



Barts Guild

Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911

BARTS GUILD NEWS

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Complementary therapies: a holistic approach to patient care



Shiatsu therapist Issac treats a patient. photo: Philippa Bush

Complementary therapies such as massage and aromatherapy have long been on the wish list of patients and their carers visiting Barts Cancer Information Centre. Last autumn the Guild agreed to grant a year's funding to bring these much desired therapies to Barts. The project was devised and is led by Neil Browne, the lead complementary therapist at Whipps Cross University Hospital, and I decided to visit Neil to learn more about these treatments.

I met Neil at the Margaret Centre, one of the only four hospices operating within the NHS, which provides help in the management of complex symptoms, respite and end-of-life care to patients. The Centre is built in the grounds of Whipps Cross. It is a warm and peaceful place which seems very distant from the bustle of the busy hospital.

Neil told me that complementary therapies have been offered at Whipps Cross since 2005 as part of the hospital's holistic approach to patient care. Originally funded from charitable sources, the therapies were offered to patients receiving palliative care but later expanded to include patients with any cancer diagnosis.

In accordance with NICE guidelines, published in 2004, therapies are evaluated for efficacy and safety and patient feedback demonstrates that, when used alongside conventional medical treatment, they are far from being a 'hippyish' indulgence! Indeed, treatments produce impressive results in increasing the patients' wellbeing by helping to reduce distressing symptoms such as nausea, anxiety and sleep disturbance.

Award for Guild President



We are delighted to learn that Guild President Ann Wickham will receive the prestigious League of Mercy Award in acknowledgement of her 50 years of service to the Guild. The award ceremony will take place on 4 July and BGN will feature the full story in our autumn edition.

We warmly congratulate Ann on this well deserved award and thank her for all that she has done for the Guild and for Barts.



Complementary therapies (continued)

Complementary therapies are especially beneficial when individualised for each patient. Aromatherapy and acupressure, for example, can be very effective in reducing nausea in patients receiving chemotherapy and these patients are offered custom-made aromatherapy sticks which combine the scents of essential oils such as lime and peppermint. Looking like a Vick nasal inhaler, the sticks can be used by patients at any time and cost only a few pence to provide welcome relief.

Complementary therapies at Barts began in September 2015 as a pilot project and the one-year sponsored services began in November. The service has proved tremendously popular with patients and their carers who are also offered therapy to help deal with their own stress and anxiety. The drop-in sessions are held on the seventh floor of the KGV building every Monday and the treatments offered are massage, reflexology and aromatherapy.

In the first six months of the Guild-sponsored service 118 patients and carers will have used the service. If the same number of patients are seen during the second half of the one-year funded project, each treatment will have cost £15.96 compared with the £60 or more that it would have cost at a private spa or health centre.

Overall, service costs are kept to a minimum thanks to the generosity of Honorary Therapists who are well qualified practitioners working in a variety of complementary therapy disciplines. They give their services free of charge for one day a week for a year having responded to advertisements placed in professional journals.

Neil was also able to confirm that the future of the new St Bartholomew's complementary therapy service has

been secured as it will be paid for by the Trust from November 2016.

One of the aims of complementary therapy is, says Neil, *"Reframing hope to patients. For example a patient may hope to be as symptom free as possible."*

Laura Bailey, Macmillan Information and Support Manager at Barts, said:

"We are enormously grateful to the Guild for providing the funds for patients to be able to access complementary therapies at Barts. The process of cancer diagnosis and treatments can be incredibly difficult for patients so for us to be able to signpost them to accessible therapies onsite is invaluable. The therapies that patients receive from Neil and his team can make the process seem more tolerable and provide a great source of comfort to people going through a difficult time."

It was a pleasure to meet Neil and very pleasing to know that the Guild has helped to launch a service that is so warmly welcomed by Barts patients and their carers.

Jan

For further information:

Readers will be pleased to note that: The service had research published in the Nursing Times in 2013 and this was presented to the Royal Society of Medicine in 2014, prior to republishing of the abstract in the BMJ.

Further research will be published in the European Journal for Integrated Medicine later this year, following presentation of the paper at the UK Research Council for Complementary Medicine conference at Warwick University in June 2016.

Donation in memory of Barts doctor



Dr Laurence Cartledge

The Guild has received a very generous donation of £60,000 from the family of Dr Laurence Cartledge.

Dr Cartledge's daughter Penny Wainwright wrote: *"I am making a donation to Barts Guild in memory of my father, Dr Laurence Cartledge, who was house-surgeon*

to the Ophthalmology Department at Barts until his death in 1956 at the early age of 43. As 2016 marks the 60th anniversary of his death, I thought it would be an appropriate time to do something in his memory and I am therefore donating £60,000 to Barts Guild."

Although Penny is happy for us to use the donation in any way that we see fit she has suggested that we might consider setting up a bursary to benefit medical students saying that: *"This is something that I would be keen to support, especially as my father could never have studied medicine in the days before student grants or loans, if he hadn't had the good fortune to have the support of a wealthy relative."*

Another cause dear to Penny's heart is the welfare of teenagers in hospital: *"I would also be pleased if some of the money were used to enhance patients' experience in hospital. For instance, teenage patients, who can find themselves between children's and adult wards, might be helped by having iPods, computer games consoles etc - things that might be regarded as a bit frivolous but which could actually make a difference to a young person's experience of hospital."*

Our grateful thanks to Penny for her generosity and for her imaginative and helpful suggestions.

The Christopher Davies Memorial Fund

Christopher Davies was a highly distinguished French horn player with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House Covent Garden. He was a Barts patient who sadly died from cancer earlier this year and his family wishes their donation to the Guild in his memory be spent by Psychological Services as they felt that they had all benefited enormously from the department's support.

In accordance with their wishes their generous donation of £1,500 has been set aside as the Christopher Davies Memorial Fund which will benefit the work of this department.

Christopher had played with the Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra (Brighton Phil) and the Orchestra used our Facebook page to request donations to the Guild to swell the Fund and to let Facebook readers know that they had dedicated their Valentine's Day concert to Christopher's memory.

Head of Psychological Services Mark Barrington is determined that the fund will be put to the best possible use. He said:

"I think it is likely that some of it will be spent on specialist training to extend the skills of the clinical psychologists working with patients and families affected by advanced cancers."



Christopher Davies

Volunteer recruitment drive a success

Over the past year the number of volunteers willing and able to serve in the Shop or provide the trolley service has been in decline. Thanks to our loyal Shop volunteers we have been able to trade from Monday to Friday but the hope of providing a weekend service has not been realised and, due to lack of volunteers, the trolley service has not always been able to perform a regular daily ward round.

With patient numbers increasing following the opening of the acclaimed Barts Heart Centre our lack of volunteers could not have come at a worse time.

Despite the very best efforts of Nancy Whiskin and her team, too few new volunteers were coming forward for these tasks and so the Guild took action. We took advantage of free advertising space in Metro and the Evening Standard and our advertisement ran in several editions of these papers. This produced an avalanche of applications, many of which were from young people keen to give their time to the Guild.

Four recruitment events were held in March and April together with subsequent individual meetings. Potential volunteers were given a tour and introduced to Christine in the Shop. They were also interviewed by members of the management committee to discover how their existing skills could be put to good use and new skills developed. Nancy and members of her team were on hand to fast track the applications from candidates who were keen to proceed.

The meetings resulted in 39 new volunteers that we hope will join the Guild team. Three new volunteers have already started and, as soon as the DBS checks have come through and training sessions have been

completed, it is hoped that the rest will soon commence their volunteer service with the Guild.

Our thanks to Nancy and her team for finding the time to help make the recruitment drive such a success and to Helen Cooper whose meticulous planning made the recruitment days run like clockwork. Our very best wishes and a warm welcome to the Guild to our new volunteers.

An era of change - 17 years on the Guild Management Committee

I had been a subscription member of the Guild for many years whilst working in Barts Medical College, when in 1998 Joyce Malpas, Guild President at the time, asked me if I would stand for the post of Hon. Secretary in succession to Joy Cross, who had served in that role, ably assisted by Pauline Hirst, for no less than 23 years! My first Committee meeting was in the autumn of that year.

After a mere nine years as Hon. Secretary, Sue Boswell kindly relieved me of this role, followed by Jenny Jeyarajah, the current Hon. Secretary, now very ably assisted by Helen Cooper, Guild Administrator.

I was asked to remain on the Committee to provide some continuity historically speaking, and also to act as co-ordinator of the Guild's Princess Alice Garden overseeing its maintenance.

This Garden, opened by HRH The Duke of Gloucester in 2004, commemorates the 100th birthday of the late Princess Alice who served as President and later Patron of the Guild until her death, a week after the opening of the Garden, in October 2004. HRH The Duke of Gloucester succeeded his mother as our Patron.

An era of change (continued)

Volunteers

There have naturally been many changes over the years since 1998. At that time, there was no NHS position of Voluntary Services Co-ordinator (VSC) at the Barts end of the NHS Trust; therefore it fell to the Shop Organisers, Jane Keyes and Elsie Halsey, both long-serving Guild volunteers, for the General and Souvenir Shop respectively or to me as Hon. Secretary to take up references for new volunteers.

Gradually the NHS requirements for recruiting volunteers became very much more stringent with the need for DBS checks, etc for all new volunteers. This obviously created an increasing workload, in addition to which there was, as ever, a need for more volunteers for the Guild's shops, trolley service and welcomers (the Hospital has since taken over direct responsibility for the latter). Fortunately the aptly named National Association for Hospital and Community Friends (subsequently known by the rather non-descriptive name of Attend – not an acronym!), of which the Guild was and remains a member, had Department of Health funds available for which Hospital Friends could apply. The Guild took the initiative and successfully applied for a three-year grant in order to create the part-time post of VSC at Barts, which Karen Potter (subsequently Undrill) took up in 2001.

Karen set up a system of volunteer recruitment for the Guild in accordance with NHS requirements and was able to attract more volunteers by advertising campaigns. At the end of the grant, the NHS Trust took over funding of this post and added recruitment of all Barts volunteers, and later also London Chest Hospital radio volunteers, to Karen's part-time post. Karen resigned after nearly 11 years' service and was succeeded in 2012 by Sarah Yandell (now Mrs Miller) whom the NHS

appointed on a full-time basis. The NHS Trust seconded Sarah to another position after one year in post, and sadly from the Guild's point of view she is not returning, but we are pleased to learn that she is now on maternity leave, having had a baby daughter.

For almost a year Barts was without a VSC, with consequent reduction in new Guild volunteers, but happily Nancy Whiskin has now been appointed to work on the Barts site recruiting volunteers for the Guild, and also overseeing voluntary services throughout the six hospitals of the Barts Health NHS Trust.

In 2007 the Guild, on the initiative of Malcolm Crisp, introduced long-service certificates for volunteers who had served 10,15 or 25 years and these are presented annually at the AGM.

The office of the Guild and VSC moved in 2004 from its location in the Queen Mary Nurses' Home, which was being demolished as part of the redevelopment of the Hospital, to the fourth floor of Gloucester House where it stayed for 11 years. Two years ago the Barts VSC office moved from being conveniently adjacent to the Guild's office to an office in the North Wing.

The Guild's office moved from Gloucester House in September 2015. The new 'Guild office' is a desk-share ('hot-desking', to use the jargon!) in an office area being leased by the NHS Trust in the former Nomura building at no.1 St. Martin's Le Grand. There is no scope for storage of Guild paperwork (other than the current Accounts) or other Guild possessions, so I spent time in the office assisting Helen Cooper in emptying the office and going through several years' worth of paperwork and passing relevant documents to the Barts Archivist.

An era of change (continued)

Shops and Trolley Service

Another big change was the appointment of the Guild's first paid Shop Manager, a post which Christine Ashby took up in May 2005. Jane Keyes' devoted service proved to be irreplaceable on a voluntary basis and so once again the Guild successfully applied to Attend for another three-year grant, at the end of which the Guild took on the funding. Elsie Halsey nobly continued running the Souvenir Shop on a voluntary basis until her retirement in 2010 when she was succeeded by volunteer Margaret Prior. This Shop is now combined with the General Shop under Christine's management. In 2006 the Hospital's Patients' Library closed, since when the Shop and Trolley have stocked a supply of second-hand books. The Guild's long-standing Flower Shop finally closed in 2007, brought about by a number of factors, not least the ban on flowers in the wards, common to all hospitals.

The General Shop and its store room have moved many times during my time at Barts. I first recall it being in the basement of the original King George V Block, later moving to the ground floor. When this building was due to be demolished and rebuilt behind the listed façade as part of the PFI development of the Hospital, the Shop moved to the Outpatients Department and remained there for four years until September 2014 as this area also became due for redevelopment. After many concerns about its future location, the Shop now enjoys a very favourable site in the new atrium of the redeveloped KGV building.

Management Committee

Looking back at the Annual Reports, the membership of the Management Committee itself has, not surprisingly, changed considerably over the years. In my early years on the Committee about half the Trustees were Shop volunteers and it had traditionally been chaired by the wife of a Barts Consultant. There was only one man on the Committee when I joined in 1998 (John Fell, our legal

adviser, whose City firm Wilde Sapte had long been legal advisers to the Hospital) as against the current total of seven!

In 1998 Janet Bradshaw, a former senior nurse, became Chairman for three years, followed in 2001 by Ann Wickham becoming Chairman for a second three-year term, having served previously from 1992 to 1995. Ann was subsequently appointed President of the Guild in 2008 in succession to Joyce Malpas. From 2004 to 2007, Audrey Tucker, former Consultant Radiologist at Barts, was appointed Chairman and from 2007 to 2012 Chris Hudson, former Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Barts, became the first male Chairman. It's worth noting that the Guild had changed its name from 'Women's Guild' to 'Guild' in 1979, some 68 years after its establishment in 1911.

In recent years the Shop volunteers have been ably represented by Trustees Pearl Doyle and Sadie Ferris and the Committee has an increasing number of high-powered Committee members from the outside world bringing their own Charity or other expertise to the Guild's affairs. In 2012 Andrew Phillips became the first Guild Chairman without a very direct link to Barts, although he was already involved with the Hospital through his membership of the Archives Committee.

It will be seen that the current Management Committee has widened the Guild's focus, not only with other Barts charities, but also with the outside world where it is keen to raise the profile of the Guild generally and in particular with its new-found sponsors.

I have much enjoyed my roles with the Guild during the last 17 years, and observing – and in some cases being party to – the numerous changes which have taken and are continuing to take place. **Jackie Roe**



Jackie Roe

Farewell to Muguette



Muguette with Lady Mayoress Claire Anstee and Guild President Ann Wickham photo: Malcolm Crisp.

Muguette Demanuele, who died in January aged 88, was one of the Guild's most loyal volunteers, serving in the Shop for 18 years.

In her eulogy to her godmother Corinne Lewis said: *"Muguette was so proud of volunteering at Barts helping and comforting families who stopped by the little Shop."*

Shop manager Christine Ashby attended Muguette's funeral. Mourners included volunteers who had worked with Muguette for many years.

Christine told BGN that: *"Muguette loved being a volunteer. She felt part of a family through her volunteering as she had no relatives in the UK.*

"She was very French - always immaculately dressed. She had a very dry sense of humour; she would say something and you would look at her to see if she was joking and when you saw that she was you would fall about laughing.

"The doctors and nurses loved her and, even now, I occasionally have a retired nurse asking after 'the French lady who was so nice.' She was a lovely lady who will be sadly missed."

Born on May Day, Muguette was named after the Lily of the Valley. Some of these lovely spring flowers will be planted in the Princess Alice Garden in memory of a very special volunteer.



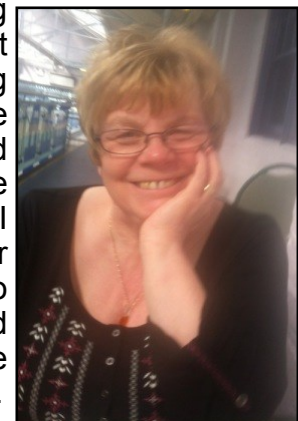
Muguette's birthday flower
photo: Bob Cooper

Volunteer Voice

I am Ros Stocks, one of the new volunteers working alongside Christine and the team serving patients, visitors and staff in the Shop and from the Trolley.

I responded to an advertisement in the local press and took an induction course led by volunteer co-ordinator Richard Lee before beginning my duties.

I am a 67-year-old exiled Geordie, a widow with two children who are both married and living in Leeds. I spent most of my working life in nurse management and social care management and I also trained for three years to become a licensed Lay Reader in the Church of England.



Following official retirement I moved to London joining a Christian community, Lee Abbey London, providing good quality hostel accommodation for young international students. I worked as a volunteer in the kitchen and then, at their request, as a chaplain for 150 students and 30 young volunteers from around the world.

Volunteer Voice (continued)

I now work as a chaplain for the Methodist Homes Association attached to a residential home for older people with memory problems. I love my job - it is a great opportunity to spend time with the residents and work with them to ensure a feeling of spiritual well being. I am also a Funeral Celebrant, which is such a privilege, as a nurse, to be involved in end-of-life celebrations and offering comfort to the bereaved.

I still live in a Community attached to a church in Vauxhall. My role as a volunteer is rewarding, hopefully making a small contribution to the healing process for our patients by helping them to continue to make choices and to have control over their lives.

Barts has a family feel - everyone appears to be working together for the healing and wholeness of our patients and to support their loved ones. When Danny and I set out with our trolleys to visit the wards we see it as an adventure. We are not quite sure who we will meet but we endeavour to provide the best possible service with a smile on our face showing respect and ensuring dignity to everyone we meet.

Nimble fingers from Wiltshire

Hand knitted items are always best sellers in the Guild Shop and we have received these cosy rugs from a group of keen knitters in Wiltshire.

The Wylde Valley Knitters have produced warm clothing and blankets for war-torn countries for many years but, sadly, present circumstances make delivery of these items too dangerous to be achieved.

The group is co-ordinated by Mrs Irene Barton, and her daughter, Guild Hon. Secretary Jenny Jeyarajah, suggested

that their latest creations could be put to good use by the Guild. The knitters agreed to this idea and the Shop will benefit from their hard work.

Our grateful thanks to the knitters for their generosity and we hope that they will soon be able to send their lovely knits safely to their intended recipients overseas



Christine Ashby takes delivery
photo: Jenny Jeyarajah.

Did you know?

Wimbledon

That the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships were started by a Barts-trained doctor in 1877?

Henry 'Cavendish' Jones entered Barts as a medical student in 1849, but later became disenchanted with medicine and turned to writing about games and sports under the pseudonym 'Cavendish' - whist, billiards, croquet, field sports - and contributions to the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

As a committee member of the All England Croquet Club he proposed the tennis championships, which he refereed from 1877 to 1885. **GS**

Did you know?

The story of the remarkable woman whose inspiration led to the founding of CancerBACUP at Barts, now a national association and part of Macmillan Cancer Support, which has helped many thousands of cancer patients and their friends and families by providing information about the emotional and practical aspects of coping with cancer? Dr Vicky Clement-Jones was a senior registrar at Barts in 1982 when she was diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer at the age of 33. Her experience of the illness until she died two years later, and the strength and inspiration she drew from fellow patients, led to her vision of a national association for informing and supporting cancer patients, which would combat the fear and ignorance surrounding cancer by providing good, clear and complete information. **GS**

Did you know?

That Sir Joseph Rotblat, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1995, was Chief Physicist at Barts, and a Professor of Physics at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College from 1950 to 1976? Having worked on the development of the atomic bomb, he later became internationally known for his opposition to nuclear weapons and was co-founder, Secretary-General, President and Council member of the Pugwash scientific conferences. At Barts he used his considerable knowledge of radiation in the treatment of cancer. He was born in Poland and trained as a physicist at the University of Warsaw, coming to Britain in 1939; he died in 2005 at the age of 96. **GS**

Barts and the Great Fire of London

This September will see the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire which swept through London in 1666, destroying buildings and also eradicating the last vestiges of the Plague of the previous year.

The Minutes of Barts' Governors record the hospital's preparations during the fire, support for local businesses who had lost premises, and the longer-term financial effects on the hospital. Devastation of its City properties entailed a severe loss of income for the Hospital.

The Fire devastated much of the Hospital's City property, and it was calculated that the loss of income was nearly £2,000 a year. 'The Fire came to the very gates of the Hospital, which was seriously embarrassed financially by the loss of revenue from its destroyed properties. In an effort to save money, five of the fifteen wards were shut and the sisters discharged.

'This retrenchment did not last for long and at the beginning of the eighteenth century the piecemeal building of former times gave place to the Grand Design of Gibbs.' (From 'The Royal Hospital of Saint Bartholomew 1123-1973.' eds Medvei & Thornton)

Archaeologists digging under the RSQ (former Residential Staff Quarters) building in 2015 found burnt material which they believed might be from one of the last buildings burnt in the fire (premises which were outside the hospital precinct of the time).

Sue Boswell



Christmas - something to celebrate

*The choir with Ursula Mohan and Frank Barrie
photo: Bob Cooper*

Christmas 2015 was ushered in as always by the Guild's annual Celebration of Christmas concert. The Barts and The London Music Society presented the glorious mix of music that we have come to expect from this talented choir. Actors Frank Barrie and Ursula Mohan gave their choice of seasonal readings ranging from biblical to comical to the delight of the audience.

Thanks to generous sponsorship from the Guild's good friends Saunderson House (who also provided volunteer bar staff) and a very successful raffle with prizes kindly donated by Guild Trustee Lynne Peabody, £1,868 was raised by the event to further the Guild's work for Barts. Grateful thanks are due to the performers, volunteers, the staff of the Great Hall and to everyone who helped to create such a wonderful start to Christmas. Thanks too to our sponsors Saunderson House who have offered us their support for this year's concert on Tuesday 6 December. Save the date now!

The Guild presented patients obliged to spend Christmas in hospital with the traditional, much-appreciated, Christmas parcels. Since the opening of Barts Heart Centre the population of in-patients has grown and 200 parcels were wrapped and distributed by our volunteer helpers.

Due to increased patient numbers the supply of gifts ran low but Marks and Spencer came to the rescue with a donation of clothing. Their contribution was so generous that some items were left over. These will be put to good use throughout the year as a special cupboard has been established for the benefit of patients who have been admitted for emergency treatment and do not have suitable clothing with them for their first day or so at Barts.

Special thanks to Anthea Finn who has masterminded the Christmas present project for many years. Anthea has decided to step down from this role. Thank you Anthea - you will certainly be a hard act to follow!

BARTS GREAT HALL Roll Up Roll Up ALL WHO LISTEN SHALL HEAR

It's not often that one has the chance to be the bearer of news that is 100% good. In all my 50 years at Bart's as a frequent user of the Great Hall, on almost every occasion one heard the constant complaint: "Pity about the speeches, I couldn't hear a word."

Whether the speaker used a microphone or not, we either heard: "If only they hadn't used a microphone we wouldn't have had that terrible buzz and echo", or "If only they spoke up/didn't shout, and used a decent mike, we might have heard something."

The fact of the matter is that James Gibbs, the architect who created the stunning masterpiece of 'Governors' Hall', as it was called in 1732, used the well tried and tested perfect shoebox dimensions (3x2x2) for perfect acoustics for a concert hall, not for a hall whose main use has always been for the spoken word. No doubt the Town Crier was well practised in the art of bellowing to get attention for the Chairman and Board of Governors, who held their management meetings in public. The public were plied with ale and wine, no doubt to encourage generous donations to fund the working of the Hospital, and the Board members were doubtless pleased if background noise meant that they couldn't be heard disagreeing or arguing.

The hired equipment which has been used to try to improve the acoustic experience for many years has rarely been successful, unless being used by very experienced public speakers. Many of us thought that in this age of sophisticated cordless mikes and amplifiers and woofers, there must ways of getting audibility for all, including the hard-of-hearing by use of hearing loops. A small group of us put out feelers to acoustic engineers and arranged site tests with various systems. The pessimists said we hadn't a hope

because you're not allowed to put so much as a screw in a wall or floor in a Grade I Listed Building like the Great Hall, and that anyway it would be horrendously expensive. Undeterred we persisted, and selected a system of wireless microphone and linear array speakers which concentrate the sound distribution at sitting or standing hearing level, and not up to the 40-foot ceiling. Whether we whispered, mumbled or shouted (slowly), the human voice seemed to be audible all over the Hall.

The next problem was who would pay the many thousands required? The NHS own the Great Hall, but have no spare cash for such things, although they recognise the usefulness of the Great Hall for meetings, fundraising events, reunions and other celebrations. To the financial rescue came the Barts Guild, who use it for events themselves and recognise how its use benefits staff and therefore indirectly patients. Only four long thin unobtrusive loudspeakers were required, and the techno stuff is all housed in a cabinet the size of a modest fridge outside the Great Hall, in the next-door Guild Room. We then had to go through a complex Planning Application to the City of London, having got approval from English Heritage to install the fixed loud speakers, which took several months.

Finally in April this year the system was installed in less than a day. Operating the system is said to be practically idiot proof, and I am about to put that to the test! From all accounts so far you can even hear a whisper now, but basic microphone technique remains important, unless we invest in Show-biz facial fixed microphones for those who want to wander about or wave their arms while speaking.

Yet another triumph from the generosity of the Guild, its volunteers and supporters who work so hard to raise funds for so many aspects that benefit Barts.

Marcus Setchell



Dates for your diary

Thursday 20 October Guild Annual General Meeting

The Great Hall

Lunch 12.30pm for 1.00pm

AGM 2.30pm

Speaker TBA

Tuesday 6 December A Celebration of Christmas

Seasonal music and readings

7.00pm for 7.30pm

*Tickets from the Guild Shop from
October*

Details TBA - Save the Date!

Fantastic plastic

Credit and debit card readers were installed in the Guild Shop on 11 April. This convenient way of paying is proving very popular with customers and by the end of the month takings on the card machines amounted to £723.00. So if you are short of cash and something in the Shop takes your fancy you can snap up that bargain with your card.

Thanks to Shop volunteer Jackie Sanderson who helped negotiate the difficulties of installing the phone line for the card machines - the talents of our volunteers never fail to amaze!



Contact the Guild

Write to:

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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.