



SeniorNet Manawatu Newsletter

June 2022

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President's John's Report - June 2022



May has gone and winter is closing in. Last month saw us with busy Tech Help sessions every Wednesday morning. It's a great problem to have. We have extra volunteers now to sort out your problems and questions (thank you to the volunteers). We ran two very successful workshops on Google Photos, and we have at least one more workshop on Google Photos and photo stuff in general. We are also looking at starting a group to meet up once a month to discuss what people are doing with photos, solve any issues, and have some creative fun. See elsewhere in the newsletter for more details - let us know if this would be of interest to you.

We are currently running 4 workshops based on our standard Gmail class. Each workshop looks at discrete topics linked to Gmail and related utility programs. This is more flexible than a traditional class, and we will look at running more of this style of workshop.

We also had a session on the new SeniorHangouts. Let us know if you have any issues using this, we think it's easy but we know that this technology is new to many of you.

We are still planning several activities that we hope will be of interest

- A workshop on the new SeniorHangouts - registration, and the various features
- A session on Chromebooks
- Follow-on activities from the 'Family Memoirs' talk
- Follow-on activities from our Google Photos workshops
- A celebration to mark the 25th anniversary of SeniorNet in Palmerston North and the Manawatū

If you have any ideas or suggestions on courses, workshops or anything SeniorNet related please let us know.

Regards President John Gibsone

SeniorNet Calendar June 2022	
Wednesday 8th June	Wednesday 15th June
10am TECH Help 10am SeniorNet Office 1.30pm Members Day	10am TECH Help 10am SeniorNet Office 1.30pm Android Interest Group
Wednesday 22nd June	Wednesday 29th June
10am TECH Help 10am SeniorNet Office 1.30pm Google Photos Workshop	10am TECH Help 10am SeniorNet Office 1.30pm Google Photos Workshop

June Members' Meeting Wednesday 8 June at 1:30 PM

Chat and Cuppa Session

We will have a chat about various ideas that we are working on - some of which appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Also please bring any ideas or suggestions for things you would like us to do for you.

Oh, and we will have a cuppa and a bikkie.

Regards



SeniorNet in the Manawātū - twenty-five years

It's now 25 years this year since our SeniorNet was started in Palmerston North. We would like to mark this anniversary with a celebratory Lunch. Our current thinking is to choose a suitable location and a set menu. We will look towards paying venue charges and leave the meal charges to the guests. For simplicity, we would probably get everyone to prepay us and we will handle the payment (except for drinks etc.). We are looking towards a date in July.

So, look out for details in a forthcoming email.

EXERCISE FOR PEOPLE OVER 60

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags. Then try 50-lb potato bags and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level).

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

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We are looking at starting two different groups for some creative activities. We believe that this sort of activity is the best way to learn - because it has a purpose, and it's a lot of fun to do something creative. The groups would be centred around the following two subjects.



1. **Memoirs.**

We would like to start a group based on the talk we had with Arne Evans back in April. This was about capturing memories of events that you have experienced, or perhaps family stories that you can pass along. We aren't fussy about what you would like to do, or how you do it, just as long as it is collecting 'memories' into a format that others can enjoy. We can help with how you would like to record your stories - maybe a word processor, or audio or video (smartphone). If you want to use a quill pen, that's OK too.

2. **Photos.**

Based on the interest that we had in our Google Photos Workshops (still ongoing); we would like to start a group looking at things to do with using our photographs. Things like prints from your photos, displaying your photos, collages, creating a photobook, creating gifts - things like calendars, mugs and posters, etc. How to use Google photos to edit your photographs and other tools that can change your photos. We could also include topics on how to take better photos, scan old photos etc.

We would like to start groups that meet once a month on a Wednesday morning, say 10:30 to 12) at Milson for these activities. If we are really on the ball, we might even be able to offer tea or coffee as well. We believe that both of these activities will be interesting and creative, and provide an opportunity to learn. Being in a small group will help to motivate you to keep going, and to have others whom you can discuss things with. We will provide tutor assistance and will be around to provide help if required.

We don't plan to charge a set fee for these sessions, but we would appreciate a gold coin (or two) in the Koha Jar.

**If you are interested in one, or both, of these ideas, please let us know.
If we have enough interest, we can look at starting up later in June or July.**

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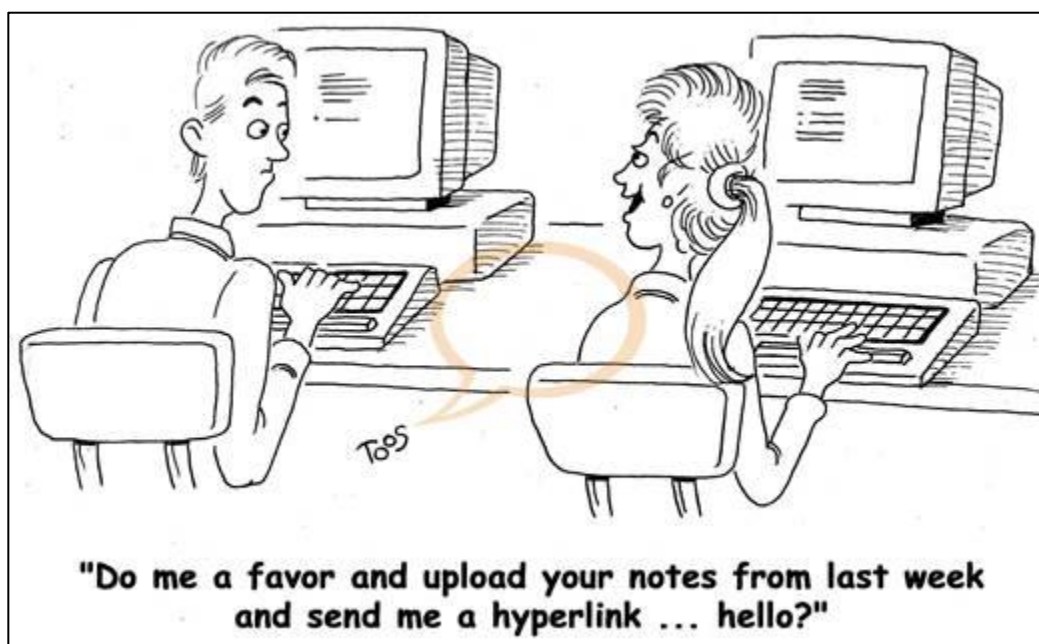
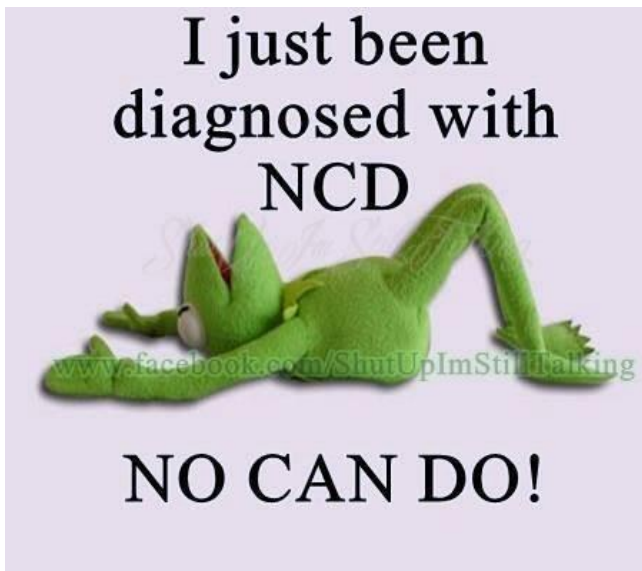
Can you help?

We would like help with greeting and assisting our members on Wednesday morning as they arrive for Tech Help sessions. This would be from just before 10 AM until about 11:15 AM. The tasks are not onerous, they include:

- Welcoming people as they arrive.
- Signing people in (we have a very simple system to do this).
- Taking the cash for the session, and writing a receipt if required.
- Making sure that people know what's going on.
- Talking with any non-members who want to know more about what we do.

Like all volunteer jobs, you will only be expected to do what you can manage - for example, if you can only do one day a month that would be great.

Please let us know if this is something that you might be able to help us with. We would really appreciate any help.



Tech giants supporting password solution

- The Dominion Post
- 11 May 2022



The big technology companies have vowed to phase out passwords for logging in, which will save users time and the danger of revealing them.

Apple, Microsoft and Google have backed plans by the **“Fido Alliance”**

an industry group, to standardise logins. The plans will allow browsers to use a different sign-in method from later this year, which will make accounts more secure.

Many people with smartphones will have already used the login method, which instead of asking for a password sends a notification to a phone to verify the owner’s identity. This can be done using the phone’s PIN or fingerprint and face identification, in the same way the device is unlocked.

Many apps offer a similar method of authentication, but most require a password to use the software.

The new **passkey system** will also allow users to unlock devices using *Bluetooth* from another phone or computer, and will protect them from phishing, which is used by scammers to trick users into revealing their password.

According to Fido, the system will make the internet “more secure and usable for all”.

Fido said password-only authentication was one of the biggest security problems online, and managing several passwords was “cumbersome” for users. This meant that many used the same passwords across



*“I suggest not remembering any more passwords.
Your brain is at max capacity.”*

services, putting them more at risk if one was breached. Hundreds of technology companies and service providers from around the world have worked on the passwordless sign-in technology, which is already in use on billions of devices with modern web browsers. **Apple, Google and Microsoft** have led development of this, and are now building support into their respective platforms.

While technology companies are aiming to phase out passwords in favour of the new passkey, they will struggle to kill them off for good, since they have been used for years, and many people will refuse to give up the method they are familiar with and comfortable using.