

Transcription News July 2025 from TP Transcription and University Transcriptions

Specialist academic and business transcription and translation services for all languages, established in 2001, a B Corp company and 1% For the Planet member. Our company donates 10% of profits to charity and is a member of the Ten Percent Group of websites and companies. For details of our company please visit www.tptranscription.co.uk.

We produce a monthly news round up of our research projects, charity donations and work.

TP Transcription & University Transcriptions Charity Donation - £500 to SEED Madagascar & £500 to The Lewy Body Society



Every year, TP Transcription Limited donates 10% of net profits to charity via the Ten Percent Foundation. This year our donations included £500 to SEED Madagascar and £500 to the Lewy Body Society.

SEED Madagascar £500 Donation

TP Transcription Limited recently donated £500 to Seed Madagascar, as part of our 10% of net profits to charity across the Ten Percent Group (and our 1% for the Planet commitment).

Mark Jacobs, the CEO of Seed Madagascar, has given us the following: "We will use the donation to directly support one of our frontline community led initiatives in southeast Madagascar. Your donation will most likely be directed to our current Programme Sekoly project at Karinoro Primary School, a rural school in southeast Madagascar that urgently needs infrastructure improvements. Your support could fund handwashing stations

connected to a new rainwater harvesting system, essential classroom materials and furniture for a newly constructed cyclone-resilient classroom, a portion of a gender-segregated toilet block, essential for privacy, hygiene and female student attendance."

SEED Madagascar (Sustainable Environment, Education and Development) is an award winning, international NGO that carries out projects exclusively in Madagascar. SEED's central mission is to enhance the capacity of individuals, communities, organisations and the government in fulfilling sustainable environment, education, and development goals in southeast Madagascar.

Operations are focused in the Anosy region of southeast Madagascar where SEED has a permanent, primary base. Day-to-day operations are led by the Taolagnaro office, in the regional capital of Anosy, under the Director of Programmes and Operations and Deputy Director. SEED prioritises the needs of Anosy communities, and the team reflects this, with 80% of staff members being Malagasy and 97% of all staff based in Madagascar.

Recent Work

Sarisambo Primary and Lower Secondary Schools: the provision of education infrastructure and wash facilities to a total of 726 students and 27 teachers in Sarisambo Primary and Lower Secondary Schools. To enable students to attend full-day classes, SEED repaired an existing primary school building, and constructed one fully furnished three-classroom, and one fully furnished two-classroom school building at the lower secondary school.

To improve teacher attendance, SEED constructed two-room teacher's accommodation at the lower secondary school. SEED increased safe sanitation access by repairing five existing latrines and constructing five gender-segregated ventilated improved pit (VIPa) latrines at the primary school, and five gender-segregated VIP latrines at the lower secondary school. Both schools received a 10,000-litre capacity rainwater harvesting system which ensures permanent on-site water access and supplies water to the handwashing stations and MHM facilities.

Overall, SEED has constructed a total of 39 school buildings, 89 classrooms, 118 toilettes, teacher accommodation at 12 schools, 16 MHM facilities, 14 rainwater harvesting systems and provided 5,312 student desk-benches, totalling an added student capacity of 42,121 students.

Feedback from People helped by SEED

"I remember sitting on the floor in these same classrooms, because there was not enough space for all of us to sit. I am so happy to see the new buildings completed." - Lomba, SEED's Head of Construction

“The old school closed on rainy days because it was too cold and wet inside. I’m excited for the new school because I will be able to go to more classes.” - Student at Andramanaka EPP

“Sometimes I concentrated but when it is cold the floor is not comfortable, but now we have the bench it is very different.” - Student about Project Fanaka

Mosa, Esohiy’s head teacher, wanted to be a teacher since he was a student himself. Being the kid at school in the morning, he spent time helping his classmates with their schoolwork and explaining to them what they did not understand. The high illiteracy rate in his commune further motivated him to pursue his career as a teacher. Now having 11 years of teaching experience, Mosa’s favourite part of the job is spending time with students and sharing his knowledge with them. SEED recently spoke with Mosa, who shared, and heard his thoughts on the new education infrastructure. “There aren’t good enough words to describe my happiness.” The previous day students visited the new school building for the first time, they all entered and sat around on the new benches, something they have not been able to do since he began teaching 11 years ago. “I wish you were there to see it, none of them had ever sat on a bench, they have always been sitting on the ground.” Mosa explained that the new school will bring growth to his community, and he is proud to now be teaching at what is now one of the largest schools in the Mahatalaky commune. He noted that the new infrastructure will allow more students to continue their studies and access careers they wouldn’t otherwise be able to without an education. Mosa is responsible for the entire school and will be living onsite in the newly constructed teacher’s accommodation along with his family. He will look after the facilities and ensure everything is kept well maintained. Given that the school has been built in a central location, if a member of the community needs to speak to him, he will always be there. His wife also plans to set up a shop along the road to further support their livelihoods. He continues to be thankful for his new bicycle, which makes his life much easier.

What are some of the biggest challenges your charity has faced or is currently facing?

a) Climate Change

SEED Madagascar operates in one of the most climate-vulnerable regions of the world – the Anosy region of southeast Madagascar. The communities in this region are increasingly affected by a combination of cyclones, droughts, and erratic rainfall patterns that threaten both lives and livelihoods. At the beginning of this year, Cyclone Jude caused significant damage across southeastern Madagascar. These events are becoming more frequent and more intense, driven by global climate change and warming ocean temperatures. School buildings, health centres, and community infrastructure are often left damaged or destroyed, disrupting access to education and essential services. In response, SEED has started to adapt its projects – like the cyclone-resilient classrooms and WASH infrastructure at Karinoro Primary School – to build long-term resilience and help

communities withstand future shocks. Nevertheless, the growing frequency and severity of climate events pose a significant challenge.

b) Funding Volatility

At the same time, ongoing funding cuts to international development budgets by major donor governments including the UK, the USA, Germany, and several other EU countries pose a significant challenge. Rising inflation and currency volatility are added to this. Therefore, SEED relies increasingly on diverse and flexible funding streams, and donations from organisations like yours are increasingly vital in helping us maintain stability.

Other projects

Project Phelsuma – Saving the Critically Endangered Phelsuma antanosy



Gecko - Project Phelsuma



Red Collared Brown Lemur - Project Ala

SEED is working to save one of the rarest geckos in the world. *Phelsuma antanosy* is a critically endangered species of geckos found only in a 9 km² area in the Sainte Luce littoral forest of southeast Madagascar. The species faces extinction-level threats due to ongoing habitat loss and planned mining operations. SEED's team observed *Phelsuma antanosy* eggs laid on *Pandanus longistylus* plants – offering valuable insight into the gecko's reproductive behaviour and ecological needs. Currently, SEED is exploring the translocation of at-risk subpopulations to protected forest corridors restored through Project Ala, combining reforestation with species preservation – a rare, innovative approach. In April 2024, SEED recorded the first ever video footage of *P. antanosy* mating behaviour.

Full details of Project Phelsuma -

<https://madagascar.co.uk/projects/environment/phelsuma>

Project Ala – Restoring Lemur Habitat in Fragmented Forests

The Sainte Luce forest is home to multiple endangered lemur species, including Anosy mouse lemur, fat-tailed dwarf lemur and collared brown lemur. However, lemurs cannot cross open land and are thus unable to travel between forest fragments, which isolates population. Consequently, SEED is reconnecting forest fragments through the creation of eight forest corridors using native plant species, allowing lemurs to move safely and breed across a wider habitat range. Despite devastating forest fires at the beginning of the year, SEED's Ala Phase 3 made significant progress in habitat restoration, seedling propagation, and community engagement, and there have already been multiple lemur sightings in SEED's forest corridors. Local landowners and volunteers are trained to plant and monitor native trees. In 2024 alone, SEED planted over 7,800 native trees in restored forest corridors.

Full details of Project Ala -

<https://madagascar.co.uk/projects/environment/ala>

Charity Size

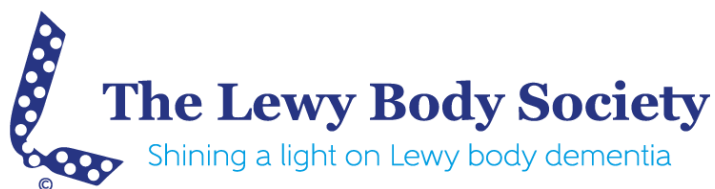
2024: 99 Employees, 9 Trustees, 20 Volunteers.

With 97% of our staff based in Madagascar and 80% Malagasy nationals, we are deeply rooted in the communities we serve. SEED has two additional teams, one operating in the Malagasy capital of Antananarivo and a second, small team of UK-based remote staff. The charity is overseen by a board of nine trustees who meet, together with the Managing Director on a quarterly basis to discuss and determine strategic, financial, and operating requirements. SEED is multi-disciplinary team of national and international members who bring local knowledge, scientific research, best practice, and inclusive community engagement expertise to the organisation.

What direction do you see the charity heading toward in the next few years and beyond?

SEED aims to deepen our impact through long-term programmatic work, foster innovation in climate resilience and conservation, deepen programmatic focus on climate adaptation and resilience, expand impact monitoring and learning and maintain locally-led, high-quality delivery Build new meaningful partnerships with funders.

TP Transcription Limited recently donated £500 to The Lewy Body Society



Lewy body dementia is a complex and frequently misdiagnosed disease that affects memory, thinking, movement, sleep and behaviour. Lewy body dementia is the second most common type of neurodegenerative dementia in older people. At least 10-15% of all people who live with dementia have Lewy body dementia.

The Lewy Body Society campaigns to raise awareness of Lewy body dementia in those who need to understand the disease and its impact – people living with Lewy body dementia and those who can make a difference to their futures. They also fundraise to research new treatments and potential cures. The charity was nominated to receive a donation by Robin Torr, Senior Partner at Pilgrim Hope Solicitors in Standish.

Lewy Body Society is the only charity in the UK – and the first in Europe – dedicated exclusively to “the most common dementia you’ve never heard of”: Lewy body dementia (LBD). The charity is 20 years old in 2026. The charity exists to promote awareness of LBD and fund research.

As the smallest member of the AMRC (Association of Medical Research Charities) they have funded £3.4 million research across 27 projects. The charity funds an Admiral Nurse specifically for LBD. More than 400 families have been directly supported by the service. LBS has scaled awareness and campaigning activity; securing an ITN “Living With Lewy” podcast, coordinating a global campaign with international Lewy body dementia charities, and securing key annual events; including “A Scarf For Lewy” knit-a-scarf campaign. The start of the campaign in 2021 at the Royal Albert Hall collected scarfs from all over the world – it wrapped around the building 6 times.

100% of the charity funding comes from voluntary donations except for a £10k lottery grant to produce podcasts with ITN Business. Going forwards, the charity is looking to fund more research and continue to be the voice for people with an LBD diagnosis.

For further details about The Lewy Body Society please visit
<https://www.lewybody.org/>

Donation Suggestions Sought by The Ten Percent Foundation

Suggest a Charity

We are open to donation suggestions for 2025-2026, with the next round of decision making due in 6 months, so plenty of time to make suggestions. Our trustees have recently met to make decisions for the May 2025 round and we are in the process of contacting the successful charities to arrange our donations (see above). We tend to distribute donations in the region of £500-£2000 to each charity and we usually have around £20,000 to give away. We get more suggestions from academic staff at universities than we do from any clients in other sectors, which we are incredibly grateful for, and we like supporting ongoing projects. The Prison Choir Project (see our website) is a good example of this and we hope to continue donating to the organisation for some years to come.

AI Transcription & Multi-Speaker Recordings

AI transcription is the most effective when processing dictation (ie one speaker), where the context is not particularly important and the person receiving the transcription has got time to spend going through and correcting all the mistakes. In fact I have used it to prepare this

article (Apple iPhone voice memo transcription), but I've probably spent just as long going through amending errors (the Apple version struggles with commas and full stops in particular) and I may as well have asked a human transcriber to complete it or type from scratch!

AI transcription struggles to detect certain words and accents even when the recording is clear. It is fairly useful for one to one interview recordings, provided they are conducted in fair clear backgrounds without too much noise or speakers who talk over the top of each other.

It is utterly useless when it comes to handling multi-speaker recordings, or focus group transcripts. As at this point in time, no one has invented a way of producing a transcription that accurately differentiates between the different speakers, no matter what the AI transcription companies would have you believe. Try it out. Put a recording through one of the AI transcription companies and see what happens. Our company specialises in multi speaker transcription and focus groups, and we often get sent transcriptions completed by the likes of [rev.com](https://www.rev.com) or otter.ai or using the Zoom or Teams transcription options.

We are asked by our clients to tidy them up, but our transcribers will very often simply work them from scratch because the AI produced transcription is so bad. It's actually faster and more cost effective for us to do the work from scratch than it is for a transcriber to have to go through and correct all the mistakes in the transcript for the client before we send them back. Multi speaker recordings are a particular problem because very often there will be bits where the speakers talk over the top of each other and AI transcription cannot differentiate between the different parties talking. Therefore it produces one big mash-up of words, all an indecipherable paragraphs and utterly inaccurate. This is the difference between AI transcription and human transcription. AI transcription is utterly out of its depth when it comes to multi-speakers or accents and unable to cope because it requires a human to differentiate between voices, the end of one sentence and the start of the next and the end of one speaker talking and the start of another.

So, whilst AI transcription can be good in certain circumstances, for certain types of recording, it is definitely not good for multiple speakers and focus groups, because as at this time it does not have the capacity to be able to determine the different speakers. There are obviously going to be future technological advancements, but the simple fact is that AI transcription has not advanced the industry much at all since the first speech recognition software came in back in the 1990s. Yes, it is more accurate and capable when it comes to dictation (although I have just spent the last 30 minutes correcting this article!), but no, it cannot cope with background noise, strong accents, or multi speakers.

Recent Articles

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

Peaceful Shropshire Getaways

St Milburga Chapel in the Shropshire Hills is a cosy 4 person, Grade 2 listed holiday home in open countryside overlooking the Cleve Hills. Renovated in 2022, it is approximately 10 minutes' drive from Ludlow with its highly regarded restaurants, cafes and independent shops. The chapel is perfectly located for family holidays (Ironbridge & Church Stretton nearby), weekend breaks and walking holidays. 10% of profits from the chapel lettings are donated to the Ten Percent Foundation. Rated 4 star accommodation by Visit England.

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



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

The Transcription Society is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving standards in the transcription industry and providing accreditation to both individual and corporate members. The organisation is run on a not for profit basis and registered in the UK with Companies House. The society offers individual transcribers the chance to obtain professional recognition for their standards of work and provides corporate members with recognition that they subscribe to a professional level of industry standards for quality and ethics. Needless to say, TP Transcription Limited is a corporate member and our directors sit on the board of the Transcription Society. For details of the transcription standards the Society promotes, please visit **www.transcriptionsociety.org**.

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

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

- **www.tptranscription.co.uk**
- **www.universitytranscriptions.co.uk**

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