

FACULTY OF HEALTH, MEDICINE AND SOCIETY HISTORICAL SOCIETY





The University of Chester's Faculty of Health, Medicine and Society (FHMS) Historical Society aims to unite individuals with an interest in the history of medicine, nursing, midwifery and social work across the University and the wider community. The Society meets regularly for a range of talks and discussion and anyone with an interest in health and social care or social history is welcome to attend. The full programme is overleaf.

University of Chester Riverside Museum

The museum, in the Wheeler Building on Castle Drive, contains a permanent collection of curiosities from the world of medicine, nursing, midwifery and social work. In addition, the First World War: Returning Home exhibition provides an insight into what a soldier invalided back from the Western Front would have found on his return to Cheshire. Using local examples wherever possible, the exhibition features aspects such as volunteer nurses, a doctor's country practice, home life, food, rural life and social welfare. This exhibition was refurbished with the generous help of the Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Heritage.

Visitors with an interest in health and social care or local history are always welcome to visit the Museum and find out more from the volunteers, many of whom have a health and social care background. The list of opening times is overleaf and full details and the latest updates are available on the website at: www.chester.ac.uk/events. Group bookings for six or more people can also be made at other times by prior arrangement by contacting: fhsc.histsoc@chester.ac.uk or 01244 512963.

The four remaining stained-glass windows from Chester Royal Infirmary are also available to view on the first-floor landing whenever the main reception at the Wheeler Building (off Castle Drive) is open. Sign in at reception and go up to the first floor landing opposite the old Council Chamber.

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2025/2026 PROGRAMME

Wed 3 Sept	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Sat 13 Sept	10 -4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open for Heritage Open Days
Wed 1 Oct	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 1 Oct	4pm	Sheena Evans, Independent Scholar and Biographer, Forgotten But Not Lost. How a Great Medical Pioneer, Once Lost from the Collective Public Memory, was Rediscovered
Wed 5 Nov	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 5 Nov	4pm	Professor Claire Chatterton, Universities of Chester and Chichester, 'It turned us yellow all over.': Health Care Provision for Munition Workers During the First World War
Wed 3 Dec	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 3 Dec	4pm	Revd Dr Tim Macquiban, The Strangers' Friends Societies: Methodism's Response 1785–1840 to the Challenges of Urban Poverty and Disease
2026		
Wed 14 Jan	1-4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 4 Feb	1-4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 4 Feb	4pm	Chloe Roberts, MBChB Student Engagement and Support Officer, University of Chester, Experimentations with Narrative Voice: The Gothic and the Desire for Social Reform in <i>The Story of Willie Ellin</i> (1853) and <i>Jane Eyre</i> (1847)
Wed 4 Mar	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 4 Mar	4pm	Dr Sarah Griffiths, Managing Editor, University of Chester Press, Workers with 'necks as white as snow': Macclesfield Baths and Washhouses in the Nineteenth Century
Wed 1 Apr	1-4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 6 May	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 6 May	4.30pm	'From Far and Wide': Health and Social Care Workers from Overseas (refreshments will be available from 4pm)
Wed 3 Jun	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open
Wed 3 Jun	4pm	Professor Elizabeth Mason-Whitehead, University of Chester, Less than Splendid Isolation: An Exploration of the Rise and Demise of England's Fever Hospitals
Wed 1 July	1–4pm	University of Chester Riverside Museum open

All are welcome to attend the in-person talks and visit the museum free of charge. Booking is encouraged for the talks for refreshment and seating purposes and in case there are any last-minute changes (contact details below). Please check the event listings for updates to the programme: www.chester.ac.uk/events (scroll down to see the individual events). Access to the Riverside Museum and event venues is via a flight of steps and lift/step access thereafter. For those with limited mobility, there is an accessible route and please pre-book to arrange this access.