



Home Modification Information Clearinghouse

Never Stand Still

Built Environment

City Futures Research Centre

Newsletter

Edition 33 | 22nd October 2014



From the Editor

Dear Sir/Madam,

Welcome to our quarterly instalment of the HMinfo Newsletter. This edition features our new easily accessible layout. Please feel free to distribute to your friends and colleagues.

Community Engagement

As part of our focus on Community Engagement with our range of stakeholders, HMinfo has submitted responses to two major discussion papers/reports regarding the future of home modifications for older people who are ageing in place in their own home. The two reports are the Department of Social Services' Discussion Paper on Key Directions for the Proposed *Commonwealth Home Support Program* (CHSP) which will replace the current Home and Community Care (HACC) Program from July 2015, and the related KPMG final report of their Review of *Home Modification and Home Maintenance Service Types* under the current Commonwealth HACC Program.

Research

In addition, HMinfo has applied for new grants to undertake research in the following areas: Home modifications in community housing; Evidence-based assessment and screening tools for assessing the home environment of older people; and Researching and developing an app for young people with disability to help them make informed choices about home modifications.

Website News

The HMinfo website has undergone the following major upgrades:

Increased Navigation Speed - Website-wide optimisations were made to decrease processing speeds and thus improve the user experience, particularly in the Service Directory. Webpage loading time was reduced by approximately 7.5 seconds.

Font Resizing - Modifications were made to the HMinfo website to allow its layout to adjust according to font sizes, eliminating the limitations inherent in fixed layouts combined with variable font sizes. Keyboard shortcuts were added to the header of the website to provide accessible font resizing controls.

Conference News and Seminars



A/Prof Catherine Bridge and Phillippa Carnemolla will be presenting at the 5th International Conference for Universal Design 2014 which will be held in Tokyo, Japan from 11-13 November 2014.

Pre-conference workshops and exhibitions will take place in Fukushima from 9-10 November 2014. For more information please go to www.ud-2014.net/.

A/Prof Catherine Bridge was also a Keynote Speaker at the Resilient Communities Summit – New Zealand and also presented at the Walk 21 Conference – Sydney

Current HMinfo Research Projects

Summary Bulletin: Fire Safety: Smoke Alarms

During the process of reprinting HMinfo documents, it was clear this publication required a more substantial, and immediate, update. The first edition in 2006 followed the introduction of NSW legislation for battery-powered smoke alarms in all housing. It was quite explanatory. The situation has changed substantially:

- there have been substantial advances in both smoke alarms products and research
- there was a change to BCA 2014, requiring linked smoke alarms in all new dwellings

The result is a completely new and more comprehensive edition.

Consumer Factsheet: Managing Water in the Bathroom

This 2nd edition is currently being reviewed for publication.

ARC Linkage: Livable Bathrooms - Designing out dependence in activities of daily living

This research is nationally significant and aims to establish the criteria needed for the development of more flexible, innovative and safer bathroom fixtures and domestic bathroom environments for older Australians. Bathrooms are for people, yet there is a lack of reliable and valid data to guide product innovation and the spatial envelopes required for efficient and effective bathroom design.

Publications by EBEP/HMinfo Team Members www.homemods.info/publications-by-hminfo

Occasional Paper: Caring for the Carer: Home design and Modification for Carers of Young People with Disability – Laura Davy, Toni Adams & Catherine Bridge

This paper considers the home design requirements of carers of young people with disability. Most young people with disability live in the home of their carer for extended periods of their life and some never leave. Although the issue of young people with disability and care has been well explored, there is a paucity of research concerning the home environment and how it does or does not support the role of caring. When it has previously been explored, this has usually been about the home as a workplace for paid careworkers, and not about the home and workplace of the unpaid carer or other occupants. Home modification interventions can offer carers of young people with disability greater comfort and wellbeing, and may better support the caring relationship in the longer term. To download this paper, please click [here](#).

DIY Home Modifications: Point-of-Sale Support for People with Disability and their Carers Positioning Paper – M. Bleasdale, N. McNamara, F. Zmudzki and C. Bridge

Despite a vast amount of research into home modifications in Australia and their benefits for government and individuals, there exists a significant knowledge gap about home modifications that are undertaken outside of government-subsidised schemes. This project investigates a previously overlooked area of home modifications research, to examine do-it-yourself (DIY) home modifications and expand upon current research that examines the cost-benefit of home modifications for consumers and governments. To download this paper, please click [here](#).

HMinfo News Topics

- [Ageing well in CALD communities](#)
- [Home Modification sometimes fails to adequately consider vulnerability in flood, storms and disaster](#)
- [Age-Friendly Council Planning Toolkit launched by LGNSW](#)

Current most Popular Forum Topics

Home Modifications Discussions Group

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- International Humanitarian Aid Procurement Service (IHAPS)
- Resources for Accessibility to the Built Environment

If you have any information to add to the discussion please register [here](#) and then join the forum.

Home Modifications Professionals Forum

- The NSW Carers Strategy at NSW Parliament House was released on 7 August 2014.
- Acorn 120 Superglide straight stairlift – Product Safety Recall
- DIY Home Modifications – Industry Survey

If you have any information to add to the discussion please register [here](#) and then join the forum.

Home Modifications OTs forum (closed forum)

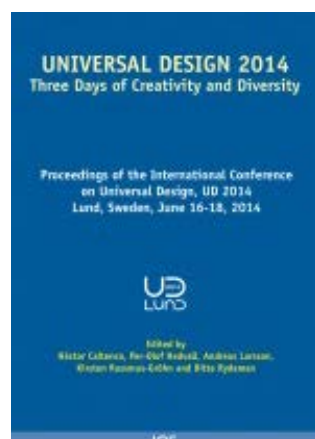
- Access Modifications
- Bathroom Modifications
- External Ramps

If you have any information to add to the discussion please register [here](#) and then join the forum. (Closed forum for OT's only)

Book Review

Universal Design 2014: Three Days of Creativity and Diversity

Proceedings of the International Conference on Universal Design, UD2014, Lund, Sweden, June 16-18, 2014



From June 16 -18 A/Professor Catherine Bridge attended the International Conference on Universal Design (UD 2014) in Lund, Sweden. She presented four papers on behalf of HMinfo and the City Futures Research Centre, all of which are included in this collection published by IOS Press.

Conference Chair, Per-Olof Hedvall (2014, p. v) describes the essence of Universal Design and the purpose of UD2014 as follows:

Universal design, design for all and inclusive design all aim at dismantling physical and social barriers to inclusion in all areas of life. Our aim is to make UD2014 in Lund a creative and diverse meeting place for all participants. By exchanging knowledge, experiences and ideas we can build global connections and creative networks for future work on universal design.

The proceedings present an intriguing array of research, beginning with introductions to each of the keynote lectures: Bodil Jönsson, Patricia Moore, Hubert Froyen, Stefan Johansson, Finn Petrén and Ivor Ambrose. The Papers presented by A/Professor Catherine Bridge included in the proceedings are:

- The potential of a home modification strategy? A universal design approach to existing housing
- Downsizers and Other Movers: The Housing Options, Choices and Dilemmas of Older Australians.
- Developing Perception-Based Criteria of Inclusive (Architectural) Design
- DIY Home Modifications: an Australian case-study of choice and control.
- Edited by: Caltenco, H.A., Hedvall, P.-O., Larsson, A., Rasmussen-Gröhn, K., Rydeman, B.

Events

2014 Adelaide Disability & Lifestyles Expo – Nov 7



Fri 7 Nov 2014 10:00 AM - Sat 1 Nov 2014 4:00 PM - FREE

Disability and Lifestyles Expo is for people with disability, their families/friends, support workers and students who are interested in gaining more knowledge relating to the industry or specific disability support and services.

This year's theme is 'Dream Big,' with a colourful Circus atmosphere and showcasing exhibitors from aged care services, advocacy, disability support services, education, employment, equipment, mobility, physio, rehabilitation, sport, wellbeing, youth services and more.

Adelaide Showgrounds - Jubilee Hall, Goodwood Road, Wayville

For more information & event program go to: events.dircsa.org.au or email Robin Walden-Semmens on events@dircsa.org.au

Home Modifications for Outdoor Access and Entry into the Home – Workshop – Nov 7

The workshop on home modifications for outdoor access and entry aims to provide occupational therapy practitioners and people working in the building industry with:

- Information on the relevance and application of Access Standards, the National Construction Code and Fire Regulations, to modifications for outdoor areas
- Practical information on commonly encountered barriers, and design and product solutions (eg vertical lifts, ramps, paths, handrails, kerb rails)
- Information about design and product resources to assist clinical practice
- Opportunity to discuss and problem solve case scenarios from their own work setting.

LifeTec Qld, cnr Enoggera Road and Newmarket Road, Newmarket, Brisbane, Qld.

see www.homedesignforliving.com for registration form and pricing details.

Accessibility Weekend – VIC – Nov 15-16

Accessibility Weekend celebrates the importance of community access and inclusion for people living with disability who use a wheelchair. Accessibility Weekend sees attractions across Victoria open their doors for free to people with a physical disability who use a wheelchair and their carer.

For more information and to register go to: accessibilityweekend.com.au or contact: 1300 704 456 or email communications@independenceaustralia

Websites We Like

IkeaHackers.net

IkeaHackers.net is a site about the modification and repurposing of Ikea products. Hacks may be as simple as adding an embellishment, some others may require power tools and lots of ingenuity. The hacks cover adjusting any type of furniture for any type of room with handy modifications for kitchens, bathrooms, storage, outdoors... the list is endless. Lots of handy ideas for tricky situations and all submitted by keen hackers. There is no affiliation or endorsement from Ikea involved apart from the use of their products. To check it out, go to: www.ikeahackers.net

Journal Articles, Reports and Other Publications

Reports

Davy L; Adams T; Bridge C, 2014, *Caring for the Carer: Home design and modification for carers of young people with disability*, Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, Sydney, University of New South Wales <http://www.homemods.info/publications-by-hminfo/occasional/caring-for-the-carer-home-design-and-modification-for-carers-of-young-people-with-disability#main-content>

Judd B; Liu EY; Easthope H; Davy L; Bridge C, 2014, *Downsizing amongst older Australians*, AHURI Final Report No.214, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Melbourne, www.ahuri.edu.au/publications/projects/p70687

McNamara NK; Bridge CE; Bleasdale MP; Zmudzki F, 2014, *Positioning Paper: DIY Home Modifications: Point-of-Sale Support for People with Disability and their Carers*, Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, Sydney, University of New South Wales, Positioning Paper, <http://www.homemods.info/publications-by-hminfo/summary/diy-home-modifications-point-of-sale-support-for-people-with-disability-and-their-carers-positioning-paper>

Journal Articles and Conferences

Bridge C; Carnemolla PK, 2014, 'An enabling BIM block library: An online repository to facilitate social inclusion in Australia.', *Construction Innovation: information, process, management*, vol. 14, no. 4, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/CI-01-2014-0010>

McNamara NK; Bleasdale M; Bridge C, (ed.), 2014, 'DIY Home Modifications: an Australian case-study of choice and control', in *Universal Design 2014: Three Days of Creativity and Diversity*, IOS Press, pp. 119 - 128, presented at Universal Design Conference, Lund, Sweden, 16 - 18 June 2014, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3233/978-1-61499-403-9-119>

Judd B; Liu EY; Easthope H; Bridge C, (ed.), 2014, 'Downsizers and Other Movers: The Housing Options, Choices and Dilemmas of Older Australians', in *Universal Design 2014: Three Days of Creativity and Diversity*, presented at International Conference on Universal Design, Lund, 16 - 18 June 2014, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3233/978-1-61499-403-9-129>

Bridge CE; McNamara NK; Zmudzki F, (ed.), 2014, 'DIY Home Modifications: Is there a connection to wellbeing and if so how might we demonstrate value?', presented at ENHR2014, Edinburgh, 1 - 4 July 2014

Carnemolla PK; Bridge C, (eds.), 2014, 'The potential of a home modification strategy ? A universal design approach to existing housing', in *Universal Design 2014: Three Days of Creativity and Diversity*, IOS Press, pp. 259 - 268, presented at UD2014 Universal Design Conference, Lund, Sweden, 16 - 18 June 2014, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3233/978-1-61499-403-9-259>

Judd B; Liu EY; Easthope H; Bridge C, 2014, 'Downsizers and Other Movers: A Comparison of Housing Choices and Outcomes in Later Life', presented at European Network of Housing Researchers Conference, Edinburgh, 2 July - 4 June 2014

Lukman A; Bridge CE; Dain S; Boon M, (ed.), 2014, 'Developing Perception-Based Criteria of Inclusive (Architectural) Design', in *Universal Design 2014: Three Days of Creativity and Diversity*, IOS Press, pp. 109 - 118, presented at UD2014, the International Conference on Universal Design, Lund, 2 - 4 June 2014, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3233/978-1-61499-403-9-109>

Thome J; Li A; Sivaraman V; Bridge C, 2014, 'Mobile crowdsourcing older people's opinions to enhance liveability in regional city centres', in *IEEE ISSNIP 2014 - 2014 IEEE 9th International Conference on Intelligent Sensors, Sensor Networks and Information Processing*, Conference Proceedings, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/ISSNIP.2014.6827675>

Judd B; Bridge C; Easthope H; Liu EY, (eds.), 2013, 'Downsizing: Motivations, Processes and Outcomes for Older Australians', in *7th Australasian Housing Researchers Conference: Refereed Proceedings*, Curtin Business School, Curtin University, presented at 7th Australasian Housing Researchers Conference, Fremantle, Western Australia, 6 - 8 February 2013, <http://business.curtin.edu.au/local/docs/ahrc13/Downsizing-Motivations-Processes-and-Outcomes-for-Older-Australians.pdf>

McNamara NK; Adams T; Bridge C; Carnemolla P; Quinn J, 2014, *Consumer Factsheet: Arranging Home Modifications*, Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, Sydney, University of New South Wales, <http://www.homemods.info/publications-by-hminfo/consumer/consumer-factsheet-arranging-home-modifications>

Any suggestions or feedback you may have on our newsletter would be greatly appreciated, so please feel free to contact us at hminfo@unsw.edu.au. To unsubscribe from future HMinfo newsletters, please click [unsubscribe](#).

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