

**COURSES**

Course have recommenced. See our calendar  
<http://tinyurl.com/2wowsh>

**MICROSOFT SOFTWARE**

Don't forget if you want MS software to check out the SeniorNet Federation offer  
<http://tinyurl.com/6o4px5>

**HOW TO:**

**AUTO-PREVIEW EMAIL**

To avoid SPAM and unwanted messages arriving in your mail box set your email client to download just the senders name and the subject.

In MS Outlook Express 2003 select *View*, then *Reading Pane*, and click *On*

In Windows mail (Vista) Select *Tools*, then *Options*, and click the *Read* tab. Check *Preview pane* if it is not already selected.

Under *Reading*, deselect *Automatically download messages when viewing in reading pane*.

By using these methods you can delete any messages that you don't wish to receive and minimise the risk of any nasties getting through to your computer.

**WINDOWS VISTA**

If you are thinking of upgrading to Windows Vista it would pay to stick with what you have until Windows 7 arrives. It is out in Beta form and should be out later this year.  
More at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/5nod6j>

**SD CARDS (Secure Digital Card)**

Used in a wide range of devices such as cameras, video cameras, cellphones, PDA's, GPS receivers, In-car Navigation units, games consoles, MP3 players among other devices. There are now three sizes such as the standard card, then the mini and lastly the micro.

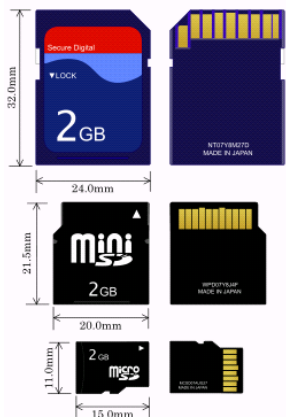
In the early days they were limited in size to about 128MB but today they are available up to 4Gb with the Standard Card SD and 32GB with the SDHC (Secure Digital High Capacity) card. A new specification SDXC (extended capacity) goes to 2TB. This is 500 times bigger than a 4GB card. Given that a 4 GB card could hold 2000 photos, a 2TB will hold 1million!!! That's a mighty lot of photos.

There are some issues with using the cards. First there are different speeds that relate to how fast the data is written to the card. Second, larger cards are not compatible with older devices. Speed ratings range from 6x to 300x Using an ordinary digital camera, speed is not a big problem unless you take a lot of photos quite rapidly. You will find with a slow card that there is a delay before you can take the next one. If you have a digital SLR you need the fastest card you can get as these often provide a continuous burst.

Video is a different matter. The latest cameras are now using SD cards instead of tape or hard drives but they need very fast cards with large storage. 1 Hour of video uses 4GB of memory.

Don't rush out and buy a larger card without checking whether you device can use it. SDHC cards can only be used where the device has been designed for that type. With cameras it is not a wise idea to put all of your photos on one card as they can often fail. Use several say about 512MB.

All SD cards are formatted to be read by any operating system (FAT32) and all you need to download is a standard card reader. One type that I use is just like a pen drive but has a slot where the card fits in. Adaptors are provided with Mini and Micro types so they can used in the same reader.



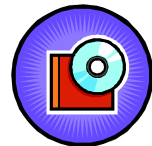
Check compatibility at Sandisk

<http://tinyurl.com/hmavd>

**\*Quote\***

**Pre-Cycling.** *Not buying the junk in the first place!!*

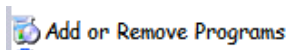
**INSTALLING SOFTWARE - A 4 PART SERIES**  
**PART 4 - REMOVING**



Having installed your software and played with it for a while you find that it does not suit requirements so you want to uninstall it. This can be very easy but also quite complicated. Windows includes an uninstall routine that most software writers should include in their distribution but many don't as it is not necessary for the purposes of running the software.

When you install the software the associated files are scattered throughout many areas of the operating system as well as creating their own folders. You cannot simply delete the software's main folder. In fact this is a **BIG NO** because if you do this your computer may not function and can lock up. Certain files will be looking for this folder and as it does not exist the computer may freeze.

To uninstall there are two main methods. First the software may have its own uninstall routine located in the *Start Menu*. If this exists use this. If not, go to *Control Panel* and select "*Add and Remove Programs*" (Win XP), or in Vista,



Before you do this set *System Restore* as shown in Part 3. These routines will not remove any folders or files associated with the software that you have created yourself, so you will have to do this manually. One problem that can arise is with games software. Many writers of games don't care about other software on your computer and they may write their programmes to irreversibly modify critical system files. If you find that you cannot use some of the functions of your computer after removing the software use *System Restore*. If that fails try to re-install the application and see if everything works. If it does, your best bet is to leave it installed. In the worst case, if you have been doing regular system-wide backups, (few users do) restore your system using these backups.

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members:  
No new members this month



## HELP DESK

The help desk is again open each Thursday from 7.00pm. If you have an urgent issue please contact by email

[helpdesk@seniornetnorthwest.org.nz](mailto:helpdesk@seniornetnorthwest.org.nz)

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

## SITES TO TRY

What people in 1908 thought the future would look like  
<http://tinyurl.com/54q22h>

Shipwreck photos and other weird stuff  
<http://tinyurl.com/5qvvgq>

Where are they now?  
<http://tinyurl.com/c8hxbk>

Northern Toll Road  
<http://tinyurl.com/cdrwtj>

World Toll Roads  
<http://tinyurl.com/bfa8ug>

Anything About History  
<http://www.history.com/>

On-Line Calculators  
<http://tinyurl.com/67mtk>

Mac or PC? Windows or Mac OS X?  
<http://tinyurl.com/69a3k3>

Useless Inventions  
<http://tinyurl.com/2ntrwg>

## OPENING LINKS

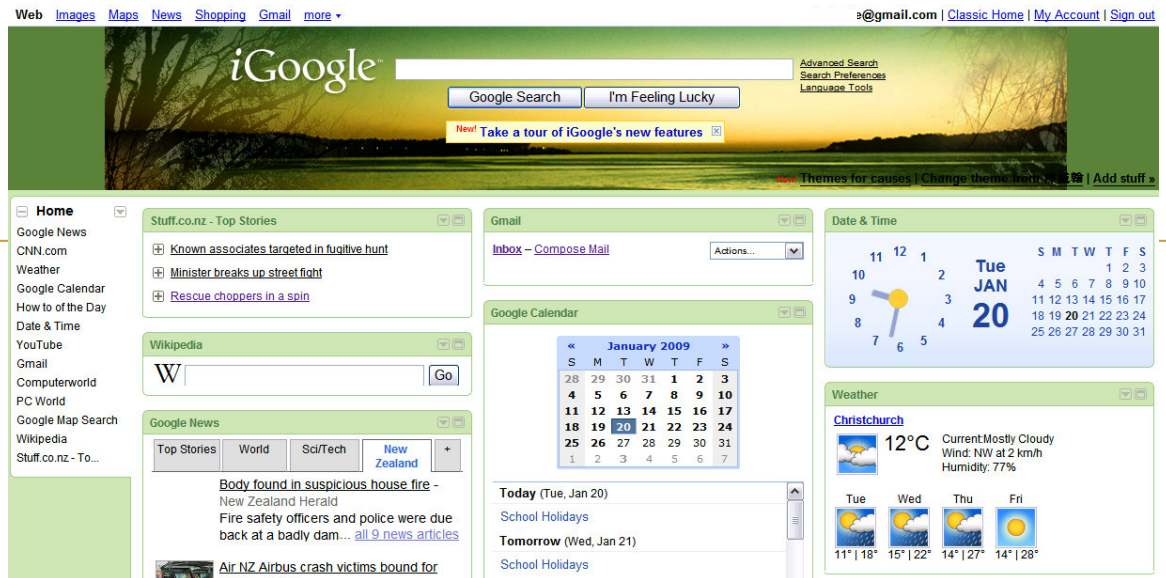
To access links on these pages click on the URL or copy and paste in your browser.

## CLOUD COMPUTING



You may see this term among the world of computing. What is it? In simple form you access your data, applications etc. not directly from your own computer but from a server somewhere out in internet-land. At its lowest end the free email sites such as Yahoo, Gmail and Windows Live (previously Hotmail) store your emails and provide the email client. They are device independent. At your end all you need is a computer or cellphone, an operating system of any type e.g. Windows, Mac OS, Linux, Unix etc. and a web browser - Opera, IE, Safari, Firefox, Mozilla. You do not need to be at your own computer, only one that has internet access.

Many service providers such as Google (iGoogle) and Apple (MobileMe) provide a range of services that you can access either free or for an annual fee. One that is growing very fast is iGoogle. They offer services such as email, spreadsheets, word processing, photo management and storage, Google Earth, Google Streets and Maps among others. They now give you the ability to create your own home page when you log on to the internet. It is easy to use and you can customise what items you want to display and change the layout simply by dragging the items around. You can choose from hundreds of Gadgets, small programmes that offer anything from weather, news, search engines to games, calculators, how-to's, etc. The claimed advantage for users is that they do not need to purchase and update software. In time these services may charge an annual fee but for now it is free, however, you need to register and set up a Gmail account.



For more information see [www.igoogle.com](http://www.igoogle.com) Cloud Computing  
iGoogle (Wikipedia)

<http://tinyurl.com/8g9jlf>  
<http://tinyurl.com/6tcfag>

## GENEALOGY - NZ Births, Deaths and Marriages Register



From January 25 this year the Registrar General of the NZ BDM has brought in new rules pertaining how you can access BDM information. To make it more difficult to use someone else's identity (identity theft) the new rules now require, with some exceptions, for the person requesting the information to prove their identity. Along with the request form you will need to provide proof from one of the following:

Registrar of BDM, Lawyer, Policeman, Kaumatua, Employer, JP, Minister of Religion, Teacher, Doctor, Notary Public or Commonwealth Representative. You will need to produce a NZ acceptable Photo Id to that person unless that person has known you more than 12 months. (Some Club members will be able to do this for you).

There are "Historical" exceptions; births more than 100 years, deaths more than 50 years and marriages more than 80 years ago. It is also illegal to publish indexed non-historical information on the internet or an intranet.

Details of new Rules at BDM <http://tinyurl.com/7tq8v3>