



SeniorNet Kapiti Inc.

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December 2006

WELCOME TO ALL MEMBERS

It is that time of year again (is it still winter) no problems with gardens needing water. SeniorNet has had a very good year and we thank all the new members and the support from existing members taking courses.

We were given funds from TEC for this year, but what is going to happen next year is still to be considered. At the moment there is a trend towards a Federation of all SeniorNets for funding purposes. I would refer you to Treasurer's report elsewhere in this newsletter.

Q&A is proving very popular and we appreciate your attendance. We need to thank Pat, Bob and Peter - your questions keep them thinking.

There is an Open Day on Tuesday 30 January 2007. These days are very important to us for enrolling new members, so please let your friends know about the advantages of joining SeniorNet. A Tutors meeting is set for Monday 5 February 2007. We would like you to come along to discuss any problems you may have and to assist us in the way we can help our students. We would like more input from our members about what other classes they would like to take and workshops.

I would like to thank our tutors who give their time to take classes and to the committee who work behind the scenes to keep SeniorNet running smoothly. We have a new editor Bob Kessler who is putting this newsletter together - thanks Bob and also to Alan Royal who runs our web page.

Wishing all members the very best for 2007 and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Jim Heron
President



Seasons Greetings



Your Executive Committee

Jim Heron	Chairman	sparkyj@paradise.net.nz	902-1763
John Penny	Treasurer	jepkapiti@paradise.net.nz	905-0483
Georgie Lowe	Secretary	gallow@paradise.net.nz	902-1377
Lois Goodsell	Committee	goodsell@paradise.net.nz	904-7558
Reg Platt	"	mexborough@paradise.net.nz	902-3123
Peter Thomson	"	peter_t@paradise.net.nz	902-3483
Gordon Wykes	"	wykes@xtra.co.nz	298-3935
Colin Watkinson	"	colinmyra@clear.net.nz	902-2374
Lois Brinck	"	jandl.brinck@paradise.net.nz	298-7797
Fred Van Soest	"	fmvs@paradise.net.nz	905-9591
Peter Ness	"	mness@paradise.net.nz	298-7378
NOTE: When contacting any of the above by E-Mail please ensure that 'SeniorNet' is clearly stated in the Subject line. High volumes of SPAM means that messages with an unclear Subject may be inadvertently discarded.			

DIARY FOR 2007

Date	Day	Time	Item
30 January	Tuesday	10:00am -2:00pm	Open Day at Learning Centre
05 February	Monday	9:30am	Tutors Meeting
06 February	Tuesday		Waitangi Day
07 February	Wednesday		Term 1, first 4-week Period starts
08 February	Thursday	9:30am	Executive Committee meeting
15 February	Thursday	9:30am	Q&A meeting
22 February	Thursday	10:00am	Workshop on Texting
06 March	Tuesday		Term 1, first 4-week Period ends
08 March	Thursday	9:30am	Executive Committee meeting
15 March	Thursday		Term 1, second 4-week Period starts
15 March	Thursday	9:30am	Q&A meeting
04 April	Wednesday		Term 1, second 4-week Period ends
06 April to 23 May			SeniorNet closed for Term Break
23 April	Monday		Term 2, first 4 week period starts
18 May	Friday		Term 2, first 4 week period ends
28 May	Monday		Term 2, second 4 week period starts
05 June	Tuesday		Queens Birthday
25 June	Monday		Term 2, second 4 week period ends

Proposed Classes for 1st Period of Term 1 2007

(Period starts Wednesday 07 February and finishes Tuesday 06 March)

TIME DAY	9:30 AM - 12 NOON (2½ hour sessions)	12 NOON – 2:00 PM (2 hour sessions)	2:00 PM – 4:30 PM (2½ hour sessions)
MONDAY	Introduction to Windows XP Part 1 4 week course	Photo Imaging & Editing Part 1 and CD Burning 4 week course	E-mail & Web Browsing 4 week course
TUESDAY	E-mail & Web Browsing 4 week course	Beginners Intro 13 Feb and 20 Feb 27 Feb and 06 Mar Both 2 week courses	Digital Cameras 4 week course
WEDNESDAY	Introduction to Microsoft Word 4 week course	Photo Imaging & Editing Part 2 8 week course	Microsoft Word <i>or</i> Windows XP/1 <i>or</i> Windows XP/2 4 week course
THURSDAY	Special Texting Workshop 22 February 10:00am	Beginners Intro 08 Feb and 15 Feb 22 Feb and 01 Mar Both 2 week courses	Power Point Slide Show 4 week course
FRIDAY	Microsoft Word <i>or</i> Windows XP/1 <i>or</i> Windows XP/2 4 week course	Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet 8 week course	Advanced Graphics Workshop 4 week course

Note: The above courses and schedules are subject to change dependent on demand

Proposed Classes for 2nd Period of Term 1 2007

(Period starts Thursday 08 March and finishes Wednesday 04 April)

TIME DAY	9:30 AM - 12 NOON (2½ hour sessions)	12 NOON – 2:00 PM (2 hour sessions)	2:00 PM – 4:30 PM (2½ hour sessions)
MONDAY	Introduction to Microsoft Word 4 week course	Zippping And Unzipping 2 week course	Introduction to Windows XP Part 1 4 week course
TUESDAY	Introduction to Windows XP Part 1 4 week course	Beginners Intro 13 Mar and 20 Mar 27 Mar and 03 Apr Both 2 week courses	E-mail & Web Browsing 4 week course
WEDNESDAY	Introduction to Windows XP Part 1 4 week course	Photo Imaging & Editing Part 2 (continued) 8 week course	E-mail & Web Browsing 4 week course
THURSDAY		Beginners Intro 15 Mar and 22 Mar 29 Mar and 05 Apr Both 2 week courses	Microsoft Word <i>or</i> Windows XP Part 1 4 week course
FRIDAY	Introduction to Windows XP Part 1 <i>or</i> Part 2 4 week course	Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet (continued) 8 week course	Advanced Graphics Workshop 4 week course

Note: The above courses and schedules are subject to change dependent on demand

From the Treasurer: The Funding Saga.

I reported in the June Newsletter that our position regarding funding would change as Aoraki Polytechnic (due to a government decision) would cease to fund SeniorNets throughout the country at the end of the year. This happened a bit faster than we expected, as Aoraki had no funds for the second half of the year. List MP Nathan Guy sent us a copy of a letter he received from the deputy PM Dr Michael Cullen explaining that the Tertiary Education Committee (TEC) was committed to discussions with Grant Sidaway, SeniorNet's ambassador at large. These discussions are about funding of a national organisation of SeniorNets. There have also been regional meetings around the country held by Grant to get a feel from all the SeniorNets whether they approve or not with the proposal to form a National Body.

At the same time Grant was able to advise all SeniorNets who were funded through Aoraki that there was \$200,000 available, and we could claim through the local ACE provider; in our case Kapiti College. We put in a claim for \$5000 and

have received that amount. Our thanks to Kapiti College in handling this transaction as there was nothing in it for them. As far as funding for 2007 it looks fairly positive even if we do not go ahead with the National organisation, as TEC will look after us the way they have for the last 2 terms this year.

Grant is still working hard with the National organisation proposal. About 75% of SeniorNets are in favour of the proposal but Wellington, the original SeniorNet, is not. They favour applying to the local ACE provider for funding. It is hard to understand how they will get money as our local ACE provider (Kapiti College) who we as a precaution have applied for funds for next year, said that the amount we have applied for exceeds what they have for their current community classes which is 15% of the money TEC funds Kapiti for Tertiary Education. This is all quite convoluted but hopefully next year it will be sorted out.

Till then have a great Christmas and we'll see you in the New Year.

John Penny

Update

Jim Heron attended a Regional SeniorNet meeting on 30 November and provides this report of what is happening to SeniorNets in the future:

- Funding for SeniorNets will be done by the T.E.C.
- SeniorNets in New Zealand are joining together to join a *Federation of SeniorNet Incorporated*. This is being co-ordinated by Grant Sidaway who has supported SeniorNet since its inception. The Federation will be responsible for arranging funding through the T.E.C.
- Each Region will nominate a member to represent them on the Federation Committee. Brian Nelson of Waikanae was nominated to represent the Wellington Region.
- Telecom has announced that after 15 years they are ending their sponsorship of SeniorNets in March, so we will lose the free phones and Internet connection they have provided. Instead, they will offer a new discount program that we will consider, along with other options.

From our Course Coordinator

Hi everyone,
Well Xmas is upon us once again,
how the year has flown.
Things have run pretty smoothly
and I hope everyone who has done
courses has enjoyed them. Lois
Brinck has done a great job with the
Tutors. Thanks Lois.

We have acquired some new Tutors
for which we are very grateful. As
usual I always make a plea for
people to come forward and offer to
tutor or assist with tutoring. The

more Tutors we have the easier it is
for us to arrange classes. Ideally
we would like three Tutors for a
class of six students. If you are
interested in doing this please
contact Lois Brinck on 298 7797 or
approach any of the committee.
We hope you all have a great Xmas
and a Happy New Year. We look
forward to you all continuing your
support for SeniorNet as all
subscriptions help our cause.
Merry Christmas Everyone.
Lois Goodsell

From our Tutor Coordinator

We have completed an extremely
busy, but fruitful year at SeniorNet.

As is to be expected – however – a
few of our long-serving and hard-
working tutors are no longer
available to take courses

We have been fortunate in being
able to add 3 or 4 new tutors to our
pool, but it is in the more advanced
programmes where proficient tutors
are a little 'thin on the ground'.

Can you HELP US, or do you know
someone who might?? Knowledge
of CD Burning, Photo Imaging &

Editing, and the use of Digital
Cameras are specific areas where
we have only one or two tutors, and
these courses are becoming very
popular.

We would REALLY appreciate more
help, as more personnel available
means tutors are called less often;
and tutors can work in twos or
threes so no one is thrown into a
class on their own!

Please contact me, Lois Brinck, at
298-7797, or Jim Heron at 902-
1763

****Special Request ****

The Committee is hoping to refresh
the décor of the SeniorNet rooms
prior to the start of the 2007 year.
For this we require several litres of
paint and, like so many other
volunteer organisations, are cash
strapped. Consequently this
request!

Do you have any USEABLE leftover
paint – white or cream preferably –
which you could donate to this
worthy cause?? Any light colour
would be considered.

If you are able to help us please
contact me, Lois Brinck, at 298-
7797 or Jim Heron at 902-1763.

From our Graphics Guru

Looking Ahead

Why is it we buy this complex expensive piece of equipment and hardly ever use it except to send and receive emails or buy stuff on "TradeMe"? What an utter waste. Now that is fine but the "Computer" is such an amazing piece of equipment. There has been nothing like it previously in our lifetime, yet we are most reluctant to use at least half it's potential. I mean we all own a car which we use every day just out of sheer laziness to go from one place to another, which only leads to mental laziness. Now if you used your computer on an equal basis to the car the mental stimulation would be just fantastic.

In recent years the additions to our computers such as scanners and digital cameras have opened up a great new world of opportunity in the digital imaging field that most of us fail to take any real advantage of. There are also many new websites with online tutorials that can take us into the world of fantasy. They should cause you to use that grey matter a great deal more, so why not give us a call at Kapiti SeniorNet and let us talk you through what we have available in specialist courses that can make life much more interesting. Ring me, Reg Platt, on 9023123 and tell me what you would like to do. I am sure we can find something right up your street.

From our Technical Advisor

If you are using AVG antivirus you need to upgrade to Version 7.5 by January 2007.

To upgrade, go to Google and type "AVG free" into the Search Bar. When Google finds the site, click on it and follow the instructions. AVG Version 7.1 stops in January so the upgrade needs to be done.

Note: AVG also has a good Anti-spyware programme.

We are running a Texting Course in February. It is a one-lesson course so we can run more than one. Book in for it by phoning Lois Goodsell on 904-7558.

Peter Thomson

Editors Note: January 2007 is also when Microsoft stops supporting the Beta version of their antispyware program, Windows Defender. Users of the Beta version will have to update to the formal release version to continue to get updates.

Go to Google and type "Windows Defender"; click on the appropriate site and follow the instructions to download and install the new version. You must have a valid version of Windows to do this as you will be required to go through their Windows Genuine Advantage procedure to verify your copy of Windows is valid.

January 31, 2007 is also the date Microsoft releases Windows Vista for retail sales.

Email Etiquette

Contributed by Pat Stephens

Sending email to our family and friends is a great way to keep in touch and to communicate with them without the expense of telephone charges. The other good thing is that the recipient doesn't have to be available when you send your message; this is good when sending emails to international time zones.

We need to be aware that some guidelines are needed to protect ourselves and our recipients from spam and viruses, to prevent offending someone, and to avoid misunderstandings.

Spelling Counts. Be informal, but not sloppy; while some of your recipients may accept a low writing standard, when you communicate to others your email reflects who you are. The usual spelling, grammar and punctuation standards apply. All email client programs have a spell check option, use it.

Don't write in all Caps. Text in all caps is interpreted as shouting; it's also more difficult to read with those senior eyes. While on the other hand using all lowercase letters looks lazy. For emphasis, use bold formatting to emphasize the important words.

Keep it short. If you want your email to be read, keep it short and to the point. Ideal length is about five sentences.

Remember email isn't private. Never put in an email message what you wouldn't put on a postcard. Emails can be forwarded by others, so unintended recipients may get to see your message. You may accidentally send a message to the wrong party, so always keep the content formal.

Take care with the subject line. If you want to get past the spam filters remove anything relating to sex, quick money making ventures, special offers and improving body parts. Use a topic that your recipient will identify with you. Leaving the subject line blank is not a good idea, as most people will immediately delete any message without one.

Use the Bcc option whenever possible. When sending an email to a group of people, use the Bcc (Blind Carbon Copy) option. This should be done for safety reasons, as there are email address-gatherers who intercept email for addresses to produce more spam.

Don't send large files. Large files sent to people on slow dial-up connections may upset them. On a slow dialup connection a 2 MB file takes about 15 minutes to download. Don't send files larger than 100 KB to dialup users unless you have their permission.

Don't forward or send chain letters, virus warnings or junk mail. These are often the tools spam address gatherers use to collect more addresses. Most virus warnings received from others are usually hoaxes and should not be forwarded. Check Symantec's Virus Hoax page, if in doubt. Visit their website at: www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html

Remove the junk. When forwarding emails remove all the attached addresses before sending. Also delete those annoying multiple (>>>>>) in front of each line. They just annoy people.

Take another look before you send a message. It's a good idea to carefully check our message before hitting the send button. Confirm that it is addressed to the right person (s). Once it's been sent there is no way of getting it back.

Sign Off. Use an identifying signature that identifies you to each message that you send. All email client programs have this option available. In Outlook Express you can find the signature option in Tools > Options and the Signature tab.

Attachments are a good way to send files by email, those family pics, video clips, sound bytes etc. But remember, the only way it will work is if the person receiving it has the program that will read the file. Use the common file extensions e.g. .jpg, .doc, .txt etc. Avoid proprietary application extensions.

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Welcome to New Members

William Adamson
Peter Burge
Blair Campbell
Jean Daniel
Graham Harrison
Beth Johston
Max King
Jill Lamboo
Trevor Morgan
Kere Ngan
Mandy Wong

Lema Bridge
Peter Burston
Hazel Collinson
Patricia Davy
Alison Johnston
David Johston
Phil Lawton
Ailsa Leggott
Nola Paterson
Margaret Parker

Special Offers to SeniorNet Members

Air New Zealand discount offer

Please pass onto your members an offer by Air New Zealand Ltd, which provides a \$100 saving off an Air New Zealand holiday. SeniorNet members will need to simply quote the special promotion code when booking to achieve the discount. Details about the offer can be found on www.seniornet.co.nz in the "What's New section" so it would be a good idea to include this in your very next newsletter to members.

Ergonomic Monomouse

Many of the Auckland SeniorNet Societies have recently had presentations from an Auckland based distributor of a rather unique computer mouse. The distributor contacted me this week offering a significant discount to all SeniorNet members nationwide. Details of the mouse and how to order can also be found on www.seniornet.co.nz in the "What's New" section from Monday 4th December. The normal retail price is \$60 +GST SeniorNet members can purchase directly from the distributor for \$35 +GST (delivery included).

Newsletter Distribution

Effective with this issue we are using E-mail as the primary method of distributing the Newsletters Members with an E-mail address registered with us will receive this as an Attachment in 'PDF' format. The free Adobe Reader program will open the Attachment for reading and/or printing. Members who are not on our E-mail list will continue to receive their copy by 'snail mail', but are encouraged to use E-Mail and/or provide their address to us. Simply send an E-mail to seniornet.kapiti@xtra.co.nz with 'New Address' in the Subject line.

Waiver

From time to time some of our members give help and advice to other members on matters relating to computers and associated equipment. This help or advice is given in good faith, is taken solely at the recipients risk, and imposes no responsibility or liability of any kind, either on those providing such help or advice, or on SeniorNet Kapiti.

Course Application for 2007 Term 1

Please complete the following form and send with your fees to:

The Secretary
SeniorNet Kapiti Inc.
P.O. Box 522
Paraparaumu

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No _____ **E-mail address** _____

\$ _____ enclosed for the course(s) indicated below:

X	Course Name	Cost	Period/Day/Time
	Beginners Introduction to Computers (2 weekly sessions of 2 hours each)	Free	
	Introduction to Windows XP Part 1 (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$40.00	
	Introduction to Windows XP Part 2 (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$40.00	
	Introduction to Microsoft Word (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$45.00	
	Email & Web Browsing (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$45.00	
	Digital Cameras (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$40.00	
	Photo & Imaging Part 1 and CD Burning (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$40.00	
	Photo & Imaging Part 2 (8 weekly sessions of 2 hours each)	\$60.00	
	Advanced Graphics Workshop (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$40.00	
	Power Point Slide Show (4 weekly sessions of 2½ hours each)	\$40.00	
	Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet (8 weekly sessions of 2 hour each)	\$60.00	
	Zippping/Unzipping (2 weekly sessions of 2 hours each)	\$25.00	
	Texting Workshop (Special 1-day workshop on 22 February)	TBD	

The following courses can also be offered so please let us know if you are interested.
4 week courses: Microsoft Publisher (\$40), Microsoft Paint (\$40), Scanning (\$40)
8 week courses: Microsoft Data Base (\$60), Intermediate Word Processing (\$60)
2 week courses: Gift Tags (\$15)

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wishes a happy Christmas to all Senionet members



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Kapiti Coast



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Email: kapitigreypower@paradise.net.nz



**The Active Organisation protecting the rights
of senior citizens and others over 50 years.**

Pop into our offices, at the Community Services Centre, Coastlands Shoppingtown,
and find out what we have to offer.

Find out about our Shoppers Discount guide and the Odd Job scheme - obtain
literature - and while you are there have a cuppa and chat with our friendly staff.

Our office hours are **Monday to Friday 10.00am to 4.00pm.**