

## What is the Study Day about?

Eye gaze has always been a useful technique for helping people with communication difficulties to express themselves, whether by eye pointing at objects, or at symbols on a communication book or book, or letters on an e-tran frame.

Recent years have seen exciting developments in technology allowing some people with severe and complex disabilities to control a computer or a communication aid by eye gaze. People who find it very difficult to access a communication aid may now be able to try to use eye gaze to control a pointer on a screen and select different messages to speak. But the technology is complex and expensive and it is not suitable for everybody with a communication difficulty.

This Study Day will explore issues surrounding eye gaze within both low tech and high tech communication systems and will help to raise awareness of the advantages and disadvantages of such systems.

## Presenters

**Dr Mick Donegan** is currently Deputy Academic Director for SMARTlab at the University of East London. In the past he has been a teacher and then became an Assistive Technology specialist with the ACE Centre in Oxford. He was Coordinator of the 'User Requirements' element of the COGAIN project, which led research into the use of eye gaze technology by people with disabilities.

**Janet Scott** is a speech and language therapist. She has worked at SCTCI, the communication aid assessment service, since 1987. SCTCI was the first communication aid service in Scotland to have eye gaze technology as part of their assessment kit.

**Clare Latham**, formerly speech and language therapist at the ACE Centre in Oxford leading the *Look2Talk* project, is currently advising Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust on their AAC Parent Programme. Clare has many years of experience as a speech and language therapist, working with children and young people using a range of different AAC systems, in England, latterly, but previously also in Edinburgh at Murrayfield & Westerlea Schools. Clare and her colleague Katharine Buckley won the Sternberg Award for Clinical Excellence for the *Look2Talk* eye pointing kit in 2008.

# The Eyes have IT!

## The Use of Eye Gaze to Support Communication



## 20th Annual Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland Study Day

Stirling Management Centre,  
University of Stirling  
9th November 2010



## Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland

This is the 20th annual event organised by Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland. Events are usually Study Days, with a focus on particular aspects of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). ACiP:S also organised occasional events aimed specifically at users of AAC, e.g. the 2004 Arts atAACK! day, Family Fun days and the 2010 Technology Discovery day for adults who use AAC.

The Organising Committee consists of staff from the various centres in Scotland with a particular interest in AAC. If you would like to know more about Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland, contact any of the individual centres:

**CALL Scotland**, The University of Edinburgh, Paterson's Land, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh EH8 8AQ. Tel. 0131 651 6235, Fax 0131 651 6234, Email call.scotland@ed.ac.uk.

**FACCT**, Auchterderran Centre, Woodend Road, Cardenden, Fife KY5 0NE. Tel. 01592 414730, Fax 01592 414737, Email facct.aac@fife.gov.uk

**KEYCOMM**, Lothian Communication Technology Service, 1C Pennywell Road, Edinburgh EH4 4PH. Tel. 0131 311 7130, Fax 0131 332 6871, Email deborah.jans@ea.edin.sch.uk.

**NHS Ayrshire and Arran AAC Resource**, Ayrshire Central Hospital, Room 156, Admin Block, Kilwinning Road, Irvine KA12 8SS. Tel 01294 274191, Email linda.page@aapct.scot.nhs.uk.

**SCTCI**, WESTMARC, Southern General Hospital, 1345 Govan Road, Glasgow G51 4TF. Tel 0141 201 2619, Fax 0141 201 2618, Email sctci @sgh.scot.nhs.uk.

**TASSCC**, AECC, Balgownie One (Lower Ground Floor), Conference Way' Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB23 8AQ. Tel. 01224 814532, Fax 01224 814566, Email tascc@aberdeencity.gov.uk.



<http://www.acipscotland.org.uk>

## Supplier Presentations

This Study Day lets you see the various eye gaze access systems and how they fit together with different AAC systems and equipment. During the day, there is a Supplier Exhibition and two formal Supplier Presentation sessions. At each session you will choose one room featuring presentations from two different suppliers. You will therefore be able to attend four supplier presentations during the day. If you wish to talk with other suppliers you will be able to do so during the breaks.

The following companies have been invited to attend:

**Logan Technologies** will show the *MegaBee*, an easy-to-use simple-tech eye pointing communication aid, like an electronic assisted e-tran frame.

**Inclusive Technology** supply Tobii devices, including *MyTobii P10* and the "C" series of communication aids. Well-known in schools, Inclusive also sell low-tech eye-gaze frames and educational software.

**Tobii UK** support the Swedish-designed ground-breaking Tobii eye-gaze systems and will show the *Ceye* with the portable *C12* as well as the *C8* communication aid, which both use the new *Communicator* software, for communication and environment control.

**DynaVox** have introduced the *EyeMax* eye-gaze access system to allow eye gaze access for users of the popular *DynaVox Vmax* communication aid, with any of its different user vocabularies.

**Techcess's EyeTech TM3** eye tracker allows control of a Windows based PC via mouse emulation by eye movement - on its own with any PC, or combined with the *Tellus 3+* communication aid.

**Liberator** demonstrate the *ECOpoint* system, which adds Tobii eye-gaze technology to the *ECO -2* communication aid (the latest and top of the PRC range of tried and trusted communication devices).

**Smartbox** will tell you about a number of eye-gaze systems that they sell, for different types of users, adult and child, including the *Alea Intelligaze*, the *LC Eyegaze* and various Tobii devices as used with the popular *The Grid 2* communication aid software.

## Collected Papers

There will be a book of the papers to be presented available on the day to all participants. After the event it will be possible to purchase copies from CALL Scotland.

## Timetable for the Study Day

- 9.00 Registration / Coffee / Exhibition**
- 9.30 Gaze controlled technology - How far have we come? Where are we going?** In this session, Mick Donegan will give a personal perspective on some topical issues and developments relating to gaze control. What are the advantages of the current range of systems? What are their shortcomings? And what are the alternatives for those who can only move their eyes but who, for whatever reason, can't achieve a successful calibration?
- 10.30 Case Studies on the Use of Eye-Gaze Technology** Janet Scott will provide a glimpse of some of the people who have worked with SCTCI to use eye gaze as their means of access to communication, the internet, recreation etc.
- 11.00 Coffee / Exhibition**
- 11.30 Supplier Presentations I** Choose a presentation to find out about eye gaze technology from two leading suppliers.
- 12.30 Lunch / Exhibition**
- 13.30 Supplier Presentations II** Another opportunity to find out about technology available from two leading suppliers.
- 14.30 Learning to communicate by eye pointing to low tech systems** Claire Latham will present some findings from the *Look2Talk* project, run by the ACE Centre.
- 15.00 Panel Discussion** Your chance to ask questions and discuss the key issues arising from the day with a panel of presenters.
- 15.45 Close**

## Continuing Professional Development

Attendance at this Study Day can count towards ongoing professional development. You can collect a Certificate of Attendance when you attend the Study Day.

Please complete this form using BLOCK CAPITALS and return to SCTCI, WESTMARC, Southern General Hospital, 1345 Govan Road, Glasgow G51 4TF (Tel 0141 201 2619, Fax 0141 201 2618) by Monday 1st November. There will be a discounted price for registering before Friday 1st October.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF DELEGATE	FEE	Please tick
Standard delegate	£95 (£85 before 1.10.10)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent of child who uses AAC	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Person who uses AAC + 1 carer	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
One additional carer	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full-time student	£15	<input type="checkbox"/>
I enclose a cheque for £ _____	Please invoice me	<input type="checkbox"/>

Invoice Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone No (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Order No. (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to *Augmentative Communication in Practice: Scotland*.

**NB Fee is non-refundable unless the booking is cancelled in writing no later than 14 days before the Study Day - no refunds will be paid after this. If paying by BACS, confirmation of details MUST also be sent to SCTCI.**

I have special dietary requirements

Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

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