



## The National Pharmacy Museum has a new home

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The 52 Glenhove Road building was home to an extensive collection of books (some dating back to as early as 1886), fondly known as the Pharmacy Library, as well as the National Pharmacy Museum, with numerous displays showcasing the rich heritage of our noble profession. The sale of 52 Glenhove Road necessitated the relocation of the Library and the Museum.

It was very important that suitable premises be found that continue to display the history of Pharmacy, and the PSSA Southern Gauteng (SG) Branch is deeply indebted to Aspen Pharmacare for providing alternative premises for the museum.

The relocation process was no mean feat; all exhibits were marked according to their respective display cabinets, wrapped, and boxed, and transported to a holding area on the Pharmacare campus, from where the items were moved to the current display area, once the additional display cabinets were installed and other renovations to the designated area were complete.

It soon became clear that space was limited and that not all the exhibits could be displayed in the new premises; some exhibits, such as the dispensary shelving donated to the Museum in commemoration of Cecil Abrahamson, were non-negotiable and have been accommodated.

The accompanying photographs illustrate the different displays in the new premises; displays in cabinets have been created according to specific themes within the pharmacy profession. All items have been indexed and an inventory list of all displays is available.

Fortunately, several duplicate and excess items could be donated to the Pharmacy Department at Wits University, including an extensive collection of dry plant and animal material, traditional medicines, as well as glass laboratory equipment.

In addition, the Branch would like to acknowledge A-Thermal who agreed to destroy the bottled substances and medicines at no cost to the Society. We salute you for this service to pharmacy!

The National Pharmacy Museum and Library has, for several years, been administered and financed by The Southern Gauteng Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society. To cement the concept of a National



Entrance area



Ampoule filling equipment



Legend to exhibits in entrance area

Pharmacy Museum, much of the administration has been transferred to the National Office, for which we are very grateful. The Museum is now a fully-fledged Section 21 Company (not-for-profit company) with a bank account into which donations can be made and claimed back from SARS. More details will be made available later.

We hope to appoint a curator soon who will offer guided tours of the museum.

Unfortunately, the Library could not be housed on the same premises as the Museum; the Library found a home at 6 Fort Street, Illovo Extension, on the premises of the PSSA Southern Gauteng offices.

All duplicate books have been removed and books have been arranged on specially built shelving according to subject matter in a separate



Tools of the trade



The dispensary

facility on the property. In due course, we hope to have a list of all available books published on the PSSA website.

Should any member be interested in acquiring such specific publication, this will be available at a nominal cost (donation to the museum.)

#### ***How to visit the museum?***

1. Make your way to Health Care Park in Woodlands Drive, Woodmead during office hours.
2. At the entrance to the Park, inform the security guard that you are visiting the museum.
3. You will be directed to Building 1 where the museum is situated.



Laboratory, manufacturing filling exhibition