



Happy Birthday to us!

You may not have been aware of it but on 22 November the People's Network celebrated its 3rd birthday. It was on this date three years ago that Keiran installed the first APNK PCs in a partner library.

Kawerau Library went from having a single computer for accessing the internet to five (with 4 APNK machines) and they haven't looked back since, and neither have we!

Since then Kawerau library has had a wireless hotspot installed and has a Kete that is slowly filling with local stories.

Thanks to all our supporters, frontline staff, and customers. We're looking forward to many more birthdays!



Above— Kawerau staff with their with new APN PCs in 2007

Right top—Glen blows out the candles on our 'birthday' cake while Joan looks on

Bottom right—Keiran cuts the cake

Dealing to Databases

Members of the APNK team have been hard at work making some changes to how subscription databases, like those in the EPIC suite and others, authenticate from APNK machines and wifi.

Customers should not notice any change in their ability to access these resources via the APNK service but the behind-the-scenes work that has been done will make a difference on an administrative front.

Since the switchover to the new system, libraries now have the ability to get accurate statistics on use of these databases directly from the database vendor. Prior to this change vendors saw all APNK traffic to databases as coming from the same place regardless of which library network the customer was using. From now on users accessing databases from APNK PCs or wifi will be identifiable and will therefore be added into the statistics that vendors collate and distribute.

That means not having to check APNK *and* database vendor stats. Now all that information will be with the vendor. Yay!

Special thanks go out to Hurunui, Waimakariri and Selwyn for being our Guinea pigs all those months ago and helping to prove that the new solution could work. Cheers!

More wifi for Selwyn

Lincoln, Leeston and Darfield of Selwyn District Libraries all gained an APNK wireless hotspot last month.

They join Rolleston Library in having this service.

Welcome to wifi, guys!

Top to bottom—Darfield, Leeston and Lincoln Libraries



NCEA Results available online

This year marks the first time that NCEA results will be accessible to learners online before hard copy results notifications are made available.

This means that come January, students without internet access at home may choose to check their results at an APNK PC. The People's Network is being promoted as a free option for accessing this information.



Community of Practice

If you work in a People's Network partner institution and would like to join this forum for sharing ideas, successes, questions, tips and news then please send an email to peoples.network@natlib.govt.nz with the subject line: 'Join CoP'.

Kete collects earthquake memories

Our friends at Christchurch City Libraries have [joined forces with local radio station Plains FM](#) to capture earthquake stories from local residents and these will eventually be populating their Kete.

Plains FM has a portable POD which can be used to make digital audio and video recordings and this will be stationed at various libraries in the network allowing people to tell their earthquake tales.

APNK team members have also been adding content to their local Kete with photos of damaged buildings in the area and even video of the Indian restaurant around the corner from APNK HQ being demolished.

Check out the Canterbury earthquake baskets on [Kete Christchurch](#) as well as [Kete Waimakariri](#).

Kaiapoi Library Re-opens!

You can't keep a good library down and nowhere is that truer than in Kaiapoi, a town that suffered significant damage during the Canterbury earthquake.

Thanks to the generosity of Tararua District Libraries staff, the new temporary set up at Kaiapoi has an APNK PC and printer, in a building that used to be a swimming pool changing block!

Here's hoping things go swimmingly from now on!



Above— The new temporary library at Kaiapoi, complete with ladder.

learn@APNK Wave 2

A second batch of brave learners are currently working their way through our e-learning programme and are picking up all sorts of useful skills in the process. In addition to learning for learning's sake, there's also a carrot in the form of a lovely new iPod Nano and a second mystery prize on offer to those who complete the programme in good time.

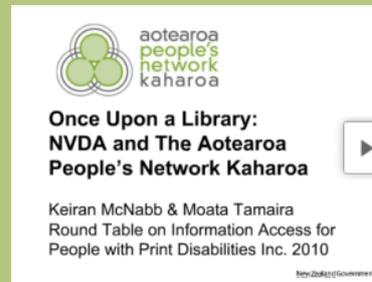
Nic Smith from Kaikohe Library, Far North District was the lucky winner of a Navman GPS unit in Wave 1.



NVDA presentation available online

NVDA (Non-Visual Desktop Access) is a handy piece of software that allows visually impaired people to use computers. Earlier this year Keiran and Moata gave a presentation on how this software came to be included on APNK PCs and this is now available online. Those interested can read the conference paper, watch the slideshow, listen to a sound recording, or all three!

<http://roundtable2010.wordpress.com/conference-proceedings/8a-aotearoa-peoples-network-kaharoa/>



Who will be the lucky winner of an iPod Nano or other prize, in this wave? We'll be sure to let you know when the APNK newsletter returns in February 2012. Until then a merry and safe Christmas to everyone—ngā mihi o te wā.

Winner of this month's free APNK t-shirt is...

Linda Hayfield from Thames. Congratulations!

For your chance to be in to win one these stylish and highly desirable fashion items, login to the [Community of Practice](#) (if you work at an APNK partner library, just drop us an email and we'll sign you up if you're not a member already), post a comment, join a discussion (or start one) and you'll go in the monthly draw.



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Older editions of this newsletter are available at <http://www.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.org>