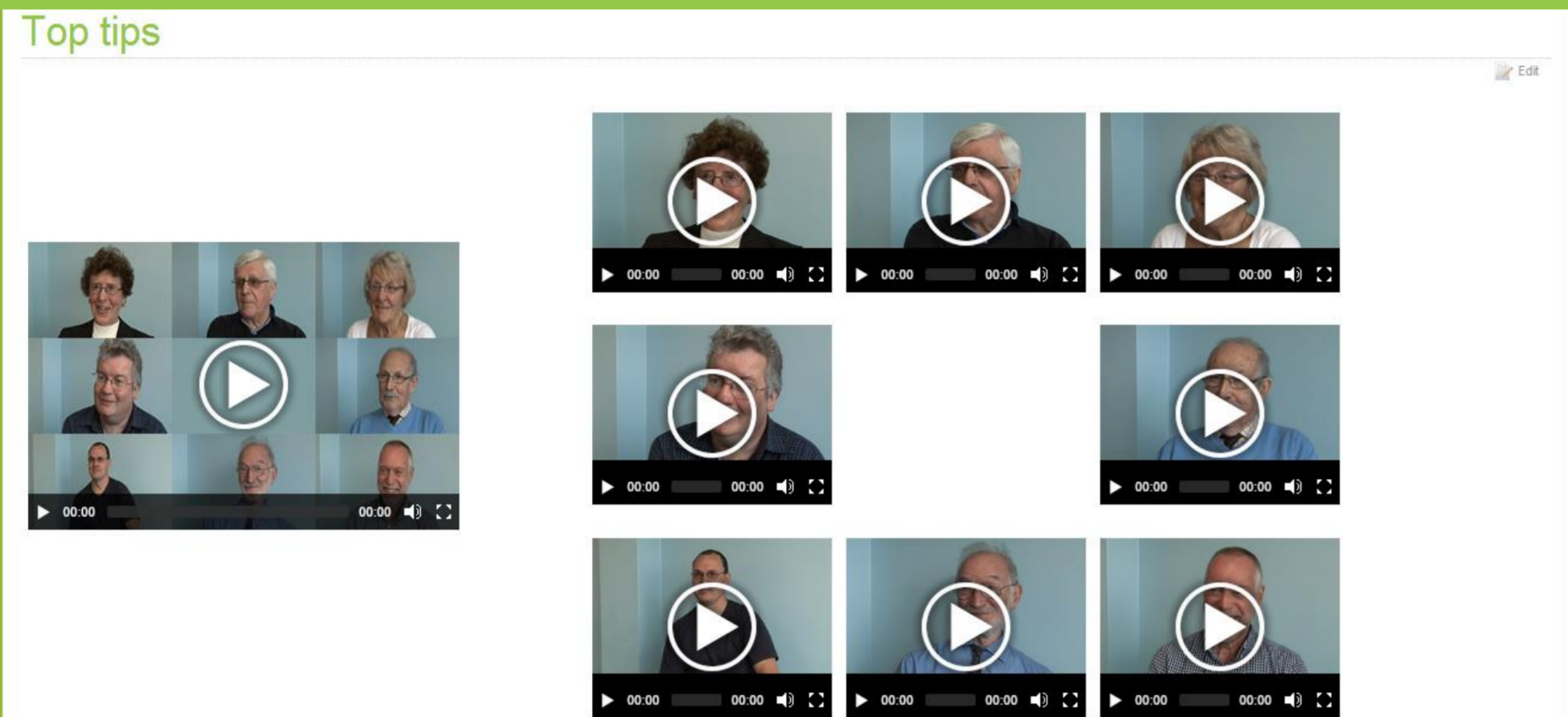


People with aphasia creating an aphasia friendly website: The DMU4 experience

Bixley, M., DMU4, Hall, R., Weale, R., Collingwood, J., Marshall, F., Hamilton, C. & Bixley, B. mdbixley@dmu.ac.uk

An aphasia website:

- with videos of people talking about aphasia
- to be used by people who want to learn more about aphasia



Pre filming meetings

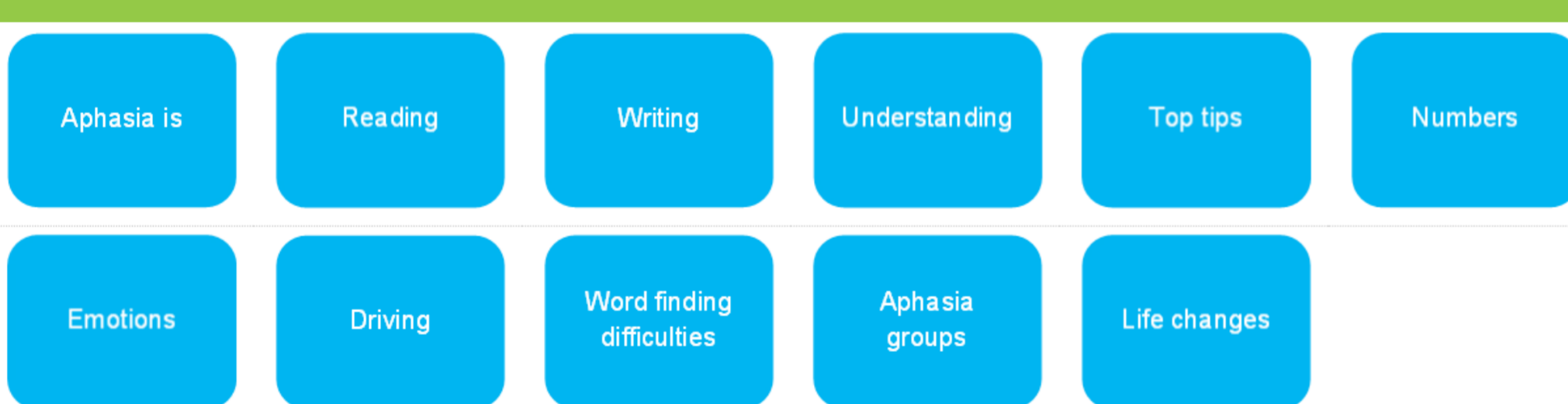
- to discuss content
- to write prompts and scripts for filming

Filming and editing

- individual interviews were transcribed and people with aphasia (PWA) were given copies of DVDs and transcripts
- interview excerpts were sorted into eleven themes using a grounded approach
- the group met to agree the order and focus of group themes

Website meetings

- agreed each stage of website construction
- usability testing ensured PWA and others could use the website



Aphasia friendly:

- DMU4 aphasia leaflet design used as basis for website design and branding



- navigation around the website was based on intuition rather than understanding of written labels

Informed consent:



- co constructed website project
- discussed and agreed principles of consent with members of DMU4
- PWA had repeated opportunities to discuss full implications of electronic consent
- one of the two consent forms is held by the PWA and the other by DMU
- watermark on all images asserts joint ownership of copyright

Technical Skills:

Filming

- interviews of nine people with aphasia, on one day, consent was given for filming.

Editing

- individual interviews and group themes were edited

Finding host for website

- our DMU commons, a self organising space that allows users to co construct their own website

Website design

- website was designed using open access software
- atypical website design to allow PWA to use the site independently

Website maintenance

- ongoing - we hope to add animations, further pages and more aphasia narratives

Creation of an aphasia friendly website – an academic exercise?

Website designed to overcome informational barriers experienced by PWA

POUND, C., PARR, S., LINDSAY, J. & WOOLF, C. (2000) *Beyond Aphasia: Therapies for Living with Communication Disability*. Bicester: Winslow.

60% of British social services do not provide accessible information for PWA

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (2011) *Supporting life after stroke: A review of services for people who have had a stroke and their carers*. London: Care Quality Commission.

Strategies that helped aphasia friendly website design were informed by the evidence base

DALEMANS, R. (2009) Facilitating the participation of people with aphasia in research: A description of strategies. *Clinical Rehabilitation*, 23, 2, 948-959.

One other aphasia website designed by PWA

Moss, B., Parr, S., Byng, S. & Petheram, B. (2004) Pick me up and not a down, down, up up": how are the identities of people with aphasia represented in aphasia, stroke and disability websites? *Disability & Society*, 19, 7, 753-768.

www.aphasiahelp.org