

by a professional, is recommended to sharpen skills. Initially, the new aid might be used in a structured training program, firstly in non-driving situations and as a passenger in a car. Much practical advice is given, as well as recommendations on how to facilitate the learning process. After getting the driver's license, sustained training to acquire the habits of good driving are discussed, followed by a long list of practical hints.

Finally, the authors address the issue of managing to live without driving. In this context, change of transportation needs, new alternatives for transportation etc. are discussed. This is also important, as not every person with impaired vision will be able to benefit from training and pass the driving examination. The book also discusses the ethical problems for physicians, in the case they report a visually impaired driver to the licensing authorities. The last half of the book consists of appendices such as legislation, useful terms, examples of low vision aids, and a bibliography.

The layout of the book is adapted to readers with low vision, with a font size of 18p, although the contrast might have been somewhat better with a white and thicker paper. As it is, when reading a page, the text of the two following pages can be seen through the paper, resulting in a blurred background that may disturb a low-vision reader.

In summary, this book imparts advice to the low-vision individual concerning the possibility of getting a driver's license and how to go about to do this, and in what cases it is necessary to give up these plans or stop driving. The contents are presented in a clear and instructive manner. The book is recommended not only for those license applicants/drivers, but also for specialists involved in the assessment or decision procedure of driving with low

vision. As low vision is a growing problem with increasing age, it may be of interest to translate the book into other languages and adjust the appendices to conditions in other countries.

Kurt Johansson MD, PhD  
Chief physician and head of Traffic  
Medicine Center  
Huddinge University Hospital /  
Karolinska Institutet S31  
SE 141 86 STOCKHOLM, Sweden  
e-mail: Kurt.Johansson@neurotec.ki.se

Mediated by A.C.Kooijman, PhD,  
University of Groningen, Netherlands



## ISG BUSINESS

### Where are the members?

By June 2003 our society had members on 4 continents: North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. South America and Africa are still devoid of members, while Asia is not well covered yet. In addition 9 libraries in 6 countries are subscribing to the journal. By contacting local organisations devoted to the well-being of older persons the ISG-board has started a scheme to further enlarge the membership.

Wiet (L.G.H.) Koren, ISG Treasurer  
e-mail: l.g.h.koren@tue.nl

### OUR DOMAIN IS BACK!

On September 27, 2002, the website of the International Society for Gerontechnology was taken over by an internet scammer. At <http://www.gerontechnology.org> a homepage on sex for older adults was placed. An internet search revealed the name of the

owner; however, a legal reclaim of the site would not stand much of a chance. The society's management decided therefore to purchase [www.gerontechnology.info](http://www.gerontechnology.info), and use this as her new internet base. Luckily, we were able to recapture the former site on October 7, 2003, as soon as it became free again. It will now serve as a forwarding site bringing you to the new ISG webaddress.

Wiet (L.G.H.) Koren, ISG Treasurer  
e-mail: [l.g.h.koren@tue.nl](mailto:l.g.h.koren@tue.nl)

**Who is Who: the Editorial Board (1)**

*Neil Charness, chairperson of the editorial board*



Neil Charness is a Professor in the Psychology Department and an Associate of the Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy at Florida State University, USA. He

received his undergraduate honors BA degree at McGill University in 1965, and his MSc (1971) and PhD (1974) from Carnegie Mellon University. He was an Assistant Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada from 1974-1977, and then an Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor at the University of Waterloo, Canada from 1977-1994. His current research interests concern age and technology use, and age and expert performance. Among his publications are two recent books dealing with gerontechnology topics:

- (i) Charness N, Schaie KW, editors. Impact of technology on successful aging. New York: Springer, 2003
- (ii) Fisk A D, Rogers W A, Charness N, Czaja SJ, Sharit J. Designing for older adults: Principles and creative human factors approaches. London: Taylor and Francis 2003 (in press)

e-mail: [charness@darwin.psy.fsu.edu](mailto:charness@darwin.psy.fsu.edu)



*Lawrence Normie, member of the editorial board*

Lawrence Normie has a B.Sc. (1981) in Pure & Applied Physics from University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology and M.Sc.

(1985) in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from University College London. He was appointed director of GeronTech - The Israeli Center for Assistive Technology & Aging in June 1998. Between 1991-98 he was an independent consultant in technology transfer to private industry and government, including 5 years as an external examiner of R&D grant applications for the Office of the Chief Scientist at the Israeli Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Between 1981-91, he worked in the UK and Israeli defense industries. Normie is a member of the Institute of Physics (UK) and registered as a Chartered Physicist. He is a member of the Association of Engineers in Israel, the Israel Society for Medical and Biological Engineering, and the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe. He is an editorial board member of 'Technology and Disability' journal, editor of the AAATE quarterly newsletter, and a member of ISG's publications committee.

e-mail: [LNormie@jdc.org.il](mailto:LNormie@jdc.org.il)

**WORLD NEWS**

**Alliance for Aging Research**

The American Based Alliance for Aging Research regularly updates a list of the latest discoveries in the Science of Aging as perceived by older persons. More info: [www.agingresearch.org/hot\\_issues.cfm](http://www.agingresearch.org/hot_issues.cfm)

**EIDD - European Institute for Design and Disability**

The European Institute for Design and Disability, EIDD, was founded in Dublin in 1993 with the aim of promoting better