

being known by their husbands' names (eg Mrs John Smith). The first edition of *Bulletin* was characterised by exhortations to members to be collegiate, and to contribute to the CST and *Bulletin* alike. Due to the wartime restriction on paper, this first edition was published on four sides of foolscap paper, with dense text, no illustrations and, of course, no colour. Each of the 1945 editions were edited by a different person, but themes rapidly emerged. Editorials requested contributions and bemoaned poor responses, reports of Area (formal, prestigious) and District meetings (still formal but apparently less important), seem to reflect the divisions of the CST's predecessors, and there was a how-to-do-therapy article from

a senior contributor in each issue. The editor of the third edition was from Glasgow and this was reflected in the emphasis on Scotland, the ordering of the Area news (Scotland first) and two articles by Dr Anne McAllister, the founder of the Glasgow School of Speech Therapy, written to ensure her contribution to the profession was recognised.

The fourth edition listed membership of all the CST committees, appearing to include a good half of the registered therapists. It was also the first to publish letters to the editor, with one taking exception to the contents of an earlier therapy article, while another thanked members for their entry to a competition to design a model speech therapy

clinic. A 'personal' column was also suggested and established from 1946—something that has continued in the magazine in the decades following.

Over the decades *Bulletin* has had many facelifts, and today the range of material would be unrecognisable to the founders of the CST. Nevertheless, *Bulletin* then, as now, reflected members' interests. Tracing the changes made to the magazine helps us to see how the profession has viewed itself during the past 75 years. ■

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Jois Stansfield, emeritus professor, faculty of health, psychology and social care, Manchester Metropolitan University

“Due to the wartime restriction on paper, this first *Bulletin* was published on four sides of foolscap paper”

The Bulletin legacy

Jois Stansfield delves into the monthly theme of 'firsts' by tracing the history of the RCSLT's professional magazine

The College of Speech Therapists (CST) had a difficult gestation and birth, drawing together two competing organisations: the Society of Speech Therapists and the Association of Speech Therapists, which were both established in the 1930s. The journal *Speech*, founded in 1935, had taken the role of both academic journal and news bulletin for the Society of Speech Therapists, and as the Association of Speech Therapists had no similar publication, the CST agreed to

adopt *Speech* as the professional journal. Following several name changes, *Speech* became known as the *International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders*. At the time, a need for a less formal publication was recognised, and this resulted in the *CST News Bulletin*, first published in March 1945.

Formality is a relative concept, and by today's standards the first editions of the *News Bulletin* are very formal indeed. Meetings and votes of thanks are reported in earnest and tedious detail. No first names were seen, unless someone had recently married, with married women

First speech therapy lecturer, Elsie Fogerty, Central School of Speech Training and Drama Art

1912



'Speech therapist' first emerges as a separate profession

1930s



Second professional organisation established, Society for Speech Therapists – BSST

First edition of the journal *Speech* (now IJLCD)

1935



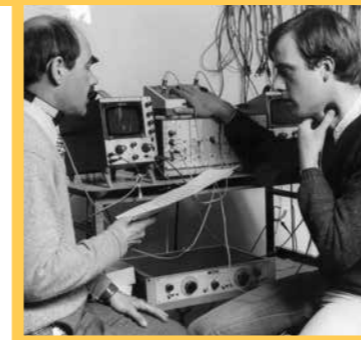
First registration of speech therapists with the Board of Registration of Medical Auxiliaries. This board would only register SLTs from one organisation, so the AST and the BSST joined forces

1942



1929

First professional training school for SLTs opened by Winifred Kingdon-Ward, attached to the West End Hospital, London



1934

First professional organisation established, Association of Teachers of Speech and Drama (Remedial Section)



1937

First UK Doctorate in speech therapy: Anne McAllister, DSc for book *Clinical Studies in Speech Therapy*



1944

First enrolment of members to College of Speech Therapists (CST) begins, 31 March

1944



First school for 'Speech Defective Children' opens: Moor House School

1947



First CST register published

1955



First speech therapy degree established at Newcastle University

1964

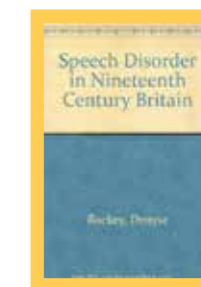
First SLT graduates, Newcastle University

1967



Betty Byers Brown appointed the first SLT adviser to the Department of Health and Social Services

1975



First all-graduate entry into the profession

1984

1945

CST's formal Ceremony of Foundation, 6 January

First three-year courses leading to CST diploma approved



1948

Foundation of the NHS
First diplomas awarded by CST

King George VI becomes first patron of CST



1956

First negotiating body for salaries and conditions of service separated from CST: The Speech Therapists' Professional Association (later the Association of Speech Therapists, later the Union of Speech Therapists)



1972

First and only government report on speech therapy, Quirk Report on speech and language therapy services, recommends six SLTs per 100,000 population



1980

First history of nineteenth century speech therapy published by Denyse Rockey *Speech Disorder in Nineteenth Century Britain*

First 'Speak Week', national campaign to highlight the needs of people with communication problems

1987

First compulsory Education Act provision for children with speech problems (England and Wales), 1945 (Scotland), 1947 (N Ireland)



RCSLT member Dr Anna van der Gaag awarded a CBE

2015

First Giving Voice campaign
First full length feature film on speech therapy: *The King's Speech*

2010



2002

First network for retired SLTs established

European Union equal pay for equal value cases victory

1997

1995

Reflections on the origins of *Bulletin*

Joyce Wilkins, one of the founders of the CST, wrote in a 1995 letter on the origins of *Bulletin*. In it, she says:

'...the beginnings of the *Bulletin*. I remember soon after the College was formed some of us working in the Midland Area started to write a circular letter. One of us would write, perhaps a case history and ask for advice on how to treat it, or opinions on some form of treatment, or asking for help in assessment, or recommending a useful book. This letter was sent in turn to each member of the group who each added his or her comments until the letter was finally returned to the sender. This went on for some time, but was found slow and cumbersome and so we started a *Bulletin*, which was duplicated and sent to each member. Miss K Allen edited this at first I think. When Miss [Catherine] Renfrew came to Nottingham she undertook to edit this *Bulletin* and it grew and developed...'

First SLT professor in UK, Robert Fawcus

1990

1991

First comprehensive professional standards and guidelines for SLTs: *RCSLT's Communicating Quality*



2020

RCSLT celebrates 75th anniversary

2019

First RCSLT member to be elected president of IALP, Prof Pam Enderby



2008

Bercow Report published

First registration of SLTs by Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine (CPSM)

Health Professions Council takes over the function of the CPSM

