



'Barts Guild - supporting St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911'

BARTS GUILD NEWS

ISSUE NUMBER 1

NOVEMBER 2012

Lloyds Banking Group lend Helping Hands

In January the Guild advertised for volunteers in Metro. Lloyds Banking Group were quick to respond with a generous offer to supply volunteers from their own work force as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility scheme.

Within weeks Lloyds Banking Group staff rolled up their sleeves and set



The new shop

about refurbishing the Souvenir Shop. Their efforts have transformed the shop which is freshly painted and has smart new signs and displays to attract customers.

Not content with refurbishing the shop the Lloyds Banking Group volunteers are helping out by running book sales at Barts and fundraising for the Guild by holding cake sales and other fun activities in their offices.



Lloyds Banking Group Volunteers at work in the shop

Souvenir Shop manager, Steve Bench said: "We are truly grateful to Lloyds Banking Group staff for their help which has been given with great enthusiasm and dedication. The participants have fitted in well with our regular volunteers and we hope to see them around the Hospital for many years to come."

A Musical Celebration of our Centenary

Thursday October 4 was a red letter day for music lovers. As the grand finale to our Centenary year celebrations Barts Chamber Choir and the Trafalgar Sinfonia gave an outstanding performance of some of Handel's best loved celebratory music including the coronation anthem, *Zadok the Priest* and the *Music for the Royal Fireworks*. The concert was given in the presence of our Patron, HRH The Duke of Gloucester, at the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct.

Students from the Medical School provided an entertaining interlude by displaying the trophies that the Rugby team had won in this year's Triple Crown.



Barts rugby stars take a bow

We were fortunate in securing substantial support for the event from financial services group, Saunderson House Limited. Their generosity made a great difference to the funds raised for our charity through ticket sales. Skanska also made a donation towards the cost of the event and there were further donations from C. Hoare & Co. the eminent independent bank and the law firm Hogan Lovells International LLP. Hogan Lovells also kindly met the significant cost of designing and printing programmes for the concert.



Barts Chamber Choir and the Trafalgar Sinfonia



The choir and orchestra in rehearsal

Journalist and broadcaster, Henry Kelly (below), gave his services as Compere for the evening. Henry gleefully shared his knowledge of music with the audience, greatly adding to everyone's enjoyment of the concert.



Henry Kelly, Compere

Front of house duties were undertaken by a team of young volunteers including Barts medical students and staff from the offices of our sponsors and Lloyds Banking Group. The team acted as ushers and waiters, sold programmes and enthusiastically rattled collecting boxes.



Volunteers ready for action

The concert raised a surplus of income over expenses of more than £5,000 for Guild funds which will benefit Barts patients and staff. We thank our sponsors and everyone who gave their time and support to make this such a successful evening.

A Letter from the President

This has been a spectacular year for celebrating Anniversaries. Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the London Olympic Games, AND the Centenary of Barts Guild! The Guild is celebrating 100 years of continuous volunteering and raising money for the patients and staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

The many events which have taken place have woven themselves into a vibrant tapestry of colour, music, people and happy memories.

We have been honoured by our Patron, His Royal Highness The Duke of

Gloucester, who has not only written the preface to the Guild's History *A Century of Service* but also attended the Christmas Celebration Concert and the Reception in the Guildhall, held by the Corporation of the City of London for the Guild. Four members of the Guild were also invited to a Royal Garden Party.

The 2012 Annual General Meeting was preceded by a Thanksgiving Service in the Church of St. Bartholomew the Less. A special Anniversary lunch was attended by the Lord Mayor, Alderman (now Sir) Michael Bear, the Lady Mayoress, a Vice President of the Guild and the two Sheriffs and their consorts. The speaker was the historian and broadcaster Michael Wood who spoke inspirationally about the history of Barts Hospital in the context of its topography. This Centenary year happily coincided with the year of office of our Vice Chairman, Mrs. Wendy Mead as a Sheriff of the City of London. A very special honour and we are very proud of her achievements, especially for Barts Hospital.

Taking part in the Lord Mayor's Show, which started in 1215, is a most colourful and exhilarating experience and this year we proudly marched with our new Centenary banner. Barts Guild was there!



Ann Wickham

We opened our celebrations with a very successful Fair in May 2011 in the Great Hall. The finale was a very successful concert of Handel's Celebratory Music on 4 October in the City Temple. Our Patron again honoured us with his presence. His support and encouragement of the Guild and its aims have been unfailing and we do thank him.

None of these events would have been possible without the support of you, the members and volunteer members who always give so freely of your time, expertise and an ever-ready helping hand.

This year we started to publish an illustrated Guild Calendar which is a constant reminder of dates and anniversaries. Anniversaries such as ours should be celebrated to acknowledge the past, to be inspired to continue to serve in the present and to look forward with confidence to the challenges of the future.

Our role, as volunteers, like that of our founders 100 years ago, is one of service to the patients and staff of this great Hospital of St. Bartholomew.

Ann Wickham

The Guild on Line

No one could accuse the Guild of not keeping up with the times now that we have our own website.
www.bartsguild.org

The site has already proved its worth by providing a simple way to book tickets for the Centenary Concert in October. In future it will give up-to-date information on the Guild, news of events and fundraising activities and encourage volunteering and subscription membership.

The site is still under development but many features are already available to view. Do visit it soon and see what you think – it's only a click away!

Rubbish into Riches

Perhaps "riches" is an exaggeration but your unwanted items can produce funds for the Guild. Unwanted gifts, jewellery and books can be sold at the general shop or at table-top sales. Used postage stamps are always welcome too. There is no need to soak them off the envelope – just snip them off leaving a ¼ inch margin and take them or send them to: The Guild Shop, Outpatients Department, St Bartholomew's Hospital, EC1A 7BE marked for the attention of Pearl Doyle.



Guild Chairmen

Professor Chris Hudson retired as Chairman at November's AGM. His wise leadership, steady hand and great knowledge of Barts Hospital have guided the Guild in the proper directions for the past five years culminating in his overseeing a truly notable Centenary year.

Chris's wise counsel and help were always available to the Guild throughout his Chairmanship and this will continue in the future. This is especially welcomed by his successor as Chairman, Andrew Phillips. Andrew has been a Guild Trustee since 2010 and a member of the Trust's Archives Committee since 2000. Most of his career was spent with the British Library, becoming the Director of Humanities & Social Sciences (comprising most of the printed collections of the former British Museum Library plus the national Sound Archive).

He said to the AGM "It is a considerable honour to be elected the Guild's Chairman and an emotional one for me, too, because our three children were born at Barts. Professor Hudson is a very hard act to follow but I shall do my very best to fulfil the trust you have placed in me."

Introducing Sarah

In June we said farewell to Karen Undrill with our thanks for 10 year's service as Volunteer Co-ordinator for the Trust. We wish Karen all the very best of luck for the future and welcome Sarah Yandell to the post. Here's what Sarah has to say:

I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new Volunteer Co-ordinator for Barts Hospital, replacing Karen Undrill. I am passionate about the difference volunteers can make and have been volunteering or working with volunteers for 15 years.

At University I volunteered in a number of different roles for Nightline (a student listening and information telephone helpline) eventually being elected to run



it as a paid sabbatical position once I had finished my degree. Following this I spent 18 months in New York City working at a day centre for adults with Learning

disabilities supervising a group to volunteer every day at various sites in the community (one of which was a hospital!). Following completion of a language course in Prague, I then spent a year teaching English as a foreign language to students in Murcia, Spain. Since moving to London my experience has been working in the Voluntary Sector having run a Home-Start Scheme in Hackney (befriending for families with children under five) and then working for a Volunteer Centre in Lambeth. My last role was with Samaritans as their Volunteering Development and Support Officer. I also currently volunteer as a Trustee for two charities local to where I live, an adventure playground, and an outside-the-classroom learning experience mostly for disabled children (we have a Victorian classroom and pharmacy in the heart of Richmond Park).

I have to say managing volunteers for a Hospital was always my dream job and to be given the opportunity to work at Britain's most historic hospital I feel like I've really landed on my feet! I have been slowly getting to grips with the workings of the NHS and have been meeting all our wonderful volunteers. We are currently starting a recruitment drive so it's a particularly busy time. In short, I am very grateful to be here and I'm really looking forward to working with the Guild in the future.

Sarah Yandell

All Barts' Yesterdays

If you are not interested in the history of Barts you probably wouldn't be reading this newsletter! Andrew Phillips has put together the stories of some Barts' "characters" for your entertainment.

DISTINCTION, DIGNITY & DISHONOUR

Some figures in the gallery of Barts' history

Shot through the mosaic of the long history of St Bartholomew's Hospital are great figures of medicine, others who later achieved different fame, notable people who died at the Hospital – and some 'bad hats'. Perhaps it would take a William Hogarth to fashion a mural to do them pictorial justice!

The roll of eminent physicians, surgeons and teachers is part of medical history. They include the 16th century's William Clowes; the 17th century's William Harvey, most famous of all and discoverer of the circulation of the blood; John Freke and Percivall Pott in the 18th century; the 19th century's John Abernethy and James Paget ; a host of distinguished names in the late 19th and last centuries such as

Archibald Garrod one of the first physicians to appreciate the importance of biochemistry in medicine and Thomas Horder, 'the man who brought the laboratory to the bedside'. And medical and social history join up in the person of Elizabeth Blackwell, who was the first woman to study medicine at Barts (encouraged by Paget) in 1850 having become in 1849 the first woman doctor in the USA.

Geoffrey Keynes, brother of the great economist, became as well known for his bibliographies and literary scholarship and editions (including of John Donne and William Blake) as for his medical excellence – he was a striking refutation of CP Snow's notion of *The Two Cultures*. He was also a pioneer in writings on the history of science. Others, too, moved on. WG Grace, his not quite high-flying Barts student days behind him (in all it took him 11 years to qualify as a doctor), became the first great English cricketer and one of the most famous men in the country, the young casualty surgeon Robert Bridges metamorphosed into the Poet Laureate while 'Richard Gordon' (Gordon Ostlere) wrote the best-selling *Doctor in the House* and many sequels, some made into films. Dr John H Watson MD, of course, proceeded to great fame in fiction as the sterling friend of Sherlock Holmes. Down the ages there has been Barts physicians' and surgeons' remarkable and dignified association with 'the top', especially through close attendance on British royalty. The monarch's Barts doctors have included (among others): Thomas Vicary, Roderigo Lopez ('Lopus'), Harvey (notably at the battle of Edgehill in 1642 with King Charles I), Francis and Charles Bernard, George Burrows, William Savory, Thomas Smith, Anthony Bowlby, Thomas Dunhill, Horder and in our own day Marcus Setchell.

Two men have gained fame well beyond the world of medicine. William Harvey and his great discovery announced in *De Motu Cordis Et Sanguinis* (1628) appear in countless histories. Archibald McIndoe came to be a household name for the 'unsurpassed skill' with which his plastic surgery treated disfigured and maimed airmen in World War II his renowned "Guinea Pig Club", or "my boys" to whom he was "Boss" or "Maestro". Appointed Assistant Plastic Surgeon at Barts in 1935 McIndoe was introduced to this branch of surgery by his older cousin and mentor Barts' Harold Gillies, considered by many to be the founding father of modern plastic surgery. (Interestingly, the only medical names in this article included in a popular biographical reference book of 20 years ago are those of Harvey, Pott, Abernethy, Paget, Garrod, McIndoe, Gillies and Blackwell).

Hospitals, too, see sadness and death, sometimes of well-known people in dramatic circumstances. The melodious 1890s poet Lionel Johnson, admired by WB Yeats and Ezra Pound and who to his lasting regret had introduced Oscar Wilde to Lord 'Bosie' Douglas, spiralling into despair and drink fell off a bar stool in Fleet Street's *Green Dragon* and was taken to Barts to die.

In 1994 two weeks after he visited Barts in support of the campaign against its threatened closure by the Conservative government, John Smith - whom many thought would be the next prime minister - died from a heart attack despite great efforts at Barts to save him. This was a further emotional spur why so many in the Labour Party would "not countenance the closure of that great hospital".

One of King Henry VIII's own dying acts in the winter of 1546/7 was to issue letters patent crucially renewing and endowing Barts. Henry and Frank Dobson, who as secretary of state for health in 1998 announced simply "Barts will be saved", are unlikely historical bedfellows. But both hold an honoured place in Barts' history.

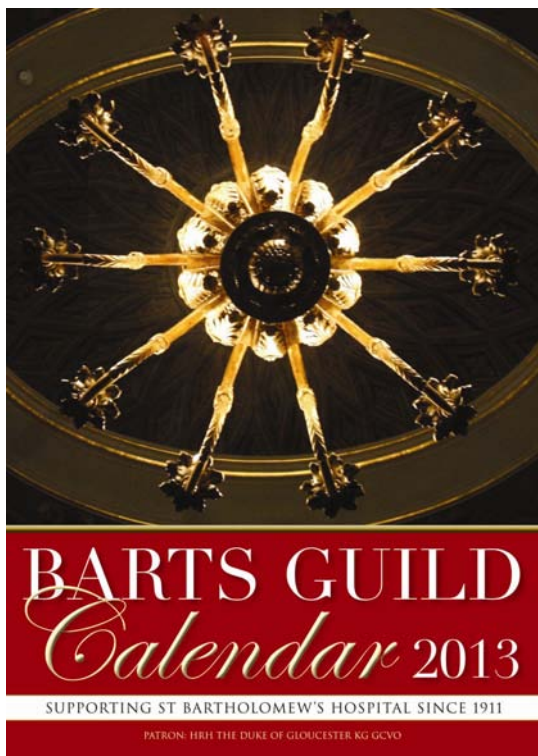
Amid so much wonderful practice there has occasionally been – er "malpractice". "Lopus" was implicated in a plot to poison Queen Elizabeth I and paid the price at Tyburn. He is the only member of Barts Hospital staff to have ended his life on the gallows. William Palmer, former student described by Paget as "Idle, dissolute, extravagant, vulgar and stupid. He was... chiefly engaged on the Turf", was hanged in 1856 as the "Rugeley Poisoner" or the "Prince of Poisoners" (hence "what's your poison?") and later enshrined in the poet Robert Graves's historical novel *They Hanged My Sainly Billy*. His infamy continues to intrigue writers. James Fenton's 30 years old nightmarish poetic vision of England is entitled *A Staffordshire Murderer*

"... Would you care for a boiled sweet from the famous Poisoner / Of Rugeley?" "At the Dame's school dust gathers... / On the snoring churchwarden, on Palmer the Poisoner / And Palmer's house..." A story (or myth?) endures that the good burghers of Rugeley were so upset with Palmer's stain on their town's name that they asked the prime minister of the day if he would agree to rename it. He agreed, provided that the town was renamed after him. The PM was Lord Palmerston ... so, we still go to "Rugeley"!

Andrew Phillips

Calendar Girls – and Boys

The Guild's Centenary Calendar proved so popular that a 2013 edition has been produced and is already on sale at the Guild Shops.



Pictures of Barts in days gone by were greatly enjoyed by 2012 calendar buyers so, once again, we have plundered Barts' archive and discovered some wonderful images of staff and patients dating from the early 20th Century onwards. There are images of recent Guild events, reproductions of Guild ephemera and glimpses of the Barts of tomorrow. All the illustrations are accompanied by fascinating details of Barts' history.

The calendars are priced at £5 each and are available from the Guild shops in Outpatients. If mail order is more convenient please send your order to the address below adding £2.00 per calendar to cover postage and packing. Please make your cheque payable to Barts Guild and send with your order to: Barts Guild General Shop, Outpatients Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London EC1A 7BE. Or call the shop on: 0203 465 6382



A Date for your Diary

Guild Christmas Fair

Thursday 13 December

11.00 am – 3.00pm

The Great Hall, Admission Free

A great opportunity to pick up some Christmas presents or to treat yourself to homemade cakes, jewellery, crafts and bargains from the table-top sale and book stall.

Donations for the raffle and tombola would be very welcome (no clothing or electrical items thanks).

If you would like to be a helper at this event please call Sarah Yandell: 0203 465 6011

Over to You

We hope that you have enjoyed this edition of Guild News. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future editions or stories of your own experience as a volunteer that you would like to share with other members please drop Guild News a line at: Barts Guild, 4th Floor, Gloucester House, St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE or email us at bartsguild@aol.com.

You *are* the Guild and we would love to hear from you!