



Humanware™

Education News

Summer 2005

A meeting of minds



In January 2005, Pulse Data and VisuAide merged to form HumanWare.

Focused on enhancing the lives of people with disabilities, HumanWare provides intuitive, intelligent solutions for people of all ages with visual impairments.

These solutions allow visually impaired people to participate effectively in today's information intensive and highly mobile society.

HumanWare now employs the industry's largest Research and Development team, which means we now have the capacity to create even more leading edge product innovations.

You can be certain of receiving the same high level of assistance from HumanWare that you enjoyed with Pulse Data

Alan Davis
UK General Sales Manager

75% OF WORKING AGE PEOPLE WITH SIGHT PROBLEMS ARE UNEMPLOYED

22% OF BLIND PEOPLE OF WORKING AGE IN THE UK CAN READ BRAILLE

50% OF BLIND PEOPLE WHO ARE EMPLOYED READ BRAILLE

ARE YOU TAKING BRAILLE SERIOUSLY ?

WE ARE.

**Compelling figures aren't they.
Surely a reason - if one was needed -
to encourage young blind people to learn Braille.**

To give a young blind person the best chance of finding full and meaningful employment after leaving education requires the positive promotion of Braille reading and writing whilst in education.

Positive promotion of Braille reading and writing requires modern and powerful technology. Technology like the BrailleNote notetaker, including the ultra portable BrailleNote PK and the Brailiant Braille Displays - the world's lightest and only Braille display with wireless Bluetooth connectivity.

Our commitment to innovative Braille technology is rapidly making HumanWare stand out from its competitors and gain the status of preferred supplier for Braille technology to so many schools, colleges and universities across the UK.

Watch out for more new developments in our Braille Technology coming soon.

HumanWare, empowering people to reach their potential

Keeping in touch with your ~~Pen~~ Braille Pal

BNClub

The BrailleNote club exists to allow young BrailleNote users in the UK the opportunity to correspond with other young BrailleNote users around the world.

Communication is via email and registration is simple and secure. Once registered, the student will receive a free gift pack and there are also regular competitions and prizes.

Visit our website for further details www.humanware.com





myReader

However they have all proved difficult and tiring to use, often causing very severe headaches after just a few minutes use. MyReader has been the first piece of equipment that Carrie-Ann herself has really wanted to use.

Within moments of myReader arriving at school, Carrie-Ann had convinced her teachers of its benefits and the potential for using myReader in any classroom in the school.

Carrie-Ann recently used myReader in several of her mock GCSE exams with amazing results.

She was able to complete her English exam, without any support and used less than 25% of her extra allotted time. Compared to her previous English exam (without myReader) when Carrie-Ann required her full allotted 100% extra time.

Since we launched myReader at Sight Village last year, we have spoken with many CCTV users from around the World, who now feel they have a real alternative to the way they read. Reading has become a pleasure once again and learning has become easier too. We now realise what a difference myReader can make in education.

We visited fourteen year old Carrie-Ann Sharman at her mainstream comprehensive school in Sussex to find out how myReader is assisting in her education. Carrie-Ann has been provided over the years with a range of CCTVs and portable magnifiers to help with her low vision.

Window-Eyes succeeds where others have failed



The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) in Preston prides itself on its unique level of support given to students with disabilities. John Hodgson, Senior Technician at the Specialised Learning Resource Unit (SLRU) has been trying to find a screen reader which their blind students and staff could use to access their Citrix Remote Access service. Window Eyes, the screen reading software from GW Micro came highly recommended from staff at HumanWare and was purchased through them.

The results were immediate and very impressive.

With Window-Eyes on their computer, a blind user can now log on to the UCLan computer network from home using the Remote Access service. He goes on to say "For the purposes of accessing our Citrix service, Window Eyes has proved to be a quick and easy solution requiring little maintenance and training to get users up and running with the minimum of technical intervention. I am delighted that HumanWare has offered to supply telephone support for Window-Eyes".



Carl Ibison
External Liasion Officer UCLAN



"its absolutely fantastic"

Mark Attenburrow, Special Needs Co-ordinator and Inclusion Manager at the School and Mickey Gillett, Higher Level Teaching Assistant have seen the remarkable results which Carrie-Ann has achieved in a few short weeks.

"nothing else comes close to myReader"

Mr Attenburrow believes that myReader is a brilliant answer for Carrie-Ann and has the potential to make a big impact on her learning, "we looked at lots of different equipment but nothing else comes close to myReader".

He added "we also see the potential for a significant saving in time and money by not having to produce so many large print photocopies".

Carrie-Ann now, for the first time has assistive technology which is truly assistive.

Using the auto scroll column mode she can now read quickly, comfortably and for much longer periods of time.

Carrie-Ann is happy and positive about reading again and is totally comfortable using myReader in the company of her peers. She thinks **myReader is absolutely fantastic.**



Carrie-Ann and Mickey Gillett, Teaching Assistant

Simply Brailiant Simply the Best

HumanWare is delighted to announce the latest additions to our range of Brailiant Braille displays. All the Brailiant displays have the following great features

- Wireless BlueTooth and USB connectivity
- 30 hours battery life (BlueTooth) and 100 hours battery life (USB)
- Each Brailiant comes with a free, full working copy of Window Eyes Screen Reading software
- Smallest and lightest braille displays on the market - ideal for the person on the move.
- For improved ergonomics, greater comfort and less reach the displays can be inverted by a simple key command
- Compatible with other screen readers, including JAWs

We now have five sizes of Brailiants

Brailiant 24 cell £1,995
Brailiant 32 cell £2,495

Brailiant 40 cell £2,995
Brailiant 64 cell £4,695

Brailiant 80 cell £6,195



If you have any questions, require any further information or would like to arrange a free demonstration, please contact our sales office on **01933 626000** or email **eu.sales@humanware.com**



www.humanware.com



Introducing the Solo Camera - £2195.00

the Classroom and Distance Camera in one neat package

A simple solution is now available from HumanWare to assist students with low vision. The Solo is the very latest in Classroom and Distance Camera technology and is light, portable and ready for use anywhere anytime.



The Solo will magnify text and illustrations directly to a laptop and is so simple and quick to connect. With just one cable to the computer you are up and running !

The Solo Camera allows a student to work from the blackboard or the desktop, without the need for any additional lighting or cable management. Images can be captured and stored on the laptop.



Without the need for clamps or stands the possibilities are endless for using Solo, in the classroom, in the library.....

Please contact our sales office
if you require further
information on
01933 626000



The Brite Initiative

The Brite Initiative was established in 2001 as a core element of the Scottish Executive's commitment to Inclusiveness. With funding from the Scottish Further Education Funding Council, the BRITE Initiative has the national remit to build the capacity of staff in all Scotland's 45 further education colleges to include students with wide-ranging needs and to enable them to reach their full potential. A central strand of the Initiative's work is the provision of information and advice on the use of enabling technologies to support students with disabilities.

The BRITE Centre, opened in 2002, is based on the campus of Stevenson College in Edinburgh. It is a purpose built facility to support and train staff across Scotland in identifying the ways in which assistive technologies can be utilised by their students, as well as providing a venue for people to try out a wide range of enabling and assistive technology.

At the cutting edge of technology, HumanWare is working closely with the BRITE Initiative staff to evaluate products and to respond to students' development and support

Our new representative in Scotland Lucy Naismith is seen here demonstrating myReader to the technology staff at the Brite Centre.



Monty Lilburn and Kellie Mote
with Lucy Naismith

Martin Roberts joins the Team



Martin and his guide dog Jade

In January this year, Martin Roberts joined HumanWare as Blind Sales Support for our UK customers.

A graduate himself, Martin has used a range of electronic equipment to help him complete his education.

He is in the perfect position to promote the value of powerful and portable assistive technology for blind students.

If you would like Martin to demonstrate our blindness products please call our Sales Office on 01933 626000

myReader Carry Bags



Two new purpose built cases are now available to protect and transport your myReader.

A soft case for easier carrying and safer storage is available at £90 and a hardcase with wheels and an attaché style telescopic handle is £190.

To order your carry case please contact our sales office on 01933 626000



Win a Free myreader for your school, Education Department, College or University

Don't forget to bring your entry to the HumanWare Stand at Sight Village. You may be the winner !



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