

SENIORNET WARKWORTH INC



Member of the Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Inc

Newsletter

May – June 2010

Chairman;	Garry Atkins	422 9190	Deputy Chairman/Academic Manager: Brian Oakes	422 2248
Secretary:	Anne Murphy	425 5211	Course Co-Ordinator/Newsletter Editor: Judy Wane	425 4327
Treasurer:	Colleen Cooper	425 8617	Tutor Co-Ordinator/Workshop Co-Ordinator: Ian Ferguson	425 8957
Technical Manager:	Neville Fursdon	422 9463		

Learning Centre: 3 Matakana Road, Warkworth, PO Box 659 ~ Ph. (09) 425 9643

Email: seniornetwarkworth@clear.net.nz

Website: www.seniornetwarkworth.org.nz

Greetings from your Chairman

On a sombre note and with great sadness I must report the passing on 22nd of March of Howard Annan, an enthusiastic manual-writer and very helpful tutor, workshop presenter, and committee member. Howard was our Chairman in 2009 until his unexpected and severe illness. He was particularly skilled in the use of Adobe Photoshop and had a depth of knowledge of computers which he cheerfully shared with our members. A large number of SeniorNet members attended his funeral on March 30 which is an indication of the esteem with which he was held in our society. We thank him for the generous gift of his personal time. He will be greatly missed by us all.

As we approach winter consider it as a great time to learn more about the accelerating changing world of Information Technology. The start of our Term 3 is imminent with an Open Day planned for May 21. This is the time to encourage your friends and neighbours along to discover more about SeniorNet membership and the courses on offer. But it is not the time to bring along your computer problems because we set aside another time for that – our HELP! Day on May 31 at 2.30 p.m. So if you have any problems with your home PC or laptop, or parts of any of our courses, then this time is for you. Often some help at this time, whether fixing a problem or advice on buying a computer, can save your annual subscription many times over. I encourage you to use the many opportunities provided to our members by our tutors and Technical Team.

You will have noticed the increasing demands on our tutors as they need to be even more skilled and flexible in teaching the wider variety of operating systems coupled with several versions of programs. An example is the 3 principal current operating systems being used to handle the many different versions of Office. To give only one part of this

example – Word versions 2003, 2007, or the upcoming 2010, can operate on any of Windows 98, ME, XP, Vista, or 7. So the combinations are considerable. Fortunately, even though the displays, graphics, and names change, the same principles remain. So teaching an understanding of the principles is what we aim to do. This requires tolerance on the part of the student as the many permutations cannot be appropriately accommodated in our teaching material alone, requiring the skills and training of the tutor to be able to guide you through those parts of a lesson where there are minor differences. This is a particular learning challenge for a student new to computing. But expect more of this at a faster rate into the future as the Tsunami that is new technology gathers pace. We are currently looking at developing more bite-sized pieces of knowledge for you, rather than locking into 8-week courses.

Fortunately, as a member you have the ability to attend our weekly workshops to help you keep abreast of this change which is not only confined to computers. I have written before of the convergence taking place between computers, the Internet, mobile phones, TV, and GPS. Recently, Brian Oakes took us through a workshop on Wii. Initially, the thought was that it is pure entertainment (ask your Grandchildren), but we found that it has a huge following among seniors to enable personal fitness and exercise programmes to be developed. The equipment and software costs little more than an annual subscription to a gym. So in a world of burgeoning obesity, here we are at SeniorNet not only extending the age of your mind by developing new neurons, but also showing you how to improve the health of your body and thereby adding at least another couple of years to your life – how valuable is that?

Garry Atkins, Chairman

Monday Workshops Planned for Term 3:

The following Monday Workshops are planned for Term 3. The first one on June 8th is actually a Tuesday – Monday being part of the Queen’s Birthday weekend - we put it in so that you would not miss out that week. Dates may need to be changed as the term progresses and other circumstances intervene. Always check your weekly e-letter to confirm dates – remember, Workshop topics may change – any changes will be shown in your E-Letter.

As a courtesy and to allow planning, bookings need to be made to Judy (Phone **422 3728**) by 2.00 p.m. on the Sunday immediately preceding the Workshop. For safety and comfort, attendee numbers are usually restricted to 16. The cost is still \$5.00 per member, payable at the door.

Date	Topic	Presenter
June 8	Using Templates in Word for letter writing. Headers & Footers	Ken Winter
June 14	The changing face of TV	Brian Oakes
June 21	Mail Merge/ Envelopes in Word	Neville Fursdon
June 28	Clip Art	Brian Oakes
July 5	Picasa & Web Albums Mail Merge/ Envelopes in Word	Brian Oakes
July 12	Using Skype	Neville Fursdon/ Ian Ferguson
July 19	An Introduction to the concept of Managing Files & Folders	Garry Atkins
July 26	Restoring Old Photos	Brian Oakes

It was with great sadness that we bade farewell at the end of March this year to our immediate past Chairman, Howard Annan. Howard’s enthusiasm for, and knowledge of computers, his dedication to SeniorNet Warkworth enriched all our lives and he will be sadly missed, not only by his colleagues at the Learning Centre and the members he tutored, but also by the many to whom he gave unstintingly of his time and assistance whenever they needed help to solve their computer problems. Howard’s passing was a great loss for all of us. Ed.

Welcome to our new members - we look forward to meeting you at the Learning Centre:

Grant Pengelly, Sheryll Keane, Sheryl Raymond-Dow, Sheilagh Sutherland, Lloyd Edwards, Thelma Hallett, Joan Baker, Owen Ward, Phil Copestake, June Copestake, Yvonne Barnett, Ivan Rosandich, Lynne Rosandich, John Fenton



A Plea from our Treasurer:
Please advise us if you change your residential or email address - then we'll be able to keep you up to date with what's going on at the Learning Centre.

Just a couple more of those *Old Sayings* we promised you:

FAST AND LOOSE Traditionally if you wanted archers to halt and not shoot arrows you shouted 'fast!'. Archers also 'loosed' arrows. So if you played fast and loose you said one thing and did another.

FREELANCE. In the Middle Ages freelances were soldiers who fought for anyone who would hire them. They were literally free lances

GIVE SOMEBODY THE COLD SHOULDER. When an unwanted visitor came you gave them cold shoulder of mutton instead of hot meat as a hint that they were not to call again.

SPINSTER. A Spinster is an unmarried woman. Originally a spinster was simply a woman who made her living by spinning wool on a spinning wheel. However it was so common for single women to support themselves that way that by the 18th century 'spinster' was a synonym for a middle-aged unmarried woman.

START FROM SCRATCH. This phrase comes from the days when a line was scratched in the ground for a race. The racers would start from the scratch.

TERM 3 TIMETABLE (June 8th to July 30th 2010)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A.M.	Intro to Computers – 1 st 4 weeks in Win. XP; 2 nd 4 weeks in Vista	Mng F & F in Vista 1 st half Mixed Class of Subjects not elsewhere scheduled Minimum of 2 per subject	Email & Internet in Vista using Win.Mail	Excel in Wd. 2007 Basic WP in W2007 Level 1 WP in W2003	June 18 Review Panel June 25 Comm. Mtg. July 23 Review Panel July 30 Comm. Mtg.
9 – 11 a.m.	<8 places each half	4 pairs of 2 – 8 lessons	8 places – 8 lessons	<8 places each half	All 10.00 a. start
Noon	Mng F & F in XP 1st half Level 1 Word Processing in Word 2002/3	Basic Word Processing in Word 2007	Digital Cameras	Inter WP in W2007 Advanced WP in W2007 Level 2 WP in W2002/3 Level 3 WP in W2002/3	Mixed Class of Subjects not elsewhere scheduled Minimum of 2 per subject
12 – 2 p.m	8 places – 8 lessons	8 places – 8 lessons	8 places – 8 lessons	8 places – 8 lessons	4 pairs of 2 – 8 lessons
P.M.	Monday Workshops	Web Design Course using Dreamweaver	Digital Scrapbooking – First Half – 4 lessons 2 nd Half – 4 lessons	Mixed Class of Subjects not elsewhere scheduled Minimum of 2 per subject	June 11 T 3 Tutor Mtg. July 2 Tutor training July 23 T 4 Open Day
2.30– 4.30 pm.	< 16 places each workshop	8 places – 8 lessons	4 places each half	4 pairs of 2 – 8 lessons	All 2.30 p. start
Other Activities	Mar 31 HELP! Day Aug 2 HELP! Day Both 2.30 p.m. start.				

For enquiries regarding Membership and to book a place on any of the scheduled courses shown above, please phone Judy on 422 3728



Adobe Dreamweaver course.

We are pleased to announce that we plan to run an eight week course on designing websites in Adobe Dreamweaver CS5 in Term 3, commencing on 8th June. This course is at an advanced level presented by a professional web designer, and is aimed at those who maintain websites, or plan to do so.

There are 6 places still available and they will be offered firstly to our own members, then to members of other nearby SeniorNets. If some places remain vacant by the beginning of June they will be offered to other organisations in the Warkworth vicinity.

A major prerequisite will be a familiarity with Adobe Photoshop. Also, participants will be required to pay a fee in advance upon registration, and to purchase their own copy of Dreamweaver CS5, and have it loaded on their own laptop. Those who are not financial members of SeniorNet will be charged a premium.

Priority will be given to webmasters.

To ask to be included contact the Course Coordinator on Phone 422 3728.

Neville Fursdon – Technical Manager.



Veho Slide Scanner

Some time ago we bought a Veho Slide Scanner for our members' use – the Scanner will transfer old 35mm film negatives or slides to your PC or notebook quickly and easily. It is a small, compact device, and is available for hire by our members for \$10.00 a time. Here's what one satisfied member had to say about it.

"Just to say I appreciated being able to hire the Veho Slide Scanner from SeniorNet.

Once I installed the disc and followed the instructions that came with it, I found it extremely easy to use. I was able to scan 100 slides and label them all. Some of the slides came out really well but some did not because they were dirty; they were over 55yrs old so had accumulated quite a bit of dirt and dust over that time. Once I'm able to clean them I'll borrow the Veho again. Much appreciated also is the Monday Workshops where I keep learning more and more about getting the best out of the computer and accessories, flash drives, scanners etc. Thanks to the tutors who make it not only understandable but enjoyable".

Betty Akast

Thanks Betty – its good to get feedback from our members – helps us to maintain our standards (or raise them!) The winter months are a good time to dig out those old slides and, with the aid of the Veho give them new life on your PC or laptop – if you are interested just enquire at the Centre – you may have to join a queue!

Those emails again.

You may recall in my article in the last newsletter remarking that I was having trouble sending emails from some places, so I used webmail and this worked okay, but exposed me to lots of spam. I was puzzled that it only happened in some places and not in others.

I now know the reason for this. When connected to the telephone system with a telecom phone jack and using dialup it was as if I was connecting from home, though it was 'slow as' to use the modern slang - like 400 Kb – no it was bytes per second – at my brother in law's farm. It was much faster with an Ethernet cable connected to a wireless modem/router at my brother's place in urban Christchurch, and in both cases I could send and receive as normal. Now, where I had trouble was when I was connected to wireless

networks. I could receive using the usual POP3 settings. However to send I would have needed to know what the wireless provider's SMTP settings were, and of course the commercial provider was not going to tell me that. My brother was generous enough to tell me what his settings and password were, so that worked. Connected by cable you don't need them.

So if you need to send and receive emails while traveling, the easiest way is to use webmail. You access it from your ISP home page (an ISP is YahooXtra, TelstraClear, Slingshot etc), and put up with the Viagra advertisements. Why do they advertise the stuff? There must be a lot of suckers out there to make it worthwhile.

Neville Fursdon - Technical Manager

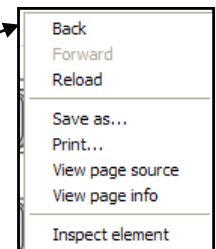
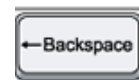
More of Brian's Tips and Tricks

Have you ever been to a website and wanted to go back to a previous page, but you can't find the back arrow?

Here's a simple way to go back to a previous page.

- **Right Click anywhere on the page (except on a picture) and from the *drop down menu* select *Back*. You will immediately go back to the previous web page.**

If you would rather use the keyboard why not just hit the backspace key.



Alternatively, you can use the Alt key + left or right arrow keys to go backwards or forwards.



Try it - it's a great simple way of navigating web sites.

Earlier this year our Chairman, Garry Atkins introduced a training scheme for new SeniorNet Warkworth tutors. During the first two terms Garry has been tutoring the trainees in many of our basic courses and now we have a team of well trained tutors to swell our ranks. Some have been sitting in with our experienced tutors and have shown just how much they have gained from the training experience. Several turn up for our regular tutor training sessions - showing enthusiasm and a keen desire to learn as much as they can about the ever changing technology. This all bodes well for our members who can be assured of high standards of tutoring in the future. We even have one trainee who is prepared to contribute to this Newsletter, and set out below is Sheryll Keane's story on her experience when upgrading her laptop to Windows 7 - Sheryll says, its simple! If you say so Sheryll!!! Ed.

Upgrade to Windows 7 - It's Simple!

Yeah, right. Recently I upgraded my laptop to Windows 7 and I thought others may be interested to read about how simple I found the process.

My laptop is Toshiba Satellite A300 with 2gb of RAM and was running Vista. I upgraded to Windows 7 Home Premium 32-bit. I was assured that it would be easy - just follow the instructions. I ran the upgrade advisor and worked through all the things it suggested - back up all data, make recovery discs for Vista, uninstall some applications such as itunes, update some drivers, etc. Then I re-ran the advisor and it seemed happy.

So I took a deep breath and hit the button to start the upgrade. It took several hours, automatically restarting the laptop now and then, but it went smoothly and so I set about reinstalling the applications. In doing so, I discovered that the dvd/cd drive wasn't working and the printer worked .. only partly.

I trawled the net looking for info on the dvd problem - a Matshita 850s. There were a few similar problems mentioned on blog sites. One suggested solution was that it might be the device driver that needed updating. So I used the Device Manager to uninstall the dvd/cd device and then reinstalled it. Win 7 came up with a nice wee message telling me that it was successfully installed. I rebooted, just in case, and then tried the dvd. Still it didn't work.

I searched further on the web and found several more blogs reporting similar problems. Then I came across an answer suggesting it could be a registry problem.

Uh oh, I was getting into deep techo territory now - the detailed instructions looked like more than I was prepared to tackle - time for a cup of tea and a re-think.

Later I decided to run a search on the Toshiba sites. They are somewhat of a minefield, however, eventually I found a page that has a list of items to reload after upgrading to Win 7 if you have a Toshiba and they give separate lists for each model. In the list for my model there was a registry patch for printers and devices. Aha. I downloaded the small file and ran the .exe. Then restarted the laptop. Presto - both dvd and printer worked!

I think the moral in this story is that if you are upgrading to Win 7 it is probably worth checking information on the hardware manufacturers site, as well as using the Microsoft Advisor.

If you've persevered thus far with my story you may like to know where I found the solution, so here it is.

The link is www.isd.toshiba.com.au/support
Downloads

Enter exact details of your computer in the boxes on the right hand side.

Submit

To the left of the boxes just entered there is written in red "for windows 7 drivers click here"

On the left hand side you need to select your computer model again - Satellite A300.

Then you finally get the list.

The rather funny thing is that they are not all drivers, some are .exe patches - however, lets not be too picky - at least it fixed my problem.

Sheryll Keane
Trainee Tutor

Waiver: From time to time some of our members give help voluntarily to other members on matters relating to computers, associated equipment and software. This can include information contained in this newsletter. This help or advice is taken solely at the recipient's own risk and imposes no responsibility of any kind, either on those providing such help or advice, the newsletter editor or SeniorNet Warkworth Inc.