



Australian Broadband Guarantee — Small Business

Broadband in the valley a boon for business

News on the neighbourhood grapevine is renowned for travelling fast and when the news spread that there was an Australian Government program that can help small businesses connect to high-speed broadband in regional, rural and remote areas, Christine Salomonsson looked into it.

'I run my small business, Calm Waters Retreat, on 50 acres in the picturesque Howqua Valley in the Alpine mountain ranges of North East Victoria's legendary High Country,' Christine said.

'We had ISDN connect us to both phone and broadband but whenever we had any problems with the phone lines, or we lost electricity, we would lose our internet connection.'

'When I heard about the Australian Broadband Guarantee program, I visited the government web site, checked which internet service providers could help me and registered for the program. It was very easy.'

Christine found there were a few internet service providers registered with the Australian Broadband Guarantee that could help her connect to high-speed broadband.

'I shopped around and chose Wideband because they didn't lock me in to a contract,' Christine said.



'We chose the added value 5GB per month data plan so we could make phone calls over the internet too.'

Christine has found having a broadband connection extremely valuable for her business.

'It makes it so much easier to manage our website— just uploading photos is much quicker,' Christine said.

'It also helps us avoid double bookings in the busy periods.'

For more information about the Australian Broadband Guarantee program, call the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy on **freecall 1800 883 488** or visit **www.dbcde.gov.au/abg**