



Opportunities

We have a mix of **online** and **face-to-face opportunities**:

- **10 regular weekly virtual groups** on zoom with breakout rooms and supported conversation – including a **Cookery club, new in March.**
- **Cookery club** and **Journal club** are co-run by **students**, so are now on a **break until June**
- **5 physical groups** in **Bromley, Southwark, Putney, and Islington**; including the **Young Person’s group** which is back to **meeting in person.**
- **Volunteers** supporting our **one-to-one buddying service**, providing a **regular video call, phone call, email, letter, or visit.**

News

Our Chairman, Peter Cook, stepped down at the end of **January.** We’d like to say a **big thank you to Peter** for all his work with us.



Holly Terry, one of our long-standing trustees, has stepped in as **interim chair.**



Dates for the diary



Aphasia Awareness Month – June 2022

We are asking people to hold their own **Board Game Café events** with **friends and family** in **June.** This is to **raise money for Aphasia Re-Connect.** We will be putting all the **resources** you need **on our website.** Look out for these **in mid-May!**

Zoe’s Amble Ramble

Zoe and her sister took on a sponsored 13k walking challenge on 20th March, for Aphasia Re-Connect. With your help, they raised over **£900 – incredible!** **Zoe designed a playlist of songs** that make her think of **aphasia** for the walk, which you can listen to on the link below:

[>> Amble Ramble Playlist <<](#)



Journal club Awareness Poster

In **Journal Club** our group have been **raising awareness of aphasia.** We have **created social media posts, a poster, and videos** of our personal experiences. Our posts have been **successful on social media** and **many libraries across London** are **displaying our poster.** You can **download the poster [here.](#)**

What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is a communication disability. It can make it hard for you to understand, speak, read or write. But everybody is different!

Have you heard of **APHASIA**

Did you know...?

More people in the UK have Aphasia than Parkinson's: 350 000 people have Aphasia (Stroke Association) 145 000 people have Parkinson's (Parkinson's UK)

Tips for communication

1. Use gesture
2. Use eye contact
3. Use drawing
4. Use writing
5. Take your time
6. Use symbols
7. Express yourself clearly



Please share this poster with others!

Where to find support

Aphasia Re-Connect is a charity. It aims to improve the lives of people with aphasia through equipping them to re-connect with their lives. <https://aphasiareconnect.org/>



Spring Party

We had a lovely time on **14th April** for our **Spring Party**. It was great to **see old friends** we hadn't seen for a long time, as well as **new friends** we hadn't met in person before! Here are some **photos from the day!**

Accessibility standard

In March, five **Aphasia Re-Connect members** took part in a **consultation** with the **NHS** about the **Accessible Information Standard**.



The standard has been in place **since 2016** and is a **legal requirement** in **Health and Social Care settings**. The NHS are trying to ensure that the **standard is more widely known about**.

Health professionals must take **5 steps**:

- **Identify** your needs
- **Write down** your needs
- **Flag** your needs to make staff aware
- **Share** your needs when appropriate
- **Meet** your needs

You can [read more here](#).



Research Opportunities

Researchers at City University are looking for **people with aphasia** and **family members** in London to take part in **the APT project**. APT stands for **Aphasia Partnership Training**. They want to hear **your views** about helping **families communicate better**.

To find out more: visit [their website](#) or **contact Carla Magdalani**

Email: carla.magdalani@city.ac.uk

Phone: 0207 040 3775



Researchers at UCL are looking for **people with aphasia** to find out **how aphasia affects non-verbal communication** – like **pointing** and **gesturing**.



This might **help develop treatments in the future**. It would involve **taking part in some tests** with a **researcher**. To find out more: Email **Isobel Chick** – isobel.chick.21@ucl.ac.uk

Visit our website www.aphasiareconnect.org/

Email info@aphasiareconnect.org