



RCSEd



# Create Your Legacy

[rcsed.ac.uk](http://rcsed.ac.uk)

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‘Throughout our 500 years, *The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh* has been at the forefront of improving patient safety and outcomes through delivery of high-quality education, training and promotion of the very highest standards of surgery.’

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Professor Rowan Parks

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## Since 1505, our Members and Fellows have worked tirelessly to make the College one of the most respected institutions of surgical expertise in the world.

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From Lister's description of germ theory and his promotion of antiseptics to Simpson's discovery of the anaesthetic properties of chloroform, many of our Fellows have been pivotal in the transformation of surgery being considered as a last resort, to it improving the lives of patients worldwide. However, modern day innovations and technological advances rely on finances to realise our vision to improve wellbeing and outcomes for every patient, wherever they may be in the world. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have been able to fund world-leading research and development to guide the next generation of medical innovation, including robotic surgery and cancer research.

A gift in your Will would contribute directly to the vital work of the College, allowing us to invest in our future and create a lasting legacy on your behalf. Your generosity could help the next trailblazing researcher, a trainee surgeon at the start of their career, or help us share our rich history through investing in our heritage activities. I am honoured that you are considering supporting us in this special way, and



I hope that in these pages we can inspire you to create a legacy that will support future generations of surgeons and pioneers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rowan Parks'.

**Professor Rowan Parks**  
President of *The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh*

# Research

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Year after year, the College invests in pioneering surgical research. This commitment to research aids us in achieving our vision of improved outcomes for patients globally. From small bursaries to world-leading professorships, we are investing in results that will improve medical and surgical practice and ultimately save lives.

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We provide surgeons with the opportunity to develop ground-breaking research. We offer grants that are critical to creating innovative new surgical techniques; they are the foundation for projects that can deliver life-changing results for patients the world over. Through our Fellowship programme we have sent countless surgeons to gain education, training or skills opportunities that would otherwise have been unavailable to them, allowing us to facilitate learning and the sharing of innovations in surgical practice that imbue practitioners with skills

and techniques that can have life-changing outcomes for their patients.

Faced with rising costs and ever greater demand, we are committed to funding surgical research but face real challenges in terms of the volume we can support. By investing in our work, you will contribute to innovative and groundbreaking research that will benefit patients and professionals worldwide.



## Did you know...

Between 2020 and 2022, we funded **£725,296** worth of **grants, bursaries, awards, and fellowships.**

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£10k

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Could provide a **Small Pump Priming Grant**, supporting pilot research by surgical trainees and recently appointed consultants.

£25k

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Could enable the College to offer a **Large Project Grant**.

£60k

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Could pay for a **Clinical Research Fellowship**.

£500k

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Could endow a **Research Fellowship in perpetuity**.

# Education

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Education has been a central tenet of the College's philosophy from its inception. With the constant development of medical understanding and surgical techniques, it is vital that knowledge and skills are updated in the most effective way, so that patients always receive the best treatment.

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We have a strong team of highly experienced practitioners who deliver our examinations in the UK and around the world, as well as a large educational faculty who develop and run exam preparation courses and professional development activities at a wide variety of locations worldwide.

amended to ensure our training and education modules are relevant to the needs of our members and society. To ensure we have the most up to date equipment and resources, continuous investment and financial support is required to ensure that we can offer high quality training to surgeons.

We are forever striving to remain at the forefront of our evolving professions. For that reason, the knowledge and skills that we need are constantly adapted and



## Did you know...

We conduct surgical and dental examinations in **over 30 countries** across the globe.

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## Skills Lab

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**Our Skills Lab is the heart of our education & training, where a wide variety of courses using both ‘wet’ and ‘dry’ facilities are run by both the College and external organisations. Programmes vary in length, and range from key surgical skills training for senior medical students to complex specialist masterclasses for Registrars and Consultants.**

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**‘The exceptional collections and listed heritage buildings of Surgeons’ Hall vividly showcase the evolving landscape of surgery and medicine and their profound impact on humanity’s progress.’**

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**Chanté St Clair Inglis**  
Director of Heritage and Estates, RCSEd

# Heritage

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**Surgeons' Hall is an integral part of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site. With heritage listed buildings and museum, library, and archive collections dating back to 1460, it is a unique, internationally significant resource providing enjoyment and education across a range of audiences both onsite and online.**

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Surgeons' Hall is amongst Scotland's oldest museums and houses one of the largest and most important collections of surgical pathology in the world.

Our museums serve to inform and engage the public in the journey of surgery and of medical science, preserving the legacy of the past and captivating new audiences. With interactive exhibits on the practice of surgery, and regular school and outreach programmes, we create a space of curiosity to inspire the next generation of surgeons.

Ongoing investment is required to care for, develop, and share our remarkable heritage, ensuring its accessibility for generations to come. Since its inception, gifts from our supporters have been instrumental in the preservation of the Museum's heritage and vast collections, which we are proud to be able to share with the many visitors that pass through our doors. As a private museum we receive no public funding, therefore donations are essential for safeguarding its future. This support is vital for us to continue to offer our world class exhibits, events, workshops, and activities.



## Did you know...

Surgeons' Hall Museums have been open to the public since 1832.

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# Professor Stephen MacLeod

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**Professor Stephen MacLeod is an Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon based at Loyola University, who was elected as an RCSEd Fellow by examination in 1999.**

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**Professor MacLeod has pledged a gift in his Will to The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh to establish a new prestigious medal. Here, he shares why he chose to leave a gift to the College.**

I chose Edinburgh as my college for the simple reason that it was home. I was born in the States and came to Edinburgh as a young boy, attending school and growing up in the city. I have memories of getting the number 29 bus from Stockbridge, and one of the stops on the route being Surgeons' Hall. My late aunt Muriel brought me up and she was very involved with organised nursing. She had worked closely with several members of the College and was the scrub nurse for notable Fellows such as Sir John Bruce and Norman Dott. Over the years I became enamoured with the College, knowing what it had done historically and how it was included within the local consciousness. When I became old enough to come and do exams for myself, I found the environment of the College respectful

and welcoming, and that is something that has resonated with me for the whole of my career. I have fellowships from the other Colleges, but I very much view Edinburgh as my home.

I chose to leave a gift to the College for several reasons. The College was very good to me and for many ways has defined my professional life and thus by extension my personal life, with colleagues and friends that I've known for over 40 years.

I've got a long history with the College so remembering and acknowledging this relationship is important. The idea of giving it in the name or in the memory of someone helps that person's memory live on. When you look at the College diploma ceremonies and you see the various medals being awarded it harkens you back to another day and makes you realise what a wonderfully long pedigree you're in touch with.

The College's motto is *From Here, Health*, and it's lived by that for the last 500 years. I look forward to the College doing that for another 500. I'm sorry I won't be around to see it, but I hope my legacy can play a part.



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**‘The College’s motto  
is From Here, Health,  
and it’s lived by that  
for the last 500 years’**

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**Professor Stephen MacLeod**  
RCSEd Fellow

# Making a Difference Internationally

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**As an international membership organisation, working across borders is a key part of our role, and we are highly experienced working in many areas.**

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From examinations and skills training in-country to the development of critical care resources in low and middle income countries, we have taken an active role in bringing surgical care to those who need it the most. We are uniquely placed to ensure that the burden of untreated surgical disease is no longer disproportionately represented amongst populations living in areas of deprivation.

The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery demonstrated the chronic level of inequality in surgical care, with 5 billion people worldwide lacking access to safe,

affordable surgical and anaesthesia care. One third of the world's population receive just 3.5% of major surgical procedures, illustrating that an insufficient surgical workforce is one of the major impediments to safe surgical care for billions.

We can only advance surgical care as far as resources allow. We are reliant on donations to continue our work, and allow us to widen our scope for ever more ambitious international projects.



# Creating Your Legacy

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**In creating your Will, naturally your first consideration will be taking care of your family and loved ones. After you have done so, you may wish to leave a remainder of your estate as a gift to *The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh*.**

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If you are considering including us as a beneficiary in your Will, we advise that you consult with your solicitor to ensure that your instructions are properly interpreted and that your Will is valid.

The College is at the centre of surgical policy and practice, so you can be certain that your legacy will have optimum effectiveness in an area of your choice. Whatever your choice, your legacy will support the principle that has guided the College throughout its existence: the advancement of surgical standards to deliver better outcomes for patients.

You may wish to leave an unrestricted gift to be used at the discretion of the College, which will allow us to use your donation where it is needed the most. If you wish to support a specific activity, we recommend that you discuss your ideas with the College to ensure that we are able to fulfil your wishes.

There are various ways that you can leave a gift in your Will, including:

#### **A Pecuniary Legacy**

a simple gift of a stated amount of money

#### **A Residuary Legacy**

all, or a percentage of, the estate that remains is gifted, after all debts have been paid and other gifts made

#### **Life Interest**

the beneficiary, possibly a relative, has the use of the gift during their lifetime, for instance a house. After their death, it passes to a nominated beneficiary which could be a charity

#### **Specific Gifts**

particular identified items are gifted, for example a collection of books bequeathed to our Library

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A Will ensures that your assets are distributed as per your wishes, meaning that your family and loved ones have clarity over what you would like them to receive. There are potential tax benefits and other advantages that result from effective succession planning, and we would recommend that you seek professional advice.

**For more information please contact:**

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## **Development and Partnerships Office**

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**Social:** [@RCSEd](https://twitter.com/RCSEd)



# Confidential Legacy Pledge Form

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If you decide to leave a gift to *The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh* in your Will, we would be very grateful to be informed of your wishes.

Completing this form is not legally binding and you can change your mind at any time, however it will allow us to plan for the future and to thank you.

Name:

Address:

  

Postcode:

Country:

Telephone:

Email:

I am happy to be contacted by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh by email.

I intend to include the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in my Will but I have not yet updated my Will.

I have included the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in my Will.

I am considering including the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in my Will and I would like to be contacted confidentially about this.

Details of legacy – *Optional*:

(Type of pledge (pecuniary gift, residuary gift, specific gift etc), estimated value of gift etc)

We would very much like to hear why you have chosen the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh as the recipient of your gift. If you would like to share your reasoning and any other thoughts, please use this space.

We will hold the information you provide us with securely for administration purposes in accordance with data protection legislation. Please read our privacy notice at [www.rcsed.ac.uk/privacy](http://www.rcsed.ac.uk/privacy) or contact us at [dataprotection@rcsed.ac.uk](mailto:dataprotection@rcsed.ac.uk) for further details.

