

File: stammerapp1.2 MP3

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Typist: Facilitator2e Mackie

START AUDIO

[Background conversation 00:00 – 00:03]

Facilitator1:

Okey-doke. So just to start off with, we've kinda had a little bit of an introduction already, haven't we, Male1, I think? So more for you, really, as I kinda said: I have a background in speech and language therapy, but have been working in this field for quite a while now. Mainly I've been looking at research around Parkinson's but I've always had a focus on speech and language therapy.

And this project we're doing today has... So, about 18 months ago, we worked with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and they asked us to help them to develop some technologies that would support them in their everyday practice, I suppose. And two of the areas that they came up with for us to look at: one was dementia and the other was stammering. And the reason that they highlighted these as important areas is because they're really underrepresented in speech therapy, as I'm sure you'll know yourselves.

So... But actually what we found is there's a lot of therapists that have stammerers on their caseloads, actually. And we actually had two or three very, very, very large and diverse workshops. Normally we like to have workshops that are about 6 to 8 people- 6 to 8, not 68- and there was closer to 68. Well, there was about 18, 19 people, so very, very big workshops. But it just shows the amount of people who are actually working with people who stammer.

And one of the most interesting things, definitely, for me, from that workshop, was we were trying to find out from them what their practice actually was; what they actually do with people who stammer, and we didn't get even remotely a cohesive answer from anybody. So what we kinda learned was that the practice around it is extremely different depending on therapists, depending on the individual who's coming in for the speech therapy, some do group work, some do individual work, but it's all very, very different and the ways that they kind of look at the outcomes of therapy as well is very different depending on the people.

So we did kind of mock-up an application and some ideas based on those workshops but what we really thought was kinda lacking was any level of

input whatsoever from people who stammer, which really is the most important thing. If it's the user, the person who's supposed to be using the technology, then we really need input from them. And when Facilitator2e- I won't say I did the lit review because it was Facilitator2e. So when we looked over the literature review- i.e. when Facilitator2e did it and showed it to me- what we found was there's only a very small amount of published work about applications to support people who stammer, but- of those examples- there is nobody who's worked with people who stammer in the process, which is interesting because, you know, they should be the first people really you go to.

Do you wanna have a little chat about what you've been doing while you've been here?

Facilitator2e

Okay. I'm a librarian by profession, but I'm very into the research side of it and that's what brought me into this department and I came in for an internship for people with disabilities. And they found out that I had a stammer and were like: "Right, well we have this project, how about it?" So I got put on that. And since then, as Facilitator1 said, I've done a lot of reading around it. I've learnt a lot about the different aspects of it and stuff. More than I knew before.

I have been involved with the national charities for a while. I've been involved with the BSA since I was younger and I'm currently the vice-chair of the Scottish Stammering Network as well. So since I've arrived I've approached it very more from the point of view of the person who stammers rather than the speech and language therapy side, and very much more on the peer-support network side of things. And it's made quite a good combination because we've been able to look at it from both angles, which has been very, very handy.

Facilitator1

Yeah, it's been great.

Facilitator2e

And what I have also done while I've been here: I attended the World Congress for People who Stutter in Atlanta and I took a survey out there and I asked a bunch of people questions about what they would like to see represented in an application for people who stammer, what sorts of situations might they want to practice and stuff like that. And then after the conference I posted a copy of that online as well and gathered a few more responses, one of which was yours. And yeah, and that gave us a lot of interesting ideas about what people might want to see in a mobile application, however it also demonstrated how broad a field it is. It's such a complex thing. Everybody stammers in their own way, everybody deals with the stammer in their own way, people find different situations hard and stuff like that. And that really came across in the survey results, I think. It



Male2 Hi. Yeah, well, I'm Male2. I'm the Regional Community Fundraiser for the Royal British Legion, which means I spent a lot of time speaking to volunteers and corporates and trying to get them to give me lots and lots of money for the British Legion. Been doing that now just over a year. Before that, I did my Masters in International Development and Education and before that I qualified as a teacher. And, in my spare time, I like to go out and play football and go out for a few drinks now and then.

Facilitator1 Excellent. Thank you very much. Okay, so what we thought... Shall I do the first activity, you can do the next one?

Facilitator2e Yeah. That's fine.

Facilitator1 Okay. So what we thought would be kind of a little bit of an ice-breaker and to help us understand a little bit more about how you experience stammering, I wondered if you could tell us a little bit about maybe some of the situations where either you're having anxiety around your stammering or where it's particularly difficult or where you might need help in any way possible, I suppose.

Male1 Asking for train tickets.

Facilitator1 Right.

Male1 Right. Oh, up until a few years ago, I used to still have a post-it note in my hand at the train station.

Facilitator1 Right. Oh, really?

Male1 Yeah, I was that bad. It was only- just train tickets. Right. And so I would attempt to ask, but if it never- If I got really blocked, or if it was just too much, I used to just go up with the post-it note.

Facilitator1 Right. So you had a workaround for that already with the post-it note.

Male1 Yeah, but still. It was avoidance, though.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Yeah. Okay. And what do you think might have helped you in that situation to...? Is there anything that would've helped? I mean, I know you used the post-it note.

Male1                            I don't know. I mean, maybe just trying to keep calm.

Facilitator1                    Okay.

Male1                            Yeah, but maybe just train tickets.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Alright. Did it happen for any other type of tickets, like the bus or...?

Male1                            I get a weekly bus ticket. So I have to go to the bus station though for that. And since I've been doing it now for literally years, the woman knows what I'm there for anyway.

Facilitator1                    Okay.

Male1                            So I can still ask her and that, you know, but she already knows. But sometimes, when I don't get to the bus station, I have to ask for a ticket from the driver. I do still have a post-it note in my hand, and sometimes it works though and sometimes I have to show him the ticket, you know, the post-it note. So I think it's just asking for tickets sometimes.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Okay. Okay. Interesting.

Male2                            I think generally if I'm either tired or anxious or stressed then it comes out a lot more than it does, and that could be in any situation. So, you know, so it could be if I've had a really long day at work or if I haven't had much sleep and I'm tired, then it comes out there. On the phone. I think it comes out more on the phone than it does in person, and that might be because on the phone you're purely using your voice and that is it, whereas face-to-face you've got the body language and the person's there and you see them and it's... But that might be linking into the fact that, on the phone, you can be more nervous.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Okay. Interesting. Alright. I think these are things that have actually come up as well quite a bit in the- these exact things, actually, have come up in the previous work as well. Okay. Is there any place that you get advice about your stammer? Currently?

Facilitator2e                    Change colours for this.

Male2                            Not really. I ask you now and then, but no, generally not. I mean, I keep an eye out online and see what's going on if I'm bored and I just wanna have a quick wee look, but generally not, no.

Facilitator1                    Okay. So online?

Facilitator2e                    Online. So where would you go online? What sort of sources would you-?

Male2                            I just generally Google up-to-date news on stammering. If, you know, now and then it perks my interest, I'm like: "Okay, what's going on? Is there anything new?" But friends. I go to friends. That's... Would be it.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Okay. And what type of- What type of advice are you getting from friends?

Male2                            Generally try and relax and think about what I'm gonna say before I say it.

Facilitator1                    Okay.

Facilitator2e                    That's not always helpful for me, though, sort of thing. I sometimes find that the more I think about what I'm gonna say, the more likely I am to stammer on it.

Male2                            Yeah. I know. It's- I would agree with that, but generally it's- It's... When you approach friends, I mean, it may not be so much getting the advice from friends but it's more- Well, it's more the fact that you're engaging with people who you socialise with and you can relax.

Facilitator1                    So does it kind of boost your confidence to be around friends who are able to listen to you, I suppose, in a way?

Male2                            Yeah.

Facilitator1                    If you're having a particularly bad time, I mean.

Male2                            Yeah.

Facilitator1                    Okay. Anything from you? Is there anywhere you seek advice from?

Male1                            No, not really. I mean, if I was particularly stuck, I think I would either Google the BSA, or if I have a job interview coming up I'd Google sort of like 'stammer advice for job interviews'.

Facilitator1                    So you look for specific advice about things?

Male1                            Yeah.

Facilitator1                    Okay. Okay. And can I just ask about...? I think we've kind of done...all that.

Male2                            Erm... Sorry. I think with the advice though, quite a bit, because I've had private therapy before, the past when I was younger, you know. And I spent thousands and thousands of pounds. There's a lot of information techniques that I still use from that and the advice I get from that.

Facilitator1                    Okay. So you revisit some of your-? And actually, we were talking about this before as well, weren't we?

Male1                            Yeah. Yeah.

Male2                            And I've definitely found that private was a lot better than anything you can get on the NHS.

Facilitator2e Well, yeah. I think often you can, with private, you're more willing- You're more likely to get a specialist in the area, whereas NHS you might just get a speech and language therapist in general, rather than someone who's specifically stammering.

Facilitator1 Just double-checking timing. Alright. And we're way ahead of schedule. We might finish a little bit early. Okay. I think, obviously, when there's less people, the conversations take a lot less time so... Facilitator2e, do you want to add anything?

Facilitator2e Well, erm... What? To either of the points?

Facilitator1 Yeah.

Facilitator2e Erm... I think... One of my hardest situations is reading aloud. If you hand me a book or a sheet of paper and someone says: "Read that out." Can't do it.

Male2 Yes, I'll agree with that. When I have to do presentations for work, I very, very, very rarely take notes with me. I will have cue cards on me, with just some very basic points, but I will never take a script. It's because it's that idea of, when I'm doing a presentation, I know what I want to say and it doesn't matter in what order what I say it. You know, and I can kinda change bits of it and I can kinda just wing it, essentially, because I know what I'm talking about and the other people doesn't know what I'm talking about because obviously I'm the expert in what I do at work so if I miss things out, so what? And if I don't want to say something, then fine.

Facilitator1 Interesting. So does that take some of the pressure away from-? Well, if you have the notes- Kinda, as you said, if you have the notes there, then you feel like you have to cover everything and not having them takes the-

Male2 It's that balance between having notes and having a script. So if you have cue cards with a few points on, like if I'm telling a story of, say, someone who we've helped and I'll have maybe a couple of dates on and how we've helped them, like say with their injury for instance. But, apart from that, the rest is just entirely up to me, how I fill the blanks.

Facilitator2e Yes. And I find that's something which is different for different people. For example, I did an open day once and I was doing a speech and I showed up

with just a short list of bullet points- the key things I wanted to cover- and that's all I had. The other girl who was doing it, who also stammered, had written out her whole speech on an iPad and the only way she was going to get through it semi-fluently was if she read it word-for-word off the iPad sort of thing. Whereas, had I done that, it would've taken me half an hour to get through a five minute speech. So it's- Yeah, it is different for different people.

- Male2                      Yeah. I mean- Sorry, I mean, when I'm reading to my nephews, then I do tend to stammer with those books sometimes, which is...
- Facilitator2e              Yeah, I think it's the idea of you can't change the wording, you can't swap stuff around, you can't reorder stuff. If it's written, you have to read it as it's written. You can't substitute and restructure, that sort of thing. So that's always been one of my bugbears. But yeah, in terms of the rest, I agree with the rest.
- Facilitator1                You wouldn't have anything to add to this?
- Facilitator2e              Maybe a support group.
- Facilitator1                A support group?
- Facilitator2e              Yeah. It does kind of factor into the BSA. However I'm talking...
- Facilitator1                A physical support group?
- Facilitator2e              Physical support group, yeah.
- Male2                      When I did my course, when I went private, part of the after-course care was we had a list of contacts and we actually had a mentor. And for the first, I think it was three months, we had to call them once a week to speak to them. And then, after that- Then, within a month, we had to call six people off that list to have a chat with.
- Facilitator1                Ah, interesting.



feels different for me to do that and I'm definitely more self-conscious about my stammer when I have to phone up a restaurant.

Facilitator1 Is it because somebody's listening to you on other- listening to you perform while you call up the restaurant?

Male1 Possibly. I think, as well, I do find it a tricky situation, anyway. So I do try to phone a place rather than just pop in and book a table face-to-face. Just to expand that comfort zone a little bit. I'd feel it was a bit of a cop-out if I was to go in in person and book a table, if that makes sense.

Facilitator1 No, definitely. You're kind of- You're pushing your boundaries as much as possible. I think that's quite a positive attitude really, actually, to be honest.

Facilitator2e Yeah. At least you do do it, you don't try to pass it off to someone else. You still- Because, you know, a lot of people would give the phone to their flatmate and be like: "Please can you phone for me?", whereas you're still doing it. And you're maybe taking yourself off somewhere else while you do it, but you're still doing it, which is great.

Facilitator1 Yeah.

Male1 Okay. Thank you for that.

Facilitator1 Excellent. Okay. Well, if no-one else has anything else to add to this one, I think we'll push forward with the next activity.

Facilitator2e Although, one quick question before we do move on: Have either of you ever used any kind of technology to help with your stammer before? Like have you ever used an app or used a metronome or something like that? I remember I had one speech therapist, and she gave me a metronome and she was like: "Try to talk to the beat of the metronome." And then she sped it up and said: "Try to talk to the beat of the metronome."

Facilitator1 Oh, really?

Facilitator2e                   And as a result I ended up talking like this and it sounded really unnatural. And especially, a Scottish accent, we talk so fast. Trying to slow us down doesn't work.

Male2                            That's like being a Geordie.

Facilitator2e                   But yeah, that was the only thing I'd really tried up until a certain point. How about you?

Male1                            No, never.

Male2                            No.

Facilitator2e                   Okay, so this is a new territory.

Facilitator1                    Definitely new territory. Excellent. Facilitator2e, do you want to explain what we're doing in this one? I'll just push forward with these.

Facilitator2e                   Yes. Okay. So what we're going to do here is... We've gone through the transcripts of the workshops we did with the SLTs and we've looked at the survey results, and from that we've pulled a few ideas of things which people might be interested in seeing in a mobile application for people who stammer. From this we've made these statements and there's about forty of them so there's quite a lot of different-

Facilitator1                    You might be better coming round here. Sorry.

Facilitator2e                    No, no. – of different statements. And what we would like to do together is look through them and think which ones are important to you two, but also which ones do think are important in the grand scheme of stammering as well, and which ones do you think are maybe more specialised. And we're going to try to pick out the most important ones, which will hopefully be included in the final- I'm really sorry, I cut these out earlier.

Facilitator1                    It's taking a very long time.

Facilitator2e There's quite a few of them. So yeah, these are things, which we'll then try to include in the final application if people like the ideas. And also, if there's anything you can't see there, which you would like to get out of a mobile application, we do have a few blank ones as well, so you can add your thoughts to this massive list.

Facilitator1 And there we go. So forty is the right thing. So, what we were thinking because there's so many...

Facilitator2e Originally you were all going to have our own little things each, but because there's this many we decided we would combine and do it together.

Facilitator1 So if you would like to put a dot on, or a cross or a mark or whatever you want, on the ones that you feel apply to you, and then we'll start to take some of the things away.

Male2 How many?

Facilitator1 You can have as many as you want.

Facilitator2e As many dots as you want.

Facilitator1 And then we're gonna pick the top three. This may be some time. Do you mind if I take a photo of the back of your heads?

[laughter]

Facilitator1 From kinda like [unaudible 26.43], if that makes sense.

Facilitator2e We're gonna get the table in. It's not literally just the back of your heads.

Male1 Sorry, Facilitator2e. Thank you for explaining.

Facilitator2e                    Yeah, she's not just gonna stand behind you like: 'Click'. Also, if there's anything you want me to clarify, like what it means, then just let me know. Some of them have just been pulled out of the other stuff.

Male2                              That one there, what-? Can you clarify that one a bit more?

Facilitator2e                    What 'constructive feedback' would be? It would be stuff like posture, like if someone notices that maybe your shoulders are up here. It wouldn't be stuff- It's kind of letting people know things which might make it easier for them and kind of... suggestions of that stuff. So maybe: "If you work on your posture, it might help you" or "If you keep eye contact, it might be good." That sort of thing.

Male2                              Okay. Thank you.

Facilitator1                    I keep getting told off for not taking pictures in workshops by John.

Facilitator2e                    Oh, alright.

[silence 28:07 – 28:25]

[laughter]

Facilitator2e                    On the recording, there's just gonna be: 'Bonk'.

Facilitator1                    It's alright. It means we'll be able to cut a big section out.

[silence 28:33 – 29:31]

Facilitator1                    Okay?

Facilitator2e                    Yeah?

Male2 I think there was some there which would be useful to some people. I don't mean me, personally, but I think there were definitely some for some people. Because obviously with stammering there's obviously a massive degree of spectrum it can be. And I think there's some there that definitely will be helpful for some people.

Facilitator1 Have you marked them off?

Male2 No.

Facilitator1 Do you wanna mark them off in a different colour?

Facilitator2e Would you like to mark them in blue?

Facilitator1 Do you think Male1, as well?

Male1 I think 'small talk', 'practise when making calls'.

Male2 I do think that would be useful and- Where was it...? That one.

[silence 30:13 – 30:38]

Facilitator1 So anything else that you'd wanna add that other people might find useful?

Male2 Maybe that one as well.

Male1 Oh, I think maybe that one. Yeah.

Facilitator1 Okay.

Male2 That one. Sorry.

Facilitator1                      Delayed auditory feedback. Okay.

Facilitator2e                      Yeah. That's always fun. Have either of you actually tried delayed auditory? It's so weird. It's so odd.

Male2                                No. I think it could be really useful but I don't know if I would like it because of that.

Facilitator2e                      It's so distracting.

Male2                                Yeah. That's-

Facilitator1                      Okay.

Facilitator2e                      Do you know what delayed auditory feedback is, sorry? Just to make sure.

Male1                                Isn't it when you wear earpieces and they have continuous background noise?

Facilitator2e                      Yeah, it can be that, or it can be your voice played back to you at a slower pace and that sort of thing. There's a couple of different types. One of them is like a masking noise and another one is-

Male2                                Which colour was I again? Was I red or green?

Facilitator2e                      You were green, I think. Yeah. It can be masking noise or it can just be your own voice played at a delay and that then forces you to slow down. It's forcing you alter your speech through a noise in your ear. It's interesting but it's odd. It kind of makes you talk a bit strangely sometimes.

Male2                                I think you're probably end up best being like a robot.

Facilitator1                      Facilitator2e, did you have any that you wanted to pick out? Your favourite ones? Because you've been looking at them for weeks.

Facilitator2e I know.

Facilitator1 Even if they're the same ones

[silence 32:20 – 32:30]

Facilitator1 So one of the things that I find actually quite interesting is when we kinda talked through the issues of the phone as being quite a big one, but nobody's selected that they would wanna practise making phone calls, so why...? I'm just wondering why.

Male1 As I get to use the phone though literally every day at work. Picking it up and making phone calls to other departments. So I use the workplace as my main place for making phone calls.

Facilitator1 Okay. Alright, okay.

Male1 If that makes sense.

Facilitator1 That does make sense, yeah. It does make sense.

Male2 I just spend a lot of time on the phone because of job and also personal use as well, so...

Facilitator1 Okay. Alright. No, excellent. That's great. So is it more, then, the situation, I suppose, for... Sorry. Is it more the specific situation like booking a table or ringing a... What do you call...?

Male2 A volunteer?

Facilitator1 Not a volunteer. A call centre or something. Like for your broadband or whatever else.

Male2 I think because each phone call is always different, I don't know if I'm gonna stammer until I make the phone call. Generally, I make a phone call, if I'm introducing myself, saying a really long-winded title that I have to, every time.

Facilitator1 Okay. It's interesting, because it's the first thing I would've gone for. I would've been like: "Let's have a way for people to practise making phone calls" but actually it's not really that important. That's very interesting. Okay.

Male2 I think when you get excited as well then I tend to stammer as well sometimes.

Facilitator2e Yeah, any kind of high emotion I think affects it.

Male2 Yeah.

Facilitator1 Okay.

Male2 That's an interesting one.

Facilitator2e Yeah.

Facilitator1 Do you think that's for somebody else?

Male1 I...

Facilitator1 Where's the blue?

Facilitator2e For some people-? Yeah, where's the blue gone?

Facilitator1 Or what? 'I would like to stammer openly', you pointed to. What do you think?

Male2 I...

Facilitator2e Why do you think it's interesting?

Male2 I think if you stammer and you're out in public, which 99% of people are gonna have to be, you can't hide it. It's as simple as that. You physically cannot hide it. So, rather than having to be reminded to stammer openly, I think it's more about getting confidence to embrace it and to accept it. Even if you don't like it. You know, because I'm sure that everyone doesn't like having a stammer, to be honest, and if there was a magic cure then I think most people would take it, but I think getting reminded on to stammer openly might just actually add more pressure to somebody than it's worth. Because they get this app on their phone and go: "Warning: Remember to stammer openly". It's just adding that extra pressure, so I think it's more about having the confidence to speak.

Facilitator1 Okay. And we've got the confidence here.

Facilitator2e So that one probably depends on the person. Interesting.

Male1 On stammering openly, I find that if I openly disclose my stammer to somebody then after that I can go on to have a fluent conversation with them. It's just odd how it works for me.

Facilitator1 Oh, okay.

Facilitator2e I find that. Kind of like advertising your stammer. You can, then- It kind of takes the pressure off.

Facilitator1 So is that an interesting one that we wanna keep? With the blue? Possibly for other people?

Facilitator2e What? The stammer openly one?

Male1 Yeah, that's-

Facilitator1                    Yeah, because we seem to have too... I understand what you mean, Male2. It's interesting to you, but maybe not in that format that you're thinking.

Male2                            Yeah, I mean, it's like I tell people that I have a stammer and I even make jokes about having a stammer but...

Facilitator1                    Male1, you're getting rid of all the- You're getting rid of, like, half of the things.

Male1                            Oh, am I? Sorry.

Facilitator2e                   Well, yeah. To me, advertising and stammering openly... aren't always the same thing. You can- Stammering openly could just be trying not to use avoidance techniques, sort of thing, whereas advertising is when you openly say 'I have a stammer. If you'd like to give me a bit more time that would be...'. .

Male2                            Yeah.

Facilitator1                    Okay. So let's edit that slightly.

Facilitator2e                   Yeah.

Facilitator1                    So these are not solid things, that's one thing that we wanna say. Is there anything-? Does anyone have anything that they'd like to add? Write down and add?

Facilitator2e                   We have some blank ones somewhere.

Male2                            Maybe sharing stories.

Facilitator1                    Sharing stories?

Facilitator2e                    Oh? 'I would like to share my experiences', sort of thing?

Male2                      Yeah, like maybe... I dunno. Like best tips and practices or something like that might be interesting.

Facilitator1                'Sharing stories'. Do you wanna-? Yeah, sorry.

Male2                      Cheers.

Male1                      Can you read my writing?

Facilitator1                Yeah, it's fine.

Male1                      I'm writing very quickly. 'I would like to practise presentation skills.'

Facilitator1                Excellent.

Facilitator2e                Ah, okay. Yes.

Facilitator1                Okay, and I'll just put... You were red, weren't you?

Facilitator2e                Yeah, presentation skills comes up a lot in support groups and stuff.

Facilitator1                Okay... So we've got... Let me see.

Facilitator2e                If you wanna put your green dots on yours.

Facilitator1                Oh, everybody's is here.

Male2                      I think that would be interesting for some people to do.

Facilitator2e                And I'm gonna add a wee cross to Male1's one. There's your red, if you want to....

Male2 Can you read that, Facilitator1?

Facilitator1 'Sharing stories on forum', 'Sharing tips and techniques on forum'.

Male1 Yeah, that's a good one.

Male2 Yes, I got it down a second timeline.

Facilitator1 Excellent. Okay. Right, now, we didn't 100% think this through, how this might actually look. Okey-dokey.

Facilitator2e How should we...?

Facilitator1 We've got... Let's put the ones in the middle.

Facilitator2e Both, yeah. And me. I'll put the ones that are just me all the way up here.

Facilitator1 Male2... Everybody. This one's is, like, right on the top. So... What we would like to do is...

Facilitator2e I'll put mine down here and these ones are...

Facilitator1 And these. Okay. So I know you've got your own ones. I'd like you to pick your top three. So what are the-? I think, were these ones-? I think- I've done them the wrong way round, sorry, guys. So these ones are Male1's. These ones were Male2's. Obviously everyone's put their dots on these ones and then Facilitator2e's got hers. So, just for you, what are the three most important things you would like to do to support your speech?

Male2 That one.

Facilitator2e Okay.

Facilitator1 I've got stickers.

Facilitator2e Oh, yes. That's what the stickers are for. 'I want to be able to reduce how much I stammer.'

Facilitator1 Okay... So this one... Top.

Male2 That one.

Facilitator1 Okay.

Male2 Because I think they're linked together so if you can track your stress levels and if you find out that you've got more stress and you stammer more, then if you can reduce your stress then you might be able to reduce your stammer.

Facilitator1 Great.

Male2 And that one. Because, again, I think they all link in together, so if you can monitor your speech and monitor your stress then it's...

Facilitator1 Okay. And Male1? What do you...?

Male1 I like 'Practise for the job interviews', the 'practical demonstrations' and the 'testing yourself in real-life situations'.

Facilitator1 Okey-doke. Did you have any different ones, Facilitator2e?

Facilitator2e Erm... I'm... I would say a 'peer-support group'. Uh...

Facilitator1 You can have the same ones also.

Facilitator2e                    Yeah. Let's see... Sorry, just taking another wee glance over. Erm...

Facilitator1                    I've taken over your activity, sorry.

Facilitator2e                    No, that's fine.

Facilitator1                    This is Facilitator2e's facilitated activity and I'm just like: 'Ma ma.' It does happen occasionally.

Facilitator2e                    'Develop speaking skills'...

Male2                            That's a good one.

Facilitator2e                    ...and 'Sharing stories'.

Facilitator1                    Okay. Right. So, we can do another round. Okay. Now, we need to pick the top three out of them all. So let's- If people want to make a case, I suppose, for their options and then see whether you agree or not, I suppose, on the ones that you'd like to- So maybe in this task, rather than thinking about just you, think about a wider group of people. So how do you, for example, think that the Glaswegian BSA support group- I don't even know if there is a Glaswegian BSA...

Facilitator2e                    There's an SSN support group.

Facilitator1                    But basically people that you don't know, for example. What do you think would be their-? Aligning with your own interests. And what do you think would be more beneficial to a wider group of people?

Male2                            I would like to put the case forward for that one. 'I want to be able to reduce how much I stammer'. Because, ultimately, when you learn new techniques, or new skills, or how to address situations, y'know, whether you use tools or techniques. The ultimate aim is to reduce down how much you stammer and I think there's no getting away from that. It's- And if there's ways that you can do it, then that would be a good thing, because that encompasses a broad range of things, including tips or techniques or medicine if that came out.

Facilitator1 Does anyone have any disagreements to that statement?

Male1 I wouldn't say reduce my stammer better. I'd say manage my stammer better.

Facilitator1 Okay.

Facilitator2e Yeah, I'm more on that. For me, it's not so much reducing my stammer as becoming more comfortable with it, meaning even if I do stammer I'm not completely panicking and thinking that I've completely messed up a situation just because I've stammered. It's more like managing my own expectations of the stammer, maybe, rather than reducing the 'percentage of syllables stuttered', sort of thing. It's less clinical, maybe? But, at the same time, acceptance of your stammer can lead to a reduction in stammering. So they can be connected in that way.

Male2 If you learn how to manage your stammer, then surely by de facto you are going to reduce it because you're learning how to cope with it. And even if that is accepting the situations that you know you're going to stammer, so you prepare for it regarding the situation, then you're still going to reduce it.

Facilitator1 Okay. So shall we revise this one a little bit? Rather than the main aim being reduction, being more about understanding and managing?

Male2 Yes.

Facilitator1 Okay?

Male2 I would- Yeah. Yeah, well, I said that.

Facilitator1 Is that-? Yeah? Is that what people are thinking?

Facilitator2e Yeah.

Male1                      Yeah, that's better.

Male2                      Yeah. I think once you know how to manage it, you then reduce it.

Male1                      Yeah. Yeah.

Male2                      So my way would be manage-slash-reduce, to kind of encompass that idea of...

Facilitator2e              Reduce-slash-manage my stammer more effectively.

Male2.                      Yeah, I'll agree with that.

Facilitator1                Okay. So when you talk about managing your stammer, do you still consider it a way of reducing your stammer at some point or is it much more around the...?

Facilitator2e              Personally, that's not my end goal. If it happens, great, but that's not what I'm aiming for, for myself.

Facilitator1                It's quite interesting because I think in the survey results and actually in a lot of the BSA literature and whatever else, there's kinda almost polarised opinions of stammering. One being: 'We need to find a way to cure it, to get rid of it' and the other is: 'No, other people need to be more accepting of my stammer. This is just the way that I talk.' So there's two very polarised views. Which is quite- It's quite interesting.

Male2                      That's interesting because, I dunno if other people agree, but my view is that people have to accept it, y'know, because it is what it is and I accept that I've got it. But, by all means, I want them to find a cure. I think they should find a cure. And you know, if there was trials for a cure, I would put my hand straight up and go: "Yes." Straight away. No questions asked. Unless, obviously, I'm gonna, like, lose a limb.

[laughter]

Facilitator2e                    Yeah, you get perfect speech but you lose this.

Facilitator1                    Take an arm.

Male2                            Yeah, but it's, y'know, it's like: Yes, people have to be understanding, but I think, at the same time, though: Yes, if there's a way to reduce it and knock it down by 20-30%, then yeah, do it, by all means. Unless I lose a limb.

Facilitator1                    Okay. Does anybody else wanna add to that?

Male1                            I just feel that I'm always gonna stammer, and that's okay, but I think that the most important thing for me is, like, what I do with my stammer, rather than have it totally go. I don't think that I'd- I don't know what life would be like for me without having a stammer. I've had it for so long.

Facilitator2e                    Well, yeah, it's like the whole thing that I find, people always ask one of two questions to people who stammer. It's either: "Do you wish you hadn't been born with a stammer?" or "If you were offered a magic pill right now which cured your stammer would you take it?" And, normally, if I was offered something right now, no side effects, it would cure it, I would seriously think about taking it. However, if somebody said: "You could go back in time and not have a stammer", no way would I take that, because it's very much made me who I am today. I don't know who I would be without it. It's kinda formed my character. It's formed the decisions I've made in life, the places I've been I wouldn't have been without it, so it's quite...

Male2                            That's interesting.

Facilitator2e                    Why? Would you go back and not have it?

Male2                            Yeah, I would. If I had the chance now. I accept I've got it and there is a fair chance that I'm gonna have it for the rest of my life. You know, which is part and parcel of it. But if I had a chance not to have a stammer? Then yeah. Definitely. Then I would I would quite happily get rid of it right now. And if I could go back twenty-odd years and not have it, then yeah.

Facilitator2e                    Well, yeah, as a teenager I might have had a different opinion, but now- as an adult- I'm like: "No, I don't think I would." I do know other people who



Facilitator1 Does anyone have another one that they would like to advocate for that they think would be useful to lots of different people?

Male1 I think the stress levels ones because as we've already identified in this first exercise here, some situations are more stressful. And I think that everybody though is different. So I think that a mobile application, if it could be individual for each person, and to maybe make a list of possibly their most stressful situations and stuff, I think it might be helpful. It would be very individual, because obviously, for me, calling up a restaurant is a lot more stressful for me than picking up the phone at work. And then for somebody else that might be vice-versa, total opposite.

Facilitator2e Yeah, I'm the opposite.

Facilitator1 Oh, alright. Okay.

Facilitator2e I'm the opposite, because whenever I pick up the phone in work, I'm representing that workplace. And that, to me, is added pressure. If I'm phoning a restaurant, I'm just representing myself. If I embarrass myself, yes, it's embarrassing, but I can get over it. Whereas if I disgrace the organisation, I know I'm not, but if I stammer and disgrace the organisation, it's so much more pressure for me. So I always felt a lot more nervous about using the phone at work, because I'm not representing me, I'm representing the council I work for. If I pick up the phone here, I'm representing the lab, sort of thing.

Facilitator1 Yeah. Interested. Okay. Anybody have any thoughts about why that shouldn't be involved, included or something which could be, should be put in instead?

Male2 No. I think it's brilliant, because the data that you could pull off that for purposes of research and looking at how you could develop new techniques or just that- Sorry, there's me thinking about research, but the amount of data that you could pull off situations there would be amazing. And it could prove invaluable to... whether it's your doctor, or your speech therapist, or a researcher, or yourself. Yes.

Facilitator1                    Okay, so we're gonna include the stress levels, but it will have to be personalised for each person. Depending on the situation.

Facilitator2e                    Yes. I don't think we can absolutely say that everybody gets stressed in this situation and stuff like that.

Facilitator1                    Alright. So we're sucking diesel, as they say. Male2, you're doing well here, with your greens. Anybody else wanna advocate for a last one?

Facilitator2e                    Well, I'm slightly biased, so... I'm very much in favour of peer-support and coming together and I think the sharing stories thing does also factor into this. It's the case of having people who you can turn to, you can hear their stories, and you can reassure yourself you're not alone in it. Listen to other people's stories and hear what they've gone through and make friends who also stammer who you can turn to if you're having a bad day, and share techniques and everything. And I think it's a great thing. I have had so much more help off of this sort of thing as opposed to speech and language therapy. No offence.

Facilitator1                    None taken.

Facilitator2e                    But yeah, just having people who I could turn to who I could talk to in a safe space, a judgement free zone. Where I can say anything, admit to being scared of stuff, admit to this and that. Yeah, I find it to be invaluable.

Male2                                I'll agree with that. But...

Facilitator2e                    No, go for it.

Male2                                I think being able to monitor your own speech is invaluable because, obviously, the whole point is 'look at how much the app can support and help you' and being able to monitor where you're having your ups, where you're having downs with your speech would be important so you could look at how to address those situations. But I'm torn. But I am torn between those two and I would love to see them both in, to be perfectly honest.

Facilitator2e                    So would I.

Facilitator1 One thing I was gonna say is Facilitator2e, you made a very good point when you said "Well, this one is linked to this one". So is there anything-? Any other qualities that we could- Because actually, I think this monitoring actually links to this one about managing your speech, in a way.

Facilitator2e Well, yeah, you can monitor and manage your speech.

Male2 Yeah.

Facilitator1 So I mean it could be that this actually feeds into this one. Does that make sense?

[general assent]

Facilitator1 Are there any of the other qualities?

Male2 I would say... Oh, where is it? Things like the techniques and practising can come off your peers, because you know you might find someone who has the exact same issue as you and they might be able to suggest something, I don't know, like 'picture everybody naked' or something but you know it's that sort of thing which links into this.

Facilitator1 Okay. Is this the kind of thing you had in mind with this?

Male1 I think that is one is an umbrella term for maybe that, that and that, right, in my personal view. So that covers those three for me quite specifically.

Male2 Those two, I agree with, yes. That one to an extent, because 'to develop your speaking skills'. That's such a broad topic and such a...

Facilitator2e It is. No, I do agree, it's a broad topic. However, I however I've known people who have joined a peer support group and, through being there, they've gone from not speaking in any meetings to joining in in every meeting, so there can be development. I know that speaking skills is a broad

term, because it can just mean speaking at all or it can mean public speaking or it can mean... Yeah.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. I mean, in a lot of ways, it could actually be that as well, couldn't it?

Male2                            Yeah, but again, that could make...

Male1                            Well. Right. If this is at the top and this can maybe lead down to this. And then from these two, then we get the speaking skills.

Facilitator2e                    Oh, yeah. From the techniques and the stories?

Male1                            Which can go into job interviews, which can go into real-life situations.

[laughter]

Male1                            Sorry.

Facilitator1                    Excellent.

Male2                            No, see, I would personally put that over there.

Male1                            Yeah. Sorry.

Facilitator2e                    What, more as an offshoot sort of thing?

Male2                            Yeah, more there, because then that can link in to other things, because that isn't purely just that. That is more... kind of... Let's say... if you go to a speech therapist who says: "What about practising this tip?" That hasn't come from a peer support group. That came from a speech therapist. Or if I go online and I read an academic paper which has trialled a technique out, that hasn't come from a peer-support group, but it might be a way to develop your speaking skills. So yes, I agree that fits with that, but I also think that doesn't fall just under that. That's kind of like...

Facilitator2e It could come from that, but it could also come from over here?

Male2 Yeah.

Male1 Yes, please.

Facilitator1 So, one of the things I wanted to ask here was... Practical. 'I want to be practical demonstrations'. I want to...

Facilitator2e I think that's a typo on my part. I apologise.

Facilitator1 Have practical demonstrations-

Facilitator2e Yeah. Probably 'have'.

Facilitator1 -of tasks and/or techniques.

Facilitator2e Yeah. That was one of Patrick's things from the survey.

Facilitator1 So what do you think it means in terms of practical demonstrations?

Male1 It could be techniques which you've learnt either from private speech therapy, the Starfish, the McGuire or the NHS, or any other source of help individual to that person.

Facilitator1 Right, so the people in the support group would be able to give demon- How would they? How would they do that? Would they do that just from typing or...?

Male2 That's interesting that you actually mentioned McGuire, because that's the course that I've done.

Facilitator2e Oh, have you done McGuire?

Male1 Oh, the McGuire, sorry?

Facilitator1 Oh, we were talking about it for a long time.

Male2 Yes, the McGuire. So what you have to do for the McGuire is- One of the techniques that they used to do- I mean, it's been years since I've done it. But within a time period you would have to go up to random people and engage. Either it could just be asking for the time or asking for directions. And then at the end of the... I think it's five days, they go to a public place. So I did mine in London in Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park where all the politicians go. Put a crate down; you stand on top of the crate and go: "My name's Male2r. I have a stammer" and then you talk for, like, five minutes, two minutes.

Facilitator2e Oh, okay. I did wonder earlier when you were talking about the whole phone tree thing. I was thinking: "The McGuire Programme has that." That would be why.

Male2 Yes, I was- I don't know if I still am, but I was the youngest person ever to do it. It was all adults and me.

Facilitator1 And do you think it helped you?

Male2 Yeah. Definitely. The help that I got from the NHS was absolutely useless, to be perfectly honest. I learnt more going on that course for the McGuire course than I did...

Facilitator2e And did you feel like that was because it run by other people who stammer as opposed to being run by speech therapists who haven't necessarily been through the condition for themselves? Or do you think that it just happened to be by people who stammer and that wasn't why it was useful?

Male2 I think... I know I'm...

Facilitator2e Sorry, that's a bit of a leading question.

Male2 No, it's not. I understand what- I wouldn't like to say, because the McGuire course worked for me, especially if you saw me the video of me when I was little compared to how I was after the McGuire, but I'm fully aware that it wouldn't work for other people as well. And I remember going to a conference and there were lots of different possible ones that you could choose from. Just because it works for one person, you know. I might just be lucky that I went on a course that helped, but it may not help you, for instance, compared to, say, the other ones out there. Because obviously different courses, different techniques, different views.

Facilitator2e I've heard different stories, yeah.

Facilitator1 Okay. I'm gonna have to move everybody on from this discussion, although very interesting, because even though we started off slow, or started off fast, sorry, we've talked a lot about lots of different things for a very long period of time. So, what I think we'll do is... I mean, we've definitely got this as one of our key features and we've agreed that this is an overarching one for these.

Facilitator2e So that the managing one is also overarching those two.

Facilitator1 So let's say 'monitor and manage'. We want to be able to- Shall we make this-?

Male2 Reduce-stroke-manage.

Facilitator1 Monitor and manage.

Male2 Yeah.

Facilitator1 Okay. Yeah, is that okay?

Facilitator2e Yep.

Facilitator1                    So 'I'd like to be part of a peer-support group for people who stammer to practise skills'. To practise skills? To practise speech skills?

Facilitator2e                    To practise skills-

Male2                              And to share stories.

Facilitator2e                    -and learn from others?

Male2                              Yeah. 'Learn from others' is a good one.

Facilitator1                    Okay. Skills and learn from others. Alright, so that's our three. What I'd like to do is have a little think, unless you'd like to facilitate, Facilitator2e?

Facilitator2e                    It depends on what you're about to say.

Facilitator1                    Okay, then. So what we'll do is just take each one in turn, and we'll have a think about how we might be able to use a mobile phone application to support this quality. So this one is: "I want to be able to reduce, monitor and manage my stammer effectively." So imagine this is something that we have a million pounds to make and it can be anything in the entire world that you want it to be, even if it seems completely unrealistic.

Male2                              I think... Because I thought about this actually a little bit, and I thought what would be quite good is if you- Let's just take, for instance, going to purchase train tickets, for instance, a thing that's already used. It would be good if there was an option to select you purchased train tickets or something. 'Tickets'. And then you have a set of 4 or 5 questions giving it a star rating 1 out of 5 and then you have a bit of room to type text in, if that- So, like-

Facilitator1                    Is this rating the interaction that you've had with the-?

Facilitator2e                    So like rating the interaction...?

Male2                              Yeah, so like rating the interaction and how you feel. So-

Facilitator1 Oh, your interaction? You mean-

Male2 Yeah.

Facilitator1 Oh, I understand. So reflecting on...

Facilitator2e Reflecting on how it went, sort of thing?

Male2 Yeah.

Male1 Okay. Alright. Is this after you've bought the tickets, Male2?

Male2 Yes. So, for instance, one of the questions could be: 'Out of 1 to 5, how did you feel before you went?' Okay? And the next question could be: 'How did you feel during or after?' Again, 1 to 5. And afterwards you could have a couple of questions or you could have just an open text box where you could type your thoughts, feelings, you know. Even if it's like: "Aah, that was the worst experience I've ever had." Fine. It's there. It's logged. And then obviously if you were then going to go to a support group or whatever, then- Or if you have a partner, like a buddy type system, then you could share it and they can see.

Facilitator1 Okay. So you would reflect on the interaction and then maybe share that with somebody else?

Male2 If you want to, yes. You don't have to, but that's just an option.

Facilitator1 And how might that improve your... either understanding of your stammer or how you can manage it better?

Male2 Because you might find that if you go to book train tickets at six o'clock in the afternoon after you've been at work all day, it's worse than it is if you were to do it at, say, ten o'clock in the morning before you go to work.

Facilitator1

Okay.

Male1

I used to book it at ten o'clock in the morning. Still nervous.

[laughter]

Male1

Sorry. I really did.

Male2

Sorry.

Male1

Self-reflection's really good.

Facilitator2e

I'm always really interested in how you felt before versus how you felt during or after because, quite often, how you feel before... You're making predictions about what you think's gonna happen, then you come out the other end and you're like: "Okay, well, the world didn't explode. I thought it was gonna." But, you know, you find it's not been as bad a lot of the time. I think quite often you're like: "I'm gonna stammer on every word" or "I'm not gonna get it out; they're gonna be like 'What? What? What?'" But that doesn't- Yeah, it quite often doesn't happen as you think it's going to happen.

Facilitator1

So what type of things, then, do you think that you would want to reflect on? Because you've mentioned a couple of different things there, like the perceived experience versus the actual experience.

Male2

Yeah. And also maybe how- Also, whether they do want to do this or not, maybe how did the other person interact with you? You know, were they patient? Were they a bit of a dick? Sorry for swearing on the-

[laughter]

Male2

You know, because it's, y'know. And did they end your sentence? Because, if someone finishes your sentence, which I absolutely hate, then afterwards you might feel a lot worse because someone has finished your sentence compared to if you've managed to do it yourself.

Facilitator2e                    Yeah, or when you're trying to say something and they try to guess and they get it wrong. And you're like: "Well, now we're just taking longer because you're making incorrect guesses at me."

Male2                                Yeah.

Facilitator1                    So I suppose, if the interaction was negative, how would you turn that round to a positive learning experience?

Male2                                Go for a pint.

[laughter]

Facilitator1                    But you mentioned sharing? Is that something you would-? I'm just trying to think in my head how-

Male2                                I think for some people, yes, it would be. I would talk to my friends. If I had a really bad day, then yes, I would pick up the phone, even if they don't know that I've had a bad day specifically with stammering. I would pick up my friends just to have a chat with them just to...

Facilitator1                    Yeah.

Male2                                Yeah.

Facilitator2e                    I think it's kind of reassurance, if you have a bad day, that there's still people you can talk to and it's fine. And it's not a bad experience to talk to them. It's kinda reassuring yourself that not every communication experience is going to be bad.

Male2                                Yeah.

Facilitator1                    Okay. Do you want to add...?

Male1                    If I was to be doing this, right, I would be rating myself on my fluency, on my eye contact, maybe my rate of speech, whether or not I substituted words consciously. And, good or bad, I would go over it for self-reflection. Because I'm thinking of it like: If it's a bad one, that doesn't mean that they're all gonna be bad. But then if it's a good one, it doesn't also mean that they're all gonna be great as well. So I think that each of them just needs to be individual reflection. But I think overall, though, it is useful because either way you know that you can do it and that you can get through it as well.

                                 And what I would also be making a note of before, just for me personally: how I physically felt before, like do I have a pounding heart or a dry throat. And how I felt afterwards as well, because sometimes the effects of that situation, it's not just on your speech. There's other effects as well.

Male2                    And what about, maybe-? Again, this is gonna be- What about actually recording the conversation?

Facilitator2e            That has come up before. That came up in the SLT workshops.

Male2                    It's whether- Personally, I wouldn't because I hate listening to my own voice, especially if I stammer, but it could be- Again, that could be really good for be able to monitor and say whether- It's again looking for specific words or sounds that you stammer on.

Facilitator1            Yeah. So, again, as a source of self-reflection, listening back? Yeah.

Male2                    Yeah. That's all I've got for that.

Facilitator1            No, I think that came up really strongly in the therapists' workshop, actually. Anything else to add to that one?

Male1                    When I was in my speech therapy course, my therapist spoke about having a toolkit. It could be a mental list or it could be an actual physical list. So maybe putting into the application a toolbox, such as intercostal breathing, McGuire techniques, Starfish techniques, desensitisation, mindfulness, slow breathing, any positive thoughts and positive sayings and such.

Facilitator1            Okay. Affirmations, are all they called?

Male1                      Sorry?

Facilitator1                Affirmations?

Male1                      Affirmations, yes. That's it, yeah. Yeah.

Male2                      That would be quite good, that, actually.

Facilitator1                So that could be quite interesting as something you could do linked in with the rating, actually. So if you have a particularly bad rating then, even if it's a bad experience, then you get a little affirmation to say exactly what you said: "They're not all gonna be this bad. It might have been bad today but they're not all gonna be bad. What could you learn from this experience?" or something.

Male2                      That would be interesting, especially if you tried to use one of the toolkit techniques in the situation. And if you tried it three times, and three times it didn't work, then you might be like: "Okay, that's not working for me, try something else".

Facilitator1                Try something else. Yeah, okay. That's interesting. So they're kinda techniques for helping to manage your stammer. Where would you get those from?

Male1                      I think personal experience and from your training course. Online research. But, again, every toolkit is going to be different for every individual person.

Facilitator1                Ah...

Male1                      I'll have things which will work for me which won't work for Male2, and vice versa as well with Male2 and me.

Facilitator1                Interesting. So you create your own toolkit?

Male1 Yes. Absolutely.

Facilitator1 That's very interesting.

Facilitator2e That's something that quite often comes out. Techniques. It's often not quite so much that somebody's following a very strict technique. It's more like that you've heard different things. You hear someone talking about a technique and you're like: "Oh, that sounds quite interesting. I'll give that a try." And then you'll kind of cherry-pick from here and there and be like: "I'll give that a try... See how that works..."

Male2 They do that on the McGuire course, actually. So you learn the basics of costal breathing, but then if you know you're gonna stammer- So like if you're gonna stammer on an 's', you will purposefully stammer on an 's'. So you'll go 'sssssugar'. Or you can replace the word with something else. So, like, they give you different techniques that you can try and you can pick from. So the McGuire course does pull bits in from that.

Facilitator1 Okay. Excellent. That was actually very, very interesting. Does anyone else have anything else to add to that? Though somewhat quickly, as we're running out of time. No? Okay. Let's go onto the next one.

Facilitator2e I'll try to use more of this side of the page on this one.

Facilitator1 Okay, so I want to be able to track- Tracking stress levels. So how could we do that with the application?

Male2 I think we briefly touched on that before. Where you have a situation, you've got a star rating, you've got the questions, and you've got a chance to- Obviously, then. Could it also maybe link into some other health things that are already out there or getting developed? For things like if you know you're going to be booking train tickets so it picks up your heart rate, for instance.

Facilitator1 Okay, so like biometrics?

Male2 Yeah, so like bio- So you could mix it up with biometrics and with actual... like, your own personal views. Because you might have found it really

stressful mentally, doing it, but according to your biometrics you might be completely chilled out, you know.

Facilitator1                    Okay. So like your heart rate. We did say blue-sky, didn't we? So it could be anything. So like your heart rate, your... You could measure your sweat glands?

Male2                             Sweat. Yeah.

Male1                             Physical sensations.

Facilitator1                    Okay, we also said self-report or reflection. Anything else about tracking stress?

Male1                             Oh, yeah. Perhaps... Again, individual though to each person, but maybe your top three most stressful situations, such as picking up the phone, going for tickets, speaking to new people. Again, it'll be different for everyone else.

Facilitator1                    Like identifying your stressors and then learning to manage around it? That's quite interesting.

Male2                             I mean, rather than going for situations, you could even go as broad as times of day, as well. So maybe it's not specific situations, but if it's first thing in the morning and I'm still half asleep then that's going to- Speaking to people when I'm worse because my brain's still waking up. Or by the time it hits eleven o'clock, twelve o'clock, one o'clock, two o'clock, well, then I'm then hungry. So, yeah. So it's interesting to see whether times of day reflect. But, then again, you could compare that to the seasons, which again I dunno if that'll make any different whatsoever, but wintertime when it's obviously darker and colder. That might make a difference compared to the summer.

Facilitator2e                    What, whether it's like SAD?

Facilitator1                    Just one more thing that we had on here was...

Male2                             The times of day.

Facilitator1            The times of day and...

Facilitator2e           I've got that.

Facilitator1            NHS or... Sorry, what did you say already? Things that are already available around managing stress.

Facilitator2e           Okay.

Facilitator1            Tips and strategies for managing stress.

                                 [silence 01:19:02 – 01:19:16]

Facilitator1            Okay. Last one, unless anyone has anything else to add? Sorry, I'm, like, moving along. I'm thinking we should maybe rethink our- It's very useful to do the practise workshop because-

Facilitator2e           Yeah, it lets us know which bits take a bit more time for discussion.

Facilitator1            Okay. Final one is about the peer-support group. So being part of the peer-support group. How might we facilitate links to a peer-support group through an application?

Male2                    For the peer-support group, I don't think it would have to be people who stammer.

Facilitator1            Okay.

Male2                    So I think it could be... Let's just take my friends here, who are obviously based here, some of them. You could have anonymous- You could have an app that's, like, anonymous. So if you're out in a situation... Let's just say you're out for having a meal or having a couple of drinks, they could rate you. And I don't mean that in a bad way, but- You know, and it can stay

anonymous. Especially if you ask someone to do it, then that might give you some thoughts for self-reflection and how you feel.

Facilitator1            Okay.

Male2                    Just a thought.

Male1                    Partners, as well.

Facilitator1            Partners?

Male1                    Partners and parents.

Facilitator1            What do you guys think about the rating?

Facilitator2e            What kind of thing would you want to be rated on? Would it be fluency? Would it be overall communication? Would it be avoidance things, like they picked up on avoidance techniques? Again, I think it would be a very individual thing. It would differ from person to person but...

Male2                    It would. I think it would be very generalised- how you interact with your friends. Because I think, when it comes to people like your partners or your friends know you better than anybody? So, y'know, they might see you stressed and know that you stammer more. And you could find that rating out. So one of them could be 'How stressed did you think you were?' and if you stammer more-

Facilitator1            Oh, okay, so it doesn't have to be anything to do with the stammer even? It could just be like... the situations around it?

Male2                    Yeah. So it could be: 'Was the person stressed?' and give them 5 because they were- because they looked like they wanted- y'know, because they were completely stressed. 'Did they stammer?' And they got 4. But then the next week, you might find: 'Okay, 1.' They were chilled out. 'Oh, so I had 1 for stammer.' And, again, they could reflect on certain situations they might notice that we can't, about when we stammer more.

Facilitator1                    So would this be when you're actually co- when you're located with the person, like if you're going to the cinema with somebody and then they rate you on your speech?

Male2                            Yeah, sort of, but that's sounds very like... I don't wanna make it sound like they're being judgemental of you but...

Facilitator2e                    I've gotta say, personally, if I'm out with a friend and they're listening to my stammer rather to than what I'm saying, I would get a bit annoyed.

Male2                            Yes. Okay. Okay. The way I'm trying to put it across is that they weren't listening to your stammer but they were looking at you generally, though. So if you were out with a friend and you saw that they were maybe a bit down, you would ask: 'Are they alright?' and try to support them through that, y'know?

Facilitator2e                    Okay, so it's just like a general 'I notice you're a bit worried, we're standing in a queue at a coffee counter, you seem a bit worried' kind of thing?

Male2                            Yes. It's that kind of general...

Facilitator1                    Anything to add, Male1, about support groups?

Male1                            If they also meet all together physically, though, all the dates, times and places of the meeting or any forthcoming meeting or any forthcoming events as well.

Facilitator1                    Okay, so sharing a lot more of the wider community based stuff that's going on near you? Where you can meet up with people who have a stammer?

Male2                            Would you also like-? Like you mentioned also, the thing to do with purchasing tickets. Would you like to have somebody maybe sharing tips or stories with you about how they might've booked tickets?

Male1                            Yes. Yes.

Male2                      Yeah, so like stories and tips on a forum or you could maybe do an instant chat type thing across each other.

Male1                      Maybe a forum with a question of the day or something. Or a thread.

Male2                      Yeah. Yeah.

Facilitator1              Okay, so you could pose a question. Would this be an anonymous forum or people that you know?

Male1                      I mean, it could be either/or maybe.

Male2                      Yeah.

Facilitator2e             It could be up to you whether you want to show your username or not.

Facilitator1              Oh, so you could have a public or private...?

Male2                      Yeah, and within the app, you could have groups, like on What'sApp for instance you've got chats. You know, like group chats. Like that principle but on the forum, though.

Facilitator1              Okay, so it'd be like... It's almost like, say, putting something on Twitter, for example, and you might ask a question on Twitter and hashtag something and everyone comments on it and gives you a response? But you don't necessarily know who they are. Or if you do- If you're part of a Facebook group that's like a big group but you don't necessarily know everybody.

Male2                      Yeah, and obviously you know if you, say, have 2,000 people have the app, you might have your own small group within that of, say, 40 people and you might post just for them.

Facilitator1              Okay, so you're building kinda specialised networks of people. So for example, it might be like covert stammerers or...

Male2                      Yeah. What a name.

Facilitator1                Covert. That's what it's called.

Facilitator2e                Yeah.

Male2                        Really?

Facilitator1                Covert stammering's where... You know that thing you were talking about as a strategy of replacing one word with another? That's called covert stammering.

Male2                        Oh. Oh. I didn't know that.

Facilitator2e                The official name is covert stammering, yeah.

Male2                        I never knew that. I thought you were just making, like, a really cool name for a forum.

Facilitator1                No, no. Not necessarily a technique, though. We tend to suggest that people actually do speech therapy because it like builds up and up and up and up and up, and the stress and anxiety levels around covert stammering is really quite...

Male2                        Really?

Facilitator2e                Yeah, because a lot of people just avoid talking completely or avoid situations where they might need to speak.

Male2                        Okay.

Facilitator2e                Or some people substitute so- words so much that their sentences come out and they don't make any sense because they've swapped out so many

words. Bruce Willis sometimes, if you watch his interviews, you can see him doing it. And you're like:

Male2

Yeah.

Facilitator1

Bruce Willis?

Male1

Bruce Willis?

Facilitator2e

Bruce Willis has a stammer.

Facilitator1

Really?

Facilitator2e

Yeah. He's a big covert stammerer.

Facilitator1

I didn't know that...

Male1

I didn't know about Bruce Willis.

Male2

Me, neither.

Facilitator2e

Yeah, Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson, Emily Blunt-

Male2

Really?

Facilitator1

Really?

Male1

Emily Blunt, I knew, yeah.

Facilitator1

Really?

Male1                      Yeah, a few people have, yeah.

Facilitator1                Oh, wow. So are they covert?

Facilitator2e                Ed Sheeran.

Facilitator1                Ed Sheeran?

Male1                      Charles Dance, I believe, as well.

Male2                      Gareth Gates.

Facilitator2e                Oh, I didn't know-

Male1                      Charles Dance.

Facilitator2e                I didn't know Charles Dance. I did know Gareth Gates. I didn't know Charles Dance.

Facilitator1                Okay, so are they all covert stammerers or are they just resolved stammerers?

Facilitator2e                Well, not all of them- They've kinda worked out techniques to get through it, I think.

Male2                      What would be interesting, which I think would like into this, when I was at school, I used to have music lessons and sing. That used to help a lot. Was just a thought.

Facilitator1                Okay, so it's like melodic intonation therapy, I suppose. If you teach... Melodic intonation is one of the ways of- Do you know when you're spacing, using your metronome, but then you kind of talk like-?

Facilitator2e                    Switching up the rhythm.

Facilitator1                    Yeah, you would look at, say, a set of sentences that you use all the time. If it was a question then it would go up at the end, so you'd be like: "Would you like a cup of tea?" And you start of doing that, then you would bring it into more natural intonation. "Would you like a cup of tea? Would you like a cup of tea?"

Male2                            Yeah, because I've never seen someone stammer when they sing.

Facilitator2e                    Well, it's a proven thing that we don't.

Male1                            I don't stammer when I sing, or when I'm in a works chorus. And what I do at work, which is so helpful on the phone. My opening, it's very generic, right, and that's almost like singing. I just say: "Typing pool. How can I help you? Michael speaking." And I hardly ever, ever stammer on that.

Facilitator2e                    Because of the rhythm, yeah.

Facilitator1                    Yeah.

Male1                            It's like, yeah... It's really useful for me.

Male2                            Well, that's the answer. Just get everyone to start singing and people would never know that they stammered.

Facilitator2e                    Well, yeah, if only we lived in a musical. Would be so much easier.

Male1                            Gareth Gates, remember him? Came second.

Facilitator2e                    Neil Young, as well.

Facilitator1                    Well, Facilitator2e, you're a font of knowledge but this line is talking is...

Facilitator2e Yes.

Facilitator1 ...eating up... Okay. So, I think that's also really- Because that type of strategy that you've built up is also really- It's something that could potentially be really useful for- I mean, even if you were thinking about an interview situation or doing small talk, having some kind of practise line that you say all the time could potentially be-

Male2 Go for jobs in musicals.

Facilitator1 Yeah.

Male2 Then you'd be fine.

Facilitator1 "I am Male2! How are ya? Great! Hire me, please!" No. And that's on the recording...

Facilitator2e I know someone who stammers who actually works on Broadway in New York and he's just like: "I just sing all the time. It's fine."

Facilitator1 That's very interesting. Okay, does anybody have anything else to add to that?

Male1 Maybe a contact name of your buddies or your local speech therapy department as well? Individual though to your area, as well.

Facilitator1 Okay, so signposting?

Male2 That idea of doing a buddy-buddy system did actually work really well when I used to be in therapy. It was very- You would have a coach and also two or three buddies. It was interesting to have the difference between the coach and the buddy.

Facilitator2e And it would be possible just for people to say their location so you could get it narrowed down to just people who are also in their area and you could talk to people close by and stuff like that.

Male2 Not too close, though, because I don't want a person turning up at work.

Facilitator2e Next door. Well, yeah, obviously not pin-pointing the street you're on.

Male2 "There's that person that stammers."

Facilitator2e But yeah, you could just do a kind of Newcastle thread and Edinburgh thread and stuff.

Facilitator1 Excellent. Okay. I think we've got loads and loads of ideas to take forward and I'm already starting to maybe rethink the way we're doing our other workshop. So maybe presenting some of the- Because there's so many ideas here. Maybe we'll present these as a kind of design realisation? So put a scenario out and say, for example, 'Male2 is going to book some train tickets. He opens up his application. He rates himself before, rates himself after, blah, blah, blah', so we incorporate all the ideas and see what people pick from that.

Male2 What would be quite good as well, which you could do, is post-its. Like, get people to write down ideas, but then have a question like that and then people can put on.

Facilitator2e Oh, people can just contribute?

Facilitator1 Yeah, see what people have said?

Male2 Yeah. Just a thought.

Facilitator1 I think maybe we'll, because there's so many of these questions and we've established that we can put quite a few of them in, we'll take the ones that have all the marks on them and the ones that you've thought will be useful to other people as well and then we'll try and dissolve some of those a little bit.

Male2 I think some of them can definitely be grouped together. So maybe not have statements or questions as such but maybe have like a...

Facilitator2e Have that more... Yeah.

Male2 Have a grouping type generalised statement maybe, instead? Just to...

Facilitator1 Okay.

Male1 Yeah, maybe sort of like- We could maybe put some under an umbrella term. Perhaps. So maybe just have a look at these three sheets and see what could be grouped together maybe?

Facilitator1 Yeah. I think so, too. Could we really quickly, with the thought of a larger group of people who stammer in our-? That one's still going. That's why we've got two. Have we got much time left on that?

Facilitator2e It's flashing.

Facilitator1 Okay, it should be fine. If it goes off, just let me know and I'll record on my phone. Oddly, these kind of seem to work sometimes and then occasionally they just stop.

Male2 Okay.

Facilitator1 Which is weird. I've used these for two hour workshops several times before. Anyway. From the perspective of a larger group of people who stammer, bearing in mind that we've never actually done any work with people who stammer before, nor has anybody else, like actually sitting down in groups of people... We're going to the BSA, but even if it wasn't gonna be the BSA, this would be a much larger group, so we don't know- You're gonna be there. Are you gonna come?

Male1 To your night? To your Friday? Again? Do you want me there?

Facilitator1            So, we were actually gonna ask, if you were gonna be around, if you maybe wanted to help facilitate some of the activities? But it's completely up to you.

Male1                    I never help at the BSA workshops. This'll be something new for me.

Facilitator1            It's completely- Go away and think about it, and if it's something that you think you'd like to do then just send me an email about it.

Male1                    I never help, but that's not to mean that I don't wanna help.

Facilitator2e            No, you're welcome to.

Male2                    Where is it? The BSA?

Facilitator2e            It's in Manchester.

Male2                    When?

Facilitator2e            On the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. No, not October. Of September. It's in a week, yeah.

Male1                    Can I say yes now?

Facilitator1            Of course you can.

Male1                    Yes. I'm saying yes. Thank you.

Facilitator1            Fantastic. So we'll catch up and kinda go over what we're doing but it would just be kinda sitting in a group probably this size and just kinda directing people in the right way, if that makes sense? So maybe writing things down and- Bascially what you have to do in these type situations is let people talk.

Male1                      Yeah.

Male2                      So is that on a Friday, do you think?

Facilitator2e              Yeah, our thing's on the Friday.

Male2                      If you want somebody, I'd be willing to come down and help.

Facilitator2e              Ooh.

Male2                      I've have to check my diary but potentially I'd be willing to come down and help.

Facilitator2e              Oh, okay, we'll let her know.

Male1                      I'm a very fast note writer. I used to take minutes for meetings, so it's a very useful transferrable skill. If you want me just to sit there and just write and write and write, I'll be in my element. I don't mind doing that at all. Obviously, as a scribe.

Facilitator1              Oh, fantastic.

Facilitator2e              On Friday, as well, we have another potential volunteer.

Facilitator1              Oh, excellent.

Male2                      Yeah, I can take some time off work because I've got loads of- Which I know is [on site? 01:35:31]. But I have loads of time to still take off.

Facilitator1              It's in the evening.

Facilitator2e              It'll be, like, half 4. Or 5 o'clock in the evening.

Male2                    Yeah, that's fine. If you want me to come down, I mean, you might have to pay for my train tickets but that's fine.

Male1                    I'm getting a lift over, so I could ask my housemate then that ideally be there for this time. Do you know what time I should be there, yet? Or is it too early to tell, yet?

Facilitator2e           Well, they put out a survey asking if people are going to be there after midday. I think registration opens at 3. However, you can physically arrive on site any time after midday.

Male1                    Okay.

Facilitator1            But what time is our workshop at? 5?

Male1                    Are you half past 4, I think I read somewhere? Don't quote me on that.

Facilitator2e           It's advertised as half four. However...

Facilitator1            It starts at 5.

Facilitator2e           It starts at 5 and we just said half 4 just to get everyone in the room.

Male1                    To get people in, yeah, yeah.

Facilitator1            So it's completely up to you. Just let us know if you're available and would be... would like to help.

Male1                    Yes, I'd love to help.

Facilitator1            If we're coming as facilitators, we don't need to book into the whole conference, do we?

Facilitator2e No, no. We don't have to book into the whole conference, no. If you do want to stay the night, it is £40 a night.

Facilitator1 So I definitely have to come back, unfortunately.

Facilitator2e Yeah, it's £40 if you wanna stay. However you can just turn up and do this thing if we're part of it.

Male2 I'll speak about it later. Yeah, it's fine.

Facilitator1 Alright, so we've just used our last fifteen minutes to-

Mike I'm there all weekend.

Facilitator1 Yeah, it's like the busiest possible time for us at the moment, so... I was telling you about our deadline. So, unfortunately, I'm gonna have to come for the workshop and then disappear again and come back up.

Facilitator2e Yeah, I'm gonna be there for the whole thing.

Facilitator1 Because I don't have any weekends off at the minute. Not at the minute.

Male1 Bless you.

Facilitator1 Anyway, so bearing in mind that nobody's really done this type of discussion-based work before, we wanted a little bit of feedback on the activities. So how they might translate, and we want you to be as absolutely brutal as possible. So, just to remind you... Can I just have a little check? The first thing we did, as kind of like an ice-breaker, was people's different experiences of stammering and the types of situations which were kind of stressful or whatever. Did you have any issues with that? Do you think there might be any people who it might not work for?

Male1 I think, before that, if you give an overall objectives of the workshop first to the people, saying why you are there and what you hope to achieve. Maybe

just give 3 or 4 clear objectives and then go into asking people to disclose after the objectives.

Facilitator1                    So being very, very defined about what we're doing rather than waffling on about who we are and whatever else?

Male2                                I think actually giving example stories. You don't need many of them, to be perfectly honest. Even... 3 or 4 would be enough or you could even give- If you had 3 or 4 examples, for instance, 'Such and such has found it stressful buying train tickets'. Like actual real examples that you already have. Because, if you've only got 2 hours to do it, it would be a good way- Because you know- As long as you're setting the real world example that we used, then yes, that would be quite good.

Facilitator1                    So instead of saying- Potentially, it could be a group of 15 people. Say it's 15 people in the room. If we give some real world examples, say from you guys and the examples that we got from the surveys and stuff, that would be a better way to frame it?

Male2                                Yeah, and I think even 3 or 4.

Facilitator1                    Yeah, and then we work towards those scenarios.

Male2                                Yeah, because, to be honest, the real world examples aren't irrelevant, but obviously that's not going to get you the stuff that you need for the app, you know. That's background, essentially.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Okay, okay. Alright, no that's really good. What about the card sorting task?

Male1                                I enjoyed doing that. I think it gave us all a chance to see these different viewpoints and these different reasons, and then to self-identify which ones are actually relevant to you. So that was good for me.

Facilitator1                    Yeah. Yeah.

Male2 I liked it. I really liked it. What you could do, again, is... That dot thing was quite good, but you could break them- Saying it's 15 people? You could break them off into groups of 4 or 5...

Facilitator1 Oh, we were definitely- We would 100% break them up, yeah.

Male2 And just glue them on, like, a bit of paper. And then maybe you wouldn't even have to have- Every person wouldn't need to have a colour necessarily. You could do it by groups but do the rankings within the groups as well, if that makes sense?

Facilitator1 Yes, so that's definitely what we're planning on doing for that activity, actually.

Male2 Because you might find, like, 3 out of the 4 groups have this one for instance, as 1 and 2, but then straightaway you're kinda speeding things- I think you might be able to do that.

Facilitator1 So I think the intention for this one is definitely gonna be- So we'll use the cards and get them to decide on the top 5, that was the thing. And then get all of the groups to feedback on all of their top 5s, and then together we pick a top 3. Or maybe we should just do top 3? Yeah, top 5, top 3, whatever.

Male2 You could do top 3, with an 'interesting' section next to it.

Facilitator1 Erm... What do you mean?

Male2 So you know how before, I picked one out that was of interest? Like a top three then have a kind of...

Facilitator1 Possible interest.

Male2 Section and why.

Facilitator2e Ones which could be discussed further.

Facilitator1 I mean, the top 3 out of all of those things is still gonna be quite a long activity to do, actually. No, I'm glad that you liked that. And in terms of engaging people who might be a little bit less confident and whatever else... Did you-? What did you think about that?

Male1 I think it was good because you get people there who- It might be their first conference. And everyone has got different confidence levels as well. So I think it was a good way of giving the information to the people rather than asking them to think up all these different reasons themselves as well, if that answers the question.

Facilitator1 Okay. That's really, really helpful actually.

Male2 If you were thinking about, going to base it around themes or stories, like before like train tickets, what you could do to make it a bit more interactive is have long, thin bits of paper with different stories on, then you pick 3 at random. And those 3 are the ones that it's based around.

Facilitator1 The scenarios, do you mean?

Male2 Yeah, so you could have-

Facilitator1 Do you know how long it takes to think up scenarios, Male2? It's really complicated to think up good scenarios!

Male2 Yeah, yeah, but if you just wanted to make it a bit more like...

Facilitator1 Yeah. So the different types of possible issues that somebody might have, the different types of situations that they might have problems with.

Male2 Yeah. Yeah, it's just-

Facilitator1 Yeah, that could be quite interesting, actually.

Facilitator2e                    Like 'James has been asked to be best man at his best friend's wedding'.

Male2                                Yeah, so literally you just get people to pull out one and go: "This is what it is."

Facilitator1                    That's actually a really interesting idea, so rather than doing this activity where we were taking each of the cards, maybe we have the 3 qualities and we get people, as you say, maybe to...

Facilitator2e                    Oh, to match up the cards to the qualities?

Facilitator1                    To match up the- So they would pick the person, the type of stammer that they've got, the situation that they're possibly gonna have an issue in and their feelings around the stammer, and then write around, brainstorm. That's a great idea, actually. Thanks, Male2.

Male2                                I do have them sometimes. It's rare, but I do have them now and then.

Facilitator1                    No, that's a great idea. That's a really good idea, actually. A really nice idea. Okay.

Male2                                That's what you get being a teacher.

Facilitator1                    The other thing would've been to write this up into an app scenario, if that makes sense, but actually I think it's probably more interesting to get them to do it themselves.

Male2                                Yeah, the app scenario could be- Unless you actually have a physical interest in technology and apps then it might seem a bit dull to some people, and I don't mean that in a bad way. Some people might go because they're interested in the fact that you're talking about technology, but they may hate the idea of sitting around...

Facilitator1                    Doing app design? Okay, this is extremely useful. So in terms of... Yeah. Is there anything else? In terms of engaging people who stammer in design work like this? Anything that we need to be really, really tip-top on or...?

Facilitator2e            Anything... If someone approached you in a certain way, would you go: "Nope, I'm not getting involved in that", sort of thing. How something is advertised? How something is...?

Male1                    Maybe to let people know at the start of the workshop that they don't have to be particularly technology-minded.

Facilitator1            Yeah, that's a good idea.

Male2r                  And using the term 'stammering' or 'stuttering'.

Facilitator1            Yeah. I mean, should we say that we will refer to it as 'stammering' but we recognise that some people call it 'stuttering'?

Male2                    Yes. I would like- To mean, to me, I absolutely hate the term 'stuttering'.

Facilitator1            Why?

Facilitator2e            I think it sounds uglier than 'stammering'.

Male2                    It does. It does. I absolutely hate the term, but I don't mind the term 'stammering' because it doesn't sound as- Like, it sounds nicer. And I don't mean that in a bad way.

Facilitator2e            Yeah, exactly. It sounds more pleasant, almost. It's odd.

Male1                    I never say 'stutter'. I always say I 'stammer'.

Facilitator2e            Yeah, it's very American, I think.

Facilitator1            Yeah, I always say 'stammer'.

Male2                                Yeah, I just think you might have some person who might take offense to the fact that you're saying 'stutter'.

Facilitator1                        I suppose in a lot of ways as well it's like stammering's a...

Facilitator2e                       Well, I think there's Irish people there and I think it's the 'Irish Stuttering Association', so there might be some people who...

Male1                                Americans say 'stutter'.

Male2                                So you could say that-

Facilitator1                        We'll refer to it as 'stammering'...

Male2                                ...but you understand that it's... Yeah.

Facilitator2e                        Yeah.

Facilitator1                        Okay.

Male1                                Oh, I just thought of something as well. And I don't know if this is going to cause problems or open up a can of worms or... What about the people, who go to the conferences, who identify themselves as 'cluttering'? What do we do about the 'clutterers'?

Male2                                What? Cluttering?

Male1                                Cluttering.

Facilitator1                        Yeah, I still don't really know what cluttering is...

Facilitator2e                        I would just say that at the start that: "We're using the term 'stammering' to define this. We also recognise it's called stuttering...and other things."

Male2                      What's a clutterer?

Facilitator2e             Because cluttering is very similar to...

Male2                      I've never heard of cluttering.

Facilitator2e             I think cluttering is more... It's not so much blocks...

Facilitator1              It's a fluency disorder characterised by rapid and/or irregular speaking rate, says the dysfluencies...

Facilitator2e             Yeah, it's kinda the really fast and it's kinda the 'buh buh buh buh buh buh buh buh'. It's the really fast repetition or it's the really fast talk to cover it. Stuff like that. It's a very particular type of stammering.

Facilitator1              Yeah.

Male2                      But it's still a type of stammering, though, isn't it?

Facilitator2e             I would say that it still falls under the umbrella of stammering. I don't know whether people who clutter would...

Facilitator1              Well, we could just say that we're talking about dysfluency here and we're mainly meaning...

Male2                      That's a very good term, that, actually.

Facilitator2e             Yeah. We're talking about dysfluency but we're going to use the term...

Facilitator1              Stuttering. Stammering.

Facilitator2e ...the term stammering, however you might call it other things. However, when we say stammering, this is what we're referring to.

Male2 I would definitely have an information sheet for them, as well.

Facilitator1 Yeah, we've got an information sheet.

Male2 Yeah, so like I dunno whether you've got something about where you've got your literature from. I dunno, in case people are-

Facilitator1 Oh, so do you think this isn't enough information?

Male2 It is, but I dunno whether people might wanna look into...

Facilitator1 We haven't actually... written any of that up, yet, so...

Male2 Okay, so just ignore what I'm saying, then.

Facilitator2e What we could do is if you would to discuss this further with us, you're welcome to email us, because my contact details are on there.

Facilitator1 Yeah, that should come across in the information sheet, actually. But we can say that at the beginning.

Facilitator2e Yeah, we'll make sure that people know that they're welcome to get in touch with us if they want more information.

Male2 Yeah, that's- Yeah.

Facilitator1 I'm very aware that your friend's coming to get you and it's 4 minutes past 8.

Male1 Oh. Has he texted me, though? He might not even have texted me. He's sent me a text but it was at- Oh, hang on. Okay. "I'm here. Downstairs."

Facilitator1 Okay. Great.

Male1 Sorry.

Facilitator1 No, it's alright.

Facilitator2e Don't worry.

Facilitator1 I think that's it, actually, if anybody has any other burning points...? We'll be in contact about the conference, then.

Male1 Would you like me to brainstorm some speaking situations in the next 24 hours and email you them, just in case?

Facilitator1 That would be awesome.

Facilitator2e That would be great.

Male1 Just off the top of my head?

Facilitator1 Yeah, that would be really good. I think what we might do is print them off just on slips of paper and put them into paper cups or something. And we might have- What would we do to make a scenario so-? What would you normally say about somebody? This is... What type of stammering they have? What their main problems are? The type of situations that's the worst?

Facilitator2e I wouldn't necessarily talk about 'type of stammer'. People don't tend to classify their stammer so much. Obviously, once you start talking about it, people do fall into categories but, in and of yourself, you're not like: "I am this type of stammerer. I have this type of stammer."

Facilitator1 Is there anything else that would help people to think around these qualities that might be...?

Facilitator2e Erm... There's situations like... Examples of what you do to manage your stammer? Probably like techniques.

Facilitator1 Okay. So maybe what they want to...? Actually, types of situations is fine. I'm just over-complicating it.

Male1 Different types of speaking situations.

Facilitator1 Yes, and I've just written that down, but it's probably very similar to...

Male1 So I just need to brainstorm a list of... Right, okay.

Facilitator1 That would be amazing. Alright, thank you so much for coming, everybody. We'll let youse all head home. That's it. I'll just turn these recorders off.

END AUDIO