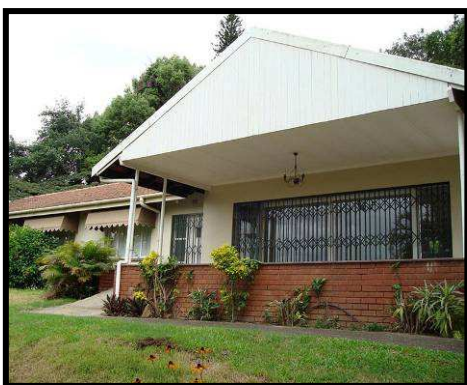


Let's Talk

Interface

“... Not being able to speak does not mean that I have nothing to say ...”

Interface-KZN supports and assists individuals who do not have functional speech due to disability or disease.



Interface have moved ... to 30 Beverley Drive, Westville.

Resource and Training Centre news ...

Interface members are thrilled to have taken out a lease on the house at 30 Beverley Drive, Westville (pictured on left). This is in pursuance of our primary goal for 2008 which is to have our own administrative and training base from which we can better serve our members, people who are in need of AAC, their families and care givers.

Apart from being the Interface KZN office, this venue will enable us to offer training at our own venue; provide a base for meetings and be a place where people in need of information on AAC can pop in and receive assistance.

In order to enhance accessibility to information, we will offer the following:

1. Access to internet: to enable AAC users, their families and care givers to access informational resources from the net.

2. Access to written resources: to enable people to access printed information on AAC and related subjects through our selection of books, journals and other written materials.

3. Access to a range of AAC devices: an AAC device lending library will be established and will be the first of its kind in KwaZulu-Natal. This library will enable children and adults needing AAC to experiment with a range of AAC devices. This will enable them to test suitability to their individual needs (try before your buy).

We have many funding needs related to this project – if you are able to help in any way, please contact Diane or Felicity. (Contact details overleaf)



Discovering AAC workshop

Interface will be conducting highly beneficial training on **Discovering AAC**.

This is a 3 day workshop, aimed at therapists / facilitators / educators / caregivers who are working with adults or children with limited or no functional speech.

Do you want to get to grips with the basics on AAC and build your practical skills and knowledge in implementing AAC with your clients?

JOIN US

When: 8th, 9th and 10th April

Where: The Interface Resource Centre
30 Beverley Drive, Westville

Cost: R900 for Interface members
R1200 for non-members

Please contact Felicity at: (031) 7081785 (office)

Interface-KZN actively promotes Augmentative and Alternative communication (AAC) to children and adults.



Pat Frow at her book launch in Cape Town promoting her autobiography "Wheeling towards The Prize".

☺ Pat Frow - an inspiration to us all ☺

"I was born with cerebral palsy, I cannot walk and my speech is very indistinct. However God has blessed me with a very good intellect and a desire to achieve. I started out at a special boarding school for children with disabilities, then for my high school years I studied through correspondence, six years for my Bachelor of Arts degree, two years for my Honors degree and another six years for my computer diploma. As I am unable to write and could only type very slowly I dictated the answers to all my examination questions to an amanuensis. I had to type all my assignments which took a long time and was a real struggle, but what a thrill it was when I graduated with many able bodied students! Having qualified as a computer programmer I got a job in the open market working a 40 hour week. My employer was very good about adapting the facilities to make them

suitable for me and my wheelchair. It was also good to be treated as an equal by my colleagues.

When I first started working I rented an apartment with my care giver and two of her children but after paying rent for a year I decided that it would be better to spend my money on paying off a loan to buy my own flat. I applied for and was granted a loan which I paid off. When I retired, I was able to buy a smaller flat as an investment and now I get a nice income from it.

As well as striving for independence I serve on different committees to help other people with disabilities, e.g., Horse Riding for the Disabled and Interface.

God has blessed me further by making it possible for me to travel abroad nine times to visit many countries."

By Pat Frow.

3 Interface KZN members soon to be jet-setting to Quebec ...

ISAAC is the **I**nternational **S**ociety for **A**ugmentative and **A**lternative **C**ommunication. The purpose of ISAAC is to advance AAC; to facilitate exchange of information; and to focus attention on the work being done to help people throughout the world who require AAC. "The **13th Biennial ISAAC Conference takes place in Montreal, Quebec, 2 to 7th August 2008**. The theme for this conference is "**Leading the Way**".

Professionals, researchers, AAC users and their families will gather to explore the latest developments and improvements in AAC. Over the years, people who have attended have reported that the ISAAC conference was **literally life changing**. We are therefore very excited to have three of our members planning to attend this year's conference. They are:

Dan Ngcobo, current Chairperson of the National Executive Committee of Interface SA and an AAC user.

Paul Burdett, Vice-Chairperson of Interface KZN for the past two years and an AAC user.

Dr Margaret Lilienfeld has been active as is a long standing committee member on both Interface KZN and Interface SA, is passionate about AAC and is well known both locally and abroad within this specialized field. She has been accepted to do an oral presentation at the conference; represents South Africa on the Board of ISAAC and is a consulting editor for the AAC journal.

We are looking for funding both through their individual as well as our committee efforts to cover their costs and **would like to appeal to you to support our efforts in this regard. Thank you !**



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