# Word version of PowerPoint presentation by Scott Hollier Tuesday 18 May – ADCET ATEND Webinar

# Slide 1

# Accessibility & the education experience

Dr Scott Hollier

ADCET 2015

# Slide 2

# Who is Media Access Australia?

Australia’s only independent not-for-profit organisation devoted to increasing access to media for people with disabilities

Provides expert knowledge and advice on existing and emerging mainstream technologies

Works as a catalyst for change in multiple areas of access

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# Who am I?

Image of Scott Hollier with the accompanying text.

Professional:

Manager, Major Projects

W3C Advisory Committee

Academic:

Edith Cowan University, Adjunct Lecturer

PhD thesis ‘The Disability Divide’

Personal: Legally blind, first-hand knowledge of access issues

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# Brief history of access

For the mainstream population, Internet was viewed primarily as an information and communication resource

For people with disabilities, Internet was viewed as a gateway to independence

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# User experience

People with disabilities generally use assistive technologies to help use a computer

Assistive Technology is the practical implementation of technology to support and help people with disabilities

Old model: specialist AT costs $1000-$2000

New model: OS now contains many of these tools, and free open-source also viable

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# Windows 7/8.1

Change the icon and text size

Mouse pointer size & movement

High contrast colour themes

ToggleKeys

Visual alerts

On-screen keyboard

Magnifier (touch-enabled in 8)

Narrator screen reader (better in 8)

NVDA: free alternative to Narrator

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# Mac

Improvements over Windows:

Better screen reader VoiceOver

Braille display support

However…

VoiceOver doesn’t work with the Office suite, works mostly with OpenOffice for Mac

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# iOS & Apple Watch

iOS (IPhone/iPad)

Great access: VoiceOver, zoom, captioned video, colour changes.

App compatibility improving, AppleVis good crowdsourcing advice website

Apple Watch:

Includes some iOS features such as VoiceOver, zoom, audio in one ear

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# Android

Google Android phone and tablets:

Talkback screen reader, magnifier, colour contrast adjustments (5.x), global caption support

Good third-party apps like BIG Launcher

More affordable than Apple

However…

Only really a viable alternative if running Android 4.2+

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# Audio demonstration

App accessibility on Android-based device using the TalkBack screen reader

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# ICT professionals

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 is definitive standard, both as web standard and ISO (40500)

Three compliance levels: A, AA, AAA

Australian requirement by AHRC – WCAG 2.0 Level AA

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# WCAG 2.0 at a glance

**Perceivable:**

Provide **text alternatives** for non-text content.

Provide **captions and other alternatives** for multimedia.

Create content that can be **presented in different ways**, including by assistive technologies, without losing meaning.

Make it easier for users to **see and hear content**.

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# WCAG 2.0 at a glance

**Operable:**

Make all functionality available from a **keyboard**.

Give users **enough time** to read and use content.

Do not use content that causes **seizures**.

Help users **navigate and find content**.

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# WCAG 2.0 at a glance

**Understandable:**

Make text **readable and understandable**.

Make content appear and operate in **predictable** ways.

Help users **avoid and correct mistakes**.

**Robust:**

Maximize **compatibility** with current and future user tools.

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Good design examples

Media Access Australia: [www.mediaaccess.org.au](http://www.mediaaccess.org.au)

BBC: [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

IP Australia: [www.ipaustralia.gov.au](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au)

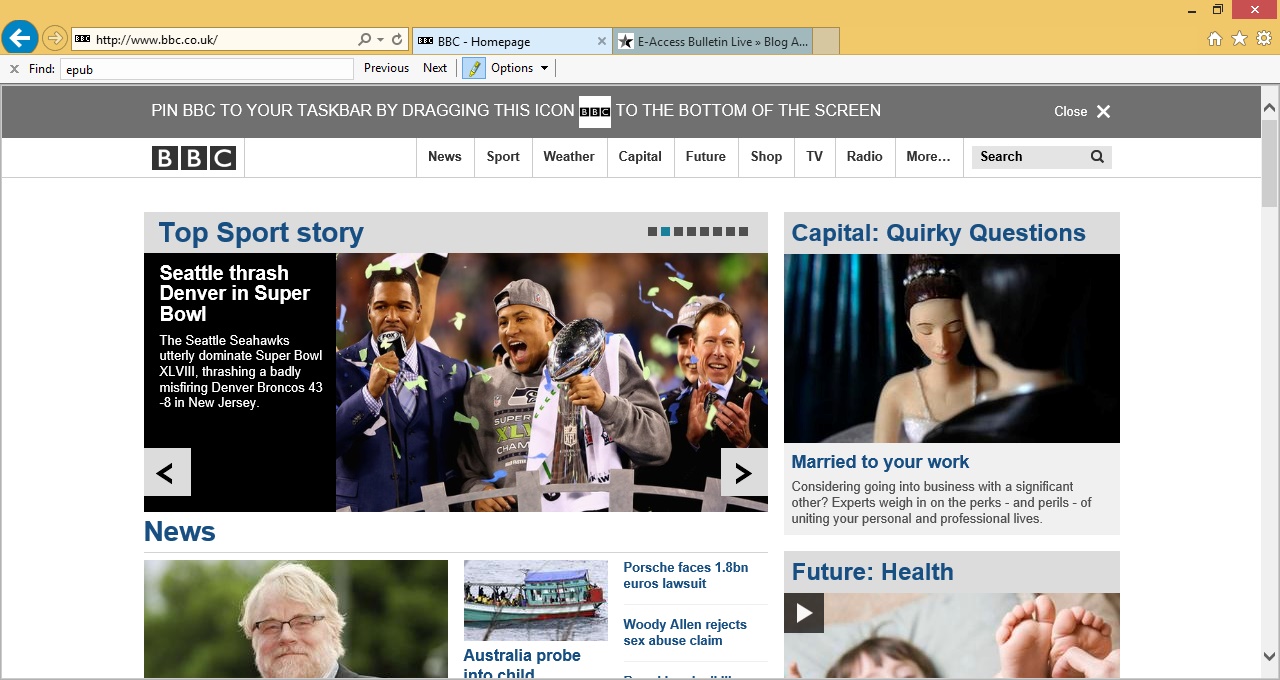
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# Media Access Australia: [mediaaccess.org.au](http://www.mediaaccess.org.au)



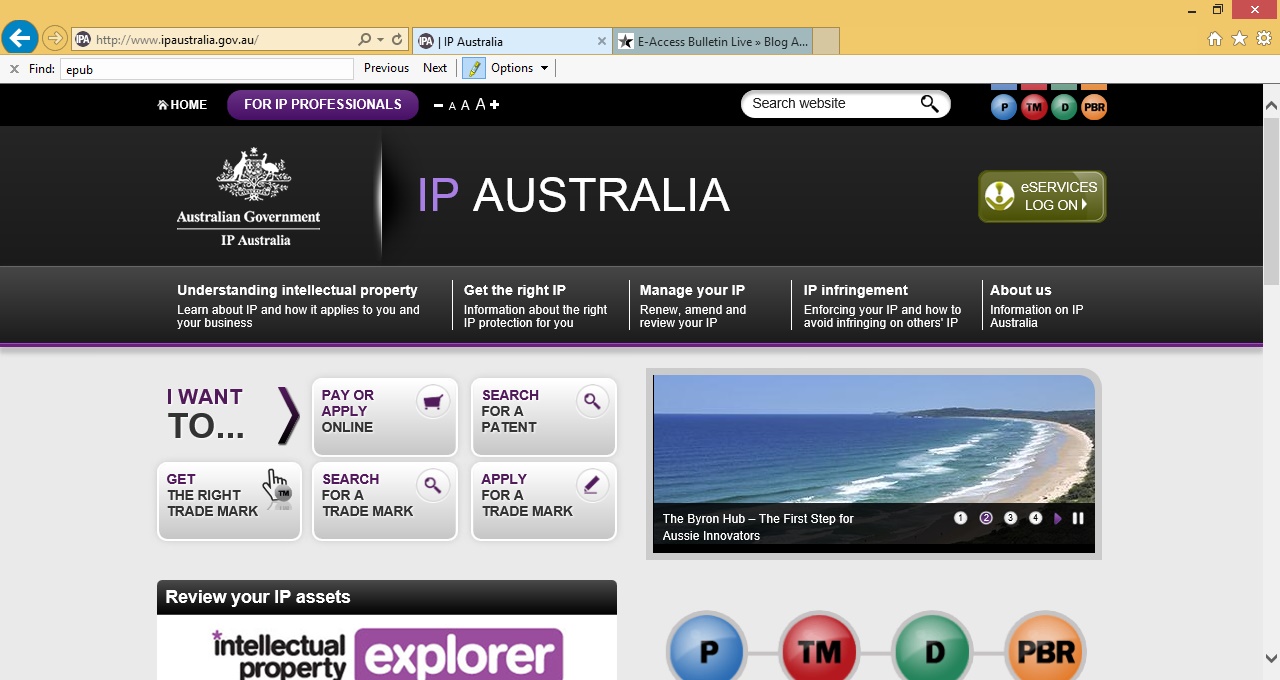
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BBC: [bbb.co.uk](http://www.bbb.co.uk)



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IP Australia: [ipaustralia.gov.au](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au)



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Bad design examples

Mr Bottles: [www.mrbottles.com](http://www.mrbottles.com)

Fremantle: [www.fremantle.wa.gov.au](http://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au)

Yahoo!7: [www.yahoo7.com.au](http://www.yahoo7.com.au)

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Mr Bottles: [mrbottles.com](http://www.mrbottles.com)



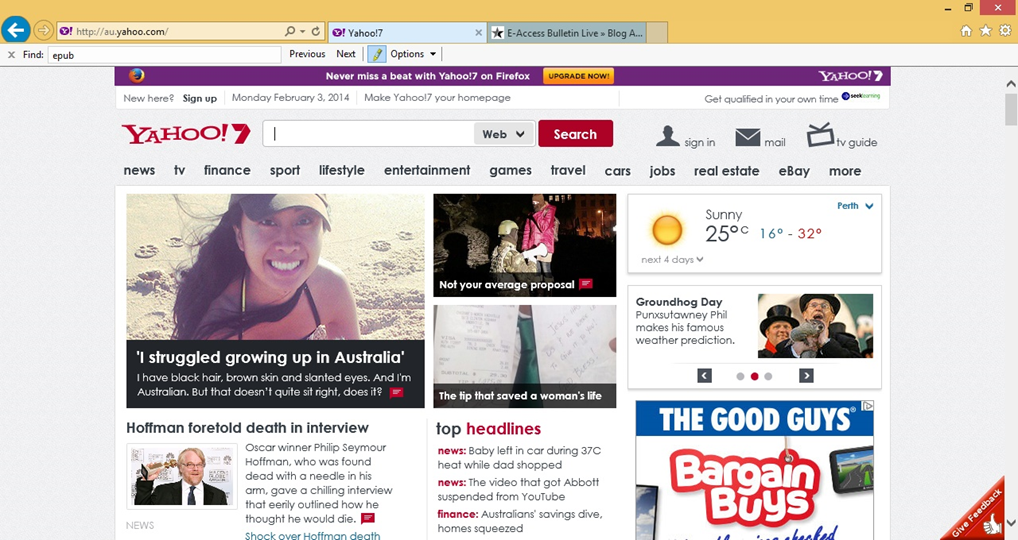
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City of Fremantle: [fremantle.wa.gov.au](http://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au)



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Yahoo! 7: [yahoo7.com.au](http://www.yahoo7.com.au)



# Slide 23

# Documents

Consider the best document format (HTML, Word, PDF)

HTML: avoid ‘click here’, be descriptive

Word: use styles and built-in accessibility checker (2010/2013)

PDF: use tagging and create from accessible source

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# Social media

Dedicated accessibility teams at Facebook and Twitter

Use Twitter hashtags such as #a11y for accessibility

AT helpdesk for Facebook

Easy Chirp for Twitter

Improved caption support on YouTube

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# Student complaints

Work with ICT staff to ensure they are focused on WCAG 2.0 Level AA compliance

Ensure that there is an obvious way for students to get in touch about web accessibility-specific issues

Keep the student regularly updated about their issue

Progress towards resolving the issue

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# Professional development in web accessibility

Professional Certificate in Web Accessibility

Six week online course

Tertiary backed, delivered by UniSA and Media Access Australia

For ICT professionals to integrate web accessibility into work practices

**Visit:** [**mediaaccess.org.au/learn**](http://www.mediaaccess.org.au/learn)

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# Need help with digital accessibility issues?

Digital Accessibility Maturity Assessment

Accessible content workshops

Website testing and auditing

Document remediation

**Advice on accessibility:**

Geoff Knight

Business Development Manager

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# Further information

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