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PRESS RELEASE

60 Year Old NHS Takes Tonic from the Past

A trip back in time to the Black Country Living Museum proved just the tonic for nurses from Russell's Hall Hospital and across the Midlands as they stepped forward into the future to celebrate 60 years of the NHS.

Taking a trip down memory lane to look at nursing past and present - the conference focused on wound care throughout the ages. Prescriptions from the past might not sound like 21st century medicine but creepy crawlies are worming their way back into the health service with multi-tasking maggots cleaning wounds and speeding up healing and leeches relieving swelling.

Gill Hiskett, Lead Tissue Viability Nurse and Conference Organiser said: "We're looking to the past and learning from it as well as showcasing pioneering future treatments. In the olden days patients could find wounds dressed with anything from egg white blasted with oxygen, to iodine, honey or methylated spirit. Exciting future care on the horizon includes Electric Magnetic Therapy, wound suction and treatments that harness the properties of silver and honey.

"We are constantly developing and want to demonstrate how we can heal, cost effectively, with patient satisfaction and positive outcomes. Our aim is to improve a patient's quality of life and enable them to lead as normal a life as possible."

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