



# SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : [contact@computerpals.org.au](mailto:contact@computerpals.org.au)

**President**



**Sandra Keen**

**Dates to Remember**

**Clubroom is closed till further notice. Stay safe and healthy.**

**WATCH THIS SPACE FOR REOPENING DETAILS.**

*In the meantime  
**BE A ZOOMIE** and  
join us online. Wed &  
Fri mornings @ 9.45  
Thurs Morn @ 9.45*

**ASCCA Annual Conference—10th Nov**  
More info to come

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**President’s Report -**

How vastly different is 2020 from last year at Computerpals when we had held several events to promote our club and at this time were gearing up for the Annual General Meeting. Unfortunately, the AGM has to be postponed and our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration as well. We look forward to the time when we can meet face to face and enjoy the camaraderie with all our members and friends.

In the meantime, I encourage all members to join us for our free online Zoom sessions. We meet regularly on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from the safety of our homes in very friendly sessions. Each week an invitation is sent to current members and Be Connected learners. If you are not receiving this email and want to be included please contact us. For those of you concerned about trying this new form of communication we can arrange a personal practice session to ensure you understand how to connect. All this is free for members.

We have fun while connecting over Zoom. A couple of weeks ago I mentioned that we would look at ‘Online Banking’. Our Poet Lauriat—Harold Franks—thought I said “Online Dating” and penned a poem during the Zoom session (How amazing!)

This year the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA) Conference will be held online. As soon as we know the details we will pass them on to our members. So far we know the date - 10<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a variety of guest speakers giving practical advice, including some representatives from the big tech companies telling us about future technology.

One part of the conference that our club will be really interested in will be the results of this year’s Digital Photography Competition. Last year Newcastle Computerpals was the champion club. This year we are defending our title! The only way we can do this is for our members to enter the competition. I have just read in the ASCCA newsletter that this year’s entries will be displayed on a website after the closing date and all Computerpals members will be invited to vote for a “People’s Choice” award in each category. Sounds like a chance for everyone to be involved.

Barry has sent out reminders of how to enter and the information is also on our website. It doesn’t matter whether entries are taken with a camera or smartphone, so check through your snaps taken after 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019 and get your entries in by end of this month (August). If you need help in sending your entry please contact us.

Stay well and safe,  
Sandra

**Online dating** By Harold Franks

Is my hearing still OK?  
Is this what I heard them say  
Online dating ComputerPals way  
Let me have a little say  
Members then, I ask you if  
Your face and figure entered with  
Newcastle computer muster team  
Imagine what the crowd might seem  
Phone numbers flying here and there  
Photos flying everywhere  
Members increase but the score  
Others waiting more and more  
Perhaps my hearing aid go in  
And I question once again  
Is it right, the thing I thought?  
Or is it just another rort.

**A FEW SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF - AND BEWARE OF**

Payment details update required. **Easy to fall for this if you are awaiting a parcel delivery**

*Hello,*

*We're having some trouble with your current billing information. We'll try again, but in the meantime you need to update your payment details.*

**UPDATE YOUR ACCOUNT**

*Need help?*

*We are available if you need it. Visit the Help Centre or contact us.*

Just to let you know these phone calls are going round. Worried or vulnerable people will have the dickens scared out of them and will be very susceptible to calls like this. Solution: **HANG UP**

**Caller:** 'Good morning, According to our system, you are likely to have been in close proximity to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. This means that you now need to self-isolate for 7 days and take a COVID-19 test.'

**Target:** 'OK. Can you tell me who that person was?'

**Caller:** 'I'm not able to tell you that. That is confidential information.'

**Target:** 'Right. so ....'

**Caller:** 'But you do need to be tested within the next 72 hours. So can I just get the best mailing address so that we can send a kit to you?'

**Target:** 'Ok (gives address)'

**Caller:** 'Thank you - and I just need to take a payment card so that we can finalize this and send the kit to you.'

**Target:** 'Sorry - a payment card? I thought this was all free?'

**Caller:** 'No - I'm afraid not. There is a one-off fee of \$50 for the kit and test results. Could you read off the long card number for me, please, when you're ready.'

**Target:** 'No - that's not right.'

**Caller:** 'I'm afraid it is. Can you give me the card number please - this is very important, and there are penalties for not complying.'

**PUT THE PHONE DOWN!**

This is how scammers work. And vulnerable people will fall for it.

THIS SUPPOSEDLY FROM APPLE... Some will click the VERIFY button without thinking about it and could end up in all sorts of trouble.

"Dear Customer,

Due to a problem with your card, we have been unable to charge your account.

Your Apple ID automatically locks to protect your security and you can't sign in to any Apple services.

July 14, 2020, 7:08 am

The card was declined for an unknown reason.

Your Apple ID will permanently disabled if you do not verify your identity under 24 hours.

Verify Now >

Sincerely,

Apple Team"

Be aware that not everybody who offers "HELP" is your friend...there are some nasties out there.

**More information:**

sign up to the Stay Smart Online Alert Service,

[www.staysmartonline.gov.au/alert-service](http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/alert-service).

**To check for current scams and risks visit [www.scamwatch.gov.au](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au)**

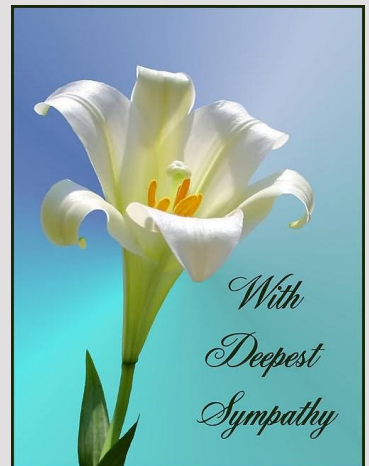
If you've been the victim of a cybercrime including financial loss, report it

**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.*



Recently, correspondence from Pieter Woittiez informed us of the passing of his wife Nell earlier this month. Nell was 2nd president of ComputerPals for Seniors - Newcastle, August 2002 to August 2004. Pieter was also on the committee. Our condolences go to Pieter and family.

The Computerpals committee is holding our meetings and get-togethers via Zoom - a whole new experience for most of us...

Some of our incredible tutors are conducting online help sessions through Zoom. The one on next week **Wednesday & Friday (5/8 & 7/8)** is designed to help you with **Downloading & Saving Documents and Managing Files**.

**Lindsay conducts sessions on Thursday morning** also. If you wish to participate you will need the correct meeting ID and password. To get this information please contact Lindsay on [lindsayzooming@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayzooming@gmail.com)

If there is a particular topic you would like help with, please send in an email or call the club, leave your contact details and a message and somebody will call you back. Zoom is proving very easy and convenient to use for sessions involving multiple people.

During these times when we have no classes for you to attend, you can keep up with your computer learning by either contacting Computerpals via email or phone, or you can do research for yourselves by using one of our favourite websites GCFlearnfree. Type this into Google, select TOPICS, then scroll through and find what you want to explore. There is a SEARCH option, so click on the little magnifying glass, type in what you want and it will appear before your eyes. Also make sure you keep up with Be-Connected. Lots of good info too and they add new topics on a regular basis.

**The mask** Harold Franks

It's not just robbers and hoods that use a facial mask  
 Today you see it in the street and even in the park  
 They come in many colours, not just black or green  
 I've seen them in a gentle shade of pink, really supreme

There is more news about the humble mask than  
 In the death and catching of the coronavirus span  
 In Victoria we are told of the mask and battle there  
 Where many are reported that a mask they will not wear

There are many millions who respect our current law  
 But there's some that just ignore it, consider it a bore  
 They are the ignorant, selfish ones who do not give a care  
 To these I give a warning, just be careful and beware

Many jesters, with the wearing of the mask, show a flare  
 Like the man who wore nothing but a mask, you know where  
 Or the chap who made a mask from his wife's rejected bra  
 Of the arguments about it, this is the brighter side, by far



Some more of Harold's efforts ...

**ALL LIFE MATTERS** Harold Franks

Black lives matter, this is true  
 But remember, white lives matter too  
 So you go and protest, ignoring the rules  
 And act like a mob of irresponsible fools  
 You have ignored from the start  
 The laws that have been passed  
 For the safety of black and the white  
 For together we should be fighting this fight  
 While your protesting, corona won't stop  
 So get out and fight it, non-stop  
 Do your part, stay alert and apart  
 Let's all be in it and smart  
 This virus is out there, waiting to breed  
 With no respect for colour or creed  
 Too many lives have been lost  
 And remember the cost  
 So black brothers and white  
 Get out there and fight  
 Together we'll fight it and be  
 So give this virus the old one, two, three





## Special Interest Groups



### MemoryPals

~~Our 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 Computer-~~

~~Pals members who meet on the **third Monday** of each month at **1 pm**. in the Islington clubroom to explore digital photography.~~

### Tablet & Phone Help



~~If you have a portable device; iPad, Android tablet we have a Special Interest group called Tablet & Phone Help. **Fourth Friday** each month is our regular meeting **Ipada** at **10 a.m**, **Android** at **12:30 pm** in the clubroom.~~

## MemoryPals

**The next meeting of MemoryPals will be on the first Monday of whatever month we are able to resume activities at 1pm.**

In the meantime, we have addressed some family history/ preserving photos issues via Zoom. If you have any subjects we could add to our Zoom Sessions please let us know.

We like to help even though we can't meet physically.

Why not join us on Zoom—details on page 3.

## WriterPals

**Everybody has a story to tell...Our next Writerpals meeting will be Lord only knows when starting at 1pm.**

### NOTICE TO ALL

While Writerpals meetings are suspended for the duration of this isolation period, Writerpals itself can continue wherever you happen to be. Just get out your keyboards, your notebooks and pens, your slates and pencils, or even a clear space on your walls and start writing.

What can I write? I hear you say...

Stories, anecdotes, memories

Give it a go...you don't even have to tell anyone...just try!

How many little stories have you jotted down????

## DigiPals

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

**Don't forget the ASCCA Photography competition.**

**Get your entries in early. Entries close 1st September 2020**

See the club's website for details. Barry is happy to assist with entry procedure—but don't leave it to the last minute!

## Laptop Assistance

**Meetings suspended till further notice**

There usually a good attendance in the clubroom for people wanting to learn more about their laptop computers – even more so now for those who received those goodies for special gifts or hand-me-ups and need a little help to master them.

~~We meet on the second Friday of the month from 10.00 to 11.30 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](mailto:islingtonpals@gmail.com)

**Roster Team**

Barry Keen



Mitzi Gordon

Camel Smith

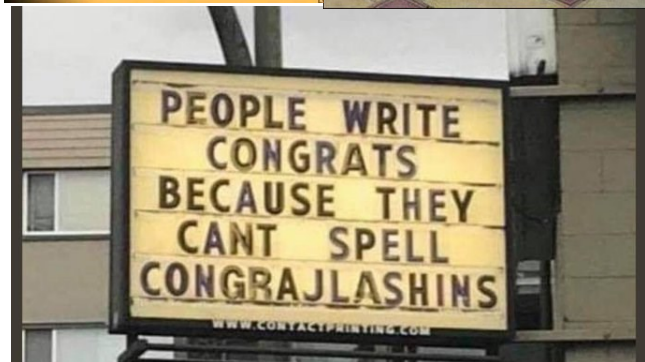
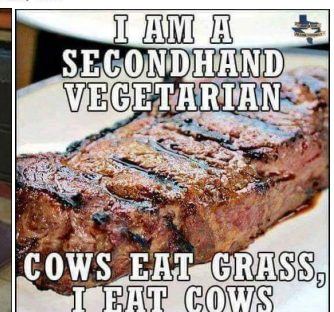
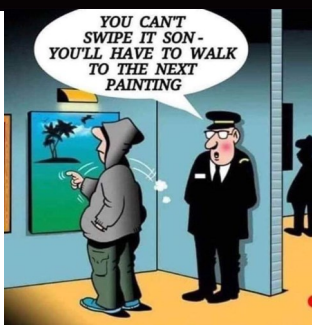


Wendy Cripps-Clark

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 —**

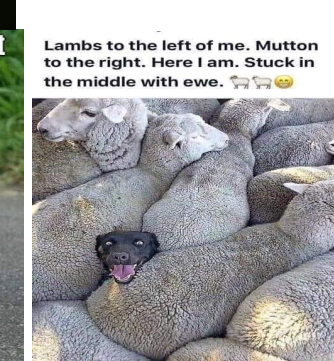
**There is no better feeling than someone playing with your hair or running their fingers down your back. Unless you thought you were alone.**



I had a hen who could count her own eggs. She was a mathemachicken.

Whatever you're doing today, do it with all the confidence of a four-year-old in a *Batman t-shirt*.

Two little boys were at a wedding when one of them leaned over to other and asked, "How many wives can a man have?" His friend answered, "Sixteen... four better, four worse, four richer, and four poorer."



**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CRAZY TO BE MY FRIEND . . . IT WILL JUST HAPPEN . . . GIVE IT TIME.**

**Seenager**

I **JUST** discovered my age group! I am a **Seenager** (senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a **Seenager**. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is **NOT** a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

**SO THERE!**

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names. So please forward this to your friends; they may be my friends, too.

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