

# Aphasia & Technology

Aphasia Forum

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Stroke**  
Association

[stroke.org.uk](https://stroke.org.uk)

# Thank you supporters of Aphasia Forum (online)

**BAS**

British Aphasiology Society

THE TAVISTOCK TRUST FOR APHASIA



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**Stroke**  
Association

# Welcome and introduction - Janet Rockliffe



- Hello
- My name is Janet Rockliffe
- Great to see so many of you here at the second Aphasia Forum meeting
- I work with the Aphasia Team at the Stroke Association
- Session put together with help from Melanie Derbyshire and Caitlin Longman.

## My story



- 1994, I was 35 years old, a busy mum with 3 children
- I was a Financial Advisor
- I had a severe brain haemorrhage
- Left with expressive and receptive Aphasia
- Right side weakness and partial sight from hemianopia
- Cognitive and memory problems, severe fatigue



- Speech and language therapy for six years
- Recovery has taken many years
- Started a Speakability Group in Kendal as a volunteer
- In 2003, job with Speakability running the Speakers' Panel
- In 2015, Speakability became part of the Stroke Association

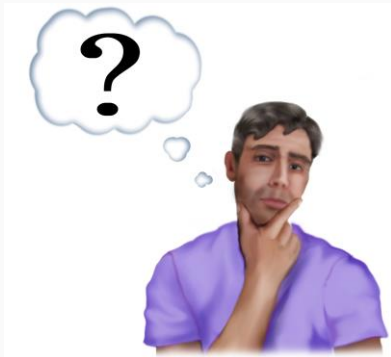
# Our session plan



45 minutes presentation



10 minute break



45 minutes discussion

20 minutes feedback

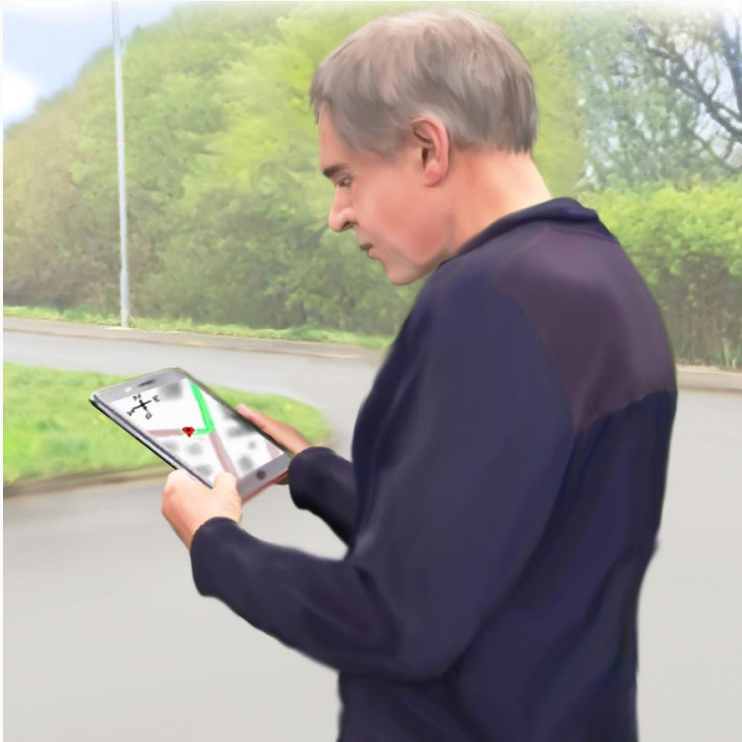
# What do we mean by technology?



**Technology** can include:

- Different **devices**
- computers, tablets, smartphones, smart speakers and e-readers
- **Software** and **apps**
- Zoom, Facebook, screen readers and therapy apps

# Why use technology?



- For **fun, hobbies** and **leisure activities**
- To **connect** with others
- For **help** with **daily tasks** like paying bills or shopping
- To support **communication**



# Resources



- You might be **new** to using some types of **technology**
- Or you might be **helping someone** else to use **technology**
- We will start by talking about **useful resources**.



- **Free helpline** for **advice** and **information** on technology.
- **Online guide** called [My Computer My Way](#).
- Volunteers can offer **remote technical support** to **people** in their **own homes**.

Free phone: 0800 048 7642

Email: [enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk)

Website: [www.abilitynet.org.uk](http://www.abilitynet.org.uk)

# Getting online for people with aphasia

The guide is **free**

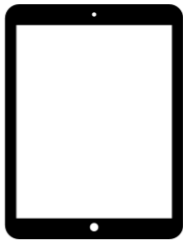


- **Download** a full copy or section
- Order a **printed copy** (UK only)
- YouTube **videos**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLflwAi5z-XqeSQKlOZf4zm47RKkssSHaw>

# Dyscover aphasia-friendly iPad guide

Dyscover iPads



- Made by **Speech and Language Therapists** at Dyscover
- **100+ page** manual can be **downloaded free**
- **Purchase a hard copy** from Dyscover
- <https://www.dyscover.org.uk/pdfs/dyscover-ipads-v1.pdf>

# Technology that helps people with aphasia



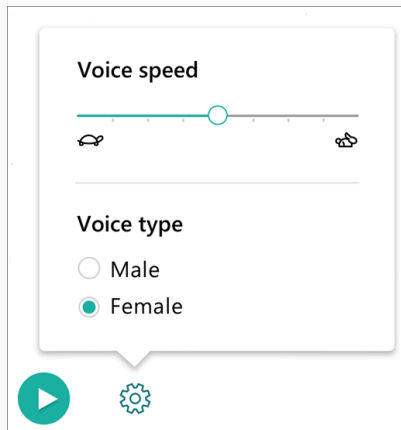
## Mobile phones

- Predictive text
- Emojis



## WhatsApp

- Voice note
- Video call



## Screen readers

# Social media



- Social media is a powerful tool to **connect** with others.



- People with aphasia
- Aphasia groups
- Organisations
- Health professionals
- Researchers



# Technology made with people with aphasia



## MakeWrite

- **Creative writing app**

## Comic Spin App

- **Create and share comic strips**



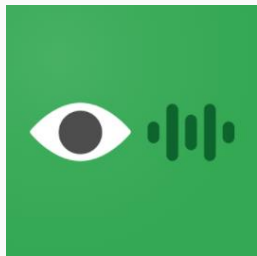
## EVA Park

- **Online world to practise speech and meet others**

# Apps for people with aphasia



- Talk with Me (CHSS)



- Look to Speak (Google)

To **find out more** about apps for people with aphasia **visit**

<https://www.aphasiasoftwarefinder.org/>





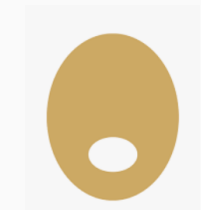
# Speech therapy apps



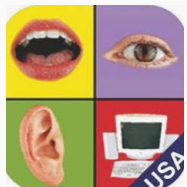
- Tactus Therapy



- React2



- Cuespeak



- Speech sounds on cue



- Constant Therapy



- NeuroHero



- Aptus



- StepByStep

# My Stroke Guide



- My Stroke Guide can **connect you** with others through our **online community**.

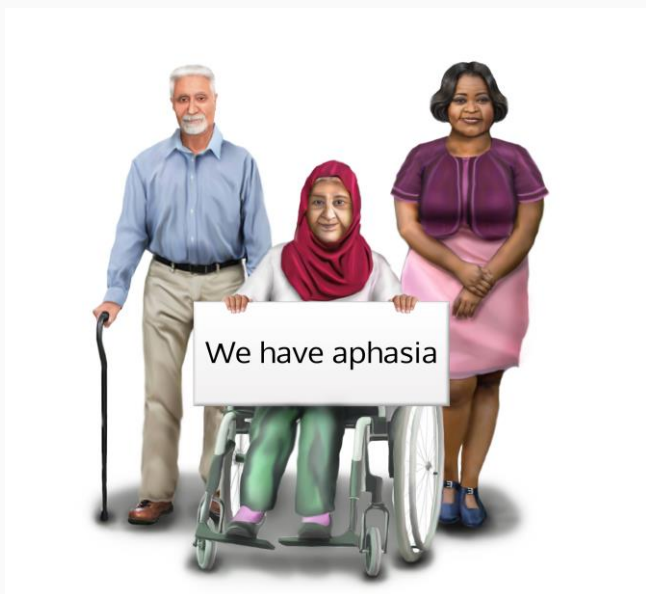
My Stroke Guide can help you with:

- **Advice**
- **Information**
- **Support**
- [www.mystrokeguide.com](http://www.mystrokeguide.com)

# Heidi talks about using apps to help recovery

## People with aphasia use technology to:

- **Connect** through **Group** meetings & peer support
- **Create awareness** of aphasia
- **Educate** others about aphasia
- **Inspire others** by sharing, personal stories, hobbies or charitable work



# Sarah uses her YouTube videos to educate people about aphasia



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aplTvEQ6ew>

Jan and Carly use their YouTube channel to raise awareness of aphasia

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7C8P\\_VFfrw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7C8P_VFfrw)

**Colin uses Zoom and WhatsApp to help people with aphasia connect with others**

[www.sayaphasia.org](http://www.sayaphasia.org)

**Alisha uses Instagram to inspire others**

**[@greatfood\\_greatmood](#)      [www.onekindact.org](http://www.onekindact.org)**



# Thank you for listening

We will have a short **10 minute** break.



We are looking forward to **hearing**  
your **thoughts** in the **discussion**.

Thank you to Speakeasy – Aphasia for the  
images.