

*in collaboration with Birmingham Literature Festival*

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***Barbara Taylor: The Last Asylum***

*Sunday, 8 October 2017*

*2.00 – 3.00 pm*

*Venue: The Door, Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2EP*



*Our collaboration with the Birmingham Literature Festival continues this year with an 'in conversation' between **Alf McFarland** of WMIP and **Barbara Taylor**, author of *The Last Asylum* (2014). In July 1988 Taylor, then an acclaimed young historian, was admitted to what had once been England's largest psychiatric institution: Colney Hatch Lunatic Asylum, later known as Friern Hospital. A meditation on Taylor's own experience of breakdown and healing (including a twenty-year analysis), the book draws on her journals of the time, written, even amidst her most severe states of disturbance, with a historian's eye for detail. It also reflects on the changes in the mental health system which have taken place since the closure of those institutions, asking how she would have fared without the 'brick mother' which contained her at points when nothing else could.*

*Exclusive offer for WMIP members: 2 for 1 ticket price - bring a friend and spread the word as widely as possible!*

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*£8.00/£6.40 (two for one offer for WMIP members, phone bookings only)*

*Booking: <https://www.birminghamliteraturefestival.org/non-fiction>*

*Tel: 0121 245 4455*