

ComputerPals - Newcastle

Where Seniors master technology

SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President



Sandra Keen

Dates to Remember

Clubroom has reopened with classes only - on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Stay safe and healthy.

Saturday 6th March, Computerpals Outing

You can still **BE A ZOOMIE** and join us online. Fri mornings @ 9.45

Thank you Harold for the poems honouring Sir Tom

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Australian Seniors
Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

President's Report

Welcome back everyone! ComputerPals commenced the New Year earlier than usual as we felt many folk would like to enjoy the benefits of learning about technology after the long break in 2020.

Classes in the Clubroom are working well with attendees learning how to use the QR Code and being respectful of the rules. If you are concerned about attending in the Clubroom be assured cleaning of surfaces and touch points occurs after each lesson and there are masks available if needed. The main point to impart is: Please do NOT attend if you feel ill in any way.

Tuesday 9th February, is Safer Internet Day.

This is a worldwide event held annually. This year's theme is 'Start the Chat'. Over the past year, the internet has brought us together to work, learn, socialise and share more than ever. We need to make sure it's as safe as possible, so everyone can enjoy the benefits of being connected. Did you know? Only 46% of Australian parents feel confident about dealing with the online risks their children face and 95% want more information about online safety. eSafety resources can help start the chat about being safer online, then keep building your family's digital skills throughout the year. Grandparents you can spread the word — Start the Chat!



At ComputerPals we view Internet Safety as essential for everyone. We encourage those of you who use BeConnected lessons to further your learning to Log In on Tuesday. Work through "Introduction to Internet Safety" which is part of the topic "Getting Started Online" or "Safety First / Staying Safer Online".

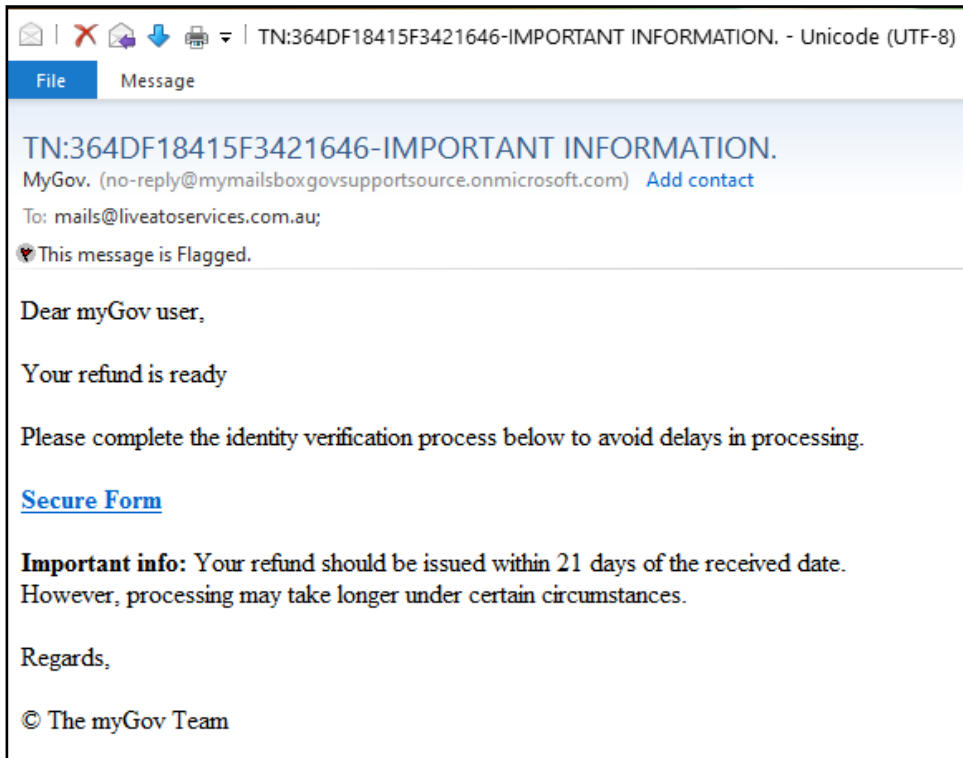
This year we really "come of age" as the club turns 21. Whether we have some sort of celebration remains to be seen. Those who attended the Christmas Picnic really enjoyed the casual atmosphere; perhaps another picnic is a way of celebrating safely. Our Social Director, Brenton Elsey, is organising an outdoor event for Saturday, 6th March. Details will be emailed soon.

We encourage you as members of ComputerPals Newcastle to make the most of your membership by participating in the Special Interest Groups - MemoryPals, WriterPals and DigiPals (which are currently being conducted online via Zoom) – as well as our social activities.

Sandra Keen

A FEW SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF - AND BEWARE OF

Be aware that not everybody who offers “HELP” is your friend...there are some nasties out there. Many are just nuisance texts and you can “educate” your smart phone to take care of them for you. They consist of messages informing you that your “order” will be cancelled if you don’t verify by a certain time, or your transaction needs to be completed by a particular time or you will miss out. There are many variations—way too many to list here. My phone dings frequently informing me that they have just located another one and dealt with it. I have set my phone to automatically report and block spam and to let me know - just in case they get over-zealous and block ‘good stuff’.



ABOVE is a “snippy” clip of an email I have received 6 times over the last few weeks. I followed the link far enough to find that it leads me to a form where I am supposed to insert all my pertinent personal data and identifying information. Somebody who was not sure or new to the myGov site could easily be duped into doing as requested and end up in all sorts of trouble. Please be careful. If there is something you are not sure of, please phone Computerpals and we will be very happy to help you

More information:
 sign up to the Stay Smart Online Alert Service,
www.staysmartonline.gov.au/alert-service.

To check for current scams and risks visit
www.scamwatch.gov.au

If you’ve been the victim of a cybercrime including financial loss, report it to **ReportCyber** at www.cyber.gov.au/report.

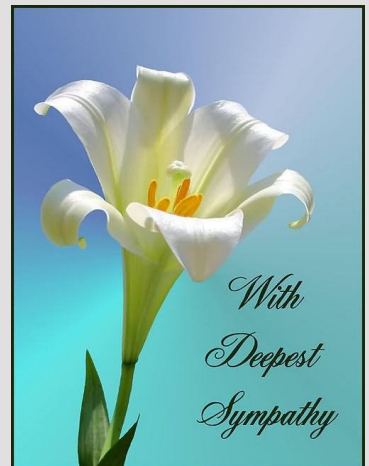
To find out more information about scams, or to find out other ways to protect yourself, visit www.scamwatch.gov.au. If you have been the victim of a scam, you can report it to local police or to the ACCC online at the ‘SCAMwatch report a scam’ page.

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.



It is with pleasure that I include this tribute In our newsletter, and I “dips me lid” to all who excel in life just by being themselves



SIR TOM (Poem by Harold Franks)

We've watched you do your famous feat
You've walked for miles on tender feet
The millions of pounds kept rolling in
Because of you its win, win, win

They've knighted you, your just desserts
You've overcome your aches and hurts
With men like you, to show the way
Where Queen and country have their say

One hundred years you've battled through
The wars, the struggles, pandemics too
We've heard from you and what you say
"Tomorrow will be a good day"

The curtains fall, He's taken you
Into His world that's always blue
The world you left, a better place
Memories of you and full of grace.

What do you see? 🤔 Hole in the ground, or a bale of hay?



I KNOW THE VOICES IN MY HEAD AREN'T REAL BUT SOMETIMES THEIR IDEAS ARE JUST ABSOLUTELY AWESOME!



It's been a rough week, but I made it...How about you?

THEN AND NOW



We have these nice, new, toilets now
But I remember when and how
We'd visit the dunny out the back
Through a winding garden track

No privacy we had those days
We'd be seen, when people gaze
Going in or coming out
There were usually folk about

The nightsoil men would come at night
And take the pan, oh what a sight
But it's the smell that follows it
That leaves one in an awful fit

But now today it's kept inside
Water flushes now, with pride
No one there to spy on you
As you go to your water loo

Science with its latest notion
Sends our flushes into the ocean
Leaves our toilets nice and clean
Toilet smells now like a dream.

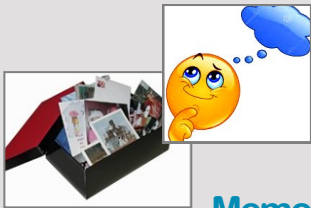
Thank you Harold. I remember these days well, as do many others.



Because of Covid for the first time since 1945 the National Spelling Bee is cancel... cancel... cancel...

It's been called off.

Special Interest Groups



MemoryPals

Our new group meets on **first Monday** of each month at **1:00pm** on Zoom this Term. 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 via Zoom this Term. Meetings are from **1:00 pm** until we go home!



DigiPals



DigiPals is an active group of Computer-Pals mem-

bers who meet on the **third Monday** of each month at **1 p.m.** to explore digital photography.

Tablet & Phone Help

If you have a portable device; iPad, Android tablet we have a Special Class called Tablet & Phone Assistance.

Fourth Friday each month is our regular meeting Ipad at **11 a.m.**, Android at **1pm** in the clubroom.



MemoryPals

The next meeting of MemoryPals will be on the **first Monday** of February at **1pm**.

All are welcome to attend our meetings, 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 - just join the Zoom group. The Link will be emailed before the day.

WriterPals

Everybody has a story to tell...Our next Writerpals meeting will be **February 8th** starting at 1pm via Zoom.

How about logging in and sharing some tales about your activities and what you got up to during the last few months.

Treat it as a letter to a friend letting them know what has been going on in your life. Don't let truth get in the way of a good yarn. If it's not what you actually did, what would you like to have done - time, energy and age permitting?

Give writing a go...you don't even have to tell anyone... just try! Start with one small story about just one person, thing, pet, or event.

I know I'm looking forward to catching up with some of your ideas.

DigiPals

Digipals people watch your inbox for an email from Barry who will let you know all the DigiPals details.

Digipals group meets on the **3rd Monday** of the month at **1 pm** and no doubt Barry will have some great ideas for your enjoyment and entertainment.

Friday Zoomies

For those not yet back into classroom mode, Friday will be devoted to regular Zoom classes.

An email will be sent out with "What's On" and the log in codes.

To find out what is on check your email or send an email to us at contact@computerpals.org.au to enquire what is coming up and how to join our Zoom sessions.

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 —



Look Mum. All Clean and Sanitised

I HATE IT WHEN YOU CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO OPERATE THE IPAD AND THE RESIDENT TECH EXPERT IS ASLEEP. BECAUSE HE'S 5. AND IT'S PAST HIS BEDTIME.

You just really don't know how old you are until you sit on the floor and try to get back up.



Some species of burrowing spiders keep teeny tiny frogs in their burrows to keep it free of bugs too small for the spider to get that might try to eat the spider's eggs. This means that tiny frogs are spider cats.



Victims were treated for minor injuries at the local hospital emergency after their Smart Car hit a squirrel on Highway 21.

Witnesses say the squirrel fled the scene.

In order to get through a rough day you need three things: a wish bone, a back bone and a funny bone. Dream often, stand tall, and laugh at least once a Day!



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