

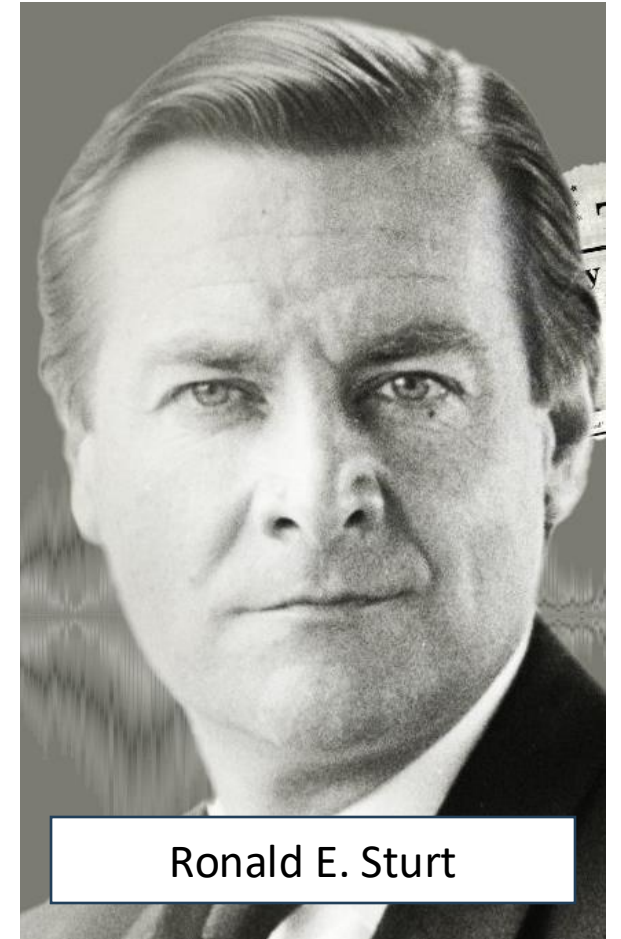


ROUNDABOUT TALKING NEWS

SERVING THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED SINCE 1978

HOW THINGS STARTED - 1970

- The first Talking Newspaper was founded in Aberystwyth by librarian Ronald E. Sturt. Initially, 'reel to reel' tapes were hand delivered to about 20 listeners.
- It described the local library, helping the visually impaired negotiate the building and its contents.
- More and more information was added and eventually included local news and events.



Ronald E. Sturt

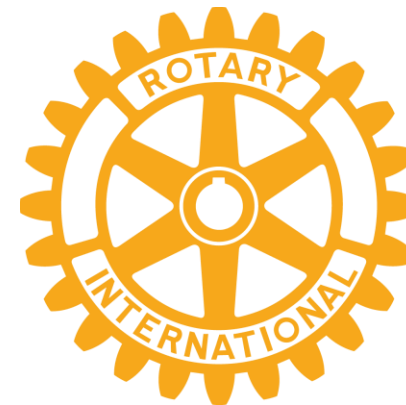
GATHERING PACE - 1974

- Within four years, talking newspapers were established across the UK.
- In Heathfield, Ronald E. Sturt and Ted Davies founded the **Talking Newspaper Association of the UK** (TNAUK), to support the widest possible access to those who could benefit.
- Affiliated Talking Newspapers provided local news and information, while the TNAUK distributed national news and a variety of magazines...from Womans Weekly to Science Today.



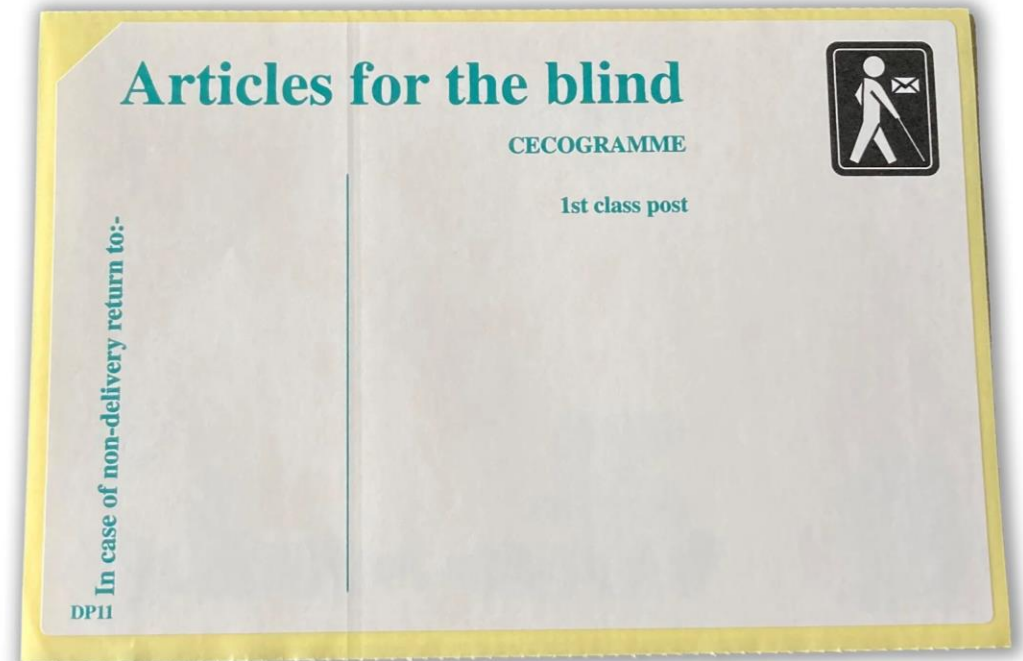
ROUNABOUT TALKING NEWS - 1978

- The new cassette tape led to many Talking Newspapers being formed, the majority between 1971 and 1985.
- Many Talking Newspapers partnered with their local Blind Society, Round Table, Lions Club or Rotary, who became their main supporters and source of volunteers.



FREE POSTAL SERVICE

- TNAUK negotiated with the Royal Mail for free postal delivery for the visually impaired and this is still in use today for local Talking Newspapers.
- The National Service was initially free of postal charges, but during the 1990s a small charge was made in order to improve the service.



TALKING NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISES LTD

- In order to raise funds TNEL was formed. It charged companies such as M&S to record catalogues, company accounts etc., so that they were accessible to visually impaired customers.
- Horsham District Council previously paid Roundabout Talking News to record their information, but budget cuts resulted in this service being terminated.

SINCE 2000 ...

- At the Millennium, there were around 530 Talking Newspapers all charities in their own right, affiliated to TNAUK. Today, that number is closer to 300.
- In 2005, TNAUK transferred its local Talking Newspaper responsibilities to a new organisation – the **Talking News Federation**.
- RNIB took responsibility for national news and other titles in 2013.



Talking News Federation

TODAY ...

- Roundabout Talking News is recorded and distributed every week. Our listeners are in Horsham and the surrounding villages – some much further!
- We feature local news from West Sussex County Times and All About Horsham.
- There is also a 30-minute magazine, which includes 'What's On' at local cinemas and theatres, local sports and other amusing and interesting articles.



RECEIVING ROUNDABOUT TALKING NEWS

- New listeners receive an easy-to-use memory stick player, which we will deliver and explain.
- Every week we send a new memory stick, and listeners return the previous week's in the same envelope.
- It's all free of charge!



RECEIVING ROUNDABOUT TALKING NEWS

- Weekly recordings can also be accessed via:

01403 850851

charged as a local rate call

Talking Newspaper app

for smartphone, tablet etc.

Our website

<https://horsham.mytn.uk/>

Your smart speaker

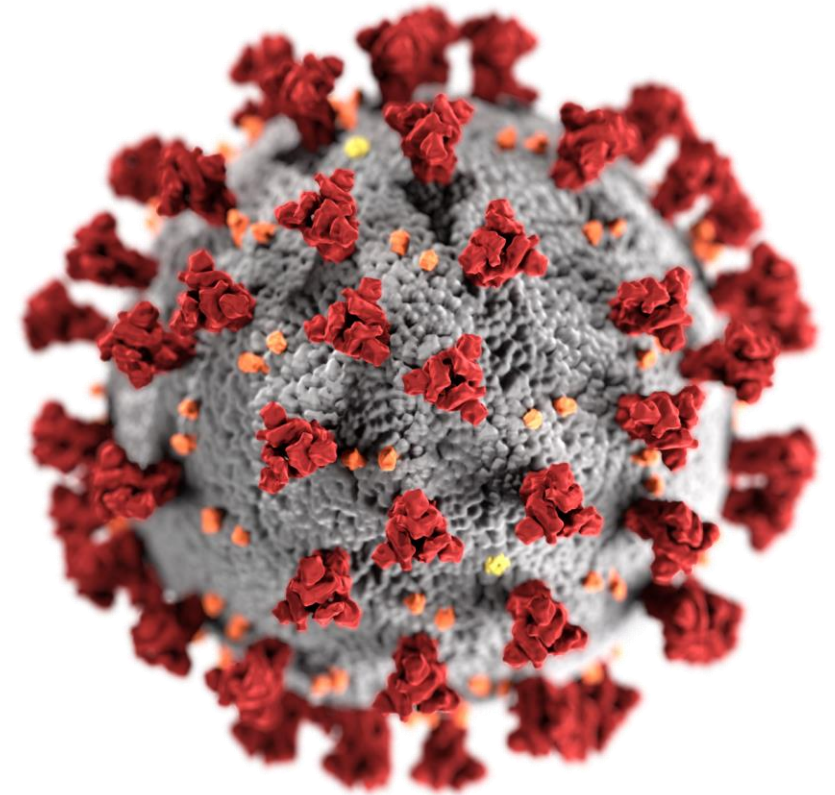
e.g. Alexa, Google Nest

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

- All team members are volunteers – we have around 40, split into editing, news readers, magazine readers and technical teams.
- We edit, then record every Thursday afternoon.
- Memory sticks are fast-copied before the wallets are mailed on Friday morning...
- ...to arrive on Saturday.
- Telephone and online editions are available every Friday.

COVID COULDN'T STOP US

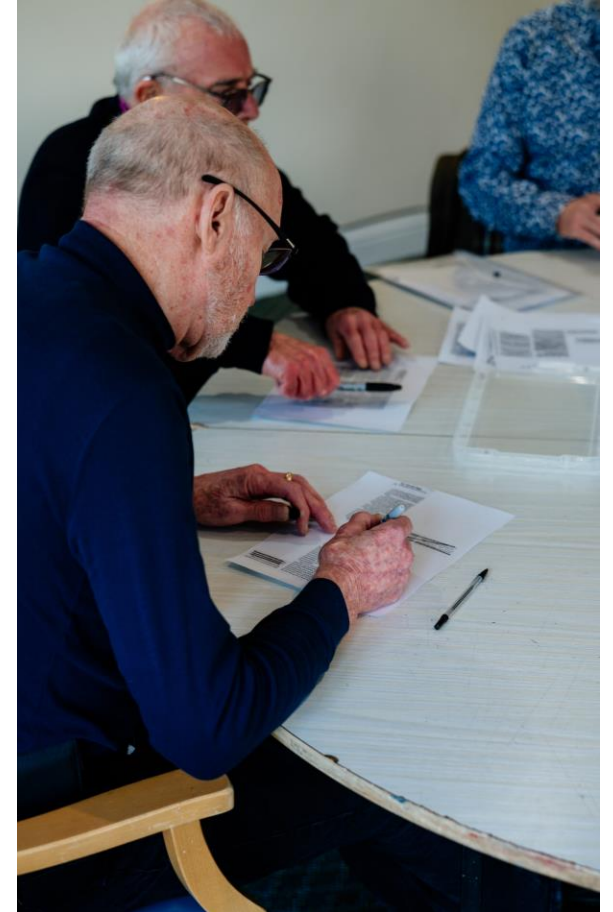
- We were determined to maintain the important connection between our listeners and local news and events.
- Recordings were made at home by our volunteers.
- These were compiled into weekly news and magazine editions by our hard-working sound engineers.
- Distribution continued uninterrupted!



NO FIXED ABODE!

- Over the years, Roundabout Talking News has been based:
 - In a room at the Health Centre
 - In a cupboard at Collyers School
 - At Freemans Undertakers in Market Square
 - In the loft at former chair Jon Dean's house
 - The Drill Hall in Denne Road (currently under renovation)
 - Today, we operate from Orchard Lodge in Warnham
 - In 2026/7 we hope to return to The Drill Hall

EDITING



READING



RECORDING



FAST COPYING



DISTRIBUTING



WE ALWAYS NEED ...

- Volunteers for all teams – a couple of hours per month.
- Friends and family to introduce us to their visually impaired loved ones.
- Spaces to put up posters to advertise our service.
- Organisations to allow us access to their members – like today.
- Companies who are able to support us financially in return for promotion through our publications.



ANY QUESTIONS?