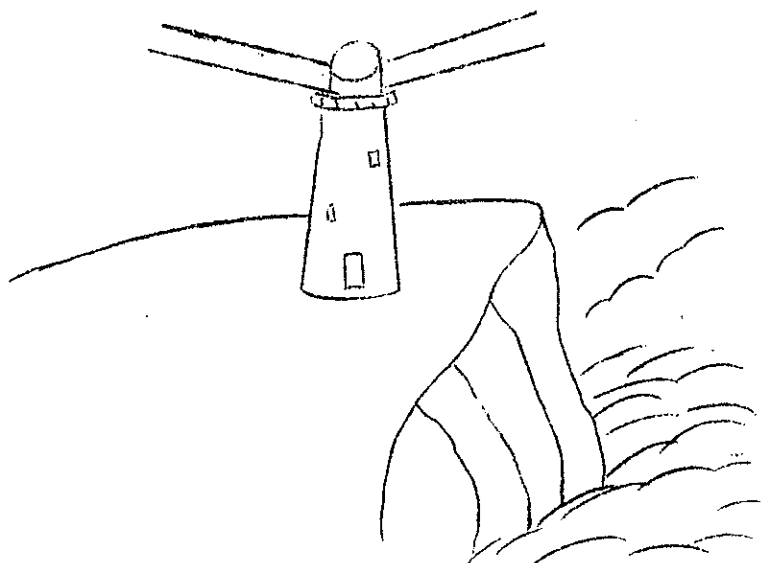


# R.V.I.B. NEWSLETTER



ISSUED BY -  
Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind.  
St. Kilda Road, Melbourne.

1/56.  
30.6.56.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
COUNCIL OF AUXILIARIES - MRS. C.H. TUTTON.

I would like to commend this Newsletter to you all. I think it is a splendid idea and I hope that it will help to bridge the gaps of time and distance between Auxiliary members and the Institute.

I shall look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Annual Meeting on 29th August when I shall be able to thank you personally for your wonderful help.

M.A. TUTTON.

OLYMPIC FAIR.

We feel sure this is going to be a "winner." Already you can feel success in your bones. People are keen, enthusiastic, optimistic. It's good! As you know, the Fair is to be held in Ormond Hall and the Institute grounds on Friday and Saturday, November 9th and 10th, 1956. The international idea is creating great interest, the different Auxiliaries all being keen to represent a nation that will give them scope for decoration and sales. One Auxiliary, which approached a foreign diplomat for assistance, has received a reply indicating that he has written to his home country for material! That's real co-operation. We hope everyone meets with equal success.

So far, the following stalls have been allocated:

America	India
Australia (2 Stalls)	Indonesia
Belgium	Ireland
Canada	Japan
China	New Zealand
Czechoslovakia	Spain
France	Sweden
Great Britain	Switzerland
Greece	

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CHRISTMAS CARDS.

This is news. Your Auxiliary Council has decided to have a special Christmas Card printed. It will be exclusive to the Institute. The central motif is an embossed white candle - the flame in the form of a golden angel - on a background of mid-blue. Surmounting the design are the words "Xmas Greetings." Inside will be a seasonal message and some of the cards will contain a photo of a blind child entering the Institute gates. As the cards are undated, any surplus ones can be used next year. The fact that the design will not be available to anyone else ensures that you will have something different - it will save you searching the shops during the busy Christmas period. Auxiliary Secretaries will buy the cards, with envelopes, for 7d. each plus postage and will sell them for 1/- each. Will you please estimate how many cards you want (your friends will want some, too) and tell your Auxiliary

Secretary by the end of <sup>July</sup> ~~June~~. The Auxiliary Secretary can then consolidate orders and let the Institute know.

### AUXILIARY ANIMATIONS.

#### The President.

One or two centres have been disappointed of late at the non-arrival of Mrs. Tutton at their meetings. Knowing that Mrs. Tutton was ill, we sympathise with her; at the same time everyone admired the tenacity with which she kept to her schedule until the doctor gave orders.

Camperdown: had a record year culminating in Mrs. Parr's gymkhana which has been a regular feature for 21 years.

Geelong: May 10th. was Money Day! The Auxiliary raised more than £800 with their street stall and sale of tokens. Nice work ladies and Mr. Spencer.

Glenrowan: A most enthusiastic first annual meeting took place last month. Glenrowan members share with many other Auxiliaries the privilege of having the support of their own Shire Council which is a great boost. Well done Glenrowan!

Northcote: Auxiliary handed £600 to Mrs. Tutton at their meeting and glowing tribute was paid to Mrs. Brownell, a wonderful worker, who has had to relinquish her office of President after having served for 26 years.

Ocean Grove: A recent Life Governor is Mr. Percy Baverstock who has been a grand helper for many years.

Red Cliffs: Man bites dog - nearly! At least there was snow there when Mrs. Tutton visited the Auxiliary to enjoy northern sunshine! A really good meeting we hear.

Rochester: reported a successful year at their Annual Meeting held in May.

Whittlesea: Bright people at Whittlesea! Last election day Auxiliary members mounted a twelve hour guard outside polling booths and collected £20 and a lot of apologies from wealthy (we hope) farmers and citizens. Watch them next polling day!

AUXILIARY ANIMATIONS:

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Williamstown: There's a potential new Junior Auxiliary here. After seeing what young Essendon did for their parent body early this year, we hope history will repeat itself. Five bright young schoolgirls at Newport held a stall and made £20. Congratulations girls!

Winchelsea: members raised nearly £60 at a recent bazaar and spent a lot of mental energy on crazy whist in conjunction therewith.

Among new Auxiliaries formed in recent weeks are those at Bayswater, Boronia, Gembrook, Kinglake, Kinglake West, Monbulk, Panton Hill, Warrandyte, Yarra Glen.

Our thanks and best wishes go to all the wonderful people who take upon themselves the voluntary task of helping the Institute to care for the blind.

STOP PRESS: On going to press we have just learned of welcome Auxiliary contributions totalling £4,500: -: - for the month of June.

.....£ .....  
.....£ .....

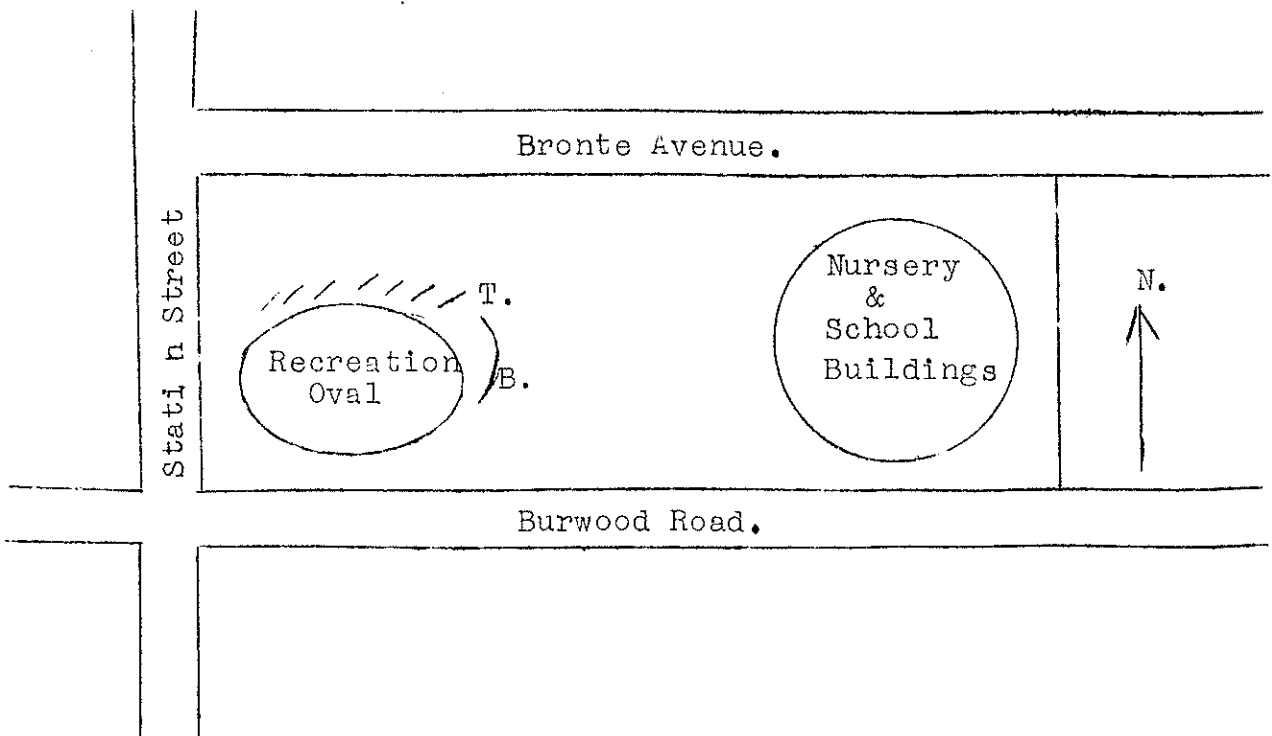
BOX HILL.

A few years ago the Board purchased a 42 acre block of land in the Burwood-Box Hill district with the idea of transferring the Nursery, School and ancillary services as soon as circumstances permitted.

The site is a beautiful one - high and undulating. It commands a magnificent view of country to the west and south west, particularly from the eastern end of the block which is the highest point. From the sketch below you will see that the buildings will be in this area - School, dormitories, nursery, hospital, kitchen and dining facilities, assembly hall, staff quarters, workshops.

On the lower ground is the recreation oval on which work commenced some weeks ago. First, six inches of top soil was scraped off and heaped on the northern edge (T); then the bull-dozers played havoc with clay and levelled out the surveyed area. Because the ground is sloping, quite a bank has been created at the eastern end of the oval (B). When the main earth works have been completed, the area will have to be top-soiled, agricultural drains put down and water reticulation services installed.

Contractors have started to erect the Cyclone fence that is to surround the site. The Burwood Road side will be left till last because the Country Roads Board is busy widening the highway by 60 feet. We are fortunate that this work is not interfering with our planning or building operations.



NEWS IN BRIEF:

Literary Successes: Congratulations to Frank Nowland (Still at school) and Alan Crotty (left School last year) on their success in winning 1st and 2nd prize respectively in the Children's section of the literary competition open to blind children in the English-speaking countries of the world. No mean effort! Best wishes for further successes!

Musical Gifts: Considerable emphasis is placed on music in the education of the blind; consequently we have been delighted to receive certain gifts from benefactors during the past few months. A gentleman at Cheltenham donated a beautiful flute and, later, gave us sufficient recorders to start a band and a number of percussion instruments. They tell us that, under the direction of Mr. Hugh Jeffrey and Mrs. Lee Dow, the recorders and percussionists have to be heard to be believed! At any rate, we'll all look forward to hearing them later in the year. Another gift came from a Glen Iris lady who has been a fairy godmother for many years. On this occasion her generosity enabled us to buy a high-fidelity electric gramophone that is located in the school. Even the musical maestros say it's a beauty. To our thoughtful donors, we say, "Thank you very much."

Mr. Jim Berinson: The musical and radio circles all know Jim - he's been called Australia's no. 1 tenor! But that's not why we're giving him a para., It's because he came to our rescue when Mr. John Willcox retired as compere of our Town Hall concerts 6 months ago. Ever since, Mr. Berinson has filled the role in an honorary capacity. Nice gesture Jim - and we do appreciate the songs you throw in for good measure.

Mr. J. A. Duncan: All our friends who know genial Mr. Jim Duncan will be pleased to learn he expects to be back in Australia during August. According to the last news we had, he will leave America on 7th July to fly to Britain.

Penny Serenade Ball: Under the indefatigable leadership and organising ability of Mrs. Jan. Irving, 3 K.Z.'s Penny Serenade Ball was again an unqualified success. Held at the Palais de Dance under the patronage of Cr. and Mrs. Maurice Nathan, it was attended by 700 people. We compliment Cr. Nathan and our President, Dr. Charles Bennett, on the impeccable taste they showed when selecting the most attractive dress. Only one complaint was heard. That was about the Lucky Envelopes. The prizes were so good that 1400 envelopes were sold like hot cakes in Iceland. It was as bad as a star bargain sale!

Summary: First rate show - full points to Mrs. Irving and her stalwart helpers.

NEWS IN BRIEF (Cont'd.)

"Mum and Dad" Quest: The Brotherhood of St. Laurence is endeavouring to raise £50,000 by means of a popular "Mum and Dad" Quest. Two ex-pupils of our school, Mr. & Mrs. H. Gration, are competitors and we'd say they should have good appeal. The Institute put Mrs. Gration through the University where she gained a B.A., and more recently it enabled her husband to do a technical school course. We wish them luck, especially as, if they win the prize home, they intend to make it available as a holiday home for other blind people

Father Tucker: Talking of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, hats off to Father Tucker! It's nice to see an O.B.E. come the way of a man of his calibre.

Painting: During the past few years, exterior painting has been deteriorating. Recently a contract was let and we now look forward to having the place looking bright and colorful for your next visit.