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# Blind Low Vision NZ Library for Dolphin EasyReader

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EasyReader is a free accessible reading app designed for readers with blindness, low vision, or dyslexia. Blind Low Vision NZ has joined Vision Australia, RNIB, CELA, and many other international blindness support agencies in using the app for members to access their library services.

## You will need

* An e-mail address you can access reliably (required to register your own accounts with Dolphin and Amazon).
* An Amazon account to link with our records and verify you are currently eligible for our library service, as a client or associate member of Blind Low Vision NZ. Please call our Contact Centre on **0800 24 33 33** to confirm your Amazon e-mail address.
* A mobile device, such as an Apple product (iPhone, iPad), or an Android compatible phone or tablet (e.g. Samsung, Huawei, Lenovo), to download the EasyReader app.

## Summary of first time use

1. Download the Dolphin EasyReader app to your mobile device (from Apple App Store or Google Play).
2. Call Blind Low Vision NZ (**0800 24 33 33**) to link your Amazon account with our library service. If you don’t have an Amazon account, please register one with <http://amazon.com.au> using your preferred e-mail address.
3. Open the EasyReader app on your device and go through the welcome screens.
4. Log in with your Dolphin account. You can create a new account directly in the app with your preferred e-mail address.
5. Add Blind Low Vision NZ Library to the side menu in the app by selecting “Manage Libraries”, and switching the “Blind Low Vision NZ” button to “on”.
6. Go back to the side menu and select “Blind Low Vision NZ” to open our library.
7. Select “Login with Amazon” and sign into your Amazon account (e-mail address and your Amazon password). There are several screens to navigate here.
8. Choose from “Books”, “Magazines”, or “Newspapers” in our Library menu to search and download.
9. You can also select from “Recommended books” to find titles that are popular with Alexa readers, or try some books in accessible text format (EPUBs).

## Steps for setting up

### Navigating the welcome pages

The first time you start up the Dolphin EasyReader app, you will get four introductory screens with a little information about various features. You can swipe through (with VoiceOver or TalkBack) to read the information, or select “Skip” to go on to the next step.

### Log in with your Dolphin account

After the introduction you will come to a screen to log in to your Dolphin account. If you haven’t registered with Dolphin before, you can create an account by registering your e-mail address directly in the app, and set a password. This will send a confirmation e-mail to your in-box, with a link to verify your new account. You can go straight into the EasyReader app to use your account, so long as you remember to verify it from the e-mail link within 7 days.

### Add Blind Low Vision NZ to your Libraries

The main menu in the app is called the “side menu”. The next step is to check the libraries you have selected, and add Blind Low Vision NZ to the list. Select the side menu button, and select “Manage Libraries” from the available options.This will give you a list of all the libraries worldwide using EasyReader. Each library name has a ‘switch’ button next to it, which can be set to “on” or “off”.

Move through the alphabetical list of libraries to locate “Blind Low Vision NZ”, then swipe across to get the switch button, and select it for the “on” position. This will add our library collection to your side menu in the app.

### Log in to Blind Low Vision NZ with Amazon

Select the “Side Menu” button again from the top of the screen. After “My Books” and “Manage Libraries”, you should now have a link to open Blind Low Vision NZ. Select the link to our library and choose “Continue” from the pop-up window.

On the next screen, select “Continue with Login with Amazon”. This will take you to the sign-in screen to enter your Amazon username and password. Select the “Sign in” button, and skip any extra screens (such as adding a mobile number to your account) with the “Not now” link.

On the next screen, select the “Allow” button to authorise your log-in to our library. Once your account is accepted, the app will take you to the Blind Low Vision NZ library home page.

### Search and download a book

The first field on our home page is a basic book search. This works best with key words from a book title, but you can also search on an author’s name, or a book number from our catalogue. Enter your search, and a list of the best matches will display after the search field.

When you find a book in the list you want to borrow, select that title to go to a screen with a description of the book. Select the “Borrow” button to add it to your library, and the app will return to our library home page.

To download the book for reading, select “My Library” from the Blind Low Vision NZ home page (after the “Search” field). This will give you the list of books you’ve borrowed from our library.

Select the title you want to download, and you will be back on the book information screen for that title. Select the “Download” button to start downloading a copy of the book to your device. A progress indicator above the book information will tell you the download progress as a percentage. You can also leave a book downloading in the background, and go back to our library to search for more.

Once the download has completed, you will then have an “Open” button in the information screen instead of “Download”. Select the “Open” button to start your book in the audio player.

You can find all the books you have downloaded to your device, as well as any magazine and newspaper issues, in the “My Books” section of the app. This is the first link in the side menu, before the list of libraries.

## Browse for books

You can also browse in the Blind Low Vision NZ library for books by subject or genre. On our library home page, go past the search field and the link to “My Library” and select the “Books” link to get a list of available subject headings, in alphabetical order. Select a subject or genre that interests you to browse through a list of books in that genre recently added to the library collection.

Within each subject or genre category, there is a “Search” field at the top of the screen. This is the best way to find books by a single author within a genre category.

### Recommended books

There is also a link on our library screen after “Books” to a list of “Recommended books”, where you can browse through popular titles recommended by our library readers on the Alexa voice service. The most recommended titles are at the top of the list.

The list of “All” recommended books gives you the current top 20 titles, just like in the Alexa skill. You can also choose a subject or genre heading to browse the most recommended books within that category, such as “Crime fiction”, “Thrillers”, “Romance”, and so on.

### EPUB books

After the “Recommended books” link on the main library screen, we have a link to a special section where you can search or browse for books in an accessible text format, called EPUB. You can download these directly from the book information screen, and EasyReader can read the text of the book in its player. The “Text Settings” link at the top of the player screen lets you change the size of the text, colours, contrast, and so on. These books don’t have a human narrator, but you can use VoiceOver or TalkBack on your device, or Dolphin’s own narrator voice to help read the book.

Blind Low Vision NZ is just getting started with EPUB books, so there will be more titles added in the months and years to come. You can also download free books (out of copyright) as EPUB from the Project Gutenberg library in EasyReader, which you can choose from the “Manage Libraries” screen described earlier.

## Magazines

The “Magazines” link is also on our library home page, after all the “Books” links. This will take you to a list of all our available magazines, including ceased titles we are no longer recording. Select the magazine title you want to read, and you will get a list of available issues, with the most recent at the top.

Select the magazine issue you want to download, and you will get another information screen, with a link to download the magazine to your device.

## Newspapers

The last link on our library home page takes you to our “Newspapers” section. This is just like the “Magazines” section, with a list of all our current newspaper titles in alphabetical order. Just choose the newspaper you want to read, and you can select from daily issues to download. The most recent issue will be at the top of the list.

**Note:** the newspapers you download will be in the “My Books” section of your EasyReader app. The side menu also has a link to “My Newspapers”, which is something used by a few other libraries in the app to provide their newspapers in a different way.

## Player screen

The buttons in the player screen are in the following swipe order using VoiceOver. A two-finger double tap will play and pause the book.

1. Side Menu
2. Search button
3. Bookmarks Button
4. Text Settings
5. Audio Settings
6. Book options
7. Book image
8. Chapter information
9. Back to last reading position
10. Time elapsed
11. Percentage read
12. Time Remaining
13. Book Navigation
14. Previous
15. Play
16. Next
17. Navigation Settings

### Player settings

* Select “Text settings” to adjust the display of any available text in books, and particularly our newspapers;
* Select “Audio settings” to change the playback speed, for faster or slower audio in books and magazines;
* Select “Navigation settings” to adjust the skip controls (previous and next) between chapters, or time intervals (e.g. 30 seconds, 1 minute).

For more information, please visit the Dolphin website: <https://yourdolphin.com/products/individuals/easyreader-app>