

COURSES

Check out our web page for available courses

<http://tinyurl.com/2wows>

MICROSOFT SOFTWARE

Don't forget if you want MS software to check out the SeniorNet Federation offer

<http://tinyurl.com/6o4px5>

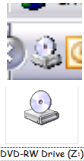
HOW TO:

XP & VISTA COPYING TO CD

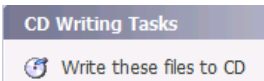
To copy a file to a CD you can use the embedded process .

Right click on the file or files you want to copy. Click SendTo and select CD/DVD drive.

You will get a message in the task bar that you have files waiting to be burned. Click on the icon and a new window will open showing the files to be burned or click on the CD Drive.



This will show you the files to be burned. If you want you can add more here by drag and dropping. Insert a disc and click "Write these files to CD".



ON-LINE AUCTIONS

There is a significant amount of buying done through on-line auctions. As well as used stuff. numerous traders sell through on-line auctions, some to off-load slow moving or surplus stock, others who make it their sole business outlet. I needed a USB data cable to connect my phone to my laptop. Using Google I typed in make & model with "data cable" and searched NZ sites. None, including those on *TradeMe*, had the cable I wanted . I then did a global search on Google and found that there was a seller on *ebay* (Australia) who had what I wanted. Based in Hong Kong he wanted \$5.50 NZ. First I checked his feedback rating - 99.1% and the number of sales - about 25,000 - so thought it will be okay. I then selected "Buy" and as he accepted PayPal (next article) I went through with the order. Within two minutes I had an email from eBay saying that I had "won" the auction. At about the same time I had an email from PayPal saying my payment had been accepted. And would you believe it! At about the same time I had an email from the seller saying that he had received the payment and the goods were being despatched. They arrived six days later.

EBay, like TradeMe requires registration, free if you are just buying but you will need a PayPal account if you wish to sell. EBay works the same as TradeMe so if you'r used to using TradeMe you will have few problems using eBay. The New Zealand Site links to the international sites. Keep in mind that buying offshore you do not have the same consumer rights as you do in NZ.

EBay Australia www.ebay.com.au/
 Trademe www.trademe.co.nz/



PAY PAL



Buying on the internet you normally pay with a credit card. Providing the seller has a secure system your details should be safe. If you go to the same seller again you may find you have an account with your details that is used to simplify this purchase. You will find that many offer the choice of *PayPal*, which is an ecommerce money transfer service for on-line transactions. There are over 99 million users who utilize the services of Paypal. The payment transfers are done via e-mail payments. The parties between whom the payment is exchanged cannot see each other's credit card details. Paypal acts as a middleman and keeps the information of its customers in an encrypted form. No one can decrypt the confidential information. This specialty makes Paypal one of the safest gateways of transactions.

To open a Paypal account, you need a valid e-mail address and a valid credit card or bank account. Paypal is free for the buyers. The money is withdrawn from the buyer's account. Using this service means that your details are stored only once at one site. The seller never gets your details. When you purchase goods you click on "PayPal" which takes you to your login. It will ask you to confirm your purchase and then returns you to the sellers site. Within a few minutes you get an email confirming your purchase. I use this quite a lot as a preference and finds that it works well. Have a look at it and give it a go. You will find that once set up it is very easy to use.

PayPal <http://www.paypal.com>
 About.com <http://tinyurl.com/2xgmvs> *How PayPal Works*

CAPTCHA

Often when you register at an on on-line site you may see something like the image at right. This is known as a **CAPTCHA** and is used in computing to ensure that the response is not generated by a computer. It is also known as the Gausebeck-Levchin test developed by staff at PayPal. Because other computers are unable to solve the CAPTCHA, any user entering a correct solution is presumed to be human. The image is random computer-generated.

More at Wikipedia <http://tinyurl.com/9wzra>



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members:

None this month



HELP DESK

The help desk is available on Thursday nights. If you require further help email us at:

helpdesk@seniornetnorwest.org.nz

Mail is checked daily so we can help you more quickly.

SITES TO TRY

CD Writing Tips
<http://tinyurl.com/6fqrn5>

World Railway Projects
<http://tinyurl.com/jal98>

DVD FAQ's
<http://tinyurl.com/6m862>

NZ Copyright Law
<http://tinyurl.com/6e4m96>

Mobile Coverage
<http://tinyurl.com/yrt9p>

Life With a Laptop
<http://tinyurl.com/6p2hz4>

NZ Search Site
<http://tinyurl.com/5jxspg>

B+W Mobile NZ
www.bw.co.nz/

World Web Cameras
www.earthcam.com/

NZ Web Cameras
<http://tinyurl.com/5iqrbf>

OPENING LINKS

To access links on these pages click on the URL or copy and paste in your browser.

TRIAL SOFTWARE - BEWARE

A friend was helping a person with using their laptop and needed MS Word and Excel but was unable to get it to run. Instead they kept getting a message that ".to continue using this you must activate the software". The owner said that this had been included as part of the software when the laptop was bought and was shocked to find that he had to pay to continue using it. What he had was a trial version of Office 2007 Professional which expired after about 60 days. Upon checking the computer the anti-virus, firewall, CD/DVD writing were also trial versions. To purchase the full programmes, they had to go on-line and buy an activation "key" which is often a code number you enter somewhere in the software. Often you will find this under the Help section. To buy all of the activation keys would have cost over \$1100!! So when the salesman tells you what is installed - check to find out what is "trial-only". The laptop only had Vista Basic so what the supplier had done was to provide limited functions so as to get the price down. It was also found that the DVD player was very basic and just played DVD's with no other functions, such as chapter search, skipping and titles. The full version cost another \$85. Adding these costs made the laptop quite expensive.

Trial versions are an excellent way of finding out if the software suits what you are wanting to do. Some are time limited and others have limited functions such as inability to save or print. Another trick is to provide a free copy of an older version say Version 5 when Version 8 is the current one and you get continual "nag screens" to upgrade. Usually there is no support or updating. Others are stripped down versions which annoy you with prompts to update to the latest version. If you want to trial software download only from the software maker's site. Many magazines provide free trial copies or working copies. *PCWorld*, *PCUser* and *Netguide*, among others, are three that can be trusted.

Explanation about Crippware <http://tinyurl.com/5roabw>



CD & DVD SOFTWARE

Nowadays nearly all computers have a CD/DVD drive, Models in the last three years can burn DVD's. Some may also burn Bluray DVD's. To make your own discs you need the right software. Windows XP and Vista come with their own burning software but this is limited and not very user friendly. You may have some software provided by the drive maker, but again this may be somewhat limited - often a "lite" version. The software should at least be able to read, write and erase (RW-discs) CD's and DVD's, create Audio, MP3's, data discs and make DVD movies. The software should be a drag and drop application and have a "thermometer" bar to show how much disc space is used and available.

The most popular are *Nero*, *AShampoo*, *Cyberlink Power2Go*, *Roxio*, *CDBurner XP Pro (Free)*. The Club has copies of AShampoo Version 6, which had been provided free. If your computer has "trialware" you should consider buying an activation key. Most commercial DVD movies and games have a copy protection that prevents you from copying (backing-up) the disc. While there are numerous programmes around that claim to circumvent this, it is illegal in NZ. One problem with making your own discs is that they do not always play in all players. A useful site is *Videohelp* where you can find reports on the compatibility of discs and players.

If you want to play DVD's on your computer you need a good player. Windows Media Player is okay for some tasks but again is a limited. One of the best - VLC - is also free. It will play almost anything that it is presented with and has a range of options to suit nearly all needs.

Nero	www.nero.com	AShampoo	www.ashampoo.com
Power2Go	www.cyberlink.com	Roxio	www.roxio.com
CDBurner XP	www.cdburnerxp.se/	Videohelp	www.videohelp.com

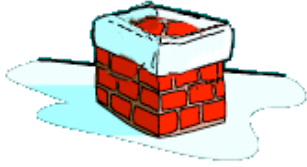
Also checkout the article on Wikipedia <http://tinyurl.com/5n4rx2>



GENEALOGY

Archive NZ has a huge repository of information - too much to list here. A lot of the material is on line but sadly you do have to visit one of the archives to get a lot of the information. The main archive is in Wellington and there is a local branch in Peterborough Street.

Check the website: <http://tinyurl.com/5k6p9s>



**SENIORNET MAC
Annual Christmas
Luncheon & Speaker**



**North West members & your friends are invited to
attend**

**26th November at 12.30pm
At the Papanui Club on Sawyers Arm Road**

Guest Speaker - Ken Ellis from Newstalk ZB who will take us on a journey back over his 40 years of broadcasting in radio and Television. Remember 'Telethons' and a 'Week of it?' He will also bring us up to date on the direction Newstalk ZB will take next year.

Tickets \$20 per person payable in advance

Make your reservation now

Make your cheques out to

SeniorMac

PO Box 475

Christchurch

**Closing date for reservations is Sunday 23rd of
November at 6pm.**

The ticket includes automatic entry into some of our raffles.

This is great outing with large numbers attending.

Signed Margaret Harvey

Treasurer

Phone 352-4950

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