

# Wavelength



Greetings members,  
In lieu of my usual chit-chat,  
please read my chairman's report  
on page 2  
Cheers Bryan

Adam and Eve were the first people to NOT read the  
APPLE terms and conditions!!



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Drop in session 24/02/18 at Linkwater Hall



# SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AGM March 2018

Members,

2017 has been an interesting and in some ways difficult year for Senior Net Marlborough Sounds.

It was interesting in that the speed and complexity of technological change is a source of fascination for your committee as well as it is to me.

Difficult because, for a small Learning Centre like ours with limited people skills and technical resources, keeping up with that change and assessing how we can best react to it from a 'helping seniors' viewpoint, takes a lot of time and effort.

Courses like the ones we used to run in the distant past (all of three or four years ago) like Beginners level I, Word, Excel, File Folders and Computer management, are no longer required. Five or six years ago we all had desktop computers or laptops. Nowadays there are very few desktops, a few laptops and most people are using tablets or smartphones as their main technical device.

In order to find out what you wanted of Senior Net we conducted a survey and the most popular was 'Drop in Sessions' followed by a presentation by Grand Sidaway, so your wish is to be fulfilled tonight. Third overall was Presentations in general after which came Windows 10, Camera Club and Photo editing.

Firstly our 'Drop-in Sessions' where we encourage members with technical issues or difficulties to bring their device along to this room on the afternoon of the third Thursday of each month where we will do our best to solve your issue but, as mentioned earlier, with our limited resources, we may have to do a bit of research to get the answer.

Next we will be running a series of presentations, such as the one we had here on the 24<sup>th</sup> February. The next one is scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> May so make a note on your calendar

Interest Groups, specifically the Digital Imaging Group (Camera Club) which is proving popular with about a dozen members, and the Family History group which meets each even month (Feb, Apr, etc.) here and each odd month at the Picton Library.

Windows 10 seems to be an on-going issue and I think that the best way of dealing with that subject will be with a series of workshops. It's a topic with a vast scope and we need to find out what it is that you wish to know.

As we read in the newsletters of many other Senior Net groups throughout New Zealand, it becomes obvious that Learning Centres both big and small have similar issues especially in the recruiting of Tutors and Committee members.

In order to be a tutor you do not have to be a tech expert.

Remember, no one was born knowing how.

We all had to start somewhere.

Many of you will have been using smartphones or tablets for a lot longer than I have but I am willing to pass on what knowledge I have and I'm sure that many of you know more than I do and could also help others.

During 2017 your committee lost 2 of its members, not through carelessness, but for perfectly valid reasons. We still have two vacancies. You do not need to be a nerd or a geek, just someone who has the best interests of Senior Net at heart, some organising skills, and probably most importantly, people skills.

Come and join us. We're friendly and enjoy helping seniors like ourselves.

## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

Some thoughts from SeniorNet AGM 14 March 3018

- Subscriptions remain at \$20.00
- Elected Officers
  - Chairman Bryan Strong
  - Deputy Chairman Marie Joyce
  - Secretary Ian Cameron
  - Treasurer Brian Cameron
  - Executive June Strong, Donald McIvor, Jan Godsiff and Yvonne Blakely
- Grant Sidaway presented an interesting and informative session, much of which was quite thought provoking eg Are Smartphone apps making us Smarter?. Some of his thoughts will be presented later.



Is this the entertainment  
of the future ??



### HAPPENINGS IN APRIL

Thursday 5 April— Committee meeting 9.30am any issues contact a committee member.

Thursday 19 April 10 am Smartphones/tablets workshop. Picton Library. Bring along your problems

Thursday 19 April 1.00pm Drop-in session Linkwater Hall

Friday 6 April Digital Imaging Group 1.30pm Linkwater Hall

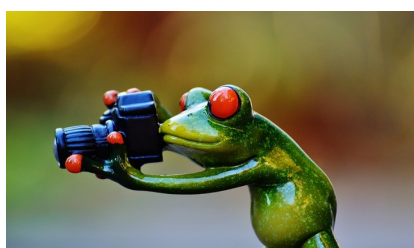
#### Digital Imaging Group

In February our focus was on photographing an object on a black background. Some interesting backgrounds were sourced ranging from T-shirts, glass table tops to a pair of tights. Below are some efforts

Next month our homework is to convert a colour archived photo to black and white



SORRY—bit of a hiccup unable to display other photos.



## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

Further thoughts from Grant Sidaway


# 2017 *This Is What Happens In An Internet Minute*



## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

### Why shouldn't I use the "Report Spam" or "Junk" button?

The "Report Spam" and "Junk" link serve an important function in the war against spam. However, used improperly, they can do much more harm than good.

Oh my. Yes, there is most definitely a wrong way to use it. In fact, it's *so* wrong, that [you could be contributing to other people not being able to get their email](#) 

Their legitimate, non-spam email.

The concept behind buttons like **Junk** in Hotmail, **Spam** in Yahoo Mail, **Report Spam** in Google's GMail, and similar buttons in different mailers is simple: let users decide what is and is not spam and then use that information to build a better spam filter. Spam is notoriously difficult to identify, but the theory goes that "you know it when you see it." As more and more people tell the mail services, "This is spam," these services can then use various characteristics of that mail to make their spam filters better.

Unfortunately, the flaw in this scenario is the users. As it turns out, they often do *not* know spam when they see it and report *legitimate* mail as spam. If enough people do that, then eventually legitimate mail starts getting blocked by spam filters. You and others cannot get the mail that you asked for because it was reported as spam.

Let's use an example. Let's say I'm a newsletter publisher (which, coincidentally, [I am](#)). In order to get my newsletter, you have to a) provide your email address, and then b) reply to an email sent to that address to confirm that you really, truly meant to sign up and you want my newsletter. That's referred to as "double-opt-in" and is the industry standard way of making sure that you really mean it when you sign up for an email newsletter.

So far, so good. Now, you receive my newsletter. Maybe you don't like it. Maybe it's not what you expected. Either way, *you explicitly asked to receive it and confirmed that you wanted it*. By definition, it is *not* spam – spam is email you *didn't* ask for.

*"Report as Spam" is not a substitute for "Unsubscribe"*

If you want to stop receiving this email, then the thing to do is hit the Unsubscribe link. Because you asked for this email and confirmed that you wanted it, the right thing to do is to follow the directions to unsubscribe from it.

If you use the "Report as Spam" button, you are harming both the publisher of that newsletter and the other subscribers to that newsletter. How? Because you've told the mailer that it's spam when it is not. The mailer may eventually start blocking that newsletter, not only from you, but from other recipients using the same service.

Think that's far-fetched? Think again. I know of several newsletters that are having delivery issues with some of the larger mail systems because a few people hit "Report as Spam" instead of unsubscribing as they should have. I know of at least one who's stopped supporting recipients of one mail service, and I know of another that's stopped accepting subscribers from Hotmail and Yahoo completely because of these types of deliverability issues.

"Report as Spam" is not a substitute for "Unsubscribe." If you asked for the mail, then use the proper steps to unsubscribe. If you *know* you did not, if you *know* that what you're looking at is truly spam – unsolicited email – then by all means, report it as spam. But on behalf of all the legitimate newsletter publishers out there and their subscribers, *please* know the difference and act accordingly.

Thanks to Ask Leo (Leo Noteboom)



## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

The committee would like to welcome

**Jan Godsiff** and **Yvonne Blakely** to the SeniorNet committee.

Great to have you on board.



Hearty thanks also to **Shirley Mears** for her contribution to the committee. We have appreciated your views and suggestions.

Tip of the month: Have you ever opened a website with print so small that a magnifying glass is needed to read it? On any web page, you can make any page bigger, or smaller, by pressing the Control (Ctrl) and the plus (+) or (-) key together, to make that web page bigger or smaller respectively.



### SNIPPETS

#### Your feedback.

I do welcome your comment and feedback – remember, it is your newsletter. If you have any questions and/or anecdotes to share, email me at [marie.joyce@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:marie.joyce@actrix.gen.nz).

**Is there anybody out there??**

#### Interesting website

#### The Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is a research library that serves the United States Congress and acts as the *de facto* national library of the USA. Have a browse around it and view amazing vintage photo collections that can be reused (as long as the appropriate credit is given).

## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

Computer jargon explained - a glossary for beginners (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia) Computer jargon means words to do with computers and surrounding topics.

Some examples of jargon are:

**Disk** - a place to store data.

**Data** - information stored on a computer. The amount of data that is stored on a disk is measured with the following terms:

**Bit** - the smallest data unit, can either be a "0" or a "1."

**Byte** - there are 8 bits in a byte. One byte is enough to hold one single letter or number of text.

**Kilobyte** - there are 1024 Bytes in a Kilo-byte.

**Megabyte** - there are 1024 Kilobytes in a Megabyte.

**Gigabyte** - there are 1024 Megabytes in a Gigabyte.

**Terabyte** - there are 1024 Gigabytes in a Terabyte.

**Petabyte** - there are 1024 Terabytes in a Petabyte. Note that some people and some companies use a different version of these numbers, replacing 1024 with 1000 in each of the above numbers

**Upload** - to put data on somewhere. For example, on the internet or a website, "I uploaded my pictures to Facebook." Download - to copy data from somewhere. For example, "I downloaded a song from iTunes."

**Load** - to get data from, or put it on, a disk.

**Save** - to put data on a disk.

**RAM** - random access memory.

**ROM** - read only memory. This is memory that does not get changed.

**Hardware** - the solid parts of a computer, like monitors, fans, CPU, etc. CPU - central processing unit, another name for processor.

**GHz** - gigahertz. Used to describe the speed of a processor. Some processors are capable of doing more than one thing at once, as they have multiple "cores", so a bigger number is not necessarily better. The bigger the GHz number, the faster it runs and the more energy it uses.

**USB** - universal serial bus, a method used to plug computer tools into a machine.

**Email** - electronic mail.

**WWW** - World Wide Web, part of the Internet.

**Broadband** - a fast internet connection.

**WiFi** - wireless fidelity. A way to connect to a network wirelessly

**OS** - operating system. The main program that controls all the computer functions, it calls other programs.

**Program** - set of data that tells the processor what to do and call for in the rest of PC.

**Software** - another name for program.

**Installation** - the way a software sets the place for itself in a computer.

**Computer Virus** - bad software made to mess up a computer or destroy data; nothing good comes from it..

**Hacker** - people who search flaws in the way computers work. They can use their knowledge for evil too.

### Picton Healthcare Pharmacy

6 High Street,

Picton

Ph 573 6420

Fax 573 8942

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

*Now also with our new branch*

.....

### Picton Medical Centre Pharmacy

conveniently located in the Medical Centre

114 High Street,

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## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

My Experience with Fibre. Ian Turner. (Ian helped set up the SeniorNet Federation and was the Chairman for many years)

I was interested to read the piece in the February 2018 Gizmoe by my good friend Ray McDonald about how things went when he was connected to fibre. In fact, so interested, that it got me going to write this piece, not as a reply to Ray's one, but as a humorous reminiscence.

I have always been almost obsessed by computers (I once learned with students as I taught them how to program the second computer that ever came into NZ) and have usually purchased whatever was the latest technology. So, when fibre connections were first mooted, I got really excited. Then further excited when I found that our area would be one of the first to be so served.

It took some time before it happened, but eventually our street was connected. All cabling was underground and they made a really good job of it without leaving any disturbances. So, I applied for a connection. A few days later a new modem arrived, and I thought I was on the way. (I still have the modem in new condition, free to a good home for the cost of a courier.)

Problem. We are up a shared right of way with two other houses having access from the drive. By the legislation of the time, the permission of the other owners was required. One would not give it. Real frustration!! The cables were so near, yet so far away!! But there was talk of the legislation being changed, so perhaps it was just a waiting game.

Over a year later, a Vodafone salesman arrived at our door. He suggested that he could get the connection organised, so I signed a contract on the proviso that it happened. But again, we were frustrated. No agreement was given. The new legislation was in the pipeline, but the time it was taking seemed never-ending.

Then I saw an advertisement for a wireless system. Supposedly close in speed to fibre. So I signed up for it. The modem arrived a few days later and we were all go after about the hour that it took to get the exchange switched over. More about that later. Then the tenants in the house where approval had been declined changed. The new people were super tech-oriented and had to have fibre. So I was asked to agree to the installation !! I gave it albeit somewhat reluctantly after their two refusals for my own connection !! Some time later the cable was installed up the drive and across the front of my house. Again a great job was done with no disturbances.



Then the tenants changed again, and the new ones don't appear to want fibre. So cables are in place, but none of the three houses have a connection. Every time I go up or down our drive I see a coil of cable ready to be connected to our house.

But more on the wireless connection: I am very happy with it. The speed is more than satisfactory for my uses. I often look at news sites and many now have a lot of advertising at the top of the page and that slows the download anyway. We also installed five Uniden SSE35 wireless telephones around the house and the base unit simply plugs into the wireless modem. So apart from one very short cable between base phone and modem, we have no cables in or outside the house. That's very convenient in a house that is almost impossible to wire. We bought the Uniden because of the number of handsets we could have and because the units are a good size for use by older people.

The wireless modem operates the same way as a mobile phone, but with our old landline number. So, when we went on holiday last year, we simply picked up the modem and a phone and took them with us. We just needed to plug in power and wait a minute or two as the unit booted up. We then had all the communication facilities we have when at home. Everyone could still ring us 200 Km from home, on the usual landline number and without toll charges. For us, wireless works so well I won't reconsider a fibre connection. take note, you can't take your fibre connection with you when you go on holiday !!

## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

### SeniorNet Committee:

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

Chairperson: Bryan Strong 574 1311

Deputy : Marie Joyce 573 7389

Secretary: Ian Cameron 574 2558

Treasurer: Brian Cameron 574 2267

Committee:

June Strong 574 1311

Donald McIvor 574 2326

Jan Godsiff

Yvonne Bakely` 574 1068

Editor: Marie Joyce 574 2326

**Course Organisers:**

Bryan & June Strong 574 1311

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**



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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 McIvor	574 2326



## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

The Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Incorporated

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of The Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Incorporated will be held on: Date: Tuesday, 8 May 2018 Time: Start - 3:00 pm / Finish – 4:30 pm Venue: Hamilton Airport Hotel & Conference Centre, 201 Airport Road, Tamahere, Hamilton

Committee Nominations As defined in our Constitution, the appointment of Committee members is for a two-year term, with the provision that at each AGM half of the Committee members retire by rotation. On this occasion, the following members will retire by rotation at the 2018 AGM:

☐ Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region: Pat van der Maas

☐ Wellington Region: Rex Fowler

☐ Canterbury Region: Paul Hopewell

☐ Otago/Southland Region: Bruce Smart Therefore, in accordance with the Constitution, nominations are only required from the following regions:

☐ Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region: (1)

☐ Wellington Region: (1)

☐ Canterbury Region: (1)

☐ Otago/Southland Region: (1) \*\*

In addition to the above, there is an existing vacancy for the Central North Island Region (1) for which a nomination is also required. Each regional candidate shall be proposed in writing by a Member Society from within that region - (not an individual). No seconder is necessary, but the Nominee's acceptance signature is required.

☐ The election of one committee member for each of the above regions is undertaken at the AGM. ☐ Each member society in the designated regions has one vote, cast either by their delegate (if present) or by their proxy vote (if they have sent one in).

☐ Each member society can only vote for one of those nominated for their region. Special Note: The Constitution states that all retiring members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations close at 5:00pm, Tuesday, 24 April 2018 Nominations may be either emailed to: [grant@seniornet.co.nz](mailto:grant@seniornet.co.nz) or posted to: The Secretary Federation of NZ SeniorNet Societies Inc. P O Box 9406 WELLINGTON 6141 Member Societies will be advised of the nominations received no later than Saturday, 28 April 2018.

Indication of Attendance A communication regarding attending the AGM & Symposium will be issued in due course.



## SeniorNet Marlborough Sounds

Member Society's Motion Provision is available in the Constitution for any Member Society to request that a motion be voted on at a particular Federation meeting, including the AGM. If your Society wishes to utilise this provision, please submit the motion in writing, along with supporting information, so as to be received no later than Tuesday, 10 April 2018. Member Society's Motions may be either emailed to: [grant@seniornet.co.nz](mailto:grant@seniornet.co.nz)

or posted to: Secretary Federation of NZ SeniorNet Societies Inc. P O Box 9406  
WELLINGTON 6141 Member Societies will be advised of any motions received no later than Friday, 24 April 2018.

Indication of Attendance A communication regarding attending the AGM & Symposium will be issued in due course.

On behalf of The Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Incorporated



"How shall I torture you today?  
Put you on the rack? Boil you in oil?  
Make you call a technical support line?"