

## **FLA: Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives Network**

**First official FLA Gathering – 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September at Nottingham Women's Centre**

You are invited to the first official gathering for

### **FLA: Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives Network**

13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Nottingham Women's Centre

30 Chaucer Street

Nottingham

NG1 5LP

You don't have to be associated with a feminist library or archive to come to this event but get in touch if you have any questions!

Please note that Nottingham Women's Centre is a women only space and therefore this event is open to self identifying women only.

### **What is FLA?**

In February 2014, Nottingham Women's Centre hosted the first Feminist Libraries and Archives Gathering in partnership with Feminist Library London attended by Feminist Archive North, the Women's Liberation Music Archive, Unfinished Histories, and Dr. Sara de Jong with active support from The Women's Library Glasgow, Women's Archive of Wales and Feminist Archive South as well as interest from as far as Turkey and Japan.

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 in the country, we decided to form FLA: Feminist and Women's Libraries and Archives Network (notes from this discussion are available).

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, other women-friendly archiving projects which chronicle the heritage of progressive social movements and the wider feminist activist community.

We envision this network to fulfil two purposes. Firstly, on the network side of things, we will create a directory of feminist and women's libraries and archives which will be a resource for ourselves as well as for external audiences. We will hold regular events for networking and knowledge sharing – the next one happening on the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September at Nottingham Women's Centre. We will also be hosting a workshop at the Feminism in London conference in October.

Secondly, in the longer term, we will start looking at the possibility of creating a more uniform system of categorising our material where appropriate. This will take time, research and effort so for now it is something to only start thinking about.

**To help with planning this event, we would like you to answer a few questions (see below). In addition to the provided questions, we welcome any other ideas, comments, and feedback.**

**Please answer the following:**

1. Are you and/or your organization interested in this conference?

Yes       No

If yes, approximately how many people would attend?

2. We plan to charge a small donation fee for attending in order to cover costs. Would you be willing to pay this fee?

Yes       No

If yes, how much?

£0-£5     £5-£10     £10-£20     £20-£50     £50

In addition we will be providing cheap and tasty vegetarian food.

3. Please state if you have any allergies or dietary requirements:

4. Will you require childcare?

Yes       No

5. Some rooms at Nottingham Women's Centre do not have complete disabled access. Please mention your access needs here so that we can make appropriate arrangements:

6. We are unable to provide accommodation but will direct you to the different options available in Nottingham. However, we can explore the possibility of organising accommodation with local participants. Would this be something you would require?

Yes             No

Do you have any special requirements, e.g. cat-free house, must have bed.

7. Are there any topics you would particularly like to see covered by the conference? If so, please write them in below:

8. Would you or your organization like to lead a workshop, discussion group, or talk?

Yes             No

On which topic(s)?

9. Can you suggest other people/ organisations we should invite?

10. Anything else you would like to add?

11. Name, address, email address, and phone number for your main contact person

**Please return this questionnaire as soon as possible and no later than 22<sup>nd</sup> August to [zaimal@nottinghamwomenscentre.com](mailto:zaimal@nottinghamwomenscentre.com).**

**Thank you.**

**We look forward to meeting you soon.**