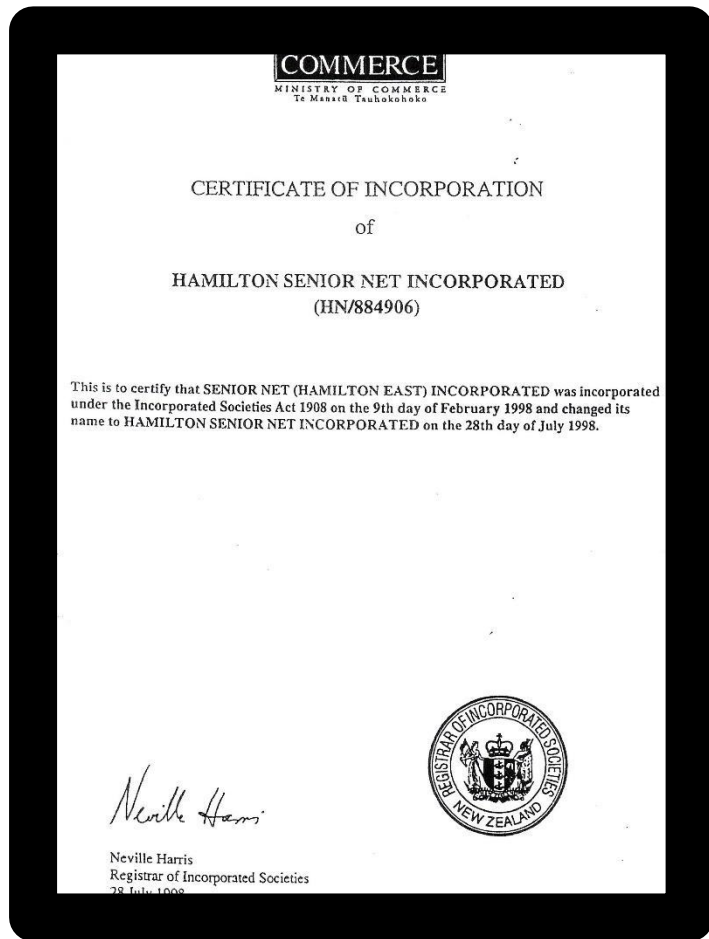


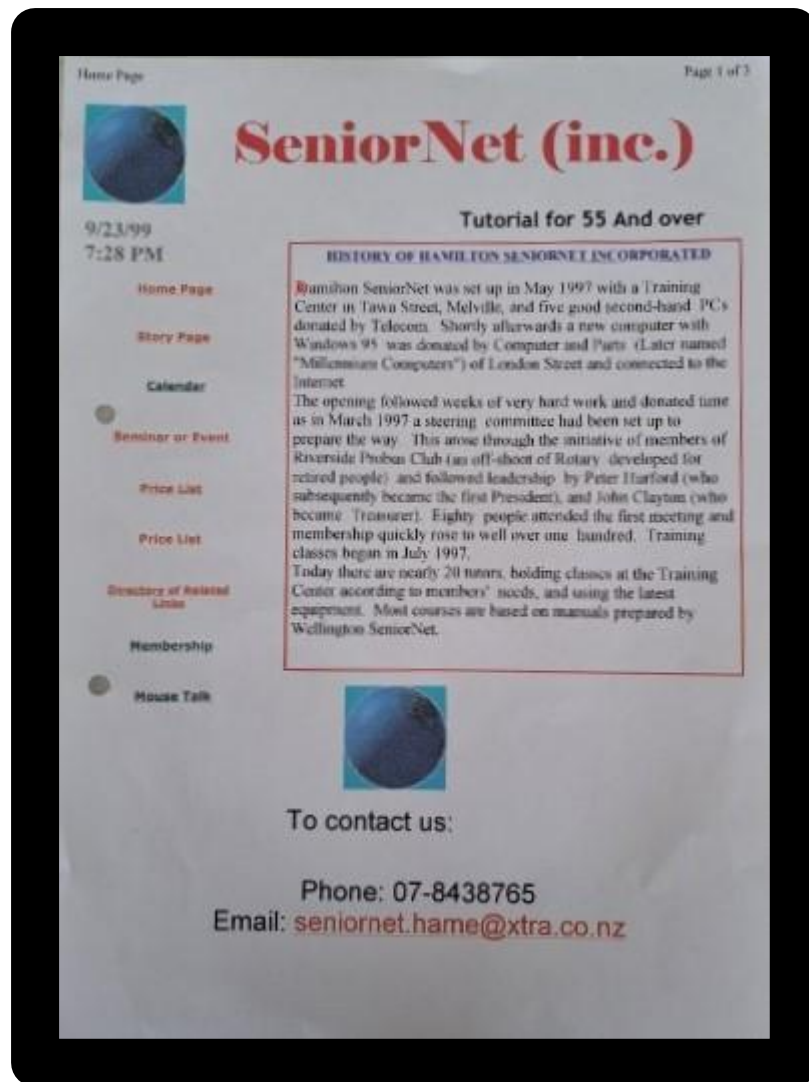
## HOW SENIORNET STARTED

**The idea of creating centres or clubs where seniors could learn computer skills was born out of a study in “Communicating with the Elderly” by Dr Mary Furlong at the University of San Francisco in 1986.**



**Telecom introduced the idea to New Zealand, opening the first club in 1992. The Hamilton SeniorNet was started on 1st July 1997 and was originally called Senior Net (Hamilton East) Incorporated. The name was changed on 28 July 1998.**

**The first President was Peter Hurford. At the 1999 AGM Ron Ammundsen was elected as the new President.**



**First learning centre was at Hawkins Construction Ltd in Tawa Street in empty prefabs which were let to SeniorNet.**

**Courses. At first teaching manuals were obtained from Wellington SeniorNet. For each course there was an 8-week series of lessons so every member who joined had to commit to 8 weeks of attendance at classes!**

**The courses were: Word Processing (3 levels), Internet (which included Email), Desktop Publishing, Database, and Spreadsheets.**

**After a few years it was realised that people didn't like 8-week courses and we started producing our own manuals with 4 or fewer lessons.**

**Internet and Email became separate courses.**

**Photography attracted a lot of interest, with courses such as Photo Editing.**

**PowerPoint was another course of interest to members.**

**Most members started with Welcome to Computing, a 2-lesson course on the basics. Most of our first manuals were written by Ken Holmes, Neal Utting or Patricia Spray.**

**Communication. For many years a monthly newspaper called "Mouse Talk" was produced by editor Wallie Newport. There was also for a short time a monthly "Compuchat" with articles on aspects of computing. These would be posted out to members.**

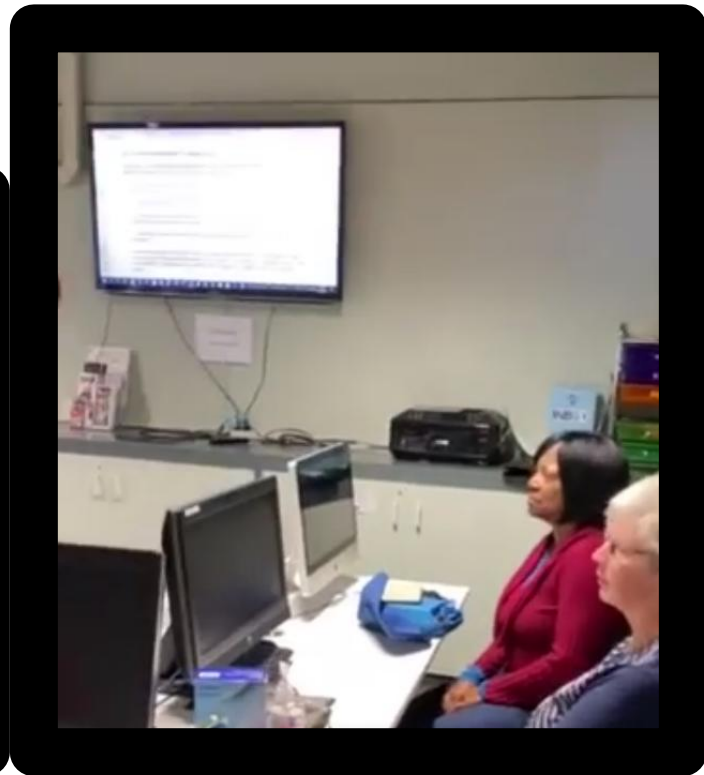
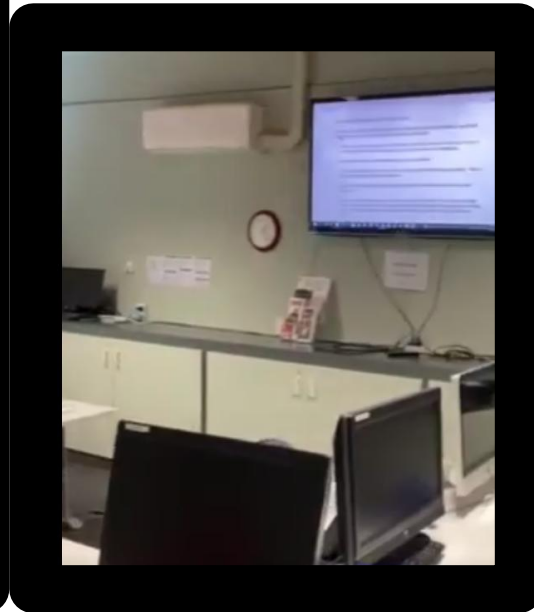
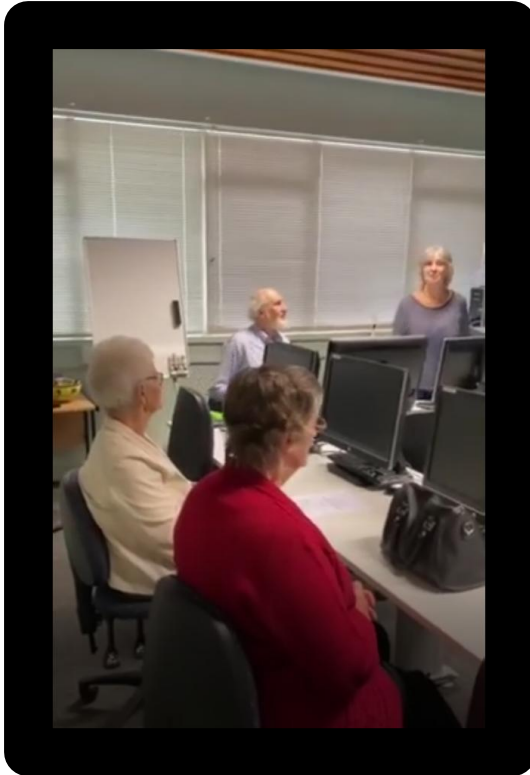
## **Hamilton SeniorNet moves to Celebrating Age Centre in Victoria Street South**



**Hamilton SeniorNet relocated to the Celebrating Age Centre and all the computers were moved there in about 1999. We already used the Celebrating Age Centre for Annual General Meetings.**

**Arthur Beale was the next president then Trevor Rawlings in 2003 followed by Pat Van der Maas in 2007.**

**Classes were held Monday to Friday in a room rented by Hamilton SeniorNet.**



**About 10 years ago the classroom was set up with new desks and computers operating on Windows 10 and Windows 7.**

**A change from a projector onto a white screen to a TV which was installed on the wall in the front of the classroom for the tutor to cast their computer screen to help the students during their lesson.**

**The printer room was moved from a small room at the bottom floor outside the lift to a room in the main foyer on the street level close to the classroom about the same time the classroom was refurbished.**

## Certificate of Registration

**Hamilton SeniorNet Incorporated**

Registration number: CC22768

This is to certify that Hamilton SeniorNet Incorporated was registered as a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005 on 10 April 2008.

Chair  
Charities Commission

Chief Executive  
Charities Commission

## Certificate of Affiliation For SeniorNet Hamilton Inc. 2013

This is to certify that SeniorNet Hamilton Inc.  
is affiliated to the national body of:  
The Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Inc.

The Federation of New Zealand SeniorNet Societies Inc. is a registered charitable organisation. It is a community training network that supports and motivates people aged 50+ to enjoy and use technology in their everyday lives.

Signed:

Grant Sidaway  
Executive Officer

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013

# **COVID-19 Lockdown**

## **23 March 2020**

**At 1:30pm the Prime Minister announced New Zealand was to move to Alert Level 3, effective immediately. In 48 hours, New Zealand was to move to Alert Level 4.**

## **25 March 2020**

**At 11:59pm, New Zealand moved to Alert Level 4, and the entire nation went into self-isolation. A State of National Emergency was declared at 12:21pm.**

**The COVID lockdown changed the way Hamilton SeniorNet operated.**

**Members were encouraged to learn how to use Zoom and join in on Help Sessions and Workshops.**

**Online help by Zoom and the phone was offered by our dedicated tutors over lockdown.**

**Also help was available for shopping online especially for groceries as the government encouraged over 70-year-olds to stay at home.**



**We continued with monthly Committee meetings using Zoom.**

**There were few classes in the classroom over 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19.**

**Our members could join in online on ‘seniorhangouts’, our popular online meeting place for seniors. Video chatting apps grew in popularity during lockdown.**

**Email became the way we communicated with our members as NZ Post closed its Post Shops and there was a move away from post. COVID had a lot to do with the changes. With more people shopping online the courier business accelerated.**

## **Move from Celebrating Age Centre to Chartwell Cooperating Church in Chartwell.**

**In January 2022 Hamilton SeniorNet was on its third move. The Celebrating Age Centre's roof needed repairs. The building was closed as it was unsafe.**

**Our Learning Centre moved to Chartwell Cooperating Church (St Albans) Lounge Room, 126 Comries Road, Chartwell.**

**Margie Hamilton was elected Chairperson in April 2022.**

**Classes are held every Tuesday from February to November.**

**Sessions have changed to one-hour, small classes or one to one.**

**Quite a change. You now see a number of tutors all in the same time slot with one or more members all tutoring at the same time. Members now prefer to bring their own devices to classes where they get help from our dedicated tutors.**

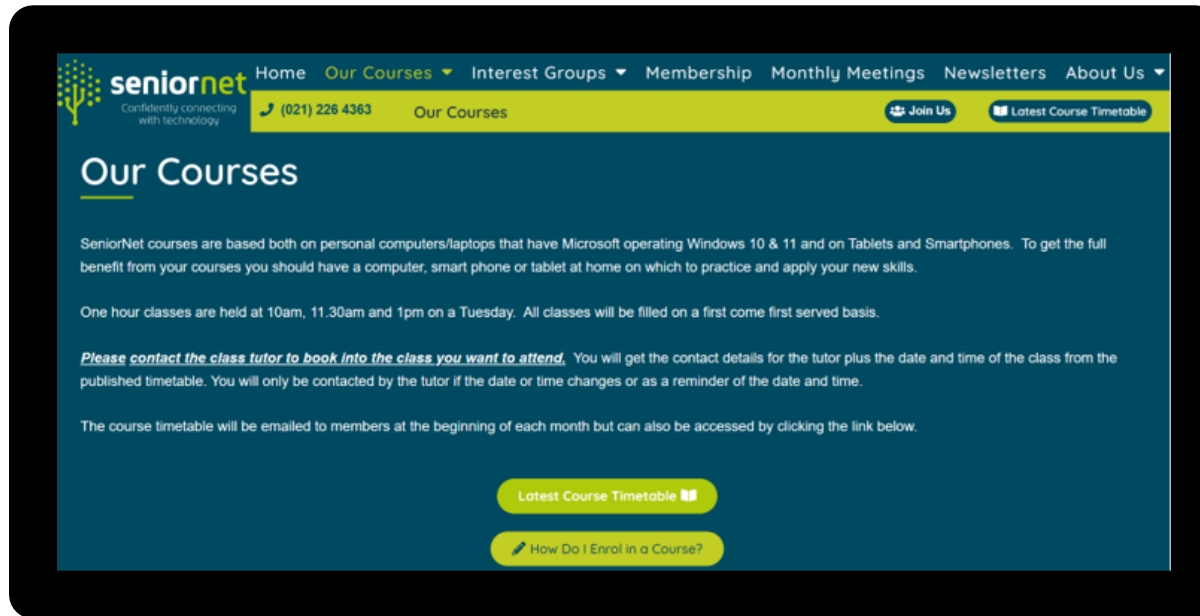
**Early 2022 again COVID interrupted classes and Zoom contact was again used.**

## **Change in Banking**



**Cheques were discontinued in June 2021 and people were using less cash. Seniors have had to learn a new skill as we moved to mainly online payments and paywave. Westpac Chartwell staff have been extremely helpful in coaching our members to gain confidence to use their online banking. Members are encouraged to make payments using online banking for membership and class fees as we move away from handling cash.**

**We have a modern website. A go-to place for information.**



**Getting all our members to use Zoom to meet and learn,  
is like it was getting members to use email 20 years ago.**

**It will happen!**



**Technology is continually changing.  
Hamilton SeniorNet tutors and committee  
keep upskilling their knowledge base.**



**SeniorNet is a great place to learn and keep up with the ever-changing technology.**

## Our Life Members

**These members over years showed dedication to Hamilton SeniorNet. We thank you!**

**Helen Perham**

**Pat Van der Maas**

**Gaye Wicks**

**Paddy Ammundsen**

**Ken Holmes (deceased)**

**June Scott**

**Waikato Times October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2002**



**Helen Perham receiving  
her Life Membership  
Certificate from  
president  
Trevor Rawlings**