

YOORALLA

People Helping People Achieve

Contents: Winter Edition 2009

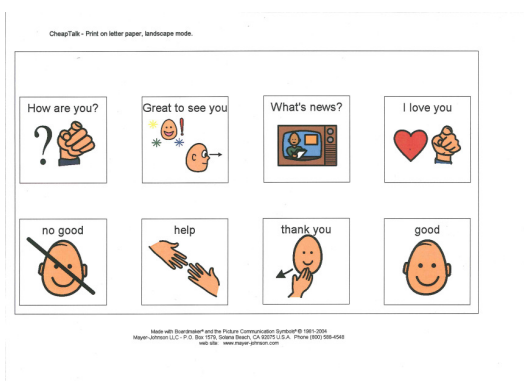
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What's New?

- **Chattervox** Voice Amplifier from [Phoenix Hearing](#).
The ChatterVox is a portable voice amplification system. It is supplied with a headset microphone and is worn by the user around the waist. It has a built in rechargeable battery. Other microphone options include a transdermal and a collar microphone. Please see the [ILC Australia database](#) for further details.
- **Social Closeness Overlays** developed by the *ComTEC* speech pathology team are now available to [download](#). These were initially designed for use by people with aphasia living in nursing homes, but could easily be adapted for clients in community residential units or day centre settings. The overlays target 'social closeness' goals such as chatting with family/friends, asking questions and making comments. They are available for the following static display devices: TechSpeak (32 cells), TechTalk (8 cells) and CheapTalk (8 cells). Please note: you require a copy of Boardmaker to utilise these templates.



- **Did you know?** Many suppliers and Assistive Technology services publish newsletters and updates about new product releases. You can check their websites or sign up to receive these. Here are some suggestions:

[Ability Technology](#)

[NovitaTech](#)

[Spectronics](#)

[Technability](#)

[Zytec](#)

Upcoming events

- **ComTEC Education Program.** Multiple sessions of the following workshops are being held in 2009:
 - introduction to Clicker 5
 - speech generating devices: an overview of devices using either spelling or symbols
 - Windows XP accessibility
 - specialised mouse and keyboard options

See attached document or visit our [website](#) for dates and further information.

- **ComTEC mounting workshop:** This half day workshop will be held on **Tuesday, August 18th**. For further details please email ania.ciechanowski@yooralla.com.au
- **Free information/education opportunities from Zytec:** Sessions with Tracey Bode looking at The Grid 2 software and new text and symbol-based speech generating devices.

When? Thursday, 6th August

Where? Hotel Ibis, 297 Springvale Road, Glen Waverley

Registration is essential. Please contact [Zytec](#) or visit their [website](#) for [registration](#) details and further information.

- **Two day seminar:** Augmentative & Alternative Communication in Health Care Settings: Supporting Patients from Intensive Care Units into the Community.

Presented by Melanie Fried-Oken, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

When? 15th & 16th October 2009

Where? Darebin Arts Centre – Melbourne

This seminar is being hosted in Victoria by the [Scope Communication Resource Centre](#) in conjunction with AGOSCI, as part of Dr Fried-Oken's national tour. Please contact the [CRC](#) for further information, registration details or sessions in other states.

- **ECU workshop:** ILC.ed in conjunction with ComTEC are running a two day Level 3 Home Modifications Workshop - Focusing On Environmental Control Units in November.

Please see the [ILC.ed website](#) for more details.

ComTEC News

- *ComTEC* are producing a new educational resource DVD about mounting. There are several factors to consider when prescribing mounting systems for speech generating devices and switches. The aim of the DVD is to increase the confidence of OTs in this area. We are seeking your input!
 - As a therapist, what extra information about mounting would be useful to you?
 - Do you have any tips/hints to assist to demystify the process?
 - Are there any specific areas where you would like more information?

Your input will assist us to develop a product suitable to your needs, so please email any comments, questions or suggestions to: polly.mccarthy@yooralla.com.au **before July 20th**, 2009.

- Polly and the *ComTEC* speech pathology team have just finished filming a DVD resource on modelling communication using AAC. The DVD is currently in post-production – stay tuned for more details and ordering information.

For further information about *ComTEC*'s services and referring clients visit www.yooralla.com.au/comtec.php

Please free to tell other people about the *ComTEC* Email Network.

To subscribe: to send an email with "subscribe" and your name in the subject line to comtec.emailnetwork@yooralla.com.au

To unsubscribe: send an email with "unsubscribe" and your name in the subject line to comtec.emailnetwork@yooralla.com.au