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.

President's Report

February and ComputerPals is starting Session 1. We have a pleasing number of members doing the courses for the start of the year. Please remember that if we are not running a course you would like to do, we will endeavour to put it on if we have tutors able to teach that course. You just might need to be patient. The Education Team have been working hard over the summer break getting Windows 8 courses ready for class. Bruce Deitz will be teaching his Windows 8.1 on Tuesday afternoons and has been busy rewriting the Google course (Google keep updating!! their site).

The first Enrolment day is on January 31st from 8.30 am - 11.30 am. Barry Keen has been looking at the use of Internet Banking for the payment of fees and courses. We hope that this will make it easier for you. You don't have to go on line. Just take your money to the Newcastle Permanent Building Society and put the money into our account. More information will be given when we get it in place.

As we are planning a few changes to the constitution we will need a Special Meeting to pass changes. We will let you know in plenty of time so that you are fully informed and able to make a wise choice.

More and more people are using Tablet Computing, so we will be running some iPad and Android classes. Cloud computing and courses relevant to the changing use of computers are being considered by the Education Team. We are fortunate in the quality people we have in our club.

Computer 2 has died, so the Tech team have been busy switching towers around, so that we have 8 class computers ready for the start of class next week. We are going to buy new laptops for the Secretary and the Treasurer as their computers have reached their 'use by date". We are investigating the purchase of a colour Laser printer. New courses use graphics which are easier to understand if in colour. The final decision hasn't been made yet.

We are waiting approval from the Dept. of Education Asset Management to approve plumbing for our building. Once again patience is needed.

Hope to see you in some of the classes, or at our Social day on Saturday or at our Morning Tea for Seniors Week on Monday 17th March.

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

Our Special Interest Classes are restarting with GeneaPals on Monday 1 pm, 3rd Feb. Go to our Web site and download the Calendar for information About what is planned for this year.

Agapé

Elaine Butler.

Social Report

Brenton Elsey (Social Secretary)

Day	Date	Proposed Venue	Proposed Timetable
Saturday	1 February	Lovett Art Gallery, Newcastle "Those were the days – Oz in the Sixties"	11am
Sunday	16 March	Richmond Vale Railway Museum Seniors Week Special	10am
Thursday	24 April (school Holidays)	Garden Island Navy Historical Tour, Sydney (there is a lot of walking & stairs involved so members need to be relatively mobile)	Tour starts 10:15am. Departure time from Newcastle 6:30am
Saturday	3 May	Toronto Foreshore, Lake Macquarie	1:30pm
Saturday	7 June	Darling Harbour, Sydney	Departure time from Newcastle 7:23am
Saturday	5 July (school Holidays)	RAAF WW2 Sea Plane Base Tour, Rathmines Some walking & driving involved	10:15am at Rathmines Bowling Club
Saturday	2 August	Green Point, Lake Macquarie	2pm
Saturday	6 September	Fighter World, Williamtown	10am
Saturday	11 October	Hunter Wetlands, Shortland	9:30am
Sunday	2 November	Tomago House	10am

Special Interest Groups

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.

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**.

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.
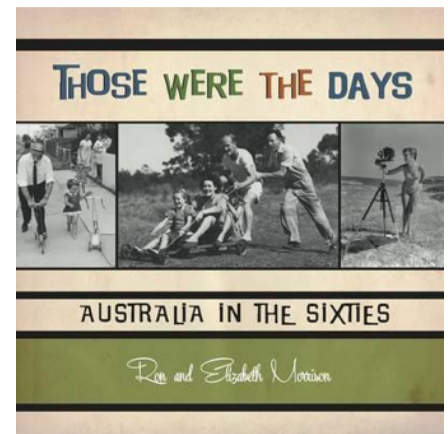
Our First Outing

A visit to the Lovett Art Gallery in Newcastle on Saturday 1st February 2014.

The exhibition currently showing and ending early February is titled *"Those Were The Days - Australia In The Sixties"*, a kaleidoscope of photos taken by well known photographer Ron Morrison, who, along with wife Elizabeth and photographer friend Alan Farrelly travelled the length and breadth of the country. They captured the essence of Australia at that time - mini skirts, decimal currency, the Vietnam War, protests and women's rights to name but a few. This exhibition promises to be a nostalgic trip down memory lane for most, if not all of us.

We will meet at the gallery at 10.45am for an 11.00am start "down the lane", followed by an optional 'ad-lib' lunch venue for those who choose.

For the usual reasons of insurance and a full muster check, it would be appreciated if you could fill out the form on the website and then click 'send form'.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Courses Coming Up

Time	Tuesday 4Th 2014	Wednesday 5Th 2014	Thursday 6Th 2014
8.45	Internet & Email Security	General Email	Windows Xp
10.30	Windows 7 Stage 1 Full	Facebook Full	Windows 8 Stage 1
12.15	Windows 8.1 Stage 1 Full	Windows 8 Stage 1	Picasa
2.00	Google Full	Internet	Windows 8.1 Stage 1

Contact Us

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

islingtonpals@gmail.com

Slam Spam

Article from Robin Marshall

"Unwanted email is a waste of time, space, and effort, but there are ways you can fight back against the sea of spam.

It's fun getting email... but that fun can turn to fury when you are bombarded with junk email. This mostly comes from people you don't know - and don't want to know. This type of nuisance email is known as spam and is a growing scourge on the Internet.

Why me? you might ask. Well, it's not just you. Most people with email accounts get spam. The bad news is that you can't do much to stop the stream of junk mail, but there are some things you can do to stem it. First, you need to understand what it is and how it operates

How spam works

Your email address is harvested by spammers in several ways. You're fair game if:

you post your email address on a website (for example, a guestbook, or in a discussion area), or your address is listed on a website for another reason (spammers have software which can trawl a website and pull out email addresses);

- you're in a mailing list discussion group where correspondence is posted on the Internet;
- you used your email address when buying something on-line;
- you have added your email address to an on-line form.
- The people who use these methods are called "acquaintance spammers," meaning that you have given the spammers your email address, or someone you know has - whether they meant to or not.

What you can do?

- Hit the delete key when the spam email comes in.
- Never buy anything from a spammer. It will only encourage them to spam you more, and to keep spamming.
- Avoid posting your email address on a website.
- When you register software on-line, anti-spam advisers recommend you do not use your normal email address. Amazingly, these firms will often sell your address (or use it themselves to spam).

http://www.seniorlink.co.nz/interests/computers/slamspam.shtml

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