

# ParraChatta



PARRAMATTA  
COMPUTER PALS  
FOR SENIORS

Official Newsletter of Parramatta Computer Pals for Seniors Inc. ABN 88 730 177 997  
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## Vol 14 No: 9, November 2020

### President's message.



Welcome to the first Parrachatta while I am President. I hope that we will have many opportunities to share comments and hopes for Parrapals over my time as President.



First things first - I would personally and formally like to thank Deborah Martin for her fabulous and long service as our Club President. Frequently, when there were no

volunteers for a particular task, Deborah would add the task to her extensive list and then complete the task without delay. The Club has only had two presidents in 14 years. (John Moxon, a life member, was the inaugural president).

Deborah shared her Parrapals volunteering with her role in WIRES as the Co-ordinator of Birds for the Parramatta area. Her bird call phone ring would occur during meetings and short conversations ensue about birds wrapped in fishing line and in the middle of a pond. Some degree of difficulty to solve but part of her voluntary work. In her spare time, Deborah was also a member of Circular Keys, an acapella choir. A very busy and well-rounded person. I am especially pleased that Deborah has chosen to remain on

the Management Committee as I can make frequent calls on her expertise.

We were pleased to have Parramatta councillors (Donna Davies and Phil Bradley), council staff members (Meilan Goa and Gladys Maier) and the Parramatta Member of Parliament, Julie Owens at our Annual General Meeting via Zoom. We may need these contacts in the near future as we try to convince Parramatta Council to allow us rent-free access to rooms in the new civic buildings. More on this soon.

Our October picnic was washed out so people might like to add their name to the lunch at Rosehill Bowling Club. There will be more information in Updates about the Christmas/end-of-year Event but the date is set for December 16th. Make sure you have that in your diary. It will be good to get to the end of 2020 and hope that 2021 improves at least a little bit.

You can email us at [parramattacps@gmail.com](mailto:parramattacps@gmail.com), or use the Suggestion Box link in the News Update.

## **Deb N**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

### **Meetings.**

All meetings are on Fridays at 2.00pm via ZOOM

#### Members' Meetings

6 November (Special)

20 November (Full)

4 December (Special)

#### Committee Meetings.

13 November (Full)

27 November (Special)

### **Social Events.**

Thursday 19 November

#### **Lunch at Rose Hill Bowling Club**

Commencing at 11.30am.

Parrapals has been to this venue before. There is a menu with many options available and drinks at reasonable prices (but a bit more expensive than the last time we were there). **COVID-19 rules have been relaxed to allow 30 people to attend the lunch.** Look out for a booking link in the Update.

Dawne Zotz will be asking people to pre-order their lunches so the Bowling Club can be prepared so

please add your email when saying you will attend.

**Our cartoon for this month** comes from Randy Glasbergen, an American cartoonist.



**"I ordered my new laptop computer today. It has a 4 terabyte hard drive, 4 cores, full-size key board and a 17-inch touch screen. I'm going to need a bigger lap!"**

## **TRAINING AND SUPPORT**

Watch for the regular updates about courses, tech talks, scanning sessions and help desks available at the club or via ZOOM during Term 4.

The number of people enrolling are **quite low**, so please have a look at what is available and think about how you might expand your computer uses. The club has implemented all COVID safety actions, so coming to the club rooms will be safe. Also, think of others you know who could become members and benefit from the Parrapals training. The more the merrier. There is a "Welcome to

New Members" on the 26th of November.

## **ASCCA News**

The breaking ASCCA news is that long standing President Nan Bosler AM, retired at the 2020 AGM.



In 1997, Bosler founded the Australia Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA) and has been President since then. She has represented ASCCA nationally and internationally and sat on the Cyber Security Awareness Week Committee and Broadband for Seniors Kiosk Consortium. She was Ambassador for Seniors Week (2013-2015), a member of the New South Wales Carers Advisory Council (2010-2014) and a National Cyber Security Awareness Ambassador, 2013.

Nan was also involved in the Girl Guide movement, reaching the level of Commissioner Trainer in NSW.

She holds academic qualifications in education and a Masters degree in Local Government. She also has a wide range of publications including histories of an indigenous family, the Cubby House Library Movement and the Ingleside Fire Brigade. She has also authored two books on craft activities. She strongly reflects the saying that *“if you want something done, you ask a busy woman”*

“Living your best life Online” is the title of the ASCCA conference that was held online on **November 10th 2020**.

The conference ran for a full day ending with the ASCCA annual General meeting and the announcement of Photo competition winners. ASCCA understood that people cannot sit ALL day for an online conference and will make as much information as possible available on a conference webpage within the ASCCA website.

## BeConnected News

[beconnected.esafety.gov.au](http://beconnected.esafety.gov.au)

Beconnected has announced a number of new courses for November. These include “How to Parrachatta Vol 14 No 9 November 2020

use Zoom”, “Preparing for an NBN plan” and “Saving Money on your mobile data”. They are also promoting their webinar series with a video on “How to join a webinar” and a number of short explanations of various webinar terms and actions.

## How to Geek

[www.howtogeek.com](http://www.howtogeek.com)

1. For people who love to buy “stuff” online, How to Geek has an interesting article on the Amazon Used Goods Market. Most used goods are made available by third-party sellers (not Amazon itself) but Amazon in Australia does have a market for refurbished computer devices. Might be worth a look if you need another device.

The website is

<https://www.howtogeek.com/696910/did-you-know-amazon-has-a-huge-used-product-market/>

2. Adobe has announced it will no longer support **Flash and Flash Player** from the end of 2020. SO, if you play games with these programs you will have to change. The replacement/solution is BlueMaxima’s Flashpoint, a free open-source application for Windows. Apple and Linux “fixes” to

follow soon. Flashpoint is linked to 38,000 games which should fill any wet afternoon.

## **The Australian Museum, College Street, Sydney.**

**This museum will re-open on November 28** after an extensive renovation. This was very necessary as the upper levels included some very old-fashioned exhibit spaces and odd floor levels (two-three little stairs making accessibility impossible.) The museum is devoted to plants and animals obviously concentrating on the Australian lifeforms. **Admission to the general exhibition spaces is free as part of the re-opening.**

However, in December, they are bringing the animatronic Dinosaurs exhibit back for one month. I saw this with Hazel's granddaughter many years ago and it was great. You will need to book through the museum website which is [australian.museum](http://australian.museum). The museum is reasonably easy to access from Museum Station.

## **Share SMR - building healthier communities.**

[Share.org.au](http://Share.org.au)

Share promotes a number of exercise programs for people isolated by COVID - these can be found at

<https://share.org.au/2020/09/25/online-classes-via-zoom-term-4-2020/>

A great resource on your computer and a neat segue to the community corner.

## **Community Corner**

Ann Poole from City of Parramatta Libraries sent an email with information about a collaboration with NSW Public Libraries which will present **3 amazing talks online during the next few weeks**, - Lauren Chater, Craig Reucassel and Sir Peter Cosgrove.

**In Conversation with Lauren Chater** will be with Meg Keneally, author of *The Wreck*, to discuss Lauren's latest book, *Gulliver's Wife*.

**Thursday 12 November | 6.30pm – 7.30pm | Free | Bookings required**  
<http://parra.city/chater20>

## **In Conversation with Craig Reucassel**

Join Chaser comedian and presenter of War on Waste Craig Reucassel as he discusses *Fight for Planet A*, the

climate challenge and what we can do when there's no Planet B.

**Monday 16 November | 6.30pm – 7.30pm | Free | Bookings required**  
<https://parra.city/reucassel2020>

**In Conversation with Sir Peter Cosgrove** with Richard Glover discussing his book *You Shouldn't Have Joined*, a warm and fascinating memoir of one of Australia's most popular and prominent public figures

Monday 30 November | 7pm – 8pm  
| Free | Bookings required  
<https://parra.city/cosgrove20>

If possible, **Ann would appreciate you could share this information with family, friends and your network.**

Silvia Vega has contributed a great link to a **“Check my macula”** tool. The macula is a membrane of specialised cells covering the focal point of the eye. It defends the eye from high levels of UV radiation. However, like everything else it can degenerate with age. Early signs of degeneration include;

- Difficulty in reading or any other activity which requires fine vision

- Distortion where straight lines appear wavy or bent
- Difficulty distinguishing faces
- Dark patches may appear in the centre of your vision

Additionally, the need for increased illumination, sensitivity to glare, decreased night vision and poor colour sensitivity may also indicate something is wrong. - See more at: <https://www.mdfoundation.com.au/content/early-signs#sthash.nAbZn5Nd.dpuf>

The “Check my macula” tool is at [checkmymacula.com.au](http://checkmymacula.com.au)

There are only 5 questions so the check takes about one minute. Your results then **link you to a number of fact sheets about ways to reduce your risk of macular degeneration.** While macular degeneration rarely causes complete blindness it can reduce the central area of your normal vision, making many visual activities (e.g. driving a car) impossible.

**ParraPals Committee**

President: Deb Neyle

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Vice president: currently vacant

Secretary: Silvia Vega

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Treasurer: Colleen Burns

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Others: John Hain, Deborah Martin,  
Richard McQueeney, Dawne Zotz.

Facebook Private Group: Margaret  
Tucker Moxon

Facebook Public Page: Saro Dainty

Newsletter editor: Deb Neyle