

Barts Guild News

ISSUE 17

MAY 2021

A new tradition – the first Founders' Day Walk

At a Committee Meeting held at 34 Harley Sheet n June 2? . Me homa more in the chair & me Bowth, me Bruce Clarke Me Griffith . Me Jost

Due to social distancing rules, the Guild is unable to celebrate its 110th birthday in the manner our centenary was commemorated (see page 7), but as Chairman Ian McDowell explains, the milestone will be marked with the first Founders' Day Walk.

On 2nd June 1911, nine months before the Titanic went down, and three years before the outbreak of the "war to end all wars", five remarkable women met in the first floor drawing room at 34 Harley Street. In the chair was perhaps the most remarkable woman of them all, Milicent (strictly with one 'L') Moore, who, amongst many other things, was second wife of a distinguished Barts physician.

We don't know what Milicent's four friends, who were also wives of Barts physicians, were expecting, but they may have got more than they bargained for. Milicent dished out the work with the effortless authority of a latter-day Captain Kirk.

The fair copy minute of the meeting is dated 12th July, which, as well as being the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, was the day on which *The Times* reported the British Medical Association's opposition to the health provisions in Liberal Prime Minister H. H. Asquith's National Insurance Act. As a dedicated supporter of the less fortunate, this is not something that Milicent would have found amusing.

Milicent walked to the Harley Street meeting from her own house in Gloucester Place, not far from Baker Street station, to which had only just been added the cutting-edge electrically driven cars of the Bakerloo line. Horse-driven hansom cabs still plied the local streets.

In commemoration of these magnificent women, we intend to repeat Milicent's walk from Gloucester Place (which still exists in its 1911 form) to Harley Street, where we will heartily toast them at a local pub.

Continued on page two.

A new tradition - the first Founders' Day Walk cont.

We will meet at 11am on 2nd June 2021 (110 years to the day since that first committee meeting) at the Boots branch outside Baker Street Underground Station.

If you intend to join us, please give your details to Lesley Evans, our Honorary Secretary, and if you would like to seek sponsorship for the walk, please give any monies received to Lesley on the day.

> IAN McDOWELL Chairman

Events in the 1910s

1910

E M Forster's Howards End was published. The novel is about the possibility of love between a family who believed in helping the less fortunate and one that doesn't.

1911

National Insurance Act

The Liberal government's plan to provide industrial workers with affordable health care and sick pay. The insurance was paid for by contributions from the workers, their employers and the state. The Act also made provision for free treatment for tuberculosis.

1912

The Titanic sunk. 1,500 of the 2,200 passengers and crew perished.

1913

Pygmalion, Bernard Shaw's social comedy about the difficulties of helping the less fortunate, was first performed at the Hofburg Theatre, Vienna on 13th October.

1914

World War I – the 'Great War' – began.

1917-1919

The NIHI (Spanish 'flu) pandemic killed 50 million people worldwide in three waves.



Did you know?

That the originator of Gee's Linctus was a Barts physician?

Samuel Gee (1839-1911) was first an assistant physician at Barts, and then a demonstrator in morbid anatomy before becoming a lecturer in pathological anatomy, retiring as consulting physician in 1904.

For the final three years he was also physician to the Prince of Wales. His famous linctus is a cough suppressant containing opium tincture.

GS



Guild Shop and Trolley Service: March 2020 - May 2021

The Guild Shop has remained open throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, supported by a core group of marvellous volunteers. Although wider volunteer availability has understandably been affected, the shop has been open 08:00 - 15:00 virtually every weekday during this past year.

Customer footfall and sales have taken a hit. down approximately 50% in both cases on the previous year. Sadly, it has also not been possible to offer our trolley service since March 2020. However, we're hoping this may change at some point later in 2021, infection control permitting.

Morale in the shop has been strong, and it's clear that our services, and our availability for a bit of pastoral care and conversation, have been hugely valued.

We've also been providing a discount, currently 10%, on food and drink for NHS ID card holders, throughout the pandemic. This has been much appreciated and the reduction in revenue has been more than made up by the increased goodwill towards the Guild.

Our knitting donors have somehow managed to keep us supplied and our souvenir sweatshirts and hoodies continue to be very popular. Sales of donated goods have contributed steadily to revenue, enabling the shop to tick over awaiting better times.



Special thanks must go to Mandy Handley for supplying so many items for our donation shelves and for co-ordinating the attractive displays that keep bringing back regular customers in search of a bargain.

As Covid-19 restrictions continue to ease, we're looking forwards and eagerly anticipating the return of a sense of greater normality. Hopefully, this will include the return of the hospital visitors whose presence will make a big difference to the shop, and to supporting discussions regarding the possibility of restarting trolley services.

> ANDY HADDON Shop Manager



Valeria, Jilly and Mandy serving in the shop



Souvenir Store

RE-OPENING ONLINE SOON!

The Guild's lockdown Christmas

Although our celebrations were hampered by the pandemic the Guild can rise to any challenge and the season was duly honoured in unusual ways.

A Celebration of Christmas could not be enjoyed in the Great Hall but the Barts and The London Music Society produced a very special online concert featuring a Zoom Choir, instrumental numbers, solo singers and, of course, readings from Guild 'guest artists' lan and Jan. Recordings were made on B&TLS members' iPads and phones and expertly laced together.

Just after Christmas the concert had achieved 247 views on YouTube. If households gathered together to enjoy the concert a Celebration of Christmas entertained many more concert goers than could have been accommodated in the Great Hall.

Our grateful thanks to the Barts and The London Music Society and also to Will Palin of Barts Heritage and Great Hall staff who facilitated recordings that were made on site.

Christmas gifts and grants – sadly the traditional distribution of Guild gifts to inpatients and the Christmas morning trolley round were not allowed.

Instead, the Guild gave a donation to the Barts Charity Christmas appeal which provided gifts for patients in 23 wards. The Guild funded gifts for Radiotherapy patients attending clinics on Christmas Eve.

To make Christmas a little more cheerful for patients and staff the Guild funded the Christmas tree in the atrium and paid for new, permanent, lighting in the Square.



A small grant was made to Barts Heart Centre and Respiratory Physiotherapists for a Christmas team building event.

The online shop was kept busy during the Christmas shopping period with Christmas cards in especially high demand. As many patients had online appointments and visitors were banned there were fewer people around but, thanks to Andy Haddon and our wonderful volunteers, the shop remained open throughout the year and this service was much appreciated by patients and hard-pressed staff.

Christmas 2021 we hope, will be back to normal with a party for volunteers, presents for patients, a live concert and a busy shop. Let's keep our fingers crossed for that.

JAN O'NEILL

Our colleague and friend Lorna Glace was a dedicated Guild volunteer, very much one of our own.

Lorna will be much missed by everyone who knew her, so here are some images to remind us of happier times. Lorna's obituary appears on pages 12-13.



Photographs: Bob COOPER, Lesley LAWSON

Friends of Barts Heritage



Did you know?

That the Memorial to Wat Tyler on the Barts' wall facing Smithfield was unveiled in July 2015 by film-maker Ken Loach?

Tyler was the leader of the Peasants' Revolt in 1381, when thousands of rebels, inspired by the radical cleric John Ball, marched on London from Kent to protest at a new poll tax, amongst other things.

During a confrontation with the young King Richard II at Smithfield Tyler was fatally stabbed by the Mayor of London, William Walworth, and a royal squire, and then beheaded. His head was displayed on London Bridge.

GS

We're delighted to announce that the Friends of Barts Heritage are making their Newsletter available to Guild members.

To enjoy the latest beautifully illustrated edition with news of their activities and forthcoming events in support of Barts Heritage simply click on the link below or type it into your browser if you are reading a print version of BGN.

https://mailchi.mp/29f55b08b20b/friends-of-barts-heritage-april-2021?e=6cb64a6253

Barts Heritage is a charity formed in partnership with Barts Health NHS Trust to repair and renovate the Grade I listed North Wing and Henry VIII Gatehouse at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

The North Wing houses two of England's most important interiors, the Great Hall, and the Hogarth Stair with its massive paintings by William Hogarth, together with the historic Hospital archives and an extensive collection of art.

These interiors and collections represent the historic heart of the Hospital and reflect 900 years of history.

Working closely with Barts Health NHS Trust (and its supporter body Barts Charity), Barts Heritage has planned a comprehensive restoration project which will open up the buildings for a range of uses as part of the 900th anniversary celebrations in 2023.

The charity's shared vision is to bring the buildings back to life as a place of discovery and delight for visitors and to provide facilities to promote the health and wellbeing of hospital staff.

For more information and to donate, visit:

www.bartsheritage.org.uk

Looking back to the Guild's centenary

Two years from now Barts Hospital will celebrate its 900th anniversary, an astonishing longevity. For the past 112 years of that time the Guild of Barts Hospital will have been its close helpmate. A decade ago the Guild marked its own centenary by arranging notable events during 2011-12, as well as publishing the Guild's History. The centenary programme owed much to its marshalling by a band of long-term very committed volunteers and an industrious new intake from the immediate years preceding the centenary. The events encompassed the following.

Centenary Fair in Barts Great Hall in May 2011. The Fair included 14 external commercial stallholders and 4 internal Guild stalls. Our book-signing author was the acclaimed biographer and writer Sir Michael Holroyd CBE. The Fair was opened by Sir David Brewer KG CMG CVO, HM Lord Lieutenant of Greater London.

Centenary Thanksgiving Service in Barts the Less Church in October 2011. The Lady Mayoress attended.

Christmas Concert in the Great Hall in December 2011, featuring The Covent Garden Singers.

Centenary Reception in the Guildhall in February 2012. This was hosted by the Lord Mayor Locum Tenens, Sir Robert Finch, and the City of London Corporation. Our Patron HRH The Duke of Gloucester and our President Mrs Ann Wickham gave speeches.

Centenary Concert in the City Temple Church, Holborn, in October 2012. The attendance was about 400. The orchestra and choir were the Trafalgar Sinfonia & Barts Chamber Choir and the compere Henry Kelly. The Concert was preceded by a reception hosted by Saunderson House Ltd.

Christmas Fair in the Great Hall in December 2012 – for a range of Barts' related charities and



Centenary Fair, May 2011

organised by the Guild, particularly by our Shop Manager and the Barts Volunteer Co-ordinator. There were over 20 stallholders including 10 directly overseen by the Guild and more than 400 visitors.

In addition, the **Centenary AGM Lunch** of October 2011 was attended by the Lord Mayor, Sir Michael Bear, as well as by the Lady Mayoress. The AGM's guest speaker was Michael Wood OBE, notable film-maker and historian.

HRH The Duke of Gloucester attended the Christmas Concert in 2011, and the Centenary Reception and Centenary Concert of 2012.

The Centenary Concert was sponsored by Saunderson House, then and afterwards a great corporate Friend of the Guild. This ensured a concert profit for the Guild of over £5,000.

The ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic are still with us. In such a time it becomes rather easy to overlook that there will be many more anniversaries to come for Barts Hospital and its Guild, that faces may change but not the mission nor the compassion. Some of the Guild's youngest student members now will play a noted part in the affairs of the Hospital and the Guild one day.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

We continue to receive modest donations from AmazonSmile so, when you order online from Amazon, please log in to Smile.

If you use Amazon Smile you are contributing 0.5% of your spend to your chosen charity at no extra cost to you.

Simply visit <u>smile.amazon.co.uk</u>, enter your usual Amazon details, and then choose your charity: '**The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew**'.

Next, continue to shop through that link rather than the general Amazon store and the Guild benefits from your purchases.





Did you know?

That Monty Python's Graham Chapman qualified as a doctor at Barts?

He arrived in 1963 for his clinical studies at Barts after reading medicine at Cambridge, where he had been a member of the Footlights Club and first started writing with John Cleese.

He continued writing and performing during his clinical studies and took a year off for a world tour with Cleese and Tim Brooke-Taylor, but did eventually qualify.

After his death from cancer in 1989 a memorial service was held for him in Barts' Great Hall attended by the other five Pythons.

GS

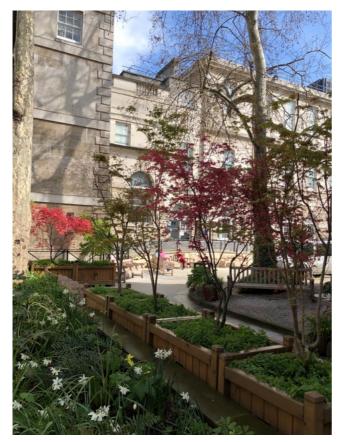
Spring arrives in the Princess Alice Garden

Now that the new plantings are well established the Princess Alice Garden is looking glorious. However, just as the bulbs were starting to push their way out of the soil large chunks of masonry fell from the gatehouse which is currently under repair.

Scaffolding and crash decks were erected but, unfortunately, the scaffolders boxed in the tubs containing the acers depriving them of light and water. The tubs have been rescued and moved to a sunny situation. They are now in leaf and looking wonderful.

For good measure John Wickham's memorial table has been encased in a sturdy box to protect it from any further damage.

I visited Barts a few weeks ago and was delighted to find the garden open and being enjoyed by staff who were eating their sandwich lunches in the sun.



Liberated acers



Imprisoned acers

The Guild's funding for the garden's revival received a welcome boost from a grant from the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association (MPGA). This charity supports public spaces from urban farms and church yards and modestly sized gardens, such as the Princess Alice, to projects to improve larger parks and community gardens.

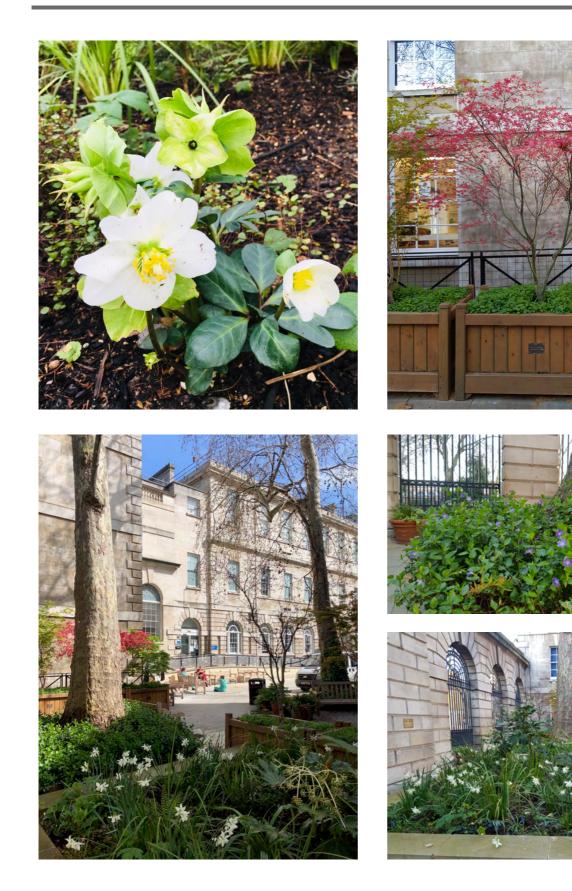
Their valuable work helps to ensure that city dwellers can enjoy the beauty of green spaces and keep London's 'green lungs' in good health. The Princess Alice Garden is featured in the MPGA's annual report for 2019 and the item is reproduced on page 11.

We are most grateful for the support that MPGA have given to the Princess Alice Garden project. To find out more about the charity visit their website: <u>www.mpga.org.uk</u>.

JAN O'NEILL

Photographs: Bob COOPER, Patrick JENNINGS, Alison KNAPP

Spring arrives in the Princess Alice Garden cont.



Spring arrives in the Princess Alice Garden cont.

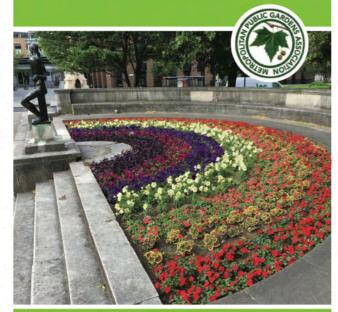
MPGA GRANTS 2019



St George's Hospital (Courtyard Clinic) LB Wandsworth

HOSPITALS

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC GARDENS ASSOCIATION



Annual Report and Accounts 2019





The Princess Alice Garden at St. Bartholomew's Guild Hospital, City of London

St. Bartholomew's Hospital The Princess Alice Garden City of London

The Princess Alice Garden at St Bartholomew's Hospital, the oldest hospital in Britain, lies in the busy heart of the City of London and has provided patients and staff with a peaceful sanctuary since it first opened in 1962. In 2019, the Barts Guild approached the MPGA to help fund a refurbishment plan for the garden developed by celebrated landscape gardener Mary Keen. We were able to make a significant grant towards replanting costs, and the refurbishment works were completed in time for the Guild's Patron, the Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, to make an official visit on 24 September, 2019.

Lorna Glace 1965 - 2021

Lorna Glace, who died in January from Covid-19 related complications, was a gracious presence around the Guild's Management Committee table. Passionately-spoken, Lorna was always busy on others' behalf, as her many friends and colleagues in charity and public service attest.

She cared about her local community in Hackney, played her part in its life, singing in a community choir, and attending a local church. Lorna's funeral service spoke volumes about the affection in which she was held by friends in a vibrant and diverse community.

Her long Civil Service career saw her dealing especially with the development of skills and expertise among public service staff. It included the prestigious editorship of a Whitehall staff magazine dedicated to issues of equality and inclusion and she brought to this both commitment and understanding.

In a sense however Lorna developed a parallel career – in Barts Hospital – in which she found much fulfilment and friendship. It was experience of her late mother's illness, of her wish to give something back for the care her mother received, that drew her to Hospital volunteering and to the Guild.

For over a decade she was a mainstay of our shop trolley service to patients in the wards. She was all patients' (and staff) friend and neighbour with the cheerful greeting, the sympathetic word, the time to give to people that needed it. She helped ensure too that, especially, her fellow weekend trolley volunteers formed a social and mutually supportive group.

Respect for her volunteering led naturally in 2015 to an invitation to join the Management Committee and to then become the Guild's financial Grants Co-ordinator. Lorna enjoyed this responsibility and was assiduous in its accomplishment.

It is a measure of the regard in which she was held within the Guild, and indeed around the



Hospital, that we shall now institute annually the **Lorna Glace Memorial Grant** so that knowledge of Lorna's contribution – and she had so much more to give – will be kept alive in years to come.

Her mother, Lorna said, came to this country as part of the 'Windrush' generation. Her mother's daughter was to become an admired volunteer in one of the world's oldest and finest hospitals. Lorna was proud of this journey and she was mindful of the importance of keeping the spirit of the Guild's inspirational founders burning brightly.

More intimately, what will linger greatly in the memory of those who knew Lorna is the ready but sometimes shy smile, her modest manner, her solicitous asking after others: Lorna coming into the room, welcome wherever she went.

Lorna is survived by her sister, Val, and her family who join the Guild's family, too, in Lorna's memory.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

I was privileged to have had the merest glimpse into what was undoubtedly an important side of Lorna's personality: a quiet, but determined, activism. Lorna not only edited a Whitehall staff e-publication dedicated to racial equality, updating the equality and diversity related sections of the electronic staff newsletter in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills; she had been an active, and no doubt influential, member of the Secretariat for the Department's Advisory Group for Racial Equality (AGRE).

In terms of the Guild, Lorna's role had recently been extended by mutual agreement to include an element of community outreach in East London aimed at recruiting Guild supporters from BME/BAME backgrounds.

Lorna and I spoke about this at some length, and both of us, I sensed, felt a certain anxiety related to the fact that is sometimes hard in UK culture, by contrast perhaps with American culture (to which we are all exposed these days through the media) to speak appropriately about such matters.

Whereas in the US there are, all too often, two outspoken sides to the racial equality debate, in UK culture there can sometimes be, by contrast, a feeling of embarrassment, of "walking on eggshells".

There are always degrees of difference, which can make it hard to talk about in a way that is anything other than subjective; but for me, Lorna's difference was often visible in the context of the Management Committee table, and not just in relation to ethnicity.

To me, Lorna seemed only just to be managing to keep all of the balls she was juggling in her life up in the air. We are all busy, but this always seemed to me to be pressure, perhaps selfimposed, of a somewhat different order.

Lorna would arrive in meetings out of breath, having clearly hurried to be with us from who knows what other pressing commitment. And so it was (from my perspective) that by being different, rather than by speaking about difference, Lorna made a difference.

In the light and shadow cast by Lorna's death, how do we seek to recognise and acknowledge this?

Discussions have taken place about having, in addition to a grant in memory of Lorna which recognises the importance of cardiac services, a grant supporting the career development of an outstanding member of Barts staff of BME/BAME heritage.

I commend this to the Guild as one way of ensuring that this important side of Lorna's personality, this quiet but determined activism, is recognised, remembered, and celebrated.

> IAN McDOWELL Chairman



Former Chairman and Vice-President of Barts Guild

Mrs Mary McNab Jones became a member of Barts Guild in 1968 and immediately became a volunteer in the shop and was always ready to help with Guild fund raising activities such as Fairs and supper parties.

She was elected a member of Council in 1973. However, the Council was dissolved in 1974 following a revision of the constitution and the Council and Executive Committee merged to become the Committee of Management.

Mary was elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Management in 1974 and Chairman in 1977. When Mary died on 3rd April 2021 she had been a member of the Guild for 53 years and Vice-President for 38 years.

During her Chairmanship, she oversaw several significant events:

In 1977 there was a proposal to amalgamate all the Barts charities, which would be known as "The Guild of the Friends of Barts". This proposal did not materialise.

The Guild Office relocated to the top floor of the Henry VIII Gatehouse. Many stairs to climb, but wonderful views over Smithfield.

In 1977 the Guild donated \pounds 1,000 to St. Barts the Less towards repairs to the organ and also purchased 40 wheelchairs with the proceeds from the Christmas Fair, amongst many other donations to help the patients and staff of Barts.

In 1978 the Work Room group of volunteers, which started in 1911, finally closed partly due to not having a room to meet in and the surgical dressings which they had made for the hospital for 67 years were now purchased commercially. However, the members of the group worked from home supplying knitted goods for the shop and the wards.



In 1979 men were admitted to the Guild as members and "St. Bartholomew's Women's Guild" became "The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew".

In 1979 an unusual request for volunteers during a period of industrial action: the Guild was asked to supply volunteers to help maintain essential hospital services. The response was magnificent and it was for the benefit of the patients.

Mary was married to Robin (1922-2001), an ENT surgeon at Barts. He retired in 1990. They had four children: Penny, Susan, Linda and Brian, and lived in Beckenham.

Mary had a very kind, thoughtful and warm personality, which endeared her to everyone she met. She was also an excellent chairman. She also had a beautiful singing voice and had formed a choral group in Beckenham which often gave recitals to the great pleasure of their audiences. Her grandchildren called her the "Singing Granny".

She retired to Leamington Spa, to live near her daughter and attended several Barts Guild AGMs.

Thank you, Mary, for all you did for Barts patients and staff with so much grace and many kindnesses.

> ANN WICKHAM President

Pamela Hibbs CBE OBE FRCN DSc (Hon) 1935 - 2021

Sadly, Miss Pamela Hibbs died of Covid-19 in January 2021. Pam herself had often said "I have had a good life!" but members of Barts Guild may not be aware just how good a life Pam had. She focused on ensuring that the patient was the centre of every role she undertook. She thoroughly enjoyed life to the full with all the friends she had made along the journey.

Pam qualified at Barts in 1958 and was awarded the Gold Medal. She progressed to gain extensive experience in many areas of nursing, returning to Barts as a Ward Sister and then a Nursing Officer.

In 1976, Pam was asked to go to Hackney Hospital as Divisional Nursing Officer. Her task was to improve what was considered to be a neglected and failing hospital. She immediately decided the key issues to be addressed and brought about sweeping changes. She brought new furniture for the wards and clothes for the patients.

Programmes of improvement of nursing care and all services were implemented. She acquired a grant from the Mercers Company to appoint a Social Secretary for Older People and the long stay patients went on outings and had tea parties.

In the mid-1970s there was widespread strike action. Pam appealed unsuccessfully to the laundry at Hackney to keep going so she went in at the weekend and filled the huge machines and dryers with bed linen and patients' clothes. Her comment was that she did not have time to do the ironing! This was her attitude – the patient was to come first in all she did. At Hackney she also gained a grant to undertake research into the reason behind the high prevalence of pressure sores in 25% of patients. The change in practice that her research identified was implemented across the UK and the incidence of pressure sores was significantly reduced.

In 1978, Pam was key in the planning of the new Homerton Hospital, which replaced the old Hackney Hospital. She ensured that the views



and ideas of local patients and the staff were included. Pam was proud of the Homerton Hospital and it was a testament to her involvement.

Pam returned to Barts in 1982 to the role of Chief Nurse of City and Hackney. On the merger of Barts and the Royal London in 1994 Pam was appointed as Chief Nurse across the Royal Hospitals Trust and she retired in 1997 after an extraordinary nursing career. I worked closely with Pam as her deputy, she was indefatigable to improve the care of patients. On retirement, Pam involved herself in organisations which predominately focused on the care of the elderly and palliative care.

This was an impressive nursing career. Pam was honest, compassionate and firm but fair – but behind that drive and determination to improve life for patients and the elderly, there was a lady full of fun, humour and a real zest for the finer things in life.

Continued on page 16.

Pamela Hibbs CBE OBE FRCN DSc (Hon) 1935 - 2021 cont.

In retirement, Pam was definitely a 'lady that lunched and shopped', she took her many friends to the best restaurants. High end shopping was at Harrods and Liberty (nothing but the best!) – shoes and handbags being favourites. Visits to the cinema, theatre, ballet and a range of music, from classical to rock.

Pam was great fun and more than generous!

Barts was lucky that Pam chose to train there – she changed things for the better for so many patients and elderly people throughout the East End of London. She had the same philosophy as Barts Guild – supporting patients, from providing complex medical equipment to the key daily essentials.

This is definitely the end of an era!

ALISON KNAPP



Did you know?

That Lionel Bart (1930-99), the composer of many well-known British pop songs and musicals, perhaps best known for creating the musical 'Oliver', is said to have been inspired to change his surname from Begleiter when, after completing his National Service with the Royal Air Force, he passed St Bartholomew's Hospital on the top deck of a bus?

Lionel Begleiter's family of Galician Jews had escaped the deadly pogroms against Jews by Ukrainian Cossacks, and had settled in Stepney where his father worked as a tailor. Bart turned to song writing after attending St Martin's School of Art.



 With Government

 COVID-19

 Let's take this next step, safely.

 HANDS
 FACE

 SPACE

 ERESH AIR

Lady Eleanor Sandhurst was invited to become Chairman of the newly founded "St Bartholomew's Women's Guild" in the summer of 1911. Her husband Baron William Sandhurst had been appointed Treasurer to Barts Hospital in 1908. In 1912 he was appointed Lord Chamberlain of the Household and in 1917 he was made 1st Viscount Sandhurst. But who was this cultured, elegant, kind and thoughtful personality?

Her family and friendships can give some insight into her life as well as her marriage to Armine Wodehouse (1860-1901) and secondly to William Mansfield (1855-1921). Her chairmanship of the Guild also revealed her meticulous attention to detail and the warmth with which she carried out these responsibilities to the Guild and to Barts Hospital.

Family

Eleanor Mary Caroline Arnold (sometimes known as "Netty") was born in 1861 and was the 5th child and 2nd daughter of Matthew Arnold and his wife Frances. The other children were Trevor William (1853-1872), Richard Penrose (1855-1908), Basil Thomas (1866-1868) and Lucy Charlotte (1858-1934).



Matthew Arnold



Lady Eleanor Sandhurst by Bassano

Richard Penrose was a subject of Sir Edward Elgar's 'Enigma Variations' (1899): No. 5: RPA for Richard Penrose Arnold.

Matthew Arnold, the poet and critic, was the eldest son of Dr Thomas Arnold, and his wife Mary. Dr Thomas Arnold was headmaster of Rugby School (1828-1842) and Matthew was educated at Rugby and Winchester schools. In 1840 he matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford, graduating B.A. in 1844. In 1845 he was elected Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford as his father had been in 1815.

He was appointed Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools in 1851 travelling across much of England and the Continent in pursuit of his career, meeting a large cross-section of English and continental society which must have influenced his writing. The salary enabled him to support his growing family. He had married Lucy Wightman in 1851 and they lived in 2 Chester Square, Belgravia.

Continued on page 18.

Among his notable poetic works are "Rugby Chapel", "Dover Beach", "The Scholar Gypsy" and "Poor Matthias" – an elegy to his dead canary. William Wordsworth was a family friend. His literary criticism covered literature, socialism, religion and journalism.

The household would have been full of music, literary discussions, current affairs and many erudite visitors and lively conversations with like-minded friends.

Marriages

Armine Wodehouse CB MP

Eleanor's first marriage was in 1889, when she was 28 years old to Armine Wodehouse (1860-1901). He was the younger son of the 1st Earl of Kimberley and his wife Florence. P.G. Wodehouse was a cousin.

Armine Wodehouse was Colonial Secretary and India Secretary 1882-85, 1886 and 1892-94. He was Foreign Secretary 1894-95. He stood for Parliament as the Liberal candidate for Saffron Walden in 1900. Tragically he died the following year. He was considered one of the most promising Liberals in the House of Commons.

Eleanor and Armine had one son, Roger, who was born in 1890. He was educated at Eton and graduated B.A. and M.A. from Balliol College, Oxford in 1918. He was ordained in 1920 and appointed Vicar of St Paul's, Oxford from 1920-1935 (the year his mother died). In 1938 he was appointed curate of St. John the Baptist, Kensington and Vicar of St Thomas, Shepherds Bush from 1942. He died in 1958.

The Viscount Sandhurst, GCB, GCSI, GCIE, GCVO, PC

Eleanor's second marriage was to William Mansfield, Baron Sandhurst in 1909. It was also his second marriage. His first wife was Lady Victoria Spencer.



Margaret Mansfield, Baroness Sandhurst

They had two children, both of whom died in infancy. Lady Victoria died in 1906.

William Mansfield was the eldest son of William Sandhurst, 1st Baron Sandhurst and his wife Margaret. They had five children.

Margaret Sandhurst (1828-1892) was heavily involved in Liberal politics and an active philanthropist. She ran a home for sick children in Marylebone Road.

She was also involved in the Suffrage movement and served on the executive committee of the Central National Society for Women's Suffrage and was President of the Women's Local Government Society. She was sympathetic towards the problems in Ireland and was awarded the Freedom of the City of Dublin.

She supported the formation of the Women's Trade Union Association and was President of the. She also wrote pamphlets on her political (Liberal) interests, including "Women's Liberal Federation". She died suddenly in 1892 aged 64.

Continued on page 19.

Lady Eleanor Sandhurst 1861 - 1935 cont.



William Mansfield, 1st Viscount Sandhurst

William Mansfield, Baron Sandhurst, had succeeded his father as Baron Sandhurst in 1876 and was entitled to a seat in the House of Lords.

He had a very distinguished career. The Liberals came to power in 1880 and he was appointed Lord in Waiting until 1885. He was appointed Under-Secretary of State for War in 1886 and 1892-95. In 1895 he became Governor of Bombay until 1900 and appointed Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of India (GCSI) on 9th March 1900. He was appointed Treasurer to Barts Hospital on November 5th 1908, a post he also held until his death in 1921.

On 7th December 1911 he received a letter of resignation from Dr Norman Moore as Physician to the Hospital. Norman Moore's wife, Milicent, with the wives of four other consultants initiated the founding of the Guild in the summer of 1911.

He was sworn of the Privy Council in 1907 and returned to ministerial office in 1912 when Asquith appointed him Lord Chamberlain of the Household. He continued in this post until his death in 1921. In 1917 he was made 1st Viscount Sandhurst.

William Sandhurst married Eleanor on the 5th July 1909. They lived at 60 Eaton Square, Belgravia. There were no children. She became Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Mary, and led a very active social life supporting her husband and was involved in many charitable institutions.

William Sandhurst died in 1921, aged 66. The Viscounty became extinct on his death while his brother John Mansfield inherited the Barony.

ANN WICKHAM

In part two of this biography, to be published in BGN Issue 18, Lady Eleanor receives a gift from her friend Kathleen Scott, sent from Captain Scott of the Antarctic, and Ann reveals that not everyone sent congratulations on the inauguration of the Guild.





From everyone at Barts Guild, we wish you a safe and healthy summer, and we look forward to seeing you in person later in the year.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 2 June 2021 FOUNDER'S DAY SPONSORED WALK Meet at 11am, outside Boots, at Baker Street Underground Station

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

December 2021 A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS The Great Hall at Barts (hopefully)

BARTS GUILD NEWS

Editor: Jan O'Neill Design/Typesetting: Phil Moss Printing: L&T Press Ltd., London Published by The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew © 2021