

# Parramatta Computer Pals for Seniors Inc.



Supported by Parramatta City Council  
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9806 5030 at Computer Pals (no answering machine available at club)

## ParraPals Newsletter Vol 4, No: 1, January, 2010

### President's message

**W**ell, as you can see below, what a good time we had at our Christmas party. Thank you to all those members who worked so hard to make it a special event.



There are additional photos on the Google blog that Margaret has established for members at <http://parrapals.blogspot.com>

Some of you will know that ASCCA – the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association – was one of our greatest practical supporters when we set up the club three years ago. Nan Bosler, ASCCA's president spoke at our initial public meeting, and came to our first birthday party. She has also pointed us in the right direction for many resources to help us become established.

Nan has just wished us a happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. It has been a great three years. I personally have made many good friends through the computer club – people with whom I can have a

good laugh and whom I can rely on for support at the club and on a personal level.

I've also learned heaps about using the computer – it is so good to be able to exchange information and ideas about software applications and computer hardware with friends, as well as researching new ideas for developing courses.

I do hope that your club membership has brought similar friendships and benefits.

I just know that the year ahead will be a good one.

I hope to see many of you at the Parramatta Leagues Club for our regular informal lunch at Café 88 on Monday (18<sup>th</sup> January).

Regards

John Moxon  
President  
[johnmoxon@optusnet.com.au](mailto:johnmoxon@optusnet.com.au)

### Book your Term 1 2010 courses

**T**he program for Term 1 2010 is on the website at [www.parramattacps.org.au/courses.html#Term1](http://www.parramattacps.org.au/courses.html#Term1) and you can book in at the Club Rooms on the following dates:

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan

9.30am to 1.00pm each day

Remember also that if a course is not scheduled at a time you can make it or

if a course is booked up, you can still register your interest and be placed on a waiting list.

## Future presentations

**O**ur upcoming monthly meetings will feature presentations about Parramatta City Library's online services; various scrapbooking software; and social networking. Make sure you have the dates in your diary.

## Skype

Member John Lee has become as passionate about Skype as he already is about making computer based scrapbooks. Over Christmas, whilst holidaying with his family in Jindabyne, he spent much time



phoning friends all over Australia from his laptop, either at no cost if his friends were also Skype subscribers or at minimal cost if his friends were using a telephone handset.

Skype is one of the best known examples of VOIP – Voice Over Internet Protocols.

John certainly found Skype much more friendly on his hip pocket than his telephone. He purchased a few dollars worth of credit to “Skype” friends who were not subscribers and found that he'd spent less than \$5 after a number of long distance calls. There is the added advantage that one or both parties can use video to see the person at the other end. This is a personal choice.

For instance, when John rang me from Jindabyne between Christmas and New Year, I could see him, but I deliberately didn't turn on the Skype video function on my laptop because I was still in my pyjamas!

My much loved second cousin in England often finds me in my pyjamas!

Deborah Martin is running a Skype two hour session on 22<sup>nd</sup> March and it will be repeated on 29<sup>th</sup> March. The cost is \$10. You'll soon recoup that fee in saved STD fees!

Book in quickly or you will miss out.

## Do you wear a hearing aid?

With Commonwealth Government assistance – through a volunteer grant – we are about to purchase a hearing augmentation system which will cut out background noise for members who use hearing aids with a T switch. We will make sure we obtain one we can use both in the training room and the Gwen Logan Room – or indeed anywhere else we meet.

We'd love to hear from members who may find this useful, or would like more information. Can you contact John Moxon on 9639 9110 or by email on [president@parramattacps.org.au](mailto:president@parramattacps.org.au) if you are interested? Or speak to John at the members' meeting.

## Dates for Your Diary

### Term dates

- Term 1 – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010
- Term 2 – commences Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 1 July 2010
- Easter 2010 Good Friday 2 April 2010.

### Monthly meetings

- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 9.30 am
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 9.30 am
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 9.30 am

### Our website and blog

[www.parramattacps.org.au](http://www.parramattacps.org.au)

<http://parrapals.blogspot.com>

Till next time. *Margaret*