



Newsletter

August 2021

President's Post, from Clive Dyson

Hello folks,

Most Saturday mornings about 10 am - 11 am I'm usually on a Zoom call with other members of SeniorNet across the country. This is not limited to leaders, but to any member who is interested in joining in. If you wish to join in just let me know and I'll get you on the list to receive the link each week.

In these meetings there is no set agenda we just chew the fat about SeniorNet, get answers to problems we have, pass on ideas we have discovered, and, as there are about four members of the executive in the meeting we can also, through them, pass on any concerns we have.

A couple of weeks ago we had a session that seemed to concentrate of what to look out for when we buy devices, such as computers, tablets and phones and one member sent out to us recommendations and a check list of all the questions we need to ask ourselves when we buy these things.

The discussion then drifted on to ISPs (Internet Service Providers). Some members thought that if we have been with a provider for more than two years we should look around as the competition can drive prices and offerings down. It is worth thinking about anyway.

This led on to the subject of email providers and I was pleased to know that the meeting felt the same as I have always done and that is to use one of the three big providers : Gmail, Outlook or Apple (iCloud). I have two reasons for thinking this. The first is that by using one of these, should you choose to change your ISP there will be no need to change your email address. There would be if you use xtra, kinect etc., as these emails are tied to your provider. Vodafone people will have already experienced having to change email addresses when Vodafone decided to get out of emails (ihug, Clear and then Paradise.) Secondly these three big email providers are more able to cut down on spam and junk coming through than the small ISPs. They can afford to pay more attention to this. Anyway these are things you might like to consider.

Before I go I just want to draw you attention to two very important articles in this newsletter. They are **FOUR REASONS TO RENEW YOUR SENIORNET MEMBERSHIP** (on page 3) and **AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS** (on page 7). So please read them and act on them if you can.

Well, that's my post for this month and I'll see you at the members' meeting in September.

Till then, take care, keep warm and stay safe.

Kind regards, *Clive*

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Dates for your Diary [see website for more details]

Mon August 16th:

Help & Support (all devices) 9.30-11.30

Thurs August 19th :

Exploring APPs on cooking & crafts 9.30-11.30

Fri August 20th :

iPad&iPhone Interest Group 2:30— 4:30

Mon August 23rd :

"Staying Safe Online" with NetSafe director Sean Lyons talking on SeniorHangouts 2.30-4

Wed August 25th :

Files & Folders 9.30—11.30

Thurs August 26th :

Android Devices User Group 2:30—4:30

Fri August 27th :

MAC Interest Group 2:30—4:30

Wed September 1st :

Help & Support (all devices) 9.30-11.30

Fri September 3rd

Westpac session —Confidence staying safe online
In house presentation plus discussion. 10-11.30

Mon September 6th :

Members' Meeting 10am Guest speaker Jason Kroupa from House of Travel Motueka

Tues September 7th :

Exploring audio APPs—radio stations, music, talks etc 2.30-4.30

Thurs September 9th & 16th :

Countries & Cultures Interest Group - South Africa
Parts 1 & 2, 2.30-4.30

Fri September 10th :

Genealogy Interest Group—all welcome 2—4

Fri September 17th :

iPad&iPhone Interest Group 2:30— 4:30

Mon September 20th:

Help & Support (all devices) 9.30-11.30

NOTE: Members of Motueka SeniorNet can enrol in sessions offered by Nelson SeniorNet. Use this link to see what they have on offer at the moment: <https://seniornetnelson.org.nz/timetable/>

WATCH OUT FOR INTERESTING SPEAKERS AT FUTURE MEMBERS' MEETINGS!!



Sept 6 Jason Kroupa, House of Travel Motueka.

Come and learn about some great apps on your phone or tablet to help when you travel. And YES there are still many options this year for trips & holidays around our beautiful NZ!



Oct 4 Heather Thomas of CAB Nelson "Not Sure? Ask Us"

Most Kiwis have heard of the Citizens Advice Bureau, but do you really know what they do? Or how they can help you? Heather Thomas will share an overview of this unique community organisation, and the extraordinary range of questions handled by the volunteers. She guarantees you'll learn something, and have fun along the way!

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

Advance Alert ☺

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FOUR EXCELLENT REASONS to Renew Your SeniorNet Membership (and get your 2021/22 badge)

Do you want ongoing:

- 1) monthly meetings,
- 2) access to many-and-varied learning opportunities and interest groups,
- 3) one-on-one help with your technology, and
- 4) membership of the friendliest club in Motueka?

All this can be yours, by renewing your subscription of \$25 per person at or before the end of September/next month. Toward the end of August, you'll be receiving an email from us which will ask you to firstly, check the membership information we hold about you. And secondly, to renew your subscription, giving you the ways in which you can do so.

Once you've updated your Membership data and paid your subscription, you'll be sent a receipt by email along with an option to print off for yourself, your new 2021-2022 Membership Badge which can be inserted into your plastic holder. Or, if you'd prefer, we can print it for you the next time you visit the meeting room. Just let us know when you check-in.

We hope this will help us to save on the printing of the many uncollected (and later, binned) name badges, as well as avoid postage costs to hundreds of you.

The barcode on your new name badge for 2021-2022 will allow you to be correctly identified for current SeniorNet discounts when you shop at Noel Leeming and at other businesses which give SeniorNet special deals.

And remember - by wearing your name badge to learning sessions, groups & meetings the tutor/presenter knows your name & doesn't have to wonder who you are!



So, BEE look out for an email from us toward the end of this month, regarding your Subscription Renewal.

“FUTURE FORWARD” READING CORNER

Links to articles you may find interesting.....

**Toshiba breaks quantum communication record with 600 km of optical fibers**

<https://newatlas.com/quantum-computing/toshiba-quantum-communication-record-optical-fibers/>

New tech cheaply produces lithium and H2, while desalinating seawater

<https://newatlas.com/materials/kaust-lithium-phosphate-llto-hydrogen-desalination/>

NOTES FROM THE AUGUST 2ND MEMBERS' MEETING

We welcomed Gene from Affordable Computers as guest speaker at the August meeting. As usual he shared timely and practical gems on computer issues, and was also happy to take questions.

Windows 11

He started with the bombshell that Microsoft has announced that the free upgrade to Windows 11 later this year will not work on computers older than 3-4 years. Other requirements will be that the device must have a TPM chip and a CPU that is minimum 8th generation. On the bright side, Windows 10 will continue to be updated until 2025. Most updates with Windows 11 will be "under the hood".

Problems with not turning off your device

If you just close your laptop lid when you finish using it, it goes to sleep; when you open up again you can get straight back to the screen you were working on which is good. BUT over time this can cause software issues. It is good practice to turn your device off/click restart about once a week. N.B don't close the lid until the power light turns off! A complete close down or reboot of your phone/tablet weekly is also a good idea - often just doing this will solve a frozen screen or odd problem.

Slow computer

If your device is running slowly, before you start trouble shooting, check if it is the software at fault, or is it your internet connection speed?

If your laptop has a hard drive (HD) you can increase it's speed by a factor of 10 by getting a solid state drive (SSD) installed instead. A general clean up might increase performance by 10%. Both of these remedies can be carried out for you by staff at Affordable Computers.

Backups

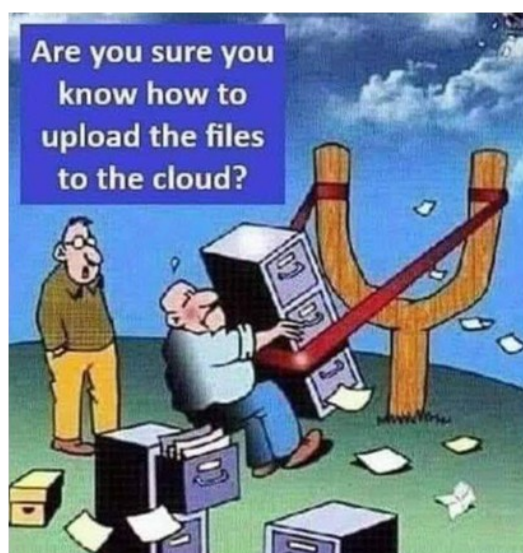
It is important to backup the files and photos on your computer, and especially so if your computer has the (faster) SSD mentioned above. Unlike when an HD drive fails, it is not possible to retrieve any content from an SSD when it fails.

There are several methods of backing up. Save files/photos to another device e.g. USB stick, another computer or a portable external hard drive. If you prefer, back up on a cloud service with Microsoft, Google, Dropbox, iCloud. In all these examples you must retain a second copy of your material in the original location - otherwise you don't have a backup!

The staff at Affordable Computers recommend a full device backup on an external hard drive, not file by file, so you can be sure of not missing anything. Also when you redo the backup, it will be quicker as just the new material that will need to be backed up. They can advise and install free software for you.

Anti-virus software

You do not necessarily need to install anti-virus software on your phone or tablet, especially if you use approved apps from the Google Play Store, or the Apple App Store as these will be safe and good quality. Before you choose an anti-virus product, do your homework. You will have to put up with advertisements if you choose free software. If you have a subscription for your computer, you may find you can also add it to your phone/tablet.



**Besides keeping your computers running
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- Tablet & Smartphone setup, assistance & repair
- WIRELESS Services
- Home & Office setup
- Extending to out buildings
- Configuring for better performance

If you have any computer, smart device or IT needs then call us on 03 5286535 or email us at info@affordablecomputers.co.nz

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

Hopefully you picked up useful information from articles, discussions on the radio etc during the recent Netsafety Week “Make Aotearoa Safer Online” July 26-30? Resources are still available on their website if you missed it, go to <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/netsafety-week-2021/>. You’ll find information about scams, staying safe online for young people (useful discussion starters for the grandchildren?) & much more.

Note that we will be showing a video via SeniorHangouts of NetSafe director Sean Lyons on Monday 23rd August at 2.30 giving a very good talk about all aspects of staying safe online. Please register and come along, maybe invite your neighbour!



The link below might be worth bookmarking from our New Zealand Police Department. It has much valuable information about Internet Safety and Cybercrime, & where to get help. www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/cybercrime-and-internet

There is also a link to a leaflet they’ve produced called “Feel safe be safe”. It has a section on Online and Identity Safety: www.police.govt.nz/sites/default/files/publications/guide-to-crime-prevention-english.pdf

On Friday 3rd September at 10.00 we will be providing in-house a Westpac presentation “Confidence with staying safe online.” This gives an overview of cybercrime, banking scams, card fraud, identity theft—how to recognise and avoid these. Please register and come along, maybe bring a friend!

CREATING A SECURE PASSWORD

Here is a reminder of a classic tip.....We are advised to have a different password for every online account. But how do we remember them!?! Another issue is that most passwords require a numeral, a symbol, a mixture of upper/lower case letters and at least 8 characters. Remember, passwords are the only time computers ‘care’ if a letter is upper or lower case.

The following procedure may simplify your password management. It depends upon creating a memorable core password and simply adding an identifier for each website. If you use this method consistently, you will not even need to keep a notebook for your passwords. Begin with the first letters from a favourite quotation, e.g. ‘Senior net is great for seniors in Motueka’. You create the password using the first letters of each word :- SnigfsiM
Check if any of its letters visually suggest a number or a symbol, such as: l = 1; a = @; s = \$; E/e = 3; o = 0 (zero); H = #.
You can change some of the letters in your word, e.g. \$n1gfs1M

This modified word becomes the central core for all your passwords. It will be all you’ll need to remember for multiple website accounts. When you sign-up for a new account online, you simply add an identifier to your core password.

E.G. if you are signing-up for an TradeMe account, you might add on the first two letters of that website (‘tR’), so your password for TradeMe becomes :- tR\$n1gfs1M

Or, you might add the first letters of TradeMe (‘tR’) to your core password at the end with @ in between:- \$n1gfs1T@tR

Use a similar technique for for Gmail :- \$n1gfs1T@GM

There are many other creative possibilities you could come up with. But remember to be consistent or the method will not help.



ADUG Meeting 22 July 2021

Bluetooth technology has many uses across devices. Because the phone plays a crucial role in its use we dedicated the first half of the session to Bluetooth.



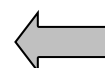
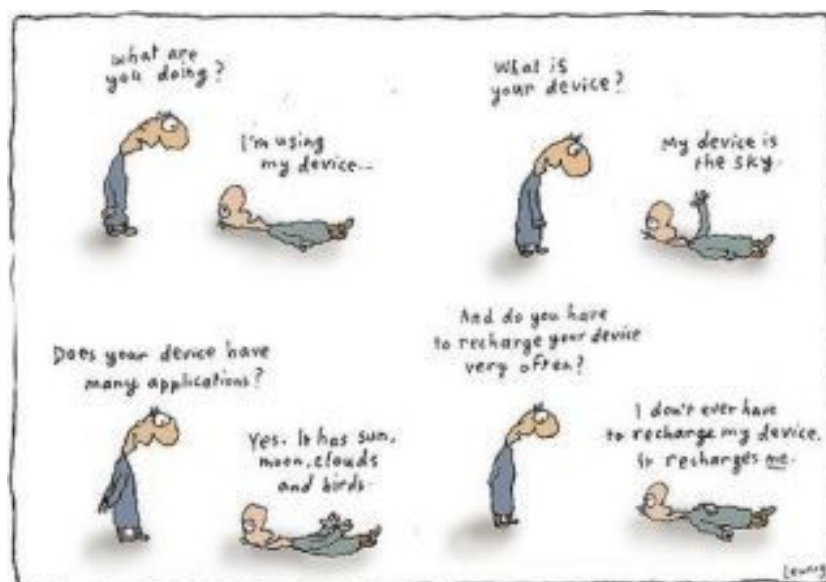
First we watched a video explaining the technology. Then we paired with and connected our smartphones to three different devices, a Bluetooth speaker, a keyboard and another smartphone. We then used the connected devices, played music to the Bluetooth speaker, entered text with the connected physical keyboard and transferred a file (a photo) from one smartphone to another.

For the second part of the session, we chose and installed 2 apps from a variety of apps. The apps we installed were AllTrails and "homes.co.nz".

Various features, including maps, of AllTrails, the app of trails (walks) were explored choosing walks in the local area and within New Zealand. The information for the app is provided by millions of outdoor enthusiasts around the world.

Estimated house values and details for individual properties, local and in other locations within New Zealand were of great interest to all of us using the "homes.co.nz" app. The map of the app was used to position to various locations.

Bernhard Nobis



No apologies for using this Leunig cartoon again in our newsletter. I popped it in before about 10 years ago!! It is so very very good don't you think?

Sandra

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IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS



Another year for Motueka SeniorNet is coming to a close. Our year finishes on 30 September.

That means the Committee needs you to consider your input and to volunteer your skills please at the **AGM on Monday 1 November**. This is what is needed to ensure our Learning Centre continues. Be aware that if a committee is not elected, the Club cannot continue to operate*.

We are farewelling several long serving Committee members from their roles. As a result, the Committee needs you to consider electing not only a new President but also 7 people from amongst the membership. Some of these may perhaps also be on the current Committee, nevertheless, they must still be elected by you to be on the new Committee.

In addition, a further 4 people can volunteer - this will make a total of 11 people plus the President (12 in total) which is the maximum number the current rules allow. This would be advantageous because it spreads the weight of responsibility. Once the new Committee is in place, they will decide amongst themselves who is taking which roles.

* For the Rules, please go to <https://register.charities.govt.nz/CharitiesRegister/ViewCharity?accountId=38232fd8-e489-dc11-98a0-0015c5f3da29&searchId=bdc25f81-f7a6-42f7-bc62-804880183caa>

or alternatively, the tiny URL is <https://tinyurl.com/ywrhut3h>

Motueka SeniorNet Committee 2020-2021

President, PR, Advertising:	Clive Dyson
Vice President, Health & Safety:	John Croxford
Secretary:	Gail Riddell
Treasurer, Sponsorship, Annual Stocktake:	Allan Culling
Membership Co-ordinator:	Kay Mathieson-Adams
Technical, Security, Maintenance:	Dave Samways
Activities Co-ordinator, Website updates:	Sandra Price
Almoner:	Norah Morris
Housekeeping, Stationery:	Philippa Hellyer
Newsletter Editors:	Kay Mathieson-Adams & Sandra Price

Off Committee Roles 2020-2021:

Web Administrator:	Bernhard Nobis
Technical Backup, Photocopier:	Colin Hope
Librarian:	Ann Bassford

Motueka SeniorNet Contacts:

Email: motuekaseniornet@gmail.com
Address: 42 Pah Street, Motueka 7120
Postal Address: P O Box 297, Motueka 7143

SeniorNet Motueka est 1998.

