

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

**T**HE NSW BRANCH OF MIND is alive, well and active. The major project of the branch, the publication of *Academic Libraries in New South Wales - a guide for disabled users* is under way. Questionnaires have been forwarded to head librarians in tertiary educational institutions seeking data on access, toilet facilities, special support personnel, parking, the nature of materials held by the libraries, and other items of interest.

Readers seeking information about the survey or about MIND activities in NSW should contact either Valmai Hastings, MIND Convenor, The Library, Kuring-gai CAE, Eton Rd, Lindfield 2070 or Margaret Whetton, Sydney College of the Arts, 58 Allen St, Glebe 2037.

### Learning from Lessee

The Tucson Public Library (Box 27470, Tucson, Ariz. 85726, USA) has an area known as its Special Needs Service.

Recently Judyth Lessee, who operates in that service, visited Melbourne and gave an illustrated talk on the activities which are undertaken by the Tucson Public Library to meet special needs. Of great interest is their publication *People to People* which advises on library acquisitions in print, film, periodicals and vertical file materials. It includes bibliographies on matter related to special needs topics, and advises on activities of organisations at federal and local levels. From what Judyth showed and told the audience, a visit to that library should be included on the itinerary of travelling librarians!

### Life on wheels

An illustrated activity book for middle primary to lower secondary school students designed to encourage thought about what it is like to spend a great deal of life in a wheelchair has come from WA. The author of *Ironman: Understanding Disability*, Rod Stafford, is a quadriplegic. The book looks objectively at a range of situations encountered by chair users. Details from PO Box 256, Mt Lawley 6050.

### Photocopiers which enlarge

Canon manufacture a plain paper copier which has an enlargement facility. Enlargement ratio is 1:1.273. Paper sizes from A4 to A3 are accommodated. Information on the Canon NP400 is available from Canon representatives.

Minolta's model 710 photocopier accepts paper from A5 through to A3 (11in x 17in). It will make, for example, an A3 copy in one step from an A4 original, or the converse.

## PS salary increase

**N**EW SOUTH WALES State Public Service Librarians received a salary increase of four percent in December 1981. Library technicians had previously accepted a 4.8 percent increase.

Both increases were in addition to a four percent interim increase which had been back-dated to December 1979.

(Negotiations are still to take place on salary restructuring in the librarians' classifications.)

*Judith Hill*  
LAA Industrial Officer

Direct (1:1) copying is included in its range. Minolta is represented in Australia by Oce.

These machines would be ideal in library situations which require copies for readers of enlarged print.

### Wheelchairs in school

School librarians may be interested to read of the experiences of a number of senior non-handicapped students who attempted to follow their normal school program for two days while being totally confined to wheelchairs. The event is reported in *The Australian Journal of Remedial Education* (v13, no1, 1981) and took place at a South Australian high school. (From Brian Watson.)

### Dog training manual considers problems of disabled persons

A useful addition to the shelves of libraries serving the needs of the disabled is the first dog training manual to deal specifically with the problems of disabled people. *Your Dog: Companion and Helper* covers training a dog if one is confined to a wheelchair or uses crutches or has some other physical disability such as hearing or sight impairment. A dog which is trained for example to alert a deaf person to a doorbell, to an emergency or to guard a child would enable the owner to make use of a dog's very valuable skills as well as enjoying more fully its companionship.

*Your Dog: Companion and Helper* costs

US\$11.95 from Alpine Publications, 1901-FS Garfield Street, Loveland, Co 80537. Multiple copy discounts are available to trainers and organisations. (Condensed from *Rehabilitation Literature*, Jan-Feb 81) (From Lisa Anderson.)

### Large print newspaper

The first edition of the large print *Wimmera Mail Times* was published on 14 May 1981 by the Wimmera Base Hospital. Styled similarly to the *Age Large Print* paper, it consisted of eight pages based on local news, extracted from the *Wimmera Mail Times*, with no space allocated to advertising.

The paper has subsequently been published fortnightly and all 400 copies of each edition have been sold at a cost of 60 cents. Enquiries to Mr Gary Henry, Manager, Wimmera Base Hospital, Horsham Vic 3400. Telephone (053) 82 0111. (From Kay Sagar.)

### Correction - Talking about loss

The correct source for the bibliography in loss mentioned in MIND Column no12 (18 September 1981) is *Personnel and Guidance Journal* v59, no6 (February 1981).

Contributions to this column are welcomed and should be sent to Lloyd Junor, Lecturer in Media Studies, Department of Librarianship, Melbourne State College, 757 Swanston St, Carlton, 3053. Phone: (03) 341 8111. (MIND column no 12).

## PRESENTATION OF LAA AWARDS



From left: Prof Carmel Maguire, Hazel Hume, Denis Richardson, Dulcie Stretton and Dr Neil Radford

**O**N FRIDAY, 27 November, the LAA presented awards to five people who individually have made distinguished contributions to Australian libraries and librarianship. The presentations took place in the Galleries of the State Library of New South Wales. The Redmond Barry Award for 1980 was presented to Mrs Dulcie Stretton, who has for many years been a champion of libraries and library services.

The Award of Fellowship of the Library Association of Australia was presented to Mrs Hazel Hume, Professor Carmel Maguire, Dr Neil Radford and Mr Denis Richardson. The distinction of Fellow of the Association is conferred on members who, in the opinion of General Council, have reached an exceptionally high standard of proficiency in librarianship.

## SA Archives hours

Due to the current limitation on staff numbers, the comparatively small numbers of people using the Archives on Saturday, and the need to place greater emphasis on securing for the Archives records and documents that might otherwise be lost to posterity, the Libraries Board has reduced the opening hours of the SA Archives.

Hours are now from 1pm until 9.30pm each Thursday (replacing the previous 9.30am opening), with the Archives closed on Saturdays.