

100 YEARS OF CENSUS

Multicultural Launch at Sydney's Le Montage



Minister Victor Dominello



Paul Lowe



Michelle Howe



Paul Lowe with Minister Victor Dominello



Sheba Nandkeolyar



The attendees at the launch

The Census Multicultural Launch 2011 held at Le Montage, Sydney was a resonating success attended by over 100 media leaders, community leaders, Consul Generals from Diplomatic Missions, business leaders as well as Census officials. It marked the 100 years of Census enumeration in Australia, an important milestone in Australian history.

Sheba Nandkeolyar, the CEO of Multicall Connexions (Multicultural Marketing Agency for Census Australia) welcomed the guests followed by an introductory speech by the Head of Population Census Program, Paul Lowe who emphasised the importance of Census data in planning and allocating funds for a brighter future in Australia. The key note speech by the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, The Hon. Victor Michael Dominello, MP highlighted how important it is for every one in Australia to get counted, whether it is an Australian resident, an international student or a tourist. He was proud of Australia being a multicultural nation and NSW, a very multicultural state.

The launch included a short presentation on the multicultural campaign implemented by Census Australia which included press advertisements in 38 languages and radio in 69 languages. The audience had the opportunity to ask questions to Census officials present which successfully raised immediate awareness about the Census date 9th August and how it is extremely important to fill in the Census forms thoroughly and accurately to reflect Australia as it is in 2011.

Overall, it was an event with a high profile media and invitee list which aimed at collaborating an understanding of the Census among the multicultural media.

2000 students can't be wrong!

Question: Which NSW school has 2000 students, all of whom study at least one language?

Answer: Open High School, NSW's leading language school, which offers thirteen languages and 42 individual courses to the students of the state. Chinese and Arabic were introduced recently and Portuguese will be added to the impressive list of offerings in 2011.

"The ability to speak in different languages can only become more vital with the onset of globalisation. During my travels to 55 countries around the world, whether in hostile or friendly environments, I have witnessed first hand the benefits of learning another language. Learning a language gives you the ability

to learn and understand other cultures from a totally different perspective. It provides intellectual stimulation and a sense of self-confidence when able to communicate effectively," said Commander Mark Todd, RANR, when speaking at the school's Presentation Day earlier this year. Commander Todd has recently completed 25 years of active service in the Navy.

Open High School, one of six distance education centres in NSW, is the state's major provider of languages by distance education. Students unable to study their chosen language in their own school, whether state or private, can enrol at Open High School where 100 teachers cater for the 2000 students who enrol annually. A feature of the school is

the use of Moodle, an online learning management system used to deliver course material, quizzes, video footage and internet links. Moodle

gives students the option to progress at their own pace yet with ongoing teacher support to get the most out of their studies. "I enjoy using Moodle," said one of the many Open High School students who accesses the site. "It makes learning easier and more enjoyable because I can do the exercises when I want to and receive instant feedback. Everything is in one place and I find this useful when I want to revise my work." A convenient way of finding out more about the school is to visit the website at www.theopenhs-d.schools.nsw.edu.au