



ParraPals Newsletter Vol 5, No: 11, November 2011

President's message

Thank you all who took the time to attend our AGM. We had a good roll up and those who were there were the first to learn of some changes to our committee.

Congratulations to Judy Joyce who is now our Vice President, and to Deborah Martin who is our new Secretary.

Margaret Tucker has stepped down from being Secretary, but will still look after the website and edit our newsletter.

At our first committee meeting after the AGM, the new committee elected Michael Myers as Training Co-ordinator, so congratulations are in order there also.

Peter Grove was also seconded to the committee.



Marg G with Nadia

I'd like to record a huge thank you to Margaret Green who did not offer herself for re-election. Marg has been a great help to the committee and she'll be sorely missed. Mind you, Marg will still be running the Christmas Party.

As I've mentioned the Christmas Party, can I urge you all to come along and make it our best yet?

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We always have a great time and it's a good chance to eat, drink, be merry, and to catch up with friends.

We are going to be running a survey of our members to get information from you for a couple of reasons: firstly we want to know what types of courses you'd like us to run next year, and we want to know a little about your situation so we can build a picture of our membership to convince funding bodies and Parramatta Council that we are a deserving lot.

It will be greatly appreciated if you can please complete the survey, either on line or in person at the November members' meeting.

Of course, your personal details will not be revealed to anyone – only averaged data will be published, and no names will be mentioned.

Hopefully, I'll see you at the November members' meeting on Friday 18th.

Regards

John Moxon
Johnmoxon1@gmail.com

Term 4 courses

Day/ Time	Dates	Course	Hours	Cost
Friday 1.00-3.15pm	Nov 25	MAC Special Interest Group	2	N/A
Friday 12.30-2.00pm	Nov 18	Digital Photos SIG	1.5	N/A
Mondays 9.30-11.45am	November 14,21, 28; Dec 5, 12	Vacant for one on one sessions (note change)	N/A	\$N/A
Mondays 1.00 – 3.15pm	November 14,21, 28; Dec 5,12	Beginners - Windows 7	10	\$40
Tuesday 9.30-11.45am	November 15,22, 29; Dec 6,13	Create-A-Card Platinum 8	10	\$40
Tuesdays 1.00 - 3.15pm (5 wks)	November 15,22, 29; Dec 6,13	Beyond Basics- Windows 7	10	\$40
Wednesdays 9.30-12.30 (4wks)	November 23,30; Dec 7, 14	Email & Internet Beyond the Basics	10	\$40
Wednesday 1.00 -4.00pm (2.5 hrs 4 wks)	November 23,30; Dec 7, 14	XP Beyond the Basics	10	\$40
Thursday 9.30 -11.45am	November 24 ONLY	Beginners – Apple MAC	2	\$10
Thursday 9.30 -11.45am	December 1 ONLY	Facebook – Beyond Basics (must be registered FB user)	2	\$10
Thursday 9.30 -11.45am	December 8 ONLY	Beginners – Apple MAC	2	\$10
Thursday 1.00-3.15pm (4 wks)	November 24; Dec 1,8,15	Travel and family blogs (digital diary)	8	\$30

Book now at reception 9806 5030 (club hours only), Michael on 9801 1686 (h) or . There is no answering machine at the office.

Payments

Most people pay for their courses and membership via cash or cheque made out to Parramatta Computer Pals for Seniors. We don't have EFTPOS capacity.

However, if you wish to pay by Electronic Funds Transfer, you should email our treasurer, Hazel Labka on

treasurer@parramattacps.org.au first so that she knows about it, so that she can tell you the account number. You must also remember to put a reference on your online payment so Hazel knows who is making the payment and for what.

Hazel is now back home after her knee operation and rehab, and hopes to come to the November meeting.

Noelene Myers is still in Lottie Stewart Respite Care, not yet allowed to walk, but hopes to be going to rehab and home soon.

New members

Welcome to the following members joining in October:

- Vivian Carpenter
- Dolavic Dedeigbo
- Nyree Fifield
- John Lee (a *new one*)
- Deirdre Miles
- Senie O'Connor
- Carolyn Watt.

Come to Springwood with us

Deborah Martin has organised our next field trip – no, not down the Parramatta River this time.



Rather, we will head to the **Norman Lindsay Museum and Gallery** via train and bus.

Here are the details:

Date: Friday 9th December

Location: 14 Norman Lindsay Crescent, Faulconbridge.

Travel there: Blue Mountains country train to Springwood **departing Parramatta at 9:34 am**, arriving Springwood 10:30 am, catch Bus from Springwood station to Gallery departing Springwood at 11:10 am arrive Gallery 11:15 am (or you can drive yourself).

Travel home: Bus from Gallery to Springwood departing Gallery at 2:40 pm, then Blue Mountains country train to Parramatta departing Springwood at 3:19 pm, arriving Parramatta at 4:16 pm.

Cost: Train fare + bus fare + \$10 concession entry to gallery. The grounds and gardens are well worth a visit if you don't want to visit the gallery.

Disabled access: Wheelchair ramps to main gallery and disabled parking available inside the grounds if required.

Website: www.normanlindsay.com.au

Lunch: If we have more than 20 people in the group the lowest cost option is a lunchbox from Lindsay's Cafe of \$12.50 per box (2 sandwiches, fruit, muffin and bottle of water). Or, bring your own picnic lunch and eat in the grounds (the Gallery can provide chairs and an urn on request).

Please email Deborah on secretary@parramattacps.org.au if you intend going. Also let her know if you are interested in the lunch box option.

ASCCA Conference

There is still time to book for the ASCCA conference. The cost (discounted for our members) is \$80 for one day or \$120 for two days. No courses have been scheduled for those two days, Wed-Thurs 16-17th November.



John Lee with Peter Blasina at 2010 conference

You will find the application form on the ASCCA website at

www.ascca.org.au

ASCCA Competitions

Watch this space next month. Some of us have been short-listed for various awards, and strongly advised to go to the ASCCA AGM on 16th November.

About our courses

Featuring: Creatacard Platinum 8

Judy Joyce teaches this course 2-3 times per year, and it is always popular before Christmas. The photo below shows the class which finished just this week, with Lily Patterson as Judy's buddy. Lily is one of the club's most enthusiastic card makers, but she now has quite a lot of competition from the members featured below.



In this class, you not only learn how to create personalised cards, but many other products including fun craft items such as party hats, gift containers, baskets, bookmarks, 5 pointed stars and a lot more.

Judy says:

“Creatacard Platinum 8 is a fun class to teach especially when you have such a good group of

students as well as a wonderful buddy.”

Judy is running the same course commencing Tuesday 15th – next week – and there are still three vacancies.

Christmas party

This year's Christmas Party – our 5th – will be held on Friday 16th December in the Dan Mahoney Room.



This year, we are charging a flat \$10 per person, and catering in-house, thanks to Marg G., Judy, Lyndell,

Jan and others.

You should have received your invitation either by email if you on our contact list or by post.

We are taking bookings now by cash or cheque.

Tips and Tricks

Changing font size on Google Chrome

This is a question that comes up a lot. Whether you have a small screen, experience vision problems, or just encounter a page with small text, there will come a time when you won't be able to read the information presented on a website. Luckily, with today's highly-customizable Internet browsers, you don't need to strain your eyes.

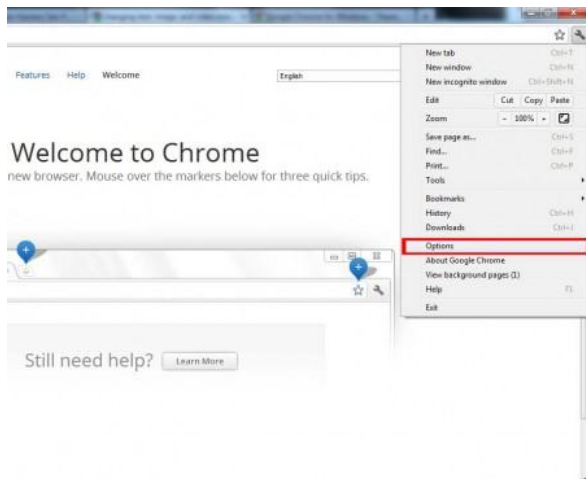
The easiest and quickest way to increase the size of a webpage is to use the “zoom” function. The simplest way to access this is by holding down the “Ctrl” key and pressing the “+” key on your keyboard. This

will *increase* the size of everything on the page by ~20%. You can press this keyboard shortcut as many times as you'd like to get the desired amount of "zoom" necessary to properly view the webpage.

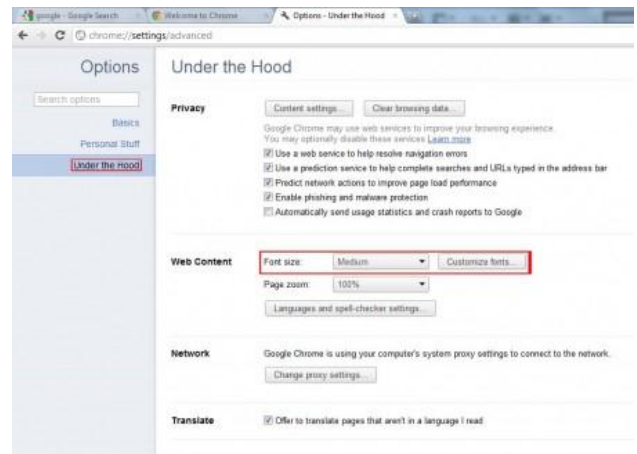
Conversely, you can *decrease* the size of everything by holding down the "Ctrl" key and pressing the "-" key on your keyboard. If you don't like keyboard shortcuts, you can manually adjust the zoom function by visiting the wrench menu (accessible by clicking the "wrench" icon at the top right corner of your screen).

Although this is the quickest way to increase and decrease the size of everything on the page, many people only wish to increase the *size of the font* without adjusting other elements of the page like the images. Luckily, Google Chrome comes with a very simple way to do just that.

Start by opening up the wrench menu and selecting options.



Then, select the "Under the Hood" tab and look to the section called "Web Content." From here, you can adjust the font using preset options (very small, small, medium, large, very large) or you can even select "Customize Font" for even greater control over the font size.



And there you have it. If you simply encounter *the odd webpage* that looks too big or too small, you should probably simply use the "zoom" function to make the entire page larger or smaller (Ctrl + and Ctrl – respectively); however, if you find yourself having to do this *time and time again* and you don't wish to re-size the media on the page, it's best to adjust the *font size* using the instructions above.

Don't strain your eyes! Always adjust the font settings and let Google Chrome do the work for you.

From www.worldstart.com with permission.

Purchasing a tablet

Are you thinking about an iPad or some other look alike for Christmas this year? You can compare prices at <http://www.shopbot.com.au/tablets/portable-devices/australia/117>. There are a great number to choose from.

Another good place to look is <http://www.news.com.au/technology/tablets>

Let us know whether you've purchased one already, and whether you'd be interested in a short course about using a tablet, and good applications to download.

Our sponsors

DCA Computers

Unit 4/8 Victoria Avenue
Castle Hill NSW 2154
Phone: 9634 2555

sales@dcacomputers.com.au
www.dcacomputers.com.au

Meanwhile, members continue to report good feedback about Robert DelVecchio's **InHome Media** which they have used satisfactorily to fix computer problems in their own home. Phone Robert on 1300 658847 or 0425 202 655.

Useful websites

<http://www.abc.net.au/iview/>

Watch programs you missed during the week on ABC TV.

Dates for Your Diary

Term dates

- Second half Term 4 courses start 14th November
- Term 4 finishes Thursday 15th December

Monthly meetings

- Friday 18th November, 9.30am

Outings

- Genealogy/Digital Photography Field Trip: Springwood Friday 9th December.

Special Interest Groups

- Digital Photos SIG meets 18th November, 12.30pm
- MAC SIG meets 25th Nov 1pm

ASCCA events

- 13th annual conference – 16-17th November at Rydges Hotel, 389 Pitt Street, Sydney.

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Christmas Party

Friday 16th December, 12.30-2.30pm
in the Dan Mahoney Room \$10 (must pre-book)

Our website, blog & Facebook

www.parramattacps.org.au

<http://parrapals.blogspot.com>

Facebook group (Join) AND Facebook page (Like): Parramatta Computer Pals for Seniors (www.facebook.com)

Email: info@parramattacps.org.au

Till next time. Your editor:

Margaret