

GUM Workshops FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Victorian GUM Inc (Genealogists Using Microcomputers) is a voluntary association using computers to help them in their family history research. As part of its efforts to assist its users, GUM runs very effective workshops. There has been some evidence that folk (especially in the country) maybe do not understand what the workshops are so these FAQs are presented to assist. Workshops are a great way to get a more in depth understanding of a subject.

What are they about?

The GUM workshops cover the operation of the major genealogy software packages such as, *Family Tree Maker*, *Legacy Family Tree* etc. as well as covering the Internet, Scanning and Multimedia. The presenters are mostly very experienced GUM members.

Where are the workshops held?

Waverley Masonic Centre Hall, 318-322 Stephenson's Road (~500m north of the Mount Waverley railway station, *Melway*® 70 E1). The venue is modern and comfortable. Enter from the front in Stephenson's Road and go up the stairs to the first floor.



What time are they run?

They start at 10.00 am (registration and tea and coffee from 9:30 am) and generally finish at 4.00 pm

I am in a wheel chair, can I attend?

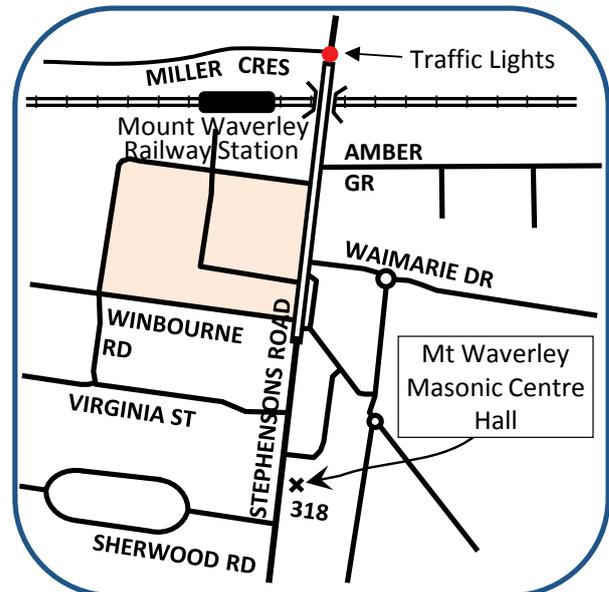


Yes, the hall is on the first floor but the Masonic Centre has a special lift for disabled access.

Do I have to be a GUM member and can I bring a friend?

No, you don't have to be a GUM member and you can bring a friend, visitors are always welcome. We would encourage you to join VicGUM® as the benefits are substantial.

How do I get there?



By Car: There is plenty of **free parking** (some around the right hand side and at the back of the Masonic Centre and plenty more in the car park at the end of the lane on the left hand side).



By Train: The Mt Waverley railway station (Glen Waverley line) is about 500 metres from the Masonic Centre. Timetable information is at: <http://ptv.vic.gov.au/timetables>.

Do I have to book for the workshop?

We do ask people to make a booking and pay beforehand. This greatly reduces the workload at the reception desk as well as allowing for more accurate catering arrangements.

If anyone has booked and paid for a workshop then subsequently finds that for some reason they cannot attend, as long as the booking is cancelled five (5) days before hand a full refund will be provided. The five day lead time is determined by the food ordering process.

A small number of "turn ups" on the day can be accommodated, but booking and paying beforehand is definitely encouraged.

How much do workshops cost?

The cost is \$30 for Members (pay on the day) and \$50 for non-members (pay on the day) Non-members who join on the day only pay the members' rate. The workshops include a light lunch, morning and afternoon tea and 'continuous' tea and coffee. Truly,

the value exceeds the price! 😊 You may even win the door prize.

Do I have to bring my lunch?

No! Lunch is included as part of the workshop—see above.

Can I ask questions?

Yes and there are also opportunities to network with other users during the breaks.

How are the workshops run?



The format involves presentations run on a computer with the image being projected via multi-media projectors onto screens. Hence, the participants get to see

exactly what is being presented. The GUM equipment is modern and designed to present clear information. Our seating arrangement means that you are never more than five rows from the screen.

I am a beginner, will I be swamped?

Workshops are designed to include material for beginners as well as catering for those who are looking for more advanced ideas. Content varies according to the subject being discussed, but there are always lots of practical examples.

Are there Handouts?

This is up to the individual presenters, but mostly don't count on them. Sometimes handouts are posted to the VicGUM® downloads page.

<http://www.vicgum.asn.au/> under "DOWNLOADS".

I came to a workshop last year will the material be the same?

Whilst basics are often stressed, there is always more material and new programs ensures that material is fresh.

I am a bit hard of hearing; will I be able to hear what is said?



Yes. All the presentations use a microphone and the VicGUM® sound system has been tailored to cater for the age of its members. There is no 'boomy' distorted sound. Unfortunately, the room

is not equipped for T-Loop hearing aids.

Do I have to bring my computer?

No, all the equipment being used on the day is provided by the workshop team. It is a good idea to bring a pad/clipboard etc. to take lots of notes. Often there are additional computers available to test things during the breaks.



Where can I get updated information about upcoming workshops?

In the GUM newsletter or go to the GUM website at <http://www.vicgum.asn.au> under "Latest news" which is always up to date.

Does VicGUM® run workshops in the country?

VicGUM® is a voluntary organization so we are limited to what we can do. For details of special events VicGUM® will be running or attending is on our website at <http://www.vicgum.asn.au> under "ALL EVENTS".

Is software available for sale at the Workshops?

Yes, you can buy the genealogy software that GUM sells at the workshops; often there are workshop specials. For details of the software available go to <http://www.vicgum.asn.au> under "SOFTWARE AND SALES".

Will I learn more?

Yes definitely! The workshops are fun and friendly and we guarantee that you will enjoy them and get a lot out of them.



Do I have to stay the whole day?

No. We understand that there are other commitments so if you have to come a bit late or leave a bit early that is up to you. No refunds or reduced cost though.

Where do I get more information?

Contact a VicGUM® committee member (see <http://www.vicgum.asn.au> for contact details) or email info@vicgum.asn.au or phone the GUM office during office hours (Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am to 3pm)

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 <http://www.vicgum.asn.au/> under "Latest news"

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