

Impact Report 2020-21

The Impact Report celebrates key achievements and highlights from the RCSLT's work across 2020-2021.

For a more in-depth look at the RCSLT's work in the last financial year, see the full Trustees Annual Report at bit.ly/2WIFGdH.

The RCSLT's Mission

Enabling better lives for people with communication and swallowing needs

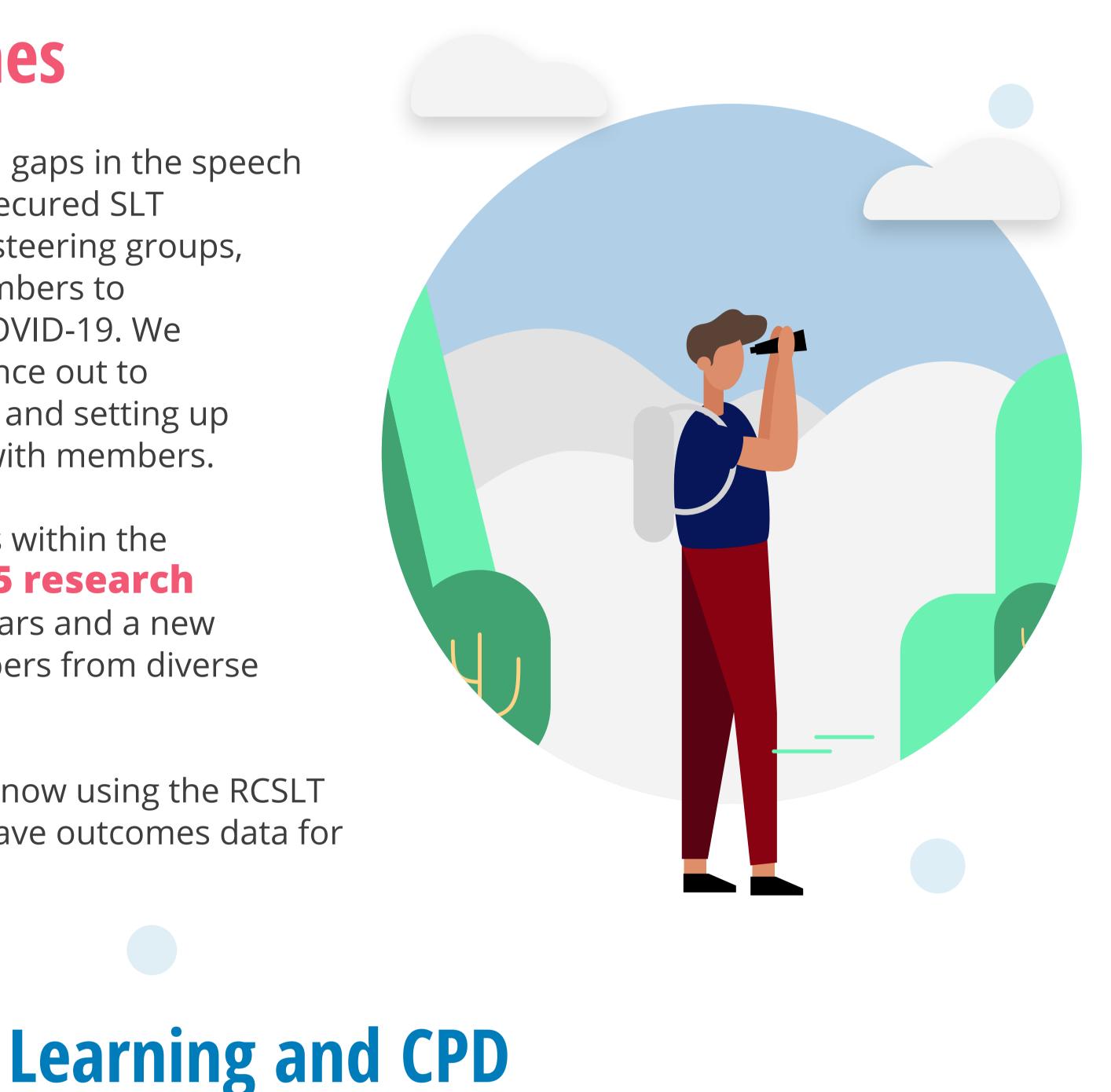
The RCSLT's Purpose

We are the professional body that promotes excellence in speech and language therapy

The RCSLT supported researchers to fill gaps in the speech and language therapy evidence base, secured SLT representation on important research steering groups, and developed data sets to enable members to measure outcomes for patients with COVID-19. We redoubled our efforts to get new evidence out to members, fast-tracking journal reviews and setting up new online channels to communicate with members.

profession, through our network of 355 research champions, monthly research seminars and a new mentoring programme aimed at members from diverse backgrounds.

Members in **52 organisations** are now using the RCSLT Online Outcome Tool (ROOT) and we have outcomes data for almost 50,000 episodes of care.



Members refreshed their professional knowledge and showed a

passion for learning – dozens of RCSLT CPD opportunities were offered throughout the year, including CEN and Hub days, e-learning modules, webinars and podcasts. New offerings included a suite of information and

touch and share knowledge.

refreshed leadership guidance. More than 100 networks, including RCSLT Hubs, CENs and other groups, helped members to stay in

and communication needs and mental health, and

resources on COVID-19, e-learning on speech, language

Members now have more than 1.3 million learning activities recorded in their RCSLT CPD diaries.

As the impact of lockdowns put the qualification and progress

of student SLTs at risk, the RCSLT and universities worked together with government bodies to put in place guidance, procedures and innovations to ensure studies could continue.

rigiting tor progress Members continued to lead the profession towards

greater inclusivity through the RCSLT's anti-racism reference group, the disability working group, the men in SLT group and the careers promotion group.

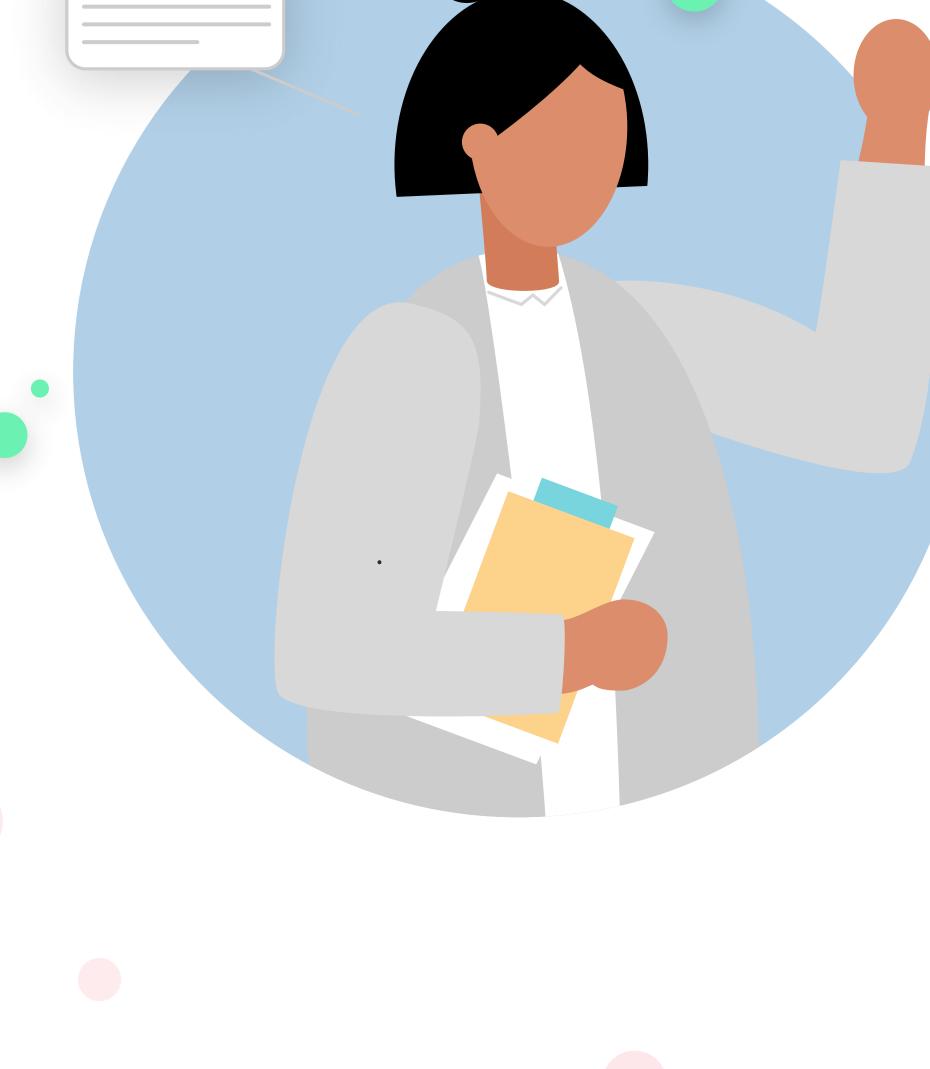
actively anti-racist and the establishment of a new disability working group.

better personal protective equipment for healthcare workers, making the case to government directly as well as through the media and social media.



Achievements this year included the creation of a programme of learning to support all members to be

Working with a coalition of more than 20 national organisations, the RCSLT campaigned tirelessly for



their roles more widely, the RCSLT published dozens of new or revised guidance documents, on topics including telehealth, personal protective equipment, SLT-led

Professional guidance

endoscopy, voice and airway disorders, and the use of videofluoroscopy. We also produced guidance on mouthcare, eating and drinking with acknowledged risks, deafness, deafblindness, respiratory care, practice-based learning, apprenticeships and more.

To support members in the context of COVID-19, and with

We celebrated the launch of new competencies in eating, drinking and swallowing (EDS) for the pre-registration education and training of SLTs – this profession-changing work will ensure EDS is embedded into training for the

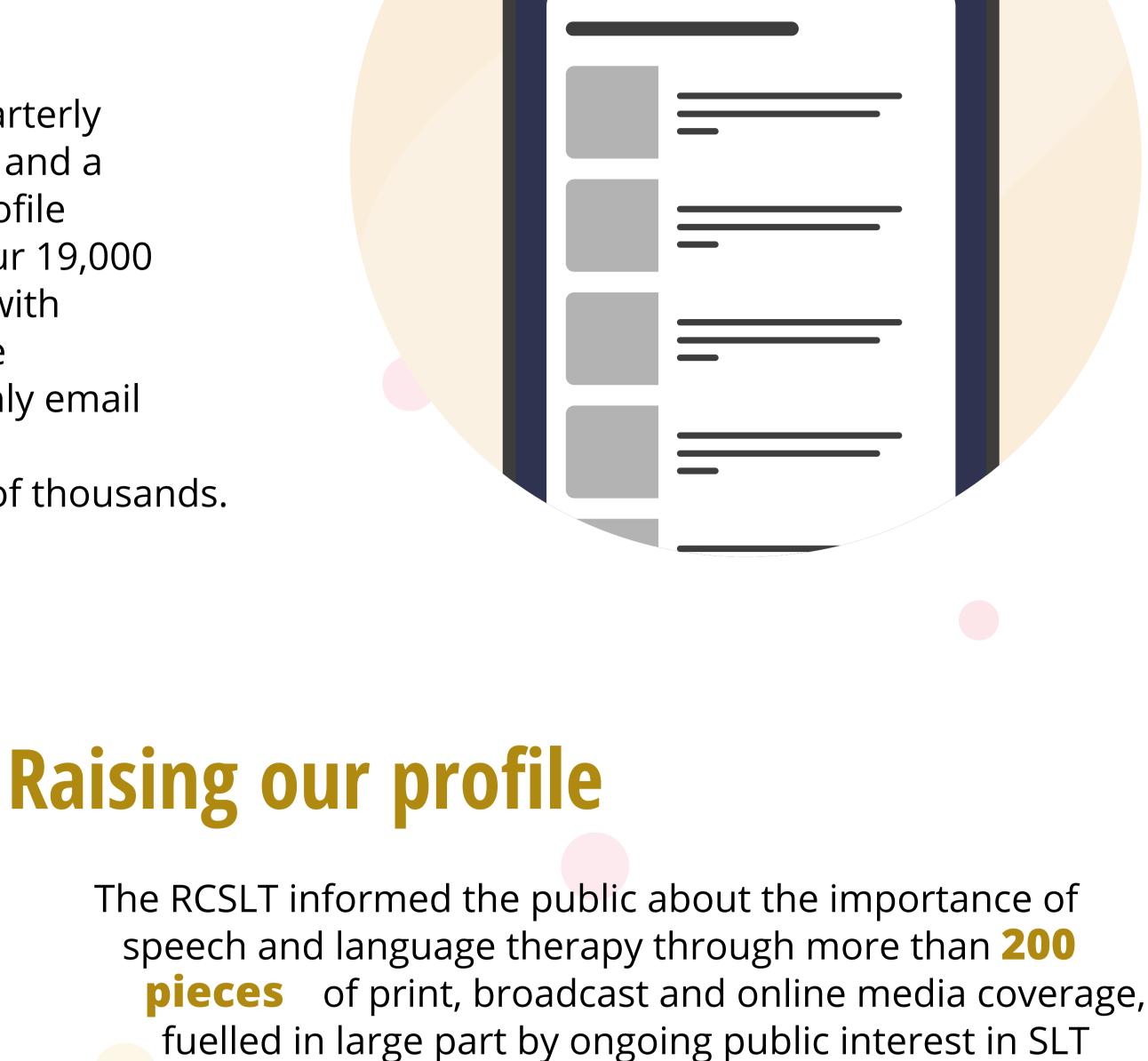
profession.

RCSLT

Bulletin magazine was relaunched as a quarterly publication, complete with a fresh new look and a

broader range of content, including high-profile interviews and service user perspectives. Our 19,000 members received the new-look magazine with widespread approval, and it continued to be supplemented by our ever-popular bimonthly email

With up-to-date guidance and information in demand as



COVID-19 guidance, our webinar schedule for

11 webinars that reached 5,798 delegates, four

times more than in 2019-2020. 95% of attendees

In December 2020 we held our most successful

rated the webinars as 'good' or 'excellent'.

appearances on Good Morning Britain and Channel 5 News helped to raise the profile of SLTs' work during the

roles during the pandemic.

pandemic and to launch the Communication Access UK initiative. Over the course of the year, our social media content across Twitter, Instagram and YouTube reached millions. Our most popular post, about SLTs helping COVID-19 patients find their voices again in recovery, reached 220,000 people.

Our president Nick Hewer continued to be an

exceptional ambassador for the profession. His

Driven by the need to disseminate up-to-the-minute 2020-2021 was our most ambitious to date. It featured

In autumn, in place of our traditional awards, we took time to celebrate all members' work and contributions.

Highlights included a special online event with our Royal Patron, Her Royal Highness the Countess of Wessex.



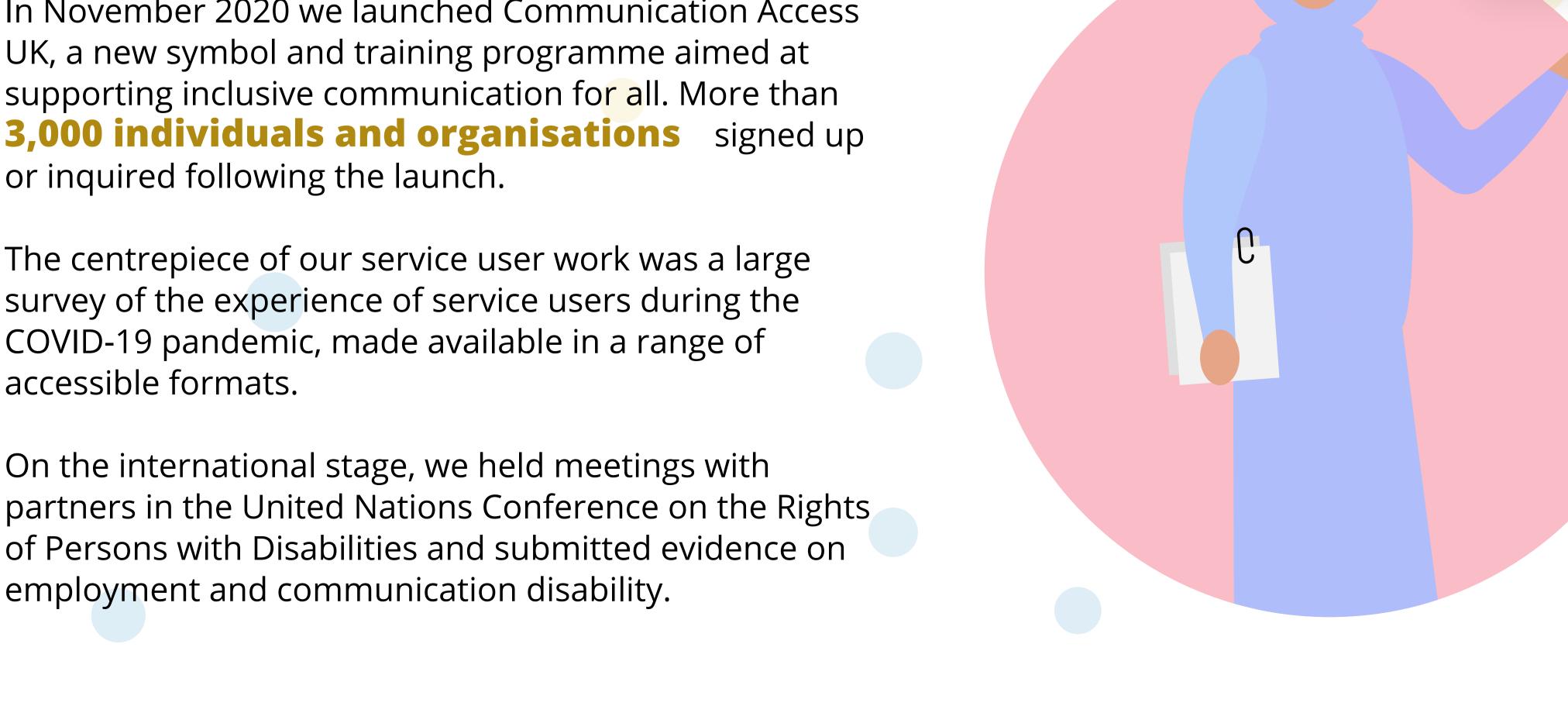


We prepared for the national elections in Scotland and Wales, focusing in Scotland on inclusive communication and in Wales on rehabilitation and new models of care.

In November 2020 we launched Communication Access UK, a new symbol and training programme aimed at supporting inclusive communication for all. More than 3,000 individuals and organisations signed up or inquired following the launch.

Influencing for change

accessible formats. On the international stage, we held meetings with



Instagram: @RCSLT

Research and outcomes

We continued to nurture research skills within the

