



Official Newsletter of Parramatta Computer Pals for
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ParraChatta

President's message.

Dear Members,

The *totally unexpected* (not!) extension of the Greater Sydney lockdown until the end of August, 2021 (and possibly further) has been officially announced so our electronic communications have to continue.

People appear to have disappeared under their doonas, as bookings in courses, help desks and other activities are minimal again. However, this is a great opportunity to get one of the fabulous Parrapals trainers to answer the question or teach you how to do something you have avoided until now.

There are many help desks from many different trainers so your options are great.

Remember, however, that there are limits to our trainers' brilliance so questions have to relate to a device or program vaguely related to computing.

Hazel Labka, the training coordinator will describe the process for booking a help desk in her section of this newsletter. Please continue to book into courses, help desks, tech talks and special interest or user groups, so that the trainers know you are interested and can plan the best electronic approach for you and the topic.

That said, the number of fully vaccinated Parrapals members continues to climb and we may see lighter restrictions for these

people than others. There are also other options such as a “summer school” after Term 4 to act as a catch up session, if we are allowed to meet together then.

Fingers crossed.

On a different topic, the Council elections have been deferred for three months to November 2021. Nominations have also been extended so Parrapals needs to keep our accommodation request in front of existing Parramatta councillors and be ready to lobby other candidates as soon as their names are available. Letter/email writing is always more fun than housework.

Stay safe at home until we are able to meet in person again.

You can email us at parramattacps@gmail.com, or use the Suggestion Box link in the Parrapals Update.

Deb N.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Members’ Meeting.

Friday 20 August

Commencing 2.00pm via ZOOM

An invitation has been sent to all financial members - please check that you have the details.

Following meeting date is;

Friday 17 September, 2021

Please put these dates into your diary and keep an eye out for further information.

Committee Meetings.

Friday 13 August, 2021

commencing 2.00p.m via zoom

Further date

Friday 10 September, 2021

TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Training Coordinator, Hazel Labka

Using a help desk

Book a scheduled session online using the Parrapals update link. The booking link will ask for the device you want to use and the question/problem you want resolved. This information will allow the best fit between the trainer and the participant.

OR

Email your name, contact phone and email along with information about your device and question/problem as above to me at

parrapals.training@gmail.com

Then a general call can be made to trainers and a session organised for you outside the advertised times.

Thanks to all trainers for their flexibility and interest in keeping many parts of our program functioning.

ASCCA News

ascca.org.au

As ASCCA has now become a completely digital entity here are some new contact details

ASCCA's **phone number** has become a mobile one – 0434 857 222 – from 1st July, 2021.

Best email -

office@ascca.com.au

Website remains

ascca.org.au

ASCCA also reminds us that **Get Online Week** is 18-24 October. I sincerely hope that we can get offline by then but there will still be many interesting online activities from many sources during that time. Keep an eye out for advertisements soon.

Hazel Labka found this great cartoon on the ASCCA website; I think it is worth sharing as it really sums up some people's lives at the moment.



ReviewGeek

www.reviewgeek.com

Follows on from a fairly lukewarm assessment of Windows 11, to describe a problem some people are having with sham installation software. To avoid this problem Review Geek suggests;

Go to the Windows Insider website and click "Register." After you breeze through some agreements, open your Windows 10 PC's Settings and click "Updates & Security," then select "Windows Insider Program" in the sidebar. Press the "Get Started" button, choose the "Dev Channel" as your Insider Setting, then go back to

“Updates & Security” to install Windows 11.

Also your computer may not be able to accept this update. You can check your compatibility at

<https://www.reviewgeek.com/90480/microsoft-might-lower-the-windows-11-hardware-requirements/>

Scamwatch

[Scamwatch.gov.au](https://www.scamwatch.gov.au)

Remote access scams are one of the largest growing scam types in Australia. Scammers take advantage of the digital world and the fear of fraud and cybercrime to access people’s devices and steal their money,” ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said.

“These types of scams target and impact all people and can be convincing. People aged 55 and older lost over \$4.4 million, accounting for almost half of total losses. Young people reported losing on average \$20,000 and eight Indigenous Australians, some in remote communities, lost a total of \$38,000.”

Scams of this nature will often be an unexpected phone call saying you’ve been billed for a purchase you didn’t make, your device has

Parrachatta Vol 15, No. 8

been compromised, or your account has been hacked. Sometimes they start with an SMS, email or pop up on a screen from a scammer seeking urgent contact to fix a problem.

The scammer will pretend to assist you or ask you to assist them to catch the scammer. They will tell you to download remote control software such as AnyDesk or TeamViewer. Once the scammer has control of your computer or device, they will ask you to log into applications such as emails, internet banking or PayPal accounts, which will allow the scammer to access your banking and personal information to impersonate you or steal their money.

Australian CyberSecurity Center ([cyber.gov.au](https://www.cyber.gov.au)) ...

Has a nice, simple table describing 10 different types of security threats to your computer/device. It is worth having a look at. If you don't know the difference between cryptomining and data spills, this is the page for you;

<https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/individuals-and-families/threats>

Trove Users -

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

One of the special offerings from Trove this week is a video of a webinar run by two reference librarians on “Researching the history of your house”. It runs for 48 minutes and is very thorough.

If the history of your house has always interested you, now is the perfect time to get started.

Beconnected... has an upcoming series of 11 webinars based on esafety - not all of them may be relevant for you but some could be very useful.

The site for checking dates and enrolling is
<https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/bookings?ref=homepage-carousel>

Offerings include;

Can you spot a scam?

18 Aug 3pm

Staying safe on Facebook.

2 Aug 10

Data and Public wifi

20 Oct 10am

Shopping and Banking

1 Sept 3pm

Protect against scams

11 Oct 3pm

Selling safely online

13 Sept 10am

Connecting to others

3 Aug and 30 Sept 3pm

Smart homes

20 Aug 10am and 28 Oct 3pm

How to use zoom (to make video calls)

31 Aug 10am

Helpful apps for your smart device

16 Sept 3pm

How to use Government websites

28 Sept 10am

Online Social events

Dawne Zotz is organising two social events via Zoom on the 6th and the 27th of August.

More information to follow in the Parrapals Updates (via Mailchimp).

Cartoon of the Month (in Cartoon stock, 2021)



"I'LL BE ANSWERING THAT QUESTION AND MANY MORE IN NEXT WEEK'S WEBINAR."

TH

1. If a clock were turned so that it was a 24hour clock and struck 24 times at midnight, (i.e. struck for the same number of times as the hour suggested) how many times would it chime in the course of a day?
2. If a man and a half can tarmac a road and a half in a day and a half, how many roads can six men tarmac in seven days? (Do not assume that any men are supporting their spade but doing no work - this is an unusual working group.)
3. Silvester left \$650 to be divided amongst his five grandchildren. The money was to be divided in order of age with each child receiving \$25 more than the next child younger to them. How much did the youngest child receive?

Brain teaser(s) of the month

July - Use three identical digits in a simple addition sum so that the total is 12. You cannot use the digit 4.

July Answer

11+1=12 - simple really

For August, there will be **Not One but Three** brain teasers, all mathematical. In order of difficulty as I see it these are;

SUGGESTION BOX -

email access is via

parramattacps@gmail.com.

Please use the title "suggestion box" so we can see your suggestions clearly.

ParraPals Committee

President: Deb Neyle

pcpstrainerdebn@gmail.com

Vice president: Bob Donnelly.

Secretary: Silvia Vega

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Treasurer: Colleen Burns

treasurercps@gmail.com

Training Co-ordinator: Hazel

Labka

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