

APRIL 2020

Established in 1996 especially for Pakuranga, Howick and Botany residents

Telephone 09 576 4500

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This issue:

- ◆ Next meeting
- ◆ Help days
- ◆ New members
- ◆ **Bits and Bytes**
- ◆ Notes on March meeting and meanderings
- ◆ Your Committee
- ◆ Smiles

**We are sorry our
monthly Meetings
have had to be
cancelled**



***Sadly there
will be no
HELP DAYS
or Courses
in the
foreseeable
future.
See Brian's
Bits and
Bytes for
Online Help
and Learning.***



7 NEW MEMBERS

Heather McFarlane
Clive Bolt
Robin Tuckey
Stephen Dancer
Wendy Fletcher
Donald Silvester
Frank Hayes

**Did you notice: The Roman Numerals
for forty (40) are XL.**

Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable.

In this newsletter we are covering three actions in respect of safety, On-Line Learning, and Remote Support.

1) We are following Health advice and Government actions to deal with the Covid-19 virus pandemic.

You will already have had two notices:

Suspending Monthly Meetings and Learning Centre activity.

At the Learning Centre provision of hand sanitiser for entering and leaving, antibacterial sprays on seats and antibacterial wipes on keyboards, the lower frame of the All in One PCs, door handles both in our rooms and entry to the building.

The suspension notice also provides email contacts for topic help from the relevant tutors. This list will not be repeated here as this newsletter is published on our website and we don't want the general public to overload our help people.

I will be contacting new members to see what help they need in the use of email and internet web searching so that they can maintain contact with Seniornet Pakuranga, their families and events in the community.

2) On Line Tutorials from a professional site in the absence of our classes. We will let you know if additional sites are found.

Very comprehensive list of free On-Line Tutorials suitable for a range of our typical needs and abilities can be found on this site:

<https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/topics>

Again, CTRL and Click on the above link will start your browser and then scroll through the topics from Computers to Publisher and everything in between. The programs are online and interactive and you progress at your own pace and repeat when you want too.

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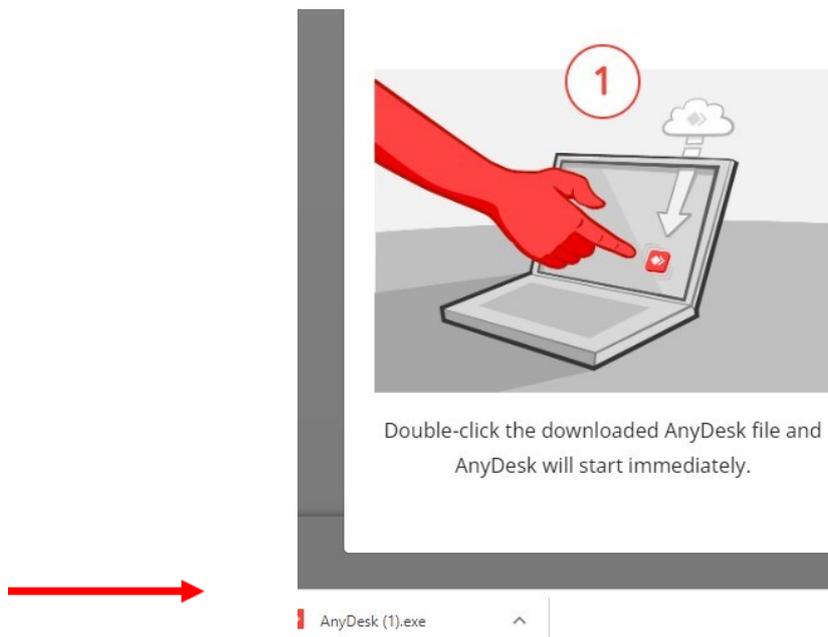
3) Our Remote Support uses AnyDesk. This set up is for Windows PCs but options are available for Smartphones. For Smartphones download the AnyDesk App from the Play Store. (My next task is to try it out).

For a PC you need to download AnyDesk by holding down the CTRL Key clicking on the link below <https://anydesk.com/en>

The Application opens a website that will look like this. Click on the Free Download

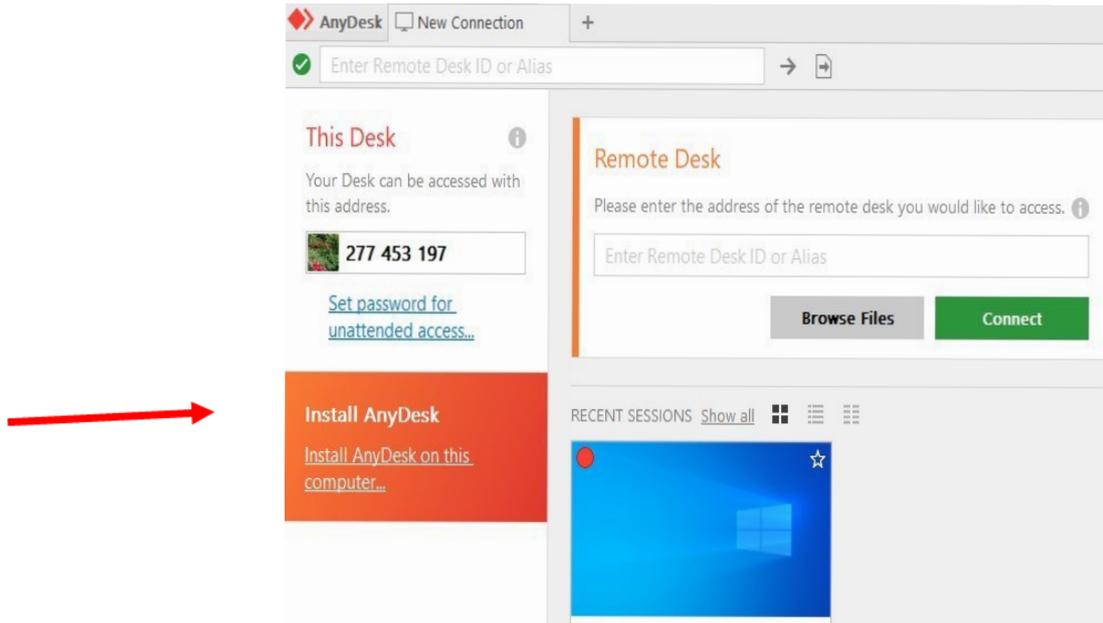


Then follow the screen message and double click on the downloaded AnyDesk.exe file.



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The Application opens with a screen shown below. Click to install on your computer.

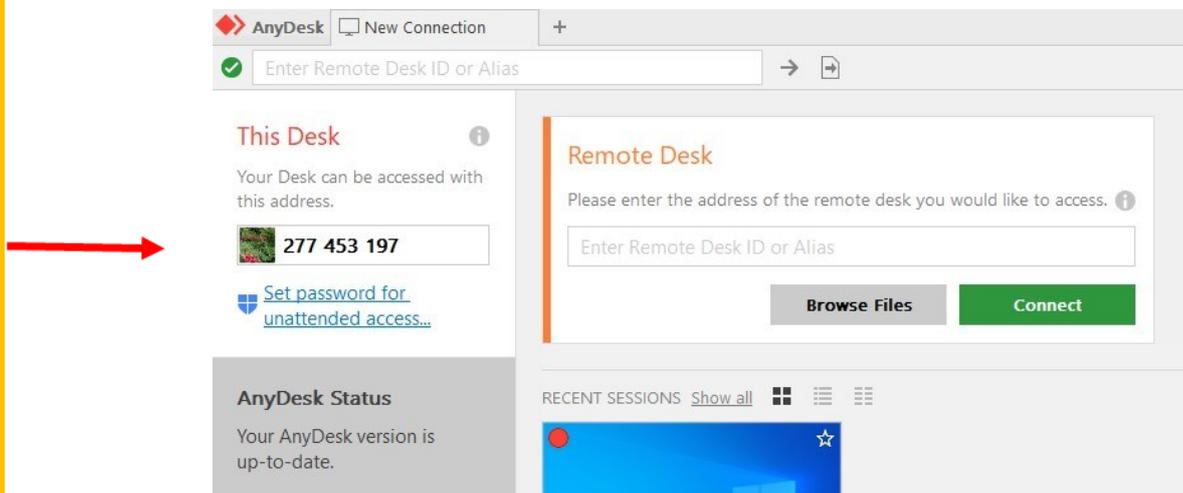


The Application is added to your list of Apps (Programs) with this icon. Click to start.



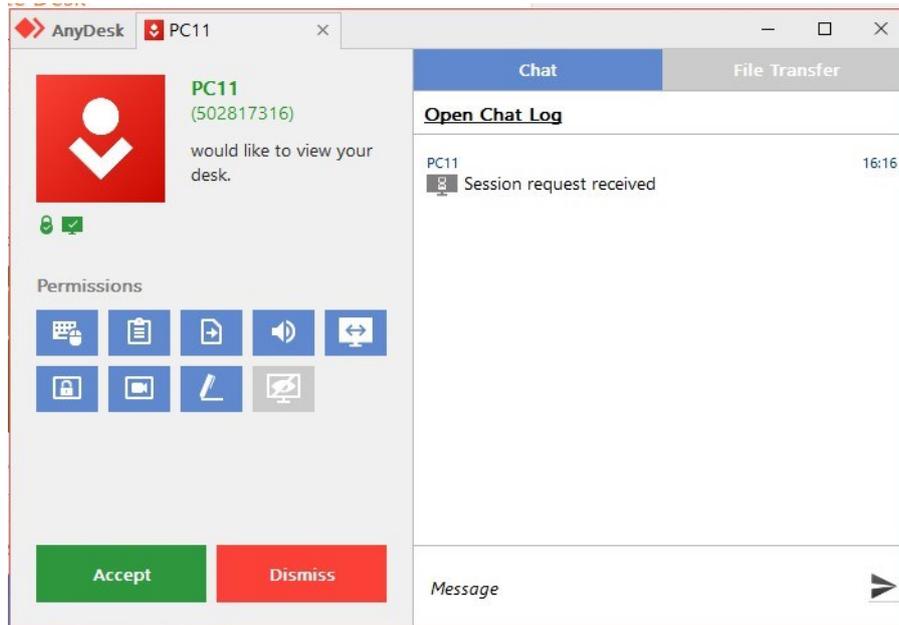
The same Application works whether you are the Helper or being helped.

You (This Desk) have an ID number. You need to pass this to the Remote Desk (Helper) by phone.



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The Helper enters this in the Remote Desk slot and you get an authorisation screen to permit or deny access.



You then work together and observe what is happening.
Now you can be a Helper or helped. Maybe we can recruit you.

We recognise privacy issues and cannot undertake actions that use passwords on sensitive sites such as internet banking. We can potentially help you recover a password but to reset it you will be required to close the Remote session, create the new password and then re-establish a remote session if the issue is not resolved.

4) Finally, we may need more Helpers and information about additional suitable remote learning sites. Please email pc9@senpak.nz if you wish to volunteer, mentioning what range of skills you can offer, or advise if you have found other good learning sites.

Notes from February Meeting

Dawn Howarth

I love the excellent meetings and speakers we have been having lately. Brian told us about the great AT mobile apps. A bus app which we can use to find bus routes, when the bus is due, where we should get off, how far the bus stop is to walk to. It was great. Then there is the AT parking app. You can drive into a street-side carpark, the app will know where you are, press Start, and leave your car. You come back whenever you wish, press Stop and drive away. Your app will automatically pay from our credit card. Easy-peasy. Just download, set up and from then on, it is so simple. Thank you Brian for a great talk.

Kate also advised us about Parkable, see following page for more on that. This month we had 2 new members and Norman Marsh won the lucky draw flash drive. Welcome and well done.

After coffee April Hickmot, Mobile Service Manager at Independent Living told us about and demonstrated some the products they sell. Independent Living is a not-for-profit charity which provides information and equipment for individuals who live independently in their own homes. We saw 4 walking sticks and learned the importance of them being the correct height, having a safe foot on them and then having to choose which is best for you, smart, sturdy, not-smart but will hang over your arm, perhaps folding that you can leave in your shopping bag. Then there were clips and gadgets for all sorts of things I had never thought of. Some however, I already use and some I had to purchase from April. All were designed for use by “us oldies”, if not now, then in the future. I haven’t been able to open child-proof bottles for years, now I have the right gadget for that, I’m chuffed. They have a shop at Botany, so go and see them for help with any difficult chore, I’m sure they will have the answer.

Again, many thanks organisers for another great meeting. Happy Easter one and all.

Footnote:

Obviously most of this newsletter and all the above was written before the events of the last few days when our country was been well and truly turned upside down. Most of our members are in the age group where we have to be so careful. The newspapers and the TV seems to bring less and less joy and I’m sorry for that. We have to hear these things to protect ourselves but I am finding the need for good news and lightheartedness a major requirement in my life just now. I’m especially missing meeting and hugging my friends. Talking to them on the phone or even better, seeing them on the phone while we talk is great. I only learned of that yesterday, it’s called Face Time and you can find it in Messenger or in your Contacts list. Now I’m going to find out about buying groceries online and picking them up. That’s called “Click and Collect”. Going for a drive to collect them will be a nice outing. I have just learnt a friend who always uses Pak-n-Save delivery service has been told “Delivery will be in 10 days”. I am really grateful however, that we are at home and healthy and not overseas and unable to get home. That must be awful. I’m not sure when our next newsletter will be published but I hope it won’t be long before we are back to normal, until then please take care and smile as much as you can—it’s good for the soul. Another bright thought — I don’t think Easter eggs are fattening when you need cheering up.

I found a funny cartoon I have included brighten your day (page 8).

Dawn

Parkable

A phone App to find privately-owned car parking spaces available for rent

You're running late and the concert is about to start. The multi-storey car parks are all full. You spot an empty car space but all hope is soon dashed when you see the tow-away signs and the hefty fine promised if you dare park your car in that empty carpark.

But do not despair, help is just an **APP** away. **Parkable** is a free application that can be downloaded onto your phone. Once you have registered and entered your credit card details you can type your destination into the search box. It will come up with lots of private carparking spaces in the vicinity that you have requested.

Tap on one of the sites offered. The App zooms into the location selected and a picture of the available site appears. The hourly and/or daily rates to occupy the site are shown. If this site is suitable you can tap the **Reserve Park** option and this will reserve the space for 30 minutes. Lower down the page there may also be extra instructions regarding the site e.g. Please do not park in front of door or park between the red poles.

Once you have entered the park space, Tap the **Start Parking** box. When you return to your car to drive away from the space remember to re-open the App and click on the **End Parking** box. The parking charge will be taken from your credit card. **If you do not end the parking session, as you drive away, your credit card will be charged accordingly, which could become very expensive.**

I would suggest that you try out **Parkable** out before relying on it for your grandson's graduation. Once you are familiar with the App it works well but like all things digital a little bit of practice makes all the difference.

Kate Senner





I've finally finished my panic room!



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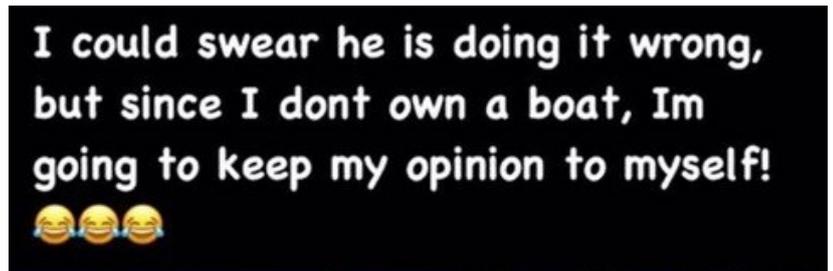
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HOW DID THE WORLD GO FROM THIS...



TO THIS ???

