

The Bulletin

Statewide Vision Resource Centre

Number 19

Monday 16th December 2013

Happy Summer to All!



From the staff of the Statewide Vision Resource Centre to all – students, families, VTs, school personnel and to all the folks who have supported the 500+ students with vision impairments across Victoria this year – we wish you the very best for the Summer break and the festive season.

Have a well-earned safe and restful break! (And spare a thought for the staff of the SVRC who will be working through January to prepare materials in alternative format for the beginning of the school year!)

Professional Development Activities for Term 1 2014

Here are some dates for your diaries! Fliers are attached, including information about parking!

The 2014 program with downloadable fliers and further information is available from the SVRC website: <http://www.svrc.vic.edu.au/PL.shtml>

Event	Date
Educational Support for Blind Students	Monday 10 February
Skill Power Workshops 1. 9.30-11.00 Duxbury Braille Translator & Romeo Embosser - Lea Nagel, SVRC 2. 11.30-1.00 JAWS - Garry Stinchcombe, SVRC 3. 1.30-3.30 Maths and Tactual Graphicacy - Lea Nagel, SVRC	Wednesday 19 February
Educational Support for Students with Low Vision – offered twice	Monday 24 February OR Tuesday 25 February
New Visiting Teacher Orientation Day from 9.30am	Monday 3 March
Skill Power Workshops 1. 9.30-11.00 Pearl and OpenBook - Lea Nagel, SVRC 2. 11.30-1.00 ZoomText - Trevor Boyd, Quantum 3. 1.30-3.30 iPad - Lyn Robinson, SVRC	Wednesday 5 March
Art4Kids with VI? - Including a vision impaired student in the school program: Please invite your Art teachers!	Monday 17 March
Visiting Teacher Day	Tuesday 18 March
Dot Power	Tuesday 25 March

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Eye Care Services in Rural Victoria

Source: Australian College of Optometry Website:

<http://www.aco.org.au/eye-care-services/eye-care-in-rural-victoria>

The Victorian Eyecare Service (VES) provides optometry care at low cost for persons who hold a pensioner concession card or health care card and live in rural Victoria. The VES is available throughout rural Victoria through a large network of participating optometrists and ophthalmologists. The primary care consultation fee is normally bulk billed and patients make a fixed contribution to the cost of glasses or contact lenses. The balance of the cost is subsidised by a State Government grant. The Victorian Eyecare Service (VES) is funded by the Government of Victoria and administered by the Australian College of Optometry.



Who is eligible?

Permanent residents of Victoria who:

- hold a Pensioner Concession Card in their own name, and their dependants under the age of eighteen years or
- have held a Health Care Card in their own name for at least 6 months continuously, and their dependants under the age of eighteen years

and

- hold a Victorian pension card with the permanent residential address in country Victoria.

If you are uncertain about your eligibility, you can enquire by telephone to the VES office on 1300 303 125 for the cost of a local call (excluding calls from mobiles) or on 03 9349 7434 or otherwise complete the application form and the VES office will advise you.

There are also clinics available in Metropolitan Melbourne. For more details go to:

<http://www.aco.org.au/eye-care-services/eye-care-in-melbourne>

Holiday Reading

Source: Apps for Magazine lovers <http://appadvice.com/applists/show/apps-for-magazine-lovers>

Looking for something different? Why not try some of the following magazine apps in the holidays. There are many Magazine apps available for the iPad. Some of them allow you to subscribe to individual magazines while others allow you to subscribe to a collection of magazines. Many magazines have an option to have articles read to you through a link on the page. Even if this is not the case the advantage of a magazine on an iPad is that you can use the built in accessibility options to enlarge the print or listen to article being read using VoiceOver or Speak Selection.

Zinio

At this point, Zinio is that one app to manage all of your magazines. Zinio allows you to read cover story articles for free each month with its selection of featured magazines. If you like what you see you can go ahead and purchase the entire issue. You can also use the Zinio shop to find other magazines and purchase single issues or subscribe. You have a library just like you do in iTunes where you can read what you have downloaded. Items may be deleted and restored at any time. The Zinio magazines are really just PDF renditions of the original magazine, nothing more. If you are

looking for features that exploit the iPads unique interface then you will want to look elsewhere, but as a one-stop shop for magazines, Zinio is your choice. Some local libraries are even loaning entire magazine issues for free within the Zinio app; check with yours. More information <http://au.zinio.com/www/index.jsp?requestid=584967>

Zite Personalized Magazine by Zite, Inc. Free



Is it a magazine? Is it a news aggregator? It's a bit of both, and it's fabulous. Create your own clickable sections for a custom design. Give each article you read a thumbs up or thumbs down to see more or less from that source. Get the best from around the web, tailored to your own personal interests and tastes. It's totally free, with no subscription fees, and belongs on everyone's iPad.

WebMD the Magazine by WebMD. Free.



We've talked about news, technology, and even sports magazines. Let's delve into the medical world for a bit, shall we? Whether you're a health nut or a paranoid parent, like me, WebMD the Magazine is ideal to have on your iPad at all times. Let this digital subscription steer you onto the right track towards a healthy lifestyle. Its monthly content includes celebrity interviews, nutritious recipes, exercises, skin care solutions, and even parenting tips. For free, you really are getting a steal!

Macworld Digital Magazine (U.S.) by Macworld. Free



This AppList would not be complete if we were to leave out Macworld Digital Magazine. This title is the largest Apple-focused magazine in the world. You are guaranteed to get Mac news and reviews in every issue. Single issues are available for purchase for \$6.99 while a monthly subscription is only \$1.99 a month. App Support also provides details on how to integrate for the existing print subscribers.

Next Issue – all the magazines you love by Next Issue Media. Free.



Now if all of these apps are not enough to feed your magazine addiction, then Next Issue may be the app for you. This app offers a ton of major U.S. magazine titles in one place. Just create an account and try a subscription free for 30 days. Get access to at least 50 titles such as Esquire and Vanity Fair for just \$9.99 a month. Upgrade to a premium subscription and get access to much more for just \$14.99 a month. While this may end up getting costly, it surely is quite the savings for someone that ends up buying individual issues of each title.

Tactile Books

If you have any of our wonderful tactile books on loan please return them to the SVRC so that the Braille Department can have them ready for eager young fingers for the beginning of the 2014 school year.

Many thanks,
From Taryn.

Typo Keyboard

From <http://m.theage.com.au/digital-life/mobiles/device-gives-iphone-a-physical-keyboard-20131209-2z0hw.html>

Visiting Teacher Emily White, found this possible solution for those who don't like the onscreen keyboard and wish to add a QWERTY keyboard to their iPhone.

The Typo Keyboard (\$US99) targets those who carry two phones: one for typing and correspondence and an iPhone for most everything else. (E.g. an iPhone and a phone with a hard keyboard like the BlackBerry). The concept makes sense for BlackBerry lovers who have resisted switching to the iPhone because of loyalty to the qwerty keyboard.

“One night, Ryan and his friend Laurence Hallier, CEO of Show Media, were out to dinner and both had phones on the table. Two people, four phones!” the press release says. “They looked at each other and thought there was an easy solution to the problem, a keyboard for the iPhone.”

The Typo Keyboard, which works when Bluetooth is enabled, adds less than 1 inch (2.54 centimetres) to the iPhone's length.



10 Sensory Christmas Activities for Children who are Blind

Source: <http://www.wonderbaby.org/articles/ten-sensory-christmas-activities>

Here's some ideas for involving all your kids in preparing for the festive season! You'll find:

- Braille Apple Cinnamon Ornaments
- Tactile Christmas Tree
- Stained Glass Mittens
- Snow Paint
- Shredded Paper Showman
- And more!

Thanks to Frances Gentle for this link and to the Wonderbaby website.

Sale Price: New Generation of Victor Reader Stream

The Victor Reader Stream which normally retails at \$425 will be available for \$300 (plus shipping) until 29th December 2013. This sale price is only available for Vision Australia Library members who sign up to become online users. Members using the I-access online service may download books, magazines and newspapers instead of receiving compact discs.

This new Generation of Victor Reader Stream incorporates many features including the ability to charge the device with a USB connection to a computer or USB wall charger such as that used for a mobile phone, and Wi-Fi connectivity that enables software upgrades and access to Bookshare.

Orders can be placed with Ramona Mandy at Humanware: ramona.mandy@humanware.com or call (03) 9686-2601. Orders received after 20th December will not be accepted.

Kickstart Transition to Tertiary Study Program

From Max Bini – Tertiary Education Consultant, Vision Australia.

This is a great opportunity to make sure you have a handle on tertiary study and what will be expected of you. And to get advice on supports available for students with vision impairments or other disability and how best to make sure you are receiving them so as not to fall behind or struggle with your studies.

The Kickstart program has been developed for current and prospective tertiary and further education students who are blind or have low vision.

- Prepare yourself for further study.
- Find out about on and off-campus services.
- Learn about the Disability Discrimination Act and your rights as a student.
- Improve your writing and study skills for assignments.
- Learn about new adaptive technology.
- Meet other students and professionals who are blind or have low vision who can be of assistance to you.
- Learn strategies for completing study with a view to improving employment prospects.

The program will also involve a workshop on Advocacy and Rights in Tertiary Education presented jointly by Blind Citizens Australia and Vision Australia. And we will also have the involvement of two students studying Education who are also vision impaired assisting to run the program.

We will endeavour to match new tertiary students with a mentor who has studied a similar course, so if you would like us to do this please let us know when you register what you will be studying and if you have any dietary requirements.

What: Kickstart Transition to Tertiary Study Program

When: 13th and 14th February 2014

Where: Kooyong Training room, 454 Glenferrie Road Kooyong (next to Kooyong train station).

Contact: Max Bini. Phone: 8378 1223. Email: max.bini@visionaustralia.org

UEB Adopted in Ireland!

On the 2nd of December 2013, the Irish National Braille and Alternative Format Association (INBAF) adopted Unified English Braille, after a unanimous vote and with the full support and recognition of the Irish Department of Education and Skills.

UEB will be introduced in Ireland through the primary and secondary schools, as well as the Library Service at National Braille Production Childvision (NCBI). A steering group has been formed to oversee the schedule of the implementation and to ensure that the transition will be smooth for all.

Ireland is the last (and newest) country from the International Council of English Braille (ICEB) to adopt UEB and joins Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Nigeria, South Africa, the UK and USA.

For more information, see the official statement on Ireland's adoption of UEB at:

http://www.inbaf.ie/ueb/ueb_press_release_December_2013

Blind Cricket

Please see attached for information about the 2013-4 Cricket season!

Team Effort Helps Launch Swish at Albion Primary School

From Deb Davidson, Visiting Teacher SWV Region

Grade 5 and 6 students at Albion Primary School have become enthusiastic fans of the game of swish, following a huge team effort between the school, SWV Region visiting teachers (vision), and the Swish Association.

Introducing swish at Albion Primary School has been part of the School's commitment to supporting, grade 5 student Jeremy, to participate in a game that puts sighted and blind or low vision players on a 'level playing field', or in the case of swish, a 'level playing table'!

Swish, for those who haven't heard of the game before, is a fast and competitive game, similar to table tennis. The game can be played as singles or doubles and may be enjoyed by all ages, from young children to adults. The name 'swish' comes from the sound made by the bat (similar to a small cricket bat), as the player attempts to 'swish' the ball containing ball back to an opponent before it flies off the end of the table.

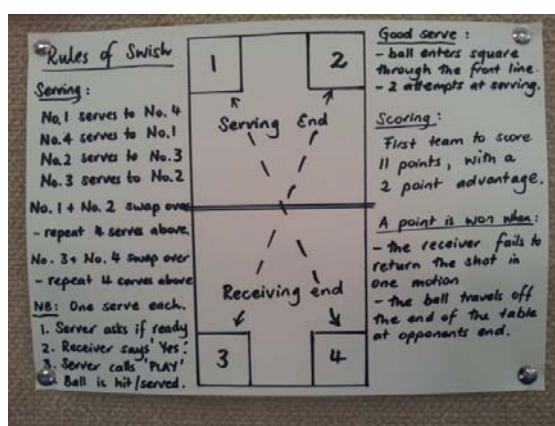
Emily White, visiting teacher for Jeremy, helped the school to acquire a disused table tennis table. Ron, Albion's maintenance man, modified the table with new sides, a central barrier and a coat of paint, while Jan, the office manager put his wood working skills to work to make a set of bats.

Robyn Bousie, from the Swish Association, who is ever keen to spread the joy of this great game, responded generously to a request by Jeremy's current visiting teacher, to arrange a skills session for all grade 5 and 6 students.

A visit to the school on any Monday or Wednesday lunchtime will now find an enthusiastic group of grade 5 students competing in a lunchtime competition.

Jeremy, who has been honing his swish skills for several years, is enjoying his status at the school as a champion of the game.

Additional information about swish can be found at <http://www.visports.org.au/sports/swish/>.



In the News

Art Show: Array of Art Forms

Source: Article by Charlene Macaulay in Star Community Newspaper, Footscray, Yarraville and Braybrook, posted on 19 November 2013.

Footscray West Primary School put on an art show with a difference last week. Students across all year levels spent the year creating a range of art works, sculptures and props for the school's biennial art extravaganza. This year, audience members were given a mission to find the secret friends that helped out famous artists Pablo Picasso, Claude Monet, Tom Roberts and Henri Rousseau on some of their most popular works. After being put in the shrinking chair, the audience walked into 3-D versions of each painting in a bid to piece the clues together.



Grade 2 student Amanda, pictured right, tried out the exhibition for herself last week.

Magnify Their Future

Ben from Support Skills appeared in the Saturday 7th December 2013 issue of the Herald Sun enjoying an electronic magnifier to access his art work at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre.

He had the opportunity to use the electronic magnifier to build his collage, zooming in when finer detail was required. Art teacher Michael Donnelly is always encouraging skill development and art appreciation in his sessions.

Thanks to Michael Donnelly, Lea Nagel and Journalist Wes Hosking for their efforts!

32 NEWS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013 HERALDSUN.COM.AU



Ben Lung, 13, uses the desktop electronic magnification unit at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre.

MAGNIFY THEIR FUTURE

A HI-TECH magnifying glass is being tested to help vision-impaired schoolchildren.

Art students at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre are using the device, called an electronic magnification unit, to help build collages and improve

their fine motor skills.

Teacher Michael Donnelly said it was the first time the unit, which costs about \$3000, had been used for such a task.

Its camera zooms in on a student's artwork, and an enlarged image appears on a

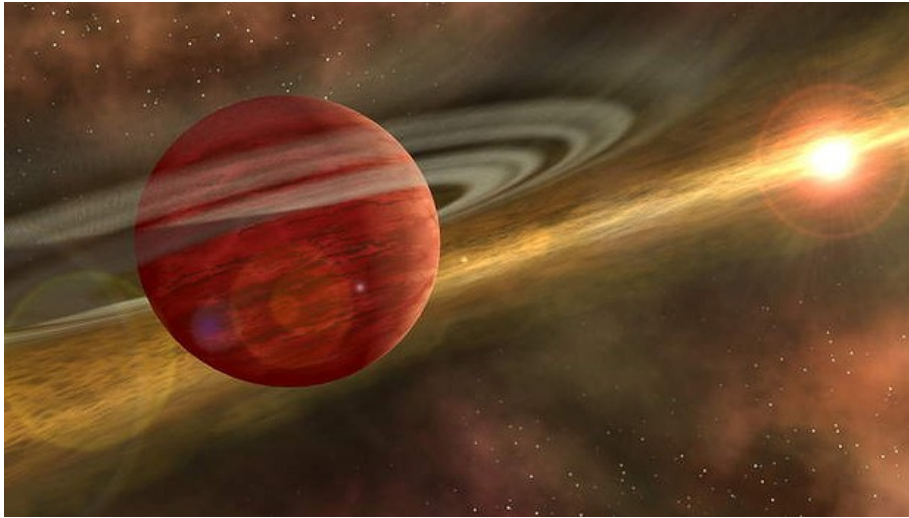
screen. "We are trying to provide them with a range of different experiences and different techniques and ways of doing things, so they can decide what is best for them in their own situations," Mr Donnelly said.

Doctor Who fan in online petition to name newly-found planet

Article about a Support Skills Student – Sam – who has plans to change the universe!

By Karl Quinn, The Age December 11, 2013

A 16-year-old from Werribee has grabbed worldwide attention with a plan to name a massive new planet Gallifrey, after Doctor Who's long-lost home.



An artist's impression of a young planet in a distant orbit around its host star, similar to the HD106906 system that Doctor Who fans want to see renamed Gallifrey.

Photo: Image courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech

Homeless for hundreds of years, Doctor Who may finally have a place to call his own – thanks to a 16-year-old from Werribee. Sam has launched a petition on change.org asking the International Astronomical Union to change the name of a newly discovered planet to Gallifrey, the name of the birthplace of the wandering Time Lord.

I'm not really into science – I find it boring at school – but I love Doctor Who. Sam says the artist's image of the planet – believed to be 11 times the size of Jupiter – that he spotted online instantly made him think of Gallifrey, despite the fact that precise details of the fictional planet in the long-running BBC series are hard to come by.

Pictured below: Gallifrey, after the Daleks attacked, as seen in the BBC's Day of the Doctor



“I’m not really sure how big it is,” Sam says. “But I know there’s an orange glow to it.”

For a long time, it was presumed that the planet had been destroyed in a battle between the Time Lords and the Daleks, but in the recently screened feature-length episode *Day of the Doctor* – released in 3D in cinemas for a single day to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the series – it was revealed that Gallifrey still exists.

“It’s locked in a single moment of time, in a pocket universe,” Sam explains helpfully. Pushed to explain what that might mean, Sam demurs. “I’m not really into science – I find it boring at school – but I love the show.”

After a slow start, Sam’s petition began to collect signatures at, well, an astronomical rate after he posted links to a popular Facebook page dedicated to former Doctor David Tennant and a Doctor Who online hub. As of 5pm Tuesday, he had amassed almost 80,000 supporters.

The IAU has certainly noticed, posting links to the petition on its own website. Whether that means it will support a name change is unclear, but poetry would appear to be on Sam’s side.

The existing name of the newly discovered planet is HD 106906 b. Compared to that, you might say Gallifrey has a certain timeless appeal.

Pictured right is Dr Who fan Sam sitting in front of a Dalek. *Photo: Pat Scala*



Source: <http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/tv-and-radio/doctor-who-fan-in-online-petition-to-name-newly-found-planet-20131210-2z421.html>

Excursion Planning!

From Helen Caldwell, Visiting Teacher NEVR

Glenallen is a school for students with disability or health impairment. It has built up expertise in the education of blind and low vision students.

Glenallen VCAL students Damian & Veronica had a task to plan an excursion that cost no more than \$25. They had to research the venue, gain permission from the principal & parents and book the bus. Veronica & her partner planned a trip to the Botanic Gardens.

An unexpected bonus was meeting Michael Johnson who plays the harp in the gardens. Michael was very generous with his time. He allowed the students to feel the vibrations from the harp & all the parts of the harp. He was impressed with Veronica’s perfect pitch as she helped Michael tune his harp. The whole class was then able to listen to the beautiful music played by Michael.



Space Camp 2014 (the 25th anniversary of SCIVIS)

Who: upper secondary students in DEECD schools

When: 2-3 weeks during September 2014

Where: Huntsville, Alabama (with excursions in Los Angeles and who knows where else!)

Students who have indicated an interest so far:

- Cameron A
- Declan H
- Geordie B
- Steve O
- Thomas C

Visiting Teachers to chaperone the group: we're looking for two!



News

- **Emily White** has passed her first year of her Masters through RIDBC with flying colours! Yay Em!

Finally

Editors Deb Lewis and Lyn Robinson with to thank everyone for their contributions to this issue of The Bulletin, and in particular Marion Blazé, Helen Caldow, Fran Gentle, Heidi Littleford, Leona Holloway, Lea Nagel and Mike Steer.

If you have something you would like included in “The Bulletin” please email Lyn Robinson lynrobin@svrc.vic.edu.au

To read The Bulletin online: <http://www.svrc.vic.edu.au/Abulletin.shtml>

392 days till the next SPEVI Conference in Melbourne
Monday 12th to Thursday 15th January 2015



Victorian Blind Cricket Association Inc.

Patron: Max Walker

Email: secretary@vbca.org.au

Web: www.vbca.org.au

President: Rod Pritchard

BH:(03) 8842 5878

AH:(03) 9754 7308

Mob: 0401 718 926

Secretary: Nick Pepper

454 Glenferrie Road

Kooyong

Victoria 3144

Pavilion: (03) 9822 7713

Remaining VBCA events for the 2013-14 Season

Junior and Senior Development Programs – 10:30am to 12:00noon

November: 30th
 December: 7th and 14th
 February: 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd
 March: 1st

Special Events

December 1st 2013: Blind Cricket at the MCG for School Students during the lunch break of the Bushrangers V Redbacks Shield Match

December 7th 2014: 10:00am to late - VBCA Open Day celebrating International Day for People with a Disability

December 29th 2013 to January 7th 2014: Australian Blind Cricket National Championships in Adelaide

- December 29th to January 2nd - 40 over Championship
- January 3rd to January 7th – T-20 Championship

January 26th 2014: Blind Cricket Comes to Bendigo

February 16th 2014: VBCA V Qakkas Cricket Club

March 15th 2014: Banks of the Murray Cup in Albury – VBCA V ACT

March 22nd 2014: VBCA Presentation Night – Kooyong Tennis Club

Weekly Events - Held every Saturday on days of scheduled play

- Saturday night at the Pavilion – Close of play until late
- VBCA Cricket Show broadcast live from the Pavilion Studio from 6:00pm to 6:15pm on 1179am Vision Australia Radio

Special social events for juniors and families

December 14 th 2013 12:00pm:	Junior Development Program Christmas Break up BBQ Sausage sizzle
December 14 th 2013 4:40pm:	VBCA Children's Christmas Party
March 1 st 2014 12:00noon:	Junior Development Program end of season break up BBQ Sausage sizzle

VBCA 2013 – 14 Season Competition Days

Two Day Domestic Competition – 1:00pm to 5:15pm

Round 4:	November 30 th and December 7 th
Round 5:	February 1 st and 8 th
Round 6:	February 22 nd and March 1 st
Grand Final:	March 8 th and 9 th from 10:00am to 5:00pm

Short Form Competition - 12:45pm to 5:20pm

Round 3:	December 14 th
Finals:	February 15 th 3 rd v 4 th 11:00am to 3:50pm 1 st v 2 nd 12:45pm to 5:20pm

Harmony in Cricket

The Victorian Blind Cricket Association embraces the Harmony in Cricket philosophy and the Association its Member Clubs are places where everyone, regardless of their cultural background, religion, age, gender or ability feels welcome. If a person has a passion for cricket our Association and Member Clubs have a place for them.

Vision Impaired Sports

The Victorian Blind Cricket Association is a partner in Vision Impaired Sports, a not for profit cooperative of Blind Sporting Organizations who aim to help children with a vision impairment to have fun, develop age appropriate sporting skills and learn to be part of a team where they experience success from a young age through the provision of a coordinated approach to sporting participation for Students of all ages.

For further information about Vision Impaired Sports visit the web site at www.visports.org.au

Need more information about Blind Cricket?

For further information on any of our events visit our web site at www.vbca.org.au, email us at secretary@vbca.org.au or phone Rod Pritchard on 0401 718 926.

Statewide Vision Resource Centre

presents

Educational Support for Blind Students

When: Monday 10 February 2014 from 9.00am to 3.30pm
(Registration from 8.30am)

Where: Statewide Vision Resource Centre
370 Springvale Rd Donvale

Parking: Lower carpark – next door at the Donvale Sports Complex

For: Class and subject teachers, integration teachers and aides, therapists, family members and visiting teachers

8.45	Registration
9.00	Seeing with our Fingers – Annette Godfrey Magee, Education Officer, SVRC & staff from Guide Dogs Victoria
10.20	Introduction – Marion Blazé, SVRC
10.35	Living Braille – Garry Stinchcombe, Support Skills Co-ordinator, SVRC
11.05	Morning Tea
11.30	Success in the Primary and Secondary School – Annette Godfrey-Magee & Lea Nagel, SVRC
12.15	BrailleNote: Brilliance in your Classroom – Lea Nagel, Educational Programs, SVRC
12.45	Lunch (includes optional tour of the SVRC) – please speak to a staff member
1.25	Braille Under the Microscope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New to the braille code: General introduction – Garry Stinchcombe & Lyn Robinson • Not so new to the braille code: Discussion – Marion Blazé & Annette Godfrey Magee • Planning on enrolling in the SVRC Braille Course – Lea Nagel & Nola Houghton
2.15	If I Do It Right They Won't Need Me Any More! – Geoff Bowen, Psychologist, SVRC
3.30	Close

Cost: \$66.00 including GST (Visiting Teachers \$22.00)
Payment includes a light lunch (maximum participants: 60)

Registration is essential: by Thursday 6 February

For further details or for an invoice: phone 9841 0242 or email pd@svrc.vic.edu.au



Statewide Vision Resource Centre

presents

Educational Support for Students with Low Vision

When: Monday 24 February 2014 from 9.00am to 3.30pm **OR**

Tuesday 25 February 2014 from 9.00am to 3.30pm

(Registration from 8.30am)

Where: Statewide Vision Resource Centre

370 Springvale Rd Donvale

Parking: Lower carpark – next door at the Donvale Sports Complex

For: Class and subject teachers, integration teachers and aides, therapists, family members and visiting teachers

8.30	Registration
9.00	Low Vision: What's it like? – Staff of the SVRC, Staff of Guide Dogs Victoria & Robert Aaltonen, CEO
10.20	Introduction – Marion Blazé, SVRC
10.30	Morning Tea
11.00	About Vision – Annette Godfrey-Magee, SVRC
11.20	Strategies to Support the Student with Low Vision in the Classroom – Sam Oxley, Visiting Teacher, North-Eastern Victoria Region
12.20	Success in the Primary and Secondary Setting – Lea Nagel, SVRC
12.50	iPad Accessibility for Low Vision Users Lyn Robinson, SVRC
1.10	Lunch (includes optional tour of the SVRC)
1.50	Technology in the Classroom – Lea Nagel, SVRC OR Towards VCE – Lyn Robinson, SVRC
2.10	The Vision Impaired Student in Your Classroom – Individual, Social and Family Perspectives – Geoff Bowen, Psychologist, SVRC
3.10	Let's Hear It from the Students Themselves... (Includes Q & A)
3.30	Close

Cost: \$66.00 including GST (Visiting Teachers \$22.00)

Payment includes a light lunch (maximum participants: 60)

Registration is essential: by Thursday 20 February

For further details or for an invoice: phone 9841 0242 or email pd@svrc.vic.edu.au



Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development



Statewide Vision Resource Centre

presents

Professional Learning Day

for new and newish Visiting Teachers

Monday 3 March 2014 from 9.30am

New Visiting teachers are invited to an orientation day at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre. Apart from the chance to meet the staff of the SVRC, look around at the resources, borrow items and discuss students on their “round”, the program will also include:

- **Procedures** - The role of the Statewide Vision Resource Centre in support of your visiting teacher work
- **Processes** – Educational Vision Assessment Clinic, eligibility, nature of support, professional learning days, referrals (eg orientation and mobility, low vision services), funding, resources – what and how to request, VCE
- **The eye & vision impairment**
- **References** – and useful websites
- **The ‘Expanded Core Curriculum’** for students with vision impairments
- **Learning media assessment** - How should my student be reading and writing?

Cost: Free

Lunch: If you’d like to purchase lunch, it can be ordered through the Heatherwood School Trade Kitchen during the morning.

Registration is essential: by Friday 28 February – email pd@svrc.vic.edu.au



Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development





Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development



Art4kidswith VI?

What to do with the student who is blind or has low vision in my art room?

When: Monday 17 March 2014 from 9.00 am to 3.30 pm

Registration: from 8.45am – please meet at the “Mouse Hole” on the north end of NGV, adjacent to the entrance to the Arts Centre

Where: National Gallery of Victoria, International, 180 St Kilda Road Melbourne

(Please note: not at SVRC)

This one-day seminar and workshop will be held at the centrally located National Gallery of Victoria and in association with NGV Schools Educators. The seminar will investigate options, strategies and issues related to working with and teaching a student who is blind or has low vision in your art room or classroom art-making session.

The day will include:

Morning: (in the NGV Schools lecture theatre and workshop) information on setting up or adjusting the room to better accommodate your student; issues of access to the visual arts; specialist techniques; budget options; and opportunities for “hands-on” art making; then,

Afternoon: (in the NGV Sculpture Garden and elsewhere) exploration of works of art under blind-fold, investigating the use of visual description, tactile diagrams and touch access.

About the Presenter: Michael Donnelly, B.Ed(Art), Post-Grad.Dip. Fine Art

From 1999 to 2009 Michael taught at the RVIB / Vision Australia School in Burwood, Victoria. He previously taught Art & Design in Catholic Secondary Colleges for many years. Michael currently teaches in the Support Skills Program of the Statewide Vision Resource Centre, Donvale, and is a Visiting Teacher for Vision Impairment in the North-Western Victoria Region, DEECD.

Michael has presented papers at the South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment Conferences in 2003 and 2005 and has produced *Meaningful Art for All Children*, 2008, an illustrated manual for creating art with school students who are blind or have low vision; *Do Touch the Sculptures: A walking tour of the public sculptures along Swanston Street and the Bourke Street Mall, Melbourne*, 2005 (a Tactile / Braille Tour Guide); and *All My Own Work! Independent Artist or Co-active Collaborator: The fine line Art Teachers to the Blind and Vision Impaired tread*. *Australian Art Education Journal*, Special Education Edition, 2003.

Cost: \$85.00 (includes a light lunch)

RSVP: Wednesday 12 March, 2014 (registration is essential)

For enquiries: (03) 9841 0242; **for an invoice:** pd@svrc.vic.edu.au

Statewide Vision Resource Centre

presents

Professional Development Forum for Visiting Teachers

When: Tuesday 18th March 2014 from 9.30am to 3.30pm

Where: Statewide Vision Resource Centre, 370 Springvale Rd Donvale

Parking: Lower carpark of the Sports Complex next door – thanks!

Cost: \$35.00 includes a light lunch (no further discounts available)

PROGRAM COMING SOON!

The staff of the Statewide Vision Resource Centre offer a professional development program which references the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and is open to Visiting Teachers across Victoria.

The program is designed in consultation with Visiting Teachers and aims to support their work with students with vision impairments who are enrolled in Victorian schools.

Students with vision impairments make up a very small percentage of the Victorian school population – perhaps 0.05%.

Today's educators teach a diverse student population which may include students with vision impairments.

Students with vision impairments may require adjustments and/or particularization in order for them to participate in the school curriculum.

Staff of the SVRC aim to provide Professional Development Program which can assist Visiting Teachers to support educators to make the necessary adjustments for students with vision impairments.

**The program is currently under development.
If you have suggestions or would like to offer a session,
please email svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au.**



Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development



Statewide Vision Resource Centre

presents

SVRC Skill Power Program

The Statewide Vision Resource Centre conducts a program of hands-on workshops during the year for class and subject teachers, integration teachers and aides, therapists, family members and visiting teachers.

The workshops are conducted by staff of the SVRC and/or by specialists in a particular item of technology.

The following sessions generally appear in the annual program:

- Braille Maths & Tactual Graphicacy
- Braille Music
- BrailleNote
- Computer without the Mouse
- Duxbury Translation
- Electronic Magnification Units
- iPad
- JAWS
- MAGic
- NVDA
- Ozzie Dots
- Pearl & OpenBook
- Setting up the Computer for LV Users
- Victor Reader
- Vision Impairments eg Albinism
- ZoomText

If you cannot find what you are looking for, please request a session!

Where: Statewide Vision Resource Centre, 370 Springvale Rd Donvale

Parking: Lower carpark – next door at the Donvale Sports Complex

Cost: There is no charge for these workshops

BYO: your laptop with the software loaded OR the item of technology

Also BYO: lunch or you may be able to order from the Heatherwood Trade Kitchen on the day

Registration is essential: email pd@svrc.vic.edu.au

To see the annual PD program: www.svrc.vic.edu.au/PLPannual.shtml



Parking at the SVRC

There is no parking available at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre or Heatherwood School. Please park **in the lower carpark** behind the Donvale Sports Centre - the building beside (to the north) of the SVRC. You can then walk through the double gates and the Statewide Vision Resource Centre is to the left.

Public Transport: Bus and train

The nearest and most accessible train station is Nunawading. Trains on the Belgrave and Lilydale lines run through this station. A bus also runs from Box Hill Central which also has good train access.

The Statewide Vision Resource Center is serviced by **3 bus routes**.

- 902 Smart Bus, Chelsea to Airport West
- 271 Box Hill to Ringwood
- 273 Nunawading to The Pines

The 902 and 273 both leave from the Nunawading station. It is only an 8 minute trip to the SVRC.

