

The Women's Library NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 271 NEWTOWN NSW 2042



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The Power of the Collective: Restoring, Revitalising and Energising

The Women's Library Newsletter Vol 1 No 1 was published in 1992 by a group of inspired women bent on establishing a unique women's library and resource centre that would house, feminist and lesbian novels as well as a comprehensive selection of women's studies texts. It is not hard to become inspired by reading the articles and poems in these old TWL Newsletters. Out of respect for the women who have gone before us in trying to establish this Library, we have recently had the 1992 to 2004 Women's Library Newsletters bound into a permanent book to be housed in the Journals Room, this room is presently being systematically reorganized and sorted, thanks to dedicated volunteer Terri Bancks.

Looking back at these old newsletters and at our herstory archive has given us the motivation, energy and enthusiasm to continue to work towards the restoration and revitalisation of this remarkable library and women's space.

In October 2003 our Library was well and truly in the doldrums, a cyclic state of despair it appeared. Many said, "Give up and close it," and a few cried "No" yet criticized those trying to find a way. Fortunately, there were also many positive, imaginative women who asked, "What can we do? What needs to change?" So we started, with CHANGE, and lots of faith, arm fulls of good will, and a collective love and respect of our library as an vital space for all women.

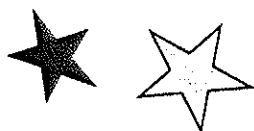
As Convenor of The Women's Library for the past ten months I am delighted to report now that our nine month hatchling "*the women's recreational space*" is doing fantastically. The City of Sydney Council have generously approved a \$3,500 grant to the Association to establish new women's recreation programmes and improve the facilities and equipment in the Library. With this grant we will be in a position to offer a series of guest speakers, purchase a new computer for members to use, establish internet facilities, buy a new lounge, a wall TV a Video/DVD player and CD player. We will keep you up to date with our progress with this project. Guest speaker suggestions are welcome anytime.

The Library is now open 6 days a week, and has well over 30 active volunteers. Our membership numbers are rapidly increasing, as are the subcommittee groups and the interesting projects that keep the place so vital like: "Off the Wall" Art Space, the bookshop, Lesbian Open House Forum, and the newsletter are back in full swing again.

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We are delighted to announce to our members that the
City of Sydney have supported The Women's Library Inc
"**Women's Recreation Space Project.**"

with a generous grant of \$3,500. These funds will be used to establish
a women's recreation programmes at the Library and to buy new equipment.

A VERY BIG THANKYOU

A very special heart felt thank you to the dedicated women who have given endless hours of hard work in the Library over the past six to nine months. This has been a very busy time for active volunteer training, restitution of library processes and sub-committees as well as major reorganisation and evaluation of the collection, these volunteers have taken on and learned many new tasks and skills to ensure the future of your library.

Thank you to the following committee members and active volunteers Robyn Mah, Fiona Davidson, Jeannie Sotheran, Anish Carmyn, Patou Clerc, Bronwyn Vost, Teresa Bancks Yvette Parr, Rose McGregory, Joo Hyun Cho, Katie Blake, Megan Adair, Ruth Butler, Glennifer Roberts, Joy Jago, Rebecca Jacka, Patricia Bekiaris, Jacky Causer, Lauren Fiedler, Lilli Tzibberg, Amy McMurtrie, Sarah Barry, Rhianon Ramsey, Gemma Smart, Ann Steng, Ashley Holdings, Linda Larson, France Durand Hannah Griffith, Delorie Dornan, Susan Baker, Belinda Rayfield, Veronica and all the girls from Open House. If we have forgotten anyone. Thank you.



Pre-loved books at great prices
come in and browse

Monday to Thursday 11 - 4 pm,

Sat and Sun 12 - 4 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

WOMEN'S MEETING SPACE

Women's Community Groups are welcome to join us @ the Library, space is now available for hire. Call 95577060 or 94278027 for enquiries

Get Involved at the Library

- ☆ Sign up as volunteer
- ☆ Renew your membership
- ☆ Make a donation
- ☆ Join a TWL project



The Women's Library Annual General Meeting:

Sunday 31st October 2004, 2pm Come along and hear our Annual Reports. Meet and support your new executive committee members, think about joining a subcommittee or project group. Find out about all the great projects and events we have planned for members in 2005. This will be followed at 3pm with a talk on Radical Feminism by Denise Thompson—see next page for more information.

New opening hour for the working gals:

Thursday Evening: Spring has sprung and the evenings are now very pleasant for a visit to The Women's Library after work. From October 17th the library will be open from 5pm to 8pm. Please call the library for phone confirmation just until we get established with this new shift. If you can help us out with a Thursday evening shift please call Volunteer Coordinator, Robyn Mah at work on 94278027 or leave a message on the Library phone 95577060.

TWL Volunteers Picnic Day – Royal Botanical

Garden Sunday 21st November 2004 11am – 3pm will be a wonderful day to laze in the spring sunshine, listen to a poetry reading, share a great lunch with all the other volunteers and kick back before the silly season takes hold. BYO plate and drinks to share. **Please call the Library on 95577060** and leave a message telling us what food and drinks you plan to bring to share. We will sort out the missing bits and ensure a great picnic spread. Poetry readers needed.

TWL Committee Members:

Executive Committee

Robyn Mah, Convenor
Fiona Davidson, Treasurer
Jeannie Sotheran, Public Officer
Trish Carmyn, Secretary

Ordinary Members

Bronwyn Vost

Library Processes Sub Committee

Patou Clerc
Robyn Mah
Bronwyn Vost
Anish Carmyn
Glennifer Roberts
Megan Adair
Katie Blake

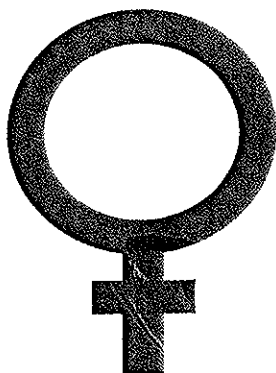
Please return your OVERDUE BOOKS

or the overdue book mistress may be calling you to explain. Regardless of how late your books are we would like you to bring your books back as soon as possible. Thank you.

Radical Feminism @ the Library 31 October 2004 3pm

Join us for a lively talk and interactive debate with Denise Thompson; a Lesbian Feminist writer and library member will talk about her latest book *Radical Feminism Today* at TWL AGM, 3pm on 31 October. Denise Thompson has been an independent scholar for many years, reading, writing and publishing feminist theory. She has a PhD in Sociology from the University of NSW, for a thesis called *Against the Dismantling of Feminism* which was published by Sage in 2001 under the title of *Radical Feminism Today*. She is also the author of *Reading between the Lines: A Lesbian Feminist Critique of Feminist Accounts of Sexuality* and *Flaws in the Social Fabric: Homosexual and Society in Sydney*. Denise's research interests include:

- feminist theory;
- social and political thought, especially liberalism and Marxism;
- theories of individualism, liberty, pluralism, justice, tolerance, determinism, essentialism, cultural relativism political distinctions between right and left; economic theories of unemployment and poverty;
- globalisation, international relations; &
- government policy in relation to unemployment and poverty, especially the



Howard government's 'Mutual Obligation' policies in Australia and 'welfare reform' in the US.

Radical Feminism Today (2001) offers a timely and engaging account of exactly what feminism is, and what it is not. Thompson questions much of what has come to be taken for granted as 'feminism' and points to the limitations of implicitly defining feminism in terms of 'women', 'gender', 'difference' or 'race/gender/class'. She challenges some of the most widely accepted ideas about feminism and in doing so opens up a number of hitherto closed debates, allowing for the possibility of moving those debates further.

A fresh and sometimes controversial consideration of current academic feminist literatures, *Radical Feminism Today* will be essential reading for all students of women's studies and the sociology of feminism.

Don't miss the opportunity to meet Denise and engage in public



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

12-14 December 2004

Australian and International Feminisms: Where We've Been and Where We're Going. Celebrating 30 years of HECATE.

Venue: Boston University Sydney Campus BLACKFRIARS, Cnr Blackfriars and Buckland Streets, Chippendale NSW. For registration & program phone: 02 9514 9828 or

02 4784 3442 or email:

sclarke@iinet.net.au or marillanorth@optusnet.com.au

RECLAIM THE NIGHT

Women against Violence
March & Rally

Friday 29 October 2004
6pm @ Sydney Town Hall
MAKE SOME NOISE!

Prepare for the rally by making your own percussion instruments. Free workshop to be held on

**Saturday 23rd
October 4pm-6pm @
The Women's Library.
Register now with**

Lesbian Open House

By Jeannie Sotheran

Lesbian Open House is a free, informal discussion group that welcomes lesbians of all ages and backgrounds as well as those who identify as bisexual, asexual, transgender or just don't know. Meetings are held at the Women's Library at 7pm every Tuesday. Topics range from the serious through to the trashy; i.e. Is there a lesbian scene in Sydney and do you feel comfortable in it? Do you have to have sex with a woman to be sure you are a lesbian? Breaking up— is there an easy way to do it? The meeting lasts just over an

hour and then it's off to the pub for a coffee or drink. Usually about 20 to 30 women turn up. They range in age from 18 through to 60 and with backgrounds that include admin workers, students, scientists, artists, stay-at-home mums, backpackers, unemployed, health workers etc. The meeting is completely free. Open House is an ideal way to meet other lesbians whether you're just coming out or have been out for ages but have lost a connection with the lesbian world. Call 02 9519 7516 or check the website at

sydneyhouse.freetervert.com

The Radio Show: not only is Lesbian Open House a discussion group that meets at the Women's Library every Tuesday at 7pm, it's also the name of a radio show on Eastside Radio 89.7FM – a community radio station broadcasting to the eastern suburbs of Sydney. Have a listen at 5.30pm every Wednesday for 'news and views from the lesbian world'. There is also a brief mention of the previous night's discussion topic and a good bit of free advertising for the Women's Library. For more details on the radio show email

sydneyopehouse@yahoo.com.au

Resilience

An Exhibition About Women.

This exhibition is a celebration of resilience, an attempt to reveal women free of the objectivity imposed upon them by a patriarchal society. It will be an expression of appreciation for the struggle of the 60's and 70's feminists and a sincere enquiry into what this heritage means to today's emerging women. This exhibition will not seek to collapse the temple of the traditional sacred goddess, but recognises the changing ideals and aspirations of contemporary women.

EXHIBITION VENUES

The Women's Library, 8-10 Brown St Newtown,
Phone: (02) 9557 7060 Friday 29th October
to Sunday 13th November 2004.

Opening Night Friday 29th — 6pm,
Drinks and nibbles provided, all members and
friends are welcome to join us .

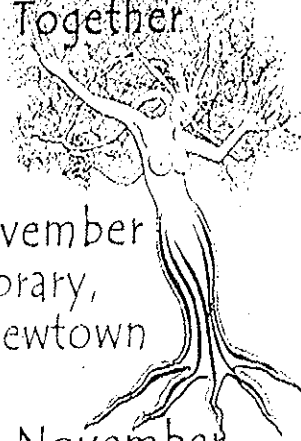
Also at:

Lane Cove Music and Cultural Centre,
266 Longueville Rd Lane Cove,
Phone: (02) 9427 8027 from Saturday 6th
November to Monday 22nd November 2004

Resilience

Women Hanging Together

Friday 29th
October to
Sunday 13th November
The Women's Library,
8-10 Brown St Newtown



Saturday 6th November
to Monday 22nd November
Lane Cove Music and
Cultural Centre,
266 Longueville Rd Lane Cove

This exhibition does not seek
to collapse the temple of the
traditional sacred goddess,
but recognises the changing
ideals and aspirations
of contemporary women.

Preview of Resilience

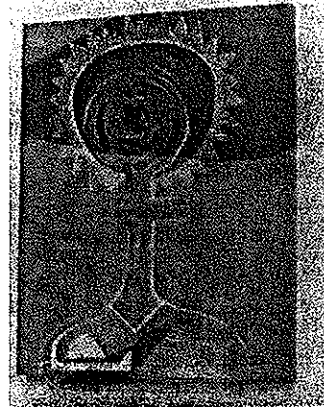
Come along and meet the artists and view over 20 new artworks .Admission free



Artist : Robyn Mah



Artist : Marina Bishop



Artist : Rebecca Jacka



Artist Anney Bounpraseuth

TWL 2005 Membership Renewal Due—1/10/04

Your TWL membership for 2005 falls due on

October 1st each year . Your membership renewal is enclosed so its now time to drop in and renew membership.
From November we will be able to process you membership on the spot and issue you with your new card automatically.

Over the past month we have accessioned over 200 new titles into the Fiction collection, Biographies and Anthology
sections so as you can see this is a great time to renew your membership and check out the new books in the collection

Why not bring in your old (new) books when you come,

JUST DONATED ~ ~ ♀♀ ~ ~ NEW BOOKS

Jen Nixon's "Café Boogie"

Café Boogie poetry published by Interactive Press launched by Joanne Burns, Gleebooks June 2004 fixes it's lines into place with the precision of a rivet gun' ~ *Overland*

Jenni Nixon trained at the Independent Theatre, Sydney, and worked as an actor for many years. She toured schools with the Queensland Theatre Company, delivering classic and contemporary plays along with a poetry program.

As a performance poet, Jenni has read her own work at a wide range of events in Sydney, Melbourne, Wollongong and the Blue Mountains. Her poem, *visitor at home*, won the 2002 Leonard Teale memorial prize at the Henry Lawson Festival, Gulgong, NSW. Jenni lives in Sydney and is an active poet/ performer at diverse venues.

writing poetry is no way to earn a living

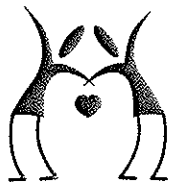
I like to find the magic

a piece of writing that works that can have me gasping

with surprise stifling giggles

it's wonderful to read from my book of poems

hear laughter and that shared hush of identification to have



Lesbians Inc Grants Ceremony

Saturday 9 October

After you have voted in the federal election, LINC invites you to a free afternoon of music (including *Zangdrum*, and members of the *Sydney Homotones*) in celebration of their giving of grants from 2pm-4pm.

The LINC AGM follows from 4-6pm.

All welcome: community hall above The Women's Library, 8-10 Brown St Newtown. Nibbles & drinks provided. Bring your drums and join LINC to also celebrate

International Lesbian Day

recognised each year on the 8th of October.

More information,
phone 9557 2774



Not For Sale:

Feminists Resisting Prostitution and Pornography. Stark, Christine and Whisnant, Rebecca (Eds.)

Donated by Spinifex Press: North Melbourne, 3051

An amazing and at times confronting read. This is a collection of essays written by feminists who discuss prostitution and pornography from a variety of perspectives. These perspectives relate how issues of racism, poverty, militarism, and unbridled corporate capitalism impact prostitution and pornography. Pornography and prostitution are also amplified by the contemporary technologies of mass communications. Infiltrating our homes and communities, they are becoming accepted and normalized as harmless entertainment for man and sometimes liberating experiences for women. These essays inspire a reassessment of one's own views about these pertinent topics not only for women but for men too. These essays are from a variety of writers, some of who give testimony to their own experiences in the industry.

The following books and papers were donated by author and TWL member: Denise Thompson.

Radical Feminism Today by Denise Thompson
Questions about feminism are answered in this book. Questions such as: What is feminism? How can 'feminism' be defined? Should feminism be defined?
This is very important reading for all students of gender studies, sociology and feminism. Denise probes into uncharted territory and opens up debates that promote further discussion. Ultimately, she challenges the most widely accepted notions of feminism.

Essays in Lesbian Feminism and
The Radical Feminist Account of Domination

Denise Thompson will be talking about issues raised in her books on Sunday 31st October

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

@THE WOMEN'S LIBRARY

Members, Would you like a chance to get involved with the Library,

learn the basic front counter duties, develop new skills, get an opportunity for work experience. Come in on Thursdays 12-4pm (or Sunday's by arrangement)

for volunteer training in Library processes, administration, computers

Call the Library 95577060 for more

BOOKS AND JOURNALS JUST SHELVED - - - ♀ - - -

Domestic Violence Liaison Committee
Glasgow Women's Library News Issue No Autumn 2004, Grapevine
Inner Voice, Journal for Sydney Regional Council for Social Development, Issue 99
Lesbian and Gay Solidarity Newsletter Issue 3, No.59
LOTL – Leading Lesbian Magazine, September 2004
Mountain Lesbian News September 2004
National Library of Australia News, Network. Newsletter of the Rural Women's Network No 2004-09-21
Newswrite. Newsletter of the NSW Writers Centre
Practical Protocols for Working with the Indigenous Communities of Western Syd
Queensland Women, September 2004, Sway #25 (Zine, SW Artistic Youth) Issue 1
WISN Newsletter No 66 September
Women Incest Survivors Network)

Books

Horse Dreams The Meaning of Horses in Women's Lives Jan Fook Susan Hawthorne
Natures Magic. Poems Frances Hackney
Kindle me a Star. Poems Frances Hackney
Not For Sale Feminists Resisting Prostitution and Pornography.
Stark, Christine and Whisnant, Rebecca (Eds.)
Radical Feminism Today Denis Thompson

Video Buffy the Vampire Slayer

Women's Websites

Compiled by Outnoise
Women's Web

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~womenweb/>

This site contains stories of women and their activism over the last half century.

Women in Focus Australian

<http://www.shoal.net.au/~sandra/>

Women in focus provides a platform for women to express their creativity, to state their views on current issues and to network.

Office of the Status of Women

<http://www.osw.dpmc.gov.au/index2.htm>

Women's NEWS is a monthly newsletter produced by the Office of the Status of Women. It's distributed to approximately 1500 NGOs and Government departments throughout Australia and provides notice of inquiries, reviews, tenders, grants, and awards. It also includes women-specific features, articles and resources.

BOOK REVIEW– Lesbian Fiction.

Kate Allen's novel *Tell Me What You Like* is two genres for the price of one. In addition to being a well-crafted murder mystery which keeps you guessing to the end, our heroine strikes it lucky with some very non-Mills-and-Boone romance.

Alison Kaine is a lesbian cop on holiday who investigates the murder of a lesbian woman outside a Denver women's bar. Alison is secretly attracted to the leather scene, but is understandably wary of her attraction to one of the prime suspects, a dominatrix by trade.

It may be a bit racy for some, but no more so than Harlequin Blaze is for boy-girl romance. I found it tastefully written and educational, (which might say more about me than the book), but anyway, if you are already thinking "probably not" then this might be just the book to expand your outlook.

It's a feel-good book, in that Alison's women friends are intelligent, sensitive and supportive, and so is her policeman father. I did wonder more than once how much of the story was the writer's own longings for family and friends who were this good, but that in no way diminishes this absorbing story. In fact, it's the gift of a good fantasy for the reader, too.

Alison is a likable, gutsy character, who drew out my sympathy for the twin roles of woman and law enforcer. As she said, the attitude so dearly held by middle America is to criticise the cops till you need them. It's a fast-moving story, with only snippets on what life circumstances brought the main people to their present stance on life, so readers with an interest in psychology may be left wishing for more background information. So, does anyone know if other Alison Kaine mysteries exist? This one was published in 1993 and appears to be the first one.

Tell Me What You Like is informative without lecturing. It touches on the sharp end of homophobia, in the form of the workings of religious fundamentalist groups and the threat that their belief that they have the right to "save" other people poses to those others. It left me wondering how rare or prevalent are attempts to "deprogram" lesbians in the USA? (I am referring to the targeting of individuals, not the whole homophobic culture). Kate Allen also adroitly handles the sensitive issues of S & M and women-identified sex workers.

It's not a great classic, but this book has heart, and it is empowering to read about minority groups sticking together

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
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 ☆ **Thank you sincerely to our** ☆
 ☆ **regular WOLF sponsors and** ☆
 ☆ **annual donors** ☆
 ☆ We are truly grateful for your financial assistance. ☆
 ☆ Your loyalty and on going support is greatly ☆
 ☆ appreciated Thank you. ☆
 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

EDITORS COMMENT:

Going back through the TWL newsletter past issues we found this brilliant quote about the importance of The Women's Library as a repository for Women's writing from past member and felt it deserved a reprint

"Books by women are a way of sharing concepts, ideas, awareness, dreams, visions and hopes. The beauty of "the Book" lies in its ability to reach a vast audience. All too often women's words have been censored or lost. At this herstorical point, it is important that this work is reclaimed and that more recent women's writing is made readily available to many women. The cost of books in Australia often means that much of women's literature reaches a limited readership. The Women's Library acts as a crucial step between the published product and the woman reader – it allows more women access to this vital form of communication, while also fulfilling the important role of housing women's work in one place – a much needed reference point."

Judith Ion TWL Newsletter

Vol 1.1 No 4 November 1992.

NEW WRITERS GROUP

AT THE WOMEN'S LIBRARY

Opens the door to the ease and freedom of life writing. Using timed writing techniques and some simple methods to help you access memories. You'll be amazed at the stories that just fall onto the page.

Come along for 6 Wednesdays 7- 9 pm beginning on the: 3rd of November - Cost \$180. per person.@

**Story
works**

The Women's Library
8-10 Brown Street,
Newtown. For bookings
Phone Gaby Mason
on 9389-9475
www.storyworks.com.au

The Feminist Bookshop

Shop 9, Orange Grove Plaza,
Balmain Road, Lilyfield 2040

Tel (02) 9810 2666 Fax (02) 9818 5745
Email: feministbookshop@iprimus.com.au

Open Monday-Friday 10.30am-6pm
Saturday 10.30am-4pm. Closed Sunday

The Women's Library would like to thank the Feminist Bookshop for their interest and assistance with handing out our brochures and publicity material.

When you next go in to buy your new books, do not forget to ask for : **THE TWL LIST**. This is a list of texts we would like to add to our Collection. Buy a book in lieu of the annual membership fee (keep receipt) min receipt value \$30.

The Women's Library

AIMS

To house a comprehensive range of novels, texts, journals and magazines, with particular emphasis on Australian lesbian and feminist material

To house required reading for courses offered at tertiary institutions that address the status of women, including lesbians

To house the works of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women

To house a collection relevant to women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

To provide a comfortable and accessible space for borrowing, reading & relaxing

To act as a local women's resource centre

To provide an area for children and a range of great children's books

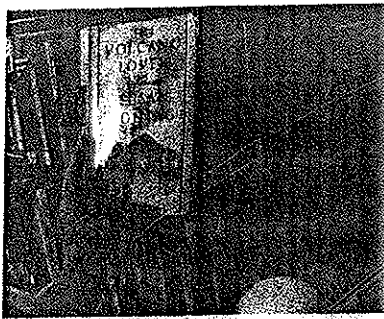
Women's Library Webpage COMING SOON

On and off for almost ten years now any number of well intended women have aimed to set up a permanent and well maintained TWL website. Time, finances and often, technical expertise have eluded us. It is on this past that we have been trying to bring you our website. The work on the site so far has been a compilation the work of many of these previous women. In late September 2004 Convenor Robyn Mah and IT specialist Cathy Lee commenced design and layout for a simple but informative TWL website site. We hope to launch the site early next year Remember *Our site will include:*

- The Women's Library Association
 - Opening Hours
- Library Training Information
 - Volunteers Information
- Monthly Volunteers Shift Rosters
- Women's Library Collection-incl Journals
- Current Library Projects / Photographs
- "Off the Wall" Art Exhibition Space
- Herstory (TWL History ,old Newsletters)
 - Library Contact details
 - Open House Lesbian Forum
 - Library Facilities/Meeting space
- Committee List & Annual General Meeting
 - Annual Financial and Members Reports

Members will be notified of the launch

Details early 2005



TWL KNOW HOW

How The Women's Library Works

Ways You Can Support The Women's Library

Membership ♀

To be eligible to borrow book, you must become a member of The Women's Library

Membership fees per year are:

\$ 60 Funded Institution

\$36 Unfunded institution and waged individuals.

\$30 part waged individuals \$24 students

\$6 High School Students.

The Women's Library accepts Visa, Bankcard and MasterCard. with ID. Receipts are always given.

Loan Period

Two weeks for all books. members can borrow up to six books at a time. Videos can be borrowed for one week only. See loan deposits.

Loan Deposit

Members must lodge a \$10 deposit with us before borrowing. This deposit is retained by the Women's Library if a book is not returned or is returned damaged. It may also be retained if a book becomes very overdue. This deposit is held by the Women's Library until you are no longer a member. Active volunteers are exempt from this deposit.

Periodicals

Serials, magazines, journals, and reference material can not be borrowed but may be read in the library.

Long Distance Borrowing.

If you live outside the metropolitan area or have a great deal of difficulty getting here, The Women's Library will be happy to send particular titles to you. This service is available to members only and the library requires you to finance the cost of all postage by way of stamped, return-addressed large envelopes.

Borrowing Video's

Videos are available for loan by members for a period of one week and require a refundable holding deposit for each loan \$50 for institutions and \$20 for individual members. A receipt must be produced for all video deposit.

Renewals

Loans may be renewed in person or by phone unless they are on reserve.

Become a Member

♀

Please fill out the form attached to this newsletter and become a member of The Women's Library. The Women's Library is unfunded and membership fees keep the library alive. As a member you are entitled to borrow books from the library, receive *The Women's Library Newsletter*, attend TWL social events, and are eligible to vote at our Annual General Meeting usually held in October each year..

Become an Active Member

The Women's Library relies on volunteers to staff the library everyday, you can assist by becoming an active volunteer in the library.

Buy a Book to Join the Library

You can buy a book to donate to The Women's Library in lieu of Membership fees.

THIS IS HOW YOU DO IT. The only books we can accept in place of fees must be purchased from a list of titles lodged with the Feminist Bookshop. The **TWL List** contains titles that we especially would like to house in the library and this system will ensure that we do not receive multiple copies of some titles and no copies of others. The minimum value of book donations is \$30. Simply bring in your book, membership form and receipt to the Women's Library during opening hours and we will be happy to process your membership.

Book Donations

The Library has a no strings attached donation policy. The Women's Library reserves the right to decide whether a donated item will be integrated into the collection, exchanged or sold.

Tax Deductibility

To make it more inviting for you to donate money to The Women's Library your donations are tax deductible. Similarly, you can donate a collection of new books (which must be valued by an approved valuer) or any item that has been purchased by you within the past twelve months and you can claim the value of that donation as a deduction on your tax return.

Bequests

Maybe you would like to consider making provisions for leaving your personal library and or a donation to The Women's Library in your will. Contact the Library Convenor for details and assistance : Ph 95577060.

Convener's Report :

Continued from page 1 |

The jobs we have on hand now are: to implement best practice Committee Management, to consolidate our library processes such as acquisition and accessioning procedures, to work through the back log of donated books, to complete the reorganisation and cataloguing of the Journals room so we can apply for a National Heritage Grant in June 2005, to train volunteers in the use of our new computerised catalogue / loans / return system.

Katie's Catalogue is named in honour of the fabulous Katie Blake who has put many hours into developing a new computerised TWL Library Catalogue System based on the KIS principal. This system will be ready to use by November. Note : the burning of the old green cards will be delayed till 2006 when the system is securely established. You will ALL be invited to the bonfire! It will be quite an historic moment for the long suffering counter volunteers and those of us who are alphabetically challenged.

As you read through our newsletter you will note any number of events coming up for your social calendar, be sure to get the diary out so you don't miss out.

The Resilience Art Exhibition has had a fantastic response with some 20 women artists submitting works to be exhibited The Volunteers picnic is coming up on November 21 ,the Newtown Fair Bookstall is on soon, so now is the time to send in your Volunteer Form with your membership renewal because we need you..

Thursday night opening hours are planned thru the summer months provided we can get some good women to do this rostered shift, Our AGM is coming up in three weeks with Radical Feminist writer Denis Thompson talking about her recently published books.

With your social calendar taken care of, we also planning some serious work on the Collection, especially the Non Fiction which needs serious revitalization if it is to be of use to women studying or researching within the collection. The popular Fiction section, the Biographies and Anthologies could take a big injection of new books with a publication date post 2000. This we hope to achieve during 2005 from sales form the second hand bookshop. If you haven't been into the Library for a while you will be please to see the new library layout which incorporates a community meeting space and an enlarged and well stocked Bookshop.

The Bookshop is doing extremely well under the management of Yvette Parr , returning vital income to the library. Our promotional brochures need to be out there, can you help, do you have a location or a mail out suitable for our brochures, if so, call in and collect a few brochures and newsletters.

As you can see the Library is making a fantastic come back, we hope that you enjoy our newsletter and come along to our many social events, remember our AGM on the 31st of October, why not come along and encourage the positive visionary women who are prepared to put their hand up for a stint on the Executive Committee, we have already received six nominations from enthusiastic active members. Looking forward to seeing some familiar faces on the 31st. Now after all this reading you need to go post your renewal !!!! Happy Reading. ♀ Robyn Mah



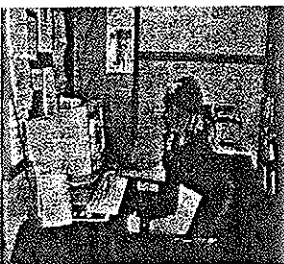
Sarah



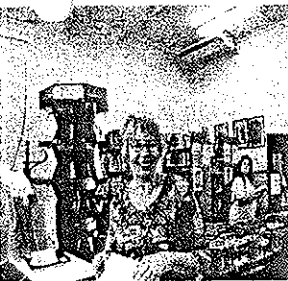
France



Jo



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Katie



Megan



Belinda



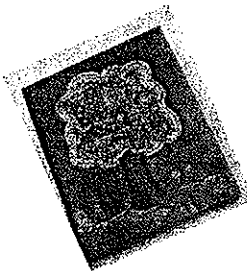
Moira and William



Lauren

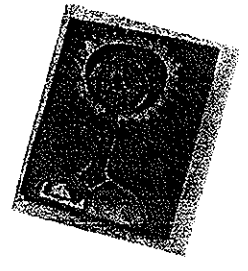


Anish



HEAD SPACE by eL :

An exhibition by Rebecca Jacka
Now at The Women's Library



Come in, relax, borrow a great book, check out our fabulous journals collection, look at the art, meet new women, learn a new skill, meditate, join in an activity, enjoy the peace and quiet

The Women's Library - Books, Video's, Journals, Art - By, For, and About Women.



CONTACT US

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NEWSLETTER TEAM

Robyn Mah - Convener

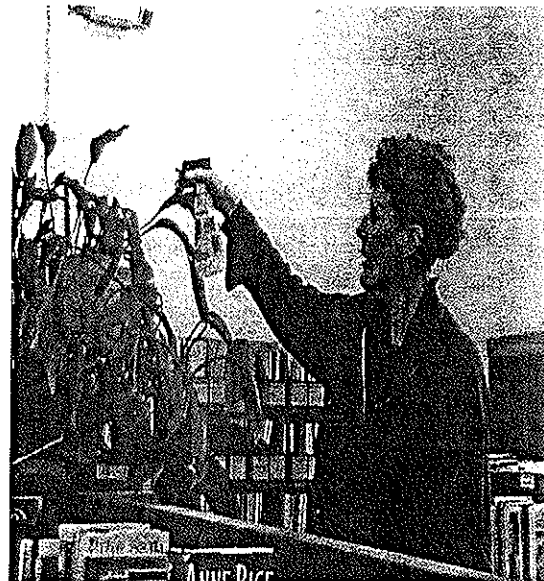
Newsletter Editor:

Gabrielle Journey Jones

2005 Newsletter Deadlines:

1 April & 1 September.

Email your book reviews, poetry, events, Interviews & art. Material published is at the discretion of the editorial team.



I ♥ LOTL

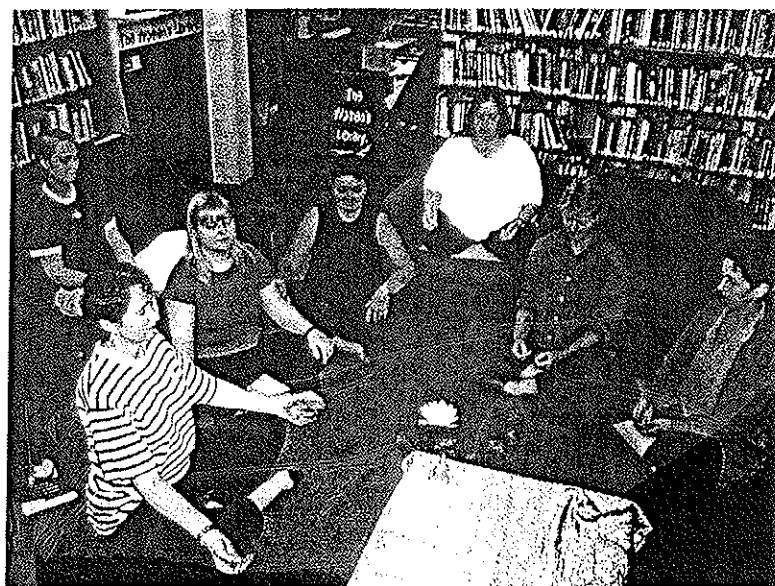
Saturday the
9th of October
2004

Why not drop into
The Women's Library

Spring Fundraiser

LESBIAN FICTION BOOK SALE.

Over 200 great books
for sale
12am to 6pm.



Women's Meditation & Healing Group

@

the Women's Library. Newtown.

What a great way to start your day, come along and relax in the peace and quiet of our Library. You will be in good hands. Sunday, 31st October, and 28th November from 10.30am to 11.30am

Contact: Veronica on 47591778 or email
veronica@pnc.com.au

FREE : ALL WOMEN WELCOME

THANK YOU TO THE CITY OF SYDNEY COUNCIL

City of Sydney Council General Manager, Robert Domm recently approved a Local Community Grant for the Women's Library in addition to our ongoing rent subsidy. On behalf of the Members of the Women Library we would like express our appreciation to the City of Sydney Council for this financial assistance.

TWL Executive Committee