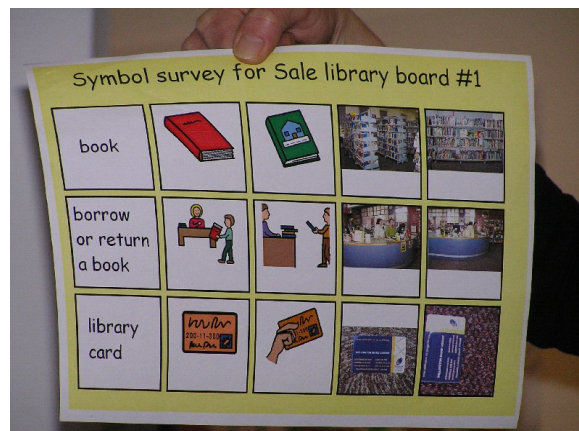


### WORKING IN PARTNERSHIPS - LIBRARIES FOR ALL\* PROJECT



The East Gippsland Regional Communication Service met in October 2009 at the George Grey Centre. Chris Richards, Regional Communication Services speech pathologist, coordinated and prepared an accessible agenda so that everyone could join in. Four people with complex communication needs who had been involved in developing communication aids for Sale Library presented. They had also suggested additions to be made to the statewide *Libraries For All* communication boards to reflect local needs.





During the project, library staff, support workers and most importantly, people with disabilities who use the library were asked about the kinds of images and aids that worked for them. The completed board had a mixture of photos and picture symbols. Some people wanted the cards on a key ring or in a book format.



In the end everyone was pleased with the result and the new aids. This means they can all find what they want in the library and enjoy themselves there.

\*Website link: <http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/site/resources/librariesforall>



## REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SERVICES

### Can't Talk - Can Communicate 2009 Communication Awareness Day in Bendigo!



“Seize the opportunity - not the barrier!” This was the message given by Melinda Smith, Community Development Worker at Scope, poet, artist and dancer at the 2009 Communication Awareness day in Bendigo. Over 100 people were there to listen to Melinda’s presentation about her life journey to becoming an award winning advocate and leader for people who communicate in different ways. Her message was reinforced by Morgan Liddle, a young communication aid user, who is following in Mel’s footsteps to becoming an advocate and leader in her own right.

And then the music began! Mel ran a dance workshop for over 40 participants, most of whom were wheelchair dancers! During the workshop Mel described what dance does for her. “I feel free and beautiful, and forget about my wheelchair and limbs as they are!” When she asked the participants how they felt when dancing some of the responses included: My body felt FREE!; It’s a dreamy song; I felt excited; It was a surprise for my body!; Oh yeah babe!; I feel SO happy!; Makes me laugh!.

While some people were enjoying the dancing, others were listening to a presentation by Katie Lyon, representing Scope’s Communication Resource Centre and Spectronics. She talked about communication devices, books and aids produced by the Non-Electronic Communication Aid Scheme (NECAS).

Our event was generously sponsored by Regional One Credit Union-Bendigo and Bendigo Health. It was made possible by the active support of the Communication Co-ordinators in the region, as well as the management at the Bendigo Rural Health Team, and the support of our Department of Human Services PASA. Many thanks to all for a wonderful day!

Barbara Solarsh, Southern Loddon Mallee Regional Communication Service

## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

### Communication Champions for People with Huntington's Disease

Since early 2009, the Communication Resource Centre has been involved in training and supporting selected staff at Arthur Preston Residential Services (for people with Huntington's Disease) as *communication champions*. Each champion chose two residents, learnt about their communication abilities and needs, then developed and used aids and strategies to support their communication.

In September 2009, communication champions and residents made a presentation to the whole staff group. They demonstrated the individualised communication strategies they had developed. The presentation celebrated the achievements of the champions, informed management about the outcomes of the communication project and demonstrated the communication strategies to all staff.

Strategies that were presented included a mealtimes overlay for a speech generating device to enable mealtimes success for the resident; books about me; a personal communication dictionary and communication profiles. A short film demonstrated the communication abilities of one resident and how to support them.

The champions showed great commitment and affection for the people they support. The communication aids presented very positive images of people and celebrated their strengths. Roxanne Maule, Speech Pathologist at the Service, who has resolutely participated in and promoted the project, will carry it forward.

Meg Irwin, Communication Resource Centre



## RESOURCES

The following resources may be useful for people who work with or support people who have behaviours of concern or autism.

- **Communication and Challenging Behaviour DVD**

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation (cost £ 31.50 + postage and handling)

<http://www.thecbf.org.uk/pdf/resource-list-orderform.pdf>

- **In my Language - Amanda Baggs**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnylM1h12jc>

- **The Black Balloon**

Recommended Retail Price \$39.95. January 2010 – on special for \$14.95

<http://www.dvdorchard.com.au/ProductS1.asp?PND=152475&CS=1&NoCache=0%2E8770716>

- **Autism is a world**

USDollars \$ 29.95

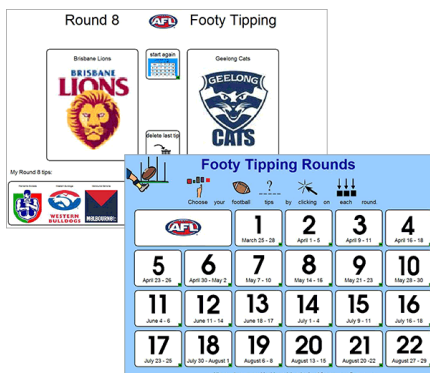
<http://www.amazon.com/Autism-World-Narrated-Julianna-Margulies/dp/B0009JFDFO>

- **Temple Grandin videos**

Google Temple Grandin videos or go to

[http://video.google.com.au/videosearch?sourceid=navclient&rlz=1T4GZAZ\\_en-GBAU306AU320&q=Temple+Grandin&um=1&ie=UTF-8&ei=KqjmSfGEApGcKQXii-WpBw&sa=X&oi=video\\_result\\_group&resnum=5&ct=title#](http://video.google.com.au/videosearch?sourceid=navclient&rlz=1T4GZAZ_en-GBAU306AU320&q=Temple+Grandin&um=1&ie=UTF-8&ei=KqjmSfGEApGcKQXii-WpBw&sa=X&oi=video_result_group&resnum=5&ct=title#)

### FOOTBALL SEASON IS NOT FAR AWAY!



Spectronics has developed footy tipping resources for AFL, NRL and Rugby Super 14's.

Go to this link to download from the Spectronics website!

<http://www.spectronicsinoz.com/activities/boardmaker-plus-boardmaker-with-sd-probr-interactive-activities-suitable-for-boardmaker-plus-and-bm-sdpro>

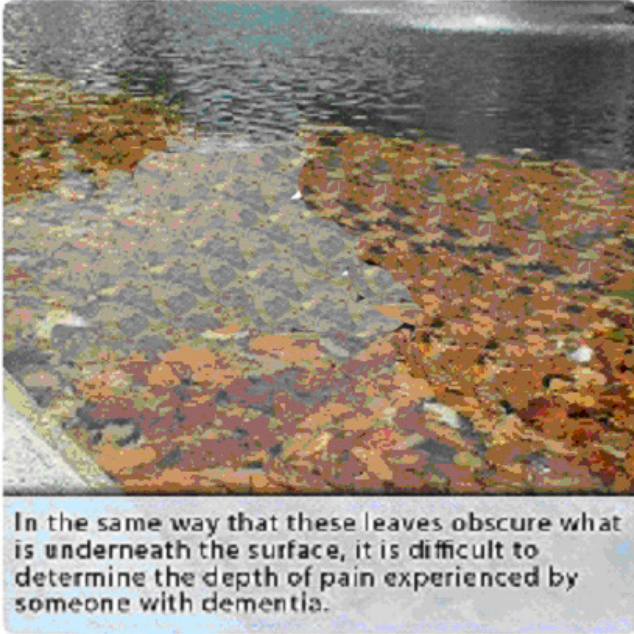
Happy tipping!

**DISCLAIMER.** The views expressed in the Communication Resource Centre Newsletter are those of the individual contributor and do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial team. Please note that neither the individual contributors or editorial team can be held responsible for any consequences resulting from the purchase or use of training / resources / information, etc.  
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- **Understanding Pain and Dementia Website**

<http://www.painanddementia.ualberta.ca>

Cary A. Brown, University of Alberta and Agnes Mitchell, Grant MacEwan College (Edmonton).



- narrated presentation about pain and dementia
- downloadable resource pack for family members
- downloadable pain-log
- PAINAD assessment tool
- facilitator's toolkit of background material, planning guide, promotional material and supplemental information for organizations who wish to put on a workshop using the materials

**\*\*\*\*\* STOP PRESS \*\*\*\*\***

**The Communication Resource Centre is conducting a study into the outcomes of the Non-electronic Communication Aids Scheme (NECAS) for adults with communication difficulties.**

We are looking for anyone who has applied for communication aids through NECAS on behalf of the people they support to participate in a phone interview that will take about 30 minutes. Participants will receive a communication aid as a 'thank you.'

**If you'd like to be involved, or would like to find out more contact us -**

**Telephone: 03 9843 2000 (1800 888 824) or Email [klyon.crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:klyon.crc@scopevic.org.au)**

**Communication Aids & Resource Materials (CARM) - OPEN DAYS 2010**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May & Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 - 10am to 11.30am**

Places are limited, so please call early to reserve your place! (Ph. 9843 2013)

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

*Free of charge*

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Name of Workshop	Dates Feb - June 2010	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>	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Box Hill Library – 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$93.50
	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Scope Glenroy 177 Glenroy Rd Glenroy	
	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 20 <sup>th</sup> May 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Scope Glenallen 669 Waverley Rd Glen Waverley	
<p><b>EASY ENGLISH WRITING COURSE (1 DAY)</b> (10.00am – 4.30pm) This one day workshop provides you with the background to accessible written information, the difference between plain language and Easy English. It introduces participants on ways to develop accessible written information. The focus will be on developing skills in writing and formatting documents.</p>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Scope Glenroy 177 Glenroy Rd Glenroy	\$242
<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 useability testing.</p>	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre Cnr Bell St & St Georges Rd Preston	\$550
<p><b>WHY DOESN'T HE DO WHAT I ASK HIM TO?</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm) This workshop is suitable for anyone who wants to know how to assess the communication skills in adults who have little or no speech and are early communicators. The workshop will focus on using the new Triple C - Checklist of Communication Competencies. It will also teach you how to adapt your communication to ensure meaningful interactions with people who have a significant intellectual disability.</p>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$93.50
<p><b>EVERYONE CAN SHARE STORIES</b> (9.30am – 4.00pm) This one day workshop will show you how to develop individualised sensory-focused story experiences for people with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities.</p>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Box Hill Library – 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$187.00

<p><b>COMMUNICATION ASSESSMENT SMORGASBORD</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm) This half day workshop will present a range of assessment tools and resources. It will cover communication assessments suitable for adults with severe and profound disabilities. Ideas and resources for planning individual and group communication programs will be provided.</p>	<p>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</p>	<p>Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill</p>	<p>\$93.50</p>
<p><b>ARMCHAIR TRAVEL</b> (9.30am – 4.00pm) This one day workshop introduces participants to sensory focused activities and the impact of sensory processing disorders on the ability to participate in everyday activities. Learn how to visit anywhere in the world using the sensory experiences of travel.</p>	<p>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March</p>	<p>Box Hill Library – 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill</p>	<p>\$187.00</p>
<p><b>BOARDMAKER Version 6 BASIC</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm) This is a <u>PRACTICAL</u> 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Setting up pages</li> <li>▪ Creating your own picture symbols</li> <li>▪ How to manipulate your photos/web images</li> <li>▪ Storing your picture/symbols in your library</li> </ul>	<p>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p>Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill</p>	<p>\$93.50</p>
<p><b>BOARDMAKER Version 6 +</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm) This is a <u>PRACTICAL</u> half day workshop that will allow you to create interactive communication aids and resources. You will have the chance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make a talking book,</li> <li>▪ Learn how to use movable buttons</li> <li>▪ Create a sequencing display</li> <li>▪ Learn tips and ideas for making better communication resources</li> </ul> <p>A pre-requisite is a basic understanding of the Boardmaker software.</p>	<p>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June</p>	<p>Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill</p>	<p>\$93.50</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)