A USEFUL APP FOR HOLIDAY MAKERS - MAPS.ME

A friend recently told me about this navigation app which can be used offline. A real advantage if you don't want to rack up roaming costs overseas, or if you are in a remote area with no phone coverage here in NZ. Just download the maps for the areas you need.

Do you have any other good apps to share with your fellow SeniorNet friends which would be useful when on holiday? Let me know! Sandra Price

The majority of people rely heavily on various features available on the Smartphone they possess. Nowadays, there seems to be an app for every purpose starting from transferring important files or making necessary payments via the internet to finding a specific location.

When it comes to finding a certain place, **Maps.me** (Previously known as MapsWithMe) is considered one of the most effective apps available. It is an open source application that can be supported by devices like IOS, Blackberry, and Android. The main objective of this app is to provide offline maps of different locations from about 345 countries. The search program used is based on OpenStreetMap data. This app was developed by a small international company based in Zurich, Switzerland named MapsWithMe.

Initial Launching and Updates: This application was first launched as an iOS app in April 2011. Since then, it has evolved significantly with the implementation of its MapsWithMe Pro version for androids, iPhones, and various other devices. The app now comes with features like night mode, along with 3D buildings, map editor, etc.

Distinctive Features: Maps.me comes with a number of features. Some of these are:

Routing: Routing is a feature offered by Maps.me. it helps the user to receive the accurate direction of a particular location offline.

Downloading facility: Maps.me allows its users to download an unlimited number of maps as per their requirement.

GPS tracking facility: If you are using this app and suddenly get lost in a certain location, with the help of GPS tracking. You will be found in no time.

Sharing: Maps.me gives you the opportunity to share your location with family members or friends as bookmarks.

Offline activities: As this app is offline, you will not require an internet connection when searching a certain location. You will be able to search any possible area by its name, category, coordinates or address.

Editing: Unlike other apps, Maps.me provides you the opportunity to edit OSM (On Screen Menu) anytime you want. You can toggle the screen between three separate variables – old style, light, and dark.

Traffic receiver: Maps.me allows its users to utilise online traffic receivers along with Auto Follow mode options.

[Adapted from a review at gpspathfinder.com]

"SeniorNet is a community training network that supports & motivates people aged 50+ to enjoy & use technology in their everyday lives."

PRESIDENT'S POST *by Clive Dyson*

Thank you to Malcolm Garrett and his team of Dave Samways and John Croxford who got our 2019 Seniornet year off to a great start with a trivia quiz at our members meeting. The questions were to say the least, challenging, causing many of us to scratch our heads.

Congratulations to the winning team of Tom Macartney, Jim Mitchell, Gail Riddell and Jim Butler.

Members were also encouraged to adopt the following list as their New Year resolutions for this year. LIE, CHEAT, STEAL, DRINK and SWEAR. This raised many eyebrows and unbelieving laughter, but when explained everyone settled down. The explanation is as follows:

LIE back and relax just a little more this new year. Let a little more life happen to you without so much worry.

CHEAT failure. Don't be afraid to try something new because you think you may fail. It is through failure that we learn the most valuable lessons.

STEAL time from your devices and spend more time with family and friends.

DRINK from the fountain of knowledge. Many people around you have already been down roads you are about to travel. Learn from mistakes they have made. Take what they have learned and use it.

SWEAR to do your best all the time and in every situation

If you find these suggestions useful you may like to try them. We have many new courses this year and I hope you have an enjoyable, challenging and productive year at SeniorNet as you attend the courses and meetings.

Regards, Clive

NEW ZEALAND'S OLDEST BUILDING SOCIETY

NBS
NELSON BUILDING SOCIETY

185 High St, Motueka
Telephone
03 528 1111
Email
motueka@nbs.co.nz

MEMBERSHIP MEMO by Maureen

- We now have 218 paid up members for the new year.
- A reminder to advise us if you move house, or if your email or phone number changes.
- Welcome to new members: *Helen Jeffery, Dave Perrett, Val Armstrong, Linda Ujihara, Max & Margaret Hornblow, Rachel Hamilton.*
- **Recommend us to your friends and neighbours!**
- Non-members can take advantage to enrol in a SeniorNet course, but the fee charged will be more than for members.

Dates for your Diary

MEMBERS' MEETING
Mon 4th Mar 10am: *Guest speaker is Gene from Affordable Computers talking about "Fibre Plus"*
HELP & SUPPORT SESSIONS
Mon 11th Mar 10-11.30am:
Sat 23rd Mar 2-3.30pm:
INTEREST GROUPS
Fri 1st Mar 2.30pm: *Digital Photography*
Fri 8th Mar 2.30pm: *Genealogy*
Fri 15th Mar 2.30pm: *iPad & iPhone*
Fri 22nd Mar 2.30pm: *Mac*
Mon 25th Mar 10am: *Android Tablet*
Tues 26th Mar 7.30pm: *Genealogy*

INTERESTING FACT FROM HUTT CITY SENIORNET NEWSLETTER

In 2001 India started building roads that hold together using polymer glues made from shredded plastic wastes. These plastic roads have developed no potholes and cracks after years of use, and they are cheaper to build. As of 2016, there are more than 21,000 miles of plastic roads.
theguardian.com

REMINDER ABOUT UPCOMING COURSES
Contact the tutor direct to enrol or for more information :-)

COURSE DETAILS	DATES	TIME	COST	TUTOR
Android Introductory Course	1st, 8th, & 15th March	Friday 12noon-2pm 3 weeks	$15 members $30 non-members	Mary Dowell 03 528 8600 marydowell63@gmail.com
Beginners (PC)	2nd & 9th April	Tuesday 9.30-11.30am 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Doreen Inwood 03 528 4717 einwood@xtra.co.nz
DIY Funeral Planning	11th & 18th March	Monday 12noon-2pm 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Clive Dyson 03 929 8002 clivedyson.nz@gmail.com
Enduring Power of Attorney & Wills	21st & 28th March	Thursday 9.30-11.30am 2 weeks	Session 1 free Session 2 $5 members $10 non-members	Sandra Price 0212 645 233 sandralouiseprice@gmail.com
Exploring Countries & Cultures: Aboriginal Australia	3rd & 10th April	Wednesday 12noon-2pm 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Sandra Price 0212 645 233 sandralouiseprice@gmail.com
GIMP 2 - photo editing with free software.	5th, 12th, 19th & 26th March	Tuesday 2.30-4.30pm 4 weeks	$20 members $40 non-members	Peter Hallett 03 528 5144 hallett.pj@xtra.co.nz
Gmail & other uses of a Google account	21st & 28th March	Thursday 2.30-4.30 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Sandra Price 0212 645 233 sandralouiseprice@gmail.com
Google Drive & Google Docs	5th & 12th April	Friday 9.30-11.30am 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Sandra Price 0212 645 233 sandralouiseprice@gmail.com
iPad 2	25th March & 1st April	Monday 2.30-4.30pm 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Peter Beaumont 021 298 3387 beaumont.peter@gmail.com
iPad/iPhone - camera workship	11th March	Monday 2.30-4.30pm 1 week	$5 members $10 non-members	Peter Beaumont 021 298 3387 beaumont.peter@gmail.com
Photos - saving & organising	20th & 27th March	Wednesday 9.30-11.30 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Maureen Hutton 03 528 0630 ahutton440@gmail.com
Travel: Booking flights and ac-commodation online	20th & 27th March	Wednesday 2.30-4.30 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Bernhard Nobis 03 929 8101 bernhard.nobis@gmail.com
YouTube - Your TV	6th & 13th March	Wednesday 9.30-11.30am 2 weeks	$10 members $20 non-members	Ian Grant 0212360847 grantji07@gmail.com

iPPIG REPORT 18th Feb

We started the meeting with a couple of videos, a humourous one demonstrating the foolishness of using a newspaper app on the iPad as a fly swat and a more serious one showing how to personalize the control panel. Then Colin followed the newspaper theme by talking about the latest Press Reader app which enables people with a library card to read a huge range of newspapers and magazines from around the world.

Barbara then demonstrated some of the fitness apps she had been testing on her iPhone - the Health app (that comes with the iPhone), Stepz and Pedometer. The accuracy of all 3 was about the same, but Health was not so convenient as it only updated information on distance walked and the number of steps about every 10 minutes

Robin then spoke about the difficulties he'd had with Noel Leeming and Apple over a faulty iPad. He said that the Consumer Guarantees Act provides excellent protection for people who have trouble with a product they have bought, in that the supplier must refund the purchase price or offer a replacement if the product fails within a reasonably expected lifetime. Robin finally won his battle by threatening to take Noel Leeming to the Disputes Tribunal.

Colin demonstrated an app he'd had a lot of fun with - My Talking Pet Pro - which allows one to record a message that appears to come from a pet animal and the send it to a friend or relative. You can use one of your own photos or one supplied with the app.

Other apps mentioned were The Nelson App which gives local news, weather and sports information, Stuff, a news app and Curiosity Stream which has a huge library of BBC documentaries. John gave some useful information about the iPhone: the worldwide emergency number is 112; to activate the reserve battery power in your phone key in *3370#; to find out your phone's serial number, a 15 digit code, key in *#06# then write this code down so that if your phone gets stolen you can quote it to your service provider and they can then disable the phone.

Colin Hooker

Android Pie: 30 advanced tips and tricks. Get the most out of Google's Android 9 software with these easy-to-follow productivity-boosting tips, <u>part 1</u>.

By J.R. Raphael

Whether we're talking apple, blueberry, or the Android 9 variety, there's plenty of reason to get excited about pie (or Pie, as the case may be). And while I can't provide much in the way of advice regarding the edible sort, I *can* give you plenty of useful tips about Google's Android 9 Pie software.

Just like its pastry-based counterpart, Android Pie has lots of flaky layers — and in the case of an operating system, that means oodles of valuable options just waiting to be embraced. Whether you're just getting your first taste of Pie in 2019 (hi, Galaxy S9 owners!) or you've been enjoying Android 9 for a while, there's almost certainly something new you've yet to discover.

It's time to take a bite out of Pie's most advanced and easily overlooked features. (Note that these tips are written specifically as they apply to Google's core Android 9 Pie software. Many device manufacturers modify the operating system to put their own spin on the features and interface, which could result in some elements looking different or even being entirely absent on certain devices.)

Gestures, shortcuts, and getting around

1. Pie's new gesture navigation system has some noteworthy nuances that are all too easy to miss: First, in addition to being able to get to your app drawer by swiping up twice from the navigation bar, you can get there by doing a long-swipe up from that same area — from the bottom of the screen to the halfway point or higher. And either of those gestures will work from *anywhere* on your phone, not just from your home screen.

2. Little-known fact: With those aforementioned Android 9 navigation gestures, you don't actually have to swipe precisely from the pill-shaped button at the bottom of the screen. While on your home screen, you can swipe upward from anywhere in the navigation bar or the dock — the area that holds the search bar and your favorite app icons. And regardless of where you are in your phone, you can start your swipe from any position along that bottom navigation bar area — even all the way to the left or the right side of the display.

3. On a similar note, Pie's gesture commands for moving quickly between apps — swiping toward the right to scroll among recently used apps or flicking toward the right to snap between your two most recent processes — will work anywhere in that navigation bar area. Despite what most folks seem to think, there's no need to start with your finger on the pill.

Android Pie's gestures — like the flicking to the right gesture— can be performed anywhere in the navigation bar.

Cont'd from previous page: Android Pie: 30 advanced tips and tricks......

4. Looking to do a little housekeeping and clear away all your recently used apps from Pie's Overview list? Swipe up once from the nav bar to open the Overview interface, then scroll all the way to the left of the app-representing cards. Once you've moved past the leftmost card, you'll see a "Clear all" command that'll do exactly what you desire.

5. Android Pie tries to predict what you're likely to need next and then offer up specific actions — comands *within* apps, like calling a particular person or opening a certain Slack channel — at the top of your app drawer. If you see a shortcut there that strikes you as being especially useful, you can touch and hold it and then drag it onto your home screen for permanent ongoing access.

6. You can also find any shortcut offered within Pie's app drawer by pressing and holding the icon for the associated app and looking at the menu of options that appears. You can touch and hold any item from that menu to drag it onto your home screen for future use, too.
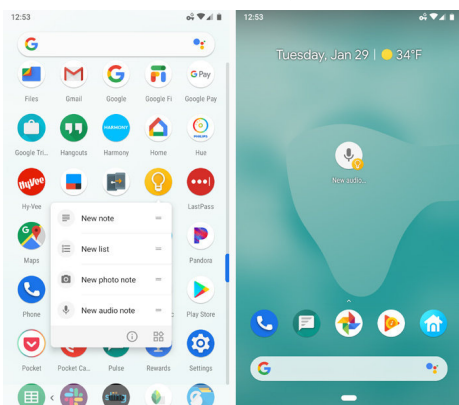
Long-press any app's icon to see its available shortcuts — then touch and hold any shortcut to drag it anywhere you want on your home screen for even easier ongoing access.

7. Android 9 introduces a new button-based shortcut for silencing your phone in a jiff: Simply press your device's physical power and volume-up keys together, and you'll feel a brief vibration letting you know all sounds are disabled. (Annoyingly, the shortcut works only when your screen is on — and it works only one way and won't toggle your sound *back* from silent into the "on" position.)

If the shortcut doesn't work for you, look for the line labeled "Shortcut to prevent ringing" in the Sound section of your system settings. That'll also let you switch the shortcut between silencing and vibrating, depending on your preference.

8. Android's split-screen command for viewing two apps on screen at the same time is a bit tough to find as of the Pie release: You first have to open the Overview interface, then tap the icon of the app you want and select "Split screen" from the menu that appears. That's significantly more steps than the old method of simply long-pressing the classic Overview key to get started.

Fear not, though, for there's a fix: If you find yourself using split-screen mode frequently, download the free Split Screen Shortcut app. It'll let you create a command for activating split-screen mode in a variety of single-step ways — by long-pressing your Back button, creating a custom Quick Settings tile, or even adding a new function-specific button into your device's navigation bar.

9. Provided your phone has a traditional (i.e., not in-screen) fingerprint sensor, take note: Touching your finger to the fingerprint sensor in Pie, even just for a split second, will keep your screen from timing out and going dark.

10. While your notification panel is open, you can tap the clock in the upper-left corner of the screen to jump directly to your Clock app and manage your alarms.

11. When an alarm is set, swipe down twice from the top of your screen and look above the brightness slider to see it.

12. Want to check on your battery status? With the notification panel open, tap the battery icon in the upper-right corner of the screen to hop right into your phone's full stamina summary.

13. Speaking of battery stats, if you're looking for detailed info about which apps are using up your phone's power, that data has moved to a curiously tucked-away location as of Pie — but it *is* still present: From the Battery section of your system settings (the same screen you see after tapping the battery icon in your notification panel), tap the three-dot menu icon in the upper-right corner and then select "Battery usage."
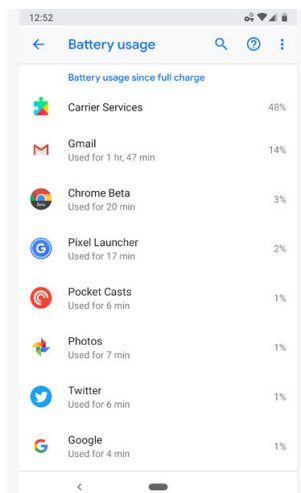
Track down the "Battery usage" option within Pie, and you can see detailed stats about exactly which apps are burning through your phone's power.

14. Pie presents two options for making fast adjustments to your notification settings: You can long-press on any notification to get quick commands for disabling or configuring the associated app's alert-sending ability — or you can tap the "Manage notifications" text at the bottom of your notification panel to jump directly to the "App notifications" area of your system settings.

15. Most icons within Pie's Quick Settings panel — what you see when you swipe down from the top of your screen — hold a hidden shortcut: Long-press the icon, and you'll be taken to the relevant area of your system settings (provided, of course, that such an area exists for that function).

Main points from the February Committee Meeting

The **national SeniorNet AGM and Symposium** will be held in **Palmerston North on May 8th & 9th.** It was decided that Gail and Maureen would attend on behalf of Motueka.

Committee members were reminded that the **Top of the South (TOTS) regional meeting** will be hosted by Marlborough Sounds SeniorNet this year. It will be held on **March 7th in Linkwater**. Gail will advertise this to all members to encourage attendance.

The January **Financial Report** was presented.

Uptake of courses advertised for term one is uneven, but there has been enthusiastic response for some of the interest based courses. We have some **outside presenters** this term, and in particular the beginning of a series of sessions facilitated for us by **Age Concern**.
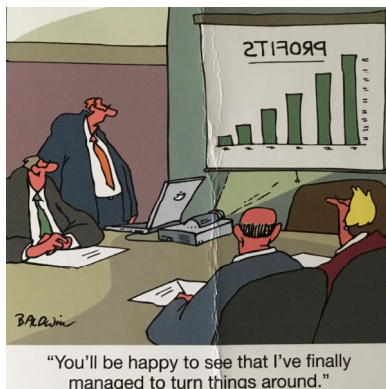
All Windows 10 laptops and PCs at the rooms **have been updated** to the latest version 1803.

An electrician is to be brought in to repair a broken sensor on one of our outside security lights, and to fix a blinking fluorescent tube in the kitchen.

There have been some **annoying troubles with the SNAP reporting system**— method of communicating to national SeniorNet the type and number of courses completed by our members. Clive will contact Jude, administrative assistant at the national office, for a set of clear instructions on using the software.

The committee approved the purchase of a **Chromecast dongle** to be used with our new Smart TV.

"You'll be happy to see that I've finally managed to turn things around."

MIG Report 22nd Feb *by Anton Petre*

The dangers of buying things advertised on Facebook was one of the first things raised at the February Mac Group meeting. Anton reported he had been conned by a genuine-looking advertisement by EccoMall of Britain for Ecco shoes...but when the shoes failed to turn up an email to EccoMall revealed that the advert was a fake, copied from their genuine site, but directing payments to a criminal in Singapore. $80 down the drain. Note too that the bank will not refund if you take more than three weeks to let them know.

The importance of remembering and noting passwords was covered, with a video warning too about bad passwords.

Problems with the new Mojave operating system and how to fix them was another topic, along with advice on how to find files, and material they contain, using the Mac's powerful search systems.

Finally we looked at reviews of internet providers and cellphone services covered recently by *Consumer*. On the Internet front, Slingshot, Vodafone and Spark came out at the bottom of the list for billing, customer service, customer wait times. Flip was worst for slow speeds. *Consumer* magazine also reviewed modems and mobile phone services. Most phone services passed muster.

Some good questions from Mac members, including how to solve two-part authentication problems and nags (still working on that) and printer problems. Another Mac Group meeting next month, Friday 22nd March.

JANUARY DIG REPORT *Maureen Hutton*

We had a wonderful mixture of holiday photos, views - birds- children and a lovely collage of family members by one of our group.

We talked about taking panorama photos, I explained a few points and showed how easy it was on a camera with a panorama program. So next month we will be practicing taking panoramas.

Next meeting Friday 1st March at 2.30. All welcome.

What's the best replacement for the Windows 10 Snipping Tool? Jack Schofield

'The next W10 update will remove the Snipping Tool, is there an alternative free tool to recommend?'

Taking screen grabs is now such an important part of personal computer use that Microsoft is certain to provide a good alternative. In fact, you will get to keep Snipping Tool alongside its replacement while Microsoft analyses the telemetry data that it uses to track mass (not individual) behaviour.So, Snipping Tool has been reprieved, at least temporarily. On 27 June, in a note on a preview version of the next release (1809 AKA Redstone 5), Microsoft said: "Currently, we are not planning to remove the Snipping Tool in the next update to Windows 10 and the consolidation work underway will be a feedback and data-driven decision."

The Snip & Sketch app is the intended replacement, and if you don't have this month's updated version of Windows, it's available from the Windows Store. You should try it as soon as possible. If it doesn't do what you want, you can suggest improvements, while looking for a suitable alternative. However, there are more than 100 screen capture programs of various sorts, and there isn't one that's best for everyone. You may need to try a few to find one that meets your needs.

From Win32 to WinRT

The problem with Snipping Tool is that it's a traditional desktop application: it dates back to the launch of Windows XP tablets in 2002, and was included in Vista in 2006. Microsoft is in the process of replacing old Win32 programs with apps written to a new programming interface called Windows Runtime, which was introduced with Windows 8 in 2012.

Windows Runtime apps have lots of advantages. They are downloaded and maintained from the Windows Store, which is safer than trying to figure out which download button to click on a website, and apps don't come with unwanted additions. Apps are sandboxed so they can't do bad things to your PC, which makes them safer to run. They are touch-friendly and work well on smartphones and tablets. They also run on ARM chips as well as Intel processors. If it's not obvious, this is the same approach as the Apple iOS and Google Play app stores.

In the long term, Microsoft wants casual and home users to be able to do everything they need using modern Windows Store apps. This will make Windows more secure, more reliable, and easier to maintain for inexpert users.

Using Windows

People often forget that Windows has several ways to take screen grabs without using an app. Indeed, the Print Screen function, where hitting a dedicated key dumped the screen to a printer, predates Windows.

Today, pressing the Print Screen key usually saves a copy of the current screen image to the clipboard. From there you can paste it (Ctrl-V) into an email or Word document etc. If you want to save it, paste it into a graphics program such as Paint 3D or Paint.net and save it from there. Hitting the Windows key and Print Screen (WinKey+PrntScr) not only copies the current screen to the clipboard, it also saves a file of the image in the Pictures folder under Screenshots. Often you will want a screen grab of the "active window" – usually a page in a web browser, but it could be in any program. In this case, pressing Alt+PrntScr copies it to the clipboard.

Finally, you may be able to capture a selected rectangle by using WinKey+Shift+S (and if that doesn't work, it will soon). You may have to paste it into another program to save or share it.

Don't underestimate the power of hitting WinKey+PrntScr. One simple easy-to-remember action saves a copy of the whole screen, including the time shown on the task bar. It's a great way to record the price and description of something you're about to buy online, or to document a technical problem. You can always go to the Screenshots folder later, and delete the ones you no longer need.

Extra features

You should now have Snipping Tool (SnippingTool.exe), Snip & Sketch and a few ways to take screen grabs using Print Screen, but you may need other features. This is where alternative programs come in handy.|For example, I used to look for programs that could save web images in PNG format – because they look sharper than JPegs – when this wasn't common. Some people wanted auto-scrolling, where the screen grab captures a full-length web page, not just the part currently on screen. Some wanted to capture movements or changes in gif images. Some now want screen grabbers with built-in editing and labelling functions, and the ability to share the results online.

Make a list of the features you need: this will reduce the number of programs you have to consider. However, programs with more features are often more complicated. You may be better off not having features you will never use.

Possible options

The best-known screen capture programs include ShareX, Greenshot, Snagit, PicPick, FastStone Capture, LightShot and Screenshot Captor. Most are free or donationware, though Snagit, PicPick and FastStone Capture are commercial programs.

ShareX is powerful: it can take lots of different types of screen shot and share them at many places online. It's overkill for most users, but the app version – from the Windows Store – takes up 13.3MB whereas the traditional desktop program needs 72.5MB.

Greenshot (2.8MB) is much simpler than ShareX and much more powerful than Snipping Tool, which makes it a good compromise. Having captured part of the screen you can save it or send it to various places: the menu options include the clipboard, a printer, an image editor, a Microsoft Office program, and so on. You can also have Greenshot save files automatically, or send them to a printer without saving them. Greenshot's useful extras include custom time delays, a text highlighter/obfuscation tool (to highlight or blur text, as required), and the ability to enlarge or shrink and rotate an image to fit a paper size.

WHAT SPEED DO YOU NEED?

In case you missed it (like me) here is a link to a really informative article in the *Weekend Technology* section of the *Nelson Mail* 17.11.18 on options for improving your broadband speed.

https://www.stuff.co.nz/technology/108646327/heres-how-to-make-sure-your-broadband-suits-your-needs

Now that we can access ultrafast broadband/fibre in Motueka, it is timely to look at matching what bandwidth you actually need for the apps and type of streaming you want to access, also what is worth paying for.

[Thanks to Tom Macartney for sourcing this article]

BROWSER WARS : MICROSOFT'S EDGE HAS NOW LINKED UP WITH GOOGLE'S CHROME

After a years-long pummelling, Microsoft has surrendered in the browser war, saying that it will junk Edge's home-grown rendering engine and replace it with Blink, the engine that powers Google's Chrome. With Edge pulling code from the Chromium project, the browser will also be able to run on Windows 7 and Windows 8.1, as well as macOS.
"We intend to adopt the Chromium open source project in the development of Microsoft Edge on the desktop to create better web compatibility for our customers and less fragmentation of the web for all web developers," wrote Joe Belfiore, a corporate vice president in the Windows group, in a post to a company blog.
Belfiore's announcement was a stunning humiliation for Microsoft, which in the early years of this century ruled the browser world after Internet Explorer (IE) had obliterated Netscape Navigator and achieved market share in excess of 90 per cent.
Although Edge will survive, it will no longer be a Microsoft-made browser: It will exist as a UI (user interface) wrapper around core technologies developed almost entirely by Google engineers, in the same way Opera has existed since 2013, when it ditched its own internal engine for Chromium's Blink.

[Thanks to Ian Grant for sourcing this from ComputerWorld Top News 10.12.18]