

Issue

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# ILC Tech



**Independent  
Living Centre WA**

*Making choices finding solutions*

## Our Team

Educational Technology Specialist

Alana [alana.arcus@ilc.com.au](mailto:alana.arcus@ilc.com.au)

Occupational Therapists

Evana [evana.jacobson@ilc.com.au](mailto:evana.jacobson@ilc.com.au)

Jess [jessica.ridgen@ilc.com.au](mailto:jessica.ridgen@ilc.com.au)

Speech Pathologists

Amy [amy.litton@ilc.com.au](mailto:amy.litton@ilc.com.au)

Kelly [kelly.moore@ilc.com.au](mailto:kelly.moore@ilc.com.au)

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## Our Service

The ILC Technology service provides information, advice and training on specialised computer access, technologies to support education and augmentative and alternative communication equipment for people of all ages.

Information regarding assistive and educational technologies is available by appointment.

The ILC Hire Service specialises in the short term hire of equipment to provide you with an opportunity to trial before purchase.

## FREE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY Assistive Technology & AAC Devices

Two Australian suppliers of speech generating devices and assistive technology software are coming to Perth in November. Both Zyteq & Link-AT are providing an opportunity for therapists, educators, rehabilitation workers, support people and families to come and see some of the products, mounts and software they are able to supply.

The first day will be demonstrating products from both Zyteq <http://www.zyteq.com.au/> and Link-At <http://linkassistive.com/>.

The last session of day one will be investigating mounting options for the speech devices.

The second day will focus on the Tobii Communicator Software (VS Communicator), users will have opportunity for a hands on trial. This piece of software is primarily used for AAC but has also been used for computer access and environmental control systems.

**Day 1: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 9:15 – 16:30**  
**ILC Niche Conference Room**  
**Product overview of Zyteq and Link-AT.**

**Day 2: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 9:30 – 12:00**  
**ILC Training Room**



## Streamlining the Process for CAEP Funded Communication Devices

The project for streamlining the process for CAEP funded communication devices began in July 2011 and is in full swing! So far, the project has engaged clients and speech pathologists from a range of organisations seeking CAEP funding for communication devices. The pilot project is being funded by Disability Services Commission until July 2012.

It is envisioned that this new streamlined process will return better outcomes for clients using AAC through the continued engagement of support people, less wait time for both trialling the devices and access the CAEP funding.

To get your clients involved and to find out further information please go to <http://www.ilc.com.au/pages/streamlining-the-process-for-caep-funded-communication-devices>

Or contact Amy or Kelly at ILC Tech.

## Motor Mouth Camp 2012



Planning for the second Variety Motor Mouth Camp is well and truly underway.

The 2012 camp will be held at Point Walter from 11 – 15<sup>th</sup> April. Our wonderful committee has started to meet on a monthly basis to plan camp activities, choose applicants and coordinate our volunteers.

The Variety Motor Mouth camp is a five day, four night camp for school aged children who use augmentative and alternative communication aids and voice output devices, their parents/ carers and siblings. Applications are now open to children who...

- Are of school age;
- Use a high technology augmentative communication system, such as a Vantage, Springboard Lite, Dynavox, Proloquo2Go, Lightwriter, Tellus Smart etc. to express a range of language functions

If you are interested in developing your skills working with children with complex communication needs please consider volunteering!

AND/OR

- Use a complex low tech communication system, such as multilevel communication book or PODD etc. to express a range of language functions
- Have at least one family member who will be attending the camp with them;
- Want to improve the use of their device and their general communication competency.

Applications will also be considered for children who are currently waiting for funding for a communication device that they have recently and successfully trialled. In some cases, it may be possible to arrange a trial device for the camp period.

**Applications for families close on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2012 so BE QUICK!**

### So... what happens at camp???

Motor Mouth Camp involves the whole family, and a wide range of volunteers including Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, allied health students, educators and others. Each morning we provide intensive communication therapy, embedded within fun activities for the children to improve their device use. Fun activities are held each afternoon with all family members to practice skills learnt in the morning, and the opportunity to learn to use the devices in lots of different ways. Siblings participate in a super fun sibling recreation program. Parents are provided with workshops and networking opportunities to learn more about how to support their child to use their communication system. Every evening there are fun activities like a disco, movie night and camp concert. Everyone stays overnight at Point Walter in your own family room and meals are provided.

The Variety Motor Mouth camp is a fantastic opportunity for children using AAC to get to know other children in the same situation, share experiences and make new friends. The primary aim of the camp is for children using AAC to improve their system use and become more competent communicators in a fun and relaxing environment. This will be the second Motor Mouth Camp held in WA, and will continue to help us build a stronger community of AAC users!

We are also currently seeking volunteers. If you are interested in developing your skills working with children with complex communication needs please consider volunteering. We promise that you will learn a lot and have a great time too!

For application forms for families or volunteers, contact Kelly on 9381 0622 or [Kelly.moore@ilc.com.au](mailto:Kelly.moore@ilc.com.au)

## DuraSAM and Say-It! SAM

Say-It! SAM is a portable handheld dynamic speech generating device. DuraSAM is a smaller more rugged version of the Say-It! SAM, it is shock, dust and splash resistant and weighs approx 200g! Both devices have direct touchscreen access (finger or stylus). They have synthesised speech and the ability to store recorded messages. The devices use Mayer-Johnson Picture Communication Symbols (PCS) and also have the ability for the user to import their own symbols or digital photos. You are able to generate messages by selecting symbols or using text to speech. The DuraSAM is available for demonstration and hire at ILC Tech.



You can find more information on these devices through NovitaTech:  
<http://www.novitatech.org.au/product.asp?p=247&id=2867>

## TalkTrac Wearable Communicator



The TalkTrac is back! It is a compact, portable and durable static display device worn around the wrist. It is ideal for anyone needing quick messages in the home and community. It features 4 messages and 2 levels for a total of 8 individual recorded messages. The TalkTrac is available for demonstration at ILC Tech

For more information on features and prices see Spectronics:  
<http://www.spectronics.com.au/product/talktrac-wearable-communicator>

## PageBot for Amazon Kindle

The Amazon Kindle has opened up a new world for people with disabilities to access electronic books. A new product called the PageBot has been developed to make the Kindle accessible to people who cannot hold the Kindle or press its buttons.

The PageBot allow switches to be used to activate the “Next Page” and “Previous Page” buttons. This enables the reader to independently turn the pages of the book to read at their own leisure. The Pagebot also includes a universal mounting arm which can clamp onto desks or trays, or be intergrated into an existing mounting system. The Pagebot is currently available for the Kindle DS, and Kindle 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation.

For more information about the Pagebot for Amazon Kindle visit <http://www.spectronicsinoz.com/product/pagebot-for-amazon-kindle>



## ILC TECH

Independent Living Centre of WA  
The Niche, Suite A,  
11 Aberdare Road  
Nedlands WA 6009

Phone: 08 9381 0600

Fax: 08 9381 0611

Local call: 1300 885 886

E-mail: [technology@ilc.com.au](mailto:technology@ilc.com.au)



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

### Professional Development

The ILC Tech can provide professional development on topics that include:

- Assistive Technology in the classroom
- Communication Aids and technology
- Using Visual Supports
- Training for Communication Partners
- Aided Language Stimulation
- Literacy Support Tools
- Boardmaker
- Software specific training
- Special Education Apps for iPod/ iPad

In addition, we can provide customised training or support for your organisation or school. Please contact us to discuss your specific training requirements.

## 2011 ILC Tech Country Trips

The ILC Tech team has had a big year visiting the regional towns Albany, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Northam. Thank you to all the therapists, Local Area Coordinators, teachers and families for making referrals.

ILC Tech visited Geraldton from the 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September. We saw a number of students at Holland Street School and were inspired by the fantastic work the school is doing to promote the importance of communication for their students. One of the highlights of the trip was the huge turn out to our "iPads in Education" workshop at Aiden's Place. Aiden's Place, is a not-for-profit organization, and this presentation kicked off their local iPad support group. This group will enable families and others to share ideas and resources about using iPads for people with disabilities.

ILC Tech also visited Albany and surrounding towns (Kojonup, Katanning, Mt Barker and Denmark) from 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August. A special thanks to the local therapists as well as Kim Daniel and her other LAC colleagues for coordinating the trip and making referrals.

During the trip our Speech Pathologist, Kelly Moore, visited clients at home and school to share information about current communication aids and other assistive technology. A highlight of the trip was hosting a series of workshops for local service providers, families and clients. These workshops covered an overview of assistive technology options, and training on a specialised communication App called Proloquo2Go. The final workshop involved sharing a range of technology, evidence based research and strategies for working with people with complex communication needs.

Feel free to contact us for information about planning a country trip next financial year.

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### Did you know that the Independent Living Centre is on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is frequently being updated with news about ILC, upcoming events and conferences, resources about assistive equipment and technology and much more. You can follow by searching in Facebook for the "Independent Living Centre WA"

