

THIS MONTH

What's On
Book review
Vista upgrades
Text messaging
Useful tips
Sites to try

WHATS ON

The course calendar
for May 2007 now on-
line.

Digital photography
course over 4 Satur-
days in June 10am—
12noon.

Welcome to our new
format newsletter
which we will be
doing each month.

We need your feed -
back on suggestions,
ideas or anything
else you would like
to see.

To keep costs down
this will be an on-line
version but printed
copies will be
available.

Click on the URL to
access the web site
or copy and paste in
your browser

Digital Scrapbooks

Remember how we used to make up scrapbooks? I found an excellent book in the Christchurch Library "Digital Family Album Basics" by Janine Warner. Call no. 745.593 WAR. It has some great ideas and lots of useful tips. Now, thanks to computers, we can easily grab photos, clippings text etc. and make up dynamic scrapbooks, greetings cards, calendars and more. This book takes you through a number of projects with well-illustrated examples. As well as scrap-booking it covers ways to take better photos and crop, edit and optimize images.

The author has made the book fun—even for non-techies! There are lots of software programmes available that you can use, but you probably have most you need already. You could make your scrapbook using MS Word, MS Powerpoint, Impress - part of the free OpenOffice suite, MS Publisher, the free Serif Page Plus or Scrapbook Flair



To Vista or Not?

Vista is brilliant. Most new computers will have it installed but should you upgrade? There is no need to rush out. A lot of new applications will need updating especially your anti-virus and firewall and I as I had XP pro I had to re-install all my applications. Took a week to complete. I put it my Sony laptop with few problems. It has some really neat features and runs well on my Sony, but I won't be loading it on my PC. Microsoft has a free update advisor (<http://www.microsoft.com/nz>)

Texting Messaging

All modern cellphones allow text to be entered by a shorthand method known as T9 (predictive). Do you know how this works? Go to T9.com (<http://www.t9.com/>) for an interactive demonstration for example: 736467 638 = SENIOR NET

Useful Tips

Instead of placing all of your internet short cuts in **Favourites** why not set these up in MS Excel? That way you can have one column as the site name, one for the link (<http://www.>) and another to provide your own comments. Excel usually automatically sets the link up so all you have to do is click on it to go to the site.

Try These Sites:

Magic Gopher
(<http://www.learnenglish.org.uk/games/magic-gopher-central.swf>)
How Stuff Works
(<http://www.howstuffworks.com/>)
Camera reviews
(<http://www.dpreview.com/>)
OpenOffice
(<http://www.openoffice.org>)
Scrapbook Flair
(<http://www.scrapbookflairsoftware.com/>)
Serif Page Plus
(<http://www.freeserifsoftware.com>)