

## THE CRC SAYS THANK YOU!



2010 was the year when the Communication Resource Centre involved people with communication difficulties in a number of projects.

A Christmas morning tea was held to recognise their contribution.

Sixteen people were involved in three main project areas

- Easy English user testing
- Communication Access Checklist - trials
- Field testing communication boards

They completed this work for the following projects:

- Victims of violent crime survey, Department of Justice
- Banyule immunisation services, Banyule City Council
- Digital TV rollout - what you need to know, Australian Government
- Communication Access Checklist
- Concierge desks, Westfield Shopping Centres
- Fire Ready Kit, Country Fire Authority

With the Communication Access Checklist trials, people were invited to four forums to share their experience of communication access and help develop the questions in a checklist. The consultants were asked to go out into the community to trial and improve the checklist.



The 'mystery shoppers' for Westfield went to the concierge (information) desks and asked some questions to see how the staff responded and whether they used the communication boards provided.

We hope to continue this way of working.



Our pictures show some of the people who were able to attend.

**Communicate, Participate, Enjoy!**  
**Solutions to Inclusion**  
**Conference - 2011**

**NOW SOLD OUT!**  
March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

Over 26 Speakers!

- Concurrent sessions
- Trade displays
- Prizes and giveaways!

[www.scopevic.org.au/communication](http://www.scopevic.org.au/communication)

For many more training opportunities look at page 7 and 8.

## MEL'S CORNER

### A funny thing happened...



I have friends from all over the world and we use lots of different ways to communicate. My best friend is Mel who lives in Australia and uses a Lightwriter, like me, and a Pathfinder.

Recently, I was sat at the table in my lounge using the laptop, as usual on Facebook when a message popped up from Mel. We had a great conversation that lasted about 20 minutes. Nothing strange except we were sat side by side – Mel was staying for a month and using Facebook on her

iPhone to keep in touch with family and friends from home. The power of technology works whether you are 10,000 miles away or less than a metre and the choice of AAC in different situations!

During Mel's visit we have talked, danced together, laughed, used lots of body language, shared the nearest communication aid, did air-writing and made a lot of noise. When we went out we used our communication aids but also sent each other texts and generally just had a great time.

Beth Moulan

September 2010

## REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SERVICES (RCS) UPDATE

- **Introducing Karen Oswald - East Hume RCS**



After completing my speech pathology degree in Newcastle in 2005, I moved to Victoria to take up a generalist position in Horsham where I worked for two years. I then took up a position in Wangaratta working across inpatient and community rehabilitation services for 12 months then relocated to Tasmania to work with adult outpatients for two years. I have relocated back to Victoria to join the team at Ovens and King Community Health Service in Wangaratta which will provide me with the

opportunity to work with clients in their own environments with a range of developmental and acquired disabilities. I am also currently completing my Graduate Diploma in Clinical Rehabilitation by correspondence.

- **North West Regional Communication Service**

As some of you may be aware, the North West Regional Communication Service has been piloting a Communication Coordinator Network over the last 18 months in our region. Late last year we were successful with a grant application that allowed us to continue with this pilot for 2011.

The network has had a busy start to the year as we welcomed two new services Distinctive Options and Araluen. These 2 services join our existing services: Mambourin, St John of God, Carinya and Whittlesea ATSS. The coordinators' role is to be a local source of information and advice around communication and communication strategies at their service.

The coordinators have been very busy creating communication resources both for their services and for individual clients. We are looking forward to a fantastic year creating a 'culture of communication' in each of the services.

For more information, please contact Karyn Muscat. Phone 9449 6942. Email

[Karyn.muscat@isispc.com.au](mailto:Karyn.muscat@isispc.com.au)

### **GOODBYE MAKATON – HELLO KEY WORD SIGN AUSTRALIA**

At the end of 2010 the following resources will no longer be available for purchase through Key Word Sign Australia.

**Makaton Vocabulary – Auslan Edition book;**

**Makaton Vocabulary – Auslan Edition CD-ROM and**

**Key Signs – A supplement to the Makaton Vocabulary book.**

The following WILL still be available:

**Key Signs – A Supplementary Vocabulary CD ROM**

**The Key Word Sign Footy Book**

**Let's Play with Sign**

**Sing and Sign**

Check the Key Word Sign Australia website for details:

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/research-centre/special-education/key-word-sign-australia/>

Or ring Key Word Sign Australia Victoria – 03 9899 8684

## CRC UPDATE

### DELICIOUS!

We are now bookmarking useful websites and information at [www.delicious.com](http://www.delicious.com). To see the Communication Resource Centre and Accessible Information Service bookmarks, go to:  
<http://www.delicious.com/crcscope>  
<http://www.delicious.com/accessibleinformationservicescope>



### NEW PROJECTS/INITIATIVES

The Communication Resource Centre was successful in receiving funding for two projects

- **Multimedia profiling for people with profound intellectual disabilities**

This project will pilot the development of 10 multimedia communication profiles. This project has been made possible by the generous support from

- Telematics Course Development Fund
- Jack Brockhoff Foundation.

- **Communication Accessible Project**

This project will focus on the creation and dissemination of a communication accessible symbol within Victoria. This project has been made possible by the generous support of the Australian Communication Exchange (ACE).

For more information on either of these projects, contact the Communication Resource Centre on (03) 9843 2000 or email [crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:crc@scopevic.org.au)

## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

### UPCOMING EVENTS

AGOSCI National Conference, Adelaide – 11<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Reorient Express Conference, Grampians/Barwon/Ballarat – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Autism Building Positive Outcomes Seminar, Docklands, Melbourne – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Speech Pathology Information Session, University of Melbourne – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2011

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

Communication Resource Centre open day, Box Hill – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Non-Electronic Communication Aid Scheme (NECAS) event, Sale – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011

## ARTS

### Creative Constructions

“Calling all artists, writers and poets with disability or special needs to come and join us at Glen Park.”

Glen Park Community Centre. 30 Glen Park Road, Bayswater.

Monday afternoons 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

For costs and more information phone 9294 7525 or email [office@glenparkcc.com.au](mailto:office@glenparkcc.com.au)

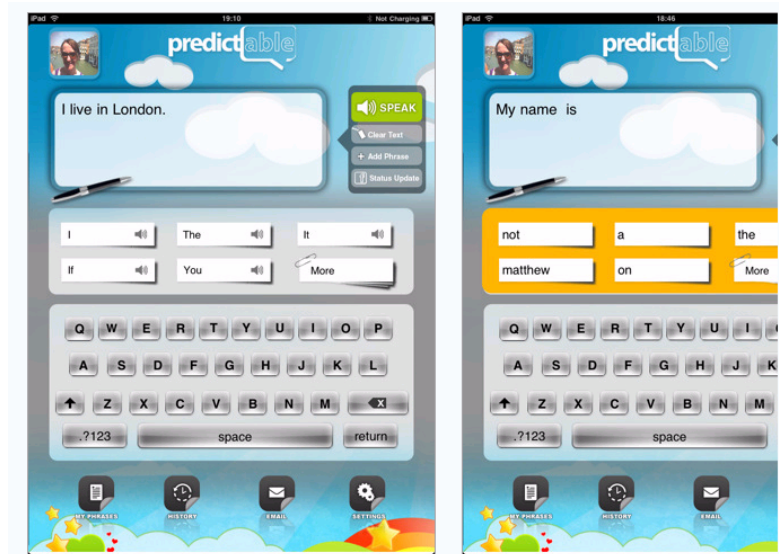
## AAC AND TECHNOLOGY

### Predictable

Predictable is an app for Apple devices, which is available in the iTunes app store for £89.99.

Predictable offers:

- Voice output – including 2 Australian voices
- Switch access
- Word prediction where five options appear and there are more under another button
- Choice of keyboard, although ABC layout is not available
- Phrase bank
- Email and Facebook links. This means you can take the text that you have just written and post it as a Facebook status update or email it through the iPad.



<http://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/predictable/id404445007?mt=8>

### Ablenet

Ablenet sells equipment to make Apple devices accessible to people with a disability. Products include at-home and on-the-go mounting systems, portable speakers and microphones. Ablenet has also announced that it's SoundingBoard™, is the first app approved by Apple for one and two-switch accessibility.

For Australian distributors of Ablenet products go to:

<http://www.ablenetinc.com/Home/Partners/tabid/521/Default.aspx?country=Australia%20>

## 2011 WORKSHOPS, TRAINING AND OPEN DAYS

Name of Workshop	Dates	Venue	Cost (incl. GST)
<b>EASY ENGLISH WRITING COURSE (1 DAY)</b> (10.00am – 4.30pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Naomi Rezzani	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Multicultural Hub 506 Elizabeth St Melbourne	\$242.00
<b>BOARDMAKER Version 6 BASIC Workshop</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm)	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Scope 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$110.00
<b>HOW TO ASSESS EARLY COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN ADULTS</b> (9.30am -12.30pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Karen Bloomberg	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$110.00
<b>BOARDMAKER Plus Version 6 - Interactive Workshop</b> (9.30am – 12.30pm)	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Scope 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$110.00
<b>AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD) - COMMUNICATION SKILLS</b> (9.30am – 4.00pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Teena Caithness	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$220.00
<b>“ITS TIME TO DO TIMETABLES”</b> (9.30am - 12.30pm) <b>Presenters:</b> Jenny Lumsden - Chelsea Thorne	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Scope Box Hill 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$110.00
<b>COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES</b> (9.30 am – 4.00pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Denise West - Karen Bloomberg	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$220.00
<b>SENSORY FOCUSED PRACTICE</b> (9.30am – 4.00pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Mandy Williams	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$220.00
<b>COMMUNICATION AND BEHAVIOURS OF CONCERN</b> (9.30am - 4.00pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Teena Caithness	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$220.00
<b>BUILDING KEY WORD SIGNS INTO BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT PLANS</b> (9.30am - 4.00pm) <b>Presenter:</b> Teena Caithness	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$220.00

Name of Workshop	Dates	Venue	Cost (incl. GST)
<b>STORIES : SOCIAL STORIES AND SENSORY-FOCUSED STORIES</b> (9.30am - 4.00pm) <b>Presenters:</b> Barbara Solarsh and Mandy Williams	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Box Hill Library 1040 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill	\$220.00
<b>GASTROSTOMY SUPPORT</b> (9.30am – 1.30pm)	April 7 <sup>th</sup> May 12 <sup>th</sup> June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Scope Glenallen 669 Waverley Rd Glen Waverley	\$110.00
	Mar 17 <sup>th</sup>	Scope Glenroy 177 Glenroy Rd Glenroy	

The Communication Resource Centre holds **FREE Open Days**.

Type of Open Day	Dates	Venue
<b>CRC</b> (9.30am to 12.30pm) This session profiles services of the Communication Resource Centre including Communication Aids and Resource Materials (CARM), Non-electronic Communication Aid Service (NECAS), Gastrostomy Information and Support Society (GISS) and Accessible Information.	Tuesday 29 March	Scope 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill
	Monday 28 November	Scope 177 Glenroy Rd Glenroy
<b>CARM</b> (10:00am to 11:30am) Come along and look at the range of communication aids and materials produced. Find out about training, free products, software and handy hints.	Tuesday 12th July	Scope 669 Glen Waverley Rd Glen Waverley
	Tuesday 13th September	Scope 830 Whitehorse Rd Box Hill
<b>NECAS</b> for people with communication difficulties Find out how to get FREE communication aids for adults in Victoria from the Non-electronic Communication Aids Scheme (NECAS).	To Be Confirmed	To Be Confirmed

For more details about workshops and open days go to

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

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