

**ComputerPals Newcastle**

Where Seniors master technology



## SWITCHED ON SENIORS

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### 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.

### Best Wishes

For our members who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries - congratulations! To those who are ill our best wishes for a speedy recovery

### Condolences

To all of our members who have lost loved ones recently, please accept our condolences.

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### President's Report

I apologise for the lateness of the October Newsletter. I like to wait until we have our committee meeting before writing this report. School holidays and Dave Lester's Funeral prevented us meeting in September, so we didn't meet until the 7<sup>th</sup> October.

Just because we have been on school holidays doesn't mean that work at ComputerPals stops.

The Roster Team have been working on the classes, sending emails and answering the phone. We are concerned about what course you are interested in attending, the length of the course, the number of people that are attending some of the courses. These are just some of the topics we have been discussing in the Roster Team, Education Team and Committee. The club is changing and we need to change with the trend. At the moment our financial situation is just able to cover our expenses, but we don't know for how long. We need your help in deciding how the club is to proceed. This will be discussed at our next morning tea to be held in the school hall on the 20<sup>th</sup> October starting at 9.30 am. Come along and enjoy the photos, food and friendliness of our club.

Some of you will have noticed the New Membership Cards we have had printed. Please take a few so that you have something to give to people when you talk about ComputerPals. There are still people out in the community who have never heard about ComputerPals. If you are enjoying your time with us, tell others, if you are not happy with us, tell us, so that we can try to rectify the problem.

We are coming to the end of the year. Hasn't this year gone fast! But we hope that we will have some interesting courses in Session 8 that will tempt you to come and learn the ever changing world of computing.

Agapé, Elaine Butler



### Who Are Our Tutors?

The Tutors and their assistants are also Seniors and conduct the courses in a relaxed atmosphere. Your questions are welcome during the classes and there is no need to feel embarrassed if you need to ask for something to be repeated. The classroom is fitted with a hearing loop for those people who wear hearing aids.

### Who Is ASCCA?

ASCCA is the Australian Seniors Computer Club Association.

ASCCA exists to support and encourage seniors to take advantage of modern information technology to meet their individual needs and to provide further challenges. ASCCA's Newsletter and its informative items can be accessed on the web site at [www.ascca.org.au](http://www.ascca.org.au)



## Social Report - September Outing

On Saturday 6th September, 22 members arrived at FighterWorld, Williamtown for a wander through this fascinating collection of aerial memorabilia.

Despite the "iffy" weather, those attending were all assembled in the car park well before opening time, indicating significant interest for this outing. Upon opening at 10.00am, first up was morning tea/coffee in order to enjoy the static display on offer. Following some flight plan mix-ups with the coffees, all were keen to check out the exhibits. Numerous "retired" real life fighter 'planes from various decades were on display, including a few where one could actually climb into the cockpit for a photo opportunity and a reminisce of how it must have been "back



when" ..

A number of engines were also displayed, along with examples of uniforms, model aeroplanes (in the hundreds) and other assorted paraphernalia. A viewing platform enabled a good view from above, and put to good use by the photographers amongst us (virtually everyone present). An outside raised deck provided an excellent



vantage point to view 'planes of any persuasion to be photographed – unfortunately, the RAAF must have been on strike during our visit.

It seems those members who attended enjoyed the day, with one saying that they "threatened" to come for a visit for over 20 years, and have now ticked

off another item on the "Must Do List".

**PS: Don't forget to participate in the Computerpals Photo Exhibition to be held in the Islington Public School Hall (in conjunction with the usual Morning Tea) on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October next, commencing at 9.30am sharp – details as per earlier emails.**



## Special Interest Groups

### GeneaPals

This is our family history group. We have allocated the **first Monday afternoon of each month at 1:00pm** in the clubrooms at Islington Public School (ex school holidays).

### WriterPals

Our creative writing group for enthusiasts, not experts. We meet on the **second Monday of each month** at the Islington clubroom. Meetings go from **1pm until we go home**.

### DigiPals

DigiPals is an active group of Computerpals. Members who meet on the **third Monday each month at 1 pm** to learn and explore digital photography.

### TabPals

If you have a portable device; iPad, Android tablet we have a special interest group called TabPals. The **4th Friday of the month is our regular meeting day**.

## Did You Know????

Newcastle City Library can help with your research.

**Come along to the upcoming sessions to learn how.**

### • Introduction to the Pope Collection

In 1945 Richard Pope donated a substantial collection from his personal library to Newcastle on the condition that a library was established. This rare collection reflected his wide range of interests including natural history, the arts and sport.

View some of the Pope treasures including a selection of volumes from its library of Gould's Birds.

**When: Thursday 6th November 10am - 11am**

### • Introduction to the Libraries Archives

Explore some of the archival collections held by the Library, including the Merewether archive, Tooths & Castlemaine Brewery archive and the Newcastle School of Arts archive.

You will be able to view handwritten letter books and ledgers, check what was in the School of Arts catalogue in the 1890s and the lantern slides used by the School of Arts for their astronomy lectures.

Find out how archives differ from other library collections.

**When: Thursday 4th December 10am - 11am**

**Book your spot in a session by phoning Local Studies on 4874 5330.**

**Newcastle Region Library, Laman Street, Newcastle**

## EXHIBITION: THREE SOLDIERS

**Now Showing: Level 2, Local Studies Lounge**

**Until 25th October**

This exhibition focuses on three soldiers whose portraits are part of the Boddy collection held at the Library.

Families and the public have the opportunity to help clearly identify unnamed soldiers in the portraits and provide background information.

The above information will be of particular interest to our GeneaPals members, but the sessions are available to all members and friends.





## Funny-bone

**Customer:** My keyboard is not working anymore.

**Tech support:** Are you sure it's plugged into the computer?

**Customer:** No. I can't get behind the computer.

**Tech support:** Pick up your keyboard and walk 10 paces back.

**Customer:** OK !

**Tech support:** Did the keyboard come with you?

**Customer:** Yes

**Tech support:** That means the keyboard is not plugged in.

A woman customer called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer.

**Tech support:** Are you running it under windows?

**Customer:** No, my desk is next to the door, but that is a good point. The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine.

## And last but not least!

**Tech support:** 'Okay Bob, let's press the control and escape keys at the same time.

That brings up a task list in the middle of the screen.

Now type the letter 'P' to bring up the Program Manager.'

**Customer:** I don't have a P.

**Tech support:** On your keyboard, Bob.

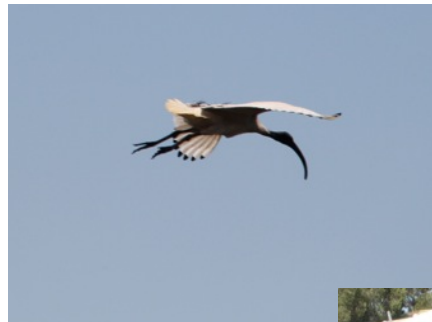
**Customer:** What do you mean?

**Tech support:** 'P'.....on your keyboard, Bob.

**Customer:** I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT!

## Social Report - October Outing

On Saturday 11th October, 17 members arrived at the Hunter Wetlands Centre for a “walkabout” around this eco-friendly haven for wildlife.



Fine clear skies and a first up cuppa ensured those present were ready for action. Cameras charged and water bottles filled, a scattergun approach for

selecting the numerous trails was the order of the day, as everyone had their own “must see” wildlife/habitats. However, the many groups crossed paths on occasions, swapping notes and sharing any knowledge gained from



their travels. Feeding time at the BHP Pond was cause for much excitement from the many camera operators among the group, while further along the trails, an abundance of various species of birdlife were observed. A number of hideouts and a tower enabled a secluded look at these creatures without disturbing their normal routines.

With legs tiring and the temperature climbing steadily, lunchtime seemed an appropriate call. While some chose to head off for other pastures, others decided on light refreshments back at the Spoonbill Cafe with a seat on the cool, open-air verandah overlooking various ponds with birds and a couple of turtles enjoying all the Centre had to offer them. As with the previous outing, many of those present had not visited this site for “a very long time” and enjoyed the reunion.

Our next excursion *has been changed. We will **NOT** be going to Tomago House on Sunday 2nd November.*

*The outing will now be held on Saturday 1st November to a venue yet to be confirmed.* If it comes off, a few clues: transport involved, sunscreen or umbrella, guaranteed coffee break – **that's it for now!**

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