



Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc

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Penrith Valley Seniors Centre
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Treasurer: Bert Foster	Tel: 4754 3008	Member: Lorraine Brown	Tel: 4736 5541
Social Committee: Pat Mitchell, Zillah Warner, Anne Roddick		Webmaster: Tom Lehane	Tel: 4721 5375

Visit the clubs web page for training courses www.users.on.net/pvscc/training.htm

Weekly Schedule for Computer Courses	
Mondays 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing. Tutor: Alan Lees 11.00 am to 12.30 pm Graphics (Digital Editing). Tutor: Zillah Warner	Tuesdays 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing 11.00 am to 12.30 pm Graphics (Digital Editing). Tutor Bert Foster
Wednesdays 9.30am to 11am Using the Software. Tutor: Tom Lehane 1pm to 2.30pm Beginners, Internet/Email, and Genealogy Tutor: George Bell	Thursdays: 9.30am to 11am Beginners, Card Making and Do your own thing. Tutors Pat Mitchell & Zillah Warner
Fridays: 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing. Tutor Alan Lees	



Happy New Year to Members of the Penrith Valley Seniors Computer Club.

Members using the seniors centre are reminded they are required to sign the attendance register.

- This attendance register is used at the assembly point at the front of the centre if a fire breaks out.
- If a member gets hurt at the centre then attendance register is proof you were in the centre for insurance.

Information on new computers.

While members were resting after the festive season the committee was busy setting-up the new computers and installing software, Internet wireless, printer communication devices to share the OKI C5200 Colour Printer. (See picture on left).



The club now has 18 Pentium 4 (2.8GHz) PCs.
Each with 512MB RAM, 80GB H/disk, 17" Monitor (big, bright clear display), Sound (need to use your own – inexpensive- headphones – check with club before purchasing) and very fast 'Broadband' access to

the Internet. All the computers use a wireless network system. The wireless network system was donated by Leonay Golf Club.

Fifteen have CD burners and 3 are fitted with DVD burners. With our Data Projector (donated by Penrith City Council) and Screen, many more members will be able to attend and follow instructions and demonstrations in classes. This will be a very eventful year (2006) for the club.

Search engines, these are the web sites where you find your way around the Wide World Web, or the internet.

Our club web site has a page where you can select an individual search engine.

<http://www.users.on.net/~pvscc/clublinks.html>

The link is shown above.



Each search engine has a special way of finding information on the internet. Google is the leader with many features on offer.

You can have a choice to search the whole world or just Australia or any other country you choose. This option is

found in **Language Tools** on Google's search page. The link on our page is set for the World or Australia.

Google has a good error prompt if you enter the information with the wrong spelling it will make a suggestion for the correction.

At the moment Google is probably the best search engine in the World. The main reason is Google puts the most relevant or searched sites at the top of the result list.

This is the trick our webmaster is using. When a member of the club opens Windows Explorer the clubs web page opens as the home page.

Typing "**penrith computer club**" in Google's search you will find the web link close to the top of the list.

Google is unique in that it includes files in a wide variety of formats in its regular index, not only traditional web pages but includes Microsoft Office files and Acrobat PDF.

Google will also show images from your search request.

Found at the top of its page [Images].



The Yahoo! search engine is a very powerful tool, and can probably be compared with Google as regards quality, although not as regards scope (i.e. number of pages listed). Yahoo! offers a free 1 GB free email account. Images related to your search are also available.



Formed in 1997, ninemsn is a 50:50 joint venture between the Microsoft Corporation and Australia's leading media company, Publishing and Broadcasting Limited (PBL). Offers a 250 Meg free email account. The search is not as powerful as Google or Yahoo! The site has advertisement for PBL and magazines by the company. Has the latest news on the site before going to either The Daily Telegraph newspaper or channel 9 TV.



Dogpile finds the best results from the Internet's top search engines, including Google, Yahoo! Search, MSN, Ask Jeeves, About, MIVA, LookSmart and more. This search engine is a good choice as some of the above search engines may not list all requests.



Snap is a new search engine official launch in October of 2004. Snap works by displaying the most popular searches as fast as you type. It brings specific word matches to the top and eliminates results that do not match - until you find exactly what you're looking for. It's a fast and easy method of finding a site. Uses a similar search as 'Dogpile'.



The search engine was launched in October 2002 with a different approach to a web searching.

The search enabled web users to better organise their search results through personalization. Mooter has what they call

Intelligent Clustering technology. The clusters search results into categories that are intelligently selected from the words and phrases you typed in the search. Selecting one of the categories list the contents of the search.



WebCrawler uses the same innovative metasearch technology as 'Dogpile' to search the Internet's top search engines, including Google, Yahoo! Search, MSN Search, Ask Jeeves, About, Looksmart and more.

WebCrawler searches the best results from the combined pool of the world's leading search engines -- instead of results from only one single search engine. WebCrawler is one of the early search engines to use this multi web search. WebCrawler went on the web in April of 1994.



TeOma does not use the method Google uses it's data base based upon the sites with the most links leading to them, TeOma analyzes the Web as it is organically organized-in naturally-occurring or related to the same subject-to determine which sites are most relevant. TeOma is the only search technology that can locate communities on the Web within their specific subject areas, as they actually exist. And this allows fine tuning the search process, providing more precise results.

Many search engines have the option to view images related to your search request. After showing a list of links to your search input you can click on **Images**.

For example if you type in something like **blue mountains** and then left click **search**.

Then click on **Images**, this will displays all the images of the Blue Mountains in thumbnail format.



Clicking on **Groups** list the many groups with interest in . climbing, bushwalking, photography and sight seeing.

Clicking on **News** displays all the news articles on the blue mountains.

Clicking **more** lists Google's Services: Use one of their many services to find what you're looking for.

Google, Yahoo, ninemsn, dogpile and many others have this feature to view images related to your search request.



Another useful search is "WhereIs". This is not a true search engine but a road directory. Ever

wanted to know where a place or a friend's new house is and you don't know where it is or how to get there. Then "WhereIs" will find it for you and if you type-in you're starting point. WhereIs will show you a road map and the

best route to take to get there. Plus text instructions on which roads to take.

Shown below is an example on how to use WhereIs.

Either got to the club search link web site at..

<http://www.users.on.net/~pvscc/clublinks.html>

Or type this link address

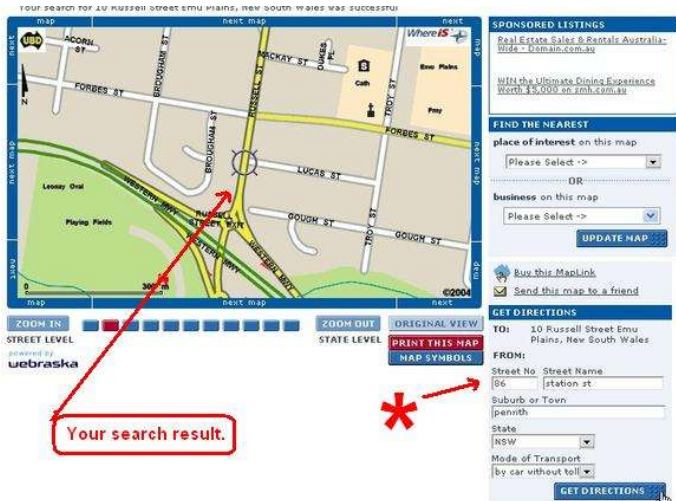
<http://www.whereis.com/whereis/home.jsp>



On the search a location screen type the house number and street name followed by the suburb then choose the state to search in. This is a pull down option selection. Finally click search.

Note there is a 'Place of interest' this can be a hospital a club or police station.

Your search results are then shown as a small map with a circle drawn at the location. See image.



You have a **how to get there** option shown on the bottom right hand corner. Type in your starting point,

House number, street name, suburb and state.

Also you're Mode of Transport then click

GET DIRECTIONS.



FROM: 86 STATION STREET PENRITH New South Wales
TO: 10 RUSSELL STREET EMU PLAINS New South Wales

WRITTEN DIRECTIONS	DISTANCE	EST. TIME
Start at STATION ST, PENRITH	108 m	1 Min
Turn left at HIGH ST, PENRITH	1.42 km	2 Mins
Continue along GREAT WESTERN HWY, PENRITH	3.18 km	4 Mins
Turn left at RUSSELL ST, EMU PLAINS	364 m	1 Min
Finish RUSSELL ST, EMU PLAINS	5.07 km	8 Mins

Finally you have a road map showing you the best route to take, plus a written direction on how to get there and the estimated time it will take plus the distance. Clicking the [X] will zoom to that point.

Click on an arrow will also zoom in on the intersections and street listed.

A very handy street directory.

The above example was from 86 Station St Penrith our computer club to 10 Russell St Emu Plains.

Some members asked about present copyright laws.

This is a good question. This newsletter is automatically Copyrighted from the moment it was typed in.

For more information, go to the web site below.

<http://www.ag.gov.au/copyright/shortguide>

The comments are from the editor's use and evaluation of web site search engines and are not associated with The Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc.

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Coffee Break

Question on Software or Operating system.

Note, in the text a plus, minus and full stop sign

(+) (-) (.) are referred to as switches. This a term used in the DOS (Disk Operating System days).

Using Google to Search the Web.

Google internet search engine looks very tame with a simple home page search entry.

There are many options to refine your search. If you are looking for information on an entertainer you seen perform at the club the other night and you type in his name Johnny Pace. Clicking the search button will bring up 2,150,000 results. That because Google finds every Johnny, John and Pace on it's data base in the world. A listing might read " This tells me **Johnny's** swim **pace** is 1:46 per second". Not the results you were looking for.

To refine your search for Johnny Pace place quotations like "**johnny pace**" **au** (add a space and type **au**) as shown in the bold text. This informs Google to search only for Johnny Pace and refine the search to Australia. The result is 911 listings.



Web
"johnny pace" au +comedian

If you use the + (plus) switch as shown above to find what Johnny Pace does then your search results are refined down to 197 listings.

When you use the plus switch (+) on a word make sure there is no space, Example **+comedian**

Note, Google will except entries in either upper or lower case as shown when searching for Johnny Pace.

You may find there are PDF (portable document files) but you only want his web page.

By placing a minus (-) in front of any information you don't want, Google will eliminate it from the listings.

Example **-pdf**.

The search would be

"johnny pace" au +comedian -pdf

you can use as many plus (+) an minus (-) as you like to refine your search.

Other useful switches are listed here.

Between numbers or years example:

Search for an item between the years 1978 and 2000. Leave a space after your item and type the years.

1979..2000

Note the two periods (full stops)

When searching for any range of numbers they should be specified by entering two numbers separated by two dots (periods (full stops)).

The same applies to money values.

Very useful if looking for any item with a price range. Computers, digital cameras, cars, houses, holidays or software.

\$5,000..\$10,000

Note the two periods (full stops)

Another search option is the word **filetype**.

Note this is one word type search.

Eg: **microsoft word help filetype:pdf**

Here we are looking for a microsoft word help file but in a pdf format.

Typing **filetype:** plus the type of document required, pdf, doc, txt Google will display all files with that extension.

These switches apply to other search engines but not to all.