

HHERN NEWS

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Points of interest

- Bradman funded to join HHERN:** The NSW Government funding will support Stage 2 development of the International Cricket Hall of Fame. This includes: \$4.49 million for the construction of five new galleries and expansion of display content, including the development of an Interactive Classroom Connect Program which will immediately connect the ICHOF to global educational institutions linked to the AARNet Internet Network as part of the HHERN.
- Ace Internet Services develop software for HHERN:** Ace engineers have developed and deployed online detailed usage for HHERN members. The online utility provided month to date and previous months data. The table shows uploads, on-net downloads and off-net downloads. Under the HHERN and AARNet agreement only off-net traffic is metered. The off-net charge from January 2011 will be only \$2.00/gigabyte. On-net traffic remains unmetered.
- Rivers of information:** HHERN expects to deliver one Terabyte of data to members each month! With SHSC and Bradman connection in the first half of 2011 HHERN expects to pass the 1TB of data the vast majority will be free on-net traffic!
- Happy Christmas and New Year:** The HHERN team would like to thank all our supporters and we wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and a very happy new year. We have a big year ahead and look forward to making a difference again in 2011!

SHCS CONNECTS TO HHERN

On the 1st of December the Southern Highlands Christian School Connected to the HHERN. SHCS follows Chevalier College's very successful experience with HHERN over the past year. The HHERN has revolutionised Chevalier's ability to access services and content on the Internet. Refer to the Spring edition of HHERN News for details.

Southern Highlands Christian School is the first Kindergarten to Year 12 School in the region connected to AARNet and achieving exceptional performance. When offered the service, the school was guaranteed a 25 Megabit baseline with the possibility of achieving even greater speeds. With speeds of over 50 Megabits being achieved using the new radio technology being deployed by Ace

Internet Services for the HHERN participants. See picture to the right of the completed installation at the SHCS.

Principal of the Southern Highlands Christian School, Peter Jamieson comments: "As we are the longest, and currently the only, provider of Prep to Year 12 education in the Southern Highlands, we are extremely excited about this new development in the school's history. By giving our students access to AARNet via HHERN, we are encouraging them to step beyond the classroom and explore the world and the universe via cutting edge technology. We are providing our Prep to Year 12 students with access to knowledge and resources which until re-



Ace Internet finalises the SHCS radio connection.

cently only tertiary students have been able to access." He adds, "we are celebrating the fact that even our very youngest students in prep and kindy will be experiencing technology suited to the 21st century well in advance of most of their peers."

AARNET DEMONSTRATES 'IGLEW'

AARNet is bringing students 3D tours of the known universe and a trip back to ancient Egypt within the AARNet iglew – an inflatable, immersive 3D theatre. The iglew experience allows students to explore the known universe, via the American Museum of Natural History and NASA's Digital Universe Atlas. Online gaming technologies will enable students to inter-

act with space data and imagery from NASA and the global telescope network. Students will also explore the faithfully recreated Egyptian Temple of Horus developed by US researcher Dr Jeffery Jacobson, creating an unforgettable learning experience. Students will have the opportunity to experience 1080p high definition video feeds through a fish-eye lens in real time.

Technology and the curriculum

AARNet is focused on bringing high speed broadband experiences to schools to revolutionise the 21st century curriculum. The iglew is a great example of how high speed broadband, emerging technologies and visualisation tools can enable students to access data from science and re-

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HHERN provides communication services to connect educational institutions to the Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNet).

HHERN aggregates the institutions under HHERN's membership with AARNet. This sharing allows schools and institutions to connect at a lower cost and best of all, education data from AARNet is free!

For schools, the formula is simple: total dollar costs to HHERN divided by the number of students. The cost per head is reduced as we add schools and students.

For non-school institutions an estimate of network usage is determined and a fee is then put into the formula which again reduces the participation costs.

The simple aim of HHERN is to provide exceptional educational Internet access that would otherwise be cost prohibitive.

HHERN is made possible by the support and co-operation of Australian Bio Resources (an operating entity of the Garvan Institute of Medical Research www.garvan.org.au), AARNet, Wingecarribee Shire Council and Ace Internet Services.

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AARNet demonstrates 'iglew' inflatable hi-def 3D theatre

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search organisations in Australia and across the globe.

Chris Hancock, CEO of AARNet, said, "The possibilities that high speed networks such as AARNet bring to the education sector are endless and we are excited about what lies ahead with this technology. AARNet believes in supporting Australian students in their quest for knowledge and we are continually seeking new and innovative technologies to bring the curriculum to life."

The iglew

The iglew (immersive global learning environment) provides AARNet with a unique environment in which to showcase educational content from its global partners. It utilises software and technologies found in online gaming to engage users and provide an interactive, immersive, visual-spatial experience. It can be set-up in around 60 minutes and provides a fully enclosed, immersive theatre environment, ideal for a classroom of students. It enables students to navigate through, interact with and globally collaborate using advanced gaming platforms and HD video conferencing.

Nick Cross, Manager of Education Outreach for AARNet, said, "The iglew enables us to present complex concepts about the universe in an easy-to-understand, visual context which benefits students of all ages and enriches the learning experience. AARNet is focused on partnering with content providers and researchers across the globe to develop a broad range of immersive interactive content across a wide range of disciplines."

Allen Cupitt, Managing Director of HHERN, said, "HHERN will work closely with AARNet to have the opportunities to experience technologies like the iglew available to our schools and institutions. Nick has indicated to me we can book the iglew early in the new year for a tour of connected schools."

