

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Feminist Library Newsletter. We will be closing in August for our Summer Vacation, however volunteers will be available to open by appointment only, so please email or ring if you would like to visit during this time.

Salon at the Feminist Library: A Forum for Feminist Ideas

In **April** we launched our 'Salon at the Feminist Library' series. For each salon event we have chosen a different theme. We have invited feminists who have special experience or expertise and who have often (but not always!) created books on the subject, to start off our discussions.

For our first event, 'Sex Workers and the Sex Industry', members of Sex Worker Open University introduced the work the project does to support those involved in the sex industry. Conversation touched upon how different legal models (Nordic, German, New Zealand) directly affect the lives of sex workers. We thank all who came for their sensitive contributions to a great discussion on such a compelling and difficult subject.

Later in April, the creators of new book, *Let's Start a Pussy Riot*, joined us to discuss their incredible international project to support jailed feminist activists in Russia. We also had the pleasure of a talk and screening from 'Speaking of I.M.E.L.D.A', a direct action feminist group who use performance to challenge I.M.E.L.D.A – Ireland Making England the Legal Destination for Abortion.

In **May**, author and Virginia Woolf expert, Susan Sellers, joined us to discuss Woolf's life and writings, as well as reading from her own works. Actor Sara Sassanelli created a performance work inspired by Sellers' first novel, *Vanessa and Virginia*, performed to one audience member at a time between the library's shelves. This unique work, along with Sellers' creative and knowledgeable presentation, created a magical atmosphere.

In **June** we held 'Not Just Tea and Sandwiches: Women of the 1984 Miners' Strike', when we hosted a varied programme of events celebrating the role of women in the 1984 miner's strike. We started the day with a screening of *Here We Go: Women Living in the Strike* (Maggie Wright) while Laura Wilkinson, author of a novel set in the strike, led a workshop on creating fiction from historical events. Artists Megan Pickering and Jessica Scott created an exhibition in the library encompassing artefacts of women's activism in the strike and contemporary textile works. Later, Laura Wilkinson read from her novel *Public Battles, Private Wars* in an 'In Conversation' with Dr Katy Shaw, an expert on women's writing of the period. This was followed by a presentation from Rachel Kirk from 'One For All Productions' who shared extracts from their oral history and theatre project *Holes in Tights*. We closed with a reading from *Until Our Blood is Dry* from author Kit Habianic, as well as an account from Jill Mountford of her personal involvement with North Staffordshire Miners' Wives Group.

The overwhelming feeling from all the guest speakers was of the positive empowerment that the women felt by being part of this vital socio-political movement. It brought working class women together and gave them a reason to become political activists: it encouraged public speaking, organising rallies, community support and togetherness. All who attended the day feel their understanding of the events of the eighties strikes have changed substantially as the women's story is generally unknown. The Feminist Library wants to thank all those who came and contributed to the day, and helped to make it into another piece of contemporary herstory, while giving us inspiration for our work today. Finally, in early **July**, we were delighted to host Laura Bates, friend of the library, originator of the 'Everyday Sexism' project and author of a new book of the same name. Participants in this incredibly moving session shared their own experiences in our packed meeting room, and, even more importantly, ideas on how we can all fight together against the everyday culture of misogyny.

Huge thanks to everyone who has joined us for our Salon events so far – and look out for details of upcoming Salons on our website!

Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives Network (FLA) Gathering – 13th and 14th September at Nottingham Women's Centre

In February 2014, Nottingham Women's Centre hosted the first Feminist Libraries and Archives Gathering in partnership with Feminist Library London. After a fruitful weekend of discussion, knowledge sharing and a whole lot of feminist solidarity, and as a response to the lack of networks between feminist and women-centric libraries and archives, we decided to form FLA: Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives Network. Our manifesto:

- To improve communication between our libraries and archives and to develop and strengthen connections and networks.
- To provide a platform for feminist and women's libraries and archives and to highlight their importance.
- To promote feminist and women's libraries and archives to a wider audience.
- To support each other in various aspects of running feminist and women's libraries and archives ,and to share knowledge and expertise.
- To ensure the continuity of feminist and women's libraries and archives.
- To create and maintain links between feminist and women's libraries and archives and the wider feminist activist community.

To assist our network's development, we are creating a directory of feminist and women's libraries and archives, and hold regular events for networking and knowledge sharing. We will be hosting a workshop at the Feminism in London conference in October. We are starting to look at creating a more uniform system of cataloguing our material. This will take time, research and effort, so we are starting gently. Please contact us if you are interested in joining the network; if you're not an actual library or archive, please still get in touch - you are more than welcome to attend the FLA Gathering. For further information email Zaimal@nottinghamwomenscentre.com.

WHY BE A FEMINIST? is a 10 week participatory course, beginning on Thursday 25th September at 7pm. It is being led by Women's Studies Without Walls at the Feminist Library and is open to all women. We will be exploring feminism and its relevance to our lives today, starting with examining some of the many strands within feminism, such as radical feminism, black feminism, socialist feminism and anarchafeminism. Later sessions will explore topics chosen by participants that relate to our everyday lives. Possible topics could include: mental health, abortion rights, class, ethnicity, sexual identity, education and work. Each session will begin with a short introduction and will be followed by group discussion. Cost will be £5 or £10 per session. Please register your interest in advance, as we expect demand to be heavy. Contact us at <u>wsww@feministlibrary.co.uk</u>.

Veronica Planton

All of us at the Feminist Library were very sad to hear of the death of Veronica Planton on November 19th, 2013. Veronica was an artist, a feminist and social justice activist, and was a member of the Feminist Library management group in 2007 and 2008. Veronica designed the Feminist Library dragon logo and also handcrafted our beautiful Feminist Library banner.

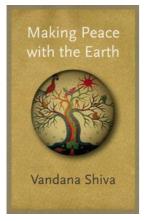
In our October 2007 Newsletter, Veronica wrote about how she came up with the Feminist Library logo: "The Dragon is a symbol associated with the Great Mother Goddess (via the snake) and hence represents the female principle and matriarchy. St George is usually seen plunging his sword into her, which is a visual metaphor for the triumph and hegemony of patriarchal principles over the matriarchy. Originally designed as a card to cheer up the locked-out sisters of the Feminist Library, the message was that the dragon couldn't be arsed to enact her part again this St George's Day, because she was curled up at the Feminist Library with a book."

In March 2008 Veronica described how she made the banner: "Being a hoarder, I had the materials to hand. The purple cloth comes from a sari under-skirt I bought in India; the green is an offcut I saved while working in a bed and futon factory; the white from the end of a bale of sheeting. Quite a bit of the banner is hand-stitched because the tension on my sewing machine has gone wrong. I projected the design on paper, drew the outlines, cut it out and drew round the shapes on to the coloured cloth. Then sewed the coloured shapes to the front of the banner. Part of the way through, I realised it would have been so much simpler to project and trace the design on to the back of the banner! With the clarity of hindsight and an efficient sewing machine it would have taken half the time." The Feminist Library management group offer our sincere condolences to the friends and family of Veronica Planton. Every time we raise our banner we will remember her.



Veronica and the banner that she designed and made, at the first Million Women Rise March in 2008

REVIEW



Making Peace with the Earth, by Vandana Shiva (Pluto Press/Fernwood Publishing, 2013)

Vandana Shiva will be known by many people as an environmentalist, antiglobalisation campaigner, and a founder of eco-feminism. This book isn't explicitly eco-feminist in content, although it's clear that this is not a perspective she's

abandoned, with references to 'capitalist patriarchy' in the introduction and conclusion. Instead, it's a survey of the impact of corporate expansion on the environment, agriculture and human beings.

The book is split into two parts:'Wars against the Earth', and 'Food Crises, Food Justice, Food Peace'. 'Wars against the Earth' details the corporate snatching of resources such as land, water and forests. It is full of case studies, from the displacement of 2,400 families in Jaitapur to make space for nuclear power to the Indian water crisis fuelled by World Bank loans. There are also stories of resistance and community organising. There's a danger that some campaigns around globalisation or poverty portray people in the global south as passive victims, but Shiva shows that what's needed is solidarity rather than pity. 'Food Crises, Food Justice, Food Peace' starts with a set of questions: "Why is every fourth Indian hungry? Why is every third woman in India anaemic and malnourished? Why is every second child underweight, stunted and wasted? Why has the hunger and malnutrition crisis deepened, even as India has seen nine per cent growth? Why is "shiny India" a starving India?" Her answers point again to corporate control, through the 'green revolution', the intellectual property rights and patents on seeds resulting from genetic engineering, and the impact of 'free trade'.

Making Peace with the Earth is well-written, urgent and impassioned, although not without its faults. Shiva's use of the phrase 'eco-apartheid' is emotive but not descriptive. I'm uncomfortable with the co-option of specific historic crimes in such a way. Whatever the linguistic origins of words such as apartheid and holocaust, they now have a very clear context and meaning. The philosophical and physical rupture between humans and nature is a vital issue – it doesn't need to be likened to racial division and domination.

The book doesn't really explain why this ecological and human exploitation is happening. Corporations are the clear enemy, but bar a few references to the free market and commodification there is no real description or analysis of capitalism. For a more rounded picture, it would be helpful to read *Making Peace with the Earth* alongside authors such as Maria Mies or Silvia Federici.

It's hard to get a real understanding of Shiva's alternative to the devastation she describes, as it's only briefly set out over a couple of pages. It seems to be a localised capitalism in conjunction with a spiritual shift in our relationship to the Earth, and raises more questions than it answers. These criticisms shouldn't put anyone off reading the book. It manages to be clear and readable yet detailed and wellresearched. It is not an argument about abstract concepts. The impact of these issues on people's lives is never far away.

Reviewed by Mark Restall

Recent Acquisitions

Until Our Blood is Dry, Kit Habianic (Parthian Books, 2014) Girlfriends and Postfeminist Sisterhood, Alison Winch (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013) Tender Delirium, Tania De Rozario (Math Paper Press, 2013) Body Boundaries: The EtiquetteSG Anthologies Volume 1, De Rozario, Muhammad and Udayasankar (eds) (The Literary Centre, 2014) Teaching Gender with Libraries and Archives, Jong and Koevoets (eds) (Atgender, 2013) A Grrrl Guide to Smashing Sexism @ Work, (ULU Women's Campaign, 2014) Infidel feminism: Secularism, religion and women's emancipation, England 1830–1914, Laura Schwartz (Manchester University Press, 2013) Playing the Whore: The Work of Sex Work, Melissa Gira Grant (Verso Books, 2014) Let's Start a Pussy Riot, Neu and French (eds) (Rough Trade, 2013) Unspeakable things: Sex, Lies and Revolution, Laurie Penny (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2014) Rain and Thunder: A Radical Feminist Journal of Discussion and Activism, Open Issue #59, Summer 2014 Amazing Babes: A Picture Book for Kids and Adults, Eliza Sarlos and Grace Lee (Scribe, 2014) Organise! Magazine #82 (Anarchist Federation, Summer 2014)



The Feminist Library will be 40 in 2015 and we are intending to ensure it is a truly celebratory and momentous year at the Feminist Library.

To help us secure the future of the library for another 40 years at least, we are looking for feminist fundraisers. If you have experience of writing funding applications, contacting targeted possible donors and organising fundraising events, or are interested in helping, please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you. Email fundraising@feministlibrary.co.uk for more information.

LISTINGS

EVERY SATURDAY 10am-6pm, The Feminist Library Bookshop.

We sell new and secondhand books, periodicals and zines – with vintage editions of Spare Rib at £2 and fantastic zines from 50p, as well as beautiful cards, tote bags and badges by feminist designers. We also sell home made cake (usually vegan and gluten free) for £1.50, Zapatista filter coffee for £1, and tea for 80p. We have an ever growing stock of pamphlets and books, and can try to source things for you from publishers, so if there's something you are looking for, please email bookshop@feministlibrary.co.uk. The bookshop will not be open on Saturday 23 August.

Saturday, 12 July 2014, 7 – 10pm, Polka Theatre, 240 The Broadway, London SW19 1SB. The Oneness Sistarhood Presents: "STRENGTH". A variety show fundraiser in aid

of the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust organised by the Oneness Sistarhood. Tickets £10.

www.facebook.com/OnenessSiSTARhood

Saturday 26th July 2014, 12pm to 5:00pm at The Finsbury Library, 245 Saint John Street, London EC1V 4NB [NB Not at the Feminist Library] London 70s Sisters gathering for feminists active in the 60s, 70s & 80s.

Come to an afternoon of connecting with other feminists and joining in discussion around themes of ageing, ageism, and activism. There will be an opportunity to form new ongoing groups if you would like to.

This is a follow up meeting to the gathering held at the Feminist Library on January 25th, but will also be an open meeting for anyone who was not at the January meeting. Women from outside London welcome. The building is wheelchair accessible. Bring your own lunch. The Feminist Library will be running a bookstall with hot drinks, cakes and savoury snacks.

For further information contact Kate Hancock at Opening Doors 020 7239 0447 or

<u>kate.hancock@ageukcamden.org.uk</u>. Please also contact Kate if you would be willing to help with organising beforehand or on the day. **Friday 1 August, 4 – 8pm. St. George the Martyr Church in Borough, South London. Queer Religious Youth Event.** Launch of exhibition and panel on the relationship between faith, Christianity, gender, and sexuality over the lifecourse. The Feminist Library will have a stall at the event. queerreligiousyouth.wordpress.com

13 – 17 August 2014, Lampeter, Wales. Women In Tune Festival. Women-only festival celebrating women in music. www.womenintune.co.uk

Sunday 19th October 2014, Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Road, London. AFem2014. Anarcha-feminist Conference. Afem2014.wordpress.com

Jacky Logan is a FitSteps instructor, DJ & librarian whose great music you heard at our 80s Homespun disco! Join her dance fitness classes in venues around NE London you don't need a partner or any prior dance skills to enjoy them! Contact Jacky to book a place: 07715 421 349, jacjuke@aol.com. Jacky also hosts Pink Jukebox, a Latin American & Ballroom Dance Club for Lesbians, Gay Men and their Friends, at 4, Wild Court, London WC2B 4AU every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Includes classes, as well as general dancing. Entry is £10 for members, £12 for non-members. Membership is £10 a year. See Jacky's website: www.jackysjukebox.co.uk

Saturday November 8th 2nd Feminist Graphic Arts event at the Feminist Library – for everyone who likes feminist zines, comics, graffiti, and graphics of all sorts. Come along to learn more, share skills and develop new ones. We are looking for people to give a talk or presentation on graphic arts, favourite artists, inspirations, theory, technique, etc. There will be an exhibition in the library with an accompanying zine, for which we invite feminist-identified artists to submit artwork on the theme of 'A feminist space is...' Please email your artwork as an A4 black and white high resolution image to eva@laneutral.com by September 20th and include a short description about yourself/your work. Contact us at the same email address if you'd like to help before and during the event.



The Feminist Library, 5a Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1 7XW. Phone 020 7261 0879 or email admin@feministlibrary.co.uk Visit www.feministlibrary.co.uk. Follow us on twitter @feministlibrary Opening hours: The Feminist Library is open Mondays 5-8pm, Tuesdays 11am-6pm, Wednesdays 3-9pm, Thursdays 6-9pm and Saturdays 10am-6pm for the Feminist Library Bookshop. We are also open outside of these hours by appointment only. Please email <u>admin@feministlibrary.co.uk</u> or phone 0207 261 0879 if you would like to make an appointment. Please check www.feministlibrary.co.uk/hours for the most up-to-date information, including changes to opening hours. ***We close in August for our Summer Vacation. The Feminist Library Newsletter, Summer 2014 - ISSN 0951-2837. Contributors: Una Byrne, Gail Chester, Mark Restall, Anna Piggott, Gemma Aston.



Who Was Ethel Buddle?

By Zoe Fairbairns

Imagine the scene.

You're a volunteer worker at the Feminist Library. You arrive for your shift with a heavy heart. You're wondering how much longer the Library will survive: money is running out, and the rent is due.

To make matters worse, the morning mail has brought an envelope from a bank. This, you feel sure, can only be bad news: a bounced cheque? A request that you take your loss-making business elsewhere? A summons for non-payment of something-or-other?

Nervously you open the envelope.

The letter informs you that the Feminist Library has been included in the will of a woman who died recently aged 84. The woman's name – Ethel Buddle - is unfamiliar. There's no trace of her being an FL member or even a visitor. But she has left the Library nearly £15,000 – more than enough to avert the immediate financial crisis.

This happened in 2008. The worker who opened the envelope, Una Byrne, recalls the huge psychological boost that came with the money. "Ethel's legacy validated the work we were doing at the Library and encouraged us to continue," she recalls. "It allowed us to focus on outreach and promoting the Library. It is a direct consequence of Ethel's gift to us that the Library is in the great condition it is today."

Another FL worker recently visited some of Ethel Buddle's relatives to try and find out more about her. Born in Northumberland in 1924, Ethel was the youngest of five children of a coal-miner father and a full-time mother. Ethel attended Duchess Grammar School in Alnwick, and, during World War Two, worked in the Food Ration Office in Amble. After the war, she trained as a teacher, and became a lecturer in business studies at Newcastle Commercial College. A trade unionist and Labour Party member, Ethel always saw women's issues as a priority. She urged women to get the best possible education, to be ambitious and to apply for so-called men's jobs.

Her relatives aren't able to say whether she had any specific connection with the Feminist Library, or why she chose it for her bequest, but they are sure she would have been aware of it from the many women's movement newsletters and magazines to which she subscribed. The relatives recalled how Ethel's house was full of books on women's issues, and she was in frequent correspondence with newspapers and politicians on subjects to do with women's education and employment.

When the time came for Ethel Buddle to make her will, she was determined that no man would get his hands on her money: she left it all to female relatives and feminist charities, including us.

So what about you?

Will you follow Ethel Buddle's example and remember the Feminist Library in your will?

Perhaps you haven't made a will, and have no plans to do so. Why? Are you OK with the idea that, when you die, all your property (everything from private papers and personal treasures, to money in the bank and your home if you own it) will be distributed in accordance with the laws of intestacy, rather than in accordance with your wishes? (Some of your stuff might even end up being handed over to the government.)

So please take legal advice and make a will. Tell the solicitor that you want to leave some of your money to The Feminist Library, 5 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7XW.

Phone: 0207 261 0879 Email: admin@feministlibrary.co.uk Website: www.feministlibrary.co.uk

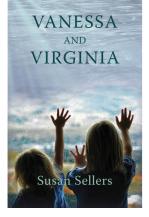
Registered charity number: 272410

You can leave either a specific sum, or a percentage of what you have. That's up to you. But please, take inspiration from Ethel Buddle, and do it.

If you have already made a will, you probably know that it's a good idea to keep it under review as your circumstances change. Next time you review your will, please ask your solicitor to include something for the Feminist Library. We hope that it will be many years before the Feminist Library will actually benefit from your bequest. Some of us who are discussing it now, may not even be around. But someone will be – a future feminist who will be as grateful to you as

we are to Ethel Buddle.

Reviews



Vanessa and Virginia, Susan Sellers (Two Ravens and Harcourt, 2008)

A fictionalized portrait of writer Virginia Woolf's intimate yet fraught relationship with her sister Vanessa Bell, *Vanessa and Virginia* centres around themes of artistic creation and female experience, familial ties, mental illness and loss. Susan Sellers creates a portrait of two phenomenally

gifted artists at the vanguard of the Modernist movement, at the same time exploring the nature of female relationships: motherhood, daughterhood and sisterhood. Vanessa Bell becomes the central subject, rather than a sidecharacter to her more famous sister, and the novel takes the form of an epistle written by Bell to Woolf, remembering and reflecting on their history of love and rivalry. This narrative technique underscores the theme explored in the book of the cathartic power of writing. Inhabiting Bell's perspective allows Sellers to detail her fascinating life as a Modernist artist, imagining how she might have willed her sister's success, contributed to it, yet envied and even feared it.

When I picked up the novel it was not without reservations. Woolf is something of a heroine of mine – I recall encountering her breathtaking stream-of-consciousness prose in my teens, one of those moments of sheer awe at the alchemic possibilities of the written word. To add to this, fictionalized accounts of real historical figures had never been a genre I had gone in for, preferring instead to go for either a biography or a novel – could the two be successfully blended? Thankfully Sellers has pulled it off with panache in *Vanessa and Virginia*. This is owed in large part to the fact that the book is quite obviously meticulously researched.

Sellers feeds this biographical information into the narrative in an imaginative, pictorial style, rather than simply regurgitating it - information and anecdotes are scattered through Vanessa's imagined monologue. While Sellers does not precisely recreate Woolf's own flitting, meandering stream-of-consciousness, her more simple prose style is both fresh and engaging, deploying scenes from both sisters' works. The sensual descriptions of Bell's paintings had me itching to rush off to a gallery to see the originals. Delightful, too are the depictions of the intellectual and social milieu of the Bloomsbury Group, which sees Woolf depicted in a carefree and almost wanton light - appearing in a risqué South Sea-Islander costume, or engaging in open bisexual flirtations - this is a far cry from the drawn, pensive and distressed figure we may imagine the writer always to have been.

Reading Sellers' book could not be considered a substitute for reading Woolf – and neither would I imagine its author would want it to be. This is a work created by a scholar who passionately loves Woolf's work, written for those who love it equally passionately. Through both imagination and careful research, Sellers finds a way to highlight the artistic achievements of Woolf's beloved, yet sadly less well-known sister, and vibrantly brings a segment of Woolf's biography to life.

Reviewed by Anna Piggott. Edited for space. Full review available at feministlibrary.co.uk/reviews.

Vanessa and Virginia is available from the Feminist Library Bookshop at a special price of £8.00 (RRP £8.99)



What Should We Tell Our Daughters? The Pleasures and Pressures of Growing Up Female, Melissa Benn (Hodder Paperbacks, 2014)

I've always been slightly worried (terrified) about the thought of bringing daughters into this world. I found it hard enough growing up as a teenage girl and I thankfully missed out on bullying/porn/social media/sexual relationships until I

was well over 18. My mother, having had a mother from hell (told her there was nothing worth looking at when stood in front of a mirror), did a grand job of helping me to grow up. She was always extremely careful not to criticise herself in front of us and always encouraged us towards happiness (which unfortunately backfired on her when me and my sister realised happiness = tattoos). Melissa Benn's book, despite being aimed at women on the verge/in the middle of motherhood, is extremely relevant for today's early – mid twenties woman. We twenty-somethings, who may be finally accepting that we no longer fall into the 'girl' category and have uncomfortably moved into the realms of being a 'woman' potentially gain some insight into just how hard every other female finds growing up and finding herself.

Highlighting the issues that plague women throughout childhood and into adulthood, the book presents facts, figures and most interestingly, first hand interviews with mothers and daughters on such subjects as pornography, career, motherhood and the sexualisation of the female body. Unfortunately there was a slight lack of young women's perspectives, which Benn has been criticised for in the past, however, I couldn't help but feel when reading the book that part of Benn's raison d'être was to give us younger women a supportive hand into adulthood and therefore, in turn helping our future daughters. I am still yet to decide whether the thought of having kids terrifies me enough to become celibate since I can no longer hide behind the 'I'm too young to have a kid' card, but whether I do become a mother or not, I think I may give Benn's book one more read just to remind myself that one of the truest ways to be a girl, woman, mother or daughter in today's society is to look to each other for support in just being ourselves.

Reviewed by Gemma Aston.

Other Recent Acquisitions

Feminism, Gender and Universities. Politics, Passion and Pedagogies, Miriam E David (Ashgate, 2014)

Exchange, Cat Madden and Louise Evans (2014)

Gender and Social Movements: Overview Report, Jessica Horn (Bridge, 2013)

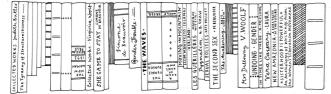
Hysteria: A Collection of Feminisms, #2 Roles and Rules, (Square Knot 2014)

Public Battles, Private Wars, Laura Wilkinson (Accent Press, 2014)

Older Feminists Network Newsletter November 2014

Walking a Tightrope. Women and Veiling in the United Kingdom, Ayesha Sauma Kariapper (Women Living Under Muslim Law, 2009)

Dossier 28 and 29. Collections of Articles (Women Living Under Muslim Laws, 2009)



THE FEMINIST LIBRARY BOOKSHOP

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5 Westminster Bridge Road SE1 7XW Lambeth South/Elephant and Castle/Waterloo

NEW AND USED BOOKS, PERIODICALS AND ZINES

COFFEE AND CAKE READINGS AND EVENTS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

www.feministlibrary.co.uk bookshop@feministlibrary.co.uk



Housmans 2015 Diary focuses on Women and Peace. It tells the story of the Women's Conference at The Hague in 1915 which led to the founding of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, of the Women's Peace Crusade in Britain 1916-18, and other episodes of women's peace campaigning since. It costs £8.95, and copies can be reserved by emailing bookshop@feministlibrary.co.uk

Please note that the Feminist Library opening hours have changed. Our opening hours are Tuesdays 6-9pm, Wednesday 5-9pm, Thursdays 6-9pm and Saturdays 12-5pm for the Feminist Library Bookshop.

Upcoming Feminist Library events

Monday 10 November 2014,6-8pm. Salon at the Feminist Library presents *The Palace of Curiosities* with Rosie Garland.

Born in London to a runaway teenager, Rosie is an eclectic writer and performer, ranging from singing in post-punk gothic band The March Violets, through touring with the Subversive Stitch exhibition in the 90s to her alter-ego Rosie Lugosi the Vampire Queen, cabaret chanteuse and mistress of ceremonies.

Rosie has published five solo collections of poetry and her award-winning short stories, poems and essays have been widely anthologised. She is winner of the DaDa Award for Performance Artist of the Year and a Poetry Award from the People's Café, New York. She also won the Mslexia Novel competition in 2012 for her début novel *The Palace of Curiosities*, which was published in March 2013 by HarperCollins. Her second novel, *Vixen*, is out in hardback, with paperback coming in February 2015. Both novels deal with gender politics, sexuality, women's roles and expectations in society, difference and disability. Join Rosie Garland at the Feminist Library to hear some readings and discuss her work.

Entry by donation to the library - we suggest £3.

Saturday 25 October, 10am-5:30pm. Feminism In London 2014, Institute of Education, Bedford Way, WC1H 0AL. The Feminist Library will have a stall at the Feminism in London conference and will also be contributing to the following meeting:

Feminist Archives and Activism: Knowing Our Past - Creating Our Future

A chance to discuss the importance of documenting and celebrating feminist history, find out about the various great feminist archives and libraries available and explore how they can be useful tools in our ongoing campaigns. This workshop brings together different generations of feminists and is organised by the new national network of Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives, FLA. The panel of speakers includes Catherine Lockhart and Yasmin Ahmed from the Feminist Library, Frankie Green from the Women's Liberation Music Archive, Jalna Hanmer from the Feminist Archive North, Zaimal Azad from Nottingham Women's Centre, Sue John from Glasgow Women's Library, and Liz Kelly and Joan Scanlon from the radical feminist journal Trouble & Strife. The workshop is chaired by Sue O'Sullivan from Spare Rib and Sheba Feminist Press.

There will also be a Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives Network Meeting on Sunday 26th October at the Feminist Library, time tbc. Please email admin@feministlibrary.co.uk for further details.

Saturday 13 December 2014, Feminist Library Winter Fair.

A glorious opportunity for you to buy all your seasonal gifts, while supporting us. We invite people who would like to sell their feminist wares to email us at stalls@feministlibrary.co.uk to book their space.

FEMINIST GRAPHIC ARTS EVENT



8TH Nov 2014

2PM-9PM At the Feminist Library

EXHIBITION, TALKS, WORKSHOPS, Zines, Stalls, Food, Fun & New Friends!

FeministLibrary @feministlibrary

Listings

18 October 2014, Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Rd, E1 4NS. London Anarchist Bookfair. anarchistbookfair.org.uk

19 October 2014, Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Rd, E1 4NS. Afem 2014. International Anarchafeminist Conference. Afem2014.wordpress.com

25 October 2014, Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL. Feminism in London Conference. feminisminlondon.co.uk

7pm-2am 25 October 2014, Downstairs at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL. Feminism in London After Party. An evening of music, comedy and spoken word performance. Featuring the Stepney Sisters. Tickets £10 for conference attendees, £15 for party only.

1-3pm, 29 October 2014, Glasgow Women's Library, 23 Landressy Street, Glasgow G40 1BP. Celebrating Feminist Heroines

Black History Month celebration and discussion of acclaimed feminists texts and showcasing the work of leading authors, poets and academics, including Toni Morrison, Audre Lourde, Maya Angelou and bell hooks. Free but advanced booking necessary. Womenslibrary.org.uk/events

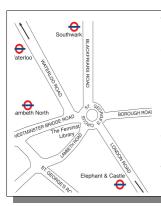
12-6pm, 1 November 2014, Montague Arms, 289 Queens Rd, SE15 2PA. South East London Zine Fair. Free entry selondonzines.wordpress.com

1–2 November 2014, Bristol (Venues: Hydra Bookshop, 34 Old Market St, Bristol, BS2 0EZ and Friends Meeting House, Champion Square, Bristol BS2 9DB). History From Below Network Conference 2014. The international radical history network, History From Below, was founded in Barcelona in 2012 and now comprises 24 groups and individuals in 13 countries. Bristol Radical History Group are hosting the 2014 meeting of the international History From Below (HFB) network and would like to invite you to attend. Any queries should be addressed to BRHG at brh@brh.org.uk

Wednesday 12 November 2014, JW3, The Jewish Community Centre, 341-351 Finchley Road, London NW3 6ET. Communities of Experience?A Symposium on Autobiographical Comics by Jewish Women. Chaired by Sarah Lightman and Dr Heike Bauer and including Prof. David Brauner, Dr Ariela Freedman, Dr Ariel Kahn, Dr Pnina Rosenberg and Graphic Details Artists Corinne Pearlman, Miriam Katin, Diane Noomin, Ariel Schrag and Ilana Zeffren. The day will conclude with a cartoonist roundtable open to the public.

Ongoing until 13 December 2014, Space Station Sixty-Five, 373 Kennington Road, London, SE11 4PS. Graphic Details.

A groundbreaking touring exhibition providing the first indepth look at a unique and prolific niche of graphic storytelling – Jewish women's autobiographical comics.



The Feminist Library, 5a Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1 7XW. Phone 020 7261 0879 or email admin@feministlibrary.co.uk Visit www.feministlibrary.co.uk. Follow us on twitter @feministlibrary Opening hours: The Feminist Library is open Tuesdays 6-9pm, Wednesday 5-9pm, Thursdays 6-9pm and Saturdays 12-5pm for the Feminist Library Bookshop. We are also open outside of these hours by appointment only. Please email <u>admin@feministlibrary.co.uk</u> or phone 0207 261 0879 if you would like to make an appointment. Please check www.feministlibrary.co.uk/hours for the most up-to-date information, including changes to opening hours. The Feminist Library Newsletter, Autumn 2014 - ISSN 0951-2837. Contributors: Una Byrne, Gail Chester, Zoe Fairbairns, Anna Piggott, Gemma Aston.

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