



December 2011

Thank you

So many centres sent very moving messages of condolence to Mildred Karten following Ian's death. Mildred had hoped to come to the conference to express her thanks directly, but hasn't been well herself. But she asked me to tell you all how moved she was by your messages, and that she found a lot of support in them. Mildred said to me at the time that she hoped Ian realised in what high esteem he was held. So please accept Mildred's gratitude for your messages. She wishes you all every success for the future as part of Ian's incredible legacy.

Please share this message with anyone else in your organisation who also sent their condolences

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New Centres / Upgrades to Centres

The Trustees have agreed (in no particular order):

- An upgrade to the equipment in the original Karten CTEC Centre at Beaumont College in Lancaster.
- Support with the costs of a new server for Share Community in London where we already have a centre
- Additional equipment for the Cedar Foundation centres in Belfast and Ballymena
- A new centre at Queen Alexandra Hospital Home in Worthing
- A new centre at Westgate College (John Townsend Trust) in Margate
- An Eduprint system for the existing centre at Orchardville in Belfast

Conference 2011—Creativity through Technology

Great to see so many colleagues at the conference! From the response sheets it seems everyone had a good time. The conference is always a great opportunity to see what different centres are doing—one of the benefits you always identify is the networking.

Tim's keynote address on the Trust funding strategy is featured on other pages—we wanted everyone to be clear on the changes whether you were at the conference or not. Do talk to Tim or myself if you have questions—or invite me along for a visit. Many thanks to all the people who gave presentations or ran workshops—Karen Grist and Eddie Erasmus from NCYPE, Cathy Cross from 4D Creative, Nat Hart from Eduprint and Tim Swingler from Soundbeam. But from the feedback the part of the day that you enjoyed most was the Awards. We will be putting more information on the website, but the winners were:



Derwen College receiving their award, with Graham Jowett, Network Chair

Innovation: Derwen College

Transition: Seashell Trust

Personal Achievement: Juliet Frazer from Percy Hedley Foundation

Volunteer of the Year: Enham

Many congratulations to you all! And thank you to Portland College for sponsoring the awards (see page 11) and to Glasshouse College for producing them.

Conference 2011

It is much appreciated when you give feedback, and here is a summary of what you said:

Your favourite parts of the day were: –

The awards (11)

Progress of the network and seeing what other people are doing (5)

4D Creative (5)

Networking (6)

Food (1)

Exhibition (1)

Going away with fresh ideas (1)

Mobile assessment unit (2)

Workshops (3)

Slide show of Ian's life (1)

Many just said 'everything!'

The parts you wanted to improve were:

Lots said 'not applicable'

Lunch break too long (2)

Demonstrations (2)

Attend more than one workshop (2)

The screen had glare (4)

Need pens on the tables (1)

Quality of coffee (1)

Need drinks in the afternoon (1)

Morning presentations (2)

More commentary for people with visual impairment (2)

Awards (1)

Timings too loose (3)

Thank you also for your suggestions for a future conference—watch this space. And do send me any other ideas of things you would like to see or suppliers you think we should invite.

Many thanks also to QAC for making us so welcome despite lots happening behind the scenes, to Dave and Mubina for judging the awards, and to the people who stood in when there were hiccups in the planning (you know who you are!)

The Trust Funding Strategy

If you were at the conference, you will have heard Tim Simon, Chair of Trustees, talk through the new funding strategy of the Ian Karten Charitable Trust. We thought it would be useful for you to have it in writing:

The Trustees have agreed the future policy of the Trust as follows:

1. They will proceed with all new centres that have been agreed in principle subject of course to the applications being acceptable.
2. They will not consider any new centres other than in very particular or exceptional circumstances.
3. They will use future income in supporting existing CTEC Centres in such manner as the Trustees feel appropriate when applications for such support are received.
4. In considering such applications the Trustees will be concerned as to the excellence or otherwise of the centre concerned and will have in mind improving the work of those centres which are of a substandard level.

What does this mean in practice?

1. The Trustees will proceed with all new centres that have been agreed in principle subject of course to the applications being acceptable.

The way the trust operates is that when the Trustees are first approached Ceri makes an initial assessment and makes a recommendation to the Trustees. Sometimes the approach is merely an enquiry in general terms and sometimes it is more detailed. The Trustees at this stage either note the enquiry or if it is more detailed they may either agree it in principal or reject it.

It is those that have been either just noted or agreed in principle and which sometimes take some years to come to fruition that they will proceed with. That is why there are now 111 Centres rather than just 100.

However the Trustees have now decided that a time limit must be imposed and this is 3 years from the initial enquiry or from their agreement in principal whichever is the later.

2. The Trustees will not consider any new centres other than in very particular or exceptional circumstances.

What are 'particular or exceptional circumstances'? The Trustees have decided that they specifically include:

- a new centre to be established by an organisation which already has an excellent centre and
- since Ian always emphasised that the Centres should have no racial or religious bias - the Israeli Centres serve Christian and Muslim Palestinian Arabs as well as Jews - they will consider new Centres in Arab East Jerusalem as well as Jordan.

3. The Trustees will use their future income in supporting existing CTEC Centres in such manner as the Trustees feel appropriate when applications for such support are received.

The Trust is well endowed but is not huge. You will see if you go onto the Charity Commission website that it has capital in excess of £7m which produces an annual income of approximately 3.5% that is to say something under £250,000.

Ian wanted the Trust to preserve its capital and be a force for good for many years to come. The Trustees have decided to preserve the capital in real terms - that is to say to ensure that it keeps pace with inflation - but they will add any capital appreciation above inflation to the income and be prepared to spend it.

This last year the Trust has managed to make capital gains but of course that may not always be the case so it is not possible to know in advance how much they will have at their disposal.

4. In considering applications the Trustees will be concerned as to the excellence or otherwise of the Centre concerned and will have in mind improving the work of those Centres which are of a substandard level.

This will be the key point for most of our Network members and so I will try and be as specific as I can

When considering an application from an existing centre the Trustees will have regard to the following points. Please understand that this will not just be a question of ticking the boxes and you are home and dry. The Trustees will listen to the advice they receive from Ceri and generally consider the overall merits.

The Trustees will consider:

- the excellence or otherwise of that Centre including
- the quality of their work,
- whether any of their clients have gained employment,
- whether the Centre is open to the general public outside of its parent organisation
- whether it is fully supported by its parent organisation
- whether there is a real possibility of the Centre rising from substandard to excellent as a result of a further grant
- generally whether it is fulfilling its potential
- That the grant is being be for the same type as has always been approved i.e. for hardware, software, furniture, refurbishment and extension of the centre but not e.g. salaries or other annual expenditure
- Replacement of equipment due to it being old, or obsolescent i.e. the Trustees will not necessarily require a Centre to depreciate the equipment and fund the replacement themselves
- The provision of new assistive devices and advances in technology
- Allowing a Centre to fold if in their view a further grant would merely be throwing good money after bad

In conclusion the trustees consider that the best way to perpetuate the memory of Ian Karten is to nurture the Centres so that they can continue to be a source of pride to all involved with them and are a true beacon to those who use them.

I hope that helps to give the context for future funding decisions. Do give me a ring if you want to discuss any of the issues raised.

Tim Simon, Chair of Trustees

07775 682098

Wheelchair user campaigns for better pavements



Innovative graduate Matthew Kayne has launched a campaign to enhance the lives of wheelchair users in the capital and is appealing to the community for help.

Matthew (aged 28) lives in NW London and has just completed his BSC honours degree at Middlesex University. He says of his campaign:

“I want to encourage London councils to invest in making their pavements and kerbs safer for wheelchair users, as well as for the whole community.”

Matthew knows from first-hand experience just how important this crusade is. He is a powered wheelchair user himself and finds travelling the city’s pavements a daily ordeal.

“I am a very independent person,” he says. “I go out to shops, cafes and to university every day. However, many of the pavements around my home are very uneven and dangerous for wheelchairs, making even short journeys stressful and potentially hazardous. On many occasions I have nearly tipped over.”

Not only are pavements often irregular and crumbling, but, Matthew says, crossing the road is even more hazardous.

With London 2012 looming, there are only 8 months for councils to make reasonable adjustments to their pavements before an expected 6 million visitors hit the capital’s streets for the Olympics.

“Dropped kerbs are vital for wheelchair users needing to cross roads and driveways. There is a real scarcity of these dropped kerbs, so wheelchair users often have to travel substantial distances along a street before they can find a place they can cross. Sometimes they even find there is a dropped kerb on one side of the road but not on the opposite side they are crossing to! This is extremely dangerous, as it means having to travel along in the road itself until a dropped kerb is reached.”

Matthew’s campaign is already attracting celebrity interest and support. Most recently, ITV’s Philip Schofield pledged his support for the venture, agreeing that it will help everyone get around more easily.

However, Matthew is realistic about the challenge ahead of him.

“I recognise that this is a difficult financial climate in which to be approaching councils with requests which involve expense. However this is about equality, safety and basic maintenance at a fundamental level.”

He believes that resurfacing and repairing broken and uneven pavements would not be overly expensive but would have a dramatic impact on the quality of life of wheelchair users and the community at large.

“It’s not just about wheelchairs. Children, people who are elderly, unwell or use mobility cars, and even those pushing buggies, prams or shopping trolleys, would all benefit from good pavements and more dropped kerbs. In fact my own mother recently had a fall on uneven pavement near my road.”

Matthew hopes that others will now join him in finding ways to enhance the city’s streets.

“I have written to my local council about the pavements in my own area and have started contacting the London media. However, so far I am struggling to bring this important need to their attention.

I am determined to raise awareness of this issue, on behalf of the whole London community, and would welcome any help people are willing to offer in approaching local councils and raising awareness of this need. I want us to be able to be proud of our city’s streets in 2012”.

People can contact or support Matthew through his Facebook campaign group page **‘Even and Safer pavements for London’**.

The Ian Karten Memorial Conference

One of the amazing things about the Karten Network is the links between centres in the UK and in Israel. The centres in Israel have decided to hold a memorial conference for Ian at Haifa University on January 11th, 2012 and you are invited! If you are able to be in Israel next January I know you will have a fantastic time at the conference, but if not, you can still participate: there will be interactive broadcasting of the conference online. The programme for the day is: (Israel is 2 hours ahead of GMT)

9:30—10:15 Greetings from Haifa University and the Keren

In memory of Ian Karten—Tim Simon and Prof Arik Rimmerman

10:15—11:00 The Ian Karten legacy, past present and future

Ceri Hibbert

11:30—13:00 Innovative practices in Israel

Panel of OTs from the Keren: Debbie Ben-Tal, Dareen Hourri Hadad, Hagit Rubin, Michal Emanuel-Shalev and Orit Grinstein

13:00—13:45 Lunch

13:45—15:00 Keynote address: Time to get out of the state of stuck!

Future trends in assistive technology for people with disabilities

Dr Naomi Schreuer

15:00—15:30 Closing remarks

If you too want to get out of the state of stuck, please get involved! To find out more about how to participate in the conference, whether directly or remotely, please email nitzy100@gmail.com. Perhaps OTs in your organisation might like to participate too, so please share this with them.

Fundraising by Portland College students

Portland College sponsored the Karten Awards this year. But the money wasn't from the organisation, but from the students themselves—many thanks to them. This is their story:

When I was asked to be involved in ideas for fundraising to sponsor a Karten CTEC award, effective yet simple plans came to mind.

First of all I met with my student colleagues and discussed possible ideas we could use to raise the targeted cash goal of £100. After a ten minute discussion we had five realistic ideas.

We then put the five ideas to our fundraising department at the College and arrived at the two we would use, after discussing each idea to find out which ones were likely to raise the funds required.

Our first idea was the 'name the cuddly toy' incentive in which participants would be asked to pick a name from a list of 50. We charged £1 per entry and we put all the names in a box once they had all been chosen. The winner in this case would win a cuddly tiger.



pictured above is the cuddly toy prize

The second idea was where participants had to pay £1 per entry to guess the number of sweets in a tub and the exact or closest guess would win the tub of sweets. We aimed to raise £50 and so 50 guesses were available to choose from.

Amongst students and staff the 'name the cuddly toy' filled up well. The tiger was displayed on the College reception and taken into the classrooms and various departments of the College with the signup sheet.

We reached our goal of 50 names and therefore raised £50 and the winner was one of the tutors from the CTEC Centre, Jo Bleszynska who was awarded the beautiful cuddly toy tiger, with the name of Hunter.

The guess the number of sweets in the tub incentive filled up just as quickly and with the help of student Diane Davies who promoted the competition around the College departments, the £50 goal was reached easily. The winner was another tutor Russell Nock who took home the tub of sweets.



pictured above is Russell Nock with his prize

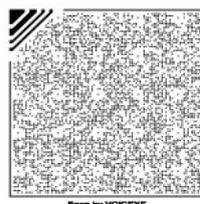
I and my student colleagues fully enjoyed participating in fundraising to sponsor the Karten Network awards and were happy to contribute to 'giving something back' to an organisation that has aided the College so much over the years.

Wayne Newbold, Student

Karten CTEC Centre, Portland College

New Product: Voiceye

Do you have a smartphone? Go to your app store and download the free Voiceye app which will enable you to read this article. Just hold the camera of the phone over the VOICEYE code and it will automatically scan the text.



No smartphone? The text version is on page 18. But it's not too late to ask Father Christmas for a new phone —I'm sure he tweets....

100th CTEC Centre: Momentum Inclusive East, Glasgow

Momentum Skills' new centre was officially opened by Glasgow Central MP Anas Sarwar on Friday 2 September. The facility, which will assist people with disabilities across the city to access computers, will provide support to individuals in developing skills that will improve their quality of life and enable them to undertake further education or training, or gain employment.

As well as offering training and support in using standard computer applications and the internet, the centre has a range of assistive technologies to support individuals in using the equipment. Family members and personal assistants will also be offered training, allowing them to provide additional support to clients while, thanks to a suite of portable equipment, an outreach service will also be provided to people unable to access the centre.



Dougie Taylor, Colin Baird (Centre Manager), Anas Sarwar Mp and Ceri Hibbert at the opening

Dougie Taylor, Momentum Skills' Head of Operations tells Rehab News, "We are delighted to host this new facility at Momentum Skills in Bridgeton and to become the 100th Karten CTEC Centre. The centre will provide assessments to identify the assistive technology solutions that best fit individuals' needs, as well as training on how

to use the various technologies. Some of the specialist technologies at the centre include advanced speech recognition software, screen reading programmes and a large range of ergonomically-designed furniture and devices such as computer mice and keyboards. The access to technology provided by the centre will undoubtedly transform lives of people with disabilities across Glasgow.”

Ceri Hibert, Network Development Manager for the Ian Karten Charitable Trust, says, “It was always Ian Karten’s vision to have 100 CTEC centres for disabled people funded through the Trust. The network of centres is a wonderful legacy to Ian, and one which continues to have an impact. Thousands of people have benefited from the use of technology to improve the quality of their lives and enhance access to employment and training. We are delighted to be associated with Momentum Skills in the setting up of this 100th CTEC Centre, and look forward to them being active members of the Network.”

Gaming your way into work!

Langdon Group is an independent living charity founded in 1992 to support people with disabilities. Today we support a growing number of young people & adults, in our college and our independent living community, to realise equality of life, learning and work opportunity.

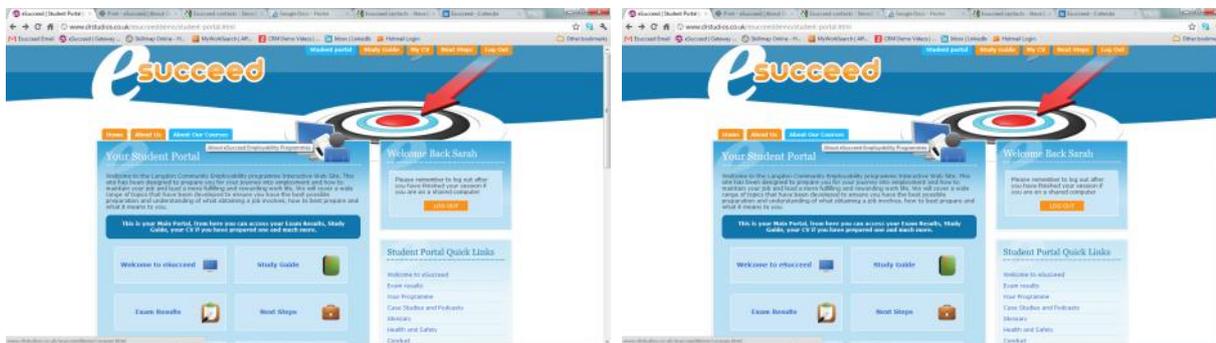
Some statistics on disability and employment

1. There are 1.3 million disabled people in the UK who are available for and want to work.
2. Only 50% of these people are in work (50%), compared to 80% of non disabled people.

- 23% of disabled people have no qualifications compared to 9% of non disabled people.
- Nearly 1 in 5 people of working age in Great Britain have a disability (7 million).

The UK Welfare to Work sector has seen unprecedented change in recent years, as the effects of the crippling public debt, and a change in government, have forced a change in strategy; in comes a period of austerity that has seen a move towards government outsourcing through a payment by results model, forcing providers to challenge how they deliver employment support.

In the education sector, major forces of change are challenging us to deliver learning that puts learners at the centre and leverages new technologies & human capital. This world of learning will make it possible for learners to develop greater knowledge & ability in order to thrive throughout their lifetimes. To make this vision a reality, new ways of thinking and acting will be required.



Langdon Group, in partnership with DR Studios, an award winning, internationally renowned games developer are working in partnership to develop the **eSucceed employability programme**. This unique, online employability portal supports people with mild to moderate learning disabilities, to move closer to the job market.

As the learner progresses through the accredited course they will gain confidence, knowledge and skills that equip them to face the job market, giving them the best chance of securing a job. For the provider, the detailed analytics, diagnostic and assessment reporting allows the opportunity for more remote monitoring whilst providing invaluable evidence of distance travelled.

This 'gaming inspired', interactive and intuitive e-Learning programme, aims to increase engagement and motivation and encourages them to manage their way through the programme supported by extensive information, advice and guidance. A user friendly, multimedia rich content includes job related video and audio tutorials, interactive FAQ's, comprehensive and dynamic links to jobsites, support services and resources, that enrich the learner experience.

Cost effective for providers

Transforming their delivery and financial models. It will: -

- Lower human resource needs.
- Lower or no infrastructure requirements.
- Free-up staff to support customers with significant or multiple challenges.
- Provide detailed activity / distance travelled reporting.
- Cost effective - Flexible pricing, 2-year licence period.

Motivational for customers

Transform course experience. It will be: -

- Unique gaming based interface.
- Simple user friendly navigation.
- Interactive – Hints, prompts, FAQ's, I.A.G.
- Personalised self-managed service – Customer works at own pace.
- Tried and tested e-Learning modules.
- Browser based – minimal system requirements.
- Available anywhere and anytime – 24/7: 365 Days a year.

Langdon would like to talk to any centre interested in: -

- o knowing more about potential use of **eSucceed** within existing employment services as well as the potential to fund it through schemes like '**Right to Control**'.
- o taking advantage of the revenue potential in reseller agreements with **eSucceed**
- o how **eSucceed** could help centres to deliver services as part of large-scale government funded programmes such as **Work Choice, Work Programme** and **ESF Support for Troubled Families**.

For more information on the product and / or to **hear more about the profit potential of eSucceed**, please contact **Steve Thorpe** on **07432 740 774** or email on **steve@esucceed.co.uk**

New Intern

Time certainly flies by—and we have already worked with 2 interns! Jennifer has been working with us for the past 6 months updating the website and creating our presence on Facebook. Many thanks to her for the fantastic work she has done. But her time with us has now come to an end.

We thought we were organised with someone to follow on from Jennifer, but the gentleman concerned has found another opening—fantastic news for him, but it leaves us with a vacancy.

Do you have anyone who has been a client recently or currently who needs some real work experience in the field of website maintenance and development? We are quite flexible: it is usually about 6 hours a week, at £10 an hour. We will appoint someone for either a 6 or 12 month period, depending on their existing knowledge level.

Anyone interested should send their cv to ceri@karten-network.org.uk by 27th January 2012, along with a reference from the Karten Centre Manager.

Ian's life story

I hope you all enjoyed reading Ian's life story. If you didn't get a copy, please let me know.

But the news is that it is now available as a Talking Book, courtesy of Jewish Care in London. I will put a link to it on the website. There are no copyright restrictions, so you may use it on your intranet or make copy cds.

The book is read by Gabby Roslin's father. Jewish Care can make copies, but there would be a small administrative charge.

Many thanks to Vic Seigal for organising this

Voiceye

On page 12 you will have seen a VOICEYE symbol, which contains the following text:

Create accessible documents directly from MS Word! Text data stored in a VOICEYE code can be read back by the VOICEYE phone app or on your PC. The VOICEYE symbol which is printed together with the intended document in the standard right top corner can be created simply with the software VOICEYE maker. The symbol holds up to 2 A4 pages of text on a 2.5cm square code.

The app for reading the code is free on the Android and iPhone markets. Just start the app, hold the camera of the phone over the VOICEYE code and it will automatically scan the code. The text is then available for display in various popular colours and can be read aloud. By having a standard position for the code, everyone knows where to scan.

Coming soon – Music! Music Midi files on paper!

For more information contact sales@forcetenco.co.uk or 01372 450887

Do let me know what you think of VOICEYE and how you might use it. Shall I insert codes for every page of the newsletter and conference paperwork?

And finally.....

Very best wishes for a joyful, peaceful
Christmas and a successful 2012

From everyone at the Karten Trust and
Network

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