

SeniorNet South Canterbury Inc



Helping People Use Computers

Newsletter January 2016

Tekapo Building

2nd Floor

259 Stafford St

TIMARU

Phone: 684 3300

Web Site: <http://home.timaru.com/seniornet/>





Next Newsletter February 2016

Question and Answer 4th February

**WHERE: SENIORNET ROOMS
2ND FLOOR
TEKAPO BUILDING
159 STAFFORD STREET
WHEN: THURSDAY MARCH 2016
TIME: 1.30 PM**

**GET ANSWERS TO YOUR COMPUTER PROBLEMS.
INTERESTING SPEAKERS**

Come along and join in the fun and help encourage members of the public to join SeniorNet. Tell them about your own experience and all the advantages of being a member of SeniorNet

COMPUTER PROBLEMS ?

PC ASSIST

Computer Assistance for the Home User

TIM LEATHAM

Mobile 021 217 2056

Phone 03 688 8356

tleatham@gmail.com

Presidents Report

Hello and Best Wishes for 2016

Another year begins and I look forward to seeing you all again at our Q & A meetings or in classes over the year. With Windows 10 now standard I wonder what new technology and gadgets we will have to contend with this year?

The first round of classes commences on February 1st. Please ring Alma early to book your place in a class or inquire about a subject you may be interested in learning more about. There must be many computer related subjects that our members would like more info. on and we may be able to set up a class or workshop to cover some of them. Please let us know - if it interests you it more than likely will interest others and will expand our range of classes.

Tutors please note that there will be a Tutors meeting from 10.30am to 12.00, followed by a light lunch, on Feb 4th before our first Q&A of the year. This is an opportunity for all our tutors to get together and discuss class content, share any observations you may have made over the past year and have a general chat. Again, anyone who is interested in finding out about becoming a tutor is more than welcome to come along and have a talk to us as we need more people especially for the Introduction courses

Regards,
John

Trademe and Tablets, Ipad

2 hour courses

\$10 is for members,
non-members \$30 including \$20 to cover membership.

SENIORNET SOUTH CANTERBURY INC
NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

*SeniorNet needs new members to join the committee.
Please take time to consider it.*

POSITION.....

NOMINEE.....

PROPOSER.....

SECONDER.....

NOMINEE SIGNATURE.....

Send Completed form to: Secretary, M Kappler,
1/1 Thomas Street Timaru 7910
by 25th February 2016

Please Note
The subs for
Seniornet Timaru
are now \$20.00

Please make sure you pay the correct amount when you enrol for a course or pay for your membership, it will save a lot of chasing around. Thank you.

No good deed goes unpunished

I recently saw a woman get interviewed on TV about her son-in-law. What kind of a person he was, if they were getting along and whether she approved of her daughter's choice. After an agonizingly long pause she remarked: **"Well, he knows his way around computers. That can come in handy."** That's the good thing about knowing your way around computers. At least *you can make yourself useful* every once in a while, forget about character. Computer specialists are the unsung heroes even if all they do is reboot a machine, terminate a process or perform a Flash update. Savor these moments because there's a (incredibly annoying) downside to all of this!

You love to help but what comes after?

"You put this Microsoft thing on my machine, remember? It just stopped working." Her rebuke would have been enough to silence *three school classes all at once*. I received her call late at night, unexpectedly, the worst case had happened. After 7 years, her operating system stopped working, naturally, I was to blame for that, morally at least. That her PC had been running smoothly for years, set up back in the days when George W. Bush was still in power and that Vista can be considered fairly obsolete by now - irrelevant. Knowing that nothing I could say would help the matter I began to ask about the symptoms. "The computer is slow, strange web sites keep popping up and it randomly turns off." I had a vague idea that, were her PC a horse, you'd probably gladly put it out of its misery.

The desert that once was a PC case

So, I drove over to the hapless owner of that doomed system and found the usual suspects. Her antivirus program was running without a license (and without updates) for more than 3 years, the inside of her PC had been collecting enough dust for a veritable dune, her browser was buried in toolbars and - naturally - a load of dubious applications were installed that she found somewhere on the Internet that in turn had installed another load of questionable programs. Only freeware of course since she already paid "so much" for the PC. How could the machine "already" be broken? These are the moments that make you consider taking up turkey farming on Crete or joining the French Foreign legion.

A bond for life

Back in the days and with lifelong obligations, things were so much simpler. You had your overlord, *not all fun and play for sure*, but you knew what was coming. Today, a single call for help with the PC is enough to form a bond for life. There are PCs that I have been looking after for 12 years that are still

running a meager Windows XP, practically without updates (since *they only cause trouble anyway* according to the owners). I have begun to manage families that complain about their printer cartridges having dried up after 3 years in auto-mode. Let's face it: even if all of them are friendly, *there's always a sense of guilt, panic and pressure in the air*. I love to help, that includes this blog, but then again, you won't call me late at night. Things may be different for you, so consider carefully before you offer your help!

The lifespan of good advice

Rest assured, the minute you step out the door, 50% of your advice will be forgotten already (or won't be implemented) and 49% will suffer the same fate within the next few weeks. Whether it's regular updates, changing passwords every once in a while or saving up a few cents for decent applications, none of that will happen. It's more likely the neighbor's son will come over, install pirated software and steal the WLAN password. You need to be aware of that and make the most out of it. The alternative is to pretend not to know anything about computers. Since I work for a software company, I'd have a hard time getting through with that which is why I have come up with my own strategy to protect my sanity. *I'll do anything for my next of kin, everyone else pays €20 an hour*. And that was the end of it. You wouldn't believe how many formerly helpless people will suddenly show some initiative.

Windows 10 is off limits

Why I'd never install Windows 10 on a PC other than my own? Simple! Some day in 2025 while I am basking in the sun on Hawaii my cellphone would start ringing. And no matter whether that person would have gotten 20 trojans on their PC, have it sweat at 50° Celsius right next to their radiator or suffer from hard disk failure - *there would be that reproachful voice again*. I'd be told that **my Windows 10** was causing trouble, keeping "daddy from printing out immensely important documents for his club". They'd make it sound like a national emergency and I'd neither get to enjoy the fine weather, the palm trees or the beach. So, no Windows 10. And I'll start introducing myself as a truck driver from now on.

Seniornet Committee 2016

President	John Bain	684 3109	jbain@xtra.co.nz
Webpage & Newsletter	Tim Leatham	688 8356	tleatham@gmail.com seniornettimaru@gmail.com
Secretary	Margot Kappler	688 8561	ama.r@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer	Alastair Swann	688 5650	aswann@xtra.co.nz
Course Contact Course Convenor	Alma Wilson	688 4553	almaw@slingshot.co.nz
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Advertising	Errol O'Leary	688 6906	ep.oleary@xtra.co.nz
Handyman	Errol O'Leary	688 6906	ep.oleary@xtra.co.nz
Non-Exec Office Bearers			
Computer Maintenance	Gordon Bower	686 0268	g.bower@xtra.co.nz
Database	Bill Small	688 6448	bill.small@xtra.co.nz

Course Schedule for 2016

Start of course

Finish of course

1 st	February	→	9 th	March
21 st	March	→	28 th	April
16 th	May	→	22 nd	June
11 th	July	→	17 th	August
29 th	August	→	5 th	October
25 th	October	→	30 th	November

COURSES COSTS

5/6 WEEKS \$40 / 4 WEEKS \$30

WAIVER: From time to time, this newsletter contains advice and tips on the operation of computer associated equipment and software, and some of our members give help and advice on such matters. All such help or advice is given in good faith and must be taken solely 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 South Canterbury Inc.

NOTICE BOARD

- **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW TO GET STARTED ON TRADE ME OR HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TABLET ?**
- **WE ARE RUNNING 2 HOUR COURSES LIMITED TO 6 PEOPLE AT A TIME COSTING \$10.00 EACH.**
- **PLEASE CONTACT ALMA AT 688 4553 AND IF ENOUGH INTEREST IS SHOWN WE WILL GO AHEAD WITH THESE COURSES.**

Courses	Brief Outline	Cost
Introduction to Computers	From turning on/off to simple documents	40
Word Processing (Microsoft Word)	Skills in creating, editing, saving, printing docs	40
Word Processing 2 (Microsoft Word)	Add to your word processing skills	40
File and Folders	How to save and find your documents A 4 week course	30
Email & Internet	Using skills above, success with emailing Etc (4 week Course)	30
Spreadsheets (eg "Microsoft Excel")	For calculations, budgets, accounting, forecasts, financial reporting, mail merge	40
Database (Microsoft Excel)	For maintaining staff, client and club details and extracting data in a variety of ways. Mail merge.	40
Genealogy (PAF & Family Tree Maker)	Family Tree: Research, create, file, print, email	40
Camera	Use of digital camera, practical work.	40
Photo Image edit (Faststone / Elements)	Enhance, store, resize for email etc	40
Photo Image advanced (Photoshop Elements)	May only be done AFTER our previous course	40
Powerpoint	Creating displays with images and text	40
Desktop Publishing (serif Pageplus)	Combining graphical/text, to create card, calendars, postcards, invitations etc. Very user friendly	40
CD/Dvd Burning (Ashampoo Burning Studio)	Burning CDs and DVDs. A 4 week course	30
Website Design (Serif Webplus)	Create your own website	40

NEXT ROUND OF COURSES

1st February to 9th March

2016

Day	9.30 - 11.30 am	1.30 - 3.30 pm	7 -9 pm
Mon		Camera Course	
	Email Internet	Introduction to Computers	Introduction to Computers
	Word Processing	DVD Burning	Word Processing
Tues	Power Point	Desktop Publishing	
	Web Design	Spreadsheet	
		Genealogy	
Wed	Introduction to Computers	Files & Folders (4 weeks)	
	Word Processing	Email Internet	
	Word Processing 2	Photo Image Edit	

Depending on numbers and Tutor availability some courses may be available or moved to other days.

NOEL LEEMING

Stafford Mall Stafford Street

688 6633 - 0800 444 488

Give Great Discounts on *everything* in their shop by using your Gold Card or SeniorNet Membership card.

**SENIORNET SOUTH CANTERBURY INC.
COURSE APPLICATION FORM**

- 1) To book into a course – Ring Alma Wilson Phone 688 4553**
- 2) To pay for course- fill in this page and post with your money to Seniornet C/o Alastair Swann, 36 Seddon St. Timaru 7910. Make cheques payable to Seniornet Timaru.**

Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Miss ☐ Ms ☐

First Name _____ Known By _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Town _____ Post Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Email address _____

Repeat Email Address _____

Please circle the system you have on your computer: -

Windows XP -Vista - Windows 7 - Windows 8 - Windows 8.1- Windows 10

Name of course you are attending _____

Date course starts _____ Time _____

Course Fee \$ _____ ☐ Tick if you require a “Noel Leeming discount card” (takes place of receipt)

Subscription \$20-00 (If not paid for this calendar year)

Total Paid _____

Signed by applicant _____ Date _____

Check List

☐ Have you booked in? ☐ Have you filled in the form?

☐ Have you included full payment?

If you deliver your fees, please ring phone 688 5650 to ensure the Treasurer will be at home to receive your payment.

A course may be withdrawn if too few enroll.

☐ Have you paid by Bank Transfer (Optional)

WESTPAC Account 03 - 1715 - 0022996 - 00

Please Print your details CLEARLY

Please pay the course fee before commencement of the course

Seniornet South Canterbury Incorporated
is a non profit Society providing computer
training for Adults.

We are seniors helping adults to use
computers.

Phone rooms: 684 3300

If undelivered please return to:

11 Grasmere Street
Timaru 7910

Web Page:

<http://home.timaru.com/seniornet>

In Association with

farmside
connecting rural nz

Web pages:

Tim Leatham



SeniorNet