



Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc

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Editor Tom Lehane

April 2008

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Secretary: John Windle	Tel 4731 2149	Member: Zillah Warner	Tel: 4732 4248
Treasurer: Bert Foster	Tel: 4754 3008	Member Norm Cobban	Tel: 4736 3513
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
Visit the clubs' web site www.users.on.net/~pvscc/index.html

<i>Weekly Schedule for Computer Courses</i>	
Mondays 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing. Tutor: Zillah Warner 11.00 am to 12.30 pm Graphics. Tutor: Zillah Warner	Tuesdays 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing Tutor Bert Foster
Wednesdays 9.30am to 11am Using the Software. Tutor: Tom Lehane	Thursdays: 9.30am to 11am Card Making, Beginners and Do your own thing. Tutors Pat Mitchell , Clare Dixon & Zillah Warner
Fridays: 9.30am to 11am Memories to TV. Tutors John Windle, Norm Cobban: Beginners & Do your own thing. Tutor Alan Lees	'Do your own thing' means learn Word, Publisher and Excel or browse the Internet.

NEW! Digital Camera club: Last Tuesday of the month. Start Time 12.00 noon to 1.30pm.

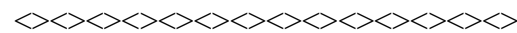
Easter was very early this year, will we experience another Easter this early?
 Easter can occur from 22/3 to 25/4. This year Easter was on March 23. Do you realize how early Easter is this year? As you may know, Easter is always the 1st Sunday after the 1st full moon after the Autumn Equinox (which is March 20). This dating of Easter is based on the lunar calendar that Hebrew people used to identify Passover, which is why it moves around on our Roman calendar.

Here are a couple of things you might be interested in. Based on the above, Easter can actually be one day earlier (March 22) but that is pretty rare.

Here are some interesting figures. This year is the earliest Easter any of us will ever see the rest of our lives. And only the most elderly of our population have ever seen it this early (95 years old or above). And none of us have ever, or will ever, see it a day earlier. Here are some details of Easters to come:

1) The next time Easter Sunday will be this early (March 23) will be the year 2228 (220 years from now). The last time it was this early was 1913 (so if

you're 95 or older, you are the only ones that were around for that).
 2) The next time it will be a day earlier, March 22, will be in the year 2285 (277 years from now). The last time it was on March 22 was 1818. So, no one alive today has or will ever see it any earlier than this year.



Flash drives.
 With no mechanical moving parts in a flash drive, the name is not a true description of the device. It is called a "drive" because it appears to the computer operating system (and the user) in a manner identical to a mechanical disk drive, and is accessed in the same way. Flash drives with 16GB storage are now common and fast approaching the capacity of your standard computer hard drive. This present a question,

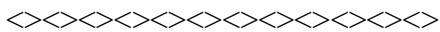
should you defrag your flash drive like your hard drive?

The answer to the question is: **you should never defrag a flash drive.**

Data on your hard drive are usually saved in several little pieces, often in groups. Over time, deleting and adding data, your files are generally spread out all over your hard drive, which is why defragging is important. On the other hand, flash drives do not have a read/write head, so if you were to defrag one, you wouldn't get any extra performance benefits from it whatsoever. Basically, without a read/write head, flash drives don't have to work any harder to find your files. Your files can be laid out in any order and your flash drive will still be just as fast when finding them for you.

Without been too technical, there are two types of flash drives. The most common type is Multi Level Cell memory. Most use this type of memory because it's cheaper to make and allows manufacturers to offer more storage in a smaller space.

Multi Level Cell memory is good for about 10,000 write cycles. So defragging your flash drive only shortens its life span.



With Documentary programs like **“Who Do You Think You Are?”** on SBS where a known celebrities has his/her Ancestry traced with surprising results in

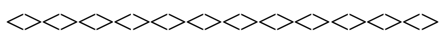
their family tree.



One episode on the actor Jack Thompson, found his great grandfather Patrick Byrnes was sent to Australia as a convict for the crime of

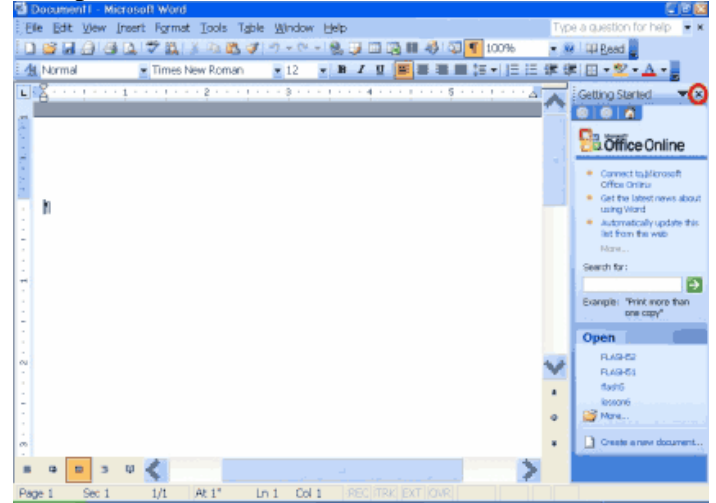
highway robbery.

The documentary has refreshed interest in genealogy. George Bell will tutor you through the process on researching your family tree if enough members show interest in the class. If you would like to participate in this genealogy class, then place your name on the genealogy class list displayed at the class attendance table. Times and dates will be announced if enough members show interest.

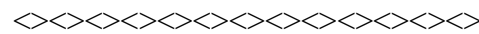


Microsoft Word.

Jim Tiberi has proposed a new class for those wanting to learn word processing using Microsoft Word. Jim’s tutorial teaches Microsoft Word basics. Although knowledge of how to navigate in a Windows environment is helpful, his tutorial is been created for the computer novice and those who wish to explore the software’s more advanced features.

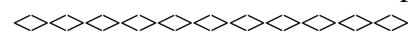


If you would like to take part with this Microsoft Word class, then place your name on the Word class list displayed at the class attendance table. Times and dates will be announced if enough members show interest.



There are cheap laptop computers been offered on the net. George Bell our President warns that most of these are redundant government laptops that have been used

in all types of government departments. Some may have been used with Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Possible placed on the seat or floor of a government utility or van and exposed to salt air, dust and forest humidity. George advises club members against purchasing any cheap laptops as you may be up for some hidden extra costs like a replacement batteries which can cost \$170 plus.



The comments and information on flash USB drives are from the editor’s research on the internet. They are not associated with The Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc

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Coffee Break

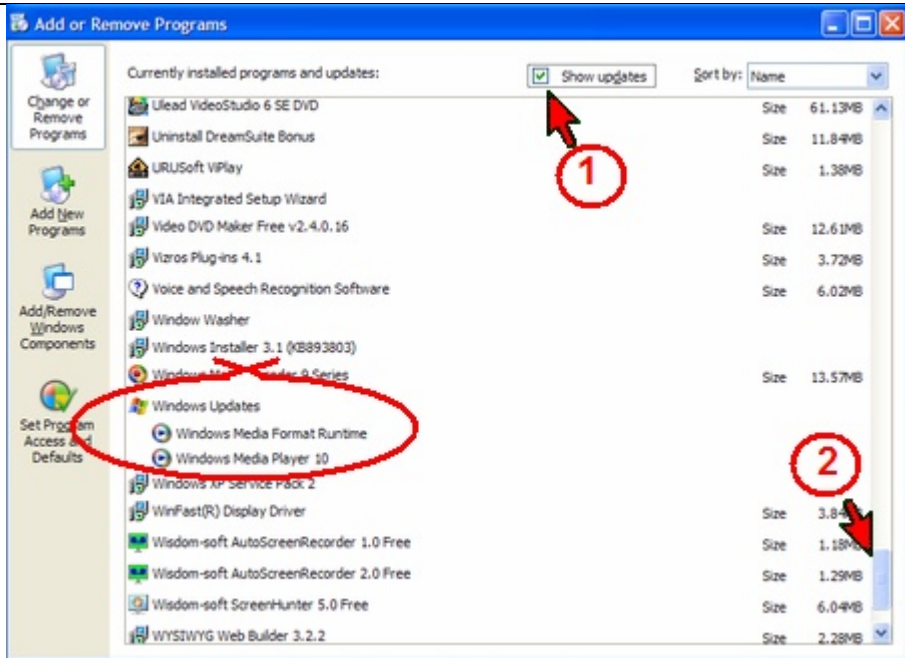
Question on Software or Operating system.

Two Quick Tips

Here are two quick and easy tips to show what's been installed on your computer and the storage space taken on your hard drive in **[My Pictures]** folder.

Do you know what up-dates are loaded on your computer by Microsoft?

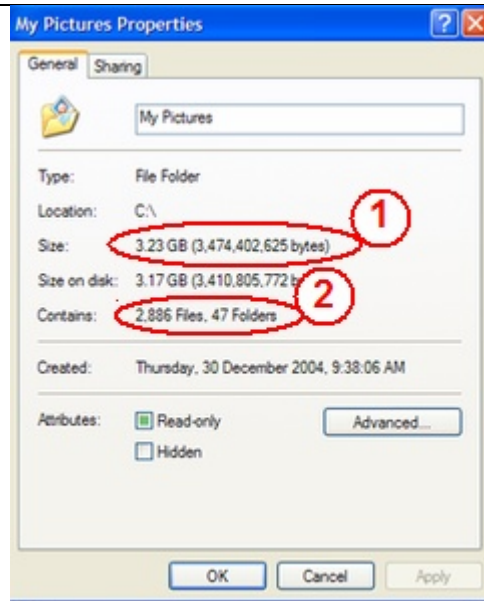
To find out, open the control panel and click on **[Add or Remove]** icon.



- (1) place a tick in the **[Show updates]** box
- (2) Scroll down near the bottom of the list and find **[Windows Updates]**. A list of what has been loaded will be displayed.

How much space does My Pictures folder use on my computer?

- (1) Open Windows Explorer, Right click **[My Pictures]** folder.
- (2) Left click **[Properties]**.



- (1) Shows the number of bytes your images are using.
- (2) The number of pictures, plus how many folders are in **My Pictures** folder.
- (3) Images take up a lot of hard drive space. It's a good plan to back them up onto a CD or DVD.