

## Transcription News for January 2026 from TP Transcription and University Transcriptions

Specialist academic and business transcription and translation services for all languages, established in 2001, a B Corp company and 1% For the Planet member. Our company donates 10% of annual profits to charity and is a member of the Ten Percent Group of websites and companies. For details of our company please visit [www.tptranscription.co.uk](http://www.tptranscription.co.uk). We produce a monthly news round up of our research projects, charity donations and work.

### Human Transcription - Still Relevant?

It is so easy to ask AI to do everything for you at the moment, from writing articles (this is definitely not AI - my very sore left wrist can attest to this!) through to producing summaries of meetings, providing information and creating new documents and emails. All good and really helpful, and I am sure most organisations and individuals are now using AI on a very regular basis to improve their productivity and work levels. However, what about transcription?

We are finding time and again, that when business clients send over AI-produced transcriptions (academic clients rarely use it due to the lack of data security and institution prohibitions), the AI transcription doesn't just contain errors, which are understandable, it also contains hallucinations and thoughts from the imagination of the AI model being used.

### AI Hallucinations

There was a study completed some time ago into the ChatGPT model, which showed a propensity of their audio to text model, Whisper, to make up text when transcribing audio. This content was not just possible errors, but also quite disturbing content bearing no similarities to the actual recording. Full details of this study can be found here in our earlier article - <https://universitytranscriptions.co.uk/ai-transcription-goes-rogue-is-the-matrix-already-here/>

It is almost as if the AI model is programmed to please human users, and it assumes that human users want it to help by interpreting the audio and then creating something more interesting than the content transcribed. Fine if you are writing a story or a screenplay I guess, but definitely not for accurate transcription of an audio recording!

So at present there is very much a need for human transcription. Although AI transcription has its place for dictation and creating rough transcripts for 1 or 2 speakers, it really struggles with multi-speakers, accents, local language use, detecting hard to hear voices, background noise,

remembering not to make up sections of text and formatting. In fact it struggles to cope with over 95% of our work, which tends to be one or more of the above. Also humans obviously don't have to remember not to make up sections of text - although we want to please our clients, we don't tend to hallucinate in the same way AI does!

We very much doubt that AI in its current form is going to be able to compete with humans for academic, research and sensitive transcription of audio & video recordings. Whether or not anyone can train an AI model to accurately transcribe accents, hard to hear recordings and multi-speakers remains to be seen.

## **Charity Donation - £500 to Wildteam**



Every year, TP Transcription Limited & University Transcriptions donate 10% of net profits to charity via the Ten Percent Foundation. This year our donations have included £500 to Wildteam Conservation.

### **Who are Wildteam Conservation?**

Wildteam Conservation is a charity set up to enable access to conservation training for local people based in locations affected by climate change. The charity started in Bangladesh, working with local communities to save the tigers of the Sundarbans mangrove forest. From that experience they learnt how skills building can transform the scale of impact that can be achieved, so WildTeam UK was set up in 2012 to provide high-quality, vocational training for conservationists from disadvantaged communities.

'If we empower local people to lead conservation and restoration efforts in their areas then we can address the otherwise impossible challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss. Our approach also ensures that conservation as a career is accessible to all, rather than to the few

who are set up with the funds and opportunities to pursue that as an option. We have established a 5,000 strong online global community of conservation professionals to enable us all to support each other, collaborate, and share lessons learned, solutions, and opportunities.'

'We are in the last year of a 3 year project training in-country trainers to deliver vocational conservation courses in their own countries. This is putting capacity building into the hands of local leaders who are best placed to inspire and support local conservationists. So far 9 East African trainers have completed their training, with 18 more currently undergoing their training. One of the trainers in Kenya has recently successfully delivered 2 courses to provide conservation skills to youth leaders. We will track further impact from this project through annual online surveys to determine to what extent the training has benefited the careers and conservation work of all beneficiaries.'

## Feedback

Christell Chesney, Guyana: "I believe Wild Team is setting the stage for effective, systematic processes in the conservation realm. These training not only provided the needed skills of today's practitioners but a safe space to network and learn from and likeminded individuals."

Asma Bile Hersi, Republic of Somaliland: "The training was excellent and prepared me to learn more about project management in general and wildlife conservation in particular. My greatest source of inspiration during the training came from the trainees and other participants; they helped me expand my network and meet different people around the world who are also doing amazing work."

## Message from Adam Barlow, Executive Director

On behalf of WildTeam and our beneficiaries, please accept all our thanks for your generous donation. At least 2 conservationists from disadvantaged backgrounds will be able to access training in key conservation skills thanks to your support - which should help them progress their career and empower them to help save more wildlife.. **For further information about Wildteam Conservation, please visit their website at <https://www.wildteam.org.uk/>**

## What is this all about?

TP Transcription Limited donates 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 25 years. The Foundation never incurs any administration costs (other than Triodos bank charges, which are minimal). All monies donated are distributed to charities and community organisations.

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

## Donation Suggestions Sought by The Ten Percent Foundation

### Suggest a Charity

We are open to donation suggestions for 2026, with the next round of decision making due in March 2026, so plenty of time to make suggestions. We tend to distribute donations in the region of £500-£2000 to each charity and we usually have around £20,000 to give away. We get more suggestions from academic staff at universities than we do from any clients in other sectors, which we are incredibly grateful for, and we like supporting ongoing projects. Cure Parkinson's (see our website) is a good example of this and we hope to continue donating for some years to come. [To suggest a charity for us to support, please click this link](#). Takes about 30 seconds.

### Recent Articles

- [Beat The Deadlines](#)
  - This is just a quick reminder that if you have funding that needs spending before the end of the university financial year, we are always happy to invoice in advance for any transcription & translation work.
- [AI & Multi Speaker Recordings](#)
- [The True Cost of Meetings](#)
- [A Guide to Apple Transcription for Voice Memo Recordings](#)
- [Surviving the ISO 27001 Remote Surveillance audit](#)
- [Anonymising Interviewees in Video Research Interviews: A Practical Guide](#)
- [Scottish accents](#) - our guide
- [English Accents](#) - which are the hardest to understand?
- [Google Meet transcription](#) - How to Get a Transcription from a Google Meet: A Comprehensive Guide.
- [Zoom Teams How to Improve the Quality of Zoom Transcriptions](#)
- [TP Transcription & University Transcriptions Nominated Charities for the Ten Percent Foundation in 2024](#)
- [Looking after the welfare of transcribers - a study](#)

### Peaceful Shropshire Getaways

St Milburga Chapel in the Shropshire Hills is a cosy 4 person, Grade 2 listed holiday home in open countryside overlooking the Cleve Hills. Renovated in 2022, it is approximately 10 minutes'

drive from Ludlow with its highly regarded restaurants, cafes and independent shops. 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>



## **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. 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. For details of the transcription standards the Society promotes, please visit [www.transcriptionsociety.org](http://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, TP Transcription Limited

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Part of the Ten Percent Group of websites, donating 10% of annual profits to charity  
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