



AUSTRALIAN APHASIA AWARENESS DAY

Wednesday Without Words
Wednesday 3rd September 2008

Imagine waking one day to find you **could not speak** or understand what was being said to you, read the paper, or even write your name but you are thinking normally!! How **frustrating and restricting** would it be to have your **communication suddenly taken away?**

This is the experience of people with APHASIA

Aphasia [a-fay-shuh]

- is a communication difficulty
- people with aphasia may have difficulty with
 - reading
 - writing
 - understanding what others say
 - talking
- is most often caused by stroke
- affects approximately 80,000 Australians
- intelligence is not affected



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Tips for communicating with someone who has aphasia

- speak at a normal volume - people with aphasia are not deaf
- involve people with aphasia in conversations as you would do with anyone else
- use facial expression and body language to support understanding
- allow extra time for people to understand
- write it down

The Australian Aphasia Association is working towards

- providing support for people with aphasia, their families, friends and communities
- raising community awareness
- helping people with aphasia gain easier access to community life

www.aphasia.org.au

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