

Around the Archives

Lothian Health Services Archive

Laura Gould

Lothian Health Services Archive (LHSA) is one of the leading National Health Service (NHS) archives. The holdings comprise the historically important records of NHS Lothian (NHSL) hospitals and other health-related organisations. LHSA's mission is to collect, preserve and catalogue these records and promote access to them for the benefit of all. A number of projects and outreach activities supplement core archival and conservation services to achieve these aims.

The Archive's origins lie in the appointment of an Archivist to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (RIE) in 1967 to preserve its considerable holdings as the first charitable hospital in Scotland, which opened its doors to the sick poor in 1729. As a result of reorganisation within the NHS, the Archivist's role was widened in 1974 to include all hospitals and services that fell within the newly created Lothian Health Board's (LHB) remit. In 1980, an agreement was entered into between the LHB and the University of Edinburgh (UE), supported by the then Scottish Records Office (now National Records of Scotland (NRS)), to form the Medical Archive Centre (MAC). Originally located within the UE High School Yards site, the MAC, later to become LHSA, moved to the UE Main Library in 1988.

The Archive is core funded by Lothian NHS Board and managed by UE, where it forms part of the Centre for Research Collections (CRC). LHSA has a core staff of three, namely a Manager (currently a Paper Conservator), an Archivist and an Archive Assistant, with a Project Archivist and Conservator funded by the Wellcome Trust forming the fourth and fifth members of the team. Since 2009, LHSA has developed, and benefited from, a successful volunteer and intern programme. More than 25 individuals have gained professional training and first-hand experience in either archive or conservation skills, or both. The results of their work can be seen throughout the Archive, from newly created catalogues and databases to tear repairs and rehousing.

The LHSA collection spans the period 1594 to 2014 and amounts to 3,000 linear metres comprised of a variety of media including bound volumes, flat sheet material such as letters, plans, case notes, photographic images, objects and audio-visual material. The largest collections are those containing records of long-term legal, administrative, epidemiological and historical value created by NHSL and its predecessor bodies. In total there are 69 collections; they have reference codes with the prefix 'LHB'. Perhaps the most notable is that of the

RIE, with *c.*1,500 metres of archival material rich in clinical and administrative records.¹ The most heavily used records are those of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital (REH),² which celebrated its bicentenary in 2013. Its patient case books (1840–1932) have proved invaluable for history of medicine research into topics such as Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and General Paralysis of the Insane. They have also been used for discovering more about ‘outsider’ art and patient writings, and are consulted frequently for family history research.

A further 200 smaller collections of non-NHS institutional records and personal papers relating to the local history of healthcare and the history of Scottish medicine have increased the breadth of the holdings. These have reference codes with the prefix ‘GD’ to denote their gifted and deposited status. They include papers collected by prominent medical individuals and organisations such as Elsie Stephenson,³ the first director of what became known as the Nursing Studies Unit (1956) and later of the Department of Nursing at UE (1965); David Taylor, Lothian Regional Co-ordinator for HIV/AIDS 1986–95;⁴ Helen Zealley (Director of Public Health, Lothian Health Board, 1989–2000);⁵ the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Blood Transfusion Service⁶ and the Medical Women’s Federation: Scottish Eastern Branch.⁷

LHSA holds eleven individual collections, covering the period 1983 to 2010, which chart the unprecedented rise of HIV/AIDS in Edinburgh and Lothian.⁸ They document the medical and social responses to the disease at a local level, combining the records of the NHS, local government, charities and campaign groups. The collections are interrelated and together document the full response to HIV/AIDS in the region. In May 2011 they were added to the UNESCO UK Memory of the World Register, in recognition of their significance to our shared documentary heritage.

LHSA’s other main collections are photographs, audio-visual and digital material, case notes, objects, and the printed reference collection. The Archive holds approximately 40,000 still images which provide a visual record of the history of healthcare from the 1850s to the present day. Glimpses of staff, patients, buildings, and medical equipment enrich our understanding of working practices and lives (Plates 1 and 2).

A number of oral history recordings and films make up a small but

¹ Lothian Health Services Archive (henceforth LHSA), Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, LHB1.

² LHSA, Royal Edinburgh Hospital, LHB7.

³ LHSA, Elsie Stephenson, GD6.

⁴ LHSA, David Taylor, GD35.

⁵ LHSA, Helen Zealley, GD25.

⁶ LHSA, Edinburgh and South East Scotland Blood Transfusion Service, GD14.

⁷ LHSA, Medical Women’s Federation: Scottish Eastern Branch, GD51.

⁸ LHSA, HIV/AIDS collections, LHB45, GD21–2, GD24, GD35–7, GD1/12, GD1/85, GD1/96, GD1/135.

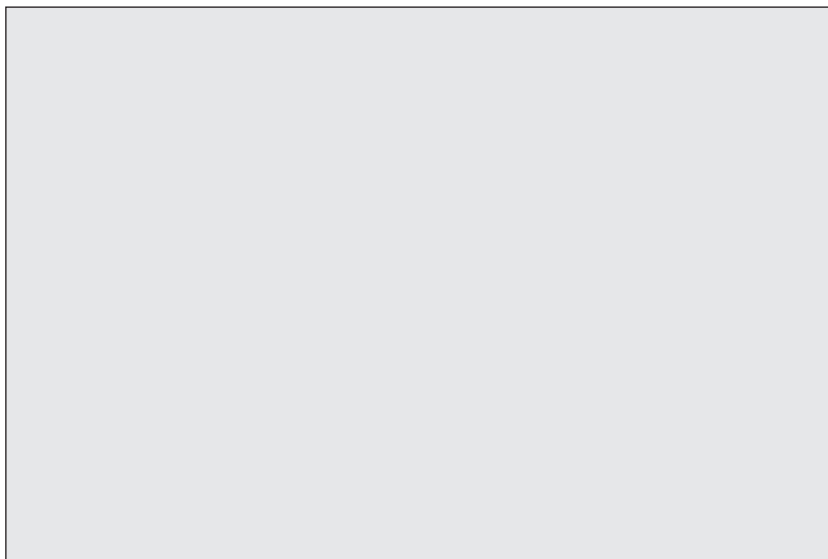


Plate 1 Surgical staff in an operating theatre, RIE, c.1900 (Lothian Health Service Archive, Case 137.12). The origin of the term ‘operating theatre’ is evident with the benches for observers clearly visible in this image.

important part of LHSA’s holdings. One of the gems is an interview from 1965 with 99-year-old Mr Lockie,⁹ who describes his time as a patient at the RIE as a child where he consulted both Dr Bell and Dr Heron Watson, reputed to be the inspirations for Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson respectively. John Lauder’s silent film *The Ever Open Door*,¹⁰ first shown in 1939, ostensibly to highlight the RIE’s modern approach to healthcare and its specialist departments, in fact showcases the use of film within a ‘public relations’ and fund-raising context. The theme of *The Ever Open Door* was central to the Infirmary’s pre-NHS ideology of caring for the sick. Except for a very early period in its history, no special recommendations from either subscribers or clinicians were required for admissions. Medical need was the only criteria. This policy enabled it to appeal for voluntary contributions on the broadest possible basis. Local press coverage of the premiere of the film made it clear that, as well as being a celebration of scientific advances in medicine and surgery, it was also ‘propaganda’ and likely to ensure continued donations to Edinburgh’s foremost public charity.

LHSA holds just over 100 collections of twentieth-century folder-based patient case notes (comprising in total approximately one million individual case notes). The majority of them relate to the RIE, but other hospitals are

⁹ LHSA, Interview with Mr Lockie, 1965, GD1/99.

¹⁰ LHSA, Films, *The Ever Open Door*, 1939.

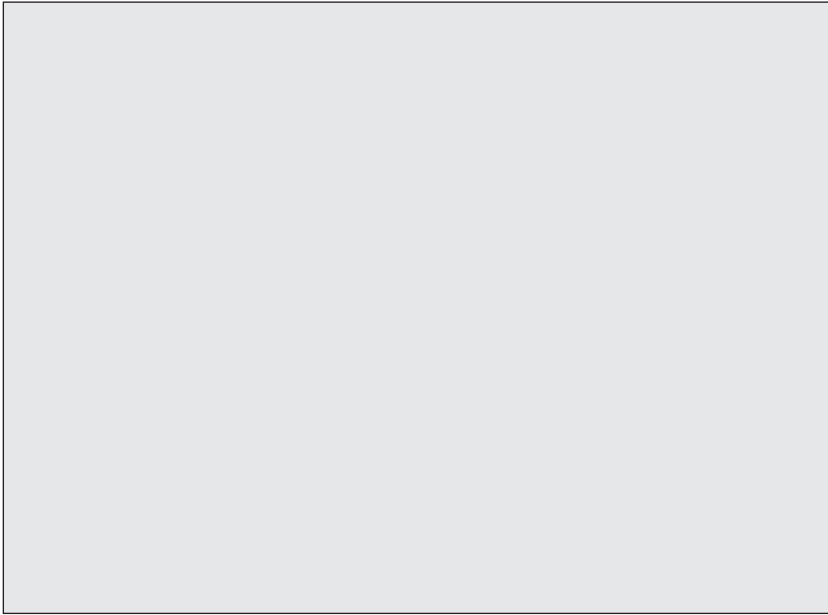


Plate 2 Curling at the REH *c.*1900 (Lothian Health Service Archive, Papers of the Physician Superintendents of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, *c.*1850–*c.*1980, GD16). Sport, recreation and society had long been considered an important part of the regime for psychiatric patients, years before the term ‘occupational therapy’ was coined.

also represented. As a whole, the collections cover a wide variety of medical specialties and were produced by numerous practitioners. As the collections date from within the last 100 years, strict restrictions on access apply. However, there are procedures in place to allow access to these records for research purposes. Case notes contain a surprising number of documents relating to patient care; as well as pro forma record sheets and patient–doctor correspondence, they can also include laboratory reports, X-rays, photographs and other visual representations. Some of the collections are held on microfilm, created by the hospitals themselves, prior to disposing of the paper originals. Although case notes can be difficult and time-consuming to use, and great care must be taken when handling them, they are nevertheless an extraordinarily rich primary archival source relevant to a variety of historical, social, scientific and medical disciplines. Many case notes have significant links to other LHSA records such as, for example, general registers of patients, ward and operations books, and bound case notes.

Since the early 1980s, as a result of hospital and service reorganisations, LHSA has accessioned a range of items that were considered to be at risk and

now has a considerable collection of over 1,000 artefacts of various kinds. The majority of the objects are historical, surgical and scientific instruments but there is also a collection of bed plaques and donor boards as well as a number of other artefacts including clocks, silverware, textiles and a small number of works of art. Commencing in 2003, RIE-related objects were given catalogue numbers and photographed, and valuations of a number of the more significant RIE artefacts in the collection were also commissioned. This information was entered into a database along with a brief description of each item. In January 2005 this was developed with the addition of all non-RIE items.

LHSA holds a small collection of born-digital assets such as digital images and surrogates, and records transferred directly from NHSL. In time, this area is expected to grow as we work closely with colleagues to fulfil NHSL's obligations under the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011 (PRSA).

LHSA's main functions are accessioning, cataloguing, preservation and conservation, user services, and outreach. LHSA is also a source of specialist advice for NHSL staff, in particular on archival aspects of records management including compliance with the PRSA, Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

The number and scope of accessions varies from year to year, with 47 received in 2013. They can range from a single item to entire collections of patient and administrative records of closed hospitals such as Bruntsfield,¹¹ Gogarburn¹² and the City.¹³ The collection expanded by approximately 66 per cent in the years 2002–09, largely as a direct consequence of NHSL's Acute Services Strategy. In addition, LHSA's recent work with social media has started to see a wider base from which collections are accessioned as more informal links are made with Edinburgh's healthcare community and the wider public across the world. Before shelving, a new accession is examined to identify any requirements for immediate conservation treatment. Smaller, manageable accessions are listed immediately; larger ones are designated for future listing on a priority basis. Details of all the accessions for particular years, including depositor and location information, are held in a database for easy reference. A list of all new accessions awaiting cataloguing is available on our website.

In 2002, manually typed handlists created during the 1980s and 1990s were replaced with machine-readable versions. These now include a significant amount of new material listed to collection, series and item levels. LHSA's collection catalogues are available to browse on paper or electronically via our website. Paper copies are available within the CRC reading room and also at the NRS. The LHSA website enables the viewing and searching of individual collection catalogues in PDF format, as well as collection summaries (top level ISAD(G) finding aids). These summaries also appear on other national websites, such as the Archives Hub, and the Scottish Archive Network.

¹¹ LHSA, Bruntsfield Hospital, LHB8.

¹² LHSA, Gogarburn Hospital, LHB36.

¹³ LHSA, City Hospital, LHB23.

Around 90 per cent of the LHB collections are catalogued to item level and approximately 95 per cent of the GD collections are also catalogued, with 75 per cent to item and 25 per cent to series level. Many of the post-1999 accessions now require cataloguing. The LHB collections are given priority in order that they can be included in NHSL's FOISA Publication Scheme as information/records that are reasonably accessible. Specialist finding aids to those parts of the collection that are particularly heavily used have also been created, such as a database of all patients named within the REH case books 1840–1932, which is currently being compiled by volunteers as a tool for researchers.

The case notes have been listed to series level as a result of the Research Support Libraries Programme-funded *Finding the Right Clinical Notes* project, which ran from January 2000 to July 2002. There are no item level catalogues for them, which would enable easier access for research use. However, work to address this commenced in September 2012 when LHSA began a 33-month project funded by the Wellcome Trust Research Resources (WTRR) scheme to catalogue over 26,000 individual case notes from renowned Scottish neurosurgeon, Norman McOmish Dott (1897–1973).¹⁴ At the conclusion of the project, an online finding aid will be launched enabling users to search by multiple categories (such as patient age, sex or medical condition), while redacting sensitive personal data that could risk identifying individuals inside collections that are mostly comprised of closed records.

Norman Dott was a pioneer of neurosurgery in Scotland, striving throughout his life for its recognition as a medical specialism worthy of dedicated resources. Dott opened the first neurosurgery department in Scotland in the RIE in 1938 and designed the facilities inside the more extensive Department of Surgical Neurology, which opened in Edinburgh's Western General Hospital in 1960. Dott was also a clinical leader, being the first to treat an intracranial aneurysm operatively in 1931 and diagnose the condition using X-ray in 1933. His case notes span almost the entirety of his surgical career, recording both medical advancements and the multiple social contexts behind this remarkable work (Plate 3). The case notes have links with the Norman Dott personal and UE papers held by Edinburgh University Archives, which provide social and working practice context to his medical career.

The catalogue is being written in an XML editor using the Encoded Archival Description (EAD) standard and is without known precedent in UK medical archives. The use of EAD allows the 'labelling' of both sensitive personal data governed by DPA and the Scottish Government Records Management: NHS Code of Practice (Scotland) Version 2.1 January 2012 (RMCOP), and highlights aspects of patient information for targeted searches. Legitimate researchers will be able to access an unredacted version of the catalogue and closed case notes after application to the NHSL Health Records Manager via LHSA.

¹⁴ LHSA, Norman Dott Case Notes, LHB1 CC/20, 22, 24 and LHB40 CC/2.

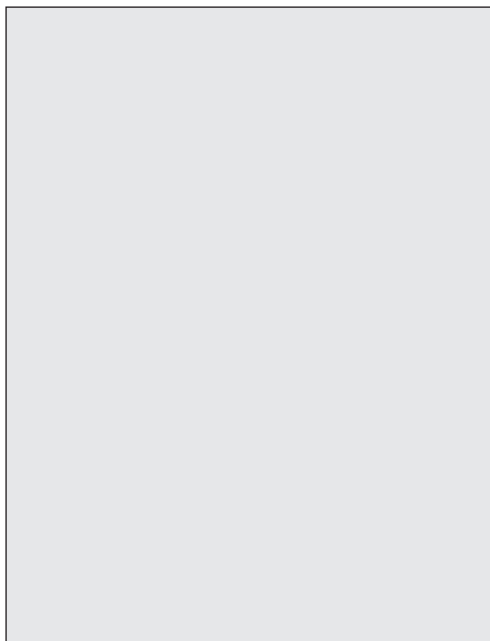


Plate 3 Surgical sketch portraying an operation to remove an astrocytoma brain tumour, 1926 (Lothian Health Service Archive, LHB1 CC/20/PR1.33).

Modern archival medical case notes have presented access problems for researchers. First, the volume of records in many collections compounded by a lack of item level cataloguing leaves potential researchers without a ‘way in’. This is particularly evident, for example, when searching for a specific name or medical condition. Secondly, the specialist nature of both language and images in many case notes can be daunting for some users, privileging clinical researchers over medical humanities and family historians. Finally, the material condition of many collections (usually housed in their original filing folders) adds a further obstacle.

Project-funded conservation work has overcome one access issue. The production of an item level catalogue aims to surmount remaining (non-legislative) barriers to researcher access and is a result of a series of decisions taken in the initial scoping period of the project, based upon the needs of potential stakeholders and the characteristics of these specialist medical records. A project steering group made up of archive professionals, a medical humanities academic and a retired neurologist, provides guidance on whether the project is meeting the needs of potential researchers, whatever their background or expertise.

The *Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network* (Scran) project, enabled us to

mount *c.*1,500 digitised and captioned photographic images on their website. These make up a small percentage of LHSA-held photographs. Previously only accessible via an incomplete and outmoded manual card index, a great deal of work to address this has been completed since 2009 with the creation of new digital finding aids. About 10 per cent of the photographic collection has been the subject of recent cataloguing and rehousing work. Our 2013 archive interns created individual references for almost 4,500 images with a description and associated information such as copyright and existence of digital versions. This is stored in a searchable database which will radically improve access to this fascinating part of the Archive. All of these images have been rehoused in high specification sleeves and boxes.

Descriptions of LHSA objects and the most frequently used books, official publications, pamphlets and grey literature that comprise the reference sections of the collection are recorded in databases, which primarily serve as finding aids for LHSA staff rather than users.

To summarise, more than 25 years of archival labour have gone into producing a variety of LHSA catalogues and increasing accessibility. The development of web-based versions has improved access. However, more work will be required to improve our descriptions, extend coverage throughout the entire Archive and also take full advantage of new web-based search technologies. Planning for a UE-wide archive finding aid, likely to be based on ArchivesSpace, is in the early stages and LHSA will contribute to this.

During the early years of the Archive, very little funding was available to preserve the collection for the long term. From the late 1990s, an allocation from the annual budget has been dedicated to this important area of work and has enabled an active and varied conservation programme to develop. Preservation of the LHSA collections is now a core service, integrated into all aspects of the Archive's work.

Preservation Advisory Centre Preservation Assessment Surveys (PAS) were carried out on the collection in general in 1999 and the photographic material in particular in 2001. The findings of these, and other commissioned bespoke surveys of the bound volumes and objects in subsequent years, have been the foundation for the focused preventive and interventive treatment of LHSA material (Plate 4).

Preventive conservation has concentrated on general approaches to improve the long-term preservation of the LHSA collection: the environmental conditions in which material is stored, accessed and displayed; and in the formation and execution of a comprehensive boxing policy. This has been supported by the generation of key documents to underpin LHSA's ethos and activity in this area: for example, a Preservation and Conservation Policy, as well as Disaster Prevention, Response and Recovery Plans.

Interventive treatment of collection items is undertaken or commissioned by LHSA's accredited paper conservator and priorities are determined by the findings of condition surveys, the historical importance of the item(s) and the perceived or known demand for use. Attention has concentrated on

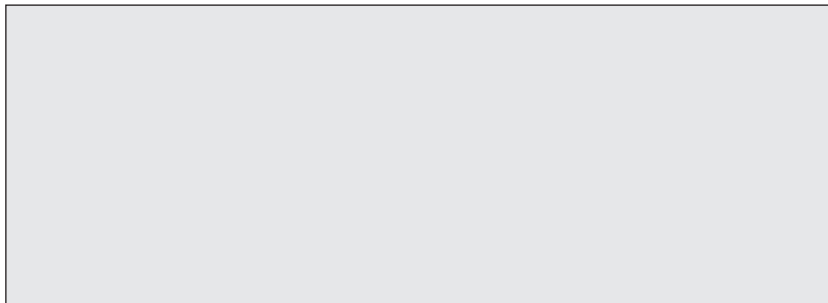


Plate 4 The stark contrast between a Deaconess Hospital volume before and after treatment.

bound volume and case note collections, both of which were highlighted as of particularly high treatment need in the first PAS. The large quantity of this material has necessitated a phased approach, bringing up the condition of the collection as a whole over time by focusing on individual series when funds are available. Preservation of the case note collections has been facilitated by the generous support of the WTRR programme, and five projects have been funded between 2002 and 2009 to surface clean and rehouse a third of the approximately one million case notes held. A methodology has evolved to treat photographic material (print and glass plate) and X-rays, as well as the paper-based notes, which has been an essential first step in a holistic approach to make this material more accessible. The culmination of this is now seen in the development of new cataloguing methods for this material. In 2014, a further WTRR project to catalogue and conserve the HIV/AIDS collections has commenced, with the addition of a Project Conservator to the team. This twelve-month post focuses on the treatment of relatively modern materials including rubber and latex items such as condoms and balloons, and plastic media such as VHS and audio cassettes. Although it is often assumed that modern collections do not require conservation, many contemporary items are at risk due to the poor quality of materials used (such as woodpulp-based paper) or the inherent chemical instability of the object (such as loss of plasticiser from a latex balloon, resulting in inflexibility). Modern media is also at risk due to obsolescence of viewing equipment and deterioration of the plastics used. This project will highlight the issues associated with modern mixed-media collections and emphasise the need for modern materials conservation. An eight-month Project Archivist will start later in the year.

Over the last few years, an expanding volunteer and internship programme has enabled us to enhance our conservation work by extending the range and quantity of material we are able to treat. Volunteers are trained and supervised to carry out basic conservation interventions primarily to flat sheet material: for example, correspondence and architectural plans. The recipients of our 2013 conservation internships were recently qualified conservators, and these

ten-week placements brought mutual benefit to the intern and to the discrete collection of parchment title deeds for which they were able to research and develop treatment methods.

LHSA's conservation profile is now well established and work to preserve the collections will continue into the future, coupling core-funded and project work, and supplementing this where appropriate with volunteer and intern collaboration.

LHSA receives a large, and growing, number of enquiries every year. In 2013, 875 unique requests were responded to, which was up by over 22 per cent on 2012. A wide range of enquirers are supported including NHS, academics and students (UE and other universities and colleges), members of the public, other libraries, archives and museums, the medical Royal Colleges, the media and many others. NHS requests usually relate to the history of departments, services, former patients (case notes, autopsies and biopsies) and staff (training and posts held subsequently). NHS enquiries are also of a records management nature, and concerning possible transfers of records to LHSA. A range of biographical, epidemiological and institutional history of medicine queries are received from undergraduates, postgraduate researchers and lecturers. Private users mainly comprise members of the public conducting family history or local history research. Requests for visual materials by the media, and enquiries from architects, conservation groups and companies concerning architectural plans, are also regularly received. Within these general categories there is a myriad of subject requests, ranging from the details of a particular fact contained in one document to very general thematic historical enquiries that embrace one or more collections. Enquirers make requests remotely by letter, telephone, email or via the website or social media platforms, or they visit the department and consult material directly in the CRC Reading Room. Last year LHSA catered for 190 readers who viewed 1,720 productions.

Recent examples of enquiries include the use of the City of Edinburgh Department of Public Health (DPH)¹⁵ records, as part of the creation of a spatial history of Edinburgh in the twentieth century by the UE Institute of Geography. This will involve capturing measures of the environment linked to health such as population and housing density, neighbourhood deprivation, air pollution, and availability of services, much of which can be obtained directly from the DPH Annual Reports. A long-term project on the 1936 Edinburgh Birth Cohort by the UE Department of Geriatric Health has involved the use of Edinburgh Royal Maternity Hospital birth records¹⁶ to collate information such as birth weight and social deprivation (coded based on the address of the mother) and their effects on health in later life, particularly on cerebrovascular disease.

Many enquiries received by LHSA relate to material that is confidential, such as records of hospital patients, medical staff and students. When

¹⁵ LHSA, City of Edinburgh Public Health Department Annual Reports, LHB16/2.

¹⁶ LHSA, Edinburgh Royal Maternity Hospital Registers of Birth and Case Books, LHB3/14, 16.

responding to enquiries, we ensure the security of confidential records and manage access to them in accordance with the following legislation: DPA (100-year closure), and RMCOP (75-year closure for deceased adults, 100-year closure for deceased minors). In certain cases, access can be permitted; these enquiries are submitted to the NHSL Health Records Manager who will make the decision on access.

Responding to enquiries can be a time-consuming process. Some requests require in-depth research and lateral thinking, while others are complicated by the sensitive nature of the records involved. Those confidential records requiring applications to the NHSL Health Records Manager add an extra layer of administrative responsibility and increase the time-frame required for researchers to access the collection items.

All written and telephone enquiries are recorded into an enquiries database. As well as the details of the enquiry, we record the origin and the format, and we also record the date of receipt of the enquiry, which allows us to monitor our response rate. This is particularly important with FOISA requests, which must be dealt with within twenty working days. Gathering statistics on collections used to respond to enquiries allows us to monitor the relative demand for specific record series, making it easier to plan for conservation and surrogacy work. Recording these details also enables us to produce comprehensive user statistics on an annual basis.

LHSA has worked collaboratively with a variety of organisations on projects to provide access in new ways to our collection items. Earlier initiatives to open up access online via Scran and the Archives Hub have been described above. In February 2009, a large installation in the RIE entitled 'Narratives' was unveiled, using historical bed plaques from the LHSA collection coupled with responses in bronze relief created by a contemporary artist. This collaborative work with Ginkgo Projects has resulted in a popular public display of part of the Archive's object collection for the benefit of patients, staff and visitors to the Hospital. The success of 'Narratives' was followed with a second permanent installation in the RIE, joining LHSA collection items with newly commissioned artwork. 'Unsung Heroes' (Plate 5) was launched at the RIE in 2012, following a smaller exhibition at the CRC in 2011, and sees a selection of LHSA's historic hospital and nursing badges displayed with jewellery and decorative pieces created by Edinburgh College of Art students and staff, and enamel panels produced by the noted artist, Elizabeth Turrell. To celebrate the bicentenary of the REH, LHSA has worked alongside NHSL to organise an eight-part lecture series, and with Artlink to secure funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a year-long programme of events under the banner of the 'Ever Present Past'.

The Archive is very keen to promote its collections and services to a diverse audience, and engage with both traditional and new users of its services. This takes the form of exhibitions, talks, tours, seminars, and an online presence via the LHSA website and social media portals. LHSA participates in the CRC's exhibition programme, which has included shows within the UE Main Library and the Talbot Rice Gallery. In addition, LHSA loans material to external

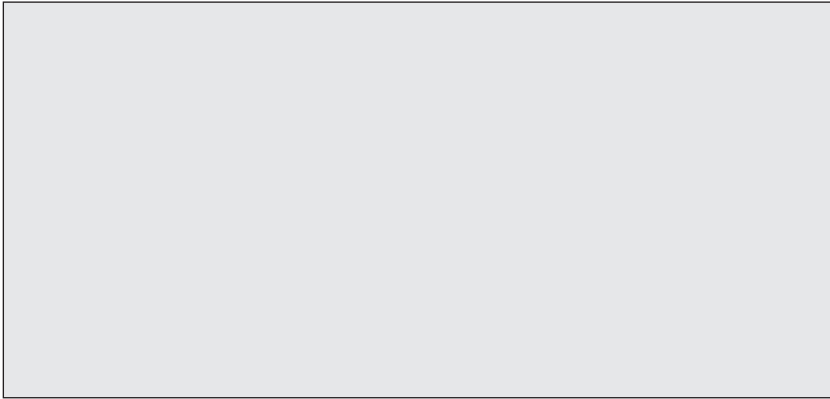


Plate 5 Original letter and student artwork produced in response, part of the ‘Unsung Heroes’ exhibition, CRC, 2011.

galleries and has medical objects on semi-permanent loan at the UE School of History, Classics and Archaeology. Staff routinely provide talks to local groups, current and ex-NHS staff interested in the local history of healthcare, and at conferences on areas of archive and conservation work including preservation policy creation, volunteer programmes and use of social media. LHSA hosts undergraduate and postgraduate seminars as part of UE’s overarching goals of supporting UE teaching, learning and research. Undergraduate and postgraduate students within the UE Economic and Social History department are introduced to archival records through a series of annual ‘History in Practice’ workshops. They are encouraged to consider issues of collecting and appraisal to learn about why some items make it into an archive, why others do not, and the consequences of this for historical research (Plate 6).

LHSA actively contributes to, and promotes, the archive and conservation professions. Our ‘Invalid Fruit Tart’,¹⁷ a 1950s dietetics recipe from the RIE, found national fame on the BBC TV series, *The Great British Bake Off*, after being submitted to the Scottish Council on Archives (SCA)’s ‘Edible Archive’ campaign. The working life of Norman Dott was LHSA’s representative in the recent SCA archive awareness campaign, ‘Working Archive’. In 2012 and 2013, LHSA was one of three Scottish archives that took part in the pilot stage of the new Archive Service Accreditation Standard, receiving a ‘pass’, and is currently working towards accreditation now that the scheme is up and running. LHSA also contributed to SCA’s pilot scheme for Archives and Records Management Services (ARMS) Quality Improvement Framework in 2011 and more recently has actively engaged with the Health Archives and Records Group to develop their website and engage a wider audience.

¹⁷ LHSA, RIE Dietetics Department Recipes, LHB1/89/4/1.

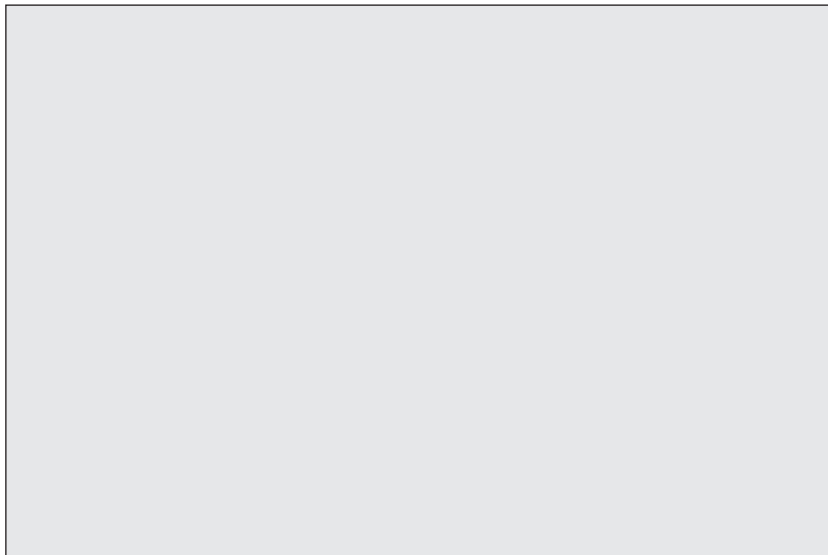


Plate 6 Undergraduate history students get to grips with medical records, 2012.

LHSA is committed to a strong online presence to facilitate access to a worldwide community of researchers. The website holds a wealth of information on the holdings and how to access them, as well as project news and digital resources. Since 2009, the Archive has embraced social media as a powerful tool to develop new audiences, and foster new links with existing users. Our presence on Flickr, Facebook, Twitter and a weekly blog all offer a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the work of the Archive, with photos of interesting finds, new accessions, project updates, events, and new internship and volunteer opportunities. Social media has resulted in closer links with other archive and heritage services such as the Scottish Council on Archives through the 'Edible Archive' campaign mentioned above. It has also raised our profile with audiences ranging from NHS staff to students, to recently qualified archivists and conservators, who tell us that our approachable manner via social media makes us an attractive employer.

LHSA is a vibrant and well-used resource for researchers from a wide variety of fields and backgrounds. The collection, built carefully over the past 46 years, is one of national significance. Care is taken to preserve the holdings, to continue to collect relevant records, to promote and make them available, within guidelines, to all interested parties. For further information, please view our website or arrange a visit.

Further information

LHSA Working Practice

<http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/collections/Accessions.htm>

<http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/conservation/index.htm>

<http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/volunteer/index.html>

Catalogues

LHSA Catalogues: <http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/collections/index.html>

Archives Hub: <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/contributors/>

lothianhealthservicesarchive.html

ArchivesSpace: <http://www.archivespace.org/>

Scottish Archive Network: <http://www.scan.org.uk/catalogue/>

Projects and Joint Working

Norman Dott Case Note Cataloguing: [http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/](http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/projects/Cataloguingcasenotes.htm)

[projects/Cataloguingcasenotes.htm](http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/projects/Cataloguingcasenotes.htm)

Ever Present Past: <http://artlinkeverpresentpast.wordpress.com/>

Narratives: <http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/Services/A-Z/>

[ArtsCommittee/CommissionedPublicArtProjects/MarkingSpace/Pages/](http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/Services/A-Z/ArtsCommittee/CommissionedPublicArtProjects/MarkingSpace/Pages/Narratives.aspx)

[Narratives.aspx](http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/Services/A-Z/ArtsCommittee/CommissionedPublicArtProjects/MarkingSpace/Pages/Narratives.aspx)

Scran: <http://www.scran.ac.uk>

Unsung Heroes: http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/projects/Unsung_Heroes.htm

Working Archive campaign: <http://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/>

[workingarchive](http://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/)

Contact us

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Email: lhsa@ed.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk>

Blog: <http://www.lhsa.blogspot.co.uk>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/lhsa.edinburgh>

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/49439570@N08/>

Twitter: [@lhsaeul](https://twitter.com/lhsaeul)

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