

SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc
12 Ben Lomond Crescent, Pakuranga Auckland 2010
Telephone 09 576 4500

SEPTEMBER 2024

Established in 1996 especially for Pakuranga, Howick and Botany residents



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SEPTEMBER HELP DAYS

03 Sep (Tue)	10:00 AM
11 Sep (Wed)	1:00 PM
16 Sep (Mon)	1:00 PM
26 Sep (Thu)	10:00 AM

Our next Meeting,
Friday 6 September
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

Kate will be our early speaker and the main speaker will be Verity from Highland Park Library. She will bring us up to date on the changes to the Auckland Libraries requesting service and the Auckland Libraries ecollections, including ebooks, eaudiobooks and emagazines.



5 NEW MEMBERS

Mark Richardson
Anita Wilson
Susan Clarke
Riwi Penearano

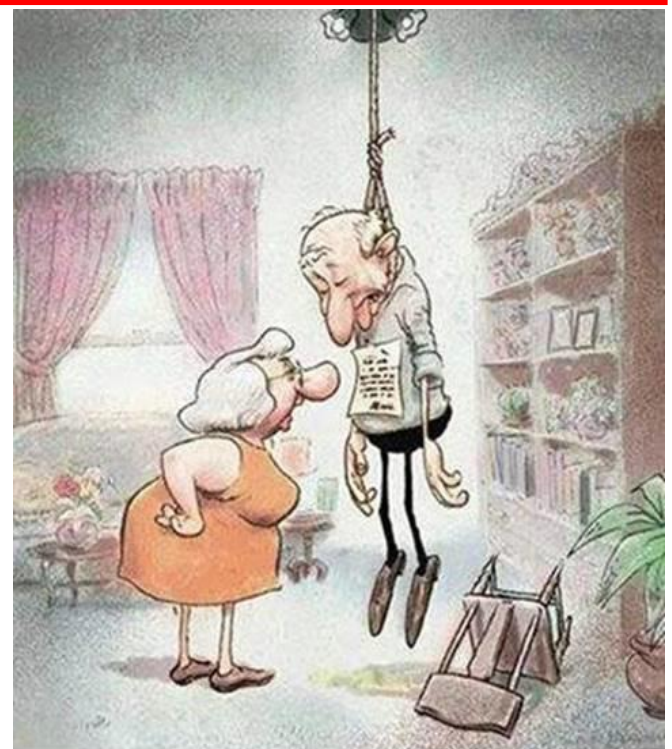


We have circulated the proposed Constitution via an email notice. Its about twice as many pages as our current one but this seems to be necessary to meet the recent law change. The template was prepared by a Law Practice for the SeniorNet Federation so its hasn't required us to do the in-depth research.

The purpose of the Constitution is to give us legal existence and provide the rules of conduct

There is nothing removed from the existing Constitution but sections have become more prescriptive and sections introduced on Qualification to Hold Office, Conflict of Interest and an Interests Register in case a committee member has some related financial interest in a matter under consideration, Complaints and Disputes procedures, Obligations on Ceasing Membership, etc

Questions and comments should be addressed to brian@senpak.nz and resolving any issues arising will determine when we hold a special meeting to adopt the proposed Constitution.



"You misspelled 'constant criticism'."

Ramblings

Dawn Howarth

Springtime is here— I hope it means a little more warmth. It's still too cold to spend long in the garden. Considering the number of daffodil bulbs I have in, the display has been abysmal.

Life has been relatively calm and quiet this month—and I love that. Long may it last. Sadly though, it also means nothing exciting has been happening and I would love some of that. I guess we can't have everything so I'll go with quiet and comfortable.

Watching the Olympics has been all the excitement in our house. Some great gymnastics. It's hard to understand why skateboarding or wall climbing could possibly be called an Olympic sport. For that matter, are golf, tennis, soccer, rugby Olympic sports. Maybe if the number of sports were reduced more countries could afford to hold an Olympic Games.

All the athletes are probably professional now so the original intention of the games has gone hasn't it. Never mind, we have spent hours watching it and really enjoying the whole thing - especially Lydia, Dame Lisa and Celine Dion. I see in a letter to the Herald, a suggestion that Lydia be made a Dame. Wouldn't that be grand.

GOOGLE ARTS AND CULTURE



The Google Arts & Culture app is available to download to your phone or tablet but if you have limited storage on your device it is easily accessed directly from the internet on your computer. However, it cannot be used in "airplane" mode as although the frame work for the app is downloaded on to your device the content requires access to the internet. Bare this in mind, when out and about. Unless you have an "unlimited data" plan your mobile data will be used up very quickly unless you are in Wi-Fi mode. This is hardly surprising as this app supplies direct access to an overwhelming amount of high definition content in the form of art, history, and cultural content from around the world.

Google Arts & Culture partners with thousands of museums, galleries, and cultural institutions globally, making it one of the most extensive digital platforms for art and culture. The app serves as a bridge, making the world's cultural treasures accessible to anyone with an internet connection, regardless of geographical limitations. Users receive daily highlights of interesting content, including themed collections that group artworks, artefacts and stories around specific topics like "Fashion," "Natural History," or "Street Art."



The Device app opens on the [Explore](#) page which is regularly refreshed. By scrolling the images to the right six panels are revealed. On this particular day the options featured the Mauritshuis Museum, in the Netherlands, "An adventure through London's Barbican", "Inside the Genius Mind of Leonardo Da Vinci" and three art related games that would be a great way to introduce children to the world of art.

If you are heading overseas there are over 3,000 cultural institutions and Art galleries that can be accessed directly.

This can be an invaluable resource. Each institution will feature their special exhibitions, permanent collections and activities. Opening hours and locations on Google maps are also supplied.

Virtual Museum Tours:

The app allows users to take virtual tours of museums, galleries, and cultural institutions worldwide. These tours are immersive, offering 360-degree views of exhibits and spaces, enabling exploration of famous landmarks and lesser-known venues without leaving your home.

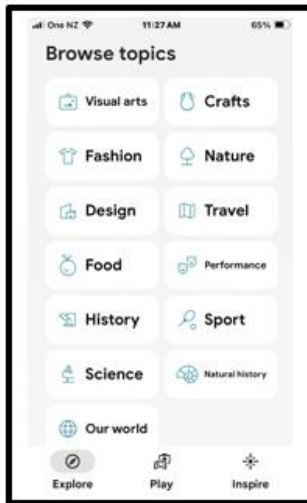
Artworks and Collections:

In many ways the app gives better access to the exhibits than actually visiting the real thing as it hosts high-resolution images of millions of artworks from renowned institutions like the Louvre, MoMA, and the Uffizi Gallery. Users can zoom in on these images to explore details that might not be visible to the naked eye.

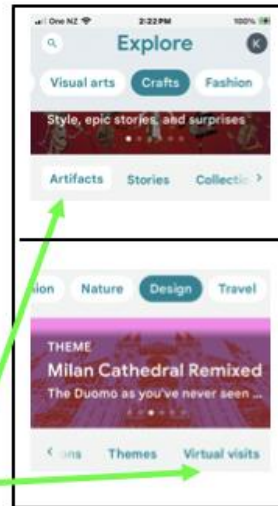


In the Vincent Van Gogh painting, above, it is possible to zoom in to see the thickness of the paint in every brush stroke. In the fabric from the Alexander McQueen Spring/Summer Collection, right, it is possible to zoom in to see the stitches of every flower.

Kate's Take continued ...



By scrolling down on the [Explore](#) page there are 13 options to choose from on a broad range of topics. Once a topic has been selected virtually every image and piece of text refreshes the screen to study a topic in further detail. Topics can be viewed in terms of [Artefacts](#) - [Stories](#) - [Collections](#) - [Themes](#) or [Virtual visits](#)



By scrolling to the right [Virtual Visits](#) can be accessed. These give an image of a place, artefact or exhibition as a 3D image that can be manipulated in the same way as "Google Street View".



Augmented Reality (AR) Experiences:

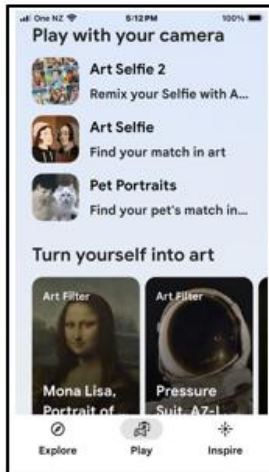
The app includes AR features that bring artworks and artefacts into your space. By using a smartphone camera, life-sized versions of famous sculptures or paintings can be brought into your living room.

Cultural Stories and Articles:

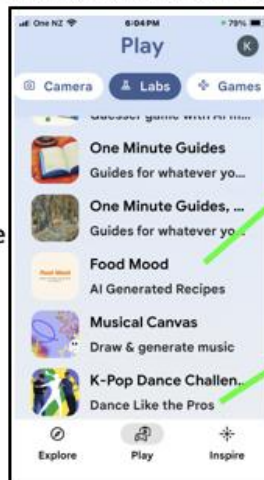
Written by experts, the app provides curated stories, articles, and editorials about art, culture, artisans and performers with a historical timeline, if required. The app takes you to space, global heritage sites and even discusses how food is reflected in culture and art.



But this is not an app just for the "culture vulture". By clicking on the [Play](#) button at the bottom of the [Explore](#) page you can have some fun with your smart device camera and play some AI generated games.



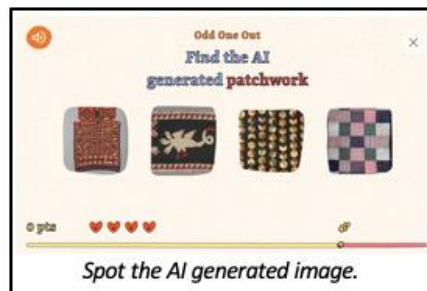
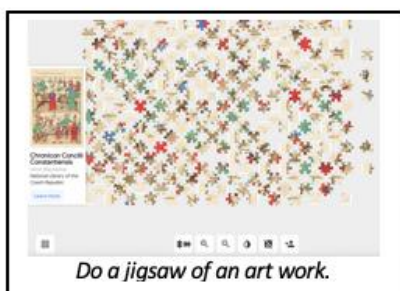
Art Selfie Using a portrait photo, either taken at the time or from your photo album you can become the Mona Lisa or a space man. Perhaps you thought that you looked like Henry VIII. AI will search the world of Art to find your doppelganger.



Labs These are games in the development stage but still lots of fun. "Food Mood" uses AI to create a recipe reflecting the cuisine of two disparate countries. The K-Pop Dance Challenge is a great way to get some exercise when it's raining outside.



Under the [Games](#) tab there are over twenty more games that all have an art and cultural theme.



Google Arts and Culture is a five-star application with such rich content you will always find something new and interesting to stimulate your mind. There are lots of videos from the app on YouTube. To get started type, "Bruegel: a fall with the Rebel Angels [Virtual Reality]" into YouTube.

ChatGPT & K Senner Aug 2024

Clipchamp Video Editor

This App is accessible via Windows Photos Settings or from the Microsoft Store. You probably don't need the paid version as it adds some commercial features such as copyright watermarks.

In Windows Photos there has been a recent change. Earlier there were separate versions for Windows 10 and Windows 11. The Windows 11 version has been remained plain Windows Photos but recent updates appear to have replaced Windows 10 photos, losing the Gallery features of People and Places searches. There are compensations as some AI features have been added to editing enabling unwanted items or even the complete background to be removed from the image. The Windows 10 version is not lost however and can be recovered as Windows Photos Legacy, also in Settings.

Back to Clipchamp. The example I used did not go well. The video was too long for the features I wished to illustrate. I can offer a good YouTube tutorial that gets it right. It is 30 minutes long — less the adds you skip.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kf_14bvASxY



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COURSE TIMETABLES, HELP DAYS AND COURSE BOOKING INFORMATION

To view all SeniorNet courses and timetable, click here

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

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY



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.
- * 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.
- * Our Courses are all held at our Learning Centre at
12 Ben Lomond Crescent, Pakuranga.
- * Please park on the road or in the Gym carpark across the road as no parking is permitted on site. **If you use the gym parking (not available Monday or Thursday mornings) it is important that you park on the left, next to the gym. You can printout the parking advice from our website (under the Courses tab) or write your own and leave on the dashboard of your car.**

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