



Barts Guild News

ISSUE 16

NOVEMBER 2020

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge met Barts staff in the Princess Alice Garden during a visit to mark the launch of the *Hold Still* community exhibition

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have paid tribute to NHS workers in a special visit to Barts to mark the launch of the UK-wide *Hold Still* community exhibition.

Launched by The Duchess of Cambridge in May, in collaboration with the National Portrait Gallery, *Hold Still* invited people of all ages from across the UK to submit a photographic portrait which they had taken during lockdown. The project aimed to capture and document the spirit, hopes, fears and feelings of the nation as we continued to deal with the coronavirus outbreak.

The Royal couple met Joyce Duah, a keen amateur photographer and specialist oncology pharmacist, whose portrait 'All In This Together' (see page two) was chosen as one of 100 portraits selected from over 31,000 submissions to feature in the *Hold Still* digital exhibition which was launched in September.

The picture was taken in May during Joyce's lunch break and features pharmacy technicians Amelia Chowdhury and Dipal Samuel who were redeployed to intensive care at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Amelia and Dipal joined their friend and colleague, Joyce, in the Princess Alice Garden to meet The Duke and Duchess.

The final 100 images featured in the *Hold Still* digital exhibition present a unique record of



*The Duke and Duchess meet Joyce Duah.
Photograph courtesy of Kensington Palace*

our shared and individual experiences during this extraordinary period of history, conveying humour and grief, creativity and kindness, tragedy and hope. They were selected by a judging panel comprising The Duchess of Cambridge, Nicholas Cullinan, director of the National Portrait Gallery, poet Lemn Sissay, Ruth May, chief nursing officer for England and photographer Maryam Wahid.

The portraits have now gone on display in 80 towns, cities and areas across the UK, bringing the stories of individuals and families during lockdown back to their communities. Joyce's picture features in a number of locations around the capital, including in Croydon and Mitcham.

Continued on page two.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge met Barts staff... cont.

Speaking about her image, Joyce said: “Amelia and Dipal have been working hard as pharmacy technicians, delivering vital medication multiple times a day to ICU.

“I've watched them with such admiration for what they are doing and more importantly their positive attitudes. They spend their precious lunch breaks encouraging each other with humour and I think they are so brave. I decided I wanted to use my photography skills to document some of their journey. I'm so proud of the team and all they do and it's been a privilege to capture their journey during this historic time.

“One of their practices is to write their names on their gowns so that colleagues are able to recognise each other under their PPE and to help the patients who are conscious to feel closer to their carers.”

Their Royal Highnesses' visit coincided with Pharmacy Technician Day, an annual celebration of pharmacy staff working on the frontline.

During their visit to Britain's oldest hospital, William and Kate also met with head of pharmacy Sotiris Antoniou, medical oncology registrar Dr Myria Galazi and respiratory physio



*“All In This Together”
Photograph: Joyce Duah*

Isobel Fale, all of whom have played a key role in the NHS response to the outbreak.

At the end of their visit, The Duke and Duchess met with hospital staff gathered in the hospital square to thank them for their efforts throughout the pandemic. Prince William told the mask-wearing onlookers: "Thank you for your incredible efforts over the past few months."

To find out more about the *Hold Still* exhibition, visit the National Portrait Gallery website:

www.npg.org.uk/hold-still/

Barts and all NHS staff are the Pride of Britain



The winners of the Pride of Britain Awards, sponsored by the Daily Mirror in partnership with TSB, were announced on Sunday 1 November and this story appeared in the Mirror on Monday 2 November.

‘The awards could only climax by celebrating one group of workers who, throughout 2020, went way beyond the call of duty – our NHS staff. The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge gave a Special Recognition award to six staff, praising their “tremendous dedication and sacrifice”.

Helder Ladim, Charlotte Carmichael, Keisha Mills, Martha Sarpong, Dr Simon Finney and Marion Jones, of London's St Barts Hospital, received the award on behalf of all NHS workers. William spoke for the nation when he told them: “You worked tirelessly with humility and compassion, in the most challenging of circumstances”.’

Guild Chairman's Christmas message

Christmas. What does it mean to you? A fruitcake that defies global warming? A chance to put your feet up? A cheeky cigar?

This year Christmas is, for once, released from the trivial, and pointed towards a deeper meaning. At times of anxiety and disruption, we need it to be more than a contactless transaction. The Guild's many volunteers represent all belief systems, secular as well as religious. So, what is it about Christmas that we can all find comfort in?

It's giving, of course. Not buying. Giving. Whether the giving is about God or not, it's giving that lies at the heart of Christmas. And it's also what lies at the heart of the Guild. Unlike some larger charities that have opted for a more 'corporate' feel, employing legions of professionals, and behaving just like any other business, the Guild retains its original, voluntary character.

We are all volunteers. Sometimes – and I include myself most firmly in this – our contributions are not quite as flawless as they might be if the work was done by expensive consultants. But that is what *amateur*, in its best sense, means.

The love with which the gift is made is what counts, and if there is a “t” left accidentally uncrossed, or an “i” undotted, we all understand, and are grateful.

There's a moment at the point of giving when the thing we give becomes a bridge, a point of connection, the glue knitting us all together. Without giving, there would be no “us”, only “I”.

So, pass it on, as Hector says in *The History Boys*. Pass it on.

IAN McDOWELL

A nice change from rainbows



The Cornish are famous knitters and these bears, beautifully crafted by a local lady, were spotted in the window of Charlie's Cafe in Tintagel.

Photograph: BOB COOPER

Did you know?

Professor Anthony Clare, whose popular Radio 4 series, 'In the Psychiatrist's Chair', has now been made available to listen to again by the BBC, was Head of the Department of Psychological Medicine at Barts from 1983 to 1988?

Professor Clare (1942 – 2007), originally from Dublin, conducted over 60 in-depth interviews with prominent people from different walks of life for the programme between 1982 and 2001.

GS

Available via BBC Sounds or online:

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b039dks7

A virtual AGM

Due to the risks presented by Covid-19 it was impossible to hold the AGM in the Great Hall. Zoom proved to be the solution and the management committee and members joined the meeting online. Further proof if any were needed that the Guild can rise to any challenge.

Here is a brief summary of the proceedings:

Guild President Ann Wickham gave a most encouraging address. Ann reminded us that every organisation needs commitment, communication and continuity. She added a fourth necessary quality: the ability to recognise and overcome challenges and a virtual AGM exemplified the Guild's ability to do this.

Quoting W B Yeats's epigraph 'In dreams begins responsibility', Ann said: "The dreams of our founders have always remained our responsibility throughout the last 109 years and we continue to care for Barts patients, staff and students as long as it is in our power."

Treasurer Keith Bottomley (who begins his second three-year term on the Management Committee) took us through the Accounts, noting the very good health of the Guild's finances even though the current year of 2020/21 would inevitably see a significant drop in shop income.

Ian McDowell was elected (sole) Chairman, Chris Hayward, a current Sheriff of London, elected Vice Chairman and Lesley Evans re-elected as Hon Secretary, all for the forthcoming year. Neil Ritson and Jenny Jeyarajah (former Hon Secretary) were also elected and James Ballinger, Chris Hayes, Adrian Stirrup, Hilary Tarr begin their second three-year term on the Management Committee.

The Chairman pointed to the themes outlined in his Letter in the Annual Report, praised the



*An AGM from good times past
Photograph: BOB COOPER*

Guild's work and outstanding volunteering especially in the recent difficult times. He said, personally, he saw resemblances between the Guild's bringing together of continuous and essential purposes and Einstein's 'space-time continuum', the theory that the past, present and future are all present. He added: "The past may be another country but, mysteriously, past and future are as present to us as we are to each other."

The generous address of Mrs Hilary Russell, Lady Mayoress, noted the achievements cited in the Annual Report and particularly the Guild's reach and grasp: the great number of patients, staff and visitors served by its shop services and the very large number of volunteer hours contributed.

Will Palin, CEO of Barts Heritage, gave a fascinating talk about the Hospital's historic North Wing, accompanied by images and further stimulated by questioning from Ian McDowell, and the plans and hopes for its refurbishment and development.

We hope very much to return to a face-to-face AGM next year but, for this autumn moment, our 2020 AGM was well presented.

Celebrating the Guild's Hospital Volunteers

Founder's Day Sponsored Walk

The Guild's hospital volunteers are part of a story of selfless giving going back to 1911 and beyond. At the time of its foundation the Guild aimed to help the many Barts patients living in extreme poverty and in 2020 met the challenge of keeping Guild services running during the Covid-19 pandemic – all made possible by our superb volunteers. Long dresses and big hats may have given way to unisex tabards and polo shirts. But the Spirit of 1911 lives on!

On 21 June 2021 the Guild will be marking its Founder's Day for the very first time by holding a sponsored walk from 98 Gloucester Place, former London home of Sir Norman and Milicent Moore, to the site of the Guild's first ever Committee Meeting at 34 Harley Street.

It's only a twenty-minute walk, so we hope as many of you as possible will be able to be there. If you are unable to join in on the day but would like to help in the fundraising effort, why not follow in the footsteps of the wonderful Captain Sir Tom Moore and take a sponsored walk around your garden or local park. Please put the date in your diary now.

Please invite your friends and family to sponsor you. It's simple to do this online through the Guild's Virgin Money Giving page. Go to <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/>, then type in The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew and the link for our charity will appear. Click on that and you can set up your own fundraising page. Send the link to your friends and family to enable them to give online.



If you prefer, you can collect the sponsorship money and send a cheque payable to Barts Guild marking the envelope 'Founder's Day Walk'.

Let's celebrate our volunteers by raising funds to enable the Guild to continue to be a good friend to Barts whatever challenges the future may hold.

IAN McDOWELL, Chairman



A novel Celebration of Christmas

A Celebration of Christmas has been for many years the Guild's welcome to the festive season. The prospects for a public concert looked grim and, sadly, it appeared that the event would be yet another victim of Covid-19. However, this sad prediction did not take into account the youthful energy and ingenuity of The Barts and The London Music Society.

When I asked if they thought an online concert might be possible, they told me that they were already working on a plan for one. This year's concert will be a mixture of gems recorded at past Celebrations of Christmas and new numbers now being recorded.

Meera Mahesh and Emily Taylor, the Society's Co-Presidents said: "The Barts and The London Music Society consists of medicine and dental students who are passionate about music. We have thoroughly enjoyed performing for the Guild at Christmas, raising funds for the important work that you do, with this year being no exception. This year, we are creating an online performance showcasing not only the current talent of our society but also previous



performances over the last few years. We hope you enjoy watching our performance from the comfort of your sofas!"

The concert will be available on the Society's YouTube channel from 8 December.

You may enjoy the concert free of charge but we would appreciate donations.

To donate online using a credit or debit card, please use the Guild's Virgin Money Giving page.

Continued on page seven.

www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLwzVf5Dh0-Kdgetld_3ow

A screenshot of the YouTube channel page for Barts and The London Music Society. The page shows the channel name, 33 subscribers, and a 'SUBSCRIBE' button. Below the channel information, there is a section for 'Uploads' with a 'PLAY ALL' button. Five video thumbnails are displayed, each with a title, duration, and view count. The videos are: 'BL Music - Hark! the Herald' (3:22, 13 views), 'BL Music - O Come All ye Faithful' (3:12, 8 views), 'BL Music - God rest ye Merry Gentlemen' (2:49, 12 views), 'BL Music - 12 Days of Christmas' (4:08, 4 views), and 'Chorda Equina - For the Longest Time' (3:44, 15 views).

A novel Celebration of Christmas cont.



<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/> and then type in The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew and as you start to type in the link for our charity will appear. Click on that and you can then set up your fundraising page. Once you have set it up you can simply send the link to your page to your friends and family. With, of course, the link for the concert.

You can also donate by sending a cheque payable to Barts Guild to the office. Please mark your envelope 'Concert'.

Please share this information with all your social media contacts so that this Christmas we can have the biggest audience ever.

Of course, it won't be the same. No socialising with friends over a glass of wine and admiring the Great Hall's Christmas tree but, on the plus side, we can share the event with members who live too far away to attend in normal circumstances and enjoy the concert again and again on YouTube. So, get comfy on the sofa, break out the mince pies, pour yourself a drink and toast the Guild and our wonderful supporters The Barts and The London Music Society.

JAN O'NEILL

Photographs of Christmases past: BOB COOPER

uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/finalCharityHomepage.action?charityId=1005706

MONEY GIVING Make a donation Fundraise For charities Sign in

The Guild Of The Royal Hospital Of St Bartholomew

Homepage

The Guild is a charity that supports patients and staff at Britain's oldest hospital. The Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew is at the heart of all the Guilds activities. Our dedicated volunteers provide a trolley service to the wards supplying patients with newspapers, sweets and toiletries. Volunteers also run a general shop for the benefits of patients, visitors and staff. The Guild also gives financial help to provide equipment and facilities for patients and staff.

Charity details

Support us

If you'd like to support The Guild Of The Royal Hospital Of St Bartholomew just click the links below:

- Start fundraising
- Make a donation
- Make a monthly donation
- Donate your stuff

Guild grant aids stressed staff

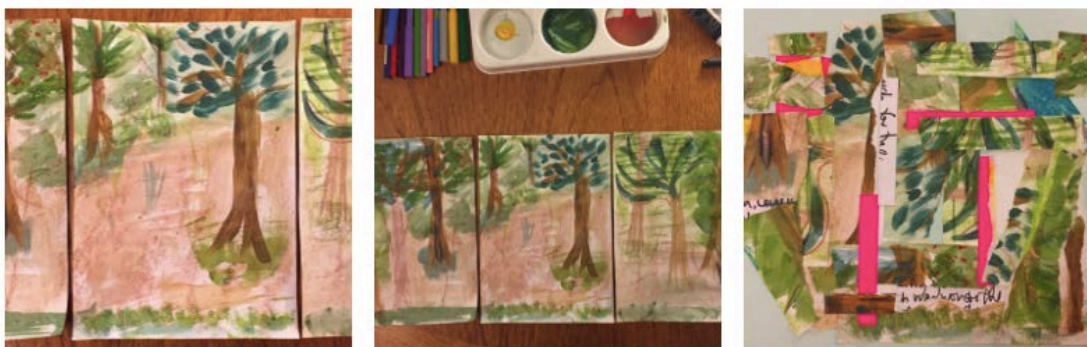


The Covid-19 pandemic continues to put hospital staff under extreme pressure. During the first wave of infections the Guild agreed co-funding for an Art Therapy project to help Barts staff cope with stress.

The project – Coping though Connection and Creativity: Art and Wellbeing Online Forum – was accessed through the Barts intranet via a blog and participants could join in at work or at home at times that suited them.

Weekly themes were offered including: Create, Destroy, Transform, Caught my Eye. Participants could make art in any way that they wished including quick artworks made from everyday objects. They could share their art with each other through the blog.

Continued on page nine.



'Create, Destroy, Transform'
Psychologist, Heart Centre

Guild grant aids stressed staff cont.



'Noticing Nature (up close)'

Cancer Nurse Specialist, using magnifier on her phone

Megan Tjasink, Lead Art Therapist, Cancer Psychological Services, thanked the Guild for our help towards this very successful project and shared the comments of some of the participants:

“First off, I would like to thank all the people behind the art therapy as I personally found it very useful going through these tough times. I have been on the front line since March and until now post peak of the pandemic. I felt trapped wearing PPEs, but relieved with doing creative works.” - ITU nurse, May 2020

“I’ve really, really enjoyed it and found it an incredibly helpful tool to decompress during the pandemic and more broadly with medicine in general.” - ITU doctor, August 2020

“I have found the initiative very helpful during a very stressful and uncertain time. The weekly themes and group have given a chance to focus and have been hugely beneficial.” - Cancer nurse, August 2020

An exhibition of the art created during the project will be held in the Great Hall from 20 November. Be sure to visit if you are at the hospital.



'Plants and Flowers'

Neuro-oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist

Christmas gifts made simple

Christmas will be celebrated this year despite lockdowns but it will be different. Presents may come in the post rather than from under the tree but a thoughtful gift will be truly appreciated in these strange times.

If you can't shop in the usual way the Guild's online souvenir store, which has recently re-opened, can help, writes Guild Shop Manager Andy Haddon.

Let's start with Christmas cards. There are eight attractive designs to choose from, four shown below, available in packs of ten cards and envelopes at £3.50 per pack. Cards measure 125mm x 125mm.



Barts Guild Calendar 2021

Struggle and Celebration



Friends of St Bartholomew's Hospital since 1911

PATRON: HERI THE DUKE OF GLoucester KG GVO



The Guild 2021 calendar makes a great gift at £6 and, with its striking cover photograph of Nurse, later Sister, Mazie Calcutt, is proving very popular.

This year's theme is 'Struggle and Celebration' and the calendar's attractive images are drawn from across the last century showing the great hospital at work in times of celebration and in times of trial, right up to the present day when our Volunteers are working at Barts throughout the Covid-19 crisis. Each image is accompanied by an informative and witty caption.

The cards and calendar can be purchased via the Guild's online shop or directly from the Guild Shop in the King George V building if you happen to be in the hospital.

www.bartsguild.org.uk/souvenir-store/

Christmas gifts made simple cont.

You'll also find lots of other gifts to take your fancy, including our best-selling sweatshirts at £17.50. Or how about a natty tie embellished with the Guild logo at £9 or a handsome pocket watch at £25? Books always make great gifts and the online store has a fine selection priced from £9.99. If you need some small gifts as stocking fillers the store can offer pens, lapel badges or perhaps a Guild travel mug at £5 – just the thing for coffee on the go or keeping your tea warm while you work at home. There really is something to please everyone.

Please note – during the November lockdown, the online shop is only open for sales of Christmas cards and calendars. It is intended that the full range of merchandise will be available once lockdown is lifted, hopefully in early December. Please check online at the above address in early December, and as soon as the online shop is fully open, we will welcome your orders and endeavour to fulfil them as soon as possible.

ANDY HADDON, Shop Manager

Volunteer Voice: Update on Guild Volunteers



Guild Volunteer Helen in the Shop

The Guild Shop has recently welcomed back more volunteers during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. Unfortunately, with the new lockdown which started on 5 November, numbers will be reduced again. However, we still have some wonderful regulars helping to keep the shop open 08:00 - 15:00 Monday to Friday and we hope to see a few more return when it feels safe to them individually to do so.

Sadly, our trolley service remains suspended due to infection control requirements. However, we're busy planning a potential alternative that would allow ward-based patients to order items online and have them delivered via safe drop off points and ward staff. A risk assessment and permissions are required from the Trust before we can proceed, but we're keeping our fingers crossed.

ANDY HADDON

Medieval medicine – myth or magic

Sandra Gann, a former Lady Almoner at Barts, now researches the history of monastic medicine. Her recipe for analgesic cream should make us profoundly grateful for paracetamol.



Herbs and plants had an important contribution to medieval medicine. People in the community would seek advice from the healer-monks found in the early hospitals attached to monasteries who offered care for the poor, needy and travellers. The physic gardens attached to every monastery provided ingredients for remedies. Almanacs showed every plant and their medicinal benefits. It does seem that many help every condition, e.g. Thyme aids chills and lethargy, lifts spirits, relieves spasms and flatulence, stimulates appetite, acts as a diuretic and antiseptic. It is good for urine infections and for worms. It can be used as an ointment to ease joint pains, also as a gargle and mouthwash or cough remedy.

There were early hospitals recorded in Europe, e.g. a famous one in the 12th century in Salerno Italy, but physicians were few and far between and too expensive for ordinary people to consult. A common custom would be to turn to someone in the community who had built up knowledge and skills in healing. These were known as 'cunning folk' or 'wise women' (most but not all were women) who were active from the early medieval period up to the 20th century. They would use a mixture of traditional remedies from herbs and plants and 'folk magic' which we would call superstitions. Advice would be given to recite phrases at certain times of the moon cycle in certain places like the Holy Wells noted on maps, which are also linked to the idea of divine healing.

Sometimes patients were advised to use a 'lucky charm', e.g. a rabbit's paw whilst following the ritual. These practices contributed to many of these women being regarded as white or benign witches; however, by the 16th century they were regarded as evil and this led to the witch trials and fatal punishments.

Continued on page thirteen.

Medieval medicine – myth or magic cont.

Here is a medieval recipe for an ointment to cure headaches and pains in the joints. This is reputed to be passed down by Morgan Le Fay but she was a figure in Arthurian legends so she may be a myth but the recipe is real.

“ *Take equal amounts of radish, bishopwort, garlic, wormwood, helenium, cropleek and hollowleek.
Pound them up and boil in butter with celandine and red nettle.
Keep the mixture in a brass pot until it is a dark red colour.
Strain through a cloth and smear on the forehead or aching joints.* ”

Doctors and professional healers would also prescribe potions to be made up from plants and spices which had been brought over after the Crusades from the Middle East. The role of the Apothecary was to prepare the mixtures prescribed by the doctors, but eventually the Apothecaries became known as knowledgeable themselves and a source of help and certainly cheaper than Doctors so their advice was often sought.

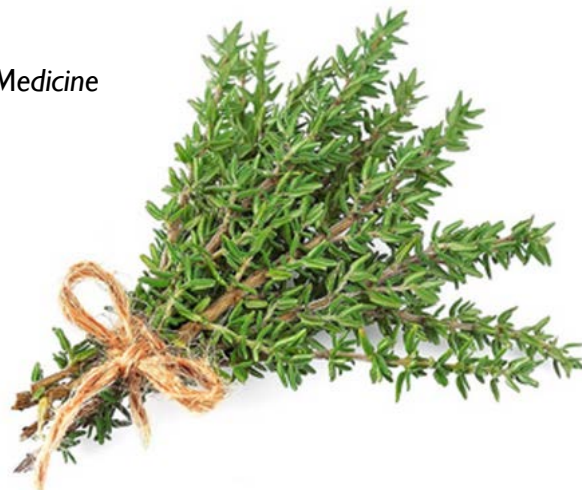
Astrology was an important tool in diagnosis for both professional and non-professional healers. It was believed that the movements of the stars and planets influenced the inner workings of the human body. Doctors often carried around astrological charts to establish the astrological position of both the parts of the body affected and the time and place of the illness as an aid to diagnosis and treatment. By the end of the 1500s physicians across Europe were required by law to calculate the position of the moon before carrying out complicated medical procedures such as surgery and even bleeding.

At the same time the alchemists searched for ‘The Philosopher’s Stone’ in the belief that unravelling ancient Egyptian and Arabic texts would enable us to turn base metals into gold and that this would lead to the elixir of life and ultimate health.

Meanwhile, the cunning folk offered remedies which were accessible to everyone. Often these worked – we still use plants in medicine today albeit with synthetic modifications. The ‘placebo effect’ also played a part. However, if they did not work then it would be put down to the stars in the wrong place or the rituals not carried out properly so reputations were not tarnished!

SANDRA GANN

Sources – many and various, including:
Guild of Apothecaries - various courses on History of Medicine
Charmers, Enchanters & Witches - Dr Jo Bath
Secrets of Alchemy - L Principe
Medieval Herbal Remedies - A Van Arsdall



Barts new Hospitaller

The Reverend Jonathan Livingstone joined the clergy team of St Bartholomew the Great and St Bartholomew the Less in August. His focus will be on Barts the Less and Chaplaincy to the hospital community. We welcome him and trust that he will not be obliged, as the Hospitallers in Henry VIII's days were, to supplement his income by setting bones and dealing with dislocated joints.

The Reverend Jonathan Livingstone was ordained in the United Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway in October 2017. He served his curacy in South Lanarkshire at the linked charges of St Mary-the-Virgin, Hamilton and St Andrew's, Uddingston, and was appointed Interim Priest-in-Charge of the same in spring 2019.

Born in Edinburgh, he was raised partly in the Scottish Borders town of Peebles and partly in Perthshire, before reading Theological Studies at the University of St Andrews. After graduating, Jonathan began a career in retail, joining the management team at Harvey Nichols, Edinburgh, where he worked in various sales and operational roles throughout the business. During this time, Jonathan was a member and altar server at Old Saint Paul's Episcopal Church where his love of Anglo-Catholic worship was born.

Of his future role as Hospitaller at Great St Bartholomew's Priory Church, Barts the Less and Barts Hospital, Jonathan comments:



"I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the team and very much look forward to exercising my priesthood serving both congregations and the hospital.

"It is a privilege to be taking on this multifaceted role in such a historic and beautiful place of worship and service in the heart of the City. I was captivated by London on my first visit aged 13 and now look forward to getting to know it and making it my home. I pray that the years ahead will be fruitful and joyous for us all as I get to know you and we work and grow together."

REVD JONATHAN LIVINGSTONE

Sir John Chalstrey 1931 – 2020

We are sorry to inform readers of the death of Sir John Chalstrey.

After reading Natural Sciences at Queen's College Cambridge he studied at St Bartholomew's Medical College. As a consultant surgeon at Barts, Sir John specialised in the treatment of oesophageal and gastric cancers.

Sir John had the rare distinction of being master of two livery companies – the Society of Apothecaries and the Company of Barbers.

He became Alderman of Farringdon Ward and Sheriff of the City of London. In 1995 he became the first surgeon to be elected Lord Mayor of London and was knighted during his mayoralty.

Sir John is survived by his wife Aileen, daughter Susan, who is an ENT surgeon, and his son Jonathan, who works in learning development and to whom we offer our condolences.

A memorial service is being planned when circumstances allow.

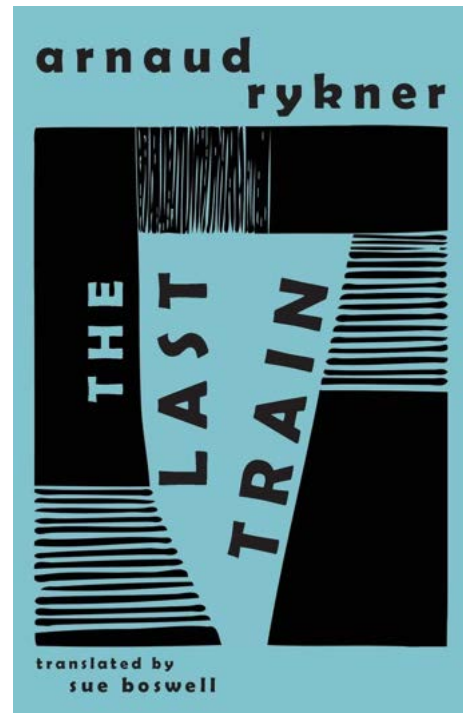
Tribulations of a translator

Sue Boswell's latest translation into English of a novel by a French writer, Arnaud Rykner, has just been published. BGN wondered what pitfalls lay in the path of a translator in bringing another writer's work to life in English and here are Sue's thoughts on the experience.

As Hon Secretary of the Guild my work was very much what I had been doing as a university administrator for the past 40 years or so ... So it was funny to find myself setting off in a new direction as a translator a couple of years ago, though I had worked as a volunteer on translations of eye-witness accounts for the Wiener Holocaust Library since 2011.

Your Editor asked me about the tribulations of a translator, and there are certainly some of those, though I have to say that in general I find the work both stimulating and enjoyable – I have been lucky to find (with the help of various friends!) a publisher in the USA who is keen for me to take on more work. And what is more, my husband Colin has now been drawn into this new career, and we find it fun to work together on some texts. As for the tribulations ... well, an obvious one is what to do about words used in earlier times which are no longer acceptable today. My publisher was not happy with 'redskins' for 'peaux-rouges' even though the original in question was written in the early 20th century. And I always wrestle with the current trend of calling all WW2 Germans Nazis! Although that is less in the translation than in the editing context.

I suppose the question of anachronisms is always lurking there to trip up the translator – your audience is often very different from that of the original writer. Some words in the original may have fallen out of use. Does one find a similarly



archaic English equivalent or try to update it? Or add an explanatory footnote?

In addition, French writing can be rather abstract and seem overblown to English ears, so often the translator needs to find an equivalent effect rather than a literal translation. Above all, I try to give the impression that my translation is a piece of original written English, and to avoid the awkwardness of literal word-for-word translationese. Tribulations maybe, but all that is part of the challenge – and the fun!

SUE BOSWELL

Sue describes 'The Last Train' as a "harrowing short novel that is based on a true event of July 1944 when the last train of deportees left Compiègne for Dachau crowded with 2,000 men, of whom over 500 died on the journey; it is at once a chronicle of a true hell, and a compelling meditation on survival by a relative of one of those on board."

'The Last Train' is available to buy on Amazon – don't forget to use your Amazon Smile account and help the Guild – and from your local bookshop, £11.50 rrp.

We must keep on protecting each other.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES



In these difficult times, we wish everyone the best possible Christmas and trust that 2021 will bring health, happiness and joy.



Barts Guild

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Facebook: facebook.com/BartsHospitalGuild

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 8 December 2020 (from)
A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS
Online via YouTube – link on page 6
Donations welcome!

Monday 21 June 2021
FOUNDER'S DAY SPONSORED WALK
Information to follow...

Thursday 28 October 2021
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Great Hall at Barts (hopefully)
Save the date!

BARTS GUILD NEWS

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