



SITE

Supported Integration Training and Employment

SITE eNewsletter April 2017 Issue 89

Want to give Brexit, local government and General Elections a miss for a short time? Then just put the kettle on and read this months eNewsletter which has no mention of the above - honest!

Find out why we will be visiting Paisley, read some great stories from members, how to play tennis if you are blind and try a great new typing app.

Any comments, contributions welcome, just send to 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

Sight Village

Remember SITE will be at Sight Village Glasgow on Wednesday 26 April, at the Glasgow Marriott.
The day starts at 9:30 and closes at 15:30.

Independence Day Paisley!

Great news if you live in Paisley and want to try out the most up-to-date accessible tech on the planet!

SITE and our friends from Humanware and Sight Sound Technologies have linked up to provide you with a great opportunity to try out some great tech on Wednesday 24 May at the Disability Resource Centre, 74 Love Street, Paisley commencing 10:00. Full details at our website, click below.

[Read more.](#)

Seven Benefits Of being Blind!

A while ago we provided a list of funny things that occur to blind and partially sighted people. That list received a lot of positive comments and we thank all who gave us their comments.

We now turn to the 'benefits of being blind' but won't mention free travel, half-price TV licence but. Instead we will look at some quirky benefits and take no responsibility for any offence.

1. We are never asked to help someone move house.
2. We get out of painting and decorating.
3. We can read in the dark if we do braille.
4. We save on electricity bills because we don't need the lights on.
5. We never have to stay sober to drive someone in a car.
6. You will never be asked for directions - although this has happened on a number of occasions.
7. you won't be afraid of that spider on the wall as you can't see it.

Scottish Government - Transport Scotland: Improving Parking in Scotland

The Scottish Government want your views on improving the management of parking across Scotland and making regulation more consistent. The consultation asked how the Scottish Government can

improve the clarity of the laws on parking, what restrictions should be applied and the exceptions that should be granted. The Scottish Government has also aimed this consultation to local authorities to ask how they can deliver an integrated approach to managing parking, how we should tackle displacement of vehicles and support town centre regeneration, as well as improving accessibility for all.

To respond to this consultation, you can do the following:

Answer the questions in this document and email to maureen.bennison@sdef.org.uk

Or post to Maureen Bennison, SDEF Administrator, 2/4 e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa, Clackmannanshire, FK10 3LP

Go to the SDEF online survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/6S6QTLS>

Please return your response to Scottish Disability Equality Forum no later than Friday 23 June 2017.

A Quick Donner Around The Toon! by Graeme Lockhart

As many of us will know some of the streets we use on a daily basis are a safety issue, both for those of us with a visual impairment and our Guide Dogs.

SITE Community Hub member, Graeme Lockhart, takes a somewhat light-hearted view of this serious issue in his recent post to the Community hub.

Read the full story by clicking the link below.

[Read more.](#)

Look Out Andy - Here Comes Laura!

Andy Murray may have a new rival as the best Scottish tennis player in the form of Laura Grant who is a volunteer for SITE!

Check out the audio interview with Laura who speaks about her recent success playing tennis as a blind person.

[Click here for audio.](#)

Don't Do This At Home! by Charlotte bennie

Continuing her great series of articles on daily living as a blind person this month Charlotte turns to disasters in the kitchen.

[Read more.](#)

Section 2: Tech Talk

Alexa you Proved A Winner!

Big thanks to all who recently attended the Amazon demonstration where everyone had a ball seeing what Alexa, or more correctly the Amazon Dot, could do! Together with the accessible Kindle tablet and a packed training room you may have guessed there was just a little noise!

[Read more.](#)

As a result of a query concerning the Braille Note Touch and the Amazon Dot we can confirm that the Braille Note Touch easily links with the Echo/Dot and is a breeze to use.

SITE App Of The Month

As agreed by members of the SITE Apps Club the app of the month for April is

Talking Typer App

An accessible typing and computer keyboard tutorial app with a keyboard game to help increase speed and accuracy in a fun environment! Learn to type or improve your skills with drills, practice lessons, keyboard explorer, and an entertaining game. It is designed for blind and visually impaired students, but can be used by sighted students too. This makes it a great tool for the whole class. Works with iOS® devices running iOS 8 or later.

[Read more.](#)

Amazon Fire Stick

How accessible is the new Amazon Fire Stick?

First of all what is it?

OK lets answer the second question first.

Basically it's a device that plugs in to the HDMI port on a TV. You can then watch all sorts of content including content from BBC iPlayer, ITV, Channel 4, Amazon Prime and Amazon Video, Netflixs, listen to music from Spotify and Amazon Music and play games.

The Fire Stick is small, about the size of a stick of chewing gum with a HDMI port at the right hand side.

The new version has Alexa, the voice remote, installed.

Along with the stick you also get 2 AAA batteries, power adaptor, USB cable and a HDMI extender cable.

In addition to the voice remote there is Dolby Audio and improved WIFI connectivity.

Setup is relatively simple and accessible using the remote control provided.

In no time you are ready to go!

One drawback was it is known that there are no audio described movies on Amazon but you can use Netflixs for audio described content.

Bottom line is we found the Amazon Fire Stick excellent apart from the AD issue.

So if streaming media is your bag then go get it!

Cost £39.99

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.

April

25 April Sight Village Edinburgh

26 April Sight Village Glasgow

May

24 May Independence Day Paisley

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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