

**SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc**  
12 Ben Lomond Crescent, Pakuranga Auckland 2010

**MARCH 2026**

Telephone 09 576 4500

Established in 1996 especially for Pakuranga, Howick and Botany residents



Our next Meeting,

**Friday 6th  
MARCH**

at 10.00am

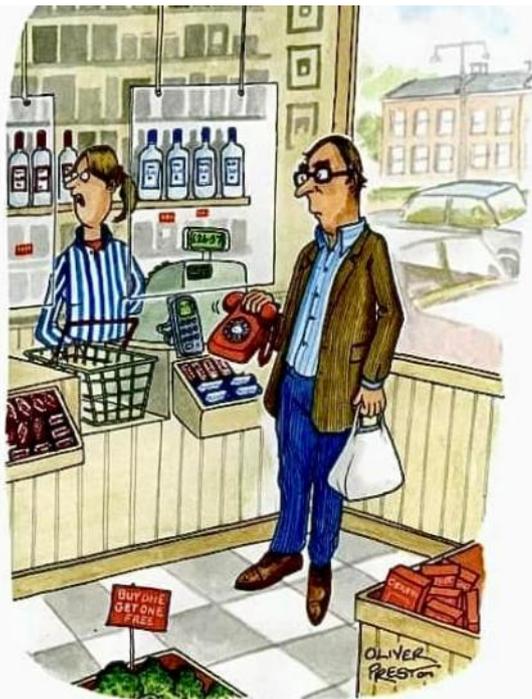
St Andrews Church Centre  
Corner Ridge Rd and Vincent St



The main entrance is in Vincent Street with parking in the grounds and disabled parking near the basement entrance.

*Visitors welcome*

Kate will be our early speaker. After morning tea our main speaker will be Amrutha Kishore who is an audiologist with Resonate.



"Nathan, there's a gentleman here trying to pay with his phone."

**2 NEW MEMBERS**



Steve Hassett  
Colleen Sweeney

## **MARCH HELP DAYS**

Monday	2nd	1pm
Thursday	12th	10am
Tuesday	17th	1pm
Tuesday	24th	10am

**Being twenty in the  
seventies was much  
more fun than being  
seventy in the  
twenties.**

We have toyed with offering workshops on AI. Kate has given many demonstrations of the power of different tools and these talks are recorded in our meeting notes published in each following newsletter. If you wish to follow up, they are all on our website [www.senpak.nz/notices/](http://www.senpak.nz/notices/) and listed by year and month.

Examples are	Dec 2025	AI bias
	Oct 2025	Notebook LM
	June 2025	Snapseed photo editing
	May 2025	Search engines and AI assistants
	Dec 2024	Transcribing speech to text
	Nov 2024	Co-Pilot Application using device camera to:
		Translate to English
		Convert handwriting to type
		Identify wildlife
		Identify art

The availability of AI tools expands rapidly as each is in search of market share and revenue. Two AI tools many of us have access to now are Microsoft Copilot and Google Gemini (usually in the form of **AI Mode** in a Google search.



This is the icon that identified Copilot's presence.

Copilot



AI Mode

The Google icons

In fact I have had a number of requests asking how to turn Copilot off in PowerPoint or Word etc.. If you want to find out just ask a Copilot how, using the browser Edge, then click on the Copilot icon and ask.

Don't abandon AI however, if you craft a questions to your particular need you will get a tailored response that saves a lot of searching that happens with regular browsing.

As I mentioned above, the Committee has looked at an AI workshop. The problem is that we are confronted with a wide range of choices in this rapidly changing technology. You can break the ice with introductory notes I have prepared- I just asked Copilot for a beginners tutorial and Cheat Sheet.

You can do the same or contact me at [brian@senpak.nz](mailto:brian@senpak.nz) and I will copy you the notes, or if you prefer ask in the same email for a workshop on Copilot and we will look at the schedule.

I did the same for Google AI mode and the response is good but in white text on black background which is bad news for printing. You can try on Chrome in AI mode just ask for a simple tutorial for AI mode.

This following clip is a humorous look at business AI help assistants courtesy of David Dwerryhouse.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1CQp5vvYPh/>

*Most worries never deserve the sleep they stole.*



Our February speaker was Sara Russ, the wonderful Bee Lady. Her amazing talk showed her passion for the incredible creatures bees are and all that they do all over the world.

Who knew that bees had five eyes and ultraviolet vision. I can understand how busy and valuable Queen bees are in their hives. Imagine her laying 2000 eggs a day and how tiny those eggs must be.

What about vomiting honey, and excreting bees wax! It is good to learn that bees won't attack unless they are made angry—so just stay still or walk away and there is no problem.

I'm only sorry I couldn't be there to hear the talk myself. I have heard several rave reviews and I'm envious of all who heard Sara. I hope another opportunity will come my way to hear this dedicated Bee Lady.

In the meantime, keep buying honey and planting a bee-friendly garden.

Dawn -  
because sadly, Kate wasn't able to attend the meeting either.



## *Ramblings*

*Dawn Howarth*

My laptop has had a problem for years where it just stops working with no warning and I lose any work I have been doing. I want to scream when it happens, but I don't, I just redo the work or decide it wasn't important anyway and I close the machine down altogether. Yesterday however when it happened again, and it was important work, I emailed the ever reliable Rein and he is coming next week to try and sort it for me. I feel relief already.

Take care out there, and appreciate **that we can think and we can do**. I only thought of that yesterday and I am so grateful I can think, not as well or profoundly as some, and I can do, again, not as well as many, but lots and lots of people can't do either. Aren't we lucky.

Keep smiling and keep trying.

*Health ignored in youth is paid for in old age.*

**COMMITTEE**

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Dogs aren't the only animal you can train. I had a goldfish that could breakdance on the carpet...but only for like 20 seconds



10-4

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HERMAN®

Linger

"Folks, the main reason you're not getting a good picture is because you bought yourselves a microwave oven."

WHEN I DUNK MY COOKIES, I OFTEN THINK OF YOU...



...AND HOLD THEM UNDER UNTIL THE BUBBLES STOP.

**Son:**  
"Dad, I've got a part in the school play, I play a man who's been married 25 years"

**Dad:**  
"Maybe next time you'll get a speaking part"

10.3K

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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/courses/>



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**NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**



*Sing in the shower*

### 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.**

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.