

## **SITE Newsletter July 2017 Issue 92**

Welcome to your July newsletter which this month has information on some must see events, a new piece of kit from Humanware called the Victor Reader Trek and Mac The Macula!

Please email any questions, comments, articles and news leads 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

OrCam Roadshow Comes to Glasgow !!!

The OrCam Roadshow will roll into Glasgow on Thursday 13th July and will hold

demonstrations at the Grand Central Hotel situated within Glasgow Central Station and it all starts from 10:00am

With OrCam due to launch Version 8, this is the perfect opportunity to try the OrCam My Eye out for yourself and it's all free, To secure your place all you have to do is click on the link below to sign up for your tickets or call Ian White on 07980302743 or Nigel Crook on 07794629279

OrCam gives Independence, why not join us and See for Yourself !!  
[Click here for tickets.](#)

Artlink Event - Creating Audio Workshop  
Tuesday 18 July 1pm to 3.30pm at RNIB, Hillside Crescent, Edinburgh

Artlink is offering a free short introduction to audio recording, led by John Turley from SITE Scotland.

This informal audio workshop will cover hands on use of accessible audio recording apps - free and available for your smartphone or tablet. SITE have a 'low- definition' approach, believing that compelling digital content can be created using simple technology. Don't worry if you have never used the recording functions on your phone before as the workshop is aimed at the relative beginner and will be fully accessible for people with sight loss.

Following the workshop, you are welcome to stay for refreshments and an informal conversation with Susan from Artlink about your experiences accessing the arts. Artlink continues to support art venues to improve access for disabled audiences. We are developing a series of training/discussion events and any feedback will inform this programme.

To book a free place or if you have any questions, please contact Susan at Artlink  
[susan@artlinkedinburgh.co.uk](mailto:susan@artlinkedinburgh.co.uk)

[Read more.](#)

Freedom Scientific Visit

Sight and Sound Technology are delighted to be hosting Freedom Scientific, part of the VFO Group, at the Mitchell Library, Glasgow on 10th August at 2pm – 4pm.

Come along and meet Eric Damery, Vice President of Software Product Management, who will be discussing the following topics:

VFO and overall plans for software products.

Update on migration for Window-Eyes users wishing to move to JAWS.

Fusion 11, who is it designed for?

Upcoming JAWS SMA release.

Release schedule for upcoming SMA release of ZoomText Mag/Reader and ZoomText Fusion.

EI Braille, 14 and 40 cell Windows 10 computers.

And of course, the Home Use Program summer specials.

#### Event Details

Thursday 10th August, 14:00 to 16:00

Location: The Mitchell Library (Granville St entrance), Moir Dyer Suite, Glasgow, G3 7DN.

For further information or to register your interest in attending please contact Ann Hamilton on : 0141 287 2920 (Please leave a voicemail if requested) or email

[Ann.S.Hamilton@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:Ann.S.Hamilton@glasgow.gov.uk)

[Read full story.](#)

In Brief.....

- Stagecoach North pledges to make its services more accessible to passengers with sight loss
- You can get up to £215 in credit towards the purchase of a new iPhone by trading in any smart phone.
- Have you heard of Mac The Macula? [Watch the video.](#)
- Doctors are warning that a popular cosmetic procedure could cause blindness. The warning comes from plastic surgeons in relation to injectable fillers.
  - ten visually impaired Russian athletes have been banned for doping. The athletes, all power lifters, may have been doped unknowingly.

#### Section 2: Tech Talk

##### Ten Years With An iPhone

It is ten years since Apple launched the iPhone and in this submission I look back and see what impact the technology has made to me and my life as a visually impaired person.

In 2007 Steve Jobs said 'Today Apple is going to reinvent the phone'.

I remember, as will many visually impaired people, using my Nokia mobile with 'Talks' software in order to make the phone accessible. I remember it cost £100 for the software and it had to be installed for me by the company I purchased it

from!

How things have changed since then and my 'Candy Bar' phone - but the question is 'Has it made a difference to me in what I want to do in terms of work and life?

The first thing to say is moving from the Nokia with tactile buttons to a flat, touch sensitive screen was quite an experience. It took a little while to use my first iPhone with any degree of confidence but I persevered not only due to the fact I believed this was the way forward but given the new iPhone was so expensive.

Before too long I was sending emails, texting, surfing the web and it was fantastic.

I have never looked back and regretted the move to the iPhone and year on year the accessibility has improved dramatically since 2007.

I use my phone both for work and pleasure and can't think how I managed prior to it's introduction.

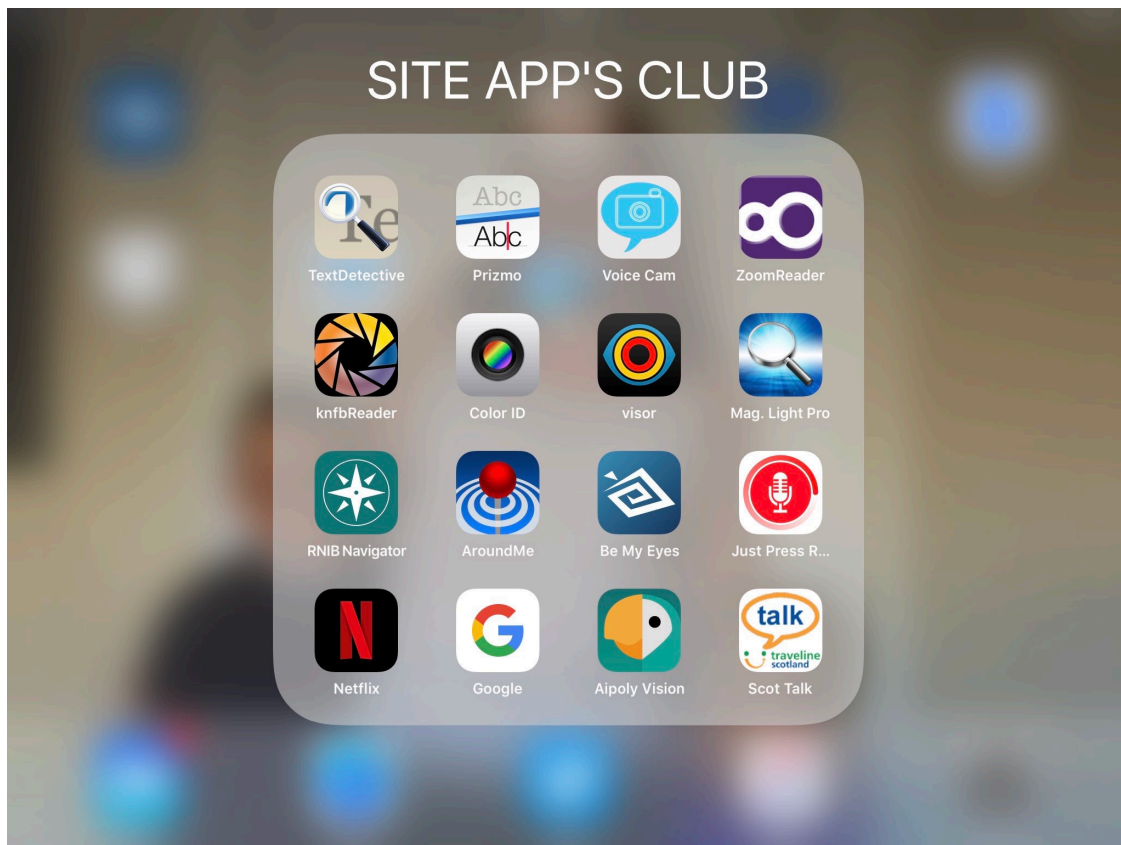
It is efficient and effective and the one thing I must say is that the Apple iPhone has made other mobile phone providers raise their game to incorporate accessibility in their products which has impacted positively on my life and I expect those of other visually impaired people.

Imagine ten years ago having the choice of having a computer in your pocket with the ability to record, find my way about streets, read papers and letters, listen to radio, interact with my sighted colleagues and participate more fully in society which was extremely difficult to do if not impossible more than ten years ago.

Indeed I do not think I could have started my own business without the ability to function effectively and efficiently and it is all down to the iPhone.

Perhaps the greatest impact the launch of the iPhone has had is we now have choice which was not there in the period prior.

I personally think that we in the visually impaired community have a lot to thank Apple for and long may it continue.



### SITE Apps Club

Interested in the latest accessible apps? Then why not join the Apps Club on Facebook.

To join the apps club you just have to search Facebook for SiteAppsClub all one word and then you can select it from the results and send a request to join.

The SITE Apps Club also meets every month in The Oasis Cafe, The Renfield Centre,  
260 Bath Street, Glasgow - next meeting is on Wednesday 25 July commencing 10:30 - just come along and join in the discussion, try some new apps over a cuppa!

### Dolphin Easy Reader

EasyReader is a FREE accessible reading app for readers with dyslexia, low vision or blindness. Browse & download from the World's largest collection of talking book and newspaper libraries. Or copy text from anywhere on your phone & hear EasyReader read it back to you. Experience perfectly synchronized text & audio. Or for text only titles, EasyReader can add a human sounding voice of your choice. Boost comfort or contrast - choose colours, text size and highlights to suit your visual needs.

Make your books' text as big as your eyes require. Unlike other mainstream reading apps, there's no restriction with EasyReader. Zoom in with a standard 2

finger pinch or make fine adjustments with the simple sliders. There's never any blurry text or fuzzy fonts - your books' words are always crystal clear and always easy on the eye.

Navigate your books or newspapers by skipping directly to specific pages or headings. Search your book for words or phrases. Add text bookmarks or record your own audio bookmarks and return to them with ease.

EasyReader is fully optimised for use with iOS VoiceOver and iOS supported Braille displays.

The app is free and available on IOS and Android.

### Victor Reader Trek

Listen to the podcast below and find out about the new Victor Reader Trek. It is everything you know about the Trekker line of products, along with everything you love about the Victor Reader Stream and a heck of a lot more rolled into a spiffy new device. In this special, you will hear about what led into the design of the Victor Reader Trek, what comes in the box, what voices it supports, a GPS navigation demonstration, discussions on availability and of course the price.

[Listen to the podcast here.](#)

### Section 3: Events and Training

#### July

13 July Orcam Roadshow, Central Hotel, Glasgow

18 July Artlink: Creating Audio Workshop, Edinburgh

#### August

10 August Freedom Scientific Event, Mitchell Library, Glasgow

#### October

12 October World Sight Day

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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