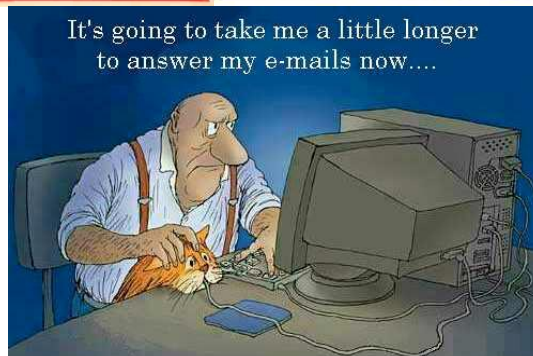


“Member of the Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Inc”

NEWSLETTER No. 33

June 2007



(I wonder if this chap has similar feelings re the computer as the beauty queen above!!)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE ISSUE

Greetings again to all our members,

Another Financial Year has come to an end meaning another Annual General Meeting - our 8th - is about to take place.



The Formal Notice is within this Newsletter and I am delighted to be able to tell you that, even at this early stage, we have had new names nominated for the Committee. This is encouraging news for our Club and if you are interested in assisting in this way contact the Secretary and obtain a nomination form.

I also encourage you to put the AGM date in your diary and endeavor to attend if you can. It is an easy date to remember being American Independence Day, Wednesday the 4th of July 2007. What's more, we will be having not one but two guest speakers. As we ask within the Notice, please let us know for catering purposes, either by email or phone, if you intend to come.

Since our last Newsletter, not only at the front but behind the scenes, the TWDTW (**Those Who Do The Work**) people have been exceptionally busy, particularly over the last couple of months. We have all the usual ongoing tasks of tutoring, ensuring our technology is working, Website/Blogsite updating, organising the students, tutors and classes, producing manuals and CD's, updating, writing and testing new Courses, producing this Newsletter, organising subscriptions, plus carrying out the myriad of tasks required to cope with over 500 members and 100 students a week.

In addition to these everyday tasks the TWDTW have had to organise the SeniorNet Wellington Regional Meeting, our upcoming AGM and with the demise of our Telecom sponsorship we had to have a re-arrangement of our communications.

The Regional Meeting was the first under the new Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies banner. Look for our special report further on.

With regard to the Federation, it will be holding its (inaugural) AGM on the 20 June 2007 and we will be having a special report on that at our AGM. A Federation update is also included in this Newsletter

So it has certainly been all go for your Committee and TWDTW.

As a final reminder, Subscriptions were recently posted. If you haven't paid as yet your prompt response would be appreciated. If not, this will probably be the last Newsletter you will receive.

I hope to see many of you at our AGM on the 4th of July 2007.

With best wishes and good computing,

Wayne Meredith

LIKE CHURCHILL HE FAILED HIS EXAMS

A young man decided to apply directly to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. He was required to take an entrance examination. **He did not pass.** Unfortunately he was only very, very good in a couple of subjects. He would **not** have been a good candidate for the old N Z School Certificate – but a prime candidate for NCEA which individualises abilities. Who was that young man ? See the answer later in this Newsletter.

Forwardslash / or Backslash \

When typing internet URLs or folder names, do you get confused by the slash and backslash? Forward slash is "/", and backslash is "\". The name tells you in which direction the top of the slash points.

And there is a logical explanation why one way or the other -

- Forward slashes tell your computer you're looking for something **external** to your system, like web pages.
- Backslashes tell your computer you're looking for something **internal** inside your system, like a drive or a file.

WHEN CHEESE HAS ITS PHOTO TAKEN WHAT DOES IT SAY

A BRITISH JUDGE ASKS "WHAT IS A WEB SITE"???



A recent article by Technology commentator Bruce Simpson (www.aardvark.co.nz) brought to our attention the following story. To quote Bruce -

“ One thing that might surprise you is just how many people there are who have no idea what the Net is, despite being middle to upper-income people living in developed western nations.

Believe it or not, a 59-year-old British Crown Court judge seems unaware of even the most basic internet terminology and didn't know what a web site was.

Now that may have been unimportant if he was hearing traffic cases, but he was actually presiding over a case which involved alleged incitement to commit acts of terrorism using the Net as a tool.

I suspect, or at least I really hope, that Judge Openshaw's lack of Net knowledge is a rare anomaly and that it doesn't reflect a wider ignorance within the UK judiciary.

But what about the 55-plus generation in general?

They were brought up and educated in a time when computers were just big boxes with lots of flashing lights and spinning reels of tape.

The only time they ever saw a computer was in a sci-fi movie or on TV, is it any wonder that some may be rather ignorant of this technology?

*While there are excellent groups such as **SeniorNet** who are doing a great job of educating over-55's, I somehow think that there are still a whole lot of people (many who are otherwise well-educated) that just aren't net-savvy at all.*

I wonder just how many of our politicians are truly Net-savvy? “ - unquote

It does seem amazing - but we liked the link to SeniorNet and of course the age criteria is now 50. From a show of hands at the Regional Meeting most Learning Centres have moved to age 50.

.....
IF A PIG LOSES ITS VOICE, IS IT DISGRUNTLED

THREE WAYS TO HELP OUR HARD WORKING VOLUNTEERS

(1)

PHONES ☎ PHONES ☎ PHONES



PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CELLPHONE IS TURNED OFF DURING YOUR CLASS.

WE PAY 4 CENTS PER MINUTE FOR EVERY PHONE CALL

As you know we have lost our Telecom sponsorship. We have applied to get a 10% discount on our phone bill but even if approved it will not apply to our six Mail Boxes needed for the Internet and Email Course nor to our Broadband connection.

Plus we must now pay 4 cents per minute for every local call.



So we ask that you only make a phone call in an emergency.

(2)

**THESE ---- NOT THIS**

PLEASE pay by cheque and please do not ask our volunteers manning the office to accept cash. We don't hold any change, we do not have the facilities to hold cash and it is just too great a security risk for us to do so.

(3)

**Please register for a class as soon as possible.
3 Easy things to remember --THANK YOU**



BOOK REVIEW

Microsoft Office Made Easy: A New Zealand User's Guide (2005)
Andrew Dixon (207 pp Random House NZ) \$24.99.

This is a useful reference paperback for those who have taken the relevant SeniorNet courses. The author writes a PC column for an Auckland newspaper and has published two previous books of collections of his columns. The book has a very well organised and detailed table of contents which is organised in a rather similar way to our courses (i.e. Beginning Word, Excel and PowerPoint and then Advancing Word, Excel and PowerPoint). There is a final chapter on Outlook.

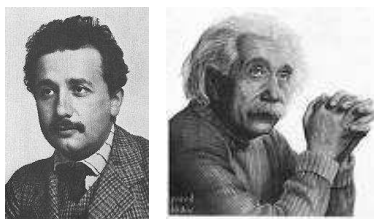
Printed on rather rough paper, my only major criticism is the use of two columns per page which makes for disjointed reading. However this is counteracted by the inclusion of many small pictures of parts of the computer screen showing just what is happening at each stage. The explanations are clear and logically structured so it is easy to find out what you want. I have only found one step omission on page 60.

Overall a good, and cheap buy, and a great book to have beside your computer.



Richard Sadleir

(Answer to: LIKE CHURCHILL HE FAILED HIS EXAMS)



Albert Einstein the Person of the 20th Century.

FROM THE REGIONAL MEETING

(More photos are on our blog)



The Representatives of the 7 clubs - do you recognise our Fabulous Five!!

To give you some help look at the distinguished group below.



Louisa, Jaye, Wayne, Brian, Geoff and Grant Sidaway (Federation Executive Officer)

TelstraClear DISCOUNTS FOR CLUB MEMBERS



a) TELEPHONE LINES

Members who live in the "TelstraClear InHome" areas
(Christchurch Wellington, Kapiti)

1 month's free line rental when they join.

Members who live in all other areas of New Zealand
240 Free National Minutes to use within 2 Months

b) BROADBAND

Where TelstraClear have their own network
(Christchurch, Wellington, Kapiti)

The first month broadband free to SeniorNet Federation members.

Outside of the TelstraClear network (the rest of NZ) the offer which expired on 15 April would be retained for SeniorNet members. For example, the present offer is a \$99 connection credit – normally the offer is a \$49 connection credit. In addition SeniorNet members will receive 2 months FREE usage (up to 10GB per month).

TelstraClear will also extend the free modem offer to SeniorNet members - not just those who sign up online.

c) DIAL-UP INTERNET

Unlimited dial-up access to anyone who has their line rental and calling with TelstraClear for \$3.95 per month (*only available outside of the TelstraClear network i.e most of NZ*). This is normally \$16.95. There is a 12 month contract with this - however if you upgrade to broadband with TelstraClear during the 12 months there is no penalty charge.

For customers within the TelstraClear Network areas the standard pricing applies but the **first month is free**.

CONTACT DETAILS

email: acquisitionretention@team.telstraclear.co.nz

or Toll Free: 0508 011 737

Please ensure you identify yourself as a SeniorNet Member.

(Note - due to the nature of the market, pricing is subject to change very rapidly. TelstraClear will endeavour to ensure that SeniorNet members are always receiving a special offer)

SeniorNet Federation Reward Programme Disclosure - TelstraClear will pay the Federation a monthly commission based on 3% of registered SeniorNet members total monthly spend with TelstraClear, for a fixed period of two years. **This also includes members of SeniorNet who are already TelstraClear customers.** This payment should not influence your decision. But we ask if you are on TelstraClear (Paradise) why not make contact.

**SENIORNET HUTT CITY INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 4th JULY 2007 AT 2.00PM

**To be held at the Avalon Pavilion, Avalon Park,
Taita Drive, Lower Hutt.**

BUSINESS:

- 1 To receive the Society's Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2007.
- 2 Elect the Officers and Executive Committee for the year 2007-2008 as follows:
 - (a) Chairman: Deputy Chairman: Secretary: and Treasurer*
 - (b) Between four (4) and eight (8) Committee members*
- 3 Setting of Annual Subscription for the year 2008-2009.
- 4 To appoint Auditors
- 5 To consider any Motion which may have been submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration.

(Please note that in terms of the Constitution; any such Motion is to be in the hands of the Secretary no later than 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting).

Any financial member may be nominated for the Committee.

Nomination forms may be obtained from: The Secretary, P O Box 44-234, Lower Hutt, or phone 560 3160 – Please leave a message if necessary.

Nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

***Please note that all members of the current committee are available for re-election.**

OUR SPEAKERS AT THE AGM WILL BE

TYRONE COUPLAND
" BLOGGING "

(Our 'Blogging for Seniors" Course is now open for enrolments or you will be able to enrol at the meeting, but remember first in first served. Full details are on our blog at www.seniornethuttcity.blogspot.com)

BRIAN NELSON
" THE FEDERATION "

(Brian is our Federation Wellington Regional Representative and will give us an update following the AGM of the Federation which will be held on June 20th 2007)

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, YOUR COMMITTEE CORDIALLY INVITES MEMBERS TO JOIN THEM FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.

WE WOULD BE PLEASED FOR YOU TO JOIN US AND SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY MATTERS YOU WISH TO DISCUSS WHILE YOU MIX AND MINGLE WITH THE COMMITTEE AND ITS SUPPORT TEAM, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DO SO.

RSVP - By email to snet-huttcity@xtra.co.nz or phone the Secretary 589.1556 by the 25th June 2007 to enable catering to be arranged.

WEDNESDAY 4 JULY 2007

WHY NOT PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY TODAY !!

(IT IS AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY
SO IT SHOULD BE EASY TO REMEMBER)



FEDERATION SeniorNet UPDATE

The interim Management Committee of the Federation held a teleconference on the 1st May fully sponsored by TelstraClear (saving \$500 to \$700). Major points from this meeting were –

- The Federation Charter has been approved by the Hon. Michael Cullen.
- 76 Learning Centres (83%) are now affiliated to the Federation.
- The AGM will be on 20 June in Wellington. (Some of your Committee will be attending and indications from our Regional Meeting are that Brian Nelson (Waikanae/Otaki) will be elected unopposed as our representative)
- A proposal to obtain lower Insurance premiums has been sent to the Federation member Learning Centres. (Hutt City will accept the offer but it is subject to at least 50 Clubs taking up the proposal).
- A discount communications proposal has been received from TelstraClear (Read all about the offer on page 7 of this Newsletter).
- Grant Sidaway is now under contract to the Federation with the title of Executive Officer.

FEDERATION WELLINGTON REGIONAL MEETING

On the 18 May Hutt City was delighted to host around 40 people representing the seven Wellington Region Learning Centres of Kapiti, Horowhenua, Porirua, Upper Hutt, Waikanae/Otaki, Wairarapa and ourselves. The meeting was also attended by the Federation Executive Officer Grant Sidaway and our Regional Representative Brian Nelson.

In the morning session each Learning Centre gave a brief outline of their current position (positives/negatives, membership, courses, technology, etc) then Grant spoke about Federation matters. There was a lot to explain and cover and numerous questions and much discussion ensued.

After lunch a general forum discussed broader matters ranging from use of laptops, establishing a system to utilise Courses, premises and costs, discounts, shaping our position for the Federation AGM and many other matters. A very positive move was to arrange a Regional Tutors workshop which Porirua have agreed to host. On the downside, it was disappointing to learn that SeniorNet now has about 95 active Centres and particularly sad that one, with a 100 members, closed due to lack of people willing to volunteer.

Wairarapa have agreed to host the next meeting and it is hoped that a system of 6 monthly (May/November) meetings can be established.

In any undertaking like this there is such a lot of preparation and work to be done. Therefore, our thanks must go to all the wonderful people who worked so enthusiastically and so hard before, on and after the day. They ensured it all went without a hitch.

All in all a very constructive, interesting and informative meeting that was enjoyed by all attending.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER) FOR THEIR HELP IN ORGANISING AND ASSISTING AT THE REGIONAL MEETING GO TO RAEWYN, DAVID, LOUISA, JOAN & JOAN, STEWART, TREVOR, ALEC, LOUISA, CAROLINE, WAYNE, JAYE, GEOFF, BRIAN, AND CHRISTINE.



WHAT ARE WE
A CLUB <> A LEARNING CENTRE <> A SOCIETY

There was discussion at the Regional Meeting as to what we should call ourselves. Eventually it was decided that formally we should be known as a Society but informally as a Learning Centre. It was felt we were primarily a learning organisation not a social club.

TUTOR REPORT FROM *Barbara Macdonald*

This will be a very short report as the term has only been going for a couple of weeks, but as always, the tutors are right into it and all appears to be running smoothly.

There is often a shortage of tutors during the winter months as so many people take off to warmer parts (though winter appears to be passing us by so far) so **I'd really love to hear from anyone who'd like to have a go at tutoring**. You certainly don't have to be an expert – most of us have started as students ourselves, and we learn more every time we go through the course.

Because this report is earlier than I was expecting I shan't list all the tutors at this stage but we are grateful to you all. Have a good term.

NEW MEMBERS - We give a huge SeniorNet Hutt City Welcome to new members who are receiving this Newsletter for the first time. Please make sure you read the Members Information pages.



HAPPY COMPUTING TO YOU ALL AND REMEMBER- THERE ARE NO DUMB QUESTIONS – never, ever !

**GREY POWER HUTT CITY**

Actively supports the concerns of Senior Citizens to Government - Superannuation, Health, Power prices, Rates, etc.

We have a Discount Book, hold monthly meetings with interesting guest speakers and issue bi-monthly newsletters. **For further information - Ph: 939- 4739.**

PREMISES

We have made some progress with the tea facilities. The landlord has, after our representations, had a water cooler installed. This will be filled on a regular basis by the supply company to enable us to have access to fresh water. The landlord will be meeting the cost. Therefore the need for tutors to have to bring water has ended.

**NEW COURSE – Blogging for Seniors**

2 Weeks - \$20-00

A new Course has been written called “Blogging for Seniors”. With blogging being probably the fastest growing activity on the Internet we know members will find it a very easy and enjoyable Course. You will soon have your own blog up and running in no time at all. Our Course uses Blogger (a Google owned company) as its host. In addition to the word processing and internet skills you learnt at our previous Courses you must have two things before you attend the Course.

- an existing email address to use as a log in
- a name for your blog and 2-3 alternatives in case your original is taken

For the email address we recommend you open a Gmail or Yahoo account. As a name something simple, short and snappy – easy to type – maybe a good pun – is suggested.

We are taking names now so email us with your details with “Blogging Course” in the subject line and we will get back to you. It is likely that it will be next term before we are in a position to start running Courses.

**Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites ?
Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?**

Have you diarised and let us know you will be coming to the AGM

CURRENT COURSES

COURSE	WEEKS	COST
Introduction to Computers	4	\$15
Word Processing - Level 1	8	\$55
Word Processing - Level 2	8	\$50
Word Processing - Level 3	8	\$50
Email & Internet (4 weeks each)	8	\$50
Spreadsheets - Excel	8	\$50
Basics of Scanning	4	\$30
File and Folder Management	3	\$10
Genealogical Records	4	\$20
Photo & Image Editing – Level 1	4	\$30
Photo & Image Editing – Level 2	4	\$20
Zip/Unzip Files	1	\$5
Introduction to CD Burning (Using XP and Nero)	3	\$20
Card Making (Using Word, Picture It & Publisher)	1	\$10
Power Point	4	\$20
Trade Me	2	\$20
Blogging for Seniors	2	\$20
Extra Mural – Digital Photography (Contact Jeanette Gregor)	4	973.0507

All those who take the Introduction to Computers course get a \$15 discount for the Word Processing – Level 1 Course. (within two terms). Other courses and Mini Courses are available from time to time. Members will be advised when they are available.

MINICOURSE -- Music & the Internet

We recently sent out an email asking for members to apply for this new MiniCourse. Due to their only being 24 hours in a day (!!) the Tutor will probably not now be able to run this until part way through next term. You will be contacted when some dates have been determined.

MEMBERS PLEASE READ <><><>> CLASS PLACEMENTS

We have again been looking at the enrolment and class placement system. We continue to have problems due to last minute registrations which is placing too much pressure and work on our volunteers. The rules are that all members should be enrolled a month prior to a class but in an endeavour to be accommodating we have been stretching the cut-off closer and closer to the first week. This flexibility will be limited as from next term to:-

- Class placements MAY be accepted up until Wednesday a week prior to the class if agreed with the Student Co-ordinator.
- Payment must be delivered to the Centre at an agreed time & date.
- Payment can, of course, only be made by cheque.
- Placements for the second half of the term MAY be taken until the Wednesday of Week 3 of the term. Payment rules as above.

HOW DO YOU REALLY LEARN - TEACH**MEMBER INFORMATION PAGES****EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND HOUSE RULES****IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 111****Do NOT Dial 1 To Get An Outside Line**

Tutors have been briefed about EVACUATION PROCEDURES but if you attend the Centre for any reason, please ensure you read the instructions on the Notice Boards. A FIRST AID kit and book are at the end of the foyer (steel grey cabinets are to your left). An Accident Incident book is attached to the First Aid kit box. Following an accident this book must be completed – this is a legal requirement. A FIRE EXTINGUISHER is straight ahead as you enter. WATER is stored in the foyer. When exiting in an emergency DO NOT PANIC and DO NOT USE THE LIFT.

UNAUTHORISED USE OF OUR MANUALS

We ask members to please appreciate that all SeniorNet Manuals are for their own personal use only. They are Copyright and must not be loaned, copied or allowed to be used by anyone who is not a member of SeniorNet Hutt City and has taken the appropriate Course. All our Manuals have been produced for free thanks to a great deal of time and effort by various volunteers. If you have a friend who would like to learn computing – please don't lend them your Manual. Get them to join SeniorNet. They will have fun learning and be entitled to a Manual and CD of their own.

TELEPHONE USAGE

SeniorNet Hutt City has to meet all its communications costs and is classified as a business. This means, amongst other charges, we have to pay 4 cents per minute for every local call. Of course, toll calls are additional.

Therefore we would appreciate it if personal calls could only be made in an emergency.

ALSO WE ASK YOU TO TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES WHEN YOU ATTEND A CLASS

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Do we have your current / new address or phone number? **Email:** If you haven't received an email since the last Newsletter, please email us your details.

PAYMENTS BY CHEQUE ONLY**NO CASH**

All payments to SeniorNet Hutt City Inc must be **by cheque – NO CASH please**

UNABLE TO ATTEND A CLASS?

Being a volunteer organisation the telephone at the Centre is not usually attended. Therefore, if you are unable to attend a class, in the first instance please advise your tutor as soon as possible. However, if you are unable to contact them, then try the Centre or call the Secretary. It may be possible for you to have a 'catchup' lesson if a Tutor is available. Ask your Tutor about this, or contact the Secretary, 589 1556.

**PHONE AND OTHER MESSAGES,
COURSE APPLICATIONS ETC**

As we said our office is not usually staffed during the day so we would prefer phone calls to be made before 8.30am and after 4.30pm and for you to leave a message on the answerphone. This is to avoid interrupting Tutors and other volunteers during class hours. You can leave items at the office in the red box on the desk outside Room 2. If we are closed, put it in an envelope and slip it under the door. **Remember no cash please.**

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are always looking for new Assistant Tutors. If you are interested in helping others as they have helped you please complete the form in your manual and put it in the red box outside Room 2 - or just tell your tutors. Alternatively, you can phone our Tutor Co-ordinator Barbara Macdonald on 589 2042 or email us. Additionally we are also always on the look out for more Administrative people. Interested?? – see our Secretary, Louisa, or phone her on 589 1556.

**REPEAT YOUR COURSE
FOR HALF PRICE**

Members can repeat a course for half price if it is undertaken within the next 2 terms, using the previously issued disk/manual. The usual Application Form needs to be marked "Repeat Course". A minimum fee of \$10 applies.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

If you have any items to be considered for the Newsletter please email us or put them in the red box outside Room 2.

**TUTORS – DISCOUNT AND OTHER
INFORMATION**

DISCOUNTS - Those who have tutored in the past 24 months receive a 50% discount for standard courses. Mini Courses are free to those who have tutored in the past 12 months.

INFORMATION – Tutors please always read the Notice Board or whiteboards for handouts, updates, information etc.

WAIVER

From time to time some of our members voluntarily give help and advice to other members on matters relating to computers, associated equipment and software. This help or advice is taken at the recipient's risk and imposes no responsibility or liability of any kind either on those providing such help or advice or on SeniorNet Hutt City Inc. This includes information contained in this Newsletter and programs provided on the Club Data CD. Courses are Copyright to their respective copyright holders as noted. All SeniorNet Hutt City produced Courses are copyright to the Club and not to the individual authors.

**FEDERATION OF NEW ZEALAND
SENIORNET SOCIETIES INC**

We are a member of this Federation, along with most SeniorNets throughout the country. This association enables us to benefit from the combined strength of member Clubs including ability to access Tertiary Education Commission funding, access to discounts etc

