Rip-offs?
NOT at the Guild Shop!

The Times is thundering, MP's are fuming and the Patient's Association is indignant. Why? Because a recent investigation by The Times revealed that WH Smith and Marks and Spencer are charging much more for goods at their hospital shops than in their high street stores.

The investigation covered ten hospital shops in eight UK cities including London and found some eye-wateringly high prices. For example a 90% mark up on a "Get Well Soon" card. Visitors who preferred to say it with flowers had to fork out an extra £2 for a bouquet they could have purchased for £15 at a high street branch and 750ml bottles of Evian Water were on sale for £1.69 instead of the typical high street price of 99p. A 1.5ltr of Evian or Volvic water costs £1.25 at the Guild Shop.

The retailers cited higher costs in rent and wages at hospital outlets as the reason for higher prices. This did not impress Katherine Murphy, Chief Executive of the Patients Association, who told The Times that the prices were "morally wrong"; she went on to say: "I am shocked because they are targeting the wrong people: poorly paid staff and patients...It is wrong to take advantage of a captive audience."

Christine Ashby, Guild Shop Manager, told Guild News that: "We buy carefully and sell our goods at fair prices to patients, staff and visitors. We are grateful to the Trust for giving us our splendid location in the Atrium which contributes so much to our success, and to our wonderful team of volunteers who devote so much of their time to running the shop and trolley service which makes all the difference and helps to keep our prices low."

So – if you want to pick up a greetings card, some sweets, a good book, a can of pop or even a big bottle of water for just £1.25 – you know where to go for good value – The Guild Shop.
Reflections on Order of the British Empire Investiture 14th July 2015

Wendy Mead on her special day at Windsor Castle

My street had never looked better than when the Phantom VI Shrieval Rolls Royce, kindly loaned to me by the Old Bailey, arrived for the journey to Windsor Castle but sadly at 6.50am very few neighbours were on hand to witness the Chauffeur in uniform and the Footman in full morning dress, open doors and hand us in for our stately departure!

Due to strict timing protocol which stated clearly that late arrival would produce a ‘lost slot’ we were all anxious to arrive in good time. So 9am saw our rather grand party having breakfast in the Windsor Castle Farm cafe and very welcome it was too.

One of my chosen guests (three are allowed to attend) has a slight walking problem so we were allowed to park very close to the entrance to the Castle but after entering I was taken off to a Reception Room for coffee and soft drinks whilst my guests were escorted to seats in the Waterloo Chamber to view the proceedings. Seventy-nine recipients were being honoured on the day and as HRH The Princess Royal has a well-briefed chat with each person it does take quite a time.

When I was called forward HRH clearly recognised me from the many times we met when I was Sheriff and I responded to her cheery greetings with one of my own, completely forgetting to prefix HRH! Happily the Princess Royal is not a stickler for formality.

The OBE is swiftly hooked onto a device attached to the left breast beforehand and after a handshake which signals the end of the audience and another curtsey, I walked to the adjacent reception room where to my great surprise, the OBE was taken off and placed in a box. I believe I was wearing it for about three minutes.

As far as I can make out, I am not allowed to wear the big one, I can wear the miniature for evening events when decorations are allowed but the big, gorgeous one only in daytime when HM The Queen is present. So it is living in its box for the foreseeable future.

After the formal photos, we set off in the Rolls Royce for Teddington Lock where a City of London launch ‘Londinium’ was to take us by river to Tower Bridge with a celebratory champagne lunch. Despite a dreadful forecast, although the sun didn’t shine it was warm and rain free so guests were able to sit on the small deck outside.

As I am Chairman of Port Health and Environmental Services Committee which oversees the health of the Thames, the Director very kindly granted use of the launch, bringing a truly memorable occasion to a splendid finale.

Wendy Mead OBE CC
Welcome to
Tony Dickenson
The Guild's Honorary Treasurer Elect

Tony Dickenson has been accomplishing accounting projects since 2011 for the Groundwork South Trust which works with localities on training and employment, developing green spaces and environmental programmes. He has been helping them expand operations from the Thames Valley to the South of England with the rationalisation and closure of subsidiary charities no longer required as separate companies. He was a Trustee and Treasurer of Blue Sky Development & Regeneration employment charity in Denham Middlesex between 2011 and 2014, having been beforehand its Financial Controller and Company Secretary from 2008 to 2011. Previously Tony was Financial Controller of CIP Group Ltd from 2004, a group contracted to manage the cultural and leisure services of Hounslow Council. Earlier, he fulfilled senior financial and accounting responsibilities for a number of years at Kawasaki Motors UK.

When not busy crunching numbers Tony has varied interests. He enjoys watching sport – especially Rugby Union, and attending matches overseas has allowed him to indulge in another of his passions – travel. The theatre is another source of enjoyment as is live music of all kinds. Tony is a member of the Round Table, a club for men aged 18-45 which is primarily concerned with raising money for local charities. As Chairman of his local Table Tony nominated Dogs for the Disabled as his chosen charity and sufficient funds were raised to train a dog for this valuable work.

What drew Tony to the Guild? He told Guild News that: “I have enjoyed working in the Charity sector since 2004 and decided to split my working time between paid and voluntary work. Whilst I am still looking for the ideal paid work the opportunity to do the voluntary role arose with Barts Guild. I am very happy to undertake the role of Honorary Treasurer and hope to utilise my experience to help develop the Guild as we move forward and to help it deal with the modern day challenges that it faces. The chance to work with a charity attached to the historic St Bartholomew's Hospital was too good to miss.”

The Guild at War
Part two of Ann Wickham’s account of the Guild’s work in WWI from 1917 to 1919

Throughout the War members of the Guild, led by their President Lady Eleanor Sandhurst, continued in their many volunteering tasks at Barts and Camberwell Hospitals. Money was raised to support the “Comforts Fund” (organised by Mrs Gask), for the military patients in Camberwell and the Work Party (Miss Gask) who had the sometimes overwhelming task of making and mending clothes not only for the two hospitals, but also for air-raid victims. In July 1917 the Guild was asked to supply garments for No. 53 Hospital at Boulogne which was partly staffed from Camberwell.
The Guild at War—continued

The Guild relied on monies raised from donations and other fund raising activities. The ten branches of the Guild were also supplying garments and raising money from their members. In 1917 the Camberwell Comforts Fund was able to supply eighteen wheelchairs for the disabled patients and six wicker spinal carriages.

The Embroidery Scheme:
The East Wing of Barts had been used to treat wounded soldiers since 1914. Following a lantern slide lecture from a Mrs Guy Antrobus (see note 1) about regimental badges, she organised teaching sessions for the soldiers to learn how to embroider their own regimental badges. A sub-committee was set up to oversee the scheme at both Barts and Camberwell with an initial grant of £20, which would be recouped by the sale of the badges at the AGM on View Day. Mrs Antrobus and her assistants not only taught the soldiers how to embroider, without charging a fee, but she also supplied the materials at cost price. She also suggested that the badges might be sold at her shop in Oxford Street.

The sub-committee ruled that:
The first badge would be provided free to the soldiers;
The second badge would belong to the Guild and sold, with the proceeds going towards the expenses of the scheme; and
The third badge: the soldier would pay for cost of the materials but it could be disposed of as the soldier wished. These badges can be seen in the Imperial War Museum.

The Embroidery Scheme was wound up in 1919, though there was a government scheme to teach disabled soldiers embroidery when they were discharged – another initiative of Mrs Antrobus (see note 1).

Vera Brittain at Camberwell Hospital
As mentioned in the last issue of “Barts Guild News” (No. 4), Vera Brittain was a VAD nurse at Camberwell Hospital. In her autobiography “Testament of Youth” (1933) which has been made into a film (2014), she described her VAD training and her nursing duties at Camberwell:

“The 1st London General Hospital, Camberwell is the military extension of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital. The nucleus of the hospital, a large college, red, gabled, creeper covered, is still one of the few dignified buildings in the dismal, dreary, dirty wildness of south-east London with its paper-strewn pavements, its little mean streets and its old ugly houses tumbling into squalid decay. It was formerly a training school for teachers, St Gabriel’s College, and together with adjacent elementary schools was commandeered for use as a hospital, together with Myatt’s Field, an open park space.”
The Guild at War—continued

Vera Brittain talks about the noise in the wards, the nurses rushing around and the “mixture of gramophones and people shouting and groaning after an operation” and “the blaring, blatant gramophones that the men seemed to find consoling, perhaps they subdued more sinister noises, they seemed to me to add a strident grotesqueness to the cold dark evenings of hurry and pain.”

Perhaps she found some peace and normality in the ward’s bitter-sweet preparations for Christmas?

“The night before Christmas Eve I found my ward transformed into gay semblance of a sixpenny bazaar with Union Jacks, paper streamers, crinkled tissue lampshades and Christmas texts and greetings, all carried out in staggering shades of orange, and vivid scarlet and brilliant green. In the cheerful construction of red paper bags which I filled with crackers and sweets for the men’s Christmas stockings, the hours passed quickly enough.”

The Guild members who volunteered at the hospital were certainly exposed to the stress, noise and privations experienced by Vera Brittain, as well as the challenging travel arrangements, whatever the weather, to and from Barts and/or Camberwell and their homes.

The Guild committee meetings continued to organise Guild business, despite the upheavals going on around them.

On 23rd October 1917 the meeting was held at the home of Mrs Millicent Moore, 67 Gloucester Place, because as recorded in the minutes “The President’s house had been badly injured in a Zeppelin bombing raid.” Fortunately no one was hurt, but Lady Sandhurst’s home was not habitable until January 1919.

After the war ended on 11th November 1918 Camberwell Hospital continued to receive patients. The Comforts Fund continued to supply the hospital with blankets, pillows, shirts, pants, socks, tray cloths as well as soups and hot drinks. Christmas gifts were given to the soldiers if there were sufficient funds. The Guild also supplied wheelchairs for wounded and disabled patients when they were discharged.

The hospital finally closed in 1919.

In 1919 Lady Sandhurst was awarded the OBE and the indefatigable Miss Gask, who organised the Work Party supplying, making and mending clothing to both hospitals and air-raid victims, was awarded the MBE. Both awards were well earned and underlined the work of the Guild during the First World War.
The Guild at War—continued

Notes
Mrs Guy Antrobus (Mary Symonds) taught and lectured on embroidery techniques in England and the USA and wrote several books on the subject. She also had a shop which sold embroidery equipment and accessories at 399, Oxford Street (by Selfridges). She designed the St. Paul’s Cathedral altar frontal which was embroidered by recuperating servicemen of many nationalities in the rehab hospitals in the UK. It was dedicated by Dean Inge in 1919 and can be seen in the North Transept until 2018. Mrs Antrobus was appointed Surveyor to the Royal Tapestries and lived in a Grace and Favour residence in Hampton Court Palace.

Permission to quote from Vera Brittain’s autobiography “Testament of Youth” was granted by Mark Bostridge, her literary executor.

For further information on Barts’ surgeons who also worked at Camberwell see:
Sir Darcy Power “St Bartholomew’s and The War 1914-1919”; George Gask’s “Memoirs 1914-1919”.

George Gask was appointed the first professor of surgery at Barts in 1919.

St Gabriel’s College is now a Roman Catholic Secondary School and is (again) currently being refurbished. The teacher training College merged with University of London Goldsmiths College in the 1970s and for many years thereafter the buildings housed Goldsmiths’ renowned School of Art (which has now moved back to the main College site at New Cross).

Myatt’s Field is now a very pleasant park with swings, a duck pond, a children’s play area and a café. Sounds of children laughing and playing are a far cry from the sounds of pain and fear of the wounded soldiers which are now a distant memory.

Ann Wickham

Small grants, great benefits

The Guild recently made a grant of £595 to enable Roberta Simons, an acupuncturist at Barts Pain Clinic, to attend a course taught by a distinguished practitioner. Roberta sent us a letter of thanks which explains how her new knowledge will be put to use for the benefit of Barts patients:

Roberta writes: "My thanks to the Guild for the course fees for Dr Tan's Acupuncture course that you funded me to attend. The course was excellent and was attended by many acupuncturists from all over Europe for it was the last repeat of this particular course that he is going to run in London for many years.

Not only has the knowledge gained enabled me to give far more effective treatment to the chronic pain patients I am already seeing but if I can gain the agreement of the hospital to change the way I currently work I could, using his techniques, see many more patients in the same clinic time than I can do now. So, potentially, this course can revolutionise the acupuncture treatment of chronic pain to the great benefit of the patients here.

Please let the Guild know that they have contributed to bring relief to patients in excruciating pain that cannot be helped by pain-killing drugs."
Small grants great benefits—continued

A grant of £350 enabled physiotherapist Claus Buscher to provide healthy snacks and drinks to patients attending his courses which combine mutual support, advice and exercise for patients living with and after cancer. Claus shared some of the participants’ comments with us. The quotation below illustrates the value of our grant in helping these patients to come to terms with their illness.

“I enjoyed the programme very much. I loved my group! I like meeting new people but those ladies are special, they made me laugh, motivated me and made me feel comfortable. It was excellent to have a few hours just for myself every week. Also, it was very nice of the organisers to provide us with refreshments, especially at this time when everybody watches the budget. Thank you for this extra effort to make us welcomed and comfortable.” (from a participant Jan-Feb 2015)

Frank Dobson to speak at Guild AGM

Frank Dobson will be our guest speaker at the AGM on 28th October. Mr Dobson has maintained an interest in Barts since he saved the Hospital from closure in 1998. Members will not want to miss the chance to enjoy the thoughts of such a lively and knowledgeable speaker. We also look forward to welcoming the Lady Mayoress, Mrs Gilly Yarrow, as an honoured guest. The AGM will be held in the Great Hall. A buffet lunch will be served start from 12.30 pm. Proceedings will begin at 2.00 pm.

Generous donation from the Smyrk Trust

The Guild Shop has benefited from a donation of £8,000 from the Smyrk Trust to fund improvements. This generosity will be acknowledged on a plaque displayed in the shop. Ann Wickham has been delving into the archives to discover the story of Nellie Smyrk.

Who was Nellie Smyrk and what is the Smyrk Trust?

Miss Nellie Eleanor Smyrk was a patient of Barts Hospital on many occasions over several years. She was born in Islington on 25th February 1912 to Nellie Eleanor and Arthur Henry Smyrk, a marble mason. In her twenties Nellie Smyrk (Jnr.) became a civil servant and she lived with her mother in Bexleyheath, Kent. She died on 9th January 1985 in Abernethy Ward of a perforated peptic ulcer. Both she and her mother, who died in 1972, are buried in adjoining graves in Bexleyheath Cemetery.

Nellie’s will makes fascinating reading and gives a glimpse into her comfortable lifestyle and her generous and thoughtful nature. To her godchildren and many friends and neighbours she bequeathed varying amounts of money, items of her substantial jewellery collection and various items of furniture.
Smyrk Trust—continued

She also had a large and treasured collection of Wedgwood china, ruby glass and a silver tea service which she bequeathed to other friends. Her local GP practice was also a beneficiary of her generosity. All her "wearable" clothes were given to be sold to "St. Peter's Senior Citizens Club" with the proceeds going to the club funds.

Nellie Smyrk bequeathed the residue of her estate "after the legacies, funeral expenses and any other debts had been paid" to the Society of Friends to be spent "exclusively for St. Bartholomew's Hospital, particularly for the benefit of Hogarth, Vicary and Lawrence Wards."

Barts Guild was informed of the legacy and, following some correspondence with the Treasury Solicitor and the Charity Commissioners, the Guild inherited the legacy which amounted to £70,000 (£150,000 today).

A separate Trust was set up in 1987 to administer the legacy. The original trustees were:
Chairman: (Sir) John Chalstrey, Barts Surgeon and later Lord Mayor; Mr John Fell, Barts Solicitor; Mrs Caroline Shand, Chairman, Barts Guild; Mrs Margaret Gillett, Treasurer, Barts Guild, and elected Treasurer of the Trust.

The money was invested wisely over the years and grants totalling over £170,000 have been made to Barts wards and departments.

In 2005 a new constitution widened the terms of the original bequest so that the Smyrk Trust could be used for the benefit of any of St. Bartholomew's wards and departments, as the specific wards designated in the Will no longer existed.

The grants have included computers for the Professorial Unit to secondary blinds and UV filters on the windows of the Hogarth staircase; from trolleys for patients to trolleys for the Guild shop; from a Carto Electroanatomical mapping system for the treatment of complex heart rhythm disorders for patients in the Cardiac Department to a grant to the Cardiac Thoracic Department for essential equipment to treat their patients.

The Nellie Eleanor Smyrk Trust is being wound up. So many patients in the wards and departments of St. Bartholomew's Hospital have already benefited and will benefit in the future from this very generous legacy. We must always be grateful to the memory of this caring and benevolent lady who gave from her heart to sick people that she would never meet.

**Trustees 2015**
Chairman: Mrs Ann Wickham
Secretary: Miss Jackie Roe
Treasurer: Mrs Anna Barnfield
Members: Mrs Wendy Mead OBE; Dr Audrey Tucker; Mr Patrick Jennings

Ann Wickham

I would like to acknowledge and thank Sue Boswell for the photographs and Patrick Jennings for obtaining copies of Miss Smyrk’s birth and death certificates.
City of London HealthWatch
Can you help?

Not everyone can spare the time to commit to regular volunteering but City of London Healthwatch can offer opportunities for occasional volunteering sometimes from home. Interested? – details below.

The City of London Healthwatch is amongst the smallest Healthwatches in England alongside Rutland and the Isles of Scilly, but the big difference with the City of London is the number of workers who commute daily to the City (currently a working population of 370,000 which of course is the highest number in London or even in the country) and yet, because funding for all Healthwatch is based on the number of residents and in the City the number is small, the City loses out in the funding stakes. But the City of London Healthwatch has achieved much in its role of representation, gathering the views of residents and some workers, and working closely with the Corporation and other providers to enable meetings between people who will use services and people providing services.

This achievement has been greatly helped by the volunteers for City of London Healthwatch who have assisted us in a variety of meetings on our behalf and at our focus groups. Volunteers have found it a very rewarding experience and have even helped in career progression. The volunteers are equally valued by City of London Healthwatch as they allow a greater reach within our work.

If you would like to put your knowledge and experience into the work of City of London Healthwatch please email healthwatchcityoflondon@ageuklondon.org.uk or call 020 7820 6787.

We would be particularly interested in hearing from you if you have an interest in working with children and young people.

Glyn Kyle Healthwatch City of London, Chair

Spring Serenade – an enchanting evening

On 22nd May the Great Hall echoed with music by Schubert, Dvorak and Mozart – much to the delight of an enthusiastic audience.

The concert was given by the Emmanuel String Quartet and their guest Robert Cooper in aid of the Guild’s work. Thanks to the generosity of the players in donating their fees more than £1,000 was raised through ticket sales and donations.

The Great Hall proved itself to be an ideal venue for chamber music for, as Sir Marcus Setchell remarked during his thanks to the musicians, James Gibb had paid great attention to the acoustics knowing that concerts were a very popular means of fundraising in the 18th Century.

Grateful thanks on behalf of the Guild members, staff, students and their friends who enjoyed a wonderful evening of music to Peter Thomas and Helen Cass (violin), Helen Cooper and Robert Cooper (viola) and Ann Lines (cello). Thanks too to the many other helpers including volunteers from Saunderson House who ran the bar and the management and staff of the Great Hall.
Christmas is coming!

Get your Christmas celebrations off to a joyful start with A Celebration of Christmas on 8th December. The much-loved event will be held, as always, in the Great Hall and the concert will be given by the Barts and The London Music Society who have become great favourites with Guild members. Seasonal readings will be performed by Ursula Mohan and Frank Barrie who delighted last year's audience with their wit and charm and who have kindly agreed to give their time again this year.

The evening will begin at 7.00pm for 7.30. A drink and a mince pie will be included in the ticket price of £12, £7 for Guild volunteers, OAP's and BL students. Children under ten years are admitted free of charge. Tickets will be available from the Guild Shop in the KGV building or by post. Please make your cheque payable to "Barts Guild", enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and send to: Helen Cooper Barts Guild, St Bartholomew's Hospital, London EC1A 7BE

Table Top Sales–sold out!

After six very successful years the Guild Shop's popular Table Top Sales have been forced to cease trading due to limited storage space for bulky donated items. The sales, which over the years have raised thousands of pounds, began when a parcel of donated books proved to contain clothes and shoes. Volunteers Gill Evansky and Mary Kelsey Fry offered to run a stall and the sale proved so popular that Table Tops became a regular monthly fixture with Marjorie Twydell joining the team to deal with Wednesday sales. Shop customers were generous in their donation of goods. In fact one sale consisted of a flat clearance of clothes, shoes, gold and silver jewellery and all manner of knick-knacks. Valuable items were sold on e-Bay very profitably.

The last Table Top was held this summer, clearing nearly all the stock in hand and raising £80.

Pictured above are the "Thursday Girls" team. Holding the flower is Sylvia Hampton. Pat Kraft holds the plant pot Frances McHugh is next and Carol Shepherd is on the end of the row. Thanks to all the volunteers who made these events such fun for the customers and so profitable for Guild funds.
**Volunteer Voice**

**Mal Anderson**

It is fair to say that Trolley volunteer Marilyn Anderson – better known as Mal – has led a busy life. As well as bringing up six children Mal has had two very different and equally demanding careers and, now retired from paid work, is a Guild Volunteer.

Mal left school at sixteen with few formal qualifications. Rather than settle for a humdrum job she joined the Metropolitan Police. At the time WPC’s wore skirts and carried regulation handbags but had the same powers but different duties from male officers, though this did change eventually.

Nursing called and, having acquired the necessary academic qualifications, Mal was accepted for training at Barts and stayed at the Hospital throughout her entire nursing career. Mal spent nearly eleven years on Rahere Ward, becoming a Colorectal CNS and later a Sister. She also found time to take a degree in Cancer and Palliative Care.

What drew Mal to volunteering? She told GN that she always intended to volunteer when she retired and really enjoys being back on the wards chatting with patients and seeing old colleagues.

Would Mal recommend volunteering? She certainly would! Mal says: “Patients really appreciate the Trolley Service and it is great to get positive feedback from them. I really enjoy being part of the life on the wards again and I am very aware of just how grateful patients are for the service we give.

"If any readers are thinking of volunteering I say give it a go. You will get as much pleasure as the patients do from your visits—you really get a lot back.”

We thank Mal for all that she does for Barts patients and hope that her experience as a volunteer will encourage others to take up the challenge of volunteering for the Trolley Service.

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**Ruth Nellie Fiorentini – latest news**

Readers will recall the news of a very generous bequest made to the Guild by this lady which was reported in the last edition of Guild News. Much appreciated as the bequest is we still do not know why the Guild was the subject of her generosity. However, the Guild's internet super sleuth Elizabeth Sparrow has been conducting some research based around family history techniques and the following facts have emerged:

Ruth Nellie Fiorentini (née Arnold) was born in Salisbury in 1916. Her father Emil was a railway official.

In 1938 the Arnold family were living in Langley Road, Slough.

In the same year Ruth spent a month in Portugal. She sailed on the Ms Sibajak. The ship's passenger records list her as a secretary.

In 1945 she married Siegfried Pierre Antonio Fiorentini at St Margaret's, Westminster. Their marriage certificate shows that Siegfried was serving in the National Fire Service and that his father was a tailor.

The couple settled in Kensington Park Road, moving in 1948 to Queen’s Court, Guilford Street – next door to Great Ormond Street Hospital – and lived at this address until 1962 when they moved to nearby Byron Court in Mecklenburgh Square and were still at this address in 1981.

Ruth died on 5th October 2002 in Cheltenham.

The Fiorentinis were apparently quite wealthy. They ran an advertising agency in the West End with impressive clients including Cartier. They were enthusiastic collectors of Chinese porcelain – a discovery made on an auction web site by Andrew Phillips.

Do these facts ring any bells with readers? Research will continue but, so far, the Barts connection remains elusive.
Dates for your diary

Wednesday 28 October

_Guild AGM_

*The Great Hall* 12.30pm  
*Speaker Frank Dobson*

Saturday 14 November

**800th Lord Mayor’s Show**

_To walk with the Guild contact: Niamh Whelan_

Thursday 3 December

Guild Christmas Bazaar

*Conference Room, Barts West Wing*  
12.00 - 5.00 pm  
_Admission Free_

Tuesday 8 December

_A Celebration of Christmas_

_The Great Hall—7.00 for 7.30pm_

_Admission (which includes a mince pie and a glass of wine) £12 ( £7 for Guild volunteers, OAP’s and B & L students)_

_Free to children under ten years of age._

**Guild office on the move**

_The Guild office is moving to a new home in St Martin's Le Grand. The building was, until recently, owned by Nomura Bank and was formerly the old Post Office building, so Helen will be able to wave to Roland Hill's statue from her window._

**The Guild goes Global**

_The Guild website is rising in popularity with use up by 117% for the year up to July 2015. The most visited pages were Souvenirs and Shops. This may explain the reason that the site has attracted so much interest from users overseas including 50 hits from the USA, 14 from China and 14 from Brazil. The world-wide web indeed!_

**Contact the Guild**

_Write to:_

_The Guild of St Bartholomew’s Hospital, St Bartholomew’s Hospital,
West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE_

_(Contributions for Barts Guild News to this address or by email please)_

_Telephone: TBC_

_Email: BartsGuild@aol.com_

_Visit our website: _www.bartsguild.org_

_Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/BartsHospitalGuild](http://www.facebook.com/BartsHospitalGuild) or search for Barts Guild on Facebook_

_Please note that the office is not staffed every day. Please leave a message and your query will be dealt with as soon as possible._