



SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President



Sandra Keen
Dates to Remember
Members' Morning Tea.
July 12th - 10 am

Classes for Term 3
Tuesday 13th July.
Stay safe, warm and healthy.

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

Special Interest
Groups - Memorypals,
Writerpals & Digipals
will meet via ZOOM on
their usual Mondays

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President's Report:

Welcome to another ComputerPals membership year which rolls around from 1st July. Thank you to those who have renewed their memberships and welcome to the new members. If you haven't renewed your membership already now is the time.

We trust you are staying healthy and safe during the current pandemic restrictions. Our **Members' Morning Tea is scheduled for Monday 12th July at 10:00am** and unless there are last minute changes to the health advice we hope to see as many members as possible **at Islington Public School Hall**. An email with the changes to our constitution has been sent to all members ready for voting on the day.

We will have a guest speaker from NovaCare at the Morning Tea. The talk should be of interest to all of us— understanding eligibility for government funded in-home care services. Please arrive a little early to do the COVID check in so we can start on time.

Recently, we applied for and received another Building Skills Grant through Good Things Foundation who manage the Be Connected Program. This means we can continue providing assistance through the popular Be Connected sessions.

The next big event on the calendar at ComputerPals is the **Annual General Meeting and Lunch** which will be held on **Friday 6th 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 and help celebrate our club's 21st Birthday. Cost for lunch and payment details will be sent out soon.

At the Annual General Meeting all committee positions will be declared vacant. Under Constitution Rules all of the executive committee have "served their term" of four years maximum in their current positions and now have to step aside for new nominees. This is your club and you can have a say about who is on the committee. 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!

Stay safe and healthy,
 Sandra



A FEW SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF - AND BEWARE OF

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 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.

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

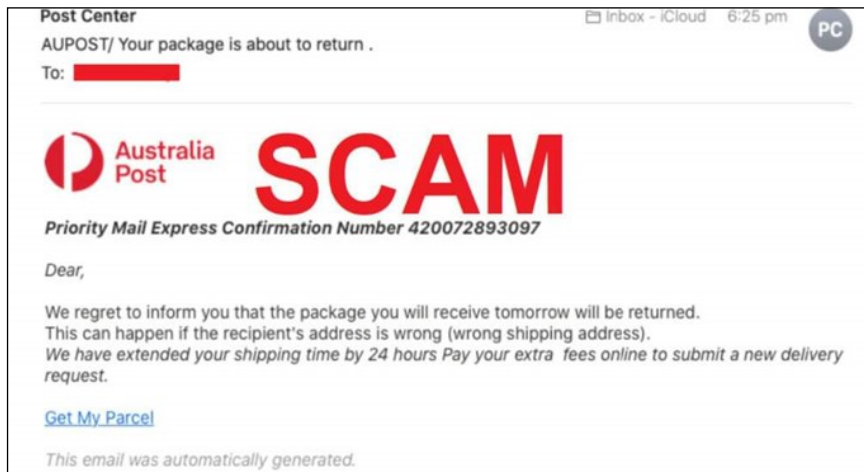
Keeping yourself safe online is largely a simple matter of Common Sense. Think about this: Would some random person in the street say to you “something’s broken in your house. Give me free access and I will fix it for \$???.”

Why then would you believe some random person who rings and says “you have a computer problem. Give me access and I will fix it”

SCAM ALERT.... I have had three of these notices in the last week, accompanying a request for a small amount of money for underpaid postage. The amounts requested have been between \$3 and \$5, not a lot - until you multiply it by the number of people who pay and then it adds up to quite a sum.

It’s important NOT to give your bank details to anyone.

Of the 3 I received, one was by email and the other two by text. PLEASE BE CAREFUL!



On the **Be Connected Website** - <https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/> - you will find information on how to avoid scams in the Quick Reads section. On the Home Page scroll down until you find the image shown here and then click on

[Find out more >](#)



Quick reads

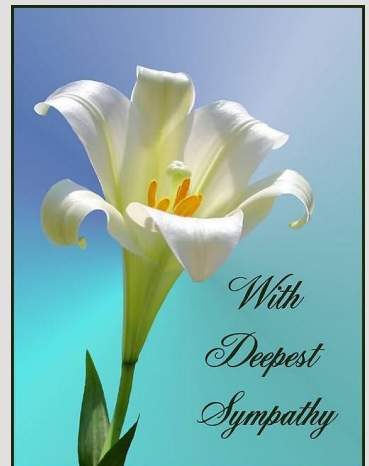
A short guide on the topics you want to hear about. Find out how you can spot the latest scams, stay safer online, and much more.

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.



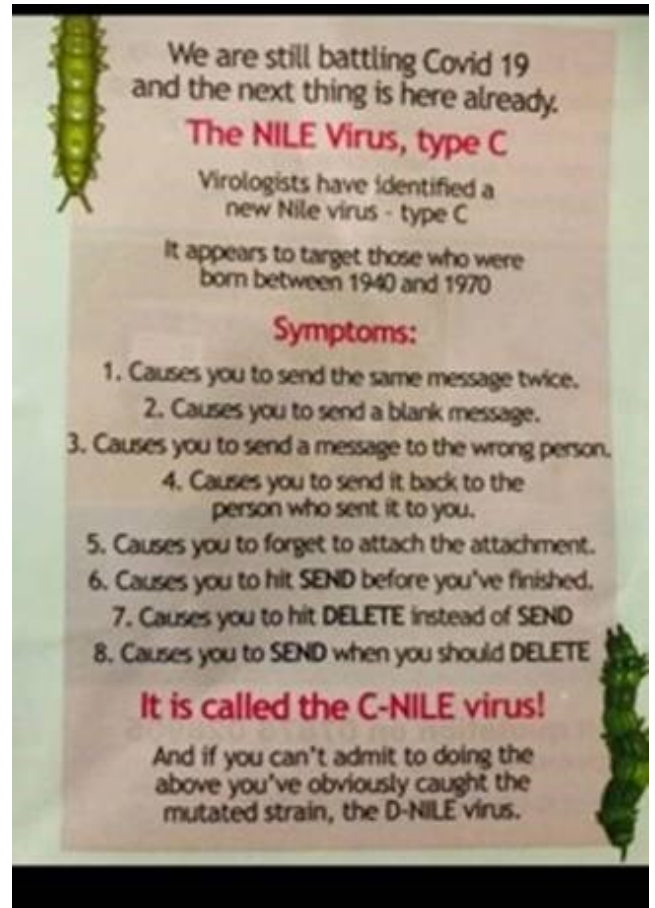
MEMBERS' MORNING TEA

COVID permitting we will meet for our next Members Morning Tea on Monday 12 July from 10:00 am in the Islington Public School Hall. There will be a guest speaker from NovaCare talking on all aspects of home care for those wishing to continue living in their own home and receive assistance.

This meeting will also be a **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING** to discuss and vote on proposed changes to our Constitution with the object to bring it up to date with the evolving circumstances we've faced over the past year+.

Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the morning but only financial members can vote.

Membership renewal is now due (\$25) and if you haven't already done so I encourage you to renew now before the meeting. This can be done online by bank transfer, or over the counter at any Newcastle Permanent Branch. Just make sure you **put your name in the reference line.**



Creative Writer Harold Franks has been busy once again

Nature - Seasons and Weathers.

By Harold Franks

Seasons come but once each year
Bringing forth its weather, clear
Summer, Winter, Autumn, Spring
Let us hear the weather ring

Summer brings the heat and sun
For most it brings the thought of fun
But as the months drag slowly by
We see a change up in the sky

Autumn then is soon to come
The nights are cool, a muffled sun
The days are bright, but cooling down
Lights come on early over town

Winter now, a difficult season
Ice and snow, within reason
Trees denuded, grasses brown
Heaters burning throughout town

Spring arrives with burst of colours
Preferred by me to all the others
Sun and warmth will soon arrive
Makes me glad, I'm still alive

Painted clouds.

I sit and watch the clouds rush by
Painting pictures upon the sky
A horseman on a painted horse
Sets upon a well worse course

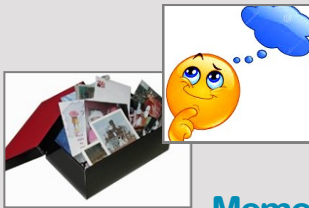
He's headed off into outer space
A mermaid now will take his place
Until the wind, in hurried pace
Has left her now without a face

Dark clouds now upon the scene
Where the gentle white had been
Making things look very plain
That soon we're in for heavy rain

The thunder roars, the lightning flash
Upon the land, the waters crash
The eddies form, the gutters flow
How long it lasts, we do not know

The clouds have cried, their waters done
Creek and river again will run
The grass is green, the trees in bloom
The suns return, will be with us soon.

Special Interest Groups



MemoryPals

Our new group meets on **first Monday** of each month at **1:00pm** via Zoom. 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. Meetings are from **1:00 pm** until we pack it up!



DigiPals



DigiPals is an active group of

ComputerPals members who meet on the **third Monday** of each month via Zoom to explore digital photography.

Tablet & Phone Help

If you have a portable device; iPhone, iPad, Android phone or tablet we have Tablet & Phone Assistance on the **Fourth Friday** each month iPad/iPhone at **10am**; Android at **12:30pm** in the clubroom.



MemoryPals

The next meeting of MemoryPals will be on the 2nd August

All are welcome to attend our Zoom meetings, just bring some ideas with you of anything special you might enjoy doing to help preserve, protect and perpetuate your memories and memorabilia.

Sandra will send around an email reminder of the meeting

Help is readily available should you require it No need to book - just join the Zoom group.

WriterPals

Everybody has a story to tell...Our next Writerpals meeting will be **August 9th** 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 and how you got on with your entries for the ASCCA Creative Writing Competition

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

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.

REMINDER to work on your ASCCA Photo Competition entries.

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 who can't make it into the classroom, 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 find out 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 classes or payments use:
islingtonpals@gmail.com

Roster Team

Barry Keen



Mitzi Gordon



Judy Wallace

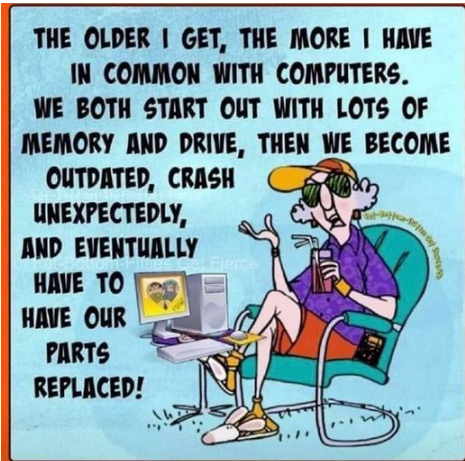
Camel Smith



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.

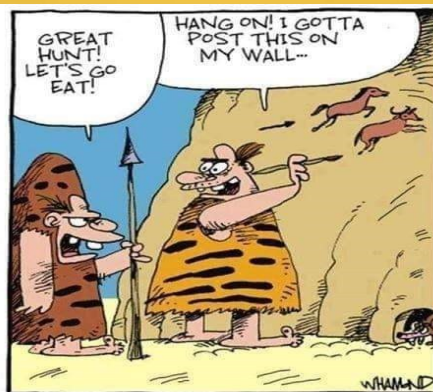
Funnybone —



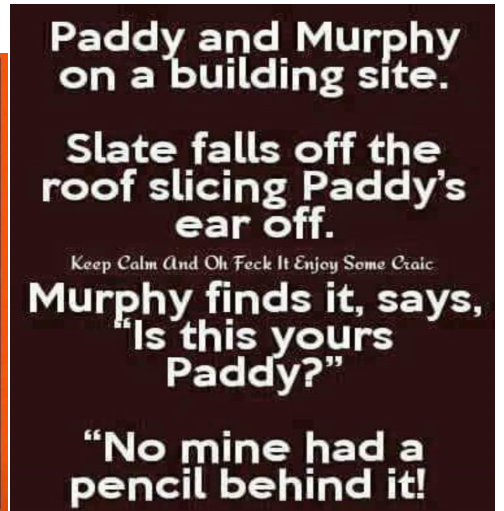
When you sneeze so hard, your moustache changes lips:



JOKE OF THE DAY-BUMPER STICKER ON A SENIOR'S CAR "I AM SPEEDING BECAUSE I HAVE TO GET THERE BEFORE I FORGET WHERE I AM GOING"



Early Facebook



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.

ASCCA has reinstated the Creative Writing Competition for 2021, and the guidelines for the entries are listed below.

I have spoken to the organiser, Susan Jensen, to clarify a thing or two and can tell you that **poetry is not included...** at least not this year, so stories are all that will be judged.

With the English language being so tricky with grammar, similar sounding words, words that are spelled the same but have different meanings, plus many other idiosyncratic foibles, Susan suggested a free program that we may find helpful <https://www.grammarly.com> This little program is well worth checking out and might be helpful for those of us who sometimes get our words mixed up eg weather, wether or whether etc. There are heaps of these puzzlers out there. Give it a try. It is free.

Creative Writing Competition 2021 – Guidelines

Entries open 2nd August and close at midnight on 16th August 2021.

Send your entry, with your head and shoulders (selfie) photograph and a completed entry form to competitions@ascca.org.au.
ASCCA Board members and professional writers are ineligible to enter.

The six categories include enough scope and a broad enough explanation to allow for a range of entrants with a wide range of skills and imagination to confidently enter any category. All entries are to be submitted by the individual writer who is encouraged to present up to three pieces in total; each in a different category, and each of which has a 1000 word limit.

Please use – Font: Times New Roman, Size: 14 point, Lines to be double spaced.

CATEGORIES Up to 3 topics allowed

1 Femininity / Masculinity *The essence of being male or female of any age.*

2 Companion Animals *Capturing the magical attraction of small furry, hairy, scaled or feathered companions.*

3 Seasons and Weather *The delights and excitement of the seasonal or climatic changes in the natural world around you.*

4 Dusk to Dawn *Strange things that inhabit your dreams.*

5 Just Plain Ugly *It's in the eye of the beholder.*

6 Life Changing Event *What was the effect of the event?
Please avoid anything to do with a pandemic.*

Champion Creative Writers – winners will be selected by judge/s.

*40 points for first place, 30 points for second place
20 points for third place, 10 points for highly commended,
1 club point for each topic entered.*

Winners will be announced at the ASCCA Conference on 10th November.

Their names, their selfie and entries will be published on the ASCCA website after 10th November 2021.

The list of subject matter for the Photographic Competition gives you a very enticing range of topics to display your creativity. If you have questions, please contact Barry Keen through the Computerpals email or phone number.

I wish you all the very best of good luck and happy shooting.

Digital Photography Competition 2021 — Guidelines

Entries open 15th September and close at midnight on 30th September 2021.

Send your entry, with your head and shoulders (selfie) photograph and a completed entry form to competitions@ascca.org.au.

ASCCA Board members and professional photographers are ineligible to enter.

The approach this year is on creativity and interpretation of the categories. Photographic technical ability is still important but not more important than the creative interpretation of the subject. Considering both will allow all entrants to show their abilities. The seven categories include enough scope and a broad enough explanation to allow entrants with a wide range of skills and imagination to confidently enter any category. **All entries are to be submitted by the individual photographer who is permitted to present one photograph, to a maximum size of 4MB in each category, taken between 2nd September 2020 and 15th September 2021.**

No post camera manipulation will be permitted — except minor cropping, straightening and exposure adjustments.

CATEGORIES Up to seven photos allowed

1.0 People — Femininity/Masculinity - More than an image, rather a visual expression (your interpretation) of the essence of being male or female of any age.

2.0 Companionable animals - Filling a void (or finding a place) at any age. Capturing the magical attraction of small furry, hairy, scaled or feathered companions.

3.0 Nature — The Seasons and Weather - The delights and excitement of the seasonal or climatic changes in the natural world around you.

4.0 Night time — Dusk to Dawn - Any image captured at night with or without additional artificial lighting.

5.0 The Wild Card — Just Plain Ugly - It's in the eye of the beholder.

6.0 Simplicity - Images which say more with less and/or by powerful composition and/or the use or absence of colour.

7.0 Form in nature - Images that capture naturally created lines, shapes, patterns, or mathematical sequences, etc. in the natural world.

Champion Digital Photographers — winners will be selected by judge/s.

40 points for first place, 30 points for second place
20 points for third place, 10 points for highly commended
1 club point for each photograph entered.

Winners will be announced at the ASCCA Conference on 10th November.
Their names, selfies and entries will be published on the ASCCA website after 10th