



## Newsletter

**June 2019** 

# President's Post-Clive Dyson

Have you ever been in a conversation and someone has asked a question that no one knows the answer to? Sometimes the response will be "Well, Google it".

This week Polly and I were the recipients of a surprise gift from the people we house and dog sat in Christchurch last month. It was a Google Home Hub. This gadget, when installed on our Wi-Fi takes all the hassle out of Googling information. It also provides a few laughs as well. It's a bit like Alexa or Siri on a Mac. It measures about 18 x 13 cms and just sits on our TV cabinet.

Just ask it a question and it comes up with an answer. Just say "Hey Google, what is the weather going to be like it Motueka tomorrow?" and it will give a weather forecast. I have asked it to play certain kinds of music while I've been working and it has done so. I have even asked it for telephone numbers!

With a Home Hub, we might not need to open a cookbook ever again. Ask it for recipes for just about anything, and it will give us step-by-step instructions for thousands of recipes online and videos too.

Not only does it answer questions but also when set up properly it can operate all kinds of smart equipment in the home, for example, it can turn lights and heaters on and off. It can also be operated from our mobile phones. It can chrome cast to the TV and perform many other tasks.

It does have it's limitations though. Ask it to feed the cat and the reply will be "I'm sorry I do not understand the question but I am learning". I imagine you can change the voice but at the moment we listen to an Australian female voice.

She is also very polite. "Hey Google, goodbye", and she responds "See ya later Alligator". Well I'm off to play with my Home Hub. See ya later!

## Clive

#### **JUST FOR FUN**

- 1. Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, 'I've lost my electron. 'The other says 'Are you sure?' The first replies, 'Yes, I'm positive.'
- 2. There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.
- 3. In a democracy it's your vote that counts. In feudalism it's your count that votes.
- 4. If you jumped off the bridge in Paris , you'd be in Seine  $\dots$
- 5. Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says 'Dam!'
- 6. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

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



## **SOME WINDOWS 10 TIPS** [Source = SeniorNet Otago newsletter]

Most of the following Windows tips are for Windows 10. However, they're worth a try in Windows 7 and 8 as well.

Window Snapping - Pressing the Windows Key + Arrow Keys will cause a window to quickly snap to each side of your monitor. Very cool.

**Undo everywhere** - You probably know this but Ctrl + Z is the ultimate hot key. However note that undo doesn't just apply to typing. If you accidentally delete or move a file, you can hit Ctrl + Z to bring it right back to where it was.

Watching YouTube on your computer - You may know using the spacebar to pause a YouTube video is effective (except when you've clicked elsewhere and it doesn't work), also try using K for pausing, and J and L will step backward/ forward 10 seconds. M works for mute. Super handy.

Windows Power Menu - You can open a quick list of common power-user destinations in Windows by right clicking the bottom left of the start button on Windows 8 and 10 which opens a context menu with shortcuts to power options, the event viewer, device manager and so on. This menu is also accessible by pressing the Windows key + X. (from techspot.com)





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

## NUISANCE PHONE CALLS—TIPS FOR DISENGAGEMENT

[Source = SeniorNet Otago Newsletter]

- 1. Be very suspicious of phone calls around mealtimes and in the early evening.
- 2. Hang up if the phone is silent for more than a few seconds. Any genuine caller experiencing problems with the phone will call you back straight away, won't they?
- 3. Hang up immediately if you don't know the caller or challenge them "what is the nature of your call?" Don't be embarrassed to interrupt and don't let them start their patter.
- 4. Hang up immediately if the caller introduces themselves as being from Microsoft or any other major computer company (or bank, telephone or electric power company etc.).
- 5. Hang up immediately if the caller says you have a problem with your computer.
- 6. Hang up immediately if the caller tries to install or sell you computer software (APPs).
- 7. Hang up immediately if the caller tries to offer you free computer repair services.
- 8. If the calls become persistent, tell the caller you don't have a computer and hang up

# **Dates for your Diary**

#### **MEMBERS' MEETING:**

Mon 1st July 10am Guest speakers: David Herd & Ross Bailey, Volunteer Fire Brigade

**HELP & SUPPORT SESSIONS:** 

Mon 8th July 10-11.30am

Sat 27th July 2-3,30pm

**INTEREST GROUPS:** 

Fri 5th July 9.30am DNA

Fri 5th July 2.30pm Digital Photography

Fri 12th July 2.30pm Genealogy

Fri 19th July 2.30pm iPad & iPhone

Tues 23rd July 7.30pm Genealogy

Fri 26th July 2.30pm: Mac



#### **DOGPILE—AN ALTERNATIVE TO GOOGLE?**



Dogpile may look like a search engine cobbled together with clipart, but that's rather the point as it pulls in and 'curates' results from various different engines including Google, Yandex and Yahoo, but removes all the ads. Worth taking a look?

## May MIG meeting, by Anton Petre

Transferring all data from an old Mac to a new one using the Migration Assistant program was one of the topics at the May Mac Group meeting. This led to an exploration of what old programs will soon no longer run under 62-bit operating systems, and how to check your computer to under the sys-

tems report to see which ones are on the way out, or in some cases, already out of use.

This led in turn to a demonstration and video on time machine, which can be used to restore individual files or a whole system. So it can also be used with Migration Assistant to move everything to a new machine.

Time Machine needs the use of a USB portable hard drive, and the current advice is to forget mechanical drives, and seek instead for an SSD -- a solid state drive.

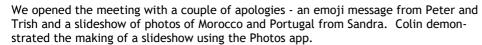
Checking through various web sites both New Zealand ones and overseas ones like Ali Express and eBay showed a vast selection of portable SSD drives starting as low as \$50, although a name brand 500gb drive was generally around the \$100 to \$150 mark, with drives up to 2 terabytes available, for a price (generally around \$400 and up). Advice from experts was also to specify an SSD drive in any new Mac, rather than the standard "fusion" drive, which in comparison is said to severely slow down the latest machines

Installing an SSD drive in place of a mechanical drive was also recommended for speeding older machines, and we checked out the One World Computing site in the US for the price of extra memory chips, which are vastly more costly if bought from Apple. Through OWC,

Chips to boost a laptop from 8gb to 16gb were around \$US100, and the OWC site has detailed information on how to select the right chips for your machine, and also instructional videos on how to install the extra memory. Finally we had a look at a new and very powerful photo program called Affinity Photo, which at \$80 is about half the price of Adobe's Photoshop Elements, and is considerably more powerful. We ran a couple of the 28-odd tutorials on the program which are available free online through the Vimeo site.

As always, we over-ran our time...

## iPPIG meeting, Colin Hooker





We then watched a couple of videos about the recently announced update to the operating system for the iPad, which will be called iPad OS (iOS 13).

Clive spoke about the Apple pencil which can now be used with the newer iPad models, including the iPad mini. He then demonstrated the many ways in which the Notes app can now be used - typing a note, writing and drawing with the Apple pencil, adding photos, cutting-and-pasting from a web page, scanning a document, etc. He also demonstrated the formatting tools in Notes.

Barbara then spoke about the "Do not Disturb" function on the iPhone and how to ensure the iPhone and iPad both ring for an incoming phone call. The call can then be answered on either device.

We then watched a MacMost video on downloading ring tones from a large collection on the MacMost website. The ringtones can be downloaded to iPads as well as iPhones.

Finally John spoke about an apparent spam email he had received asking him for his bank account details. He deleted the email. However, it turned out to be a genuine request so that expenses that he had incurred could be repaid to him!



#### Google knows everywhere you go here's how to stop it from tracking you and delete the logs

The good news is, Google makes it easy to find the information it collects about you, to limit how it can track you, and to delete past history. Here's how to do that with a <u>privacy checkup</u>.

Go to myaccount.google.com/privacycheckup.

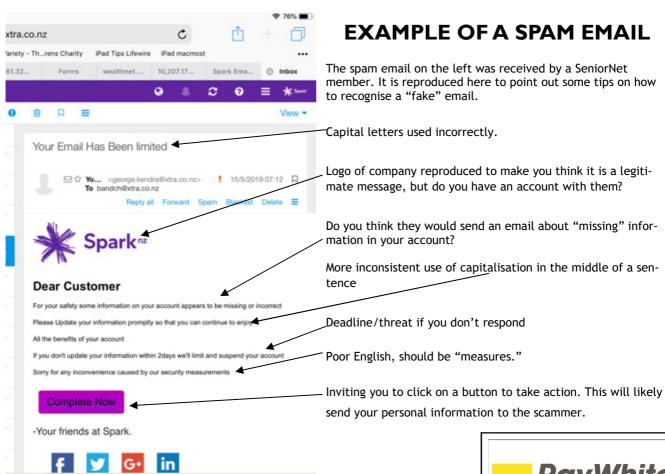
Next, scroll down to "Location History" and choose "Manage Location History." You'll see everywhere you've been. Choose "Manage Location History" at the bottom of the screen again. Toggle the button to turn off Location History.

To delete your history, click/tap the cog wheel on the "Location History" map. Select delete all location history.

That's not it, though. Google will continue tracking your location unless you also turn off a separate "Web & App Activity" tracker. Google says it tracks your location from apps to provide "better recommendations, and more personalized experiences in Maps, Search, and other Google services."

To turn off web and app activity, go to myaccount.google.com/activitycontrols. Turn off the "Web & Activity" toggle.

Source = cnbc.com/2019/04/25/how-to-stop-google-from-storing-your-location-history.





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## MacHint: Damaged Apps Cure, by Anton Petre

Some Mac users may occasionally run into a somewhat strange error when they try to open an app that was downloaded to their Mac. Upon launching the app a little "verifying" progress bar will appear and stall for a moment before an error alert message says "Appname.app is damaged and can't be opened. You should move it to the Trash." with an accompanying detail specifying when and where the file was downloaded from. You then have two options, to 'cancel' or to "Move to Trash" the app you downloaded.

There are a few different tips and tricks that can remedy these 'app damaged' error messages on the Mac: 1. re-downloading the app, 2. rebooting the Mac, 3. installing system software updates are the main ones.

1. The first thing you should do to try and remedy the "app damaged" error message is to re-download the app to the Mac, and make sure it comes from a trusted source. For example if you are downloading Google Chrome or Signal, make sure you download those apps directly from the developer website only, do not download them from third party sites.

Often simply re-downloading the app, trashing the 'damaged' version, then relaunching the freshly downloaded copy will resolve this error message. Sometimes the re-downloading approach doesn't work, and sometimes downloading an app directly from a developer or a trusted source is not an option, and sometimes you have to download certain apps from third party sites (particularly with antiquated apps that have become "abandonware"). In these situations, you can try the next approach to get around the "app is damaged and can't be opened" error message. As mentioned earlier, if you are seeing a similar error with a Mac Store app, you simply have to log back into the Mac App Store and re-download the app.

- 2. Often simply rebooting the Mac will resolve the "app is damaged and can't be opened" error message, particularly if you have already re-downloaded the app from a trusted source (the Mac App Store, directly from the developer, etc). You can <u>restart any Mac</u> by going to the Apple menu and choosing "Restart". After the Mac boots back up again, try and re-open the app again.
- 3. Sometimes this error message shows up because of specific system software versions and/or Gatekeeper. Installing available system software updates on the Mac can often resolve this if so. For MacOS 10.14 or later (Mojave and newer): Go to the "Software Update" preference panel in System Preferences to <u>find available macOS system software updates</u>. For MacOS 10.13 and earlier: Go to the Mac App Stores "Updates" tab to find available system software updates. For pre-App Store Macs (10.6 and earlier): Use the "Software Update" preference panel in System Preferences as well. If there are available system software updates, or security updates, install those to the Mac.

#### STILL WONDERING WHICH SCREEN CAPTURE TOOL TO USE?

Try Gadwin PrintScreen http://www.gadwin.com/printscreen/ It is apparently the "Rolls Royce" of screen capture tools!!



Available as Freeware or in Professional version.

Streamlined and flexible tool that is good for image editing.

[Thanks to Ian Grant for this information]





## DIG REPORT FOR JUNE by Maureen Hutton

We had 10 members at our meeting. The theme for the month was action shots and we had a good selection of photos to view. Also had some good shots of fungi. [See below for an example]

We did a little demo on making a folder and one or two points for saving your photos and how just a little alteration such as cropping and straightening can make a difference to your photo.

Next month the theme is reflections and I will do a demo on making a photo story.



#### Fun Facts:

- "Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand.
- "Lollipop" is the longest word typed with your right hand.
- "Typewriter" is the longest word that can be typed using the letters only on one row
  of the keyboard.
- · No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple

## **STOP PRESS: SENIORNET INTEREST GROUPS**

Please note that 2 of our SeniorNet Interest Groups are ceasing:

ATIG—the Android Tablet Interest Group has already held its last meeting due to low attendance. Members who would like help with their Android tablet or phone are welcome to come to the twice monthly Help & Support session.

**DNA IG— the DNA Genealogy Interest Group** will hold its last meeting on July 5th. It is felt that information on this topic is best Conveyed via a formal course. The next course will be run in term 3 starting Friday 16th August at 9.30.



#### www.seniornetmotueka.org.nz

# Motueka SeniorNet Committee 2018-2019

President, Publicity: Clive Dyson
Vice President, Housekeeping, Members' meetings,

Photocopier: Mary Dowell
Secretary: Gail Riddell
Treasurer: Allan Culling

Membership, Updating Forms: Maureen Hutton

Technical, Security, Maintenance:

Dave Samways

Course Convenor, Newsletter: Sandra Price
Health & Safety: John Croxford
Webmaster: Bernhard Nobis

#### Non Committee Roles 2018-2019

Technical Support: Colin Hope
Librarian: Ann Bassford
Grants: Allan Winslade
Manual Printing: Doreen Inwood
Almoner: loan Damian

#### CONTACT EMAIL:

motuekaseniornet@gmail.com



SeniorNet Motueka est. 1998

42 Pah Street, Motueka Postal address: PO Box 297, Motueka 7143

# MAIN POINTS FROM THE JUNE COMMITTEE MEETING

At the June 17th meeting the following were the main points were covered;

# The current statement of receipts and payments was presented by the Treasurer.

# A survey of members was discussed. This will be circulated during the next few months to build a picture of what they think of Senior-Net classes and activities: what they use IT for most in their every-day lives, why they joined the club, how they find out about Senior-Net news, etc.

# The Windows PCs and laptops at the rooms have all been updated.

# A new subscription has been taken up by the SeniorNet library for the "iCreate" magazine.

# There are now 244 paid up members with 1 pending.

### Do you appreciate your SeniorNet??

Whilst overseas on holiday earlier this month I was travelling with a group of 29 people—about half of them retired, or semi-retired. I had occasion to talk to a fellow traveller, Jane, <u>from Australia</u>. She was having trouble putting photos on her iPad into folders. Naturally I helped her. In another "session" travelling along at the back of the bus I covered several other iPad points including how to change settings, and how to back up with Google Photos. At the following morning's breakfast I was approached by fellow traveller, Don, <u>from America</u> he was having trouble exiting split screen view on the iPad. Easily fixed!

Both were grateful and wondered how they could get friendly IT help when they needed it, at a pace they could understand (i.e. NOT from their kids). They were amazed and impressed to hear about our SeniorNet Centres in New Zealand.

So-do you feel lucky?

Sandra









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See your local team for friendly, professional advice 98 High Street, Motueka Phone/Fax 03 528 6535