

**SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc**  
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Telephone 09 576 4500

**JUNE 2022**

Established in 1996 especially for Pakuranga, Howick and Botany residents



This issue:

- ◆ Next meeting
- ◆ June Help days
- ◆ New members
- ◆ **Bits and Bytes**
- ◆ Dawn's Ravings
- ◆ Your Committee
- ◆ How to join a course

Please note  
**10.30am**  
Start Time

Our next Meeting,  
**Friday 3rd JUNE**  
**at 10.30am**

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.

**DON'T FORGET YOUR MASK**

The early speaker will be **Dick Harris** discussing **backing up your computer**.

The main speaker will be **Keith Weale** talking about **Building and Flying Kitset Aircraft**.

## **JUNE HELP DAYS**

Wed	1 June	10.00am
Thu	9 June	10:00am
Thu	16 June	1:00pm
Tue	21 June	10:00pm
Mon	26 June	1:00pm



Before 2020, we were pretty wild! Remember how we all used to eat cake after someone had **blown on it**? Crazy times!

NEVER BE AFRAID TO  
TRY SOMETHING NEW.  
REMEMBER, AMATEURS  
BUILT THE ARK;  
PROFESSIONALS BUILT  
THE TITANIC.

The June meeting at St Andrews Church Centre will start at 10.30am as we are not serving morning tea. So far we have had two enquiries from our request for volunteering to undertake the morning tea role in future, but further interest would still be appreciated.

At the meeting we request you use a mask but vaccine passes have or will expire for most people in the coming month and will not be checked. The seating has been set out double spaced. The reasons are based on the upward climb in Covid cases and the fact that many of our members are more susceptible than the public at large.

The first speaker will be our Tutor Dick Harris discussing backing up your computer. The second speaker will be aircraft constructor and pilot Keith Weale of Pakuranga describing his success with modern light aircraft construction.

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Its been a family story retold many times about the aircraft my father, Gunnar, built in the early 1930's somewhat different to modern light aircraft in capability and safety. So as an example of what you can find on the internet I went to the site "Papers Past" and searched on my father's family name. Remarkably here's what came up nearly 90 years later.

## **AEROPLANE DAMAGED. NZ Herald July 14 1932**

### **FAILURE TO CLEAR FENCE.**

**COLLISION AT HIGH SPEED. PILOT STEPS OUT UNHURT. MACHINE BUILT AT WAIUKU.** When taking off for a trial flight near Waiuku yesterday afternoon, the monoplane, the second constructed by **Dunlop Erikson** Aircraft, Waiuku, crashed into a wire fence at a speed of 50 miles an hour and was partially wrecked. Fence posts were broken and the aeroplane came to rest with one side crumpled, but the pilot, Mr. W. T. Stanton, of New Plymouth, stepped from the cockpit unhurt. Mr. Stanton, who is an ex-pupil of the Auckland Aero Club, had a successful trial flight in the aeroplane on Monday, after which some adjustments to the lubrication system were carried out under the direction of the builders, Mr. H. Dunlop and **Mr. G. Erikson**.

For the second flight some farm land about three miles from Waiuku was chosen. A cross-wind was blowing, but otherwise the conditions were good. Mr. Stanton taxied for 200 yds. and had risen a few feet from the ground when the tail swung to the left. The aeroplane failed to clear the fence and a wing support caught a strainer post when the machine was about a foot from the ground.

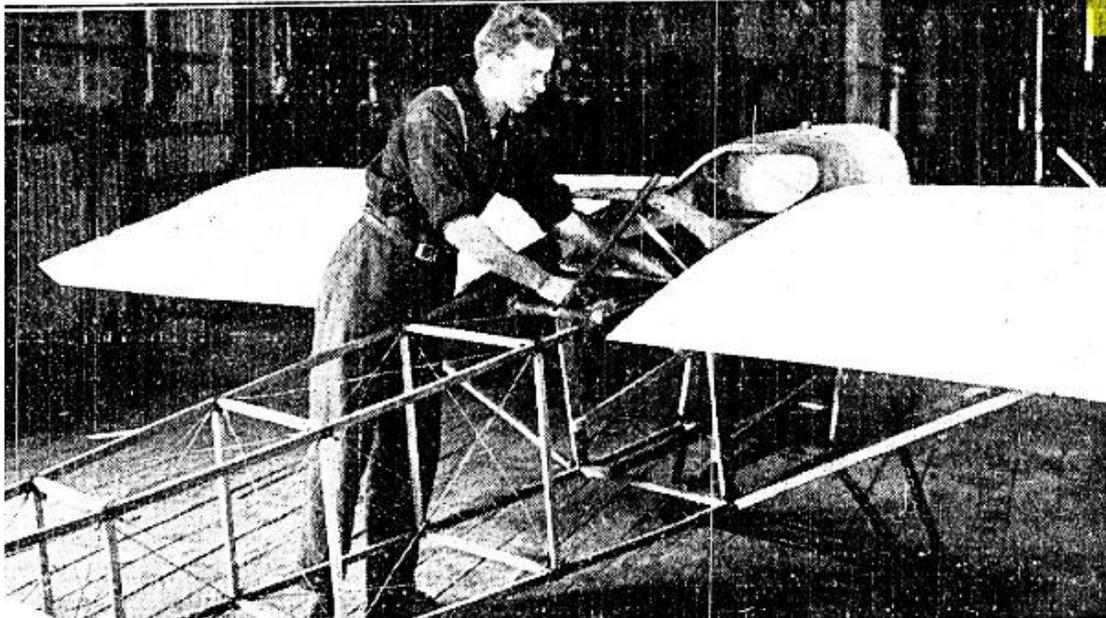
With the engine still roaring the aeroplane lay crumpled on the ground. One of the landing wheels was gone, having caught a fence post and fallen on the other side. The propeller was broken and extensive damage was done to the undercarriage. One of the wings collapsed owing to the snapping of the frame. Slight damage was done to the fuselage, a lateral stay against the cockpit being bent and one side was splintered. Part of the fence collapsed and a strainer snapped off about a foot from the ground.

The machine crashed about 30yds. from the nearest group of spectators, which included a Herald photographer. The impact was severe and the onlookers were relieved to see Mr. Stanton climb clear of the wreckage. He said he had every expectation of being able to clear the fence, but was unable to do so owing to wind variance.

Continued . . .

The aeroplane is not considered to be beyond repair and examination has shown that the engine was not damaged. Mr. Dunlop and Mr. Erikson state that they intend to build another machine or repair the damaged one if it can possibly be done. They are satisfied as to the airworthiness of the machine.

It seems the Herald photographer didn't get into the paper on that occasion but below is a Herald photo from June 1929 of dad's first aircraft, a Lincoln Monoplane



#### THE LURE OF THE AIR.

Mr. G. Erikson, of Waiuku, at work constructing his Lincoln monoplane. The machine is 15ft. in length and has a wing span of 20ft. It is hoped to have the aeroplane completed by Christmas.

## Ramblings

Dawn Howarth

The good news is we can return to the church, the less good news is we must wear a mask and we are unable to have a cuppa together. Still, we are progressing as we have hopefully have volunteers to pour the teas and coffees for us one day. Hopefully we will be able to get back to normal soon.

Over the last month the landscapers, who are bringing our village into the 21st century, dug up my garden, built a very nice retaining wall, filled it with better soil than I had, and replanted some new a lovely plants. Now I can weed and play around in much of the garden *without having to bend down*. **Bliss**. As soon as the lawn recovers, the mowing strips laid and other tidying up is done, all will look lovely. Then, next spring, they plan to tear up our driveway and lay a new more attractive one, installing fibre at the same time. When that upheaval is complete, they will dig up all the footpaths, widen them and relay. After all that the road will be repaired and resealed. So major disruptions galore for a long while yet, but I'm sure it will all be worth it in the end.

Take care and keep smiling—and come to our meeting next week.



## When is a dish not a dish? When it's a Dish SmartVu SV11.

Many thanks to Brian Erikson who showed us another gadget, the Dish SmartVu SV11, which can turn our old TVs into something smart without breaking the bank. However, your TV must have an HDMI socket so I'm afraid your TV can't be that old.

On the other hand, you may have an up to the minute TV and if you do, you will be pleased to know the SmartVu SV11 supports the latest HDR (High Dynamic Range) standard. You will be able to enjoy the beautiful vibrant colour that you expect of 4K Ultra HD content.

Despite its name, the Dish SmartVu SV11 is a dongle that plugs directly into your TV's HDMI so you don't need satellite dishes or aerials on the roof that are susceptible to bad weather and cause the image to fade when it's raining. However, you do need a fast, reliable broadband connection and a broadband plan that allows lots of data.

The SmartVu is a small gadget, sits beside the TV and requires power but the remote works via Bluetooth so it can be used when you are sitting in your favourite chair. However, the SmartVu is not a recorder.



You can access "free to air" channels and additional content from other companies to which you already subscribe. The SmartVu has built-in Chromecast facility, which will allow you to cast from apps such as "Sky Go" if you already have a subscription.

The SmartVu is available from most of our local electronic appliance shops but with promotions the price can vary so do an internet search before taking the plunge.

## The History of Telecommunications in New Zealand

A big thank you to Brian for sharing his experiences in the Telecommunications Industry over the last 50+ years. It was a fascinating talk and I suggest that you watch the YouTube as it would be hard to paraphrase some of the technical information for our Newsletter.

Below is a timeline of the major breakthroughs in the development of the Telecommunication industry in NZ. (additional information sourced from <http://www.wordworx.co.nz/KiwitelcoTimeline.htm>)

- 1862- The first electric telegraph line constructed between Lyttleton and Christchurch.
- 1865- A cable was successfully laid across the Cook Strait enabling communications between the two Islands.
- 1872- Wellington-Auckland line completed with over 400,000 messages carried per year.
- 1876- An undersea cable was laid between Botany Bay, Sydney to Cable Bay, Nelson.
- 1876- Link from Australia to Asia, Europe and Britain. NZ telegraph Department trains Morse Code operators
- 1878- The first talking telegraph trial between the Otago Daily Times Office and Milton, 57km away
- 1881- Overhead cables appear across the nation. A telephone exchange was set up in Christchurch.
- 1894- A year before Marconi's wireless transmission in Europe, Ernest Rutherford sent a signal 18 metres.
- 1910- New Zealanders had their first coin operated telephones.
- 1913- The first simple automatic exchange but manual exchanges were still in operation until the late 1990s.
- 1915- The candlestick telephone was introduced. The first phones were wall mounted.
- 1926- A telephony cable was laid across the Cook Strait replacing the unreliable telegraph cable.
- 1927- A transatlantic telephone service came into operation.
- 1927- A number of voices could be carried over a single pair of wires by using different frequencies.
- 1930s- First international call made to Sydney. Subsequent calls cost one pound a minute.
- 1931- International calls extended to Britain. Calls cost £6/15/0. 312 calls were made to and from NZ in the first year.
- 1939- NZ had more phones per capita than any other country bar the US. 3457 calls were made to and from NZ.
- 1953- The first subscriber toll dialling (STD) was introduced allowing people to make direct toll calls.
- 1963- The last Morse telegram was written.
- 1965- NZ was now third in the world in telephone density with 35% of population subscribing.

**Continued ...**

## Kate's Take continued

1970- NZ Post Office began offering data over dedicated lines at 2400bits per second.

1971- The first satellite station is opened. There are now more than a million subscribers.

1972- Over 200 mainframe business computers in the country. Huge machines that were fed punch cards.

1976- International calling without going through an operator

1979- Intelsat IV satellite enabled for international calls.

1980s- Post Office could no longer manage the growth so Telecom was created as a State Owned Enterprise

1983- First optic fibre was installed between Wellington and Lower Hutt.

1984- Personal pagers arrived. Digital microwave and co-axial cable technology went live between Wellington and Auckland. A 640km digital link that could transmit voice and data at 140Mbit/sec per circuit was built.

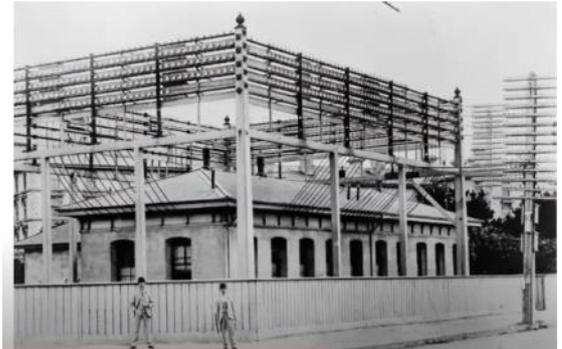
1986- Waikato University connected into the CSnet backbone and the dot.nz country code was born.

1986- Fax machines became a major communication tool

1988/89- The telegraph service closed and the internet age arrived.



*This is one of the last manual switch boards. It was a 12 line switch board that came from Great Barrier Island.*



*Wellington's main manual exchange in Stout Street*



*Rotorua was the last manual exchange. One operator could manage 100 callers and reach 1000 lines. There were 3000 lines. To cover local and toll calls 24/7 over 200 people were employed.*



*This is an example of a Strowger automatic telephone exchange patented by Almon Strowger in 1891. An undertaker, he was sure the wife of another undertaker was redirecting work to her husband as she worked at the manual telephone exchange*



*The exchanges had their own battery rooms in the basements. Above are lead acid batteries that could run the exchange for 8 hours drawing 10,000amps at 50 volts, these were also backed*



*The first digital telephone exchange was installed in NZ in Lower Hutt in 1981 by Telecom New Zealand. The Auckland exchange was installed in 1987 on the North Shore*

## A big thank you to Keith Erikson for introducing us to Available in 50 languages from App stores on Android and iOS platforms



**WAZE** is a navigation application acquired by Google in 2013. It is a community driven navigation app that allows users to find the fastest route to a destination while hopefully avoiding traffic accidents, congestion and police traps. The updated information is supplied by the app users and so the accuracy of the information relies on the quality of the information loaded on to the platform. A policeman spotted five minutes ago may well have moved on to a new position by the time you reach the indicated site.

**Cons** ---- To keep up with the constant updates Waze is quite battery hungry so you may need to have it plugged into your car. It also uses your mobile data. It is estimated that one hour a day for a month could consume in the region of 100Mb but some users feel this is an under estimate. **So be warned.**

Entering alerts into the app while we are driving is another distraction which may itself cause an accident. I suspect entering information into the app while in motion may well be illegal.

For full functionality you need to be registered and this can allow your information to become available to other WAZE users. It can also be set up so you can see the location of family and friends who are running the app. Is this a pro or a con? However, I used and accessed all the information I describe below without being registered.

**Pros** ----- For those who have a history of speeding offences it can be a real boon. In settings, it can be directed to audibly alert the driver if the speed limit is exceeded. It also identifies red light cameras. By touching the grey [Where to?] panel, in **Fig A** you can enter your destination or select information regarding locations of petrol (gas) stations, restaurants and parking by tapping one of the icons in the top row, **FIG B**.

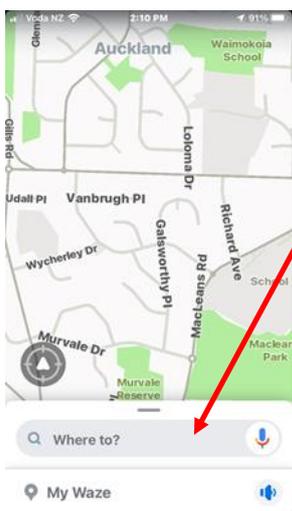


Fig. A

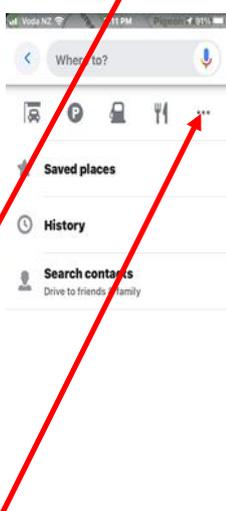


Fig. B

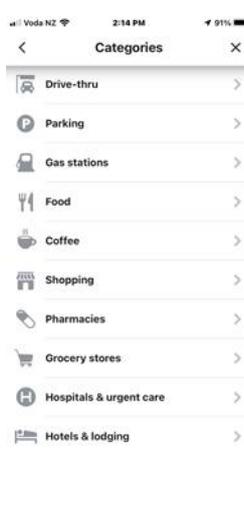


Fig. C

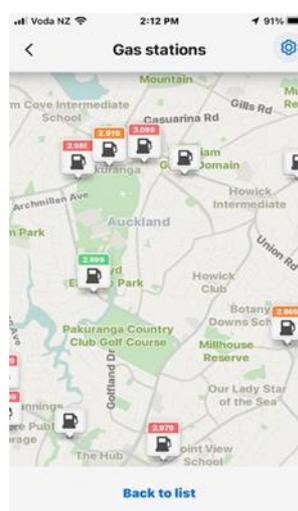


Fig. D

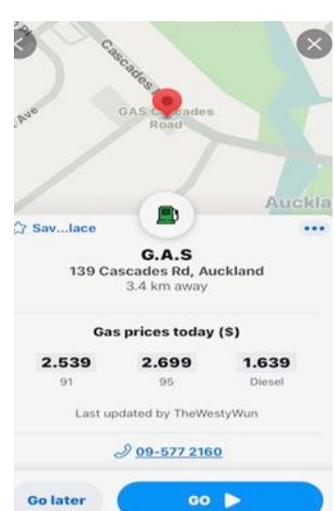


Fig. E

By touching the ••• in the top right-hand corner of **Fig B** you can see other categories. For example, in **Fig C** you can touch petrol (gas station) > to locate petrol stations. In **Fig. D**, the petrol station with the best price is coloured green. Tap this green petrol icon and the price is revealed as shown in **Fig. E**.

This is just an app for driving. You would still need to use Google or Apple Maps for other things. There are no routes for public transport and there is no satellite mode so although it can be used for walking you can't zoom into an actual location to determine short cuts across parks or footpaths which may be more conducive to walking.

If you are "Pay as you go" or have a small data allocation it is better to download a Google map via Wifi which you can then use offline when you are out and about. The GPS will work without using your data. How to do this is clearly explained by entering "Using Google Maps Offline" into your search engine. Free Wifi is available in many places but the library is always a good place to start if you do not have access to Wifi through family or friends.

## Learn how to spot online scammers



We want to help protect you from scammers that attempt to impersonate Amazon. Remember these important clues so that you can identify scams and keep your account and information safe:

1. **Never feel pressured to give information (such as your credit card number or account password) over the phone, especially if the call was unexpected.** Scammers may try to use calls, texts, and emails to impersonate Amazon customer service. If you're ever unsure, it's safest to end the call/chat and reach out directly to customer support through the Amazon app or website.
2. **Never pay over the phone.** Amazon will never ask you to provide payment information, including gift cards (or "verification cards", as some scammers call them) for products or services over the phone.
3. **Trust Amazon-owned channels.** Always go through the Amazon mobile app or website when seeking customer support or when looking to make changes to your account.
4. **Be wary of false urgency.** Scammers may try to create a sense of urgency to persuade you to do what they're asking. Be wary any time someone tries to convince you that you must act now.

For more information on how to stay safe online, or to report suspicious communications, visit the Amazon Customer Service page, which can be found in the Help section at the bottom of the Amazon home page.

Sincerely,

Amazon

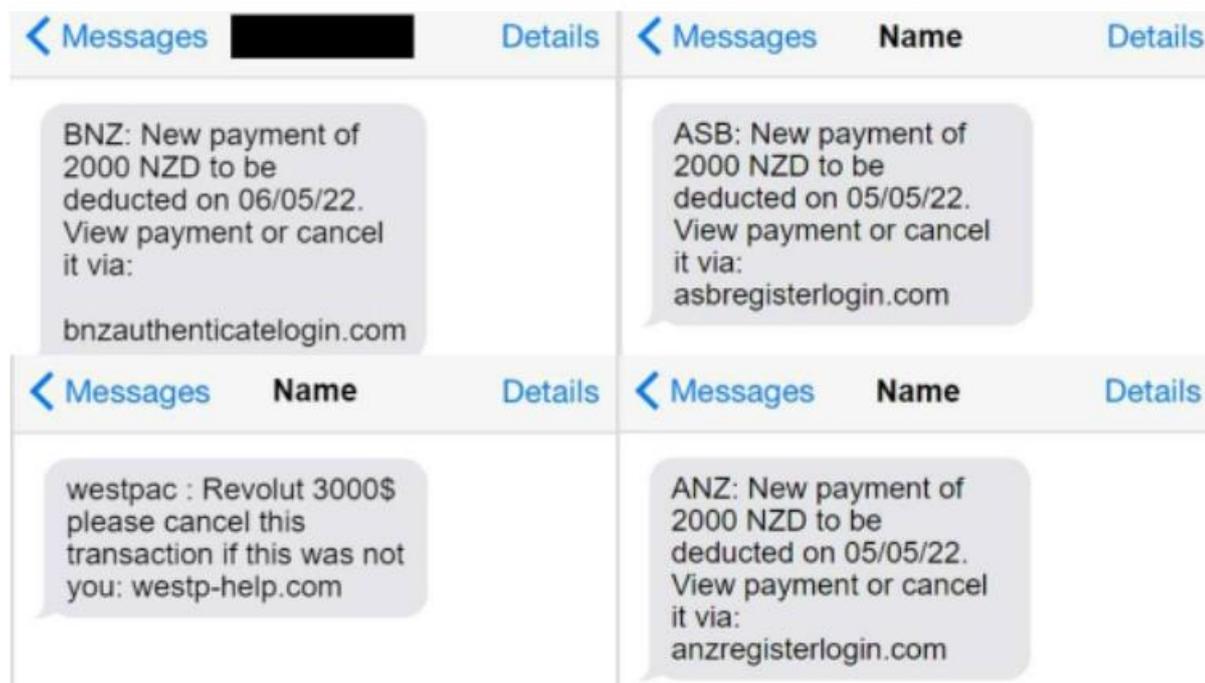


## ***Kiwis warned not to get hooked as new phishing bank scam sweeps New Zealand***

From News Hub by **Ireland Hendry-Tennent and Molly Swift**

New Zealanders are being warned to keep an eye out as a phishing scam sweeps the nation. The Department of Internal Affairs and New Zealand Police said unsuspecting people are receiving text messages that claim to be from their bank. The messages claim to be from banks including BNZ, Westpac, ASB and ANZ.

They claim a new payment of \$2000 or similar amount is due to be deducted from the recipient's account and asks them to click a link to cancel it like the examples below.



Phishing scams are one of the most common types of scams, and often look genuine because the scammer is impersonating a trusted organisation or person. But don't be fooled - these messages are usually sent to hundreds of people in the hope that one person falls for their con.

Police are warning anyone who receives a suspicious text not to click on any links that are included. The messages should be reported by forwarding it to 7726 for free, police said.

"Remember genuine banks or organisations never contact you to ask for your PIN, password or to move money to another account," police said in a statement on Thursday.

"If you are in any doubt about a message, contact your bank directly to confirm before clicking any links."

NetSafe's quarterly report found that many Kiwis are being hooked by scams, with their latest report from October to December 2021 finding a total of \$9.51 million lost to scammers during that time period.

**If you've been a victim of a scam you can contact CERT NZ at [www.cert.govt.nz](http://www.cert.govt.nz) or call 0800 2378 69 for advice and support.**

**COMMITTEE**

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**FINE, YOU CAN SLEEP  
HERE, BUT ONLY FOR  
TONIGHT!**



The New Normal



Pee on the electric fence  
they said...  
It will be fun they said...



## COURSE TIMETABLES, HELP DAYS AND COURSE BOOKING INFORMATION

To view all SeniorNet courses and timetable, click here

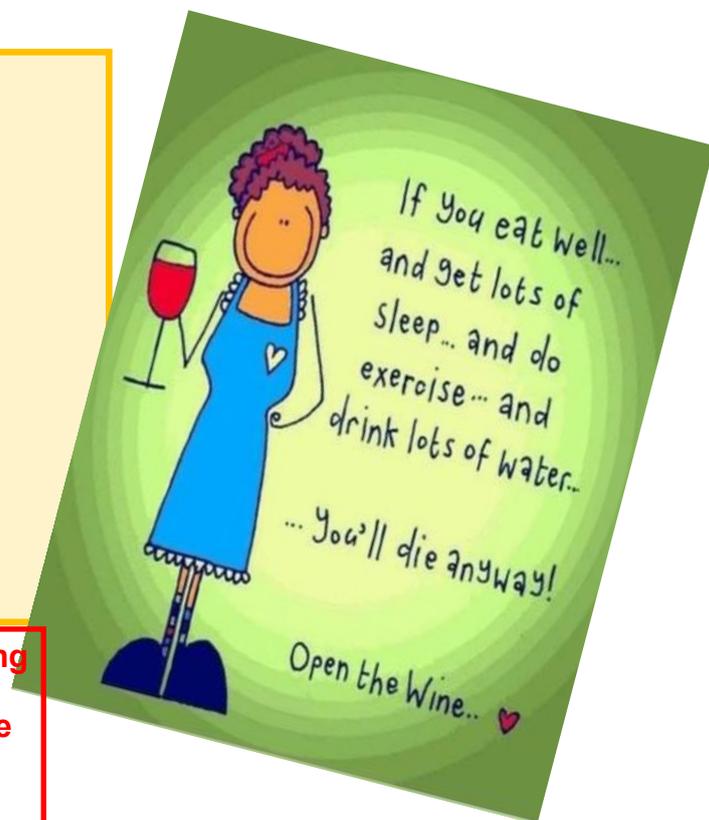
<http://www.senpak.nz/courses/>

### **JUNE HELP DAYS**

Wed	1 June	
Thu	9 June	10:00am
Thu	16 June	1:00pm
Tue	21 June	10:00pm
Mon	26 June	1:00pm

**NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**

Currently we limit the numbers in the Learning Centre to six, including three tutors. Any additional people will be asked to wait and be seated in the corridor until a space becomes available.



### Course 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.
- \* Our Courses are all held at our Learning Centre at  
**12 Ben Lomond Crescent, Pakuranga.**
- \* Please park on the road as no parking is permitted on site.
- \* Note: We require you to pay a course fee to cover the cost of notes and other expenses. Please bring the correct cash to the first session.

WAIVER: Some of our members voluntarily and willingly give help and advice to other members on matters relating to computers, associated equipment and software. This includes information contained in the columns of this newsletter and other publications including our SeniorNet Website. This help or advice is taken solely at the recipient's risk and imposes no responsibility or liability of any kind, either on those providing such help or advice, or the newsletter Editors or SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc.