

Production

guidelines for print disabilities

The Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities facilitates and influences the production and use of quality alternative formats for people with print disabilities by optimising the evolving Round Table body of knowledge.

The Round Table has produced a number of guidelines and standards on the preparation and production of various materials for people with print disabilities. These guidelines should be used by anyone producing alternate formats to ensure quality and usability for those for whom the material is intended.

Titles include *Guidelines for the preparation of text material*, *Australian Braille chemistry notation*, *Guidelines for the formatting of Braille material*, *Examination guidelines for students with vision impairments*, *Guidelines on narration of visual information in student and vocational material*, *Guidelines for the production of large print*, and *Sound advice*.

The *Sound advice* guidelines are \$33 each. All other guidelines are \$22.00 each. Prices include GST. An order form can be downloaded from the website.

For more information on the work of the Round Table, visit <http://e-bility.com/roundtable/>.

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A **web-based** training resource for **library staff** working with the disabled

Want to learn more about services to the disabled from a specifically library point of view, but don't know where to start? Or you can't get to courses because you live too far away from where they are offered? There is a solution – and it will get you PD points in the ALIA PD scheme.

The aim of the Libraries and Disabilities section of the UK-based Museums and Libraries Association (MLA) website is to provide a one-stop information and learning resource for library staff relating to access and equal opportunities for disabled people. The MLA have said Australian librarians and other library staff are free to use it. If any of you do take up this opportunity, the MLA would very much like feedback from you as international users.

The training package consists of 10 modules. It is designed to be a flexible self-study package, which can be used by individuals and groups, ranging from senior management to front-line staff. Before beginning the course, in consultation with either your line manager or a critical friend/mentor, the MLA suggests you complete the Learning Needs Analysis Form; this will help to identify what you want to learn and which modules will best meet your specific needs. The training is intended to develop your knowledge and skills through work-based modules, supported by some existing web-based resources. These include:

- the Resource (MLA) Disability Portfolio Guides
- the STV/MLA Best Practice Manual : information and guidance for library services for visually impaired people.

A good starting point in using the website is the case stories, which introduce some interesting people who have, or who work with people who have, a range of disabilities. The web resource is on the MLA website at http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/programmes/Delivering_Library_Services_for_Disabled_People/Home_Page

The Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) is the strategic agency for UK museums, libraries and archives. It is part of the wider MLA Partnership, working with the nine regional UK agencies to improve people's lives by building knowledge, supporting learning, inspiring creativity and celebrating identity. The Partnership acts collectively for the benefit of the sector and the public, leading the transformation of museums, libraries and archives for the future.

Please contact Sarah Wilkie by e-mail at sarah.wilkie@mmla.gov.uk. ~~uk.nospam~~ (delete .nospam from the address) if you have any comments on the MLA's disabilities learning modules.

Digital talking book format from **Vision** Australia

A new talking book standard (DAISY) has recently been introduced at the Vision Australia Information Library Service (VAILS). This new digital format has received overwhelming support from clients. No longer forced to read a book in a linear way the reader is now able to skip to specific sections, pages, paragraphs, and even sentences. This gives clients more control over how they access information. DAISY also delivers improved sound quality and ease of handling with the whole book on one CD. VAILS is also developing an online service to provide access to downloadable information in an accessible format. The i-Access service currently provides access to a range of newspapers in a way that is portable and timely for users of the service. This service will be further developed to include options to search online databases and the VAILS catalogue and to download books in a range of formats.

<http://www.visionaustralia.org.au/library/>