October 2011

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people's
network
kaharoa

Bringing IT to the people

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From The Manager's Desk

An update from APNK Manager Chris McClement

I was away for most of the month of September, either on study leave (in China, no less!) or attending to family matters in South Africa. Imagine my dismay upon returning to find out that things had not, in fact, fallen apart without me! *Au contraire*, the People's Network continued to connect Kiwis and visitors alike to their digital heritage online - a heritage which has been broadened and enriched by the presence of burly men chasing the glorious oval at The Event Which May Not Be Named, many of whom have enjoyed the free Wi-Fi and Internet access in our partner libraries (see story over page).

Of course, it has been far from "business as usual", even without yours truly around to cheer on the legends (the APNK team, not the burly men). This month our ISP, Snap, let us test just how much Internet bandwidth we'd use if we could (about double what we do under "normal" circumstances). It turns out APNK customers love using the Internet and would love to have more of it available to them.

The biggest story of the month, however, is Kōtui's "go live" at Marlborough District Libraries. It was a pleasure to visit Blenheim, the library, and Glenn Webster and all his staff to celebrate a very success launch of Kōtui.

Above—Kōtui managers meet in Blenheim.

Glenn said that he was pleased to be the first - what he didn't know was that it was actually TWO firsts, as this was also my first visit to a People's Network library in my "official" capacity as Manager. All in all a memorable occasion for everyone involved, and an augury of things to come!

Recent Customer Feedback

Just want to thank the organisation who set up this free wifi in the library at Otorohanga. It's a beautiful environment and the connection is really fast, unlike other 'free' wifi services. Thanks heaps.
Helen, Otorohanga, 4 October 2011

LIANZA Conference 2011

It's almost LIANZA Conference time again and this year APNK's manager, Chris McClement will be attending for the first time. Chris is keen to meet and chat to any and all APNK partner library staff while he's at the conference so if you're attending too make sure to introduce yourself. Those interested in finding out more about Kōtui should stop By the National Library stand in the Exhibition area.

LIANZA Conference 2011
Passion, People and Power
Te Ihi, Te Wehi, Te Wana
30 OCTOBER - 2 NOVEMBER, WELLINGTON

Happy APNK Birthday to...

...Marlborough libraries Blenheim and Picton, and the libraries of Tasman District—Motueka, Richmond, Takaka and Murchison, who all reach the three year milestone during October.

Above—Picton Library, Marlborough District has had free APNK Internet on site since October 2008.

Above—Richmond Library, Tasman District.

Free Computer Training at Nelson

We love hearing about how libraries are making the most of the People's Network service and using it to upskill their communities, so when we heard about the free computing classes that Nelson Public Libraries offer we wanted to learn more.

We spoke to Michelle Bryant, Information Services Librarian about the classes and this forms the basis of the latest library case study on our website. Read it online here -

http://www.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.org/case-studies/nelson-computer-training-keep-up-with-kids

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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@dia.govt.nz with the subject line: 'Join CoP'.

Kōtui go live in Marlborough

On 29 September Kōtui, a shared library system, went live at Marlborough District Libraries.

Marlborough is the first of 15 library networks set to implement Kōtui over the next 2 years, with Taupo coming on line as this newsletter goes to print.

The word "kōtui" in Māori means to interlace or interweave. Kōtui comprises four components: a system to manage a library's physical items (provided by SirsiDynix), a search facility across a library's physical and electronic items (provided by EBSCO Publishing's EBSCO Electronic Discovery Service), and a centralised data hosting service (provided by Computer Concepts Ltd) The National Library provides the fourth component, the New Zealand based support and administrative function for the Kōtui service and this will be delivered via APNK.

The concept and delivery of the Kōtui shared service is the result of collaboration between a group of public libraries, the Association of Public Library Managers (APLM), Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) and the National Library.

Student undertaking Kete research

Kete admins should be aware that the following piece of research is being undertaken by VUW student, Linda Rosvall. A survey will be distributed to those involved with Kete in mid-October.

Research Title:
An exploratory investigation into the socio-cultural and archival value of Kete, a professionally mediated, collaborative, participatory and localised, approach to publishing personal and community archives online.

Research objectives:
The objective of this research is to discover and interpret how the everyday sense making of Kete Support Personnel shapes the Kete experience, focusing on the collaborative-ness of Kete, the digital affordances and cultures in Kete, and the future potential and commitment to Kete.

Research Method:
Online survey questionnaire. Survey link to be emailed to Kete Administrators and other identifiable Kete Support Staff mid October 2011.

Researcher:
Research will be undertaken by Linda Rosvall in part fulfilment of a Master of Information Studies (MIS), at Victoria University of Wellington. linda.rosvall@gmail.com

Rugby fans and players alike love APNK

HB Williams Memorial Library in Gisborne has been the place to be of late.
Not only have local rugby fans and APNK users have added colour to proceedings in full facepainted glory, but even visiting rugby internationals in the form of players in the Namibian team have been making use of the free APNK Internet at the library. For more on this store read our blog - http://www.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.org/content/rugby-brings-world-library

Above—Young Tongan fans love their rugby team and free library Internet.

Digital Audio recorders available

Does your library have an APNK-hosted Kete? Did you know that APNK has easy-to-use digital audio recorders and microphones available for long-term loan in order to capture interviews, reminiscences, or stories to add to your Kete?
The recorders are small and easy to use and they come with instructions, a microphone, batteries and a courier ticket so you can send it back.
If you'd like to borrow one of these then email us at peoples.network@dia.govt.nz

Right—Digital audio recorders are available for loan to libraries with Kete.

Tackling Tech-speak #2: "WAP"

"WAP" stands for "Wireless Access Point" and if your library has Wi-Fi then it also has a wap.
This rectangular device with an aerial sends out a signal that laptops, smart-phones and other mobile devices can detect and use to connect to the Internet. Often it will be placed high up as the best "reception" is when you have "line of sight" between the wap and the Wi-Fi enabled device.

Above– Waikouaiti's "wap in a window"

The wap "broadcasts" an SSID (Service Set Identifier), which in APNK sites is the name of the library, that lets people know who owns the Wi-Fi they're about to connect to.