

## SITE eNewsletter January 2017 Issue 86

A very happy New Year from all the staff at SITE and we all hope you have a fantastic 2017!

In this issue of your eNewsletter

Any comments, contributions welcome, just send to [info@sitescotland.org](mailto:info@sitescotland.org)

Visit the [SITE website](#) for all your information needs and why not join us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date on all the news you need to stay ahead.

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### Section 1: News Update

#### Inappropriate Things To Do When You Have Sight Loss!

Those of us who have sight loss can sometimes see the humorous and embarrassing side of life even if it gets us in to trouble. Trawling the web recently we have come up with some funny situations that have arisen due to the fact we can't see too well. For example,

1. when using public transport be very careful not to sit in someones lap! Upholstery may be similar in shade to peoples clothes but this is really no excuse. This kind of familiarity with strangers should be left for the pub late on a Friday night.
2. Putting things in your mouth the wrong way round. Examples being pens, cigarettes etc - one way of quitting smoking.
3. Talking to people who are not there. I have done this many times and its no good pretending you have gone mad and you meant to talk to an empty chair, people won't believe you. Best just to admit you have made a mistake.

[Read more.](#)

If you want to share your funny or embarrassing situations with us just send these to [info@sitescotland.org](mailto:info@sitescotland.org) - where your confidentiality will be respected - honest!

#### HMRC VAT Concession

HMRC is proposing to scrap the long standing zero VAT concession on central processors and on so-called composite systems.

The British Assistive Technology Association (BATA) writes that the central processor concession was introduced when desktop systems were sold with separate components and is now considered out dated with the introduction of laptops, tablets and smart phones.

HMRC has invited interested parties to comment on the proposals at their website. [Read more.](#)

### Low Vision Support At SITE

Did you know we have a wide range of Optical Magnifiers and Video Magnifiers that you can try?

Don't know what visual aid suits your eye condition? We can help you to find the right product.

Call us on 0141 332 0983 to book an appointment.

### Calibre Audio Library Coming To Glasgow

Calibre are holding a Low Vision Drop-In Day in Glasgow on Tuesday 14 February from 10Am to 2.30PM in the Community Central Hall, 292-316 Maryhill Road, Glasgow G20 7YE.

### Sight Village Scotland

Dates for Sight Village Scotland have been announced.

The season kicks off in Edinburgh on Tuesday 25th April at The Hilton Grosvenor and then the next day, Wednesday 26th April, at the Glasgow Marriott.

Both events start at 9:30 with Edinburgh closing at 15:00 and Glasgow closing at 15:30.

### Transport Scotland - National Transport Strategy

Transport Scotland are seeking contributions and comments on their **National Transport Strategy**.

The review of the National Transport Strategy will set out an updated version for what kind of transport Scotland needs for the next 20 years.

[Read more.](#)

### Blind Person's Allowance

Are you aware that you can claim Blind Person's Allowance if you are registered severely sight impaired (blind) or, if you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland, are unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential. This is added to your tax-free Personal Allowance and increases the amount of income you can earn each year before you start paying tax.

[Read more.](#)

### Section 2: Tech Talk

#### Arclight: a pocket opht

#### halmoscope for the 21st century

Dr Andrew Blake and Colleagues have had a review article published on the Arclight Ophthalmoscope in the Christmas edition of the BMJ.

This device represents over 10 years of team work between a wide range of people and organisations including the Fred Hollows Foundation, Arclight Medical, Leicester University, UCL, NHS Five Vision 2020 link with Malawi and the University of St Andrews Global Health team.

The Arclight, a cheap, solar-powered ophthalmoscope, was designed by researchers at St Andrews University and is aimed at helping health workers in poorer countries to detect the signs of blindness.

The University of St Andrews shop is the sole supplier of the Arclight in the UK with all profits from sales of the device funding distribution and education exercises in low income countries through the School of Medicine's Global Health Implementation Team.

### Quick Tech Tip

#### Quick Tip: Set Speaker To Automatically Activate On iPhone Calls

Many situations arise when you can't hold your iPhone up to your ear to receive a call. To set up your iPhone to automatically go to speaker mode do the following: [Read more.](#)

### SITE Apps Club

The January SITE Apps Club will take place on Wednesday 25th in The Oasis Cafe, commencing 10:30, at our offices.

You can confirm your attendance by contacting Fraser at [fraserfleming@sitescotland.org](mailto:fraserfleming@sitescotland.org) or by calling us on 0141 332 0983.

### How to use your camera as a magnifying glass on iPhone and iPad

New in iOS 10, the Magnifier essentially turns the iPhone or iPad into a magnifying glass, using the built-in camera.

If you have trouble reading the newspaper or need to see the fine print on a label, just fire up the Magnifier and it'll magnify things up to 500%.

[Read more.](#)

### Section 3: Events and Training

Every Monday - Open Door at SITE. 10:30-12:00 where we can help with your technology issues - call to book a place.

25 January SITE Apps Club, The Oasis Cafe, SITE Office.

14 February Calibre Audio Library, Drop-in Day: Glasgow

25 April Sight Village Edinburgh

26 April Sight Village Glasgow

SITE is a Disabled Persons User-Led Organisation (DPULO)

SITE is a charity registered in Scotland. Charity No. SC 036056.

Registered address:

SITE, The Renfield Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JP

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