

Welcome to our fortnightly digest, Privacy News.

### **Machine learning and big data with Cory Doctorow**

We are delighted to welcome Cory Doctorow, a pioneering international commentator on internet and digital technology, for a lunchtime PrivacyLive forum in Wellington at 1pm on Tuesday 13 March 2018.

Doctorow is a Canadian technology, copyright and privacy thinker, blogger, journalist, activist and science fiction writer. He is co-editor of Boing Boing and the originator of Doctorow's Law: "Anytime someone puts a lock on something you own, against your wishes, and doesn't give you the key, they're not doing it for your benefit."

This OPC PrivacyLive Forum is at 1pm on Tuesday 13 March 2018 in the Cable Room at Mac's Function Centre, 4 Taranaki St Wharf, Wellington. This public event is free. Register here to attend.

Doctorow will discuss the topic *Machine Learning, Big Data and Being Less Wrong*, explaining the seemingly limitless possibilities for machine learning and how it will require skilled practitioners and careful research to separate approaches that seem promising from those that deliver.

### **Discussing George Orwell's 1984**

This free panel discussion - *Orwell's 1984: A Book, a Film, a Play... and Now a Reality* - coincides with the Auckland Arts Festival and Auckland Theatre Company season of a theatrical adaptation of George Orwell's cautionary classic 1984. Is there more to say about this dystopian touchstone of privacy, surveillance and identity, 70 years since the book hit the shelves?

Chairing an informed and provocative panel is the author of the New Zealand Civil Rights Handbook, Tim McBride. The other speakers include one of the play's leading performers, Terence Crawford, well-known blogger and media commentator, Russell Brown, and New Zealand's Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security, Cheryl Gwyn.

This PrivacyLive lunchtime event is brought to you by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and the Auckland Arts Festival. It is on 14 March 2018 at 12.30pm in the Ellen Melville Pioneer Women's Hall, Freyberg Place, Auckland.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner's PrivacyLive Forums are free to attend. Find out more here, including how to RSVP.

## **CERT NZ: Learning from cyberattacks**

Register now to hear how CERT NZ uses its data about cyberattacks to inform New Zealand organisations how to prepare against current and future attacks. CERT NZ does this without compromising information about the organisations and individuals which report cyber threats.

This PrivacyLive lunchtime presentation is by CERT NZ's Manager of Engagement and Communications, Kate Wellington. It is free to attend and will take place at 12.30pm on 19 March 2018 at the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, 15 Stout St, Wellington.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner's PrivacyLive Forums are free to attend. Find out more here, including how to RSVP.

## **Full day forum in Privacy Week**

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner marks Privacy Week each year to promote privacy awareness and to inform people of their rights under the Privacy Act. It is also to help educate businesses, organisations and agencies of their responsibilities and obligations with personal information.

For Privacy Week, our office will be joining with the Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities network in marking the theme Privacy: From principles to practice.

Privacy Week in New Zealand will be from 7-11 May 2018.

The highlight of Privacy Week will be a full-day forum held in Wellington on 9 May. More information, including registration details, will be confirmed in the coming weeks. A draft Privacy Forum programme will be available soon.

Keep an eye on our newsletter for regular updates of our 2018 Privacy Week events.

## **Privacy Act fact**

We'll be highlighting the 25 year anniversary of the Privacy Act in each newsletter with a short fact about the Act's significance and impact. For instance, did you know that passing the Act in 1993 let New Zealanders access their own medical records? At the time, most parts of Australia, North America, and the United Kingdom did not give people this right.

## **Encryption and privacy via Periscope**

Our colleagues at the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner (OVIC) in Melbourne are holding a public forum on Encryption & Privacy today (7 March 2018). This lunchtime forum (at 3pm NZT) will explore the relationship between encryption, information privacy and data security, both for individuals and government agencies.

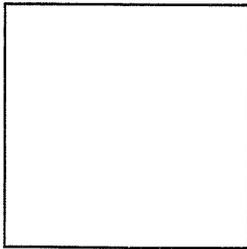
New Zealanders can tune in online through a Periscope link we will post on the day via the OVIC Twitter feed. Please note that you do not need a Twitter account to access the live stream. If you miss the live event, a recording will remain on Periscope for later viewing.

## **Case note: Passenger makes vexatious requests to airline**

A passenger contacted an airline, requesting all the information they had about him relating to a ticket dispute. He emailed to the airline's CEO saying he hadn't received the requested information. After a month of correspondence he emailed the CEO again, expressing his frustration. He asked for recordings of two calls he had made that day. He continued to call the

airline for several months, requesting recordings of calls as he did so. The airline refused most of these requests, so the man complained to our office.

Read the case note here.



## Handling health information of intersex individuals

Vanessa Blackwood  2 March 2018

The Intersex Trust Aotearoa New Zealand (ITANZ) recently approached our office for advice on an issue faced by many intersex people in New Zealand. ITANZ is part of an intersex advocacy movement and works to improve awareness, information, education and training about intersex people.

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