

Arnold Blades

I am a 74-year-old cyclist. Late in my engineering career computers arrived. I read a book. It said, " Plug it in, press any key, hit it, and try and make it malfunction". " You are in charge and the computer is just a machine."

Later I learned to 'peak ' and 'poke' to make the network crash .By that time I was addicted and wasting too much cycling time. For 20 years I stayed away from computers until a Norwegian blond on a world cruise taught me email. I was hooked again. With a few mouse clicks I could mail everyone via satellite on board or by internet café at ports of call. Now the only exercise I get is by cycling to the nearest public machine.

Young or old need not fear new technology if they confidently take charge and read the instructions for which button to press. Any new gadget that is too complicated would never sell.