

# SILVER SURFERS OUT IN FORCE

**LEIGH'S** trainee silver surfers were out in force recently at iComputeIT's first taster session at The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive.

Run by local computer expert Gerry Thornton on Wednesday 7th January, it enabled people aged 50 plus to have a go at sending emails, using the internet, typing letters, using a web cameras, copying photographs onto a computer from a digital camera, transferring old vinyl records onto a computer, as well as learning about making cheap telephone calls via the internet and the importance of using of anti-virus programs.

Gerry, who launched iComputeIT this month to teach older people the basics of home computing in the relaxed and informal surroundings of their homes or at their local club, explained: "I've worked in computing for years and just recently my mum and her friends have been asking me to show them how to keep in touch by email and webcam – with each other and with their relatives abroad. Of course I was happy to help them, and it made me think that perhaps

**Report by JOHN BLACK**

there were other people locally who needed a bit of help with setting up their computers or with the basics of getting started, so I arranged this taster session, and it's all escalated from there!

"Not everyone feels at home in a formal learning environment, such as a college, and I will be limiting my training to six people per session, so that everyone gets individual attention according to their needs. Local clubs can book courses for their members, or individuals can book onto my courses.", he said.

iComputeIT's next course of eight two-hour sessions starts on Wednesday 28th January from 1-3pm at The Stables Lounge, rear of 195 Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, and costs £150. If you'd like to book a place or need further information call Gerry on 01702 479021, email [gerry@icomputeit.co.uk](mailto:gerry@icomputeit.co.uk) or visit [www.icomputeit.co.uk](http://www.icomputeit.co.uk). Gift vouchers also available.