



Sept 2021

# Newsletter



## A Few Words from our President, Clive Dyson:

Hi Folks,

This time last month, who would have guessed it? Lockdown again. We keep our fingers crossed that we're on the way to beating it and that it won't show its ugly head in the South Island. This situation has gripped not only the country but the whole world and my heart goes out to all who've lost loved ones, jobs, business or finances and are facing pretty bleak circumstances.

They say that every cloud has a silver lining. It's hard to see sometimes, but on social media there is some new talent appearing and humorous imagination being shown. There are more people out walking, neighbours getting together two metres apart in the street for coffee and chat. All this is really uplifting.

Even though SeniorNet has shut its doors for meetings and classes, some activity is still going ahead online. We had a Mac interest group with the Nelson people just after the shutdown, using Zoom, and we have had a committee meeting using Zoom.

This month marks the end of our SeniorNet financial year and subs are due at the end of this month. As you pay your sub you will receive an email containing your badge. This is an experiment that we are trying to eliminate members having to pick up their badge from the box at the rooms. Just print off the badge on white copy paper and insert it in your badge holder. If you haven't got a printer we can do it for you. My sincere thanks to Kay, our membership secretary who has spent endless hours trying to get the badge the right size to print out and to personalise it using mail merge in Word. Until we can meet again in Level 1, stay safe and smile :)

Kind Regards,  
Clive



**A small Correction re the message from Clive above:** (from Kay, using Editor's Privilege as I'm doing this month's Newsletter !)

Kay wishes to point out that all the hard work in streamlining and automating our renewal processes this year, has been entirely thanks to Clive, not Kay !

It has been Clive's dedication to the tasks of learning how to create the correct documents using the right software and having them behave properly when mail-merged. He is a Star Pupil, a shining example to us all on how to teach oneself, using freely available online resources

Bravo, Clive !!

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## Dates for your Diary (September) - ha!

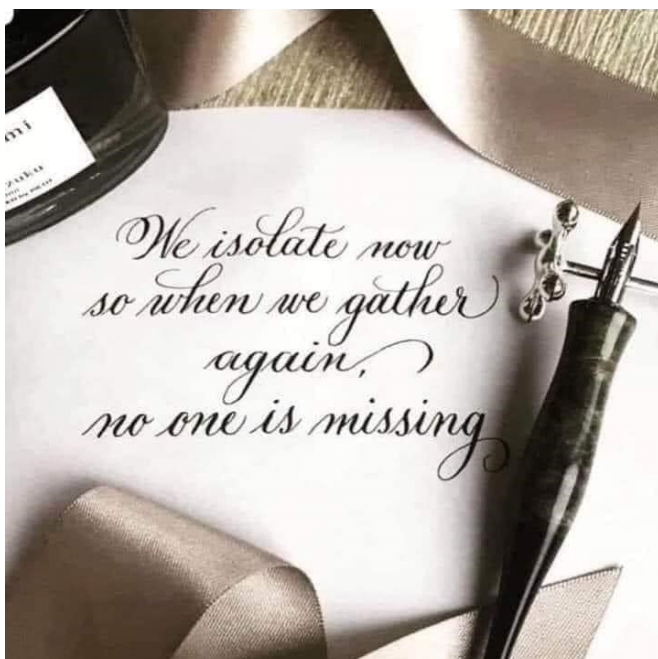
(see our website for more details, [www.seniornetmotueka.org.nz](http://www.seniornetmotueka.org.nz))

As you know, this section of the Monthly Newsletter is USUALLY packed with a big variety of upcoming Activities...	BUT !	As you're also aware.....	..All SeniorNet activities at our learning centre are cancelled until we are back at Level 1. We hope this will not be too long, but prefer to err on the side of caution.
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### Some Paraprosdokians to ponder:

(borrowed from our lovely local Motueka Crafty Tarts, recent newsletter)

- Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it is on my list.
- Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.
- War does not determine who is right - only who is left.



# NBS

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Windows 11

## Tech Tip:

**With the Oct. 5 launch date less than a month away, it's time to think about when Windows users should move from 10 to 11. (Helpful hint: Don't rush.)** *Excerpted from: Computerworld - By Susan Bradley, Contributing Writer, Computerworld | 8 Sept 2021*

The date has been announced: Microsoft will [start offering Windows 11 on Oct. 5](#) to computers that fully meet its hardware requirements. But should you update? With Windows 11, the decision isn't so clear.

It might seem quaint, but once upon a time, customers used to line up overnight at the local tech store to get a copy of the latest and greatest Microsoft release. Now that we can update ourselves (assuming you have the right hardware), the recommendation is to hold off. It's best to ensure that any major bugs have been fixed before installing Windows 11 and to make sure your vendors will support it.

With software these days, everything you purchase ships with an unfinished product behind the virtual shrink wrap. From operating systems to Internet of Things devices, everything needs an immediate update to function as advertised. It's not just early-release bugs that will keep me from rolling out Windows 11 to the few systems I have that will support it. More than anything else, I need to make sure that the key software I rely on will support any new feature release. Here's what I keep an eye on before any upgrade.

First, I check whether my antivirus software supports whatever I'm trying to install. I rely on Microsoft Defender, as I feel it ensures that Defender will support the operating system on the day of release. Check the antivirus you use and ensure that it's fully up to date or uninstall it if you plan to upgrade to Windows 11.

Next, I check my Office suite to see whether it will support Windows 11. I have a subscription to Microsoft 365, so I know it will be supported. But some older Office suites may be dropping out of support and, in particular, no longer supporting online services such as Microsoft 365 or Office 365.

Bottom line: If your system can't support Windows 11, don't try to install it. If your system can be updated to Windows 11, decide judiciously when (or if) you should update.

*Thus—it is apparent that many of us with pc's or laptops that haven't been purchased very recently, or that aren't loaded with the latest of fairly high-spec features, may well find our devices cannot accommodate Windows 11. Or, not without additional memory and other missing capabilities being added (if indeed, they can be added, many cannot).*



## All Things Apple and IOS

On Sept 13th, SeniorNet Nelson Mac's group sat in on a Zoom session with Jessica Grauds from Apple in Sydney, who revealed lots about the forthcoming new release of IOS15, Apple devices latest operating system.

The same group have extended an invitation to any of us at SeniorNet Motueka who'd like to join future Zoom meetings with Apple, taking place on Sept 20th and 27th. In particular the folk who participate in our regular IPPIG (iPhone and iPad Interest Group) will be able to share some of the intel they were hearing about.

Just a few of the things Jessica Grauds highlighted for the group covered improvements to SharePlay and FaceTime, Maps, Translate, Memoji's, to name but a handful. Many enhancements to iPads, Mac and Apple Watch too.

One example of what's to come, relates to Safari: "Voice search in Safari is an incredibly convenient way to search the web hands-free. Simply tap the microphone in the tab bar and speak. A new design puts your content front and centre. Quickly switch between tabs by swiping on the tab bar and enjoy personalisation features like a customisable start page and web extensions that help make Safari your own "



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## Covid Vaccination

### Tip:

A timely repeat  
from the July News-  
letter:



Post lockdowns, when you have had both injections take your Covid Vaccine Card to say, Warehouse Stationery or similar and get it laminated so it is protected.

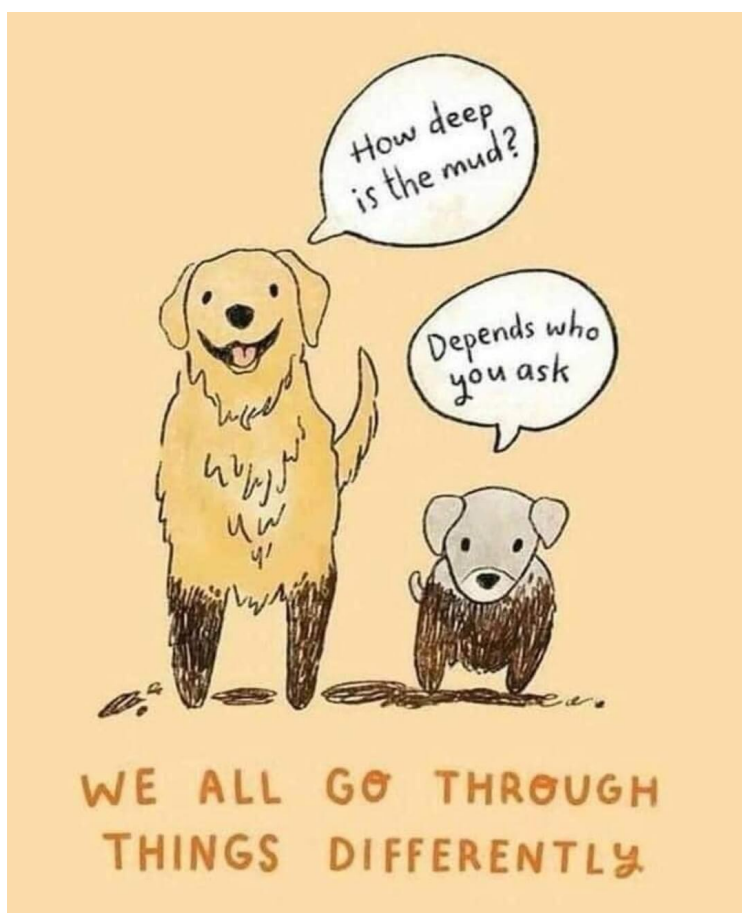


If you intend to travel overseas when it is safe, you could keep this with your passport.

Also, take a photograph your Covid vaccine card – that way you won't lose it and you can provide a copy of it to anyone anytime.

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If you've some spare "lockdown leisure time" To enjoy reading the type of articles you might ordinarily "give-a-miss", here in this Sept Newsletter we've included some of just those types - in hopes you'll find them intriguing, curious and/or entertaining, while enjoying a cuppa.



## Concrete: The material that's 'too vast to imagine'

By Richard Fisher and Javier Hirschfeld 29th June 2021  
[www.bbc.com/future/article/20210628-concrete-the-material-that-defines-our-age](http://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210628-concrete-the-material-that-defines-our-age)

Ages of human history have often been named after the materials that our ancestors mastered at that time: stone, bronze or iron. If future archaeologists do the same for us, what material might they choose to define the 21st Century? Silicon? Plastic? Both are candidates, shaping the world for better and for worse. But if the decision were based on scale alone, then there can be only one answer: we are living in the age of concrete.



There are few human-made substances on Earth that are quite so ubiquitous. Concrete is what the philosopher-ecologist Timothy Morton calls a "[hyperobject](#)" – something so enormous and widespread that it cannot be fully contemplated with the mental faculties that we have. If you attempt to picture the entirety of the world's concrete in the mind's eye, you soon realise that it's impossible.



However, Emily Elhacham of the Weizmann Institute of Science and colleagues recently attempted to give it a shot. Their goal was to better understand humanity's impact during the Anthropocene by totting up the [weight of all inanimate human-made objects on Earth](#).

As part of their calculations, they found that concrete accounts for [around half of all human-made things](#) – the single biggest category of anthropogenic material. And if its rate of growth continues, it will overtake the total weight of Earth's biomass sometime around 2040.

Try to picture that in the mind's eye: there is a day approaching soon when there will be a greater weight of concrete on Earth than every single tree in every forest, every fish in every sea, every farm animal in every field, and every person alive right now.

In the "BBC Future" photographic series [Anthropo-Scene](#), you can take a look at many examples from around the world to help us understand concrete – and our relationship with it – a little more clearly. See some of the astounding images at the full article here: [www.bbc.com/future/article/20210628-concrete-the-material-that-defines-our-age](http://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210628-concrete-the-material-that-defines-our-age)



Or in this case, this month—Welcome to our (singular!) New Member: **Ethel Dixon**.

Ethel joined us in way back in August—and already she has attended some sessions prior to Lockdown. Nevertheless once we can reconvene, please join us in making her feel welcome when we can once more reach out to greet and show a smiling face to new members.

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## Custom glasses: Will 3D-printing change our eyewear?

With a wide range of shapes, sizes and colours, finding the right pair of glasses can take time. But this means companies may also have to overstock to provide the wide selection of products customers expect.

So could face-scanning combined with 3D-printing change how we buy glasses and help move towards a more sustainable model? BBC Click's Lara Lewington visits one of the opticians offering the technology to find out more.

Click this link to see her progress, <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/technology-57817901>  
Or, try scanning here:



Remember to change your clocks this coming Saturday night, Sept 25th



## In light of recent global hacks and NZ scams, here's some steps to make your data harder to find online....

Rob Pegoraro 6/9/2021 [www.theverge.com/22509928/internet-security-privacy-personal-data](https://www.theverge.com/22509928/internet-security-privacy-personal-data)

There are two key concepts in information security: **Threat Model** and **Attack Surface**.

"Threat Model" is another way of asking, "Who's out to get you?" If your threat model includes the curiosity of nation-state intelligence services, you have many more things to worry about than Random Hackers. (!)



It's more likely that voicing a contrary opinion on social media or that a stray mention by someone else could bring you to the attention of the internet's malcontents.

"Attack Surface," meanwhile, describes a target's vulnerable access points that an attacker will seek to exploit. When it comes to the internet, it's nearly impossible to collapse your attack surface to zero — you'll never achieve that without going into witness protection(!). Our goal in this article is to help you condense your attack surface as much as possible.

Admittedly, trying to scrub your offline coordinates from the online world can feel like counting cicadas: you can start, but you will never finish.

But that doesn't mean that giving up is the right answer. With some effort, you can make data points like your street address, phone number, and birthday less visible online — and therefore less easily available for harassment or identity theft.

This exercise will also renew your awareness — as unpleasant as the consequences might be — of just how much data about you sloshes around the web. And it may get you to think anew about how you want to craft the picture that emerges of you, online, in a stranger's search.

**Dox yourself before other people do....** "I can tell you the cheapness and the availability of information you can get about anyone online would shock you," says Brianna Wu, a Massachusetts game developer who was among the targets of an online harassment campaign and has since become an advocate for better online privacy. Sources can include social media such as Facebook and LinkedIn, and any other information that may be floating around. Once this information is available, **data brokers can then mine and combine** public and private records (electoral role) with the results on sale at low, low prices — sometimes, for free.

### What you can do:

Try this, as an exercise: open an incognito window in your browser (so Google or any other search engine shows what a stranger would see) and search for your name and street address, name and phone number, name and birthday.

Note that, individually, each data point may not look like a huge privacy risk — but **combining them** can unlock various other databases.

All advocates agree, this is work that never ends. This is basically an operating cost of having an online life. You can't stop all scammers using your contact details nor can you wipe all your information off the internet, but you CAN make it less available.

If you'd like to read more, check out the full article here:

<https://www.theverge.com/22509928/internet-security-privacy-personal-data>

# Pre internet chat room using An old version of windows...



## Motueka SeniorNet Committee 2020-2021

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Colin Hope  
Ann Bassford  
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