



From the Chair

Well hasn't Mother Nature had a right fair go at us all recently?

On behalf of the committee, we hope you and your families are all safe and sound in your homes and you haven't sustained too much damage from the recent extreme weather event.

Maybe you are wondering what is happening at Senior Net? Whilst we are not able to carry out our usual activities at this time, we do have some future events planned for September and October. We will have the "Confidence with Banking" on 16th September, in conjunction with the Drop-In session, and the Grand Opening of SeniorHangouts on 2nd October.

The venue for these events will be confirmed shortly although likely to be at the Queen Charlotte Tavern. Linkwater Hall is not available due to building alterations being underway.

There will also be a hands-on Query Evening in Picton on 13th October.

In the meantime - there is ZOOM. The last time we were locked down several of us used Zoom as a very useful way to interact with each other and keeping in contact with family. I urge you to ring or email a committee member if you need some help with getting connected with Zoom.

As mentioned above, we are expecting the launch of the SeniorHangouts app soon. Already the trial online workshops held last year had proven to be very popular. These are underway again in preparation for the launch.

I hope you are all keeping well and are safe - and not too bored - in lockdown.

Kind regards

Liana Bull
Chairperson

Introducing John Welch

John takes over from Philip as our Picton representative on our SeniorNet Committee and is already making his mark. He is arranging a "Query Night" for members and potential members in the Picton Library. The likely night will be Wednesday 13th October between 6 and 9pm- more details next month.



John's story:

I am a retired doctor and have lived in Picton since 1982. My father bought me an electronics kitset when I was 12 and this got me interested in constructing radios and other interesting gadgets. I imported and built an early computer game which used the TV as a display.

My first computer was a Sinclair ZX81 which I still have along with manuals and books. This was also imported from the UK. The television served as a monitor. Programming was in Basic and everything had to be saved on a tape recorder. It had 1K of memory but could run a primitive space invaders game. I bought a memory expansion module which clipped on the back. One day after laboriously typing up a very long and complicated program I coughed and bumped the table and everything crashed.

My next computer was an Atari 520ST which had a monitor and dot matrix printer. It cost \$2000 approximately in 1988. Around that time I joined the RNZAF as a medical officer and over the next few years I used every iteration of Microsoft PC's. I won an iPad at a conference and used that for many years until it became obsolete. My last employer funded an iPhone 7s and an Apple MacBook Pro both of which I still have along with my desktop computer.

One of my brothers is a software engineer and the other one is a systems analyst. I learned from them that most computer problems are not unique and can mostly be resolved by using google and various knowledge bases contained on websites.

I am involved with several clubs with older members, many of whom are finding Internet banking a challenge, now that cheques have been phased out. I joined Senior Net with the intention of helping with such issues as well as furthering my own interests in computing and digital photography.

Our Help is requested:

A letter from Marylyn Alex (marylyn.alex@auckland.ac.nz)

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Marylyn Alex, a PhD student from the University of Auckland who is under the supervision of Dr. Burkhard Wuensche and Dr. Danielle Lottridge. We are currently designing a virtual reality art tool and making virtual reality art accessible to people

with impairments. We would like to obtain first impression feedback from a *wider range of potential users* on the usability of our virtual art tool via an online survey.

We are inviting participants aged 16 and above with or without impairments to participate in our online survey. The online survey requires participants to watch a 5-minute recorded online video where an artist creates art using our virtual art tool. Participants will then answer a short online questionnaire on their first impressions of the virtual art tool.

You may check out the sample videos in Youtube:

- 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCwfD4baRI8>
- 2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbnZPdk7Xqs>

This is the link: https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5z1HyNAWgEzYRsq for the online survey.



Senior Hangouts:



Earlier in the year, there was a lot of information that came through on Senior Hangouts, an online learning platform. Most of the daily sessions stopped in late autumn to allow the development of an independent app that was supposed to be up and running by now. There have been several issues with this development due to covid lockdowns in India where the app is being developed. There are now some sessions being recorded and these are available for any member to view free.

Linking to SeniorHangouts

You can connect to the sessions without having the Zoom application on your device, you can choose to join from the browser itself.

Link for connecting to the sessions:

<https://seniornet-nz.zoom.us/my/seniorhangouts>

passcode: SH123

or without the passcode

<https://seniornet-nz.zoom.us/j/5945680835?pwd=TndGQ2pFNmtPNGNQOVpIT2hyOW80UT09>

All the sessions are recorded and are available for viewing.

For accessing all previous recordings on SeniorHangouts

<https://classroom.google.com/c/MTY0NjUwOTQ1MTg2?cjc=s6ps2dy>

Our Committee is planning a Grand Launch to introduce SeniorHangouts to our members on Saturday 2nd October 11:30am - 2pm. Mark this date in your calendar. You will be sorry if you miss it- there will be prizes, catered lunch and, most importantly, information.

Renovations to Linkwater Hall

The renovations to the Linkwater Hall began last week, four months earlier than anticipated. Thanks to the Hall Committee who were unable to contact the Committee and kindly removed and stored our equipment.

The plan is that the three main users of the Hall SeniorNet, Bowls and Pre-school will have areas in the Ops Room set aside for their use and the Hall Committee will consult with Senior Net to ensure that our setup is the best it can be for our comfort and ease of learning. The new kitchen will be approximately the same size as the present one.



Being a little older, I am very fortunate to have someone call and check on me everyday. He is from India and is very concerned about my car warranty.

And this is no Bull

(With thanks to Ashburton SeniorNet)

In this age of knowledge, people want to know how, when and why something happens, where does this, or that come from, and so on.

Take milk as an example. Most intelligent people like myself know milk comes from a bottle or a plastic or card board carton from the milkman or supermarket. To those who thirst for additional knowledge, they realise that the white stuff has its origin from a large animal called a cow. But, what is a cow?

A cow is a completely automatic manufacturing machine. It is encased in untanned leather and mounted on four vertical, moveable supports, one in each corner.

The front end contains the cutting and grinding mechanism, as well as light sensors, an air inlet and exhaust, a bumper and foghorn. At the rear is the dispensing apparatus and an automatic fly swatter.



The central portion houses a hydrochemical conversion plant. This consists of four fermentation and storage tanks connected in series by an intricate network of flexible plumbing. This section also contains the heating plant complete with automatic temperature controls, plumbing station and main ventilation system. The waste disposal apparatus is located at the rear of this central section.

In brief, the externally visible features are two lookers, two hookers, four stand-uppers, four hang-downers and a swishy-wishy, which when pumped up and down, produces whitey-whitey.

Coming Soon...

Windows 11



Watch this space..

A Health Check will soon be available to see if your computer is suitable to be upgraded to Windows 11. Click [here](#) for details.