



Barts Guild

Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911

BARTS GUILD NEWS

ISSUE NUMBER 4

NOVEMBER 2014

New shop takes shape



It's been a long wait but the new Guild shop is open for business in the spectacular Atrium of the new KGV building.

The move from the old Outpatients Department was achieved in just four days and the new shop served its first customers on Monday 22 September. The speedy move was made possible by the hard work and dedication of Shop Organiser Christine Ashby and her team of volunteers.

Here is Christine's account of the move:

"It was all hands on deck on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 September ready for the big move on Saturday. I wanted to keep the shop open until the



last possible moment so we packed up the store room on Thursday and the shop itself on Friday.

"On Saturday Carol, Frances, Roger and I were ready to start at 8am. Unfortunately the removers didn't arrive until 9 so we enjoyed a breakfast of tea and choc-chip cookies while we waited.

Illustrations show how the move was achieved





“We were thrilled to be moving to such a great location but I have to say that it was very daunting trying to fit four store rooms into one store room with office space and, as the shop now sells souvenirs, two shops into a single shop. Still we were undeterred. More and more stuff kept arriving and as the



stands, 'fridges and the wire racks for the store room arrived everything started to take shape.

“The removal men were fantastic. They were so helpful. One lovely young man wouldn't let us do anything. He lifted when we wanted things lifted, moved things when things needed moving and gave his opinion when we couldn't decide what to do for the best.

We worked until 2 pm and then treated ourselves to a nice meal and a well-deserved drink! On Sunday Carol, Frances and I started again at 8 am working solidly until noon.

“The shop is still a work in progress as it is too hot and more shelves are still to be put up but we love it and, thanks to our wonderful new location, we have already doubled our takings. Everyone has been so helpful and we especially

want to thank the Trust's Steve Eames for the personal interest he has shown in the project.”



Guild Chairman Andrew Phillips said: “The Guild's new shop is excellently placed in a central thoroughfare. It is only right to record how supportive Barts Health Trust and Capital Hospitals Ltd. have been in this shop's installation. Over time this should provide much more income for us to return in our services to the Hospital.

“It has only been through the ingenuity – via the help of table-top sales, for example – and the drive of Shop Organiser Christine Ashby and our committed volunteers that the shop's financial performance has been at the level it has, in an increasingly deserted Outpatients Department. I congratulate Christine and our colleagues on their achievement.”



The Barts Health Trust's Chief Executive, Peter Morris, has written to us: “And I am very glad you are so happy with the location of the Barts Guild shop. I think it is perfectly situated...”.

Farewell to a staunch supporter

Ann Toms (née Pullen) 1932 - 2014



It is with enormous sadness that we report the death of Ann in July this year. Ann will be remembered for a myriad of good causes which she embraced and fully committed to, not only for Barts Hospital but in her locality in Scotland.

Ann trained as a nurse and midwife at Barts in the early 1950's after a period of studying law. She obviously found the caring and hands-on approach of health care far more suited to her inclinations.

In the mid 1990's Ann joined the Save Barts Campaign where she became a stalwart supporter and anchor during many trying and difficult days, always ready to attend meetings and events despite the travel this often involved

Ann was a member of the Barts League of Nurses and a tireless volunteer for the Guild. More recently she devoted time and energy drawing attention to the problems of current nurse training which she felt was going in the wrong direction from the training she received in the profession she cared about so passionately.

Ann's defining characteristic was her deep humanity and her inclusive approach to everyone she met regardless of their race, religion or background, always giving special consideration and support to those less privileged.

Barts patients in so many ways owe a huge debt to Ann for her unflinching support of her beloved hospital.

Wendy Mead

Prestigious award for Joyce Malpas



Joyce receives her Award

In July Guild member Joyce Malpas was awarded the Order of Mercy in recognition of her many years of voluntary service to the Hospital.

The award ceremony at the Mansion House was attended by many distinguished guests.

Joyce received her medal from The Rt. Hon., the Lord Lingfield, President of the League of Mercy. Lord Lingfield said: "Mrs Joyce Malpas has done extraordinary work for the welfare of others. She is a marvellous example of someone who has given wonderful service to her community and we were delighted to be able, on the recommendation of the charity [the Guild], to make this well-deserved award."

A Guild member for more than 45 years, Joyce has served the Guild as Vice-President, President and Chairman and has given many years of service to the Shop and Trolley service. Joyce joins a distinguished band of Guild members who have received this award: Pauline Hirst, Elsie Halsey and Malcolm Crisp. We send our warmest congratulations to Joyce and our grateful thanks for her service to Barts patients and staff.

Christmas is coming!

We hope that very few Guild members will be muttering "Bah! Humbug!" on reading that statement because there are two Guild Christmas treats to look forward to.

A Celebration of Christmas *Seasonal music and readings*

Many of you have told us how much you enjoyed last year's concert given by the Barts and The London Music Society and the Choir has agreed to perform for us again this year.

Janie Booth and Andrew Jarvis who delighted us with seasonal readings at the last concert are otherwise engaged this year but two very accomplished actors have most kindly agreed to appear. Frank Barrie has had a long and distinguished acting career which includes appearances at the National Theatre, the Old Vic, the West End and Broadway. Frank has also made over 150 film and television appearances – most recently as Mr Bishop, the gentleman friend of Dot Cotton in BBC TV's *EastEnders*. Frank will be joined by Ursula Mohan. Ursula has appeared at the National Theatre, as a

member of the Royal Shakespeare Company and in the West End, in roles that range from Cinderella's Fairy Godmother to the Nurse in *Medea*.

The concert will be held in the Great Hall on Tuesday 9 December at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. As always a drink and a mince pie will be included in the ticket price. Tickets are available by post or from the Guild Shop. See details below.




All the fun of the Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will be held in the Conference Room on the ground floor of the West Wing on Tuesday 2 December. Doors will open at 1 pm and the Fair will close at 5 pm.

Christine Ashby and her team of volunteers have made sure that there will be bargains to be had on every stall, with Christmas gifts and goodies to suit all ages and tastes. The Fair will feature hand-made crafts, jewellery, bric-à-brac and the ever popular home-made cake stall.

There will be Guild Christmas cards and calendars to buy and a chance to try your luck on the Tombola.

The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew
Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911

presents

A Celebration of Christmas
Seasonal Music and Readings

with
The Barts and The London Music Society
and
Actors Frank Barrie and Ursula Mohan

in
The Great Hall, St Bartholomew's Hospital
on
Tuesday 9 December 2014
7.00 for 7.30 pm

Please note that City parking restrictions are now in force until 7 pm

All proceeds go to help the Hospital's patients and staff

Tickets: £12 (BL students, OAPs & Guild volunteers £7)
To include a glass of wine and mince pie
(Children under 10 years free)

Obtainable from the Guild Shop at St Bartholomew's Hospital

Christmas Fair-continued

All proceeds from the stalls will be for the benefit of Barts' patients and staff. Macmillan Cancer Information Centre volunteers will be running a hot drinks and mince pie stall with proceeds going to help the Centre's work with cancer patients and their families.

If you have saleable items such as costume jewellery, preserves and gift sets to spare they will be very welcome. Please drop your contributions off at the Shop.

Put the date in your diary now! Festive fun and great buys guaranteed for all.

Yes! We have green tomatoes

Shop volunteer Janet Brown is a dab hand at making preserves and her chutneys fly off the stall at the Christmas Fair. One of her specialities is a delicious Green Tomato Chutney but, sadly, Janet couldn't find any of the crucial ingredients this year. Help was at hand however. Fellow Shop volunteer Sadie Ferris asked for green tomatoes at the Forest Farm Shop, Barkingside and when the proprietor, Barry Spencer, heard the magic word "Barts" he very kindly went through his stock coming up with 10lbs of green tomatoes which he has generously donated to the Guild. Thanks to Barry's kindness, connoisseurs of chutney will be able to buy their favourite at the Christmas Fair after all.

Janet and Sadie are pictured on the Guild's new Facebook page:



www.facebook.com/BartsHospitalGuild or search for Barts Guild on Facebook

Comings and Goings

New Trustees

Three new Trustees were elected at the Guild's AGM on 16 October.

Dr David Best

Dr Best's career has been in business consultancy. He is a former Partner of Deloitte Consulting, has recently been Senior Technical Adviser to the Cabinet Office's Government Digital Service and is currently in a senior role with the Ministry of Justice. He is no stranger to health service issues as his many clients have included the NHS and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Lynne Peabody

Lynne's involvement with the Guild began when she was responsible for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for Hogan Lovells International where she encouraged Hogan Lovells' support for our Centenary Concert in 2012. The company remains a supporter of the Guild. Lynne is now working as Project Manager for the new EY Foundation which deals with CSR for the multinational Ernst & Young.

Dr Elizabeth Sparrow

Dr Sparrow serves on the Guild's Publications and Publicity Subcommittee. As a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists she has also advised *pro bono* on Guild IT issues. She has worked in senior roles in major public sector organisations including the Home Office, Crown Suppliers and the Crown Prosecution Service.

We welcome our new Trustees and hope to hear more from them in future issues of Guild News.

Volunteer Voice



Jane Valentine with two of her great grandchildren

Jane Valentine meets and greets patients and visitors in the Atrium of the newly opened KGV building.

Jane came to volunteering because, having taken part in an Ovarian Cancer screening programme, she felt that she would like to give something back to the Hospital. As she had recently retired from a career in the Rag Trade after 20 years as a Show Room Manageress she had time to spare. A friend who volunteered at Great Ormond Street Hospital suggested that volunteering might suit her and Jane decided to apply to Barts.

Jane began her service in the Guild Flower Shop and moved on to the General Shop. She received her Ten-Year Certificate in 2006 so it is safe to say that volunteering did suit Jane!

Jane took a six-year break from volunteering to care for her disabled husband but returned to take up her new role last year.

Guild News asked her what kept her volunteering. Jane told us that it was lovely that patients and visitors were so grateful for the service that she gives. However, she did acknowledge that, human nature being what it is, there

was a great difference in people's attitude to volunteers. During one shift a very stressed visitor shouted at her but, a little later, a visitor asked her if she would like him to fetch her a coffee. On another occasion she walked a lost visitor over to the Great Hall from the Souvenir Shop and was rewarded with a hug – a "thank you" that Jane will never forget.

Was there anything, we wondered, that Jane didn't like? Jane told us that her main bugbear was having a mobile phone shoved at her with text so small that she can't read the details of the appointment the patient is asking about. Jane would also welcome a small desk or some signage so that patients can clearly see where she and her Meet and Greet colleagues are and feel free to approach them with queries

Meeting and greeting is a service that is even more valuable now that the new buildings are open. Thanks to Jane and her Meet and Greet colleagues, patients and their visitors will be spared the stress of not being able to find their way in new and unfamiliar surroundings. Thank you Jane for taking up this challenge and the valuable contribution that you continue to make to the work of the Guild.

We still need your stories

Thanks to all those of you who have submitted contributions to Guild News. Space does not allow for them all to be used in one issue but look out for the Spring edition! All contributions are very welcome. Please send yours to the Guild office. I look forward to hearing from you!

Jan

The Shop on Tour

A reunion of Barts nurses celebrating long service to the Hospital should have been a great opportunity for the Shop, but the reunion fell right in the middle of the move from Outpatients to the Atrium of the new KGV building.

Nothing daunted, the Shop team decided to improvise and a stall was set up in the entrance to the West Wing. Radiators and banisters were pressed into service as shelves and racks and, as our pictures show, a very attractive display was achieved which resulted in excellent sales.



Our improvised shop kept Dee and Malcolm very busy



Congratulations to the Shop team for a great piece of improvisation.

Pictures by Sadie Ferris

Guild supports service of remembrance

Jaryn Go, a Cancer Nurse Specialist from the Renal Care Supportive team, has written to thank the Guild for our grant of £266 towards the costs of the Renal Remembrance Service which was held in the Great Hall on 15 September.

The multi-faith service was for the benefit of families who have lost a loved one to kidney disease and for the staff who cared for them.

Jaryn passed on some of the kind comments which the team had received. Families found that: "It was very helpful in coming to terms with our loss in a special way." and: "It's nice to know that our loved ones are remembered by the hospital team who looked after them."

It is good to know that our grant has helped to give support and comfort to many people at a very difficult time in their lives.

The Guild “Force” in World War I Part 1 1914-1916

On 4 August 1914 Britain declared war on Germany.

On 13 August, just nine days later, a special meeting of the Guild committee (see *note 1*) was held and chaired by Mrs Tooth, the wife of a Barts Physician. She reported that the War Office had requisitioned some buildings for use as a base hospital and had ordered the staff of Barts Hospital to be ready to receive 500 patients there by the following Monday 17 August. The hospital would be staffed by Barts medical staff, nurses and caterers. In 1908 many of the Barts medical staff had been commissioned into the newly formed Territorial Force (later, Army).

The hospital was sited in Camberwell Park which covered an area of some 14 acres. It was formerly (and currently) known as Myatts Fields – a market garden. St Gabriel’s College, a teacher training college, was built there in 1899 as well as an adjacent school with staff accommodation. The buildings were rapidly fitted out and adapted for use as a hospital and included an operating theatre and a small X-Ray room. It was known as the first London General Base Hospital and the first convoy of 68 patients was received on Michaelmas Day (25 September) 1914.

On 18 October literally thousands of wounded and starving Belgian refugees landed at Folkestone and were treated by doctors and nurses from Guy’s, St Thomas’, University College and Barts Hospitals. Many were admitted to the First London General Base Hospital and also to the East Wing of Barts Hospital which had by now been requisitioned by

Did you know?

That when Barts set up and staffed the First London Base Hospital in Camberwell at the beginning of WW1 (see Ann Wickham’s account in this Newsletter) one of the nurses working there as a VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) trainee was Vera Brittain, the mother of Baroness Williams of Crosby (Shirley Williams), who recorded her experiences there in her famous book ‘Testament of Youth’?

GS

the War Office, as had the Swanley Convalescent Home in Kent

The War Office was unable to provide such necessities as nightshirts and bed jackets; neither could the Red Cross Society. Mrs Tooth had immediately purchased the appropriate materials and organised work parties to cut out and make the garments.

The Guild “Force” swung into action! One thousand cards were printed with an appeal for money and sent out to members of the Guild. All members of the committee contributed £5 each. Money was also raised from a ladies “Boarding Club” and various other sources.



*Soldiers on the Ward
(Courtesy of St Bartholomew’s Hospital Archives
[SBHX8-1887])*

Guild Force-continued

All the clothing made at Barts was distributed to the Camberwell Base Hospital. Guild Branches at Dorking, Epsom, Esher, Northwood, Bickley, Bromley, Brondesbury, Ealing, Highgate and Cambridge also sent their garments directly to Camberwell. The Guild also supplied shirts, pants, socks, soft slippers, air-rings and red blankets.

Dr Drysdale, a Barts Physician and a Brevet Lt. Col. in the Territorial Force, sent a letter to the Guild saying: "I am charged with the duty of providing medical comforts to the patients and would appreciate your help."

Dr Drysdale and Mrs Gask, the wife of a Barts surgeon, issued an appeal to all Guild members for comforts other than clothes. This included Benger's Food which was "A delicious and highly nutritive aliment for infants, invalids and the aged". It was similar to dried milk and enriched with vitamins and minerals not unlike Complan. Also cocoa and Bovril were asked for. The

manufacturers of Bovril sent a personal gift of 7lb (3.1kg) of their product.

The Matron of the Camberwell Base Hospital, Miss Cox-Davies, requested 100 shrouds. The committee agreed to supply the material but a "sisterhood" would make the shrouds.

The increasing number of casualties by the Spring of 1915 made it imperative that more beds were urgently provided. Permission was obtained and huts of 40-70 beds were built in the grounds. By October 1915 the accommodation was increased from 520 to 1265 beds as well as two new operating theatres and X-Ray rooms.

The Guild was also involved in the equipping of a newly built YMCA hut for the use of NCO's and men who were patients at the Base Hospital. This was completed in December 1915 and was used for recreational purposes and had a canteen which was run by Guild members. In the Spring of 1917 Queen Mary visited the hut and served tea to the men.



Memorial plaque, Barts East Wing (Picture by Sue Boswell)

Guild Force-continued

It was discovered later that the soldiers had retained the saucers and teaspoons handed by the Queen as souvenirs! A similar YMCA hut was later erected for officers and had windows overlooking the park flowerbeds. Lady Sandhurst and her committee ensured that it was comfortably and tastefully furnished.

Mrs Tooth reported in 1915 that there was an abundant store of clothes but that the number of members of the working parties had decreased owing to so many people working in various war depots. £10 was granted to buy 100 blankets for Camberwell and Swanley and two spinal carriages at £10 each were also supplied to Camberwell.

However, there were some complaints: shirts which were split up the back were no longer used and blue bed jackets were not allowed, only grey being permitted. The shirts were therefore seamed up the back and the bed jackets were turned into dressing gowns! Work parties were also held at Camberwell for mending duties – which had not been done by the laundry although it had been paid to do so.

At the 4th AGM held on View Day, 10 May 1916, Lt. Col. Sir Anthony Bowlby, on leave from the Front, spoke to the members and said: “How well worth the soldiers were of all that could be done for them” and he thanked the Guild for all that they were doing and achieving.

The meeting finished with a “hearty rendering” of “God Save the King” and was followed by afternoon tea.



Notes:

(1) The Guild Committee Members 1914

Chairman: Lady Sandhurst

Members: Mrs Tooth, Lady Bowlby, Miss McIntosh (Matron), Mrs Ormerod, Mrs Acton-Davies, Miss Jessop, Mrs Gask and Mrs Norman Moore

Also: Mrs Gask – Comfort Fund organiser

(2) Sir D’Arcy Power’s “St Bartholomew’s and the War 1914 - 1919” has been invaluable in compiling this article.

Ann Wickham



Part of the Memorial beneath the North Wing Archway

Did you know?

That View Day at Barts dates back to 1551? It was around this time that the previous custom of parading the patients through the streets, in order to arouse compassion amongst the local community – and thus encourage donations – was discontinued in favour of the Governors viewing the patients in the wards and inspecting the buildings. Since 1824 View Day has been held on the second Wednesday in May. **GS**

Joyce and Alf Falk remembered

Readers may recall that the Guild recently made a grant to the Art Therapy unit. Megan Tjasink who runs the unit felt that many cancer patients would benefit from the use of digital equipment to create art and the grant was used to purchase iPads



iPads with memorial plaque

The grant was made in memory of Joyce and Alf Falk. Alf worked in the Medical College for many years and, on his retirement, became a Guild Trolley volunteer. He continued in this role until the age of 90 when he transferred to the Museum.

Joyce and Alf's daughter Jo Matthews presented the Guild with £2,500 in memory of her parents and recently visited the Art Therapy unit to see the equipment purchased through her family's generosity.



Megan Tjasink, Jo Matthews and Malcolm Crisp



Jo takes a close look

Joyce and Alf's long association with Barts is also commemorated in the Museum. A further gift of £2,500 from Jo was used to purchase a new viewing screen so that visitors can view a DVD on entering the Museum.

Once again we thank Joyce and Alf's family for their generosity which has already proved to be of great benefit to patients and visitors at the Hospital her parents loved.

Did you know?

That thousands of lives were saved during WW1 by the invention of a portable blood transfusion device by a Barts surgeon who served as a Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps? Sir Geoffrey Keynes, later a Barts consultant, the younger brother of John Maynard Keynes, was knighted for his innovative work in blood transfusion, and was also a pioneer in the treatment of breast cancer. At the same time he was a literary scholar and biographer, a leading authority on William Blake, and a ground breaker in the history of science; his biography of William Harvey received the James Tait Black Memorial Prize in 1966. During WW2 he was a consulting surgeon to the RAF, promoted to the rank of Acting Air Vice-Marshal.

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2015 Guild Calendars

Our popular calendars are now on sale in the Guild Shop. The 2015 calendar is crammed with memorable pictures and information on Barts past, present and future. A great Christmas gift for friends and family members at only £5.



BARTS GUILD
CALENDAR 2015

Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911

PATRON: HRH THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER KG GCVO



Dates for your diary

Tuesday 2 December

Guild Christmas Fair

1.00pm - 5.00pm. To be held in the Conference Room, Ground Floor, West Wing, Barts. Admission free.

Tuesday 9 December

A Celebration of Christmas - Seasonal Music and Readings

*7.00 for 7.30 pm in the Great Hall.
Tickets, £12 (Guild volunteers, OAPs & BL students £7) on sale in the Guild Shop or by post.*

For full details please see page 4

Contact the Guild

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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.