Australia and New Zealand Accessible Graphics Group (ANZAGG)
2019 Annual Meeting
Minutes

**Date:** Monday 6 May 2019

**Location:** Round Table Conference, Rydges South Bank Brisbane

**Chair:** Leona Holloway
**Minutes**: Annette Sutherland

# 1. Roll Call

## Present

* Kerri Weaver – Eyes and Independence, Queensland
* Tom McMahon – Tactile Mapping Solutions (formerly Queensland Tactual Mapping Committee)
* Deb Lewis – Statewide Vision Resource Centre (SVRC)
* Matt Butler – Monash University
* Hattie Lloyd – South Australia School for Vision Impaired (SASVI)
* Jordie Howell – Vision Australia
* Karen Gilligan – Blind and Low Vision Education Network New Zealand (BLENNZ)
* Ross de Vent – Description Victoria
* Lyn Eagers - consumer
* Andrew Davies – Royal Society for the Blind, South Australia
* Mel Ried – Catholic Education, Armidale
* Tricia d’Apice – Teleschool, RIDBC
* Janine Land – South Australia School for Vision Impaired (SASVI)
* Paul Brown – Braille Authority of New Zealand Aotearoa Trust (BANZAT)
* Annette Sutherland – Department of Education NSW
* Shirley Henderson – WA Department of Education
* Tristan Clare - RIDBC
* Peter Le – Vision Australia
* Leanne Hannaford - Catholic Education, Armidale
* Jodie Doolan – NSW Department of Education
* Kathy Riessen - South Australia School for Vision Impaired (SASVI)

## Apologies

* Joanne Chua – Round Table Executive
* Leone Carroll - VisAbility
* Vithya Vijayakumare - VisAbility

# 2. Reports

## Communications – Leona Holloway

The primary goal of ANZAGG is as a forum for sharing information about accessible graphics among members (i.e. anyone who is interested!).

This has been successful, with

* Web pages with resources on the RT website at <http://printdisability.org/about-us/accessible-graphics/>
* 68 subscribers to the listserv <http://www.fresslists.org/list/accessiblegraphics>
* 167 members of the Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/909719082474080/>

Leona encouraged everyone to share their news with the group. You can also use the group when you need a graphic in a hurry.

Hattie: Can we share books and resources to this group?

Leona: Suggests to share information on the list about the resource or book for members awareness.

Tristan questioned if sharing resources on the list would breach copyright laws.

It was generally thought that under the new Copyright Laws we would be covered.

Action: Hattie to check the Copyright laws to make sure we can freely share our resources.

## ANZAGG working group on tactile literacy – Deb Lewis and Leona Holloway

Deb Lewis, Leona Holloway and Louise Curtin have put together a document on Tactile Literacy and wanted to raise awareness and discussion on what tactile graphicacy incorporates.

Question: Swiping on an iPad. Is that tactual graphicacy?

Shirley Henderson offered to share WA Education Department document. Their new tactile graphics continuum is in trial version this year. They would like to present it next year at Round Table.

Some discussion on how to orientate an image of an animal on a page: Left to right, right to left, vertical or follow print.

Leona encouraged everyone to have a good look at the document and respond on the list serve with comments etc.

## 2.3 Update to Guidelines on Conveying Visual Information – Annette Sutherland

We have a very dynamic and energetic Team: Leona Holloway, David Smith, Vithya Vijayakumare, Joanna Chau, Debra Murphy.

We have monthly teleconferences, which began in February. These meetings are proving very productive and a forum to discuss any issues we are having and reassessing our direction forward.

Initially we all read through the document and decided that it didn’t need a complete rewrite, but rather an update, as this document was last revised in 2005. The original document was written in 1997.

We are also in discussion with regard to a name change, as the acronym CVI is used more commonly for Cortical Vision Impairment.

As we work though these Guidelines it is becoming more evident that they can include more relevant information to encompass the changing environment of visual information and processes.

We have decided to update the existing Guidelines first and then incorporate any new sections at that stage.

## 2.4 Organisational reports

WA Education Department, Shirley Henderson: Now producing some of the STEM diagrams in colour for those who have some usable vision.

RIDBC Teleschool, Tricia d’Apice: For the time poor, use clipart or similar downloads.

RIDBC Tristan Clare: Mostly uses swell paper and Picture Braille.

Vision Australia, Peter Le: Switched to American Thermoform swell paper because lower heat required, doesn’t puff as much. Much cheaper and free shipping. Use Tiger embosser and a lot of colour. Looking at machine for UV printing.

BLENNZ, Karen Gilligan: A lot of work around pedagogy. Released to small trial group of Resource Teachers Vision and production staff. Pedagogy and production to be more centralised. Hopefully ready for release at SPEVI in January 2020.

Statewide Vision Resource Centre, Deb Lewis: More Ozzie Dots additions with first 6 contractions. Not available yet. Also working on Wonderwords (word search puzzles). Garry Stinchcombe suggested to have a grid reference on the side and top of the Wonderword to record answers.

Description Victoria, Ross de Vent: Provides professional audio description services in Victoria. Stressed that people should be aware that there is a process and training for Audio Description.

Tactile Mapping Solutions for People with Low or No Vision, Tom Macmahon: Have updated rules of Operation and Guidelines in line with Braille House, but hasn’t been finalised as yet. There is concern that the expertise in producing maps is being lost as the Queensland Department of Lands has had huge staff and funding cuts.

# 3. Discussion points

## 3.1 Image Share – potential platform for sharing accessible graphics

<https://imageshare.benetech.org/>

The fourth ANZAGG priority was to identify or develop a repository for storing and sharing commonly used accessible diagrams (think the human body, the water cycle, etc), especially those which are specific to Australia and New Zealand (maps, animals, etc). We haven't done anything about this yet, but DIAGRAM are working hard on ImageShare (<https://imageshare.benetech.org/>), which is a repository that we could potentially use.

## 3.2 Typhlo & Tactus competition

Australia has been invited to take part in the international Typhlo & Tactus competition for tactile story books ([http://www.tactus.org/typhlo&tactus.html](http://www.tactus.org/typhlo%26tactus.html)), however we need an organisation to take on the coordination role.

RSB may be able to take on this role.

##  3.3 Priorities for ANZAGG over the next year

Audio description – Ross volunteered. Tom also interested.

# 4. Meeting close

Thanks to everyone for your participation.