

IFLA/Libraries for the Blind Section

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IFLA/Libraries for the Blind Section

- 85 library organisations
- 39 countries all around the world
- Active section within IFLA
- Relationships with World Blind Union and with Daisy Consortium
- Common concerns unite the voices to speak as one

The work of libraries for the blind

- Serve visually impaired and print handicapped
- Transforming into Braille and audio
- Braille paper, audiocassette, audio on cd rom
- Digital texts to be read with computer with synthetic speech, enlargement software, Braille display
- Materials for lifelong learning, leisure reading, newspapers, periodicals, study materials, brochures, reference works, etc.









The asteroid's impact could generate tidal waves and massive fires, and provoke catastrophic volcanic activity.

Scientists initially spotted the object on July 5, through the Linear Observatory's automated sky survey programme. New Mexico in the United States.

They are now keeping a close eye on the small celestial body, which is travelling at 28km a second and circling the every 837 days in a tilted orbit.

Lembit Opik, Liberal Democrat MP for Montgomeryshire, said he was worried about the threat the asteroid posed.

"I have said for years that the chances of this asteroid having an impact which could wipe out most of the human ra is 100 per cent," he said.

"There's a good chance this particular object won't hit us but we know that a large object will hit us sooner or later. This is the closest approach we have seen so far.

"It does sound like a science fiction story and I may sound like one of these guys who walks up and down with a isandwich board saying the end of the world is nigh, but the end is nigh.

"At the time, we only actually track one in every five of every object that could result in a serious global collision. If this object hits the Earth, it will probably set back civilisation by many years. There's no way of under-selling the idanger."

Mr Opik conceded that mass destruction was not inevitable - but stressed that we needed to start thinking now to

Information in alternative format, production and delivery

- From simple production techniques to advanced production systems
- Between 3 and 5% is available in alternative format
- Limited resources go mostly to production as compared to service and distribution
- Distribution through 'free matter for the blind' postage and through internet delivery

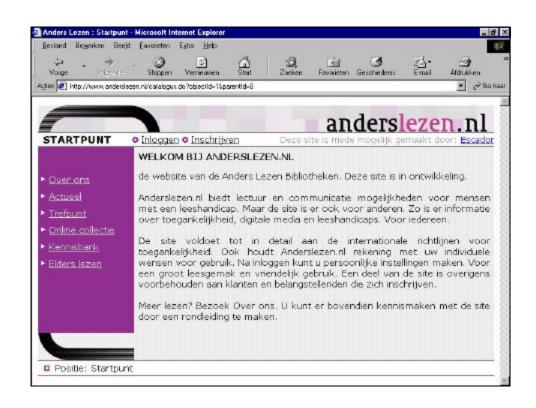












Who do Libraries for the Blind serve?

- People of all ages. Largest service group: seniors cannot read Braille, depend on audio materials
- Print impairment: physical handicap, trauma, disease, learning disablility
- 90% visually impaired, 10% physical handicap, 10% learning disability

Co-operation with publishers and property protection

- Creation of trusted environment
- Mechanism to share files and books
- Acquisition of electronic content from publishers
- Control costs of acquiring electronic materials
- Examples of relationships
- Creation of network: example EUAIN project proposal

Example of library/publishers agreement: FNB - NUV

- Allowance to produce and deliver
- Controlled circulation to print impaired
- Licence arrangement
- Reporting figures of production and frequencies of circulation
- Availability of digital files
- Delivering of files without costs
- Different alternative formats are included

Constraints posed by IP protection measures

- Very labour intensive procedures as requesting permission for each transcription
- Production in exclusive or closed formats
- TPM sometimes hinders accessibility
- International exchange is often prohibited.
 Result: enormous duplication

LBS expectations from WIPO and IPA

- Promote the exception for materials for the print impaired
- Enable sharing access to books and information globally
- Ensure TPM does not prevent the exercise of exception
- Harmonise international copyright to eliminate content sharing barriers.

LBS offer to WIPO and IP owners

- Create a trusted environment for controlled circulation, fair use and protection of IP
- Report on use and circulation
- Co-operate in field of developing IP protection mechanisms
- Consult and co-operate in 'publishing for all'