



SMBE 2027
***The 36th Annual Country Technicians’
Training Seminar and Conference***
“The Clinical Engineering Conference”
Hunter Valley NSW 2027



Dates: 14 – 17 March 2027

Venue: Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort
15 Thompsons Road, Pokolbin, NSW 2320.

About the SMBE NSW Inc

The Society for Medical and Biological Engineering NSW Inc (SMBE NSW) was founded in 1966 to advance the cause of Biomedical Engineering in New South Wales.

Over the course of its history, SMBE NSW has become one of the largest Biomedical and Clinical Engineering organisations in Australia. SMBE NSW comprises biomedical engineers, technicians, managers and sales and service personnel from hospitals, service organisations and a wide range of medical equipment manufacturers and suppliers. Members come from not only NSW but many other states and territories of Australia.

About the Conference

The annual SMBE (NSW) training seminar is a not-to-be missed event for biomedical engineering personnel to meet and discuss common issues affecting their services, attend specialist training sessions on current and emerging technologies and to develop networking contacts.

The annual Conference is the SMBE's main vehicle for networking and dissemination of knowledge on new equipment, technology and procedures. Annual seminars began in 1989 to bring much needed training and networking opportunities to the technicians working in regional and remote NSW. They are well attended by city and country engineers and technicians across Australia.

What's on?

Technical Sessions on...

- New and emerging technologies,
- Service and support – managing your department,
- Clinical measurement and equipment,
- Clinical topics,
- Professional development – education and training,
- Technology management & integration of BME & IT, and
- “How to...” workshops conducted by trade exhibitors & sponsors.

Trade Exhibition

Companies, large and small will be there showing their latest test tools, medical equipment, software and repair services.

Hands-on training provided by medical equipment suppliers

Hands-on technical training returns again this year and as usual it will be provided by our sponsors and trade exhibitors.

What else is on?

Welcome Reception

The welcome BBQ will be held from 6.30pm on Sunday 14th March 2027 in the Hunter Valley. Venue TBA.

Conference Dinner

The conference dinner will be held at 6.30pm for 7.00pm on the evening of Monday 15th March 2027 at the Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort.

SMBE (NSW) Annual Information Session and AGM

Members of the SMBE (NSW) and conference delegates are invited to attend the SMBE (NSW) Annual General Meeting which will be held during the at 5.30pm on Tuesday 16th March, 2027 at the Conference venue.

Registration fees

Category	SMBE NSW Member	Kindred Society Member	Non-Member
Early Bird Registration (before 9 February 2027)	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$300.00
Standard Registration (up to 7 March 2027)	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$400.00
Single Day Registration – Mon or Tues	\$110.00	\$125.00	\$130.00
Single Day Registration - Wed	\$65.00	\$70.00	\$80.00
Student Registration	\$150.00	N/A	N/A

Kindred societies include other SMBEs and Engineers Australia

Call for papers

SMBE NSW Inc is calling for Biomedics and industry representatives to submit papers for presentation at the SMBE 2027 conference. All presenters will receive complimentary registration for the conference. Please submit ideas for presentations to Lejo Thomas at lejothomas@gmail.com or Bruce Morrison at president@smbensw.org.au

Some information about the Conference

Venue

The venue for the 2027 Conference will be the Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort in the beautiful Hunter Valley of NSW. The resort is located at 15 Thompsons Road, Pokolbin, NSW 2320.

For general information about the venue and the Newcastle and Hunter Valley region, see below and check the SMBE NSW website under EVENTS.

Conference hours

The conference begins at 9:15am on Monday 15th March 2027 and runs until 12:30pm on Wednesday 17th March 2027. Sessions will conclude at 5:00pm on Monday and Tuesday.

Registration will commence from 8:00am on Monday 15th March 2027, although pre-registration may be available prior to the Welcome BBQ on Sunday evening 14th March 2027.

Some information about Pokolbin and the Hunter Valley

Nestled in the heart of the Hunter Valley, Pokolbin is Australia's oldest and one of its most celebrated wine regions. Located approximately 60 km west of Newcastle and around two hours north of Sydney, Pokolbin is renowned for its award-winning wineries, gourmet restaurants, championship golf courses, and beautiful vineyard landscapes.

The Hunter Valley is home to more than 150 wineries and cellar doors, producing internationally recognised wines, particularly Semillon, Shiraz, and Chardonnay. Delegates can enjoy wine tastings, gourmet food experiences, hot-air balloon flights, cycling tours, art galleries, and local produce markets, making the region one of Australia's premier food and wine destinations.

Pokolbin also offers a range of attractions including Hunter Valley Gardens, concert venues hosting international artists, luxury accommodation, day spas, and scenic walking trails. Its relaxed atmosphere and picturesque countryside make it an ideal destination for both business events and leisure travel.

The conference venue, Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort, is centrally located among the vineyards and provides delegates with modern conference facilities, an 18-hole championship golf course, restaurants, and easy access to many of the Hunter Valley's leading wineries and attractions.

Whether attending professional sessions or exploring the surrounding region, delegates will enjoy the unique combination of world-class hospitality, natural beauty, and regional charm that makes the Hunter Valley one of Australia's most popular destinations.



Getting there ...

Pokolbin is easily accessible. Located in the heart of the Hunter Valley, it is **the place to be** in March 2027.

From Sydney by Car (Recommended)

- Distance: Approximately 170 km
- Driving time: Around 2 to 2.5 hours, depending on traffic.
- Follow the M1 Pacific Motorway north from Sydney.
- Take the Hunter Expressway (M15) towards Cessnock.
- Follow signs to Pokolbin via Wine Country Drive and Broke Road.
- Continue to Thompsons Road and follow the signs to Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort.

From Sydney by Air

- Fly from Sydney to Newcastle Airport, then travel by rental car or taxi (approximately 1 hour).

From Sydney by Train

- Take an NSW TrainLink service from Sydney Central to Maitland.
- From Maitland, travel by bus, taxi, or rideshare to Pokolbin (approximately 40–50 minutes).

From Melbourne by Air (Recommended)

- Fly from **Melbourne Airport (MEL)** to **Newcastle Airport (NTL)**.
- Newcastle Airport is approximately **one hour's drive** from Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort. Rental cars, taxis, and rideshare services are available.

Alternative

- Fly to **Sydney Airport** and drive approximately **170 km (2–2.5 hours)** to the Hunter Valley.

From Brisbane by Air (Recommended)

- Fly from **Brisbane Airport (BNE)** to **Newcastle Airport (NTL)**.
- Flight time is approximately **1 hour 20 minutes**.
- Newcastle Airport is approximately **60 km (about 1 hour's drive)** from Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort.
- Rental cars, taxis, airport shuttles, and rideshare services are available from the airport.

Alternative

- Fly from **Brisbane** to **Sydney Airport (SYD)** and drive approximately **170 km (2–2.5 hours)** to the Hunter Valley via the M1 Pacific Motorway and Hunter Expressway (M15).

Accommodation

There are many choices for accommodation in the Pokolbin area including:

Accommodation	Category	Location	Distance to Venue
Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort	Premium	Pokolbin	Onsite
Spicers Guesthouse	Premium	Pokolbin	1.2km
Spicers Vineyards Estate	Premium	Pokolbin	1.2km
The Convent Hunter Valley	Premium	Pokolbin	1.5km
voco Kirkton Park Hunter Valley	Premium	Pokolbin	11km
Pokolbin Village Estate	Mid-range	Pokolbin	2.0km
Leisure Inn Pokolbin Hill	Mid-range	Pokolbin	2.5km
Hermitage Lodge	Mid-range	Pokolbin	1.3km
Grapevines Boutique Accommodation	Mid-range	Pokolbin	3.5km
Hunter Valley Resort + Farm	Mid-range	Pokolbin	6.5km
Aussie Rest Motel	Budget	Cessnock	12km
Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens	Budget	Pokolbin	1.6km
H Boutique Hotel	Budget	Pokolbin	2.9km
Estate Tuscany	Budget	Pokolbin	6.4km
Pokolbin Village Estate	Budget	Pokolbin	2.0km