

The Bulletin

Statewide Vision Resource Centre

Number 17

Friday 24th October 2014

Coming soon to Melbourne: SPEVI Conference!

Monday 12th to Thursday 15th January 2015

Professional Development Activities for Term 4, 2014

Fliers for the SVRC Professional Learning programs can be downloaded from the SVRC website:
www.svrc.vic.edu.au/PL.shtml

Please note: the SVRC encourages attendance in person or via video link – please be in touch if you'd like to “virtually” attend any of these sessions so that we can send you what you need.

Event	Date
If you'd like to suggest a Skill Power Workshop in term 4, please email svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au	Make a suggestion!
Support Skills Try Day	Friday November 7
Dot Power – for braille readers from pre-school to grade 3	Tuesday 18 November
Educational Expo for Students with Vision Impairments	Monday 24 November
Xmas Morning Tea – all invited – please RSVP	Wed 3 December
PD Program for 2015 – we're setting dates now for next year so please contact us with your input.	2015!!

SPEVI Conference

The 2015 Biennial Conference of the South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment Registration Brochure is now available!

The conference will be held at the centrally located Melbourne Conference & Training Centre on Collins Street with the conference dinner being held at the ANZ Pavilion, Arts Centre Melbourne.

The Registration Brochure is available as a pdf or Word docx:
<http://www.spevi.net/spevi/files/2015Registrationbrochurepdf.pdf>
<http://www.spevi.net/spevi/files/Registrationbrochure.docx>



Inside This Issue

1	PD for Term 4, SPEVI Conference
2-3	Graeme Innes' Ten top tips for getting a job, VA Further Education Bursary Closing Soon
4	Blind Skateboarder
5	National Gallery of Victoria: Two New Exhibitions
6	Changes to Working with Children Act, Smart Glasses
7	The KISA Phone, VI Tennis
8	Free Online VI Courses: Review, Tom's Top 10 Tips for Accessible Documents, The Book with No Pictures
9-12	Ballot Papers in Braille, SCIVIS Reunion, Staff News, Student News, Material in Alternativeformats for 2015, Blind Cricket at the MCG

Graeme Innes' Ten Top Tips for Getting a Job

Source: <http://graemeinnes.com/2014/10/02/10-top-tips-to-getting-a-job/>

Former Disability Discrimination Commissioner Graeme Innes pulls no punches in his Ten Top Tips for Getting a Job! He writes:

I'm one of the lucky people with a disability in Australia – I have a job. People with disabilities in Australia are 30% less likely to have a job than people without disabilities. When we are employed, we are usually under-employed. In addition, 45% of us live in or near poverty.

What are the lessons I have learned? Following the BuzzFeed model, here are my Ten Top Tips for getting a job as a person with a disability.



One, it will be harder for you to get a job than your peers without disabilities. That's the reality, supported by the statistics. So suck it up. And as Sara Henderson famously said – don't wait to see the light at the end of the tunnel – get down there and turn the bloody thing on yourself. Your opportunities are in your hands. Be proactive, and keep being proactive.

Two, think hard about whether or not you disclose your disability. It's a bit hard for me not to disclose mine when I walk into a job interview with my guide dog. But some people with hidden disabilities have that option. I learned quickly that when I disclosed my disability during a phone conversation with an employer, that was usually the last interaction I had with them. So I just turned up, and surprised them at the interview.

If you have a mobility disability, and need an accessible venue for the interview, that may be more of a challenge than you are prepared to give an employer. On the other hand, it may put you in a stronger negotiating position.

Your only legal obligation to disclose is if your disability means that you cannot carry out the inherent requirements of the job. Don't be told otherwise. And don't accept the employer argument that you somehow misled them by not disclosing. In the same way that no employer can require you to disclose your sexual orientation, no employer can require you to disclose your disability, or punish you for not doing so.

But there may be benefits in disclosing. Some employers are now running programmes to encourage employment of people with disabilities. So disclosing may get you into jobs with those employers. Of course, if employers have a more disability-friendly workplace then you are more likely to disclose (Westpac and Woolworths). And you may feel that if you disclose your disability it may be easier to negotiate those reasonable adjustments you may need.

In essence, the answer to the disclosure question is – it depends – on you, and on your view of the employer.

Three, prepare for each job application, and send an individually written letter which indicates you have done so. You may have a standard CV, but your cover letter should always be written for each application. As a person with a disability, you have to follow the Baden Powell principle and be better prepared.

Four, research the job with a disability focus. Be in a position to point out to recruitment agencies that there is a specific stream for people with disabilities into which you would fall. Getting past the mass-production recruitment process is often the biggest hurdle you will face.

Five, if you do disclose, be up-front at the interview about your disability and any reasonable adjustments. If employers don't ask you about your disability – and many won't – be prepared at the end of the interview to talk about the disability, and how you will do the job for which you have

applied. Give them all the material they need to make an informed – rather than an uninformed – decision.

Six, research some successful people with the same disability as you. If they are working in the same profession as you even better. Get some stories or YouTube clips about them, and show them during discussions with employers. It's all about challenging assumptions.

Seven, be prepared to do some voluntary work, internship, or “stepping into” programmes. If you can't get the job you want, or for which you are qualified, take a lower level job and work your way up. The biggest challenge we face is that people can't see how we can do the job. Showing them may just get you over the line.

Eight, find a good mentor. Someone with a similar disability to yours, who has been successful in employment, would be great. Peer support is always valuable. You don't have to follow their advice, but you can always learn from sharing experiences.

Nine, make sure that you understand the Australian Employment Assistance fund process, and how that might be relevant for reasonable adjustments for you. Work with the employer to make this happen. If there is a problem, own it. That is a great approach to show to employers.

Ten, always dress up, not down. People with disabilities are generally viewed more negatively than others, and these visual judgements are often made in the first few seconds of the interview. So compensate by strutting your stuff.

Please let me know if these tips are helpful, and share the news of your success when you get a job. One of the ways we, as people with disabilities, will get more jobs is if the conversation about us getting jobs increases.

- 2 October 2014

Resources suggested by Graeme Innes:

- Employment and the Disability Discrimination Act:
<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/employment-and-disability-discrimination-act-table-contents>
- Celebrating 20 years of the Disability Discrimination Act – 20 years 20 stories:
<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/twentystories/videos.html>
- Australian Employment Assistance fund process: <http://www.workfocus.com/>

Vision Australia Further Education Bursary Closing Soon

The VA Bursary will be closing for applications on 31 October. The Bursary is open to people who have vision impairments and will be studying next year as a post-secondary student at or above Certificate IV level, including undergraduate and post-graduate degrees.

These Bursaries provide assistive technology, laptops, magnification, audio or braille devices tailored to the individual student's needs. To be eligible applicants need to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident and be or become a client of Vision Australia.

Please be aware that if you have received the Bursary before you cannot receive it again.

The closing date for applicants is 31 October 2014.

Information and forms are available at: www.visionaustralia.org/bursary

Blind Skateboarder

Article by Justin Tejada

You need a few basic things to become a skateboarder. For starters, there's the skateboard (duh). A strong sense of balance is key, and a general dislike of Rollerbladers can't hurt (just kidding). Tommy Carroll, however, is proof that having eyesight is not a requirement. The 15-year-old is a ripping skater who has been blind since age two.

When he was 13 months old, Tommy was diagnosed with cancer of the retina. After months of treatment failed to produce positive results, doctors had to perform surgery to remove the cancer, which left Tommy blind. But being unable to see didn't stop Tommy from leading a full life and enjoying himself. He first bought a skateboard on a whim when he was eight years old, but didn't begin riding it regularly until two years later. "I picked it up because it was something that I could do individually and be creative with," says Tommy, who lives in Glenview, Illinois. "When I started, I could barely do anything. I just had fun messing around."

Tommy loved the feeling of freedom he had on his board and would spend hours practicing by himself and with friends. By the time he was in sixth grade, he was skating every day and learning new tricks, like different grinds and early-grab airs. Now Tommy has progressed to the point that his skills are earning serious attention. He is sponsored by Agent Skateboards and has been featured in The Skateboard Mag. Tommy is also looking for local competitions to enter.

Tommy loves riding in skateparks. Before trying a new run, he walks around the course to find the obstacles. He uses echolocation to tell where ramps and other skaters are. Here's how it works: When Tommy skates, his wheels make a sound. That sound bounces off objects in the skatepark, letting him know what's around him.

Aside from minor injuries like a chipped tooth and sprained ankle, Tommy has not been seriously hurt. "I will go for stuff and slam hard a lot of times, but I have really not hurt myself badly," he says. "I don't want to jinx myself though."

In March, Tommy was able to ride with legendary skater Tony Hawk, who had seen a YouTube video of Tommy and wanted to meet him. "He's way better than I thought," says Hawk. "His blindness doesn't hold him back." That's because Tommy won't let it. "I don't like to put any limits on. I just try anything," he says. "It might help that I can't see because I just see [tricks] in my mind and think I might as well try them."

That gung-ho attitude blew Hawk away. "There are a few tricks he does that are frightening to the sighted skater because your back is turned to the ramp. We call this being 'blind to the ramp.' Tommy is always blind to the ramp so he puts us all to shame."

When he isn't skating, Tommy stays very busy. He is a straight-A student at Northbrook South High. At school he uses a laptop computer that has a Braille display. He does his homework on a desktop computer that reads aloud the words that are on the screen.

Skating isn't Tommy's only extra-curricular activity. He also competes in wrestling (he maintains constant contact with his opponent), and cross-country and track (he holds on to the arm of a guide). Tommy is also a DJ in his school's radio broadcasts.

Hawk (possibly the most famous skateboarder in the world) interviews Tommy:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UL38q-30NtU>

National Gallery of Victoria: Two new exhibitions

Source: NGV website: <http://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions>

Hyper-Natural: Scent from Design to Art. A free exhibition for your nose.

Anchored within the world of scent, *Hyper-Natural* explores how designers in the medium of perfume scent select synthetic fragrances to put together extraordinary designs. These designs, when built, become extraordinary works of scent art. Curated by former New York Times perfume critic and author Chandler Burr, *Hyper-Natural* introduces us to the thoughtful, intricate, fascinating, and virtually unknown medium of design—invisible, powerful— and expands our concept of design itself.

This exhibition is part of NGV garden programs to celebrate the arrival of spring. Through September the Grollo Equiset Garden will come to life as 18,000 newly planted flowers bloom, a unique installation of mist will create an ephemeral cloud, with *Hyper-Natural* offering an invitation to enjoy the garden on a sensory journey of discovery.

Hyper-Natural presents 7 ingenious synthetic scent molecules created from the birth of the first such molecules in the 1850s to the hugely sophisticated molecular scents of today.

Each of these 7 molecules will be paired with a major work of olfactory art, a perfume, in which that molecule played a major role, and visitors will come to understand the scent molecule's special part in the work. They will also understand the work of art as a whole and how it came from that design.

The exhibition will be located in the sculpture garden at NGV International, St Kilda Road. Visitors will embark on a sensory journey through the garden to smell the 14 molecules and scent works. In addition to the exhibition, a program of Scent Design events led by Burr will allow visitors to experience the world of olfactory art from many perspectives.

Burr, who wrote the book; *The Emperor of Scent* and is Curator of the Department of Olfactory Art in New York, says a key inspiration for the project is to 'get visitors to move beyond mere emotional responses and memories and to recognize and think critically about scent design'.

Where: Grollo Equiset Sculpture Garden, NGV International, 180 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

When: 25th September 2014 – 30th November 2014

The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier

The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier - From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk runs from 17th October 2014 to 8th February 2015. The unconventional and playfully irreverent designs of Jean Paul Gaultier will be celebrated in the first international exhibition dedicated to this ground-breaking French couturier.

The National Gallery of Victoria will be the only Australian venue for The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier which will feature more than 140 superbly crafted garments in addition to photographs, sketches, stage costumes, excerpts from runway shows, film, television, concerts and dance performances.

Take an Audio Describing tour of this extraordinary exhibition with an NGV Voluntary Guide.

Where: NGV International, 180 St Kilda Road, Ground Level, Temporary Exhibitions

When: 10.30 am Saturday 8th November, and 10.30 am Saturday 13th December 2014.

Changes to Working with Children Act 2005

Source: Department of Justice

On 26 October 2014 a number of important amendments to the *Working with Children Act 2005* (the Act) will come into effect. The changes improve the clarity and efficiency of the Act and respond to the Victorian Parliament's *Betrayal of Trust* report recommendation about ministers of religion.

Changes to Legislation: The information below outlines two important changes. The complete list of amendments is available on the Department of Justice website:

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/about+the+check/purpose/changes+to+legislation+home/changes+to+legislation>.

The Working with Children (WWC) Check screens a person's criminal records and professional conduct reports over their lifetime. The Act has been changed to make it clear that the WWC Check does not assess a person's suitability to work with children, as this is the role of organisations. The WWC Check is just the starting point. There are a number of other important actions organisations need to take to determine a person's suitability to work with children and to create safe environments for children. For example, organisations should also reference check people they plan to engage in child-related work, and continue to monitor the behaviour of their workers around children.

About the Check: Further details will be available from 26 October 2014:

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/about+the+check/>

According to the Department of Justice website, teachers who are currently registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching qualify for an exemption from the WWC Check.

Seeing the Light: Smart glasses boost vision for partially sighted people

Adapted from: The Guardian, 31st August 2014

The latest prototype uses two cameras and a laser to identify objects and then relay that information to a computer, which displays the objects on the glasses in very simplified form – detailed bright shapes. Users can see the objects using their residual vision, which typically is limited to perceptions of light and motion.



In effect, the wearer sees a reduced version of the world without colour, where objects that are closer are much brighter. When people, bus stops and cars are further away they get darker. The technology is aimed at allowing those with partial sight to navigate around the environment with much greater ease. Some light perception is needed; the glasses can be calibrated to sensitivity. "Nearby things are going to get brighter so put your hand in front and wave it and you will be able to see it. You will be able to build up hand-eye coordination. You will be able to walk around unfamiliar environments, especially at night time and get a good idea about obstacles – where gutters are, where overhanging branches are – giving you that confidence to walk down unfamiliar streets and be able to avoid bollards and buggies."

Source: www.theguardian.com/business/2014/aug/31/seeing-light-inventor-smart-glasses-vision-blind-people

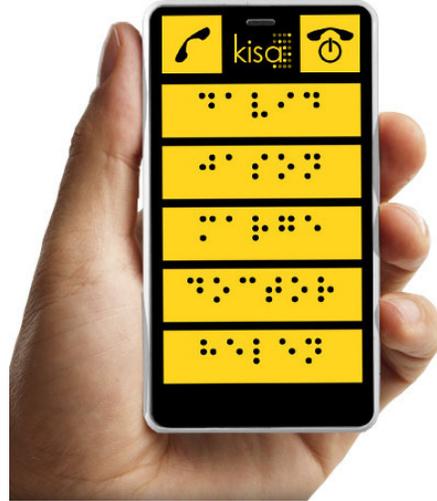
The KISA Phone

By Lyn Robinson

This product was on display at the recent Technology Expo at Vision Australia Kooyong where I was given a hands-on demonstration of the phone.

KISA stands for Keep It Simple Always. Originally marketed for seniors who may find a regular mobile phone difficult to use, this phone can be customised for anyone wanting a simple easy to use phone.

The phone does not have a traditional keypad or menu system like most smart phones, it simply has the numbers you want to call listed on the front of the phone. The display on the phone can be customised to your requirements. You can order the display in large print, braille, photographs or a combination. You can have up to ten pre-programmed phone numbers on the phone which the user can call but anyone can make incoming calls. The phone is given its own mobile phone number or you can transfer your old mobile phone number. There is one button to press to answer the phone.



Some features of the KISA Phone

- Great for kids too young for smart phones
- The KISA phone has no Internet access, no SMS and no camera
- Pre-set contacts help to regulate who your kids can and cannot call
- Emergency services easily reachable using a dedicated SOS button on the back of the phone
- For students who have difficulty reading print, pictures can be used instead
- The phone costs \$84.00 and plans start from \$15.00 a month
- Calls between KISA phones are free.

For more information go to the KISA website at:

<http://kisaphone.com.au/index.aspx>



VI Tennis

Blind Sports Victoria is currently offering a tennis program for people with vision impairments. The program is held at Melbourne Park Indoor Tennis Courts four times per year in six week blocks. Meeting points are arranged at Richmond Station if you require assistance to Melbourne Park.

The program is held on Friday evenings commencing at 6.30pm as follows:

October 17, 24 and 31

November 7, 14 and 21

For further information or to register your interest, please contact Blind Sports Victoria via phone or email: 9822 8876 or email info@blindsports.org.au

Review: Free Online Professional Development Certificates (Methods for Teaching Braille)

Review by Christine Casey, who is currently living and teaching in Tonga

The American-based Hadley School for the Blind offers two free courses to professionals, paraprofessionals and volunteers working with students who are tactile learners. Braille Teaching Methods for Adolescents and Adults is primarily focused on teaching youth and adults who are transitioning from print to braille or learning braille as an additional tool to support literacy. In contrast, the course entitled Braille Teaching Methods for Children, focuses on pre-braille skills and methods for teaching children who are developing literacy skills while simultaneously learning braille.

Both courses are offered free of charge and can be completed online. Each course requires the submission of seven assignments which are graded by a teacher, who is also contactable via email, should students have any questions regarding course content.

On successful completion of the course, participants are posted a certificate. In America, these courses are certified for 20 hours continuing education credit each. Though they may not be officially recognized in Australia, they still offer a good option for those seeking further professional development in this area.

I have recently completed the course regarding Teaching Adolescents and Adults and am part-way through the course related to the teaching of children. I have found both courses to be comprehensive, full of practical suggestions and with assessments largely based upon application of knowledge to hypothetical real-life students and situations. Feedback from the American-based teachers has been prompt and helpful and the flexibility of the online learning environment makes it easy to fit these courses around full-time work and other commitments.

Tom's Top 10 Tips for Accessible Documents

The recent roundtable Conference earlier this year included a presentation which featured Tom's Top 10 Tips for producing accessible documents. It includes thoughtful information about the presentation of tables, choice of font, alt text for images and so on.

To read this tip sheet, visit: <http://printdisability.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Toms-Top-Ten-Tips-for-Accessible-Documents.docx>

“The Book with No Pictures”

If you haven't heard of this book yet, it is quite hilarious – a good one for schools and kindergartens that have a student who is blind or who has low vision in their group/class.

It begins: You might think a book with no pictures seems boring and serious. Except ... here's how books work. Everything written on the page *has* to be said by the person reading it aloud. Even if the words say ... BLORK. Or BLUURF.

Watch children's reactions to the book: <http://themetapicture.com/this-man-opens-a-book/>
For more information or to order the book (approx\$12): <http://thebookwithnopictures.com/>.

Victorian Electoral Commission – Ballot papers in braille

The VEC is producing braille ballots for the upcoming state election. To find out more, please contact: Sarah North – 8620 1126 or sarah.north@vec.vic.gov.au.

“No Boundaries” Blind Cricket at the MCG Program

When: Sunday 2nd November 2014

Time: During the lunch break of the Victorian Bush Rangers Versus the NSW SpeedBlitz Blues in the Bupa Sheffield Shield Match

Who: All blind and vision impaired persons under age 18 are welcome

Where: Melbourne Cricket Ground

RSVP by: Wednesday 29th October 2014 secretary@vbca.org.au

SCIVIS Reunion

News from Jeni Blake

The Pancake Parlour in Bourke Street was the venue for a recent Space Camp Reunion of Jeni Blake, Myriam Ash and twenty-five former and current campers, some seen below in the photo.



Reunion members included Michael (2006, 2007) who flew in from Canberra; Kristen (1998, 1999) who is going back to the USA in March to catch up with past SCIVIS contacts; and Jake (2001) who is now the manager of an equestrian stud in Euroa, having travelled overseas nine times including living for a time in Europe.

2014 Space Campers Geordie, Aaron and Rohan (2014) were also joined by Kate (1998, 1999, 2001); Bernadette (2001) with husband Phil; Brendan (2013); Maddison (2013); and Alice and Lauren (who travelled with Sherry Cunningham’s Vision Australia team).

The oldies regaled the newbies with their “best piece of advice” and offered a Q&A session which must have been fairly inspirational - following the gathering, one student returned home and did three hours homework!!! His mother was shocked!

Student News

- **Nathan** (right) from SVRC demonstrates his braille number knowledge using ‘stepping stones’. A great resource for our early braille users. Number sign dot 3,4,5,6 and dot 1 represents the number 1.



Premier's Reading Challenge News

Source: eduGate, 14th October 2014

More than 200,000 students from 1049 schools participated in the tenth Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge reading nearly four million books. Since the Challenge began in 2005 nearly two million students have read an incredible 34 million books. Placed end to end, that's enough books to stretch from Melbourne to Sydney ten times.



Among the students completing the Challenge this year was Danijela (pictured) from Keilor Downs College who read 16 books in braille including her favourite, "Born to Run", by Cathy Freeman. Danijela was recognised for her efforts at a special ceremony the school runs annually to reward students who met their reading goals.

Staff News

- **Deb Lewis** is back at her desk for Term 4! I gratefully acknowledge the excellent production of The Bulletin by Marion and Lyn during my absence, and wish to thank the entire staff for the other 1,001 things that were accomplished during her absence – I'd make special thanks to people for their efforts, but I wouldn't know where to start (or finish)!
- **Annette Godfrey-Magee** returned to us in the second week of term from trekking the Camino Trail in Spain – can't wait to hear the stories!
- **Emily White** will continue her secondment at the SVRC in term 4.
- Congratulations to **Vanessa Craig** from St. Monica's Primary School who has completed the SVRC's Braille Correspondence Course with flying colours!
- **New VT** in South Western Victoria- a very big welcome to **Lyndell Hancock** who will be working around Geelong.
- **Lyn Petty**, SVRC braille transcriber, has left for a few weeks holiday in India. Have a great time Lyn!

From the Field – and all the best to them!

- **Leona Holloway**, who has worked at Vision Australia for many years in a leadership position with Braille Transcription, is now working on accessible graphics at Monash University.
- **Thai Nguyen**, formerly of Blind Citizens Australia is now employed at Vision Australia as an OT.
- **Sandie Mackevicius** will be leaving VA later this month to pursue LAW (Life After Work).
- **Ron Hathaway**, Australia's Managing Director of Humanware will retire after 17.5 years with the company.

Finally

Editor, Deb Lewis and Lyn Robinson would like to thank everyone for their contribution to this issue of The Bulletin, and in particular Max Bini, Toni Chilton, Phia Damsma, Jane Jensen and Emily White.

If you would like to contribute to The Bulletin please email svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au

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

Materials in Alternative Format for 2015

Just a quick reminder that it is time to begin tracking down booklists for students' learning materials for next year – if you haven't started already...

This is particularly important for students who will participate in 2015 transition programs in the last few weeks of this year and for all students requiring braille. Please get your requests in soon as this will help Production Staff in their planning and production during term 4 and beyond!

The Request Forms, along with catalogues of audio, braille, etext and large print can be found on the SVRC website: www.svrc.vic.edu.au/Acatalogue.shtml

* * *

The Sound of Time - TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!

Please support two year 10 girls with this magnificent effort. Come along to the concert or make a donation.

A student-run charity concert is being held at Methodist Ladies' College next Thursday 29th October, to support children with vision impairments who attend the Support Skills Program at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre. The aim of this concert is to raise money to buy and repair second-hand instruments for those children, in order to further expose them to music. There will be lots of musical performances, acts, dances, fun, and FOOD! There is also an option to donate unwanted second-hand musical instruments (per person) as a ticket. Normal tickets will be \$5 for children under 12, \$10 for teenagers under 18, and \$15 for adults. To buy tickets or donate an instrument, please contact Marion Blazé here at the SVRC on (03) 9841 0242 or email: (marionblaze@svrc.vic.edu.au)



Do you want to play on the MCG this summer!!! **How? “No Boundaries” Blind Cricket at the MCG Program**

When: Sunday 2nd November 2014

Time: During the lunch break of the Victorian Bush Rangers Versus the NSW SpeedBlitz Blues in the Bupa Sheffield Shield Match

Who: All blind and vision impaired persons under age 18 are welcome

Where: Melbourne Cricket Ground

RSVP by: Wednesday 29th October 2014 secretary@vbca.org.au

Blind Cricket Australia and the Victorian Blind Cricket Association in conjunction with our program partners, Cricket Australia and Cricket Victoria, extends an invitation to blind and vision impaired persons under the age of 18 to attend the 2014 “No Boundaries” MCG introduction to blind Cricket program. This event presents a fantastic opportunity for you to play on the hallowed turf of the world famous Melbourne Cricket Ground.

It doesn't matter if you've never played sighted or blind cricket before. You will be introduced to blind cricket through a range of activities and games.

In Victoria, at the grass roots level, there is a game for everyone regardless of age, gender or ability, with opportunities and pathways for junior, youth, social, domestic, national and international competition. This season these opportunities include 18 weeks of one day competition for juniors and 12 weeks of two day competition and 6 weeks of T-20 competition for seniors. There are also biannual national championships with the next one scheduled to commence in Melbourne in December 2015 and international competition with regular tours including Ashes and World Cup events. This year a world cup will be held in Cape Town, South Africa, and Melbourne currently holds hosting rights for the world cup as part of the centenary celebrations of Victorian Blind Cricket in 2022.

Blind Cricket is a mixed gender all age sport with players graded according to their level of sight. It is specifically designed to cater for both totally blind and partially sighted players alike. The player grading system ensures everyone can get a fair go to participate. Blind Cricket is a challenging sport and a great way to keep fit and build up social networks.

Places are limited so we welcome you to attend this event and invite you to please RSVP by, 29th October, 2014.

To register your interest:

1. Email your name & contact number to secretary@vbca.org.au or
2. Contact our Victorian Development Officer Rod Pritchard (outside BH), 0401 718 926.

Successful applicants will be advised of the meeting time and place and event entry requirements. We look forward to meeting you on the day.

Blind Cricket Australia
info@blindcricket.org.au
www.blindcricket.org.au
 ABN: 81 837 588 29