



Papakura Inc

December 2018 Newsletter 207



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**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



Where to Find it

Page 2	Deputy Chairman's Notes	Page 4	Camera and Photographic Group
Page 2	Special Interest Groups	Page 4	Genealogy Group
Page 3	Apple Mac Group Meeting	Page 4	Link to SeniorNet Specials
Page 3	Monthly Meeting	Page 5	A question from your survey
Page 3	New Members welcome	Page 6	Who's Who
Page 3	Ask Mr Google	Page 6	The Waiver



Notes from the Deputy Chairman.

From the feedback I got, it seems everybody attending our Christmas/End of year function at the Manurewa Cosmopoliton Club enjoyed themselves and had a good time. A few lucky members left with some impressive prizes. Grateful thanks to the Committee members who organised the day.

We must also thank Tony Bourne , our Technical Officer, for his work throughout the year in keeping the “wheels turning”at our Learning Centre. Without his continuous checking and upgrading our equipment, things would have come to a grinding halt.

We are also very appreciative of Tony’s recently conducted Membership Survey. While the participation was a bit low,the answers and comments returned will give us some ideas how to improve our operation.

As the year is coming to the close I wish to thank all our Committee Members for their work and help during the year.

To all our members and families our Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, in the hope of seeing you all after the summer break keen and ready for action.

Cheers

Herb Dreher

Special Interest Groups December 2018

CAMERA & PHOTO WORKSHOP GROUP.

1st Thursday, 6th December at 9-30am.

For all things photographic and using digital cameras. If you are interested in photography you will receive help in getting the most from your camera plus improving your photographs.

This months subject is open. Please bring a plate for morning tea

GENEALOGY GROUP. 1st Tuesday 4th December at 1-00pm

Researching your Family Tree, see the notes below for this meeting.

IPad Group. Every second month 3rd Wednesday

Closed for the year

Guidance for Ipad users

Windows 10. Every second month 3rd Wednesday

Closed for the year.

For users of the latest Windows O/S. -

Please bring your queries on Android Tablets, Kindle and Kobo to the open mornings each Monday & Tuesday from 10am - noon.



We come to you to solve all your computer problems,
provide one-on-one tuition and independent advice

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| ▲ Repairs | ▲ Virus Removal |
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| ▲ Firewalls | ▲ Security |
| ▲ Virus Prevention | |

Call Chris - 267 4294

chris@akron.co.nz

www.akron.co.nz

More Special Interest Groups

December 2018

APPLE Mac Group.

Meets on **1st, 3rd, & 4th Thursdays**, from 9am - 11.30am at the Learning Centre. Whether you are a new user, beginner or advanced you are welcome to attend our group and share your Mac experience. The final meeting for the year is Thursday December 6th.

If you wish to know more you can contact John Rose - jrose@ix.net.nz.

Our General Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the RSA, Elliot Street, Papakura at 09-45am, with a speaker, morning tea and a chat.

The next RSA meeting is on **Thursday 8th February 2019.**

A warm welcome to the new members who have joined recently.

We hope that you gain as much from your membership of SeniorNet as we have.

To Members who are unwell at the moment, a cheery hello.

Our sincerest condolences to members who have lost someone near and dear to them.

Would you like to write a short article or just make a comment or a thank you for helping on anything you have found helpful about SeniorNet?

Write to the Editor at heppleston@slingshot.co.nz

Ask Mr Google

This morning the Insight mission to Mars landing craft arrived at the Red Planet and successfully landed and has commenced the scheduled scientific studies. I loaded "Mars Landing" into Google and it brought up a number of sites including a live feed from the NASA Headquarters Mission Control Centre. Although it was too early to be able to watch the landing craft actually touching down on the surface, a mock up was shown as appropriate interspersed with commentary from Mission Control on what was happening at that time. The first pictures from the surface were rather obscured as the camera lens had collected quite a bit of dust but as the time went on and the dust settled observers were shown the smooth surface where the craft landed and to the horizon where the curvature of the surface could be seen.

I never cease to be amazed at the huge variety of information which can be found through Google.

What do you use a search engine for? Why not pass these suggestions to the editor to share in a future newsletter.

Camera and Photographic Group

Thursday 6th December at 9.30am

The subject is whatever you wish. This is the final meeting for the year so please bring a plate for morning tea.

At our last meeting the open competition was held and Don McFadzean's photo was judged the favourite presented. It was taken during his recent trip to Rotorua.



This photo is on the wall at the Learning Centre if you wish to look at it more closely.

Genealogy - Researching your Ancestry

Agenda for SeniorNet Genealogy Group **Tuesday 4th December @ 1pm.**

- 1/ Look at discoveries made over the last month, including Legacy Tips.
- 2/ Making use of members group knowledge to assist others in their research.
- 3/ Does anyone have a Legacy query? Please advise in advance by emailing [Brian Fahey](#) to enable research before the meeting.
- 3/ Highlighting any discoveries that members have made over the last month.
- 4/ Using the senior net resources, undertake individual research, using ancestry.com.

Note: Bring a flash drive along.

Remember, Christmas is the best time to gather family history, also don't forget to back up your data.

Warning: Researching this information can become addictive!

Link to SeniorNet Specials

Don't forget to regularly check the Federation website to find out what's going on in the rest of New Zealand. For the latest special offers go to this site--<http://www.seniornet.org.nz/specials.asp>



A question from your survey.

Free Office products.

There are several free Office products available for you to download. Each product includes a writing programme, a spreadsheet programme and a presentation programme. This newsletter has been prepared using WPS Writer. The membership list is stored on a WPS spreadsheet and I have done several presentations using WPS Presentations.

This suite of programmes works a lot like early versions of MS Office and therefore familiar to the writer. We have these programmes loaded onto the computer in the main tutorial room.

Check it out on <https://www.wps.com/en-US/office-free>

A friend of the writer uses Libre Office. His comment *"I like Libre Office as it has a look and feel of some of the better Microsoft versions around the mid 2000's. I have found it works with most Microsoft documents and rarely any compatibility issues, although in the spreadsheets may change the layout slightly, less these days.*

The only thing is I suggest that going into the Options and change the save formats to Microsoft. While the Open Document formats are universal for us better to stay with the Microsoft ones".

Look for more details on <https://www.libreoffice.org/>

A recent find is Softmaker Free Office. From the website the programmes look quite a lot like the latest versions of MS Office. These programmes are also loaded onto the computer in the main tutorial room. You can also obtain paid versions with more features (NZ\$55).

This product can be found on <https://www.freeoffice.com/en/freeoffice>

An early suite of programmes is the Open Office. This suite has been around for twenty years and updates have been produced giving a more versatile product. I found the early versions a bit cumbersome and having discovered WPS I have not used it. The latest update was released earlier this month so maybe I should take another look. Find it on <https://www.openoffice.org/>

Probably of less interest is the Google suite - Google Docs, Google Sheets and Google Slides. These products work in the cloud and recipients of these files access them through a password to the cloud. If the newsletter was prepared using Google Docs, you would receive a code to access it from the cloud rather than receiving an electronic copy by Email. This procedure is noted to have been hacked in the past. For more information look up <https://gsuite.google.com/>



A Final Note.

What would you like to read in this newsletter? Please let the Editor know - email address on page 3. Any comments would be appreciated.

Thanks to people who have commented already.

Who's Who on Your Committee

Deputy Chairman	Herb Dreher	09 263 8768 027 333 013	Treasurer and Meeting Coordinator	Les Yeats	09 299 8446 027 533 4401
Membership Coordinator:	Marsha Jobes	09 267 9849	Learning Center Coordinator	Don McFadzean	027 272 1566
Mac Group Coordinator:	Fraser Mansell	09 292 7801	Publicity	Pip Batty	09 298 6811
Newsletter Editor	Glynn Heppleston	09 238 6466	Committee Member	Bruce Hayhow	09 950 5466
Committee Member	Yvonne Boyd				

Technical Support

Tony Bourne Ph 294 9396

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Office Hours

Tuesdays 10am to noon

Tutor help

Mondays and Tuesdays 10am to noon

Waiver

From time to time some of our members voluntarily give help and advice to other members on matters relating to computers, associated equipment and software. This help or advice is taken at the recipient's risk and imposes no responsibility or liability of any kind either on those providing such help or advice, or on SeniorNet Papakura Inc.

This includes all information provided in whatever fashion, including emails, newsletters or programmes provided on the courses, plus information provided by guest speakers.

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