

## CHATGPT GROWS STRONGER AI CAN NOW SEE IMAGES & MORE



ChatGPT's new "Explore GPTs" feature offers a significant expansion in how users can interact with and utilize GPT models. This tool allows users to create customized versions of GPTs tailored to specific tasks or needs. Through this feature, users can not only explore existing models but also configure and fine-tune them for their particular use cases, whether for customer service, personal assistance, research, or entertainment. The ability to adjust the model's behaviour, tone, and knowledge base helps to personalize the AI experience, making it more adaptive and effective.

The paperclip icon in the ChatGPT interface is another useful tool, allowing users to upload documents and other files. This feature enhances the interaction by enabling the model to access and analyze files directly within the chat, making it easier for users to receive assistance with their uploaded content. Whether it's for summarizing reports, extracting data, or providing insights into a specific document, the paperclip feature improves the practicality of ChatGPT in day-to-day tasks.

Additionally, ChatGPT's capability to interrogate images takes AI functionality a step further. By uploading an image, users can engage in conversations around the content of the image, ask for detailed descriptions, or even inquire about specific elements within the visual content. The integration of image interrogation with text-based assistance opens up new possibilities for users seeking multi-modal AI support, thus enhancing its utility across a broader range of applications.

Overall, these features—customizable GPTs, file uploads via the paperclip, and image interrogation—showcase how ChatGPT is evolving into a more versatile tool capable of handling diverse types of inputs and tasks.

## SUNDAY SPEAKERS

### TESSA DUDER

Writer Tessa Duder shares her research on the earliest days of Auckland, the background to her two books incorporating the largely unknown story of the September 1840 founding ceremony and the indomitable Englishwoman named Sarah Mathew who watched and recorded it.



### SHERYL & JOHN HENDERSON

Sheryl and John will give a presentation on The Weald and Downland Living Museum, an open-air museum in Singleton, West Sussex (10 km north of Chichester). The museum is a registered charity. The museum covers 40 acres, with over 50 historic buildings dating from 950AD to the 19th century, along with gardens, farm animals, walks and a mill pond.



## GO LOOKING FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECT



Somewhere in this issue of the newsletter is a sleeping cat. See if you can find it!

Let our membership secretary know if you have changed your email address and/or phone numbers so we can update our records



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### CLUB DIRECTORY

WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.seniornetns.com">www.seniornetns.com</a>	FACEBOOK	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61562462001329">www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61562462001329</a>
EMAIL	<a href="mailto:snetns@xtra.co.nz">snetns@xtra.co.nz</a>		
TEEPHONE	486 2163		
CLASSES	Learning Centre, Suite 3, St John Ambulance Building, 2 Shea Terrace, Takapuna		
MEETINGS	2nd Sunday of each month, 10 am in the Hall, St John, 2 Shea Terrace, Takapuna		
CONTACT	The Secretary, SeniorNet NS Inc. <a href="mailto:snetns@xtra.co.nz">snetns@xtra.co.nz</a>		



### COMMITTEE & SUPPORT TEAMS

2024 – 25

CHAIRPERSON	Ruth Healy	ruthhealy54@gmail.com	027 291 1489
VICE CHAIRPERSON	Jurgen Schubert	jschubert@outlook.co.nz	410 9106
TREASURER	June McCullough	june.apollo@gmail.com	021 885 117
SECRETARY	Marina Sanderson	marinasanderson@gmail.com	021 02789790
MEMBERSHIP	Patricia Lough	loughie@outlook.co.nz	413 6322
WEBMASTER	Ian Handricks	ianhandricks@gmail.com	029 477 4491
TECHNICAL	Rex Oddy	rex.oddy@xtra.co.nz	021 758 851
SPECIAL PROJECTS	Campbell Stanford	camstan69@gmail.com	021 717 008
COMMITTEE	Lois Kay	lois.kay@xtra.co.nz	027 2710154
COMMITTEE	Debbie Seekup	d.seekup@xtra.co.nz	021 429 039
AUDITOR	Glen Plaistowe		
PROOF READER	Patricia Lough	loughie@outlook.co.nz	413 6322
NEWSLETTER	Ian Handricks & Lois Kay	seniornet.newsletter@gmail.com	029 477 4491
PROVIDORE	Jeanne-Anne Jacob	jacob-jeanneanne@xtra.co.nz	418 0155
SUNDAY MEETING TEA			
SPEAKER ORGANISER	Jurgen Schubert	seniornet.newsletter@gmail.com	410 9106



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### CHAIR REPORT NOVEMBER 2024



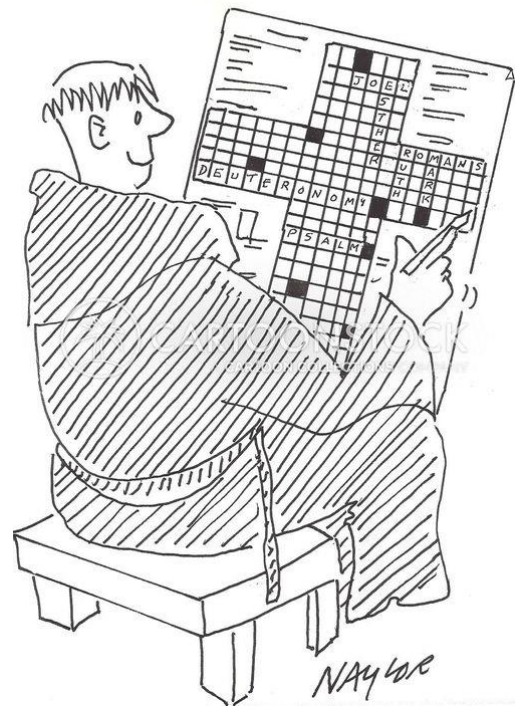
Once again the last month has been filled with lots of interesting, fun and varied sessions. I have started the Watercolour Painting. Not that I have any natural talent but am thoroughly enjoying the company and the challenge of trying to paint a picture. I am totally thankful for Glen for running this session as it is something I have never had, or would ever likely to have, the chance to give it a go at a price I could afford. That is the joy of our special Senior Net North Shore group.

There are so many sessions for us to Give things a Go. The Cryptic Crossword and Sudoku Sessions on the First Thursday has been so well received Bridget has kindly agreed to running it twice a month. So, on the First and Third Thursdays at 10:00am it is all happening – come and see what it’s all about. They say it is never too late to learn something new. We love sharing the knowledge. Our normal Card Playing, Photography and Genealogy sessions are well worthwhile for this reason.

We had a lovely outing to the Art Gallery - another Jurgen Special - He is so good at organising these. Always a nice, relaxed way to have a day out, coffee and chat and see some interesting exhibitions and places that we may not think to visit on our own.

Unfortunately, we are cancelling the Line Dancing. It has been decided that once a month is not enough to remember what we are doing. So a sad goodbye to that. And a Big Thank You to Cherie for taking these classes. But another new session is going to appear in the November Calendar. June is running a Craft Group starting November. June is up to helping any organisation - or just helping you. A good time to just create and chatter and maybe make a new friend.

I have run out of my allocated Word Count now so will be in touch over the month. As always email me with any suggestions you may have for our Amazing Group of Seniors. I will be in touch with reminders of the various sessions.



*see you soon!*



**Ruth Healy**



# ESSENCE

SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

## CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER 2024

Select a class, discussion group or tutorial that appeals from the tutors notes on pages 6 to 9. This calendar details date, time and venue for activities, including type, cost and whether it is necessary to book (if booking is required please contact the tutor). Pay at door. All welcome.

Monthly meetings are held in the hall 10am – 12:00 noon on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Come along and listen to some interesting speakers. Gold coin donation appreciated. Everyone welcome. Please wear your name tag to all sessions to put name to a face. Free refreshments are provided at all Discussion Groups, Tutorials, and Monthly Sunday Meetings.



*Glen's Introduction to Water Painting*



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

TUTORIALS

D = DISCUSSION GROUPS

TIMES: AM = 10.00 to 12.00

PM = 1.00 to 3.00

Schedule - Nov 2024							
Day	Date	Time	Session	Tutor	Phone	Email	D/T Cost
Fri	1	am	First Friday Genealogy	Ian Handricks	029 477 4491	ianhandricks@gmail.com	D \$3
Fri	1	pm					
Sat	2	am	Tips N Tricks incl iPad and iPhone	Ian Handricks	029 477 4491	ianhandricks@gmail.com	D \$3
Sat	2	pm					
Sun	3	am					
Sun	3	pm					
Mon	4	am	Intro to Watercolour Painting	Glen Plaistowe	027 541 2241	glenp19925@gmail.com	T \$5
Mon	4	pm	<b>Committee Meeting</b>				
Tue	5	am					
Tue	5	pm					
Wed	6	am					
Wed	6	pm	Film Appreciation (1:30pm)	Marina Sanderson	021 02789790	marinasanderson@gmail.com	D \$3
Thu	7	am	Cryptic Crosswords and Sudoku	Bridget Taylerson	09 410 8309	taylersonb@gmail.com	D \$3
Thu	7	pm					
Fri	8	am					
Fri	8	pm					
Sat	9	am					
Sat	9	pm					
Sun	10	am	<b>Monthly Meeting</b>	<b>10am in hall</b>		<b>All Members Welcome</b>	
Sun	10	pm					
Mon	11	am					
Mon	11	pm					
Tue	12	am	Photography	Rex Oddy	021 758 851	rex.oddy@xtra.co.nz	D \$3
Tue	12	pm					
Wed	13	am					
Wed	13	pm	Build Your Own Website	Ian Handricks	029 477 4491	ianhandricks@gmail.com	D \$3
Thu	14	am	Handcrafts	June McCullough	021 885 117	june.apollo@gmail.com	D \$3
Thu	14	pm	Card Playing Group (12:45)	Campbell Stanford	021 717 008	camstan69@gmail.com	D \$3
Fri	15	am	Genealogy Workshop	Lois Kay	478-3587	lois.kay@xtra.co.nz	D \$3
Fri	15	pm					
Sat	16	am					
Sat	16	pm					
Sun	17	am					
Sun	17	pm					
Mon	18	am	Intro to Watercolour Painting	Glen Plaistowe	027 541 2241	glenp19925@gmail.com	T \$5
Mon	18	pm	Nostalgia	Host varies			D \$3
Tue	19	am	Computer Chat Group	Ian Handricks	029 477 4491	ianhandricks@gmail.com	D \$3
Tue	19	pm					
Wed	20	am	Family Tree Maker Q & A	Bernice Hyde	483-5825	bernice52@xtra.co.nz	D \$3
Wed	20	pm					
Thu	21	am	Cryptic Crosswords and Sudoku	Bridget Taylerson	09 410 8309	taylersonb@gmail.com	D \$3
Thu	21	pm					
Fri	22	am	Book Ends	Patricia Lough	021 268 8677	loughie@outlook.co.nz	D \$3
Fri	22	pm					
Sat	23	am					
Sat	23	pm					
Sun	24	am					
Sun	24	pm					
Mon	25	am					
Mon	25	pm					
Tue	26	am	Photoshoot - email Rex for location details	Rex Oddy	021 758 851	rex.oddy@xtra.co.nz	
Tue	26	pm					
Wed	27	am					
Wed	27	pm					
Thu	28	am	Our World	Glen Plaistowe	027 541 2241	glenp19925@gmail.com	D \$3
Thu	28	pm	Card Playing Group (12:45)	Campbell Stanford	021 717 008	camstan69@gmail.com	D \$3
Fri	29	am					
Fri	29	pm					
Sat	30	am					
Sat	30	pm					
Sun	31	am					
Sun	31	pm					



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### TUTOR NOTES

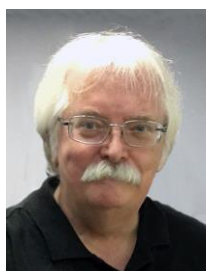
NOVEMBER 2024



#### GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Tutor: Lois Kay

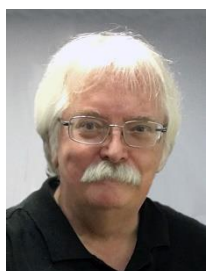
Please continue to bring any treasures to our Genealogy Workshop – we have had many items in the past that have had wonderful stories attached to them and they add colour and significance to our life stories. We will continue with worthy websites and although many of our group are already skilled at researching we always run into the odd “brick wall” scenario which is where others can assist.



#### TIPS’N’TRICKS including iPHONE & iPAD

Tutor: Ian Handricks

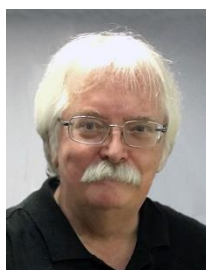
A tutorial and discussion forum where you can ask questions and get answers and also learn tips and tricks for a wide range of computer/ipad/iphone/laptop situations. We will endeavour to provide solutions for your questions and will introduce you to a bevy of useful tips, shortcuts, hidden features, useful tools, actions and ways to achieve results on your computer and technology devices. Each session, we will provide you with a hot list of new ideas, tips and tricks to explore and use.



#### 1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY GENEALOGY

Tutor: Ian Handricks

Ian will talk about new research sites, search techniques, AI solutions for genealogy and a collection of tips and tricks. Maybe you have solved some brick walls or found new information over the break, or found a new site, if so, bring it along. It will be good to see you all again. We will enjoy helping you.



#### BRIDGE

Tutor: Ian Handricks

Ian Handricks, runs a regular session on learning and playing Bridge. No previous experience is required and Ian will show us how to play the game. Bridge is known as the “Brain Game” and is an excellent method of using those hidden-away grey cells! For those who have no idea what the game is – it’s similar to 500 and is played with 4 people at a table. Ian will show us the rest! **Bridge Sessions are on hold until 2025.**



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER



### CARD PLAYING GROUP

Tutor: Campbell Stanford

What a fun time playing cards can be! For raw beginners and cardsharps alike. Beginners are appreciating the comfortable pace at which they can learn and hone their skills. Great camaraderie in a very friendly group that is much more than just card playing. Learning and developing strategies combined with luck and great humour alleviates stress and keeps your mind sharp and active. Currently our most popular game is "Oh Hell" which goes down well with all players with winners switching around from session to session. Depending on the number of participants, we also play 500 and Euchre and have dabbled with cribbage, one of the best games for as little as 2 players. We have sessions twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays between 12:45 and 2:45pm. Please come and try it. You are also most welcome to bring a guest with you for a free session.



### OUR WORLD

Tutor: Glen Plaistowe

Our World is a mix of current affairs, a sharing of places we have visited, events that have been part of our lives or what we have explored - people and places that are of interest. You do not have to have skills in PowerPoint. You just need to have an interest in our world and world events and are happy to share any insights or experiences you have.



### NOSTALGIA

Host: Ian Robinson

This session will allow us to remember the good, crazy and unusual. Join us for thought-provoking conversations, fun memories, and interesting insights. You'll have the opportunity to share your own experiences and hear from others in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. The topic for October is music – our likes and dislikes.



### BETWEEN THE BOOKENDS

Tutor: Patricia Lough

This is not a 'Book Club'. We will discuss all sorts of things to do with books, complete with trips down memory lane with short cuts and detours. Give some thought to books you've read and enjoyed and those which you read and thought "Well that was a waste of time" but couldn't quite stop reading in case it improved. It isn't necessary to book (excuse the pun). Those who know me, will know what to expect and those who don't – well take a chance.



# ESSENCE

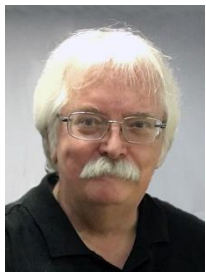
## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER



### FILM APPRECIATION

Host: Marina Sanderson

Experience the magic of cinema at SeniorNet North Shore's newest session, "Film Appreciation." Join us in the cosy clubrooms as we transport you through time with a curated selection of timeless classics and contemporary masterpieces. Dive into the world of storytelling, cinematography, and emotion as we explore the art of filmmaking together. Discover the rich history of cinema and share your thoughts and insights with fellow film enthusiasts. Whether you're a cinephile or just looking for a delightful movie, this session promises to be a "reel" treat for all.



### COMPUTER CHAT GROUP

Tutor: Ian Handricks

Ian will be available to have your computer questions answered and discussed – and with luck – resolved! What a great opportunity for us all! We have great attendance at these sessions (up to 20 people) and benefit from Ian's extensive knowledge.



### CRYPTIC CROSS WORDS & SUDOKU

Tutor: Bridget Taylerson

Bridget will be hosting another session on cryptic crosswords & sudoku. The last session enabled participants to develop skills and techniques to solve these mysteries.



### PHOTOGRAPHY

Tutor: Rex Oddy

Each month photography group members are invited to bring along digital images or videos that are either based on the theme for the month or are of a personal interest. We have a theme each month, because having a theme can create a challenge and meeting that challenge helps us to improve our photography. Above all, photography like all hobbies and art forms is a personal activity. We take photos for ourselves, it doesn't matter if other people don't quite get the point, its whether we like them or not that matters most and being part of a group helps us to learn and improve. Most months in addition to our workshop there is a photoshoot, a photographic fieldtrip. Everyone is welcome to join the photoshoot but the location is not decided until just before the date of the outing. The date of the photoshoot is on the monthly schedule but for time and location details email [rex.oddy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rex.oddy@xtra.co.nz). The theme for November will be based on the proposed club trip to Ayrlires Gardens.





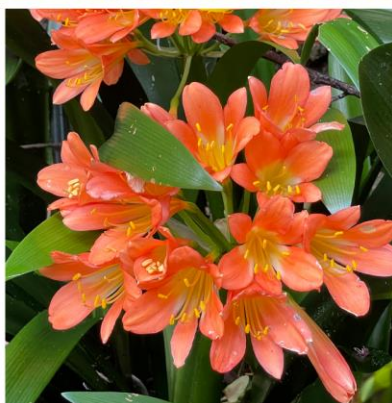
# ESSENCE

SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

## CLUB PHOTOGRAPHY

Spring Blossoms

Debbie Seekup and Garry Martelli picturing spring.



## SHEA TERRACE

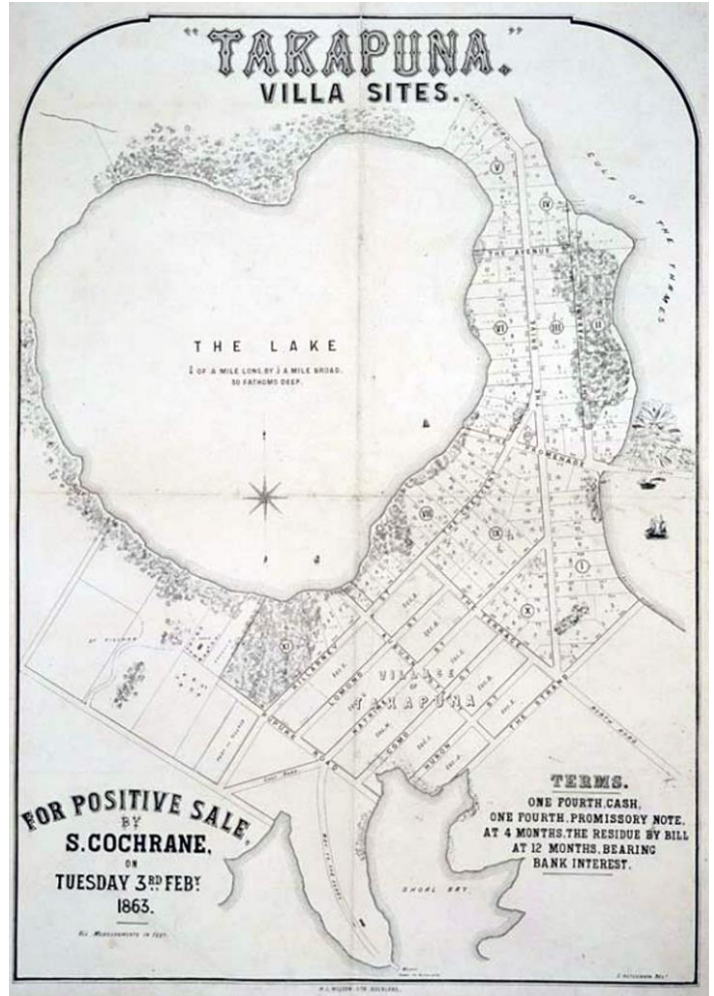
### A SHORT HISTORY OF SHEA TERRACE & THE LAKE SETTLEMENT

In 1863, an investment was made by entrepreneur Michael Woods. He advertised the auction of villa sites in 'Takapuna Village' by ferrying nearly 1000 pleasure seekers to a special sports day held at 'Lake Takapuna' in late January 1863. Whaleboat races were held on the lake, horse races on the beach, music and Maori dances entertained the crowd.

The lakeside sections were taken up by Auckland businessmen who built magnificent houses with park-like grounds including orchards as well as boating and bathing sheds on the lake. The land was cut up in areas according to position and suitability, mostly in 40, 60 and 80-acre farm blocks.

Thomas Poynton took Lot 89, which is today's North Shore Hospital site; his daughter married Michael Shea and the farm was known by that name for many years. Poynton also bought Lot 104. Lot 91 of 60 acres was first bought by James Kelly who sold to William Nicholson. Lots 82, 83, 85 and 86 were owned by William Hurst, on both sides of the road from Earnoch Avenue to Sheriff's Hill. Stretching around the lakeside from Shakespeare Road to Killarney Street, were three 60-acre farms.

From there, around the lake and back to Shea's farm were mostly 5-acre farmlets, all fronting the main road and lakeside. These settlers were farmers from England, Scotland and Ireland who spent many years developing their properties, and a number of these farms remained until the 1920s. Later as further settlers arrived land was taken up and farmed from Old Lake Road to Takapuna, and on the west side of the Wairau Creek.



Thomas Poynton (1802 – 1892) and Mary Poynton (1812 – 1891) and their children were among the first Catholic families to settle in New Zealand. They were instrumental in bringing Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier to New Zealand and were involved in the growth of Catholicism and Catholic missions in the Hokianga and later on in the North Shore of Auckland.

n.b. Carmel College now sits on what was Michael Shea's farm. In 1884 the Sheas sold part of the property to William and Harriet Shakespear.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### OCTOBER SUNDAY MEETING SPEAKER REPORT

#### JANICE CHANDLER

Janice and David Chandler brought a large selection of ceremonial clothing that they had collected when they were on a tour in Tunisia and Libya. Janice, a former ballerina, spoke of her joy in exploring the souks and shops seeking out these colourful hand-made costumes decorated with beads and lace. Their travels started in Tunisia. Janice recounted the story of the humble founding of the ancient city of Carthage by Dido and her eighty Phoenician handmaids to become one of the richest states in the ancient world before being conquered by the Romans in the Punic Wars. In turn the Romans were forced to withdraw by the Byzantine Greeks leaving behind great cities, forums and a well-engineered covered aqueduct that carried water 92 miles from the hills to the city.

In Libya Janice believed that Muammar Gaddafi, prior to his assassination in 2011, had given strong governance to his country and annually shared out the profits from oil production with every man, woman, child and baby that was a native of the country. David modelled a copy of a French Foreign Legion uniform and cap. Families are very close and generations live close to one another giving support. Weddings are across many days, opulent and full of cultural significance. The bride has a large number of outfits, mainly green themed. There are many pre and post celebrations and the native participants receive a significant financial gift from the government. This was an amusing and visual presentation.



Janice also told the story of a New Zealand Soldier Haane Te Rauawa Manahi, DCM (1913 – 1986). He was taking part in the Tunisian Campaign and scouted the enemy, went back for reinforcements, and together they climbed a very steep cliff and basically took out the enemy. His gallantry during this campaign resulted in a recommendation that he be awarded the Victoria Cross (VC). Unfortunately, it had been decided that there would be no more Victoria Cross's awarded. The subsequent award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) disappointed his fellow soldiers who, after his death, advocated greater recognition of his valour. This eventually resulted in a special award in 2007 presented by Prince Andrew of an altar cloth for use in a local church, ceremonial sword and a personal letter from Queen Elizabeth II in recognition of his gallantry. He however did not live long enough to receive the award. A True Hero.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### NORMAN LODGE

Norman gave a talk on wine. He said that the world of wine is both vast and intricate, making it one of the most fragmented food products available today. With countless wineries producing an extensive variety of wines, consumers can often feel overwhelmed by the choices available. In New Zealand, the wine industry has seen a remarkable transformation over the past few decades. In the 1960s and 70s, New Zealand's wines were of lower quality, with many not even made from 100% grape juice. However, a pivotal change occurred around 1980 when the industry was scrutinized, leading to significant improvements. Wineries began producing wines using 100% grape juice, and the use of added sugar decreased significantly. This shift propelled New Zealand wines to the global stage, where they now enjoy considerable acclaim.

Today, New Zealand boasts over 700 wineries, producing wines from more than 1,200 vineyards, with exports valued at over NZ\$2.4 billion annually. Consumers face a multitude of choices when selecting wine, influenced by factors such as grape variety, region, price, and recommendations. The evolving marketing strategies, such as redesigned labels and medal awards, also play a role in purchasing decisions.

Moreover, the alcohol content in wine, although important, can vary within a legal tolerance of  $\pm 1.5\%$ , which may surprise many consumers. This flexibility allows wineries to manage their production more efficiently, but it raises questions about transparency in labelling. The world of wine continues to evolve, offering both challenges and opportunities for producers and consumers alike.



*Mission Estate Winery established in 1851 by pioneering French missionaries is New Zealand's oldest winery and the birth place of New Zealand wine*



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### NOVEMBER SUNDAY MEETING

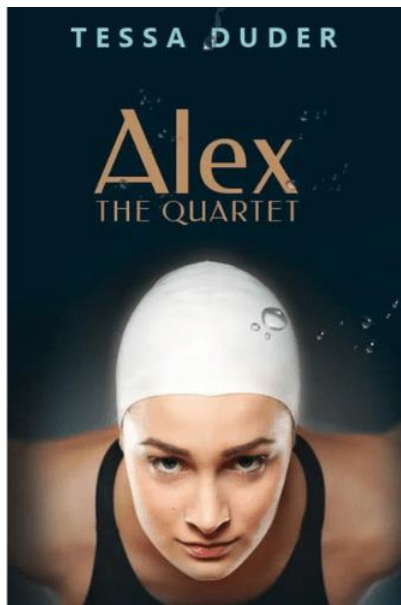
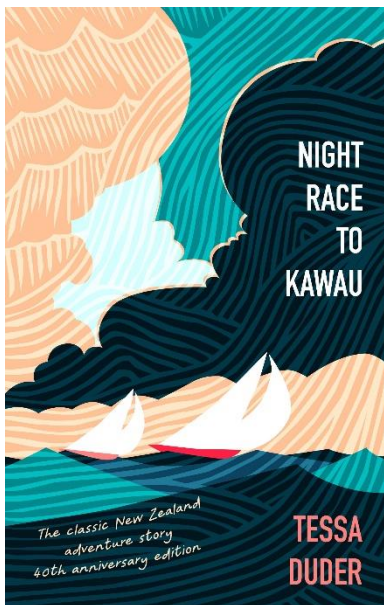
#### TESSA DUDER & SHERYL AND JOHN HENDERSON

#### TESSA DUDER

Writer Tessa Duder shares her research on the earliest days of Auckland, the background to her two books incorporating the largely unknown story of the September 1840 founding ceremony and the indomitable Englishwoman named Sarah Mathew who watched and recorded it.

Tessa Duder was educated in Auckland and won a silver medal in butterfly swimming at the 1958 Cardiff Commonwealth & Empire Games. She worked as a journalist in Auckland and London before marrying and raising four daughters in London, Pakistan and New Zealand. She began writing fiction at 38. Her novels for young readers, published in America, Britain, Australia, Canada, and in five languages, include *Night Race to Kawau*, *Jellybean* and the multi-award-winning *Alex* quartet. In 1993 *Alex* was adapted as a full-length movie. Recent books include *First Map: How James Cook Charted Aotearoa New Zealand*, all four *Alex* books reissued as *Alex the Quartet*, and in 2023 an historical novel, *The Sparrow* (Penguin Random House), a finalist for the New Zealand Young Adult Book award and a Storylines Notable Book.

Her non-fiction books include works on Margaret Mahy, Sarah Mathew, Sir Peter Blake and her Italian ancestor Elisa Marchetti. Other literary activities include visiting schools, teaching, judging, and serving as a Trustee of the Storylines Children's Literature Trust Te Whare Waituhi Tamariki o Aotearoa. She is a former Trustee of the Spirit of Adventure Trust and now its Vice-patron.



Among her awards are three New Zealand Children's Book of the Year awards and three Esther Glen medals; the Waikato University Writer's Fellowship; the Storylines Margaret Mahy Medal; the Katherine Mansfield Memorial Fellowship; an Artists to Antarctica fellowship; and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Waikato. In 2021 she won the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement (Fiction). In 2021 she was named President of Honour of the New Zealand Society of Authors. Civil honours include the OBE in 1994 and the CNZM in 2020 for services to literature and youth.

Tessa lives in Devonport, Auckland and has four daughters and two grandchildren. The Storylines Tessa Duder Award, in association with publishers Allen & Unwin, is given biennially for an unpublished young adult manuscript.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### SHERYL & JOHN HENDERSON

Sheryl and John will give a presentation on The Weald and Downland Living Museum, an open-air museum in Singleton, West Sussex (10 km north of Chichester). The museum is a registered charity. The museum covers 40 acres, with over 50 historic buildings dating from 950AD to the 19th century, along with gardens, farm animals, walks and a mill pond.

Sheryl's career has been in education. Most recently she was a Deputy Principal at Carmel College. John has always worked in the automotive industry. He owned Highbury Auto Electrical Ltd, worked as a Business Development Manager for the Motor Trade Association and more recently he has been an independent consultant. Sheryl & John enjoy travelling and visited the Weald & Downland Living Museum in 2022 where The Repair Shop is filmed.

The principal aim at the foundation of the museum was to establish a centre that could rescue representative examples of vernacular buildings from South East England, and thereby to generate increased public awareness and interest in the built environment. The museum principally promotes the retention of buildings on their original sites unless there is no alternative, and encourages an informed and sympathetic approach to their preservation and continuing use.

The buildings at the museum were all threatened with destruction and, as it was not possible to find a way to preserve them at their original sites, they were carefully dismantled, conserved and rebuilt in their historical form at the museum. These buildings, plus two archaeological reconstructions, help the museum bring to life the homes, farmsteads and rural industries of the last 950 years. Along with the buildings, there are "hands-on" activities, such as cooking, and weaving, and a number of yearly activities, including seasonal shows, historic gardens weekend and Tree Dressing.



The Weald and Downland Open Air Museum was launched in 1967 by a group of enthusiasts led by the museum's founder, the late Dr. J.R. Armstrong MBE. The land for the museum was gifted by a local landowner, Edward James of West Dean at a peppercorn rent. The objective was to rescue vernacular buildings that would otherwise have been demolished. The museum first opened to the public on 5 September 1970.

The principle of an open-air museum was well established in Scandinavia as a way to create a three-dimensional setting for explaining the way of living or working. Open-air museums allowed the buildings to give context to the techniques, equipment, furnishings, clothes and art of the period.



## AI IN 2050

### RAY KURZWEIL'S PREDICTIONS

Ray Kurzweil is a renowned futurist, inventor, and AI expert known for his accurate predictions about technology. He pioneered innovations like speech recognition and forecasts a future where AI transforms human life, from achieving Artificial General Intelligence by 2029 to merging humans with machines by 2045.

Kurzweil has made some impressive predictions about what the world might look like by 2050. In his new book *Singularity is Nearer*, he talks about big changes that could happen in the near future because of AI.

One of his predictions is that by 2029, we will create Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), a type of AI that can think and solve problems just like a human. Right now, AI is only good at specific tasks, like ChatGPT for text or DALL-E for images. But AGI would be able to do everything a human can do, and even more, helping technology grow faster than ever before.

Kurzweil also believes that by 2035, we will be able to stop aging! He thinks that medical technology will get so advanced that we can keep people alive much longer, and maybe even help them live forever by fixing problems before they get too serious. He says this will happen because AI is helping scientists find new medicines and treatments really quickly. While some people think this is hard to believe, Kurzweil is confident that we are getting closer to making it possible.

One of the biggest ideas Kurzweil talks about is something called "The Singularity," which he says will happen around 2045. This is when technology and AI become so powerful that humans will start merging with machines. He thinks that we will be able to connect our brains to computers and become much smarter and faster. While this might sound like science fiction, Kurzweil believes it will become real because of how fast technology is improving.

In short, Kurzweil is excited about the future, predicting that AI will change our lives, help us live longer, and even make us part machine by 2050.



## A PUZZLING BRITISH OBSESSION

### CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS

Cryptic crosswords have long captivated enthusiasts in the UK, blending creativity, knowledge, and logic into a challenging yet rewarding experience. These puzzles differ from standard crosswords by using complex wordplay, including anagrams, puns, and hidden meanings. For those who solve them, the payoff is a thrilling "Eureka" moment when the solution clicks into place.

One of the leading figures in the cryptic crossword world is John Halpern, who creates puzzles for top UK newspapers under various pseudonyms. Halpern views the world through a lens of wordplay, often seeing anagrams and linguistic patterns in everyday situations. He likens cryptic crosswords to a celebration of the "hidden magic within language," a perspective that reflects the intellectual appeal of these puzzles.

According to Kathryn Friedlander, a researcher at the University of Buckingham, cryptic crosswords offer a variety of brain teasers in each puzzle, requiring solvers to determine the type of wordplay being used before cracking the clue. Friedlander describes the thrill of solving cryptic crosswords as a "Penny Drop Moment," where the solver experiences a powerful insight and a rush of satisfaction when the answer becomes clear. This moment of revelation, which often follows a period of deep thought and frustration, is what makes cryptic crosswords so addictive for many.

This sense of mental challenge and reward is echoed by Stephen Sondheim, the renowned composer and lyricist, who described cryptic crosswords as akin to mystery stories. He praised their surface innocence and the surprise of discovering hidden meanings, drawing parallels to the pleasure of solving a puzzle in a detective novel. The unique appeal of cryptic crosswords, however, has largely remained a British phenomenon, despite Sondheim's efforts to promote them in the US.

One reason for this is the complexity of the English language itself. With its vast vocabulary, multiple meanings, and homophones, English lends itself well to the wordplay and misdirection that are hallmarks of cryptic crosswords. For instance, there are nine different words pronounced "air," each with distinct meanings and spellings, which provides ample material for creating tricky clues.

The history of cryptic crosswords dates back to the 1920s, when Edward Powys Mathers, under the pseudonym "Torquemada," began publishing them in The Observer. His puzzles were notoriously difficult, often requiring a classical education to solve. However, later setters sought to level the playing field by developing rules that made cryptic crosswords accessible to anyone with a good command of English, rather than just those with specialized knowledge.



*John Halpern*



*Edward Powys Mathers*





# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

One of the key figures in establishing these rules was Alistair Ferguson Ritchie, known as "Afrif," who summarized the guiding principle of cryptic crosswords as "You need not mean what you say, but you must say what you mean." This cryptic aphorism captures the essence of the puzzles: while the surface meaning of a clue might be misleading, the wordplay within it always leads to a logical answer.



For those new to cryptic crosswords, Sarah Hayes, a contemporary setter for The Guardian, offers a helpful guide in a BBC Radio 4 podcast. Hayes explains some common types of cryptic clues, such as double definitions, hidden words, and envelope clues, which involve placing one word inside another. These clues often require lateral thinking and a deep understanding of language to decipher.

Beyond their intellectual appeal, cryptic crosswords also allow setters to showcase their personal style. Just as a reader might recognize the prose of a favourite author, experienced solvers can identify a setter's unique voice in the clues they create. Sondheim noted this in his appreciation of different setters, likening the stylistic differences between setters to those between playwrights or composers.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

Cryptic crosswords have also made their way into British literature, particularly in the detective genre. Famous fictional sleuths like Inspector Morse and Lord Peter Wimsey have solved cryptic crosswords to crack cases, while real-life mystery writers like Colin Dexter and Dorothy L. Sayers incorporated them into their stories. This connection between cryptic crosswords and detective fiction highlights the puzzles' ability to challenge the mind in similar ways.

Despite concerns about artificial intelligence surpassing human abilities in many areas, experts like Friedlander believe that cryptic crosswords remain one domain where human intuition and creativity will always prevail. AI may be able to solve formal puzzles or generate basic jokes, but the nuanced language and subtle misdirection of cryptic clues require a depth of understanding that only the human brain can fully grasp.

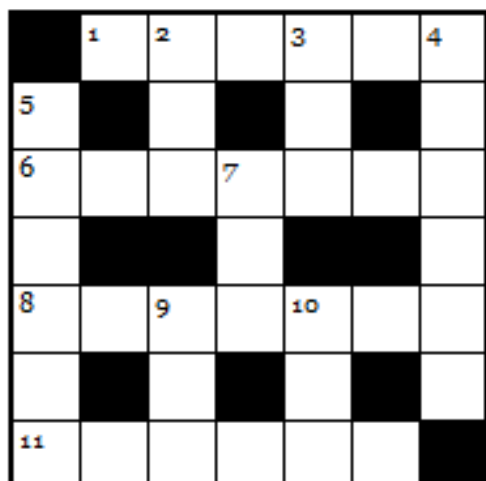
Cryptic crosswords are not only a solitary pursuit. They also foster a sense of community among enthusiasts. Halpern has capitalized on this by hosting Zoom events during the Covid-19 lockdowns, bringing together solvers from around the world to decode clues collectively. He believes that solving puzzles in a group can be a form of mental exercise that promotes social connection and well-being.

Halpern's vision extends beyond the virtual world. He plans to organize puzzle-solving walking holidays and other community-building projects once in-person gatherings resume. For him, cryptic crosswords are more than just a mental challenge—they are a way to unite people through a shared love of language and wordplay.

Interestingly, even Halpern admits that despite his prowess in setting cryptic crosswords, he struggles to solve them. He likens the process to driving in opposite directions down the same street: setting clues requires a different mind-set than solving them. His humility offers hope to those who find cryptic crosswords daunting, proving that even the experts face challenges.

In conclusion, cryptic crosswords are a uniquely British obsession that combines intellectual rigor with creative expression. They challenge the mind, reward perseverance, and foster a sense of community among solvers. While AI may excel in other areas, the complexity and beauty of cryptic crosswords ensure that they will remain a human domain for the foreseeable future. Whether you're a seasoned solver or a curious newcomer, cryptic crosswords offer endless opportunities for linguistic exploration and mental satisfaction. Come along to our Cryptic Crossword session!

*Try this easy one ...*



### Across

1. Film some tipsy choristers (6)
6. A guy clutching mug and tumbler (7)
8. Fancy suitor and maiden travel travel for pleasure (7)
11. Lack of interest in a road unknown (6)

### Down

2. Master skiers not regularly appearing (3)
3. Novice in a school of painting? Not half! (3)
4. Punctual? Unfortunately I'm not, Elizabeth (2,4)
5. Mary's sister in a car travelling north without husband (6)
7. In other words, audibly row (3)
9. You and me north of a country (3)
10. Sort of hope to go topless (3)



## ADVANCED COMPUTERS

### HOW TO SEARCH FOR PHOTOS AND ORGANIZE ALBUMS ON AN IPHONE

With the growing number of photos we capture on our iPhones, finding a specific image or organizing them efficiently can become a challenge. Fortunately, Apple's iPhone offers intuitive tools to search for photos and manage them in albums. In this article, we'll explore how to search for a specific photo on your iPhone and provide a step-by-step guide on setting up and using albums to organize your photos better.

#### Searching for Photos on an iPhone

The iPhone's Photos app comes equipped with powerful search features that allow you to locate specific photos quickly and easily, even among thousands of pictures. Here's how to do it:

#### 1. Using the Search Feature

The Photos app includes an advanced search function that lets you search for images based on people, places, objects, and even text.

- **Open the Photos app:** Start by tapping the Photos app on your iPhone.
- **Tap the Search tab:** At the bottom right corner of the screen, you'll find a search icon (a magnifying glass). Tap it to bring up the search bar.
- **Enter a keyword or phrase:** You can type in a keyword related to the image you're looking for. For instance, you can search for specific locations (e.g., "Paris"), people's names (e.g., "John"), or objects (e.g., "sunset"). The Photos app uses machine learning to identify faces, scenes, and objects in your images, making it easier to find photos based on their content.
- **Browse through the results:** After entering your keyword, the Photos app will display a list of results. Scroll through these to find the photo you're searching for.

#### 2. Using Facial Recognition

If your iPhone is updated with the latest iOS version, it can recognize faces in your photos and group them by people. This feature is useful for quickly finding photos of specific individuals.

- **Open the Photos app** and tap on the "Albums" tab.
- **Select the "People & Places" album:** This album automatically categorizes photos based on recognized faces and locations.
- **Tap on a person's face:** If you're looking for photos of a particular individual, simply tap their photo icon in the "People" section to view all images where they appear.

#### 3. Searching by Date or Location

The Photos app also allows you to search for images based on when and where they were taken.

- **Type a specific date** in the search bar if you remember when the photo was taken (e.g., "June 2023" or "Christmas 2022").
- **Search by location:** If location services were enabled when the photos were taken, you can type in a place name to see all photos taken there (e.g., "Auckland").



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

#### 4. Search for Text in Photos

One of the newest features on iPhones is the ability to search for text within your photos using Live Text.

- **Tap the Search icon** and enter the text you remember in the photo, such as a sign or document. The Photos app will then display images that contain that specific text.

#### Creating and Using Albums on an iPhone

While searching for photos is helpful, organizing them into albums can make finding and managing specific sets of photos much easier. You can create albums based on events, people, or any theme that suits you.

##### 1. Creating a New Album

Albums are a great way to group your photos for easy access later.

- **Open the Photos app** and tap on the “Albums” tab at the bottom of the screen.
- **Tap the ‘+’ button:** In the top-left corner of the screen, tap the “+” symbol, and select “New Album.”
- **Name your album:** You’ll be prompted to give your album a name. It could be something simple like “Family Reunion” or “Vacation 2024.”
- **Add photos to the album:** Once you’ve named your album, the Photos app will display all your images, allowing you to select which ones you want to include. Tap on the photos you want to add, and once you’re done, tap “Done” in the top-right corner.

##### 2. Adding Photos to Existing Albums

You can always add new photos to your albums at any time.

- **Open the Photos app** and navigate to the photo you want to add.
- **Tap the ‘Share’ icon:** This is located in the bottom-left corner and looks like a square with an arrow pointing upward.
- **Select “Add to Album”:** Scroll down in the sharing options and tap “Add to Album.” You’ll then be prompted to either add the photo to an existing album or create a new one.

##### 3. Viewing and Managing Albums

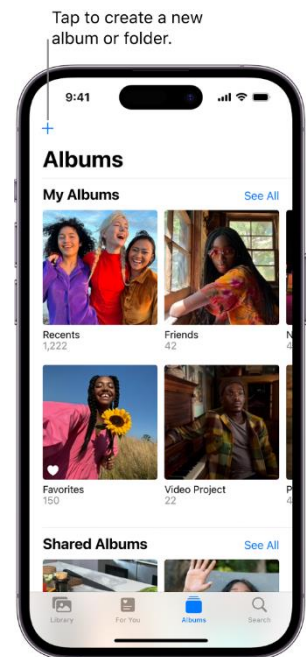
Once you’ve created albums, you can easily access them through the Albums tab.

- **Open the Photos app** and go to the “Albums” tab.
- **Scroll down to view your albums:** You’ll find your custom albums under the “My Albums” section. Simply tap on an album to view its contents.
- **Editing an album:** If you want to rename an album or remove photos, tap “Edit” in the top-right corner of the Albums screen. From here, you can delete or rearrange photos within the album, or rename it.

##### 4. Using Shared Albums

A great feature of iPhone albums is the ability to create Shared Albums, which allow you to share photos with friends and family.

- **Go to the Albums tab** and tap the “+” button again.
- **Select “New Shared Album”** and name your album.
- **Invite people to the album:** You can invite others by entering their email address or phone number. Once they accept, they can view the photos and even add their own.
- **Add photos:** Similar to regular albums, you can add photos by selecting them and adding them to the shared album.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### Conclusion

With these easy-to-use features, searching for a specific photo and organizing your photo library into albums on an iPhone can save you time and frustration. Whether you're looking for a particular memory, or you simply want to keep your photo collection organized, the iPhone's Photos app has all the tools you need at your fingertips. Start creating your albums today and experience how much easier it is to manage your cherished memories!



## 1 hour Express SERVICE

available

We offer quality, fast, reliable, affordable and guaranteed repair service that is trusted by the leading NZ insurance companies.

- PC & MAC, Tablets
- Smart Phones
- Digital Cameras
- and more



**ADVANCED COMPUTERS**  
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS



Computer Services

# \$20

instant discount for SeniorNet members and referrals till end of this month.

NORTH SHORE - 7C TRITON DR, ROSEDALE P 444 8823  
CENTRAL - 67 STATION RD, PENROSE P 525 0240  
FREEPHONE 0508 PC SERVICE (727 378)  
[www.advancedcomputers.co.nz](http://www.advancedcomputers.co.nz)

FINALIST OF THE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS PROUDLY SUPPORTING SENIORNET FOR 23 YEARS



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

### SOME SHADY INFORMATION

#### 100 UNUSUAL FACTS ABOUT COLOUR

1. Blue is the most commonly favoured colour worldwide.
2. The colour purple was once reserved for royalty in many cultures due to the rarity of purple dyes.
3. Pink wasn't considered a feminine colour until the 1940s; before that, it was often associated with boys.
4. Ancient Egyptians used a rare blue pigment known as "Egyptian Blue," made from copper and calcium silicate.
5. "Red" is one of the oldest colour names in human language, often associated with life and death.
6. The colour orange was named after the fruit, not the other way around.
7. In Japan, the traffic light for "go" is green but often referred to as "blue."
8. The human eye can distinguish about 10 million different colours.
9. Certain cultures don't distinguish between blue and green, using one word for both.
10. The colour yellow can trigger feelings of hunger, which is why it's often used in fast food branding.
11. Flamingos are born grey or white but turn pink due to the carotenoids in their diet.
12. The colour red can actually increase heart rate and respiration, influencing emotions of excitement or anxiety.
13. Some languages, like Russian, have different words for light blue ("goluboy") and dark blue ("siniy").
14. In ancient China, yellow was the colour of emperors, symbolizing power and prosperity.
15. Dogs are not entirely colour blind; they can see blue and yellow but not red or green.
16. The first colour photograph was taken in 1861 by James Clerk Maxwell.
17. In ancient Rome, brides wore orange veils, not white, to symbolize fidelity.
18. There's no word for "blue" in ancient Greek texts, including Homer's The Odyssey.
19. The phrase "feeling blue" comes from a tradition in the Middle Ages of dressing in blue for mourning.
20. Some shades of blue can help boost productivity in workspaces, promoting calm and focus.
21. White clothing is often worn at funerals in eastern cultures, symbolizing purity and rebirth.
22. In the 18th century, vibrant green clothing contained arsenic, causing health issues for those who wore it.
23. Red cars are often perceived as moving faster than they actually are, according to studies on perception.
24. "Achromatopsia" is a condition where people see the world in shades of black, white, and grey.
25. Some species of shrimp can see more colours than humans due to the number of photoreceptors in their eyes.
26. In Hinduism, blue represents divinity and immortality, often associated with deities like Krishna.
27. Bees can see ultraviolet light, a colour invisible to humans.
28. Black is considered the absence of colour in pigment, but in light, it's the presence of all colours.
29. The colour red is one of the first colours that infants can see, as it has a long wavelength.
30. Some frogs turn bright colours to warn predators of their toxicity, a process known as aposematism.
31. People with synesthesia might associate specific colours with letters or numbers.
32. Gold has been used as a colour in art for thousands of years, symbolizing wealth and divine light.
33. Pink was thought to be a diminutive form of red in the 19th century and was a strong masculine colour.
34. The world's rarest naturally occurring colour in plants is blue.
35. In traditional Korean culture, red ink is avoided when writing names because it's associated with death.
36. The colour cyan can create an illusion of movement when viewed at certain angles or with contrasting colours.
37. People tend to remember colourful information better than black-and-white information.
38. "Colour constancy" is the ability of the brain to perceive consistent colours in varying lighting conditions.
39. In several African cultures, the colour green symbolizes life and health.
40. Birds of paradise have feathers with an almost unreal iridescent blue due to their microscopic structures.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

41. Seeing the colour green can improve reading speed and comprehension in some individuals.
42. The colour orange is considered a good luck symbol in the Netherlands, stemming from the Dutch royal family.
43. The ancient Greeks didn't have a specific word for "purple"; they considered it a shade of red.
44. The northern lights, or aurora borealis, can appear in a variety of colours, including green, pink, red, and purple.
45. In western cultures, white is associated with purity, but in China, it's the colour of mourning.
46. The word "teal" comes from the name of a bird with a blue-green stripe on its head.
47. Some fish, like parrotfish, change colour depending on their mood, environment, or mating status.
48. The colour brown can make time seem to slow down, according to psychological studies.
49. Cows are red-green colour blind, so they don't actually see a matador's red cape as red.
50. The red-billed quelea, a bird species in Africa, can see colours that are invisible to humans.
51. "International orange" is used in spacesuit designs for high visibility in contrast to natural surroundings.
52. Gold leaf is so thin that it can appear green when held up to the light.
53. In Mexico, the colour of death is a deep shade of purple.
54. Dolphins see the world in shades of grey, with limited colour vision.
55. The "purple" lights in some public restrooms are actually designed to prevent drug users from seeing veins.
56. Lapis lazuli, a deep blue stone, was once more valuable than gold and used to create ultramarine paint.
57. The colour magenta doesn't technically exist in the visible spectrum; it's perceived by the brain as a mix of red and blue.
58. Green is often used in medical environments because it's thought to have calming effects and reduce anxiety.
59. Octopuses can change colour to blend with their environment, even though they're colour blind.
60. In traditional Irish folklore, green is considered an unlucky colour for weddings.
61. The "Peacock" colour pattern was used by the English East India Company in textiles to signify prestige.
62. Studies show that red increases physical performance in sports due to its association with energy and aggression.
63. Some butterflies have wings that reflect UV light, which is visible only to other butterflies and not humans.
64. Colours can change the perceived temperature of a room; warm colours like red make it feel warmer, while cool colours like blue have the opposite effect.
65. Artists often see colours differently from non-artists due to training their eyes to notice subtle differences in hue and saturation.
66. The combination of red and yellow is known to be particularly effective in grabbing attention, hence its use in warning signs.
67. In South Korea, red ink is only used to write the names of the deceased, as it's considered bad luck for the living.
68. Penguins can see ultraviolet light, helping them in hunting underwater.
69. In some cultures, blue is believed to ward off evil spirits, which is why blue front doors are common.
70. The phrase "white elephant" refers to a gift that is more trouble than it's worth, originating from the rare and revered white elephants of Southeast Asia.
71. The colour purple wasn't included in Isaac Newton's original spectrum of light; he later added it to match the seven musical notes.
72. People often describe tastes using colours, such as calling something "green-tasting" to indicate a fresh, unripe flavor.
73. In most human cultures, blue is associated with trust and stability, which is why it's commonly used in corporate logos.
74. Rainbows don't contain the colour brown, as it is a combination of orange and black, which doesn't occur in refracted light.
75. The human eye has the most difficulty distinguishing between shades of yellow and green.
76. Yellow taxis were chosen in New York because yellow is the most visible colour from a distance.
77. Different shades of the same colour can evoke vastly different emotions; for example, light blue is calming, while electric blue can feel energizing.
78. Orange is associated with enthusiasm and creativity, which is why it's often used in design and advertising.
79. White animals, like albino alligators, tend to be more vulnerable in the wild due to their lack of camouflage.
80. The phrase "green with envy" comes from the Greeks, who believed jealousy produced an excess of bile, turning the skin green.



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

81. In the 1930s, Crayola's "flesh" colour referred only to light pink skin, which changed in the 1960s to "peach" to be more inclusive.
82. The blue whale's skin appears grey underwater, but it looks blue when seen from the surface.
83. In some Caribbean cultures, bright colours like turquoise and pink are used on houses to repel spirits.
84. The average person can distinguish between about 40 shades of grey.
85. Infrared cameras can detect heat by interpreting it as colour, even though it's invisible to the human eye.
86. The colour brown is often associated with reliability and dependability, making it popular for packaging.
87. People suffering from chronic migraines may experience "visual snow," where they see tiny, constantly shifting dots, often described as static.
88. A rainbow viewed from an airplane can appear as a full circle rather than just an arc.
89. The "red room effect" refers to feelings of discomfort or even anxiety after spending prolonged time in a red-painted room.
90. The ancient Mayans produced an enduring blue pigment called "Maya Blue," which has survived for centuries on their artworks.
91. Bumblebees are drawn to flowers with ultraviolet markings, which guide them to the nectar.
92. In World War I, battleship camouflage called "dazzle" used complex patterns and colours to confuse enemies about the ship's position and direction.
93. Some lizards can see polarized light, allowing them to better detect water surfaces.
94. The human brain tends to remember vivid colours more accurately than dull or neutral tones.
95. Some trees change colour in the fall as chlorophyll breaks down, revealing underlying pigments like yellow and orange.
96. The colour of a flame can indicate its temperature, with blue flames being hotter than yellow or red ones.
97. Some jellyfish glow in the dark due to a chemical process called bioluminescence, producing green or blue light.
98. In nature, red animals are often poisonous or dangerous, a warning signal to predators.
99. In western culture, brides wear white, but in India, bridal wear is traditionally red.
100. Mantis shrimp have the most complex eyes in the animal kingdom, able to perceive both colour and polarized light.





## TEKZONE TIPS

### HOW TO USE GOOGLE TO SOLVE COMPUTER PROBLEMS

For many of us, navigating technology can be challenging, especially when we encounter computer issues that seem beyond our expertise. However, one of the most valuable tools for troubleshooting and solving these problems is right at our fingertips: Google. With a few tips and techniques, you can use Google to resolve a wide range of computer problems, whether you're dealing with software errors, connectivity issues, or something else entirely. Here's how to get started.



#### 1. Be Specific in Your Search

When searching for help with computer problems on Google, the key to getting useful results is to be as specific as possible with your search terms. For example, instead of typing “my computer isn’t working,” it’s better to enter details like the type of computer, the operating system, and a description of the issue. If you’re getting an error message, copy and paste the exact text of the message into Google’s search bar.

For example, instead of searching “Wi-Fi not working,” try:

- “Windows 10 Wi-Fi disconnects frequently”
- “MacBook Pro won’t connect to Wi-Fi after update”
- “Error 0x80070057 Windows update failed”

Adding as much detail as you can, such as the device model or software version, will help Google present you with relevant solutions faster.

#### 2. Look for Reliable Sources

Once you’ve entered your search terms and Google presents you with results, it’s important to look for reliable sources of information. Websites like official product forums, well-known tech blogs, and company support pages tend to be more trustworthy than random personal blogs or forums. Some reliable sources include:

- Official product websites: Look for results from the official websites of the software or hardware manufacturers. They often have dedicated support pages with troubleshooting guides.
- Tech communities and forums: Websites like Reddit, Tom’s Hardware, or StackExchange are populated by experienced users and professionals who provide solutions to common tech problems.
- YouTube tutorials: If you're a visual learner, YouTube can be an excellent resource. Many tech-savvy individuals create step-by-step video guides for troubleshooting computer issues.

Always check that the advice you’re following is up to date and fits your system's specifications. Sometimes older guides can be outdated, especially after new updates or software changes.

#### 3. Use Quotes and Keywords for Accuracy

If you’re searching for an exact phrase or a specific error message, you can use quotation marks around your search terms to narrow the results to pages that include the exact wording. For example, if you’re receiving an error that says “Unable to connect to server,” you can search for it in quotes as:



# ESSENCE

## SENIORNET NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

- “Unable to connect to server”

You can also combine keywords for more accurate results. For example, if you're dealing with a slow computer after an update, you might type:

- Windows 11 slow after update

This helps eliminate unrelated search results and brings up more precise solutions for your specific issue.

#### 4. Search for Step-by-Step Instructions

If you're not an advanced user, look for guides that offer clear, step-by-step instructions. When scanning through search results, phrases like “how to fix,” “step-by-step guide,” or “troubleshooting steps” often lead to beginner-friendly articles. Many websites also provide screenshots or videos, which can make following along much easier.

Additionally, if a solution involves complex technical steps like editing system settings or changing files, be sure to follow the instructions carefully. Making changes without understanding the impact can sometimes worsen the issue, so it's best to double-check each step.

#### 5. Ask Questions in Tech Communities

If your search results don't directly solve your problem, consider joining an online tech community. Websites like Reddit or StackExchange have active communities where you can post questions about your specific problem. Make sure to provide as much detail as possible, including your operating system, hardware, and a description of the issue. Often, experienced users will provide helpful advice or point you toward the right solution.

#### Conclusion

Using Google to solve computer problems is a skill that becomes more valuable the more you practice. By crafting specific searches, looking for reliable sources, using quotes and keywords, and following step-by-step instructions, you can troubleshoot and fix most computer issues on your own. With patience and the right resources, you'll soon find that you can overcome even the trickiest computer challenges with the help of a quick Google search!

## Need help with computers?

### Tekzone can offer you:

- \* Genuine advice on what hardware and software is best for you
- \* Top quality components from reputable companies
- \* Pick up & set up anywhere in the Auckland metropolitan area
- \* Transfer of files to your new computer

- \* Personal help at your office or home, any time you need it
- \* Broadband, Network & Wireless Setup
- \* Free advice on all related matters
- \* And, we charge only what we quote (no hidden extras)



**TEKZONE LTD**  
TOTAL I.T. SOLUTIONS PROVIDER  
[www.tekzone.co.nz](http://www.tekzone.co.nz)

[mel@tekzone.co.nz](mailto:mel@tekzone.co.nz)

**09-4887725**  
**021-838964**

