



# SWITCHED ON SENIORS

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

## President

Barry  
Keen



## Dates to Remember

**Social outing - Mar 17th**

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

**Special Groups -**  
**Memorypals,**  
**Writerpals & Digipals**  
**will meet on their**  
**usual Mondays**

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Australian Seniors  
Computer Clubs Association **ASCCA**

## President's Report—March 2023



Iron bars couldn't hold him.

It took the Stocks to slow his gallop down

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Autumn has arrived (according to the calendar) and so we move on to the last 5 weeks of our term classes. I will send out an email with the enrolment form attached. Please be quick in responding with booking for available classes. We will have to change the description of the Monday afternoon sessions and delete the 'individual' as the demand for these classes has exceeded our capacity (number of tutors) to provide help on an individual basis. Having said that we have grouped people with similar learning needs and worked with small groups. This coming Monday afternoon (6/3) is fully booked out and we can't take any more bookings for that day.

My thanks to Wendy Smith & Fred Neal who represented us at the Newcastle Seniors Expo with excellent results of 6 people coming to the BeConnected class from that referral.

Brenton has worked his magic again and come up with a great day out for you on Friday 17/3—see page 6.

There have been scams galore this year—all the old ones ranging from teens and family in dire straits texting for you to send lots of money for bills and getting home because of lost or stolen phone and wallets right through to demanding a little extra postage for deliveries that need to be made in time for Christmas.

**COMMON SENSE WILL SAVE YOU A LOT OF MONEY IF YOU STOP AND THINK ABOUT IT.**

Speaking with a number of other people last week, I found that quite a few people had got texts from (supposedly) their careless offspring who had gone shopping at Woolworths with the wrong card and needed (in my case \$350) a largish amount of money. If you do online banking you would know that transfers are not instantaneous, especially after hours so would be useless to the Woolworths shopper..

Please do not fall for this scam - if your child can text you, they can call you. Since mine supposedly came from my daughter, I called her to let her know what was going on and to be careful herself. She told me her mother in law had already fallen for it earlier in the day and parted with \$375. Subsequent enquiries found that the BSB and account number belong to a financial holdings company in Melbourne.

I seriously doubt she will get the money back unless her bank reimburses her.

—oooOOOooo—



Computerpals held a very successful stall at the Newcastle Seniors Expo with Fred Neal and Wendy Smith in attendance. At least 50 people came by to chat and ask questions about Computerpals and when they left to attend the concert, the other stallholders came around to ask questions and collect information for themselves and to pass on to others. Wendy managed to dodge the camera, but Fred is pictured with our sign.

Thank you to all who helped at the expo, out front and behind the scenes.

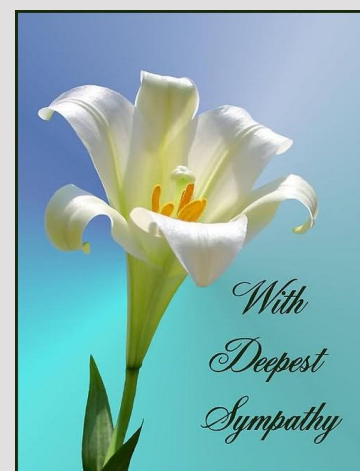


## Best Wishes

*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.*





## Special Interest Groups



### MemoryPals

Our new group meets on **first Monday** of each month at **1:00pm**.

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. Meetings begin at **1:00 pm**.



### DigiPals

DigiPals is an active group of ComputerPals members who meet on the **third Monday** of each month at **1 pm** to explore digital photography.

## MemoryPals

### WriterPals

The next few meetings for Writerpals will be at Club Lambton so we can bounce ideas off each other and make sure we have the poetry formats down pat.

On our website you will find the topics and guidelines for the 2023 competitions. I am looking forward to the poetry as the only thing stipulated is the type of poem and the general content. Some are very short eg Haiku (3 lines) Limerick (5 lines) Sonnet (14 lines) Ode (30 lines) Acrostic (built around the letters of a particular word that is the subject of the poem) and Free Verse which is basically a story told as a poem with no real rhyme or rhythm. We can choose up to 4 poems for our entries.

We have 6 topics for creative writing of which we can choose 3 for our stories with a 1000 word limit. Topics include

- \*What my mother/father said (that had an effect on you)
- \*In Transit - just passing through
- \*Storm in a teacup - being the centre of attention
- \*In the Eeriness of the night - an experience that was frightening in the dark
- \*The train - a memorable occurrence or a model
- \*Childhood - from the viewpoint of a child

### DigiPals

Digital Photography - There are 7 categories and we are allowed 1 photo in each category, with the emphasis on creativity and interpretation. 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 2021 and 15th September 2022. No post camera manipulation will be permitted — except minor cropping, straightening and exposure adjustments. Full information can be found on the ASCCA website.

### Thursday Zoomies

Thursday will be devoted to regular Zoom classes commencing at 10:00 am.

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](mailto:contact@computerpals.org.au) to find out what is coming up and how to join our Zoom sessions. They are wonderfully informative and proving very popular

### 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.

## Some gems from **Writerpals**

My internet was playing up - as it was wont to do  
 NBN blamed Telstra - which was also nothing new.  
 I said I'd ring the Ombudsman, that guru of all aid  
 NBN technician said "make sure you've a coffee made"  
 Decided to ring Telstra with optimism riding high  
 Don't know how long it's gonna take but - I've gotta try.  
 "Thank you for calling Telstra. Your call's important, you know.  
 Say aloud just what you want and I'll tell you where to go...."  
 "To pay a bill, press 7. But if it's help you want press 5  
 The waiting list is fairly long to talk to someone live.  
 Have your details ready, name and birthdate fine.  
 Your call is most important, so please just hold the line."  
 I held the line for half an hour, and then an hour more  
 I think I had a nap or two but wasn't keeping score.  
 Every now and then I'd hear a voice tell me to wait  
 My call was most important and they're sorry to be late.  
 I feel I've held the line forever, at least for forty years  
 Maybe they've forgotten me. That's one of my small fears.  
 If I'm here much longer I'll grow roots, and never move again  
 I'll turn into a statue and then feel no more pain.  
 I'm fading into cyberspace, just a shadow in the air  
 Which makes me wonder just a bit if Telstra's really there.  
 "Your call is important" I hear again. It echoes through my bones  
 Or maybe that's them rattling through the speakers of my phone.



## Nature's Revenge

The sky is clouding over, the sun has lost its shine  
 There's a stillness in the air yet the forecast said its  
 "fine"

Clouds are racing onward, like horses in a race  
 The wind is blowing strongly to keep up with the pace

The thunder sends a warning, lightning flashes bright  
 Birds have heard the warning and hurry off in flight  
 The horses in the paddock, let out a frenzied call  
 While heavy drops of water soon begin to fall

Rain falls down in torrents, day as dark as night  
 Water on the roadway, racing as if in fright  
 Into the local river, awake from months of dry  
 Taking all before it, let's out a mournful cry

Rain continues onward, no hint of break in sight  
 River run a banker, locals locked into a fight  
 Against the rushing waters, invading homes at will  
 Soon the muddy waters are up to the window sill

Rescues now are needed, boats and men on hand  
 It's hard upon the water, to see uncovered land  
 All night the rain keeps falling, new records now to make  
 This town of seven thousand, now sitting in a lake

For days the river's flooded, racing on to sea  
 The locals sit and ponder, and wonder what will be  
 While nature, in its wisdom, works to clear the air  
 To restore this earth once more, with tender, loving care

## Me and Myself

We're the greatest of mates, me and myself

Better than being left on the shelf  
 We argue a lot, just who is the boss  
 This doesn't matter, not really a loss

We're driving along, I want to go right  
 He wants to go left, another big fight  
 He's asked a girl out, I want to stay home  
 Nothing at home but the dog with a bone

So off we go out, the girl and we two  
 Better than having a family blue  
 The night turned out fine, nothing to say  
 Except for the fact, I had to pay

When sitting at home, a crossword to do  
 It's easier to do when we have the two  
 With the income I make, there's not  
 much wealth  
 It's better, I'm sure, with me and myself



## Contact Us



To contact the Roster Team or the Treasurer regarding rosters or payments use:

[islingtonpals@gmail.com](mailto:islingtonpals@gmail.com)

## Roster Team



Sandra Keen

Mitzi Gordon



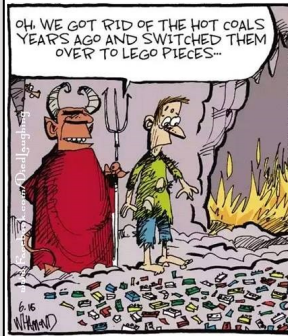
Judy Wallace

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 —

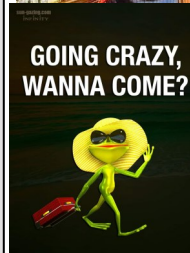


"Do not touch" must be one of the scariest things to read in Braille



The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.

Surprise! Surprise!  
It was an Apple.  
But with extremely limited memory.  
Just 1 byte.  
Then everything crashed.



WHEN COMFORTING A GRAMMAR NAZI



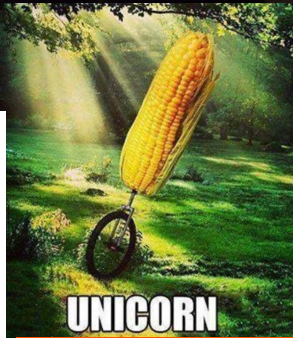
I ALWAYS SAY SOFTLY, "THERE, THEIR, THEY'RE"



BILL ABSCOTT



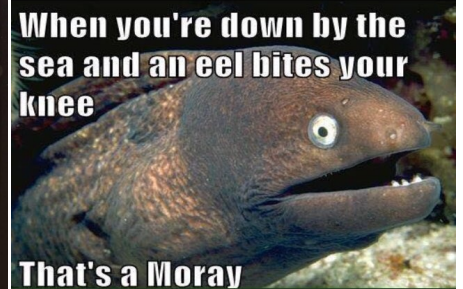
"I figured you should have breakfast in bed on your birthday. Can you reach the stove okay?"



THE OLDER I GET, THE MORE I HAVE IN COMMON WITH COMPUTERS. WE BOTH START OUT WITH LOTS OF MEMORY AND DRIVE, THEN WE BECOME OUTDATED, CRASH UNEXPECTEDLY, AND EVENTUALLY HAVE TO HAVE OUR PARTS REPLACED!



The longest word of one syllable in the English language is "screeched".



Men say that women should come with instructions...

What's the point of that? have you ever seen a man  
Actually read the instructions?



Just as the graveside service finished, there was a distant lightning bolt accompanied by a tremendous burst of rumbling thunder. The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there and it's His problem now."

My wife just asked me if I'd seen the dog bowl?

I said

"To be honest, I didn't even know he played cricket".

Be someone else's sunshine.  
Be the reason someone smiles today.

Uploaded On CoolSmart.com



From the desk of Brenton, our social director extraordinaire, who always provides us with a wonderful social opportunity to mix, mingle and get to know each other. I “dips me lid” to you Brenton. Thank you.

Our next social outing will be to the Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie Headquarters located on Swansea Headland.

The Marine Rescue operation, manned 24/7 by volunteers provides radio contact to 'boaties' operating on the lake or up to 30 nautical miles out to sea. Services include a log on/log off monitoring system, radio checks, weather reports, tidal information, bridge bookings and, if the need arises, rescues. Two rescue boats and a jet-ski based on the lake at Pelican are available for assistance on the water. Their NSW Marine Rescue Network has the capacity to track and monitor vessels cruising along the whole NSW coast, offering some peace of mind for those operating out to sea, and all are urged to make full use of the facilities provided to avoid unwanted safety issues.

After our visit, we will adjourn to the Swansea RSL Club for lunch. Details as follows;

**Date: Friday 17th March 2023**

**Where: Marine Rescue Lake Mac HQ, 3A Lambton Rd, Swansea Heads.**

**Time: Meet at the Base at 10.30am for an inspection of facilities.**

**Cost: Marine Rescue - Free (Donations are welcome), Swansea RSL Club (Optional - Lunch at own expense).**

We have been advised that the site is wheelchair friendly and a lift is available for inspection of the main operations room. Parking is also available on site - just follow the sign-posted gravel road (see maps below).

Please click the link in your original email to download the attendance form, complete the details and submit. As always, we do need this information to keep track of everyone attending, and also to advise Marine Rescue so they can make necessary arrangements (staff etc.) to look after our group. If you send in the form indicating your intention to attend and then find you are unable to come, please give me a call (0438 997 310) so the group is not held up unnecessarily and I can update Marine Rescue of numbers attending.

