

MARCH 2018

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



March International Women's Day

This issue:

- ◆ Next meeting
- ◆ March Help days
- ◆ New members
- ◆ **Chairman's Report**
- ◆ Notes on February meeting
- ◆ Your Committee
- ◆ Comments, queries, ads, etc.
- ◆ March/April Classes

March **HELP** DAYS

Tues	6 March	10am
Thurs	15 March	1pm
Thurs	22 March	10am
Tues	27 March	1pm

Our next Meeting,
Friday 2nd MARCH
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 – Bring a guest

An early speaker will be Bonnie Robinson from HBH who is conducting a survey entitled 'The Village Without Walls'. Bonnie would like our help with this survey.

The main speaker will be **Ted Dickens** who worked for the Farmers Trading Co. for 33 years and was their Merchandise Manager for many of those years. His presentation is titled "The history of the Farmers Trading Company".

13 NEW



SMSnShayari.com
MEMBERS

Sue Mitchell
Robert Wright
Dennis Bartlett
Dawn Rodgers
Lenice Clarkson
Helen Mak
Beverley Turner
Rosemary Haden
Ron Clifton
Laurie Stringer
Neville Lane
Grant Hargrave
Lyn Butler

Don't wait for people to be friendly. Show them how.

~Henry James~

No matter how much you push an envelope, it will still be stationary.



BITS and BYTES

Brian Erickson

The Stats New Zealand 2018 Census (See <https://www.census.govt.nz/whats-the-census/>) will record the “state of the nation” on 6th March.

This year there will be an online option (preferred) and a unique code will be posted to all households to use as identification in the online option. The three forms will take at least 20 minutes to complete.

The SeniorNet Federation partnered with Stats NZ offering each Learning Centre assistance in completing this task by providing Help to members and non-members over 50 years old between 28th February and 6th March. Although we have only just found out about it we support the project and it will be accompanied by financial support to each learning Centre based on the numbers of people assisted.

The financial assistance could cover quite a few ink tanks for our printers, or even more, so it's an opportunity not to be missed but we will need a roster of volunteers to cover the period involved. It's also like an open week to show the wider community a bit of what we do.

Why not book in to become familiar with what to do when the booking details are announced, even bring a non-member as each person has to do their own forms. Only in special cases is a Proxy permitted.

I have explained to the Federation that we have quite a few course sessions planned over that period and that there are normal access restrictions to Cascade Storage's busy property. This means that blanket publicity from Stats NZ could cause unnecessary confusion and overload so we will set up booking email address pc9@senpak.nz with preferred times. We envisage no more than 8 people every 45 minutes with our PCs spread out over all tables for a degree of privacy.

I have yet to get more details however there are online help that we can print out. I presume that the assistance we will provide will show people how to log on to the web site, how to enter their unique code, what to do if they make a mistake and how to submit the completed form. We will be separately emailing our members to seek volunteers to cover the times involved.

Has Google Duo turned up on your Smartphone? This is another Over the Top communication APP a bit like Skype, What's App and Facebook Messenger. It's been in trial and development for the last 18 months and released for general use in February. It's available to any of the 2 billion Gmail users and already 100 million have chosen to take it up. Over the Top refers to worldwide voice and text communications that do not use the more conventional mobile phone services but make use of WiFi connections, (or mobile broadband in remote locations). If you use it in the WiFi mode the only cost is your fibre or cable broadband connection which for most of us already has unused capacity.

As well as voice and text it provides video calls if you have a rear facing second camera as most Smartphones do. To make a call you choose the voice only or full video mode, then use your normal mobile Contact List.

You have to go through a free registration process but once done the greatest benefit- being able to use your contact list to make a call. Presumably there is also a Google promotion which takes place if you call someone not yet registered to encourage them to take action.

Brian started the first meeting of the year by welcoming 12 new members and showing the numbers who attended our Learning Centre over the last year. There were some impressive figures and all achieved with only 6 tutors and a few helpers. The stand-out numbers were 296 attending Help days, 62 at Smartphone classes and 58 at each of the Windows and Pop-Up days. Well done to all you tutors and helpers. Again there was another plea for helpers and tutors. You don't need public speaking skills, just reasonable proficiency at any of the computer programs you use – you can be a tremendous assistance at the classes. Why don't you try it and see – nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Brian also told us about his 2016 Nissan Leaf. Some of the pluses included silent running, low cost and often free recharging, same car insurance as petrol driven cars. There are no road user charges at present although when 2% of the vehicles on the road are electric, road user charged will be incurred – that could be \$650 per 10,000kms, the same as diesel vehicles. The only problem with the vehicle seemed to be the time and frequency taken recharging.

Just before coffee time, Brian drew out Ron Harrison as today's lucky number – along with a flashdrive, Ron was also offered a ride in Brian's electric car – lucky man.

Jim Currie described his trip to Great Barrier Island and the help four of our tutors gave to the Great Barrier Island SeniorNet group who were considering closing their club down. Hopefully they have been re-inspired and are keen to keep up and running. Brian also ran through some of the Google Suite of Apps he uses and recommends we try. These included Gmail, Drive and Docs. All work in these apps is automatically backed up and stored in Drive so you can access it from any computer or device at any time. Drive also gives you 15gbs of free storage. Docs very simply shows icons of all the work you have done previously so it is easy to select documents you want to work on. It is certainly worth checking out and trying.

Tony Haack demonstrated some of the clever things you can do with Google Photos. These are also Cloud-based and able to be used by Apple, Android and Windows devices. It is free, simple to Tag people, share a link, unlimited storage, easy to edit and write on if you wish. Learn more about Google Photos on You Tube or various tutorials.

Dick Harris then explained why most of us have found our computers going much slower than previously. Sadly it seems it is protecting us from major hackers and is something we must live with. He also reminded us how easy it is to be scammed and to be suspicious of everything. He suggested not putting things like home, mum, dad, etc. on your contact lists as thieves find these wonderful for scamming you even more. We also learnt that our mouse scroll button is able to be pressed and used to enlarge and reduce magnification, clicking to highlight a word, sentence or paragraph. All very handy.

Thanks guys, for an informative and interesting morning.

French pancakes give me the crêpes.





Comments, Queries, Suggestions, Free Advertising

COMMITTEE

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Last month I recommended forwarding spam emails to an incorrect address—you can forward spam to me@rescam.org—in the hope that Rescam can close down that website. Sorry for my error.

**Today, give a stranger one of your smiles;
it may be the only sunshine he or she sees
all day.**

When I was young, I admired clever people.
Now that I am old, I admire kind people.
~Abraham Heschel~

Please email your comments, suggestions or ads to dawn@orcon.net.nz by the 15th of the month for inclusion in next SeniorNet newsletter.



March/April Courses, Workshops

Advanced Word Processing

Tutor/Organiser: **Maureen Keys**

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

Phone No: **271 5553**

Email: **keysm@clear.net.nz**

Fee: **\$15.00**

Session Times

1:00 PM Monday, 12 March 2018

3 Sessions: 12/Mar, 19/Mar, 26/Mar, 2 hours each

Apple iPads & iPhones

Tutor/Organiser: **Dick Harris**

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

Phone No: **576 9483**

Email: **rharris2017@outlook.co.nz**

Fee: **\$5.00**

Session Times

1:00 PM Wednesday, 28 March 2018

1 session of 2 hours

1:00 PM Tuesday, 24 April 2018

1 session of 2 hours

Genealogy - Getting Started

Tutor/Organiser: **Graeme FitzGerald**

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

Phone No: **272 9271**

Email: **g.fitzg14@gmail.com**

Fee: **\$10.00**

Session Times

10:00 AM Wednesday, 14 March 2018

2 Sessions: 14/Mar, 21/Mar, 2 hours each

Genealogy Research

Tutor/Organiser: **Graeme FitzGerald**

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

Phone No: **272 9271**

Email: **g.fitzg14@gmail.com**

Fee: **\$5.00**

Session Times

10:00 AM Tuesday, 3 April 2018

1 session of 2 hours

Google Docs and My Drive Popup

Tutor/Organiser: **Jim Currie**

This Popup explores Google Docs and Google Drive. Docs is an easy to use application in which we write, insert and edit documents online.

Phone No: **533 4221**

Email: **jimcurrie@live.com**

Fee: **\$5.00**

Session Times

9:30 AM Wednesday, 7 March 2018

1 session of 2 hours

Continued . . .

March/April Courses, Workshops, continued

Help Session

Tutor/Organiser: **Michael Empson**

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

Phone No: **535 8506**

Email: **mempson@xtra.co.nz**

Donati **Gold Coin**

Session Times

10:00 AM Tuesday, 6 March 2018	1 session of 2 hours
1:00 PM Thursday, 15 March 2018	1 session of 2 hours
10:00 AM Thursday, 22 March 2018	1 session of 2 hours
1:00 PM Tuesday, 27 March 2018	1 session of 2 hours
10:00 AM Wednesday, 4 April 2018	1 session of 2 hours
10:00 AM Tuesday, 10 April 2018	1 session of 2 hours
10:00 AM Thursday, 19 April 2018	1 session of 2 hours
10:00 AM Friday, 27 April 2018	1 session of 2 hours

Picasa (Digital Photography.)

Tutor/Organiser: **Brian Erikson**

Learn how to Transfer images from camera to computer then Edit, add text, and make a slide show, plus more.

Phone No: **5344798**

Email: **brian@erikson.net.nz**

Fee: **\$10.00**

Session Times

10:00 AM Thursday, 5 April 2018	2 Sessions: 05/Apr, 12/Apr, 2 hours each
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Smart Phones/Tablets (Advanced)

Tutor/Organiser: **Brian Erikson**

Bring your Android Smartphone and tablets to this workshop and learn about its advanced features.

Phone No: **534 4798**

Email: **brian@erikson.net.nz**

Fee: **\$5.00**

Session Times

10:00 AM Monday, 30 April 2018	1 session of 2 hours
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Smart Phones/Tablets (Beginners)

Tutor/Organiser: **Brian Erikson**

Bring your Android Smartphone and tablets to this workshop and learn what they can do.

Phone No: **534 4798**

Email: **brian@erikson.net.nz**

Fee: **\$5.00**

Session Times

1:00 PM Friday, 16 March 2018	1 session of 2 hours
10:00 AM Monday, 16 April 2018	1 session of 2 hours

Spreadsheets

Tutor/Organiser: **John Bate**

Come and learn how to use Microsoft Excel.

Phone No: **570 5468**

Email: **john.jean@xtra.co.nz**

Fee: **\$10.00**

Session Times

10:00 AM Tuesday, 20 March 2018	2 Sessions: 20/Mar, 27/Mar, 2 hours each
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Continued . . .

March/April Courses, Workshops, continued

Taking the Plunge

Tutor/Organiser: **Brian Erikson**

It is suggested that this course should be taken by every beginner.

Phone No: **534 4798**

Email: **brian@erikson.net.nz**

Fee: **\$15.00**

Session Times

10:00 AM Thursday, 8 March 2018

3 Sessions: 08/Mar, 12/Mar, 15/Mar, 2 hours each

10:00 AM Thursday, 26 April 2018

3 Sessions: 26/Apr, 03/May, 10/May, 2 hours each

Windows 10

Tutor/Organiser: **Dick Harris**

An introduction to windows 10. Learn about the new features in this operating system.

Phone No: **576 9483**

Email: **rharris2017@outlook.co.nz**

Fee: **\$10.00**

Session Times

1:00 PM Thursday, 29 March 2018

2 Sessions: 29/Mar, 05/Apr, 2 hours each

1:00 PM Thursday, 26 April 2018

2 Sessions: 26/Apr, 03/May, 2 hours each

Word Power

Tutor/Organiser: **Jim Currie**

Learn how to Type up a document using Microsoft Office Word.

Phone No: **533 4221**

Email: **jimcurrie@live.com**

Fee: **\$10.00**

Session Times

9:30 AM Wednesday, 11 April 2018

2 Sessions: 11/Apr, 18/Apr, 2 hours each

Booking Information

- * You need to be a member of SeniorNet to take part in our classes.
- * If you need assistance in deciding on a course, please contact the Tutor who will answer any questions and also take your booking.
- * We require you to pay a course fee to cover the cost of notes and other expenses. Please bring the correct cash or cheque for the full course to the first session.
- * Our Courses are all held at our Learning Centre at **12 Ben Lomond Crescent, Pakuranga**. Please Park on the road.