Glasgow & the West World of Medicine

Glasgow has a long history in medicine and health from the unenviable list of ailments that assailed its citizens, through the training and practice of doctors and healers, to the medical giants who advanced knowledge and pioneered the treatment of disease and the easing of suffering. This leaflet gives just a small taste of some of the remarkable people, places and resources associated with this outstanding heritage.

Find out more through the museum, libraries, archives and online resources featured in this leaflet or visit: www.scotlandandmedicine.com
City of Glasgow

Setting Standards in Medical Care

High standards in medical care and training have been maintained in the city of Glasgow from the days of Peter Lowe, founder of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1599.

Glasgow's Medical Schools

In the late 19th century Glasgow was a centre of medical education with four medical schools attracting students from around the world. The University of Glasgow's medical school dates from the early 18th century, although the first Professor of Medicine was appointed in 1637. Anderson's College Medical School, founded in 1800, and St Mungo's College of Medicine, established in 1888, amalgamated with Glasgow University's Medical Faculty in 1947.

Queen Margaret's College Medical School was set up to provide medical education for women in 1890. In 1892 the College joined the University of Glasgow and in June 1894, Marion Gilchrist and Lily Cumming were the first women to receive a medical degree from a Scottish University.

The University of Glasgow continues to be a vibrant and highly regarded centre for medical education. In 2002, the award-winning Wolfson Medical School Building was opened, providing an up-to-the-minute learning facility for medical students.

Today, the West of Scotland maintains its excellence in research and innovation with four world-class universities, many respected research institutes and life-science related organizations and internationally renowned scientists. Further info: www.nexusscotland.com
University of Glasgow

The Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery
University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ
The Hunterian was founded in 1807 and to celebrate its Bicentenary in 2007, new displays have been created including a permanent exhibition focusing on William Hunter, Hunter: Man, Medic and Collector.

William and John Hunter (1718–1783, 1728–1793)
Born in East Kilbride, these brothers were leading figures in 18th century medicine. Both made their careers in London, contributing to the intellectual advances of ‘The Enlightenment’. William was a successful anatomist, teacher and an obstetrician. John was an outstanding surgeon and scientist and is considered to be the founding father of modern surgery. William’s collections founded the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow, John’s the Hunterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, in London www.rcseng.ac.uk/museums/galleries/.

Ian Donald (1910–1987)
Using his RAF wartime experience of sonar, Ian Donald experimented with the use of ultrasound for medical diagnosis. In 1954 he was appointed Professor of Midwifery in the University of Glasgow where he and his team developed the first ultrasound scanner for clinical use. Now ultrasound scanning is regularly used in hospitals all over the world. The original scanner is currently on display at the Hunterian Museum courtesy of the British Medical Ultrasound Society.

In addition to these displays, equipment and instruments from the Nursing and Scientific collections are also on show.
T: 0141 330 4221
E: hunter@museum.gla.ac.uk
W: www.hunterian.gla.ac.uk
Open: Mon to Sat, 9.30am – 5pm
To Be Set and Sown in the Garden is a work by contemporary artist Christine Borland sited outside the Hunterian Art Gallery. The work references a planting list for a physic garden drawn up by a 16th century Rector of the University, Mark Jameson.

Anatomy Museum
Laboratory of Human Anatomy, Thomson Building, University of Glasgow
The core of William Hunter’s collection was the anatomical and pathological preparations he made and used in his teaching and research. Today, this collection is mainly used by medical and science students as a valuable educational resource. It is also open to the public.

Glasgow University Library Special Collections
Hillhead Street, G12 8QE
A wealth of books and manuscripts relating to medicine are held in the Hunterian Collection, as well as material from the 19th century Anatomy and Medical Class Libraries of Glasgow University. Also held are papers of famous doctors such as William Cullen (1710–1790), Professor of Medicine at Glasgow University, and the influential psychotherapist, Ronald David Laing.

© Glasgow University Library, Special Collections
Glasgow & the West World of Medicine

Glasgow University Archive Services
13 Thurso Street, University of Glasgow, G11 6PE
Records include lists of University of Glasgow medical students from 1803; faculty minutes; class roll books and teaching notes. There are also collections of records of academic staff and students, including Sir William Macewen; Dr Honoria Keer; Dr Thomas Ferguson; and the records of the three other medical schools in Glasgow.
T: 0141 330 5515 | W: www.archives.gla.ac.uk
Open: Mon 1.30–5pm, Tues, Wed & Fri 9:30am–5pm, Thurs 9:30am–8pm

Forensic Medicine Online
www.fmaps.archives.gla.ac.uk/Index.htm
This portal allows access to the papers of John Glaister Senior (1856–1932) and John Glaister Junior (1892–1971), Professors of Forensic Medicine at the University of Glasgow for 75 years and key experts for the Crown authorities. Their papers consist of teaching materials; correspondence; press cuttings; personal papers; photographs; and detailed case notes relating to their involvement in the investigations into some of Glasgow and Scotland’s most notorious crimes.

Glasgow Botanic Gardens
730 Great Western Road, G12 OUE
Founded in 1817, the Botanic Gardens moved to its present site at Kelvinside in 1842. Plants were supplied for the botany and medical classes of the University of Glasgow. The herb garden includes examples of plants grown for culinary, medicinal, dye and perfumery uses.
T: 0141 334 2422/3354 | E: gbg@land.glasgow.gov.uk
W: www.glasgow.gov.uk | Open: 7am till dusk daily
Facilities within the park are subject to opening times

James Bridie (1888–1951)
James Bridie (Osborne Henry Mavor) studied medicine at the University of Glasgow but developed an interest in theatre. In 1943 he was one of the founders of the Glasgow Citizens Theatre. His play The Anatomist is based on Dr Robert Knox, the 19th century anatomist who received bodies from Burke and Hare. Bridie’s papers form part of the Scottish Theatre Archive held by Special Collections at Glasgow University Library.
Further info http://special.lib.gla.ac.uk/STA/people/bridie.html

Facial reconstruction, Ruxton murder case © Archive Services, University of Glasgow
Glasgow Caledonian University Archives

The largely administrative records include the Children 1st (RSSPCC) Archive; the Association of Directors of Social Work Archive; the One Parent Families Scotland Archive; and the Aberlour Child Care Trust Archive.

Contact: Carole McCallum | T: 0141 273 1188
W: www.gcal.ac.uk/archives/index.html
Open: Mon to Fri 9am–5pm | By appointment only

Heatherbank Museum of Social Work

The only museum totally dedicated to social work and welfare in Europe. It contains artefacts, books and pictures relating to the history of social work. The gallery is closed however resources are available from Glasgow Caledonian University Research Collections.

Contact: John Powles | T: 0141 273 1189
W: www.gcal.ac.uk/researchcollections

Glasgow Science Centre

50 Pacific Quay, G51 1EA
Explore and discover hundreds of hands-on exhibits, interactive workshops, live science shows and much more.
T: 0871 540 1000
W: www.glasgowsciencecentre.org/scithumanbodyandmind.aspx
Open: Daily, 10am–6pm

The Mitchell Library Archives and Special Collections

North Street, G3 7DN
Holds records relating to health and welfare including: cholera and slum clearance; poor relief applications; Medical Officer of Health reports; correspondence and administrative records of Scottish Women’s Hospitals.
T: 0141 287 2910/2988 | W: www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/Libraries/Collections/ArchivesandSpecialCollections/
Open: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 9am–5pm, Tues, Thurs 9am–8pm

Provand’s Lordship

Castle St, G3 0RB
Provand’s Lordship dates to 1471 and was the home of the Master of neighbouring St Nicholas’s Hospital. The Hospital was for Glasgow’s sick and poor. The Master provided it with food and shelter. Physicians were also required to provide medical care. Today, St Nicholas’s Garden at the venue celebrates Glasgow’s medieval medical history.
T: 0141 552 8819
W: www.glasgowmuseums.com/venue/index.cfm?venueid=11
Open: Mon to Thurs, Sat 10am–5pm, Fri & Sun 11am–5pm
Glasgow & the West World of Medicine

The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow
232–242 St Vincent Street, G2 5RJ
Unique in being the only UK college for both physicians and surgeons, the college was founded in 1599. The library contains approximately 35,000 books, the earliest dating from 1479. The archive holds the institutional records of the College and private papers relating to famous medical pioneers including Sir William Macewen and Joseph Lister.
T: 0141 221 6072 | W: www.rcpsg.ac.uk
Open: Mon to Fri 9am–5pm
By appointment only

Rebecca Strong (1843–1944)
Having trained under Florence Nightingale in London, in 1893 at Glasgow Royal Infirmary Rebecca Strong devoted her energies to improving the nursing profession. Along with Sir William Macewen, she initiated the ‘block apprenticeship’ training programme, later adopted worldwide. Short periods of instruction in the hospital school was followed by periods of practice on the wards.

Sir William Macewen (1848–1924)
Macewen was one of the giants of medicine in Glasgow. A pioneering surgeon and neurologist, he published key work on the structure of the brain and in 1879 is thought to have carried out the first operation on a brain tumour.

Joseph Lister (1827–1912)
Lister spent nine years in Glasgow where, in 1861, he taught at the University and later became a surgeon at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Post-operative infection was a big problem in the great Victorian hospitals. It was while Lister was in Glasgow that he introduced the use of carbolic acid as an antiseptic in surgery. This innovation radically improved patient survival rates.
Glasgow Coma Scale
In 1974 neurosurgeons Graham Teasdale (top) and Bryan Jennett (bottom) of the University of Glasgow published the Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS), an objective method of assessing altered consciousness. A person’s eye, verbal and motor responses are recorded and values assigned. The lowest possible score is 3 indicating deep coma and the highest is 15 where the patient is fully awake. The GCS is now used all over the world.

John Macintyre (1857–1928)
A Glasgow graduate, and an early pioneer in the medical use of x-rays. X-rays were discovered in 1895 by Wilhelm Röntgen, and by March 1896, Macintyre and his team had opened an x-ray department in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, the first in Britain to provide a service to patients.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board Archive
University of Glasgow, 77–87 Dumbarton Road, G11 6PW
One of the largest health authority archives in the UK, consisting principally of the archives of the hospitals in the Glasgow area and in Paisley. Includes the minutes of governing bodies; architects’ drawings of hospitals; photographs; accounts; correspondence; reports; and records of patient care. Also houses the papers of Professor Ian Donald; the historical papers of the British Medical Ultrasound Society and the papers of the early radiologist Dr John Macintyre.
T: 0141 287 2883 / 0141 330 2992
W: www.archives.gla.ac.uk/gghb/default.html | By appointment only

Glasgow’s Medical Heritage Tour
This tour allows you to walk the steps of Glasgow’s medical and health pioneers. Hear stories about public health improvements from the 16th century to the present day. Learn why Glasgow is affectionately known as the ‘Dear Green Place’.
T: 0141 585 3074 | E: info@puredeadbrillianttours.com
W: www.puredeadbrillianttours.com
Greater Glasgow & Clyde Valley

David Livingstone Centre
165 Station Road, Blantyre, G72 9BY
This birthplace museum contains an important collection of Livingstone's personal belongings including expedition and navigational equipment, original diaries and notebooks, and even the famous red shirt Livingstone was wearing when he met Henry Morton Stanley – “Dr Livingstone I presume”?

T: 0844 493 2207 | W: www.nts.org.uk/Property/23/Contact/
Open: 30 Mar to 24 Dec, Mon to Sat 10am–5pm, Sun 12.30pm–5pm. Admission charge (free to NTS members)

David Livingstone (1813–1873)
One of the greatest missionary explorers of Africa, Livingstone was awarded a licentiate’s diploma from the Faculty (now Royal College) of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1840, departing on his first expedition to Africa in 1841. Livingstone gained a significant reputation as a healer and medicine man amongst the African villages.

Lanark Library
16 Hope Street, Lanark, ML11 7LZ
The library of William Smellie (1697–1763) is housed in the local studies collection of Lanark Library. It includes a copy of Smellie’s “Anatomical Tables” corrected by the author himself and a wide range of medical volumes.

T: 01555 661144 | E: lanark.ref@library.org.uk
W: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Open: Mon 9.15am–7.30pm, Tues & Thurs 9.15am–8pm, Wed & Sat 9.15am–5pm, Fri 9.30am–7.30pm

William Smellie (1697–1763)
A great figure in the history of obstetrics, Smellie was born in Lanark and attended the local grammar school. He studied in Paris then moved to London where he taught his hugely popular classes on midwifery. He was the first to teach obstetrics and midwifery on a scientific basis and the first to lay down safe rules for the use of forceps. He retired to Lanark and is buried near the church of St Kentigern.

McLean Museum and Art Gallery
15 Kelly Street, Greenock, PA16 8JX
Material relating to Inverclyde hospitals including photographs; postcards; ceremonial items; medical equipment and uniforms.

T: 01475 715 624 | W: www.inverclyde.gov.uk/Museum_Gallery/
Open: Mon to Sat 10am–5pm, closed on public holidays
Hunter House Museum
Maxwellton Road, Calderwood, East Kilbride, G74 3LW
Hunter House is the birthplace of the medical pioneers John and William Hunter. The museum has a fascinating display of anatomy and surgery. A rural kitchen scene recreates the brothers’ early days and the bodyworks area explains 18th century surgical practice. Videos explore the beginning of their careers and also their pioneering discoveries.
T: 01355 261261 | W: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Open: April to Sep, 12.30–4.30pm daily

West & South

Argyll and Bute Council Archives
Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8QU
Holds hospital records from 1860 to 1987. Typically the records are minutes and financial records, architectural drawings and annual reports.
T: 01546 604774 | E: archives@argyll-bute.gov.uk
Open: Tues to Fri 10am–1pm, 2–4.30pm | By appointment only

Dumfries and Galloway Health Board Archives
Solway House, Crichton Royal Hospital, Dumfries, DG1 4TG
Archives of hospitals in Dumfries and Galloway region including: patient case notes, administrative records and patient art work from Crichton Royal Hospital dating from 1839; administrative records of Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary from 1773 and 20th century registers; administrative records of other local hospitals over the last 100 years; a photographic collection.
T: 01387 267613 | Open: Tues to Fri 9.30am–4.30pm | By appointment only

Moffat Museum
The Neuk, Churchgate, Moffat, DG10 9EG
Moffat was established as a spa in the 17th century and had several mineral springs which were used for medicinal purposes. Details of its history can be viewed at the town’s museum.
T: 01683 220 868 | W: www.visitmoffat.co.uk
Open at Easter and then from end of May until end of Sept on Mon, Tues and Thurs to Sat from 10.45am–4.15pm

St Ronan’s Well Visitor Centre
Wells Brae, Innerleithen, EH44 6JE
St Ronan’s Well has been attracting visitors since the 18th century when Robert Burns tried the mineral waters during his visit to the Borders in 1787. Its fame grew after it inspired the novel St. Ronan’s Wells by Walter Scott and it was developed as a mineral spa which attracted many visitors. The pavilion built by the Earls of Traquair in 1827 now houses the well where the waters can still be sampled by visitors.
T: 01721 724 820
Open: Apr to Oct, Mon to Fri 10am–1pm, 2–5pm, Sat & Sun 2–5pm
Scotland & Medicine: Collections & Connections is a national initiative to promote medical collections and connections of Scotland’s museums, libraries, archives and heritage centres to local, national and international audiences.

Not included? If there is something, someone or somewhere that you think should have been included in this leaflet please let us know: scotlandandmedicine@rcsed.ac.uk or 0131 527 1633

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