



# SWITCHED ON SENIORS

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**President**



**Sandra Keen**

**Dates to Remember**

**Friday, 7th December**  
 Christmas Lunch &  
 Presentation of Writing  
 & Photography Awards

**Be safe over Christmas**



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**President's Report**

As 2018 draws to a close I say a wholehearted “Thank You” to all those who continue to support ComputerPals Newcastle. We started the year with some feelings of uncertainty but through the hard work of everyone involved we are more positive about our club’s future.

A few months ago we became a Network Partner with Be Connected and were fortunate to gain a grant enabling us to provide free Be Connected lessons. This has been a very positive link for our club as we are able to assist more seniors to get online.

Without the commitment of our team of volunteers (everyone at ComputerPals Newcastle is a volunteer) our club would not survive. They give freely of their time and knowledge to help seniors embrace the digital world. This **Wednesday, 5th December** is **International Volunteer Day**— mandated by the United Nations.

It is a day for all volunteers and volunteer organisations to celebrate their efforts. It is an opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of volunteers to change the world for a better future. We thank each and every one.



Recently, Ray Hinton (Computerpals Newcastle committee member, technical team member and tutor) received a Shortland Electorate Seniors Volunteer Award from Pat Conroy MP in recognition of his community involvement.

Ray not only volunteers many hours at our club but also provides ‘hands-on’ involvement with Warners Bay Sustainable Neighbourhood Group, Mount Hutton Landcare, Opal Nursing Home and Mount Hutton & Windale Residents Action Group.

Due to ASCCA not conducting annual competitions for creative writing and digital photography this year it was decided we should have our own competition, inviting local Computerpals clubs to join in the fun. Two independent adjudicators judged the writing and poetry while the photography was judged by members’ popular vote. The entries were outstanding and winners in each category will be announced at the Christmas Lunch on Friday 7th December.

Our Roster team will be working over the holidays on next year’s timetable of classes so if there is a subject you need and will attend please let us know.

Have a Joyous Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.

Your President

Sandra



**REPORT – COMPUTERPALS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER 2018**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 19 members met at Mortels Sheepskin Factory/ Café at Thornton for a Devonshire Tea prior to a tour of the factory and some shopping in the gift shop.

With all intending attendees present, we settled into our caffeine fix helped by delicious scones, jam and cream, and of course, plenty of banter. Fully charged, we then gathered for a group photo prior to commencing the Sheep’s Back Museum and Factory tour with our guide, Josh, whose father and grandfather still work in the family business.

With ‘bucket loads of enthusiasm’ Josh took us through the museum section where everything from a dray loaded with wool bales to industrial sewing machines and a pictorial history of the company was on display. Then on to the factory where staff were busy producing Ugg boots. However, a number of other lines (hats, gloves etc.) are also produced. Of interest also was the story of the 4 year long protracted legal battle Mortels had to protect their product’s name from overseas factories cashing in. Viewing from a raised platform enabled us all to gain a great insight into the workings of this family business.

Full of knowledge on ‘all thing’s sheep’, members then gave their credit cards a severe workout in the gift shop, helped along no doubt with Christmas just around the corner. The general feeling among the group was that it had been one of the liveliest and enjoyable tours they had experienced, and we would recommend a visit to those unable to join us on the day.

As this was our last excursion for 2018, Beryl and I would like to sincerely thank those members (and especially the regulars) who supported these outings over the past year, and look forward to more next year.

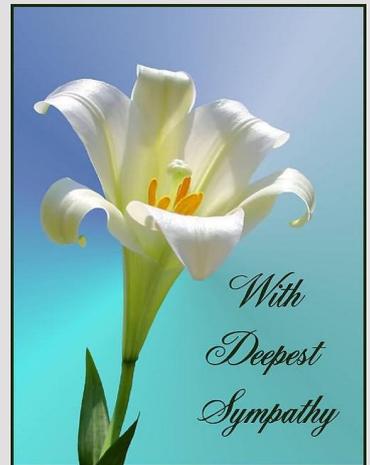
**PS: Don’t forget the Computerpals Christmas Lunch to be held at the Mayfield Ex Services Club (Diggers @ Newcastle City) on Friday 7th December, commencing at 11.30am sharp.**

**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

This 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 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 1:00 p.m. in the Islington clubroom or at a nearby site to explore digital photography.

## MemoryPals

This month we investigated ways to bring those old photos into digital format by photographing them and transferring the images to the computer. Sometimes the images are discoloured so we looked at ways of editing them to improve the colour or change them to black and white.

We also investigated ways of making a book for grandchildren with photos and text to tell a story of their family.

BeConnected has a Course worth investigating on Researching Family History in its Online Hobbies Topics.

## WriterPals

### Everybody has a story to tell...

Our final Writerpals meeting for the year will be on December 10th and we would love to see you there. Please join us then at the clubroom. In the meantime, here's a picture - tell the story....



We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at 1pm, and all are welcome - with or without stories in hand. There is no obligation or pressure to share anything you have written.

## DigiPals

Thank you to all those who took the time to vote for the entries in the Photographic Competition.

Digipals group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1 pm and will resume meeting in the New Year.

Digipals people watch your inbox for an email from Barry who will let you know where and when the next get together is to be held.

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

## Roster Team

Barry Keen



Mitzi Gordon

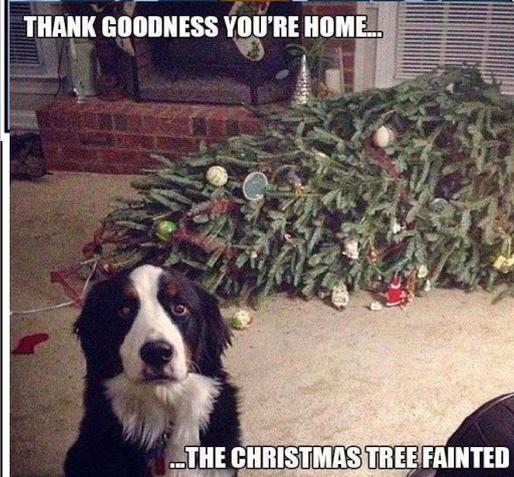
Camel Smith



Wendy Cripps-Clark

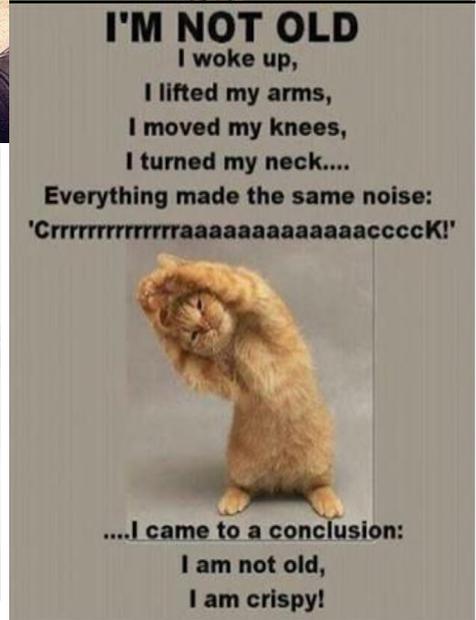
These people are all volunteers who also teach classes at Computerpals. We ask that you take this into consideration when your phone call is not answered immediately.

## Funnybone —



I KNOW 5 PEOPLE WHO ARE CLINICALLY INSANE... I'M 2 OF THEM.

Dear Santa,  
I've been good all year...no matter what the evidence suggests...



Sometimes I wonder what happened to the people who asked me for directions



**PRIVACY STATEMENT:** Information contained in this Newsletter is only for the members of the ComputerPals Newcastle Inc. The Editor accepts no responsibility for any errors, omissions, libels, in accuracy or other shortcomings of this newsletter.

**Making Connections through Street Names:  
Scott, Mitchell, Merewether, and the Mitchell Library.  
Researched and written by Lindsay Threadgate.**

It is well known that many of our street and suburb names are from those people who made considerable contribution to the development of our city. Who these people were and how they contributed is relatively easy to discover. The connection between them and landmarks such as the Mitchell Library probably takes a bit more digging.

**Scott Street**, in Newcastle after Alexander Walker Scott<sup>1</sup>. Scott first arrived in Newcastle in 1827 as a trader in his ship Australia, he again visited in 1829 and took up a 2560-acre (1036 ha) grant on Ash Island. In 1831 he returned as a settler. With him was his mother and sister, both, Augusta Maria Scott. His brothers Robert and Helenus were already settlers on Glendon Estate near Singleton. Alexander Walker Scott's contribution to Newcastle is well documented.

**Mitchell Street**, in Merewether after Dr. James Mitchell<sup>2</sup>. Mitchell, a surgeon was in 1820, appointed assistant surgeon to the 48th regiment then stationed in Sydney. He also was in private practice. Mitchell acquired many land holdings in the Hunter district by grant and purchase, including the Burwood and Rothbury estates. In 1833 James Mitchell married Augusta Maria Scott. They had two children, Augusta Maria Mitchell and David Scott Mitchell.

**Merewether**, the street and suburb after Edward Christopher Merewether<sup>3</sup>. Merewether came to Newcastle in 1861 as general superintendent of the Australian Agricultural Co. He built The Ridge on the Burwood estate. He had married Augusta Maria Mitchell, the year before. Merewether not only improved the fortunes of the A-A Co. but was heavily involved with management of the Burwood estate. In 1869, following James Mitchell's death, he assisted the family's counsel in litigation that eventually wrested control of Mitchell's estate from the confidence trickster, William Ernest Wolfskehl. The success of this litigation provided Dr James Mitchell's heirs considerable wealth through Burwood and Rothbury estates and other land holding in the Hunter Valley.

**The Mitchell Library**, after David Scott Mitchell<sup>4</sup>, son of Dr James Mitchell and Augusta Maria (Scott) and sister of Augusta Maria Merewether. David Scott Mitchell, a book collector and national benefactor, was in 1852 one of the first undergraduates of the University of Sydney. Mitchell had inherited considerable wealth from his father but showed little interest in the estates, leaving the management to agents. He became an avid book collector and upon his death on 24 July 1907 had bequeathed his entire collection of some 60,000 volumes to the State Library of New South Wales trustees with an endowment of £70,000 with an interesting proviso. After some minor bequests the residue of his estate of £261,000 went to his sister Augusta Maria. Despite his fine memory and erudition he wrote nothing and left as his one main memorial the Mitchell Library in Sydney.

1. Australian Dictionary of Biography: <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/scott-alexander-walker-4545>

2. Australian Dictionary of Biography: <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mitchell-james-2462>

3. Australian Dictionary of Biography: <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/merewether-edward-christopher-4188>

4. Australian Dictionary of Biography: <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mitchell-david-scott-210>

## A Brain Teaser

See if you can translate the following into the familiar sayings we've all heard. See answers below.

1. Scintillate, scintillate, exiguous luminous celestial object.
2. Members of an avian species of identical plumage congregate.
3. Cogitation should precede salutations.
4. Pulchritude possesses solely cutaneous profundity.
5. It is fruitless to become lachrymose over precipitately departed lacteal fluid.
6. Freedom from incrustations of grime is contiguous to rectitude.
7. The stylus is more potent than the claymore.
8. It is fruitless to attempt to indoctrinate a superannuated canine with innovative manoeuvres.
9. Eschew the implement of correction and vitiate the scion.
10. The temperature of the aqueous content of an unremittingly ogled saucepan does not does reach 212 degrees Fahrenheit.
11. All articles that coruscate with resplendence are not truly auriferous.
12. Where there are visible vapors in ignited carbonaceous material, there is conflagration.

Answers:

1. Twinkle, twinkle, little star.
2. Birds of a feather, flock together.
3. Think before you speak.
4. Beauty is skin deep.
5. Don't cry over spilled milk.
6. Cleanliness is next to godliness.
7. The pen is mightier than the sword.
8. You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
9. Spare the rod and spoil the child.
10. A watched pot doesn't boil.
11. All that glitters is not gold.
12. Where there's smoke, there's fire.

