

Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc

Penrith Valley Seniors Centre

86 Station Street, Penrith NSW 2750

Tel: 4721 0609 Fax: 4721 5224 E-mail: pvscc@internode.on.net

Newsletter - No. 3- December 2003

Dear Club Members,

This is the Club's 3rd Newsletter and it is an update on the previous Newsletters. It advises about 'Up coming events', records some past events, indicates the current position of the Club, the courses that are being run and our aspirations for the future.

Newsletters are e-mailed to members who have recorded their e-mail addresses with the club and copies are available on the club notice board and from the club's Computer Room. If you cannot find one, ask a Tutor or Mentor to print one for you.

However, we are posting this Newsletter to all members (who have not recorded their e-mail address with the club) with an **invitation** to attend a **free PVSCC Christmas Break-up Party B-B-Q** at the Seniors Centre at 12 Middy on Wednesday 10th December 2003. We hope to see some members at the B-B-Q who we have not seen for some time.

We need everyone's' input on how to improve the club.

Up coming events

General Meeting of the Club in the Main Hall of the Seniors Centre at 11am to 12 Middy on Wednesday 10th December 2003.

Free Christmas Break-up party B-B-Q at the Seniors Centre at 12 Middy on Wednesday 10th December 2003.

Penrith Valley Seniors Centre will be closed from 13th December 2003 to 11th January 2004.

Past events

A 'How to do Internet Banking' presentation by the Commonwealth Bank was conducted in the main hall of the seniors centre on Wednesday 27th August 2003. Pat Moran was a very entertaining and informative speaker. The Association of Independent Retirees were so impressed with her that they invited her back on Friday 26th September to give a similar presentation on 'Banking made easy' to their members.

Current position of the Club

We have 177 paid members. New members are always welcome and can join at the Seniors Centre on most weekdays.

There are 116 Ladies (66%) and 61 Gentlemen (34%).

Our youngest member is 51 and our oldest member is 89.

123 members (69%) have indicated that they have computers at home.

62 members (35%) have correct E-mail addresses recorded with the club. If you have not received this Newsletter by e-mail, it means that we do not have your **correct** e-mail address.

We have:

9 PCs with fast '**Broadband**' access to the **Internet**; and

1 PC that is not connected to the Internet.

2 Colour Printers.

1 Laser Printer (Mono-colour).

1 Scanner. A scanner allows us to add photographs and pictures to our computer records and e-mails.

We also have a number of computer books, magazines and games that are available for loan to members.

The club's Committee is responsible for administration.

Club Committee:

President	Bob Ryan	Tel: 4739 3542	E-mail: pvscc@internode.on.net
Vice-President & Course Coordinator	Alan Lees	Tel: 4736 5541	E-mail: robertjryan@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Bert Foster		E-mail: leebrown@tpg.com.au
Secretary	Di Leahy		
Course Coordinator	Frank Bawden	Tel: 9623 7237	E-mail:
joat@optusnet.com.au			
Purchasing Officer	Syd Bousfield		
Assistant Treasurer	Pat Mitchell		
Assistant Secretary	Grace Selway		

Please contact any committee member, if you wish to discuss club matters, or if you have any suggestions on how to improve the club.

Social Committee:

Grace Selway
Di Leahy
Pat Mitchell
Zillah Warner

Computing Courses

In 2004, we anticipate running the same types of courses that we are currently running. However, this depends on the availability of voluntary tutors. Hopefully, we will get additional voluntary tutors and will provide a wider range of courses and times.

Now that most of our members have completed the 'Beginners and Word' courses we are currently running '**Do your own thing**' sessions. For these, you can buy and work through a training book for Beginners, Word, Internet & E-mail, Publisher, Excel, **or** you can obtain information from the Internet, **or** write your family history, **or** prepare your family tree, **or** learn to touch type **or** do your own thing. Tutors and Mentors will be present to **try and help** you when you request help.

'Do your own thing' Sessions:

Mondays:	9.30am to 11am.	Tutors: Frank Bawden and Alan Lees
Tuesdays:	9.30am to 11am	Tutors: Bert Foster and Yvonne Doyle
	1pm to 2.30pm	Tutors: Bert Foster and Yvonne Doyle
Wednesdays:	9.30am to 11am	Tutor: Bob Ryan
Thursdays:	9.30am to 11am	Tutor: Bob Ryan
	11am to 12.30pm	Tutor: Bob Ryan
Fridays:	9.30am to 11am	Tutors: Bob Ryan and Alan Lees

Publisher Classes:

Publisher is a program for making designs and can be used for making Cards, Calendars, Letter Heads, Family Trees etc.

Mondays:	11am to 12.30pm	Tutor: Yvonne Doyle
	1pm to 2.30pm	Tutor: Yvonne Doyle
Tuesdays:	11am to 12.30pm	Tutor: Yvonne Doyle

Question & Answer (Q&A) Sessions:

These sessions are for the more technically inclined of us. You can come along and discuss any hardware/software problems you might be encountering on your home PC and hopefully a solution to your problem(s) can be determined by those present. You might just want to listen in and pick up some knowledge.

Thursdays: 2.30pm to 4.00pm **Tutor:** Frank Bawden

The Computer Room is available for internet, WEBmail (e-mail) and practicing computer skills when scheduled classes/sessions are **not** being held and a club member is available and willing to take responsibility for the room.

WEBmail: Members may send and receive WEBmails on the club's PCs. But they must first join an organisation such as **Hotmail, Yahoo** and establish a free account with them. Tutors can assist you in doing this.

Club Fees and Charges:

The Club's current schedule of fees and charges is attached at the end of this newsletter for your information. A copy is also on the Club's notice board.

Interest Groups

Members have expressed interest in special 'Interest Groups' such as Genealogy, Digital Photography, Computer Craft and Computer Games. However, we need volunteers to start these groups.

Notice Board

There is a notice board outside the club Computer Room. This shows the courses that are being run, meeting dates, equipment availability etc. From time to time we receive notices of various computer events for seniors which you might be interested in attending, these are also placed on the notice board for your information. Members can use it for anything that may be of interest to other members.

Social Activities

Several members have put forward a suggestion that we hold a regular (monthly??) social event for all members to attend. The event would take the form of a casual daytime sausage sizzle or whatever, at which everyone could mix, mingle, meet and chat about (computer??) interests etc. If you think this is a good idea or not, please let the committee know either way so that we can get it underway or forget it, whatever!!!!

Useful Websites

Members are enjoying browsing the Web using the Club's **broadband** (much faster than dial-up) connection. Many useful sites are being discovered and added to our 'Favourites' list. One recent site added is an Australian government site that assists you to locate your **missing funds** such as super, bank accounts or life insurance etc (for free!!!). Come on in and use our computers to search the Web for anything that you might be(come) interested in, it is **cheap & fast**. Members can obtain a copy of the club's 'Favourites' list, just bring in a floppy (3.5") disk and ask one of the tutors/mentors to copy the list on to it for you (if you don't know how yourself).

Back copies of the ASCCA Newsletters are available at www.seniorcomputing.org

Volunteers

Our present tutors and mentors are:

Tutors: Bob Ryan, Alan Lees, Frank Bawden, Bert Foster, Yvonne Doyle.

Mentors: Alan Lees, Shelia Bates, Julie Gillies, Liz Page, Elka Illy, Zillah Warner, George Bell, Pat Mitchell, Patricia Donahoe, Janis Johnston, Rob Dickie.

We need volunteers who are prepared to give 2 hours of their time each week to act as Tutors, Mentors, Interest Group Facilitators and Computer Room Supervisors.

We also need a Publicity Officer, a Newsletter Editor and a Website Designer for the club.

Members are encouraged to submit items of interest to the committee for publishing in the Newsletter. If you wish to become a volunteer, please advise any of the Committee, Tutors or Mentors.

We are looking for good inexpensive training material for all courses. If you have any recommendations or suggestions, please contact any of the Committee, Tutors or Mentors.

If you or your friends have surplus **computer** equipment (less than 4 years old), furniture, books or magazines, please advise any of the Committee, Tutors or Mentors and we will arrange collection, if necessary.

PVSCCI Committee

PENRITH VALLEY SENIORS COMPUTING CLUB Inc.

SCHEDULE OF FEES & CHARGES

Effective 1st August 2003

Club Membership:

Joining Fee - \$10.00

Annual Fee - \$20.00 1st July xx to 30th June yy

NOTE: 1st years annual fee is calculated at \$1.65/mth for each full calendar month remaining in current membership year. Month in which you join is free.
Joining & Annual fees are not refundable.

Training Sessions:

Session - \$2.00 per training session

Internet use - \$1.00 extra per training session

Training materials – booklets, notes, folders etc – \$cost is dependant on course subject.

Use of Computer Facilities:

Computer - \$1.00/hour includes access to Internet for surfing only, downloading files is not included.

File download \$2.00/file in addition to computer charge, file size limit is 3MB

Printing:

Mono - \$0.10/page single side includes std A4 paper
(black) \$0.15/page double sided

Colour - \$0.30/page single side only includes std A4
paper

3.5" disk - \$1.00/each

