



The University of Sydney

Faculties of Health Sciences and Architecture

**The Home Modification:
Information Clearinghouse Project**

Annual Report 2007-2008

Prepared by:

**The Home Modification Information
Clearinghouse Project Team**

ISSN 1835-548X (Print)
ISSN 1835-5498 (Online)

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
1.1. What is the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse?	4
1.2. Objectives	5
1.3. Principal areas of activity	5
Structure of the HMinfo Clearinghouse	6
1.4. Staff	7
Directors	7
Research Librarian	7
Research Assistants	8
1.5. Advisory Committee	10
1.6. Specialist Review Panels	16
Research Panel	16
Industry Panel	16
Consumer Panel	16
Director's Report	17
HMinfo Clearinghouse Strategic Plan 2007/2008.	19
Strategic Plan 2007 - 2008	20
Activities	22
1.7. Home Modification Clearing House Research & Publications	23
Publications	23
Invited Keynote Presentations	23
Invited Presentations	23
Peer Reviewed Presentations	24
Other	24
Visiting Scholars	24
1.8. Website	25
Financial Report	27
1.9. Finance Report	28
Thankyou	29
1.10. Acknowledgements and Thanks	30
Glossary	31

Introduction



Picture Courtesy NSW Home Modification Maintenance Service State Council

1.1. What is the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse?

The Home Modification Information (HMinfo) Clearinghouse is a web-based facility providing information on home modification services, in order to create safe and enabling living environments for frail older people, people with disabilities and their carers. The HMinfo Clearinghouse is a project of Sydney University that came into existence in May 2002. It is managed by two Directors from the disciplines of Occupational Therapy and Architecture and staffed by an editor, librarian and research officers, who are employed with recurrent funding from the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program and the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC).

The list of available online materials includes:

- **Annotated web links:** An edited collection of national and international websites containing home modification and maintenance relevant information. Examples include the US Adaptive Access website and the Access Consultants Association of Australia site
- **Annotated bibliographic materials:** An edited collection of articles, books, CDs and other reference materials can be searched using our indexed lists, or by an open search
- **Evidence Based Practice Reviews:** Research publications by the HMinfo Clearinghouse team based on a systematic review methodology, each with accompanying Industry and Consumer Factsheets
- **Occasional Research Papers:** Research publications produced by the HMinfo Clearinghouse team, based on methodologies other than systematic reviews
- **Summary Bulletins:** These are hot topics that have been identified by the HMinfo Clearinghouse's Advisory Committee, or from the Forum section of the Website, that include articles on items such as thermostatic mixing valves and other small research topics
- **Case Studies;** featuring design schematics and photos
- **Upcoming training** available to home modification service providers
- **A quarterly newsletter:** The newsletter usually includes a website review, a book review, a list of upcoming events/trainings, new publications and research, and often a general article relating to issues around disability and home modifications, or topical research that the HMinfo Clearinghouse is undertaking.

The HMinfo Clearinghouse aims to share ideas and explore opportunities to facilitate enabling environments in all areas of living: from personal spaces in the home to public spaces at school, work and in urban planning generally.

Recent contracts include:

- Development of design standards for dementia day care services for NSW HACC. Cited as a major piece of research by Western Australian Government in their review of Day Centres.
- A cost-benefit analysis of ageing at home for the AHURI.

- A review of Group home design guidelines - DADHC.
- Review of the dementia day care proposals of the HACC capital funding.
- The HMinfo Clearinghouse welcomes enquiries from government and non-government organisations seeking research or consultancy work.
- Publication of HACC MDS review, Home Modification and Home Maintenance 2001/2002 – 2005/2006 HACC Minimum Data Set (MDS).

1.2. Objectives

- To build information and knowledge capacity within the residential construction sector in order to improve standard home design and to provide evidence for the effectiveness of special features to improve the living environments of aged and/or people with disabilities and their carers.
- To develop a leading edge Home Modification Information Clearinghouse that will be accessible to the full range of industry and consumer target groups.
- To value add to the current home and community care work, focusing on home modification across NSW.

1.3. Principal areas of activity

- To promote successful and innovative housing models for older people and people with disabilities amongst the building and development industry
- To develop on-line Factsheets detailing best practice principles for assessment and the setting of priorities for the home modification services
- To promote the benefits and products of home modification and adaptable housing to the broader community through mainstream media
- To share information at State and Regional industry forums and liaise with peak regional providers and consumers
- To ensure that there are effective links between home modification service providers and consumers

Structure of the HMinfo Clearinghouse



Picture Courtesy NSW Home Modification Maintenance Service State Council

1.4. Staff



Directors

Dr Catherine Bridge is an academic within the Discipline of Occupational Therapy, at the University of Sydney. She also leads the 'Environments for Positive Ageing' research group within the Faculty of Health Sciences. Prior to becoming an Academic, Catherine was involved in piloting and writing the guidelines for the NSW Home and Community Care (HACC) Higher Level Home Modification program, at its inception in 1988.

Catherine has provided advice and consultancy to housing and health departments in a number of Australian States, and has an international reputation for knowledge of environmental interventions for aged and disabled persons.



Professor Peter Phibbs is the inaugural Chair of the Urban Research Program at the University of Western Sydney. A review he completed in 1999 of home modification services for the NSW Department responsible for Home and Community Care (HACC) raised the issue of the importance of knowledge development and information sharing in this area. Subsequently he helped establish, with Catherine Bridge, the HMinfo Clearinghouse at the University of Sydney. Peter has been engaged in a variety of research projects in the areas of home modification.



Research Librarian

Katrina Chaudhary is a research librarian. She has worked for the HMinfo Clearinghouse for nearly two years. She has a bachelor's degree in library & information science. Her areas of expertise include best practice systematic searches in the areas of ageing and disability. (Until February 2008 when Katrina left to take up a fulltime appointment at the University of Western Sydney)



Research Assistants

Lisa Hodges is a research assistant. She has worked for the HMinfo Clearinghouse for nearly three years. During this time she has been involved in systematic reviews, occasional papers, the administration of a large grant application, attending conferences, writing for the newsletter and maintaining the website. She holds an honours degree in psychology and is interested in environmental psychology.

(Until November 2007 when Lisa left to take up her Clinical Masters Degree in Psychology)



Tanja von Behrens has been working predominantly on the website and administrative aspects of the HMinfo Clearinghouse, including research, and increasing public knowledge of the site and its resources. Tanja has worked for HMinfo Clearinghouse for two years, and has a bachelor of arts in psychology and studies in religion from the University of Sydney.

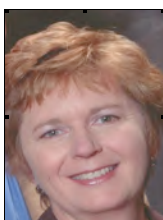
(Until December 2007 when Tanja left to work on with an aboriginal art collective).



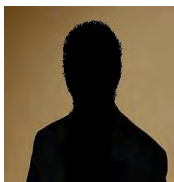
Maree Porter has taken on the role of the Clearinghouse Administration Manager. Maree is currently completing her PhD at the University and comes from a gerontology background.



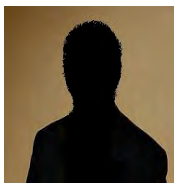
Lyndal Millikan joined the team as a research Assistant. Lyndal is an occupational therapist with post graduate qualifications in Business Administration and Health Law. She is currently completing her masters in Health Science at the University of Sydney and has a special interest in the effect of the built environment on individual performance. (Lyndal went on maternity leave in March 2008 to give birth to her second child and we expect her back soon).



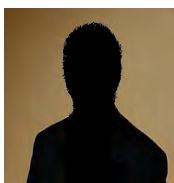
Stephanie Mathews has worked as a research assistant for the HMinfo Clearinghouse for two years editing documents for publication on the website. Her background is in law, and she taught research and writing at a U.S. law school.



Yong Jung is a PHD student in Social Work at the University of Sydney. Prior to commencing with us he led one of the largest social policy research teams in Korea. He has helped prepare systematic reviews, fact sheets and quarterly Newsletter. Young has worked as a social worker and work as a senior policy manger in Korea.



Brian Cooper – Brian has assisted the HM Clearinghouse with the preparation and analysis of HACC MDS data. Brian has particular expertise in Social Mapping. Brian is currently a PHD Student at the University of here in the Faculty of Health Sciences.



Navit Gohar recently gained her PHD from in Psychology from the University of Sydney. She has helped in preparation of a number of our recent systematic reviews, fact sheets and quarterly Newsletter. She has taken time off to have her first baby and will be returning soon.



Web Consultant

Andrew Clark originally trained as an occupational therapist. He has worked as a Home and Community Care disability service provider within government and non-government organisations. He has a long interest in the use of information technology in the community care sector and received a Churchill Scholarship in 1993 to investigate the use of computer-mediated communications for NGOs. Andrew's work with the HMinfo Clearinghouse involves collaborating with the web programmer to maximise the site's functionality and content management systems.



Web Programmer

Gordon Heydon is a Drupal web developer and has been working with the HMilnfo Clearinghouse for the last fourteen months. His background is in utility billing, warehouse management, e-commerce and content management systems for the web.

1.5. Advisory Committee

The HMinfo Clearinghouse Advisory Committee represents a wide cross-section of stakeholders, including representatives from government, consumer and peak disability groups.



Robyn Chapman - graduated and worked as a physiotherapist within the private, not-for-profit and public sectors before moving into management roles within the not-for-profit, disability sector. In these roles Robyn developed an understanding of the need for universal environments that enable people barrier-free lives, even as their life needs change. Has recently being appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the ILC NSW. She previously represented the Physical Disability Council of NSW on the advisory committee..



Joseph Harrison - works as a research officer with the Disability Council of NSW, the official adviser to the NSW government on issues affecting people with disabilities and their families. He has been on the HMinfo Advisory Committee for two years and has personal experience of the home modification service: his home having been modified, and he has a strong commitment to universal housing design. Joseph's career is taking him into new areas and as a result this is his last year on the Advisory Committee. His perspective as consumer has been invaluable and we wish him all success in his new role.



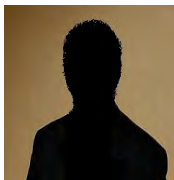
Colin James AM, - has a particular interest in housing for the aged and disadvantaged. A senior lecturer in the Faculty of Architecture, he has directed the Ian Buchanan Fell Housing Research Centre at the University of Sydney for many years. He is a member of various housing advisory committees, and has previously been seconded to State and Commonwealth departments to work on housing matters.



Lisa Langley - has a social work degree and a background in social policy and planning. She is currently studying for a Master's degree in Policy Studies at the University of New South Wales. After returning to Australia from living and raising a family in the United States, Lisa worked in policy and program development for Centacare; then as Manager of Policy and Research, for the Asthma Foundation of New South Wales. She is currently the State Policy Officer for the Council on the Ageing (NSW).



Steve Malvern - is the Project Manager for the Level 3 NSW Statewide Home Modification Service. Level 3 covers all major modification work over \$20,000. He has worked in the industry for the past four years and enjoys being able to assist people to remain living at home.



Ian Maxwell is a foundation member of the HMinfo Clearinghouse advisory team. A licensed builder with thirty years experience: fifteen of which has been in the home modification sector. Ian has worked in rural and remote, as well as metropolitan contexts. He served on the Home Modification and Maintenance

State Council from 2004 to 2006 and currently works for the Wesley Home Modification and Maintenance Service.



Melinda Paterson - is the HACC Development Officer in Sutherland Shire and represents the Council of Social Service of NSW and the NSW HACC Issues Forum on this committee. Melinda has worked for the Home and Community Care Program for over ten years, first on a state wide project looking at the use of HACC services by people with disabilities and in her current role supporting HACC-funded organisations since 1998. Melinda is a wheelchair user and has been a client of the Home Modification Scheme. She joined the committee in 2005. This is Melinda's last year on the committee and we thank her for her participation and wish her the best in future endeavours. (Until November 2007).



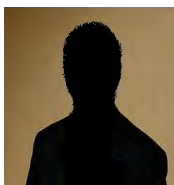
Anne Reeve -joined the HMinfo Clearinghouse Advisory Committee in 2002. She has over twenty years experience in middle and senior management within NGOs including: community broadcasting, community access theatre, theatre for youth, community legal centres and nine years with HACC funded home modification and maintenance service (HMMS) provision. Anne served for over six years as a NSW HMMS State Council representative for the Southern Region and is General Manager of South Coast Home Modification & Maintenance Services.



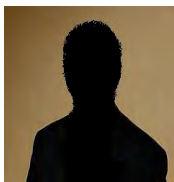
Rebecca Rogers -has represented The Department of Veteran's Affairs NSW (DVA) on the Advisory Committee since 2002. For the past twelve years she has been a state advisor to DVA, providing advice and training to OTs on home modification. She has also worked as a trainer/presenter for the OT association. Rebecca is a current member of the ME64 Australian Standards committee on Access. This is Rebecca's last year on the committee and we thank her for her time and effort and all the best in the adventures that lie ahead.



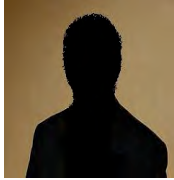
Stacey Sheppard Smith - is the executive officer of the NSW Home Modification Maintenance Service State Council, the peak organisation for the home modification and maintenance industry in the State. Stacey has worked in the HACC Program for more than twelve years and particularly enjoys community work, as it enables her to help people enhance their lives. She has been a member of the HMinfo Clearinghouse Advisory Committee since 2005.



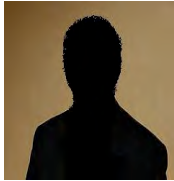
Amelia Starr – Research Officer
Disability Council of NSW,



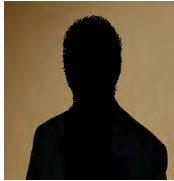
Mark Ellis, South Coast Home
Modification & Maintenance
Services. (Replacing Anne
Reeves)



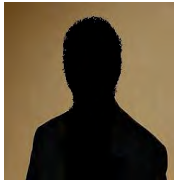
Ruth Jacka – NCOSS Delegate;
Northside Community Forum.
(Replacing Melinda Paterson)



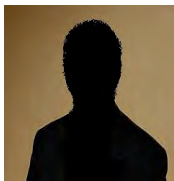
Susan Dinley - The Department of
Veteran's Affairs NSW (DVA)



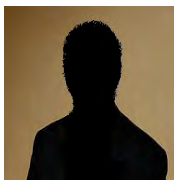
Claudia Kennedy – Manager,
Program Policy Unit. Department
of Ageing, Disability and Home
Care. NSW



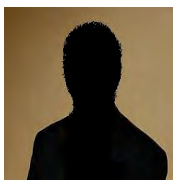
Mark Flynn - Senior Policy Officer,
Department of Ageing, Disability
and Home Care. NSW



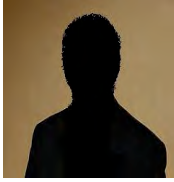
Paul Heath - Senior Policy Officer,
Department of Ageing, Disability
and Home Care. NSW



Allan Whelan – NSW Department
of Housing



Annette Key – Coordinator
Lifetime Care and Support
Authority. NSW



Frances Smith - Lifetime Care and
Support Authority - NSW

1.6. Specialist Review Panels

There are sixteen members in total on the HMinfo Clearinghouse's Specialist Review Panels. Members participate in the Research, Industry or Consumer Panel, depending on their expertise. The Panels provide advice on the Evidence Based Practice Reviews produced by the HMinfo Clearinghouse team. The review process ensures that the documents prepared by the HMinfo Clearinghouse are technically accurate, while maintaining document readability and relevance to the target audience.

Research Panel

- Lindy Clemson, University of Sydney
- Desleigh De Jonge, University of Queensland
- Stephen Harfield, University of Technology, Sydney
- Lisel O'Dwyer, Flinders University
- Karen Roberts, Caulfield General Medical Practice

Industry Panel

- Beverley Garlick, Royal Australian Inst. of Architects, NSW
- Jean Halcrow, Australian Assoc. of Occupational Therapists
- Sandra Lightfoot-Collins, Macarthur HMMS
- Peter Meredith, Master Builder's Assoc., NSW
- Keith Stevenson, Auburn, Holroyd, Parramatta HMM Service

Consumer Panel

- Sue Egan, Physical Disabilities Council of Australia
- Glen Redmayne, Marrickville Council
- Irene Truscott, Deafness Forum of Australia
- Ross Smith, Central Sydney Regional Public Tenants Association
- Greg Killeen, Spinal Cord Injuries Australia
- Janne Bidenko, DeafBlind Association NSW
- Jamila Howarth, MS Society Ltd
- Sarah Fogg, The Benevolent Society

Director's Report



Picture Courtesy NSW Home Modification Maintenance Service State Council

Executive Summary

In the last year, the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo) and its staff successfully continue to meet the challenges of a dynamic community care sector during a major faculty restructure. The clearinghouse team within the University of Sydney have lead the research group entitled 'Environments for Positive Ageing' and has been an active contributor to the ongoing research endeavours of the 'Ageing and Human Performance Faculty Research Group, lead by Professor Mark Mathews.

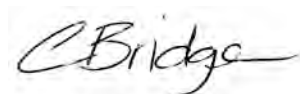
As a service provider, our position as a highly regarded resource for professionals and consumers alike has been both affirmed. Affirmation has come, internationally, nationally and more importantly locally from within NSW. For example some of our evidence-based reviews are now located Evidence Based Guidelines (EBG) project.

(<http://www.udeworld.com/pmwiki/index.php?n=Main.HomePage>) the leading American resource site for the American Occupational Therapy Association cites our website as an important evidenced based resource for practitioners in its evidence based bytes resource (<http://www.aota.org/Educate/Research/EvidenceBytes/2007.aspx>). The site was also nominated as a leading edge resource that was a model for others to emulate by Dr Gerald Craddock, Chief Officer Centre for Excellence in Universal Design Dublin Ireland in his keynote address at the 4th Cambridge Workshop on Universal Access and Assistive Technology (CWUAAT 2008). This keynote can be downloaded from <http://rehab-www.eng.cam.ac.uk/cwuaat/08/1stKeynote.pdf>.

Ongoing monitoring of the characteristics of our members demonstrates that the service has doubled on a monthly basis and has a wide range of users from across Home Modification Services, Health workers and a range of Government Departments. This supports our ongoing strategic goal as being recognised at State, National and International level, as a source and site of excellence in the provision of Information and research in relation to Home Modification and Maintenance and community care.

Over the past year there have a number of invitations to present at conferences both in Australia and Internationally. For example, five peer-reviewed papers were presented and there were another three invitations to present either as a invited speaker or as a keynote speaker. This demonstrates that the research evidence regarding environmental modification is increasingly being valued. Further it is viewed as an effective method for enabling independence and self-determination for people who are ageing and those with disabilities.

Locally, we have had some turnover of both staff and panel members. This reflects the dynamic nature of staffing with the Human services sector in NSW. While sad to see them go, all are moving into further roles within the sector and we wish them all the best in their new endeavours and thank them for their hard work and support of this project. I am proud to be heading a team who are at the cutting edge in the application of the research and that are committed to making a real difference to the quality of life of all people. 2008-2009 provides us the challenge to meet further goals from our Strategic Plan and to further cement our place in the areas of resource development and research.



Dr Catherine Bridge, Director.

HMinfo Clearinghouse Strategic Plan



Picture Courtesy Dr Catherine Bridge

1.7. Strategic Plan 2007 - 2008

In 2005-2006 the HMinfo Clearinghouse reported against key indicators described in its strategic plan. The aim of these indicators was to develop a set of measures and goals that would enhance the gathering of information, and communication with the public and the Home Modification and Maintenance Schemes as well as ensuring it meets the obligations and requirements of its funding agreement with the Department of Ageing Disability and Home Care. The table below identifies these goals and Home Modification: Information Clearing Houses achievements against them in 2007 -2008.

Goal	Strategies	Outputs / Outcomes
<p>Ongoing improvement to sites functionality, usability and reliability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Refinement Drupal Content Management System including addition of new modules. ➤ Upgrade of Drupal System (5.9) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improved stability of site ➤ Improved Security ➤ Improved user experience
<p>Site is recognised and trusted as source of knowledge and information by designated target groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information Management processes put in place, to ensure information is appropriately documented, reviewed, stored and archived. ➤ Publications in peer reviewed journals and conferences. ➤ Routine publication of Quarterly Newsletter by Clearinghouse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Documented systematic literature review process used by all staff. ➤ Systematic review process reviewed by staff to ensure efficacy. ➤ All links regularly checked and currency of information reviewed ➤ Feedback regularly sought from users and non users of site. ➤ Clearing house staff invited to speak at 3 national and International meetings / conferences. ➤ Clearing House staff had papers / posters accepted and present at 5 peer reviewed National and International conferences. ➤ Increasing membership of site from services and individuals from within NSW, Australia and Internationally.
<p>Enhance Knowledge base of industry and service sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improved online linkages to industry and service sector ➤ Present at industry and service sector workshops, forums and conferences e.g. participate in the Home Modification and Maintenance .Services tate Conference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Forums to enhance feedback and discussion by site users. ➤ Clearing house staff invited to speak at 3 national and International meetings / conferences. ➤ Clearing House staff had papers / posters accepted and present at 5 National and International conferences. ➤ Published 4 facts sheets and

		<p>discussion papers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Site produces fact sheets, evidence based guides and newsletters.
Branding of service and products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Common style sheets to be used by all staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Web site and all publications appropriately document with logo and common style sheets. ➤ HACC logo used on Web site and publications.
Maintain and enhance industry relationships including; Builders, Occupational Therapists, Home Modifications services, funders and peak bodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce materials / media that is appropriate to target groups. ➤ Maintain face to face contact with key stakeholders. ➤ Bimonthly Advisory Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quarterly newsletter published. ➤ Continued membership by Government Departments, Peak bodies on Advisory Committee. ➤ Attend industry forums and conferences – For example Home Mod State Conference. ➤ Key industry, service provider and consumer stakeholders attend advisory committee meetings or belong to reference groups. ➤ Produce information for industry newsletter or journals.
Ongoing review and publication of new information in a timely and appropriate manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Routine publication of Systematic reviews of literature and other identified best practise sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Librarian and staff routinely review academic literature and sites identified as being consistent with good practise or evidence based practise. ➤ Staff attend and present at workshops and conferences where emergent and new evidence and knowledge is presented. ➤ Publication of fact sheets, occasional papers, annotated web links and news.
Enhance industry and service coordination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Informing industry, service sector and policy makers of current best practise, events, training and current service provision trends and practises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Online event and training calendars updated and reviewed. ➤ Staff attend peak and industry meetings and facilitated information exchange and cooperation at regional, state and national level. ➤ Input at policy level to ensure service system development and review is based on evidence and best practise. ➤ Review of HACC MDS data and feedback to service providers and DADHC
User feed back is sought and encouraged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Processes and a culture that seek and incorporate feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Feedback form implemented on web site. ➤ Public talks and presentations to peak bodies and service providers ➤ Quarterly advisory committee meetings held.

Activities



Picture Courtesy NSW Home Modification Maintenance Service State Council

1.8. Home Modification Clearing House Research & Publications

Publications

- Millikan, L. (2007) Consumer Factsheet: Arranging Home Modifications. Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info
- Oram, L and Millikan, L. (2007) Consumer Factsheet: Arranging Home Modifications. Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info
- Gohar, N., Oram, L. & L. Millikan. (2007). *Home water* Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info
- Hodges, L., Bridge, C., Donelly, M. & K. Chaudhary (2008) Designing home environments for people who experience problems with cognition and who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour. Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info
- L.Hodges & C. Bridge (2008) Industry Checklist: Designing home environments for people with problems with cognition who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour . Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info
- L.Hodges & C. Bridge (2008) Industry Factsheet: Designing home environments for people with problems with cognition who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour . Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info
- L.Hodges & C. Bridge (2008) Consumer Factsheet: Designing home environments for people with problems with cognition who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour. Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, University of Sydney. Available online from www.homemods.info

Invited Keynote Presentations

- September 2007 - *Modifying your home for comfort and convenience*. Charging towards our future conference, NSW Transcultural Aged Care Service, Sydney, Australia.

Invited Presentations

- June, 2007 - *Developing an evidence base in home modifications*, International One day Symposium on Housing for Aging in Place. Toronto, Canada.
- February 2008 - *Systematic Reviews*, Universal Design Pre-Conference ICADI Program: The 21st Century Community, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Peer Reviewed Presentations

- June, 2007 - *Addressing Information Needs in Housing Design*. Presented at the Festival of International Conferences on Caregiving Disability Aging and Technology (FICCDAT) www.ficcdat.ca.
- June, 2007 - *A Better Grip On Grabrails*. Presented at the Festival of International Conferences on Caregiving Disability Aging and Technology (FICCDAT) www.ficcdat.ca.
- February 2008 - *Use of Mobile Phones to Develop and Disseminate Good Practice*. Presented at the International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence (ICADI) 08 in St. Petersburg, Florida, USA.
- February 2008 - *After the Wave: Malaysia, India and Sri Lanka's Efforts to Reconstruct a More Inclusive Future; International Asia-Pacific symposium*. Presented at the International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence (ICADI) 08 (22nd, February 2008) in St. Petersburg, Florida, USA.
- May 2008 - *A proposal to use mobile phone technologies linked to online Content Management Systems to enhance knowledge transfer between community care workers*. Presented at the ICREATe 2008 Conference, Bangkok, Thailand.

Other

- Feb 2008 - Asked to be expert consultant for a 6 year research program called "*Ageing in Place: Empowering Older People to Repair & Maintain Safe & Comfortable Houses in Their Communities*". The Centre for Research Evaluation and Social Assessment (CRESA) New Zealand
- Feb 2008 - Invited Participation in the Inaugural National Home and Community Care Forum on "*Promoting Independence: Exploring the evidence and implications for adopting wellness, restorative and capacity building approaches in Home and Community Care services*" The HACC Officials Forum
- March 2008 - Asked to be on the Advisory Committee for ARC discovery funded research project "*Getting Old in Australian Urban Environments*" Injury Risk Management Research Centre of UNSW

Visiting Scholars

- June 2008 - ,*Jaya Pal a PhD student from Otago University New Zealand who is researching falls among people with intellectual disability.*

1.9. Website

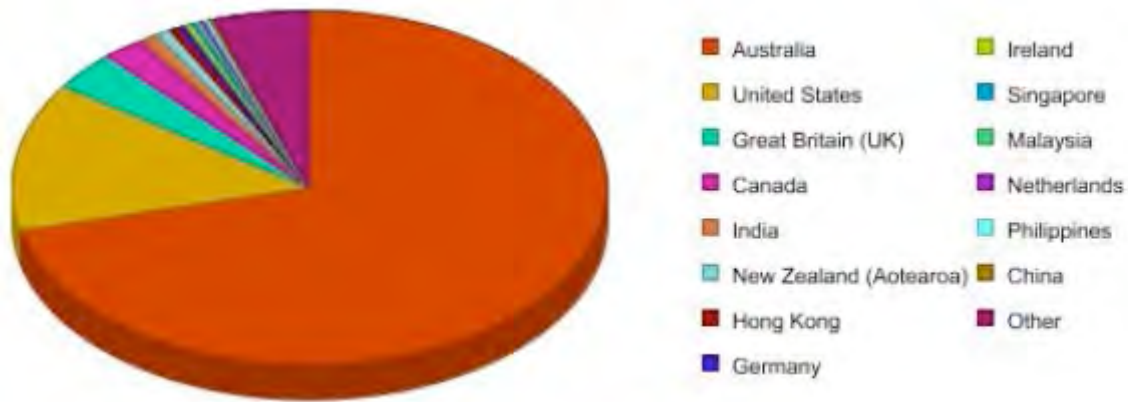


Figure 1; Country breakdown of website visitors.

The top ten countries visiting the site are in rank order, Australia 83%, United States 7.81%, UK 1.76, Canada 1.35%, New Zealand (Aotearoa) 0.73%, Hong Kong 0.57%, India 0.14%, Ireland 0.30%, Singapore 0.24%, Israel 0.19%, and Germany 0.16%.

Breakdown of Visitors by States and Territories within Australia for 2007/ 2008 was New South Wales 67.48%, Victoria 13.41%, Queensland 8.64%, South Australia 4.09% , Australian Capital Territory 2.84%, Western Australia 2.66% and Tasmania 0.89%.

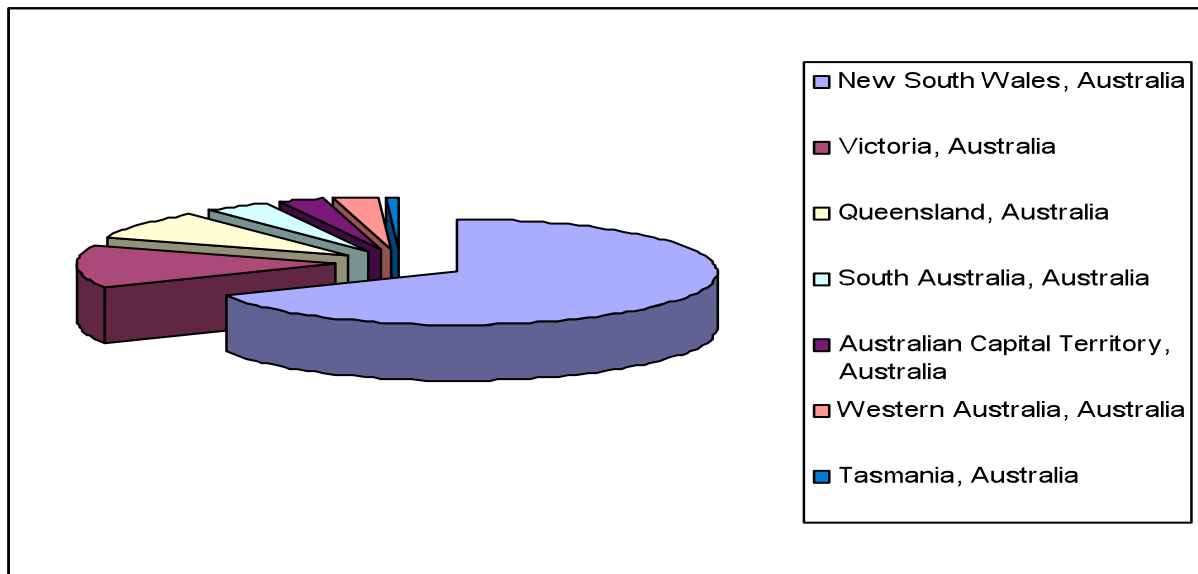
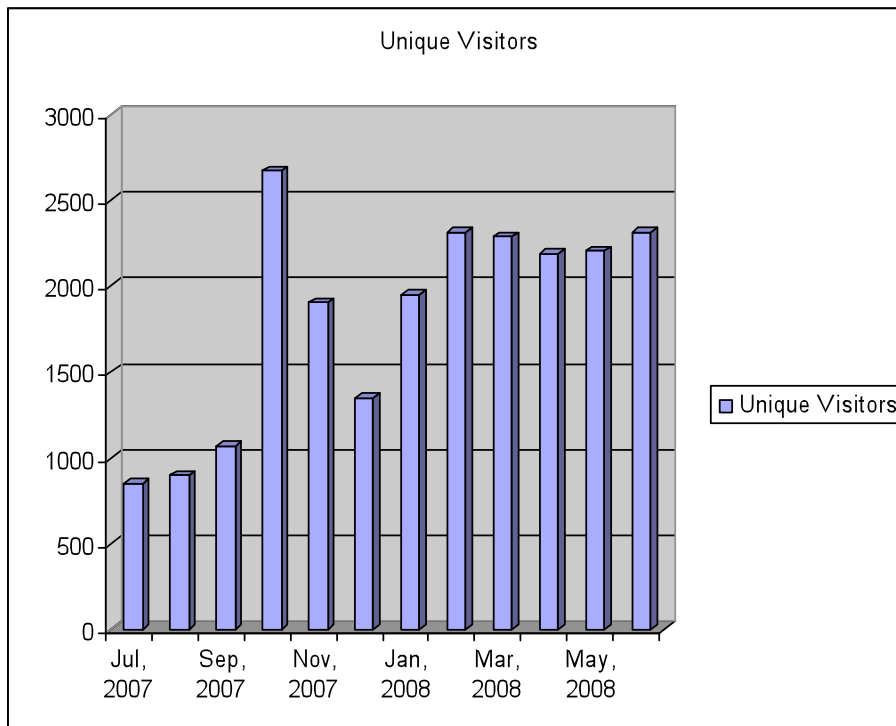


Figure 2: State breakdown of website visitors.

Figure 3: Website monthly unique visitors (new and returning), July 2007 - June 2008



During the period of July 1, 2007 to June 30 2008, the average number of visitors per month was 1834. This is more than doubled for the same period last year when average visitors per month was 710.

Total Number of file downloads as of end of June 2008 – 2,951,903

Top Ten Publication Downloads


1. **Dementia Design Guidelines Research: Evidence Based Research** (919 downloads).
2. **Thermostatic Mixing Valves - SUMMARY BULLETIN** (644 downloads)
3. **Gardening at Home: Occasional Paper** (596 downloads)
4. **Understanding Aboriginal Australians for more Effective Provision of Home Modification Services - SUMMARY BULLETIN** (591 downloads)
5. **Consumer factsheet: Arranging home modifications** (567 downloads)
6. **Designing home environments for people who experience problems with cognition and who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour: Evidence Based Research Bulletin** (550 downloads)
7. **Home Smoke Alarms: Hard Wired and Battery-Powered Systems - Summary Bulletin** (514 downloads)
8. **Designing home environments for people who experience problems with cognition and who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour: Industry factsheet** (444 downloads)
9. **Legalities of the Australian Standards and Alternative Access Solutions to Ramping - SUMMARY BULLETIN** (440 downloads)
10. **Information Needs of Occupational Therapists Practicing in NSW: Occasional paper** (437 downloads)

Financial Report

Home Modification Information Clearinghouse

Resources Events Training Service Directory Submit Forums (Lieserve) Case Studies News FAQ About us Search

"Grabrails and more"
Gathering, collating, summarising, analysing and disseminating home modification information.



info

Recent News

- ["Ageing well": European Commission unleashes €600m for development of new digital solutions for Europe's elderly people.](#)
- [Open training platform - UNESCO](#)
- [Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission - Update of The good, the bad and the ugly and Design and construction for access](#)
- [TAD - Therapist Information Session \(8, 9, 10th of September 10am to 12:00 pm\)](#)
- [Home Safety and Housing Information](#)

[Submit News](#)

andrew

- [My account](#)
- [Database queries](#)
- [Latest images](#)
- [My bookshelf](#)
- [Node locations](#)
- [Switch to test user](#)
- [administer](#)
- [Logout](#)

Our Publications

- [Evaluation of the national and NSW HACC-funded home modification and home maintenance service usage as reported by the 2001/2002](#)
- [Identifying Barriers to Home Modifications: Systematic Review](#)
- [Consumer Factsheet: Looking at installing your own grabrail? here are some issues to consider.](#)
- [Modify or Move? Summary Bulletin](#)
- [Home Water Management: Summary Bulletin](#)

[more](#)

Upcoming Events

- [Clearinghouse Advisory Committee Meeting](#)
- [Rehabilitation International World Congress 2008](#)
- [Unity, Strength, Innovation' 2008 Biennial HMMS State Conference](#)
- [9th Global Conference on Ageing and Expo Ageing Design Shaping Tomorrow Today](#)

[Submit an Event](#)

Recent Case Studies

- [Bathroom for Child in an Electric Wheelchair: Assessment](#)
- [Bathroom, Bedroom and Parking Area Assessment for an Adult with Multiple Sclerosis](#)
- [Bathroom for Geriatric/Infric Adult: Assessment](#)
- [Modification to Bathroom for Incontinence/Trainer/Balance Adult](#)
- [Modifications for an Accessible Bathroom for a Child](#)

[Submit a Case Study](#)

Recent Forum (Lieserve) Entries

- [Showerhead trigger device](#)
- [Trigger device for showerhead](#)
- [Window and door locks](#)
- [Occupational Therapy: Ability and appropriateness of some HMMS forms](#)
- [Access and Egress in Schools...](#)


[Submit a Forum Topic](#)

Publication by Others

- [Improving accessibility of schools \(Sri Lanka\)](#)
- [Accessible Health Facilities: Common issues and recommendations \(Sri Lanka\)](#)
- [Design Considerations for Accessibility \(Sri Lanka\)](#)

[Submit Home Modification Publications](#)

[Submit General Disability Publications](#)



home and community care
A 2007 Commonwealth and State Government initiative
Priority funding will be provided for activities in 2007
[Accessibility Information](#)

1.10. Finance Report

July 31st 2008.

Financial Acquittal for the 2007-2008 period

The disclosures in this section have been derived from the Financial Report for the year ending 30 June 2008.

Recurrent funding

Income: the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse Project was granted \$67,410 in recurrent funding for the financial year 2007/08. There was no carry forward from the previous financial year.

Expenditure: The full grant was spent on salaries for general staff; there was no carry forward into 2008/09.

Non-recurrent funding

Income: non-recurrent funding totaled \$267,558.50 during 2007/08. Which together with the allowed carry forward from 2006/07 of \$ 216,829.94 totalled \$484,388.44.

Expenditure: Total expenditure of \$268,026.85 for operating costs, was spent over the year 2007/08 (i.e. salaries and miscellaneous items such as overheads, minor equipment, stationary and contractor payments). An amount of \$216,361.59 was therefore unable to be spent before 30 June 2008, and will be carried forward into the year 2008/09.

The reason for the carry forward was that the money was not received until June 2008.

I certify that this report has been prepared with the University's accounting practices and procedures and reflects the transactions as recorded in the University's general ledger.



Sam Aquilina
Associate Director Finance – Faculty of Health Sciences
The University of Sydney

Thank you



Picture Courtesy Tanja von Behrens

1.11. Acknowledgements and Thanks

Our grateful thanks to the University of Sydney, the sponsor of the HMinfo Clearinghouse.

The NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, and the Commonwealth Home and Community Care Program, jointly fund the HMinfo Clearinghouse. The project team gratefully acknowledges the financial and other support it has received from this joint Commonwealth and State funding.

Many thanks also to all the following people and organisations that provided valuable advice, expertise and feedback on various HMinfo Clearinghouse Evidence Based Research and Occasional Papers:

- John Paul Cenzato, Health Sciences librarian, University of Sydney
- Maureen Fitzgerald, medical anthropologist
- Col James, Director, Ian Buchan Fell Housing Research Centre, University of Sydney

Members of our advisory committees; Robyn Chapman, Joseph Harrison, Colin James, Lisa Langley, Steve Malvern, Ian Maxwell, Melinda Paterson, Anne Reeve, Rebecca Rogers, Stacey Sheppard Smith, Amelia Starr, Mark Ellis, Ruth Jacka, Sue Dinely, Claudia Kennedy, Mark Flynn, Paul Heath, Allan Whelan, Annette Key and Frances Smith.

Finally we would like to thank, all the people who have used the site to post materials or added their thoughts in the different forums.



The University of Sydney



home and community care

A JOINT COMMONWEALTH AND STATE/TERRITORY PROGRAM
PROVIDING FUNDING AND ASSISTANCE FOR AUSTRALIANS IN NEED

Glossary

DADHC	Department of Ageing, Disability & Home Care
DVA	Department of Veteran's Affairs
HACC	Home & Community Care
HMMS	Home Modification and Maintenance Service
HMinfo Clearinghouse	Home Modification Information Clearinghouse
OT	Occupational Therapist
WFOT	World Federation of Occupational Therapists

The Home Modification Information Clearinghouse
PO Box 170, Lidcombe, NSW, 1825
Phone: 612 9351-9215, Fax: 612 9351-9197,
Email: hmminfo@fhs.usyd.edu.au
Web: www.homemods.info