

# 3bloodscape

## BARBERSHOP

In the 1700s, your local barber didn't just cut your hair. They might also pull out an aching tooth, reset a broken arm or drain your blood to treat fever. All without painkillers!

Keep an eye out around town and you will notice 'candy cane' poles outside many barbershops. These iconic red and white poles are a relic from the profession's medical past. The red stripes represent blood and white represent bandages. The shape represents a pole that patients would grip to encourage blood flow.

Here in Edinburgh, the Royal College of Surgeons was originally named the Incorporation of Surgeons and Barbers in 1505. The two professions went their separate ways in 1722.