

Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities Inc.

2022 Conference Booklet

**Inclusion and Access to Information in Our Changing World**

Information access is essential for all people including those with print disabilities going about their daily lives.  The 2022 Conference will explore the challenges and opportunities in this rapidly changing world for technology developers, accessible format producers, libraries, publishers, education institutions, government bodies and other organisations in facilitating equitable information access for people with print disabilities.

# Dates:

**Saturday, 14 May 2022 – ABA General Meeting and Workshop**

**Monday, 16 May and Tuesday 17 May 2022 – Conference Proper**

**Wednesday, 18 May 2022 – Workshops and Round Table AGM**

# Virtual Event:

**Please note:** The conference program may be subject to change without notice.

**Program Date:** 9 May 2022

# Welcome

Welcome to the 2022 Round Table Conference, with this year’s theme being “Inclusion and Access to Information in our Changing World“. Round Table are privileged to have a wide range of topics in this year’s programme, which will be explored through a mix of presentations and keynote speakers. We are expecting an audience from our traditional participants in Australia and New Zealand and a wider audience from UK, USA, Europe and South East Asia.

This will be Round Table’s second virtual conference since its establishment in 1981. We are privileged to have a wide range of topics in this year’s programme, which will be explored through a mix of presentations and keynote speakers.

At the conference, we want to highlight the importance of timely, accessible information and the challenges faced by participants during the pandemic, 2021 fires in NSW and the recent floods.

# Thanks

There are several people and organisations that have contributed to make this conference a success and it would be irresponsible of me not to mention them. I would like to thank:

* Sondra Wibberley and her team Jane, Agata and Jordie for the wonderful and time-consuming work on the conference program.
* Trudy Smith and her team at RIDBC Renwick Centre who have extensive experience managing online events.
* Marjorie Hawkings for the endless hours, thoughtfulness, enthusiasm and patience in making this conference possible.
* Blind Low Vision NZ, VisAbility and Vision Australia for producing the conference materials in various accessible formats.
* Member organisations who have contributed staff time and materials for the conference.
* The Round Table Executive Committee for their time and involvement.
* To all the presenters, delegates and sponsors without whom the conference would not be possible.

Lastly but not least the organisations that have supported the 2022 conference, EverAbility Group (VisAbility), Next Sense, Pentronics, The Royal Society for the Blind and Vision Australia our Platinum supporters. Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired our Gold Supporter. Queensland Braille Writing Association our Bronze Supporter.

**Dinesh Burah**Conference Co-ordinator  
April 2022

# Conference Supporters

## Platinum

### EverAbility Group



The **EverAbility Group** connects, inspires and supports people who might otherwise be excluded from hobbies, socialising, exercise, education and employment, particularly people living with disability and their families. We are a service provider to people with print disabilities with branches in Western Australia and Tasmania.

One of EverAbility's key brands, VisAbility, help people with low or no vision across Western Australia and Tasmania do the things they love and live the life they want. Our personalised support has been changing lives for over 100 years.

Visit: [EverAbility Group: https://www.everabilitygroup.org.au/](https://www.everabilitygroup.org.au/)

### Pentronics



**Pentronics** is the sole importer and Master Distributor of Index Braille products for Australia, New Zealand and the South Paciific. With over 40 years experience in braille production Pentronics can assist you with all your braille requirements.

Pentronics also supplies a range of products including tactile imaging fusers and swell paper from Zychem, braille displays from Eurobraille and ultrasonic mobility canes.

Pentronics continues to be the major Australian provider of service for Perkins Braillers and other adaptive technologies.

Visit: [Pentronics: http://www.pentronics.com.au](http://www.pentronics.com.au/)

### NextSense

NextSense logo. 

Tagline reads: Advancing 160 years of RIDBC experience.

**NextSense** is a not-for-profit organisation supporting people who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or have low vision across Australia. We work with both children, adults and their families to educate and create an individual program of care that meets their unique needs.  
  
Our Accessibility and Inclusion service produces a range of materials including early children’s books, exam papers, and assessments through to restaurant menus, for individuals, community groups or organisations in formats that can be used by people who are blind or have low vision.

Visit: [NextSense: https://www.nextsense.org.au/](https://www.nextsense.org.au/)



### Royal Society for the Blind

The freedom to live a great life. The Royal Society for the Blind (RSB) is in the vision business; advocating, supporting, empowering those who are blind, and educating, assisting, and enabling those experiencing vision loss to live independently.

RSB is a not-for-profit organisation providing services to Australians who have a severe vision impairment. These services are delivered by a professional, committed and highly qualified team supported by volunteers, drawn from all age groups and walks of life.

Blindness or vision impairment can have a severe impact on a person’s lifestyle. The RSB is here to assist people to overcome their vision impairment and participate independently in the community. The quality and effectiveness of our services is assessed annually through independent client surveys. As our results show, we have continued to provide a high level of client satisfaction over a sustained period of time.

Visit: [RSB: https://www.rsb.org.au/](https://www.rsb.org.au/)

### Vision Australia



**Vision Australia** is a leading national provider of blindness and low vision services in Australia. We work in partnership with Australians who are blind or have low vision to help them achieve the possibilities they choose in life.

We create equal opportunity so people who are blind or have low vision can get an education, get a job and be as independent as they choose.

We do this through our Vision Australia centres in Victoria, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia; and through outreach programs in the Northern Territory and Tasmania.

We are a not-for-profit organisation and a major participant and partner in the international blindness community.

Visit: [Vision Australia : https://www.visionaustralia.org/](https://www.visionaustralia.org/)

## Gold

### Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired



**Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired** (CSFBHI) was organised in 1973 to help the totally and partially blind, and for sighted people who are unable to read normal ink print conveniently due to physical handicaps. CSFBHI is listed by the National Library of Australia in its library services for the handicapped and also in the directory of services for the Australian National Council for the Blind.

All services of the CSFBHI are free to the client and are funded by personal gifts and donations, and the resources of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia–New Zealand.CSFBHI is a charity under the law and offers tax-deductibility for donations and bequests in Australia.

Visit: <https://csfbhi.adventistchurch.com/>

## Bronze

### Queensland Braille Writing Association



**Braille House** is a FREE lending library for all Australian Braille readers, whatever state they live in.  
  
Since 1897, Braille House has been proud to produce and provide information in Braille and other accessible formats.  
  
As we enter 2022, and Braille House celebrates 125 years of service, we are reminded of the importance of Braille as a tool for literacy and a catalyst for equality.

Visit: [Braille House: www.braillehouse.org.au](http://www.braillehouse.org.au/)

## Support

The support of the following organisations is gratefully acknowledged by Round Table. These organisations assisted in the production of accessible format conference materials.

* Blind Low Vision NZ
* VisAbility
* Vision Australia



### Australian Government’s Department of Social Services

Round Table proudly acknowledges the support of the Australian Government’s Department of Social Services. The grant received from the department has enabled consumer participation at the conference.

## Saturday, 14 May 2022

9:30am Registration opens

### 10:00am – 1:45pm: Australian Braille Authority (ABA) Annual Meeting

Chair: Jordie Howell

The agenda for the day will be circulated prior to the meeting. Further details will be made available through the OZBRL listserv.

12:00pm – 12:30pm Break

12:30pm – 1:45pm ABA Meeting continues

1:45pm – 2:00pm Break

### 2:00pm – 3:00pm: ABA workshop

## Monday, 16 May 2022

8:30am: Online Registration opens

### 9:15am – 10:45am: Plenary Session 1

**Chair:** Sonali Marathe

9:15am – 9:30am:

Welcome and Commencement

9:30am – 9:45am:

President’s Introduction:

Sonali Marathe, President  
Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities Inc.

9:45am – 10:15am:

1a. The World Blind Union amid the COVID-19 pandemic

Keynote Presenter:

Martine Abel-Williamson, President, World Blind Union

10:15am – 10:45am:

1b. Inside the Pandemic – working with governments to help get the pandemic response right

Feature Presenter:

Associate Professor Julian Rait OAM, Chair of Federal Council of Australian Medical Association

10:45am – 11:00am: Morning tea break

### 11:00am – 12:30pm: Concurrent Sessions 2 & 3

| Session 2 Chair: Sondra Wibberley | Session 3 Chair: David Rice |
| --- | --- |
| 11:00am – 11:30am:  2a. Shining a light on disparities to access: the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions on learning for students with blindness and low vision in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific  Presenters:  Dr Melissa Cain, Australian Catholic University; Dr Melissa Fanshawe, University of Southern Queensland; Polly Goodwin, Australian Catholic University, Vision Australia | 11:00am – 11:30am:  3a. Providing information that resonates with people  Presenter:  Reeni Ekanayake, Vision Information Service Project Lead, Vision Australia |
| 11**:30am – 12:00pm:**  2b. COVID impact and innovation  Presenter:  Steven Zelko, Coordinator, Inclusive Resource Development (Tech and Training), LaTrobe University | 11:30am – 12:00pm:  3b. The future for braille music conversion tools? MakeBraille 2022 updates  Presenters:  Christina Christensen and Jordie Howell, Music Transcribers, Vision Australia |
| 12:00pm – 12:30pm:  2c. Interactive multisensory science books for blind and low vision readers  Presenters:  Dr Erica Tandori, Monash University Biomedicine Discovery Institute and Stu Favilla, Swinburne University, School of Design and Architecture | 12:00pm – 12:30pm:  3c. Accessibility of remote meetings: defining responsibilities and international guidance  Presenter:  Dr Scott Hollier, CEO, Centre for Accessibility Australia |

12:30pm – 1:00pm: Lunch break

### Conference Supporter Session

**Facilitator:** David Vosnacos

* **Pentronics**
* **Vision Australia**

### 1:00pm – 2:30pm: Concurrent Sessions 4 & 5

| Session 4 Chair: Jordie Howell | Session 5 Chair: Jane Wegener |
| --- | --- |
| 1**:00pm – 1:30pm:**  4a. The process of implementing a disability specific curriculum for students with blindness and low vision throughout Australia  Presenter:  Dr Melissa Fanshawe, Senior Lecturer, University of Southern Queensland | 1:00pm – 1:30pm:  5a. Audio description one year on …  Presenter:  Manisha Amin, CEO, Centre for Inclusive Design (CFID) |
| 1**:30pm – 2:00pm:**  4b. An inclusive classroom in a changing world: resources from braille and large print services  Presenters:  Kim Barber, Manager, Braille and Large Print Services; and Navkaran Virdi, Project Office, NSW Department of Education | 1:30pm – 2:00pm:  5b. Exhibition at hand: inclusive gallery design for people with low vision and blindness  **Presenters:**  Dr Erica Tandori and Mathew Butler, Monash University |
| 2**:00pm – 2:30pm:**  4c. Strengthening student and teacher engagement and access through innovative online learning during the pandemic  Presenter:  Marion Blaze, Coordinator student programs and professional learning, Statewide Vision Resource Centre | 2:00pm – 2:30pm:  5c. Art, ideas and connections: creating art experiences for all  Presenter:  Danielle Gullotta, Senior Access programs producer, Art Gallery of New South Wales |

2:30pm – 2:45pm: Afternoon break

### 2:45pm – 3:45pm: Concurrent Sessions 6 & 7

| Session 6 Chair: Maria Stevens | Session 7 Chair: Agata Mrva-Montoya |
| --- | --- |
| 2**:45pm – 3:15pm:**  6a. Reading performance in students with a vision impairment  Presenter:  Lynne Loh, PhD Candidate, Flinders University | 2:45pm – 3:15pm:  7a. Lessons from tactile adaptation of one painting: implications for art education  Presenters:  Bob Marek, Hungry Fingers and Ewa Niestorowicz, Marie Curie University, Lublin, Poland |
| 3**:15pm – 3:45pm:**  6b. Laser cutting accessible material  Presenter:  Trent Betts, Accessible Format Producer (STEM), Vision Australia | 3:15pm – 3:45pm:  7b. NaviLens, a new kind of QR code that can be read at 12 meters far away  Presenter:  Javier Pita, Chief Executive Officer, NaviLens |

### 3:50pm – 4:20pm: Plenary Session 8

**Chair:** Dinesh Burah

**8. Easy read: opportunities and challenges**

**Feature Presenter:**Roger Firman, Chair of UK Association for Accessible Formats (UKAAF)

### 4:20pm: Close of Day One

## Tuesday, 17 May 2022

8:45am: Online registration opens

### 9:00am – 9:40am: Plenary Session 9

**Chair:** Phia Damsma

9:00am – 9:10am:

Welcome and commencement.

9:10am – 9:40am:

9. Promoting ICT access and capability: international perspectives

Keynote Presenter:

Dr Frances Gentle, ICEVI President; SPEVI Co-President; Lecturer NextSense Institute / Macquarie University, ICEVI, SPEVI and NextSense Institute

### 9:45am – 10:45am: Concurrent Sessions 10 & 11

| Session 10 Chair: Maria Stevens | Session 11 Chair: Agata Mrva-Montoya |
| --- | --- |
| 9:45am – 10:15am:  10a. Tactile information that isn’t reading  Presenters:  Andrew Backhouse, Marketing, PR and Community Engagement and Richard Barker, General Manager, Braille House | 9:45am – 10:15am:  11a. See, hear, touch: making books for everyone  Presenters:  Laura Brady, Chair, Board of Directors, eBound Canada and Riane Lapaire, Braille and Accessibility Testing Coordinator, National Network for Equitable Library Services (NNELS) |
| 10:15am – 10:45am:  10b. Accessing pictorial information: new techniques and technologies  Presenters:  Peter Cracknell, Vision Technology Specialist, Quantum RLV | 10:15am – 10:45am:  11b. Making accessible art through a multisensory experience  Presenters:  John O'Neill, University of Minnesota Duluth and Deanna Lorianni, Color to Sound |

10:45am – 11:00am: Morning tea break

### 11:00am – 12:30pm: Concurrent Sessions 12 & 13

| Session 12 Chair: Sondra Wibberley | Session 13 Chair: Frances Gentle |
| --- | --- |
| 11:00am – 11:30am:  12a. Creating “born accessible” publications: what can editors do to help?  Presenter:  Julie Ganner, Chair, Accessibility Initiative Working Party, Institute of Professional Editors (IPEd) | 11:00am – 11:30am:  13a. 3D printing for touch readers: ARC Linkage project update  Presenters  Professor Kim Marriott, Department Head of Human Centred Computing, Leona Holloway, Research Assistant and Ruth Nagassa, PhD candidate, Monash University. |
| 11**:30am – 12:00pm:**  12b. Long may we read ... in any format  Presenter:  Graham Murray, Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer, ReadHowYouWant Pty Ltd | 11:30am – 12:00pm:  13b. Refreshable tactile displays: what, when, why and wow!  Presenters:  Leona Holloway, Research Assistant; Swamy Ananthanarayan, Lecturer and Kate Stephens, Project Assistant, Monash University |
| 12**:00pm – 12:30pm:**  12c. How do you read: key issues and challenges for readers with print disabilities in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand  Presenter:  Dr Agata Mrva-Montoya, Lecturer, The University of Sydney | 12:00pm – 12:30pm:  13c. Finding Saliens on Sonoplanet: learning sonification as technology for inclusion and access to information  Presenter:  Phia Damsma, Creative Director, Sonokids Australia |

12:30pm – 1:00pm: Lunch break

### Conference Supporter Session

**Facilitator:** David Vosnacos

* **EverAbility Group**
* **The Royal Society for the Blind**
* **Next Sense**

### 1:00pm – 2:30pm: Concurrent Sessions 14 & 15

| Session 14 Chair: John Simpson | Session 15 Chair: Dinesh Burah |
| --- | --- |
| 1:00pm – 1:30pm:  14a. WCAG gets updated (and other standards changes)  Presenter:  Dr Andrew Arch, Principal Consultant, Intopia | 1:00pm – 1:30pm:  15a. Ozzie Dots: teaching contracted braille  Presenter:  Debra Lewis, Transcription Manager, Statewide Vision Resource Centre, DET Victoria |
| 1:30pm – 2:00pm:  14b. The future of alternative formats  Presenter:  Sally Aurisch, Chief Executive Officer, Blind Citizens Australia | 1:30pm – 2:00pm:  15b. Connecting community with braille  Presenter:  Paula Waby, Adaptive Communications Adaptive Technology Trainer, Blind Low Vision NZ and Karley Parker |
| 2**:00pm – 2:30pm:**  14c. iPhone, therefore I am: how smartphones are ringing in a new paradigm of information access  Presenter:  Bruce Maguire, Lead Policy Advisor, Vision Australia | 2:00pm – 2:30pm:  15c. The ever changing face of braille  Presenter:  Kathy Riessen, Code Maintenance Officer for ICEB, ICEB Executive |

2:30pm – 2:45pm: Afternoon break

### 2:45pm – 3:45pm: Concurrent Sessions 16 & 17

| Session 16 Chair: Jane Wegener | Session 17 Chair: David Rice |
| --- | --- |
| 2:45pm – 3:15pm:  16a. Navigating the future of wayfinding: filling the gaps with technology  Presenter:  Dr Anna Wright, CEO, BindiMaps | 2:45pm – 3:15pm:  17a. Online accessibility for people with deafblindness: learnings from an accessibility audit  Presenter:  Melanie Robartson and Meredith Prain, Senses WA; Phoebe Wells, Able Australia |
| 3:15pm – 3:45pm:  16b. Tactile playgrounds: improving tactility, mobility and inclusion for blind and low vision audiences in urban playground environments  Presenter:  Dr Dagmar Reinhardt, Associate Professor, Architecture, Design and Planning, The University of Sydney | 3:15pm – 3:45pm:  17b. Independence, compliance and beyond: practical solutions for creating accessible media  Presenter:  Lars Christensen, Advisor and Tanja Stevns, Special Education Teacher, Vision, Sensus App |

### 3:50pm – 4:20pm: Plenary Session 18

Chair: Sonali Marathe

**18. Born accessible ebooks – are we there yet?**

Feature Presenter:

Richard Orme, CEO, DAISY Consortium

### 4:20pm – 4:30pm: President’s Final Address

Sonali Marathe

President, Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities Inc.

### 4:30pm: Close of Day Two

## Wednesday, 18 May 2022

### 9:30am – 11:00am: Workshop 1

#### Sonification to access information

Facilitator: Phia Damsma, Sonokids Australia/Sonification World Chat

This workshop aims to explore and highlight the opportunities of sonification for adoption as an additional or alternative format for access to information. Following a short introduction on this emerging technology, participants will hear about current applications of sonification in such varied areas as: journalism and publishing, sports, STEM education, stock market information, a planetary show, arts and music. Seven expert presenters will share their sonification expertise and projects in a series of short talks (with recorded segments). Then, participants will have the opportunity to engage in discussions with these presenters during the live Q&A. Wearing headphones is recommended but not essential.

Feature Talks:

Series of short presentations, with recorded and live segments by a number of expert presenters (order may change without prior notice):

Action audio: making sports broadcasts more accessible to people living with blindness or low vision.   
**Presenter:** Dr Chatai Goncu

The making of ‘Audio Universe Tour of the Solar System’ (an accessible planetarium show).

**Presenter:** Chris Harrison

Create with light – student art with data sonification

**Presenter:** Jennifer Kotler

**Listening to images with PixelSynth**  
**Presenter:** Matt Russo

Never too early to learn sonification

**Presenter:** Phia Damsma

Sonification to interpret graph shape using the Desmos graphing calculator

**Presenter:** Charlie Roberts

Sonification on the Apple iPhone

**Presenter:** Bill Jolley

11:00am – 11:30pm: Morning break

### 11:30am – 1:00pm: Workshop 2

#### Demystifying accessibility for publishers

Facilitator: Agata Mrva-Montoya

Presenters: Sonali Marathe; Michael Corrigan and Jeremy Kwok

This workshop aims to demystify accessibility for publishers, and show how publishers can get involved in producing accessible content. It will include a demo of assistive technologies, a short presentation about the process of converting books to accessible formats, and a discussion of what are the best formats for conversion and why, and what publishers can do to create "born-accessible" content. The session will finish with a QA forum for publishers to ask any questions about accessibility.

At the workshop, you will gain an understanding of:

* the types of print disabilities, accessible formats and assistive technologies
* the process of conversion of publications into accessible formats
* the steps that publishers can take to improve the accessibility of their publications.

1:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch break

### Concurrent Workshops 3 and 4

### 1:30pm – 2:30pm: Workshop 3

#### Writing support with Microsoft tools

Facilitator: Troy Waller, Accessibility Lead, Microsoft Australia

In this workshop, you will learn how to use Microsoft tools to personalise writing instruction and motivate your students to achieve their fullest potential. You will see how to various tools including Dictate, Immersive Reader, Editor and Word Prediction, allow students to consume text with their visual preferences, as well as hear their writing read aloud. Writers can create revisions and edits with their own voice, and then hear it read back to them throughout the entire process.

### 1:30pm – 3:00pm: Workshop 4

#### ANZAGG workshop: technologies for creating accessible graphics

Facilitator: Leona Holloway, Monash University

Hosted by the Australia and New Zealand Accessible Graphics Group, this workshop will explore new and lesser-known methods for creating accessible graphics, all the way from glue guns to milling machines.

An array of invited speakers from around the world will each share an innovative method that they have used or developed for creating tactile graphics and 3D models. Ample time will be allowed for asking questions, sharing your own experiences, and perhaps even trying out some techniques yourself at home. The workshop will be suitable for anyone wanting to create accessible graphics, regardless of your experience and access to equipment.

3:00pm – 3:30pm: Afternoon break

### 3:30pm – 4:30pm: Round Table Annual General Meeting

Chair: Sonali Marathe