



SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President



Sandra Keen

Dates to Remember

Tuesday 4th Feb 2020
Classes begin

Morning tea & enrolment - 24th Feb

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President’s Report -

February 2020

President’s Report

Welcome to 2020 at ComputerPals Newcastle – the year our club turns 20!

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. Some of you have probably attended one of our Enrolment / Open mornings. I do hope you have found classes to interest you.

The start of our year at ComputerPals is quite busy. Classes start on Tuesday 4th February. The following Tuesday, 11th February is Safer Internet Day. This year’s theme is Together for a better internet. Safer Internet Day is a worldwide event that raises awareness about online safety and encourages everyone to help create a better internet. It is celebrated in 150 countries. In Australia, the eSafety Commissioner is responsible for managing and promoting Safer Internet Day.

We will let you know of any specific activities for this day closer to the date.

NSW Seniors Festival is in February with this year’s theme being “Love to Celebrate” Our special event being held on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th February. On Monday 24th February we will have a special Morning Tea with guest speaker, Dr Gary Ellem from Newcastle University showcasing new developments in electric vehicles and assistive driving. Let’s Celebrate together on 24th Feb.

This will be followed in the afternoon by a showcase of Assistive Technology helping us remain independent as we get older.

On Tuesday 25th February from 12:30 – 2:30 pm our Be Connected session will have information on Apps that are designed to assist us with health and well-being.

This is your opportunity to invite some friends, especially for Dr Ellem’s talk. Those of you who were fortunate enough to hear him speak a few years ago will, no doubt, be looking forward to his update.

Sandra



Safer Internet Day
2020 | **Tuesday**
11 February
Together for a better internet



Cobargo Village—before and after



FIRES

It was red in the morning and red in the night
As we watched the firemen fighting their fight
Smoke in the sky, no sun to be seen
Ash just remains where houses had been

Towns have burned down, no water to spare
Grasses all burnt, trees standing there bare
The birds of the forest are not to be heard
Of the poor old koala not even a word

One thousand homes lost in one week
Tired firefighters asleep on their feet
No relief is in sight, more still to come
Record temperatures sent from the sun

Many lives lost, and fires still burn
Who will be next, where will we turn?
Food and supplies in desperate need
And for the cattle, where is their feed?

Another day, with more fires spread,
Bush so burnt and looking so dead.
Leaves and debris carried on high
To start new fires, wherever they lie.

Dear Lord in Heaven, please hear our plea
Send down some rain, on land and on sea
To replenish this land and make it so green
Restore it again, to what it had been

**A
Tribute
to our
incredible**

A HAPPY NEW YEAR?

We hear the sirens screening as they head towards the fight
Where ash and smoke and fire turn daylight into night
There's many fearful men and women, pray, and wait to see
What plan of actions needed, be it wait or be it flee

There's no power, little water, but the fight must carry on
For through the smoke and debris we see a reddened sun
And the ash, that was a homestead, a ghost that's laid to rest
The men who fight these fires, the heroes of the best

Many thousand acres, of this land we call our home
Has been eaten by this monster, as onward it must roam
Neither rivers nor the pilots, in the planes up in the sky
Can stop the advancing fires, but with them, it's do or die

The Government, in its wisdom, has called army into plan
And the navy used to evacuate, on the southern coastal land
With the heavy loss of buildings, and lives of many men
Can we stop this consuming fury, is it if, or is it when?

With the spirit of our fighters and the courage of the men
There will be "no give up", we will beat it in the end
If the Lord would send down water, in the shape of falling rain
It would help quench the fires and relieve our countries pain



**Poems by Harold
Franks**

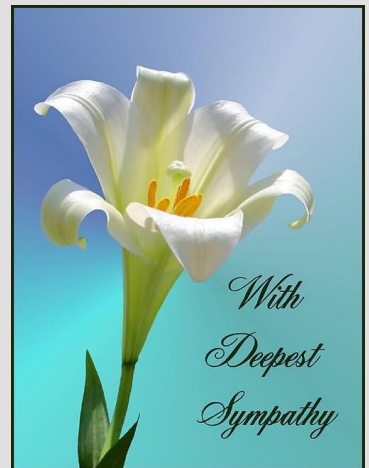


Best Wishes

*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.*

From the desk of the Social Secretary, Brenton Elsey

REPORT - COMPUTERPALS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 2019

Christmas Lunch

Our member’s Christmas lunch was held on Friday 6th December at the Mayfield Ex-Services Club with a good roll-up of 63 participants.

President Sandra opened proceedings with a welcome to members present and a brief update of Club happenings, including the news that our Club had won the overall ASCCA Photographic competition for 2019 - a magnificent effort, and congratulations to all entrants with special praise for the award winners. Our Writers leader, Carmel Smith then handed out our award winners from ASCCA 2019, a competition in which our Club has had a very successful run for many years. Treasurer Grahame updated us on the Club’s current financial position, which in no small manner has been improved by some significant special grants associated with the ‘Be Connected’ scheme, the subject of much hard work and effort by the senior committee members led by President Sandra. With the Club’s 20th Anniversary due next year, much thought is required to make it the memorable occasion that it deserves. A Sub-Committee has been set up to co-ordinate ideas for this.

The time for ‘official talk’ over, members then happily selected their favourite dishes from the Buffet and enjoyed each other’s company over lunch. With the Christmas/New Year break upon us, it was time for many to wish each other all the best for the forthcoming Festive Season.

From the ‘Social Department’, both Beryl and I would like to especially thank those members who supported our various activities throughout the year and wish all members a Safe and Merry Christmas/New Year period and look forward to catching up in 2020.

Brenton Elsey
Social Secretary



The Tramstop Café was a popular eatery



What Cobargo used to be



The aftermath of the fires

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 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 **Apple devices** at 11 a.m., **Android** at 1pm in the clubroom.

MemoryPals

With Sandra and Barry swanning around on the high seas, and nobody else available to lead the group, MemoryPals had to be cancelled this month, so the first meeting of the year will be on March 22nd at 1pm. All welcome, just bring some ideas with you of anything special you might enjoy doing to help preserve, protect and perpetuate your memories and memorabilia

Help is readily available should you require it

No need to book - \$2 on the day

WriterPals

Everybody has a story to tell...Our first Writerpals meeting for 2020 will be on **February 10th** starting at 1pm.

. 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. Once you start the rest will come easily.... Not sure where to start? Come talk to us... we can help

We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at 1pm, and all are welcome - with or without stories in hand. Just turn up. Bring ideas to talk about for future writings or meetings.

No need to book— just pop \$2 in the moose

DigiPals

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

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

Device Assistance

There usually is a good attendance in the clubroom for people wanting to learn more about their tablets and phones— 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.

You will learn things you weren't even aware that you didn't know!
Apple users—tablets and phones—meet at 11 am
Android users—tablets and phones—meet at 1pm

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 —

This is a tribute to all the Grandmas & Grandpas, Nannas & Papas, who have been fearless and learned to use the Computer... They are the greatest!!! By Becky Day

The computer swallowed Grandma,
Yes, honestly it's true!
She pressed 'control' and 'enter'
And she disappeared from view.

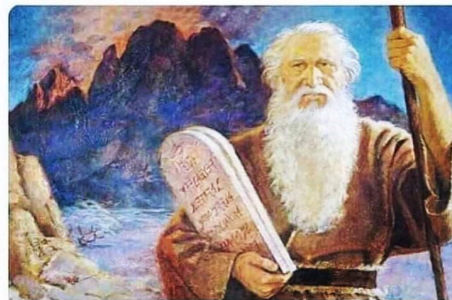
It devoured her completely,
The thought just makes me squirm.
She must have caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind;
I've even used the Internet,
But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Mr. Google
My searches to refine.
The reply from him was negative,
Not a thing was found 'online.'

So, if inside your 'Inbox,'
My Grandma you should see,
Please 'Copy, Scan' and 'Paste' her,
And send her back to me.

So technically Moses is the first
man to download files from the
cloud using a tablet.



**Visited my doctor today.
He told me my sugar was too high. So I came home & moved it to a lower shelf.**

YOU CAN TELL THE GENDER OF AN ANT BY THROWING IT IN WATER



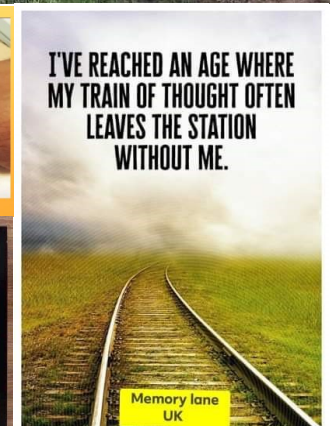
IF IT SINKS= GIRLANT...IF IT FLOATS= BUOYANT

Yoga



I'm off to Specsavers for my appointment. By the way you haven't shaved very well and your tie is crooked!

FOR THOSE THAT HAVE NEVER SEEN A CATFISH !!



I DON'T PRETEND TO BE SOMETHING I'M NOT.



EXCEPT NORMAL. I'VE PRETENDED TO BE NORMAL A FEW TIMES.

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