

AUGUST 2017

Established in 1996 especially for Pakuranga, Howick and Botany residents

Telephone 09 576 4500

SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc

PO Box 82-306 Highland Park, Auckland 2143



This issue:

- ◆ Next meeting
- ◆ August Help days
- ◆ New members
- ◆ **Chairman's Report**
- ◆ Notes on July meeting
- ◆ Your Committee
- ◆ Comments, queries, ads, etc.
- ◆ August/September Classes
- ◆ How to join a course
- ◆ Upcoming courses

Our next Meeting,
Friday 4th AUGUST

at 10.00am

St Andrews Church Centre
Corner Ridge Rd and Vincent St
The main entrance is in Vincent Street
with parking in the grounds and
disabled parking near the basement
entrance.

Visitors welcome

The early speaker will be Brian Erikson telling us about his investigation into electric cars—***"The Spark of Plug-in Electric Cars"***

Our main speakers will be Year 12 **Pakuranga College students** who are technology enthusiasts. The title of their presentation is –

"The Robots are Coming"

These students, program, make robots, make websites, and spend every day immersed in technology. In their presentation they will share their experiences and their hopes and fears for the future of technology.



**August
HELP
DAYS**

| | | |
|-----------|------|--------|
| 01 August | Tues | 10am |
| 09 August | Wed | 10am |
| 21 August | Mon | 10am |
| 29 August | Tues | 1.00pm |

We are trying to vary the times and days to help you.



© SMSnShayari.com

NEW MEMBERS

**Kathryn McGill
Brendan Vallings
Kurt Warn
John Holt**

Stop trying to make everybody happy— you're not Tequila



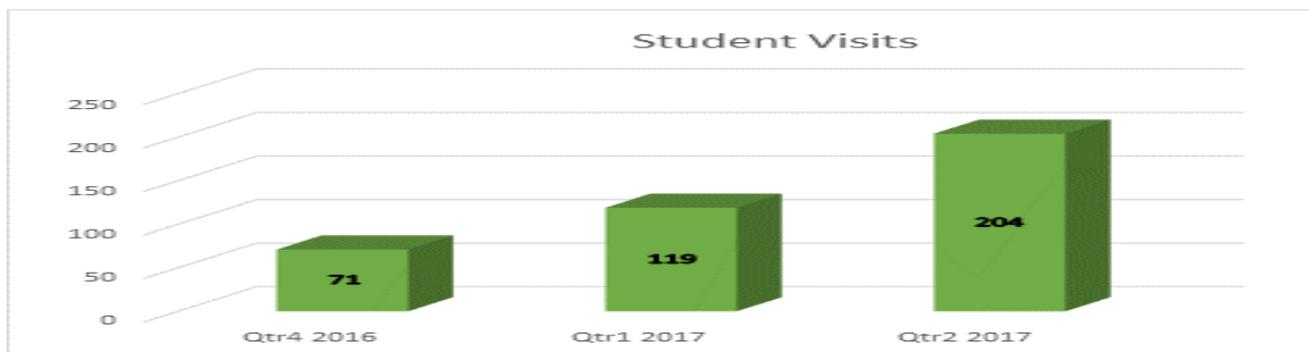
This month I have been considering our *SWAT*. Those of you who have been in business will recognise this as *Strengths-Weaknesses- Advantages and Threats*. And this is what the SeniorNet Federation has been doing to help identify its way forward.

At our local level, our strengths are our members, but we need to increase numbers to keep membership fees low but run our functions financially securely. To this end we distribute information booklets in various public gathering places, we promote our meetings via “*What’s On*” in local papers and we run open days. Direct advertising can cost more than the members it attracts although used discreetly it can work. BUT the best recruiting is your own recommendations to people you meet.

Our advantages are that we are a Charity and can benefit from charity donations from the various foundations including Microsoft’s Charity Software programme. Examples of this have been the heat pump in the Learning Centre, the PC monitors, the recent Smart TV and over our 21 years about \$30,000 retail value of Microsoft products. Another advantage we have is the monthly meeting to keep members in touch with each other and to present a range of topics.

The threats we face are primarily keeping up with technology trends but also that our tutors and assistants are voluntary and need to be in tune with these changes. This applies to keeping *Help Days* relevant as well. We have a list of about 30 topics in the form of short “over the tea cups” type sessions we would like to run to branch out from our syllabus of full 2 hour and multi day courses.

Our major weakness at present is while facing these threats and having successfully promoted the current training courses by reminder emails, we would overload our current roster of tutors if new topics were introduced. We want to encourage more members to lead or help in these short sessions and spread the load. The chart below shows the increase in members’ course attendance from 4th quarter 2016 to the 2nd quarter 2017, nearly a 3-fold increase.



So this is my appeal to you. If you feel some ability to contribute and would like to get an idea of what is involved in leading a short course please contact Graeme, Jim or myself and look over the topics we have in mind. You are encouraged to pick one that appeals to you and we should be able to pair you up with someone else with a like interest so that you are not alone. Actually I think you will surprise yourself with your talents. The numbers to enrol in these sessions can be limited to help with breaking the ice. I’ve found that even with Smartphone beginners workshops most members attending can offer some input to each other on how to do stuff.

As an attraction to volunteering in training role we can provide significant pricing advantage in keeping your Microsoft software up to date. Another gain you get from leading a session is that *you* learn more.

continued ...

Chairman's Report continued

We have taken heed of what other SeniorNets do. One feature we have not tried before is promoting "user groups". The concept is that a group would meet regularly, decide how it would run and then at the regular times, all or some of the group would contribute to developing group interest and understanding of topics covered by the group. Examples might be Genealogy, Digital Photography, using Publisher for club newsletters or running a website. If you have ideas that come to mind please give me an Email.

So back to the beginning – we will promote membership and run open days which increase the call on the learning centre- but learning is primarily what we are set up to do and where a large part of our effort goes. We do however, need you as a volunteer to succeed.

Notes from July Meeting

Dawn Howarth

Brian opened the meeting advising of hackers and a scam that had occurred and warning all to be very wary of anything you think is slightly suspicious. Don't ever send money to any request and don't click on any attachments to any suspicious email.

Brian also welcomed quite a few visitors and 2 new members. He also thanked Ces Jacobsen for his sterling efforts over the years as Asst Treasurer. Ces and his wife are moving to Tauranga and a new life in a lovely new home down there. Merv Coward will take over from Ces and also continue his role in finding speakers for our monthly meetings.



Ces, Kevin (Treasurer) and Merv

Dick Harris successfully demonstrated our wonderful new website. He also highlighted the 3 easy steps to book onto a course. *When you receive the advertising email, check your diary, if the date is free click on 'Make a Booking', then click on Send.* That's it, you will be booked on the course. You will receive an email within a day or two confirming your booking and you can pay at the Learning Centre on the first day of the course.

Brian told us about a free app that is now available for Android 5 phones – a Google Photo Scanner. This will enable you to digitize old photos simply. At that price it is worth trying and could also ensure old photos are protected by having a second computerised backup copy.

Alison Ani Emmett won the lucky flashdrive draw this month. Congratulations to you Alison.

Brian welcomed **Vikas Vij Technical Solutions Manager at Noel Leeming**, who spoke about new technology that is available and both the in-store and at home learning that is now provided by Noel Leeming.

Power Bank is a rechargeable portable power pack available in different sizes costing from \$39 to \$200 each. This allows you to recharge your phone from 2 to 5 times, anywhere at any time so you no longer have to worry about the battery running out. The largest of these Power Banks however cannot be taken onto aircraft but are fine for use in cars, buses, etc. Vikas also said you can save battery power by reducing the brightness of the screen, turning off apps you don't require all the time like Bluetooth.

Smart TV – With a Smart TV you can stream content, mirror your devices, download movies, TV, music, watch YouTube. You can also download apps onto your TV. The price of Smart TVs depends on size, clarity, sound quality. Sizes range from 32" to huge and you can expect pay from \$2000 upward and should last at least 5 years. You can also make your current TV into a Smart TV with the Apple TV installation, a Google Chromecast plug-in device or an HDMI cable from your computer. Vikas recommended you check various retailers for the same model TV and compare prices. Noel Leeming gives you FlyBuy points and SeniorNet discounts.

Window 10 – Vikas discussed popular features incorporated into Windows 10 including the Start menu and the Settings screen. You can now receive all your email addresses at the same time without having to change screens and websites. You can easily transfer photos from smart phones to computers. You can go to the Windows Store to download apps, most of which are free.

Noel Leeming now have a Learning Plus card which you can purchase for \$99 to receive 4 one-hour sessions of learning and you can telephone with questions at any time. You can also pay \$99 for an hour set up and instruction in the shop when you purchase an item from Noel Leeming or they will come to your home for a fee of \$149 per hour if you are unable to take your device into their premises.

Thanks Vikas and organisers.

Acupuncture is a job well done. That's the point of it.



Comments, Queries, Suggestions, Free Advertising

COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------|
| Chairman, Training Room | Brian Erikson | 534 4798 |
| | brian@erikson.net.nz | |
| Secretary | Jim Currie | 533 4221 |
| | jimcurrie@live.com | |
| Treasurer | Kevin Browne | 534 4499 |
| | kjbrowne@xtra.co.nz | |
| Asst Treasurer | Mervyn Coward | 576 8737 |
| | 4merv.c@gmail.com | |
| Membership Secretary | Robyn Carter | 534 4525 |
| | robynandtc@gmail.com | |
| Course Co-ordinator | Graeme FitzGerald | 272 9271 |
| | g.fitzg14@gmail.com | |
| Course Co-ordination Assistant | John Bate | 570 5468 |
| | john.jean@xtra.co.nz | |
| Publicity | Warren Taylor | 534 3482 |
| | alicewarrentay@gmail.com | |
| Guest Speaker Co-Ordinator | Mervyn Coward | 576 8737 |
| | 4merv.c@gmail.com | |
| Newsletter Editor | Dawn Howarth | 576 6798 |
| | dawn@orcon.net.nz | |

NEWS FLASH

PARKING AT LEARNING CENTRE

With effect from **SATURDAY 29JULY**, roadworks will be carried out on BenLomond Crescent and parked cars may be towed. Cascade Storage has given members permission to **parallel park along side the fence to the left of the gate** as you drive into their driveway. This will continue for most of August and we will notify you when this privilege ceases and we must again park on the road.

We are holding an **OPEN DAY** at the Learning Centre on Saturday 12 August from 10am to 12noon. Come to see our new layout, our new Smart TV, bring a friend and introduce them to the joys of SeniorNet Pakuranga.

WE STILL NEED HELP

If you have even a little expertise in a computer program and would like to become an Assistant Tutor, (a non-speaking role) contact Brian Erikson and discuss it with him -please. We really need help in the training centre.

We also really need help locating speakers for our meeting each month. Please talk to Merv Coward or anyone on the committee if you can recommend a speaker or help in this direction.



An Aussie Road Sign — I love it

AUGUST/SEPT Courses, Workshops, etc

| DATE | TIME | COURSE | CLASS DATES |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 Aug Tue | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 01/Aug |
| 03 Aug Thu | 10:00 AM | Taking the Plunge | 03/Aug, 10/Aug, 17/Aug |
| 04 Aug Fri | 10:00 AM | Monthly Meeting | 04 Aug |
| 07 Aug Mon | 10:00 AM | Smart Phones/Tablets (Beginners) | 07/Aug |
| 09 Aug Wed | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 09/Aug |
| 12 Aug Sat | 10-12noon | Open Day | 12 Aug Sat |
| 14 Aug Mon | 1:00 PM | Laptop Basics | 14/Aug |
| 16 Aug Wed | 9:30 AM | Email | 16/Aug, 23/Aug |
| 21 Aug Mon | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 21/Aug |
| 24 Aug Thu | 10:00 AM | Genealogy Research | 24/Aug |
| 28 Aug Mon | 10:00 AM | Power Point/Publisher Pop Up | 28/Aug |
| 28 Aug Mon | 1:00 PM | Smart Phones/Tablets (Advanced) | 28/Aug |
| 29 Aug Tue | 1:00 PM | Help Session | 29/Aug |
| 30 Aug Wed | 1:00 PM | Apple iPads & iPhones | 30/Aug |
| 31 Aug Thu | 1:00 PM | Windows 10 | 31/Aug, 07/Sep |
| 31 Aug Thu | 10:00 AM | Smart Phones/Tablets (Advanced) | 31/Aug |
| 01 Sep Fri | 10:00 AM | Monthly Meeting | 01 Sep |
| 04 Sep Mon | 9:30 AM | Word Power | 04/Sep, 11/Sep, 18/Sep |
| 04 Sep Mon | 1:00 PM | Smart Phones/Tablets (Beginners) | 04/Sep |
| 06 Sep Wed | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 06/Sep |
| 07 Sep Thu | 10:00 AM | Taking the Plunge | 07/Sep, 14/Sep, 21/Sep |
| 12 Sep Tue | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 12/Sep |
| 20 Sep Wed | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 20/Sep |
| 25 Sep Mon | 10:00 AM | Help Session | 25/Sep |
| 25 Sep Mon | 1:00 PM | Smart Phones/Tablets (Advanced) | 25/Sep |
| 27 Sep Wed | 1:00 PM | Apple iPads & iPhones | 27/Sep |
| 28 Sep Thu | 10:00 AM | CD/DVD Burning & Flashdrives | 28/Sep |
| 28 Sep Thu | 1:00 PM | Windows 10 | 28/Sep, 05/Oct |

◆ **To attend any courses respond to advertising email, or telephone or email the tutor and make a booking.**

◆ Should you wish to join a class which isn't currently in the diary, contact the tutor and discuss the scheduling of class at a future date. If you would like to learn something we don't currently teach, contact Graeme FitzGerald, Course Co-Ordinator, who will enquire about a tutor for you.

◆ *All courses cost \$5, per day. Please pay the full course fee to the tutor on the first day of your course.*

◆ Please also wear your name badge on the course (or to any SeniorNet meeting). This is a helpful and friendly courtesy to others.

◆ **Parking—see note on Page 4. From 29July parallel park along the fence line to the left of the gate.**

COURSES / WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE

Advanced Word Processing

Follows on from Word Power using Word 2007/10 and covers advanced features of Word.

3 Sessions of 2 Hours

Fee: \$15

Contact: Maureen Keys ph: 271 5553
or Email: keyism@clear.net.nz

Apple iPads & iPhones

Bring your own iPad or iPhone and learn what it can do.

1 Session of 2 Hours

Fee: \$5

Contact: Dick Harris ph: 576 9483
or Email: rharris@ihug.co.nz

CD/DVD Burning & Flashdrives

Using a free download of Nero software. Flashdrives used for storage devices.

1 Session of 2 Hours

Fee: \$5

Contact: Brian Erikson ph: 534 4798
or Email: brian@erikson.net.nz

Email

Using Microsoft Outlook, Live Mail and Google's Gmail, learn how to send and receive emails.

2 Sessions of 2 Hours

Fee: \$10

Contact: Jim Currie ph: 533 4221
or Email: jimcurrie@live.com

Genealogy - Getting Started

Come and learn how to record your family history for the next generation using RootsMagic.

2 Sessions of 2 Hours

Fee: \$10

Contact: Graeme FitzGerald ph: 272 9271
or Email: g.fitzg14@gmail.com

Genealogy Research

This course focuses on how to carry out genealogy research using the internet and local resources.

1 Session of 2 Hours

Fee: \$5

Contact: Graeme FitzGerald ph: 272 9271
or Email: g.fitzg14@gmail.com

Help Session

Bring your problems to a help session where one of your fellow SeniorNet members will help you. NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Open 2 hours

Gold coin donation welcome

Contact: Michael Empson ph: 535 8506
or Email: mempson@xtra.co.nz

Laptop Basics

What to look for when buying a Laptop or Notebook. Setting things up and introduction to Windows 10 operating system.

1 Session of 2 Hours

Fee: \$5

Contact: Jim Currie ph: 533 4221
or Email: jimcurrie@live.com

Microsoft Surface Tablets

An introduction to Windows 10 operating system with your own Surface tablet. Explore the tablet's advanced features.

1 Session of 2 Hours

Fee: \$5

Contact: Jim Currie ph: 533 4221
or Email: jimcurrie@live.com

Picasa (Digital Photography)

Learn how to transfer images from camera to computer then edit, add text, and make a slide Show and more.

2 Sessions of 2 Hours

Fee: \$10

Email: brian@erikson.net.nz
or Email: haackoinhowick@gmail.com

Continued ...

