The theme for National Consumer Day is 'If it sounds too good to be true - it probably is'.

Minister for Consumer Affairs Dr Peter Toyne will visit a Consumer Affairs display between 11:45am and 12:15pm at the Palmerston Shopping Centre on Monday March 15.

Consumer Affairs will be focusing on warnings to consumers and traders on the various scams being circulated in the Territory, including:

- pyramid schemes;
- telephone and door to door selling;
- Internet Spam;
- false billing;
- money laundering schemes; as well as
- uninvited offers, prizes and lotteries.

Give aways include fridge magnets and the updated edition of 'The Little Black Book of Scams' a very popular booklet known as the 'Consumer's Guide to Scams, Rorts and Rip Offs'.

Scams are a very lucrative business for the operators and Territorians are continually being caught out with new offers and some old scams revamped using a different name.

Consumer Affairs will also be placing articles in industry and association's magazines and newsletters as an on-going strategy to encourage people not to send money overseas and definitely not provide people they don't know with the credit card or bank details.

False Billing is rampant, and business should be vigilant when paying accounts and check that they ordered and received the goods that they are paying for.

Final message - throw the propaganda in the bin.

Phone Consumer Affairs on 8999 1999.