

SeniorNet Kapiti, Inc.

2018-2019 Annual Report

We currently have 341 members, seven life members and of course our canine honorary member, Yates. As of 31 March 2019 we logged 1800 learner hours and had 459 enrolments.

Courses

The past two years have seen the decline in attendance to our multi-week based courses. We are shifting focus to half-day workshops on specialized subjects such as Making Phone Calls on the Internet, and Introduction to Facebook. To this end, we have introduced nine new workshops in the last year.

We are seeing more and more members coming to us wanting to know how to use, or how to use more efficiently, their Android Smartphones and tablets as well as iPhones and iPads. The workshops we offer for these devices have proved popular with our members and are well attended.

The new Smartphone Photography class premiered in Term 1 of this year. The Managing the Data on Your PC course has undergone a revamp with more information on cloud storage being added and other changes per the latest version of Windows 10.

Courses in the future

We are developing workshops using a modular approach to show students the capabilities of their devices without regard to the operating system. A revamp of the Managing and Editing Photos course that uses technology other than Picasa is being worked on. This has been a popular course in the past and we believe it still has a future. Look for our new workshops: Introduction to Power Point, Writing your Memoirs, and Using Google Maps

Facilities

Barry Bailey has successfully negotiated with the KCDC to extend our building lease for five more years at the very favourable rate we currently enjoy. Both the Ladies and the Gents toilets have been replaced. We are working with the council to find funding for the addition of handrails in the toilets, and replacing the lino in the bathrooms and kitchen. We know how much it will cost to add downlights above the computers and we seeking the money for this work from the council. We approved a move to seek funding from the Rotary or Lions about getting a defibrillator near our premises. We have received notice that the Lions will be looking at our request at their next meeting.

Meeting Members Needs

In the past year, we have added barcodes to the membership cards for scanning at Noel Lemming to ensure we receive our SeniorNet discount with the retailer and that the Federation receives a portion of any sale. We are still holding our Coastlands and Open Day events to engage the community and increase membership. We have created new safety instructions within the last year and with special attention to the section on what do in the event of an earthquake. We now use SendPulse for sending out our emails to members and we can be assured that more of our members are receiving our emails in their inboxes and not their Spam folders.

Committee

Five committee members are leaving the committee including: Brian Milne who has had many roles in the organization and has of late done a fabulous job of Marketing for our organization and he assures me will continue as a tutor. Jim Heron who has served in every capacity on the committee multiple times since SeniorNet Kapiti was founded. Peter Thomson who is also an original member and has worked tirelessly for our organization. Patrick Stevens our Android guru and a founding member. And lastly, Erik Thorsing who graciously returned to the committee last year to act as Treasurer. For those committee members who leave us, thank you so much.

Additionally, Val Jeal is joining us on the committee and we are looking forward to her participation.