



Greetings to all members,

Since the last Newsletter our AGM has been and gone and a new Committee has elected. The day was a little different as we had Brian Nelson our local Federation representative speaking in addition to our guest speaker, Tyrone Coupland, who gave us an insight into blogging.

I know that Brian was very impressed with the turnout.

On the personal front, as Christine and I have not been teaching having been away, we both had a bit of a rest during Term 3. While I was away SeniorNet ticked over with no problems as usual thanks to the great team you have. As it happened, our student numbers were down this Term, and didn't pass the century mark for the first time in several years.

Why are people not taking Courses? We have over 500 members and many do not take Courses. Why?? We have instituted some new Courses in TradeMe and Blogging and, as you will read, two special pre – Xmas, New Year Courses have been arranged. So – why not sign up today!!

We got back to find everything is normal as within a few days came the Xtra Bubble problem. Why is it when you hear that terrible phrase, “the service to customers will be enhanced, improved and upgraded”, you immediately know it will be worse and cost more!! We hope that does not happen at SeniorNet.

SeniorNet of course kept its members as up to date as it could with the situation through our blog www.seniornethuttcity.blogspot.com.

Talking about ISP's, have those with Telstra taken the advantage of the opportunity to bring some extra funds into the Federations coffers ? Cash is always welcome as funding has, at the time of writing, been cut from \$3.50 per learner hour to \$1.70 due to even more last minute rule changes by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). Discussions with TEC are ongoing as they say. It is frustrating that after telling us one thing they then change the rules, all at the last moment.

The good news is the member discounts available on the SeniorNet NZ website and we have joined a Federation Insurance scheme which will save us around \$400 per year.

Another exciting development was the first Federation Tutors' meeting hosted by SeniorNet Porirua which was most successful and is covered further on in the Newsletter.

Our Tech Team continue their hard work and are currently investigating Vista and Office 2007 which are quite changed. The Committee recently decided to purchase a Laptop (which has Vista and Office 2007 installed) together with a projector. This has enabled the Tech Team to organise and run explanatory workshops for our Tutors. They have been so enthusiastically received that we have had to hire rooms at the WEA to cater for numbers. Once the Tutors have been covered we will arrange further meetings for members.

The Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act came into effect on 5 September. After that date commercial email promotions (Spam) from New Zealand cannot be sent so we are all being inundated with last-ditch, mass spamming efforts as companies seek permission to keep sending messages. Since 99% of Spam originates overseas (mainly the United States) it will have no real effect. Plus our ISPs are pretty vigilant in not letting spammers use their facilities.

To entice people to sign up many companies are having competitions for those who do as they are concerned that customer inertia will decrease their database quite significantly. As you must sign up for Xtra's Bubble it will be intriguing to see how many don't and then get disconcerted when their Webmail doesn't work. Moreover, they will probably only find out when they are at an Internet Café overseas.

The last term of the year will be underway shortly and we urge everybody to consider taking a Course or to volunteer to help us in some way.

Best wishes

Wayne Meredith

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?" "Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her. There was a moment of silence before the lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."



Tip – In Word 2003 to never lose most of your typing AUTOSAVE > Tools-Options - Select Save tab - Click "Save AutoRecover info every ...” And make it 1 Minute.

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FEDERATION OF NEW ZEALAND SENIOR NET SOCIETIES INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The inaugural Annual General Meeting of the Federation was held in Wellington on the 20 June 2007. It was attended by about 30 Club representatives including four from Hutt City. This was an excellent turnout considering members had to travel from all over the country. We were particularly impressed with the presentation and performance of the Federation Executive at the meeting and are confident that the Federation is in extremely capable hands.

All members of the interim committee were re-elected unopposed and we were advised that 81 clubs are now affiliated to the Federation. An office has been established by Grant Sidaway at Level 7, 116 Featherston Street, Wellington and he is busy trying to obtain various member and Club discounts. These will be listed on the Federation Website as they are obtained. (Since the AGM he has arranged an insurance offer that will save us around \$400 per annum.) The usual formal procedures were attended to and at the end various general matters discussed. We know even further progress will be made over the next 12 months. All in all it was an extremely interesting and informative meeting.

A FLASH DRIVE OR PEN DRIVE? *(that is the question my dear Watson)*

Oddly, the industry (and ourselves for that matter) can't seem to settle on a name.

In New Zealand they are usually called Flash Drives but various names are used including pen drives, jump drives, memory sticks, key drives, thumb drives and Data Travellers (a name popular in the UK). What do you call yours ?

As is often the case these handy drives are the unintended consequence of an innovation intended for something else.

Flash drives exist because of a previous invention — the Universal

Serial Bus port (USB). The USB Port wasn't designed with flash drives in mind.

A decade ago, printers, external disk drives and other peripherals were always plugged into those multiholed parallel or serial ports on the backs of PCs. Those ports tended to transfer data slowly.

In 1996, the industry agreed on USB as a new port design — smaller, easier to plug into and much faster. This was before the widespread adoption of broadband, MP3s or digital cameras. USB was primarily for backing up files on external floppy drives and Zip drives.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS NOW SPOKE



I HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING

Recently The Telegraph newspaper, keen to preserve the English language against a rising tide of nonsense, asked readers to compose a piece of prose crammed with as many modern “management speak” phrases as possible.

It seems that we should be looking for SeniorNet Tutors who are -
“Proactive, passionate, self-starting facilitators required to empower cohorts of students enabling them to become early adopters, facilitating appropriate skills to entrée the curriculum while ensuring they are all singing from the same hymn sheet delivering reachable but challenging outcomes.”

As for all us retirees – it seems we need a re-appraisal of our situation -
“Retirement has required a rigorous and robust reassessment of our core competencies, visions and values. Leveraged away from our work-stations, a raft of financial and strategic options underpins and overarches the reinvention of our Lifestyle Mission Statement (LMF’s).

This has not been a seamless transition and does not locate us in a win-win situation window per se. Restricted income generation has forced not only a realignment of our cost base, necessitating in-depth fire-fighting in order to deliver best cost benefited value and major pencil sharpening.

A re-evaluation of our methodologies has led to a global and localised environmental sea-change and a need to interactively drill down to assess needs. Tasked with delivering sustainable growth in an external - internal global environment, a market driven work-in-progress must encompass benchmarking against world best practice, thereby applying meaningful risk-assessment and bringing to the table change management principles appropriate to the diverse peripherals now present.

Our draft self-assessment analysis contains transparent aims and objectives to be land-banked, thereby applying joined-up thinking to facilitate transparent piloting of the river of maturity, developing synergies to enhance our contentment parameters. “



TIP - Never carry out any major change without creating a Restore Point (see next item)



Why did my screen turn sideways ?

One of our members has a cat which walked across the keyboard, whilst his PC was running. The result: a complete 90° turn of the desktop screen picture. *One cure would have been to have turned his monitor onto its side - not really recommended!*

The cat had caused the problem by inadvertently pressing a particular sequence of keys. The Tech Team found the cure was to use the following particular sequence: Hold down **Ctrl** and **Alt** and quickly tap the **up arrow**. If this doesn't work use **SYSTEM RESTORE**. To create one - START, ALL PROGRAMS, ACCESSORIES, SYSTEM TOOLS, SYSTEM RESTORE, CREATE A RESTORE POINT, TYPE A NAME, CREATE, CLOSE.

A WELL PLANNED LIFE????

Two women met for the first time since graduating from high school. One asked the other, "You were always so organized in school, Did you manage to live a well planned life? "

"Yes," said her friend. "My first marriage was to a millionaire; my second marriage was to an actor; my third marriage was to a preacher; and now I'm married to an undertaker."

Her friend asked, "What do those marriages have to do with a well planned life?"

"One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

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One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

FROM THE STUDENT CO-ORDINATOR Jeanette

The last term for 2007 is almost upon us! Did you make a New Years resolution to learn something new this year? If so it's still not too late to enrol in one of SeniorNet courses. There are several new courses too.

Christmas Card and Gift Tags. This is for those people who have already completed the Card Making course.

Calendar Making. Again this is for those who have already completed the card making course.

Both of these classes teach you how to make very special cards and personalised calendars that you can use or give as a great gift.

TradeMe remains a very popular class. If you are going to enrol for this class you must be familiar with using email and the internet. You will need to know your password so that you can access your server from another computer.

We can tell you how to do this.

For those who have completed the Email and Internet Course there is the "Blogging for Seniors" Course.

Do look at the list of classes available and **enrol as soon as possible**.

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFORMATION

Previously we have taken two pages of the Newsletter to cover important Member information such as Emergency Procedures, Unauthorised Use of our Manuals, Telephone usage, Payments by Cheque only, our Waiver etc. To provide more information within the Newsletter we shall now only print the full details every 6 months. Full details are posted on the Notice Boards at the Centre and all members need to read these every time they visit the Centre. It is especially important that you read the Emergency Procedures and our Waiver statement.

AUTOMATIC XP WINDOWS UPDATES --- As we advise, with the daylight saving changes this year, Microsoft will make the change automatically through its update system. It is best that you configure your PC to automatically download updates but it is also best that you do not allow them to automatically install.

To do this

Start <> Right Click My Computer <> Properties <> Click Automatic Updates tab <> Click the Automatic Option to turn on Automatic Updates <> Select an Update Schedule <> Select a time or preferably select a semi-automatic update option that allows you to approve the installation <> OK

Another idea is to set a Restore Point before you install an update so that if it does cause a problem you can return to your previous settings.

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CHANGING YOUR ICON PICTURE – If you want to do this, Right Click the Icon, Click Properties, click Customize tab, click Change Icon Button, select a picture from the list, OK.

TROUBLE LOCATING YOUR MOUSE POINTER ON THE SCREEN - XP has a 'mouse sonar' option which will cause your mouse pointer to pop-up a little concentric ring around itself to show you where it is. Go to 'start <> control panel <> mouse <> choose the 'pointer options' tab and check the 'show location of pointer when I press the control key' box.



A WARNING - DON'T BE A MULE

*A mule is an animal with long funny ears
Kicks up at anything he hears
His back is brawny and his brain is weak
He's just plain stupid with a stubborn streak
And by the way, if you hate to go to school
You may grow up to be a mule*

New Zealanders are unwittingly being used as "mules" in money-laundering. The police have been dealing with up to 10 cases a week, including that of a Canterbury man who had lost \$18,000.

While some people had been scammed most were being used as "mules" to filter dirty money, unwittingly supporting crime overseas and offences of money laundering.

Money laundering involved trying to disguise the trail of money obtained illegally by feeding it into innocent people's bank accounts to "clean" it. The fraudsters often paid for a legitimate item being sold on an internet auction site or a tourism booking.

Typically, they would pay far more than what was asked for. They would then deliver a sob story on why the goods could not be bought and ask for a refund.

Something like, 'Look, my wife has been killed in an accident', or 'My wife has been diagnosed with cancer', and they will have to cancel the trip or can no longer go through with the purchase.

The scammer would ask for the refund to be made to a different bank account, often Western Union, and often in a different country, which made it almost impossible to trace. In the Christchurch case, the man lost the \$18,000 after he refunded a cancelled tourist booking.

The victim was unaware the scammer had put a stop on the credit card payment for the booking after he had already refunded the money.

If ever you receive more money than you asked for or in excess of what the product or services are worth, this should raise your suspicions. Then, if a refund is to be sent to a different account – often in a country where corruption is rife - this should really raise your concerns.

A TIP FOR YOU



DISABLING THE **INSERT** KEY



You are merrily typing away and making some spelling mistake alterations as you go. Then suddenly you look at the screen and see that the INSERT key has been inadvertently turned on and you have been deleting all the letters to the right. You then say ... %^(#(*@\$ (is there a translation to that??)

You then ask yourself - does anybody actually use the INSERT key? Probably not.

Can I turn it off? Yes – and here is the answer -

In Word click TOOLS - CUSTOMIZE – OPTIONS – KEYBOARD

In the CATEGORIES box (look in the left pane) select ALL COMMANDS and then in the COMMANDS box (right pane) select OVERTYPE. In the CURRENT KEYS box highlight INSERT and click Remove.

It is as simple as that.

ODE TO SPAM I AM



I do not want to read your spam
I do not want it, Sam I Am
I do not want to read your jokes
That virus warning? It's a hoax!

Don't send me tests I must
complete
Or cutesy poems that are so sweet
I get enough of spam, I do
I hate to see it come from you

Spam offers drugs to make me
strong
Or make some part of me grow
long
So, when a joke or tale you see
Please, please don't hit that forward
key

Instead, why don't you drop a line?
How are your kids? Is your life fine?
I'll be so glad you didn't spam
Thank you, thank you, Sam I am

*(Author; Mary Egidio - thanks to SeniorNet
Eden Roskill & Dr Suess))*

FREE RETIREMENT GUIDE BOOKS

We have been sent a box of these which are just inside the door.

Please help yourself.

(There are 2 cowboys in the kitchen – which is the real one – The one on the range)

**BUBBLE**

wrong it really goes wrong !!

Technology – when it goes

(Note the new web address for Xtra is now <http://nz.yahoo.com> and you click the Yahoo!Xtra Bubble link not the Webmail link which will take you to Yahoo.)

TelecomXtra introduced a new system and you would have all heard about the problems that have now cost the company around \$7 million dollars.

To assist members manage the new system and to provide some information to help overcome the problems instigated by the changes we have been placing information on our Blogsite – www.seniornethuttcity.blogspot.com

The main problem seemed to be that legitimate emails that have always arrived in the past were being identified as Spam and not delivered to your Outlook Express. The latest seems to be that they have decreased their anti-spam guidelines which is meaning more Spam is getting through.

The information posted on our Blog is summarised below:

- **The original sign up problems have now been solved.**
- **You must sign up for the new bubble system.**
- **When signing up you must use your full email address ie ...xtra.co.nz**
- **Do not download the software - unless you particularly want to.**
- **A window may come up about a Chat program. The only way you can get rid of it is to click on the "continue" button and when a couple of other windows appear close them.**
- **You will then get the new Webmail interface.**
- **It is important that you now click on the Spam folder then go through the Spam and tick as Not Spam any legitimate emails you find. They will then be downloaded as usual when you go back to your Outlook Express.**
- **Click the Empty button beside the Spam folder and then confirm deletion.**

We were unable to find out how long this problem was expected to remain but we thought you should continue for at least 2/3 weeks after you have found a legitimate email. However with the perceived change to their anti-spam rules you may find that no legitimate emails are now being directed to the Spam folder.

We shall continue to update members, as necessary, through the blog.

Tutor Report

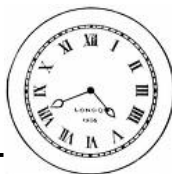
This has been another busy term for tutors, with slightly fewer students than usual, which helped us to handle the annual flight of tutors to warmer parts of the globe. Those tutors remaining coped very well and as always, a lot of work has gone on behind the scenes, preparing new courses and learning to come to terms with Vista which some of our students are using

I'm sure everyone present enjoyed the lunch, held in August. You all contribute so much, and it was good to see so many of you there.

Many thanks to all our Term 3 Tutors, including those who filled in from time to time, and of course, the Back Room Bunch who keep all the wheels running smoothly behind the scenes. We've been delighted to welcome new tutors and we hope to see much more of you. My thanks to them and to all the rest of the team.

You've all done a great job. We value you all.

Barbara Macdonald



DAYLIGHT

SAVING

Most computers are programmed to automatically change the time display when Daylight Saving starts and finishes. This year, the start and finish dates have been altered. At the end of August, Microsoft issued a Windows update for the program to make the changes on the correct dates. If you have been regularly carrying out your Windows updates you will have already downloaded and installed this one. No further action should be necessary.

As usual, when you first start your computer after the changeover date, Windows will ask you to verify that the change to the time has been altered correctly.

The update is not provided for operating systems earlier than Windows XP. For those, the times will change on the original dates.

FEDERATION TUTOR'S MEETING AT PORIRUA ON 25 JULY

Raewyn and Tony Davies, Noel Bradbury, Roy Northey, Pam McParland and Jeanette Gregor and I went along and, as one would expect of anything involving Grant Sidaway, it was a most informative yet relaxed learning experience for all concerned. It may not have been quite so relaxed when Raewyn and I had centre stage but that's another issue.

We were given insights into Vista, Blogging (Raewyn's slot), Skype (one really doesn't need to pay a lot on tolls with this little computer add-on) and

Movie Making. Wow the possibilities in computing are almost endless provided one takes the initiative and explores the avenues open to them. SeniorNet is a great place to start so ***if you have an area of expertise that you would like to share with others please let your Tutor or one of the Committee members know.***

Anyway, back to the day, we started with a cuppa when we arrived, had two sessions and then had a break for a lovely lunch followed by two more sessions before we called it day. Each group represented was given handouts or CD's of the presentations to take back to their Learning Centre.

I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and even those who didn't think they would use the demonstrated subjects still found it quite worthwhile. In fact Grant himself said that he had had little interest in blogging but was going to give it a go. Nice one Raewyn. *Nickie Belworthy*

WINDOWS VISTA

>>> **We** already have some members with Windows Vista installed on their computers as the operating system. Purchase of a new computer is likely to include Vista as standard. Other members may be thinking of upgrading to Vista.

The system currently installed at the Learning Centre is Windows XP and the manuals are written on that basis.

We have purchased a lap-top (now becoming better described as a notebook) and have installed Vista Home Premium on it. So far, we have used it to demonstrate Vista to tutors and some members. To provide for group sessions, we have also purchased a projector.

There are many other demonstrations and presentations they can be used for and these are being developed.

We are also planning to install Vista on at least one computer in each classroom to be able to deal with students' questions on Vista reasonably quickly.

MS OFFICE 2007

>>> **Word** processing programmes provided with Vista are limited in scope. It is usually necessary to purchase a version of MS Office. This is a group of programmes including Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

The version installed at the learning centre is MS Office 2003 and the manuals are based on that. The version currently available is MS Office 2007 and it is likely to be installed on new computers. Earlier versions of MS Office can be used in conjunction with Vista.

The lap-top is being used to demonstrate MS Office 2007 as well as Vista.

MS Word 2007 exhibits an arrangement of tools substantially different from that available in MS Word 2003. Most of our manuals will need substantial editing to make them compatible with MS Word 2007 and Office 2007.

As an interim step, separate notes are being produced for members who have MS Office 2007 at home. These notes show, in diagrams, what the various windows look like, and how to use them, when using the Start Menu, opening, saving and printing files.

OFFICE 2007 USES NEW FILE FORMATS

So you need to download new software to open any files saved in the new format if you are using any Office software dated prior to 2007.

Office 2007 is a major upgrade to the suite and looks different from earlier versions but there's more to the upgrade than a facelift.

Crazy as it may seem to all but Microsoft, the 2007 version of Office creates files for Word, Excel and PowerPoint in a different format which means you can't open Office 2007 files in earlier versions of the program!!!

However there is a free solution called Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack for Word, Excel, and PowerPoint 2007 File Formats.

Go to the www.microsoft.com site and search for "Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack" and download it.

Another option is to go back to the sender and ask them to re-save and re-send the files in an old format.

On a lighter note...

SENIORS' STORY

An elderly couple was celebrating their sixtieth anniversary. The couple had married as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighbourhood after they retired. Holding hands they walked back to their old school. It was not locked, so they entered and found the old desk they'd shared, where Andy had carved "I love you Sally"

On their way back home, a bag of money fell out of an armoured car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up, but not sure what to do with it, they took it home. There, she counted the money – fifty thousand dollars.

Andy said, "We've got to give it back"

Sally said, "Finders keepers."

She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic.

The next day, two FBI men were canvassing the neighbourhood looking for the money, and knocked on their door. "Pardon me, but did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armoured car yesterday?"

Sally said, "No "

Andy said, "She's lying, she hid it up in the attic"

Sally said, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile"

The agents turn to Andy and begin to question him. One says: "Tell us the story from the beginning."

Andy said, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday....."

The First FBI guy turns to his partner and says, "We're outta here"

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A PRINTING TIP >>>>

Q. I received an email and it is in blue type. I would like to print it in black rather than using colour ink.

A. Go to File, Print, Preferences, and select Print Color Images in Black and White.