# Hector Protector takes on the world

NetSafe progeny Hector's World is growing quickly, setting the pace globally with its thought leadership on the use of ICT by young children, aged 2 to 9 years.

Hector Protector and his friends are now widely used in UK schools as the key Government-endorsed online safety resource for 5 - 7 year olds, and will soon have equal prominence in Australia. Hector's World (HW) is being launched by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) for use in all Australian schools.

The learning objectives for HW have recently been redefined to offer a more holistic foundation for children as they begin their life online. Under the broad heading of digital citizenship, HW education will now include components of digital literacy, cybersafety and security, information literacy, and media literacy.

Managing Director Liz Butterfield explains, "The goal of this education is to start building the confidence and skills of children from their first use of ICT, to help them mature into caring and confident digital citizens."

The new expansion of www.hectorsworld.com is almost complete and was made possible by funding from InternetNZ. The website is being split into the Flash 'world' where Hector and his friends live, and the HTML section for parents and teachers.

Venues in this animated world, such as the Games Arcade, the Town Hall and the Music Club, will offer exciting ways to introduce young children to a wide variety of digital citizenship content.

The beta site works equally well in a school computer suite or a classroom setting with an interactive whiteboard. New HW resources on cyberbullying are also in production, including a four minute interactive episode and a music video, which will be added to the site.

Another face of this initiative is as a social entrepreneurship venture. Hector's World Ltd. (HWL) is a New Zealand charity that is developing business opportunities to help self-fund the education it offers free online.

## Making Contact

**Richard Currey**
Acting CEO
richard.currey@internetnz.net.nz

**Keith Davidson**
Executive Director
keith@internetnz.net.nz

**Jordan Carter**
Deputy Executive Director
jordan@internetnz.net.nz

**Richard Wood**
Senior Comms and Research Officer
richard@internetnz.net.nz

**Campbell Gardiner**
Comms and Research Officer
campbell@internetnz.net.nz

**Susi Fookes**
Shared Services Unit Manager
susi@internetnz.net.nz

**Office / Membership Enquiries**
L10, 5-7 Willeston St, Wellington
office@internetnz.net.nz
(04) 472 1600
www.internetnz.net.nz

# Nominations open in InternetNZ elections

Nominations have opened for President, Vice-President and four Councillor positions in the 2009 InternetNZ Council Elections.

The President and Vice-President, and the two highest polling candidates for Council, will be elected for a three-year term (until the 2012 AGM).

The next two highest polling candidates for Council will be elected for a one-year term (until the 2010 AGM).

Nominations for all positions should be emailed to the Returning Officer (election@internetnz.net.nz) and must be made no later than 23:59, Thursday 9 July 2009.

The Returning Officer is happy to supply a neutral nomination to any member wishing to stand for office. If such nomination is required, please contact the Returning Officer via email.

www.internetnz.net.nz/about/council/2008-2009/2009-election

There is not a lot of precedent in New Zealand for charities running their own commercial ventures to create the revenue needed for their social programmes. Such social innovation is more common in countries like the UK.

InternetNZ provided crucial funding for development of Hector's World's comprehensive three-year business plan, and new funding from the Tindall Foundation is supporting the implementation of the plan.

Early support of HWL from parent organisation NetSafe, partners like the Ministry of Education, New Zealand Police and the Icehouse, and funders like the Community Partnership Fund have allowed HWL to reach this new threshold as a social venture.

"We are in uncharted waters now as a charitable enterprise, but with a lot of hard work, planning and expert advice we will achieve our objectives and maybe even encourage others to consider this route."

As Hector's World is used in increasing numbers of primary schools and early childhood centres here in New Zealand and overseas, this Kiwi charity is making its mark.

*Article contributed by Liz Butterfield, Managing Director, Hector's World Ltd (also an InternetNZ Councillor).*

---

## Some workstream highlights

**Broadband:** Despite alternative proposals to the Government's plan, the ball remains firmly in the Government's court. InternetNZ is focused on testing the Government's assumptions and making sure the final structure of the $1.5 billion investment can deliver FTTH in as many places as possible.

**Copyright:** The Government has set up a working party of IP lawyers and a legislative and consultative process to replace the much-maligned S92a. InternetNZ is considering the implications.

**IPv6:** Planning continues apace for the IPv6 Hui, with venues arranged for Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington. Invitations for this event will be sent out to CIOs and other potential attendees in June.

## Alice Jones joins InternetNZ

InternetNZ has appointed Alice Jones as Receptionist, based in the Shared Services Unit.

Alice has previously worked in hospitality, and studied visual arts at The Learning Connexion. She replaces Laura Turnbull, who has moved to an Administration Support role.

# Budget boosts KAREN

The New Zealand Government's Budget 2009 announcements in May saw KAREN (the Kiwi Advanced Research and Education Network) benefiting to the tune of $16 million.

The KAREN network, operated by REANNZ, provides high capacity, ultra high-speed connectivity between New Zealand's tertiary institutions, research organisations, libraries, wananga, schools and museums, and the rest of the world.

Chief Executive Donald Clark welcomes the investment, saying it indicates a strong Government commitment to science and to investing in the country's underlying infrastructure.

"This is a sign of the Government's confidence in what our members are achieving through their connection to a leading-edge, unlimited broadband environment."

The funding will be used to support KAREN's ongoing operation, and transition to a self-funding model.

## Government appoints Ralph Chivers to broadband role

Former Telecommunications Carriers Forum (TCF) Chief Executive Ralph Chivers has taken on the newly-created role of Programme Manager for the Government's $1.5 billion Broadband Investment Initiative.

Chivers was TCF's inaugural Chief Executive, and had been in the role since October 2007.

Chivers will be based at the Ministry of Economic Development and will oversee the establishment of a Crown-owned investment company (Crown Fibre Investment Co, or CFIC) to drive the Government's investment.

The CFIC will invest alongside private sector co-investors in regional fibre companies, which will deploy and provide access to fibre optic network infrastructure in the 25 towns and cities covered by the initiative.

TCF Independent Chair Richard Westlake says Chivers' contribution as the TCF's first Chief Executive was significant, particularly in the area of digital copyright.

"During Ralph's time with the Forum, he led the TCF into new territory, tackling some of the more difficult areas of industry policy."

The TCF Board has started a process for finding a replacement for Chivers.

# ICANN in Sydney — worth hopping along to

InternetNZ encourages all members with an interest in global Internet governance to attend a meeting of ICANN being held this month in Sydney.

ICANN (the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names & Numbers) is the US-based organisation that globally coordinates the Internet's unique identifiers.

The organisation meets three times a year in geographically diverse locations and is meeting at Sydney's Hilton Hotel from 21 – 26 June. Registration for the event is free.

This is the third time that ICANN has met in Australasia. The organisation is currently chaired by longstanding InternetNZ member Peter Dengate Thrush.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says the Society has been a supporter of the ICANN model since its inception in 1998, and in 2006 hosted an ICANN meeting in Wellington at which over 700 people attended.

"The core of the Internet requires global coordination to make it work. These meetings provide a valuable forum for communities of interest associated with ICANN to share their views and develop policy."

"Almost 200 New Zealanders attended the Wellington meeting and gained insight into ICANN's functions. We strongly encourage more New Zealanders to use the close proximity of the Sydney meeting as an opportunity to experience ICANN," says Davidson.

Significant issues scheduled for discussion will include ICANN's independence from the US Government, new generic top-level domains (gTLDs) and a fast track process for Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs).

"ICANN has opened up the process for applications for new gTLDs and is finalising policies and procedures. This could see potentially many thousands of new top level domains, for example ".shop" or ".news" being deployed on the Internet. Many global corporates are also interested in acquiring their names as gTLDs," says Davidson.

"In recognising the need to globalise the Internet, ICANN is also in the process of enabling Internationalised Domain Names (DNs). This will allow for resolution of domain names in languages and scripts other than those currently allowed using limited ASCII character sets. This will potentially allow resolution of domain names in Chinese or Arabic scripts."

Registration and the event programme is available at:
http://syd.icann.org

## events

**PacNOG**
14—20 June, Tahiti
pacnog.org

**InternetNZ Council Meeting**
19 June, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

**ICANN**
21—26 June, Sydney
icann.org

**Tel.Con 10**
23—24 June, Auckland
conferenz.co.nz

**APAN**
20—23 July, Kuala Lumpur
apan.net

**InternetNZ AGM**
30 July, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

**InternetNZ Council Meeting**
21 August, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

**IPv6 Hui**
19 August Christchurch
20 August, Auckland
21 August, Wellington
ipv6.org.nz

**APNIC28**
24—28 August, Beijing
apnic.net

**InternetNZ Council Meeting**
14 October, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

**ICANN: Asia**
25—30 October, Seoul
icann.org

**IGF 2009**
15—18 November, Egypt
intgovforum.org

**LCA2010 (Linux.conf.au)**
18—23 January, Wellington
lca2010.org.nz

# Security attacks target nameserver entries

## IDN sunrise consultation

Previously, the Domain Name Commission has sought comment on potential issues associated with the implementation of Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) in .nz, along with any other issues that the IDN working group (WG) should consider.

Following this, a second round of consultation was held to seek comment on a proposed course of action and on the idea of a sunrise registration period.

Based on submissions received and on input from the IDN WG a decision was made to hold a sunrise registration period for IDNs. The sunrise registration period will be held to help avoid potential disputes during the initial phases of IDN registrations in .nz.

Due to the nature of the Maori language it is impossible to automatically assign IDN variants to current .nz ASCII domain names.

A policy outlining the rationale, requirements and process for this initial registration period has been drafted and the DNC is now seeking comment on the proposed policy.

The draft policy can be viewed on the DNC website.

Draft policy (.html version):
dnc.org.nz/content/IDN_Sunrise_Policy_DRAFT.html

Draft policy (.pdf version):
dnc.org.nz/content/IDN_Sunrise_Policy_DRAFT.pdf

A Maori translation of the policy is expected to be sent from the translator shortly and, when received, will also be made available on the DNC website.

The sunrise period will allow for current .nz registrants to have a chance to register the IDN variants of their ASCII names before open registration of IDNs in .nz are offered.

Submissions should be received by 5.00pm on Monday 24 August and can be sent to:

Email: policies@dnc.org.nz
Fax: (04) 495 2115,
or Mail: P.O Box 11881, Wellington 6142

As submissions are received they will be published on the DNC website at:

http://www.dnc.org.nz/idn-sunrise-policy

Over recent months Registrars locally and around the world have been the focus of attacks that use direct methods (E.g. SQL injection) and indirect methods (E.g. Phishing).

These attacks have focused on the domain name nameserver details, attempting to change the nameserver entries for various domains to servers under the attacker's control.

Traffic to Google sites in Uganda, Morocco and Kenya was disrupted, as detailed in the following article: http://bit.ly/gh45w

In addition, Puerto Rico sites were redirected in a DNS attack, described more fully in the following CNET article: http://bit.ly/R7QYu

There was also an attack on the authorised .nz Registrar Domainz. This involved their system being compromised and some sensitive information for a few high profile names, including login and password information, being accessed by a third party.

The issue was promptly identified and resolved by Domainz staff. However during this time the registration details of certain high profile .nz domain names, specifically name server delegations, were altered.

These attacks are likely to continue and be emulated by others. Registrars are reminded that they are expected to have adequate security systems and measures in place to safeguard the rights of Registrants and the integrity of the .nz Register.

Registrars should also consider other mitigating steps to this type of attack like two-factor authentication or out-of-band validation of nameserver changes.

If you have implemented other measures or have suggestions for improvements that Registrars could implement then please share them. If there are any technical enhancements that NZRS could make to the SRS interface that would be of benefit, then please advise the DNC.

## DNCL Board meeting - minutes

The minutes of the DNCL board meeting held on 11th May 2009 are now available on the DNC website dnc.org.nz in .html or .pdf.

## Statistics

In March, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 353,430 to 355,779, a net increase of 2,349.