

# Wavelength



## Greetings,

Members,

It cannot have escaped your attention that BNZ Picton has closed. Add to the fact that cheques will soon be museum items (the last one I wrote was dated Jan 2013), it would seem appropriate to advise you that we are running Internet Banking Classes in conjunction with Westpac. So far there has been one, with a second, already fully booked for later this month. We are ready to run more and the really good news is that they are **FREE TO ALL** and not just Senior Net members but

**ALL.** Tell your friends! Call Brian Cameron (details of all your committee members at the end of this newsletter) to book your place on the next course.

Last week we were due to have a workshop on how to use your smartphone for photography. Sadly no one showed up. The three of us who thought we were going to be tutors in fact learned a lot from each other. If that had been the only case of zero members we might have thought that the weather was involved, after all it really was a cold morning, but the previous week and the month before that we also had a zero attendance at the Picton Library. We can't all be weather wimps, can we?

I can't believe that a town the size of Picton is entirely full of seniors who know all there is to know about evolving technology. There is no point in ignoring it. It won't go away as much as some people may wish. Join with us in learning how the modern world ticks and what we can do to join in.

One of our members, Philip Middlemiss, has made an offer to run a course on how to make and operate your own weather station. It need not be as sophisticated as his (pictonweather.nz) but can be a fascinating subject and a way to learn some interesting technology. One of the components is a computer about the size of a cigarette packet called Raspberry Pi. Even if you have no desire to run a weather station, you may have some other need for a single use computer and Philip is prepared to show how to program the Raspberry Pi.

Talking of weather, it may have been a dry June but it certainly has been a cold one, so stay warm.

Cheers,

Bryan

*"If you eat in the kitchen, your room is always clean, and you go to sleep at 9 o'clock, it means you don't have the Internet!!" Anonymous*

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Marlborough Sounds  
**SeniorNet**  
 Learning technology together.

# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## July 2017 Events Calendar

Monday 24 July Internet Banking Linkwater Hall 1pm  
Come along—this is a free course open to anyone.



Phillip Middlemiss and  
Raspberry Pi

On Saturday 25 May SeniorNet Marlborough held a very successful open Day at Linkwater Hall. The programme included excellent speakers covering a wide range of topics to feed the minds. We also had a tasty shared lunch including welcome hot soup to warm chilled bones

The days programme covered a wide range of topics starting with an interesting gadget called Raspberry Pi computer. This tiny little box is used mainly for learning programming, but users are finding many uses specific for their needs—like running a weather station.

Phillip was followed by Ian Grant whose topic was the app “whats app”. Similar to Skype this app has no ads and is free. It is owned by Facebook, and has features such as dictated messages/images and movies.

### Active life

I was once living very actively - playing football, tennis, participating into car races. Sometimes I would play poker and pool. But later somebody stole my PC and that was it...

## MEET SARI LEWIS a new committee member

My name is Sari Lewis. My husband and I settled in Ngakuta Bay in 1982. I am a moderate user of electronic devices and believe there is always more to know. It is for that reason I agreed to join the committee of Senior Net Marlborough Sounds - for learning, sharing and support. I mainly use my devices for communication (phone, email)); photography and for information resources. Although map applications; and audible or readable books are other useful tools I access. I look forward to sharing learning with many of you over the coming months.



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## Digital Imaging (photographic) Group

Our topic for June was “Zoom”. It produced some remarkable before and after examples of ways to use the zoom function on digital cameras. (some shown in this newsletter). From the first shot we were kept guessing as to which object would be brought up in the final zoom picture.

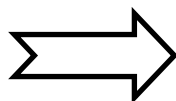
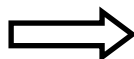
The camera club is proving a very popular SeniorNet interest group. On the first Friday in July we will be helping the Havelock Museum complete a photographic record of items on display. Sometimes we run workshops and plan for one in August on “Smart Phone Photography”. It is a case of, “you don’t know what you don’t know” about smart phone photography. It is amazing how versatile these cameras can be when you learn how to utilize all their hidden functions.

We all enjoy sharing our photos and ideas. We have eight regular members from all corners of the Sounds and room for a couple more. Welcome to a new member, Bob Marks.

Not time to attend an interest group? SeniorNet will run a **workshop on Smart Phone photography** if there is sufficient demand.

Interested? Phone June 574 1311 or Donald 574 2326

**Hint for all photographers.** Getting closer to the subject will always give better results –that is – unless you are photographing a nuclear bomb explosion!





## FAKE NEWS!

The Internet is an incredible resource for news and information, but unfortunately not everything online is trustworthy. Fake news is any article or video containing untrue information disguised as a credible news source.

While fake news is not unique to the Internet, it has recently become a big problem in today's digital world.

Fake news typically comes from sites that specialize in bogus or sensationalized stories. In recent years, however, fake news has been responsible for a great deal of misinformation because more and more people have begun consuming and believing these articles without bothering to fact check or even read beyond the headlines. This acceptance of incorrect information has led to confusion, panic, and an inability to discuss the actual facts surrounding current events. How did fake news become such a problem?

A fake news article is designed to outrage and shock, causing some readers to share it on Facebook, Twitter, or another type of social media without questioning it. Sharing the article exposes it to more people who may be outraged by it, who also share it without question, and so on. This cycle continues until a sizeable number of people believe this fake story is the truth.

### Why do people write fake news?

Writers of fake news typically create it for one of two reasons: to fulfil a social agenda, like angering a population against a political opponent, or to earn advertising revenue through visits to their sites. Unfortunately, business is booming.

How can I tell if an article is fake?

Fake articles can be difficult to spot at first, which is why it's good to develop a habit of checking the accuracy of any article you read, especially ones you find through social media. Here are some things you can do if you come across an article that seems fishy:

1. Enter the keywords of the story into a search engine and get a second opinion from a credible news site with verifiable sources.
2. Check the dates involved in the article. Fake news writers sometimes take a real story from the past, put an outrageous headline on it, and try to pass it off as a current event.
3. Take a look at the headlines of other stories from the same website. Are most of them hard to believe? Shocking? Inflammatory? If so, question the website's practices.

You can also confirm information at fact-checking sites like PolitiFact.com, FactCheck.org, and Snopes.com. These are reliable sources that specialize in fact checking and debunking inaccurate stories and claims. Take care before sharing articles online.

Adapted from [www.gcflearnfree.org/thenow](http://www.gcflearnfree.org/thenow) Motueka SeniorNet newsletter

### Word Tips Ribbon

Word Tips is a free service, part of the Tips.Net network, and has thousands of tips for using Word. There is also ExcelTips. The ExcelTips newsletter includes great tips and techniques for using Microsoft Excel. Subscriptions to ExcelTips are free. You can find full information at the right side of any page on this site:

<http://excelribbon.tips.net>



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## Five ways to salvage your worst email blunders

Borrowed from *Stuff*, 10 April 2017

We've all been there. You're in a rush, tired, not paying attention to your screen and before you know it you've made an embarrassing spelling mistake in an email.

Worse, you've hit "reply all" and fired off a message to the very person you were criticising. Realisation dawns seconds after you've pressed send.

You freeze in horror, burn with shame and then go into full-on panic. What to do? Dare you admit your mistake?

But an email mishap need not leave you rocking to and fro in a darkened room. Here are five common email blunders, and how best to recover from them.

### **If auto-correct has embarrassed you**

In this era of smartphones, the dangers of auto-correct are well-documented.

Writing "horny" instead of "hungry" might cause you shame, but it's more than likely that the recipient has made similar errors.

Harder to explain away is the addition of a rogue emoji, as discovered by the woman who sent an email of condolence on the death of a friend's parent, only to have her sign-off – "see you at the funeral" – completed by a skull and crossbones. Send a calm follow-up, explaining you were in a hurry and that your phone got the better of you.

### **If you've written the wrong name**

The sooner you notice, the better. Respond quickly and briefly, apologising for your mistake. Don't dismiss it too lightly, as people can be offended, especially if it suggests a misunderstanding of their culture.

But there is no need to grovel. It happens to everyone and – if their name lends itself to a mis-type, like the office PA constantly called Turkey, instead of Tuckey – they might well be used to it.

### **If you accidentally send your boss a kiss**

Ending an email with "X" is the most natural thing in the world, except when the recipient is your chief executive. Pity the person who sent their boss two lines of "Zzz" in an email about tiredness, only to have them auto-corrected to kisses.

The only options are to laugh it off and blame technology, ensuring all follow-up emails are exactly professional, even if it comes back with an "X".

### **If you hit 'Reply All'**

This tends to be irritating more than anything: when you accidentally reveal to the entire company what menu choices you would prefer at the staff summer do. The best solution is to send a light-hearted email to excuse your clumsiness.

But it can quickly escalate if people start hitting "reply all" to join in a long conversation, as happened when the NHS mistakenly sent 840,000 staff a test email in November 2016, and nearly 200 million unnecessary replies came back.

The best thing is not to get involved. Step away from your keyboard, allowing everyone to calm down.

### **If you send an unkind message to its subject**

There's nothing so likely to make your body seize up with pure panic. You write a nasty message about someone, intending to send it to a friend, but accidentally forward it to the person you're discussing.

A face-to-face apology is essential, especially if you work together. Ask to speak in private as soon as possible.

If the email was triggered by a specific incident, it's probably a good time to explain why you were angry in the first place.

Set out your frustrations calmly and see it as an opportunity to rectify any difficulties. Or just go in to lockdown, delete your social media accounts and screen calls.

This article originally appeared in *The Telegraph*, London.



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

Did you know that you can search a PDF  
I often get a PDF as an attachment and having read it, file it. Sometime later I remember something in the PDF but I haven't got the time, or the inclination, to read it all again. If you are using Windows try "control+F" or for Macintosh "Command F". this will bring up a small search box. Type in the word or phrase you want and it will be highlighted. Simples !



## New IRD Scam Email Circulating

A new scam email, purporting to be from the Inland Revenue Department, advising of a tax refund is being sent to unsuspecting victims. You are asked to click on a link to claim the refund. The picture below shows some of the features that identify this email as a scam.

Subject: IR3 individual income tax return 2016  
Date: Sun, 11 Jun 2017 06:26:10 +0100  
From: Inland Revenue - Te Tari Taake <[public.service.department@inlandrevenue.org](mailto:public.service.department@inlandrevenue.org)>  
To: [redacted]

● IR3 individual income tax return 2016  
1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

After the last calculation activity, we have determined that you are eligible to receive a tax refund of 250.77 NZD. Please submit the tax refund request and allow us 1-3 days to process your request. Click [Refund Me Now](#) to submit your tax refund request.

Note: A refund may be delayed for a variety of reasons, for example submitting invalid records or applying after deadline.

This email was sent to - [redacted] - for the ongoing support of your account. For security reasons you'll be automatically logged off after 15 minutes of inactivity.

Copyright 2017 Inland Revenue. Conditions of use.

## Significant Points:

### General

- On their website, the IRD state they will **never** email you to advise you of a tax refund

### The Email

- The "From:" email address: Although the text version (Inland Revenue - Te Tari Taake) is credible, the actual email address ([public.service.department@inlandrevenue.org](mailto:public.service.department@inlandrevenue.org)) is not. As IRD is a Government Department its email address would end in ".govt.nz", and is bound to include the letters "IRD"
- The link you are supposed to click to receive the refund will direct you to a website (<http://bit.ly/2gyg2n>) which is not part of the Inland Revenue domain. This link will probably download malware to your computer.
- The IRD are not likely to claim copyright for an email!

## Action

- Close and delete the email, using Shift/Delete to bypass the Deleted Items folder and permanently delete the message**

# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## Backing Up - Part 1

To back something up is to make a *copy* of it and then keep that copy in a safe place.

That's it. Nothing more, nothing less.

The key word in that statement is "copy", as in duplicating the information. After you back up, you have that same information in two or more places.

That leads to my most important rule:



Folks occasionally misunderstand the concept. After copying their information to their "backup" drive, they delete the original. That means there's still only one copy: the copy on that backup drive. Regardless of what you call the drive it's on, ***if it's in only one place, it's not backed up.***

The purpose of a backup is simple: if something happens and you can't get your information from your computer or online account (which happens much more often than people realize), then you get the information from the backed-up copies.

Backing up starts to seem complicated when you look at all the options related to how much to back up, how often, and what tools to use to make sure it happens regularly.

### Life

- You know, I have Google+, Facebook, Twitter, Skype accounts...
- Man, and do you have life?
- OMG, No! Could you send me a link?

## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

### FREE ADVERTISING FOR MEMBERS

If you have any surplus computer, or associated equipment remember you can place an advertisement in the our monthly newsletter free of charge

The plain truth is that human beings are happy only when they are striving for something worthwhile



### For Sale

EPSONSTYLUS colour printer/scanner

With user guide and set-up CD.

Only \$40.00

Phone 03 573 7389



### Picton Healthcare Pharmacy

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Picton

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Fax 573 8942

email: [pharmacy@pictonhealthcare.co.nz](mailto:pharmacy@pictonhealthcare.co.nz)

*Now also with our new branch*

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Picton.

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Fax 573 7904

email [health@medcentreparmacy.co.nz](mailto:health@medcentreparmacy.co.nz)



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## SeniorNet Committee:

Please contact any one of them if you have any comments or questions.

Chairperson: Bryan Strong 574 1311

Deputy : Donald McIver 574 2326

Secretary: Ian Cameron 574 2558

Treasurer: Brian Cameron 574 2267

Committee:

Marie Joyce 573 8273

Sari Lewis 573 8273

Shirley Mears 574 2426

June Strong 574 1311

Editor: Marie Joyce 574 232

Course Organisers

Bryan & June Strong 574 1311



Committee Members 2017

Back row: Donald McIver, Bryan Strong, Brian Cameron, Ian Cameron

Front row: Marie Joyce, June Strong, Sari Lewis, Shirley Mears

Banking details for SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds.

38 9010 0788795 01

SeniorNet Cellphone

020 40 69 1226

Subscriptions for 2017 are \$20 for a single person and \$30 for a couple. These are now due and may be paid to the account number above circled in green.

## WHEN TO SELL YOUR PROPERTY?

The standard response when you're thinking about selling your home but are not sure when, is "sell in spring". And there's plenty of truth in that as warmer, drier weather and post-winter itchy feet drive potential buyers out to open homes.

For a Free, No Obligation Confidential Appraisal of your property –

Contact either Brenda Davey,  
Ash Davey, Carolyn Burn or Grant Douglas

Ph 03 573 6699, 36 High Street, Picton

[enquiries.picton@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:enquiries.picton@harcourts.co.nz)

**Harcourts**

## NEW: Our own contact help line *for members*. —Use it or lose it!

|                                 |               |          |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Computer Confidence             | Brian Cameron | 574 2267 |
| Smart TVs                       | Marie Joyce   | 573 7389 |
| Buying Tablets or Smart Phones  | Bryan Strong  | 574 1311 |
| Formatting a Hard Drive         | Brian Cameron | 574 2267 |
| Restoring old or damaged photos | Donald McIver | 574 2326 |



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## Snippets from Open Day

Speaker

Brian Cameron

Phillip Middlemiss

Robert Boren

Bryan Strong

Ian Grant

Topic

Windows 10—using the Edge browser/office online Adblock gets rid of advertising

Making a weather station

Windows 10 synchronising laptop/tablet/phone, google play store, windows maps, 3D cities

Internet security—strong passwords/2nd acc debit card/buying online

Network for Learning (N4L) POND collection of teaching resources

Thanks to all presenters—a very interesting informative day



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## The Windows Key

The Windows Key is on the keyboard, bottom left, nestled among Ctrl, Fn. and Alt. It can perform a number of useful operations. Here are just a couple.

1. Hold down the Windows key and tap the letter E. This brings up Windows Explorer on the desk top. A second tap will bring up another copy of Explorer. Having two copies side by side allows for the easy transfer of files, for instance from a flash drive to your documents folder or visa versa. (The explorer icon on the task bar will usually just provide one copy of Explorer.) Note: Don't hold down the letter E just tap it. Holding down Windows plus E will produce endless copies of Explorer.

2. When you require a copy of an image on the desk top the normal way is to use the *Snipping tool*. If you haven't used it before you can add it to your task bar icons from *Windows Accessories* on the main menu. Once you locate it, right click and click on *Pin to the task bar*. Unfortunately, sometimes when you bring up the snipping tool the material you wish to copy vanishes. This is where the *Windows Key plus PrtSc.* comes in useful. When you combine these two keys you will notice the desk top darken momentarily. Now open your photo editing app and from the Edit menu click on *Paste*. A copy of the desk top appears and you will just need to crop it to the image you require. Simple!

D.McI

## Upcoming Courses

| Course                                  | Location & Date            | Contact                 |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Computer Housekeeping                   | Linkwater—18 July 10:30 am | Brian Cameron (5742267) |
| Saving, Filing, and Archiving<br>Photos | Linkwater—27 July 1:30 pm  | Donald McIver (5742326) |
| Confidence With Internet<br>Banking     | Linkwater—24 July 1:00 pm  | Brian Cameron (5742267) |

Contact these tutors to reserve a place before the courses fill

## **School Holiday Internet safety**

If you have children old enough to be internet users, chances are you've experienced a scare or two regarding their online escapades. The internet is a powerful medium that can be used for good or evil. Unfortunately, it isn't anything like that bad crowd of kids you advise your own children to avoid.

We know you probably have better things to be doing than sitting there beside your kids watching their every online move. You don't want to scan their social medias to ensure 'homework hour' is in effect. You don't need that bright smartphone screen or messenger tone to be blaring through the entirety of 'family movie time'. You certainly don't want to pour over their browsing history to ensure all visits and views to websites are agreeable.

The solution could be a simple program like ORAK. With it you can manage what devices can be used, at what times of day, and what can be seen and accessed at all times.

Simply put, it's a system that effectively allows you to manage your home's broadband. You can manage what your kids are viewing and (the best part) when. The Orak system is based around different users using different devices – parents shouldn't need to partake in the pains of an 'internet ban' during homework hour.

That's right. No more Facebook during homework time.

Orak is 100 percent customisable, so you don't have to banish those helpful information-rich websites during your child's study periods. Settings can be suited to family needs, so you can do your social networking past bedtime without worrying about your kids doing the same out of sight!

It gets better...you can also control the Xbox and Playstation, provided these are connected to the Microsoft or Playstation networks. Access to either network can be cut with Orak at any time you please, and you can schedule slots (such as weekends) where kids are free to jump online and game.

You'll also be more than able to block unwanted websites. Orak is user friendly, and makes it extremely easy for you as a parent to protect your child from the nasty corners of the internet.

If you're interested in Orak, you can [check them out online](#) for more information, or [follow Orak on Facebook](#) for extra online safety advice.