

April 2024, Newsletter from SeniorNet Kāpiti

From the Chair...

Email is Changing

Do you access your email from a web browser such as Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Apple Safari. *There are no significant change for you*, unless you use a using an [xtra.co.nz](https://www.xtra.co.nz) email address.

Do you have an "[xtra.co.nz](https://www.xtra.co.nz)" email address. Spark are about to start charging for this service. Our recommendation is that you:

- Retain your "[xtra.co.nz](https://www.xtra.co.nz)" email address for around 12 months. This will allow you to identify contacts that are still using your "[xtra.co.nz](https://www.xtra.co.nz)" email address to keep in contact with you.
- Immediately stop using your "[xtra.co.nz](https://www.xtra.co.nz)" email address to send emails.
- Select a new free email provider e.g. Gmail.com, Outlook.com (you may be able to get an [Outlook.co.nz](https://www.outlook.co.nz)), Hotmail.com, Me.com and others and start using it. Notify all of your contacts of your new email address.
- After you are sure that ALL of your contacts are contacting you via your new email address cancel your Xtra email address, NOT your Xtra internet service provider account.

Please let SeniorNet Kāpiti know if you need help and we will organise a workshop to assist with your needs.

Term 2, 2024 - Timetable

Check out SeniorNet Kāpiti Term 2 timetable. Please check out the [courses](#) or [workshops](#) that you may like to include into your skill set for the future.

This month we held our Tutors meeting with many of valued Tutors attending. Volunteer Kāpiti sharing information on education sessions.

Our Tutors have a shared vision of helping our members get the most out of modern technology and keep up to date with new developments. Most importantly, they understand people's frustrations and have the patience to help with practical, easily understood advice.

**SeniorNet Kāpiti:**

Barry - Committee Member

I'm Barry, and in the early 1990s I was appointed at General Electric Company (GEC) as the Registered Technical Lighting Laboratory Manager. To become registered, I had to qualify at the DSIR using Australian/New Zealand guidelines a 6 month course.

The job required me to test all makes and models of GEC manufactured lights. This was necessary to enable architects to be able to work out the levels of lighting required in their new buildings. In approximately 2003 a new gadget hit the market you held it in your hand pressed the start button and there was the light measurement. Although only accurate to about 7 or 8 percent (laboratory accuracy 2 to 3 percent) it was all the architects required.

In 2004 the lighting laboratory was shut down and I became the last Registered Technical Lighting Laboratory Manager in Australasia but without a laboratory. You can go to play store on your smartphone and download your own free lux light meter app.

Spark Introduces Charges for Xtra Email Accounts

Many of you will be aware that Spark has advised its Xtra email customers that, from 16 May 2024, it will be charging \$5.95 a month for this service.

We appreciate that this is a source of annoyance and concern for some of you and you may be tempted to cancel your Xtra account forthwith. However, we strongly advise against canceling these accounts immediately without careful consideration of what is involved and the potential consequences of doing so.

Email addresses have become embedded in our daily lives. They are linked to our bank accounts, they are usernames for the various online services we use, and they are part of the security checks used to keep our online accounts secure. Some services and subscriptions are hard-wired to the email address used when they were first set-up, and you may have to start/pay again to change your email address. All of this means that cancelling or changing your email address must be carefully managed and will take some time.

What can you do:

You can continue to use your Xtra email address; or

You can change to an alternative free email service provider. There are several USA-based service providers such as Gmail, Outlook, iCloud, etc. that provide a very good service.

If you have:

- a. an android phone, you may already have a Gmail email address.
- b. an Apple phone, you may already have an iCloud email address.
- c. a Microsoft account associated with your Windows PC phone, you may already have an Outlook email address.

However, for the reasons mentioned above, changing your email provider is not a straightforward or quick process. In the short term we strongly recommend that you continue to monitor your Xtra email address while you establish your new account.

How can we help?

Several years ago, when Vodafone closed their email service, SeniorNet Kāpiti drew up step-by-step instructions and conducted workshops to assist our members to transfer to a new service provider. If there is sufficient interest, we will schedule a similar workshop during Term 2, which commences Monday 29 April.

If you are interested, please contact our enrolment coordinator, Teresa, at SNKBookings@gmail.com or phone 0211696256.

While changing provider may seem like a lot of effort for a monthly saving of \$5.95, there are other benefits in that it will be easier for you to change your internet provider in the future if you should decide you no longer wish to remain with Spark.

SeniorHangouts

- Members are encouraged to sign up for SeniorHangouts. Members can sign up easily by:
 - Sending your name, email address and phone number to SeniorNet Kāpiti.
 - By doing the above step, you are confirmed as a SeniorNet Kāpiti member, which helps the process along.

After a few days you should receive an email from SeniorHangouts confirming your registration and asking you to log in and setup a password to access SeniorHangouts.

Please remember we have updated our Phone Number

- SeniorNet Kāpiti has a new phone number, it is 021 229 6561. In the short term our existing landline number will redirect to the new cell phone.
 - This will allow us to better manage our numerous Network services that currently require authentication from private cell phones.
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You're receiving this email because you're a current member of SeniorNet Kāpiti Inc

We are a Registered Charity No.CC22420 and your Membership No.

Contact Details

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To make Course and Workshop Bookings ph: 021 169 6256

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