

ComputerPals - Newcastle

Where Seniors master technology

SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President

**Sandra Keen**

Dates to Remember

Open Mornings -
9.30 till 11.30 am
Wednesday -Jan 31st
Thursday -Feb 1st
Friday -Feb 2nd.

Monday, 5th February
MemoryPals—1pm

Friday, 9th February
Laptop Assistance -10am

Monday, 12th February
WriterPals - 1 pm

Monday, 19th February
Digipals—1pm

Friday, 23rd February
TabPals -see page 3

Saturday, 3rd March
Social Outing

In This Issue

Tech Info Page 2

Special Interest Groups
Page 3

Funnybone Page 4



Australian Seniors
 Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

President's Report

Welcome to the ComputerPals' New Year!

I trust you had a wonderful holiday season and are refreshed ready for any new challenges that technology presents. Some of you may have new devices either given as gifts or handed on by family members. Do come along and discuss your needs with our tutors (or find out what you really need to know if you aren't sure).

By now many of you will have accessed our website to see the timetable of classes for Term One. The Roster team and Committee have been busy organising classes during the break. We are trialling a slightly different approach with the new timetable. Across the week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) in the mornings the Computer Skills, Email and Internet for Beginners classes will be conducted on all three days. This gives members the opportunity to choose which day suits them best when booking their session. Each of these classes runs over two weeks so, when choosing a particular day, the member must continue on the same day of the week for that class.

Another new service at our club will start soon. Laptop Assistance is a new 'drop-in' session for members who have difficulty with using their laptop computer. Bring in your laptop on the second Friday of each month between 10am and 12 noon and we will endeavour to assist you. The first Laptop Assistance session will be on Friday 9th February. The cost is \$5 and there is no need to book in for this session.

Brenton Elsey has organised a Club Social Outing for this term. He will send out an email with all the details but I can confirm the date and location. Put Saturday, 3rd March in your diaries for a train trip to the Hawkesbury River/ Brooklyn and ferry ride to Dangar Island. These Outings will occur once each term and where they were previously on a Saturday, they may be on another day of the week in future.

Next Tuesday, 6th February is Safer Internet Day. In support we have scheduled 'Internet and Email Security'. This class is subsidised through our grant from Newcastle City Council and will cost \$5 for a three hour class, commencing at 12:15 pm. Using the Internet safely is essential for all to ensure we don't become prey for scammers.

Our Open Days have been quite successful so far. If you haven't called in to our clubroom at 15 Hubbard St, Islington already this week and still want to have a chat about classes we have more Open Days on Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd February between 9:30 and 11:30am.

Let's all learn together and have fun doing so!

Sandra Keen – President

A big part of Online Security is simple COMMON SENSE

Banks do NOT send out emails or texts telling you to verify your details and threatening to freeze your accounts if you do not comply. Delete immediately. If you are still concerned, contact your bank for verification.

It is IMPOSSIBLE to win a lottery or contest that you have not entered. Delete the email and/or text

Telemarketers: Don't debate; don't argue; HANG UP!

Social media is a key part of our lives now, but it's also a great platform for cybercriminals to try and scam us. For tips to stay safe go to www.staysmartonline.gov.au and you can sign up for their Alert Service which will keep you informed on the latest threats.

Take precautions when forwarding emails - remove ALL other email addresses and names. This will be further explained in the Internet Security Class on Tuesday 6th Feb.

If sending emails to more than one person, put them all in the BCC (also further explained on Tuesday)

Tighten up your Facebook security - this is dealt with in our Facebook classes.

If you get a call from someone who asks "Can you hear me?" Do NOT say "yes". That is the only word they need to record to change a lot of your confidential records in all sorts of places. Hang up!

Be aware that, if you fill out an online survey, you are putting your information out there for the world to see. You will get more phone calls and emails than you know what to do with.

It is a bad idea to click on links in unsolicited emails - you never know where that link will take you. Often the link you might click on is totally different to the site you end up on. *This will be shown on Tuesday, 6th February in the Internet Security class.*

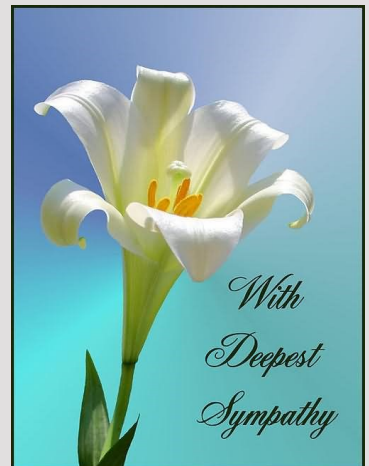
Finally - These are only a few of the hints and tips available to you both from your tutors and from various security websites. In a nutshell, if you have doubts, delete. If it is aimed at causing you to panic or worry, delete. At the very least, phone someone you can talk to about it for validation.

Best Wishes

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



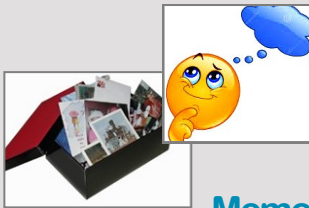
To those who are ill we send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.



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

The first MemoryPals for 2018 is on Monday 5th February. Suggested approach for this meeting is to investigate ways of researching our family history. Some internet sites are free while others have charges so we will take a look at some popular genealogy sites.

Come along at 1pm with an idea of a project that you wish to pursue and we will endeavour to help you.

WriterPals

Everybody has a story to tell...

If you are unsure how to tell it, where to start, how to write it—we can help you and would be delighted to do so.

Why have somebody else write your story after you've gone—you are the one who knows the little anecdotes and quirky bits that are just you so you are the only one who can talk about them and about your life experiences.

Enhance your memories by giving them personality—yours.

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

Digipals had a early start (or late finish depending on your perspective) for the year with an outing to Stockton to 'shoot' the P&O Pacific Jewell against the Newcastle City skyline.



Digipals group meets on the **3rd Monday of the month** at 1 pm in the clubroom.

We try and get 'out' for a shoot as often as possible. Come along and join in the fun with your digital camera or phone.

Expertise is not a requirement—just a desire to enjoy photography.

TabPals

There is usually a good attendance at TabPals in the clubroom.

You will learn things you weren't even aware that you didn't know!

Apple users—tablets & phones—meet between 11 am—12:30pm
Android users—tablets & phones—meet between 1:00—2:30 pm

Bring your device fully charged AND your questions.

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.

Funnybone—

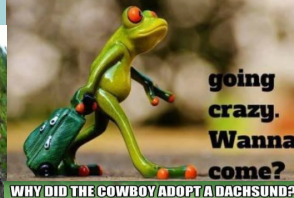
Do you ever wake up, kiss the person sleeping beside you, and feel glad that you are alive? I just did and apparently will not be allowed on this airline again....



You are sadly mistaken if you think this will convince us to go outside in the rain to pee.

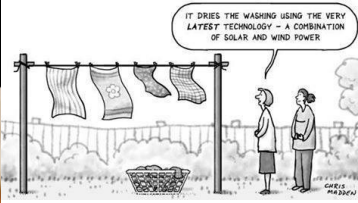


Know someone who needs a hug? Give them one of yours.



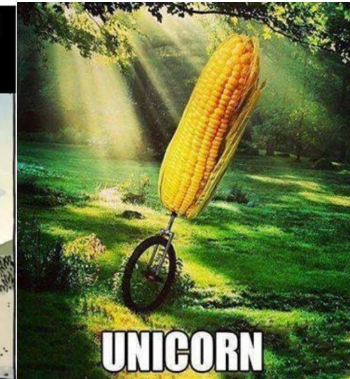
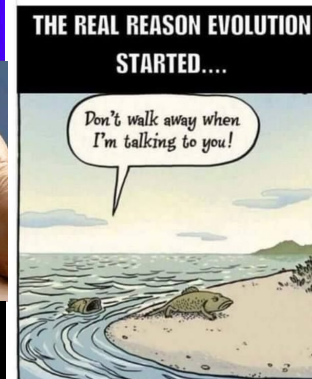
The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off!

Every family has one weird relative. If you don't know who it is, then it's probably you.



Dead Penguins - I never knew this! Did you ever wonder why there are no dead penguins on the ice in Antarctica? Where do they go? Wonder no more!!!! It is a well known fact that the penguin is a very ritualistic bird which lives an extremely ordered and complex life. The penguin is very devoted to his family and will mate for life as well as maintain a form of compassionate contact with its offspring throughout its life. If a penguin is found dead on the icy surface, other members of the family and social circle have been known to dig holes in the ice using their vestigial wings and beaks until the hole is wide enough and deep enough for the bird to be rolled into and buried. The male penguins then gather round the hole and sing "Freeze a jolly good fellow!" "Freeze a jolly good fellow!"

O come on! You don't really think I know anything about penguins, do you?



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.