

The Bulletin

Number 8, Friday 3 June, 2022

Inside this issue

Here's what you'll find:

- **From SVRC:** Message from the Manager, New to the SVRC Library, New Protractor App
- **From the field:** Light Reflections in Clay workshop, Sculptures in the Snowy, New Round Table Guidelines – Hot off the press!, Benefits of Audio Description in Education in Australia, BCA Hugh Jeffrey Scholarship

PL events

The [2022 Professional Learning Calendar](#) is available on the SVRC website. Most PL will continue to be held online, but some are planned to be onsite. Please encourage school staff to [register for PL through our website](#).

Tuesday June 7 [Inclusion of students who have vision impairments in PE](#)

Providing ideas and practical strategies to support the inclusion of students who are blind or partially sighted in physical education.

Tuesday October 18 [Preparing for a student who reads braille](#)

Providing practical support for school staff preparing to welcome and include a new student who will be learning to read using braille.

Message from the Manager

Source: Kim Foley, Manager, SVRC

This week SVRC staff acknowledged and supported National Reconciliation Week by pledging to one of the 19 actions. The theme for this year is "Be Brave and Make Change". The Transcription Team over the past year have created a First Nations Library consisting of 94 titles with 69 titles for primary students and 25 titles for secondary students. You can view the range of book titles in the Alternative Format catalogue or contact Deb Lewis for more information.

The image is a display of the "Be Brave and Make Change" posters acknowledging National Reconciliation Week with the 19 actions that can be considered. Staff have made a pledge for one of the actions and displayed it on the shape of a hand as a sign of support.



Unfortunately, Support Skills Program has been cancelled over the last two weeks with many staff away on sick leave and our inability to employ CRTs. The SSP staff took the opportunity to plan a Career's Day which will be held on Friday December 9, 2022. There will certainly be more information to follow once we receive confirmation from potential presenters and organisations.

On Monday and Tuesday this week the annual Principal's Conference was held with the theme "*Stronger Together: Every Student, Every School*". It was inspiring to hear from national and international speakers about how our education system adapted to the once in a lifetime pandemic. The importance of flexibility, building a sense of belonging and socialisation, learning with complexity and uncertainty, and continued support of staff and students' health and wellbeing was highlighted.

Graeme Innes AM, a lawyer, author, company director and human rights practitioner, spoke on "Transformative Possibilities of Inclusion". He discussed how his segregated education experience often deprived him of the social opportunities within his local community. Graeme quoted research where it is well established that students with disabilities who experience an inclusive environment will have better social and academic outcomes. He emphasised we must not be "limited by the soft bigotry of low expectations for students with a disability" but have an expectation to succeed in life. Graeme expressed the importance of Principals and schools to ensure that appropriate supports, training and resources are put in place for the successful inclusion of student with a disability. A very insightful and thought provoking presentation.

New to the SVRC Library

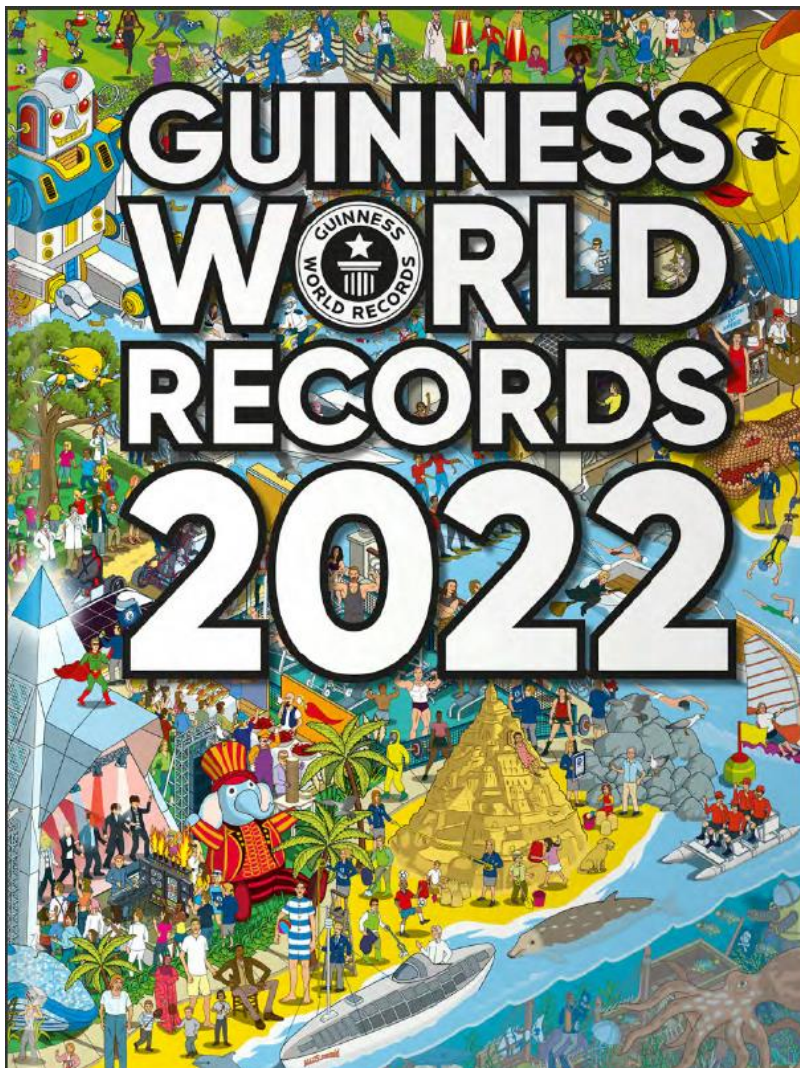
Source: Deb Lewis, Transcription Manager, SVRC

The text of the Guinness World Records 2022 is now available as a docx file, for eligible students to enjoy on their Polaris/BrailleNote Touch (refreshable braille and/or audio) and/or their Victor Reader (audio), along with an array of other tech options.

And if you are a "facts" kind of person, try these:

- Number of print pages: 256
- Number of words in the docx file: almost 140,000
- Size of the docx file: 597 KB

Divided into chapters including: Environment, Natural World, Humans, Recordology, Adventures, Science & Technology, Society, Young Achievers, Pop Culture and Sports, there is plenty of interest for every reader!



Here are some fun facts selected completely at random:

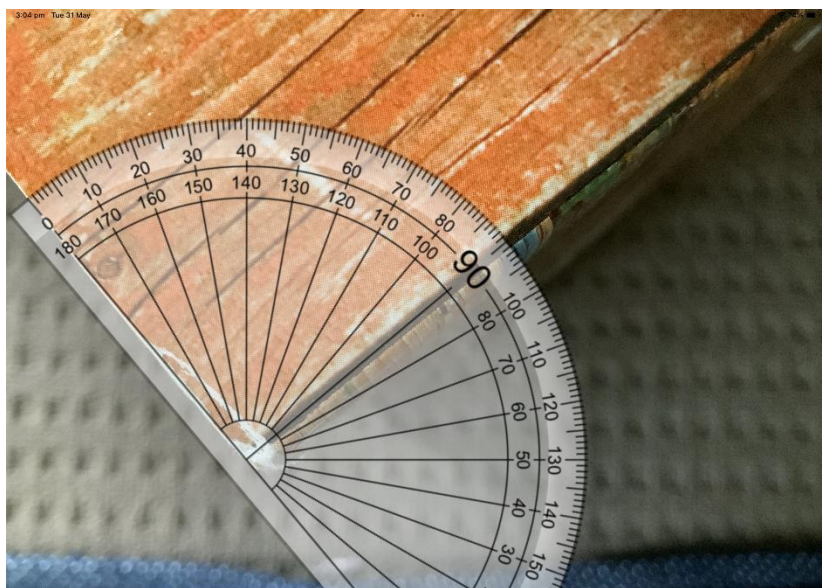
- The word "enormous" appears 6 times in reference to a crater, an aviary and an enchilada!
- The word "huge" appears 14 times and is used to describe teeth, a human's running stride, a cloud and dog toys ...
- The word "small" appears 76 times, proving that there are quite a lot of little things in the world!
- The word "fast" is, however, the stand-out winner with 223 occurrences! Apparently, there are quite a lot of things dashing about out there!

To secure your copy, please send us a completed form, which can be found on the [SVRC "submit a request" page](#).

New Protractor App

Source: Sarah Hayman, SVRC

One of our Support Skills teachers was looking for an app that a student with low vision could use to measure angles. We had a look and came across an app called "Protractor Teacher". It allows you to load an image into the app, then a partially transparent protractor is superimposed over the photo. You can move, rotate and expand the size of the protractor using your fingers. You can install it anytime through the Self Service App on SVRC iPads, or you can get it for free on the App Store.



[Load Image](#)

Light Reflections in Clay workshop

Source: Islamic Museum of Australia

Light Reflections in Clay is a sensory workshop facilitated by Narjis Mirza, the artist behind our current exhibition *Hayakal al Noor (Bodies of Light)*. The artwork features peaceful music, rolling calligraphy projections, and scented silk chiffon sheets. The event includes a personal guided tour of the exhibition by the artist followed by a sensory clay workshop, proving that eyesight is not needed to experience art.

When: Saturday, 25 June 2022, 11am-1pm

Cost: \$10 per person

Where: Islamic Museum of Australia, 15 Anderson Rd, Thornbury, VIC

This workshop has been identified as an equal access event catering to people with low or no vision, disability and/or neurodiversity. [Register online](#)

Sculptures in the Snowy

Source: [Sculpture by the Sea website](#)

The Snowy Valleys Sculpture Trail is a new and significant series of sculpture collections in the historic towns of Adelong, Batlow, Tumbarumba, the hamlet of Tooma and the vineyards of Courabyra Wines, Johansen Wines and Obsession Wines.

Created by the team behind Sculpture by the Sea at Bondi and Cottesloe in consultation with a wide cross section of the Snowy Valleys community, the Snowy Valleys Council and a Local Community Advisory Group, the Snowy Valleys Sculpture Trail will stretch 100km from Adelong to Tooma and is funded by the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund.

New Round Table Guidelines – Hot off the press!

Guidelines for Producing Accessible Graphics

The Guidelines for Producing Accessible Graphics (2022) offer suggestions and examples of ways in which non-textual information can be presented in an accessible format for people who are blind or have low vision. General principles are provided for the provision of tactile graphics, descriptions, sonification and 3D models. Examples are provided for a wide variety of graphics from logos, graphic novels and artworks to scatter plots, molecular models, network diagrams and much more.

The guidelines are available in a range of accessible formats as a free download including the docx version: [Guidelines for Producing Accessible Graphics \(2022\) print version](#)

Guidelines for Producing Clear Print

The Guidelines for Producing Clear Print (2022) have been produced to help print designers to improve the legibility of books, reports, newsletters and other printed material. The guidelines are also intended for those adapting existing printed material into large print for people with low vision.

The guidelines are available in a range of accessible formats as a free download including the docx version: [Guidelines for Producing Clear Print FINAL \(2022\)](#)

Other Round Table Guidelines

Round Table has also produced a [range of guidelines that are available on the Round Table website](#) including:

[Guidelines for Accessible Assessment \(2019\)](#)

[Guidelines for Producing Accessible E-text \(2018\)](#)

[Unified English Braille Australian Training Manual \(2016\)](#)

Benefits of Audio Description in Education in Australia

Source: Vision Australia

Are you a young person who is blind or has low vision? Do you access TV, films, streaming platforms, theatre or galleries at school, at home or out with friends and family?

Then grab your popcorn or Choc-top, because Vision Australia is thrilled to bring the Benefits of Audio Description in Education (BADIE) competition to Australia! We want to know what you think about the way something is described, and what impact it had on you.

Entering gives you a chance of winning prizes (anything from a voucher of your choice through to an iPad Mini!), and developing your skills as a critic, and everyone gets a certificate and entry into a prize draw for a \$50 voucher of your choice!

Audio description (AD) is visual information conveyed through words. It translates things that are visible into things that you can hear. With AD you don't need to see in order to understand what is happening because all the important visual information is translated into the spoken word.

You know when you're thinking about whether to binge on a new TV show or go to the theatre, and you read a review about it to find out what it's all about, who's in it, and someone's opinion of how effective it is? Well, when you experience anything with AD, the AD plays a super important role in telling the story. Whether you're a frequent user of AD, or have never experienced it before, we want you to send us your opinions on a performance or show you experience with audio description.

To find out more head over to: <https://www.visionaustralia.org/community/events/badie-au> or email Polly at BADIEAU@Visionaustralia.org

The competition closes soon so Enter Now!

BCA Hugh Jeffrey Scholarship

Source: Blind Citizens Australia

Applications are now open for the third round of the Blind Citizens Association (BCA) Hugh Jeffrey Scholarship. This scholarship aims to increase the opportunities available to people who are blind or vision impaired to participate in tertiary and further education.

This scholarship is open to anyone currently enrolled in, or planning on enrolling in a post-secondary study program. Scholarship amounts of up to \$5,000 are awarded to support students in their studies. **Applications for this round of scholarships close 17 July, 2022.** [Find out more about the BCA Hugh Jeffrey Scholarship](#)

And finally ...

Did you know that the cornea is one of the few tissues in the human body that doesn't contain blood vessels? The cornea gets nutrients from the aqueous humour that sits behind it, and tears which protect it from the outside world!