

Editor 's Desk

Dear friends,

If life were predictable, it would cease to be life, and be without flavor. —*Eleanor Roosevelt*

A powerful quote most people would have used and realized in the year 2020 and wondered what to do about it.

Hoping this year brings new opportunities to add new flavors to the life.

Happy Reading !!

Regards Bhavna Botta connectspecial .in

<u>Tech solutions</u>

NEOMANO ROBOT GLOVE

This is wearable, soft, robotic glove enables people to grip things more firmly and pick them up and could be especially useful for people with multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries or those recovering from a stroke. The glove fits over the user's index, middle finger and thumb and a single press on a Bluetooth controller will activate the titanium wires housed inside the glove which closes the wearer's hand. Users with mobility problems can hold items, twist open bottles and containers, turn pages, open doors and much more.

https://www.neofect.com/us/neomano

Image shows neomano robot glove

Mouse4All

It is an app which allows everyone to use an Android tablet or smartphone entirely, without touching the screen.It is an app that allows people with severe physical disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries, multiple sclerosis, ALS, or neuro muscular disease, to access the internet, social networks, games or any other app. It comes with an augmented pointer and intersecting axes to easily identify the position of the pointer.

It has switch control with one or two switches, and is compatible with both Bluetooth and cable switches (3.5 mm connector). It is also easy to install and customizable to the timings and scanning speed of the users. Mouse4all was founded in Madrid in 2015 by two engineers, José Ángel Jiménez and Javier Montaner.

https://mouse4all.com/en/

Nod and go-Munevo

A proportional head control for electric wheelchairs !!!.

It is based on Smart glasses and helps people with disabilities to achieve independent mobility and more self-determination.<u>Munevo</u> allows people with high restrictions in mobility steer their wheelchairs by making simple movements of their head, via a Google Glass app. The goal behind Munevo is to have a positive impact on the mobility of people in wheelchairs by providing a less stigmatizing and more comfortable control system. The team was just awarded the German Mobility Award 2019.

https://munevo.com/home_en



Image shows a person wearing nod and go-Munevo

Lookout:

Lookout is a new Android app designed to help people who are blind or visually impaired gain more independence by giving auditory cues about objects, text and people around them.

People simply wear a Pixel device around their neck, with the camera pointing away from their body, and the app shares relevant information about the things around them, as they move through a space.

Lookout is a big step in an effort to use technology to make the ever-changing and evolving world around us more tangible to people. It uses AI technology to bridge the virtual world with the physical world, making day to day tasks and interactions a little easier.

https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/ answer/9031274?hl=en

<u>Pedius</u>

Pedius is a mobile application that allows the deaf and hard of hearing to make phone calls. Using an advanced speech recognition technology, this app allows deaf people to make private, real-time phone calls on either iPhone or Android devices.

Once the app has been downloaded the user can write a message and Pedius will read it to the selected contact using an artificial voice, or the user can also use own's voice during the call.

The app will then convert the message into an automated voice and send to the recipient. The recipient's answer will instantly appear on the screen as a written text.

https://www.pedius.org/en/home/

<u>Google develops app to help motor impaired</u> <u>patients 'speak' with their eyes</u>

Originally featured in Access and inclusion through technology

http://www.accessandinclusion.news/#/

https://www.zdnet.com/article/google-develops-app-to-help-motorimpaired-patients-speak-with-their-eyes/

Look to Speak uses eye-gazing technology to let people select pre-written phrases to be spoken aloud.

Google, together with speech and language therapist Richard Cave, has developed an experimental Android app designed to provide people living with speech and motor impairments, particularly those who are non-verbal and require communication assistance, with a way to express themselves.

Look to Speak uses machine learning and eye gaze technology that lets people use their eyes to look left, right, or up to select from a list of phrases for their phone to speak out loud. The app can also be used to snooze the screen and edit a user's phrase book. Some of the phrases include: Hello, thank you, yes, and no."We're not replacing all of this kind of heavy-duty communication aid stuff because there's a lot of functionality in there. **Look to Speak** is for those important short messages where the other communication device can't go," he said.

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