islington

Everyone welcome to explore the clubroom and its facilities.

Tutors available to chat about suitable courses.



Special Interest Groups



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 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 pm in the clubroom.*

WriterPals

Well, here we are with just under 10 months till Christmas - just thought I'd throw that in for those eager beavers who want to get their Christmas shopping started early.....

We had our first WriterPals meeting in our new premises and although our numbers were small, we welcomed a new member and covered quite a bit of ground. We had a discussion about some of the feedback given by the man who judged the ASCCA entries - interesting to say the least. We take his comments as 'helpful suggestions based on his personal opinion' rather than actual criticism because it is impossible to actually judge another person's creativity. Creativity is unique to its creator and creative writing is the self escaping onto the paper. All up, it was an interesting meeting and we have a very interesting concept and request to talk about next month.

Our topics for March could lead to some gnashing of teeth and tearing out of hair (for those who can) but I look forward to some interesting results.

The Old

Money, money, money

The Bones.

Happy writing. Visitors are welcome - who knows - - - you just might get hooked on the idea of writing and join us on a regular basis. There is no pressure to write or share, but we would welcome your company and input.

We meet at 1.00pm on the second Monday of every month in our clubroom at 15 Hubbard Street, Islington --- right next door to the school.

Cheers & blessings
Carmel

DigiPals

The first DigiPals meeting of the year began in the clubroom with members then taking a leisurely stroll to Islington Park where they attempted macro shots plus other subjects that took their eye. Then they returned to the comfort of the air conditioned clubroom to upload their images from cameras and smartphones to the computers for viewing by all present.

Prior to the March meeting members will receive an email with details for the afternoon's venture. We look forward to welcoming new members. It is a great way to learn more about your camera or device.

TabPals

With so many new members at the Apple and Android classes we had several new faces at the recent TabPals group.

It is a fun way to learn in this sharing environment, so if you have a question or want to go over something from class just come along with your device.

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

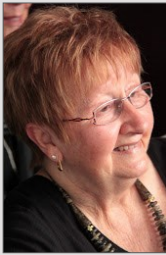


To contact the Roster Team or the Treasurer regarding

rosters or payments use: islingtonpals@gmail.com

Roster Team

Judy Wallace



Mitzi Gordon

Camel Smith



Wendy Cripps-Clark

Fran Chapman



Tech Tips

Online Language

Like most people, you grew up believing that you have a good grasp of English and a firm understanding of what words mean. Then along comes the internet and suddenly words, such as ‘cloud’ and ‘troll’, are being used in entirely new contexts. Since the internet boom, many common words have been appropriated for online use.

Here are 10 words that now mean something different now, as compiled by Dictionary.com to mark its 20th birthday. Here are the online meanings for these words:

Block

What it means online: “to prevent someone from contacting you on a social network, such as Facebook, or from viewing your profile.”

Catfish

What it means online: “a person who assumes a false identity or personality on the internet, especially on social-media websites, as to deceive, manipulate, or swindle.”

Cloud

Online: “any of several parts of the internet that allow online processing and storage of documents and data as well as electronic access to software and other resources (usually preceded by the).”

Follow

“to subscribe to someone's updates on social media.”

Like

“to indicate one's enjoyment of, agreement with, or interest in website content, especially in social media.”

Meme

“a cultural item in the form of an image, video, phrase, etc., that is spread via the internet, often altered in a creative or humorous way.”

Tag

What it means online: “to link to someone else's profile in a social media post, commonly a photo or status update.”

Timeline

“a collection of online posts or updates associated with a specific social-media account, in reverse chronological order.”

Troll

What it means online: “to post inflammatory or inappropriate messages or comments online for the purpose of upsetting other users and provoking a response.”

Viral

What it means online: “becoming very popular by circulating quickly from person to person, especially through the internet.”

Then of course you have the shorthand. Some examples:

BTW - By the way

FAQ - Frequently asked questions

MOTD - Message of the day

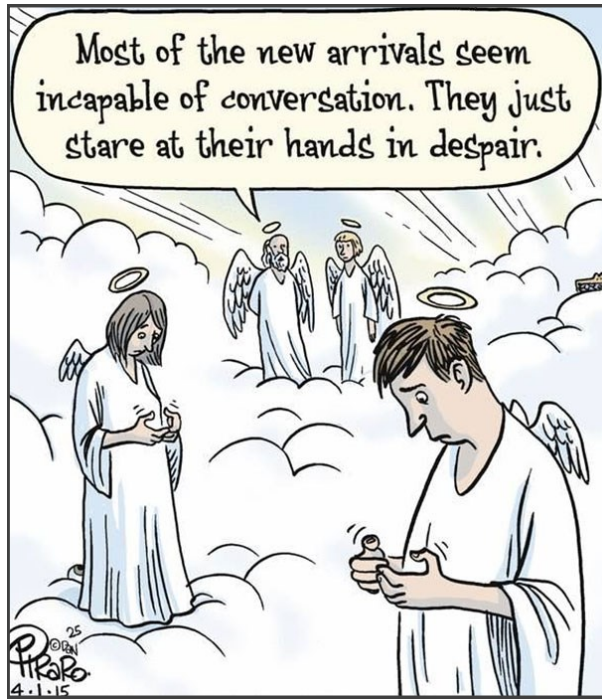
LOL - Laugh out loud

BFF - Best friends forever

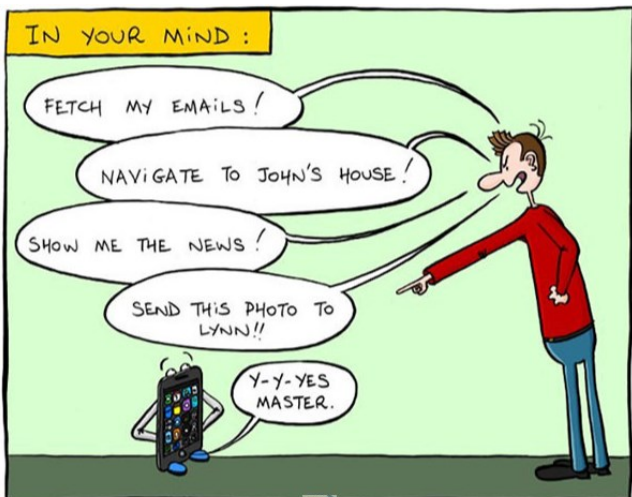
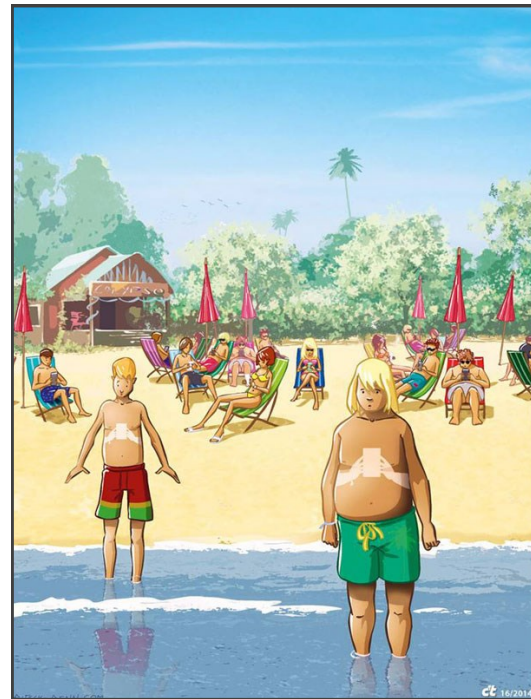
TTYL - Talk to you later

We will attempt to unravel some of the jargon during our Seniors Week session on Wednesday, 6th April.

Funnybone . . .



Thanks to Audrey Mahaffey for these...



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