



West of England and South Wales

Women's History Network

NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2022

Co - Chairs: Kath Holden and June Hannam **Membership Secretary:** Elaine Titcombe
Treasurer: June Hannam **Publicity:** Lucienne Boyce **Newsletter Editor:** Jane Howells
Committee: Karen Hunt, Linda Henderson, Julia Neville

WESWWHN Events 2022

Study Half-Day (by Zoom)

Reflections on the Challenges of Writing Women's Lives

Saturday 25 June 2022 from 10.00 to 12.30

The event will begin with network members Lucienne Boyce, Karen Hunt and Julia Neville reflecting on their own experiences of life-writing.

After a coffee break there will then be a plenary discussion in which members are invited to contribute their own ideas and experiences of this fascinating and demanding form of writing.

If you are interested in attending, please email Julia Neville, j.neville@exeter.ac.uk so that you receive the link to join.

**West of England and South Wales Women's History Network
29th Annual Conference**

Women and Money: A Historical Perspective

**Saturday 15th October 2022
Venue: Friends Meeting House
Champion Square, St Pauls
Bristol BS2 9DB**

Call for Papers

Keynote Speaker
Dr Helen Doe, University of Exeter,
'Women in Business or Businesswomen?'

We invite papers on any aspect of the history of Women, Gender, and Money. The relationship between women and money is defined in its broadest sense to cover a variety of spheres, including homes, streets, workplaces, public institutions, or civic society. Topics could include, but are not limited to, women gender and:

- Managing money (e.g. credit, banking, household budgeting)
- Making money (e.g. trading, investing, managing a business}
- Earning money (e.g. work, wage bargaining, equal pay)
- Financial survival (e.g. cost of living, navigating the Poor Law, survival strategies of the poor, pawnbroking, credit)
- Economic protest (e.g. cost of living protests, wage strikes, food riots, boycotts, ethical shopping)
- Financial support for organisations and movements (e.g. fund raising, donations, hospitality)

Papers should be of not more than 20 minutes in length. Suggestions for presentations in film or other non-standard formats will be considered.

Please send an abstract of up to 300 words to Jane Howells mail@sarum-editorial.co.uk by Monday 25 April 2022

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we write in memory of Mitzi Auchterlonie, who passed away at home, after a short illness, on 5th April 2022. A long-standing member of the network we will publish a fuller tribute to her and her work in our next newsletter.

Donations are to Hospiscare via www.hospiscare.co.uk

Feminist Archive South

West of England and South Wales Women's History Network materials, recently donated to Feminist Archive South, have now been catalogued and are available to researchers. The archive is held within the special collections at the University of Bristol, and the catalogue entry for the WHN materials is Ref No: DM2123/1/Archive Boxes 154. For more information on how to access this and the other archive materials visit <https://archives.bristol.ac.uk/>

The contents of the WHN archive box includes study day programmes, newsletters, chair and treasurer reports, committee minutes, membership and publicity lists, membership leaflets, old correspondence regarding conferences, membership, etc., bursary information, conference organised for National Network in Bath 2000, conference organised for National Network UWE in Bristol 2006, conference programmes, materials for workshop run by Bristol Women's Centre, Women's Aid & Second Wave Feminism (relating to Ellen Malos), National Network minutes and programmes. *(Please note that in some instances these materials will be subject to data protection guidelines.)*

Bristol - City of Protests

Bristol Central Library recently put on an exhibition looking at the history of protest in Bristol (24 February to 27 March 2022). We were pleased that one of our Votes for Women banners – “Be Militant Each in Your Own Way” – was featured. In case you missed it, there is an on-line version of the exhibition which includes additional material and footage. Featuring the Bristol Riots, women's suffrage, strikes, Black Lives Matter and more, Breaking the News: Bristol – City of Protests is available here <https://sway.office.com/mBloLC5D6Vn4aTak>

Women and mining in Wales

Marina Jenkyns is writing a play about women and mining in Wales. Are any readers researching this subject, or have written about it? Marina would be delighted to hear from anyone with an interest in the topic. Please contact WHNWESTSWALES@outlook.com and we will pass your details on.

National Museum Wales

On the National Museum Wales' website here is a valuable summary of resources on women's history. Their collections are varied, but of course women working in heavy industry feature strongly. There is also a basic bibliography, links to other useful websites, and suggestions of other repositories.

<https://museum.wales/curatorial/industry/resources/welsh-womens-history/>

Bristol Radical History Festival

A day of talks, history walks, films, performance, exhibitions, and bookstalls to be held at MShed on Saturday 14th May, from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. More information at <https://www.brh.org.uk/site/event-series/bristol-radical-history-festival-2022/>

Not to be missed – visit Level 2 to see the Feminist Archive South's exhibition, *Politics and Protest: Posters from the Women's Liberation Movement*. Sue Tate, a trustee from the Feminist Archive South, will give a talk about the exhibition and answer any questions.

New on our Blog

In our recent blogs we have been publishing articles from some of the speakers at our last Annual Conference on Gender and Commemoration in October 2021.



Figure of Dolly Pentreath, TRURI: 1944.111.162, Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro (c) K Broadhurst

The latest is by Kensa Broadhurst and explores the life – and the myths and misinformation surrounding it – of Dolly Pentreath of Cornwall – said to be the last speaker of the Cornish language.

Kate Brooks' moving blog "Would you be so kind as to let us have him back?" looks at women's work and the history of care.

Carrie da Silva writes about the Women and Street Names Project, and Leila Easa and Jennifer Stager explore feminist methods of memorialisation.

If you have missed any of these blogs, you can catch up with them at <https://weswwhnblog.blogspot.com/>

And if you would like to write a blog for us on any aspect of women's or gender history, we would love to hear from you!

Read the guidelines here <https://weswwhnblog.blogspot.com/p/write-for-us.html/>

WESWWHN Book Group

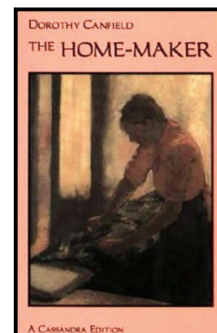
In recent months members of the Book Group have read a diverse selection of titles, both fiction and non-fiction. The wide-ranging discussion has given much food for thought which will stay with many of us and continue to inform our reading. They have been very stimulating hours. With lighter evenings and many other commitments, it has been decided to suspend formal meetings until the Autumn. We will circulate information when the group re-starts, and look forward to welcoming members there again.

***The Home Maker* by Dorothy Canfield Fisher.**

Meanwhile, I recently picked this at random from the shelf in my local library, and would thoroughly recommend it. It's an amazingly modern tale of role reversal in a small-town American family; as you read it is hard to remember it was published in 1924. *Jane H*

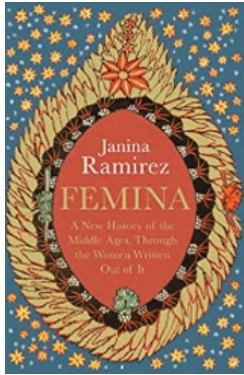
It is also available to purchase second hand from websites (such as Wob), or as an e-book on Kindle and an audiobook on Amazon.

The Home-Maker (1924). Dorothy Canfield Fisher, whom Eleanor Roosevelt named one of the ten most influential women in the US, was one of the forerunners of American literature.



BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL HISTORY

Local History Day on 11 June this year, at Conway Hall, London, is an in-person and virtual event.



The special guest speaker is Dr Janina Ramirez talking about her forthcoming book *Femina: A New History of the Middle Ages, Through the Women Written Out of It*. This ground-breaking reappraisal of medieval history reveals why women were struck from the historical narrative, restoring them to their rightful positions as the power-players who shaped the world today. Dr Janina Ramirez is an Oxford lecturer, BBC broadcaster, researcher, and author. She has presented and written over 30 hours of BBC history documentaries and series on TV and radio and written five books for children and adults.

The morning talk, 'Using post medieval manorial documents for local history research', will be delivered by Mark Forrest, author of the newest BALH guidebook on manors and manorial documents. This talk explores both rural and urban records, the types of records available, functions of the courts and some unexpected ways in which they can be used to contribute to local histories. Dr Mark Forrest has researched for Cambridge and London Universities and after more than a decade as an archivist at the Dorset History Centre he now works as a freelance archival consultant and collections manager.

For further details and booking go to www.balh.org.uk/events/ (charges apply).



BALH Local History Hour on Thursday 26 May at 7 pm is 'Women Hiding in Documents: women's lives in 16th century patriarchal society'; presented by Chery Butler and Jackie Wilkinson using their research in Hampshire. This is a virtual event. Further details and booking at www.balh.org.uk/events/ (charge may apply).

Women and Transport: historical perspectives.

Members will recall Susan Major's keynote lecture at our 2020 conference. A version of this paper has now been published in *The Local Historian* Vol 32 No 1 January 2022, as 'Women, railways and leisure in Victorian Britain'. During the pandemic, all back issues of *TLH* (excluding the latest issue) were made available free to view. This benefit to the wider local history community remains in effect until further notice. Susan's article will be available when the April issue is online in early May. Visit <https://www.balh.org.uk/thelocalhistorian>



Research grants

The West of England and South Wales Women's History Network (WESWWHN) is offering two bursaries of £500 to support the costs of research. Further details, including conditions and guidelines for applicants and application forms can be found on our website <http://weswwomenshistorynetwork.co.uk/>

Grant for Research into Women's or Gender History **Grant for Research into Ethnic Minority Women's History**

- The research should be intended to lead to an outcome such as a book, pamphlet, journal or magazine article, exhibition, lecture, or web resource.
- Costs that will be covered include, for example, travel and accommodation when visiting archives, and photocopying or photographic licences required for work in archives, accessing online resources which require a subscription and are not available through an applicant's institution (if any) such as a school or university.
- We welcome diversity and encourage a wide range of applicants to apply. This includes teachers and students from schools and colleges with a view to broadening the existing history curriculum and highlighting the importance of women's activities in the past.

The award will **not** cover:

- Conference attendance costs
- Equipment costs
- Subsistence costs (i.e. food and drink)
- Administration costs

Enquiries about the WESWWHN Grants may be sent to WHNWESTSWALES@outlook.com with a copy to Lucienne Boyce at lucienne@lucienneboyce.com. There are no deadlines for applications.

Book Publications



Women's Activism in Twentieth-Century Britain: Making a Difference Across the Political Spectrum, by Paula Bartley.

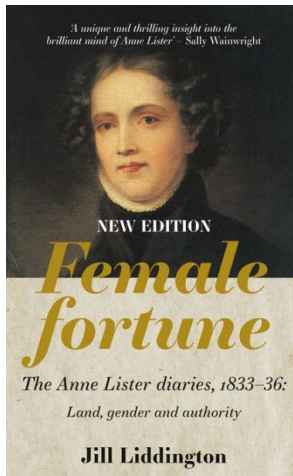
Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan

ISBN: 978-3030927202

Part of the Gender and History book series this book provides a historical survey of the various and unique ways women were involved in twentieth-century Britain politics.

For further details including table of contents:

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-92721-9>



Female Fortune: The Anne Lister Diaries, 1833-36: Land, Gender and Authority: New Edition

First published in 1998, *Female Fortune* introduced readers to lesbian landowner Anne Lister. This 2022 edition includes a fascinating afterword on the recent discovery of Ann Walker's own diary. It is essential reading for those who watched the BBC's *Gentleman Jack* and want to know more about the extraordinary woman that was Anne Lister.

Also see a recording of @Lighthousebks (Edinburgh's Radical Bookshop) recent event with Jill Liddington at:

<https://lighthousebookshop.com/events/female-fortune-exploring-anne-listers-diaries-with-jill-liddington>. Also available on

YouTube <https://youtu.be/9GOyPfNCJtI>

Our Website

www.weswwomenshistorynetwork.co.uk

Here you will find all the current and historic information about the network, including programmes and abstracts from previous conferences, papers from study days, links to other relevant organisations and much more. It will continue to develop as a valuable resource for members and friends. It is the first place to go for details about all our forthcoming events.

Contributions are welcome, please contact Kath Holden in the first instance katherineuna.holden@gmail.com

TWITTER



The West of England and South Wales Women's History Network now has its own **Twitter** account so you can keep up to date with events, resources and member news. It is at @WHNWestSWales and if you are on Twitter do follow and retweet.

We currently have 956 followers – help us get to 1,000.

YOUR NETWORK!

The regional network exists for its members. Do let us know if you have any particular interests for topics and /or suggestions of potential contributors (and venues) for Study Days, or any alternative ideas for different events or activities.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Membership subscriptions are the regional network's only income. Please make sure you are paying the correct amount: the rates are £10 full or £5 unwaged/student. Subscriptions are renewable annually on 1 October – please check you have renewed if you wish to continue your membership for 2021/22.

We hope to soon launch a new way for members to manage and check their subscription status – more to follow in the next newsletter. In the meantime, please send any membership queries to Elaine via our email WHNWESTSWALES@outlook.com

NEWSLETTER: Please send contributions, to include notice of events, book reviews and suggestions to Jane Howells, *mail@sarum-editorial.co.uk*

For more information please email: WHNWESTSWALES@outlook.com

Web site: <http://weswwomenshistorynetwork.co.uk/>