

# Project MIND . . . a column on Meeting the Information Needs of the Disabled

## Travel Packages for Disabled Persons

Meryl Bolin opened Crossways Travel in February 1981 as the first commercial travel agent in Australia to handle holidays for the disabled. Meryl's venture into the area came about through travelling overseas with her disabled (blind) husband, and noting that tourism in Australia overlooked the disabled potential traveller. Crossways Travel is located at 6th Floor, Wesley Centre, Pitt St, Sydney.

Another organisation which will handle itineraries for the disabled is Australian-Himalayan Expeditions, 3rd Floor, 28 O'Connell St, Sydney (contact person Christine Gee). They have, among other things, organised a trip through the mountains of Nepal for paraplegics.

Ros Langford of Council of Adult Education, 256 Flinders Street, Melbourne has helped design special tours in response to requests from groups of disabled persons. A 5-day tour of Swan Hill-Mildura for wheelchair confined people will be run in June.

## Slow Learning Children's Group

The Slow Learning Children's Group (WA) has a major collection of books suitable for persons who are either slow learners or late-start adult readers. In addition to an extensive loans operation to these clients, the library has collected references on slow learning and adult literacy in particular for use by staff, teachers, and other people working in this area.

A limited number of copies of the list of holdings are available on request to Narkaling Library, Slow Learning Children's Group, 1305 Hay Street, West Perth 6005 phone (09) 322 3377. Inquiries may be made to Helen Robertson or Judy Bottomley.

## Independence and Disabled Persons

Hazel Bedwin, MBE, was co-founder of the first Australian 'independent' sheltered workshop for disabled people. In *Can't I, Just Watch Me!* a book sponsored by the Gas & Fuel Corporation of Victoria and Landvale Enterprises, the story of Hazel's fight for independence whilst confined to a wheelchair by rheumatoid arthritis is outlined. The author, Eileen Ewing, is partially paralysed by stroke.

Inquiries to Landvale Enterprises, PO Box 56, Toorak 3142. Proceeds go to Disabled Citizens Association. (From Vivienne Ferretter.)

## Macquarie University Speakwriter

A golfball typewriter which audibly announces the characters it types, reads characters already typed in the line, tells next character and makes corrections is now available in Australia.

Based on the Silver Reed typewriter, Quantum Engineering have developed the work of Professor Ron Aitchison to make typing and corrections more useful to print handicapped persons. The typewriter, with several added switches to operate the voice synthesizer functions, sells at around \$605 tax exempt. Details from Quantum Engineering & Design, 70a Rawson St, Epping 2121.

## Newsletter of Adult Literacy and Numeracy

*Literacy Link* is the newsletter of the Australian Council for Adult Literacy. It acts as an information exchange, informs the Government and the community in the needs of adults requiring literacy and numeracy help, and sponsors occasional workshops and annual conferences. In addition to *Literacy Link*, the Council publishes Proceedings of annual conferences and other books and papers relevant to adult literacy.

The newsletter is available by subscription, and is published three times a year.

Further details from Australian Council for Adult Literacy c/- CAE, 256 Flinders Street, Melbourne 3000.

## Improving the Library Image

A library in Montana USA employs forty people who would normally be termed unemployable. Ages range from eight to ninety-seven in a special employment programme where people carry out varying library duties. Tasks include maintenance and cleaning as well as making displays, providing assistance with loans and delivering materials to immobile people in the community.

The organiser of the scheme says that the library has become a place of rehabilitation and as such has earned a greater respect from those segments of the community that traditionally have not been library users.

Contributed by Jennifer O'Neil (from James Deutsch, *American Libraries*, Nov. 1981).

## IYDP 1981 — Is it all over?

One of the greatest fears of the International Year of the Disabled Person organisers is that the benefits and efforts apparent through 1981 will wind down.

Project MIND would like to publicise current, future, or past happenings in order to keep the zest for improvement and interchange of ideas active.

Contributions should be sent to Lloyd Junor, Melbourne State College, Carlton, 3053.

## A NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CURRENT AND FUTURE URICA DEVELOPMENTS

The AWA URICA Library System is an integrated set of computer modules covering all the major functions required by libraries, namely — acquisitions; cataloguing; circulation; enquiry; serials control.

### THE USERS GROUP

(Blacktown City Library; Ryde Municipal Library; University of Tasmania and Preston College of TAFE.)

invites you to a

### CONFERENCE

to be held in

### SYDNEY

on

8 July 1982

(Venue to be advised)

Cost: \$125

Personnel from each user library and from AWA will be present.

It is proposed that the conference will centre on:  
Current status and future developments at individual libraries and AWA.

The afternoon of the conference will concentrate on small working groups dealing with — acquisitions; cataloguing; circulation; enquiry and serials control modules.

The number of participants will be limited to 50 to enable all to interrelate adequately with the users, AWA and other participants.

This is your opportunity to become more informed on the 'current status' of the URICA system and converse with users.

For further information contact:

### Preston College of TAFE

Learning Resources Centre, Library

St Georges Road

Preston Vic 3072

Phone: (03) 479 3345

(Pat Stewart/Marie Wood/Val Henshaw)

## See a clepsydra in Canberra!

JUST IN case there may be a few *InCite* readers not quite certain what a clepsydra actually is, it must be explained that it is an ancient form of chronometer used by the Greeks and Romans to measure time by a flow of water.

The reason for its appearance in Canberra is an exhibition on Maps and Map-Making at the National Library's Nan Kivell Room, continuing until 18 July.

Nine organisations and a number of individuals have provided material for this exhibition, which includes modern and historical maps and some unusual items connected with cartography.

As well as the clepsydra, there is a lithographic stone plate from which Surveyor-General Sir Thomas Mitchell's Map of the Colony of New South Wales was printed in 1834, and navigational instruments, some believed to have been used by Mitchell and others by Captain Cook.

More modern items in the exhibition include survey pegs which marked the Australian Capital Territory Border, a Braille map of Turner Primary School, and an electronic distance-measuring instrument which can measure a kilometre in 10 seconds. A major attraction of the display is a diorama, showing miniature satellites and ships, complete with flashing lights, demonstrating bathymetric mapping.

The exhibition's opening on 16 April, was timed to coincide with two other events in Canberra relating to cartography — the First Australian Congress of Surveying and Cartography, and an International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing Symposium.

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