

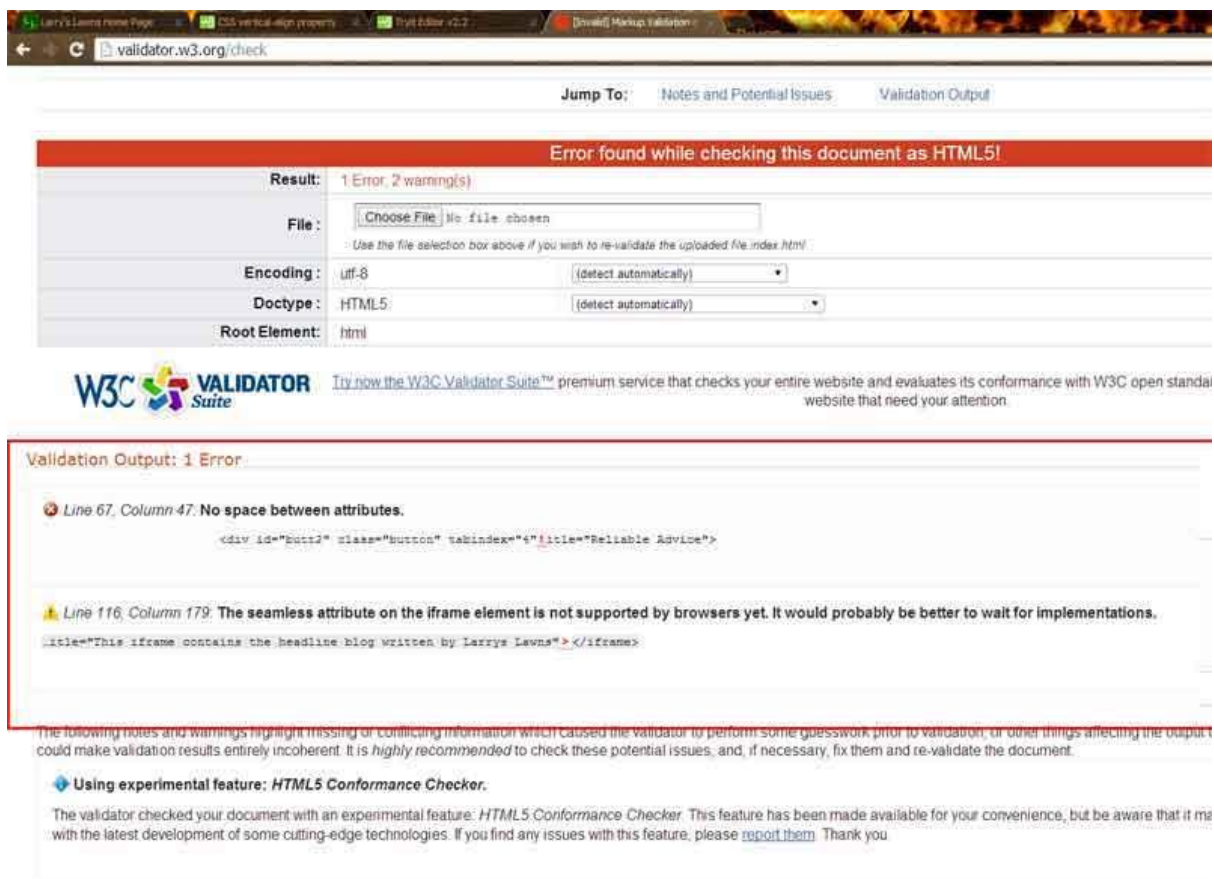
## Design Sites Assignment 2 Task 4 Report

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The Larry's Lawns Web Site has been tested in accordance with the requirements of Task 4. The results are as follows:

### W3 Markup Validation:

The Home Page (index.html) was first submitted to the Validator. On the first attempt it failed showing one error and two warnings as per the image below. (Note: one of the warnings was the standard warning that the HTML5 checker is experimental, which they continue to display for some strange reason – the first working draft of HTML5 was released in 2008! But OK, it's still experimental....



The screenshot shows the W3C Markup Validator interface. At the top, it says "Error found while checking this document as HTML5!". Below that, it displays the validation results: "Result: 1 Error, 2 warning(s)". The file being validated is "index.html". The encoding is "utf-8" and the doctype is "HTML5". The root element is "html".

The validation output shows the following error and warning:

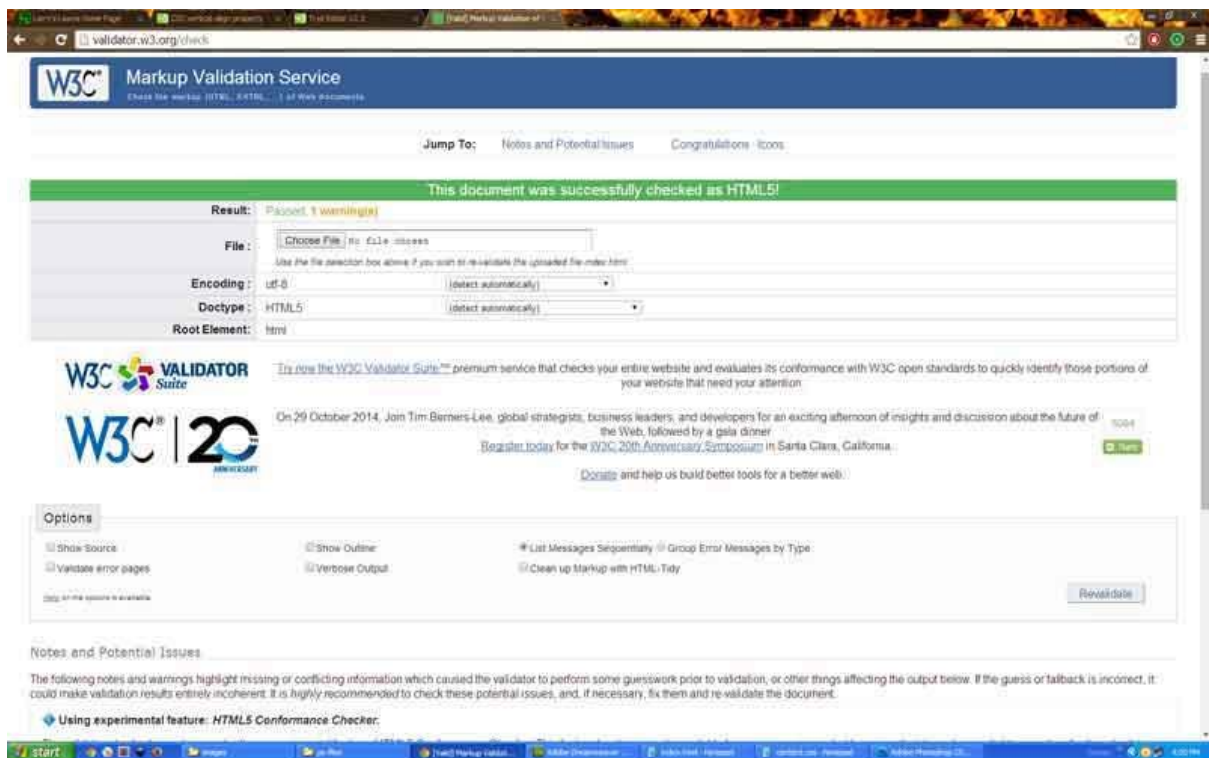
- Error:** Line 67, Column 47: No space between attributes.  
`<div id="butt2" class="button" tabindex="4" title="Reliable Advice">`
- Warning:** Line 116, Column 179: The seamless attribute on the iframe element is not supported by browsers yet. It would probably be better to wait for implementations.  
`title="This iframe contains the headline blog written by Larry's Lawns"></iframe>`

Below the validation output, there is a note about using the experimental HTML5 Conformance Checker:

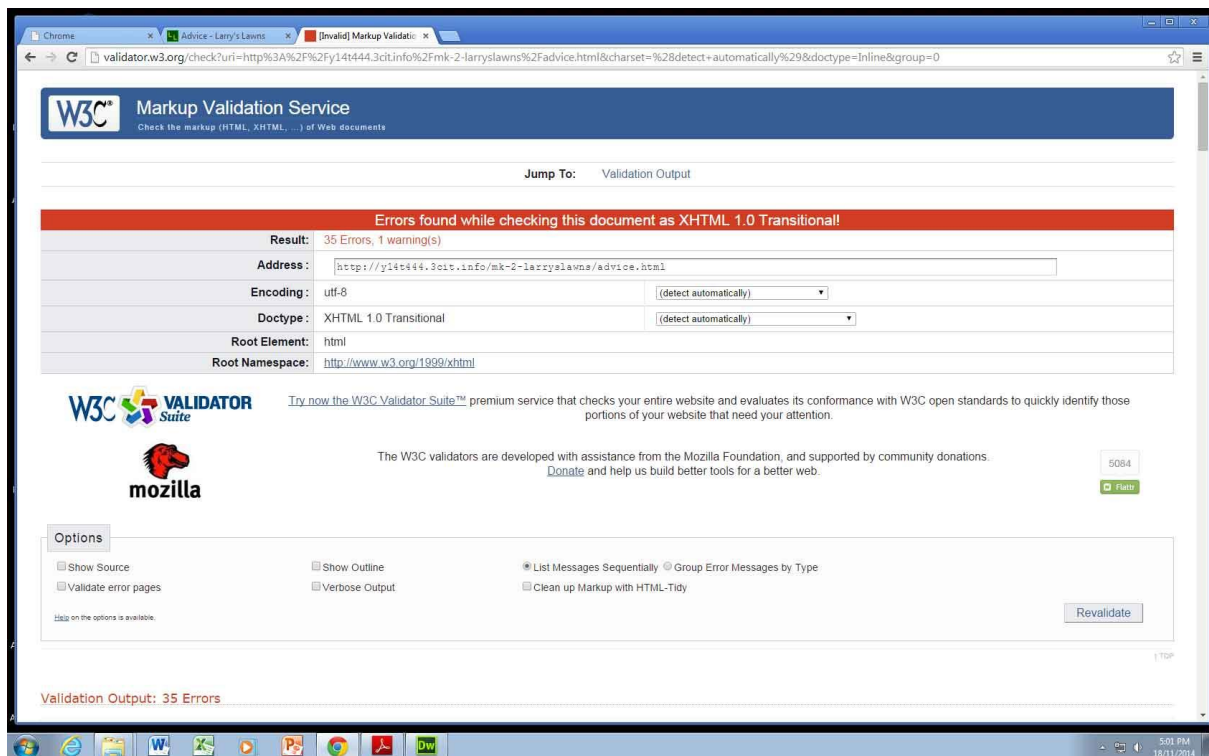
**Using experimental feature: HTML5 Conformance Checker.**  
The validator checked your document with an experimental feature: *HTML5 Conformance Checker*. This feature has been made available for your convenience, but be aware that it may include the latest development of some cutting-edge technologies. If you find any issues with this feature, please [report them](#). Thank you.

The error was fixed by correcting the HTML and the warning addressed by removing the "seamless" attribute on the iframe (it doesn't work anyway – it was left there after a vain attempt to remove the scroll bars while retaining the ability to use the scroll wheel on the mouse – an issue that ended up being addressed in another way).

The index page was resubmitted and passed as shown in the following screen shot:

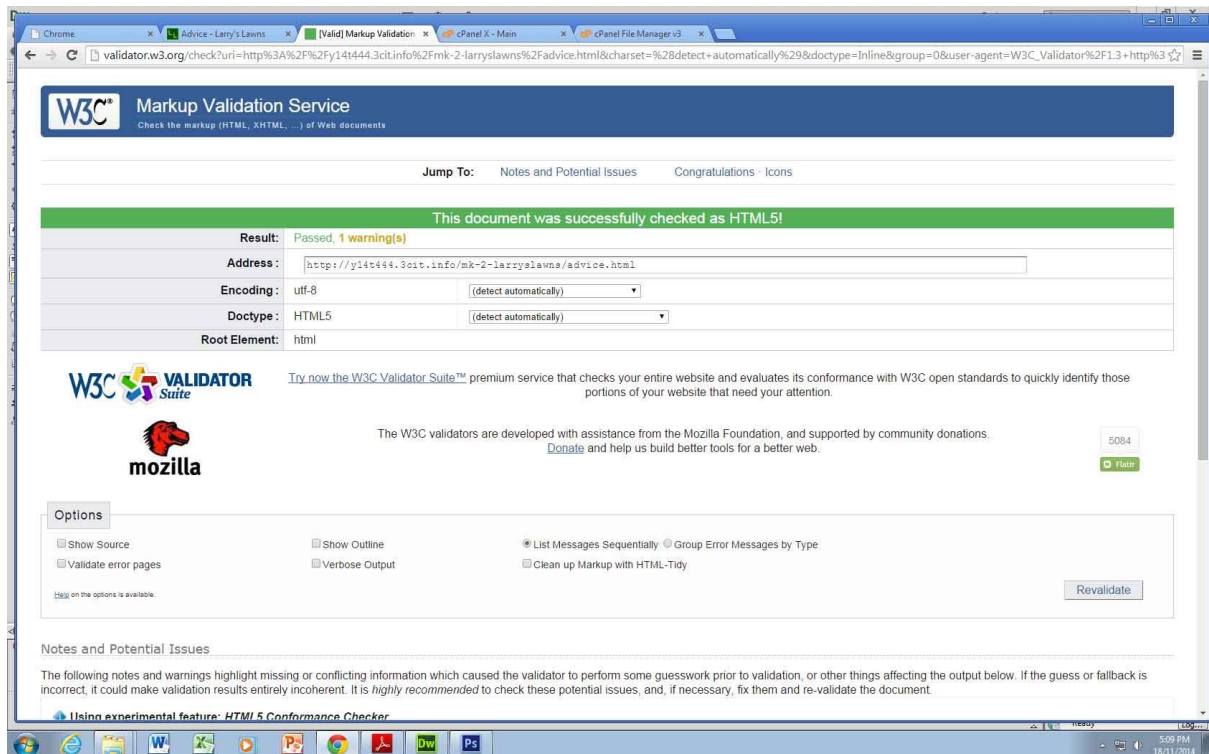


Task 4 required a second page with “significant text content” also be submitted for validation. The “Advice Page” (advice.html) was selected as it contains a significant amount of text.



On the first attempt, advice.html failed resoundingly, reporting 35 errors and one warning. By replacing the doctype declaration inserted by my evil old Dreamweaver (at home) with a HTML5

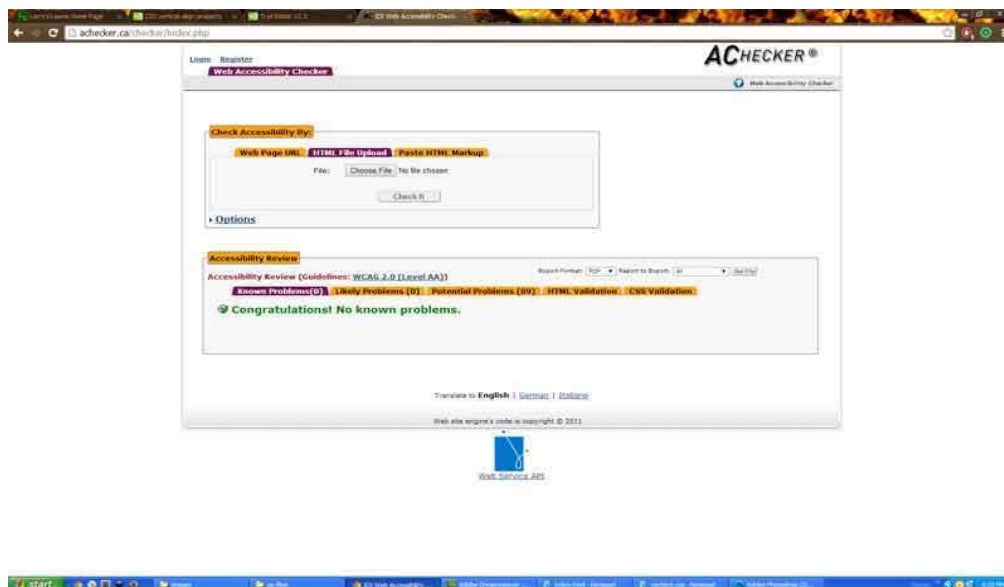
doctype declaration, the error count was reduced to zero and the page passed by the validator as shown in the following image:



## Accessibility Checks

The same two pages were submitted to the AChecker web (<http://achecker.ca/checker/index.php>) site for testing. The index.html page passed on the first attempt – it is assumed that passing at the AA level means that the page has also satisfied the lower requirements of the A level.

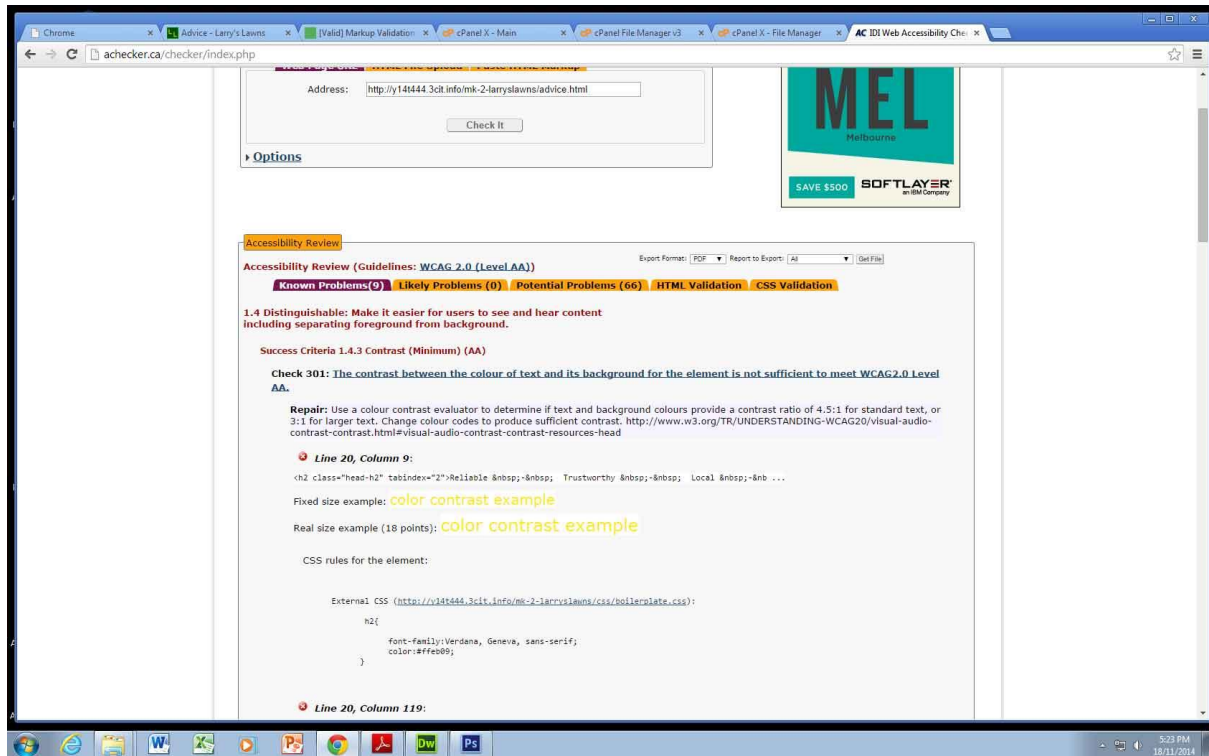
As set out in the Design Report, the colour schemes for headings and text were tested on AChecker before the site was constructed and passed at both the A and AA (and AAA) levels then. The site was constructed using the colours and fonts set out in that report and consequently passed.



## advice.html

When the advice page was submitted for accessibility checking, however, it proved to be a different matter.

As shown in the following screen shot, the page failed with nine “known problems.”

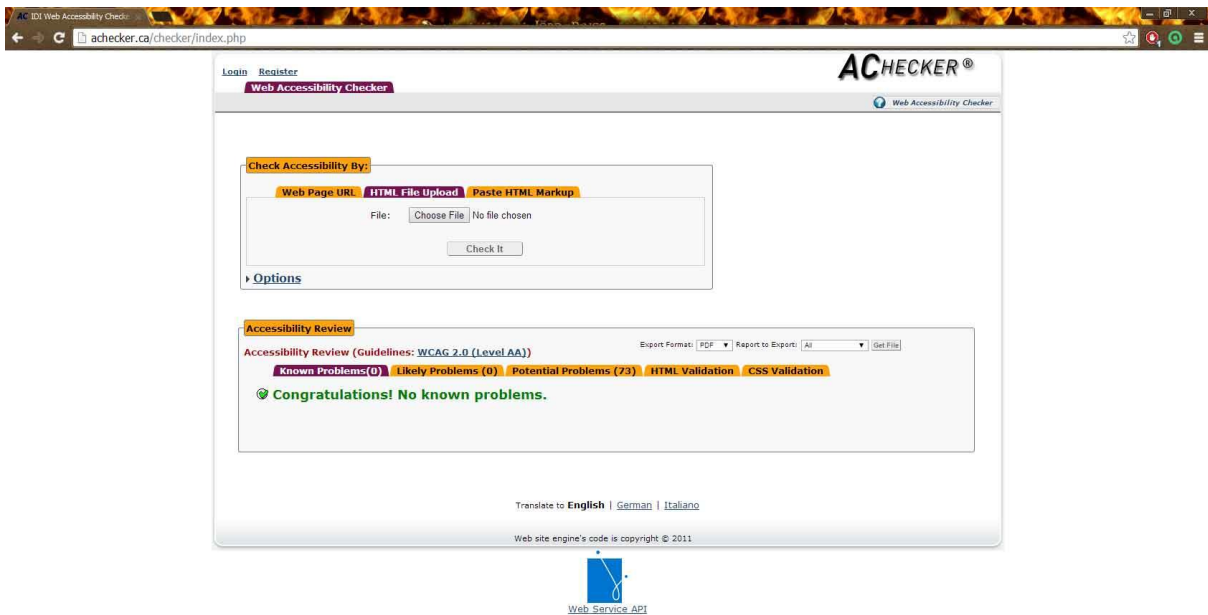


This seemed odd as the advice page was also built using the criteria set out in the design report. Closer inspection revealed that all nine errors related to yellow text (#ffeb09) that was seen by the checker as being on a white background.

This seemed strange as there was no yellow text on the page which had a white background. It was thought that the checker might not be picking up the green background image on the body element. Consequently a dark green background colour (#005000) was added to the body element and the page checked again. No change – the yellow <h2> text was still seen by the checker as being on a white background.

In a third attempt, the background image was commented out leaving only the #009000 background colour and the page tested again. No change again – the checker still saw the <h2> text as being on a white background, even though it was placed directly into the body element which had a dark green background colour.

The background image was then reapplied and a fourth attempt made by means of uploading the file from the hard drive. This time, using the “file upload” method, the page passed with no further modifications as shown by the following screen shot:



## Cross Browser Compatibility:

The web site was checked across four different browsers as shown in the following screen shots:

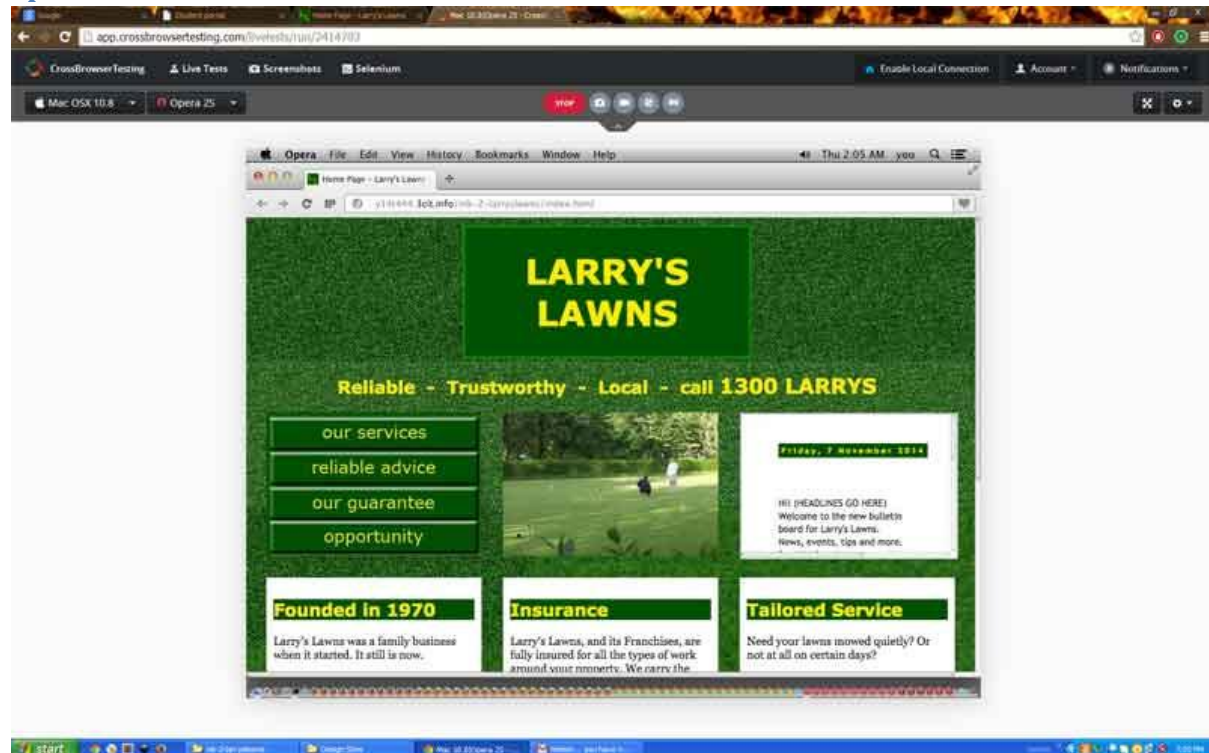
### Chrome:



## Internet Explorer 9:

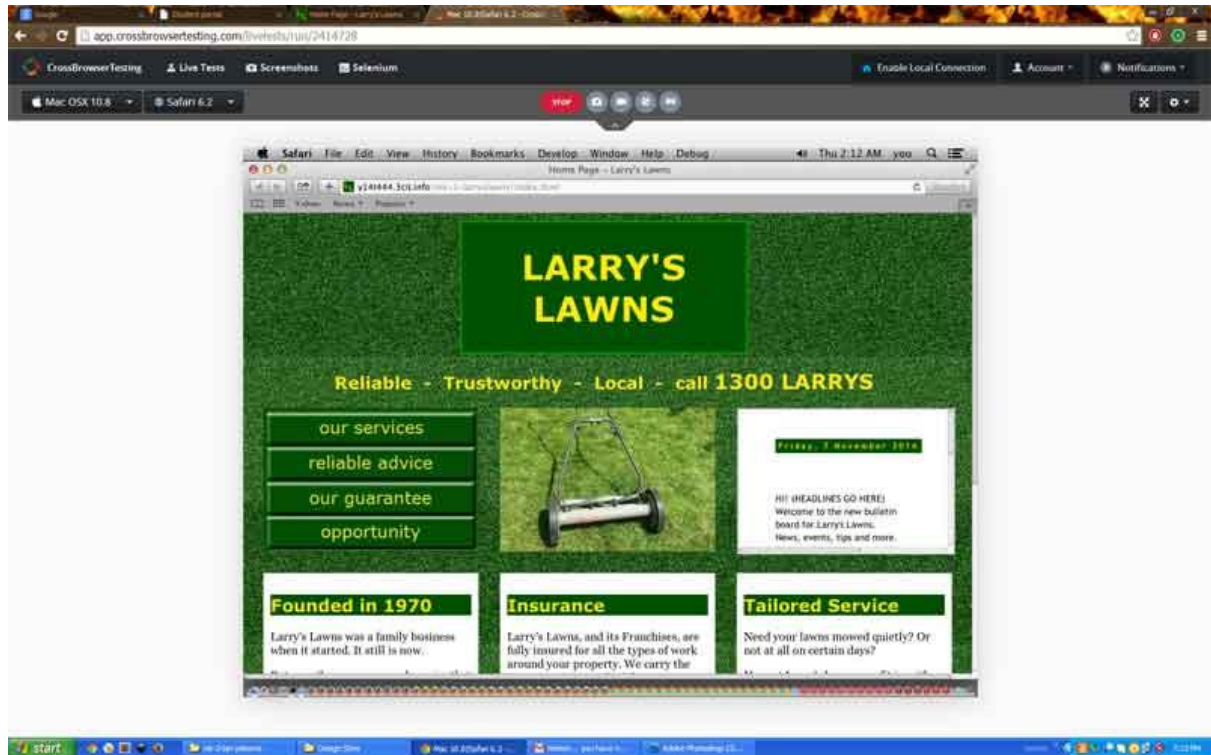


## Opera:



The Opera test was done on the [crossbrowstesting.com](http://crossbrowstesting.com) site (free trial version). It loaded quickly and didn't seem to have any problems. All good.

## Safari



The Safari test was also carried out on the [crossbowseresting.com](http://crossbowseresting.com) site. The page loaded in Safari, but it was slow – and it jumped about in the process – seems to have trouble with a background image on the body element for some reason. The second level of background – cut grass – loaded fine and the animation ran sweet. It seems the background image on the body element could be a problem, which is strange. But a quick Google reveals that Safari has a problem with background images on the body tag – thinks they are “fixed” and won’t support them. The usual workaround is to put the background image as the background of another div covering the whole page. Apparently that fixes it. I would be doing that before the site went live.

Other than that, as can be seen from the above screen shot, the site did settle down and was functional. But I would fix the Safari glitch just in case someone uses an iPhone.

### IE-7 (yes 7):

Just for fun I’ve thrown in an extra one –yes! It’s IE-7 – the world’s oldest living browser. (Only just living!) I’ve got a copy on my old banger at home. Every time I open it up I get an invitation to upgrade to the dizzy heights of IE-8, but NO WAY! My ambition is to have the last copy of IE-7 in the known universe.

Anyway, the good news is that the site is actually functional – even in IE-7!

There are a few quirks, however.

The drop down boxes on the left of the page, for example, actually still work, but they are very slow. By the time they drop you’ve forgotten why you clicked the button – literally. Then, when you click to slide it back up again, it takes so long that you’ve lost interest again.

Naturally the slider doesn't work and neither does the HTML audio tag. Such things weren't invented when IE-7 came out....IE-7 came out in 2006, btw, and was the first major revision of IE since 2001 (read all about it at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_Explorer\\_7](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Explorer_7) ).

If anything, the surprising thing was the number of features that *did* work! For example, even the "anythingzoomer" jquery plug-in worked, magnifying the small print in the Insurance text box.

On the other hand, it is interesting that the only bit of code IE-7 couldn't understand at all, that affected the appearance of the page, was the complicated instruction: "text-align:center;"

You'd think this was around, even in 2006. But, as you can see from the screenshot below, it was beyond the ken of IE-7. Go figure.



The CSS applied to the <h2> text in the header tag was, btw:

```
header > h2 {  
    text-align: center;  
}
```

Did they have contextual selectors in 2006? Or <header> tags? Guess not.



## Accessibility – Screen Checkers:

The report required by Task 4 contains an instruction to test the site in or for a screen reader. Turns out that's not as easy as it sounds. They don't have a specific "screen reader testing" page or service comparable with the WebAim contrast testing sites for the only partially blind, for example. An extensive search has revealed the following on the topic:

1. The way they expect you to test a site for screen readers is to download the screen reading program, install it, learn how to use it, pretend to be blind and actually use the program to view/hear your site. And, btw, they say the screen readers are horribly hard to learn and use – relying on keyboard shortcuts all over the place. To read further on this see the following web site: <http://webstandardssherpa.com/ask-the-sherpas/testing-on-screen-readers>  
Here they point out that JAWS, one of the more popular screen readers, costs \$1,000 to buy. You can get a trial version, but it is likely to expire before you learn how to use it.
2. The other problem with this type of testing is that there are a number of different brands of screen reader and, like browsers, they are all different. Testing your page/site on one brand means diddley squat if somebody is using one of the others. The differences are enough for WebAim to state: *"We wouldn't want developers to design specifically for one brand of screen reader, for example, if doing so would make the content unfriendly to users of other brands of screen readers."* (see [http://webaim.org/articles/screenreader\\_testing/](http://webaim.org/articles/screenreader_testing/) )
3. There are also plug-ins for at least IE and Firefox Developer Tools that claim to help test for screen reader accessibility. They don't, however. After going through a nightmarish process or removing images and disabling CSS, all they do is display the remaining text as a screen reader might see it and leave it up to you to decide if that's good enough. (see <http://www.iheni.com/quick-tip-testing-web-content-for-screen-readers-without-a-screen-reader/> )
4. The problem with the current process of testing the screen readers by using them is, as the WebAim page previously cited in (2) above states: *"If you don't know how to use a screen reader, testing with a screen reader can be frustrating and counterproductive. In fact, you could mistakenly think that nearly everything you've created is inaccessible, when the real problem may be that you just don't know how to use a screen reader properly."* In answer to the question of whether you should always test web sites on screen readers they say *"Perhaps. If you know how to use a screen reader..."*
5. So, in conclusion, blind people should be able to access the internet. It is never going to be as easy for them as for a sighted person, but they should be given a fair go. No question. If I were a blind person, however, I would be spewing that nobody is providing a service where people like me can just paste in a URL and have it read back to see if it works. It can't be that hard. And the companies that are producing the \$1,000 a time JAWS, for example, should be out there making sure that people can use their product, but it seems they aren't. They are apparently just happy to sit back and collect the grand a time that governments and charities are no doubt forking out under the illusion they are helping the blind. That stinks. They should be providing a service so that ordinary web developers can easily test content for blind consumers. They don't. Bad on JAWS.
6. The good news is, however, that to the extent that it can be tested without actually running it through a screen reader, AChecker already tests for compliance with the following WCAG2 guidelines:

- a) Text alternatives are provided for all non-text content
- b) Alternatives are provided for all time based media (video and audio)
- c) Content can be presented in different ways (for example simpler layout) without losing information or structure.
- d) All functionality can be accessed by a keyboard
- e) Link text is meaningful
- f) Headings and labels are arranged logically
- g) Lang codes are used and valid
- h) Web pages appear and operate in predictable ways
- i) Navigation is consistent
- j) etc etc etc

These are all the things that make it better or worse for a screen reader to operate in general. So, it would seem, AChecker is doing a better job of looking after the blind people than the people making money out of them, like JAWS. And, as far as it is possible to check a web site without pretending to be blind, job done (see the positive AChecker report above). AChecker to the rescue!

### Cross Device Checking:

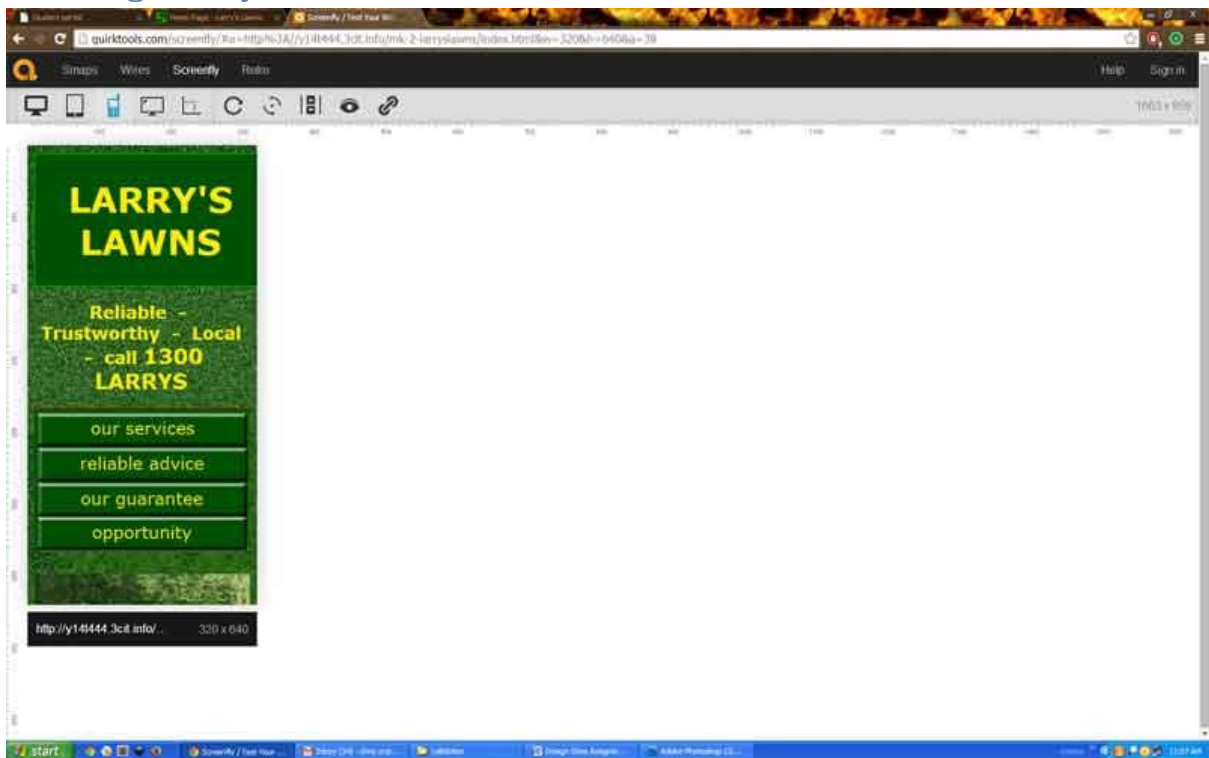
The Task also requires the site to be checked on two devices. The first check was carried out for the iPad. The test was carried out on the <http://ipadpeek.com/> device simulation site. The result was as follows:

#### iPad



Literally everything worked in this test – the dropdowns functioned perfectly, the slider worked, the jQuery anythingZoomer worked and the background sound played. Yay!

## Samsung Galaxy Phone:



The next test was carried out for the Samsung Galaxy phone on the screenfly device simulator (<http://quirktools.com/screenfly/>). As can be seen on the screenshot above, the elements of the page stack as expected on the smaller screen size. And, as far as could be determined from the screen sample, everything seemed to still work.

I think that's the lot covered now. If I've missed something, please let me know...and all that.

Anyway, if you've read this far, thanks for all your help this year – and have a good Christmas!

Cheers,

chris

**The End**