

LINK



Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus/ASBAH 15p

July/Aug 81



The Disabled Persons Bill: Call for Access Register:
IYDP—Two views on American education: The German
Association: New Counselling Service: ASBAH Statement
stresses individual need: Appeal to oil men

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Association for Spina Bifida
and Hydrocephalus/ASBAH

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Tel: 01-388 1382/5

Patron:

HRH The Duchess of Gloucester

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Hon Treasurer: Mr R M Nichols

ASBAH has an experienced staff
ready to help with any problems
relating to those with spina bifida
and hydrocephalus.

Chief Executive Officer:

Miss M P Gilbertson, MCSP

Finance Officer:

Mr F G Armour, FCA

Director of Appeals:

Miss Judy Kay, MIPR

Head of Field Work:

Mr H Croydon

**Education, Training &
Employment**

Officer: Mrs B Newman

Disabled Living Adviser:

Miss J Vernon, BSc

Senior Administrative Officer:

Miss P Silverthorne

Information Officer:

Miss B Holland

Link Editor:

Mrs S I Gearing

THE Disabled Persons Bill introduced by Dafydd Wigley MP has at times threatened to tear the disabled world apart. One eminent person has even accused The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation of betraying disabled people; but the final outcome has proved that you do not win wars by surrendering after the first lost battle.

In brief, Dafydd Wigley's original intention was to use his Bill to force the Secretary of State for the Environment to incorporate the Code of Practice on Access for Disabled People (BS 5810) into Building Regulations. This was a recommendation of the Snowdon Working Party in 1976 and has in fact been held out as a sensible solution by successive Governments. Mr Wigley, however, was told in no uncertain terms that his Bill would not receive a Second Reading if it included such a clause; the Environment Minister was only willing to accept a clause requiring planning authorities to draw the attention of developers to the access requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act and the Code of Practice when planning permission was granted.

In practice, of course, Mr Wigley's Bill was still blocked at Second Reading principally because of another clause which would have required local authorities to conduct regular identification campaigns under Section 1 of the CSDP Act. An unprecedented volume of support for the general principles of Mr Wigley's Bill arose throughout the country and an Early Day Motion was supported by over half the membership of the House of Commons. In fact, this Motion referred to tougher legislation than was actually included in the blocked Bill although it is doubtful if many MPs realised this.

Of even greater significance was the fact that Scottish Members, led by John Home-Robertson MP, had started to attack the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill on the same issue. Since this is a vital Government Bill there was no question of it being lost if it was amended against the Government's wishes. In fact the Scottish Office proved very conciliatory and offered early on to advise local authorities that access to buildings for disabled people was a material consideration when granting planning permission. This was a complete turnabout from the traditional line of the Department of the Environment that planning consent had nothing to do with the needs of people.

Pressure was kept up in the Lords and at Report Stage the Government itself tabled a new clause which states that any developer constructing buildings or premises to which the CSDP Act refers must comply with the Code of Practice on Access unless a 'prescribed body' decides that 'in the circumstances it is either not practicable to make such provision or not reasonable that such provision should be made'. At the same time it was announced that a similar amendment would be made to the Disabled Persons Bill. Although it is not clear who these 'prescribed bodies' will be or how disputes will be resolved it appears that the clause is almost the equivalent of incorporating the Code of Practice in Building Regulations.

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FRONT COVER: Roger Daltry of The Who passing on some musical tips to youngsters at Five Oaks. He was there to open, officially, the new Leisure Activities Centre. Roger's interest in the home is much appreciated. Because of airport delays—due to the civil servants' industrial action—he chartered a private plane to take him to Five Oaks. Members of The Who were among the many friends of Five Oaks who contributed to the Leisure Activities Centre appeal.

Photo: Roger Beckwith, Ilkley.

While every care is taken to ensure accuracy of information published in LINK the publishers can accept no liability. Opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of ASBAH.

NHS fund raisers must consult voluntary bodies

THE Department of Health and Social Security has issued a circular stressing the need for health authorities to liaise closely with voluntary organisations on any NHS fund raising activity.

Voluntary organisations have been worried that NHS fund raising activity would be unfair competition for their own efforts.

Speaking in London in May, Dr Gerard Vaughan, Health Minister, stressed the importance of voluntary organisations and acknowledged that they gave considerable help to the health service.

Of the health service itself, he said: "The Government has increased expenditure on the NHS by 55% in cash terms over the last three years but more cash is always needed. That's where local fund raising can help. But health authorities must consult local voluntary services to ensure that there is no overlap of objectives and their interests are not harmed.

'NO CONFLICT'

"There need be no conflict—both the NHS and the voluntary sector benefit—but some voluntary organisations have been anxious that NHS fund raising will affect their own appeals. We have issued a circular to all health authorities on the need for close co-operation with voluntary organisations. I am grateful to the National Council for Voluntary Organisations for their help with the new circular."

The new circular follows on from the advice given to health authorities in the earlier circular (HS(80)11) on the use of their power to raise voluntary funds through their own initiative.

It explains the importance of health authorities working closely with local voluntary groups on fund raising projects and says:

"In developing their plans for fund raising, and when planning an appeal, Authorities should consult widely with voluntary interests.

Naidex 81 —'A part or apart'

"A part or apart—the removal of barriers for disabled people". This is the theme of Naidex 81 which will take place at the National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth in Warwickshire between Wednesday October 21 and Saturday October 24.

As usual Naidex will consist of a conference, for which the daily fee is £12 (including coffee and tea) and an exhibition of aids. Admission to this is free.

Further details from RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB. Tel: 01-637 5400.

Whitbread announce achievement award

WHITBREAD West Pennines is marking International Year of Disabled People by sponsoring a £1500 North West Disabled Achievement Award.

The award will be presented to the person, or group, judged to have made the most outstanding contribution at home, within the community, in business or in helping others.

In addition to a personal award of £500, the winner will be asked to nominate a charity or project to help the disabled, which will receive a further £1000.

Whitbread director, Mr W W van Riemsdijk explained: "We hope this award will create a greater understanding and realisation that it is the individual and not the disability which counts".

Nominations are being invited from disability societies and voluntary organisations, as well as such bodies at Rotary, Round Table, welfare groups, churches, youth clubs and senior citizens clubs.

Nomination forms and further information are available from the award organisers: Broadoak Public Relations Ltd, 54 West Cliff, Preston PR1 8HU.

A real key to the locked 'loo'

RADAR have now sent details of a national key scheme for lavatories for disabled people to all local authorities and to other organisations such as the National Trust and those running motorway service areas.

The scheme, designed to guarantee access to lavatories for the disabled, has a growing significance as more and more authorities decide to lock their lavatories because of vandalism.

A number of authorities have said they intend to adopt the scheme.

Many authorities have also confirmed that they intend not to lock their public toilets, but if you do find the "gates barred" it might be worth asking the authority concerned if they are thinking about the scheme.

The disabled and the professions

WHY aren't there more disabled people in the professions—law, medicine and so on? A special one-day seminar has been organised by RADAR and the IYDP Employment Group, together with the Association of Disabled Professionals to explore this very question.

Mr Hugh Rossi, the Minister of State for Social Security and the Disabled will open the seminar at Kensington Town Hall, in London on Tuesday September 29.

The Conference fee is £10 (including food and drink). Full details from the Conference Officer, RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB. Tel: 01-637 5400.

Free planning

ALTHOUGH local authorities are now charging for processing planning applications there are important exceptions. Applications designed to improve the access, safety, health or comfort of a disabled person living in a house, are exempt.

New employment measures for disabled people

NEW measures to help local communities promote the employment of disabled people have been outlined by Sir Richard O'Brien, Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission.

The new measures, which became effective from the beginning of April and which are designed to strengthen the assistance provided by the MSC to disabled people, provide for:

- 87 Committees for Employment of Disabled People throughout England, Scotland and Wales drawn from local employers, trade unionists, local authorities and members of voluntary organisations.

- members of the local community known as Recognised Local Contacts selected for their knowledge of local employment issues.

It was essential to work with members of the community if MSC assistance for disabled people was to be fully effective, Sir Richard told Chairmen of some of the new Committees in London at the end of April.

RESULT

The new Committees and Recognised Local Contacts are the result of a recommendation by the National Advisory Council on Employment of Disabled People.

The purpose of the new Committees is to survey the assistance provided for disabled people and to advise and assist the MSC to develop its services locally.

The job of the Recognised Local Contacts is to assist Disablement Resettlement Officers locally in helping disabled people find work.

The MSC's District Manpower Committees will be considering disabled people in terms of their broader manpower remit; links between the new Committees and the District Manpower Committees are being set up and at the end of 1982 the Commission will decide whether merging the two Committees would best serve the needs of disabled people.



THE cover photograph of the Official Royal Wedding Souvenir which was specially taken by Lord Snowdon. This 32 page glossy publication contains an attractive gatefold opening out from the centre with formal and informal photographs—many of them new pictures taken by Lord Snowdon.

The book is priced at a very realistic £1.95 and is on sale in this country and overseas, published by the Royal Jubilee Trusts.

It was the wish of the Queen and the Prince of Wales that in this International Year of Disabled People the money from the sale of the book should be used to help those with handicaps.

Miss Moyna Gilbertson represented ASBAH at the launch of the book at the Mansion House in May, and ASBAH has applied to receive part of the proceeds from sales.

British Rail makes the going easier

SOME good news from British Rail. A half-rate travel railcard for the disabled is to be issued from the late summer or early autumn.

It will be available to people who are registered blind and those receiving Mobility or Attendance Allowances. It is likely to cost £10.

The card will give half-rate fares on full and Awayday travel to the cardholder and a companion. Keep an eye on your local station for further details.

Motability cuts costs still further

FOLLOWING the Budget, Motability is offering an even better deal in its car leasing scheme.

Through Motability, the Mobility Allowance can now bring a disabled person

- a leased Mini 1000 HL bearing no advance rental and no insurance costs for the first year

- a Mini 1000 Automatic with an advance rental down from £463 to £261

- the Ford Fiesta Popular 950 with an advance rental down from £154 to £68. Features include an extended seat slide on the driver's side

- A Talbot Sunbeam 1.3 LS Automatic with an advance rental down from £870 to £639

- a Vauxhall Chevette E two-door saloon with an advance rental down from £407 to £223.

A Motability lease continues to cover the full cost of maintenance.

For further information contact: Motability, The Adelphi, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6AZ. Tel: 01-839 5191.

Underground Access

THE NEW Tyne and Wear Metro has been designed with the needs of the disabled in mind. At each station there is a barrier for use by people in wheelchairs. Local residents can operate it with their concessionary travel permit. Others in need can obtain, from Tyne and Wear Transport, a special key and key card to operate the barrier and the lifts.

Foster parents wanted

THE NATIONAL Foster Care Association is trying to encourage parents to take disabled children into their families. Many of the children in hospitals and homes need not be there if only suitable foster parents would come forward. Further details from NFCA, Francis House, Francis Street, London SW1: Tel: 01-828 6266.



Access—New holiday register ‘the only answer’

THE CONSUMERS’ Association inspectors were “appalled” when they looked into the so-called accessible facilities for disabled people on holiday.

Often the access symbol was totally meaningless. Places that were said to be accessible were frequently totally unsuitable for people in wheelchairs or people who have difficulty in walking unaided.

The Consumers’ Association carried out this survey for *Holiday Which?*—their twice yearly magazine about holidays.

As a result of what they saw the inspectors have called for a central register to which hotels and restaurants would be admitted only after inspection. Publishers of holiday guides would be able to draw on the information in the register by paying a fee.

The Consumers’ Association is having discussions with organisations concerned to see how such a register could be set up and run. The feeling is that the inspectors would need to be thoroughly trained.

The inspectors for *Holiday Which?* concluded that at present one cannot trust any source of information. The only way to find out if a hotel, restaurant or whatever is accessible is to go there oneself and find out.

“We (like many others) had assumed that things were improving for disabled holidaymakers” says the report. “Our inspections convinced us that the improvement is largely illusory”.

Holiday Which? IYDP Awards

Three roses—special awards for thoughtful, helpful and practical assistance to disabled people, and one raspberry—for thoughtlessness, have been awarded by *Holiday Which?*



ROSES were awarded to:

The London Tourist Board ‘for inspecting 50 hotels listed as accessible in the English Tourist Board *Where to Stay* guide, using an inspector in a wheelchair: and for compiling an attractive new guide to London’.

Grand Metropolitan Hotels ‘for setting a shining example, in the New Berners Hotel, of how to provide wheelchair access properly’.

British Rail ‘for arranging teams of helpers at every stage of our journeys to and from Paris’.



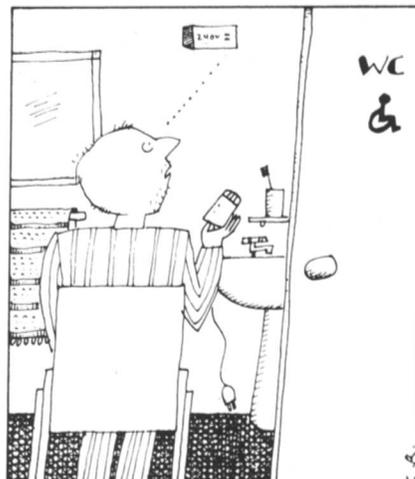
In addition, SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS went to: The manager of a Trusthouse Forte hotel ‘for staying cheerful even when he had fallen flat on his back while struggling to lift our inspector’s wheelchair up a short flight of stairs in his hotel—identified by THF as having “facilities for the disabled”’.

Mrs Betty Hedges, a Harrods cloakroom attendant, ‘for succeeding in getting alterations made which go some way to providing wheelchair access to a WC, and for her helpfulness in physically bridging the gap by lifting people in and out’.



Raspberry Award for Thoughtlessness

A RASPBERRY award for thoughtlessness goes to Westminster City Council ‘for carefully providing a new, special WC for disabled people (with a wheelchair symbol on the door) on the fringe of London’s latest tourist attraction, the newly restored Covent Garden Market—and putting it at the bottom of 19 steps’.



● One long struggle— even when the going is supposed to be smooth

HOLIDAY WHICH? inspectors (one a wheelchair user) made four trips—to Bath, Oxford, Gothenburg in Sweden, and Paris.

They concluded “Not only were hotels, restaurants, shops and sights largely inaccessible—even though they had been denoted as accessible in guidebooks—but so were so-called ‘special’ public loos, designed for disabled people and labelled with the wheelchair symbol”.

And the report goes on: “Our inspectors, weighed down by ‘access’ literature, struggled to find accessible hotels, restaurants and WCs, struggled to see the sights, and struggled up and down high, unramped kerbs. In their holiday accommodation, they struggled to get into lifts or into bathrooms; they struggled to open doors or turn on taps”.

Holiday Which? cites “serious inaccuracies both in the general guides to accommodation or restaurants which they used” and in special guides for disabled people including local access guides. For example:

- 26 of the hotels they inspected were listed in at least one guidebook as being suitable for a wheelchair user but only nine were even remotely suitable and by no means ideal

- 11 of the hotels they inspected that are listed in the English Tourist Board’s *Where to Stay* guide, three were totally inaccessible and three were possible only if you didn’t need to get a wheelchair into a WC or bathroom

- Of the 81 hotels in *Where to Stay* that were inspected by either Holiday Which? or the London Tourist Board, only two met all the minimum requirements spelt out in detail in the guide

- And of 68 ‘accessible’ hotels inspected by Holiday Which? or the London Tourist Board, only

10 met the main requirements of the British Standard Code of Practice for Access for the Disabled to Buildings.

The inspectors add: ‘Even designers of special facilities seem to have no idea of what it means to be disabled or confined to a wheelchair. We got used to finding shaver sockets, mirrors, and emergency bells (even in specially adapted bathrooms and public WCs) way out of reach, and locks and taps in the wrong place’.

Holiday Which? says there’s a clear need for better access information in guide books: ‘The *criteria* used to define “accessibility” must be sensible ones, and they must be stated fully and clearly in the guide. Where a recognised symbol is used its meaning must be one which is widely accepted, and not one concocted by the individual publisher’.

And the report adds: ‘Wherever possible, the information must be based on rigorous inspection. From our research, it is evident that when information on accessibility is supplied to guidebook compilers by hotel and restaurant management, however well-meaning, there is no guarantee of accessibility, or even of relative accessibility’.

Local Associations

THE following changes of Local Association Secretaries have taken place since the last LINK. A full Directory will appear in the next issue.

DEVON & CORNWALL
Miss Lane,
5 Molesworth Road,
Plympton,
Plymouth, PL7 4NT.

ESSEX
Mr Robert G. Kite,
462 South End Road,
Hornchurch,
Essex, RM12 5PA.

HERTS & S. BEDS
Mr D. Riseborough,
4 Sherborne Way
Croxley Green,
Rickmansworth,
Herts.

SOUTH WALES
Mrs Brenda Sharp,
38 Redbrink Crescent,
Barry Island, S. Glamorgan.
Tel: Barry 735714

TRAFFORD & SALFORD
Miss J. Slater,
1 May Court,
Victoria Road, Whalley Range,
Manchester, M16 8DR.
Tel: 061 226 9194

Illustrations courtesy of Holiday Which?

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It contains all you need to start enjoying a more independent way of life.

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A new freedom
from incontinence.

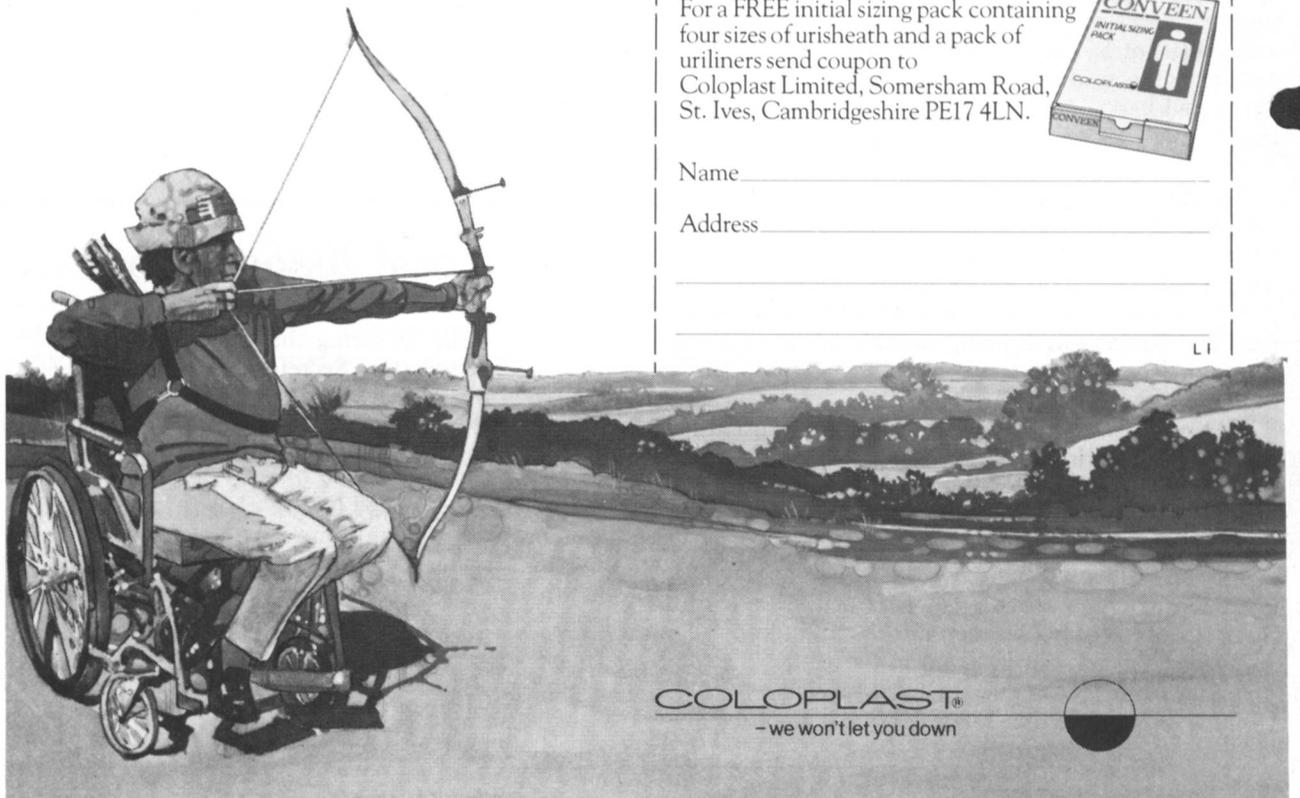
For a FREE initial sizing pack containing four sizes of urisheath and a pack of uriliners send coupon to Coloplast Limited, Somersham Road, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire PE17 4LN.



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Hydrocephalus: Derek shows just what can be achieved

IN CONNECTION with Mrs Janet Gray's letter (LINK March/April) we too would like to relate our experiences with our son Derek, who, although still with problems, has progressed exceptionally well despite being a hydrocephalic baby.

When he was born in the Queen Mothers Hospital, Glasgow, in August 1975, his head was enlarged at the back due to the presence of a cyst.

In the Royal Hospital for Sick Children (adjacent to the QM), various tests were carried out, including the dye test (sending radiopaque material through the blood vessels in the brain), and the 'air' test (displacing the CSF with air through the spinal canal). It was ascertained that the cyst was open to the ventricles. By insertion of the valve, the pressure could then be relieved. The cyst hopefully would disappear. The valve drains CSF into a jugular vein.

The valve was inserted when Derek was five weeks old. He came home two weeks later.

We soon realised his eyesight was bad. It was not until he was about six months old that we knew for certain he could see something. Progress was generally slow. He eventually moved across the floor on his back, pushing with his heels. At about fifteen months he crawled unsteadily on all fours and at twenty three months he stood up and walked.

His progress then was good and seemed to be in 'steps'—he could suddenly do something after weeks of trying, (ie: pedal a bicycle) and do it very well.

Derek's hospital visits had become annual until his valve blocked when he was three years old. In fact it was the end of the tube in the vein which had blocked. It has been reckoned that the valve had by now become

unnecessary and it was because he needed it so little that it was difficult to confirm that blockage had occurred.

His recovery, as soon as the pressure was relieved temporarily by insertion of a draw into the valve was virtually instantaneous. This was highlighted by a matron in the hospital who had seen Derek on admission a week earlier and then a few days after the valve was revised. She could not believe he was the same wee boy.

His progress continued, although we have had a few frights (eg: total paralysis down the left hand side once, lasting about half an hour and gradually returning to normal over 3 to 4 hours), suspect valve blockages, eyesight, etc.

When our daughter was born in August 1979 we sent a thank-you letter to the Queen Mothers Hospital and enclosed photographs of Derek at two weeks old, and at three years old, to show his remarkable progress. They were so pleased that they asked permission to make slides from them to use in their lectures to other medical staff to indicate just how well a hydrocephalic child can progress.

He is in his first year at an ordinary school but shows the classic symptoms (poor concentration, reading, writing etc.). We are now getting involved with education psychologists and it is clear now that we should have done so when he was about three years old, now when he is almost six. We all learn from our mistakes.

Apart from the educational problems and almost unnoticeable physical disability, Derek is just like other wee boys running about playing football, cycling etc.

We would endorse Mrs Gray's willingness to contact anyone in a similar position and would add that, in Scotland, The Scottish Spina Bifida Association have branches which can be contacted for advice and information.

The Glasgow and District Branch are currently very active in raising funds to install a brain scanner in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow. This scanner will be of benefit to *all* children with head problems and injuries.

Mr & Mrs B SCOFFIELD
Renfrew.

Where are the graduates?

TO ALL graduates who were born with spina bifida or hydrocephalus: During the course of this year's ASBAH Spring Conference I noted with interest that, although to my knowledge, there are at least ten people born with spina bifida, who have graduated from university, this group was represented by only two people at the conference. I also felt that although the conference was interesting at a general level none of the papers dealt directly with the problems which I had experienced in the past, or which I am experiencing now.

Clearly ASBAH cannot deal with each minority which exists within the membership, at one meeting, and I am not criticising the Conference in any way, but I would like to meet those who have shared my problems and experiences. I have spoken to Beverley Holland, at National Office, who suggested that a meeting might be organised if there was enough interest. Therefore I would be very grateful if you could contact me with your views on the need for such a meeting.

JANET HANDLEY
505 Charter Avenue, Tile Hill,
Coventry, CV4 8AT.

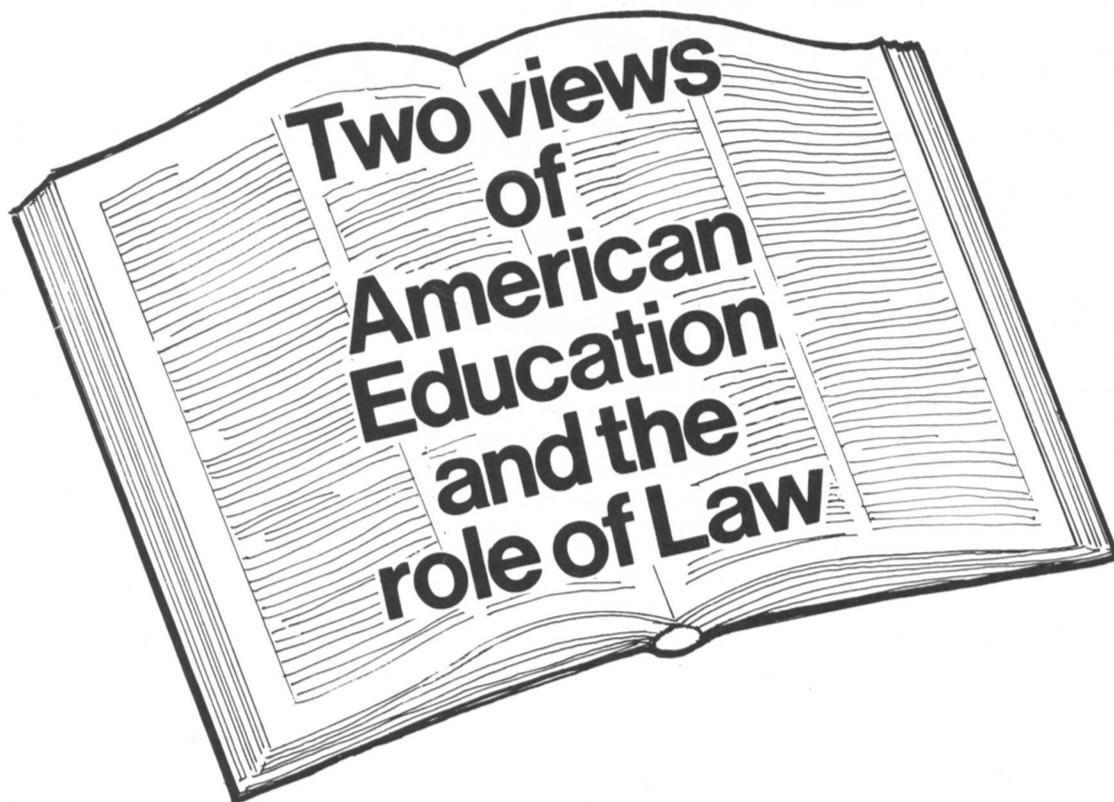
Assurance tip

IN REPLY to the query raised by a reader in the March/April issue of LINK in respect of life assurance on spina bifida children, I would mention that in the case of my daughter, who is spina bifida and hydrocephalic I had no problems in insuring her life at age one. I insured her with the Royal Liver Friendly Society and completed their normal proposal form mentioning her condition and she was accepted at normal rates.

Perhaps your reader might ask them for a quotation.

JOHN FOLEY
Castlebridge, Co. Wexford,
Ireland.

Conference Letter on Page 14



RECENTLY I had an opportunity to visit a country in which it was alleged that all the handicapped children are fully integrated into the ordinary educational system; where the language spoken, being English, presented no barrier; and moreover, where I could examine the system whilst the schools were fully operational. A chance too good to miss.

So, with about 20 other teachers from the York area, I became the guest of Keene State College, New Hampshire, USA. We were made very welcome and spent two weeks seeing American schools. In all the educational establishments, I was able to see for myself the provisions for the handicapped pupils.

It soon became apparent that there were fewer handicapped children in the schools than in this country. This was attributed, by the Medical Authority, to a very stringent pre-natal programme. The physically handicapped children were to be found in small isolated pockets throughout the schools, well staffed, but poorly equipped and with little contact with the rest of the children.

Because there is no "National

Through the eyes of an English visitor

Health Service" there is no provision for services like physiotherapy, nursing or speech therapy during the school day. Staff thought that parents who could afford to pay, would provide these things privately. I could find no evidence that this happened.

The nearest to a "special school" I could find in Keene was a semi-basement in the State College, where 20 children came for half of each day from neighbouring schools because they needed special help. They were mainly slow learners and mildly maladjusted children.

This special education area was staffed by six teachers and 15 student teachers. They worked hard with these children in 20-minute sessions, the changeover being indicated by the lights being switched off and on. Each child

was well documented and a long term forecast was made of what he should achieve. It seemed to be a gathering together of "handicapped children" to be "practiced on."

One aspect impressed me very much. One parent of each child spent half-a-day a week in the unit with the teacher/student and child. I saw video recordings of the way in which parents of "difficult" children had been taught to deal with them. The results were remarkable.

I had hoped to see the handicapped child fully and meaningfully integrated into the education system. In fact, I found the staff of the schools trying to obey the law of the land with inadequate resources and little expertise, paying—in some cases—cynical lip-service to the legal requirements. I came back to England very grateful that the Warnock Report was an important *advisory* document that will probably be most valued as a handbook of excellence rather than the beginning point of legislation.

by
Leslie A. Richardson

I HAVE been in England for several months collaborating, with an English colleague, on a text for teachers who are, or will be, integrating handicapped students into regular classrooms and schools. It occurred to me that it might be useful to share with you the American counterpart of the Warnock Report—Public Law 94-142.

I continue to meet people who have questions, confusions and misunderstandings about the American legislation.

Public Law 94-142, which became effective in 1978, is designed to assure that all handicapped children have available to them a free and appropriate public education. It does not mean, or require, that all handicapped students be educated in the regular classroom or school. Nor does it eliminate special education classes or schools.

However, it makes clear that children should be removed from the mainstream of education *only* if it is not possible for them to succeed in regular classes even with extra help and supportive services.

Integration—or 'mainstreaming' as it is often labelled in the US—offers a wide variety of alternative placements based on an individual's needs. For some it may mean integration into the ordinary class with some assistance from the Resource Room teacher. For others it may mean spending a large part of the day in a self-contained special education class, but with as many opportunities as possible to engage in regular school functions and activities. Each local educational authority must insure a continuum of alternative placements in order to allow for flexibility and change in a student's placement and educational advancement.

An Individualised Education Plan or programme (IEP) is mandated for each student. This includes a statement of the student's educational and functional levels based upon a battery of different tests; the short-term objectives and annual goals; details of the special services provided, such as occupational therapy, counselling etc, and regular annual evaluation of progress.

Through the eyes of an American specialist

Parents or guardians must be involved in the preparation of the IEP. They are vital and active partners in the decisions made about their children's education. They are permitted access to the files, and they may appeal, at no personal cost, about the recommendations regarding placement.

In my opinion the changes made by Public Law 94-142 have so far produced new and creative approaches to individualising education. One sees the presence of learning centres; the use of programmed and auto-tutorial equipment and materials: the principle of student advancement at his/her own rate: frequent assessment of a student's learning.

STUDENTS

With an individualised programme students are now offered education based on present performance levels. It is my opinion that behaviour problems so often related to failure, embarrassment or an inability to cope with the work, gradually dissipate as students are given work in which they can succeed and achieve.

But some qualifications: the United States is large. There is no uniformity in teacher preparation, qualifications or appointments. And Public Law 94-142 is only in its third year. Consequently there will be discrepancies in how effective teachers are as change-agents for handicapped students who are integrated into the mainstream of education. However with time there will be more homogeneity in teacher preparation, and inservice training mandated by the law will become more scientific.

As a whole parents of handicapped students are satisfied with their triumph in getting the Law passed. Most parents want to

reduce the stigmatising effects of segregation, and perceive integration as the necessary first step.

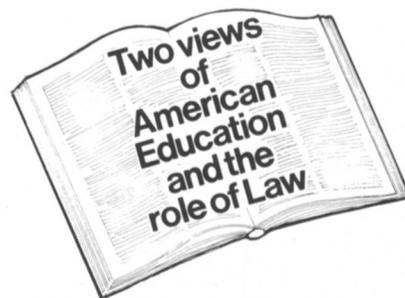
It has been reported that there are shortages in certain services such as physiotherapy. This may be so in rural areas where there is a low incidence of handicapping conditions. But informed parents have insisted that such services be purchased outside the school system, from hospitals or health agencies. Allocation of resources and services is not dependent upon availability. If they are specified in the IEP they must be provided.

There have been claims about lack of equipment and materials. If a teacher requests these and can demonstrate need, there is rarely a challenge. Very expensive and technical equipment, including computers and computer-assisted instructional machines, can be seen in ordinary classrooms and schools. Often teachers do not know what is available or what would be specific to their needs. Such knowledge takes time to acquire. Inservice training will be useful, and teachers are learning to be more assertive!

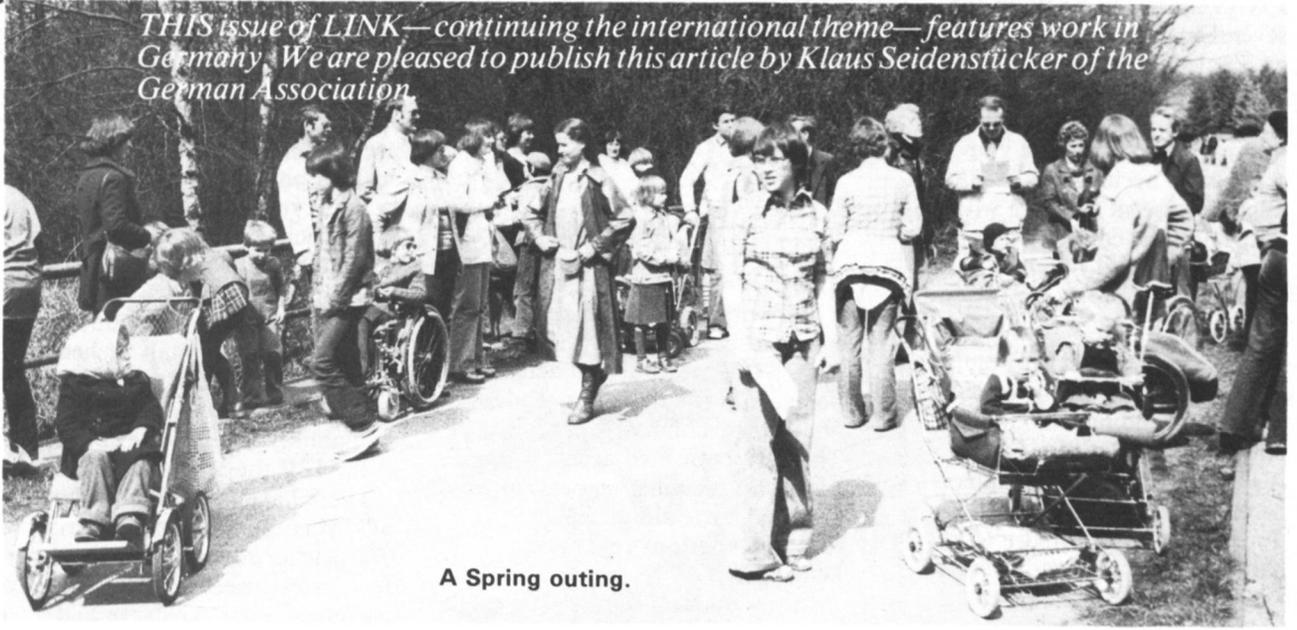
As we advance through the '80's, integration of handicapped students into the mainstream of education will become commonplace even though not fully embraced by all regular classroom teachers. The changing of attitudes takes time. Legislation has hurried the change. As more handicapped students are visible and assume a place in the school community, fears, anxieties and prejudices will be tempered.

by

Sylvia Kottler,
Purdue University,
Special Education Department,
Indiana.



THIS issue of LINK—continuing the international theme—features work in Germany. We are pleased to publish this article by Klaus Seidenstücker of the German Association.



A Spring outing.

THE STORY of the German ASbH (Association for Spina bifida and Hydrocephalus) began in 1966 with a slap in the face for a distinguished medical professor at a German university hospital. A young neurosurgeon, very much involved with the spina bifida children in his care, finally lost his temper, when surgery for his little patients was delayed yet again because of their minor importance, as the professor thought.

At the end of still another argument the professor got his—deserved—slap in the face. The young physician was fired. The parents of the spina bifida children rallied in his support, as it turned out without success at least as far as the young doctor was concerned. However the parents stayed together in order to support each other and to fight together for their children.

Since then ASbH has grown from the one small local organisation into a nationwide Association with 30 regional chapters. About 1600 members (a family is counted as one member) represent 1200 spina bifida

Where a slap in the face can lead

persons, their parents, friends and professional helpers.

The most important work is done by the regional chapters; they offer counselling and help, where it is needed; they meet for lectures and discussions; they strive to improve the therapeutic situation in their area; they struggle with the responsible agencies for improved integration and better services; they seek to make life more enjoyable for the spina bifida persons in many ways.

We are proud of our volunteer workers and all they have done in the past and will continue to do in the future. Even the services of our national ASbH office had been done on a voluntary basis up to

five years ago. Now we have a secretary and, beginning this summer, a social worker whom we expect to work mainly with our young people and to bring them together more often.

The concerns of ASbH have rather changed during the years of its existence. At first parents wanted to know as much as possible about the medical aspects of spina bifida. Nowadays we are more involved with the problems of the grown up spina bifida persons like independence, integration, vocational training and vocational placement. But this is generally speaking and doesn't mean that we don't take the individual problems of each family as serious as the overall aspects of living with spina bifida.

At one point we have learned from British ASBAH during the last couple of years; we have adopted your independence training programme and think it to be a very valuable improvement of our work here in Germany. We like to learn from you and other spina bifida organisations as much as we can. Therefore we are very pleased that a closer cooperation will take place in the future through IFHSB.

But let's not wait for the future and start an exchange now. Interested ASBAH members are invited to join our winter camp this coming February 1982 with skiing and sleighing for spina bifida youngsters. We tried it for the first time this year and it was lots of fun.



Pirates from Hamburg.

Opinion—*from Page 3*

Two lessons can be learned from the saga. First, that disabled people have considerable influence in Parliament and lobbying MPs is immensely worthwhile. Second, that politics is a devious game and it is often worth swallowing one's pride temporarily in order to keep the ball in play. It is almost certain that Dafydd Wigley would not have agreed to his emasculated No 2 Bill (which sailed through the Commons practically on the nod) if there had not been the strong possibility of a flank attack in Scotland. The thanks of all Englishmen must go out to the Celts!

It is easy to forget the other useful, if modest, measures in the Bill. Local authorities and others (eg gas, water and electricity) must consider the effect of road works and bollards, lamp posts, etc on disabled and blind people. People parking unlawfully in places reserved for disabled people will now face a fine of £50; and signs indicating the existence of facilities must now show how to get to them, in particular the route from any special parking place. Finally, the Secretary of State is required to report to Parliament on his proposals for improving access to buildings to which the public have access and places of employment and education and also public toilets and loos in various premises including shops. No doubt the Secretary of State will pay particular attention to this final item in order to get as much Mobility Allowance back as possible in betting tax.

Peter Mitchell,

Head of Research and Intelligence,
RADAR.

Counselling Service

DO YOU lack confidence about

- meeting people
- making relationships
- maintaining relationships?

How much do you know about

- your own body
- relationships in general?

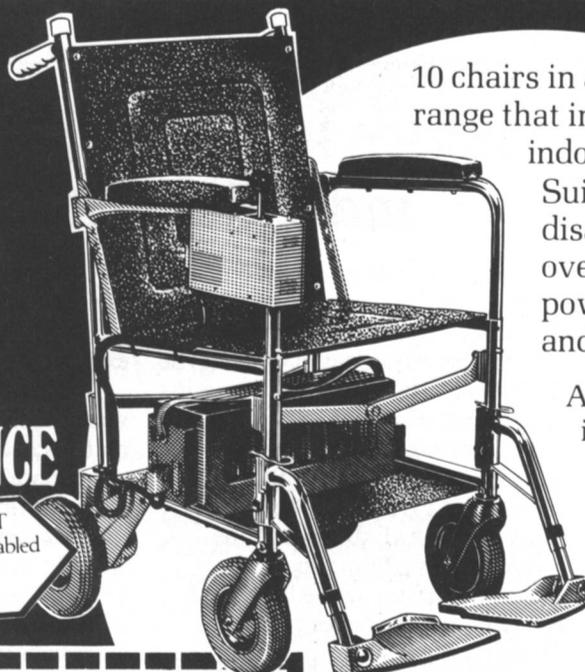
Would you like the opportunity of discussing your feelings in *total confidence*?

As part of the expansion of ASBAH/LIFT's services for members with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus, an experienced counsellor is now available to assist with any personal or sexual difficulties. This counselling service is offered free to members, and is on a personal and confidential basis. (This means that nobody else will have access to your personal details without your permission.)

If you would like to know more please WRITE to: Mrs Colette Welch, c/o ASBAH, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HJ.

**IF YOU'RE
DISABLED
This could be
the start of
A NEW
WORLD OF
INDEPENDENCE**

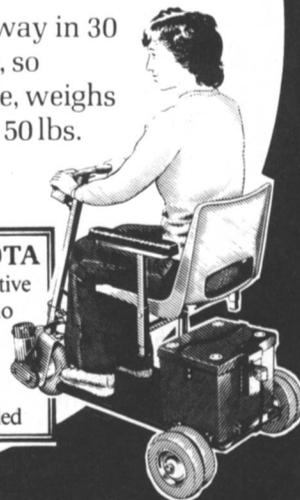
Prices from **£550** No VAT for disabled
Finance available, written quotations on request.



10 chairs in a range that includes indoor and outdoor. Suitable for most disabilities sold in over 15 countries, powerful, comfortable and reliable.

After sales service in your own home.

Folds away in 30 seconds, so portable, weighs about 50 lbs.



THE ALL NEW SCOOTA

A lightweight portable alternative to the wheelchair for those who suffer fatigue problems or difficulty in walking.

£475

No VAT for disabled

BIDDLE ENGINEERING CO. LTD. 103 Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, West Midlands. Telephone: 021-550 7326

Please send brochure and price list. chairs scoota
Please arrange demonstration. chairs scoota
(without obligation)

Name

Address

.....Tel. No.....

Conference success—but its name OK

THIS YEAR, for the first time, I attended ASBAH's Spring Conference. I feel that I must write to give the Association, and perhaps some of your readers, my thoughts on the weekend.

My main thought, now I have had time to dwell on it, is what a fantastic weekend. In my own little way I thought that I knew most of what there was to know about spina bifida and hydrocephalus but how wrong I was. I learnt so much from that weekend that I am still unable to assimilate it all.

The only small criticism that I can make is that there were not enough actual members of ASBAH branches present. As I said earlier this is the first conference that I have attended and I think that I expected something a lot more formal with perhaps a couple of representatives from each branch.

I must admit that I was surprised to find the whole weekend completely the opposite to this. It was really a great big friendly get-together with interesting speakers thrown in to keep us occupied. As I have said I really enjoyed listening to the speakers but I am not sure that I didn't derive more benefit from coffee breaks, meal times and the evenings when we could just sit and chat with members from other branches, fieldworkers, lift members, ASBAH officers etc etc. I learnt so much from this aspect of the weekend that I now wonder why I have never attended a conference before.

Perhaps this is ASBAH's problem. Is it perhaps wrong to call this weekend a conference which does sound rather stuffy and probably puts a lot of ordinary members off? I would suggest that some thought on this might persuade more members to attend a weekend which was put on for them, and from which they could derive so much benefit.

MARTIN WALES

Hon Secretary, Essex ASBAH.

Workers in the field

ASBAH has a team of 18 field workers in different parts of the country, able to help families, individuals and Local Associations with any problems they may have.

The head of the team is Harry Croydon who is based at National Office.

All the field workers may be contacted through National Office (tel: 01-388 1382), but for some there is also a local office number.

Lettie Bellshaw, West Midlands. Office 021 707 2930
 Voirrey Branthwaite, Liverpool. Office 051 488 0246
 Fran Campbell, Liverpool, Knowlesey, Sefton. Office 051 488 0246
 Post vacant, SE Hants, Portsmouth, Fareham, Gosport, Havant.
 Ann Dennison, Warwickshire, Coventry. Office 021 707 2930
 Tom Davies, South Wales.
 Pam Dickinson, Cheshire, Lancs, Gr. Manchester, Yorks, (West to Huddersfield), Cumbria.
 Meg Garnett, Suffolk. Liaise with Norwich Association (W. Norfolk) or NE Essex Association (Braintree and Clacton).
 Hazel Hinchley, West Sussex. Office 029 384 217
 Joyce Hodge, South Wales.
 Angela Lansley, St Helen's.
 Joanna Lennox, West Surrey, South Berks, North Hants, Surrey. Office 0483 71736
 Margaret Pearson, Hull, North Yorks, W. Yorks, S. Yorks.
 Nancy Scott, E. Bucks, Bedfordshire.
 Ros Scott, West Yorks, (Leeds, Bradford).
 Rosemary Seaton, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Northants.
 Norman Smith, Avon, West Country.
 Sheila Wilkinson, E. Sussex. Office 029 384 217
 Harold Macfarlane 'Mac', London area.

ASBAH statement stresses individual attention

THE following press statement, agreed by ASBAH's Executive Committee was released on Wednesday 10 June.

"In view of recent television programmes and articles in the press concerning the withholding of treatment from the severely malformed newly born and the controversy surrounding claims that some babies are sedated and not given adequate feeds, the Executive Committee of ASBAH considers it necessary to issue this statement reiterating its position in order to inform and reassure the public generally and ASBAH members specifically.

"It remains our aim to offer accurate information and counsel to families so that they may reach the best solution for their individual circumstances. It is our policy to help any family facing

the problems associated with spina bifida and hydrocephalus without exception.

Amongst these families there is a wide diversity of opinion on such matters as pre-natal screening, abortion and selection for treatment. It therefore follows that the Association must not take up specific attitudes on these matters as to do so would imply exclusion of those of an alternative view. It is our continuing conviction that this neutral course is the only appropriate one for our Association.

"That having been made clear and despite the fact that it should be self-evident, we also state that the Association does not support any action which is against the law."

LINK hopes to look at some of these subjects in the next issue.

Introducing LIFT's organisers

MEET the two LIFT organisers—Christine and Sue.

Christine Barlow is already known to many LIFT members, as she has been running things since Jan Tomlinson left over 14 months ago.

Christine is the person to contact if you want to know anything about the Independence Training programme. This includes the mini independence courses which have been recently introduced, and the longer courses.

Volunteers are always needed—people, with no particular experience, who can stay for the duration of a course and help out with the activities, daily care, and the independence training.

Christine has now been joined in the LIFT office at National Office by Sue Jenvey. She is concerned with the leisure and social activities. At present she is helping



CHRISTINE BARLOW

organise a camping holiday to St Tropez and hopes to develop more holidays next year, probably in this country. She hopes they will include lots of recreational and sporting activities.

Sue will be travelling around the country meeting as many members as possible and hoping to encourage the formation of more LIFT groups. You can meet her at the LIFT days which are held in different areas.

These are get togethers for young people with spina bifida and hydrocephalus. There are talks and discussion on topics such as



SUE JENVEY

employment, benefits, your rights, and Sue hopes to introduce more of a workshop atmosphere with the chance to try out new hobbies and recreational activities.

From these days it is hoped that those who attend will want to go on, and meet regularly and maybe form a LIFT group of their own.

Both Christine and Sue are concerned with the LIFT newsletter, and will be glad to receive material, and ideas for this.

They can be contacted at Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HJ. Tel: 01-388 1382.

Children's Legal Centre opens up

DURING the International Year of the Child it was agreed that a Children's Legal Centre should be set up. This was sponsored by the UK Association for the Year and has now started up, working from an office in London.

It is a registered charity running a free and confidential advice service by telephone and letter on the laws affecting children and young people in England and Wales.

It wants children to be recognised as individuals under the law, and be fully involved—either by direct or by independent representation—with the decisions that influence their lives.

The service is available to young people, to groups concerned with children, and to professionals who do not have access to free legal advice elsewhere.

The Centre always encourages adults to consult the young people concerned in the enquiry, or in the

case of young children, the parents.

The Centre works to clarify, develop and improve children's law. Its activities include not only advice and education but also advocacy and research. Priority is given to those children who are disadvantaged economically,

socially or because of a disability.

The advice service is open Monday to Friday, 2-5pm only. If advice is sought by letter please give a telephone number whenever possible.

The address is: The Children's Legal Centre, 2 Malden Road, London NW5. Tel: 01-267 6392.

ONE OF the first projects the Children's Legal Centre has been concerned with is a leaflet about the educational rights of children.

'Education to 19. . . ' spells out the conditions of the Education Act 1944, and the Education (Handicapped Children Act 1970. It points out that *all* young people—whether mentally or physically disabled—have the right to full-time education between the ages of 5 and 19—if they ask for it.

what parents can do if they want their child to continue his or her education until 19. It also shows that parents can win through, as evidenced and by the success of a parents pressure group set up in Oxfordshire. This group was eventually able to make the local education authority agree to provide education beyond the age of 16 for mentally handicapped young people in the south east of the county.

The leaflet is free and can be obtained from the Children's Legal Centre (address on this page).

The leaflet gives information on

RADAR has become concerned that during the past year several local authorities may have been acting unlawfully in a number of ways, for example, by:

- refusing to assess a disabled person's need for certain services;
- accepting that a disabled person needs a service but refusing to make any arrangements for it;
- withdrawing a service, or causing disabled people to cease to use it even though they will still need it.

Under Section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 County Councils, London Boroughs and Metropolitan Districts have a duty to assess the needs of disabled people for the following services:

- (a) practical help in the home, e.g. a home help;
- (b) a radio and/or television and

Is your council fulfilling its duties towards disabled people?

help in using the local library;

- (c) lectures, games, outings and any help needed to take advantage of educational facilities;
- (d) help with travelling to any of these or similar activities;
- (e) any adaptations, such as a ramp or lift or special equipment needed in the home for greater safety, comfort or convenience; this

can even include building an extra room on the ground floor;

- (f) holidays;
- (g) meals, either in the home or at a local centre;
- (h) a telephone and any special equipment needed to use it.

If the council is satisfied that the individual needs the service, it has a duty to make arrangements to provide it. The council *may* make a charge but *may not* say 'if you do not pay, we will not provide the service'. Some councils are exacting charges from people relying on supplementary benefit or equally low incomes who are having to refuse a service which they need because they cannot meet the charges.

If you think your council is acting unlawfully, please send details to Beverley Holland here at ASBAH and she will pass the information on to RADAR.

Coventry's "Dial A Ride" service, for disabled people

FOR OVER a year now, disabled people living in Coventry have had their transport problems solved by the Local Authority's "Dial A Ride" Service. The service utilises the vehicles used to take people to day centres etc.

When a person, who is registered disabled, wants to go out they only have to phone a central office and give the details of their journey, and at the appointed time a vehicle, with a tail lift, arrives to take them and their escort to their destination.

The vehicle will return for them when required. The service operates at week ends as well as during the week, and has been a marvellous boost to those people who wanted to be more integrated into the community, but were prevented from doing so by their transport problems.

Housing slump

MORE THAN 3000 fewer houses, designed for the disabled, were started by local authorities and housing associations in 1980 than in 1979. It was the lowest figure since 1976.

Somewhere to stay in London

IF YOU are visiting London and want to know where to stay, National Office may be able to help.

Beverley Holland has compiled a list of hotels, self-catering accommodation, and accommodation for groups in London, with prices.

When booking please do make sure that you tell the hotel or hostel what your needs are. This can avoid misunderstandings and problems when you arrive.

The list is free and available from Beverley at National Office.

Disabled should learn first aid

DISABILITY does not necessarily prevent a person being on the spot at the time of a serious accident. He or she may be the only person in a position to save a life.

And it is for that reason that the Red Cross are urging the disabled to learn the basics of first aid. The Chief Medical Adviser of the British Red Cross, General Gray, stresses that it is particularly important for disabled parents to learn how to cope with an emergency involving their own children.

Further details from the local Red Cross branch or write to the British Red Cross Society, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ. Tel: 01-235 5454.

PUBLICATIONS

Gardens to visit

THIS publication lists the gardens in England open to the public, and mentions those which have accessible areas for disabled visitors.

Price 50p (including postage) from Gardeners Sunday, White Witches, Glaygate Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 2PR.

AA Guide for the Disabled

THIS new edition includes details of toilet facilities in major towns and tourist areas; information about Motability, Orange Badge parking, Mobility Allowances and motorway regulations.

Free to members. 95p to non members from any AA office.

From Crown Jewels to Joan Collins' North Sea Puzzles and a nationwide fishing competition—and much more in between

IN THE last edition of LINK, Judy Kay wrote of some "frenzied activity" within the Appeals Department. As I write, Judy is on holiday, but the frenzy continues and it is my pleasant task to report on it.

Our Crown Jewel Ball at the Dorchester Hotel proved to be a glittering, dazzling occasion. Without doubt, the most dazzling objects present were eighteen crowns from the Imperial Collection—exact replicas of those that adorn—or once adorned—the heads of the monarchs of Europe and Asia.

These regal splendours were displayed during a cabaret compered by Mr David Jacobs. However, some rather less expensive articles were neatly wrapped up and available as prizes in our new style tombola—the tombaffle. Each ticket purchased gave the buyer not only a tombola package, but the chance of winning the raffle prize of a speed boat.

Miss Elaine Stritch was at hand to draw the winning ticket and

present the boat to its new owner. With all tombaffle tickets sold and with well over £5,000 raised through our brochure, the Crown Jewel Ball looks like being as much of a financial success as it was undoubtedly a social success.

Meanwhile, our summer mailing campaign proceeds apace. We hope that, by the time you receive this issue of LINK, we will already be in receipt of a substantial number of donations. We also hope that, as 1981 is the International Year of Disabled People, our ever generous supporters will prove to be even more generous than usual.

During the last few months, there has been a marked increase in the response of the Royal Navy to the appeal directed to them by Fiona Isles. The Silent Service has proved less than silent in its response to Fiona's work. Apart from the contributions of other ships, HMS Intrepid alone has raised £3,000 for our Association and has played host to a number



HRH the Duchess of Gloucester at the Crown Jewel Ball. The Duchess is drawing a ticket for a lucky programme prize winner from an ice bucket held by our genial toastmaster, Bryn Williams. During the course of the evening, the Duchess herself won a prize of a crystal vase.

of children from the Portsmouth area.

As promised in the last edition of LINK, we can now spill the beans on our Special Events Organiser, Maggie Corbett's scheme for parting bored North Sea oil men from their excess funds.

Maggie has arranged for a number of jigsaw puzzles to be printed. They will not, however, have pictures of "The Olde Water Mill" on them. Rather, they will display a picture of Miss Joan Collins in a semi-recumbant posture. One puzzle and one video tape will be supplied to every off-shore installation and oil men will be asked to buy individually numbered jig-saw pieces at £1.00 a piece.

When the puzzle has been successfully put together, and the money returned to ASBAH, a sealed envelope will be sent back containing the winning number and the winner will have the chance to meet Miss Collins. This very original contest has been given the title of The Rigshaw Competition (sorry about that!)

At the same time as setting up



Fiona Isles with a group of children from the Portsmouth area and a stalwart bunch of Royal Marines. The Marines and other members of the ship's company of HMS Intrepid played host to the children one day in April and handed Fiona a cheque for £3,000.

Continued over page

Appeals continued

her scheme for the oil industry, Maggie is having great success with her "diminishing" coffee morning scheme—the Spring Collection. By the time you receive this copy of LINK, the proceeds from this scheme should be well inside the five figure range.

Maggie's other major project, a nationwide fishing competition, held with the support of the Angling Times, is also under way. Maggie has asked me to point out that, as part of the competition, Angling Clubs have been requested to provide opportunities for young people with spina bifida to take part in what is the most popular sport in the country.

Four months ago, when I started working for ASBAH, our contacts on student rag committees were few and far between. They are still not exactly thick on the ground, but, I have managed to persuade ten university and college rags to support us during the current season and have also started negotiations for next year.

It would be very helpful if Local Associations would inform me of any institutions of higher learning that they do not wish me to approach. I would then be able to avoid embarrassing them or jeopardising their own approaches to these bodies. For my part, as soon as I know of a rag committee which is supporting the National Association, I will inform the Local Association most concerned.

I would also be very grateful if Local Associations could inform me of any schools in their area which they would not like me to approach with respect to our Schools Sponsored Initiative campaign. I realise that we have already received the views of a number of Local Associations on this matter. However, that was over a year ago. Since then, as a result of circulating samples of our Sponsored Initiative forms via regional educational authorities, a large number of new schools have expressed an interest in the scheme, which now seems likely to be a slow-burning success story.

IAN MORRISON
Educational Appeals Organiser

N.W. Ostomy publish leaflet by way of introduction

NORTH WEST Ostomy Supplies (Wholesale) Limited have recently brought out an attractive leaflet introducing their service.

Copies can be obtained from the company at North West House, Worsley Road North, Walken, Manchester M28 5GL. Tel: Farnworth (0204) 709255.

North West Ostomy provide a confidential and individual service to customers. They have a spacious showroom where customers can compare, side by side, products from different manufacturers. It brings together, under one roof, a whole range of ostomy, incontinence products and accessories which the company claims is virtually without equal in the North of England. It is totally independent of the manufacturers whose products are on display.

A service is provided not only for individuals but also for members of the medical profession or pharmacists.

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FOR OSTOMY SUPPLIES
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* We specialise in Ostomy appliances all leading makes stocked including:-
COLOPLAST, CUXSON GERRARD, DOWNS, ESCHMANN, HOLLISTER, SALTS, SIMPLA, SQUIBB-SURGICARE, THACKRAY, BULLENS, SEARLE, DANSAC-COMBI

Also:- NIGHT DRAINAGE AND LEG DRAINAGE BAGS BY:-
ALDON, BARDIC, CHIRON, SETON, SIMPLA, THACKRAY, WALLACE, PORTEX, MEREDITH.

We also carry a comprehensive stock of Catheters and Incontinence Sheaths.

Post free postal service - Orders by return of post

* **Permanent Display Showroom of the most up-to-date appliances open Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.**

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West
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Supplies**

Proprietor: **MAUREEN A. NUTTALL,**
S.R.N., R.S.C.N., Q.N.

**NORTH WEST HOUSE,
WORSLEY ROAD NORTH
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WALKDEN,
MANCHESTER M28 5GL**

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THE RELIABLE SOURCE OF SUPPLY

CLASSIFIED 'ADS'

The advertising rate is:

£1.50 for up to 30 words. £2.50 for 30-45 words.

£3.50 for 45-60 words.

Please send remittance with your advert.

Adverts for the next LINK (July/August) should be in by June 6. Send to the Editor Mrs Susan Gearing (or telephone her on Langton 3351).

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

CAMBER SANDS: Well-equipped and adapted chalet (sleeps 6). Bookings taken by Mrs N. Kerswill, 28 Ilmington Rd, Kenton, Harrow, HA3 0NH. Tel: 01-907 8526 (2-7 pm).

MILLENDREATH, Nr Looe, Cornwall: Well-equipped holiday chalet, sleeps 6. Easy Access. Details (sae please): Mr T. Gardiner, 72 Dale Valley Road, Oakdale, Poole, Dorset. Tel: (Parkstone) 0202 744873.

HEYSHAM, Nr Morecambe. Purpose built 6-berth fully equipped mobile home. Convenient and accessible for the largest wheelchair. Large bathroom. Details: Mrs H. Campbell, 9 Belton Road, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Tel: Whitchurch 3691.

GOLDEN SANDS, Voryd, Rhyl. Well-equipped, 8 berth caravan. Every facility on site, right by sea. Details: Mr J. S. Foster, 84 Elmwood Drive, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent (sae please).

SELSEY, Sussex: Well-equipped 42' mobile home. Fully maintained and designed for the handicapped. Sleeps 7 (plus cot). Bookings: Mrs Blackmore, 80 Sunnymede Avenue, West Ewell, Surrey. Tel: 01-393 0971.

WINTERTON-ON-SEA, Nr Gt Yarmouth: 6-berth chalet. Indoor swimming pool, shop, play areas. Details: Mr R. Morris. Tel: High Wycombe 32184.

WITHERNSEA: Well-equipped 6-berth chalet at Golden Sands Chalet Park. Shop, licensed club, play areas, amusements on site. Details (sae please): Mrs P. O'Callaghan, 14 Dyer Lane, Wheatley, Halifax. Tel: 0422 56402.

SNOWDONIA. Holiday chalet, sleeps 4/6 on the lovely Glan Gwna Holiday Park. Specially adapted for wheelchair users. TV, Shop, Pool, (May-Sept). From £25-£115 per week. Details: Mrs Hazel Lockhart. Tel: 0794 22545.

JOHN GROOMS HOLIDAYS

All facilities specially adapted for wheelchair users (family friends and escorts welcome)

Seaside hotels: at Llandudno and Minehead • licensed • level access • emergency call system • balconies overlooking the sea • tail lift bus for tours • colour T.V. lounge • (Bargain Winter Breaks for only £56, including VAT).

Self-Catering Units: Near the sea at Barnstaple, Borth, Poole and New Milton. Equipped with ramps and other aids.

Holiday Chalet: Near Skegness (Lincs). Emergency generator for iron lung users).

London Holiday Flat: London, N4.

Motor Caravan: First season 1981. Can be hired for one or two weeks, and driven anywhere in Gt. Britain. It has tail lift, special wheelchair W.C./Shower unit, and other modifications. Black & White T.V. and Radio.

For further details contact: John Grooms Holiday Department (Ref. L1.), John Grooms Association for the Disabled, 10 Gloucester Drive, London N4 2LP. Tel: 01-802 7272.

FOR SALE

Leisure Wear: White cotton Tee Shirts with green family symbol and words 'Support Spina Bifida'. Sizes 22"-30": £2 each. Adult sizes, small, medium, large: £2.75 each. **Sweat Shirts** in reverse colours. Adult sizes, small medium, large, XL: £6.50 each, postage included. From Mrs M. Humphreys, 27 Orchard Way, Holmer Green, Bucks.

ASBAH booklets etc . . .

<i>Your Child with Spina Bifida,</i>	
by J. Lorber, MD, FRCP 35p
<i>Your Child with Hydrocephalus,</i>	
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