Seniors Online Day

nline Australia developed the inaugural Seniors Online Day as part of Adult Learners Week, for the International Year of Older Persons 1999. Seniors Online Day was a national event aimed at introducing seniors to the internet.

The day was launched by Bronwyn Bishop, Minister for Aged Care, and Olympic gold medallist Dawn Fraser (patron of Seniors Online Day) at the State Library of New South Wales on 7 September 1999.

A web portal was developed by Online Australia and Pacific Internet, dedicated to instructing, informing and inspiring seniors about the internet. The site contains content of interest to seniors, including information about health, travel, finance, sports and entertainment, as well as clear instructions and advice about using the internet.

The event attracted a large amount of media attention: more than eighteen live radio interviews went to air nationally; more than forty-seven articles ap-



At the launch of Seniors Online Day at the State Library of New South Wales were: (I-r) Jennefer Nicholson, ALIA; Julian Ngiam, NOIE, Dr Paul Twomey, NOIE, Thea Butler, NOIE, Keith Ward, St George (major sponsor); Peter Knox, Pacific Internet; Dawn Fraser; Bronwyn Bishop, Minister for Aged Care; Lisa Ellis, AC'99; Nan Bosler ASCCA; and Tony

peared in newspapers around the country; 200 000 pieces of printed promotional material were distributed; 1000 organisations participated Aus-

tralia wide; and there were more than 160 000 hits on the Seniors Online Day website [http://www.onlineseniors.net.au].

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