

College's headquarters from 1944: eight locations in London

Many years ago a student speech therapist asked if the College of Speech Therapists is housed in a very imposing building. Something in the nature of Bedford College in Regent's Park was envisaged, having a large number of professional and administrative staff. The members of College Council would also sit in some majesty in this building, composed of almost supernatural beings having little contact with the ordinary mortals who actually practise speech therapy.

Speech therapy students now are much

Heaven (1975, p. 1)

During its 75 years existence to date, the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) has had its headquarters in eight different London locations. Travelled by road, the distance from the first to eighth is only about 20 miles. All but the latest were located north of the Thames.

To start with, the College was based in what had been the office in Harley Street of the British Society of Speech Therapists (BSST) (one of the precursor organisations). According to Wilkins (1977, p. 1), the other precursor organisation (Association of Speech Therapists) in the late 1930s didn't have an office but met in members' flats.

What splendid news it is that after forty years we speech therapists have at last acquired our own property!

Yes, it is forty years since the members of the British Society of Speech Therapists were meeting in a small room rented by Mrs. Neilka on the third floor of a house in Harley Street, while the Association of Speech Therapists were gathering in Miss Ann Richardson's flat, or in the home of one or other of its members.

Excerpt from Wilkins (1977)

Minutes from the Remedial Section of the Association of Teachers of Speech and Drama's meetings in 1942 and 1943 (in the RCSLT collection at Strathclyde University) rarely note a location but do potentially confirm Wilkins' statement about the pre-second world war years, eg the 30 January 1943 meeting was held at 27, Welbeck Street (Mabel Oswald's address in 1953, *Bulletin* No. 40, but maybe not in 1943 as Miss Oswald was a founding member of BSST - the 'rival' organisation) and the 31 May 1943 meeting at Dolphin Square (address of Daisy Harries, *Bulletin* No. 3). The meeting of 17 August 1942 was held in Springfield St Marys, Oxford (a hostel for students)¹, perhaps as a result of evacuation or because of Joan Dakin being based in Oxford. At that time and for some time after the end of the second world war, renting property in London was difficult because of limited supply and high costs.

¹ <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/oxon/vol3/pp351-353>

After several temporary addresses, College settled in Queen's Gardens for 17 years before moving again to St Johns Wood High Street in the 1960s, where it remained for more than a decade. For the first time, College owned its HQ in 1977: Harold Poster House. It outgrew the property again and after 15 years, bought a modern property in Bath Place. For several reasons, including size and access for people with disability, RCSLT moved to its current location in 1999. HQ addresses are shown in the table and information about them in the narrative below, with most of the information derived from *Bulletin* (RCSLT's magazine).

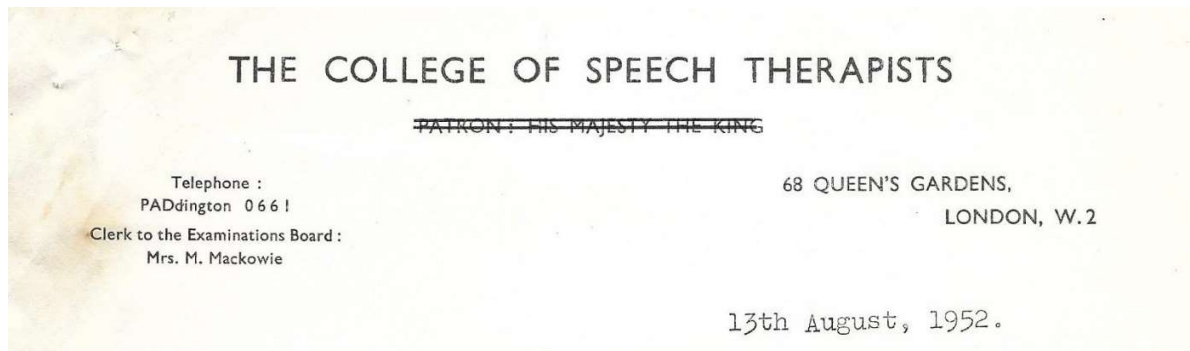
Year	Address	Distance (miles) from previous location by car
1944	86 Harley Street, W1G 7HP	
1946	6 Sussex Gardens, W2 1UL (temporary)	1.2
1946	27 Southwick Street, W2 1JQ (temporary)	0.2
1947	68 Queen's Gardens, W2 3AH	0.6
1964	47 St Johns Wood High Street, NW8 7NJ	2.4
1977	Harold Poster House, 6 Lechmere Road, Willesden, NW2 5BU	3.7
1992	7 Bath Place, Rivington Street, EC2A 3DR	8.1
1999	2 White Hart Yard, SE1 1NX	3.4



The first College headquarters was briefly at BSST HQ 'on the third floor of a house in Harley Street' (Wilkins, 1977). However, by 23 July 1945 - 'We have left our offices and not yet been able to get new premises, though we are in negotiation, so we are working under the most difficult conditions at present' (letter from Eileen MacLeod). The lease had expired and could not be renewed (notice in *Bulletin* No. 3). The College HQ accommodation situation as at September 1946 is described in detail in a letter to *Bulletin* by Marion Fleming (see Appendix 1).

<https://collage.cityoflondon.gov.uk/view-item?i=104491&WINID=1603457320752> (86-88 Harley Street in 1952) (accessed 20 January 2021)

- in 2020, this address houses a variety of clinics, including gynaecology, dental and eye.

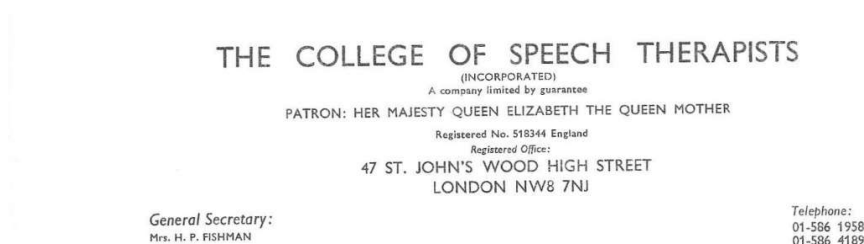


Following a couple of temporary moves, the College HQ was established next in Queen's Gardens. 'Miss Beryl Oldrey (Mrs Hammond) found a room for us on the ground floor of a block of flats ... It was one large room with a cloakroom at the back, and we had to enter the house by the side door, not the main entrance to the flats. For what seemed like years I recall we entered this door over planks placed across "the biggest hole in London" 'We had to find money to buy a table and chairs, curtains for the large windows, a carpet for the floor and office equipment. ... Then as the work increased we rented a second, smaller room on the same floor as the office for the use of the examinations committee' (Wilkins, 1977).

Marion Fleming's notice in *Bulletin* No. 10 in June 1947 (see Appendix 2) showed the make do and mend attitude required at the time to furnish the new HQ. Miss van Thal, Miss Peachey, Dr Stein and Miss Kingdon Ward gave 1/- for every £1 raised above the Southern Area Furnishing Fund target of £100 (in addition to their own contributions) (*Bulletin* No. 12). The fund contributed more than £150, presumably this was towards the cost of furnishing HQ.

<http://www.jmwbarnd.com/office-property/39-68-queens-gardens-w2.php> (accessed 20 January 2021)

<http://sloanmanagement.co.uk/about-us/history/> (2020 occupant) (accessed 20 January 2021)



By 1963, College was looking to buy a property 'so that it might be more properly housed' (see Appendix 3). One member enquired whether College would consider moving its HQ outwith London to reduce cost (letter from Patricia Wight, *Bulletin* No. 150) (see excerpt below).

We all agree that office premises of larger size and much higher standard must be found for the College, but could these not be situated outside London most profitably and without necessarily any loss of prestige or convenience?

The reply by Miss van Thal in *Bulletin* No. 51 explained why a move out of London was not a good one (see below).

The College is not seeking prestige premises. The economics of moving out of the city does not work out for offices with small staffs helped out by voluntary workers. Going to another town would lose our pool of volunteers and mean still more staff than we envisage. For every pound saved on rent we should spend two on staff increases.

For years we have overworked and underpaid our office staff. If we would do as we would be done by, this cannot go on. Or is it the views of the membership that we should underpay and overwork our employees?

The anticipated increase in rent can be met from our present margin between receipts and expenditure. More staff and better pay for them cannot.

The Chairman's address at the 1964 AGM on 30 May (in *Bulletin* No. 153) included that College accountants had advised

that we are not as yet in a financial position to buy and maintain property, so we turned our attention to looking for rented premises. I had hoped to be able to tell you that we were moving into very pleasant quarters next month. However, owing to legal delays, the Lease is not yet signed. I think it very probable however that such a move will take place even as soon as next month. You will be informed as soon as it is settled. These premises will give us a little more room to house the increased flow of work in the College and the staff it necessitates as was described to you by your Treasurer this morning.

The move to rented premises in St John's Wood High Street was announced in *Bulletin* No. 153 by the Chairman (see Appendix 3). Its front page also gave a clue. The property is described as '3 rooms in a flat in the suburbs' (Robertson et al, 1995, p. 64). The three rooms housed Pat Fishman (secretary), the Examinations Committee and the general office (see Appendix 4).

NEWS BULLETIN

of

The College of Speech Therapists

~~68 Queen's Gardens,~~
~~London, W.2~~

vertisements, etc., funds are very limited. Thus the accommodation for the College administrative officers cannot be palatial but is governed by the rent which can be afforded. Those who have visited the office can only report that better cannot be provided than rooms above car show rooms in St. John's Wood High Street and are grateful to the General Secretary and her staff for putting up with them. The same lack of funds also limits the

Heaven (1975, p. 1) (above) describes the College's accommodation in unromantic terms.

<https://www.retailgazette.co.uk/blog/2020/01/st-johns-wood-high-street-spotlight-north-london-abbey-road/> (accessed 20 January 2021)

- describes the street in 2020

<https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/documents/s37928/ITEM%2003%20-%2047%20-%2049%20ST%20JOHNS%20WOOD%20HIGH%20STREET%20LONDON.pdf> (accessed 20 January 2021)

- current look and layout of the address (the ground floor recently housed a Gap Kids shop)

THE COLLEGE OF SPEECH THERAPISTS

HAROLD POSTER HOUSE, 6 LECHMERE ROAD
LONDON NW2 5BU
01-451 1087

The Chairman's address at the 1977 CST AGM provides a very detailed description of the process of the first property purchase made by CST - a very significant moment for the organisation (Wilkins, 1977). Mrs Greenwood (then Deputy Treasurer) had looked for rented premises in 1976 as HQ accommodation had been inadequate and the lease was due to be renewed in 1977 (see Appendix 5). She announced the acquisition at auction of new premises in October 1976 (see Appendix 5). The house had been bought at auction, freehold, for £20,000 in September 1976. CST had to raise £17,000 (it had £10,000 available) to cover refurbishment. Mrs Greenwood requested that each member donate £6 to the College Building Appeal, which would clear the debt. £2,019.50 had been donated by *Bulletin* No. 296 and £3,393 by No. 300.

Council named the premises Harold Poster House (*Bulletin* No. 300) after the man² who provided a substantial donation towards the cost of the building, provided the office furniture and an opening reception. He was the Chairman of AVP Industries Ltd, London N18. Mr Poster was also Chairman of the

² <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=074-acc3650&cid=0#0> (accessed 20 January 2021)
Re: Harold Poster – says he died suddenly in January 1976 – can't be correct as there is a letter from him to CST Chairman on 26.7.77. Profile in *Bulletin* No. 303 and obituary in *Bulletin* No. 311 – March 1978.

Appeals Committee of the National Speech Therapy Development Trust. The terraced house (over three floors) had been the office of 'Pretan', a building firm. It was in a quiet road with no through traffic. It had eleven rooms: nine of which were of a good size and two small rooms in the attic. The yard at the back had two light industrial workshops that could be let. Rent of these would all but cover rates. Sir Sigmund Sternberg (Trustee/Chairman of the National Speech Therapy Development Trust) advised. His profile is in *Bulletin* No. 303. He had come into contact with speech therapists in training while serving on the North West Metropolitan Hospital Board. For the auction Sir Sternberg sent someone experienced, whose bid of £20,000 to buy the property was accepted. With the house came adequate car parking, it was within five minutes of two Tube stations (Willesden Green and Dollis Hill) and several buses passed the end of the road. It was very convenient for the current office staff, shops, library and there was a post office nearby (letter from Chairman of Council to Joyce Wilkins, 11 October 1976).

It was officially opened on 13 July 1977 by Mrs Audrey Callaghan (wife of the Prime Minister at the time) (see Appendix 6), decorated, carpeted and furnished throughout with the generous financial help of benefactors. The Arts Council lent College six paintings by British artists, on a two-year loan basis. The house is pictured in Robertson et al (1995, p. 64).

Joyce Cook (letter to Linda Armstrong, 25 March 2003) comparing the St Johns Wood and Willesden premises, based on comments made in Greenwood (1976): 'I nearly went into orbit re: the 'close by' remark – St Johns Wood + Willseden. The former was easy to get at by tube or bus – Willesden was further out, a long walk from the tube + a dreary straggling High Street with greengrocers selling fruit + vegetable that one had never seen before. A ghastly area. St Johns Wood had expensive shops - with lovely window displays – a delight to feast your eyes on after a long Council meeting – also there were handy pubs, good restaurants + coffee shops. But we'd no space. The Council meetings took place in the general office so they went in the secretary room – that had the kitchen going off.'

Initial delight with the accommodation in Harold Poster House in 1977 changed by 1986 to dissatisfaction with its location and size. A working party was set up to consider a move (*Bulletin* No. 412). It recommended that CST should stay in London – this met with some Scottish resistance – and members' views were sought (*Bulletin* No. 418). Major repairs to HP House were required (*Bulletin* No. 425).

Harold Poster House was put up for sale in 1991 (*Bulletin* No. 467, with snowy picture), with College 'actively seeking a building which will provide more suitable accommodation and help to satisfy the demands and aspirations of its members for improved services and better facilities'.

<https://themovemarket.com/tools/propertyprices/6b-lechmere-road-london-brent-greater-london-nw2-5bu> (accessed 20 January 2021)

- the property seems since to have been divided into flats.



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A probable new property in Hoxton Square, London N1 was pictured in *Bulletin* No. 469. The purchase of 7 Bath Place is reported in *Bulletin* No. 480 and goodbye was said to the old property in *Bulletin* No. 481. The building is featured in Robertson et al (1995, p. 65). The Lord Mayor of London carried out its official opening (*Bulletin* Nos 492, 494).

A CSLT renaissance programme was announced in *Bulletin* No. 483, during which sectors of the profession were invited to the new HQ. The first event was for retired and distinguished members (picture and report in *Bulletin* No. 486). It was followed by a day for advisers, SIGs and specialist groups, which produced a follow-up meeting (*Bulletin* Nos 486, 490, 492). Students (*Bulletin* No. 493) and local groups (*Bulletin* No. 489) also had renaissance days.

<https://www.movehut.co.uk/property/593446-7-bath-place-rivington-street-london-ec2a-3dr/>

- advertised for rent in 2020 (accessed 20 January 2021)



HQ stayed in London but moved to White Hart Yard in 1999, because of issues of space, storage and disabled access to Bath Place (*Bulletin* Nos 561, 565, 570). Lord Ashley officially opened the new premises in June 2000 (*Bulletin* No. 580). The building was closed for refurbishment from October 2012 to January 2013. The temporary HQ address during refurbishment was Suite 702, Capital Tower, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8RT.

References

Greenwood, P.M. (1976) Purchase of new premises. *Bulletin* 294, p. 1.

Heaven, M. (1975) The College of Speech Therapists. *Bulletin* 276, pp. 1-4.

Robertson, S., Kersner, M. & Davis, S. (1995) *A history of the College* 1945-1995. London: RCSLT.

Wilkins, J. (1977) A home for the College of Speech Therapists. *Bulletin* 297, p. 1.

Linda Armstrong/January 2021

Appendix 1 Letter from Marion Fleming in *Bulletin* No. 3, outlining accommodation difficulties

LETTER FROM MISS FLEMING.

16th August, 1946.

Dear Fellow Members,

I have been very puzzled, like many of you, no doubt, by the frequent moves of the College of Speech Therapists during the last few months. A few weeks ago, I had an opportunity to question one of the Founder Fellows and I am sure other members would be interested to know the facts of the situation and the action the Council, after much thought and deliberation, has taken on their behalf. You all know that a full-time Secretary is now employed to deal with the ever-growing work of the College, and it is obvious that as our activities expand and develop still further, it is highly important to have a Headquarters which will serve as a permanent centre and, at the same time, possess a dignity worthy of our professional status. Such premises are very expensive and almost unobtainable except at an exorbitant rent. The landlord of the rooms at 86, Harley Street (which admirably fulfilled these conditions) gave notice to quit and flatly refused to re-consider his decision in spite of the difficulty of finding alternative accommodation. In the view of the Council, the minimum requirements are two rooms - one to serve as an office and one for Committee meetings - but to find such at a moderate rent proved to be utterly impossible. An office that was available before V.J. Day for £400 per annum suddenly had the rent raised to £1,000; 2 rooms were offered at £250 per annum; one small room could have been secured for £75, but it was deemed to be no more adequate than the present temporary accommodation in Southwick Street, which is tiny, has no telephone and is so damp that a typewriter and a duplicator have already been damaged. Apart from any other consideration, one cannot ask the Secretary to continue to work in such conditions.

These are just a few samples of the difficulties the Council have had to contend with. There appear to be NO offices to be had. There are, however, occasionally houses to let and after many months of hunting in vain the Council decided to take a bold plunge - to rent a whole house, to retain certain rooms for the use of the College and recover a proportion of the rent (probably half, possibly two-thirds) by sub-letting the rest for residential purposes. A suitable house within a stone's throw of the Marble Arch was recently made available at a rental which compares favourably with those I have quoted above. Unfortunately, difficulties have now arisen over the terms of the lease and our solicitors strongly advise against signing it as it stands. It is still possible that the landlord may be willing to compromise. By the time this letter is printed the matter should be settled one way or the other, and members will know whether the College has at last acquired a permanent home or whether the weary business of house-hunting and all the legal complexities will have to be gone through all over again.

What is the financial position? Very precarious, alas! At present members' subscriptions merely cover membership services - they are not sufficient to include even the Secretary's salary. It must be remembered that 10s. 6d. of each subscription goes to the Board of Registration of Medical Auxiliaries and that such essential activities as the Salaries Negotiating Committee and the War Casualties Committee, etc. all cost money. It is calculated that we need a membership of 500 before the College will be solvent. The present membership is 236, so with the average rate of increase (30 to 40 per annum, allowing for wastage) there will be a deficit for the next seven to ten years, even with the subscription raised to £3. 3. 0. What, then, is to be done? We MUST have a Secretary, we MUST have premises, therefore we MUST find some means of raising funds. The Council have solved this very thorny problem by appointing an Appeals Secretary; he is Major Pounsford, a retired Inland Revenue Official, who has had great experience in matters of finance. His intention is to approach the City Guilds and Livery Companies and other organisations which are interested in supporting work of a humanitarian nature. He has high hopes of raising a considerable sum and will concentrate for the first few years on an appeal for capital.

Appendix 2 Financing the furnishing at Queen's Gardens (Marion Fleming, *Bulletin* No. 10)

"To those who can". - In response to the appeal sent out under this heading, donations have been received from the following nine members (9 out of 272!):- M.Ferrie, G.S.Jansson, K.E.Jones, M.Judd, N.M.O'Driscoll, J. Pollitt, D. Rant, H. Rosser, A.Swallow - a total sum of £21.6.6 given in celebration of the big increase in salaries. We are very grateful to these public spirited people, and a letter of thanks has been sent to each one. - This money is to be used in helping to provide furniture for the new premises at 68 Queen's Gardens, W.2. Miss Birch has already been working for some months in the smaller office, but the redecoration of the large room is only just completed and it will be ready for use for committee meetings and other purposes as soon as we have acquired the necessary furniture. We have obtained one big gas fire at a very reasonable cost through the kind offices of Major Pounsford and have been promised another by Mrs Boome. These should provide adequate heating. We have also been presented with a very fine big table. The most urgent needs now are: Linoleum, Curtains and Chairs (we possess a few of the "stack-up" variety of chair and are planning to buy others to match them). - It has been suggested that members might like to give concrete help by contributing to the cost of some particular article. To set the ball rolling, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman (Miss MacLeod and Miss Van Thal) and nine other members of Council have each promised to give a chair. The price of these is expected to be approximately 39/-, but please do not be deterred if you do not feel able to do so much. Any amount, large or small, will be very welcome and will go toward the cost of any particular thing you care to name. You are asked to send money rather than actual articles of furniture, so that everything in the room may be in keeping.

Appendix 3 Excerpt from the Chairman's address at the 1963 AGM , follow-up letter from the new Chairman of Council about College wanting to buy property (*Bulletin 145*) and announcement about new rented premises (*Bulletin 153*)

Another subject that is under discussion is the matter of trying to obtain more adequate accommodation for the College. I have been looking at houses, modern office blocks which at a rent of 37/6 a square foot (exclusive of rates) work out at an annual rent far beyond our means. Recently we have been considering the possibility of buying a property that would more worthily house the College. We need a large room for Council meetings, a room which could be lined with bookcases and become a library and reading room. We need office accommodation for the Secretary, and another for the Clerk to the Examinations Board, and rooms for typists and space for duplicating machines. It would be wonderful if we could also have a room where meetings could be held, small cubicles for over-night stops for speech therapists coming to London on College business..... In fact we have dreams of expansion! If Council called for support from the membership in acquiring some property that we could proudly call "The College" would this support be forthcoming?

PREMISES FOR THE COLLEGE

Dear Editor,

At the Annual General Meeting Miss Wilkins spoke of investigations into the possibility of purchasing property for the College so that it might be more properly housed.

The need for more adequate premises to accommodate more staff and to cope with the ever increasing work of the College has become of the utmost urgency.

Property in London commands an extremely high price and large funds will be needed. A "Premises Committee" has been formed by the College to investigate all such matters and a 'Premises Fund' campaign will shortly be launched in which we hope the whole membership will take an active part and interest.

We have already had enquiries from members as to how and when they can help. As soon as the campaign is ready to be launched the membership will be informed, and, in the meantime we should welcome suggestions and ideas about how the money might be raised. These should be sent to Miss Wilkins (Miss Joyce Wilkins, B.A., F.C.S.T.,) at her new address, Albion House, Mutton Hall Hill, Heathfield, Sussex.

It is envisaged that a deposit account will be opened to receive quite small sums, so that people will not be put off by magnitude of the amount involved. If what is raised in this way does not reach property buying proportions it can be devoted to a special project such as the purchase of furniture and equipment. But no money should be sent yet.

Peggy Carter,
Chairman of Council.

NEW PREMISES

I indicated at the Annual General Meeting that the College had found new premises and rather more accommodation than we have had in Paddington for so many years now. I could not be exact as the negotiations were not complete. However these have now been settled and I can tell you that we shall move to:-

47, St. John's Wood High Street,
London, N.W.8.

on 26th June. The offices are on the second floor in a self contained flat, two rooms of which are being used as offices by the School Meals Organisers of the L.C.C.

We shall now have one extra room and much better storage space, so that our Secretary will have some peace and privacy and not be surrounded by tapping typewriters, equipment and machinery pertaining to all branches of College activities. Visitors, too, need not be so jostled and deafened.

There are to be two telephone lines, with separate numbers assigned to the College and the Examinations Board. Transfers will be possible, so that a caller will be able to speak to the Examinations Board having completed his call to the College and vice versa. In this way we shall not hear so many engaged signals when we want to make a call to either office!

I hope members will be pleased with these new arrangements and find them helpful.

Peggy Carter,
Chairman.

Appendix 4 Excerpts from the Chairman's 1977 AGM address

Until this year, they worked in a third-floor office in St. John's Wood High Street - an office they shared with the School Meals Organizers for St. John's Wood. This was the home of the profession in the U.K. We had three rooms - one for Pat Fishman, one for the Examinations Committee, and one for general office work.

Everyone concerned with the management of College had, somehow, worked from there, and everything had been stored there.

For economical and original use of space we deserved mention in the Guinness Book of Records. And I suppose that our willingness to be there was also deserving of some

The lease on the St. John's Wood office was due to run out in September of this year and our most pressing problem at the start of the Council year was to find alternative accommodation at a price we could afford. As Deputy Treasurer the previous year, I had written a thick file of letters trying to find an office we could rent - all in vain. We had to look for another solution.

..on St John's Wood HQ

The house is part of a terrace in a quiet cul-de-sac off Willesden Green High Street. On the ground floor we have a reception office, a sound-proofed room for research, a kitchen and two offices, one of which houses the exhibition of clinical equipment. On the first floor we have all the day to day working offices of the College and a large, multi-purpose room for use by the membership and for Committee Meetings. On the top floor the Examinations Committee has its eyrie. The whole house is decorated inside in white with brown carpets - a very generous gift from Mr. Plotnek of Allied Carpets - and looks both smart and comfortable. It is a headquarters to be proud of.

At the rear of the house we have a separate single-level building. This we have let at a full economic rent for the next five years to provide some income, but it may well in the longer term house a national speech therapy library.

..on Harold Poster House

Purchase of New Premises

Dear member,

On Tuesday, 21st September, 1976, The College of Speech Therapists acquired, for the first time, a home of its own. Until now Administrative Headquarters have been in leased accommodation. It has long been our intention to obtain our own property—which in the long run is financially advantageous—and with the approaching end of our lease, and the cost of re-leasing, this course became essential. The search started several years ago, became intensive of late, and culminated only a week before the auction at which we bought the building.

In the event two good friends of the profession were of the greatest help—the College Bank Manager, Mr. Attree, and Sir Sigmund Sternberg, a Trustee of the National Speech Therapy Development Trust.

The building is freehold, a three-storey house in Willesden—6, Lechmere Road, London, NW2, and, being near to our present location, is convenient for our office staff. The premises will provide the necessary increased space for all our offices, and, of course, facilities for use by members. There will also be office space available to let, and in addition two workshops which it should be easy to rent out.

The cost at auction was a very favourable £20,000 which has to be paid by 18th October 1976, and a further £6,000 will be needed for repairs, alterations and re-decorating. We are, therefore, faced with a buildings bill of £26,000. To this must be added a further £1,000 to cover legal costs.

We have available £10,000. It is therefore

necessary to raise £17,000. Because we are non-residential, we do not qualify for a normal mortgage; the mortgage facilities open would entail paying prohibitive rates of interest. The alternative is to ask for a bank loan of £17,000, and with, we hope, the aid of the National Speech Therapy Development Trust, we must now set about raising the required sum. The interest payable to the bank for the loan for one year will be about £2,000, so we are seeking to raise a global sum of £19,000. The longer we take to pay off the loan, the more it will cost us.

If every member of the profession contributed only £6 we would immediately clear our debt. Some will feel able to give more; some may find it difficult, whatever they feel, to donate so much. What I suggest is that every member writes a cheque, now, for a minimum of £2, and sends it to the College of Speech Therapists, 47 St. John's Wood High Street, London NW8 7NJ. It is a gift we owe ourselves as a profession. It is a big step forward. It is a guarantee of financial savings in the years to come.

I wish to invite you to help as you feel able by contributing to the College Building Appeal. Please remember, the sooner your contribution arrives the more valuable it will be. Please send now.

We hope to acknowledge every contribution in the pages of the *Bulletin* by publishing a running total of the monies received.

Yours sincerely,
P. Margot Greenwood
Chairman of Council

Appendix 6 Excerpt from the press release for the opening of Harold Poster House

PRESS RELEASE

**Harold Poster House: The College of Speech Therapists, 6 Lechmere Road, NW2
13th July 1977**

**The official opening of the new premises of the College of Speech Therapists
by Mrs. Audrey Callaghan**

**The College of Speech Therapists has acquired new premises during a period
of financial austerity through the help of friends of the profession including: -**

Sir Sigmund Sternberg JP - Chairman National Speech Therapy Development Trust

**Mr. Harold Poster - Chairman Appeals Committee of the National Speech
Therapy Development Trust**

Mrs. Audrey Callaghan - Trustee of the National Speech Therapy Development Trust

Mr. Frank Harcourt-Munning CBE - Trustee of the National Speech Therapy Development Trust

NB Frank Harcourt-Munning founded War on Want Ltd