



SeniorNet Porirua Inc



Newsletter

www.seniornet-porirua.org.nz

December 2010



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT Term 4, 2010

That's it for 2010. We have reached the end of the annual school year and with that the end of the present decade. What has

been achieved so far?

As a group of individuals, both Tutors and committee genuinely aim to please. We try to pass on our knowledge, give freely of our time and be helpful to the students.

You, our members and customers will have to be the judges.

This past year has followed the usual pattern since we have been in "business".

We are now caught up in a trend of diminishing numbers of students and smaller classes.

This raises some problems for the steering committee. We can no longer guarantee that we can run all the classes as advertised. With the best will in the world we cannot expect a Tutor to front a class with only one applicant. We have tried to run some classes (and workshops) with the minimum of two students. This would be alright if both students attended every time. But people do get sick or have family matters to attend to which then poses a dilemma.

It's almost inevitable that this trend will continue. We are after all concentrating our efforts on the "older" age group and every one of us are adding on the years. How then can we renew and invigorate ourselves?

The youngest age of new applicants is 55.

These people left school say about 1973.

Were schools leavers already computer literate at that age? I would think not.

There may still be a 12-15 year gap before computers commonly appeared in schools.

Many of us may have first come in contact with early computers through work, attended to by gurus in white coats behind sealed doors.

What was your experience? I'll leave you with the question.

We share in common with all Kiwi families, the wish for better things to come.

The year 2010 has been a tough year. May you all have a happy, contented Christmas without stress.

Peter Badart



Merry
Christmas



APPLICATIONS CLOSE FOR TERM 1

Friday	28 January
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SENIORNET - START OF TERM 1

Monday	14 February
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TUTORS SESSION

Wednesday	9 February
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AN OPEN DAY WILL BE HELD

Wednesday 26 January

Where: Ngati Toa School
Piko Street, Titahi Bay
Room 2

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm



You are all welcome to attend and please bring a friend

- * Come and talk to our tutors
- * Receive Assistance
- * Check out the equipment
- * Friendly atmosphere

Light refreshments will be served



THANKS TO THESE TERM 4 TUTORS 2009

Introduction to Computers

Graham Alexander Ron Dunbar
Enid Alexander Keith Wood

Word Processing – L1

Margot Stuart Colin Young

Word Processing – L2

Sean O'Neil Peter Phipps

Digital Camera Use

Peter Badart

Genealogy

Laurie Davies Margot Stuart

Email and Internet

Bob Pretty

Spreadsheets

Graham Ellett

WORKSHOPS

Trade Me Margot Stuart

File Management Laurie Davies

Flash Drives Ron Dunbar

Using Skype Peter Badart

Computer Care/Security Peter Badart

CD Burning Ron Dunbar

PROPOSED COURSE TIMETABLE For Term One 2011

Introduction to Computers	Mon Thur	pm am
WP1	Fri	am
WP2	Wed	am
Internet	Mon	am
Email	Mon	am
Desktop Publishing	Tues	am
Digital Camera Group	Fri	pm

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION



Would you like to pass on a copy of your newsletter to a friend so that they could join us next year? An annual subscription only costs \$20.00. In addition a small course fee covers the cost of classroom rental, a course manual and disk

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS



Janet Berry
Clive Edney
Joan Kirby
Christine Sturgess

Marlene Collins
Fay Jacobsen
Mariana Sanders
Lyn Tomlinson

A friend of ours living in Auckland found his computer would not switch on, so he decided to take it in for repair.



They said it would be fixed in two days and it had been over a week, so he phoned them to see why he hadn't heard anything.

The lady on the phone got a bit stroppy with him, told him it was the Power Pack, and said "we sent you an e-mail and you didn't even bother to reply!!"

His reply was "helloooo...how could I get the e-mail when you have my computer?"

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS



If you have any contributions for the next newsletter, including obituaries of past members, items of interest or news, jokes, useful hints etc, then please send them to

margots@xtra.co.nz

Please put **SeniorNet News** in the Subject Line

Close your eyes and press escape three times

HOW MUCH RAM DOES YOUR COMPUTER HAVE?

You can determine the amount of Physical RAM (that is RAM installed on your system's mother board) by right-clicking on **My Computer** then choose **Properties**

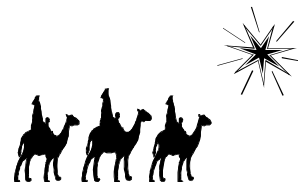


These are some guidelines for the minimum amount of RAM you should have

- Windows XP 1GB of RAM or more
- Windows Vista Basic; Home Premium; Vista Business 2 GB of RAM or more, Windows Vista Ultimate 4GB or RAM
- Windows 7 Basic and Home Premium 2GB or RAM or more. All other versions 4 GB of RAM or more.

Windows 32bit systems can only use around 4GB or RAM, whereas 64bit systems can use virtually as much as you want to install. Check with your manufacturer if in doubt.

(D)inner not ready: (A)bort (R)etry (P)izza



SEARCH THE NZ INTERNET ON EASYFIND



Search the NZ Internet
A New and Easy Way

- 4 Simple Clicks - Nothing to Type
- Select Websites in your Own Region
- 100s of Categories

www.EasyFind.co.nz

Your Home
Shopping
Business
Your Health
Food / Drink
Seniors
Holidays

This is a very simple and easy way to look around the New Zealand Internet without having to type Anything!

EasyFind contains over 22,600 links to New Zealand websites. You can find almost anything in your own region within 4 simple clicks.

There are Links to: Today's News, Weather, Today's TV, and Daily Quiz.

Our Information section has Easy Links to: Correct time, Calculator, Online Bible, Dictionary, Bus time tables, Government links, Lotto results.....and heaps more.
www.easyfind.co.nz

Blessed are the cracked, for they let in the light!

A man and his daughter were sitting in the den and the man said to her.

"I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle to keep me alive. That would be no quality of life at all, if that ever happens, just pull the plug."

She got up, unplugged the computer and threw out the wine



THE SENILITY PRAYER



Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do and the eyesight to tell the difference.

MICROSOFT ERROR REPORTING



Every time a Microsoft program crashes in Windows XP an Error Report comes up allowing you to send some information on the crash to Microsoft.

This can get quite annoying, so here is how you disable it.

- Click Start
- Right-Click 'My Computer'
- Click on 'Properties'
- Click on 'Advanced Tab'
- Click on 'Error Reporting'
- Choose Enable or Disable as below.



WHAT IS TINY URL?

It is a program that shortens long URL's to just twenty to thirty characters like the following:

www.exampleaddr.com/files/download.php?fid=1&mqmapid=300&mqmap.y=75&mapdata

to this

www.tinyurl.com

Which one is the better? Obviously the shorter one – but ...

The Downside

Sending a shortened URL means you lose all of the context that normal URLs provide. A link like the short one above tells you nothing about where you're going to link to.

The Good side

Obviously, a Tiny URL is much shorter and easy to memorize. The Tiny URL is definitely good for posting to your email, blog or Facebook, MySpace etc.

The interesting thing about tiny urls is that you can predict what URL's it gives to other people. All the URLs it gives out are combinations of one, two or three lowercase letters and numbers. If, as you'd expect, it's programmed to serve the shortest ones first, then (given that it's now generating three-letter codes) all the two-letter codes must already have been generated.

So if you pick one or two letters or numbers, you can jump to a page quickly.

Here are some examples with the one, two or three extensions:

<http://tinyurl.com/6>

This is a map of St Paul, MN.

Things really get interesting in three letters.

<http://tinyurl.com/1s7>

Hydroponics

<http://tinyurl.com/3lj>

Photos of segregation in the 60s

RETIRED GRANDPARENTS

(This was actually reported by a teacher)

After Christmas, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holiday away from school. One child wrote the following:

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa.



They used to live in a lovely house but they got retarded and they moved to a village. Now they live in a box sort of house.

They ride around on their bicycles and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore. They go to a building called a wreck center, They do exercises there, but they don't do them very well.

Sometime they sneak out to golf but their bits are getting stiff. Also they need operations to fix some of their parts. There is a swimming pool too, but they all jump up and down in it with hats on. At their gate, there is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape.

Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And, they eat the same thing every night ...early birds. Some of the people can't get out past the man in the doll house. The ones who do get out, bring food back to the wrecked center for pot luck.

Grandma says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too...When I earn my retardment - I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out, so they can visit their grandchildren

Mental backup in progress – Do Not Disturb!



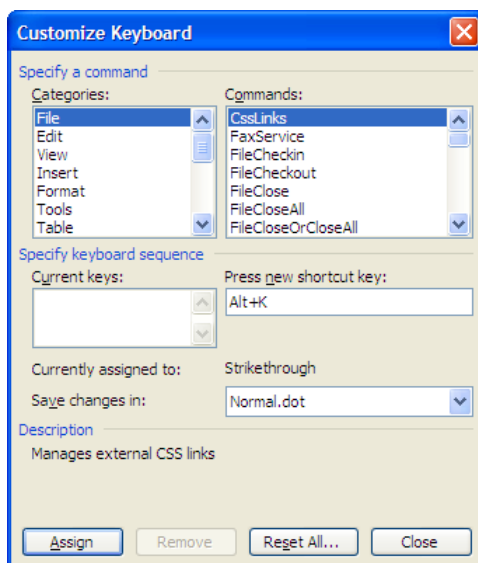
USING THE KEYBOARD COMMAND FOR STRIKETHROUGH

By default windows does not have a shortcut key for strikethrough – but this shows you how to make one with a word document instead of going up to the Format and Font etc

1. Go to Tools
2. Customize
3. Commands Tab
4. Click on Keyboard
5. Then under the Categories panel on the left scroll down to 'All Commands'
6. Then on the right hand panel under 'Commands' scroll down to Strikethrough. This panel is alphabetical
7. Under 'Press new shortcut key' hold down the Alt key and tap the letter K. It will automatically put in the + sign
8. Click on Assign

Next time you write a word and you want the strikethrough – just click on the word and tap the Alt key and the letter K. Voila!
~~Stikethrough~~

You can actually do this for anything that you need as a shortcut. You just need to give it a different shortcut key combination. The computer will tell you if it is already in use by another shortcut – so you can't go wrong. When I did the above one the Alt and K were not in use so you should be able to use it.



*There's no such thing as a stupid question,
but they are the easiest to answer*

True Story from Tech Support

Caller: "Hello, is this Tech Support?"



Tech: "Yes it is and how may I help you?"

Caller: "The cup holder on my PC is broken and I am within my warranty period. How do I go about getting that fixed?"

Tech: "I'm sorry, but did you say cup holder?"

Caller: "Yes, it is attached to the front of my PC."

Tech: "Please excuse me if I seem to be a bit stumped, it's because I am. Did you receive this as a part of a promotional, at a trade show? How did you get this cup holder? Does it have a trademark on it?"

"Caller: "It came with my computer, I don't know anything about a promotion, it just has '4X' on it."

At this point the tech had to mute the caller, because he couldn't stand it.

The caller had been using the loader drawer for the CD-ROM drive as a cup holder, and snapped it off the drive.

DIGITAL CAMERA INTEREST GROUP



This is an interest group within the Porirua SeniorNet organisation giving the opportunity to meet in an informal group to discuss and exchange ideas, techniques and generally assist each other to improve their photographic skills.

The group was started about 18 months ago and this year we have had a nucleus of 6 to 8 members who have met each month to discuss editing photos, stitching photos to form a panorama, composing a slide show with music and any general computer problems encountered along the way.

A highlight of each meeting is the selection of the photo of the month taken of a nominated subject.

The photo chosen is not necessarily the best photo but that which members vote worthy of display on the club room notice board.



Any member who has a digital camera and/or has completed the Digital Camera Course and wishes to learn more, or discuss problems and ideas is welcome, no special photographic skills required.

Usually held on the third Friday of the month at 1.30pm

There is no charge just a gold coin donation to defray expenses.

If you are interested please contact:



Ron Dunbar

Phone: 237 7156,

Email: ron-d@slingshot.co.nz

Old age is coming Fight it!

Two elderly women were eating breakfast in a restaurant one morning. Ethel noticed something funny about Mabel's ear and she said,



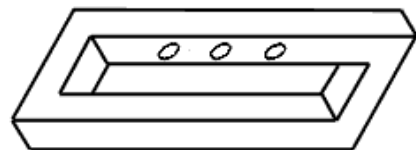
"Mabel, do you know you've got a suppository in your left ear?"

Mabel answered, "I have a suppository in my ear?" She pulled it out and stared at it. Then she said,

"Ethel, I'm glad you saw this thing. Now I think I know where to find my hearing aid."

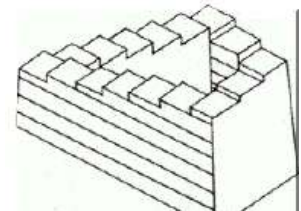
The trouble with bucket seats is that not everyone has the same size bucket

OPTICAL ILLUSIONS



Are the circles in or out?

Which is the lowest step?



GENEALOGY MESSAGE BOARDS (Links for posting messages)



- 1) First page type in surname
- 2) Post new Message is at the bottom of the page that comes up

www.genforum.genealogy.com

- 1) Click on message boards
- 2) Browse the surnames until you find the one you want
- 3) Click on Post new Message at the top of the page

<http://boards.rootsweb.com>

<http://rsl.rootsweb.com>

<http://boards.ancestry.com/mbexec/board/an/surnames/A>

<http://www.cousinconnect.com>

(The above 3 links have a similar way to find the message boards as the first two.)

Post messages on a NZ Board

- 1) Click on New Post

<http://www.list.jaunay.com/nznames>

*Only a genealogist regards
a step backward as progress!*



OLD GENEALOGY LEGAL AND LAND TERMS

- Fee Simple – Ownership of property with no restrictions
- Fee Tail – Land or inheritance limited by lineal decent of the heirs
- Glebe or Parish Land – Land belonging to the Church
- Holographic Will – A hand written will by the testator
- Link – A measurement of 7.92 inches of a chain. Used as a measure of land
- Mortality Schedules – Schedule of persons that died in the year prior to the Census
- Nuncupative Will – A will based on the oral declared will of the deceased
- Pole – A unit of measure of 16.5 feet for measuring land
- Progenitor – A direct line ancestor
- Quitclaim Deed – A deed releasing all claims and interests to real property
- Relict – The widow or surviving spouse this could be male or female
- Surety – A bond posted to ensure a specific performance of a duty or obligation

I can see clearly now, the brain is gone

DO YOU NEED A NERD?



We all need help at some stages

with the technical stuff, and it would be great to have a “nerd” on hand to fix it all up!

In steps a new company called Need a Nerd, fixing and installing computers, TVs and home entertainment is their speciality, they are offering special discount prices for all our SeniorNet members.

Need a Nerd are onboard as a SeniorNet partner - www.needanerd.co.nz

PORIRUA SENIORNET WEBSITE



www.seniornet-porirua.org.nz

FORWARD SLASH BACKSLASH

Forward slash is /

Forward slashes tell your computer you're looking for something external to your system, like web pages

Backslash is \

Backslashes tell your computer you're looking for something inside your system, like a drive or a file.

You can remember that the name tells you in which direction the top of the slash points.

*I can lie convincingly about my age
because at my age
I can't always remember what it is*

CUSTOMIZING ENVELOPES WITH PICTURES

1. Select Tools
2. Letters and Mailing
3. Envelopes and Labels



The Envelopes and Labels box will now appear
Add the senders address and your return address in the spaces provided



Click on **Add to Document**

Now you are ready to add the picture

Go the Main Menu bar at the top of your screen

Click on **Insert --> Picture --> From File**

When the dialogue box comes up - navigate to where your picture folder is
Select it and --> click **Insert**

Once your picture has been inserted on the envelope, you can change the size, text wrapping, and cropping etc. You can then print the envelope



Festive Greetings from the Editor

The committee of SeniorNet Porirua would like to wish all members and their families a safe and happy holiday season.

We thank you for your support during a busy 2010, and look forward to your continued involvement at SeniorNet Porirua in 2011.

Happy Holidays
Margot





COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2010

	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
Chairman	Peter Badart	232.8241	pbadart@paradise.net.nz
Secretary	Laurie Davies	234.7517	daviess@clear.net.nz
Treasurer	Graham Ellett	232.6488	ellettg@clear.net.nz
Minute Secretary and Enrolment registrar	Hunt Dryburgh	234.8139	hunt.dryburgh@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Jim Dearsly	234.6111	jim.dearsly@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Ron Dunbar	237.7156	ron-d@slingshot.co.nz
Committee	Peter Phipps	239.9092	phipps@actrix.co.nz
Newsletter Editor	Margot Stuart	236.6217	margots@xtra.co.nz
Committee Membership Secretary	Colin Young	233.1067	youngcw@xtra.co.nz

Website Administrator	Bob Pretty	237.9925	bpretty@clear.net.nz
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Our Contact Details

Postal Address SeniorNet Porirua PO Box 50.034 Porirua 5240	Premises Ngatittoa School Piko Street Titahi Bay 5022 Ph: 236.7785	SeniorNet Classroom Phone: 236.5314
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