

Minute Books

RCSEd 1 and 2:

The Record/Minute/Sederunt Books of the Deacon/President's Council (1581-)

The archive contains a fascinating set of original minute books. They form a continuous record from 1581 to the present, charting the development of the College and its part in the history of surgery.



This remarkable record, initially in old Scots, is a detailed account of the activities of the institution. It records Diploma, Licentiate, Membership, Fellowship and Honorary awards, deaths, gifts and donations, events and developments, thoughts and deeds of many famous medical historical figures and with other national institutions. Other documents here date from 1460. Together these are an invaluable historical resource and may be consulted by arrangement through the library.

Volumes 1-9 are available digitally scanned here and in the National Archives of Scotland search rooms. The first one has been transcribed and the first three have handwritten translations. There are manuscript nineteenth century indices available. The volumes have been bound as below.

Vol 1 1581-1666	Vol 5 1738-1770	Vol 9 1822-1828	Vol 13 1846-1854	Vol 17 1878-1888	Vol 21 1920-1927	Vol 25 1945-1949	Vol 29 1965-1968
Vol 2 1666-1695	Vol 6 1771-1793	Vol 10 1828-1832	Vol 14 1854-1859	Vol 18 1888-1897	Vol 22 1927-1934	Vol 26 1950-1954	Vol 30 1969-1971
Vol 3 1695-1708	Vol 7 1793-1810	Vol 11 1832-1838	Vol 15 1859-1868	Vol 19 1897-1908	Vol 23 1935-1939	Vol 27 1954-1960	Vol 31 1972-1973
Vol 4 1708-1737	Vol 8 1810-22	Vol 12 1838-46	Vol 16 1868-1878	Vol 20 1908-1920	Vol 24 1940-1944	Vol 28 1961-1964	Vol 32 1973-1974

... and continue to the present day. The more recent minutes are also published on the College web site <http://www.rcsed.ac.uk/site/370/default.aspx>

We welcome enquiries on these early minute books and other aspects of our 500 year history: library@rcsed.ac.uk
