

Internet in New Zealand T

(Newman, K., 2010)

1878

From NetHistory

1840: S.E Grimshaw became the first Postmaster of New Zealand postal receipts.

1858: The Local Posts Act opened the way for the appointment of Provincial Councils to establish post office services which were to be provided by the local authorities. Ultimately the New Zealand Post Office would take control along with telegraph and telex services, the telephone network for national and international calls and radio services including contact with ships. only poker (<http://www.poker-rooms-review.org/about/only-poker-review>)

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1862: First electric telegraph line linking Christchurch and Lyttleton is the catalyst for a series of constructions involving private and military telegraph lines between Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin. Kiwis can now keep in touch using Morse code. One of the first messages sent was to Mr Oakes in Christchurch and read: "Mr Oakes is coming round in schooner Colleen Baun with goods. Dog Pedro poisoned and is dead." A second network was quickly established between Port Chalmers and Dunedin.

1863: The Postmaster-General devoted a page of his annual report to the telegraph saying he wanted to see a colony-wide telegraphic network including a Cook Strait cable. There were nine independent telegraph networks covering much of the South Island. The Government established the Electric Telegraph Department, immediately placing the growing number of independent telegraph networks under centralised control.

1865: A second attempt at laying a cable across the rugged seabed of Cook Strait in August proves successful, and communications between the Islands is possible from the 26th of that month. A telegraph office is established in Picton; the following year Blenheim and Nelson followed suit.

1872: The Wellington-Auckland line is completed, around 400,000 messages a year are being carried over the telegraphing network

1876: The first undersea cable from Botany Bay in Sydney, to Cable Bay near Nelson came ashore in February 1876. Once connected to the terminal house at Nelson on 21 February, direct communication with Australia was possible and on to Asia, Europe and Britain. The New Zealand Telegraph Department employs and trains the first telecommunications operators who use Morse keys to send and decode messages.

1877-1880: On Saturday, February 2, 1878 a Dunedin electrician Charles A. Henry organised the first 'talking telegraph' test after manufacturing a telephone instrument based on what he had read in the October 6, 1877, edition of the Scientific American magazine. According to the Otago Daily Times a 'telephone instrument and wire' was attached to the existing telegraph wire at the Dunedin Telegraph office and another at the Tokomairiri (Milton) office - a distance of 57km. The newspaper described it as 'simply marvelous'. It wrote 'A large number of questions were asked and each was replied to instantaneously by the person in Milton... Not only could the words spoken at either end be clearly heard, but the difference in tone of voice was easily distinguished'.

On April 5, 1878, a telephone conversation took place between Blenheim and Nelson, when the officer in-charge of the Blenheim Telegraph Office, William Stafford Furby, who had manufactured a pair of telephones, spoke from his private residence in Blenheim, to a telegraph operator at the Nelson Telegraph Office on No 1 wire.

3rd

Main Page

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Connecting the Clouds - the Internet in New Zealand

'Connecting the Clouds - The Internet in New Zealand' is a history of the people, activities and events that contributed to the creation, then growth, of the Internet in New Zealand.

Written by author **Keith Newman**, the book was commissioned by InternetNZ (the Internet Society of New Zealand Inc) and published by Activity Press. It is reproduced in full on this Wiki. You are invited to contribute to the Wiki, helping to refine and keep the book up-to-date over time.

Note: Physical copies of the book are available to purchase (<http://www.nzbooksabroad.com/shopdetail.php?a=9780958263443>) and there is a video recording (<http://www.r2.co.nz/20080821a/>) of the book launch.

Chapter List

Preface

Chapter 1 - The Tyranny of Distance

Chapter 2 - Battling with Big Iron

Chapter 3 - No.8 Wire Networks

Chapter 4 - Nuclear Free Reforms

Chapter 5 - Selling the Family Jewels

Chapter 6 - Craving for Connection

Chapter 7 - Craving for Connection II

Chapter 8 - The Rhythm Method

Chapter 9 - Local Loop Languishing

Chapter 10 - Diminished Capacity

Chapter 11 - Deluge in a Paper Cup

Chapter 12 - E-government Lumbers Online

Chapter 13 - Clicks and Mortar

Chapter 14 - Battle of the Names

Chapter 15 - The Proxy Revolution

Chapter 16 - Cyberspace Junk

Chapter 17 - Bitstream Boundaries

Chapter 18 - Download Culture

Chapter 19 - Mobile Momentum

Chapter 20 - Digital Refresh Required

Chapter 21 - Broadband Breakthrough

Chapter 22 - In the Recovery Room

Chapter 23 - IP Channel Surfing

Chapter 24 - Leaping the Loop

Chapter 25 - Next Step Internet

Chapter 26 - 20/20 Visionaries

Footnotes

Internet in New Zealand Timeline - History - Windows Internet Explorer

Customers are allowed to view the X-rated channel with Vodafone claiming it would donate the income. New costs to charity. Manukau State-owned Kordia was testing a digital broadcasting technology called DVB-H which would enable mobile phones to act as fully functioning mini-TV sets to pick up free-to-air TV channels.

Kordia also borrowed an extra \$18 million in late 2007 to help finance its bid to take on Telecom and Vodafone and become a major telecommunications provider. It had agreed to pump a "substantial" amount of fresh capital into Otago, so that it could take advantage of local loop unbundling and install Internet access equipment in every Telecom exchange it could access. The September Connecting to Our Digital Future report, warned that broadband roll out needed to be accelerated otherwise New Zealand would increasingly struggle to trade in infrastructure-based markets. It said plans to make the one-loop quarter of the OECD broadband numbers by the extended deadline of 2015 needed to be ramped up considerably.

NZCO which commissioned the report, said international trends showed that within seven years, technology, research, film, medical and financial services industries would require public data speeds of 100Mb/sec with gigabit speeds following closely behind. The report's major report on the state of our ICT infrastructure was delivered by the New Zealand Institute in its briefing to the Auckland Association which claimed economic benefits to the country through pervasive higher speed broadband could range between \$2.7 billion to \$4.4 billion a year. It said that by 2012 most homes would demand more downstream bandwidth than ADSL or ADSL2+ would be able to provide. Within a decade it was likely speeds of 50-100Mb/sec would be demanded in many parts of the market.

Originally Telecom claimed there was a billion dollar shortfall in what it planned to spend and what was needed to achieve the Government's Digital Strategy goal of 50Mb/sec speed to 90 percent of New Zealanders by 2010. Chief executive Paul Reynolds announced a "revised" \$1.4 billion plan to accelerate the next phase of the NZCO budget following speeds of up to 20Mb/sec to all towns with 500 or more phone lines over the next four years. (This plan originally announced as early as 2004 and then again in July and in October 2007) now formed part of a legally binding commitment to the Government as part of the operational separation process. Telecom faced fines of tens of millions of dollars if it reneged on its commitment to deliver 100Mb/sec speed to 90 percent of New Zealanders 200Mb/sec to 50 percent of the population by 2010.

In Telecom's own statement only 75 percent of customer lines were capable of speeds of more than 6Mb/sec and it was doubtful you could get more than 6Mb/sec over 65 percent of them. While it claimed 93 percent of New Zealanders could get broadband, the average speed for the 30 percent who had taken up the service by September 2007 was 2Mb/sec to 3Mb/sec. Obviously the journey to 20Mb/sec was going to be a long one and only complicated by the dire shortage of contract labour, already been cited as one of the reasons even existing broadband goals were unlikely to be met.

A living document to be updated at my leisure. Feedback welcomed (Keith Heaman xheaman@spordox.co.nz)

References: Connecting the Clouds - Internet in New Zealand, Keith Heaman (Activity Press, August 2008) Commissioned by InternetNZ. See also: (www.nethistory.co.nz) NZCOG Internet history web page, research co-ordinated by Joe Abley (http://www.nethistory.co.nz/newzealand/InternetHistory/). Telecommunications history web page by Keith Heaman (www.spordox.co.nz since 1998) Telecom annual reports and web page Telecom Clear Web page Wire and Wireless 1998-1999, A.C. Wilson, Dunmore press, 1994, 1992-1993 Telecommunications - a decade of success (Telecom pamphlet 1999) Brandon 1999: Colin Beaton, Computer Culture: the information revolution in New Zealand (published by Reed Methuen, isbn 0 474 00047 8) Hine John H. Research Networks in New Zealand 1997. Internet Society of New Zealand InternetNZ web page (http://www.internetnz.net.nz/) Unlimited magazine, Telecom's New Agency, Russell Brown, December, 1999. Network World, 125 Years of Telecommunications, March/April August 1998, Pacific Way: Speaking your language feature on telecommunications, August 1994, Wired magazine, October, Bob Johnstone. Data7 Telecommunications and Superhighways in New Zealand 1999, 2001, Paul Byrden Communication Gleanings from articles written and researched by Keith Heaman over 20 years of writing about ICT plus clippings from New Zealand Herald, PC Magazine Computers & Communications Review, The Line, MS, CO and a number of magazines.

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Internet in New Zealand Timeline - History - Windows Internet Explorer