

Transcription News - 7th March 2024

Contents

- * [2024 Charity Donations & Volunteers Wanted](#)
- * [Our Charity Donations - £500 to Every Life Matters, Cumbria](#)
- * [Getting Headhunted on LinkedIn](#)
- * [How long does human transcription take to complete?](#)
- * [News - recent articles](#)
- * [Online Quotes for Transcription, Translation and Conversational Analysis](#)
- * [The Ten Percent Foundation](#)
- * [The Transcription Society](#)

Good afternoon and welcome to the March 2024 edition of Transcription News from University Transcriptions and TP Transcription Limited. Our newsletter includes updates on our charitable foundation's work and articles on getting headhunted on LinkedIn, human transcription and charity donation suggestions. We hope you find it interesting.



NB: If you are coming up to any funding deadlines, we are always happy to accept pre-orders; we can invoice in advance and then hold the payment on your behalf. This works extremely well for a lot of our clients with this requirement, as otherwise the funding can be lost, never to be seen again! Drop us a line - happy to help.

Charity Donations & Volunteers Wanted

Volunteers & Charity Donation Nominations Wanted for the Ten Percent Foundation

TP Transcription Limited and University Transcriptions donate 10% of annual net profits to charity via the Ten Percent Foundation, a charitable trust set up to distribute monies to charities in the UK and Africa. We have been doing this for over 20 years and by way of example in 2023 our charitable donation from our group of companies is £30,290.76. The Foundation never incurs any administration costs (other than very small Triodos bank charges) - all monies are distributed to charities.

We are looking for two things at the moment:

Suggest a charity

We would love to hear of your nominations for worthy causes we can donate to. To suggest a charity please email Anna Gresty at anna@tptranscription.co.uk with the name of the charity, anything you think we would like to know about it and any experiences you may have had of the charity's work. A lot of the charities like to know who nominated them, and if you are happy for us to

release this to them and/or for us to use your name in any publicity related to the donation, please let us know. NB: please feel free to nominate charities that have received donations from us in the past. We love staying involved, but most charities think our donations are a one-off, when in fact we do this every year!

Volunteer for us

In order to give the trustees some new options to consider, we are looking for a volunteer charity researcher to join us and undertake some background work to a) identify charities that fit our criteria and b) research the nominated charities to ensure they are suitable. This can be done at any time and at your convenience. The charity trustees tend to meet once a year to decide on the main list of charitable donations, and it tends to be around Feb-April time. If you are interested in helping we would love to hear from you. Please email jonathan@tptranscription.co.uk or call Jonathan on 01824 780937 to have a chat if preferred.

Funding criteria

The trustees of the Ten-Percent Foundation are particularly interested in the following types of charity or worthy cause:

Charities that deal with poverty and the effects of poverty in the UK, support for stammering and in particular children affected by speech impediments, support for people who have Parkinsons, children with heart conditions, support for people who have had a stroke, charities working with ex-offenders, charities with links to the legal profession, charities dealing with victims (and perpetrators of) domestic violence and charities dealing with youth work in areas particularly affected by poverty.

Why do we donate?

We set up our companies over 20 years ago with the aim of being as socially responsible and ethical as possible in everything we did. As part of this we decided that a percentage of our profits should always be earmarked for charitable work and set the rate at ten percent. A sudden burst of inspiration meant we called ourselves the Ten Percent Group and it is what the TP in our name (TP Transcription Limited) stands for. Does this make us socially responsible? We like to think so.

Nominations 2024

Last year we asked our transcription clients and transcribers to nominate charities we could support and were overwhelmed with the large number of suggestions received. We had a large number of well thought out nominations from academic clients using our transcription services, which contrasted somewhat with the low number of nominations received from the legal profession (the other major strand of our business group). We will be looking further at this in a future article.

Our trustees went through each nomination to ensure the charity fell within our criteria for donations. The trustees also called each charity where possible to discuss potential funding requirements. We always check the charity accounts as well.

We have a strict list of criteria in relation our donating which is available on the Ten Percent Foundation website. Donations tend to be within the range of £500-£2000 per charity per year, although in the past we have supported charities over a period of 5 years with donations going towards specific ongoing projects.

If you have any questions about the work of the Ten Percent Foundation, please visit our website at <http://www.tenpercentfoundation.org>



Charity Focus - Every Life Matters - £500 donation

The Ten Percent Foundation recently donated £500 to Every Life Matters, a charity based in Cumbria, after a nomination from Jill Barker at Teesside University.

Who are Every Life Matters?

A charity based in Cumbria. "Our vision is of a community where people can talk openly about suicide, mental health problems and emotional distress. A community where people have the resources and skills to help those experiencing suicidal thoughts and mental health problems, and to support those impacted by, or bereaved by, suicide."

Organisation and Project Background

Every Life Matters works in Cumbria specifically, and has a very informative website. Unlike a lot of charity websites it has the one aim of being accessible for people in need of support and has little information about the charity itself on there. They produce accessible Suicide Prevention Guides, Wellbeing Guides, Self-harm Pocket Guides and a Support Directory. Their website is www.every-life-matters.org.uk.

Funding

Chris Wood from the charity has given us details of where the £500 donation has been spent. "We put the money towards our Suicide Safer Schools Programme which we are piloting in Cumbria over three years. [For more details click here](#). You can also see the project in action on a [BBC Breakfast article](#). As well as working with 10 partner schools locally we are collaborating with Liverpool John Moores University on research into the effectiveness of psychoeducational approaches to suicide prevention in schools. In the last year we have delivered a six hour pupil training programme covering suicide prevention, self-harm and mental health crisis to over 1,800 year 10 and 12 pupils. We have also trained 10 whole school staff teams in suicide prevention and over 350 parents."

What is this all about?

Ten-Percent and Jonathan Fagan Business Brokers donate 10% of annual net profits to charity via the Ten Percent Foundation, a charitable trust set up by our group of companies, to distribute monies to charities in the UK and Africa. We have been doing this for over 20 years. The Foundation never incurs any administration costs (other than bank charges which are minimal). All monies donated are distributed to charities and community organisations.

Why do we donate?

We set up our companies over 20 years ago with the aim of being ethical in everything we did. As part of this we decided that a percentage of our profits should always be earmarked for charitable work and set the rate at ten percent. A sudden burst of inspiration meant we called ourselves the Ten Percent Group.

Nominations 2023

We received over 35 charity nominations from academic clients, business clients, locums, solicitors, transcribers (via our sister company TP Transcription Limited) and staff. Decisions were made to award c£25k to 17 charities and we will be writing about each successful charity over the year in these newsletters.

We have a strict list of criteria in relation our donating which is available on the Ten Percent Foundation website.

Donations tend to be within the range of £500-£2000 per charity per year, although in the past we have supported charities over a period of 5 years with donations going towards specific ongoing projects.

If you have any questions about the work of the Ten Percent Foundation, please email jonathan@tptranscription.co.uk or visit our website at <http://www.tenpercentfoundation.org>

Getting Headhunted on LinkedIn

'I've been approached on LinkedIn and offered considerably more money to take a role elsewhere than my current job. Should I agree to be headhunted for the role?'

Article by Jonathan Fagan, Founder & Director of TP Transcription Limited.

Headhunting

If you are not regularly approached on LinkedIn by recruitment consultants offering you huge amounts of money to change jobs you probably are not very experienced at getting outlandish job offers which seem too good to be true. Unfortunately in the vast majority of cases they are too good to be true and the headhunters are essentially trying to catch your eye by offering you extraordinary amounts of money to do the same job you do currently for a lot more money elsewhere.

The harsh reality is that there are scores of recruitment agencies out there who exist simply by scrolling through LinkedIn profiles and sending out emails to those people who loosely fit a description.

Example

Take a recent approach I received. As well as the founder of TP Transcription Limited I am also Managing Director of Ten Percent Legal Recruitment, a qualified solicitor and I've been running my own business for over 20 years. A recruitment consultant in London got in touch with me to offer me a job for £200,000 plus bonus to take over partner level recruitment within another recruitment agency. She informed me that I was perfectly matched for the role in question.

Firstly the problem with this approach is that in order to pay me £200,000 plus a bonus the recruitment agency will almost certainly be expecting me to be generating about £600,000 in fees on an annual basis. Whilst this may seem quite possible, the reality is for most recruitment consultants this is about four or five times the norm and it would take quite an exceptional recruitment consultant to be generating these types of fees (and most certainly not me!).

Secondly the sort of recruitment she had in mind for me was partner recruitment in central London, something our company has traditionally struggled with and something that requires you to be in a very small group of lawyers and friends in order to be able to operate effectively within. I am based in North Wales, and although I service clients across the country I am not in the circle of trust that exists for Magic Circle partners moving from one role to another.

Lovely Warm Feeling

Take heart however. It is a lovely feeling to get such an approach. It can really boost your self-confidence to have a call from someone who thinks you are worth contacting on behalf of one of their clients.

Recently started a job? Increased headhunting opportunities

In the legal sector there is a current phenomenon of recruiters contacting conveyancing solicitors who have recently changed jobs to offer them a higher paid job elsewhere. NB this is in part because there is a shortage of residential conveyancers prepared to take permanent roles in the UK. The offering tends to be £10,000 - £20,000 more than they have just agreed with their new firm. This tends to breed a lot of uncertainty amongst the new recruits, who worry that they have pitched too low. Of course these figures are usually made up and concocted simply to lure the candidate to attend an interview! Candidates also run the risk of a current employer finding out they are looking.

Advice

Our advice to anyone who receives a headhunting approach via LinkedIn is to just put it into perspective, take a breather, don't do anything rash and think about whether or not you really do want to look any further at it or whether you are feeling a little bit flattered to be offered this sort of money and to be headhunted for a role. The reality is often that a recruitment agent has trawled LinkedIn, found anyone vaguely resembling a potential match and then paid LinkedIn quite a bit of money to send them all a message telling them how wonderful they are.

Sometimes this can be beneficial to everybody and placements do happen off the back of this kind of approach, but in the vast majority of cases it is simply a speculative approach.

Jonathan Fagan is Managing Director of [Ten Percent Legal Recruitment](#) and (rightly or wrongly) tries wherever possible to avoid LinkedIn approaches because over the years we've been doing it it just seems a thankless task and almost akin to cold calling!

How long does human transcription take to complete?

Rule of Thumb

There is a rule of thumb in the transcription industry that it takes a human transcriber four hours to complete one hour of audio or video recording. Video recording used to be very different, but whilst some transcription businesses still don't have the capability to transcribe video recordings in the same way as they would audio, the reality of current transcription software is that both audio and video should take about the same time.

Professional Transcribers can be faster

A professional transcriber can usually complete most transcription work in three hours, assuming a one hour recording, but this very much depends on the nature of the recording. There are a lot of factors involved in transcription; whether there is any specialist terminology, hard to hear audio, strong accents or speakers talking over the top of each other. In these circumstances recordings take drastically longer to complete, but in order to give clients consistency, most specialist professional transcription businesses will charge for the minutes of recording rather than how difficult it is to hear a particular recording.

Hard to hear takes longer and costs extra

Larger multinationals will quite often return audio without completing the work if they think it cannot be done within a particular time frame.

If you experience problems with a transcription business trying to charge extra for hard-to-hear

recordings then you might want to consider using our services ([TP Transcription Limited](#)). We set a price at the start and stick to it regardless of the difficulty or complexity of a recording. Take heed of low pricing in transcription companies because this is often the way they put the price up from the baseline low cost per minute. When you actually send the recording off to them they decide it is hard to hear, there are multiple speakers or the complexity of the language requires a higher price.

Completion times are irrelevant for costing

In reality if you are using a professional transcription company and they are charging per recorded minute then it does not really matter how long it takes a human transcriber to complete the recording because the price to you will be the same. Some smaller companies still use the price per word method for quoting (this dates back to pre-war copy typing work billing) and it has the same effect.

Turnaround times

Whilst some transcription companies have a unique selling point of being able to return transcriptions within a very quick timeframe, this is often because they are simply running the audio or video recording through an AI machine-transcription software and then quickly correcting some of the items they can spot within a short time span. This often results in a lower quality product because the transcriber has very limited time to spend in order to achieve 100% accuracy.

100% accuracy takes skill & time

For 100% accuracy levels you need to think about using a professional transcription business that does not set very tight schedules on return times. A company providing a return within the hour for human transcription will be running the recording through AI, and then getting transcribers to work either on correction of the whole recording or on sections. Human professional transcribers working on longer turnaround times will work on the transcription from start to finish, with the transcription then going through a quality control process.

Summary

In summary human transcription can take anything from 3 – 6 hours (excluding conversational analysis which is completely longer) and it really depends on the complexity of the language, the number of speakers and the quality of the recording. Using [human transcribers](#) to do your work should result in a fixed price from the outset.



Country Retreat in Shropshire

"...we have erected a neat little chapel, twenty-four feet by eighteen, and about twelve feet from the floor to the ceiling. The building, which is of brick, stands in a large yard, en-circled with iron palisades. It is much admired for its beautiful front and its general neatness, and is, in fact, an ornament to the village. It was opened on May 15th, 1842." Primitive Methodist Magazine, May

1843.

St Milburga Chapel in the Shropshire Hills is a cosy 4 person, Grade 2 listed holiday home in open countryside overlooking Titterstone Clee Hill, ideally suited for walking, cycling, wild swimming, canoeing or simply exploring the delights of Shropshire, a top 10 ABTA destination for 2024. Renovated in 2022, the chapel is approximately 10 minutes' drive from Ludlow with its highly regarded restaurants, cafes and independent shops. Detached self-catered accommodation with cast iron stove, Wifi, Netflix, electric car charger and off-road parking. Open plan lounge & dining room, kitchen, bathroom with underfloor heating, mezzanine double bedroom and 1 x twin bedroom.

The chapel is perfectly located for family holidays (Ironbridge & Church Stretton nearby), weekend breaks and walking holidays. 10% of profits from the chapel lettings are donated to the Ten Percent Foundation. Rated 4 star accommodation by Visit England.

Website: <https://www.stmilburgachapel.co.uk>

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The Transcription Society - providing professional accreditation to academic and business transcribers

The Transcription Society is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving standards in the transcription industry and providing accreditation to both individual and corporate members. The organisation is run on a not for profit basis and registered in the UK with Companies House. The society offers individual transcribers the chance to obtain professional recognition for their standards of work and provides corporate members with recognition that they subscribe to a professional level of industry standards for quality and ethics.

Needless to say, TP Transcription Limited is a corporate member and our directors sit on the board of the Transcription Society. For details of the transcription standards the Society promotes, please visit www.transcriptionsociety.org.

We hope you have enjoyed reading our monthly newsletter and look forward to hearing from you if we can assist further.

Kind regards

Jonathan Fagan (he/him)

Founder & Director

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