



## Australian Broadband Guarantee – Small Business

### Australian Broadband Guarantee rolls into Greenhills

Along the Murrumbidgee River, surrounded by rolling hills and overlooking the scenic Cotter Valley, you'll find the Greenhills Conference Centre. Harold Small manages the centre in this tranquil location 15 minutes from Canberra's CBD, in the Australian Capital Territory.

Opening in 1965, the conference centre has a long history of providing group accommodation and facilities for school, church and community groups, but it was the launch of their website five years ago that really made the conference centre take off.

'I could hardly believe how much the business grew in such a short period of time,' Harold said.

'We had more responses from the website in one year than we achieved in the whole history of advertised publications! The web is really the best way to go.'

Unfortunately, accessing the internet through their Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) connection was extremely slow going. Harold looked into connecting a broadband service but didn't think any options were available in the area. That was until he found out about the Australian Government's broadband assistance program.

'When I heard about the Australian Broadband Guarantee I immediately leapt at the chance to take up a service,' he said.

'ISDN was frustratingly slow and costing us an arm and a leg!'

Harold was contacted by one of the program's registered internet service providers and informed that Greenhills was eligible to receive a subsidised broadband service. He moved quickly to connect and take advantage of the high-speed broadband access.

'The Australian Broadband Guarantee has helped us get a broadband service that is similar to what people in the cities get.'



Broadband access is now an important part of daily business at Greenhills and has helped to streamline their work.

'We mainly use the internet for emails as we get a lot of our bookings that way. But we also do internet banking and general browsing,' Harold said.

'We're on the internet everyday, multiple times per day.'

Having broadband access at Greenhills has given Harold another advantage that he would never have thought possible using the old ISDN service.

'We are actually giving internet access to a group staying with us at the moment. We've done some extensions to our main building over the last couple of months and now that we have a bit more space we've extended our local area network too.'

'That's something we'll be looking to develop further, so we can give all the groups that come here, like the school kids or any other groups, internet access too.'

'Our Australian Broadband Guarantee service has made an enormous difference.'

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](http://www.dbcde.gov.au/abg)