

## Home Business is Big Business in Penrith Valley



**The Penrith Valley Home Based Business Network** was officially launched on 7 December 2005 at the Log Cabin.

The HBBN formerly came under the umbrella of the Penrith Valley Economic Development Corporation.

Now an entity on its own, the network is run by a committee of volunteer business operators.

The network meets once a month, with a guest speaker who covers a topic that is relevant to running a home based or small

business - rather than a larger company.

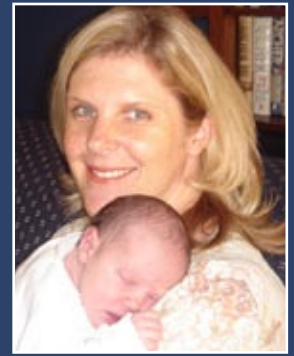
Business owners are given the opportunity to meet and network with like minded individuals who face the same challenges in business on a daily basis. Home based business operators may face special problems, such as isolation, finding relevant trusted mentors and support people to liaise with.

They may also find it difficult to access business advice and information resources, including business planning and management advice.

The HBBN helps overcome these challenges by providing an environment where local businesses can support each other through utilising services, becoming an alliance partner or providing referrals.

The HBBN is delighted to accept sponsorship from larger businesses to help fund the meetings and a \$5 fee is charged to cover morning tea.

For more information on the HBBN, please log onto [www.homebasedbusiness.org.au](http://www.homebasedbusiness.org.au) or phone 0418 294 163.



Christmas time again and the silly season seems to have set in.

My Christmas present came early (21 November to be exact) with the birth of my second child - a beautiful baby girl who we have named Jade.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many of you for your messages, cards and gifts. I have been overwhelmed by everyone's kindness.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, I will be taking a bit of a back seat until the new year, so Michelle will be handling most of the jobs that come through.

Please note that our printers close over Christmas and New Year. The last orders for print jobs will be taken on 16 December. Any print jobs that miss this date will have to wait until the first week in January before they will be printed.

As this is the last newsletter for 2005 I'd like to wish you all a very safe and festive holiday season. May you enter the new year well rested and ready to tackle 2006!

Kind Regards

Debbie O'Connor

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# Merry Christmas

We would like to thank you for your support this year and wish you a very merry Christmas and a safe and fun filled new year.



May 2006 be a prosperous one!

## Congratulations!

- To **Body Rescue Massage & Pilates Studio** for their move into new premises at 4/11 Ross Street in Glenbrook. We wish you all the best with this exciting venture and hope that the move isn't too stressful - you may need a massage!
- To the **Home Based Business Association NSW** that has recently been formed to provide home business operators with a voice, support & networking opportunities. For more information ring **0400 416 806**.

If you have a success story please let me know and I will include it in further editions of **gushhh**.

## FEEDBACK



Hi Debbie

I was planning to contact you to thank you for my note pad, and to tell you a short story.

On Friday 30 September I gave a colleague my new business card. Later that day I received a phone call from a lady he had given it to. She needed me ASAP and I was going to Canberra on Tuesday to visit my family for a few days, so I worked Friday afternoon, Saturday for a couple of hours and even did about 3 hours on Monday (Public Holiday) because she needed to do a payroll run before I was returning from Canberra.

In short, the business cards paid for themselves with just one card! I am very satisfied with them, and the service provided by you and your Award Winning Business.

**Judy Bale**  
**Penrith Bookkeeping and Training**

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## Take a look at the work we have done in 2005



Have you had a chance to look at our revamped website yet?

If not, hop onto **www.whiteriverdesign.com** and see if your artwork is showcased in our portfolio.

If you have sent through a reference look under testimonials and not only view your quote and artwork, but check out the link to your website.

If you have any feedback you would like to pass onto us, please feel free.

## When is your bucket full?

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty bucket and proceeded to fill it with bricks. He then asked the students if the bucket was full.

They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the bucket. He shook the bucket lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the bucket was full.

They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the bucket. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the bucket was full. The students responded with an infamous "yes."

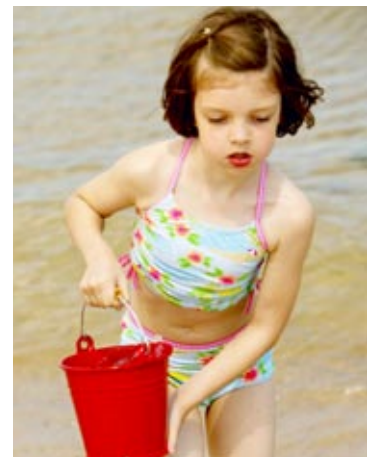
The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured

the entire contents into the bucket, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this bucket represents your life. The bricks are the important things. Your family, your children, your faith, your health, your friends, and your favourite passions. Things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full."

"The pebbles are the other things that matter. Your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else. The small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the bucket first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the bricks. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Play with your children. Take time to get medical



checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

May you all have a relaxing holiday season!

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