

### AGOSCI Conference

I went to Adelaide to speak about Communication Access at AGOSCI Conference. I was lucky to go on the trip. I have been doing bits and pieces for Scope for 3 or 4 years, and it's only been the last 12 – 15 months that I have worked a lot more on Communication Access. From the start it was a trip that I would never forget! It was a blast...



From left to right:  
Denise West, Hank  
Wyllie, Hilary Johnson,  
Barbara Solarsh and  
Ron Morey

The plane taking off gave me a thrill, because the captain had it on full throttle! I thought I was on my motor bike, powering down the highway...except we climbed so fast, that it didn't last very long.

I have been away before, but not a conference, and an important one at that!!!! AGOSCI has been going for 30 years - quite a long time. Every speech was interesting...Some of which I didn't agree with, but most I did.

Denise West and I presented our speech on Communication Access to about 50 people. There were plenty of questions.

Darryl Sellwood gave a paper which was quiet remarkable. Darryl talked on "Take this: It's more than participation, it's enabling satisfying lives". He had us laughing at his antics on the computer.

The company could not have been any better! Hank Wyllie, Denise West, Jen Lumsden, Chelsea Thorne, Barbara Solarsh and I enjoyed some great food, chats, and drinks. We met some locals at a hotel one night. Jen and I had a dance. I didn't even fall over!

Adelaide weather, was either hot or cold, nothing to write home about but the company made up for it. When we touched back down in Melbourne, we were all very tired but very satisfied with our AGOSCI experience!

Ron Morey

Communication Resource Centre - Scope – Email [rmorey@scopevic.org.vic](mailto:rmorey@scopevic.org.vic)

## RESOURCES FOR BEHAVIOURS OF CONCERN

Scope has been working on a project to build communication resources for speech pathologists who work with people who have Behaviours of Concern. The project was funded by the Office of the Senior Practitioner, Victoria.

Our first task was to find out who was working in the area and what resources they needed. Thirty-seven speech pathologists in Victoria replied to a survey. The survey indicated that there was a need to identify ways to develop both assessment and interventions skills.

A communication assessment kit and training modules were developed. The communication assessment kit consists of a range of materials to assess communication. Five training modules were developed to explain the role of the Office of the Senior Practitioner; Communication Assessment; Behaviour Support Plans; Positive Behaviour Support and Communication and Functional Communication Training. These modules were trialed at free workshops for speech pathologists in Victoria.

Two communities of practice exist. Speech Pathologists working in this area can link in to the **Australian Psychological Society (APS)** and the **People with Intellectual and / or Developmental Disability and Psychology Interest Group**. The latter runs regular teleconferences for members to attend and non-APS members are also welcome. <http://www.psychology.org.au> (Go to membership - member groups - interest groups - People with Intellectual and / or Developmental Disability and Psychology).

For Victorian based speech pathologists, there are the Authorised Program Officer Networks in each region of the Department of Human Services. For contact details of the network in your region contact the Office of the Senior Practitioner on 03 9096 8427 or email [seniorpractitioner@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:seniorpractitioner@dhs.vic.gov.au).

Working in the area of behaviours of concern is quite new for speech pathologists and we will urge Speech Pathology Australia to consider developing a position paper on minimum practices for working in this area. In addition we are hosting two workshops in the area of Behaviours of Concern, presented by Professor Pat Mirenda, from Canada. Please refer to page 7 of this newsletter or see our website for further details:

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

For the more information about the project report and resources go to:

<http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/site/resources/behavioursofconcern>.

Hilary Johnson

Communication Resource Centre – Scope - Email: [hjohnson.crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:hjohnson.crc@scopevic.org.au)

## ISAAC Awards 2011

Three people from Victoria received ISAAC awards at the 2011 AGOSCI conference. They were Hank Wylie, Tom Banks and Ron Morey.

Hank Wylie received an Information Award. This award is for work that raises awareness of AAC. Hank uses a Polyana communication device and a range of Community Access cards when he needs to. He has presented at conferences and is involved with a range of community organisations. He is an active advocate for the use of AAC.

Ron Morey and Tom Banks each received a Community Award. They both use Lightwriters to supplement their speech. The Community Award is for someone who actively uses AAC in the community. Ron and Tom lead active lives. Both have presented workshops on the acceptance and use of AAC. Ron is involved with a train-the-trainer project teaching other AAC users about communication access. Thomas is a writer and an actor. He is also an engaging speaker and has been involved with the Communication Access Project.



Hank Wylie



Ron Morey



Tom Banks



### DID YOU KNOW...

**The Communication Access Network is holding regional forums across Victoria**

These forums will launch the communication access symbol  
and promotion pack of resources.

For dates/venues of these forums contact the Communication Resource Centre on:

(03) 9843 2000 or [crc@scopevic.org.au](mailto:crc@scopevic.org.au)

## MULTIMEDIA PROFILING PROJECT

In 2010, the Communication Resource Centre, Scope, was awarded grants from the Telematics Trust and the Jack Brockhoff Foundation to work on an innovative and important pilot project. This Multimedia Profiling Project will resource and coordinate an approach to multimedia profiling/advocacy technique for people with severe to profound intellectual disabilities.



This project aims to build the capacity of others to use multimedia to develop communication profiles for people with severe and profound intellectual disabilities. For people who do not use speech or other formal systems to communicate, a multimedia profile can assist them to have a 'voice'. A multimedia profile can provide communication partners with much needed information such as; how a person communicates, their strengths, their health needs, their relationships, their support needs and their likes and dislikes.

Multimedia includes photographs, video footage, voice-over, sound, graphics and text. For this project, people will use the multimedia to make a DVD or upload to a website called Multi-me. [www.multi-me.com](http://www.multi-me.com)

Fifteen participants have now been selected to participate in the pilot project. Each of those participants have at least three support people who will work with the person to make their multimedia profile from August 2011 to June 2012.



For more information Contact Naomi Rezzani

Phone 9843 2010 email [nrezzani.crc@scopvic.org.au](mailto:nrezzani.crc@scopvic.org.au)

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## NEWS, INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- **Welcome Robyn to the Communication Resource Centre**



Robyn Benson has joined the team at the CRC as an administration officer. Robyn has recently moved back to Melbourne from Brisbane, with her husband and nine-month old daughter. Robyn has a Bachelor of Business and has previously worked in administration in the Real Estate and Hospitality industries.

- **Young Australian of the year 2011**

Anj Barker was awarded Victoria's Young Australian of the Year 2011. Anj campaigns for the rights of young people with disabilities and works to raise awareness of relationship



violence. She was nominated as a result of her work with the Summer Foundation, advocating for housing options for young people with disabilities.

Anj received her award from the Victorian Governor at the time, David de Kretser. To hear Anj's speech, accepting her award go to:

<http://www.buildingbetterlives.org.au/ambassadors/ambassador-anj-barker/anj-barker-media/>

Anj is a member of the Communication Resource Centre's Advisory Group for the Communication Access Project and is employed as a trainer for the Communication Access Symbol forums which will be held across Victoria from August to December 2011.

- **Book review**

**Ghost Boy**, by Martin Pistorius - Publishers: Simon and Schuster UK

The author, Martin Pistorius became sick at aged 12. His parents were told that Martin had an unknown degenerative disease and his prognosis was very poor. Martin had lost all his physical skills and speech.

This book is about Martin's next life, from the age of 23 when he was "reborn" and able to show what he was really capable of.

*Martin Pistorius is member of ISAAC's LEAD group.*

*"LEAD is an initiative by and for persons who use AAC, to inspire them to take on leadership roles within ISAAC and beyond."*

<http://www.isaac-online.org/ie/categories/ISAAC-Projects-BUILD.-LEAD-and-READ/LEAD-AAC/>

- **Access and inclusion** is a new section on the Resources page of our website. In this section you will find our Easy English resources and also a new Scope resource called **Grow Your Business Grow Your Community**. This brochure is free to download and contains free or low cost things you can do to make your business more welcoming and accessible. The information includes suggestions on how to grow your business and community, by making it easy for customers to find, enter and move around your business.



[http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/cms/frontend/resource/id/811/name/Grow\\_your\\_business\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/cms/frontend/resource/id/811/name/Grow_your_business_brochure.pdf)

- **ISAAC Rights for people who use AAC on boards or committees**

<http://www.isaac-online.org/en/download/General-Rights-&-Activities-for-People-who-use-AAC-on-Boards-or-Committees.doc>

- **Some ideas and accessories for iTouch, iPad and iPhone**

- **Spectronics** has a whole page on their website compiling lots of information about “Apple and App related resources”. This includes iPad Basics, Teaching and Learning, App Reviews, Tips and Tricks, Accessibility and Access and Accessories.

<http://www.spectronicsinoz.com/blog/apple/>

- **Zyteq** sells a range of accessories for use with iPad, iTouch and iPhone. These include external speakers (one with Bluetooth), a stylus to help point to the screen, switches to make selections when scanning and mounting systems.

[http://www.zyteq.com.au/products/communication\\_systems/accessories\\_for\\_ipad\\_itouch\\_and\\_iphone](http://www.zyteq.com.au/products/communication_systems/accessories_for_ipad_itouch_and_iphone)

- **External speaker for iPad**

Melinda Smith, CRC’s devotee to apple and everything IT.... recommends the Spokeman speaker. Melinda advised that this speaker has rechargeable battery, is small and loud!

<http://www.tecsol.com.au/SpokeMan.htm>



- **NECAS now has a new Easy English Service Request Form**

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

- **Announcements**

- West Hume Regional Communication Service

Congratulations to Ovens and Kings Community Health Service who were awarded the contract to deliver services in West Hume commencing 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011.

Phone: 03 5723 2000

- Gippsland Regional Communication Service

Welcome to Mel Spits who has commenced in the Service while Toni Seiler completes her PhD. Contact Mel at [Mel@thinkplaythrive.com.au](mailto:Mel@thinkplaythrive.com.au) - Mob. 0408 884 761

- **Job advertisement**



### **Speech Pathologist**

**North and West Metro Region Communication Service**

**Grade 2 or 3 (0.6 EFT)**

An exciting position is available for an experienced Speech Pathologist to be part of a dynamic statewide network providing services to people with complex communication needs.

This role will provide a great opportunity for direct service delivery, training, education and community development in a range of community based settings.

For further enquiries please contact Clare Reddrop on (03) 9296 1318 or go to:

[www.isispc.com.au](http://www.isispc.com.au).

## **2011 EVENTS, WORKSHOPS, TRAINING AND INFORMATION SESSIONS**

### **A fantastic opportunity ...**

The Communication Resource Centre is pleased to announce that

**Professor PAT MIRENDA will present two one-day workshops in Melbourne**

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of November, 2011**

Professor Mirenda is an internationally recognised researcher, author and teacher. She is an inspirational speaker with expertise in the areas of augmentative and alternative communication, autism spectrum disorders and positive behaviour support.

Professor Mirenda is employed by the Faculty of Education, Department of Educational & Counselling Psychology, and Special Education and is Director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Collaboration in Autism (CIRCA) at the University of British Columbia – Canada.

For more information, visit our website: <http://www.scopevic.org.au/patmirenda>

The Communication Resource Centre holds FREE information sessions

|   | Date                          | Venue                                  |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>COMMUNICATION AIDS AND RESOURCE INFORMATION SESSIONS</b><br>(10.00am to 11.30am)<br><br><b>FREE OF CHARGE</b><br><br><b>Contact us to register your place!</b> | Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept | Scope<br>830 Whitehorse Rd<br>Box Hill |
|   | Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov.  | Scope<br>177 Glenroy Rd<br>Glenroy     |

| Name of Workshop  | Dates  | Venue  | Cost (inc. GST) |
|---|--|--|-----------------|
| <b>BOARDMAKER Version 6 BASIC Workshop</b><br>(9.30am – 12.30pm)              | Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept.<br>Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct.  | Scope<br>830 Whitehorse Rd<br>Box Hill                 | \$132.00        |
| <b>BOARDMAKER Plus Version 6 - Interactive Workshop</b><br>(9.30am – 12.30pm) | Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept.<br>Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct. | Scope<br>830 Whitehorse Rd<br>Box Hill                 | \$132.00        |
| <b>COMMUNICATION AND BEHAVIOURS OF CONCERN Workshop</b><br>(9.30 am – 4.00pm) | Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct.                                    | Scope Glenallen<br>669 Waverley Rd<br>Glen Waverley    | \$264.00        |
| <b>EASY ENGLISH WRITING COURSE (2 day Workshop)</b><br>(10.00am – 4.30pm)     | Tues. 8 <sup>th</sup> &<br>Wed. 9 <sup>th</sup><br>November        | Multicultural Hub<br>506 Elizabeth Street<br>Melbourne | \$605.00        |
| <b>EASY ENGLISH WRITING COURSE (1 day Workshop)</b><br>(10.00am – 4.30pm)     | Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct.                                       | Multicultural Hub<br>506 Elizabeth Street<br>Melbourne | \$297.00        |
| <b>GASTROSTOMY SUPPORT Workshop</b><br>(9.30am – 1.30pm)                      | Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept.<br>20 <sup>th</sup> Oct.           | Scope Glenallen<br>669 Waverley Rd<br>Glen Waverley    | \$132.00        |
| <b>LISTENING TO THOSE RARELY HEARD Workshop</b><br>(9.30am – 12.30pm)         | Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept.                                      | Box Hill Library<br>1040 Whitehorse Rd<br>Box Hill     | \$132.00        |
| <b>SENSORY-FOCUSED PRACTICE</b><br>(9.30am – 4.00pm)                          | Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct.  | Box Hill Library<br>1040 Whitehorse Rd<br>Box Hill     | \$264.00        |

Please download and complete a workshop application form.

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

For more details about workshops and information sessions go to:

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

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).