



Feminist Library Newsletter

No. 28 Winter 2017/18

Keep up to date with the latest news about the Library and forthcoming events by signing up to our e-bulletin - click on the button on our website <http://feministlibrary.co.uk>

The Feminist Library would like to say a big thank you to our volunteers, visitors, Friends and donors and wish you all a happy holiday season! As we look forward to 2018 we are excited about plans to develop our events programme, expand our collection and move forward with securing a new building. Since 1975 we have held this unique archive and social space together and we aim continue for at least another 42 years with your kind support!

Please note that during the winter holiday period will be closed from Friday 22nd December 5pm, until Tuesday 9th January.

BECOME A FRIEND

If you love the Feminist Library please consider becoming a Friend. From as little as £3 a month (or the equivalent each year), you can help preserve Feminist Herstory and our priceless collection. We also have available a Friends Scheme Gift Card – a perfect gift for the feminist in your life!

Benefits of being a Friend

- 15% off any merchandise or book at the Library from our bookshop and on our stalls at events
- Regular Feminist Library e-bulletins and newsletters delivered to your inbox
- Invites to events, workshops, lectures – from us and our friends
- Special offers throughout the year
- Book Draws

Sign up online here: <http://feministlibrary.co.uk/support/friends-scheme/>

NEWS



Feminist Library, a Tate Exchange Associate

We are very excited to announce our partnership with Tate Modern, which will start next year.

Tate Exchange is an entirely new programme which will explore how art makes a difference in society by working with the collection, artists, partners and the public on a socially relevant annual theme. The first annual theme involves an exploration of the ideas held within the concept of production. The Feminist

Library will run a series of events at Tate on this theme. Pop in to our pop-up Feminist Library and join us in creating space for herstory to be produced.

Dates: 20, 21, 22 April and 29 June 2018, and more to be confirmed.

Feminist Library on Loan at Tate Modern - The Feminist Library invites you to join in the exploration and making of herstory. Browse some of the fascinating material that makes up the archive, explore DIY culture and knowledge sharing, and challenge the dominant norms to make space for other voices. Chat with some of the volunteers who keep the library running and learn about its unique history and its importance as a place for dialogue in the past, present and future. We look forward to seeing you there!

Changing, but staying the same!

As part of our development plans, we are about to move from the unincorporated charity we have been for many years into becoming a CIO. Our charitable aims will remain exactly the same, and we intend to carry on working in the same collective way we always have.

To coincide with this transition, we invite you to our **Annual General Meeting, to be held at the Feminist Library on Tuesday, 9 January 2018 at 7 p.m.** Copies of the agenda will be circulated shortly.

Please email admin@feministlibrary.co.uk if you would like to come.

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REVIEWS



Review of the Feminist Library By Ameira July-Williams, Age 8

During the half term, I went to the Feminist Library with my friend/pen-pal Lucky. We went there to do a project on women in history. We went to that library in particular because it is a feminist library so that means it is about women. Lucky writes a notebook on women in history and I do my blog so it was a good place for us to find information.

I was so excited to get there that the journey felt super quick. I was expecting a wide range of books, but what I was not expecting was a whole load of sweets just for us! That's exactly what happened...

When we arrived a woman named Sarah gave us a tour of the Feminist Library. There were books on Jewish women, Irish women, Lesbian women and women of colour. That was not all -there were journals, magazines, zines, letters and books. We saw some old and delicate books from the 1970s when the library opened. They even put out

a wonderful display on feminism, as well as the colouring set on women. The staff were lovely and treated us well.

There was great information there about women in science and other genres. It has given me ideas for my next blog. This library was not huge, but it was comfortable. In normal libraries there are usually restricted seats, but in this library you can sit anywhere because it is small place.

I would recommend this place to you all, feminist or not. It is in Waterloo, the nearest train stop is Lambeth North. You do have to call in advance but it is AMAZING!

<https://whatsnotatschoolblog.wordpress.com>

Feminist Library's Latinx Feminist Festival - celebrating Latin culture and diaspora feminisms Review by Jael de la Luz and Emma Thatcher

During Autumn 2017 we organised the Latinx Feminist Festival, a series of events including films, poetry and a local history walk to make visible and celebrate the Latin American community in London.

Interest in the event first arose when we located in our collection Latin American and Chicano writers translated into English, and collective books that drew on the experience of women in times of revolutionary



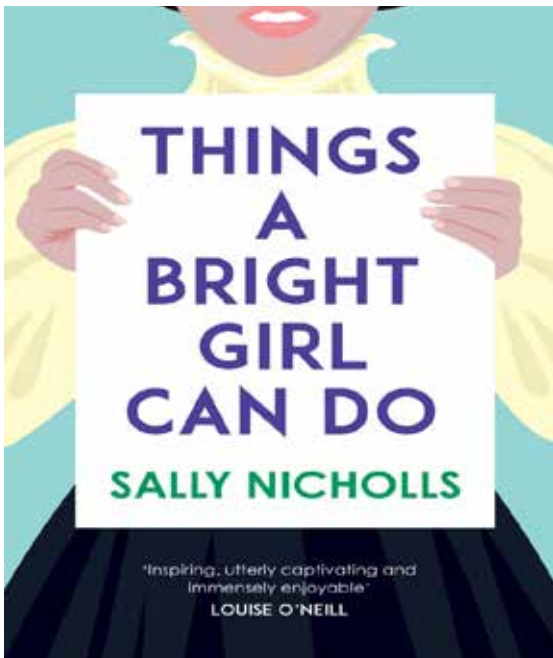
changes in Cuba, Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Colombia and the Caribbean. We wanted to remember and celebrate feminist Latina activists, authors, filmmakers, that discuss the violence and inequality that Latin American women experience in their own countries and outside of them.

The Feminist Library is located close to Elephant and Castle, which has a large Latin American community currently struggling to preserve their spaces in the face of gentrification. This is something the Library has also experienced, and we were interested in making connections with other local groups and campaigns, and celebrating the local histories that exist here within Southwark.

Thanks to opportune funding by Oscar Murillo supporting this project, we were able to make the plan a reality! We set about planning a series of events and named the project the 'Latinx Feminist Festival', the 'x' challenging the gendered nature of the Spanish language.

We had some great feedback from participants in the Latinx Feminist Festival, who spoke about how much they enjoyed the events and about the importance of celebrating Latinx history and culture. Future plans to continue the project include the possibility of a language exchange for Spanish, Portuguese and English speakers, and the idea of a book club. Watch this space!

Please see our website for the full review: www.feministlibrary.co.uk/reviews



Things A Bright Girl Can Do by Sally Nicholls

Published by Andersen Press

Review by Sarah O'Mahoney

Through rallies and marches, in polite drawing rooms and freezing prison cells, and in the poverty-stricken slums of the East End, three courageous young women join the fight for the vote.

Evelyn is seventeen, and though she is rich and clever, she may never be allowed to follow her older brother to university. Enraged that she is expected to marry her childhood sweetheart rather than be educated, she joins the Suffragettes, and vows to pay the ultimate price for women's freedom.

May is fifteen, and already sworn to the cause, though she and her fellow Suffragists refuse violence. When she meets Nell, a girl who's grown up in hardship, she sees a kindred spirit. Together and in love, the two girls start to dream of a world where all kinds of women have their place.

This timely novel, aimed at Young Adults, doesn't shy away from forced feeding and the realities of being a suffrage activist just before the start of the war in 1914.

This book is available to buy in our bookshop and is part of our fiction collection. You can't miss the striking green/white and purple striped cover!

Lush Charity Pot

We are very grateful to the LUSH Charity Pot team and the LUSH Waterloo team in particular for hosting our stall and holding a charity pot sale for the Feminist Library in their store on the 10th and 11th November. It was a buzzing weekend, with many charity pots sold in store, and with many new connections made, some quite unexpected. The Feminist Library team had the opportunity to engage with the general public - visitors to our stall included busy commuters, tourists, party goers, as well as local police and station staff, which sparked some very interesting and memorable conversations.

If you would like to volunteer for the Feminist Library and take part in exciting events like that, and more, in 2018, please get in touch: volunteer@feministlibrary.co.uk. If you are familiar with any other retailers who would be happy to run this type of events in support of the Library, please let us know: magda@feministlibrary.co.uk.

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EVENTS (for full details please see our website: www.feministlibrary.co.uk/events)

Casual Chess - Women's Evenings

The BFI Lounge, 21 Stephen St, Off Tottenham Court Rd, W1T 1LN (nearest tube Tottenham Court Rd), Monday to Friday, 7.30pm – 11pm.

Friendly, diverse, central London woman-run chess cafe with free monthly women-only lessons.

Herstory Evening

Tuesday January 16th 2018, 7:30pm – 10:00pm

The Book Club, 100-106 Leonard Street, London, EC2A 4RH

Herstory's recreation of Judy Chicago's canonical feminist artwork 'The Dinner Party'.

Spirited Bodies. Stories of Women ~ with Claire

Monday 22nd January 2018 7pm - 9pm, The Feminist Library

Claire Collison will be presenting her experience of life modelling through performance.

Empowering Women to be financially independent. Women's Equality Party

Feminist Library, Monday January 29th, 6.30pm -8.30pm

Come and hear from the very knowledgeable Susan Mumford - professional inspirer and speaker!

Freud's Women - Lisa Appignanesi in conversation with Susie Orbach

Freud Museum, 20 Maresfield Gardens, London, NW3 5SX

January 31st, 7pm -8:30pm

Lisa Appignanesi co-author of the now classic Freud's Women and psychoanalyst Susie Orbach explore what women past and present have contributed to psychoanalysis.

WOW Festival

7th – 11th March 2018

Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX

WOW – Women of the World festival celebrates women and girls, and looks at the obstacles that stop them from achieving their potential.

NEU Conference 'Challenging sexism in schools'

Saturday 17th March 2018

One-day conference aimed at those interested in challenging sexism in education.

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The Feminist Library, 5a Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1 7XW.

Opening Hours: Tuesday 7-9 pm, Wednesday 2-6pm, Thursday 7-9pm, Friday 11-5pm and Saturday 12-5pm for the Feminist Library Bookshop. We are also open outside these hours by appointment only. Owing to circumstances beyond our control you have to climb six stairs to access the lift. Phone 020 7261 0879 or email admin@feministlibrary.co.uk www.feministlibrary.co.uk

Twitter @feministlibrary Facebook FeministLibrary. The Feminist Library Newsletter, Winter 2017/2018 - ISSN 0951-2837. Contributors: Ameira July-Williams, Emma Thatcher, Gail Chester, Jael da la Luz, Magda Oldziejewska, Rose Sinclair, Sarah O'Mahoney.