

## 1. Amsterdam 1986

The host for this meeting was Janna Koppe, seen here with Bengt Robertson at the European Perinatal Congress in Leipzig.

About 20 delegates attended and were accommodated in the Krasnapolski Hotel, one of the most expensive in Amsterdam (shown above) the reason for staying there was poor availability elsewhere because of late booking. Janna remembers having to declare to the University that all contributors were full professors so that funding for accommodation and food could be obtained. The night before the meeting there was a very enjoyable dinner in the hotel for about 16 delegates followed by the now traditional after dinner singing led by Pier de Boer, Janna's husband.

The meeting on Saturday included some clinical presentations relating to the acute effects of Curosurf in small numbers of treated infants and some more scientific presentations. Contributors were Bengt Robertson, Tore Curstedt, Peter Herin and Gerd Noack from Stockholm, Henry Halliday and Brian McCord from Belfast, Sidarto Bambang Oetomo and Albert Okken from Groningen, Herve Walti from Paris, Giulio Bevilacqua and Stefano Parmigiani from Parma, Hans Egberts from Leiden, Bert van Golde from Utrecht, Ola Saugstad and Kari Gloppestad from Oslo and Ricardo Laurini from Amsterdam. The hosts included Janna Koppe, Loekie van Sonderen and Joke Kok. The group also discussed some spin off studies to be performed alongside the large randomised clinical trial. Ola Saugstad was interested in oxidative stress, Joke Kok in thyroid function, Henry Halliday in non-invasive measurement of cerebral and pulmonary blood flow and Herve Walti in elastase in the lungs.

On the way home, Henry Halliday and Brian McCord, his research fellow, had some difficulty explaining to customs officers at Birmingham airport that the white powder in 50 vials that they were importing from Amsterdam was intended to treat premature babies with breathing problems and not for recreational use.



JANNA KOPPE AND BENGT ROBERTSON



KRASNAPOLSKI HOTEL