

Trades House of Glasgow

Decrepit Craftsmen in the Trades House Hospital and Pensioners on the Roll of the Trades House from 1612 to 1775



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Introduction

On the 3rd August 1605 the following Crafts agreed to acquire the Hospital which was founded by Sir William Blackadyr. The Incorporations were:

Hammermen, Tailors, Cordiners, Weavers, Skinners, Coopers, Bakers, Wrights, Masons, Chirugeons, Bonnetmakers, Fleshers, Maltmen, Fishers and Mariners, and Gardeners.

Each Craft agreed to pay for the upkeep of the building and the decrepit craftsmen who they would be housed in the Hospital. The poor men placed in the Hospital had a duty to pray daily for His Majesty the King and Queen and their successors and also the Provost, Baillies Counsel and community of the Burgh and for the Deacons, Visitor, Collectors and all assistants of the Crafts.¹

The occupants of the Hospital received full board and a Cloak which they had to wear when not in the Hospital. This caused some difficulty at various times as the occupants did not always wish to be identified as receiving charity from the Trades House and this led to disciplining the culprit. It was also frowned upon for dwellers in the Hospital to go out drinking and John Glen was found in fault for passing out of the Hospital and drinking in the town at divers times.²³

The records also show that the poor men in the Hospital were not allowed to work or drink in the town and that they had to keep the Kirk holidays and that they should attend the Kirk preaching days. They were also expected to attend burials and to put into the common box any money that they received and they were not to beg outside the confines of the hospital dyke and that if anyone of them broke the above rules, they would be put out of the Hospital after a trial. The views of the House changed over time and on 4th November 1613, the House ordained that the poor men in the Hospital should no longer go to burials as they were used to doing, but to attend about the house where the burials come to the Wynd head and then convey the corps to the burial place and return back to the house again and attend for anything asked of them.⁴

The Deacon Convener was ordained to take the money from the box monthly and to distribute it equally among the Hospital poor men.⁵

In 1633 the House ordained that the poor men in the Hospital were to keep the times of prayers in the High Kirk, both morning and evening at all occasions and that they attend the preaching twice on Sundays and once on the two ordinary days in the week and that they had to sit together in the church. They were also not allowed to beg in the High Street or at the Alms House dyke and that anyone breaking the statutes would be discharged from the Hospital.⁶

¹ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, Foundation of the Trades Hospital, Page 555.

² Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 26th October 1613.

³ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 10th May 1616.

⁴ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 21st October 1635.

⁵ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 2nd September 1614.

⁶ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, August 1633.

By 1642 the number of poor in Glasgow was rising to an alarming extent, especially with the influx of poor from Ireland. The House acknowledged that they had a duty to help all within the town and agreed to increase their contribution which they paid to the Hospital by a third, and to give the sum raised to the kirk session for the poor of Glasgow.⁷

In 1664, the House was concerned that some of the poor men in the Hospital were not sleeping there and they were warned that they would lose their pension if they did not conform.⁸

The number of poor men in the Hospital was set at six persons in 1605 and this increased to thirteen in 1729.⁹ The number of pensioners was initially determined to be four, but this rose with time also.

The following table shows the names and Craft of those receiving benefits from the Trades House and the dates when they received their Burgess Ticket if known.

Anyone carrying out research for themselves can download the two superb books by James R. Anderson which gives more information on the person who received their Burgess Tickets and the fantastic two volumes by Harry Lumsden on the Minutes of the Trades House. The four books are available from: www.tradeshouselibrary.org

⁷ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 11th February 1642.

⁸ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, May 1664.

⁹ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 30th December 1729.

Poor Men in the Trades Hospital 1612 to

Date	Hospital Resident	Pensioner	Incorporation	Burgess Ticket Gained
22nd January 1612	Johne Glen younger		Wobster	5 July 1575
22nd January 1612	William Bogill		Maltman	23 September 1584
2nd September 1614	Johne Kirlie		Wabster	8 July 1613
18th August 1615	Johne Leggat		Cordener	27th May 1575
18th August 1615	Johne Scherar			
9th November 1616	Johne Clerk		Cordiner alias fruetman	25 January 1574
17th May 1620		Edward Pollok	Cooper	26 February 1573
9th August 1620	William Bogle		Maltman (readmitted after bad behaviour)	23 September 1584
9th August 1620	Johne Kirlie		Wobster (readmitted after bad behaviour)	
9th August 1620	Johne Leggat		Cordener (readmitted after bad behaviour)	27 May 1575
4th October 1621	Johne Watsoune		Flesher in place of deceased Johne Scherars	4 May 1596
16th March 1623	Symon Baird			
16th March 1623	Johne McKa			
2nd October 1623	Patrick Lenzie			
2nd October 1623	Michael Rankein		Removed from the Hospital for abusing the House diverse times. ¹⁰	
16th November 1624	Robert Berrell			
16th November 1624	Bartelmo Mure		Wobster	13 June 1584
6th April 1625	Lawrance Schaw			
11th August 1626	Johne Dowglas		Maltman	25 May 1599
15th November 1628	Nicoll Scott		Cordiner in place of deceased Patrick Lenzeis	31 January 1588
17th November 1630	Robert Andersone		Maltman in place of deceased Simon Baird	15 February 1596
7th December 1630	Arthor Fischer		Tailor	
8th September 1631	Patrik Gemmil elder		Skinner	25 June 1583
15th February 1632	Robert Crawford		Maltman	1 December 1598

¹⁰ Harry Lumsden, Records of the Trades House of Glasgow, 2nd June 1626

Date	Hospital Resident	Pensioner	Incorporation	Burgess Ticket Gained
22nd August 1632	Arthor Fischer		Put out of the Hospital for refusing to wear his gown	
22nd August 1632	Johne Smyth		Tailor in place of Arthor Fischer	21 February 1588
14th May 1634	William Weir		Cordener	9 December 1598
14th May 1634		Androw Harvie	Gardner	
21st August 1634	Johne Gairdner		Maltman	
27th August 1635		David Wilsoune	Cowper	
August 1636	Robert Fischer		Tailor	28 May 1585
August 1636	Andrew Gray		Cordener	
August 1636		Johne Geddes	Maltman	
August 1636		Johne Pollok	Skinner	
4th January 1637	Johne Geddes		Maltman	
10th February 1638		William Howstoun	Tailor	
February 1639	Johne Wyllie		Cowper in place of deceased Johne Smyth	
6 May 1640	Gawane Lies		Maltman	
11th February 1642	George Shirilaw		Weaver	
11th February 1642	David Leslie		Hammerman (cutler)	16 June 1609
13th February 1643	Mitchell Spence		Bonnetmaker	
May 1644	Johne Currie		Tailor	25 January 1621
November 1644	Androw Gray		Cordener	10 October 1589
November 1644		Androw Calderwood		
9th May 1645		Robert Scott	Maltman instead of James Muir, Cordiner	
August 1645	Williame Caulderwood		In place of the deceased Johne Geddes	
August 1645		Michael Wilsoune		
16th February 1646	Johne Patersone		Maltman	
15th May 1646		Williame Fairie	Tailor instead of James Scheillis	6 February 1610
18th February 1647	James Baird		Wright	
9th August 1647	Johne Auldcorne		Tailor	7 December 1609
November 1648	Johne Duncan		Hammerman (smith)	18 June 1595
May 1649	James Grahame		Weaver	24 November 1625
10th August 1649	Thomas Quentrance		Tailor	1 July 1608

Date	Hospital Resident	Pensioner	Incorporation	Burgess Ticket Gained
16th December 1649	James Caldwell		Cordiner in place of Andrew Gray	28 April 1614
4th March 1650	Thomas Naismith		Bonnetmaker in place of James Caldwell	1 November 1580
12th August 1650	Johne Allansoune		Weaver in place of Johne Wyllie	
4th February 1651	Robert Scott		Maltman	
4th February 1651	Johne Currie		Tailor	25 January 1621
8th October 1651	James Weinzet		Weaver	
29th June 1655	James Bischope		Maltman	16 February 1624
29th June 1655	James Craige			
11th May 1657	David Gray		Maltman	27 September 1632
March 1658	Archibald Bishop		As long as he is under cure of Dr. James Frank	
September 1658	Johne Reid		Wright	16 December 1608
10th November 1660	James Litlilejohne		Tailor	10 April 1623
10th November 1660		James Young	Skinner	6 August 1635
10th November 1660		Charles Pollok elder	Cooper	25 August 1614
January 1661	Johne Currie		Tailor	25 January 1621
9th October 1662	Johne Andersoune		Cordener	16 November 1620
10th September 1666	James Clark		Hammerman cutler	8 January 1618
September 1669	Robert Stein		Cordoner in place of Johne Andresone	
12th November 1669	John Ure		Weaver	13 December 1649
16th May 1673	Johne Fultoun		Skinner	14 September 1637
12th March 1675	William Mader		Tailor in place of deceased Gilbert Hall	
27th October 1713	Neill McVicar		Tanner in place of deceased Patrick Lamb	
20th February 1714	Robert Fleckfield		Weaver in place of Neill McVicar deceased	16 August 1655
1st February 1716		Robert Gray	Barber in place of deceased John Barr	18 April 1693
29th July 1718		William Thomsoun	Tailor in place of deceased Robert Maxwell	11 August 1692
14th October 1719		John Norie		
16th February 1720		Robert Fleming	Weaver	5 August 1692
19th February 1720	Henry Corbett		Cordener	16 August 1677
13th October 1720		John Boyd	Tailor	8 August 1678
8th June 1722	William Robb		Wright in place of William Gilmour deceased	13 April 1676

Date	Hospital Resident	Pensioner	Incorporation	Burgess Ticket Gained
11th October 1772	Thomas Pettigrew		Weaver in place of deceased John Anderson	17 September 1674
10th October 1723	John Boyd elder		Maltman	22 February 1705
23rd July 1724		William Sheddin	Glover	18 October 1688
8th October 1724		Robert Alexander	Cordener	10 May 1677
4th March 1727		Robert Findlay	In place of William Wilson	
11th March 1728	James Callwall elder		Mason in place of deceased Andrew Adam Gardener	16 June 1697
2nd January 1730	Patrick Bryce		Hammermen	21 September 1704
2nd January 1730	Robert Ross		Cordeners	26 August 1680
2nd January 1730	John Boyd		Maltmen	27 July 1677
2nd January 1730	Samuell Bulloch		Skinners	
2nd January 1730	William Bulloch		Wrights	
2nd January 1730	William Gilmour		Flesher	24 April 1679
2nd January 1730	Thomas Morrison		Gardener	1 January 1691
2nd January 1730	John Neilson		Barbers	
24th May 1731		Andrew Hamilton	Wright	
12th May 1723		Thomas Pettigrew elder	Weaver	17 September 1674
12th May 1723	Thomas Pettigrew younger		Weaver in place of his father Thomas Pettigrew	9 November 1694
15th June 1733		Thomas Thomson	Weaver	
7th August 1733	Robert Scot		Tailor in place of deceased John Barber	29 January 1708
13th November 1733	Alexander Millar		Gardener	
16th May 1734		Gavin Liston	Cordiner, tanner	14 June 1706
11th November 1735	David Stevenson		Wright in place of deceased William Balloch	16 September 1707
14th May 1736		Patrick Maxwell	Cordener	
14th July 1736	John Lang		Weaver in place of deceased Thomas Pettigrew	4 March 1703
14th December 1736	Thomas Auchincloss		Skinner	19 July 1694
8th April 1737		Patrick Wallace	Cordener	8 August 1717
8th April 1737	James Young		Skinner	1 August 1717
8th April 1737	John Braidwood		Cordener	30 May 1694
29th April 1737		Thomas Alexander	Maltman	2 October 1710

Date	Hospital Resident	Pensioner	Incorporation	Burgess Ticket Gained
9th March 1738		John Robertson	Cooper	10 January 1705
9th April 1739		James Thomson	Maltman	
9th April 1739		Alexander Forrester	Cordiner, shoemaker	1 February 1717
28th August 1739		Thomas Montgomery	Cordiner in place of deceased James Thomson	21 November 1707
18th September 1739	James Callwel		Mason in place of deceased James Callwel, his father	16 June 1699
20th November 1739		Robert Park	Tailor	25 April 1707
22nd May 1740	Robert Will		Baker in place of deceased Robert McAulay	27 March 1714
18th November 1740	David Cross		Wright in place of deceased David Stevenson	29 August 1695
6th November 1741		James Steven	Weaver	
24th December 1742	James Paul elder		Cordiner, tanner	18 January 1705
4th January 1745		Thomas Armour	Tailor	6 August 1722
21st June 1745		John Pettigrew	Weaver	8 March 1710
8th October 1746		Patrick Scott	Tailor	
11th June 1747	Walter King		Barber	24 August 1708
28th September 1747		John Jamieson	Gardener	10 May 1701
9th November 1749	Walter McKippen		Skinner	31 August 1714
11th May 1750	Matthew Lawson		Flesher	29 September 1726
20th March 1752	Lyon Stewart		Skinner	2 October 1702
11th October 1752	Robert Lindsay		Cooper	10 June 1714
8th February 1753		James Thomson	Cordenor	
8th February 1753		Robert Thomson	Barber	
8th February 1753		William Young	Skinner	10 May 1722
17th May 1753		Robert Scott	Weaver	
12th January 1754	John Arneill		Tailor	14 June 1721
4th May 1756		Arthur Hamilton	Gardener	
1st April 1760		William Wilson	Barber in place of James Jack	
November 1761	John Alexander		Cordener	
13th October 1768		James Naughtie	Weaver in place of deceased Allan Allason	19 September 1734
22nd November 1774		Thomas Pettigrew senior	Weaver	21 July 1731

Date	Hospital Resident	Pensioner	Incorporation	Burgess Ticket Gained
27th April 1775		John Tennant	Weaver	1 August 1744
27th April 1775		John Brown	Cordener	