



MATCH Newsletter

MOBILISING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR CARE AT HOME

<http://www.match-project.org.uk>

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MATCH is a research project looking at the design, implementation and evaluation of technologies for the home that can support or enable health or social care. We are now moving into our fourth year. This issue provides a taster of how our work is developing, including an overview of the exciting trials we are about to undertake within real homes, and information about our international Summer School. Hope to see you there!

Glasgow Science Centre Exhibition



The MATCH exhibition has now been launched at the Glasgow Science Centre. The exhibition features an interactive game aimed at school-aged children, along with interpretation panels highlighting the work of MATCH. The game challenges children to think about how technology can help frail and elderly people to remain independent in their own homes. So why not visit the Science Centre and see the MATCH stand!



Summer School in Home Care Technologies 1st–5th June 2009 University of Edinburgh

The summer school will look at the broad subject of home care systems, focusing mainly on applications in social care. It will be an excellent opportunity to meet a wide range of people working in this field, develop new links and learn new skills.

Who Should Attend?

The summer school is designed for postgraduate students with an interest in a broad range of technologies that support care delivery to the home. As these technologies are generic, the summer school is relevant to students from disciplines outside computing. Care professionals and anyone working in the telecare field should also consider attending the summer school.

Programme

The summer school programme will include internationally recognised speakers, plus nationally recognised care professionals and academics, and will include hands-on laboratory-based sessions. The focus will be on high-level functions in a home care system, and on use of specific computing technologies for home care: networks, services, sensors, data visualisation, speech, and human-computer interaction.

Registration deadline: 1st May 2009

For more information contact:

Louise Bellin
Tel: 01786 467429
Email: louise@cs.stir.ac.uk

www.match-project.org.uk/events/school.html

MATCH Research Roundup

MATCH study visit to Grenoble, France

During January this year Tony McBryan, a MATCH PhD student and researcher, spent three weeks at Laboratoire d'Informatique de Grenoble (LIG) in France. During his time there he presented some of the work undertaken on the MATCH project to industry-leading researchers in the field of home care systems. The visit was also used to pilot some ideas for dynamically reorganizing a home care system, in a study designed to explore the themes of configuration. For more information, phone Tony McBryan on 0141 330 3541 or email him at mcbryan@dcs.gla.ac.uk



MATCH - Midlothian Council Home Care User Study



The MATCH project has teamed up with project partner Midlothian Council to conduct a study on some of the MATCH technologies and solutions in the homes of real users. Residents will be invited to take part over the summer in a trial which will involve the MATCH team working with users and their friends, family and carers. The study will identify areas where MATCH technologies might enhance their social care or well-being. This might include providing novel ways for users to interact with data about themselves or their home (e.g. touch, sound, speech) and technologies to improve social communication and activity.

The MATCH team and Midlothian Council will work closely with the residents to evaluate what technologies people like and don't like in their home, how the technologies are used, and whether they are perceived to benefit daily living and well-being. This will be a timely study providing the residents with an opportunity to try out exciting new technologies in the home. The MATCH team and Midlothian council will have an opportunity to evaluate these telecare and home technology solutions in the homes of real users.

If you have any questions about this study, phone Marilyn McGee-Lennon on 0141 330 6034 or drop her an email mmcgeemr@dcs.gla.ac.uk

It's A Goal!

No, we don't mean football. At Stirling, Ken Turner and Gavin Campbell have been working on defining goals for home care. This allows the user to decide what is important, such as taking medicine on time or keeping the house secure.

A piece of software called Ogre takes the goals and decides how the home care system can best help the user. This part of the MATCH system works with sensors that detect movement in the house, bed occupancy, use of household appliances, etc. Actions can be performed in different ways, such as speaking a message or sending it to a mobile phone.

The goals create a list of rules that control how the system should react in different circumstances. Suppose the user is very late in getting up and might be unwell. If it's during the day, a voice message might be left for a neighbour asking them to call round. If the neighbour is on holiday, a text message might be sent to a family member. If no one arrives to help within an hour, the local council might be informed by email. These are just examples as the rules are very flexible – the user and the carers decide what is appropriate.

Welcome to new MATCH members!

Welcome to Claire Maternaghan who started a PhD with us in January 2009. Congratulations to Julia Clark who gave birth to Rebecca, in December 2008 – an honorary MATCH researcher!

Interested in collaborating with MATCH? Get in touch!

news@match-project.org.uk
MATCH Office, Computing Science & Mathematics, University of Stirling, FK9 4LA
+44 (0)1786 467429