

### WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP - SPEECH PATHOLOGY

participat10n  
melbourne

### CONFERENCE

MAY 17-19<sup>th</sup> 2010, MELBOURNE



The National Speech Pathology Australia conference was held in Melbourne from 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May. The theme of the conference was Participation 2010. One of the highlights of the conference was a panel presentation by Emma Gee, Stephanie Gotlib and Melinda Smith. Emma is a young woman who had trained as an occupational therapist, who then had a stroke and now works part time for The National Stroke Foundation. Melinda is a Community Development Worker at the Communication Resource Centre, Scope. Stephanie is a parent of four children. Two of her children have developmental differences. Stephanie is also the Executive Officer of Children with a Disability, Australia.

Each individual brought a different perspective to further our understanding of participation for people with long term communication difficulties. Melinda suggested a powerful empowerment strategy, "One of the things that really helped me during this time, was meeting other AAC users. These mentors could communicate with me on the same level, and understood my experiences, frustrations and hopes." The panel was enthusiastically received and positive feedback included comments such as "I have been to lots of conferences but never have been to such an amazing presentation", "it was wonderful," "opened my eyes." Viv Ortolan from Scope also presented a moving account of her life and her experience with Scope's Bridging project.

**Hilary Johnson**



## YVONNE SHERBURN

21/7/1951 – 2/6/2010

Scope's Communication Resource Centre recently lost a valued friend and past employee with the recent passing of Yvonne Sherburn. For more than 17 years Yvonne worked in a range of positions within Scope.

Yvonne first commenced working for Scope in 1988 as a day centre aide at Northern Districts Centre where she worked for 3 years.

During 1991-1993 Yvonne worked as a support worker at Scope's Maps West. This small community based day placement was situated behind a shop front in Sunshine.

From 1994 -1996 Yvonne worked for an attendant care agency. In 1996 Yvonne returned to Scope as a day centre aide at the Northern Districts centre and then in 1998 commenced as a therapy aide where she worked in this role until 2001.

In 2001 Scope's specialist services recruited Yvonne to set up a new innovative service- CARM (Communication Aids and Resource Materials). Ever resourceful Yvonne established this service in a back room at Glen Allen amongst the noise and fumes of Scope's bus bay!!

In 2002 Yvonne joined the team at the Communication Resource Centre to further develop CARM, where she worked for the next six and a half years. Yvonne was instrumental in developing many innovative communication aids and resources which are still being requested and ordered.

Yvonne was committed to enabling people with little or no speech to communicate and participate in life.



Yvonne was creative, passionate and hardworking.

Many of us will recall the time she and her husband, Barry drove their campervan full of CRC products (22 InterAAction kits @ \$2000 each) to Sydney as it was the most cost effective option and Yvonne wanted to be sure they were delivered safe and sound!!

Yvonne was committed to improve the lives of people with disabilities. She was an extraordinary lady who enjoyed life and her family. Yvonne will be sadly missed and always remembered with a smile.

## INTERVIEW WITH THE SENIOR PRACTITIONER



*Full interview with Jeff Chan appeared in the Autumn 2010 edition of NoticeBoard magazine, published by the Association for Children with a Disability.*

**What is the role of the Office of the Senior Practitioner?** - The role of Senior Practitioner came about following the Victorian Law Reform Commission's (VLRC) report in 2003 called 'People with intellectual disabilities at risk: A legal framework for compulsory care'.

At that time, the Victorian Government asked the VLRC to advise the government on how we can make the laws stronger to protect people who are subject to restrictive interventions to stop them from hurting themselves or other people?

One way of making the laws stronger recommended by VLRC was to establish the role of the Senior Practitioner. The role was established by the Disability Act 2006 and came into effect on 1 July 2007.

The job of the Senior Practitioner is to protect the rights of people with a disability who are subject to restrictive interventions and compulsory treatment.

My role only covers people with a disability when they receive services from a registered disability service provider. It does not cover people with a disability living in a family home, in schools or in other services.

**What is the most rewarding part of your role?** - Hearing some beautiful stories about how things have got better for people and seeing change occurring. It is a privileged role that I have slipped into because my values and thinking sit neatly with the job description.

The focus of the Office is not on compliance with legislation only. I see the work of the office as being about change - change that supports incremental learning of what and how we can do things better and differently so that we do not resort to the use of restraints and seclusion in the first instance. It is also about preventing things from becoming worse.

The Office works together with lots of different people through various projects and services. One of the things we do here is support families who have children with behaviours of concern who are subject to restraints.

We offer families training, information, review of the child's support needs, and help to link them in to get the right supports. Listening to families is a great start prior to any sort of involvement.

Email [seniorpractitioner@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:seniorpractitioner@dhs.vic.gov.au) - Links: Office of the Senior Practitioner

[www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/about the division/office of the senior practitioner](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/about_the_division/office_of_the_senior_practitioner)

## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- **Communication Access: Guidelines and Resources on Communicating with People who have Communication Disabilities**

### Free Booklet available in English and French



This booklet has been written by Barbara Collier, for Augmentative Communication Community Partnerships, Canada with funding from The Accessibility Directorate of Ontario. It is intended to inform businesses and organisations about providing accessible goods and services to people who have communication disabilities,

and may be a useful resource in complying with the customer service standard under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).

To obtain an electronic copy, please go to: [www.mcass.gov.on.ca](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca)

Direct link to [Communication Access Booklet](#) (PDF\*)

- **SMS Emergency Service Coming Soon for Deaf People**

On 20th April, 2010 the Australian Government announced that an SMS emergency service for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing will be established. The announcement follows a feasibility study into the provision of an SMS emergency service, conducted by Australian Communications and Media Authority in 2009.



Currently Deaf and hard of hearing people are only able to access emergency services by using a TTY (telephone typewriter) or computer modem and calling the National Relay Services on the dedicated 106 emergency number. TTYs are not portable, so when a Deaf or hard of hearing person leaves their home or workplace they have no access to emergency services.

With the establishment of an SMS emergency service, deaf and hard of hearing people will finally have access to emergency services regardless of where they are.

Deaf Australia PDF media release:

<http://www.deafau.org.au/download/SMSemergencyserivesapril2010.pdf>

In addition reference to the Minister's speech is shown here:

<http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/speeches/2010/006>

Further information: Deaf Australia Inc [www.deafau.org.au](http://www.deafau.org.au) or phone 07 3357 8266

- The **Autism Education Trust** (UK) has produced three practical resources that are free to download.



- "Tools for teachers - Practical resources for classroom success "
- "The Impairment of Imagination -Tools"
- "Transition toolkit - Helping you support a child through change"

[www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk)

- **Jacqui Rogers** is a vibrant young woman who uses AAC to communicate. She is the owner and writer of Gigs 'n Interviews [www.gigsninterviews.com](http://www.gigsninterviews.com)!

Check out her interview with Vanessa Amorosi!!

[http://www.gigsninterviews.com/blog1.php/gigsninterviewsgigs-1/#item\\_38](http://www.gigsninterviews.com/blog1.php/gigsninterviewsgigs-1/#item_38)

She will be adding some gadgets and widgets to the site so please keep checking in!

- The **National Relay Service** has developed a number of free resources for people with little or no speech. These include a DVD, posters and fact sheets For further details [www.relayservice.com.au](http://www.relayservice.com.au) or 1800 555 660

## INFORMATION ACCESSIBLE SERVICE UPDATE

The Department of Justice, through the Victims Support Agency is developing a Disability Strategy aimed at improving access to justice and victim support agencies in Victoria for victims of violent crime with a disability. The strategy will be informed by a survey aimed at adults with a disability or multiple disabilities, carers and guardians. The survey, which will be available in a number of accessible formats will be available, for a limited period, from early July 2010. For more information please go to [www.justice.vic.gov.au/victimsofcrime](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/victimsofcrime) or phone 9868 46716.

## ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION SERVICE NEWSLETTER

To view the June edition of the Accessible Information Service Newsletter please follow the link below from the Scope website. In this edition we focus on why consumer testing is so important. There are also contact details to view new publications in Easy English.

<http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/cms/frontend/resource/id/432/name/Accessible%20Information%20Service%20Update%20June%202010.pdf>

## FREE WORKSHOPS

### Communication aids and resources for hospital and healthcare settings

**Date:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2010      **Time:** 9.30am – 4pm

**Venue:** Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth St, Melbourne

**Presenters:** Katie Lyon (Communication Resource Centre) and  
Kylie Casey (Barwon Health)

**Reservations are required as places are limited:** Contact the Communication Resource Centre - Tel: 9843 2000 or email [crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:crc@scopevic.org.au)

### Communication Aids...Who? What? When? Where? Why?

*Supported by the Non-electronic Communication Aids Scheme (NECAS),  
Communication Resource Centre, Scope*

Do you want a communication aid for someone that you support? Don't know where to start? This workshop is a beginner's course designed for anyone who wants to know more about alternative forms of communication for people with little or no functional speech, communication aids and funding that is available to access both electronic and non-electronic communication aids.

This workshop is suitable for anyone who is working with adults with complex communication needs including parents, direct support workers and therapists.

**Date:** Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010      **Time:** 9.30am – 3.30pm

**Venue:** Scope: Boardroom, 830 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill, VIC 3128

**Presenters:** Katie Lyon & Naomi Rezzani

**RSVP:** By October 8<sup>th</sup> – Tel. 9843 2000 or email [crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:crc@scopevic.org.au)

Places are strictly limited to 20 places – reserve your place now.

Please contact The Communication Resource Centre if you would like more information about the above sessions or how to apply for a free communication aid through NECAS or a workshop or open day in your area.

### **Communication Aids & Resource Materials (CARM)**

**NEXT OPEN DAY – Come & see communication aids & resources**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010 - 10am to 11.30am**

Places are limited, so please call early to reserve your place! Phone 9843 2013

Scope, Communication Resource Centre, 830 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill, 3128

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Scope's Communication Resource Centre is please to announce

**Communicate, Participate, Enjoy!**  
**Solutions to Inclusion**  
**Conference – 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2011**

This conference will focus on how to support children and adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities to participate and be included in everyday activities. The programme will offer a wide range of practical presentations in the areas of communication, behaviours of concern, sensory-focused practice and inclusion.

Programme and registration details will be available on the Scope website soon.

Name of Workshop	Dates	Venue	Cost (incl. GST)
<p><b>MEALTIME ASSISTANCE – THROUGH A TUBE</b>            (9.30am – 1.00pm)            This workshop is suitable for anyone who needs to know how to assist someone with a meal through a tube. It includes an overview of gastrostomies, equipment, nutrition and trouble shooting.</p>	19 <sup>th</sup> August 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	Scope Glenallen 669 Waverley Rd Glen Waverley	\$110.00
<p><b>EASY ENGLISH WRITING COURSE (2 DAYS)</b>            (10.00am – 4.30pm)            This two day workshop will teach you how to write documents in Easy English. It includes information on writing in Easy English, including use of images, websites and the value of usability testing.</p>	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	Queen Victoria Women's Centre 210 Lonsdale Street – Melbourne	\$550
<p><b>EASY ENGLISH WRITING COURSE (1 DAY)</b>            (10.00am – 4.30pm)            (Includes: Lunch, coffee/tea and handouts)            This one day workshop will teach you how to write documents in basic Easy English</p>	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Queen Victoria Women's Centre 210 Lonsdale St – Melbourne	\$242.00
<p><b>BOARDMAKER Version 6 BASIC</b>            (9.30am – 12.30pm)            This is a PRACTICAL half day workshop that will get you on your way to creating picture based communication aids and resources.            The training covers the basics of the Boardmaker program</p>	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$110.00
<p><b>BOARDMAKER Plus Version 6</b>            (9.30am – 12.30pm)            This is a PRACTICAL half day workshop that will allow you to create interactive communication aids and resources.</p>	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> August Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept. Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$110.00

<p><b>THE TRIPLE C – Checklist of Communication Competencies (revised 2009) – an assessment tool for adults</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm) This half day workshop teaches you to recognise different levels of communication and how to adapt your communication style for meaningful interactions with people who have a significant intellectual disability.</p>	<p>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September</p>	<p>Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill</p>	<p>\$110.00</p>
<p><b>COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES</b> (9.30 am – 4.00pm) Do you work with or support people with communication difficulties? Do you want information on <b>how to be a more effective communication partner?</b> Yes? Then this one day workshop is for you!</p>	<p>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October</p>	<p>Box Hill Library City of Whitehorse 1040 Whitehorse Road Box Hill</p>	<p>\$220.00</p>
<p><b>COMMUNICATION AND BEHAVIOURS OF CONCERN</b> (9.30am - 4.00pm) This one-day workshop will discuss the importance of recognizing and understanding an individual's communication skills when developing and implementing positive behaviour plans.</p>	<p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</p>	<p>Box Hill Library City of Whitehorse 1040 Whitehorse Road Box Hill</p>	<p>\$220.00</p>
<p><b>SENSORY FOCUSED PRACTICE</b> (9.30am – 4.00pm) A sensory-focused approach involves incorporating a person's sensory preferences and skills into each stage of their daily activities. Providing activities in this way enables the person to be a more active participant in a way that is meaningful to them, and provides more interactive opportunities with their communication partners.</p>	<p>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October</p>	<p>Box Hill Library City of Whitehorse 1040 Whitehorse Road Box Hill</p>	<p>\$220.00</p>
<p><b>HOW TO MAKE COMMUNICATION AIDS</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm) The Communication Resource Centre is now offering a half day workshop to teach you how to make your own communication aid(s). In this workshop you will produce your own individual aid(s) to take away with you.</p>	<p>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October</p>	<p>Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill</p>	<p>\$110.00</p>

**For further details about each workshop, visit our website:**

<http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/site/whatweoffer/communicationresourcecentre/educationtraining/trainingworkshops> or see below

**Contact details: Communication Resource Centre, Scope, 830 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill, 3128**

**Telephone: 03 9843 2000 Fax: 03 9843 2033 OR email [crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:crc@scopevic.org.au)**