

# Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc

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## News Letter – June 2003

Dear Club Members,

This is the Club's first News Letter. It indicates the current position of the Club, the courses that are being run and our aspirations for the future.

News Letters will be e-mailed to members who have recorded their e-mail addresses with the club. Copies will also be available from the club's Computer Room.

### Current position of the Club

We have 129 paid members. New members are always welcome and can join at the Seniors Centre on most weekdays.

Our youngest member is 51 and our oldest member is 84.

93 members (72%) have indicated that they have computers at home.

39 members have correct E-mail addresses recorded with the club. If you have not received this News Letter 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 Lazer Printer** (Mono-colour)

We hope to soon have one more PC and operational **Colour Printer** and a **Scanner**.

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: <a href="mailto:robertjryan@bigpond.com">robertjryan@bigpond.com</a>
Vice-President & Course Coordinator	Alan Lees	Tel: 4736 5541	E-mail: <a href="mailto:leebrown@tpg.com.au">leebrown@tpg.com.au</a>
Treasurer	Grace Selway		
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	Adrianna Hunt		

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

### Computing Courses

We are running the following courses:

#### **Beginners and Word on:**

<b>Mondays:</b>	9.30am to 11am.	<b>Tutor:</b> Frank Bawden.
<b>Tuesdays:</b>	9.30am to 11am; 1pm to 2.30pm; 2.30pm to 4pm	<b>Tutor:</b> Bert Foster.
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	3.30pm to 5.00pm.	<b>Tutor:</b> Bernie Carveth.
<b>Thursdays:</b>	9am to 11am; 11am to 12.30pm; 12.30pm to 2pm.	<b>Tutor:</b> Bob Ryan

Beginners work at their own speed with the help of a tutor and mentors. After completing the 'Basic Computing Skills' Booklet, they can start the 'Microsoft Word 97' Booklet. After completing

those two booklets, they can work on other training manuals, browse the Internet, or become a Mentor and help other members.

**Publisher** course on:

**Tuesdays:** 11am to 12.30pm. **Tutor:** Yvonne Doyle.

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

**Internet & E-mail** course on:

**Wednesday:** 9.30am to 11am. **Tutor:** Bob Ryan.

**Computing Question & Answer Group** meets on:

**Thursday:** 2.30pm to 4.30pm. **Tutor:** Frank Bawden

There has been a meeting of a '**Digital Photography**' interest group.

In a few weeks, we hope to start an **Excel** course on Mondays at 11am to 12.30pm. Excel is a program for spreadsheets that are very useful for recording and calculating assets, shares, taxation, and anything where numbers are used.

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

**Email:** Members may send and receive e-mails on the club's PCs. But they must first join an organisation such as **Hotmail, Yahoo** and obtain an ID. This membership is free and Tutors will show you how to do this.

We try and restrict class sizes to 9 Learners because that is the number of available PCs. However, if Learners bring their own Laptop Computers they are welcome to join classes. Members may also sit-in on classes, provided numbers are not excessive. This is at the tutor's discretion.

Club Membership: Joining Fee is \$10 and the Annual Membership is \$20 per person.

Classes usually go for 1½ hours and cost \$2 per person.

Access to the Internet/E-mail costs \$1 per hour per PC.

Colour printing will be charged to cover costs.

Training booklets cost approximately \$2 to \$3 each.

Binders for Training booklets cost \$2 each.

3½" Discs cost \$1 each.

### **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. Members can use it for anything that may be of interest to other members.

### **Useful Websites:**

**[www.seniorcomputing.org](http://www.seniorcomputing.org)**

This is our mother organisation the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA). The News Letters of ASCCA are available from this website. However, ASCCA will e-mail their News Letters to your PC, if we provide them with your e-mail address. Please advise Alan Lees if you are happy for us to forward your e-mail address to ASCCA.

[members.aol.com/shobansen3/index.html](http://members.aol.com/shobansen3/index.html) Computer Education for Seniors

There are several other useful websites listed on our 'Favorites' at the club – come in and visit them!

### **Volunteers**

Our present tutors and mentors are:

**Tutors:** Bob Ryan, Frank Bawden, Bert Foster, Yvonne Doyle and Bernie Carveth.

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

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 News Letter Editor and a Website Designer for the club. Members are encouraged to submit items of interest to the committee for publishing in the News Letter.

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, furniture, books or magazines, please advise any of the Committee, Tutors or Mentors and we will arrange collection, if necessary.

PVSCCI Committee