

The College badge: history and development

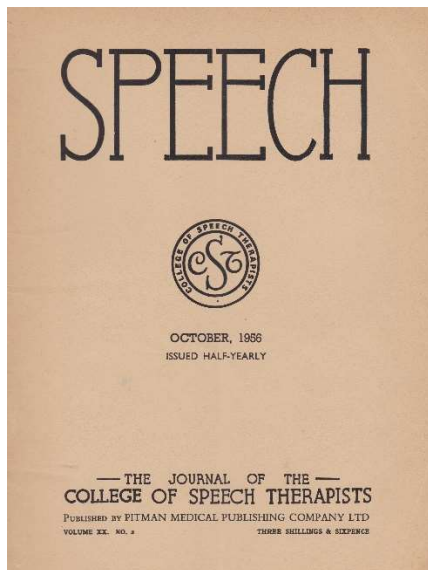
Badge. The College proposes to have a badge manufactured for members. Anyone who has ideas for a simple design is invited to send this in to the secretary. It will be best if the drawing is of the actual size envisaged and the colour scheme indicated.

In 1955 a badge for College members with a 'simple design' was suggested (No. 51¹). By No. 53, only one design had been received with several more by No. 54. The badge probably attracted most attention in the Letters to the Editor section (Nos. 54-57). Joan Pollitt felt that 'wearing a badge is associated in my mind with one's school days; it is something which one outgrows' (No. 54). D Rant asked 'Are we to regress to Junior School level and emulate our 'gang-age' patients?' She added, 'I am getting out my Coronation (1910) medal and polishing up my beautiful bronze prefect's badge in anticipation' (No. 55). Nora Betts was much more positive - 'A distinguishing mark is an introduction and a protection to the visitor to school or home' (No. 55). JM Kafka reminded members of a green and silver badge and suggests that speech therapists could 'always embroider their profession on their overalls!' (No. 56). Marion Fleming (Chairman of Council) replied that this badge was issued by the BRMA and since CST was to remove itself from BRMA then a new badge was needed.



The design of a College of Speech Therapists badge was finally chosen - that submitted by member Mrs KD MacLennan's husband - 'a round one with a gilt monogram on a black enamelled background, having a border of cherry red on which the name of the College will be shown in gilt lettering' (No. 59) and one was issued to members free of charge. Mabel Pechy did not like it (No. 66). It was to appear on the cover in future issues of 'Speech' (No. 67). Replacements were available at 2/6d plus postage (No. 78).

¹ Refers to *Bulletin* issue number



A new badge (No. 115), with a 'quite simple' design by Miss Mathias (No. 119), was advertised in 1961 ('the initials CST in the centre of a shield, and with the words College of Speech Therapists round the edge so that the words are easily readable'). It was to cost about 8/- (40p) for rhodium plate or about 25/- (£1.25) for silver. Again, as in 1956, the wearing of a badge proved contentious, eg letters in Nos. 117, 118. It was available towards the end of 1961 at 8/6 (rhodium plate) and £1 10s (silver plate) (No. 122). Adapted woven badges were developed in 1965 (No. 163).

Badge prices increased in 1966 (No. 169). The price (for a silver-plated badge) had increased to £13.50 by 1985 (Edelman's letter in No. 404). The badge had appeared on the College's fortieth anniversary cake (No. 404).





Photos courtesy of Jois Stansfield

Linda Armstrong/November 2020