



# NEWSLETTER



SeniorNet South Inc  
Computing for Seniors

DECEMBER  
2008

## Hi from the Chair



Hi everyone

It is with sadness that I must report the passing of one of our past tutors Eric Swain. Eric passed away on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November after a long battle with cancer. Even though he had to give up tutoring Eric still remained a member of SeniorNet South. Our sympathy goes out to his wife Barbara and family.

The last term of our SeniorNet year is coming to an end with just a few catch up classes to go. This Friday is the final Tutors meeting and luncheon for the year and of course December the 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 11am is **You Our Members Christmas Potluck Lunch at the Pipe Band Hall on Ellis Road.**

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there. You will be entertained once again by the Southern Voysters but not by our advertised guest speaker Suzanne Prentice. Unfortunately Suzanne has to fly to Australia that day; she has been asked at short notice to fill a vacant slot in a big entertainment show over there perhaps just a little more important than guest speaker at our Christmas party. Perhaps next year she will be able to entertain us.

Not to worry though we have someone I am sure you will enjoy listening to; Mrs. Shona Richardson wife of the late Bill Richardson has kindly agreed to step in as guest speaker.

There are still some vacancies on our Deep Cove trip so if you have been thinking about going please don't wait too long in letting us know.

The office will close for Christmas on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of December and open again on the 19<sup>th</sup> January and classes will resume again on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

All that remains now is for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year. Margaret and I are away in the caravan for a bit of a break in Timaru then it's home and away to Deep Cove so once again if you want to join us get your name on the list.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Chairman Frank .



## TERM CHANGE 2009

From the beginning of 2009 SeniorNet South are introducing a four term year as opposed to the current five term year.

The course fee structure remains the same as before at \$2.50 per hour i.e. \$5.00 per session, therefore:

10 session courses	\$50.00
6 session courses	\$30.00
4 session courses	\$20.00

Repeat courses \$25.00

(Half of original course fee)

## Term Dates

### Term 1

February 2nd ..... April 9th

### Term 2

April 20th ..... June 25th

### Term 3

July 6<sup>th</sup> ..... September 10th

### Term 4

September 21<sup>st</sup> ..... November 26th

It is not possible to coincide SeniorNet's terms with school terms as school terms are not equal in length and the school holidays are of two week's duration whereas SeniorNet have only one week's break between terms.

As before if you are unable to attend some of your sessions you will need to catch these up at home or by coming in to the learning centre at other times when there is a computer available.

## They went 'Bush' :: 26 locality names all ending in BUSH

(From Butlers to Gropers to Wrights and Mabel Bush)

By Eric Gallagher

So many 'Bush' names and in such a small piece of the country – all in Southland province. And the mysteries, who was Mabel, the Butlers or the Taylors? And today, we could say “Why bush”? There is no sign of a bush – for a lot of them. I admit that some few, mainly far-off rural, still have a pocket- handkerchief sized corner of bush – with a pepper tree, a manuka or a totara missed in logging. But twenty six bush place names? Obsessed with bush? Was life then just bush, all there to be logged, burned, then stumps removed for the demands of pasture?

Each must have had a story to tell, a background lost to us today. One – Seaward Bush – near to the city of Invercargill still has bush and is, in fact a Bush Reserve – thought the real bush is long gone, completely logged out. Logs came on a tram line to a sawmill. Hence, the name, Tramway Road. This rough, gravel road would occasionally reveal its origin by the surfacing of a wooden tram rail. For the writer, it held a more lofty remembrance as I traipsed this road to school or to the city tram terminus on Elles Road.

Regularly I would pause at the top of Tramway Road's one hill and gaze, firstly south west. If lucky, I would see Stewart Islands's Mount Anglem, often in winter snow. Looking northwest now, to beyond the city, to beyond Otautau, to beyond Wreys Bush, I could, and always did, drink in the majesty of the snow covered Takitimu Range of mountains gleaming in clear morning sunlight, standing out in pristine whiteness, enhanced by a low winter sun behind me. On occasion, stratus cloud would separate the mountains from the farmland below. There would then be something ethereal, a picture of enormous beauty. A picture of someone's handiwork, seemingly suspended in the sky.

A scene treasured then, treasured today, seven plus decades later

**Barcoo**  
**Burwood**  
**Butlers**  
**Dunearn**  
**Eastern**  
**Latham**  
**Gropers**  
**Grove**  
**Gummies**  
**Heddon**  
**Lornakers**  
**Longbush**  
**Mangapini**  
**Motu**  
**Mararua**  
**Mabel**  
**Myross**  
**Otaitai**  
**Spar**  
**Roslyn**  
**Ryal**  
**Taylors**  
**Pine**  
**Seaward**  
**Wreys**  
**Wright's**

# Bits and Bytes

with Adam Dunkerley

## Why is it so SLOW?!?!?!?!?

Good question! At some stage we've all experienced the frustration of a slow computer. Right when the deadline is tightest or the result is most critical, speed takes a nosedive. What used to take seconds, now takes minutes... 'but nothing's changed' you cry!

And that's where you might be a tiny bit wrong. Behind the scenes you could have just created the electronic straw that's breaking the camel's back.

Over time, computers get slower and slower with the impact of resource hungry software; disorganised, crammed filing; and a myriad of small programs that may have self-installed in silence.

### So what can be done to speed things up?

1. Start again by reinstalling Microsoft Windows. This is the best way of cleaning up your computer, but it will take some time to get things back to how you like them. You'll need the Windows disc you received when you purchased or upgraded the machine, the all-important Microsoft licence key and someone techie-minded to do the reinstall.
2. Upgrade to newer, faster hardware components. A new motherboard with a faster central processing unit (CPU) will make a real difference. A good cheap first option is to install new/more RAM.
3. Remove Spyware & Adware. Spyware is software installed on your computer that secretly collects and distributes information about you. Adware is software that installs on your computer and displays advertisements using popup banners. These programs run behind the scenes and take up loads of room. (Spybot [www.spybot.com](http://www.spybot.com) or Windows Defender from the Microsoft site are free removal programs).
4. Optimise your hard drive. Go to My Computer; right click on C: drive; choose Properties; Tools; and perform:
  - o Defragment Now. When it's running short of disk space, your computer breaks up files (fragments them) storing a bit here, and a bit there. Keeping track of this really slows things down. Defragmenting arranges all available disk space in one block and puts files back together again. Defragmenting should be done every 3 months or so.
  - o Check Now. This will repair any "bad sectors" that contain corrupt files that slow the computer down.
5. Run Disk Cleanup, a utility found in Programs; Accessories; System Tools. This will compress old files and clean out temporary Microsoft Windows and internet files.
6. Cleanup the registry (the process your computer runs when it starts up). Go to [www.ccleaner.com](http://www.ccleaner.com) for a program to do this.
7. Reorganise user profiles to improve the speed of start-up and shut-down processes. UPH (User Profile Hive) Cleaner is a great tool for this - it's also on the Microsoft site.
8. Remove any programs that you thought might be great, but never use. Go to Start; Control Panel; Add or Remove Programs and browse the list for programs that can be deleted.

Don't forget to back-up before beginning any deleting/modifying processes and be VERY CAREFUL when using these software tools. When in doubt, shout for the techie expert and enjoy a speedy return to a speedy computer.

### Ask me anything techie.

Log-on to [www.needanerd.co.nz](http://www.needanerd.co.nz) and ask me anything techie.



**Adam Dunkerley is the General Manager of Need A Nerd, a company that offers mobile technical support on all things computer related. They can be reached on 0800 63 33 26.**

COURSES AVAILABLE 2009	
COURSE	DURATION & FEE
Computer Awareness (Getting Started with PC's & MS Windows XP)	10 sessions No Charge
1. MS Word (Getting Started) 2. MS Word (Popular Functions) 3. MS Word (Intermediate) 4. MS Word (Advanced)	10 sessions each \$50.00
RWP (Revision of Word Processing)	2 sessions \$10.00
1. Microsoft Excel (Getting Started) 2. Microsoft Excel (Popular Functions) 3. Microsoft Excel (Intermediate) 4. Microsoft Excel (Advanced)	10 sessions each \$50.00
Spreadsheet (Works)	10 sessions \$50.00
1. Microsoft Power Point (Getting Started) 2. Microsoft Power Point (Intermediate) 3. Microsoft Power Point (Advanced)	10 sessions each \$50.00
Database (Works)	10 sessions \$50.00
1. Desktop Publishing (Getting Started) 2. Desktop Publishing (Intermediate) 3. Desktop Publishing (Advanced)	10 sessions each \$50.00
File & Disk Management	6 sessions \$30.00
Drawing & Publishing in Word	10 sessions \$50.00
INTERNET	10 sessions \$50.00
E-MAIL	10 sessions \$50.00
GENEALOGY	10 sessions \$30.00
DIGITAL IMAGING	10 sessions \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Computers with Vista	4 sessions no charge
<input type="checkbox"/> Basic Word Processing (Word 2007 & Vista)	10 sessions \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate Word Processing (Word 2007 & Vista)	10 sessions \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Managing Files & Folders with Vista	5 sessions \$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sending E-Mail with Windows Vista	5 sessions \$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Surfing the World-Wide Web with Internet Explorer IE7	5 sessions \$25.00
Repeat course fee - \$30	
<p>Membership to SeniorNet South is \$30.00 per annum and only paid up members are able to take the courses. Renewal of membership is \$20. Please pay by either cheque or cash as we do not have Eftpos. As we only carry a small float please try to have the correct amount when you pay.</p>	

**After finishing your current course-**

In order to gain the most from your class, it is recommended that you check with your tutors before you apply to do the next course. They will be able to gauge whether or not your level of achievement is adequate to take on the next one.

You may be advised to perhaps consider redoing your current course before tackling some of the other topics.

**NB: a repeat of CA1 costs \$20, the same as for the other courses**

Remember that the assignments at the back of the manuals are intended to be done at home. If you are experiencing problems refer to the relevant lesson in the manual and/or ask your tutors for help the next time you attend class.



In consideration of other students please stay away from class if you have an infectious illness, such as flu, colds etc. You will still be able to complete your course when you recover. Just phone and let your tutors know.

**NB:** If you are unable to attend your class please call the learning centre preferably an hour prior to the start time.

Tutors are volunteers and it is a waste of their time and petrol if they have to come in when they are not required.

**Class Attendance:**

If you are unable to attend classes on a regular basis you need to inform your tutor. It may be necessary to relocate to another time or term. Students who do not attend their allotted class for at least two weeks without notification will be deemed to have abandoned their course and their place will be allocated to another student

**Practice Sessions**

Students who wish to use the rooms for practice sessions should phone first to check whether a computer is available for use.

**Bookings**

To secure your place in a class it is desirable to complete your enrolment form (both sides) and pay your course fee prior to the commencement of a new term.

**COMMITTEE 2008-2009**

Chairperson:	Frank Capil
Deputy Chair:	Bruce Smart
Secretary:	Jill McMeeking
Treasurer:	Winnie Grant
Committee:	
Bruce Jones	Bill Obers Snr
Barrie Sheehy	Jocelyn McIntosh
Barbara van Uden	Sheila Codd

Committee Meetings:  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month at 10am



**OUR WEBSITE**

[www.seniornetsouth.org.nz](http://www.seniornetsouth.org.nz)

Webmaster: Bruce Smart



**TUTORS**

Kathy Broad	Jocelyn McIntosh
Mabin Calder	Bert Marshall
Frank Capil	Jill McMeeking
Sheila Codd	Ray Moffett
MaryLou Elliot	Bill Obers
Winnie Grant	Barrie Sheehy
Sophie Groot	Bruce Smart
Judy Hanna	Barry Stuck
Bruce Jones	Olive Swain
Idelette Langeveld	Jina Tangney
Ted Lucas	Joyce Turner
Derek Macrory	Barbara van Uden

**Welcome to New Members**

Maxium Kahuroa  
 Betty Paterson  
 Paula Parsons  
 Maaki Goodwillie  
 Melda Turner

*Season's Greetings to you all!*



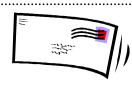
Tutors' Meetings are held prior to the commencement of a new term. Please check the notice board, and your emails.

**We acknowledge some articles published in this newsletter from other SeniorNet groups**

**SENIORNET DISCOUNT SOFTWARE:** [www.seniornet.org.nz](http://www.seniornet.org.nz)

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have a problem with your computer or the course which you are taking. We're only too happy to help if we can.

If you have changed your email/postal address or phone number, or are about to, please let us know, so that we can update our records.



**SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER**  
 Members whose subscriptions were due in **October/November** and have not responded to the renewal letter or email will be removed from SeniorNet's subscription and newsletter lists.  
 Winnie Grant *Treasurer*

**DISCLAIMER**  
 All contents of this newsletter are offered in good faith as being correct when published. No liability is accepted for any errors it may contain

If you have anything you would like to see in the newsletter please let us know or contact Jill



SENIORNET SOUTH (INC)  
ESTABLISHED 1997

Through the Generosity of:  
**NZ Lotteries Grants Board**  
**Microsoft Corporation**  
**Invercargill Licensing Trust**  
**Telecom NZ**  
**Tindall Foundation**  
**Community Trust of Southland**  
**NZ Post**  
**George Waddell Trust**  
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**Masonic Charitable Trust**

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