



SWITCHED ON SENIORS

Email : contact@computerpals.org.au

President

Barry Keen



Dates to Remember

3/11 - Items on sale at clubroom—10 to 12 noon

NOVEMBER

Lockdown appears to be easing. Stay safe, warm and healthy.

The team want to see you—**BE A ZOOMIE** and join us online. Fri mornings @ 9.45 am

Special Groups - Memorypals, Writerpals & Digipals will meet via ZOOM on their usual Mondays but at a different time—now 2 pm

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President's Report—October has been a period of busy transition time for the Club on a several fronts.

1. The termination of lease (effective 15/11/21) and closure of the 15 Hubbard St Islington classroom.
2. Notifying all interested parties of our change of address and new phone number, amending insurance cover and complying with statutory requirements and updating our website information and informing members by email.
3. Sorting out what assets to keep and what to dispose of, as not required by the club going forward. Selling/disposal of the assets not required. Packing up and moving what we want to keep into storage.
4. Finding new premises to run face-to-face classes.
5. Revamping the class schedule and determining the hybrid methods of delivery of classes. Working out the how and where and co-ordinating time availability of tutors to fit the new timetable.

Number 1 is done. Number 2 is done.

Number 3 is partly done - members will have to opportunity to come in to the 15 Hubbard St premises on Wednesday (3/11 from 10:00 to 12:00 noon) to make an offer for any of the assets still available that are no longer required. You need to come and have a look. After that any leftovers will be advertised for sale on Facebook Marketplace.

Number 4. Is partly done - we have secured space at Club Lambton (Lambton Bowling Club, 51 Karoola Rd, Lambton - near the swimming pool) on a Monday from 10:00 am for face-to-face learning devoted to BeConnected classes for new people needing to meet us for the initial time and ongoing. Other venues are being pursued with good prospects, however, we are open to suggestions from you, the members, if you can think of any other venues we can check out. They need to be free or very low cost. Ground floor with accessible access. Good parking. Preferably near public transport.

Number 5. We have [revamped the class schedule](#) to reflect our hybrid delivery of face-to-face and Zoom classes. Afternoons have been left available for people in need of one-on-one help maybe over a coffee at a club or café or maybe in their home (this is expected to be at a higher cost).

COVID-safe practices must be in place to protect all parties. Entry into Club Lambton (and no doubt other venues) will require masks on, signing in with the QR code, and displaying your Double Vaccination certificate.

COVID is not going anywhere for a long time and being cautious and staying safe will continue to be necessary even when you are vaccinated. The more people we can help to use their devices to get online the better for their health and safety.

We have found the use of social media - phone calls, video calls, chats, Zoom sessions and similar all have played a part in keeping people in touch with family and friends during lockdown and will continue to be part of our lives going forward. It has been good for their health (physical & mental). Now, it's the 'new normal'. People, particularly seniors, need to know these things. If you have friends or neighbours and acquaintances - spread the word that we are here and available to help them with their needs.

We can help people learn to use their devices to safely shop online, safely do their banking online and safely do business with government agencies online (e.g. Centrelink & Medicare or car licences and registrations). They can learn how to use QR codes and get the QR code Apps onto their phones along with the COVID vaccination certificates that they need to go into a lot of venues and for travelling.

And how to avoid scams.

We can help! - Seniors helping seniors!

Our new phone number is **0478 219 220**. If you are reading this newsletter on your computer or phone or tablet you can click or tap on the links below.

You can contact us by email at contact@computerpals.org.au

Anyone wanting to know what classes are available can find that information on our website. Bookings are essential. [Classes next week](#) (and for the registration form) [How to Pay](#) (if applicable. Club membership is required for club classes. BeConnected classes are free)

The ASCCA Conference is on Wednesday 10/11 - program and separate registration (see below)

[ASCCA Conference program](#) [ASCCA Conference tickets](#)

A few of Harold's gems ...

A Ghostly Night

In the still of the night, when all things seem right
 The cat is out stalking, he looks for a bite
 With the moon hanging low, and shadows abound
 There's mice in the field, and the cat on the round

But all is not normal, a ghostly figure is seen
 The cat with its fur up, it's eyes have turned green
 No sound to be heard, not even a breeze
 Long shadows are seen, cast by the still trees

A shadow is seen, it's a ghost, I am sure
 Making towards me, I head for the door
 A groan, I hear, as I make my way in
 Trip over the garbage, make quite a loud din

As I pick myself up, and dust myself down
 A quick glance I give, as I'm moving around
 Where did it go, is it inside or out
 Can somebody help me, I give a weak shout

The night has progressed, I wake from my sleep
 It's a dream that I've had, after counting the sheep
 I'm covered in sweat and my throat is so dry
 Don't know what's happened, perhaps I might die

But saneness, I'm sure, will come to the fore
 As daylight and coffee will help, like before
 The cat and myself, no more we will roam
 Let the ghost and the dark find their way home



My P's and Q's

I have to watch my P's and Q's
 And watch the things that people use
 I went to have a blood test done
 Also knew it would not be much fun

Formed a Q, and with my P
 Found the girl I was to see
 But to my horror, I found out
 It was my fast it's all about

Told to go home and sleep all night
 Come back tomorrow, it would be alright
 Next day I'm back with P and Q
 Only to find out something new

Went to put the needle in, stopped and said
 "What's this mark", I just shook my head
 It was where I'd just had a CT done
 Home you go again, my son

Another Ninety hours I had to wait
 Until I'd know my final fate
 So once again, with Q's and P
 I'd front again, oh woe is me

My fate, this time, it's clear to see
 Just what they have in mind for me
 A jab, and then the blood would flow
 Won't let them have a second go.



Thank you Harold for these three poems.

The Idiot Fringe

Have you seen the people marching
 Down the middle of the street
 Complaining being locked up
 As they chant and fight police

Just because our country's bleeding
 From a virus in the East
 The Delta strain has got us
 As we see the thousands sleep

But these loud-mouth lumps of manhood
 In their thoughtless bloody mind
 Cannot see the trouble caused
 By this self made show of rage

While they fight along for freedom
 Others are fighting for their lives
 The nursing staff and doctors
 Fight to keep the world alive

Could they put their wants behind them
 And just suffer for a while
 Giving thoughts to others
 Is what this world needs now

It's the courage of the doctors
 And their unselfish stand
 That will go down in history
 Not so the idiot fringe.

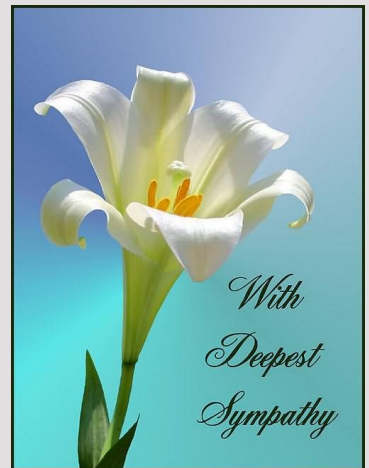


Best Wishes

*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.*



SOME SCAM WARNINGS

COMMON SENSE WILL MOSTLY KEEP YOU SAFE.... But it is very easy to second-guess yourself and fall into the scammer traps. Trust your instincts. If in doubt...HANG UP. If you have questions, call Computerpals for information. **Our new phone number is 0478 219 220**

“This message is from Services Australia. Please DO NOT REPLY by email as this mailbox is not monitored.

Your refund is ready. You will need to complete the outstanding tasks and submit your claim to be assessed from the earliest date possible. To do this, sign in to myGov”

NEVER CLICK ON A LINK IN AN EMAIL OR TEXT MESSAGE, EVEN IF IT APPEARS TO BE FROM A GENUINE COMPANY. Scammers are very good at copying sites and logos. Always investigate (if you have to) from the company website. E.g. the myGov link above was in an email to me. On logging in to the myGov website I found it listed there as a scam.

Another big NO-NO - A few weeks ago I got a phone call (supposedly from Microsoft) telling me their satellite had discovered a problem with my computer...yes, that one’s back again... They requested remote access to my computer so they could diagnose and fix the problem which would only cost me \$273, but if left unfixed would completely destroy my hard-drive. They used a lot of technical terminology and were very insistent that it was a problem only they could fix as the details had not yet been released to the general public, but they had contacted me as a special favour. AS IF!!!!!!! Microsoft will never call you because, believe it or not, they do not have satellites focused on your home computers. You deal with this one by hanging up the second they identify themselves as Microsoft. If you wish you can call Microsoft to check on the phone call (which I did and their advice was “hang up”) but again, it all comes down to common sense.

This scam has been circling the Internet for years and is now doing the rounds again. With Christmas just weeks away the scammers are playing on the generous dispositions of the soft-hearted.

Gift giving during the holiday season should be a selfless celebration, but even the holiday spirit won’t stop online scammers. According to NBC and additional outlets, a message popping up on Facebook and Instagram claims that people can participate in a “secret sister gift exchange”—and it’s a recurring scam.

This particular “gift exchange” has reappeared online every year since 2015, per [Snopes](#). The message calls for buying one \$10 gift and sending it to someone on the list. In classic pyramid scheme fashion, the promise is you’ll receive as many as 36 gifts in return, including books and wine. Sadly, this is just one of the 14 other Facebook scams you need to take seriously. Check the Snopes website for more information

Stay alert and stay safe

FROM THE DESK OF BRENTON, OUR SOCIAL ORGANISER EXTRAORDINAIRE

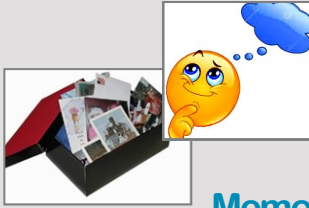
With this year sprouting wings and flying by us, there isn’t really time to organise another social outing. We are all busy busy busy vacating the clubhouse in Hubbard Street, finding new premises from which to conduct our classes and meet with our members, and generally getting ready for the wind-down to Christmas (**only 7 and a half weeks away**) and among all this activity Brenton has been moving house and most of us know the myriad little details involved there apart from the enormous job of packing up and then unpacking on the other end.

With all this going on, the Tanilba excursion will be next year as new dates and times have to be organised.

Organisation of our excursions is not a matter of making a phone call or two. Brenton spends a lot of time in preparation, creating name tags and itineraries to help him keep track of all his wandering lambs, and often visiting the destination beforehand to make sure he can prepare the most enjoyable experience possible.

Thank you Brenton. You do a magnificent job.

Special Interest Groups



MemoryPals

Our new group meets on **first Monday** of each month at **2:00pm** 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 begin at **2:00 pm**.



DigiPals

DigiPals is an active group of ComputerPals members who meet on the **third Monday** of each month at **2 p.m.** to explore digital photography.

MemoryPals

The next meeting of MemoryPals will be **December, 6th** via **ZOOM** at **2pm**

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 **November 8th** starting at **2pm** via **Zoom...**

Ever given any thought to how you'd like to be remembered? Try jotting down a few ideas to share

Try jotting down a short story from your past, no matter how distant. My story this month concerns a rooster that gave me some scars, nearly got my eye and ended up in the pot for his aggression—after giving me the fright of my life.

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.

Digipals group meets on the **3rd Monday** of the month at **2 pm** and no doubt Barry will have some great ideas for your enjoyment and entertainment.

Friday Zoomies

Friday will be devoted to regular Zoom classes starting at **10 am**.

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

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 rosters or payments use:

islingtonpals@gmail.com

Roster Team

Sandra Keen



Mitzi Gordon

Judy Wallace



Narelle Martin

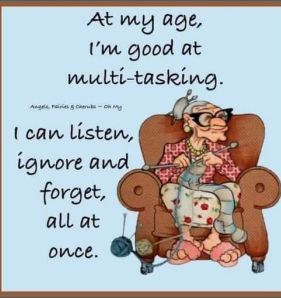
Jackie Lampe



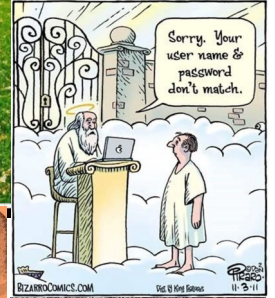
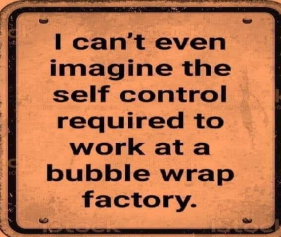
These people are all volunteers who also teach classes at Computerpals. We ask that you take this into consideration when your phone call is not answered immediately.

Funnybone —

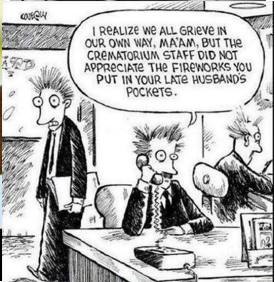
I hope everyone's hungry. I've made sand witches...



Paddy was walking down a street when he saw his buddy Mick driving a brand new Mercedes. Mick pulled up to him with a wide grin. "Mick, where'd you get that car?" "Sue gave it to me" Mick replied. "She gave it to you? I knew she was kinda sweet on ya lad, but a new Merc?" "Well, Paddy, let me tell you what happened... We were driving out on a country road at 6 in the morning, in the middle of nowhere. Sue pulled off and headed in to the woods, she parked the car, got out, threw off all her clothes and said, 'Mick, take whatever you want'. So I took the car!" "You're a smart man!" says Paddy. Them clothes would never have fitted you".



All my personalities waiting patiently for me to decide who will be running the show today.



- TWELVE COMMANDMENTS FOR SENIORS**
- #1 - Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice.
 - #2 - "In Style" are the clothes that still fit.
 - #3 - You don't need anger management. You need people to stop pissing you off.
 - #4 - Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.
 - #5 - The biggest lie you tell yourself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
 - #6 - "On time" is when you get there.
 - #7 - Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it sure does muffle the sound.
 - #8 - It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller?
 - #9 - Lately, you've noticed people your age are so much older than you.
 - #10 - Growing old should have taken longer.
 - #11 - Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.
 - #12 - You still haven't learned to act your age and hope you never will.
- ... And one more:
"One for the road" means peeing before you leave the house

At the rate we're going, they're going to cancel shampoo so bald people don't get offended.



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