



Four Australian websites win Childnet Awards

The ABA congratulates the creators of the four Australian websites that received Cable and Wireless Childnet Awards, announced in Paris on 4 April 2002.

'Awards such as these highlight the way the Internet can engage and inform children, as well as breaking down barriers between them,' said Professor Flint. 'These awards provide well-deserved international recognition of Australian creative talents'.

In the Individual category, the site created by Emily, Sarah and Elise Boyd, three Australian teenage sisters, won first place. Their site - www.matmice.com/ - provides a place for other children to create their own web pages, and to date nearly 50,000 children throughout the world have done so.

Brookvale Public School in NSW was awarded second place in the Schools category for its website www.brookvaleps.nsw.edu.au/. The site includes a range of web activities, including an Internet audio Tongan dictionary produced by the children themselves.

Also commended in the Schools category was the Westminster Primary School site westminster.iinet.net.au/world/, intended to 'Shake the World' and create 'Classrooms that Care'.

Achieving second place in the not-for-profit category was the Reach Out! website, www.reachout.com.au/home.jsp an initiative of the Inspire Foundation. This site provides a space for young people to share their feelings and find encouragement and advice to get through tough times.

The ABA also commends these sites as excellent examples of web site 'best practice'. It will be providing a link to these sites on its website for families

www.cybersmartkids.com.au, which contains useful information for children and parents to help enhance their Internet experience and ensure their Internet safety.



Above: Senator Richard Alston, Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, recently visited the ABA.

Pictured are members of the ABA with the Minister, (L to R) Ian Robertson, Malcolm Long, Jane Marquard, David Flint, Senator Alston, Lyn Maddock, Michael Gordon Smith and Robert Le Tet.