

by DAVID ANGUS from SHOALHAVEN REGIONAL ARTS PROJECT

PRESS Release

You may or may not be aware that the Minister for Health, Housing and Community Services (formerly DCS&H) Mr Brian Howe, has recently appointed new members of the disability community to the Disability Services Advisory Committee (DSAC) in all states, and to the Disability Advisory Council of Australia (DACA) which is the national body. All the State Chairs of DSAC are represented on DACA.

Most of the members of these Committees:

- have a disability
- are Service Providers working in the field of disability
- are parents of children with a disability.

The main role of the Committees is to monitor the effect of the Disability Services Act on people with disabilities. We also advise the Minister for Health, Housing and Community Services on matters connected with disability, including the effect of Commonwealth policies, programs and activities on people with disabilities.

We believe that it is important for all consumers to be kept informed of government policy, new programs and what tasks DSAC and DACA are considering carrying out or consulting on.

If you require further information on the role of DSAC or wish to bring to our attention issues relating to the implementation of the Disability Services Act, please feel free to contact me, Jenny Stanzel, during working hours on 008 02 9904 or to contact any of the following people who have been appointed to NSW DSAC for a period of two years:

- Bronwyn Moye - Consumer Rep - 62 Park Avenue, East Roseville 2069
- Marie Cowling - Parent/Consumer Rep - C/o PO Box 36, Nundle 2340
- Robert Strike - Consumer Rep - PO Box 27, Westmead 2145
- Paula Rix - Parent Rep - 49 Ainsworth Street, Leichhardt 2041
- Tom McKenna - Service Provider - 159 Princes Highway, St Peters 2044
- Trudy Van Dam - Service Provider - PO Box 97, Hornsby 2077
- Jenny Stanzel - Chairperson/Consumer - PO Box 479, Tumut 2720

Also a representative from the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services and one from the NSW Office on Disability are on the Committee.

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The profile of the stretcher members should be bevelled or tapered so that the canvas has minimal contact. A lip on the top of the profile may be necessary to allow extra space behind the canvas (Fig.5).

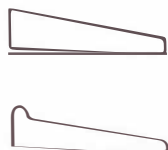


Figure 5 - Stretcher Profiles

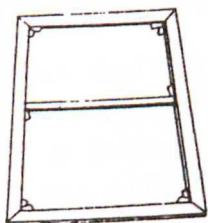


Figure 6. Stretcher with crossbar.

The width and depth of the wooden stretcher member should be adequate to support the size of the stretcher and, if necessary, cross bracing (recessed to easily avoid contact with the canvas). All inner edges should be rounded, including those of the cross braces (Fig.6)

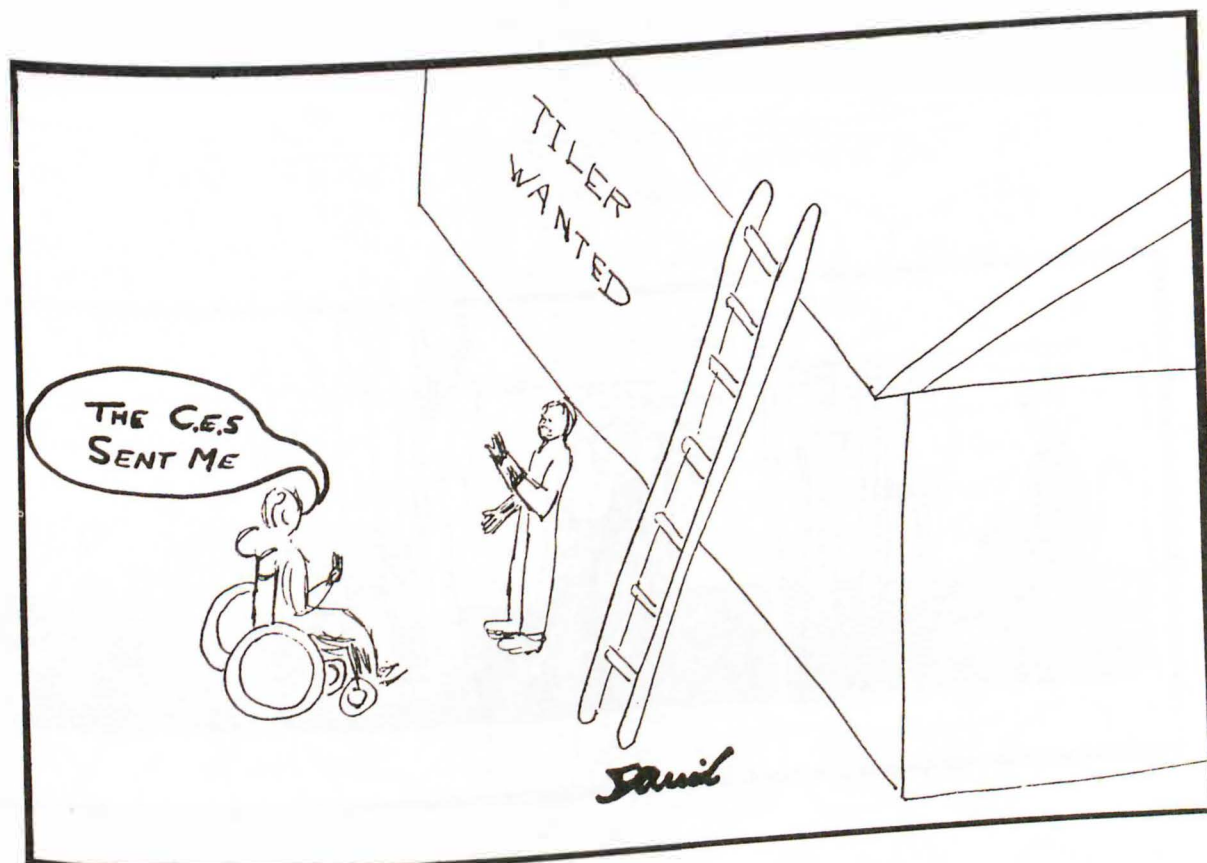
Poorly made stretchers may exhibit insufficient or no bevelling, no key slots, inadequate cross bracing, recessing of cross bracing too close to the canvas, poorly made joints, and corners out of square. These deficiencies contribute to the faster deterioration of the canvas, ground and paint layers.

The stretcher is, in fact, a complex construction which must be well made and finely 'tuned' to meet the requirements of a flexible support.

PRU JOBLING

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