

Internet in New Zealand T (Newman, 2010)

From NetHistory

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

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1858: The Local Posts Act opened the way for the appointment of Provincial Councils to establish post office services which were controlled by the Government. Ultimately the New Zealand Post Office would take control of the postal services 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>)

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, over the Blenheim No 1 wire.

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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.

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