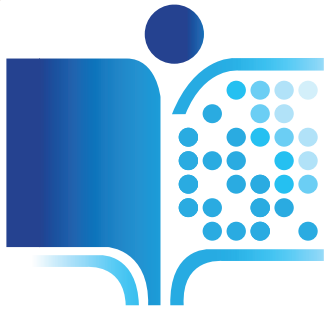


# MAKWENZEKE

#1  
2021

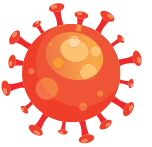


**SOUTH AFRICAN  
LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND**

An agency of the  
Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

We say goodbye to our outgoing, and welcome our new CEO, the COVID-19 pandemic interrupts Library Services around the world, and the SALB launches a new recording studio within a Mini-Library in Mdantsane

## COVID-19 ONE YEAR LATER ...



### AND IT'S EFFECT ON LIBRARIES AROUND THE WORLD

due to 'lockdowns'. All types of libraries have promoted their digital services during the corona virus pandemic situation. However, their physical resources have often been in demand by the users. Technological advancements and preventive measures have been taken by the South African Library for the Blind in order to enhance the knowledge of our library professionals to promote library resources and services.

Several Libraries have brought out their digital services highlighting content on their websites and 'Lets Read Together' online campaigns. There have also been major efforts to boost access to the library resources online as well as offline, for example by increasing the number of e-Books/ e-Journals/CD-DVD, etc. in order to lower the risk of virus spread.

*continued on page 4*

**THE** whole world is suffering due to the **COVID-19 PANDEMIC**, every institution, industry and public domain has been affected by the Coronavirus.

In this pandemic situation, libraries have been the **gateways of relevant information and knowledge** for conducting research and development on the related subject areas. The Library and Information services started to gain importance by providing researchers the opportunity to explore **medical and scientific research for prevention of the disease**.

Libraries around the world have been facing challenges in providing access to its collections and services

**WE FORMALLY WELCOME  
OUR NEW CEO ONBOARD**



MR MANDLA NTOMBELA

If you suspect **FRAUD** or **CORRUPTION** is happening in your work environment, you can contact the **NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION HOTLINE: 0800 701 701**  
**Break the corruption chain!!**

# THE 3RD WAVE IS HERE!

**STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**  
Protect yourself and the vulnerable!

- Social distance
- Wash your hands
- Wear a facemask!
- Use hand sanitiser



**SOUTH AFRICAN  
LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND**

An agency of the  
Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

Like us, follow us:



Blind people reading

# SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND LAUNCHES AUDIO RECORDING STUDIO IN MDANTSANE

**THE** Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture in the Eastern Cape in partnership with the South African Library for the Blind (SALB) launched audio book recording studios in the Mdantsane Public Library on the 19th of March 2021.

SALB has agreements with most publishers for the reproduction of their reading materials to braille and audio formats consistent with the current copyright legislation.

SALB intends to accomplish producing audio books in the eleven official South Africa languages, and this newly launched studio/recording booth will allow SALB to engage more narrators in order to work towards achieving this goal.

Many South African blind people do not read, not because they don't want to but because they have not learned braille, and there's not a single library in South

African that has taken up the challenge of producing audio books to mitigate the effects of lack of access to audio books in home languages. The Eastern Cape is the first province to offer this service with a special focus on vernacular and will be offering the much-needed alternative in the country.

This speaks to efforts that are being made to make sure the blind community is an integral part of this democracy. The recording studio was launched during the South African Library Week (SALW) which put a spotlight on the importance of Libraries. The theme for the 2021 SALW is "Libraries matter".

This recording studio also addresses the issues of access as articulated in the Libraries transformation charter where access is not only defined in terms of physical access to library buildings but goes



further to talk to access to information.

The timing of the launch, during Human Rights Month in south Africa, also brought the attention of society to the basic human rights of disabled people who should at all times be kept in mind as part of the mainstream of society.

The Deputy Minister of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, Ms Nocawe Mafu; the MEC of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, Ms Fezeka Nkomonye and a representative sent by the Buffalo City Executive Mayor, Councillor Xola Pakati were among the VIP guests who attended the launch. Our guests of honour were our 24 visually impaired members from the Mdantsane Mini-Library and surrounding area.

## BRAILLE USERS, TEACHERS AND PRODUCERS ATTEND

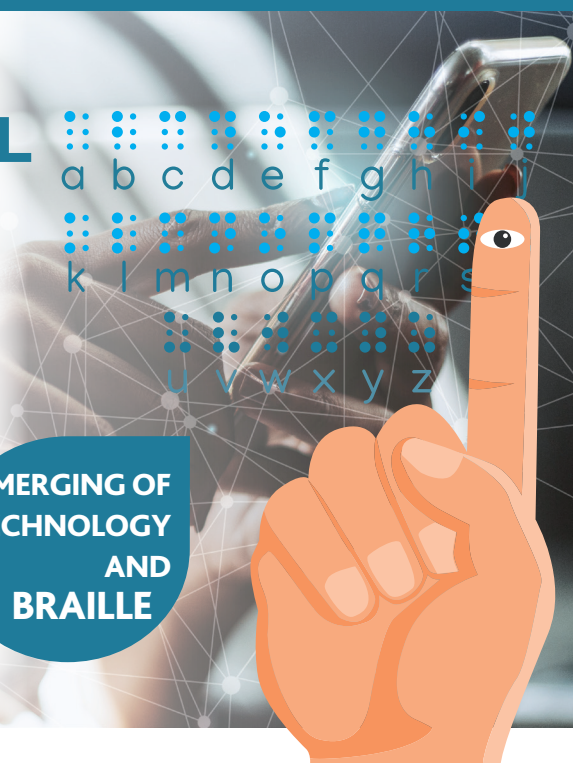
# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ENGLISH BRAILLE

**THE** month of October was a propitious month for braille users, teachers and producers as the general assembly of the International Council on English Braille took place. The virtual conference took place from 18-22 October and delegates and observers from Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom and the U.S attended. Papers presented were from as far afield as Columbia and Iran.

With thought provoking papers presented, the conference was food for thought for all who teach, produce and promote braille. Topics addressed included the merging of technology and braille seeking to find explored solutions to make electronic documents even easier to read.

Other sessions covered the teaching of literary braille, while another session focused on braille music and notation for music in the East. The conference left much for SALB to consider as it continues to provide reading material in alternative formats in an ever-changing print to braille landscape.

**MERGING OF  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND  
BRAILLE**



# SALB ATTENDS THE STANDING CONFERENCE OF EASTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION (SCECSAL) COUNTRIES

**OUR CEO** Mandla Ntombela visited Namibia in February 2021 as he represented the South African Library for the Blind at the **Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and South African Library and information Association (SCECSAL)** Countries. SCECSAL is a regional forum for library and information associations in Africa.

Mr Ntombela rubbed shoulders at the conference with people making waves in library and information services from the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Congo Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, eSwatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## SOME OF THE BURNING TOPICS

Preparedness of academic libraries to serve students with disabilities:

Inclusive libraries and library services

Access to information for people with albinism

Inclusiveness of academic libraries

Geo-spatial mapping of libraries

Barriers on access to archives by people with disabilities (PWDs)



Mandla Ntombela, CEO - South African Library for the Blind at the SCECSAL Conference in Namibia in February 2021. Seen with Mandla are (far left) Mr Kepi Madumo who is the CEO National Library South Africa, (middle) Mr Andrew Malotle who is the Director Special Projects (Conditional Grant Projects) also at National Library South Africa.

## Doctoral Research BY THE FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE LIBRARY

**The** University of Cape Town awarded the former Director of the South African Library for the Blind (SALB), Mr Francois Hendrikz, a PhD degree during a virtual graduation ceremony in December 2020. The PhD was awarded for his research into the information-seeking process of blind and visually impaired Grade 12 learners in selected schools for the blind.

All people seek information for various reasons sometime during their lifetime. This process has been researched and documented by various researchers and is covered in the thesis. The insights and lessons from various Information-Seeking Models in the literature have informed and enriched this study. These models provided a good understanding of the study field and frameworks to explain the different information-seeking processes. However, all available Information-Seeking Models are developed from the viewpoint of how it works for people having sight. How these Information-Seeking Models work

for blind or visually impaired people is not addressed in the research found.


Therefore, the purpose of the Doctoral study is to give an overview of existing Information-Seeking Models and focusing on the two leading researchers in the field, i.e. C. Kuhlthau and T.D. Wilson. These models of the information-seeking process were contextualised and assessed to the information needs model of N. Moore, who researched the information needs of blind and visually impaired people. Based on the three researchers' work, a questionnaire was developed to determine Grade 12 learners' information seeking-process at five South African Schools for the Blind. Since Grade 12 learners must decide about their future, after completing school, it was decided to research how Grade 12 learners seek information about tertiary studies or work options. The questionnaire was developed to collect data to investigate the Grade 12 learners' information-seeking processes to

assess the extent to which it correlated with the Information-Seeking Models of Kuhlthau (1991) and Wilson (1999).

Face-to-face interviews were conducted with 43 learners at five schools for the blind, representing the total population of Grade 12 learners registered at these schools. The literature confirms that low sample sizes are customary when researching blind and visually impaired people. The findings of the interviews were analysed through framework analysis. A gap analysis was conducted to determine the extent to which the findings correlated to or differed from the Information-Seeking Models. From this analysis, seven components were identified as part of the Inclusive Information-Seeking Model design applicable to blind and visually impaired Grade 12 learners. In short, the seven components are user awareness of information resources and how to use them; available and accessible

*continued on page 9*





# SCOPE OF LIBRARIES DURING COVID-19

*continued from page 1*

**SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND (SALB)**, by its very nature, was well on its way down the path of providing digital solutions for delivering reading materials to members before the COVID-19 pandemic. The technological advancements and innovations have transformed traditional libraries to present smart Libraries. Today's Libraries, including the SALB, offer a wide range of innovative services to the users for their information need in the pandemic situation.

There has been a paradigm shift of libraries in the twenty first century. The major role of libraries in selective dissemination of Information and knowledge among its users predefine the scope of libraries. Libraries are the store houses of knowledge recorded in physical/digital medium. Libraries are growing organisms and therefore continue to increase the library collection and services. Unlike the traditional, **present trends of libraries** includes digital/virtual mode of library collection and also offer remote access facility for their users. The application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), the Internet and particularly the World Wide Web have revolutionised library activities, hence there have been changes in the normal functioning of Libraries in the digital world. The present trend of library resources includes ebooks, e-resources, digital library, e-services etc. **The future prospects of smart libraries** would involve utilisation of skill and knowledge whereas the information is also recorded, stored, retrieved and disseminated in the e-format at a largescale.

## PRESENT TRENDS OF LIBRARY SERVICES

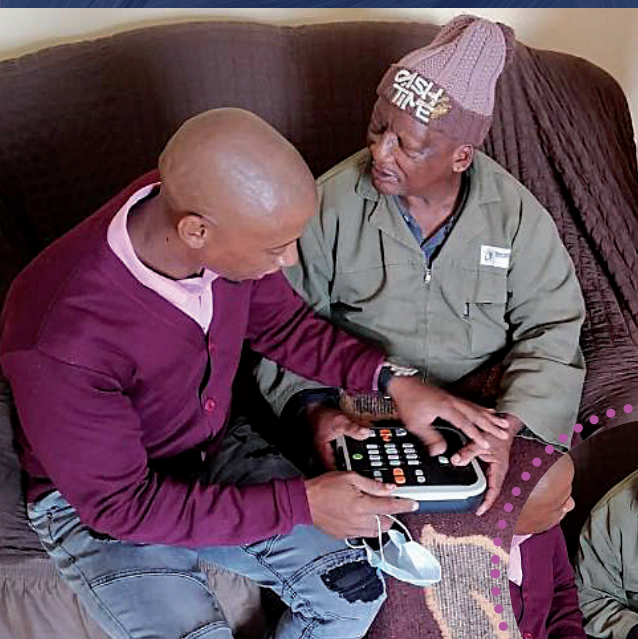
SALB's librarians are looking forward, excited to discover new services and opportunities to build a stronger library-user interface in the future. In order to achieve these goals we are constantly working on being equipped with the latest infrastructure, information communication technologies and skilled manpower.

## VIRTUAL LIBRARY SERVICES

1. Virtual Reference service like chat/e-mail
2. Self check-in and checkout of books
3. Scanning of chapters from books, journals articles for remote users
4. LibGuide - List of resources available in the library



# NORTH WEST PROVINCE



## NORTH WEST CO-ORDINATOR DOES SCHOOL AND HOME VISITS

Lebogang Oliphant is seen here visiting Mr Gobonamang Elias Kgori to provide valuable face-to-face training and assistance to the new member. Mr Kgori is from the Mofufutso One Village in Tswaing Rural North West, South Africa. "I trained the member on how to use his player as he was unable to receive this training at the Library due to Covid 19 regulations. I plan on doing more and wish to provide members with the best service so as to encourage reading," said Lebogang. "It is my wish to do more visits to provide insight needed by members to keep up to date as long as the Pandemic is keeping us apart," he concluded.



*Lebogang Oliphant seen here visiting Mr Gobonamang Elias Kgori in the Mofufutso One Village to provide valuable face-to-face training and assistance.*

*Ms Tinyiko Sempe, Director: Library Information and Archive Services, Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, addressing the guests.*



## INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE MONTH LIBRARY OUTREACH

**50 Visually impaired users** attended an International Mother Language month library outreach event that took place at the **Mahikeng Public Library on Friday 12 March 2021.**

The event highlighted the importance of being proud of and expanding one's knowledge in one's mother tongue/language.



*Visually impaired Mahikeng Library assistant, Lavius Mogorosi, providing a live demonstration of how to use the Mini-Library equipment.*





# LAUNCH OF THE ALICE MINI-LIBRARY IN THE EASTERN CAPE

The Eastern Cape Premier, Oscar Mabuyane, and the MEC Fezeka Nkomonye officially opened the newly appointed **ALICE MINI-LIBRARY** to the public on Friday 12 February 2021

Due to COVID-19 no more than 50 people attended the launch. The SALB staff were given a standing ovation followed by a round of applause by the MEC during her speech due to the amount and nature of work done on this Mini-Library.



## WORLD READ ALOUD DAY KZN MINI-LIBRARY NEWS

**ULUNDI** Library, KwaZulu-Natal, participated in **WORLD READ ALOUD DAY 2021**. The number of participants were not as we expected due to closure of schools but we managed to have a successful event with a few learners from different schools, namely Biggarsberg Primary, Gabangaye Primary, Dundee Secondary, and the local creche. The book titled "Fly everyone, fly" was read in both **ISIZULU AND ENGLISH** (Simi Mpungose read the Zulu version and Librarian Futhi Zungu read in English). The children were very happy and excited, they sang the song of the day by Josh which was taken from the book "sway left, sway right..."

One of the participants, 18 month old Qhaks with a dummy in her mouth, was a joy to behold, she was moving up and down imitating everyone, ...oh the day was superb!





## WESTERN CAPE & MPUMALANGA MINI-LIBRARY NEWS

**LIBRARIES IN THE WESTERN CAPE** have been slowly opening their doors to the public under the new more relaxed lockdown levels, adhering to new processes and protocols to ensure the safety of staff and patrons.

**GROENHEUWEL LIBRARY** employed a curbside pickup service - where patrons can notify the library about books they wish to lend, and the library staff prepare their package for collection. Patrons are encouraged to observe social distancing protocols when collecting books or visiting the library.

The **MINI-LIBRARIES IN MPUMALANGA** are currently in operation but meetings for members have been put on hold until further notice. The province has erected glass screens in some Mini-Libraries, complying with the COVID-19 regulations. In the month of October, the Project Coordinator started installing new computers and software at the **GERALD SEKOTO LIBRARY** as part of maintenance and to give the Mini-Libraries which have larger numbers in terms of memberships a boost.

# LAUNCH OF THE MATLAKENG MINI-LIBRARY IN ZASTRON FREE STATE



Seen at the launch were librarians and members (library users), (from left to right): Mr Molefi Mabitle (librarian), Mrs Nobantu Ntsizwane, Ms Pulane Mbedla, Ms Brenda Adoons (library assistant), Mr Tshepang Dichaba, Ms Bongwiwe Katse, Ms Nombulelo Shumane and Ms Delekile Katse.

Delegates who attended the launch from the department included Acting Director Library Service Ms Ramugondo, Xhariep District Manager Mr Thami Kani and Director Community Service at Mohokare Local Municipality Counsellor Phatsoane.

On Tuesday 27th October 2020 the Department of Sports, Arts, Culture & Recreation together with SALB launched a

### MINI-LIBRARY MATLAKENG, ZASTRON

**THE** MEC for sport, art, culture & recreation Ms Limakatso Mahasa was unfortunately unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances and in her pre-recorded keynote took it upon herself to encourage members to use the Mini-Library equipment.

Members of the Zastron Blind Association who are the users of the Mini-Library attended the launch, and they demonstrated the use of the Mini-Library equipment to the guests.

Senior manager Ms Linda Ngaleka and project Coordinator Ms Nobantu Ntsizwane attended the launch. To observe the Covid19 regulations the guests were sanitised upon entering the library, and no entry was allowed without a mask.

## CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING

ON the week commencing 08 March 2021 SALB Audio Production underwent capacity building training conducted virtually by a trainer from DAISY Consortium.



## AUDIO

## PRODUCTION

## TRAINING

The Daisy Consortium Head Offices are in the United Kingdom and the trainer who is facilitating the training is based in India Delhi. SALB has been creating DAISY books using tools which are now no longer supported/updated.

This training program will use the latest software tools like Obi to create the DAISY Books. Additionally, the staff members will learn to easily convert Microsoft Word documents to accessible EPUB files.

## OBI - LATEST SOFTWARE TOOLS

The EPUB files can be used by those PwDs (persons with disabilities) who have access to screen reading software or Refreshable Braille Displays.



The 187th SALB board meeting took place on the 25th of March 2021 at 09:00am at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth)



Back: Yasheen Ramcharan (SALB CFO), Xolisa Yekani, Mandla Buthelezi, Mr Nieleah Ravgee, Dr Hamilton Mphidi, Natasha Agnew  
Front: Adv Michael Masutha (Chairperson), Mpelegeng Kganedi, Mandla Ntombela

## SALB BIDS FAREWELL TO AUDIO NARRATOR

IT is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of one of our valued narrators, **ANDRÉ TERRE BLANCHE**, in July 2020.

Terre Blanche joined the South African library for the Blind as an Afrikaans home volunteer audio narrator in 2012 and hailed from Lynnwood Ridge, a suburb of the city of Pretoria. He narrated about **100 AUDIO BOOKS** in his time volunteering for the library. One of his favourite books narrated was: *Die tronkgesprekke: Nelson Mandela en Kobie Coetsee se geheime voorpunt diplomatie* (DA11513).

André you may be gone, but your voice will keep our member entertained for many years to come. May your soul rest in peace.

## SALB announces Tactile Book partnership with Typhlo & Tactus

# FACILITATING AN INCLUSIVE READING EXPERIENCE

Create a  
Tactile  
Illustrated  
Book  
**COMPETITION**

children's book manufacturers

**typhlo & tactus**

Create a Tactile Illustrated Book  
**Competition**

Calling parents, visual aid teachers, art students, and caregivers of blind and visually impaired children

**Are you creative?**  
Have you created 'touch & feel' reading books for a blind or visually impaired child?

**How to enter:**

- 1 - Create A Tactile Illustrated Book (original creation or adaptation of an existing book) with braille and large print, for visually impaired young people from 0 - 12 years old
- 2 - Call Pasha Alden for the entry registration forms as well as details on how to submit your entry on 046 622 7226, or email: [pasha.alden@salb.org.za](mailto:pasha.alden@salb.org.za)

**Deadline:**  
Entries to reach us no later than **Friday 18th of June** for the initial South African selection process. The South African Library for the Blind (SALB) will submit the 5 best SA entries to the international T&T jury which meets over two days in October 2021, to decide on 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize and the 8 "Judges' Favourites" (one per judge)!

**ON 31 MARCH 2021** the South African Library for the Blind became a National Partner and member country of the international structure Typhlo and Tactus. An umbrella organisational structure for member countries participating in the creation of tactile illustrated books, Typhlo and Tactus with its member country organisations strive's to promote and facilitate the use of tactile illustrations in learning and reading material.

As part of membership The South African Library for the Blind (SALB) has just launched a local competition among educators, parents, caregivers, and art students who would like to create material for blind and visually impaired children of South Africa.

The purpose of the competition is to facilitate the use of tactile illustrations to provide an enriched and inclusive reading experience which is thought provoking and fun for blind and visually impaired children while ensuring cultural and curriculum relevant material.

**typhlo & tactus**

**SOUTH AFRICAN  
LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND**  
An agency of the  
Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

continued from page 3

assistive technologies (hardware as well as software); access to up-to-date information sources; access to accessible information sources; access to an accessible and functional library or related organisation; access to a trained librarian or other information professional and the last component is information literacy training.

Although the model was developed within a School context, a broader

application of the model is suggested. This Inclusive Information-Seeking Model will raise awareness and assist people working in an information environment to make the necessary provisions, to ensure that the information-seeking process for blind and visually impaired people is as successful as possible with available resources.

Mr Hendrikz is currently working on an article of his research to be published in a professional Journal.

**WE HAD TO BID OUR FORMER DIRECTOR,  
MR FRANCOIS HENDRIKZ A FOND**

## Farewell

Mr Hendrikz, thank you for being the head of this team. We will miss your hard work and supporting acts. We feel sad to see you go and wish you all the success and happiness.

**Onwards and upwards to greater things!**

Mr Hendrikz was medically boarded due to a permanent health disability.

# UP-SKILLING BRAILLE PRODUCTION

## INCORPORATING PRODUCTION OF READING MATERIALS CATERING FOR ALL RANGES OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

IT is estimated by the World Health Organization that approximately 15% of the world's population have some form of disability. This works out to approximately 1 in 7 people that have a disability. It is further estimated that over 500 000 are blind or partially sighted in South Africa. This figure does not include people with visual disabilities who require special printed reading materials in order to read disabilities.

Given that the act that governs the South African Library for the Blind requires the Library to produce reading material in accessible formats for all blind and visually impaired people, it is imperative that the SALB production unit is brought up to speed with the latest in production techniques. Speeding up production of, as well as improving the quality of braille and other formats of accessible reading materials for all ranges of visual impairment will be achieved. Material Adaptations

People who are blind or visually impaired will typically need adaptations to access printed information that will allow them

to read. Reading material adaptation needs vary, depending on the degree of functional vision, effects of additional disabilities, and the task to be done. Blind and visually impaired readers may use braille, large print, print with the use of optical devices, regular print, tactile symbols, a calendar system and/or recorded materials to communicate. The added benefit is that the Library will have the ability to cater for a wider range of print disabled members rather than currently only catering for blind persons.

### TRAINING SUMMARY

The South African Library for the Blind is up-skilling it's Braille production team in the latest techniques for the production of braille as well as expanding to further enhance the libraries ability to cater for persons with print reading disabilities. The training is currently in day three out of the required four days as this involves practical



exercises and hands-on experience and will allow for the development of templates and various styles that will improve the workflow. Also, free and opensource tools will be provided and used as part of the training.

The Braille Production team is excited to acquire these new skills to take the Library to new heights in terms of service to our members and communities.

## CAN WE OVERCOME OBSTACLES TO INCLUSION?

### SOCIAL INCLUSION AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR ISSUES INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES FACE.

**SALB** National Braille Consultant, Pasha Alden, attended a virtual conference hosted in Gothenburg Sweden which was held from 23-25 April 2021 where 25 Countries were in attendance.

The conference provided an opportunity for practitioners as well as cane and guide-dog travellers alike to learn from each other and discuss universal problems.

Keynote speaker Dr. Kamal Lamichhane

in his presentation highlighted overcoming OBSTACLES TO INCLUSION. The speaker stressed that literacy, orientation and mobility were rights, but that advocates needed to focus on the correlation between education and employment as part of advocacy.

Topics covered in the presentation included Inclusion in school, society and the future of orientation and mobility.



**Dr. Kamal Lamichhane**

*Dr. Kamal Lamichhane is associate professor at the division of disability sciences, faculty of human sciences in the University of Tsukuba in Japan. He is also an affiliated researcher at the University of Tokyo. His fields of research are: Disability Studies, Economics of Education and Inclusive Education.*

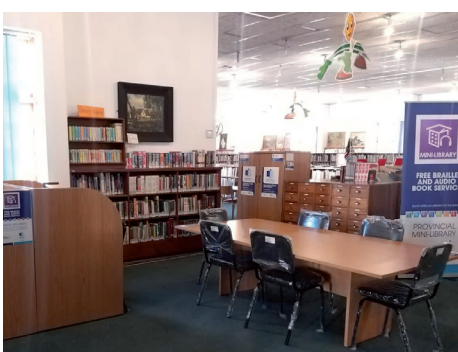
# A NEW MINI-LIBRARY IN GRAAF REINET, AND THE MAIN LIBRARY GETS A REVAMP

*Opening the world of literature to the blind and visually impaired*

Top row: The newly established Mini-Library in Kroonvale (township) in Graaf Reinet, decked out in mahogany furnishings.

Top left: Seen admiring the new Mini-Library are Rosalie Isaacs and Leonard Grootboom, the librarians.

Bottom row: The existing Graaf Reinet Mini-Library (middle of town) has been revamped in an oak finish.



## Sgwebela's Computer Section

A very active blind member of the Umzimkhulu Mini-Library, Mlungisi Sigwebela, took the initiative to 'read aloud' to sighted learners in the Ibisi community. This programme also accommodates blind and visually impaired members, particularly those within walking distance of the Ibisi Modular Library.

Mlungisi Sigwebela, set up the 'read aloud' programme in a corner which is now affectionately called "Sgwebela's Computer Section".

Mr. Mgcina, the Communications Manager at Umzimkhulu Local Municipality, recently invited the MEC to the official opening event, under the banner of the Umzimkhulu Mini-Library. This was a great opportunity to promote the SALB's services for the blind in the communities.

# Congratulations

to our CEO,  
**MR MANDLA NTOMBELA**  
 on being elected onto the IFLA Governing Board  
 2021 - 2023!

•••••

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the global voice of the library and information profession.




# BLIND VOICE

is back on air

listen in from anywhere in the world

TUNE IN!

<http://www.rhodesmusicradio.co.za/>  
or Rhodes Music Radio... 89.7FM



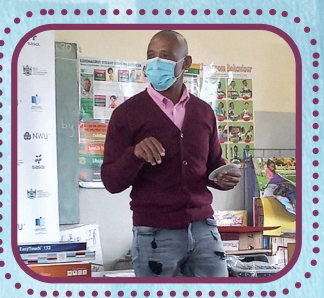
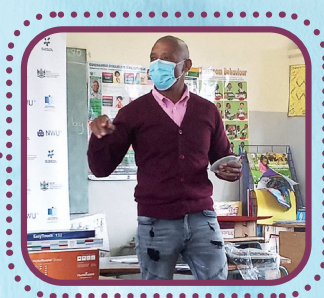
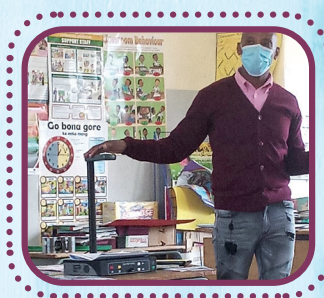
THE BLIND VOICE

Uplifting · vivid · colourful

Broadcasting primarily in Xhosa

## THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE MINI-LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR, VISITS RURAL SCHOOLS

**LEBOGANG** Oliphant, the North West Province Mini-Library co-ordinator visited a rural school in an area called **Mofufutso One** in Khunwana Village. The purpose of the visit was to introduce visually impaired services to the school and to identify learners who might benefit from using our Mini-Library services. Lebogang is seen addressing pupils at the school (below)



### Did you know ...

The SALB Newsletter was previously named **Kwenzekile** (which means it has happened)?

The name was changed in 2005, an entire 16 years ago! CEO at that time, Johan Roos pretty well sums up the name **Makwenzeke**.

#### Why "Makwenzeke"?

By popular wish of our staff, we decided to call this newsletter "Makwenzeke", that is "let it happen" in IsiXhosa.

Its purpose is to promote communication, to inform and to be informed. To let those things happen, we publish Makwenzeke. The newsletter is a wish, an encouragement, an act of faith, a means to an end, a key to make things happen.

We hope it will happen.....

**MAKWENZEKE!!**

Johan Roos

### KZN MINI-LIBRARY NEWS

A feasibility study from dual funding was concluded in KwaZulu-Natal benefitting **Pinetown Public library**, Pinetown in eThekweni Municipality and **Thembimfundo Special School of Eshowe** in Umlalazi Municipality.



### TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

#### SALB BUILDING PROJECT

A contractor was appointed 18 March 2021 and after approval of all the health and safety and work permits, early in April, by the Department of Labour, construction officially commenced. The site handover took place Friday 30 April 2021 at the SALB premises with delegates from the Department of Public Works, the awarded contractor and SALB. Further updates on the building will be featured in the next edition.

#### AN UPDATE ON PLAYERS

The Technical department is waiting for customs to release a consignment of batteries for the Victor Reader Stratus playback devices.

**EMAIL** us on [marketing@salb.org.za](mailto:marketing@salb.org.za) or [admin@salb.org.za](mailto:admin@salb.org.za) to obtain an electronic copy of the Makwenzeke.

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