



# Barts Guild News

ISSUE 12

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## First Elective Grant – a report from Mike Willis

I chose to undertake my elective in emergency medicine at Khayelitsha District Hospital (KDH), Cape Town, South Africa over six weeks from May to June 2018. KDH is a government-funded hospital situated in Khayelitsha Township in which almost 70% of residents live in corrugated iron shacks, built during apartheid to house poor black migrant workers. The township suffers from high levels of poverty and violence, along with over 50% of patients currently infected with HIV and 6-7% with active tuberculosis (TB) infection.

Another elective student and I were fully integrated into the team and worked every shift together. This meant we all got to know each other extremely quickly – strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes, and exactly how we all liked our coffee. Breaks, called 'Fika' (Swedish for coffee with friends), were always taken together as a team. Whilst the hours were intense – in one seven-day stretch we averaged 92 hours – we never left a minute later than the shift was scheduled to finish, due to appropriately timetabled handovers. The team consisted solely of junior doctors apart from a three-hour consultant ward round in the morning. The responsibility and skills of junior doctors in South Africa were incredible in the face of high numbers of acutely ill patients.

Khayelitsha township is badly affected by gang violence and alcoholism. Weekend shifts were notorious, especially on pay days, where the



Mike (left) with a colleague at Khayelitsha Hospital

hospital would receive a surge of 10-15 stabbings within one hour after bars and clubs closed on top of a normal three to four stabbings per day.

During the week the most common patient presentations were from road traffic collisions, diabetic and obstetric emergencies, plus HIV and TB which affected many of the local community. It was routine to ask a patient their HIV status with most people attending the hospital being positive.

There was a healthy culture of openness around HIV which is far less stigmatised in South Africa compared with the UK. In some parts of the community there was distrust of 'Western' medicine, such as views of enforced vaccination programmes being programmes to spread disease.

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## First Elective Grant cont.

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This resulted in some patients first seeking treatment from traditional healers for many weeks before arriving at the emergency department very unwell, commonly with poorly controlled HIV or TB.

On our days off we had the opportunity to explore Cape Town, with world-class surfing and hiking on Table Mountain. Needless to say, my surfing was far from world class – and having shark alarms on the beaches made for slightly nerve-wracking experiences!

My time at KDH let me experience a huge amount of medicine I would otherwise not have seen in the UK and will certainly make me a better doctor. The junior doctors at KDH made me feel incredibly welcome and always made time for teaching and supervision. Their positivity and teamwork in such difficult circumstances were inspirational.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the Barts Guild for their Medical Elective Grant, without which I couldn't have funded the elective. The experiences I've had over the six weeks will remain with me throughout my medical career, which will include working at Barts Health for one year as a foundation doctor.



*Khayelitsha Township*



*Sunset at Muizenberg. Photographs: MIKE WILLIS*

## Elective Grants

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In 2017, Barts Guild established the 'Barts Guild Elective Grant' to support medical students from Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry.

This grant is made to support a medical student, who is in financial hardship, undertake a 'medical elective'. An elective is time allocated in the medical degree for the student to explore an area of interest, commonly an experience in a healthcare system abroad.

These grants were made from the generous donation of the Wainwright family in memory of Dr Laurence Cartledge, house-surgeon in the Ophthalmology department at Barts until his untimely death in 1956, aged 43.

The Wainwrights report how Dr Cartledge himself would not have been able to study medicine if it had not been for similar grants and support.

ANDREW SMITH

If you are a studying at Barts and The London and would like more information, please go to [www.qmul.ac.uk/smd/undergraduate/finance/bursaries/](http://www.qmul.ac.uk/smd/undergraduate/finance/bursaries/)

## Holiday Creates Happy Memories

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*The Guild joined with the Rahere Association to enable a patient with advanced cancer to take a seaside holiday with her family at a specialist hotel.*

*Jenny Simmonds from St Joseph's Hospice kindly provided us with this report, in which the family's names have been changed.*

I visited the family at home to find out how their trip went. They all had a nice time and the patient, Mary, did not have any health problems while she was there. The weather was very hot and sunny. Mary told me that it was great to have a break from her usual routine and to see a different part of the country.

Mary found the hotel to be lovely and felt supported by the staff there. The staff made a fuss of the children, Sally aged 6 and Sue aged 3. The chef worked hard to provide food that the children would like.

Mary found it very helpful to meet other people living with cancer and to have the opportunity to talk to them. She enjoyed sitting in the beach hut and watching the children experience being on a beach for the first time.

Their Dad said that he enjoyed a change of routine and having a break from caring. He said it was nice to have someone else make the food for the family. He also enjoyed being in the sea.

Sally enjoyed going to the beach and told me that she swam in the sea with her Dad for the first time using her armbands. Sally also told me that she had an ice cream every day!

She enjoyed a trip to the New Forest and saw wild ponies but was disappointed that there were not any unicorns there!

Sue is too young for swimming and thought the water looked a bit scary! She enjoyed making sandcastles with her sister and playing with her Mum in the beach hut. Sue also enjoyed ice cream!

JENNY SIMMONDS



*Sally's drawing of their hotel.*



*Sue's treasured holiday souvenir.*

*Photographs: JENNY SIMMONDS*



## Joyce Malpas     26 May 1933 - 8 July 2018

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Joyce was an inspiration to all those who were fortunate enough to know and work with her in the Guild. Her integrity and discretion, her work ethos and patience, her elegance tempered with her sense of humour made her a very special person who epitomised the spirit of the Guild.

Joyce joined the Guild in 1970 and immediately volunteered as a trolley pusher. She gamely battled with the recalcitrant lifts and the idiosyncratic personalities of the trolley wheels. She joined the Executive Committee in 1973, became Secretary in 1974 and retired in 1979. The Chairman, Mrs (later Lady) Anne Dawson, said, "After working with her for three years her meticulous attention to detail and order kept us on the path of duty and her sense of humour rose above the stolid minutiae of the committee proceedings."

In 1986 Joyce was elected Vice-Chairman, and Chairman in 1989; in 1991 she became a Vice-President. Her retirement didn't last very long, and in 1997 Joyce was elected President. She finally retired from office in 2008. During her Presidency the Princess Alice Garden was opened in 2004 by HRH The Duke of Gloucester.

As well as all her committee work Joyce still found time to organise money-making events including Flag Days, concerts, and 'Fair in the Square' stalls, musical suppers and the not-to-be-missed Celebration of Christmas concerts. She was always ready to help wherever and whenever she was needed and always with a smile.

In 2007 Joyce was honoured by the Trust with the presentation of an award in recognition of her voluntary service to Barts Hospital for over twenty-five years. And in 2014 The League of Mercy's prestigious award was presented to Joyce by Lord Lingfield at Mansion House. He said in his citation, "Mrs Joyce Malpas has done extraordinary work for the welfare of others for over 40 years."

Joyce trained as a nurse at Barts and was married to Professor James Malpas. He specialised in paediatric oncology and was Dean of the Medical College 1969-72 and Master of Charterhouse 1996-2001. They celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary in May 2017 with a lunch at Charterhouse. It was a very happy occasion.

Thank you Joyce. We shall remember you and your smile. We send our love and deep sympathy to Jim and his family.



ANN WICKHAM  
*Guild President*





*Montages were produced by Barts Health NHS Trust and displayed around Barts.*

Politician Nigel Lawson once said that, “The NHS is the closest thing the English people now have to a religion.” Rather a sweeping statement but it is true that in a country as diverse as Britain the affection in which the NHS is held is a unifying factor. Small wonder then that the Service's 70th birthday was celebrated in the media with an enthusiasm and thoroughness usually reserved for Royal jubilees.

Here's how Barts and the Guild played a part in the celebrations...

### Let Them Eat Muffins!



On 4 July dozens of volunteers from all over the Trust joined together at Barts Eat Well restaurant to pack and label 12,000 muffins so that all Trust staff and volunteers on duty on 5 July could celebrate the NHS's 70th birthday with a cuppa and a delicious treat. Naturally Guild volunteers, including Jackie, Jilly and Monique, were much in evidence making the whole enterprise look like a piece of cake.

*Photographs: JAN O'NEILL, JENNY JEYARAJAH*



## BBC Sunday Worship Celebrates NHS70

*On Sunday 10 June BBC Radio's Sunday Worship was broadcast live from St Bartholomew the Less, and the Guild's Vice-Chairman was in attendance. Here is Sir Marcus Setchell's account of a significant service.*

The alarm goes off. It's 6am on Sunday 10 June. What on earth is happening? Oh yes, we need to be seated in Barts the Less church by 7.45am because Barts the Less has been chosen by the NHS and the Beeb to go out on Radio 4's Sunday Service, not just to the nation, but we are told on the World Service as well.

Two weeks of intense planning by the The Revd Marcus Walker, dynamic new Rector of St Bartholomew the Great and the Less, and a full sound-testing rehearsal the day before had everyone well prepared. The Rector had provided a brilliant line-up of relevance for this celebration of 70 years of the NHS, so appropriately being held in the church belonging to Barts Hospital, the oldest Hospital in Europe, and a pioneer of free health service for all, for almost 900 years.

At 08:10 precisely, the magical choir of St Bartholomew the Great, under the direction of Rupert Gough opened with the anthem, "Sing we merrily". This they certainly did throughout the service, giving confidence to the congregation to sing out lustily for the hymns, all carefully chosen with words that echoed illness, suffering, healing, and caring.

The readings from the Bible were subtly chosen to reflect Hogarth's magnificent paintings on the staircase of The Great Hall, Christ Healing the Sick at the Pool of Bethesda, and the parable of The Good Samaritan. Alison Knapp and I, both former students at Barts, brought the stories to life with our readings.



*L-R: The Revd Tasha Critchlow, Chaplain to Barts Health NHS Trust; The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullaly, The Bishop of London; The Revd Marcus Walker, Rector of St Bartholomew's the Great; Alison Knapp, retired Barts nurse.*

*Photograph used with kind permission of Marcus Walker and the Bishop's office.*

As if having the first woman Bishop of London, Dame Sarah Mullaly, to preach the sermon was not enough, the fact that she is also a nurse who became Chief Nursing Officer for England and Wales added poignancy to her address.

She took us back to the battles leading to the formation of the NHS in 1948 to where it is today, highlighting how its principles were deeply in tune with the concepts of loving your neighbour and relieving suffering that are found in the Bible readings heard at the service and in teachings of the other great religions.

Following the service, all those present were entertained to breakfast by the NHS Trust. Emails and messages flew in from all over the world from old friends and acquaintances which made one realise what a wide audience BBC Radio still has.

MARCUS SETCHELL



## Ice Cream for All

The Guild sponsored an ice cream van in the Square as our contribution to the 5 July celebrations.

The day was gloriously warm and sunny and so, unsurprisingly, the offer of a free ice cream was hugely popular with patients, staff and visitors.

816 ices and lollies were distributed and the event was an excellent opportunity to spread the word about the Guild's work.



*It's one way to queue for ice cream!*



*Satisfied customers.*



*Chrissy Race and members of the management committee preparing to spread the Guild message.*

*Photographs: BOB COOPER*

## The Great British Menu at Barts

One hundred National Health Heroes sat down to a truly sumptuous banquet served in the Great Hall for the Champion of Champions finale of the BBC's The Great British Menu, broadcast on BBC2 on 13 August. Each course was created by one of four very likeable chefs and the guests voted for their favourite dish to determine which contestant would win the ultimate accolade.

Before the cooking got under way each chef spoke movingly of their own experience of the NHS, from gratitude for the safe delivery of a baby to praise for the excellent treatment and TLC received by a contestant's late mother.

The chefs worked overnight to prepare their ingredients in their temporary kitchen – a marquee in the Square. Despite the inevitable set backs and culinary disasters they found time to make cakes for Barts staff on night duty. During their cake round they met domestic Abigail Horne and porter Pasquale Tagliamonti who has 33 years of service at Barts. Both were thrilled to



*Pasquale Tagliamonti and Abigail Horne were interviewed before the banquet. Screenshots: PHIL MOSS*

be invited to the banquet.

On the day of the banquet the chefs transferred their creations to the Great Hall's kitchen. The Great Hall tables were set out and dressed to perfection. The effect was stunning and one chef confessed that he was "gob smacked" by the venue.

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## The Great British Menu at Barts cont.

The guests made their way to the Great Hall walking – as was only right and proper – on a red carpet laid through the Henry VIII Gate. Every healthcare discipline was represented and there were two rather special ladies who had been there from the very beginning of the Service.

Ethel Armstrong MBE began her career as a Cadet Nurse on 5 July 1948 later training as a Radiographer and 70 years later is still volunteering for the NHS Retirement Fellowship. Aneria Thomas was the first baby born on the NHS arriving in the first minute of 5 July and named after Aneurin Bevan. She is now a retired Mental Health Nurse.

After four splendid courses the host Jenny Agutter invited the guests to vote for their favourite dish and the Champion of Champions award went to London chef James Cochran for his starter “Cep-tional” a wonderful and very complicated dish featuring wild mushrooms.

Professor John Gribben, a former Trustee of the Guild, was interviewed at the beginning of the programme about the trial he is starting on a potential new cancer treatment. He was also a guest at the banquet, of which he said: “It was a fantastic occasion, combining great food with a great location. It was a privilege to be invited to the grand banquet and celebrate 70 years of the NHS in such a unique way.”



*Guests, including Abigail and Pasquale, receive the red carpet treatment.*



*Golden confetti rains down inside the Great Hall to celebrate NHS70.*

## A Celebration of Christmas - Tuesday 4 December - Great Hall

The Guild's traditional start to the season is just around the corner, with music from the Barts and The London Music Society and seasonal readings chosen and performed by actors Frank Barrie and Ursula Mohan.

Tickets £13; £7 (BL students, OAPs and Guild Volunteers) including a glass of wine and a mince pie) are now on sale in the Guild Shop, by cheque to 'Barts Guild' at the usual address, and online at [bartsguild.org.uk/product-category/tickets](http://bartsguild.org.uk/product-category/tickets)



*Last year's concert. Photograph: BOB COOPER*

## Aneurin Bevan

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*Andrew Phillips pays tribute to Aneurin Bevan, the founding father of the NHS.*

The miner's teenage son who walked the Welsh hills reciting poetry and recounting history, mixing longer Latin words with pithy Anglo-Saxon ones partly to help his stammer, became the father of the National Health Service. A piercing but not Left-leaning historian, surveying the first half of the 20th century, has written: "He deserves the laurel crown as the British politician who did least harm and most good."<sup>[1]</sup>

Aneurin Bevan early showed his steel at school by fighting bullying, standing up for others – and rebelling. These qualities flowed as he moved through pit miners' committees, his union and local council, becoming known for his determination to get things done and improve people's lots, helped by his eloquence and style, distinctive phrase-making and wit and platform ability on the hustings. He spoke for people who lacked a voice, "Nyrin tells them, see" said one using the less usual name some old friends used. It was that regard that made my grandfather hoist my four-year-old self on his shoulders in a packed hall "so that my grandson can always say he saw Nye in the flesh". On the local hospital committee he observed Tredegar's Workmen's Medical Aid Society providing medical services and aids in return for members paying three pence in the pound of their wages; almost all the town's families subscribed. It surely formed a glint in Bevan's eye as to what a greater scheme might be.

In 1929 he brought to Parliament his radicalism, restlessness and intellect: he read widely on philosophy and history, often quoting Shakespeare and the Romantic poets. His maiden speech was thought "like some disturbance of nature" as he attacked Winston Churchill and David Lloyd George, the latter a fellow but erstwhile great radical. The duel with Churchill was to last almost 30 years and although the great war leader was to label him a "a squalid nuisance" in World War II for his criticism of war strategies Churchill saw fully Bevan's able bravura: indeed, a curious almost-friendship

between the two might sometimes be glimpsed. With Bevan's resignation over health service charges in 1951 Churchill reminded Bevan's wife, the redoubtable Jennie Lee, "Do not underestimate your husband." After the Commons' tributes at Bevan's death in 1960 Churchill sat on alone in the chamber for a little, remembering his most formidable Parliamentary adversary.

The Speaker of India's Parliament in 1957 called Bevan "a man of passion and compassion". That twin tribute may be seen as key to his achievement and complex personality. His desperation to raise people up, right wrongs as he saw them, his outspokenness in following a vision he fashioned, could also mix with anger, impatience and intemperate language that could hurt his cause as well as sustain it. His 'difficult' volatility was seen at times in the 1930s, albeit in righteous causes of reducing unemployment and increasing social support; and even more in the 1950s, frustrated by being out of power, the long-running clash with Labour's younger leader Hugh Gaitskell did little to help their election chances.

In part it was Bevan's 'democratic socialism' vying with Gaitskell's 'managed capitalism', some echoes of which sound today. In this turbulence however Bevan did not relish hero-worship and he was never quite the tribal leader the word 'Bevanite' implies. Before their too early deaths, Gaitskell won most of their Party battles; but now he is largely forgotten while Bevan, through the NHS, remains a household name.

In his thirst for action Bevan could tongue-lash his Labour colleagues too, even Clement Attlee, that adroit manager of big personalities. But in 1945, and now Prime Minister, Attlee saw the purpose ready within his impatient colleague: "For Health, I chose Aneurin Bevan whose abilities had up to now been displayed only in opposition, but I felt he had it in him to do good service." Bevan himself in that election pinpointed the challenge: "We have been the dreamers, we have been the sufferers, now we are the builders."

*Continued on page 10.*

## Aneurin Bevan cont.

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The Bishop of London reminded us in her 2018 sermon in St Bartholomews the Less Church celebrating the 70th anniversary of the NHS that it was not born without opposition. Indeed. The medical profession of the 1940s was generally very conservative, fearful of 'nationalisation'. There were over 1300 voluntary hospitals, many in financial straits; municipal hospitals run by territorially-minded local councils varied hugely. It seemed like a fight against all comers, and often was. Bevan's hard-working determination – and charm – began to persuade the Royal Colleges that a proper health service for all could only be financed by government on a nationalised basis. In this he was aided by such as his Permanent Secretary Sir William Douglas (who had wished to retire at once when Bevan was appointed!... but was soon saying "He's the best Minister I ever worked for") and Churchill's own personal doctor Lord Moran – "Corkscrew Charlie", so called for his negotiating skill with his fellow professionals. Honey tongues were used and heads knocked together. "This is my truth: now tell me yours" was a favourite Bevan saying. Above all, Bevan showed pragmatism. Compromises were made, private practice permitted to continue, and as Bevan playfully explained in a famous phrase, "I stuffed their mouths with gold" [well, some!]. Sometimes pulling, sometimes pushing, bringing together all the different interests and practitioners in a national service was, on Bevan's part, "a remarkably skilful achievement"<sup>[2]</sup>.

Since that 'alchemy' of 1948, despite the glitches, gripes and grumbles, the NHS and the people who serve within it do myriad marvellous things for others every day.

Leading political opponents of Bevan such as RA Butler and Harold Macmillan knew his quality. Macmillan as PM recalled, "He was a genuine man... There was nothing fake or false about him" and he gave Bevan his highest accolade "he was an artist".

David Eccles, whose father had been a noted Barts surgeon and who fought the doctors' corner in the 1947/48 health debates, told me one night that Bevan was far and away the finest debater he saw in his 50 years in Parliament.

For his oratory could be extraordinary. It was not rhetoric but a capacity to develop arguments on his feet. Bevan's speeches' power lay in their "subtle, elegant but sinewy thrust... they combined irresistible logic with creative imagination... unlike most orators he could sometimes persuade opponents to change their minds" wrote Paul Johnson, a conservative historian who nonetheless never lost gladness that when young he had "sat under the wand of the magician" in William Pitt's 1783 phrase of his great rival.

Sister Agnes of St Teresa's hospital in Wimbledon told Bevan, "Minister, you are the most hated man in Britain – and the most loved." That experience of duality, together with the vein of romance and the skill of oratory and debate, drew the comparisons in Bevan's lifetime and since with the great 18th century figure of Charles James Fox (the original magician and his wand). Perhaps, however, Bevan might have valued most a more living tribute. The son of a young doctor's brother was born with parlous health but treated successfully by the NHS in one of its countless accomplishments. The baby boy was then named 'Aneurin' after the man whose compassionate drive ushered the NHS into being and who was "that very, very rare thing in the history of politics, a man whose decisions on behalf of those he served brought about human betterment"<sup>[3]</sup>.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

[1], [2], [3]. AN Wilson. *After the Victorians* [1901-1953]. 2005.



## Not Quite Bartholomew Fair

But despite a lack of dancing bears, tightrope walkers and ladies of questionable virtue the celebration of Smithfield's 150th anniversary on 25 and 26 August was a feast of fun and revelry.

All ages and tastes were catered for from a hula-hoop workshop to a parade of delightful sausage dogs, a beautiful carousel and special area for children's entertainment in the rotunda gardens.

An eclectic selection of delicious street food was on offer and, in keeping with the best traditions of Bartholomew Fair, the local pubs did a roaring trade.

The Guild's own stall had a very successful day. We met past patients of Barts who told us their stories and we had an encouraging number of enquiries from prospective volunteers. Sales of souvenirs raised £400 and our collecting boxes weighed much more by the end of the day.



*Guild volunteers (L-R) Naheed, Thas, Clyde, Jenny and Lesley at Smithfield 150.*

*Photograph: BOB COOPER*

None of this would have been achieved without a great deal of planning and hard work and thanks are due to Jenny and her team, Stella and the shop volunteers, the volunteers who ran the stall and the Management Committee members who lent their support on the day.

## Midsummer Revels

Barts volunteers got together for a truly splendid party in the Great Hall on 21 June.

A sumptuous buffet was served and a photo booth installed for the evening produced some hilarious results.



*Photograph: JAN O'NEILL*

The evening concluded with some lively disco dancing. Guild volunteers joined in the fun with great enthusiasm proving that they were number one in all their endeavours – including being the life and soul of any party.

Thanks to Nancy and her team for organising a wonderful event.

### Thank you!

After much deliberation I finally got around to spending the voucher I received from the Guild on my retirement.

I chose to treat myself to a little luxury at Fortnum and Masons where I ate unwisely but very, very well. Thank you all for a really lovely treat.

*CHRISTINE ASHBY*

# Barts Guild Calendar 2019



## Barts Guild Calendar 2019

*Barts and the Arts*



Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911

PATRON: HRH THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER KG GCVO

## Barts and the Arts Calendar 2019

This year's Guild Calendar continues our partnership with Vital Arts, who make an invaluable contribution both to the patient environment at Barts, and to the working environment for staff. This year's images are again by artists whose work is currently on display at Barts. Thank you for supporting the 2019 Barts Guild Calendar!

January



February



March



April



May



June



July



August



September



October



November



December



Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital  
since 1911



Supported by  
**VITALARTS**

[www.bartsguild.org.uk](http://www.bartsguild.org.uk)

Once again, we have teamed up with Vital Arts for next year's Guild Calendar, with the images by artists whose work is currently on display at Barts. Vital Arts makes an invaluable contribution to the patient environment and the working environment at the Hospital.

The 2019 calendar is available from the Guild Shop or online at £6 per copy.

[bartsguild.org.uk/product/guild-calendar-2019](http://bartsguild.org.uk/product/guild-calendar-2019)



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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 10 November**

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW

Come and join us on the march in the City

Contact: [wendy.mead@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:wendy.mead@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

**Tuesday 4 December**

A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

The Great Hall at Barts, 7 for 7.30pm

**Thursday 6 December**

VOLUNTEERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

Watch out for your invitation!

Save the date!