



## From The Manager's Desk

*An update from APNK Manager Chris McClement*

This month we say goodbye to Mark Lawrence who has decided to pursue his career - and other interests - beyond APNK.

I first met Mark at his house in Riccarton, a month after the February 22nd earthquake. The APNK team had been holding their weekly meetings at his house since the earthquake event, as they had no building to go to.

To me, this exemplifies the kind of person that Mark is: there was a need, he had the means to meet it, and he got on with doing just that. Time and time again Mark has shone with "getting on with what needs to be done" and the success of everything he puts his hand to speaks for itself.

Mark made the point at his farewell speech that he feels privileged to be part of such a great team, and emphasised that we all had had a part to play in the success of APNK today.

So although it is sad to say goodbye I feel exhorted to keep up the good work into the future.

Speaking of the future, the team has kicked off a number of exciting projects over the past month, not least of which is the PC replacement programme.

If your equipment has reached four years of age we have a schedule to start replacing it.

Look out for shiny new PCs and widescreen monitors coming your way soon - the team will be contacting affected libraries in due course to make arrangements to get the refresh done.

## Recent customer feedback

"I have been able to work on an article that now looks to be well over 10,000 words long at the ICC library facilities in Invercargill and the SDC one at Otautau and it has been a real boon."

*Andy, Southland, 10 February 2012*

"Thank you so much for free internet service. Staffs are very friendly and the atmosphere is just awesome. "

*Prashanta, 9 February 2012*

"Thanks for the wifi and comfy seat whilst waiting for my daughter at her art class.

*Adrienne, 27 February 2012*

## Farewell to Mark

It's with no small measure of regret that we bid a fond farewell this month to APNK's Technical Architect, Mark Lawrence. Mark has been an instrumental part of the People's Network since the beginning, designing the infrastructure that allows the network to run so smoothly.

As some of you will remember Mark stood in as interim Manager for APNK in 2010 and more recently he was seconded to work on Kōtui.

Mark's last day of work with APNK is Friday 2 March. Having finally settled with his insurance company, his next project is finding a replacement house for his earthquake-damaged red-zoned property. And he'll also be taking time to enjoy his new hobby...beekeeping.

We've no doubt that wherever his travels may take him, that even as a "civilian" he'll still proudly wave the flag for APNK and we will miss his professional, "can do" attitude and sly sense of humour.

Haere ra, Mark and all the best for the future. We'll do our best to make sure that wherever you go in New Zealand that you'll be able to find free Wi-Fi.

Pictures of Mark's farewell morning tea (and a rather spectacular cake) can be found on our Flickr:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/apnk/tags/marksfarewell/>



*Above—Mark Lawrence, leaving APNK in March*

## Happy Birthday, Waikato District

This month marks the third anniversary of the People's Network service starting in Waikato District Libraries: Huntly, Meremere, Ngaruawāhia, Raglan and Te Kauwhata. Happy third birthday, Waikato!

## Kōtui Libraries 'Go Live' in March

March is looking like being a busy month for Kōtui with three more regions joining the shared library network.

This month Waimakariri District, Wanganui District and Palmerston North City libraries all 'go live' with Kōtui.

For more information on the shared library network visit the Kōtui website <http://www.kotui.org.nz/>

# Kōtui



## Kaitaia Library moves

Last month, new recruit Greg got to flex his muscles when he helped Kaitaia Library staff relocate their APNK equipment to their brand new premises.

Kaitaia Library is now housed in the Te Ahu Centre along with a movie theatre, tourist information and cafe. Museum exhibition space will also be included in this community facility.

This was a good training opportunity for Greg to learn the ropes in a library environment...and as we understand the morning tea spread was also a highlight.

*Right—People's Network equipment in place at Kaitaia's new Te Ahu Centre, Far North District.*

<http://www.teahu.org.nz/>



*Above—Greg prior to packing up at the "old" Kaitaia Library*



## Now and Then—Earthquake Anniversary

APNK operates from Christchurch and the last year has been a turbulent one for the team and the region. Along with National Library and Department of Internal Affairs colleagues APNK team members stood outside our offices at 12:51pm on 22 February and observed two minutes of silence, each reflecting upon the year's losses and victories. Many thanks to library staff who've offered support in the last year. It's very much appreciated. Web Content Editor Moata, went one step further later that day and recreated a photo Keiran took of her outside our old offices not long after the earthquakes, giving a glimpse of the now and the then.



22 February 2011

22 February 2012

## What's in a name?

Our Cavendish Business Park HQ includes two small meeting rooms which have been used for interviews, brainstorming and as quiet work space. For several months these remained nameless but after canvassing our Twitter friends (favourite suggestions—"Bill and Eric" and "Flash drive and Gigabyte") and discussing it amongst the team we decided on names with an APNK connection.

And so it came to pass that our meeting rooms are named Sutherland (after former National Digital Library Director Sue Sutherland) and Truesdale (after John Truesdale, former APNK manager and "Father of the People's Network").

Without the work and commitment of both of these people we doubt that the People's Network would exist.

ps. John and Sue, this is your Christmas present.



*Left—The recently named "Sutherland" and "Truesdale" meeting rooms.*

## Tackling Tech-speak #6: Ports

Not just a place where ships go or a fortified wine, ports come into play with a tool many people use every day, namely email.

Ever have someone complain that they can receive email on the APNK Wi-Fi but not send it? This is because sending and receiving email happens on different ports.

Many email providers use port 25 for outgoing messages but this is an unsecured port which means it can also be used by spammers to send bulk unsolicited emails. For this reason port 25 is blocked on the People's Network.

One alternative is to use the web version of the email application (Web Outlook for instance) or to use a webmail account like Gmail, Hotmail or Yahoo mail instead.

However it is possible to use an alternate, secured port for outgoing mail, port 587, and we have instructions on our FAQ that allow users to make changes that may allow them to send email this way. See:

<http://www.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.info/faq/wifi-smtp>

Caveat: Whether or not use of port 587 is supported depends on the ISP that administers the email account.

Users may need to check with their ISP in order to determine if this is the case.

**Contact us: [peoples.network@dia.govt.nz](mailto:peoples.network@dia.govt.nz)**

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