

BATH MEDICAL MUSEUM GAINS CHARITY STATUS

In 2012 the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD), located in The Mineral Water Hospital, opened a small museum to showcase their collection. With the imminent closure of the hospital in the centre of Bath, our museum was granted long term loan of the Collection of the Min, which includes records dating back to the 1740s, artefacts, the paintings and other pieces of art from around the Hospital,



memorabilia, and photographs relating to rheumatology, medicine and pharmacy. We are pleased that, in addition to the RNHRD Collection, we also now have the John Kirkup Collection and many other artefacts which have been donated by private individuals. There is also a gradually growing library of historical texts and histories. The Bath Medical Museum is now a separate registered charity [Registered Charity: 1176084], independent of the RNHRD and NHS, and currently run entirely by volunteers. The Museum is currently housed in the old Chapel of the Hospital, built in 1881. Museum activities have so far included the compilation of oral histories from former patients and from those who have worked in the Min; school visits and talks to local groups and clubs.

THE SEARCH FOR A NEW HOME

The Bath Medical Museum is searching for a new home! With the closure of the hospital facilities and the sale of the Mineral Hospital building, the museum will have to vacate its current home by August 2019. The search for a new home is being led by BMM Trustees, Dr Roger Rolls (Chair), and Niall Bowen. Potential venues are being investigated but with a lack of core funding it is proving a formidable challenge! New funding options are also being investigated by our Fundraising Advisor, Kate Lane. The BMM would like to continue its relationship with both the RNHRD and RUH and to that end, with the termination of the existing loan agreement between the RNHRD and BMM at the end of October 2018, a new loan agreement is currently under negotiation. In the meantime, a project is underway to fully re-catalogue the museum's collections and make them available online via a new design for the BMM website. The project is led by the Museum Manager, Stephen Dunning, and BMM Curatorial Coordinator, Jess McKenzie.

CONTACT

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OPENING HOURS (subject to volunteer availability)

14.00-16.00 Monday
14.00-16.00 Wednesday
10.00-12.00 Friday

www.bathmedicalmuseum.org