



SWITCHED ON SENIORS

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President



Sandra Keen

Dates to Remember

**Enrolment Days -
Friday July 5th**

Friday August 2nd

**AGM & Lunch -
Cardiff RSL- 11am
Friday 16th Aug.**

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President’s Report -

Welcome to another ComputerPals membership year which rolls around from 1st July, so if you haven’t already—it is time to renew memberships.

As we approach the two week winter break for ComputerPals, our roster team has prepared the timetable for the next term from 23rd July to 27th September. The new timetable is available on our website. If you have a request for a particular course send us an email or drop a note in the suggestion box in the clubroom.



The members and friends who attended our June morning tea benefited from an informative presentation by speakers from Wallsend Services NSW.



They explained the Services NSW website and how the service can help households save money. This talk was well received judging by

the number of questions from the audience.

The next big event on the calendar at ComputerPals is the **Annual General Meeting and Lunch** which will be held on **Friday 16th August at Cardiff RSL Club** starting at **11am**. Put the date on your calendar because we would like as many members as possible to join us. Cost and payment details will be sent out soon.

At the Annual General Meeting all committee positions will be declared vacant. This is your club and you can have a say about who is on the committee, but only if you are a Financial Member. Please take advantage of the Nomination Form on our website under the ‘Home’ tab in ‘Constitution and Forms’. These forms are also available in the clubroom. If you know of someone that you think should be on the committee or you’d like to have a go yourself, put in a nomination!

Thank you to the members who have joined ‘BeConnected’ attached to ComputerPals Newcastle. We need all those who have commenced ‘BeConnected’ to complete more than two full courses which include several simple lessons. Please ask our tutors, or send us an email, if you are unsure about this or if you would like to avail yourself of these great free classes.

Sandra

A Tribute

This poem is a “Tip of me Hat” to all nursing home and retirement village residents with a sense of adventure. It is a special tribute to a constant escapee from a Nursing Home on the Far South Coast. His wife of many years could not keep him at home when the Parkinsons got too bad but she always knew which pub he would be found in with his old mates, Jack, Bob and Jim - a beer apiece that lasted all afternoon or until discovery. He is now deceased and sadly missed, but I have no doubt that he is creating havoc wherever he is. His wife’s words were “There’s no way he’ll be going to Heaven, so I hope Old Nick’s ready for him”.

THE ESCAPEE

I made me escape from the nursing home and took off down the street,
And the only one who saw me go was the Copper on the beat.
Me scooter’s nice and quiet you see, and doesn’t squeak or that
But it became a whole new ballgame when the bloody thing got a flat.

I didn’t have a spare tyre there or the tools to do the job
And I didn’t have no money to call me old mate, Bob.
He’d come to me rescue for sure, he would, if he knew I needed him
And the job he’d do would be real good, ‘cause he’d bring his brother Jim.

It was getting on for lunchtime when I bolted for the door
Me poor old hands would get the shakes and me plate’d hit the floor.
I found it too embarrassin’ when the folks around would laugh
And someone then would ring a bell to call the cleanup staff.

They’d heave a sigh with a gentle smile and mop up all the mush
And when I tried to apologize, most would just say “Hush,
We know it was an accident, and cleanup’s what we do,
so just don’t worry. It’s ok. We’ll clean it up for you.”

But one there was who didn’t smile, or offer kindly words,
She’d mop and clean, then stomp on out, come back with sloppy curds
That I reckon she’d recycled from what she’d mopped before -
Good thing the place was clean enough to eat up off the floor.

We never got food we could chew or get our teeth stuck in
And most of what we couldn’t chew went in the slushy bin.
Most of us had false teeth that were gathered up each night
And soaked and scrubbed and given back, but they rarely got it right

‘cause mostly we all got pot luck with the teeth they gave us back,
And sometimes we got two top sets to chew toast burned so black
That it crumbled into sooty dust at the first piece that we bit,
So when it got to lunchtime, tasteless mush was quite a hit.

The folk who work in the nursing home are mostly good and kind
So, for their sake, we suck it up, and pretend that we don’t mind
They turn their heads when we do a bolt, ‘cause they know that we come back
But I’m stuck here with a bloody flat tyre - Today’s meatloaf! Come get me, Jack!

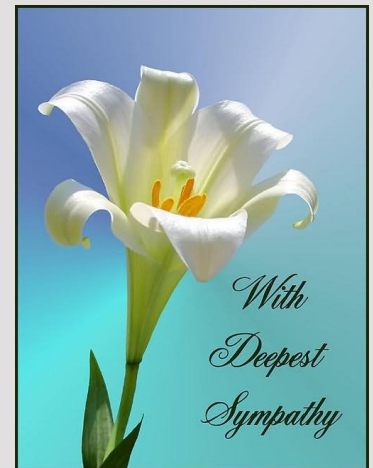


Best Wishes

*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.

MemoryPals

This month we further investigated finding digitised articles about family members in newspapers and gazettes using Trove.

For August we will look at another way of researching our ancestors.

No need to book - \$2 on the day.

WriterPals

Everybody has a story to tell...Our next Writerpals meeting for the year will be on August due to the school holidays and we would love to see you there. Please join us then at the clubroom.

If you can tell a story—you can write a story. Just have a go. We would love to help, so please come join us on the 12th August. Once you start the rest will come easily....

Look through those stored memories and celebrate one with a story—a story that could be a competition winner. **See details on our writing competition on page 5 of this newsletter and on our website**

All are welcome - with or without stories in hand. Just turn up. Bring ideas to talk about for future writings or meetings.

DigiPals

Digipals group normally meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1 pm, however, there will not be a meeting in July due to school holidays. Our challenge for you this time is taking photos using shadows and light to achieve a special effect.

Digital Photography Competition Update

Details of the 2019 ASCCA Digital Photography Competition including entry guidelines are now on the ASCCA website—

<https://www.ascca.org.au>

Entry is normally only via email but if this proves to be a problem, entries can be loaded on the web (in Google Photos or similar) and the URL and covering information sent to the entry address

photocomp@pcug.org.au

Entries can be submitted any time between now and the closing date of 1st September, 2019.

Contact Barry Keen if you are unsure about entering the competition.

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 —

"Give me a sentence about a public servant," instructed the teacher during a lesson. One small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Do you know what pregnant means?" she asked.

"Sure," said the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."

A girl was visiting her blonde friend, who had acquired two new dogs. She asked, "What are their names?"

The blonde replied, "That one is Rolex, and that one is Timex."

Her friend said, "Whoever heard of someone naming dogs like that?"

"Helllooo?" said the blonde. "They're watch dogs..."

A young missionary on his first term in Africa is out away from camp having devotions in a quiet clearing, as was his custom. This one particular day, while reading his Bible, a lion comes and lies down right beside him, so close that the hot warm smell of his breath is wafting over him. He is, as you would suppose, exceedingly uneasy. He closes his eyes, praying ... but when he opens them, he sees another lion approach from the brush, which proceeds to lie down on the other side of him.

Convinced as he is that this is a test of his faith, he determines to return to his Bible reading. As soon as he does so, the two lions pounce upon him and devour him.

Moral of the story: Don't read between the lions!

Church Bulletin Bloopers

~ Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

~ Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 pm in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.

~ Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again" giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

~ "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."

~ Next Sunday is the family hayride and bonfire at the Fowlers'. Bring your own hot dogs and guns. Friends are welcome! Everyone come for a fun time.

~ The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.

~ The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus"

~ Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

~ Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.

~ Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.

~ Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

~ The service will close with "Little Drops of Water." One of the ladies will start quietly and the rest of the congregation will join in.

~ Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.

A lawyer, a priest, and a young boy were in a plane that was going to crash, yet they only had 2 parachutes. The lawyer proclaimed that since he was the smartest man on the plane, that he deserved to survive. He took a chute and jumped.

The priest looked at the young boy, and reflecting back on his life, told the young boy to take the last parachute since he had already lived a wonderful and full life.

The boy replied, "You can have the other chute because the smartest man on this plane just jumped out with my book bag!"

This is Computerpals Newcastle Creative Writing Competition.

Even if you have never written a story or a poem before there is no reason why you could not win in this competition. You are encouraged to submit one story only for each of the three prose topics and one poem only for each poetry topic.

We will acknowledge an overall “Writing Champion” and also a “Champion Club” for Creative Writing.

Please read and comply with all the conditions of entry and keep strictly within the various word limits for each category - or your entry will be disqualified from judging.

The topics are:-

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

1. **Open Topic** – You are invited to submit your best piece of writing
2. **Memories** – A story of memories in general or a personal memoir of your own from your lifetime. Do not let truth get in the way of your creativity.
3. **Cameo** – it could be a charming piece of jewellery with a story, or a fleeting appearance by

Each story to be **1,000 words or less**

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

4. **Open** – A poem about anything you choose.
5. **Memories** - a poem about memories, singular or plural, general or specific
6. **Cameo** - a poem about a cameo, whether it be jewellery or an appearance by a person or entity

Any style of poetry may be entered, using **no more than 350 words**.

You don't need to be an expert or have visions of being published to enter the competition

—oOo—

“But I can't write stories” is the refrain that I am constantly hearing...then I proceed to get told a wonderful story of some incident that is rattling around in that person's memory.

If you can TELL a story... you can WRITE a story

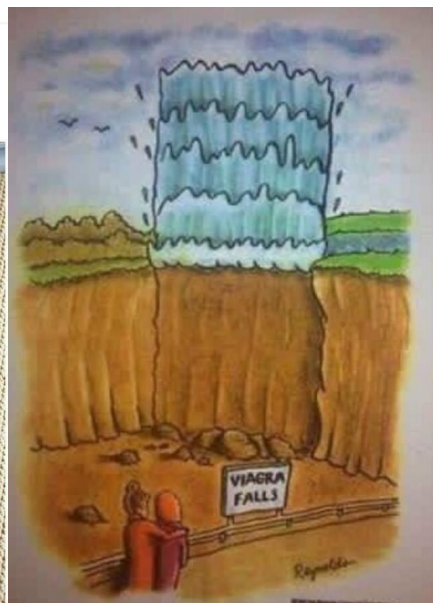
especially with the phone and tablet apps that allow you to speak your story and have it turned into text.

You will never know until you try, and then you will wonder why you never tried before.

There are wonderful stories out there and bottomless pits of untapped memories that will disappear into the mists of time unless you set them free.

Have a go.

I think you will surprise yourself with what you can do, and with how much you recall once your memory starts releasing its treasures.



WriterPals

From the wonderfully creative mind of Barbara Bartlett comes this gem - the challenge? To write a letter from where you are now in life to yourself as a child.

Dear Barbara,

I've been wanting to write to you for some time now as I've lived a long life and made many mistakes and I don't want you to make those same mistakes. I have lots of advice for you so please pay attention.

Firstly, you must study hard. I can see that I'm losing you already. It's really important to study your Maths and English. Concentrate now, Barbara and get your mind off Perry Como and Harry Belafonte. I know 'Catch a falling Star' is in the Top Ten hit parade but it won't get you a good job. Don't you want to go to University or Teacher's College? All you will be doing is singing 'I Never Felt More Like Singing the Blues' or 'Ain't That a Shame' but it will be too late then, won't it? Guy Mitchell or Pat Boone won't help you, will they?

Secondly, I want to talk to you about friendships and relationships. Stop groaning, Barbara. You are really making this letter very hard for me. I know your head is in the clouds over the boy next door. Is he worth wasting your time in day dreams? When you choose a partner make sure that you have hobbies and interests in common. I know what is best for you. I can see that you are miles away, Barbara. This is important now. Remember to choose your friends, yes and boy friends, (stop giving me that look, Barbara!), like you would choose a good book. Not by the cover. I know Mr Darcy is your pin up boy and as for Heathcliff well he is another kettle of fish. Boys are never like the elegant Mr Darcy or the passionate Heathcliff. Love is..... Well, what more can I tell a girl who has a mind of her own and won't listen to well meant advice!

Thirdly, you must always wear a hat when you go out in the sun. I didn't and look at me. It won't happen to you, Barbara? Well, let me tell you that it will and it has. Getting those sunspots burnt off is not fun. I know from first hand experience. Oh! What's the point of telling you anything when your mind is at the movies? 'Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn.' That was Rhett Butler who said that not Scarlett O'Hara. And what's more your attention span is appalling. Even worse than Scarlett's, if that is possible.

Well lastly, let me say this. Enjoy nature. Walk amongst the trees. Watch a nesting bird. Find a tiny ground orchid. See an echidna try to burrow into the ground. Boring. I know. Stop thinking about the beach and your new swimmers. I know you want 'To be Bobby's Girl'. OK. I give up. It's no use putting an old head on young shoulders. Life is not like that. Make the same mistakes. Hopefully, you will learn from your mistakes.

However, I'll let you in on a secret; I still continue to make mistakes. I probably will do so till the end of my life. Love and best wishes - Barbara

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