

Aphasia Awareness Project — Final Report

Reporting Period: Up to 31 December 2025



1) Podcast Series



During the reporting period, the project released **16 new podcast episodes**, comprising:

- **9 interviews with individuals living with aphasia**
- **2 interviews with individuals with head injuries**
- **5 interviews with professionals** working in aphasia care, research, and rehabilitation

These conversations amplified lived experience, highlighted recovery journeys, and shared practical insights for families, clinicians, and the wider public.

2) Video Interviews



The project produced four new video features:

- An interview with **Dr. Suzanne Beeke** discussing the Good Conversations program
- A **participant** perspective on the Good Conversations program
- A launch feature video introducing the new support network **Minds Over Matter**
- A profile of **musician Graham Hall**, sharing his creative journey with aphasia [**New lyrics in old songs**]

These videos provide accessible, visual storytelling to complement the podcast series and support public engagement.

3) Social Media and Audience Reach

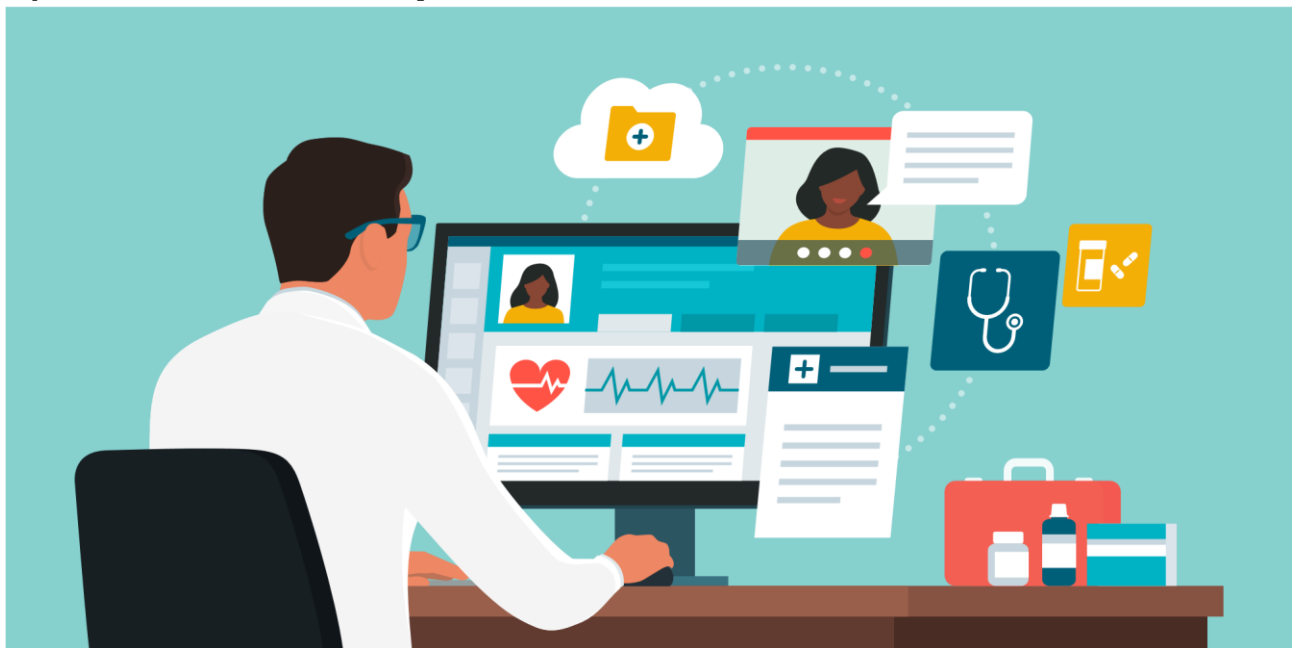


All podcast episodes were actively promoted across Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

- Average monthly podcast downloads: ~8,000
- Total downloads to date: 75,000+ (as of 31/12/2025)

Consistent cross-platform promotion has expanded audience reach and strengthened community engagement.

4) Website Development



- tipofmytonguefilm.com underwent a major update in February, including expanded content and the introduction of a blog section.
- aphasiaawarenessproject.org launched in May as a dedicated project hub and information landing page.
- Social media activity increased significantly in June to mark Aphasia Awareness Month, driving traffic and visibility.

5) Work on AI

Research has been conducted on artificial intelligence and individuals with aphasia. After that, we created a podcast with Dr Abi Roper from City University to discuss AI and the positive uses for people with Aphasia.

[<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2330771/episodes/18371445>]

There also an article in **OT TODAY - Bridging the Gap**.

OT Today is a digital magazine and platform dedicated to occupational therapists and the vital profession of occupational therapy.



JONATHAN HIRONS HOST OF PODCAST 'ON THE TIP OF MY TONGUE', DRAWS ON HIS OWN PERSONAL EXPERIENCES TO EXPLORE HOW AI CAN TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH APHASIA

For those of us living with aphasia, the world can often feel like a radio tuned just slightly off-frequency. The thoughts are there, the intent is clear, but the "signal"—our ability to process, speak, or write language—is garbled. As an aphasia survivor and host of the podcast 'On the Tip of My Tongue', I have spent years exploring how we can bridge that gap.

In our latest episode, my co-host Rob Edwards and I sat down with a true pioneer in this field: Dr. Abi Roper, a Research Fellow and Speech and Language Technologist at City, St. George's University of London. Our conversation dived into a topic that is currently dominating headlines but remains a mystery to many in the clinical world: Artificial Intelligence (AI). Specifically, how can these "smart" tools help people with aphasia reclaim their independence?

The New Frontier of Occupational Therapy

For occupational therapists, the goal is always participation. Whether it's returning to work, managing a household, or simply staying connected with family, communication is the "activity" that underpins almost every other occupation.

Dr. Roper's research suggests that we are entering a golden age of assistive technology. Traditionally, aphasia tools were static—think of simple picture boards or pre-programmed

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During the episode, Dr. Roper highlighted several AI applications that are already changing the game:

AI-Driven Speech Recognition Most of us use "Hey Siri" or "OK Google" without a second thought. But for someone with a stroke-affected speech pattern, these tools often fail to understand. Dr. Roper discussed the ongoing efforts to train AI on "atypical" speech, allowing individuals with aphasia to control their environments or dictate messages more effectively.

Text Simplification Reading a dense medical letter or a complex news article can be exhausting for someone with receptive aphasia. AI tools can now "summarise and simplify" text in real-time, stripping away jargon and complex syntax while preserving the core meaning.

6) Outreach

Throughout the year we had significant interactions with the Aphasia community including:

- Minds over Matter group in East Devon. (in person)
- Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) Education dept. (Online)
- National Aphasia Association (NAA) in USA. (Online)
- Australian Aphasia Association (AAA). (Online)
- Say Aphasia Darlington. (Online)
- Say Aphasia Gloucester/Worcester (Online)
- Aphasie International (AIA). (Online)

- Headway. (Online)

7) Project Impact



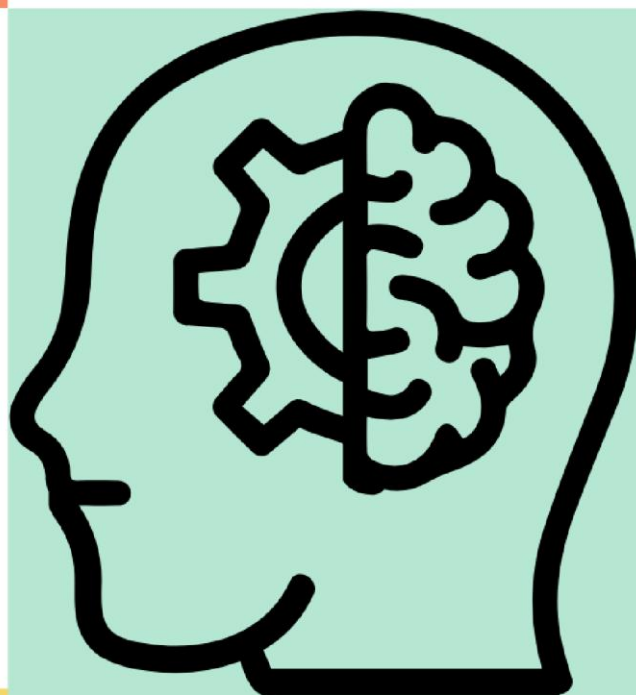
This review highlights significant progress over the past year.

- Expanded its media output across audio, video, and digital platforms
- Increased public engagement and awareness of aphasia
- Strengthened community connections and support visibility
- Established a sustainable online presence and audience base

The Aphasia Awareness Project continues to grow as a trusted platform for education, advocacy, and lived experience storytelling.

APHASIA

Awareness



What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is a language disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate, impacting their speech, writing, and understanding of both spoken and written language.

How does it happen?

It typically results from damage to the areas of the brain responsible for language, often due to conditions like stroke or head injury.

Visit our website for
additional information.

tipofmytonguefilm.com

✉ hello@buffalolounge.co.uk

HOW WE RAISE AWARENESS OF APHASIA

- **On the tip of my tongue film**

Aphasia, a hidden disability, impacts communication, social interaction, and daily life. This film highlights the need for ongoing support for those affected and their caregivers.

- **On the tip of my tongue
podcast**

Lived experience of individuals with aphasia at its core. Plus input from charities, clinicians and academics

- **Create impact**

Comprehensive promotion and social media campaign.
Video interviews
Local events

