

Collaborative Partners for CHM

Coventry City Council, Herbert Gallery and Museum, Talking Birds, University Hospitals C and W,



→ talking birds



The Centre for the History of Medicine (led by [Dr Mathew Thomson](#) and Dr Molly Rogers) with Coventry City Council, University Hospitals C&W, The Herbert Gallery & Museum and Talking Birds, combined together to present the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital Project.

Through a programme of activity that took *archiving*, *disseminating*, and *interacting* as its key concerns, the Centre for the History of Medicine at Warwick sought to stimulate public discussion on a variety of issues, including the history of the Hospital, changes to the NHS, and the future role of hospitals and their place in the community based on the closure of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital in Coventry City Centre, and the Hospital's relocation to a new purpose-built 'super hospital', which marked a significant moment in the history of the NHS and pointed to the changing nature of health care in the UK.

The project included [Twelve Beds](#); a site-specific dance event that was developed and took place in the functioning hospital, exploring how dance material founded on the past can inform the future, how the human body stores its own history and how this can manifest itself in dance, and how the silent dancer can represent untold as well as spoken histories & [One Last Look](#); a weekend of events and activities to mark the closing of the hospital and celebrate its history, including exhibitions, performance, and workshops for kids of all ages. ONE LAST LOOK was produced by the Centre for the History of Medicine and Talking Birds, and took place in the decommissioned hospital.

The project also developed 'Sites of Memory' in conjunction with the project team, as an informal archive of information about Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital gathered. The sources for this information include interviews conducted with patients and staff, objects salvaged from the Hospital site, and also members of the community who have sent in testimonials, photographs and memorabilia relating to the Hospital.

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/chm/outreach/cwhp/>

<http://www.talkingbirds.co.uk/>

<http://www.uhcw.nhs.uk/>

<http://www.theherbert.org/>