

converse

theatre

company c v

Converse Theatre was a social enterprise delivering projects focussed on the wellbeing of individuals, organisations and communities based in Lincoln UK

Developmental Transformations (DvT) UK

2011-2020

DvT is a method of embodied therapy, meditation, performance, and an approach to social change. Converse Theatre's John Bowtell is UK training co-ordinator

www.developmentaltransformations.com

Clinical Psychology Training and Assessment

2009-2020

Training through role play for University of Sheffield and University of Hull

Playback Lincoln

2014-2020

Playback Theatre project, latterly at Mansions of the Future

Grimsby Creative Expressive

2004-2019

Therapeutic theatre project for people with experience of mental health problems incorporating visual and performing arts elements in a creative expressive model for [NAViGO](#). Group members were also involved in dramatising proposed service change e.g. **Record keeping** (April 2014) **SRV training** (2009-10) and facilitation of the service user experience element of the **Junior doctors induction** programme.

Messages Group

2005-2019

Learning disabled adult drama group at [Guildhall Arts Centre](#). Performances have included **Cinderella** (2008) **The Story Bag** (2009) **Jack and the Beanstalk** (2013), **Aladdin** (2014) **Snow White** (2016) **Peter Pan** (2017) **Grease** (2019) **A Remembering for the Messages Group** (2019)

Sketches with discarded objects and table talk x

With Marcus Hammond as part of Slumgothic Artist Resident Curators Small Group Show

18 November 2017

Dramatherapy for William Farr School

2016-17

Weekly individual dramatherapy sessions for referred pupils

Morton Hall Playback Theatre

August 2016

A series of four Playback Theatre sessions at Morton Hall Immigration Removal Centre

Nursing Development Session

August 2015

Performance and creative team-building for North Region NHS England

Hull Bebop Playback

Spring 2015

Taster sessions and formation of a new Playback Theatre company in Hull as part of an Arts & Wellbeing programme for over 45's

Pathfinder Theatre Project

2007-2014

Research into drama as a vehicle for self-cultivation with Pathfinder Studio. Converse Theatre has been involved in Genet's **The Maids** (2007) Ibsen's **A Doll's House** (2008) Miller's **The Crucible** (2010) and **Rebecca** (2013/14)

MFA Choreographing Live Art: Somatic Investigations

April 2013 & Sept 2014

Group and individual facilitation of developmental transformations at [University of Lincoln](#)

Hidden Needs Conference

June 2014

Converse Theatre is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No.3602235

Exploring non-verbal creativity workshop for Diocese of Lincoln

Dramatherapy workshop

May 2014

Experiential training session at University of Hull

Betrayal Replayed

Autumn 2013- Spring 2014

Project reexamining Betrayal by Harold Pinter (Converse Theatre's first production). Sell out performances at Lincoln Drill Hall prior to Spring 2014 tour. Blog here: [John Bowtell's Blog | - reflections on directing plays and other endeavours](#)

newvolutions Playback Theatre

January 2014

Facilitation of Mysteries Drama Group as part of newvolutions festival

Transported consultation

May - July 2013

Urban play in parks and pop-up performances of **Fanny's Flummery** in cafés to stimulate & facilitate community consultation for Arts NK programme in South Lincolnshire

Lincoln Mystery Plays 2012

2011-12

Artistic direction of major community project working with volunteer production team and over 40 community performers of the medieval N-Town cycle at Medieval Bishops' Palace & Lincoln Cathedral in collaboration with [Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust](#), [Lincoln Mystery Plays Trust](#) and other partners.

School Transitions

June-July 2007/9/11

Working with children from four feeder primary schools making the transition to Monks Dyke school in Louth

No-Name Playback (Derby)

2010-11

Converse worked in collaboration with this playback theatre company performing as part of a project for women who have experienced domestic violence (October 2010) at a Pupil Referral Unit (November 2010) and for Transition Derby (Jan 2011)

Dramatherapy in schools

Autumn 2009-Summer 2010

Provision of dramatherapy for project with EBSS in Lincolnshire.
Report: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/23974034/EBSS%20Dth%20Eval.doc>

Phoenix & the Nicotine Kid

Spring 2010

Performance piece created for the stop smoking service. [Video](#)

Public Health Video projects

2009-10

Script development and direction for a range of video projects for public health in North and North East Lincolnshire including Mental Health in the Workplace, Intergenerational, Boy's and Men's Health

Lifestyle Theatre

Autumn 2008-Spring 2010

Wellbeing and employability project engaging people experiencing occupational deprivation in Grimsby

Celebrating Success

Feb 2009 & Feb 2010

Plays "Winner" and "Alice in NHS Wonderland" created for Lincolnshire PCT staff awards events. Videos available.

SRV Training project

Dec 2007 - Dec 2009

Facilitation of Grimsby Theatre group contribution to staff training project for North East Lincolnshire Care Trust Plus

Dramatherapy Adult Mental Health pilot project

Jan-Oct 2009

Encompassing clinical work, staff training and community engagement for North East Lincolnshire Care Trust Plus. Report available.

Warwickshire Arts & Mental Health project

Jan-Oct 2009

Working with people accessing crisis services at Park House using writing, poetry, singing, song-writing, music and drama, independently evaluated by Creativity Team [Report](#) available.

- Day & Night** **2009**
Second filmmaking project with an integrated group including young people with disabilities
Dance Delight [Video](#)
- Alternative Tutorial project** **Autumn 2008-Spring 2009**
Funded by Centre for Education Research Development, examining the potential of therapeutic drama in the context of tutorial processes for undergraduate studies at University of Lincoln
- Smoking Cessation** **2008-9**
Script development for public health film. Videos available.
- Clinical Leadership** **June 2008 & Feb 2009**
Training through role play for Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Everybody's NHS?** **April 2008**
Performance based facilitation beginning the development of Single Equality Schemes for NHS organisations in Lincolnshire. Report: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/7qckedpwt8nrjzt/ENHSvRepP1.3.pdf?dl=0>
- Autism Spectrum Disorder Conference** **March 2008**
Presentation on the potential of drama with people with ASD and Asperger's and their carers.
- Challenging Stigma** **January 2008**
Facilitation at partnership stakeholder event for Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- ETE Apprenticeship project** **Autumn 2007**
Video about young care leaver's in apprenticeships for the Lincolnshire Leaving Care Service
- Parklife** **Autumn 2007**
Award-winning filmmaking project with an integrated group including young people with disabilities Dance Delight [Video](#)
- Drama4Life** **Spring 2006 - Summer 2007**
Building confidence of young people involved with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services through work at The Collection in Lincoln. Pilot phase report: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/23974034/Me%20Room%20report%20d1.pages.pdf>
- i3** **March-June 2007**
Visioning project for mental health services across Leeds using playback theatre. Report <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/23974034/i3%20visioning%20report.pages.pdf>
- The PCT of the Future** **May 2007**
Staff development event for senior management of Lincolnshire Primary Care Trust
- Moving/Images** **March 2007**
Expressive arts workshop for Women & Wellbeing conference in Derby
- Eric & Edith online** **Feb 2007**
Performance and workshop facilitating networking for the launch of Lincolnshire Cooperative Development Agency's website
- Act by Right** **Feb 2007**
Forum theatre project for young people in Lincolnshire on issues of campaigning
- Stoppres** **Feb 2007**
Forum theatre project addressing the use of language in the reporting of suicide and mental illness in the media for Government Office North East, Yorkshire and Humber.
- STEP Conference** **June 2006**
Working with users towards performance at East Midlands Early Intervention In Psychosis conference

- CSIP Development day** **June 2006**
Organisational development project for Care Services Improvement Partnership NEYH
- 38 Daffodils phase 2 – forum for young people** **Spring 2006**
Interactive performance piece examining social & anti-social behaviour for 10-13 year olds
- The Joy of Clinical Governance** **Autumn 2005/Spring 2006**
Project addressing organisational issues in North Lincolnshire
PCT Report: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/23974034/Joy%20interim%20report.pdf>
- Portable Panto project** **Autumn 2005/Spring 2006**
Pantomime for elderly people in residential care and children from immigrant communities
- Made in Lincolnshire** **November 2005**
Video sharing of contemporary dance practice for *lincolnshire dance*
- Roots: Routes** **November 2005**
Virtual & actual guides for exhibition of community based practice by *artsNK*
- Democracy Day** **October 2005**
Performance & workshop project exploring local government with E2E clients
- St Katherine's Priory Community Centre Launch Project** **Summer 2005**
Performance piece celebrating social enterprise and catalysing engagement with community of St Katherine's area in Lincoln.
- 38 Daffodils** **Spring 2005**
Devised performance examining anti-social behaviour based on work with young and elderly people in South Kesteven
- Maltings Community Consultation Project** **Spring 2005**
Using theatre to get views of local people on proposed redevelopment of Bass Maltings in Sleaford [Sleaford Maltings Consultation projection loop on Vimeo](#)
- Oh No Not Again!** **April 2005**
Performance and workshop piece made for all the Lincolnshire NHS Trusts addressing access to emergency care services.
- Shaping The Role** **2004 – 2005**
An innovative active research and evaluation project on the new job role of STR (Support, Time & Recovery) worker funded by Trent NHS Workforce Development Confederation
- NOBL** **Autumn 2004**
Performance and workshop piece made for Lincolnshire CDA and Urban Challenge for audiences of voluntary sector agencies to stimulate thinking about social enterprise and cooperative ownership.
- The Doctors** **October 2004**
Street theatre piece commissioned by a day centre in Lincoln for World Mental Health Day
- Do you Mind..?** **Autumn 2003 and 2004**
Challenging the stigma around mental illness. Initially toured widely in village halls, mental health institutions, theatres and conferences. Second tour focussed on schools. [Video 2004](#) [2003 project evaluation Teachers Pack](#)
- Interior Landscapes** **Autumn 2003**
Video/dance piece toured village halls in mid Lincolnshire as part of the Grounding project.
- Food for Thought** **Summer 2003**
Devising and performing a new play with patients and staff at Rampton Hospital.

Grounding	2003
SRB-funded project in rural mid-Lincolnshire with a particular focus on engaging young people, older people and people with disabilities	
Lysistrata Project	Spring 2003
Lincolnshire's part of an international project providing a theatre forum for local people to discuss the impending war in Iraq.	
Tryangle 2	Spring 2003
Theatre/video project with young people at Horncastle Youth Centre in collaboration with Transition Media Arts.	
Essence of Care	2002-2003
Commission by Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Trust as staff training tool	
Groundance	Summer/Autumn 2002
Multi-media inter-generational community dance performance in Lincoln	
Off the Page	May 2002
Intensive research into an active script development process with local writers in collaboration with Blackfriars Arts Centre.	
Tryangle Project	Spring 2002
Youth Arts pilot initiative at Mablethorpe Youth Centre.	
India	Spring 2002
Collaboration with Yellowbelly T.I.E on the life of Ghandi & the story behind Diwali.	
Transitions	Summer/Autumn 2001
Follow-up combined arts and installation project with users of mental health services in Lincoln and Grantham in partnership with Lincolnshire Dance and Artlink.	
being here	Spring 2001
Residency project at the Peter Hodgkinson Centre mental health unit. Video	
Behold the Man	1999-2000
Touring show based on Michael Moorcock's novella.	
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead - Tom Stoppard	Autumn 1999
Touring show in collaboration with the Lincoln Shakespeare Company	
Waiting For Godot - Samuel Beckett	Spring 1999
Touring performance in Youth Centres and other venues	
Two - Jim Cartwright	1998
Toured pubs and bar venues	
Look Back in Anger - John Osborne	Autumn 1997
Toured Lincolnshire theatre spaces	
Mountain Lanuage and The Dumb Waiter - Harold Pinter	Spring 1997
Multimedia collaboration with deaf community in English and BSL, toured Lincolnshire	
A Resounding Tinkle - N.F. Simpson with After Magritte - Tom Stoppard	Autumn 1996
Toured Lincolnshire theatre spaces	
Brimstone and Treacle - Dennis Potter	Spring 1996
Performed at NK School and Spilsby Theatre	
Betrayal - Harold Pinter	1995
Touring production	