

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

## Project MIND

Project MIND commenced in 1980 and has achieved wide recognition as an important forum in the provision of library services to disabled persons in Australia. Don Schauder, foundation Convenor of Project MIND, was forced to relinquish his role in 1982 due to serious illness, and the new Convenor is Jeni Fernando Yarde of Monash University Library, Clayton, 3168. We have received the following note from Jeni:—

I am looking forward to taking over the Convenorship of MIND, and hope that I will be able to continue the successes initiated by Don, which MIND has achieved in the past. The Central Working Party had its first meeting for 1983 on February 7 at Monash University. Meetings will be held every two months.

Among the subjects discussed were

- the formulation of standards for library services to the disabled.
- affiliation with the LAA
- new directions of MIND

### Regional working parties

I would like to be informed as to what activities the Regional Working Parties have been involved in during 1982, and would very much appreciate being contacted by representatives in the other states, in order that some measure of co-ordination be achieved.

Watch for further news of our progress via this column. My address is: PO Box 39, Montrose, Victoria, 3765. Looking forward to a fruitful and challenging year. *Jeni*

### Learning about Australia: Cassette

A 60-minute cassette narrated by Caroline Jones and Steve Cosser is available from Sound Information of Sydney. 'Australia and its people' includes comment on Aussie language, pastimes such as gambling, animal and bird life, Aboriginal matters, media, education, the states and capital cities.

It is available in Vietnamese, Spanish, Greek, Italian, Arabic, Croatian and English, and may be helpful as background information source for non-English readers or print handicapped persons. Cost is \$9.95.

Sound Information's 1983 cassette catalogue is available from 425 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, 2000.

### Who cares?

Caring at home for someone seriously ill or dying poses a great many problems, both in knowing how to deal with the needs of the person concerned and in finding out about the practical ways of helping them.

A resource book entitled *Who Cares? About Caring for the Ill at Home* has been put together by Dee Dorgan and Karen Myers. It contains a wealth of information about services in New South Wales, such as Home Support Services, Alternative Care, Pensions and Benefits as well as chapters on being prepared for death, self esteem, and so on.

These are problems that we are all likely to face at some time and this book offers some very useful advice. For more information about the book and a series of cassettes on the subject, contact Who Cares?, Radio 2SER-FM, PO Box 123, Broadway NSW 2007.

### Revised bibliography on handicapped

Mildura Regional Library Service has released its 1983 *Bibliography on the Handicapped*, compiled by Jenny Greenwood. Citations are listed under 35 topic headings, and a list of newspapers and periodicals which treat handicapped is included. Surprisingly neither *InCite* nor *Link-Up* is included in this list. The bibliography is available from Mildura RLS, Box 105, Mildura 3500 for \$3.50 plus postage. (ISBN 0 949597 00 7)

### Large print newspaper

The Wimmera Base Hospital provides an invaluable service to print handicapped persons in that area by publishing a fortnightly Large Print edition of the *Wimmera Mail Times*.

The *Large Print Wimmera Mail Times* costs 60c, and is published on alternate Thursdays. Libraries wishing to subscribe to this newspaper should contact Mrs Faye Muszkiet, Tel: (053) 82 0333.

*Round table on Materials for Print Handicapped Readers*

### Library services to the handicapped

Mrs Patricia Flowers has been appointed to the recently created position of Librarian: Services to the Handicapped, with The Library Board of Western Australia.

The Library Board has always been committed to the principle of a free public library service to all people regardless of their age, sex, race, religious or political beliefs, and their physical and intellectual capabilities.

Many handicapped people are prevented from using the traditional public library, by the nature of their disability and the types of library stock and services available.

The Library Board recognised the need for a different approach. The position of Librarian: Library Services to the Handicapped was created to provide someone with a special understanding of the problems and needs of the handicapped to co-ordinate and facilitate the provision of specialised services.

This position also gives the many organisations and individuals working with the handicapped a focal person within the Library Board with responsibility for this field.

### Arthritis in children

Contrary to popular belief, arthritis can affect children as well as adults. Although juvenile rheumatoid arthritis is comparatively rare it is a crippling and debilitating disease.

Barbara Horgan, a Sydney woman whose son suffered from the disease, has drawn on her own experiences as well as several years of research to produce a very sensitive and readable manual, *Arthritis in children — a practical guide* (Melbourne: Fontana, 1982).

In straightforward, non-technical language, it covers all aspects of the disease — symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, prognosis, social educational aspects — as well as listing a helpful directory of all kinds of support services in each state of Australia.

The book is available from Mrs Pat Angelopoulos, Treasurer, Parents of Arthritic Children's Group, 6 Eurong Street, Wahroonga, NSW 2076, telephone (02) 487 2485 and state arthritis organisations. The cost is \$5.95.

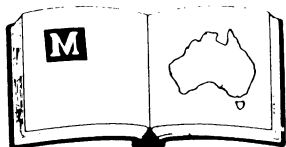
### Directory for the Handicapped

The National Library has published a new edition of the *Directory of Library Services for the Handicapped in Australia*.

Current information is provided about organisations providing library services to handicapped people. Entries have been expanded to include information relating to access, children's collections, foreign language materials, music and the types of special services offered by libraries and voluntary agencies.

Copies of *Directory of Library Services for the Handicapped in Australia* cost \$7.50 each and are available from the Sales and Subscription Unit, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600.

Project MIND column exists to provide an exchange of ideas and information on services of all types for people with disabilities. Please forward contributions to Lloyd Junor, Melbourne College of Advanced Education, 757 Swanston Street, Carlton, 3053. Phone (03) 341 8615.



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