

ATTORNEY GENERAL WELCOMES SPANISH MONARCHS TO SYDNEY



On 25 June 2009, the Honourable John Hatzistergos MLC, Attorney General of New South Wales, welcomed King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia to Sydney on behalf of the NSW Government.

The King and Queen of Spain were in Sydney to officially open Australia's first dedicated Spanish cultural centre.

Mr Hatzistergos joined the King and Queen in touring the "Cervantes Institute" – a centre promoting Spanish language and culture around the world.

In celebrating the opening of the Institute, Mr Hatzistergos said in the p-

resence of their Majesties:

"We honour King Juan Carlos, the great defender of Spanish democracy and his gracious consort, Queen Sofia;

We honour the world-wide Spanish-speaking community, which transcends borders and continents;

We honour the Australian achievement of multicultural harmony, of which the Spanish and Latin American communities have been such a vital and successful part;

We honour the beautiful Spanish tongue, one of the great languages of the world;

Above all, we honour the life and legacy of Miguel de Cervantes, who died nearly 500 years ago but whose life and works have become a worldwide symbol of Spanish heritage and

culture.

The Institute is deliberately named after the author of Don Quixote who is admired as the iconic figure of a language (and culture) spoken by nearly 500 million people in more than 20 countries.

"Their Majesties' visit will strengthen cultural and diplomatic bonds between the two nations," Mr Hatzistergos said. Mr Hatzistergos was also pleasantly surprised by Her Majesty's knowledge of his Hellenic background when she proceeded to speak to him in Greek.

The Spanish Queen was born in Athens as Princess Sophia of Greece and Denmark in 1938 where she also married the then Prince, now King, Juan Carlos of Spain in 1962 whom she met on a cruise of the Greek Islands.

ETHNIC PAY TV OPERATOR WELCOMES PIRACY SENTENCING

Australia's largest multi-cultural subscription TV and radio broadcaster, UBI WORLD TV has welcomed the sentencing of two men following Australian Federal Police (AFP) raids last November regarding the widespread piracy of pay television cards.

UBI worked with FOXTEL and AUSTAR to initiate the AFP raids after using a private investigator to establish that piracy was occurring.

Since discovering the piracy scam and informing the AFP, UBI switched its cards to a different format, stamping out the current spate of piracy.

Yousseff Nahlous was sentenced on Wednesday to 26 months in prison with an 18 month non-parole period for selling pirated Pay TV decoder boxes under section 135ASB (1) of the Copyright Act 1968 and dealing proceeds of crime. The sentence will be served on a periodic basis. His son Habib Nahlous was given a \$2,500 fine in the Sydney District Court, Downing Centre.

Police believe there have been as many as 50,000 fake pay television encryption cards in use across Australia.

Chief Executive of UBI, Mrs Regina Boulos, said: "In the interest of the entire pay TV industry and of all legitimate paying subscribers, UBI initiated the AFP's investigation, raids and arrests regarding the fake cards and pirated boxes in order to address the serious and escalating problem of pay TV piracy in our community. This exercise is a time consuming and an expensive one and would not be fixed overnight, but the handful of committed companies like UBI are ready to continue investing resources to protect their businesses and legitimate paying subscribers. "Piracy is one of the worst afflictions for the Pay TV industry. It is illegal, it is stealing and it is cheating companies of revenue they need to continue providing services to the community. We ask the community to get behind us in our fight against the unscrupulous operators that are earning the revenue from our business that they are not entitled to. We ask the community for vigilance and cooperation so that once and for all, we can put a stop to this criminal activity that hurts everyone", she added.

UBI WORLD TV provides more than 100 channels of entertainment, sport and news across a range of languages, including Greek, Arabic, Turkish, Spanish, Portuguese, Balkan, Filipino and Persian.

With headquarters in Sydney, UBI World TV operates direct-to-home satellite service, sourcing its channels from more than 30 countries and is now the largest provider of non-English digital TV channels to Australia's ethnically diverse population.



Help prevent global antibiotic resistance: only take it if you need it

It's that time of year again when it seems everyone around you has a cough or cold. While many people go to see their GP expecting to be prescribed antibiotics, the National Prescribing Service Ltd (NPS) urges people to try other remedies first.

"Antibiotics have no effect on infections caused by viruses, and the common cold and seasonal influenza are viruses," NPS Deputy CEO, Karen Kaye said.

Common colds last around 7-10 days and during this time people can expect to have a blocked or runny nose, sore throat and possible cough. Seasonal influenza or 'flu is a different type of virus to common colds and includes fever and aches and pain.

"The simplest, most cost-effective remedies if you have a cold are rest and fluids. If you have a headache, muscle pain, or fever take paracetamol or ibuprofen, but be careful if you are taking a cough and cold preparation as these often already contain pain relief," Ms Kaye said.

"A course of antibiotics won't

help you get over your cold faster, it won't ease the symptoms, and it won't stop you passing the virus on to other people. Taking antibiotics when you don't need to only increases antibiotic resistance both in you as an individual and in the community."

NPS estimates that more than 3 million antibiotic prescriptions are wasted on viral infections each year. Not only does this increase antibiotic resistance, it costs the community millions of dollars.

"Doctors often feel pressured to prescribe something when a patient specifically requests it. Rather than focusing only on what health professionals are doing, we want people to learn when they do and don't need antibiotics, so they can take more responsibility for their own health," Ms Kaye said.

Most coughs don't need antibiotics, but if you are a smoker or you're experiencing other symptoms like wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness you should see a doctor. Similarly if your cough is chronic or if you are concerned about

the duration and severity of your cough you should speak to your GP.

"Research has shown that cough and cold medicines have limited effect. If your cough is problematic you should be seeing your GP. If not, drinking honey and lemon mixes can be as effective as some over-the-counter cough mixtures," Ms Kaye said.

Not all antibiotics are the same as different active ingredients treat different infections. To find out the active ingredient in your medicine go to www.nps.org.au/medicine-namefinder and enter the name of the medicine you have been prescribed.

"Getting to know your medicines will help you understand what you have been prescribed and why. Read the consumer medicine information leaflet, which can also be downloaded via the Medicine Name Finder, and discuss antibiotic use with your doctor," Ms Kaye said.

For more information about common colds visit www.nps.org.au/consumers/campaigns/ccncs