



## **Amanda Rishworth MP**

Member for Kingston

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **Free broadband internet for seniors in the South**

The Member for Kingston, Amanda Rishworth, today unveiled Aldinga's first free internet kiosk for seniors at Aldinga Community Centre.

Under the Australian Government's *Broadband for Seniors* initiative, \$15 million is being invested over three years to install up to 2000 kiosks across the country.

The Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin said 42 kiosks were already operating, with many in regional and rural areas.

"This is one of the first kiosks to open in Australia. Over the coming months hundreds of kiosks will be online across the country," Ms Macklin said.

Ms Rishworth said, people aged 50 and over will be better connected to family, friends and the technological age with free computer training and internet access.

"Only one in five Australians over the age of 65 years currently uses the internet," Ms Rishworth said.

"Many older Australians are missing out on the ease of staying in touch with family and friends online."

*Broadband for Seniors* will bring older Australians together to learn about computers and share their experiences, giving them the confidence to get online.

The kiosks are accessible to all seniors, including older citizens with disabilities and those from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, through the use of specific language software and assistive technology.

The Australian Government, NEC Australia, Adult Learning Australia, the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association and the University of the Third Age Online are working together to provide this free service.

We are currently looking for more community organisations to host kiosks, including computers, a broadband internet service and training materials.

Community organisations who wish to be involved can call the *Broadband for Seniors* hotline on 1300 795 897 or visit [www.necseniors.net.au](http://www.necseniors.net.au) for more information.